

Utopia Tomato Trial Winter/Spring 2010

Objective: To determine the efficacy of OceanSolution™ for growing tomatoes, and specifically, to determine the food value of different growing methods.

Trial Location: Weirs-Turner Farms DBA Utopia Farms. Utopia, Florida

Trial Dates: March 9-July 8, 2010

Method: The control, here named “conventional,” used industry standard soil-test dependant synthetic methodologies applied as a foliar every 5 days. The OceanSolution (OS) program was applied every 7 days as a foliar.

Results: OS parcels grew faster, producing larger fruit in greater quantities than the conventionally treated parcels.

Yield- The conventionally grown yield was 20 bins per acre (each bin holds thirty 25lb boxes or flats) while the OceanSolution method yielded 30 bins per acre representing a 50% increase. In the words of the head grower, “We filled five-gallon containers with product samples – and needed to walk approximately thirty yards in the OS area in order to fill the bucket. The density of the fruit was far inferior in the conventional section, to the point where we need to zig-zag through five rows of plants (approximately 125-150 yards) in order to gather enough fruit to fill the five-gallon container for testing.”

Analysis-

<u>Compound</u>	<u>Green- Conv.</u>	<u>Green- OS</u>	<u>Ripe- Conv.</u>	<u>Ripe-OS</u>	<u>Percent Increase OS</u>
Vitamin C			13.4	15.70	15.80%
Brix			5.3	5.5	3.07%
Vitamin C	10.1	11.6			13.82%
Vitamin A					
Carotene	32.7	53.7			48.61%

Cost- In addition to costing less than the synthetic program outright, the OS program provided savings in labor, diesel, and soil compaction

Conclusions: The data indicates that OS protocols have the potential to significantly increase tomato yields while also positively affecting the food value/bio-active compounds and taste contained in the finished crops.

