POSTER

TIF (TOTALLY IMPERMEABLE FILM) VS. STANDARD PE FILM IN GREENHOUSES. REDUCTION OF METHYL BROMIDE DOSAGE IN PEPPER FARMS

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SUMMARY:

TIF (Totally Impermeable Film) was tested trial at La Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina versus Standard PE Film (STD) under field conditions in Greenhouses. Surface used in the field trial were 4 beds of 60 meters long by 0.80 mt. width. TIF used in this field trial was of 35 microns thick. A concentration of 70/30 Methyl Bromide/ Chloropicrin was used with an application dosage of 800 kg per ha in the control with STD vs. 400 kg per ha (50 % of the standard application dosage) in the TIF beds.

Plots were planted with green bell peppers under plastic tunnel in greenhouses on July 18, 2009. Standard = 8kg / 4 beds x 60m x 0.8m = 41.7 g/m^2 and TIF = 4kg / 4 beds x 60m x 0.8m = 20.8 g/m^2

Main control will be yield and monitor of growth of green bell peppers and comparison between both groups. Field trial will continue till the end of the season January 2010.

Initially, NO plant or crop injury was observed, NO difference was observed between plants in plots with the normal dose of Methyl Bromide and plots with TIF with 50% of Methyl bromide application.

In summary, we assume judging from this trial that the use of TIF could be one solution for the reduction of Methyl Bromide application in horticulture and are one of alternatives to reduce toxic emission gases