Twenty-five years with CTRI

summarizing the past

anticipating the future

Chuck Rivara
Director
California Tomato Research Institute, Inc.
1991 Snapshot

Processing Tomato crop:
  98% direct-seeded
  80% furrow / 20% sprinkler irrigated
Record yield & production 31.7/a & 9.89m

Exports <250,000 field ton equivalent
PTAB celebrates its fifth year of operation
CTRI produces its first “Top 50” list and Annual Report

2G mobile technology with 3 users/100 people
Internet use at 1.2 users/100 people
1991 Issues

“Big Green” fails but pesticides a major public concern
Telone® banned - industry scrambling (peelers)
Bravo®, mancozeb under widespread scrutiny
Weed control in direct seeded a major problem

Next 10 years would bring FQPA and a major overhaul of pesticide regulations, the return of Telone®, and the loss of many older pesticides.
2015 Snapshot

Processing Tomato crop:
- 95%+ transplanted
- 85% drip / 15% furrow irrigated
- yield & record production 48.5/a & 14.36m

Exports >3 million field tons
PTAB now produces “Top 50” variety list, CTRI reports all web & mobile compatible

4G mobile technology with 98 users/100 people
Internet use at 87.4 users/100 people
2015 Issues

Water
  Availability, cost
  Rules on runoff, groundwater contamination

Catastrophic disease loss
  fusarium spp., curly top, spotted wilt

Competing Crops
2040 Snapshot

Not practical to present in this context

Major Issues

Competition for resources: water, labor, capital
Combined risk
Invasive species
Emerging Technologies
Competition for resources

Urban growth
Competitive crops
Regulatory taking
Lack of infrastructure investment
Risk

Competitive crops
Increased input costs relative to return
Erratic weather
Shifting pathology epidemics
  genetic resistance
  practical alternatives
  monitoring, evaluation, prediction
Invasive species

Movement is increasing
Monitoring, response and follow-up

Preparation is now
Seed monitoring
Fusarium, Bacterial Canker, emerging path.

Financial tools – insurance

Government agencies  APHIS, CDFA, CDPR
Emerging Technologies

Intensive Fertigation
Grafting
Greenhouses
Biotech
Thank you