

Table grapes case study

Type of Farming System

Conventional Perennial Horticulture – Vines.

Products used in trial

Bactivate

**Bactivate
BioBoost+**

**Bactivate
SeaweedSolution+**

BactivatePlus+

Background

The farmer was seeking to improve yield while maintaining fruit quality in their vineyard of Crimson Table Grapes. The Crimson variety is a late season grape with good flavour and eating characteristics, crisp skin with juicy pulp.

The Bactivate Program was initiated in 2010, but due to flooding, results were not able to be obtained. The vines were flooded for 6 weeks which have had a significant impact on soil and vine health. Although no comparative analysis was undertaken the farmer observed a response and committed to continue with the program.

In 2011 the Bactivate Program was re-instated following soil biology and chemical analysis. The recommendation included a reduction in the application of granular fertiliser by 30% and a further reduction in liquid fertigation by 50%.

Bactivate was applied at 125Kg per Ha banded in the first year along with 2L per Ha of BioBoost+ and then switched to Bactivate Plus at 125Kg per Ha in the second year with 2L BioBoost+ and Seaweed solution at 1.5L per ha. In 2012, Bactivate Plus was applied banded at 100Kg per Ha with the same rates of BioBoost+ and seaweed.



Showing the high yield and evenness of bunch development

Farmer's Name: Tony Sergi

Business Name: A&LM Sergi

Crops grown: Table grapes, Crimson and Minindi grape varieties

Farm Data

Location: Rainbow Valley, NT

Area: 10ha

Approx. 10% of the farm started under the Bactivate Program and that has risen to 25% over the past 2 seasons.



Note the evenness in berry colour and size under the Bactivate Program

Outcomes and Benefits

The Bactivate Program area doubled the yield of the control to 40kg per vine. Further to this there has been a significant improvement in bunch evenness for colour and berry size.



The farmer has commented that the results have been excellent with not only increased yields but an improvement in the structure of the soil. The soil analysis has shown significant improvements in biology and cations over the past 2 years in the treated areas. The farmer has also noticed excellent, robust early growth on the treated vines compared to the conventional vines.

The program has been carried through to the 2012 season where there will be further reductions in the application of fertiliser and the addition of Bactivate Seaweed Solution to further increase fruit set and plant health.