

55% more marketable stalks

LEEK

Julie Ouellet, Premier Tech, QC. 1998

OBJECTIVE

Evaluate the growth improvement of leek in the field when inoculated with the mycorrhizal fungus *Glomus intraradices*.

METHODS

The trial was conducted in a sandy-loam soil at La Pocatière (Québec). Transplants were planted in the field according to the crop requirements. The experimental design was a randomized complete block with four replicates. The field soil was tilled and plants received an organic granular fertilizer (5-6-1) at the beginning of the experiment at the rate of 10 g per transplant. The leek cv. 'Unique' was planted in this trial. A non-mycorrhizal (Control) and a mycorrhizal inoculated

treatment were used. The mycorrhizal inoculant was incorporated in the soil at planting whereas nothing was introduced to the soil for the control treatment plants.

Leek stalks were harvested and weighted at the end of October (one harvest) just before frost. They were rated marketable when the stalk diameter was 2,5 cm (one inch) and more.

RESULTS

The mycorrhizal inoculated treatment produced 26.7% significantly higher yield (total weight), as well as 55% higher weight of marketable stalks.

