



Cercospora Leaf Spot in sugar beet: spread, crop protection strategies and resistances to fungicides in Serbia

*Dr Dragana Budakov*  
*dbudakov@polj.uns.ac.rs*

*University of Novi Sad*  
*Faculty of Agriculture*  
*Department for Plant and Environmental Protection*  
*Trg Dositeja Obradovica 8*  
*21000 Novi Sad*  
*Serbia*

# TOPICS:

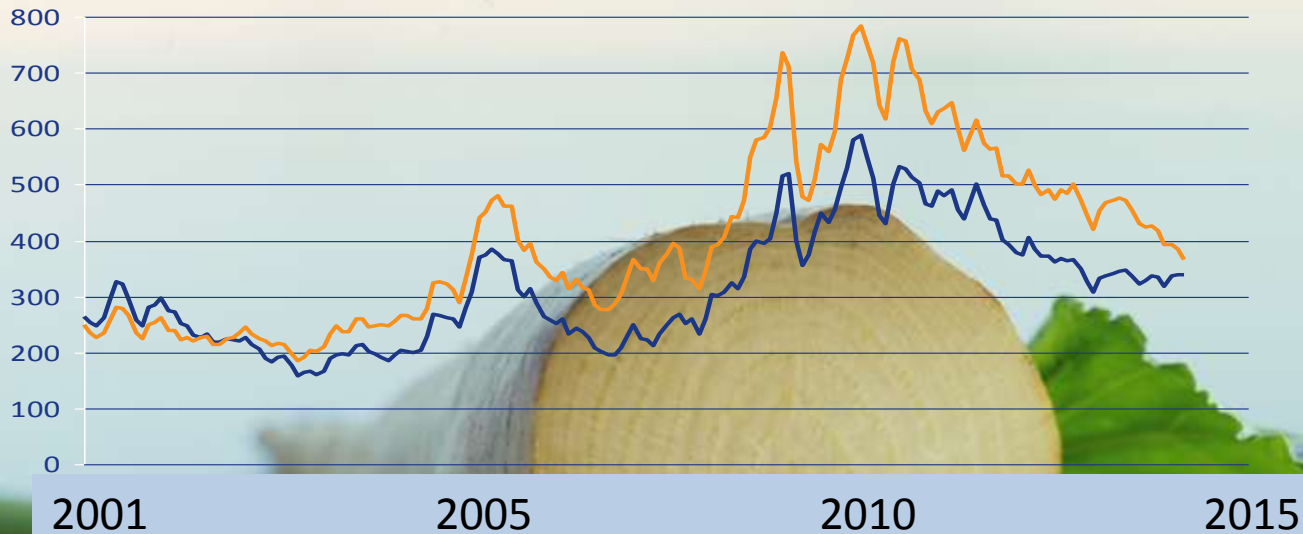
1. Introduction: SB production parameters, damages from CLS, epidemiology, available control measures.

2. Research of *C. beticola* resistance to fungicides in Serbia.

3. Presentation of results from trials in 2011 and 2015.  
Possible management strategies.

4. Conclusions.

# Sugar beet areas and production in Serbia



2005-2013  
- 70.000 ha  
- 50 t/ha  
-16%

**PROFIT!**



Economical losses

2014 – over  
25 mio €



*Cercospora  
beticola*  
Sacc.



## CLS MONITORING IN SERBIA

1. State extension service
2. Private extension services
3. Plant Protection officers in chemical, sugar production, seed and other companies



4. University-Faculty of Agriculture – science (companies like Sunoko, Hellenic sugar, KWS, STRUBE, Sesvandelhave etc co-finance research)

1<sup>st</sup> spots and conidia –  
usually mid to end of  
June

# EPIDEMIOLOGY

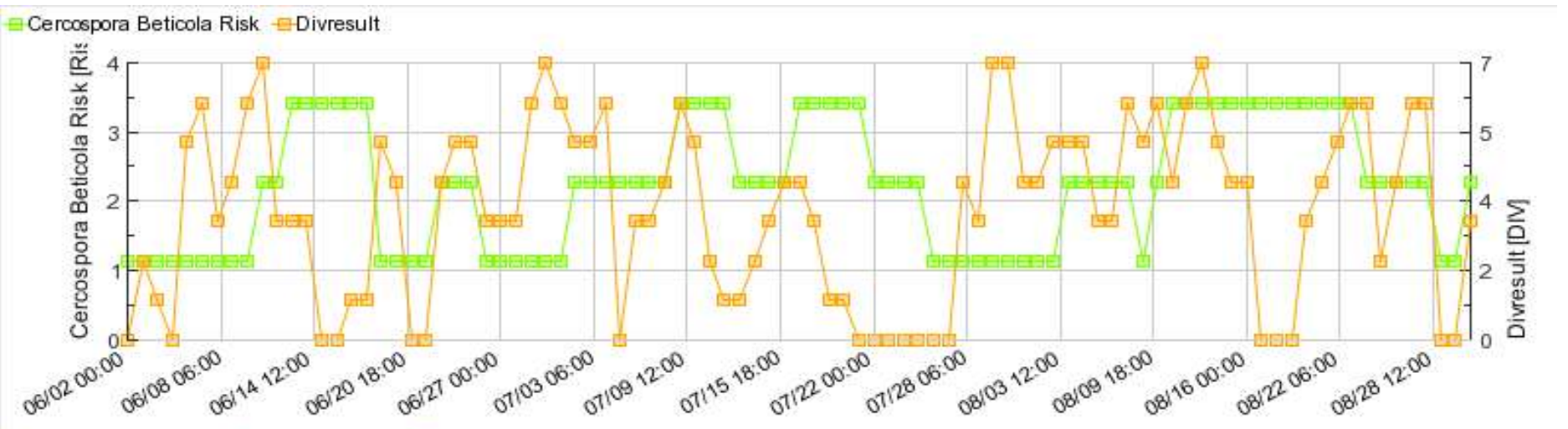


First applications - first decade of  
July  
Based on characteristics of each  
individual field (cultivar, canopy  
density, temperatures, rainfall,  
inoculum – **5% infection is a  
treshold**)

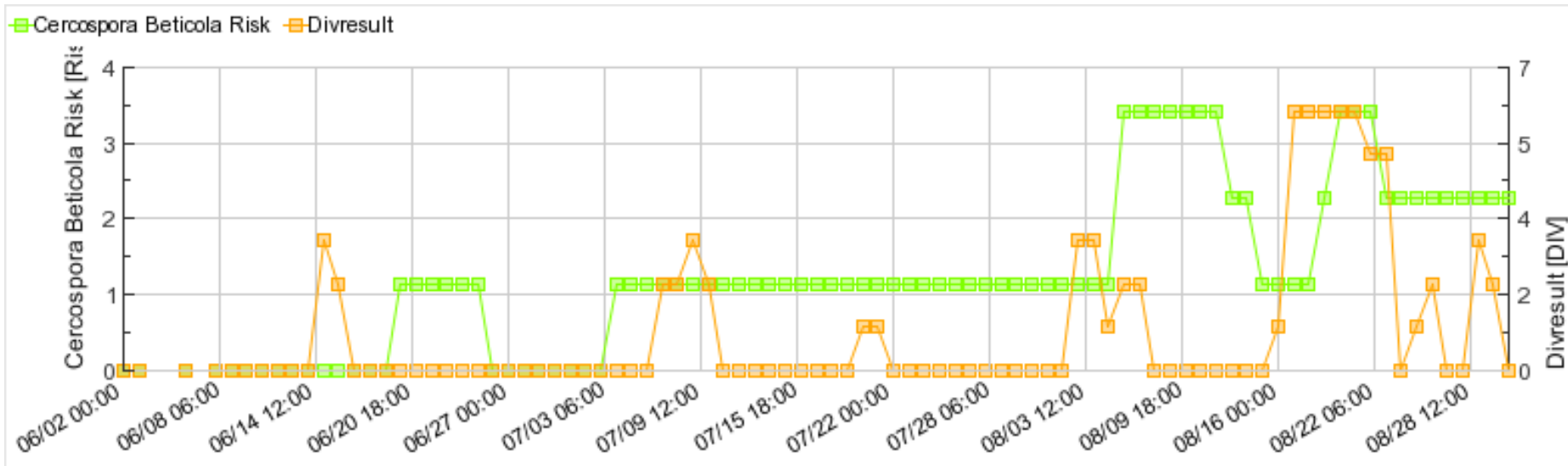


# Periods favorable for CLS infection and spread vary from year to year (no irrigation)

2014



2015



**Good  
agricultural  
practice**

**INTEGRATED  
DISEASE  
MANAGEMENT**

**Fungicide  
application**

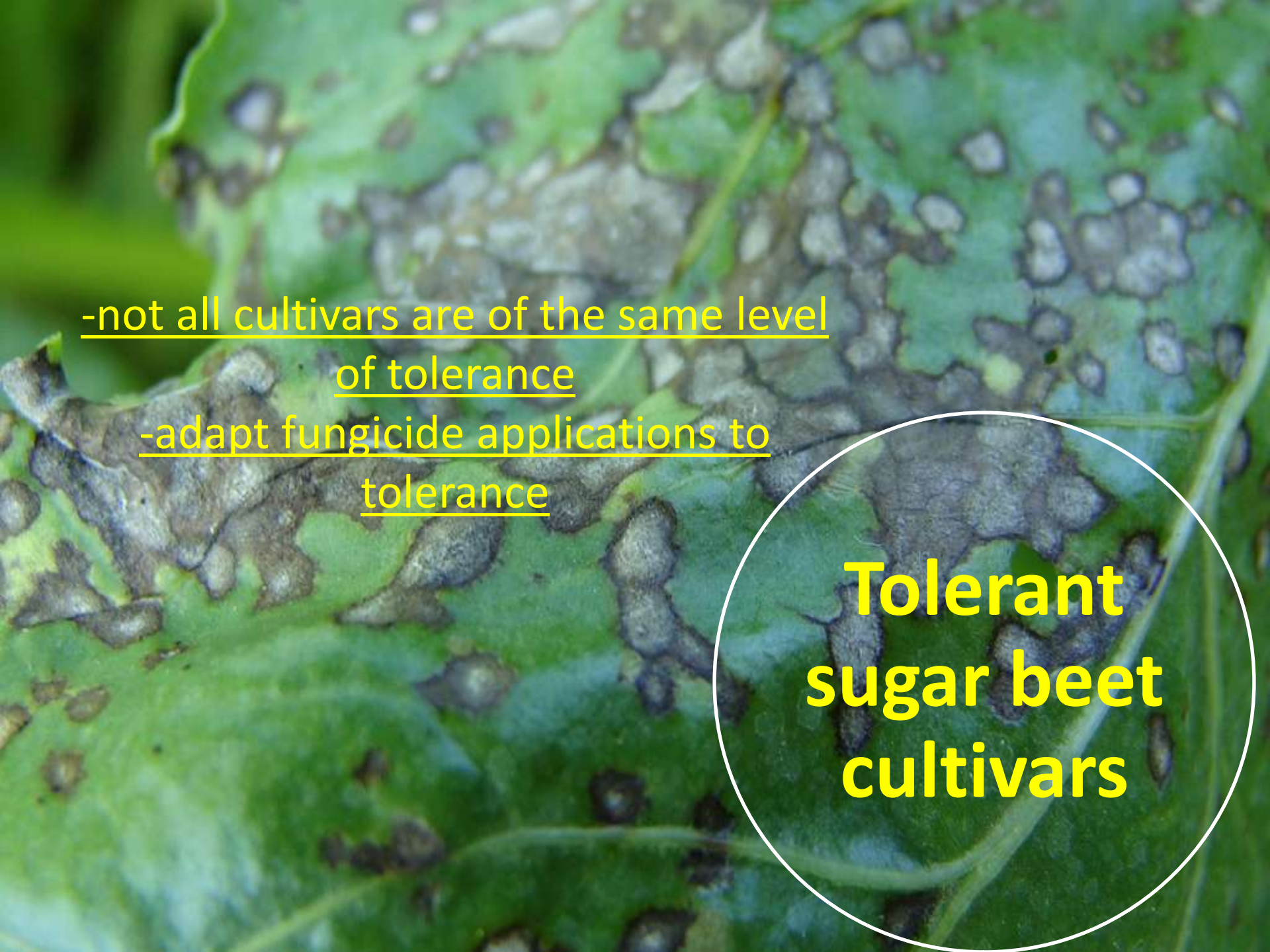
**Tolerant  
sugar beet  
cultivars**





**Good  
agricultural  
practice**

- narrow crop rotation!!!
- excessive nitrogen fertilization
- reduced cultivation (diseased leaves not being properly handled)



-not all cultivars are of the same level  
of tolerance

-adapt fungicide applications to  
tolerance

**Tolerant  
sugar beet  
cultivars**



**Fungicide  
application**

## Multisite

- Chlorothalonil

## Benzimidazoles

- Carbendazim
- Thiophanate methyl

## DMIs: Triazoles & imidazoles

- Ciproconazole
- Flusilazol
- Epoxyconazole
- Difenoconazole
- Propikconazole
- Tetraconazole
- Flukvinconazole
- Flutriafol
- Tebuconazole
- Prohloraz

## Morpholines

- Fenpropimorph

## Strobilurins

- Trifloxystrobin
- Azoxystrobin
- Pikoxystrobin
- Piraclostrobin

Fungicides registered in Serbia for CLS control

Availability and use of fungicides that belong to different chemical groups are an important factor in controlling CLS.

Fungicides with specific mode of action possess high risk of resistance development.

## 2. Cercospora resistance to fungicides in Serbia

a stable, heritable pathogen adaptation that results in a reduced sensitivity to a fungicide (**Gallian et al., 2001**).

enables individuals within the population to survive the application of fungicides (**Brent & Hollomon, 2007**).

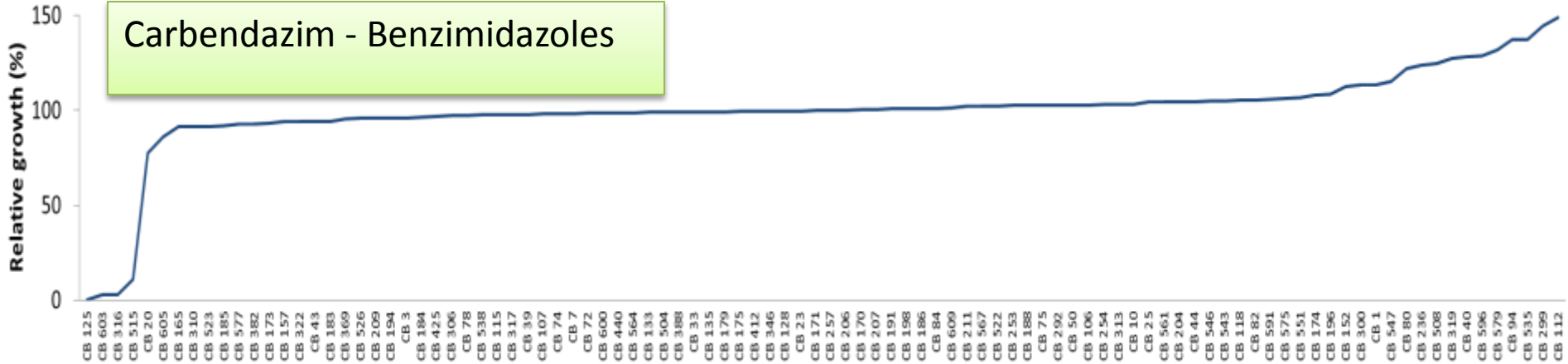
- Benzimidazoles (**Georgopoulos & Dovas, 1973; Marić et al., 1976**),
- Tin containing fungicides (**Giannopolitis, 1978; Bugbee, 1996; Campbell et al., 1998**),
- DMI fungicides (**Balaž et al., 1999; Karaoglanidis et al.; 2000, Budakov et al., 2014**)
- Strobilurins (**Kirk et al., 2012; Budakov-unpublished data**).



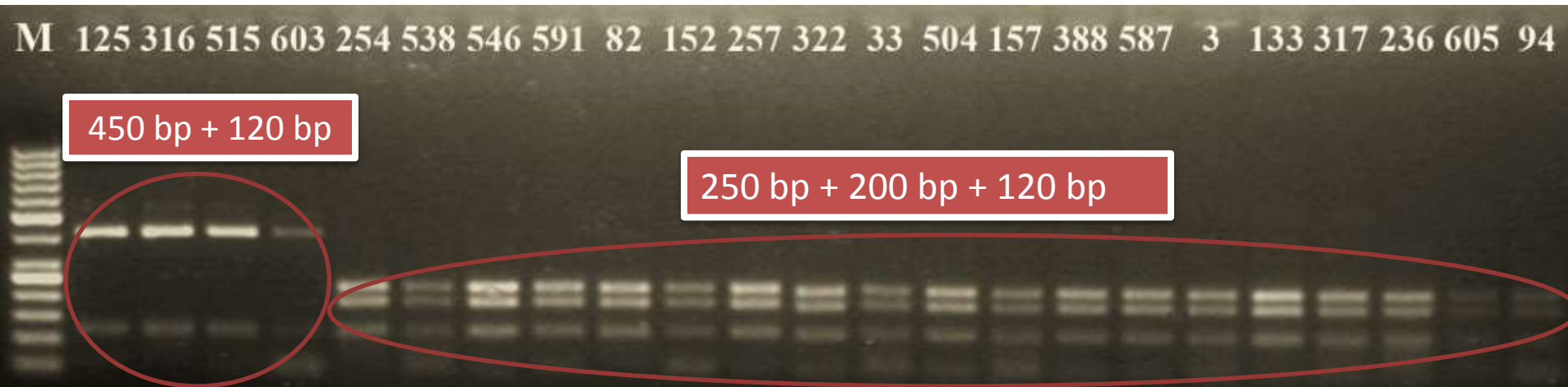
# Benzimidazoles

- Partially discontinued after the rise during 1970s
- In combinations with DMIs
- Monitoring of resistance (2007-2011) showed that **frequency of resistant isolates was over 93%** (Budakov et al, 2014; Trkulja et al., 2015).
- Fitness of resistant isolates – very stable even without fungicide selection pressure (Karaoganidis & Ioannidis, 2010).
- On fields with low frequency of resistant isolates can be used in management of *C. beticola* resistance to DMIs or Qols.

# Carbendazim - Benzimidazoles



## Restriction of $\beta$ -tubulin gene with Bsh1236I



# DMIs

- First changes of sensitivity noted in 1995 (flutriafol).

**Polygenic nature of resistance**

**+**

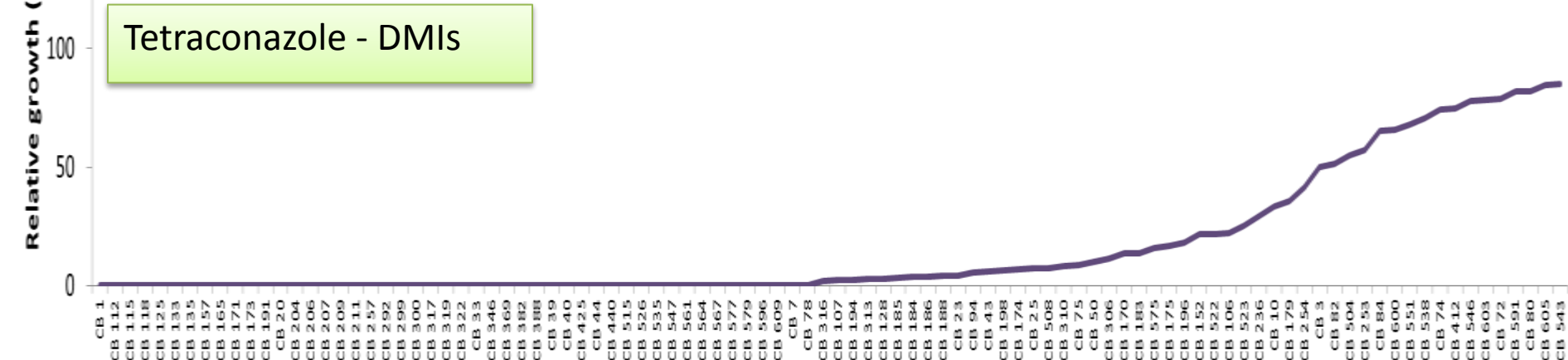
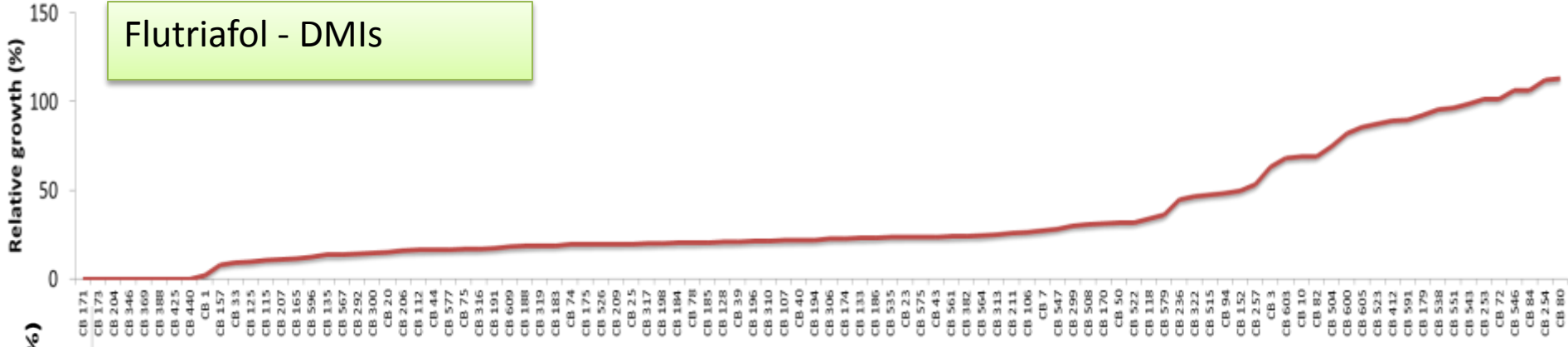
**a large number of active substances available**

**=**

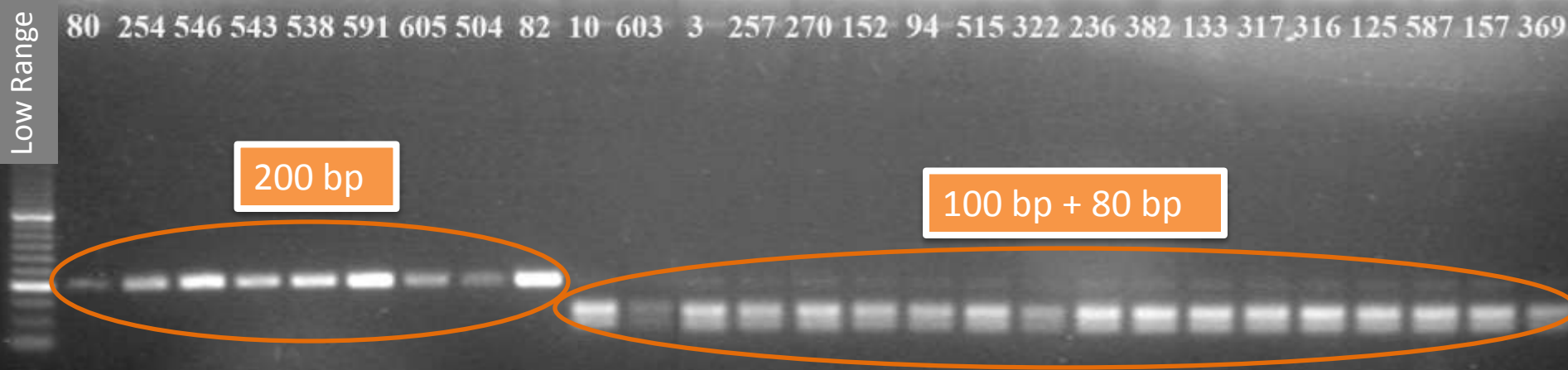
**slowly development of resistance**

- Monitoring from 2007-2011 showed that frequency of resistant varied **up to 42%** (Budakov et al, 2014; Trkulja et al., 2015), but level of sensitivity also varied.
- Continuous sensitivity distribution.





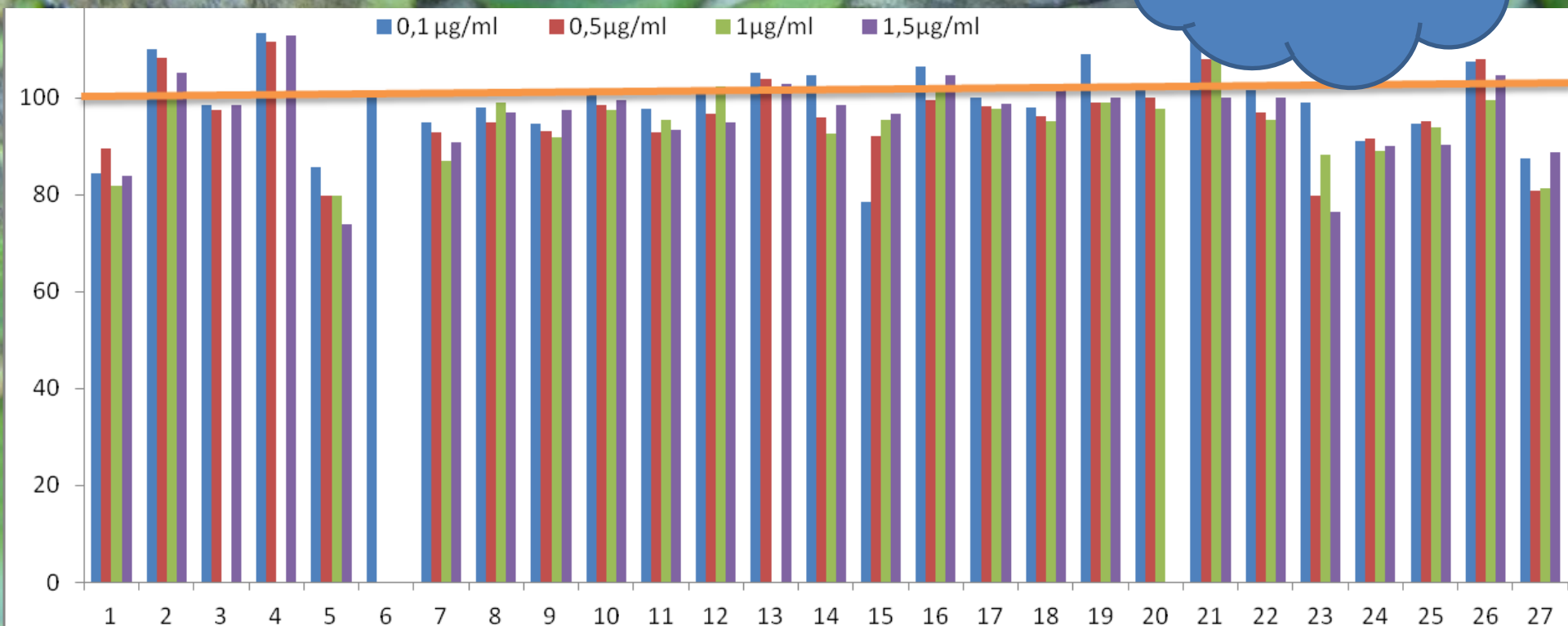
# Restriction of C-14 $\alpha$ demethylase gene with Alw26I



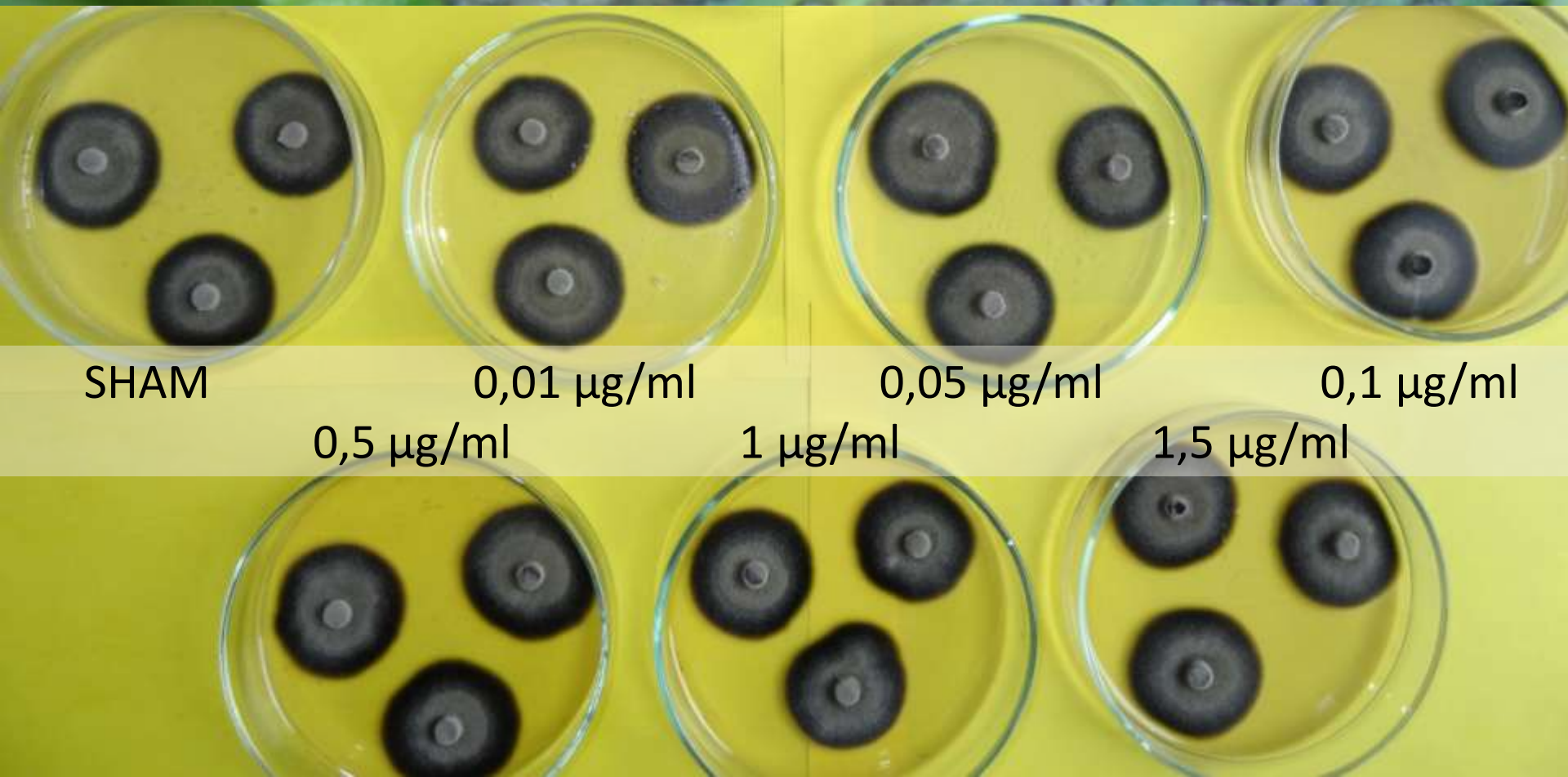
# Qols

- Monitoring in 2007 – no changes in sensitivity
- Monitoring in 2014 and 2015 – a large frequency of resistant isolates.

Media amended with azoxy+SHAM



*Cercospora beticola* (PA-A) on nutrient media amended with azoxystrobin + 0,5mM SHAM.





3. Presentation of results from trials in 2011 and 2015.  
Possible management strategies.

# Field trial in 2011

- Preparation of inoculum



- Inoculation

Conidia - Sugar Beet Leaf Extract  
Agar

A

B

Spore suspension – 500  
spores/ml

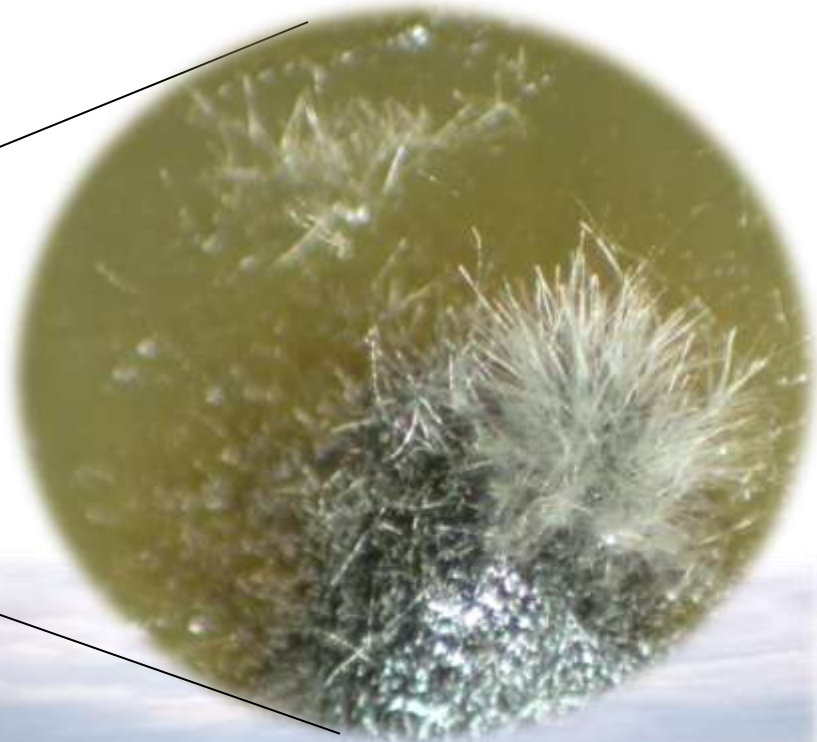
300 L H<sub>2</sub>O/ha

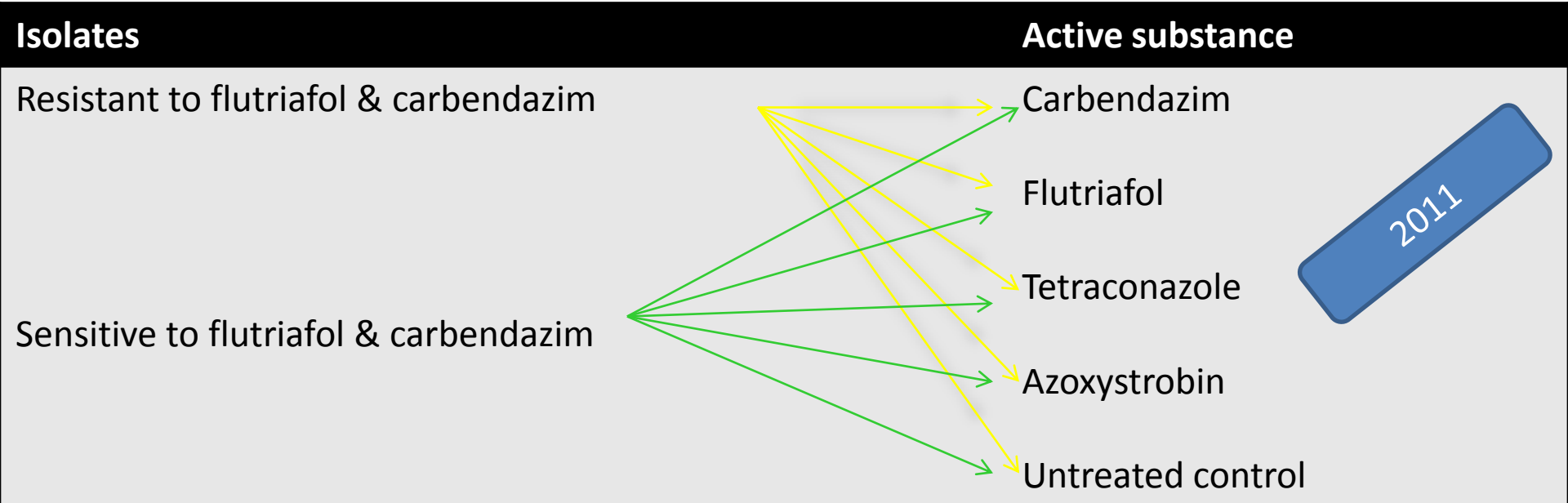
Backpack sprayer

D

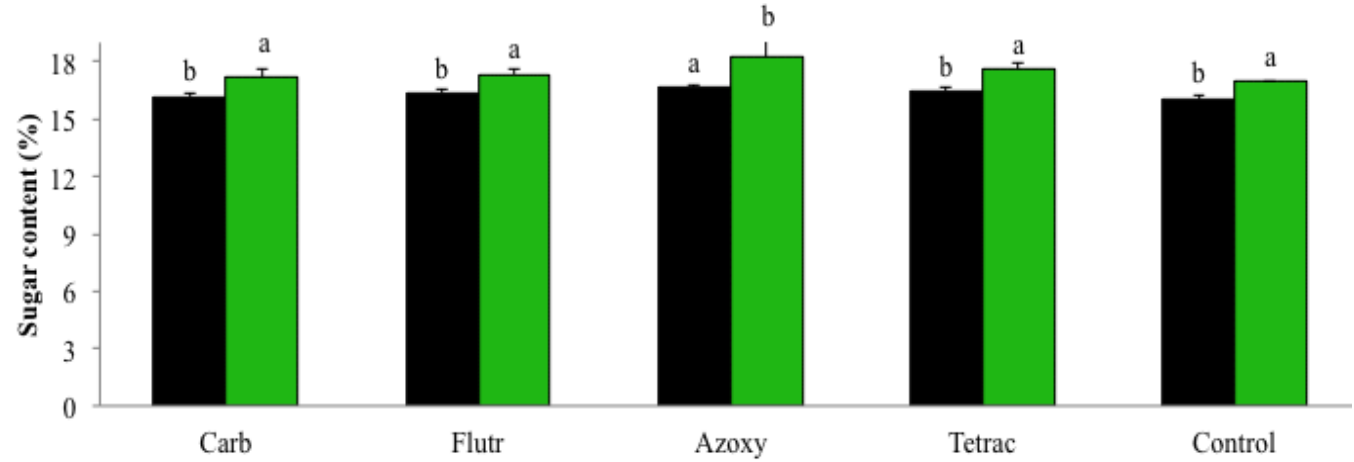
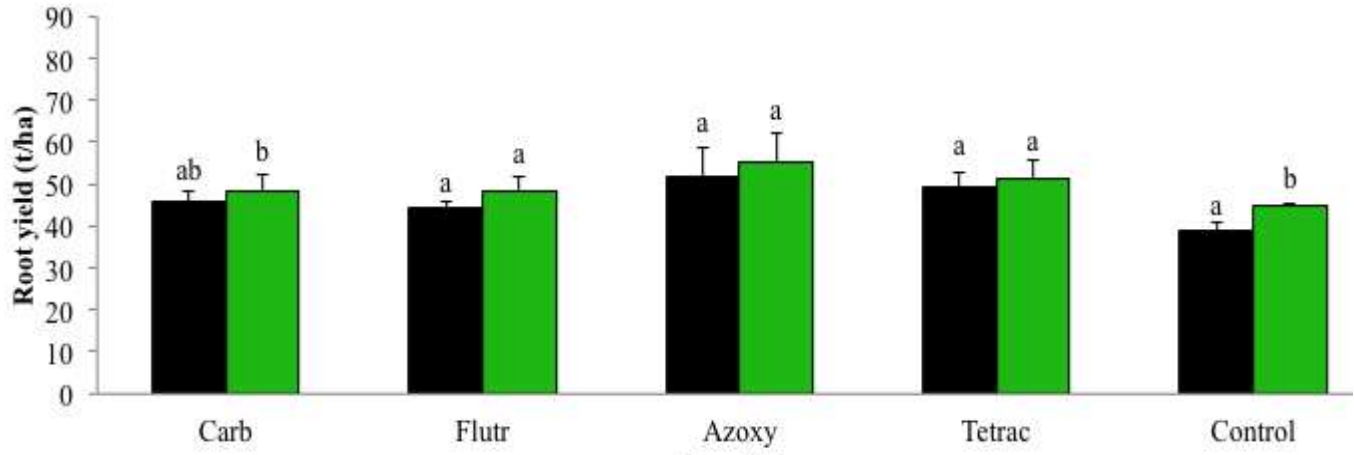
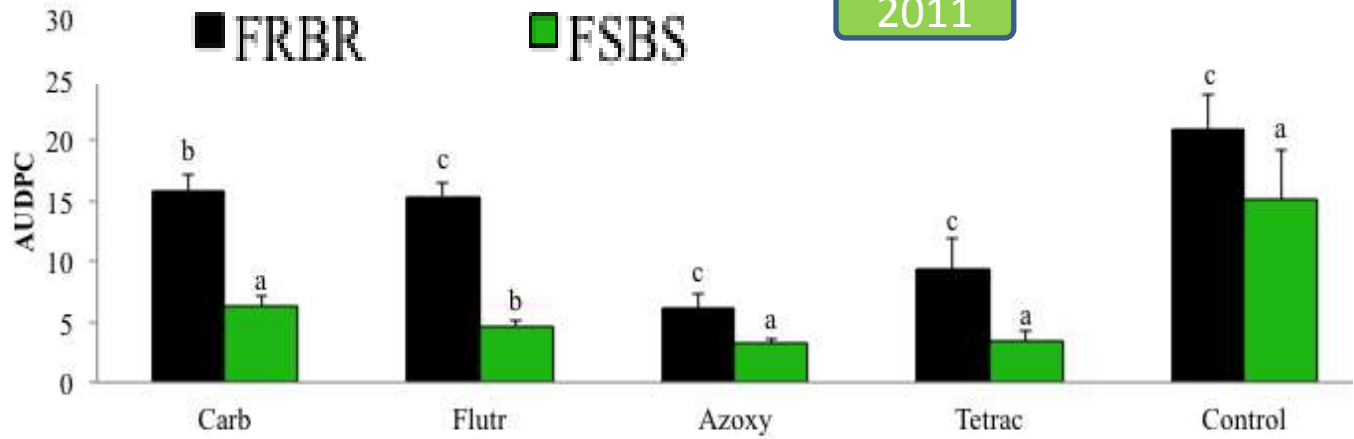
C

**Favorable conditions for  
disease development**





2011



# Crop Protection 66 (2014) 120-126



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

## Crop Protection

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/cropro](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/cropro)

### Sensitivity of *Cercospora beticola* isolates from Serbia to carbendazim and flutriafol

Dragana Budakov<sup>a</sup>, Nevena Nagl<sup>b,\*</sup>, Vera Stojšin<sup>a</sup>, Ferenc Bagi<sup>a</sup>, Dario Danojević<sup>b</sup>, Oliver T. Neher<sup>c</sup>, Ksenija Taški-Ajduković<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad, Trg Dositeja Obradovica 8, 21000 Novi Sad, Serbia

<sup>b</sup> Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops, Maksima Gorkog 30, 21000 Novi Sad, Serbia

<sup>c</sup> The Amalgamated Sugar Company, 1951 S. Saturn Way, Suite 100, Boise, ID 83709, USA

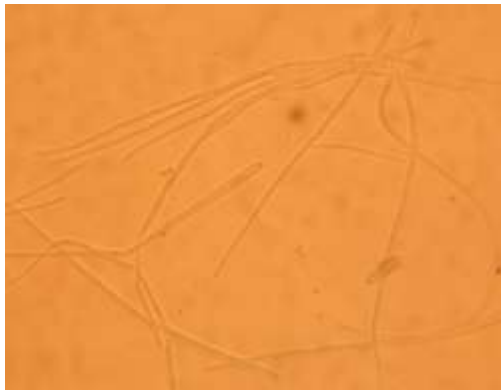


Fungicide trial in 2015:

To evaluate efficacy of different fungicides alone and in combination with multisite chlorothalonil in control of *Cercospora* population of known sensitivity to fungicides.

Effect on disease severity and sugar content.





# Detection of sensitivity of *C.beticola* before fungicide applications



## DISCRIMINATIVE CONCENTRATIONS

Carbendazim 5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$   
Tetraconazole 0.6  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$   
Azoxystrobin 0.1  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$



Cca. 900 isolates per fungicide

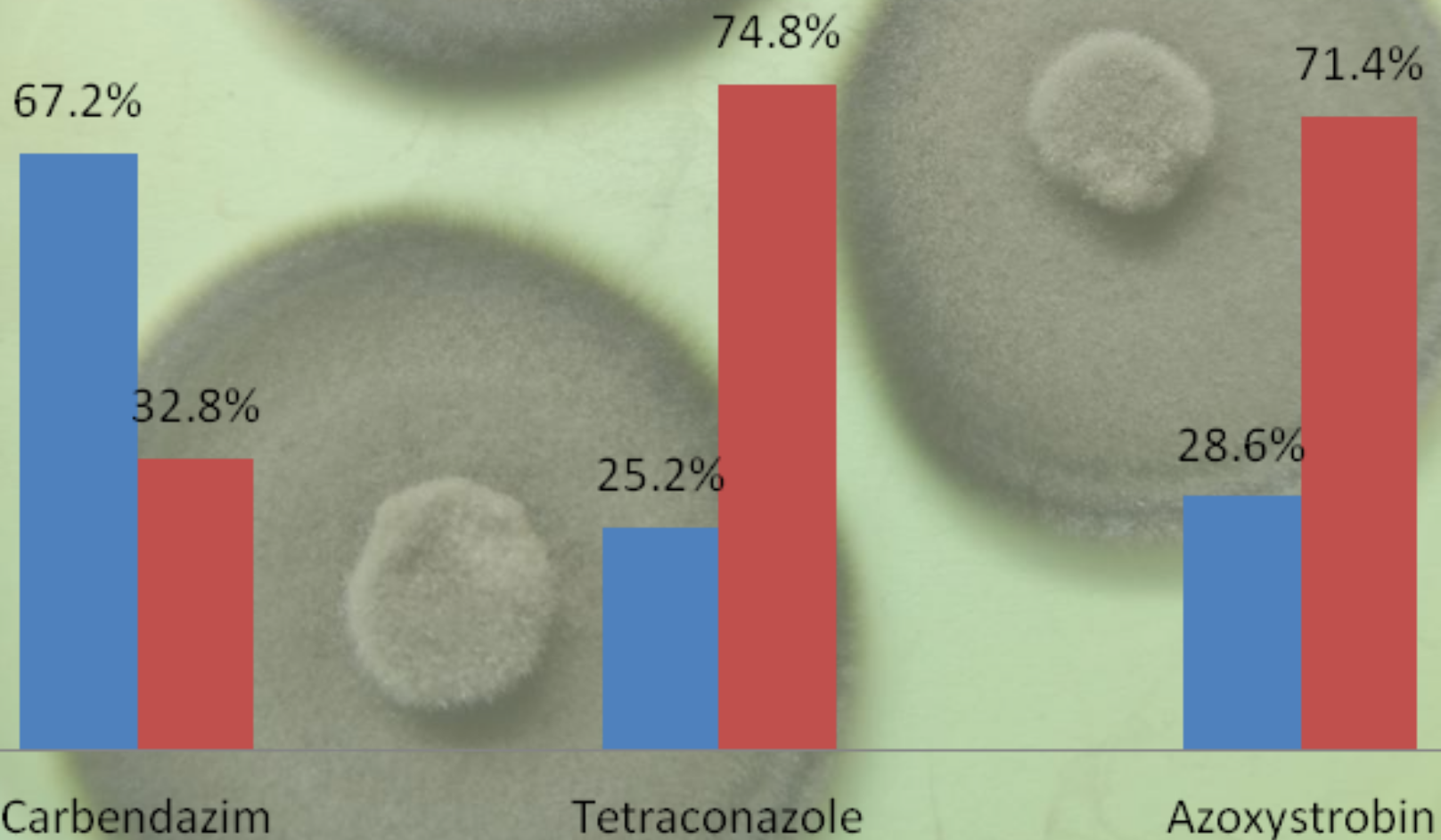
# Field trial treatments

No	Active ingredient	Fungicide	Dose per ha
1	Azoxystrobin (250 g/L)	Azbany 250SC	1L
2	Carbendazim (500 g/L)	Galofungin	0.6L
3	Tetraconazole (125 g/L)	Eminent 125ME	0.8L
4	Flutriafol (125 g/L)	Takt	0.5L
5	Azoxystrobin (250 g/L) + Chlorothalonil (500 g/L)	Azbany 250SC+ Bevetikola	1L+ 0.75L
6	Carbendazim (500 g/L)+ Chlorothalonil (500 g/L)	Galofungin+ Bevetikola	0.6L+ 0.75L
7	Tetraconazole (125 g/L)+ Chlorothalonil (500 g/L)	Eminent 125ME+ Bevetikola	0.8L+ 0.75L
8	Flutriafol (125 g/L)+ Chlorothalonil (500 g/L)	Takt+ Bevetikola	0.5L+ 0.75L
9	FUNGICIDE ROTATION:		
	1. Difenoconazole (150 g/L) + Propiconazole (150 g/L) + Chlorothalonil (500 g/L)	Rias 300EC + Bevetikola	0.3L + 0.75L
	2. Azoxystrobin (200 g/L) + Ciproconazole (80 g/L) + Chlorothalonil (500 g/L)	Amistar Extra + Bevetikola	0.75L + 0.75L
	3. Tetraconazole (125 g/L) + Chlorothalonil (500 g/L)	Eminent 125ME + Bevetikola	0.8L + 0.75L
	4. Trifloxystrobin (375 g/L) + Ciproconazole (160 g/L) + Chlorothalonil (500 g/L)	Sphere + Bevetikola	0.35L + 0.75L
10	Untreated control	-	-

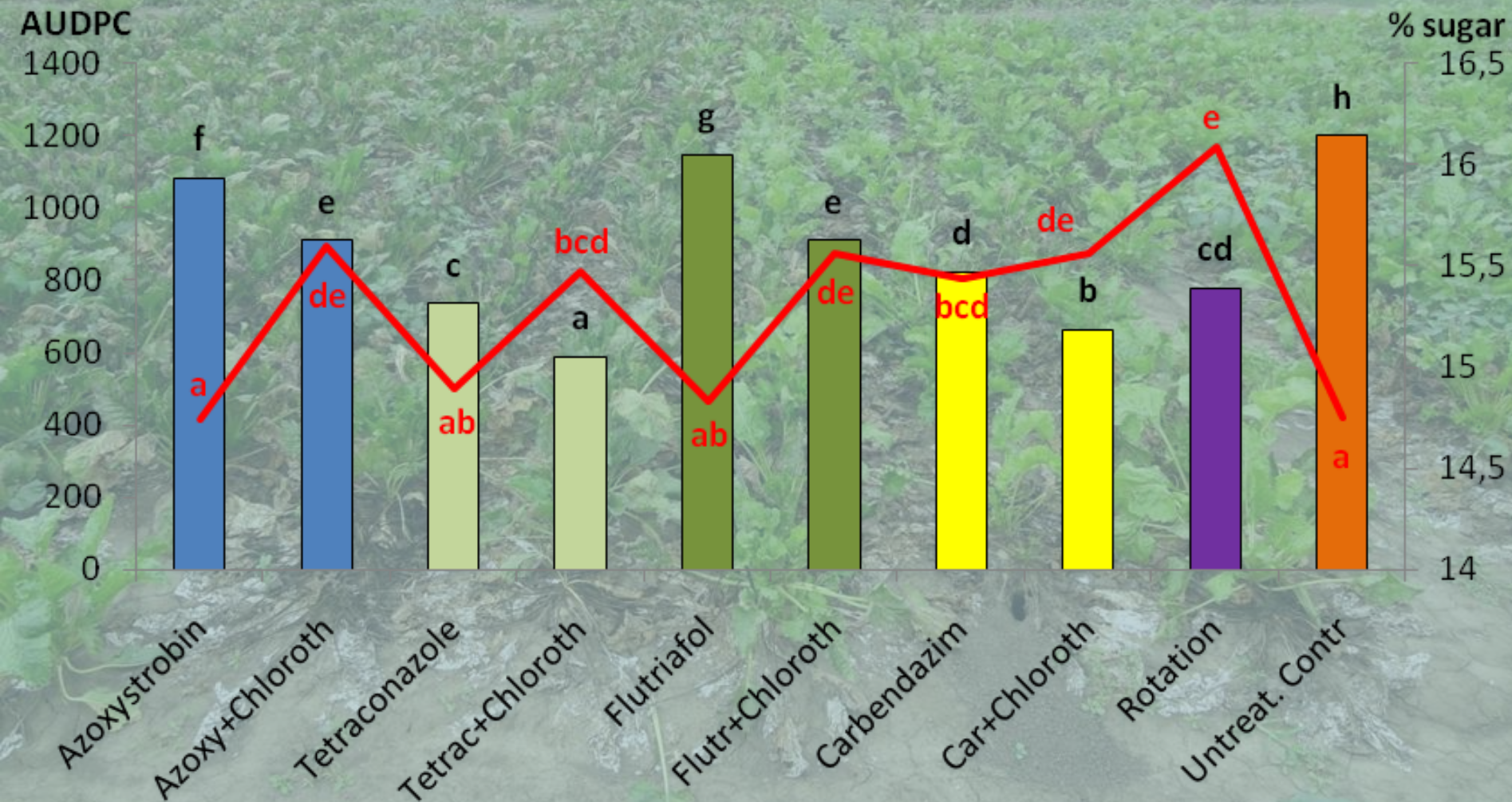
# RESULTS

Frequency of sensitive and resistant isolates

■ Sensitive ■ Resistant



# Disease intensity (AUDPC) and sugar content (%)





Azoxystrobin alone



Fungicide rotation

# Conclusions

**Availability and use of fungicides with different mode of action.**

**Always use fungicides in combinations.**

**Use of multisite protective fungicides.**

**FRAC – Fungicide Resistance Action Committee**

# Conclusions



**Isolates that showed resistance to flutriafol and carbendazim in in vitro experiments, were successfully controlled in field trials with azoxystrobin and tetraconazole, which provided a high yield and sugar content.**

**Carbendazim and flutriafol were not sufficiently effective in control of isolates with corresponding resistance. These two fungicides were as successful as others in disease control caused by sensitive isolates.**



# Conclusions



Importance of monitoring changes in the sensitivity of *Cercospora beticola* populations to the fungicides used in our sugar beet growing area.

Make a selection of fungicides according to the frequency of resistant isolates.

Prevalence of resistant individuals in the field population can lead to significant losses in sugar beet yield and sugar content, but also to major economic losses due to fungicide application in which lacks the necessary biological efficacy.

A close-up photograph of a green leaf with a hairy stem. The leaf is vibrant green and has a fine, granular texture. The stem is covered in fine, white, hair-like structures. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

Thank you for your  
attention.

Questions?