



# Plant Bio Regulators (Pty) Ltd

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## NONTOX-SILICA™ AND PRODUCTION OF PUMPKIN

### TRIAL SITE AND DESIGN

A site of 10ha on Roodewal (Bothaville) was planted with 1340 seeds per ha on 04/10/2005. The site was divided into a control of 0,50 ha while 9,50ha was treated with Nontox-Silica™. Irrigation was applied at 15mm per week.

Planting date; 04/10/2005.  
Blossom date; 18/11/2005  
Harvest starts on; 04/01/2006  
Evaluation date; 05/01/2006

### TREATMENTS

1. Control - no Nontox-Silica™ was applied.
2. 200ml Nontox-Silica™ concentrate per 100 litre at 300 litre per ha applied on 29<sup>TH</sup> November and 2<sup>ND</sup> December 2005.

### EVALUATION

1. 10 plants in the control and treated blocks were randomly selected.
2. The mass and number of the fruit per plant were recorded.
3. As a second evaluation, the number of fruit in another set of 20 plants in the control and treated blocks were recorded.

### OBSERVATIONS

Powdery mildew already infested the plants before the first application of Nontox-Silica™ was done. It is known that silicon gives better results in a preventative than a corrective program. However, the treated plants had more leaves and green leaves by the end of January 2006 although all plants were infested.

### RESULTS

	No silicon	Nontox-Silica™
Number of fruit per plant	1,95	2,15
Average mass per fruit (gram)	4222	4586
Total yield (kg per ha)	103700	113400
Addisional cost (R per ha)	0	79-20
Addisional revenue (R per ha)	0	16 100-00

### CONCLUSION

Although Nontox-Silica™ was applied after infection, the reduction in losses was substantial, illustrating the value of Nontox-Silica™ in the pest control program. A much greater response can be expected if Nontox-Silica™ is applied before infection. Note that no fungicide was applied together with the Nontox-Silica™.

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