

**AFFCO "World Class  
Workshop",  
Shepparton, May  
2007**

Andrew Dick  
Australian Fresh Fruit  
Company Pty Ltd (AFFCO)

Project Number: AP06017

## **AP06017**

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Horticulture Australia Limited  
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SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

**AP06017 – AFFCO WORLD CLASS WORKSHOP 2007**

Please find enclosed one bound copy of the Final report for project AP06017. An electronic copy has also been submitted.

Thank you for your support of this project.

Yours sincerely



Keryn Allan  
**Administration Manager**

**FINAL REPORT**

**PREPARED FOR HORTICULTURE AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

**AP06017**

**AFFCO World Class Workshop 2007**

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**AP06017**  
**AFFCO World Class Workshop 2007**

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**Purpose of Report**

To provide a report to Horticulture Australia Limited on the success of the project **AFFCO World Class Workshop 2007**.

**Acknowledgement**

The Australian Fresh Fruit Company Pty Ltd wishes to thank Horticulture Australia Limited and IHD Pty Ltd for their significant support for this project, and the contribution of the sponsors, hosts and speakers, without whom the Workshop would not have been a success. We also thank the working group and participants who attended the Workshop. A very big thank you to Malcolm Roach, Keryn Allan and Lisa Adams who were the project managers and administrators of the project, in addition to the IHD team of helpers, particularly the IK Caldwell team.

**Date**

27 August 2007

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## **Introduction**

AFFCO, in conjunction with IHD, proposed conducting a series of Workshops and an Expo in Shepparton aimed at Australian apple, pear and stonefruit growers, orchard managers and allied members. The Expo provided an interactive experience and enabled participants to see, hear and discuss new technologies and their application with national and international experts.

**Our Vision:** An Annual One Day - One Stop shop for new technologies

- Leading technology for growers, packers, marketers, supply chain partners, advisors, and researchers
- An initiative with a difference
- Positive environment – leading edge criteria, inexpensive to attend
- High profile event - “leading the way in difficult times”

## **Our Mission:**

The “New Technology Expo” will provide practical examples of new technologies to growers, packing shed operators, marketers (incl. exporters), researchers, advisors, manufacturers and suppliers of a wide range of products

The Expo will show how technologies can be adopted for benefit – i.e. benefits will be visual and demonstrable

## **Materials and Methods**

The program covered four days – two based in the Shepparton area and two based in Melbourne and environs.

### **Day 1**

A Stonefruit Workshop was conducted at Tatura on 24 May, which involved a half-day in-house workshop followed by orchard visits.

Topics covered:

- Growing fruit in South Africa – an overview
- Soil health management – the principles
- Making it happen – the tools
- The latest in fertigation

Orchards visited were Varapodio, Plunkett and Goulburn Valley Orchards. The visits were facilitated by Marcel Veens and provided an opportunity for participants to see a focus on differing approaches to achieving profitable stonefruit production. Discussion included:

- Tree training
- Crop manipulation – dormancy breakers, thinners etc
- Tree nutrition
- Irrigation
- Fertigation techniques

### ***A Snapshot of the South African Deciduous Fruit Industry – Dr Jim Button***

Most South African exports go to the UK (25%) and Europe (43%), however increasing product is going to SE Asia which could be a concern for Australia.

Key crops grown in South Africa are grapes, apples, pears and some stonefruit. The industry has changed from having single channel export to very sudden deregulation, with a significant increase in exporters. The period after deregulation was very chaotic but now there is some semblance of organisation with Fruit South Africa coordinating deciduous citrus and sub-tropical fruit. Currently plums and nectarines appear to be achieving better returns than apples and pears on a per hectare farm income basis.

Main apples grown are Granny Smith, Golden Delicious, Gala and Red Delicious. 7% of production is Cripps Pink, however the proportion is higher for trees planted in the last three years. Biggest varieties of pears grown are Packham, Williams and Forelle (or Corella in Australia). The biggest change in pears has been the transfer to different rootstocks.

What is the future for deciduous fruit? Apples are predicted to reduce in area/volume whereas pears and stonefruit are predicted to have a 2-5% increase in growth. The secret in future development will be to manage competition, avoid head-on competition with other exporting countries such as Chile and have very good collection of data, e.g. Dekka fruit and exchange of information on crop size and marketing as in the case of IPLA. The other development is to have managed products which are coming into South Africa. The key challenge for South Africa is managing farm land ownership, and this is a significant risk for South African growers. Some of the new technologies being used are rootstock, tree architecture, having a common maturing indexing process and certificate analysis for export.

In conclusion, this was a very good presentation which provided a good analysis of a competitor country. Lessons for Australia are:

1. We need to adopt new technology more quickly
2. We need to have a good information system
3. We must organise ourselves to have better access to rootstocks

***Soil Health Management – the principles, Dr Doris Blaesing, Serve-Ag Pty Ltd***

Doris' talk focussed on soil health and in particular, organic carbon, which equates to organic matter. Doris showed a slide which showed very good soil against some not so good soil, and said that is the key (particularly in drought conditions) in holding nutrients, and improving water infiltration and holding capacity.

Doris' talk was put to good effect practically, when we got the shovel out in the orchard and what she said in theory was very much the case in practice – she continuously emphasised the importance of trying to improve structure. This was well demonstrated the next day at the site of Geoffrey Thompson, where a large hole was dug and you could see the restricted root growth in an orchard where there was probably too much compaction. Where roots are no good, nutrition is inadequate. This arises from loss of organic carbon, the decline in soil structure, increase salinity and acidification. Wherever there is an imbalance in nutrients there is a loss of yield potential.

***Soil Structure, Why and How – Martin Hockey, Australian Soil Planners***

Doris' talk was backed up by Martin Hockey, who is new to AFFCO Workshops. Martin went into further detail of the carbon cycle and the importance of increasing soluble calcium to improve aggregate stability in soils which have poor structure. This was a revelation for those attending.

Martin gave some good tips on how to manage soil structure, being aware of the quality of irrigation water, observing soil and how water infiltrates. Structure can be affected by increases in some nutrients such as nitrogen, the over-use of gypsum, the use of muriate of potash, and over-use of acidic forms of phosphate. Sources that help contribute to soil structure are soluble calcium, magnesium (particularly dolomitic lime, as long as the magnesium content is low), molasses, gypsum in certain circumstances and organic materials such as manure.

Martin referred a lot to calcium sources and the water solubility of calcium. He also took this argument to different nitrogen sources and phosphate sources. The key message was about calcium availability and the need to have a mix of microbial concentrations in order to ensure good nutritional balance.

This was a very good presentation, in alliance with the message from Doris Blaesing and, as indicated previously, it was seen in the orchard very clearly.

***The Latest in Fertigation - Jamie McMaster, Sustainable Liquid Technology***

Jamie McMaster provided a talk on fertigation. Fertigation is something not practiced by many orchards but is very important tool, particularly in drought. Consideration of the use of fertigation is to be given to injection systems, timing of applications, planning for use of fertigation and also the benefit of less manual handling.



## Day 2

The AFFCO / IHD Expo, conducted on 25 May, was titled "New Technologies for the Future" and encompassed on-site demonstrations at three venues: Masalki Packing Shed, Bunbartha Fruit Packers and Geoffrey Thompson Orchards.

Each venue allowed participants to spend 2.5 hours speaking with national and international experts in their field.

Topics included:

### Technologies for Crop Manipulation

- Regalis trials
- New thinning technologies
- New dormancy breaker, introduced by Australian developer

### Protecting your Profits and Crop

- The trials on Surround
- Hail net options
- Frost protection options
- Other manufacturers

### Maximise your application through new Spray Technologies

- The latest world best sprayer

### Minimise your water use – Maximise your production efficiency

- The latest in irrigation technologies
- Fertigation options
- Monitoring technologies

### Reduce your labour costs – the latest orchard equipment

### Improve your logistical, storage and packing shed efficiencies

- Ripesense<sup>tm</sup> - automatic sensors for fruit quantity
- Measuring firmness – the latest
- Tracking your piece of fruit
- Tracking your fruit throughout the chain
- The latest from Compak Graders
- The latest storage technologies

This was a very innovative way of delivery of new technology and involved taking people to the demonstrations, rather than people wandering around during a field day or sitting in a conference hearing a single presentation. The idea was that growers would be divided into groups and receive a number of presentations over the day as part of a small group going to different sites. The route was divided into three sites: one was a packing shed at Masalaki; another was at Geoffrey Thompson Orchard, which is mostly an apple and pear orchard; and the other site was Geoff Karl's, which is an apple and stonefruit orchard.

At the Expo site the key technologies which were looked at involved:

- Telecommunications – Telstra presented their NextG technology. This was very well received and is something to look to in the future, particularly in terms of using telephone technology for accessing data and managing the orchard
- Ozone technology, which has been developed and shown for the first time and can be put into coolrooms in a modular form

- J-Tech showed different types of measuring firmness and packing pears
- EDP showed a brand new punnet packer
- Wobelea showed some new methods of hygiene control
- CGA showed a new method of storage

In the field, the Geoffrey Thompson site was divided into 4-5 areas. One was the soil demonstration by Serve-Ag and members of the IHD group. This involved the digging of a pit and, as previously indicated, was an extremely effective demonstration of showing the practical side of the presentations given the previous day during the Stonefruit Workshop. This received the highest rating of the Expo.

Other components were a presentation on Regalis by Steve Tancred of Orchard Services. Steve is a very good presenter and the messages from the first fully commercial season of use in Australia were well received.

There was also a frost machine which was very topical given the severe frost damage in many areas of Australia last year. A brand new series of wind machines had been erected just prior to the commencement of the Expo which were demonstrated during the day.

Another demonstration was of a new sprayer and wetter from Croplands. This was of great interest to growers as use of this technology in conjunction with wetters can reduce water volume, which means that farmers can get far greater efficiency and effectiveness from sprayers.

Other areas included new irrigation devices, which also received high ratings.

The format for the presentations involved some discussion at the Geoff Karl site where there was a presentation on a new training system. This is a very professionally run orchard, and the key point from this site is the need to monitor in order to make best use of the new technology.

CropCare demonstrated the use of their dormancy breaker which is a new technology, as Dormix is just about to be registered for use in apples. The developer of the product in Australia, Glen Tucker, was one of the presenters.

In addition, at the Sumitomo site, John Wilton of Ag-First presented the range of thinning tools which are available. This is a key area in orchard management and can result in a significant increase in profitability if managed correctly.

Overall comments on the Expo was that it was one of the best field days people have been to and has significant potential for use in the future. The feedback sheets showed that people really appreciated the structure of the day and also the fact that it was leading edge. This is a must, and consideration should be given to whether this is an event which is carried out annually or bi-annually.

### **Day 3**

The final aspect of the workshop program involved the half-day Post Harvest Workshop which was conducted in Melbourne on 26 May.

Topics covered:

- The South African fruit industry
- A study to significantly improve packhouse efficiency
- Getting it right in the orchard, but ignore post harvest at your peril
- Maximise the benefits of Smartfresh
- The future in Global Trade Identification Numbers – GS1

Colin Little was one of the keynote presenters, following Dr Jim Button, who gave a similar talk to that given at the Stonefruit Workshop, but focussed more on pomefruit and stonefruit. Many of the messages were the same and it was well delivered.

#### ***Orcharding aspects that affect the post harvest quality of apples – Colin Little***

Colin Little's report indicated that you cannot talk about post harvest without focussing on things which happen in the orchard that affect post harvest. The message was the same – the importance of soil structure, management, mineral profile, pH, root growth which all have an impact on the outcome of fruit in post harvest. He referred to looking at the tree growth cycle in terms of the break of the dormancy, time before bloom and harvest. This was particularly so in the case of internal browning, where some of the risk factors are known to include the time after bloom and the time 50 days prior to harvest. Even though they are in-field issues they have a greater implication on post harvest.

Once all the work has been done in the orchard a very important part in relation to post harvest is measuring maturity at picking time. This then determines how fruit can be treated in storage and the grower needs to decide whether the product is put into c.a, or c.a and Smartfresh, the treatment, and how product is sanitised. Colin identified issues which had jeopardised the long term viability of the Australian pomefruit industry, including frost, drought, smoke, hail, cracking, and even cultivar version, bird damage and fighting bureaucracy. The point was that post harvest is very important, but so are other factors.

#### ***From pilot program to commercial success 2005-2007 – Nick Sanders, Agrofresh***

Nick presented the key aspects of Smartfresh and its commercial introduction, and said no-one would have thought its introduction would have occurred so quickly. The key message was that Smartfresh is a management tool but is not a short cut on quality, cooling and all the principles of correct storage and handling. Other aspects in regard to Smartfresh are use on other products such as plums, kiwifruit, avocado, mango and bananas, and they are subject to commercial and market evaluation. This provided a very good update on Smartfresh.

#### ***Landguard<sup>tm</sup> to assist with post harvest management – Kate Dawson, Landguard***

A short talk was then given on a product called Landguard<sup>tm</sup>, which is designed to assist post harvest management. Landguard<sup>tm</sup> works by breaking down mrls through enzymes and this has been showed to make quite a difference with products such as Carbendazim.

In a post harvest situation Landguard<sup>tm</sup> ZIM-A can have an effect on reducing carbendazim metabolites. Current and future targets of this product include organophosphates, synthetic pyrethroids, and some herbicides and fungicides such as Strobilurins and Carbendazim. This was very appropriate talk, particularly as with the Pink Lady export program, where mrls may become a real impediment to export.

### **GS1 DataBar – Stuart Abbott, J-Tech Systems**

Stuart indicated what the GS1 DataBar is – a method of containing data which makes it easier to have a check-out that by using the barcode information is more traceable, with a company index and a product index. The benefits of GS1 are improved accuracy at check-out, increased speed at check-out, reduced shrinkage as a result of better stock management, traceability and greater ease of management of product recall, and category management.

Where to from here? This will be implemented from 1 January 2010 and could have an effect on graphics, but will be almost a must in terms of what global retailers want.

### **Lean Supply Chains – John McBride, Invetech**

They say the best is always saved until last, and John McBride provided a fascinating description of lean thinking, and how the concept of lean supply chains can have real application in orchards and packing sheds. For example, John referred to three car manufacturers (General Motors, Toyota and Ford). Toyota have a profit of \$2,000 per car whereas GMH have a \$1,300 loss and Ford a \$284 loss. The point is that through lean thinking, which is what Toyota practice, they can obtain far greater efficiency and have less waste through managing the process of the whole supply chain.

Many photographs were displayed showing the before and after of lean thinking principles, and demonstrated the point better than any theoretical paper could have done. This was a well presented report, extremely well received and is a topic that people were asking if it could be followed up. It is recommended that some form of project be developed in this area and the costing area.

### **Day 4**

An optional orchard tour was conducted on 27 May. The following orchards were visited:

- Montague Orchards, Narre Warren – future orchards site
- Atlanta Orchards, Moorooduc

### **Results**

There were approximately 200 attendees at the Expo (including 160 paying visitors), with 60 attending the Stonefruit and Post Harvest Workshops, and 37 attending the Orchard tours. It is envisaged that attendance at the Workshops and Expo will foster further cooperation in the Australian fruit industry.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the Expo and Workshops were well attended and achieved the objective of increased attendance over the previous year.

In terms of the bigger picture, there is certainly a great need to have the industry consider how best to meet future challenges in terms of supply chain management, marketing arrangements and how to add value to the products they are marketing. It is recommended that investigations be carried out as to whether a 3-year project be developed to make this a truly superb annual event.

APPENDIX 1

**AFFCO WORLD CLASS WORKSHOP PROGRAM**

In partnership with IHD Pty Ltd

**INCORPORATING AFFCO / IHD EXPO 2007**

- When:** Thursday 24 May  
Friday 25 May  
Saturday 26 May  
Sunday 27 May
- Where:** 24 & 25 May: Goulburn Valley/ Shepparton  
26 May: Hilton on the Park, East Melbourne  
27 May: Southern Victoria
- Who should attend:** Apple, Pear and Stonefruit growers, orchard managers and allied members
- Benefits of attendance:** Attend the NEW AFFCO/ IHD Expo  
Be at the forefront of new technologies  
Interact with other leading growers, packers & industry figures from around Australia

## PROGRAM

Stonefruit Workshop Thursday 24 May	DPI Tatura and Orchards
9.30 am	Coffee and Registration
10.00 am – 12 pm	<p>Stonefruit Workshop: In house DPI Tatura</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Growing fruit in South Africa – overview (Dr Jim Button)</li> <li>➤ Soil health management - the principles (Dr Doris Blaesing)</li> <li>➤ Making it happen – the tools (Martin Hockey – Australian Soil Planners)</li> <li>➤ The latest in fertigation (Jamie McMaster) (before or after lunch)</li> </ul>
1.00-5.00 pm	<p>Orchard visits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Varapodio Orchards</li> <li>➤ Plunkett Orchards</li> <li>➤ Goulburn Valley Orchards</li> </ul> <p><i>Facilitated by Marcel Veens</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Focus on differing approaches to achieving profitable stonefruit production</li> <li>- Discussion to include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tree training</li> <li>- Crop manipulation – dormancy breakers, thinners etc</li> <li>- Tree nutrition</li> <li>- Irrigation</li> <li>- Fertigation techniques</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Who should attend: Growers, managers and key orchard staff from stonefruit orchards. Consultants, advisors, key horticultural staff and researchers.</b></p>
7 for 7.30	<p>Informal dinner at <u>Spaghetti Hollow</u></p> <p><b>2</b> 247 Wyndham St Shepparton VIC 3630 ph: (03) 5821 0771</p> <p>Welcome from Bas Van Den Ende</p>

9am – 5pm

Bus takes those attending to 2 venues

Time spent 2.5 hours at each venue

New Technologies for the Future

**Technologies for Crop Manipulation**

- *Regalis trials – facilitated by Steve Tancred*
- *New thinning technologies (Sumitomo) – facilitated by John Wilton*
- *New Dormancy breaker – Cropcare – introduced by Australian developer*

**Protecting your profits and Crop**

- *The trials on Surround – AgNova*
- *Hail net options – Netpro*
- *Frost protection options*
- *Other manufacturers*

**Maximise your application through New Spray Technologies**

- *The latest world best sprayer from Croplands*

**Minimise your water Use – Maximise Your Production efficiency**

- *The latest in irrigation technologies from Netafim and Plastro*
- *Fertigation options*
- *Monitoring technologies*

**Reduce your labour costs – the latest Orchard equipment**

- *EDP*

**Improve your logistical, storage and packing shed efficiencies**

- *Ripesense tm – automatic sensors for fruit qty )*
- *Measuring firmness – the latest ) J-Tech*
- *Tracking your piece of fruit – hot off the press )*
- *Chep – tracking your fruit throughout the chain – RFID*
- *The latest from Compak Graders*
- *The latest storage technologies – CTA Australia*

**Who should attend: Growers, managers and key orchard staff from apple, pear, stonefruit & cherries orchards. Consultants, advisors, key horticultural staff and researchers.**

**"Post Harvest" Workshop  
Saturday 26 May**

**Hilton on the Park  
Wellington Parade  
East Melbourne**

8.30 am

Registration and coffee

9 – 9.35

Presentation to Industry  
- AFFCO's vision of the future and new 3-Year Plan – John  
Lawrenson and Andrew Dick

9.45 – 1.30 with coffee  
break

Presentations to include:

The South African deciduous fruit industry – Jim Button

A study to significantly improve packhouse efficiency – DPI  
Victoria – Oliver Sergeant, Price Waterhouse Coopers

Getting it right in the Orchard but ignore post harvest at your peril  
– Colin Little and TBA

Maximise the benefits of Smartfresh - various

The future in Global Trade Identification Numbers –GS1 – Stuart  
Abbott, J-Tech

***Who should attend: Growers, managers and key orchard  
staff from apple, pear, stonefruit & cherries orchards.  
Consultants, advisors, key horticultural staff and  
researchers.***

7.00 pm - midnight

**AFFCO Granny Smith Ball**  
Hilton on the Park  
Wellington Parade  
East Melbourne

3 Roll of Honour Presentations

***Who should attend: Growers, managers and key orchard  
staff from apple, pear, stonefruit & cherries orchards.  
Consultants, advisors, key horticultural staff and  
researchers.***



**Orchard Tours  
Sunday 27 May**

Depart 10am

Orchard Tour

Visit Future Orchards site, Montague Orchards – 1 hour

Arrive at Atlanta Orchards – BBQ lunch and winery tour

Orchard visits – 1 hour

Return to Melbourne by 5pm latest

*AFFCO & IHD cannot be held liable for the accuracy of information presented at workshops. Attendees should make their own commercial decision on information that has been presented. We cannot guarantee that all speakers will be present. Please note that speakers may change*

STONEFRUIT WORKSHOP, TATURA & ORCHARD VISITS, 24 MAY

Topic/Speaker	Ilim Button		Martin Hockey		Doris Blaesing		Jamie McMas		Varapodio Orc		Plunkett Orch		GV Orchard	
	Imp	Enjoy	Imp	Enjoy	Imp	Enjoy	Imp	Enjoy	Imp	Enjoy	Imp	Enjoy	Imp	Enjoy
NC	3		5	2.5	4	2	5	3	5	3	5	3	5	3
Tom Price	5		5	3	4		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Mark Silim	3	5	3	3	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Gavin Plummer	3	3	4	4	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
John Wilton	5	5	5	4	1	4	4	4	3	3	3	4	5	5
Patrick Milovitch	4	5	5	5	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Gerard Schefer	2	2	3	3	4	4	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
Anthony Plummer	2	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Robyn Clubb	2	4	5	5	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Dean Smithers	1	1	5	5	3	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
James Penberthy	4	4	5	5	3	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Andrew Smith	2	2	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Alan Smith	3	4	5	5	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Bill Aumann	4	4	5	4	4	5	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4
Geoff (Flemmings)	2	4	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Glenn Ellis	2	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Brian Cumming	2	4	5	2	5	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Chris Peters	3.5	4.5	5	5	5	3.5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
(Seven Hill)	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	3
Mat Earle	3	3	5	5	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Angus Crawford	1	1	5	5	5	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Peter Nethery	4	5	4	3	3	3	2	2	4	4	4	4	4	4
Gerard Alampi	1	5	5	5	3	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3
Angelo Emmi	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Vince Hewson	5	4	5	5	5	5	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Doug Brown	3	3	5	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Graham Nicol			4	4	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Henry Schneider	4	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Greg Bennett	3	4	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Kevin Tyndall	3	4	4	4	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Gavin Kerr	3	3	5	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Jamie McMaster	2	5	5	5	1	1	3	5	3	5	3	5	3	5
	1	4	5	5	4	4	5	5	4	5	4	5	5	5
	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Glen Tucker	3	4	3	4	3	3	4	4	3	5	3	3	3	3

Ben Darbyshire	3	4	5	5	4	4	5	2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3
Jim Button	2	3	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	4
Martin Hockey	3	5	5	3	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	3	3	3	1	5	5	3
Doris Blaesing	3	5	5	3	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
James Turtle	4	4	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5
John Rogers	5	5	3	5	5	5	5	1	1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
FA Frustrar, Austria	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Tim Ring	3	4	5	5	4	4	5	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4
David Richards	2	4	3	4	3	3	5	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Kevin ??		3	4	4	4	4	4		3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Patrick Press	2	4	2	4	3	5	5	2	3	4	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Barry Kerr	2	5	4	4	4	4	4	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
	2.9	3.8	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.3	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.7	3.4	3.7	3.7	3.9

**Comments:**

Value: good, networking: important  
Value: very good  
Value: very beneficial  
Value: minimum value as apple grower, apart from fertigation and soils. Networking: good to meet new people in all sorts of fruits  
Value: good, Networking: very good, many new contacts  
Value: excellent, Networking: very important  
Value: very good, Networking: good to talk about and discuss matters from different sides  
Value: soil biology aspect was very informative and fertigation, Networking: fantastic to meet different industry people from other states and countries  
Good to see how other types of fruit are managed and tools that are used  
Value: excellent day, good varied program, Networking: very good  
Value: excellent, very thought provoking, Networking: good exchange of ideas & opportunity to make new contacts  
Value: enjoyable day, Networking: important part of day  
Value: very valuable  
Value: overall very informative and valuable to my current education  
Value: more variety needed for those who have attended in previous years  
Value: good program, Networking: excellent  
Value: very informative, especially re soil structure and data collections, Networking: met people who will be important to me  
Value: very good, new concepts to take home and act upon, Networking: excellent, new ideas for upcoming season  
Networking: great chance to interact and network  
Value: very good, Networking: excellent  
Value: fair, networking: very important as I operate in an area where there are no other growers  
Value: very informative and interesting, Networking: very good  
Value: extremely helpful on experiencing differing things, Networking: very valuable to help make a future in orchards  
Value: good to hear from professionals, focused talks, Networking: excellent  
Value: good interaction, Networking: longer lunch and a cuppa would assist networking  
Value: well presented and very relevant, Networking: this is the most valuable in these gatherings  
Value: good mix of presentations, interesting topics, Networking: average  
Value: very valuable, but prefer you keep suppliers out of Workshop and leave them until Expo, Networking: good mix of people  
Value: great discussion, rigorous debate, Networking: excellent  
Value: good, but most topics of moderate relevance to my business, Networking: good  
Value: 80%  
Value: very well arranged and conducted, Networking: excellent  
Value: worthwhile to hear grower's comments, Networking: very good  
Value: excellent to see variation in management styles & approaches, Networking: discussions provide excellent feedback/great opportunities  
Value: excellent program, Networking: great to hear comment from growers  
Value: very good  
Value: Martin Hockey was excellent, Networking: very good  
Value: useful in helping understand the growing systems, Networking: very good  
Value: valuable for generating more ideas, new product systems & what is important to grower, Networking: Not that great due to lack of time  
Value: very interesting day, Networking: limited, as different contacts in QLD  
Value: very good, Networking: very good

### **Suggestions for future workshops:**

- Early summer when fruit can be seen on trees
- Split into work groups from different areas
- Name tags and district would be interesting
- Portable loud speaker in orchards, little people to the front
- Name tags
- Drought strategies for stonefruit
- Keep pounding on basics, even better if you can show on-farm trial work or methodology
- More information the better, perhaps some handouts of speaker notes
- Have a mixed variety workshop focus
- Theory of pruning, OFM and brown rot
- More on economics - GM
- More international visitors from other growing regions
- Ensure drinks are taken with buses
- Arms length nutrient/soil studies
- Soil preparation, replanting logically, what have you learnt? Question, good summary
- Present some case studies - Calcium plot trials on to demonstrate
- Do more work on mulches and OM retention
- Soils, crop information, export opportunities
- Soil chemistry, some science to back up claims
- Wider range of topics
- Better information on venues beforehand
- More diverse orchards
- As much grower involvement in topics as possible, get a person from another industry to present on a relevant topic
- Go back to some sights and follow up on comments made
- Irrigation systems
- New crop protection offering 2008
- More info about topics, start and finish times
- Name tags for participants, introduce all of the people at the beginning of the day

POST HARVEST WORKSHOP, 26 MAY

Topic/Speaker	Jim Button	John McBride	Stuart Abbott	Colin Little	Nick Sanders	Kate Dawson	JL/ARD
Nick Sanders	Imp 3	Enjoy 5	Imp 5	Enjoy 5	Imp 5	Enjoy 4	Enjoy 3
	2	4	4	1	3	4	3
	3	4	4	3	5	4	3
Mark DiGyz		5	4	1	4	2	3
		5	5	4	4	3	3
		4	4	3	5	3	3
Jim Button		4	3	3	4	4	5
		5	4	4	5	4	4
		5	5	5	5	4	5
Glen Fahey		4	3	3	5	4	5
		5	4	4	5	4	5
		5	5	5	5	4	5
Peter Gray		5	3	3	3	4	5
		5	5	5	5	5	5
		4	5	5	5	4	5
Des Muir		3	3	3	3	4	3
		3	5	3	4	4	5
		3	5	3	4	4	5
Sue Finger		2	3	4	4	2	3
		4	5	4	4	2	5
		5	4	4	4	3	5
David Finger		5	3	5	5	4	4
		5	5	5	5	5	5
		3	4	4	4	4	4
Neil Collins		4	5	4	4	3	4
		5	3	5	4	5	5
		5	4	4	4	5	4
Tony Sayle		5	2	4	5	3	4
		5	4	4	5	4	4
		5	5	5	5	4	4
John Rogers		2	5	3	3	3	3
		5	4	4	3	1	4
		5	5	5	2	3	3
Stuart Abbott		5	3	5	5	4	5
		5	5	3	5	4	5
		5	5	5	5	4	5
Maurie Lyster		3	4	4	4	4	4
		5	5	5	5	4	4
		5	5	5	5	4	4
Neil Offner		3	3	3	3	3	3
		4	4	4	4	4	4
		4	3	3	3	3	3
Patrick Ulloa		5	2	4	5	4	5
		2	5	5	5	5	5
		5	3	3	5	4	4
Geoff Brooke		5	5	4	5	4	5
		5	5	5	5	4	5
		3	4	4	4	4	4
Geoff Bliss		4	5	5	5	4	5
		5	5	5	5	4	5
		3	4	4	4	4	4
Harvey Giblett		4	5	3	3	2	3
		4	4	4	4	4	4
		4	4	4	4	4	4
Trevor Ranford		5	4	3	4	4	3
		1	5	1	1	1	1
		3	5	4	5	5	5
John Wilton		4	5	4	4	4	4
		5	5	5	5	4	5
		3	4	4	4	4	4
Andrew McNab		4	4	2	4	4	4
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		4	4	4	4	4	4
Peter Hemphill		5	5	4	4	4	4
		4	4	4	4	4	4
		5	4	4	4	4	4
Marcel Veens		3	5	1	4	5	5
		4	5	3	4	4	4
		5	5	4	4	4	4
Philip Pullar		4	4	3	5	4	3
		5	5	4	4	4	4
		4	4	4	4	4	4
Ben Darbyshire		4	4	3	5	4	3
		4	5	4	4	4	4
		4	4	4	4	4	4
Steve Dilley		5	4	3	5	5	5
		4	4	4	4	4	4
		5	4	4	4	4	4
Henry Schneider		3	5	1	1	3	3
		5	4	3	4	4	4
		3	5	4	4	4	4
Terry Burgi		2	4	3	3	3	3
		4	5	4	4	4	4
		4	5	4	4	4	4
Vince Hewson		3.6	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.1
		2	4	5	5	2	2
		4	5	5	5	2	2
Coolstorage Tech		3.6	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.1
		3.6	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.1
		3.6	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.1

**Comments:**

Value: excellent, Networking: good  
Value: most valuable for new opportunities, Networking: excellent  
Value: a well put together program, well presented speakers and exhibitors  
Value: very good, good mix of topics and speakers  
Value: these workshops offer everybody a greater insight into many issues, Networking: great opportunity  
Value: very good, Networking: not much due to time constraints  
Value: worthwhile  
Value: great value, Networking: very high  
Value: very useful & interesting, Networking: a top priority & excellent opportunity  
Value: fantastic morning, Networking: extremely valuable opportunity  
Value: very valuable, Networking: very valuable  
Value: very well done, Networking: excellent  
Value: very good, Networking: always useful  
Value: too much indoors, need to be outside, Networking: good  
Value: good mix of topics  
Value: good, Networking: very good  
Value: 2nd half was great  
Value: excellent, innovative, Networking: very good  
Value: good selection of speakers  
Value: got a bit long, but all good, Networking: medium, wasn't meant to be interactive, rather instructional  
Value: excellent presentations & stimulating speakers, Networking: very good  
Value: pleased I made the effort to attend, Networking: excellent  
Value: thought provoking  
Value: very good, Networking: very good

**Suggestions for future workshops:**

Broaden offer, demo projects  
Have more than one and more focused workshops.  
Try to encourage more participation  
More of the John McBride & Kate Dawson talks  
Ended up rushed due to speakers over-running time, merge with Field Day the day before  
More time for discussion  
More of the lateral thought process (i.e. Invetech)  
Retain the innovative leaders and their suggestions  
Automation, sensing technology  
Keep closer to shed location  
Agenda with more speaker info  
Same format, but more breaks for networking  
Keep up the farm visits  
Keep on pushing the future challenges, bring in more outside thinking (John McBride)  
More field days, same format as at Masalki, think outside the square



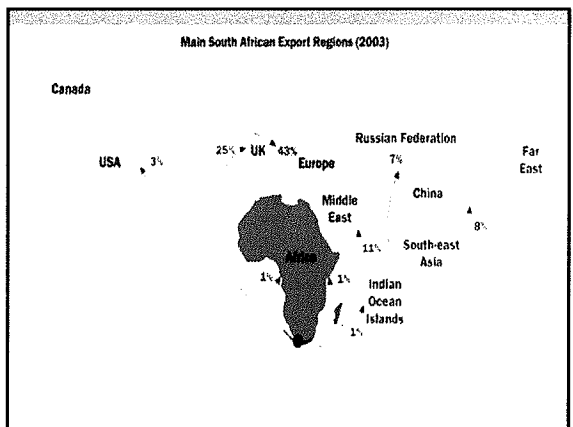
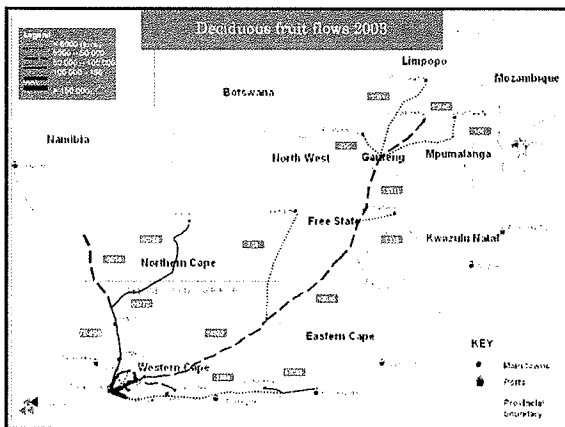
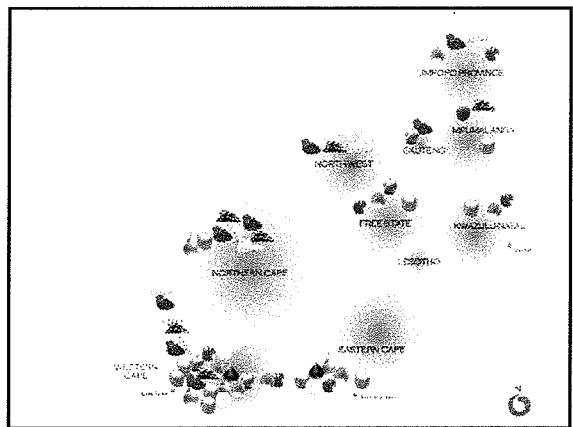
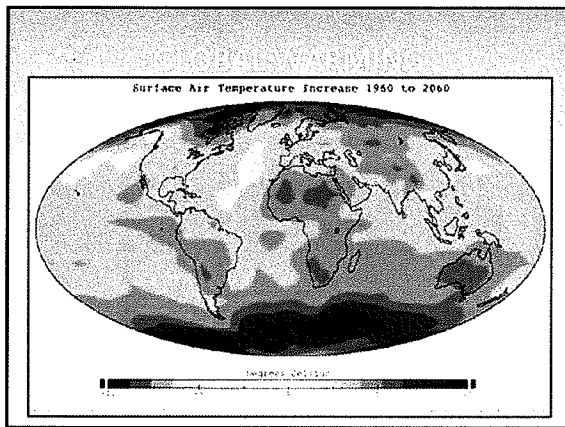
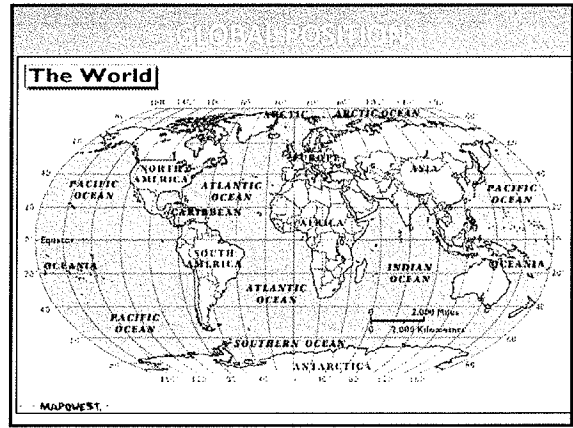
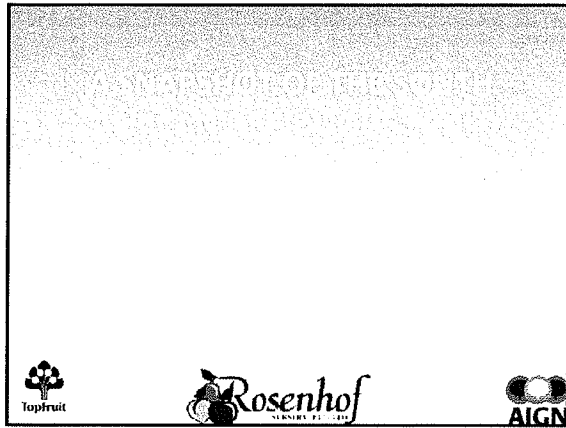


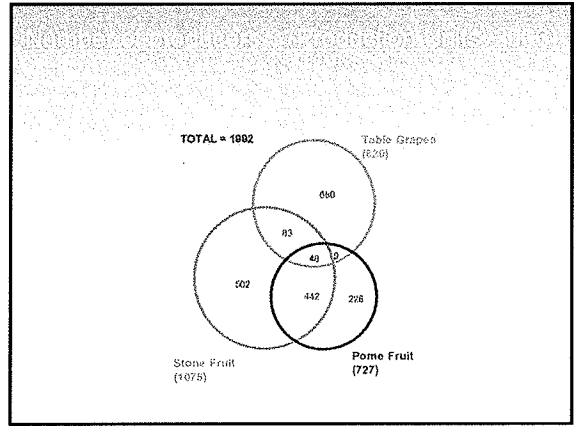
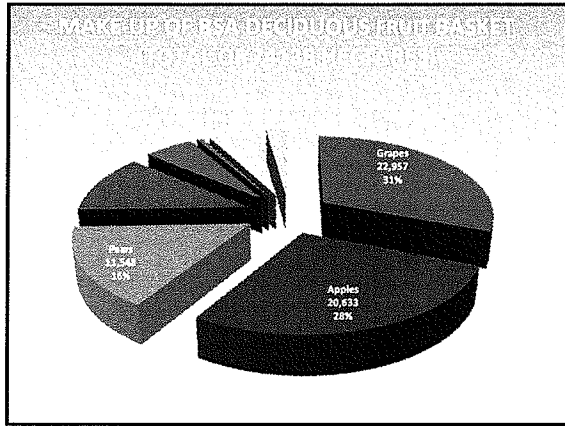
#### Suggestions for future Expos

Break up into smaller working groups from different areas for informal discussions  
More hands on with apple trees  
Speakers need a definite message - quick and precise - a couple waffled on  
More expos  
Allocate groups on registration  
Name tags with home town would be useful  
Allocate more time  
Need more detail of locations and more/better group organisation  
More practical demos than static  
Whatever changes in the industry, i.e. Smartfresh  
Closer look at soil biology

#### Comments

Very in depth and enjoyable  
Excellent range of information  
Well presented, very well structured, easy to interact  
Very informative day  
Excellent, enjoyable, professional  
Good value for participants  
Very interesting  
A long day, but it was good  
I valued all the information provided and found the day very interesting  
Excellent day to be further promoted  
One of the best organised programs, well put together and much to observe and learn  
Great day, good to spend time with other growers





On farm employment

Fruit	Labourers*	Dependents
Apples	25,878	103,514
Grapes	36,949	147,796
Pears	14,588	58,352
Peaches	10,516	42,064
Plums	6,014	24,055
Apricots	4,522	18,087
Nectarines	2,024	8,096
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100,491</b>	<b>401,964</b>

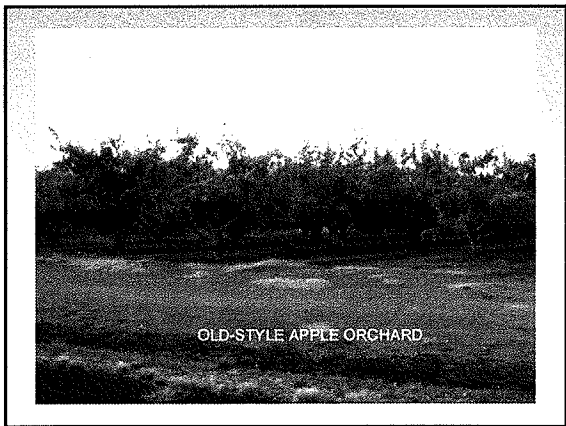
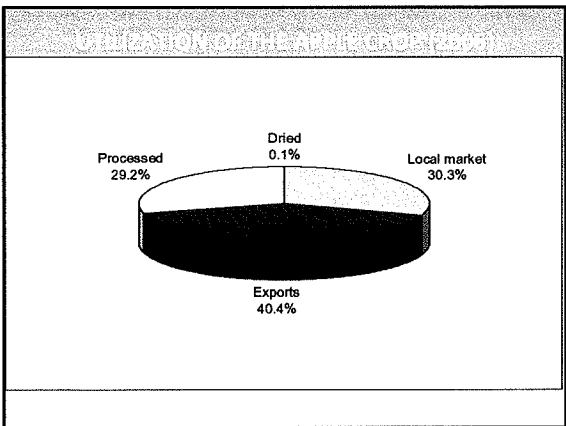
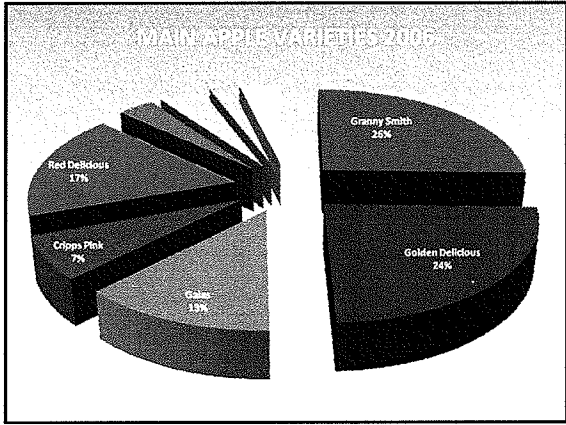
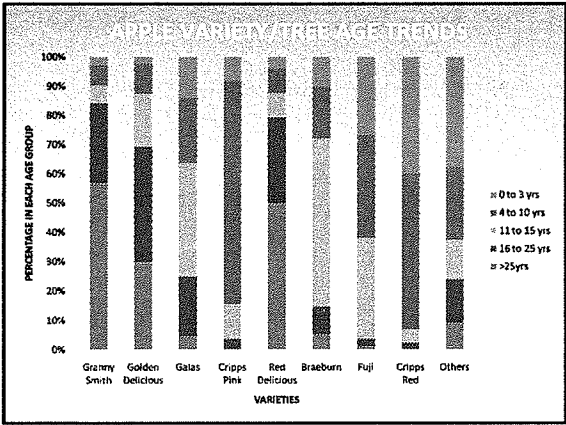
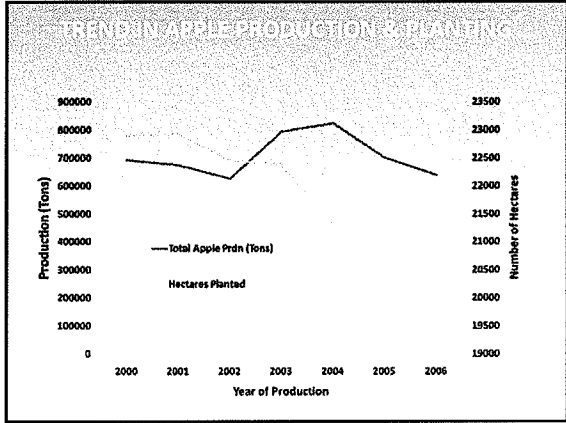
\* Permanent equivalent. Casual labour converted to permanent equivalent

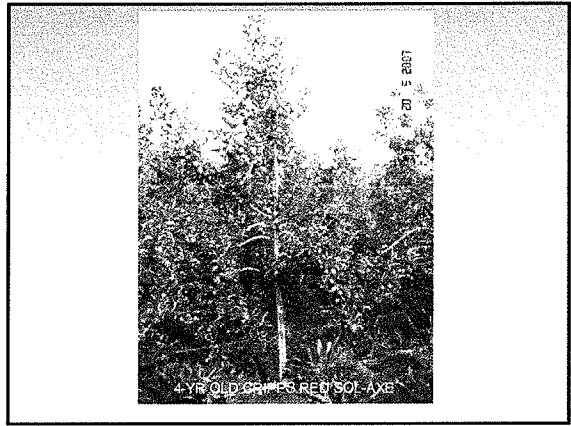
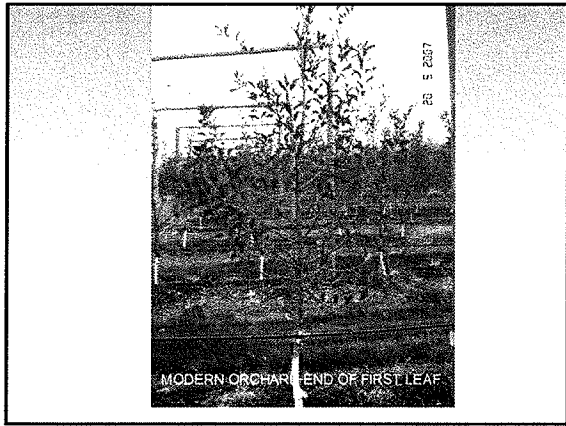
- MAIN CHANGES IN INDUSTRY IN PAST 10 YRS**
- **PRE 1998** SINGLE CHANNEL EXPORTS (VERY LIMITED DOMESTIC MARKET)
  - **1998** SUDDEN DEREGULATION
    - FROM 1 TO >100 EXPORTERS
  - **DPPT FORMED TO MAINTAIN INDUSTRY DISCIPLINES & FUNDING FOR**
    - CURRENTLY DPPT HAS 3 TRUSTEES PER FRUIT TYPE AND A BUDGET OF R.35 MILLION SPENT AS FOLLOWS:
      - FUNDING TECHNICAL & RESEARCH 5.9%
      - PLANT IMPROVEMENT & CERTIFICATION 6.4%
      - BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE GATHERING & STATISTICS 4.5%
      - DEVELOPMENT OF REAL TIME INFORMATION SYSTEMS 13.8%
      - MARKET ACCESS 5.3%
      - TRANSFORMATION 9.0%
      - ADMINISTRATION 8.0%
      - EACH FRUIT TYPE DECIDES UPON THE SPLIT MADE OF ITS LEVIES BETWEEN SOME OF THE ABOVE CATEGORIES ( NO CROSS-SUBSIDIZATION BETWEEN FRUIT TYPES IE EACH FRUIT TYPE CONTROLS IT'S OWN SPEND)
  - **1998 - 2000**
    - CHAOS ON EXPORTS MORE COMPETITION BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICAN EXPORTERS RATHER THAN WITH OTHER COUNTRIES
    - NUMEROUS PRODUCERS AS WELL AS EXPORTERS BANKRUPTED ..THESE YEARS CO-INCIDED WITH LOW PRICES OVERSEAS
    - POME FRUIT VOLUNTARY LEVIES DROPPED FROM 70% TO < 20%. GRAPES AND STONEFRUIT KEPT STATUTORY LEVIES
    - START OF LAND REFORM
  - **2000 - PRESENT**
    - FRESH PRODUCE EXPORTERS FORUM ESTABLISHED IN 2000 TO PROMOTE HONEST & ETHICAL EXPORTERS
    - STATUTORY LEVIES RE-INTRODUCED SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS SET BY GOVERNMENT & RENEWABLE EVERY 4 YEARS
    - CONTINUAL RESTRUCTURING TO ADDRESS CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES WITHIN DIFFERENT INDUSTRY SECTORS
  - FORMATION OF "FRUIT SOUTH AFRICA" TO CO-ORDINATE DECIDUOUS, CITRUS & SUB-TROPICAL FRUITS

**RELATIVE PROFITABILITY OF VARIOUS FRUIT TYPES**

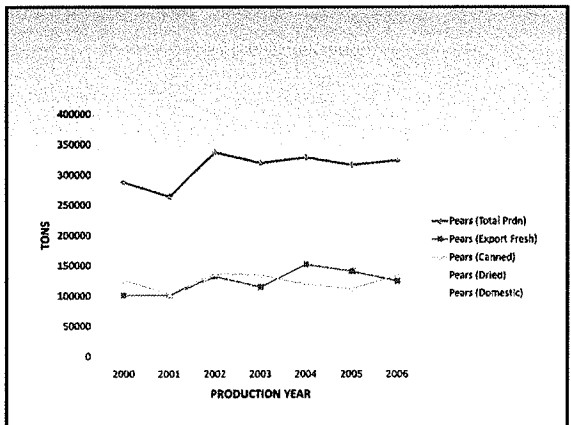
	APPLES	PEARS	PLUMS	PEACH & Nectarine	APRICOTS	GRAPES
Net Farm Income/ Ton	108	110	172	523	448	86

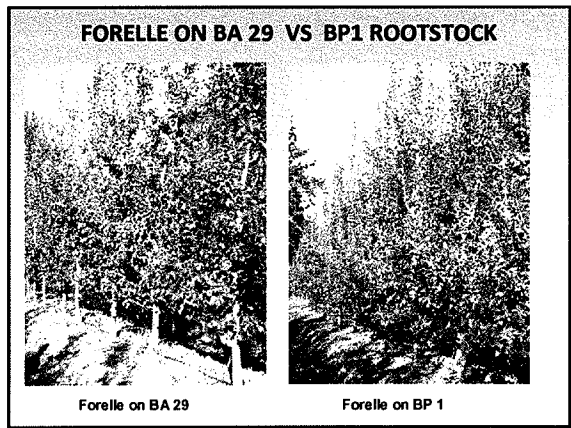
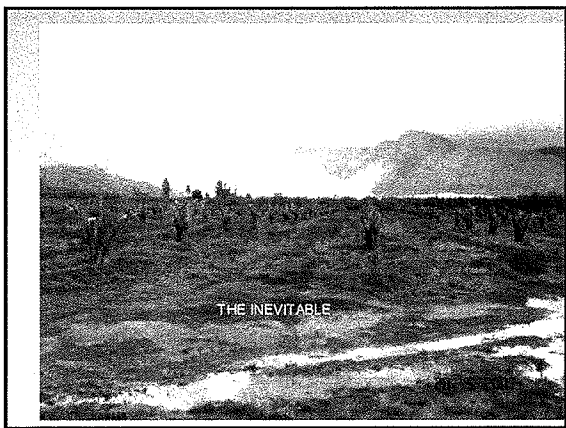
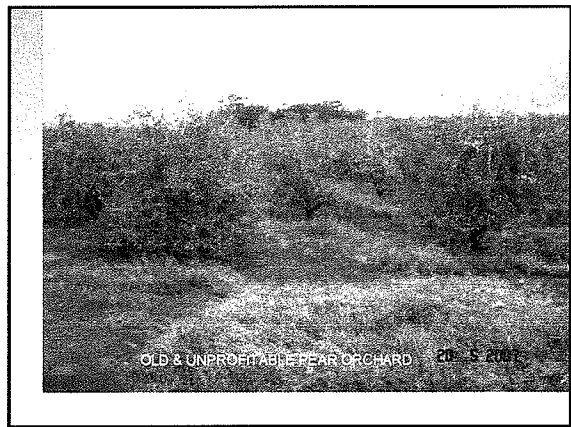
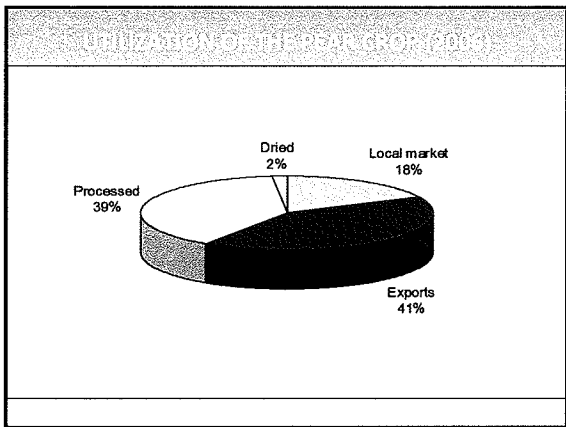
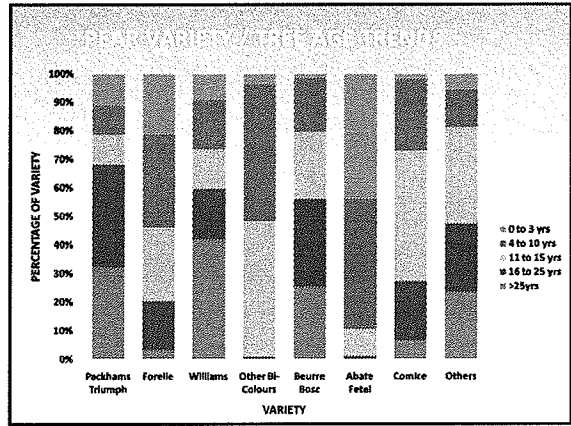
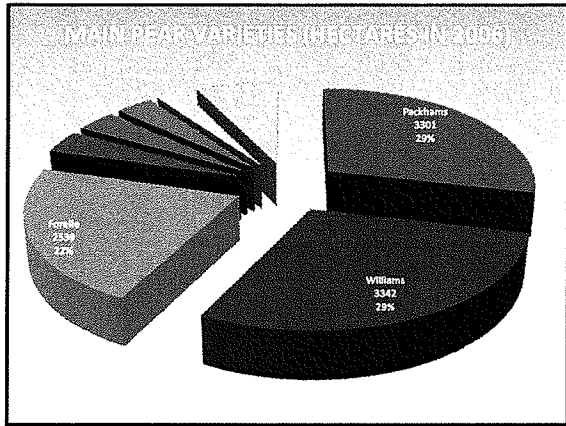
# APPLES

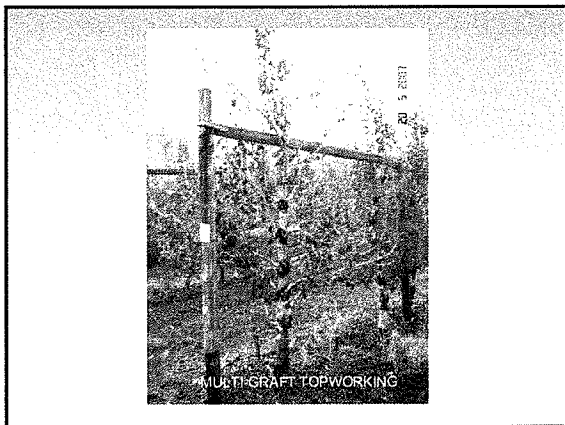
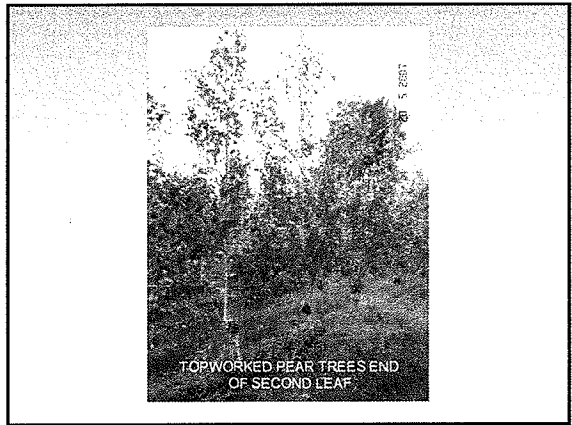
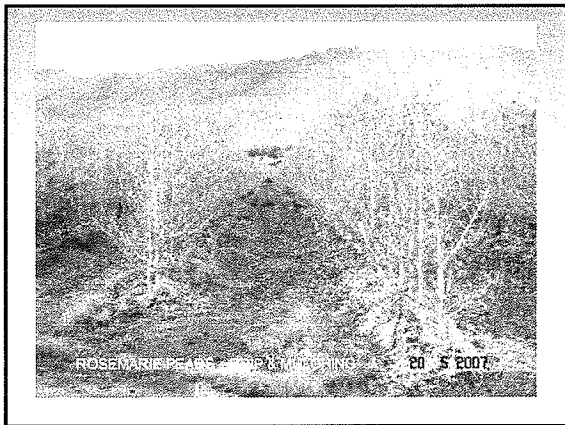




# PEARS





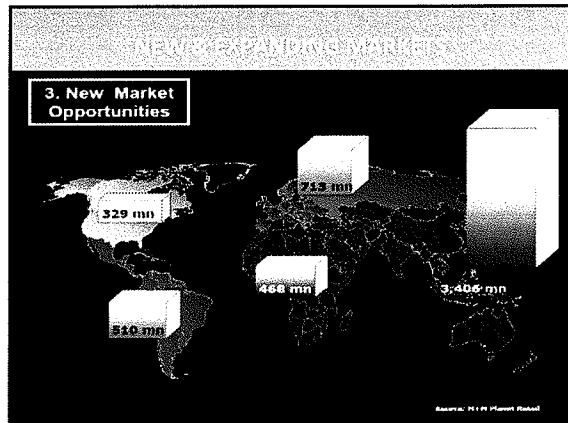


**COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES  
&  
THREATS**

**WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF SEA DECIDUOUS FRUIT EXPORTS?**

**Export Volumes ('000 Tons)**

Fruit Kind	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2009/10	2010/11	Prediction
Apples	224.5	222.3	220	217.8	215.7	213.5	1% Reduction per annum
Pears	153.7	155.3	156.8	158.4	160	161.6	1% Growth per annum
Table Grapes	210.6	214.8	219.1	223.5	227.9	232.5	No growth / Fluctuations
Plums	39.5	40.24	41.05	41.87	42.71	43.56	2% Growth per annum with Large Fluctuations
Nectarines	5	5.18	5.39	5.6	5.83	6.06	4% Growth per annum with Large Fluctuations
Peaches	2.5	2.56	2.61	2.66	2.71	2.77	2% Growth per annum with Large Fluctuations
Apricots	3.5	3.62	3.69	3.77	3.84	3.92	2% Growth per annum with Large Fluctuations



- MANAGING THE COMPETITION**
- AVOIDING HEAD-TO-HEAD COMPETITION WITH OTHER EXPORTING COUNTRIES EG. LATE PLUMS INTO UK & EUROPE
  - FINDING THE GAPS EG. EARLY STONE FRUIT TO UK & EUROPE
  - REAL TIME DATA COLLECTION ON CROP & MARKET CONDITIONS (DECAFRUIT)
  - EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON CROP SIZE AND MARKETING STRATEGY (IPLA)
  - KEEPING AHEAD WITH TECHNOLOGY
  - KEEPING UP WITH CONSUMER DEMAND & NEW VARIETIES
  - SECURING SUPERMARKET PROGRAMMES

- MANAGED PRODUCTS**
- TWO MAIN MOTIVATIONS
    - LEVERAGING VALUE FOR GROWERS FROM RETAILERS
    - IMPROVED REWARDS TO BREEDER & LICENSEE CHAIN
    - SECURING POSITION IN VALUE CHAIN (Exporters less important with managed varieties)
  - RESULTS TO DATE
    - SOME SUCCESSSES eg. PINK LADY®, JAZZ®
      - SUCCESSFUL PRODUCTS ALL TRULY UNIQUE & CAN BE DIFFERENTIATED
      - HAVE BIG \$ FOR DEVELOPMENT & PROMOTION
    - BACKLASH FROM RETAILERS
    - BALANCE BETWEEN "CONTROL" AND SUFFICIENT "COMMERCIAL FREEDOM" IS DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE
  - THE FUTURE OF MANAGED VARIETIES
    - FACE MUCH COMPETITION BETWEEN EACH OTHER & WITH RETAILER BRANDS
    - MORE DIFFICULT TO SECURE A NICHE, PRODUCT MUST BE UNIQUE AND NOT A SUBSTITUTE
    - EVEN LARGER BUDGETS WILL BE REQUIRED TO LAUNCH & SUSTAIN
    - GREATEST POTENTIAL IS WITH RANGES OF PRODUCT RATHER THAN INDIVIDUAL ITEMS
  - IN SOUTH AFRICA
    - PINK LADY® & SUNDOWNER® (IPLA)
    - BRADFORD PEACH & NECTARINE GROWERS COMPANY
    - TABLE GRAPE GROWERS COMPANY
    - SUNWORLD PRODUCTS

- SOME RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**
- POPULATION OF 46 MILLION WITH RISING LEVEL OF DISPOSABLE INCOME
  - PREFERENCE FOR DECIDUOUS FRUITS
  - EXPANSION OF INFORMAL TRADING OUTLETS
  - PARALLEL SEA AND AIR FREIGHT STONE FRUIT PROGRAMS
  - ELIMINATION OF EXPORTERS FROM THE COST CHAIN?
  - INVOLVEMENT OF EXPORTERS IN VARIETY PROCUREMENT & DEVELOPMENT
    - COLORS... MEILLARD
    - CATOPE' .... BEN D'OR
    - CAPESPAN and TRUCAPE
  - INVOLVEMENT OF IMPORTERS IN VARIETY DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCING
    - MACK MULTIPLES AND ZAGER INTERSPECIFIC HYBRIDS

- IMPROVED VARIETIES**
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>APPLES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Pink Lady(R)</li> <li>•Sundowner(R)</li> <li>•Pagam2 &amp; Nic 29 Rootstocks</li> <li>•GG Rootstocks?</li> </ul> | <p><b>PEARS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Abate Fetele</li> <li>•BA 29 Rootstock</li> </ul> |
|---|---|



## NEW TECHNOLOGY

- **MATCHING ROOTSTOCK & SCION**
  - Vigorous on dwarf & Vice Versa
  - Replant Performance
- **TREE ARCHITECTURE**
  - Sol-Ava for Apples
  - Regalis\*
  - Light Management
  - Reduced Pruning
- **PRE-HARVEST**
  - New Chemical Thinning agents
  - Fruitlet analysis
  - Maturity Indexing/ Monitoring
  - Relain®
- **SOIL HEALTH**
  - Organic Material
  - Pre-Plant Preparation
  - Cover Crops
  - Mulching
- **TRELLISING**
  - NB with Dwarfing stocks
  - Limited Compatibility
- **POST-HARVEST**
  - SmartFresh®

## POLITICAL INFLUENCE

- SOUTH AFRICA TOTAL LAND AREA IS 122 MILLION HECTARES
- TOTAL FARM LAND IS 100 MILLION HECTARES
- TOTAL OWNED BY WHITE FARMERS 82 MILLION HECTARES
- >50% OF FARMS HAVE LAND CLAIMS PENDING (WESTERN CAPE HAS VERY FEW)
- 5128 LAND CLAIMS PENDING... MUST BE RESOLVED BY END 2008
- IT TOOK THE PAST 12 YEARS FOR 4 MILL HECTARES TO BE TRANSFERRED TO BLACK OWNERS
- GOVT. DECREES THAT 30% OF 82 MILL Ha (20,6 MILL) MUST BE IN BLACK HANDS BY 2014
- THE TARGET IS A MINIMUM OF 3,1 MILL HA PER YEAR FOR THE NEXT 3 YEARS
- 90% OF CURRENT FARMING UNITS HAVE AN ANNUAL TURNOVER OF < R 5 MILLION (-10% RETURN ON CAPITAL INVESTED) AND THE COUNTRY HAS AN INFLATION RATE OF AT LEAST 6% PER YEAR
- < 5% OF RSA GDP COMES FROM AGRICULTURE (vs >80% IN CASE OF ZIMBABWE) ... SO...
  - GOVT SEES NO PRIORITY IN TRADE AGREEMENTS, BIOSECURITY, MARKET ACCESS
  - GOVT INVESTMENT ONLY IN BLACK FARMER BUSINESSES AND NO PVT. CORPORATE INVESTMENT... "LRAD" HELPFUL BUT MAINLY TO LARGE FARMING ENTERPRISES

- LAND RESTITUTION MASSIVELY EMOTIONAL (NOT COMMERCIAL) & IS USED BY UNDERPRIVILEGED AS THE MAIN INDICATOR OF FAILURE TO DELIVER ON ELECTION PROMISES
- LABOUR LEGISLATION THROTTLING ENTERPRISES
- ALL WATER RIGHTS RESCINDED .. APPLY, REGISTER, AND PAY WATER & LAND TAXES (NO SERVICES)
- GOVT. ENCOURAGING SMALL FARMING UNITS... (AGAINST ECONOMIC REALITY)
- MAJORITY OF NEW BLACK VENTURES HAVE FAILED... (LACK OF CAPITAL & BUSINESS EXPERTISE)
- MENTORING & JOINT VENTURES ... MORE SUCCESSFUL
- FOR FUTURE STABILITY WHITE FARMERS HAVE TO FIND A SOLUTION!!!!!!
- VIRTUALLY NO BLACKS STUDYING AGRIC
- SECURITY OF TENURE ACT

## MATURITY INDEXING

- STARTED PRE-DEREGULATION TO ACHIEVE UNIFORMITY IN EXPORT PRODUCT QUALITY
- FUNDED BY STATUTORY LEVY AND COMPLIANCE ENFORCED THROUGH LEGISLATION (In consultation with industry and through PPECB who issue the required phyto and export certificates)
- POST-DEREGULATION - STILL REQUIRED BY MOST LARGE PACKERS & EXPORTERS - NOW ON USER-PAY BASIS
- HORTEC (INDUSTRY-FUNDED) STILL CONTINUING TO MONITOR MAINLY NEW OR PROBLEMATIC VARIETIES AND SHOW UP SPECIFIC SEASONAL DIFFERENCES
- IMPORTANT TOOL IN SCHEDULING HARVEST TO OPTIMISE QUALITY
- CAN PERMIT EXTENSION OF PICKING WINDOW
- ACCUMULATE GOOD DATA FOR FUTURE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

## MATURITY INDEXING PROCESS

Sample - 20 + 30 fruit

Maturity Analysis - 20 fruit

DATE Fruit colour  
Size Retention  
Weight % TSS  
Firmness % Acid  
Skin colour Starch conversion

Predictions

Modeling

Reporting

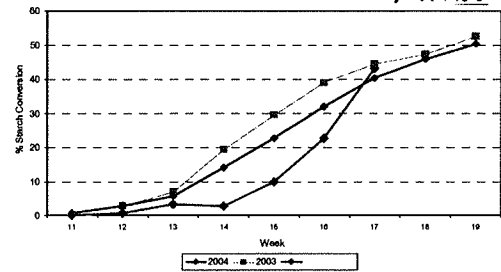
Cold Storage Evaluation - 30 fruit

Firmness  
Fruit colour  
% TSS  
% Acid  
Flavour / texture  
Defects

Verification of Prediction

Data base

Pink Lady®  
% Starch Conversion: 2004 vs 2003 vs Long term



## Certificate of Analysis

Sample report

Copyright Hortico (Pty) Ltd

Area: Vyeboom Farm: 004-Bosmanierug Oubovr: Granny Smith Orchard: Kakamas 1

Area	Sample date	Week	Fruit size	Firmness	Fruit colour	Seed colour	% TSS	% Acid	Starch	Release date
05 082	16/08/04	12	67.2	6.9	1/7	2.6	10.3	0.64	4.6	
05 087	20/08/04	13	69.5	7.4	1/6	3.7	10.0	0.63	11.5	30/08/04
05 090	20/08/04	14	67.4	8.4	1/6	4.1	12.0	0.76	7.0	05/09/04
07 060	05/09/04	16	73.8	7.4	1/7	4.4	11.2	0.73	22.0	02/09/04
08 577	10/09/04	16	74.2	7.6	1/6	5.0	12.3	0.67	28.7	
08 054	10/09/04	17	70.7	7.3	1/6	6.0	12.1	0.66	43.7	
08 536	20/09/04	18	71.3	7.1	1/7	4.0	12.7	0.68	47.7	
09 828	03/09/04	19	73.8	6.9	2/0	6.9	11.5	0.61	49.3	
Release criteria			7.0	1.0	4.2	11.4	0.70	20%		

Maximum and minimum standards for Granny Smith

Maximum firmness: Minimum firmness: 5.9 kg Tolerance: 20%

Min. starch conversion(%): 20.0 Minimum % TSS: 11.0%

Seed colour: 2/3 brown Tolerance: 20%

Sample ID: 69 828

## Granny Smith

Name	Release date	Optimum picking window		Final harvest date
		Start	End	
Block 3	27 Mar 04	01 Apr 04	16 Apr 04	22 Apr 04
Block 51	29 Mar 04	03 Apr 04	18 Apr 04	24 Apr 04
Block 34	29 Mar 04	03 Apr 04	18 Apr 04	24 Apr 04
Block 22	01 Apr 04	06 Apr 04	21 Apr 04	27 Apr 04
Block 1	03 Apr 04	08 Apr 04	23 Apr 04	29 Apr 04
Block 7	03 Apr 04	08 Apr 04	23 Apr 04	29 Apr 04
Block 32	05 Apr 04	10 Apr 04	25 Apr 04	01 May 04

## In Conclusion

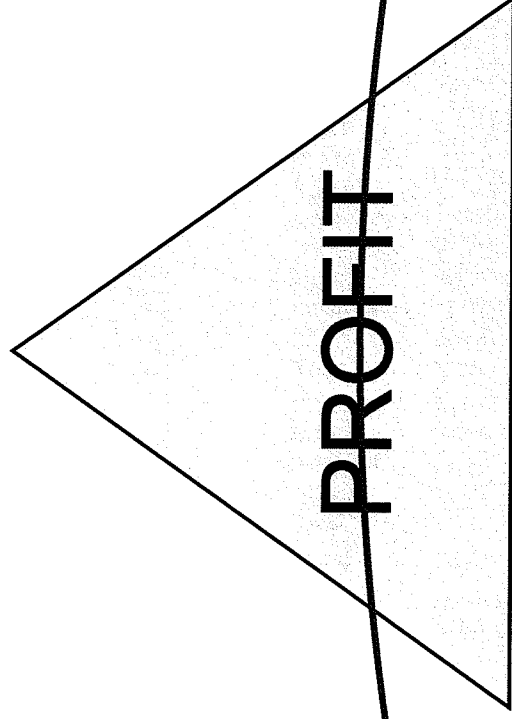
- Fruit maturity ... part science .... part art
- A mature fruit is not necessarily ripe
- All parameters are biologically independent
- No single parameter can identify maturity
- Focus on frequency distribution of readings
- Focus on consumer and eating quality
- Local market apple maturity/quality inspection

Thank you

# There are 3 things to consider

---

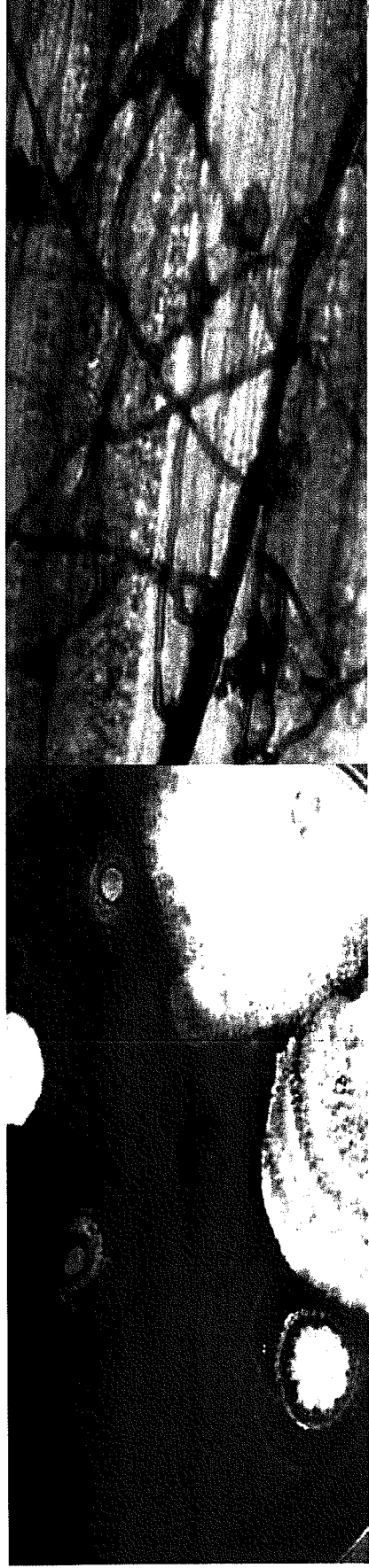
Genetics



Environment

Management

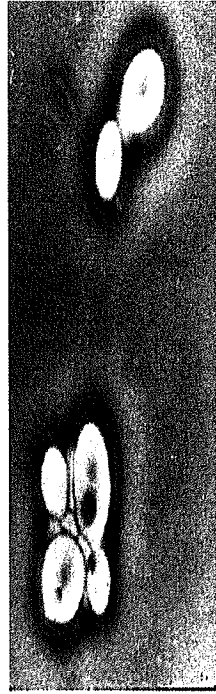
**SOIL HEALTH**



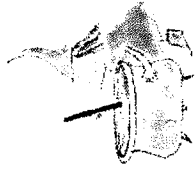
# Soil health management - the principles

AFFCO STONEFRUIT WORKSHOP 2007

Doris Blaesing  
Serve-Ag Pty Ltd



# 1 Chemical soil health indicators



*My favourite*

1. Organic Carbon
2. Soil pH
3. Salinity indicators (*Electrical Conductivity, chloride*)
4. Nutrient levels
5. Cation exchange capacity

**On every soil test report!**

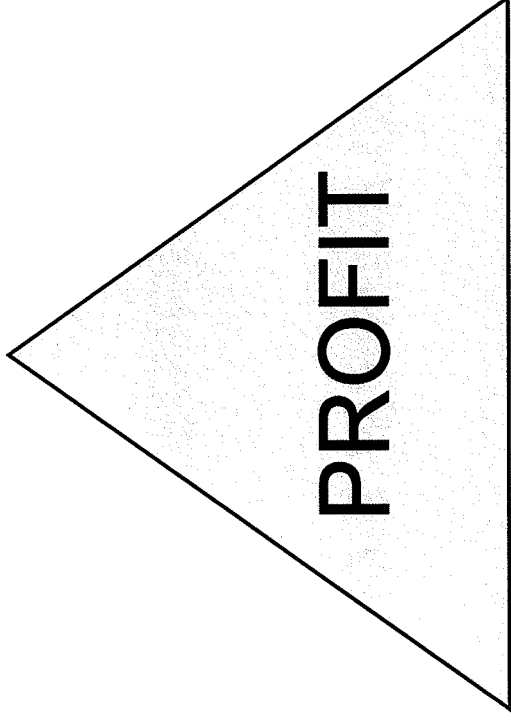
*Can be manipulated!*



# There are 3 soil health areas

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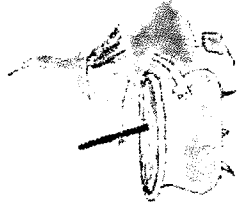
Chemical



Physical

???

Biological





# ORGANIC MATTER - ORGANIC CARBON

## Why?

Microbe & plant food

'Glue' for soil particles

Holds onto nutrients

Improves water infiltration  
and holding capacity

Improves soil air volume

Better root growth



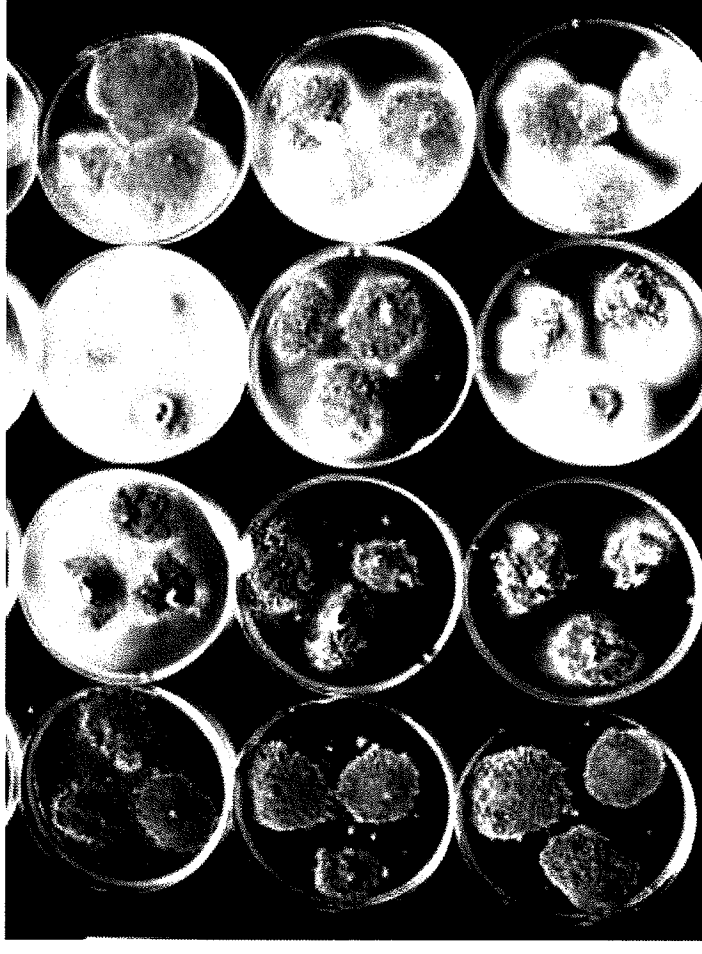
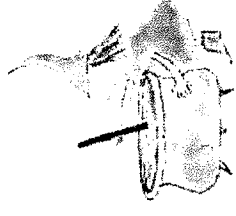
## BLACK MAGIC



## 2 Physical soil health indicators

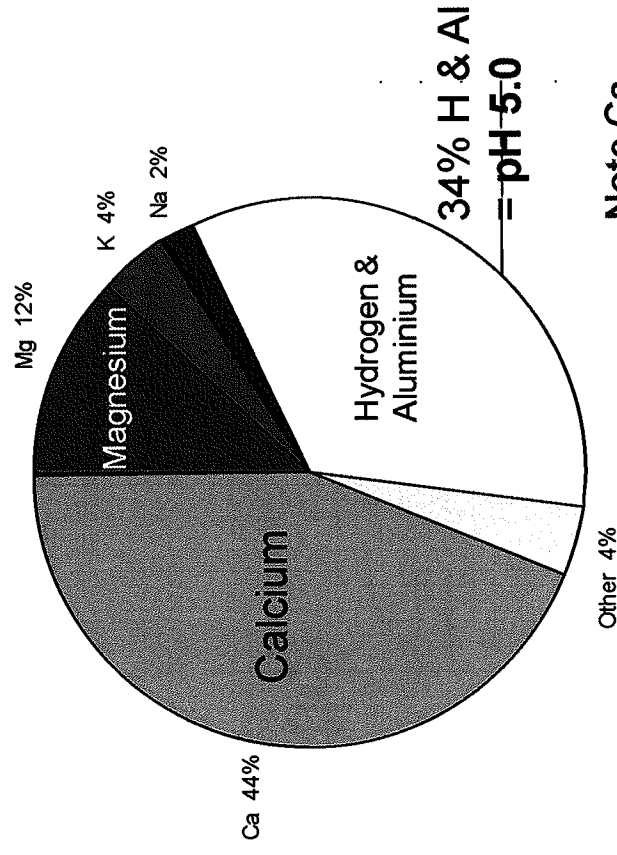
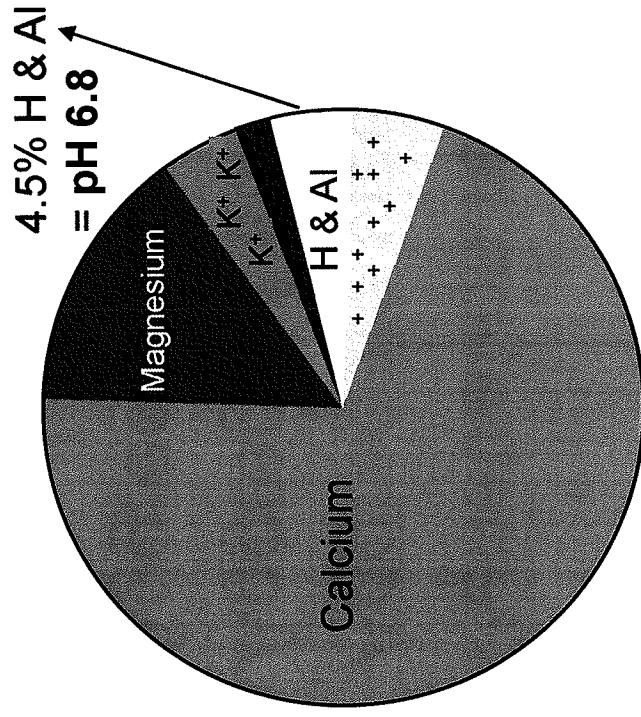
1. Penetration resistance
2. Aggregate size distribution
3. Aggregate stability
4. Aggregate dispersion
5. Bulk density
6. Vane strength
7. Infiltration
8. Soil Texture

???



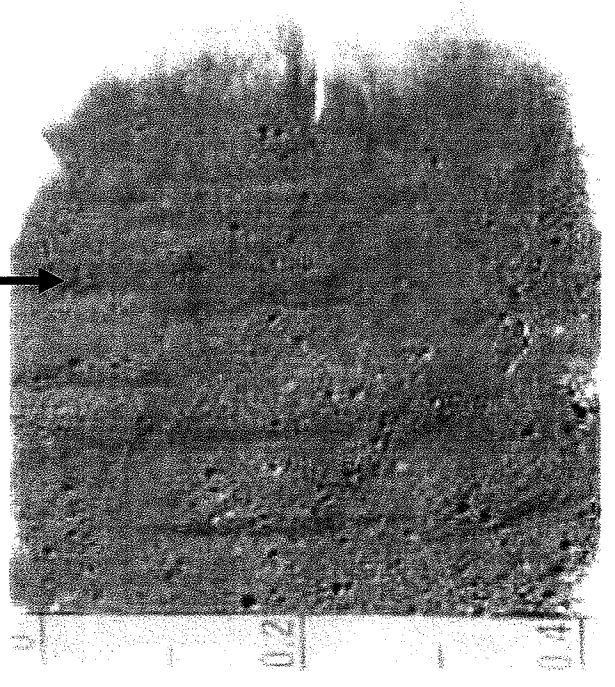
# pH and CEC

- pH is a measure of Hydrogen concentration
- The more Hydrogen, the more acidic the soil reaction
- An acidic soil usually leads to nutrient deficiency or **Al toxicity**



Note Ca deficiency and low Mg & K

POOR



# STRUCTURE

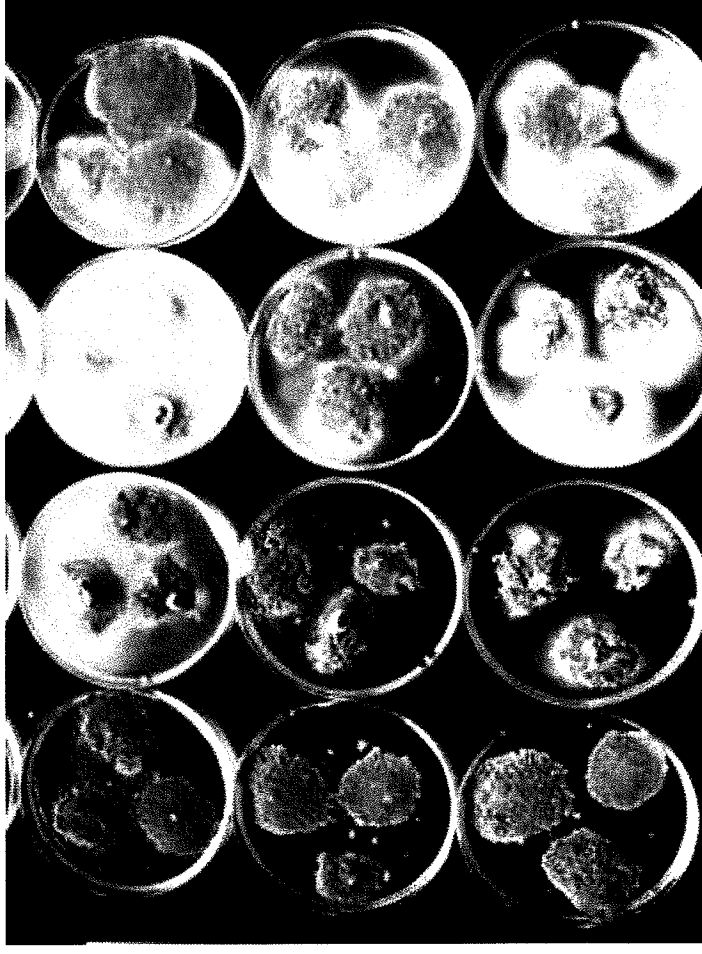
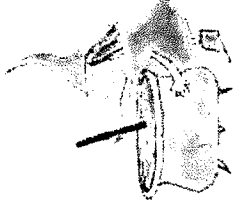
GOOD



# Physical indicators tell about

1. Resistance to root growth
2. Water & air holding
3. Resilience under pressure
4. Salinity, sodicity?
5. Weight (e.g. g/L)
6. Compaction
7. Water intake
8. Water holding

ahh

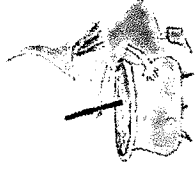


# Maintain/improve structure

Add organic matter



*Still my favourite*



**40 tonnes of dry matter needed  
to increase organic carbon by 1%**

**Add lime, dolomite or gypsum  
or other calcium sources (CEC)**



# The soil structure investigators

... in action



*Watch the  
spade*



**The best bet is to manage soil structure,  
organic carbon and pH/CEC.**

## 3 Biological soil health indicators

1. Bacteria (inc. Azotobacter)
2. Fungi ( inc. Yeasts)
3. Actinomycetes
4. Protozoa
5. Nematodes
6. Soil borne pathogens
7. Ratios of micro-organisms.....

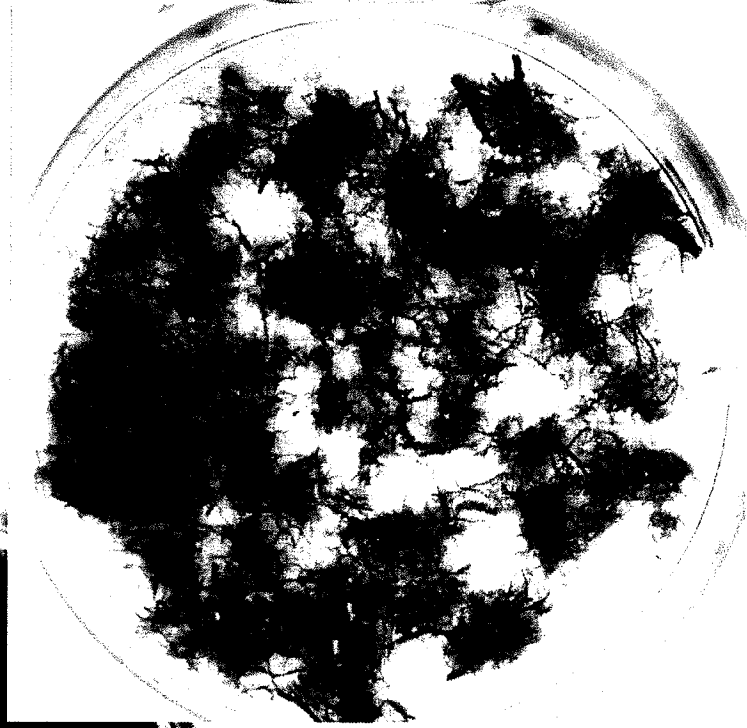




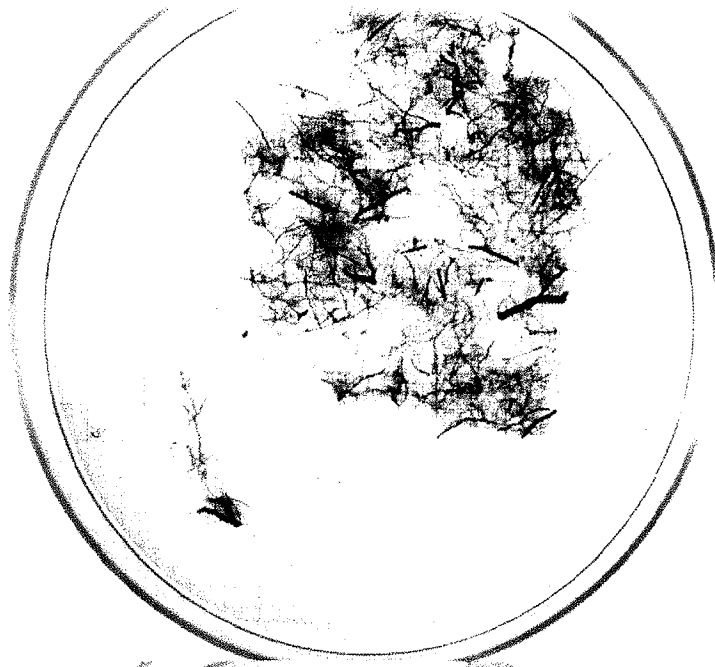
**ROOT GROWTH  
is affected by soil conditions**



**'virgin' soil**



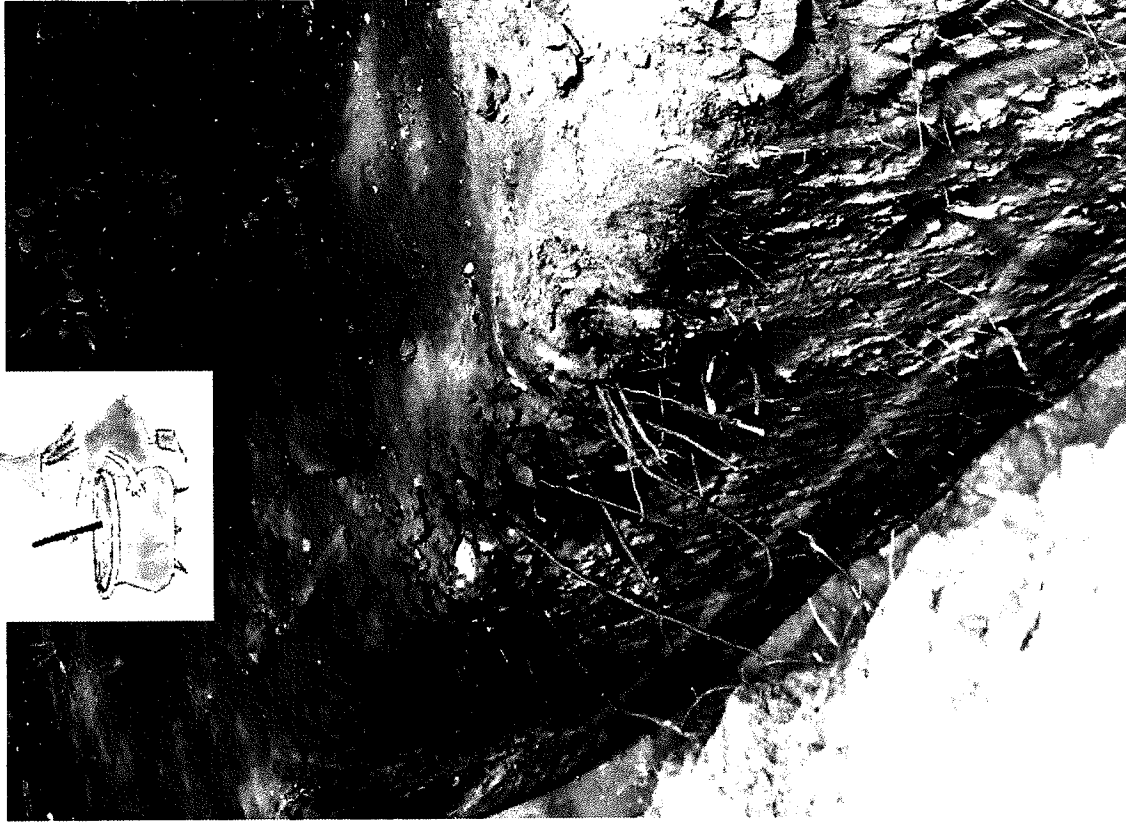
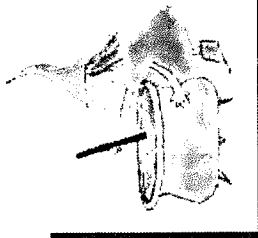
**orchard soil**



**'agricultural' soil**

# What does all that have to do with growing fruit??

???



It's all about

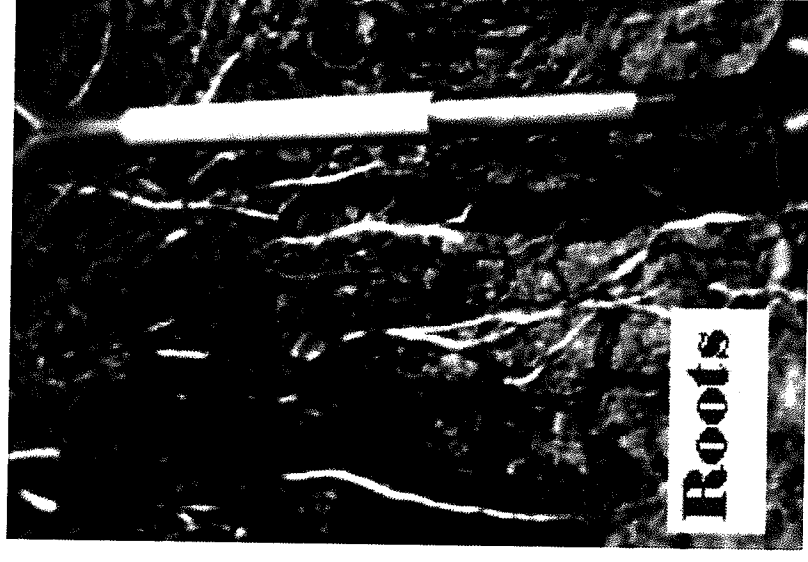
## ROOTS

The factor  
determining  
nutrient uptake is

Root elongation

# Major issues

- Loss of organic carbon
- Soil structure decline
- Salinity/ Sodicity
- Acidification



**POOR ROOT SYSTEMS,  
INADEQUATE NUTRITION**



# THE STORY BEHIND THE ROOTS

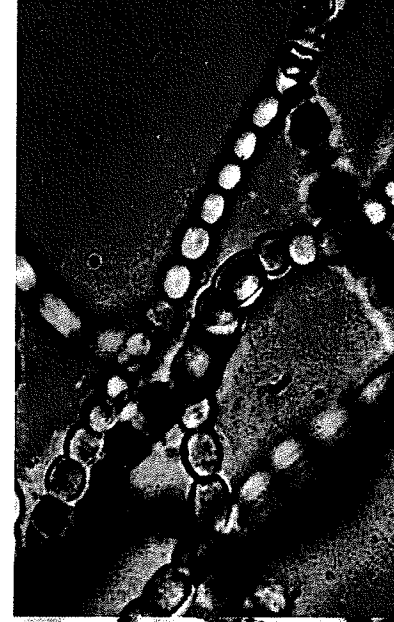


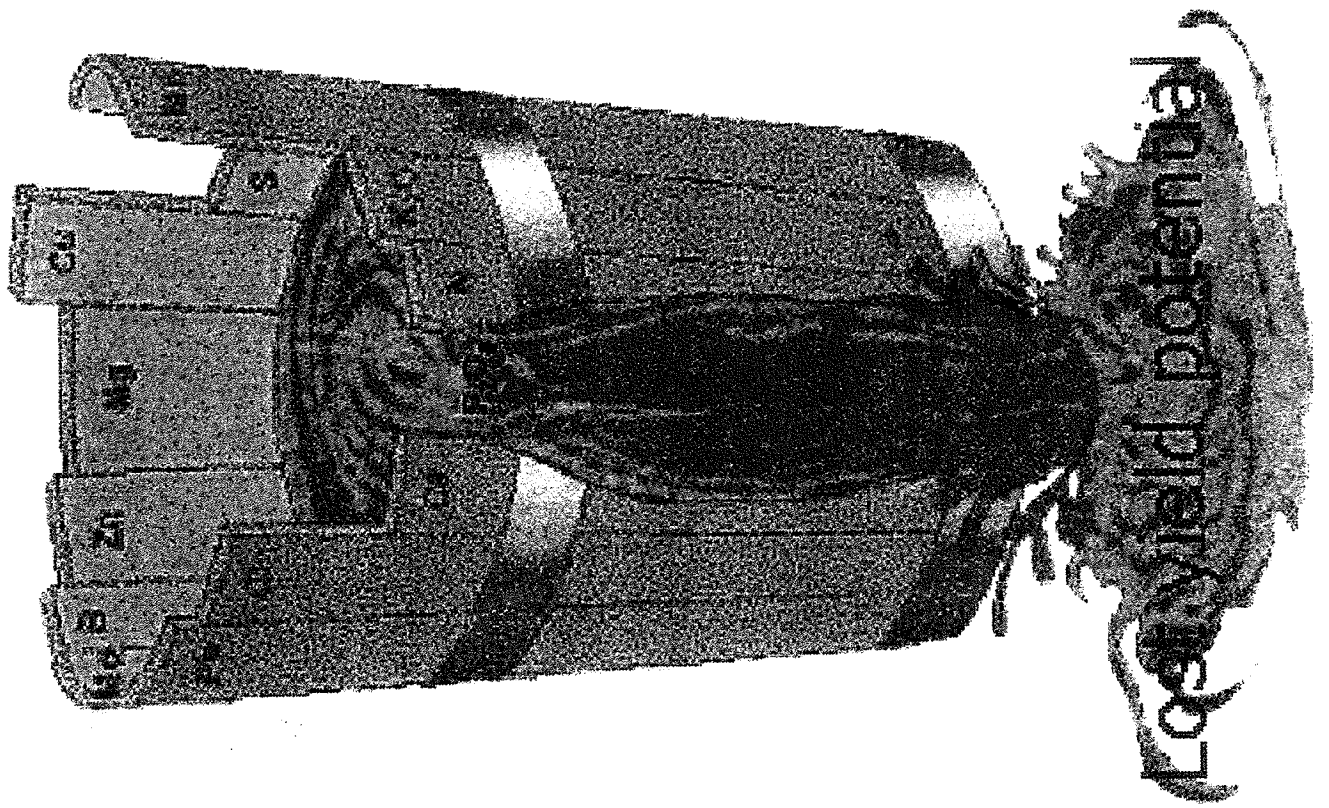
# SOIL HEALTH = Roots

Soil structure ok (drainage, accessible root zone)  
Organic Carbon high (nutrients, water, structure)  
pH & CEC ok (nutrients, water, structure)

= Happy critters & microbes  
= HEALTHIER TREES

= Good water & fertiliser use







# Soil Structure Why and How !

**MARTIN HOCKEY**



Australian  
Soil Planners PTY LTD

# Soil is a habitat not just "DIRT"

- a Ants
- b Earthworms
- c Rhizobium bacteria
- d Fungi
- e Actinomycetes
- f Bacteria





# The Supply and Availability of Plant Nutrients in Mineral Soils

## Factors Controlling the Growth of Higher Plants

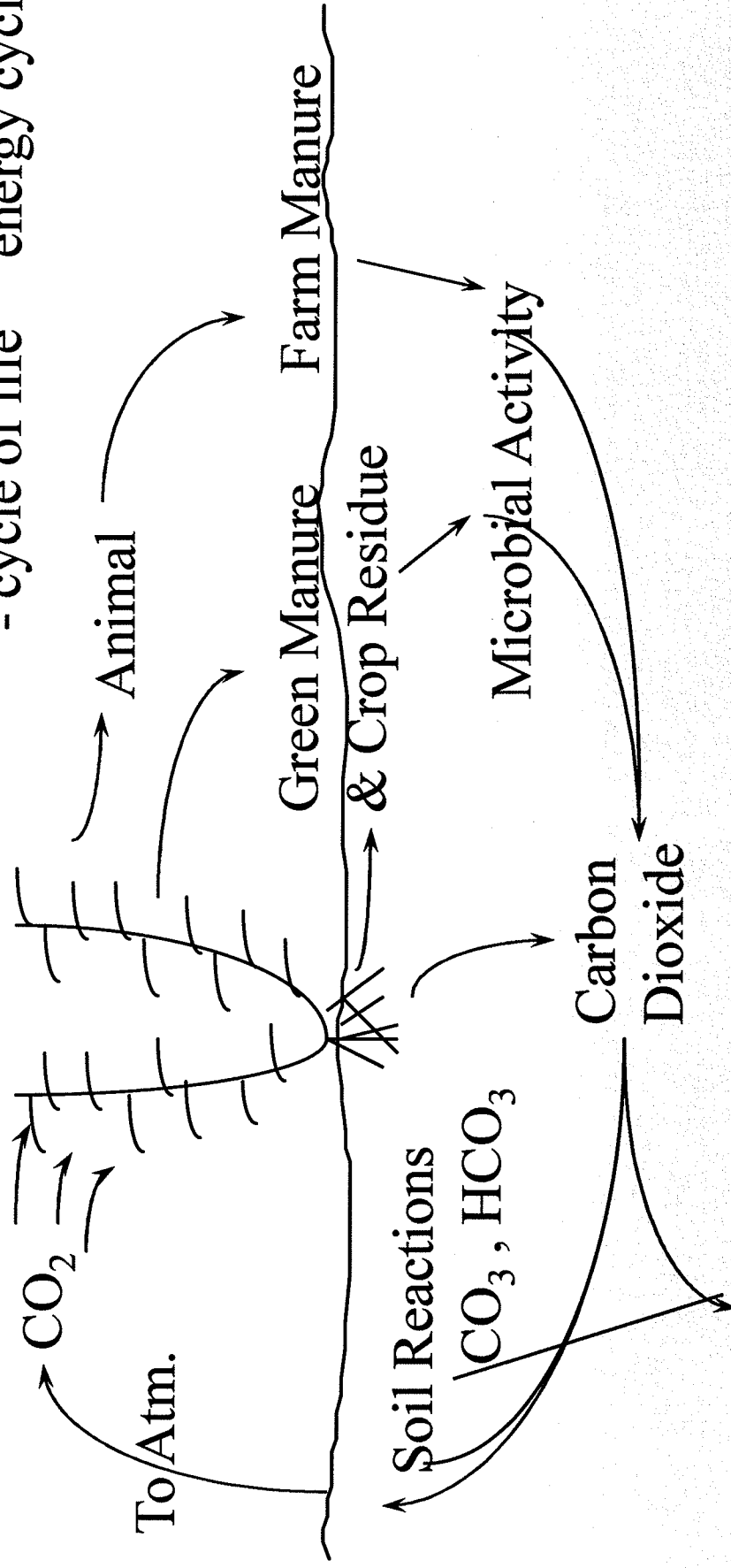
1. Light
2. Mechanical Support ( Soil )
3. Heat
4. Air
5. Water
6. Nutrients

# Objectives of the presentation

- Carbon the no.1 nutrient deficiency
- Soil structure – what is it!
- Provide the farmer with an understanding of the importance of soluble calcium as a major soil nutrient necessary for maintaining soil flocculation (soil structure)
- The effect of different forms of nutrients and there effect on soil structure( = soil “health” )
- Chlorides and it’s ability to compromise soil and plant function.
- Root Mass- the soil conditions and practices that increase it and decrease it !
- Factors effecting phosphate availability

# The Carbon Cycle

- cycle of life energy cycle



Drainage losses CO<sub>2</sub> & Carbonates & Bicarbonates of Ca, Mg, K, Etc.

# Essential Elements from Air and Water

C from CO<sub>2</sub>

H from H<sub>2</sub>O

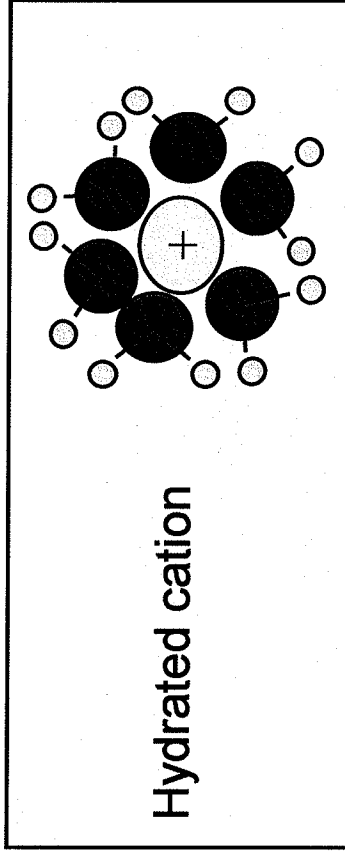
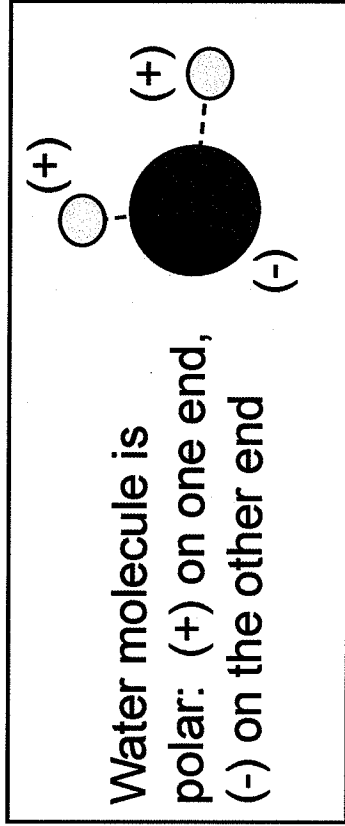
O from O<sub>2</sub>



**94 - 95% of fresh plant tissue**

# Flocculating Power of Cations

Cations in water attract water molecules because of their charge, and become hydrated.



Cations with a single charge and large hydrated radii are the poorest flocculators.

Cation	Charges per molecule	Hydrated radius (nm)	Relative flocculating power
Sodium	1	0.79	1.0
Potassium	1	0.53	1.7
Magnesium	2	1.08	27.0
Calcium	2	0.96	43.0

# Soil Structure:

- Soil clay particles can be unattached to one another (*dispersed*) or clumped together (*flocculated*) in aggregates. Soil aggregates are cemented clusters of sand, silt, and clay particles.

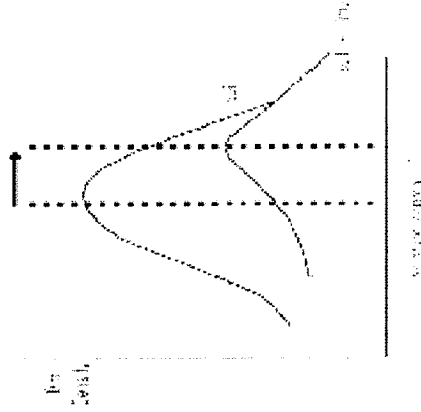
•Clay



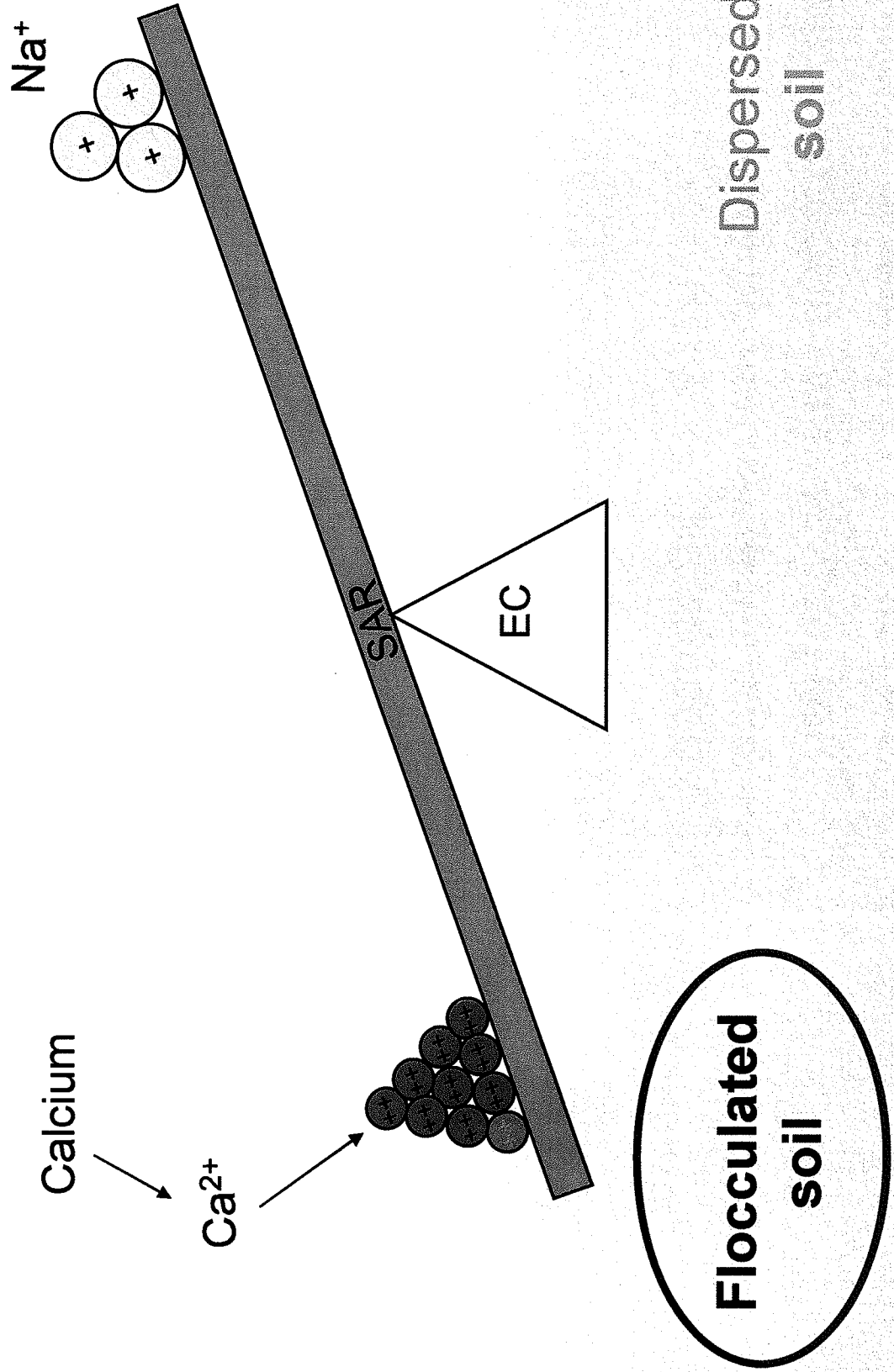
Randomly orientated platelets -  
large surface area - water adsorbed  
onto surfaces - unstable

Water trapped between platelets- not available for  
lubrication ∴ m.c for opt. density increases -  
more stable structure

•Clay-lime



Increasing *soluble* calcium improves aggregate stability in soils with poor structure.

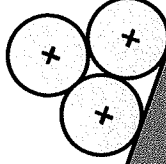


Soil particles may disperse if the amount of calcium in the soil is decreased

$\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$



$\text{Na}^{+}$



SAR

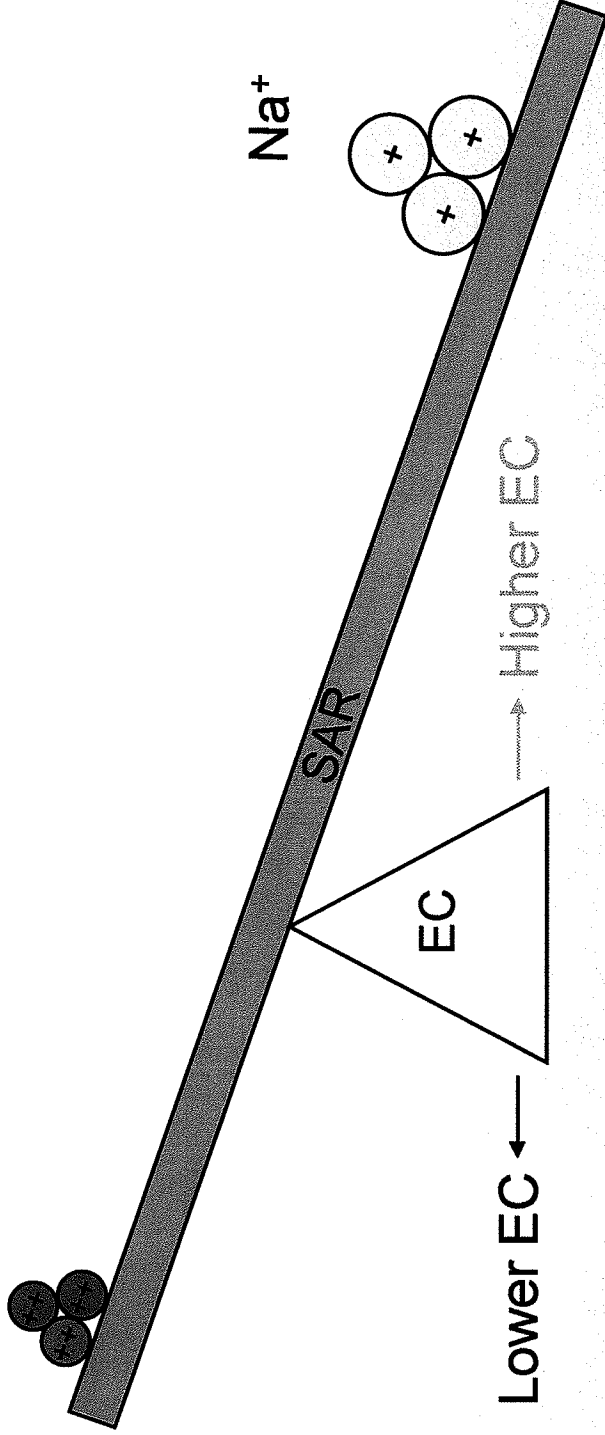
EC

Lower EC ←

→ Higher EC

Flocculated soil

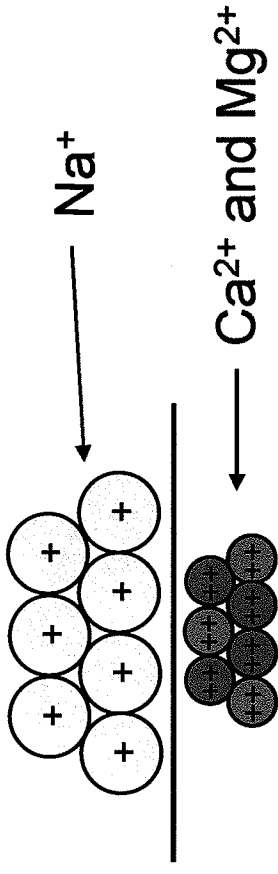
Dispersed soil





# Sodium Adsorption Ratio

The ratio of 'bad' to 'good' flocculators gives an indication of the relative status of these cations:

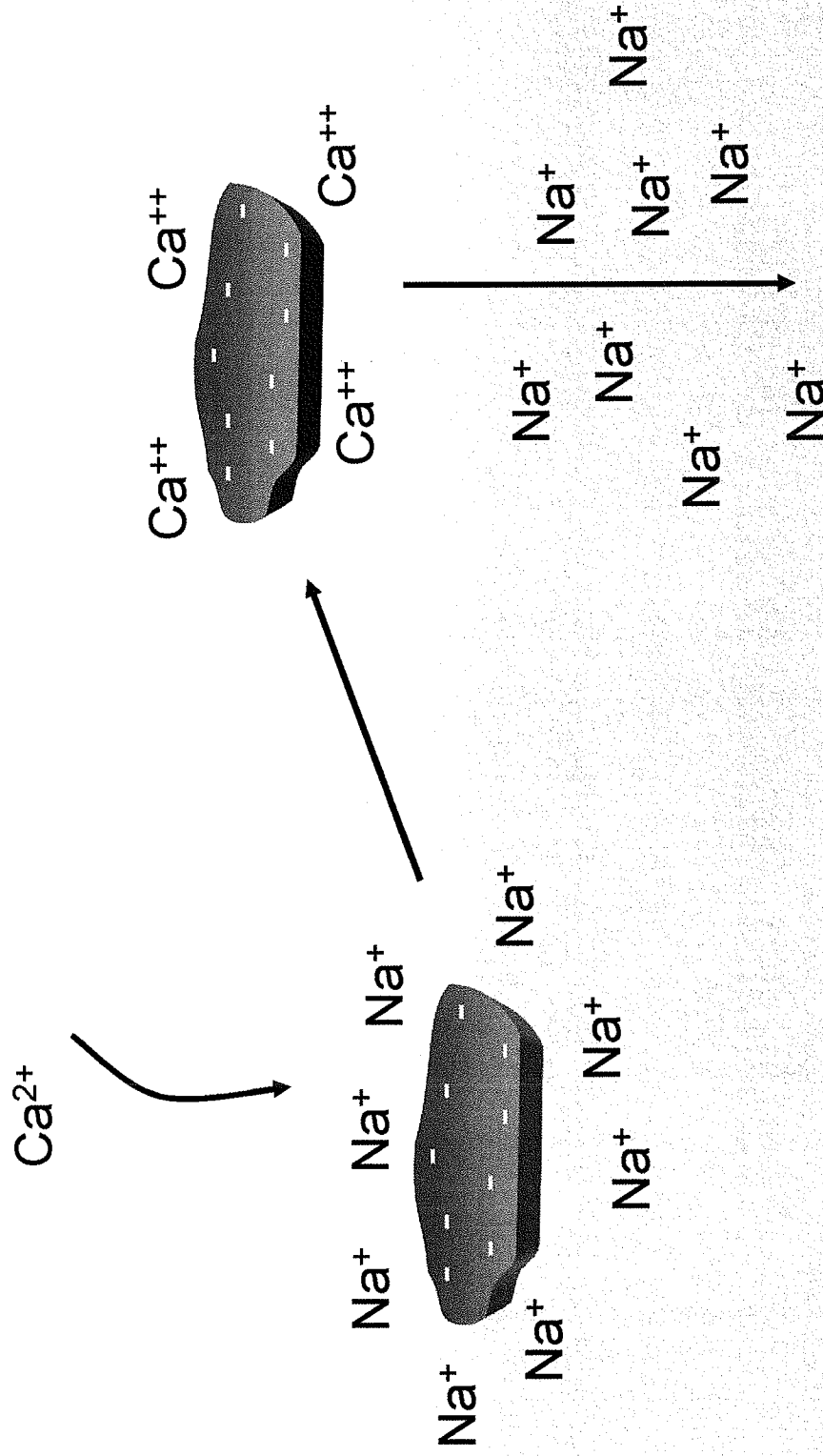


Mathematically, this is expressed as the 'sodium adsorption ratio' or SAR:

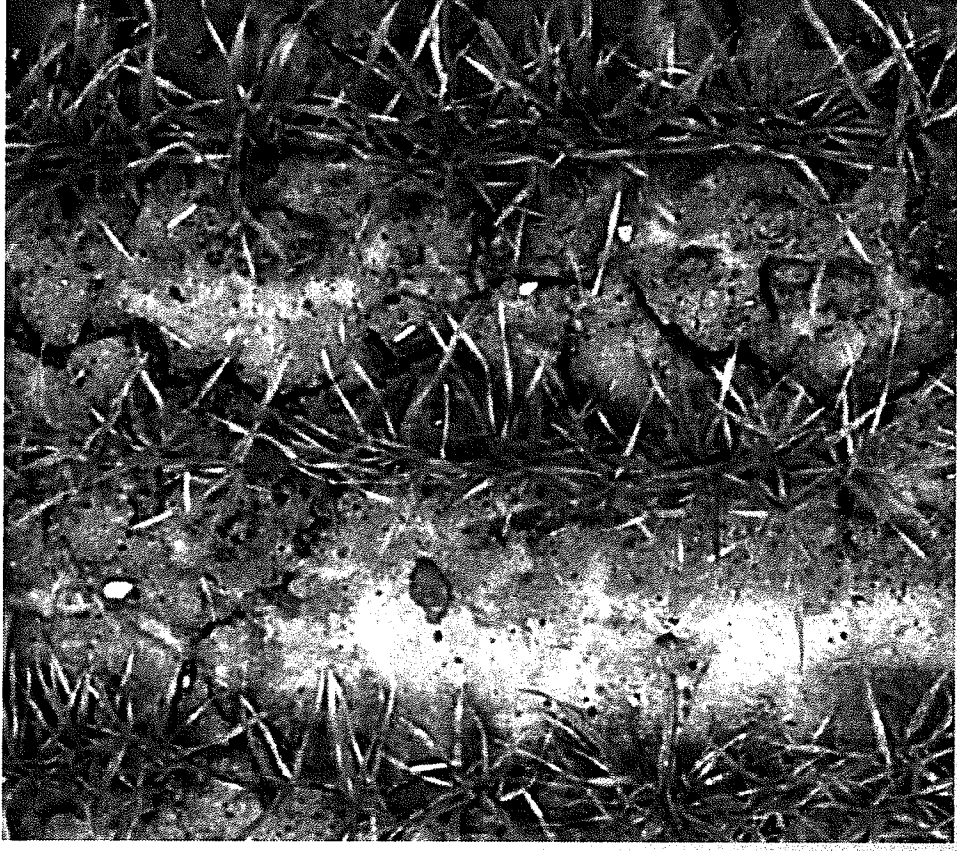
$$SAR = \frac{[Na^+]}{\sqrt{[Ca^{2+}] + [Mg^{2+}]}}$$

where concentrations are expressed in mmoles/L

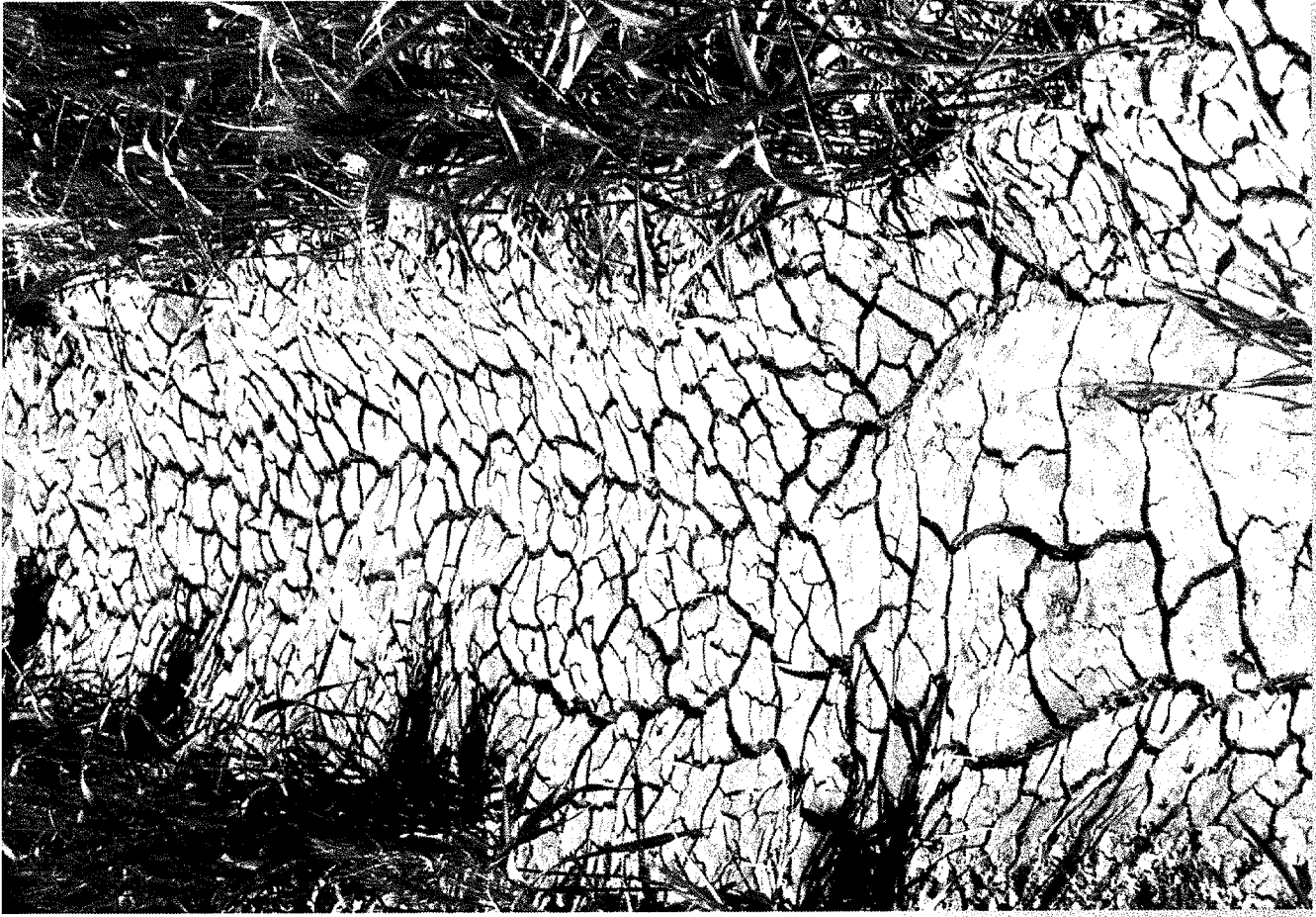
Apply soluble calcium before leaching salts out of soils susceptible to dispersion Replacing sodium with calcium before leaching will stabilize soil structure.



Same site, same soil, completely  
different structure- Calcium??



Observe your soil -  
sodic soils often crack  
when dry



# Soil Structure

- Good soil structure allows for favorable movement of air and water and root development
- Can be destroyed through the nutrients we apply
- Can be improved by the nutrients we apply
- Can be improved by adding more carbon.
- Low or inactive microbial populations exist in poorly structured soils

## Manage soil structure

- Be aware of the quality of irrigation water. Water with high levels of sodium (high SAR) will tend to destabilize soil.
  - Have irrigation water analyzed for SAR and EC or ask your water provider for analyses.
  - If you have high sodium irrigation water, the water and/or the soil may need amendments such as highly soluble Calcium.
- Observe your soil.
  - If water infiltrates very slowly, or if rain water infiltrates more slowly than irrigation water, the soil may have a sodium problem.
  - Sodium impacted soils may noticeably crack when dry.
- Analyze your soil.
  - Laboratory analysis can tell you the soil EC and SAR or ESP.

# Soils that are usually Dispersed

- High Magnesium
- Low Calcium
- High Sodium ( Potassium)
- Low Organic Carbon
- Low Microbial activity

# Compaction Indicators on Farm

- Hard soil ✓
- Standing water ✓
- Excessive water runoff ✓
- Poor plant growth ✓
- Increased bulk densities ✓
- Surface crust ✓



# Malate :

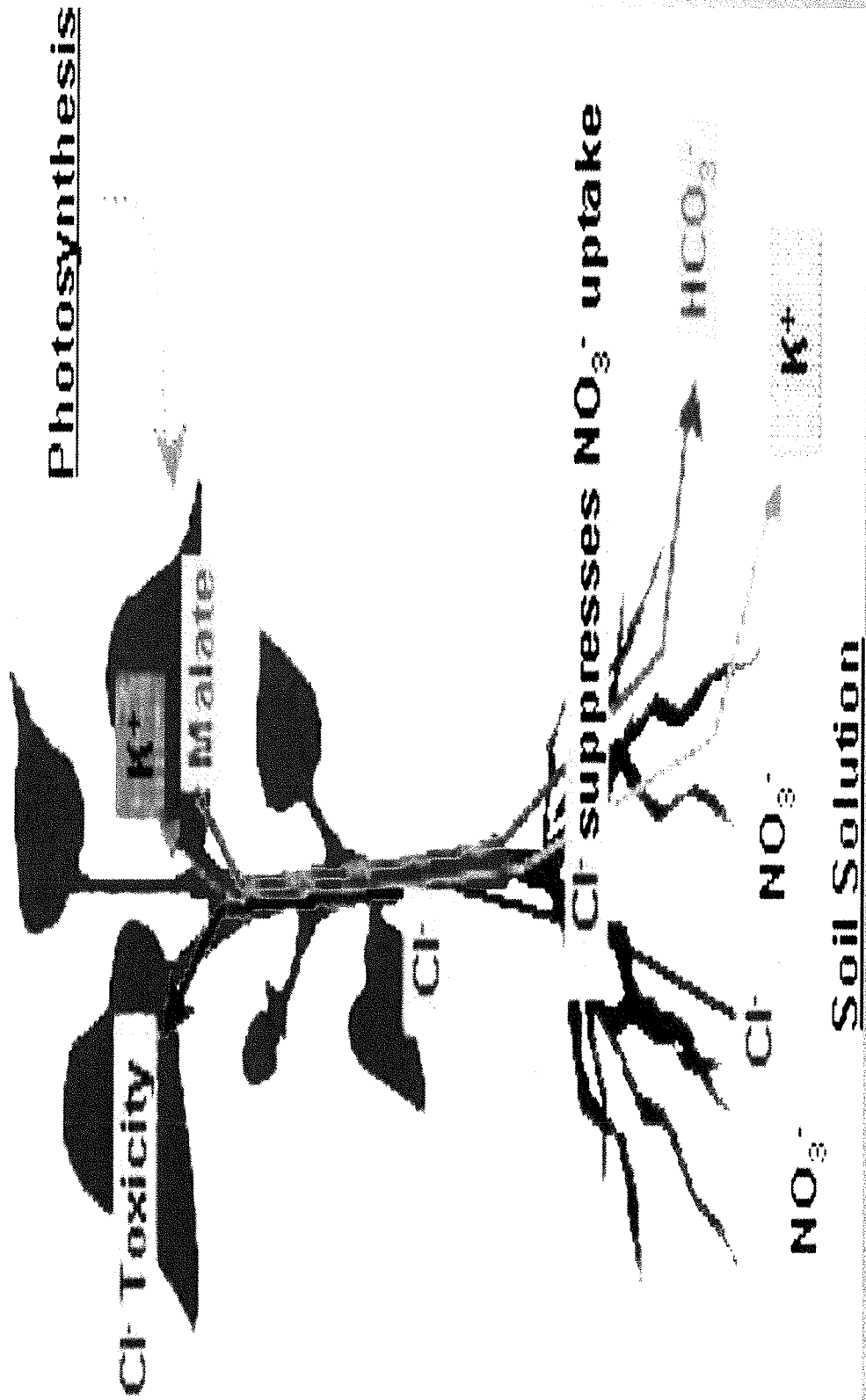
## Chloride and Sodium Toxicity

- Malate is the plant manufactured salt of malic acid. Malate occupies a central role in plant metabolism. Its importance in plant mineral nutrition is reflected by the role it plays in symbiotic nitrogen fixation, phosphorus acquisition, and aluminum tolerance. In nitrogen-fixing root nodules, malate is the primary substrate for bacterial respiration, thus fueling nitrogenase. Malate also provides the carbon skeletons for assimilation of fixed nitrogen into amino acids. During phosphorus deficiency, malate is frequently secreted from roots to release unavailable forms of phosphorus. Malate is also involved with plant adaptation to aluminum toxicity.

# Nutrients that contribute to the loss of structure.

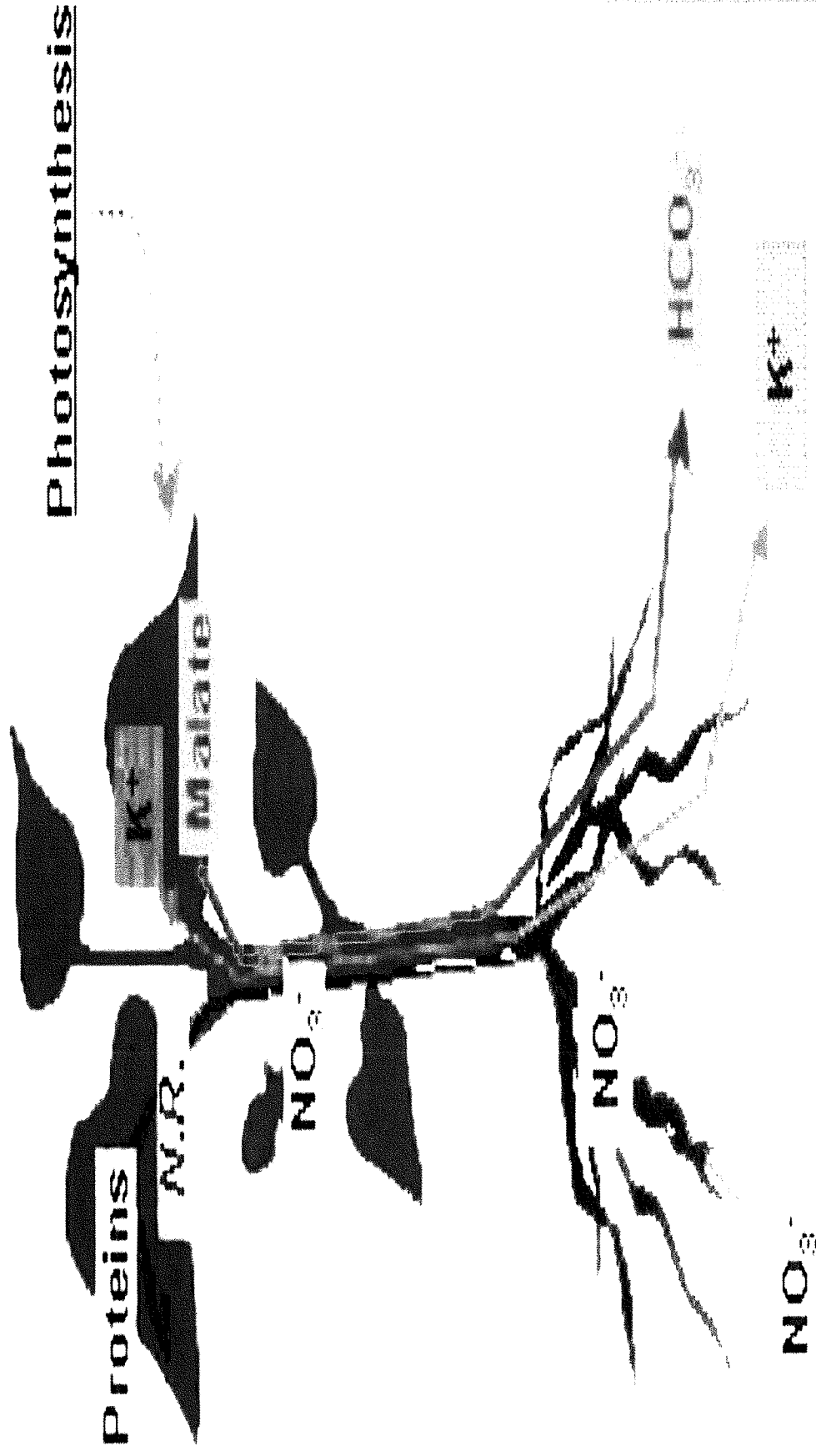
- Nitrogen ( precipitating calcium/ reducing carbon and ph)
- Over use of Gypsum ( acid sulphate leaching of calcium )
- Potassium Chloride (Muriate of Potash) soil sterilization ( reduction of microbial activity)
- Over use of acid forms of Phosphate (reduction of Glomalin producing Fungi/ increase in Aluminium in solution thus reducing root penetration and reducing ph).

**A Simplified Model of Chloride Accumulation in Leaf-tips at Excessive Cl in Soil** The  $K^+$  moves Cl- upwards, and malate downwards. Proteins production is halted. Ben-Asher and Pacardo, 1997



## A Simplified Model of Normal Metabolism at Non-Saline Conditions in Soil

The  $K^+$  moves  $NO_3^-$  upwards, and malate downwards. Proteins are Produced, Roots are well nourished . Ben-Asher and Pacardo, 1997

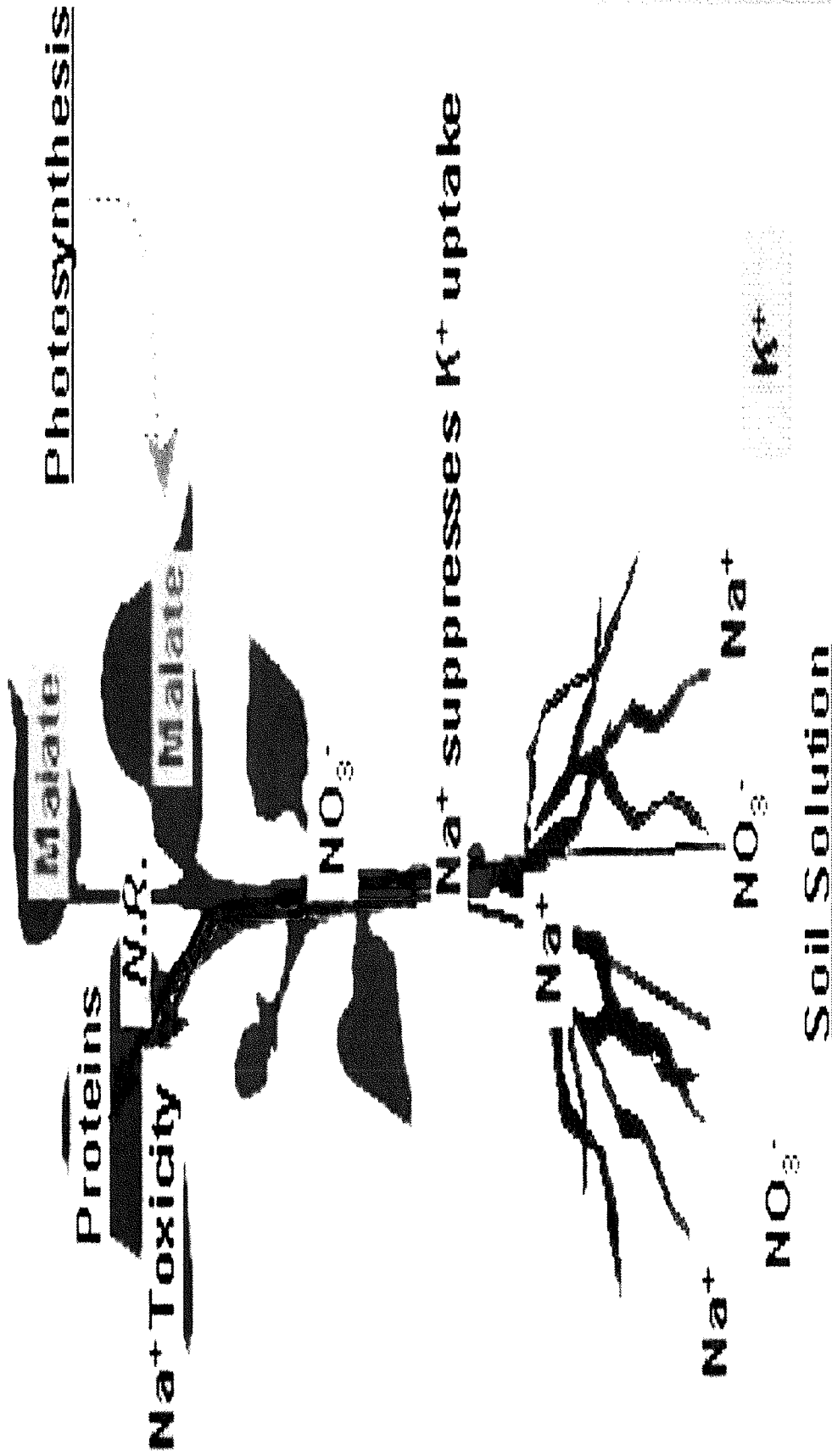


# Nutrient sources that contribute to soil structure.

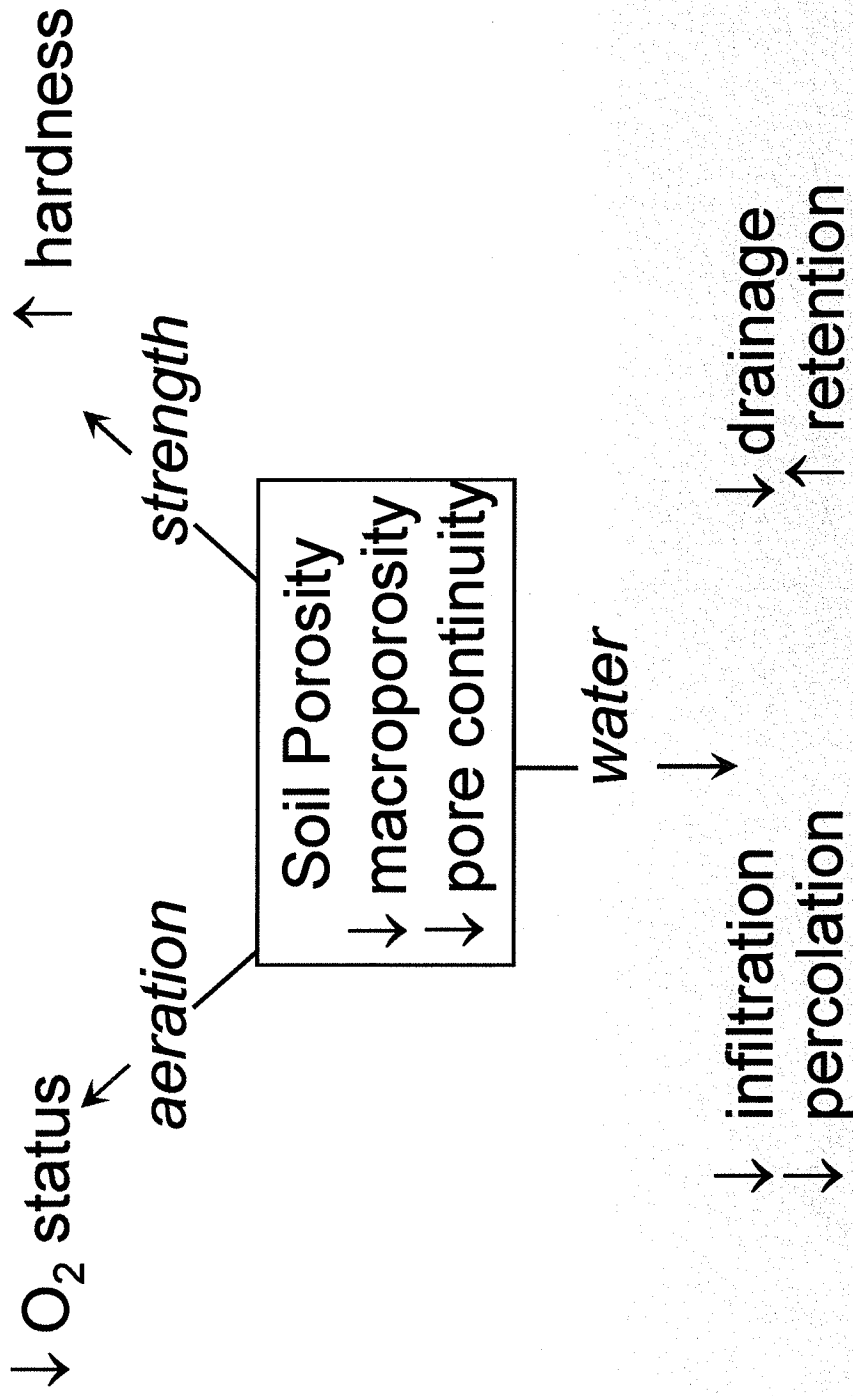
- Soluble Calcium sources.
- Magnesium ( Dolomite) if magnesium is low only !!
- Molasses ( if used correctly !!)
- Gypsum –In certain circumstances
- Organic material sources eg. Manures, composts and the like

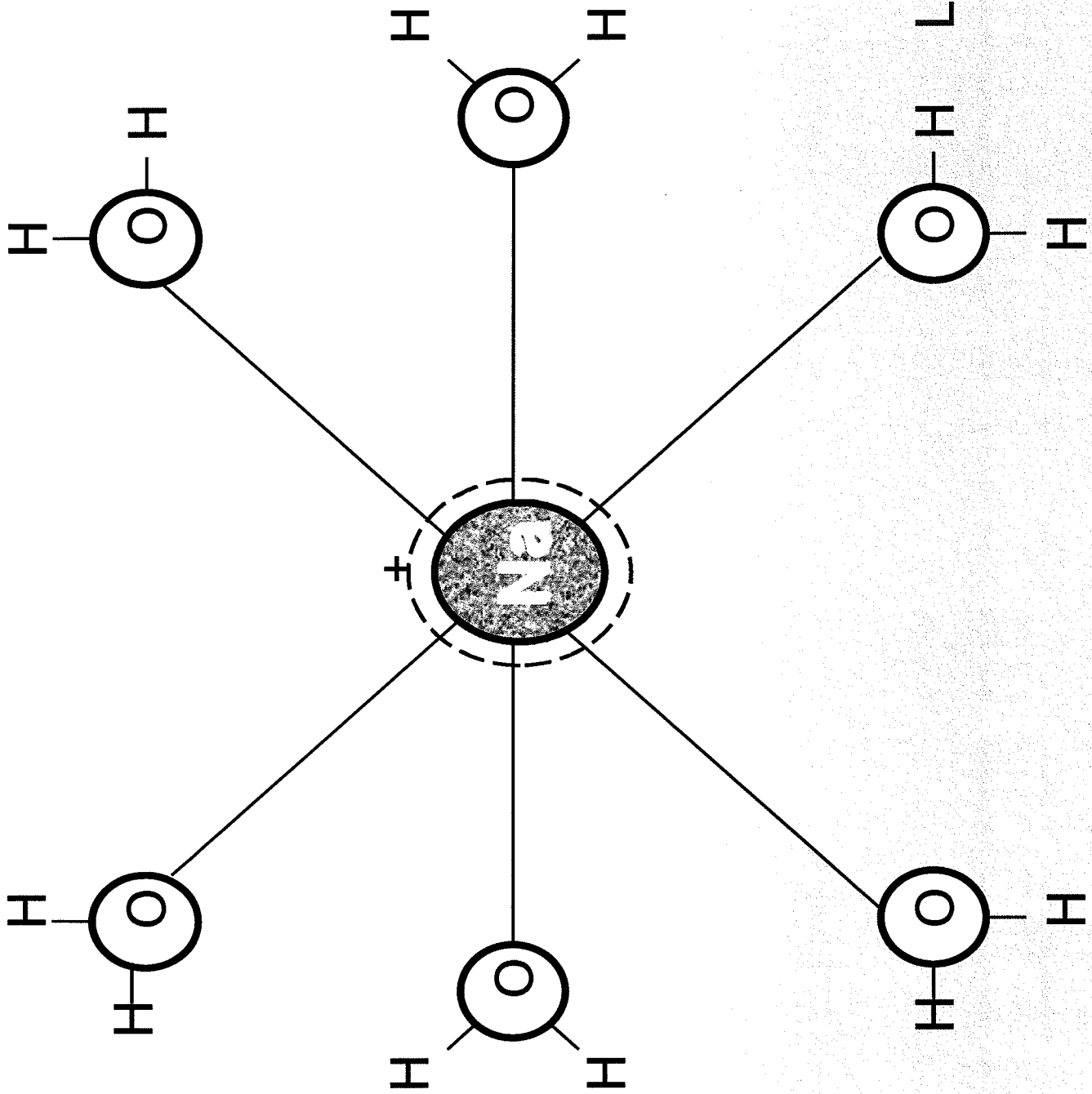
# A Simplified Model of Sodium Accumulation in Leaves at Excessive Na in Soil

The K<sup>+</sup> is paralyzed due to shortage in K<sup>+</sup>. malate is not moved downwards. Roots are undernourished. Ben-Asher and Pacardo, 1997



# Na Effects on Soil Permeability





Like Shit to  
Bears Fur



# Wheat Germination Trial - 2006



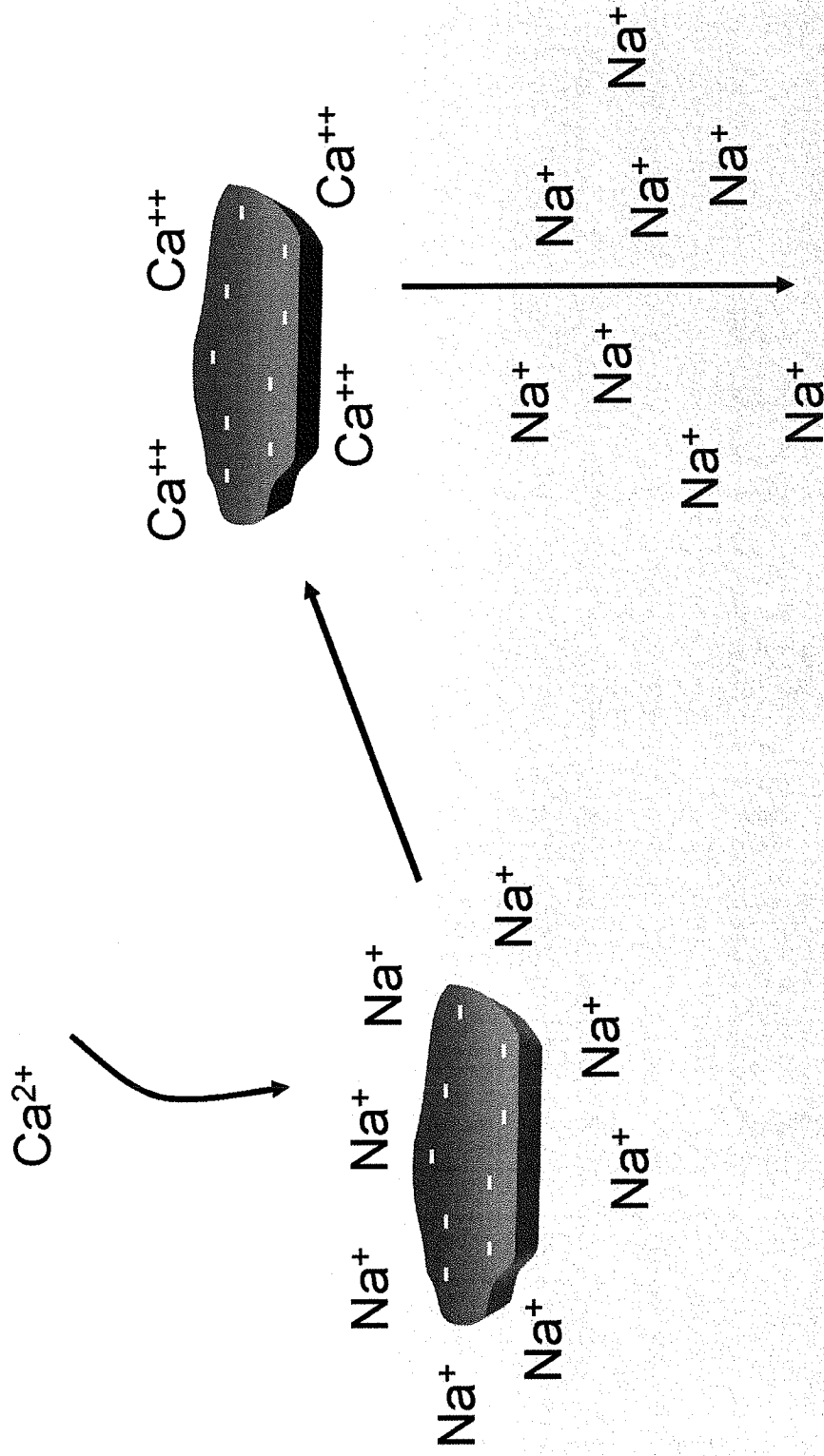
# Green Manure on Salt



# Calcium Sources

- Calcium Carbonate  $\text{CaCO}_3$  ( Ag- Lime)
- Calcium Nitrate
- Micronised Carbonates
- Newer Generation soluble non nitrate non chloride forms
- $\text{CaSO}_4$  ( Gypsum )
- Dolomite.
- Calcium Chloride

Apply soluble calcium *before* leaching salts out of soils susceptible to dispersion Replacing sodium with calcium before leaching will stabilize soil structure.



# Solubility of Lime Sources

- The measured water soluble calcium fractions supplied from solid lime sources
- Soluble fractions are able to move through the soil profile for both structural remediation and plant available calcium
- It is not the total amount of product that is applied, but the amount of water soluble calcium that is relevant

**So if its as simple as the previous  
slide says why in the real world  
doesn't happen as easily and all  
the Boffins say it should!~**

**BECAUSE !!!!!**

# Some Maths !!!

- The total amount of water soluble Calcium in
- 1 tonne of Ag lime (  $\text{CaCO}_3$  ) is 150-350grams per tonne
- 20 ltrs per ha of liquid calcium will supply the same levels of soluble calcium as 7.4 tonnes of Ag lime

# Soluble Calcium Sources

**11 000 mg/L**  
water soluble Ca

<b>500 mls</b> <b>Distilled H<sub>2</sub>O</b>
<b>100g liquid Calcium</b>

**640 mg/L**  
water soluble Ca

<b>500 mls</b> <b>Distilled H<sub>2</sub>O</b>
<b>100g modified Calcium</b>

**30 mg/L**  
water soluble Ca

<b>500 mls</b> <b>Distilled H<sub>2</sub>O</b>
<b>100g AgLime</b>



Location **Hamilton.**

Samples

Sampled	14-Feb	A( Calsap 40ltrs)	C No Calsap
Nitrate Nitrogen		22	19
Phosphorus	Olsen	16	10
Phosphorus	Colwell	70	39
Phosphorus Butter Index	PBI	260	200
Available Potassium		215	115
Available Sulphur		18	18
Dry Dispersion	2hrs	1	1
Dry Dispersion	20hrs	1	1
Remoulded Dispersion	2hrs	1	1
Remoulded Dispersion	20hrs	2	2
Zinc	mg/kg	0.8	0.61
Copper	mg/kg	0.28	0.23
Iron	mg/kg	400	460
Manganese	mg/kg	5.7	3.7
Boron	mg/kg	4	2.4
Chloride	mg/kg	84	70
Electrical Conductivity	EC ds/m	0.18	0.22
EC of Saturated Extract	Eca ds/m	1.08	0.9
Organic Carbon	%	5.4	3.9

# Some practical examples

- On exchangeable soil nutrients
- On Sodium levels
- On increasing Potassium levels
- On reduced Aluminum
- On Plant sap

## Why is Phosphorus Unavailable?

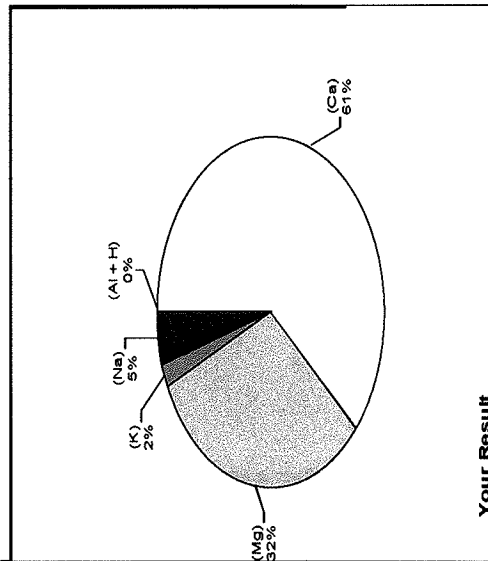
- **Highly weathered soils in warm, humid and subhumid regions**
  - Acidic → reactive Al and Fe
  - Little capacity to supply P for plant growth
    - Extensive losses during intense weathering
    - Adsorbed P and P in Al- and Fe-phosphates is not readily available
- **Soils in arid and semi-arid regions**
  - Alkaline → high Ca levels
  - Little capacity to supply P for plant growth
    - P in Ca-phosphates is not readily available

**Cation Ratio data prior and post application of 40 litres of Calsap August 2006.**

Hamilton Victoria

**Calsap Treatment 40 litres/ Ha**

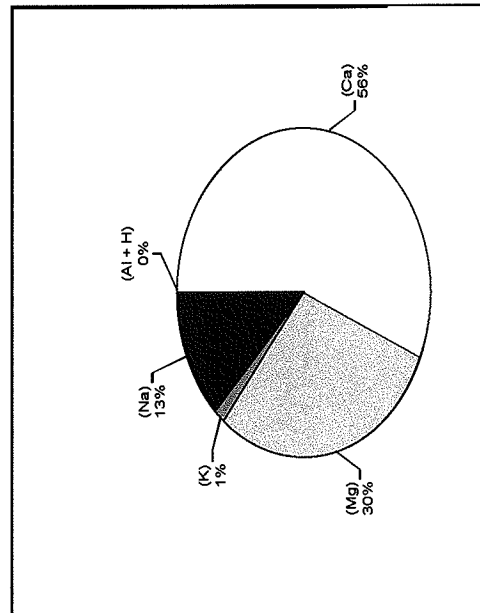
<b>Calcium</b>	<b>(Ca)</b>	9.6 meq/100g	61.4 %
<b>Magnesium</b>	<b>(Mg)</b>	5.0 meq/100g	31.7 %
<b>Potassium</b>	<b>(K)</b>	0.6 meq/100g	2.1 %
<b>Sodium</b>	<b>(Na)</b>	0.8 meq/100g	4.8 %
<b>Ca/Mg Ratio</b>   1.9			
<b>K/Mg Ratio</b>   0.1			
<b>Zinc</b>	<b>(Zn)</b>	0.65 mg/kg	or ppm
<b>Iron</b>	<b>(Fe)</b>	172.56 mg/kg	or ppm
<b>Manganese</b>	<b>(Mn)</b>	3.82 mg/kg	or ppm
<b>Copper</b>	<b>(Cu)</b>	0.75 mg/kg	or ppm
<b>Boron</b>	<b>(B)</b>	5.23 mg/kg	or ppm



Your Result

**No Calsap Treatment**

<b>Calcium</b>	<b>(Ca)</b>	13.5 meq/100g	56.3 %
<b>Magnesium</b>	<b>(Mg)</b>	7.1 meq/100g	29.6 %
<b>Potassium</b>	<b>(K)</b>	0.3 meq/100g	1.3 %
<b>Sodium</b>	<b>(Na)</b>	3.1 meq/100g	12.8 %
<b>Ca/Mg Ratio</b>   1.9			
<b>K/Mg Ratio</b>   0.0			
<b>Zinc</b>	<b>(Zn)</b>	0.71 mg/kg	or ppm
<b>Iron</b>	<b>(Fe)</b>	240.81 mg/kg	or ppm
<b>Manganese</b>	<b>(Mn)</b>	9.42 mg/kg	or ppm
<b>Copper</b>	<b>(Cu)</b>	0.88 mg/kg	or ppm
<b>Boron</b>	<b>(B)</b>	4.99 mg/kg	or ppm



# Soil Acidity

Natural Sources of Acidity:

Precipitation and cation  
leaching  
Carbonic acid and  
organic acids  
Organic matter

Human Induced Acidity:

Acid rain  
Urea  
Ammonium fertilizers  
Mono and diammonium  
phosphate  
Elemental S

# Factors effecting P availability

- Ph
- Aluminium and Iron
- Organic matter levels
- Forms of P applied
- There are practical ways to reduce P applications by increasing efficiency.

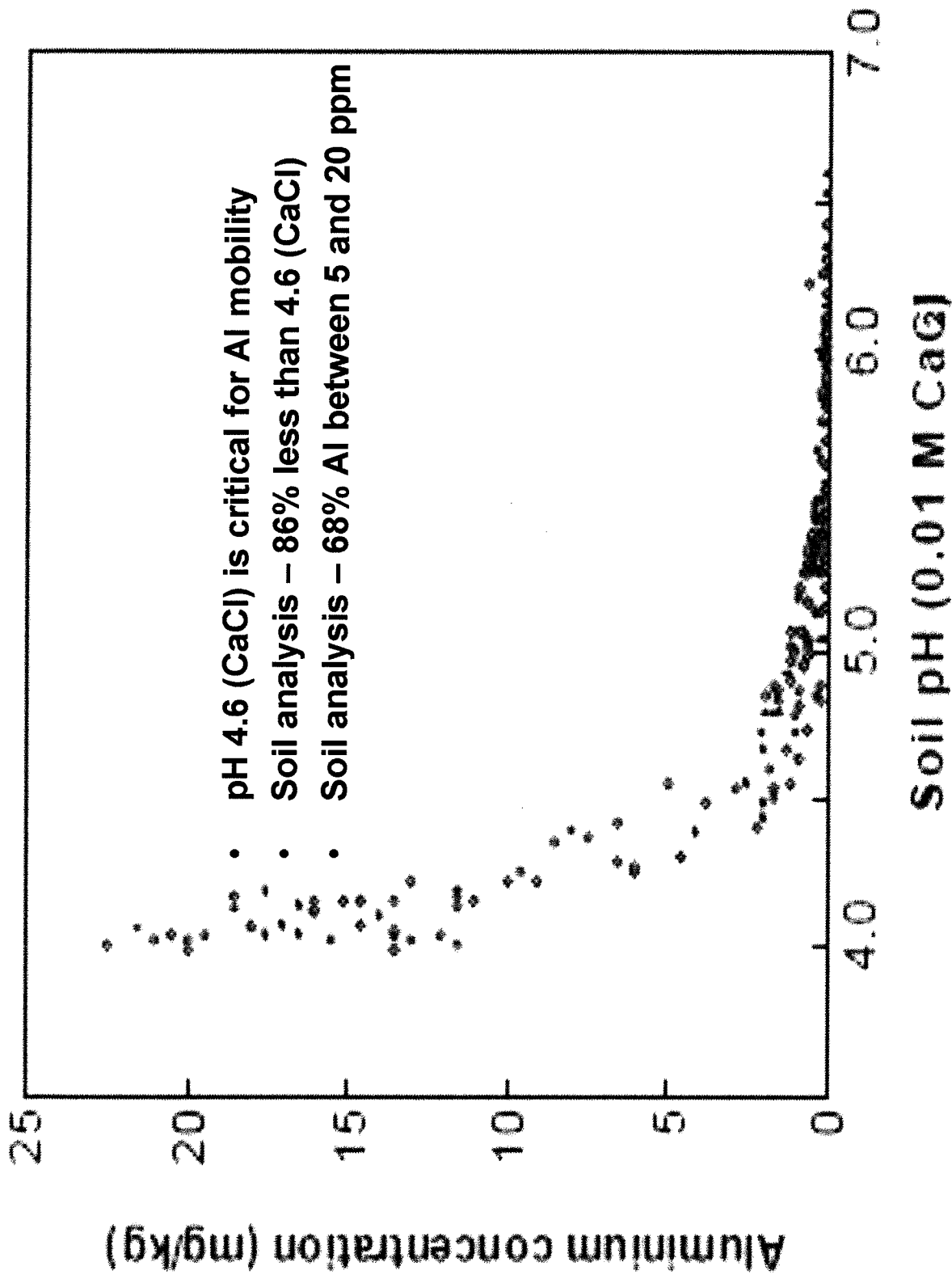
pH after 1 day and after 90 days

pH – 5.6 pH – 5.5	pH – 5.6 pH – 5.7	pH – 5.6 pH – 5.4
pH – 5.6 pH – 5.8	<b>MAP @ 80 kg/ha</b> pH – 5.1 pH – 4.1	pH – 5.6 pH – 5.6
pH – 5.6 pH – 4.9	pH – 5.4 pH – 4.7	pH – 5.6 pH – 5.0

# You need to know this !!!

- There only needs to be 0.1%P in soil solution at any one given time for adequate plant growth.
- This equates to 250grams per hectare
- P applied has no bearing on plant available P
- Single super predicted to be \$600.00 per tonne in 5 years ( World Bank )



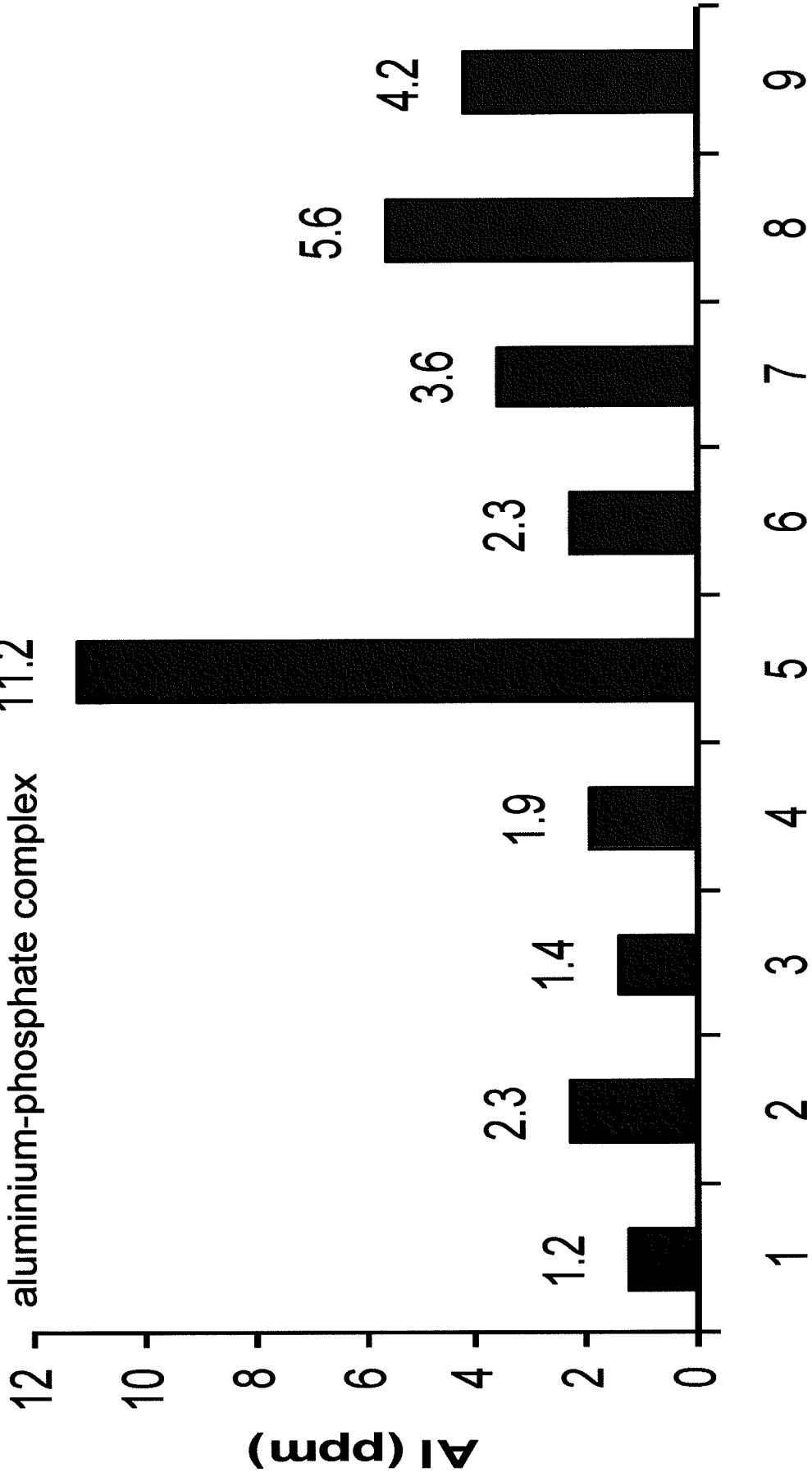


Relationship between toxic aluminium concentration  
 in soil and soil pH

# Aluminium in Solution

- Reduce root development
- Tie-up Phosphate in a insoluble aluminium-phosphate complex

11.2



# Take Home Message !!!

- **You cannot and will not have soil structure without soluble calcium**
- To have a functional microbial populations there needs to be nutritional balance.
- You cannot remediate risk within your production system without Calcium.
- Do not listen to a fertilizer salesman
- Gross margin is more important than yield
- The ten year average is the key to profitability
- The soil is a habitat not just dirt.
- Commonsense is far more valuable than all the science in the world.
- Do not collect data if you do not utilize it.
- Learn that units of P in the soil has very little correlation to plant available P





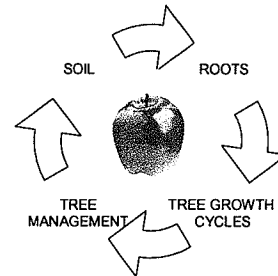
## ORCHARDING ASPECTS THAT AFFECT THE POST-HARVEST QUALITY OF APPLES.

By Colin R. Little

Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## Soil and tree effects



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



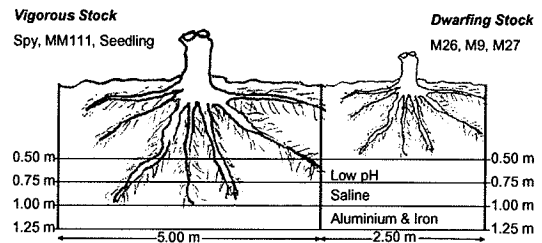
## Soil

- Mineral Profile
- Structural Profile
- pH Profile
- Drainage Profile
- Salinity Profile
- Toxic levels of IRON, ALUMINIUM, MAGANESE

Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## Roots



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## Tree Growth Cycle

- Break of dormancy
- 50 days after full bloom (D.A.F.B)
- 50 days out from harvest (D.O.F.H)
- Harvest Maturity
- Harvest
- Dormancy

Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## Tree Management

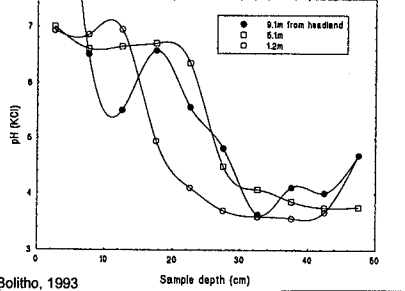
- New Planting
- Early Training
- Early Cropping
- Freedom from Pests and Diseases

Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## Effect of lime slurry on pH levels.

*pH Profile in an Under Heavy Clay.*



Source: D. Bolitho, 1993

Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.

## Basic Principles of tree planting

- New Plantings
- Early Training
- Early Cropping



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.

## Bare Soil with Moss



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.

## Thick mulch for dwarfing stocks



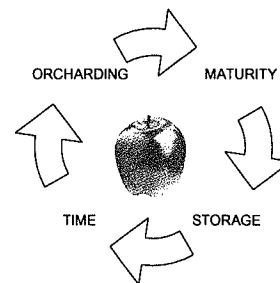
Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.

## Hail netting improves quality attributes



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.

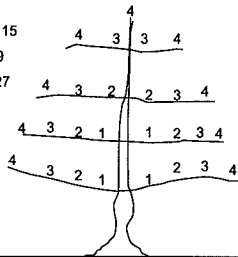
## Orcharding, maturity, storage, and time aspects that secure sustainability



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.

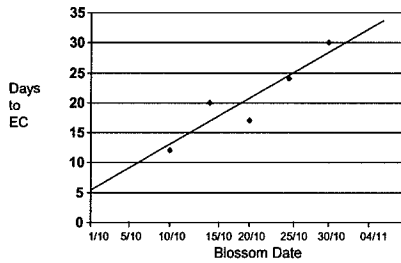
**Blossom Sequence in Jonathan on Northern Spy, Red Hill, October 1998**

- 1 - Red - October 11
- 2 - Yellow - October 15
- 3 - Blue - October 19
- 4 - Black - October 27



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.

**Relationship between Blossom Time and Ethylene Climacteric Post Harvest**



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.

**Pink Tip**



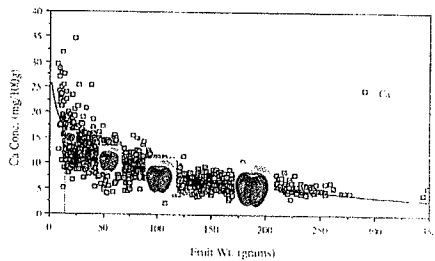
Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.

**Full Bloom**



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.

**A typical depiction showing the dilution profile for calcium from fruitlet stage to harvest.**



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.

**FIELD OBSERVATIONS**

APPLES AND PEARS FROM SMALL TREES HAVE A LOWER WITHIN TREE VARIABILITY IN RELATION TO MATURITY AND COLOUR PRESENTATION THAN FRUIT FROM LARGE TREES.

VARIABLES THAT AFFECT FLOWERING TIME ARE;-

- BETWEEN YEAR WEATHER CONDITIONS THROUGH OCTOBER/NOVEMBER.
- LOCATIONS PROGRESSIVELY FURTHER INTO SOUTHERN LATITUDES.
- LOCATIONS OF INCREASING ALTITUDE.

Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.

## Locations of Increasing Altitude



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## Measuring Maturity

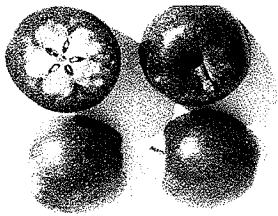
FOR APPLES.

- (1). STARCH STAIN (PLATE 1. BLACK IMMATURE ON TO PLATE 6. WHITE FULLY TREE RIPE).
- (2). FRUIT FIRMNESS. (A RANGE FOR EACH VARIETY GIVING VALUES FOR FIRST PICKS – 'LONG TERM CA' ON TO LAST PICKS – 'SHORT TERM CA'.
- (3). SUGAR. (RANGE AS FOR FIRMNESS).
- (4). BACKGROUND COLOUR. ONSET OF YELLOWING.
- (5). RED COLOUR. AREA AND INTENSITY.

Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## STARCH TEST FOR CAMEO APPLE



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## Measuring Maturity

FOR PEARS.

- OPTIMUM MATURITY IS BASED MAINLY ON CATEGORIES (2) FIRMNESS AND (3) SUGAR.
- PEARS ARE NON-CLIMACTERIC AND DEVELOP NO (EC).
- PEARS ARE SLOWER TO SHOW SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN FIRMNESS AND SUGAR. HOWEVER, THE RATE OF CHANGE DOES INCREASE SUDDENLY PRIOR TO TREE RIPENING.
- PEARS NEED A PERIOD OF CHILLING (5°C TO 0°C) TO STIMULATE RIPENING AT AMBIENT TEMPERATURES

Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## Storage Management

OPTIONS THAT CAN BE APPLIED IMMEDIATELY POST-HARVEST AND PRE-STORAGE.

- (1). PROMPT TRANSFER TO 'SMARTFRESH' THEN PROMPT 'CA'.
- (2). DPA + FUNGICIDE THEN PROMPT 'CA'.
- (3). SANITISE WASH THEN DPA + FUNGICIDE THEN PROMPT 'CA'.

Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## Recommended Best CA Storage

- (1) 'CA' ROOM FILL IN 7 DAYS FROM FIRST FRUIT INTAKE.
- (2) REDUCTION OF CORE TEMPERATURE TO <math>< 5^{\circ}\text{C}</math> BEFORE OXYGEN PULLDOWN.
- (3) OXYGEN IN THE 'CA' ROOM SHOULD BE REDUCED FROM 21% TO 2% IN THE 3-DAY PERIOD FROM THE START OF 'CA' GENERATION.
- (4) CORE TEMPERATURE SHOULD BE REDUCED TO 0°C FOR ALL PEARS, AND FOR GALA, GOLDEN DELICIOUS, FIRM GOLD AND FUJI APPLES.

Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.





## Recommended Best CA Storage

(5) FOR THE STORAGE OF JONATHAN, GRANNY SMITH, PINK LADY, AND SUNDOWNER USE STEPWISE-COOLING (4°C FIRST 10 TO 14 DAYS, THEN TO 2°C FOR NEXT 10 DAYS THEN 1°C THEREAFTER IF WELL MANAGED 'CA' STORAGE IS POSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN.

(6) MAINTAIN OXYGEN BETWEEN 1.8% AND 2.2%.

(7) MAKE SURE CARBON DIOXIDE DOES NOT EXCEED 1% FOR SENSITIVE VARIETIES SUCH AS 'WILLIAMS PEAR', AND FOR JONATHAN, GRANNY SMITH, PINK LADY AND SUNDOWNER APPLES.

Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## Time in Storage

• ALL FRUIT THAT GO INTO STORAGE HAVE A FINITE LIFE SPAN. THEY AGE, LOOSE EATING QUALITY AND EVENTUALLY DIE. DEAD FRUIT AT 0°C SHOW NO VISUAL SIGNS OF DEATH.

• HOWEVER ONCE THESE FRUIT ARE TRANSFERRED TO AMBIENT TEMPERATURE THEY FAIL TO RESPIRE ANAEROBICALLY, FAIL TO EMIT FRESH FRUIT AROMAS, FAIL TO YIELD CLEAN JUICE WHEN CRUSHED AND ARE RAPIDLY INVADED BY PATHOGENS.

• THE STORAGE LIFE OF POME FRUIT IS GOVERNED BY THE RATE OF LIVING (RESPIRATION RATE) OF EACH VARIETY, THE SUSCEPTIBILITY OF THE VARIETY TO LOW TEMPERATURE AND THE METHOD USED TO REDUCE RESPIRATION.

Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## Time in Storage

• FRUIT THAT ARE HARVESTED IN THE EARLIEST STAGE OF TREE RIPENING HAVE MAXIMUM TERM STORAGE POTENTIAL.

• FRUIT THAT ARE HARVESTED IN THE MID-STAGE OF TREE RIPENING HAVE A MEDIUM-TERM STORAGE POTENTIAL.

• FRUIT THAT ARE HARVESTED IN THE FINAL STAGE OF TREE RIPENING HAVE A VERY SHORT-TERM STORAGE POTENTIAL.

Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.

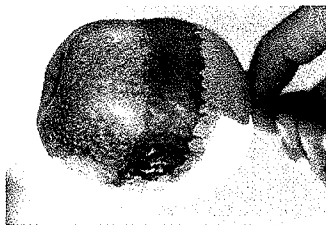


**THINGS THAT HAVE  
JEOPARDISED THE LONG  
TERM VIABILITY OF THE  
POME FRUIT INDUSTRY  
THROUGH THE 2006/07  
SEASON.**

Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## FROST



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## DROUGHT



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## SMOKE



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



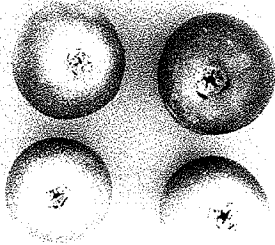
## HAIL



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## CALYX CAVITY CRACKING



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## CULTIVAR REVERSION



Colin Little, Scientific Horticultural Consultants, May 2007.



## BIRD DAMAGE

## BUREAUCRACY

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**J-Tech Systems Pty Ltd**

AFFCO Conference – Melbourne

GS1 DataBar



May 26 2007


Stuart Abbott



**J-TECH SYSTEMS Pty Ltd**


- **Established 1998.**
- **Licensed Manufacturer of Sinclair Labels.**
- **Agent for:**





**J-Tech Operations:**

- Head Office and Manufacturing located Albury, NSW.
- Regional Service Centres located in;
  - Mildura
  - Shepparton.
  - Adelaide
- Additional service representation in
  - W.A.,
  - Tasmania,
  - South Australia – (Adelaide Hills and Renmark)
  - Queensland – (Stanthorpe, Gayndah and Bowen)




**GS1 DataBar..**



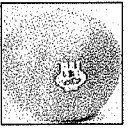
- What is GS1 Databar? > family of barcodes formerly known as RSS (Reduced Space Symbology)

- DataBar stacked Omnidirectional
- Can be applied individually to small items eg. *pharmaceuticals, fruit.*
- Carries more information than EAN / UPC barcode
- Readable PLU # remains on label



**GS1 DataBar  
Stacked Omnidirectional**

GTIN


00 614141 19999 6

Leading zero's

Company Prefix  
(6-9 digits)


Item Reference

Check Digit



**GS1 DataBar cont...**

- *Why are retailers driving the change?* = limited ability to trace products from shipment to point of sale - ongoing difficulties with specific product line recalls.
  - ....variety names > PLU code > RSS 14 > GS1 Databar
  - > Improved accuracy at checkout (eg. Tesco)
  - > Increased speed at checkout (quicker than entering PLU #)
  - > Reduced shrinkage
  - > Identification of vendor
  - > Facilitates product recall and enables traceability
  - > Improves category management / inventory control



## PLU # v's Databar




**inclair**

## Where to from here....?

- Full implementation > 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2010 – (or sooner via retailers).
- Wal-Mart, Loblaws & Tesco trials 2007
- Graphics may be effected
- Barcode may comprise 60% label area
- Next step.....GS1.....Sinclair/J-Tech



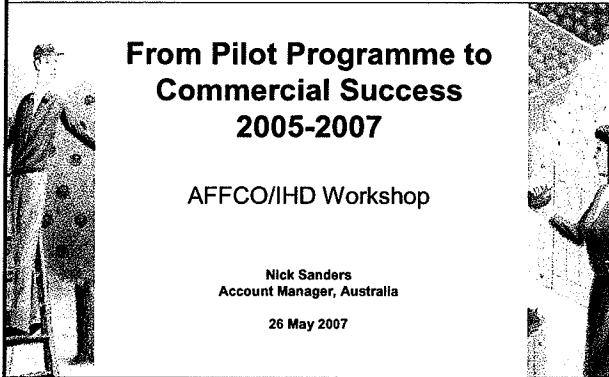
**inclair**


 The SmartFresh<sup>SM</sup> Quality System

**From Pilot Programme to Commercial Success 2005-2007**

AFFCO/IHD Workshop

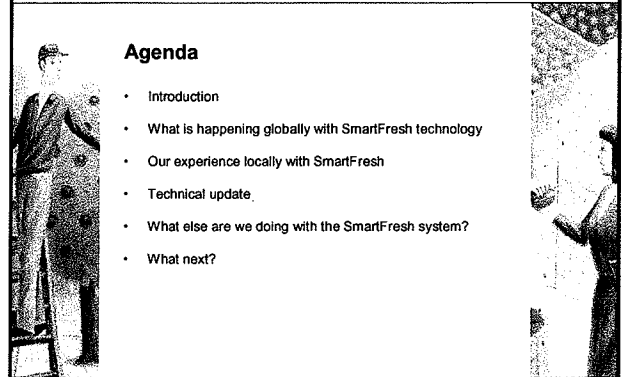
Nick Sanders  
Account Manager, Australia  
26 May 2007




 The SmartFresh<sup>SM</sup> Quality System

**Agenda**

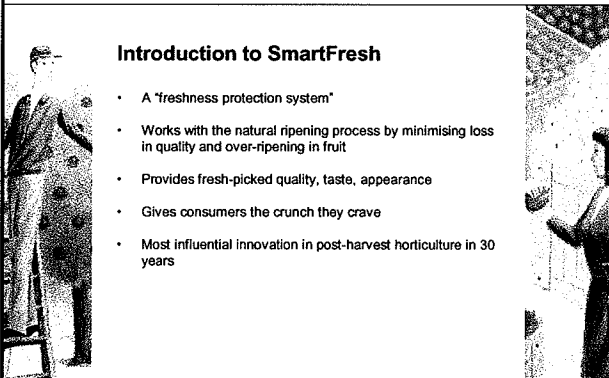
- Introduction
- What is happening globally with SmartFresh technology
- Our experience locally with SmartFresh
- Technical update
- What else are we doing with the SmartFresh system?
- What next?




 The SmartFresh<sup>SM</sup> Quality System

**Introduction to SmartFresh**


- A 'freshness protection system'
- Works with the natural ripening process by minimising loss in quality and over-ripening in fruit
- Provides fresh-picked quality, taste, appearance
- Gives consumers the crunch they crave
- Most influential innovation in post-harvest horticulture in 30 years




 The SmartFresh<sup>SM</sup> Quality System

**Global Developments**

- Innovation awards – industry recognition in EU
- Registrations – 27 countries, expansion continues
- Market development – other crop segments





 The SmartFresh<sup>SM</sup> Quality System

**Australian Experience with SmartFresh**

2005 'Pilot commercial' launch

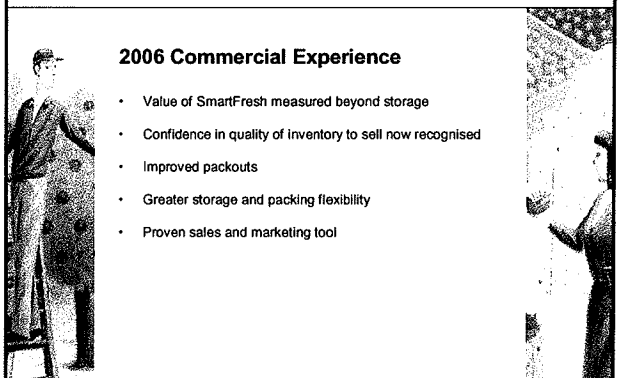
- Introductory season for customers, marketers and retailers
- Tracked 'SmartFresh' and 'Non SmartFresh' quality apples through to market for evaluation
- Highlighted disciplines required to ensure future development
- SmartFresh surpassed everyone's expectations



 The SmartFresh<sup>SM</sup> Quality System

**2006 Commercial Experience**

- Value of SmartFresh measured beyond storage
- Confidence in quality of inventory to sell now recognised
- Improved packouts
- Greater storage and packing flexibility
- Proven sales and marketing tool





**The SmartFresh<sup>SM</sup> Quality System**

**2007 Commercial Expansion**

- Exponential growth across key varieties now being stored with the SmartFresh Quality System
  - Fine tuned use recommendations
  - Harvest maturity programme
  - Scald management customer demonstrations
- Customers are choosing SmartFresh for maximising the value of their apple crop.

**The SmartFresh<sup>SM</sup> Quality System**

**Technical Update**

- SmartFresh is not a short cut to quality
- Complements existing industry recognised harvest and storage guidelines
- At harvest, apples are subject to many different challenges:
  - Picking
  - Transport
  - Cooling
  - Applying CA conditions

*SmartFresh helps the fruit get through challenges with storage*

**The SmartFresh<sup>SM</sup> Quality System**

**The European Experience - cooling**

*Sensitivity:*

- Golden Delicious
- Granny Smith, Pink Lady
- Fuji
- Gala
- Red Delicious

**More sensitive**

**Less sensitive**

The final storage temperature is not the key parameter.

- Need to provide step-wise cooling for SmartFresh apples to adjust to the storage environment.

**The SmartFresh<sup>SM</sup> Quality System**

**The European Experience – CA Conditions**

- As a general rule, SmartFresh apples don't need extreme Controlled Atmosphere conditions
- In some cases the SmartFresh system increases the sensitivity of apples to severe CA conditions
- CO<sub>2</sub> is the most important parameter, but often the ratio CO<sub>2</sub>:O<sub>2</sub> is important as well
- Different apple varieties have different sensitivity to CA conditions.

**The SmartFresh<sup>SM</sup> Quality System**

**What else are we doing in Australia?**

- Plums – pre commercial evaluations
- Persimmons – commercial
- Kiwifruit – pre commercial evaluation
- Avocado – market evaluation
- Mango – market evaluation
- Bananas – market evaluation


**The SmartFresh<sup>SM</sup> Quality System**

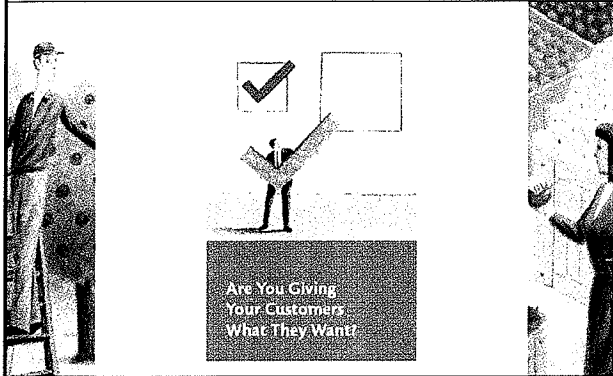
**What next?**

Price (Kilograms Per Case)	Red Delicious (%)	Gala (%)
4	15	15
4.5	35	35
5	45	45
5.5	55	55
6	65	65
6.4	75	75
6.8	75	75
7.3	75	75
7.8	75	75
8.2	75	75
8.6	75	75

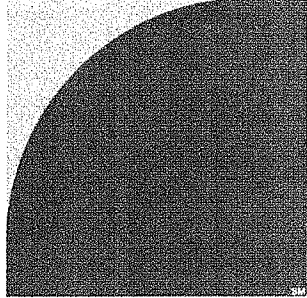




 **The SmartFresh<sup>SM</sup> Quality System**



**Are You Giving  
Your Customers  
What They Want**



**SmartFresh**





# Landguard™ to assist with Post Harvest Management

Kate Dawson  
Business Development Manager – Landguard  
0434 072 555

Contributors:  
Oron, CSIRO,  
OzsonCRC, Sugar CRC, Rice CRC  
Cotton/R & D Corporation,  
Rural Industries R&D Corporation,  
Horticulture Australia Limited, Australian Wool,  
Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research,  
Australian Golf Course Superintendents Association (AGCSA)



## Agenda

- The technology
  - What it is, how it works
  - Awards
- Commercial applications
  - Results
  - Potential use in post-harvest applications
- Where to from here
- Questions



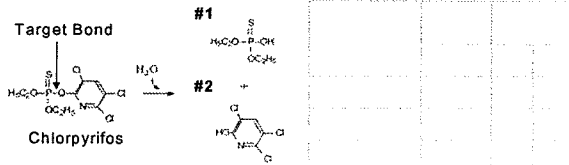
## Technology – what is Landguard™

- ✓ Landguard™ enzymes rapidly break down toxic and persistent pesticides.
- ✓ In minutes, pesticide residue can be reduced to levels that can takes years to occur naturally.
- ✓ By-products are formed which are both significantly less toxic and more bio-degradable.
- ✓ Relatively small amounts of Landguard™ enzyme can treat large quantities of contaminated water.



## Technology – How Landguard™ works

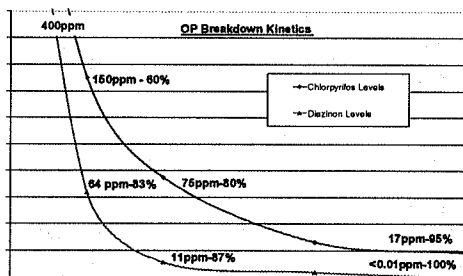
Enzyme accelerate naturally occurring hydrolysis reaction



By-products are always significantly less toxic than original active



## Results



## Commercial Applications

### Point Source Treatment

– preventing off-target movement.

#### Irrigation



- Field run-off
- US, Australia

#### Operations



- Equipment de-con
- Spills / LOC's
- Equipment wash-water
- Pits / Sumps / Trade-waste

#### Livestock /produce



- Waste dip disposal
- UK, Australia



## Run-Off Treatment – m-parathion

Cotton farm, Narrabri NSW

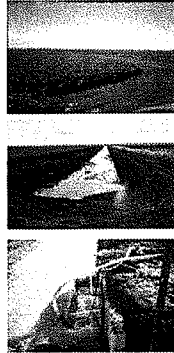
- 17 hectares of cotton was sprayed with m-parathion.
- Field flood irrigated 20 hrs later

### Treatment:

- Irrigation return channel treated with Landguard™OP-A.
- Treatment of 84,000 L (1hr run-off) required 620 g of Landguard™OP-A.

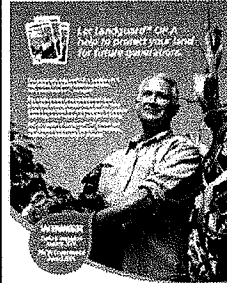
### Treated run-off residue levels:

- were reduced from 15ppb to 0.3 ppb prior to return to the water source in 40 minutes.



## Rinsate Treatment – key OPs

LANDGUARD™OP-A



- ✓ Easy to use
- ✓ Single-use sachet
- ✓ >95% degradation of key OPs\*
- ✓ Overnight
- ✓ RRP \$40 +GST

\* Chlorpyrifos (Lorsban), parathion methyl (Folldol), diazinon (Diazol), fenitrothion, malidison (Hy-Mal), phosmet (Imidan)

## Current and Future Target Pesticide Groups

### Insecticides

- Organophosphates
- Synthetic Pyrethroids (i.e. Bifenthrin)
- Neonicotinoids (i.e. Imidacloprid)

### Herbicides

- Triazines (i.e. Atrazine)
- Phenyl Ureas (i.e. Diuron)

### Fungicides

- Fungicidal Carbamates (i.e. Carbendazim)
- Strobilurins (i.e. Azoxystrobin)



LANDGUARD™

## Use in Post Harvest Situation

### Dip Remediation using Landguard™ZIM-A

- ✓ Active on carbendazim, and benomyl metabolites
- ✓ Carbendazim has a half life of 61 days in water (issue for any used dip being dumped)
- ✓ Friends of the Earth "Filthy Four" for its hormone disrupting properties
- ✓ >90% degradation over 3 hours – more work being undertaken to perfect dosing



## Use in Post Harvest Situation

### Using Landguard™ZIM-A prior to Export?

- ✓ Registration for general purposes not required
- ✓ Could Landguard™ZIM-A be used prior to export (post dipping) as a fruit wash?
- ✓ – would registration be required?
- ✓ Work would be required to determine efficacy / disease control / timeline
- ✓ Potential in the Australian market?

## Where to from here?

- ✓ Commercialisation of Carbendazim degrading product, Landguard™ZIM-A 'Imminent'
- ✓ Potential for Landguard™OP-A as a fruit wash – any interest?
- ✓ Questions?



# Lean Supply Chains

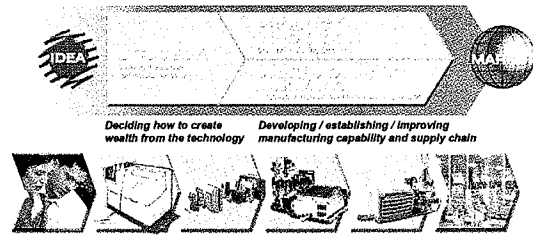
John McBride  
May 26<sup>th</sup> 2007

www.invotech.com.au



## What is Invotech?

Developing the market-ready physical product



AFFC 26th May 2007



## How do we do it?

- 200+ professionals
- a wide range of skills
- adaptability
- quality products, made to order
- world's best practice services



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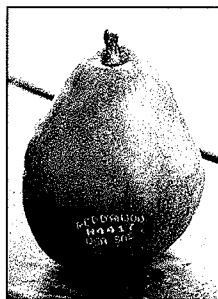
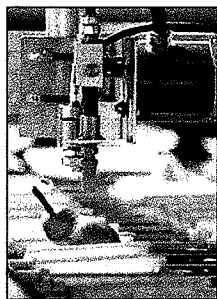
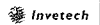


...and delivering an estimated **\$1 Billion** in economic value to our clients.



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3



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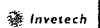
4



Automaker	Total revenue
General Motors	\$193.0
Daimler Chrysler	\$194.1
Toyota	\$179.4
Ford Motor	\$175.5

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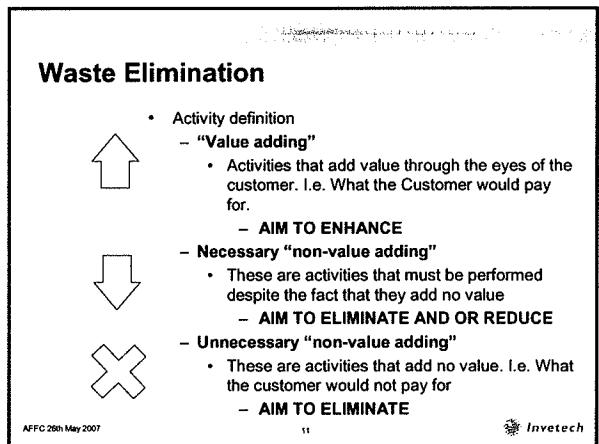
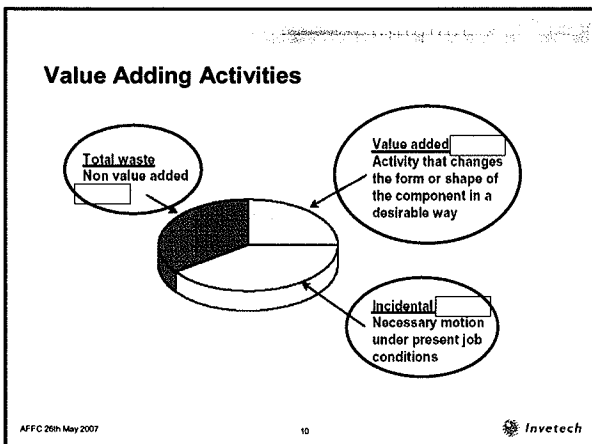
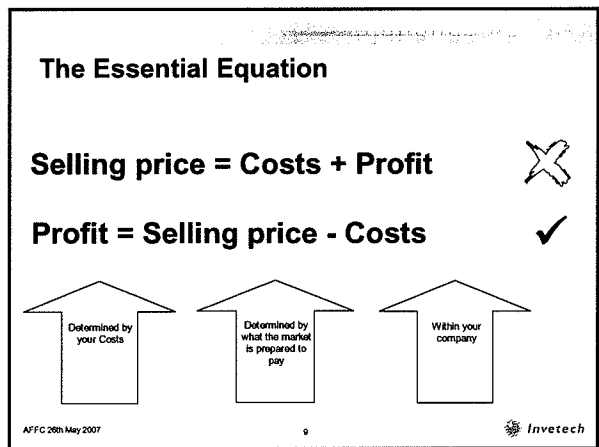
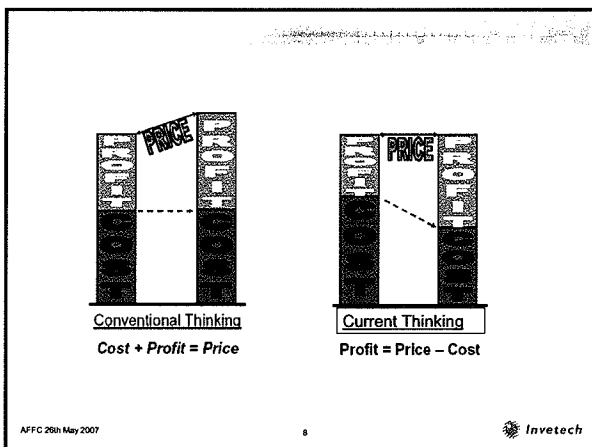


Car % maker of Sales	Total capital	revenue		Profit
				Profit/loss
Gen Motors	\$12.7	\$193.0	-\$3.9	-2.0
D/Chrysler	\$52.3	\$194.1	\$3.1	1.6
Toyota	\$166.4	\$179.4	\$10.7	5.9
Ford Motor	\$15.2	\$175.5	\$2.0	1.1
Mitsubishi	\$9.9	\$18.9	-\$3.4	-17.9

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Car maker	Profit each car
Gen Motors	-\$1300
Toyota	+\$2,000
Ford Motor	-\$284

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**What do we mean by Waste?**  
 – Anything that the customer doesn't pay for?

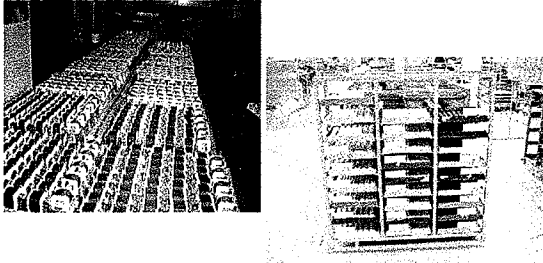
- **Over production** – More than is immediately required
- **Delays** – queues, waiting and stoppages
- **Over Processing** – unnecessary process steps, double handling etc.
- **Unnecessary Transportation** – moving product around
- **Inventory** – stock sitting in stores and work-in-progress not being worked upon

**What do we mean by Waste?**  
 – Anything that the customer doesn't pay for?

- **Excessive Motion** – people walking, bending, reaching, stretching etc.
- **Defective products** – scrap, rework etc.
- **Waste Resources** – i.e. Gas, Electrical, water etc not used to add value to our products
- **Untapped resources** – not using the potential *brainpower* of an organisation

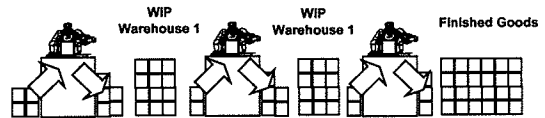
**What do we mean by Waste?**  
 – Anything that the customer doesn't pay for?

- **Over production** – More than is immediately required



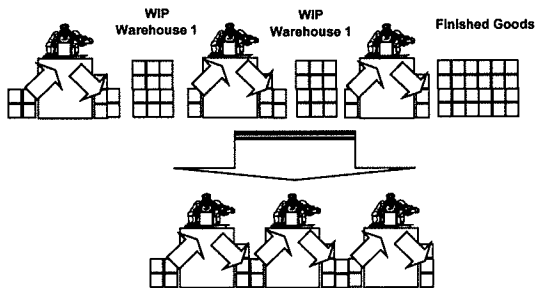
**What do we mean by Waste?**  
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**What do we mean by Waste?**  
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**What do we mean by Waste?**  
 - Anything that the customer doesn't pay for?

- **Over Processing** – unnecessary process steps, double handling etc.

Finished Goods

Finished Goods

- Once a component has been taken from a container, it should not be returned to a container until all of the processing has been completed

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**BEFORE**

AFFC 26th May 2007 19

**AFTER**

AFFC 26th May 2007 20

**BEFORE**

AFFC 26th May 2007 21

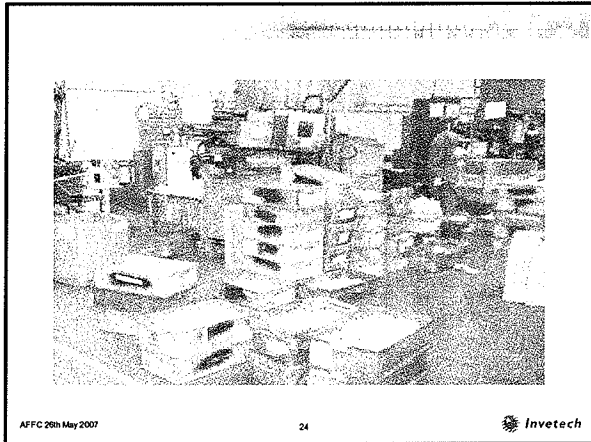
**AFTER**

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**BEFORE**

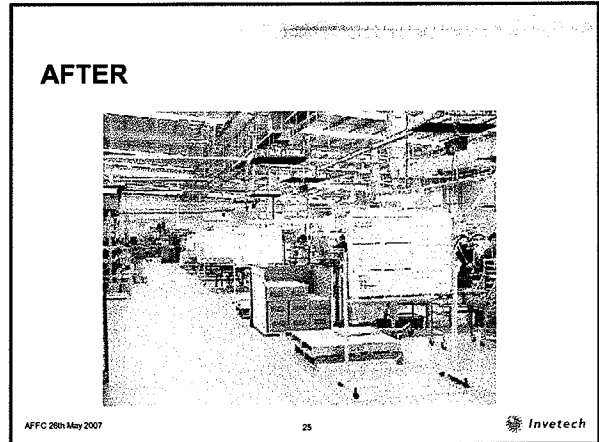
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**Toyota developed a number of tools now referred to as "Lean Manufacturing"**

- Lean tools include
  - Value chain mapping
  - 5S
  - Single minute exchange of die (SMED)
  - Kanban
  - Group technology or Cellular manufacturing
  - Takt time and level scheduling
  - Total productive maintenance

***Individually, these tools all provide positive benefits***

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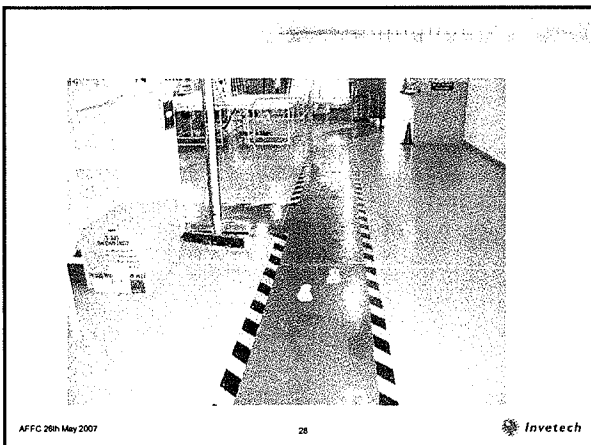
26



**6S Control and Maintenance**

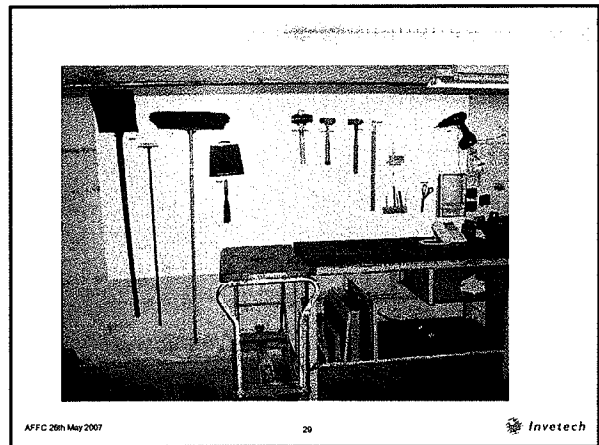
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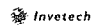
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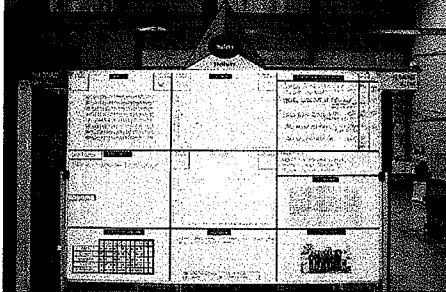


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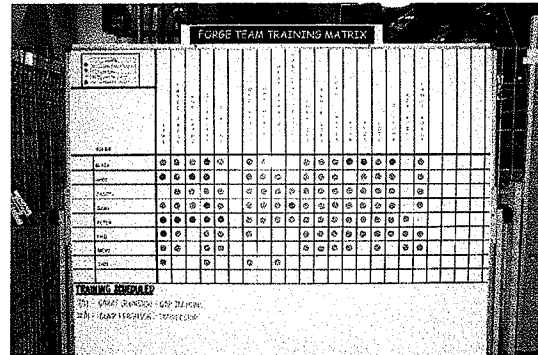


## Visual Workplace



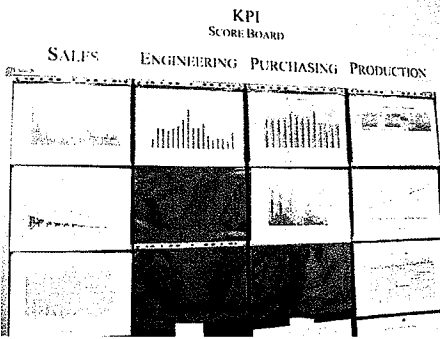
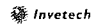
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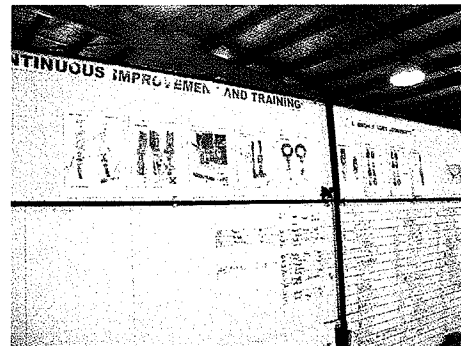
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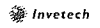
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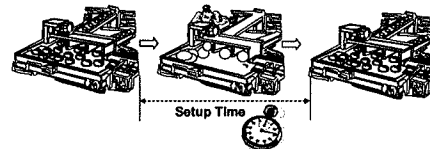
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## Quick Changeover or SMED

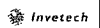
- Setup time is the elapsed time from making the last good part of type A to the first good part of type B



- Setup time represents a loss of productivity and therefore should be minimised

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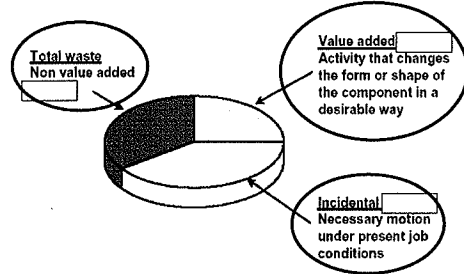
# What has Toyota got to do with fruit processing?

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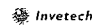


## Value Adding Activities

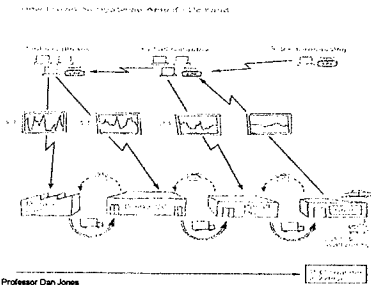


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## Tesco Before



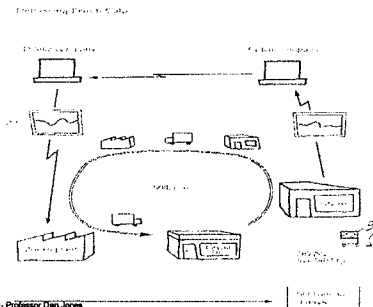
Source - Professor Dan Jones

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## Tesco Model Now



Source - Professor Dan Jones

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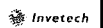
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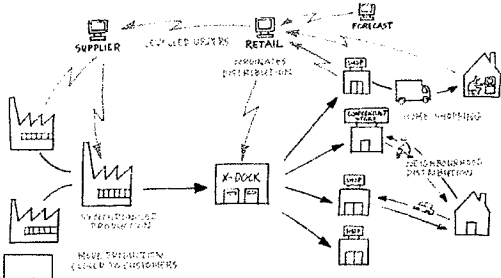
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### What next :- Supply Chain Future Model

Evolving Value Chain of 2016



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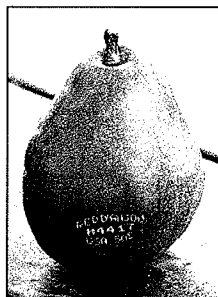
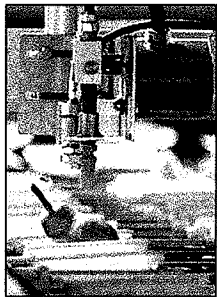
### Global Commercial Initiative report:- 2016 The Future Value Chain

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Nigel Bagley, Unilever</b>               | <b>Prof. Dan Jones, Lean Enterprise Academy</b> |
| <b>Mogens Bak, DHL</b>                      | <b>Duane Judd, Nestlé</b>                       |
| <b>Douglas Brown, Dairy Farm</b>            | <b>Mette Kole, Intel</b>                        |
| <b>Friso Coppes, Royal Ahold</b>            | <b>Kathleen Riordan, Kraft Foods</b>            |
| <b>Jim Crawford, Intel</b>                  | <b>Sabine Ritter, GCI</b>                       |
| <b>Priscilla Donegan, Caggemini</b>         | <b>Randy Salley, Wal*Mart</b>                   |
| <b>Jim Flannery, Procter &amp; Gamble</b>   | <b>Marco Urios, Carrefour group</b>             |
| <b>Ruediger Hagedorn, GCI</b>               | <b>Hans van Grieken, Caggemini</b>              |
| <b>Marshall Haine, Procter &amp; Gamble</b> | <b>Fred van Ommen, Philips</b>                  |
| <b>Bernard Helder, Caggemini Ard</b>        | <b>Jan Vethman, Caggemini</b>                   |
| <b>Ronnie Herzfeld, Pick 'n Pay</b>         | <b>Robert Wilkinson, Coca-Cola Company</b>      |
| <b>Kees Jacobs, Caggemini</b>               | <b>Dr. Gerd Wolfram, Metro Group</b>            |

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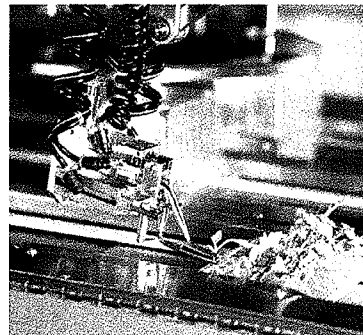
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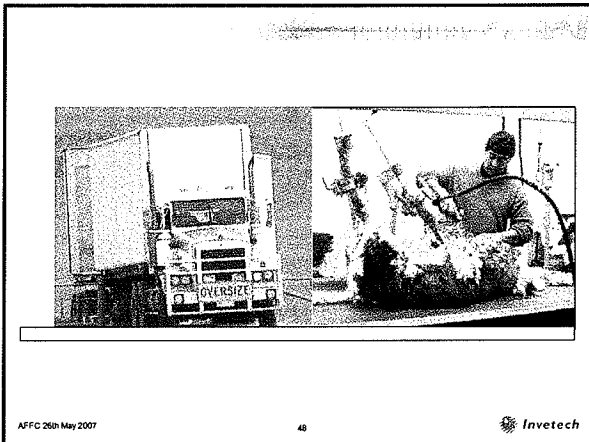
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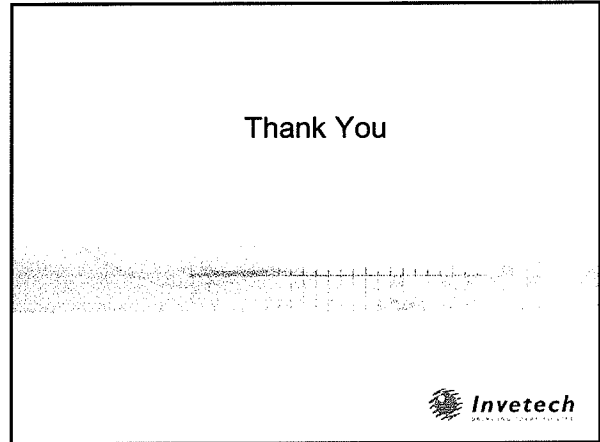
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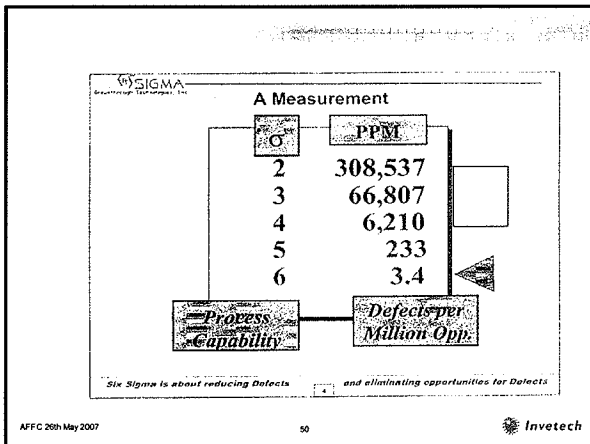


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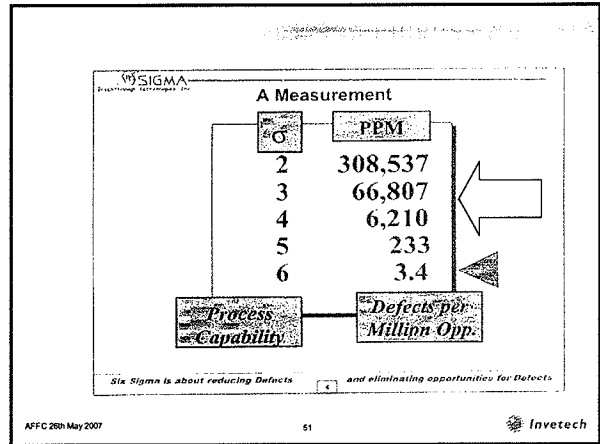


Thank You



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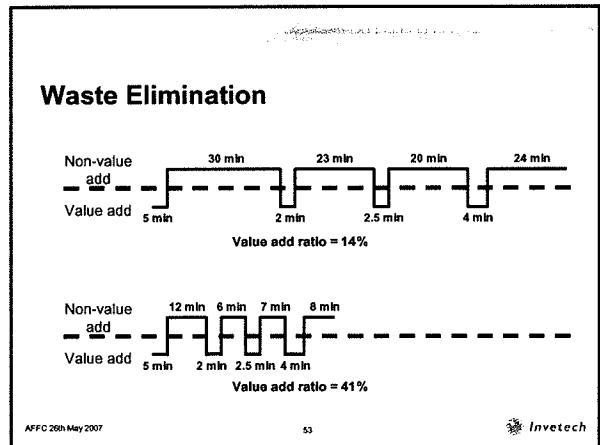
**Practical Meaning**

99% Good	3.5σ	99.99968% Good	6σ
<b>U.S. Postal System</b> 20,000 Lost Articles Of Mail/Hr		<b>U.S. Postal System</b> 7 Lost Articles of Mail/Hr	
<b>Airline System</b> Two Short/Long Landings/Day		<b>Airline System</b> One Short/Long Landing/5 Years	
<b>Medical Profession</b> 200,000 Wrong Drug Prescriptions/Yr		<b>Medical Profession</b> 68 Wrong Drug Prescriptions/Yr	

Six Sigma is about reducing Defects and eliminating opportunities for Defects

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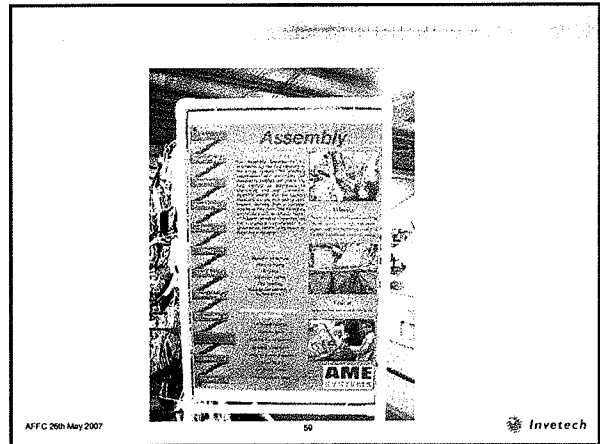
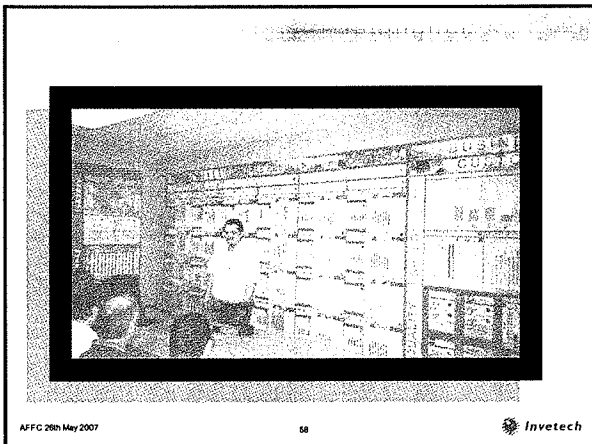
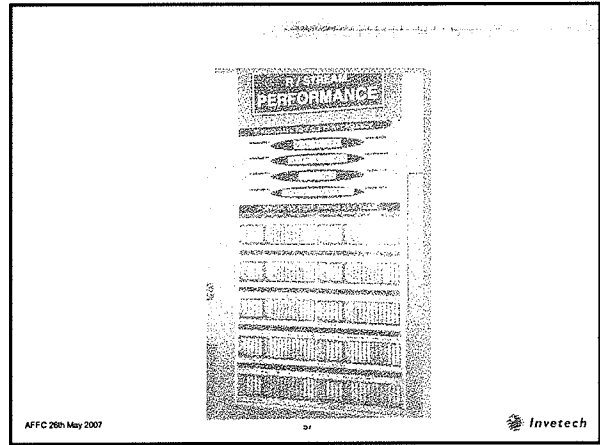
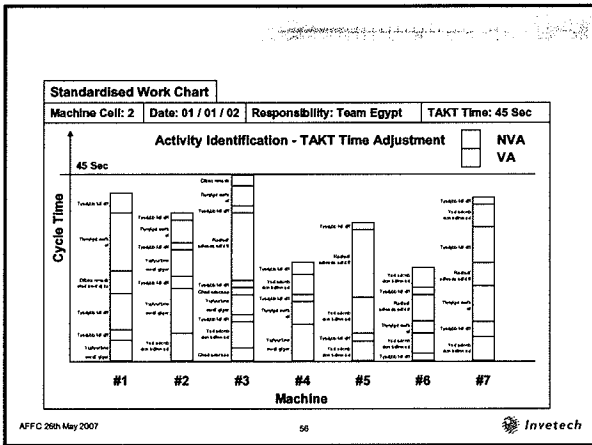
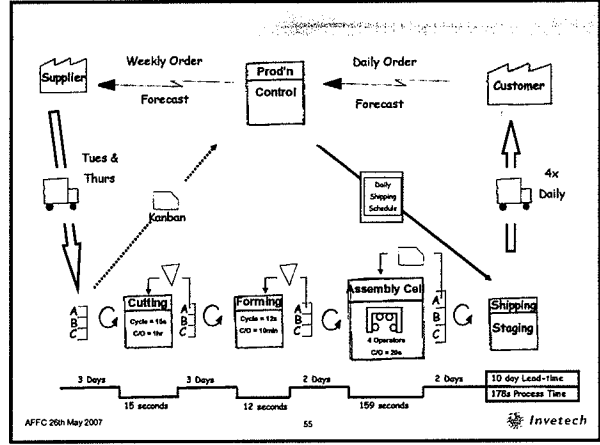
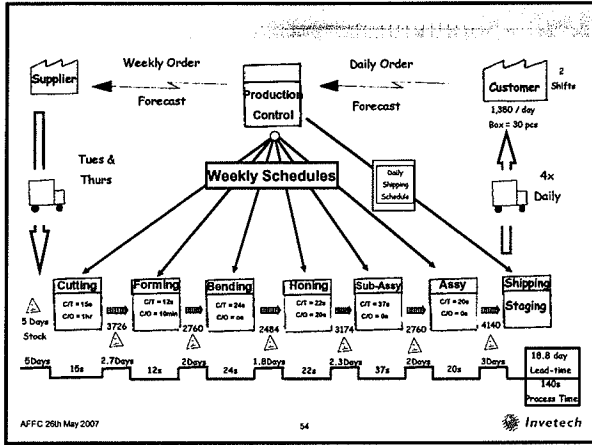
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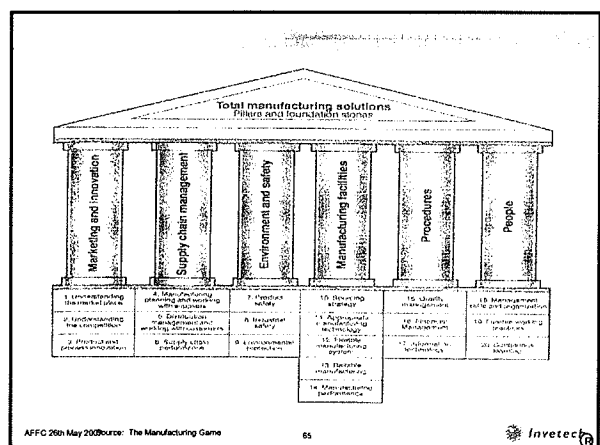
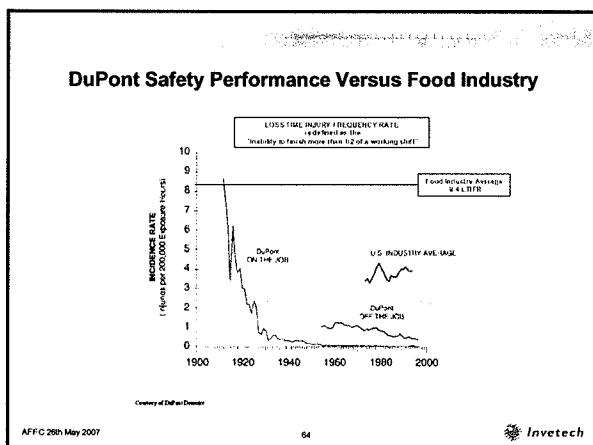
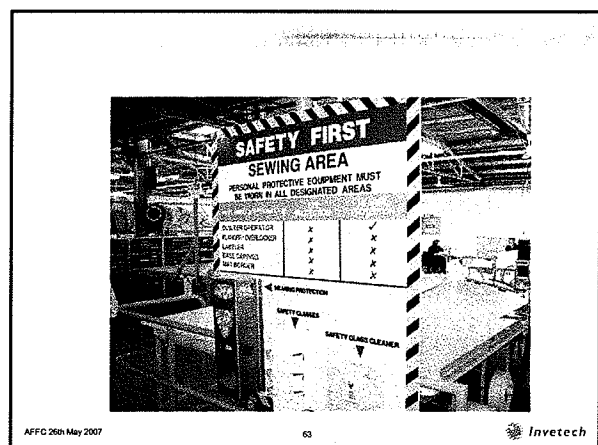
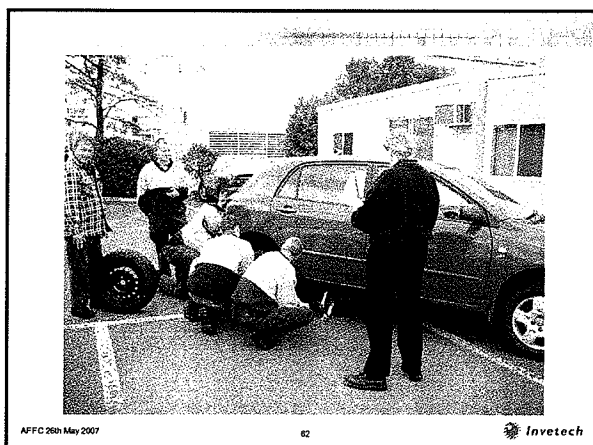
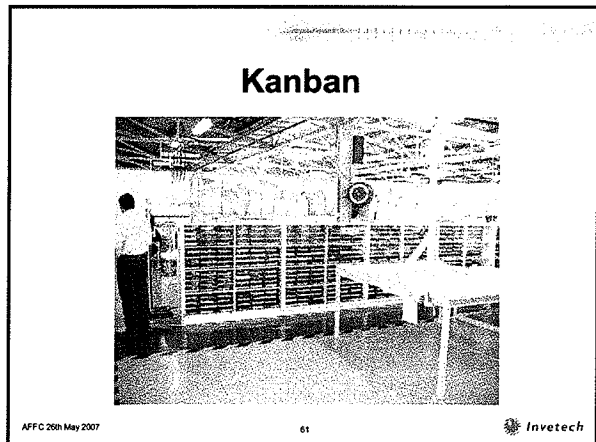
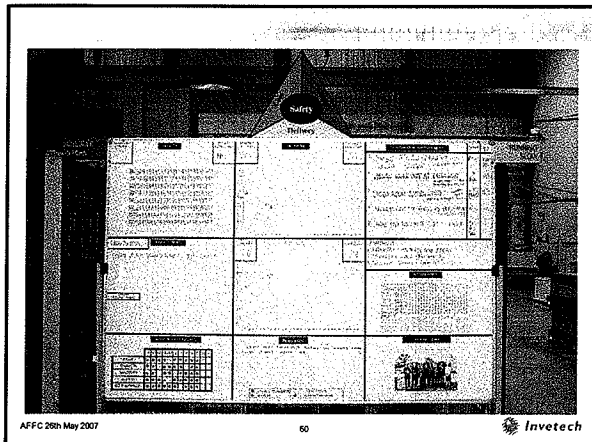


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


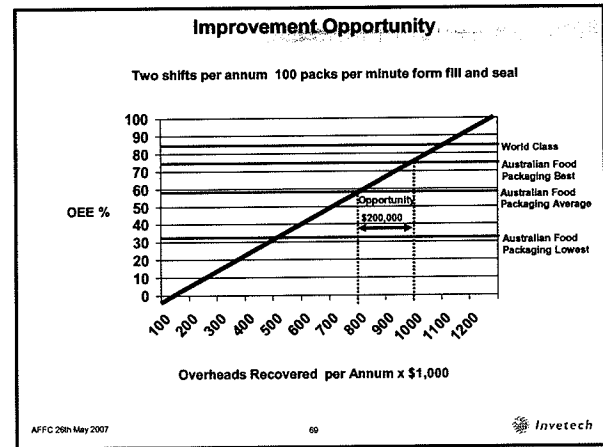
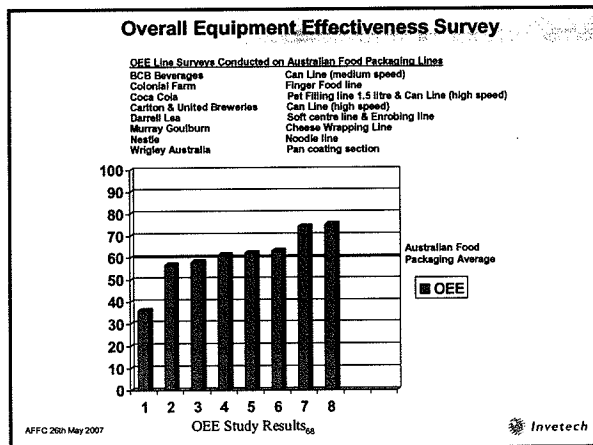
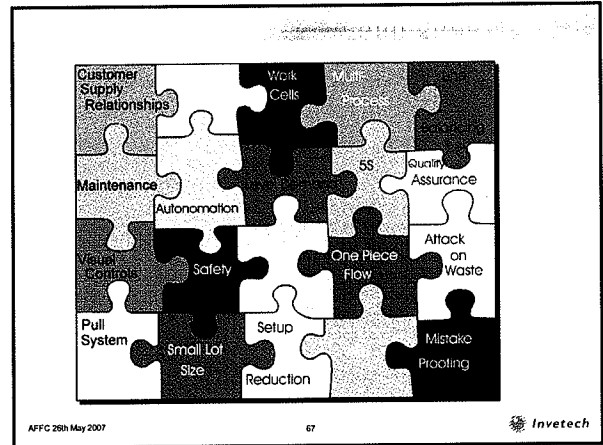




### Department of Trade & Industry UK

Item	Avg Perf.	Top 25%	Top 10%	Own Performance
• Delivery reliability	91%	98.8%	99.5%	100%
• In stock availability	97%	99.5%	100%	100%
• New product (last 5 yrs)	4.0%	14.0%	23.0%	23.0%
• Scrap rate	3.9%	1.0%	0.8%	0.8%
• NVA employee (2010m)	150	200	350	350
• Total stock turns	13	18	30	30
• Capacity used Converters	10.5%	2.6%	0.8%	0.8%
• As component set-up times	100	15	6	6
• As assembly set-up times	52	10	4	4
<i>Established on job days</i>				
• Existing employees	7	8	20	20
• New employees	23	24	48	48
• O/E job (existing)	2	3	8	8
• Absenteeism	4.0%	2.4%	1.9%	1.9%

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Thank You

