FACT SHEET

Asparagus Applications

SPANISH RIVER CARBONATITE

"Remineralizing Your Soil"

Spanish River Carbonatite was involved in a three-year trial with the Norfolk Soil and Crop Improvement Association. The trial was on a new asparagus plantation. 2004 was the first full harvest on this 4 year old stand. The plot was set up in alternating 32-foot strips covering 9 acres. The application rate of SRC was 1300 lbs/acre per year. This spring was the third application of SRC for a total of 3900 lbs/acre. The control plot was fertilized with recommended asparagus fertility rates based on an OMAFRA approved soil test. The fertilizer was a blend of 150lbs Nitrogen, 60 lbs Phosphate and 175 lbs Potash per acre. The SRC plot received no additional fertilizer or soil amendments.

Root Mass Observations

Spanish River Carbonatite Plot
Inputs: 1300 lbs/acre SRC

Weight was **17.5 lbs**
Root mass produced 64 spears

Control Plot
Inputs: 150 lbs/acre Nitrogen
60 lbs/acre Phosphate
175 lbs/acre Potash

Weight was **10.0 lbs**
Root mass produced 30 spears

June 24, 2004 – 4th Year - First Full Harvest

Harvesting of asparagus spears will continue until brix levels drop between 7 and 8%. The control strips as of June 24th measured between 7 and 8%. The Spanish River Carbonatite (SRC) plots brix readings all averaged between 12 and 13%. The average spear production for the district is between 2500 and 3000 lbs per acre, this year it has been closer to 2000 lbs/acre; due to a severe winter and a cool wet spring. The yield calculation for the control plots was 5242 lbs. The final production on the SRC plots was 5832 lbs per acre (> 10% increase in yield)

Spanish River Carbonatite - Asparagus Test Plots
2004 Yield Records

Date	1 - 10 C	11 - 20 T	21 - 30 C	31 - 40 T	41 - 50 C	51 - 55 C	56 - 60 T	61 - 65 T	66 - 70 C	71 -75 C	76 - 80 T	81 - 85 T	86 -90 C
May 8, 2004	1.5	2	1.5	2	1.5	2.5	2	2	1.5	1.5	2	2	1.5
May 11, 2004	4	4	3	4	4	12	13	13	18	14	15	15	14
May 12, 2004	5	6	5	5	5	8	8	15	15	8	8	13	10
May 13, 2004	7	6	6	6	6	16	15	16	15	14	15	16	14
May 14, 2004	6	6	6	5	5	16	14	15	13	10	12	12	10
May 15, 2004	4	4	4	3	4	10	10	9	4	3	6	4	4
May 18, 2004	6	6	6	6	6	18	19	19	19	19	20	20	18
May 19, 2004	4	3	3	3	3	10	9	10	9	8	12	12	10
May 21, 2004	6	5	5	6	6	17	15	15	14	12	14	14	12
May 22, 2004	3	3	3	3	3	10	8	4	4	8	6	5	8
May 24, 2004	4	4	4	4	4	6	6	12	11	10	10	12	10
May 26, 2004	3	3	3	3	3	4	5	9	4	4	9	7	5
May 28, 2004	3	3	3	3	3	9	8	5	4	8	8	7	6
May 29, 2004	2	3	2	2	3	6	6	6	5	5	6	6	5
May 31, 2004	4	3	4	3	4	11	10	6	5	5	7	7	5
June 1, 2004	1	2	2	2	1	5	5	6	6	5	5	6	5
Totals	63.5	63.0	60.5	60.0	61.5	160.5	153.0	162.0	147.5	134.5	155.0	158.0	137.5
June 3, 2004	1	2	2	2	2	5	6	6	5	5	6	6	5
June 4, 2004	2	3	2	3	2	2	6	6	4	4	6	6	4
June 5, 2004	1	1	1	2	1	2	4	4	4	4	5	5	4
June 7, 2004	3	3	3	4	3	4	5	5	4	4	5	5	4
June 8, 2004	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4
June 9, 2004	3	3	2.5	3	2.5	4	4.5	4.5	3.5	3.5	4	4	3
June 10, 2004	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
June 12, 2004	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	2	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
June 14, 2004	4	4	3	3.5	3.5	5.5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4
June 15, 2004	2	2.5	2	2	2	3	3	3.5	3	3	3	3	2.5
June 16, 2004	2	2	2	2	2	3	2.5	2	2.5	2	2	2.5	2.5
Totals	23.5	26	23	27	23.5	37	43	43.5	38.5	39	44.5	45	37.5
Cumulative Total	87	89	83.5	87	85	197.5	196	205.5	186	173.5	199.5	203	175
June 17, 2004	2	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	2	2	2.5	2	2.5	2	2
June 18, 2004	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	2	2	2	2	2	2.5	2
June 19, 2004	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	2	2.5	2.5	2	2	2	2.5	2
June 21, 2004	2	2	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Totals	7	6.5	6	6	6	9.5	9	9	9	8.5	9	9.5	8.5
Cumulative Total	94	95.5	89.5	93	91	207	205	214.5	195	182	208.5	212.5	183.5
Total (lbs)	2350	2387.5	2237.5	2325	2275	5175	5125	5362.5	4875	4550	5212.5	5312.5	4587.5
lbs/acre	4351.8	4421.2	4143.5	4305.5	4212.9	6468.7	6406.2	6703.1	6093.7	5687.5	6515.6	6640.6	5734.3

Overall Average	5514	lbs/acre
SRC Test Plot	5832	lbs/acre
Control Plot	5242	lbs/acre

General Comments

The total yields for this test plot were double the district. The Norfolk plain is a coarse well-drained soil subject to acidification. The heavy use of chemical fertilizers will result in accelerating soil aging inevitably resulting in aluminum toxicity, thus overwhelming the soil system. Doug Wall has maintained exceptional fertility through the regular renewal of organic matter and liming. The high-test results are due to good soil fertility through careful management of these two critical soil requirements.

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