

ENCOURAGE NANOCAL Improves Tomato Quality & Yield

CROP: Processing Tomatoes HM 4885

RESEARCHER: Helena Research

LOCATION: Merced, CA

TRIAL DATE: May 29 (planted) -

September 18, (Harvested) 2019

TRIAL GOAL

To quantify the effect NANOCAL® has on Brix , weight,

blossom end rot and yield on tomatoes

KEY FINDINGS

Two, 1 quart/acre applications of NANOCAL increased Brix, fruit weight and yield while decreasing the incidence of blossom end rot.

APPLICATION

The planting of HM 4885 processing tomatoes was done on May 29, 2019 into Lewis silty clay loam (pH 7, 0M 1.5%). At early bloom on July 15, 2019 the first of two soil-applications of different calcium products was made through buried deep irrigation. The applications were NANOCAL sub-micronized liquid calcium applied at 1 qt/acre; Axilo calcium at 1 lb/acre; and Axilo calcium at 2 lb/acre.

These applications were repeated during fruit set on August 15, 2019.



RESULTS

The trial plots were harvested on September 18, 2019

Brix: The NANOCAL treated tomatoes were the only ones to register in the "Good" category in the tomato Brix chart with a value of 8. The untreated check registered 6.0, solidly in the "Average" range. The Axilo 2x1 lb/acre treated tomatoes had a value of 5.3 and the Axilo 2x2 lb/acre treatment registered a 5.8 Brix value. Both of these scores are in the transition zone between the "Poor" to "Average" Brix values for tomatoes.

Blossom End Rot (BER): There was a high level of blossom end rot across the entire trial. However, the NANOCAL 2x1 qt/acre was able to reduce the incidence of BER by 35% compared to the Untreated check (28% versus 43.3% of plants infected). The two Axilo treatments resulted in BER levels similar to the Untreated check, 44.8% (2x1 lb/acre) and 46.5% (2x2 lb/acre).

Weight per 100 Fruit: The weight per 100 fruit is related to yield but is more a measure of fruit size and density. The NANOCAL 2x1 qt/acre treatment (15.8 pounds) resulted in a slight increase in fruit weight compared to the Untreated check (14.5 pounds). The Axilo treated tomatoes weighed less per 100 fruit than the Untreated check. The 2x1 lb/acre application of Axilo produced 11.5 pounds while the 2x2 lb/acre application produced 10.5 pounds per 100 fruit.

See page 2 for complete trial results.

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