

Omnia E-Bulletin March/April 08



Omnia Products & Services



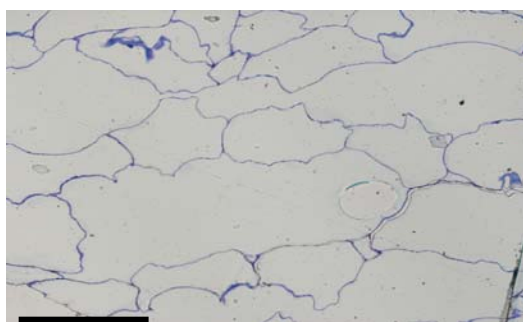
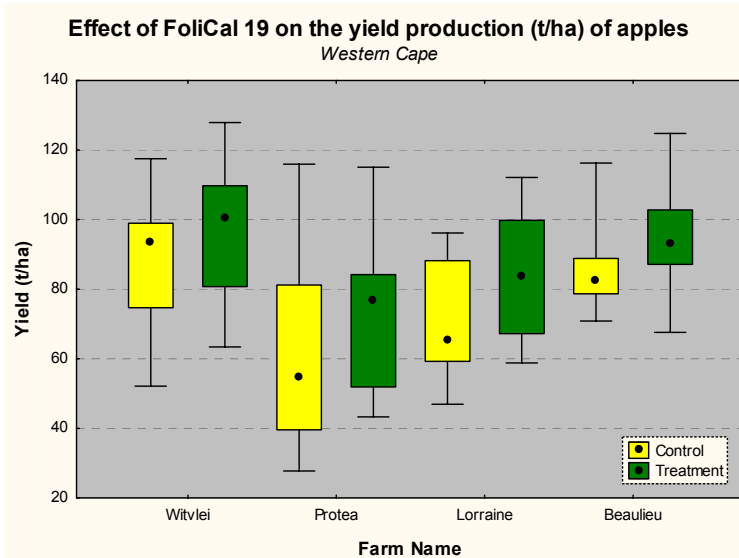
Every horticultural crop that is grown requires foliar Calcium!

FoliCal 19 is Omnia's premium Calcium foliar product that returns high quality fruit and increased yield when used.

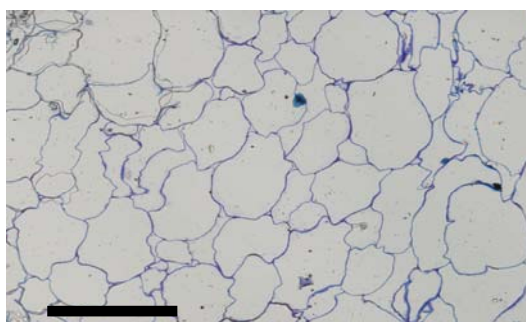
Applying FoliCal 19 at a rate of 6 l/ha in 500-700 l water / ha, just after fruit set and again two weeks later, increased the yield significantly. This trial was done over two years with a variety of cultivars.

Fig. 1. The average yield increase achieved in the trial work was approximately 10% over the two year period.

FoliCal 19 was shown to also affect fruit quality parameters and increased the amount of apples falling into the 'Optimal class' for Firmness, Fruit colour and Starch.



Strip 5 Treated with Foli Cal 19 and displaying larger cell sizes



Strip 5 Control - Not treated with Foli Cal 19 and displaying smaller cell sizes

Combining the data from the two harvests showed improvements in fruit mass and size for the Golden Delicious and Braeburn cultivars.

Microscopic analysis of the fruit revealed that the cells were significantly longer in the treated fruit. FoliCal 19 is a clear winner in the Calcium Foliar race and will deliver good returns for its investors.

Omnia Services - Sap/Soil Program

OmniSap™ is one of the best monitoring tools available to the Australian grower today. Like the Soil analysis the interpretation is more important than the numbers that you receive from the lab. The extraction method used in OmniSap™ is unique and ensures a constant and reliable result. On top of the obvious nutrient levels in the plant sap OmniSap™ can point out root development issues, soil pH problems, water problems, and many more. All of this is supported by a database that is built on yield and quality data for each production region. OmniSap™ samples can be taken at anytime during the growing cycle, and a few examples are; Post harvest, to make sure the crop has enough resources, Early in the next season, to adjust any early foliar applications, Before flower and fruit set, to ensure optimal levels at this crucial time, this has to be followed up by a Omnia recommendation to achieve optimal production.

Omnia Technical Information ~ Kelp Products for Peak Performance

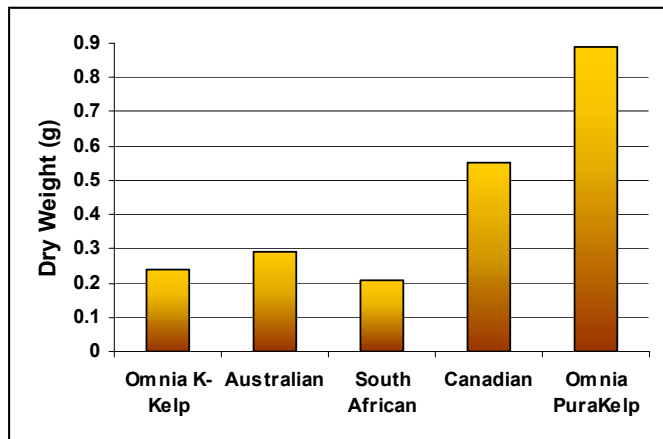
For best results, apply kelp to **BOTH** leaves and soil...



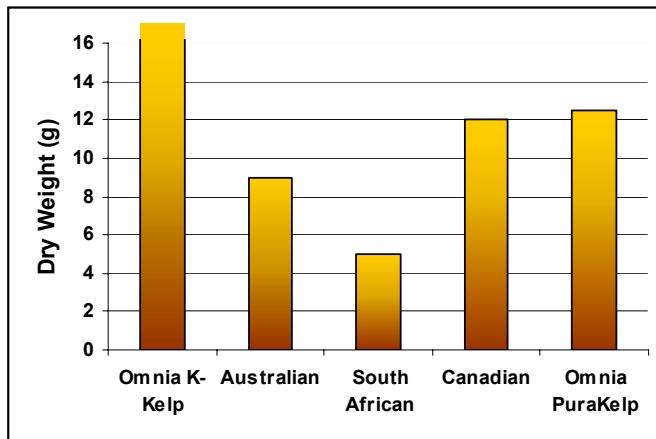
Omnia's Purakelp® and K-kelp® are derived from Australia's unique bull kelp called *Durvillaea potatorum*. The high concentration of naturally occurring alginic acid and growth regulators found in these products are highly recognized for their superior performance in stimulating both plant and root growth, as evidenced by the results from a university conducted scientific study (see below).

Purakelp® and K-kelp®, specially formulated to allow compatibility with most nutrient solutions and liquid soil conditioners, are suitable for both soil and foliar applications.

The graphs below are trial work conducted by Monash University that assisted in Omnia to having the best Kelps to use in the Australian market.



Root weight increase from foliar application of Omnia products and various competitors.



Shoot weight increase from foliar application of Omnia products and various competitors.

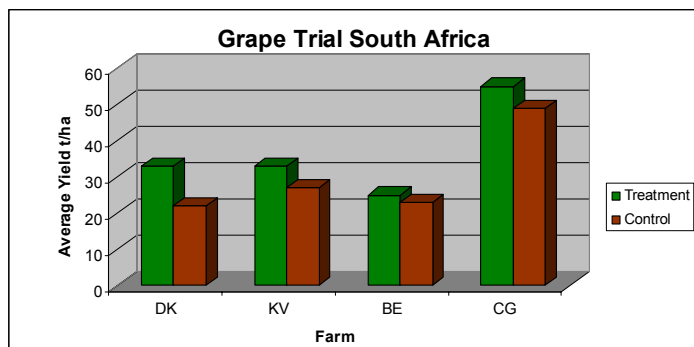
Omnia International Interest ~ The effects of the RIGHT Calcium on Grape yields

Table grapes are an important export for the deciduous fruit industry and an area of approximately 29 000 ha is under production in South Africa. Of this, 35 – 40% is located in the De Doorns and Hexriver Valley areas where the trial sites were located. A challenge for this industry is to produce a high quality product that will keep its quality from the vine through the whole packing and shipping process to the end-producer.

Calcium is an important element in cell division and by it's interaction with the hormonal balances within the berries larger berries with a thicker skins can be obtained that will be able to handle the packing and transporting processes better.

Applying 3.5 l/ha of FoliCal 19 (NUTRICAL 19 in South Africa) at the 2mm and 4mm berry size significantly increased picked and marketable yield across a variety of cultivars. OmniSap® was used to measure nutrient levels in the grapes.

An average marketable yield increase of 2.717 t/ha was achieved on the treated strips. This meant a total of 604 extra boxes could be packed at an additional revenue of approximately A\$2000/ha.



This is yet another example of the results obtained from working closely with Omnia and getting the full benefit of top quality products like FoliCal 19, applied at the right time at the correct rate.

Omnia has done a lot of development work in Grapes and has excellent Soil and Sap testing facilities backed up by products like Mega-Kel-P® and the Mate Micro nutrient range.

Trial done by M. Kellerman, J. Steenkamp & M. A'Bear of the Research and development department in South Africa.

Talk to us. It pays.



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