



Imperial Valley Honeydew Melon Trials

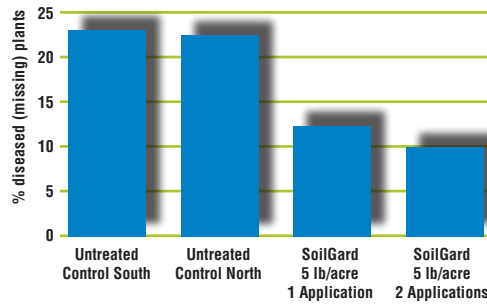
Field demonstration comparing one and two in-season application timings of SoilGard to control soil-borne pathogens on organically grown honeydew (*Cucumis melo*).

Location:

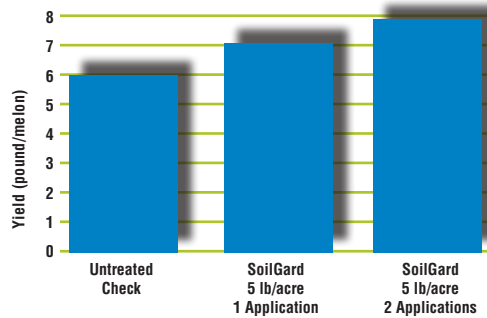
Holtville, CA
(Imperial Valley)

Investigator:

Sergio Cabrera M.S., PCA



*Second SoilGard application occurred on April 13, after this March 22 evaluation.



Demonstration Overview

Two plots (2 acres each)

Plot 1: SoilGard applied 5 lb/acre and shanked-in at planting

Plot 2: SoilGard applied twice at 5 lb/acre and shanked-in at planting and 42 days later

The 5 lb/acre of SoilGard was mixed with 40 gals/acre of water.

Applications were shank injected 0.5 inches to the side and 1 inch below the seed line level.

Findings

Stand counts taken 20 days after the first SoilGard treatment resulted in 10% fewer diseased plants in the treated plots compared to the grower standard (check) sections of the field.

Fruit weight increased approximately 1 pound per melon with a single at-planting application of SoilGard. There was an increase of approximately 2 pounds per melon with two applications of SoilGard when compared to the grower standard sections of the fields.

Root rating results showed SoilGard-treated plants had fewer disease symptoms and larger, more extensive root systems.

