

# Case Study - Melons

**Increase in yield - 42%**

**Increase in income - \$15,000/ha extra**

**Grower:** Katherine - Northern Territory  
**Block Size:** 5ha  
**History:** Melons were direct seeded: previous crop did not grow successfully (with very short runner growth - approx 30cm long); this was not harvested and was cultivated into the ground.

## Soil Health Program:

**Pre-plant** 1t/ha New Era Premium; broadcast and cultivated into planting beds.

**Biologicals** OFS MicroPlus (650kg/ha) at 7 & 21 days post seeding via irrigation; trichoderma (1.25kg/ha) at seeding and 14 days after seeding.

**Root growth** OFS Super Kelp via irrigation at 5L/ha at 30% ground cover and repeated 10 days later.

**Soil Health** OFS Fish Emulsion via irrigation at 10L/ha; 4-5 times during season.

**Nutrition** Managed by NAS via tissue testing

**Results:**

**Visual Assessment** Runners were 2-3 times the diameter of control plants; runners ran up to 3 beds across from seeded row.

Leaf was large and brilliant healthy green colour.

Tap root had developed up to 5 times diameter of control.

**Harvest** Treated block was harvested up to 15-16 weeks of age, other blocks were only harvested until 12 -13 weeks.

**Yield** 50t/ha (other blocks 35t/ha)

**Profit** 15t/ha extra yield at \$1/kg = \$15,000/ha extra

**Income** Extra \$75,000 for block



Soil Health Program on left

Control on right



**Try a block now and see the benefits this season!**