

## **Vital Earth Resources**

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# **1999 Crop Results**

## **Chinese Specialty Crops and Melons**

### **A Testimonial**

Farmer: Hiang Hwa "Steve" Lee

Location: Thermal, California, near the Salton Sea

Soil conditions: high salts (Electrical Conductivity[E.C.] of 3.0 to 5.0)

Area farmed: just under 100 acres

Steve Lee has used Vitazyme on specialty Chinese vegetables and melons for two years, with excellent results. Together with biological ViTech products, supplied by Kumen Meservy of Modesto, California, the soil salt levels have been maintained at an excellent 0.3 to 0.5 E.C. level. This low salt level has been a key factor to his high yields and quality.

Vitazyme was introduced into his program with some hesitation, since he already considered his program to be perfected. Results with his crops are as follows.

#### **Melons**

- The plants are greener.
- There is less fungal disease affecting the veins and leaves. The fungus normally infects the crop just before harvest, leading to soft melons having an off-flavor.

The yields and quality of the melon crop are enhanced, with less nitrogen required.

**Soil Program:** ViBasic fertilizer + Vitazyme

#### **Leaf Program:**

*Four to six leaves.* Vigorator 12-8-4 with biostimulant factors (1qt/acre) + Vitazyme (13 oz/acre)

*Prebloom.* ViBurst (1qt/acre)+ Fish (2 qt/acre) + Vitazyme (13 oz/acre)

*Melon fill.* ViFinisher with calcium (40 oz/acre) + Vitazyme (13 oz/acre)

With this program we get a more "balanced flavor" melon. They ship all over the United States and Canada to a "choosy" clientele, and Vitazyme has added a better quality dimension to an excellent melon program.

#### **Root Crops**

- The leaves are larger and greener.
- The roots are of superior quality.

Several varieties of radishes and dicons respond very well to Vitazyme.

#### **Soil Program:**

*Thirty to 40 days before ground preparation.* Vi Clout (2 to 4 qt/acre) to prevent nematode damage.

The entire root zone is treated, which in the case of the dicons is up to 30 inches deep.

*At planting.* ViClout (2 qt/acre) + fertilizer + Vitazyme (13 oz/acre)

*Four to six leaves.* Vigorator 12-8-4 (1 qt/acre) + Vitazyme (13 oz/acre). Sometimes the Vitazyme rate is cut in half and applied every two weeks, rather than 13oz/acre every 30 days.

The root crop leaves are large, healthy, and “fresh green” looking, which is very important because the leaf helps sell the root to the Chinese people, who use all of the plant in cooking. The roots are superior in flavor and quality! We are growing a crop that many others grow in the thermal area, but ours stand out in the markets.

We can only sell our quality. **We believed that we had an excellent program that could not be improved, but Vitazyme has made it even better!** Vitazyme has also “evened out” rough conditions. People think that sunny California has few problems, but we have frost and temperatures down to the mid-teens that cause great “crop quality stress.” **We believe Vitazyme makes a difference. We always use it. Always.**

## Leaf Crops

We sell fresh, green, beautiful leaf produce. Vitazyme truly makes a difference. The soil and leaf programs are about the same as for the root crops.