

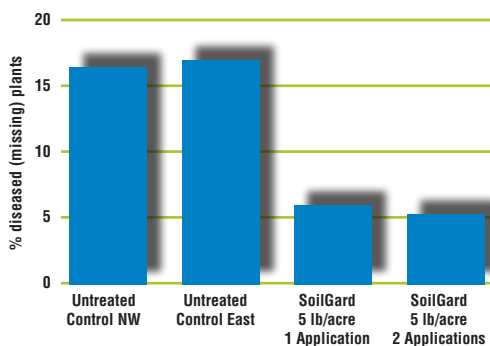


Imperial Valley Watermelon Trials

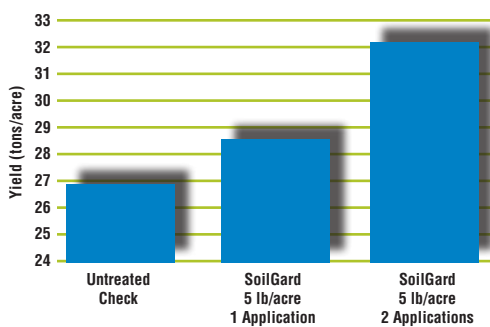
Field demonstration comparing one and two in-season application timings of SoilGard to control *Rhizoctonia* and other soil-borne pathogens on watermelon (*Citrullus lanatus*).

Location:
Westmoreland, CA
(Imperial Valley)

Investigator:
Sergio Cabrera M.S., PCA



*Second SoilGard application occurred on April 2, after this March 25 evaluation.



Demonstration Overview

Two plots (7.5 acres each)
Primary pathogen in the plots:
Rhizoctonia spp.

Plot 1: SoilGard applied at 5 lb/acre one day after transplanting

Plot 2: SoilGard applied twice at 5 lb/acre one day after transplanting and 42 days later

Applied via drip buried 6 to 8 inches.

Findings

Stand counts taken 33 days after the first SoilGard treatment showed there were 10% fewer diseased plants in the treated plots compared to the untreated sections of the field.

Data taken 89 days following the first SoilGard application showed a yield increase of nearly 2 tons per acre. There was an increase of nearly 5 tons per acre with an additional application of SoilGard six weeks after transplanting.

Visual differences of increased melon size and improved appearance were noted at harvest.

