Pratum Co-op | RESEARCH REVIEW ISSUE 24.1

2023 POTTED ONION TRIAL

OVERVIEW

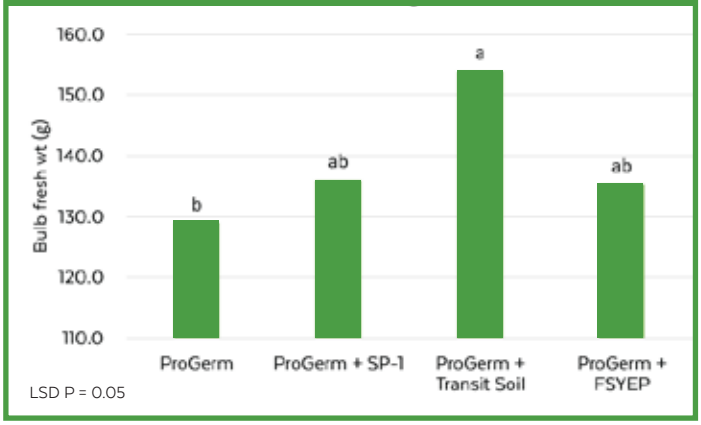
Product testing Transit Soil on red onions grown in pots. Onions were started from seed, the soil was treated at planting, 52 days post-planting, and drip-irrigated twice a day.

- Began 5/19/2023
- Bulb Diameter and Weight Measured
- 5 Treatments Evaluated

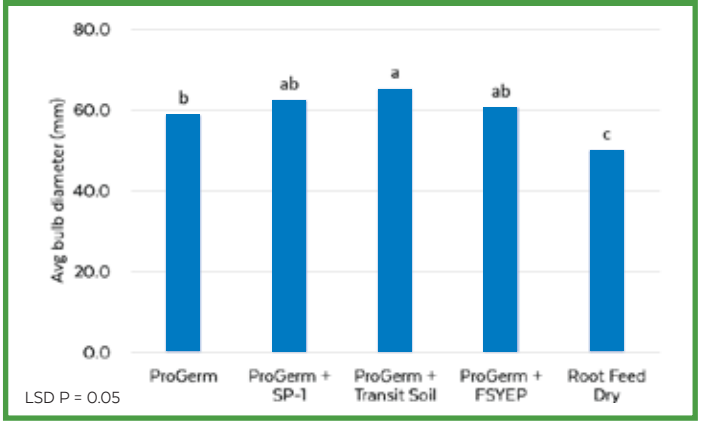
SUMMARY

Transit Soil at 8 oz/a with fertilizer increased bulb diameter and weight by 11% and 19% respectively compared to fertilizer alone (p-value = 0.05).

DIFFERENCES IN BULB WEIGHT, 90 DAP



DIFFERENCES IN BULB DIAMETER, 90 DAP



**Select Treatments Shown*

By May 19th the in-pot onion and bean trials were planted and treated. The plots were watered using drip tape twice a day. The trial was conducted as a randomized complete design with six replications.

90 days after planting the onions were cut at the base of the bulb. Average leaf weight per plant, bulb weight and diameter, and average root weight per plant were all evaluated during harvest.

An example of harvested onion leaves from the trial's first replication.

CONTINUED ON BACK

Washed onion roots and harvested bulbs 90 days after planting. Roots air dried for 7 days and were weighed and divided by the number of plants harvested within the plot. Note: onion stand emergence was approximately 50 to 60%. Percent emergence was not affected by any of the treatments in this trial.

An example of our root washing station for the in-pot trial. We used a series of fine metal mesh screens to repetitively wash out the soil from the roots. This process is incredibly time consuming, but worth it for the results we found, averaging about 45 minutes per half gallon pot of soil.