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Agriculture

# Fungicide Applications



## Considerations for Economic Thresholds

Brent Flaten



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# Thanks to:

- Randy Kutcher, U of S



# Benefit to using fungicide depends on:

- the cost of product and application, and
- the increased revenue as a result of the expected yield and or quality increase



# Benefit depends on the risk (of disease):

- environment,
- management practices:
  - variety choice,
  - seeding date,
  - time of fungicide application,
  - rotation,
  - seeding rate,
  - row spacing,
  - fertility.....

# The Disease Triangle



# Sclerotinia

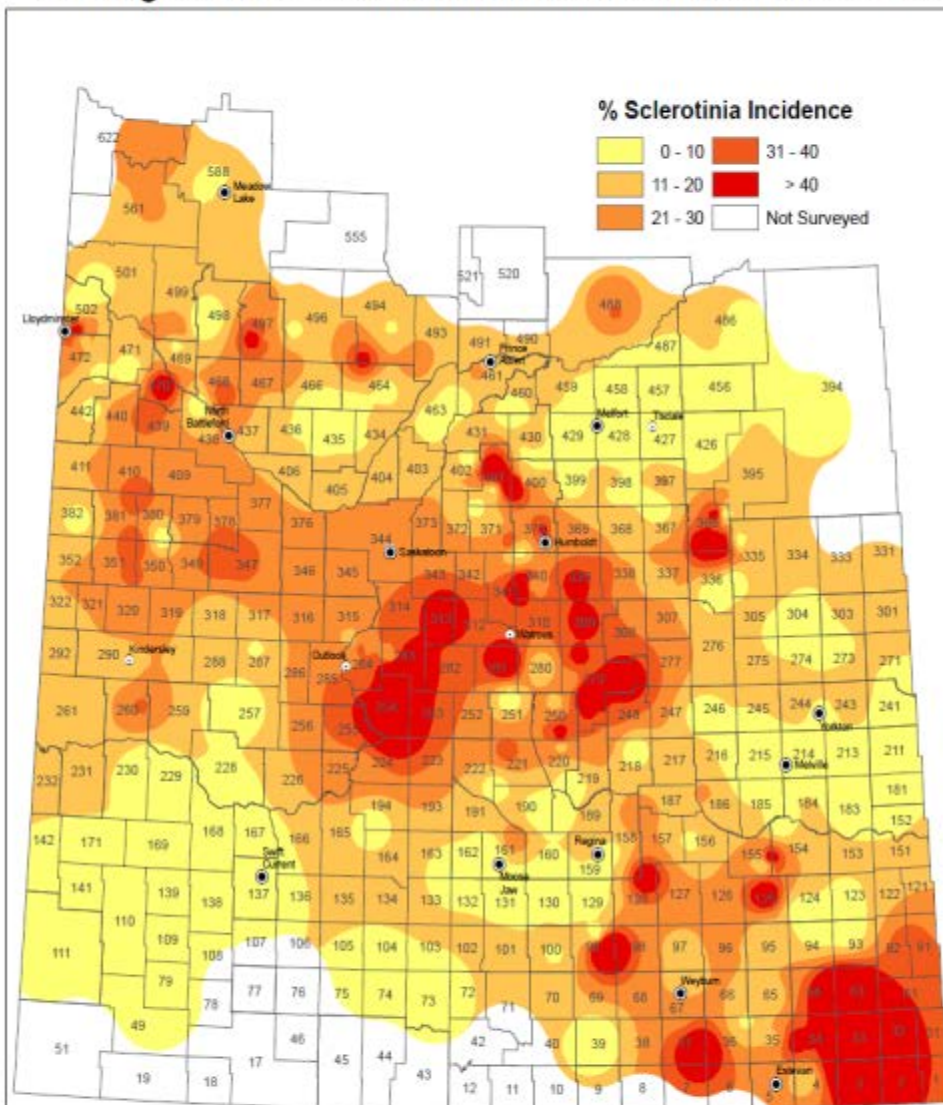


# Sclerotinia (White mould): Lentils



And most broadleaf crops and weeds

# Average Percent Sclerotinia Incidence in Canola - 2012



NOTE: Since techniques used to smooth the transition between zones can affect the values in localized areas, this map should be used for regional analysis only.



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Projection: UTM Zone 13 Datum: NAD83



Data Source:

Canola Survey Data - Crops Branch

Collaboration with: Agriculture and

Agri-Food Canada

IDW interpolation (power 2.5, fixed radius 300 km)

Prepared by: Geomatics Services Date: November 20, 2012



# Spraying for Sclerotinia – early bloom Canola

	Possible Answers	Risk Points	Example
Number of years since last host crop	> 6 yrs	0	
	3 – 6 yrs	5	
	1 – 2 yrs	10	10
Disease incidence in last host crop	None	0	
	Low (1-10%)	5	
	Moderate (11-30%)	10	10
	High (31-100%)	15	
Crop Density	Low	0	
	Normal	5	5
	High	10	
			<b>Total = 25</b>



# Spraying for Sclerotinia - Canola

	Possible Answers	Risk Points	Example
Rain in last 2 weeks	<10mm (0.4")	0	
	10-30 mm (0.4-1.2")	5	5
	>30mm (1.2")	10	
Weather forecast	High pressure	0	
	Variable	10	10
	Low pressure	15	
Apothecial Development	None found	0	
	Low numbers	10	10
	High numbers	15	

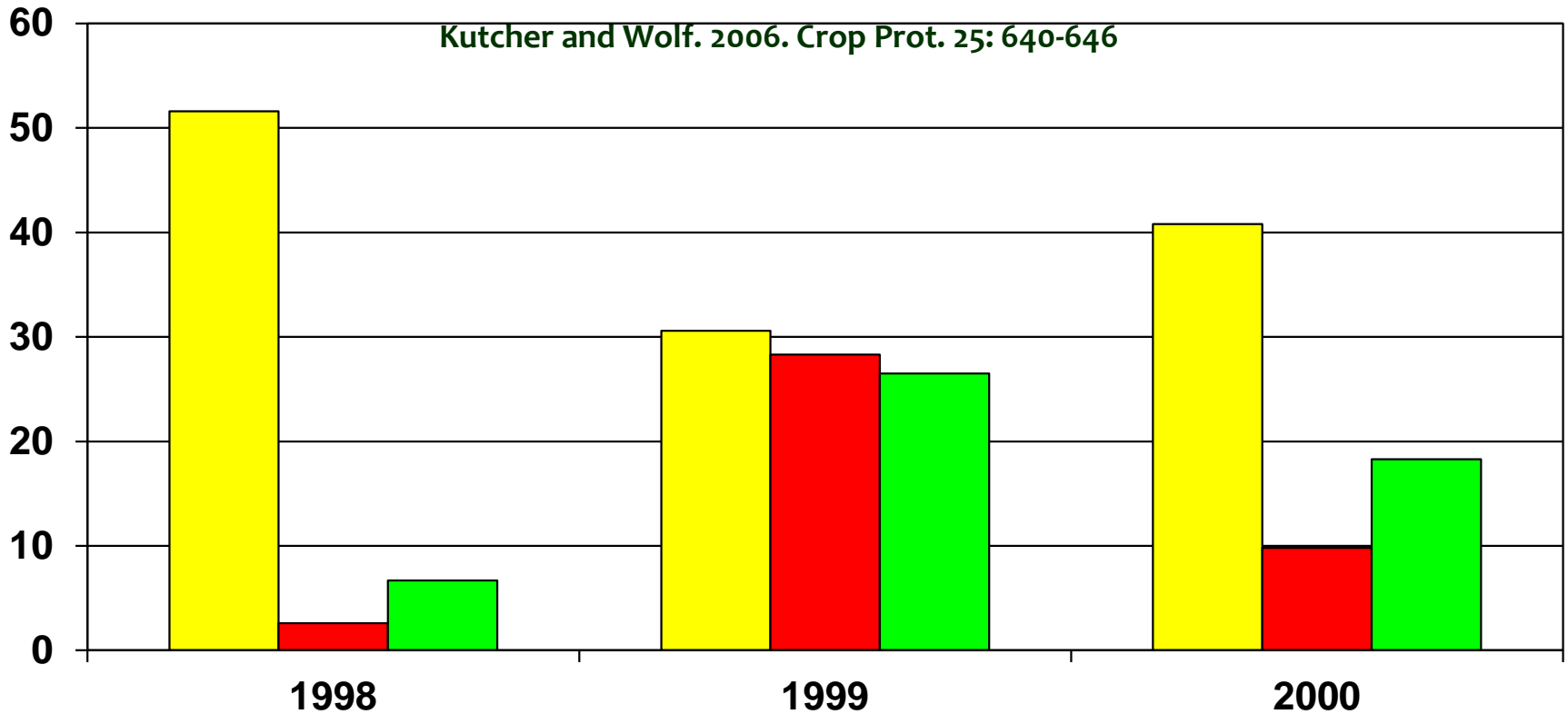
> 40 good chance fungicide a good option

Total = 25+25=50



# ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

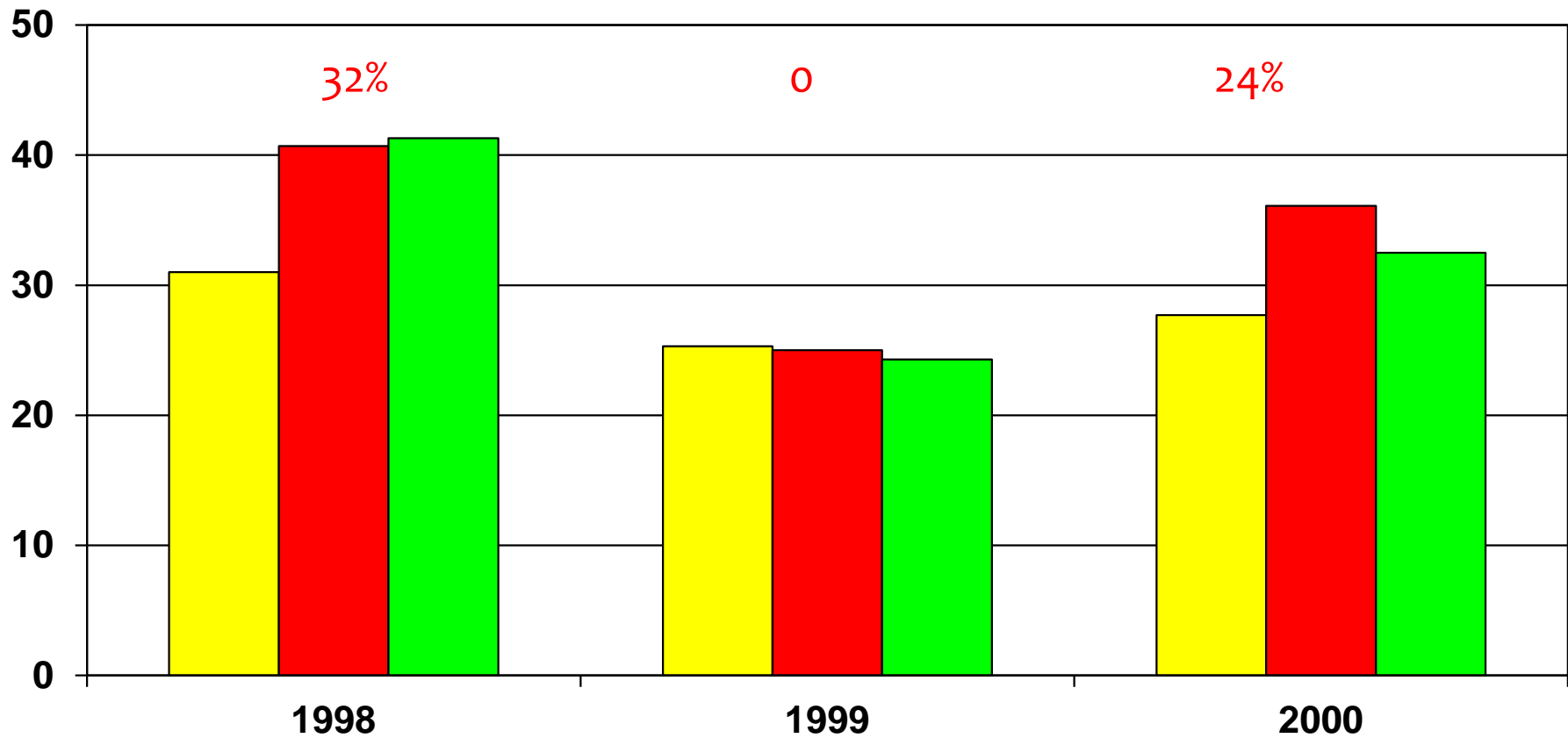
## Stem Rot Incidence (%) on canola at AAFC, Melfort



■ Unsprayed   ■ Ronilan   ■ Benlate

# ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT

## Yield (bu/ac) of canola at Melfort



■ Unsprayed   ■ Ronilan   ■ Benlate



Old fashion assessment /Contans

# Canola Disease Survey: Blackleg



- Blackleg basal canker was present in 32% of SK canola crops, with a mean incidence across all crops of 3.7%.



# Blackleg “Resistance” Ratings

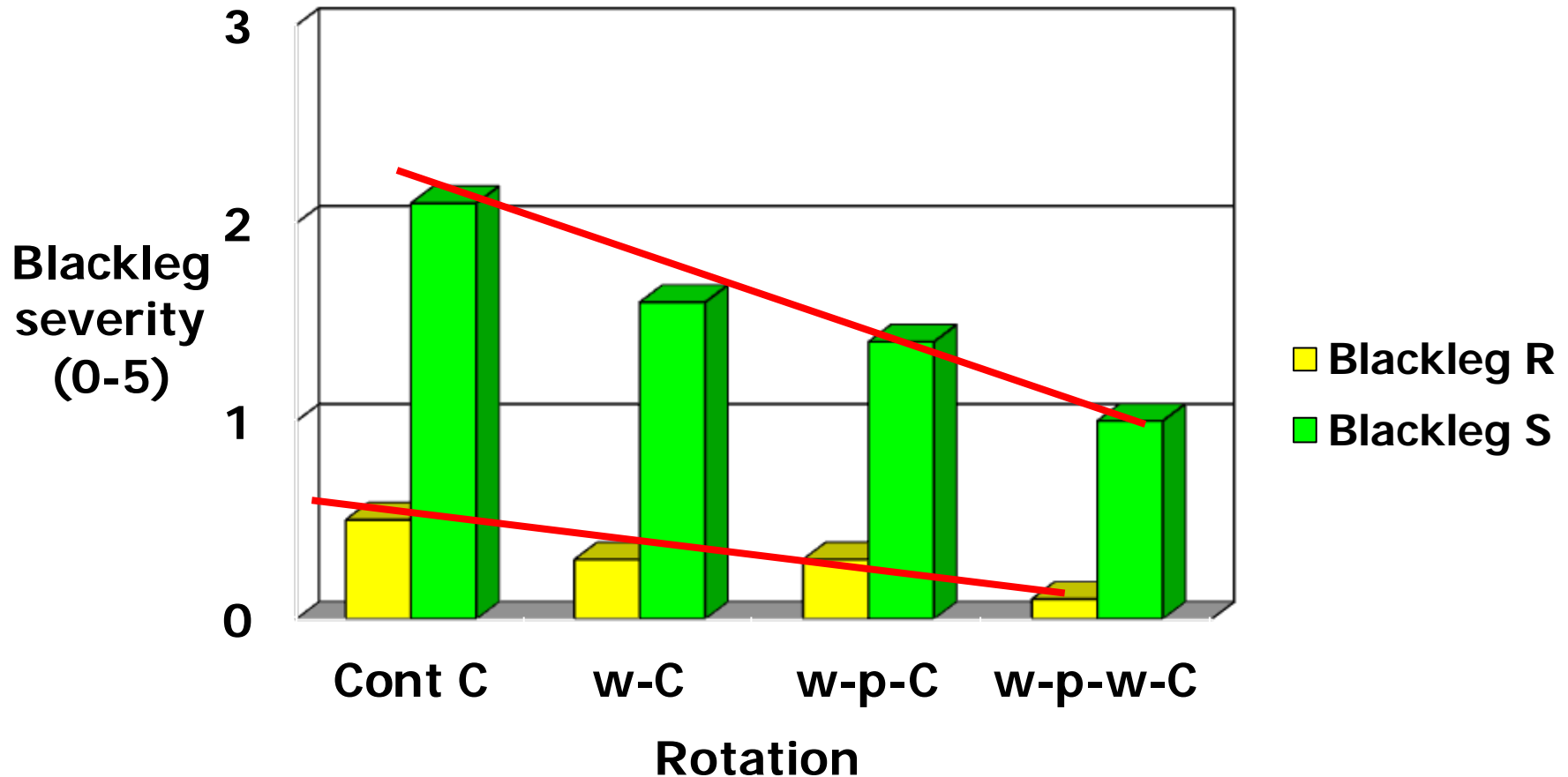
- Resistant: 0-30%\*
- Moderately Resistant: 30-49%
- Moderately Susceptible: 50-69%
- Susceptible: 70-89%
- Highly Susceptible: 90-100%

\* averages



# Influence of rotation length on severity of blackleg of canola

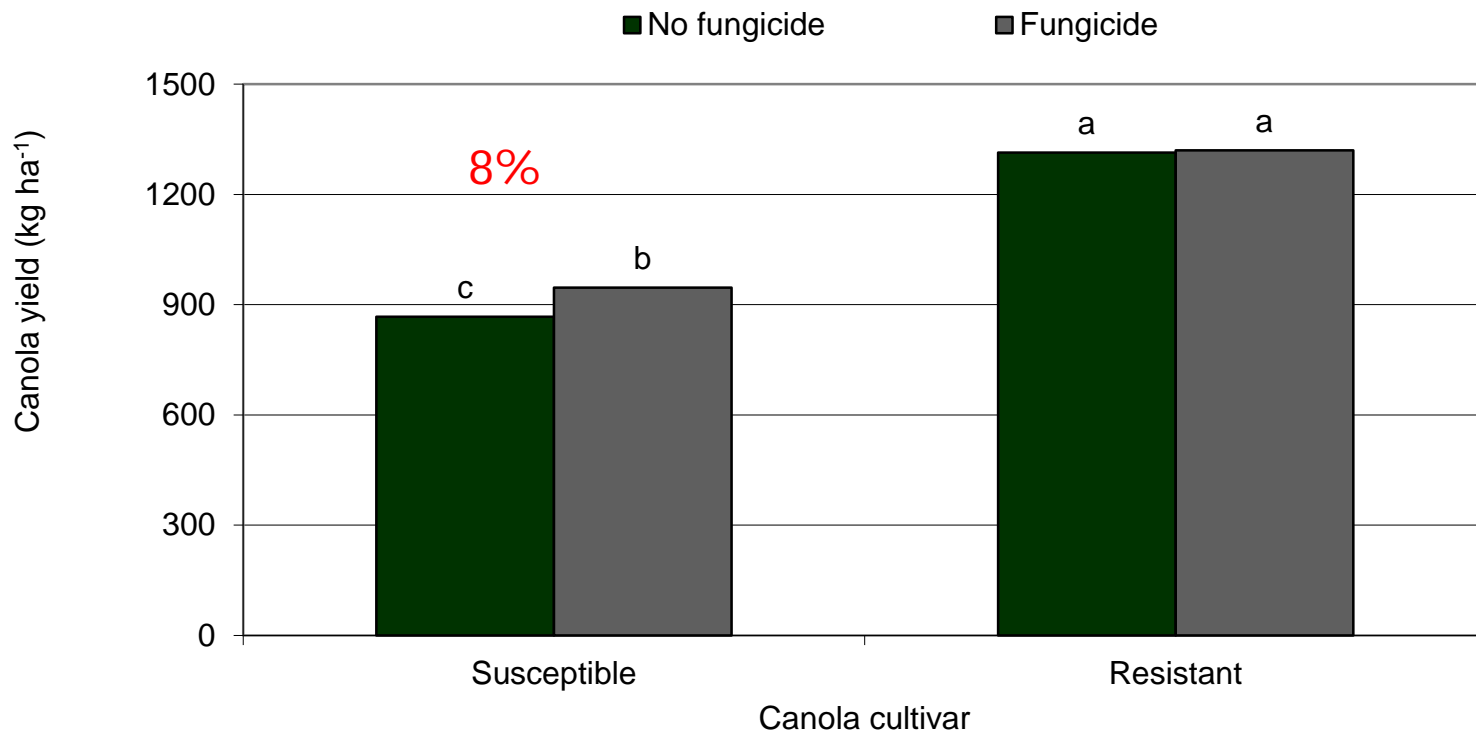
[14 site-years - Scott and Melfort, 2000-06]





# VARIETAL EFFECTS

## Fungicide (blackleg timing) on canola yield (kg/ha)



Mean of 9 site-years of data 1999-2003, Melfort and Scott, SK



# Mycosphaerella Blight / Ascochyta Blight



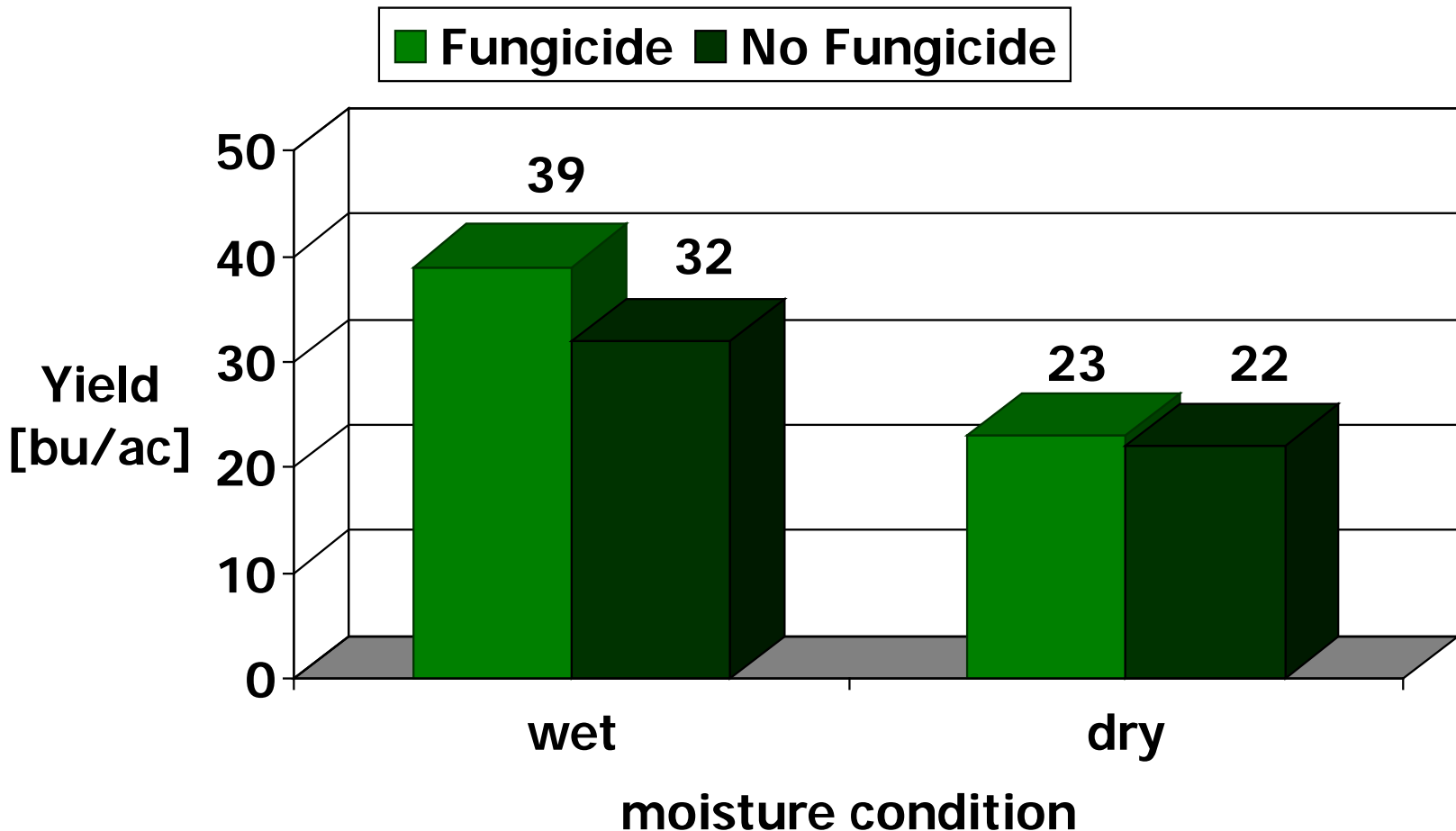
# Foot rot / root rot

- Foot rot (*Ascochyta*)
- Root rot (*Fusarium*, *Rhizoctonia*, *Pythium* or *Aphanomyces*)
  - Severe epidemics under cool, wet conditions
  - 30 to 50% yield losses have been reported
  - Some can infect at any stage



# ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Moisture conditions and pea yield response to fungicide: [normal/wet – 00, 04, 05, 06; dry 01, 02, 03]



# Pea - wet feet



Photo courtesy of SCIC

# Excess Water

- A relative rating of crop tolerance to excess water (in decreasing order):

Cereal crops: oats > wheat > barley

Oilseed crops: canola > sunflower > flax

Pulse crops: fababeans > soybeans >>> peas > lentils





Courtesy of SCIC

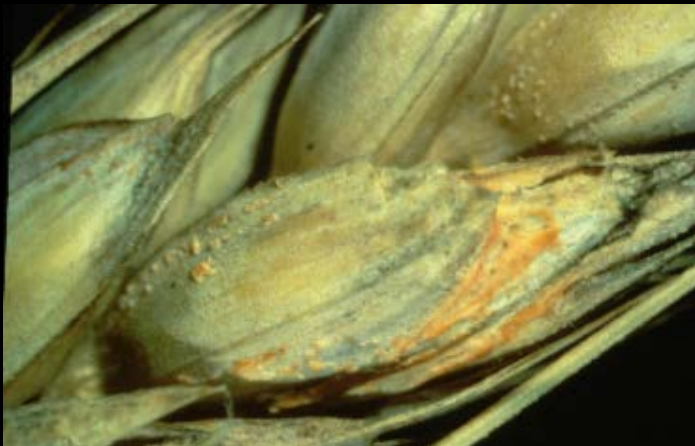


# White Heads

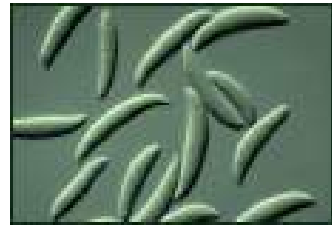
- Root rot – pull easily from soil
- Wheat stem maggot / Wheat stem sawfly
- Barley yellow dwarf / Aster Yellows
- FHB – can affect whole stem in extreme cases
- Herbicide damage (late apps)
- Heat stress / Loss of flag leaf



# Fusarium Head Blight



# FHB infection process in wheat:



Inoculum Increase

4-7 days prior to head emergence. Wet conditions favour spore production.



Head Emergence

3-6 days after emergence when flowering begins. Requires humid, warm conditions. (at 25°C, infection within 24 hrs)



Infection



Symptoms

7-14 days after emergence. Fungi colonizes head and mycotoxin is produced, depends on humid warm conditions. New infections.



# FHB

- What to do for 2013?
  - Plant seed with <5% and/or use seed treatment
  - Resistant varieties
  - Rotation – avoid cereal stubble or near infected fields
  - Fungicide application at heading if conditions warrant

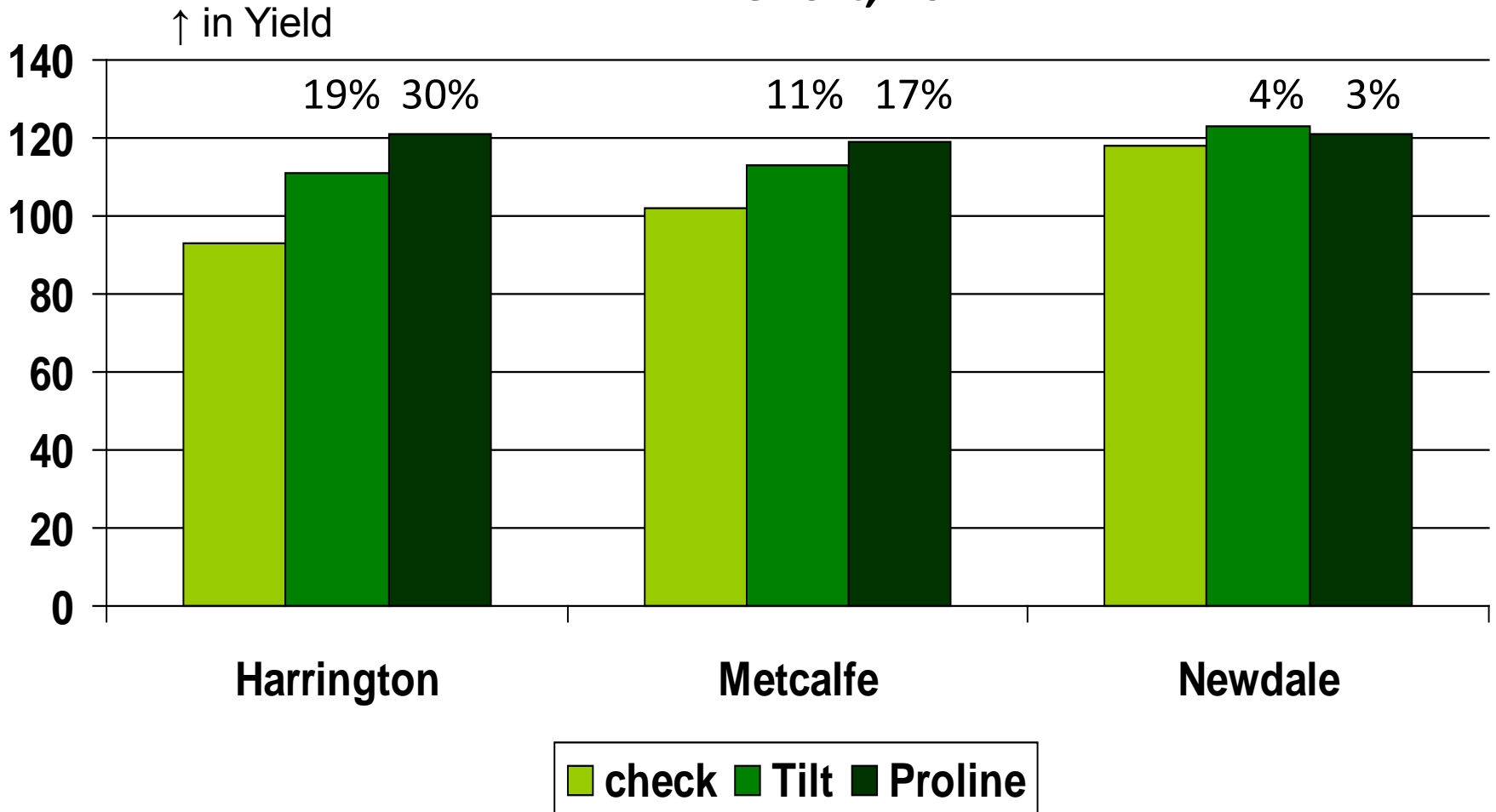
# Wheat



# Variety x Fungicide Trial

Yield (bushels/acre) of barley

Melfort, 2011



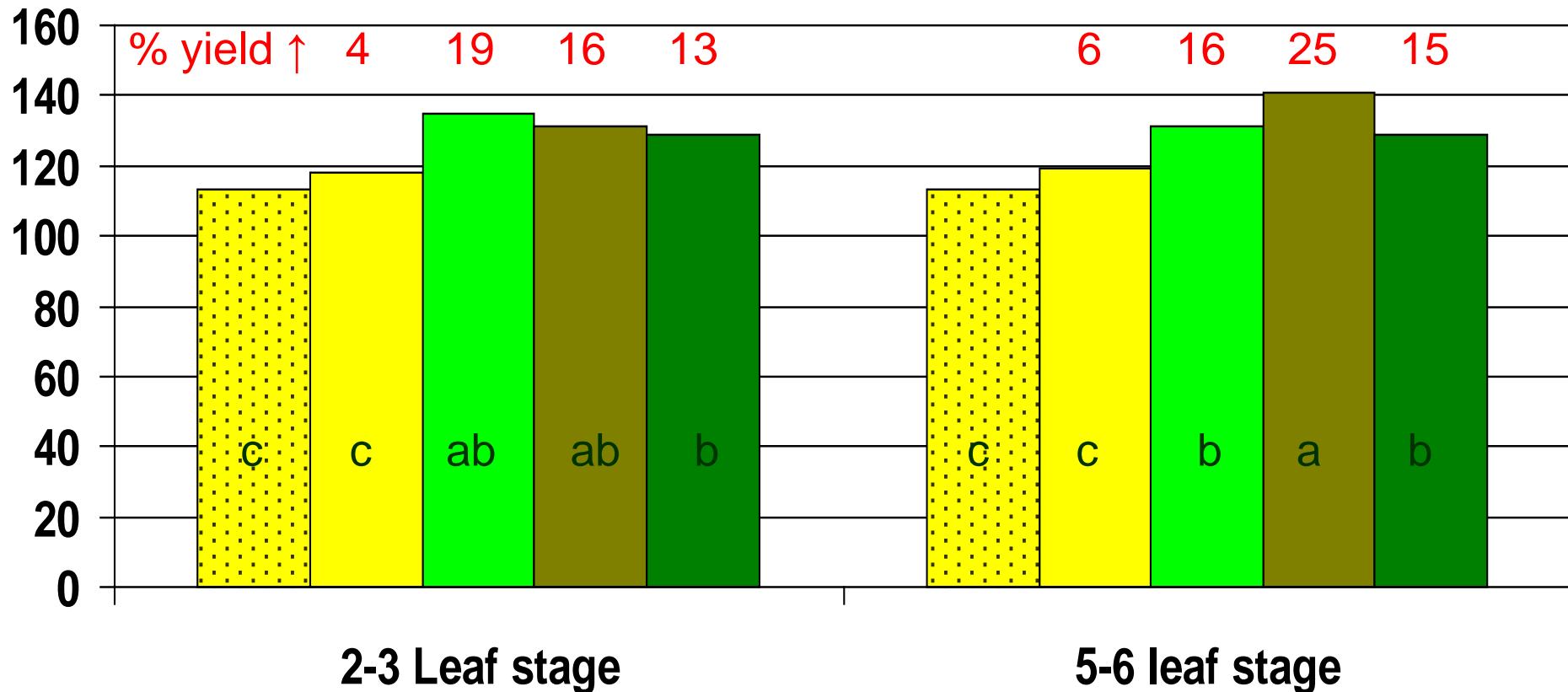


# Timing is important

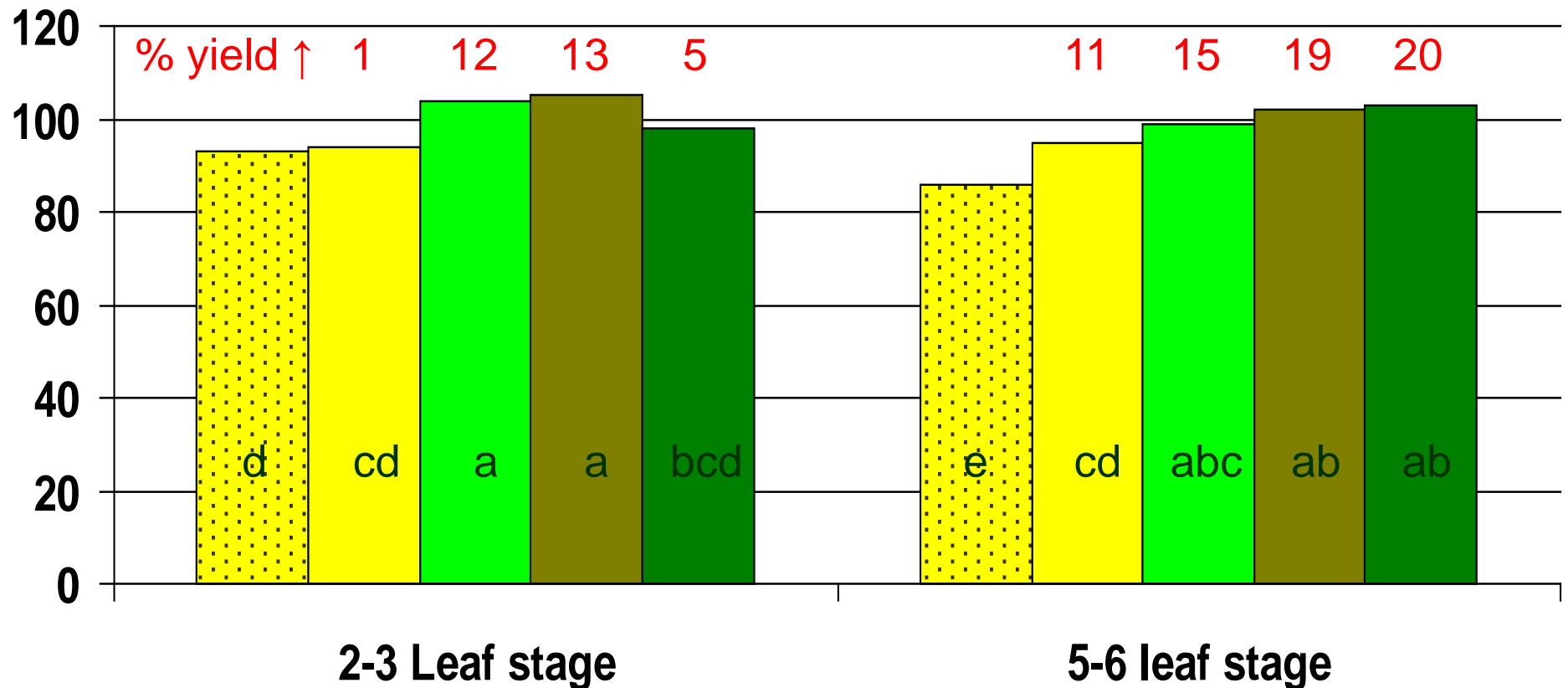
- Cereal Leaf Spots (tan spot, spot blotch, net blotch, stagonospora, septoria)
  - Wheat – protect top 2 leaves (flag and penultimate)
  - Barley – protect top 3 leaves
- FHB
  - Wheat – 7-10 days window - early flowering
  - Barley – just before or at head emergence



# Yield (bu/ac) of barley treated at the seedling and/or flag leaf stage with fungicide (propiconazole) and herbicide (Axial/Frontline); Metcalfe barley at Melfort, 2010



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# Thank You!

## Questions????