

# ***Design of spatiotemporal strategies to control black sigatoka of banana using the model landsepi***

Loup Rimbaud, Béranger Decouture, Marta Zaffaroni, Jean-François Rey, Eduardo Corrales, Edgar Valverde, J. Guzman, Nancy Chaves-Mendez, and Catherine Abadie

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# Banana production



2. Harvest & local transport



1. Continuous production  
Monoculture  
Massive use of fertilisers & fungicides  
(applications every 5-7 days by plane)  
TFI (fungicides) = 60



3. Rinse (latex & pesticides)  
Cardboard removal



4. Cut bananas and segregate by calibre  
Wash in soap water & drying  
Spray pesticides (post-harvest diseases)



5. Individual labelling  
Packaging  
Transport  
Export to Europe and the US

**Export of products with so many fungicide applications will be forbidden in Europe by 2024**

# Black Sigatoka

## Disease

**Causal agent:** *Pseudocercospora fijiensis*  
(ascomycete)

**Host:** *Musa acuminata*

**Symptoms:** necroses on leaves

## Impact

Main phytosanitary constraint on banana :

- reduced yield
- premature ripening
- reduced green duration

## Management

- Visual inspections
- Manual leaf removal
- Fungicide applications (contact & systemic)
- Development of resistant cultivars:  
CIRAD925, CIRAD938, CIRAD3138



# Life cycle

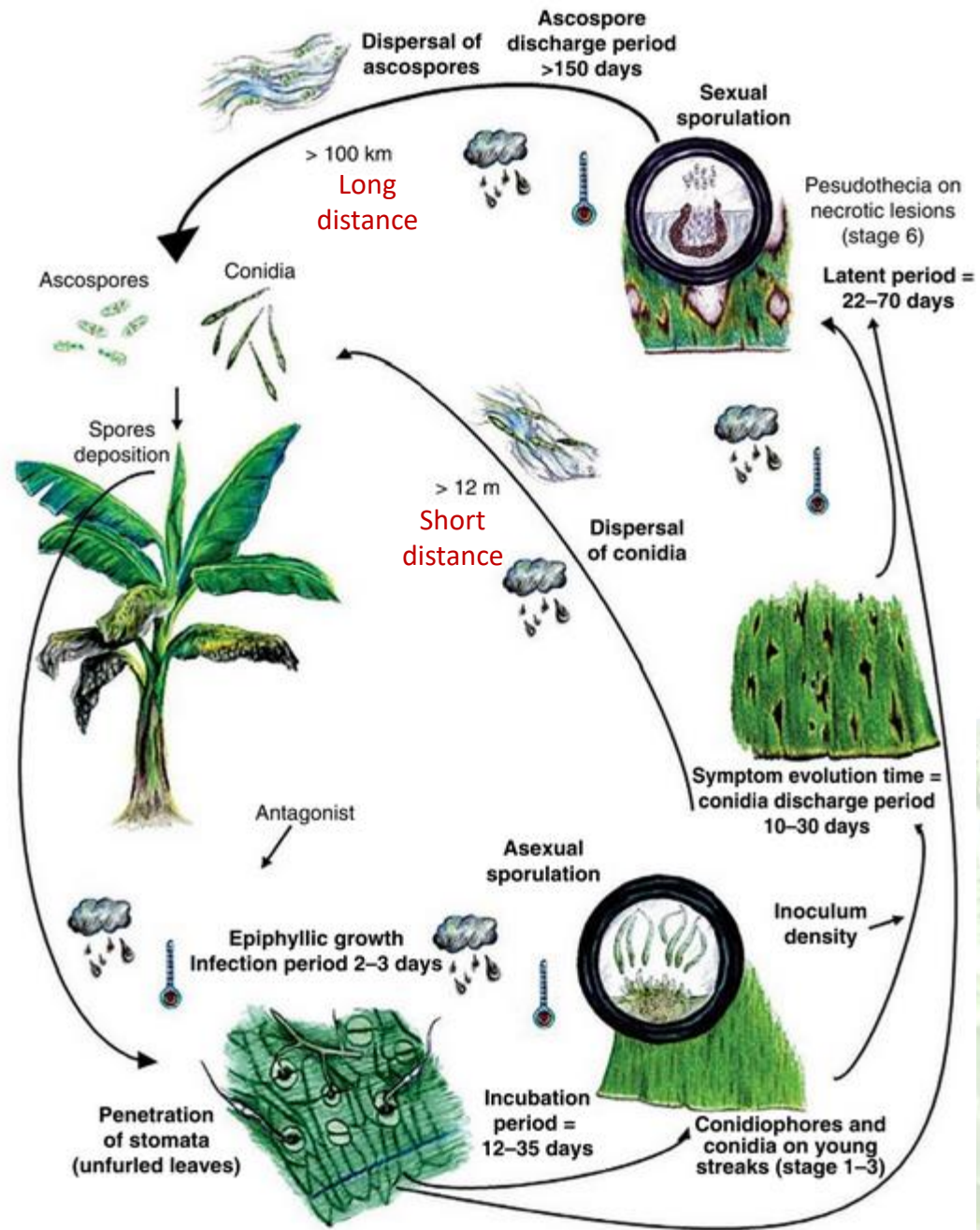


Fig. 2.3. Life cycle of *Pseudocercospora fijiensis* (syn. *Mycosphaerella fijiensis*) by L. de Lapeyre de Bellaire, L. Pérez-Vicente and M. Guzmán (drawing by A.M. Granados-Cáseres).

**With the aim of reducing pesticide use,  
is it possible to efficiently control  
black sigatoka using spatiotemporal  
strategies of pesticide applications or  
resistance deployment?**

Explorations using the mathematical model landsepi



**Black sigatoka**  
(*Pseudocercospora fijiensis*)  
on banana



# Finca San Pablo

Experimental farm managed by CORBANA

**Length - Width:** 3.1 km – 1.7 km

**Area:** 280 ha (300 independent subunits of 120x110 m)

**Density:** 18,000 plants/ha

**Yield:** 26 kg/plant

**Production (export):** 57.6 t/ha/an (total >16,000 t/an)

Continuous for more than 20 years



# Reducing pesticide use in Costa Rica

Reducing pesticide use while maintaining sufficient disease control

Direct reduction of TFI

- Reduction of application frequency
- Reduction of spatial coverage
- Reduction of fungicide dose (hence efficiency)

Replacement by resistance deployment

- Increase in spatial coverage
- Increase in resistance efficiency
- Choice of target pathogenicity trait

*Fungicides are costly for the environment but allow disease control:*

**What is the optimal strategy to minimize TFI while maximizing epidemiological control?**

*Resistant cultivars allow for disease control but have a smaller yield:*

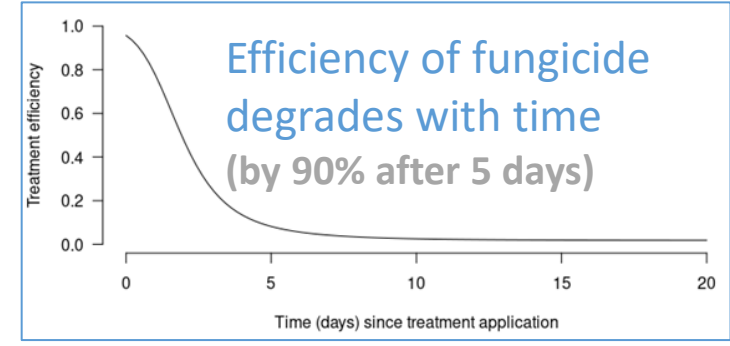
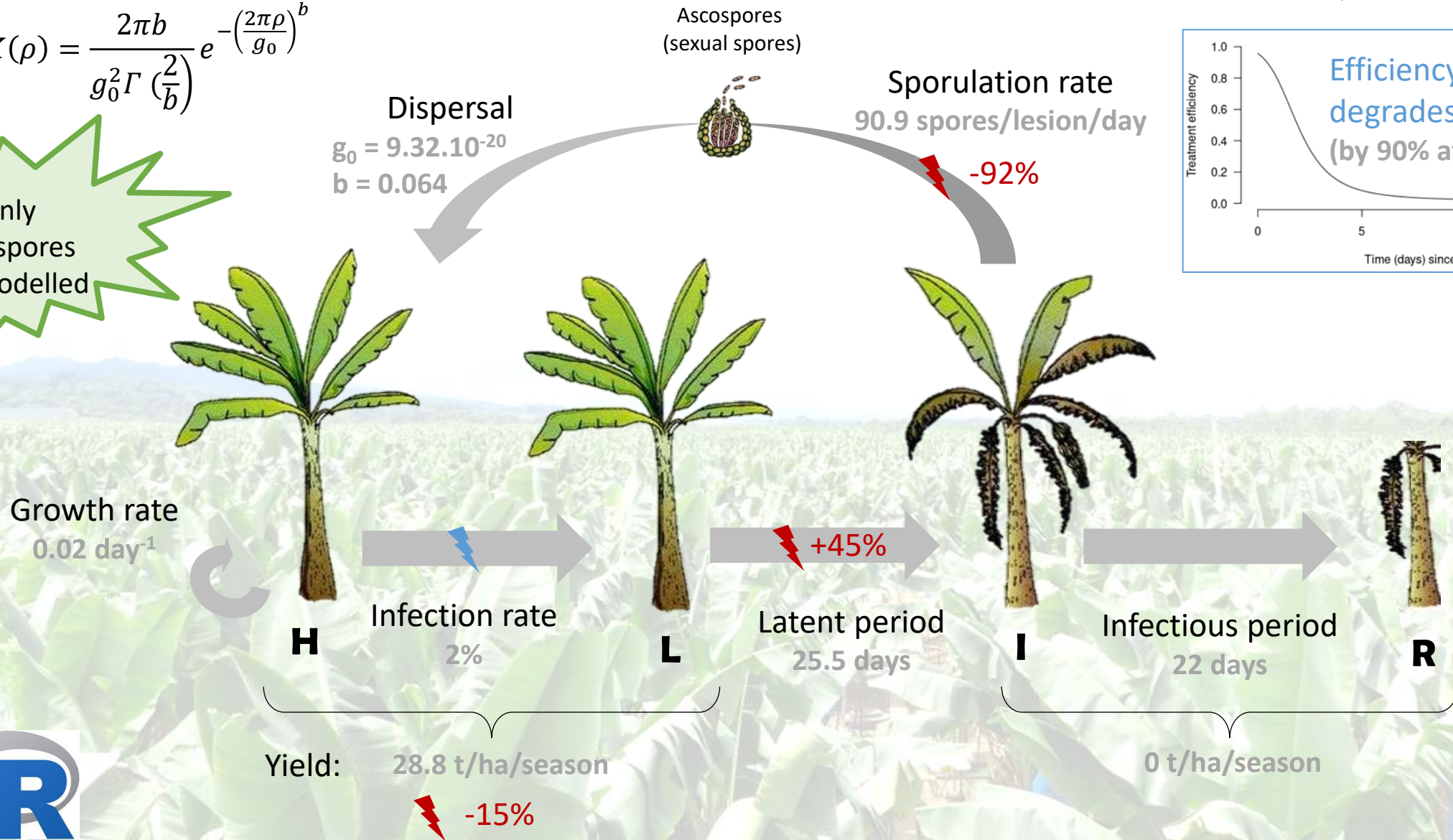
**What is the optimal strategy to maximize yield?**

# Calibration to black sigatoka in Costa Rica

- Parameter value
- Effect of fungicide application
- Effect of partial resistance (cultivar CIRAD 925)

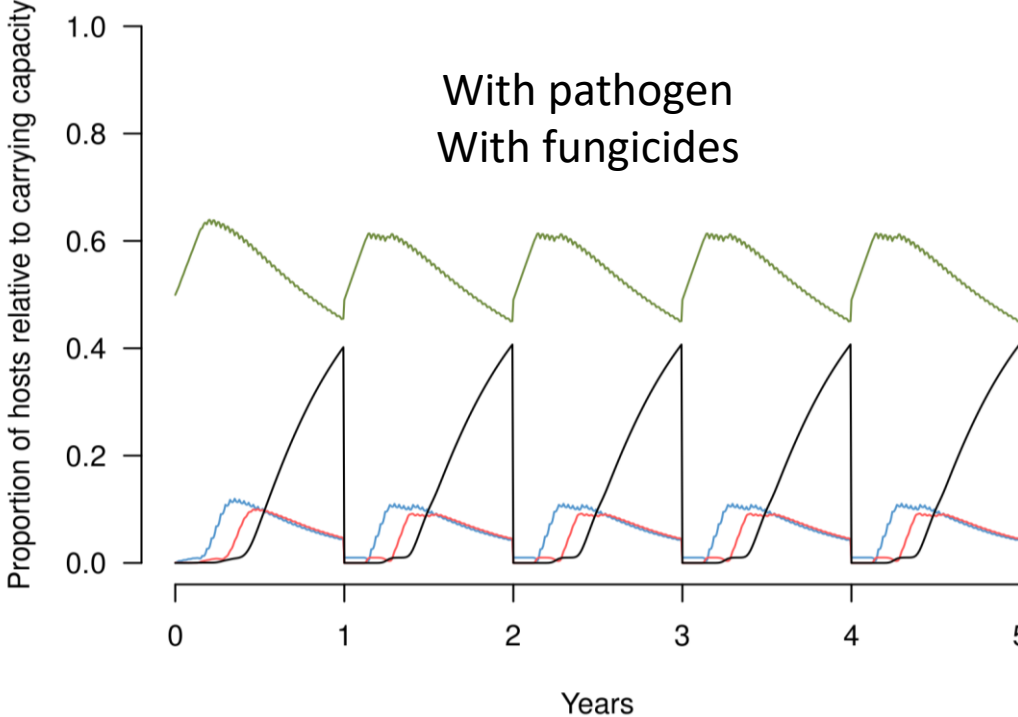
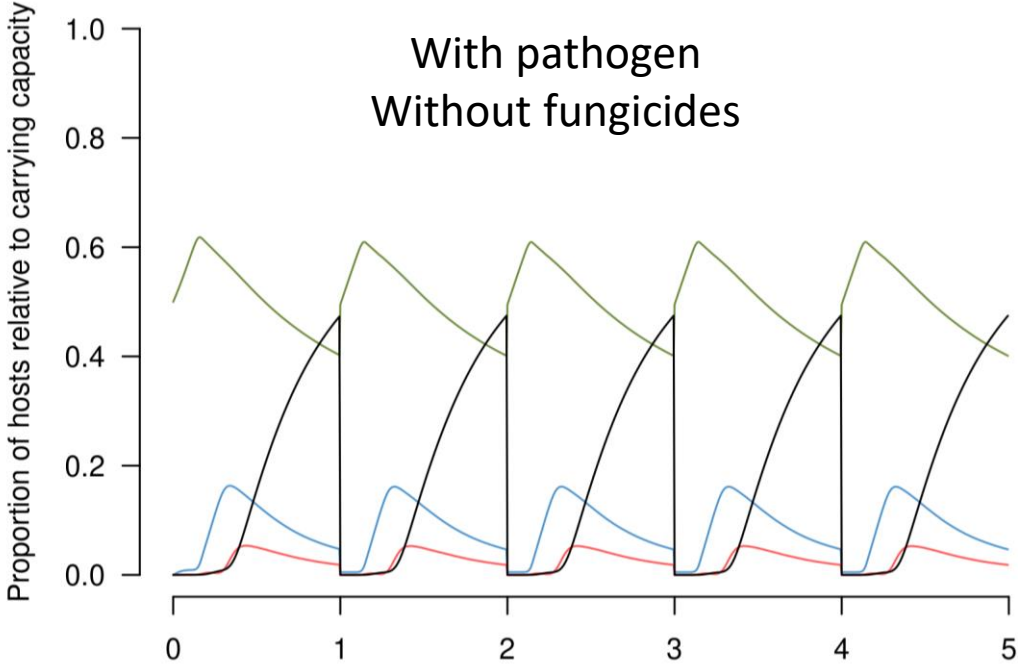
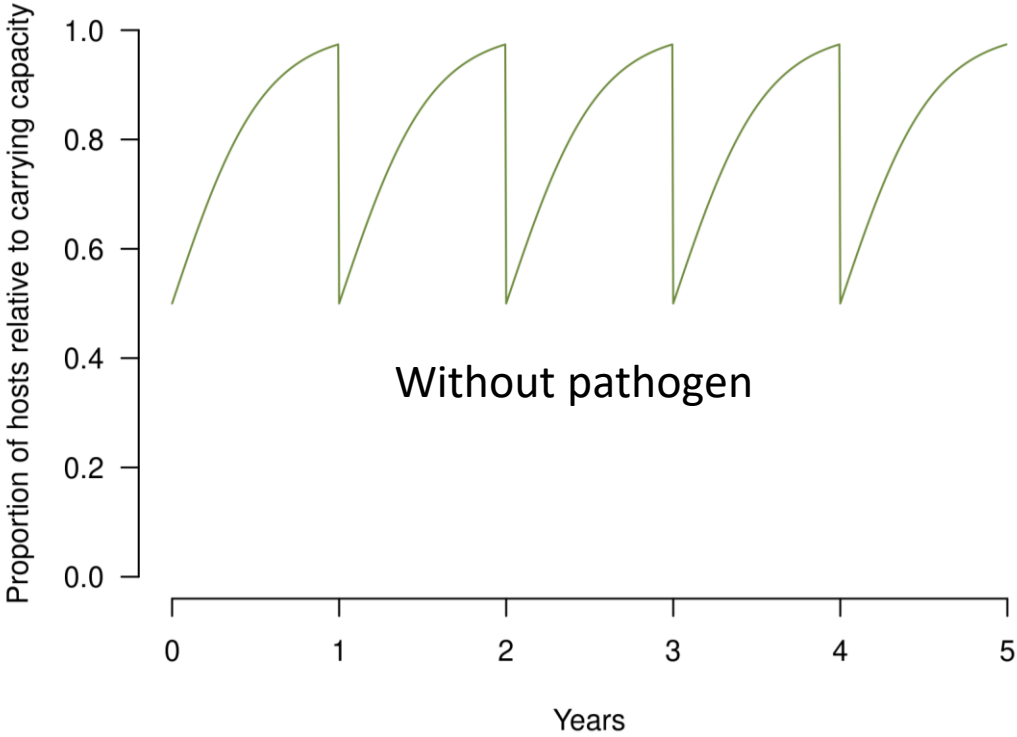
$$K(\rho) = \frac{2\pi b}{g_0^2 \Gamma\left(\frac{2}{b}\right)} e^{-\left(\frac{2\pi\rho}{g_0}\right)^b}$$

Only ascospores are modelled





# Epidemic dynamics in a 100% susceptible landscape



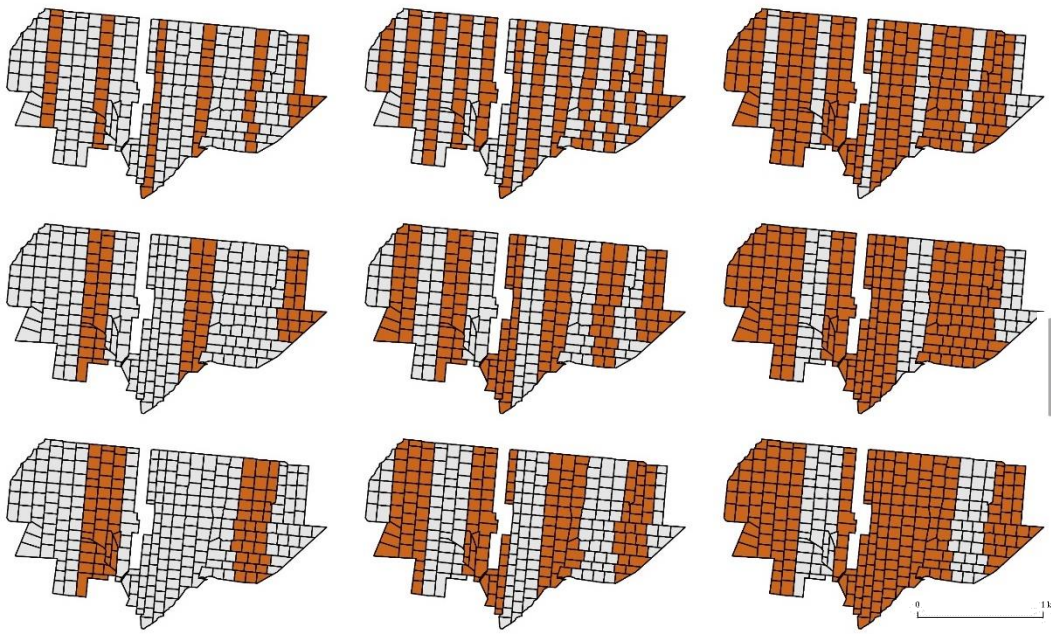
Status:

- H
- L
- I
- R

Fungicide applications

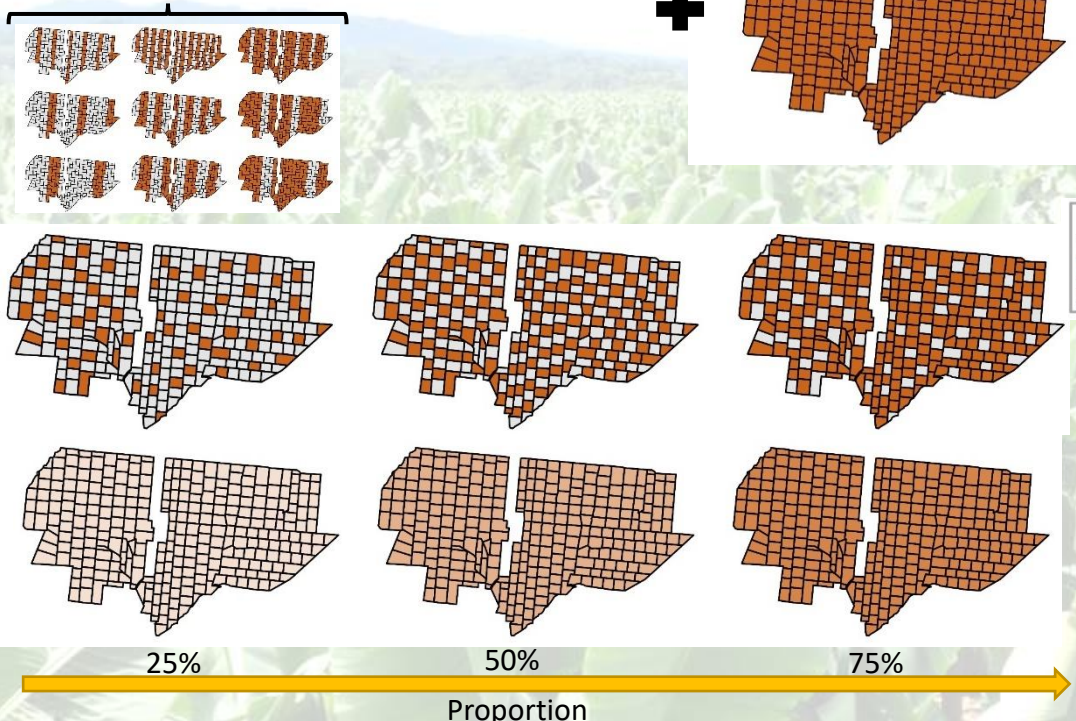
Spatial aggregation

Low  
Medium  
High



**Banana plot**  
 □ Non treated  
 ■ Treated

Resistance deployment



**Banana plot**  
 □ Susceptible  
 ■ Resistant  
 ■ Mixture

**Temporal allocation** 3  
 every 5/10/15 days

**Spatial allocation** 10  
 aggregation/proportion

**Treatment efficiency** 4  
 25/50/75/100 %

120 combinations

272 combinations

**Spatial allocation** 16  
 aggregation/proportion

**Resistance gene** 4  
 ✖ IR/LAT/PR/IP

**Gene efficiency** 4  
 25/50/75/100 %

**Elite variety** 1  
 CIRAD 925 / 938

Repetitions

30

no pathogen adaptation

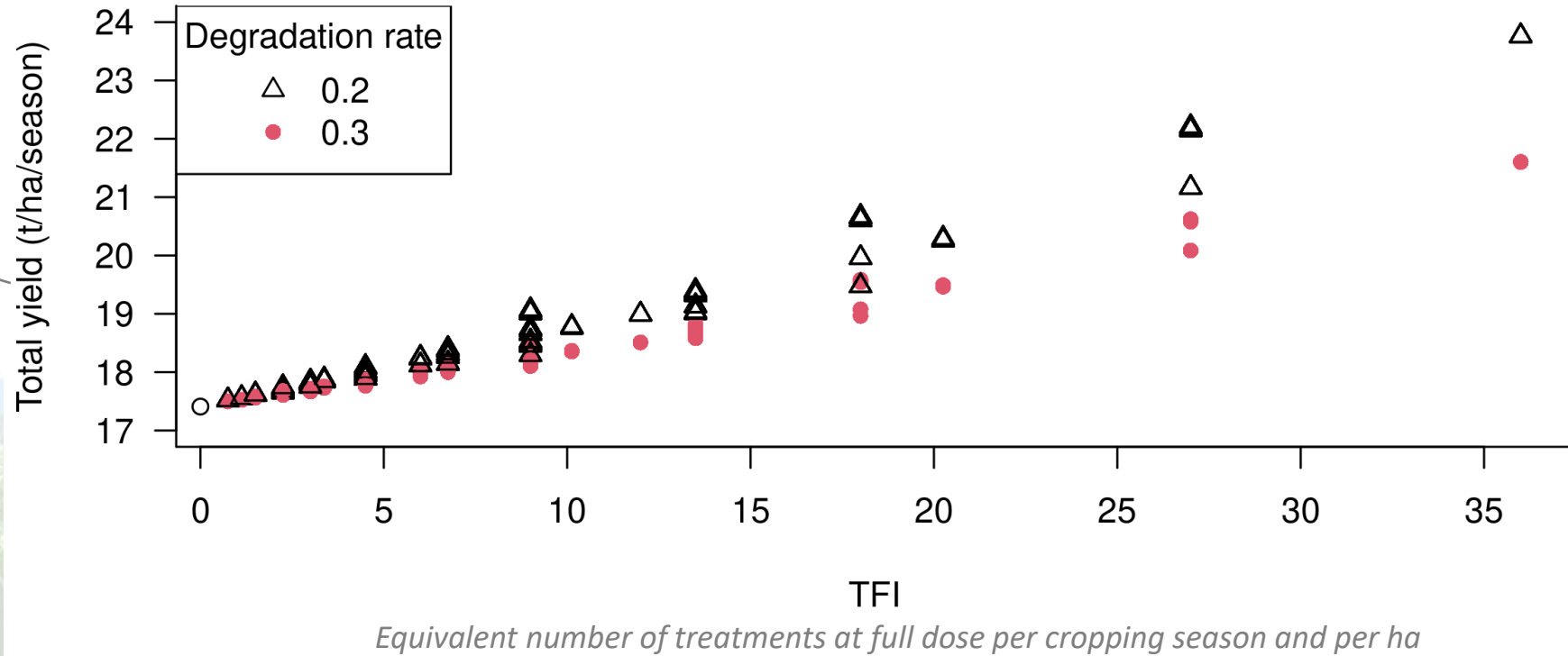
3600 simulations

8160 simulations

# first results

What is the optimal strategy to minimize TFI while maximizing epidemiological control?

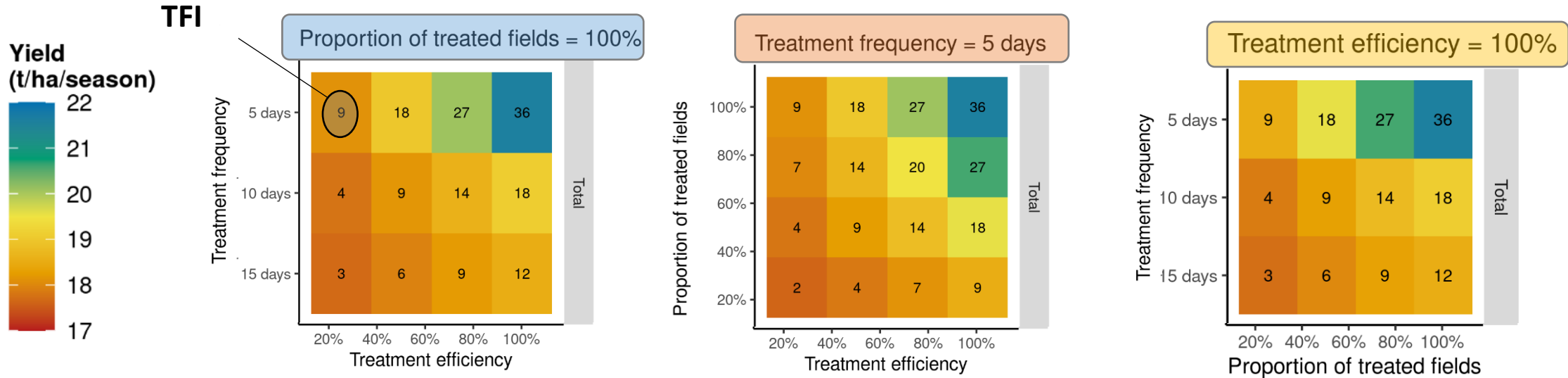
Correlated with sanitary status (epidemiological control)



$$TFI = \frac{\text{crop season duration}}{\text{Interval between 2 treatments}} \times \text{Relative dose} \times \text{Relative surface}$$

Frequency                      Efficiency                      Proportion of treated fields

# First results: yield in the whole landscape



Is there an optimal trade-off between TFI and yield?

## To be followed...

- Carry out a real sensitivity analysis to identify most influent parameters on yield?
- Compare local and global inoculum?
- Analyse resistance scenarios
- Combine resistance & fungicides

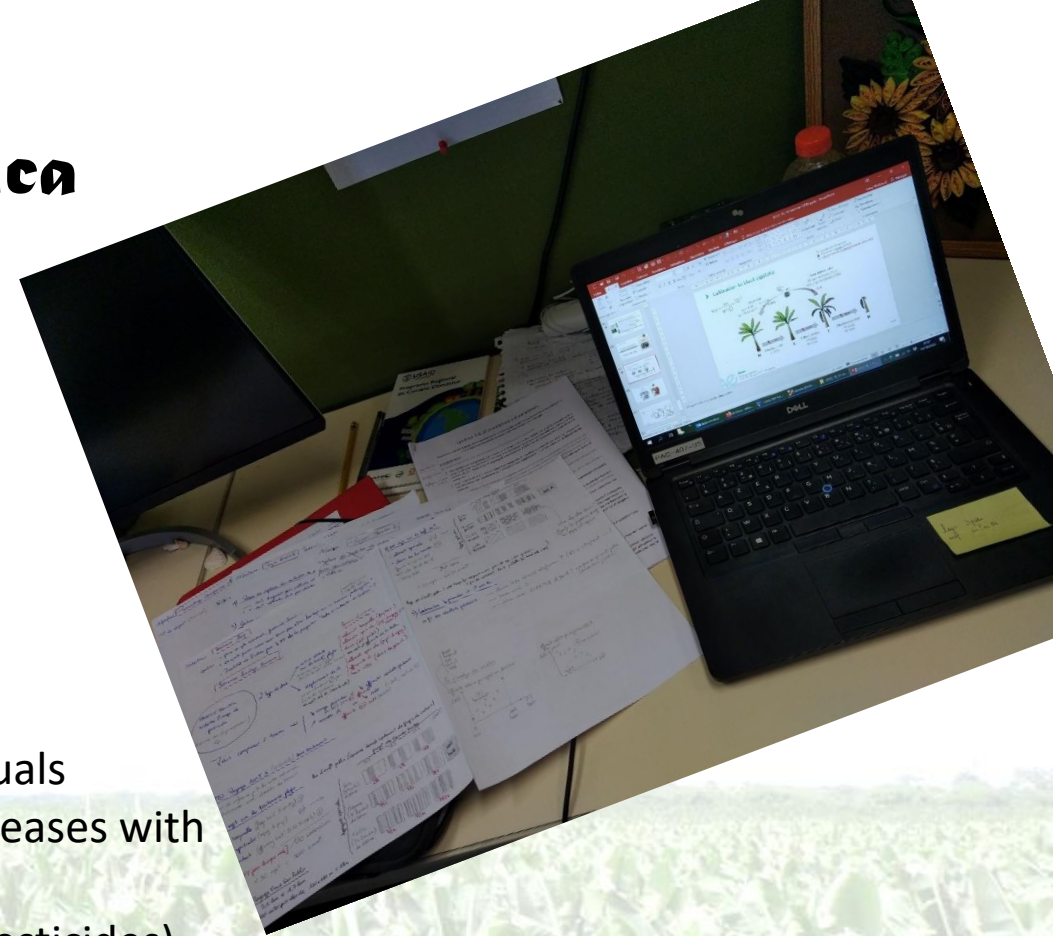
## Special thanks to:

Julien Papaix  
Fred Fabre  
Clarisse Vincent  
Alfredo  
Kendall  
MaIAGE

# Modelling black sigatoka in Costa Rica

## Assumptions

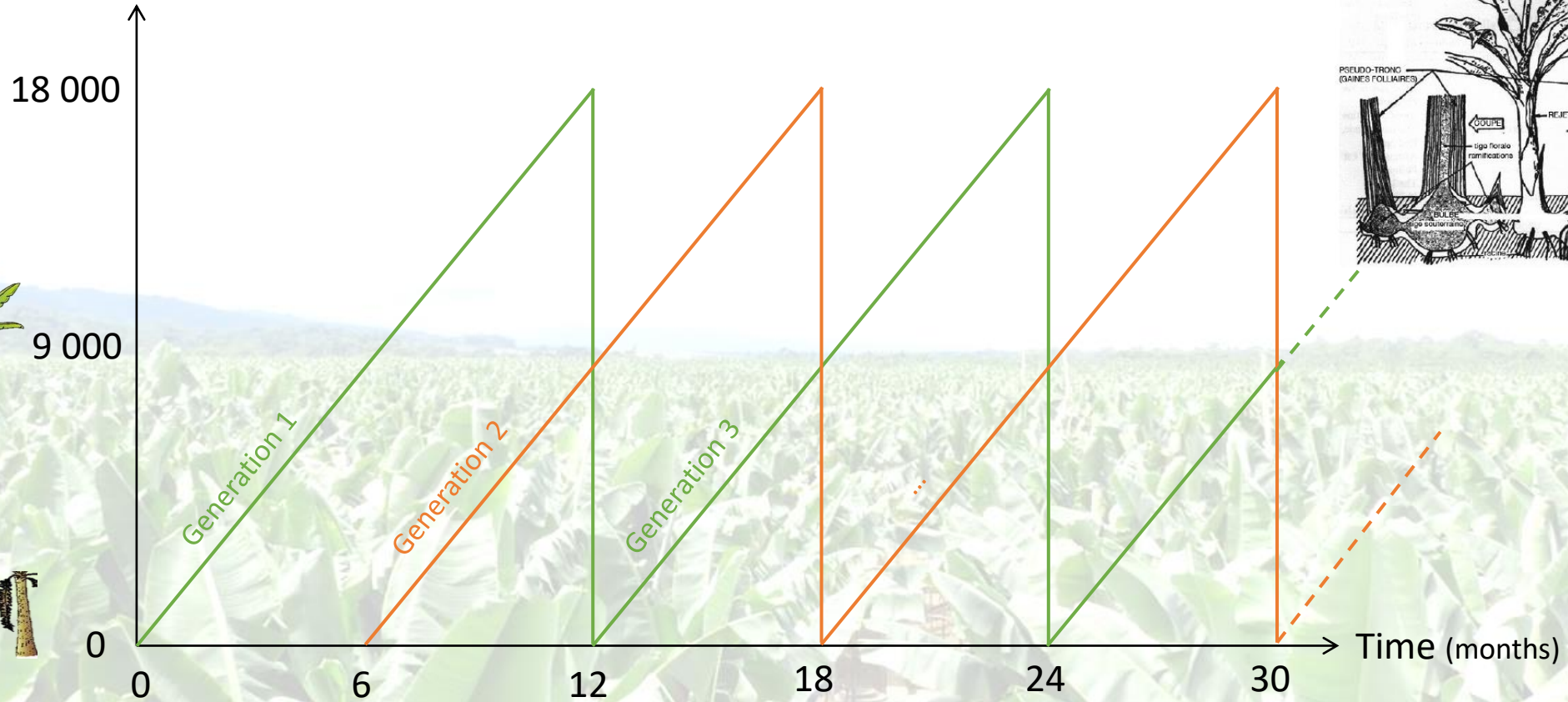
1. Spatial unit = « pinta » (1ha-subunit)
2. host individual = 1 banana leaf
3. Environment and climate are constant
4. Density-dependence of pathogen infection
5. Crop yield depends on the average amount of producing host individuals
6. The fungicide reduces the pathogen infection rate ; its efficiency decreases with host growth and time
7. Components of a mixture are independent each other (growth and pesticides)
8. There is no pathogen adaptation to cultivar resistance or to the fungicide
9. Ascospores are the major driver of epidemics and losses [Stover 1980; Gauhl 1993]



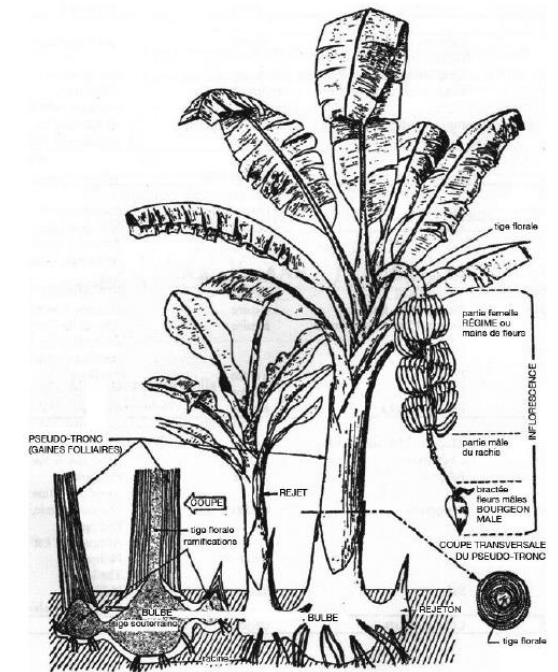
# Host dynamics: host growth & harvest



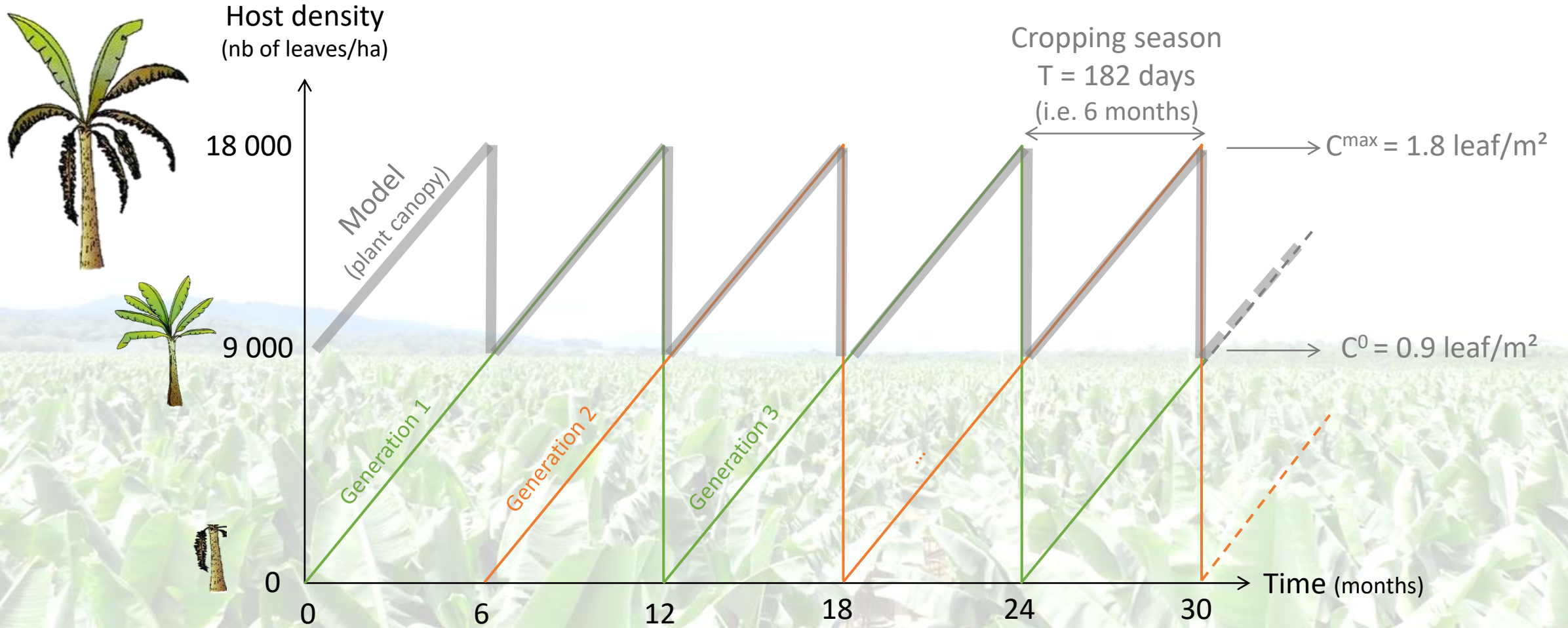
Host density  
(nb of leaves/ha)



Just before harvest,  
3 generations overlap

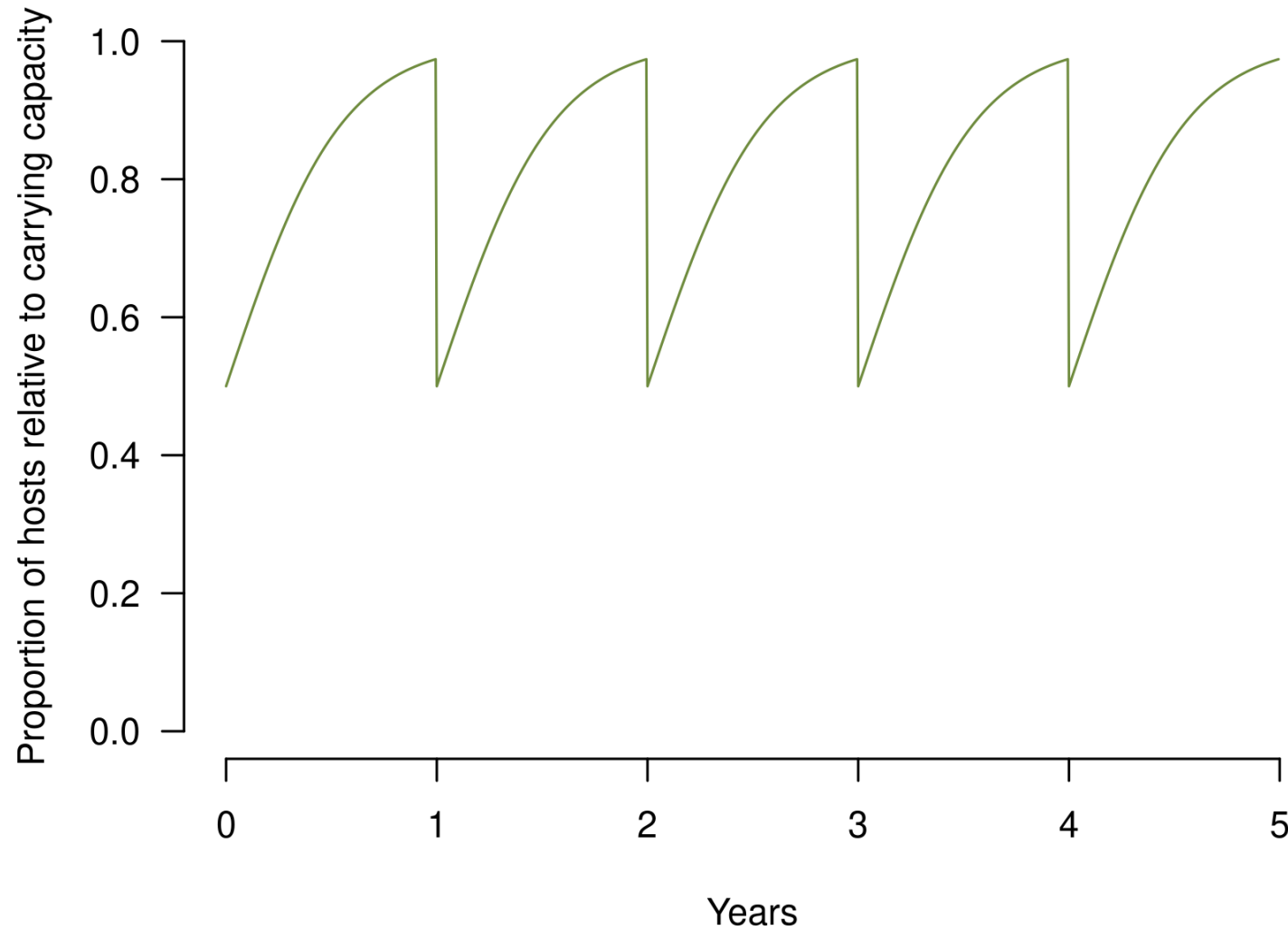


# Host dynamics: host growth & harvest

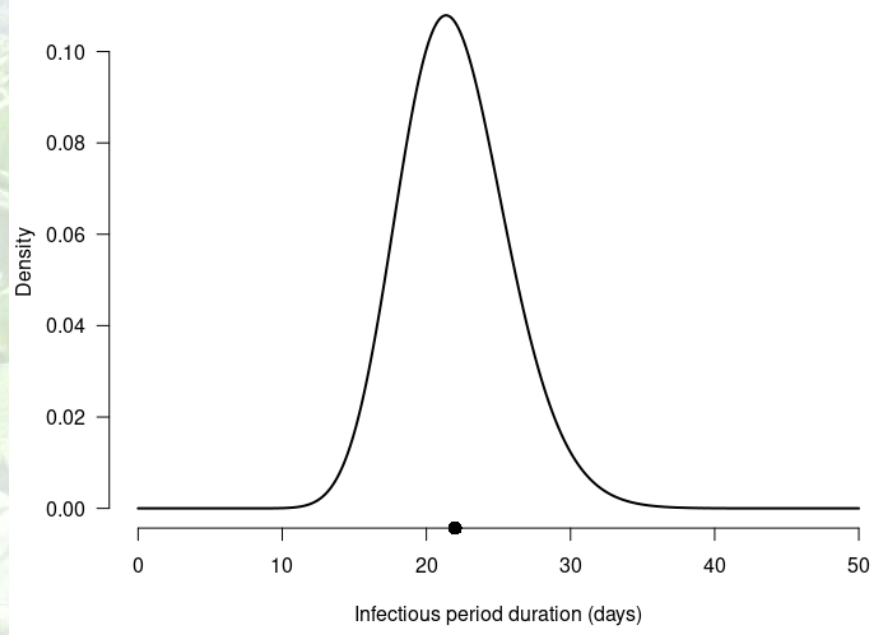
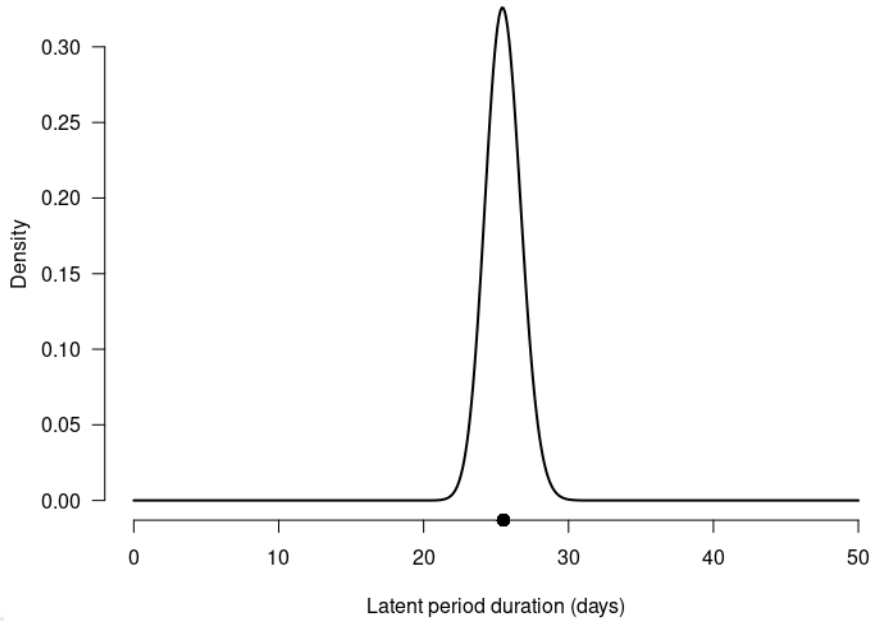




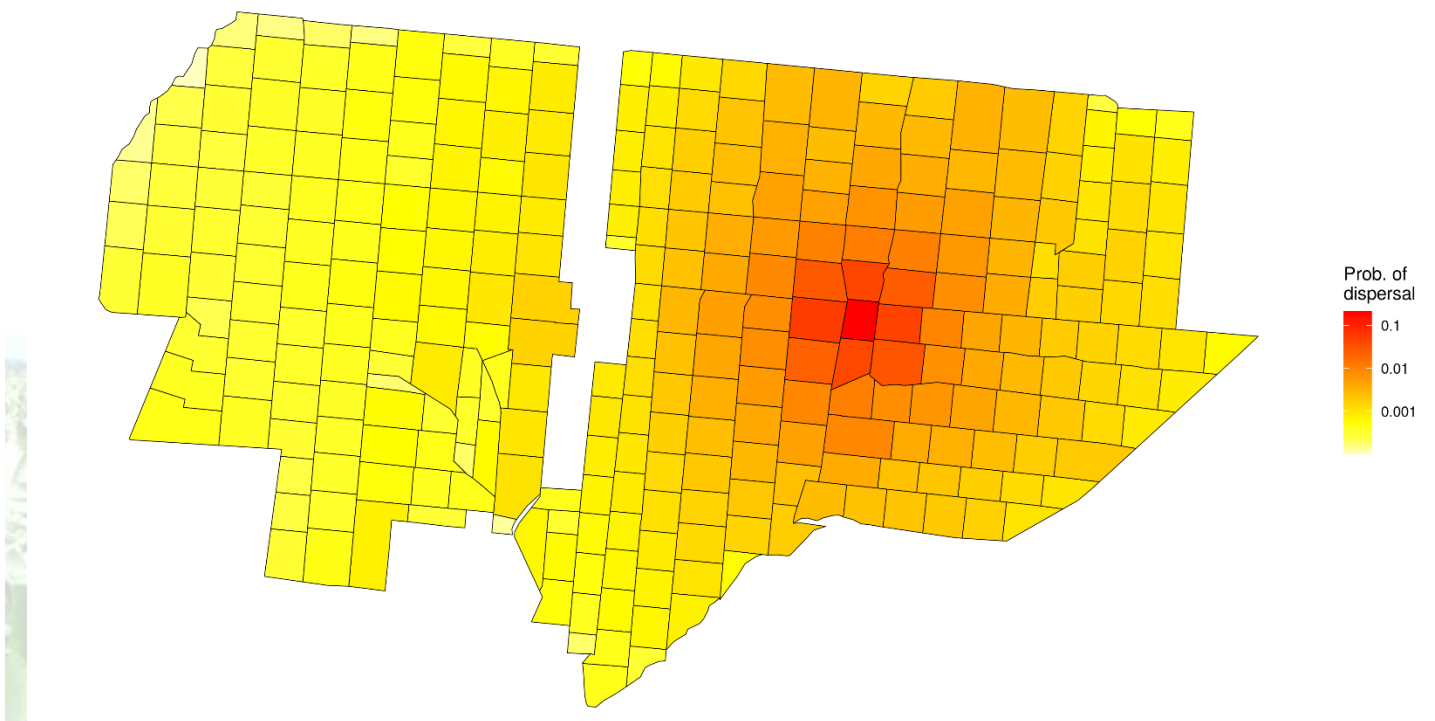
# Epidemic dynamics in a 100% susceptible landscape



# Model calibration



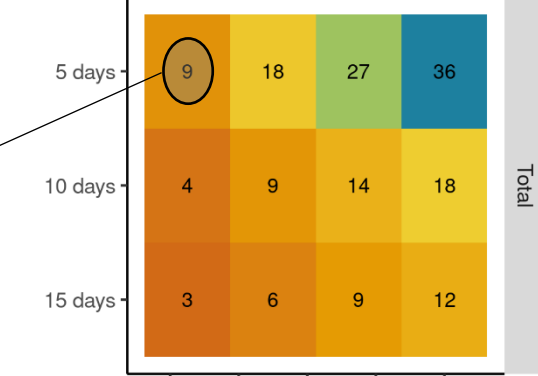
Ascospore dispersal



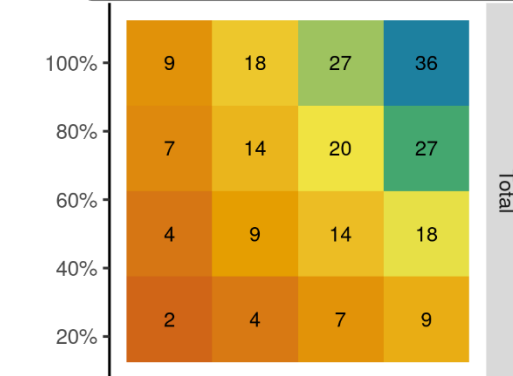
# first results

TFI

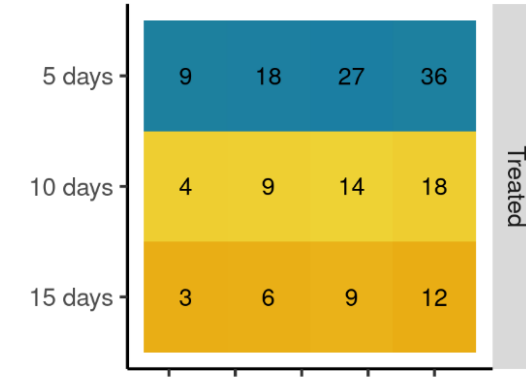
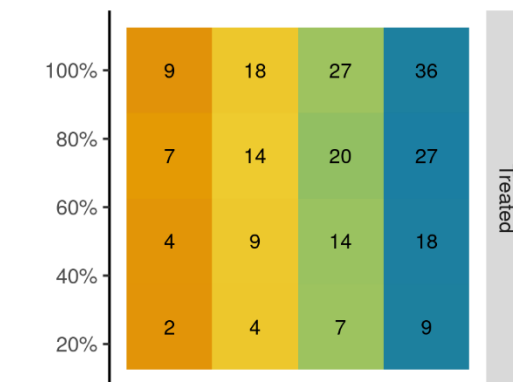
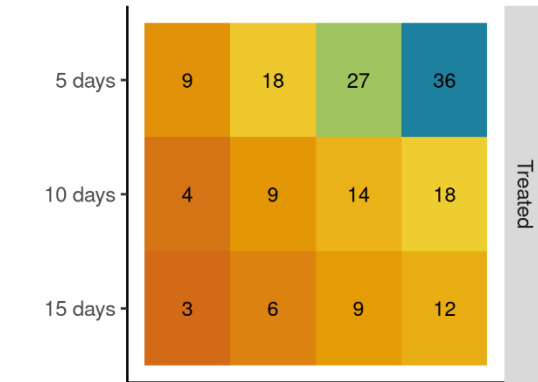
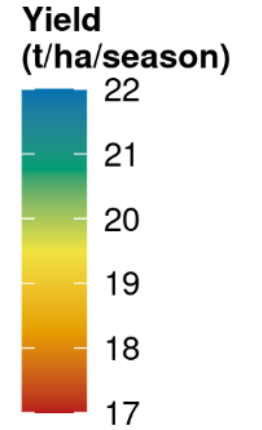
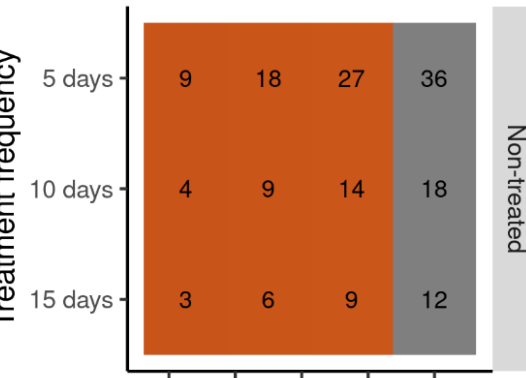
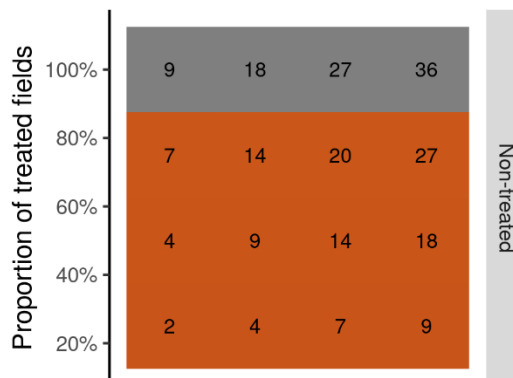
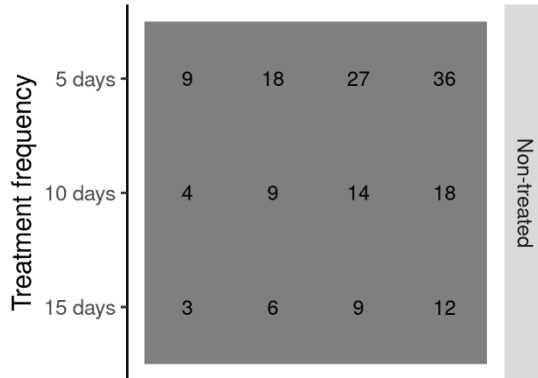
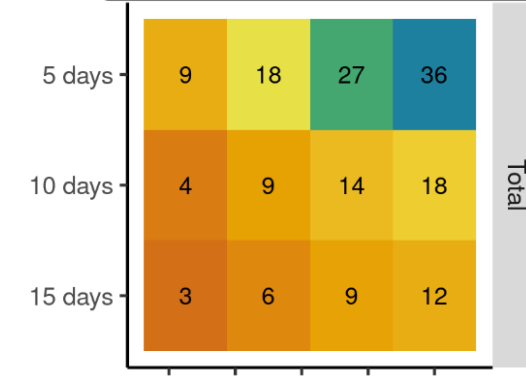
Proportion of treated fields = 100%



Treatment frequency = 5 days



Treatment efficiency = 100%



→ Non-treated fields are always devastated

→ Yield in treated fields increases with efficiency and frequency

