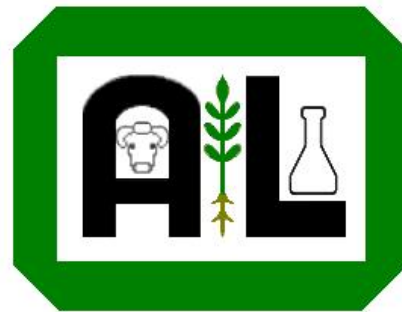


THE NEXT GREEN REVOLUTION WILL BE BASED ON AGROECOLOGY



George Lazarovits

A&L Biologicals, 2136 Jetstream Road, London, On. N5V 3P5

Lazarovitsg@alcanada.com , cell 519-878-1323

*A&L is
integrated
throughout the
agriculture
industry from the
farm gate to the
dinner plate*

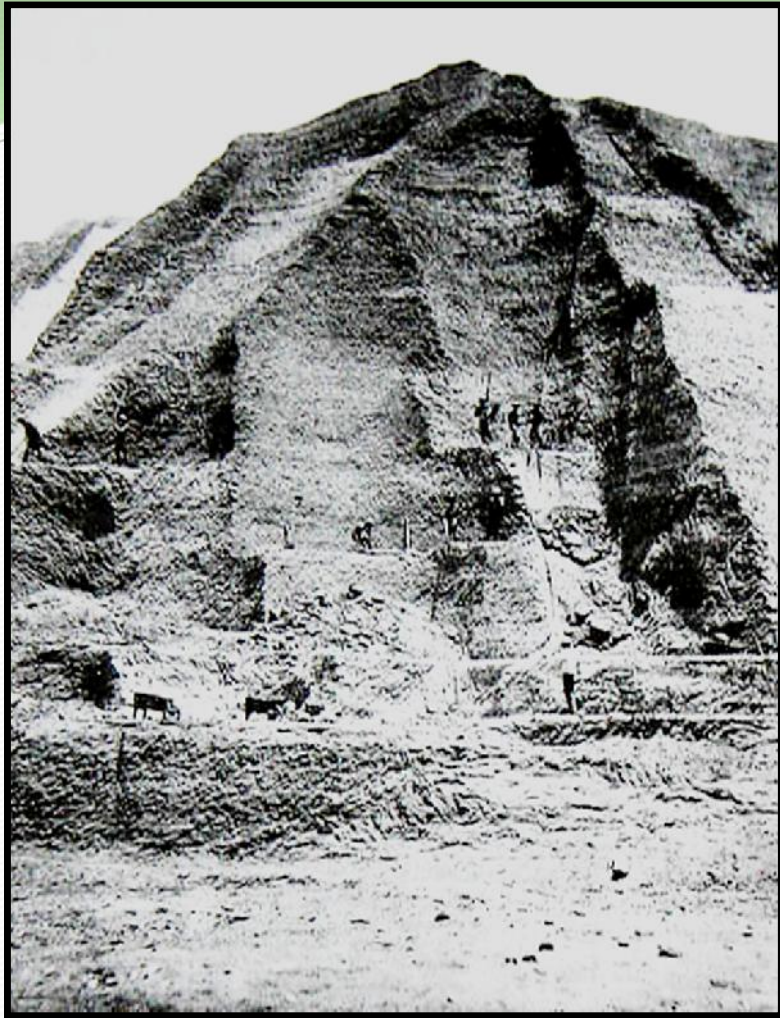
*We provide our
customers with
interpretation of
the analytical
information*



Key Areas Of Service

- Soil, Water and Plant Analysis
- Fertilizer Analysis
- Compost Analysis
- Feed Analysis
- Manure Analysis
- Greenhouse Analysis
- Pesticide Analysis/Good Laboratory Practices
- Nematode Analysis
- Precision Technology/Aerial monitoring via drones coming
- Geo Processing Centre and Data Management
- Microbiology/Pest Diagnostics
- PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction)/Microbial Identification
- Environmental Analysis/ Research on Agroecology





Mining guano in the Chincha Islands off the central coast of Peru. 1860.

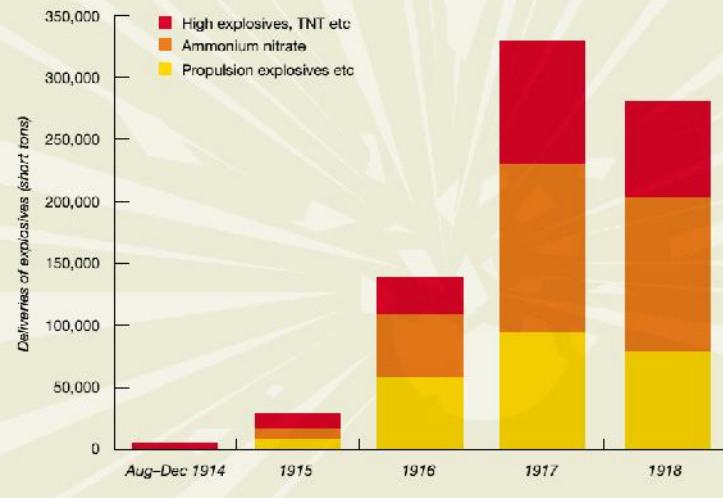
The First Green Revolution

- Millions of fish eating birds + dry conditions off the islands of Peru provided ideal guano fertilizer
- Between 1840 - 1880, the Peruvians excavated over 20 million tons of guano for export = \$2 billion in profits.
- By 1910 the reserves had become depleted and harvest became regulated



Nobel Peace Prize (1970)

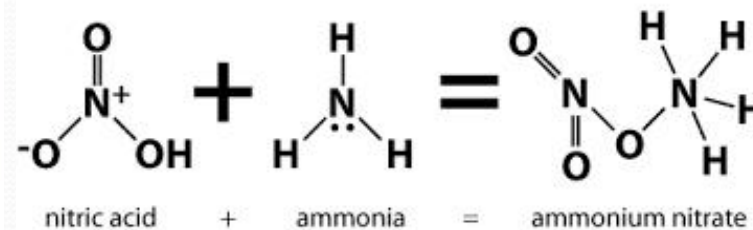
Scale-up of high explosive and propellant production in British factories



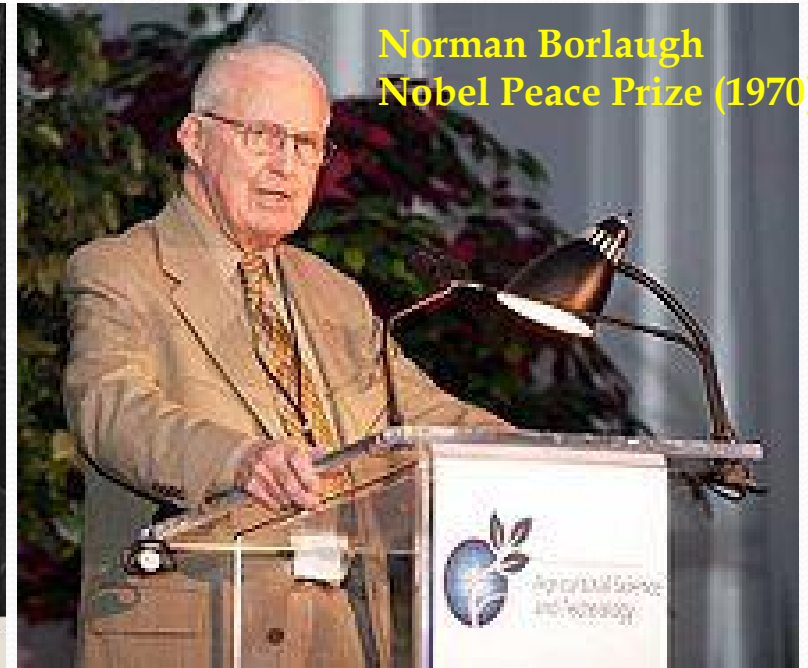
The Second Green Revolution

Greatly based on the Haber-Bosch nitrogen patents

Production of Ammonium Nitrate Fertilizer



Negro farmer hauling bags of dry fertilizer onto his truck, San Augustine, Texas, 1939. FSA.



Norman Borlaug
Nobel Peace Prize (1970)

We have destroyed a third of Earth's farmland in 40 years

- Soil is being destroyed 100 X faster than it can form
- to avert disaster, farmers must adopt sustainable agricultural practices based on ecological principles.



<http://news.sciencemag.org/sifter>
USDA NRCS SOUTH
DAKOTA/FLICKR (CC BY-SA 2.0)



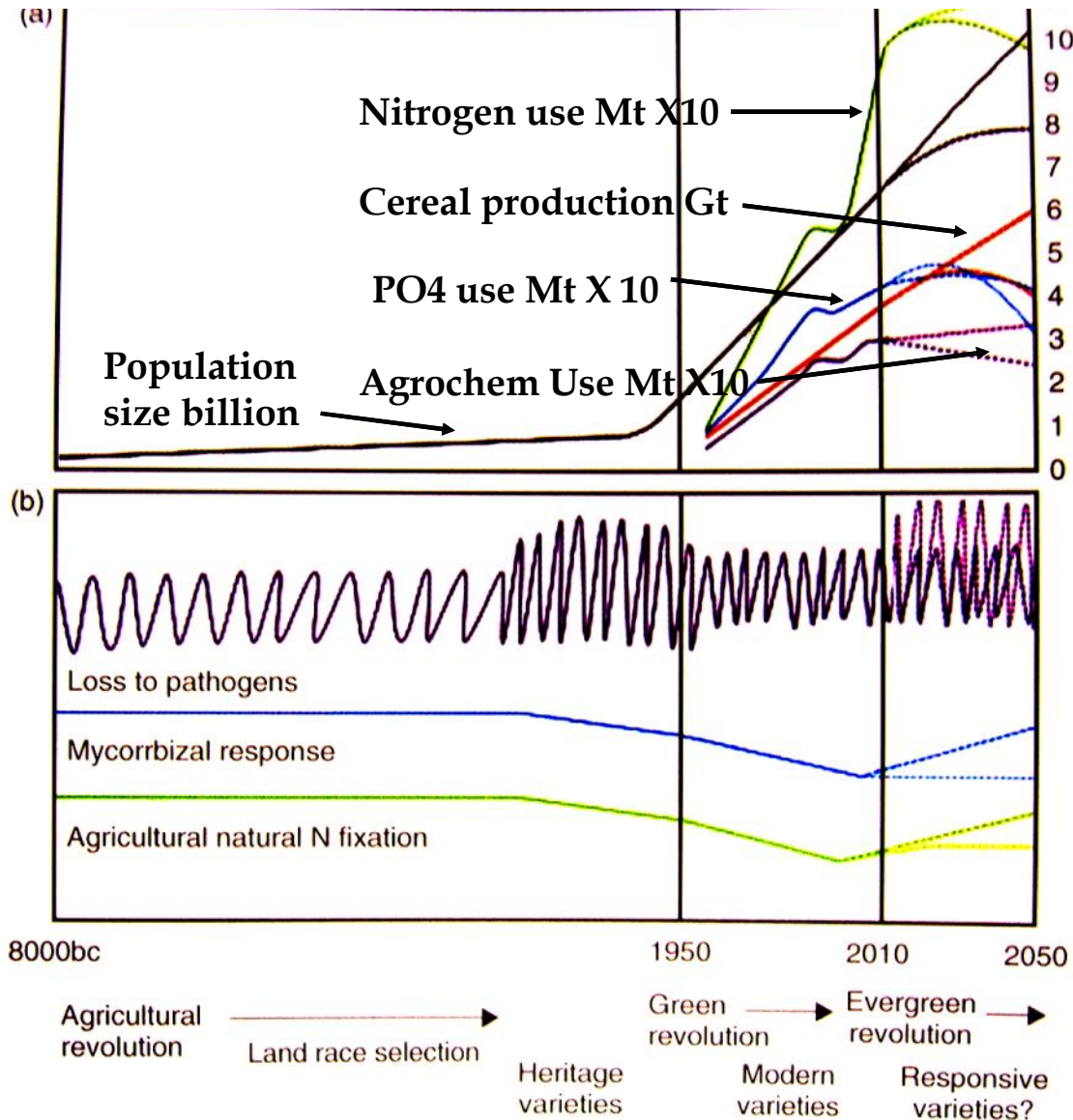
The Opinion Pages | OP-ED CONTRIBUTORS

We Need a New Green Revolution

By PHILLIP A. SHARP and ALAN LESHNER JAN. 4, 2016

JANUARY 4, 2016





THE EVERGREEN REVOLUTION

A.E. Bennett et al. 2013
Molecular Microbial Ecology of the Rhizosphere

Agriculture based
on ecology



Ecological agriculture

Practices that require greater reliance on natural soil processes, native microorganisms, and the interactions between plants, animals, and humans.



In order to **increase** plant productivity we aim to:

- improve root structure and health
- improve soil structure
- improve beneficial soil microbiology
- utilize plant-microbial associations

All aspects lower cost of production and reduce the environmental footprint of agriculture



All plants and animals (humans) are superorganisms composed of many microorganisms

- 2 kg of our weight is bacteria
- Our DNA codes for about 25,000 proteins - bacteria code for >8 million
- They help digest our food, synthesize vitamins, metabolize drugs, detoxify carcinogens, stimulate cell renewal, activate and support our immune system, etc.
- The bacteria we carry now differs from those of our grandparents – antibiotics, water, etc.

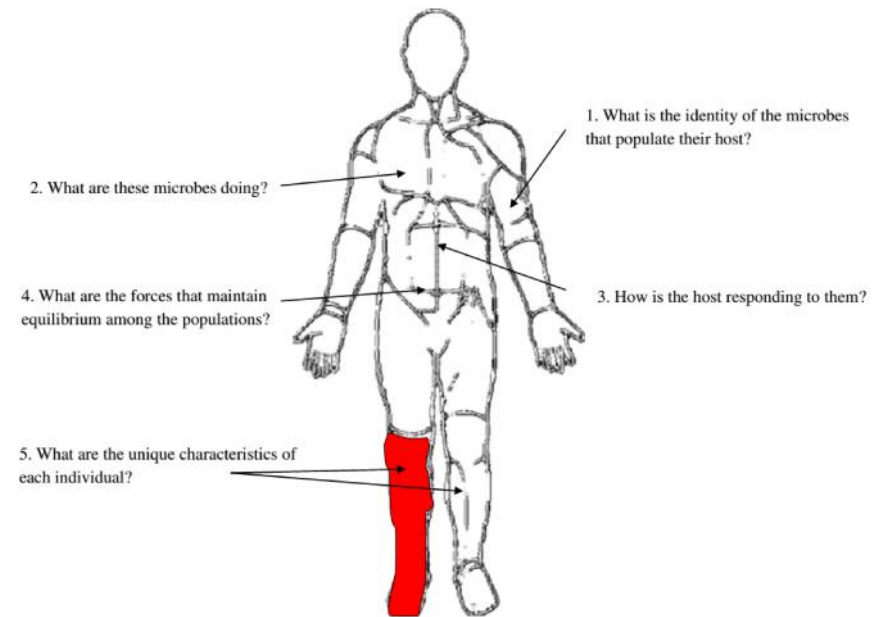
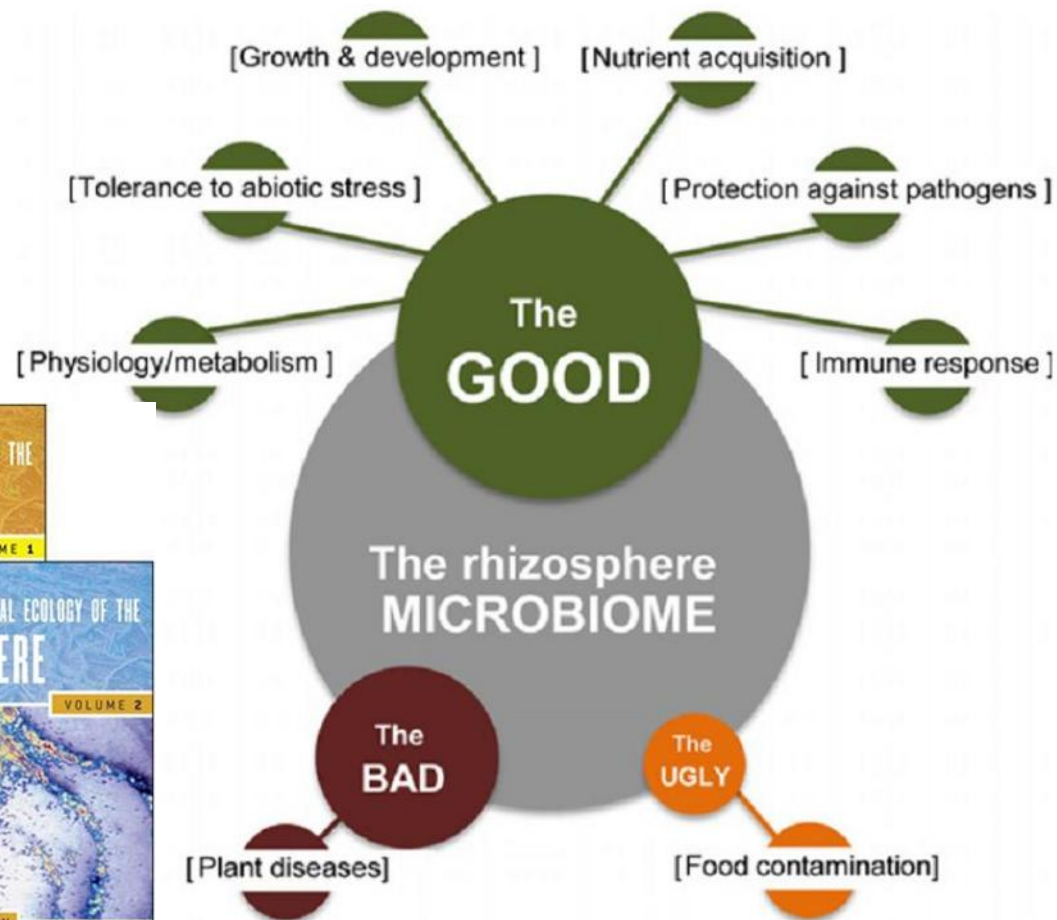
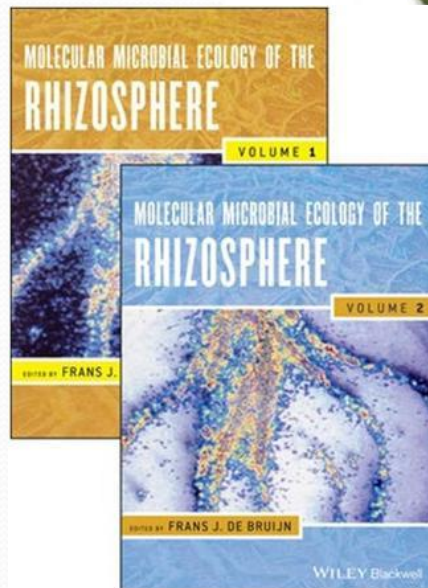


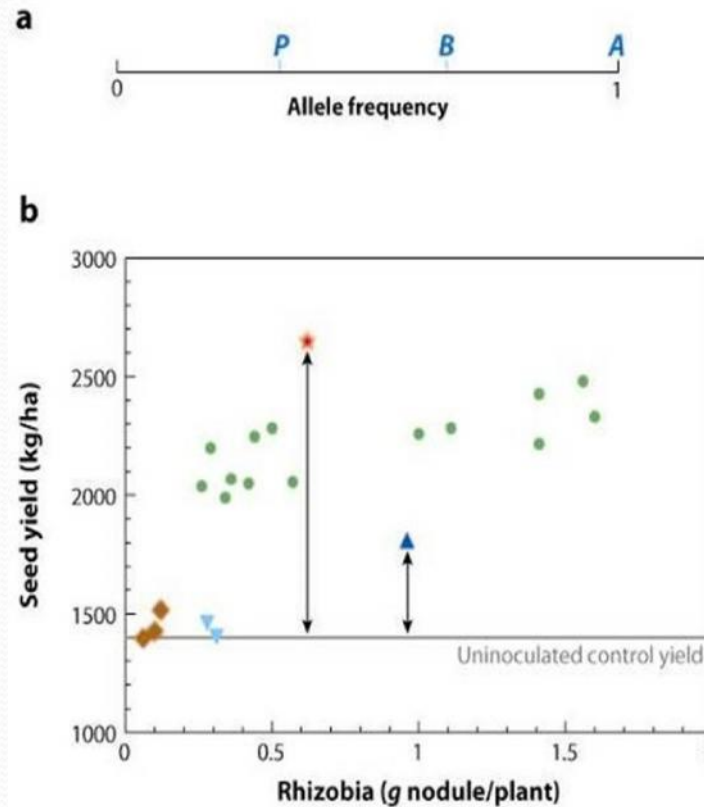
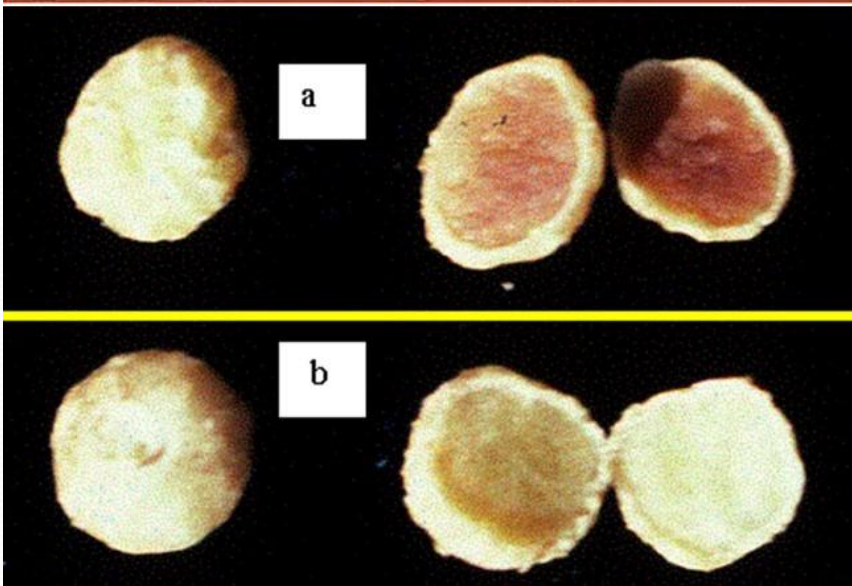
Fig. 1. Five fundamental biological questions that underlie the Human Microbiome Project. Initially, answers are phenomenologic but ultimately must be understood in the context of evolutionary processes. Along the way, myriad applications will be discovered. The red leg represents about 1/10 of the human body, symbolizing 10^{13} human cells in a host with 10^{14} microbial cells (10).



FEMS Microbiol Rev37(2013) 634–663



ARE ALL RHIZOBIUM INTERACTIONS BENEFICIAL?



Kiers ET, Denison RF. 2008.
Annu. Rev. Ecol. Evol. Syst. 39:215–36

Enhancement of rice production using endophytic strains of *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. trifolii in extensive field inoculation trials within the Egypt Nile delta

Youssef G. Yanni • Frank B. Dazzo

Large-scale field experiments evaluated 5 varieties X 7 endophytic Rhizobia strains over 5 seasons, including **sites ranked as the world's highest in rice production.**

Inoculation increased yield in 19 of the 24 trials.

Increased yields were up to 47% in farmers' fields; average **19.5%.**

BUCKS = Potential is billions in increased rice yields at reduced cost

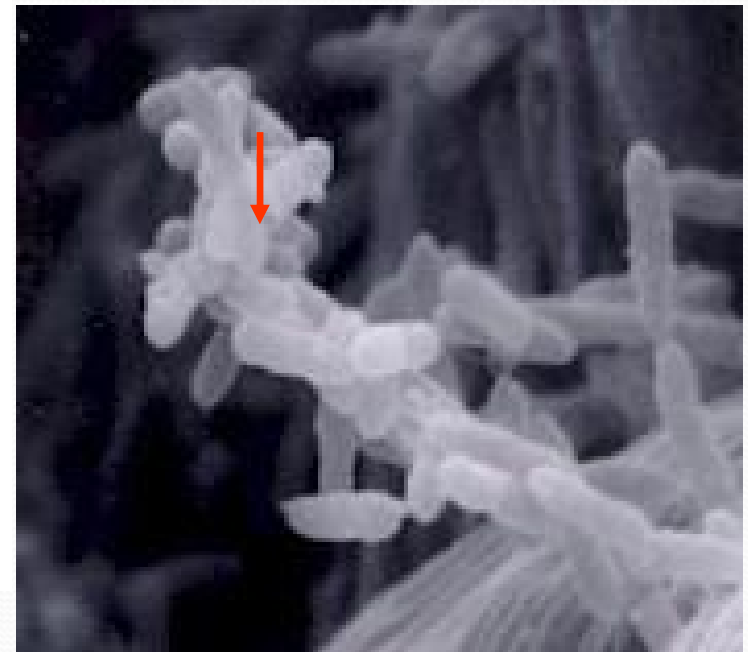
Sugar cane endophytes were shown to be an integral component of production

Table 3. Nitrogen fertilizer levels applied to sugarcane plants grown in different countries

Source: IFA (1999)

Country	Nitrogen fertilizer (kg ha ⁻¹)
Argentina	100
Australia	150–250
Brazil	50
India	100–300
Mexico	120–200
Philippines	120–200
South Africa	80–120
USA — Hawaii	300–400

Gluconacetobacter diazotrophicus,
Herbaspirillum spp.,
Azospirillum spp. and
Burkholderia spp.



Disease Suppressive Soils: Pathogen is present but no disease occurs.

Eur J Plant Pathol

DOI 10.1007/s10658-007-9201-1

FULL RESEARCH PAPER

Management of resident plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria with the cropping system: a review of experience in the US Pacific Northwest

R. James Cook



Fig. 1 Views of the same area within a 1-ha experimental plot cropped to continuous monoculture wheat starting in 1967/68 crop year. *Left*, 1974, the 7th year of monoculture facing north, showing the response to chloropicrin fumigation. *Right*, 1982, the 15th year of monoculture wheat, facing south but otherwise the same area within the 1-ha plot, with the man standing on the

border separating a subplot fumigated from an adjacent subplot not fumigated. Yield of wheat in the non-fumigated plots was roughly 50% of the yield in fumigated plots in the 7th year of monoculture and 95% of the yield in fumigated plots in the 15th year of monoculture

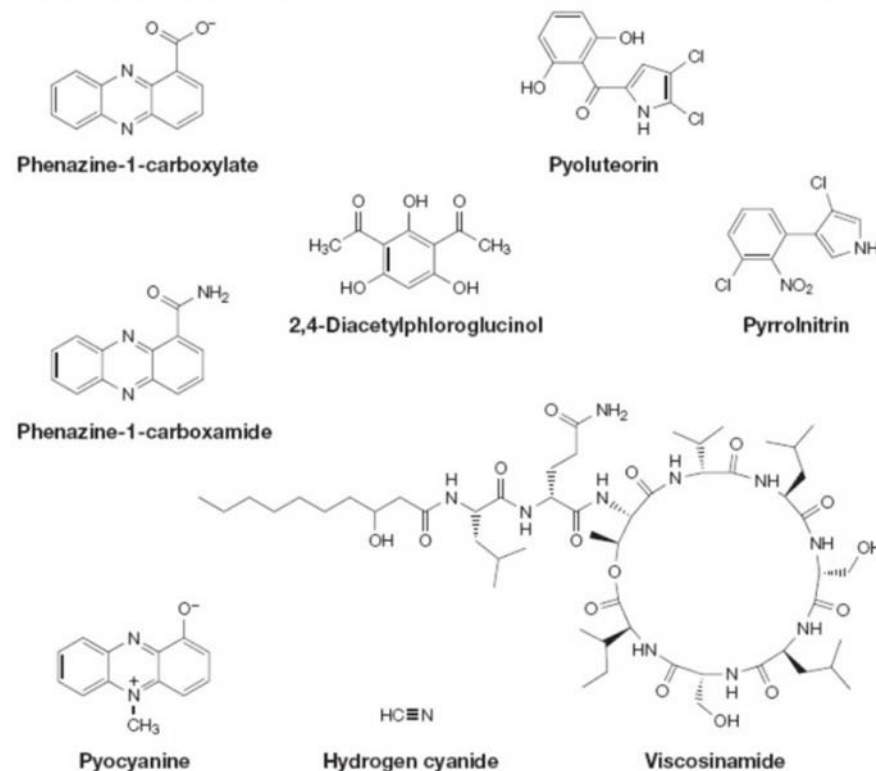
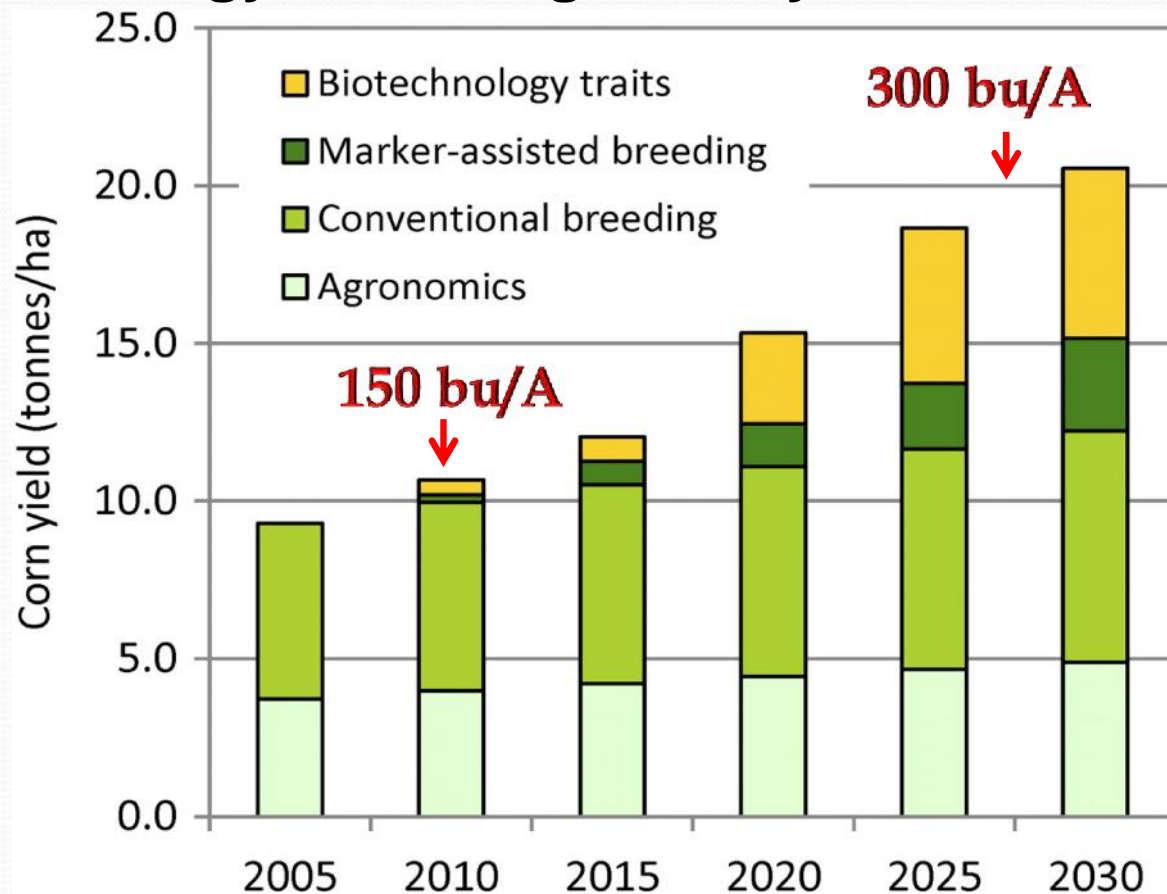


Figure 2 | The antibiotic compounds produced by fluorescent pseudomonads that are relevant for biocontrol. The phenazines, phloroglucinols, pyoluteorin, pyrrolnitrin and cyclic lipopeptides are all diffusible, whereas hydrogen cyanide is volatile.

Anticipated impact of improvements in agronomics, breeding, and biotechnology on average corn yields in the United States.



Edgerton M D Plant Physiol. 2009;149:7-13



Fence Row Farming – Improving Soil Processes

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Glenney, Dunnville, Ontario



Average Corn Yield at 301 bu/acre for corn and 62bu/acre soybeans; yields 2X times that of the county average



Identification of physical, chemical and biological factors involved in corn productivity

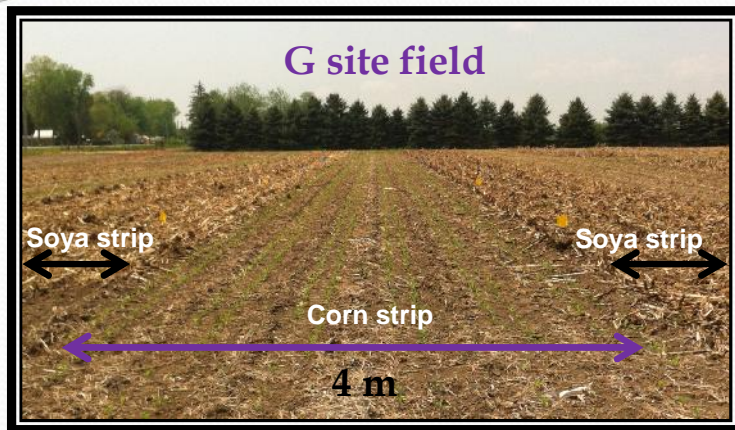


High yielding G site corn production field



No-till strip row farming practice

G site field



G site field at 90 d



Conventional field (H site)



Harvested corn ears from G and H sites



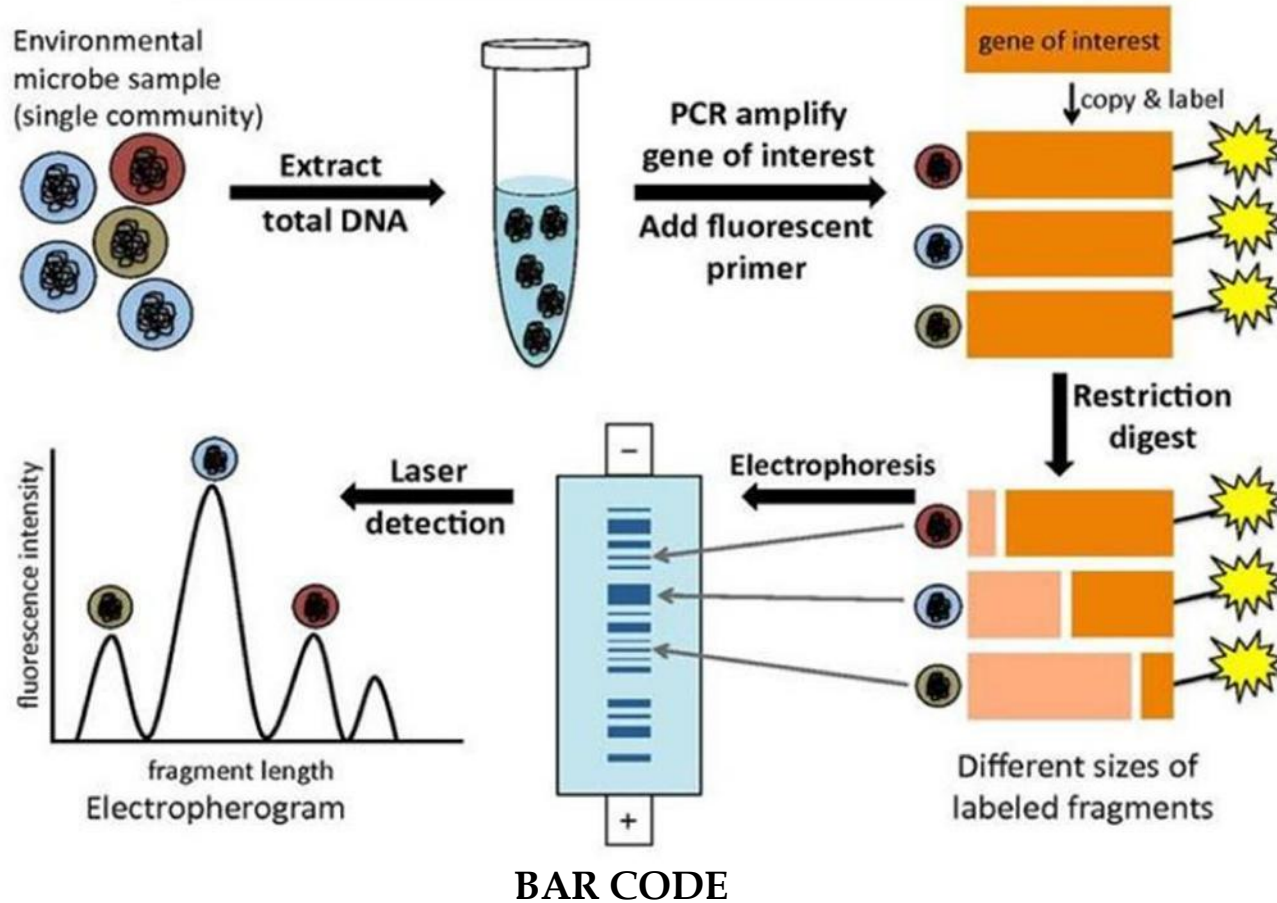
G site ear



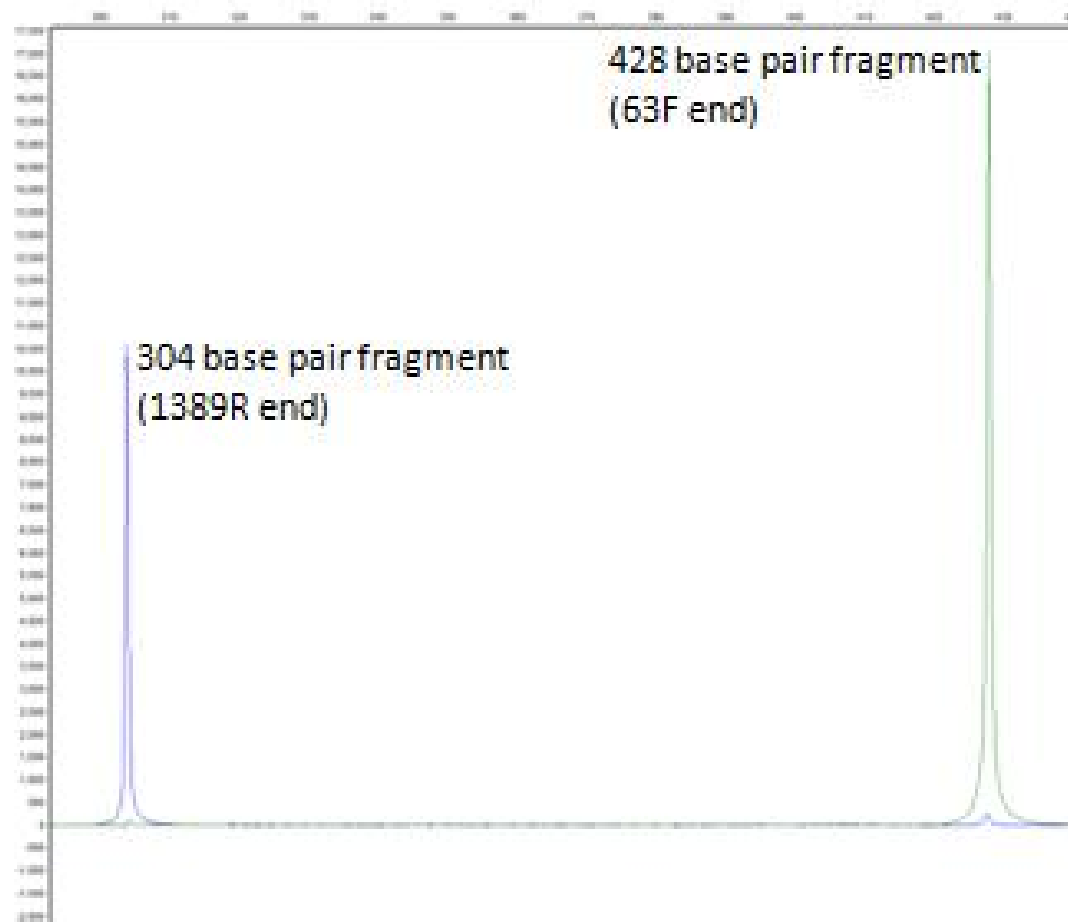
H site ear



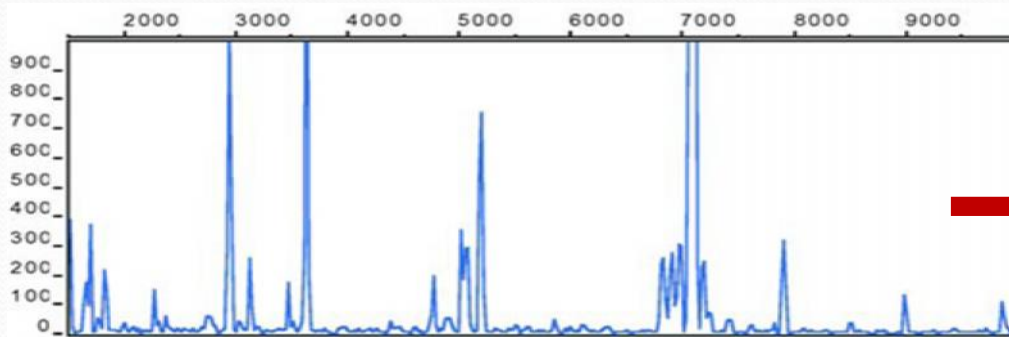
T-RFLP: Terminal Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism



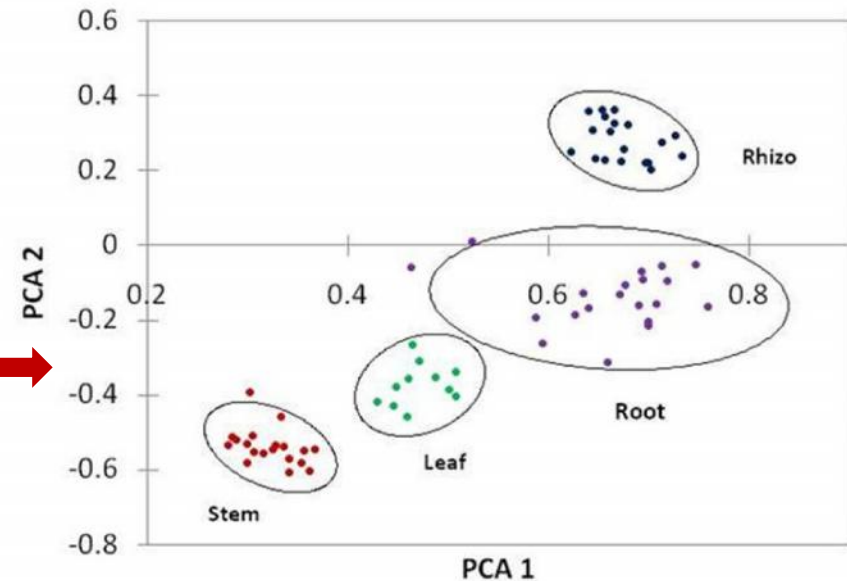
TRFLP Chromatogram of *Streptomyces scabies*
amplified with 63F and 1389R then cut with HhaI



Bacterial diversity analysis using TRFLP technique



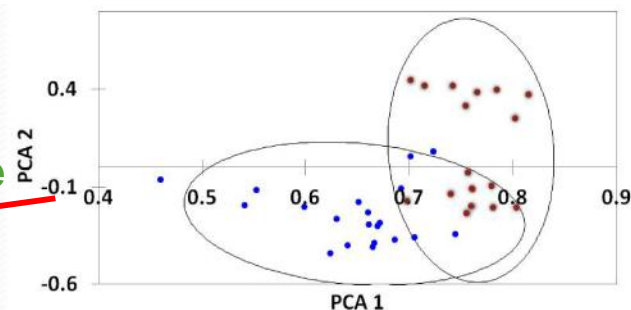
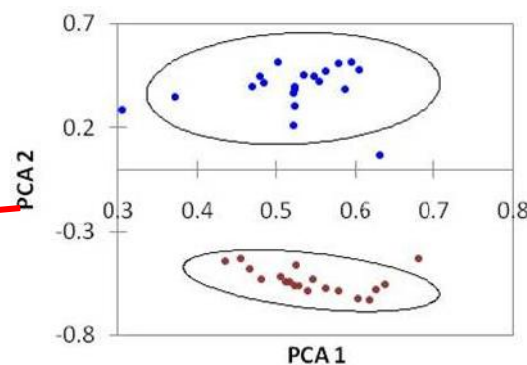
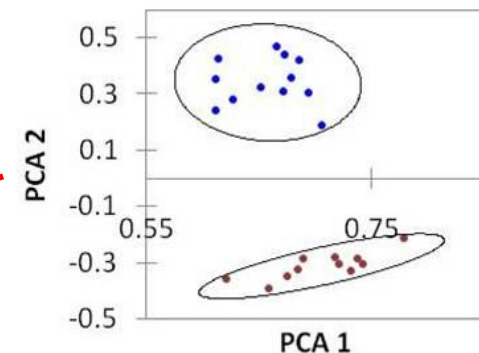
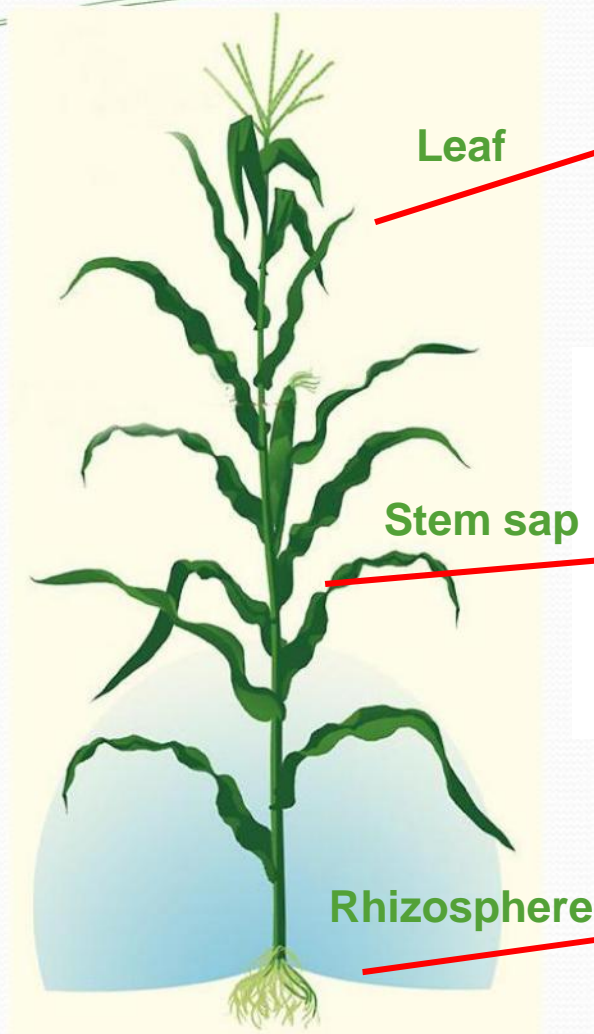
Chromatogram of TRFLP data



Principal component analysis (PCI)

TRFLP of bacteria populations in various corn tissues of 20 plants sampled from a high yielding soil at 60 days (V10) after planting.





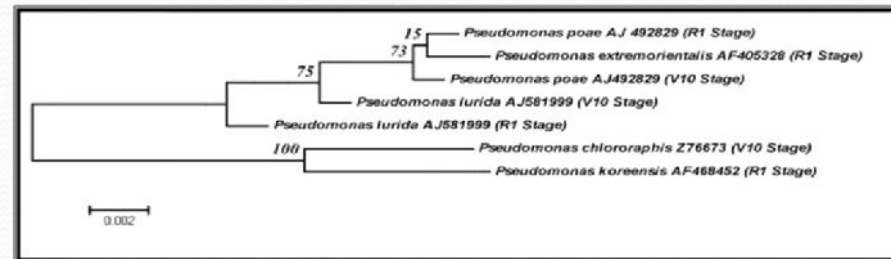
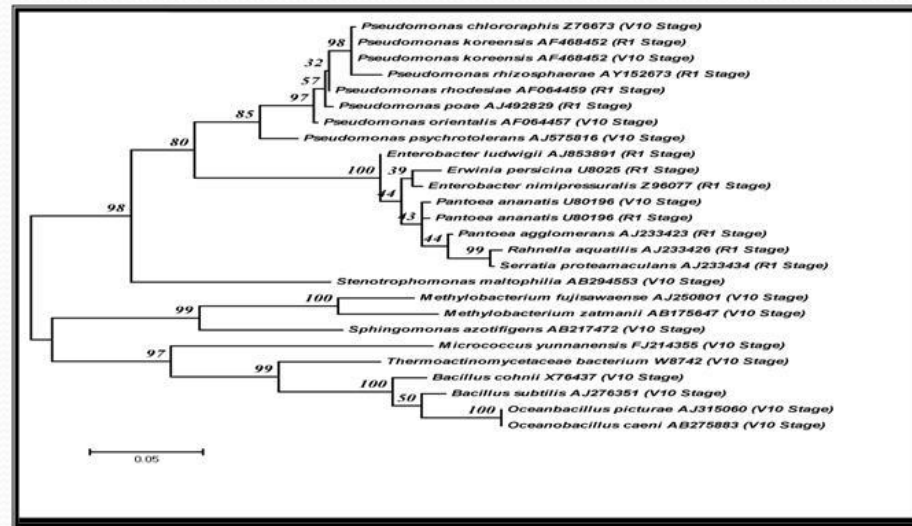
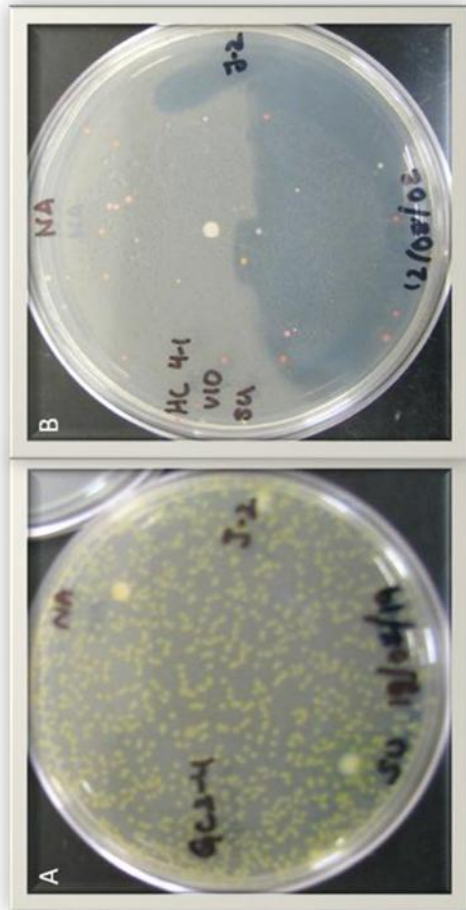
● = 150 Bu/A

● = 300 Bu/A

Comparison of bacterial TRFLP profiles of 20 corn plants harvested from a high and average production site at 60 days (V10) after planting

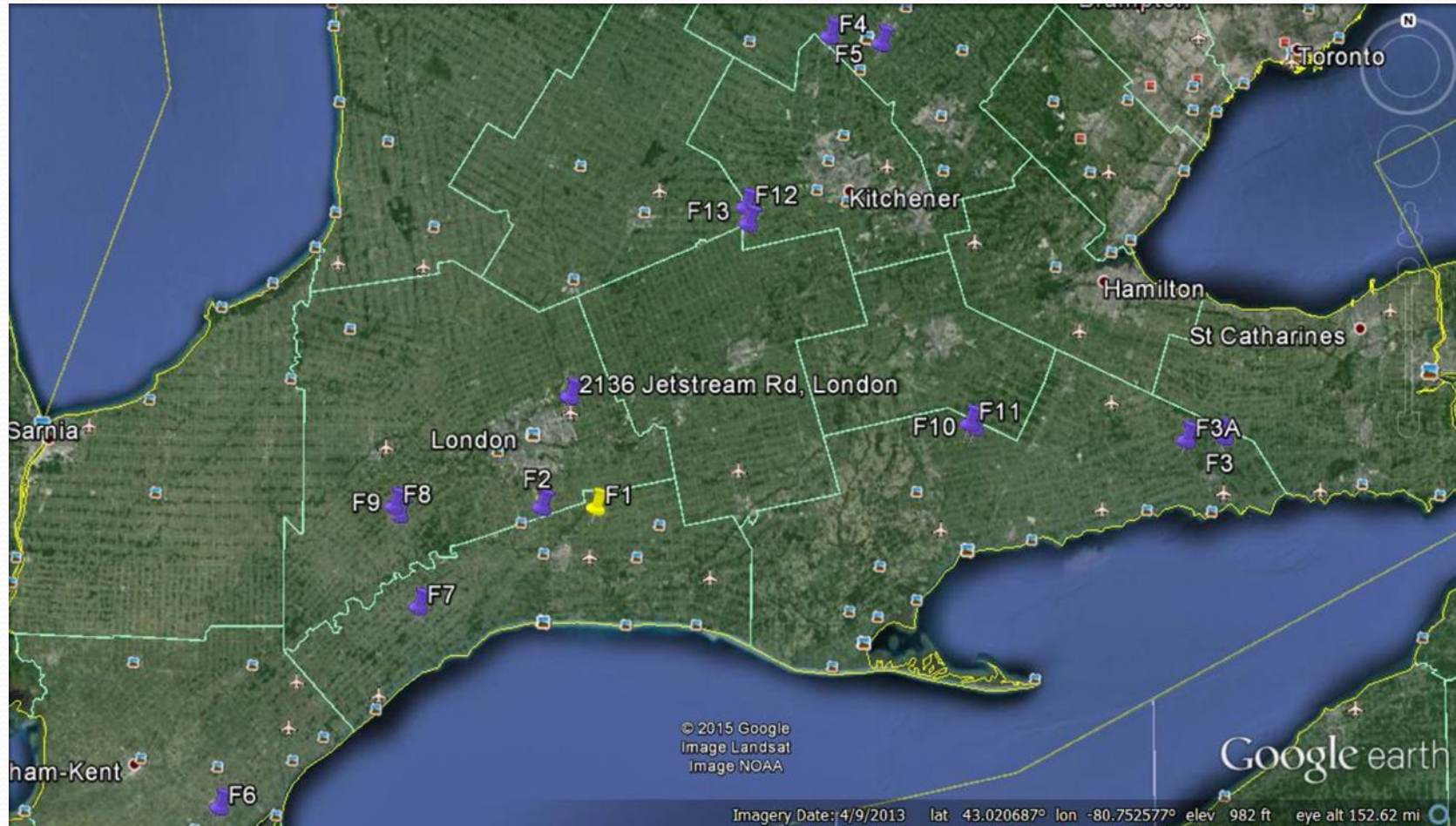


Bacteria isolated from stem sap of corn plants from G and H sites at V10 growth stage.



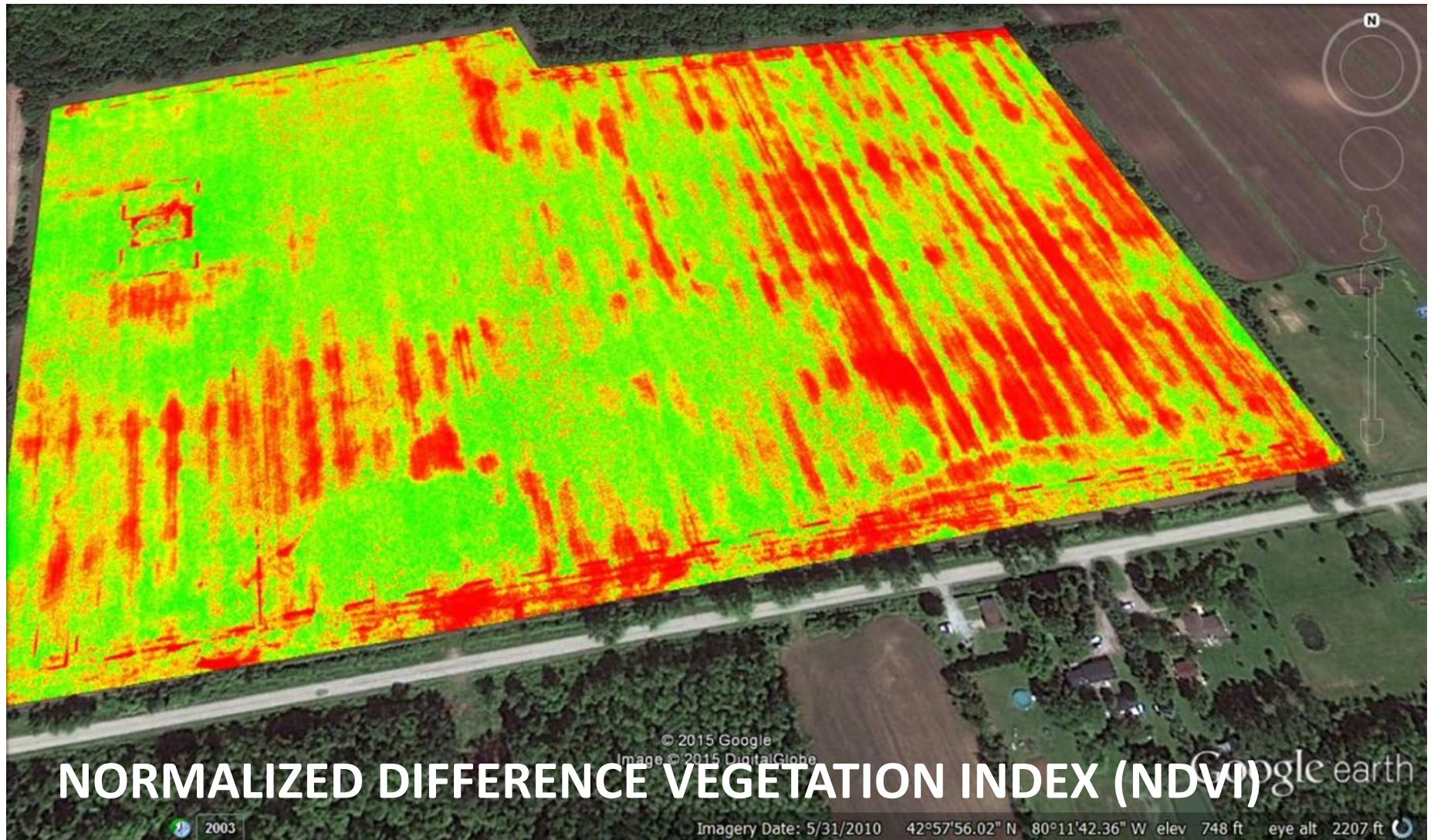


SAMPLING LOCATIONS IN ONTARIO



FIELD SAMPLING

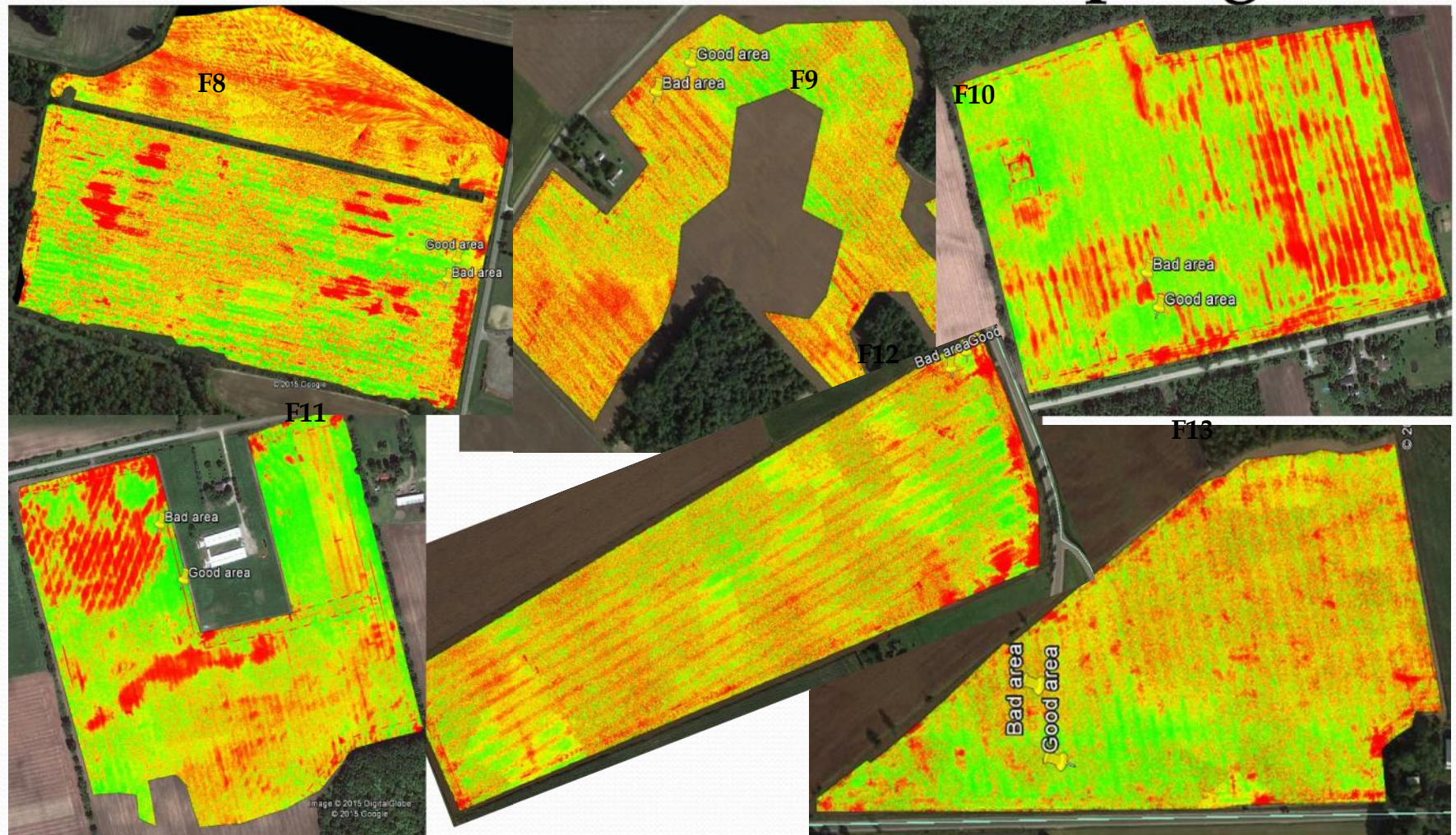




NDVI's of farms with marked sampling sites



NDVI's of farms with marked sampling sites

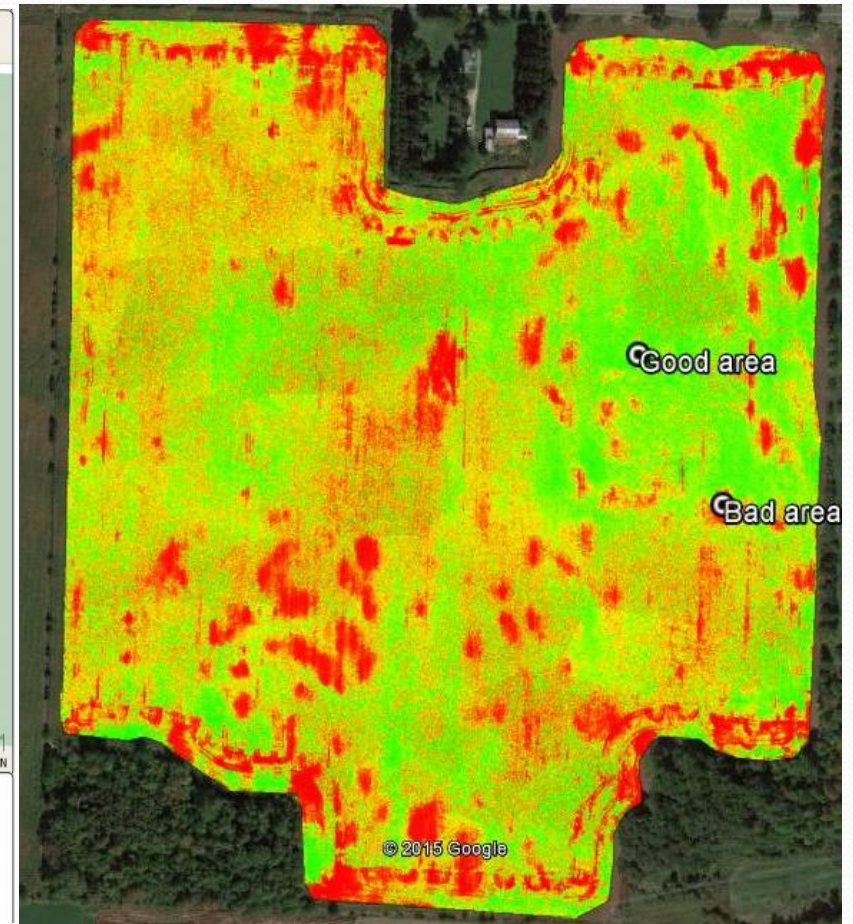




EVEN SMALL
PLOTS HAVE
ENORMOUS
VARIABILITY
AMONG THE
PLANTS
(UofG long
term rotations)



Normalized difference vegetation index map (NDVI) and the combine yield harvested across the field

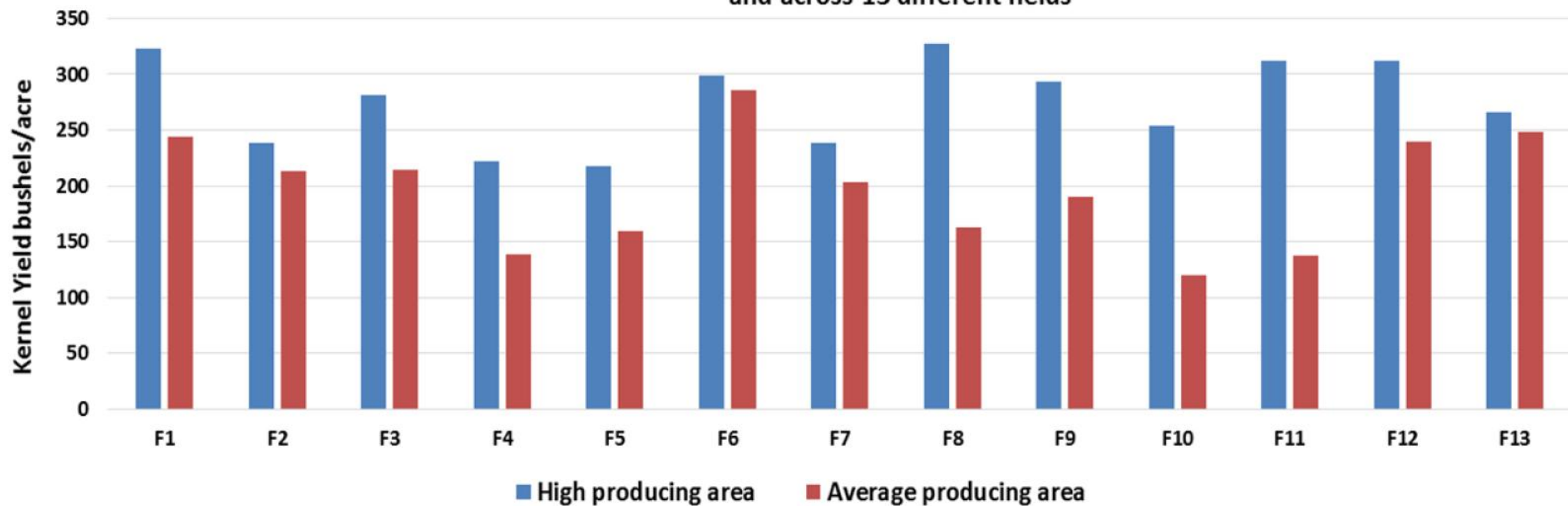




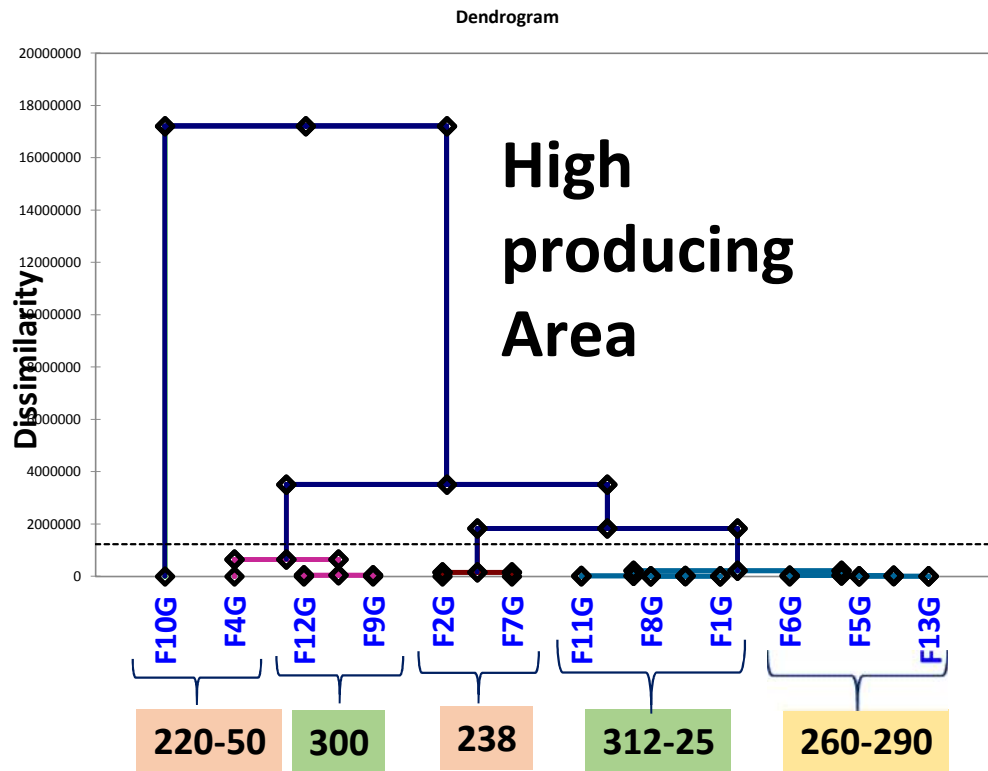
YIELDS BY LOCATION IN ONE PASS

CORN YIELDS FORM 13 FIELDS

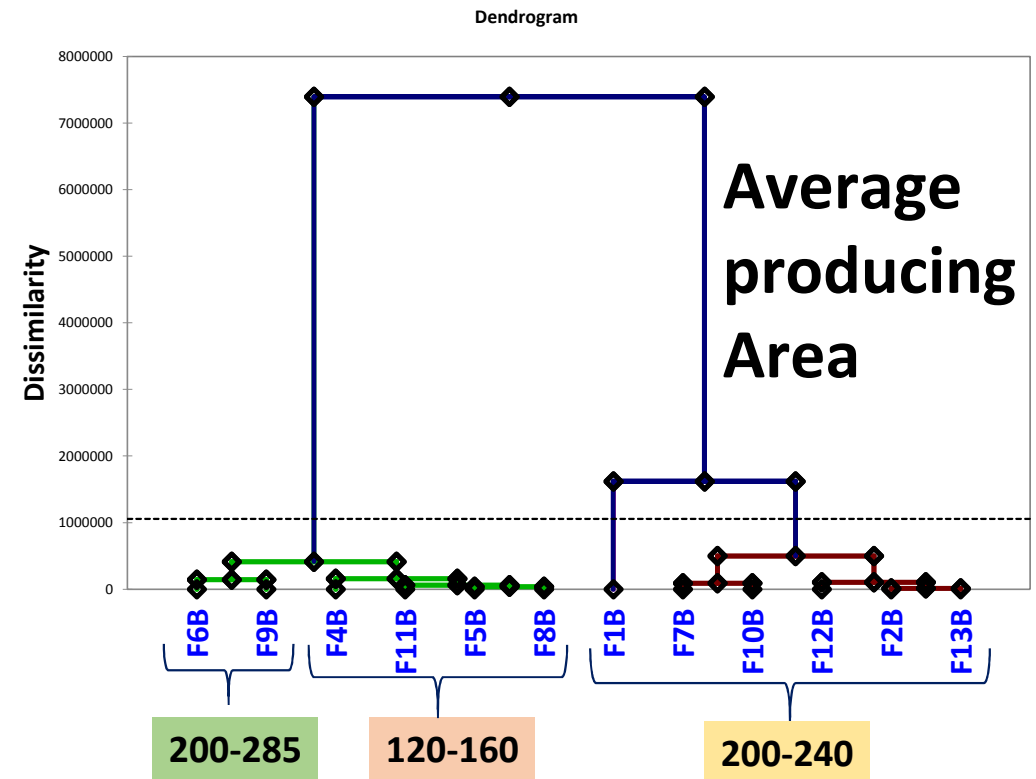
Comaprison of Kernel Yield Good and Average producing area's with in the same farm ;
and across 13 different fields



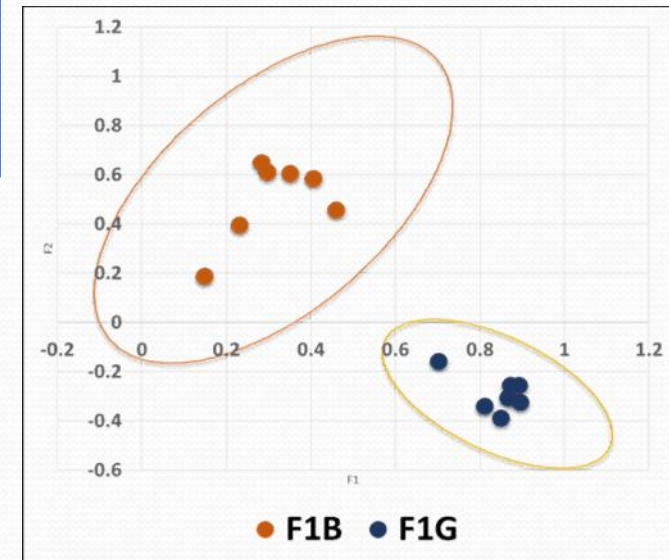
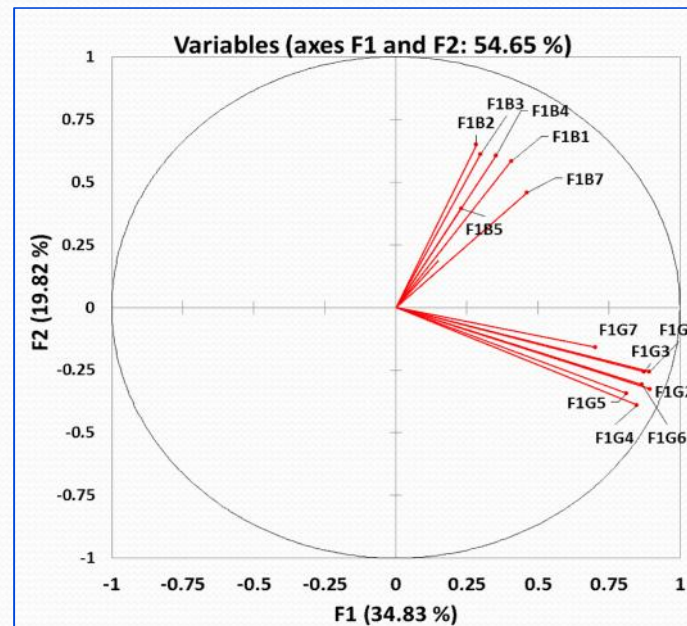
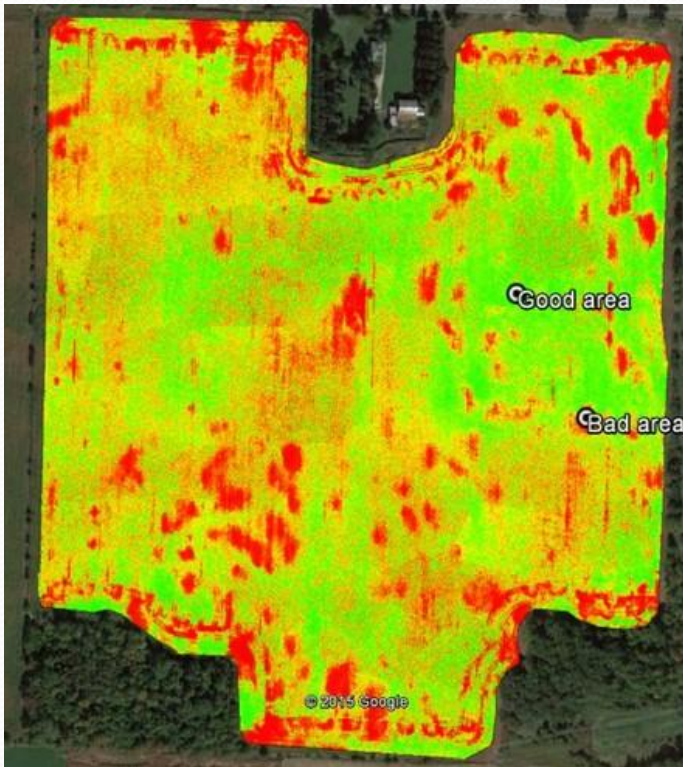
Hierarchical clustering generated based on soil analysis data for high and low sites and compared with the yield data



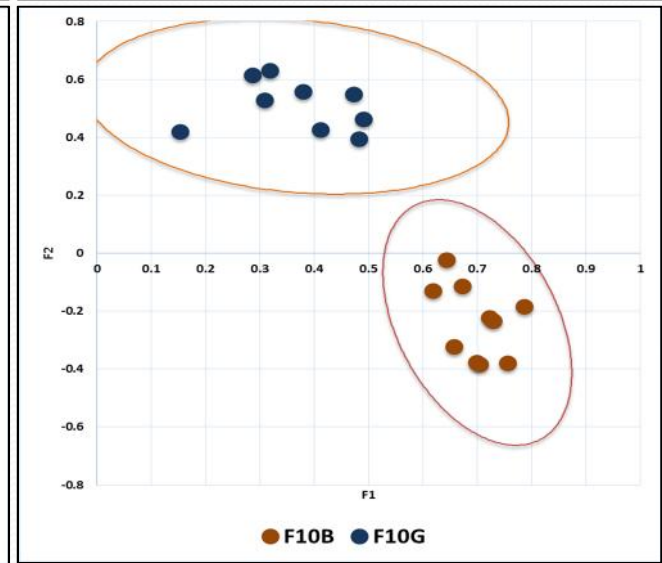
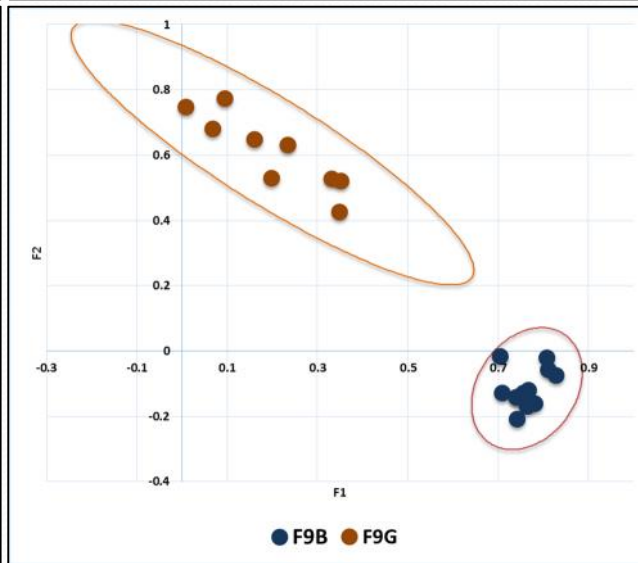
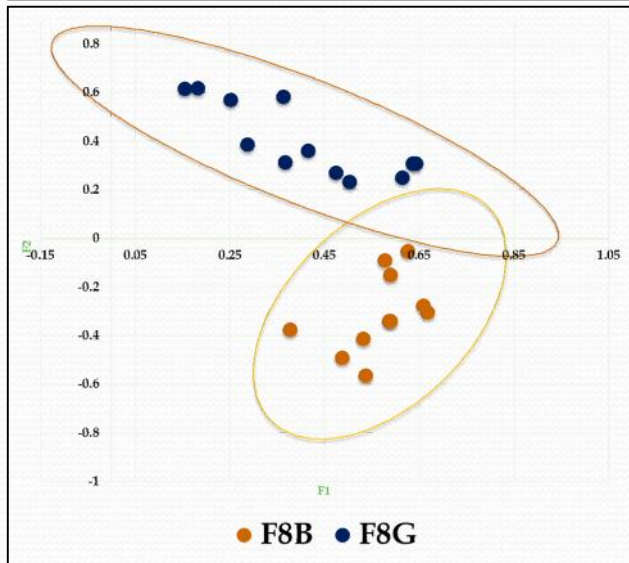
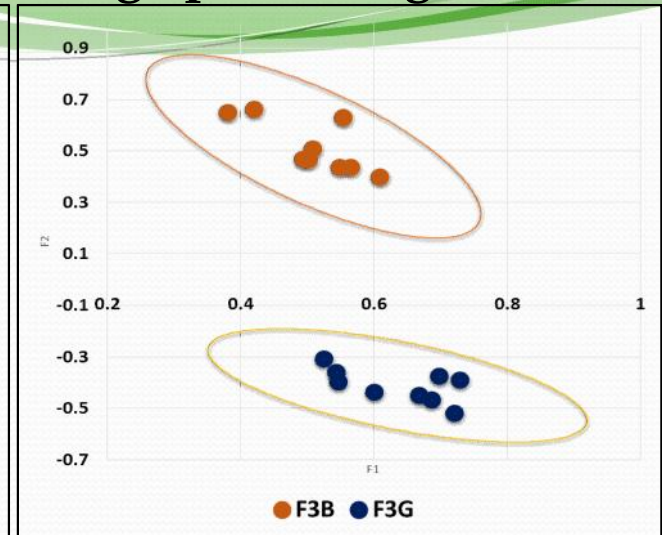
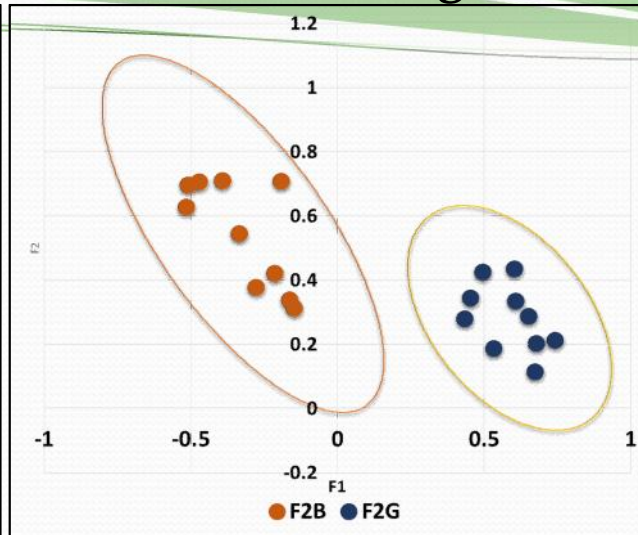
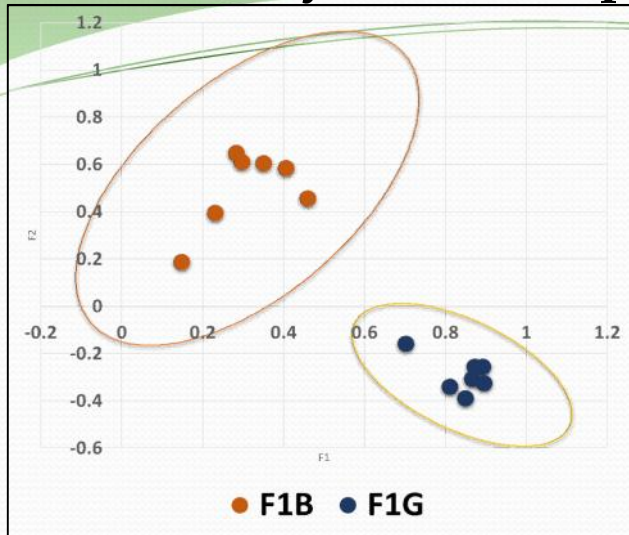
Yield Bu/ac



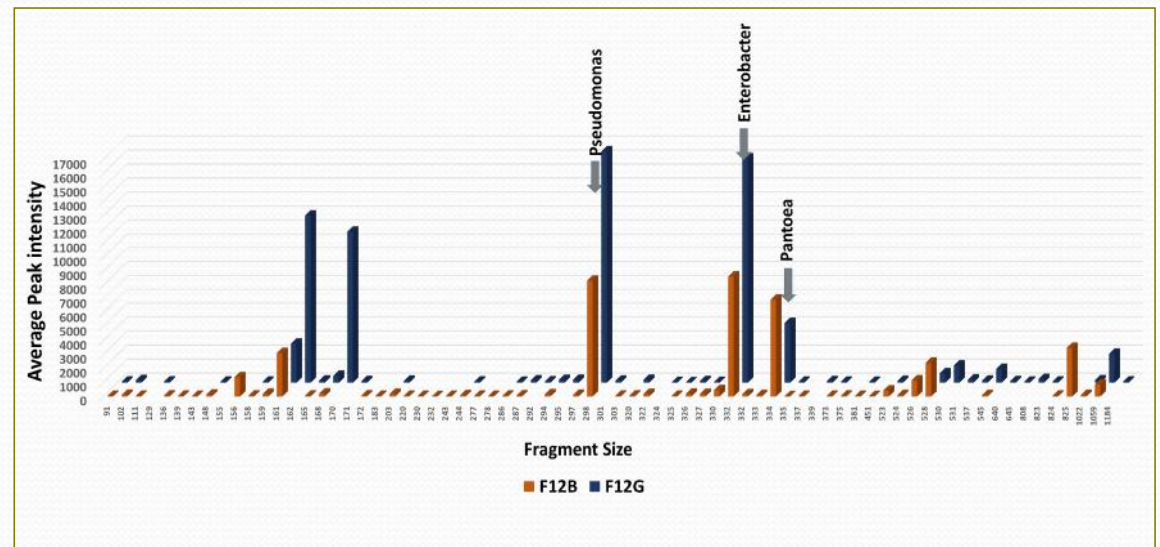
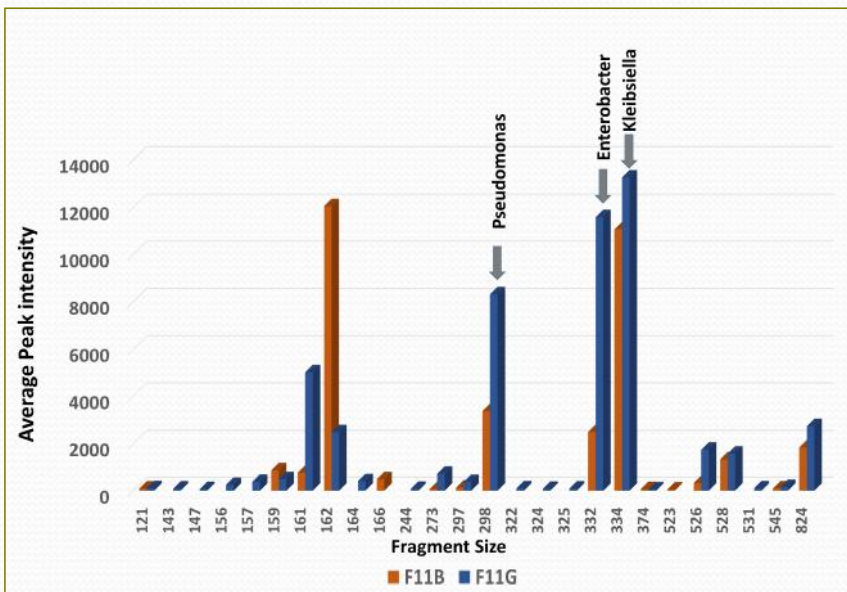
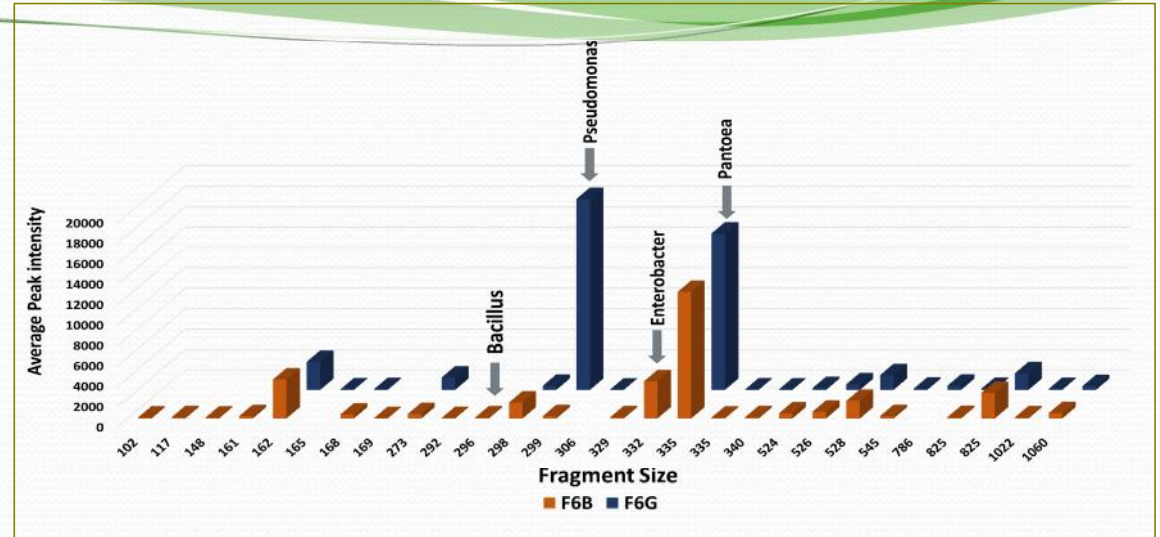
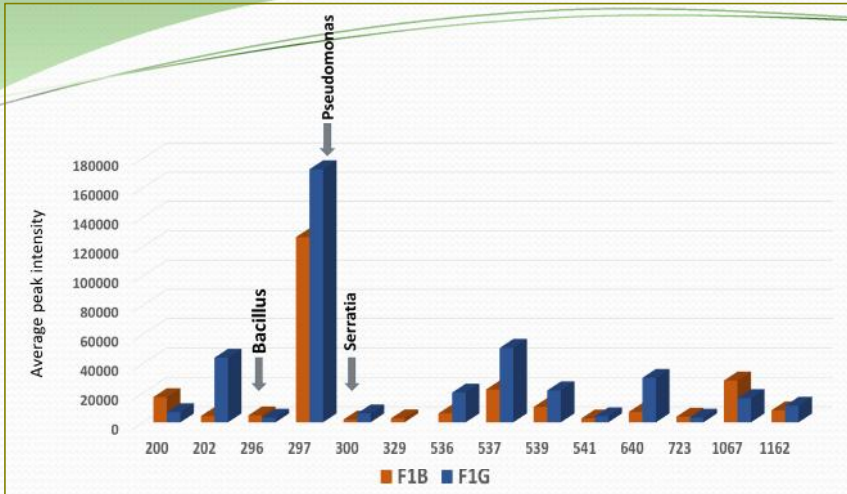
Diversity of Microbial community from the corn Sap collected from High and low producing Sites with in the same field-F1G and F1B



Diversity of Corn Sap microbiome in High and Average producing Sites



Abundance and Diversity of Corn Sap microbiome in High and Average producing Sites



List of Factors showed significant direct correlation to the yield

Fields with high total CFU

GFI (B & R)	0.678
% K	0.774
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.488
Boron	0.615
Ca/B	-0.672
P- Bray-P1 & Bicarb	0.751
K/Mg Ratio	0.836

All Fields with high *Rhizobium*

GFI(B & R)	0.686
% K	0.641
Nitrate Nitrogen (B&R)	0.767
pH	-0.629
Soluble salts ms/cm	0.705
K/Mg Ratio	0.623

High *Pseudomonas*

GFI (B &R soil)	0.950
Calcium (Ca)	-0.986
% K	0.909
Saturation (%) P	0.775
pH	-0.822
CEC meq/100g	-0.856

High gram positives population

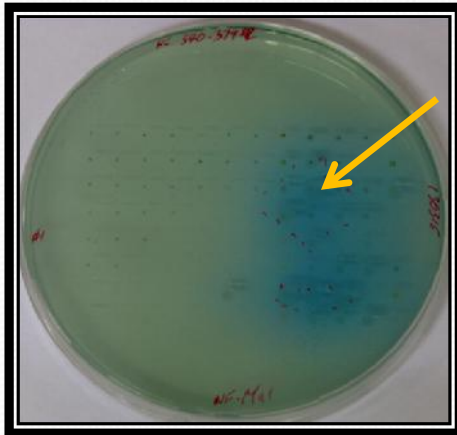
GFI Rhizosphere	0.698
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.631
% K	0.704
K/Mg Ratio	0.567

Summary: Soil factors significantly influenced in balancing the microbial population and thereby yield

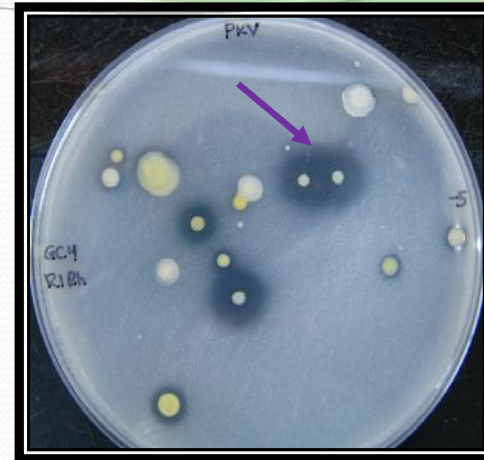
Rank	Factors
1	GFI
2	% K
3	K/Mg Ratio
4	Nitrate Nitrogen
5	pH
6	CEC meq/100g
7	Saturation (%) P
8	Soluble salts ms/cm
9	Calcium (Ca)



WHAT ARE THESE HEALTHY FUNCTIONS



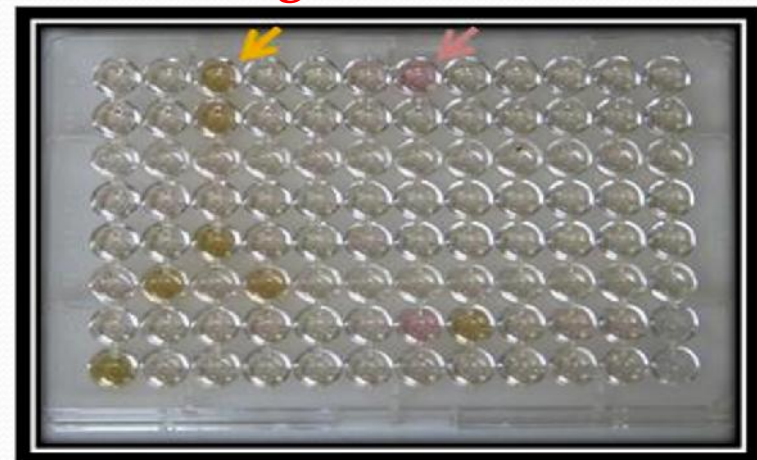
N fixing activity



P:K:Mg solubilization



Antifungal activity



Hormone (IAA) production



Plant biostimulants: Definition, concept, main categories and regulation.

P. du Jardin (2015). Sci. Hortic. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.scienta.2015.09.021>

- promote plant growth but not as fertilizers or pesticides
- Include bacteria and fungi
- May increase nutrient use efficiency or provide new routes of nutrient uptake: mycorrhizal fungi, bacteria and PGPR
- Biostimulants that enhance growth by unidentified modes of action



Induced root formation of *Brachypodium* by volatile compounds emitted by *Bacillus pumilus*



Sterile potato plants inoculated with the bacterium *Burkholderia phytofirmans*.

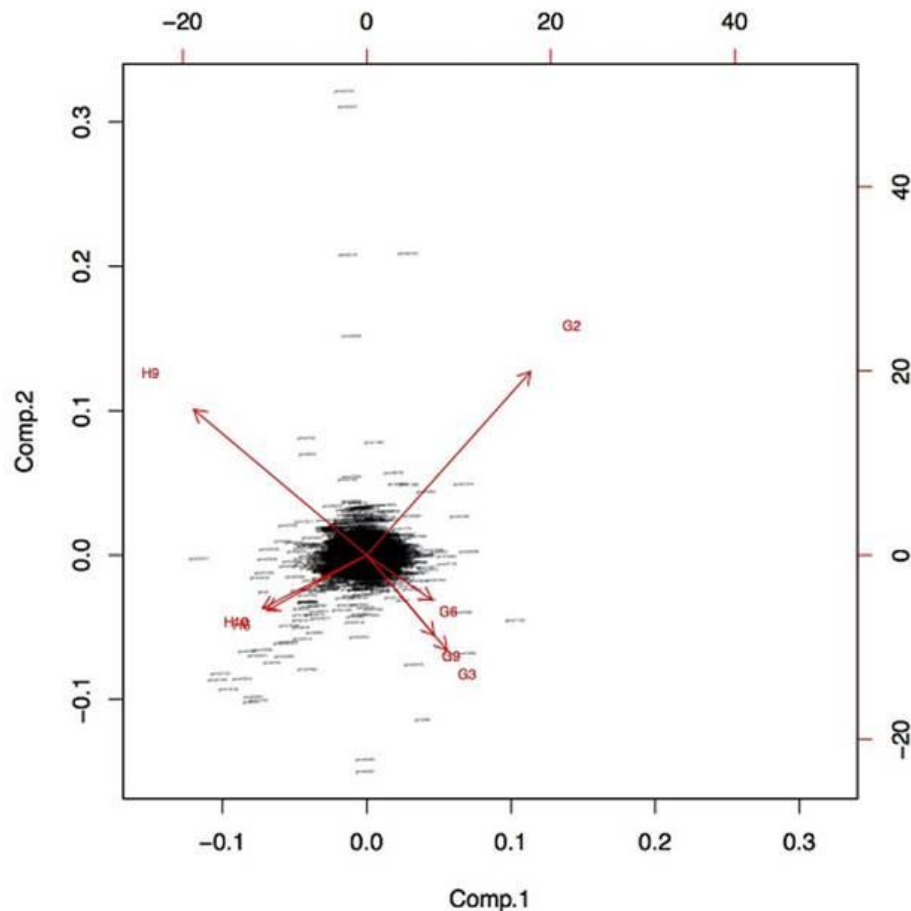


Figure 2. Compositional PCA Biplot comparing G and H samples. The first component (38% of the variance) separates G and H samples into their respective groups. Component 2 represents a further 32% of the variance. Sample H1 was removed as it was an outlier (Figure 1).

ITS ALL ABOUT FUNCTION

- RNA analysis will tell us what functions are impacting plant performance
- 2.5 billion amplicons identified from corn sap differentiated plants grown in soils with high and average yields



H Soil

G Soil



WHEAT

Pasteurized H and G Soils



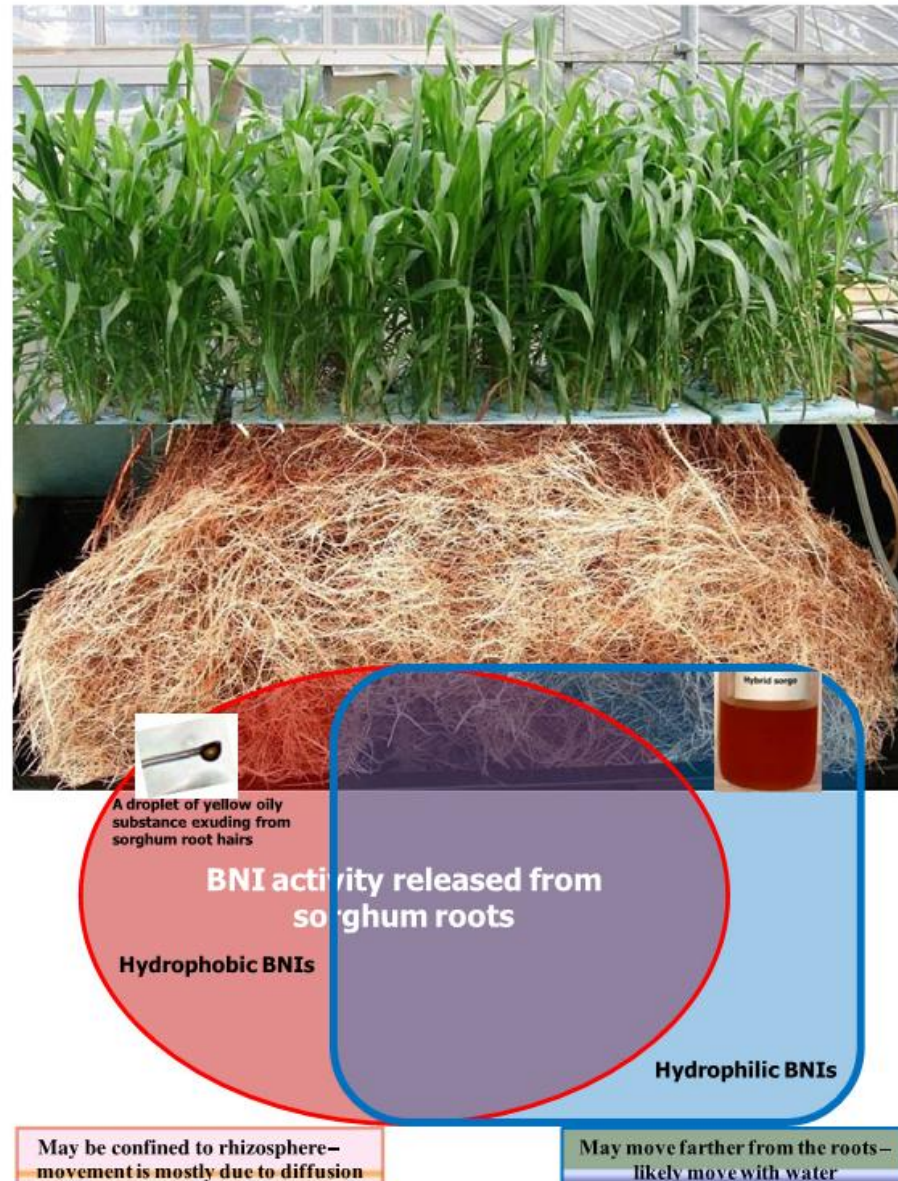
Formulation and site specific delivery of liquid plant growth stimulating products



THE MOST O FOR FUTUR

Fig. 1 Hydrophobic- and
hydrophilic-nitrification
inhibitors (BNIs)
released from sorghum
roots and its
significance to BNI
function

Subbarao et al Plant &
Soil 2012



REA ITS

Billions of horticultural plants are now grafted to take advantage of more resilient root systems



YIELD RESPONSES OF GRAFTED TOMATO PLANTS

Rootstock	Yield 2011- 2012 Tons per acre	Percent Increase Vs control
Control	31.9	
Beaufort	53.7	68.3
Bruce	46.2	44.8
RST-04-105-T	55.8	74.9
Survivor	38.5	20.7
P279	46.6	46.1
Q183	44.0	38.0

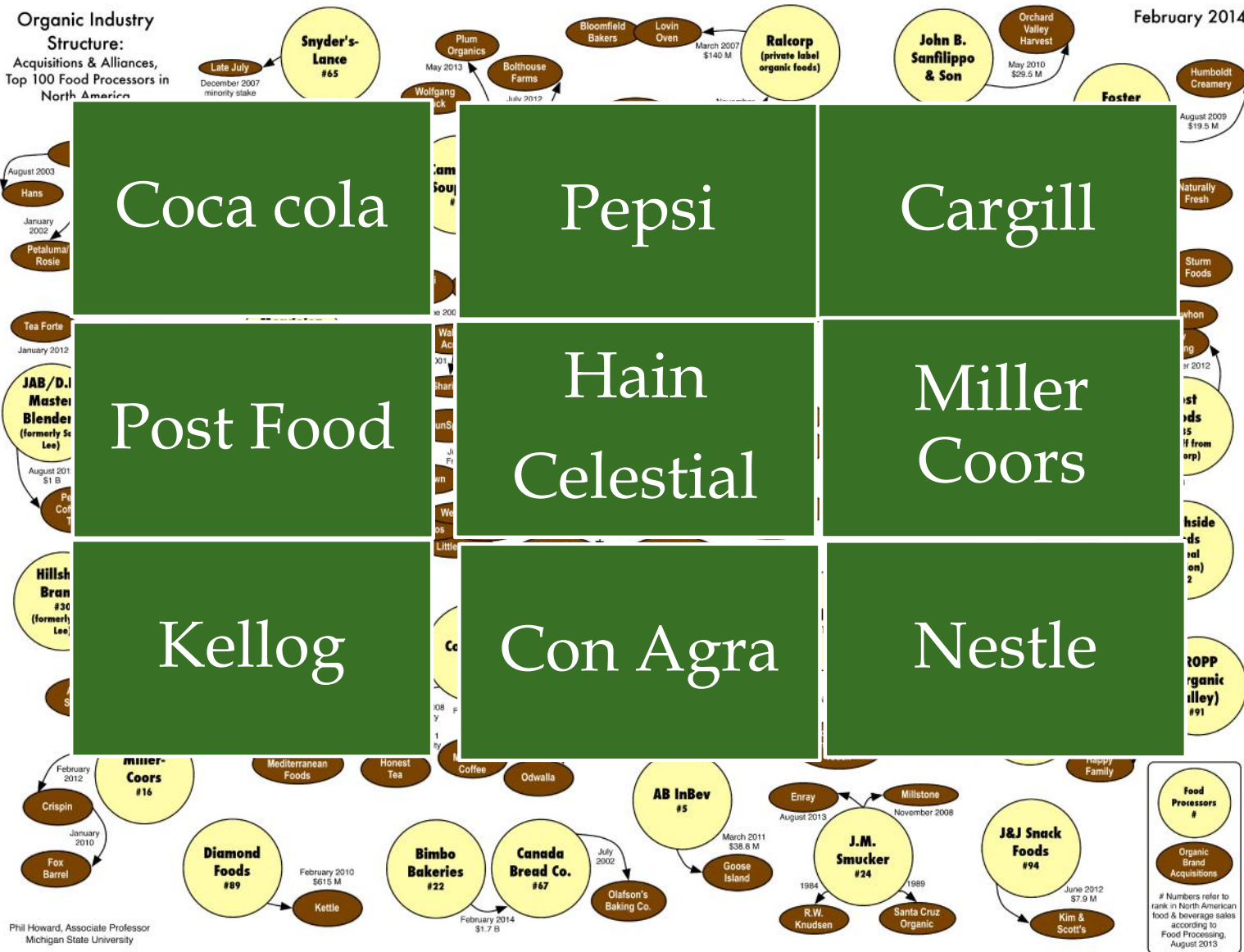
IF WE CAN GET
BETTER ROOTS
TO OUR PLANTS
WITHOUT
GRAFTING

> \$2000 per A

Steve Loewen - U of G, Amy Turnbull – Fanshawe College



Organic Industry
Structure:
Acquisitions & Alliances,
Top 100 Food Processors in
North America



Phil Howard, Associate Professor
Michigan State University

In 1995 there were 81 independent organic processing companies in the USA. By 2005, Big Food had gobbled up all but 15.

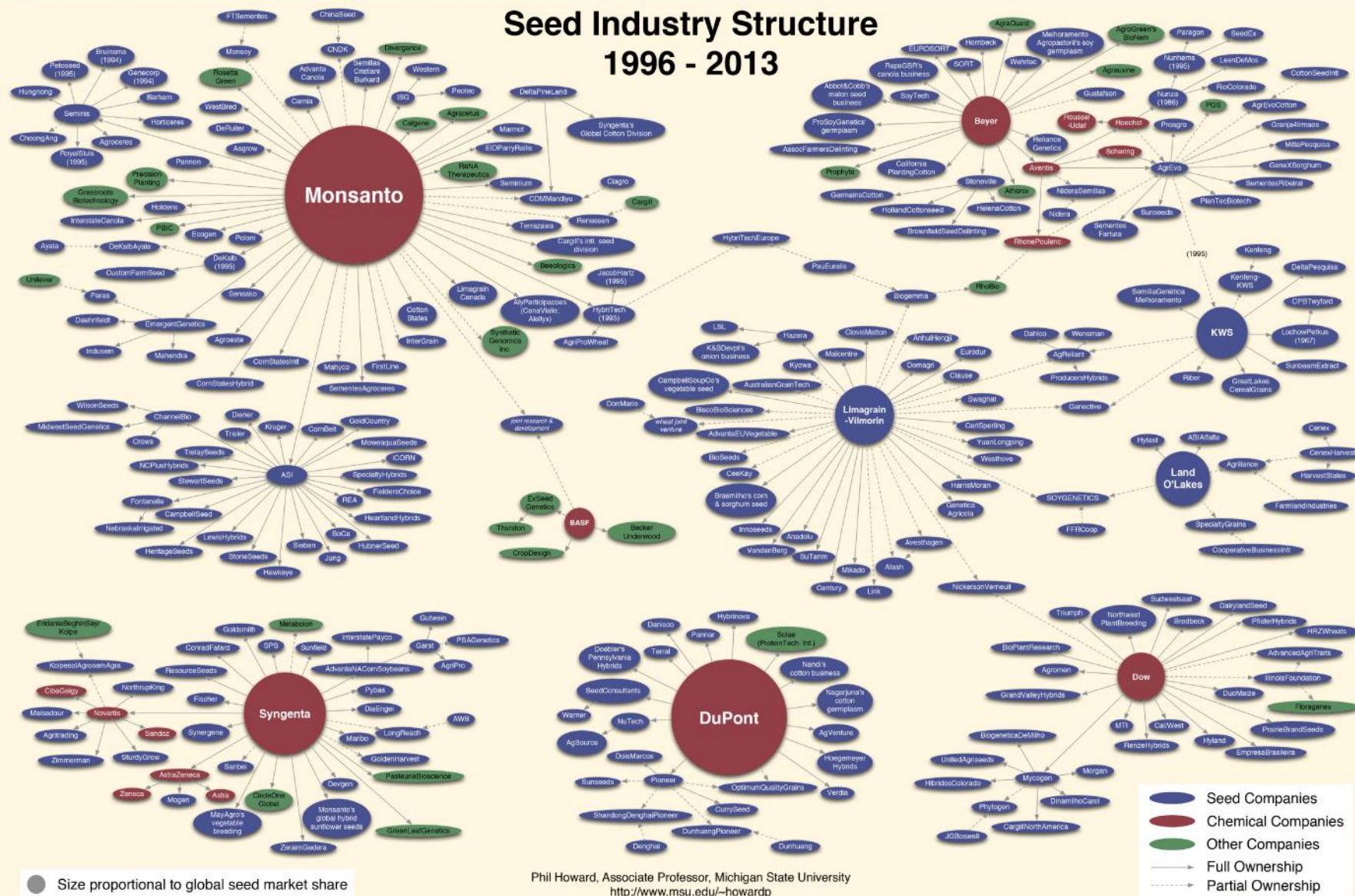
<http://www.cornucopia.org/who-owns-organic/>
Philip H. Howard



Seed Industry Structure 1996 - 2013

Monsanto,
DuPont and
Syngenta
now control
over half the
global
market of
seed and
biotech
companies

Dr. Phil Howard
<http://www.cornucopia.org/seed-industry-structure-dr-phil-howard/>



WHAT WE LEARNED ABOUT AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION SITES

- There is a high correlation between yield and aerial monitoring
- Most if not all fields have areas of high, average and poor yield potentials
- By focusing on high versus low yield sites we will be able to identify drivers for crop yield
- Microbes play a major role in soil and crop health



The new Green Revolution will combine biotechnology with smarter agricultural practices and equipment as a means to bring about better crop yields in the face of declining land available for farming.



Acknowledgements

A&L Biologicals Collaborators

Research Scientists: Dr. Soledad Saldías, Dr. Salah Khabbaz, Dr. Shimaila Ali, Dr. Saveetha Kandasamy, Dr. Rafiq Islam

Technical Assistants: Ms. Magda Konopka, Mr. Jae-min (Joseph) Park, Ms. Kristen Delaney

Coop Students: Ms. Gabrielle Zieleman, Ms. Ashley Grant, Ms. Stephanie Kerkvliet, Ms. Mallory Wiggans, Ms. Kathleen Meszaros, Ms. Kelsey MacEachern

Western Collaborators

Dr. Greg Gloor, Dr. Jean M Macklaim

AAFC Collaborators:

Dr. Ze-Chun Yuan, Mr. Brian Weselowski

Grower Collaborators:

Mr. Dean Glenney, Mr. Clarence Hessels, Mr. Jim Campbell, Mr. Jeff Bloch, Dr. Bill Deen, Mr. Shane VandenDries, Mr. Robert Koch, Mr. Jeff Ferguson, Mr. Brent Pilkington, Mr. Tony Balkwill, Mr. Shantz SchumHaven



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada



Ontario **Genomics** Institute



The Next Green Revolution will Emerge from Underground

