

APPLE TRAIL - HONEYCRISP

Researcher: Agricultural Assistant

Year: 2006 - 2007

Tree Density: 200 trees/hectare

Location: Ceres, South Africa

Variety: Honeycrisp

Tree Age: 7 years

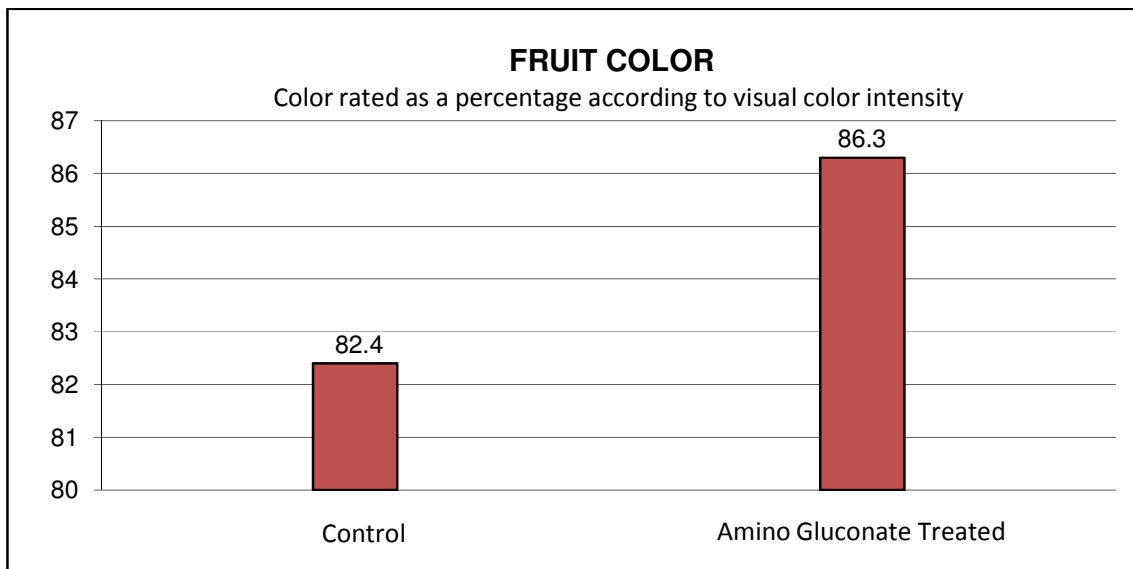
Experimental design: Amino Gluconate Ca, Amino Gluconate K and Amino Gluconate Zn was tested on a commercial productive orchard to evaluate apple quality and yield influences with Amino Gluconate application and without Amino Gluconate application. 20 trees were selected. The trees had similar vigor and apple loads.

Fertilization: Unknown

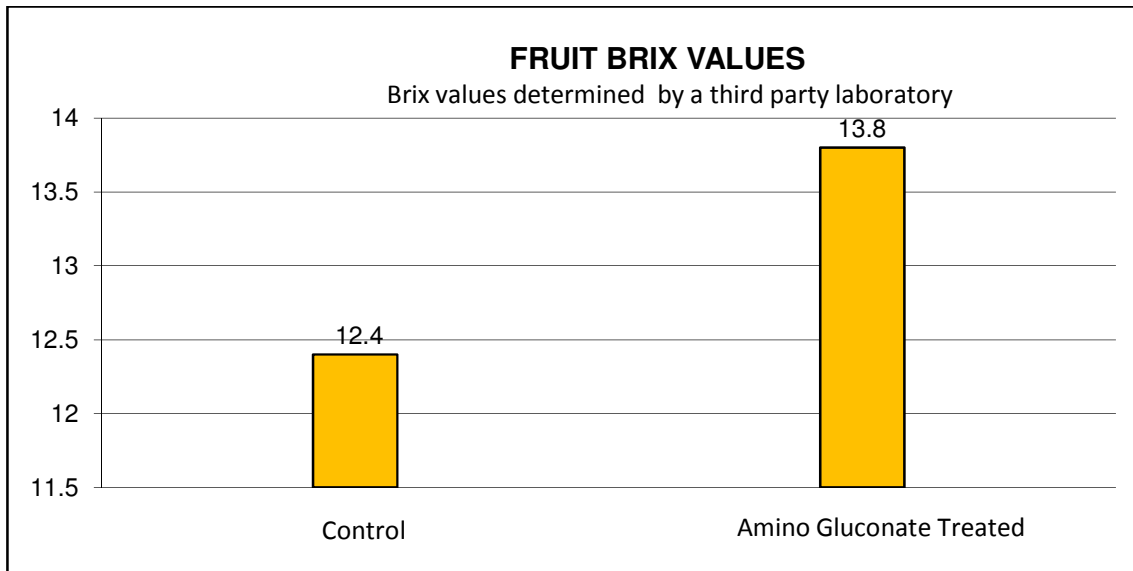
Amino Gluconate Application: 1Lt/ha Amino Gluconate Zn at full bloom and just prior to fruit coloring. 4Lt/ha Amino Gluconate K at fruit coloring. 4Lt/ha Amino Gluconate Ca at petal fall, repeated 5 times at 14 day intervals.

Results:

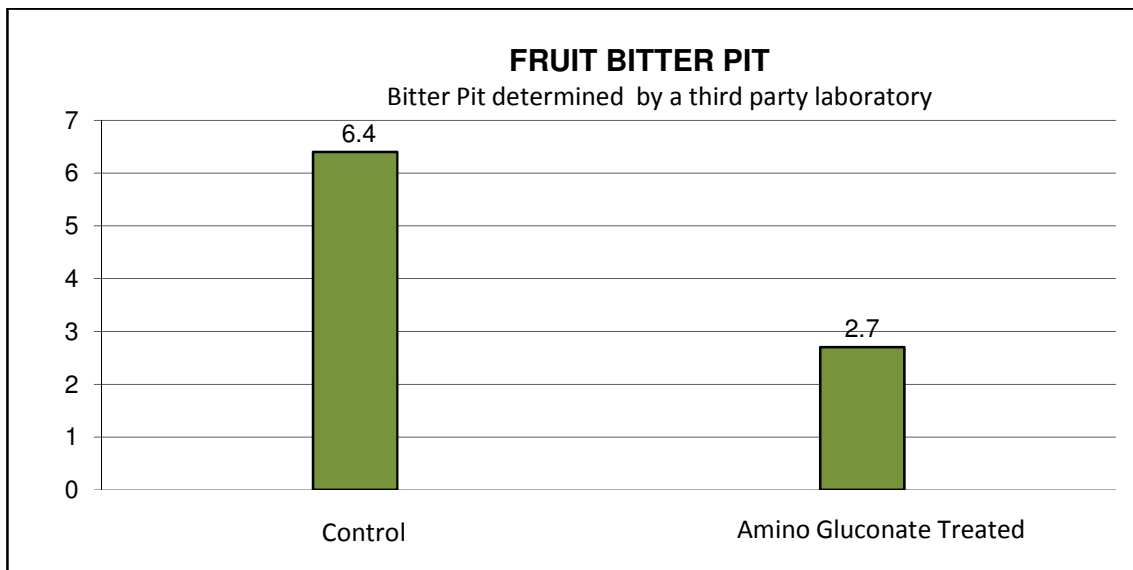
Fruit Color:



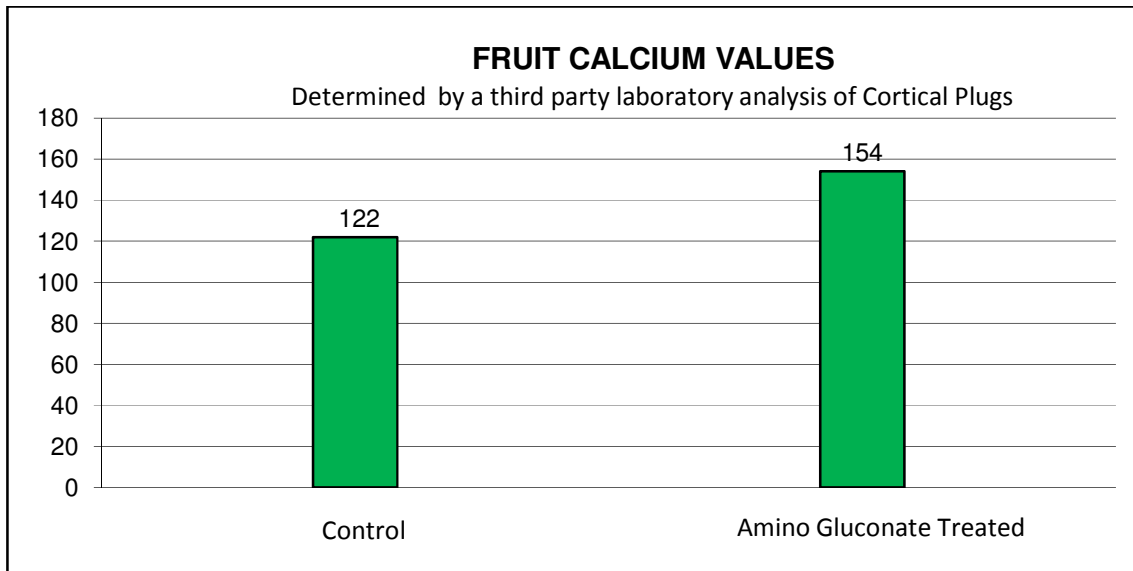
Brix



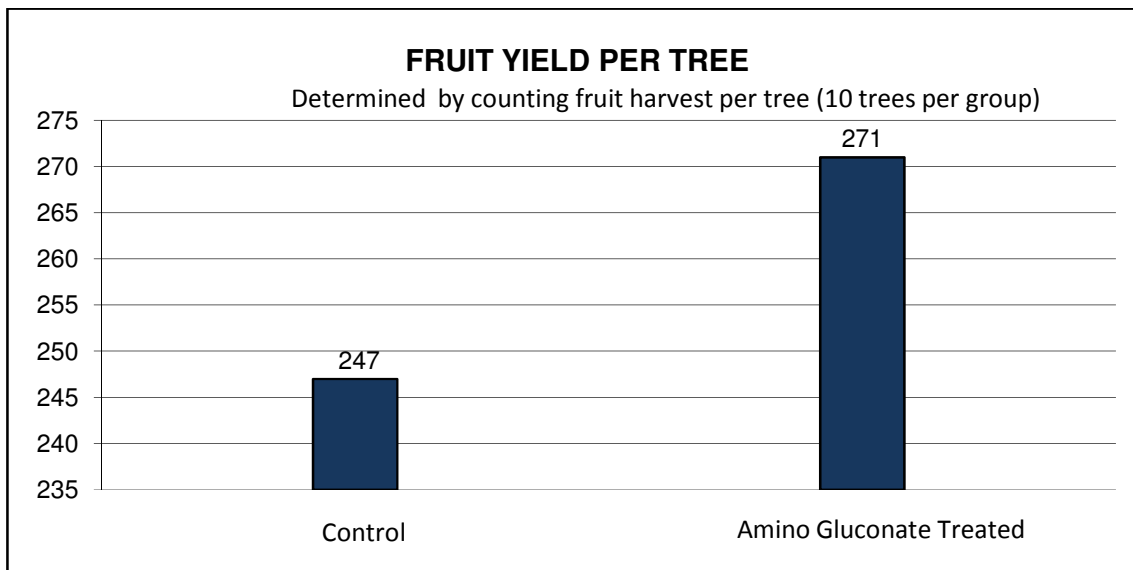
Bitter Pit:



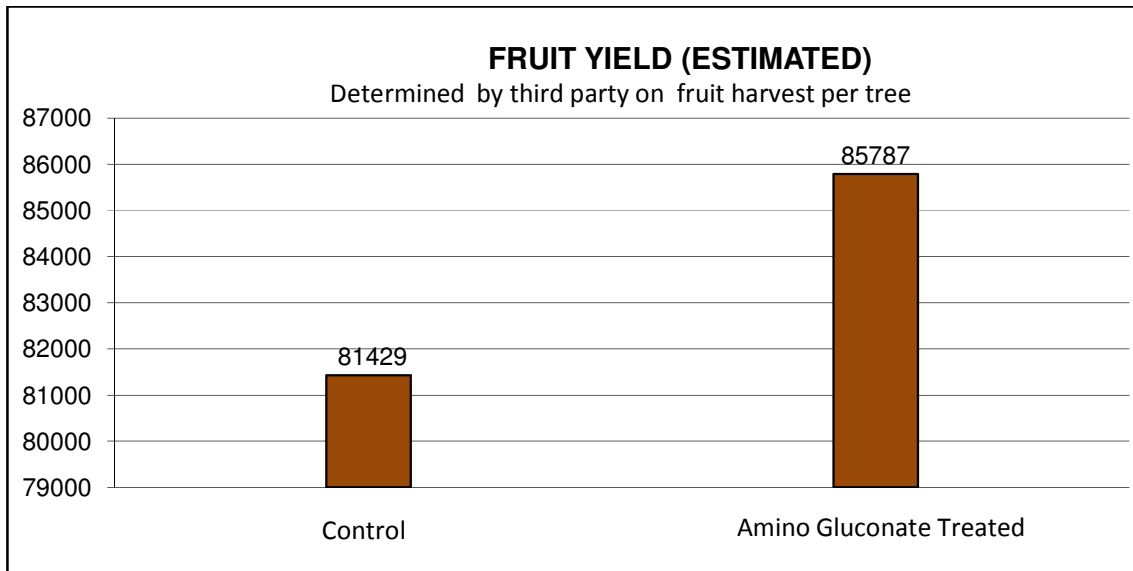
Fruit Calcium Levels:



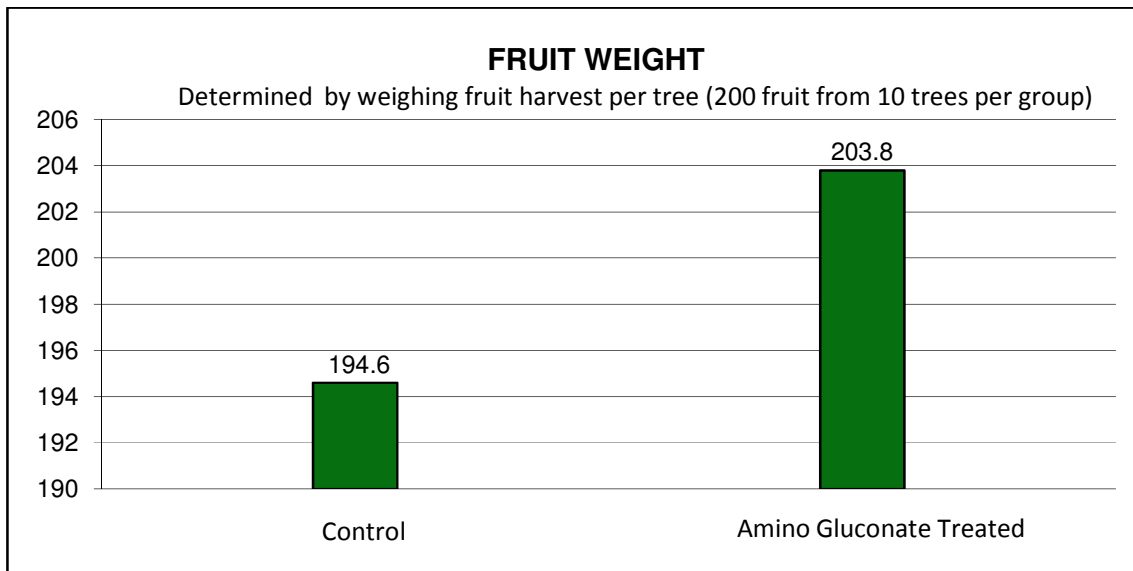
Yield (Apples per Tree)



Yield (Tree Yield)



Mean Fruit Weight (gram)



Conclusion:

Yield Improvements:

- Increased Apple Weight / Tree : 10gram per apple
- Higher Apple Yield: On average 24 more apples per tree
- Higher total Apple Yield: Estimated 5% yield increase

Quality Improvements:

- Better coloring: 0.8%
- Higher Brix values: 1.4
- Less Bitter Pit incidences: 58% reduction