# Advances in fertility and soil borne disease management in alliums

New England Fruit and Vegetable Conference December 13, 2019

**Crystal Stewart-Courtens** 

# How much fertility is enough?

#### PLANT NUTRIENT RECOMMENDATION ACCORDING TO SOIL TEST RESULTS FOR GARLIC

**GARLIC** 

NITROGEN (N) LBS
PER ACRE

PHOSPHORUS (P) LBS P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> PER ACRE

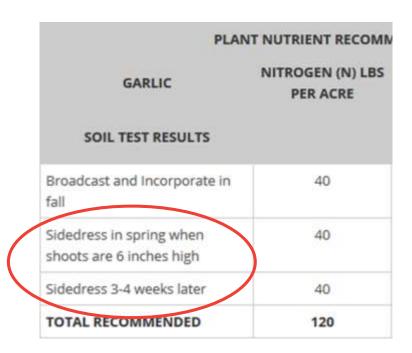
POTASSIUM (K) LBS K<sub>2</sub>O PER ACRE

SOIL TEST RESULTS		VERY LOW	LOW	ОРТІМИМ	ABOVE OPTIMUM	VERY LOW	LOW	ОРТІМИМ	ABOVE OPTIMUM
Broadcast and Incorporate in fall	40	150	100	25-50	0	150	100	50	0
Sidedress in spring when shoots are 6 inches high	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sidedress 3-4 weeks later	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL RECOMMENDED	120	150	100	25-50	0	150	100	50	0

PLAI	PLANT NUTRIENT RECOMM			
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Deduct 10-15 lbs of N per 1% of OM

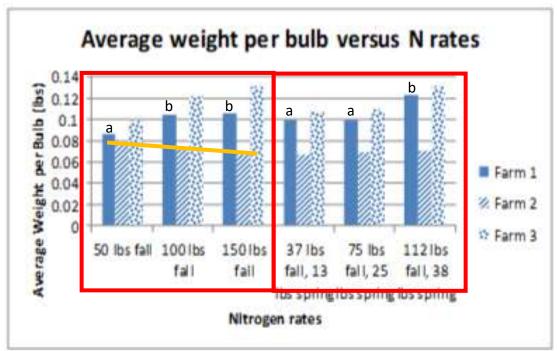
→ 95 lbs N



# Do we really have to side-dress in the spring?

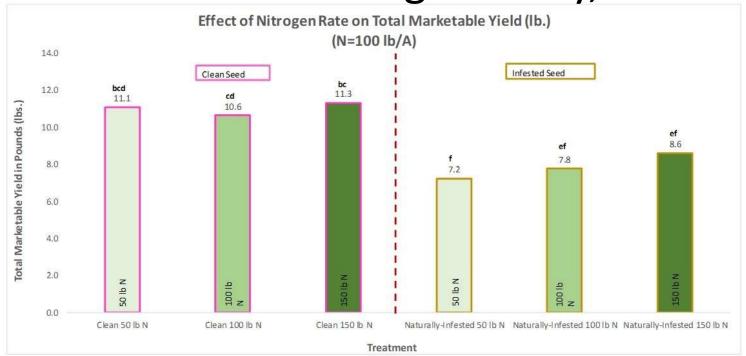
Not necessarily

# Organic nitrogen study, 2011

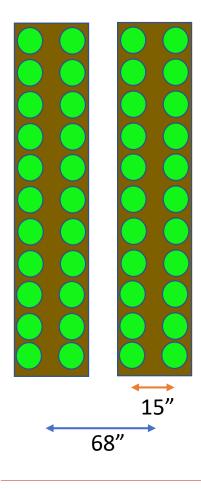


This work was funded through the support of Northeast SARE

# Conventional nitrogen study, 2017



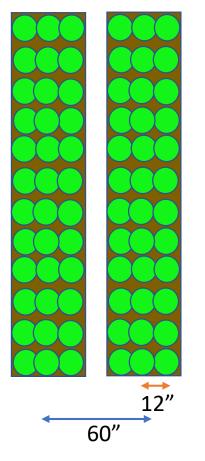
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#### **Research plots:**

15" between row6" in-row68" bed spacing

29,580 plants/A



#### One bed design:

12" between row7" in-row60" bed spacing

44,742 plants/A

1.5 times more plants

# Suggested soluble N rates by density:

Plants per acre:	N rate per acre:
30,000	50 lbs
45,000	75 lbs
60,000	100 lbs

Apply nitrogen as soon as garlic begins to emerge in the spring

# **Organic N sources:**

		Plants per acre:	N rate per acre:
		30,000	75 lbs
Organic trial configuration		45,000	100 lbs
•		60,000	125 lbs

### Impacts of Fusarium on the industry:

- Yield losses
- Down-grading of garlic
- Increased labor culling and grading
- Makes us cranky



# The Many Looks of Fusarium











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Damage by *D. dipsaci*Images courtesy EA Kurtz APS Compendium of Onion & Garlic Diseases

#### What can we do?

- Conventional fungicides have not been effective
- · Disease severity varies tremendously from farm to farm and year to year

#### Research goals:

Better understand the disease itself

Understand what environments curb fusarium infestation

Understand what organic treatments, if any, curb fusarium infestation

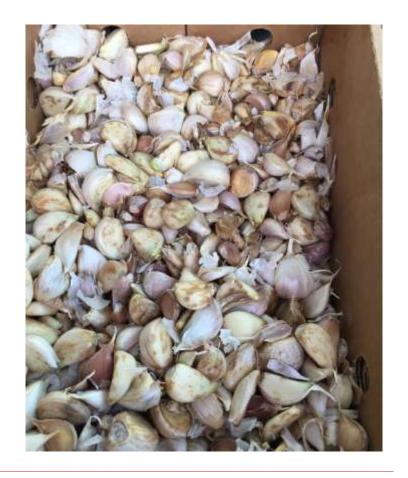
# **Fusarium study**

#### Cultural controls

- Two sites: Hudson Valley and WNY
- Raised beds, mulching, planting timing

#### Organic chemical/biological controls

- Two sites: LI and WNY
- Oxidate (seed and soil)
- Terra-clean and Terra-grow
- Effects of N levels on Fusarium severity







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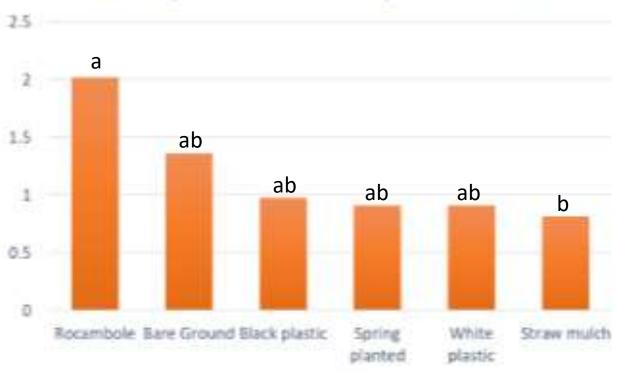
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#### Average Fusarium % by treatment





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#### For more information...

#### Google CCE ENYCH to get to our website

#### Garlic post-harvest handling year two results

Crystal Stewart-Courtens, Extension Vegetable Specialist Eastern New York Commercial Horticulture

Last Modified: April 20, 2019



Second year data from post-harvest studies. All work was funded by Northeast SARE.

read details

#### Presentations and Resources from 2019 Garlic School in Batavia

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Last Modified: April 5, 2019



Check out the presentations and resources from the Cornell Vegetable Program's 2019 Garlic School that was held March 20th, 2019 in Batavia, NY.

read details