

# MOLES SEEDS

## Artichoke (Jerusalem)

Cultural Leaflet: ZZ500

Jerusalem Artichokes are a relative of the sunflower. Although it boasts attractive yellow flowers perched on 3m stems, it is mainly grown for the tubers that make a suitable culinary alternative to potatoes. The plants are also useful for game cover, and as a windbreak, or for shading purposes.

### Propagation and Growing-on

Plant tubers into well prepared soil February-April 15cm deep, with 30-40cm between rows. 9,000 tubers per acre will produce a yield of approximately 4-5 tonnes. .

Plants can grow tall so when stems are around 30cm high, draw soil around them to a depth of 15cm to help stabilise plants as they grow. To avoid staking, cut stems back to around 1.5m in midsummer so plants won't be rocked by the wind. Only water in cases of severe drought.

### Routine Care

When foliage starts to turn yellow in autumn, prune to leave 8cm stumps above ground level. Place the prunings over plants to keep the soil warm and aid lifting of tubers in frosty weather. Harvest as required in winter.

### Pest and Disease

Artichokes can be affected by the following:

- Slugs and snails
- Sclerotinia

*Information provided for guidance only, as cultural practices and climatic circumstances vary.*

(12/15)

