

Strawberry | Benefits Sheet

Increasing plant establishment and yields with Mycorrcin



How it Works

Biostart Mycorrcin is a soil biostimulant that activates beneficial soil microbes, which stimulate healthy root growth and development leading to higher nutrient uptake, faster crop establishment and greater yield.



Benefits

Promotes root growth in young strawberry plants

Young strawberry plantlets treated with a 1% Mycorrcin solution in the nursery show an increase in the number of white actively growing roots in the Mycorrcin-treated plants one month after treatment (**Figure 1**). This start ensures plants establish faster upon planting in the field.

Figure 1. Strawberry plantlet roots one month after Mycorrcin treatment



Biostart Strawberry Programme	
Timing	Directions
Planting	Soak plants in a 1% solution prior to planting
Early growth	At first fertigation add 5 L/ha
Flowering, fruit set, fruit growth and harvest	Fertigate with 0.5 L/ha once a fortnight

Figure 2. Strawberry beds at five weeks growth in the Ecogrowth Perth trial



Improves Strawberry Plant Establishment

A trial on strawberry plantlet establishment undertaken at Ecogrowth in Perth, Western Australia showed faster plantlet establishment. Biostart Mycorrcin was applied at 250 mL/ha/week through the fertigation system on to the newly planted strawberry beds. **Figure 2** shows that the Mycorrcin-treated strawberry plants established much faster and reduced the time to first harvest.

Increased Strawberry Yield

In a on a commercial strawberry crop in Auckland, New Zealand Mycorrcin-treated rows of strawberries had significantly increased yield.

The treated rows received an initial application of 5 L Mycorrcin/ha in May directly after planting, and then received 0.5 L Mycorrcin/ha fortnightly, applied via the fertigation system, starting in mid-June and continued until the end of December.

Both plots received the same fertiliser and disease control programme throughout the trial period. The fruit was harvested twice a week from two five metre plots within both blocks and fruit weight was recorded. Harvests were recorded over 11 weeks from 29 October to 14 January.

Over the harvest season (October to January) this regular application of Mycorrcin increased yield by 8% or 3 MT/ha from 39 to 42 MT/ha. **Figure 3** shows that there was a noticeable increase in yields from the later picking dates (weeks 7 to 12).

Benefits of Mycorrcin for Strawberry Growers

Applying Mycorrcin in the strawberry plant nursery improves early root growth which leads to better plant establishment. The regular application of Mycorrcin to planted crops enhances root growth speeding up crop establishment and leads to increased fruit yield, especially during the later stages of the season.

Figure 3. Weekly strawberry yield comparison in Auckland, New Zealand, October to January

