

Phenology of the Fig Tree

Merced County 2005-2006

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Phenology is the study of the seasonal timing of life cycle events



Why do we do phenology studies?

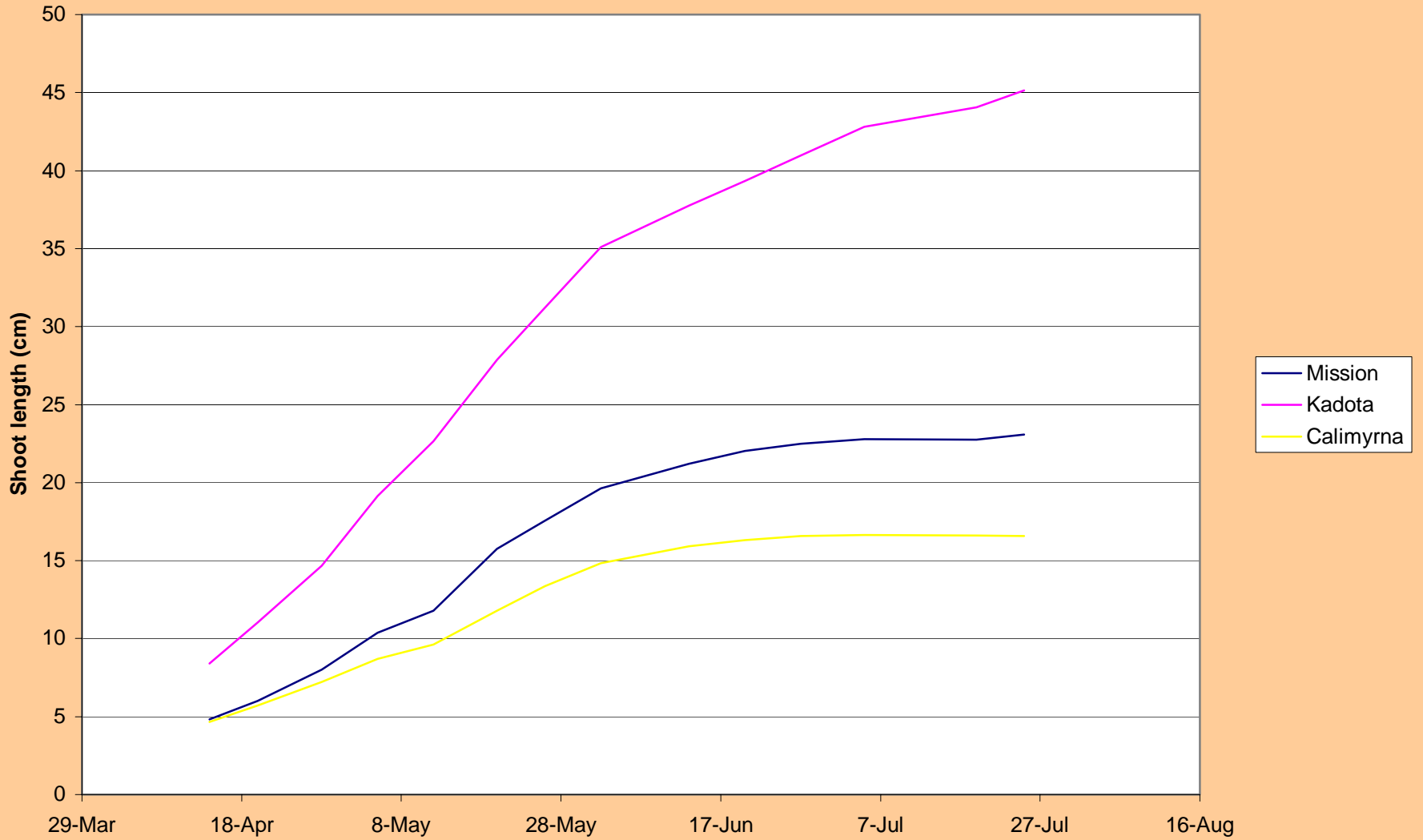
- Better understand the growth of the tree for pruning
- Better understand the growth of the fruit for quality and harvest management
- Better direct pest management (IPM)
- Be able to predict events like harvest.



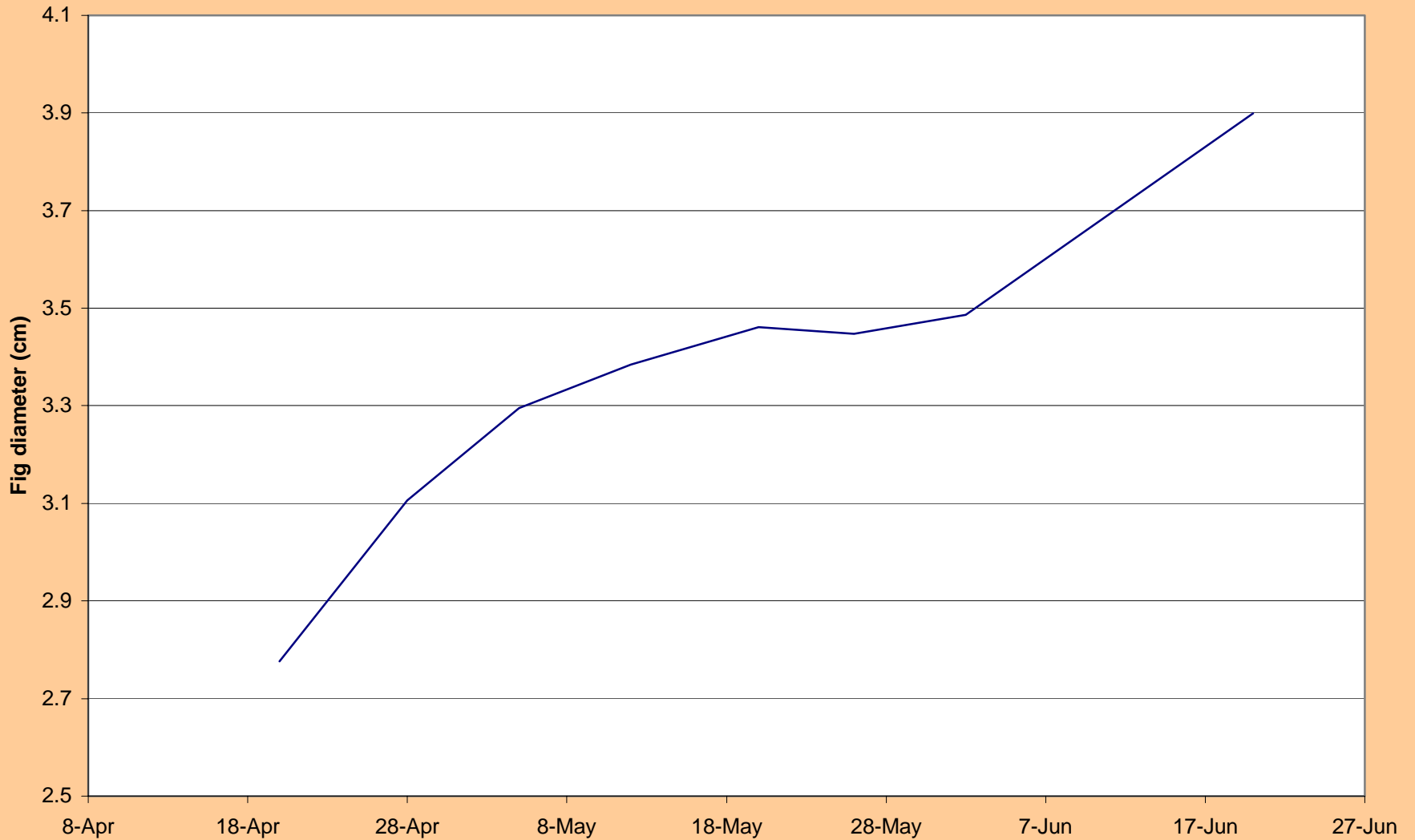
2005 Activities

- Three cultivars: Mission, Kadota and Calimyrna
- Tagged shoots and figs and measured shoot length and fig diameter on a weekly basis throughout the growing season
- Sampled shoots weekly throughout the growing season and recorded bud development, fresh weights, oven-dry weights and fruit ripeness
- Took lots of pictures

2005 Fig Shoot Growth



2005 Mission Breba Fruit Growth



2006 Activities

- Continue measurements and observations
(Need at least 3 year's data)
- Try to identify factors that affect quality