



SmartNitrogen

Controlled Release Fertilizer
A *smarter* source of nitrogen.
A *smarter* way to grow.



Facts from the Field

February 2008

ESN Reduces Nitrate Leaching in Minnesota Potato Production

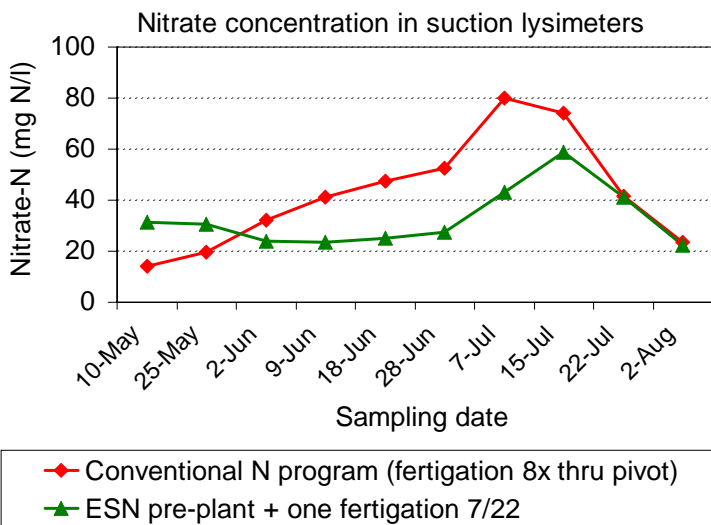


Figure 1. ESN reduced leaching of N in a Minnesota potato field compared with the grower's conventional fertigation program.

This 2004 study comes from a potato grower's field, which was split in half. Half of the circle was fertilized with ESN at planting; the other half was fertilized with a conventional program consisting of pre-plant urea plus the bulk of the required N applied thru the center pivot with irrigation water on a regular basis (total of eight fertigation applications). Suction lysimeters are a device used to extract the soil solution for the purpose of measuring soluble nutrients and other elements that are in the soil. When placed at different depths in the root zone, they are useful for monitoring the downward movement of mobile nutrients such as nitrate-nitrogen. The conventional program of 'spoon-feeding' N thru irrigation has been demonstrated to be an excellent N management practice as long as irrigation is properly managed. In this case, a single application of ESN with one supplementary fertigation resulted in less leaching loss plus saved the grower time and money, increased yields, and improved crop quality, a very attractive value package for the grower.

Source: Dr. Carl Rosen, Univ. of Minnesota.

How can we help?

To make ESN part of your nitrogen program, contact an authorized retailer or Agrium representative. For technical information, our agronomists can be reached during business hours.

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