



## TOMATO FERTILITY RESEARCH SUMMARY

### OBJECTIVE

This research assessed the relationship of **TrueSolum**® with a commercial mycorrhizae product for enhancing fertility of tomatoes compared to grower's standard fertilizer program (GSP), and GSP plus the commercial mycorrhizae product alone. In addition, root condition and soil microbial activity were observed and are presented in a separate Summary Sheet.

### TRIAL DESCRIPTION

Performed by: Florida Ag Research

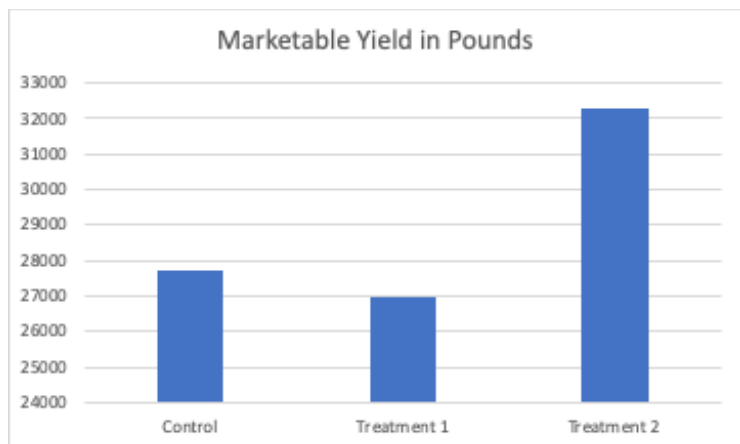
- **Location:** Dover, FL
- **Variety:** FL47 Tomatoes
- **Initial Application:** May 9, 2020

#### Protocol

- **Control:** 4-2-9 GSP at 32.62 gal/a weekly for 9 weeks
- **Treatment 1:** 4-2-9 GSP at 32.62 gal/a weekly + mycorrhizae at 6 gal/a on May 9 only
- **Treatment 2:** 4-2-9 GSP at 32.62 gal/a weekly + mycorrhizae at 6 gal/a on May 9 only + **TrueSolum** at .5 gal/a on May 9, 15 and 22

### RESULTS

Tomatoes were harvested three times and counts and weights of marketable fruit were recorded. Total marketable yield by weight was significantly higher in plots receiving Treatment 2 (**TrueSolum** + mycorrhizae) versus both the Control, at **16.7%** higher, and Treatment 1, at **19.9%** higher. In addition, plants were harvested on July 11 and root characteristics were recorded. When examining the roots it was noted that additional applications of **TrueSolum** beyond the first three weeks, could have provided further benefit to the root structure, which may have resulted in even higher marketable yield.



### CONCLUSION

The **TrueSolum** treated plots resulted in a **16.7% increase** in marketable yield versus GSP (Control), and a **19.9% increase** versus GSP plus mycorrhizae (Treatment 1). These results show that **TrueSolum** has a symbiotic working relationship with mycorrhizae in enhancing marketable yield. It is hypothesized that **TrueSolum** acts as a prebiotic for the mycorrhizae, thus enhancing the beneficial microbial content in the soil. Research has shown that higher microbial activity in the soil promotes better uptake of nutrients by the plant. Better nutrient uptake leads to more marketable yield. Further yield increases may be possible with additional weekly applications of **TrueSolum**.



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