

fumigation and broadcast P (**Figure 3**). But fall-applied P fully compensated for the effects of fumigation on bulb size and yield in two of three years if P was broadcast and one of the three years if it was banded. Additional available P was required for fumigated soil to match yields from soils not fumigated. Whereas onion yield did not differ for broadcast and banded P in two years, yield was lower with banding in one year.

The effects of fumigation on subsequent crops have not been widely reported. Winter wheat was fall planted after the onions to measure residual effects from the previous year P fertilizer and fumigation treatments. The adverse effects of fumigation on available soil P extended into the following wheat crop in both of the seasons for which data are available. Either P uptake by wheat at heading or grain yield at maturity was reduced the year following onions grown on fumigated soils. However, wheat grain yield and P uptake were not affected by fumigation the previous year if P had been applied to the onions.

Summary

Fumigation-induced stunting of onions prior to bulbing was striking and consistent each year in this high lime soil, and fall-applied P could not fully compensate for the effect in all years. Other factors appear to be involved which this study was not designed to evaluate. Banded P with soil-injected Vapam® was less effective than broadcast P. There are compelling pest control reasons to fumigate onion production fields in the Treasure Valley,

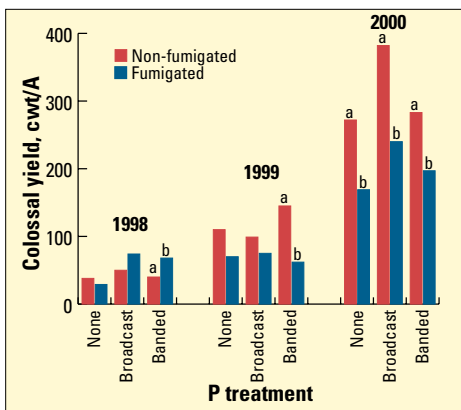


Figure 3. Colossal onion yield as affected by P treatment and year. Parma, 1998-00. Different letter denotes a statistical difference between non-fumigated and fumigated treatments at $p < 0.05$ within a given year.

but adequate levels of P, and possibly other nutrients, are essential to avoid reduced yields of both onions and subsequent wheat in high lime soils. **BC**

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This research was supported by the Idaho-Eastern Oregon Onion Growers Association.

InfoAg 2001 Rates High Marks from Participants

The fifth in the series of Information Agriculture Conferences, InfoAg 2001, took place in August at Indianapolis, Indiana. More than 400 attended the event, which was organized by PPI/PPIC/FAR in cooperation with other partners, sponsors and supporters. Program partners for InfoAg 2001 included *CyberDealer* and *CropLife* magazines (Meister Publishing) and *Indiana Prairie Farmer/Prairie Farmer* magazines (Farm Progress Companies).

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