

Organic Matter in Horticulture - A Report from Scientific Meetings



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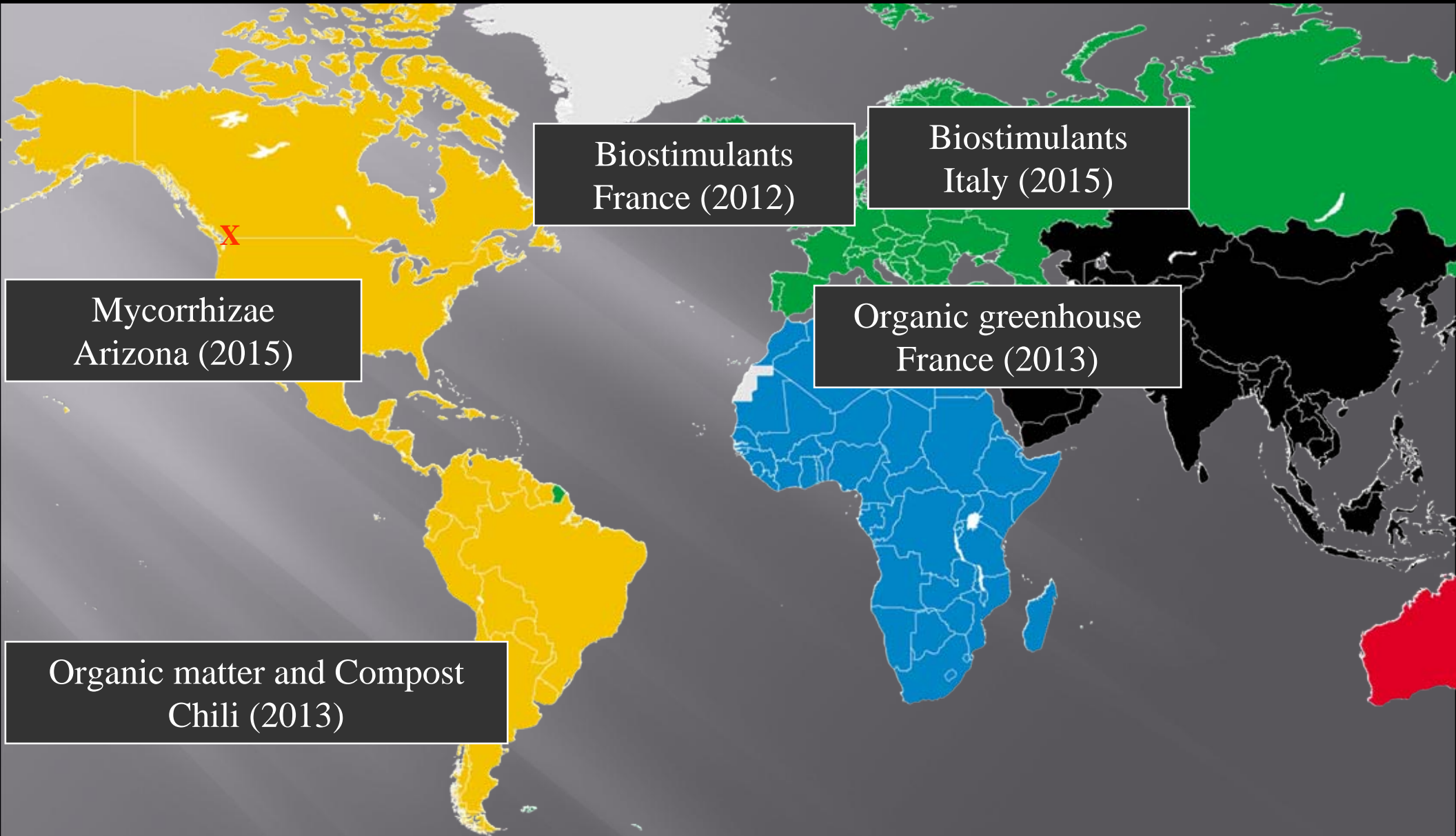
Scientific meetings are held every year ...



... often attached to a small trade show



Recent meetings attended by our company



Biostimulants
France (2012)

Biostimulants
Italy (2015)

Mycorrhizae
Arizona (2015)

Organic greenhouse
France (2013)

Organic matter and Compost
Chili (2013)



UNIVERSIDAD TECNICA
FEDERICO SANTA MARIA



II International Symposium of Organic Matter Management & Compost Use in Horticulture.
III Workshop of Bioproducts for Agriculture
III Workshop of Iberoamerican Network for Biological Fertilizers for Agriculture

Attendance: 120 persons from 18 countries

Compost is used to supply organic matter, to increase microbial activity and to revive the soil.



How much compost should be applied ?



Animal manure compost

- Apply 2.5 cm deep
- Incorporate in top 10 cm
- Watch for salts (EC)

Plant residue compost

- Apply 2.5 to 15 cm deep
- Incorporate 5 to 25 tons / ha
- Top dress 10 to 30 tons / ha
- Or, 4 cubic metres / 100 m²

STRIVE for 5%

SOIL ORGANIC MATTER



USE COMPOST

BULK OR BAGGED

USE COMPOST & RAISE SOIL ORGANIC MATTER TO 5%

COMPOST BUILDS HEALTHY SOIL -
THE FOUNDATION OF A STRONG
VIBRANT LANDSCAPE!

BUY COMPOST AT A GARDEN OR
LANDSCAPE SUPPLY CENTER NEAR YOU &
STRIVE FOR 5% ORGANIC MATTER



compostingcouncil.org

How much organic matter
should there be in our soils ?

STRIVE for 5%

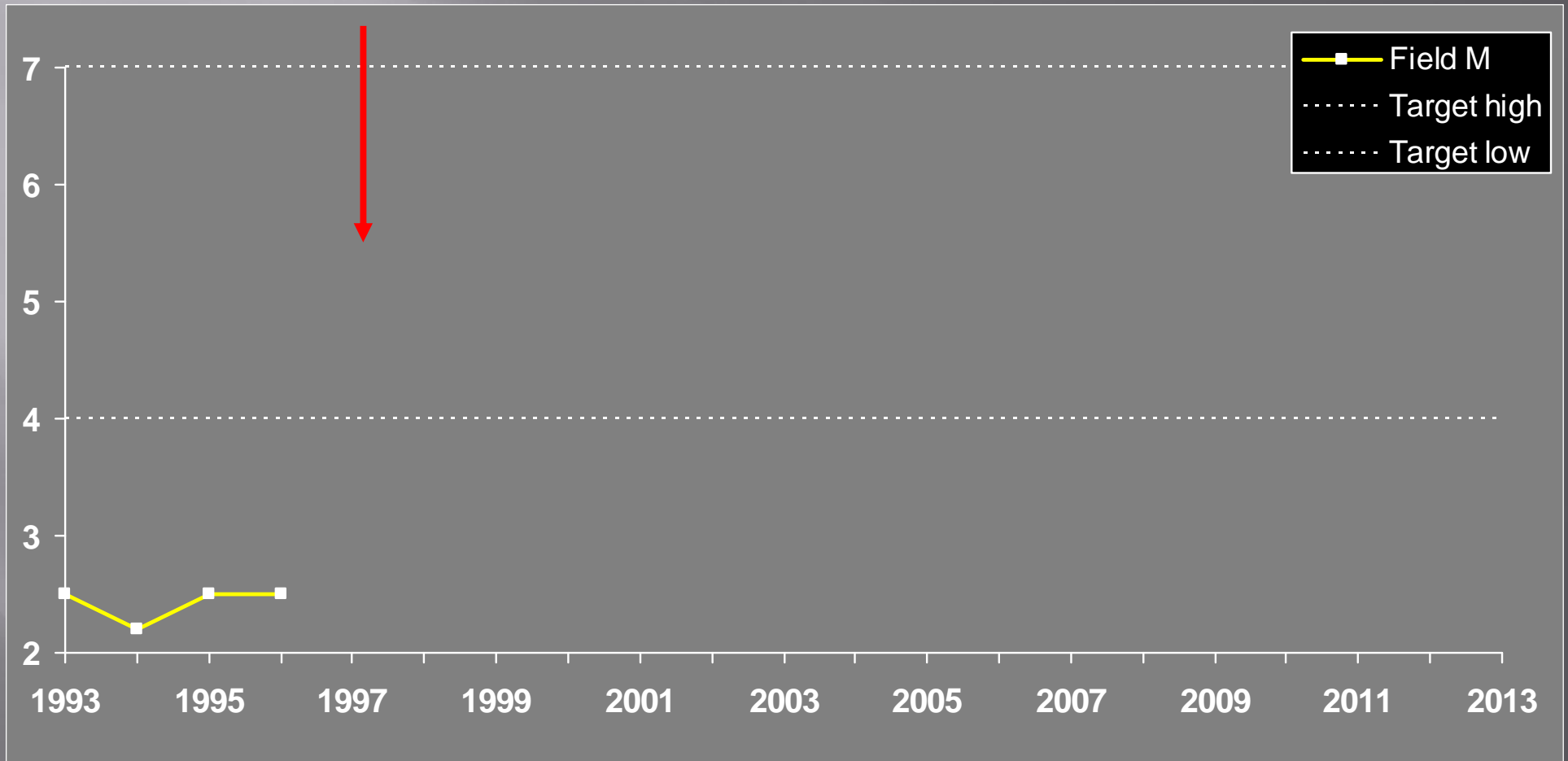
SOIL ORGANIC MATTER

My contribution: Impact of long term use
Compost is applied in fall every 2 or 3 years



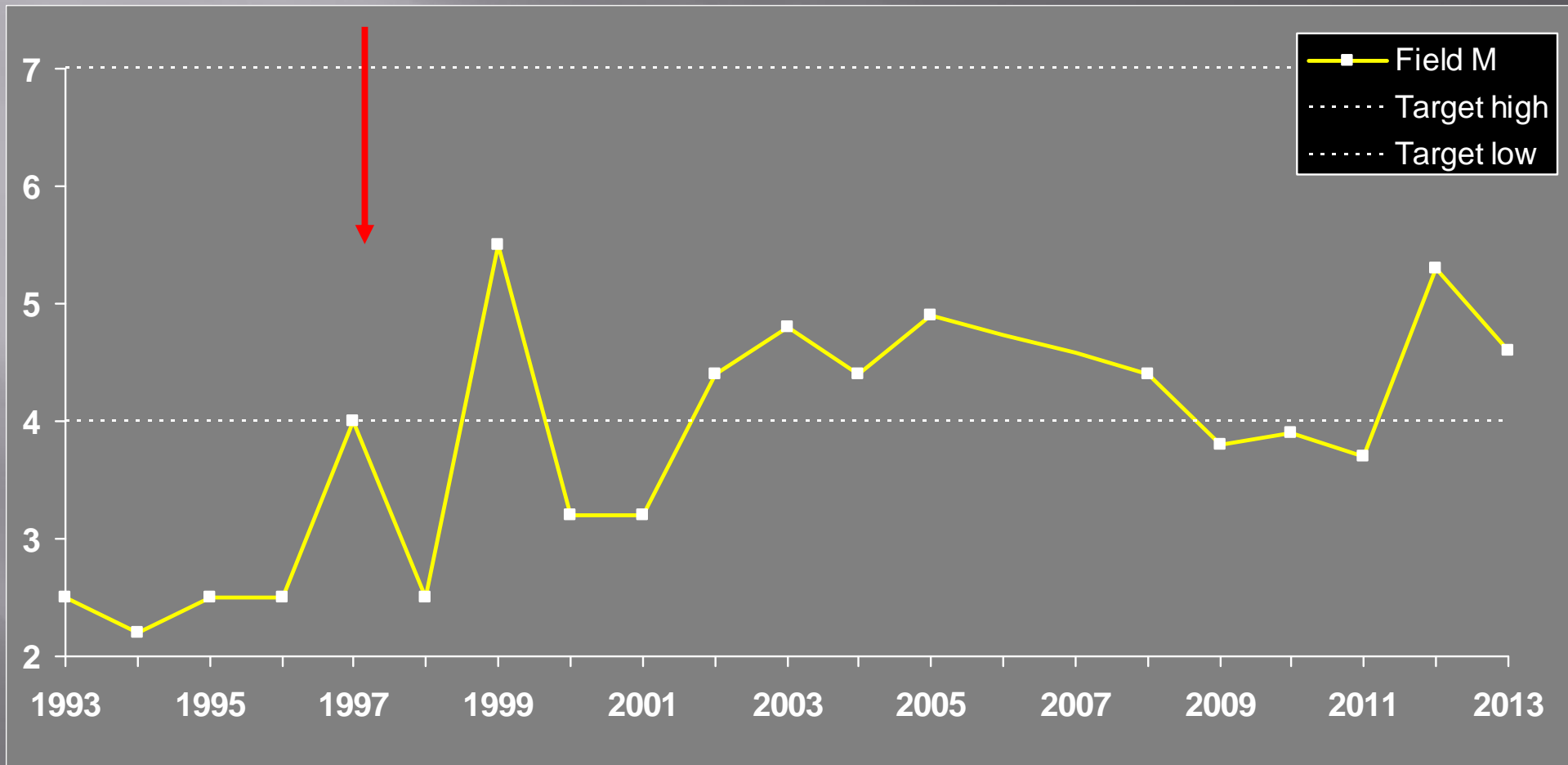
Soil organic matter (target is 4 to 7%)

Compost applied since 1997 at 250 to 500 m³ / ha / 2 years



Soil organic matter (target is 4 to 7%)

Compost applied since 1997 at 250 to 500 m³ / ha / 2 years



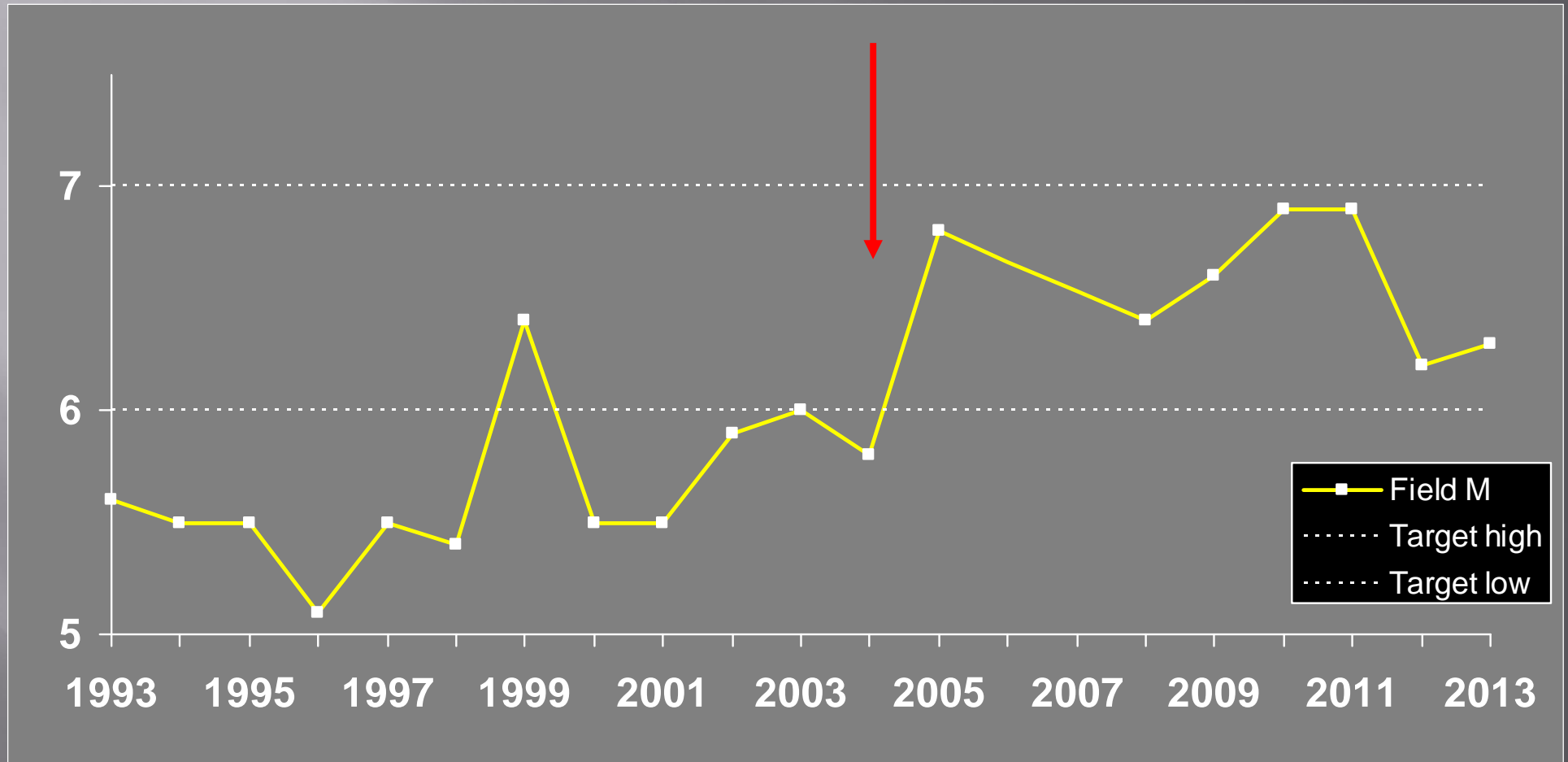
Soil pH (target is 6.0 to 7.0)

Dolomite lime annually until 2004 at 2.25 to 4.50 tonnes / ha



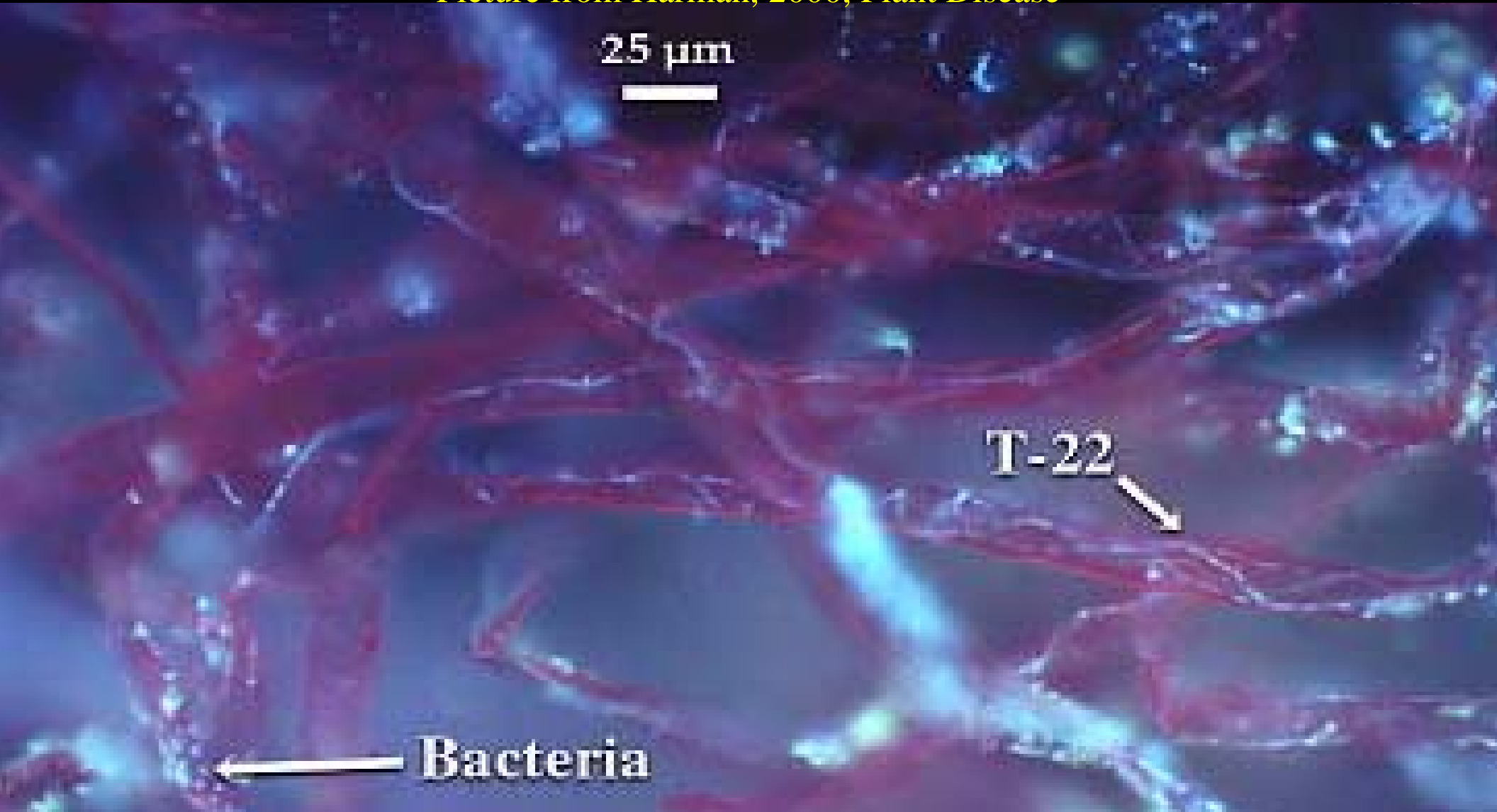
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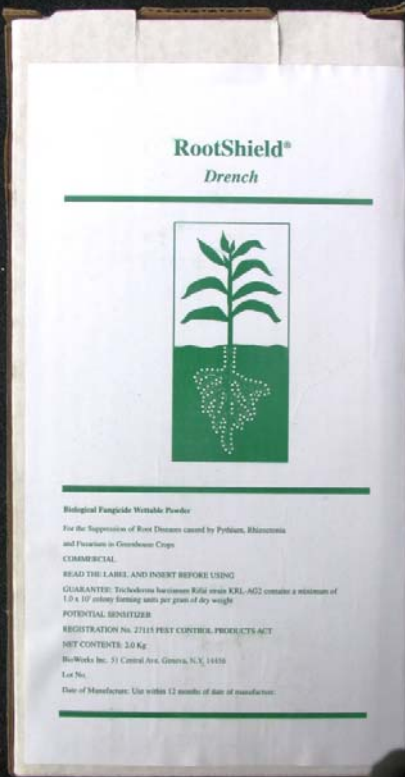


Beneficial microorganisms live on plant roots and protect against disease infection

Picture from Harman, 2000, Plant Disease



Many biological fungicides are registered in Canada



High variability in commercial compost.

Is there a need to “fortify” to get suppressive quality ?



ELSEVIER

Soil Biology & Biochemistry 38 (2006) 2461–2477

**Soil Biology &
Biochemistry**

www.elsevier.com/locate/soilbio

Suppressiveness of 18 composts against 7 pathosystems: Variability in pathogen response

A.J. Termorshuizen^{a,*}, E. van Rijn^a, D.J. van der Gaag^b, C. Alabouvette^c, Y. Chen^d,
J. Lagerlöf^e, A.A. Malandrakis^f, E.J. Paplomatas^f, B. Rämert^e, J. Ryckeboer^{g,1},
C. Steinberg^c, S. Zmora-Nahum^d

From the 120 bioassays involving 18 composts and 7 pathosystems, significant disease suppression was found in 54% of the cases while only 3% of the cases showed significant disease suppression enhancement. Different pathogens were affected differently by the composts.

An example of a presentation at the event Decontamination of an ex-refinery site in Mexico



Using beneficial microbes found in certain composts

Brazilian Journal of Microbiology 44, 2, 595-605 (2013)
ISSN 1678-4405

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www.sbmicrobiologia.org.br

Research Paper

In situ biosurfactant production and hydrocarbon removal by *Pseudomonas putida* CB-100 in bioaugmented and biostimulated oil-contaminated soil

Martínez-Toledo Ángeles^{1,2}, Rodríguez-Vázquez Refugio²

¹Facultad de Ciencias Químicas, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, SLP, Mexico.

²Departamento de Biotecnología y Bioingeniería, Centro de Investigación y de Estudios Avanzados del IPN, Col. San Pedro Zacatenco, Mexico, D.F., Mexico

Submitted: June 29, 2011; Approved: June 05, 2012.

Abstract

In situ biosurfactant (rhamnolipid) production by *Pseudomonas putida* CB-100 was achieved during a bioaugmented and biostimulated treatment to remove hydrocarbons from aged contaminated soil from oil well drilling operations. Rhamnolipid production and contaminant removal were determined for several treatments of irradiated and non-irradiated soils: nutrient addition (nitrogen and phosphorus), *P. putida* addition, and addition of both (*P. putida* and nutrients). The results were compared against a control treatment that consisted of adding only sterilized water to the soils. In treatment with native microorganisms (non-irradiated soils) supplemented with *P. putida*, the removal of total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) was 40.6%, the rhamnolipid production was 1.54 mg/kg, and a surface tension of 64 mN/m was observed as well as a negative correlation ($R = -0.54$; $p < 0.019$) between TPH concentration (mg/kg) and surface tension (mN/m). When both bacteria and nutrients were involved, TPH levels were lowered to 33.7%, and biosurfactant production and surface tension were 2.03 mg/kg and 67.3 mN/m, respectively. In irradiated soil treated with *P. putida*, TPH removal was 24.5% with rhamnolipid generation of 1.79 mg/kg and 65.6 mN/m of surface tension, and a correlation between bacterial growth and biosurfactant production ($R = -0.64$; $p < 0.009$) was observed. When the nutrients and *P. putida* were added, TPH removal was 61.1%, 1.85 mg/kg of biosurfactants were produced, and the surface tension was 55.6 mN/m. In summary, in irradiated and non-irradiated soils, *in situ* rhamnolipid production by *P. putida* enhanced TPH decontamination of the soil.

Key words: bioremediation, irradiated soil, total petroleum hydrocarbons, rhamnolipids, *P. putida*.

For such pollutants, the use of synthetic surface agents has been suggested. These agents enhance the pollutants solubility's (Volkering *et al.*, 1995), leading to their

Using beneficial microbes found in certain composts To fortify the compost used in the decontamination

Research Paper

In situ biosurfactant production and hydrocarbon removal by *Pseudomonas putida* CB-100 in bioaugmented and biostimulated oil-contaminated soil

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In situ biosurfactant (rhamnolipid) production by *Pseudomonas putida* CB-100 in a bioaugmented and biostimulated treatment to remove hydrocarbons from oil well drilling operations. Rhamnolipid production and contaminant removal for several treatments of irradiated and non-irradiated soils: nutrient addition, *P. putida* addition, and addition of both (*P. putida* and nutrients) against a control treatment that consisted of adding only sterilized water to native microorganisms (non-irradiated soils) supplemented with *P. putida*. Total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) was 40.6%, the rhamnolipid production was 64 mg/kg, and surface tension of 64 mN/m was observed as well as a negative correlation between TPH concentration (mg/kg) and surface tension (mN/m). When both treatments were involved, TPH levels were lowered to 33.7%, and biosurfactant production was 2.03 mg/kg and 67.3 mN/m, respectively. In irradiated soil treated with nutrients, 24.5% with rhamnolipid generation of 1.79 mg/kg and 65.6 mN/m of surface tension. A positive correlation between bacterial growth and biosurfactant production ($R = 0.8$) was observed. When the nutrients and *P. putida* were added, TPH removal was 61.1%, 1.79 mg/kg were produced, and the surface tension was 55.6 mN/m. In summary, in irradiated soils, *in situ* rhamnolipid production by *P. putida* enhanced TPH decontamination.

Key words: bioremediation, irradiated soil, total petroleum hydrocarbons

Introduction

For such purposes, agents has been used to increase solubility

Waste Contaminants: Lifecycle and Entry into Food Chain

USE OF CRUDE COFFEE GRAIN FOR TREATMENT OF PETROLEUM HYDROCARBON-CONTAMINATED SOIL

G. A. Roldán-Martín, R. Rodríguez-Vázquez

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aroldanm@iingen.unam.mx, rrodrig@mail.cinvestav.mx

ABSTRACT

The environmental pollution caused by toxic compounds is a global problem. In Mexico, a number of diverse technological options in biological processes have been tested for the restoration of sites contaminated with hydrocarbons. One of these processes is the addition of organic bulking agents to improve the characteristics of soil and to enhance the removal of the contaminant. The present research was designed to evaluate the crude coffee grain as a bulking agent in biopiles and to increase the biodegradation of petroleum hydrocarbons in contaminated soil. The first part of the work consisted in designing the biopile and the second, in the evaluation of the biopile. Sampling were done every week during the first month, every fifteen days during the second, and every month during the third stage. Along the treatment: humidity, pH

Today the site is “Parque Bicentenario”





IInd International Symposium on Organic Greenhouse Horticulture

28-31 oct. 2013 Avignon, France

Attendance: 120 persons from 36 countries

Discussion # 1

Greenhouse organic vegetable production is in real soil

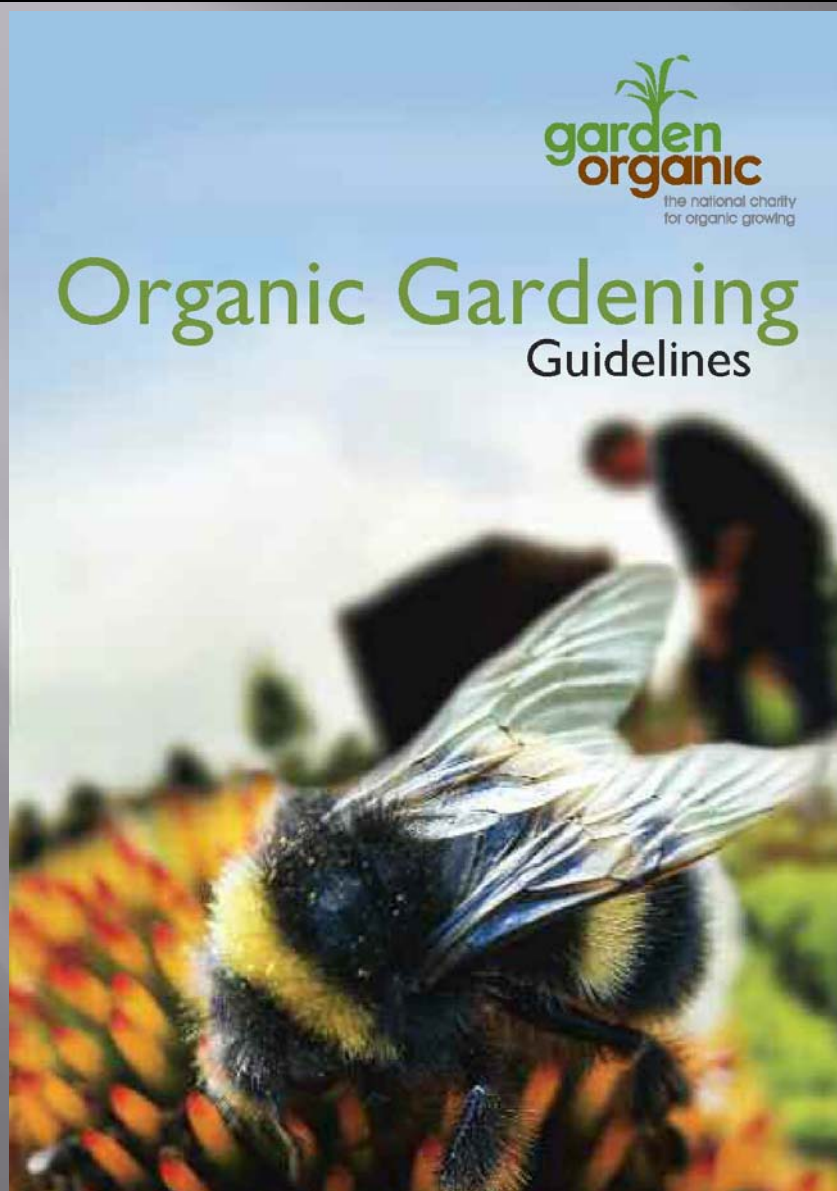


Urban farming is not in real soil. Is it “organic” ?



Picture Ulrich Schmutz, Coventry University, UK

On the web: www.gardenorganic.org.uk




Plant raising and growing in containers





Growing media

An organic growing medium – seed, potting, or multipurpose compost – has, as its main ingredient, biologically active material, such as composted plant wastes. Seed compost should be low in nutrients. Other mixes should provide plants with nutrients for as long as possible, to limit the need for liquid feeding.







Best organic practice – the first choice

-  Make your own growing media using home made garden compost and other bulky organic ingredients from those listed in the Soil Care section



Acceptable organic practice

-  Loam from the garden as an ingredient in growing media, returned to the garden after use
-  Organic fertilisers, including animal by-products, as ingredients of growing media
-  Commercially available growing media, with an organic symbol, or wording, from an approved organic certification organisation
-  Commercially available growing media containing materials listed in the Soil Care section of these guidelines



Acceptable, but not for regular use

-  Coarse grade seaweed meal for moisture retention
-  Sulphur chips to lower pH (increase acidity)
-  Horticultural sand and grit
-  Vermiculite and perlite
-  Coir
-  Bought in loam (topsoil)

Never acceptable in an organic garden

-  Growing media containing materials not approved in these guidelines, including non-organic fertilisers and peat
-  Peat, other than recycled/reclaimed peat

Garden Organic factsheets

-  Make your own potting compost
-  Hanging basket liners

Discussion # 2

Organic says: Manage the capacity of the soil

Accountant says: Maximize yield to recoup investment



Picture Frederic Rey,
Institut Technique de l'Agriculture Biologique
(ITAB), France

Fertilization is supplemented by liquid compost tea



Using compost tea in urban plantings

Since 1998 along highways in Texas: 1 million trees planted



Pictures Ethan Beeson,
Texas Department of Transportation, Houston

Using compost tea in urban plantings

On the web: “Sustainable Roadsides in the Houston District”

URBAN FREEWAY FORESTRY: OPPORTUNITY, NOT OXYMORON

Ethan Beeson, ASLA
Landscape Architect
ISA Certified Arborist
Texas Department of Transportation
Houston District
p 713-802-5471
ethan.beeson@txdot.gov

Technical Report Documentation Page			
1. Report No. FHWA/TX-07/0-5330-1	2. Government Accession No.	3. Recipient's Catalog No.	
4. Title and Subtitle SYNTHESIS OF NEW METHODS FOR SUSTAINABLE ROADSIDE LANDSCAPES		5. Report Date November 2006 Published: August 2007	6. Performing Organization Code
7. Author(s) Kim D. Jones, Beverly Storey, Debbie Jasek, and Joseph Sai		8. Performing Organization Report No. Report 0-5330-1	
9. Performing Organization Name and Address South Texas Environmental Institute, MSC 213 Texas A&M University-Kingsville Kingsville, Texas 78363		10. Work Unit No. (TRAIS)	
12. Sponsoring Agency Name and Address Texas Department of Transportation Research and Technology Implementation Office P.O. Box 5080 Austin, Texas 78763-5080		11. Contract or Grant No. Project 0-5330	
13. Type of Report and Period Covered Technical Report: September 2005–August 2006		14. Sponsoring Agency Code	
15. Supplementary Notes Project performed in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration. Project Title: Synthesis of New Methods and Techniques for Developing Sustainable Roadside Landscapes URL: http://tti.tamu.edu/reports/0-5330-1.pdf			
16. Abstract Several Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) districts have developed innovative landscape efforts specifically seeking to establish sustainable landscapes that require little if any supplemental water and utilize no chemical fertilizers. The concept behind this approach is that as land use intensifies, surface water runoff increases and the soil's ability to absorb runoff diminishes. TxDOT needs creative alternatives that can help soil retain moisture and recycle nutrients to reduce the energy expended in the maintenance of right-of-way landscape development. Techniques that utilize the environmental processes found in natural, self-sustaining, and self-sufficient plant communities have been clearly demonstrated to minimize and restore development impacts on soil, reduce peak storm flows, and increase infiltration. These techniques include major soil modifications as part of large-scale highway plantings. This project identifies many of the common non-chemical soil amendments and additives that can be used to create an environment that simulates a naturally occurring sustainable system found in undisturbed landscapes. Alternative management practices used by the public and private sectors were investigated for possible application to urban roadside landscapes for TxDOT and included cost and benefit evaluations, and the analysis of traditional and more sustainable landscaping comparisons of maintenance, water use, erosion control, and pollutant runoff mitigation. As these sustainable landscape development methods evolve, improved maintenance cost savings and public acceptance is anticipated.			
17. Key Words Sustainable Landscape, Organic, Soil Amendments, Landscape, Water Quality, Soil Moisture Retention		18. Distribution Statement No restrictions. This document is available to the public through NTIS: National Technical Information Service Springfield, Virginia 22161 http://www.ntis.gov	
19. Security Classif.(of this report) Unclassified	20. Security Classif.(of this page) Unclassified	21. No. of Pages 156	22. Price



Attendance: 705 persons
from 50 countries

Attendance: Over 1000 persons
from 50 countries

Attended by scientists, manufacturers, investors...



Humic acid, Kelp, Fish fertilizer, Amino acids are now called “biostimulants”



Seaweed extracts as biostimulants

Extensive research by B. Prithiviraj, Dalhousie University Nova Scotia



There are many, many commercial products in Europe

A-109

Cytoplant®-400: a natural biostimulant for increase yield and quality on fruit trees



E. Martín*, C. Solans*, D. Bernard*

*Daymsa, Camino de Enmedio 120, 50013 Zaragoza (España) mail@daymsa.com

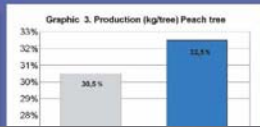
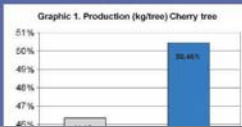
INTRODUCTION

Cytoplant®-400 is a natural biostimulant manufactured and marketed by DAYMSA. **Cytoplant®-400** is certified for its use in Organic Agriculture by different European certification bodies.

The activity of **Cytoplant®-400** is due to the combination of several active substances contained in the natural extracts. This activity is determined and controlled by bioassay of what is called equivalent cytokinin activity. By means of this bioassay, the activity of a product can be compared with the activity that a synthetic cytokinin would have, as kinetin is, at a determined concentration. **Cytoplant®-400** possess a cytokinin activity equivalent to 400 ppm of kinetin.

Cytoplant®-400 is used in several crops: in table grapes is shown an effective tool for seedless cultivars, improving size without a reduction in color and improving the fertility of buds; in vegetables the product increase the number of marketable fruits, etc.

Two foliar applications of **Cytoplant®-400** were made at phenological stage G (petals fall) and second at fruit set. Graphic 3 show an increase of 6.6% in total production. 56% of total yield was harvested on the first pick compared to a 47.5% n° 4. In control, as it is shown in Graphic 4.



ref. A002



the value of experience
the strength of innovation

Concimi speciali

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Istituto Agrario
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Centro di Trasferimento
Tecnologico - Unità Viticoltura



SUNRED®, A BOTANICAL EXTRACT-BASED BIOSTIMULANT, ENHANCES POLYPHENOLS ACCUMULATION AND IMPROVES QUALITY OF MUSTS

Vanina Ziosi^{1*}, Duilio Porro², Franco Vitali¹, Giulio Giovannetti¹, Antonio Di Nardo¹

INTRODUCTION

SUNRED® is a biostimulant containing phenylalanine, methionine, monosaccharides and botanical extracts rich in oxylipins, cyclopentanonic compounds involved in several ripening-related processes. **SUNRED®** has been shown to be effective in improving fruit colour and anthocyanin and soluble sugar accumulation in apple, cherry, table grape, and tomato. In the present work, the effect of **SUNRED®** on grapevine polyphenol accumulation and quality parameters of must was investigated.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Trials were carried out on grapevines (*Vitis vinifera* L.) cv Cabernet Sauvignon, Prosecco, and Pinot grigio grown in

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. SUNRED® IMPROVES FRUIT COLOUR AND RIPENING UNIFORMITY

In all cultivars, **SUNRED®** improved fruit colour development and ripening uniformity (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1 - Effect of **SUNRED®** application on colour development and ripening uniformity (cv Pinot grigio). The picture was taken 17 days after the 2nd **SUNRED®** treatment.

2. SUNRED® STIMULATES POLYPHENOL ACCUMULATION

In Cabernet Sauvignon, **SUNRED®** significantly enhanced anthocyanin and total polyphenol accumulation in must. A similar trend was observed in Prosecco, though not statistically significant (Table 2).



Generalitat de Catalunya
Government of Catalonia

A seaweed biostimulant effect on fruit set and fruit yield on two pear cultivars in Spain

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Avda. Rovira Roure 177, E-28196 Lleida, Spain
luis.asin@irta.cat



INTRODUCTION

One of the main problems around the world on pear production is a poor fruit set.

One solution is bioregulator sprays during the blossom period and initial fruit development, to avoid flower, fruitlet or fruit fall.

Although there are different bioregulators, its efficacy is widely conditioned by cultivar. For instance, Blanquilla show an important increase on fruit yield with GA3 sprays at full bloom, or Abate fetel can be doubled final fruit yield with Prohexadione-Ca spray after petal fall.

Conference and Abate fetel are two cultivars which present a poor fruit yield. It seems there is a fruit set problem, which it is not always resolved with bioregulator sprays.

The aim of the study was to increase fruit set and subsequently yield in Conference and Abate fetel.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

During 2007 and 2008, three trials on Conference and Abate fetel cultivars were carried out. Rootstock was quince M-A and Sydo, tree density was 1,667 and 2,150 trees/ha on Conference and Abate fetel, respectively.

Dosage of active ingredients and spray moment is shown in Table 1. Spray volume was 1,000 L/ha. Experimental design was a randomized block with 4 repetitions. Each elemental plot had 4 trees, and all determinations were done on two central ones.

It were evaluated the following parameters:

- Evolution of fruit set on marked branches
- Final fruit set at harvest
- Fruit yield parameters (kg/tree, fruits/tree, fruit weight and fruit size distribution)

Table 1.- Treatments and dosage

Treatments	Conference		Abate fetel	
	Spray moment	Dose	Spray moment	Dose
Control	-	-	-	-
Goëmar BM86	E ^{**} , F ₂ and G	2.50 l/ha	E, F ₂ and G	2.50 l/ha
Goëmar BM86	E, F ₂ and G	2.0 l/ha	E, F ₂ and G	2.50 l/ha

EFFECTS OF THE SPECIFIC SEAWEED EXTRACTS ON GROWTH, YIELDING AND FRUIT QUALITY OF SWEET PEPPER GROWING IN NON-HEATED TUNNELS

AIM: „From seedlings to fruit” - determine the effect of the *A. nodosum* filtrate by Göemar on pepper cultivation under cover

Agnieszka J. Stepowska
Research Institute of Horticulture



MATERIALS and METHODS: 2007-2008

I. seedlings treated with 0,1% GA142

(Göemar Goteo) April

- a1 - „control,, (watering)
- a2 - applied to roots 2 times during production
- a3 - applied to roots 4 times during production

RESULTS



II. plant treatment in non-heated tunnel

following I.a1

- A1 - „control,, (watering)
- A2 - 0,1% GA142 (Göemar Goteo 3x to roots, V-VI)
- A3 - 0,1% GA142 (Göemar Goteo 3x to roots, V-VI) + 0,1% GA14 (Göemar BM86 3x foliar, VI-VII)
- A4 - 0,1% GA14 (Göemar BM86 3x foliar, VI-VII)



An example of a commercial biostimulant product



the value of experience
the strength of innovation

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COME VISIT US
AT BOOTH

NOV@[®], A BOTANICAL EXTRACT-BASED

BIOSTIMULANT FOR ROOT DEVELOPMENT

Vanina Ziosi*, Giulio Giovannetti

INTRODUCTION

NOV@[®] is a biostimulant containing vitamins, chelated micronutrients, phytoalexins, polysaccharides, and phytoalexins. Phytoalexins are naturally occurring compounds that they also have biological activity, including stimulation of root growth. Phytoalexins and organic acids act synergistically to improve growth, nutrient uptake and soil structure. Phytoalexins, amino acids, vitamins and micronutrients complete the action by stimulating metabolism.

The aim of present work was to investigate the effect of NOV@[®] application on post-transplant root development, plant growth and crop yield.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

NOV@[®] was applied on Alba, Candonga and Splendor strawberries. Alba and Candonga were grown in an open field in Emilia Romagna and Candonga in Larache (Morocco) respectively. Splendor was grown in an open field in Larache (Morocco).

In Alba, NOV@[®] treatments were applied at transplanting stage (27, 34, and 41 days after transplanting), dose: 20 L/ha; plot size: 10 m². Treatments were applied at pre-flowering, petal fall, and fruiting stages (dose: 15 L/ha; plot size: 10 m²).

In Candonga, NOV@[®] (20 L/ha) was applied at transplanting, 42, and 65 days after transplanting.

In Splendor, NOV@[®] (15 L/ha) was applied at transplanting and fruit enlargement (plot size: 10 m²).

CONCLUSION

INTRODUCTION

NOV@[®] is a biostimulant containing organic acids, vitamins, chelated micronutrients, plant extracts rich in phytoalexins, polysaccharides and glycine betaine. Phytoalexins are naturally occurring surfactants; they also have biological activity, including stimulation of root growth. Phytoalexins, glycine betaine, and organic acids act synergistically improving root growth, nutrient uptake and soil structure; polysac-

An excellent review on the science of biostimulants

Available on the web

2012 report, 32 pages

2015 scientific paper, 12 pages

The Science of Plant Biostimulants – A bibliographic analysis

Prof. Patrick du Jardin

CONTRACT 30-CE0455515/00-96, « AD HOC STUDY ON BIO-STIMULANTS PRODUCTS »

April 2012 – Final report



Review

Plant biostimulants: Definition, concept, main categories and regulation

Patrick du Jardin

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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:
Received 21 May 2015
Received in revised form 28 August 2015
Accepted 17 September 2015
Available online 29 October 2015

Keywords:
Biostimulant
Biofertiliser
Definition
Regulation

ABSTRACT

A plant biostimulant is any substance or microorganism applied to plants with the aim to enhance nutrition efficiency, abiotic stress tolerance and/or crop quality traits, regardless of its nutrients content. By extension, plant biostimulants also designate commercial products containing mixtures of such substances and/or microorganisms. The definition proposed by this article is supported by arguments related to the scientific knowledge about the nature, modes of action and types of effects of biostimulants on crop and horticultural plants. Furthermore, the proposed definition aims at contributing to the acceptance of biostimulants by future regulations, especially in the EU, drawing the lines between biostimulants and fertilisers, pesticides or biocontrol agents. Many biostimulants improve nutrition and they do so regardless of their nutrients contents. Biofertilisers, which we propose as a subcategory of biostimulants, increase nutrient use efficiency and open new routes of nutrients acquisition by plants. In this sense, microbial biostimulants include mycorrhizal and non-mycorrhizal fungi, bacterial endosymbionts (like *Rhizobium*) and Plant Growth-Promoting Rhizobacteria. Thus, microorganisms applied to plants can have a dual function of biocontrol agent and of biostimulant, and the claimed agricultural effect will be instrumental in their regulatory categorization. The present review gives an overview of the definition and concept of plant biostimulants, as well as the main categories. This paper will also briefly describe the legal and regulatory status of biostimulants, with a focus on the EU and the US, and outlines the drivers, opportunities and challenges of their market development.

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Biostimulants are not fertilizers –
but they improve plant nutrition.

Biostimulants are not fungicides –
but they protect from disease infection.

They are not plant growth regulators –
but they stimulate plant growth.

“Biostimulants are defined by what they do more than by what they are, since the category includes a diversity of substances. They do more than stimulate growth. Stress tolerance is perhaps the most important benefit”.

Biostimulants help plants in different ways

Picture credit: J.F. Morot-Gaudry, INRA, Versailles France

Better
résistance to
environmental
stresses

Enhancement of
plant defense
against pest and
diseases

Improvement
of nodulation



Improved
shoot and
root growth

Higher
flowering
and fruit set

Better
yield

Better root
development
and mineral
absorption

One presentation at the biostimulant conference

INDUCED RESISTANCE AS A STRATEGY FOR VINEYARD PROTECTION

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State of the art

As plants possess an immune system to defend themselves against potentially pathogen microorganisms, disease is finally an exceptional outcome in plant-pathogen interactions.

Compounds called "elicitors" mimic pathogens and their perception by the plant triggers plant defence reactions [1]. (Fig. 1). General elicitors belong to various biochemical classes: carbohydrates, lipids, (glyco)peptides and (glyco)proteins. They are active in different plant species and induce a protection against various pathogens. Most of them are secreted by the pathogen or derived from its cell wall during interaction with the plant and are called MAMPs (Microbe Associated Molecular Patterns) [2].

Our research is focused upon oligosaccharidic elicitors and both grapevine / *Plasmopara viticola* (downy mildew) and grapevine / *Botrytis cinerea* (gray mold) pathosystems.

Our objective is to understand the key mechanisms associated to induced resistance (IR) in order to develop the use of elicitors in strategies of crop protection.



Fig.1: Elicitor-induced cascade of events in plant cells.

Methods to screen and study elicitors

The use of cell suspensions is an easy way to screen elicitors and study their mode of action. We have developed methods to follow H₂O₂ and NO production, ion fluxes, MAPK activation, intracellular calcium variations, gene expression, and phytoalexin production in *Vitis vinifera* cv Gamay cell suspensions treated by elicitor such as EndoPG1 [3] and laminarin [4] (Fig. 2).

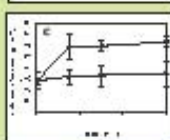
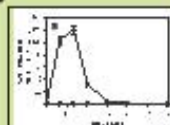


Fig.2: Analysis of ACS production, and calcium influx in Gamay cells treated by laminarin 1g/L.

However, cell suspensions are not suitable for compounds acting by priming. Moreover, they don't allow to check if elicitors induce resistance to pathogens.

We have therefore developed bioassays using leaf disks or plants grown in greenhouses to study the mode of action of elicitors (H₂O₂ production, callose deposition, phytoalexin production...) and IR (measured by the infected leaf area) [5] (Fig. 3).



Fig.3: Plants treated by water (left) or an elicitor (right) and inoculated with *P. viticola*.

Understanding IR

MAMP recognition

It has been shown that plant perception of MAMPs is achieved by Pattern Recognition Receptors (PRRs) [6]. Using functional genomic approach we are presently looking for PRRs in grapevine.

Identification of IR markers

We are investigating which events associated to elicitor treatment are markers of IR. A transcriptomic approach has allowed us to identify a set



Developping mid- to high-throughput tools

The development of mid- to high-throughput methods of phenotyping has become essential to facilitate the screening of molecules and the investigation of the factors that modulate IR.

The high throughput phenotyping platform in Dijon will be used to develop methodologies to measure the level of IR in grapevine leaves and berries.

Pathways of biostimulants into the plant cell

Picture credit: S. Trouvelot, INRA Agroécologie, Dijon France

INDUCED RESISTANCE AS A STRATEGY FOR VINEYARD PROTECTION

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State of the art

All genes possess an immense capacity to defend themselves against potential pathogens. However, these genes are not always active in plant pathogen interactions.

Concepts called "elicitor" which perceive the plant pathogen defense response (Fig. 1). Several studies have shown that elicitors, such as chitinase and glucanase, can induce plant defense and reduce pathogen growth. Some of these are recognized by the pathogen or insect, but not all. Some are recognized by the plant and are called elicitors (see also review by Boller et al., 2001).

Our research is based on apoplastic elicitors and both apoplastic and cytoplasmic elicitors. We have identified several apoplastic elicitors and both apoplastic and cytoplasmic elicitors.

The objective is to understand the key mechanisms involved in induced resistance (IR) in order to develop the use of elicitors in vineyard crop protection.

Methods to screen and study elicitors

The use of cell suspension is an easy way to screen elicitors and study their mode of action. The elicitor response is measured by the production of reactive oxygen species (ROS) and the production of ethylene. We have identified several elicitors: chitinase, glucanase, and glucanase. We have also identified several elicitors: chitinase, glucanase, and glucanase.

Understanding IR

We have shown that plant perception of elicitors is achieved by plasma membrane depolarization (PMD). Using functional genomic approaches we are currently looking for PMD in grapevines.

Identification of markers

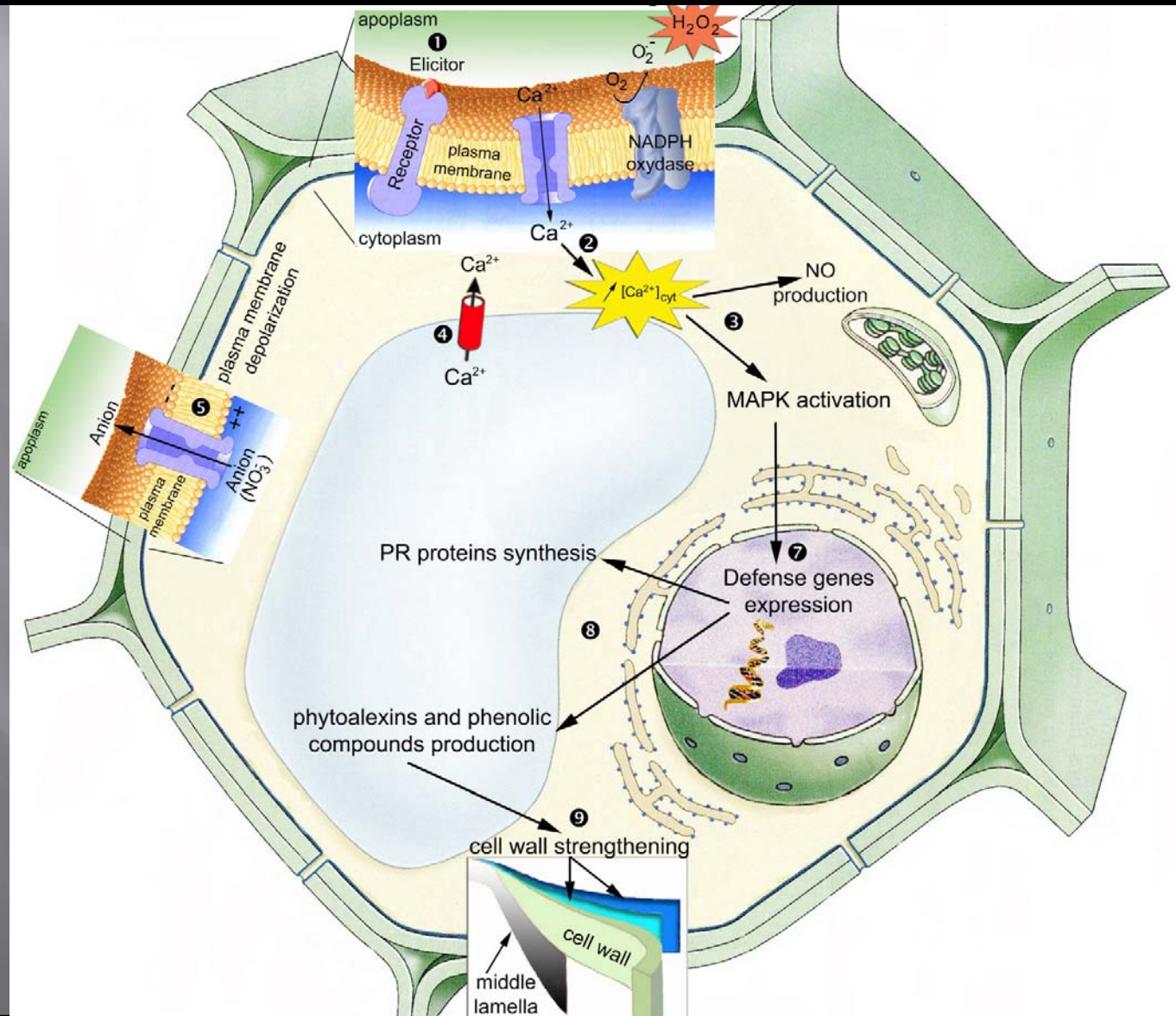
We are investigating which genes are associated to elicitor treatment and which genes are up-regulated in response to elicitor treatment. We have identified several genes which expression is modulated by elicitors. We have also identified several genes which expression is modulated by elicitors.

Impact of environmental factors

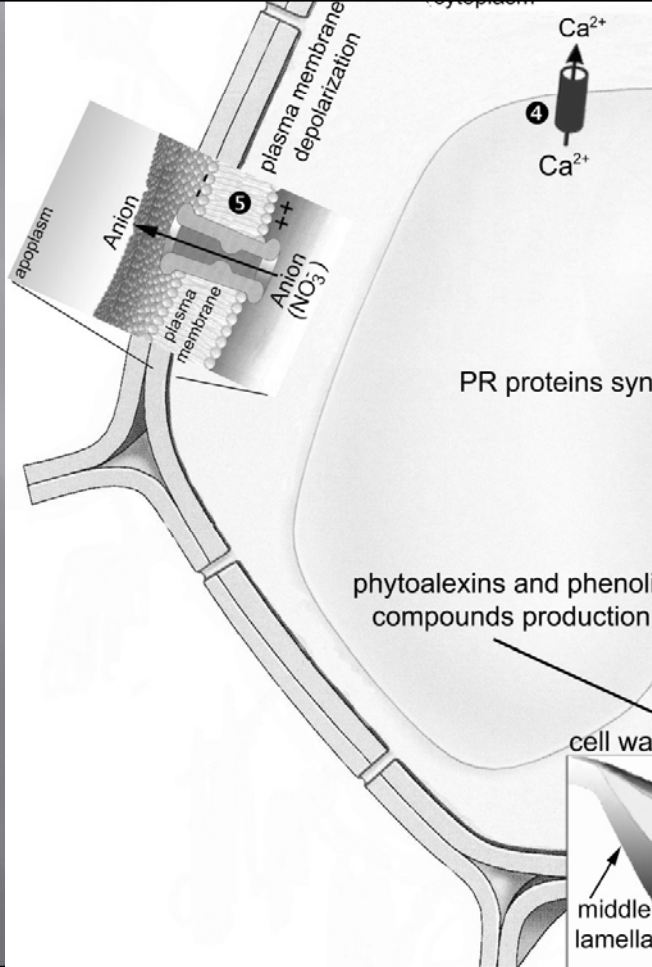
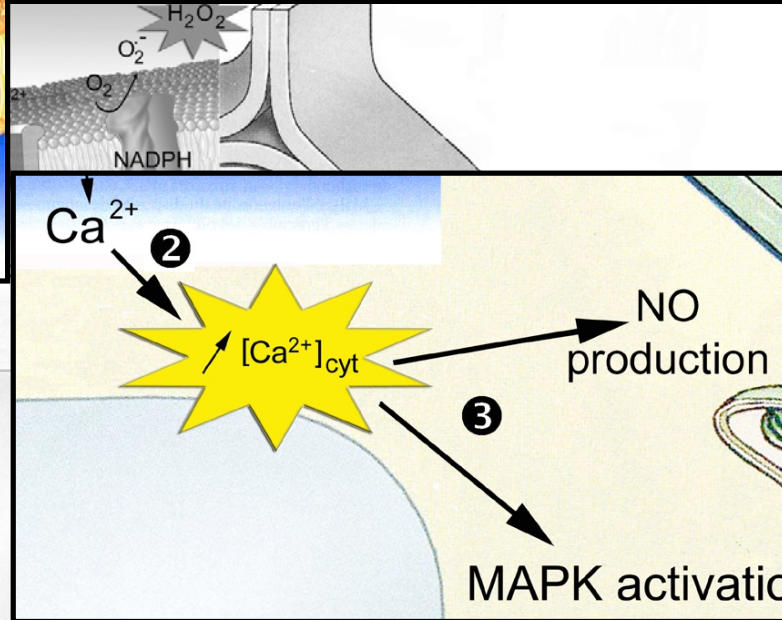
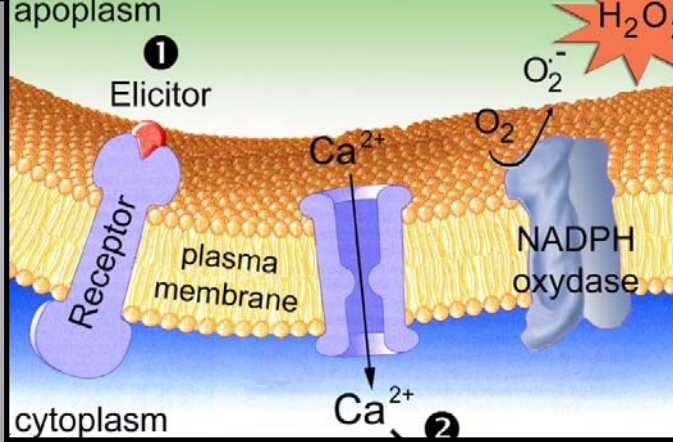
We are investigating the impact of environmental factors on the elicitor response. We have identified several environmental factors which impact the elicitor response.

Conclusion The research will contribute to a better understanding of the mechanisms involved in induced resistance (IR) in grapevines and will help to develop new strategies for vineyard crop protection.

IR: The screening of elicitors and a part of the development of metabolites have been performed in collaboration with INRA.



Let's decipher



MAPK: Mitogen-activated protein kinase

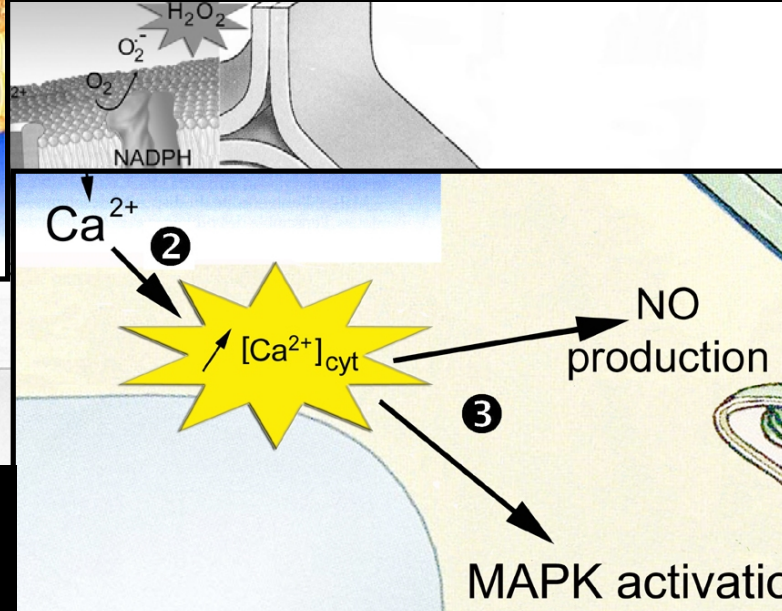
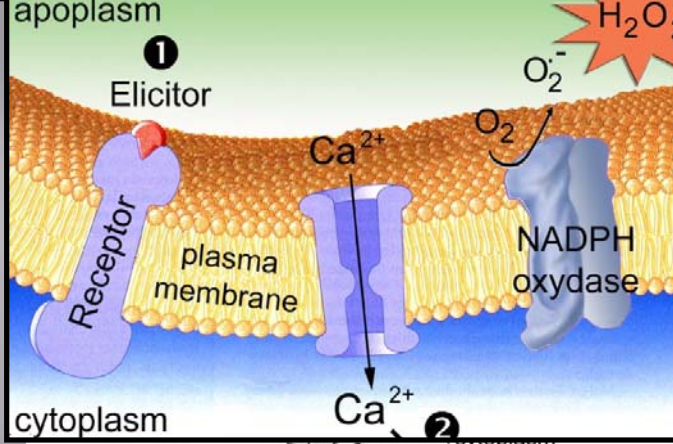
phytoalexins and phenolic compounds production

cell wall strengthening

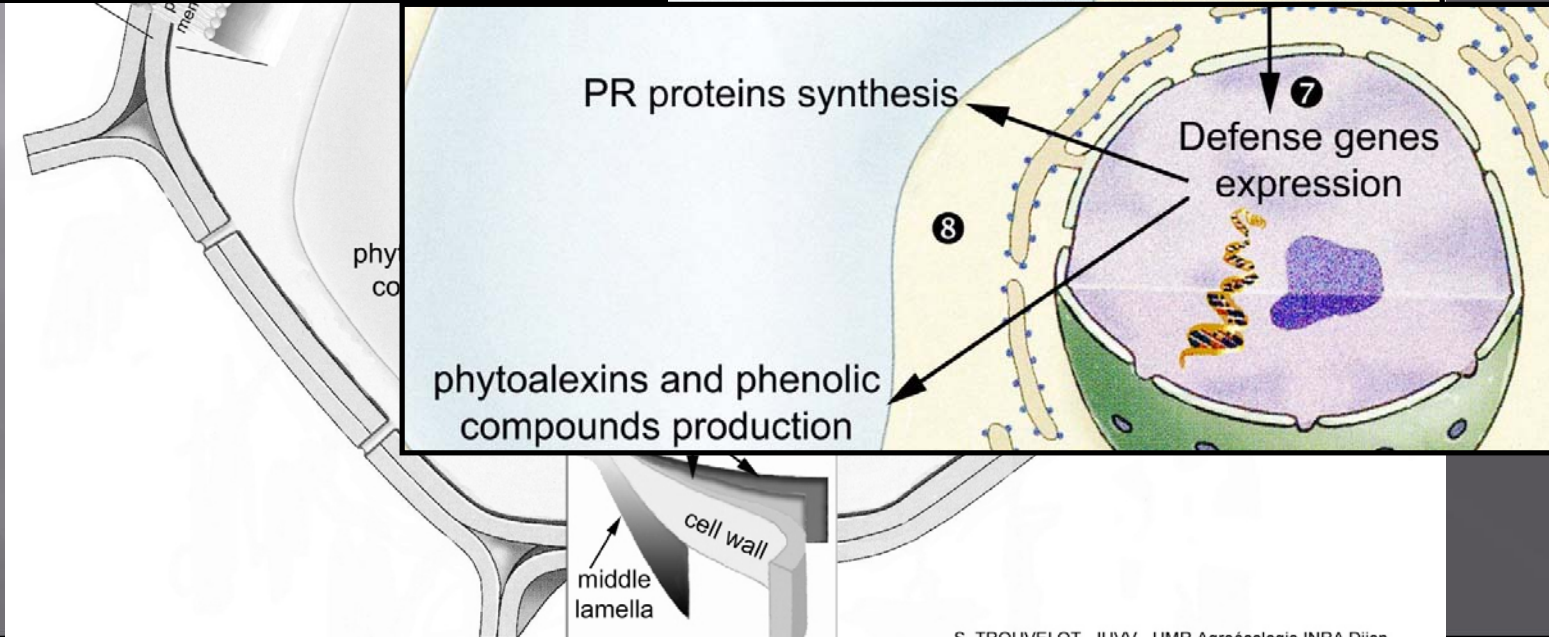
middle lamella

cell wall

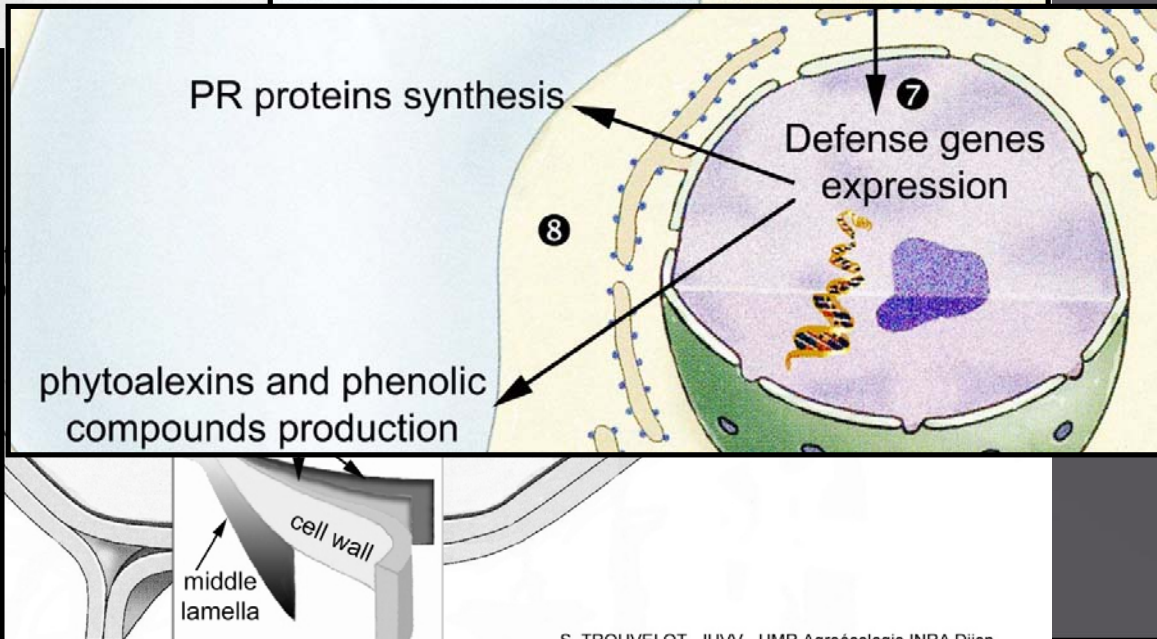
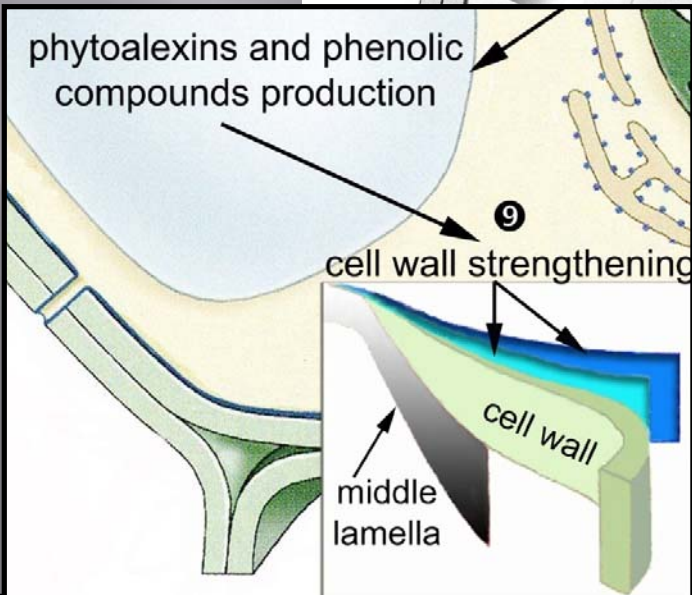
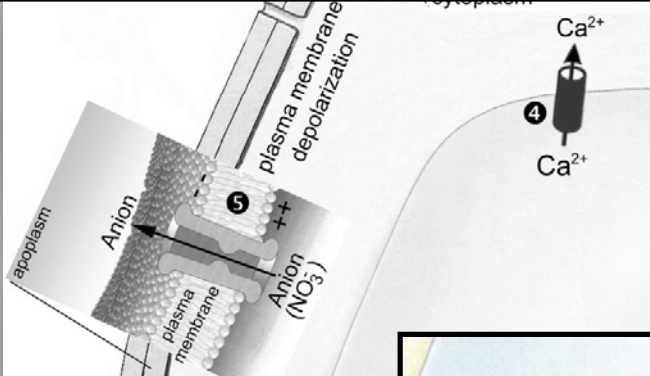
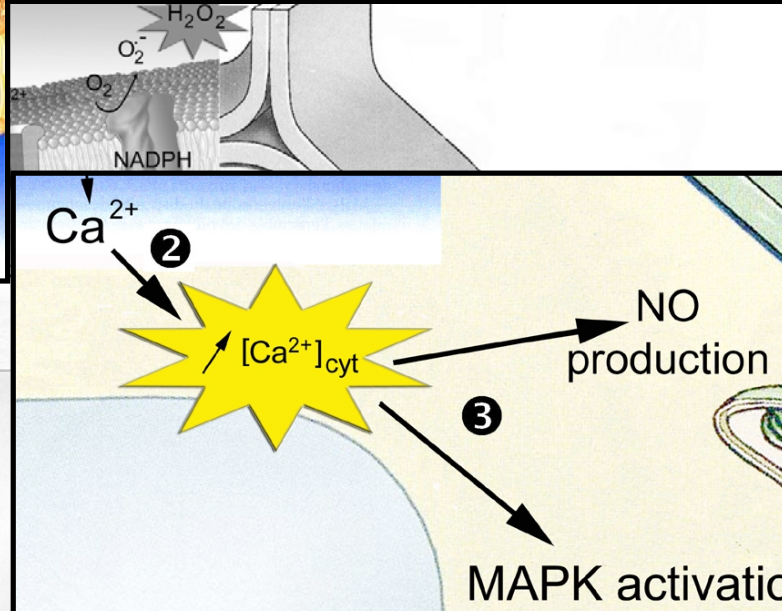
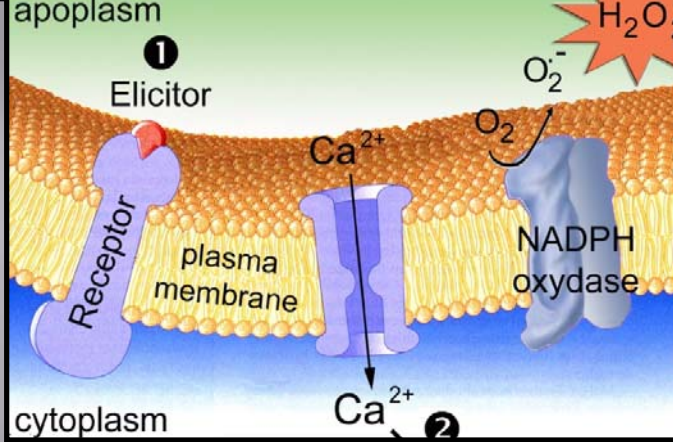
Let's decipher



PR: Pathogenesis-related protein



Let's decipher



A “biostimulant” in the eyes of the user...



Thank you for joining us today !



Organic Matter in Horticulture -
A Report from Scientific Meetings