

Integrated Management of Soilborne Diseases of Field Grown Tomato and Strawberry

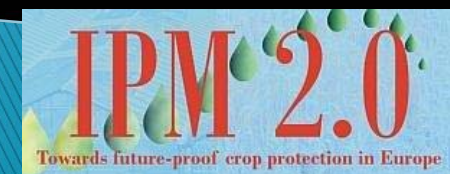
Frank J. Louws

Department of Plant Pathology

NSF-Center for Integrated Pest Management

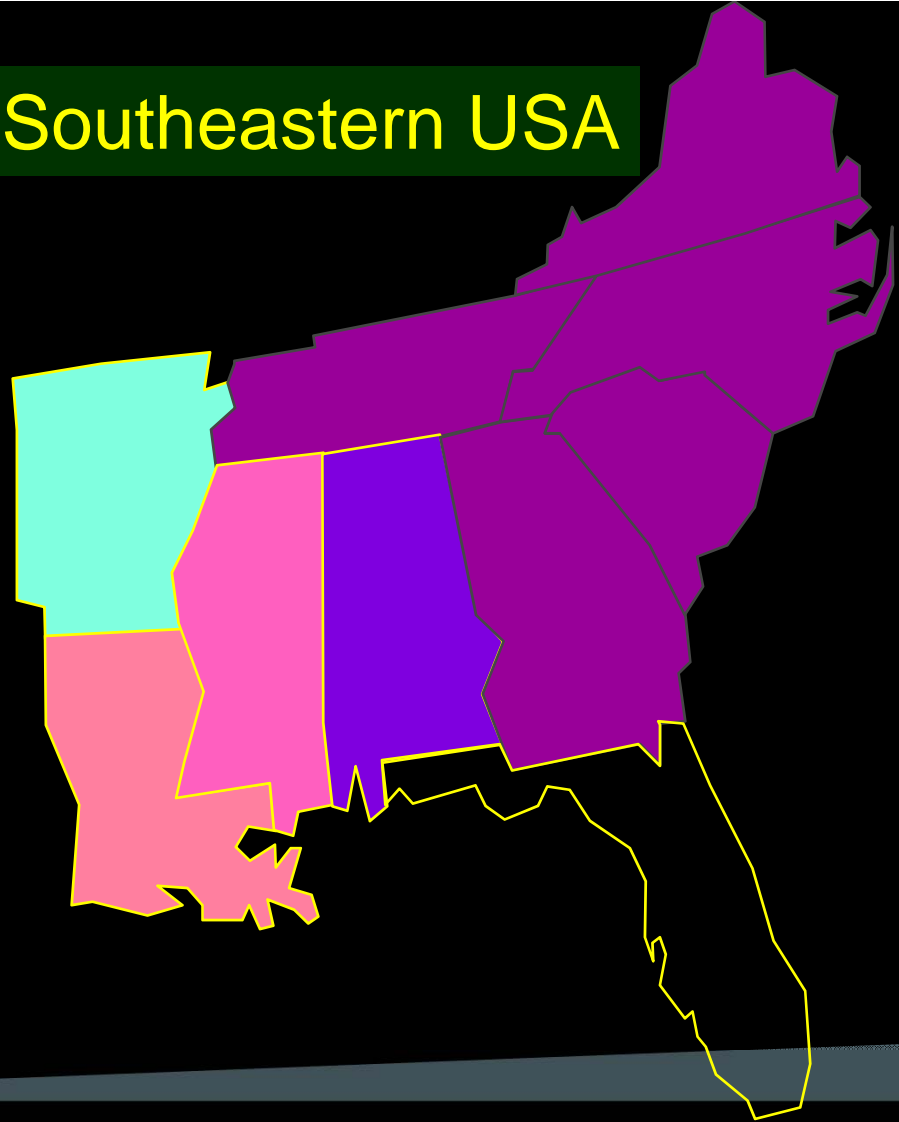
North Carolina State University

October 4, 2012



Methyl Bromide Use in the Southeastern USA

- **20,000 ha of vegetables; 1200 ha of strawberries**
- **85% strawberries; 85% tomatoes; 75% cantaloupe; 50% watermelon; 25% peppers;**
- **23% of methyl bromide consumption**
- **\$215 million dollars for growers; \$14 million loss per year**



Prepare land and fumigate (15 Aug – 15 Sep)



Plant 15 Sep – 15 Oct



**Harvest Apr – Jun
And start over....**

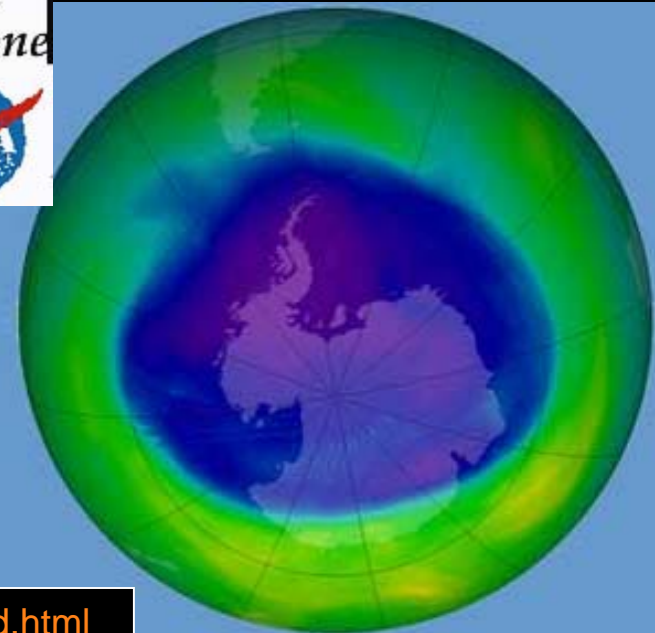
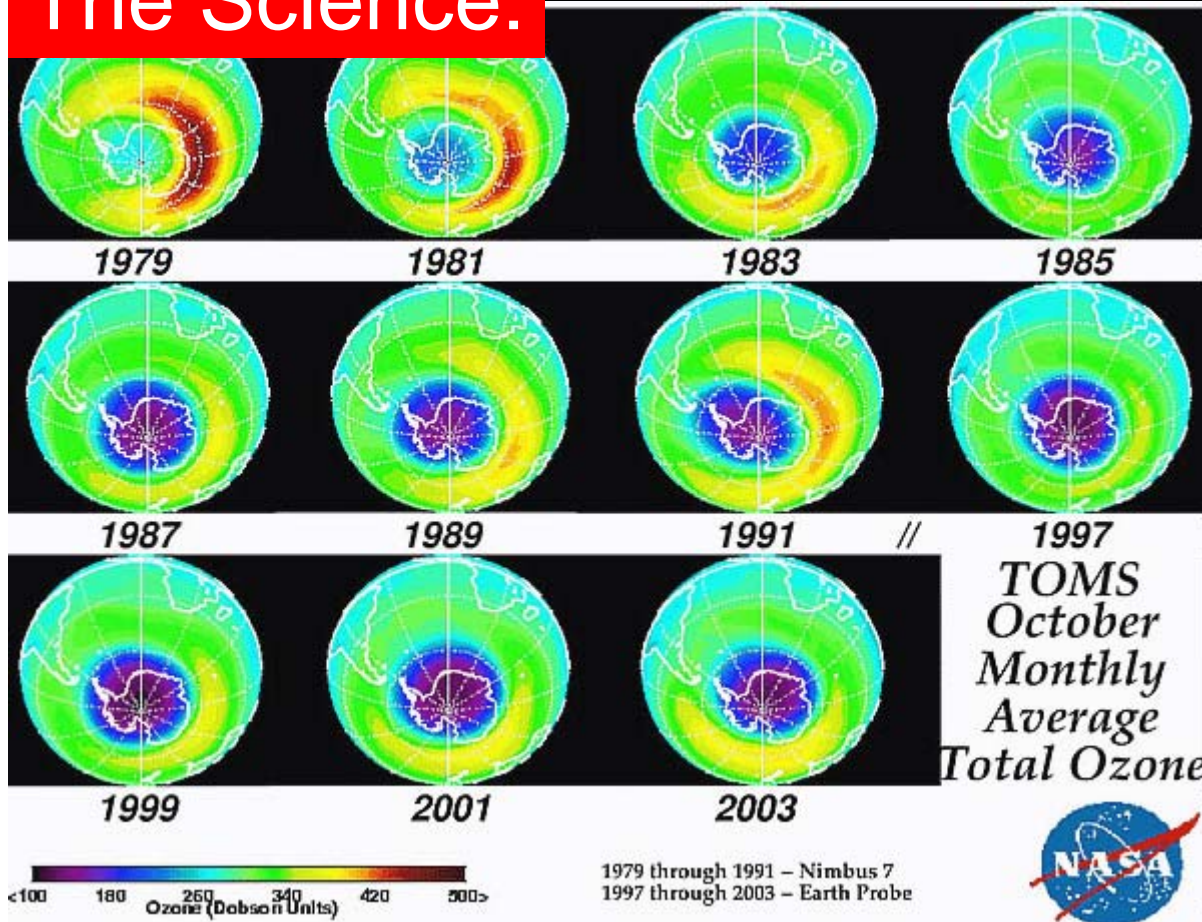
20,000 – 30,000 lb/A
22,000 - 32,000 kg/ha

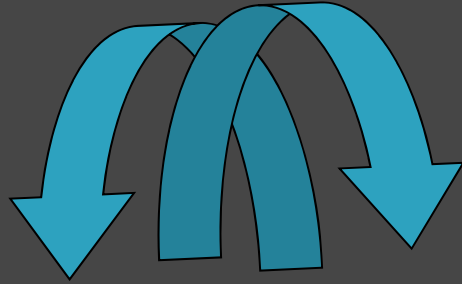


Manage Oct - Mar



The Science:





MB Alternatives research
Development of IPM programs



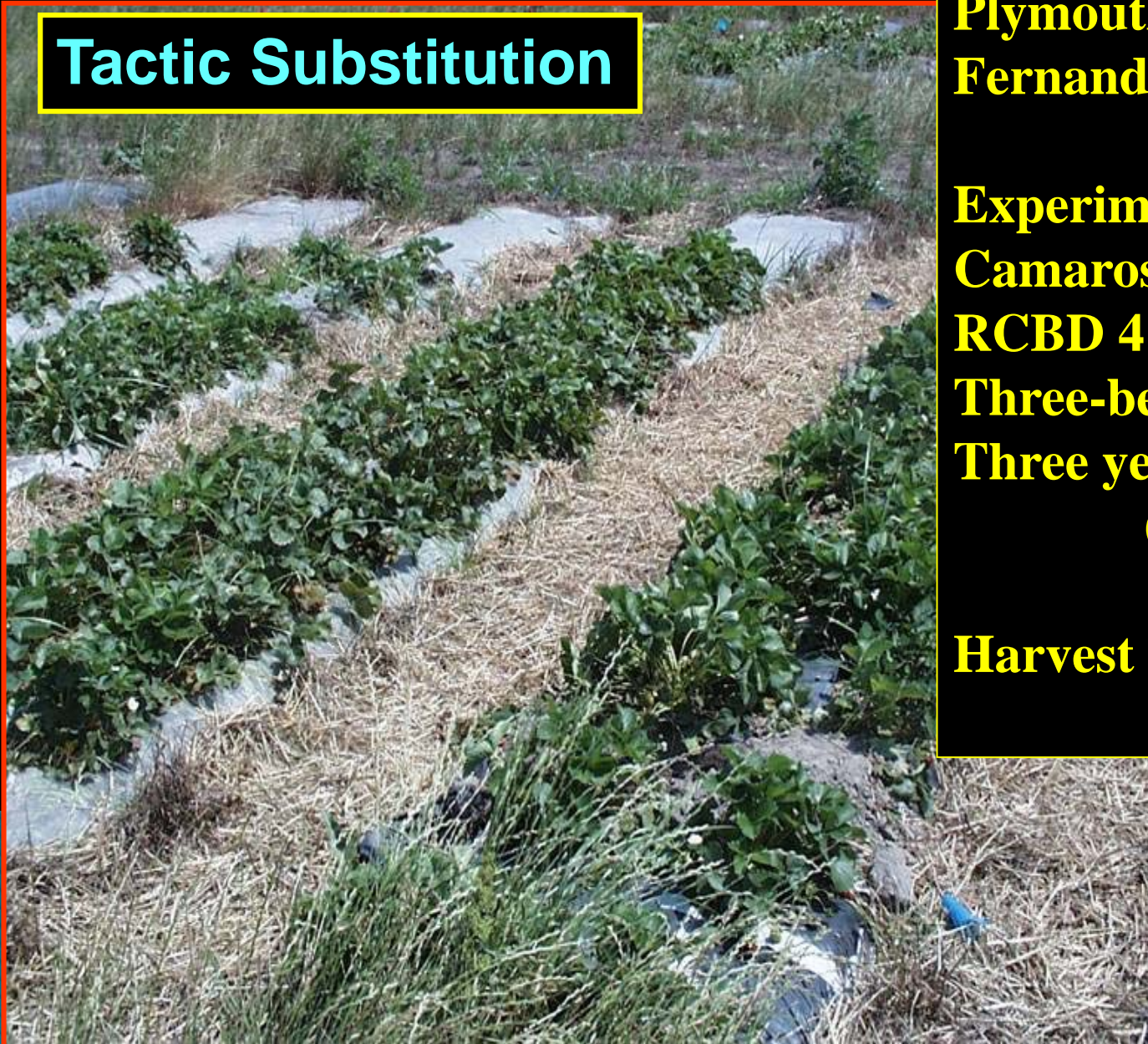
**Generation 4 –
SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS**

**Generation 3
TACTIC DEVELOPMENT:
microbial ecology and farming
systems research**

**Generation 2 – TACTIC DIVERSIFICATION:
finding non-fumigant tactics and focus on IPM
tactics**

**Generation 1 – TACTIC SUBSTITUTION:
finding non-ozone depleting fumigant alternatives**

Tactic Substitution



**Plymouth
Fernandez and Louws**

**Experimental Design
Camarosa**

RCBD 4 replications

Three-bed plots

Three year study

(no rotation)

Harvest center row

Data Collected:

Total, Marketable, Diseased Yield (1-2x/wk)

Weed Populations (2-3 ratings)

Soil Sampling e.g. nematodes (2x)

Microbial Community analysis

WHOLE PLANT HARVESTS (1x/month)

Plant Growth Data

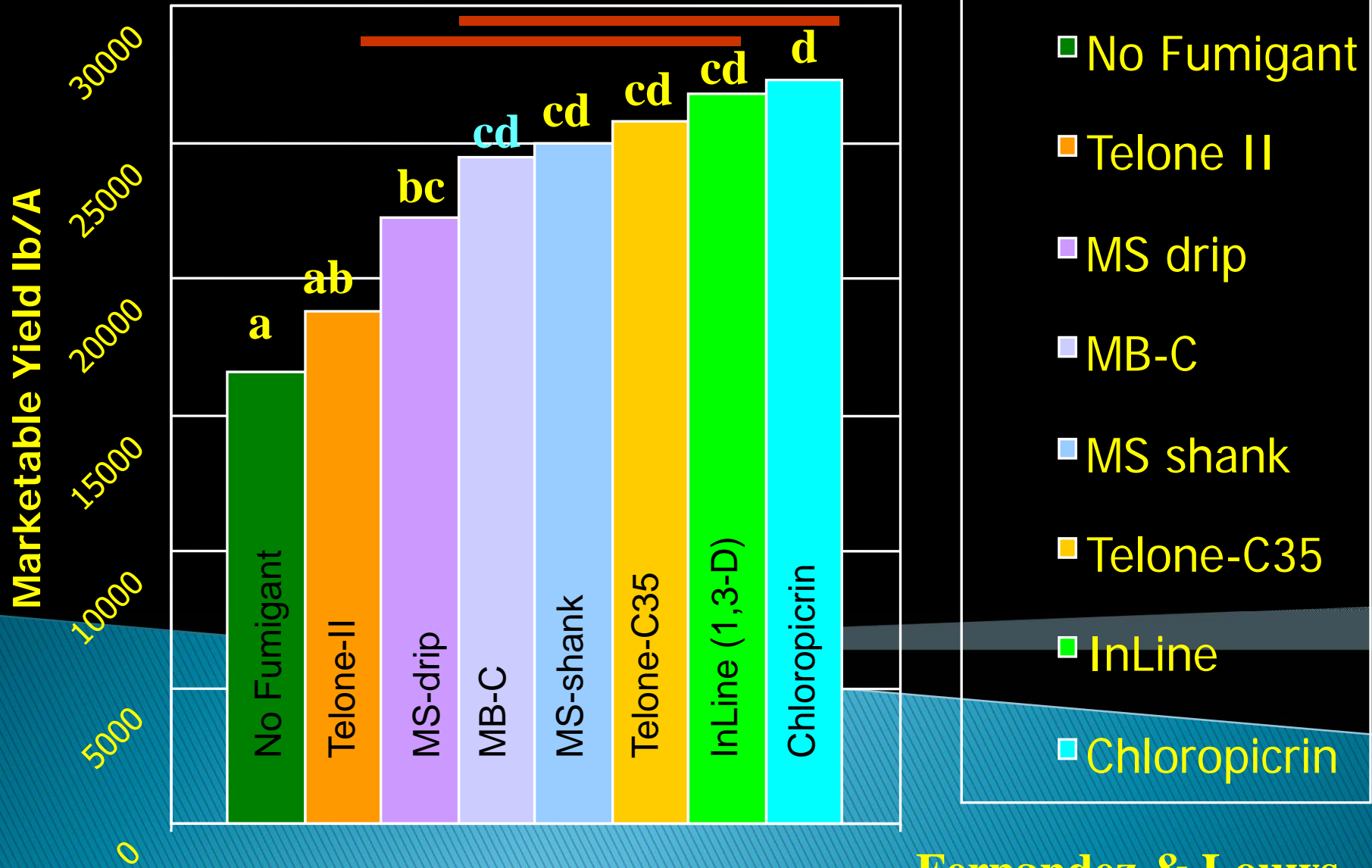
Root Hair Rating

Root Disease Rating

Pathogen Isolations

Economic data

Plymouth Strawberry Yield Results



Fernandez & Louws

Economic Evaluation of Methyl Bromide Alternatives for the Production of Strawberries in the Southeastern United States

Olha Sydorovych¹, Charles D. Safley², Lisa M. Ferguson³,
E. Barclay Poling⁴, Gina E. Fernandez⁵, Phil M. Brannen⁶,
David M. Monks⁷, and Frank J. Louws⁸ HortTechnology 16:118-128, 2006

**Realistic and Detailed Enterprise budget:
Partial Budgeting
(negative effects; positive effects; net effects)**

Economically Feasible Alternatives

Estimated Returns per Acre (Piedmont & Coastal Plain)

Based on up to 15 trials over 10 years and multiple locations

Fumigant	Additional NET Returns/A	Gross Returns/A
Chloropicrin	+ \$1670	\$30,269
Telone-C35	+ \$277	\$28,593
Metam Sodium (Shank)	+ \$25	\$28,378
Methyl Bromide*	\$0	\$28,451
Non-fumigated (check)	-\$6,450	\$ 21,344

*Net Return for MB = \$14,895/A
= \$36,806/ha

1 EUR/ha ~ \$3.6/A

WHO IS THE ENEMY? (WHY DO WE FUMIGATE?)

Black Root Rot Complex



Advancing the Science: Who is the enemy?

- ▶ *Isolated and characterized over 1300 fungi using a hierarchical sampling scheme*
 - *Fungal complex varies with crop production site*
 - *Clean plants are difficult to obtain*
 - ▶ *Rhizoctonia fragariae* : AG-G, AG-A, AG-I
 - ▶ *Pythium irregulare, Pythium spinosum, Pythium artotrogus, Pythium HS*
 - ▶ *Fusarium solani* and *Fusarium oxysporum*
 - ▶ *Phytophthora crown rot: Phytophthora cactorum* (a plant killer)
-
- ▶ *Phytophthora bisheria* Abad, Abad and Louws sp. nov

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

Practice

Science

51% rule

ON-FARM-RESEARCH
(usually replicated with 2-4 alternatives)
Finding the holes - making it work



Conclusions:

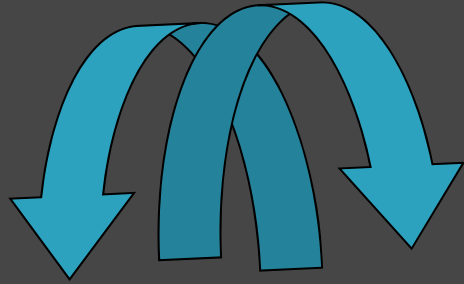
Economically Feasible Best Alternatives:

T-C35 (Pic-Clor 60) +/- herbicides (+VIF);

Chloropicrin +/- herbicides,

Metam Sodium;

Midas (iodomethane + pic) (voluntarily removed 2012)



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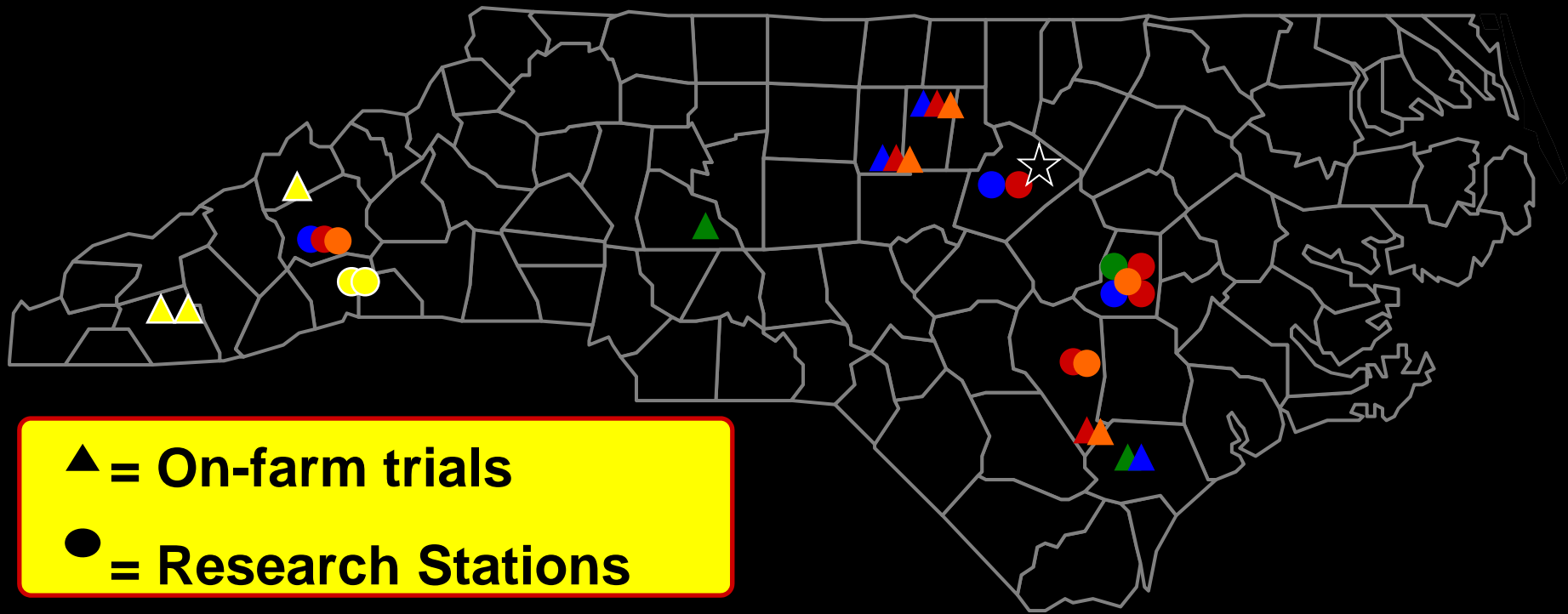
Diversity of Tomato Production Systems:



Tomatoes: Tactic Diversification

Grafting



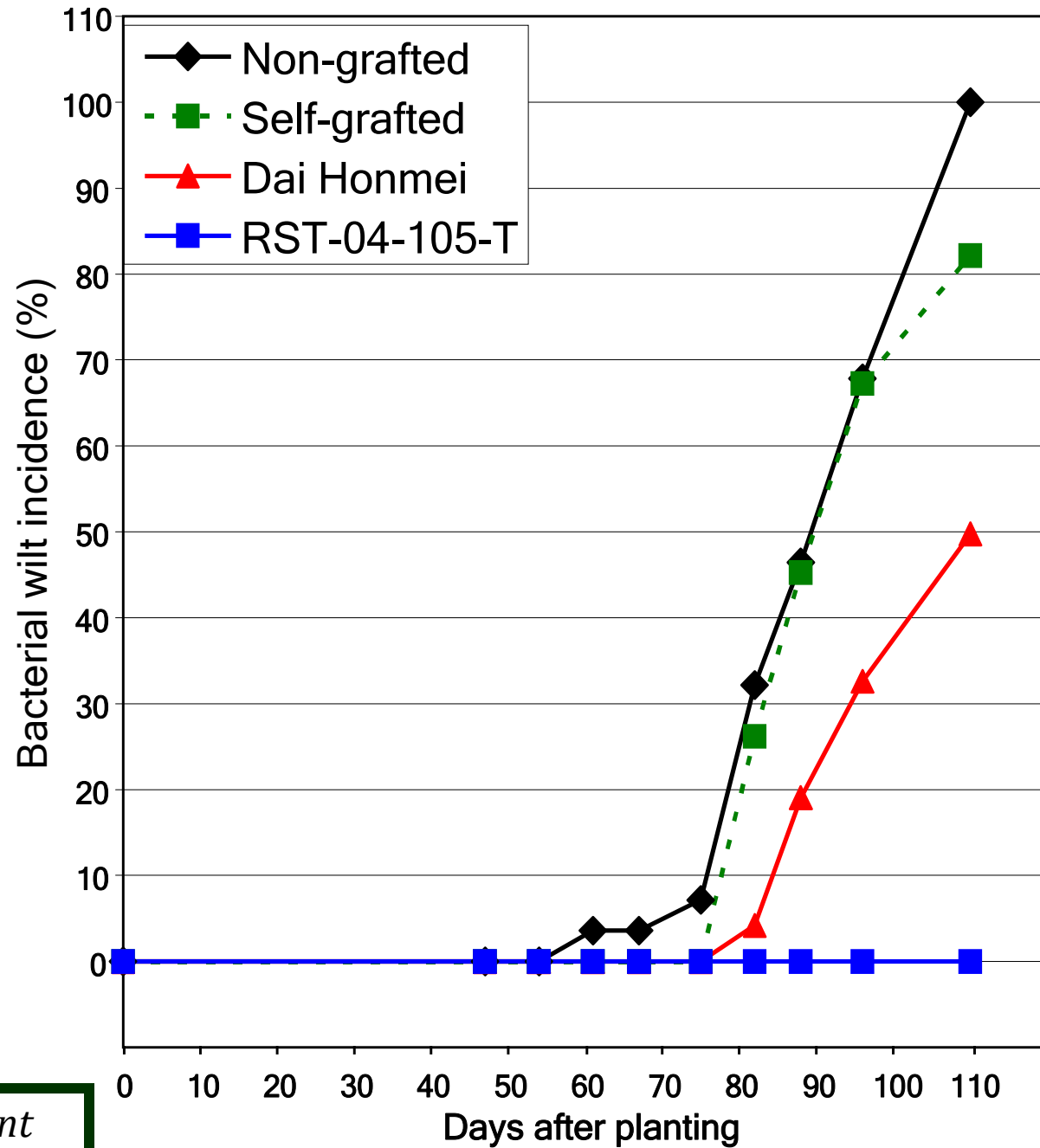


- *Ralstonia solanacearum*

- Southern Bacterial Wilt
- Colonizes Vascular tissue
- Tropical Environments
- Soil Inhabitant
- Wide host range



100%



(Rivard and Louws Plant

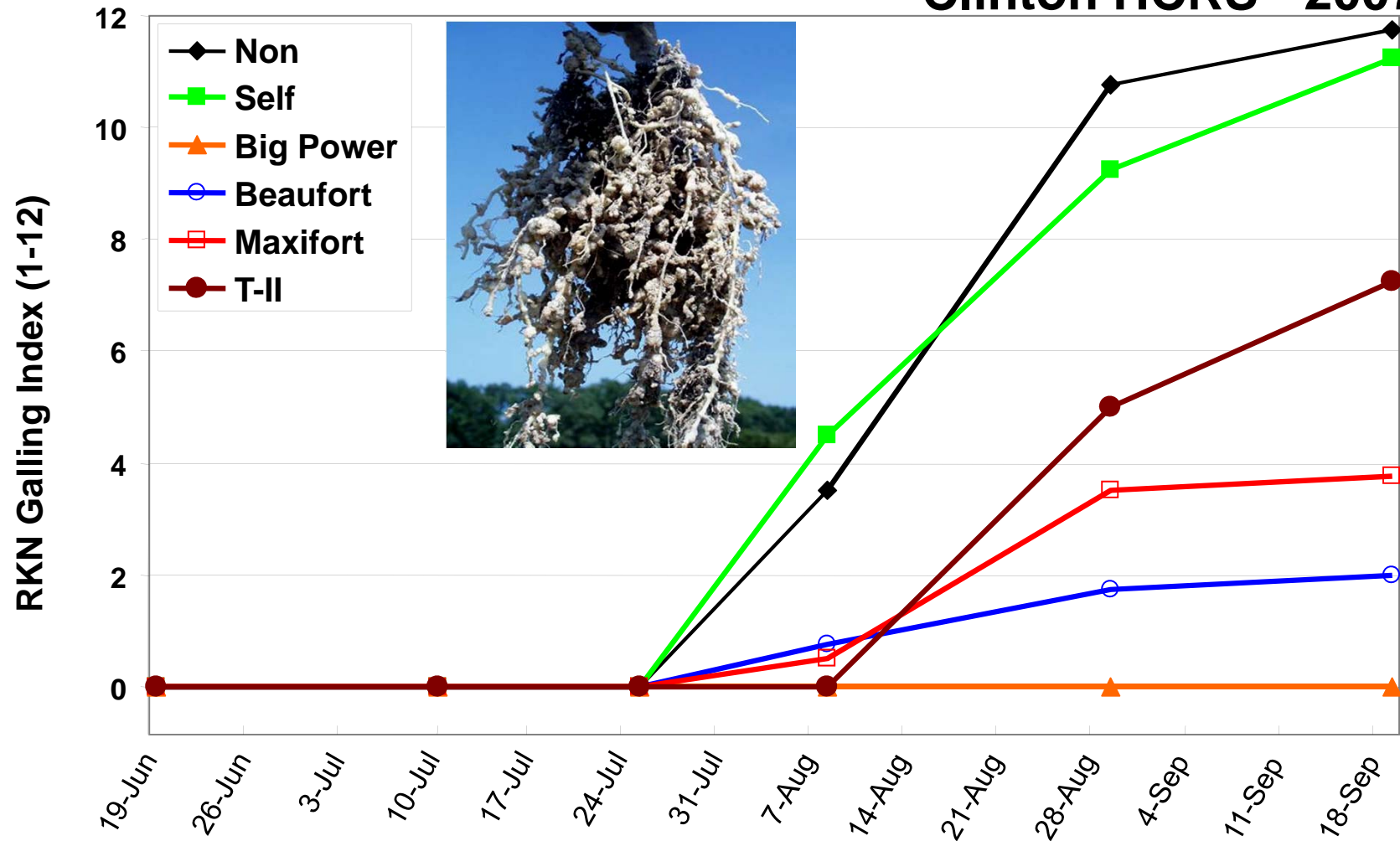
Dis. 2010)



Root Knot Nematode

Meloidogyne incognita race 1

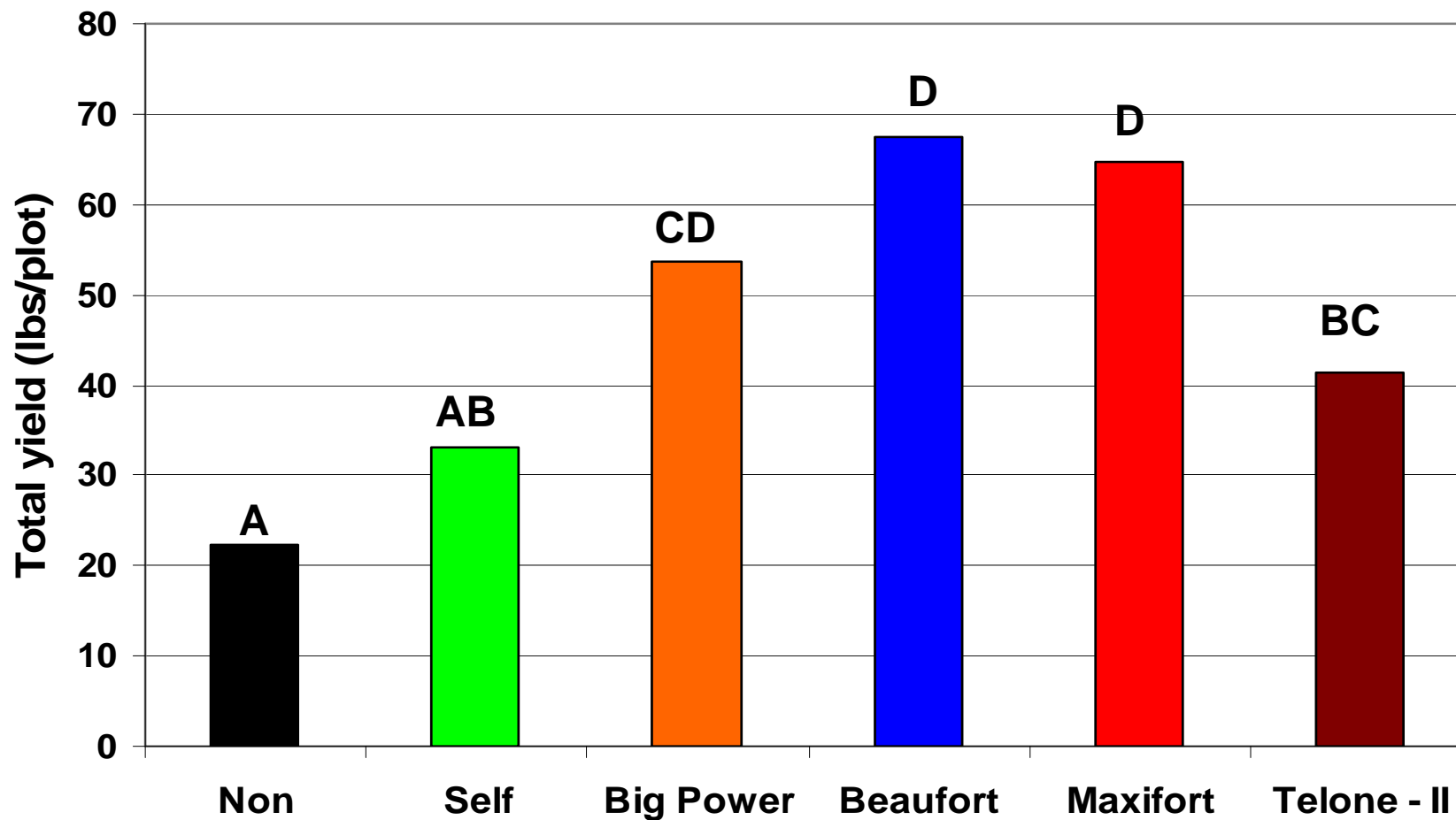
Clinton HCRS - 2007



Root Knot Nematode

Meloidogyne incognita race 1

Clinton HCRS - 2007



Least Significant Difference at P=0.05

RKN Populations

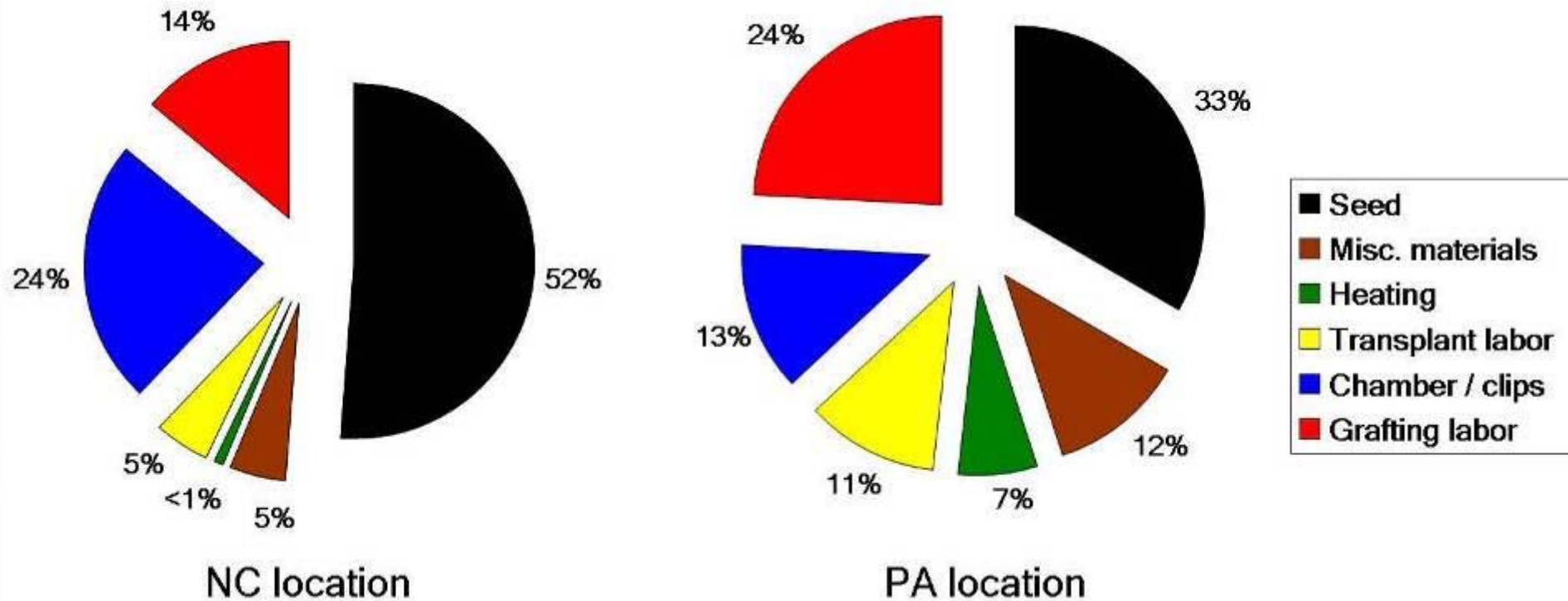
Root-knot nematode soil populations / 500 cc soil		
	First Harvest	Terminal Harvest
Non-grafted	8357 D	1964 Y
Self-grafted	8751 D	1228 Y
Telone II	379 B	1260 Y
Big Power	77 A	40 Z
Beaufort	2680 C	2542 Y
Maxifort	3091 C	1251 Y

LSD based on P = 0.01

Propagation Costs

▶ Proportion of added costs

- e.g. seed costs (%) = $(SEED_{\text{graft}} - SEED_{\text{non}}) / (TOTAL_{\text{graft}} - TOTAL_{\text{non}})$



\$0.46 / plant

\$0.74 / plant = Added cost

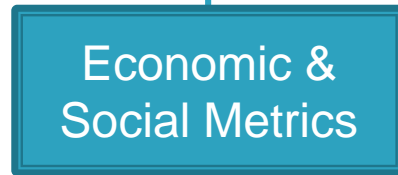
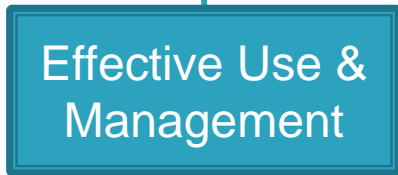
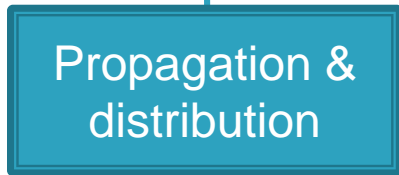
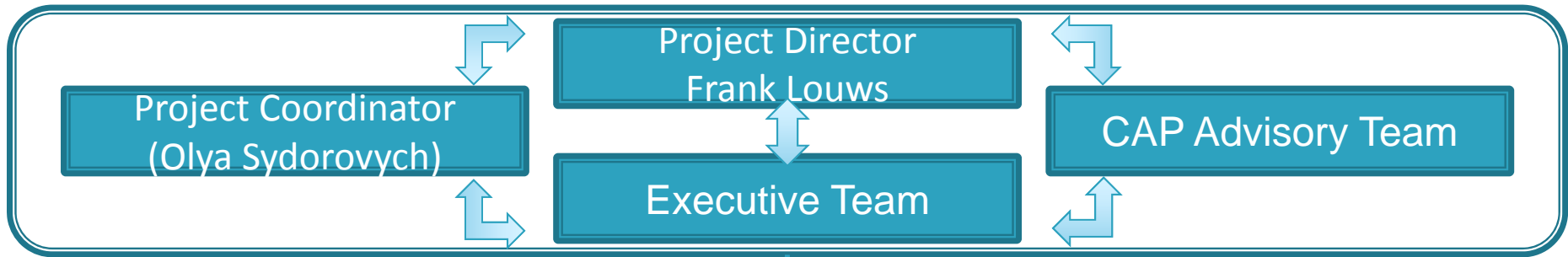
(Rivard et al., 2010)



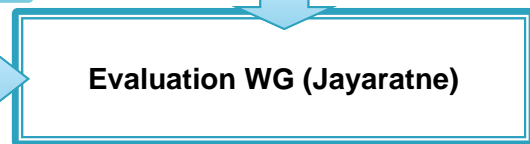
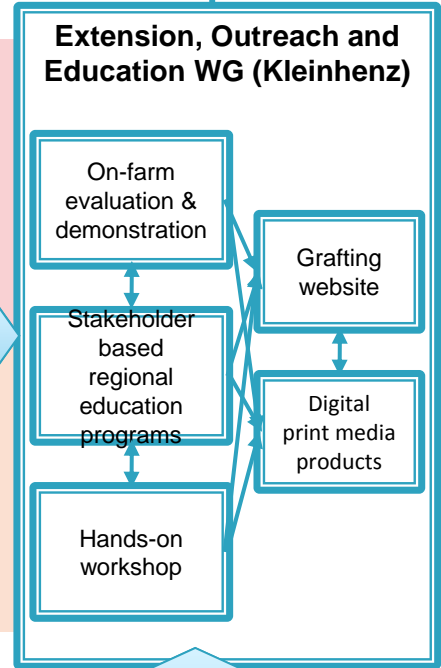
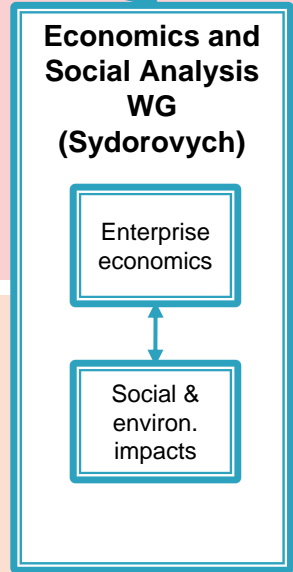
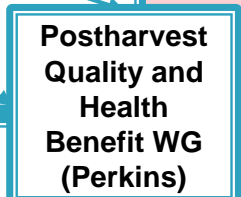
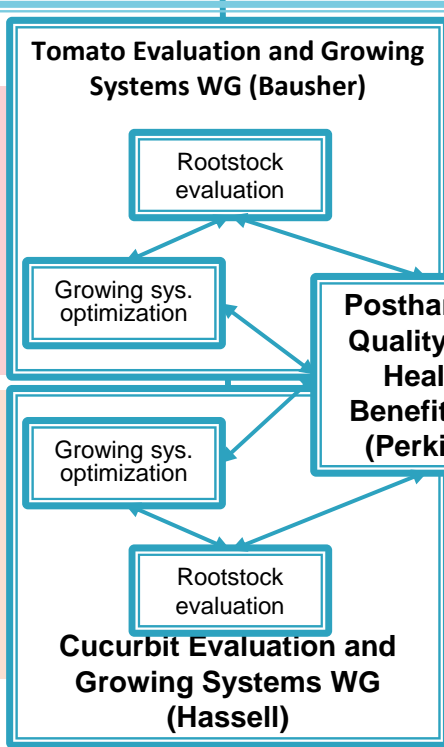
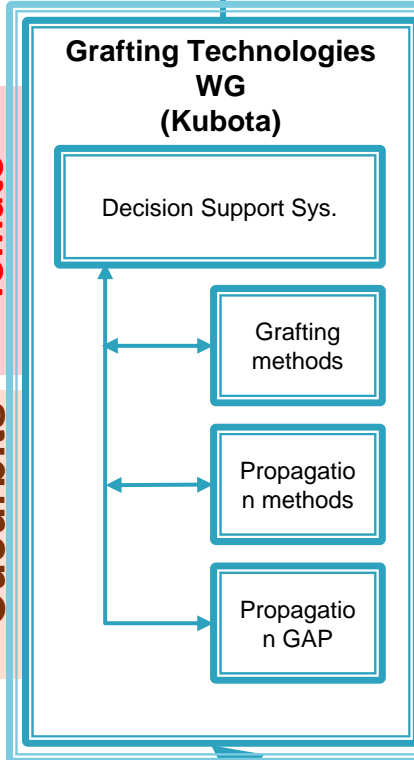
SMALLFRUITS.ORG

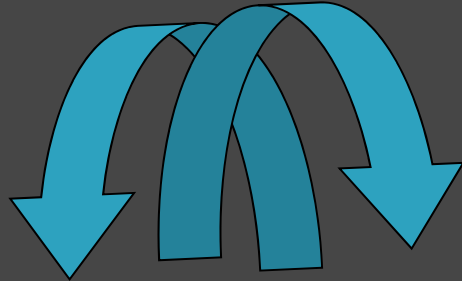


S-RIPM
Train-the-Trainer
For broad impact



Tomato
Cucurbits





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Strawberries - Tactic development:

Can we implement a compost-based production system as an alternative to methyl bromide fumigation?



John Vollmer

- on farm research
- organic transition

Michelle Grabowski
MS student



Practice

Science



Legume-Grass Cover Crop





Rotary Spader



Raising of the Beds



Crop Establishment

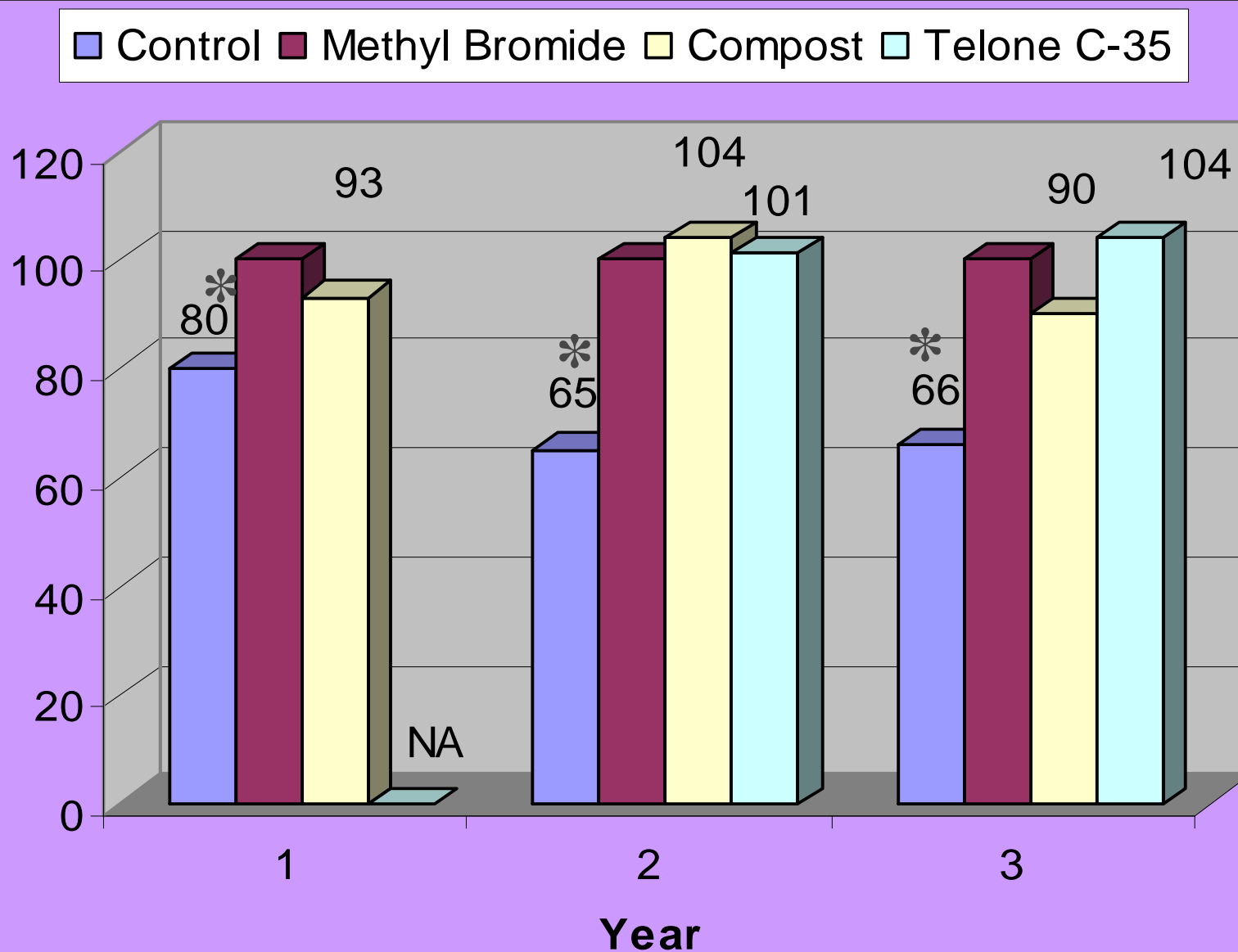
Treatments

Compost
Methyl Bromide
Telone C35
Non fumigated

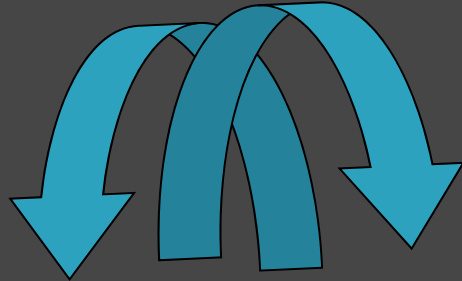


- **Plots (4 beds 15m long)**
- **Latin Sq. design (4*4)**
- **Same location for 3 consecutive years (i.e. no crop rotation)**

Marketable Yield



*** Indicates yield is significantly different than MB**



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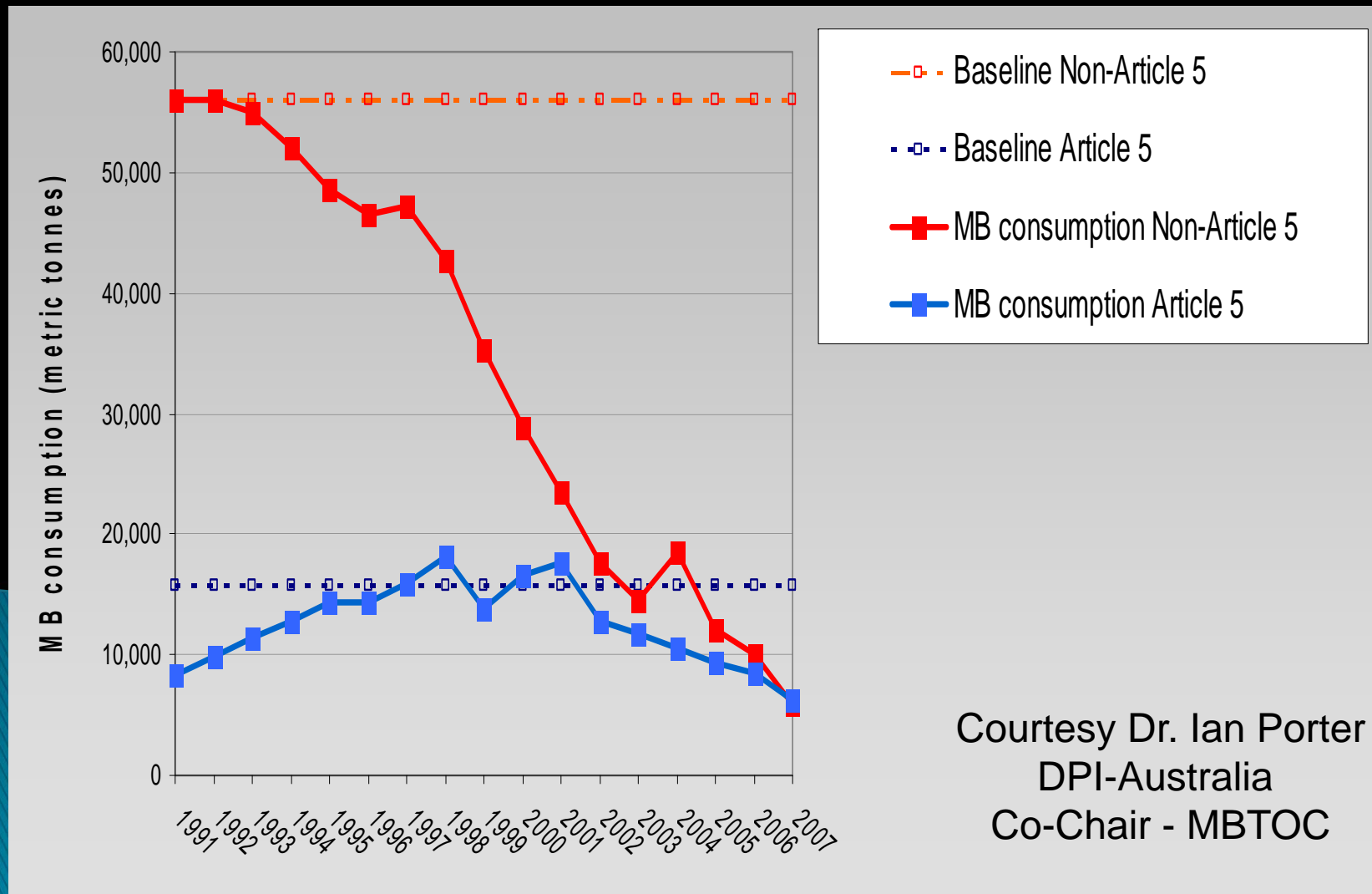
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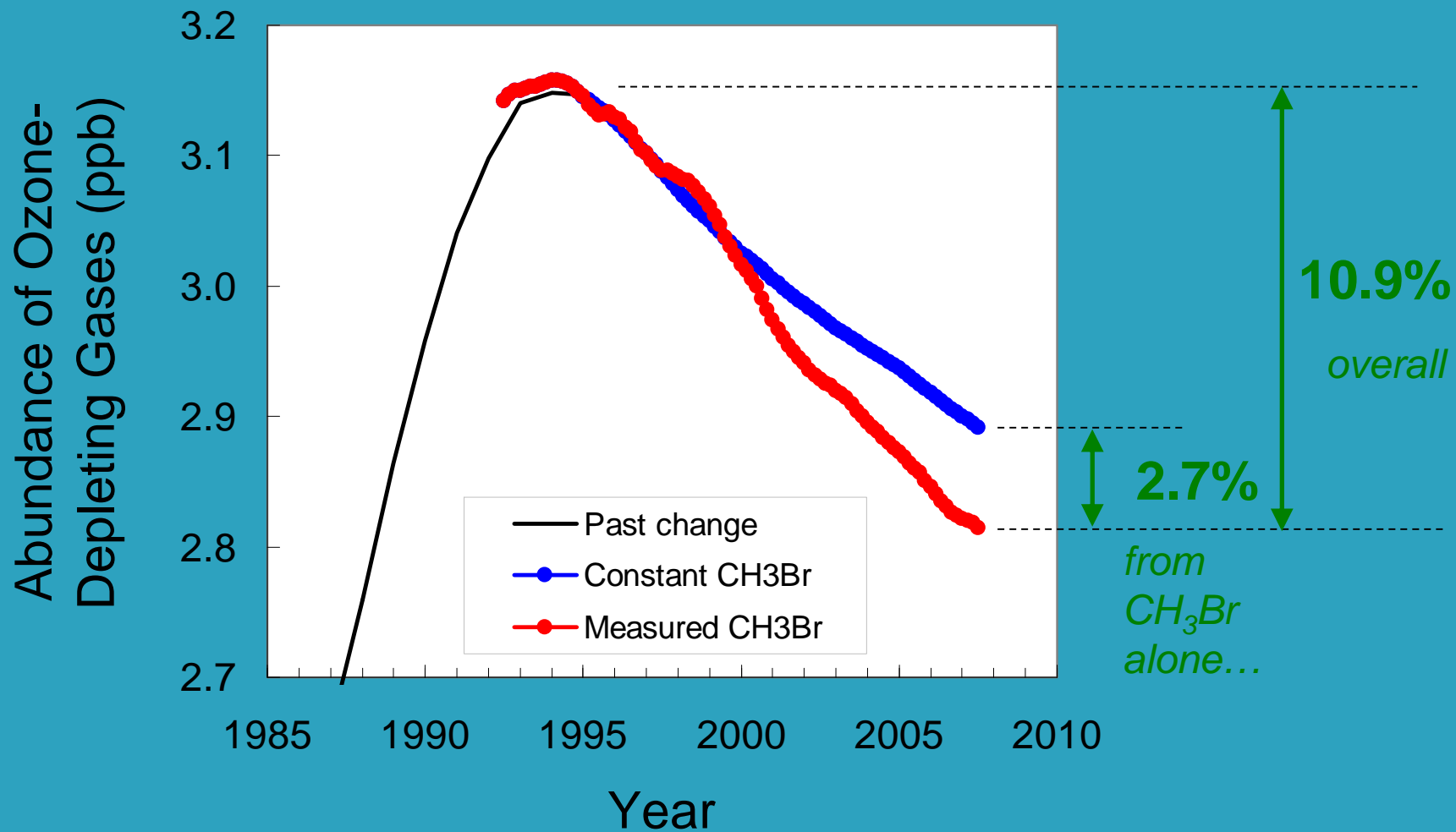
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Methyl Bromide Phase Out Local Programs – Global Impact MB Global Consumption 1991–2007

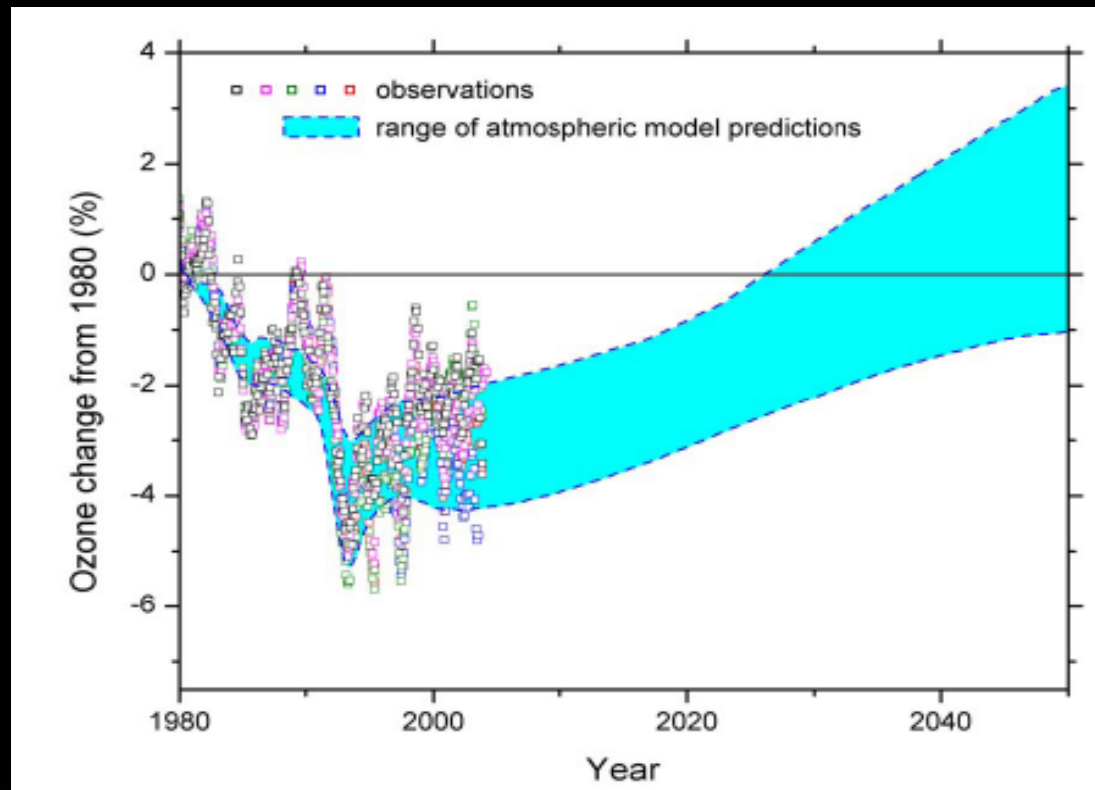


Courtesy Dr. Ian Porter
DPI-Australia
Co-Chair - MBTOC

Tropospheric declines in CH₃Br account for ~25% of the overall decline



Summary: Benefit of The Montreal Protocol



Full compliance with the Montreal Protocol will see concentrations of stratospheric ozone return to baseline levels towards the middle of this century.

Sustainable Ag/ IPM Systems

Process Oriented and Problem Solving

vs.

Product Orientation

Information, Management, Knowledge

vs.

Energy Intensive Inputs

A + B = X

**{ A C }
D E
F B } X**

IPM 2.0

Towards future-proof crop protection in Europe

