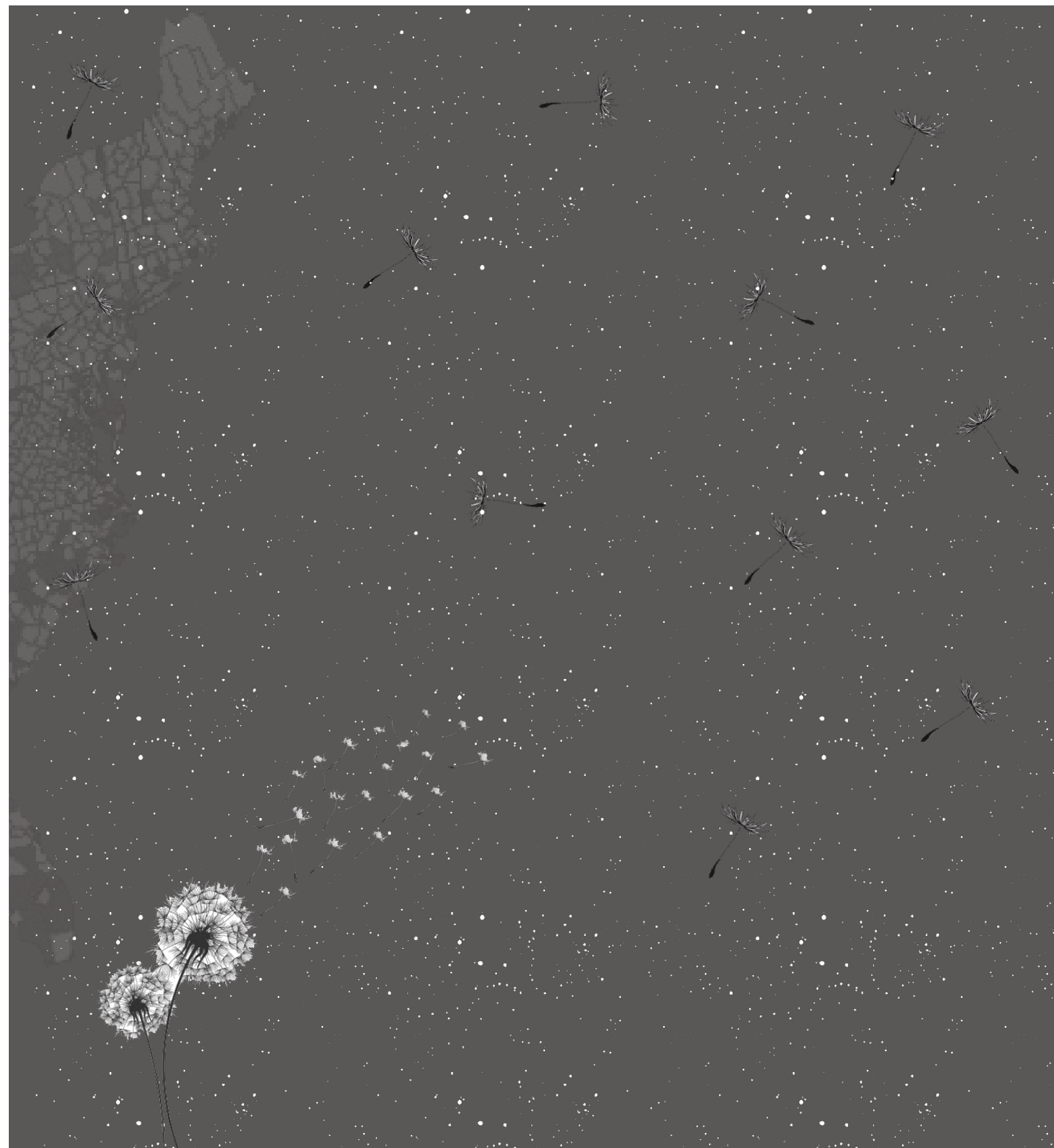
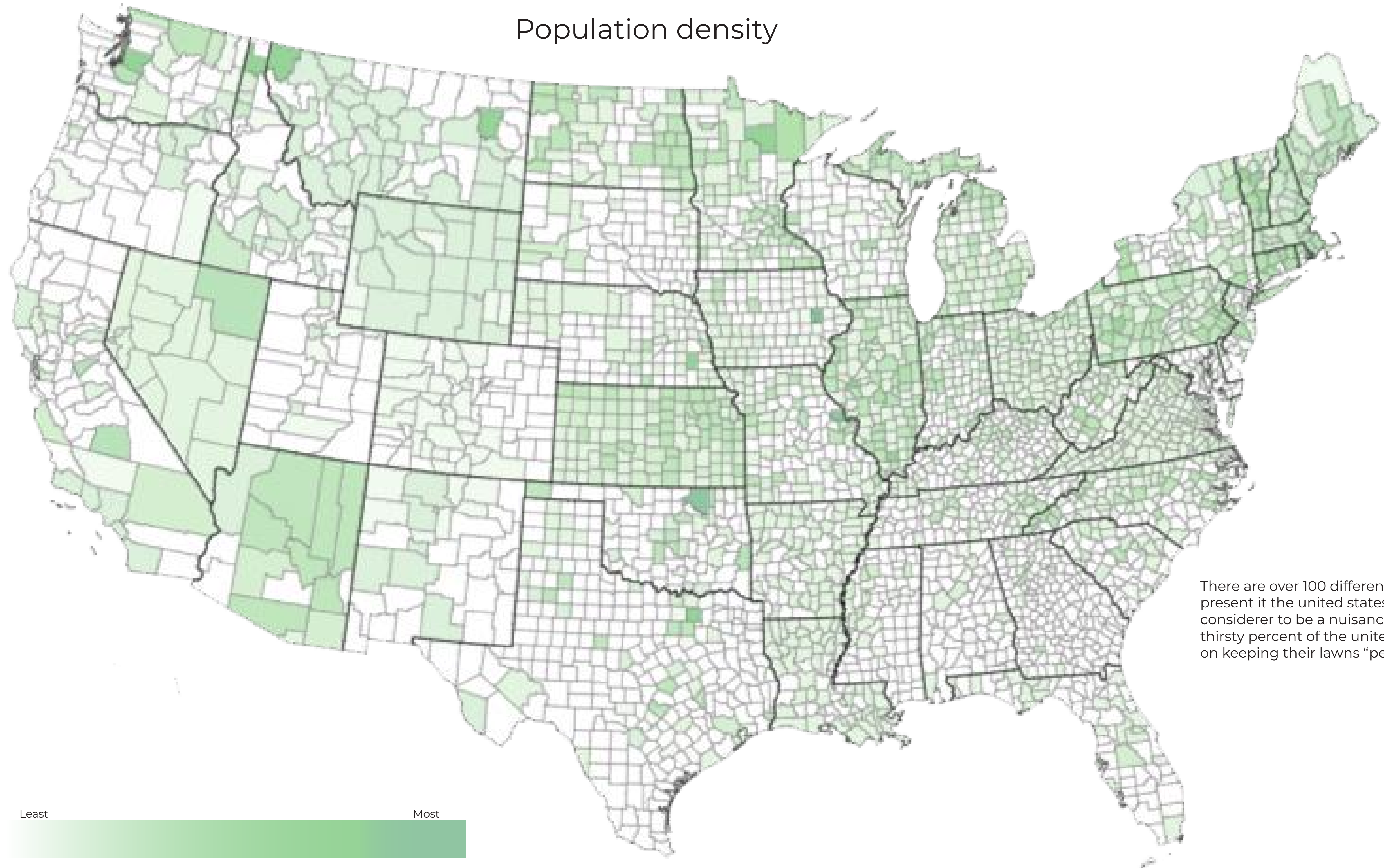


Why Me?





Population density



There are over 100 different types of dandelions present in the United States today. These plants are considered to be a nuisance. People waste almost thirty percent of the United States water reserve on keeping their lawns "perfect".



Harmful Herbicides

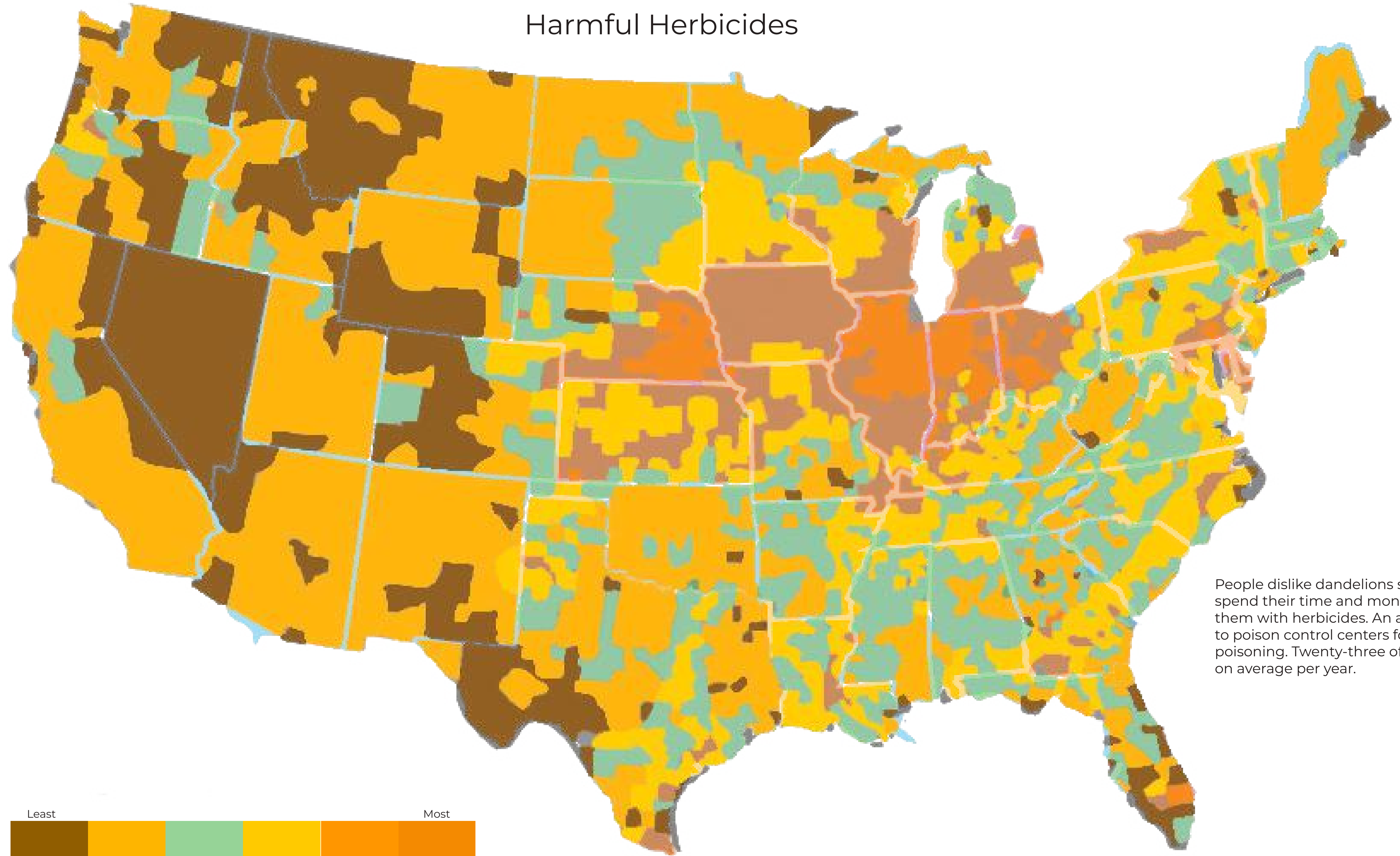
People dislike dandelions so much that they spend their time and money trying to get rid of them with herbicides. An average of 100 calls are made to poison control centers for herbicide poisoning. Twenty-three of these calls are on average per year.

Least Most

Harmful Herbicides

People dislike dandelions so much that they spend their time and money trying to get rid of them with herbicides. An average of 100 calls are made to poison control centers for herbicide poisoning. Twenty-three of these calls are on average per year.

Least Most

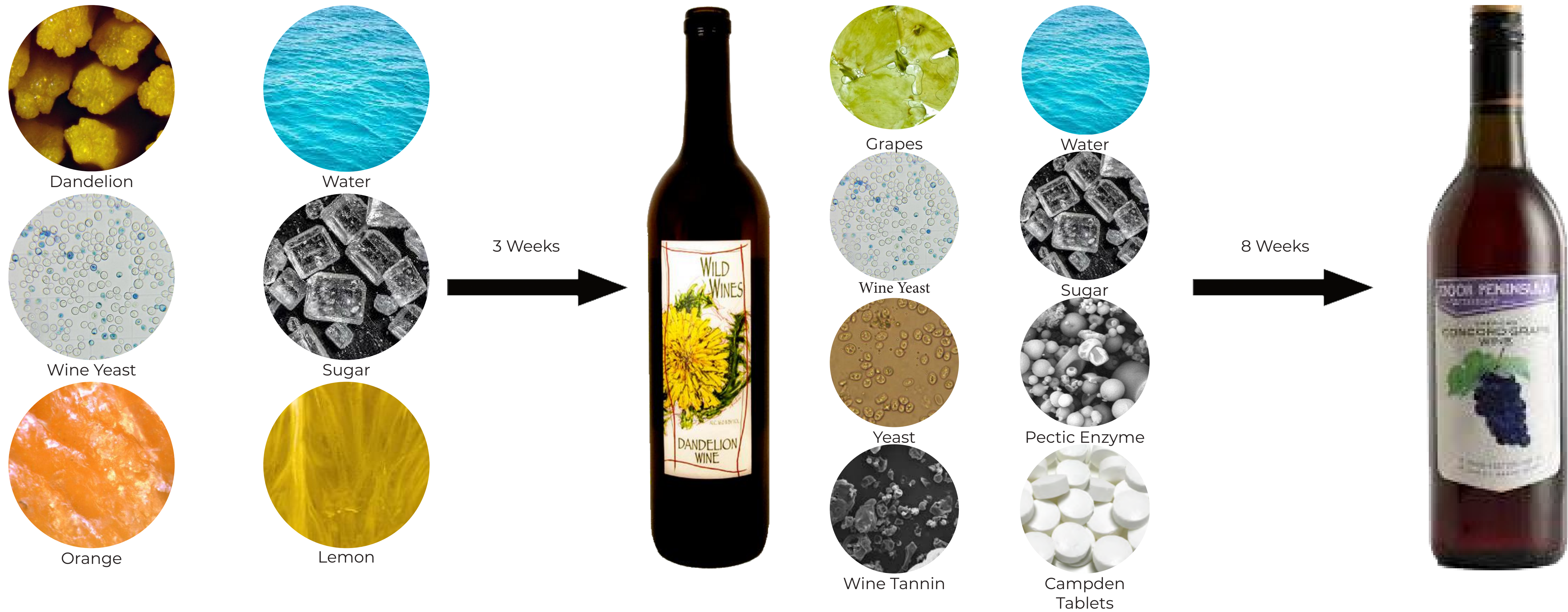


Dandelions in Medicine

The dandelion has countless health benefits and palatable applications. They were first recorded by the Romans as being used for medicine by the Europeans in the eleventh century. Europeans used the plant to treat fevers, boils, eye problems, diarrhea, fluid retention, liver congestion, heartburn, and skin ailments. Dandelion was used in China, India and Russia to treat breast problems, liver diseases, appendicitis and digestive problems. Then in the 17th century the puritans brought the plant to the new world for medical use. Currently studies have shown that the plant can produce antibodies to cancer and can buffer blood glucose levels for diabetics.

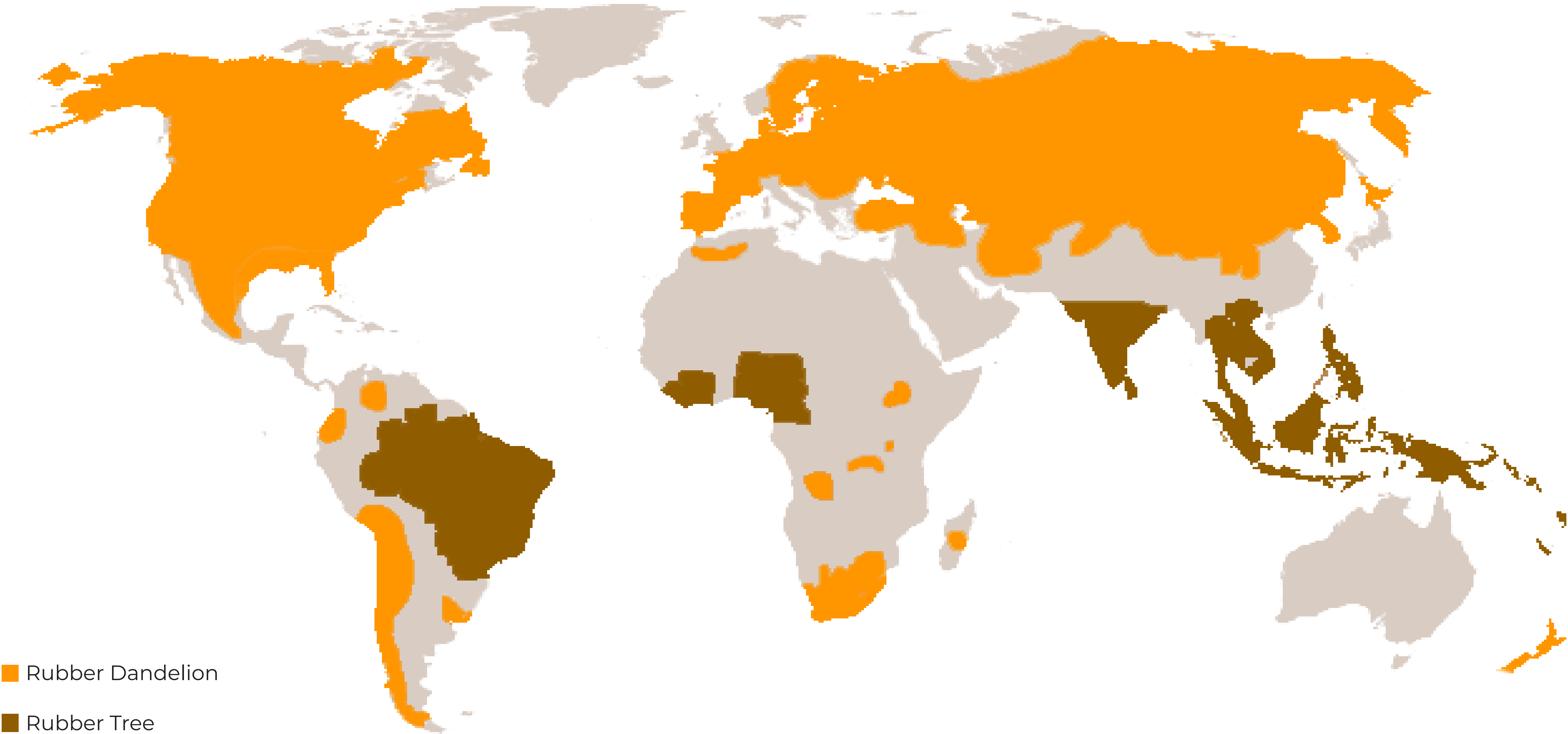


Ingredients of Wine

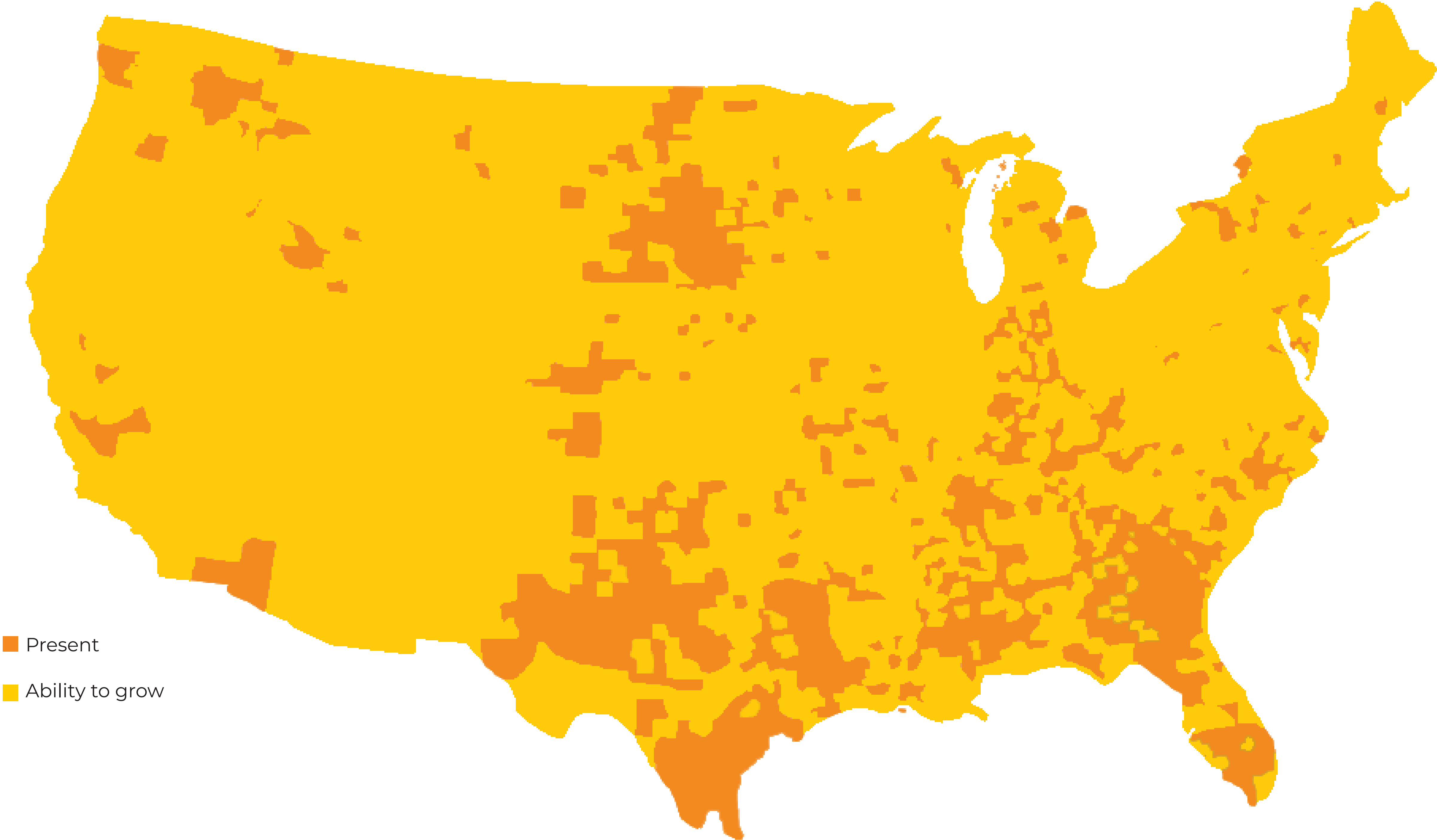


There are plenty of health benefits that come with making dandelion wine. Although a bit hard to learn to makes at first a cup of raw dandelion holds 112% of the recommended daily allowance of vitamin A, 535% RDA of vitamin K, 32% RDA of vitamin C, 103 mg of calcium, 1.7 mg of iron, and 218 mg of potassium. It can also be used to make a substitute for coffee that has all the benefits and almost half the negatives.

Rubber Dandelion vs Rubber Tree Growth



Rubber Dandelion Growth



- Present
- Ability to grow



Rubber trees are currently the world's number one provider of latex. This is a problem not only because the world demand for latex is more than the current supplies of trees can provide. It is more of a problem because the small region of the world we can grow them in has gone to plantation style farming to try to keep up. The main difficulty with plantation farming is that the trees lack biodiversity meaning that a virus like the South American leaf blight can infect an entire crop before you can even see the first signs of infection. This ruins not only the current trees but also makes it difficult to plant in the same space for years to come.

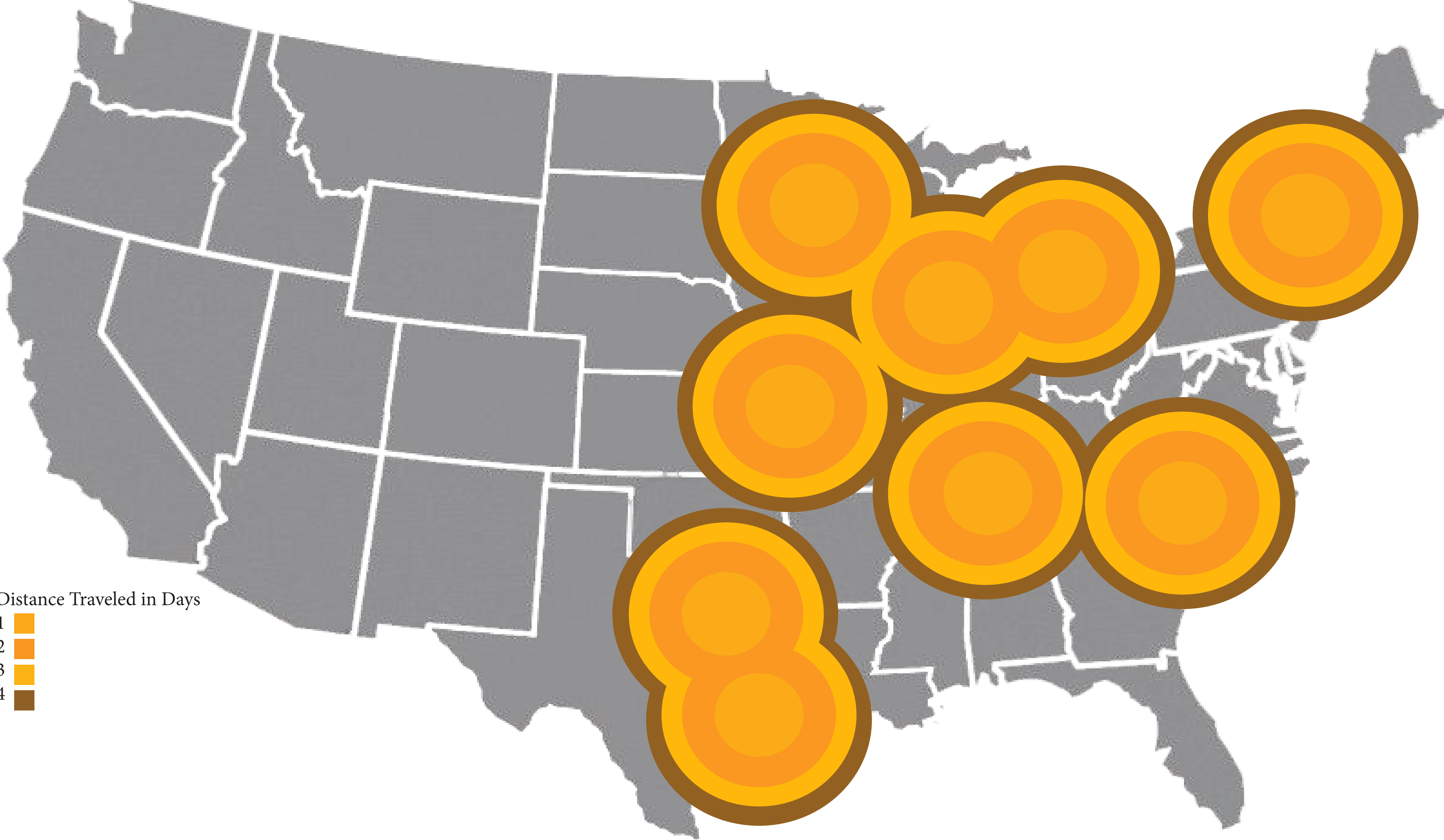


The first solution that most think of is to let them grow wild so they mix and gain an immunity or plant grow between them that will stop the spread. This is an option however, they will cut down other native trees to get more rubber trees to grow and haul them off not only harming the ecosystem by removing part of it but also putting pollution from the machinery in the air. Having to transferee the sap from the area to the factories also puts pollution in to the air.



Finally once at the factory the latex has to be mixed with black carbon to be made into rubber. The way black carbon is made is by burning organic material at a slow place producing black soot that pollutes the air even more.

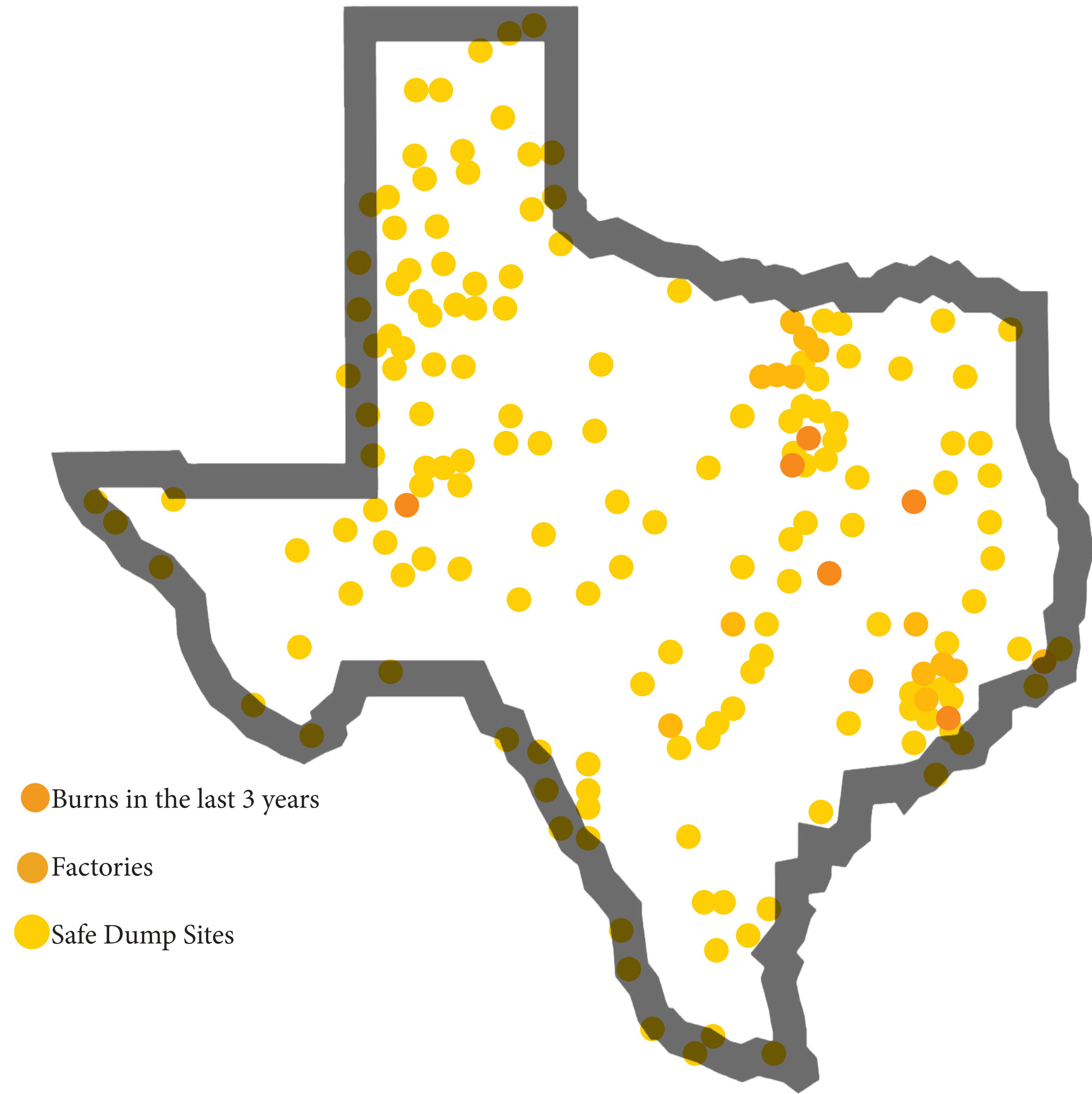
Top Rubber Factories in United States



Distance Traveled in Days

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

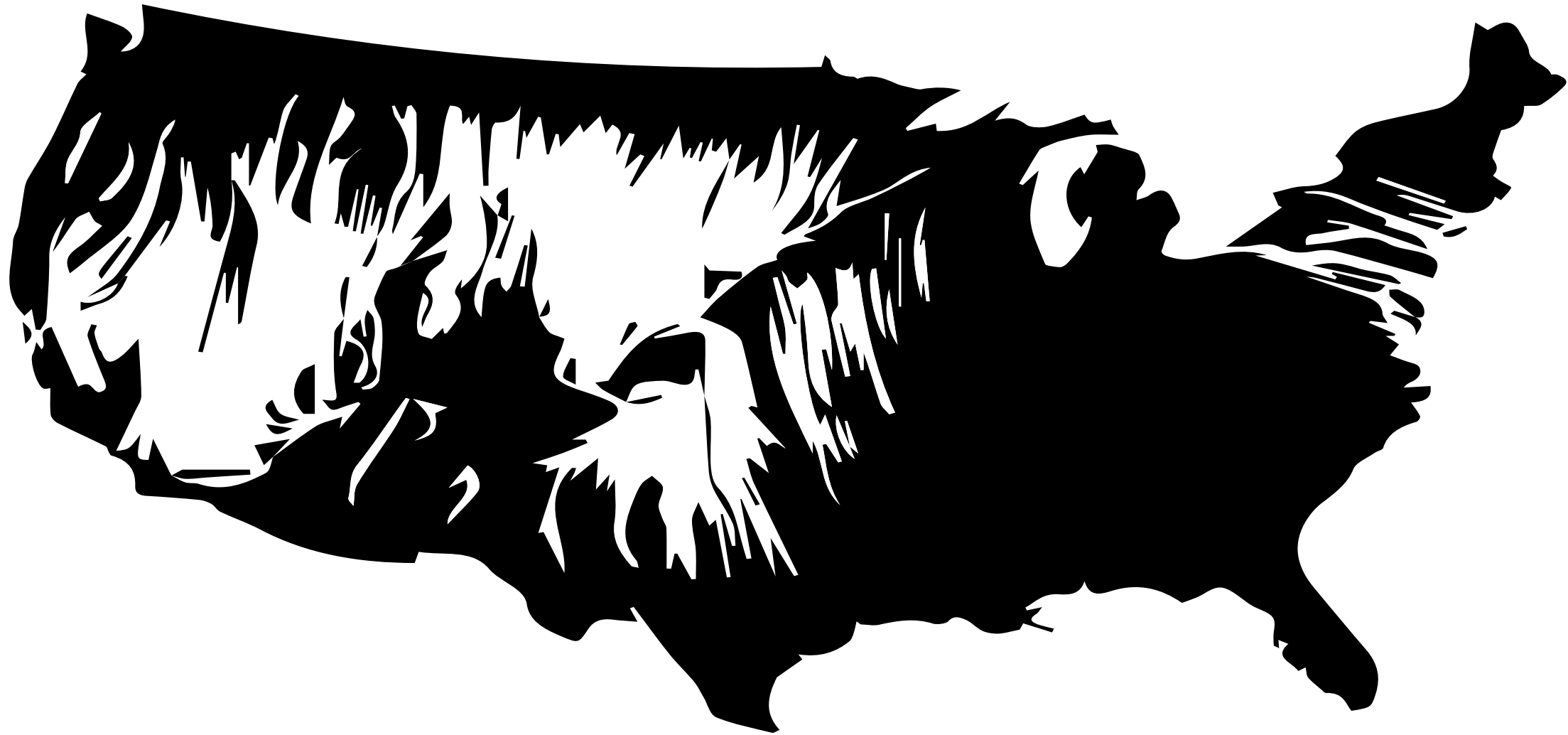
Texas Tire Factories



Smog



Wind Current



Spring



Summer



Winter



Fall

Tire Burning



- We harm ourself getting rid of dandelions
- Dandelions can be used for medicine and are good for you
- Dandelions can be used for rubber and grow more abundantly
- Harvesting latex from the rubber tree is worse for the environment
- It doesn't matter where you are the pollution still effects you

