

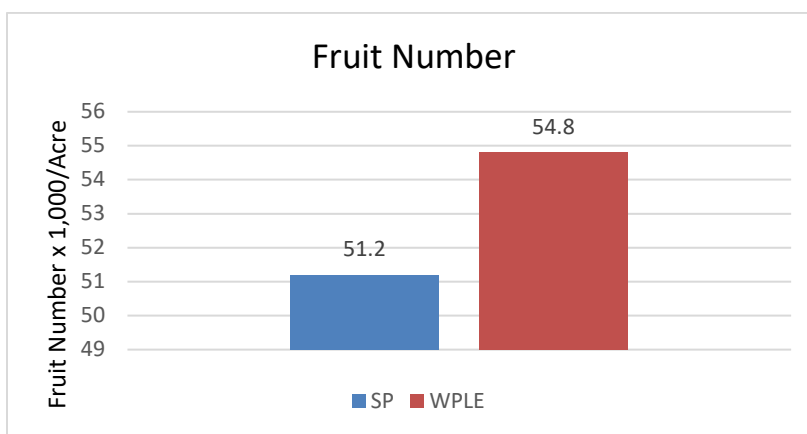
Effects of Worm Power on Tomato Fruit Yield

Objective. Evaluate the effects of Worm Power Liquid Extract [WPLE] on the fruit yield of round tomatoes.

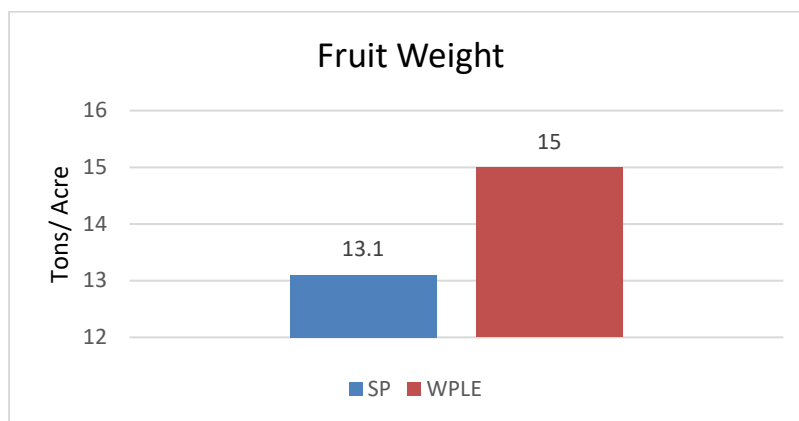
Materials and Methods.

- A commercial strawberry field near Brooksville, FL, was planted with 4-inch ‘SevenTY III’ round tomato.
- The soil at the experimental site was a fine sand with pH=7.1 and <1.5% organic matter content.
- The field followed standard commercial practices such as soil fumigation, black mulch on raised beds, and fertigation for plant nutrition and irrigation.
- Treatments were as follows:
 1. Standard Practice [SP],
 2. SP + WPLE 5 gal/acre bi-weekly
- WPLE was applied through the drip tape in a 30-minute irrigation cycle. Application started at 1 week after transplanting (WAT) and was repeated at 3, 5, 7 and 9 WAT.
 - For marketable fruit weight, green mature fruit were collected at 10 and 12 WAT .

Results.



The total harvest showed the addition of WPLE had a 7% increase in total number of tomatoes per acre.



The total harvest weight showed a 6% increase in tons per acre with the addition of WPLE.

Conclusion.

The addition of Worm Power Liquid Extract at a rate of 5 gallons per acre bi-weekly increased tomato yields as compared to the standard practice.