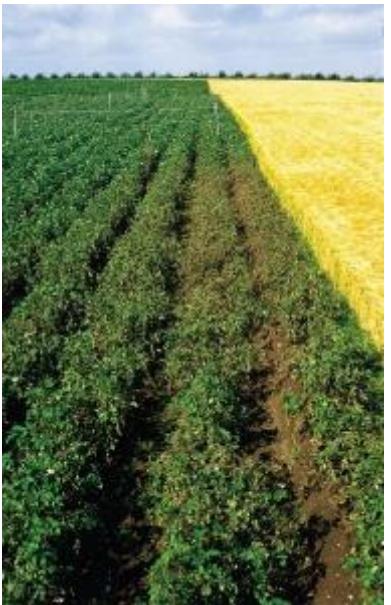


BlightManager



Prevention and control of late blight
and early blight

Jens G. Hansen & Isaac K. Abuley
Aarhus University



AGROINTELLI

KMC
LET'S TAKE FOOD FORWARD

STØTTET AF
Kartoffelafgiftsfonden

Kartoffelworkshop
7 December 2021

BJ-Agro

LÅNDRUG FØDEVARER
SEGES

BlightManager
January 2019 –
31 December 2021

Outline:

- Selected achievements / Jens
- *P. infestans* genotypes in Denmark 2021 / Jens
- Lesion growth and latent period for EU41, EU43 compared with “Other” / Isaac
- Improved control strategies / Isaac
- Conclusions and recommendations / Jens

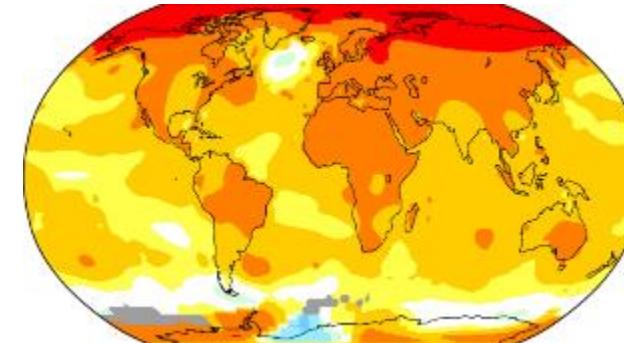


New *P.i.* population - Early infections from oospores



In the light of challenges:

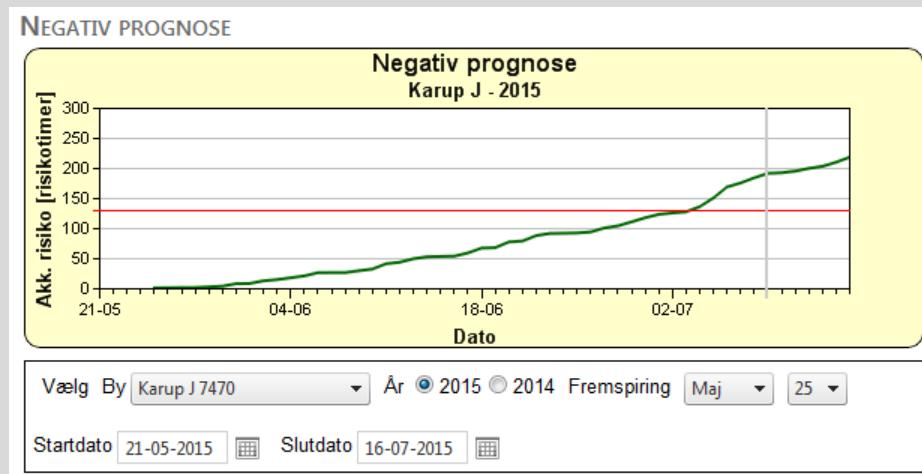
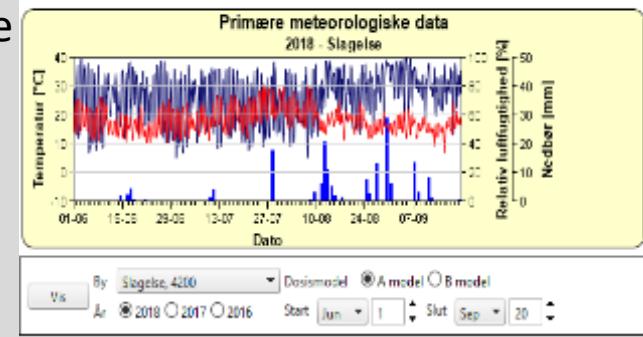
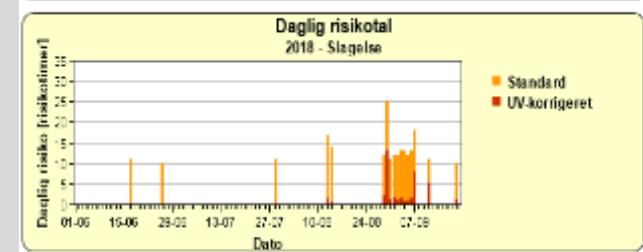
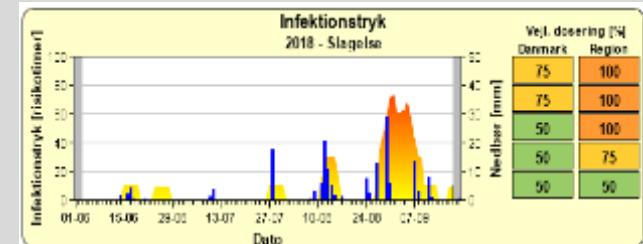
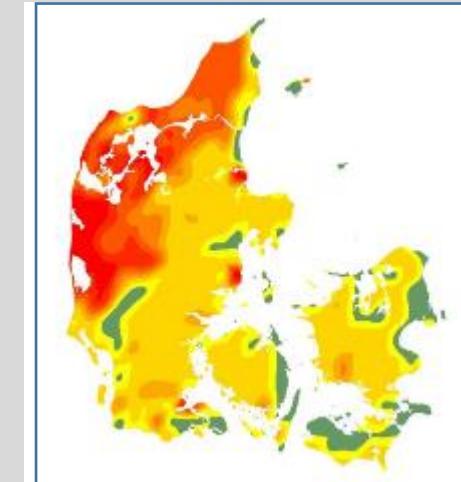
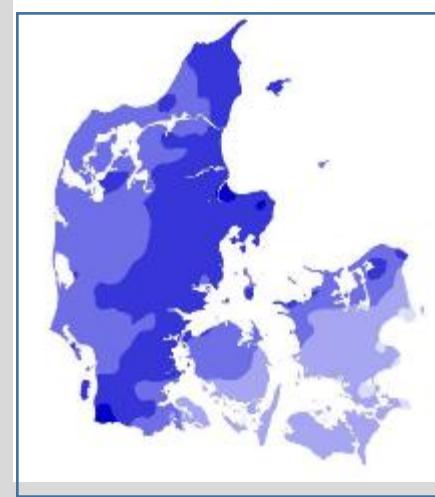
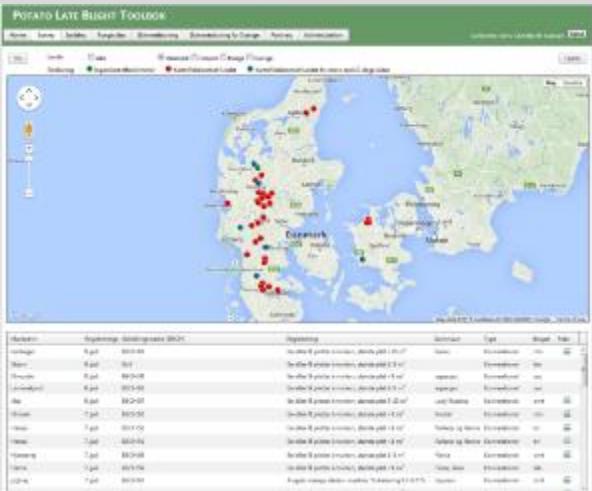
Milder winters –
dumps and volunteers



Demand on fungicide reductions

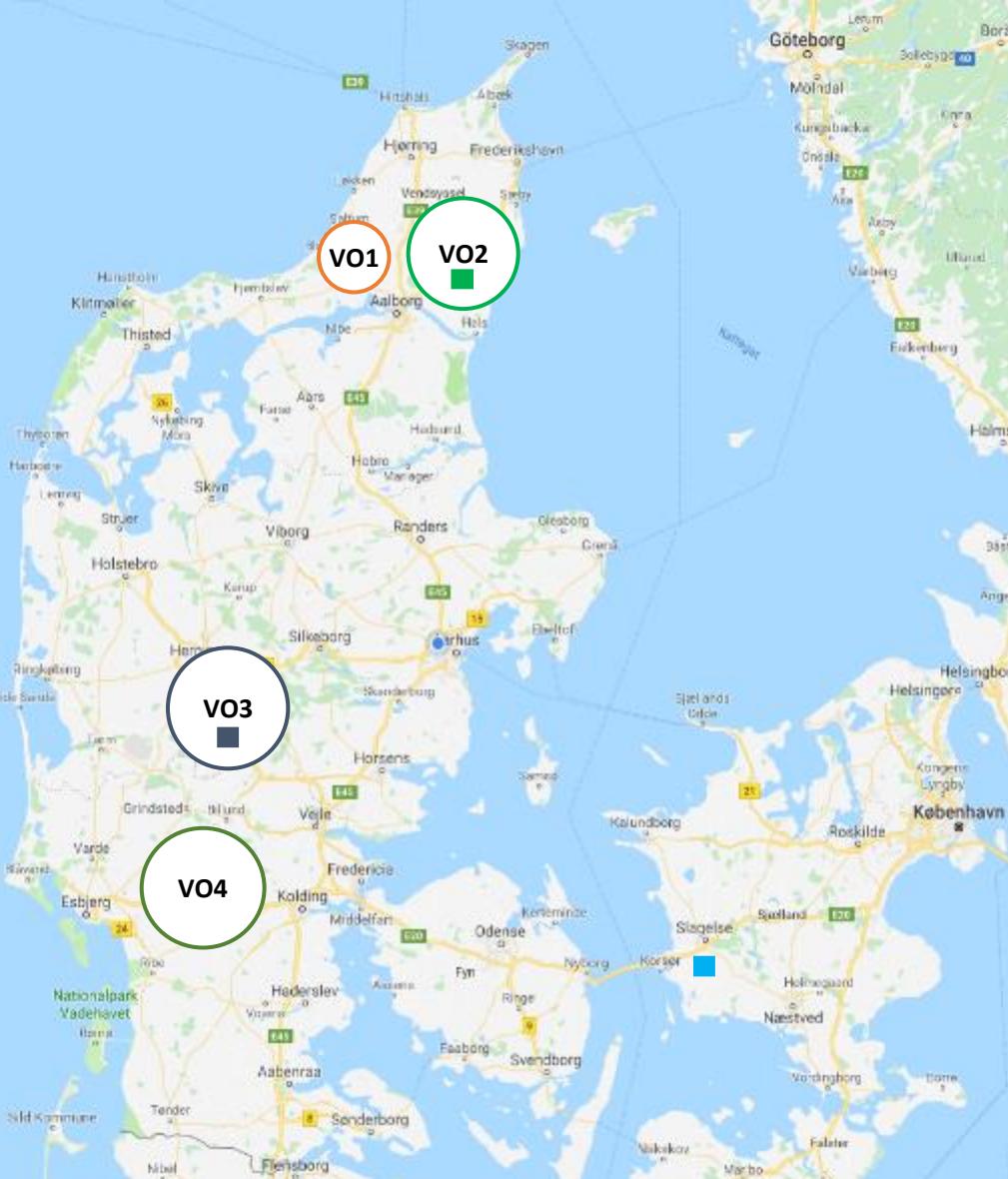
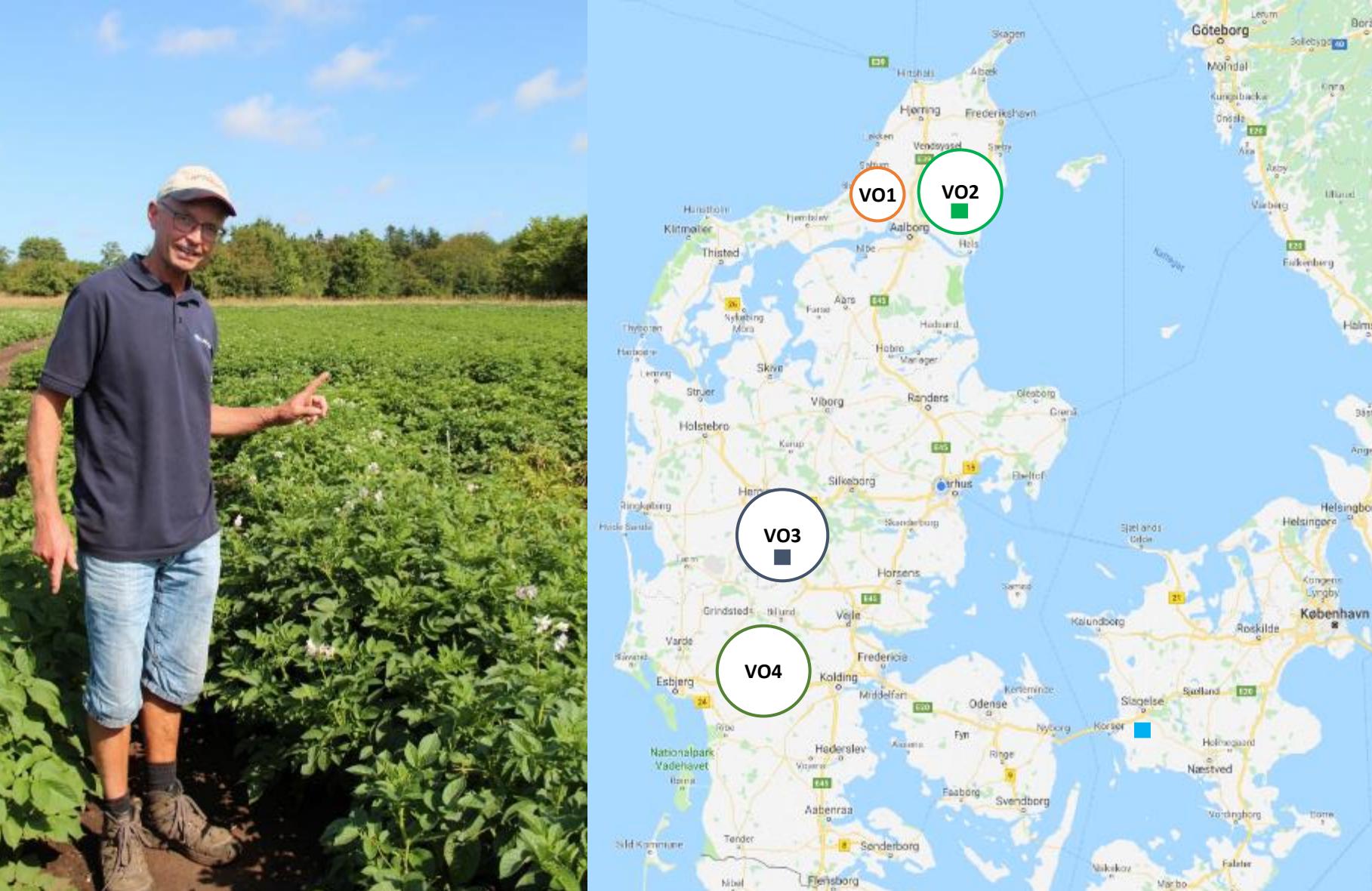


Before BlightManager

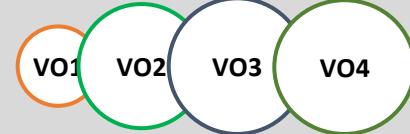


Infection risk from infected tubers

Infection pressure + Rain (postal code)



Four Case study regions (VO1-VO4)

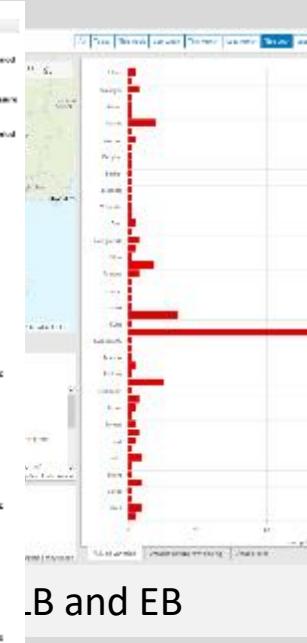
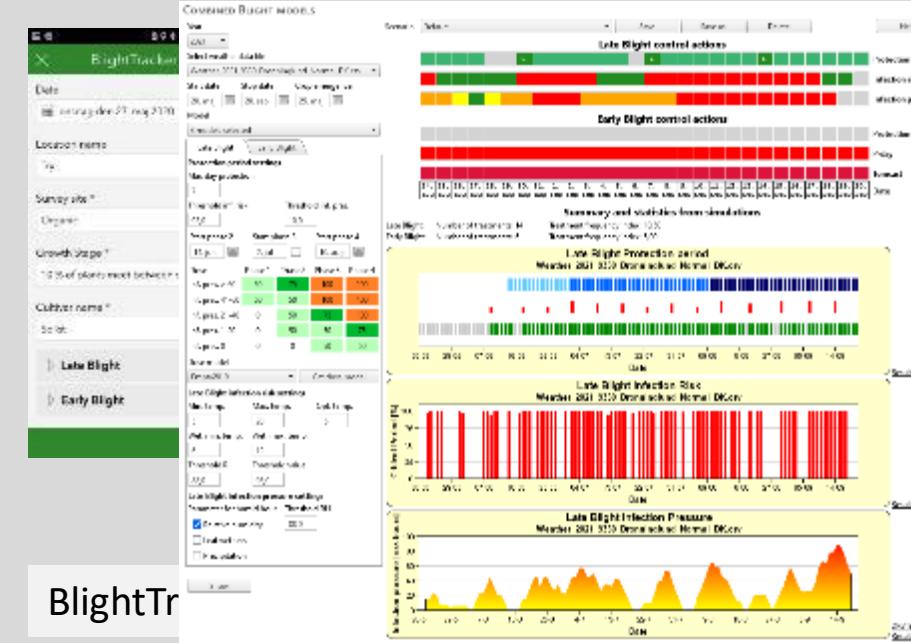


1. VO1: Store Vildmose (Jannie R. Sørensen)
2. VO2: AKV Dronninglund (Henrik Pedersen)
3. VO3: KMC Brønde (Kristian Elkjær)
4. VO4: BJ-Agro (Benny Jensen)

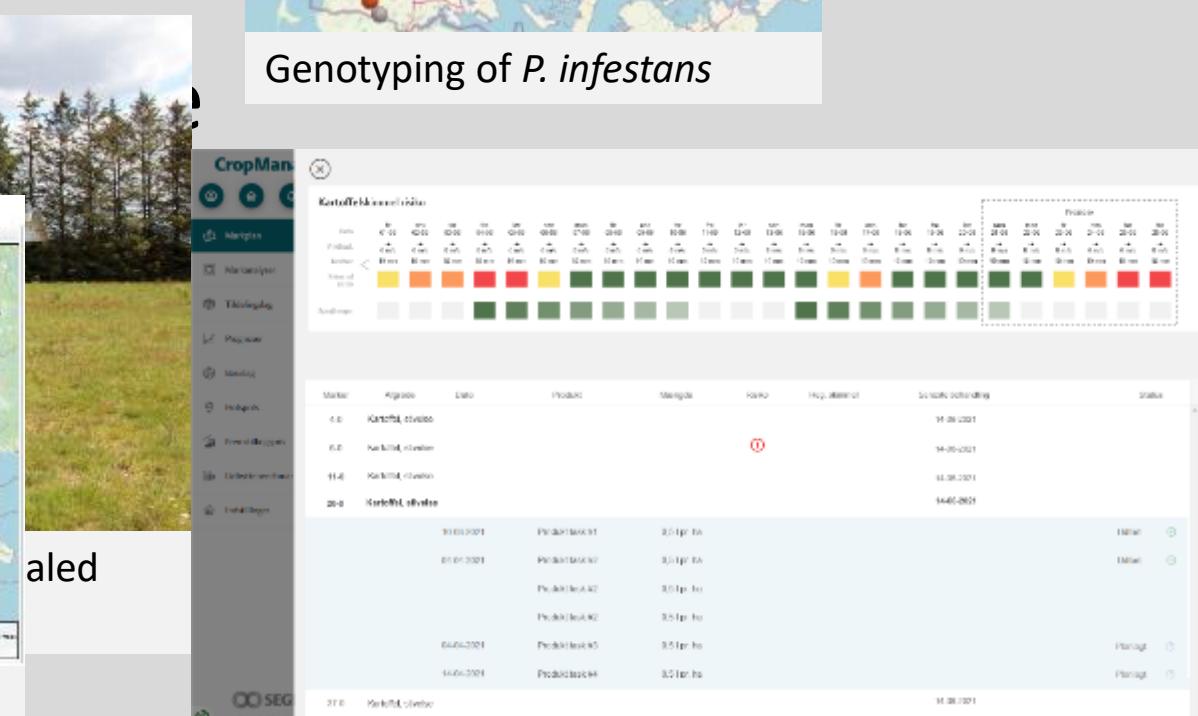
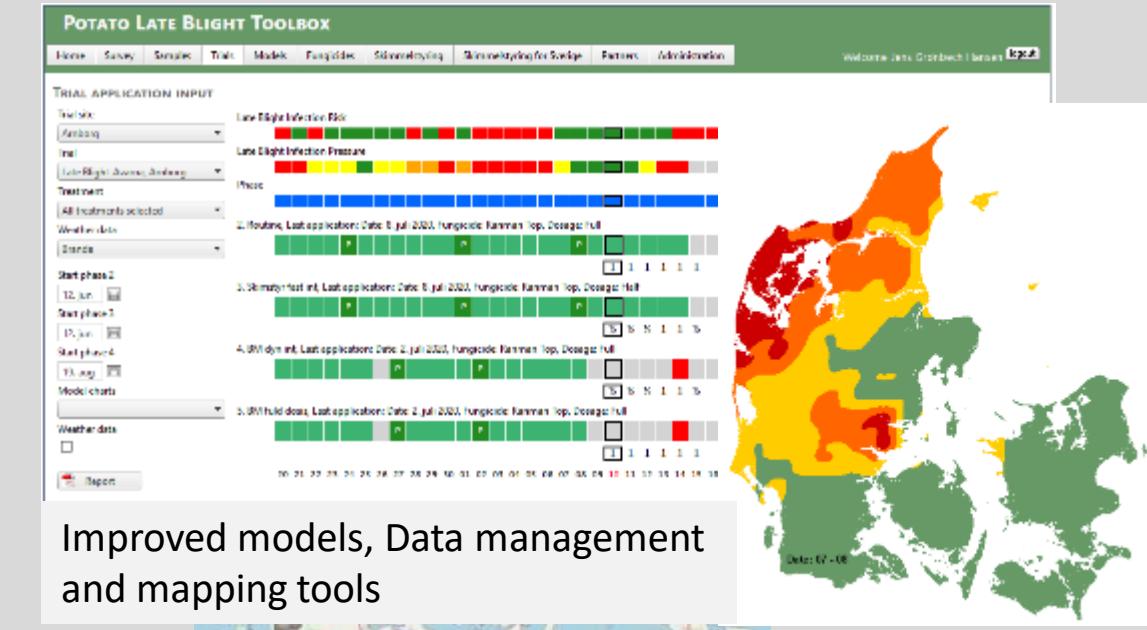
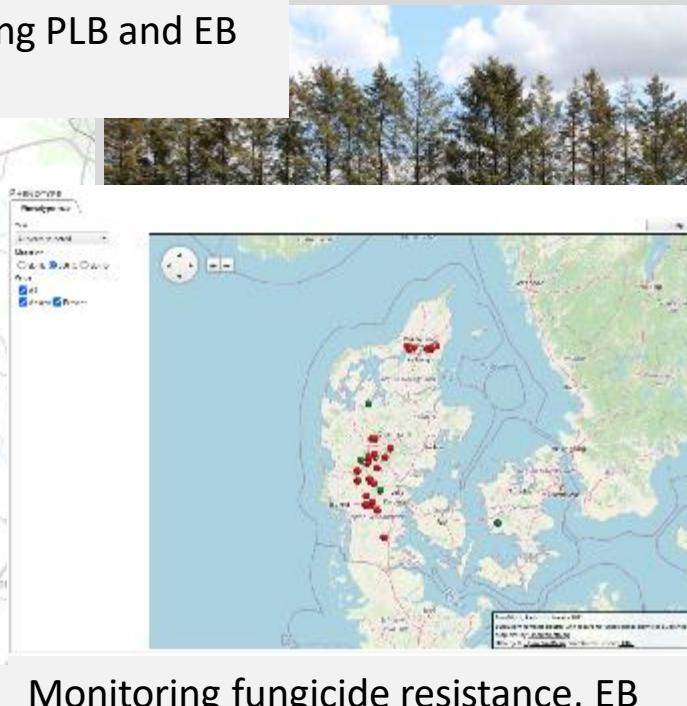
Three Trial sites: ■ ■ ■

- Dronninglund (VO2)
- Arnborg (VO3)
- Flakkebjerg (close to Slagelse)

Thanks to all industry partners
for the work done in the Case
study regions!



Simulation model combining PLB and EB control





FACULTY OF TECHNICAL SCIENCES

Results of the EuroBlight potato late blight monitoring in 2020

EuroBlight is continuously examining the ongoing evolution of the European late blight pathogen results. Approximately 100 countries genotyped



Blight lesion photo by James Lynott of The James Lynott Collection

9. april 2021 at [Jens Gammelch Hansen](#)

Key findings:

- EuroBlight continuously inventories the population of the potato late blight pathogen. Now reports on the 2020 results.

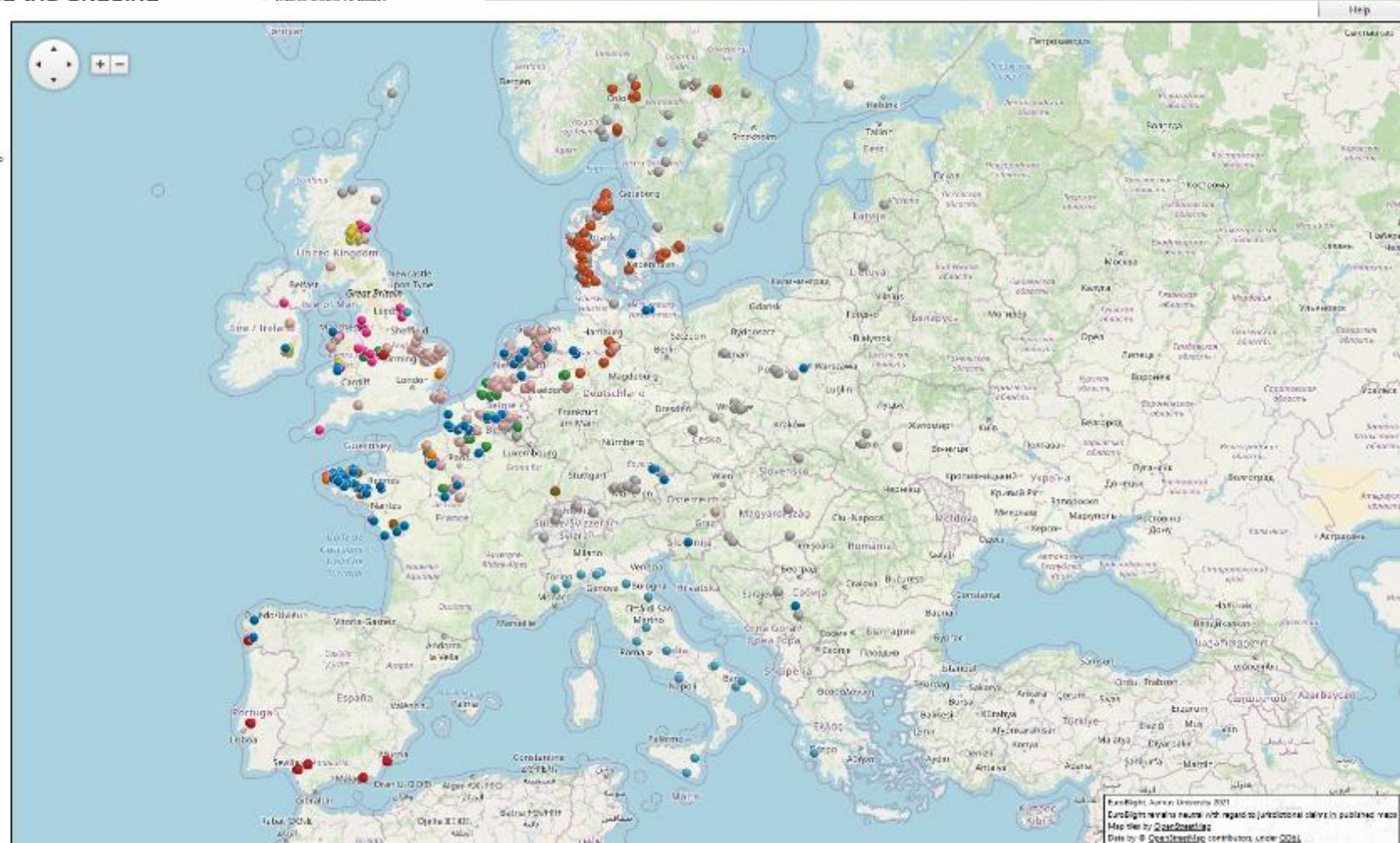
Nyhedsarkiv

> 2021

- [mai 2021 \(1 post\)](#)
- [april 2021 \(1 post\)](#)
- [februar 2021 \(1 post\)](#)

> 2020

- [september 2020 \(1 post\)](#)
- [marts 2020 \(2 posts\)](#)



Observations

113

EU_43

22

16%

EU_41_A2

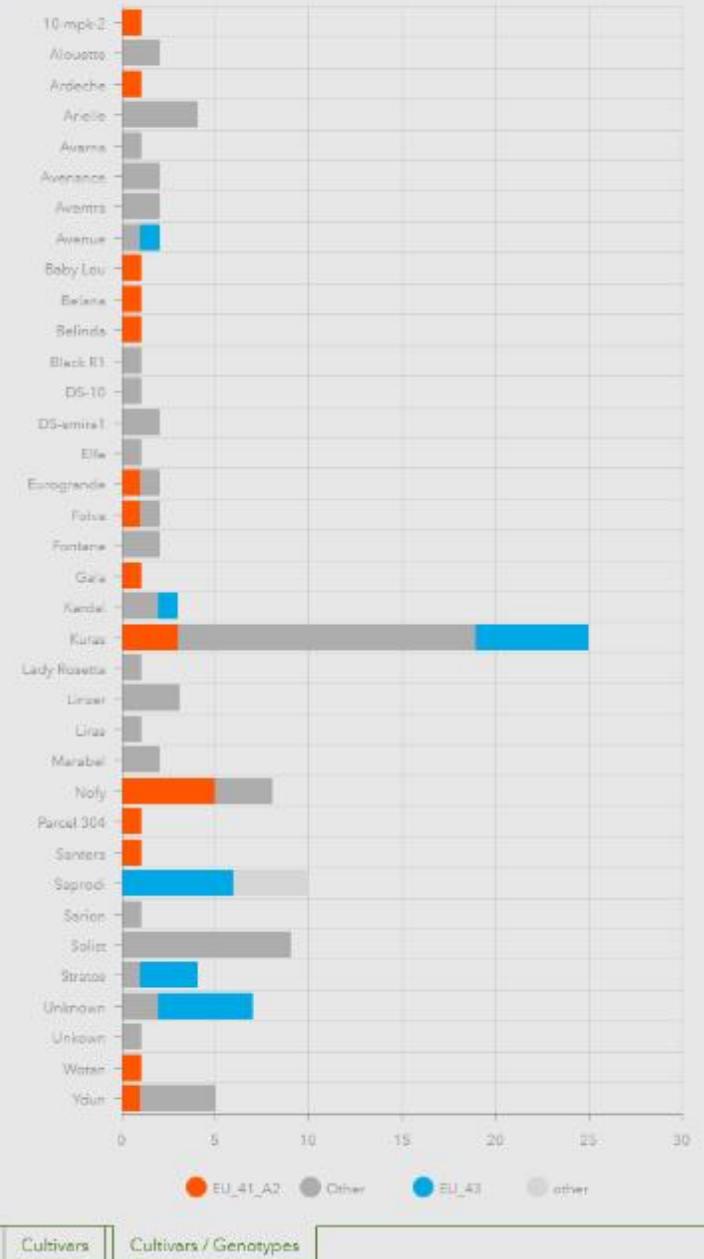
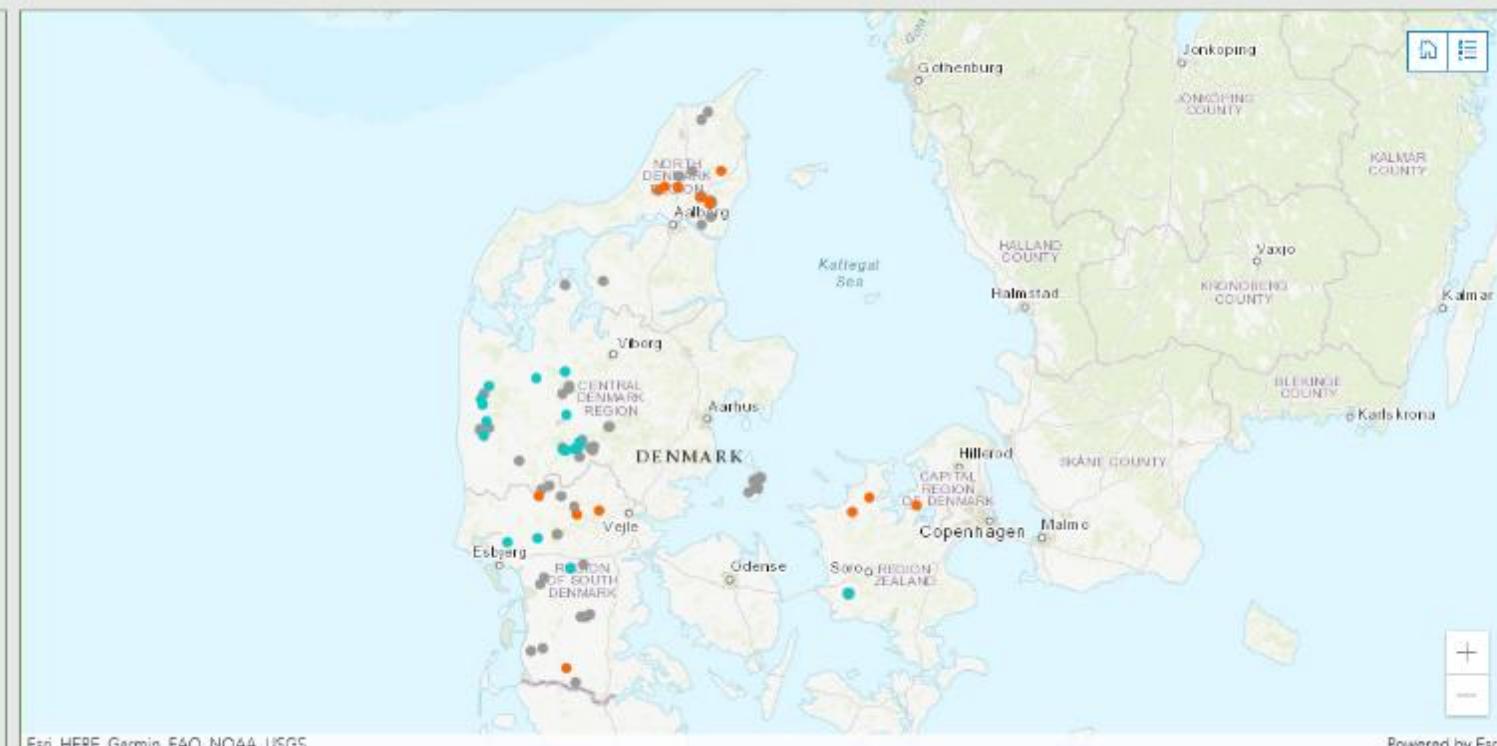
20

15%

Other

71

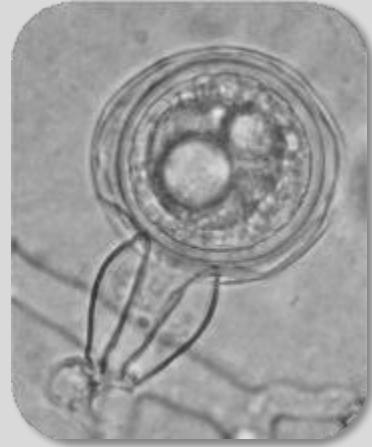
52%



Phenotypic traits of some known genotypes

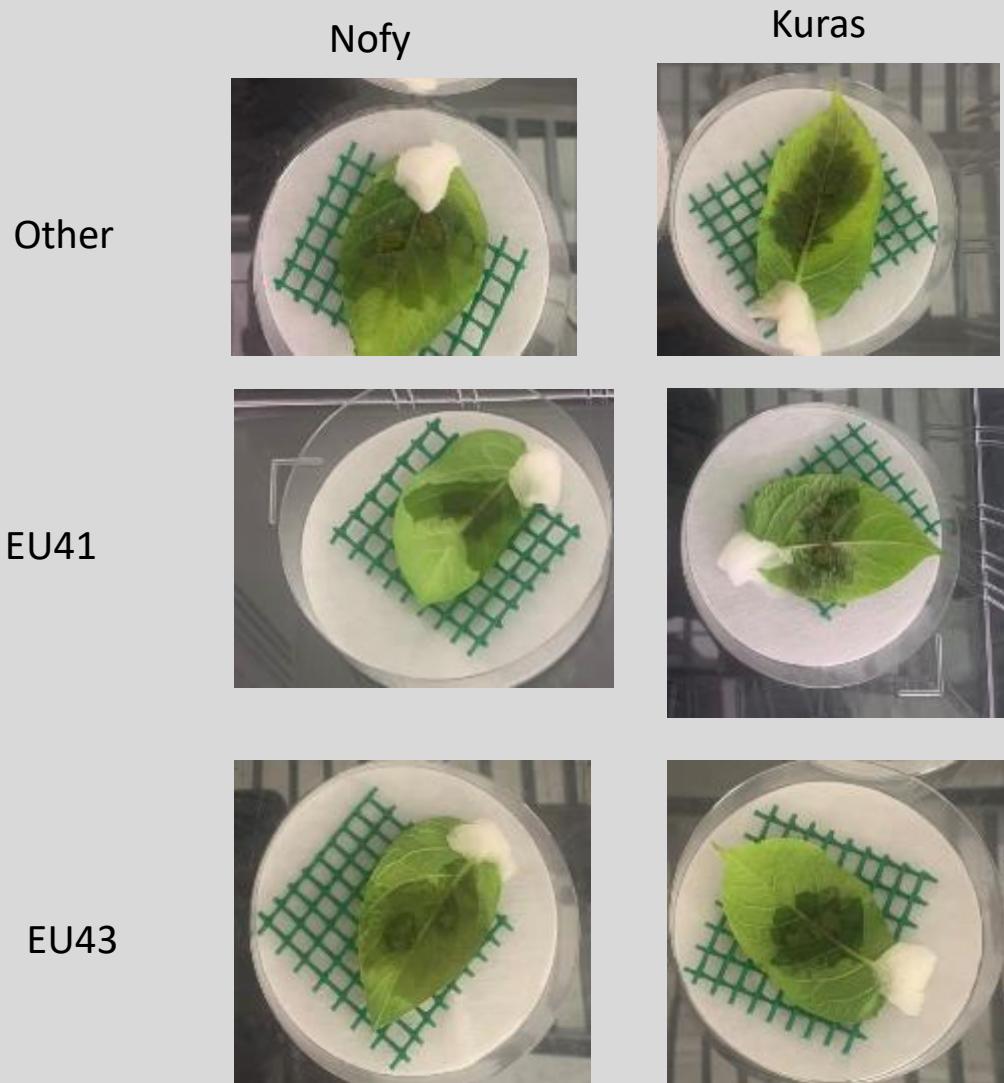
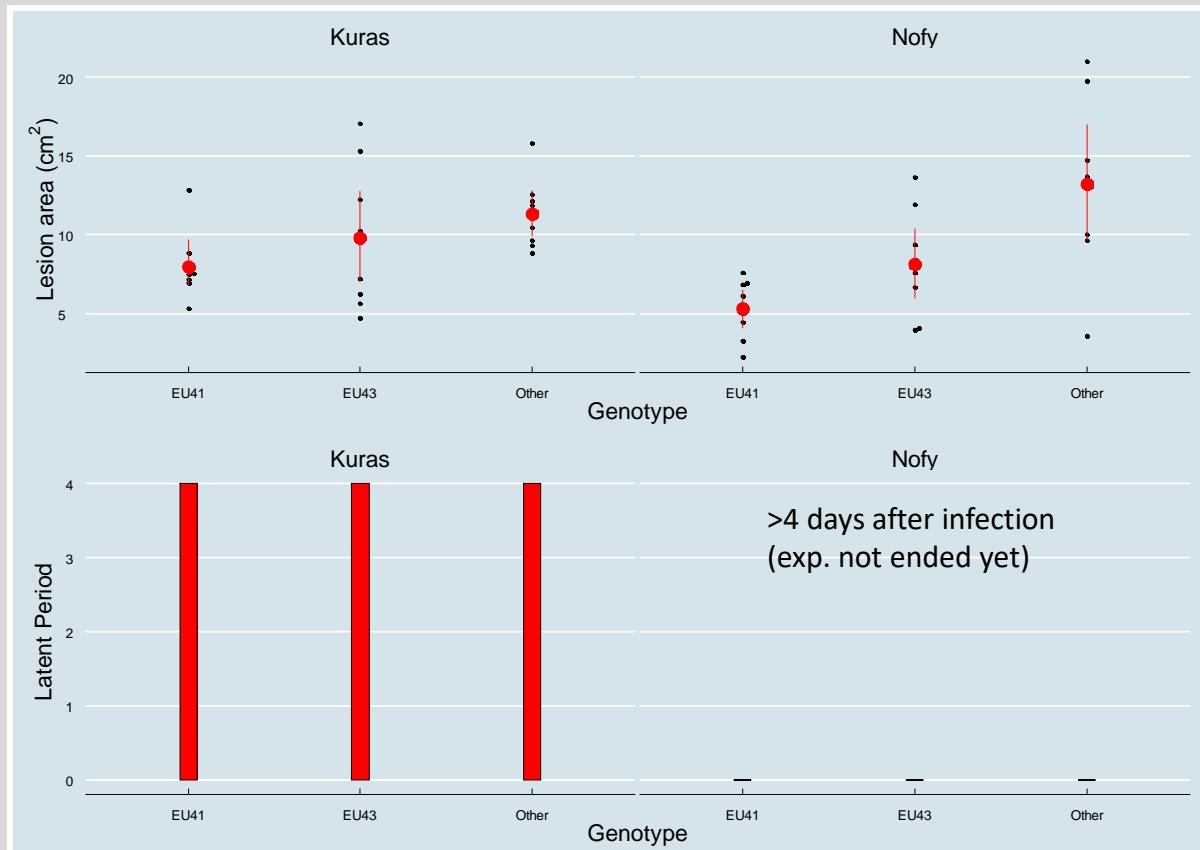
Genotype	Country and year first identified	Phenotypic traits
EU13	NL in 2004	Aggressive and less sensitive to matalaxyl
EU33	UK in 2011	Less sensitive to fluazinam
EU36	NL and DE in 2014	Aggressive – indications that it can infect at very low dosages
EU37	NL in 2013	Aggressive and less sensitive to fluazinam products
EU41	DK in 2013	Multi-virulent and relatively aggressive (high sporulation capacity)
EU42	UK in 2020	Unknown
EU43	DK in 2018 (2020)	Unknown

Conclusions genotypes

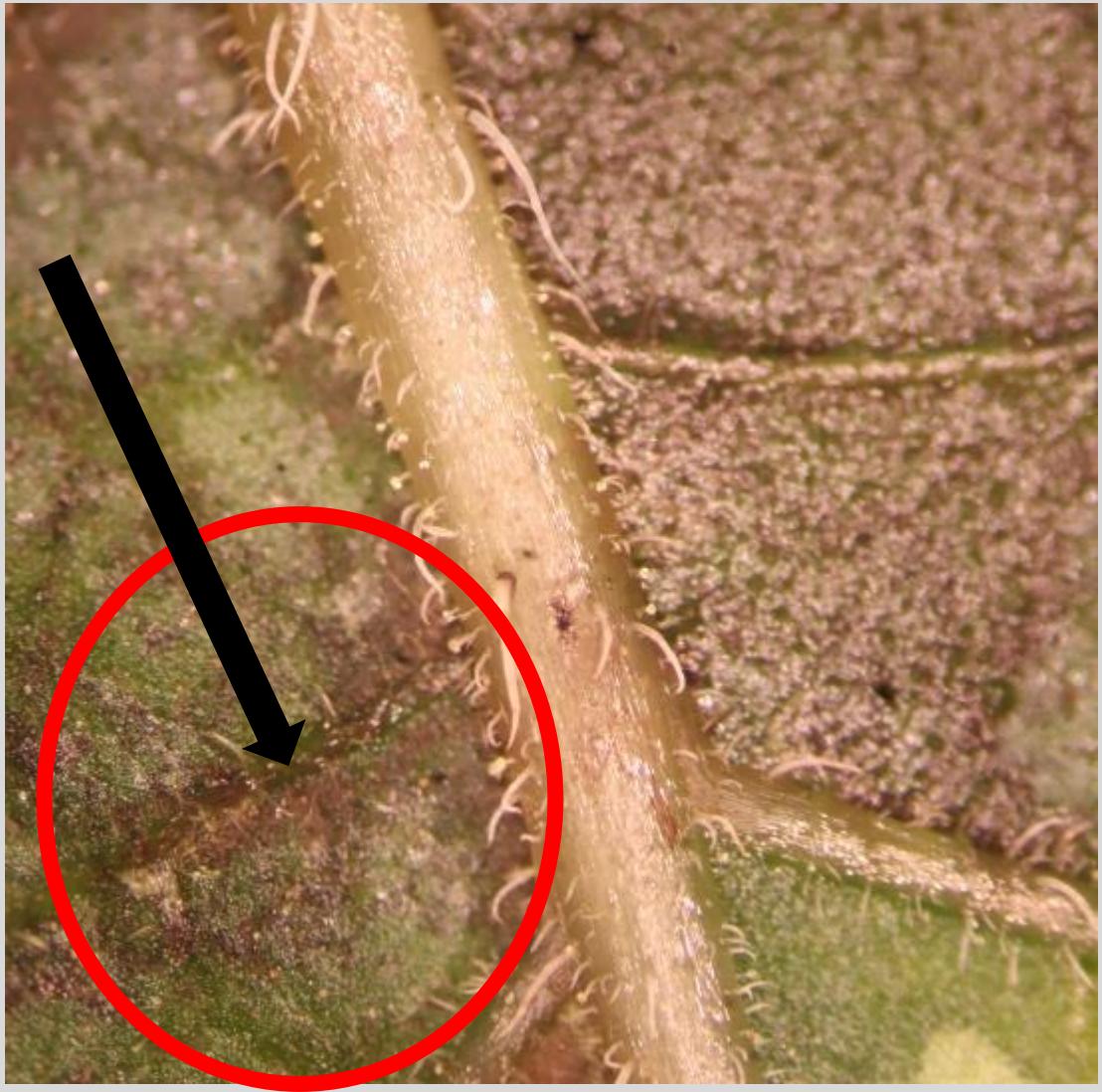


- Europe-wide dataset - valuable insights on pathogen diversity
- Dominance of a few clones across large areas of European crops - EU growers/industry share management challenges
- New clones (EU_36_A2, 37_A2 and 41_A2) established and displacing older genotypes (EU_13_A2, 6_A1 and 1_A1)
- EU41 was identified via SSR analysis in Iceland in 2021 after PLB attacks in 2020 and 2021
- New clones identified in 2020 [EU_43](#) (DK) [EU_42_A2](#) (GB). EU43 found in NL in 2021
- Reduced sensitivity of EU_37_A2 to fluazinam has reduced its use, prevented management failures & driven a decline of this genotype in most countries.
- Population displacement suggests EU_36_A2 more fit but we need more evidence of specific fitness trait.
- Primary inoculum is locally generated and spread. Better management of inoculum sources needed
- ‘Other’ populations highly diverse, ephemeral, occurring more in the north and east & most likely the result of sexual oospore germination
- High genetic diversity increases risk management failure: virulence against novel host resistance or reduced sensitivity to specific fungicide active ingredients

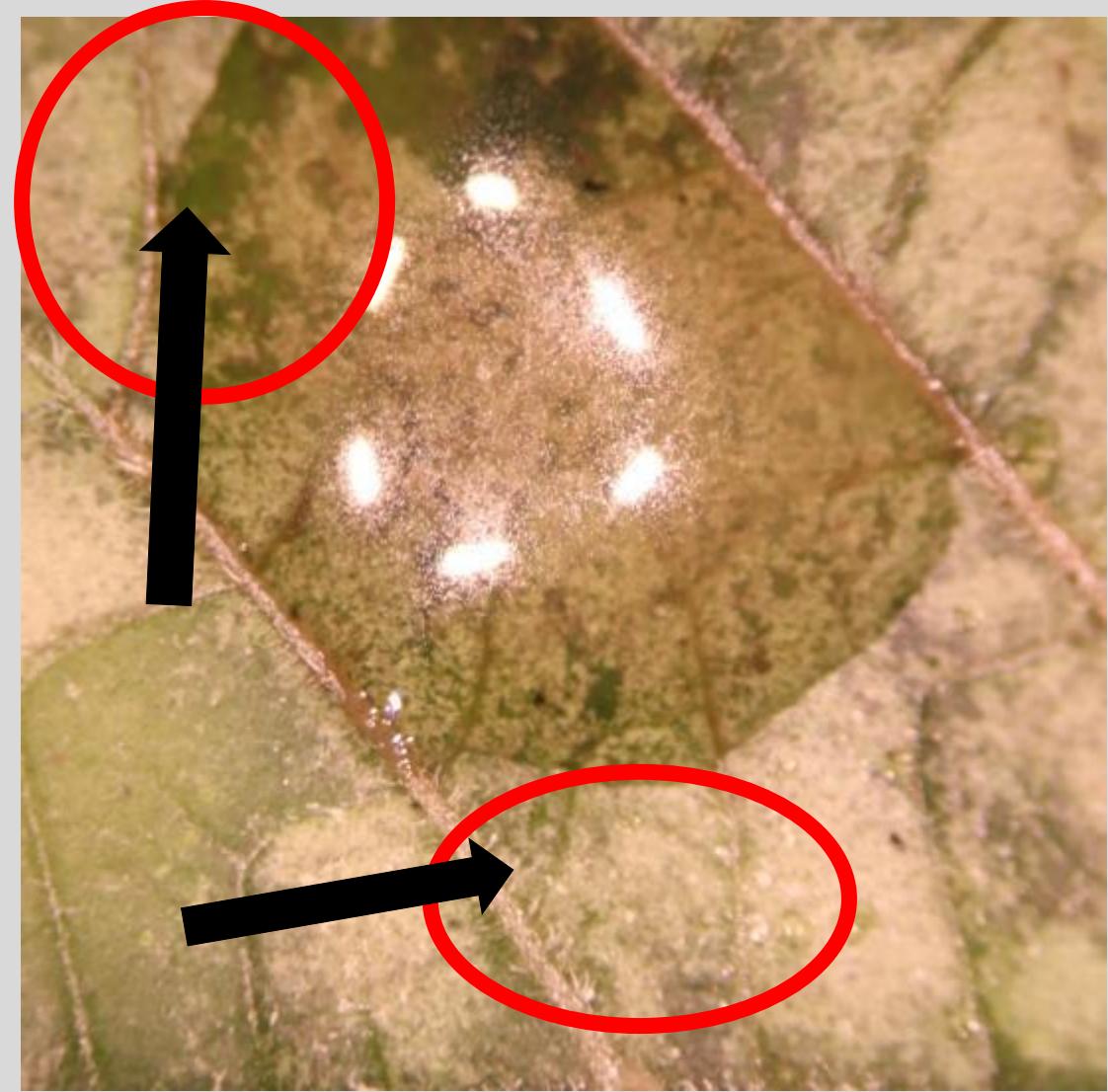
- The clones (EU41 & EU43) are less aggressive compared to the other types
- Factors supporting their dominance still remains to be answered?



Nofy



Kuras



IPMBlight2.0 also concluded that EU41 is not more aggressive than the “other” types

Abstract

Until recently, genotypes of *Phytophthora infestans* were regionally distributed in Europe, with populations in western Europe being dominated by clonal lineages and those in northern Europe being genetically diverse due to frequent sexual reproduction. However, since 2013, a new clonal lineage (EU_41_A2) has successfully established itself and expanded in the sexually recombining *P. infestans* populations of northern Europe. The objective of this study was to study phenotypic traits of the new clonal lineage of *P. infestans*, which may explain its successful establishment and expansion within sexually recombining populations. Fungicide sensitivity, aggressiveness and virulence profiles of isolates of EU_41_A2 were analyzed and compared to those of the local sexual populations from Denmark, Norway, and Estonia. None of the phenotypic data obtained from the isolates collected from Denmark, Estonia and Norway independently explained the invasive success of EU_41_A2 within sexual Nordic populations. Therefore, we hypothesize that the expansion of this new genotype could result from a combination of fitness traits and more favorable environmental conditions that have emerged due to climate change.

B) Average (\pm standard error) results for different aggressiveness traits by genotype groups in Denmark (Unique MLGs, n = 38; EU_41_A2, n = 8).

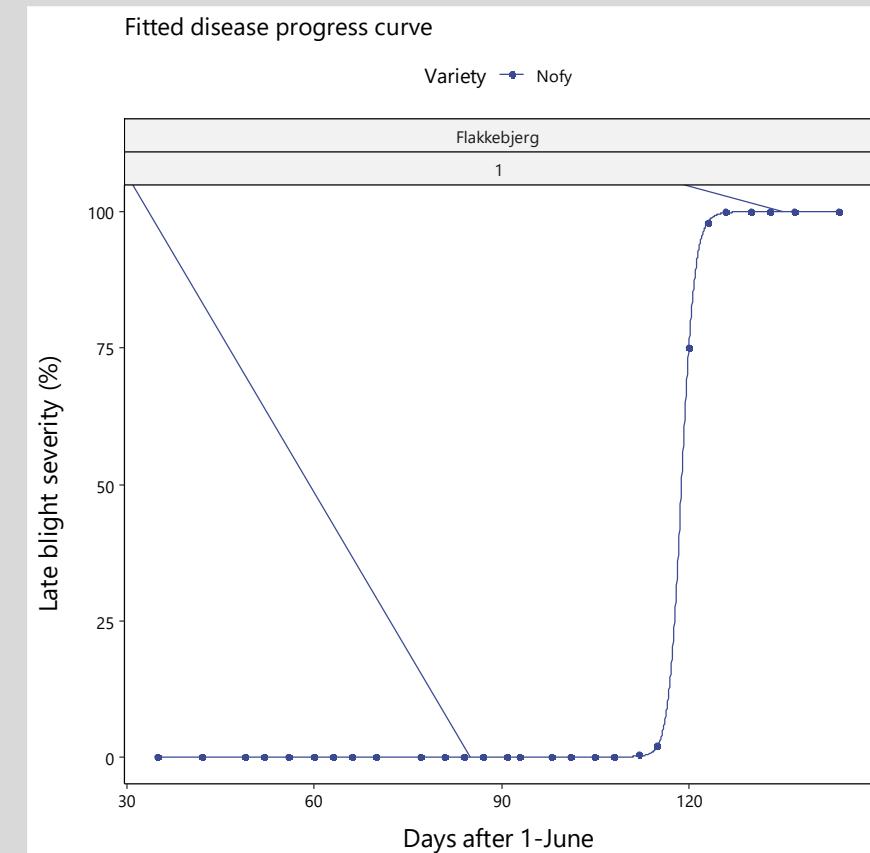
Variable	Genotype	
	Unique MLGs	EU_41_A2
Latent period	3.16 a (\pm 0.09)	3.00 a (\pm 0.14)
Spore density	98.71 a (\pm 8.65)	84.96 a (\pm 13.84)
Lesion growth rate	425.80 a (\pm 13.53)	405.08 a (\pm 24.52)
Fitness index	61093.51 a (\pm 4672.14)	55520.87 a (\pm 9633.53)

Model for resistant cultivar

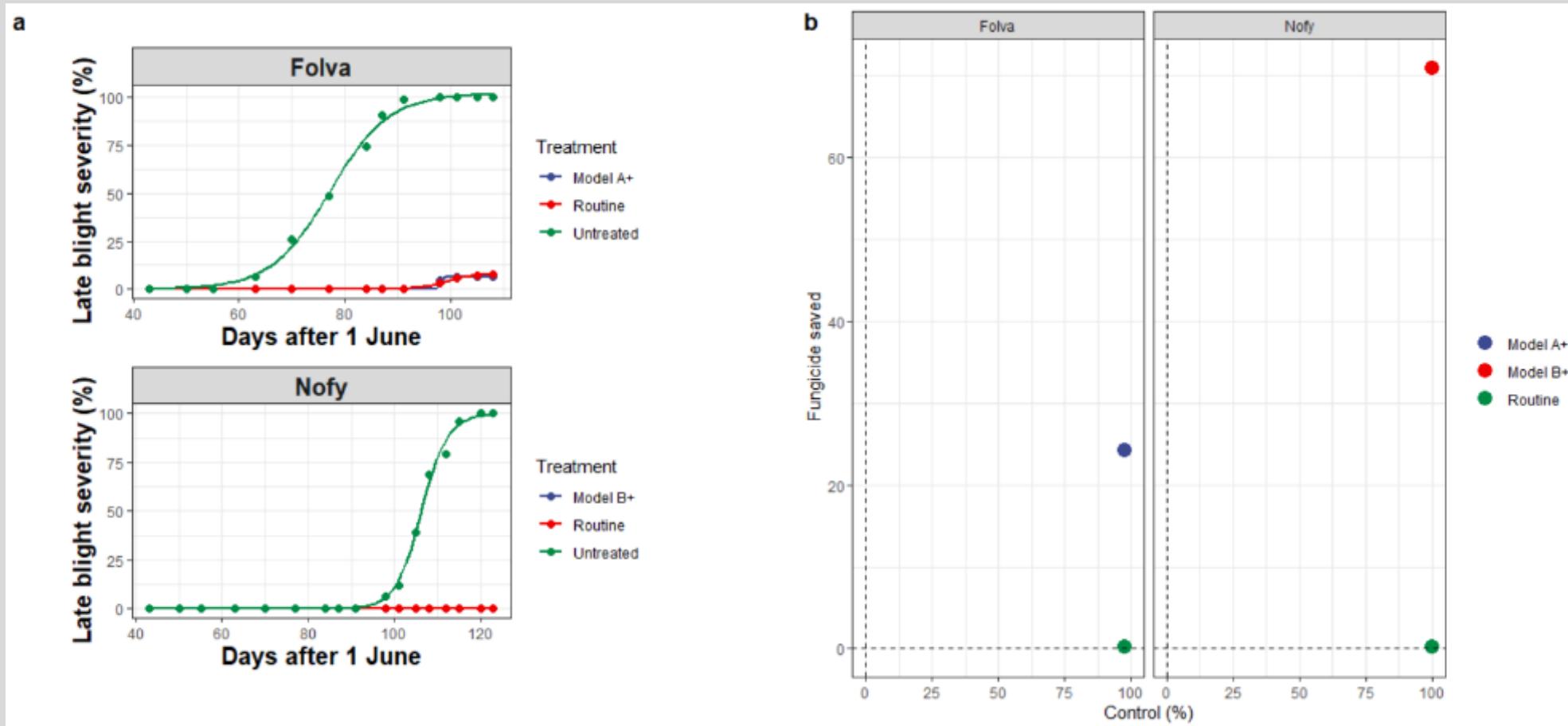
	Not present	Country Not region	In Region	In the field or close by
Dose	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
Inf. pres. > 60	0	0	50	100
Inf. pres. 41-60	0	0	50	100
Inf. pres. 21-40	0	0	50	100
Inf. pres. 1-20	0	0	0	75
Inf. pres. 0	0	0	0	0



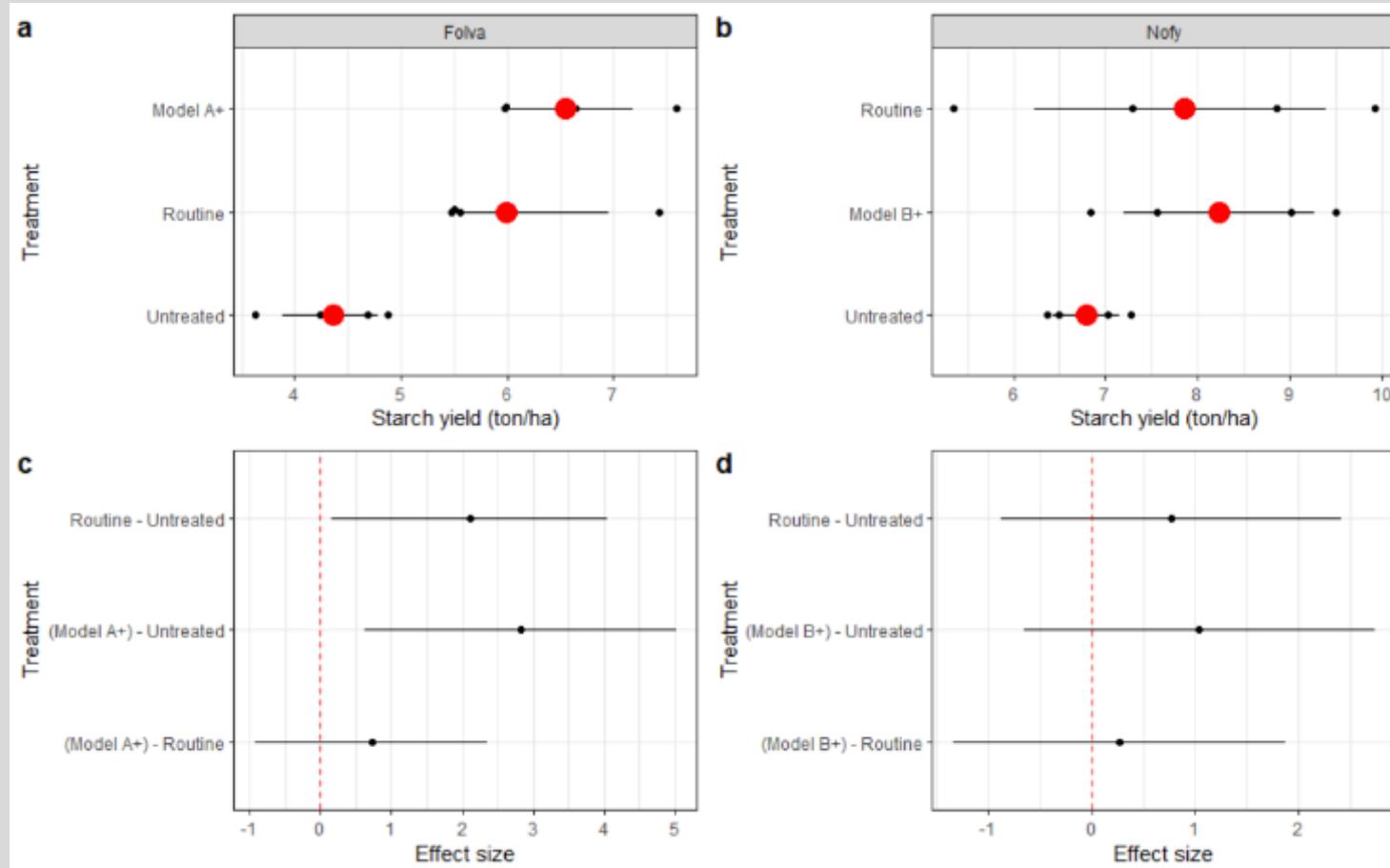
Increasing inoculum load and plant age



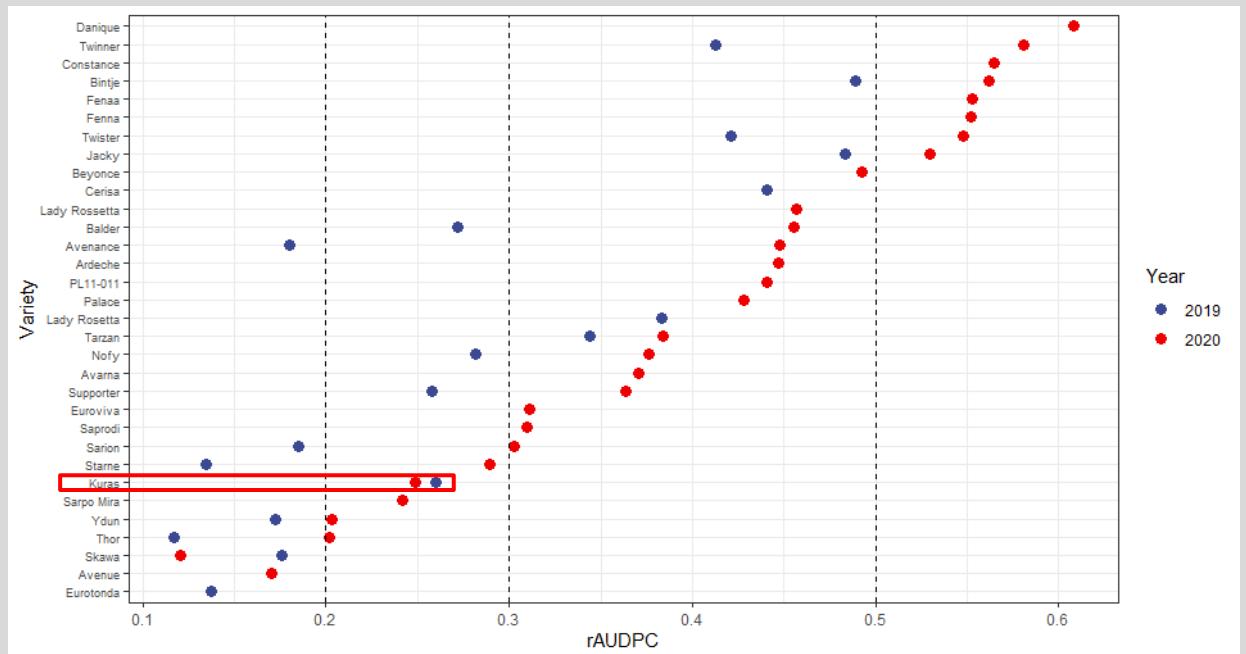
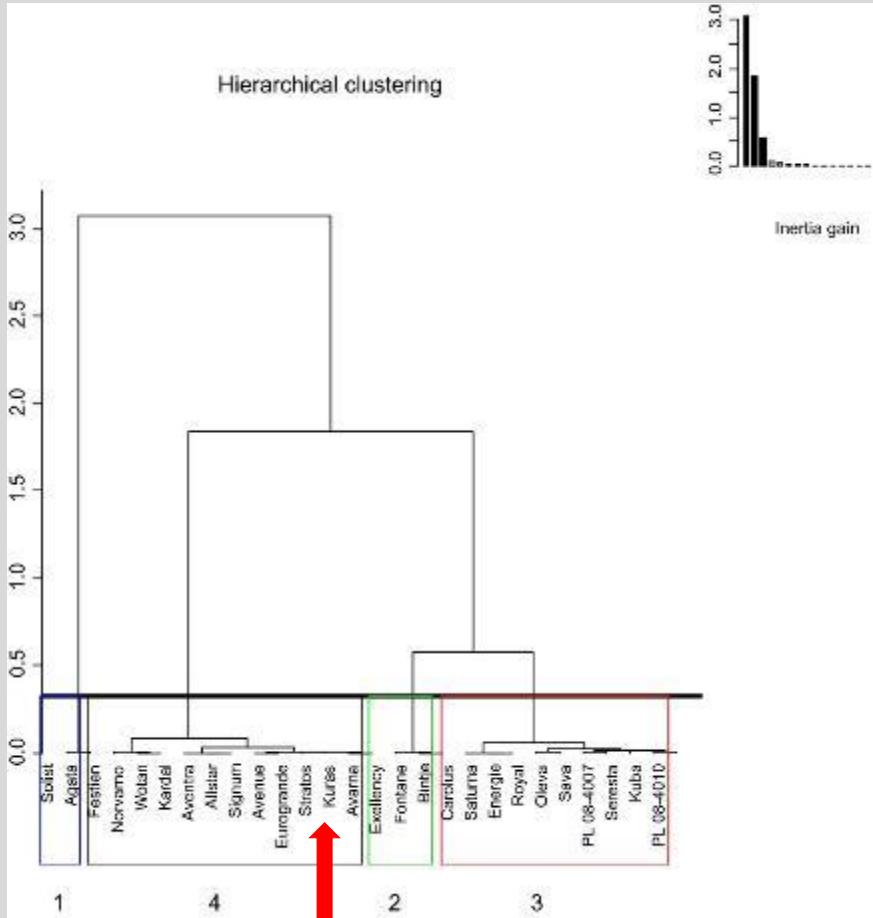
Disease development and fungicide saved



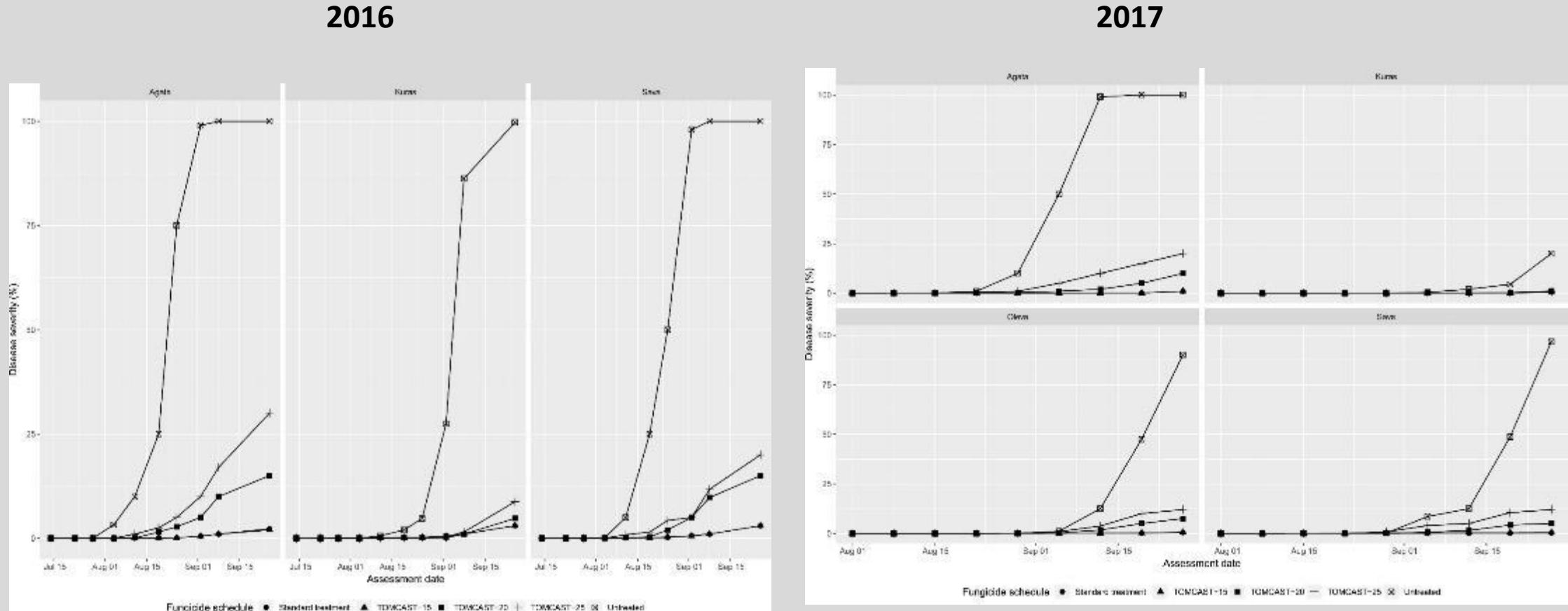
Starch yield



Cultivar resistance is worth considering for early blight control



Integrating cultivar resistance with the TOMCAST model



Recommendations

1. DIVERSIFICATION (Introduce more resistant cultivars)
2. SANITATION (no dumps, more years between potatoes, control of volunteers, use healthy seed)
3. IPM strategies and DSSs that make use of information about the pathogen, host resistance, weather and fungicide information and make use of precision agriculture tools
4. Include relevant BIOLOGICALS (PRI and BCA) and BIOSTIMULANTS in more resistant cultivars to replace fungicides in low risk periods. Use a DSS for timing
5. COLLABORATE and share data with Nordic and European colleagues – link up with EuroBlight, and make data and tools FAIR to obtain faster and more robust conclusions
6. More and better EDUCATION and KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER.



Thank you for your attention



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