

ECTOL potato minituber trial 2010

- This was carried out in the minituber production facility at TIAR in Devonport
- The potato varieties chosen were Kennebec and Nicola
- There were 4 replicates of 10 pots, 1 rooted cutting per pot, planted on
- There were 4 applications of Ectol as a 1:50 spray at weekly intervals, the first a week prior to the estimated start of tuber initiation, the second at tuber initiation and the third and fourth one and two weeks after, mixed with the routine preventative fungicides
- The potatoes were harvested on November 8. For each pot, the numbers of tubers greater and less than 2 g were recorded and also the total weight for each fraction
- Individual tuber weights were recorded for the 20 plants which constituted replicates 1 and 2
- The raw data is contained in separate spreadsheets

In summary, comparing treated and control :

	Kennebec	Nicola
• Total tuber weight	103.4%	120.7%
• Tubers over 2g	103.7%	123.8%
• Tubers less than 2g	85.4%	105.6%
• Total tuber numbers	95.0%	105.6%
• Tubers over 2g	100.0%	107.0%
• Tubers less than 2g	82.6%	95.7%
• Average tuber weight	108.8%	114.9%

The ideal tuber weight range is 10 – 25g. In this range:

	Kennebec		Nicola	
	Control	Treated	Control	Treated
• Weight	914	1073	585	944
• Number	58	65	45	63
• Average	15.8	16.5	13.0	15.0
• Total weight	5440.5	5625.1	5008.9	6046.1
• % total weight	16.8	19.1	11.7	15.6
• Total number	478	454	1056	1115
• % total number	12.1	14.3	4.3%	5.7%
• T/C weight	117.4%		161.4%	
• T/C number	112.1%		140.0%	

it will be more effective to apply Ectol after tuber initiation to increase the proportion in this range