



Tianna DuPont



George  
Sundin



Nikki  
Rothwell

Kerik Cox



Oregon State  
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Ken  
Johnson



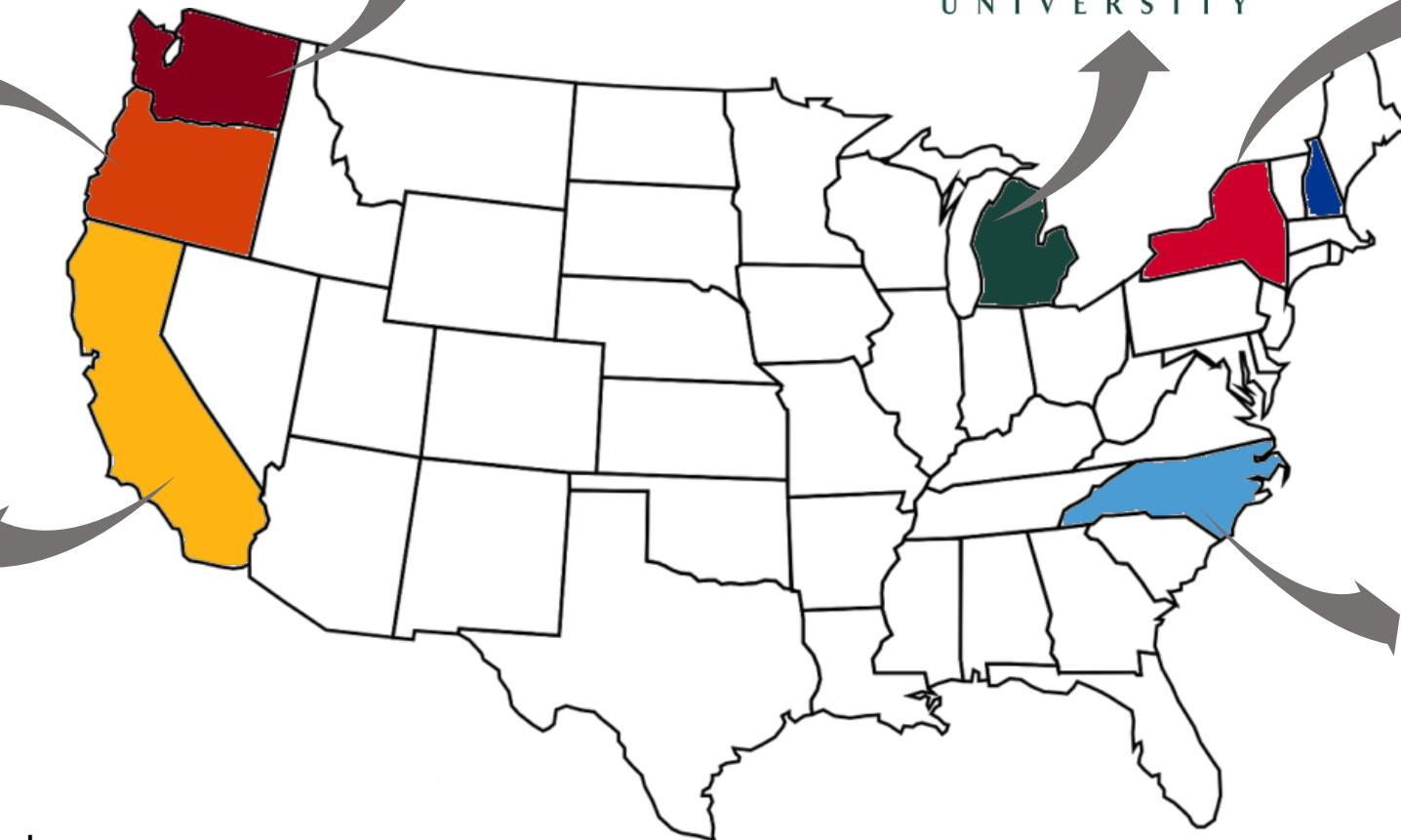
Sara Villani Peter Ojiambo



Jim  
Adaskaveg



MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

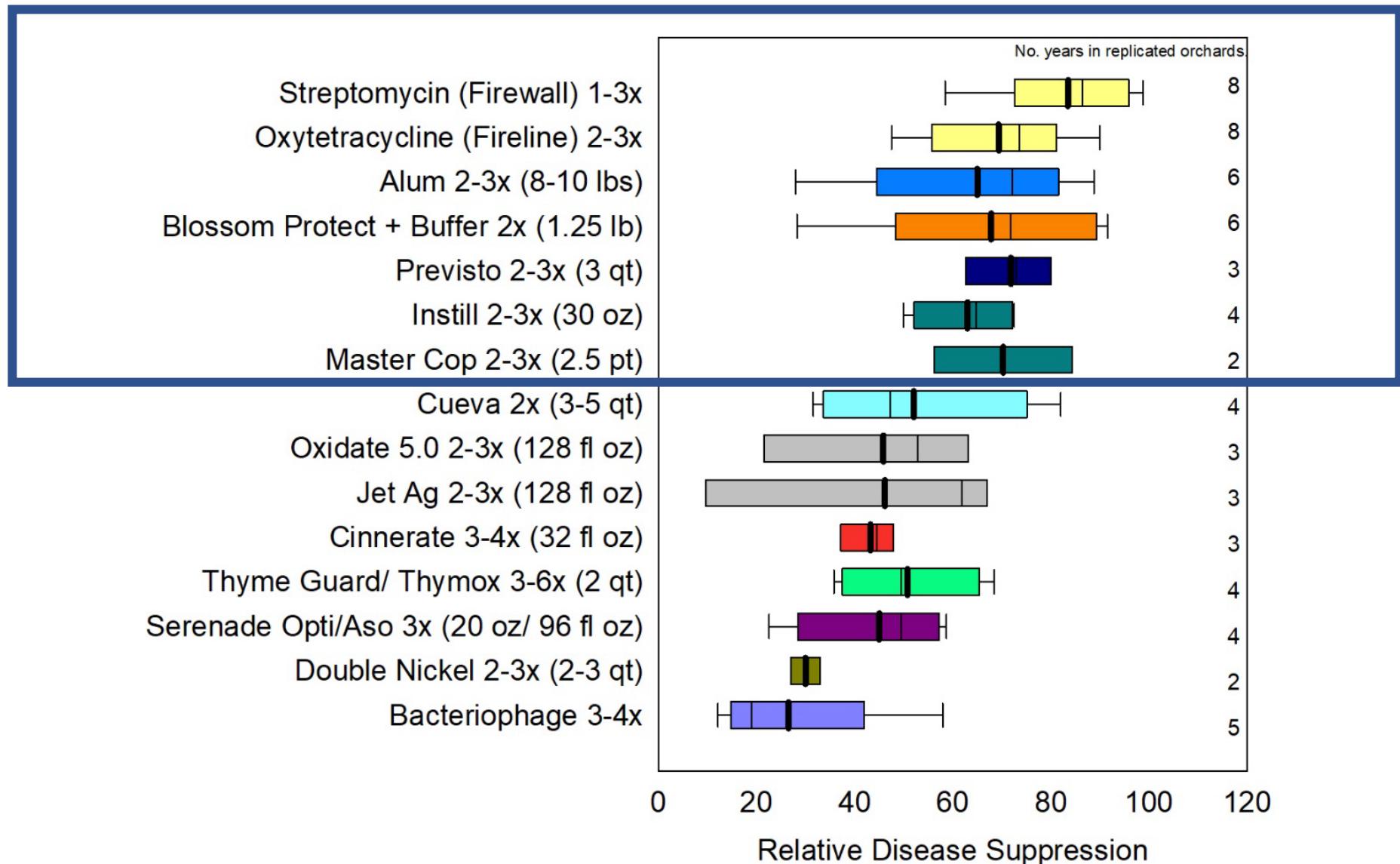


# The challenge of selecting biopesticide materials for fire blight spray programs:

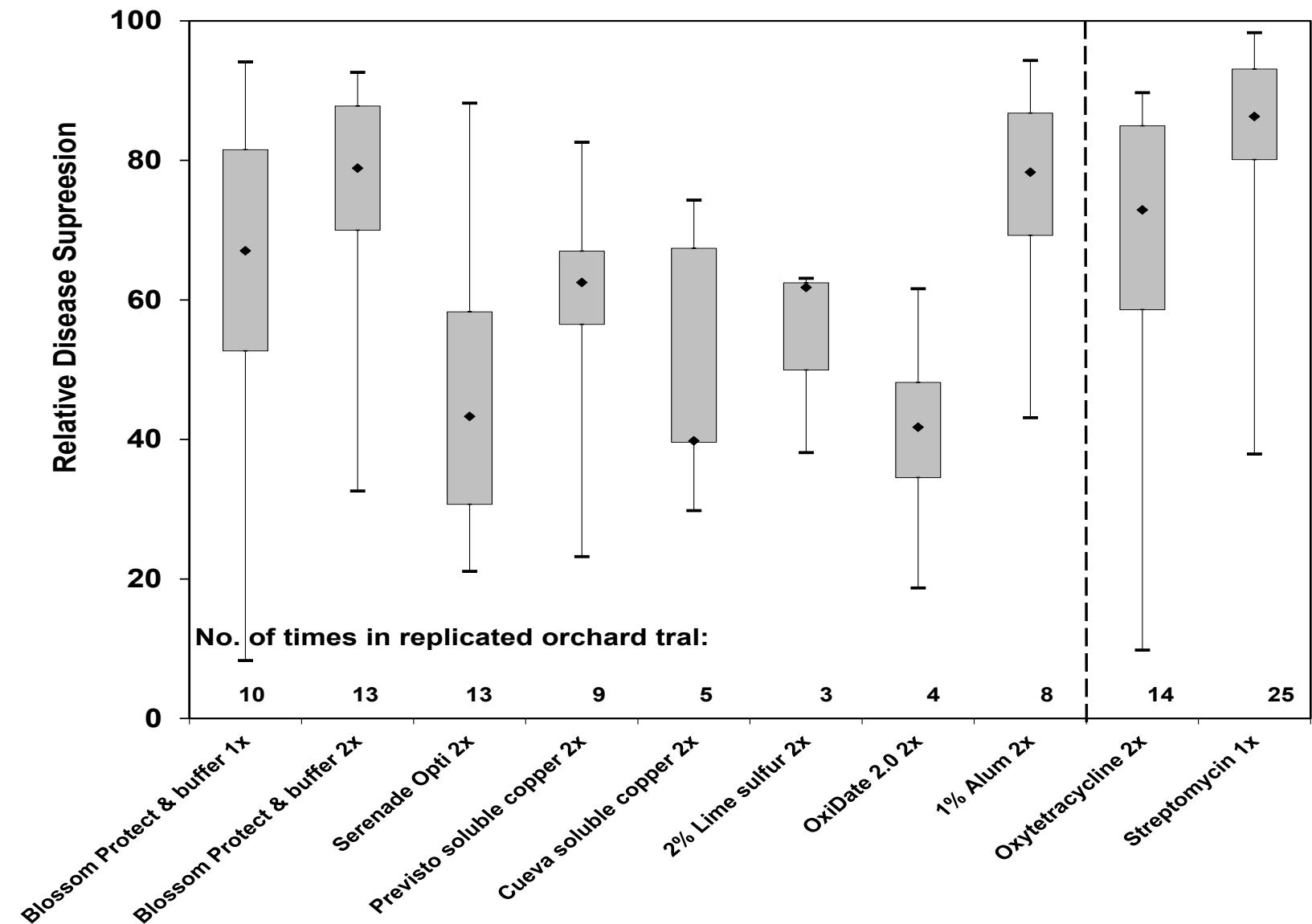
Material class	Goal: Significantly reduce pathogen #'s on flowers	Goal: Good infection suppression	Goal: low potential to mark fruit
Antibiotics			
Blossom Protect			
Soluble coppers			
Alum			
<i>Bacillus</i> -biorationals			
Botanicals (essential oils)			
Oxidizers ( $H_2O_2$ , lime sulfur)			
Phage			

# 1) Biopesticide efficacy

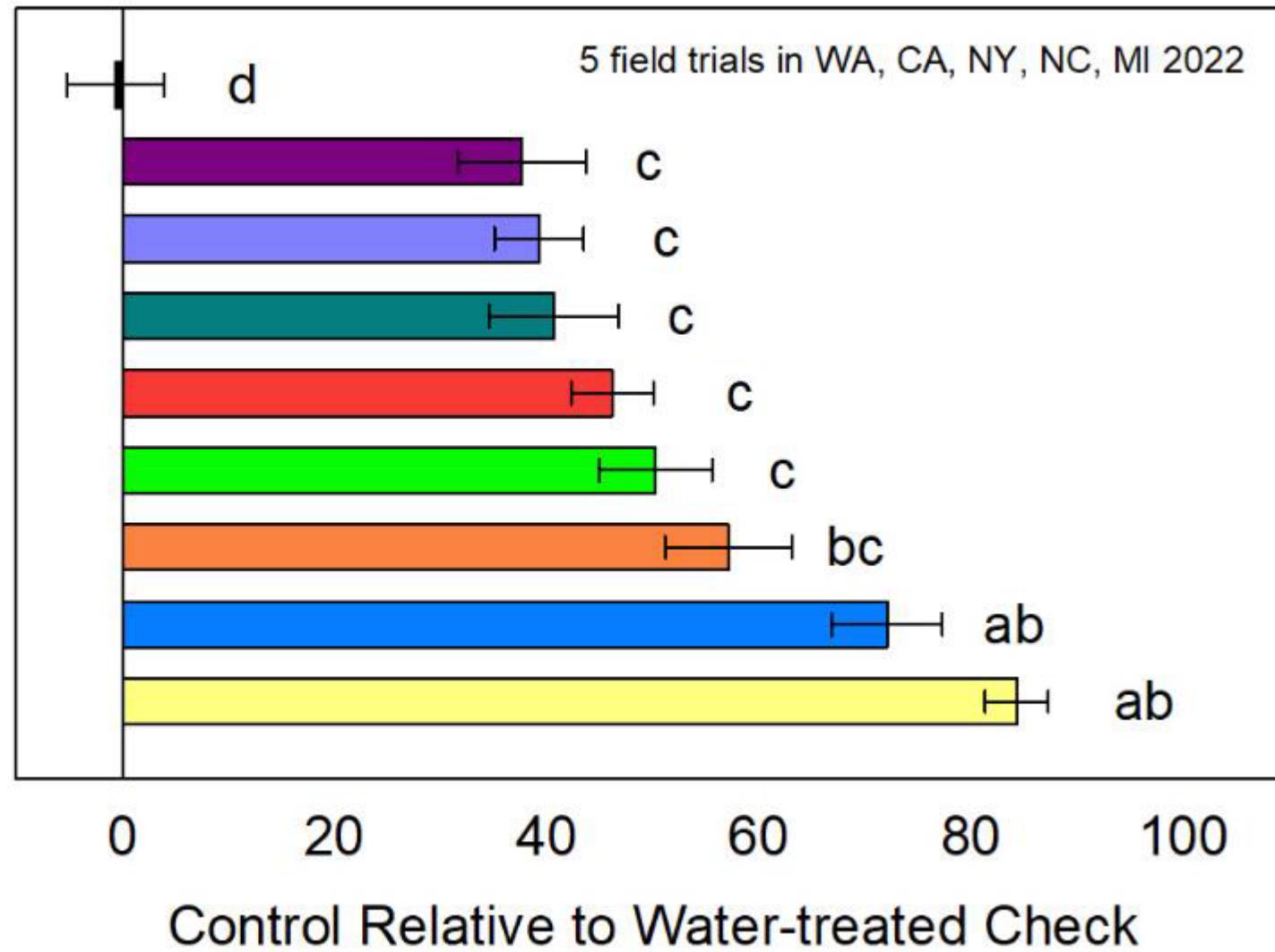
Washington  
2013-2022



# Relative fire blight suppression from pathogen-inoculated pear and apple orchard trials conducted near Corvallis, Oregon from 2013 to 2021.



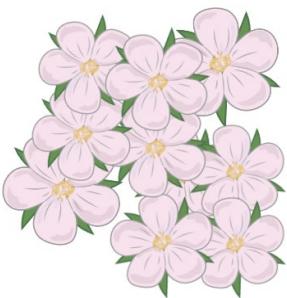
Water-treated check  
Serenade ASO (96 fl oz)  
Agriphage (2 qt)  
Oxidate 5.0 (128 fl oz)  
Cinnerate (32 fl oz)  
Thyme Guard (2 qt)  
Blossom Protect+ Buffer  
Alum (8 lb)  
Streptomycin (8 oz)



## 2) Biopesticide efficacy effects on pathogen populations in flowers

## *Erwinia amylovora* population in flowers

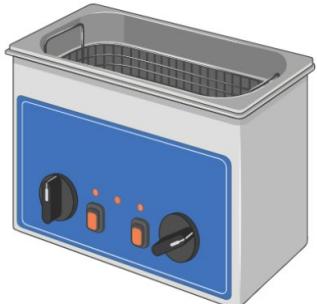
1. Collect flower clusters for each treatment and replicate



3. Macerate flowers for 1 min



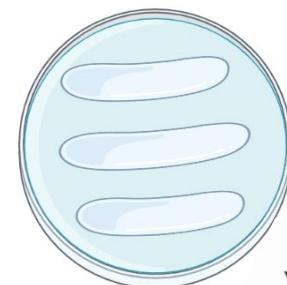
4. Sonicate flowers for 3 min



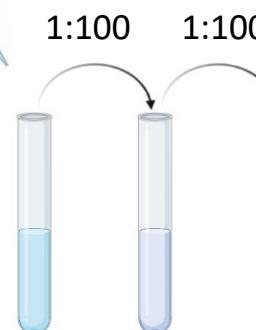
2. Add sterile DI water



7. Incubate plates at room temperature for 2 to 4 days

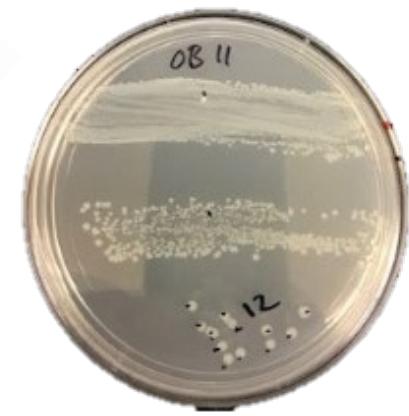


5. Make dilutions using sterile DI water

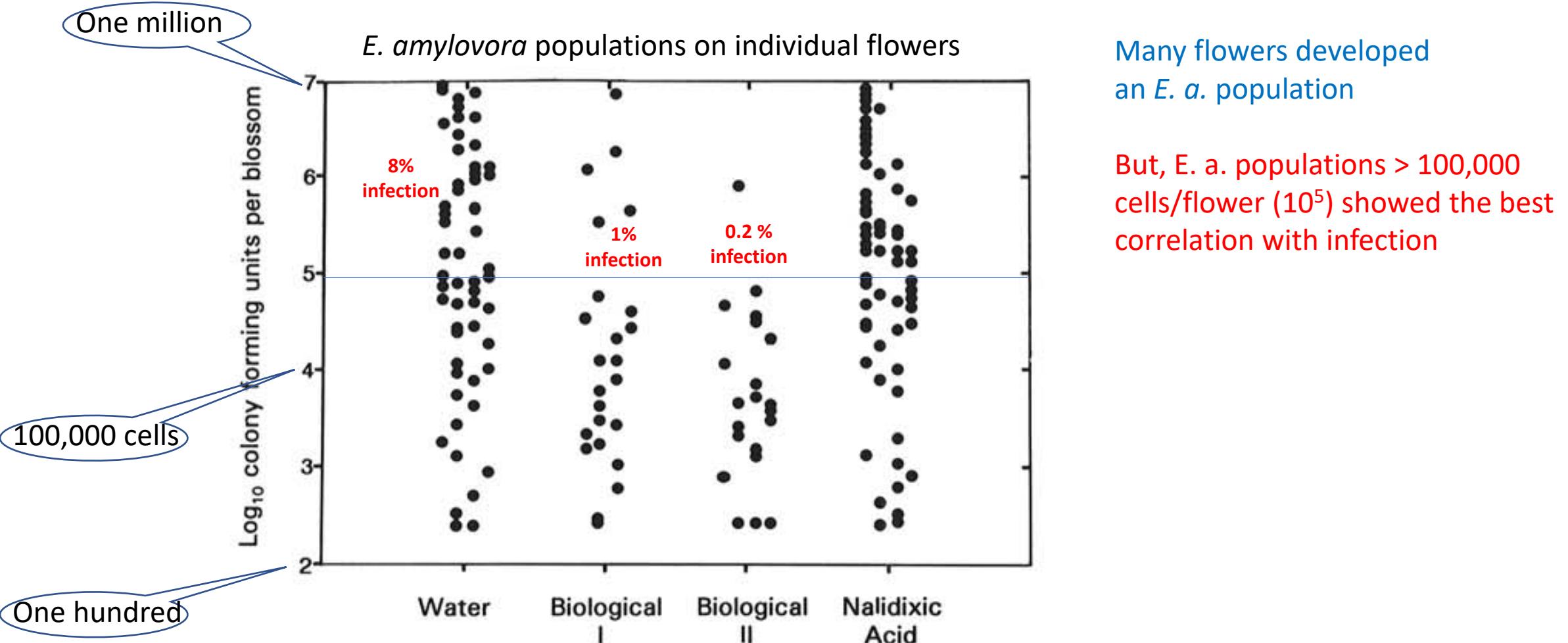


6. Plate and spread dilutions in Nutrient Agar supplemented with antibiotics

8. Colony counts to determine CFU/ml

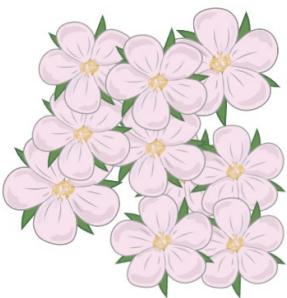


# Important result: the number of cells required to cause an infection



## *Erwinia amylovora* population in flowers

1. Collect flower clusters for each treatment and replicate



3. Macerate flowers for 1 min



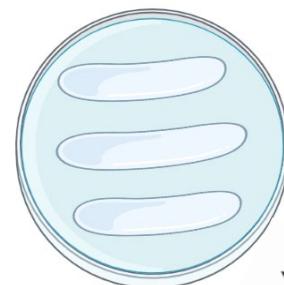
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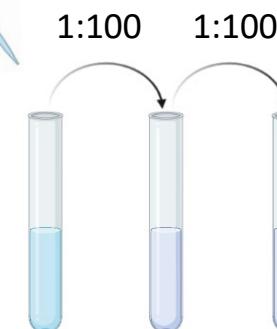
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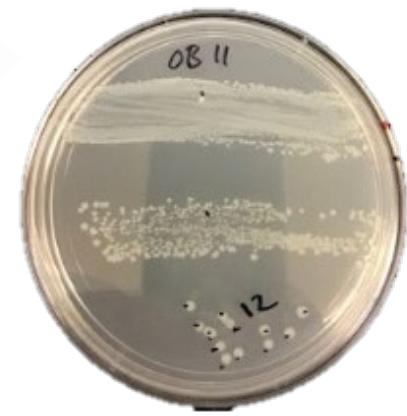
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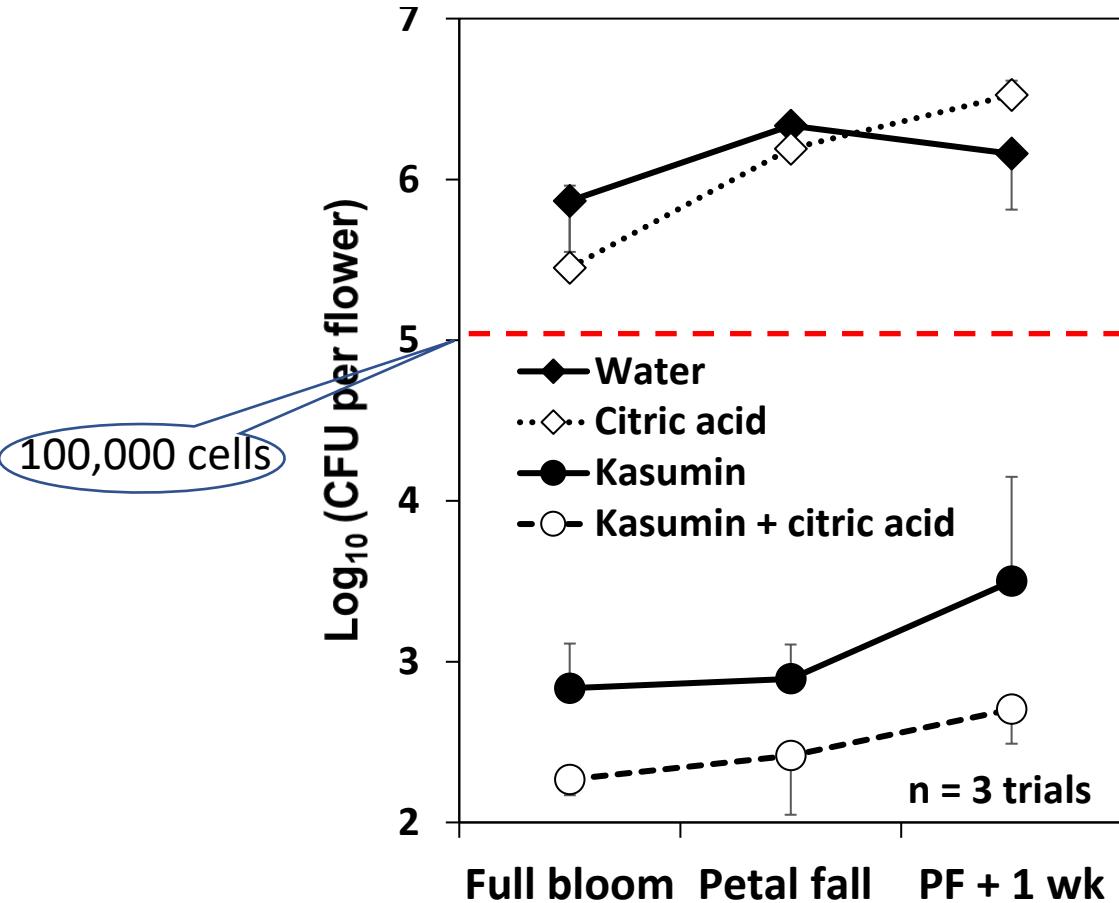


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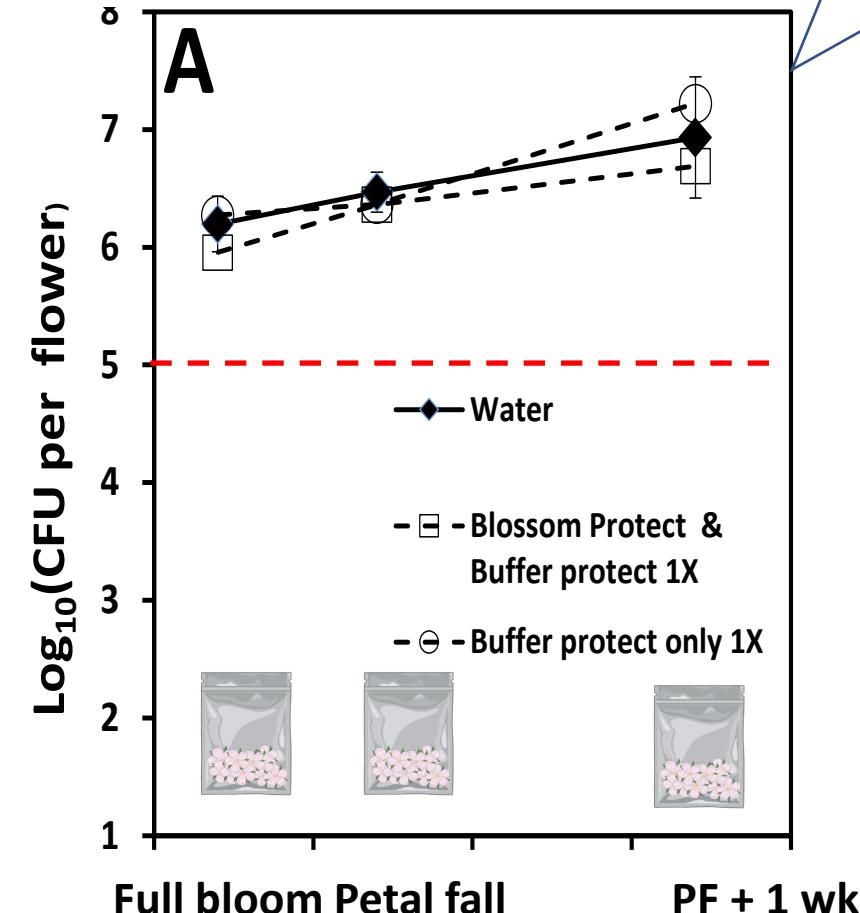
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Examples:

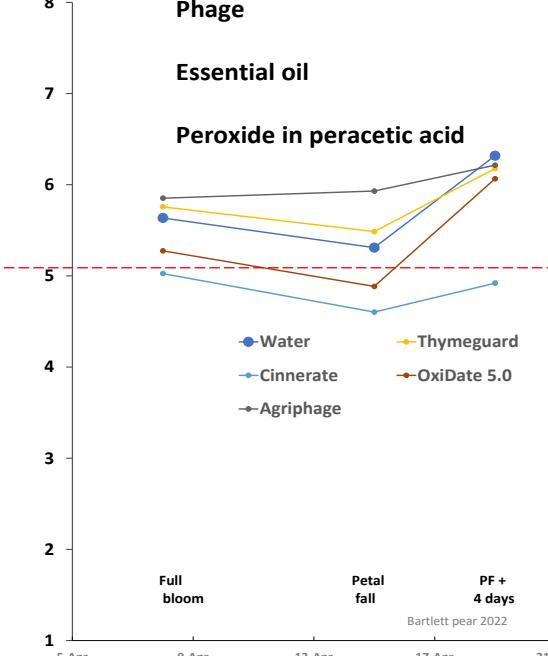
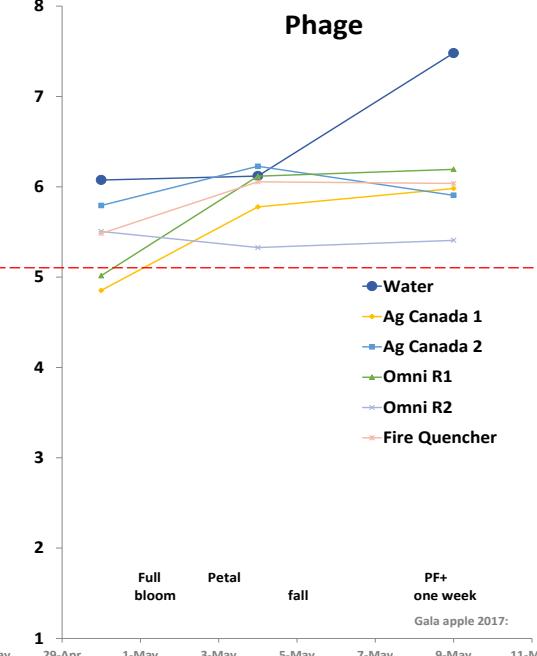
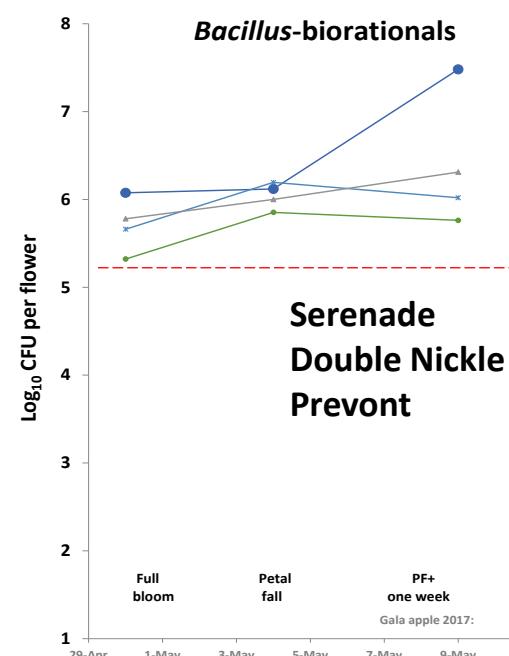
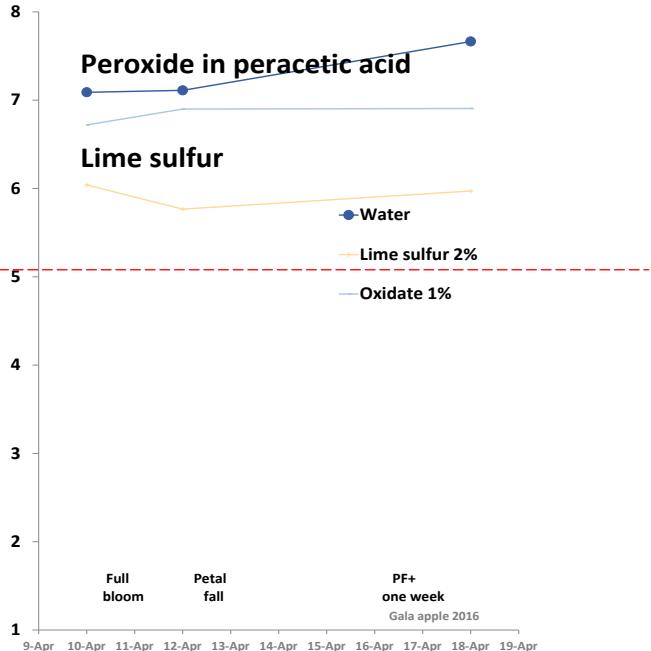
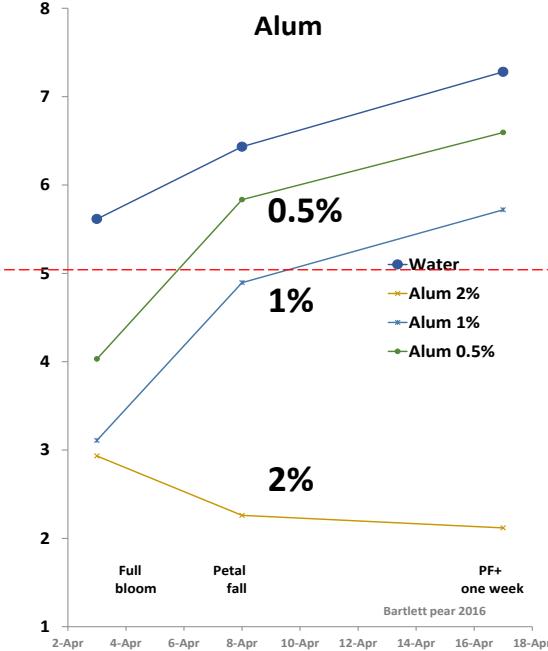
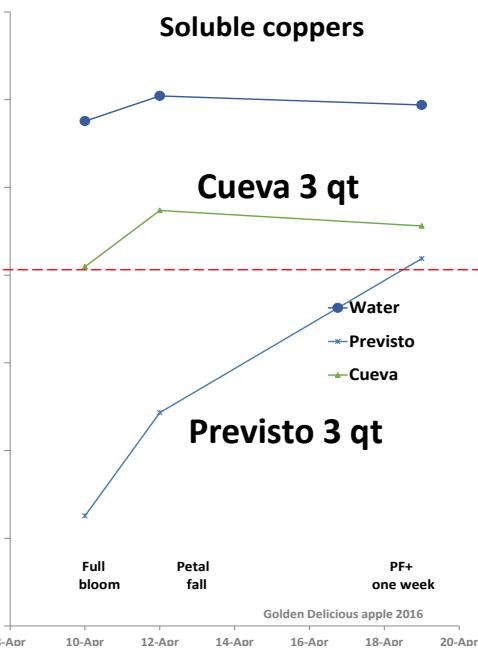
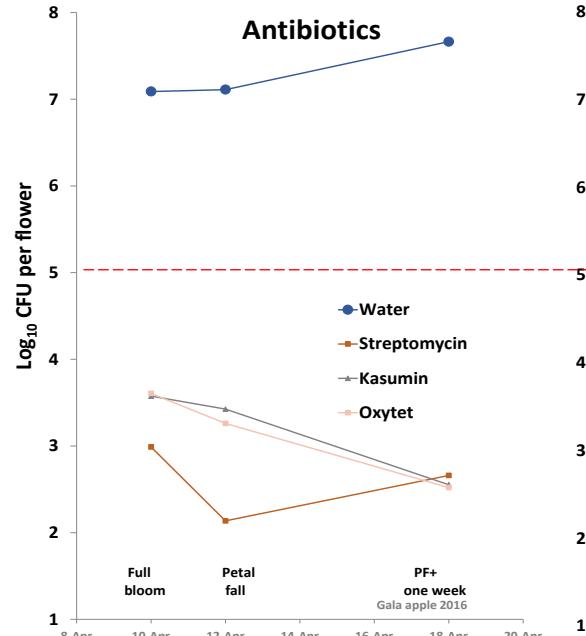
Kasumin



Blossom Protect

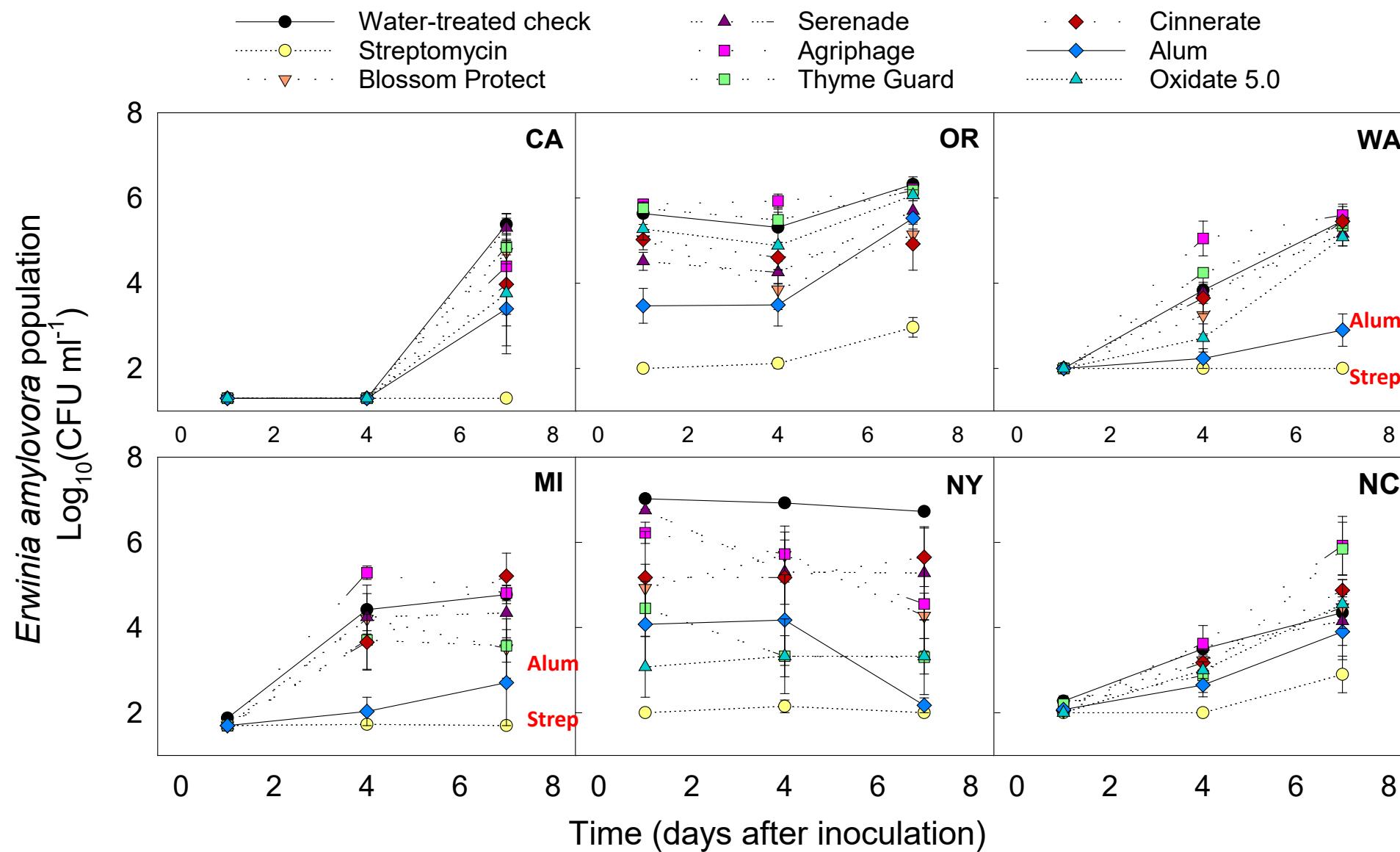


Ugly chart!  
But still > 60% effective!!



**Effect of materials  
(marketed or in  
development) on  
epiphytic populations  
of *Erwinia amylovora***

# *Erwinia amylovora* population in flowers



# The challenge of selecting biopesticide materials for fire blight spray programs:

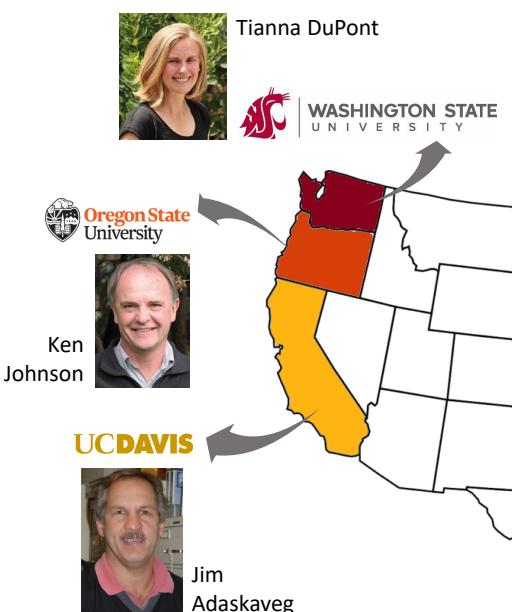
Material class	Goal: Significantly reduce pathogen #'s on flowers	Goal: Good infection suppression	Goal: low potential to mark fruit
Antibiotics	✓	✓	✓
Blossom Protect		✓	
Soluble coppers	✓	✓	
Alum	✓	✓	
<i>Bacillus</i> -biorationals			✓
Botanicals (essential oils)			
Oxidizers ( $H_2O_2$ , lime sulfur)			
Phage			✓

# 3) Understanding and Optimizing Biopesticides

## Solitary Biopesticides

Understanding how environmental variability affects the goals of Ea pop reduction, infection suppression, and minimal fruit russetting

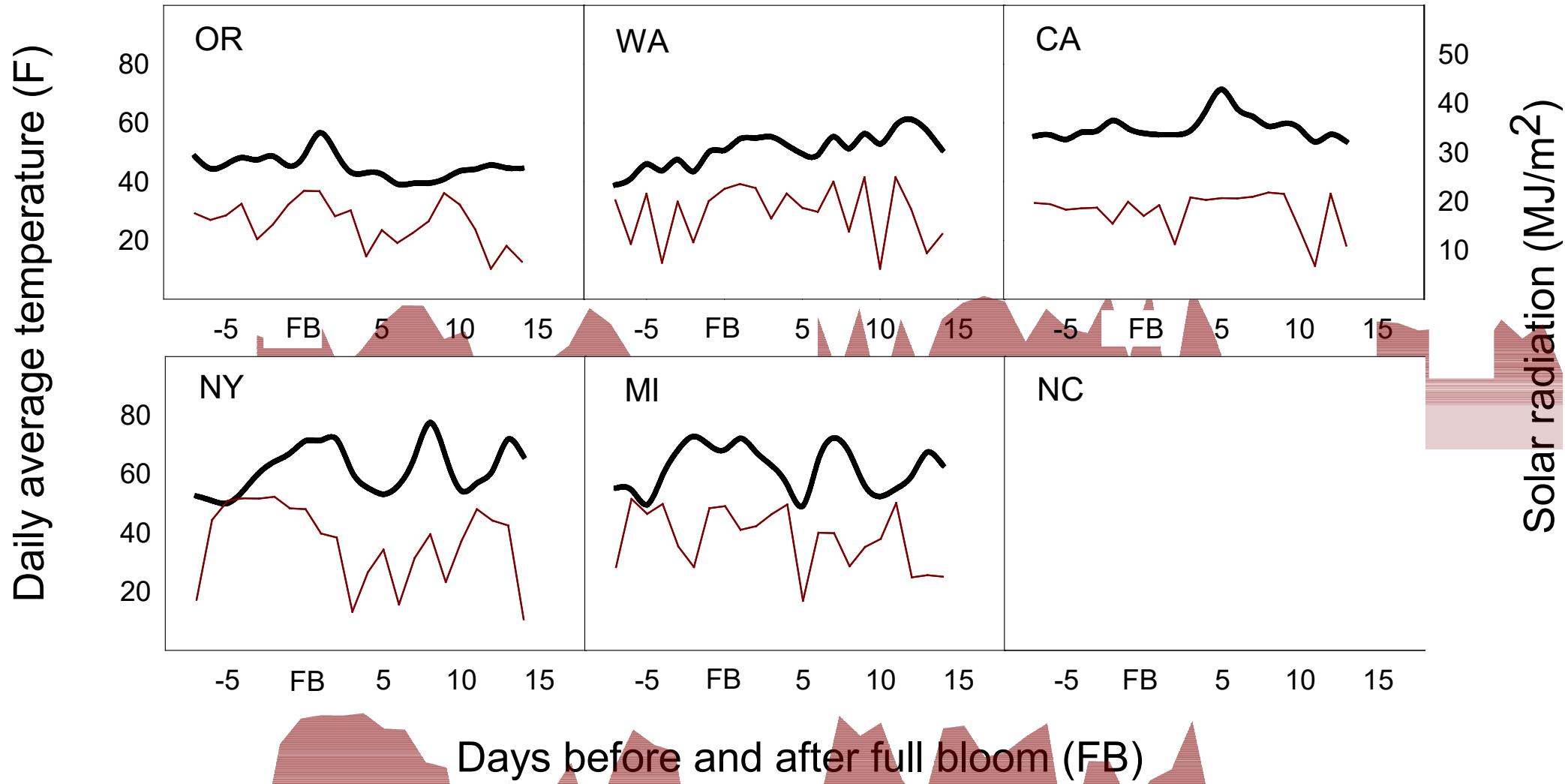
Utilize specific properties of biopestides in sequences programs that optimize the goals of Ea pop reduction, infection suppression, and minimal fruit russetting



## Environmental data during bloom period

— Daily average temperature (°F)

Solar radiation (MJ/m<sup>2</sup>)



## Environmental data during bloom period

Daily relative humidity (%)

..... Daily relative humidity (%)

Precipitation (inches)

OR

WA

CA

-5 FB 5 10 15

-5 FB 5 10 15

-5 FB 5 10 15

NY

MI

NC

-5 FB 5 10 15

-5 FB 5 10 15

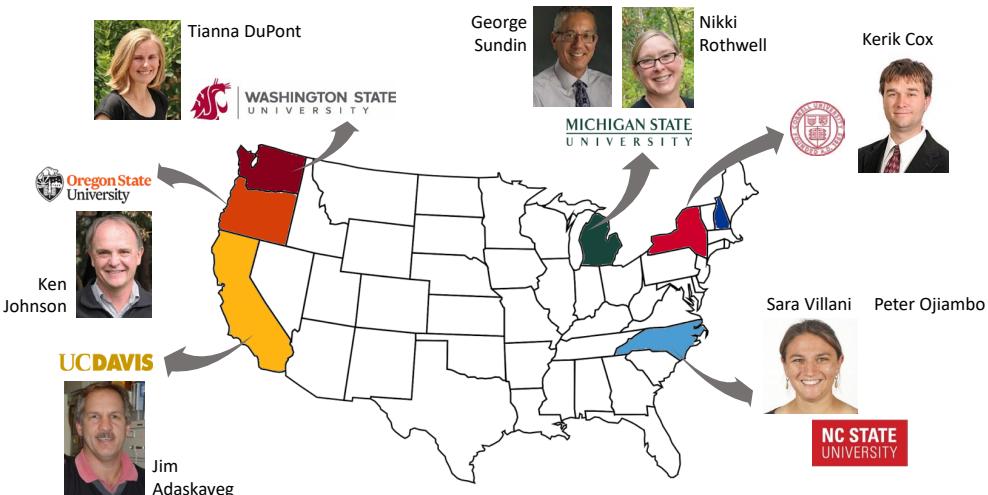
-5 FB 5 10 15

Days before and after full bloom (FB)

Precipitation (in)

# 3) Understanding and Optimizing Biopesticides

## Solitary Biopesticides



Understanding how environmental variability affects the goals of Ea pop reduction, infection suppression, and minimal fruit russetting

Utilize specific properties of biopesticides in sequenced programs that optimize the goals of Ea pop reduction, infection suppression, and minimal fruit russetting

# Integrated, non-antibiotic fire blight control in PNW organic orchards:

## Example PNW spray program with considerations for fruit safety:

### 1) Prebloom (just prior to green tip):

Fixed copper sanitation if fire blight was in orchard last year (5 to 6 lb/A)

### 2) Early bloom apple: (crop load thinning)

Lime sulfur (plus oil) early bloom at 20 and 70% bloom

Reapply biological if lime sulfur goes on after biological

### 3) Early bloom apple and pear: Blossom Protect

One full, or two half apps, (or two full apps if blight last year) – cover every row once

**80% bloom is ideal timing.** In apple, o.k. to apply immediately after 2nd lime sulfur.

In smooth-skinned pears in wetter areas, russet risk might be unacceptably high

### 4) Full bloom: depending on cultivar russet risk/CougarBlight model risk:

Previsto (3 qts/A) (best for suppressing inoculum buildup)

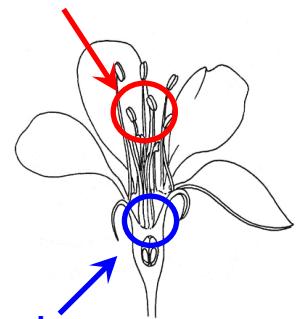
Serenade Opti (or ASO) with Cueva (3 qts/A)

Serenade Opti (or ASO) every 2 to 4 days (most fruit safe)

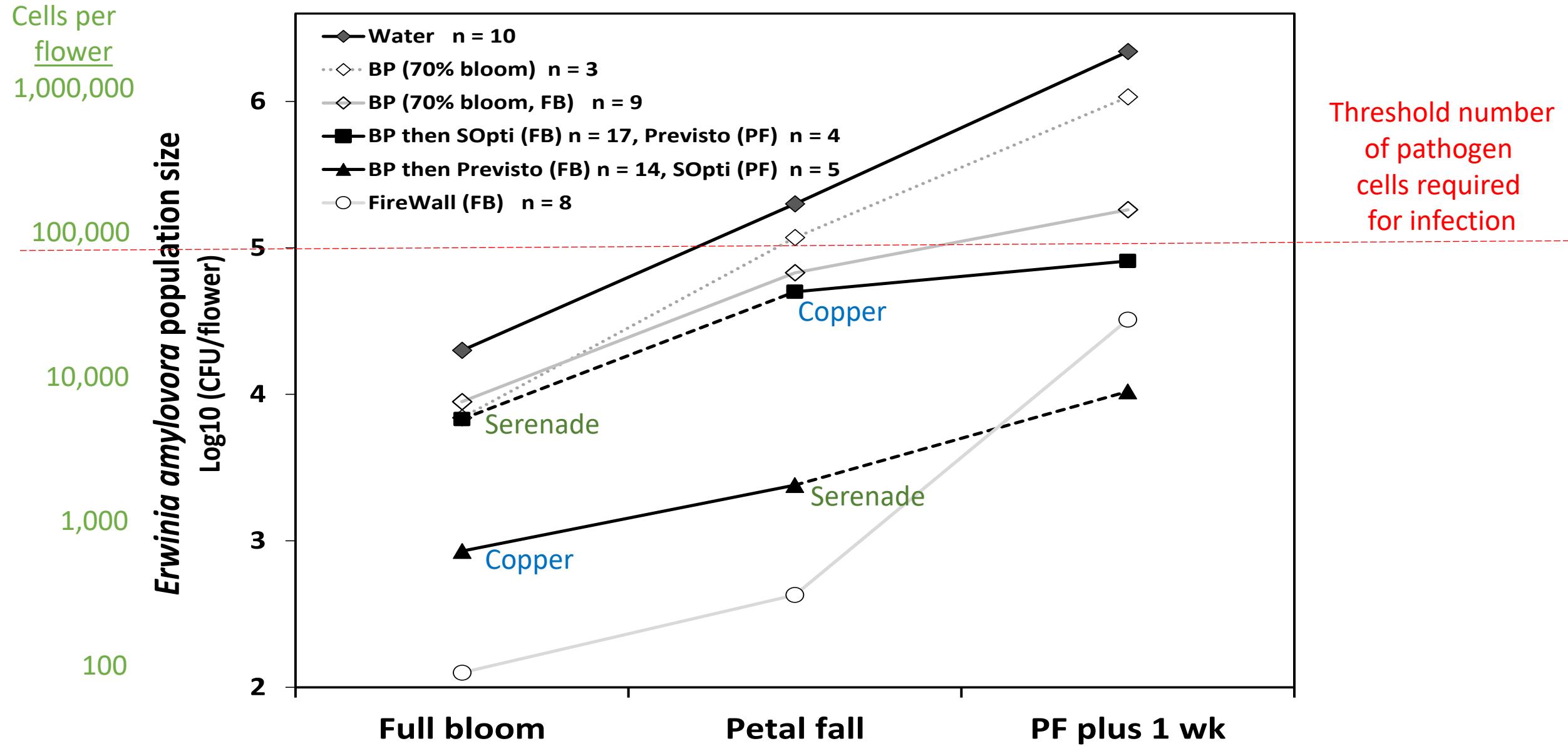
### 5) Petal fall: Serenade Opti (or ASO) every 2 to 4 days (most fruit safe)

**Red apples:** lime sulfur (2 to 4%) (also to clean up bacteria, yeast, mildew and rot fungi)

Biological  
80% bloom



# Effect of integrated non-antibiotic programs on epiphytic pathogen populations



# OSU 'Integrated control' trials 2016-2020

No. of trials	80% bloom treatment	Full bloom treatment	Petal fall treatment	Relative infection suppression (%)
18	---	Water	Water	0.0
10	Blossom Protect & Buffer	Blos. Prot. & Buffer	---	79.6 (4.1)
4	Blossom Protect & Buffer	---	---	58.5 (12.7)
13	Blossom Protect & Buffer	Serenade Opti	then ↓ Serenade Opti	70.3 (6.5)
1	"	"	Serenade Opti	75.4 (14.2)
2	"	"	Previsto	76.6 (9.9)
7	"	"	Lime sulfur 4%	64.3 (12.7)
3	"	"	Jet Ag	73.9 (17.7)
10	Blossom Protect & Buffer	Previsto FB	then ↓ Previsto	85.7 (3.3)
4	"	"	Previsto	88.3 (3.6)
3	"	"	Sernade Opti	82.5 (7.9)
3	"	"	Lime Slufur 4%	85.4 (6.2)
5	Blossom Protect & Buffer	Alum 1%	Alum 1%	86.9 (8.5)
9	---	FireLine	FireLine	77.7 (2.8)
15	---	FireWall	---	90.6 (1.4)

Integrated programs with Previsto at full bloom are comparable to control achieved with antibiotics



## Part 3: Blossom Protect Buffer protect

No surprise, but the more effective non-antibiotic materials for infection suppression show a higher potential to mark fruit :/



# Questions?

- Solitary Biopesticide efficacy
- Suppression of pathogen populations in flowers
- Integrated biopesticide programs control
- Fruit russetting concerns



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Nikki Rothwell



Kerik Cox



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Sara Villani

Peter Ojiambo



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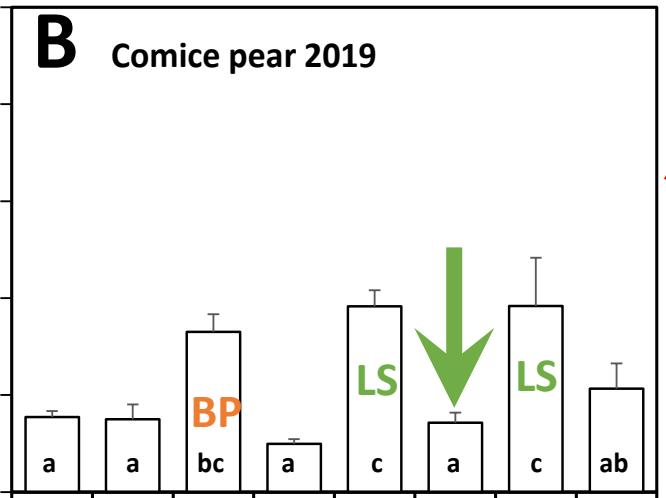
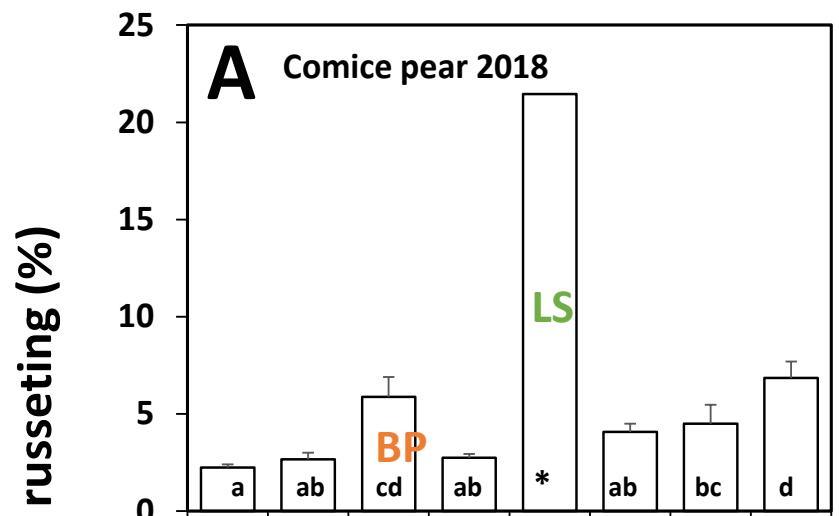
[johnsonk@science.oregonstate.edu](mailto:johnsonk@science.oregonstate.edu)



# Organic program effects on fruit russetting

Medford, OR 2018-19

Pear



Apple

