



The Black Stuff

Viticulture Trial of The Black Stuff™

Background

Irrigated vineyard in Mallee District of Victoria, seeking to optimise water useage and yields.

Objective

Cost benefit trial of using The Black Stuff on a sultana grape vineyard.

Crop: Sultana grapes

Location: Mallee District, Victoria

Method

Applied in two methods 15 rows each:

Surface application – applied along rows then turned in.

Inter-row application – applied in band down the middle of the inter-row area.

Rate: 3 m³/H

Control: treated to usual commercial practices.

Results

Yields:

Surface application 1,250 kg/row

Inter-row application 1,250 kg/row

Control 1,000 kg/row

Canes: The treated rows had a significant increase in new canes.

Yield increases have been maintained over 3 reporting years.

Rainfall Average annual rainfall 22.5 mm
History Sultana Grape vineyard
Soil Type: Sandy loam PH: 5.5

Conclusion

Sustained 25% increase in crop yields.

The data found that 3 m³/H application rate was highly effective for plant growth, health and increased yields.

Treated areas gave impressive visual results with larger bunch size, and increased foliage compared to the control area.

No discernible difference between the application methods.

