

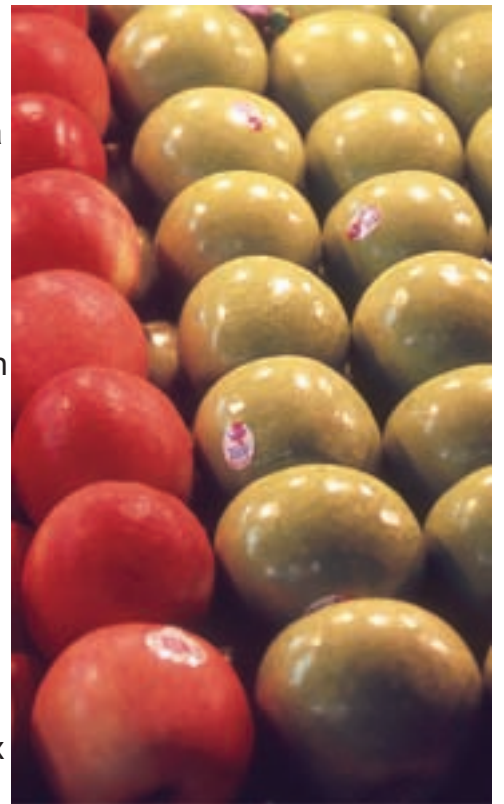
High Brix Levels Determine Crop Quality

Perfect Blend organic growers repeatedly report high “Brix” readings. Using a precision refractometer, an optical instrument used to measure sugar content, growers can measure total soluble solids, of which sugar is a major component, from plant sap. One Washington State wheat farmer, Owen Jorgenson, reported the highest Brix readings he had ever recorded with dry wheat grown with Perfect Blend applied 1/10th of a ton per acre. On the Brix scale the higher the number the greater the sweetness to be found in the plant. Other important information that can be gained from long term usage of a refractometer is the amount of electrical conductivity activity inside of a plant, which is directly related to the efficiency of mineral uptake by the plant and the vitality of a plant.

Plants with high Brix levels produce a crop with better taste profile and longer shelf life. Perhaps the most important aspect of high sugar content is the belief that a high Brix level in plants is directly related to a reduced amount of predation in a field or orchard by sucking insects. Sucking insects seem to avoid high Brix level plants. While there are a lot of theories as to why, no one opinion predominates. Some scientists believe that this might be due to the problems an insect might encounter when sticking their snouts into a plant with a sticky sap. Others believe that withdrawn sugars ferment quickly inside insects with toxic effect. Yet, others maintain that formed alcohol dissolves the insects wax sealed exo-skeleton rendering it susceptible to attack by fungus. Scientists have identified that high Brix content plants are less susceptible to fungal attack and disease in general. A plant that can successfully defend itself against pests and disease will naturally begin to fortify the parts needed for reproduction.

Another advantage of high Brix plants is that the Brix levels protect plants against frost. Plant damage occurs when ice crystals rupture plant cells. Pure water freezes at 32 degrees F. A solution with a 10 Brix reading freezes at 22 degrees. That’s an important advantage that can save a crop.

Blellow is good website on the general introduction of the relationship of Brix to growing high quality crops.



<http://www.crossroads.ws/brixbook/BBook.htm>

Perfect Blend Organics