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71/R/P/15 Ethrel and N - Potatoes

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71/R/P/15

POTATOES

ETHREL AND N

Object: To study the effects of soaking potato seed in 'Ethrel', at a range of nitrogen levels, on yield and bulking rate of early potatoes - Long Hoos III.

Design: 4 blocks of 9 plots, randomisation restricted.

Whole plot dimensions: 2.84 x 7.62. Area harvested: 0.00033.

Treatments: All combinations of:-

1. 'Ethrel'* (seed soaked before planting): 0, 60, 120 mg per l.
2. Nitrogen: 75, 150, 225 kg.

* 2-chloroethylphosphonic acid.

Basal applications: 1250 kg (0:14:28). Weedkiller: Linuron at 0.84 kg in 427 l. Fungicide: Mancozeb at 1.4 kg in 438 l. Insecticide: Demeton-s-methyl at 0.25 kg applied with the mancozeb.

Cultivations, etc.: Ploughed: 30 Sept, 1970. N and basal PK applied: 5 Apr, 1971. Rotary cultivated: 13 Apr. Potatoes machine planted: 15 Apr. Weedkiller applied: 10 May. Grubbed: 3 June. Earthed up: 4 June. Insecticide and fungicide applied: 24 June. Haulm destroyed mechanically: 11 Aug. Lifted by hand: 12 Aug. Variety: Arran Pilot. Previous crops: Barley 1969, fallow 1970.

NOTE: Samples were taken throughout the growing season for estimation of leaf areas, tuber numbers and tuber size distribution.

Standard error per plot.

Total tubers, tonnes/hectare: 4.15 or 12.2% (24 d.f.)

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SUMMARY OF RESULTS

N: KG/HA

	75	150	225	Mean
TOTAL TUBERS: TONNES/HECTARE				
ETHREL MG				
	(±2.07)			(±1.20)
0	29.3	34.9	36.6	33.6
60	28.4	35.2	36.1	33.2
120	32.0	35.7	38.5	35.4
Mean (±1.20)	29.9	35.3	37.1	34.1

% WARE: 3.81 CM (1.5 INCH) RIDDLE

ETHREL MG				
0	57.5	67.2	70.3	65.0
60	54.8	66.5	72.4	64.6
120	62.0	71.0	75.1	69.4
Mean	58.1	68.2	72.6	66.3