



ALBION[®]

Metalosate[®] Plant Nutrition News

A Compilation of Technical Information and Essential Plant Research Projects

JUNE 2004

VOLUME 5, No. 5

Metalosate[®] Products Applied to Yellow Storage Onions

By Jeremy O'Brien

Welcome to the June issue of our newsletter. By now you are in the full swing of the busy season, and I hope that's what you are, busy. Hopefully spring has been good to you and your growers and the outlook is positive.



Onion Field in Washington State at the Time of Foliar Application

In the spring of 2001, Albion set out a field trial on an onion field in Othello, Washington. The ground had always produced a good crop for the grower and proved to do so again. The field trial was set up in such a way that the field was split into three strips. The two outer strips would receive the growers standard practice, while the middle five acres (2 hectares) of the field would receive one Metalosate[®]

application based on a tissue analysis and T.E.A.M.[®] report.

Nutrients Applied by Airplane

- Metalosate[®] Calcium
48.0 oz/acre (3.50 L/Ha)
- Metalosate[®] Copper
8.0 oz/acre (0.58 L/Ha)
- Metalosate[®] Magnesium
24.0 oz/acre (1.75 L/Ha)



Karl DeRuwe Collecting Onions from the Test Plot

At the end of the growing season, the treated and untreated parts of the field were both sampled to determine yields. Each part of the field contained four randomly determined repetitions. The harvested area in each repetition

was 4 rows of onions—44 in. by 5.0 ft. (1.0 m by 1.5 m). All onions were gathered on September 19, 2001, and placed in storage until October 17, 2001. On this date the harvested onions were all individually weighed and measured for size by Dr Gary Pelter from Washington State University, Extension specialist for Grant and Adams counties, and Karl DeRuwe, Certified Crop Consultant, of Western Farm Service in Othello, Washington.

Significant Yield Increase

The results of this field trial were significant. **The yield increased by 7.8 tons per acre (21 metric tons per hectare) on the acreage treated with Metalosate Products.** The number of colossal and jumbo-sized bulbs increased dramatically and the number of medium-sized bulbs decreased. Essentially, this represents a very significant increase and a very profitable return on investment. ☞

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