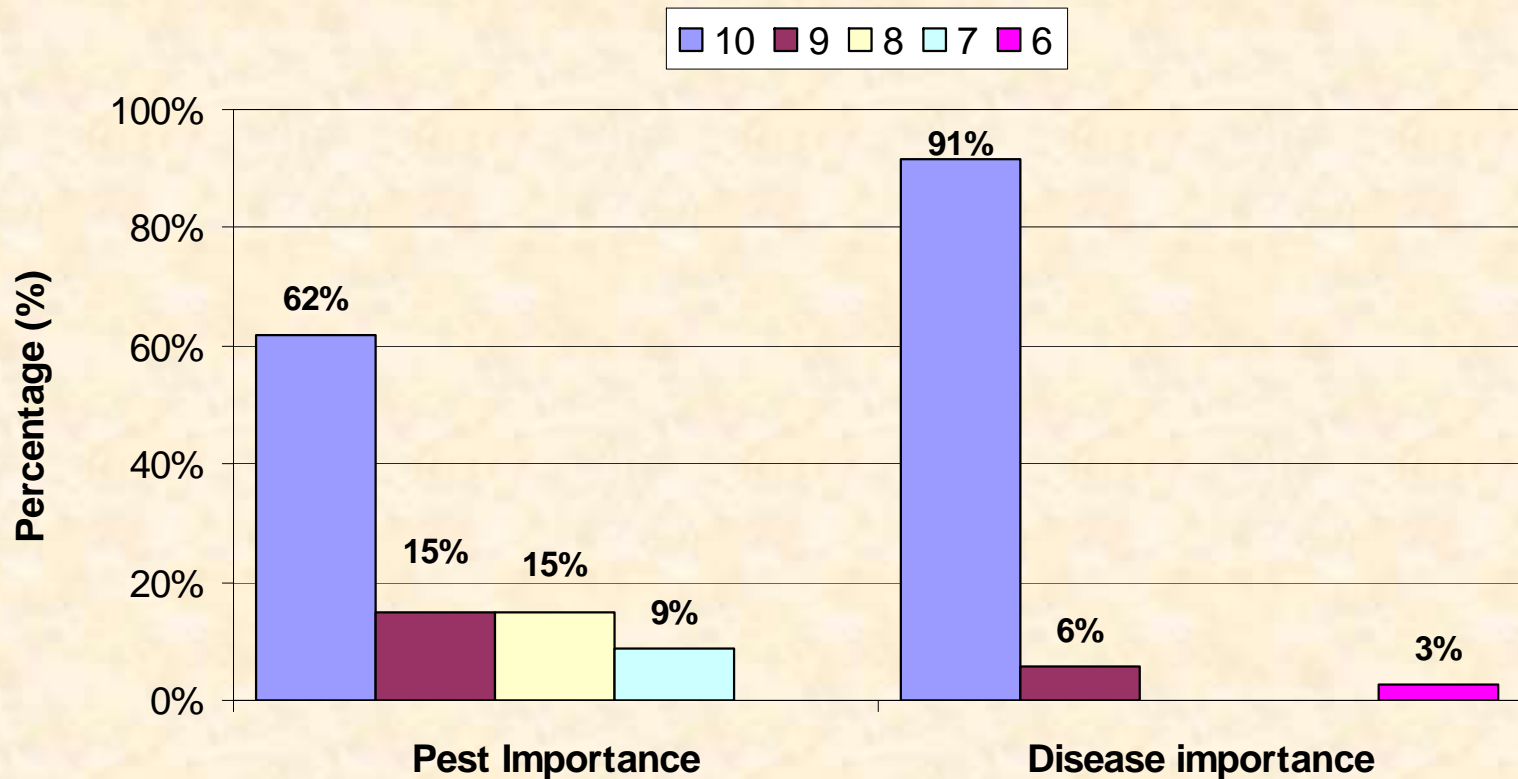


Mango Disease Management through Inoculum Reduction Strategies

Chrys Akem
Principal Plant Pathologist
DPI&F

IPM Project Survey - 2004

Pest and Disease Importance to Industry



Importance of Disease

- An important and critical part of the mango production system
- Need to be managed to achieve profitable production
- Need to do so in a Sustainable way with less impact on production Costs, the fragile Environment and our Health

DPI&F Current Research Focus

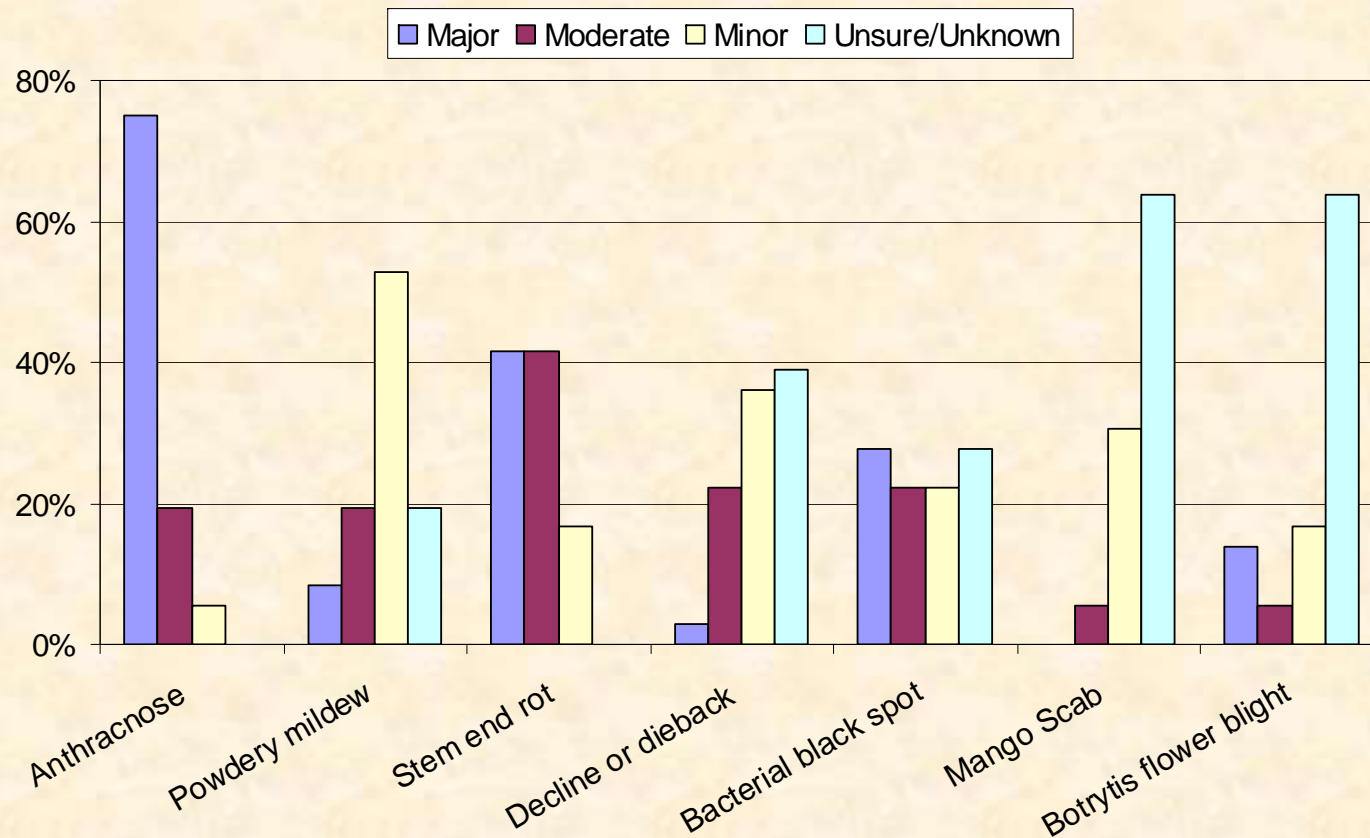
- Genetic resistance screening
- Plant activators evaluations
- New fungicides assessments
- Inoculum reduction strategies

Outline of Presentation

- What the major disease issues are
- How far we have come with them
- **Where we are at the present**
- What the future looks like

IPM Project Survey

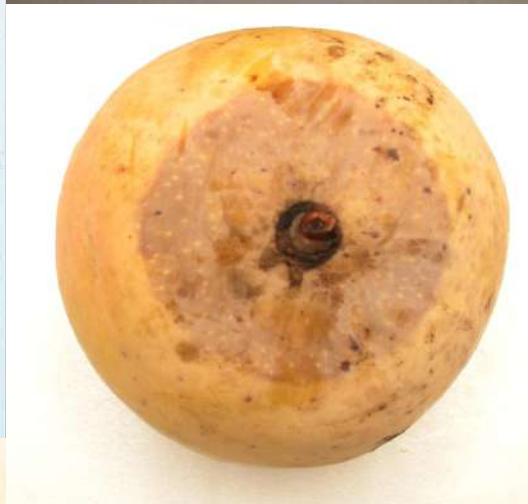
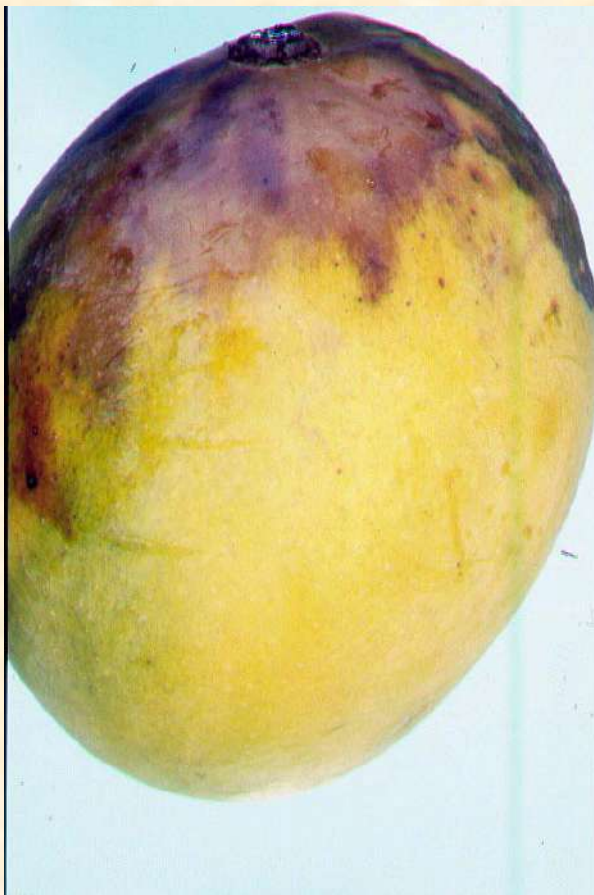
Importance of Different Mango Diseases



Our Major Disease - Anthracnose



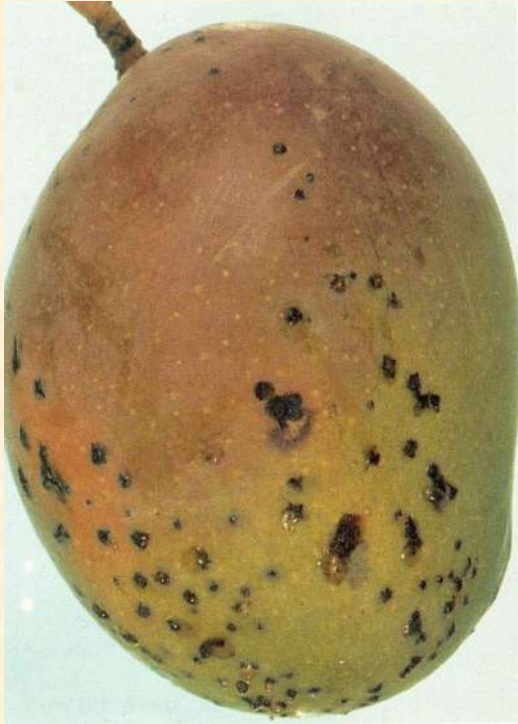
Another Major - Stem End Rots



An Emerging one - Dendritic spots



The Minor Ones



Bacterial Black spot



Powdery mildew



Mango scab

The Real Issue

Shelf-life in mangoes is mainly limited by 2 important postharvest diseases;

Anthracnose and Stem-End-Rots

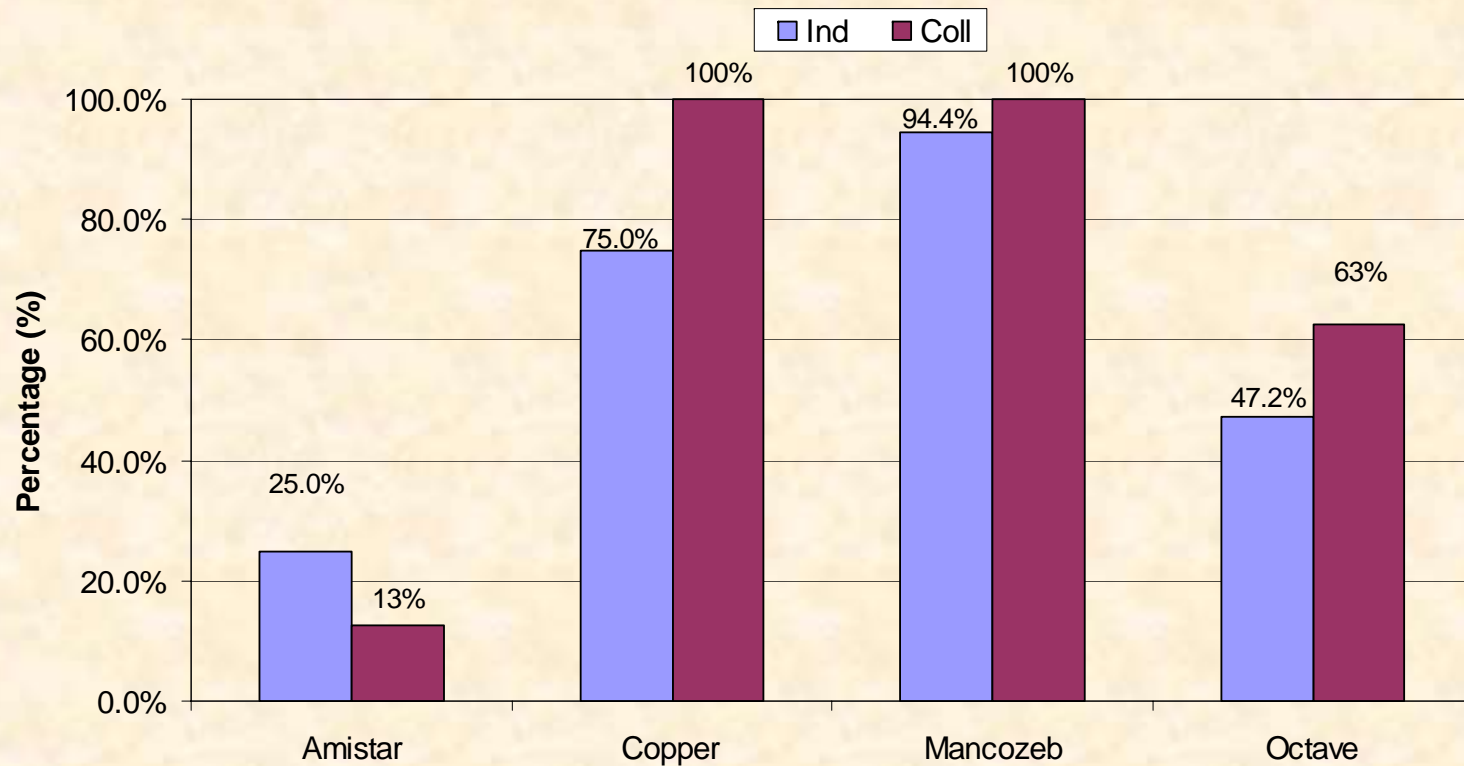


The routine process

Control of these diseases is largely based on the use of synthetic fungicides



IPM Project Survey - Fungicide Use - 2004



Field Control Options

Fungicide Sprays

- Mancozeb
- Copper
- Octave
- Amistar



Postharvest Control Options

Fungicide Dips

- Sportak
- Spinflo
- Hot water dips





Postharvest fungicides have served the industry well, but there is an uncertain future -
Chemical companies withdrawing; More MRL restrictions on target markets, etc.

Implications

- Have to start planning into the future
- See what we can do better to reduce total dependence on these chemicals
- **Reality is to act like they may not be available in the long run**
- Go back to the orchards and see how we can do things better; start coming off the “**Chemical Dependency Syndrome**”.

Current Concerns with Pesticide use

- Overuse – Routine calendar sprays
- Increasing costs of new ones - Amistar
- Environmental concerns - Cu
- Resistance development - Systemics
- Export market restrictions
 - *Dictation of what to use*
 - *MRLs limitation*

The Ultimate Goal from 2004 Review

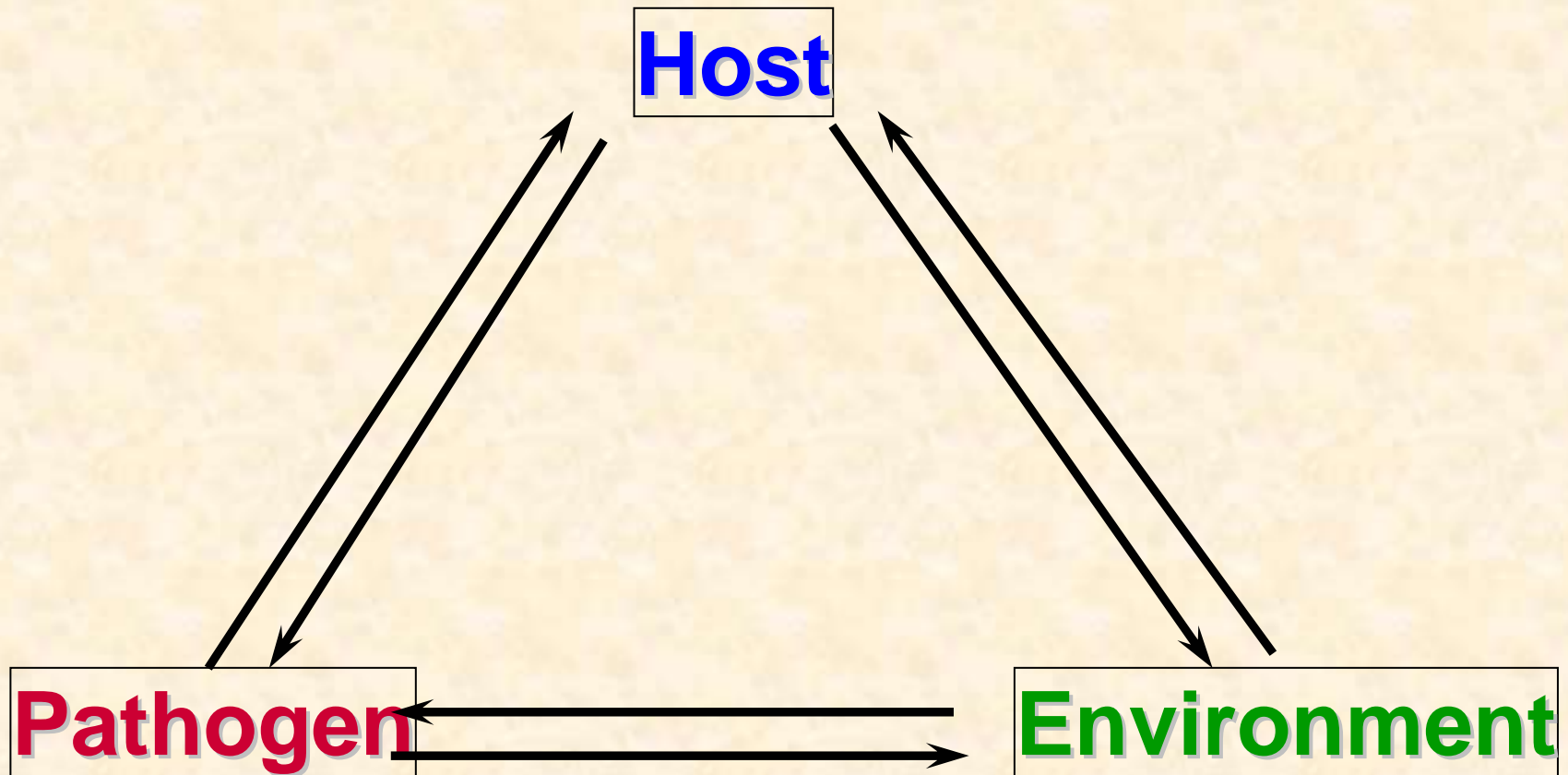
For Disease Management:

“To have an in-field disease management strategy that ensures that the fruit is robust enough to have up to 40 days shelf life and does not require any post harvest treatment.”

Disease Management Involves

- **Exclusion**
- **Protection of the host**
- **Inhibiting pathogen development**
- **Reducing inoculum levels**

Will Need to Consider "New" Options



Re-focusing on the Host

- Resistance
- Healthy tree growth
- **Orchard sanitation**

Disease Spread in the Orchard



Mango stem end rot life cycle



Plate 3. Tree litter harbours the perfect state of *Dothiorella* (*Botryosphaeria* sp.).



Plate 4. Ascospores are fired into the air from fruiting bodies on dead twigs.



Plate 6. Infection occurs sometime between flowering and harvest.



Plate 5. Twig dieback caused by *Dothiorella dominicana*. Spores from fruiting bodies in infected tissue are spread by water.



Plate 7. Stem end rot develops as the fruit ripen.



Plate 8. Spores (conidia) of *Dothiorella dominicana* from fruiting bodies on decaying mangoes.

Integrated Progression

- Disease Control
- Disease Management
- Integrated Disease Management
- Integrated Pest Management
- Integrated Crop Management

Integrated Crop management

- *A Holistic Approach that considers:*
 - Crop protection (IPM)
 - Crop nutrition
 - Irrigation practices
 - Other Crop production practices
 - Environmental impacts

Integrated Crop Management (ICM)

- The ultimate goal is:
 - Increased Yields and
 - Long-term Sustainability of Production
- **ICM = Sustainable Crop Management**
**Applying as little input as possible, but
as much as needed.**

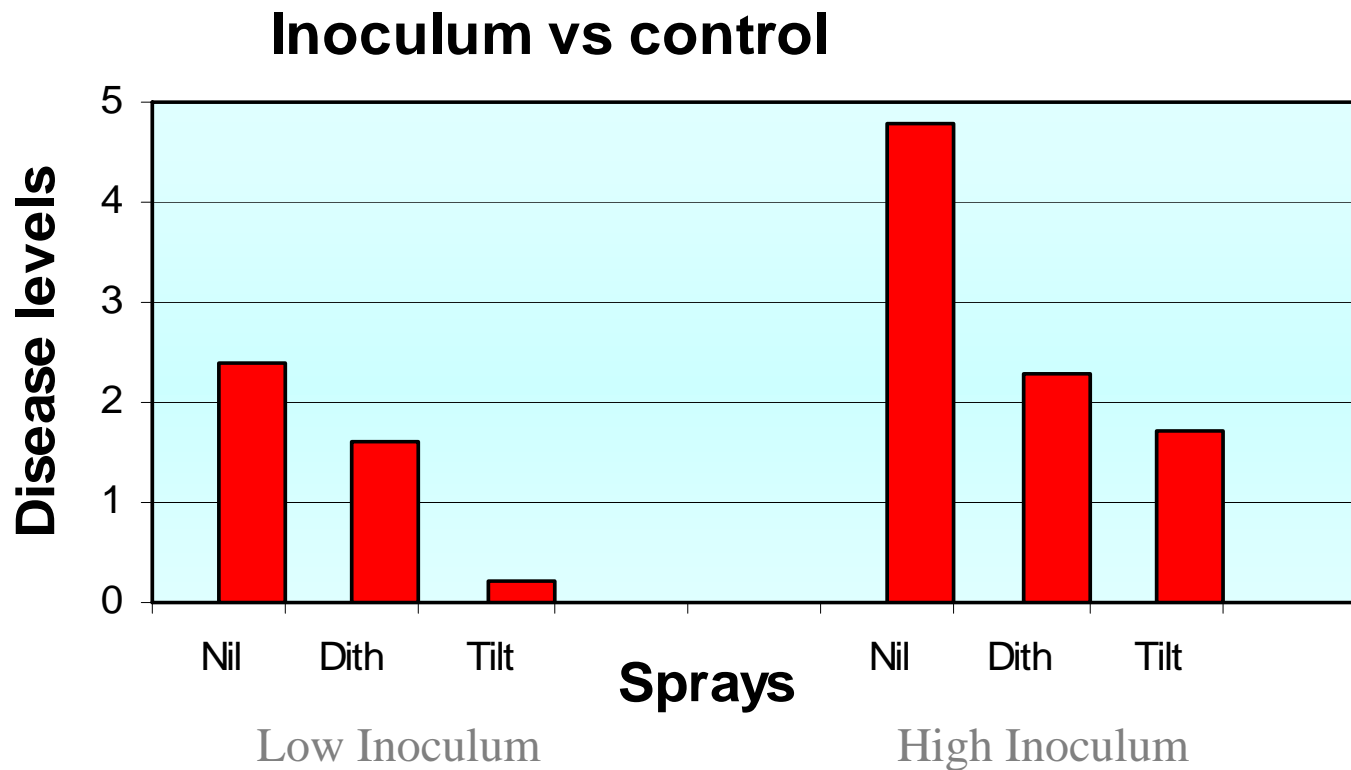
The Way Forward - 1

1. *Back to Basics of Orchard Hygiene*

➤ **Role of Inoculum Reduction**

- **Effect of low levels of inoculum on minimum sprays**

Effect of Inoculum levels on control



Not Really a New Concept

Going back to the Basics of

Orchard Sanitation

- Use pruning as a disease management tool
- Continue to do so regularly and routinely
- Remove all dead branches, old fruit, flower panicles etc.
- Move prunings into the inter-row to mulch
 - > not a good idea to put on base of the tree.
- Prune early to enable material to rot
- Go back and thin all inner shoot growths
- Skirt trees to limit contact with soil



Delivery



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Pruning to reduce size and disease inoculum





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Experimental Approach

- Mechanical pruning of trees at end of cropping season
- **Total Reduction** – Clearing of all dead twigs, branches and leaves on and under the trees; continue periodically
- **Partial Reduction** – One time clearing of all dead twigs, branches and leaves on tree
- **None** – Pruning with no further clearing of dead twigs, branches and leaves
- **Sprays** – Supplementing with some sprays



Delivery



Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries

Integration with sprays

1. *Minimal*

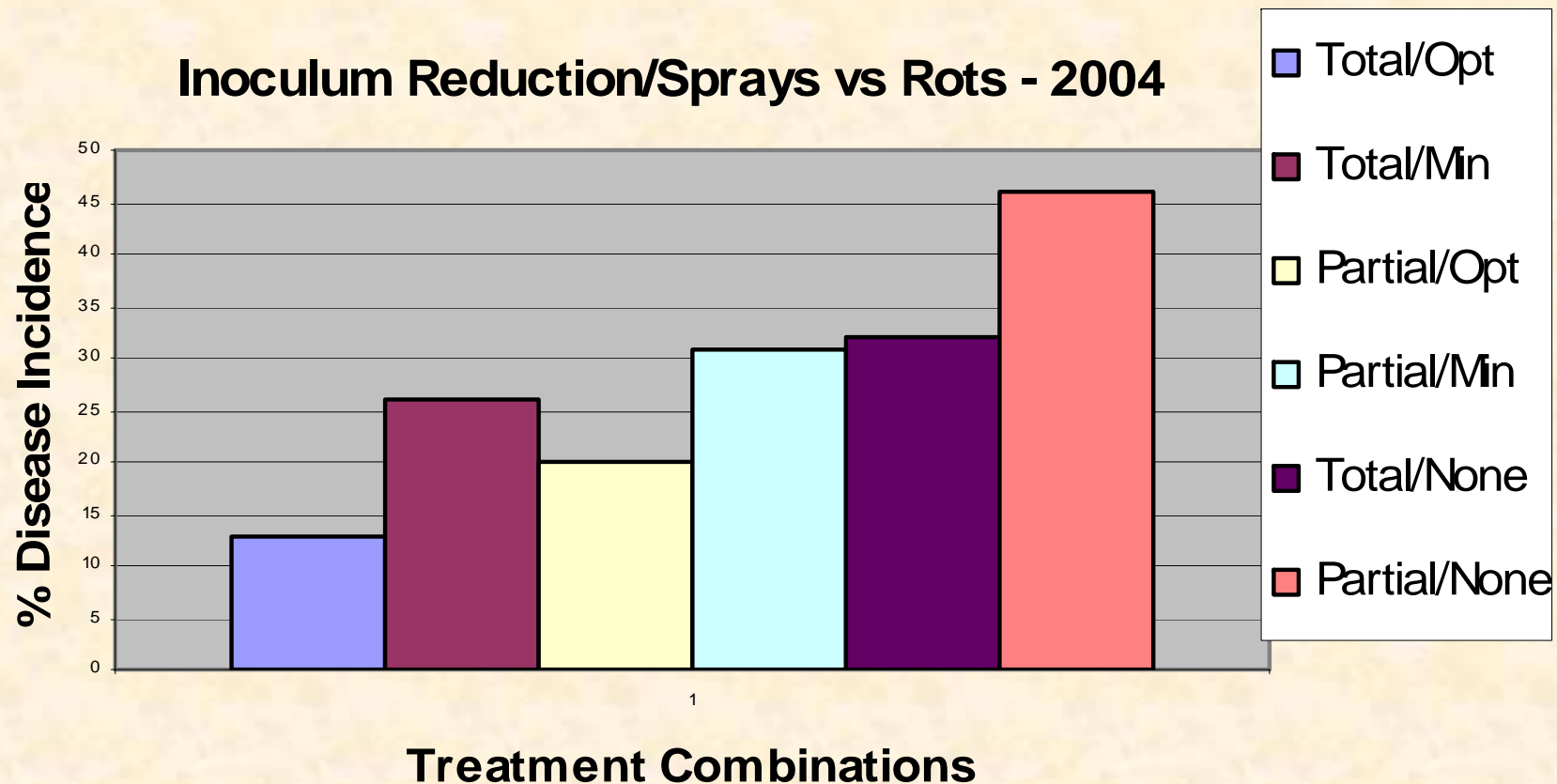
- First flush - Mancocide
- Second Flush - Mancozeb
- Flowering - Octave
- Fruiting - Mancozeb
- Harvesting – Amistar

Integration with sprays

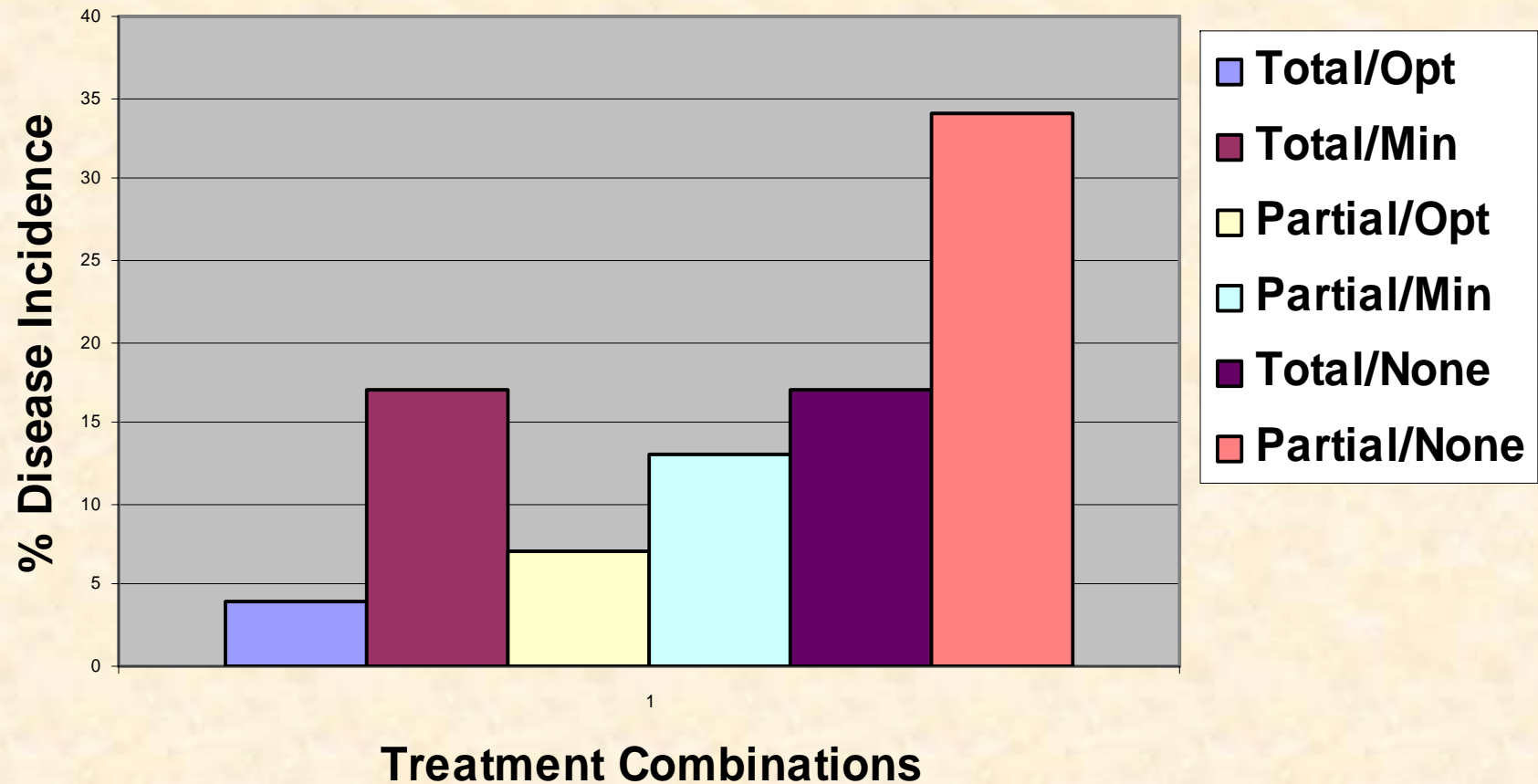
2. *Optimal*

- First Flush – Mancocide (Mancozeb + Cu)
- Second Flush - Mancozeb
- Pre-Flowering - Mancozeb
- Full Bloom - Octave
- Fruit initiation – Mancozeb/Amistar
- Fruit Expansion - Mancozeb
- Fruit maturation - Amistar

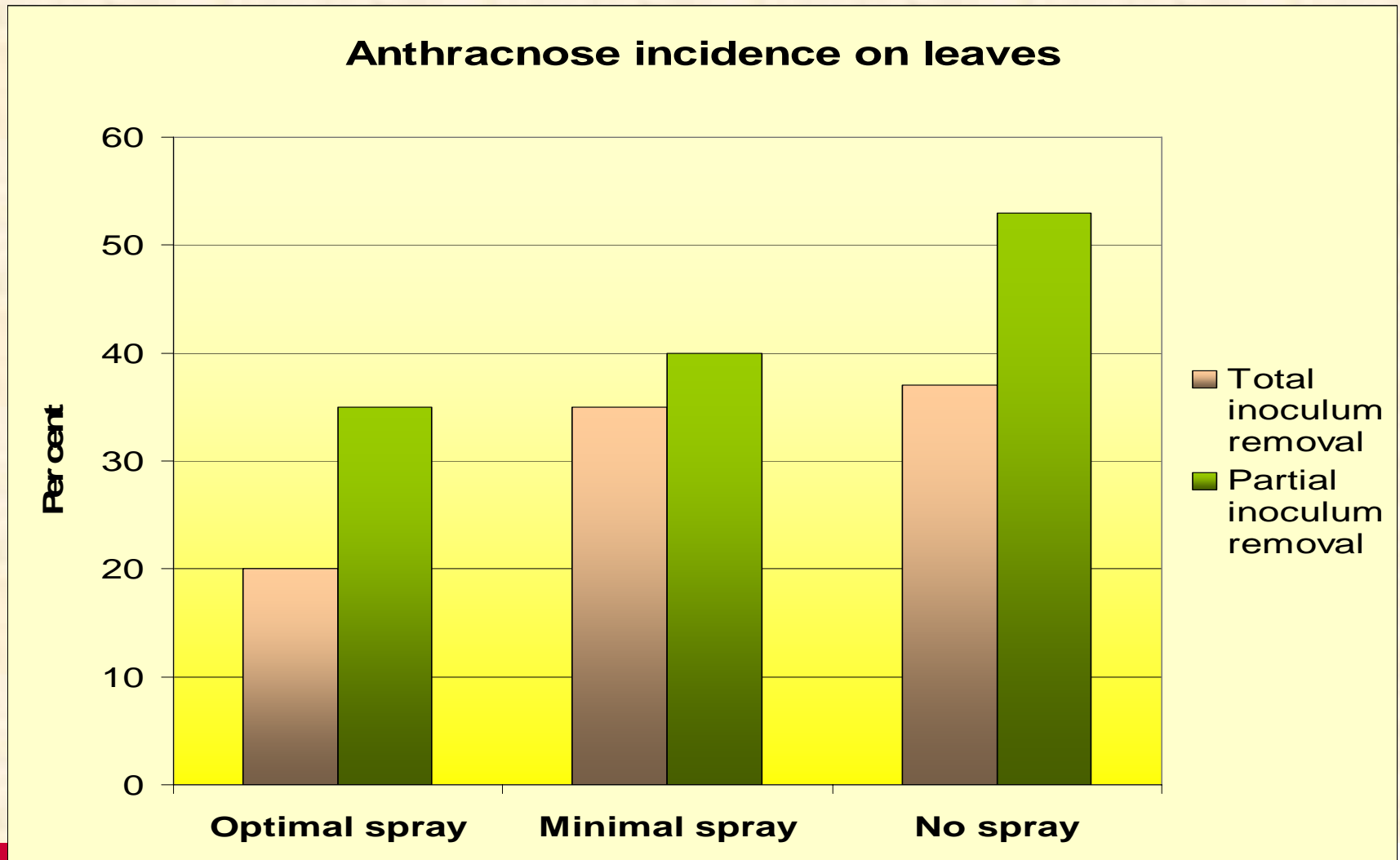
Incoculum Reduction/Sprays vs Rots



Inoculum Reduction/Sprays vs Anthracnose DI

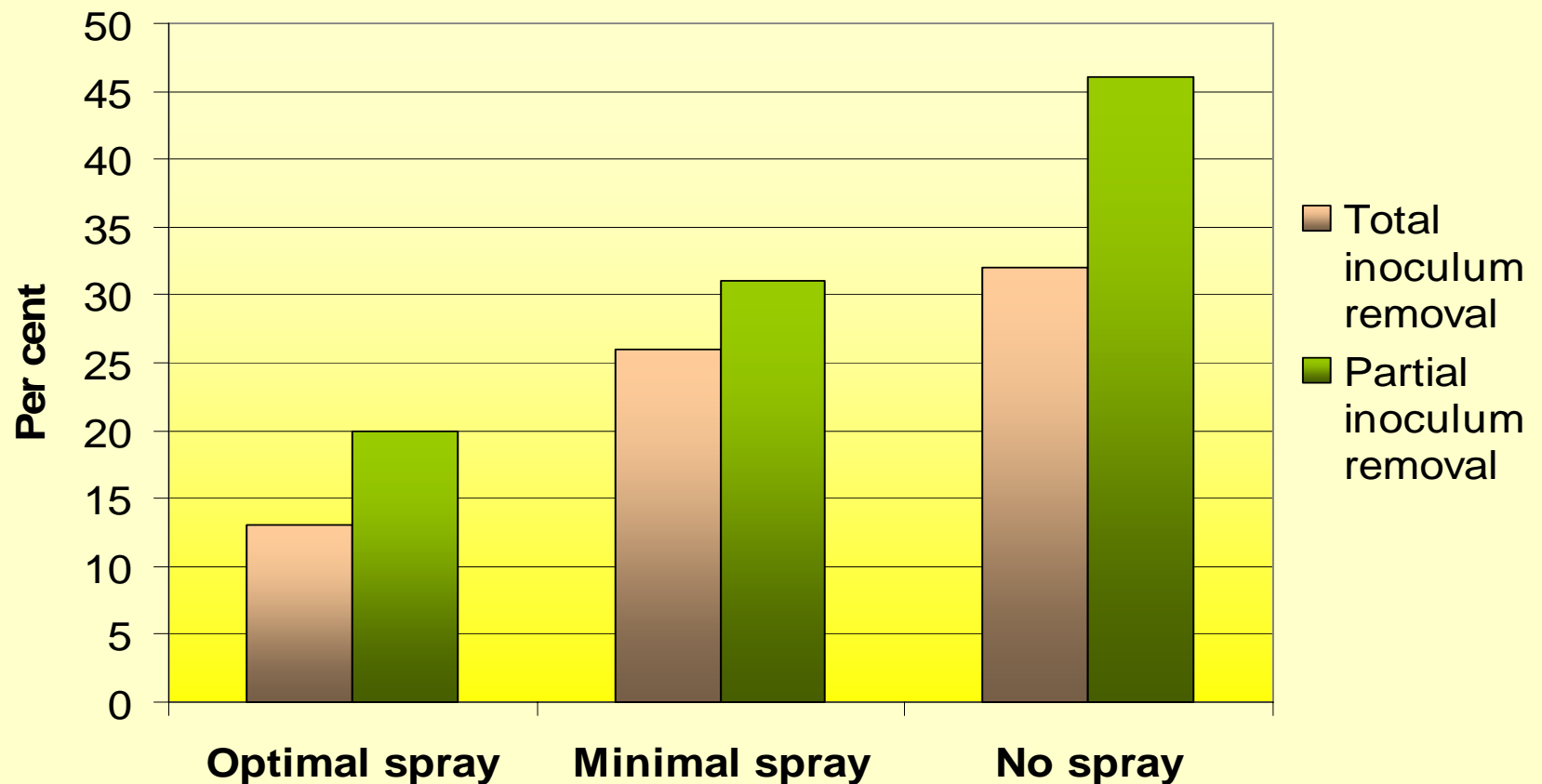


Inoculum Reduction



Inoculum Reduction

Post-harvest rot disease incidence on fruits



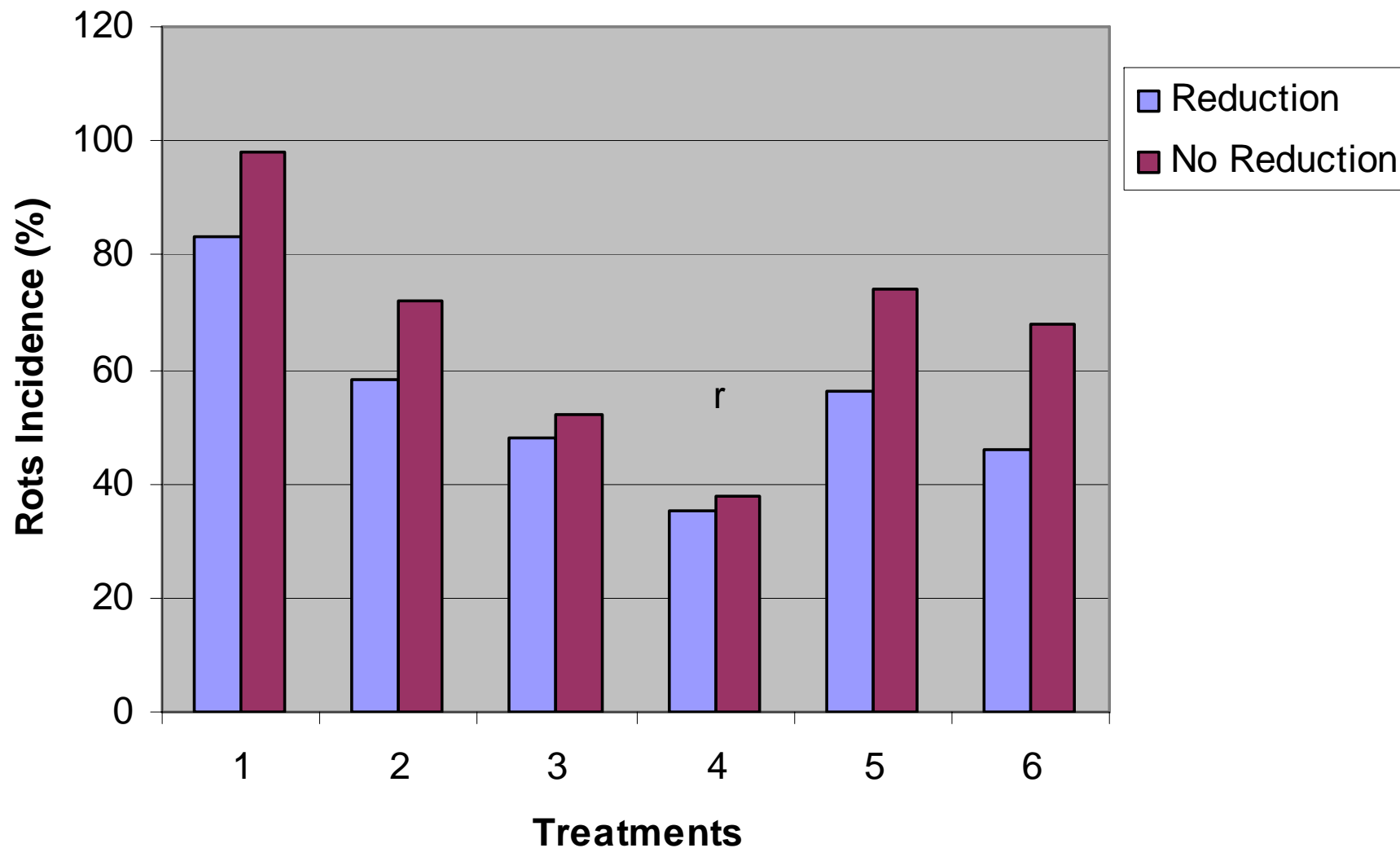
A Step Further - Searching for a systemic at flush



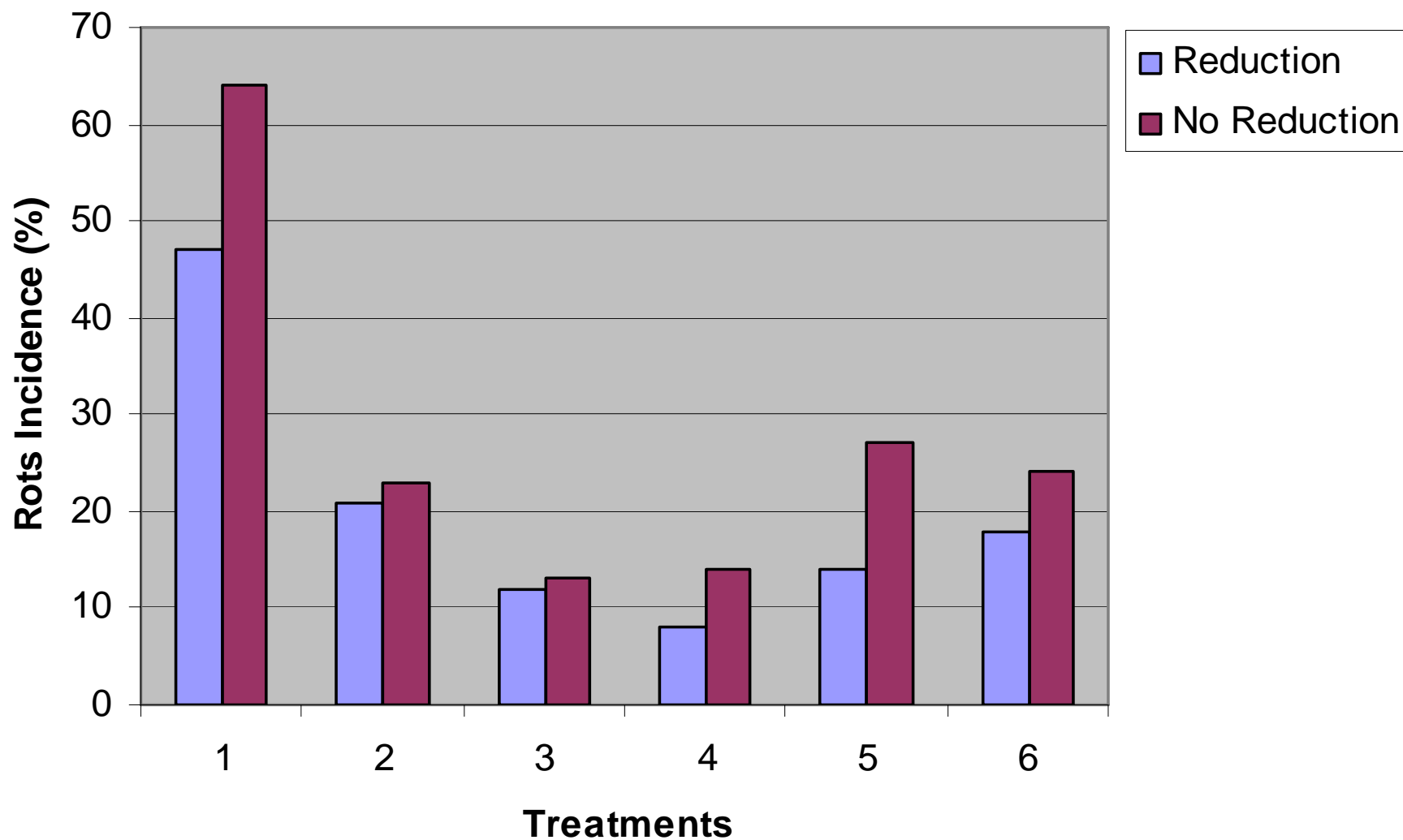
2007 Season Trial Treatments

	March	April	May	August	September	October	November
Treatments	FLUSH	FLUSH	FLUSH	Flowering	Fruit Set	Develop/ment	B4 Harvest
1 (Nothing)	C	O	N	T	R	O	L
2 (S-Min)	Mankocide			Octave	Mancozeb		Amistar
3 (S-Max)	Mankocide	Mancozeb		Octave	Mancozeb/ Amistar	Mancozeb	Amistar
4 (S-Max)	Mankocide	Bravo (Rover)		Octave	Bravo/ Amistar	Bravo	Amistar
5 (D-Min)	Mankocide	Tilt	Mancozeb	Octave	Mancozeb		Amistar
6 (D-Max)	Mankocide	Tilt	Mancozeb /Tilt	Octave	Mancozeb		Amistar

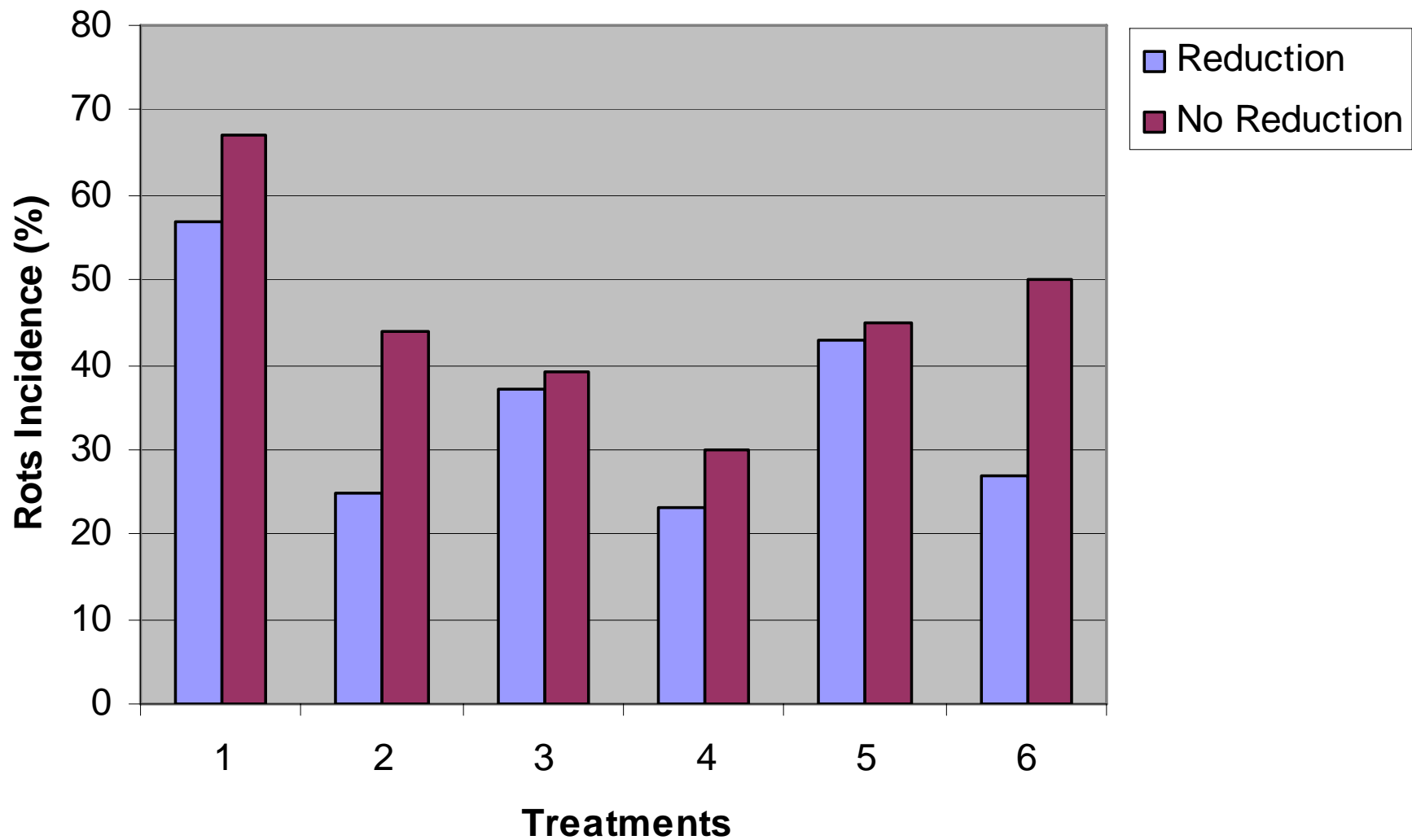
Inoculum Reduction Effects on Fruit Rots



Inoculum Reduction Effects on Anthracnose



Inoculum Reduction Effects on SER





Adopting in silence - FNQ



Testifying to Adoption Results - NQ

"I spent a lot of money in the early part of the season implementing the inoculum reduction practices in a couple of blocks in my orchard;

The results have been spectacular, more premium fruit from that block than all the others. It has already paid off. I will continue with all the orchard" - AJ

Above Quote from a Satisfied Burdekin Grower - December 2007

More Adoptions with own adjustments



The Way Forward - 2

2. *Plant Nutrition*

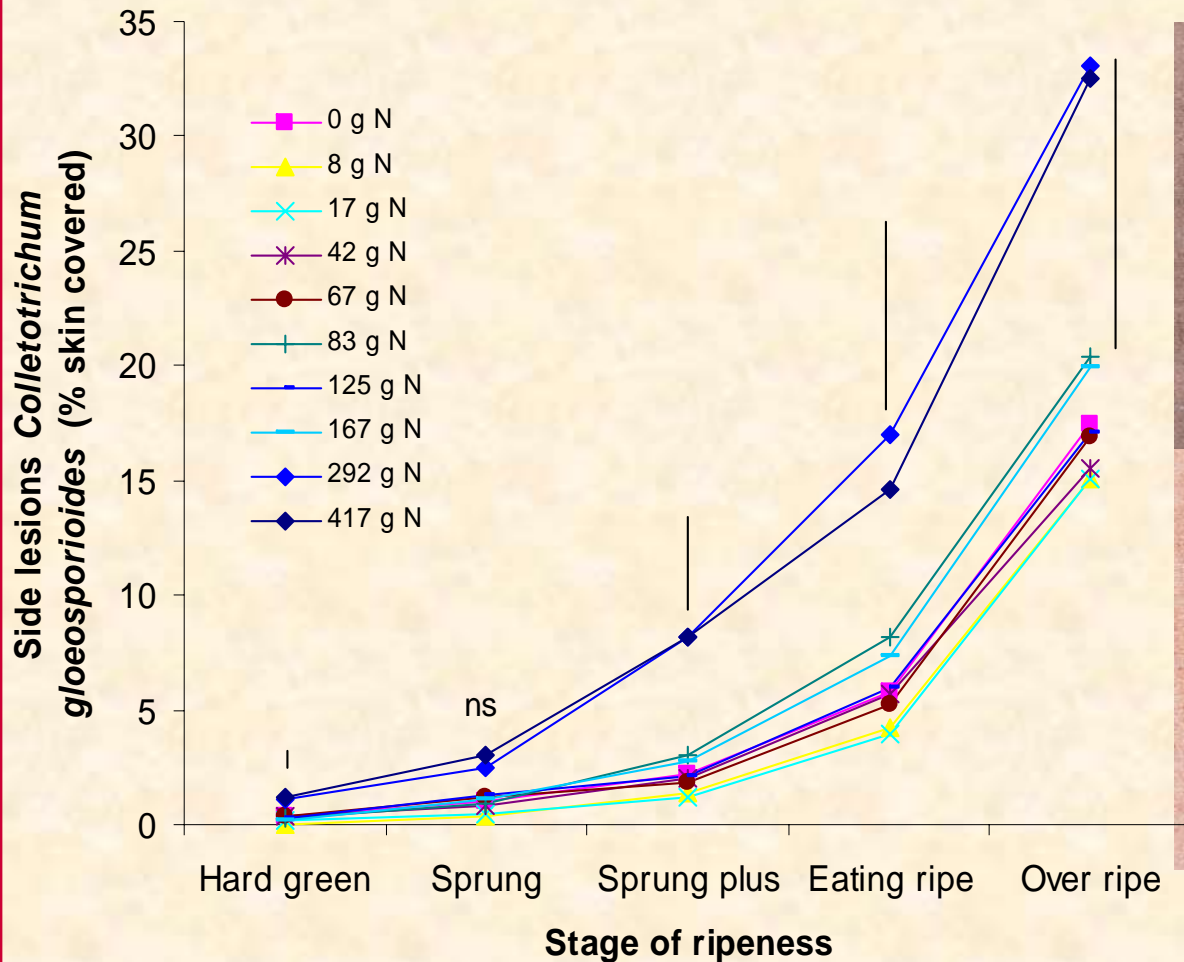
➤ **Judicious Fertilizer Use**

- Influence of nitrogen and other nutrients on yields and disease levels.



The links between nitrogen and postharvest diseases of mango.

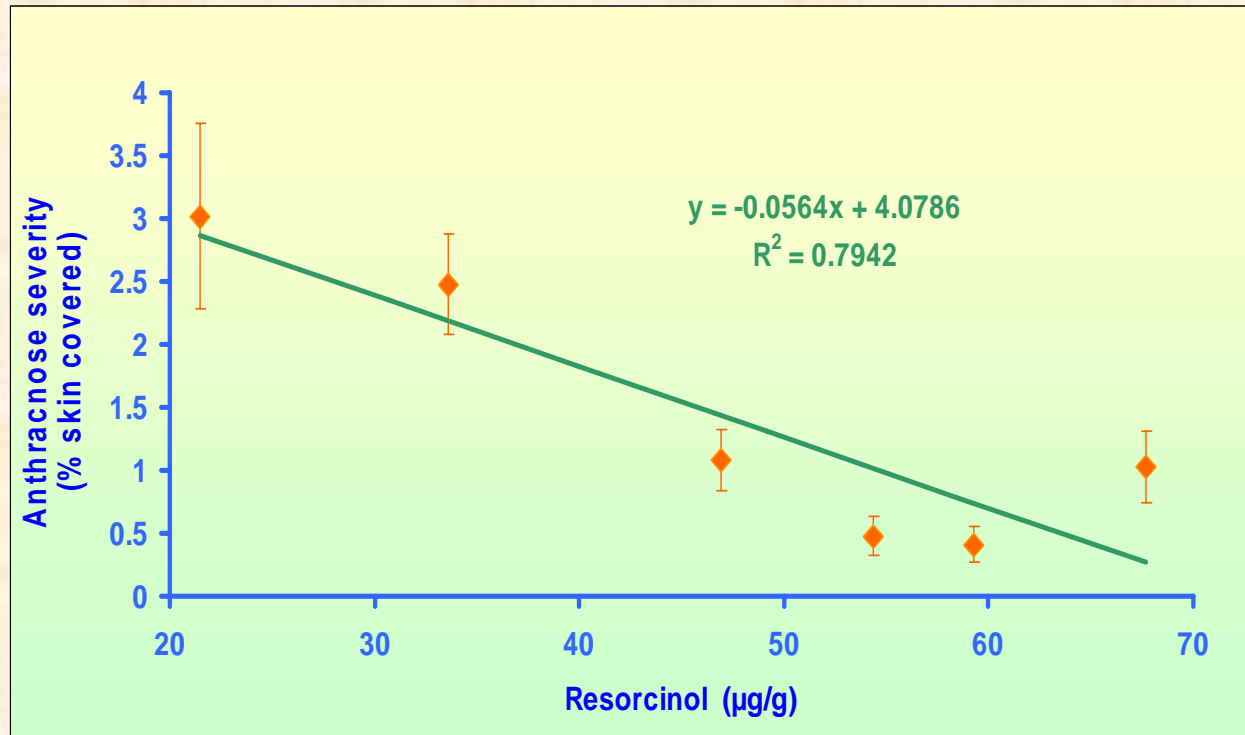
Anthracnose Severity



- Applied nitrogen rates above 292 g N tree⁻¹ significantly increased anthracnose incidence and severity

Nitrogen fertilizer effects

- Anthracnose severity increases with increasing N fertiliser and skin N



- Anthracnose severity decreases as resorcinol increases

The Way Forward - 3

3. Plant Defenses

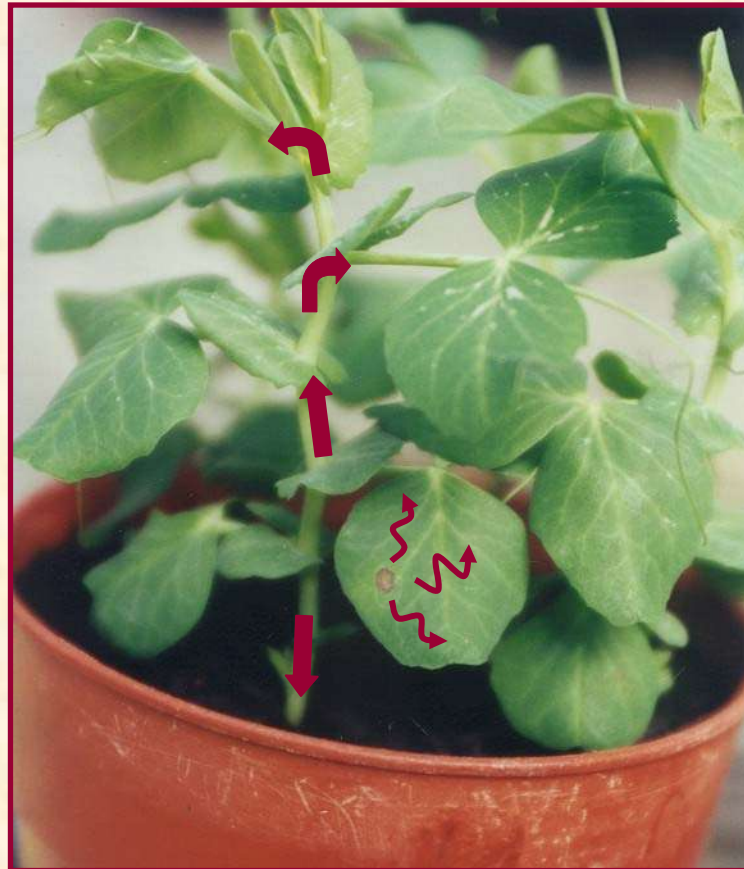
➤ **Activating Plants Natural Defenses**

- A relatively new approach in disease management
- Not intended to be a stand-alone approach

Induced Resistance

1. Resistance
“activator”

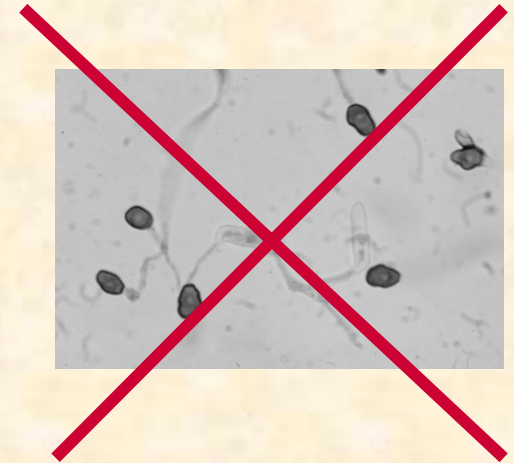
2. Pathogen
attack



3. Induction
of defences &
signalling

4. Systemic
protection

*Induced resistance targets **the plant**,
not the pathogen*



Induced Resistance

- Brought about by use of **ACTIVATORS**
 - Activators are NOT Pesticides
 - They need time to start working; apply before infection occurs
 - Resistance is non-specific; many plants protected against many pathogens

SILICON Branch Injection use in AVOCADO

Treatment	Shelf life (days)	Anthracnose (%)	
		Severity	Incidence
UNTREATED	13.28	17.7	52.5
SILICON	15.15 ***	3.7 **	24.2 ***

Alternatives to fungicides

- Activators

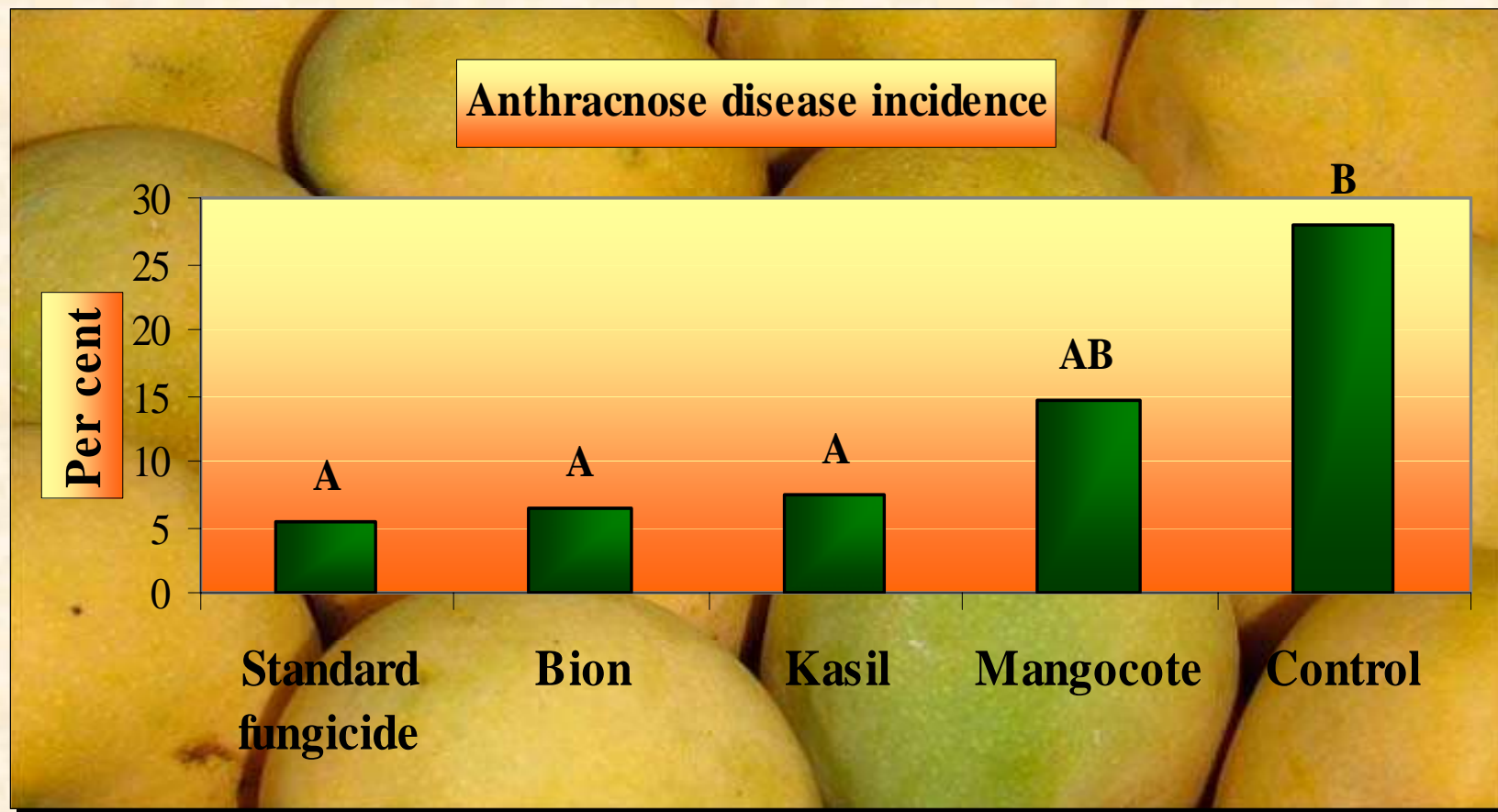
- Silicon (Kasil)
- Kaolin products (Mangocote)
- Bion



Typical Field Treatments

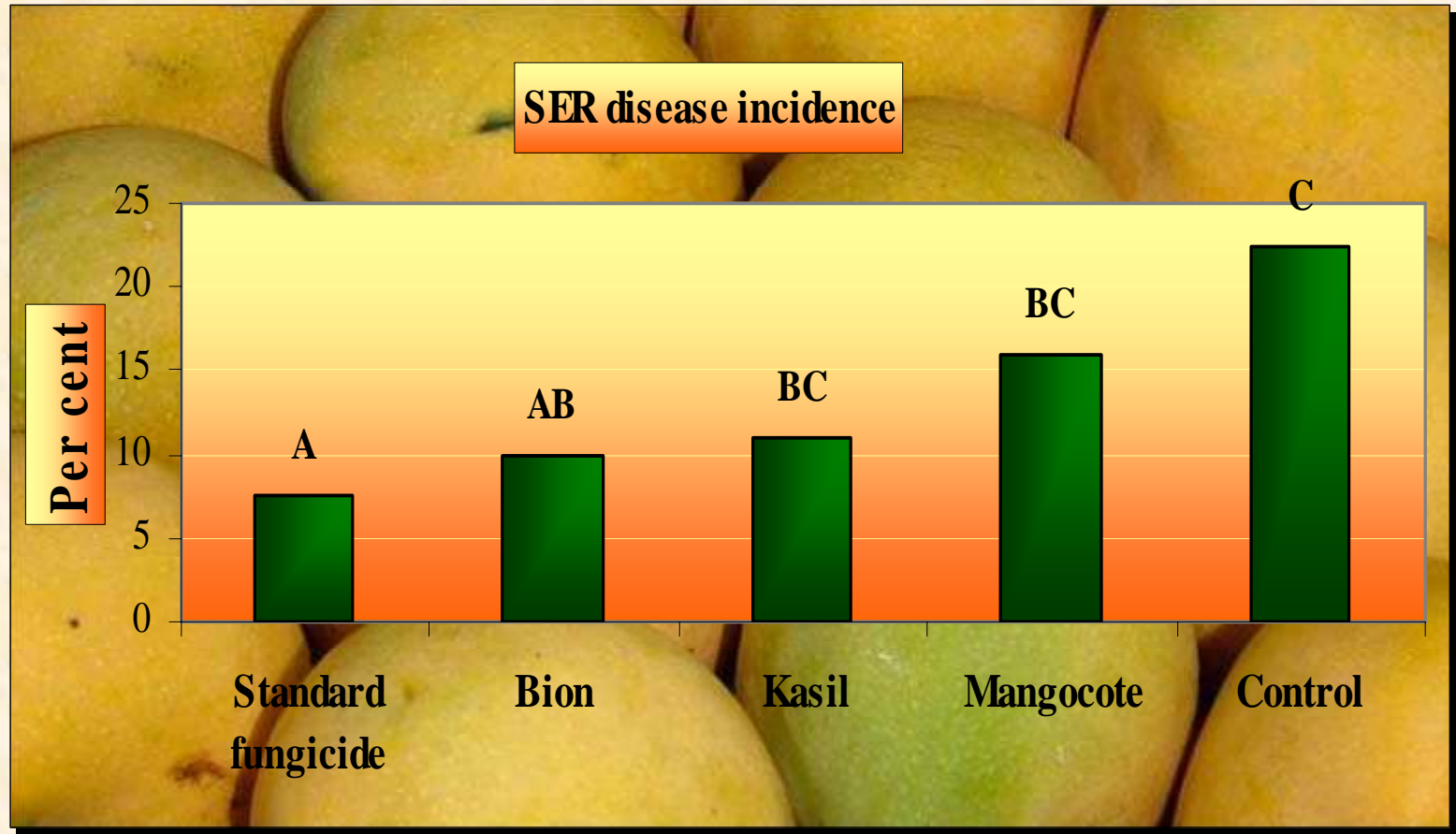
1. **Bion – 3 Field sprays**
2. **Silicon (Kasil) – 3 Field Drenches**
3. **Mangocote – 3 Field sprays**
4. **Standard fungicide treatment – 5 total sprays**
5. **Combination – 5 different treatments**
6. **Control – Nothing applied**

Anthracnose incidence on R2E2



Treatments with the same letter are not significantly different at the $p = 0.05$ level.

SER incidence on R2E2



Treatments with the same letter are not significantly different at the $p = 0.05$ level.

Combination effects on all rots incidence on KP

Percentage Disease incidence					
Treatment	SER	Anthraco	Dendritic spot	Other	All rots
K-B-K-A	25	3 ab	3	2	31 a
Mz-K-B-A	35	1 a	7	4	42 ab
M-A-Mz-A	34	4 ab	18	4	50 abc
B-K-B-A	46	4 ab	8	4	55 bc
P-B-K-B	44	10 bc	16	3	56 bc
B-K-B-P	47	20 cd	7	3	60 bc
Control	51	25 d	7	9	71 c

Treatments with the same letter are not significantly different at the $p = 0.05$ level

K = Kasil, B = Bion, A = Amistar, Mz = Mancozeb, M = ManKocide, P = ProAct

In Conclusion

- **Our Ultimate Aim is to Develop a Holistic Systems Approach to Manage Diseases**
- **Field Activities** focusing on Integrated Crop Management
- **Post harvest - Shed to Market**
Supply Chain Solutions for Longer Shelf life

The Integrated Crop Management Approach

- *A Holistic Approach that considers:*
 - Crop protection (IPM)
 - Crop nutrition
 - Soil water management
 - Other crop production practices
- *The ultimate goal is to:*
 - Increase Yields and obtain Long-term Sustainable Production
- **ICM = Sustainable Crop Management**
Applying as little input as possible, but as much as needed.

Acknowledgement with Thanks

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 - Gerry MacManus, Zoe Baron, Paula Boccalatte, Kerry Stockdale, Elio Jovicich, Chrys Akem
- Our Research Focus is on the Management of
 - Mango and Vegetable Diseases

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Thank you