OmyaPro® Calcium in Tomato - Serbia - 2018

Aim

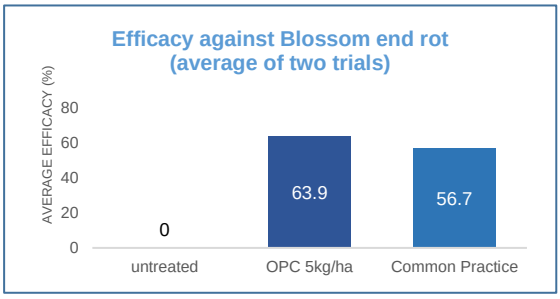
Determine the effect of foliar application of OmyaPro® Calcium on yield's quality.

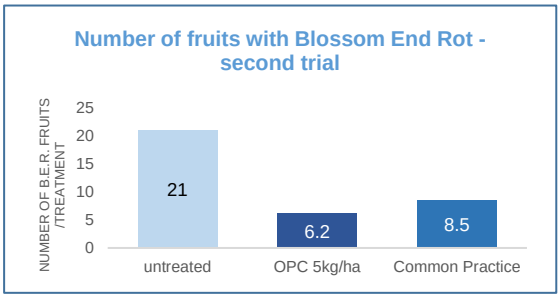
Number of trials:	Two trial sites
Method:	The specified amount of each product was mixed in water, stirred and applied immediately without adjuvant with a backpack applicator directly on the leaves and the fruits.
Trial design:	open field trial, randomized block design
Crop description:	Tomato, First trial: cv Roma, Second trial: cv Rio Grande

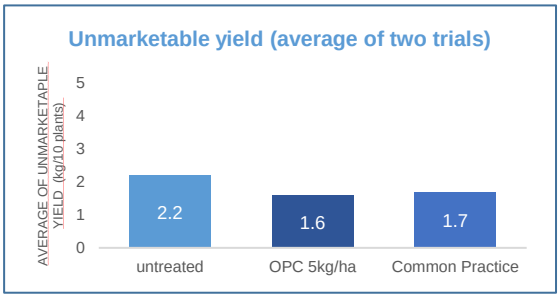
Protocol

Product	Ca (%)	Product Rate	Rate (kg Ca/ha)	Applications
Untreated	-	-	-	-
OmyaPro® Calcium	36 %	5 kg/ha	1.8	4 times (BBCH 64 to 84)
Common Practice ($CaCl_2$)	12 %	5 lt/ha	0.6	4 times (BBCH 64 to 84)

Results







OmyaPro® Calcium is an excellent source of calcium, an important component of the cell wall to boost the stability of the plants. Especially for the fruit tissue, calcium contributes to its physical properties, including strength and elasticity. Low calcium supply in fruits usually leads to tissue breakdown, which in tomato crop is known as 'blossom end rot' (B.E.R.) disorder. Symptoms of 'blossom end rot' in harvested tomatoes, make fruits less appealing and therefore, they are neglected before reaching the market.

Field trials were performed in two different locations. In both trials the soil pH was below 6. In such soil conditions the availability of calcium for the plants is reduced. We could show a clearly better control of B.E.R., when OmyaPro® Calcium was applied foliar compared to the untreated and also an improvement in the efficacy compared to calcium chloride-fertilizer.

This resulted in an overall decrease of unmarketable yield when the plants were sprayed with OmyaPro® Calcium.

By applying OmyaPro® Calcium to the crop, the marketable production can be increased, which means a better income for the farmer by deliverying a high quality product to the market.

Conclusions

OmyaPro® Calcium improves Calcium nutrition of the crops. With its high concentration of calcium, it supplies to the crop sufficient amount of this essential element and improves the yield quality and subsequently the profitability of the crop.

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Source: Omya International AG – 2017/01