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Quick Facts

- Drip irrigation is the slow, even application of low-pressure water to soil and plants using plastic tubing placed directly in the plants' root zone.
- Drip irrigation systems facilitate water management in fields that are difficult to irrigate due to variable soil structure or topography.
- Potato yield and grade respond very sensitively to irrigation management.
- For drip-irrigated potato grown on silt loam, recommended soil water tension for irrigation onset is 30 centibars.
- Seasonal water needs for drip-irrigated potato are 16 to 24 inches at Ontario, OR, depending on the year.
- Drip systems require careful design and maintenance.

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