Crop Breeding and Physiology



Traits Related to Photosynthesis Martin Parry





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Bottleneck to raising genetic yield potential



Substantial improvements in yield are possible:

CO₂ enrichment experiments





Hypothesis



Existing variation in photosynthetic capacity can be exploited to increase total biomass production by modern wheat cultivars



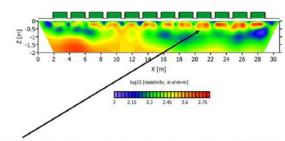
Context



Non-irrigated
Absolute inversion 13-May-11

- Soil
- Agronomy
- Weather

Yield



Appears to show significantly reduced water content down to 0.5m, especially in the plots towards the end of the line.





Total Photosynthesis



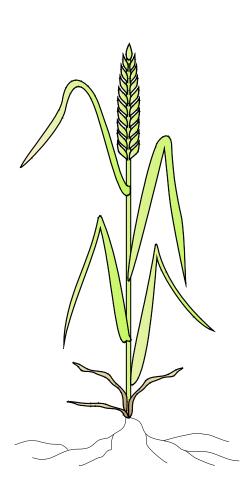
- Interception of Radiation
- Duration of Photosynthesis
- Rate of photosynthesis



Interception of Radiation



- Amount
- Composition
- · Area
- Angle
- Tracking



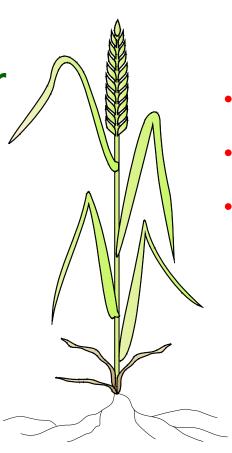
- Leaf number
- Leaf size
- LAI
- Light interception



Duration



- Early ground cover
- Extended grain filling
- Stay green phenotype



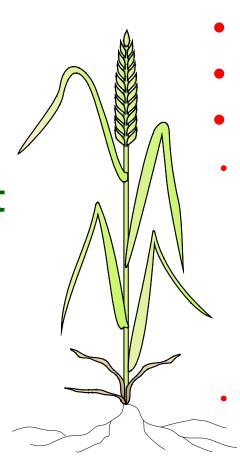
- Growth stage
- LAI
- Senescence



Capacity - physiological



- Chlorophyll
- Rubisco content
- Rubisco activity

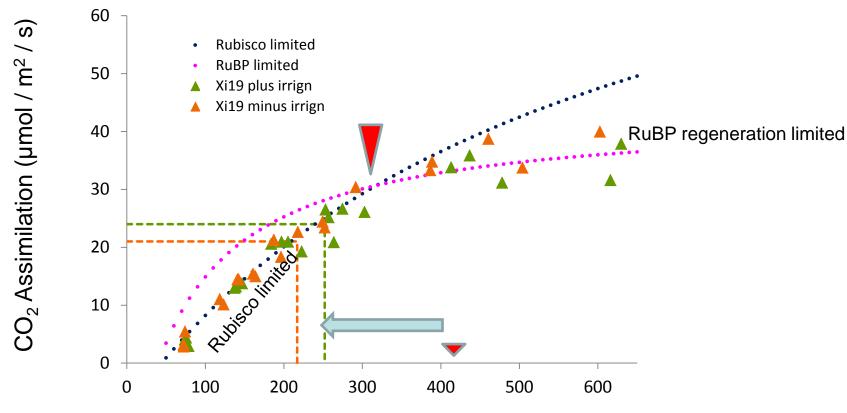


- SPAD
- Stomatal conductance
- Canopy temperature
- Flourescence
 - Quantum yield
 - Max F yield
 - Fv/Fm
 - NPQ etc etc
 - **IRGA**
 - Amax
 - Compensation point
 - Ci etc. etc.



ACi for Field Grown Xi19 ± Irrigation



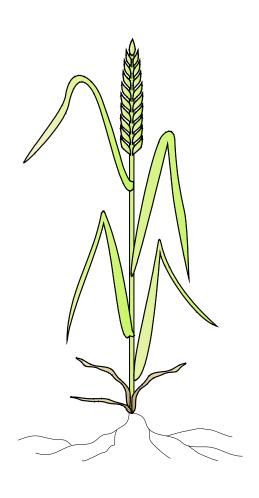


Intercellular CO₂ (µmol / mol)



Capacity - biochemical





- Chlorophyll content
- · Rubisco amount
- Rubisco initial activity
- Rubisco total activity
- Rubisco maximal activity
- Rubisco Activation state
- RuBP
- C isotope





THANK YOU

