

Nutrient Concentrations and Balance in Corn Tissue Under Field Conditions

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Rationale

- Modern high yielding corn hybrids need more nutrients

corn yields have increased 100 % in 20 years

- Different nutrient needs across growth stages

can nutrient supply keep up with crop needs

- Location / area specific

soil organic matter and mineral differences

- Hybrid differences ?
- Are nutrient adequacy guidelines appropriate ?

Review

Year 1 (2012)

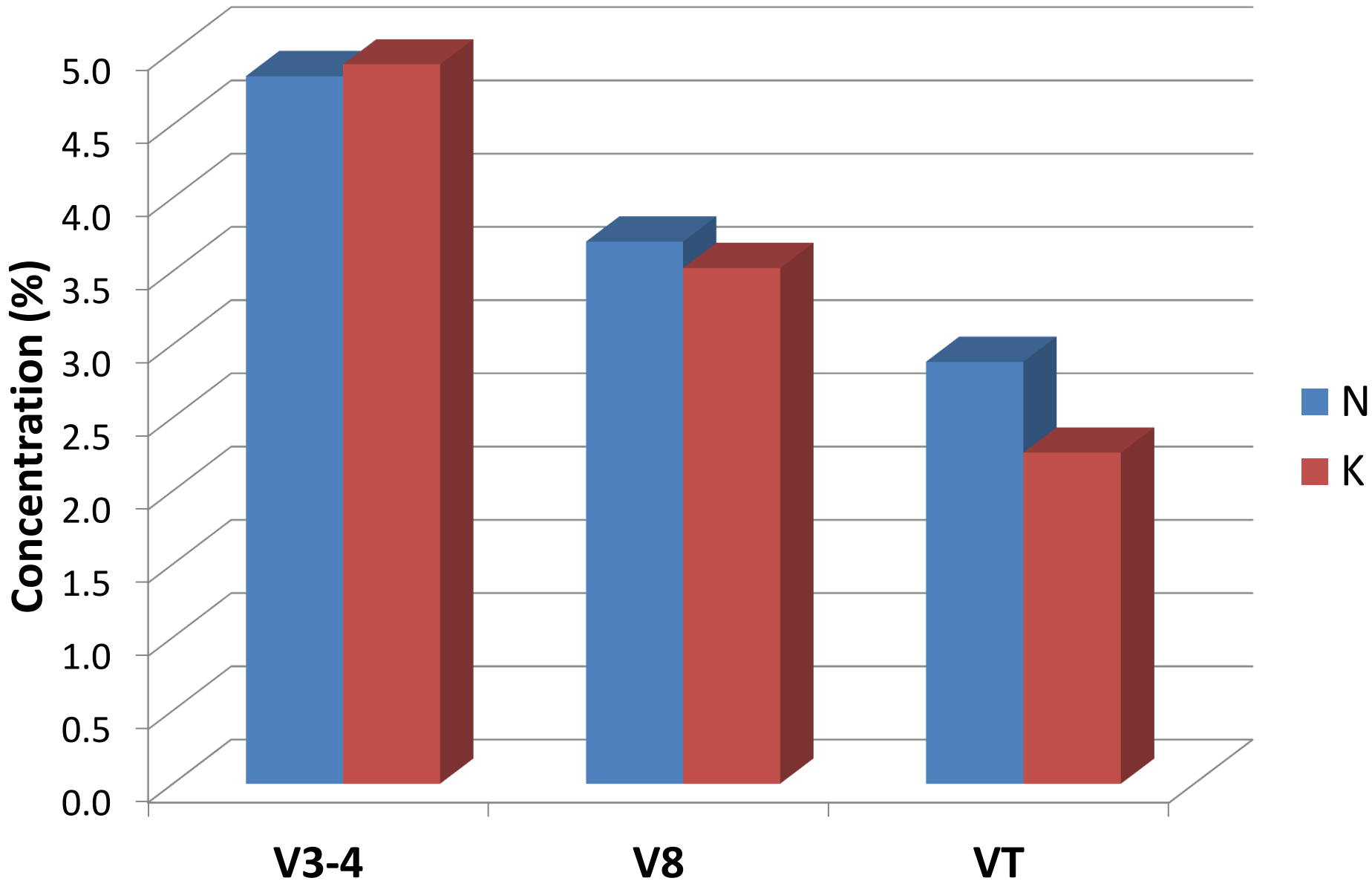
- Demonstrated that ear-leaf concentrations were the most likely to indicate deficiency
- Some indication of hybrid and location differences
- Most ear-leaf nutrient concentrations appeared to be dependent on leaf N status

Year 2 (2013)

- - New Observations - -

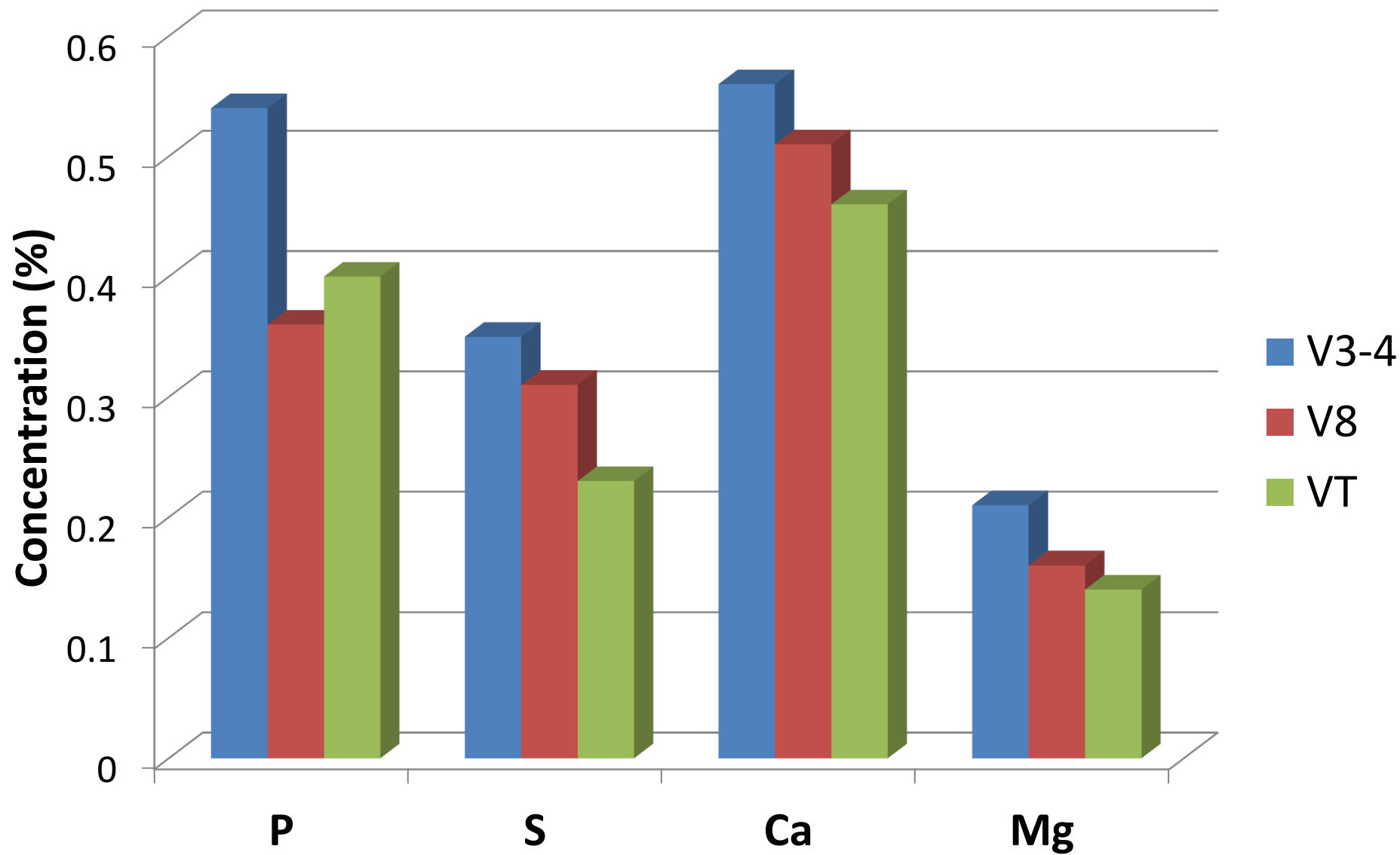
Effect of Growth Stage

Shelton - 2012



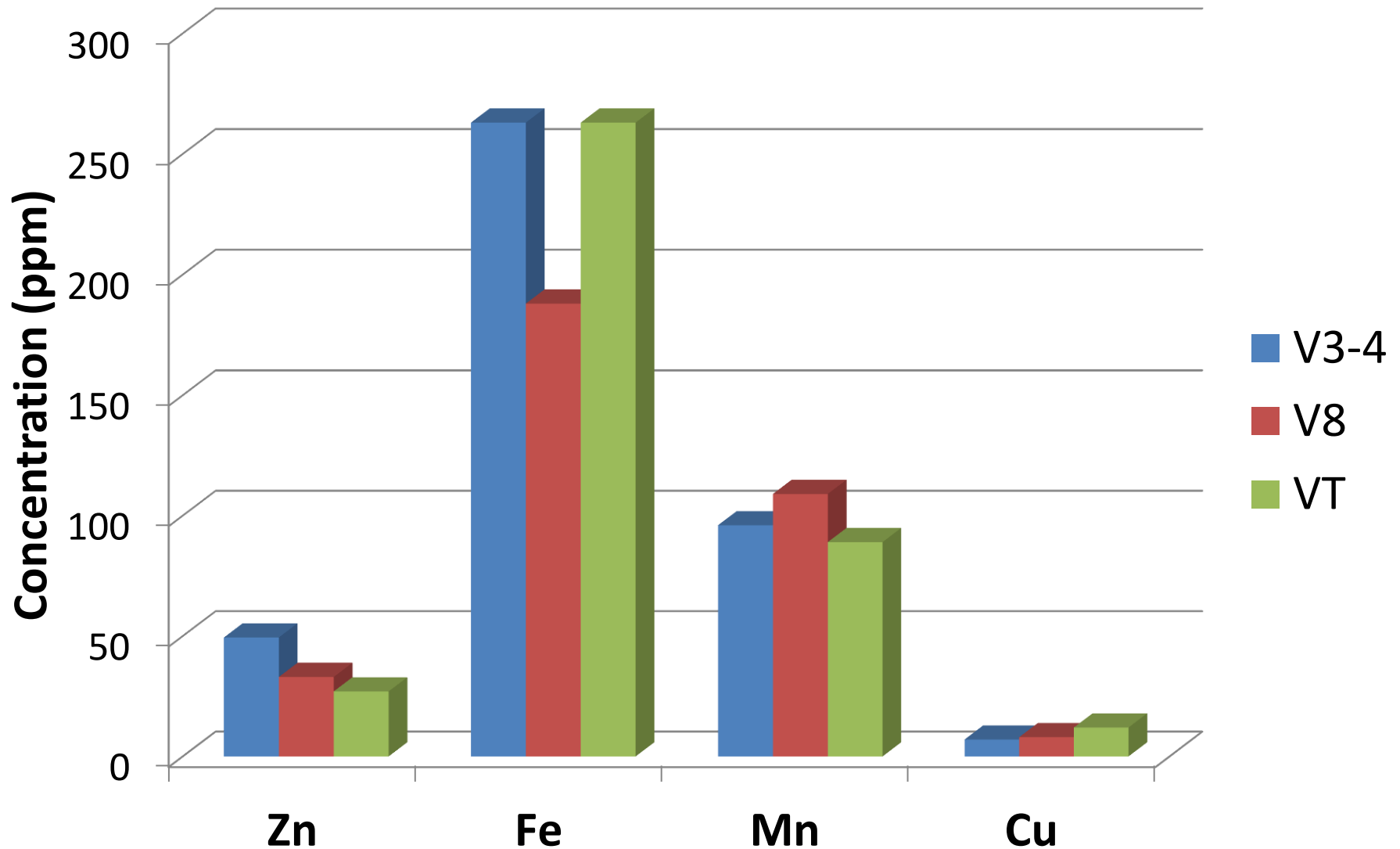
Effect of Growth Stage

Shelton - 2012



Effect of Growth Stage

Shelton - 2012



Sample :

Tissue Testing Results

Results For : RS

Location : CORN

Sample ID : 305

Plant Type : Corn

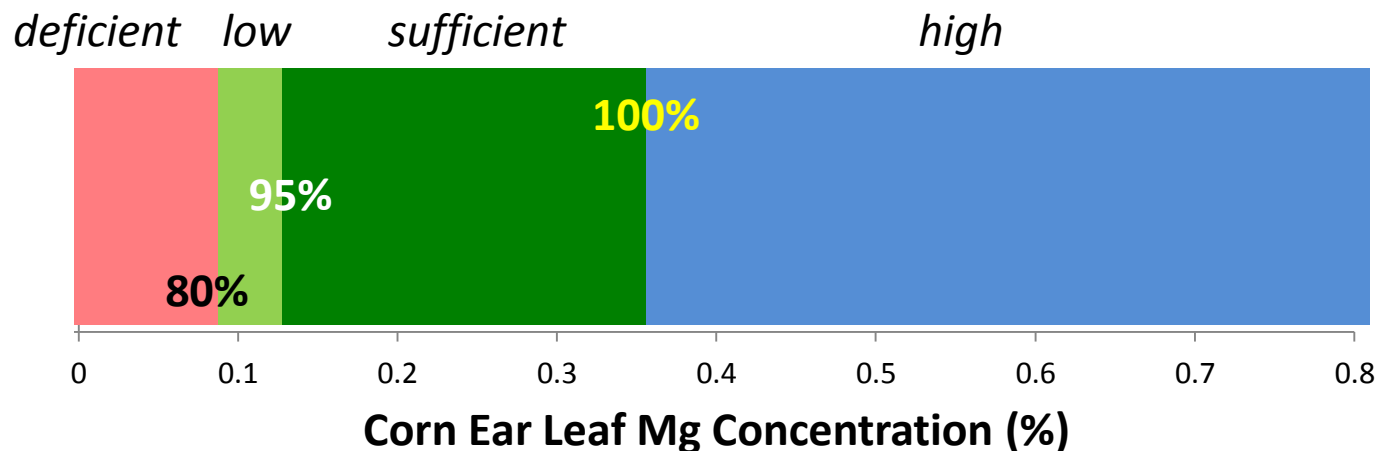
Stage : Tassel

	Result Dry Basis	Sufficiency Levels			
		Deficient	Low	Sufficient	High
Nitrogen ,% N	2.90				
Phosphorus, % P	0.37				
Potassium, % K	2.22				
Calcium, % Ca	0.357				
Magnesium, % Mg	0.116				
Sulfur, % S	0.22				
Zinc, ppm Zn	20				
Iron, ppm Fe	247				
Manganese, ppm Mn	77				
Copper, ppm Cu	8.9				

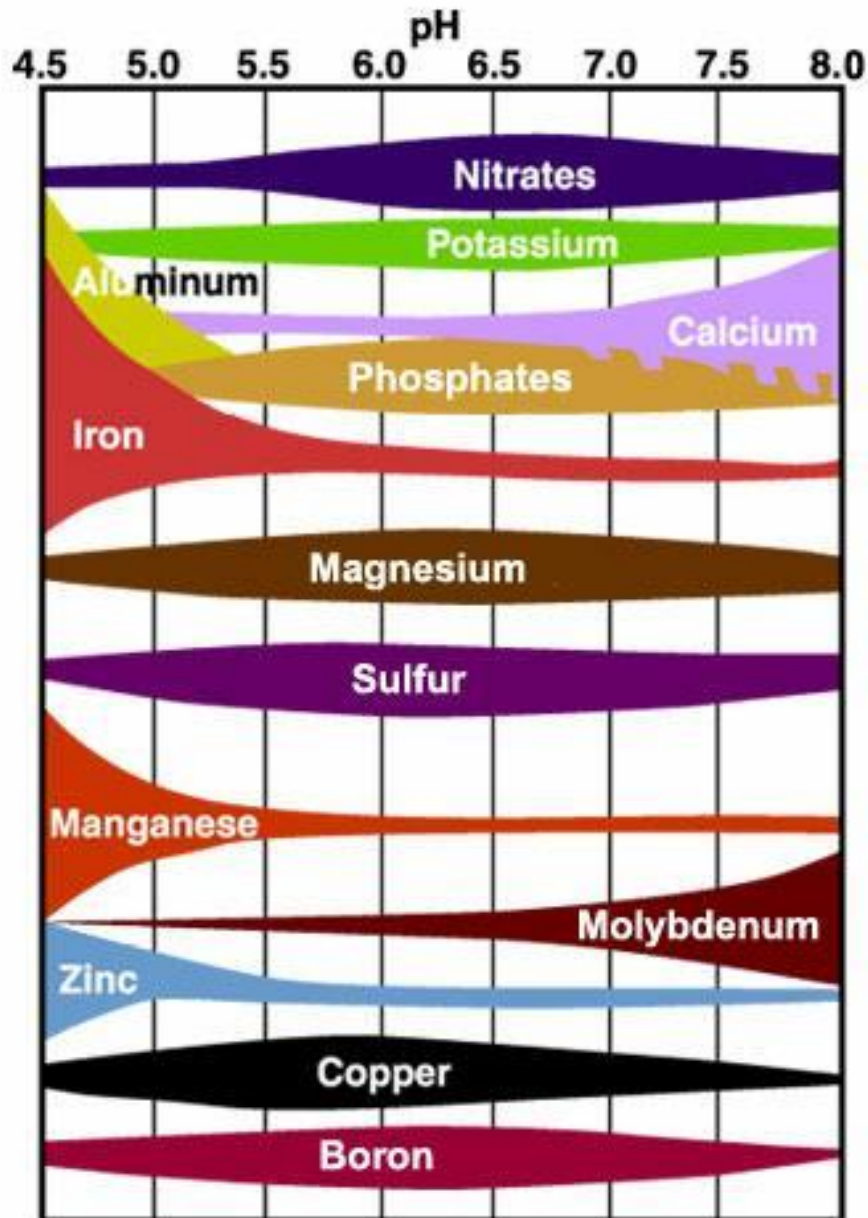
Mg

Sufficiency Level Delineation

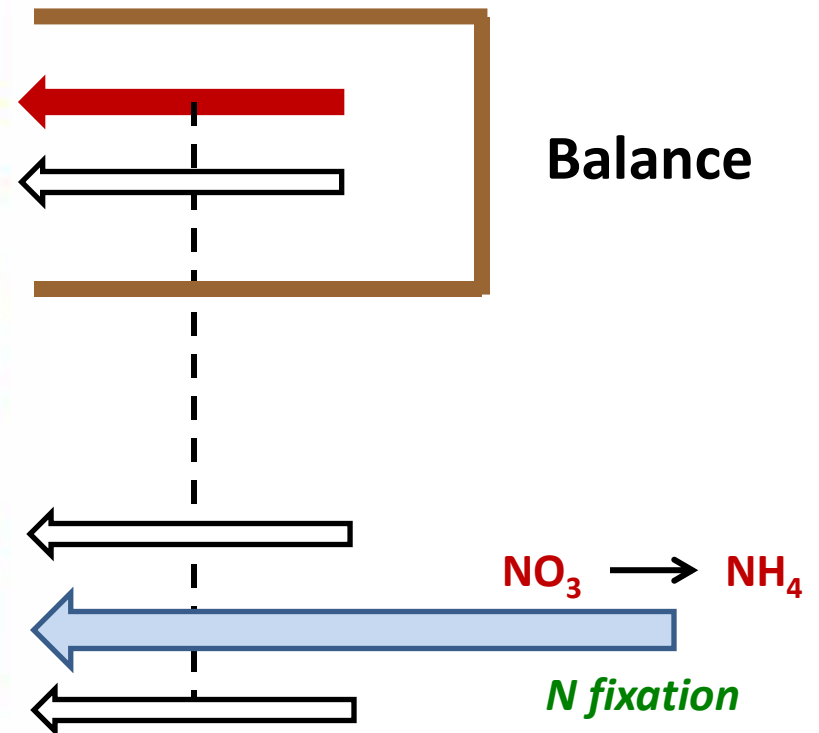
Range	Yield	Symptoms
Deficient	<80 %	deficiency present
Low	80 – 95 %	hidden hunger
Sufficient	95 – 100 %	normal yield
High	100 % <i>down to 70 %</i>	excessive / toxic



Effect of pH on Nutrient Availability



Interactions and Antagonisms



Nutrient Mobility in Plants

Very Mobile

N P K Mg

Deficiency Symptoms - “Older leaves first”

Moderately Mobile

S Cu Fe Mo Mn Zn

Deficiency Symptoms - “New growth first”

Immobile

Ca B

Deficiency Symptoms - “Stunted development”

Relative Nutrient Uptake

(average five corn hybrids)

Pounds / Acre

Primary

N	-	156.9
P	-	36.2
K	-	222.4

Secondary

Mg	-	19.1
Ca	-	22.5
S	-	12.8

Micro

Fe	-	2.2
Mn	-	0.4
Zn	-	0.3
Cu	-	0.1
B	-	<0.1

Other

Cl	-	25.7
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Yield - 179.3 bu/acre

All Locations - 2013

VT

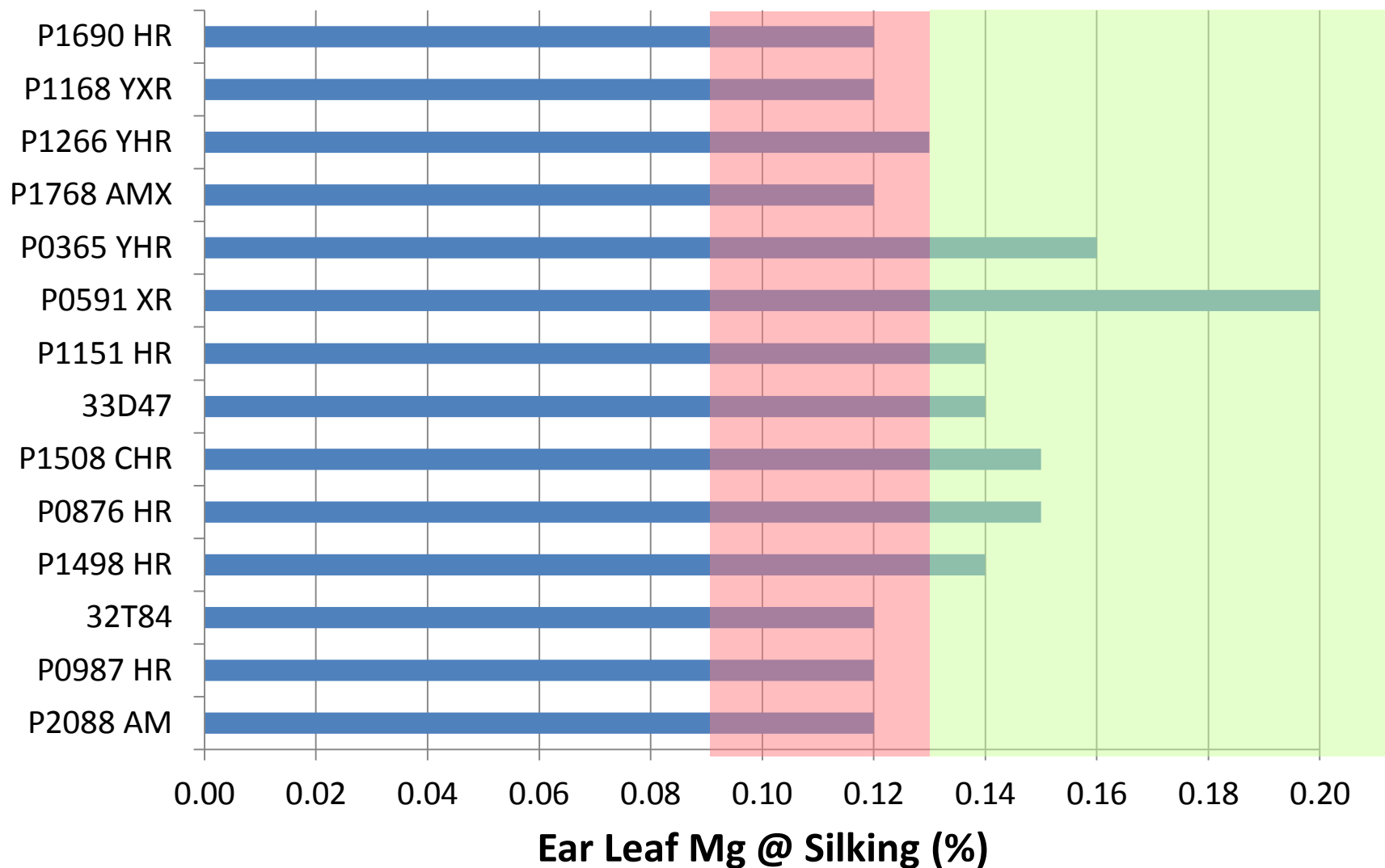


Hybrid Effect

Shelton 2013

low

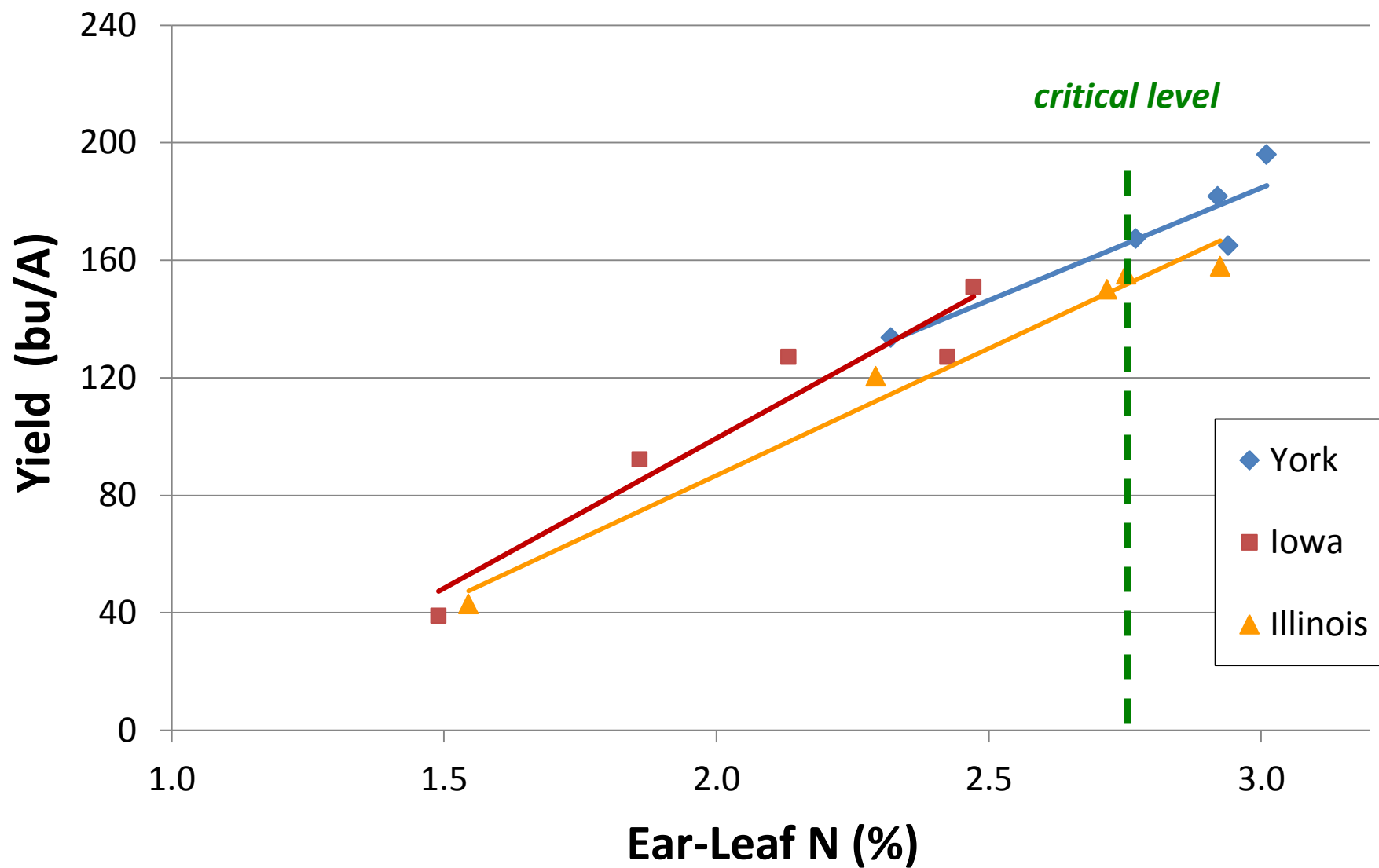
sufficient



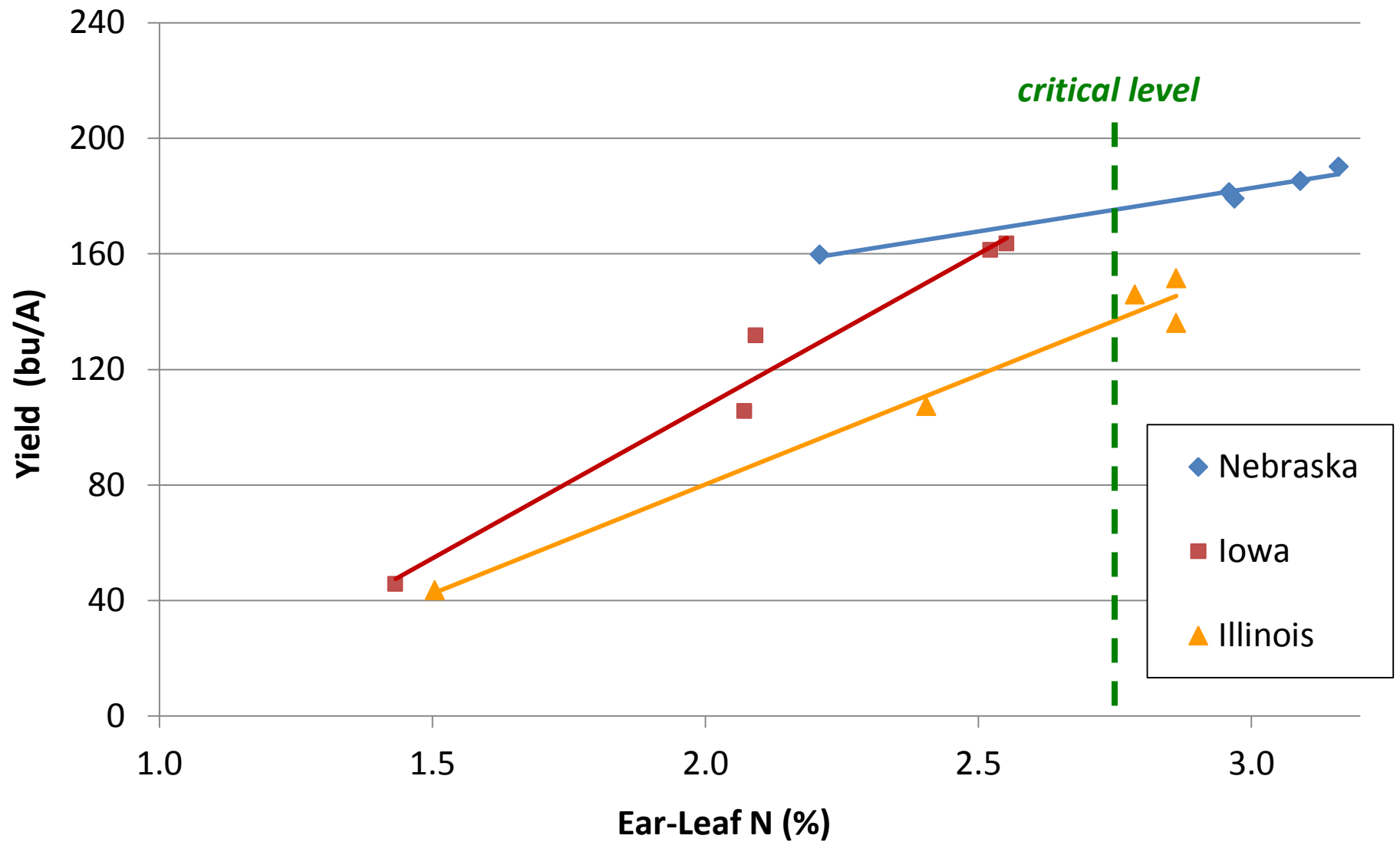
Effects of *Location* and *Hybrid*

Location	Hybrid	Mg (%)
Illinois		
	P33D53	0.29
	P1498	0.17
Iowa		
	P33D53	0.21
	P1498	0.17
York		
	P33D53	0.17
	P1498	0.16
Shelton		
	P33D53	
	P1498	0.14

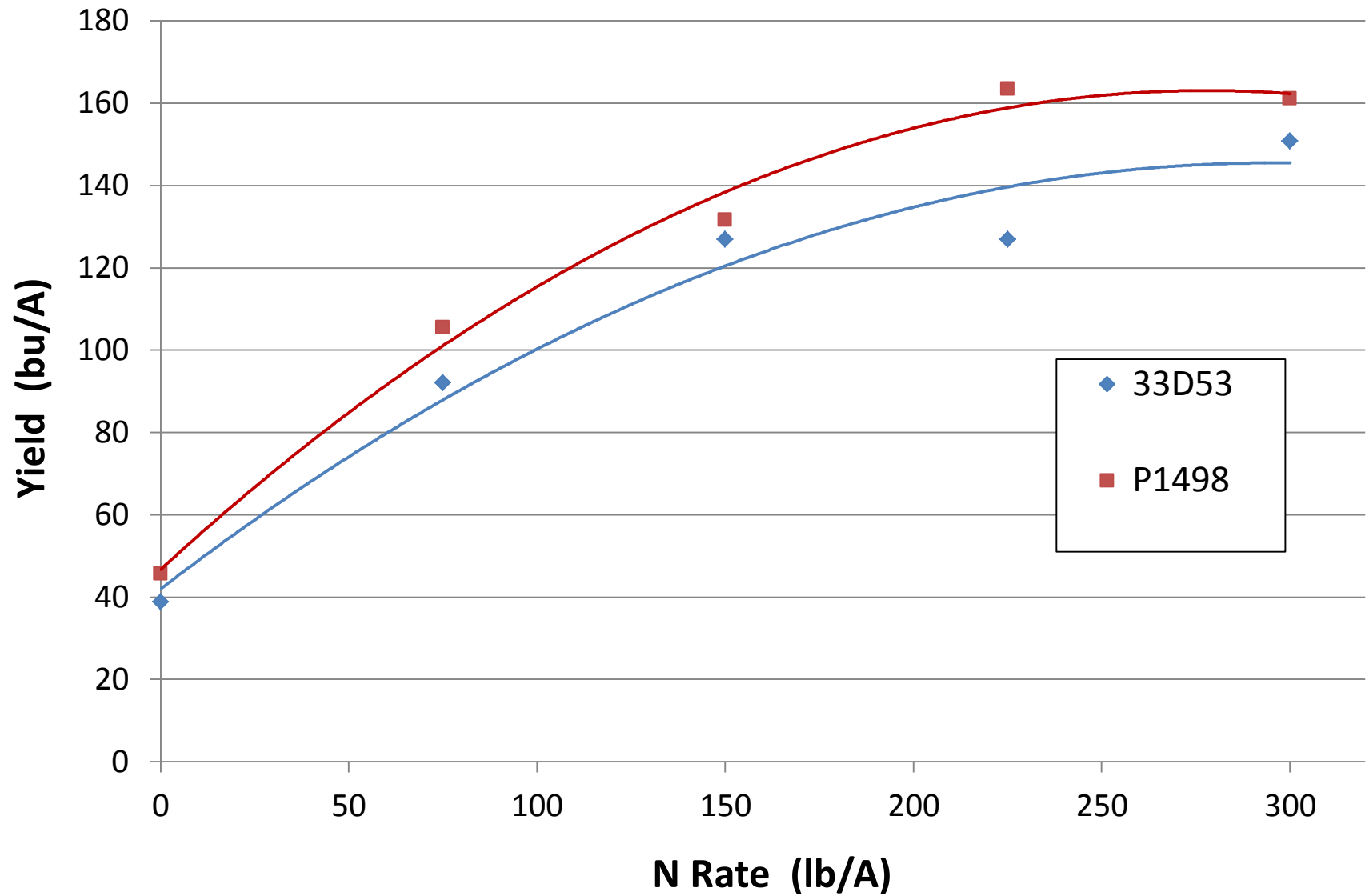
P33D53 - 2013



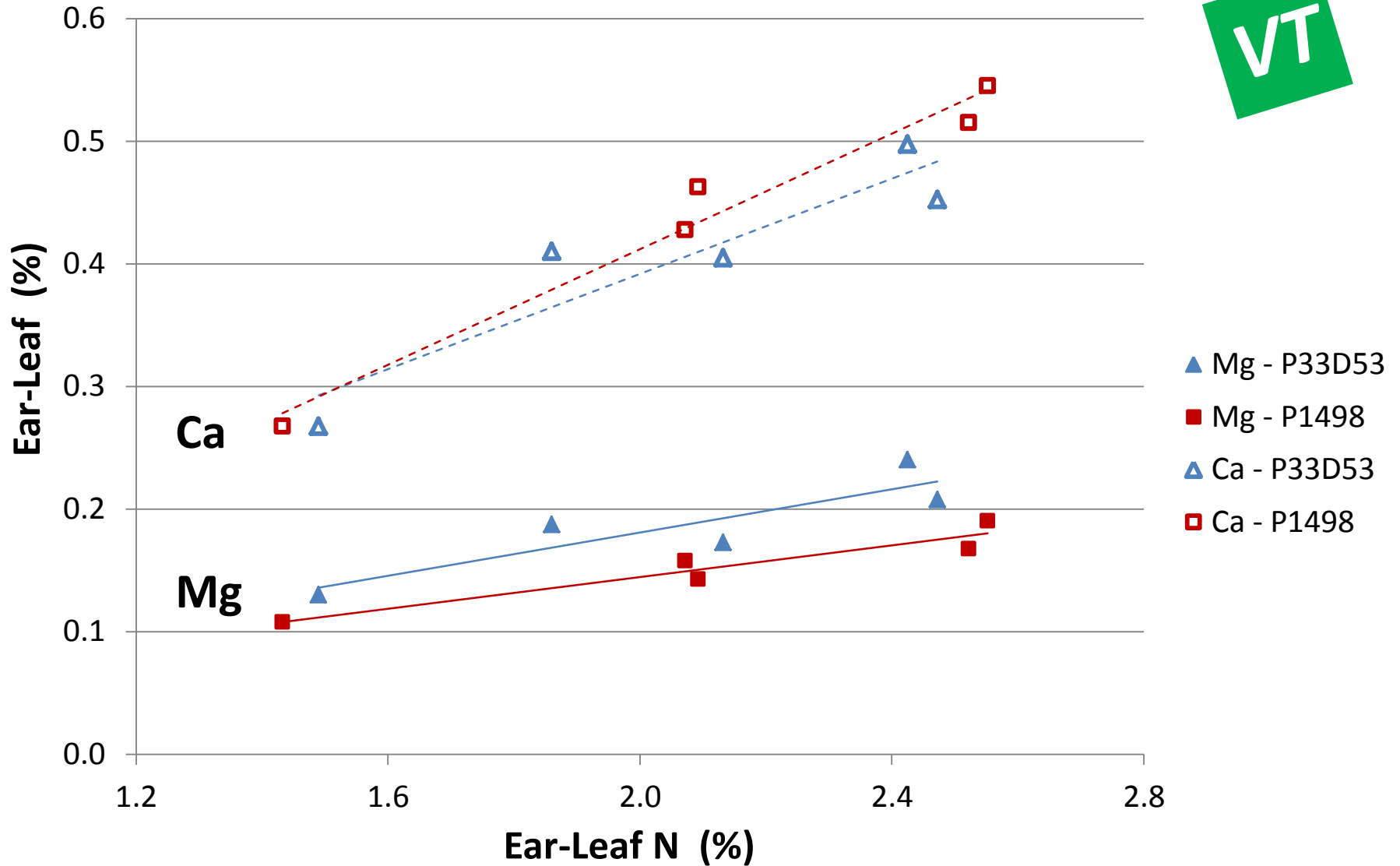
P1498 - 2013



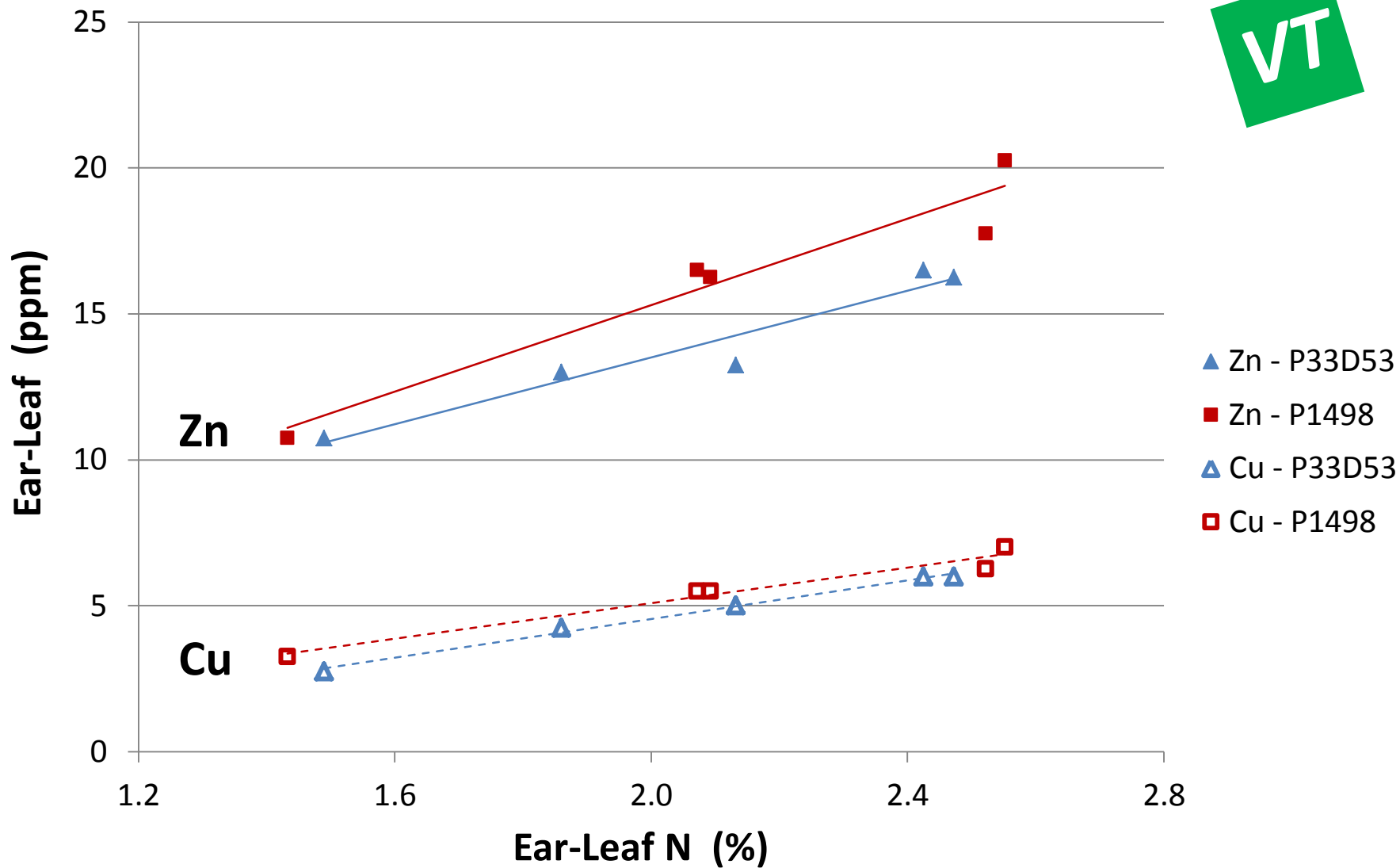
Iowa - 2013



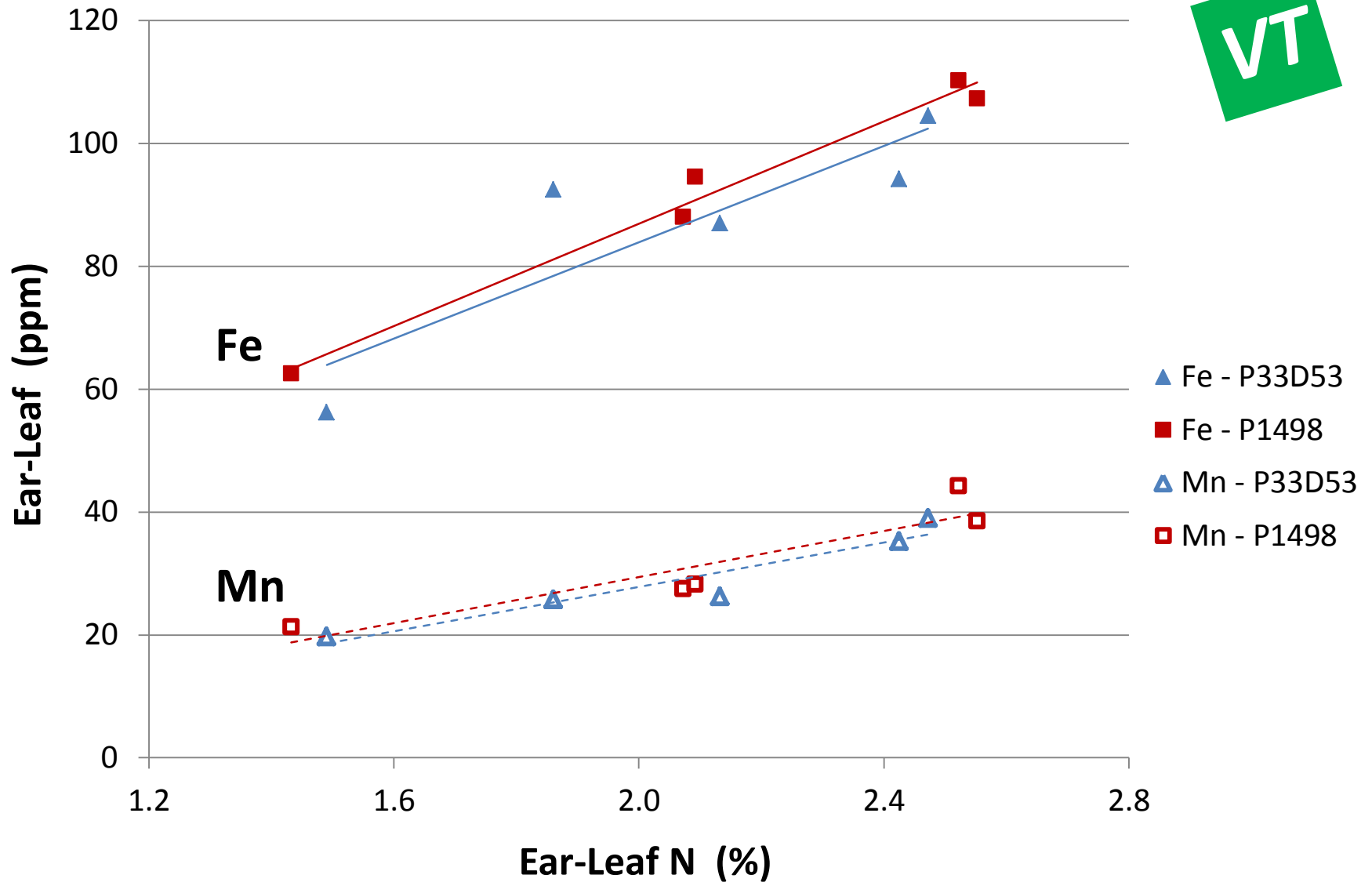
Iowa - 2013



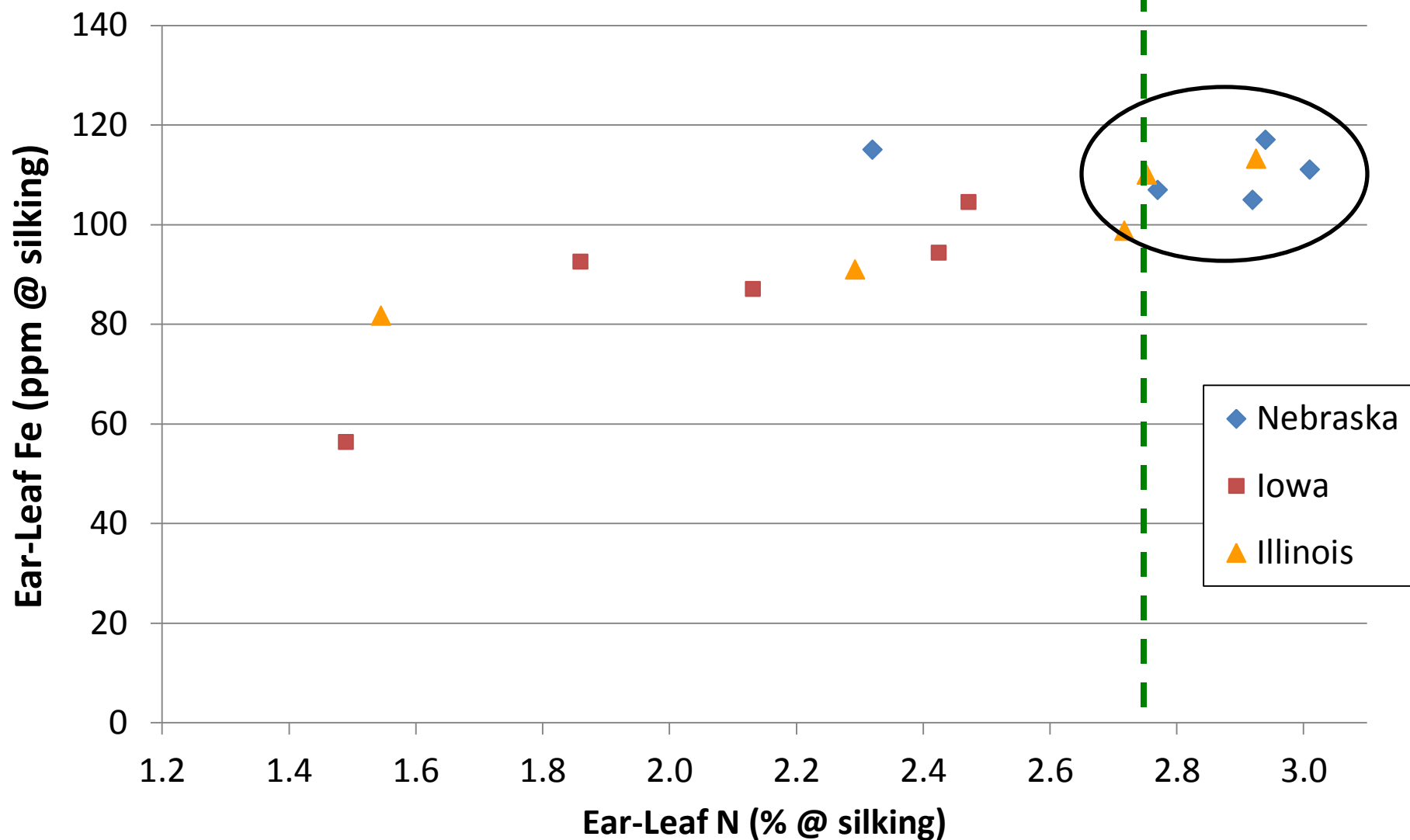
Iowa - 2013



Iowa - 2013



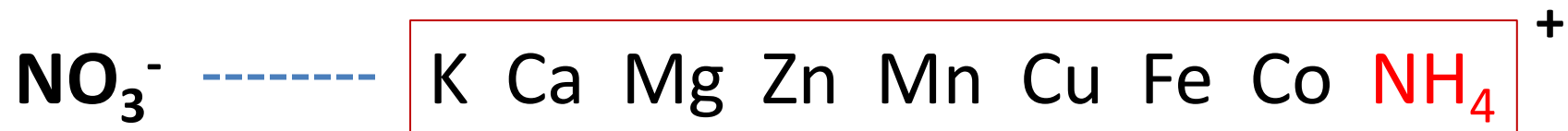
P33D53 - 2013



Possible

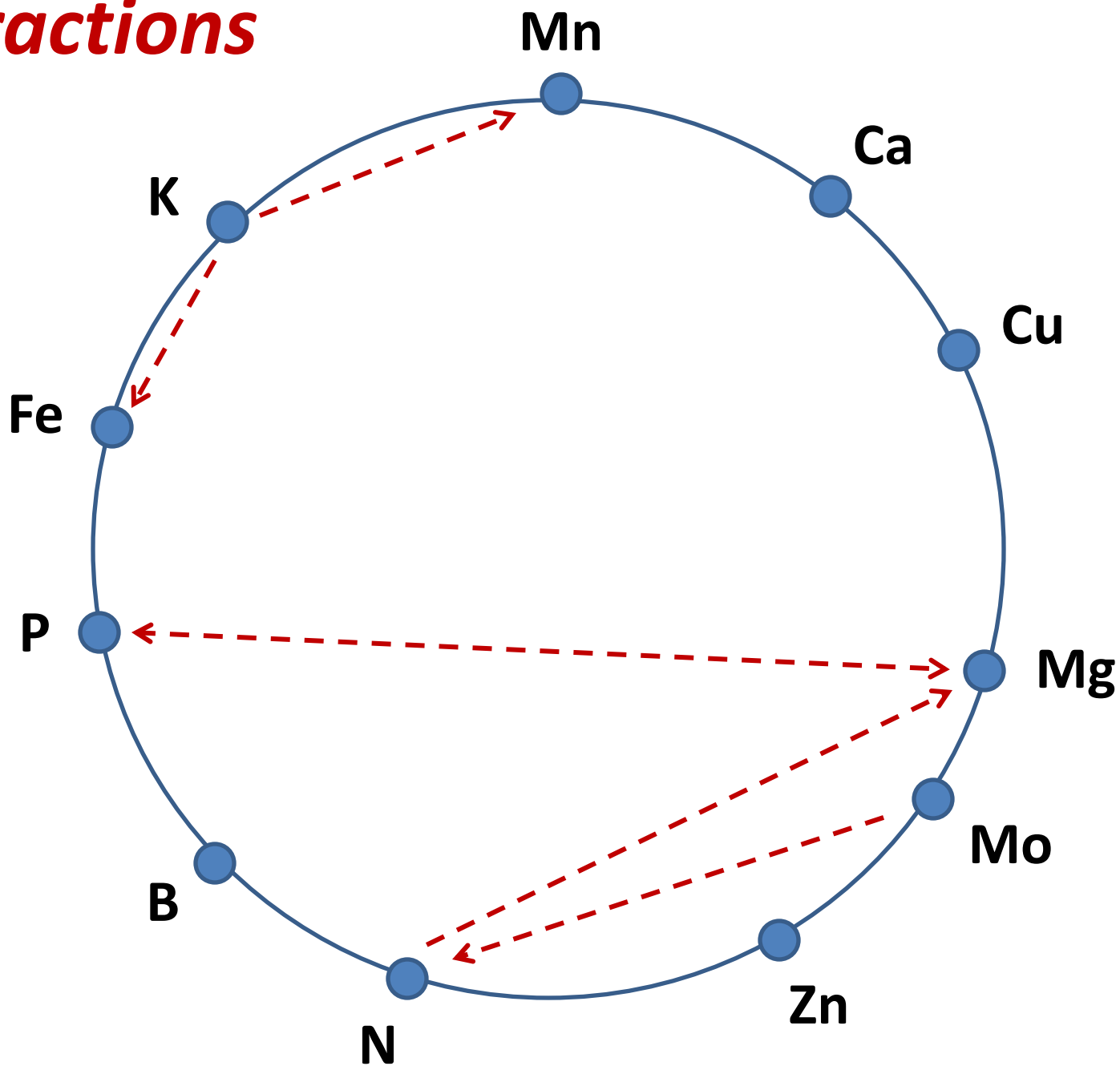
Interpretation

- Did N uptake enhance uptake of other nutrients

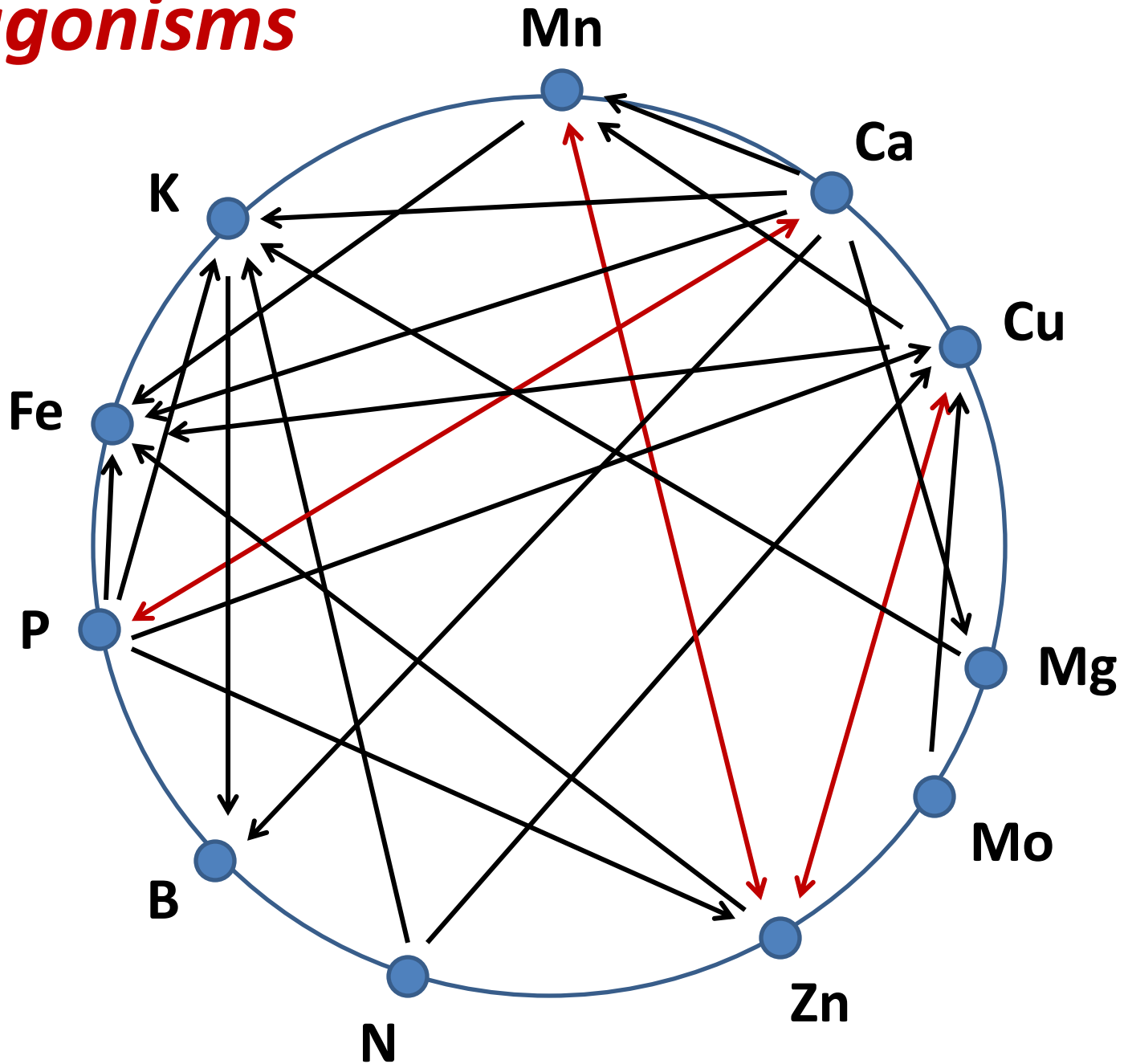


- Perhaps organic acids and root exudates are involved

Interactions



Antagonisms

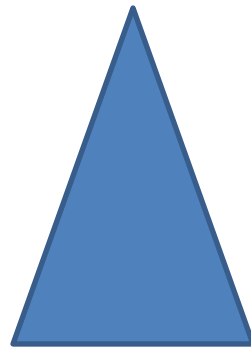


What is *DRIS* ?

Diagnosis and Recommendation Integrated System

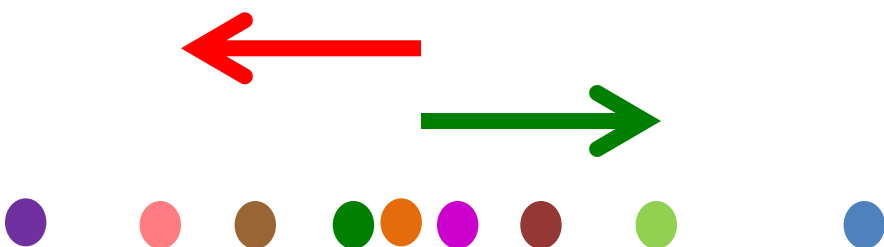
- Tool to identify relative *abundance* and *shortage* of nutrients in plant tissue

BALANCE



How *DRIS* Works

- Calculates nutrient concentrations relative to a “*reference*” value - i.e. “*Norm*”

$$\frac{\text{Sample Conc.}}{\text{Reference Conc.}} = < 1.0 \dots 1.0 \dots > 1.0$$


What is the appropriate *Reference Concentration* ?

DRIS Relationships

N

N / P

N / K

N / Ca

N / Mg

N / S

P

P / K

P / Ca

P / Mg

P / S

K

K / Ca

K / Mg

K / S

Ca

Ca / Mg

Ca / S

Mg

Mg / S

S

More relationships that include ***micro-nutrients***

Example of ***DRIS Norm Values***

Corn

Ear-leaf

N (%)	3.29
P (%)	0.338
K (%)	2.40
Ca (%)	0.602
Mg (%)	0.258
S (%)	0.269

N / P	9.96
N / K	1.50
N / S	12.86
Ca / Mg	2.59

P : Zn
Fe : Mn
Fe : Cu
Others

Source: Walworth and Sumner, 1987

Published “***norms***” are crop specific and vary by climatic areas

How *DRIS* Works

- Calculates nutrient concentrations relative to a “*reference*” value - i.e. “*Norm*”

Tissue N			Difference from Ideal	
	2.95			
		= 0.897	→	-0.103
N norm	3.29			
N : K				
	1.16			
		= 0.773	→	-0.227
N : K norm	1.50			
N : S				
	13.48			
		= 1.048	→	0.048
N : S norm	12.86			
				Sum

DRIS Excel Spread Sheet



NutriVe
Agricultura en Evolución

Informe InSeason®

Santiago MN

#N/A

#N/A

7/2/2012

CR2

Sampling date

Analysis date

Date

#N/A

Jim Schepers

#N/A

5

Silty Loam

1250

#N/A

Farmer

Field

Sub-field

Samples

Soil Type

Bulk density
Kg/m3

Deep
m

12

13

15

14

10

11

P3698

14

#N/A

#N/A

#VALUE!

#N/A

#N/A

2.60%

4.00%

#N/A

#N/A

#N/A

#N/A

#N/A

#N/A

#N/A

#N/A

#N/A

Hybrid

Expected Yield

Stage

Uso
Kg/Ton grn

NO3 prom
ppm

N disp
Kg N/Ha

lmb Fact

%M.O

Min Rate

N min
Kg N/Ha

SPAD

SI

N Needed
Kg N actual/Ha

NH3

UREA

NV30

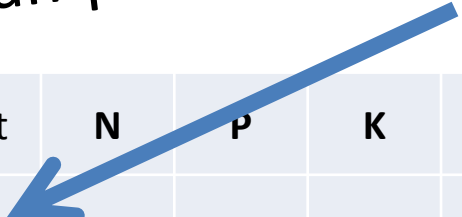
Kg/Ha de la Fuente Seleccionada

Sample

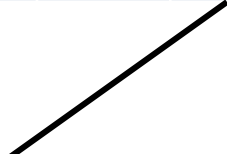
Tissue testign data and DRIS Analysis

Santiago MN	Soil Nitrogen			Elemento	N	P	K	Ca	S	Mg	Fe	Zn	Mn	Cu	B	IB DRIS
1	N-NO3	ppm	#N/A	Lab data	2.93	0.30	2.12	0.59	0.30	0.24	156	35	99	14	9.9	
		Kg/Ha	#N/A	Ref EF	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	
	SPAD	lect	#N/A	CDRIS	29.3	3	21.2	5.9	3	2.4	156	35	99	14	9.9	-0.368
		ref	48	I DRIS	-3.197	-5.767	-0.436	-2.068	-2.308	-1.244	2.076	2.730	6.469	3.360	0.019	
#VALUE!	Nitrogeno			Elemento	N	P	K	Ca	S	Mg	Fe	Zn	Mn	Cu	B	IB DRIS
2	N-NO3	ppm	#VALUE!	DATOS	2.87	0.28	1.90	0.68	0.26	0.25	135	38	93	17	12.0	0.558
		Kg/Ha	#N/A	Ref EF	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	
	SPAD	lect	#N/A	CDRIS	28.7	2.8	19	6.8	2.6	2.5	135	38	93	17	12	
		ref	48	I DRIS	-3.377	-6.800	-0.736	-0.487	-2.938	-1.264	0.425	4.852	5.409	4.306	1.168	
#VALUE!	Nitrogeno			Elemento	N	P	K	Ca	S	Mg	Fe	Zn	Mn	Cu	B	IB DRIS
3	N-NO3	ppm	#VALUE!	DATOS	2.65	0.24	2.19	0.59	0.26	0.25	129	35	61	17	9.5	-2.120
		Kg/Ha	#N/A	Ref EF	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	
	SPAD	lect	#N/A	CDRIS	26.5	2.4	21.9	5.9	2.6	2.5	129	35	61	17	9.5	
		ref	48	I DRIS	-2.789	-7.907	0.131	-1.292	-2.778	-0.904	1.039	5.399	1.521	5.217	0.244	
#VALUE!	Nitrogeno			Elemento	N	P	K	Ca	S	Mg	Fe	Zn	Mn	Cu	B	IB DRIS
4	N-NO3	ppm	#N/A	Datos	2.95	0.28	2.48	0.62	0.29	0.27	133	36	62	18	9.9	-2.727
		Kg/Ha	#N/A	Ref EF	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	25	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	
	SPAD	lect	#N/A	CDRIS	29.5	2.8	24.8	6.2	2.9	2.7	133	36	62	18	9.9	
		ref	48	I DRIS	-2.616	-5.796	0.279	-1.657	-2.608	-0.925	-0.057	4.635	0.883	5.145	-0.012	
#VALUE!	Nitrogeno			Elemento	N	P	K	Ca	S	Mg	Fe	Zn	Mn	Cu	B	IB DRIS
5	N-NO3	ppm	#N/A	DATOS	2.9	0.3	2.2	0.6	0.3	0.3	138.3	36.0	78.8	16.5	10.3	-1.169
		Kg/Ha	#N/A	Ref EF	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	
	SPAD	lect	#N/A	CDRIS	28.5	2.75	21.725	6.2	2.775	2.525	138.25	36	78.75	16.5	10.325	
		ref	48	I DRIS	-3.047	-6.506	-0.155	-1.431	-2.677	-1.100	0.846	4.415	3.598	4.519	0.370	

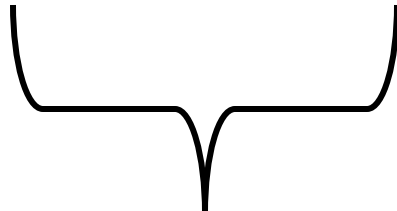
Sample **DRIS** Spread Sheet



Element	N	P	K	Ca	S	Mg	Fe	Zn	Mn	Cu	B	IB DRIS
DATA	2.9	0.3	2.2	0.6	0.3	0.3	138.3	36.0	78.8	16.5	10.3	
Ref EF	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	-1.169
CDRIS	28.5	2.75	21.725	6.2	2.775	2.525	138.25	36	78.75	16.5	10.325	
I DRIS	-3.047	-6.506	-0.155	-1.431	-2.677	-1.100	0.846	4.415	3.598	4.519	0.370	



Most Limiting

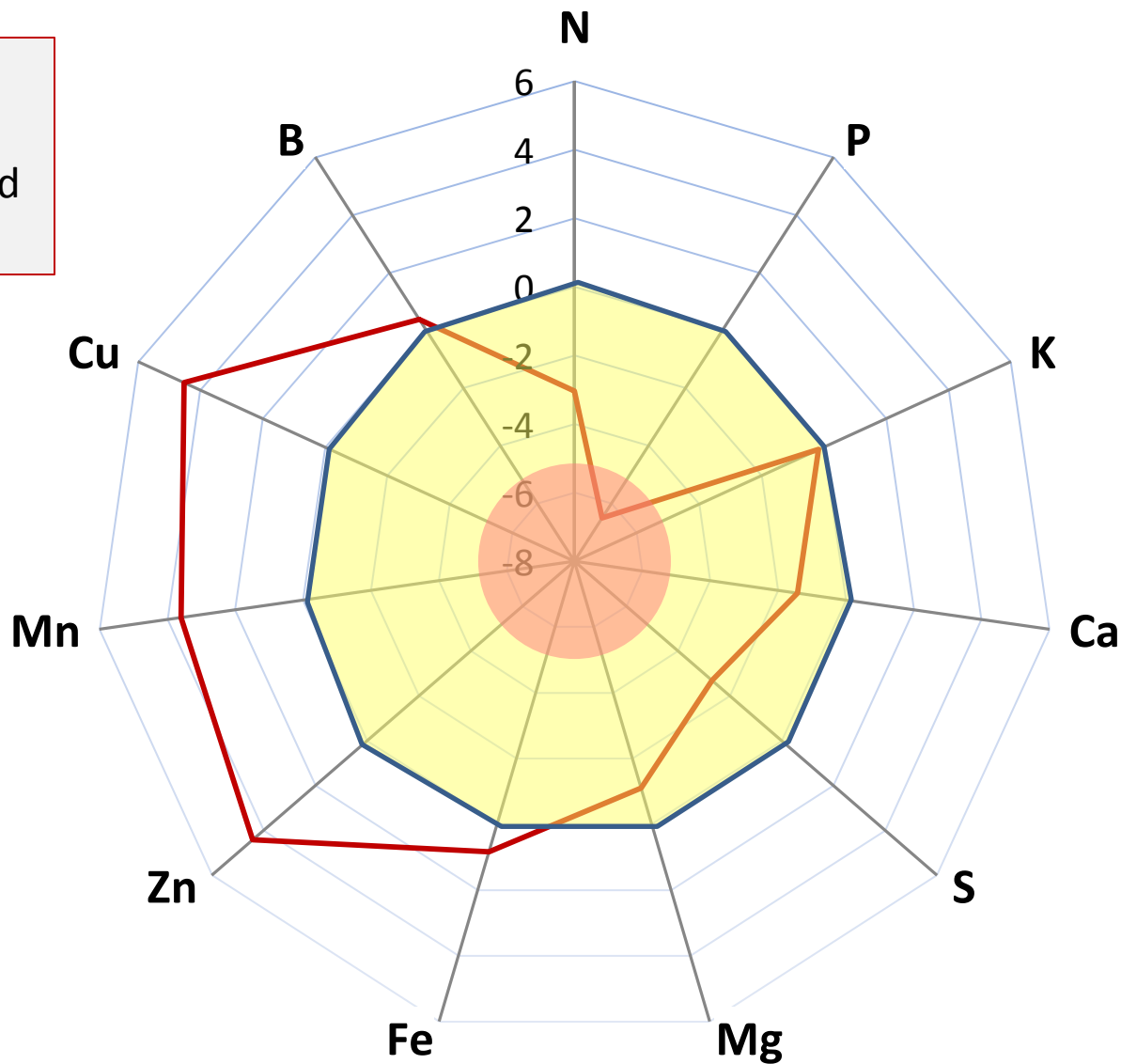


Most Abundant

-5 Adequate +5

Radial Graph of **DRIS** Analysis

Cu, Mn, and Zn tissue concentrations were well above the “norms” established for corn in Nebraska.



Role of Nutrients in Photosynthesis

N - Major component of chlorophyll

P - Energy transfer

K - Helps cells maintain internal pressure

Mg - Only mineral constituent of chlorophyll molecule

S - Needed for chlorophyll formation

Ca - Aids in cell division and elongation

Fe - Necessary for the formation of chlorophyll

Zn - Necessary for the formation of chlorophyll

Mn - Essential for chlorophyll production and photosynthesis

Cu - Required for chlorophyll production

B - Role in cell division, translocation of Ca, hormone formation

Mo - Co-factor in nitrate-reductase enzyme

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Chlorophyll molecules capture solar energy

Future Plans

Interrogate ear-leaf tissue testing results from several key labs

Criteria :

IF - leaf N concentration is adequate ?

Irrigated

Rainfed

Consider

Categories by **soil type** and **climatic region**

More appropriate nutrient “**norms**”

Thank You

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Special Thanks to: A & L Great Lakes Lab for tissue analyses

- Randall Warden -