Case Study - Sri Lanka - January 2018

TEA BUSHES

B313 Liquid Biostimulant

BACKGROUND

In January 2018 a field trial of EcostimTea Biostimulant Complex began on high grown tea bushes in the Golden Valley of Bogawantalawa in Sri Lanka. The elevation was 1300 metres (4,225 feet) above sea level and the variety was Camellia Sinensis. An area containing 90 mature bushes of similar age and size was selected for the purpose of the test. All the bushes in the test area received a similar dressing of NPK fertiliser before the test commenced.

APPLICATIONS

Test Area 1 (Foliar Treatment)
30 bushes were cordoned off and designated for treatment by foliar application. 2 litres of EcoStim Tea Biostimulant Complex was diluted to 58 litres with water (1:29) and applied by foliar spray to the bushes in this area. This meant that each bush received just less than 2 litres of the diluted biostimulant complex.

Test Area 2 (Soil Application)
30 bushes were cordoned off and designated for treatment by soil application. 2 litres of EcoStim Tea Biostimulant Complex was diluted to 58 litres with water (1:29) and applied in equal amounts to the soil around the roots of each bush. This meant that each bush received just less than 2 litres of the diluted biostimulant complex.

Test Area 3 (The Control)
The remaining 30 bushes were cordoned off and designated as controls, which would receive no biostimulant treatment. They did however receive an application of 2 litres of water per bush (60 litres total) in place of a biostimulant addition.

Following these initial applications all three test areas received the same amounts of water, as required by the normal watering procedure. Subsequent applications of biostimulant were made to test areas 1 and 2 exactly as above, two weeks after, and six weeks after, the first application.

TEST RESULTS

Throughout the test period picking of the tea took place (two leaves to one bud) and the yields from each test area were weighed and recorded. One month after the final and third application of biostimulant had taken place the total weights of leaves and buds harvested from each area were calculated and compared.

When compared to the untreated control bushes the foliar treated bushes had produced an increase in yield of 28% and the soil treated bushes had produced an increased yield of 45%.

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