

Groundcover Management to Control X-disease Vectors

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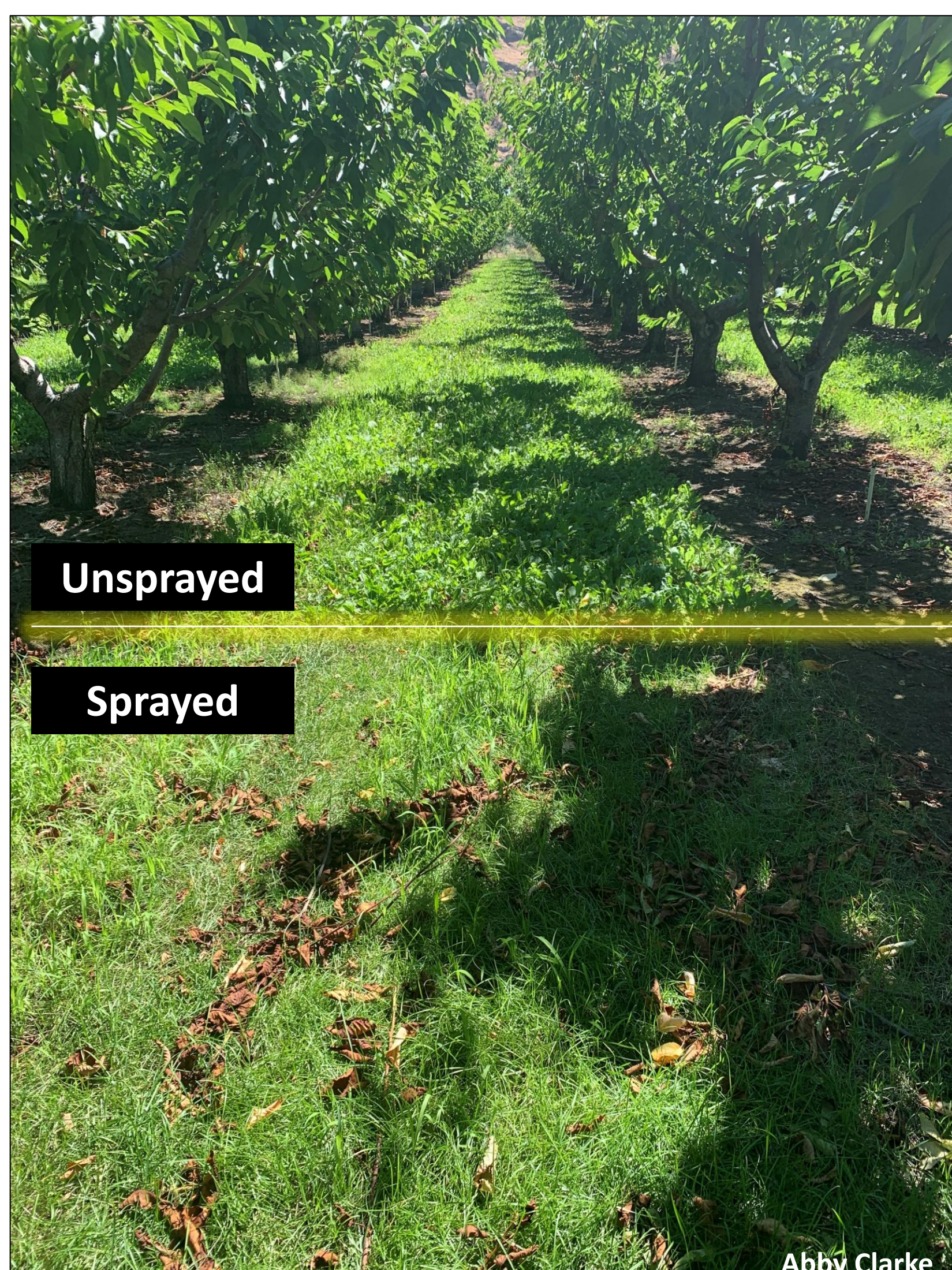
Problem: Broadleaf weeds commonly found in orchards serve as hosts for the leafhoppers and X-disease phytoplasma, promoting disease spread.

Project Goal: Investigate groundcover management practices in orchard drive rows to reduce X-disease vector populations.

(Cashmere, Yakima)

Herbicide: (summer contact application, fall pre-emergent application)

- **Contact AI:** Clopyralid (e.g., Stinger, Spur)
- **Pre-emergent AI:** Pendimethalin (e.g., Satellite HydroCap, Prowl H20)



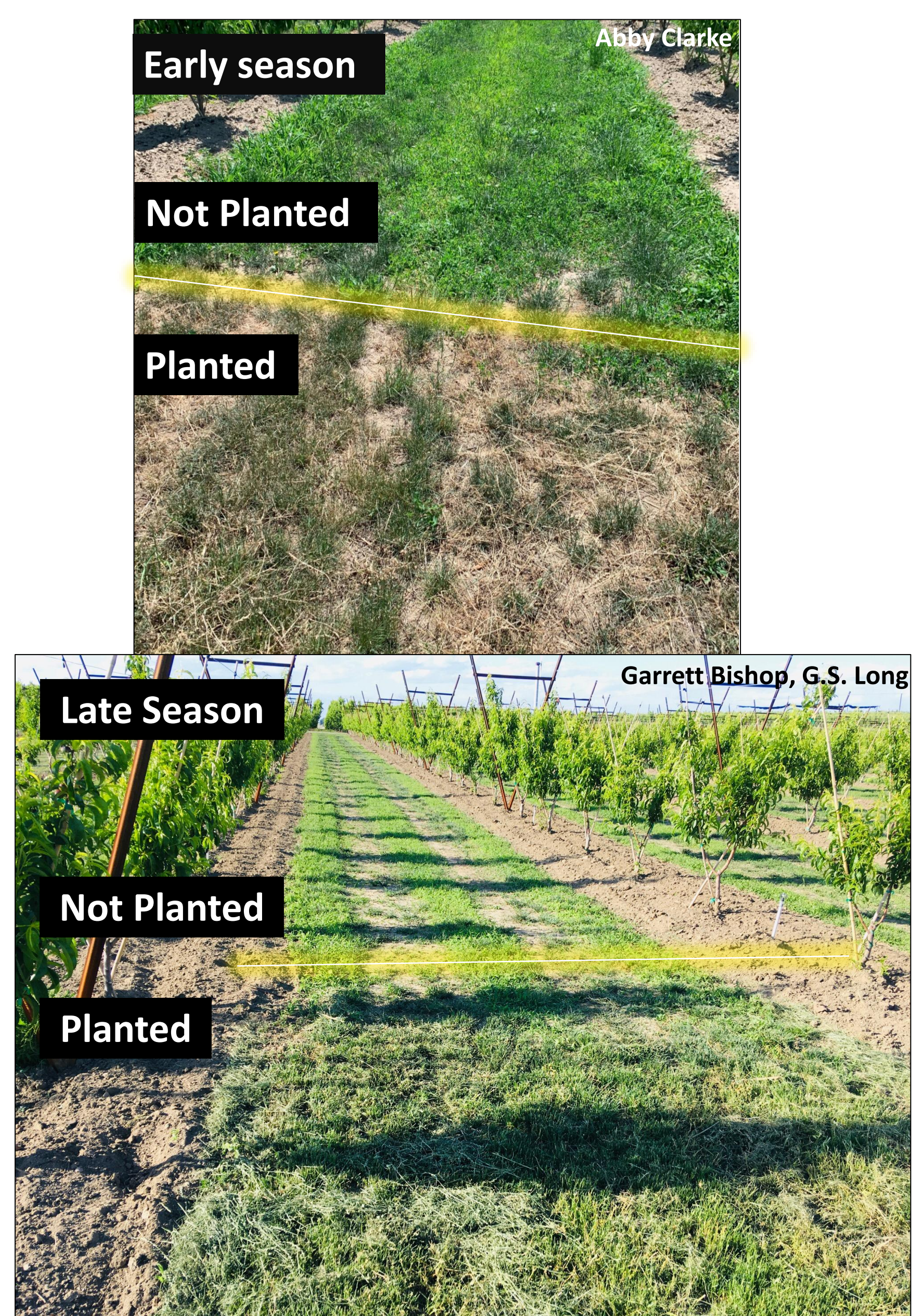
Findings: Significant effect on *C. m. reductus*, reduced by up to 50%.*

Thank you to our funders!



Pasco

Grass Planting: Tilled sections and planted in fall. (Commercial 60:40 mix; perennial ryegrass and creeping red fescue)



Findings: After first year, ~50% reduction of leafhoppers compared to the control. Grass is also poor host of the X-disease phytoplasma.

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*Although few *C. reductus* in Cashmere 2024