

ROOTS
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MOBILIZER[®] INCREASES POTATO WEIGHTS BY 40%

HIRA BHANA - UPPER QUEEN ST, PUKEKOHE

Often what looks like under fertilisation is actually under utilisation!

A trial was undertaken to ascertain if two applications of Mobilizer would help improve total yield, quality and size of potatoes. Mobilizer in two applications at a rate of 2 litres per hectare significantly improved Nadine Potato yields by number, size and weight in this trial.

RESULTS SUMMARY

Mobilizer™ in two applications at a rate of 2 litres per hectare significantly improved Nadine Potato yields by number, size and weight in this trial.

The largest increases were recorded in weight with each plot recording higher yield weight with an average increase of 40%. This average increase in weight equated to an equivalent of over 9.81 metric tonne per hectare. Generally, Nadine potatoes can fetch \$800 per metric tonne. Using this figure this could equate in an increased return to the grower of \$7200/ha with the grower only needing to spend \$40 per hectare on two applications of Mobilizer™.

In all sample plots the Mobilizer™ treated areas gave the same or more potatoes than their controls. On average numbers of potatoes per sample area increased by 8.76 % in treated areas.

The average sizing of potatoes increased in the Mobilizer™ treated area as shown in the body of this report.

LOCATION

The site of the trial was in Pukekohe in Upper Queen Street.

METHOD

The potatoes were planted in late June. The potatoes were at the vegetative growth stage when the first application of Mobilizer™ was applied on Saturday the 7th July. It was a dry calm day with a Temp of 3.6 C low, 13.4C high, wind speed highest 28km per hr. There had been rainfall leading up to the trial application date of 22.2mm on the 3rd July and 1.6mm on the 4th July.

Mobilizer™ was applied on both occasions at a rate of 2L per hectare in 500L of water.

A spray unit was filled with 12L of "Mobilizer" in 3000L of water and sprayed over 6 Hectares. 1 Hectare of Potatoes (Nadine variety) were sprayed, the rest was applied to an onion crop.

The second application of 2L Mobilizer™ per Ha was at the tuber initiation stage about 3 weeks later on 1st August 2012.

The potato field was sprayed with a herbicide prior to results being collected so top growth had degraded when the potatoes were collected in the field. 22 beds of potatoes were sprayed with Mobilizer™ which is two spray runs at 11 beds per spray run. The control areas were located next to the Mobilizer™ sites and were not sprayed.

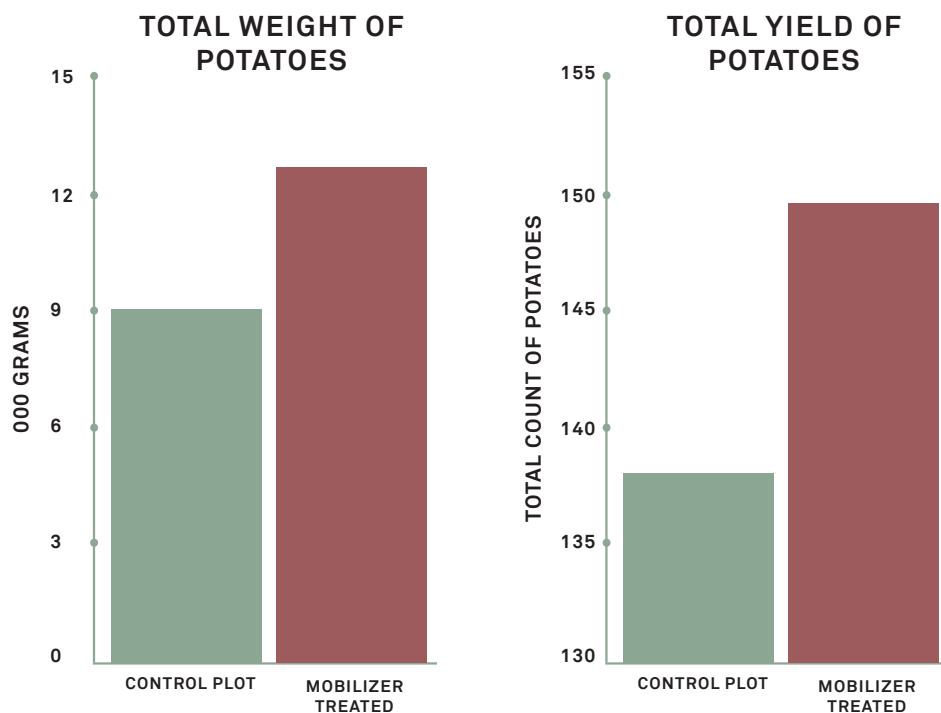


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Phone 09 372 9155 or email
rsf@rd2.co.nz for any enquiries.



RESULTS



DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The Mobilizer gave higher total yields and weights overall. When comparing weights the total increase was very significant with a 3923grams total increase in the trial.

For the purposes of calculating dollars from the weight increase this could be extrapolated to a per hectare value. The total increase in weight over the sampled Mobilizer areas compared to the Control areas was 3923grams. This equates to an increase 9.81 MT/ha equivalent. Generally, these Nadine potatoes can fetch \$800 per tonne (at time of trial). **This would then equate to an increase of around \$7,200 per Hectare for the grower from an outlay of only \$40.00.**

The Mobilizer treated area gave 33 tonne per hectare compared to 24 tonne per hectare for untreated. In a good year the grower usually expects a total tonnage of around 45 tonne per Hectare. However, this seasons potatoes were subjected to a heavy frost in early October. This resulted in the expected total tonnage figure to be down on the average year. The grower stated that he expected that “frost damage would give a significant decrease in tonnage this year.”

The results of this trial substantiate his hypothesis and the total tonnage was down on an average year. However, the Mobilizer™ results indicate that the losses due to frost damage could be substantially reduced just with two applications. It is interesting to note that the grower mentioned that while driving past the treated field the day after the frost “a clear line was visible in which those potatoes sprayed with Mobilizer looked healthier and were not as damaged”. He was surprised enough that he had to reverse back up the road to have a second look.

[Click here to read the full trial paper.](#)

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