



# 2016

## INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PULSES



## Moving pulse crop breeding into the 21st century

Kirstin Bett

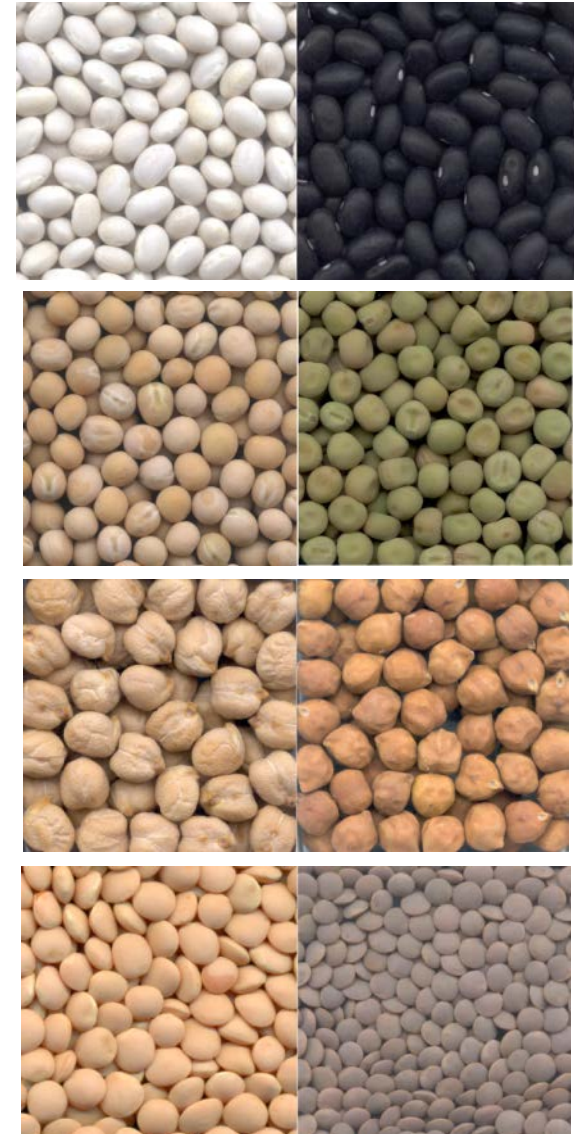
Tom Warkentin, Bunyamin Tar'an, Bert Vandenberg,  
Sabine Banniza & the Pulse Crew

# Global population vs productive land

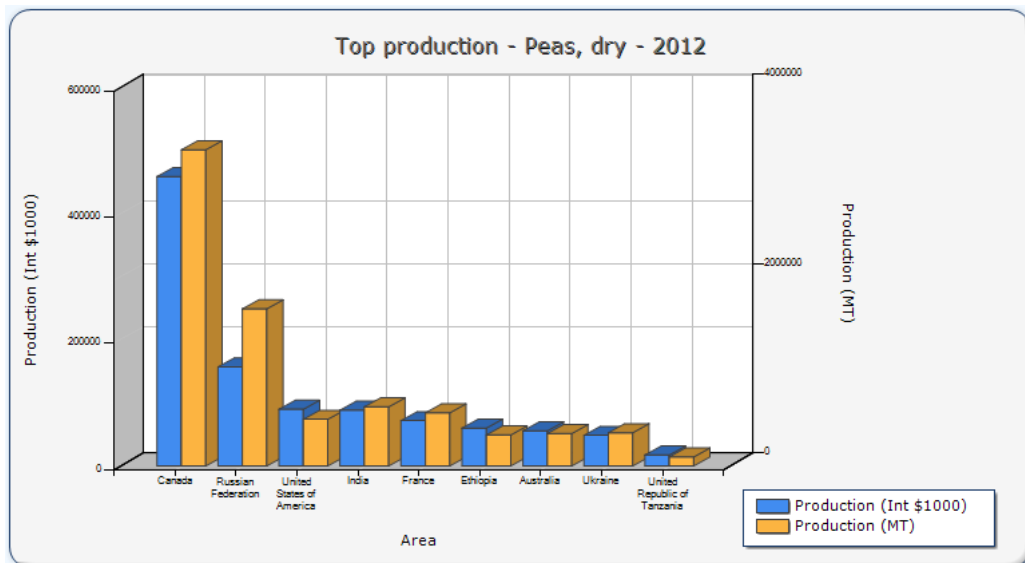
- Population increasing about 3 people per second
- Productive land decreasing about 1 ha every 7.7 seconds
- In the next 20 minutes we will gain 3,600 people and lose 156 ha

# Feeding the world - pulses

- Vegetable protein
- Complements cereals
  - complete protein
- Important micronutrients
- Inexpensive
- Quick cooking (some)
- Already part of the diet of billions

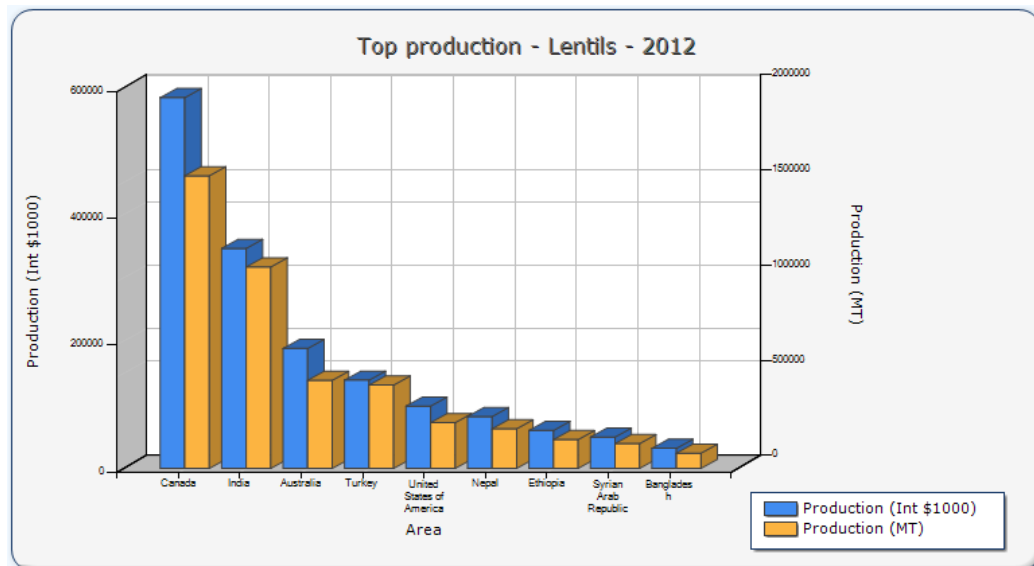


# Feeding the world – from W. Canada



## Peas

- 2015 – 3.2M t from 1.5M ha
- 2016 (est) - 4.1M t from 1.7M ha



## Lentils

- 2015 – 2.37M t from 1.6M ha
- 2016 (est) - 2.85M t from 1.8M ha

# Consequences?

**PULSE**  
January 2016



## REACHING



**Brian Clancey**  
Stat Publishing

through the area target will take their best shot.

Based on current market conditions, growers are expected to seed peas, and faba beans edible beans, but see a decline in lentils and field peas. This is mimicked in the United States.

As it stands today, growers should seed at least 4.46 million (M) acres of lentils. Many market participants believe if grower bids remain at current levels, plantings will push past 5 M acres.

This has changed the topic of the new crop lentil debate from area to yields. Many market participants argue that this year's expansion cannot happen unless there is an influx of new growers, seeding lentils on lentils, and using marginal land. This has convinced markets yields will not reach their full potential. The recent five-year average yield for lentils is 1,464 pounds per acre (lbs/ac), which is 140 lbs higher last year's crop average.

'16

All Red	Other	All
2,890,000	12,000	3,950,000
1,342	735	1,324
1,758,900	4,000	2,372,900
181,000	2,000	365,000
1,939,900	6,000	2,737,900
1,491,600	4,100	144,500
99,700	400	144,500
116,600	500	164,400
1,707,900	5,000	2,412,900
232,000	1,000	325,000

# Need for more productive varieties

# Steps in Plant Breeding

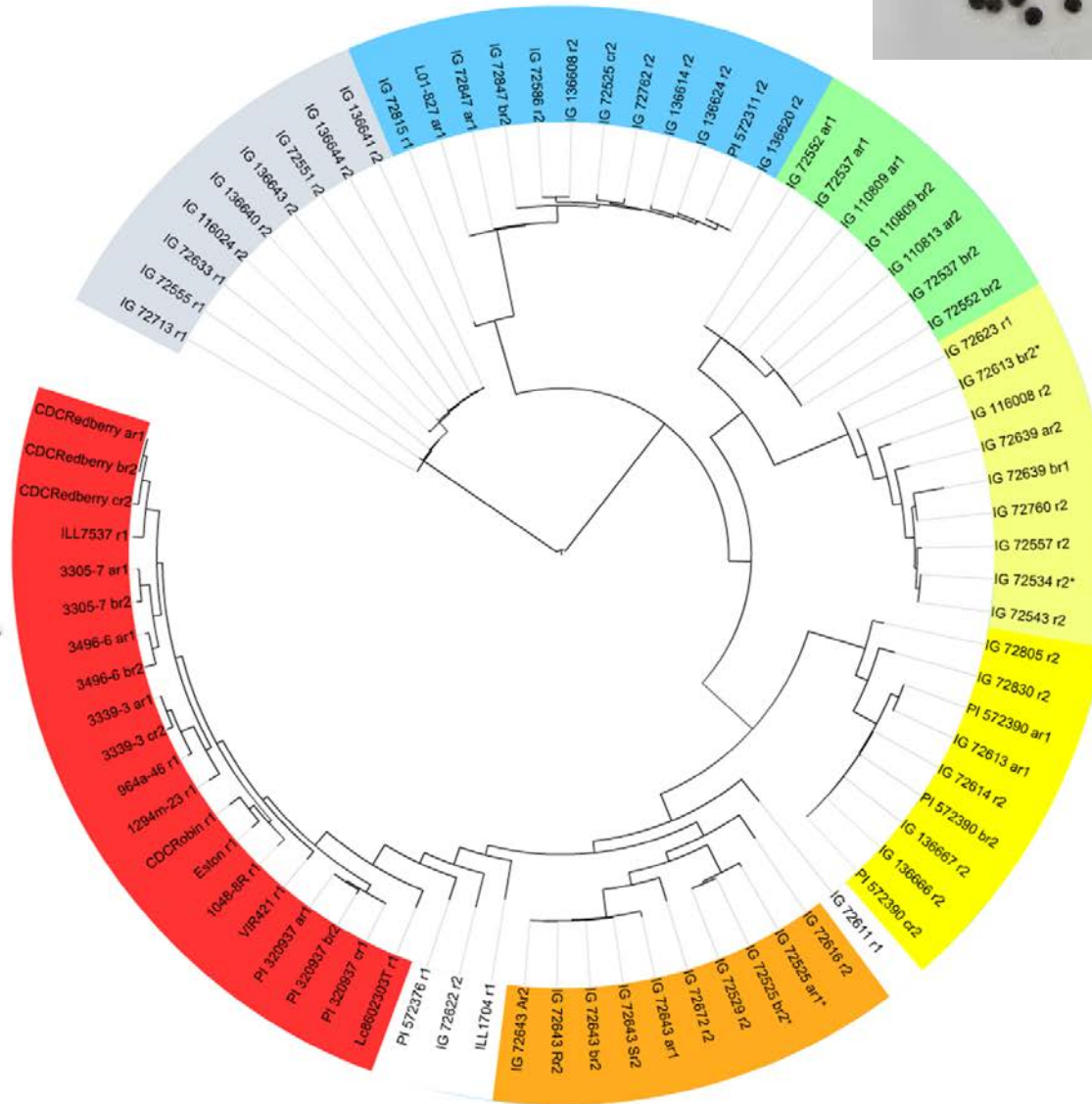
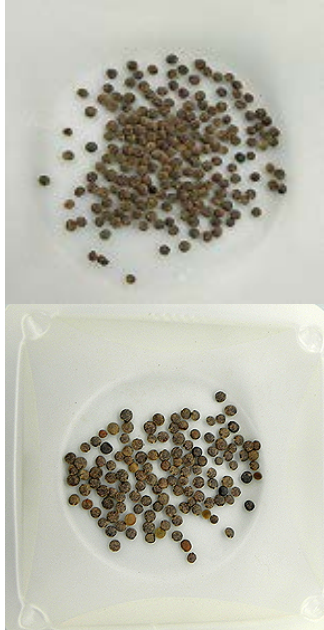


## Collect variability



- Sources of resistance
- Sources of stress tolerance
- Yield genes
- Increased micronutrients
- Better quality

# Crop Wild Relatives



- L. lamottei
- L. ervoides
- L. tomentosus
- unknown
- L. odemensis
- L. odomensis
- L. nigricans
- L. orientalis



# Looking for useful genetic variability in wild species



Outdoor- Anthracnose Race Ct1/Ct0



Indoor- Anthracnose Race Ct0

## Ascochyta blight

## Anthracnose

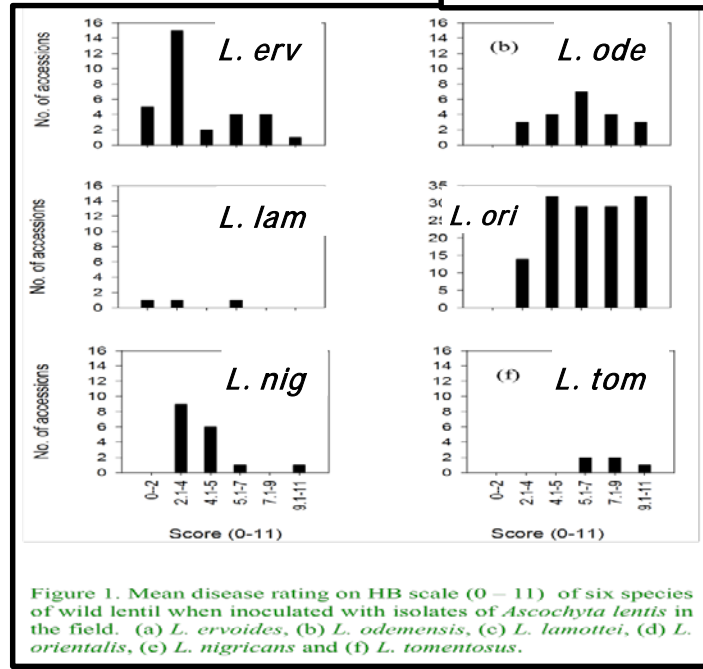
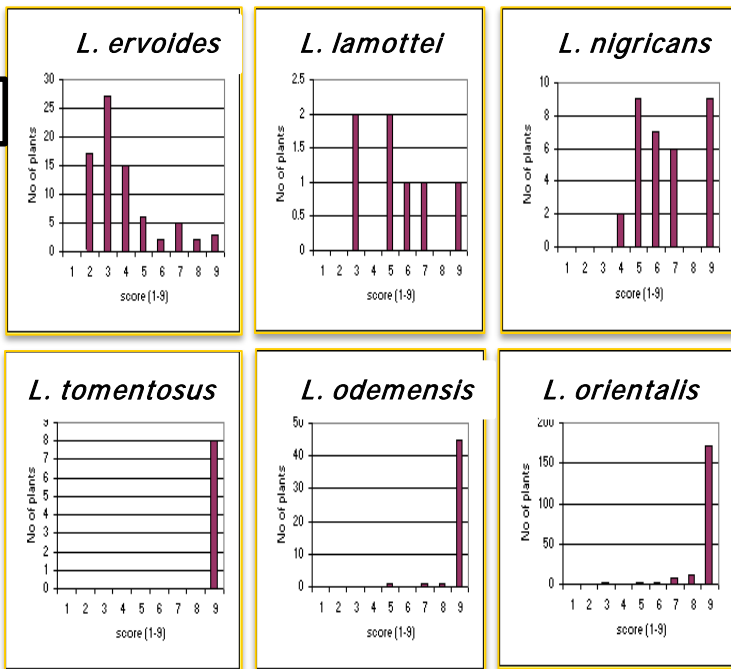


Figure 1. Mean disease rating on HB scale (0 – 11) of six species of wild lentil when inoculated with isolates of *Ascochyta lentis* in the field. (a) *L. ervoides*, (b) *L. odemensis*, (c) *L. lamottei*, (d) *L. orientalis*, (e) *L. nigricans* and (f) *L. tomentosus*.



# Deploying useful genetic variability from wild species



# Steps in Plant Breeding

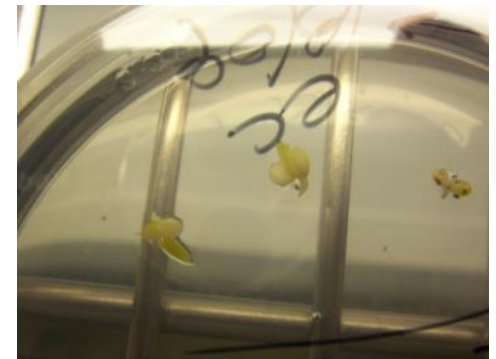


**Collect variability**



**Cross**

- Embryo rescue if interspecifics



# Steps in Plant Breeding



**Collect variability**



**Cross**



**7+ years  
field  
testing**

**Select the 'best' plants in  
segregating generations**

# A numbers game

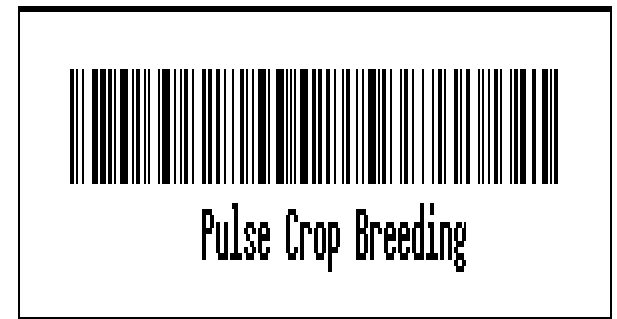
- F2 population:

# genes	# genotypes	# phenotypes	Perfect population size
1	3	2	4
2	9	4	16
3	27	8	64
n	$3^n$	$2^n$	$4^n$

- And this assumes no environmental effect on the phenotype

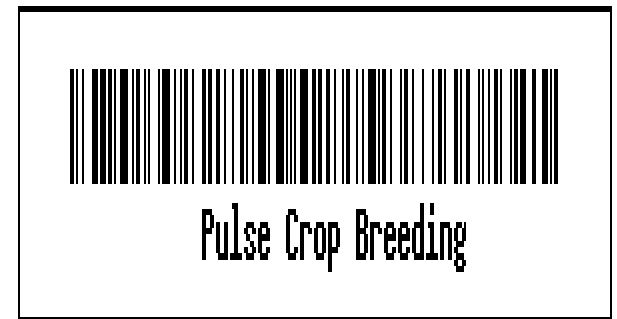
# Using Technology to Breed Smarter

- For accessing greater variability
- For selecting genotypes not phenotypes
- For more robust phenotyping
- For increased efficiency in the field



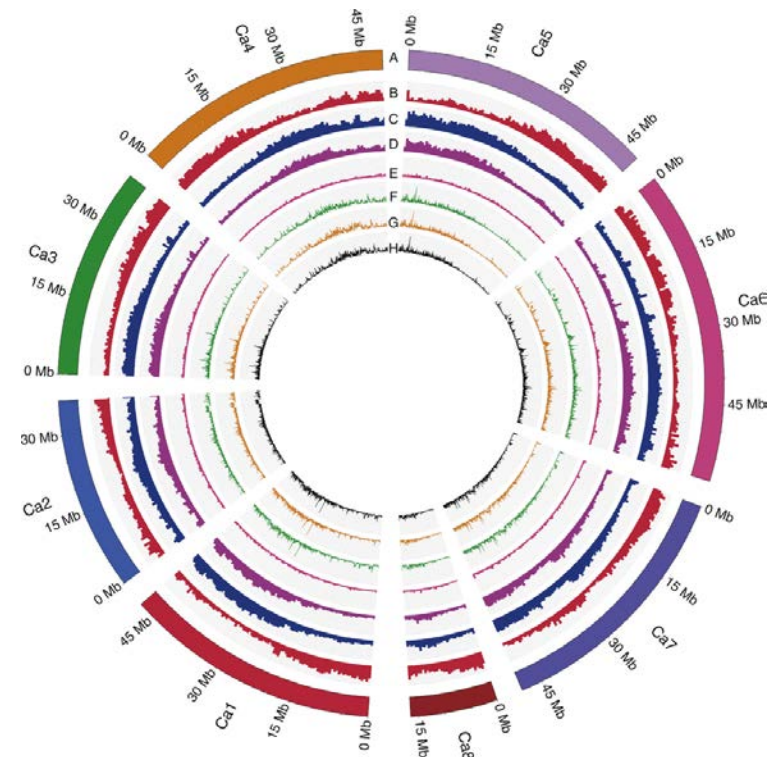
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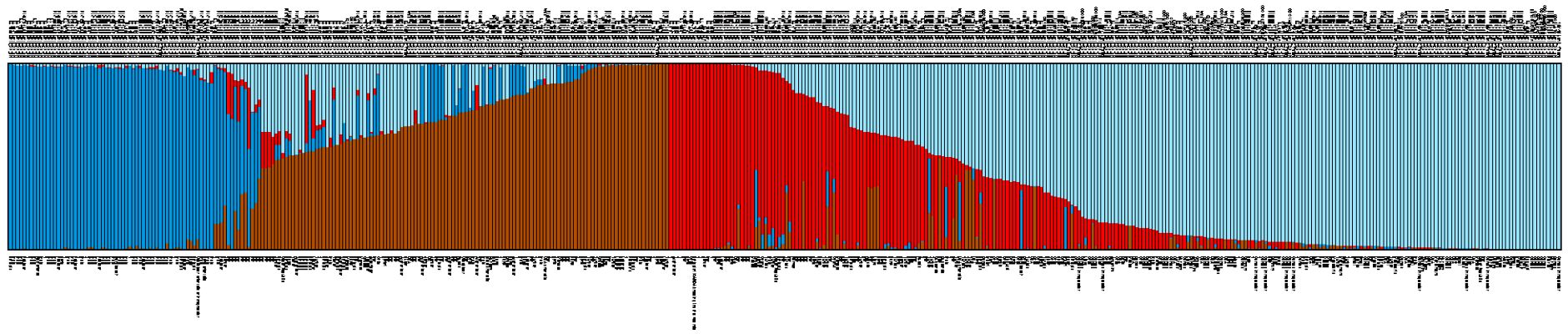
# Sequencing genomes

- Chickpea (CDC Frontier) – 2013
- Common Bean – 2014
- Lentil (CDC Redberry) – 2016
- Pea – 2016?
- *Colletotrichum lentis*  
- 2016
- But so what?



# Variability: Know your germplasm

- Diversity data for ~450 lentil lines



S. Asia

Mediterranean/Middle East

Canada

< 30

45

Average days to flower  
under long days



APPLICATION OF GENOMICS  
TO INNOVATION IN THE LENTIL ECONOMY



# Tolerance to IMI herbicides in chickpea

## Nucleotide Alignment

653

*Medicago truncatula*

AHAS1 ...TTCCCCGG...GATG**C**TT...

*C. arietinum* CDC Frontier

AHAS1 ...TTCCCCGG...GATG**C**TT...

*C. arietinum* IMI sensitive

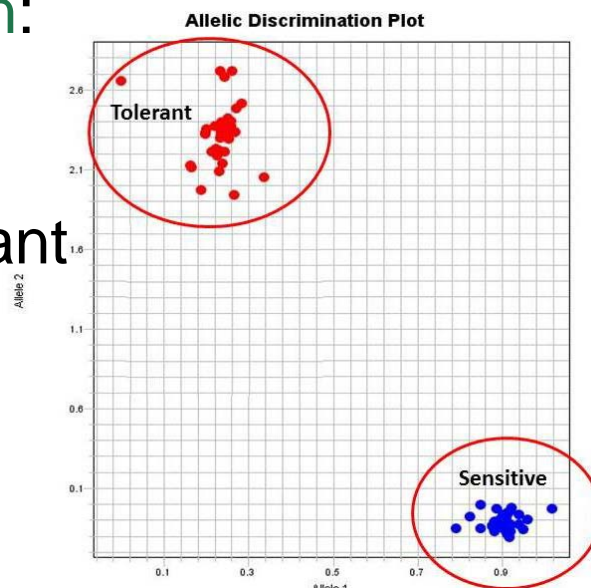
AHAS1 ...TTCCCCGG...GATG**C**TT...

*C. arietinum* IMI tolerant

AHAS1 ...TTCCCCGG...GATG**T**TT...

## Conventional selection:

- laborious
- heterozygous = homozygous resistant phenotype,
- potential escapes!



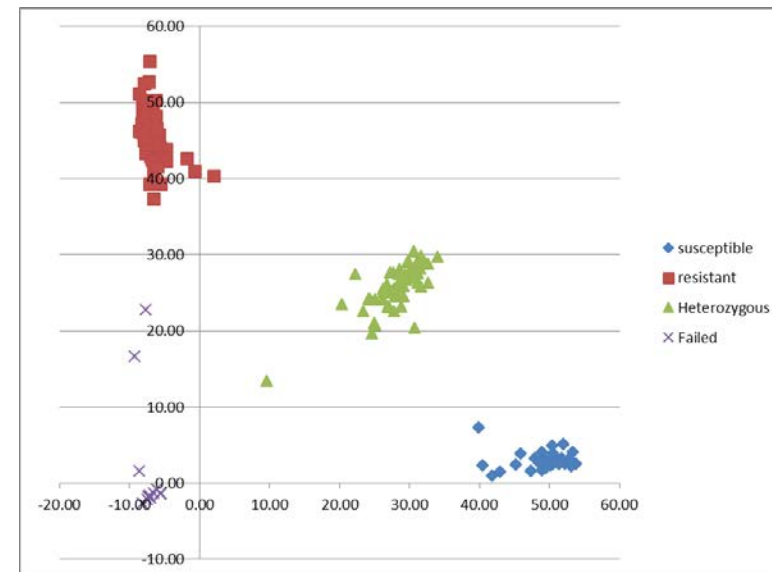
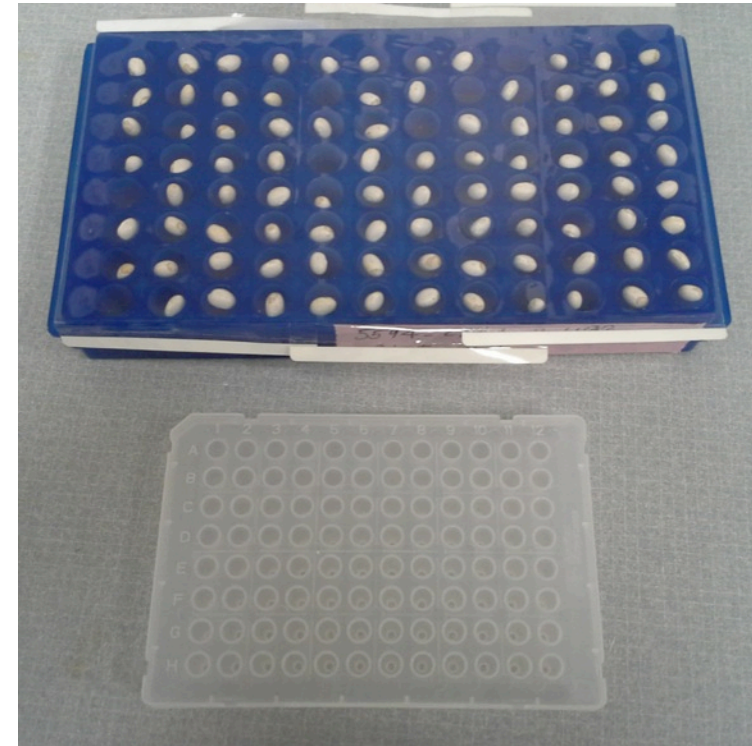
## MAS:

- far fewer resources required,
- homozygous and heterozygous can be separated,
- no escapes.

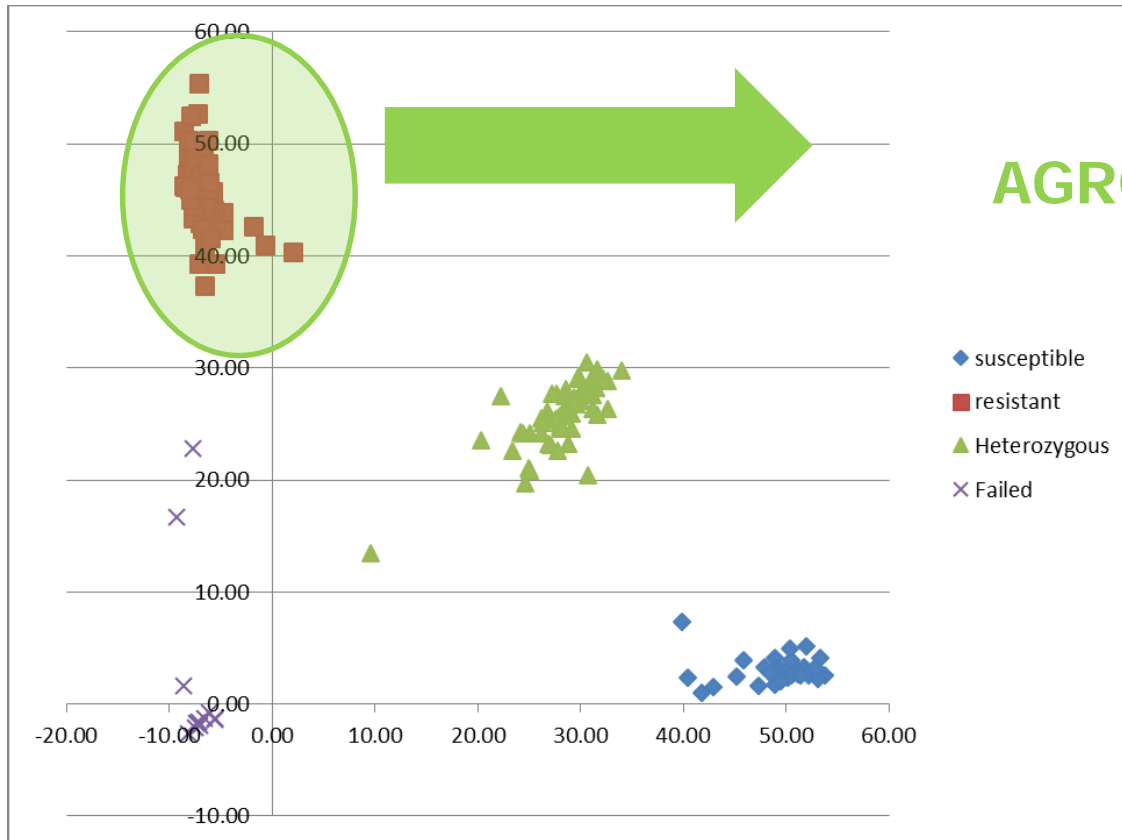
(Courtney Thompson)

# Marker-Assisted Selection

- Select on genotype not phenotype
- Heterozygotes can be identified
- Good for single genes
- Assay before even planting the seed



# MAS for imi-tolerant lentils

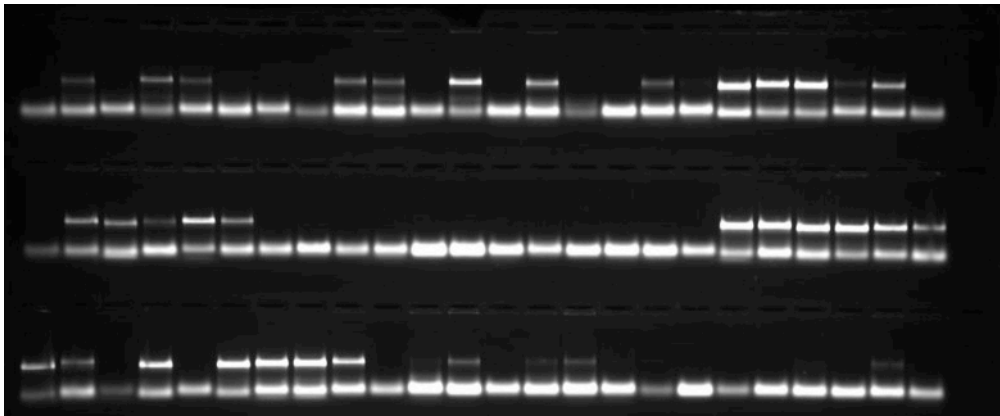


TO THE FIELD FOR  
AGRONOMIC EVALUATION

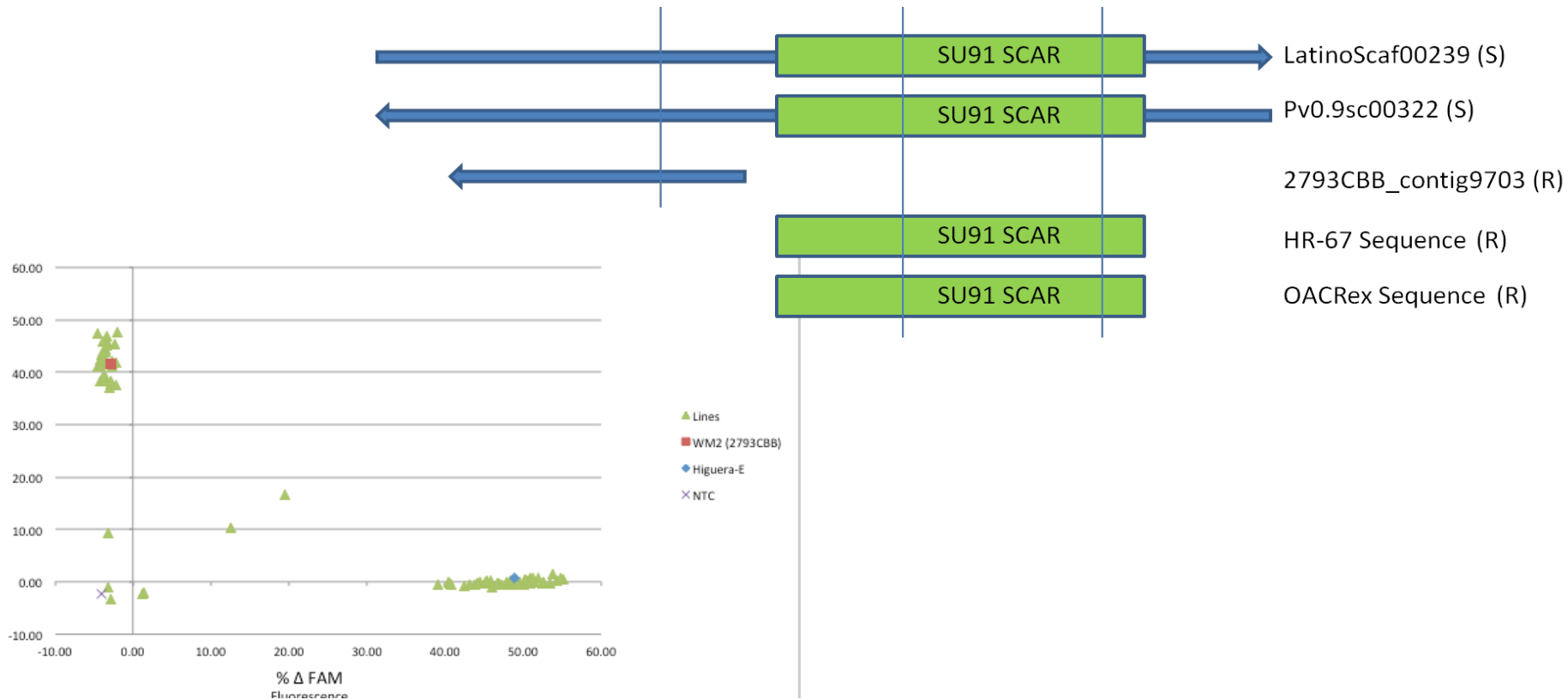


- Field screening = \$40 per plot
- MAS = \$0.40 per seed AND save a generation

# SU91 – marker for common blight tolerance in common bean



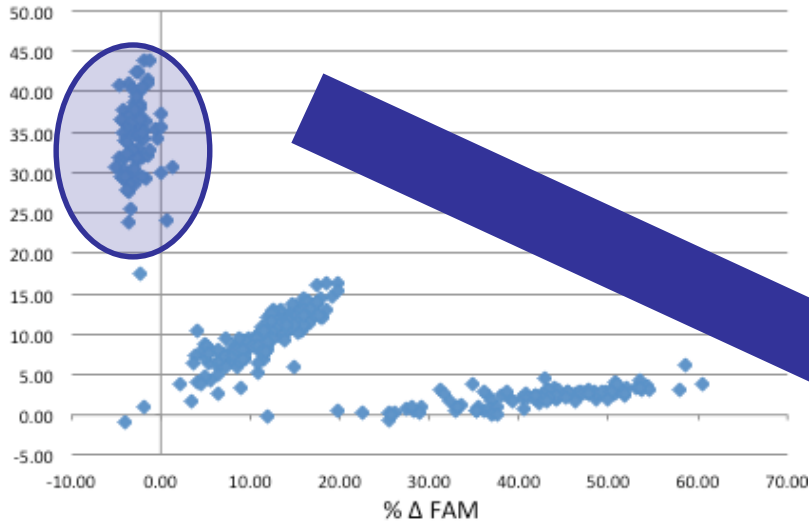
\$1.50/individual



# Gene Stacking

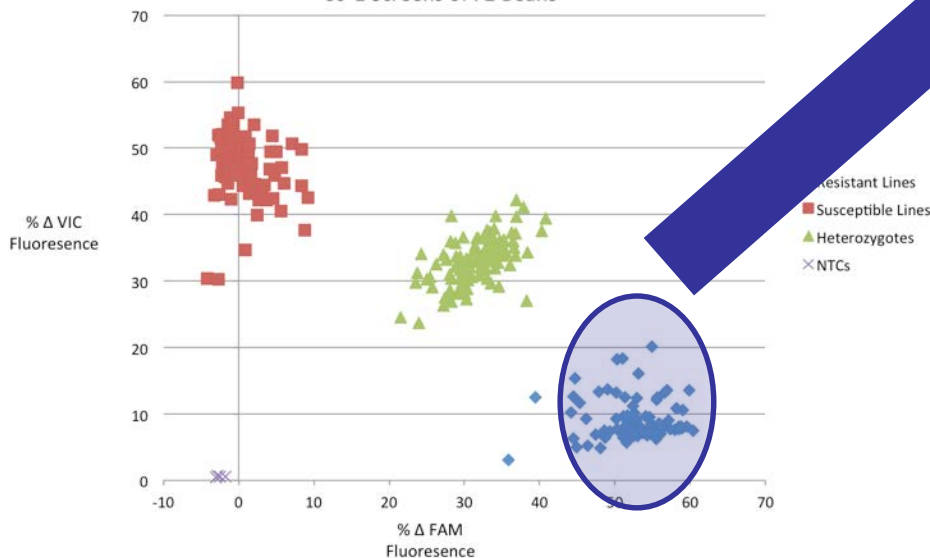


SU91 KASP on F2 Beans

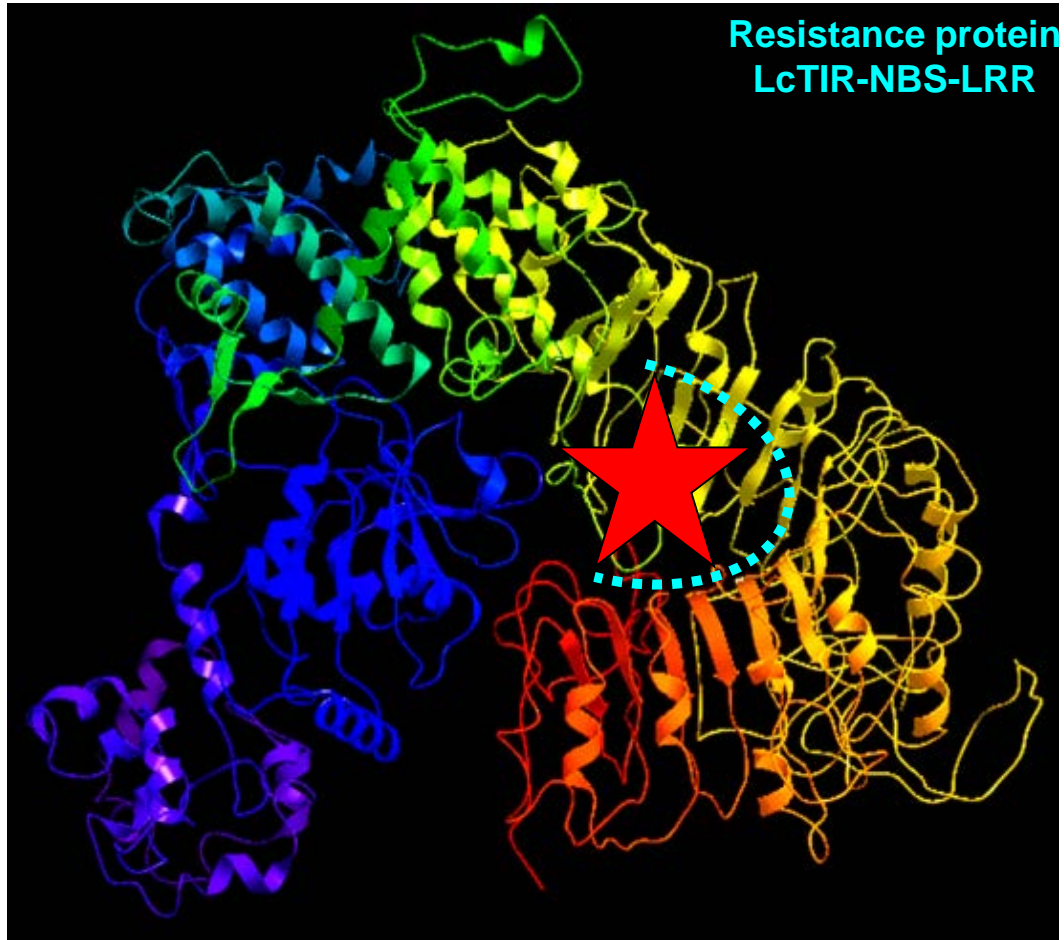


- Check SU91 & Co-1 marker status
- Only keep those with both resistance-linked marker alleles

Co-1 Screens of F2 Beans



# Tackling Disease Resistance Genes



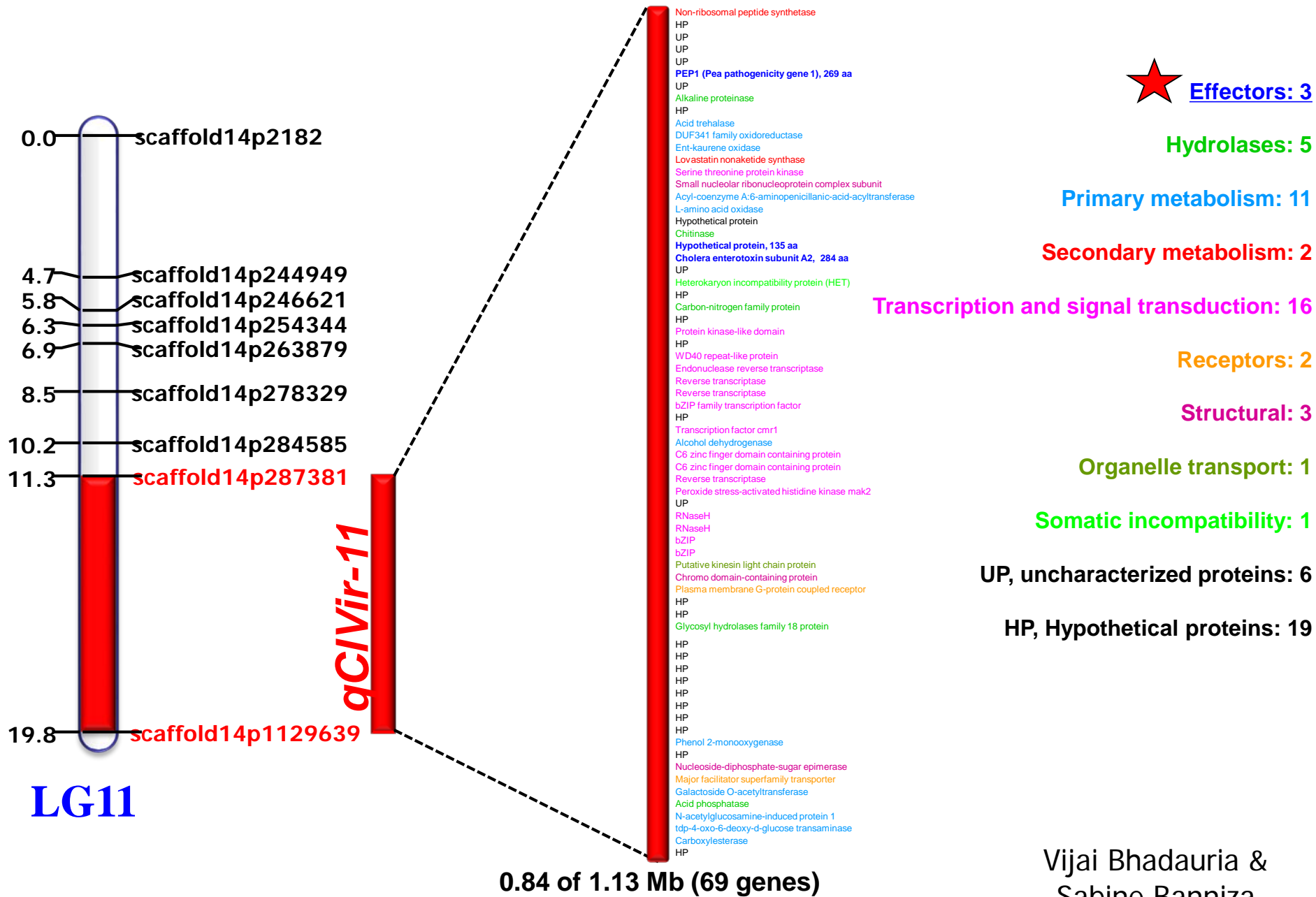
★ Pathogen  
effector

⋯ LRR domain  
of R-gene

**Lentil - *C. lentis* interaction**

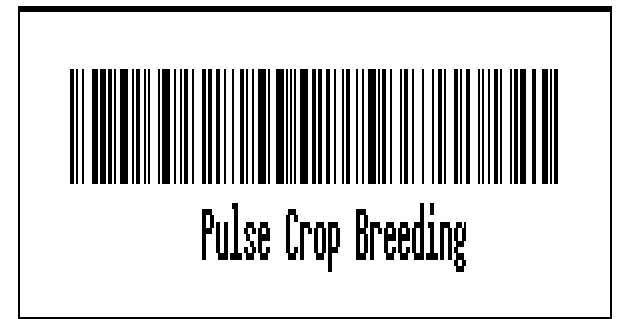
Vijai Bhadauria &  
Sabine Banniza

# Mapping of candidate genes in the pathogen



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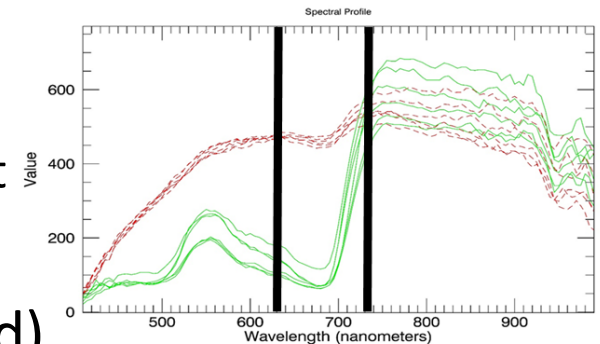
# Imaging technologies



- Multispectral camera
- NDVI - Normalized Difference Vegetation Index

- Indicator of plant health
- High correlation with plant biomass

$$\text{NDVI} = (\text{NIR} - \text{Red}) / (\text{NIR} + \text{Red})$$

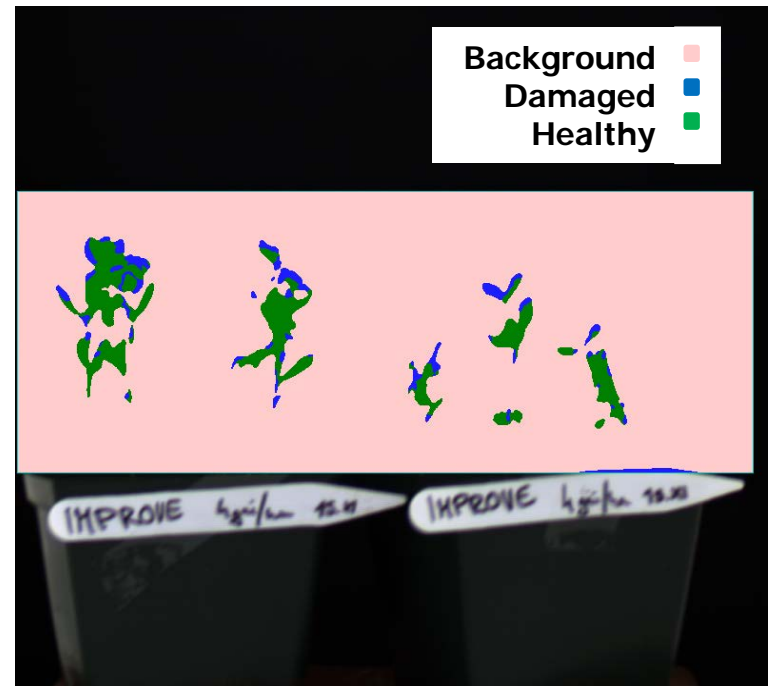
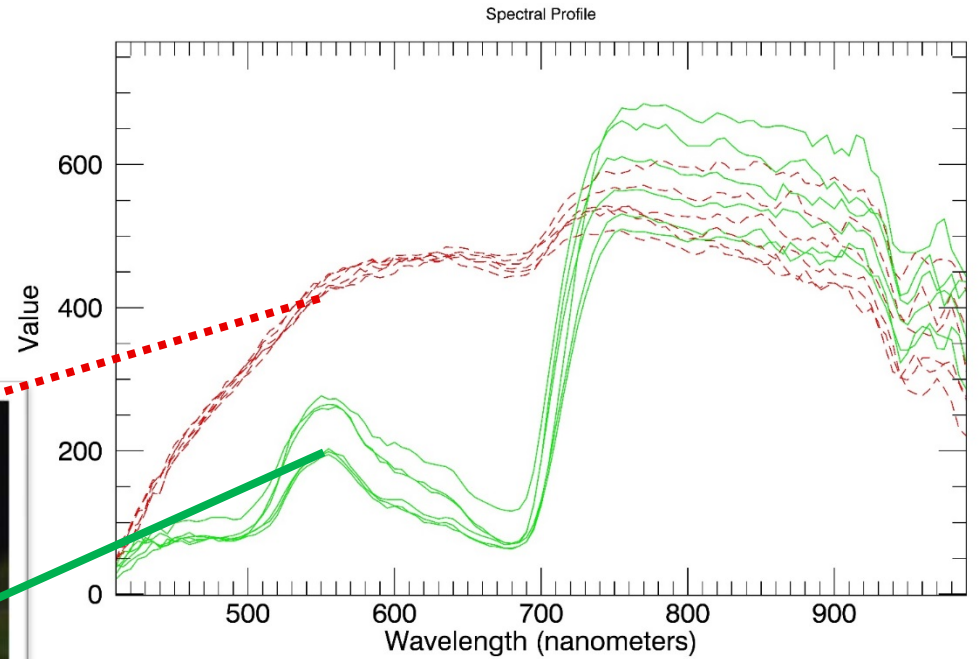
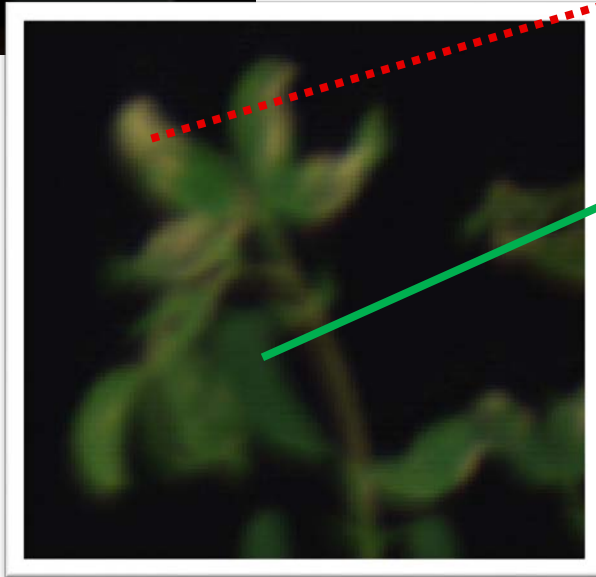
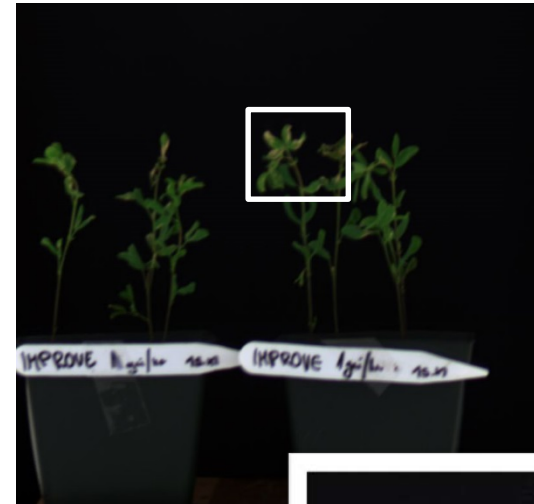


Authority  
280 gai/ha

Cadet 16  
gai/ha

Control





# Hyperspectral imaging of lentil injury of Group 14 herbicides

# Imaging technologies



**Fusarium head blight (6 day after inoculation)**

# Better equipment for greater efficiency



**Barcode tracking**



**Double plot seeder with  
GPS tripping**

# Better equipment to keep crew happy



# Acknowledgements



Bunyamin Tar'an  
Tom Warkentin  
Bert Vandenberg  
Sabine Banniza

Pulse crop breeding lab  
Pulse crop molecular lab  
Grains innovation lab  
Pulse crop pathology lab  
Pulse crop tissue culture lab  
Pulse crop graduate students, post-docs  
Breeder seed crew  
Plant Sciences admin staff

National/international collaborators  
(many)

# Questions?

