

INVESTIGATING ROOT HEALTH BENEFITS WITH FARMORE FI500 IN ONIONS

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The development of Farmore FI500 was initially driven by a need to deliver an improved system for management of seedcorn maggot, *Delia platura*, and onion maggot, *Delia antiqua*, at and immediately after planting onions. These pests are responsible for reduced stands, plant quality, and yields where pressure is high. During this development effort, improved plant health and yields were observed in onions even in the absence of significant pest pressure. In leguminous crops, thiamethoxam seed treatments have been documented to result in improved root health and yields. This study was conducted to investigate the effects of Farmore FI500 on root health and yield in onions.

Farmore FI500 seed treatment in onions contains 5 active ingredients. Fungicides: mefanoxam, fludioxinil, and azoxystrobin. Insecticides: thiamethoxam and spinosad. Plots were planted at the Oregon State University Hermiston Ag Research Station in May 2012 in a field intentionally manipulated to increase seedcorn maggot pressure. Plant roots were harvested twice and scanned using a root scanner. Total root length, diameter and surface area were measured. Yields were measured at harvest. Data will be presented during this presentation.