

Effects of season and depth of planting on the yield characteristics of the commercial potato cultivars .

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In order to studying the effects of autumn and winter planting dates in two planting depths on potato yield characteristics, an experiment was conducted in Kabootar abad Research Station of Isfahan in two years (1997-8 and 1998-9). The experiment design was a split- split plot with a randomized complete block arrangement and four replications . Main factor was cultivar (Marfona, Morene and Cosima). Sub factor was planting depth (10 and 20 centimetres) and sub-sub factor was planting date (end of October , first half of February and first half of March). Total yield , large tubers (>55mm), seed tubers (35-55mm) and small tubers (<35mm) yield were higher in second and third planting dates than first . Total and large tubers yield increased as planting depth was increased but there wasn't any significant difference *between planting depth and the other characteristics of yield*. Total and large tubers yield were higher in Marfona and its total yield was about 40.39 t/ha. Morene and Cosima had no significant difference in total yield. In autumn planting treatments, Marfona had highest total yield . Tuberization of plants that were planted in February was soonest and it was latest in plants that were *planted in October (Autumn)*. Number of main stems per plant in autumn planting date were lower than the other two planting dates and also autumn planting date didn't cause early maturity.