

S.J.Parr & Sons

Tony shares his potato trial success using Maxstim's Agriculture+

Tony farms potatoes, sugar beet and cereals in total 800 hectares of which 150 are potatoes.



Tony Parr

When we first met in 2022, Tony was keen to try Maxstim biostimulants as he recognised that the availability of agrochemicals was under threat and the price of fertiliser was climbing. Still very sceptical, he agreed to treat 15 hectares with Agriculture +, provided a well-designed testing protocol was put in place and monitored by our scientific team. The control was Tony's current best farm practice and the only change was the addition of Maxstim treatments.

Success was initially defined as an increase in marketable yield in a commercial field setting. Many biostimulant formulations fare well in controlled environments but when they are used in the field often any positive effect fails to manifest. The ultimate test is against standard farm practice in the field on a large scale.



The last three year's growing conditions have been tough and every time Maxstim increased my yields

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Lodge Farm, Sedge Fen,
Lakenheath, Suffolk IP27 9QL

Data Recorded:

- ✓ Potato plant numbers
- ✓ Potato stem numbers
- ✓ Number of potatoes in grade sizes >85+mm to <20mm
- ✓ Potato weight kg, in grade sizes >85+mm to <20mm
- ✓ Potato Dry Matter in all grades
- ✓ Potato Starch% in all grades
- ✓ Skin finish analysis by random selection of potatoes



The first year we achieved a **6% increase in yield** and Tony was confident to try again the following season, but a larger trial of 25 hectares. We also wanted to see if there was a different effect on chitted and unchitted seed and set up a direct comparison.

All the trials were carried out across the 25 hectares and 12 randomised plots of 5.5m² plots, 6 treated, 6 control were measured and statistically analysed.

Trial Results

The final year of trials resulted in a marketable yield increase of 10.64% or £700 extra per hectare.

Results showed there was potentially money to be saved as the chitted and unchitted seed both produced the same increase in yield demonstrating that there was no need to incur the expense of using chitted seed to achieve this increase. Only if an earlier crop is required. What was very evident was the improvement in tuber skin finish.

Tony is innovative and has an enquiring mind and he was starting to believe that Maxstim treatments had a role to play in increasing potato yield and quality. Tony has always sprayed in-furrow with Amistar and added Maxstim to that application from year one of the trials. So in year three we decided to experiment with injecting Maxstim Agriculture+ into the furrow at planting using different application rates providing Tony with customised trials. He was curious to see if we could influence skin finish further as this can have a big impact during processing and off the shelf sales. For some growers this could be as much as **10-20% extra margin**.

What does Tony Parr think about Maxstim?

We asked Tony for his thoughts on Maxstim and the results he achieved on his farm using Maxstim products. The following quotes were recorded from Tony during our conversations.



After 3 years of superb results I am now trying Maxstim on all my potato crop

‘It is difficult to be sceptical with such high quality, positive data’

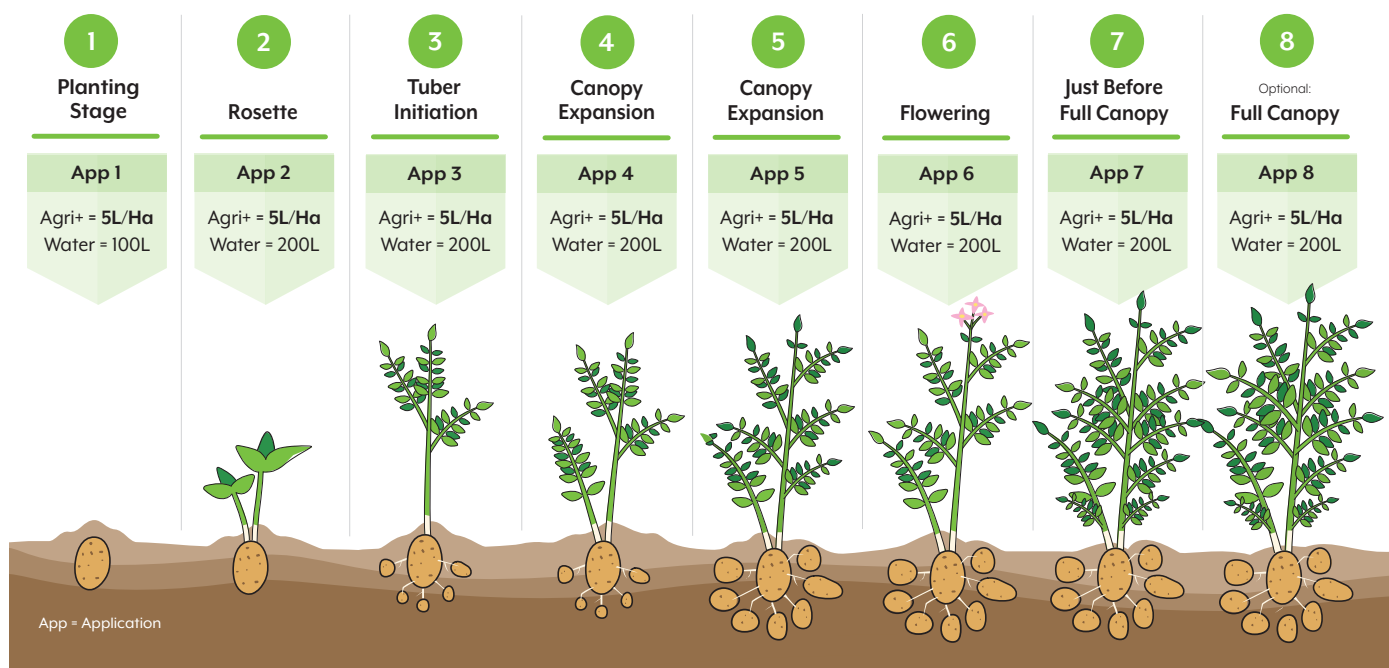
‘I would only believe Maxstim worked if I could see it in a commercial scale field trial’

‘The last three year’s growing conditions have been tough and every time Maxstim increased my yields’

‘Every time we assessed skin finish; we saw an improvement’

‘I have already started telling other farmers, to have a go with Maxstim’

Potatoes growth cycle diagram with recommended rates and timings



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What has impressed me about Tony is his direct approach in everything he does, especially to improving his situation, he wants to understand the science behind Maxstim but relies on the hard evidence gathered over three years, Tony is a great farmer producing consistently high yields. He has had to battle the changing climate to make his farm profitable and he still finds time to take humanitarian aid to Ukraine, the last count was 10 times, selfless.

Dr Richard Salvage,
Maxstim CEO



For more information on how you can incorporate Maxstim complex biostimulants into your crop maintenance program please call one of our experts:

Tim Cannon
Email: tim.cannon@maxstim.com
Mobile: 07884 586191

Phil Kingsmill
Email: phil.kingsmill@maxstim.com
Mobile: 07860 269996

Leanne Coleman
Email: leanne.coleman@maxstim.com
Mobile: 07552 097554

Tony Kelly
Email: tony.kelly@maxstim.com
Mobile: 07974 435417

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