



# Climate Change and cereal cropping systems of South America: The sensitivity and adaptation of cereals in the sub-continent



**Transitioning Cereal Systems  
to Adapt to Climate Change**

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# **CLIMATE CHANGE AND CEREAL CROPPING SYSTEMS OF SOUTH AMERICA**

## **The sensitivity and adaptation of cereals in the sub-continent**

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Universidad Austral de Chile, Universidad de Buenos Aires,  
Universidad de Talca

# Cereals Production in South America



## Main Cereal Crops in South America

	Wheat	Maize	Rice	Barley
Production (M t y <sup>-1</sup> )	21.1	97.2	24.3	4.3
(% World)	3.1	11.4	3.4	3.1

## Highest Producers (t y<sup>-1</sup>)

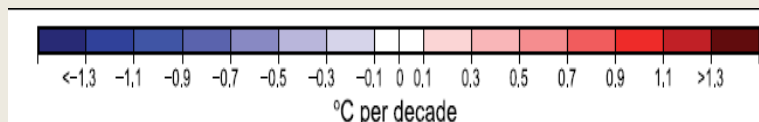
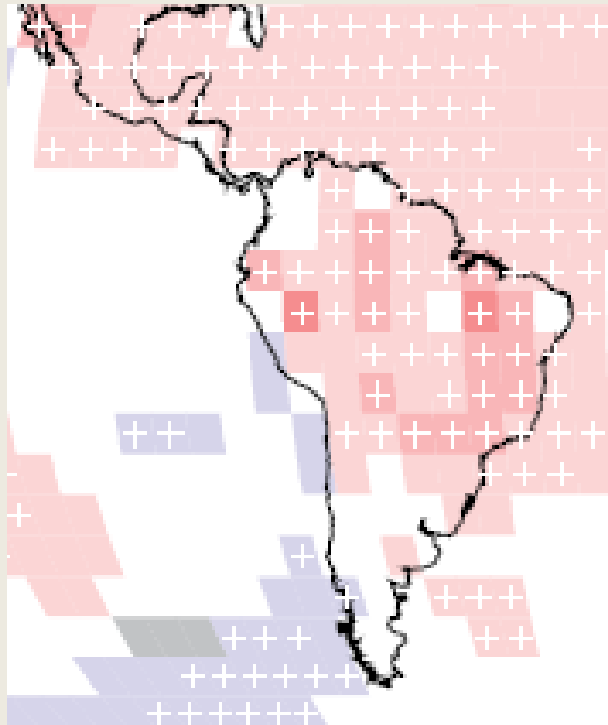
Country	Wheat	Maize	Rice	Barley
Argentina	11.2	22.7	1.4	3.1
Brazil	5.5	58.4	12.2	0.3
Colombia			2.2	
Ecuador			1.6	
Peru			2.9	
Uruguay	1.5			0.3
(% S.A.)	86.0	83.4	83.1	84.3



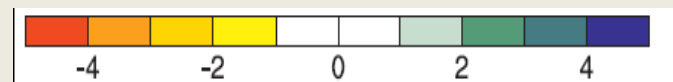
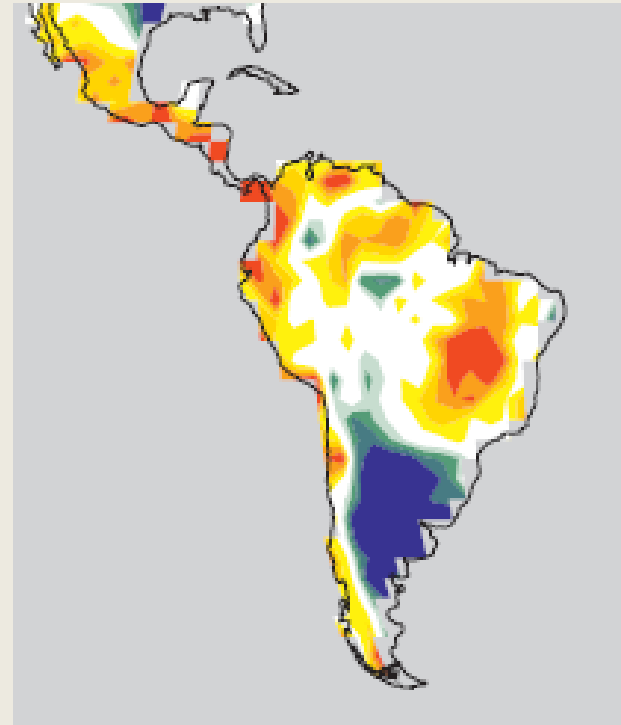
# Climate Changes during Last Years

# Recorded Changes (1979-2005)

## Temperature

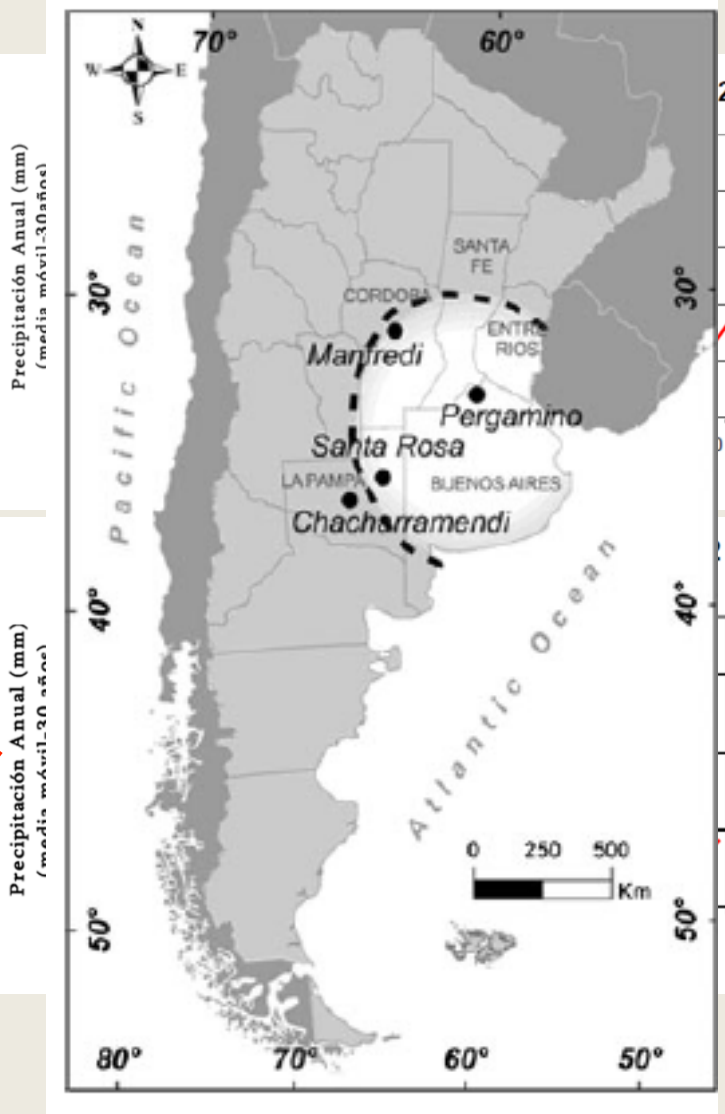


## Rainfall

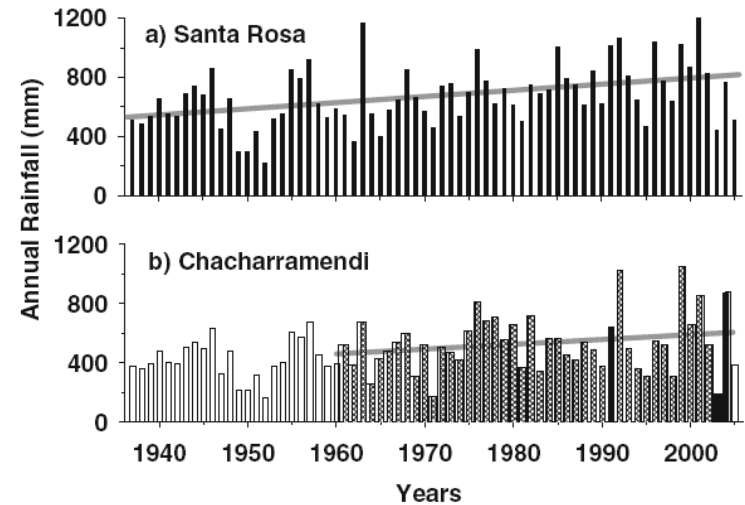




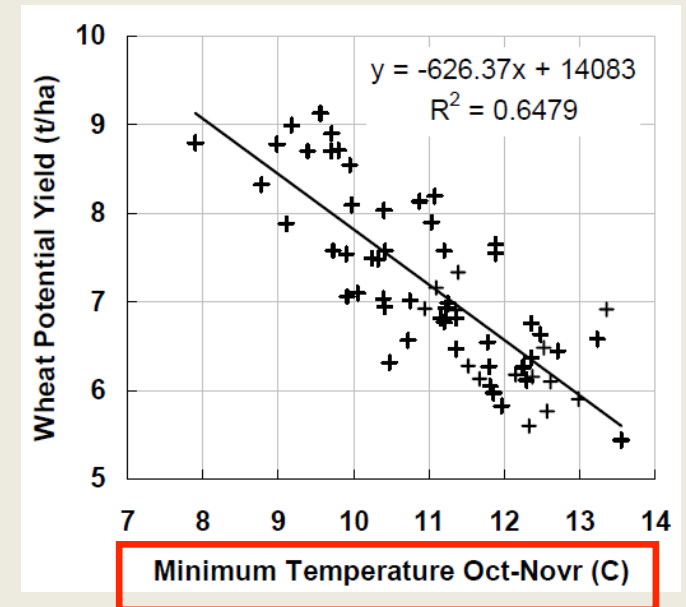
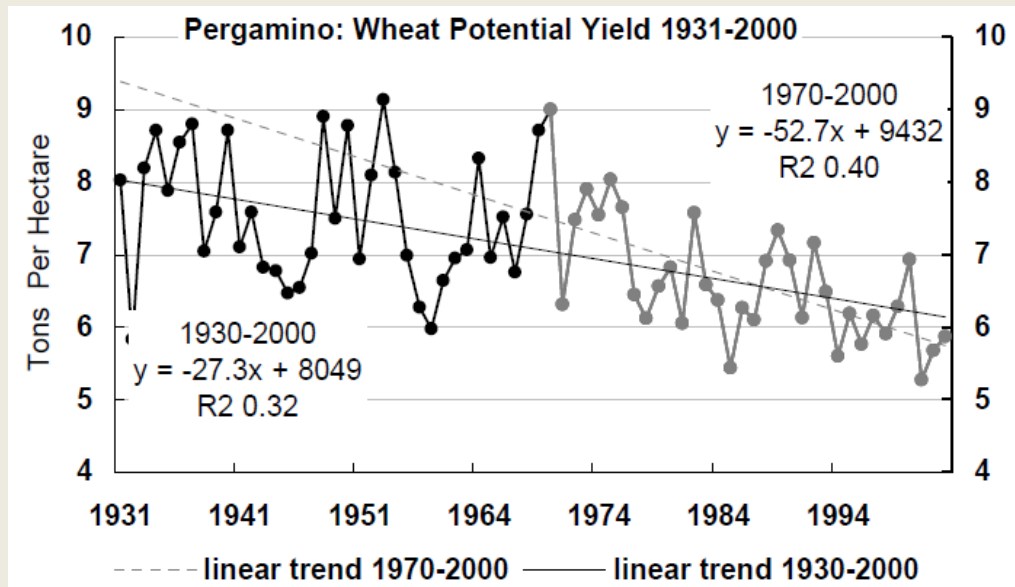
# Contrasting changes in bordering countries



## ARGENTINA



# Potential yield of wheat in the Pampas



# Future Scenarios of Climate Change



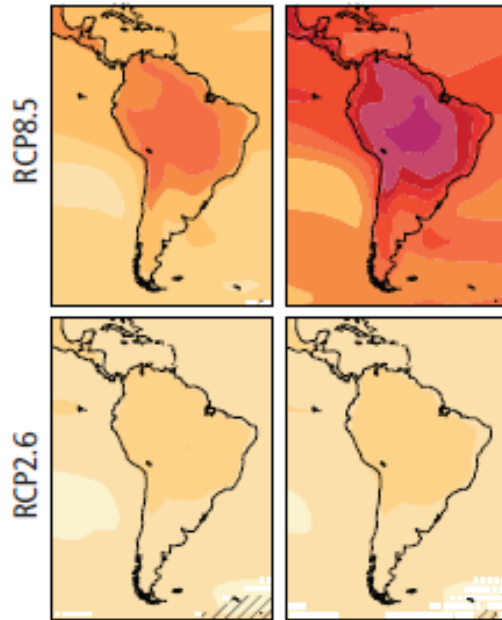
# Scenarios of temperature and rainfall change

## Annual Temperature Change

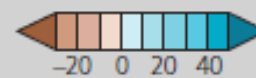


Difference from  
1986–2005 mean (°C)

mid 21st century    late 21st century

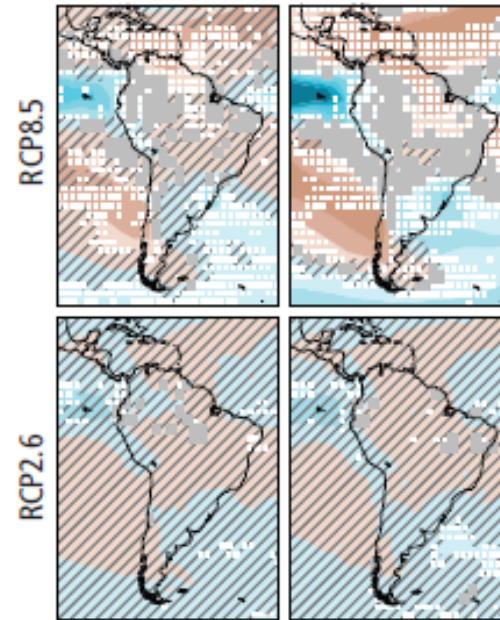


## Annual Precipitation Change



Difference from  
1986–2005 mean (%)

mid 21st century    late 21st century



Solid Color

Very strong agreement

White Dots

Strong agreement

Gray

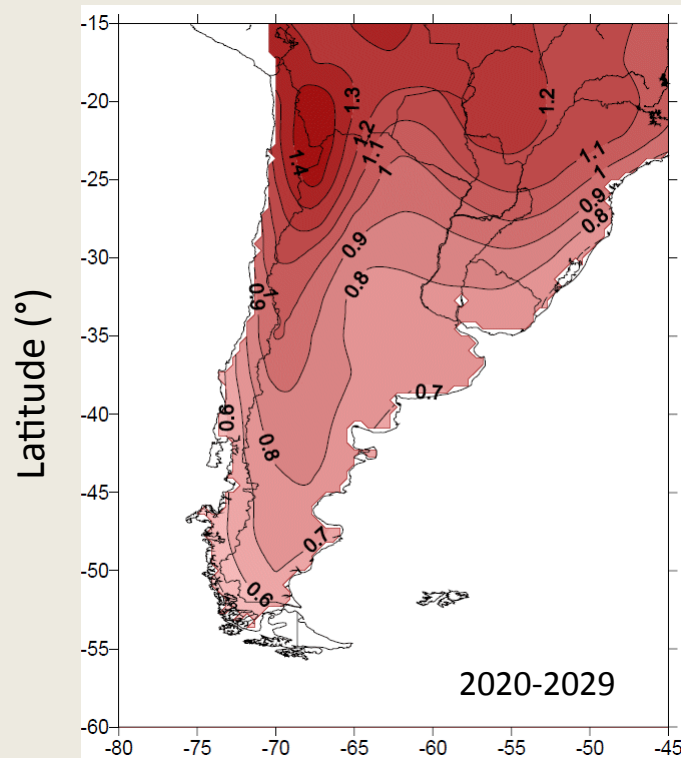
Divergent changes

Diagonal Lines

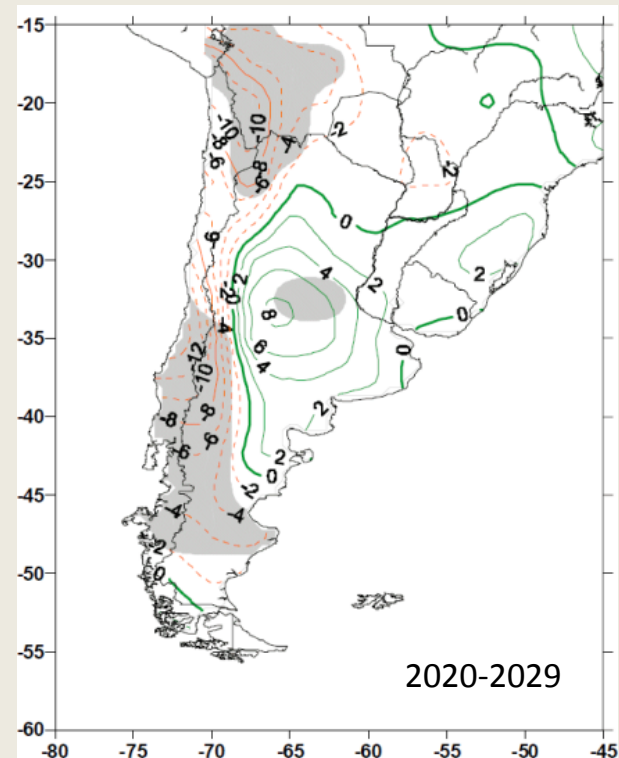
Little or no change

# Southern Cone of South America

Temperature (°C)  
Increase 0.6-1.4°C



Rainfall (%)  
Increase -12 - +8%

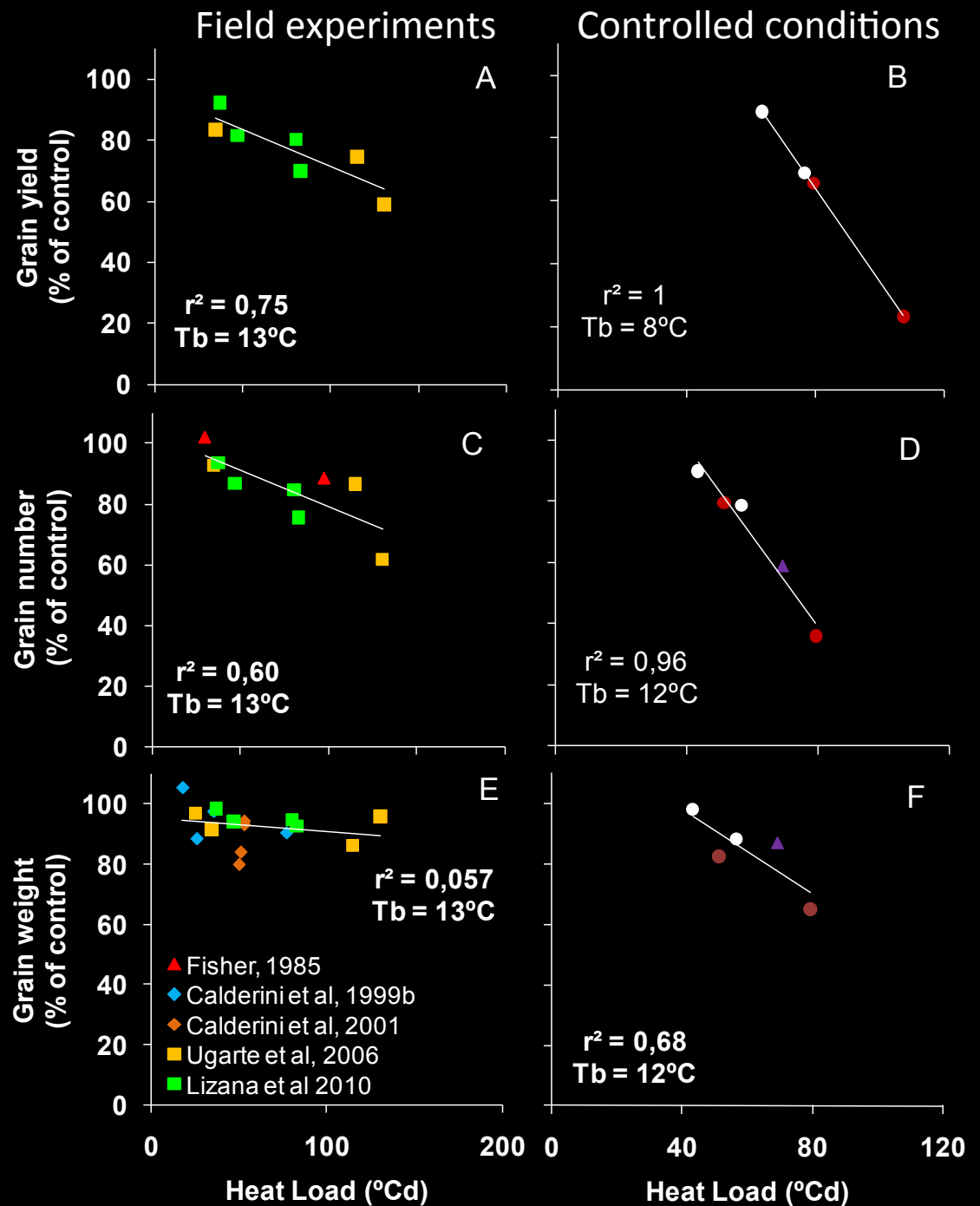


Longitude (°)

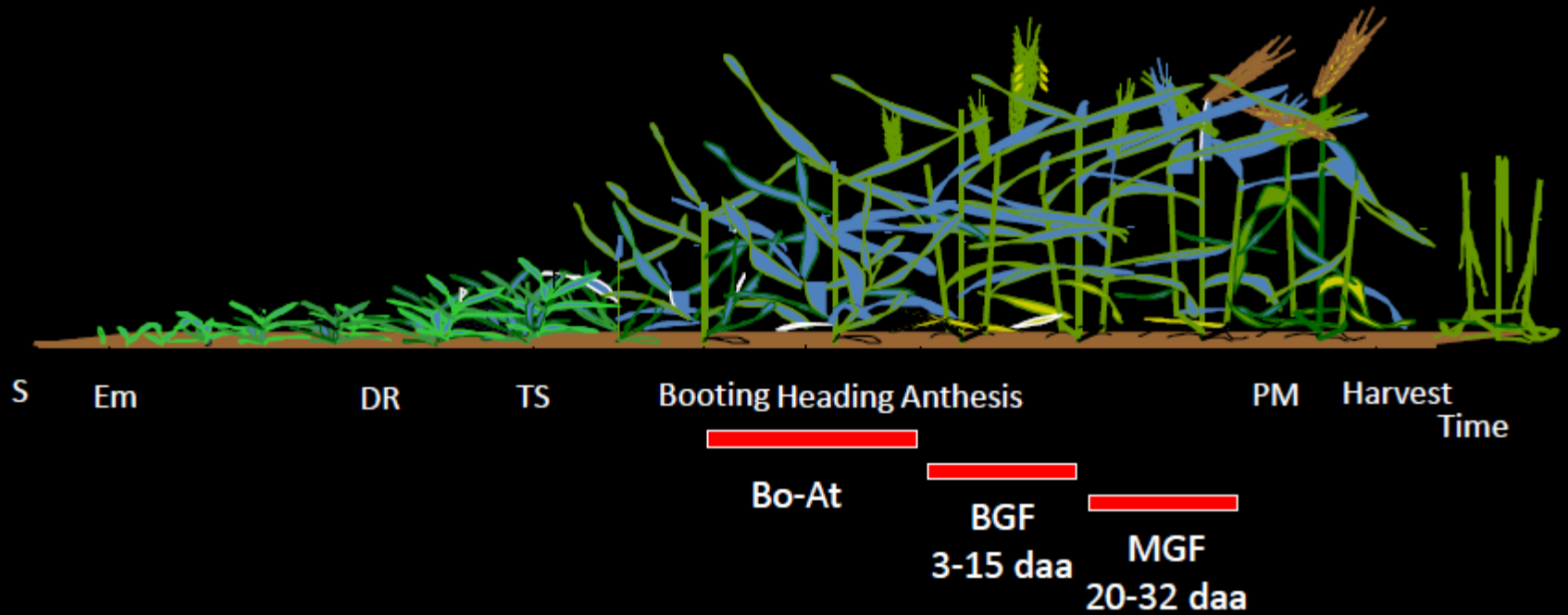
# Climate Change

## Sensitivity and Adaptations of Cereal Crops

The need of evaluating crops under field conditions



# The challenge of predicting the impact of increased temperature at specific phenophases of crops

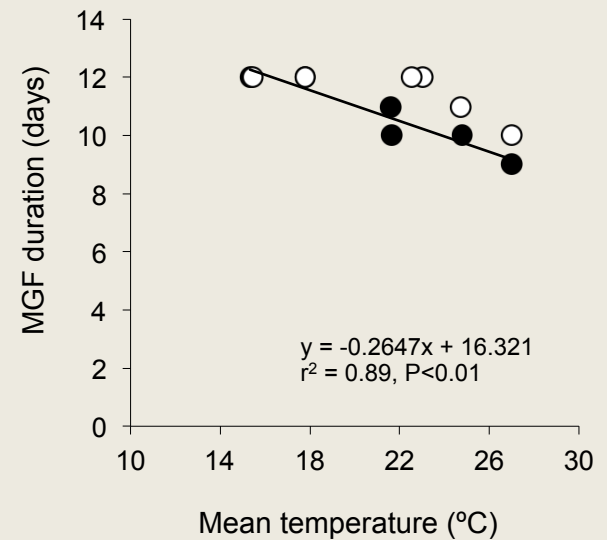
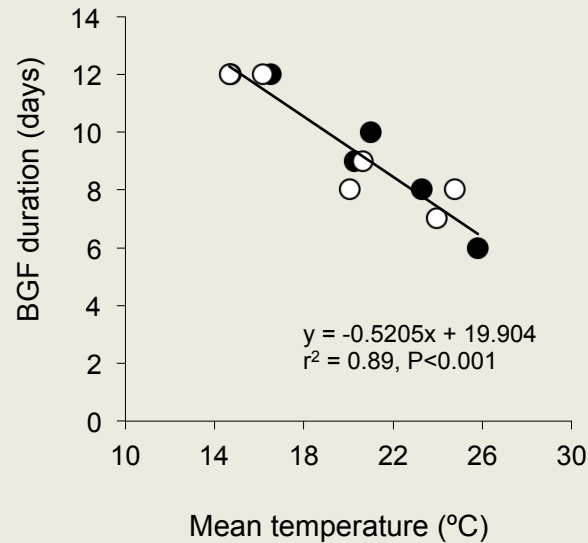
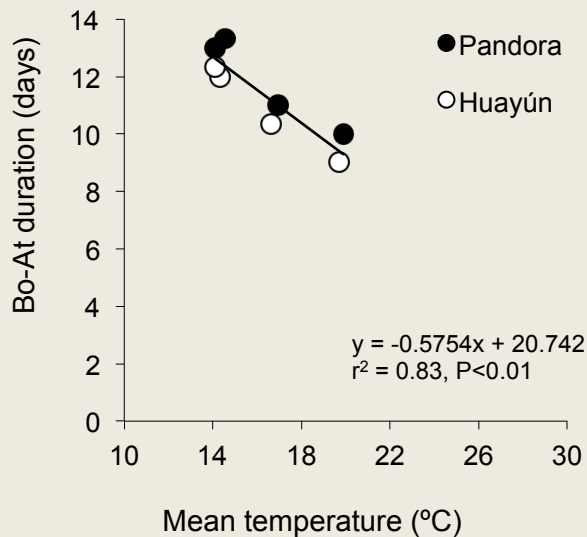


# The impact of temperature at key phenophases of wheat

GY: -5% (this study)

-6% (Prasad et al., 2008)

-6% (Asseng et al., 1013)



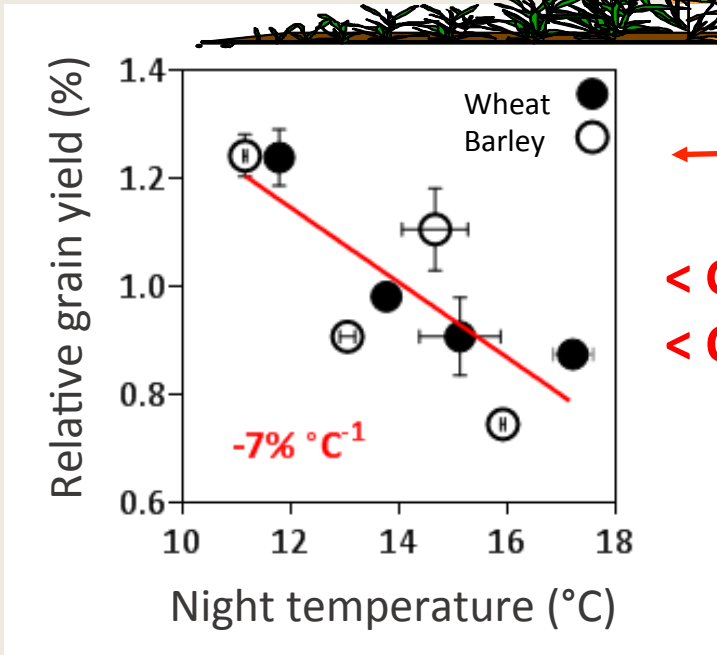
Period reduction:  $0.6 \text{ d } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$

$0.5 \text{ d } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$

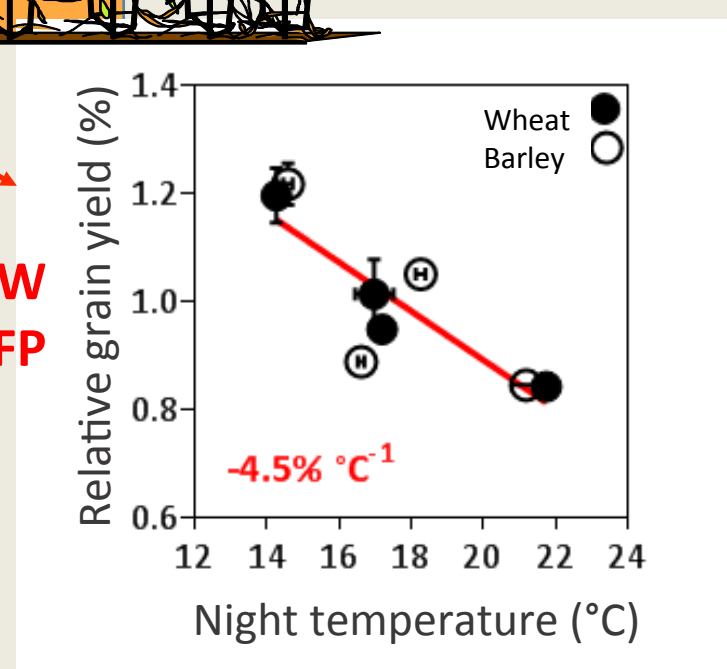
$0.3 \text{ d } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$



# Increased Night Temperature at key wheat phases



García et al. (2014)  
*Global Change Biol.*



García et al.  
(data not published)

# Main effect of increased temperature on temperate cereals

$$GN = CPD \times PAR \times FI \times RUE \times EP \times FE$$

GN: grains per square meter

CPD: critical period duration

RAD: incident radiation from stem elongation to anthesis

FI: fraction of intercepted PAR

RUE: radiation use efficiency

EP: ear partitioning coefficient

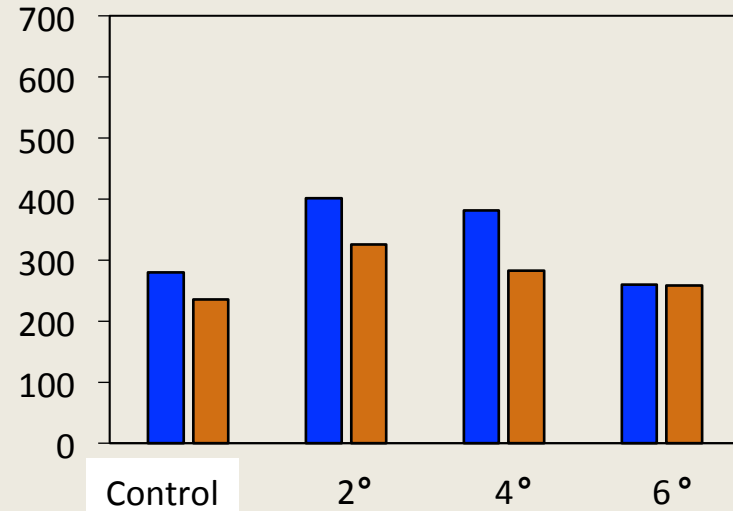
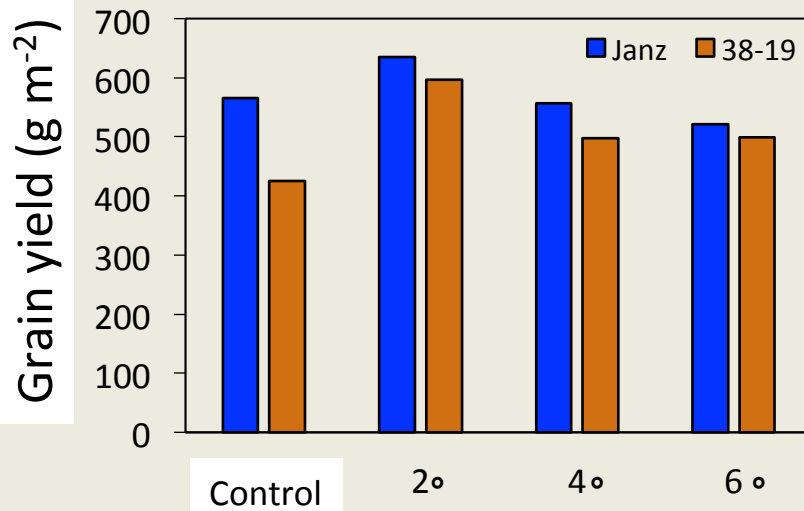
FE: grains to spike DM ratio at anthesis

# Effects of temperature, CO<sub>2</sub> and terminal drought on wheat grain yield



Temperature + CO<sub>2</sub> (700  $\mu\text{L L}^{-1}$ )

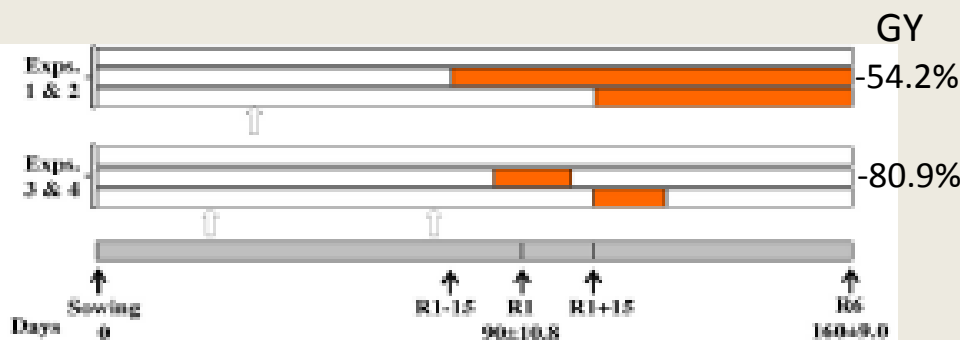
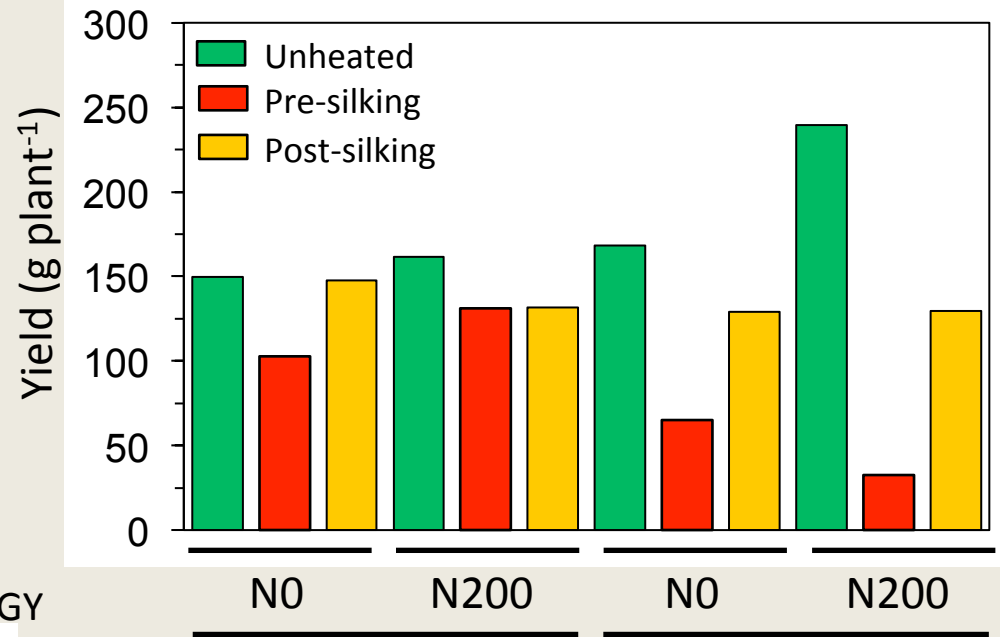
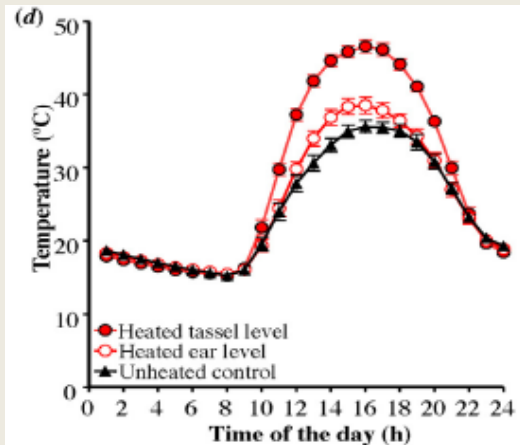
Temperature + CO<sub>2</sub> + Terminal drought



Temperature increase (°C)

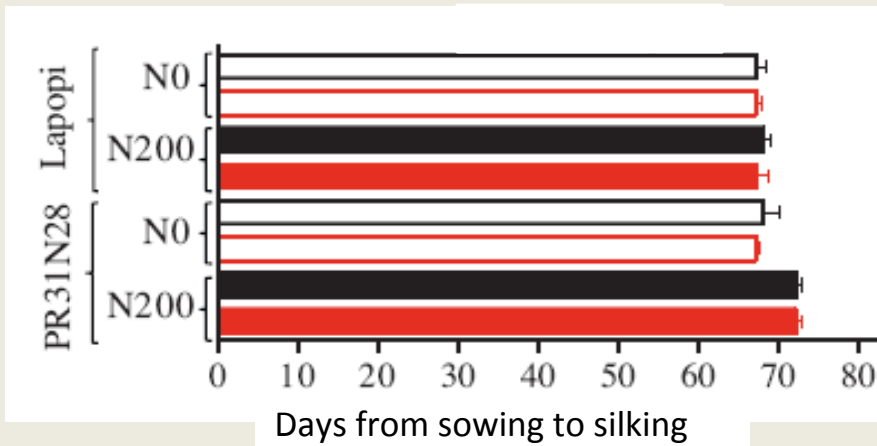
# Sensitivity of Maize to High Temperature at different Rates of Nitrogen

- Contrasting hybrid response
- High N rate effect in P31N28



# Sensitivity of Maize to High Temperature

## Development

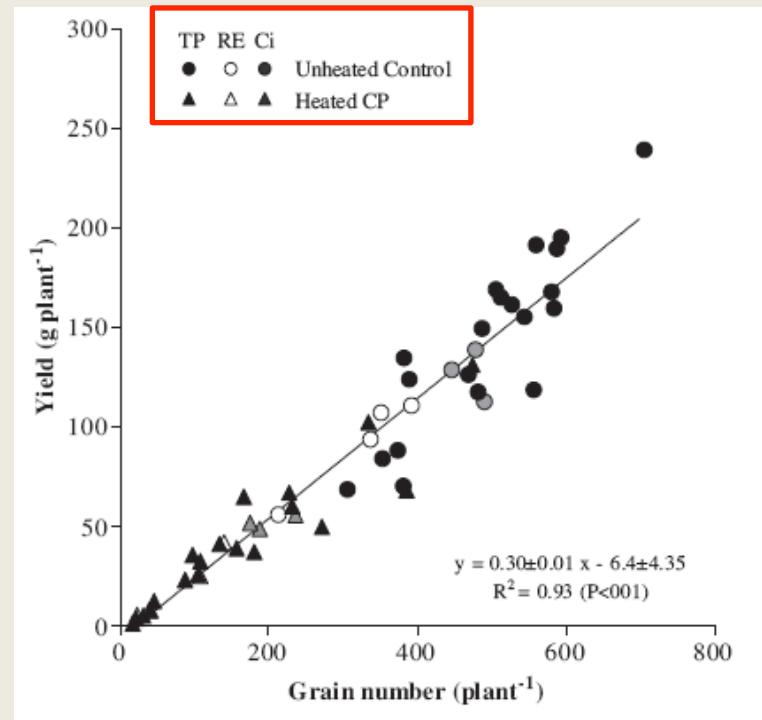


Effect of increased temperature on the development rate

Negligible

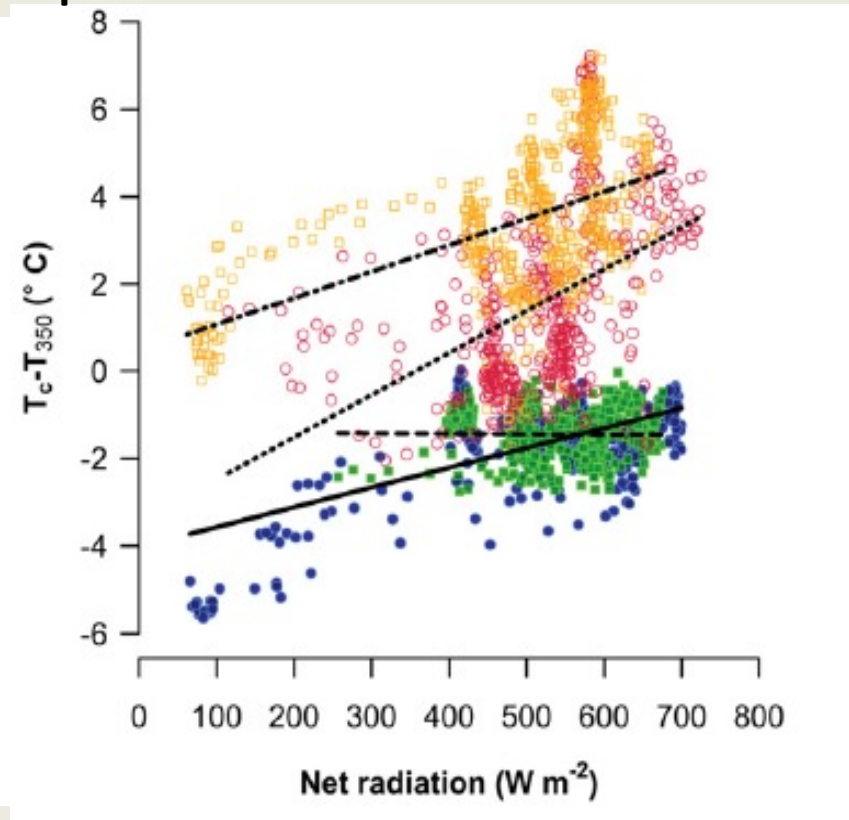
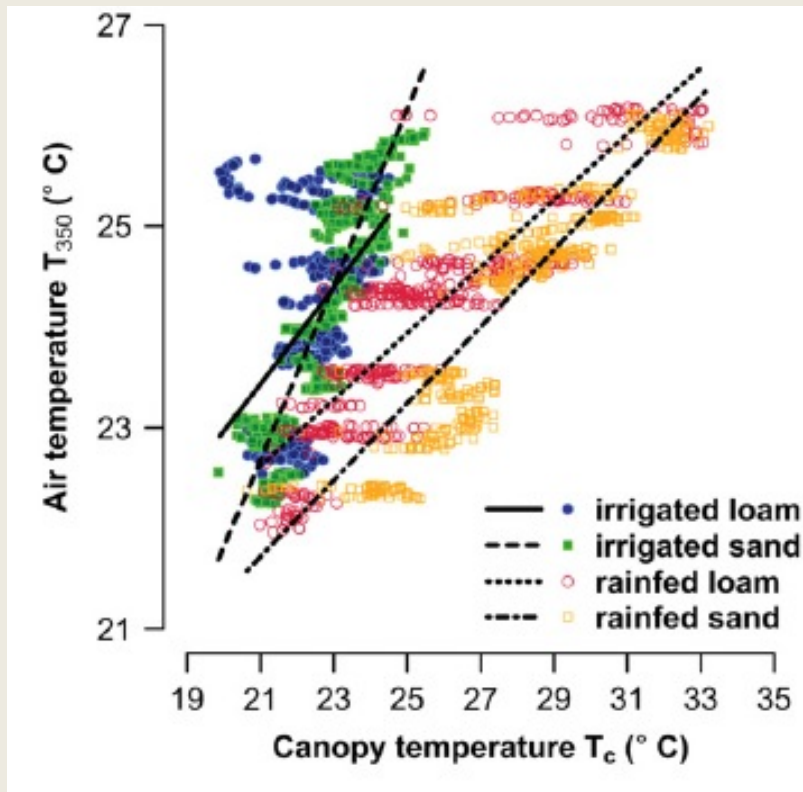
Shorter CPD (e.g. Cantarelo et al., 1999)

## Yield and grain number



# Canopy Temperature

A key trait to evaluate the impact of temperature on crops

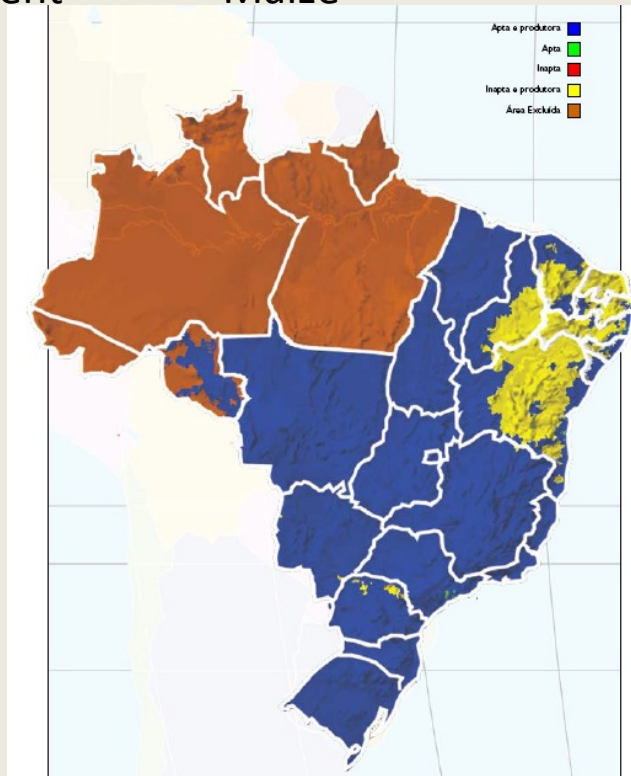




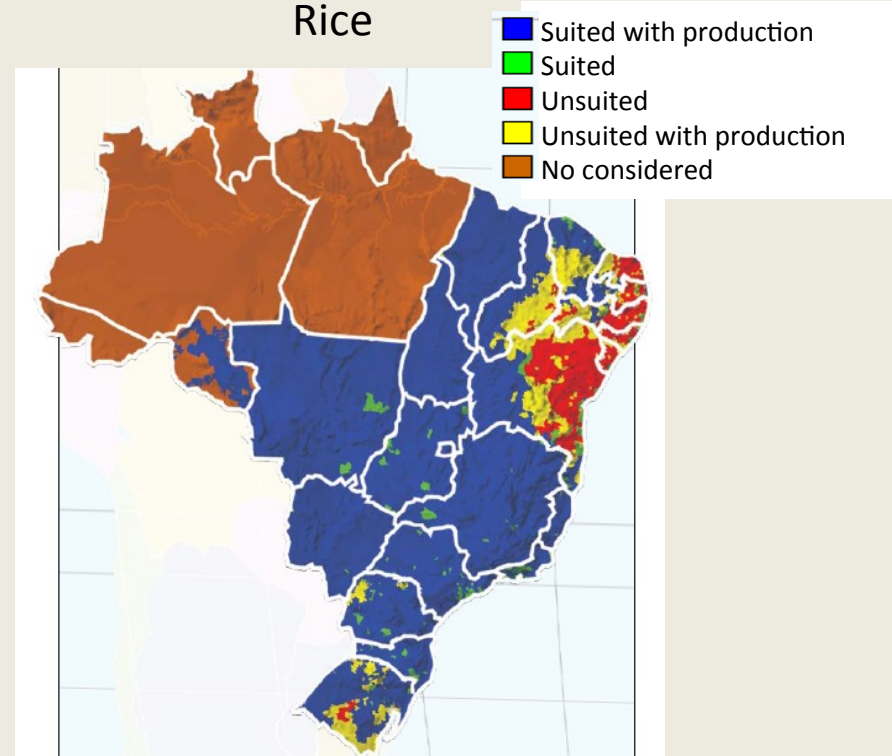
# The challenge of maize and rice in Brazil (low risk areas)

At present

Maize



Rice



Area change (%)

Year	B2	A2	B2	A2
2020	-12		-8.6	-9.7
2050	-15		-12.5	
2070	-17		-14.0	

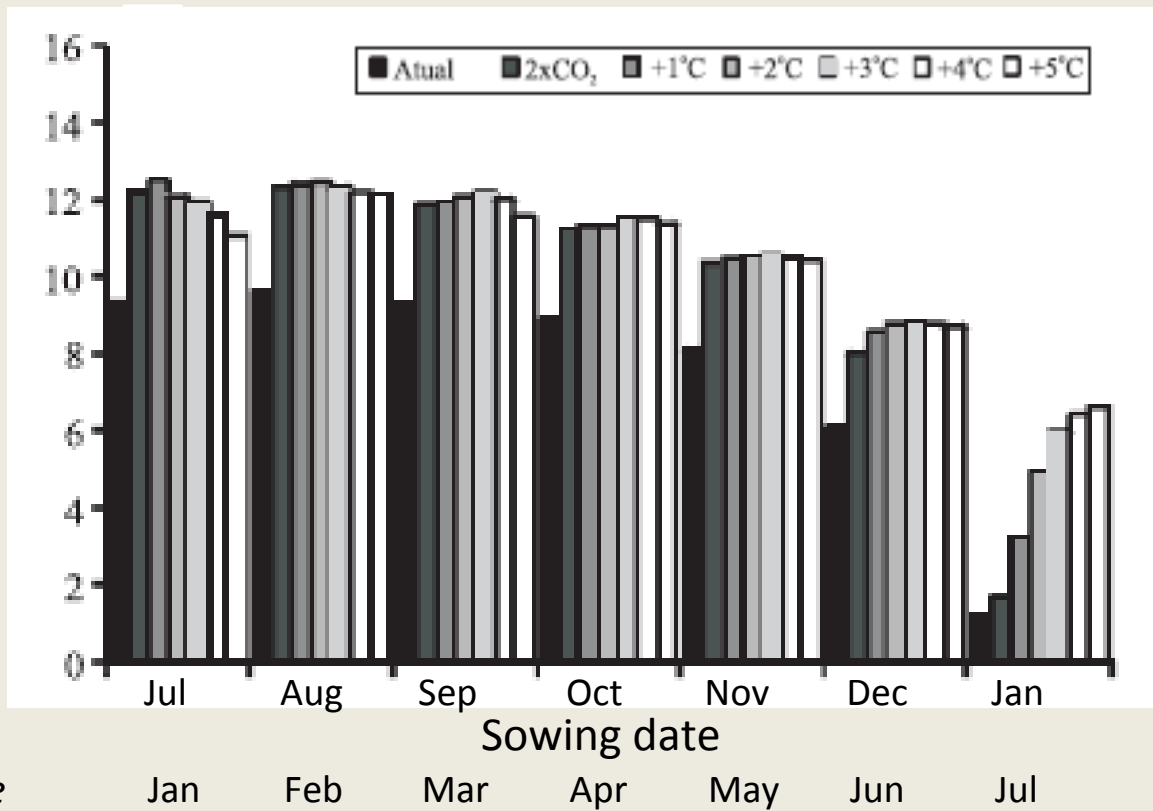
# Opportunities for rice in southern-east Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul)



*Southern Hemisphere*

*Northern Hemisphere*

Grain yield increase up to 28%

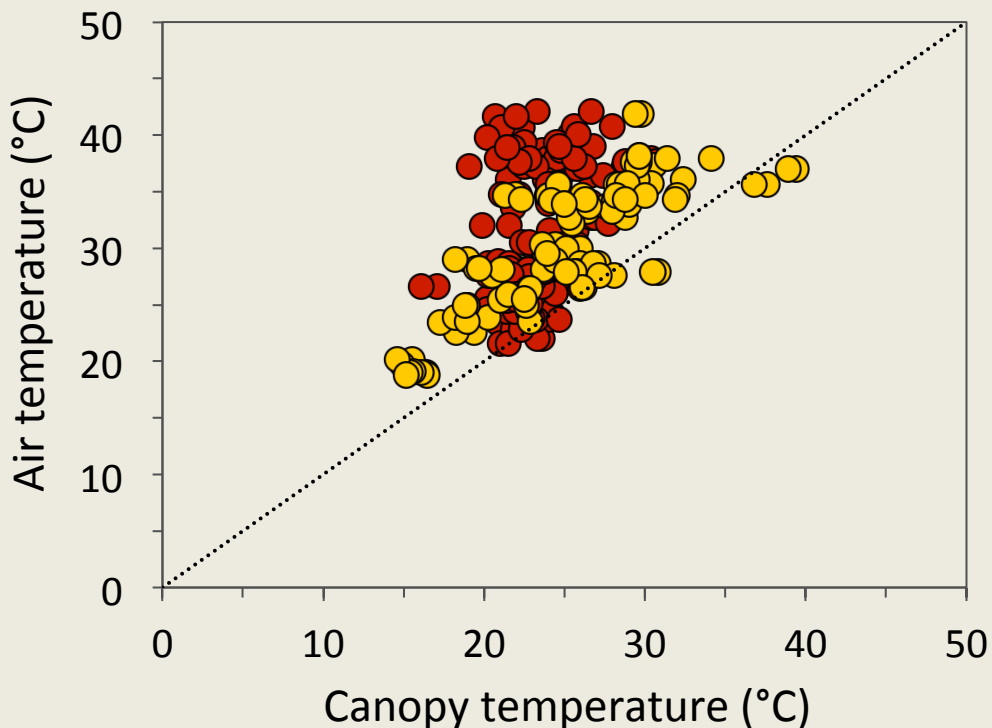


Water et al. (2010)  
Pesq. Agropec. Bras.

# Adaptation Strategies

Water availability (irrigation) decreases canopy temperature reducing the impact of heat stress

## Canopy Temperature under heat shock



High capacity of canopy temperature regulation

Air temperature: 20-45 °C

Canopy temperature: 15-40 °C

contrasting sowing dates:

● Early sowing: 6<sup>th</sup> June (250 plants m<sup>-2</sup>)

● Late sowing 25<sup>th</sup> July (350 plants m<sup>-2</sup>)  
2013 at Buenos Aires (34°35'S, 58°29'W)

Optimum management except heat shock treatments

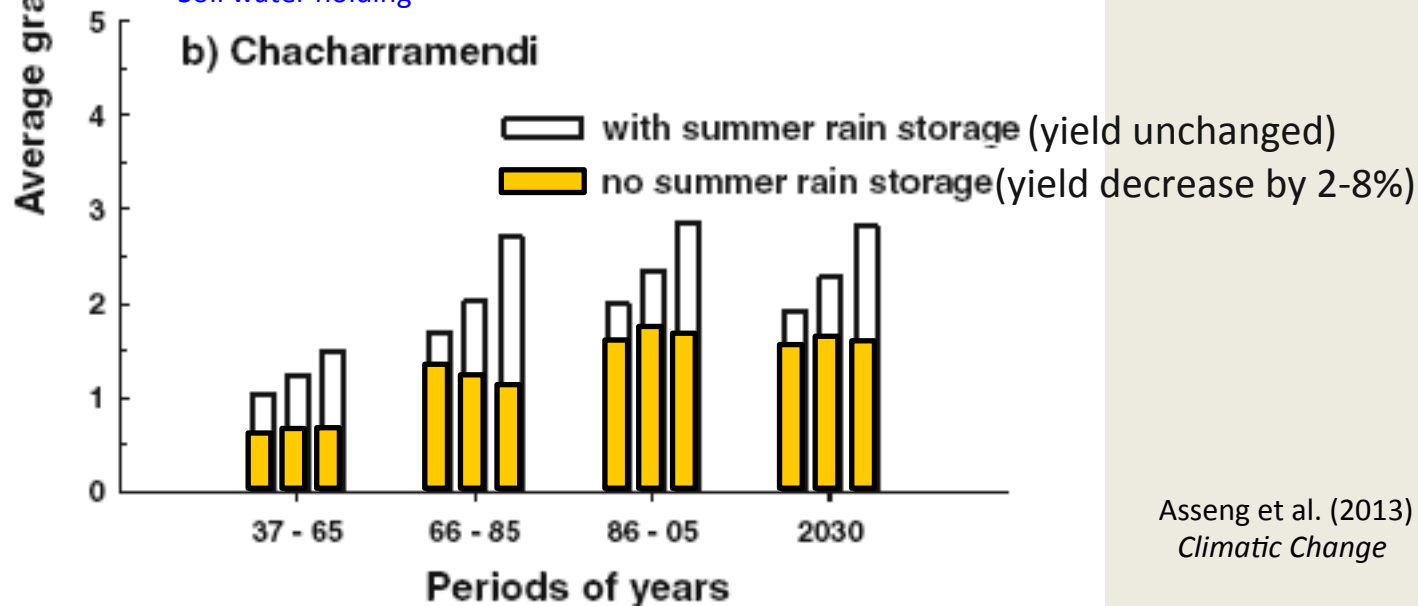
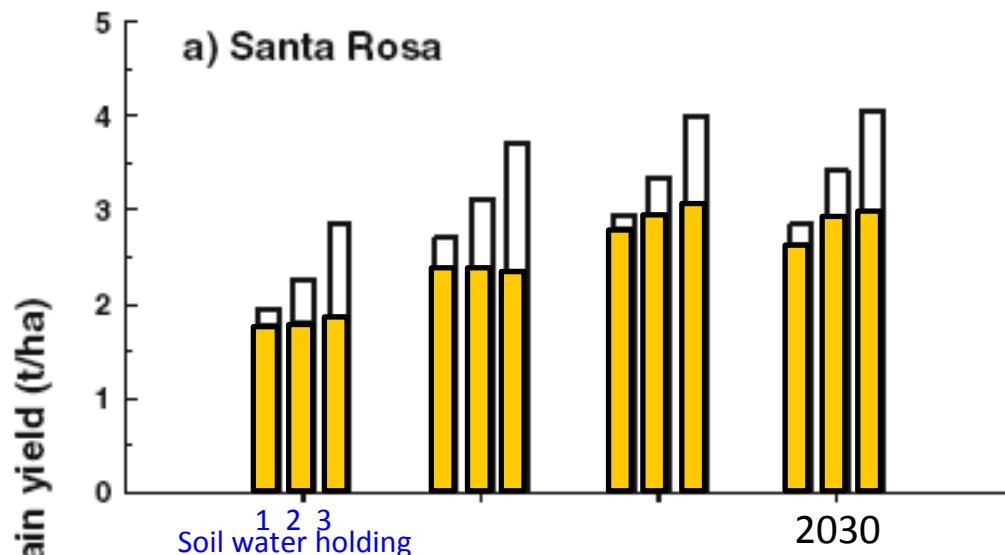
# Adaptation Strategies

## Summer rain storage for wheat cropping

Scenario A1B (2030)  
 T° increase: 1.2°C  
 Rainfall increase: 6%  
 CO<sub>2</sub>: 426 ppm

### Soil water holding

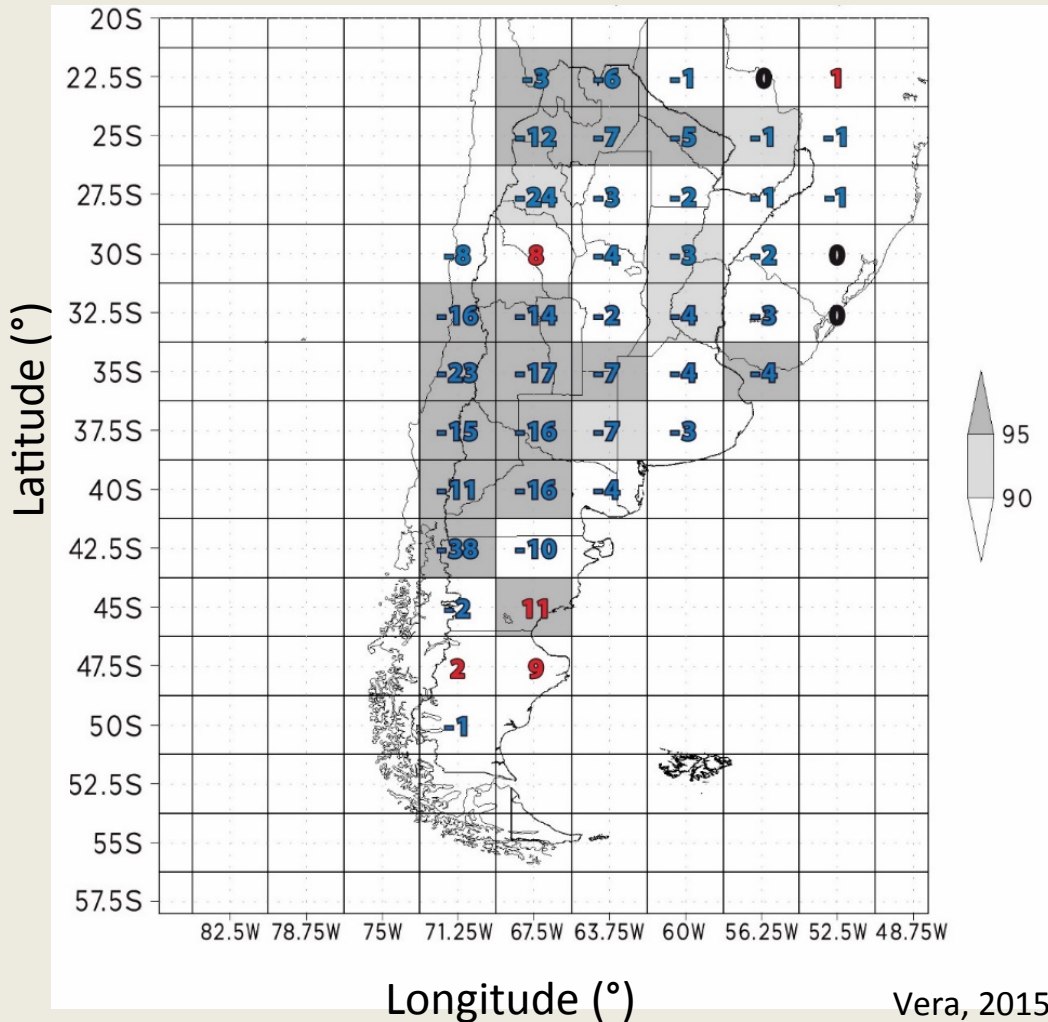
- 1: 80 mm
- 2: 110 mm
- 3: 140 mm



# Adaptation Strategies

## Earlier sowing date

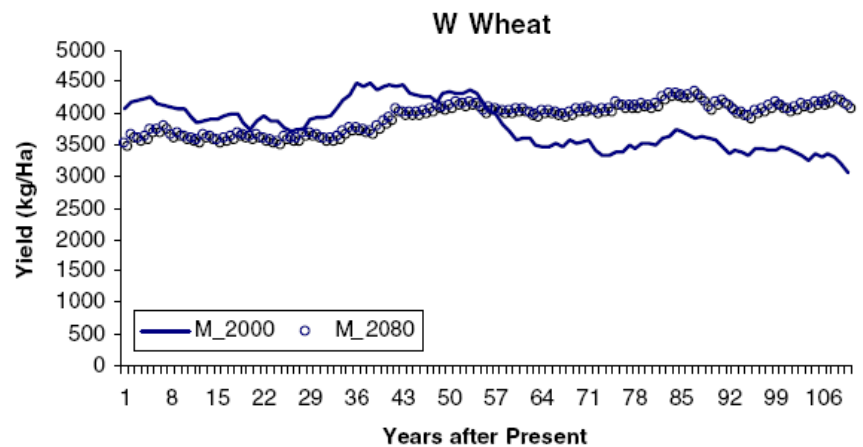
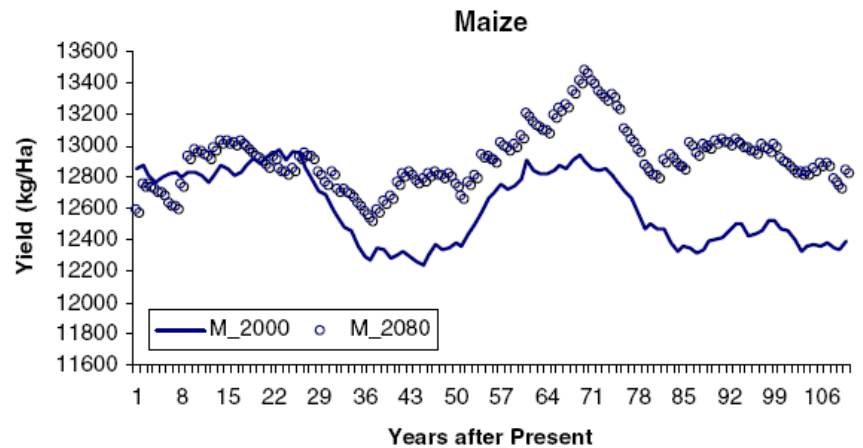
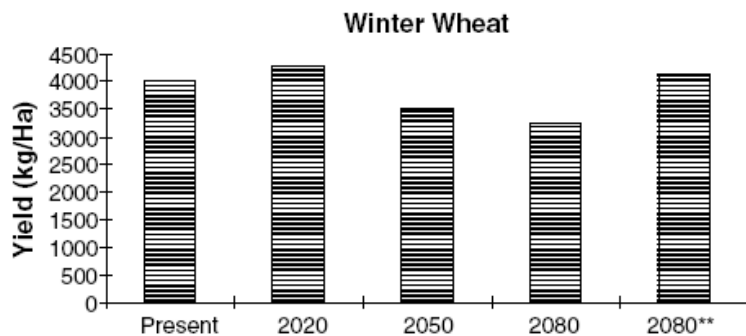
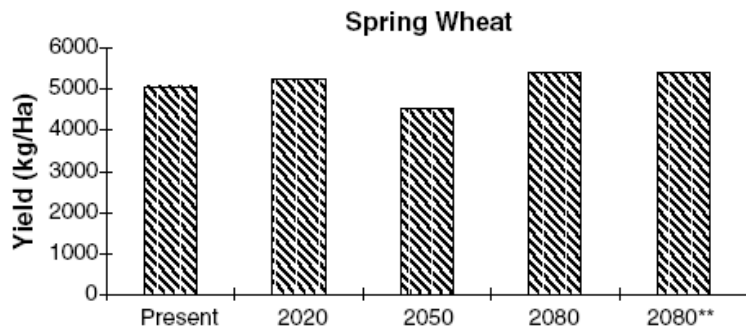
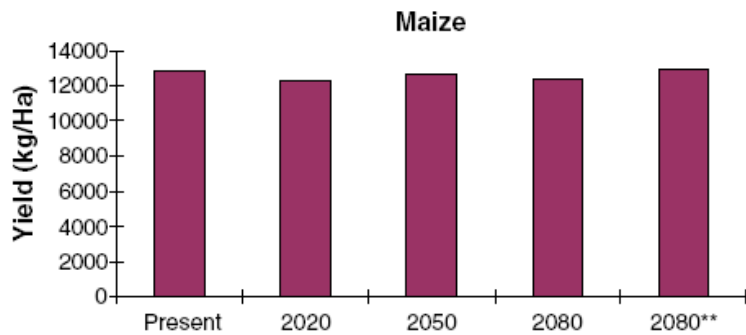
Frozen decrease 1960-2010



Maize yield is expected between -6 and 1% when sowing date is advanced 15 d (SRES A2) and 30 d (SRES B2), respectively (Travasso et al., 2009)

# Adaptation Strategies

Earlier sowing, genotype change and N fertilization in Chile

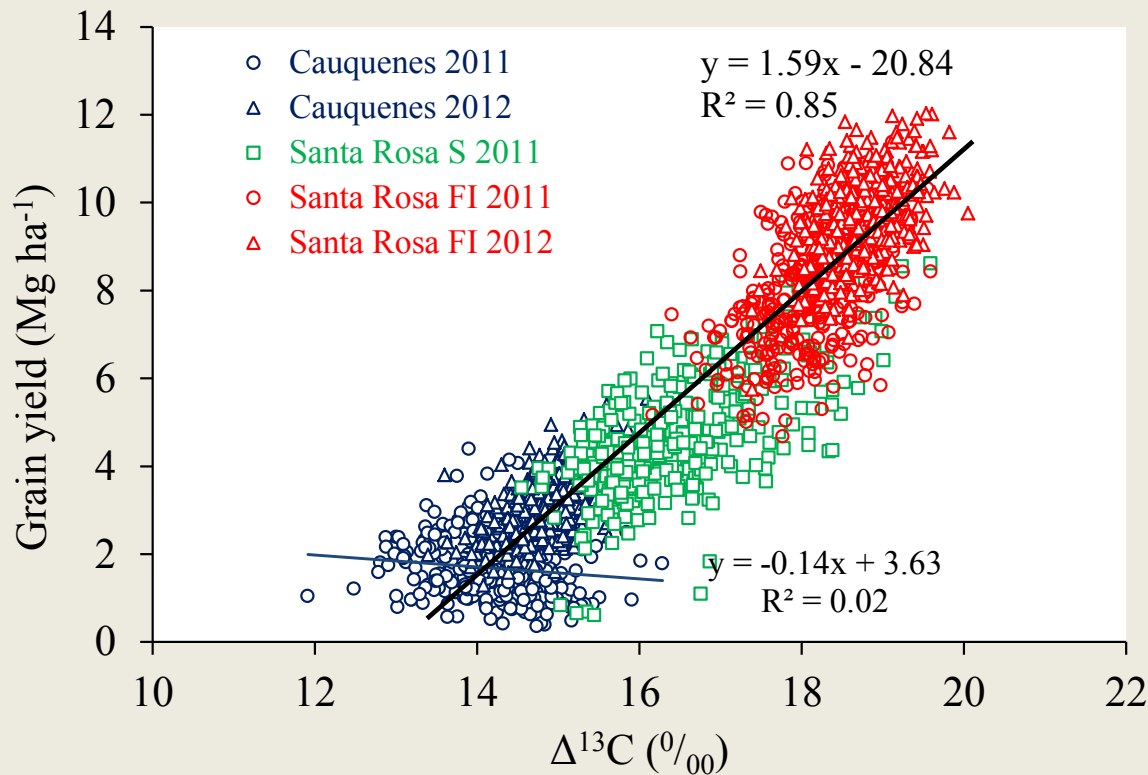




# Adaptation Strategies

## Plant breeding

Carbon discrimination ( $\Delta^{13}\text{C}$ ) in grains  
(368 spring wheats)



**Water stress** ←

# International Collaboration

Submitted Project to CYTED: *Intensification of Annual Crop Production under Sustainable Agronomy Management*

Research teams from Argentina, Chile, Honduras, Peru, Uruguay and Spain

Need and opportunity to integrate climatologist, modelers, physiologist, breeders and agronomists

Embrapa (Brasil), INTA (Argentina), INIA (Chile, Uruguay); Universities (Austral, Bs. As., de la República, La Molina, Lleida, T. E. Quevedo, Talca.



Daniel Miralles  
(Universidad de Bs. As.  
CONICET)



Alejandro del Pozo  
(Universidad de Talca)



Guillermo García  
(Universidad de Bs. As.  
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**Transitioning Cereal Systems  
to Adapt to Climate Change**



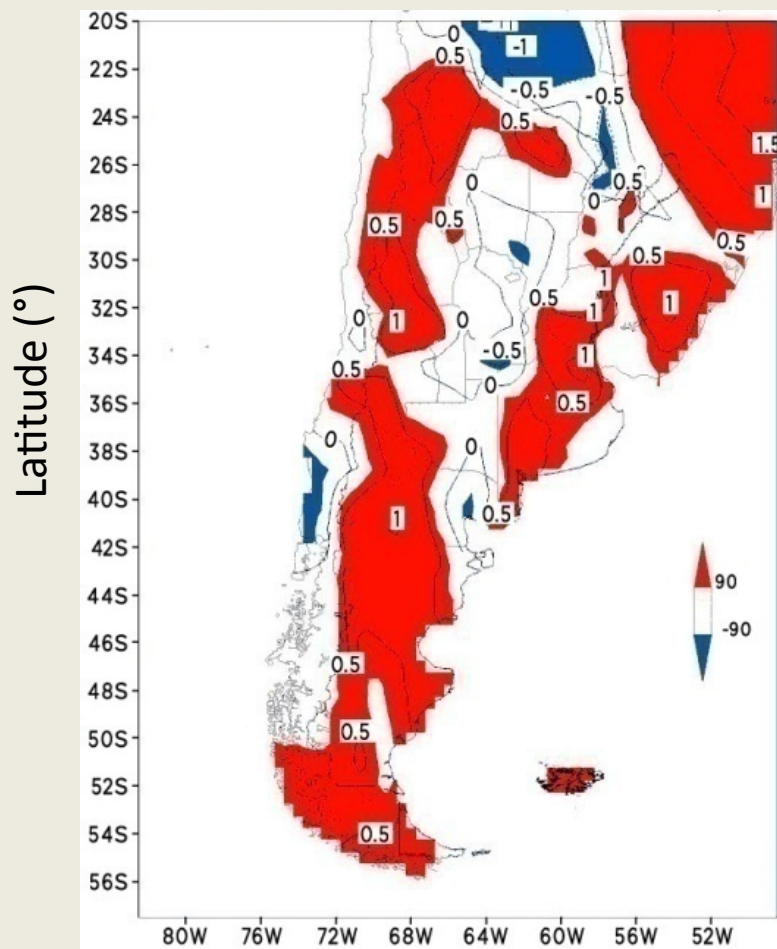
**REACCH**  
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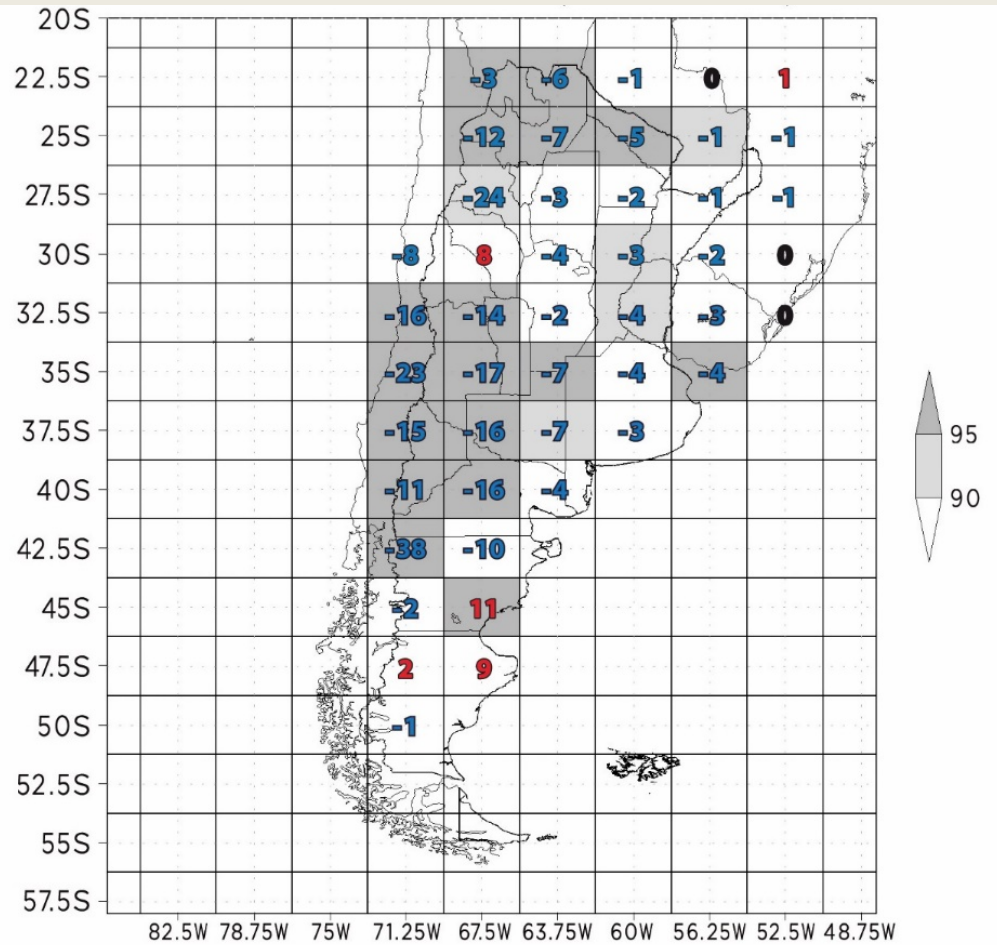
# Temperature and Frost Changes in the Last Years

## Southern Cone of South America

Temperature increase 1960-2010



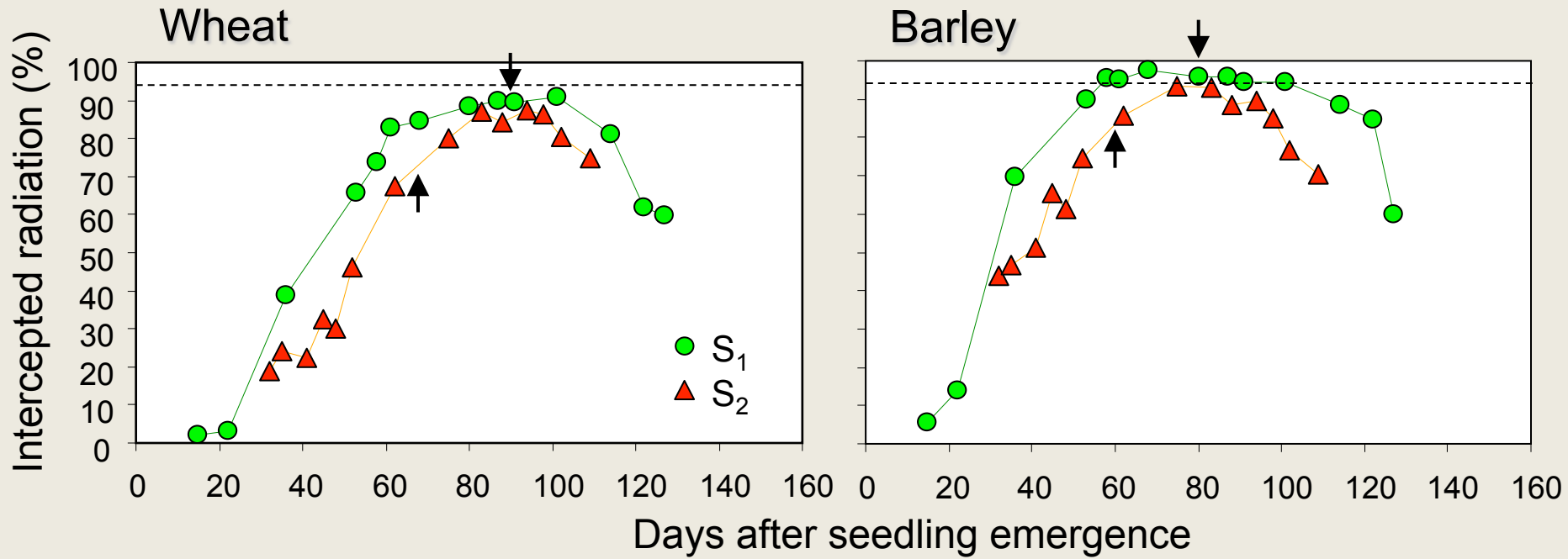
Frozen decrease 1960-2010



Longitude (°)



## Sowings mimic the effect of higher temperatures



Crop	Sowing	IR (MJ m <sup>-2</sup> )	Biomass (Mg ha <sup>-1</sup> )	Grain yield (Mg ha <sup>-1</sup> )
Wheat	S1	1619	21,6	9,5
	S2	1232	18,2	8,4
Barley	S1	1793	25,2	11,5
	S2	1472	20,1	9,8



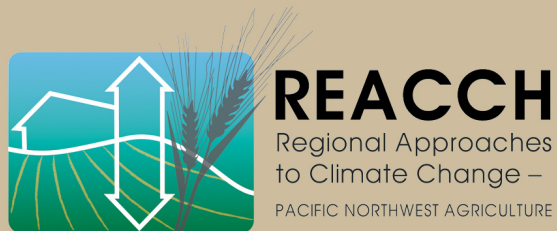


# Thank you!

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