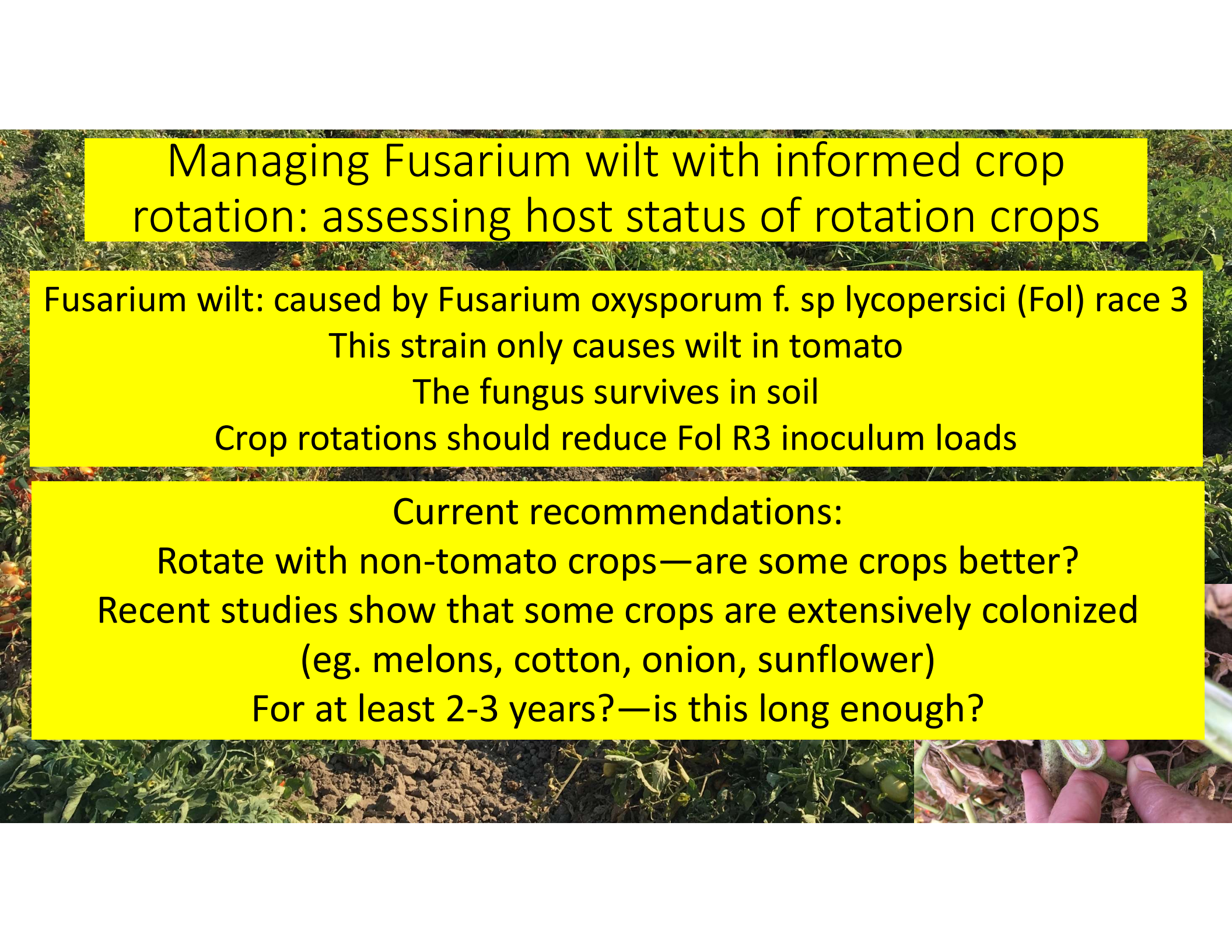


# Management updates for Fusarium wilt and *Fusarium falciforme* vine decline

Cassandra Swett

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## Managing Fusarium wilt with informed crop rotation: assessing host status of rotation crops

Fusarium wilt: caused by *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *lycopersici* (Fol) race 3

This strain only causes wilt in tomato

The fungus survives in soil

Crop rotations should reduce Fol R3 inoculum loads

Current recommendations:

Rotate with non-tomato crops—are some crops better?

Recent studies show that some crops are extensively colonized  
(eg. melons, cotton, onion, sunflower)

For at least 2-3 years?—is this long enough?

# Managing Fusarium wilt with informed crop rotation: Effect of warm season rotation crops on Fusarium wilt

2018

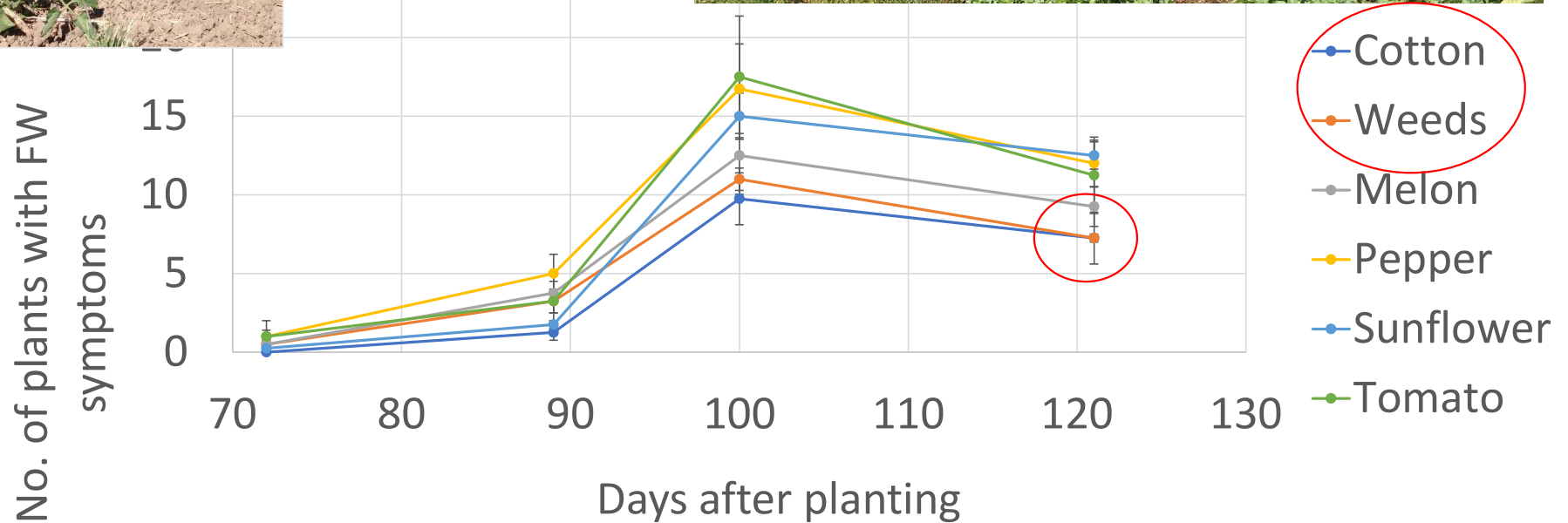


2019



Dr. Kelley Paugh

# Managing Fusarium wilt with informed crop rotation: Effect of summer rotation crops on Fusarium wilt



# Managing Fusarium wilt with informed crop rotation: Effect of cool season rotation crops on Fusarium wilt



2018

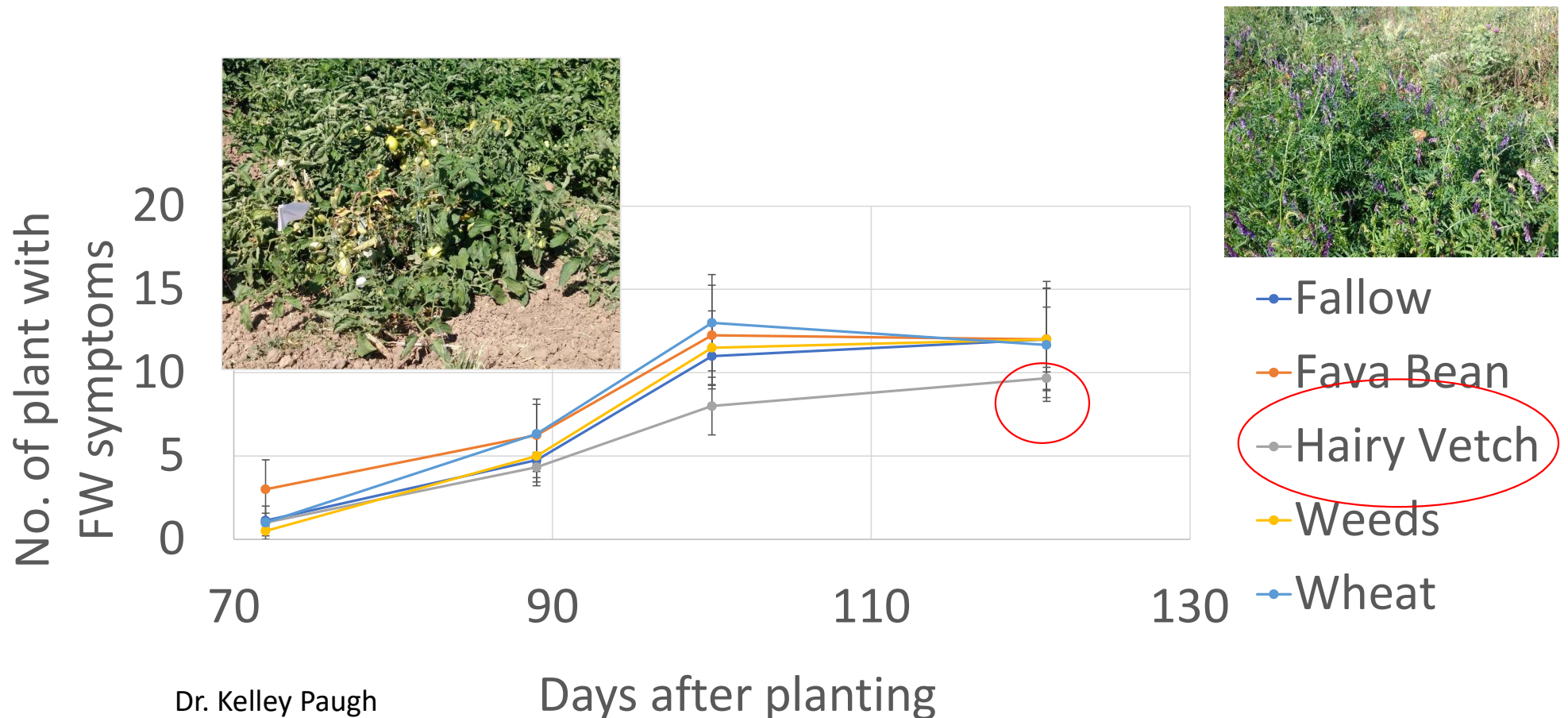


2019

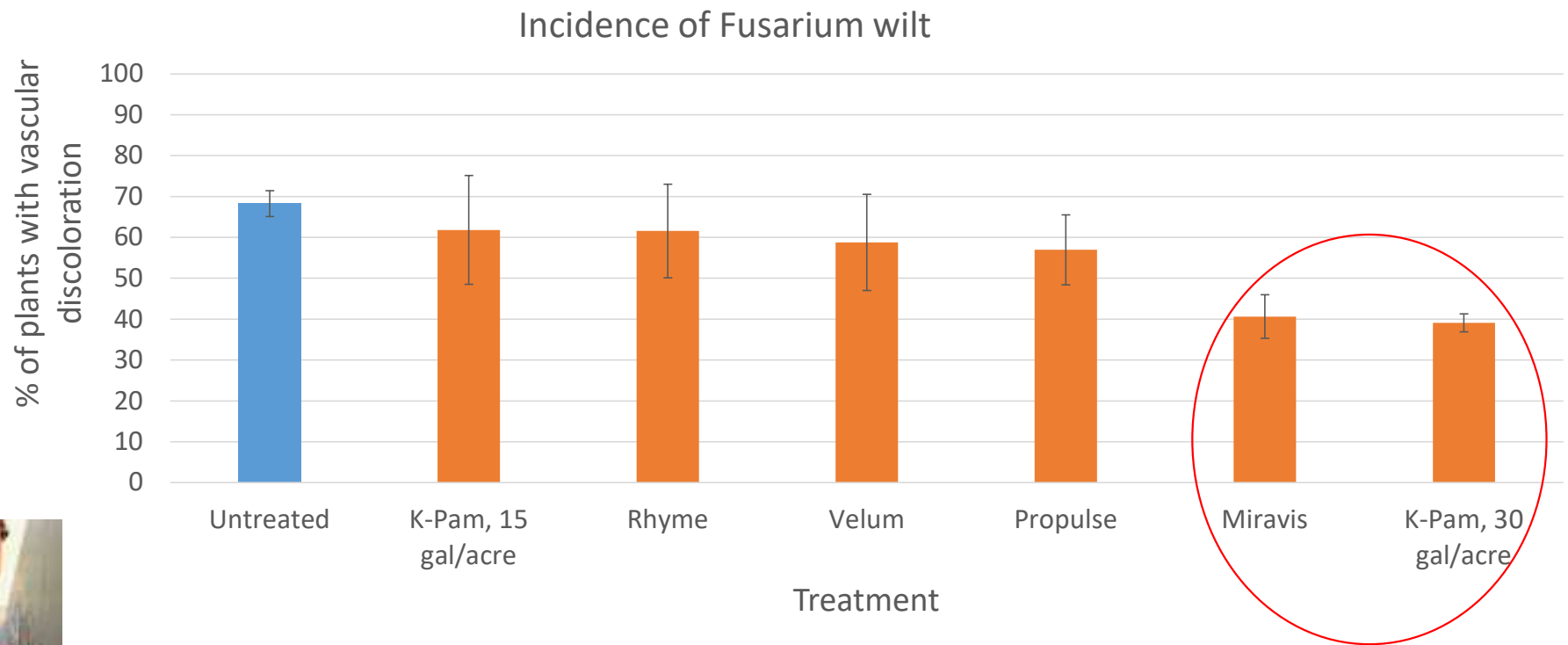


Dr. Kelley Paugh

# Managing Fusarium wilt with informed crop rotation: Effect of summer rotation crops on Fusarium wilt



# Managing Fusarium with drip-applied fungicides and fumigation



Dr. Kelley Paugh

# Managing Fusarium wilt

- Potentially low risk rotation cash crops:
  - Cotton?—was a good host...
  - Grasses (corn, rice, wheat)?—poor hosts
- Potential suppressive cover crops:
  - Hairy vetch
- Potentially high risk crops:
  - Warm: Pepper, cucurbits (melon, pumpkin), sunflower?
  - Cool: Fava bean and wheat were higher than vetch, but could still be suppressive
    - Beans and grasses were poor hosts
- Miravis and Kpam applied through the drip may work to reduce Fusarium losses

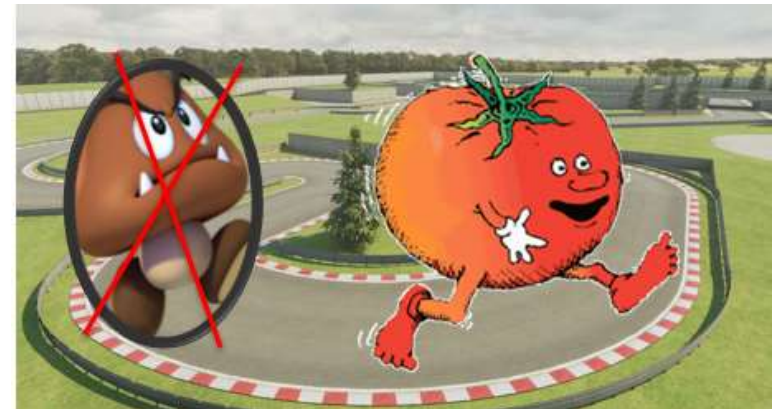


2019/20

- Examine disease in repeat of above plus beans, onion, lettuce, broccoli and separate weed and chemical fallow plots
- Understanding crop effects on soil population
- Further chemical work

# An update on Fusarium wilt race 4 monitoring

- **NO RACE 4 DETECTED**
- Race 4 not reported worldwide
- **2018:** Tested nine Fol recovered from F3 plants
  - All were Fol race 3
- **2019:** Recovered Fol from TWO F3 fields; plus three Fol isolates from F2 samples
  - All were Fol race 3



# Fusarium solani diseases of tomato: background, current impacts, field diagnosis and management



# Disease(s) caused by fungi in the *Fusarium solani* species complex in tomato

- First described in as a pathogen of fresh market tomatoes in Australia in 1975
  - Symptoms: girdled tap root, rotten crown, plants rarely killed, yield reduced
- Disease name: Fusarium foot rot
- Pathogen name:
  - 1975: *Fusarium solani*
  - 2007: *F. solani* f. sp. *eumartii*
  - 2019: *F. noneumartii*
- Observed in California on processing tomato in 1991
- Other hosts: potato, eggplant



Images: Mike Davis

# Reported Fusarium foot rot symptoms

Images: Mike Davis

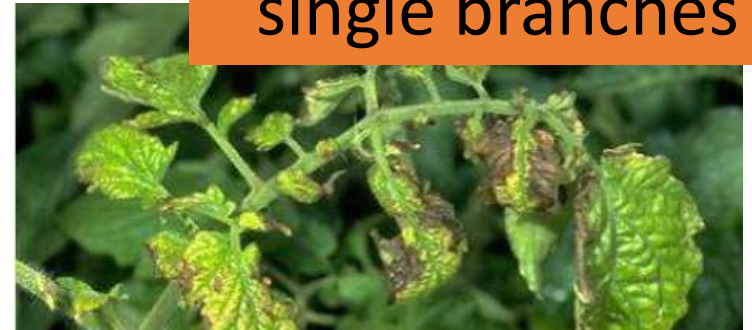
Foot rot



Bleaching of single branches



Leaf necrosis of single branches



Root banding



Fast forward: Severe stem rot samples collected and brought to our lab by Gene Miyao in 2017

The fungus was identified as *Fusarium falciforme*-closely related to *F. noneumartii*

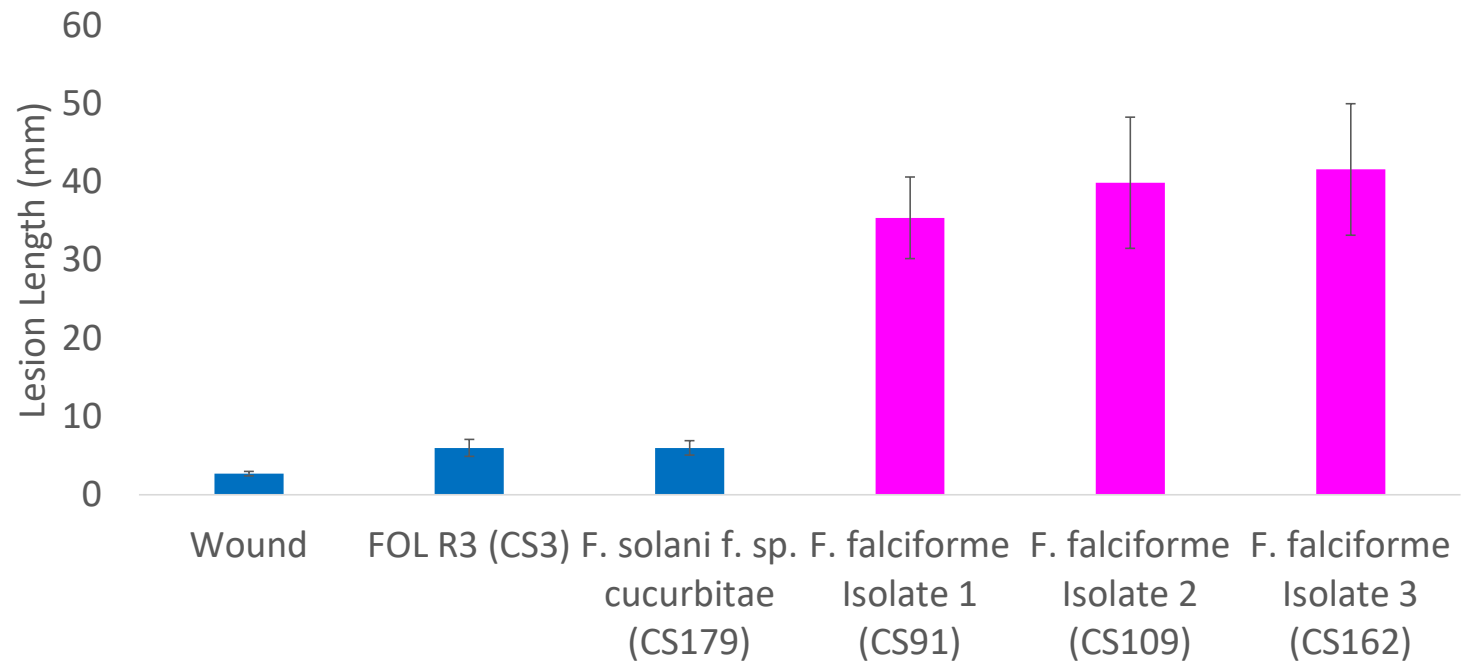
But stem rot is not part of *Fusarium* foot rot symptomology





# Confirmed stem rot abilities of *F. falciforme*

Stem rot lesions



Erin Helpio

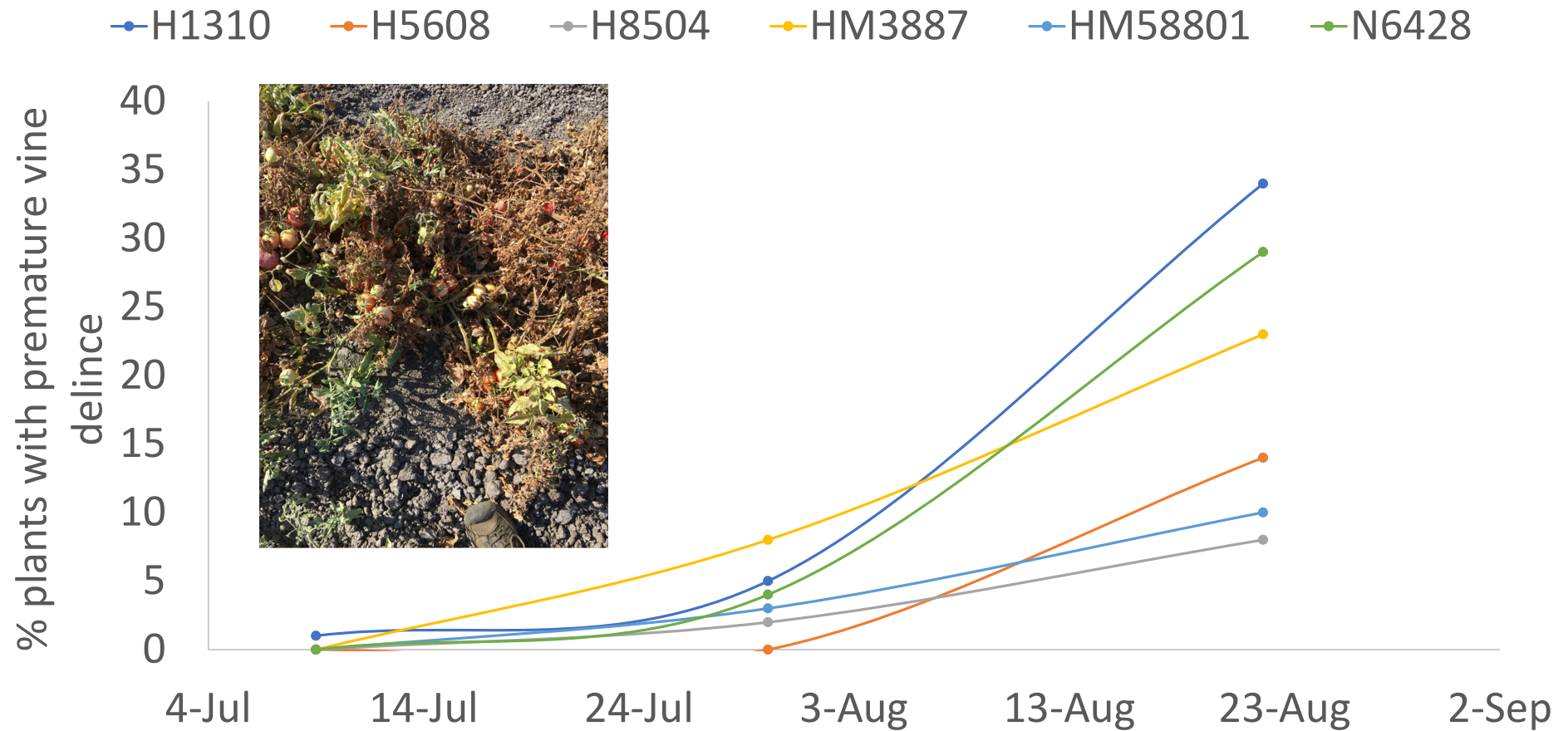
Concern was elevated in 2019 with multiple *F. falciforme* fields exhibiting severe losses

High incidence of  
plants dying early  
in the season



# Confirmed premature vine decline abilities of *F. falciforme*

Starts ~40-50 days pre-harvest



**Fusarium foot rot is reported to be a MINOR disease**

**NOT reported to cause PLANT DEATH or SEVERE yield loss**  
*Confirmed by Mike Davis, Gene, Brenna, Tom and others*

**We are working to determine whether this is a NEW  
manifestation of Fusarium foot rot or a NEW disease  
altogether**



# Some are saying it's a new disease...



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DISEASE NOTES

## Foot Rot and Wilt in Tomato Caused by *Fusarium falciforme* (FSSC 3 + 4) in Mexico

T. A. Vega-Gutiérrez, C. A. López-Orona , G. A. López-Urquidez, S. Velarde-Félix, L. A. Amarillas-Bueno, A. R. Martínez-Campos, and R. Allende-Molar

**Affiliations** [v](#)

**Published Online:** 29 Oct 2018 | <https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-06-18-1001-PDN>



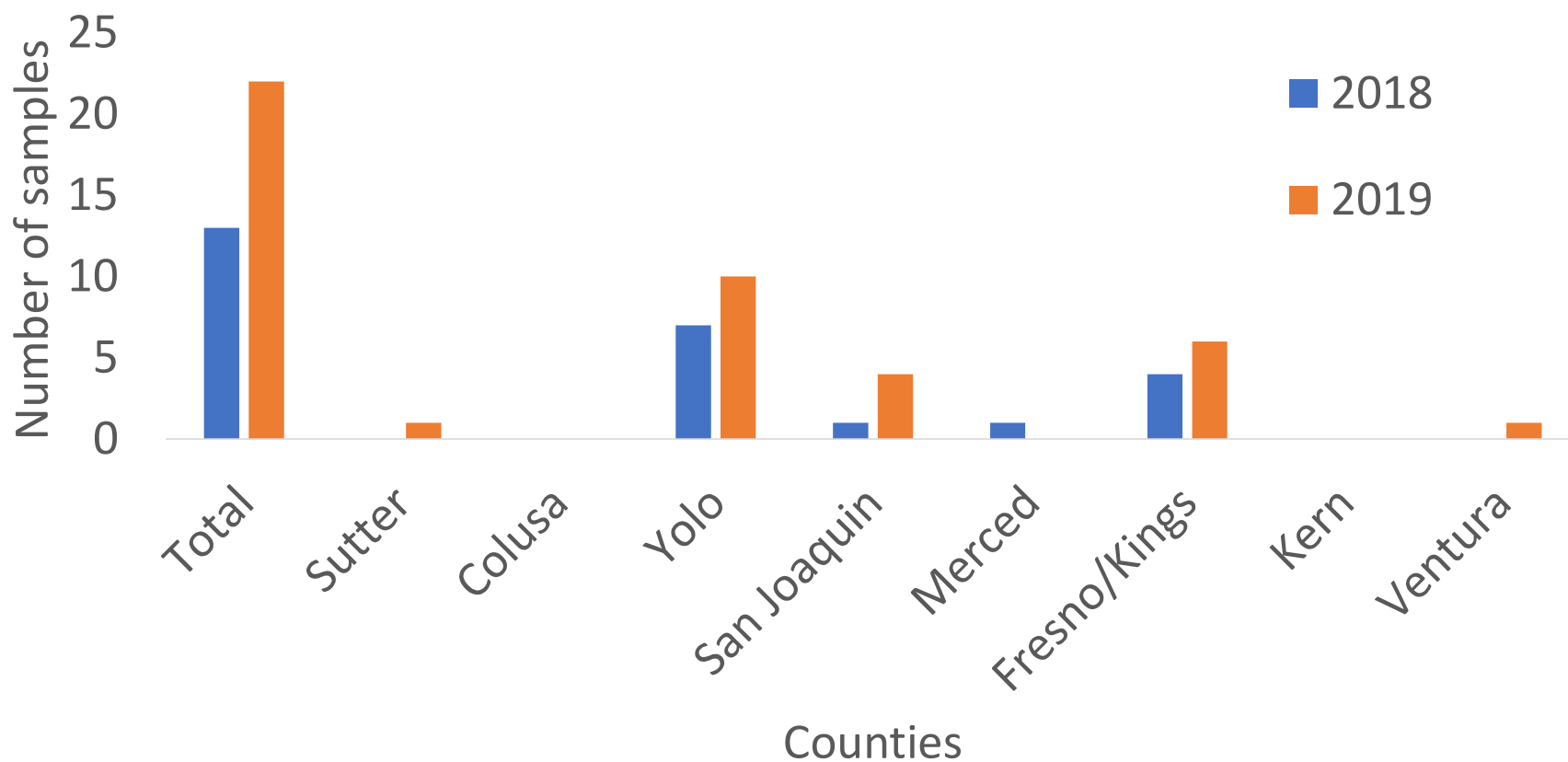
**Vol. 103, No. 1**  
January 2019

tomato crops in the state of Sinaloa (Mexico). The symptoms included wilting, leaf yellowing, defoliation vascular tissue darkening, and drying and death of branches and the entire plant. Plant crowns exhibited necrosis (visible in the interior) that advanced through the main root, along with slight root

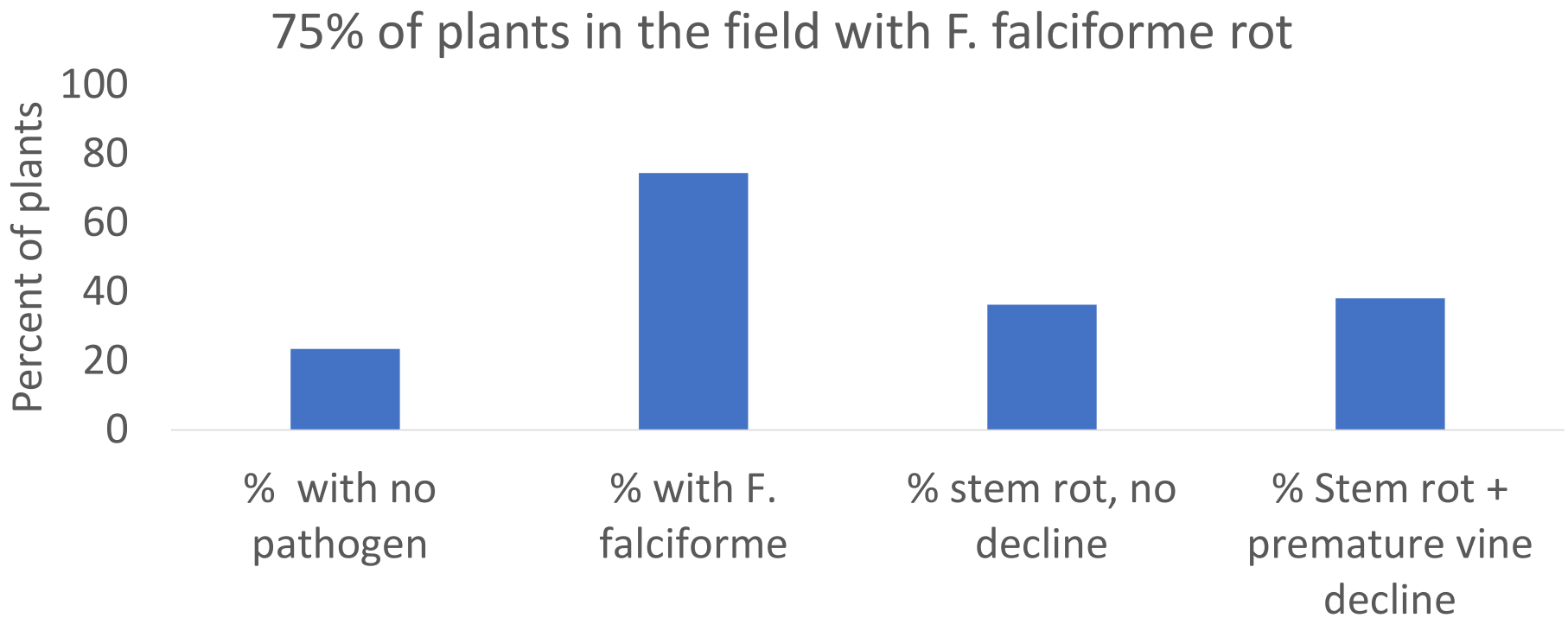
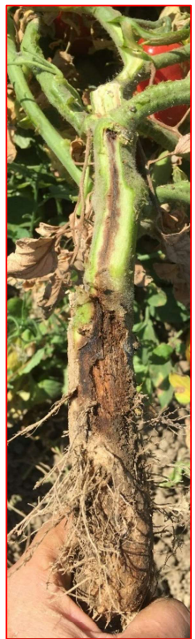
# Assessing current impacts of *F. falciforme* on California processing tomato: surveys



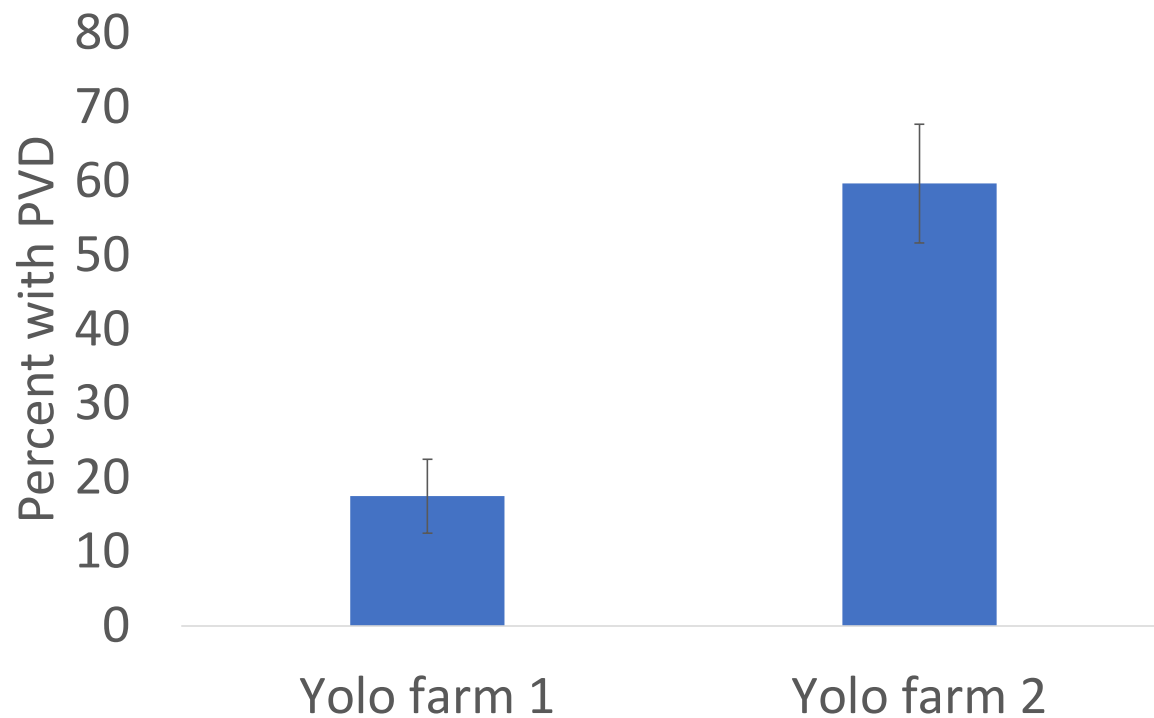
## County-level distribution of *F. falciforme* in California 2018 and 2019 (based on submissions from advisors)



# Impacts of *F. falciforme* on production



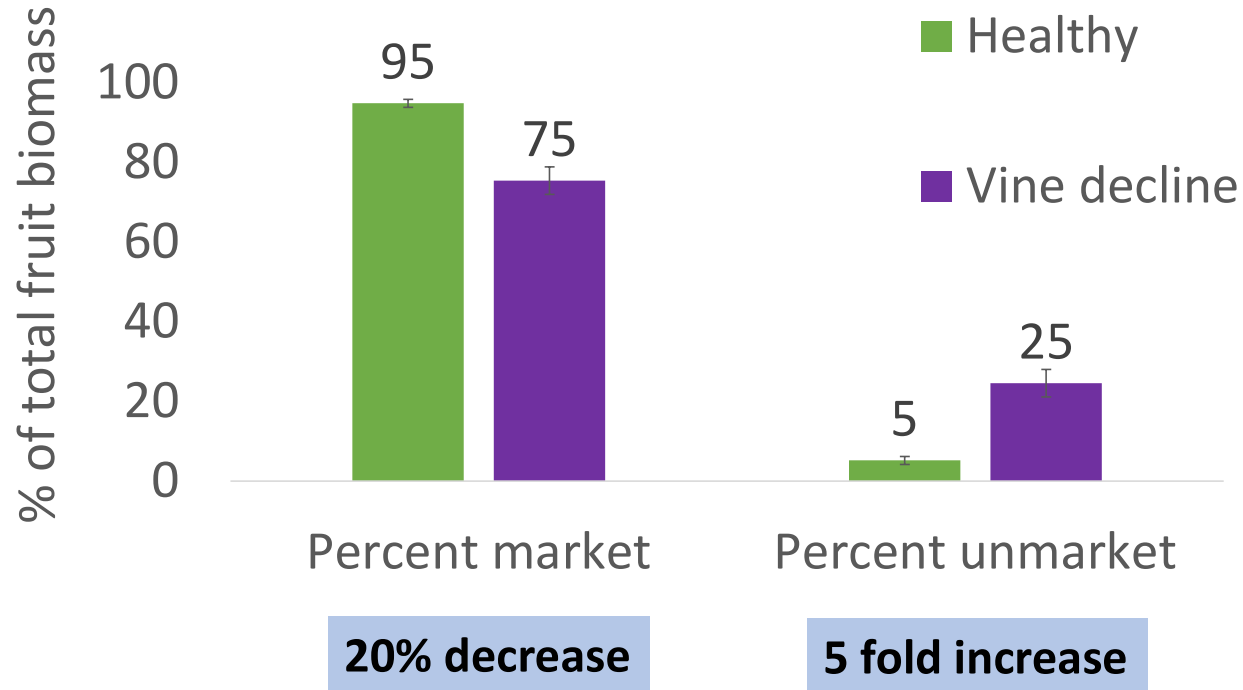
# Incidence of FF premature vine decline in commercial processing tomato fields (F3)



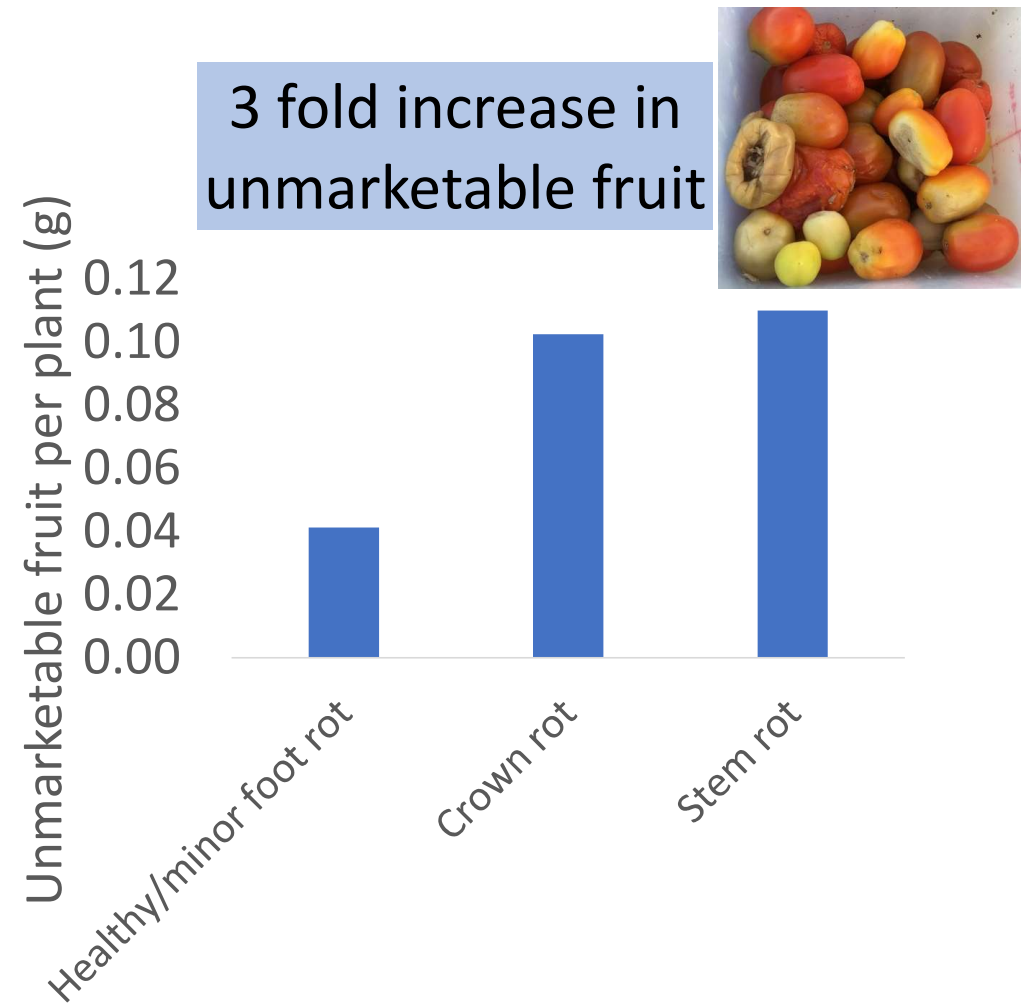
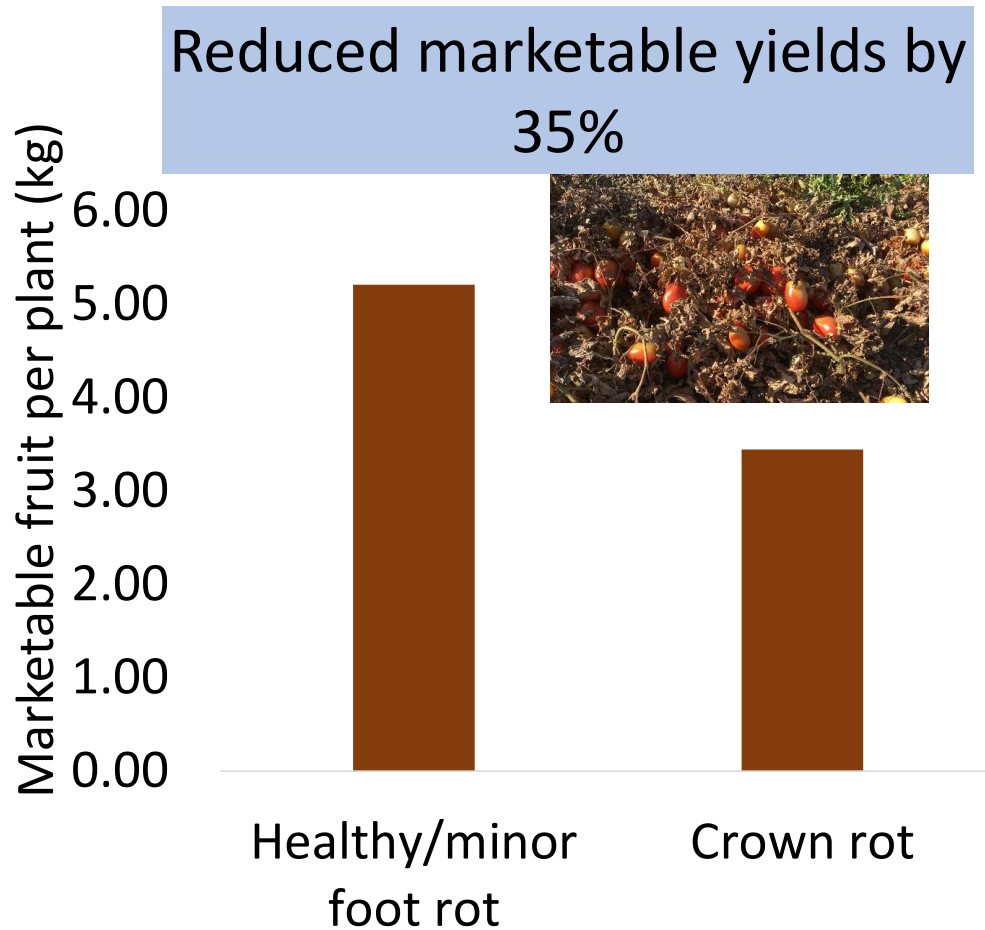
Premature vine decline causes sunburn and fruit rot



# Effects of *F. falciforme* on yield-Field 1

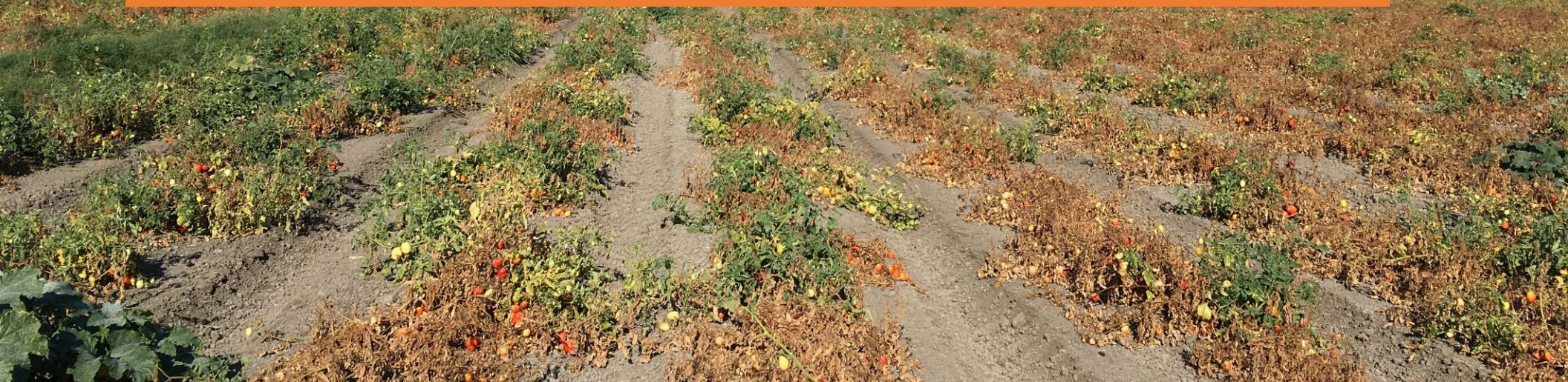


## Impacts of *F. falciforme* on yield: Field 2



# Field diagnosis of *F. falciforme*-look alike problems and tips

FF symptoms share similarities to other disorders, leading to misdiagnosis



# Foliar yellowing / bleaching symptoms

Branch chlorosis

Whole plant chlorosis

Looks a lot like?

Fusarium wilt



Foliar symptoms  
Share similarity to other disorders, leading to misdiagnosis

A close-up photograph of a tomato plant. The leaves are green, but many are showing significant yellowing and wilting, particularly on the lower and outer parts of the plant. A person's hand is visible in the lower left, holding a stem.

Looks a lot like?

Fusarium wilt

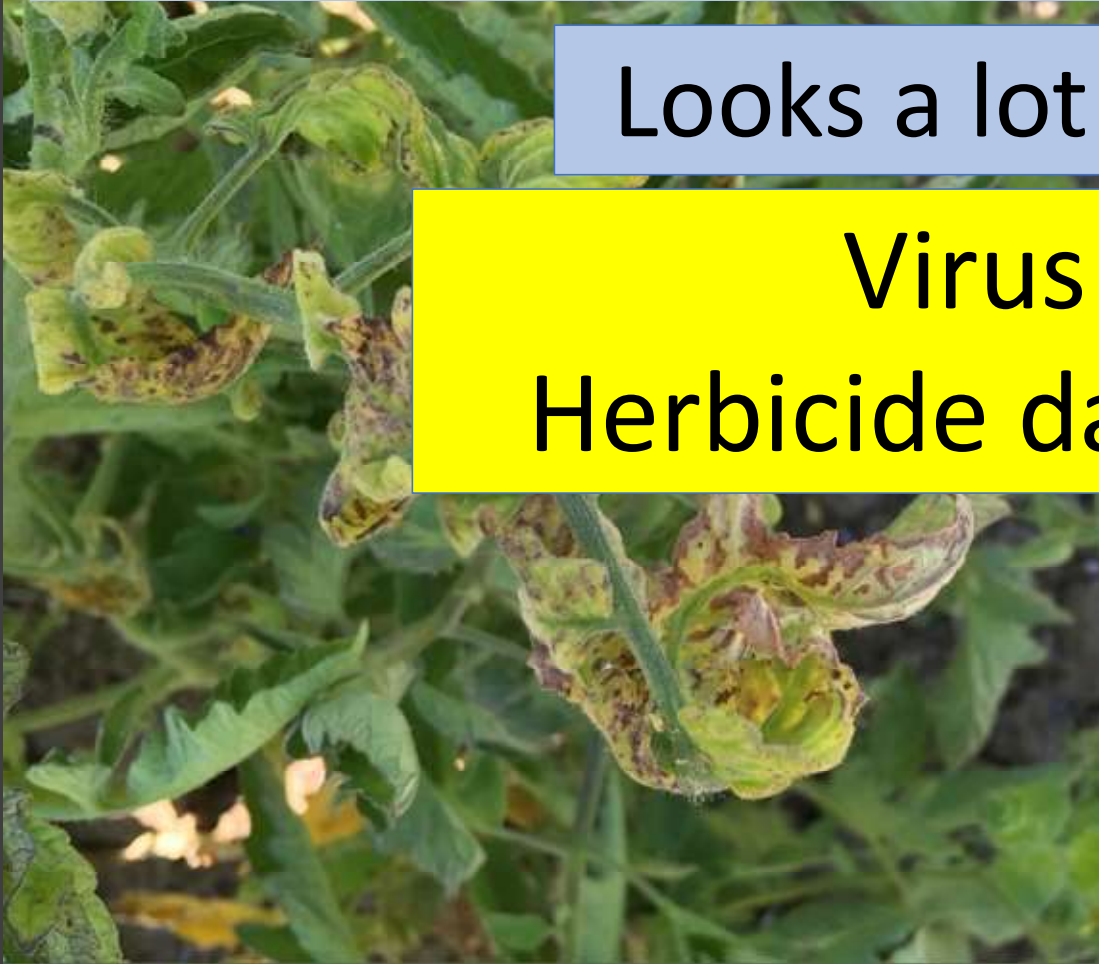


Look for foot/crown/stem rot to  
differentiate? EARLY

Deep leaf curling, deformity, little leaf

Looks a lot like?

Virus  
Herbicide damage

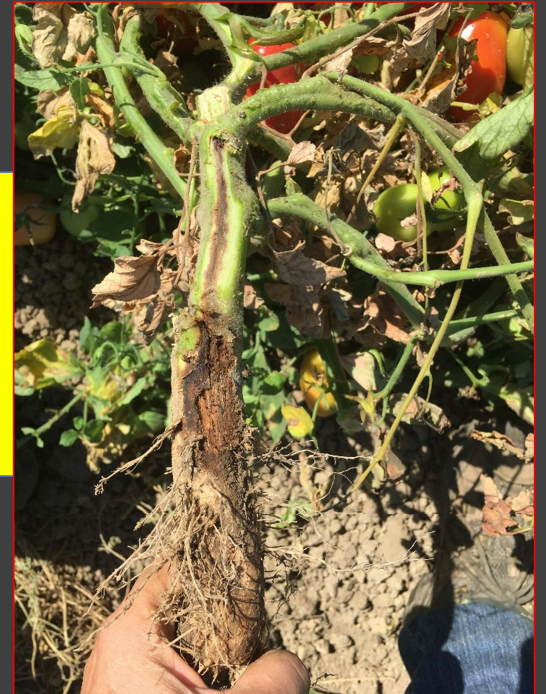


Deep leaf curling, deformity, little leaf

Looks a lot like?

Virus  
Herbicide damage

Look for foot/crown/stem  
rot to differentiate



Leaf speckles → leaflet blight → leaf death



Leaf death → whole plant death



Leaf speckles → leaflet blight → leaf death

Looks a lot like?

Boron toxicity  
Herbicide damage  
Salt damage



Leaf speckles → leaflet blight → leaf death

Looks a lot like?

Boron toxicity  
Herbicide damage  
Salt damage

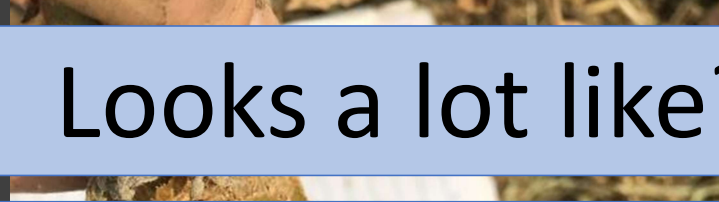
Look for foot/crown/stem  
rot to differentiate



# Foot and crown rot

Looks a lot like?

Fusarium foot rot  
Fusarium crown and root rot  
Southern blight



Foot and crown rot

Looks a lot like?

Fusarium foot rot

Fusarium crown and root rot

Southern blight



Look for severe  
stem rot? HARD



# Stem rot

Looks a lot like?

Fusarium wilt or  
Verticillium wilt...



Foliar  
speckles/necrosis



Stem rot

Looks a lot like?

Fusarium wilt or  
Verticillium wilt...



Discrete lesions



Not all foliar symptoms develop in all cultivars



Rare



Less rare

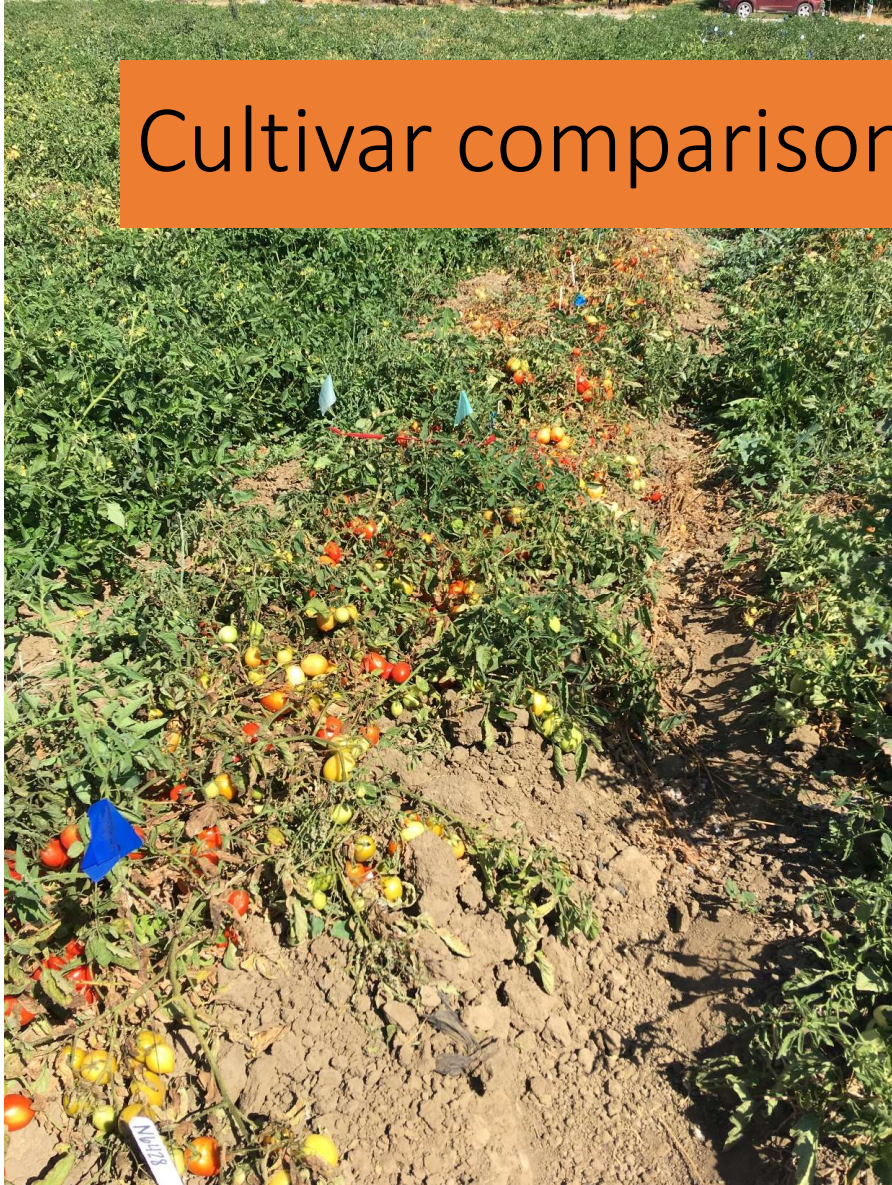
Most common



Foot/crown/stem rot are the ONLY consistent symptoms

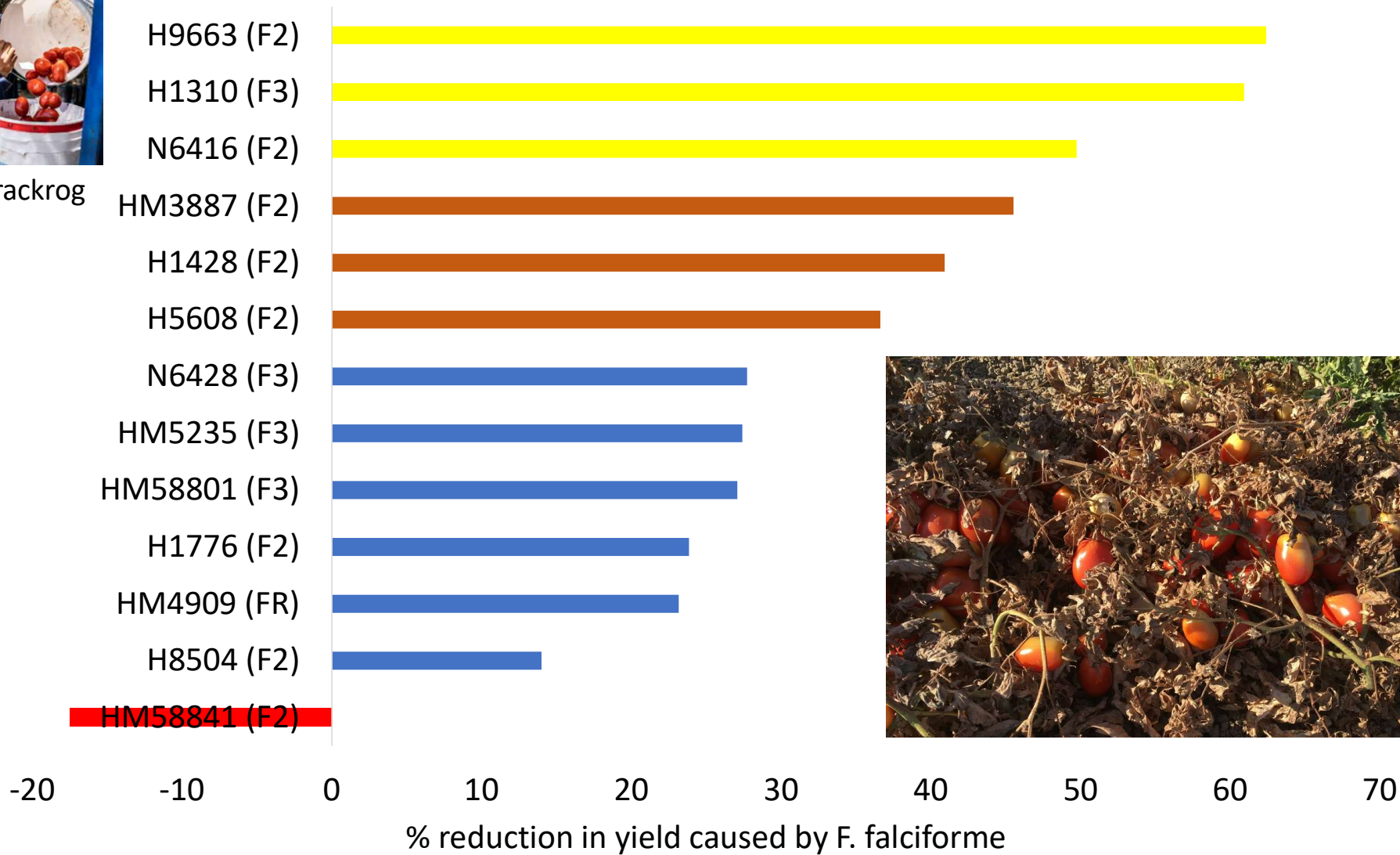


# Cultivar comparisons: 16 commercial varieties





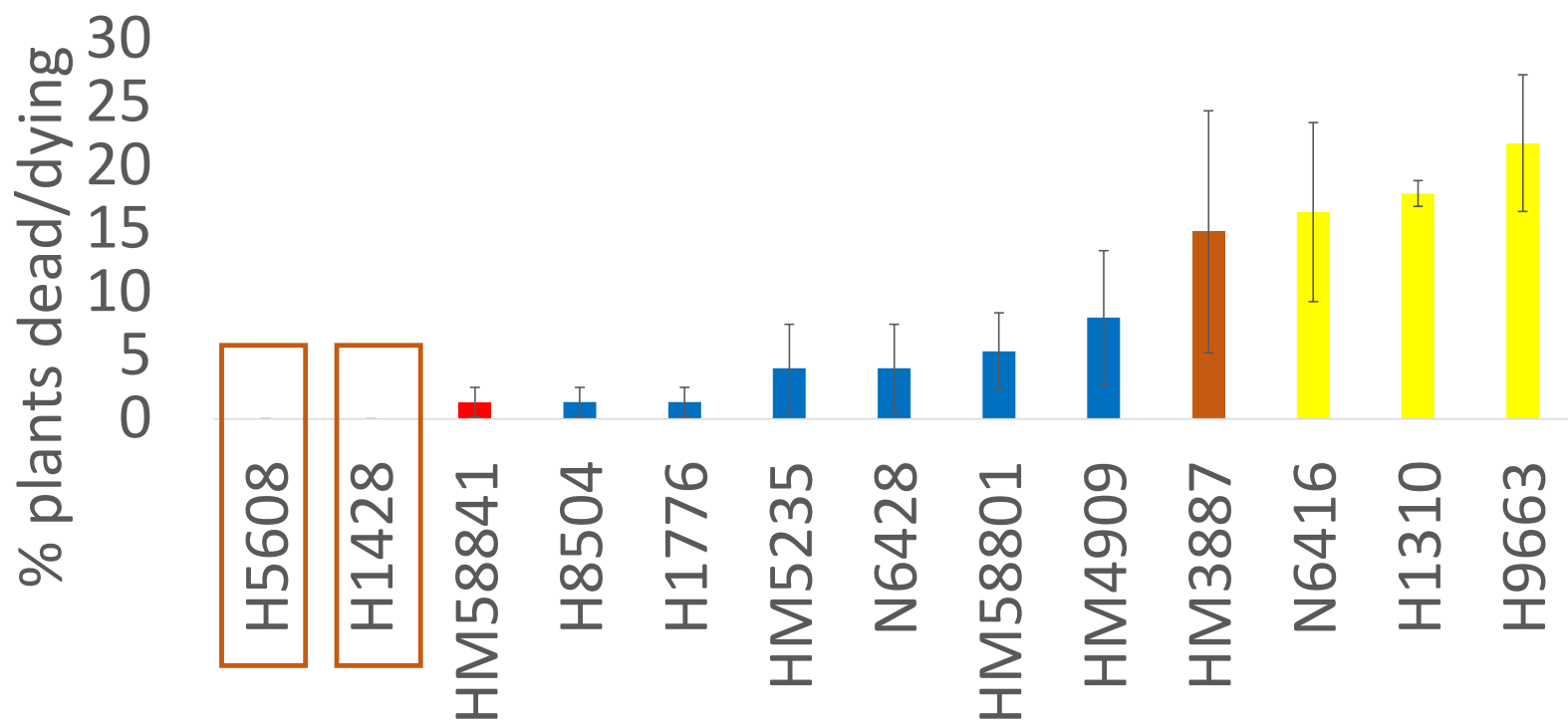
Alyssa Brackrog





Alyssa Brackrog

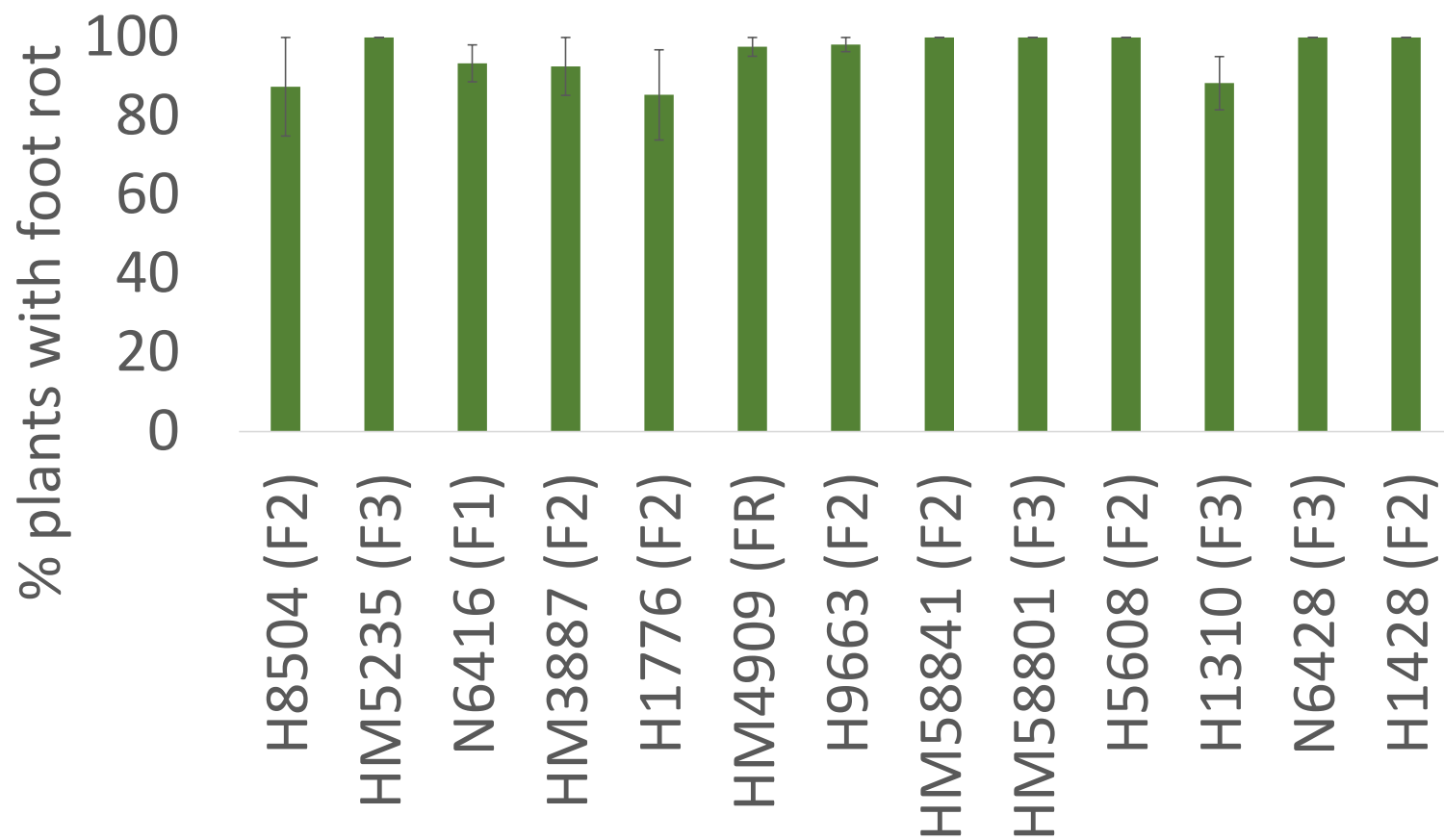
Better yield performance associated with lower premature vine decline incidence



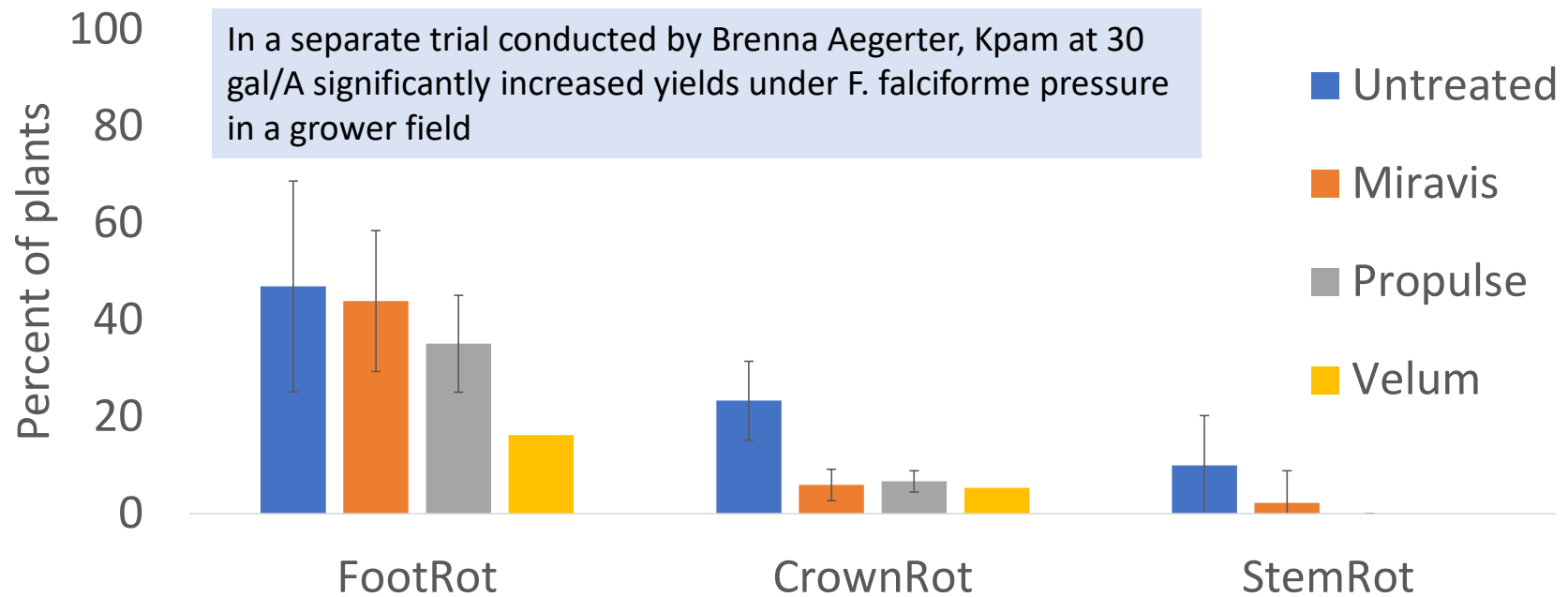
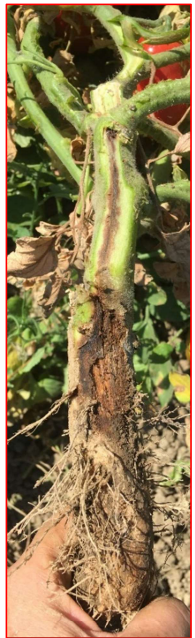


Alyssa Brackrog

All cultivars: 85-100% of all plants developed rot



# On-farm management options-Effect of drip applied fungicides on *F. falciforme*



# Progress on *F. falciforme* IPM

- **Commercial cultivars have field tolerance to *Fusarium falciforme***
  - HM58841
  - H1776, HM 4909, H8504? (poor in 2018), HM58801, HM5235, N6428 (strong in 2018)
- **Some cultivars are highly susceptible to *F. falciforme*--avoid if possible in heavily infested fields**
  - H9663, H1310, N6416 and HM3887
- **Fungicide and fumigants may fit into IPM programming for *F. falciforme***
  - Velum and Kpam show the most promise
- **Crop rotations / alternate hosts?**
  - TBD—funded project (CTRI)





To see this in action:  
Biennial Tomato Disease  
Field Day-UC Davis

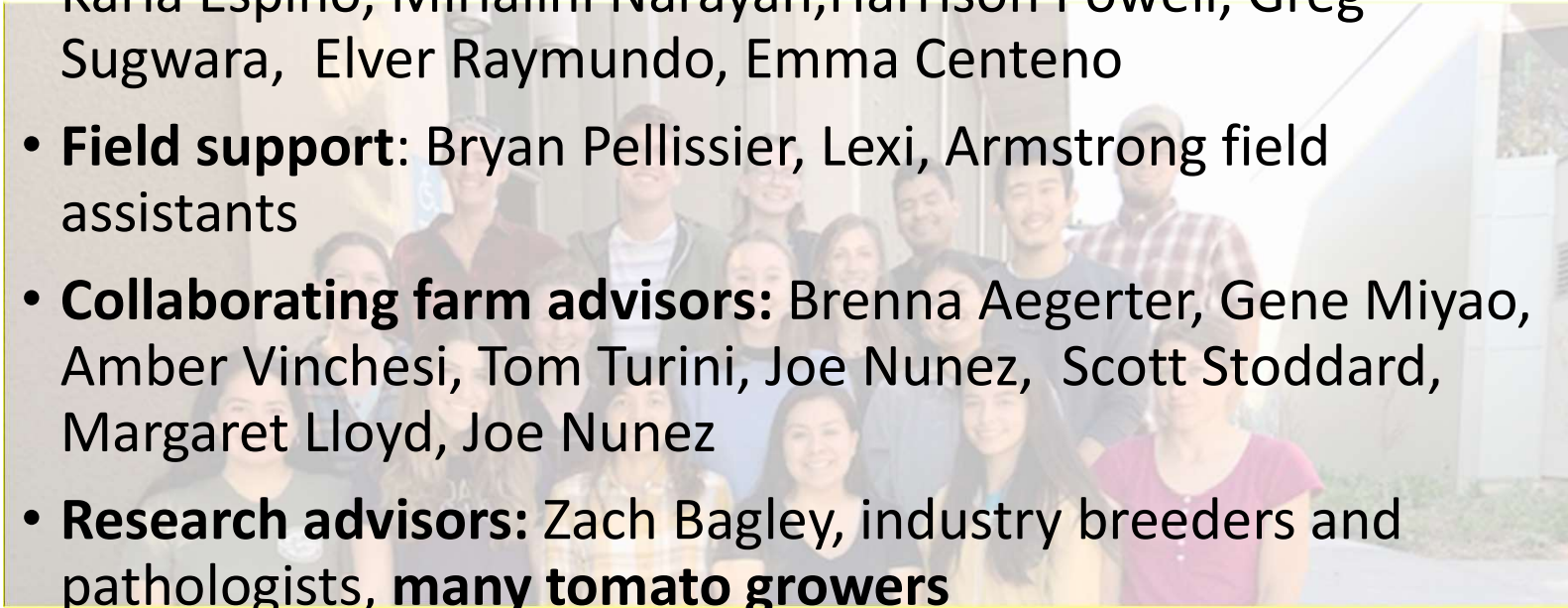
Next field day: 2021  
1:1 available by  
appointment



# The amazing Swettonians!



- **People who conducted/assisted with these projects:** Alyssa Brackrog, Kelley Paugh, Johanna Del Castillo, Erin Helpio, Beth Hellman, Justine Beaulieu, Megan Kozel, Andrea Paulk, Karla Espino, Mirialini Narayan, Harrison Powell, Greg Sugwara, Elver Raymundo, Emma Centeno
- **Field support:** Bryan Pellissier, Lexi, Armstrong field assistants
- **Collaborating farm advisors:** Brenna Aegerter, Gene Miyao, Amber Vinchesi, Tom Turini, Joe Nunez, Scott Stoddard, Margaret Lloyd, Joe Nunez
- **Research advisors:** Zach Bagley, industry breeders and pathologists, many tomato growers



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Questions?

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