PELE: A NEW LATE BLIGHT RESISTANT POTATO FOR THE SUB-TROPICS

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Abstract

'Pele' is a promising, new late blight resistant potato selected for elevations above 2,500 feet in Hawaii. It has round, cream colored tubers. Yield has been statistically significant only when late blight incidence was severe. Yield was better when no late blight occurred but not statistically significant. Specific gravity was not significantly better than any cultivar except Red Pontiac at Volcano.

Resumen

Pele es una nueva variedad de papa, promisoria, resistente al tizón, seleccionada para alturas sobre los 800 metros en Hawai.

Tiene tubérculos redondos de color crema. Su rendimiento ha sido estadísticamente significativo y superior sólo cuando la incidencia de tizón era severa. Cuando no se presentó el tizón, el rendimiento aumentó pero no fue superior significativamente.

El peso específico no fue significativamente superior que las demás variedades comparadas pero sí mejor que Red Pontiac y Volcano.

Introduction

'Pele' was selected from seeds supplied by Dr. John Niederhauser of the Rockefeller Foundation sponsored Potato Research Institute of Mexico. It was selected at the Volcano experimental farm in August 1966 and tested under the selection number 35-S, later released by the Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Hawaii.

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The pedigree of 'Pele' is as follows:

(57-AH-9

'Pele' (‘Anita’)

Anita is one of the first cultivar developed in Mexico with moderate resistance to phytophthora having good yields and 57-AH-9 is a selected line with outstanding resistance to late blight.

Description


Tubers (Figure 1) -- Shape: round with mean length of 80 mm, width of 70 mm and thickness of 55 mm. Skin: cream colored, smooth. Eyes: unpigmented, relatively shallow except towards apical end. Flesh: cream colored. Sprouts: unpigmented. Stolons: long, sometimes multiple tubers. Maturity: very late.

Fig. 1. Tubers of 'Pele' and 'Kennebec'.