# Growing POTATOES IN INDIA





### **KEY FINDINGS**

Improved crop emergence

21% marketable tuber yield increase compared to MOP + elemental S

Improved tuber dry matter

## A CASE FOR POLY4

- Uttar Pradesh produced 15.3 million tonnes of potatoes in 2017 – 2018, which amounts to 30% of India's total potato production.
- 45% of Indian soils are sulphur deficient.
- Low-chloride POLY4 is a good source of sulphate-sulphur delivering at the same time potassium, magnesium and calcium in one product.

#### **POLY4 BENEFITS**



Source of macro and micro nutrients



Sustained nutrient delivery profile



Low in chloride



Plant available sulphate-S

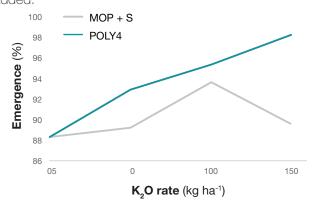
Treatments	Nutrients applied (kg ha <sup>-1</sup> )				
	K <sub>2</sub> O	S	CaO	MgO	CI
N + P (control)	0	0	0	0	0
MOP + S	50	68	0	0	38
	100	136	0	0	77
	150	204	0	0	115
POLY4	50	68	61	21	10
	100	136	121	43	21
	150	204	182	64	32

\*All treatments received 180 kg N ha<sup>-1</sup> and 80 kg  $P_2O_5$  ha<sup>-1</sup> from urea and DAP.

#### **BETTER CROP EMERGENCE**



Improved emergence and establishment can support subsequent potato yield. Higher plant emergence was observed 30 days after planting when POLY4 replaced MOP + S. The potato emergence continued to increase as more POLY4 but less MOP + S was added.

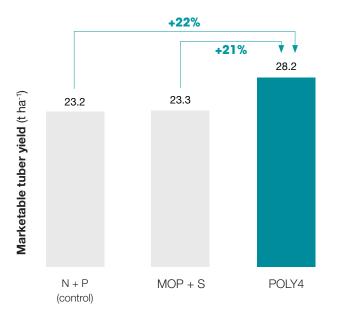


#### **INCREASED MARKETABLE YIELD**



Good K supply at the bulking stage is important for developing larger tubers. POLY4-fertilized crops had higher total yield and significantly higher marketable yield than MOP + S. At the recommended  $K_2O$  rate (100 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>), POLY4 had 21% higher marketable yield. The POLY4-fertilized potatoes also had more tubers, and a higher proportion of these were marketable.

Higher yield achieved a revenue increase of US\$460/ha.





#### **TRIAL FOCUS**

To compare the performance of table potatoes to POLY4 fertilization with MOP + elemental sulphur.

#### PARTNER

Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel University of Agriculture and Technology (SVPUA&T)

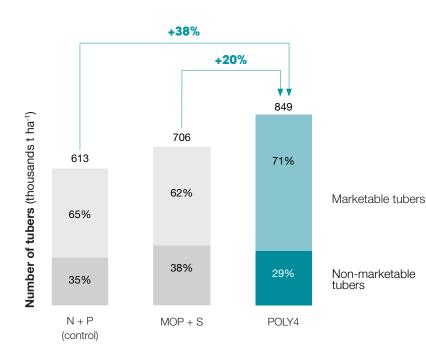
#### LOCATION

Bulandshahar Uttar Pradesh India

> DATE 2019

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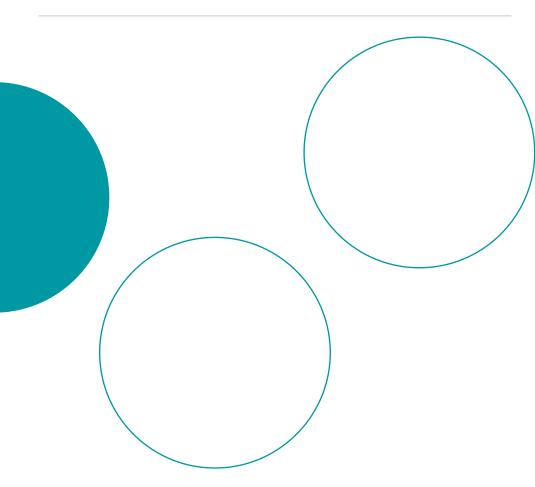




#### **IMPROVED TUBER DRY MATTER**



Tuber dry matter is important for potato frying quality. Dry matter content was 18.9% with MOP + S compared to 19.6% with POLY4 at the recommended K<sub>2</sub>O rate.



Notes: 1) Background statistics from Indian Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare. Available at http://agricoop.gov.in/sites/ default/files/Monthly%20Report%20on%20Potato%20for%20June%2C%202019%20.pdf. Accessed on 6-Aug-19; 2) Status of Indian Soils. The Sulphur Institute. Available at https://www.sulphurinstitute.org/india/status.cfm. Accessed on 6-Aug-19; 3) Pre-trial soil analysis: pH: 7.6, 7 mg P kg<sup>-1</sup>, 82 mg K kg<sup>-1</sup>, 9 mg S kg<sup>-1</sup>; 4) Non-line graph values are at the recommended K\_O rate of 100 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>; 180 kg of N and 80 kg of P\_O\_s were applied via urea and DAP. S applied as elemental sulphur with bentonite as binder. Treatments applied at planting; 5) Cultivar used was Kufri Bahar; 6) Significance tested at 5% level with Genstat ANOVA; 7) Crop price of US\$93/t.

Source: Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel University of Agriculture and Technology (2019), 76000-SVPU-76011-18 (Bulandshahar potato).



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