

Red METRICE (110RT0394)

Mejorar la eficiencia en el uso de insumos y el ajuste fenológico en cultivos de trigo y cebada (METRICE)



EEA Balcarce-INTA,
28/29 septiembre 2013



IV Workshop Internacional
Bases ecofisiológicas y genéticas para mejorar el rendimiento y la calidad en trigo y cebada

Aspectos fenológicos determinantes de la adaptación y rendimiento potencial en trigo y cebada

Gustavo A. Slafer



I will focus on work within the EU project ADAPTAWHEAT



together with previous work (in wheat and barley) which gave room to parts of ADAPTAWHEAT

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Aims of ADAPTAWHEAT: achieving adaptation of reproductive growth across the wide range of latitudes in which wheat is grown as well as identifying developmental traits which may help increasing yield potential

Bottom – up approach

- NILs for Ppd, Eps alleles in different backgrounds
 - Phenological characterization throughout consortium
 - Phyllochron/Plastochron dynamics by selected partners
 - Floret development on selected populations and partners

Quantifying “globally” the effects of particular alleles (x background) on developmental attributes conferring adaptation and yield potential

Top – down approach

- Mapping populations derived from parents of different developmental characteristics // CIMCOG population

- Phenological characterization by several partners
- Phyllochron/Plastochron dynamics on selected partners

Identifying genetic bases of particular developmental attributes conferring adaptation, beyond the effects of major genes, and yield potential through developmental attributes

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Many studies showed that yield in wheat and barley is mainly sink-limited during grain filling in a wide range of environmental conditions, including rain-fed crops in Mediterranean conditions

Evidences concurring to that conclusion include

- **Grain weight is mostly unresponsive to increases of sources during grain filling**
- **Photosynthesis seems to be down-regulated during grain filling, due to lack of enough sink-strength** (if we remove grains, photosynthesis tends to be reduced, if we remove part of the photosynthetic capacity of some organs that of the other organs increase)
- **Potential supply of CH₂O to growing grains does, in general, exceed yield actually achieved**

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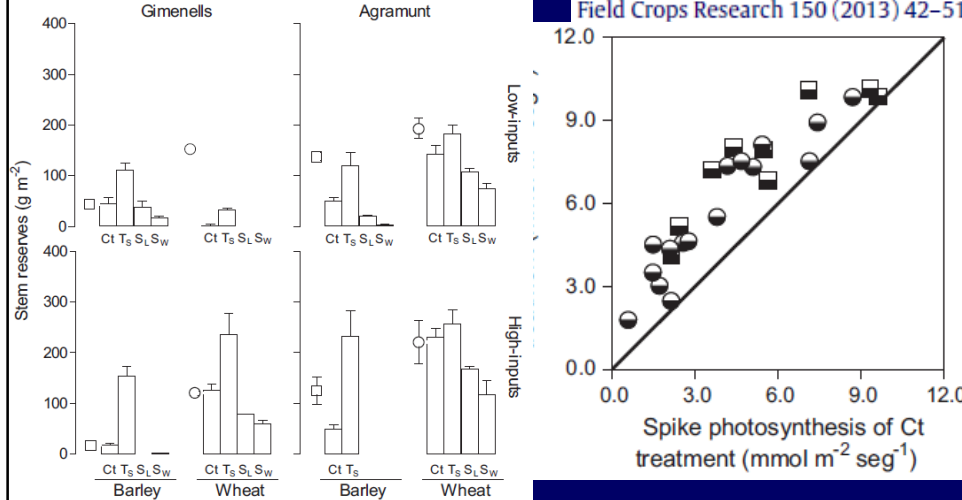


Understanding grain yield responses to source-sink ratios during grain filling in wheat and barley under contrasting environments

Román A. Serrago^{a,*}, Ignacio Alzueta^a, Roxana Savin^b, Gustavo A. Slafer^{b,c}



Field Crops Research 150 (2013) 42-51



Then, most promising traits must increase either grain number or the potential size of the grains

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icrea experimenta

Due to radiation levels
Fischer, 1985; Thornley
1991; Abbate *et al.*, 1999
Meinard *et al.*, 1999

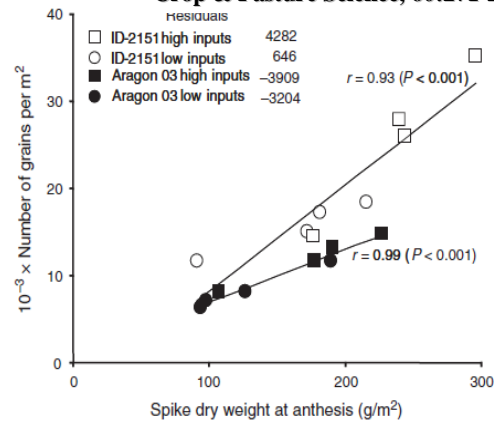
Due to genetics (semidwarf
vs tall cvs.)
Brooking & Kirby,
1981; Stockman
et al., 1983;
Miralles *et al.*, 1998

Due to
Lr19 f
Reynolds *et al.*, 2001

Fertile florets or grains (m⁻²)

Spike weight anthesis (g m⁻²)

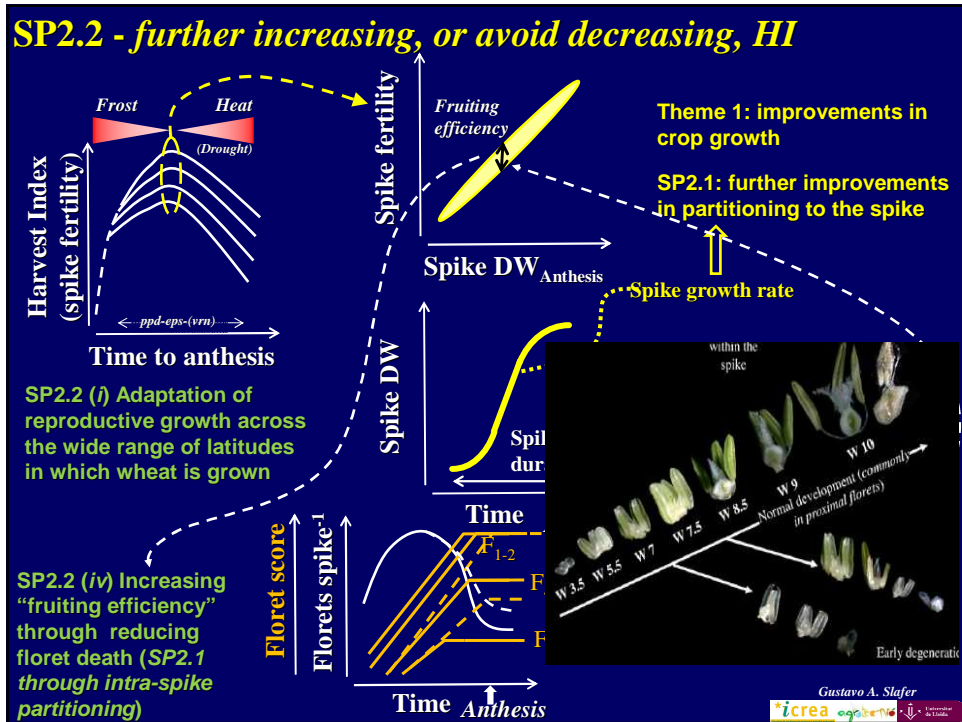
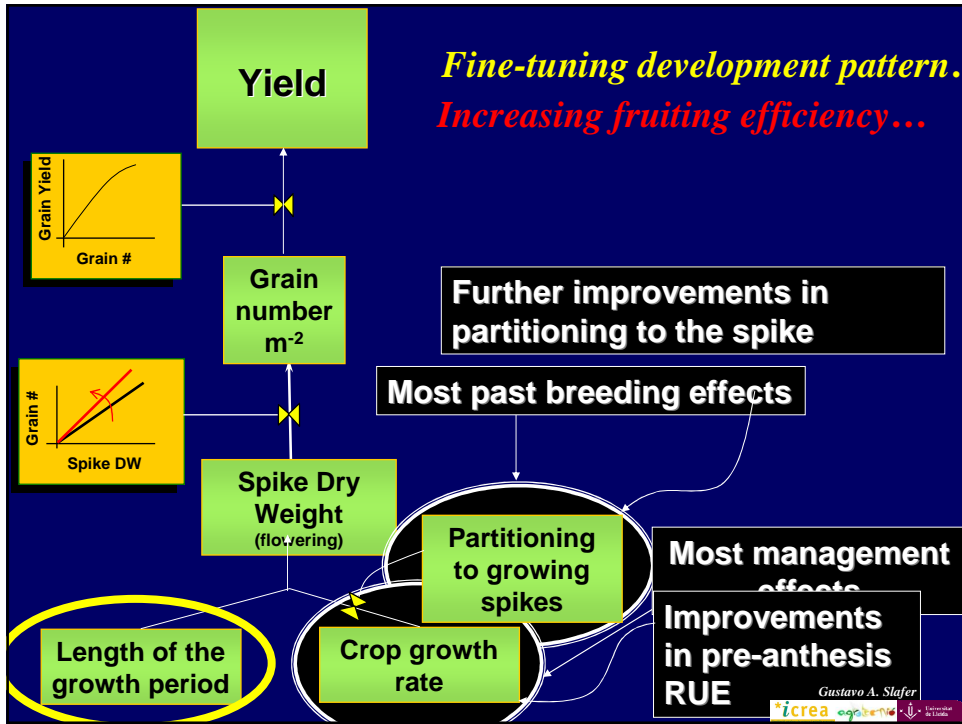
Acreche, Briceño, Martín S & Slafer
Crop & Pasture Science, 60:271-277

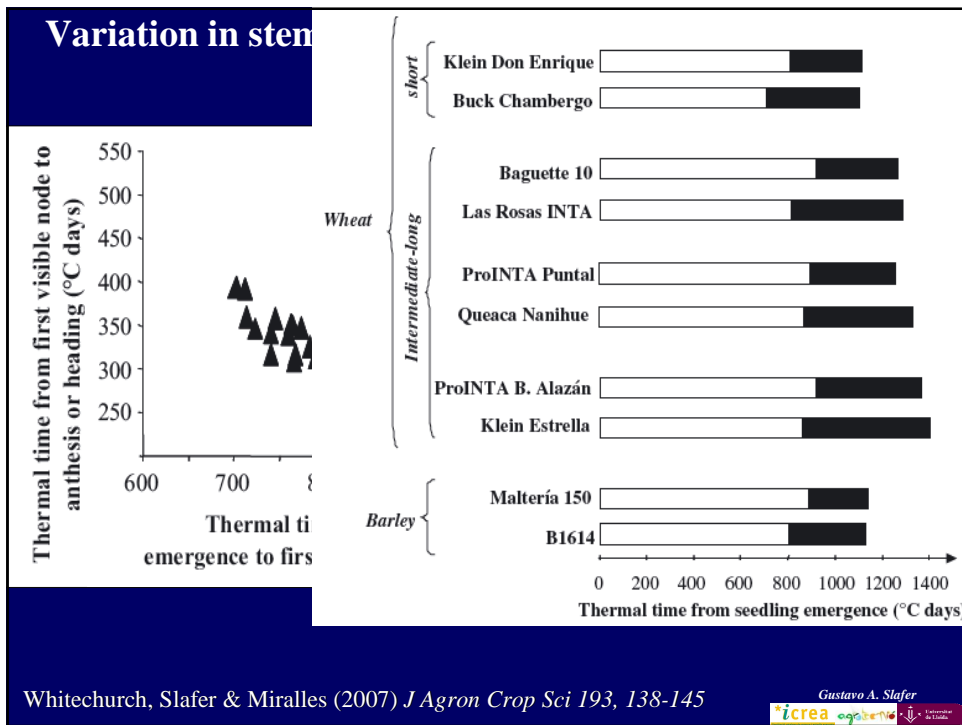
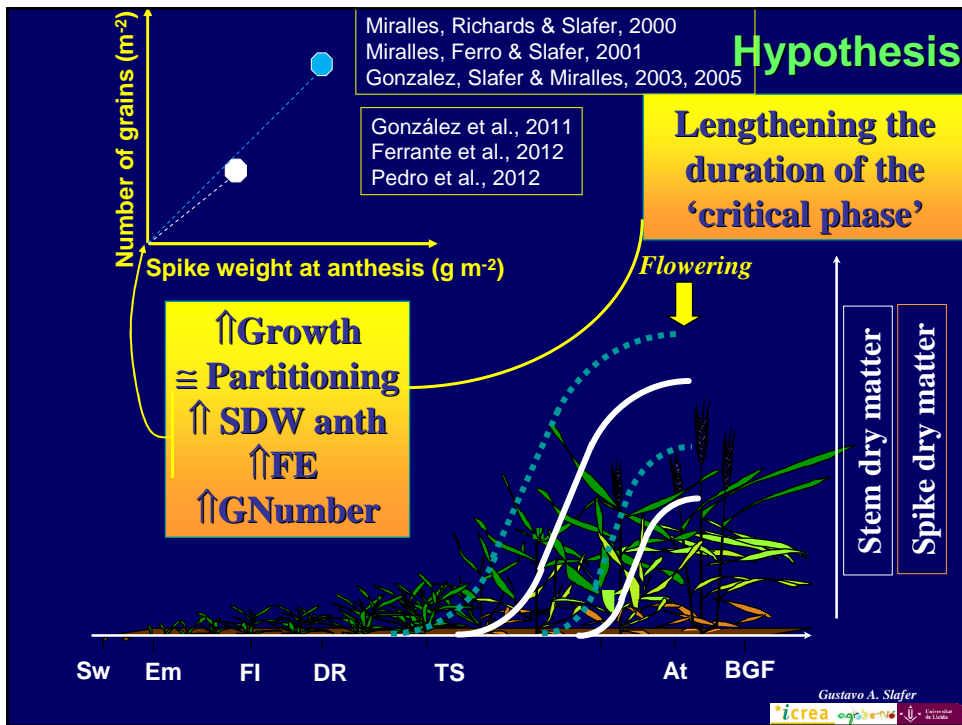


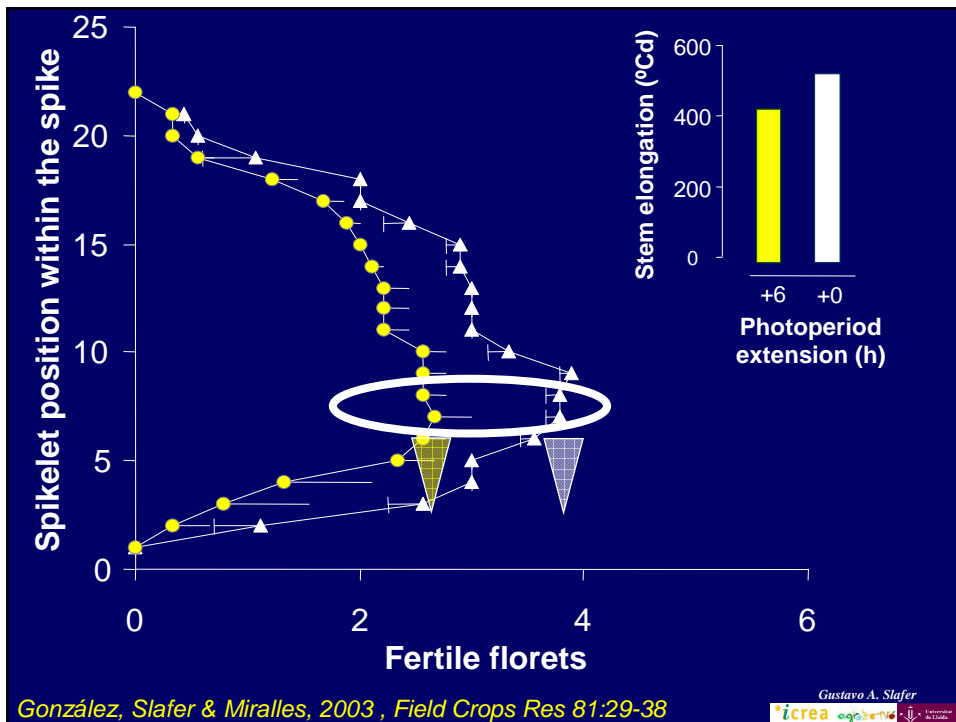
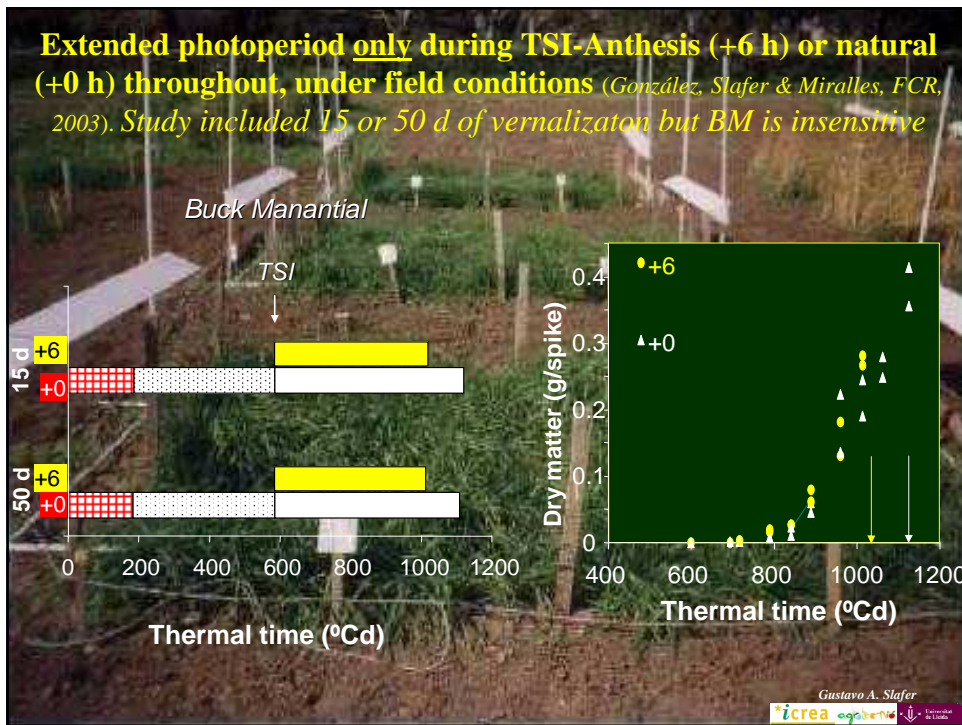
Probably reflecting a better
partitioning of resources
within the spike between
florets and structural parts
(e.g. Slafer & Andrade, 1993;
FCR 31:351-367)

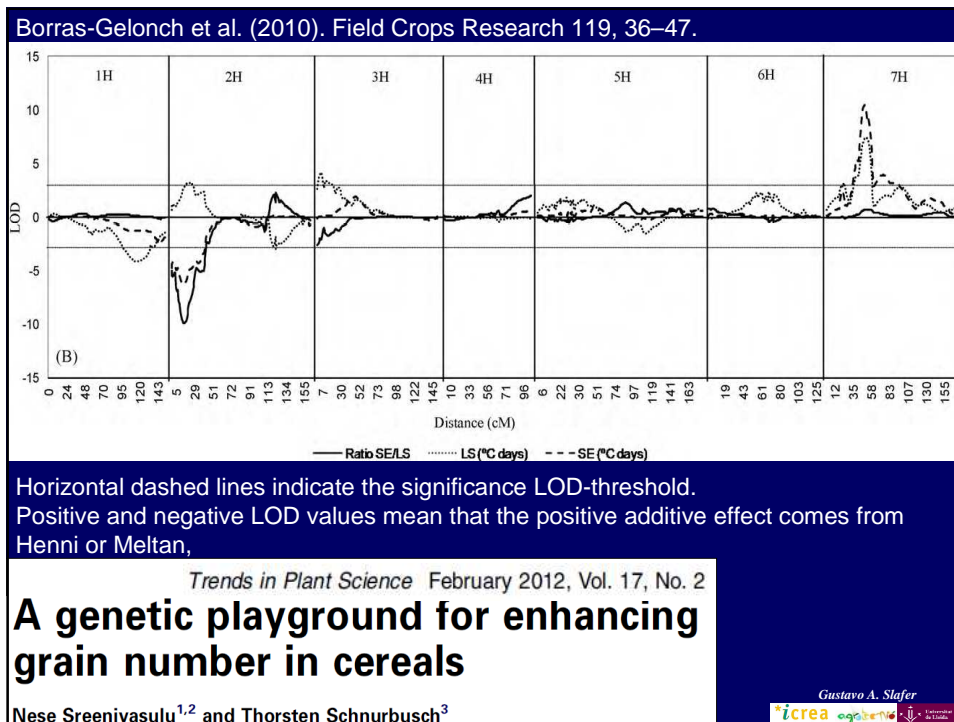
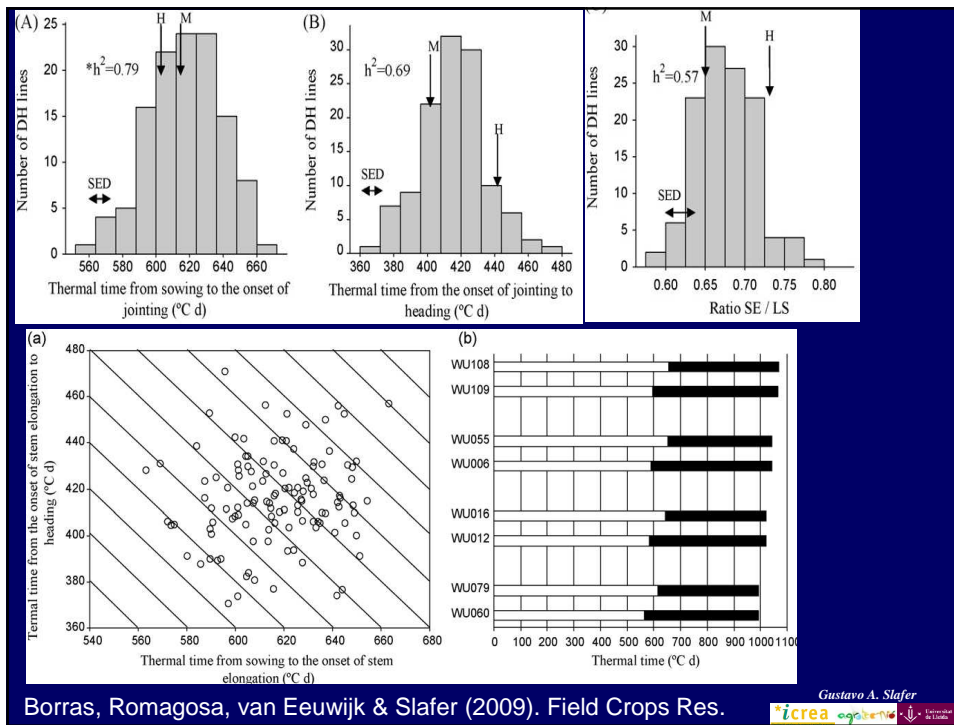
Slafer *et al* 2005, *Ann Appl Biol* 146,61-70

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Dynamics of floret development determining differences in spike fertility within the CIMCOG population

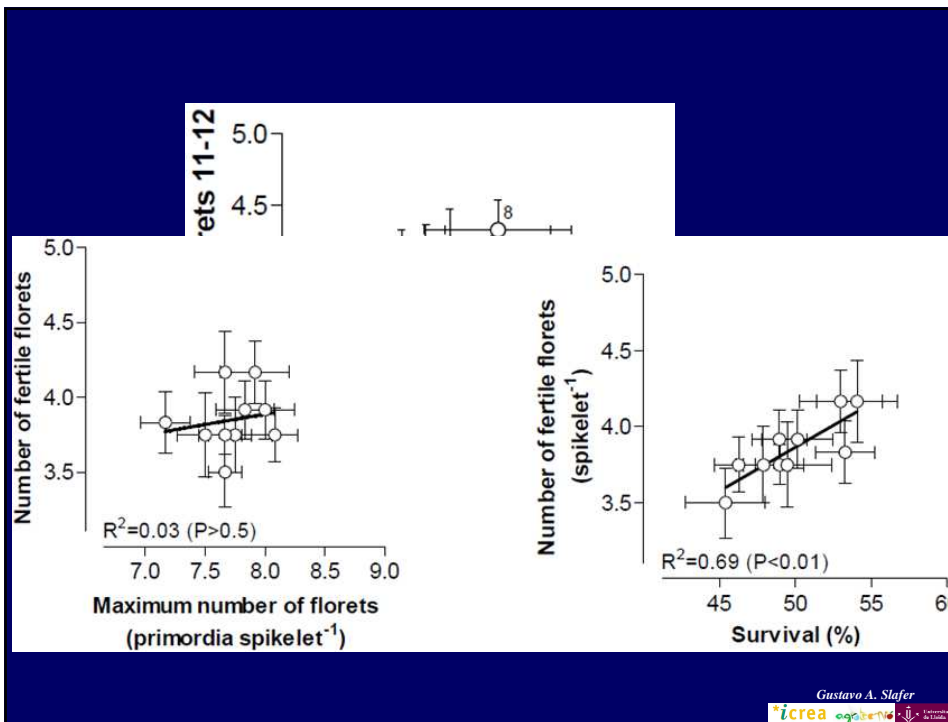
Oscar González^{1,2}, Simon Griffiths², Gemma Molero¹, Matthew Reynolds¹, Gustavo A. Slafer³

¹CIMMYT, Mexico; ²John Innes Centre, UK.; ³ICREA and University of Lleida, Spain

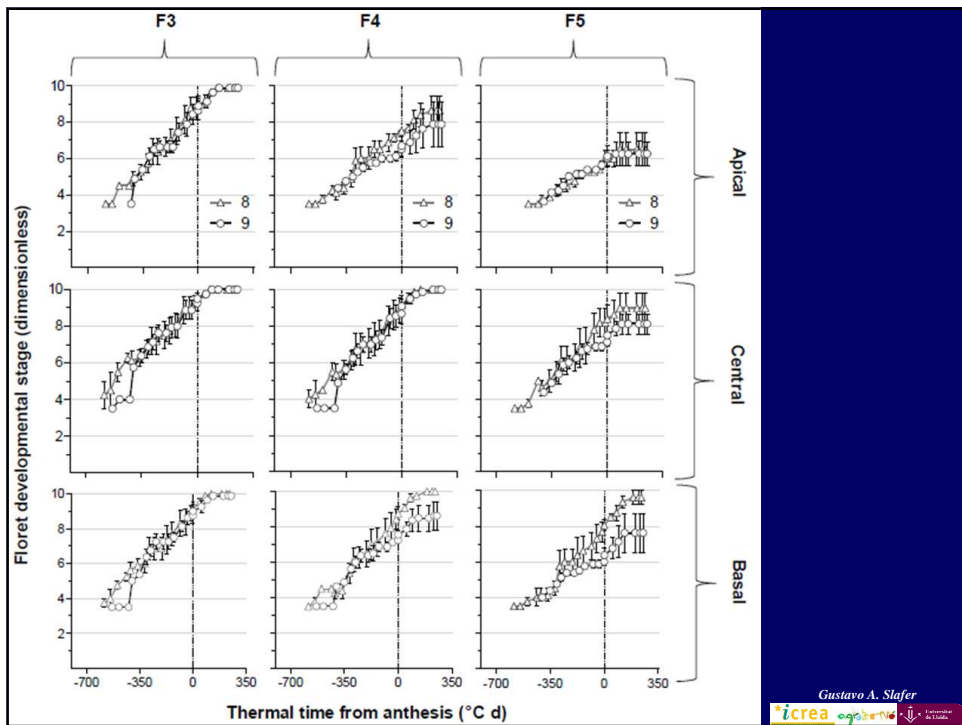
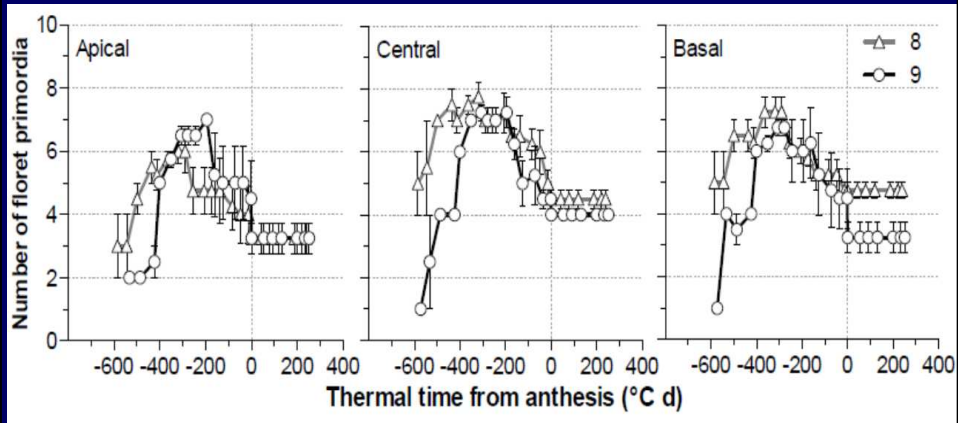
To quantify differences in dynamics of floret development responsible for differences in number of fertile florets (basis of spike fertility) within a subset of 10 genotypes selected from the CIMCOG

Entry	Name	Trait
1	BAC/NORA T88	high grains/m ²
2	RCN/RIAI TO	late development
3	BRBT1*2/KIRITATI	large seed

Trait	Average		CIMCOG		Subset	
	CIMCOG	Subset	Range	LSD _{0.05}	Range	LSD _{0.05}
Yield (Mg ha ⁻¹)	6.11	6.05	4.48 - 7.20	0.68	5.55 - 6.52	0.68
Biomass (Mg ha ⁻¹)	13.58	13.41	11.05 - 15.60	2.24	12.37 - 15.04	1.57
Harvest index	0.45	0.45	0.40 - 0.51	0.02	0.41 - 0.49	0.03
Number of grains (m ⁻²)	14379	15801	11357 - 21387	1622	12853 - 21387	2085
Number of grains (spike ⁻¹)	47	47	36 - 67	5.50	39 - 57	4.14
Grain weight (mg grain ⁻¹)	42.9	39	28 - 53	2.08	28 - 45	1.43
Days to anthesis	89	88	79 - 96	2.20	79 - 96	2.00



(i) improving spike fertility through identifying sources of accelerated floret development increasing the survival of primordia to produce fertile florets

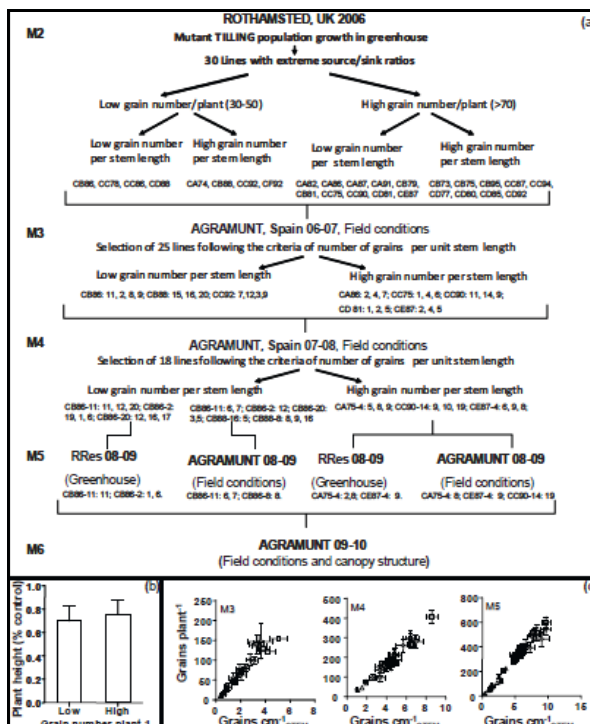


Differences in pattern of floret developmental was found in the subset of lines of the CIMCOG population studied at the MEXPLAT

It seems that much of the differences between genotypes of the CIMCOG panel in terms of spike fertility can be traced back to processes of floret development determining survival or death of labile primordia

Labile florets which start developing slightly earlier respect to anthesis increase their likelihood to survive and produce a fertile floret

Genetic work to identify genetic factors behind optimised developmental patterns and maximised spike fertility being carried out now (and in the next seasons) at JIC

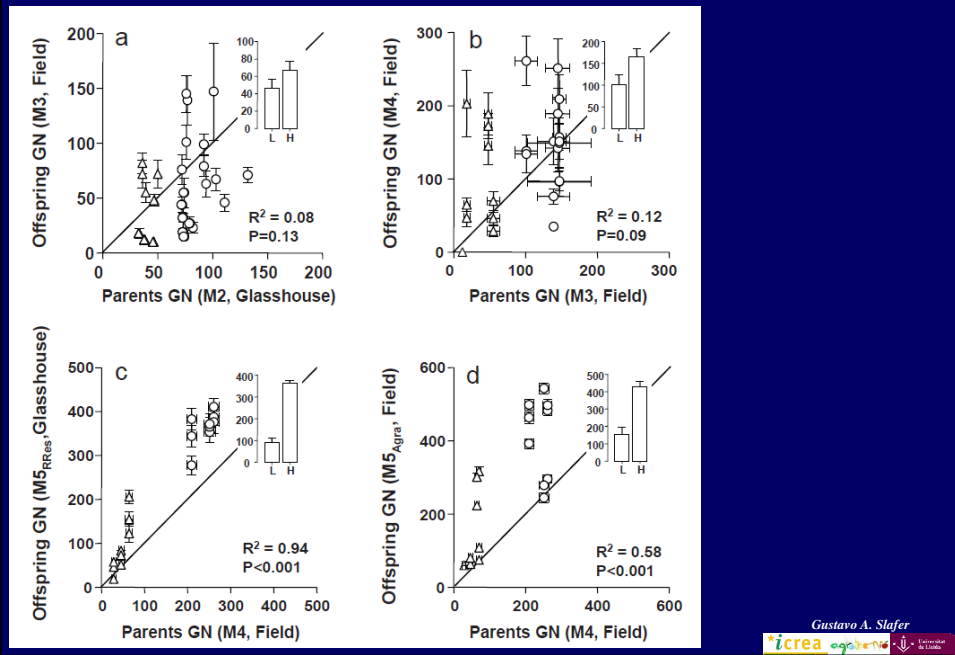


(a) Pedro, Savin, Parry, Slafer (2012) Field Crops Research, 129:59–70

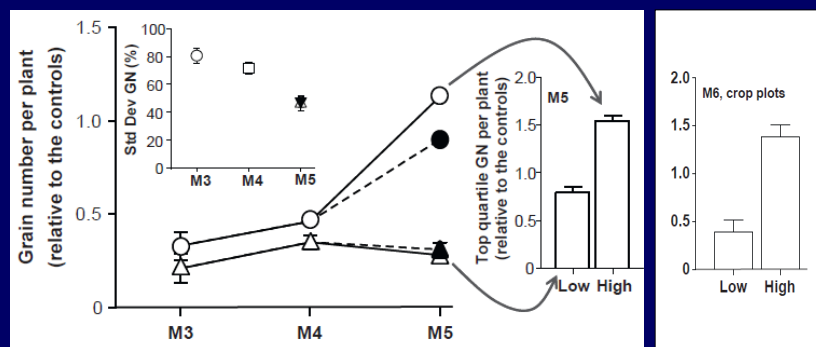
To test empirically to what degree fruiting efficiency would be a likely trait to select for we did an empirical exercise with a population of mutants almost NOT varying for plant height

We selected divergent lines for number of grains per unit stem length (as a non-destructive proxy for Fruiting efficiency)

Pedro, Savin, Parry, Slafer (2012) Field
Crops Research, 129:59–70



Pedro, Savin, Parry, Slafer (2012)
Field Crops Research, 129:59-70



Conclusions

- As modern high-yielding wheats still seem to be mostly sink-limited during grain filling, further raising grain number is critical
- There are several different attributes which might have the potential (Reynolds et al., 2012; *Plant Cell & Environment*, 35:1799-1823)
- Fruiting efficiency (the efficiency with which dry matter allocated to spikes immediately before anthesis is used to set grains) may be a relevant trait to further raise yield of wheat
- There seem to be consistent cultivar differences in this attribute which most of the times is associated with genotypic differences in grain number and yield
- Developmental attributes of the florets and phasic developmental rates during stem elongation may be a relevant source of variation in FE

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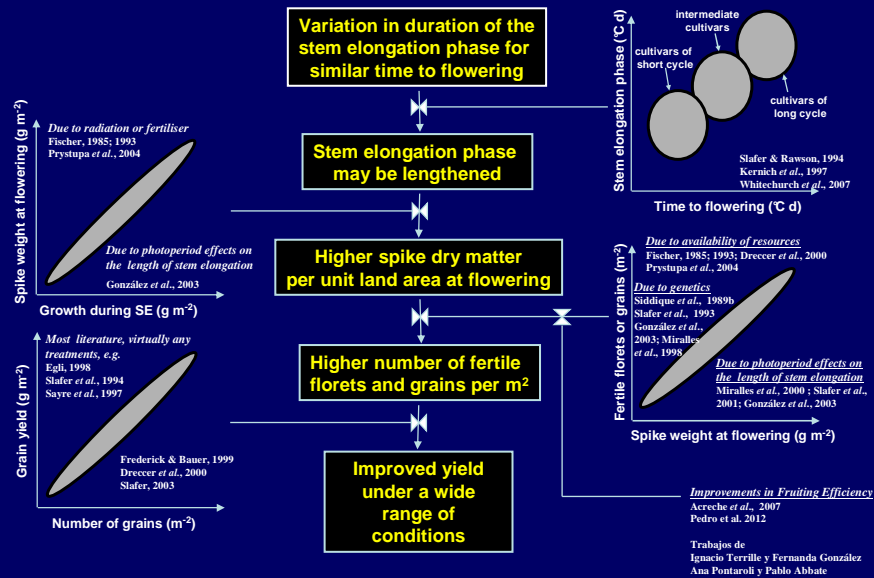
Conclusions

- At least for the rate of phasic development of stem elongation, QTLs may be identified
- However, when selecting for FE we must avoid compensations from reduced spike dry matter partitioning (Gaju et al., 2009; Foulkes et al., 2011) and reduced grain weight potential (Ferrante et al., 2013)
- Alternatively, further raising SDWa without further reducing plant height might be possible through fine-tuning developmental patterns

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Conclusions



Adapted from Slafer *et al.* 2005. *Annals of Applied Biology*, 146:61–70

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