

## CASE STUDY

# TREATMENT OF POTATOES WITH ORGANIC PLUS SP

### INTRODUCTION

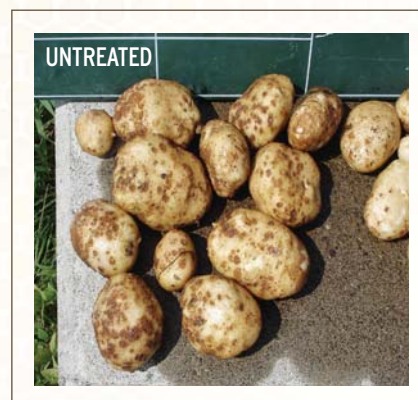
Potato scab is caused by a soil borne organism that is worldwide in distribution. The same organism also attacks many other root crops as well as the fleshy roots of weeds. It has been reported on beet, turnip, rutabaga, radish, carrot, and parsnip.

Common scab can be a problem on tubers harvested from small gardens. This disease is characterized by small (generally 5 to 8 mm diameter) light-tan to brown lesions resembling small scabs on the tuber skin. Dry conditions enhance scab development, especially early in the growing season. Proper water management should greatly reduce the potential for scab development. Scab can be particularly severe in soils with a high organic matter content. The planting of potatoes in soil recently treated with straw or animal manure should be avoided. In gardens where scab has been a problem in the past, planting a scab-resistant variety is recommended. Scab is strictly an appearance problem and does not affect potato quality.

### DISCUSSION

An Agribiotech Institute in Japan conducted a test of the effect of the use of Organic Plus fluid diluted 1,000 times on small potato fields in Japan. The farmers involved grew Irish Cobblers, which is a type of cultivar that is susceptible to scab.

### FARM 1



*As a result of spraying Organic Plus, an effect was also seen on the appearance of the potatoes as scab was reduced.*

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## FARM 2

Treated 1 hectare of a 6 hectare Irish Cobbler plot with Organic Plus diluted 1000 times.

His comments on the results are as follows:

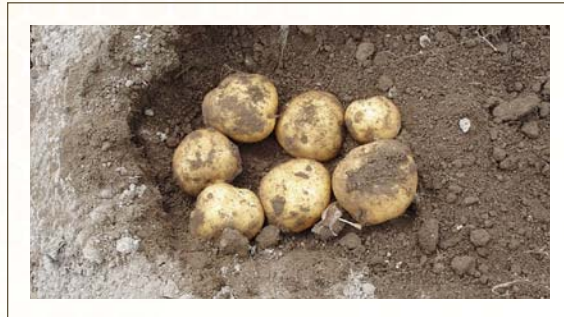
*Far less common scab has been found compared with the untreated area (5 ha), so our workload has been reduced and it means we can work much more efficiently.*

Along with stones and decay etc, common scab is heavy burden for operators of a harvester who are in charge of sorting. Therefore, in order to continue sorting properly, they have to slow down the harvester's running speed. As a result, efficiency falls substantially.

## FARM 3

Treated 1 hectare of a 8 hectare Irish Cobbler plot with Organic Plus diluted 1000 times.

Organic Plus was sprayed on a field before being cultivated by a rotary machine. After cultivation by the rotary, it was sprinkled again. The common scab was very serious in this field, but by spraying Organic Plus twice, the common scab can hardly be seen. Potatoes that had just been dug up showed a good yield.



## RESULTS

Organic Plus was effective in reducing the incidence of common scab in Irish Cobbler potatoes, a cultivar that is highly susceptible to this disease. Thus Organic Plus could play a useful role in a management strategy for common potato scab.