

ors h

At the time of application At the time of application At the time of application
from horn pebbles from horn pebbles from horn pebbles

Influence of the time of application of horn silica on the development of French beans and lettuce

from Jurgen Fritz

Dr. Jürgen Fritz,
Institute for Organic Agriculture,
University of Bonn,
Katzenburgweg 3,
53115 Bonn,
j.fritz@uni-bonn.de

In field and vessel tests by FRITZ (2000) were included 36% of the parameters examined showed significant plant reactions after horny silica treatment compared to the untreated variants noted. The variants

ficated environmental conditions less severe than in the untreated control variants. One-sided influences Growing conditions, such as e.g. B. shading and fertilization, were partially reduced by treatment with horn pebbles compensated. This was over-consistent with earlier than

Wheat, potatoes and beans solid. He saw early horn silica treatments as that promotes vegetative growth, late application of horn silica promotes maturity at. This resulted in instructions for action agricultural practice of biodynamic derived from agriculture. With The studies presented here were again carried out experimental question investigated, whether with a variation of the Modifying the timing of horn silica application on plant development can be influenced. However, only they can do that Parameters for which different plant reactions occur earlier and later Horn silica application was determined, digestion give. The following will be Therefore, these parameters in particular are shown.



Experimental field with beans, partly shaded

with horn silica treatment changed at *Rotem* lettuce in terms of storage loss and in the case of *bush beans* in terms of the yield of the first pod harvest, the shoot length, the start of flowering, the harvest index, the chlorophyll content of the leaves and disease infestation in storage through mod-

This is also the case with horny silica application later in plant development. This Test results from FRITZ (2000) are in agreement with the studies by KLETT (1968), ABELE (1973), SPIKE (1978), KOTSCHI (1980) and RAUPP & KÖNIG (1996), where through Horn silica application to grain, sugar beets, carrots and other plant species one-sided growth conditions compared to Control to some extent too were compensated.

Reactions of plant development in different Directions to earlier and later horn pebble application compared to the control were found in the studies by FRITZ (2000) at 29% the parameters were found to have significant differences. KLETT (1968) also presented such non-uniform reactions of the plants after early and late application of horn silica in the plant development of oats,

material and methods

Field trials: Over the years In 1994 and 1995 bush beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris* var. *nanus*) and red lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* var. *cris-pa*) were grown in field trials on a test farm in Neu-Eichenberg, northern Hesse. They were varied Factors:

1st date of the horn silica plant

Short and sweet:

The partially opposite reaction of the plant to horn silica application gave rise to further investigations.

In the experiment, horn pebbles were produced from bush beans and lettuce applied at early or late stages of development.

The early application suppressed vegetative growth, the late one extended maturity.

nb

turn, early and late in the Plant development (beans: without / 2nd leaf stadium BBCH 12 / before flowering and for sleeve formation BBCH *59-73; Salad: without / 7th-9th Leaf stage BBCH17-

19 / 70-80% of the harvest weight BBCH 47-48),

2. Light (45% / 100% of photosynthetically active radiation, PAR) and

3. Fertilization (0 / 450 dt ha⁻¹ manure compost). The soil base was old In 1994 and 1995 a para brown soil was used for the bush beans from loess and one for salad

Approximately 20 cm thick loess layer on the tone of Keuper.

Vessel tests: In the test years 1996 and 1997 became three four-factorial Vessel tests on the Wiesengut experimental farms in Hennef/Sieg and Neu-Eichenberg were carried out in the greenhouse. One of the factors The horn silica treatment (or none) was present in each case the flower and the formation of pods (BBCH 59-73).

The biodynamic compost preparations and the horn manure preparation were used in all field and vessel tests used. For all variants with horn silica treatments were three applications carried out. Horn pebble was applied in the early morning hours at sunrise. (Details about the method see FRITZ 2000).

Results: The timing matters a difference

Field tests in 1994 and 1995

The yield of the first and second pod harvest was in

Trial year 1994 by 40% higher than in 1995. In

The experimental year remained 1994 Horn silica treatment

The comparatively high yield level of the first husk harvest has no effect on earnings (Fig. 1). In the experimental year In 1995, with low yield levels, the horn silica treatment

increased both early as well as late in plant development the yield first pod harvest. Differentiated in the contrast comparison the two variants

Horn silica treatment of the variant without horn silica treatment with the error probability $\hat{y} = 0.055$.

This result is in agreement with the hypothesis of partial compensation for unfavorable growth conditions with horny silica applications

Comparison to control.

Greener in the second harvest Pods in 1994 and

In 1995 all of them were sent to the Bush beans remained

Pods picked. The second Pod harvest was used as a parameter to record the still existing growth potential towards the end of plant growth.

The Yield of the second pod harvest was very different in the two experimental years in terms of weather 1994 and 1995 in comparison for checking earlier

Horn silica treatment always lower and after later Horn silica treatment always higher (Fig. 1). When both are evaluated together

Years of experimentation increased the late horn silica treatment Compared to the early horn-silicone treatment, the legume yield of the second harvest is increased by 8.6% (perception of error)

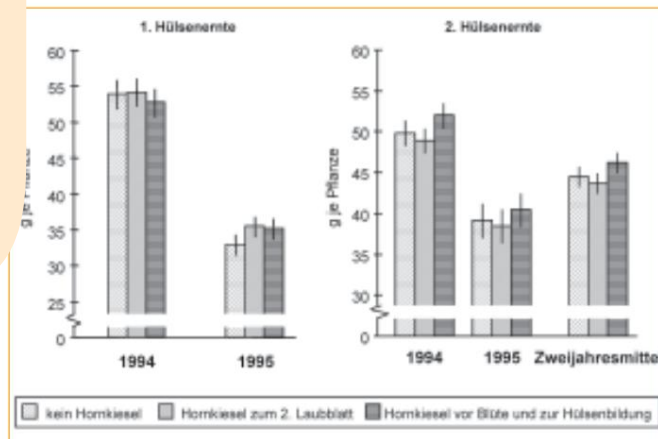


Fig. 1: Horn pebbles are best used twice and at the right time: Fresh matter yield of the first and second pod harvest of French beans. Field tests of the Years 1994 and 1995. Vertical Lines: limit difference Tukey test $\hat{y} = 0.05$.

probability $\hat{y} = 0.06$). The Number of pods of the second pod harvest was in Means of both experimental years through late horn silica treatment compared to control significantly 7.6% increased. A fact that was not discovered after early horn silica treatment.

The lettuce yield of the trial year 1994 was earlier Horn silica treatment in the Plant development significantly lower than later Horn pebble application (Fig. 2). The side shoot formation of pickled lettuce – interpreted as a parameter of vitality of plants – was both through full light irradiation, as well as 450 dt ha⁻¹

Manure compost in the experimental year Increased in 1995. In the 7th to 9th leaf stage with horny pebbles treated plants formed fewer side shoots than that Control (Fig. 2). Through Horn silica treatments 70 – 80% of the harvest weight became the number of side shoots compared to control and for early application in the Plant development increased. In 1994, this parameter had not yet been examined.

These facts show

The BBCH scale is an international one Agreement on the phenomenological Description of the growth stages of Crops from the beginning of germination (0.1ff) through flowering (6.0ff) to maturity and Dormancy (9)

point out that an early one Horn silica treatment in of plant development vegetative growth in the youth development Bush beans and lettuce decrease, but a late horn-silicone treatment, on the other hand, decreases can cause a delay in senescence.

Vessel tests in 1996 and 1997
In the vessel experiments too Bush beans were only made according to the horn pebble Variant "Hornkiesel late" the field tests (before the flowering and pod formation BBCH 59-73) used. In all three vessel tests increased the late Hornkiesel treatment compared to the untreated plants

Discussion: Brakes Horn pebbles support vegetative development and promotes maturation?

Early treatments with Horn pebbles led to investigations by KLETT (1968)

Compared to the untreated control, there were reduced yields for oats and wheat. These experimental results are in agreement with the second pod harvest

in the experimental years 1994 and 1995 (Fig. 1) as well as the Lettuce yield in 1994 and the side shoots of lettuce in 1995 (Fig. 2). These phenomena

lead to the conclusion, that the horn silica treatment has an inhibiting effect on the early plant development vegetative youth development can work. The interpretation of KLETT (1968) that

Early horn silica treatments promote growth during the application period, that is possibly one too

Reinforcement of the vegetative growth compared to that You can bring about generative growth with your own Results for bush beans and lettuce not confirmed become. In comparison, the early horn silica treatment reduced the amount in the 1994 trial year for untreated control

and the late Hornkiesel treatment reduces the leaf yield of the salad (Fig. 2). THUN (1967) observed early in horn silica treatments to plant development Carrots and beetroot one significant inhibition of the Growth of leaves in

Comparison to untreated Control. The growth inhibition of the leaves did not have a negative effect on them Root formation.

Late additions of horn silica increased the amount in KLETT (1968).

Yield and TKG of oats and wheat compared to Control. Late treatments promoted maturation the potato tubers. This fact was evident

on crude protein content, on relative protein content the protease activity and am Vitamin C content of potato tubers. VELCRO (1968) concluded from these test results that late horn silica treatments slow down the maturation phase of the plants support financially. Higher yield, better maturation and higher Thousand grain weight as a result of later horn silica treatments at KLETT (1968) are in accordance with the present results show delayed aging of the plants

as a result of later horn silica treatments led to a longer maturation phase.

In studies by WISTINGHAUSEN (1979). Horn manure treatments late in plant development (Horn pebbles 2 x in July and 1 x in August) for carrots contributes to a higher leaf yield the harvest. The senescence of the There were already a lot of leaves during harvest in these experiments

far advanced. The higher leaf yield later Horn silica treatment can with delayed senescence Leaves are explained. The Death of the leaves is considered Indicator of maturity stage the carrots. The carrots treated with horn pebbles and horn manure showed defiance lower root/leaf ratio, higher ingredients and higher storage properties

physiological maturity than that

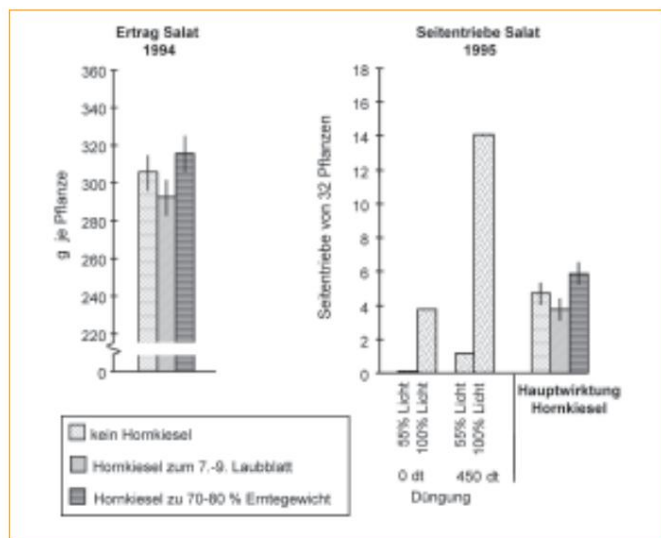


Fig. 2:
Increases or decreases depending on the stage
Hornkiesel the number of side shoots.
Fresh mass yield and side shoot formation of red lettuce.
Field tests in 1994 and 1995. Vertical lines:
Limit difference Tukey test $\bar{y} = 0.05$.

the chlorophyll contents in the Final phase of bean growth is significant (Fig. 3). The results support the conclusion that the horn pebble application in the late vegetation phase delays aging and as compensatory effect on growing conditions with high temperatures in Greenhouse interpreted can be.

untreated plants. The

Test results are available in accordance with the own experiments with higher chlorophyll contents Bush bean leaves at the maturity (Fig. 3) and one higher leaf yield in lettuce (Fig. 2) as a result of later horn silica application.

Observations in agricultural practice

Horn silica treatment of Runner beans showed that the leaves darken as they ripen

and stayed green longer than in untreated plants

(REMER 1968, LOHRMANN 1932, KABISCH 1934, VOEGELE 1937, LEIHENSEDER 1953). Only at LEIHENSEDER (1953) is the one Time of application of Horn pebbles are adequately documented. The horn silica treatment was carried out by this one

Author made late in plant development. According to observations by THUN (1967) delayed late Horn pebble applications too for winter cereals, the ripeness compared to the control.

For extremely frequent horn pebble applications (8 to 12 sprays) could one delayed aging in the leaf area of almost all examined Plant species are observed.

THUN (1980) observed In addition, horn silica treatments are available for strawberries and after the harvest to one intensive leaf growth led. These observations from agricultural Practice is in accordance with our own test results

with later application of horn pebbles to the bush bean leaves were noticeably darker green and the senescence of the Planting was delayed.

Conclusions

Horn silica treatments early in plant development (Beans: 2nd leaf; lettuce: 7th to 9th leaves) greatly reduced growth in the area vegetatively influenced youth development; late horn silica treatments (beans: before flowering and for pod formation; Salad: at 70 – 80% the duck size) delayed the Senescence and prolonged the maturation phase. This Facts can be considered one

balancing effect of Horn pebbles on one-sidedness during earlier and later Stages of plant development can be interpreted. The Plant reactions to horny silica applications early and late in plant development in our own experiments agree with the observations of LEIHENSEDER (1953), THUN (1967, 1980), REMER (1968) and VELCRO (1968) agree. The interpretation, that early horn silica applications stimulate the vegetative Promoting growth contradicts the experimental results observed here.

In summary, they worked Horn pebble applications compensating for: one-sided environmental conditions throughout plant development, which is visible is sent to the rectified Plant reactions after early and late application of horn silica compared to Control for 71% of the parameters with significant differences in FRITZ (2000); by the time of Application probably also specific to one-sidedness in early and late stages of development. With a variation of the time

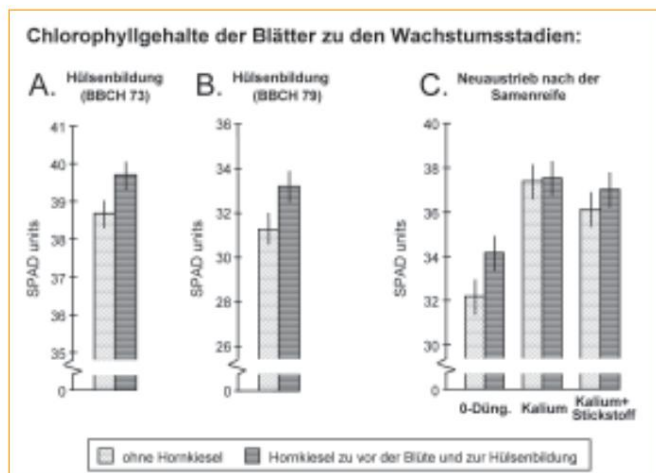


Fig. 3: Bush beans: Hornkiesel works, among other things, through the chlorophyll content: Chlorophyll content (SPAD units*) of the leaves in the growth stages of pod formation (A, B) and chlorophyll contents of all leaves during re-emergence after seed ripening (C). A: Vessel experiment in 1996 with soil from biodynamic farming. B: vessel test 1997 with soil from organic and conventional cultivation. C: Vessel test 1997 with soil from biodynamic farming. * Measurement with Minolta SPAD-502. Vertical lines: Limit difference $\bar{y} = 0.05$ for the statistical comparison between the columns that stand together.

point of horn silica application early and late in the Plant development can partly modifying the respective stages of the Plant development can be influenced.

Sources

ABELE, U., 1973: Comparative investigations RAUPP, J. & KÖNIG, UJ, 1996: Biodynamic to conventional and biological preparations cause opposing yield effects dynamic crop production under special depending upon yield levels. Biological more consideration of sowing time and Agriculture and Horticulture 13, 175-188. Entities, Diss. agr. Giessen. REMER, N., 1968: Laws of life in the country - FRITZ, J., 2000: Reactions of lettuce (Lactuca sativa) to the Goetheanum, Dornach/Switzerland. bau, philosophical-anthroposophical beans (Phaseolus vulgaris var. nanus) on the spray preparation Hornkiesel, Diss. agr. Pike, H., 1978: Conventional and biolo-L. on Bonn, Köster, Berlin. Gisch-dynamic methods for increasing of soil fertility, Diss. agr. Gießen. THUN, M., 1967: Observations at the ready 501 on delphinium and preparation 508 Application of the silica preparation. Live on KOTTSCHI, J., 1980: Investigation into the effect the one in the Biodynamic Wirt-Darmstadt. spray preparations used commercially and "501" on agricultural Crop plants, diss. agr. watering. LEIHENSEDER, W., 1953: Report on experiences in 1952 with horn pebbles Runner beans. Living Earth, 215-217. LOHRMANN, M., 1932: Some observations with preparation 501 from horticulture Practice. Demeter 7:202-204. THUN, M., 1980: Experience with the quality of pebbles and shade in relation to the preparation in fruits. In: Biological-dyna-construction and testing of silica preparations for mixer agriculture and horticulture, basis Quality improvement. Institute for biological - implementation - experiences - meaning dynamic research, Darmstadt. tung, Volume 1, 170-171, Research Ring for Biodynamic farming, VOEGELE, I., 1937: Dynamic Kieselan "500" application, the preparation 501. Demeter 4, 57-60. WISTINGHAUSEN, v. E., 1979: What is quality? How does it arise and how can it be detected? Living Earth Publishing House, Darmstadt.