

Resilience through Regenerative Ag

- A biological perspective
- Carbon and Regenerative Agriculture
- Regenerative Agriculture
 - Examples and benefits I have seen
 - How to start

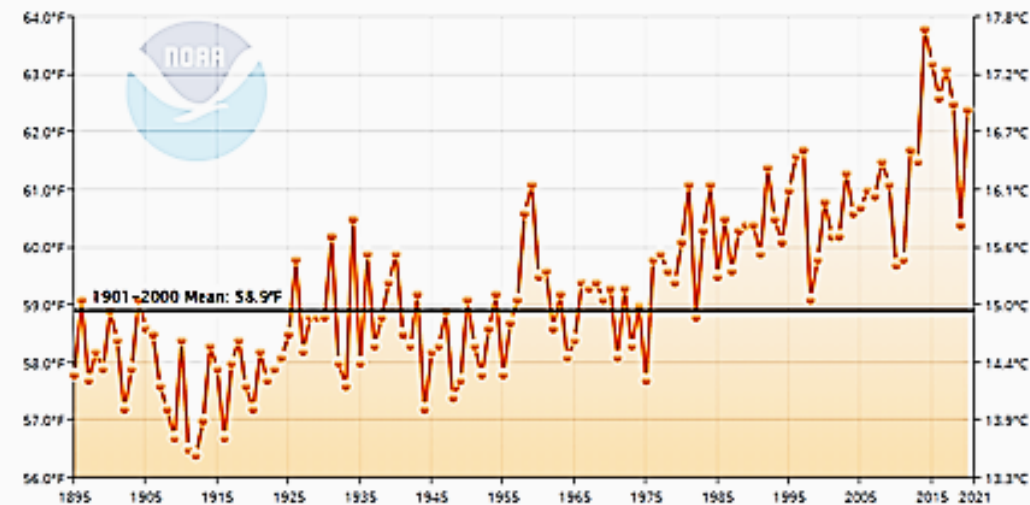


Greg Pennyroyal

- Manager Trout Lake Farm, Trout Lake WA – 2400 Acres diversified medical botanicals
- Director Botanical Research Leiner Health
- USP Expert Committees (15 yrs.)
- Research:
 - National Institutes of Health
 - Global Institute Tibetan Medicine
- Vineyard Manager Wilson Creek Winery
- Professor Viticulture MSJC

Mean Temp S.Cal AVA 1895 - 2021

California, Climate Division 6 Average Temperature
January-December



Powered by ZingChart

Download: [XML](#)

◦ DATES	◦ VALUE	▲ RANK	◦ DEPARTURE FROM MEAN (58.9°F) 1901-2000 BASE PERIOD
201401 - 201412	63.8°F	126	4.9°F
201501 - 201512	63.2°F	125	4.3°F
201701 - 201712	63.1°F	124	4.2°F
201601 - 201612	62.6°F	123	3.7°F
201801 - 201812	62.5°F	122	3.6°F
202001 - 202012	62.4°F	121	3.5°F

Industrial Agriculture

- Soil as a medium for delivering soluble nutrients to plants
 - Degrades the soil food web
 - Releases CO₂ and decreases soil Carbon
 - Degrades organic matter
 - Nutrient deficient food
 - Ecosystem services degradation
 - Increased reliance on synthesized inputs \$\$\$

Regenerative Agriculture

- Soil systems that are Constantly improving soil health
 - Supports the soil food web leading to resilience
 - Sequester Carbon
 - Build organic matter
 - Nutrient dense food as medicine
 - Decreased or eliminated reliance on synthesized inputs

Regenerative Agriculture

- Must also regenerate:
 - Farmers bank account
 - No margin no mission
 - Must perform in current economic models
 - Would be obvious in a “True Cost” accounting system
 - Value of ecosystem services
 - Clean air, Water, open spaces, genetic diversity
 - Potential for carbon sequestration income

Chemical vs. Biological approach

Change perspective change results

- All plants evolved in a highly complex mineral, organic and biological matrix
 - Theory of biological availability – Biological / Organic
 - Not soluble but available
 - Maintaining soil health is sustainable agriculture
- vs:
 - Theory of solubility – Chemical
- N-P-K approach to fertility assumes that the parts are greater than the whole
 - Large scale commercial interests support this approach
 - Somewhat like anabolic steroids, great results can be achieved
 - And then degradation and damage set in

Photosynthetic capacity of plants

- Plants functioning at high photosynthetic efficiency are the engine that develop healthy soils, not the other way around
- Average industrial agricultural photosynthetic efficiency of crops is 15-20% of theoretical genetic potential
 - Don't leave 80% of the value behind!



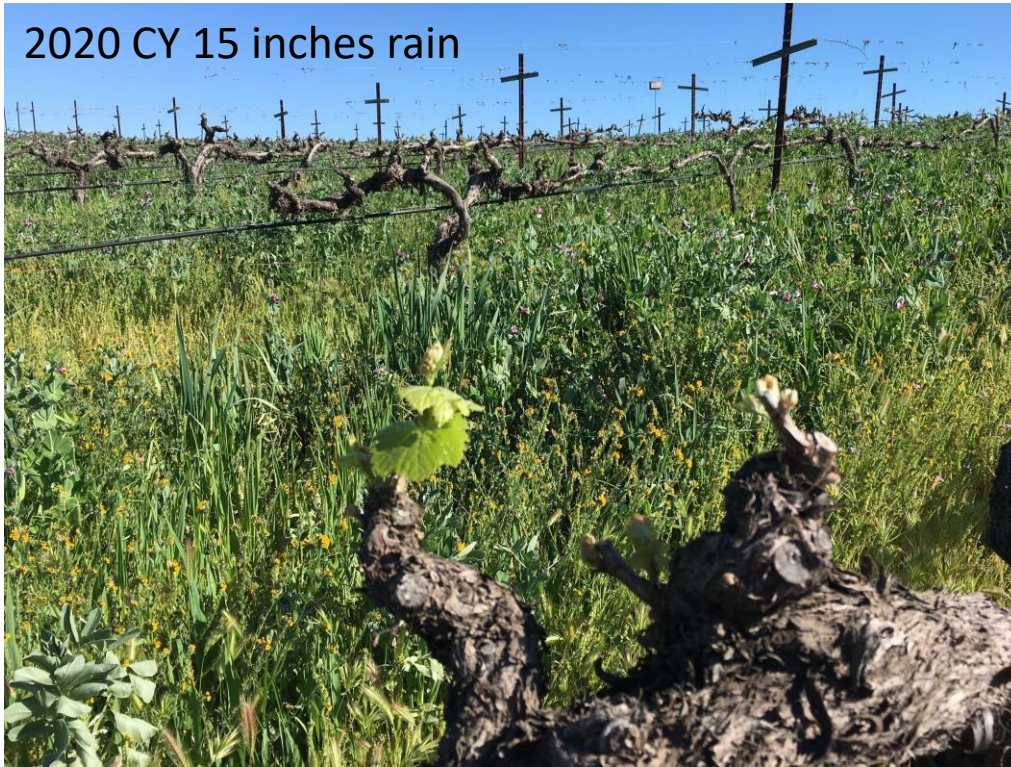
Photosynthetic capacity of plants

- Increase in photosynthetic efficiency does not directly correlate to an increase in yields
- Additional sugars fed into soil ecosystem
- Improvement in genetic expression
 - Higher chemotypical expression
 - Improved plant health
 - Reliance to biotic stress
 - Cover crops + mulches – Vineyard dormancy photosynthetic income

Value of Cover Crops

Minimize tillage – benefits must outweigh damage

2020 CY 15 inches rain



2021 CY 2.2 inches rain 3rd year Cover Crop



2021 CY 2.2 inches rain 1st year Cover Crop

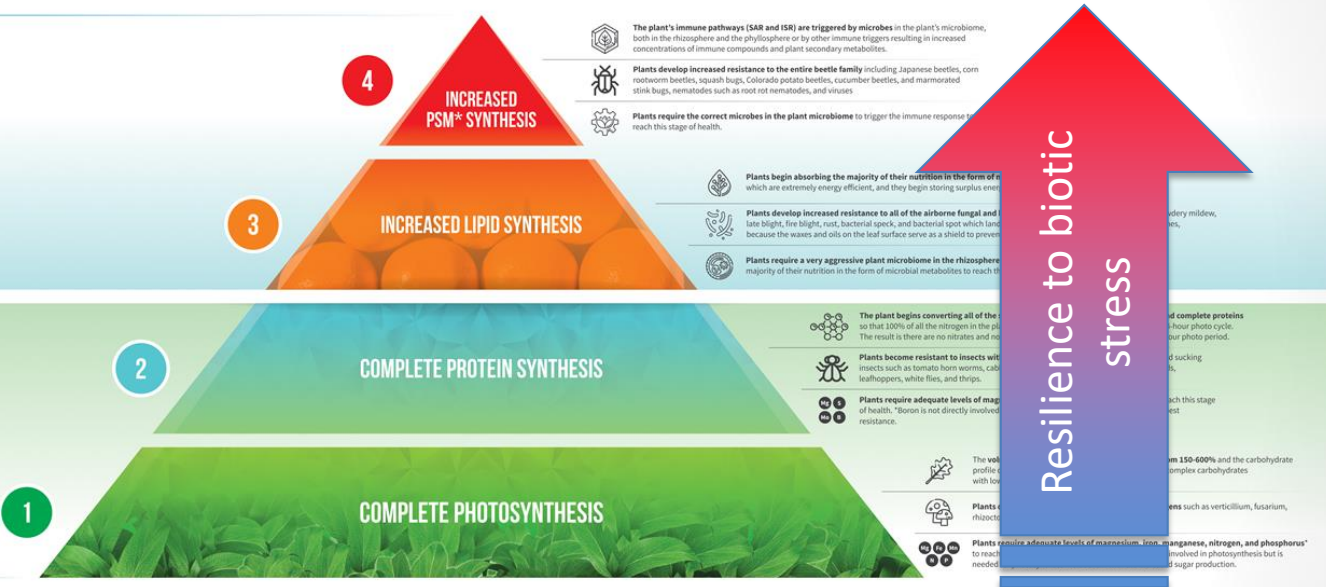


Regenerative Agriculture

PLANT HEALTH PYRAMID

The upper 2 levels are **active immunity** and based on **vigorous biology**.

The lower 2 levels are **passive immunity** and based on **balanced chemistry**.

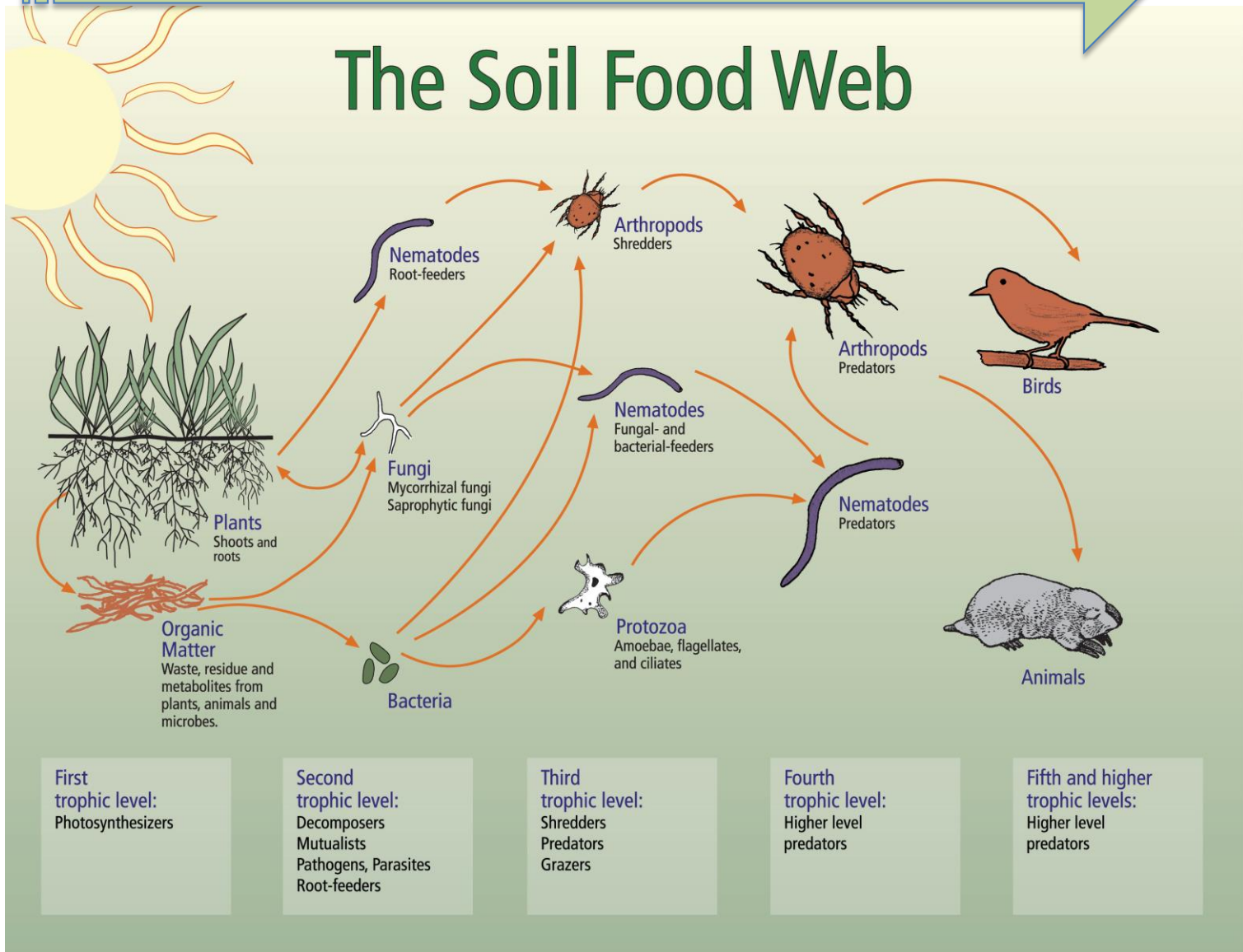


“Healthy plants can become completely resistant to diseases and insects.”

- John Kempf -

Increasing levels of plant driven ecological homeostasis

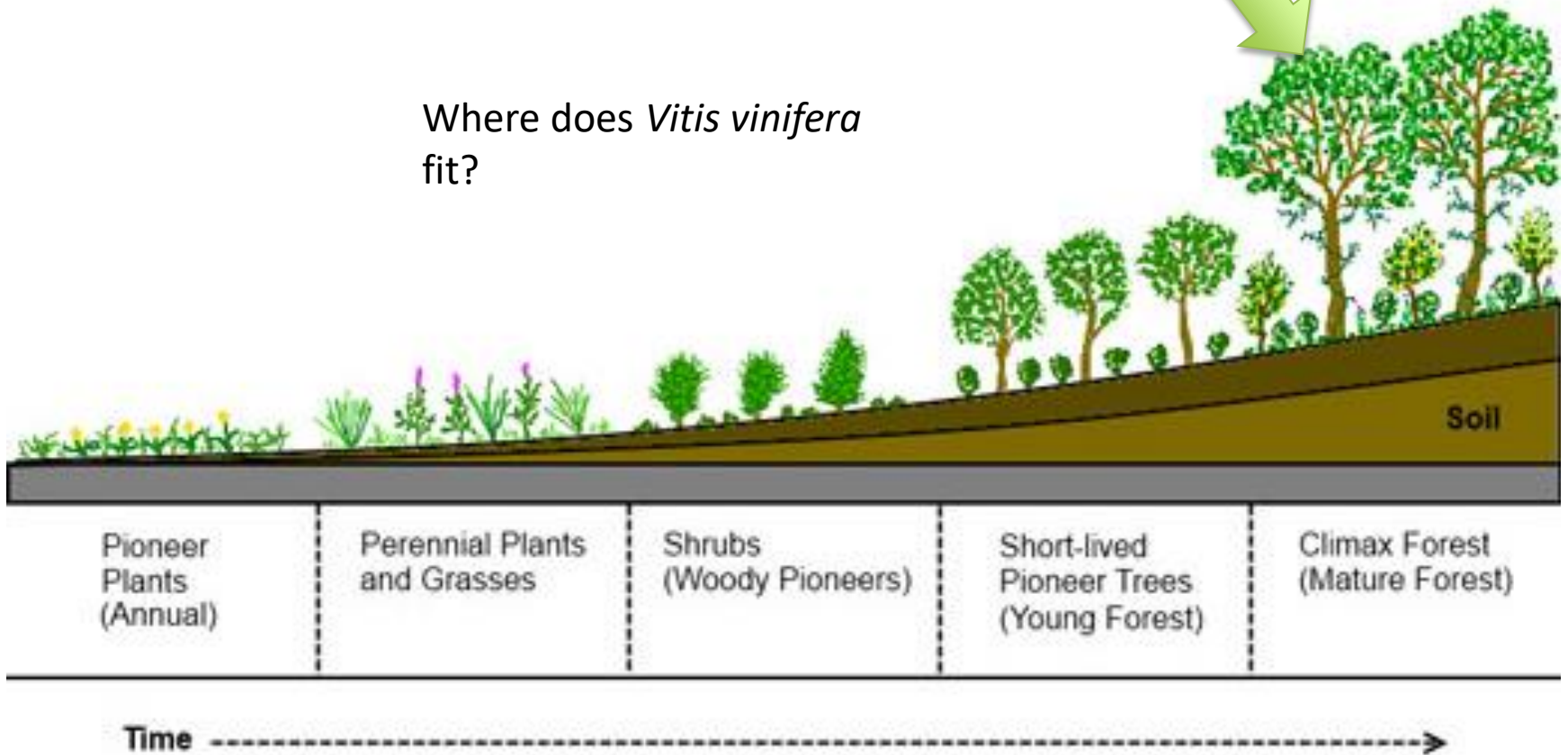
The Soil Food Web



Plant Succession

Stages of Forest Succession

Where does *Vitis vinifera* fit?



Diversified cover crop mixes to increase soil diversity



[+ Start a Mix](#)

[My Account](#)

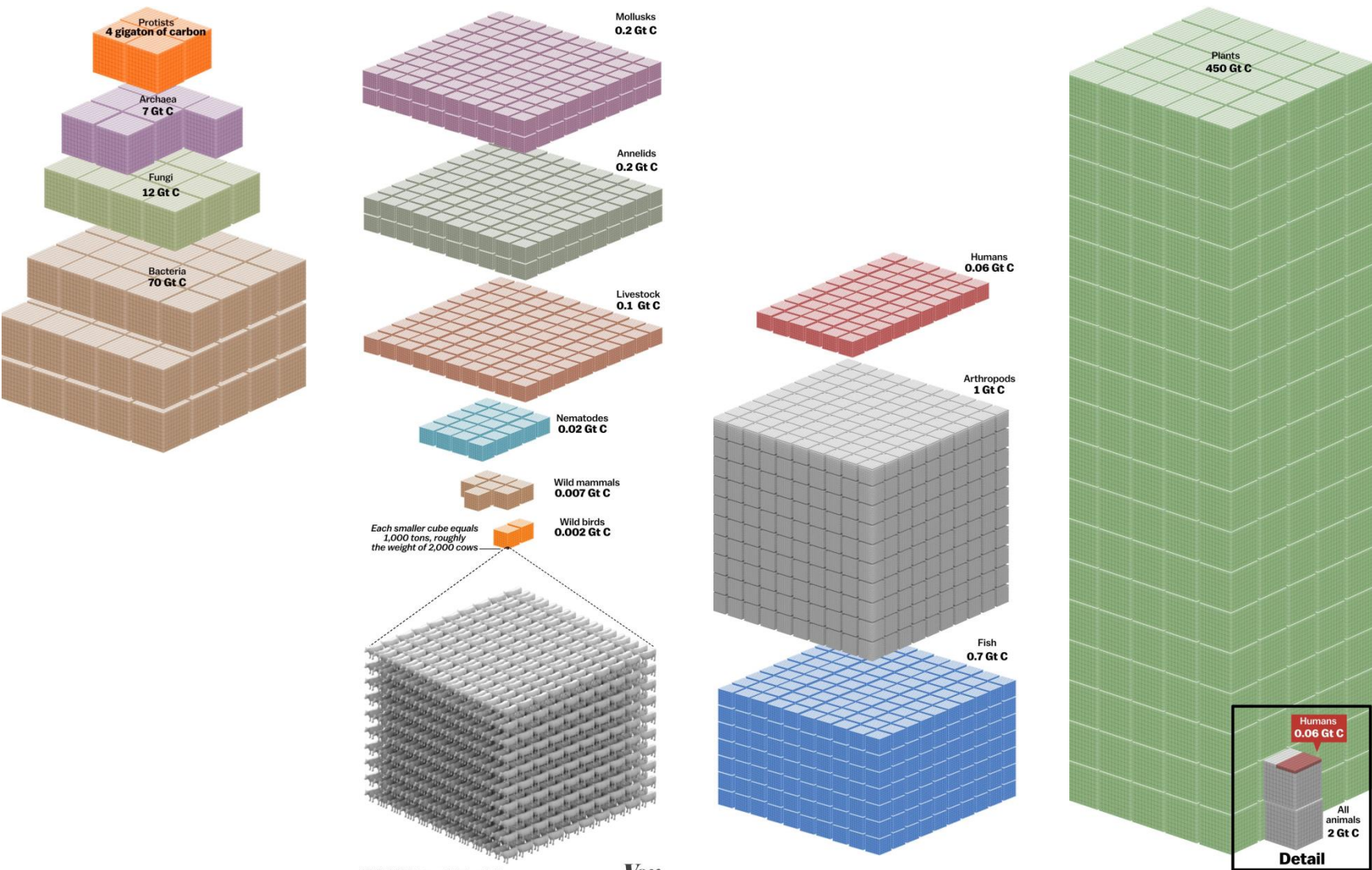
Mixes

See a list of mixes you have in progress. Expand to view details.

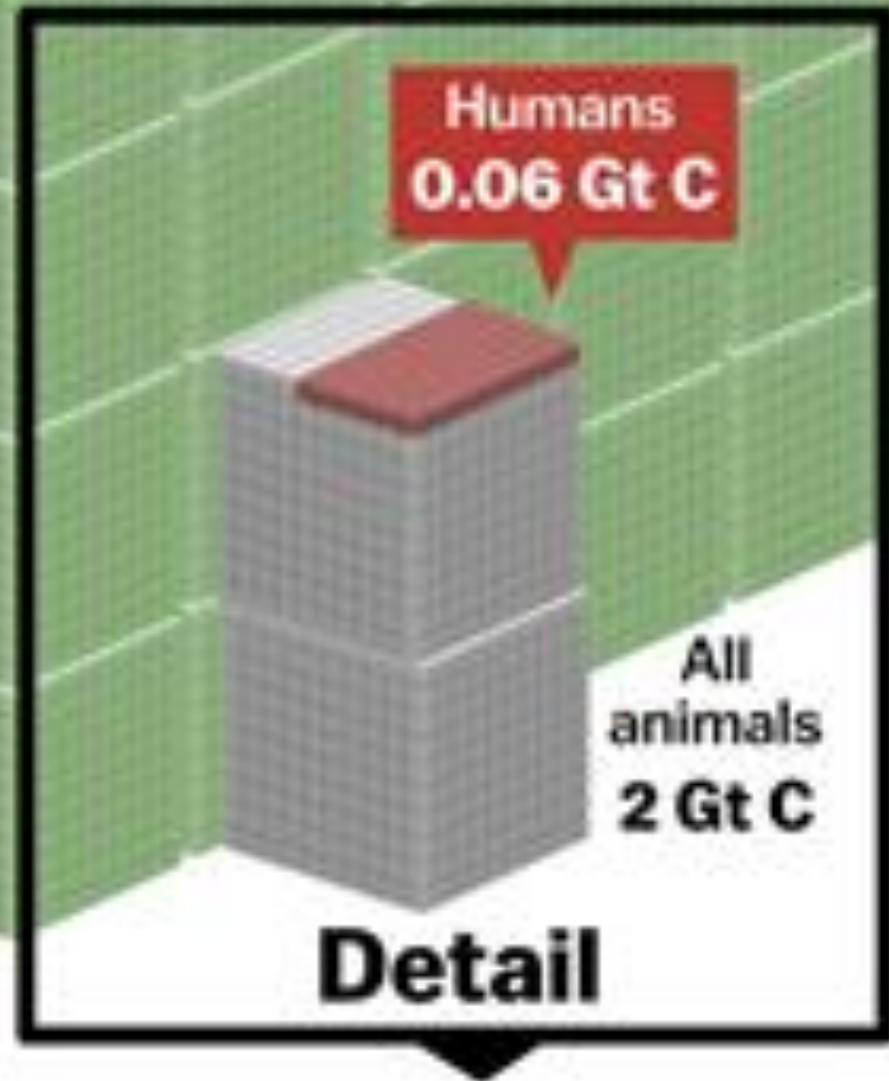
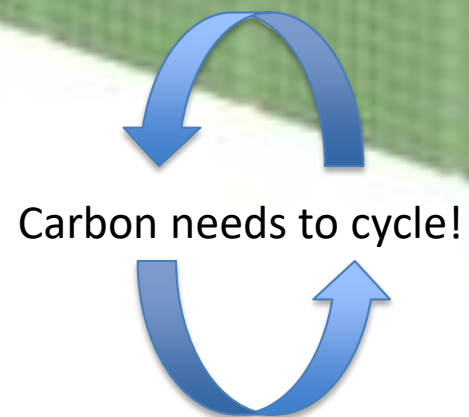
In Progress

Last Modified	Name	Progress		Mix#
Sep 17, 2020	Fall 2020	Step 4 of 5	● ● ● ● ●	60993 More
DETAILS 160 Acres in 92591 in Tote Method: Drilled Next Crop: Orchard/Vineyard	GOALS 1: Increase Soil Organic Matter 2: Mycorrhizal Fungi Growth 3: Nutrient Cycling		Continue Edit Species Delete Mix	
Sep 17, 2020	Vineyard Copver #1	Step 4 of 5	● ● ● ● ●	39969 More
Sep 21, 2020	Megan	Step 3 of 5	● ● ● ● ●	61126 More

Agriculture and Carbon Sequestration



SOURCE: PNAS "The biomass distribution on Earth"
Yaron M. Bar-On, Rob Phillips, and Ron Milo

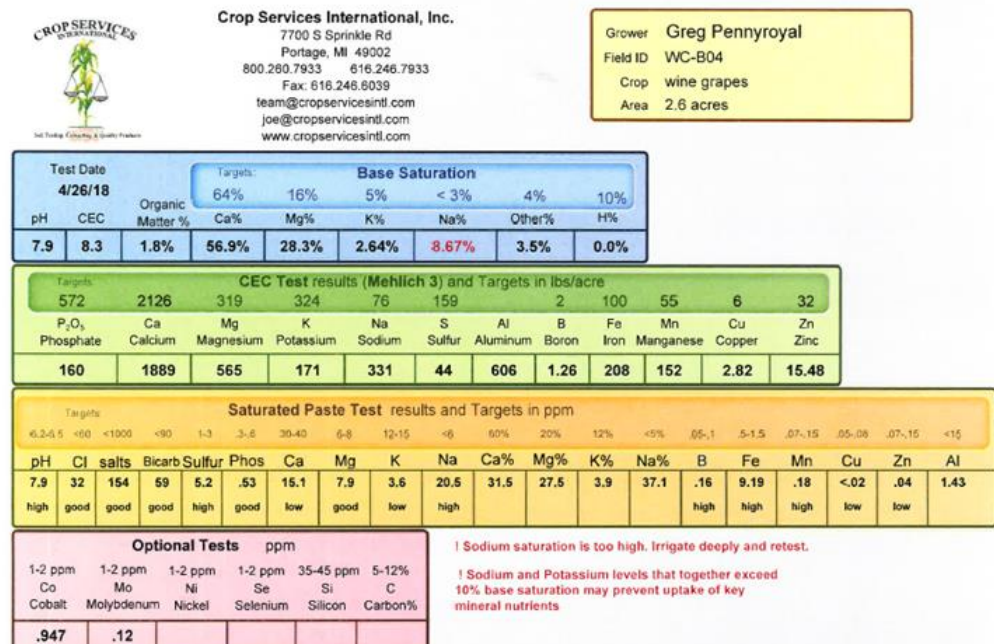


What has worked for me



Soil Tests

- Give initial assessment of gross availability and ratios (Albrecht)
- Low correlation to field observations and outcomes



Petiole samples -limited reliability

Tissue: Grape - DIV I Leaves Opposite Flowers at Blooming

Grower Name **Wilson Creek**

Test Date **4/26/2016**

Field Name **Muscat Block 10**

Field Rep **David Drucker**

Crop **Grape**

Sample ID **DG02333**

Sample Date **4/25/2016**

Subfield



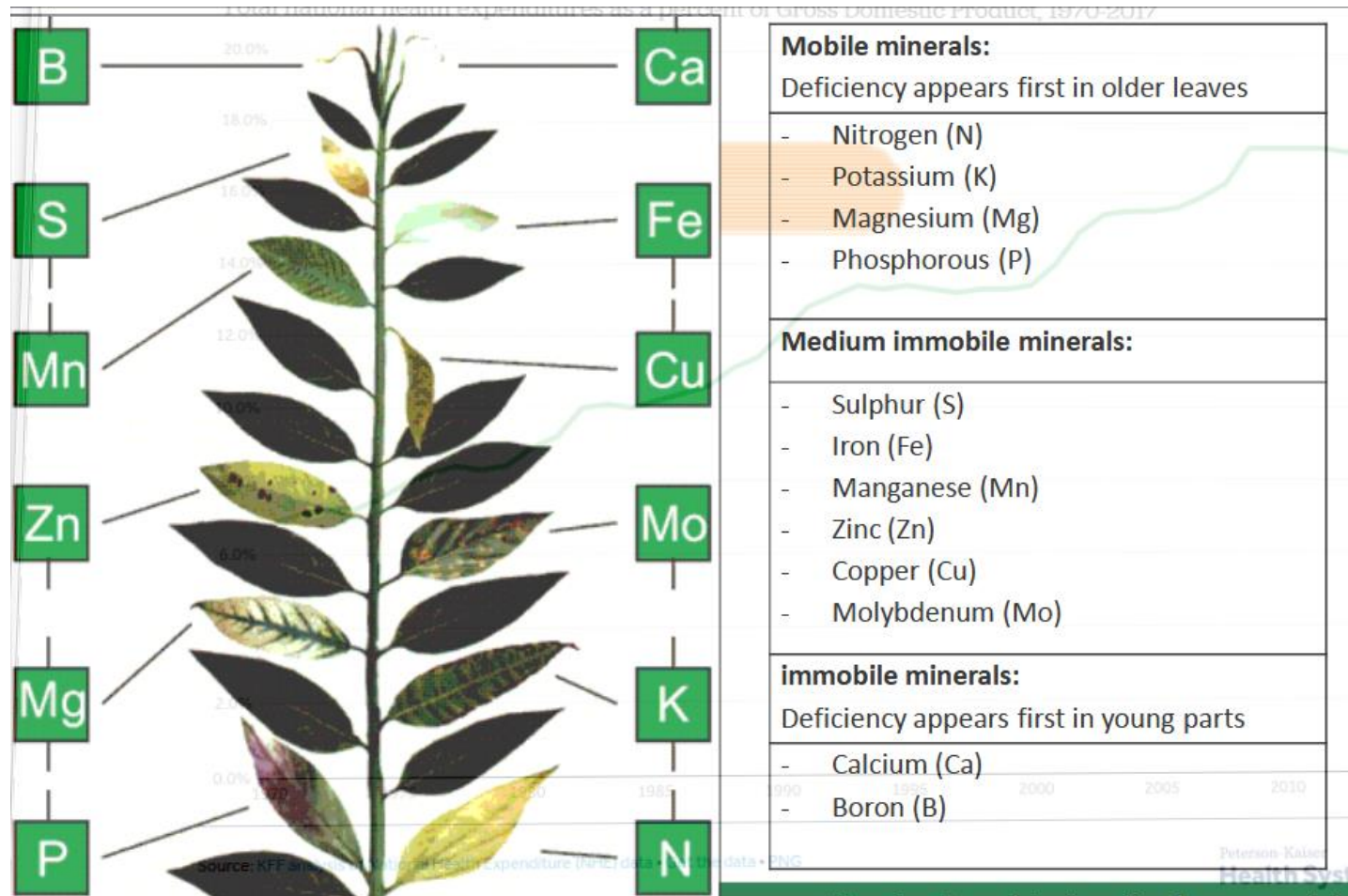
		Very Low	Low	Optimum	High	Excessive	
Total N	1.40						Maximum NPact
Total P	0.41						Optimum
Total K	2.75						High
Macronutrients		Very Low	Low	Optimum	High	Excessive	
Ca	1.39						Optimum
Mg	0.63						High
Na	0.02						OUT OF RANGE
S	0.19						OUT OF RANGE
Micronutrients		Very Low	Low	Optimum	High	Excessive	
Zn-ppm	75.00						High
Mn-ppm	57.00						Optimum
Fe-ppm	124.00						OUT OF RANGE
Cu-ppm	4.00						Contact your CPS CCA
B-ppm	36.00						Optimum
Petioles		Very Low	Low	Optimum	High	Excessive	

Very Low or Problem	Comments:
Low	
Optimum	
High	
Very High	

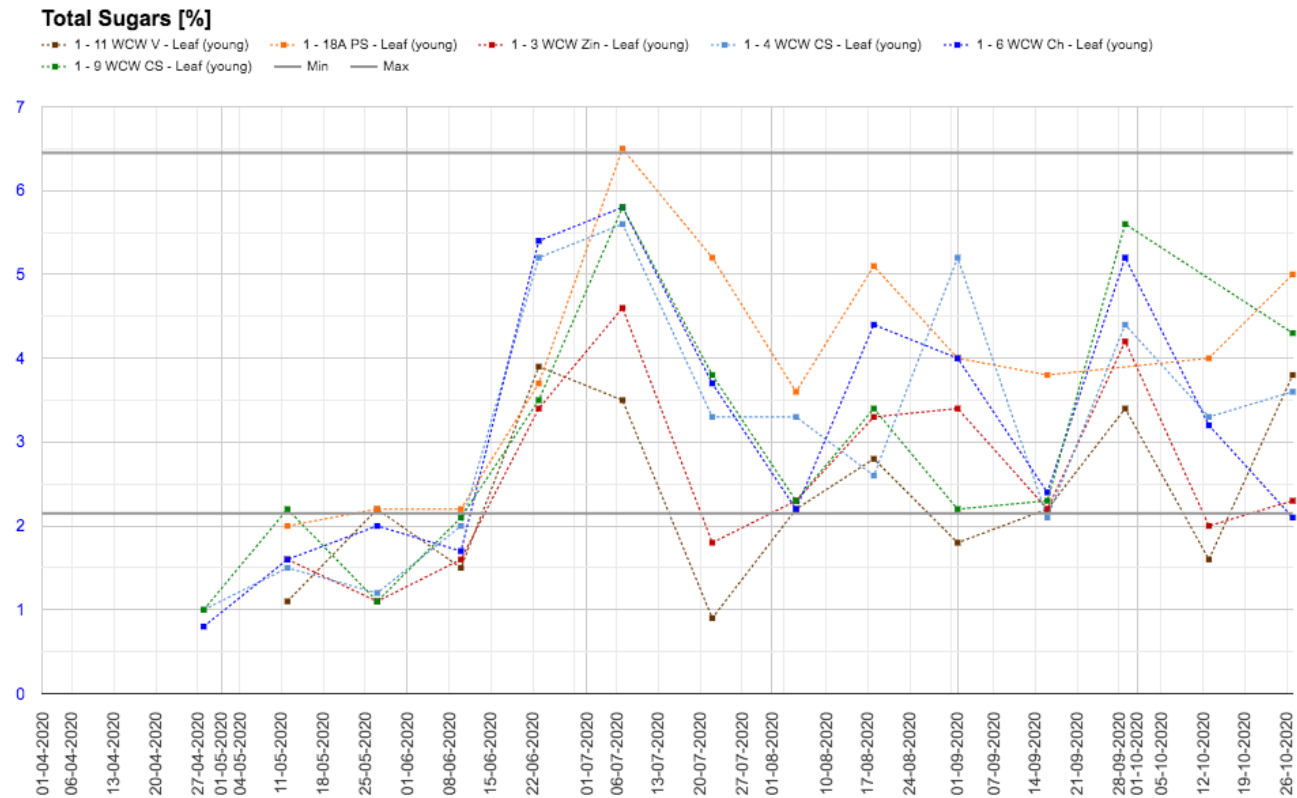
Analytical data provided by Waypoint Analytical Tennessee. Recommendations provided in this report are proprietary in nature whereby nutrient thresholds used as a reference may or may not match Waypoint Analytical Tennessee ranges for this particular crop and growth stage.

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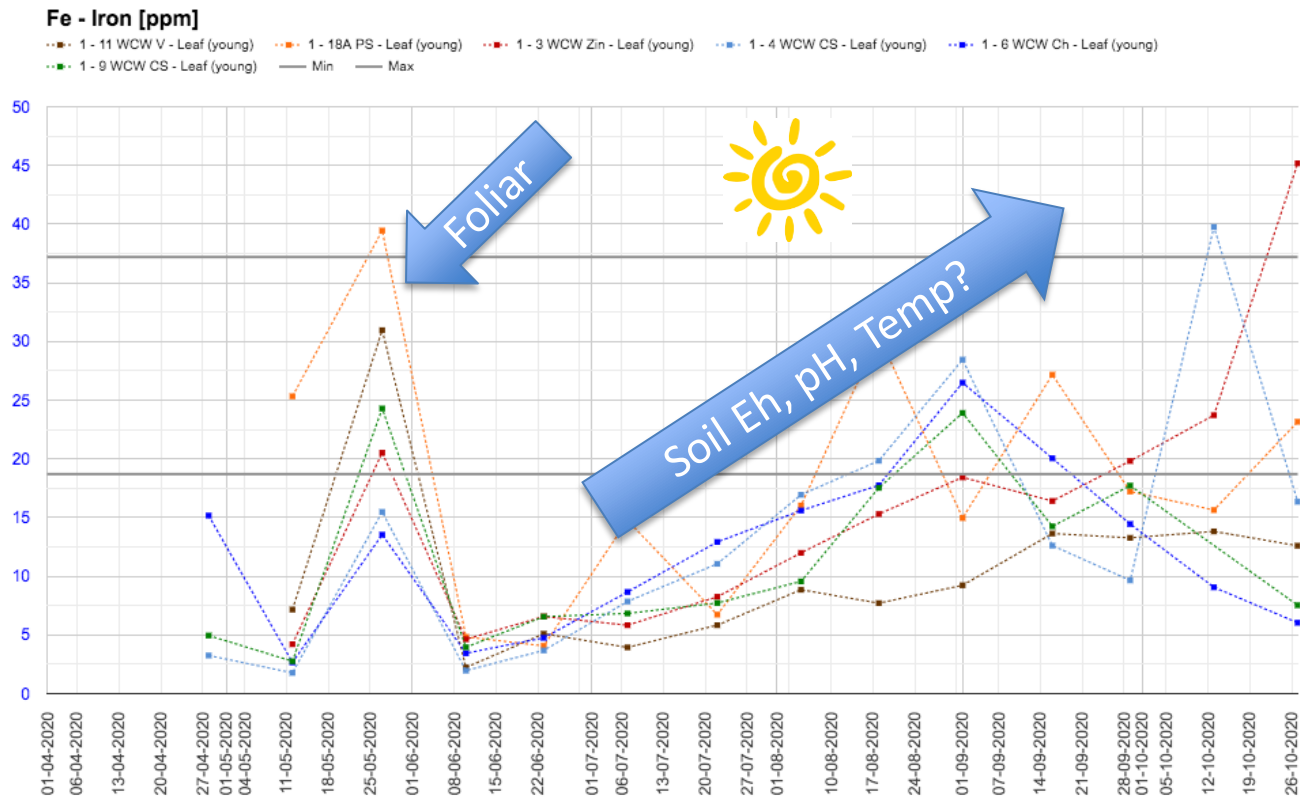
Sap Analysis



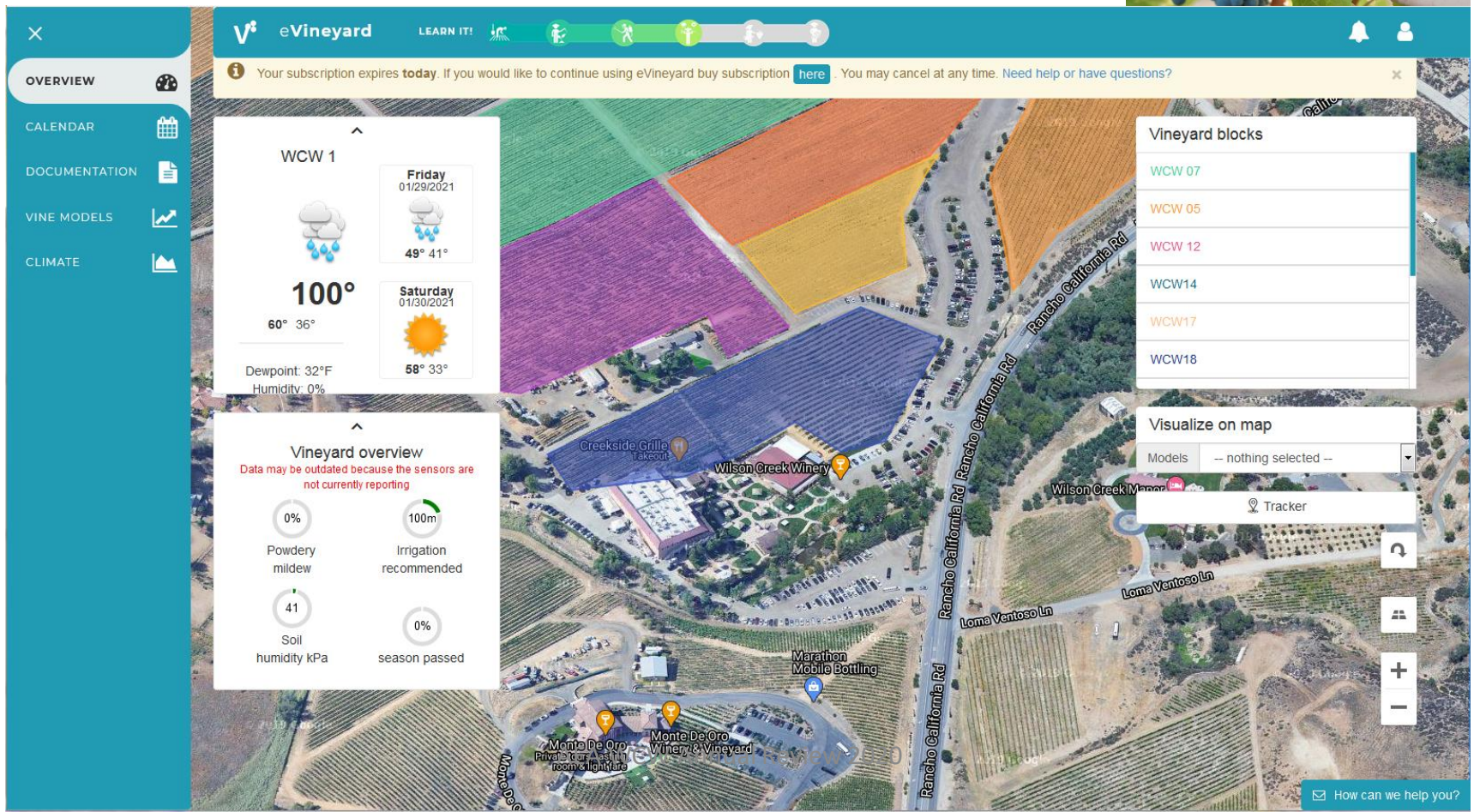
Insights sap analysis 1 year



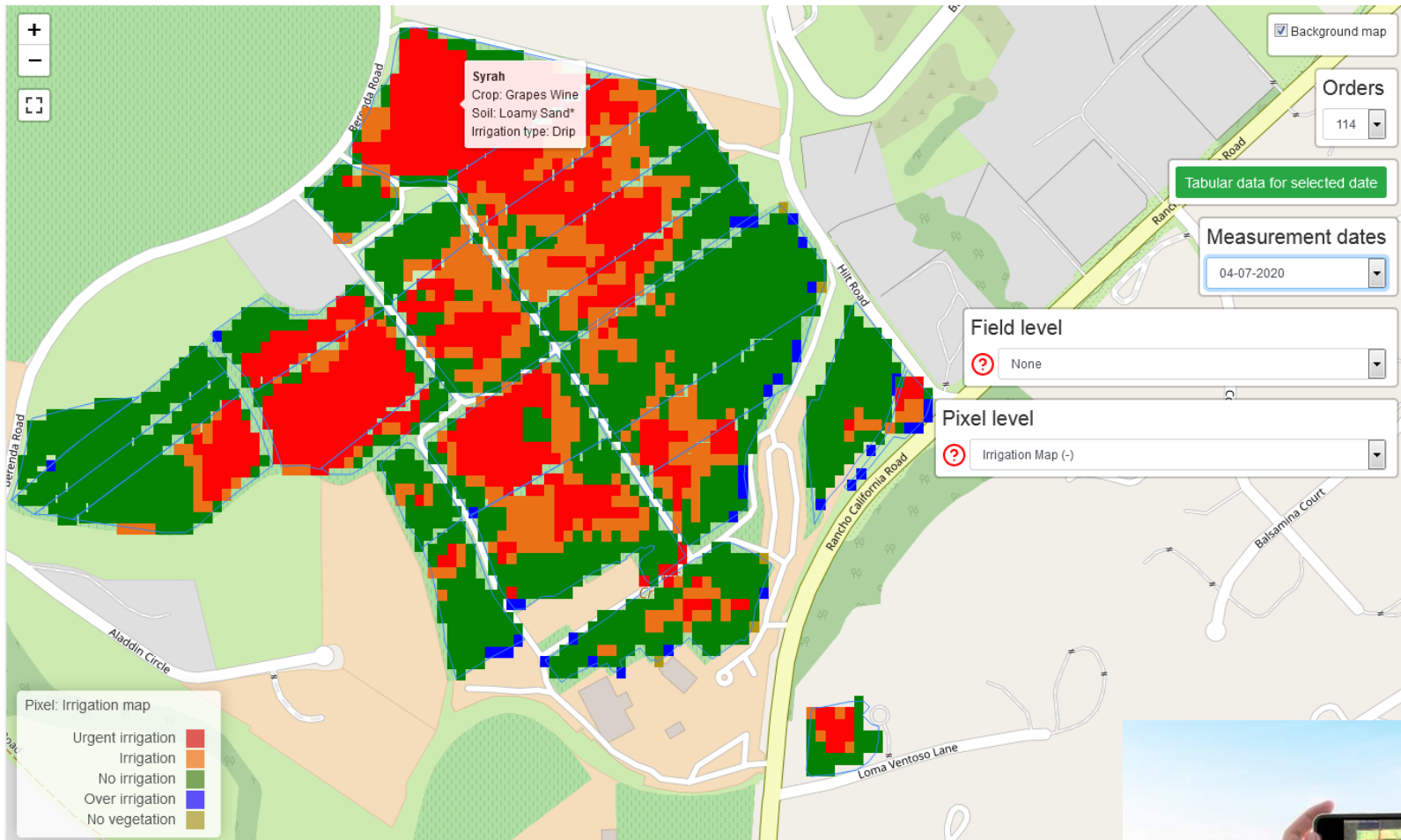
Fe related to irrigation?



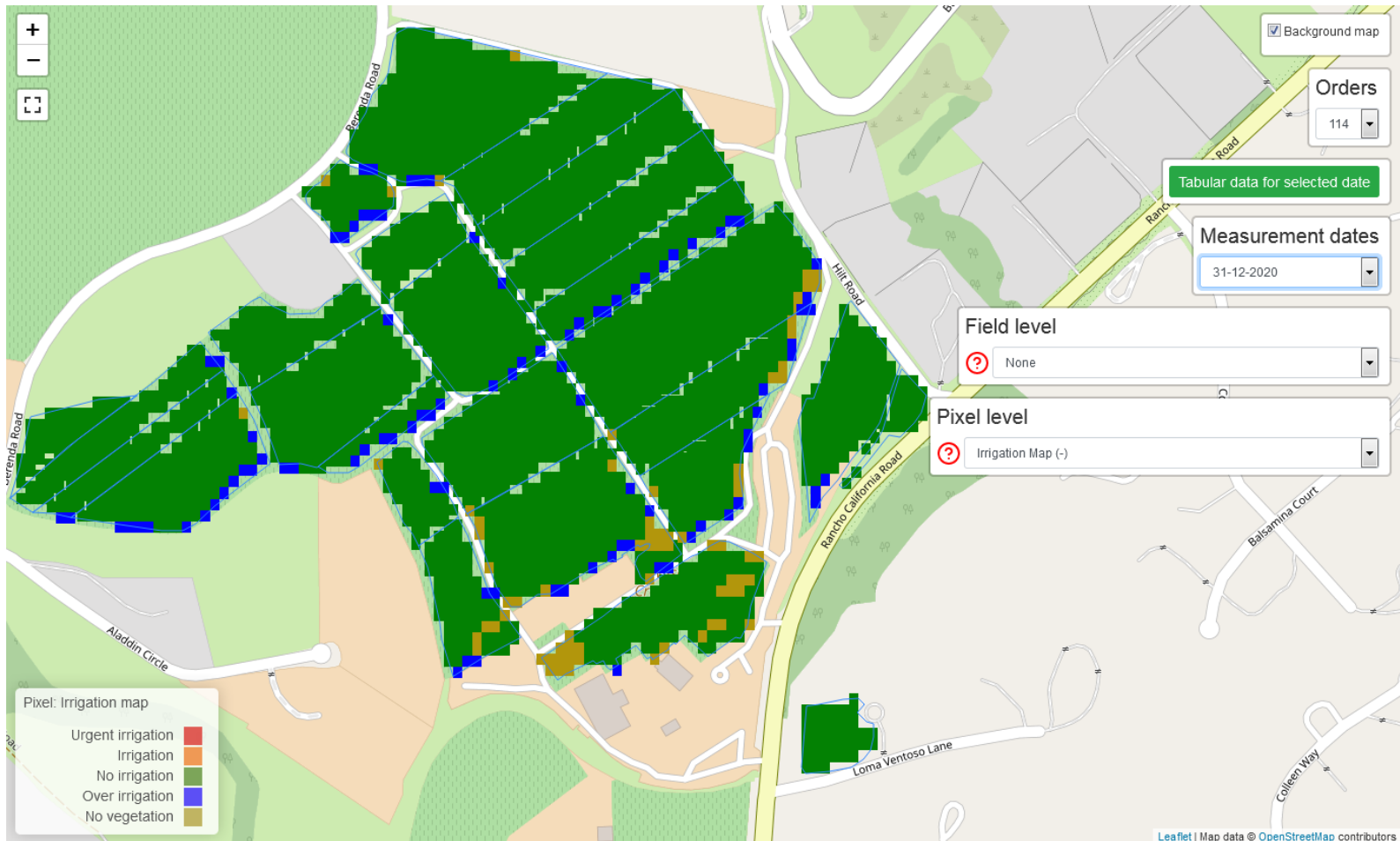
e-Vineyard - Data Collection



IrriWatch 4th July 2020



IrriWatch December 31 2020



Fertigation Foliar Irrigation Soil Temp

Proof of Concept



	Fertigation	Foliar	Irrigation
Block 1	Regular	NO	Regular
Block 2	NO	Regular	Regular
Block 3	Regular	Regular	4X a week
Block 4	Regular	Regular	1X a week



Benefits

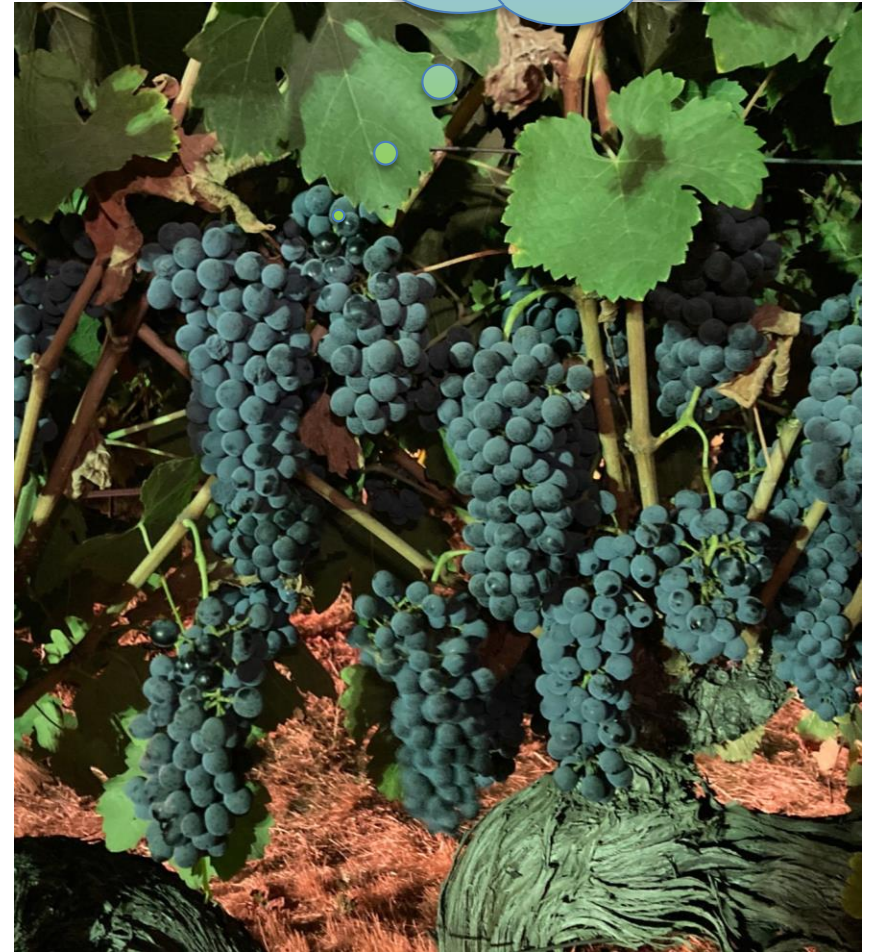
- Increased yield 22 – 31% Average
- Yield stabilization
 - 2020 Temecula Cabernet Sauvignon 65% of three-year average
 - 2020 Wilson Creek yield 110% % of three-year average
- Better quality as seen through fermentation
 - Wine spectator 90, 91 & 92 points



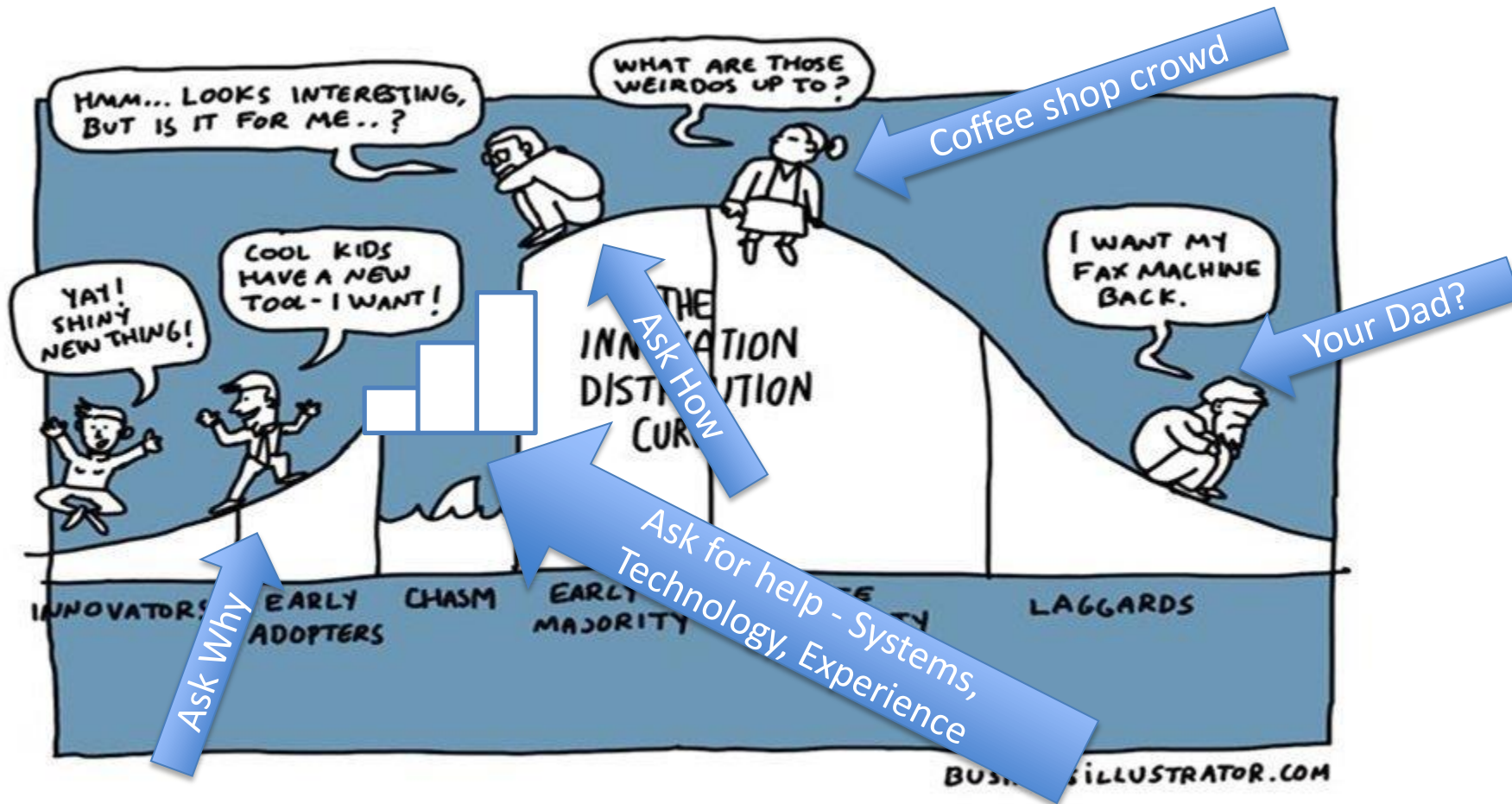
Benefits

- 50% Reduction in the use of Fungicides (goal =0)
- 38% Reduction in gallons / ton ratio (improved infrastructure contributed)
- I plan more, react less
 - More field and crew time
 - More customer time = more profits
 - More fun
 - I don't work on weekends! (much)

Good
primary bud
expression



Your tolerance for innovation



How to start

- Clear Goals
 - Better yield
 - Can be a lag for many perennial crops
 - Less variability
 - Better quality
 - Definition
 - \$ Definition

How to start

- Clear Goals
 - Better Lifestyle
 - More time practicing the art of farming
 - Having fun again
 - Better work life balance
 - Better community member
 - People & Planet
 - Better economics



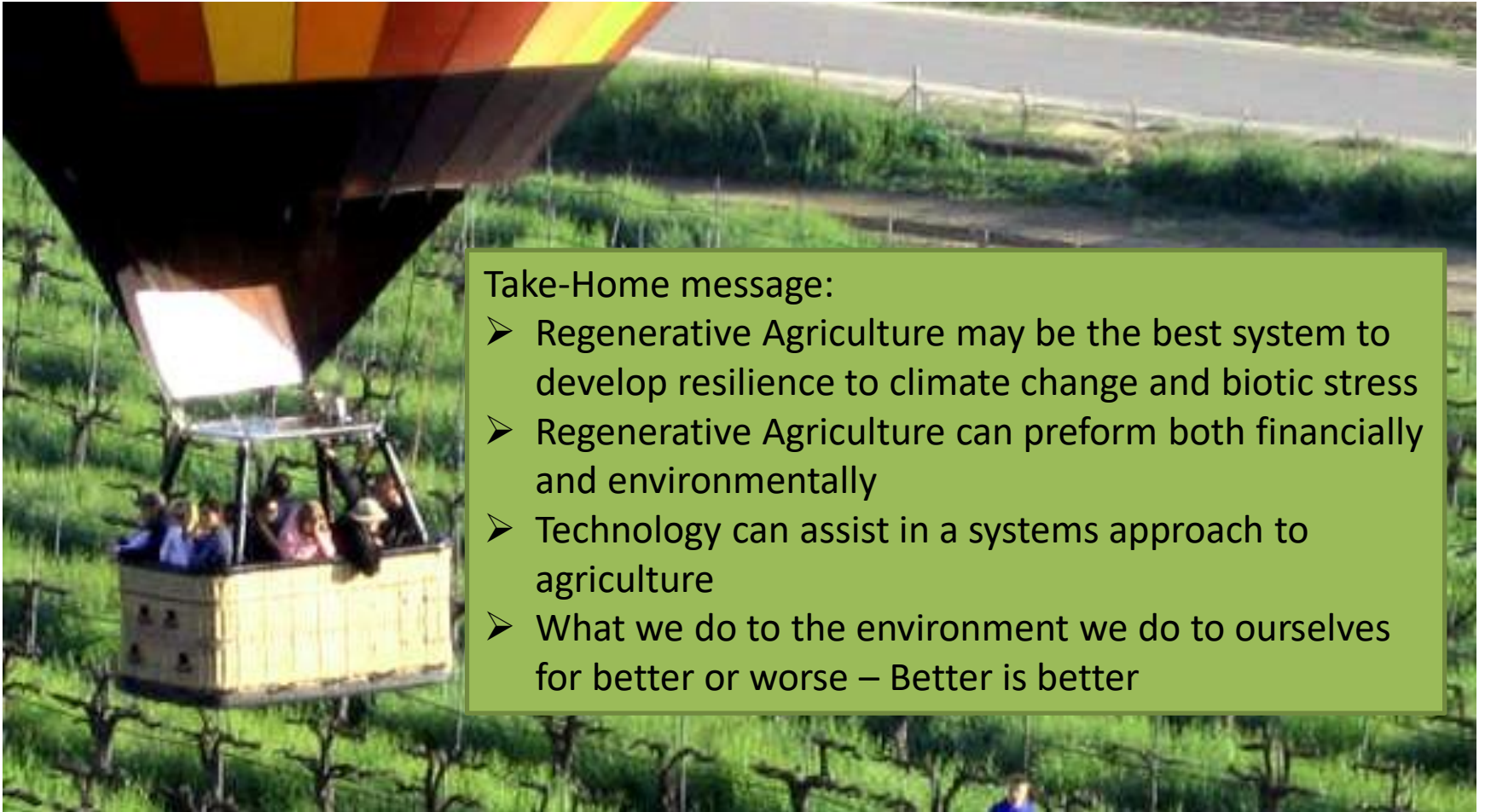
How to start

- Start small
 - Make mistakes on a small scale
 - ROI – time and expense – Less is often more!
Don't be a "More-On"
- Scale up fast
 - Make improvements and money on a large scale
- Develop appropriate measurements
 - Predictive vs reactive
 - Consistently reassess 80/20 rule

How to start

- Develop appropriate systems
 - Record keeping and real time interpretation
 - Sap analysis and/or other measurable results
 - Act proactively
 - Critical points of influence
 - Field observations
 - Tie to analysis
 - Yield quality data
 - Visual & physiological parameters

Drink good wine save the planet



Take-Home message:

- Regenerative Agriculture may be the best system to develop resilience to climate change and biotic stress
- Regenerative Agriculture can perform both financially and environmentally
- Technology can assist in a systems approach to agriculture
- What we do to the environment we do to ourselves for better or worse – Better is better

Thank you – Questions?



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