

Greenhill Produce Plant XL Trial – 2010

During the 2010 crop season, Greenhill Produce conducted a trial comparing pepper plants treated with Plant XL to plants that were not treated. We added Plant XL two times a week (Mondays and Wednesdays) at a rate of 2L/acre/week.

During the growing season, the plants in both sections looked very healthy. There were no extreme bug or disease pressures in either section. The roots in both sections were very comparable – depending on the time of year and plant cycle, the roots in one section may have looked better than the other – but overall there was no significant difference.

The summer of 2010 was a hot one, and the Plant XL section did seem to fare a bit better. There was definitely less BER (Blossom End Rot) in that section – though we still had to do significant fruit pruning. The plants also seemed to be more “crisp” than the non-treated section. We are not sure if that was a good thing or not, but they seemed like they were handling the heat a bit better than the non-treated side.

As far as yield is concerned, according to our numbers, the plants with Plant XL out produced the non-treated section. According to our PrivAssist yield tracking, the Plant XL section had 22.9 kg/m² and the non-treated section had 21.8 kg/m². These numbers are not completely accurate, since our overall yield was 25.5 kg/m². However, there is a one kilo difference, even with a lower yield being recorded – therefore the Plant XL was at least one kg ahead of the non-treated, and likely closer to 1.5 kg.

Our standard trial format showed the following:

Yield

Plant XL – 25.39 kg/m²

Non-Treated – 24.01 kg/m²

Size

Plant XL – 228g ave.

Non-Treated – 222g ave.

In conclusion, Plant XL does not make the plant look obviously any healthier than a non-treated plant, though the Plant XL plants did seem to bear the extreme heat better than the non-treated plants. Also, on two separate yield comparisons, the Plant XL plants out-yielded the non-treated plants by a 5-5.5% margin.