

# Planthoppers Threatening Rice in Asia Again

**WHY??**

**K.L. Heong**

## Hopperburn occur in patches with ecosystem services disrupted

Philippines



Malaysia



India



Vietnam



Thailand



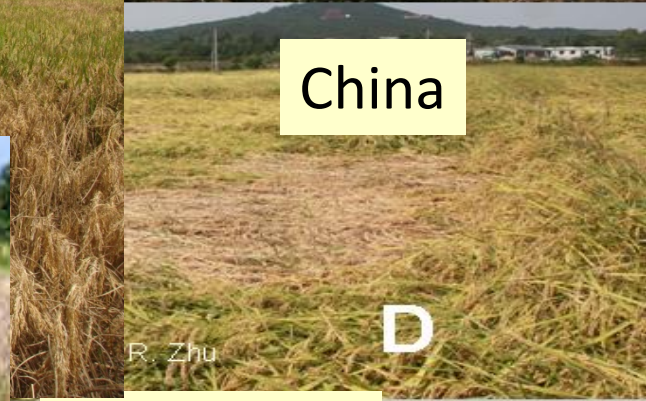
Indonesia



China



Bangladesh



B

D

F

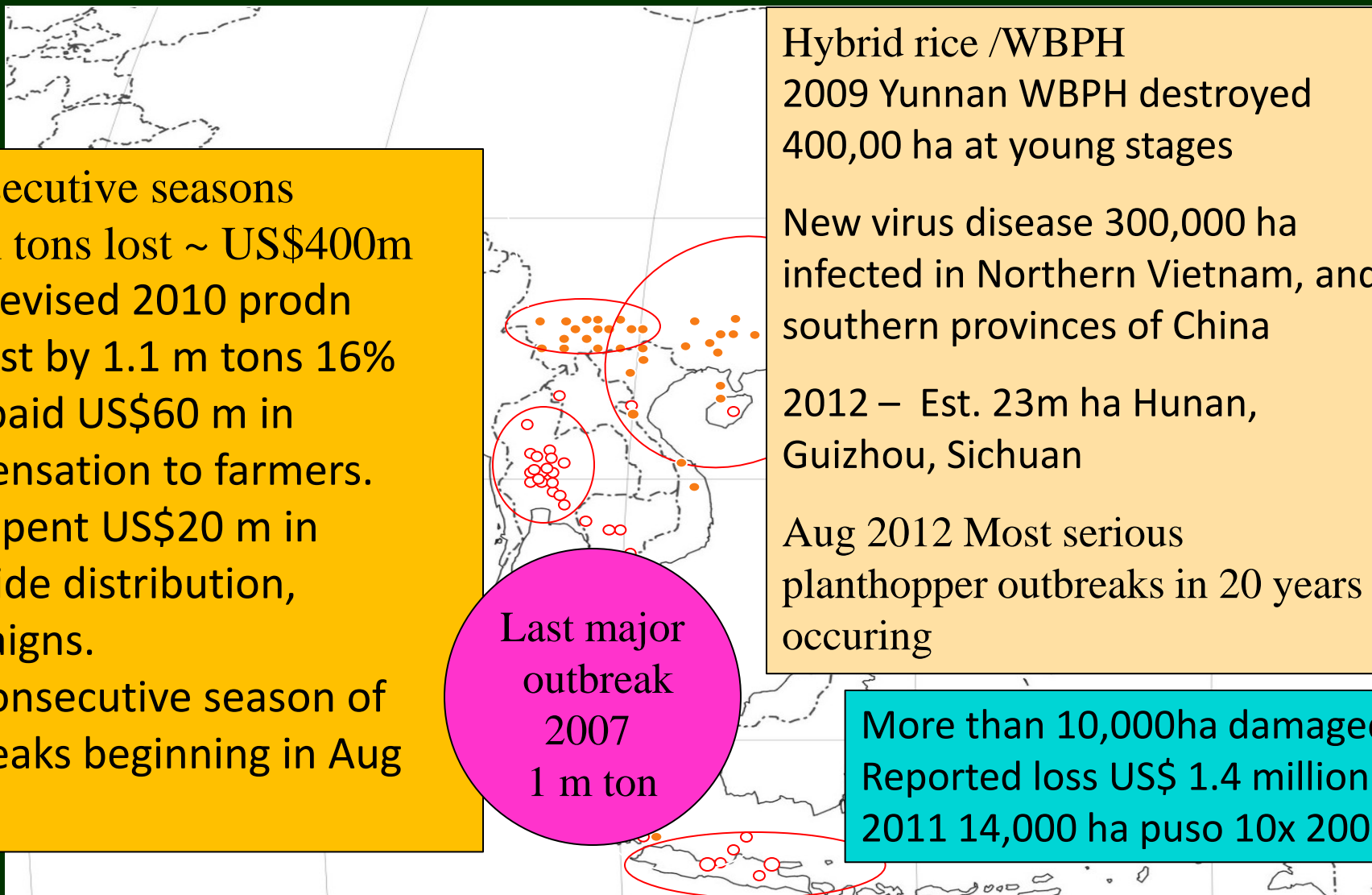
# Planthopper outbreaks in Asia in 2009/12

9 consecutive seasons  
 ~1.5m tons lost ~ US\$400m  
 Govt revised 2010 prodn  
 forecast by 1.1 m tons 16%  
 Govt paid US\$60 m in  
 compensation to farmers.  
 Govt spent US\$20 m in  
 pesticide distribution,  
 campaigns.  
 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive season of  
 outbreaks beginning in Aug  
 2012

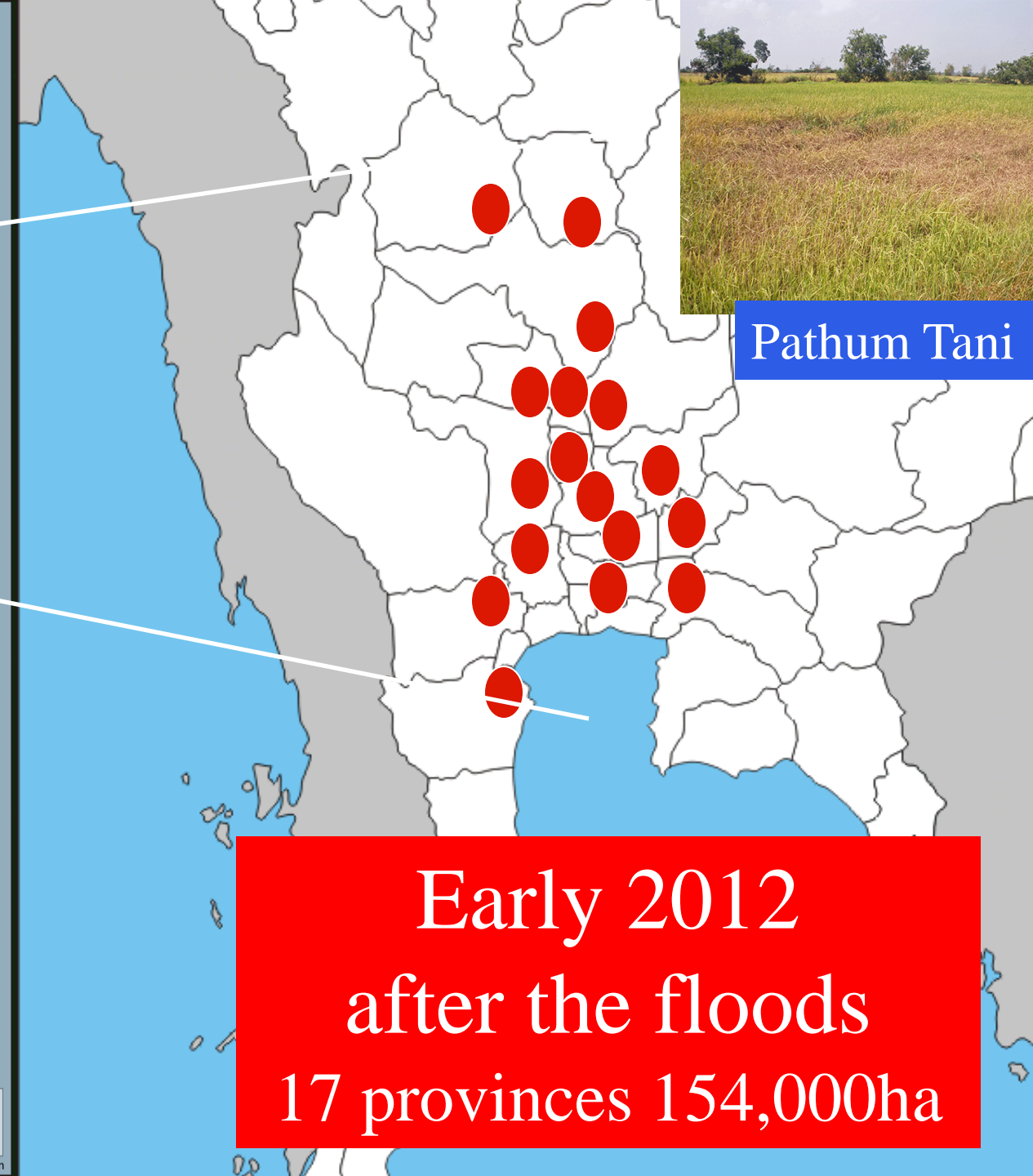
Last major  
 outbreak  
 2007  
 1 m ton

Hybrid rice /WBPH  
 2009 Yunnan WBPH destroyed  
 400,00 ha at young stages  
 New virus disease 300,000 ha  
 infected in Northern Vietnam, and  
 southern provinces of China  
 2012 – Est. 23m ha Hunan,  
 Guizhou, Sichuan  
 Aug 2012 Most serious  
 planthopper outbreaks in 20 years  
 occurring

More than 10,000ha damaged  
 Reported loss US\$ 1.4 million  
 2011 14,000 ha puso 10x 2009



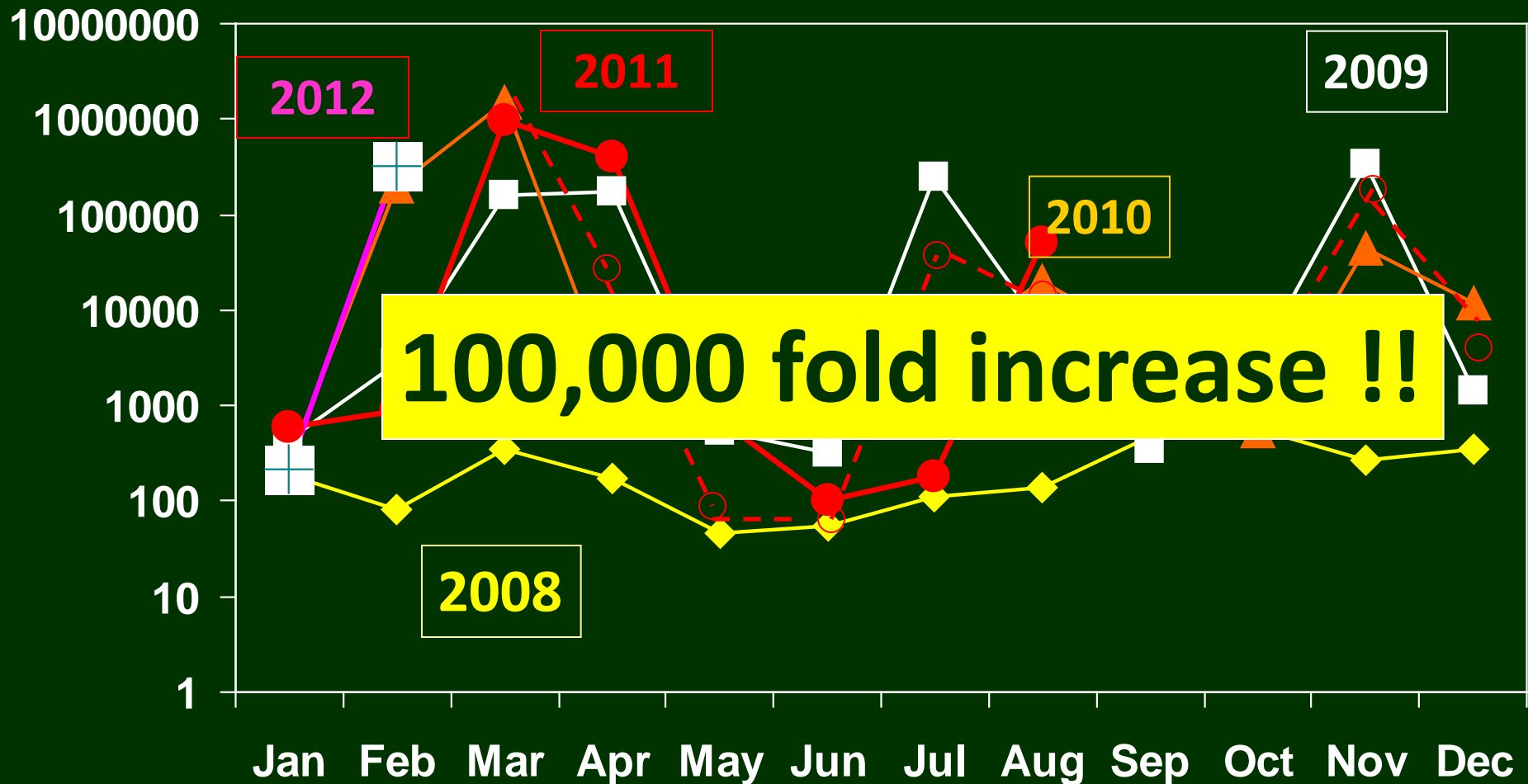




Early 2012  
after the floods  
17 provinces 154,000ha



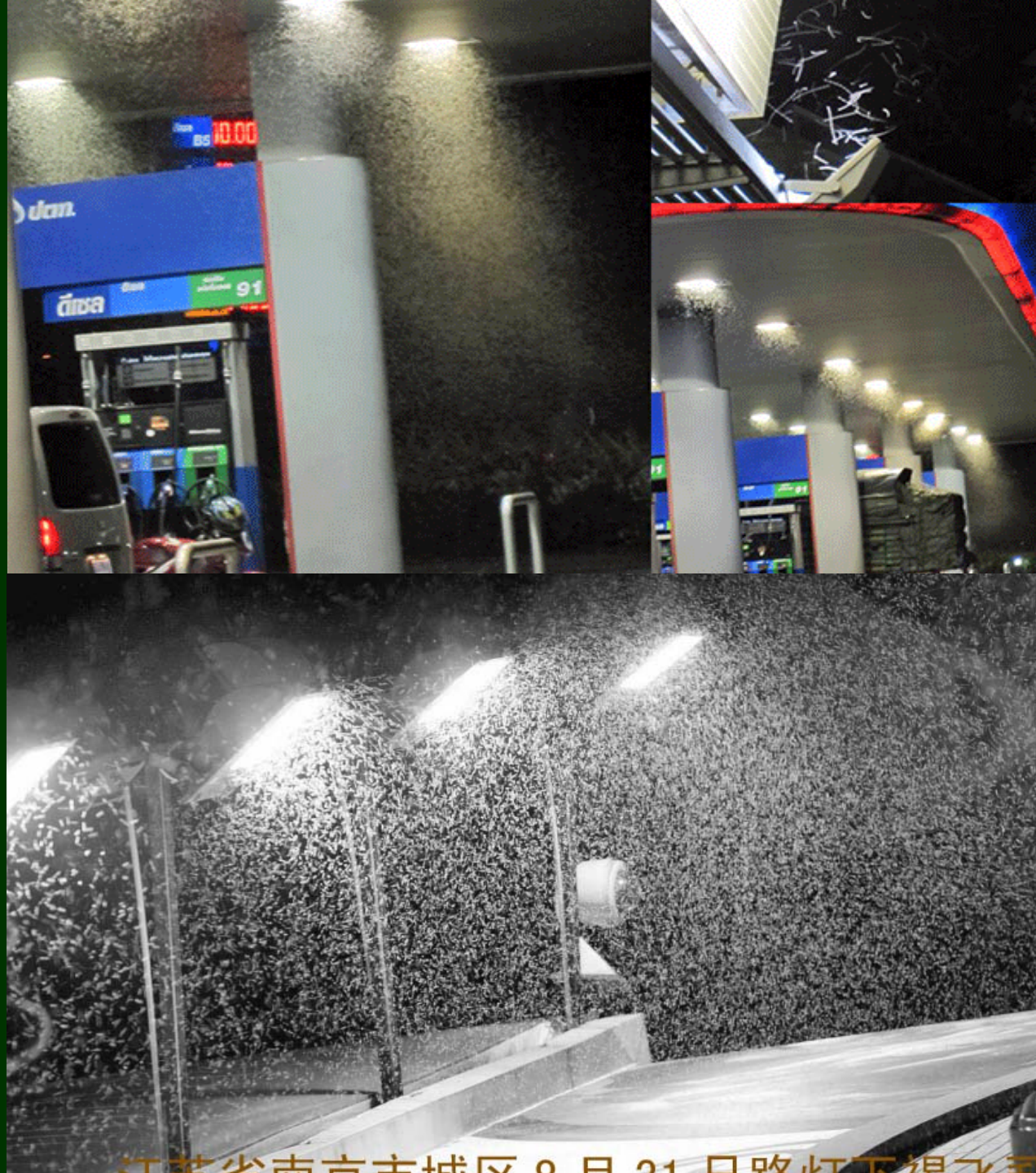
# Light trap records in Chai Nat Thailand



IRRI

# Pest storms in Thailand

China  
Indonesia



江苏省常州市主城区 8 月 21 日晚灯下招飞



# Brown Planthopper (BPH)





# Virus diseases

## Grassy stunt



## Ragged stunt



Cabauatan et al 2008

# White backed planthopper (WBPH)



# New virus carried by WBPH

- Discovered in Guangdong in 2001.
- Transmitted by WBPH
- Southern Rice Black Streak Dwarf virus (SRBSDV) because of its similarity with the RBSDV carried by sBPH in temperate areas.
- Spreading in southern provinces of China, Northern Vietnam areas.





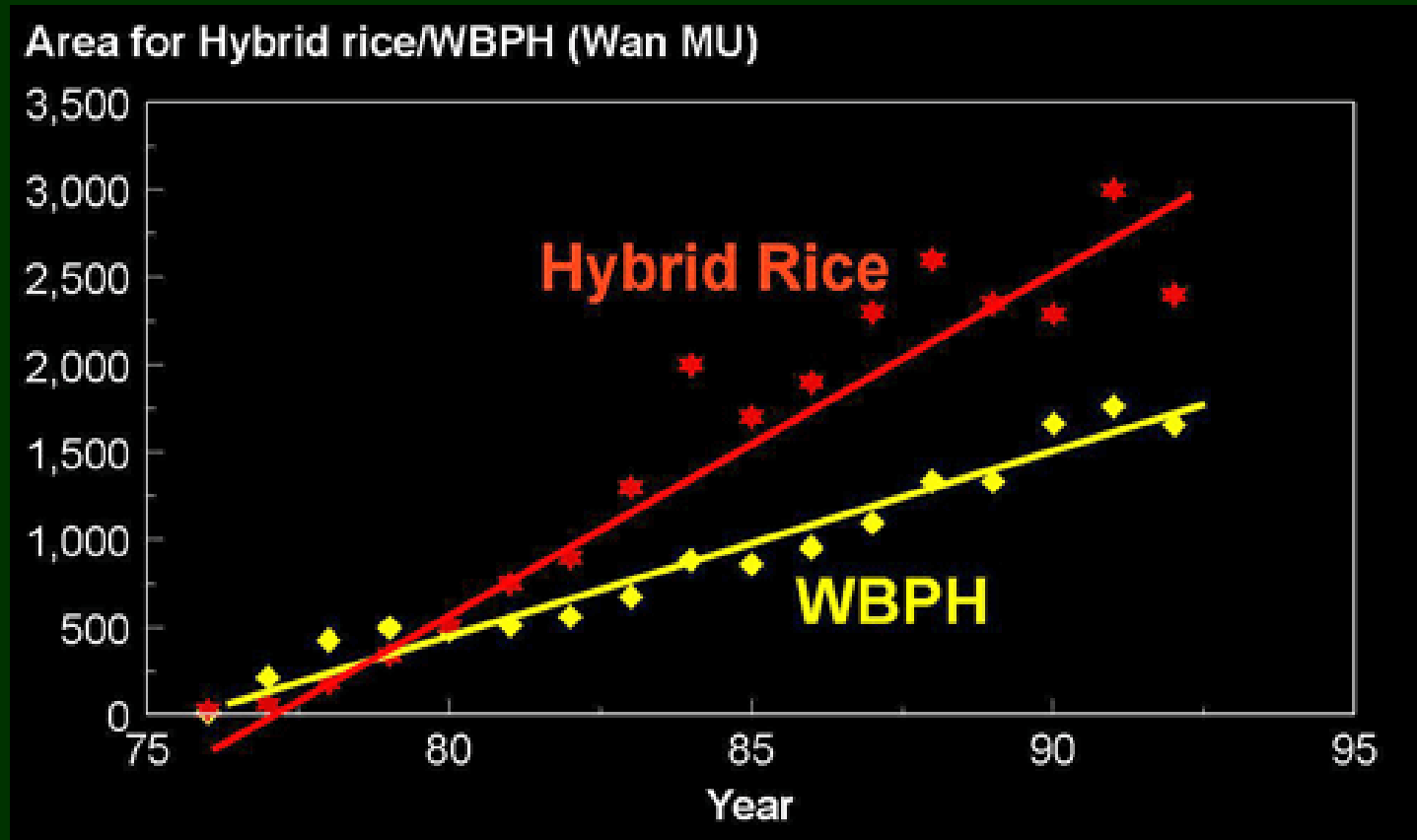


# In Hunan August 2012

Photos  
Juka Kawaai



# Hybrid rice and WBPH



J A Cheng

# WHY

# ??

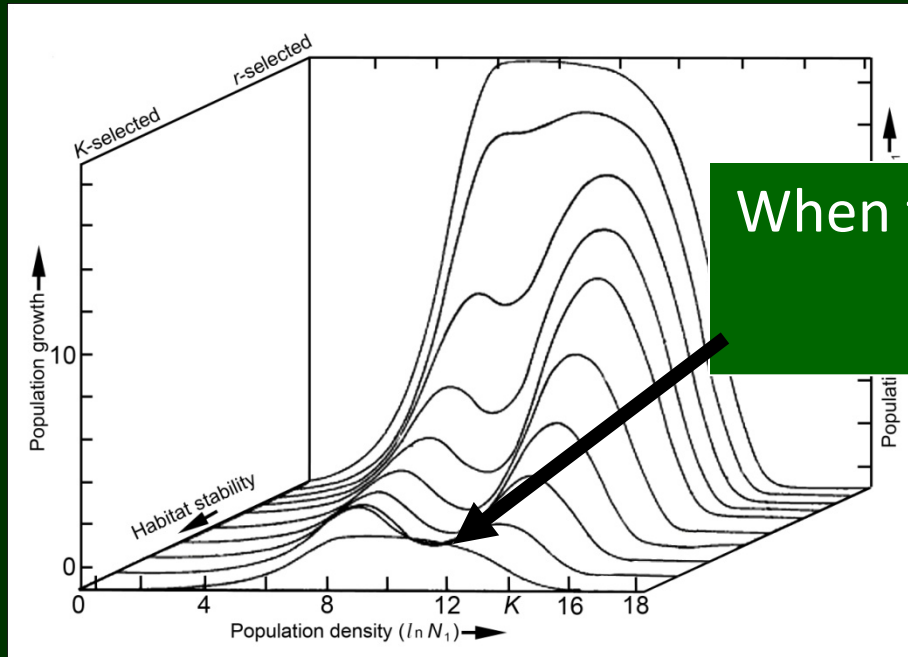


# Three Ecological Principles

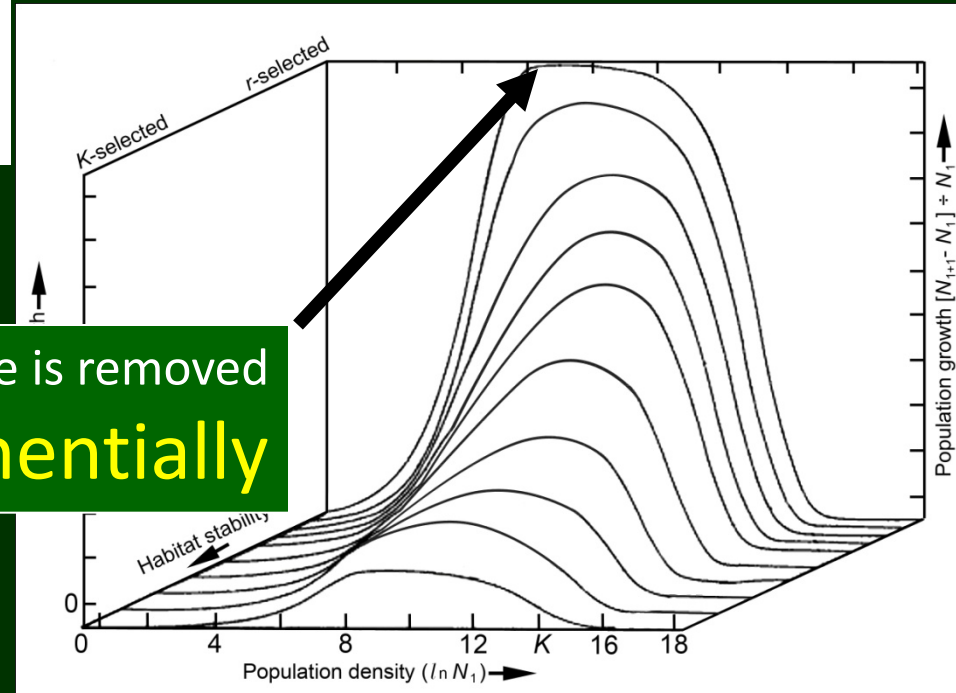
- 1. Pests' life strategies**
- 2. Biodiversity and ecosystem services**
- 3. Food web structure & food chain length**

How insecticide sprays  
affect these principles

**r strategists tend to develop exponentially when they “escape” from natural control**



When the natural enemy ravine is in place  
**Populations low**



When the natural enemy ravine is removed  
**Population develop exponentially**



# Biodiversity, ecosystem functioning, and ecosystem services

## Biodiversity

Number of species  
Abundance  
Composition  
Interactions

## Ecosystem Services

### *Provisioning services*

- Food, fuel, fiber
- Genetic resources
- Fresh water

### *Supporting services*

- Primary production
- Provision of habitats
- Nutrient and water cycling
- Soil formation and retention

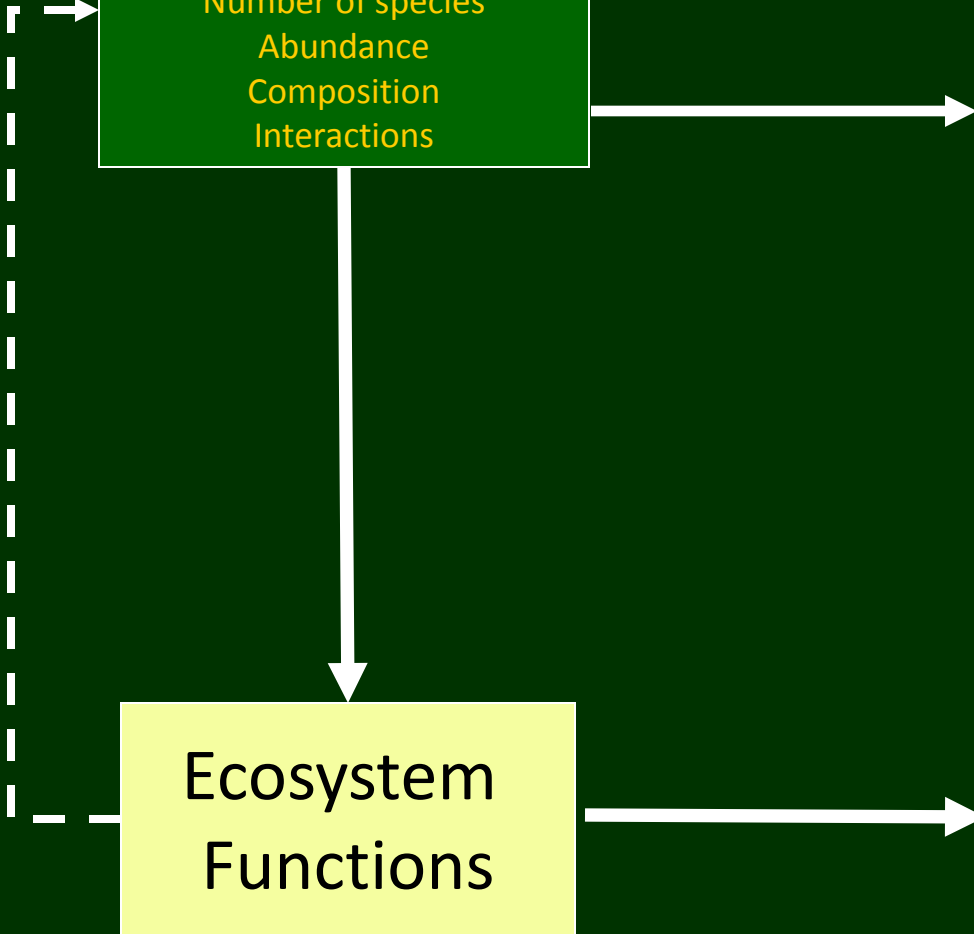
### *Cultural services*

- Spiritual and religious values
- Education and inspiration
- Recreation and aesthetic values

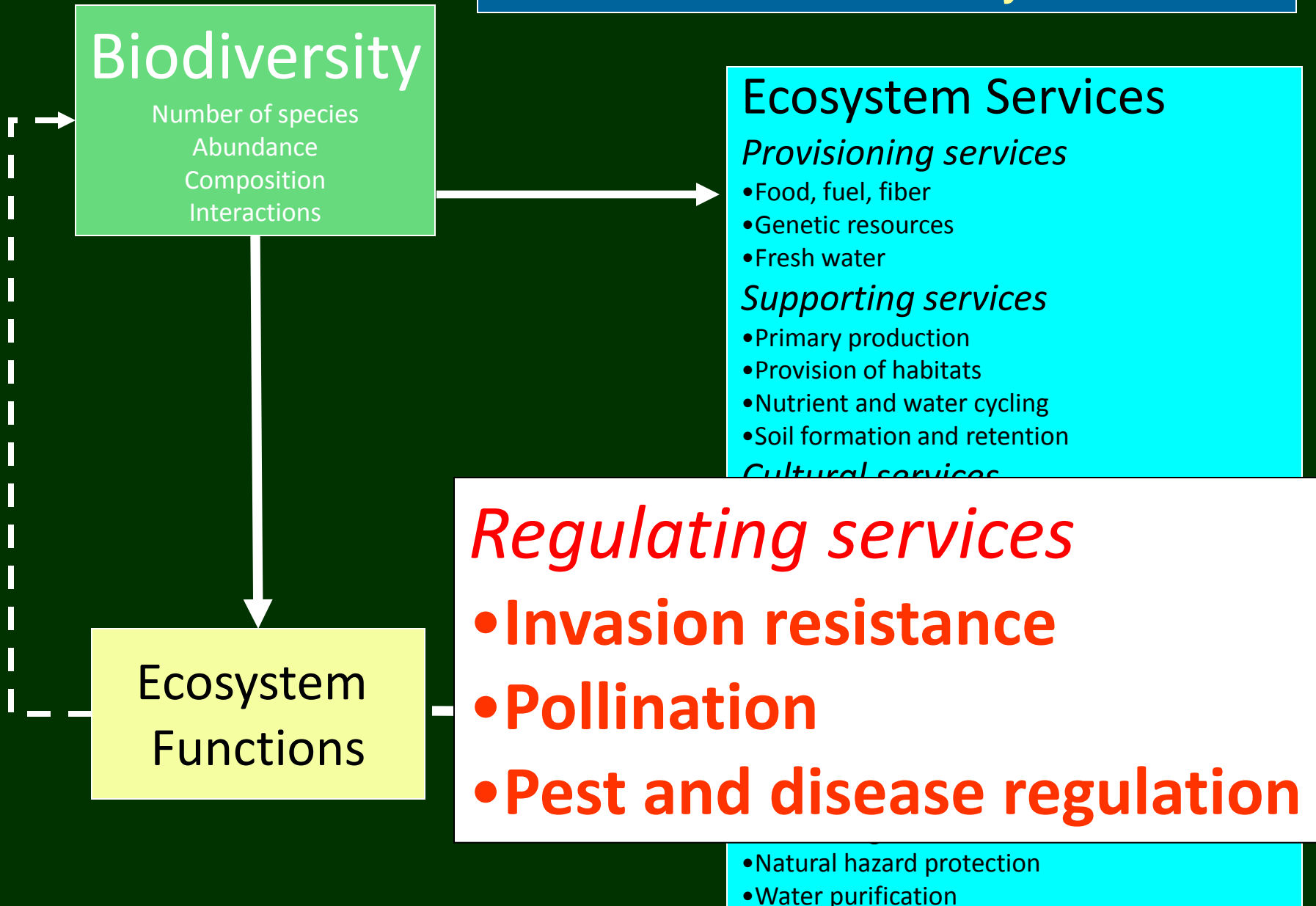
### *Regulating services*

- **Invasion resistance**
- **Pollination**
- **Pest regulation**
- Natural hazard protection
- Water purification
- Climate regulation

Ecosystem  
Functions



## Biodiversity, ecosystem functioning, and ecosystem services







A black and white portrait of Albert Einstein, showing his face and hands. He has a mustache and is looking slightly to the right. His hands are clasped together in front of him.

*Albert Einstein*

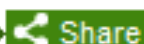
**If the bee disappeared from  
the surface of the globe then man  
will only have four years of life left**

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27 March 2013 Last updated at 16:05 GMT

11K



Share



# Neonicotinoid pesticides 'damage brains of bees'

**By Rebecca Morelle**

Science reporter, BBC World Service

**Commonly used pesticides are damaging honey bee brains, studies suggest.**

Scientists have found that two types of chemicals called neonicotinoids and coumaphos are interfering with the insect's ability to learn and remember.

Experiments revealed that exposure was also lowering brain activity, especially when the two



SPL



## No bees = pollination by humans in China



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29 April 2013 Last updated at 14:15 GMT

26K

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# Bee deaths: EU to ban neonicotinoid pesticides

[COMMENTS \(872\)](#)

**The European Commission will restrict the use of pesticides linked to bee deaths by researchers, despite a split among EU states on the issue.**

There is great concern across Europe about the collapse of bee populations.

Neonicotinoid chemicals in pesticides are believed to harm bees and the European Commission says they should be restricted to

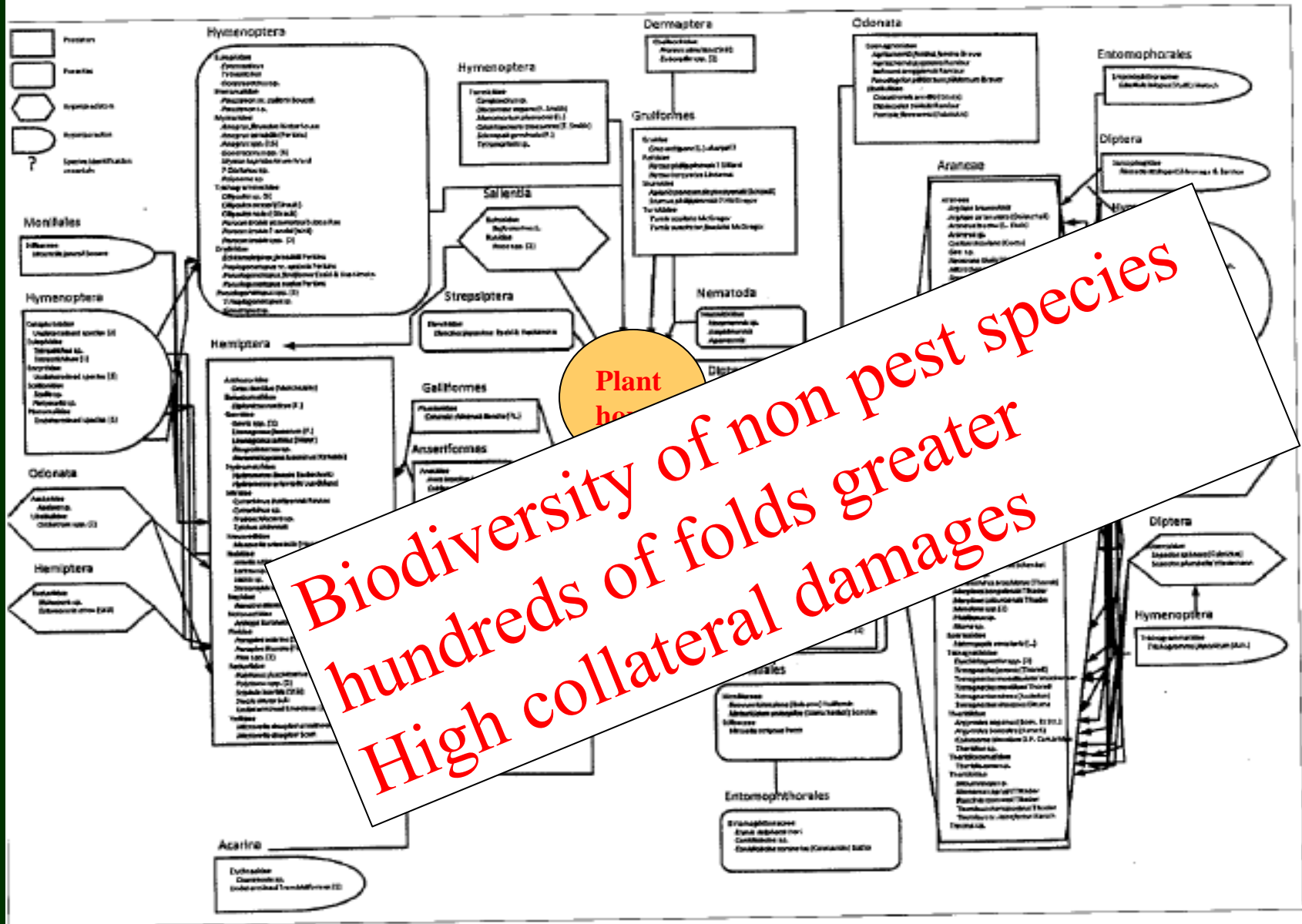


Honeybees are vital for pollinating crops - a job that would be very costly without them



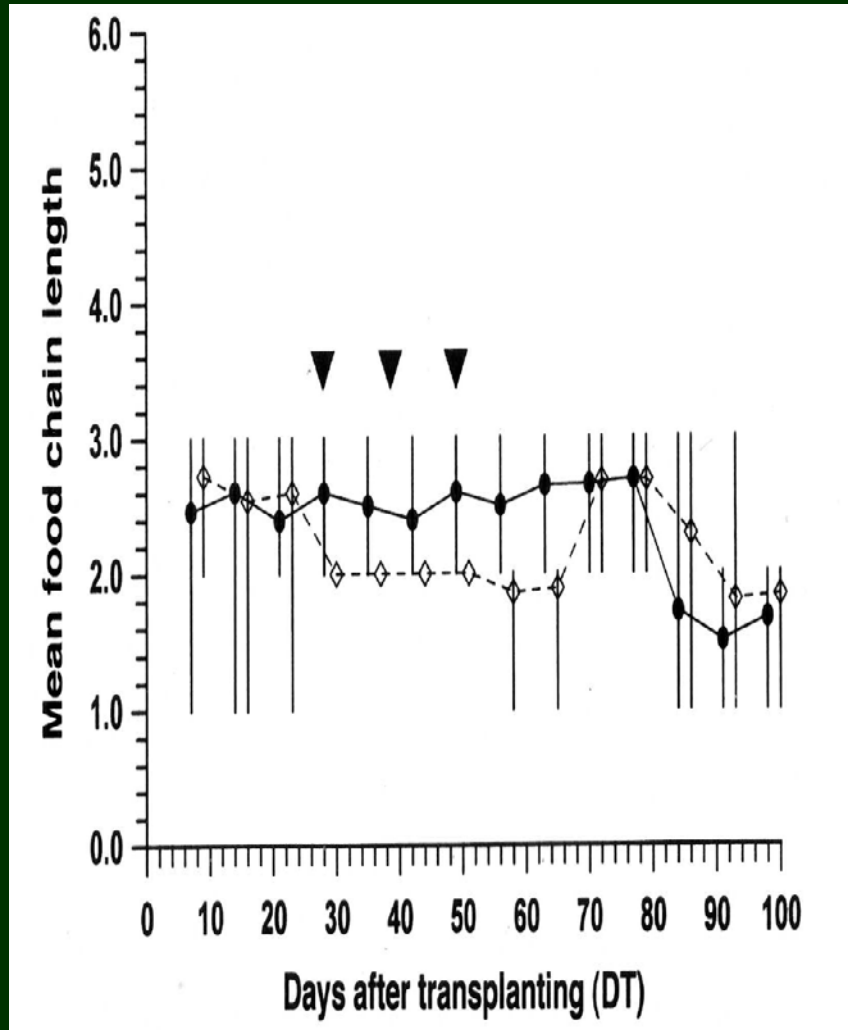
**Neonicotinoid Insecticides May  
be Dumped in Asia if Banned in  
EU, U.S.**

# Planthoppers' food web



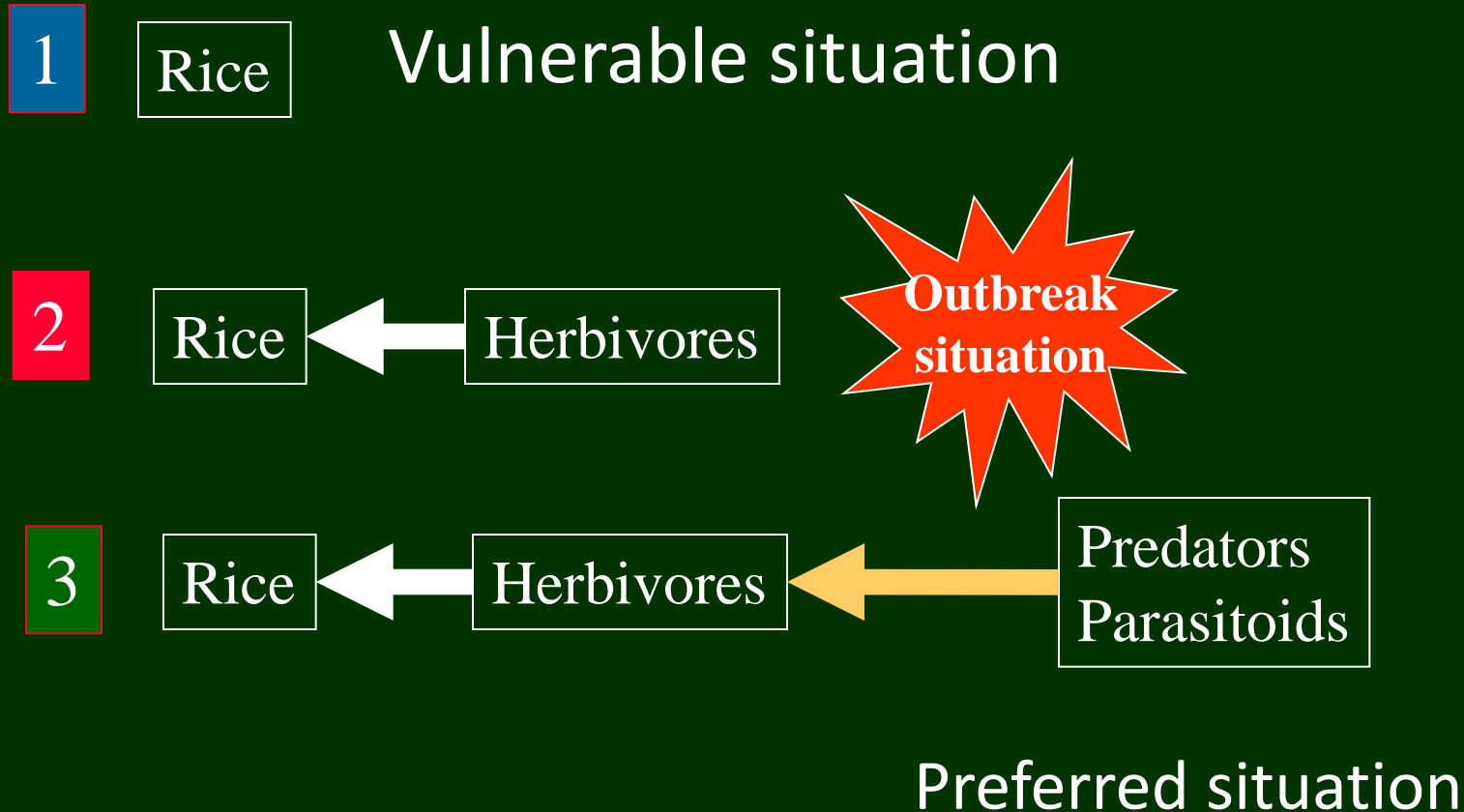


# Mean food chain lengths reduced

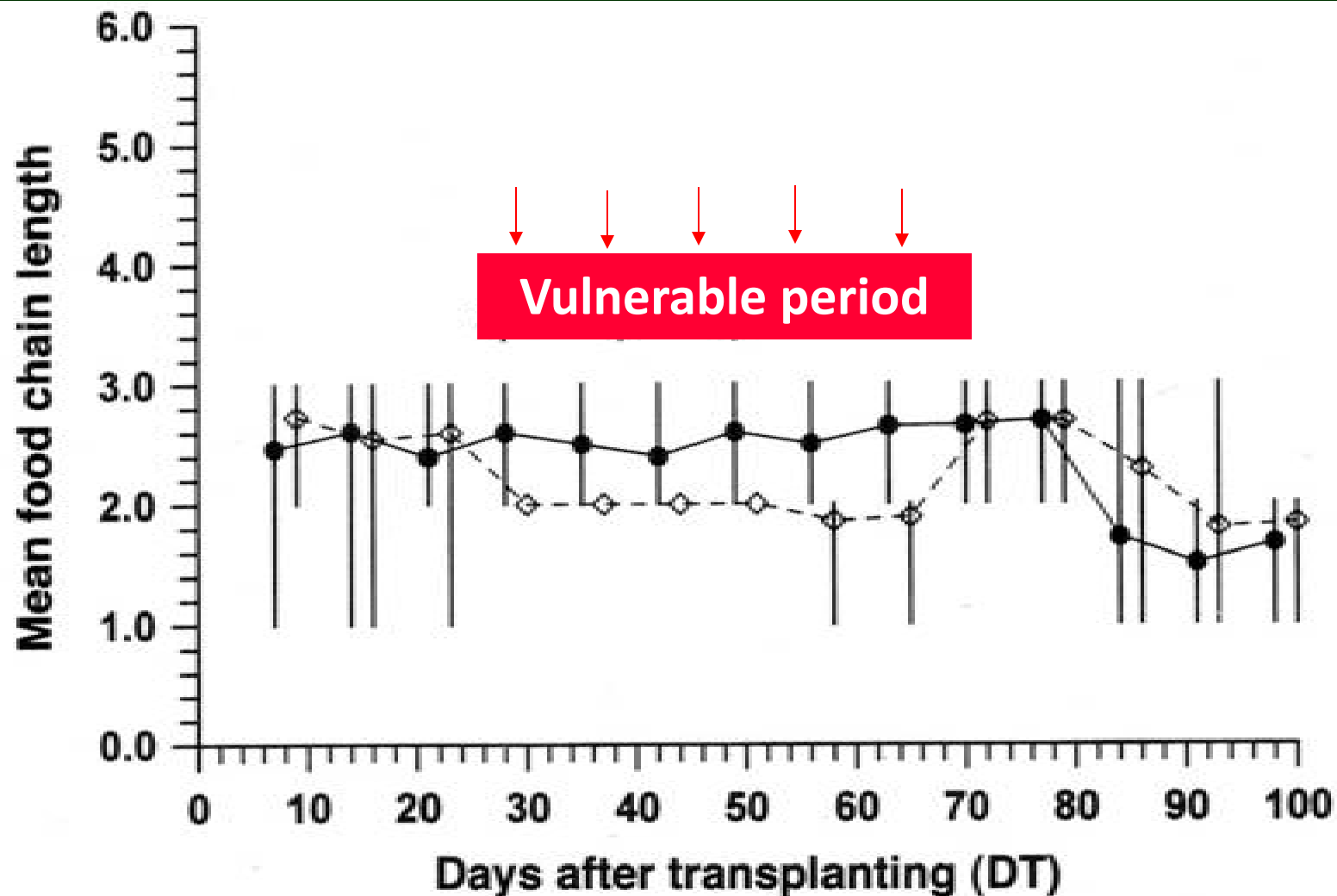


- Sprays reduced chain lengths significantly from 3 to about 2.
- Estimated time for food web to recover was 22 days after the last spray.
- Sprays bring about asynchrony in predator-prey relationships.

# Food chain

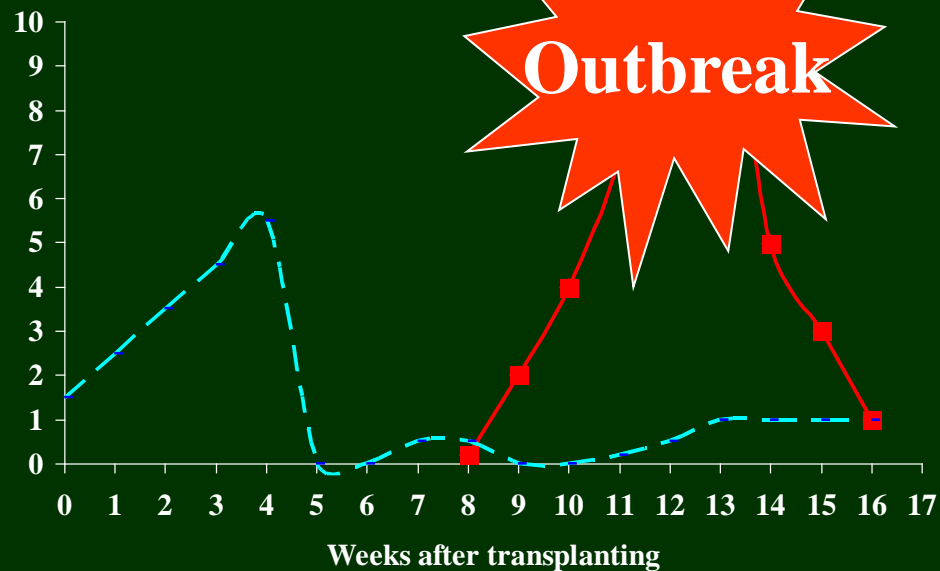
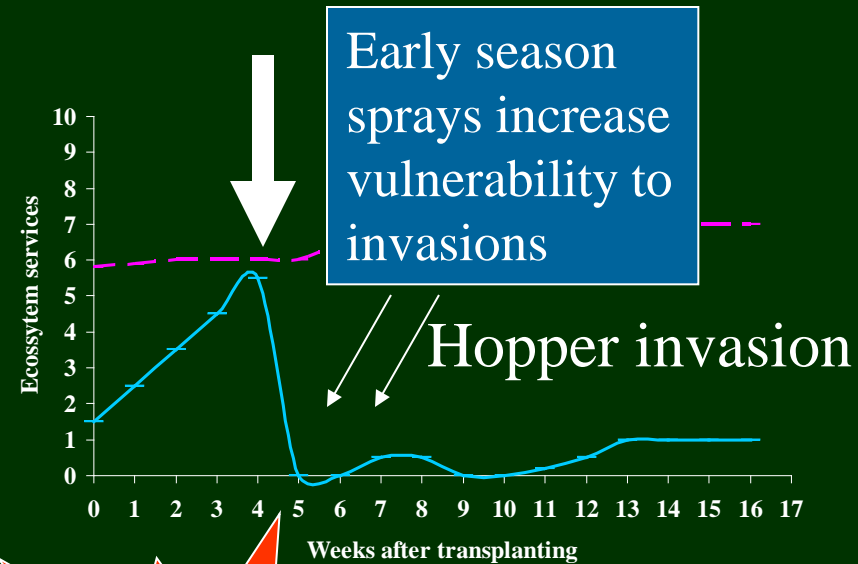
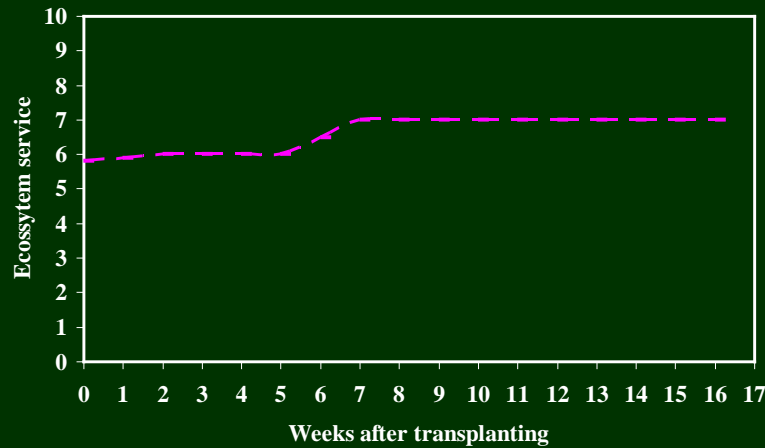


## Early insecticide sprays create vulnerability



# IRRI Effect of early season sprays on ecosystem services

Ecosystem services





# Why do planthopper outbreaks continue to threaten rice production in Asia?

## *Vulnerability factors*

- ***Low biodiversity in parasitoids and predators***
  - Lack habitat and food resources for natural enemies. Bunds sprayed with herbicides.
  - High insecticide pressure – farmers often apply 3 to 10 prophylactic sprays.
  - High use of insecticides toxic to parasitoids and predators.
  - Poor equipment used – low efficacy to pests, high efficacy to non targets esp. aquatic fauna.
  - High use of cocktails that broaden the “kill” spectrum.
  - Prophylactic spray (pre emptive strikes); mixed with herbicide sprays.

# Early season blanket spraying

## Note

Spraying in early crop stages

Spraying on top of the canopy

Use equipment with poor delivery



## Hopperburn along spray paths – Suphan Buri, Thailand





# Hopperburn in sprayed spots in Cantho province

Pictures by Pham van Quynh



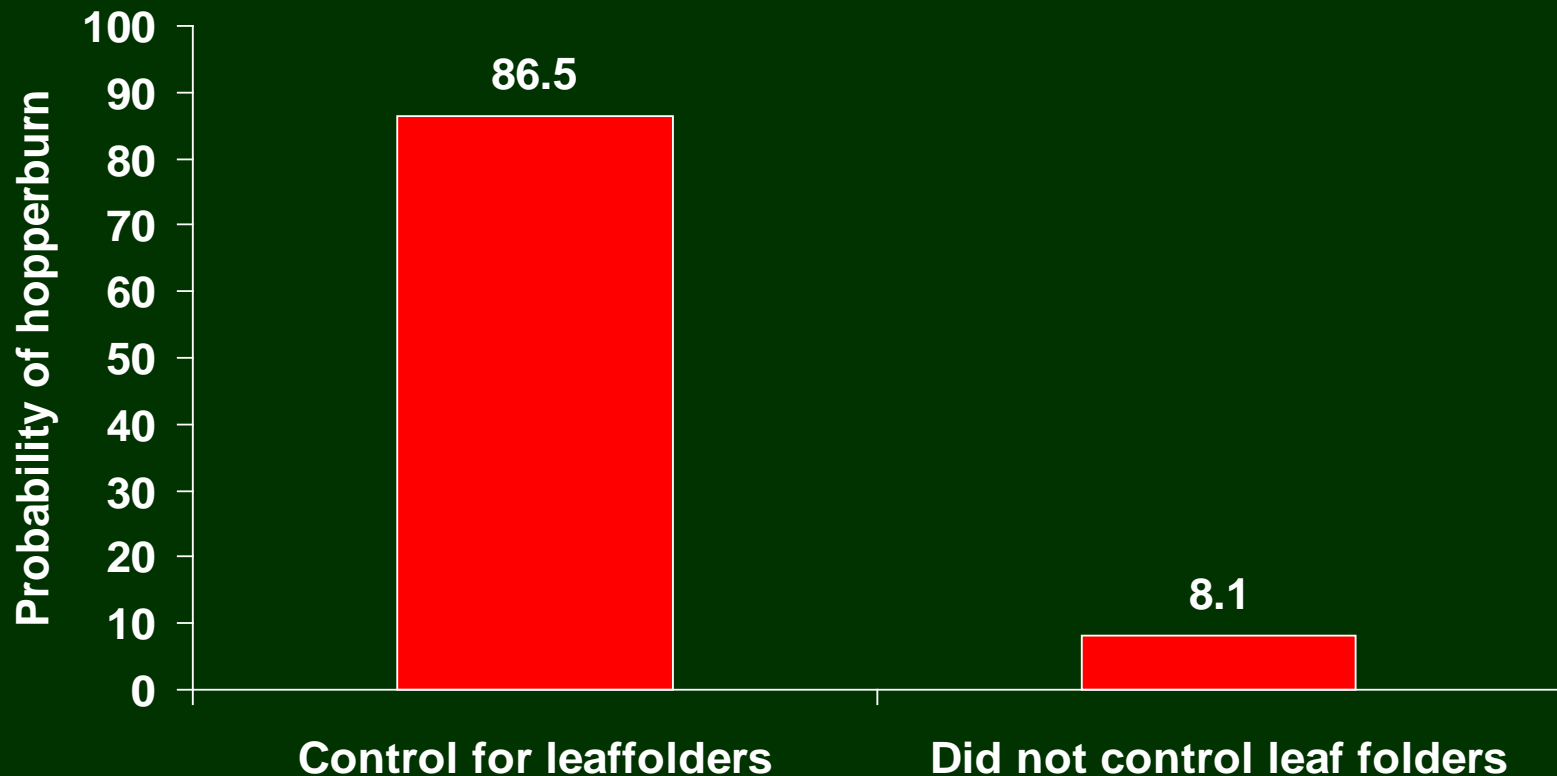


# **Hopperburn occur in parallel rows of the sprayer booms**

**Malaysia**



# Leaf folder control in early crop stages increases vulnerability to hopperburn by 10 folds





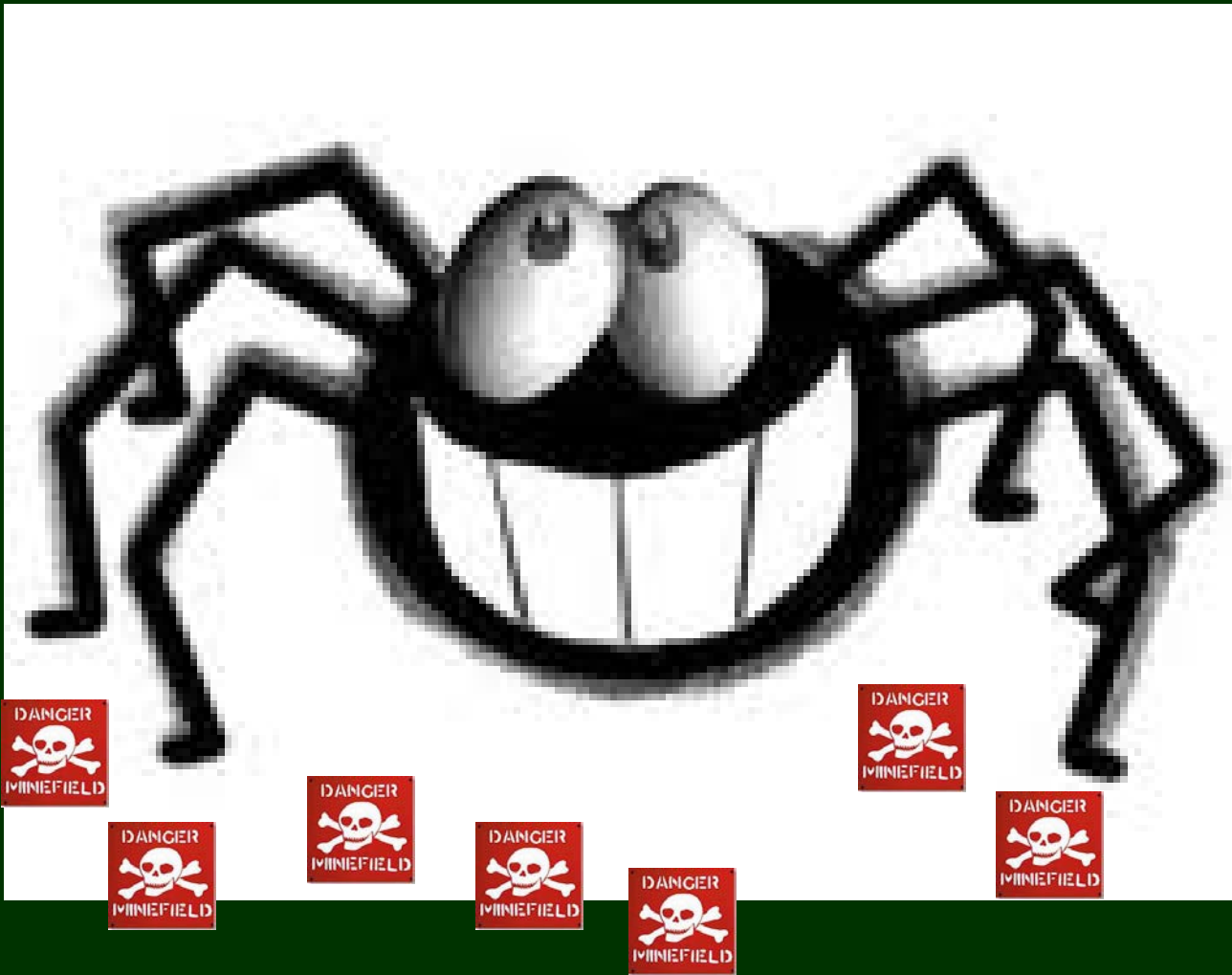
**Insecticide sprays have no effect on hopper –  
Only few specialist species for egg mortality**







# Sprayed rice fields are like mine fields to predators and parasitoids in search of prey





# Planthoppers problems are **INDUCED** by **INSECTICIDES**



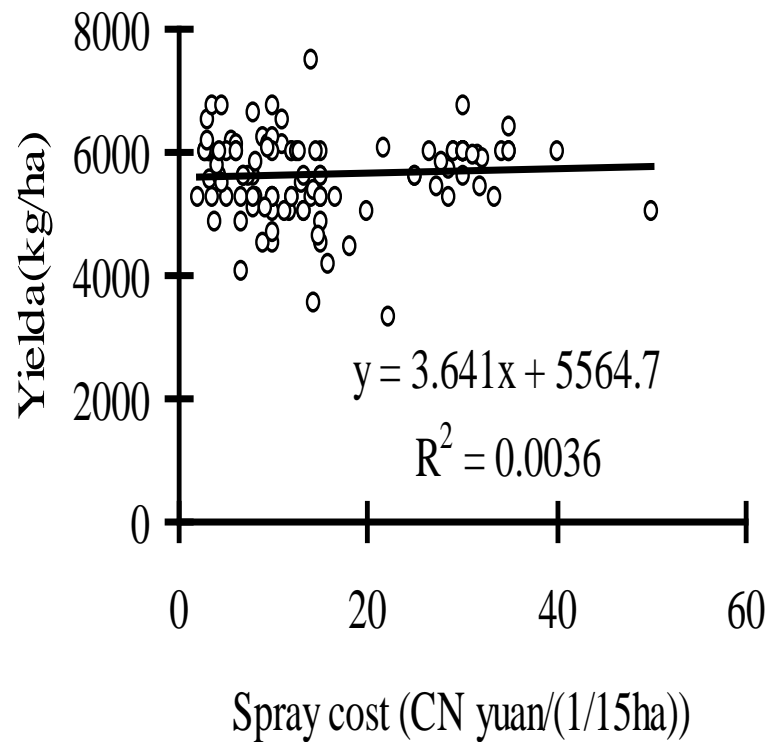
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Are there any  
*productivity gains*  
from insecticide applications  
by rice farmers in Asia?

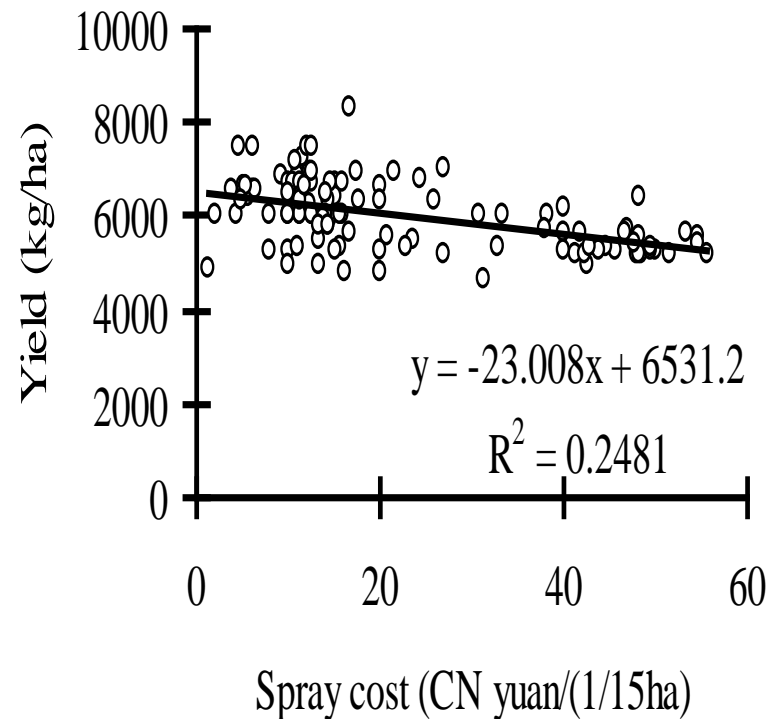


# Relationships between farmers' yields and pesticide spending in Jiaxing, China.

1st season

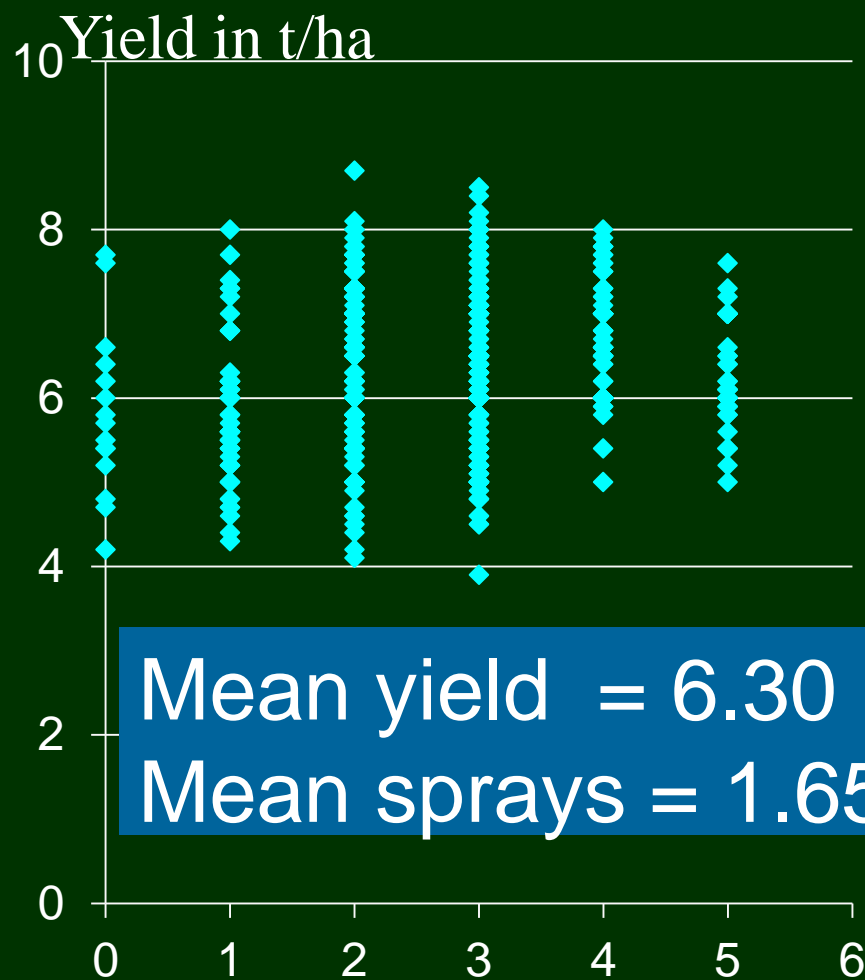


2nd season

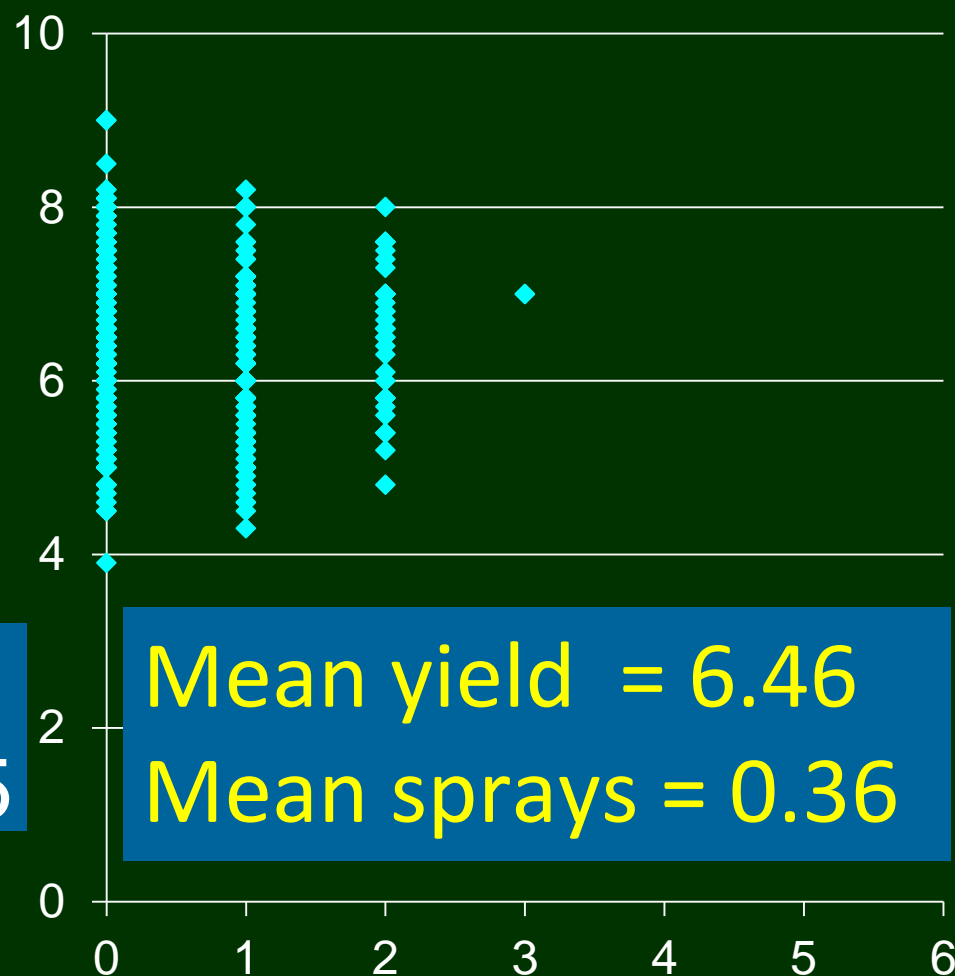


# Farmers' participatory paired plot experiments Mekong Delta W-S season 2001/02

## Control plot

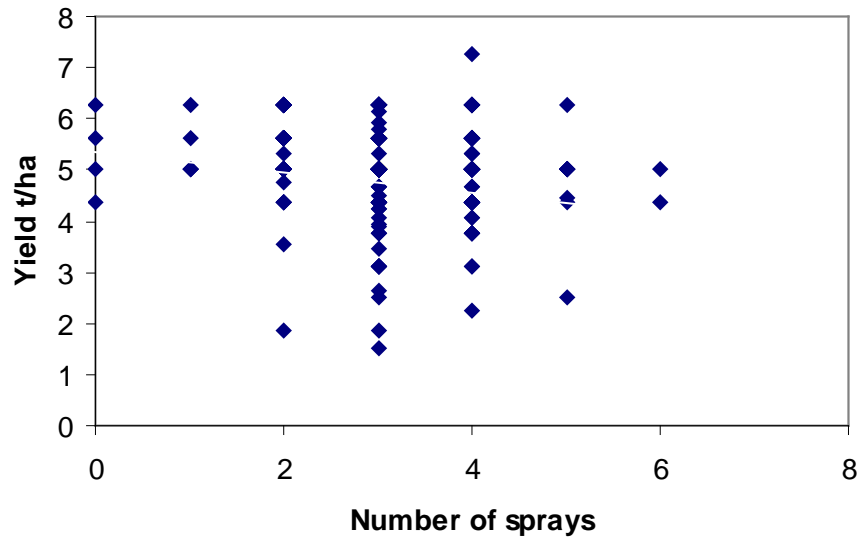


## Experimental plot

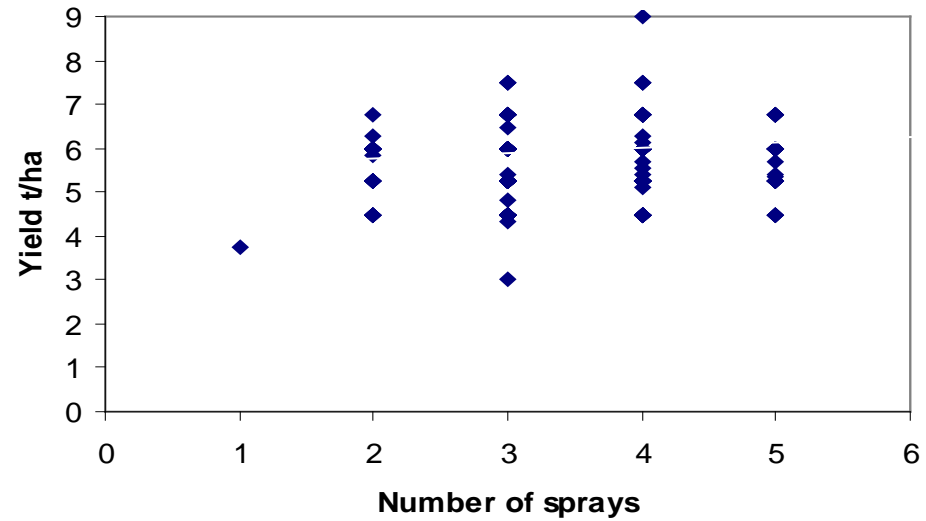


Number insecticide sprays

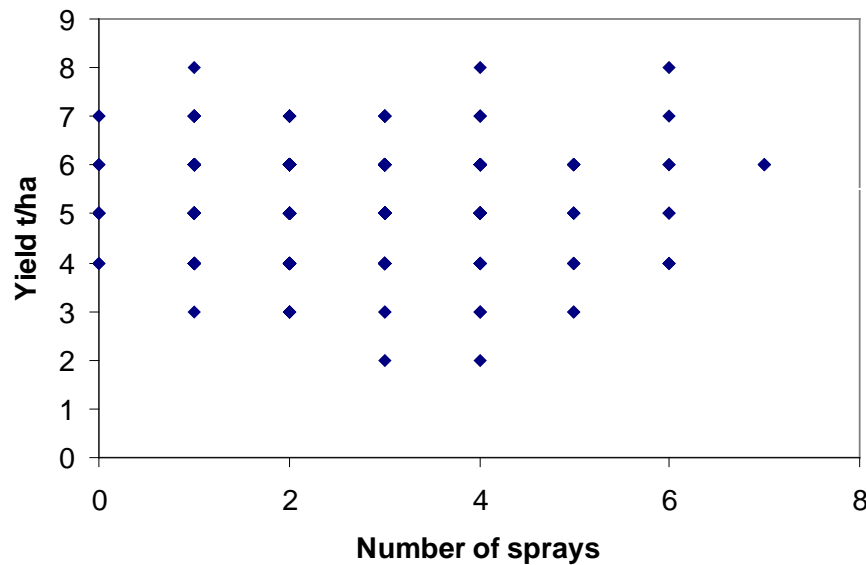
### Chainat, Thailand



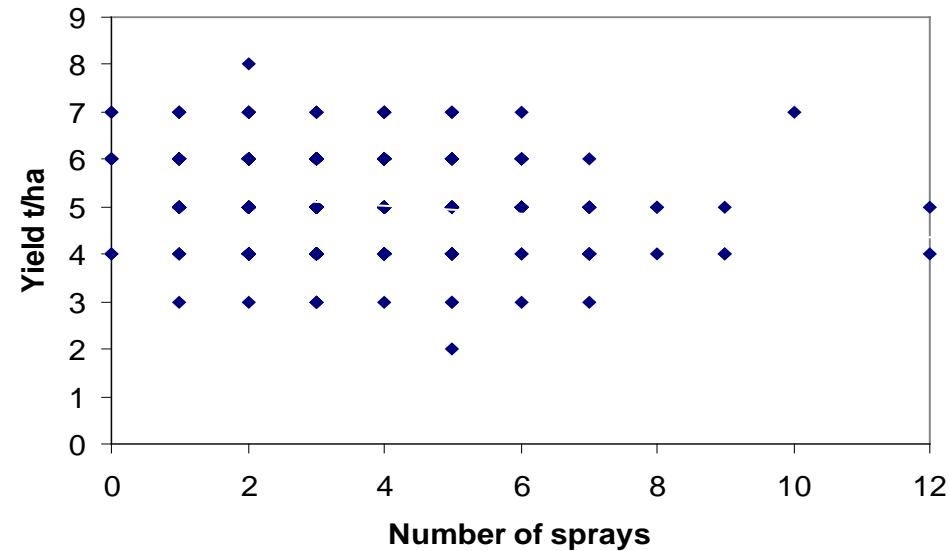
### Lingui, China



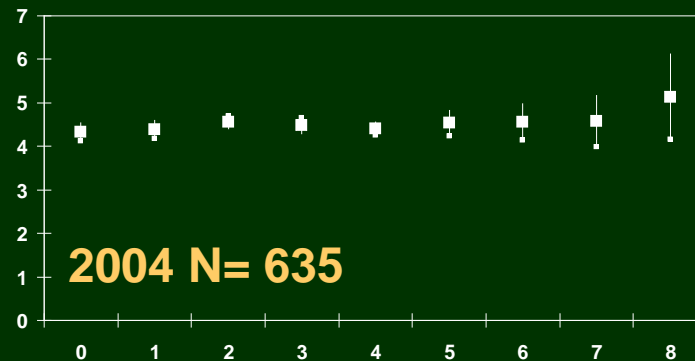
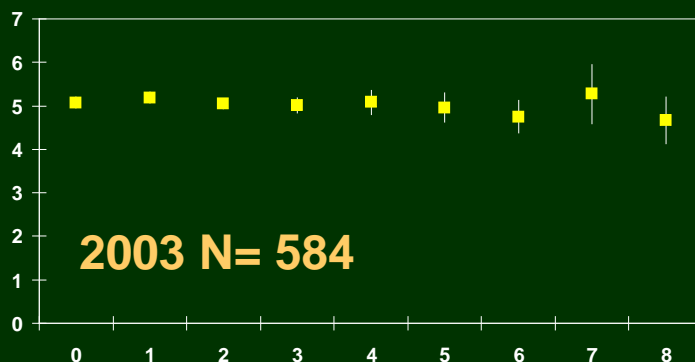
### Cai Lay, Vietnam



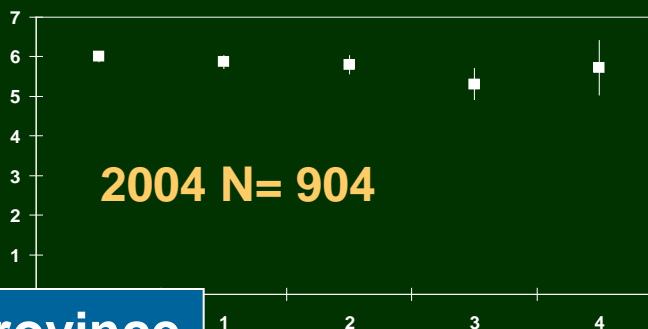
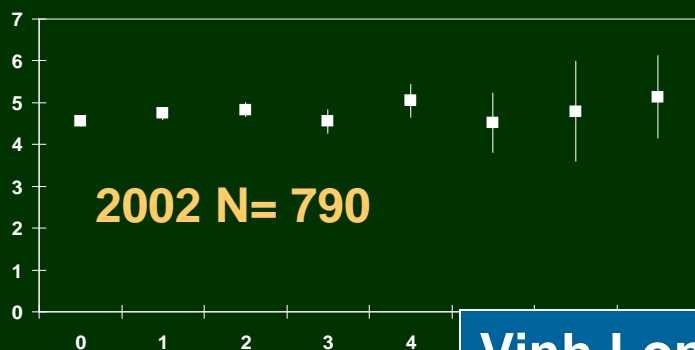
### Cai Be, Vietnam



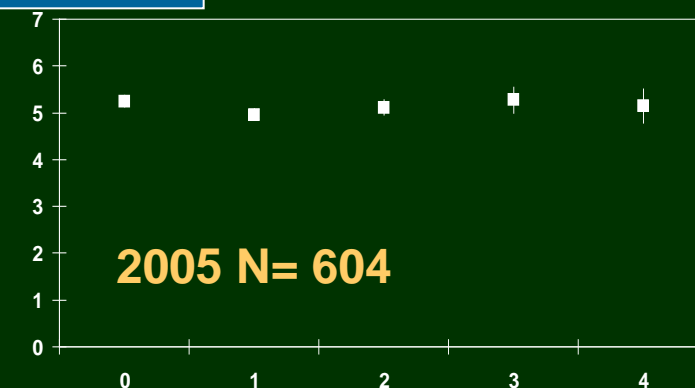
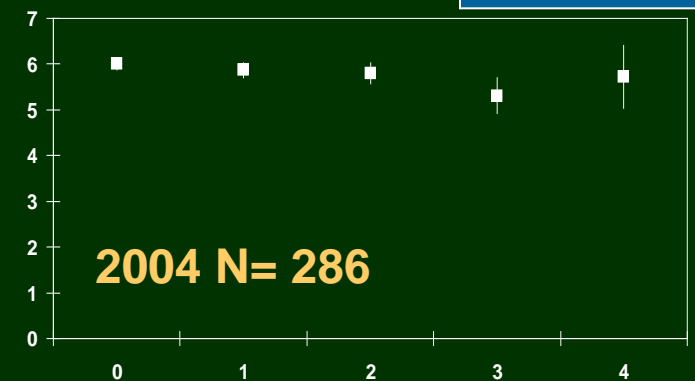
## Tiengiang province



## Cantho province



## Vinh Long province



Number of insecticide sprays

Yield in tons



# % benefits of management strategies with health costs

Pingali et al 1997

Sites	Management strategies	# sprays	% Net benefits over no spray strategy
Laguna	Complete protection	6	-11.7%
	Farmers' strategy	2	-3.6%
	IPM	1	-5.0%
	No spray	0	--
Nueva Ecija			
	Complete protection	6	-4.65%
	Farmers' strategy	2	-3.11%
	IPM	1	-3.50%
	No spray	0	--

Positive coefficient of 0.123 - an increase of 123 kg of paddy/spray

Farm gate price of US\$0.22/kg paddy and  
Cost of an insecticide application is US\$20

Gain would be **US\$7/ha.**

Labor & health costs wipe away US\$7 /spray

Negative coefficient of - 0.135 –  
a loss of 135 kg/spray or  
**loss of US\$49/ha** (US\$29 from paddy loss  
plus US\$20 for each application).

And when labor & health costs are  
factored in loss will be **> US\$ 55/ha**

# Ecological costs

- **Wild life**
  - Bird life, fishes
- **Off site pollution**
  - Fish industry
- **Pest resurgences**
  - Planthoppers, late season leaf-folders



## **80% of farmers' insecticide sprays misused**

- **In 1991 we conducted a survey in the Philippines**
- **80% of their sprays can be classified as misuse**
- **Misuse is defined as the “improper or incorrect use” like an insecticide being used for wrong targets, at the wrong time or both.**

# Social impacts on farmers

## Collateral damages



**Wichian**





# Woman in tears

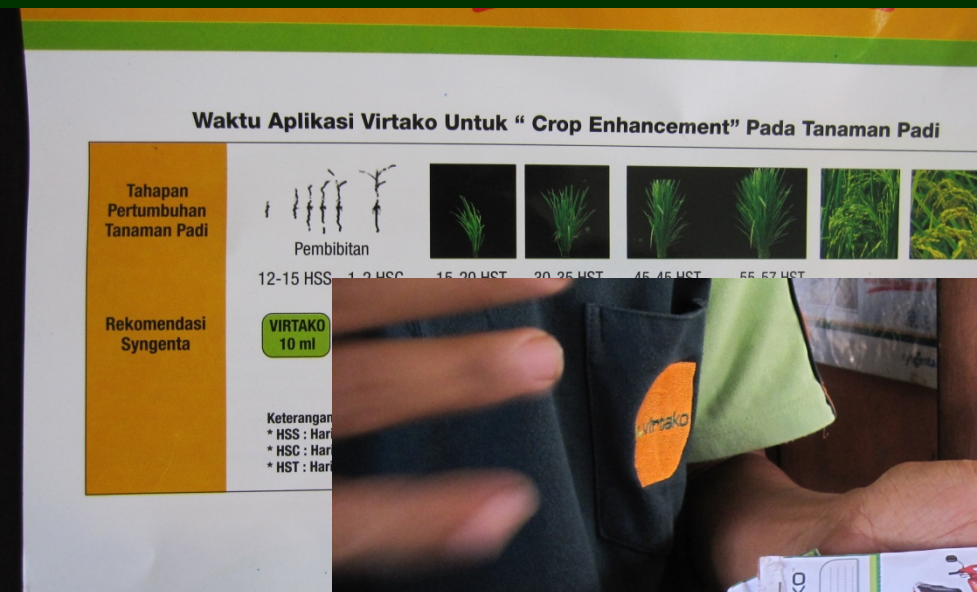
From Juka Kawaai



**WHY is insecticide  
misuse so rampant?**



# Pest management today and Pesticide Marketing





IRRI

Multi tier marketing through downline  
tertiary sub retailers



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Other sales performance incentives include:

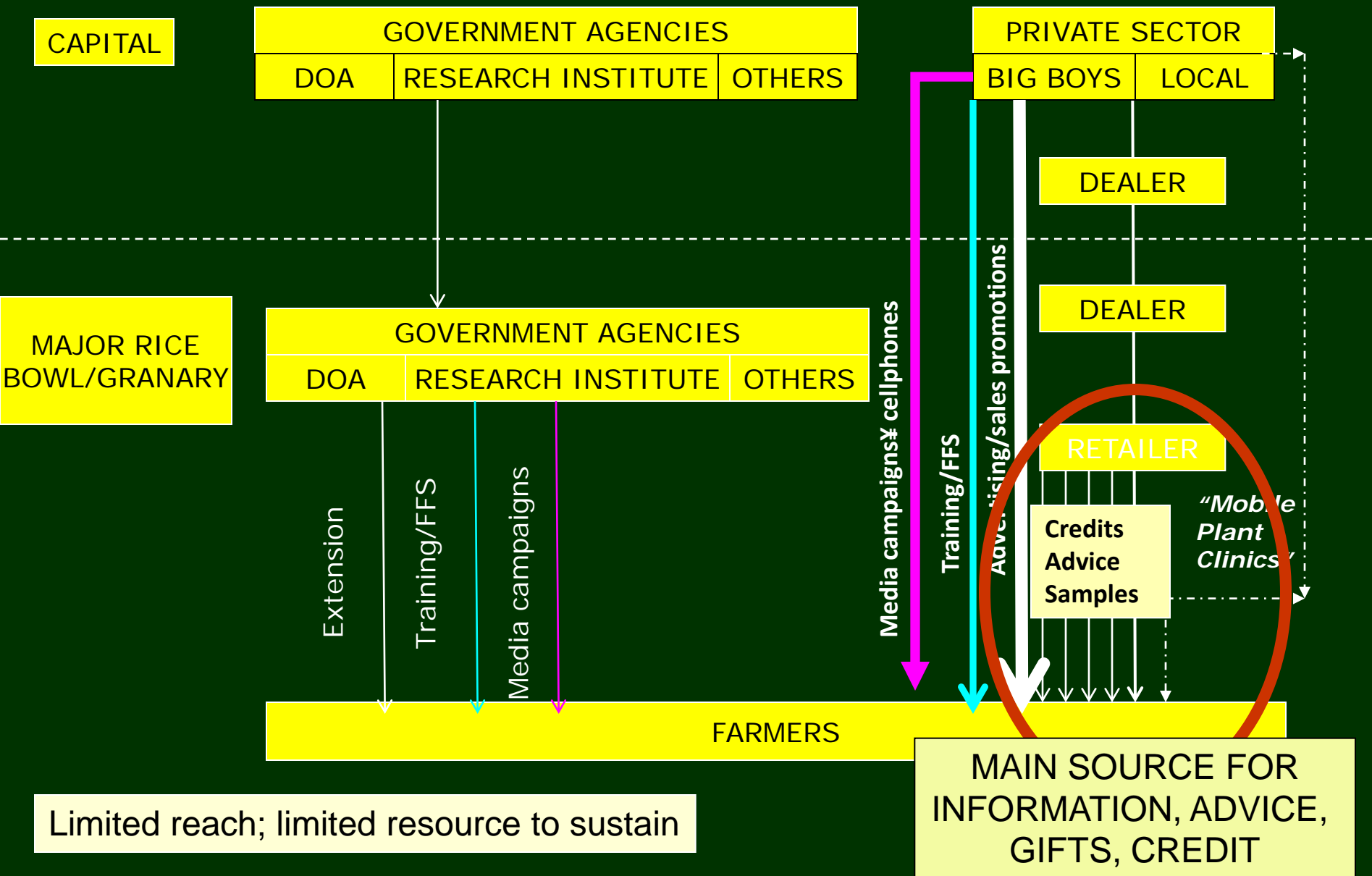
- Washing machines
- CD players
- TVs
- Cookers
- Free travel to international tourists' destinations
- Free travel to international destinations
- To Mecca to perform the Haj.

Violations of FAO Code of Conduct on Pesticide distribution

**Fast Moving Consumer Goods**

Insecticide use based on IPM	Insecticide use based on FMCG
<b>Driven by rational decision making skills.</b>	<b>Driven by product packaging, brand names, attractiveness, recalls.</b>
<b>Need to use knowledge on pests, natural enemies, predation, insecticide actions. Judicious use.</b>	<b>No thinking needed. Calendar applications. Mixing several ingredients together to “make sure” of kill.</b>
<b>Maximize value of knowledge</b>	<b>Maximize value of sales Knowledge unimportant</b>
<b>Based on economic rationale</b>	<b>Based on emotions viz status, desire, fear, perceptions, attitudes, sense of power, price.</b>

# Generalized Rice Pesticide Information Supply Chain





**Hands up those who get their pest management advice from the local pesticide retailers**





# IRRI Wife of secondary pesticide retailer advising farmers to mix cypermethrin with herbicides



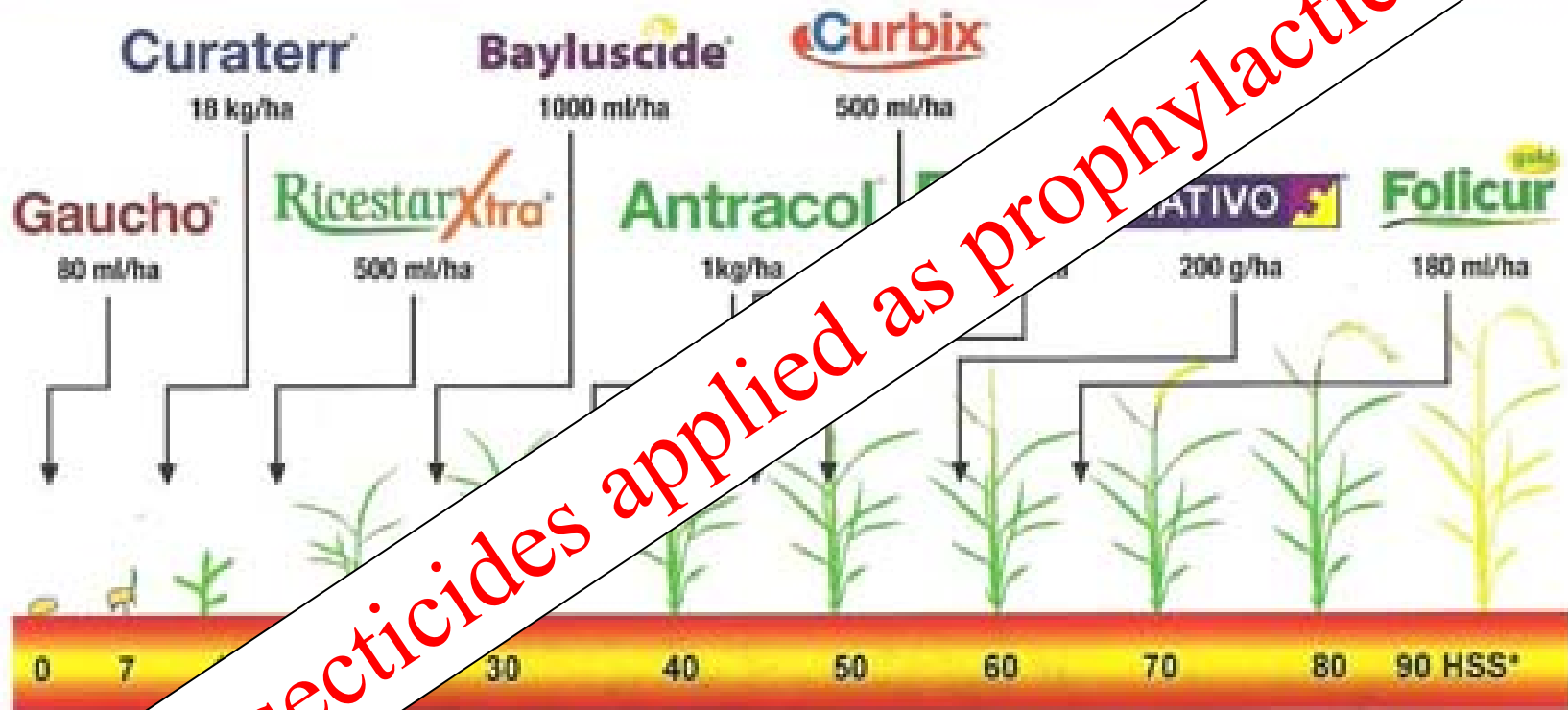
The shop keeper gave wrong advice and sold me the wrong medicine





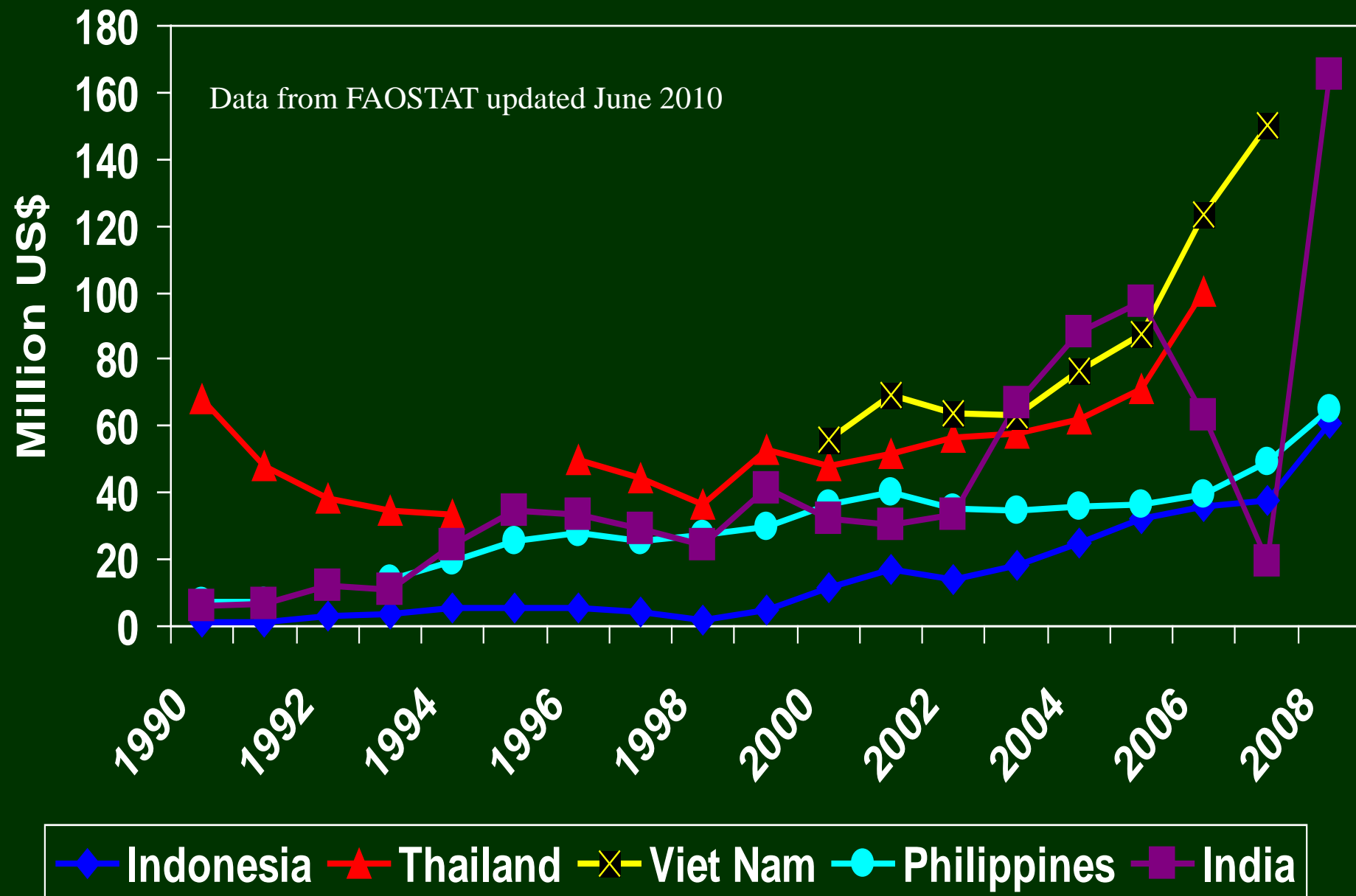
# Today's pest management is prophylactic spraying

## PAKET PENGENDALIAN HAMA, PENYAKIT DAN GULMA PADA SISTEM BAYER TABELA



\* Hari Setelah Sebar

# Insecticide imports



# Rice production & Insecticide imports

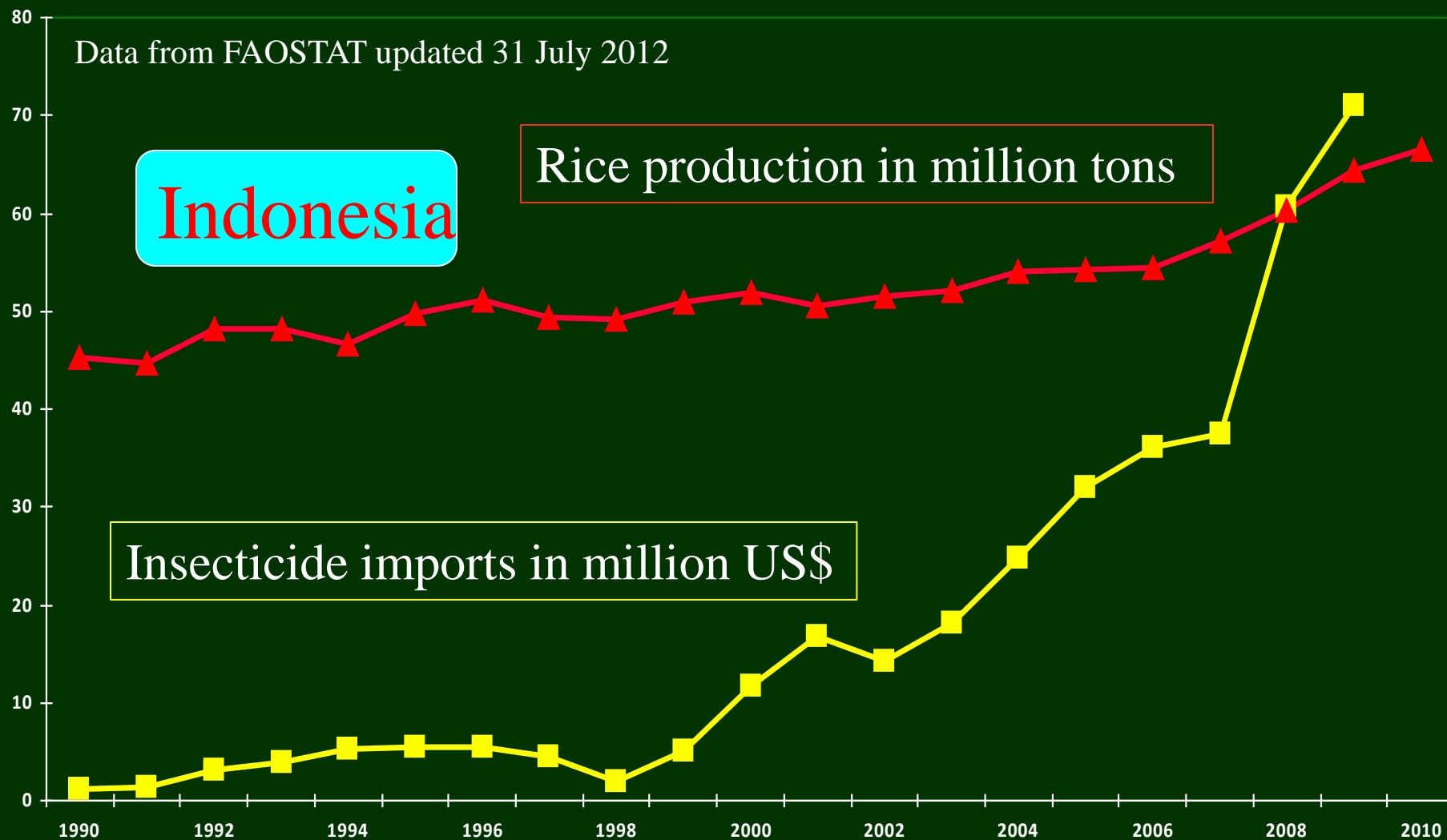
Mil tons/US\$

Data from FAOSTAT updated 31 July 2012

Indonesia

Rice production in million tons

Insecticide imports in million US\$

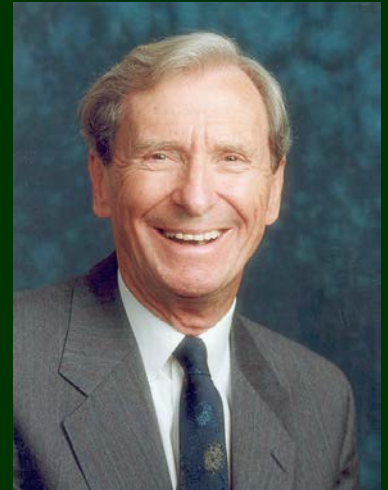




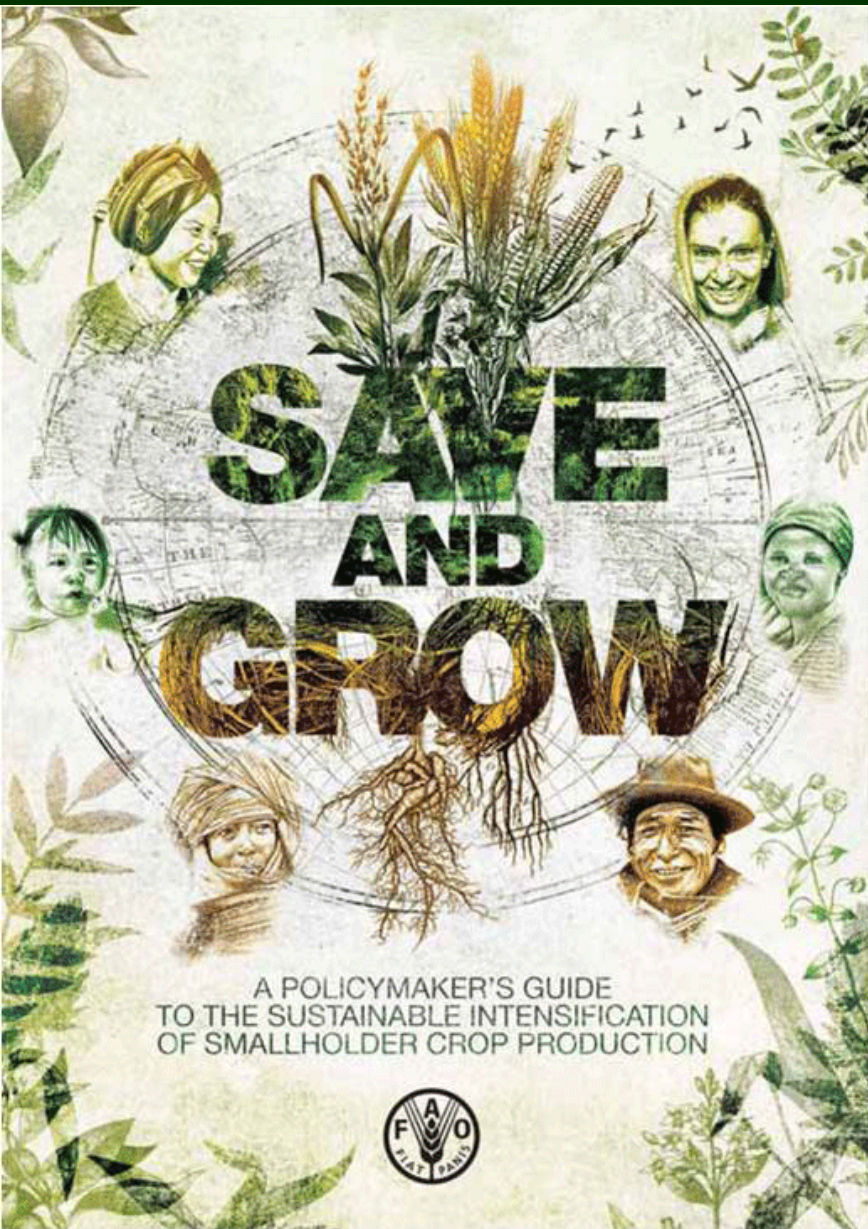
# IRRI Insecticides are not needed in most cases

- IRRI ecologists - Way & Heong (1994)

“ We conclude that IPM  
in tropical rice should be  
based on the contention that



***insecticides are not needed rather  
than they are and “pests” should be  
critically reassessed and **proven guilty  
before insecticide use is contemplated*****



SCPI: Sustainable Crop Production  
Intensification

FAO 2012:

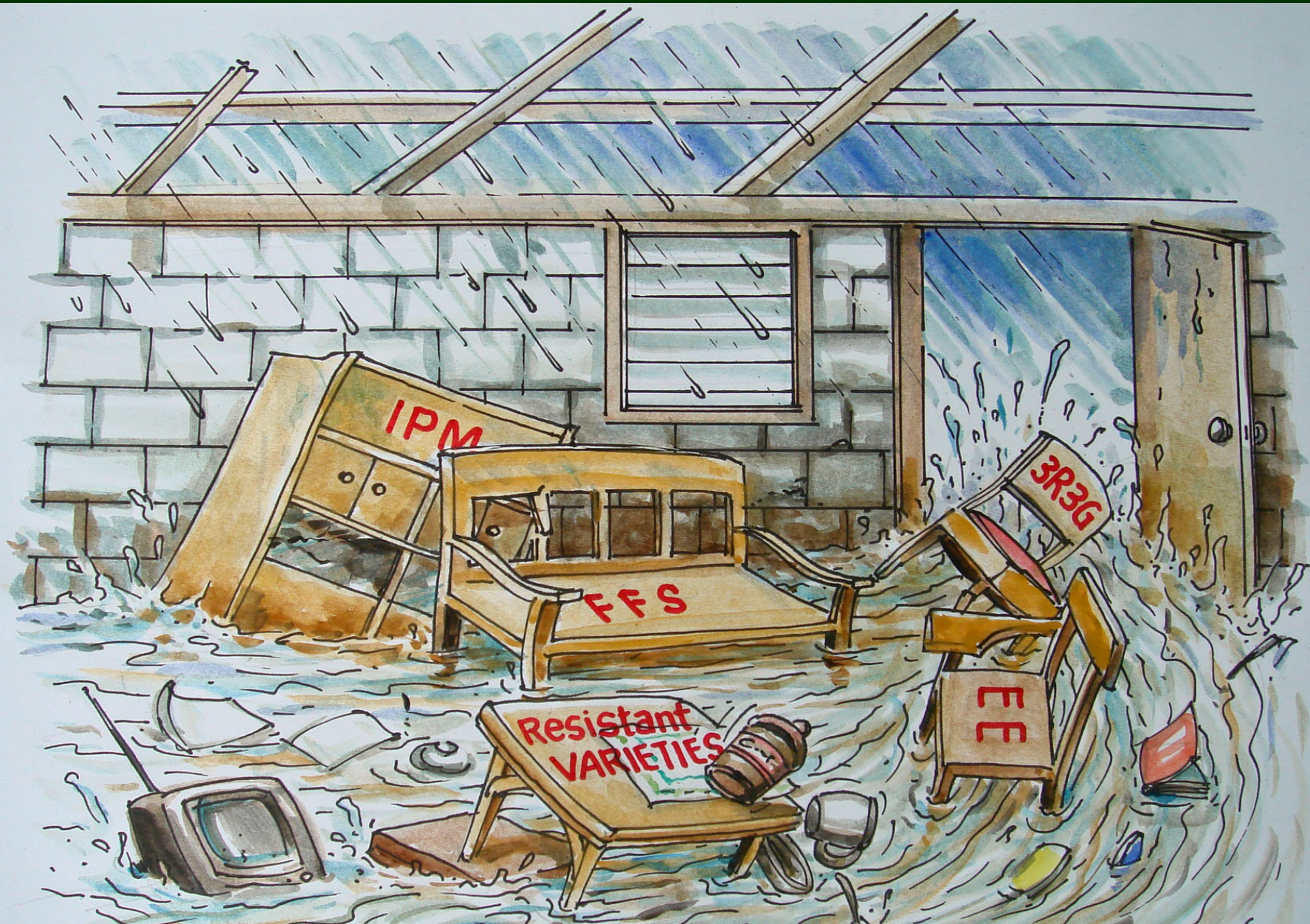
Most tropical  
rice crops under  
intensification  
require

***NO***

insecticide use



# House with No Roof – weak market regulations





# Current system favor YIN

## Positives

- Ecological research
- Resistant varieties
- Ecological engineering
- IPM training
- Insecticide reduction programs

## Negatives

- Pesticide promotion by private and Public sectors
- Govt subsidies, free distributions
- Low costs of pesticides
- Pesticide misuses

## Structures/Policies favoring Negatives

- Inadequate pesticides regulatory system
- Ecosystem services not factored into policies
- Incentives for short term profit gains
- Lack incentives for sustainable practices
- Access to emergency pesticide allocations



# Restore balance – structural transformation

## Positives

## Negatives

Pesticide promotion by private and Public sectors  
Govt subsidies, free distribution  
Low costs of pesticides  
Pesticide misuses

Plant Protection Services  
need Structural Transformation

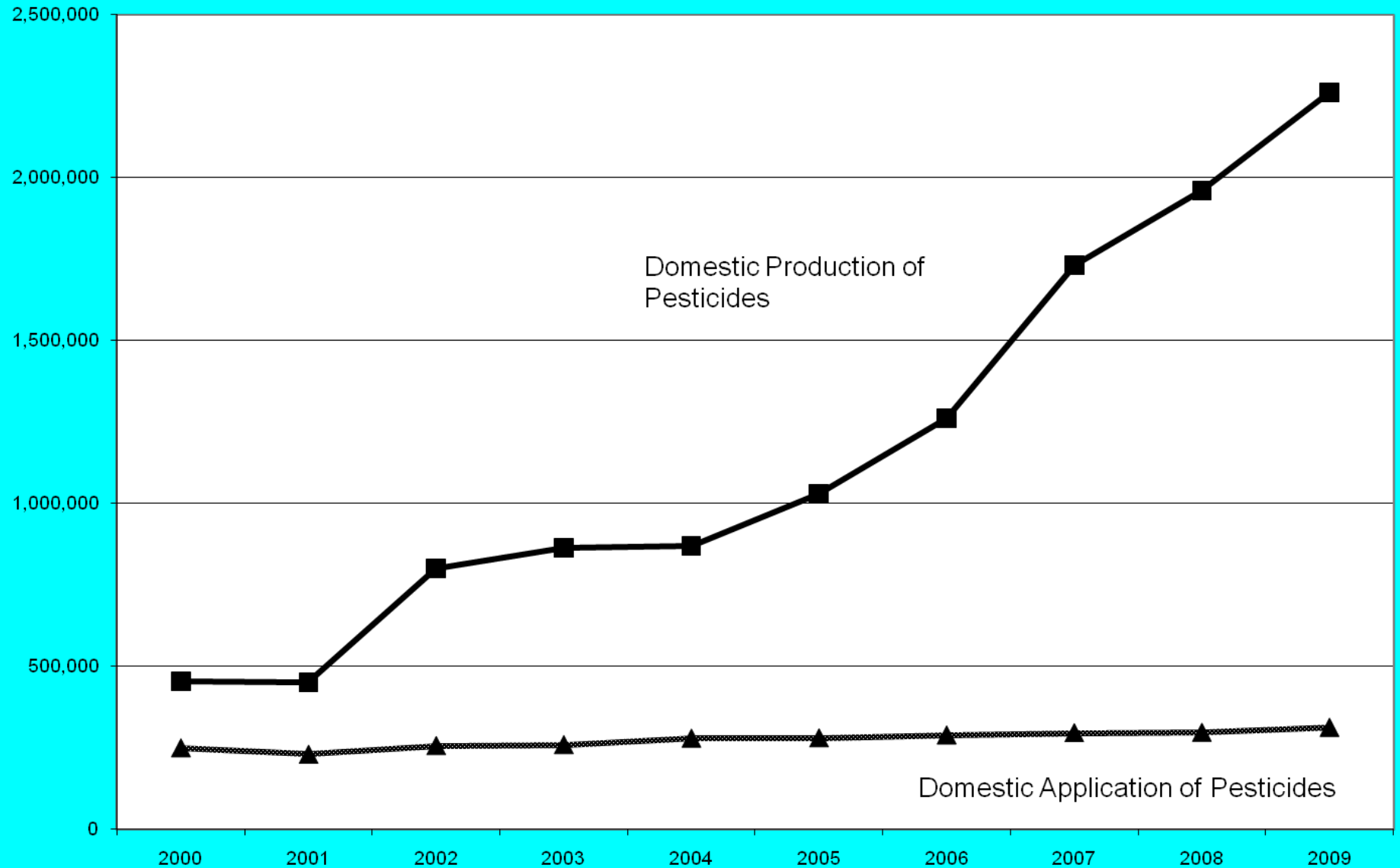
## Structures/Policies favoring Negatives

Inadequate pesticides regulatory system  
Ecosystem services not factored into policies  
Incentives for short term profit gains  
Lack incentives for sustainable practices  
Access to emergency pesticide allocations



# China's Pesticide Production (metric tons a.i.) 2000 – 2009.

[source: ICAMA]



A powerful tsunami wave is shown crashing over a coastal area. The water is a deep blue, and the wave's crest is a bright white, indicating a massive surge of water. Debris is visible on the shore in the foreground, suggesting the aftermath of a disaster. The sky is a pale blue, and the overall scene conveys the immense scale and power of the event.

# Pesticide Tsunami

**Resistant varieties, IPM  
Training, Biological control,  
Biodiversity, Ecological  
Engineering**

1. Large proportion of insecticides used **are unnecessary**.
2. There **is little productivity** gain from insecticide applications. Often negative if labor and health costs are factored in
3. Planthopper problems are **insecticide induced**.
4. The mechanisms have been thoroughly researched, simulation models built, well understood and documented.
5. Planthoppers are **r strategists** and management strategies are ecologically based at macro levels in the landscape and across countries.
6. Insecticide misuse is caused by the **FMCG marketing** conditions, misguided policies, research and biases toward favoring pesticide use.
7. **Farmers are the victims** and in information supply chain provide them poor advice.
8. It does NOT have to be like this, especially since we have the knowledge to help solve the problem.

**Can we build safe &  
sustainable pest  
management systems ?**

**Ecological Engineering**  
**生态工程**





<http://ricehoppers.net/>

## Ecological Engineering techniques

```
graph TD; A[Ecological Engineering techniques] --> B[Restore Biodiversity]; A --> C[Conserve Biodiversity]; B --> D[Species Biodiversity]; C --> D; D --> E[Ecosystem functions]; E --> F[Ecosystem Services];
```

The diagram is a flowchart illustrating the impact of ecological engineering techniques. It starts with a top-level box 'Ecological Engineering techniques' which branches into two parallel boxes: 'Restore Biodiversity' (in red text) and 'Conserve Biodiversity' (in green text). Both of these boxes have arrows pointing to a central box 'Species Biodiversity'. From 'Species Biodiversity', an arrow points down to 'Ecosystem functions', which in turn points down to the final box 'Ecosystem Services'. Each box contains specific details about the techniques or the resulting ecosystem components.

### Restore Biodiversity

Planting nectar flowers on bunds  
Crop diversification  
Increase diversity of varieties

### Conserve Biodiversity

Stop early season (first 40 days) insecticide use  
Avoid using insecticides toxic to bees and hymenoptera

### Species Biodiversity

Parasitoids, Predators, decomposers

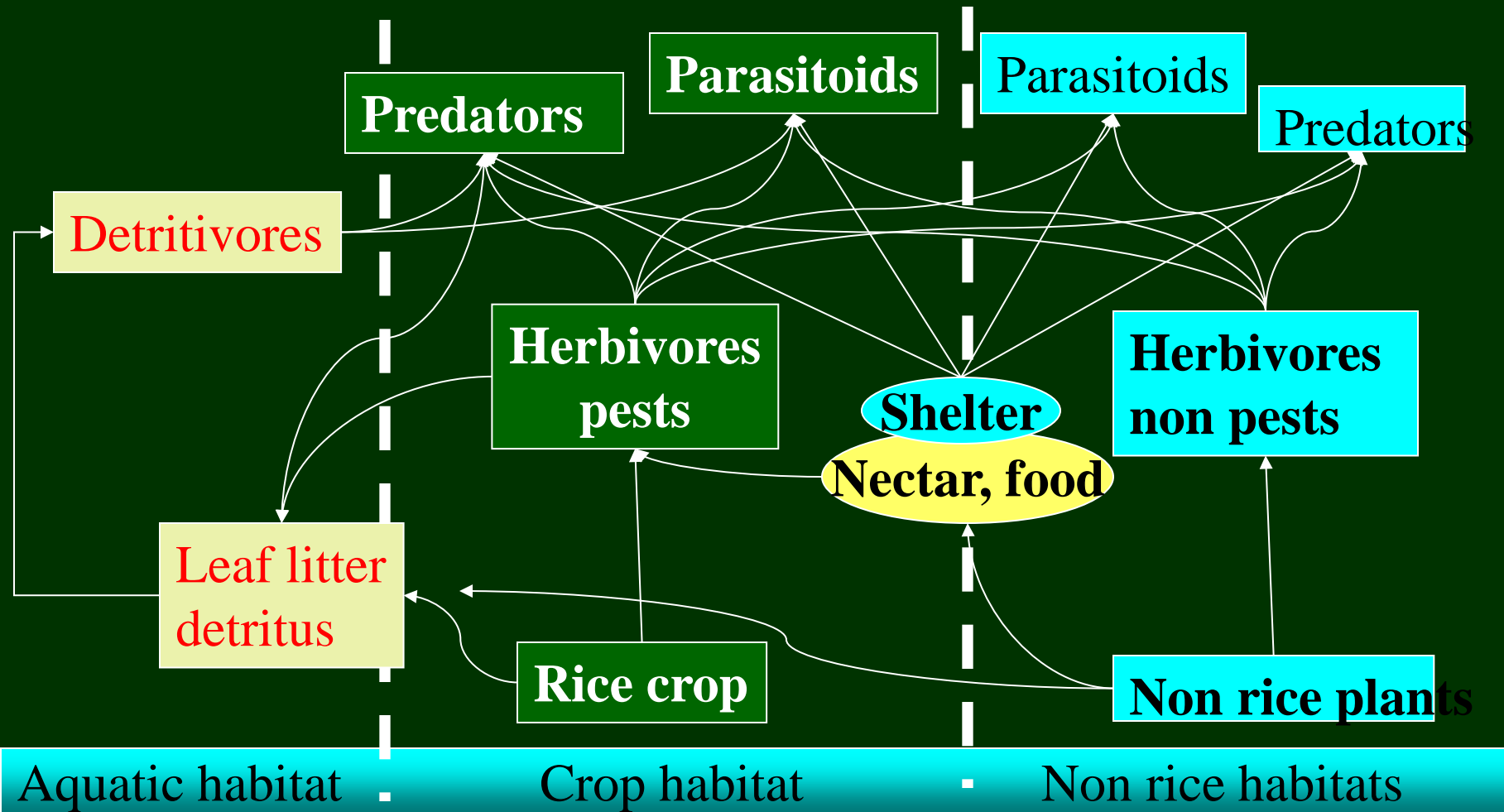
### Ecosystem functions

Pollination, parasitism, predation

### Ecosystem Services

Pest invasion resistance,  
Pest and disease regulation  
Pollination

# Rice ecosystem food web



# Key Resources Provided by Ecological Engineering

- **SNAP**
- **S**helter
- **N**ectar
- **A**lternative Host/Prey
- **P**ollen



# Ecological Engineering Australia

**Buckwheat  
(*Fagopyron  
esculentum*)  
used in Australian  
vineyard to  
promote biological  
control of  
caterpillar pests.**





## Conservation biological control of the lettuce aphid in organic lettuce

Syrphid larvae (top right) feed on the lettuce aphid and other aphids. Organic growers enhance the activity of these natural enemies by providing nectar resources (nectar and pollen) to adult syrphids (bottom right) in lettuce fields with in-field plantings of alyssum (below) and other insectary plants.



Photo: W.E. Chaney



Photo: W.E. Chaney



Photo: H.A. Smith









Prof Steve Wratten,  
Lincoln University,  
New Zealand



# Ecological engineering in Jin Hua

## 金华市水稻生态工程实验示范区

**示范目标：**示范区化学防治次数减少3次以上、化学农药使用量下降50%以上，水稻重大病虫害损失总体控制在3%以下，稻米达到无公害标准。

**技术措施：**选用抗病虫害品种；灯光、诱虫植物和性诱剂诱杀技术；田边留草和种植开花作物、保护和利用天敌；冬季种植绿肥、减少化肥使用量；水稻前期坚持不用或少用农药、全面放宽防治指标；优先选用生物农药、必要时选用选择性强、对天敌安全的化学农药；尽量选用农药单剂、实现农药轮换使用。

**示范内容：**水稻品种田间抗性评价；植物和节肢动物生物多样性；生物农药应用技术；开花作物对天敌种群增长的影响；肥料对害虫和天敌种群的影响；害虫抗药性监测；性诱剂、诱虫植物和杀虫灯对害虫的控制能力和对天敌种群的影响；优化农药防治策略。

**建设单位：**农业部农业技术推广服务中心

浙江省植物保护检疫局

**实施单位：**金华市植物保护站

**技术依托：**国际水稻研究所 (IRRI)

浙江大学

**资助项目：**亚洲发展银行ADB-IRRI基金项目  
部、省农作物病虫害绿色防控专项

浙江省农业科学院

金华市农业局

金华寺平稻米专业合作社

浙江省农业科学院植微所

中国水稻研究所

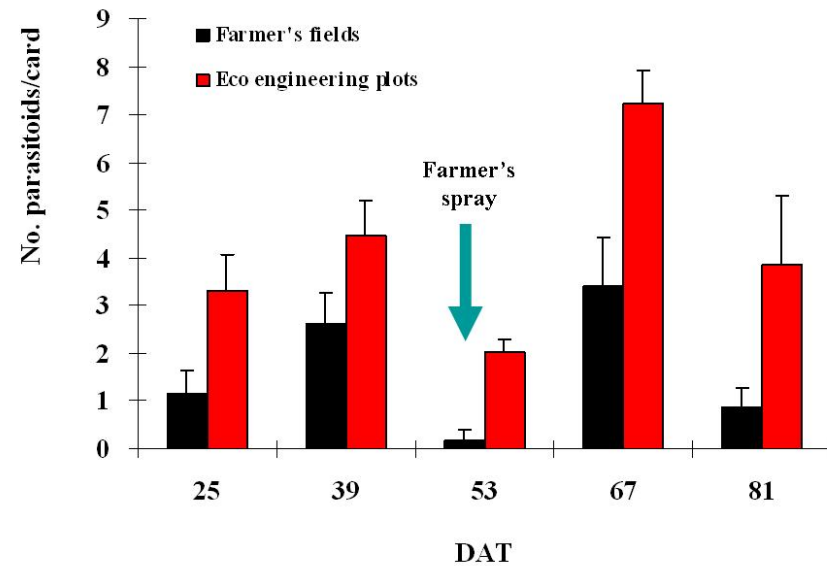
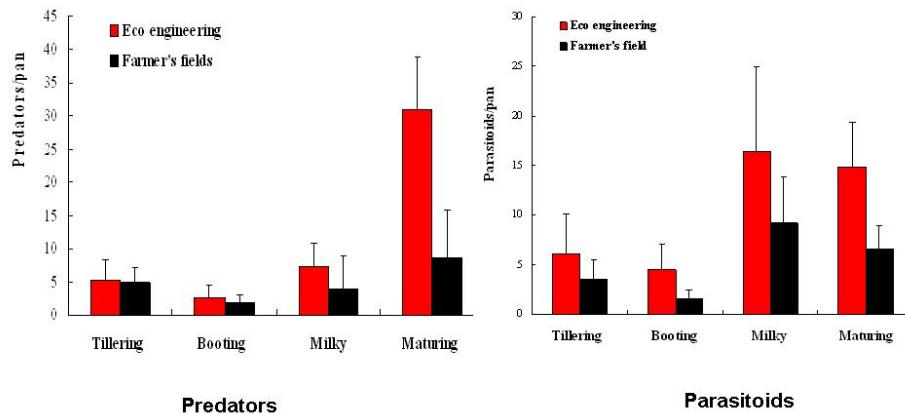
国家公益性行业 (农业) 科研专项



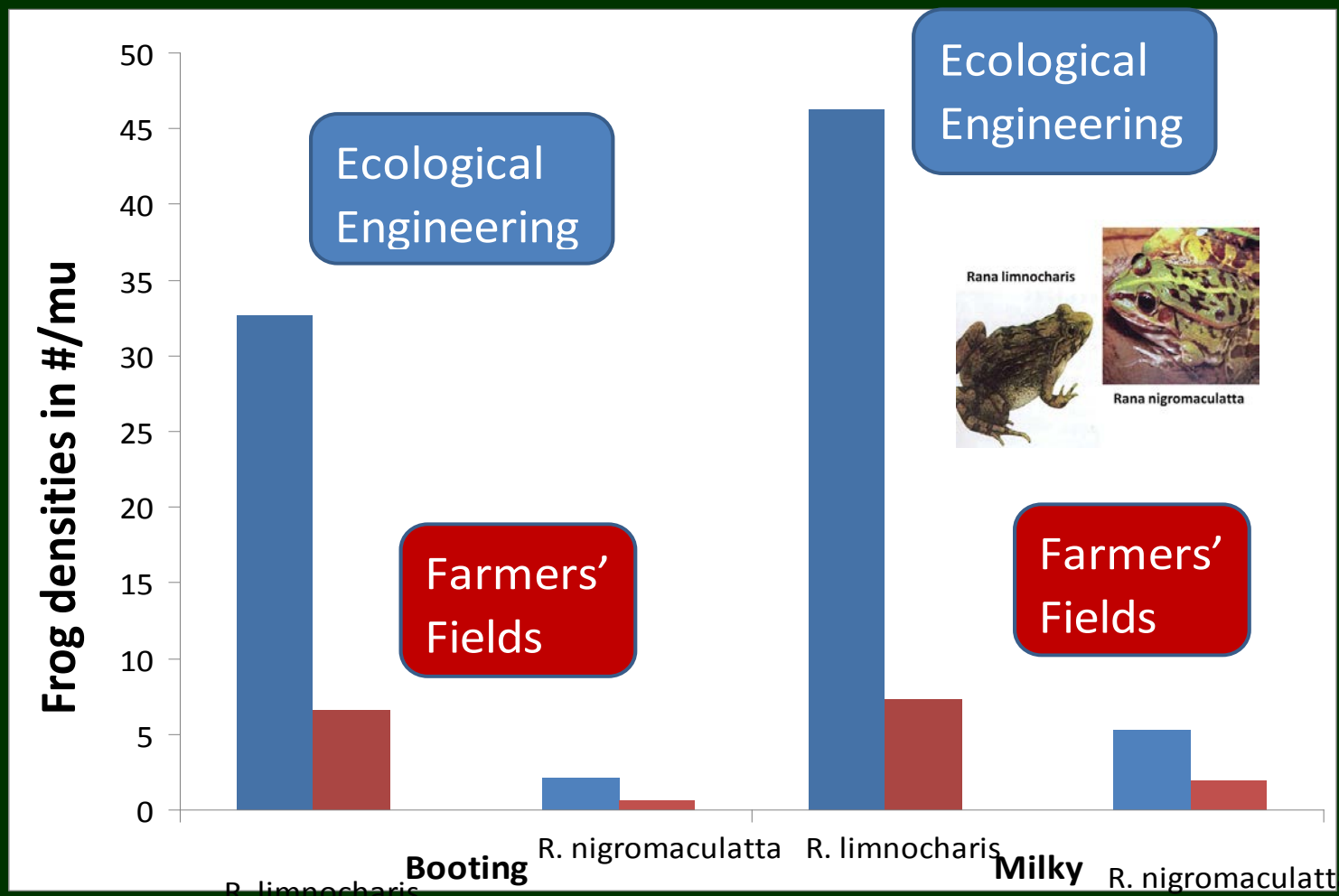


# Increase in parasitoids in rice field with sesame and no insecticide use

Jin Hua, Zhejiang



# Frog densities increase in eco eng fields







Enhance honey production

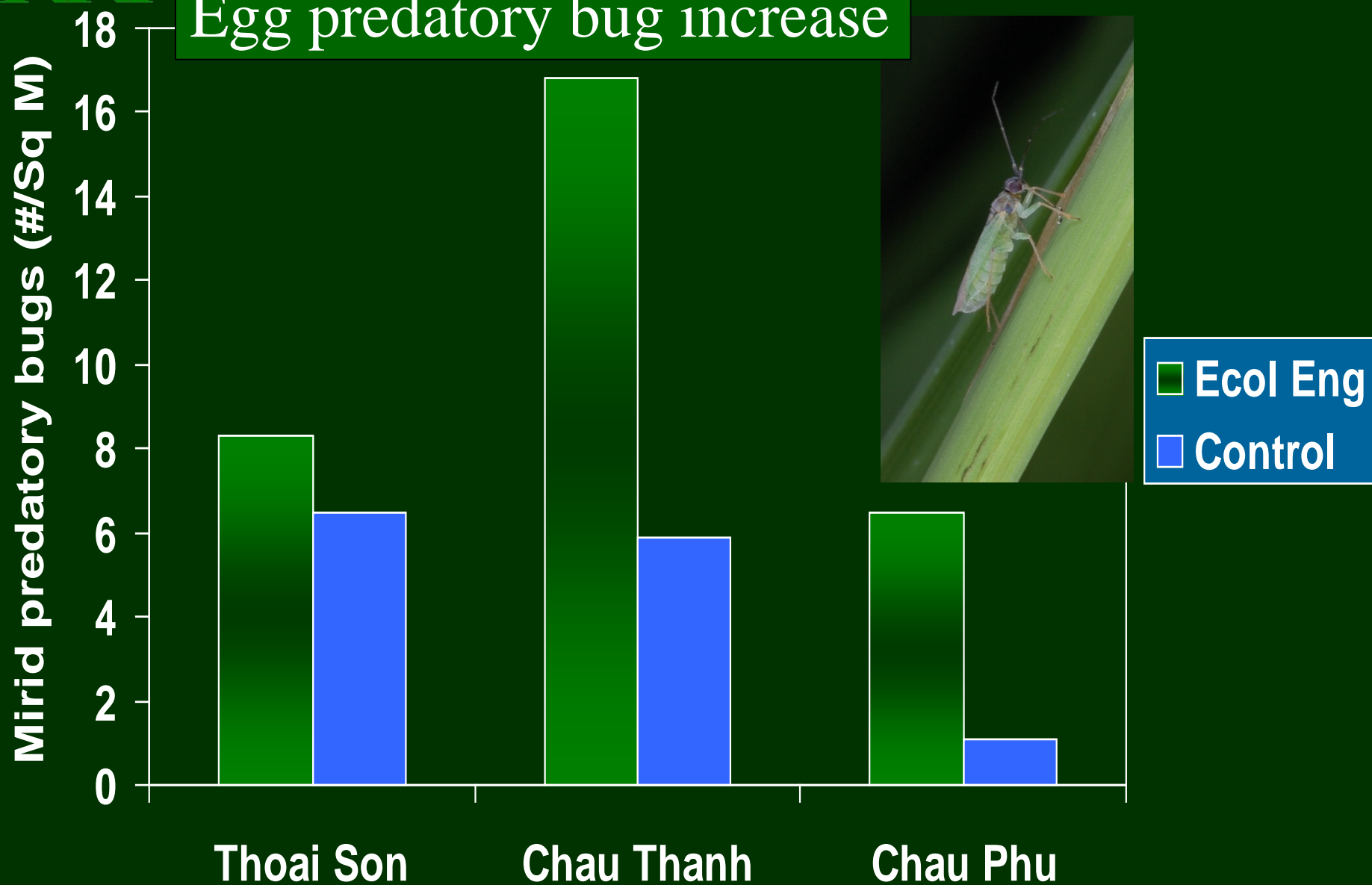


# Landscape transformation in many Vietnam provinces





## Egg predatory bug increase



# Multi media campaign in Vietnam to motivate rural communities to restore biodiversity, increase natural biological control, reduce pesticides and increase their profits





**IRRI**

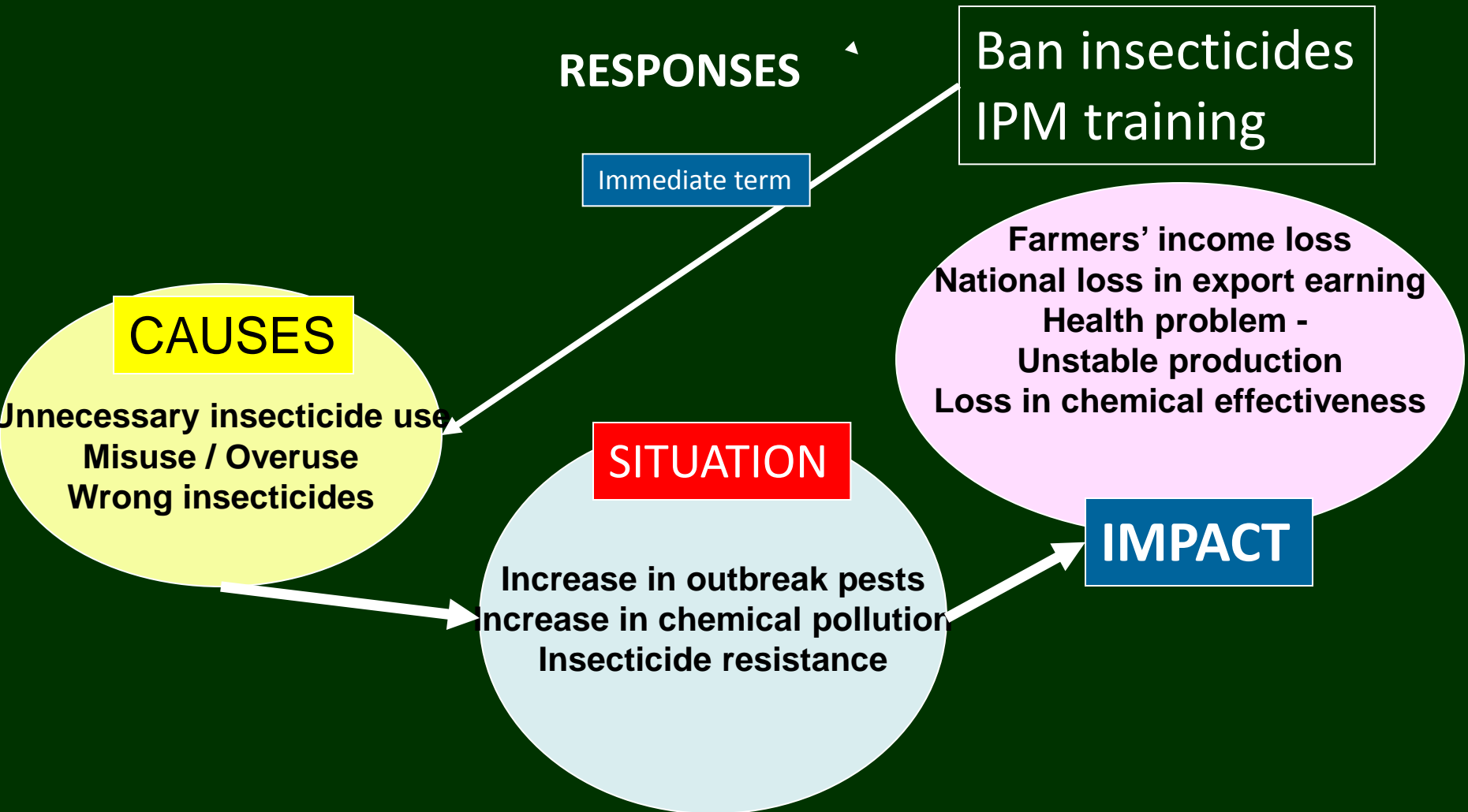
# TV series with popular comedians



## Nakhon Nayuk



# Root Causes of Planthopper problems





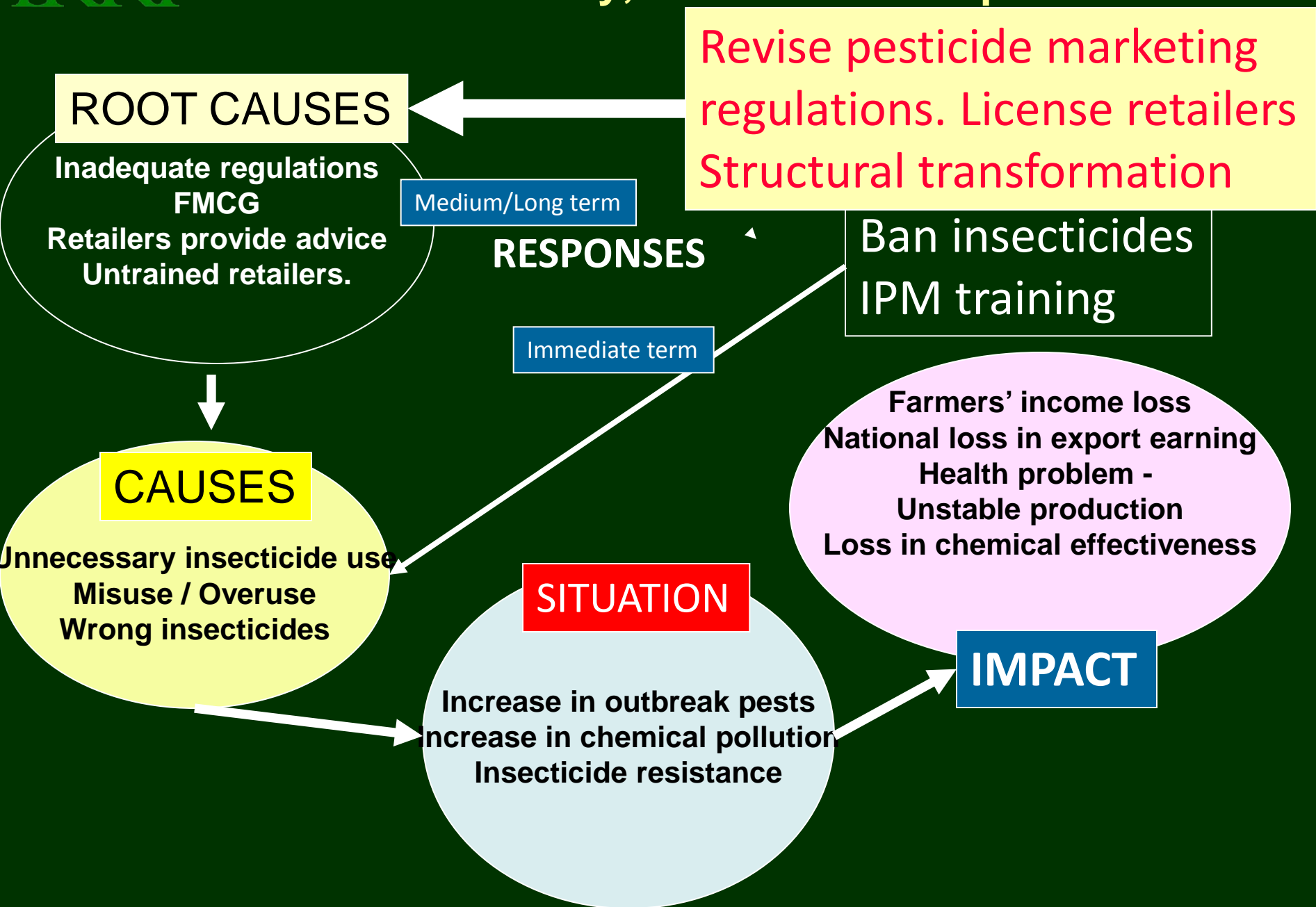
# การประชุมวิชาการข้าวและธัญพืชเมืองหนาว ในโอกาสวันข้าวและชาวนาแห่งชาติ ครั้งที่ 2 ปี

ระหว่างวันที่ 3-4 มิถุนายน 2554

ณ โรงแรมทิพย์ทิพย์ การระบม...



# IRRI Restore biodiversity, resilience and professionalism





Governments need to play stronger governance roles to ensure quality information and pesticide prescriptions for farmers

Rather like in the medical profession where doctors and pharmacists are certified.

**Towards Sustainable Agro-ecosystems  
Plant Protection Services need  
to be transformed**

**FROM  
*DISTRIBUTING*  
PRODUCTS & INFORMATION  
TO  
*GOVERNANCE AND CONTROL*  
OF PRODUCTS AND INFORMATION**



## South Korea

# Environmentally Friendly Agriculture (EFA)

**1994:**

**Environmentally Friendly Agriculture Division  
Established in the Ministry of Agriculture**

**1998:**

**Environmentally Friendly Agriculture Promotion Act  
(EFA Act)**

**2001~2005:**

**First 5 Year EFA Promotion Plan**

**2006~2010:**

**Second 5 Year EFA Promotion Plan**

**2010:**

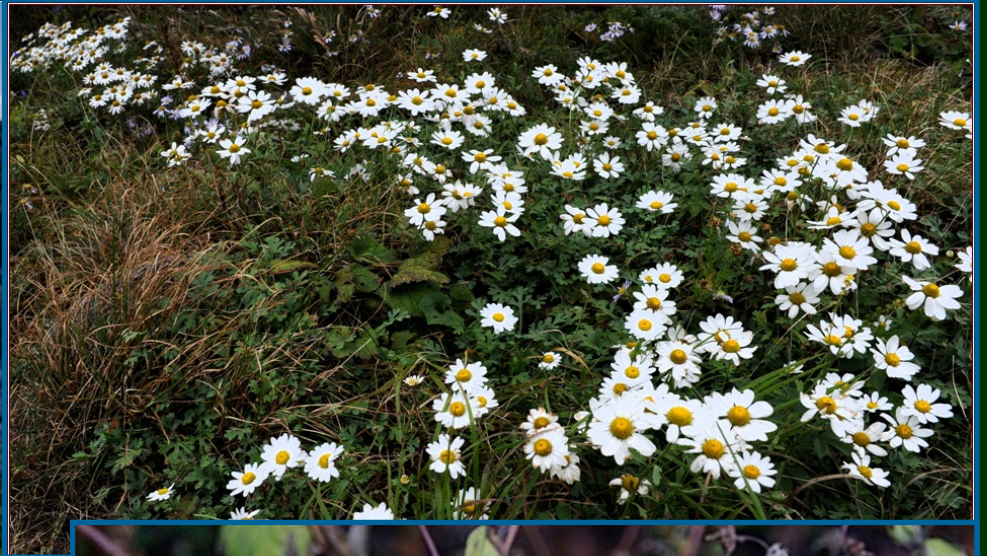
**Insect Industry Promotion Act**

# Landscape Crops





# Landscape Floral Biodiversity

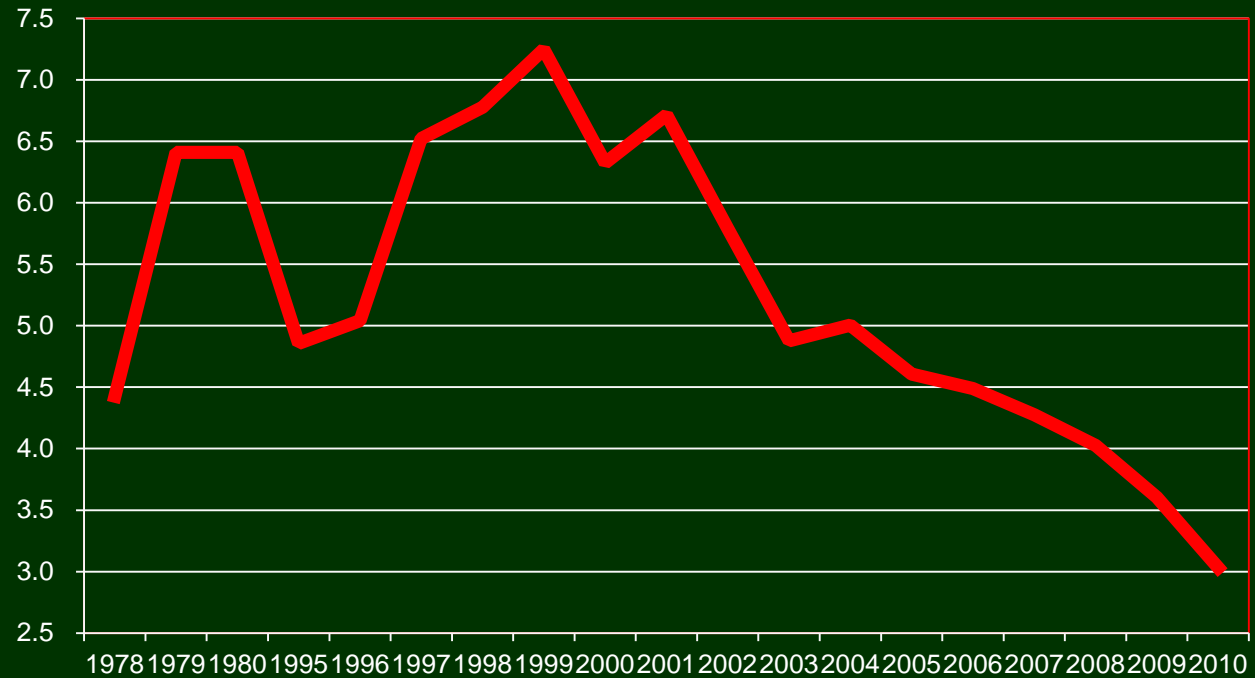




# Pesticide Consumption Trends

Pesticide Consumption  
(1000ton)

Total Use on Paddy



Year

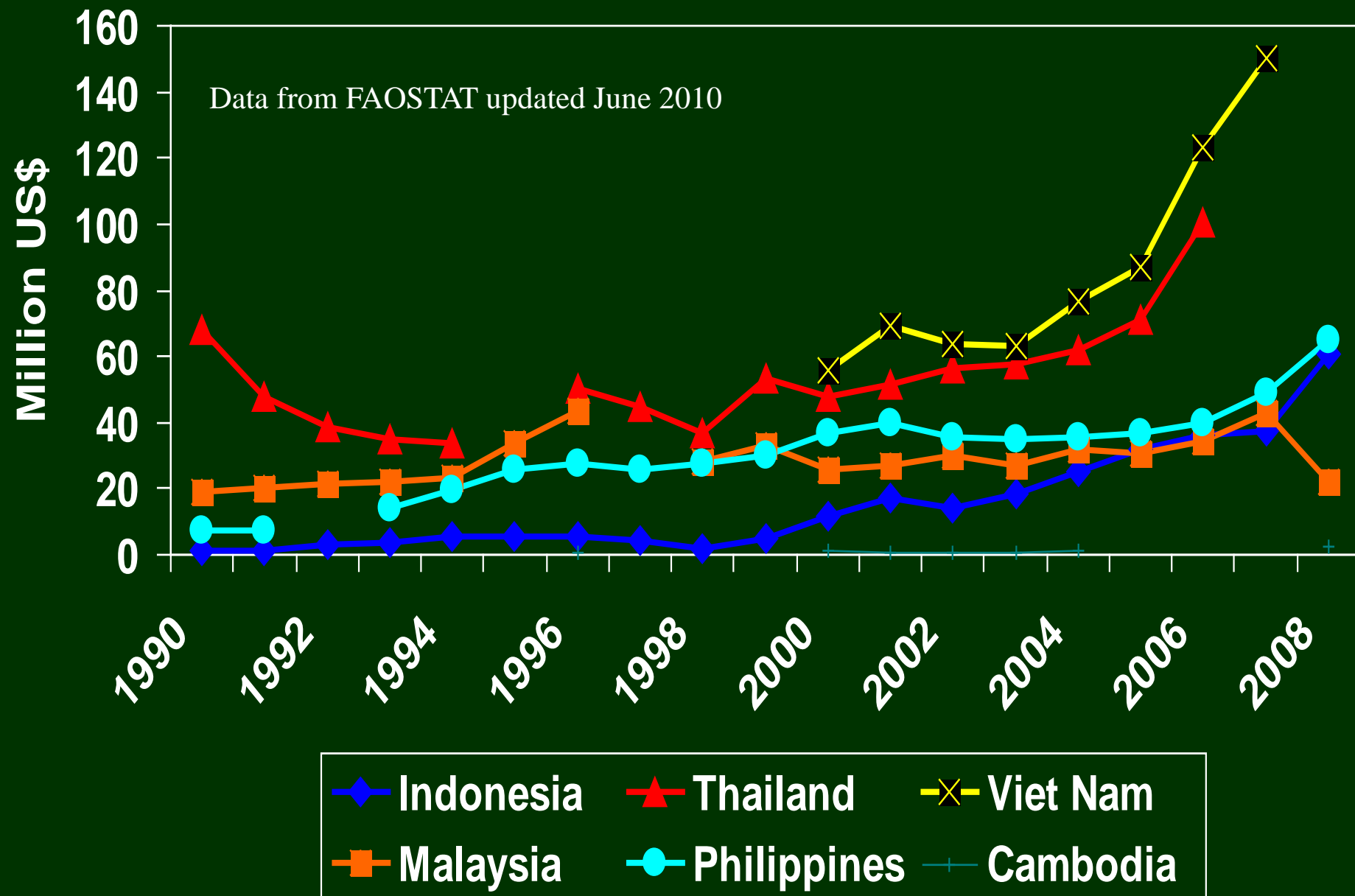


<http://ricehoppers.net/>

# INSECTICIDE USE IN SE ASIA



# Insecticide imports



## Insecticide imports 1980-2010

US\$K/Km<sup>2</sup> (Source FAOStats)

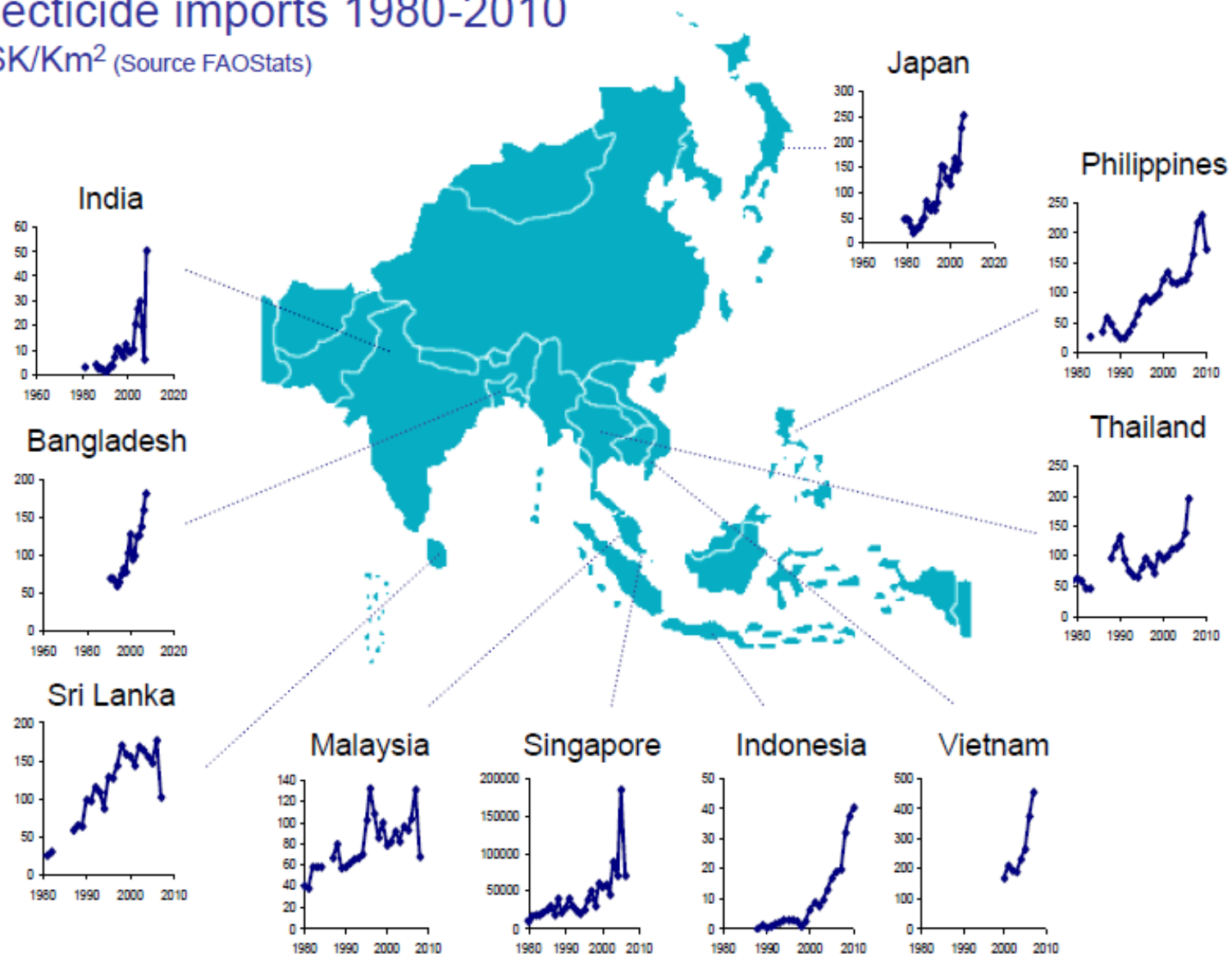


Table 1. Percent of farmers using each insecticide at different crops stages

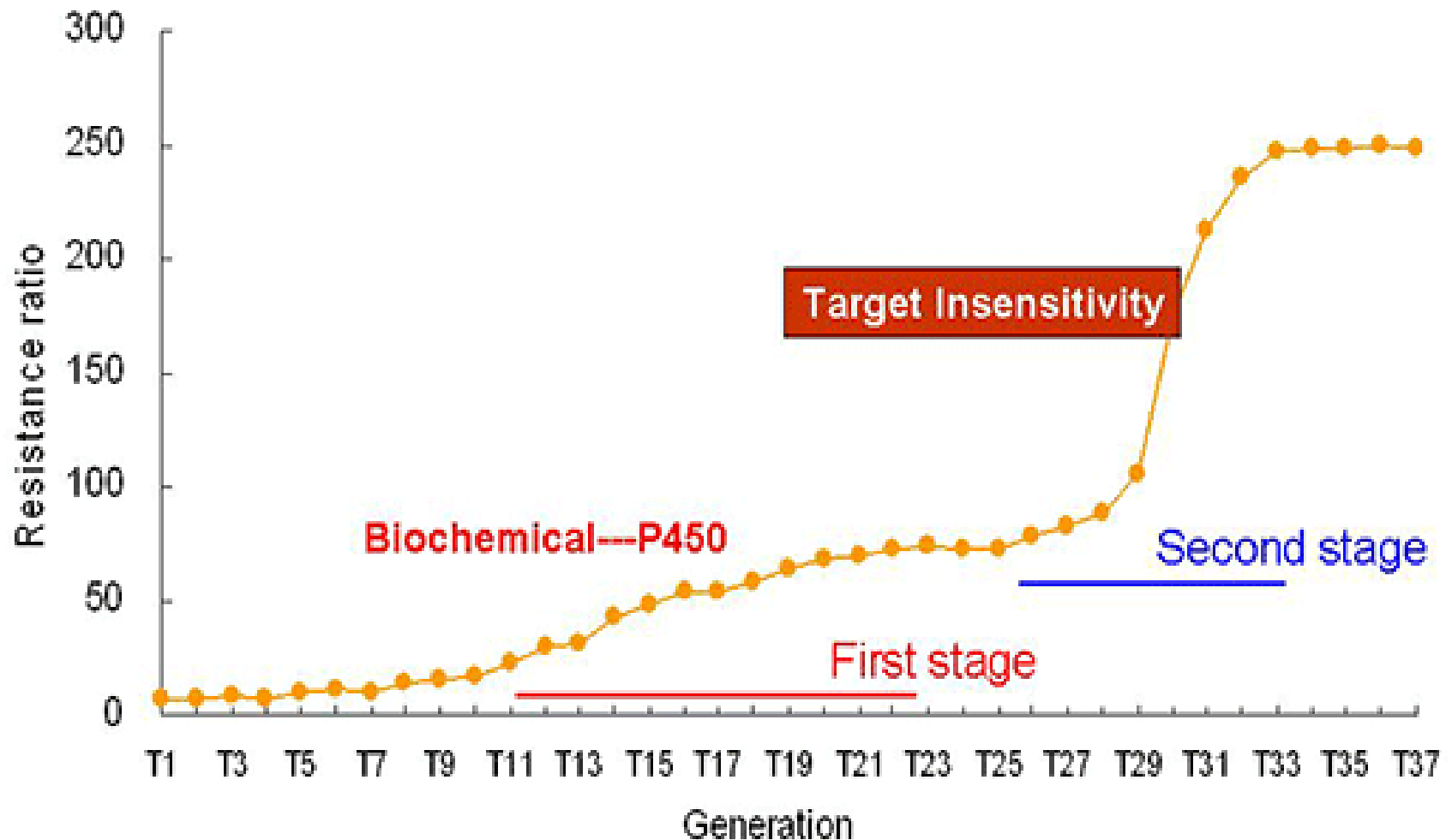
	Crop stages (days after sowing)				
Insecticide	0-15	16-40	41-60	61-70	> 70
Abamectin	39.1	31.0	40.0	39.1	37.5
Cypermethrin	26.0	3.3	20.0	2.2	6.3
Chlorpyrifos	15.6	8.7	13.3	10.9	15.0
Dinotefuran	4.2	14.6	6.7	10.9	0
Fenobucarb	0.8	0.3	6.7	2.2	0
Cartap hydrochloride	4.0	5.1	0	8.7	0
Imidacloprid	0.6	3.0	0	4.3	5.0
Fipronil	0.2	3.6	0	0	0
Buprofezin	0.8	3.8	0	2.2	0
Dimethoate	0.2	8.0	0	8.7	25.0
Carbofuran	2.5	2.0	0	2.2	5.0



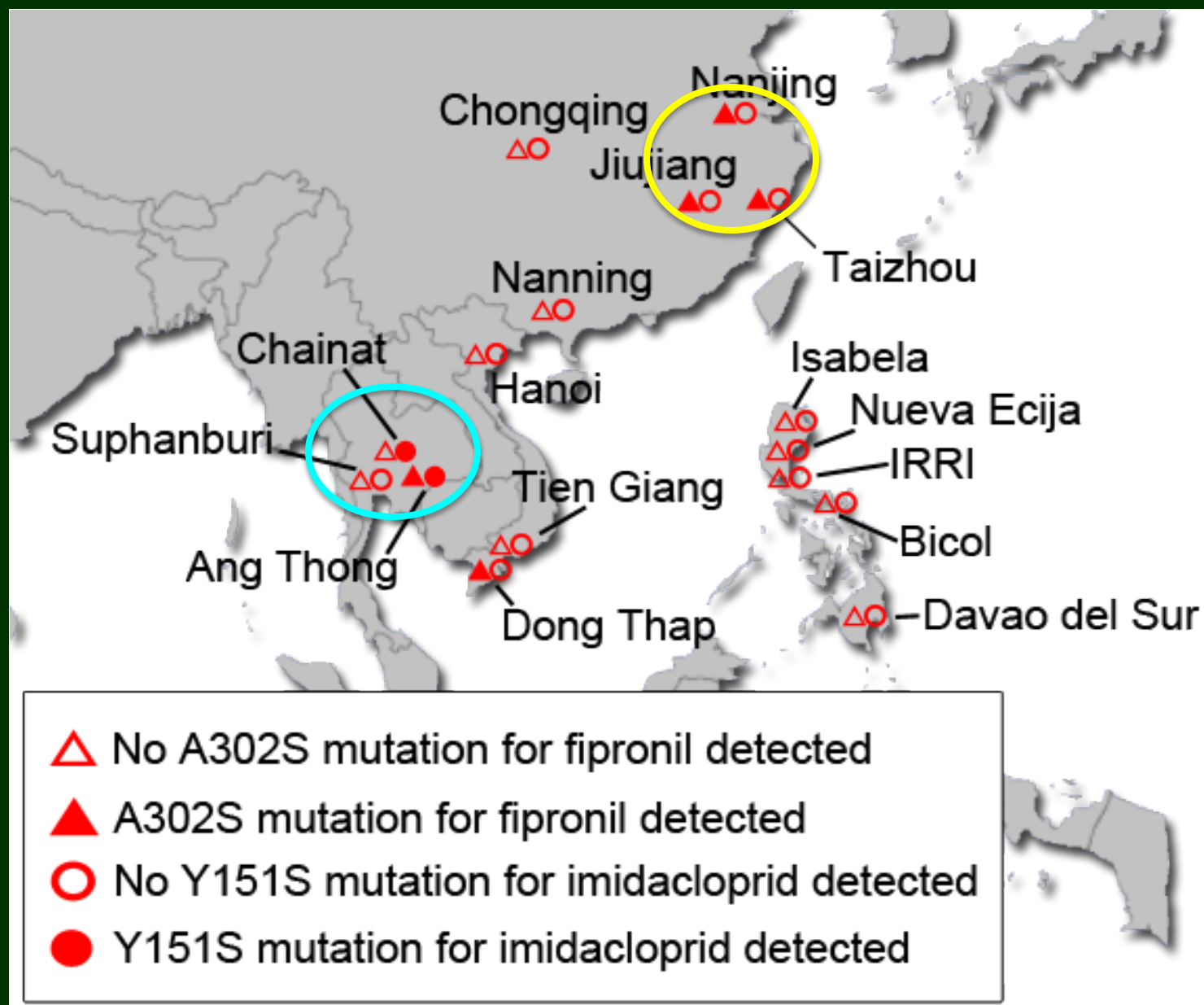


# Toxicities and relative potencies of imidacloprid to BPH from 5 different locations in Asia

Location	LD50 in mg/g insect (95% fiducial limits)	Slope (SE)	Heterogeneity	Relative potency
Bicol, Philippines	0.179 (0.144-0.215)	2.70 (0.33)	0.61	1.00
Isabela, Philippines	0.207 (0.167-0.254)	2.11 (0.20)	0.96	1.16
Angthong, Thailand	0.509 (0.266-0.760)	3.27 (0.24)	2.38	2.84
Changsa, China	5.526 (3.573-7.722)	2.45 (0.20)	1.43	30.87
Jinhua, China	11.596 (8.588-14.887)	2.23 (0.20)	1.25	64.78

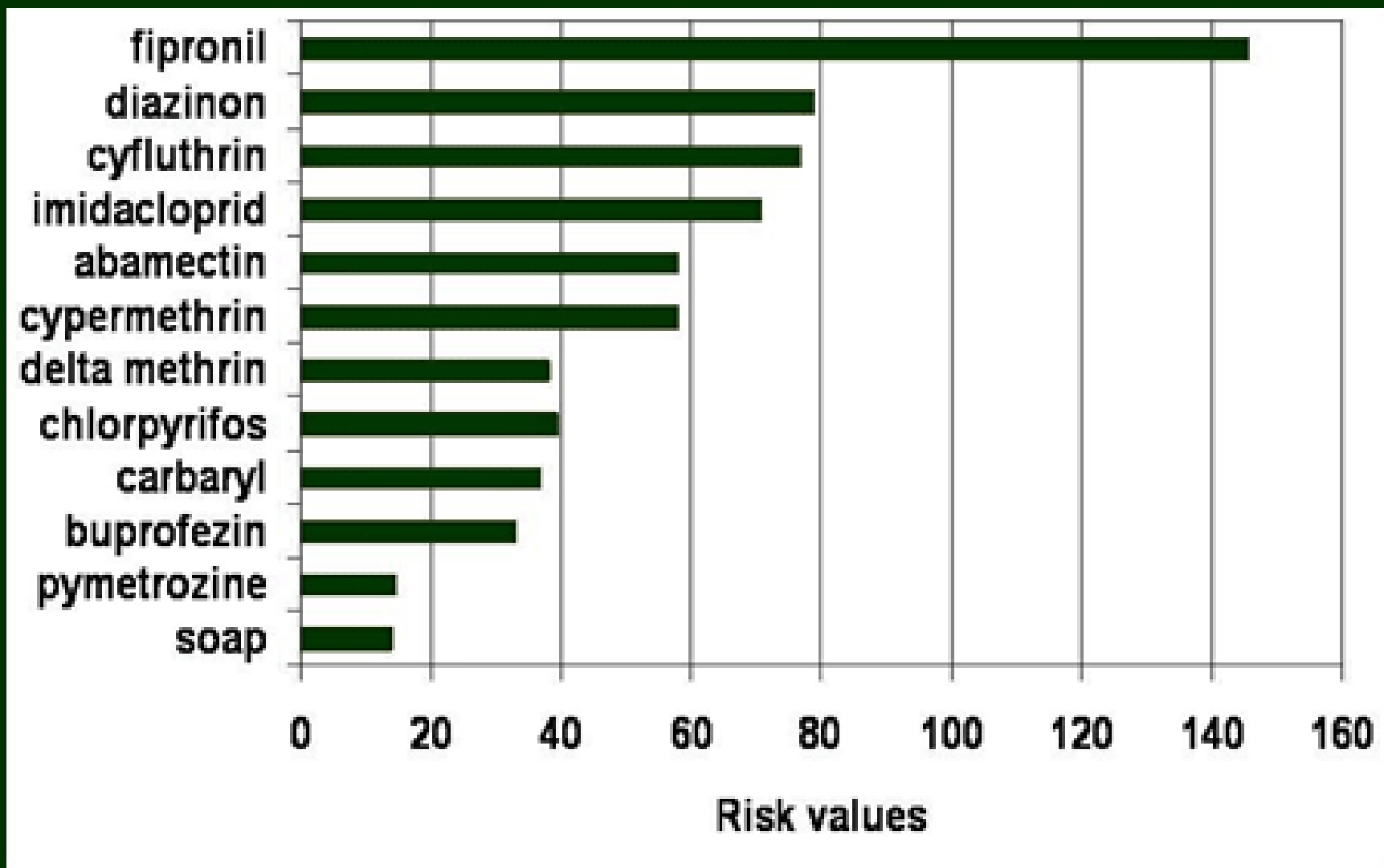


# Target site mutation





# Assessing pest outbreak risks of insecticides

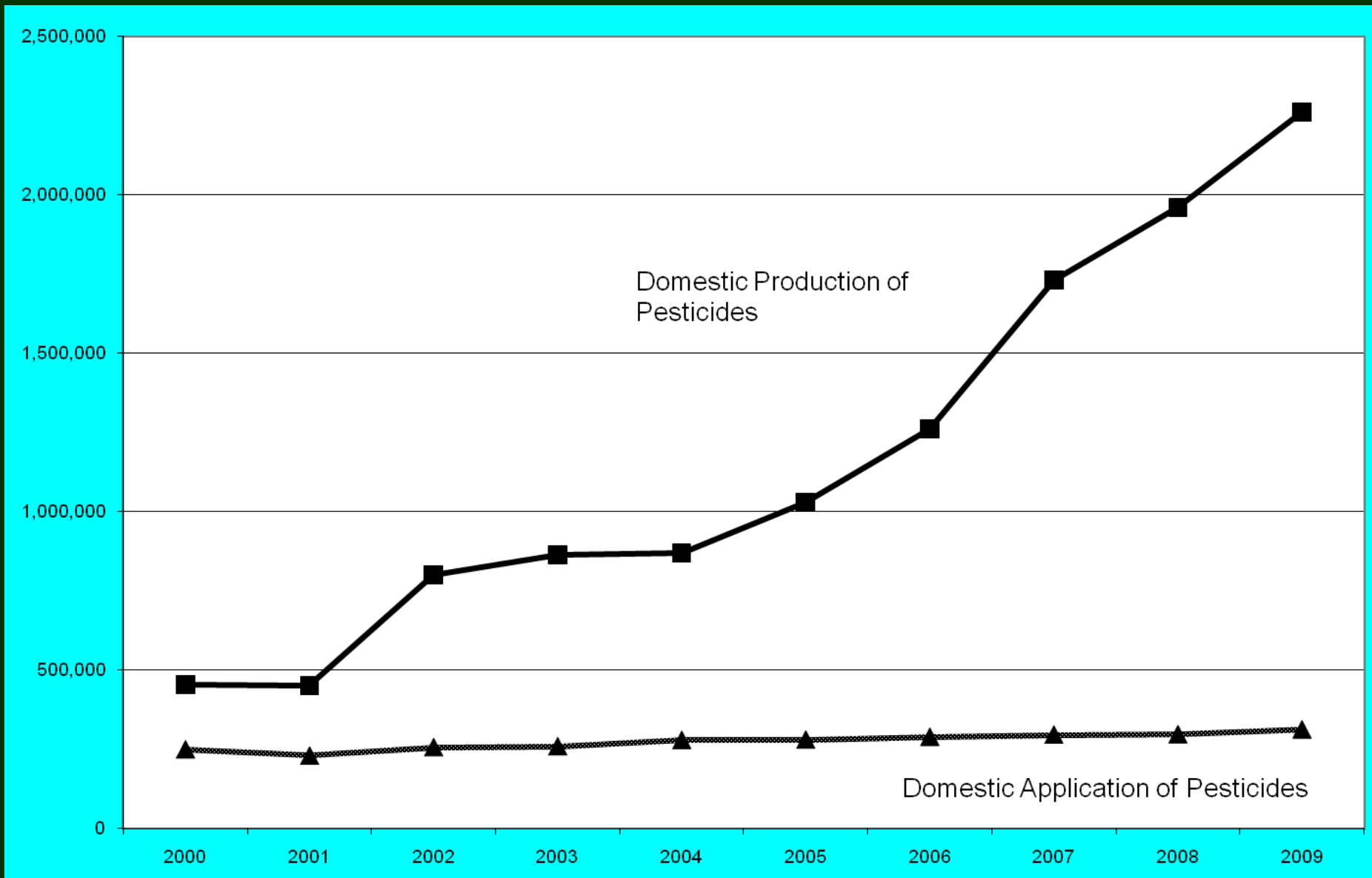


## Neonics in China

- Several neonics produced in China – imidacloprid most dominant
- 36 companies manufacturing imidacloprid
- China is the world's largest producer (14,000 t) and exporter (8,000t)
- Domestic market shrinking due to resistance development.
- Applications in rice had been the largest
- Sold as single AI or mixtures in > 500 trade names

# China's Pesticide Production (metric tons a.i.) 2000 – 2009.

[source: ICAMA]



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29 April 2013 Last updated at 14:15 GMT

26K

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# Bee deaths: EU to ban neonicotinoid pesticides

[COMMENTS \(872\)](#)

**The European Commission will restrict the use of pesticides linked to bee deaths by researchers, despite a split among EU states on the issue.**

There is great concern across Europe about the collapse of bee populations.

Neonicotinoid chemicals in pesticides are believed to harm bees and the European Commission says they should be restricted to



Honeybees are vital for pollinating crops - a job that would be very costly without them





**Neonicotinoid Insecticides May  
be Dumped in Asia if Banned in  
EU, U.S.**