



Department of
Agriculture and Food



GRDC

**Grains
Research &
Development
Corporation**

Decision support models for canola diseases

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**Department of Agriculture and Food
Western Australia (DAFWA)**

Visit <http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/cropdisease>

**National Meeting on Fungal Diseases of Canola
23 February 2010, The University of Melbourne**

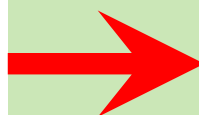
On-going & planned future activities

Blackleg: understanding, assessing & forecasting risks (2000 -)

Sclerotinia: understanding (assessing & forecasting) risks (2010 -)

BWYV: understanding, assessing & forecasting risks (2005 -)

**Western Australia
2000 - 2010**



**Southern Australia
2010 -**



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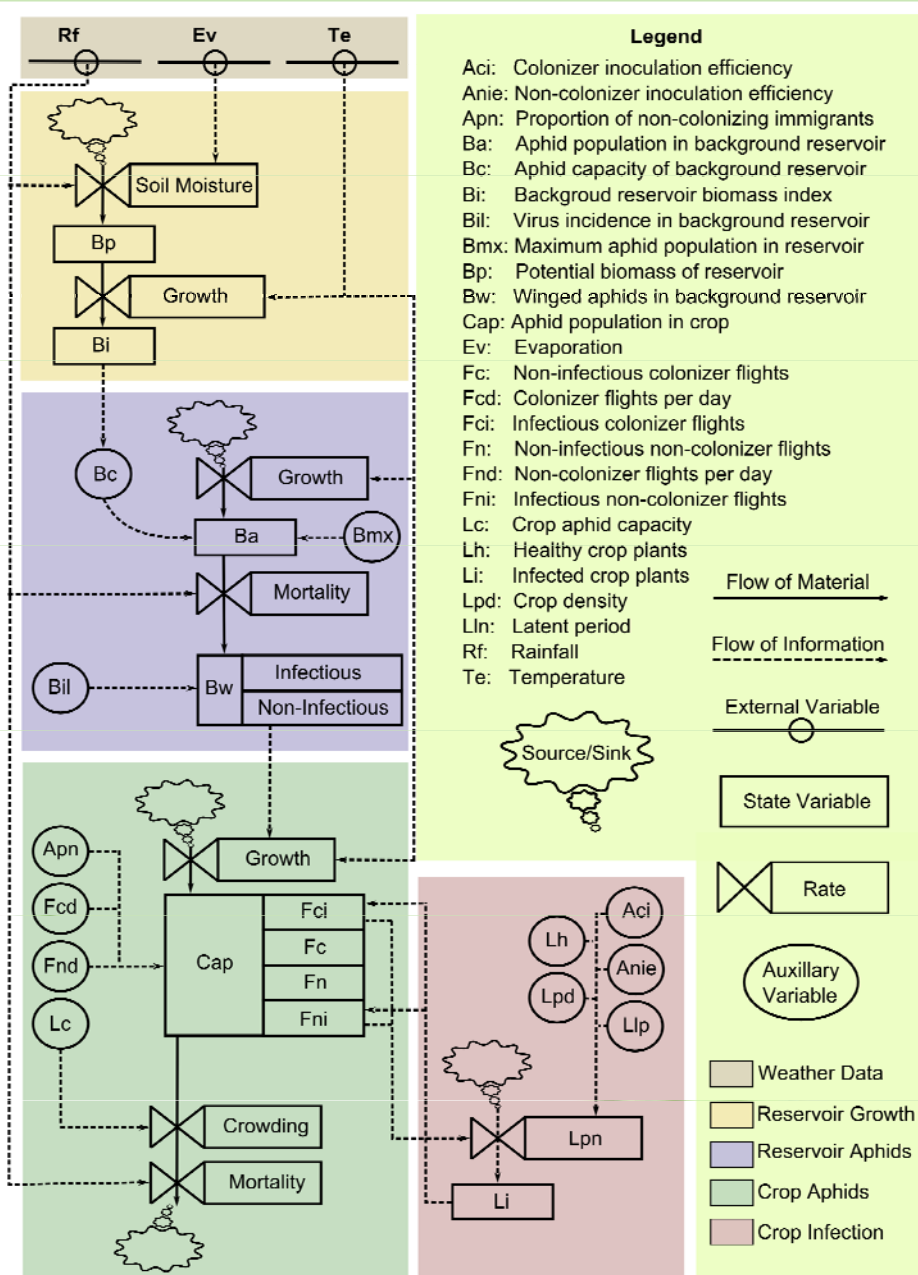
BWYV Canola

WA background reservoir: Wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*)

Principal vector: Aphid, *Myzus persicae*



BWYV canola: how does it work?



Modelling steps

- Model environmental (wild radish) biomass
- Model aphid population in wild radish and their migration into crop (canola)
- Model aphid population
- Virus spread in canola

Validation

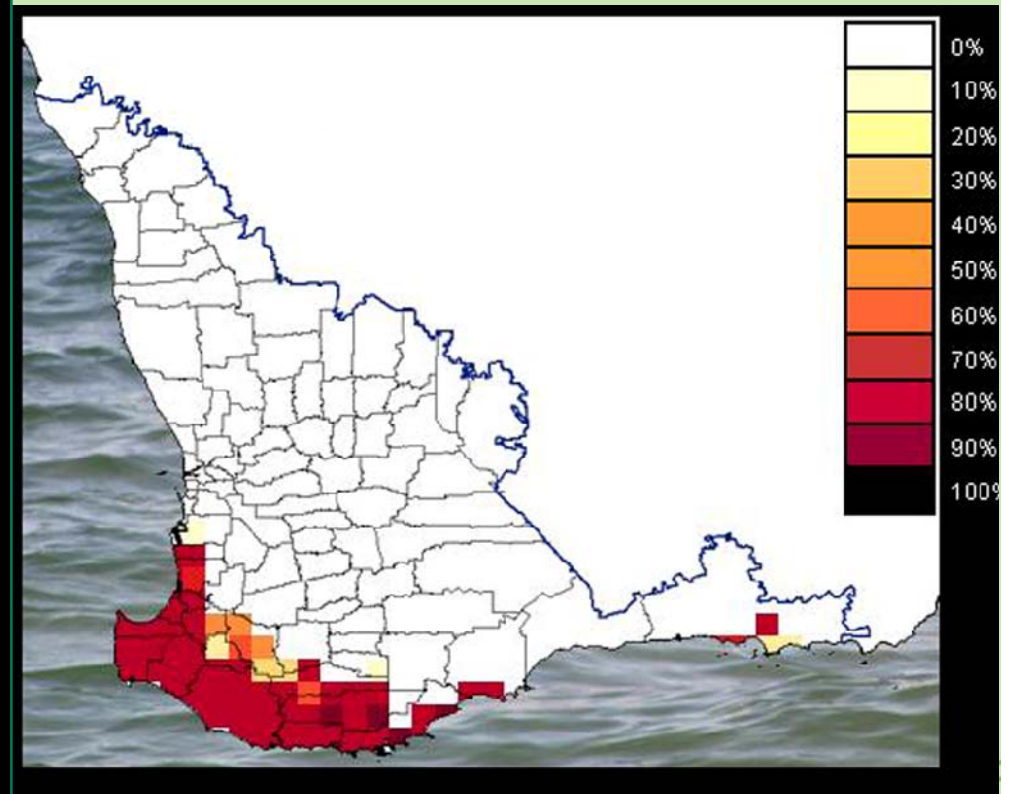
aphid numbers
 BWYV incidence
 4 sites, 3 rainfall zones, &
 3 years.

Model: implementation & application

Beet western yellows virus

1. Prediction sites:
WA cropping-belt, ~400 sites
2. Predictive method:
run model up to forecast date,
finish model run off with all 50
historical years in database
(assuming 10th, 50th and 90th
percentile incidence as low,
normal, and high risk forecasts)
3. Forecast timing:
greater current season data =
greater accuracy; not
recommended before late April
(in WA)

- South Australia
- Victoria



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Sclerotinia

Work starting in 2010

- WA
- NSW



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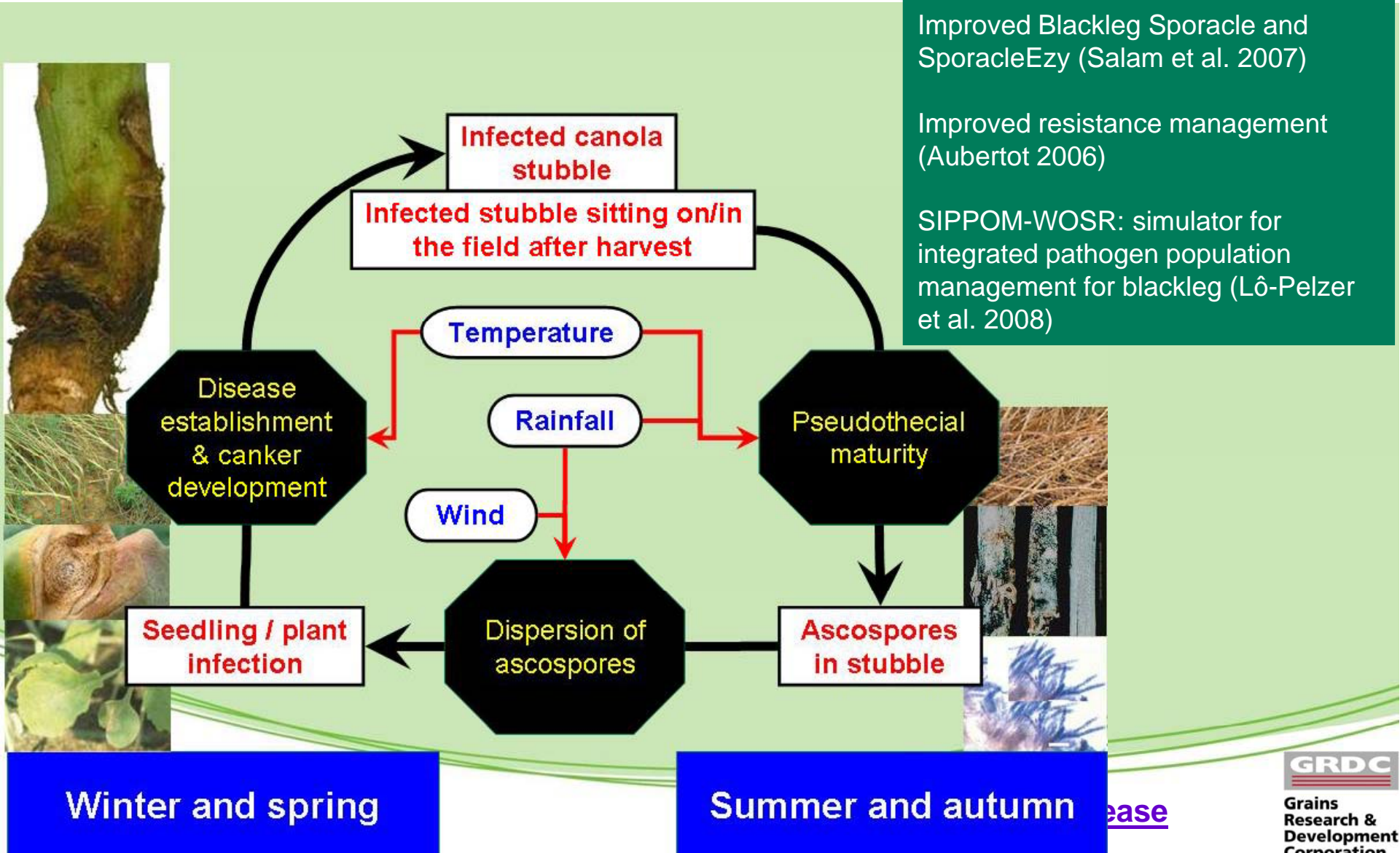


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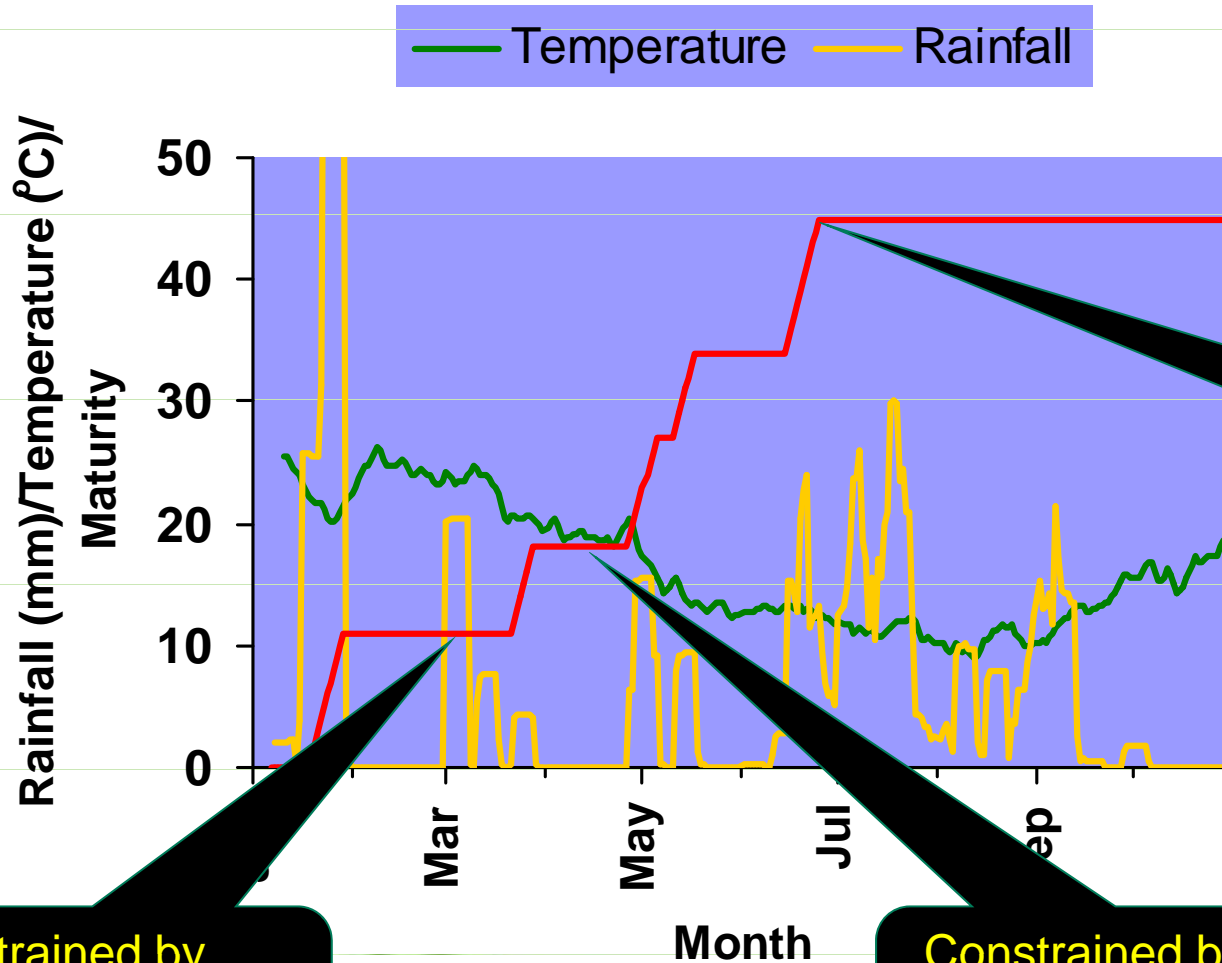
Blackleg

Work started in 2000



Model(s) to track down ascospore maturity

Blackspot Sporacle; Improved Sporacle; SporacleEzy



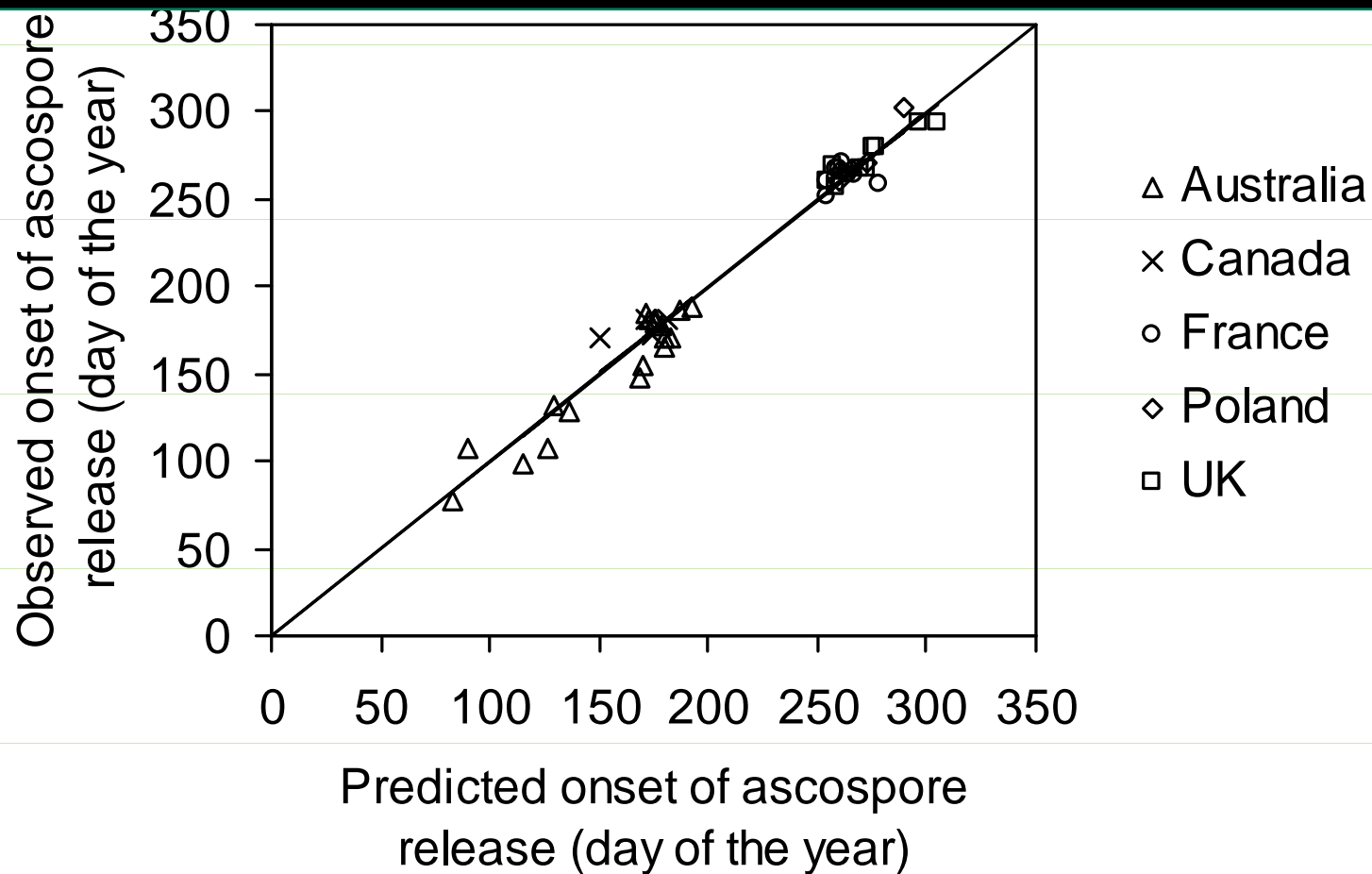
Pseudothecial maturity begins here

Constrained by temperature (though rainfall is favourable)

Constrained by rainfall (though temperature is favourable)

Model(s) to track down ascospore maturity

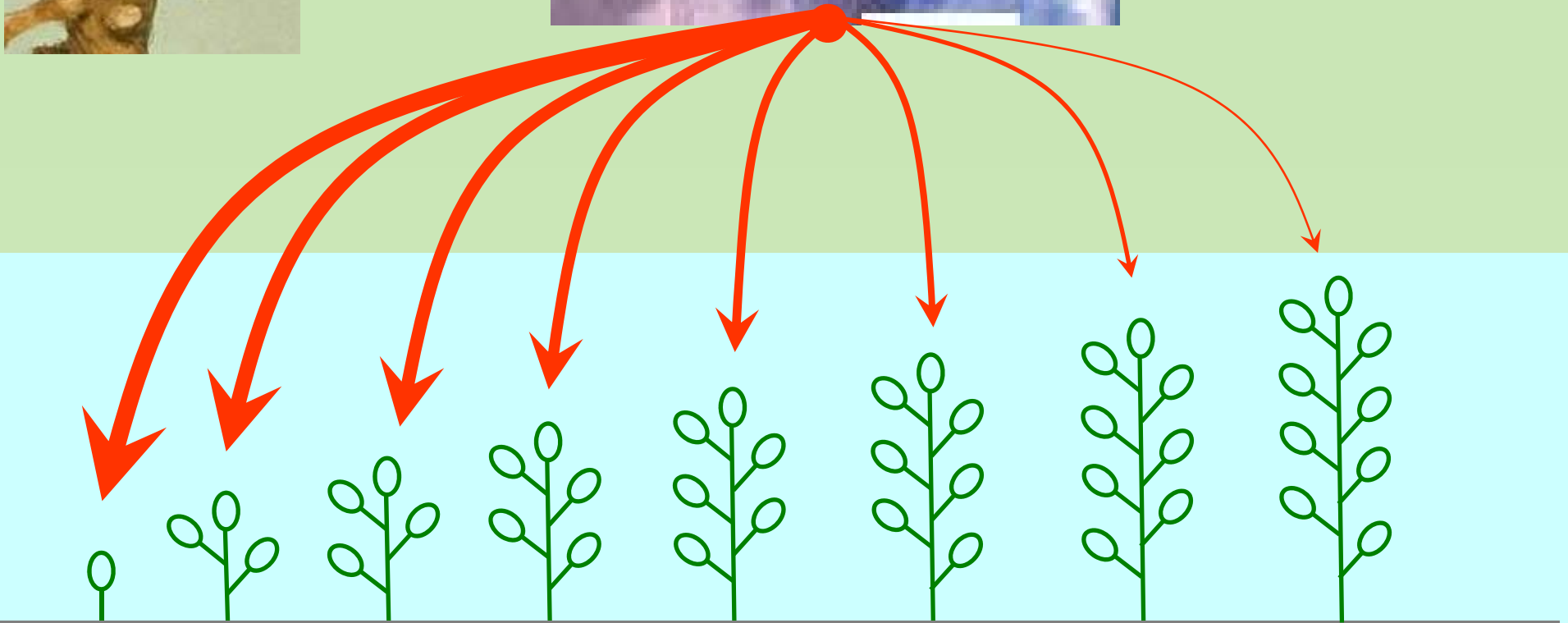
Blackspot Sporacle; Improved Sporacle; SporacleEzy



Tested internationally with 46 datasets, respectively, 19, 4, 10, 4 and 9 from Australia, Canada, France, Poland and UK

Phytopathology (2003); Plant Pathology (2007)

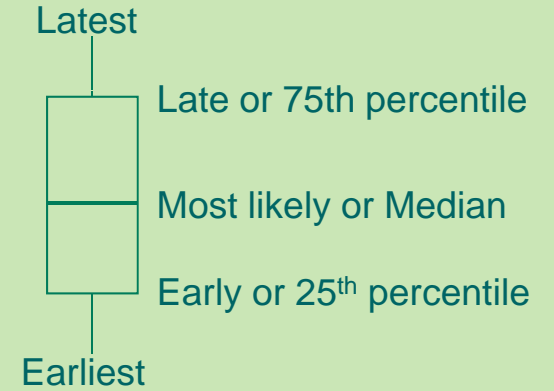
Why do we bother to know?



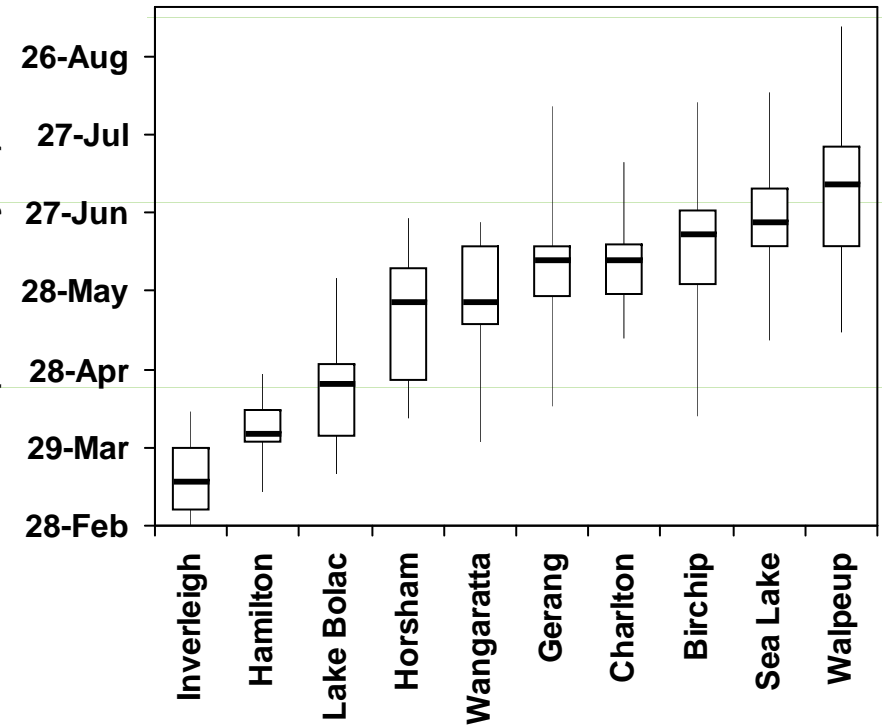
Gerang

Strategic & tactical decisions

15 years (1991-2005) prediction



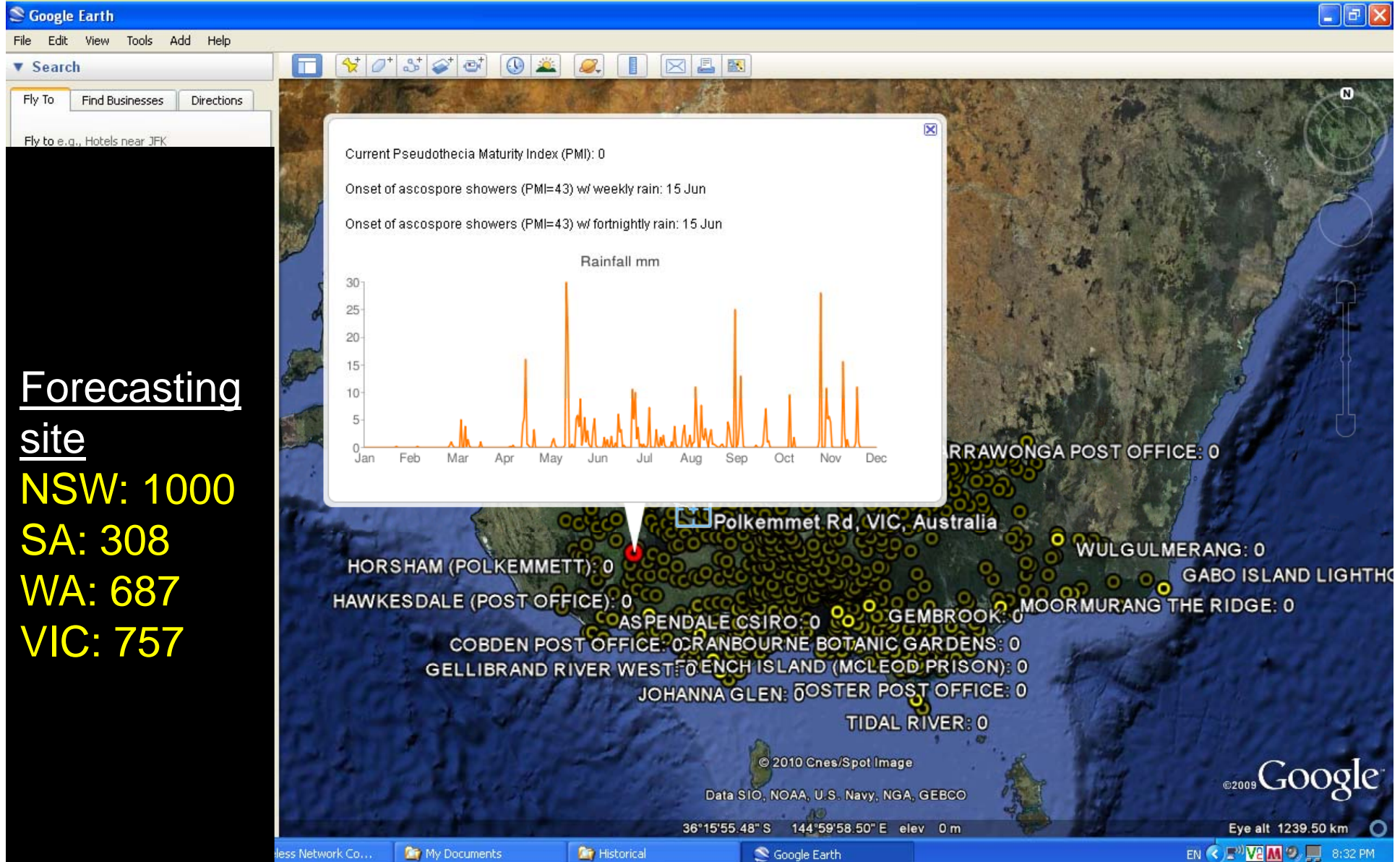
Predicted onset of ascospore release:
(date of the year)



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Blackleg: onset of ascospore shower



Forecasting site

NSW: 1000

SA: 308

WA: 687

VIC: 757

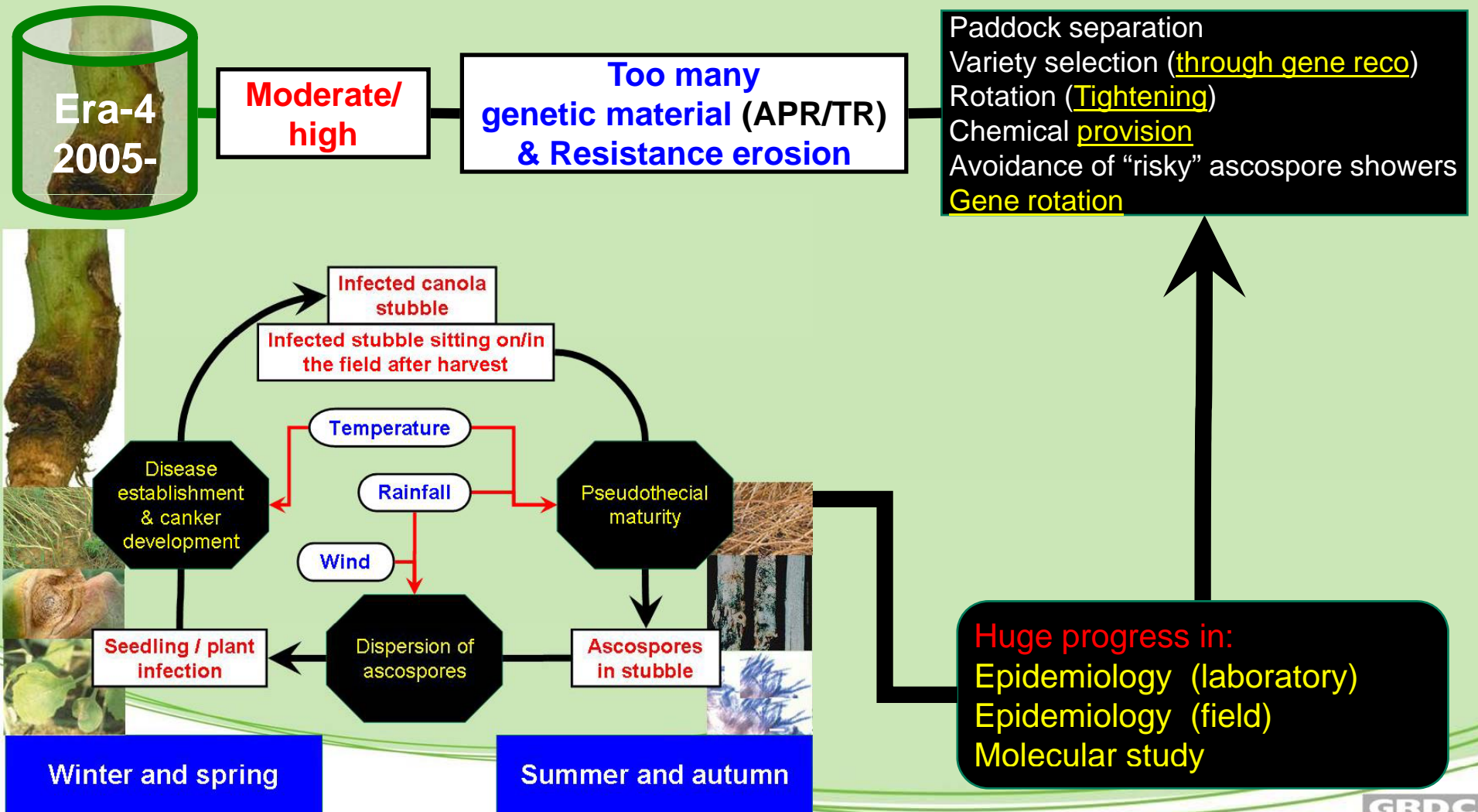
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Blackleg risk and management through times

ERA	RISK	ISSUE	MANAGEMENT OPTION
<p>Era-4 2005-</p>	Moderate/ high	Too many genetic material (APR/TR) & Resistance erosion	Paddock separation Variety selection (<u>through gene reco</u>) Rotation (<u>Tightening</u>) Chemical <u>provision</u> Avoidance of “risky” ascospore showers <u>Gene rotation</u>
Era-3 2000- 04	Extremely low!!!	“Excellent” genetic material (TR)	
Era-2 1990s	High	Limited genetic material (APR)	Paddock separation Variety selection Rotation (Lengthening) Chemical application Avoidance of “risky” ascospore showers
Era-1 1970s	Extremely high	Lack of genetic material	Paddock separation

Blackleg risk management in Era 4



Blackleg risk management in Era 4



Era-4
2005-

**Moderate/
high**

**Too many
genetic material (APR/TR)
& Resistance erosion**

Paddock separation
Variety selection (through gene reco)
Rotation (Tightening)
Chemical provision
Avoidance of “risky” ascospore showers
Gene rotation

Challenge

Developing a system, considering all available options, for our clients (growers/consultants) enabling them to review their individual circumstances in finding

Right variety for a paddock (+/- chemicals)

Right paddock for a variety (+/- chemicals)

Huge progress in:
Epidemiology (laboratory)
Epidemiology (field)
Molecular study



WA Blackleg Risk Management System

