

ZELP AND POTATOES (Feb, 2014)

(Roger Beattie)

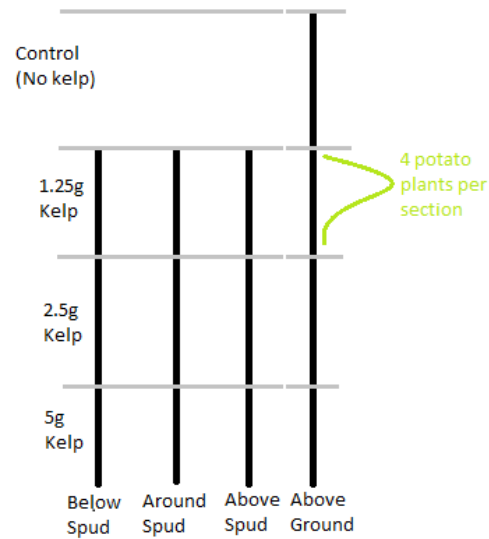
PLANTING

This trial was conducted on R & N Beattie's property at Ataahua in 'Hay' paddock. 52 potatoes were planted across 13 groups (4 potatoes in each group), with 3 different concentrations of kelp and 1 control (see diagram →)

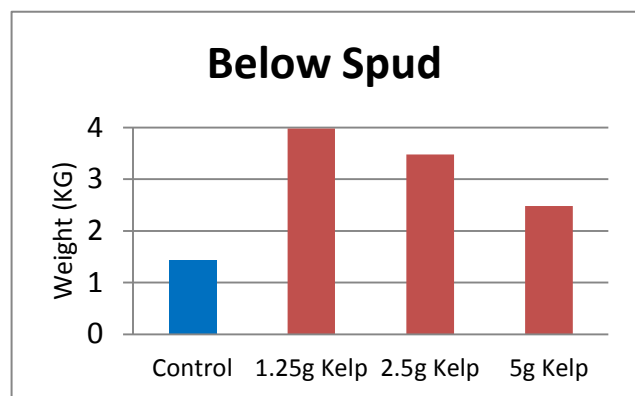
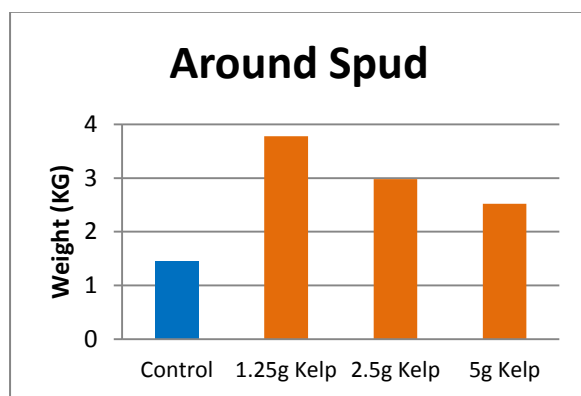
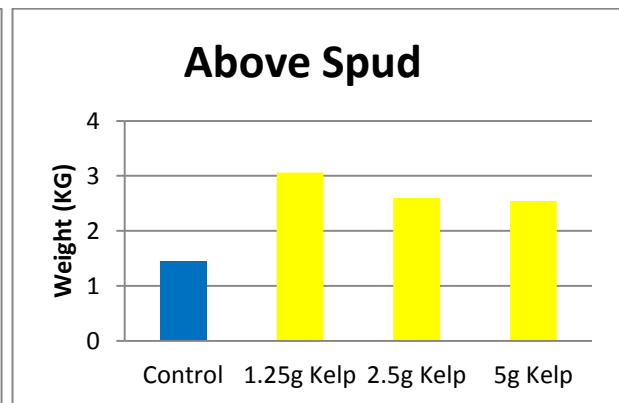
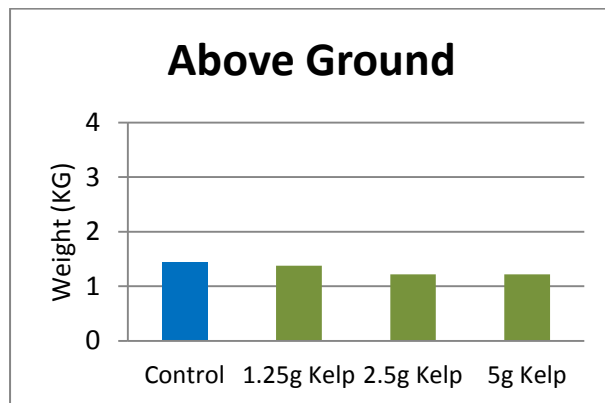
The kelp was applied in four different ways: 1) spread over the soil, 2) above the seed potato, 3) around the seed potato, and 4) applied below the seed potato

4/10/2013 - Sowing date

18/02/2014 – Harvest date (19wks 4 days)



RESULTS



The group with 1.25g of kelp applied below the spud had a total yield of 3.98kgs, 2.76 times greater the yield obtained from the control, 1.44Kg. The only method that was as bad/worse than the control was applying kelp on top of the soil. In every situation 1.25g of kelp outperformed 2.5g and 5g of kelp. Therefore, applications of 5g and 2.5g are too much. It may be that the optimum concentration is even lower than 1.25g. Another trial will be conducted later this year using smaller concentrations of 0.05g, 0.1g, 0.5g and 1g.

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CONTROL



1.25g Zelp

