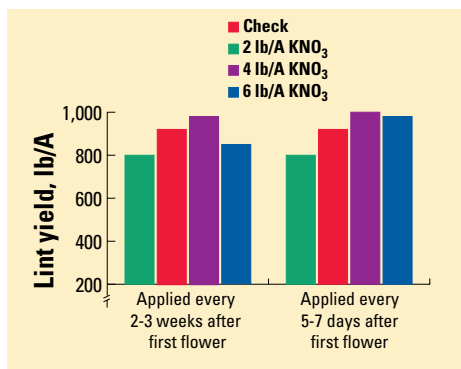


ments applied in 2 to 3 week intervals in addition to soil applied K did not increase yields compared with the untreated control for 1993 and 1994. However, a slight increase in yield was observed in 1995 (**Figure 3**). Foliar  $\text{KNO}_3$  applied at 5 to 7 day intervals resulted in significant yield increase over the untreated plots (**Figure 4**). This increase in yield was 175 lb/A. The higher lint yield for the split soil-applied and foliar  $\text{KNO}_3$  treatments indicates the importance of plant available K at the time of boll filling.

Several researchers have shown increased yield of cotton in response to foliar K treatments. Oosterhuis (1976) reported a significant yield increase due to foliar fertilization by  $\text{KNO}_3$ . The lack of significant response to foliar treatment in our research could be due to the lower  $\text{KNO}_3$  rate used compared to previous



**Figure 4.** Foliar applied  $\text{KNO}_3$  on cotton lint yield, 1995.

Treatment effect ( $p < 0.05$ ).

researchers who foliar-applied  $\text{KNO}_3$  at a rate of 10 lb/A. **BC**

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## Building a Smarter Fencepost

The need for field recordkeeping and assuring that production practices are matched to the proper crop in the correct field have never been more important. Precision management and applications tailored to specific genetic varieties increase the reasons for accurate communication.

A new signpost marking system uses identification decals applied to a plastic sheath that fits over a steel post. The user can mark individualized stickers or obtain custom pre-printed stickers for identification of crops and fields. This deters misapplication and aids in tracking crops. The system is also compatible with bar coding and electronic identification systems which can retain and transfer information. The product is



**A versatile signpost** marking system can help verify field location for scouting, soil sampling, fertilizer or chemical application, and harvesting.

called **POSTMARK™** Field Identification Systems. **BC**

*Source: Agricultural Information Technologies, Inc., Iroquois, South Dakota.*