

# **THE POTATO IN FIELD AND GARDEN**

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The Potato in Field and Garden by W. J. Malden

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**W. J. MALDEN**

**THE POTATO IN  
FIELD AND GARDEN**



UNIV. OF  
CALIFORNIA

# THE POTATO

IN FIELD AND GARDEN.

BY

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## P R E F A C E .

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THE introduction of better varieties of potatoes, the adoption of more economical methods of dealing with the crop, the discovery of means for keeping in check diseases of the plants, have made potato growing an art which can only be successfully carried out where the farmer or gardener is abreast of the times with regard to information on all these points, as home and foreign competition are very strong. The want of more perfect knowledge in individual cases causes a very large portion of the crop to be grown unprofitably. Those who thoroughly understand the subject, and cater for the best markets, find it a profitable business, although they may not be otherwise better situated than their less successful neighbours.

The endeavour in this book has been to present to readers the experience I have gained in living the greater part of my life in a district which has long been celebrated for potato culture, and more particularly to explain the methods of cultivation and general treatment of the crop we have found most profitable in growing nearly 200 acres yearly. As I have been associated with potato growing in several other districts in England, as well as in Ireland, I have had an opportunity of seeing what is best suited to all classes of soils and climates, and, therefore, am able to

write confidently on the subject. At the same time I am pleased to acknowledge the great assistance I have received from Prof. Marshall Ward, Dr. Munro, Mr. E. C. Beaven, and others, who kindly placed at my disposal a considerable amount of scientific information they have obtained during their researches in connection with diseases, and other interesting features connected with the potato plant. I am also indebted to them for several excellent illustrations they have permitted me to use.

Although a subject of general interest, the literature dealing with potato culture is very limited, and most of it is hardly in accordance with modern practices. It is only fair, however, to give credit to the large seed firms for the useful information they have circulated on the subject, as well as for the substantial aid they have given growers by the introduction of new varieties of potatoes which possess so many valuable features. My thanks are due to them for the illustrations of types of potatoes which they have kindly supplied; also to those implement makers who have placed their illustrations at my disposal.

W. J. MALDEN.

Cardington, near Bedford.

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