

2022 Old Plank Farm Research Notes and Results

**Compost Tea Plot**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Date Planted</b>	<b>Approximate number of transplants</b>	<b>Dates Sprayed with AACT (and associated labor/materials cost)</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Total Yield</b>	<b>Total fertilization Cost (labor and materials)</b>	<b>Fertilization cost per unit of harvest</b>
Cabbage	June 24	1200	June 24 (\$8), July 1(\$8), July 21 (\$8), Aug 6(\$10.50)	Had some cabbage moth damage early on, but mostly grew out of it. Very few cabbage worms found in the harvest.	970 marketable heads; 3,589 lbs	\$34.50	\$0.01
Cherry Tomato	June 7	200	June 7(\$14), June 24(\$8), July 1 (\$8), July 21(\$8), Aug 6(\$10.50)		1,458 pints	\$48.50	\$0.03
Tomato-Big Beef Slicer *	June 7	200	June 7(\$14), June 24(\$8), July 1 (\$8), July 21(\$8), Aug 6(\$10.50)	Not trellised due to labor shortage	1,689 marketable pounds	\$48.50	\$0.03
Peppers	June 3	800	June 7(\$14), June 24(\$8), July 1 (\$8), July 21(\$8), Aug 6(\$10.50)	Healthy looking plants but few blossoms. Weeded late (handweeded just before first picking). Very low yield?	48 bushels	\$48.50	\$1.01
Melons	June 10	300	June 24 (\$8) , July 1 (\$8) , July 21 (\$8)	did not keep up with weeding	95 melons (failed to track weights; would have been more accurate; estimated 3.5-4 lbs each	\$24.00	\$0.25
Potatoes	May 25	240 lbs	June 24(\$8), July 1 (\$8)	Potato beetles destroyed plants	crop failure	\$16.00	\$0.00
*we did not include paste tomatoes in our trials							

Compost Tea Brew Log						
Date	Recipe	Application rate	Crops treated	Notes		
June 7	Compost extract (30 minute brew): 15 pounds compost, no foods (no time for microbe growth/feeding in an extract)		tomatoes and peppers	Applied to flats of tomatoes before putting out in the field, then did a soil drench on the recently transplanted pepper beds		
June 14	24 hour brew: 90 gallons water, 5 lbs compost, 6 Tablespoons Hum-Amend Max	n/a	none	under the microscope, I found no microbial life other than bacteria. The Hum-Amend humic acid product (which I thought was recommended by Dr Elaine in one of her course lectures) appeared not to dissolve, or was not enough (recipe was recommended proportions given by Dr. Elaine). We did not use this brew.		
June 24	24 hour brew: 90 gallons water, 5 lbs compost, 8 ounces Neptune's Harvest liquid fish	80 gallons per acre	all			
July 1	24 hour brew: 90 gallons water, 5 lbs compost, 8 ounces Neptune's Harvest liquid fish	80 gallons per acre	all			

July 21	24 hour brew: 90 gallons water, 5 lbs compost, 8 ounces Neptune's Harvest liquid fish	100 gallons on aprox .8 acres	Cabbage, Tomatoes, Peppers, Melons				
Aug 6	24 hour brew: 90 gallons water, 5 lbs compost, 8 ounces Neptune's Harvest liquid fish	100 gallons on approx .8 acres	Cabbage, Tomatoes, Peppers				
<b>Sustane Fertilizer Plot</b>							
<b>Crop</b>	<b>Date Planted</b>	<b>Approximate number of transplants</b>	<b>Dates fertilized (and associated labor/materials cost)</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Total Yield</b>	<b>Total fertilization Cost</b>	<b>Fertilization cost per unit of harvest</b>
Cabbage	June 24	1200	7/13/2022 (\$110)		1082 marketable heads; 4,977 lbs	\$110.00	\$0.02
Cherry Tomato	June 7	200	6/7/2022 (\$110)		1,310 pints	\$110.00	\$0.08
Tomato- Big Beef Slicer	June 7	200	6/7/2022 (\$110)		1,840 marketable pounds	\$110.00	\$0.06
Peppers	June 3	800	6/3/2022 (\$110)	Healthy looking plants but few blossoms. Weeded late (handweeded just before first picking). Very low yield?	54 bushels	\$110.00	\$2.04
Melons	June 10	300	6/10/2022 (\$110)	did not keep up with weeding	134 melons (failed to track weights; would have been more accurate; estimated 3.5-4 lbs each	\$110.00	\$0.82

Potatoes	May 27	240 lbs	6/14/2022 (\$220)	Potato beetles destroyed plants	crop failure	\$220.00	\$0.00
General Notes about the growing season: It was a hot, dry season. We had to irrigate regularly, using an overhead system. The only crop we couldn't irrigate regularly were the potatoes.							
<b>Comparison of fertilization costs by crop (per unit of harvest)</b>	<b>Compost Tea</b>	<b>Sustane bagged fertilizer</b>	<b>Net difference in profit per unit</b>				
Cabbage (unit= lb)	\$0.010	\$0.022	\$0.01				
Cherry Tomatoes (unit=pint)	\$0.033	\$0.084	\$0.05				
Tomatoes-Big beef slicers (unit=lb)	\$0.029	\$0.060	\$0.03				
Peppers (unit=bushel)	\$1.010	\$2.037	\$1.03				
Melons (Unit=count)	\$0.253	\$0.821	\$0.57				

Potatoes (Crop failure, no results)	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.00				
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