

***Responses of Primocane Blackberries to
Different Mow-down and Tipping Regimes***

Blackberry Irrigation Management

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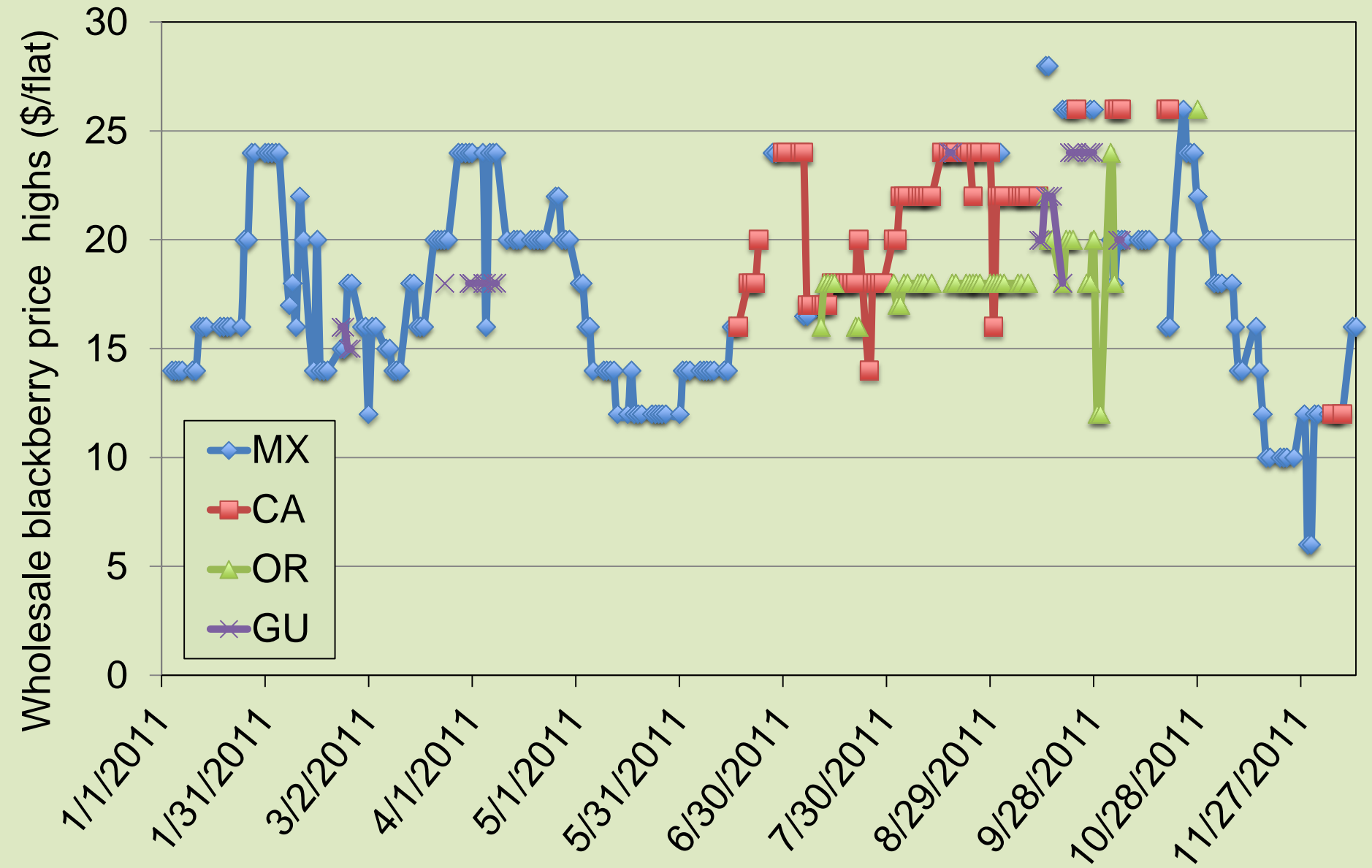
- *Traditional floricanne blackberries bear on one-year old wood*
 - *have a limited production season*



- *Primocane fruiting varieties fruit on current seasons growth*
 - *more flexibility to manage harvest season*



*Weekly Fresh Blackberry Wholesale Prices (highs)
Los Angeles Terminal Market - 2011*



Primocane fruiting offers new management options



Field trials to evaluate timing of mow-down and tip pruning of Primeark-45 blackberry

- *Mow-down January 15, February 15, March 15
- may also treat has floriculture*
- *Previous research showed advantages to tip pruning*
- *Important market window remains*

June > December?



Tip pruning > force branching to increase fruiting branches and yield.

- *Timing is important*
- *When? Repeat later?*



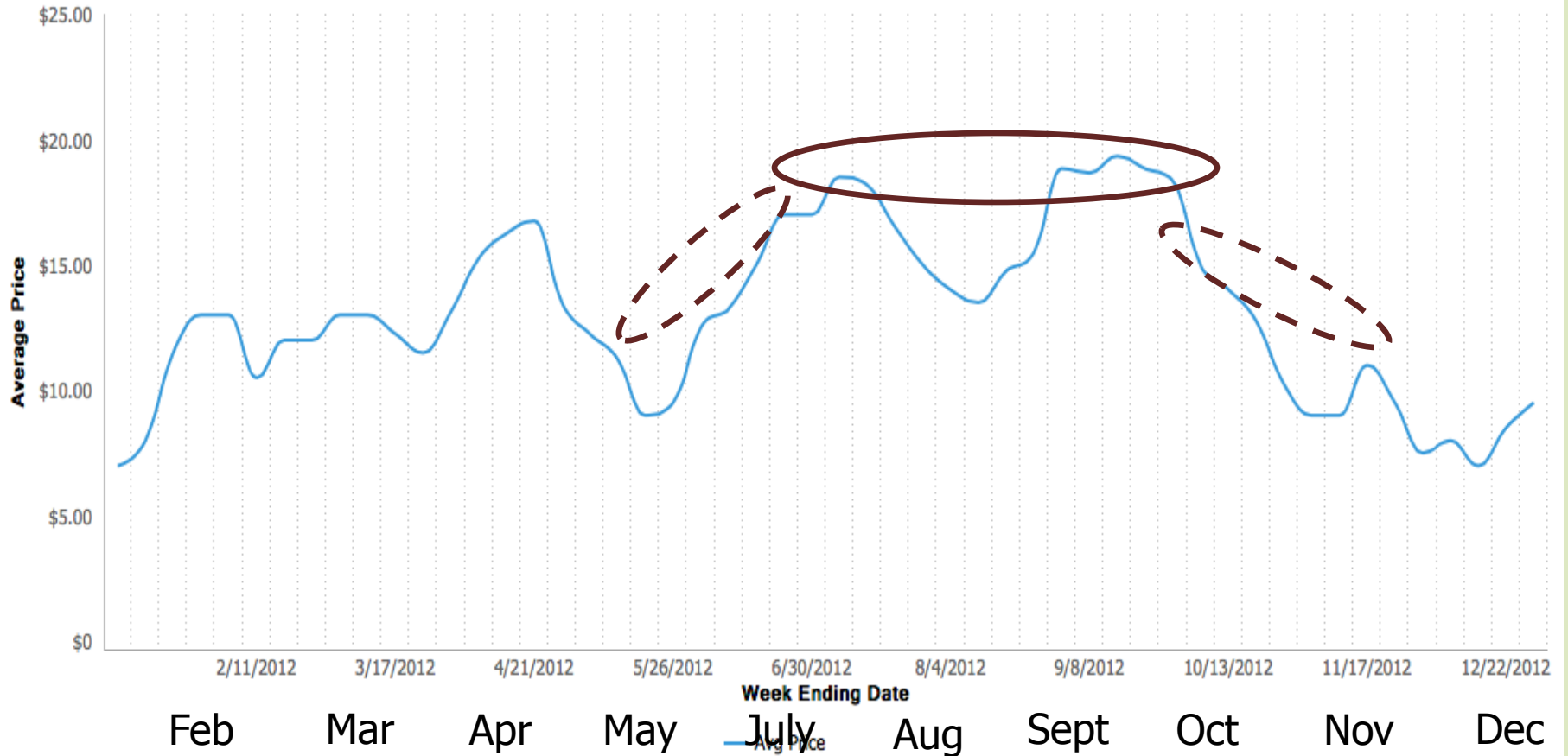
2013 Primeark 45 pruning / tipping trials

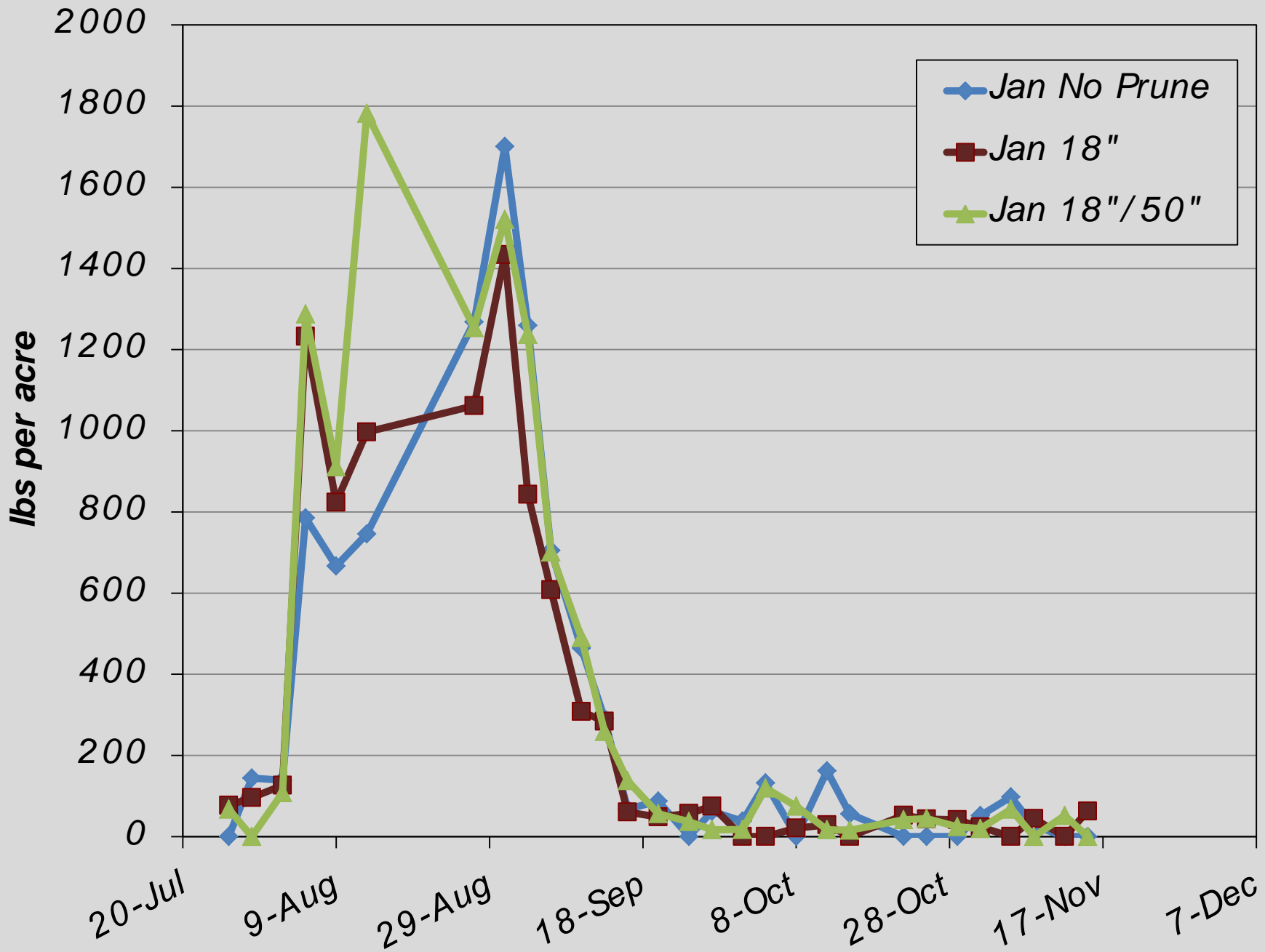
- *Two sites*
 - > *Nipomo – open field until June*
 - > *Los Alamos – tunnel from beginning*
- *Mow-down at varying times – January > April*
 - + *floricane – Los Alamos*
- *Tipping height (Nipomo)*
 - *18"*
 - *50"*
 - *18' 50"*
 - *none*

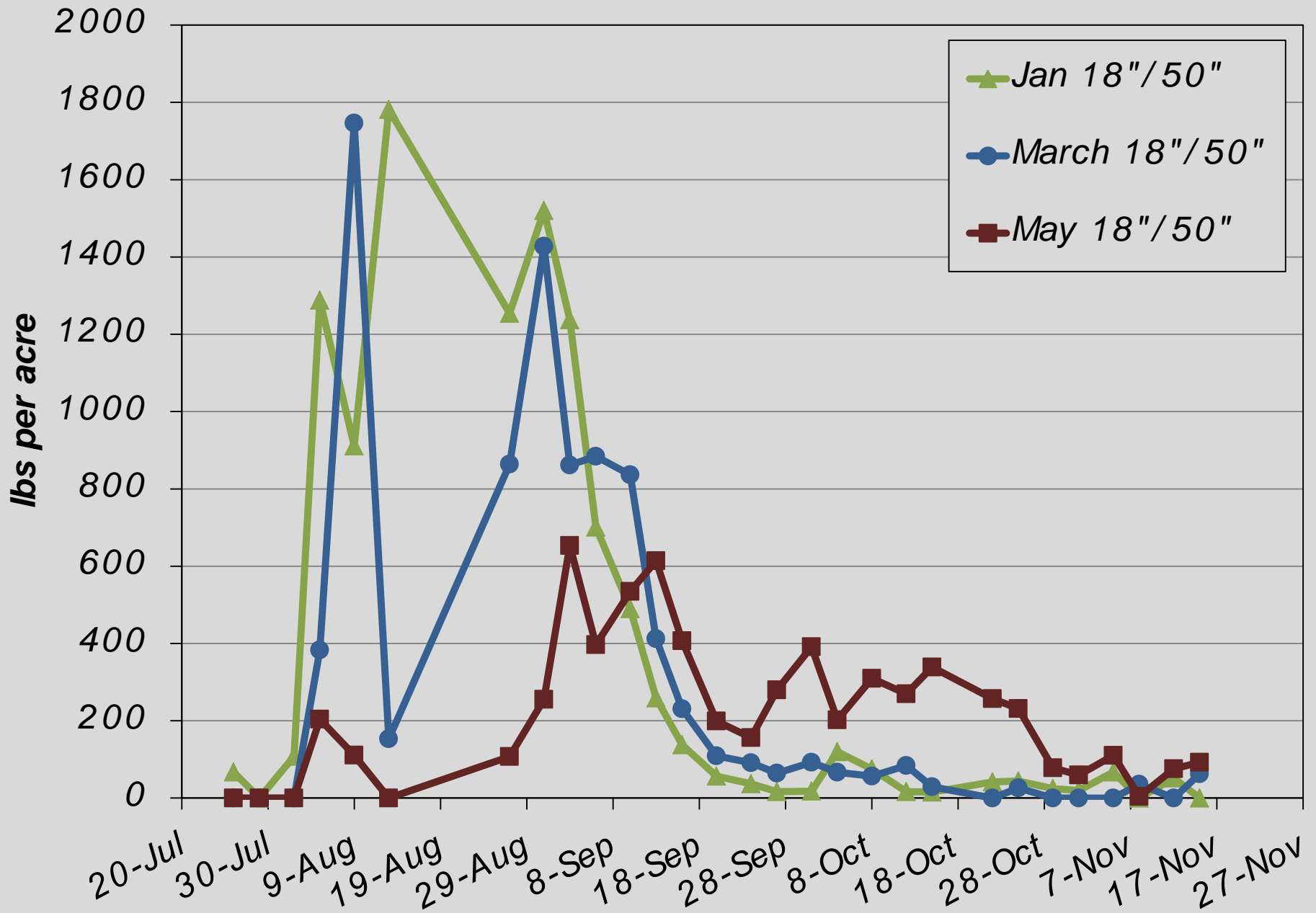
All Shipping Points

\$14.05

Average Price Trend



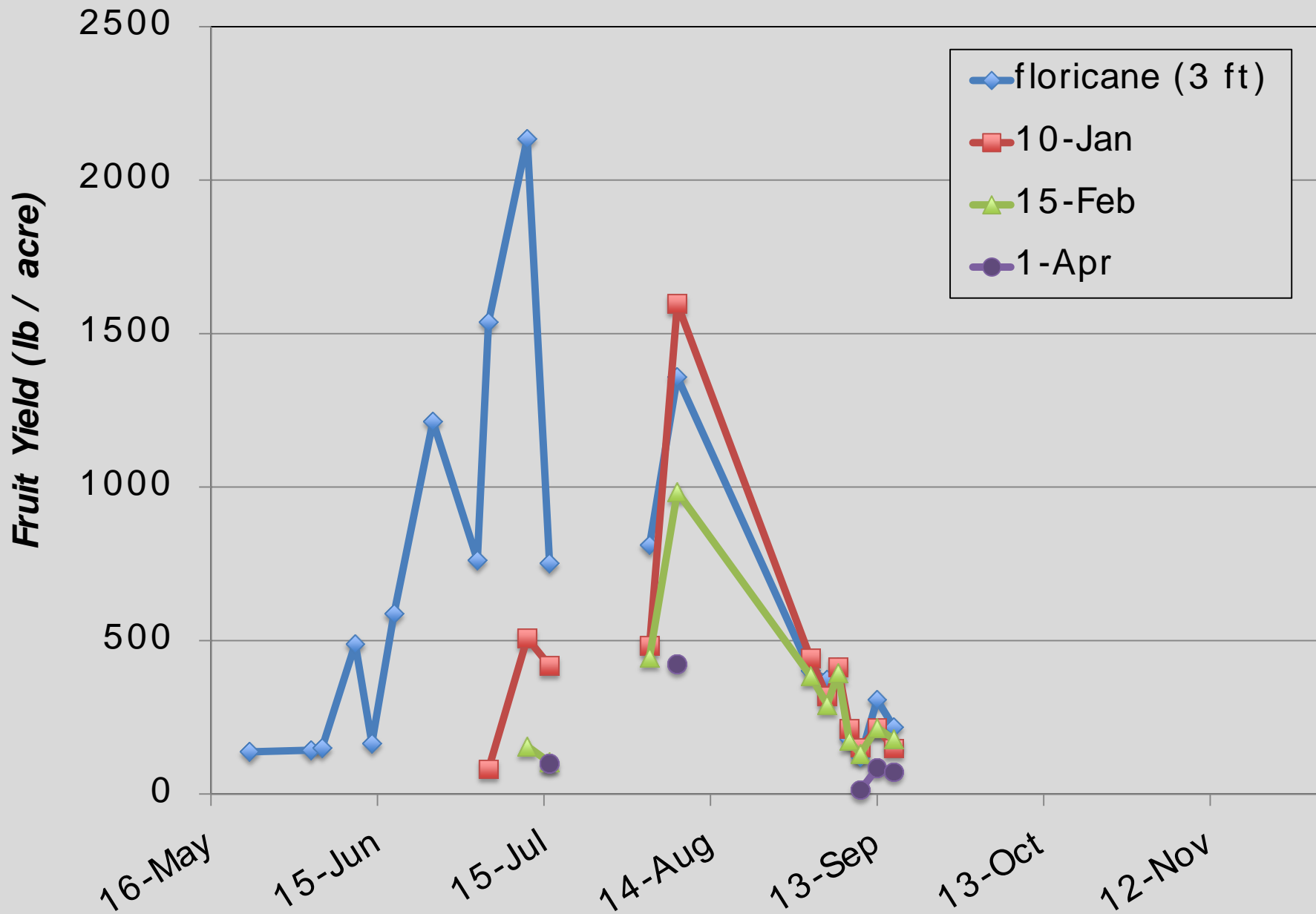




Total Seasonal Berry Yield (marketable)

Pruning Treatment	Yield (lb / acre)
January mow / no tip	8,960
January mow 18" tip	8,481
January mow 18" tip + 50" tip	10,469
March mow / no tip	7,697
March mow / 18" tip	9,530
March mow / 18" tip + 50" tip	8,518
May mow / no tip	5,762
May mow / 18" tip	6,392
May mow / 18" + 50" tip	6,358

Weekly marketable blackberry production from tunneled Primeark 45 blackberry with varying mow-down periods – 2013 season, Los Alamos, CA



Primocane vegetative growth may be excessive in warm tunnels



Questions for future trials

Floriculture pruning of Primemark?

- *Does elimination of foliage with mow-down affect redberry mite?*
- *Is traditional redberry control with oils adequate enough to take advantage of earlier harvest resulting from floriculture pruning?*

In-season pruning?

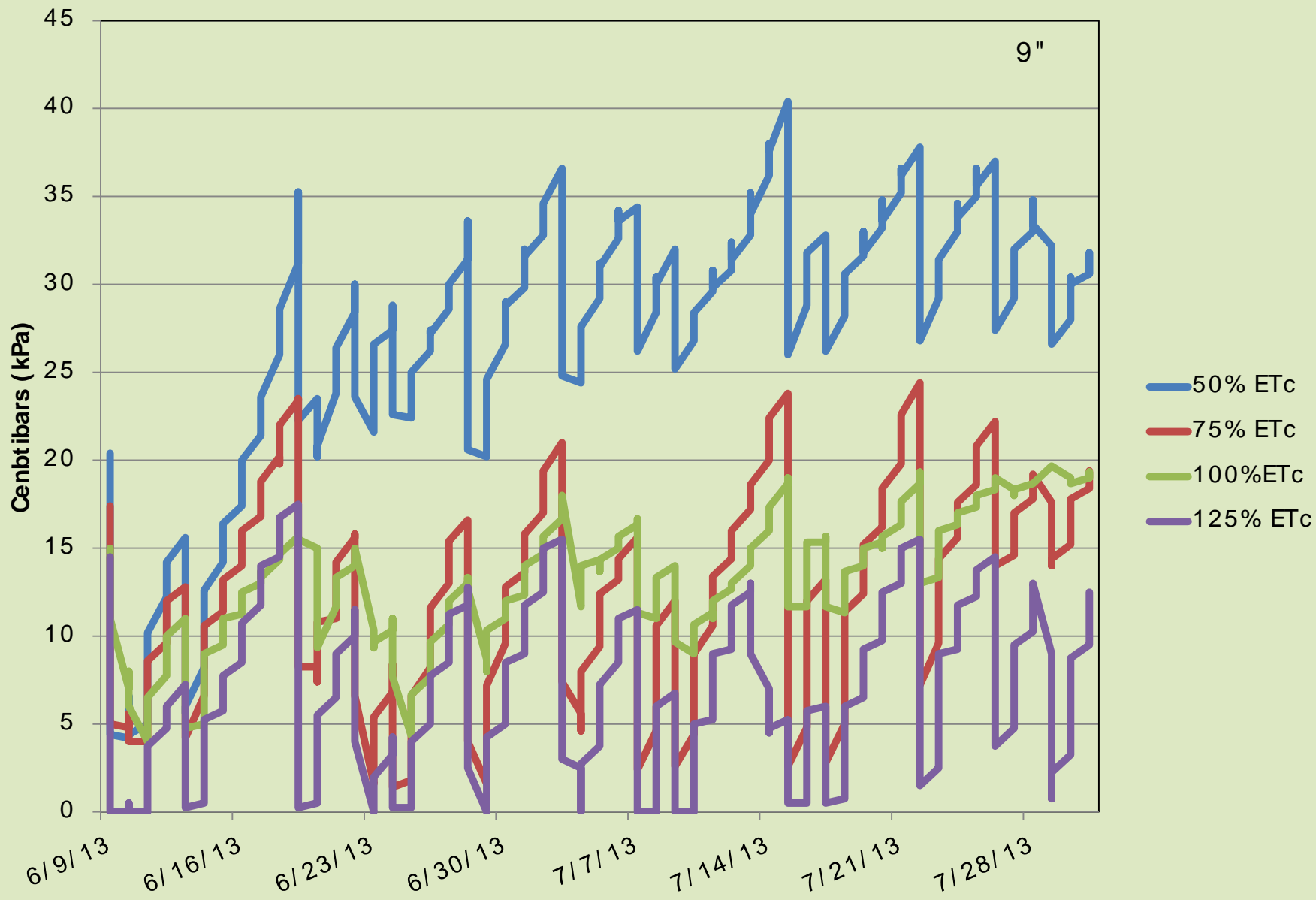
- *What about late season pruning?*
 - *will August cut back to 3 ft increase October production?*

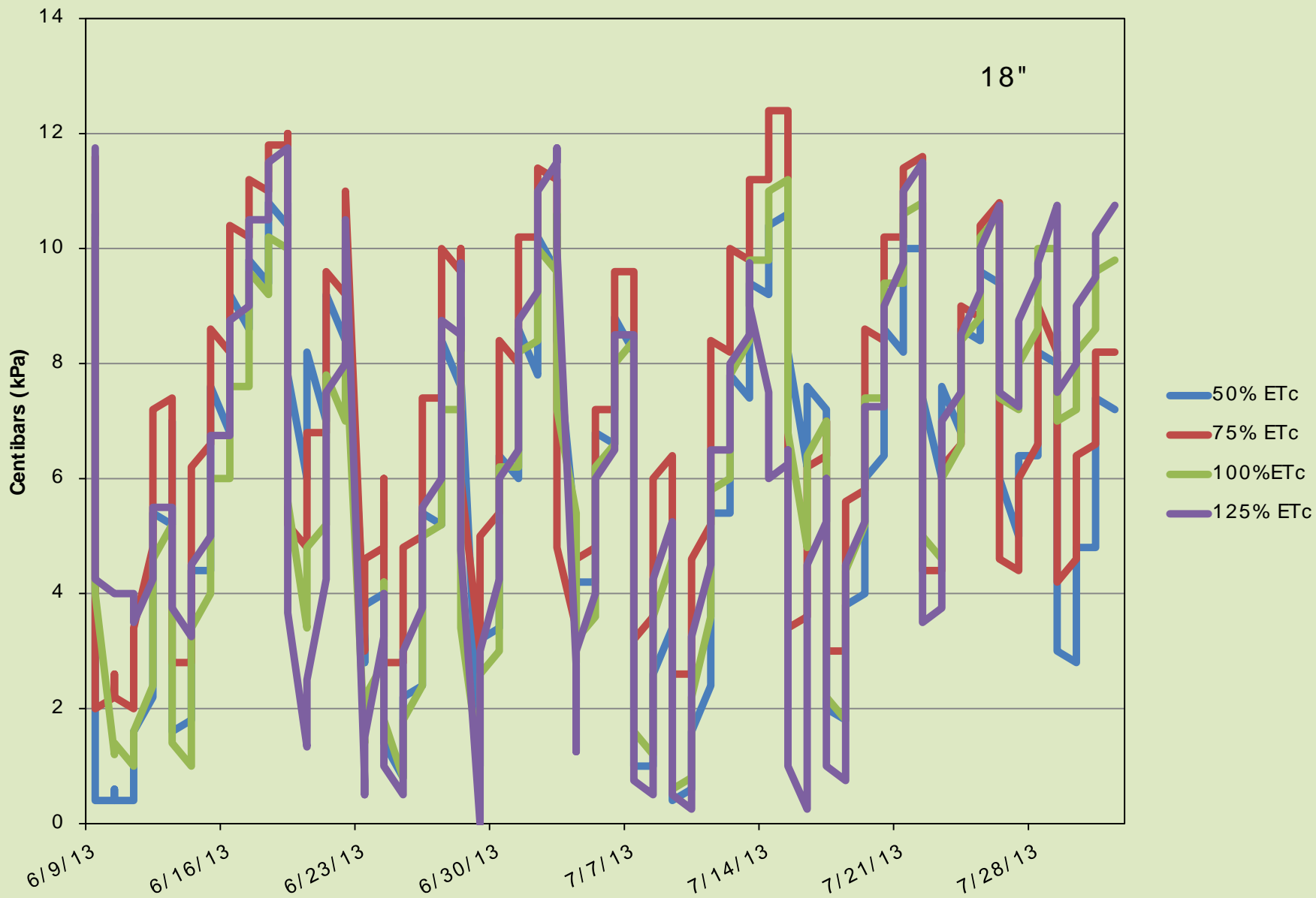
Effects of tunnels, heating?

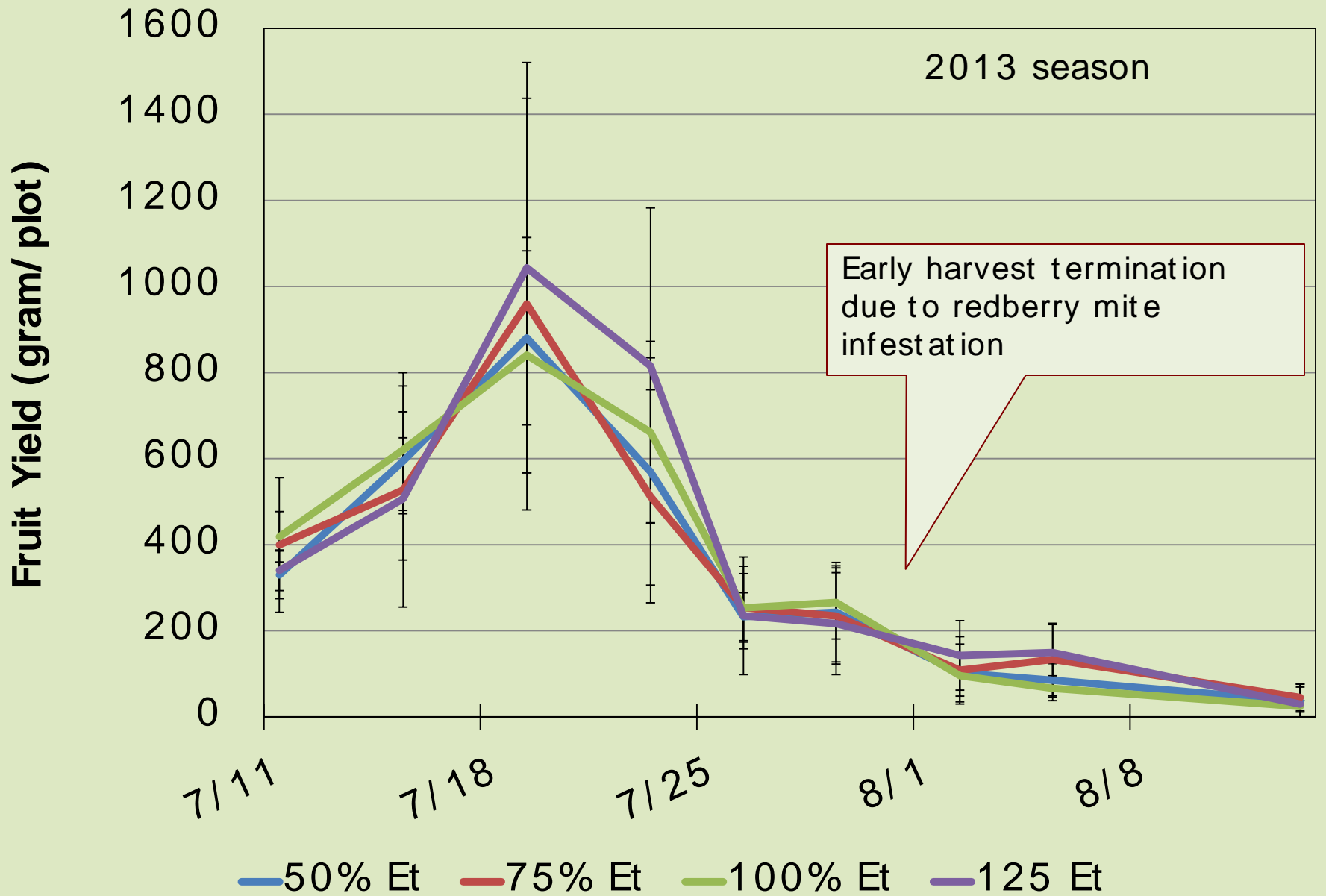
- *Put up plastic as late as possible to minimize vegetative growth, reduce fruiting height?*


2013 Ouachita Irrigation Management

- *Effects of irrigation regime on blackberry yield and quality*
- *Compared weekly harvests at 4 irrigation regimes*
 - > 50 % Et*
 - > 75% Et*
 - > 100% Et*
 - > 125% Et*









Acknowledgements

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