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Managing lygus and weevils in canola farms

- an update

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Cabbage seedpod – a “chronic” pest in Southern Alberta



Cabbage seedpod weevil adult
Are sprayed at early flower (2-3/sweep)



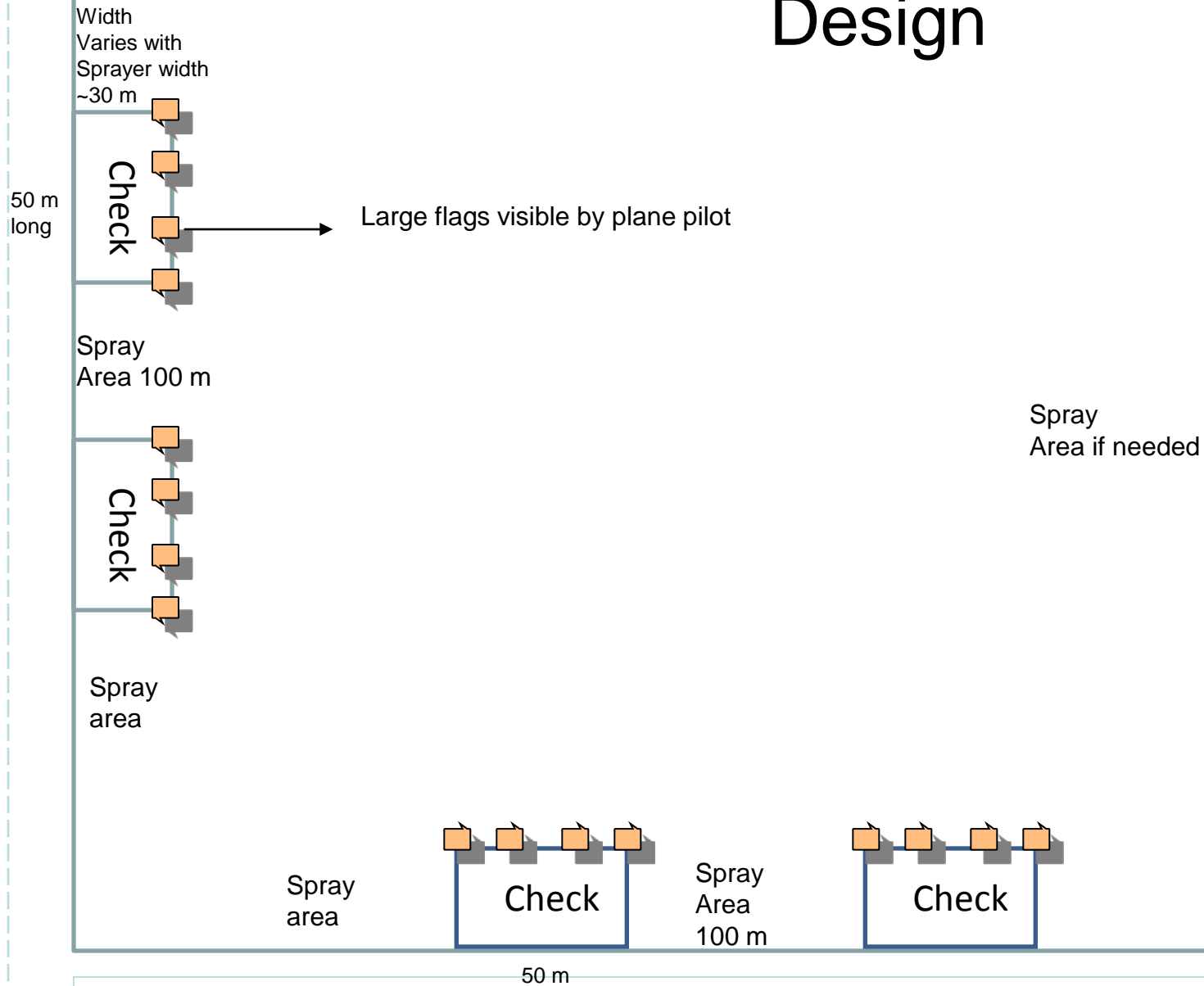
- Lygus are a late season pest
- numbers peak at pod stage
 - spraying at early-mid pod (1-2/sweep)
 - But data from plots, field scale?



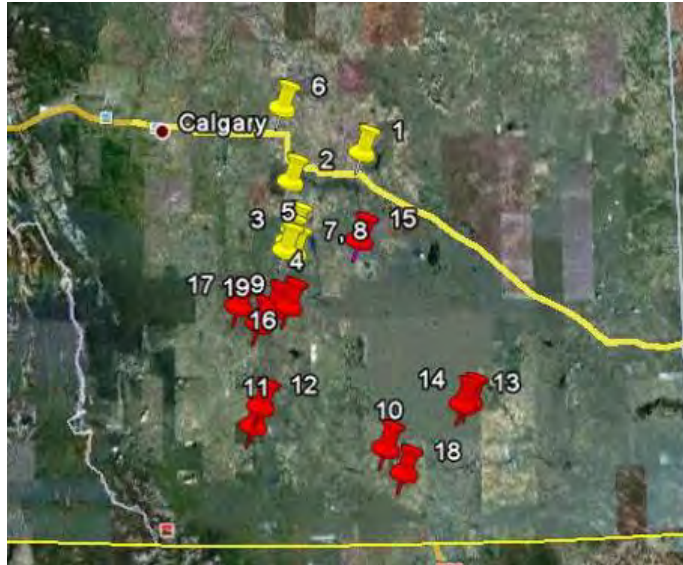
Objectives:

- Determine impact of spraying insecticide for cabbage seedpod weevil at early flower on abundance of lygus bugs at early pod in commercial farms
- And on canola yield!

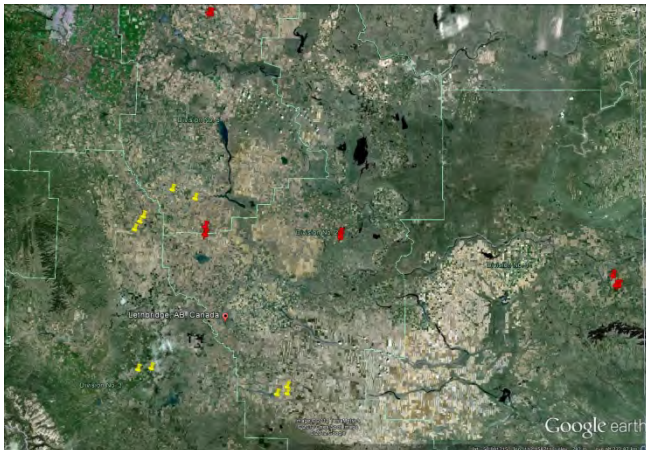
Design



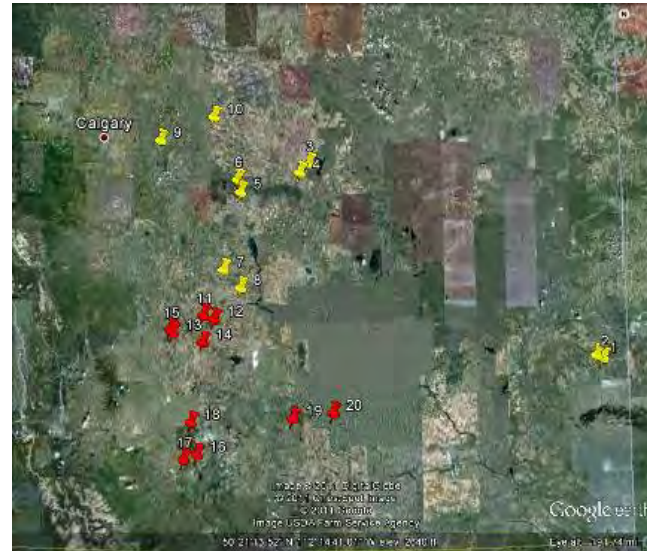
2010



2012



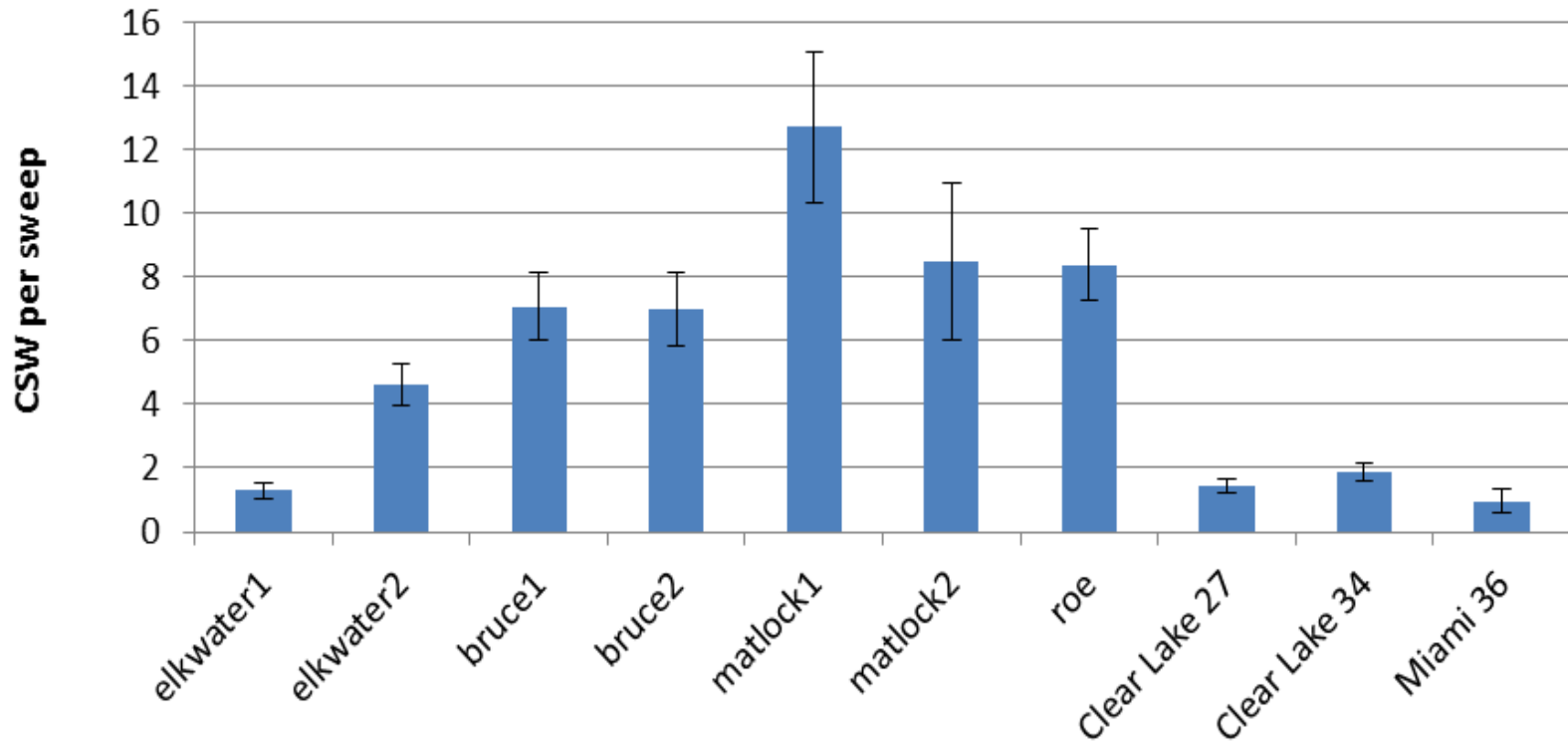
2011



2013

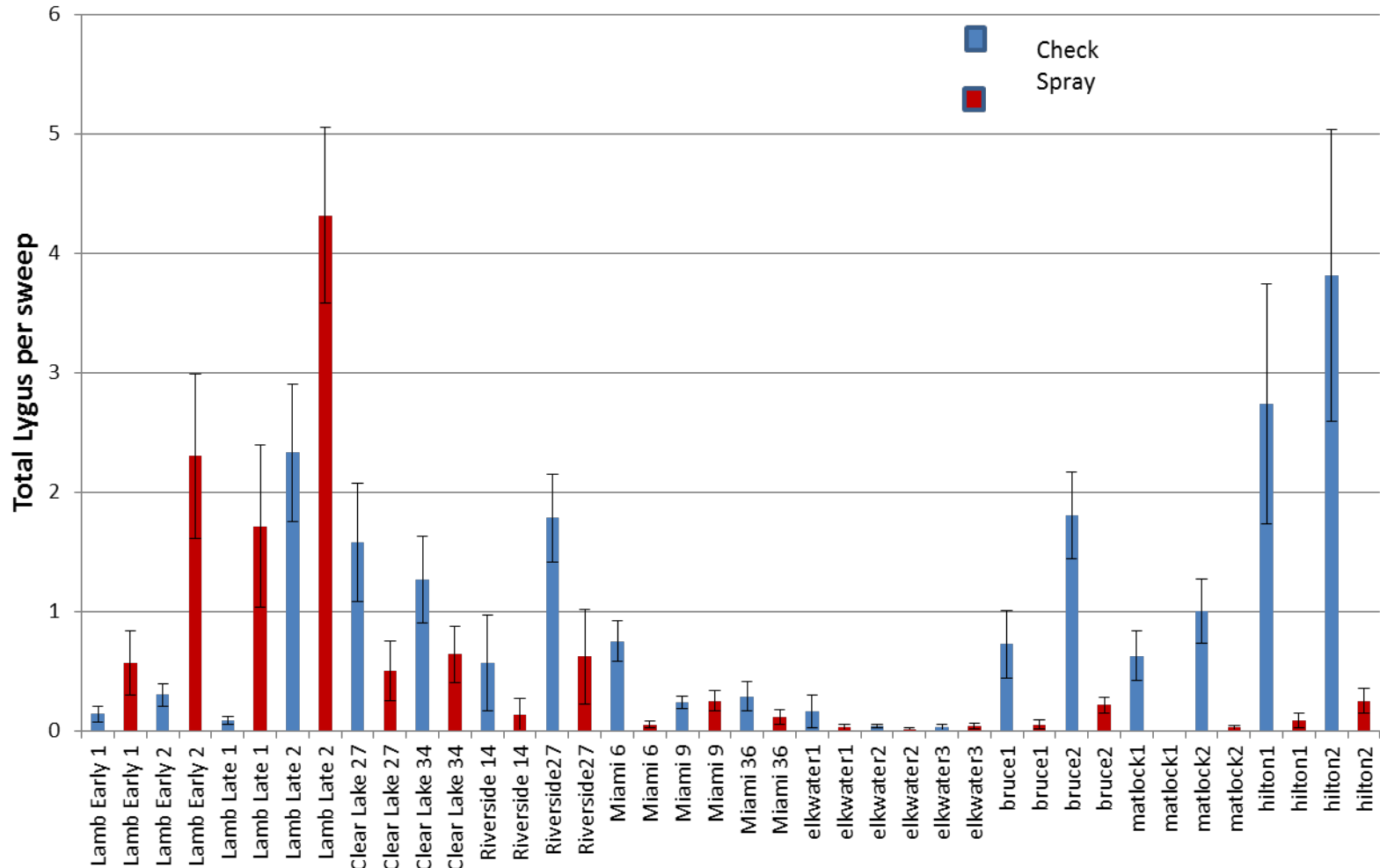
Some of you?

Cabbage Seedpod Weevil abundance at flower 2012

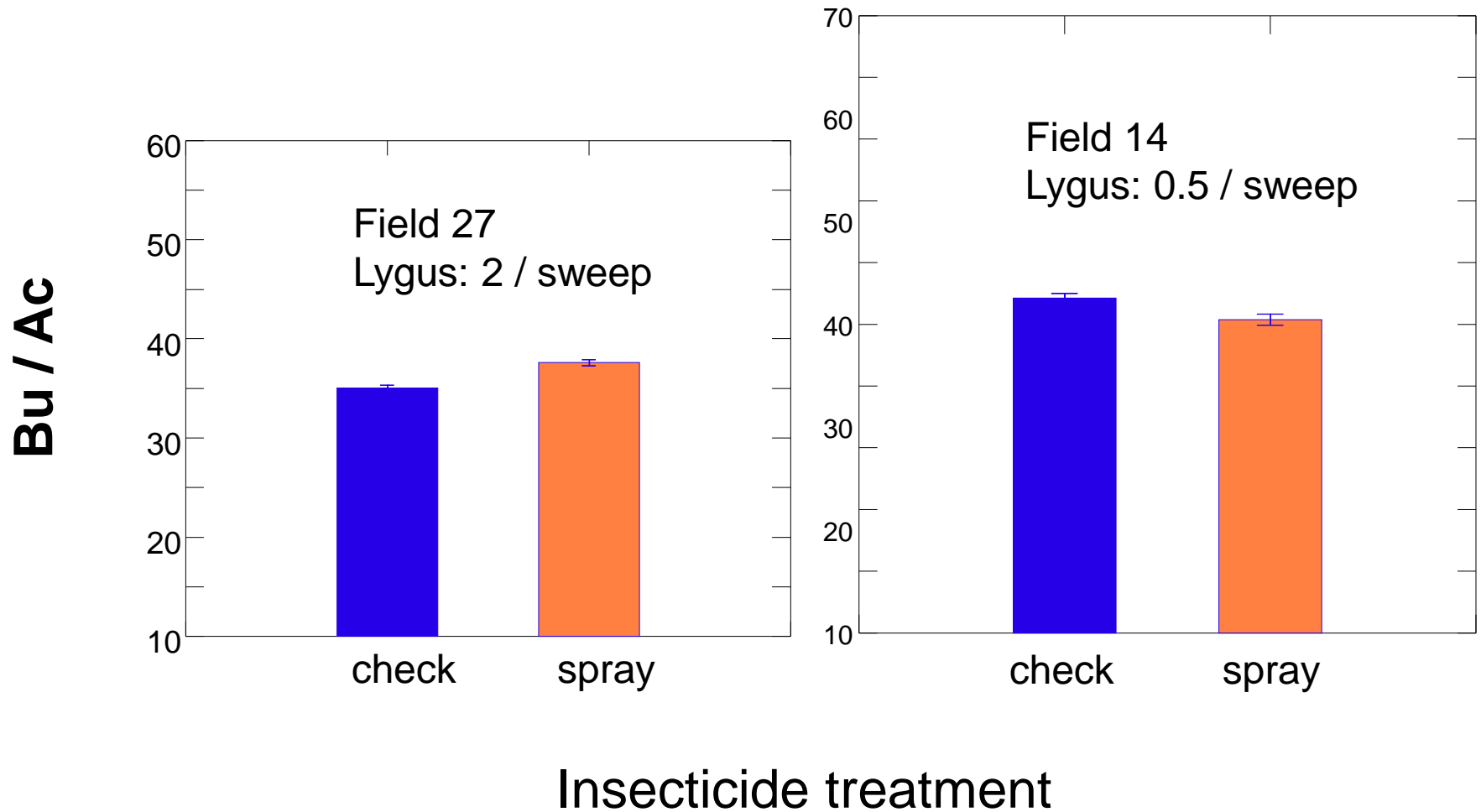


Only earlier planted canola accumulates weevils over 2-3 / sweep
- Around 40 % of the fields every year

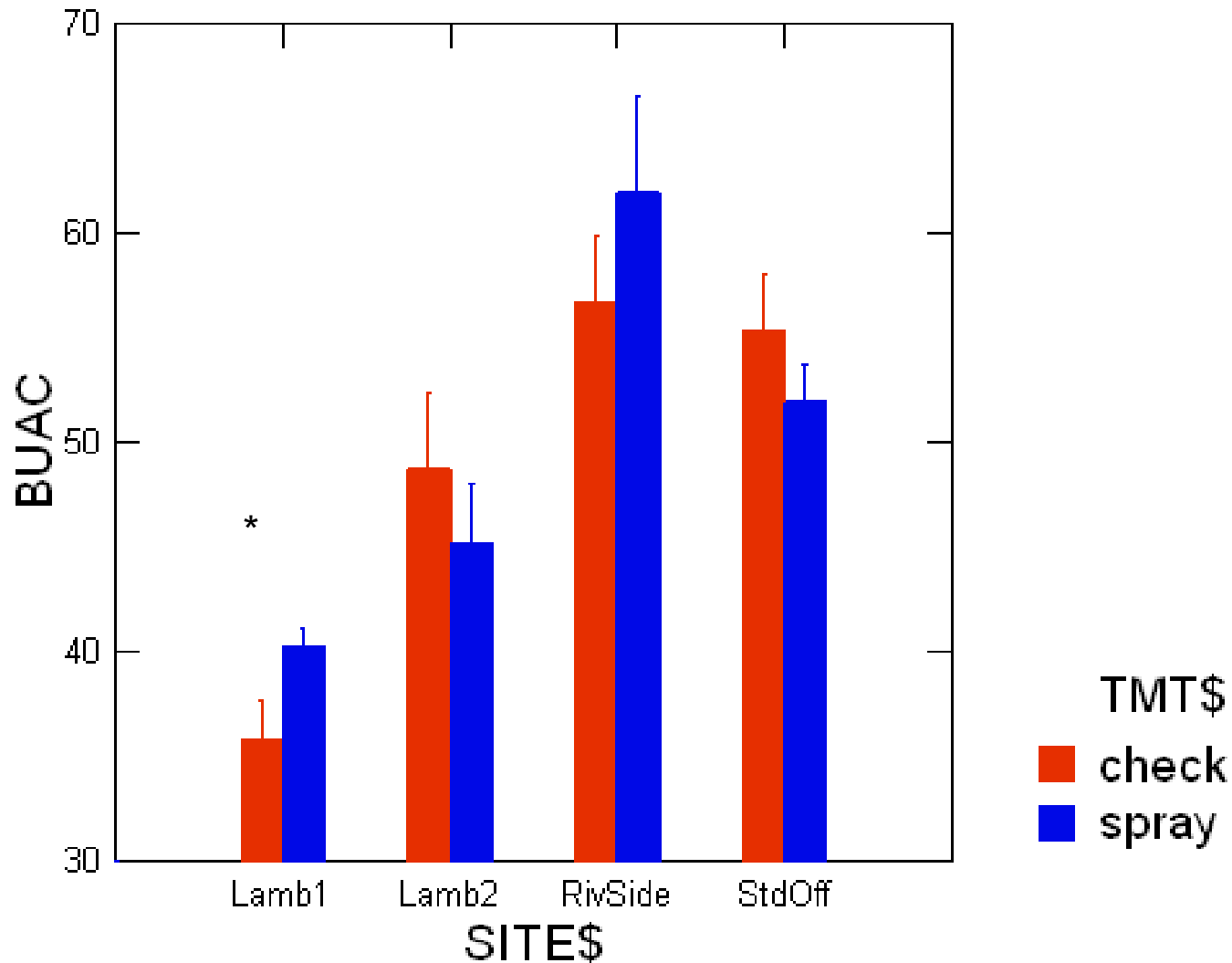
Lygus abundance 2012 at mid pod



2012 combine yields at Riverside



Combine yields from 4 farms sprayed at early flower in 2011



Summary

- In general, it seems that spraying for weevils reduces lygus abundance but...need to consider planting date effect!
 - Need to re-sample at mid-late pod stage – late 5.2!
 - Do lygus cause damage that late?
 - Seeds green and firm?
 - Swathing in 7-14 days! Pre-harvest interval!
 - 2 year on-farm study in progress (Pest Management Office of AAFC)
- No consistent effect on yield apparent so far but more analysis needed
- Difficult to get combine yield data! Please send it!

Acknowledgements

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