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BRS Clara: A fresh market potato cultivar with resistance to late blight

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BRS Clara is a new, medium maturing, and high yielding potato cultivar, having foliar resistance to late blight infection. Released in 2011, it was developed by the Embrapa Potato Breeding Program. The tubers have white and smooth skin, cream flesh, long oval shaped and shallow eyes. BRS Clara yielded similarly and sometimes higher than Agata, the most cultivated variety in Brazil (70%). The superiority of BRS Clara was related to its resistance to late blight. The specific gravity was higher than Agata, and lower than Asterix (French fry variety), respectively in the autumn and spring season crops. It show low incidence of physiological defects, and moderate resistance to tuber greening. In relation to the main culinary uses, it was rated as good for boiling, and lightly good for baking. It showed moderate to high resistance to late blight, what makes it attractive to organic production, even though fungicides or alternative products for disease management in case of conducive weather. Field observations indicate that BRS Clara has moderate resistance to early blight, and susceptibility for PVY and PLRV. In general, crop management practices are the same as for medium maturity varieties. For maximum quality tubers, the harvesting point must be carefully observed, aiming to identify the time that combine maximum yield without loss of skin quality.