



TwinN on Industrial Hemp Fiber in Central Kansas, USA, 2023.

INTRODUCTION

The trial was conducted by Performance Crop Research, a Kansas-based independent contract research company. The trial was designed to test the capacity of TwinN microbial biofertilizer to enable increased yields and reduced nitrogen fertiliser applications in industrial hemp (*Cannabis sativa* cv Yuma) production.

SUMMARY

A single application of TwinN produced substantial increases in yield (~70% increases even with a 20% reduced N application rate) while two applications of TwinN more than doubled yields. These large effects on yield, combined with reduced nitrogen fertiliser costs, resulted in large increases in returns per acre.

MATERIALS & METHODS:

The irrigated field is located in Stafford County near Great Bend, Kansas, USA. The soil type is Saltcreek and Naron fine sandy loam. The experiment was conducted as a randomized complete block design with 4 replications. The treated plot size was 6 ft by 40 ft (240 ft²). The row spacing was 7.5 inches. The field data were subjected to analysis of variance and treatment means were separated at p=0.05%

TREATMENTS

Treatments consisted of standard 100% nitrogen fertiliser rate versus one or two TwinN applications combined with either 80% or 100% nitrogen rates. Other nutrients were kept at standard rates across all treatments.

Date April 28 2023 June 1 2023 June 21 2023 17.5 lbN/ac Standard N program 35 lbN/ac 35 lbN/ac (100% N) (Urea) (UAN) (UAN) **Reduced N program** Nil 35 lbN/ac 35 lbN/ac (80% N) (UAN) (UAN)

The crop was planted April 28 2023 and harvested October 18 2023.

TwinN applications

TwinN was applied via boom spray in 20 gal/ac (180L/ha) followed by 0.3 inches irrigation water via centre pivot. The first application was made 23 days post-emergence (May 31 2023, V6 stage, 16 inches high) and in treatments receiving two TwinN applications the second application was made 36 days after the first application (July 6 2023, 6 ft high).

RESULTS

The Control treatment which received 87.5 lb N/ac (100kg N/ha) through the season produced 5 T/ac which is an average to good yield for the district. A single application of TwinN combined with either 80% or 100% of the standard N rate produced a large yield increase with the 80%N plus TwinN yielding 72% higher than the non-TwinN control. The 80% N and 100% N plus two TwinN applications produced very large yield increases with the 80% N plus two TwinN applications producing a massive 134% yield increase.

Treatment	Yield (T/ac)
1. Control. (100% N Fertilizer) No TwinN	5.0 c
2. 1x Twin N (100% N Fertilizer)	8.2 b
3. 1x Twin N (80% N Fertilizer)	8.6 b (+72%)
4. 2x Twin N (100% N Fertilizer)	11.0 a
5. 2x Twin N (80% N Fertilizer)	11.7 a (+134%)

Table 1 Average harvested wet biomass for five treatments (US Tons)

Yield is average harvested biomass from four replicate plots/treatment Means followed by same letter or symbol do not significantly differ (P=0.05).

CONCLUSION

One or two applications of TwinN reduced nitrogen fertiliser requirements and costs while boosting hemp biomass yields and returns very significantly.



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