SmartIPM - Data Driven Decisions

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How can data help us get the best from Biopesticides?

From data silos...





...to data platform and connectivity







Measuring the microclimate

- How different is the environment your sensor is in compared to the crop?
- Now we can understand the environment at crop level for an individual plant.
- Better picture of the actual environmental conditions at crop level.
- An understanding of the nature of the stress through a plants life.
- Be better informed on how your biopesticide will perform.







The Importance of VPD in the Mircorclimate

- Microclimates showed significant variance horizontally along the production line.

- VPD was circa 30%+ higher at early stage vs end of production.
- Plants close to harvest were inactive for long periods of the day.
- Decisions to change irrigation schedule timing, increased fan speed has helped to reduce humidity.







Application Timing

- One key to successful efficacy is application timing.
- Being able to predict issues allows for more informed preventative application.
- Often biopesticides have far less curative effects than a conventional alternative.
- Some biopesticides are required to be applied at a set percentage of disease.
- For example AQ10 being applied at 5% powdery mildew

Powdery Mildew

- Powdery mildew turns up on most crops following a rapid change in environmental conditions.
- Rapid fluctuations in conditions are thoughts to be a trigger.
 Followed by the a latent period followed by a development period.
- Latent and development phases are well defined, triggers less so.





AQ10

- Ampelomyces quisqualis is a hyper parasite
- Research last year by ADAS showed that if powdery mildew is not present AQ10s presences will be fleeting
- AQ10 should be applied at 3 5% Powdery Mildew
- However, if powdery mildew gets too advanced it can be equally difficult to control.
- Can we use predictive models to tell us level of risk/likelihood that 5% powdery mildew is present.







Model Refinement

- Is the fluctuation a trigger?

- How big does that fluctuation need to be?

- Can the predictive models be refined further?

- How can we display this information in a way growers will find helpful?





Naturalis – L *Beauveria bassiana*

- Above 60% RH
- Above 80% RH for sporulation
 - $20^{\circ}C 25^{\circ}C$
 - UV sensitive



Naturalis - L

Temperatures are consistently good for B.bassiana

Naturalis - L

- Simple dashboard to inform growers
- Temperature/Humidity gauge to indicate best time for application
- Graphs to show conditions post application to inform the grower of the likelihood of *Beauveria bassiana* being present in the environment.

"No Robots here" just data driven humans

Old strategy

New strategy using real-time charts & alerts

Value of real-time Oxygen and pH readings.

- Assess oxygen at the root zone to make informed decisions on pest and disease management.
- Better inform irrigation strategies to optimise growth and prevent P&D.
- Better inform nutrient uptake and fertilisation.
- Potentially a very early indicator for a change in soil life.
- Better understanding of biopesticide performance.

New Metrics, New Insight.

- Photosynthesis efficiency sensor.
- Follow the performance of the crop and optimise growth factors.
- CO² reduction.
- Light optimisation.
- VPD optimisation.
- Nutrient Uptake.
- Less Stress, less Issues.

IR4 Technologies and IPM

www.fargro.co.uk

Innovation with a Purpose: The role of technology innovation in accelerating food systems transformation, World Economic forum, January 2018

Thank you for your time.

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