HOW THE POTATO HARVEST IN KANGQI TOWNSHIP WAS IMPROVED

RLF Technical Team on Hand to Advise Growers

Authorised for release by:

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On 20th August 2019, the potato base workers in Kangqi Township, Wensu County, Aksu skillfully sorted the potatoes and packed them in boxes.

The 2500-mu potato crop at the base had gradually matured and the scene was filled with the joy and bustle associated with harvest time.

The harvest scene

In an effort to improve both the quality and yield of potatoes, the head of the potato base Tang Banglin, trialled the use of an RLF nutrition program in two of the fields – 50-mu for each. The remainder was left as Control, which followed the farmers' normal practice.

The Potato Test Site

Location	Kangqi Township, Wensu County, Aksu	
Farmer	Tang Banglin	
Area	100 mu	
Program	Date and Stage	RLF Product Used
	8th June 2019 at Seedling	Foliar spray with **Fruits & Veggies Plus** at 60g/mu
	18th June 2019 at Pre-tillering Stage	
	2nd July 2019 at Late-tillering Stage	Foliar spray with **Power PK** at 60g/mu
	15th July 2019 at Tuber Stage	

Preparing for the Test Spraying

The growth stages of potato are generally:

Early Stage	Middle Stage	Later Stage
The construction of roots, stems and leaves and the formation of stolons and tubers	The expansion of tubers with the above ground vegetation being basically stable	Involves the accumulation of dry matter, which maintains the photosynthetic efficiency of leaves and ensures the accumulation of dry matter such as potato starch

For the Vegetative Stage of Potato

As such, the early and middle stages of potato growth are the key stages for absorbing nutrients – and the nutrients provided need to be in place in advance to ensure all the growth needs.

At this time, by foliar spraying on two separate occasions with RLF Fruits & Veggies Plus can provide comprehensive and sufficient nutrition for these early stages of crop growth. It will accelerate the growth of stems and leaves, improve photosynthetic efficiency, promote the development of roots and the formation of stolons.

RLF **Fruits & Veggies Plus** biochemically chelates nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, sulphur, copper, iron, manganese, zinc, boron, molybdenum – the full suite of 12 essential nutrient elements. Together these provide the comprehensive nutrition needed, and with RLF's unique NDS (nutrient transmission system) it can improve the absorption utilisation rate, prevent nutrient deficiency, improve crop stress resistance ability, lay a solid foundation for later yield and improve quality.

After two applications of RLF **Fruits & Veggies Plus**, the stem from the RLF-treated plant was significantly thicker than that of the Control plant. The height of the RLF-treated plant was about 8cm higher than that of the Control plant. The leaves from the RLF-treated plant were thick, green and showing no signs of deficiency.

For the Flowering Stage of Potato

Phosphate fertiliser does not account for a large proportion of the total fertiliser content of potatoes, but its role cannot be ignored.

Because phosphorus deficiency often occurs in various types of soils – especially in acidic and viscous soils – available phosphorus is often fixed, and becomes inactive with low mobility and utilisation.

In the late tillering stage and tuber forming stage, foliar spraying with RLF Power PK which is rich in phosphorus and potassium can improve crop absorption and utilisation rate and make up for insufficient nutrients to the root system. In addition, it also contains a variety of medium and trace elements which prevent premature aging and prolong the life cycle of stem and leaf so as to achieve a better yield increasing effect.

Preparing to foliar spray with RLF Power PK

The scientifically-based proportions of phosphorus and potassium in RLF **Power PK** enables higher absorption and utilisation rate, increases the period for photosynthesis and intensity of stem and leaf, accelerates starch accumulation and significantly improves crop yield and quality.

RLF Technicians examine the test areas

The Weight Measurement Results

	Field 1	Field 2
Control (kg/mu)	2887	3460
RLF-treated (kg/mu)	3221	3881

The yield of the two fields treated with RLF products were higher than that of Control.

The actual income at the time was 1.25 yuan/kg, with an average increase of 377.5kg per mu. Compared with Control, the income of RLF-treated field was increased by 471 yuan per mu.

Since the implementation of the potato staple grain strategy, China's potato planting area has grown significantly, but its production management strategies are still relatively intensive. To improve the yield and quality of potatoes, rational fertilisation and post-management are key.

Moving forward, RLF will continue to provide in-depth services to help more and more potato growers improve their understanding of nutrition and planting technology, and achieve improvement in both potato yield and quality. This in turn will impact upon and increase economic benefits for the farmers, making their crops more productive in every sense.

Observing the potato crop