

BIORATIONAL FERTILIZER **STUDY**

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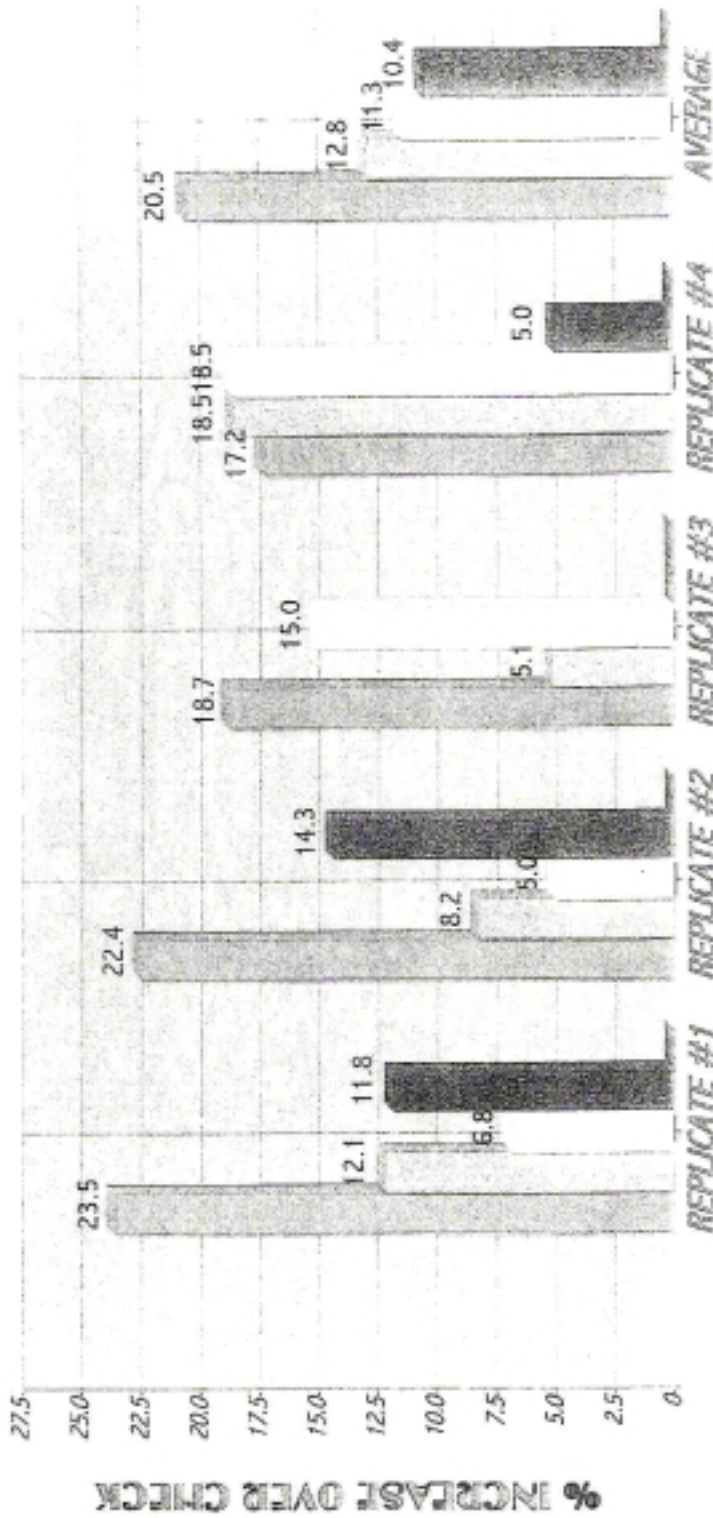
Crop: Celery

METHOD: This study was established with a commercial celery grower in Oxnard, California. The grower set aside 20 acres to use as a test area. His conventional fertilizer program was applied to the entire ranch. In addition to the conventional program, the grower wanted to test four bio-organic based products. The products tested included Global Organic's Humega/Compost Tea, Bio-Ceres' Liquid Compost, BHN's Zap/Super Phos 50, and Imperial Organic's Super Bat Guano Plus. Humega and Compost Tea were applied in two applications (5 gallons of each product in each) shanked into the bed. The other products were applied at their recommended rates. Samples were taken during the growing season and soil microbial activity was measured. At harvest, production totals were taken, calculated and extrapolated out in terms of cartons per acre, percent increase or decrease and dollars returned on investment. The results were then presented on graphs.

RESULTS: All of the bio-organic products produced an increase in production over the usual conventional fertilizer program alone. The conventional program produced 1100 cartons per acre. The production increases with the addition of the bio-organic products ranged from the highest by Global Organics at 1,331 cartons per acre or a 21% increase. The other increases were Ceres at 12%, Super Guano Plus at 11%, and the lowest was BHN's Zap at 7%. Soil microbial activity increased with the addition of the organic products in all cases. However, the largest difference is in the return on investment, which takes into consideration the increase in production along with the cost of the materials applied. In this study, Global Organics returned \$810 per acre over the control, which was 113% better than the next highest product and 744% better than the lowest. The other products return on investment was Ceres at \$380 per acre, Super Guano at \$298 per acre and last was BHN at \$96 per acre.

SUMMARY: All of the bio-organic products increase celery harvest production and all of them produced a return of profit over their cost. However, the Global Organics products were by far the most economical, and they produced a much higher yield and profit margin for the grower.

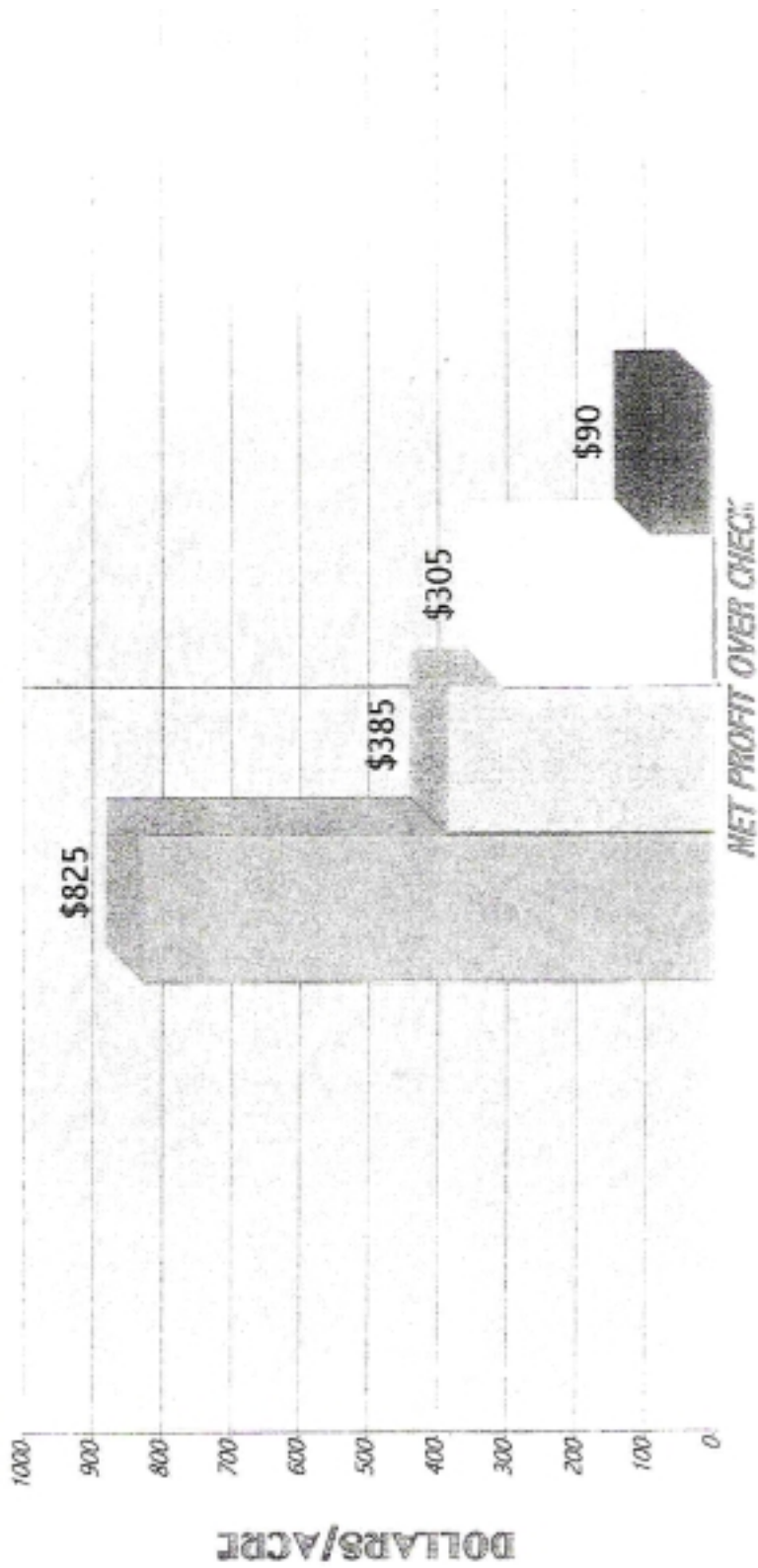
BIORATIONAL FERTILIZER COMPARISONS



INCREASE IN PRODUCTION



BIORATIONAL FERTILIZER STUDY



RETURN ON INVESTMENT

<input type="checkbox"/>	HUMEGA/COMPOST TEA	<input type="checkbox"/>	LIQ. COMP/CERES	<input type="checkbox"/>	SUPER GUANO +	<input type="checkbox"/>	ZAP/SUPER PHOS
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