ALFALFA:

Effects of seeding rates and Rhizobium inoculations

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A large scale trial was planted December 1 and 2, 1972, on a Chino clay loam soil at the M. Curti and Sons Dairy, near Waukena, Ca. There were six treatments composed of three seeding rates (15, 25 and 35 lbs per acre), with and without Rhizobium inoculum. Tuberous potato-bacteria—probably because either alfalfa or bur clover existed previously in these fields and allowed a buildup of these bacteria in the soil. The Rhizobium strains which fix nitrogen for alfalfa are the same strains that fix nitrogen for bur-clover. In soils with such a crop history, there normally is no need for inoculating the alfalfa seed with the bacteria.

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