

# Pollen Tube Growth Model For Michigan 2019

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Thanks to:

Michigan Apple Research Committee

Michigan State Horticulture Society

Tree Fruit Commission

Valent BioSciences, Valent USA

AmVac

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# Fruit Quality

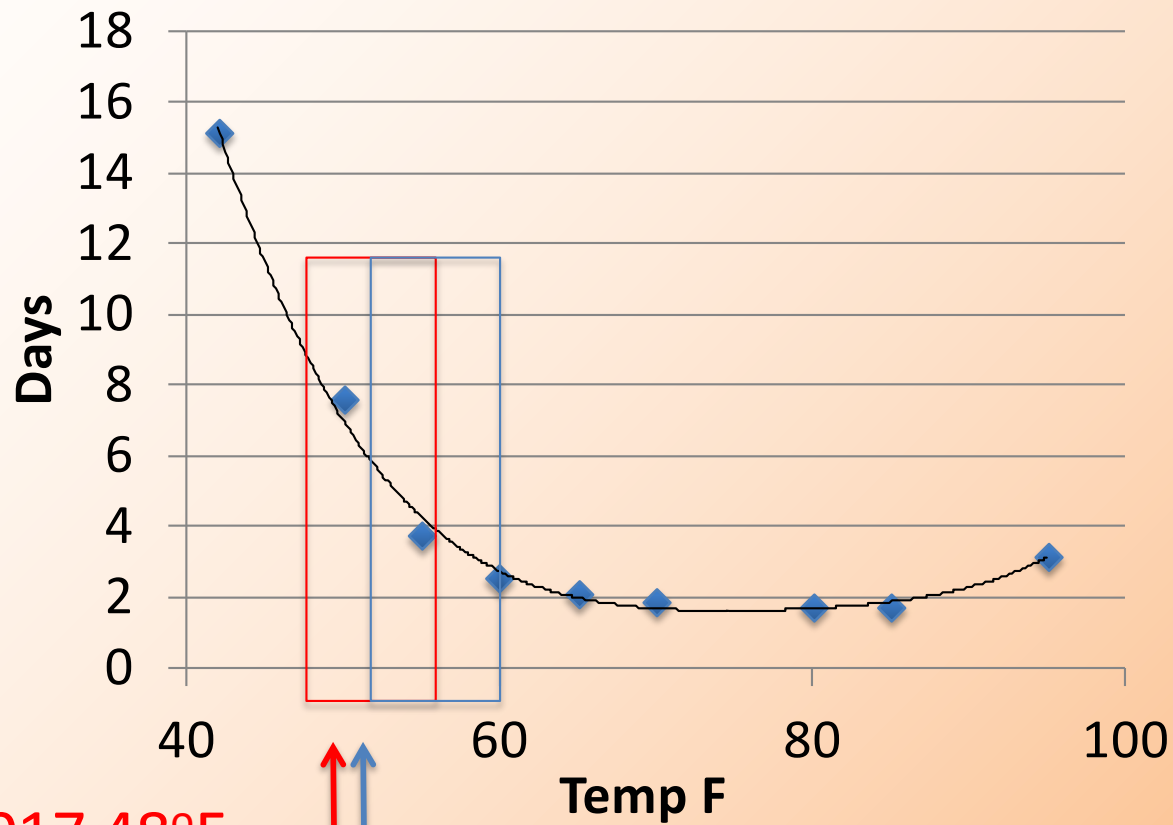
- Maximum quality starts with dormant pruning.
- Next timing is at bloom.
- Chemical thinning.

# Fertilization of Apple Flowers

- It takes about 2.5 days for flowers to be fertilized.
- Use model to time blossom thinners.
- Lime Sulfur Oil
- ATS

# Apple

## Days to Fertilization @ Ave Temp

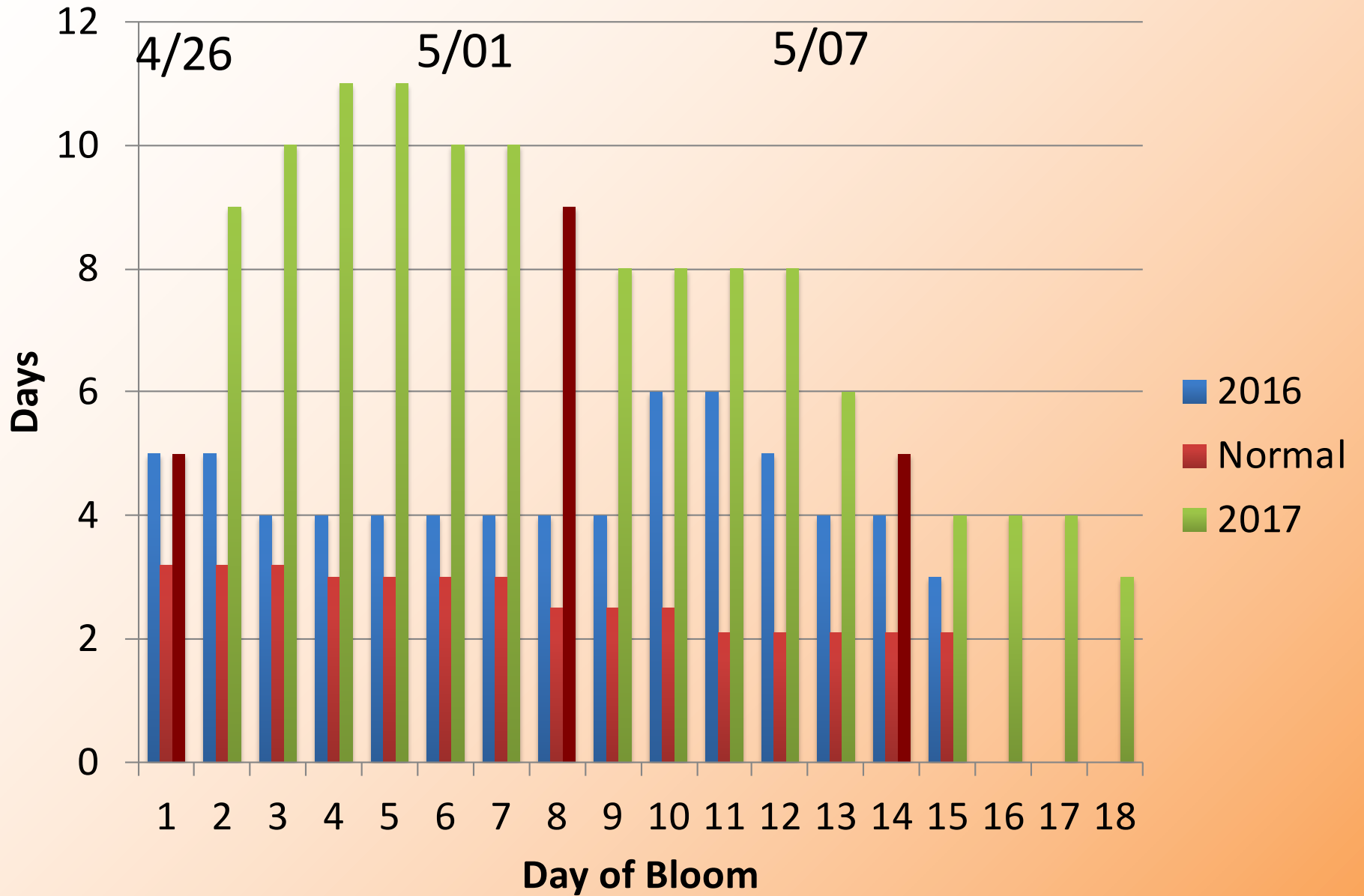


2017 48°F

2016 52°F

Temp	Days	Hours
42	15.2	364
50	7.6	182
55	3.8	91
60	2.5	61
65	2.1	51
70	1.9	46
80	1.7	41
85	1.7	41
95	3.2	76

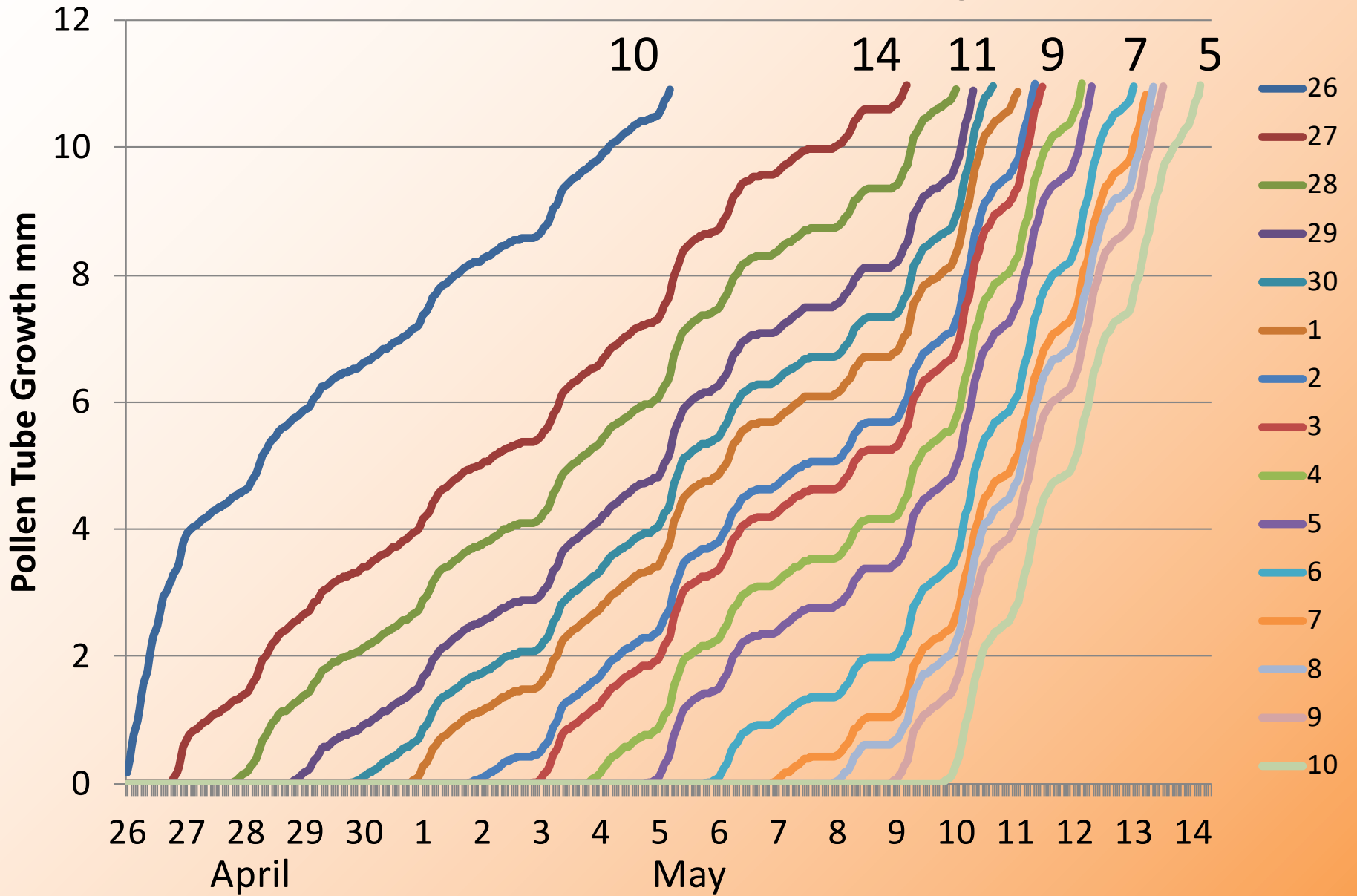
# Days Until Fertilization



# Pollen Tube Growth Model 2017

2017

Peach Ridge Weather Station



# PTGM Steps

- Selection variety and block.
- Measure 25 to 50 pistils.
- Get the average length and enter into model.

# PTGM Steps

- Set model start clock when 5 to 10% bloom open.
  - **OR** If you want 100 apples/tree, then when 100 flowers are open
- For Example:
  - Day 0                    a few blossoms open
  - Day 1                    10% bloom opened overnight
  - Set start at:        8 am day 1



# PTGM Steps

- When model predicts 100% fertilization, spray 1<sup>st</sup> blossom thinner.
- For Example:
  - Day 3 @ 2pm = 100% fertilization.
  - Spray between 2 and 3 pm.

# PTGM Steps

- Restart clock by entering spray info.
- Spray again when you get more than 50% but before you get 100%.
- Repeat again if necessary.

+ Block

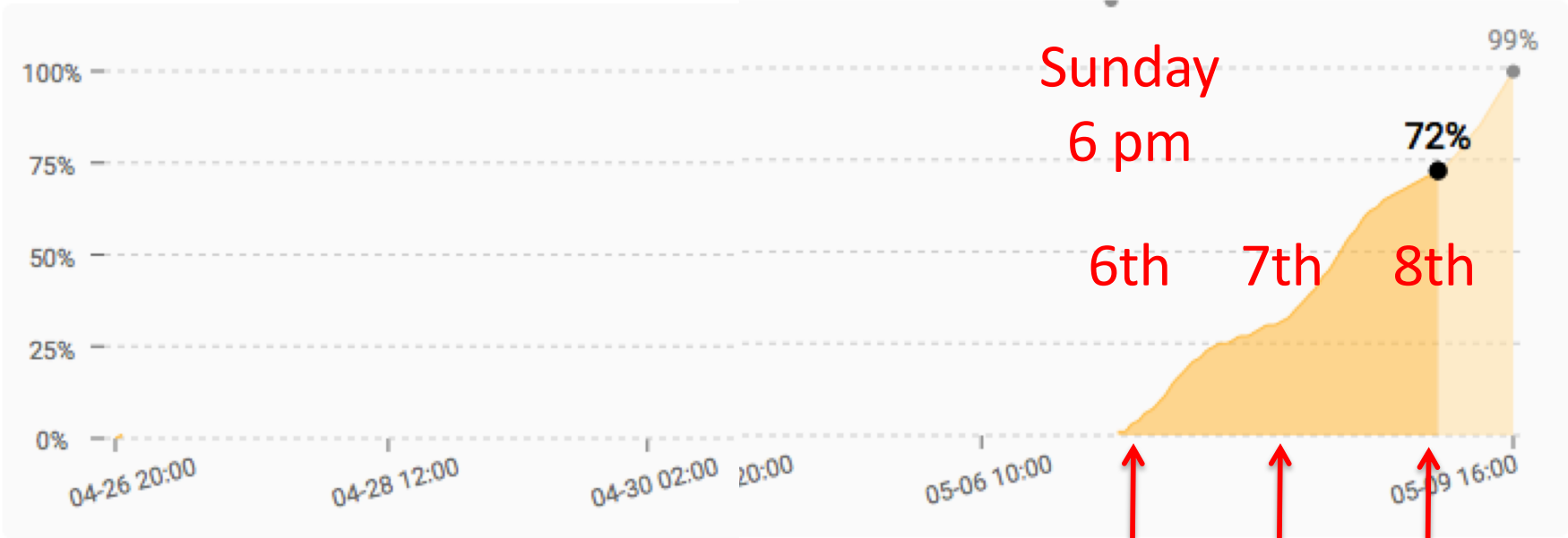
Blocks 3

i

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Peach Ridge Gala 10.00 mm i | |

The second blossom thinning spray in the Block should be 60% of the style length. Entering this spray date resets the model to 0%. If a frost killed the king bloom, the later block the crop. Therefore, it may warrant waiting until reaching the 100% fertilization threshold before applying the subsequent



Set 2nd Spray

Growth Graph



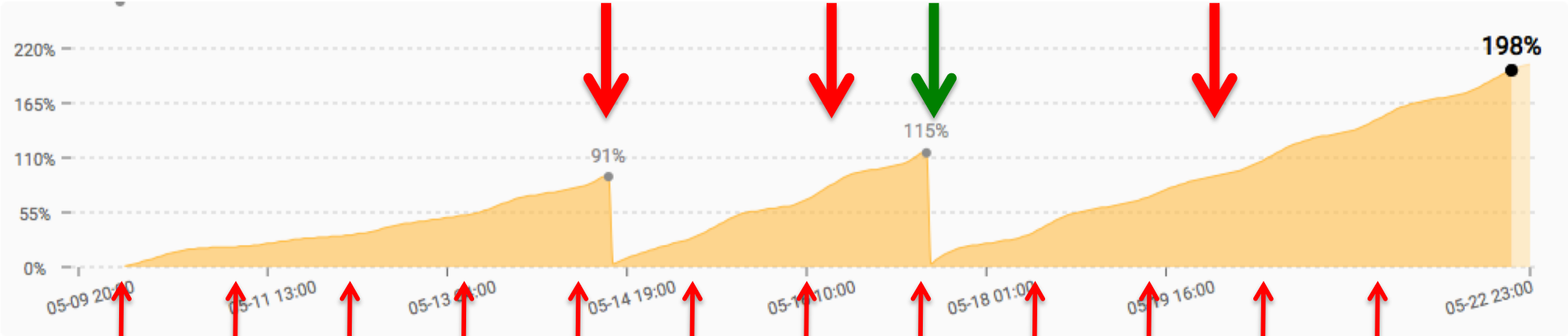
+ Block

Blocks 5

?

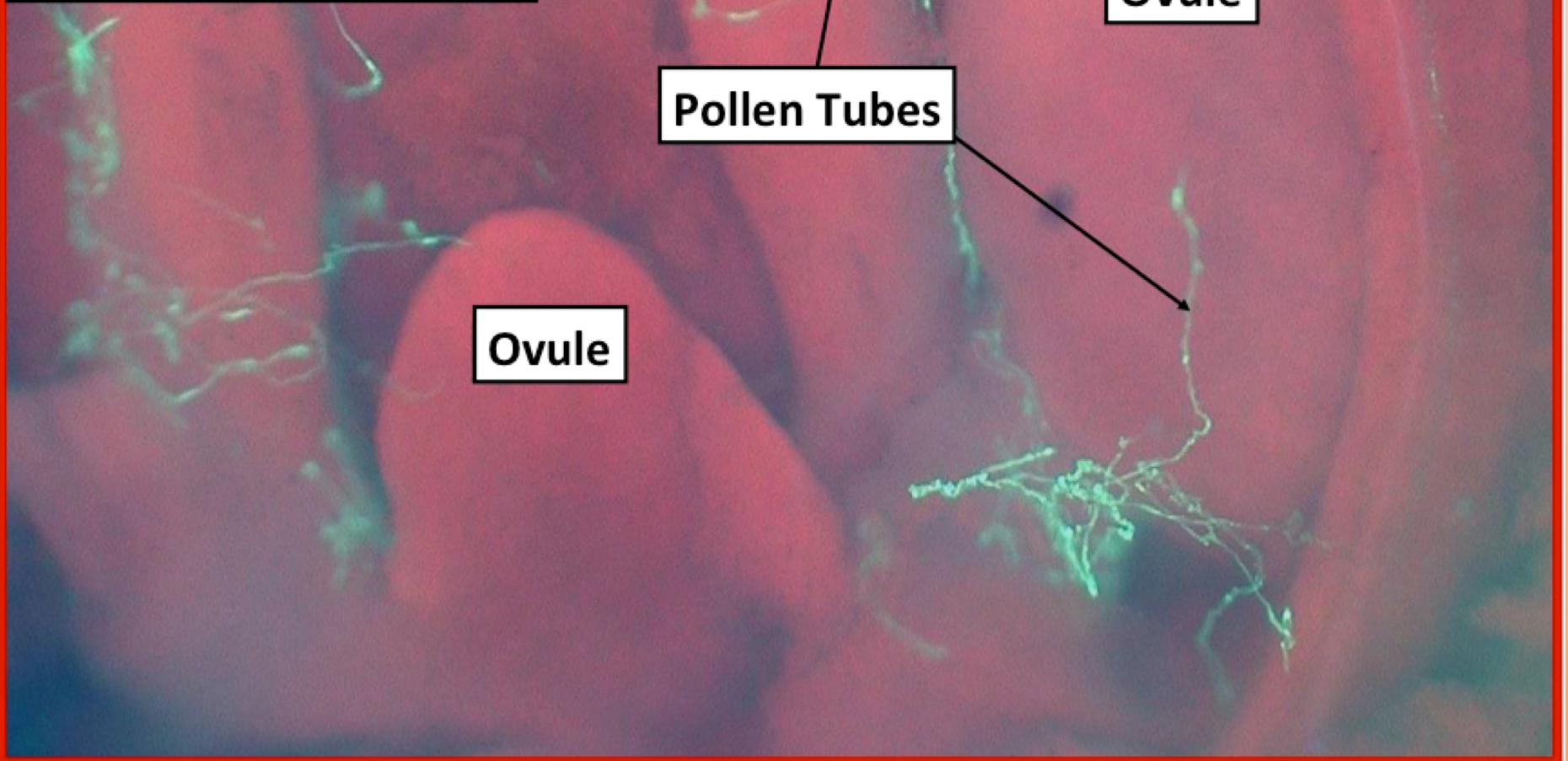
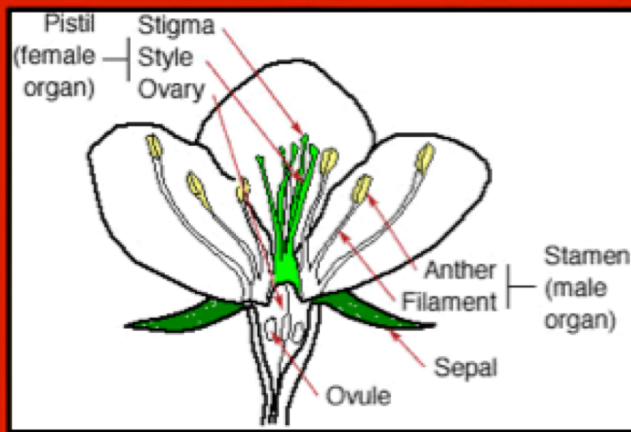
Peach Ridge

Peach Ridge Gala Sparta, MI 10.00 mm

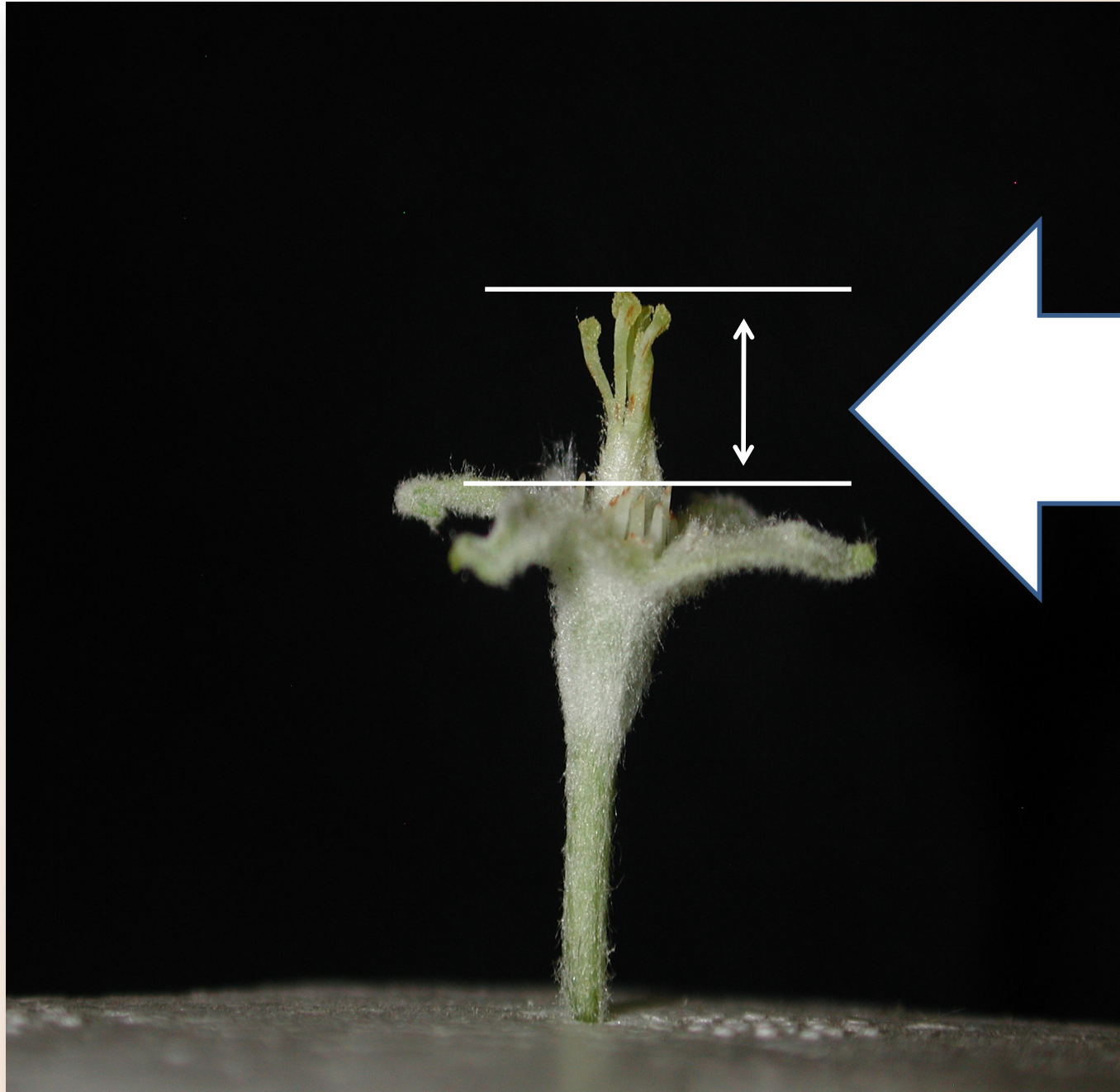


Growth Table

Growth Graph



Fertilization is determined by evaluating stained pollen tubes using fluorescence microscopy.

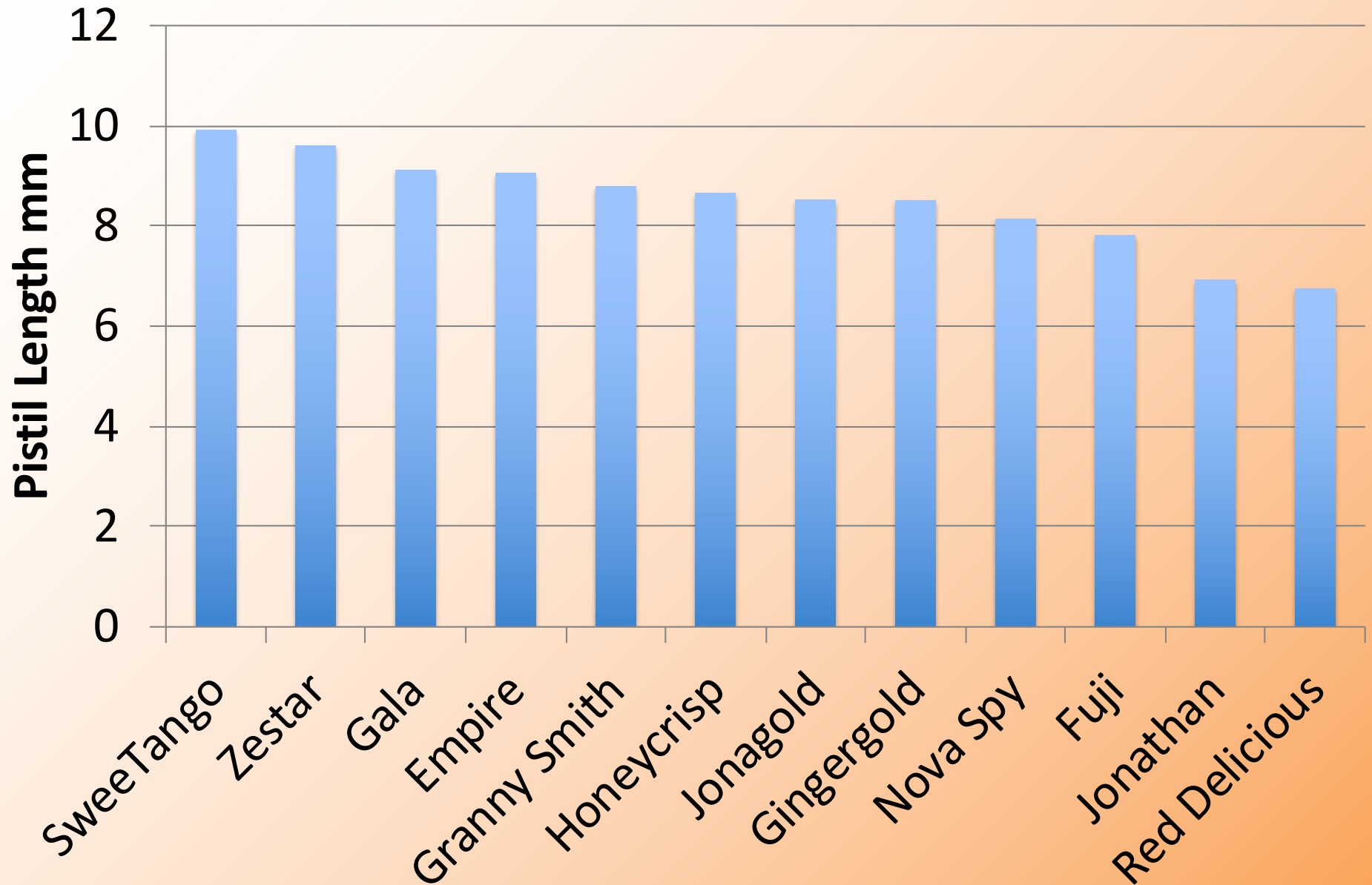


**MEASURE STYLES  
AS SHOWN FOR  
FLOWER STYLES  
MEASURED  
WITHOUT  
REMOVING FROM  
TREE**

## Average Style Length 2018

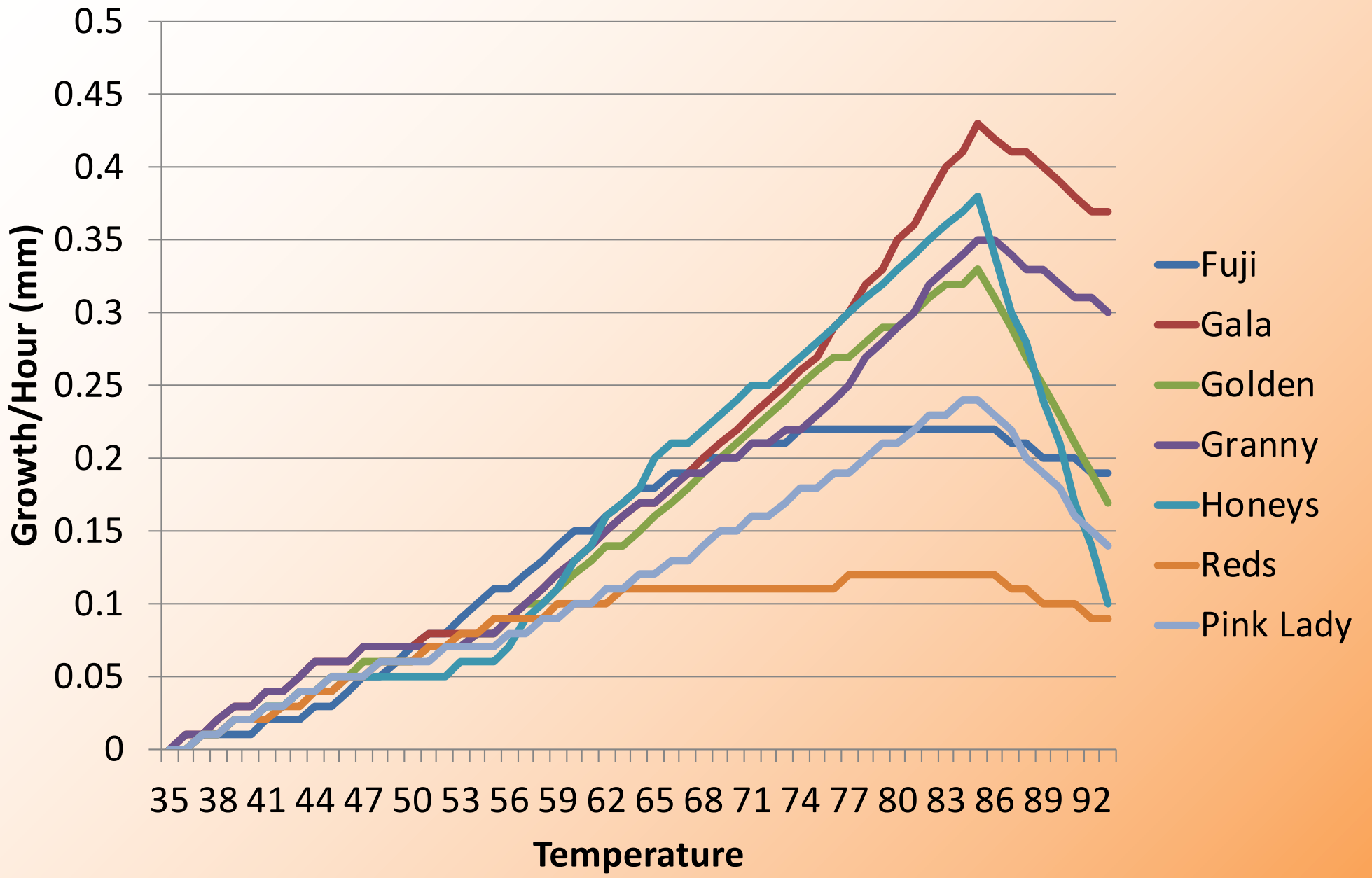
SweeTango	9.92
Zestar	9.61
Gala	9.12
Empire	9.05
Granny Smith	8.79
Honeycrisp	8.66
Jonagold	8.52
Gingergold	8.51
Nova Spy	8.14
Fuji	7.81
Jonathan	6.92
Red Delicious	6.75

# Average Style Length 2018





# Pollen Tube Growth Model





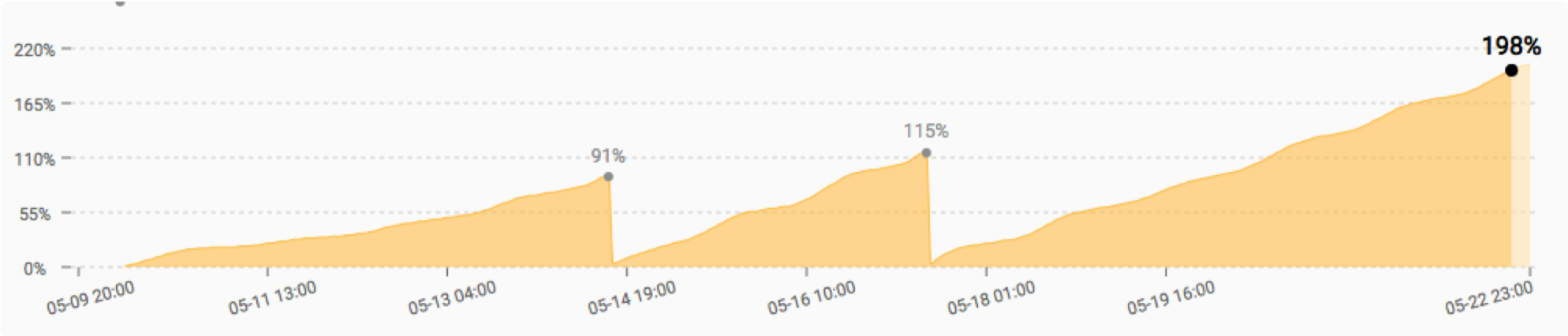
+ Block

Blocks 5



Peach Ridge

Peach Ridge Gala Sparta, MI 10.00 mm  



 Growth Table

 Growth Graph



**Blossom Spray**  
**Gala, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 7:30 pm**



**UTC**

**Lime Sulfur Oil Blossom Spray  
Gala, May 18, 2018, 6:00 PM**

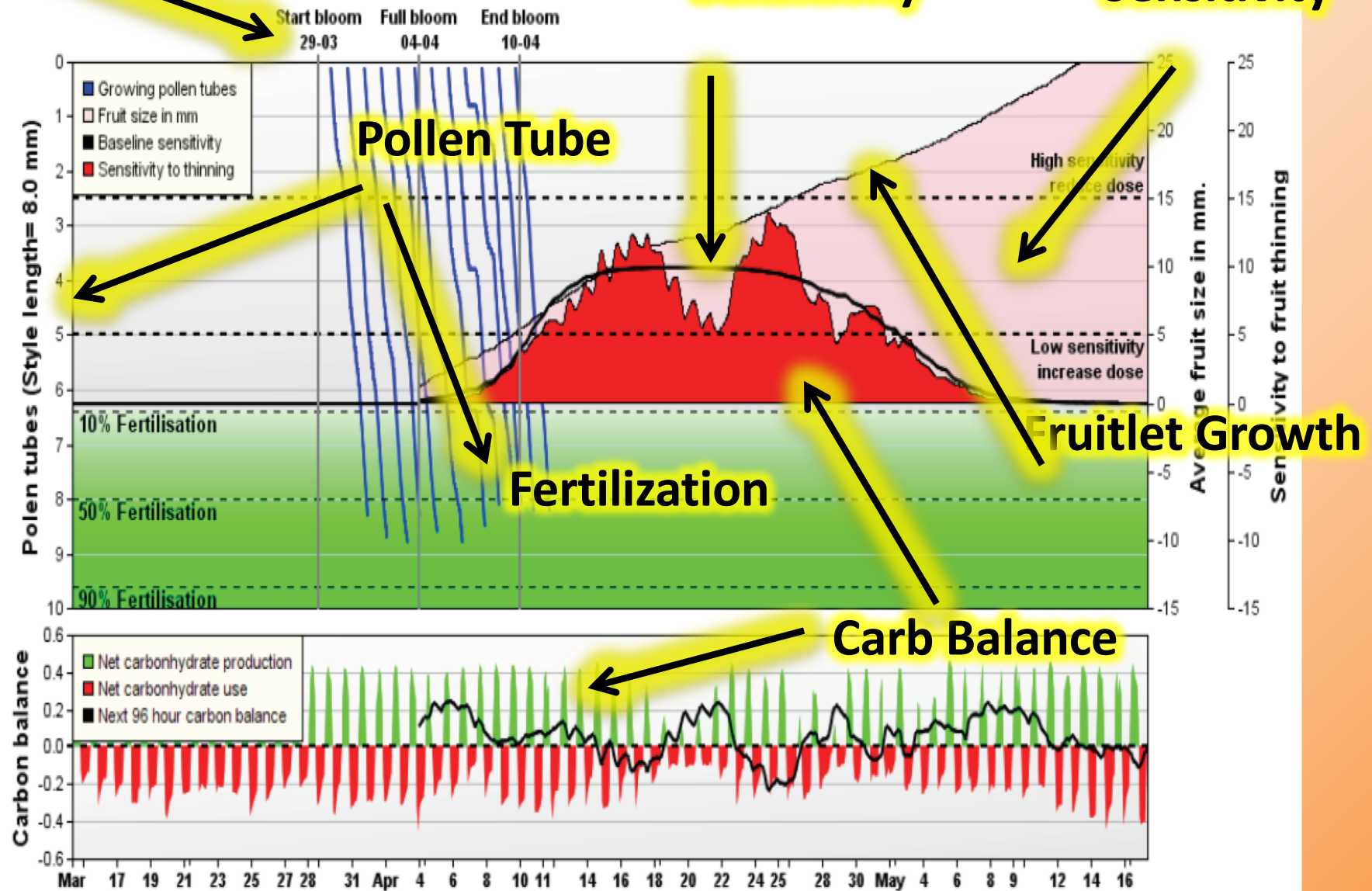
Example 1: Pradacci, Trentino, Italy.

**Bloom Dates**

**Natural Thinning Sensitivity**

**Predicted Thinning Sensitivity**

RIMpro Fruit Thinning Pradacci-Trentino, MB - 2017

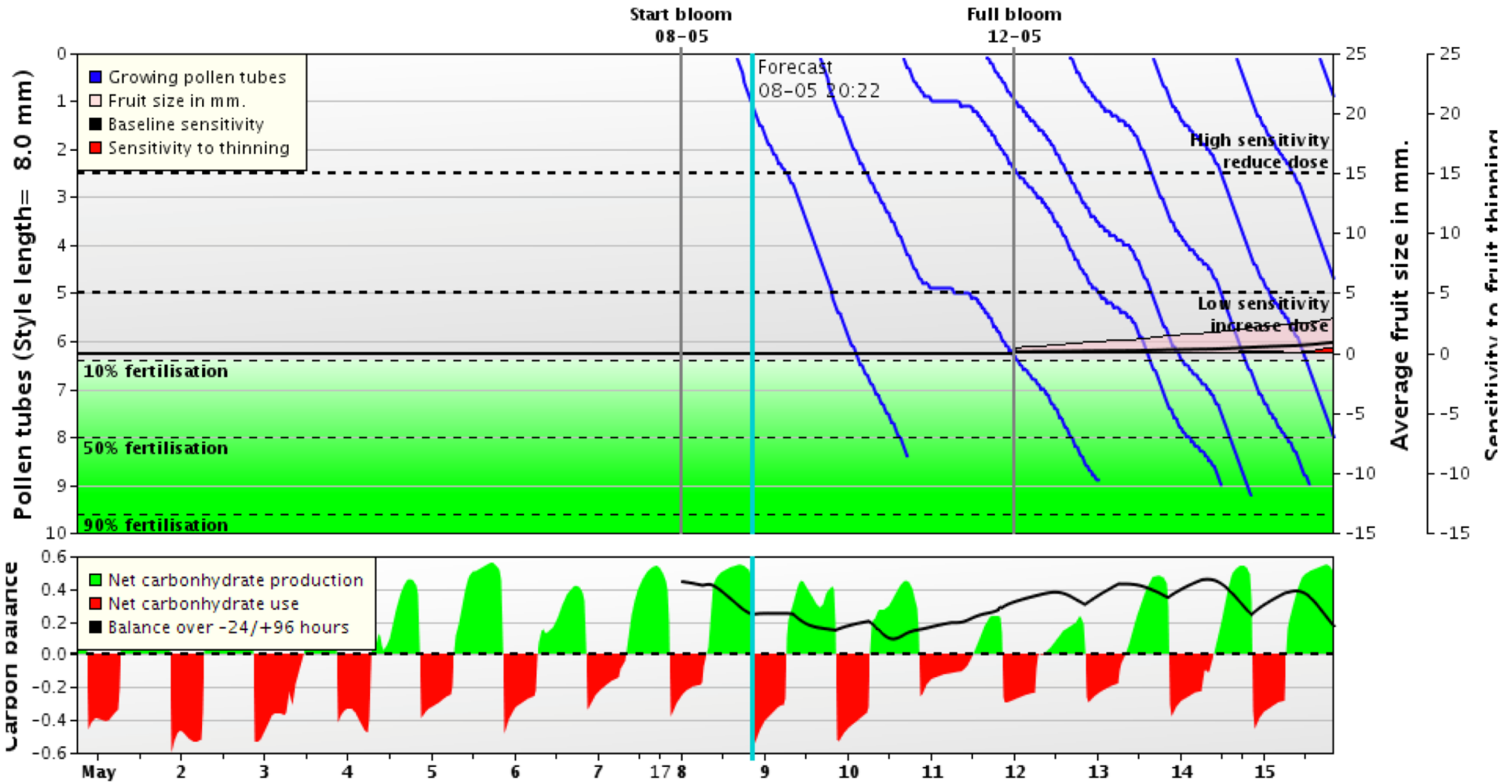


Mouse action: Drag graph with mouse to Scroll + Click in graph to Zoom In

PDF



# RIMpro Apple Thinning (Experimental) Sparta - 2018



Mouse action: ○ Drag graph with mouse to Scroll ● + Click in graph to Zoom In



# Bloom PGR's+

- MaxCel Mild, Cell Division
- NAA, NAD Mild Thinning
- Promalin Cell Division, +/- Thinning
- **Lime Sulfur Oil** **Photosynthesis, Caustic**
- **ATS** **Caustic**
- ReTain, Apogee Increases Fruit Set
- Ethrel Thinning, Unreliable

# Blossom Thinning

**Fruits drop early.**

**Thinning early maximizes fruit size.**

**Thinning early maximizes return bloom.**

**Can be beneficial on difficult to thin varieties.**

**Allows additional step in reducing a heavy crop.**



# Blossom Thinning Action

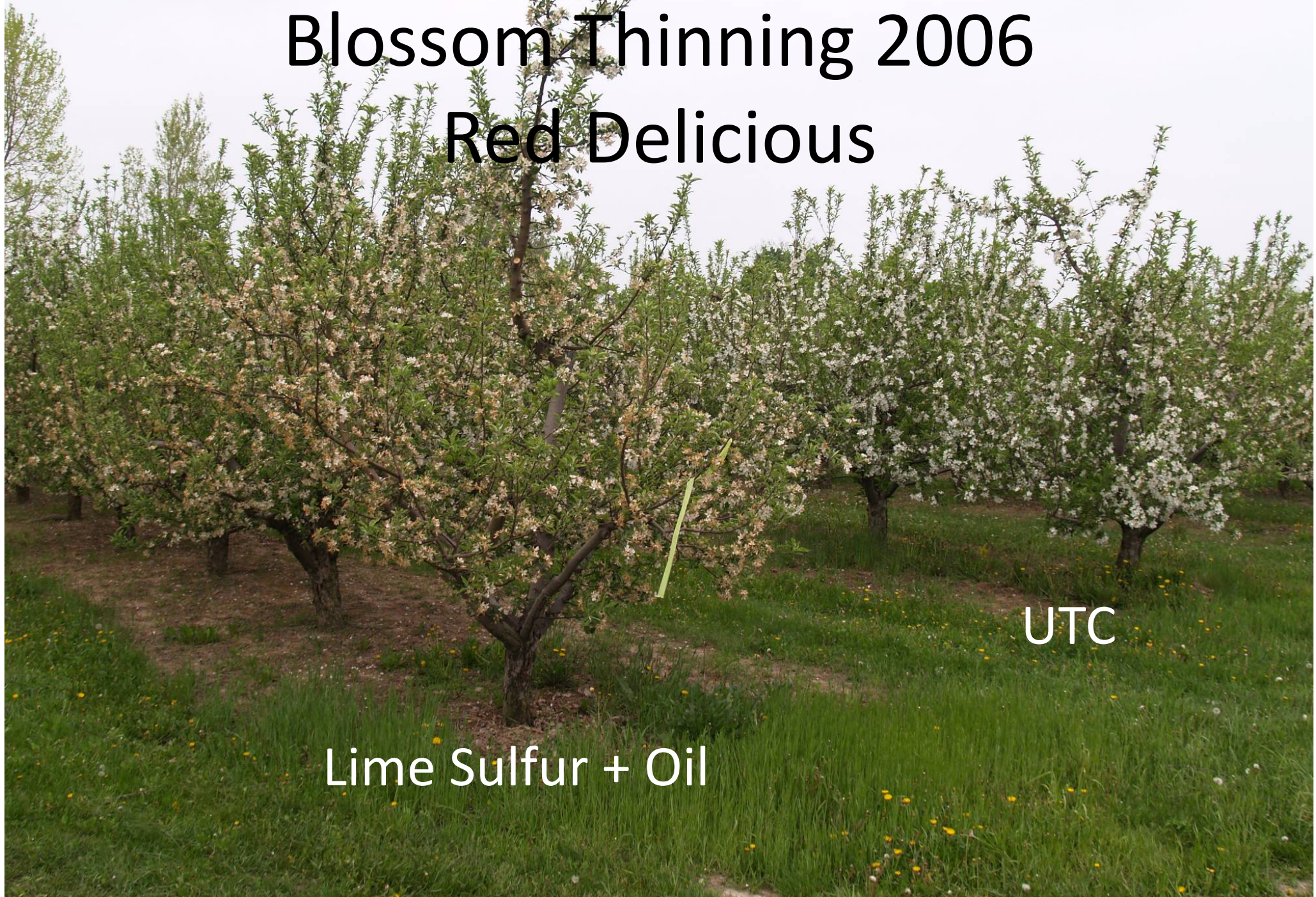
- Depresses Photosynthesis.
- Burns Pistils
- Prevention of Fertilization and Pollen Germination

# Blossom Thinning 2006

## Red Delicious

UTC

Lime Sulfur + Oil



# Blossom Thinning 2006



Lime Sulfur + Oil

UTC

# Blossom Thinning

**Use Liquid Lime Sulfur and Oil (1 to 5%)**

**LS @ 2.5 gal/100**

**Oil @ 2 gal/100**

**Apply @ 100/acre**

**Target 80% FB (just after KB)**

**Follow every 3 to 4 days**

# ATS (Ammonium Thiosulfate)

## Burns Pistils

Use ATS @ 1.5 to 2 gal/100

Apply @ 100/acre

Target 80% FB (just after KB)

Follow 2 days later

# Regalia

- Organic bio fungicide.
- Shown to thin when applied during bloom.
- Mild thinner.

# Risks

- Phytotoxicity
- Russet
- Bee injury

# Idared blossom injury by airblast application



Non-treated flower



Regalia 2 pt/A  
No russet





# Flower and Leaf Damage



# Full Bloom Percent Thinning

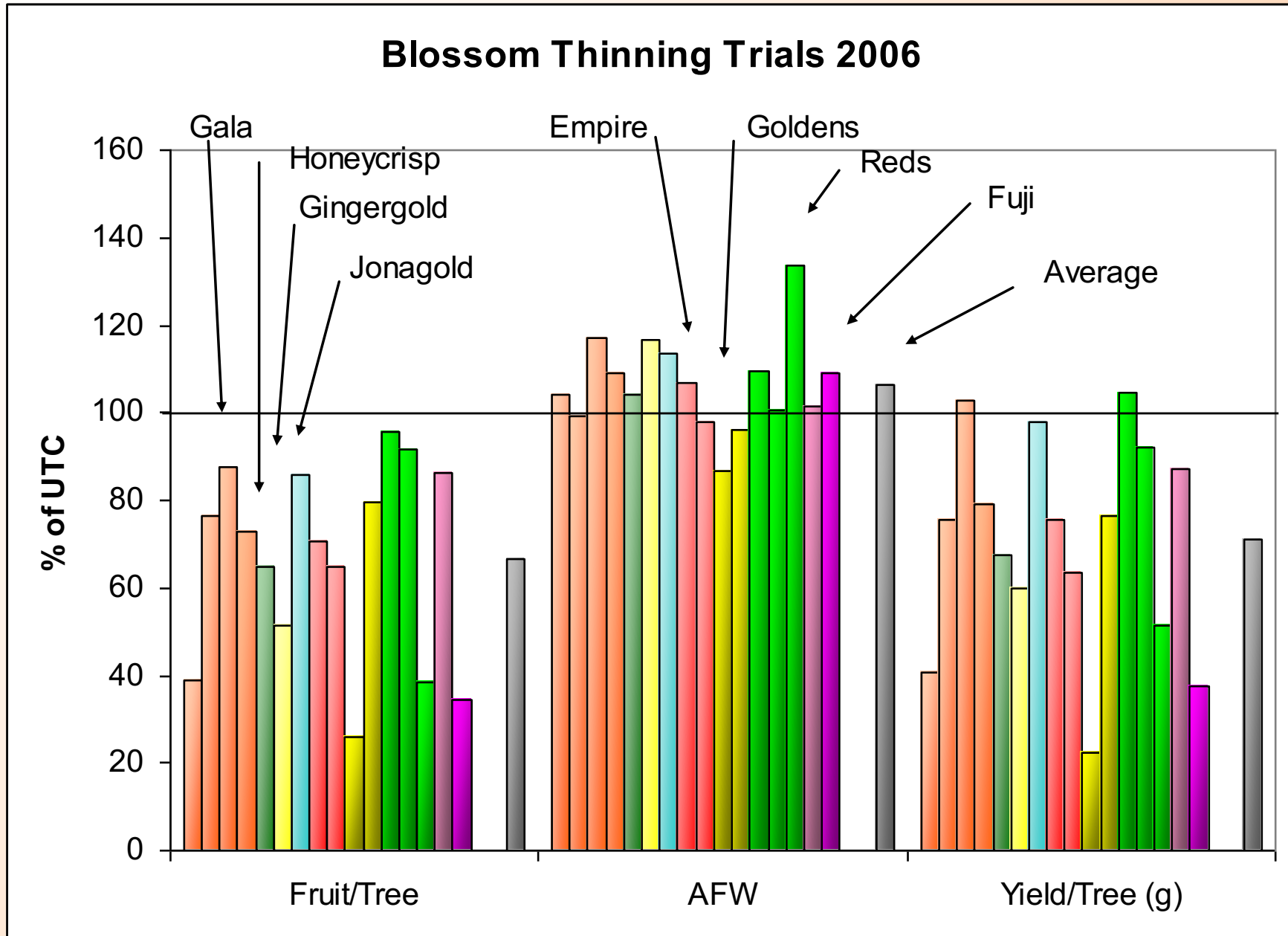
	Difficult to Thin		Easy to Thin	
Thinner Choice	Normal Weather	Moderate Carb Stress	Normal Weather	Moderate Carb Stress
NAA 5 ppm	0-5	0-15	0-20	0-30
NAA 15 ppm	0-10	0-20	0-30	0-40
6-BA 100 ppm	0-3	0-5	0-5	0-6
NAD	0-5	0-10	0-8	0-10
Promalin				

# Blossom Thinning

Measurement	Average Blossom Thinning Response
Fruit / Tree	24% Decrease Fruit / Tree
Yield / Tree	18% Decrease Yield / Tree
AFW (Average Fruit Weight)	4% Increase AFW
Fruit Set / Cluster	1% Decrease Fruit Set / Cluster
FTCA (Fruit / Trunk Cross-Sectional Area)	46 % Decrease FTCA
Pygmy / Tree ( Fruit < 2")	34% Decrease Pygmy / Tree

# Blossom Thinning 2006

Yield/Tree & AFW/Tree



# PTGM Site

- Link to PTGM for 2019:
- <http://ptgm.newa.cornell.edu>



# Pollen Tube, MSU School 2019

Philip Schwallier

Clarksville Research Center  
Michigan State University

*Thank you!*

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+ Block

Blocks 3



SWMREC



SWMREC

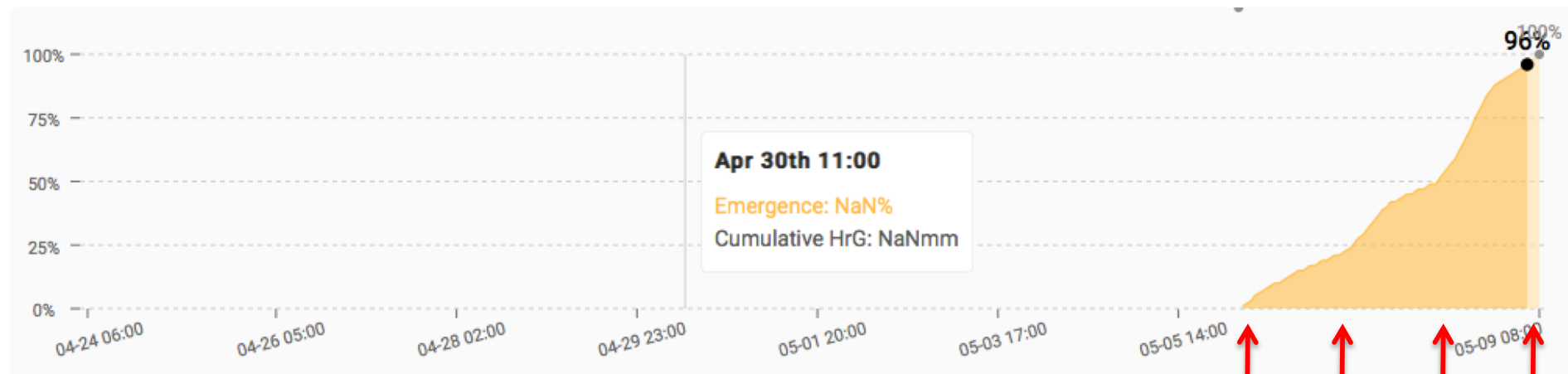
Gala

Benton Harbor (SWMREC), MI

10.00 mm



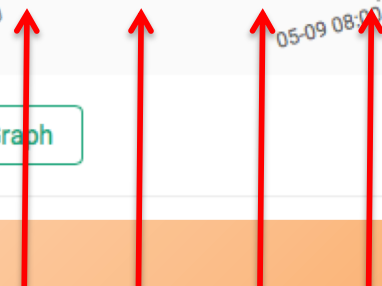
The second blossom thinning spray in the Block should be applied when the pollen tube length is between 50 and 60% of the style length. Entering this spray date resets the model to 0%. If a frost killed the king bloom, the later blooming flowers may be the ones you want to keep to set the crop. Therefore, it may warrant waiting until reaching the 100% fertilization threshold before applying the subsequent bloom thinning spray.



Set 2nd Spray

Growth Table

Growth Graph



+ Block

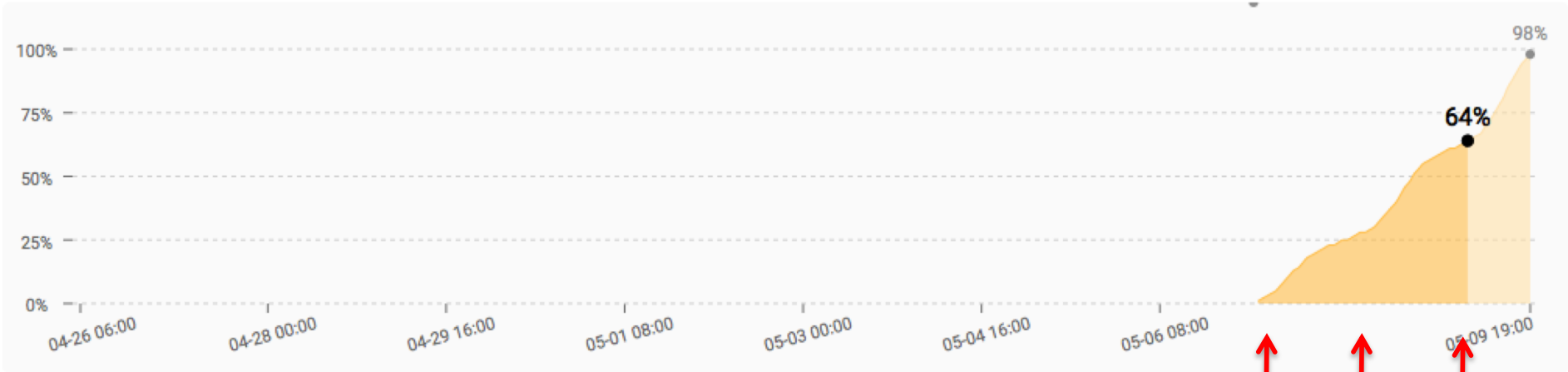
Blocks 3



AppleWood

AppleWood Gala Deerfield/Blissfield, MI 10.00 mm

The second blossom thinning spray in the Block should be applied when the pollen tube length is between 50 and 60% of the style length. Entering this spray date resets the model to 0%. If a frost killed the king bloom, the later blooming flowers may be the ones you want to keep to set the crop. Therefore, it may warrant waiting until reaching the 100% fertilization threshold before applying the subsequent bloom thinning spray.



Set 2nd Spray

Growth Table

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