

Biostart N Organic Grape Programme Trial

Merlot block, Hawkes Bay 2016/17

Yield increase of +9 %; juice quality maintained



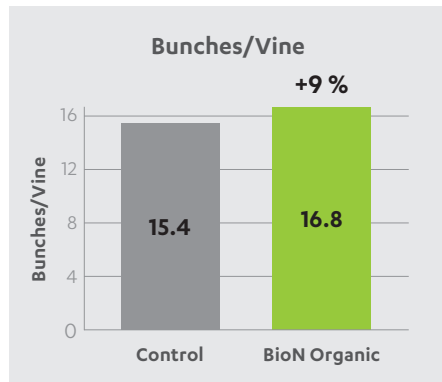
In a trial conducted in Gimblet Gravels Region of the Hawkes Bay over the 2016/17 season, the organic programme of Biostart N and seaweed/humic acid increased the number of bunches and bunch weight per vine, leading to a 9 % yield increase over the untreated area. There were no major differences in juice quality between the treatments.

Trial design

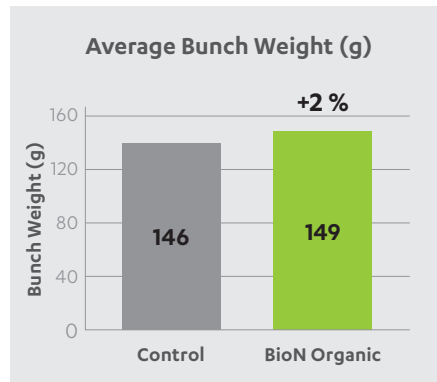
The trial was conducted on a young merlot block with varying vine vigour in Gimblet Gravels, Hawkes Bay. There were two replicates of 6 treated and 6 untreated rows. The organic programme of Biostart N 20 mL/ha and seaweed/humic acid was applied to the treated area in autumn (April 2016) and spring (September 2016). Both blocks had the grower’s standard disease programme and growing conditions were the same for both blocks.

Results

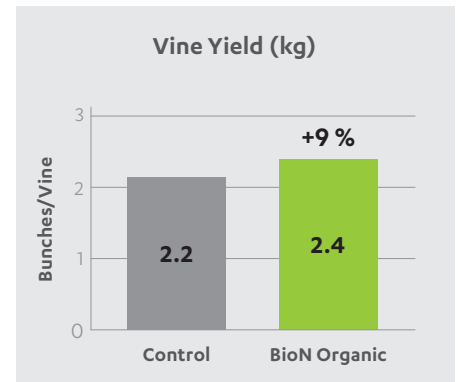
A representative vine from five randomly selected bays from each replicate was picked prior to harvest with the number of bunches per vine and bunch weights recorded. Juice analysis was conducted by Wineworks Hawkes Bay.



The Biostart N and seaweed/humic acid programme increased the average number of bunches per vines by +9 %



The Biostart N and seaweed/humic acid programme increased the average bunch weight by +2 %



The Biostart N and seaweed/humic acid programme increased the average yield per vines by +9 %

Juice analysis: There were no major differences between the treated and untreated juice.

	Brix	pH	TA	Malic	NH4	NOPA	YAN
	%	units	g/l	g/l	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L
Control	20.8	3.44	5.56	1.50	51	109	159
Biostart N Organic	20.3	3.42	5.71	1.56	50	107	157