

Remote sensing, phenotyping and wheat improvement

Presented By

MD. ALI BABAR

World Food Crops Breeding and Genetics

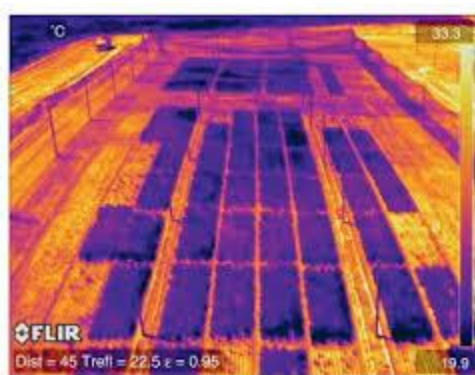
(Wheat and Oat)

University of Florida

Dept. of Agronomy

Gainesville, Florida, USA





TRENDS in Plant Science



Plant breeding and phenotyping

- Classical breeding approach for yield improvement relies on informed “**numbers game**”
- Crosses are made among potentially complementary parents
- Progeny are assessed visually in segregating populations
- Yield trials as advanced lines to test in the target environments
- Breeders have been successful in yield improvement, using “**yield**” as a selection criteria

- Requires multi year multi location testing
- To avoid or at least reduce this laborious, time consuming, and cumbersome process, breeders need an *easy, rapid and inexpensive* indirect selection process to screen genotypes in a *relatively short time* before harvesting
- Particularly useful for complex traits such as yield and biomass
- Particularly advantageous if it *detects high yielding genotypes* rapidly and efficiently from a *large number of promising genotypes*

- Use of physiological selection criteria to differentiate grain yield is an indirect breeding approach
- Use of physiology in breeding programs has been limited
 - ❖ **Limited understanding of their relationship**
 - ❖ **Complex evaluation procedure**
- Canopy temperature well associated with yield of wheat cultivars in irrigated, high radiation environments.
- Carbon isotope discrimination is a useful trait to improve grain yield potential in water-limiting environments.

Spectral reflectance

What is Spectral reflectance?

➤ Solar radiation reflected by the plant as measured and calibrated against the light reflected from a white surface

➤ Spectral reflectance/vegetative indices may be used to assess early biomass and vigor of different wheat genotypes under water-limiting conditions

➤ Some studies suggested that spectral reflectance is promising remote sensing technique for screening genotypes for grain yield

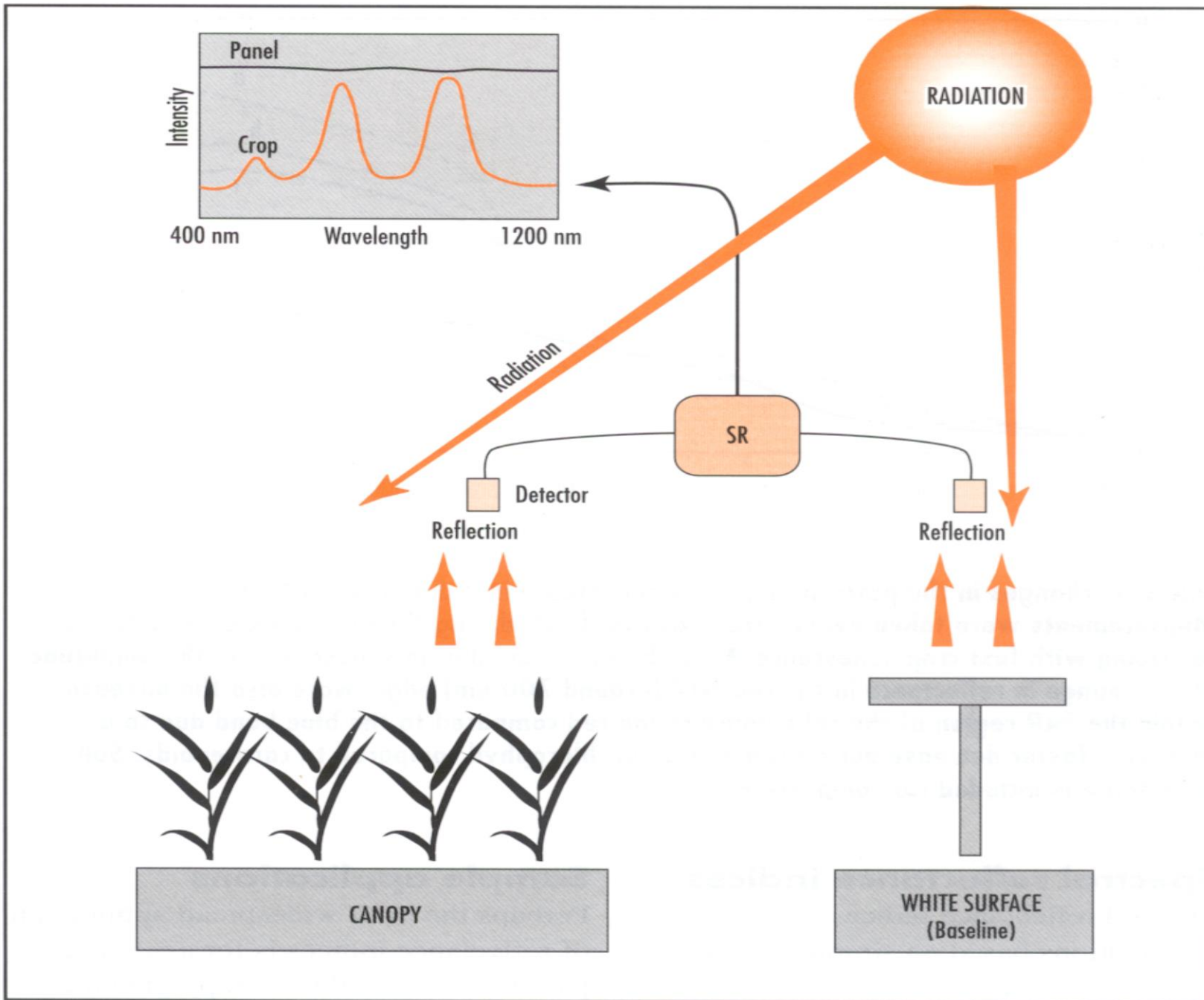


Diagram 3. Spectral reflectance from crop surfaces.

Basic Principles

- Absorption of light at a specific wavelength is associated with specific plant characteristics.
- Reflectance in the visible (VIS) wavelengths (400-700nm) depends on the absorption of light by leaf chlorophyll and associated pigments such as carotenoids and anthocyanins.
- The reflectance in the VIS is low
- Reflectance in the near infrared (NIR) wavelengths (700-1300nm) is high
- Multiple scattering of light by different leaf tissues

➤ Spectral reflectance indices (SRIs) have been developed on the basis of simple mathematical formulae, such as ratios or differences between the reflectance at given wavelengths

❖ **Simple ratio (SR=NIR/VIS)**

❖ **Normalized difference vegetation index, NDVI= [(NIR-VIS)/(NIR+VIS)]**

➤ Used to assess biomass and leaf area index

➤ SRIs have been used

❖ Chlorophyll content, radiation use efficiency, assess drought

❖ In-season yield estimation

- Potential use of SRIs to discriminate genotypes for grain yield has been tested under well watered and/or moisture-stressed conditions in
 - ❖ durum wheat
 - ❖ bread wheat, and
 - ❖ soybean
- Association under moisture-stressed conditions was higher
- Under irrigated conditions it was weaker

What we needed ?

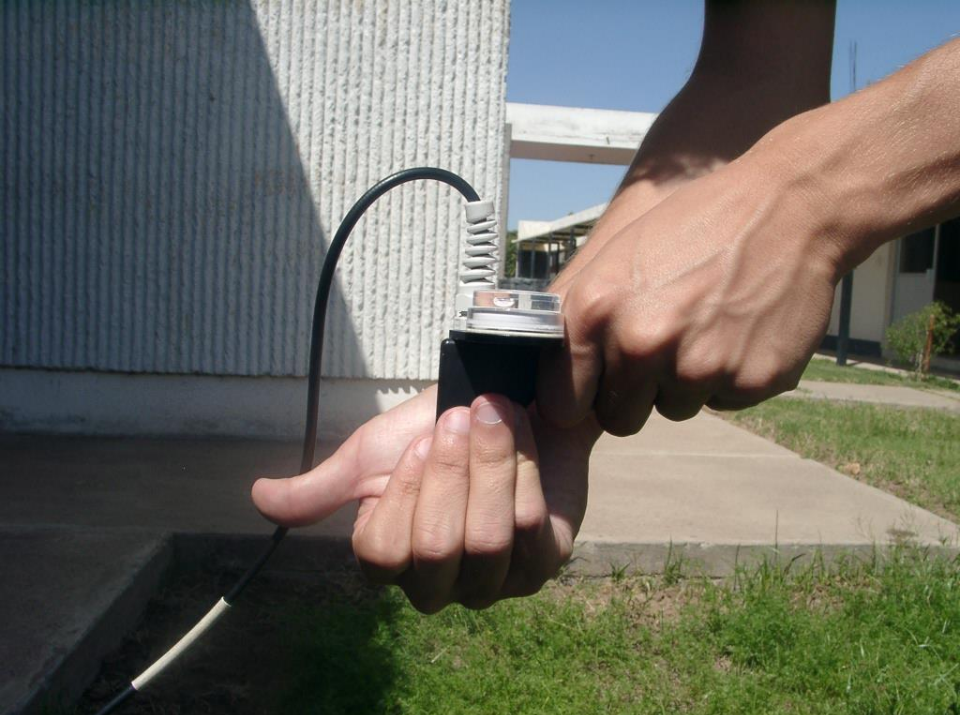
- Needed a wave length
- Shows genetic variations
- Strong genetic correlation
- Heritability is high
- Correlated response in the unselected trait based on selected trait.
- Time and cost involved
- Selection efficiency

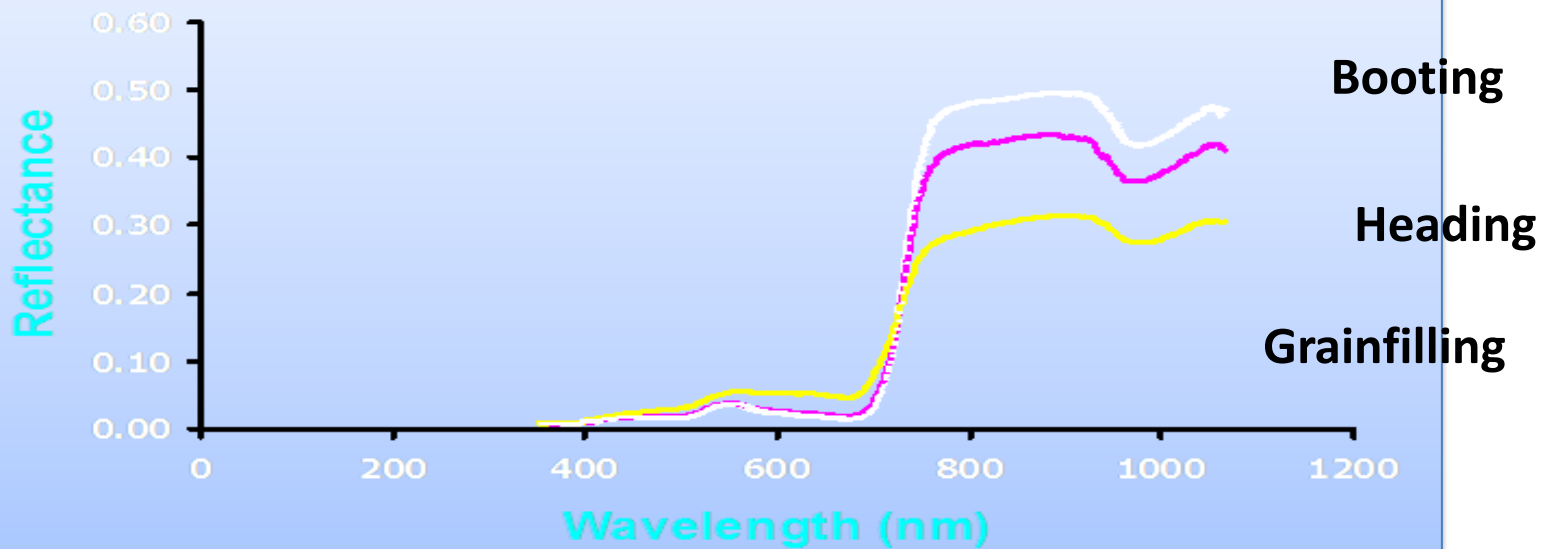
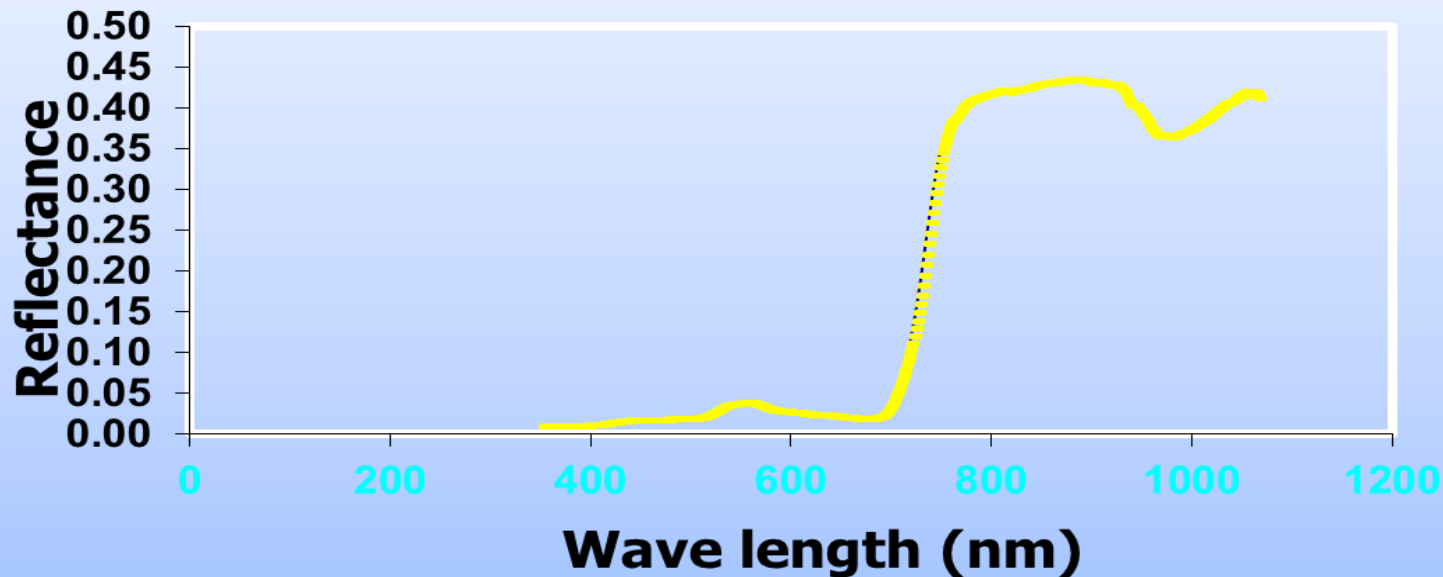
In practice, these combinations are rarely obtained.

Can we find anything ??????

- Reflectance data were taken using a UV/NIR ASD Spectroradiometer (350-1060 nm)
- Data were collected at different growth stages booting, heading, and grainfilling
- Spectral readings were collected at 50 cm above the canopy
- Four readings were taken from different places within each plot
- Mean of four readings was used for analysis







Typical reflectance pattern of different wavelengths by plants

Spectral Indices

- Different indices were calculated based on the different references
- Five indices were calculated based on combinations of wavelengths (750, 850, 900, 970, and 1000 nm)
 - ❖ Water index, $WI = R_{900}/R_{970}$
 - ❖ Red normalized difference vegetation index, $RNDVI = (R_{780} - R_{670}) / (R_{780} + R_{670})$
 - ❖ $SR = R_{780} / R_{680}$

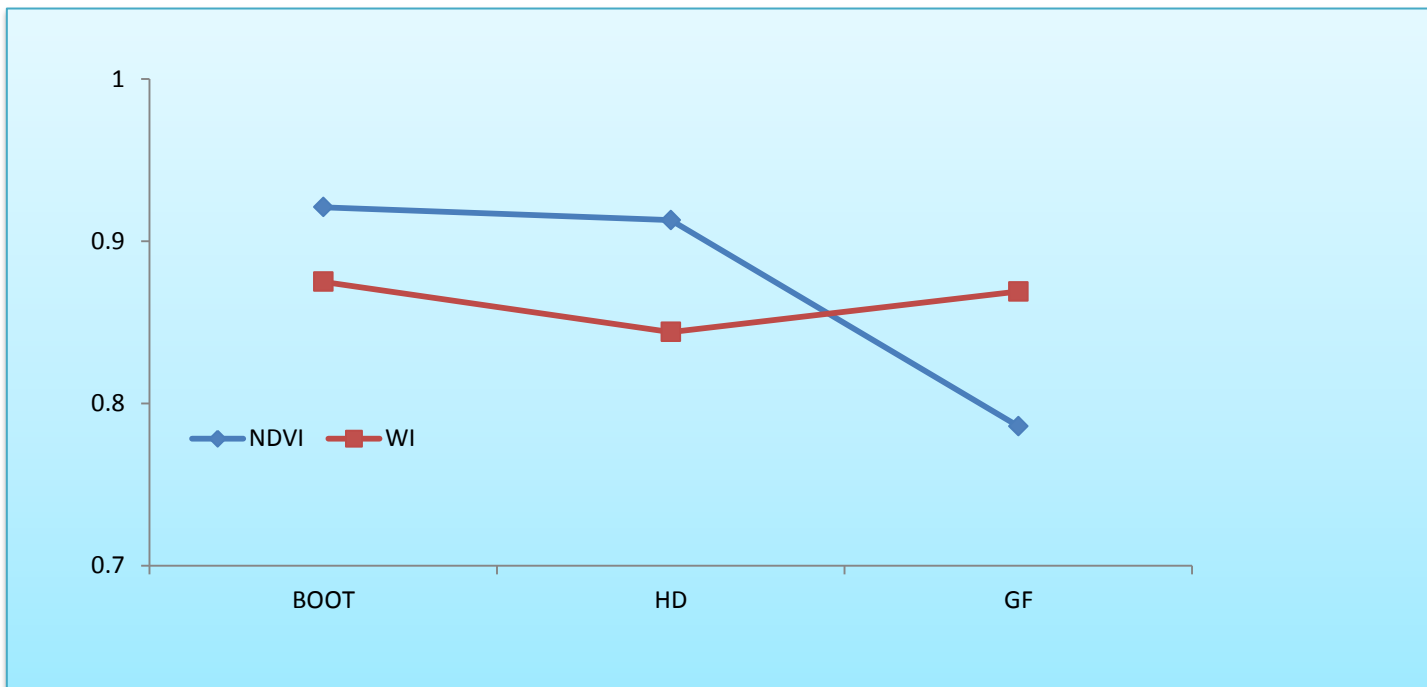
➤ Two newly calculated normalized water indices were calculated as follows:

❖ Normalized water index-1, $NWI-1 = (R_{970} - R_{900}) / (R_{970} + R_{900})$

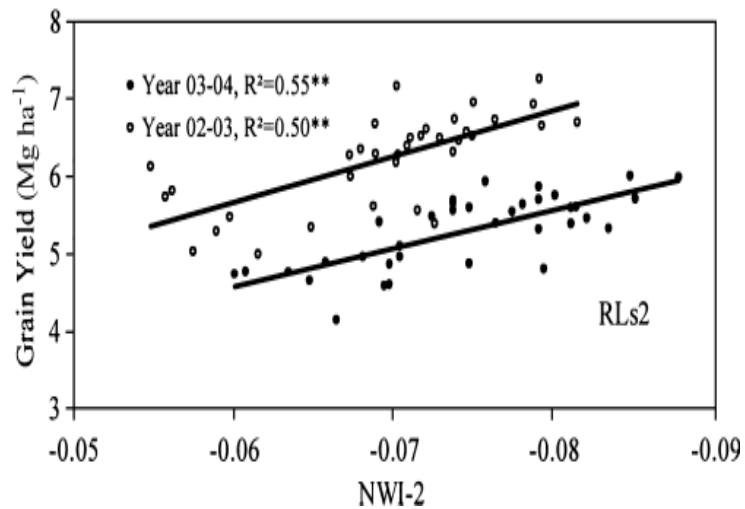
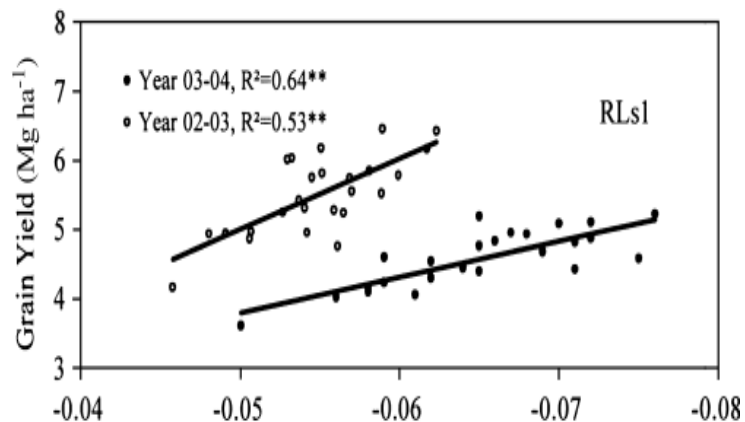
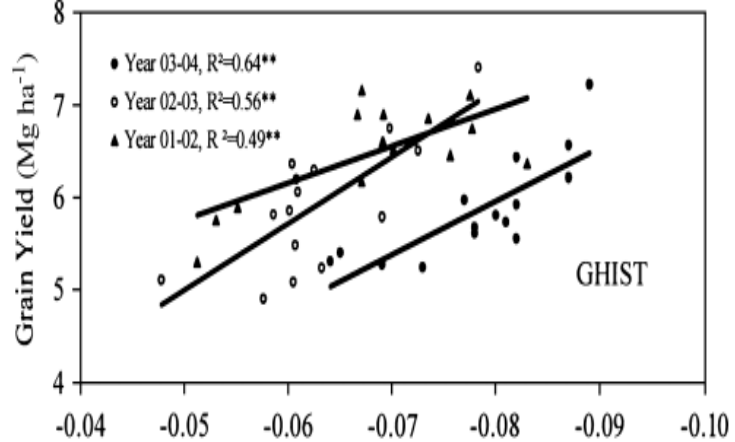
❖ Normalized water index-2, $NWI-2 = (R_{970} - R_{850}) / (R_{970} + R_{850})$

❖ $NWI-3 = (R_{970} - R_{920}) / (R_{970} + R_{920})$

❖ $NWI-4 = (R_{970} - R_{880}) / (R_{970} + R_{880})$



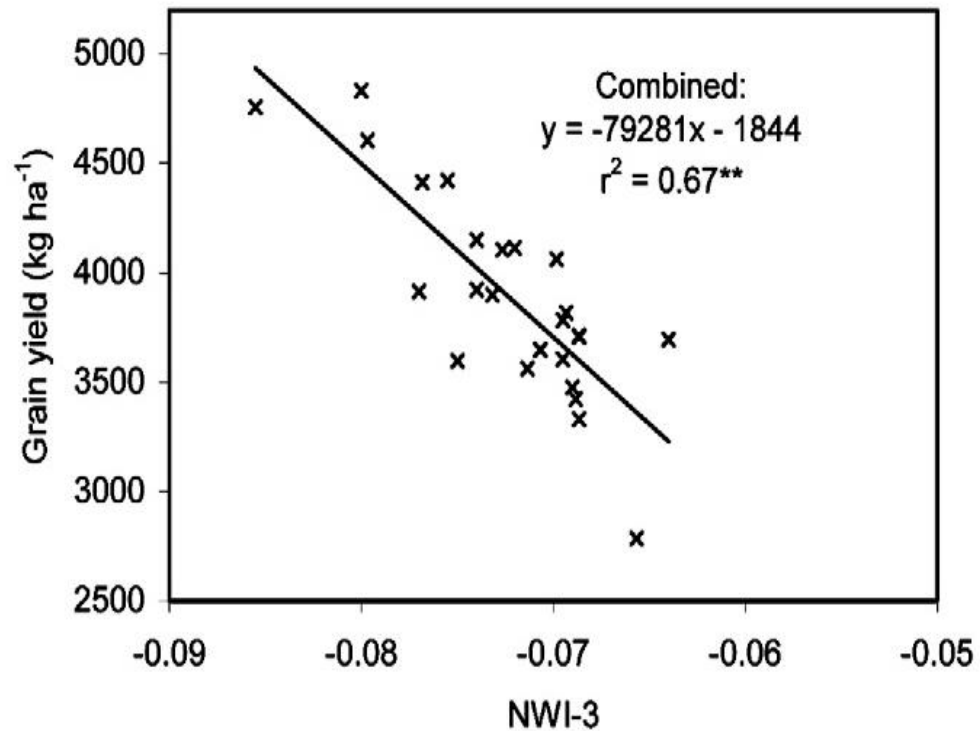
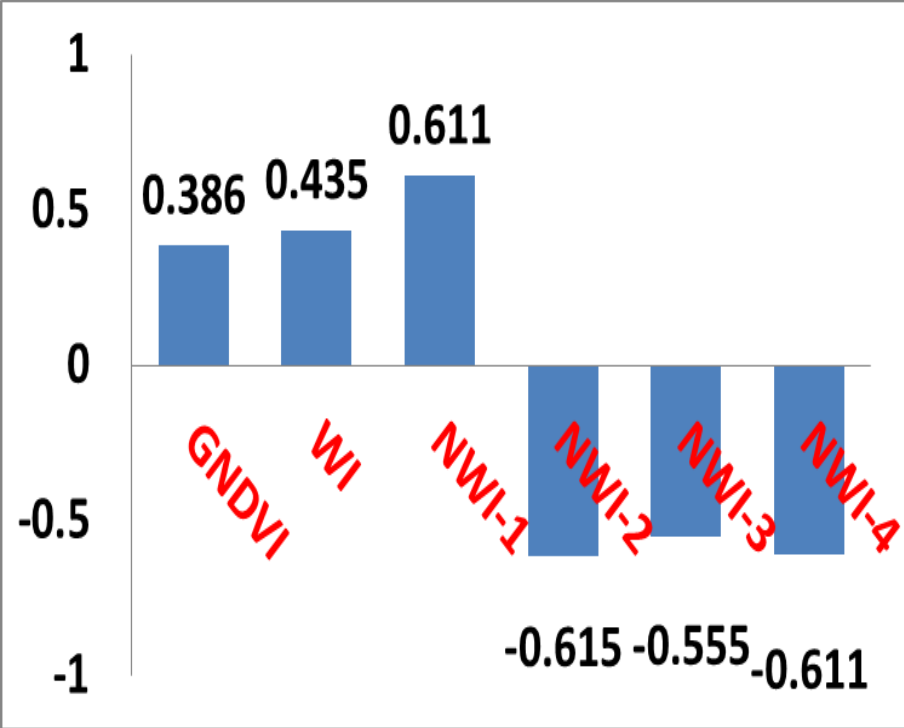
Changes of two SRIs in different growth stages



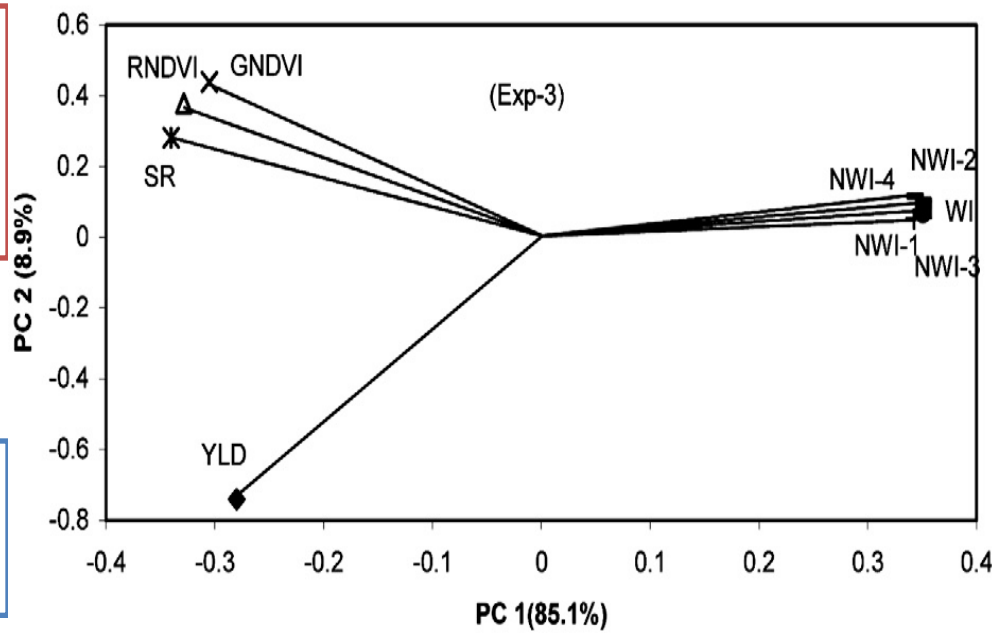
	B+H	B+G	H+G	B+H+G
NDVI	0.54	0.537	0.536	0.576
NWI1	-0.66	-0.65	-0.71	-0.741
NWI2	-0.65	-0.64	-0.71	-0.743

Mean association between grain yield and SRIs in different growth stages across experiments at CIMMYT

Babar et al. 2006, Crop Science, 46: 578-588



Mean association between grain yield and SRIs in different experiments at Stillwater, Ok



Prasad et al. 2007, Crop Science, 47:1416–1425

	Overall mean GC across three years across three experiments at CIMMYT	Overall mean GC across three years across three experiments at Stillwater, Oklahoma
NDVI	0.586	0.63
NWI-1	-0.889	-0.875
NWI-2	-0.893	-0.805
NWI-3		-0.935
NWI-4		-0.895

Average GC between between SRIs and grain yield within individual three random populations under irrigated conditions, mean overall PC in parenthesis

Babar et al, 2006; Prasad et al. 2007

	Heritability	Realized heritability
NDVI	0.604	0.411
NWI-1	0.717	0.696
NWI-2	0.748	0.733
Yield	0.636	0.629

Average broad-sense and realized heritability of SRIs and grain yield in three different populations

	<i>R</i>	<i>CR</i>	<i>CR/R</i>
NDVI	0.689	0.394	0.598
WI	0.691	0.603	0.919
NWI-1	0.688	0.607	0.924
NWI-2	0.702	0.617	0.939
Yield	0.658	-	-

Mean *R*, *CR*, and *CR/R* of SRIs
and yield in three populations

Babar et al., 2007, AJAR, 58:432-442;
Prasad et al, 2007, Crop Science, 47:1416–1425

Selection Efficiency

	NDVI	NWI-1	NWI-2
Yield per se	5.97	5.97	5.97
Based on SRIs	5.67	5.76	5.78
Difference (%)	5.9	3.7	3.4

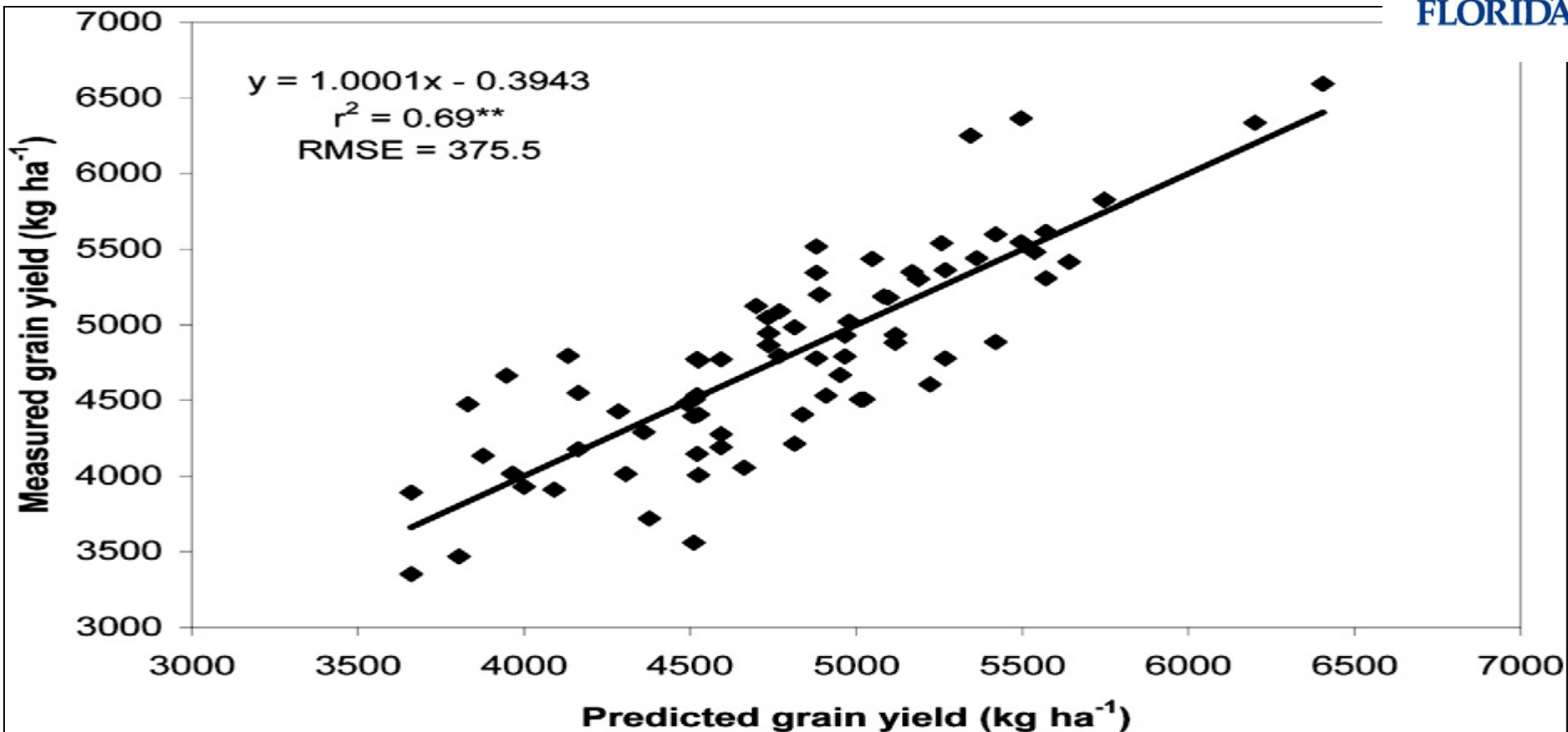
Mean difference between the mean grain yield of 20% top yielding genotypes based on SRIs and yield per se in three populations

Babar et al., 2007, AJAR, 58:432-442;
Prasad et al, 2007, Crop Science, 47:1416–1425

	NDVI	NWI-2	Combined
GHIST	56%	67%	78%
RLs1	57%	67%	76%
RLs2	47%	60%	60%
RLs3	54%	69%	85%

**Mean percentage of selected genotypes among
20% highest yielding genotypes across three
years in four experiments**

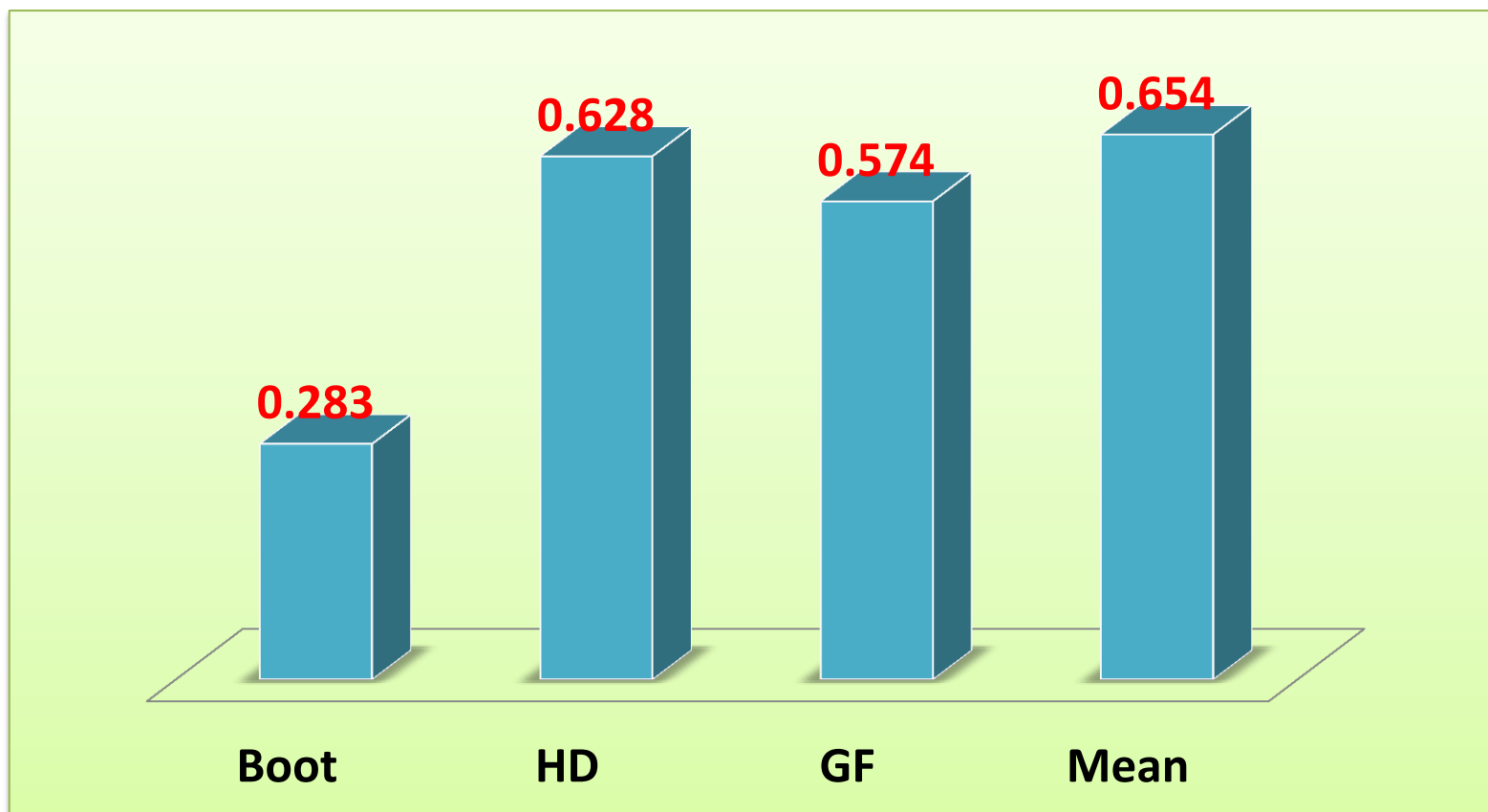
Babar et al., 2007, AJAR, 58:432-442;
Prasad et al, 2007, Crop Science, 47:1416–1425



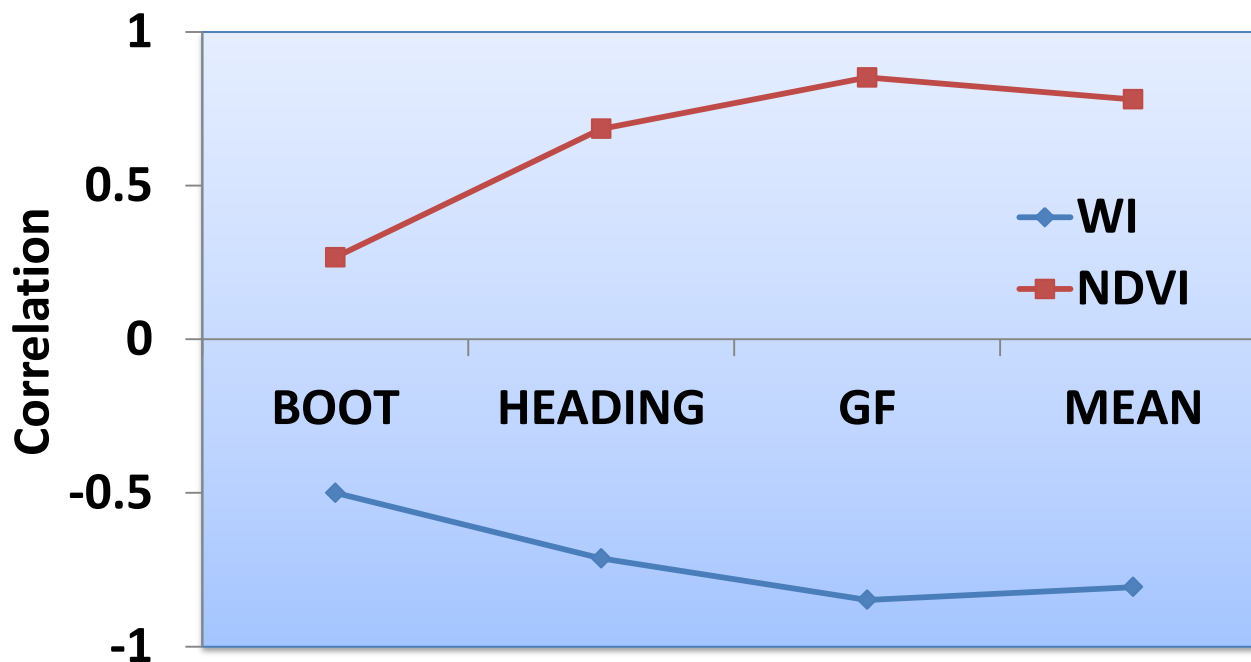
Relationship between measured and predicted grain yield based on the linear equation using (NWI-3) as the predictor, estimated using the mean values of three growth stages

SRI s	BM	Grains m⁻²
NDVI	0.572	0.537
NWI-1	0.725	0.653
NWI-2	0.735	0.641

**Mean association between grains/m²
and biomass at maturity in four different
experiments**



**Mean correlations between grain yield
and water content at different GS in three
experiments**



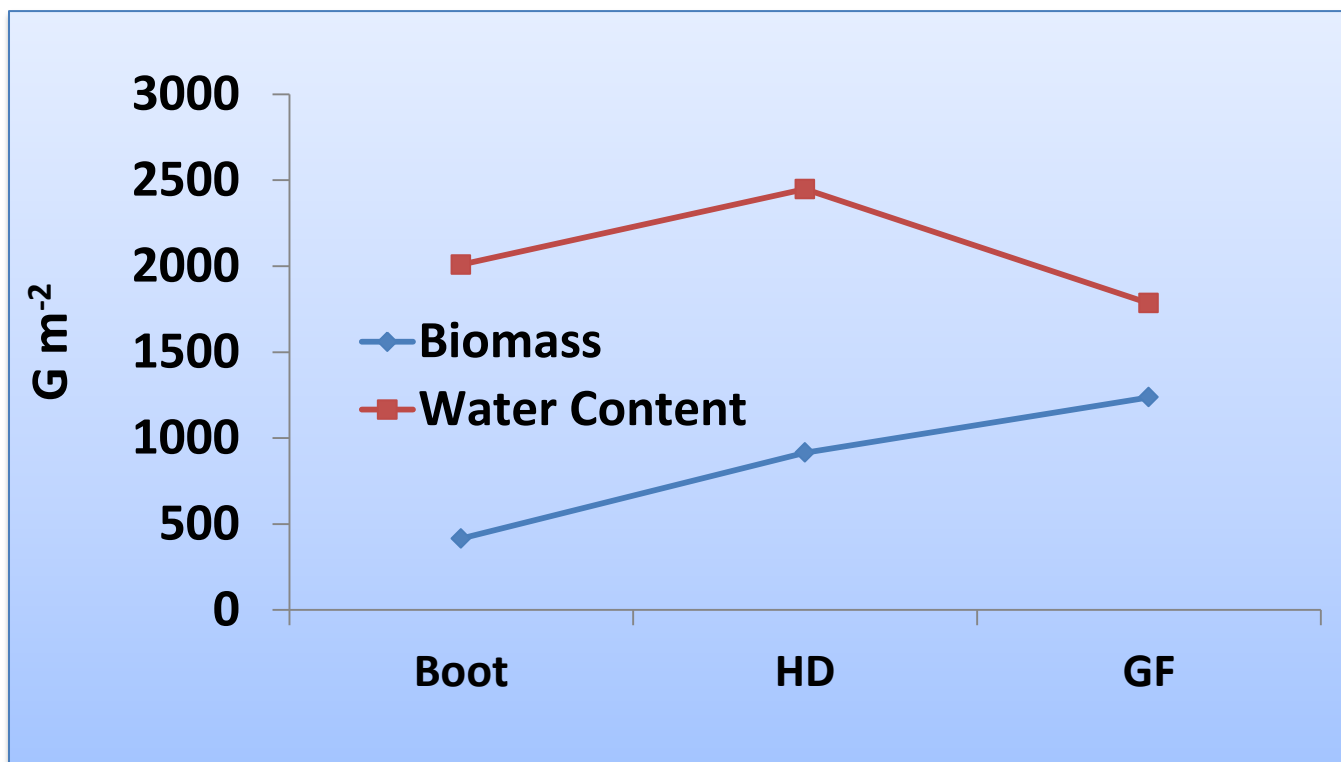
Mean correlations between water content and SRI at different growth stages in three experiments

Spectral Reflectance to estimate in-season genetic variation for and Biomass, canopy temperature and chlorophyll content

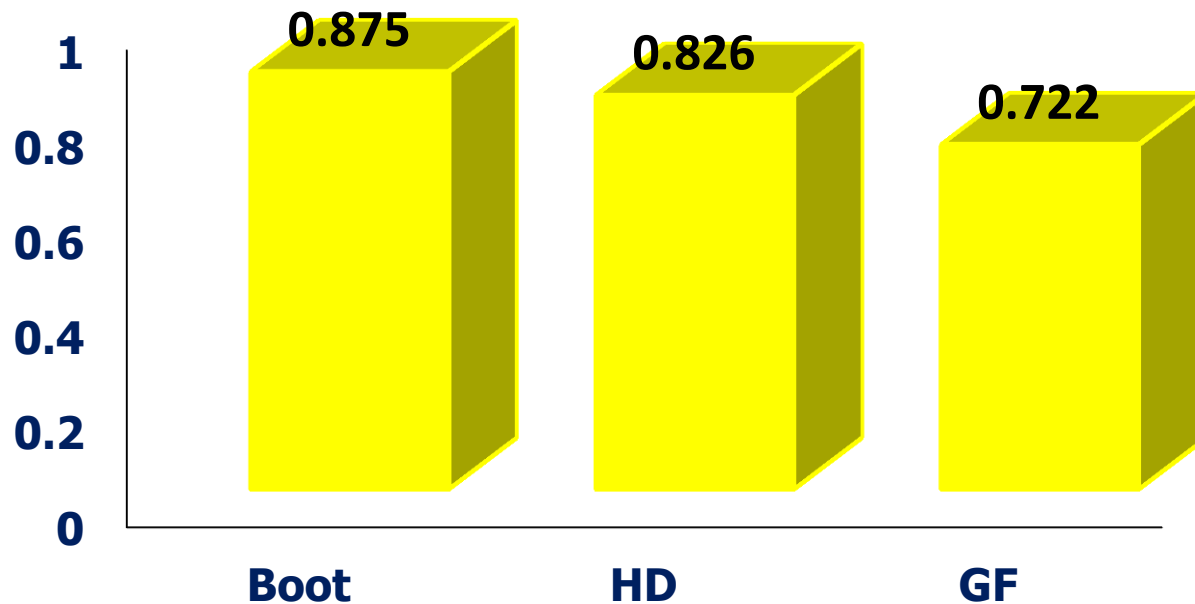
	NDVI	NWI-1	NWI-2
Boot	0.158	-0.580	-0.645
HD	0.600	-0.657	-0.656
GF	0.619	-0.648	-0.663
Mean	0.633	-0.764	-0.761
GCORR	0.585	-0.765	-0.778

**Mean PC and GC between biomass and
SRIs in three growth stages in three
experiments**

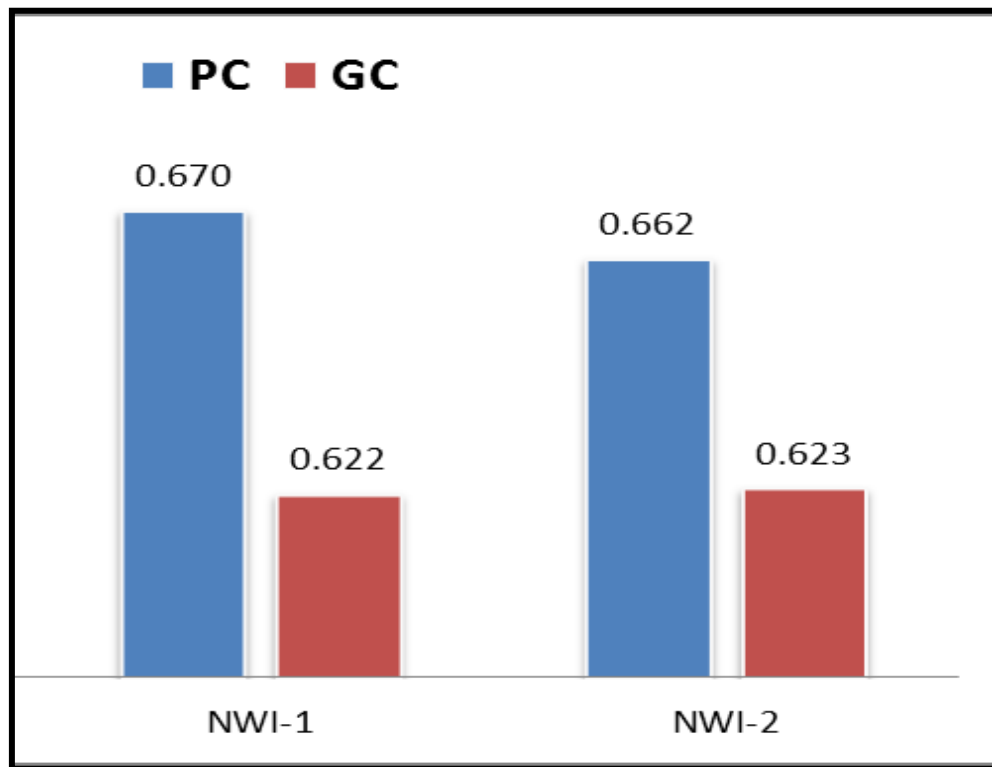
Babar et al., 2006b, Crop Science, 46:1046–1057;
Prasad et al, 2009, CJPS, 89: 485-496



**Changes in biomass and water content
in different growth stages**



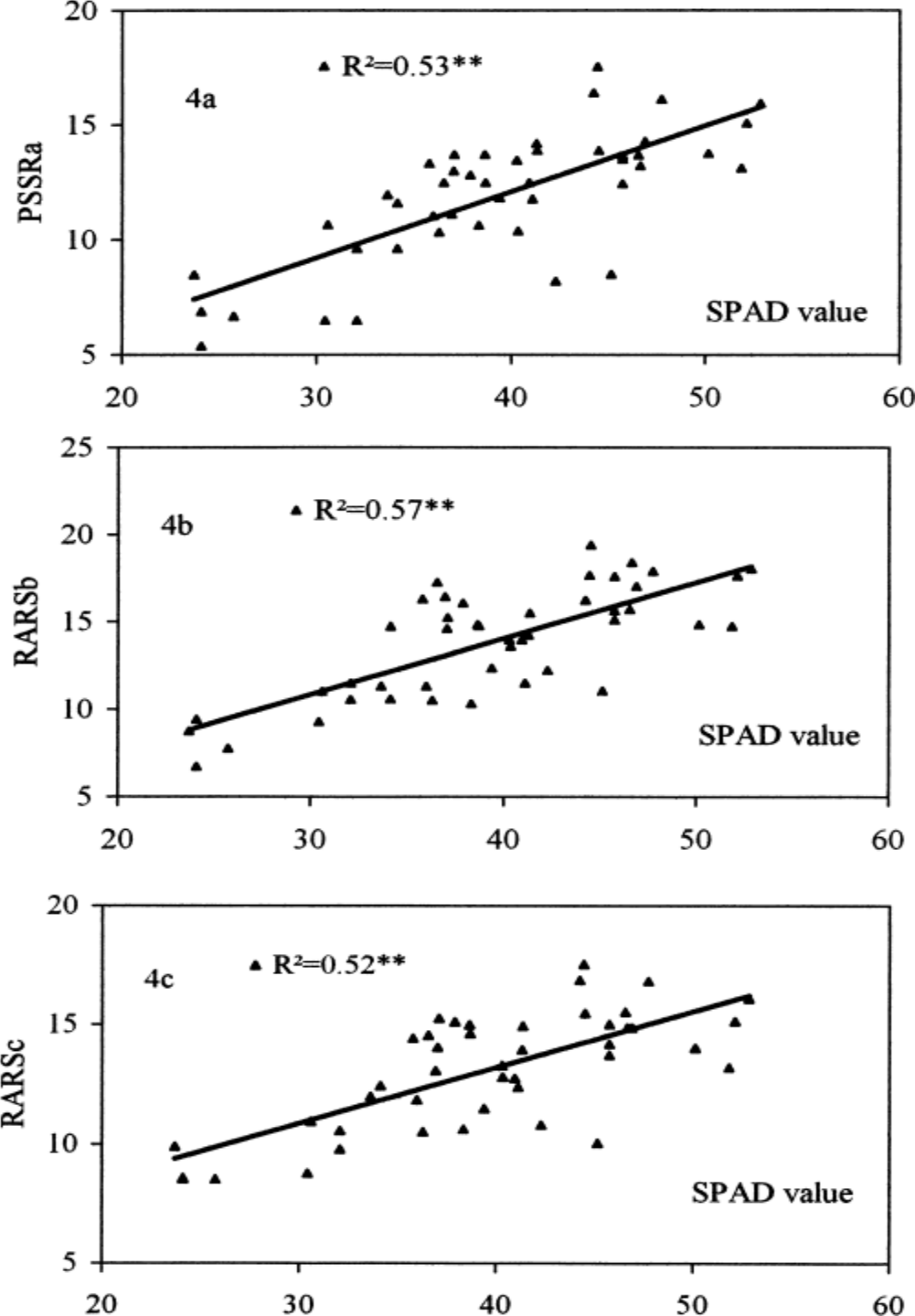
Average correlations between water content and biomass at three GS in three experiments



The phenotypic and genetic correlations between CT and WI, NWI-1, and NWI-2 at three different growth stages in three different experiments in two different years.

Relationship between chlorophyll content (SPAD values) and pigment specific simple ratio-chlorophyll a (PSSRa), ratio analysis of reflectance spectra-chlorophyll b (RARSb), and ratio analysis of reflectance spectra-carotenoids (RARS_c) across 3 yr in experiment

Babar et al., 2006b, Crop Science, 46:1046–1057;



Spectral Reflectance and Water Limiting Environments
Babar et al., 2006c, Euphytica, 150: 155–172

	HD	GF	MEAN	GCORR
NDVI	0.278	0.463	0.498	0.511
WI	-0.567	-0.603	-0.713	-0.753
NWI-1	-0.564	-0.619	-0.714	-0.763
NWI-2	-0.600	-0.619	-0.732	-0.761

**Mean correlations between yield and SRIs
in three GS, over GS and GC in three
experiments and years under 2-Irrig**

	HD	GF	MEAN	GCORR
NDVI	0.396	0.254	0.312	0.359
WI	-0.702	-0.569	-0.727	-0.815
NWI-1	-0.710	-0.571	-0.734	-0.792
NWI-2	-0.734	-0.548	-0.731	-0.810

**Mean correlations between yield and SRIs
in two GS, mean over GS, and GC in two
experiments under 1-Irrig.**

SELECTION EFFICIENCY

	2-Irrig	1-Irrig
25% selection based on yield per se	5.29 (t/ ha)	4.73 (t/ha)
25% selection based on NWI-2	5.12 (t/ha)	4.61(t/ha)
Difference (%)	3.21	2.5

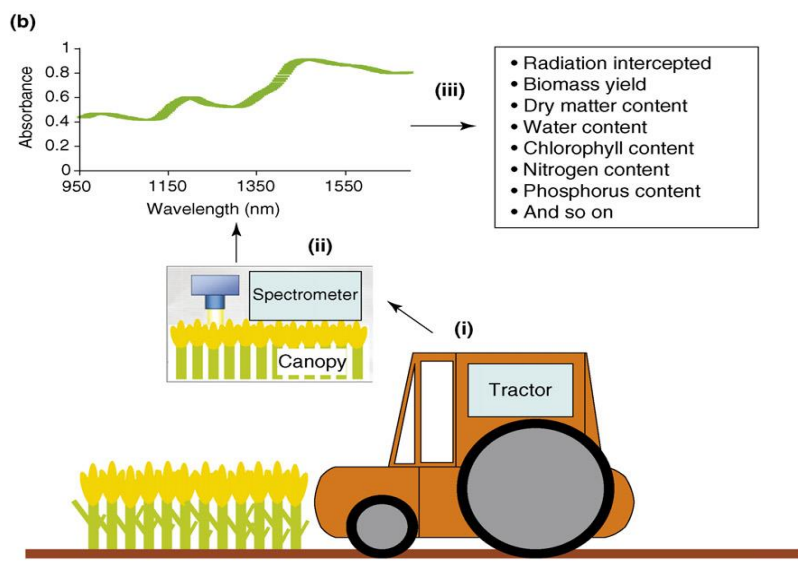
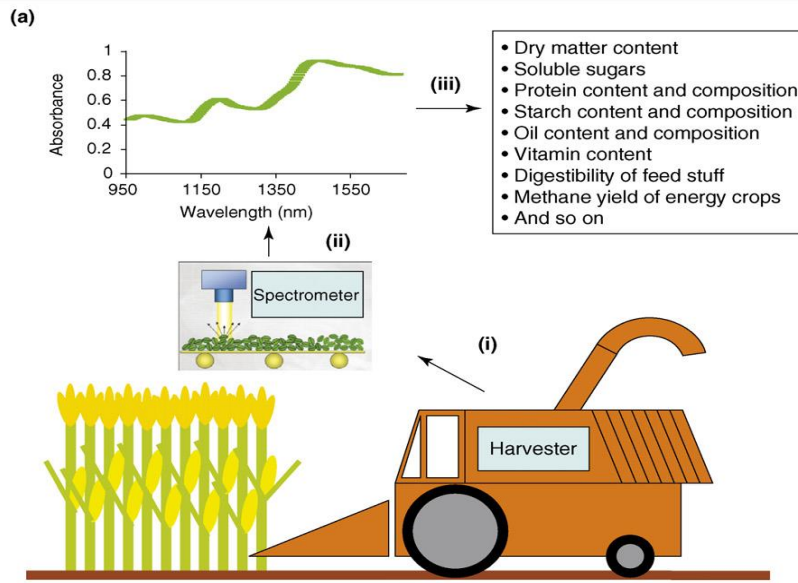
Average highest yield (25%) based on yield per se compared to average yield of the highest (25%) based on NWI-2 and the mean difference in two moisture environments

	Selected Genotypes (12.5%)		Selected Genotypes (25%)	
	Based on mean of GS	Based on selection in different GS	Based on mean of GS	Based on selection in different GS
2-Irrig.	47	55	61	77
1-Irrig	50	63	63	81

The mean percentage of genotypes selected among the top 12.5% and 25% highest yielding genotypes based on NWI-2 under two moisture conditions

	NDVI	NWI-2	Yield	Selection efficiency (NW-2)
H (2-Irrig)	0.86	0.88	0.60	
CR (2-Irrig)	0.31	0.49	0.53(R)	92.4%
H (1-Irrig)	0.72	0.66	0.58	
CR (1-Irrig)	0.22	0.45	0.52(R)	86.5%
H(Across moisture conditions)	0.38	0.66	0.60	

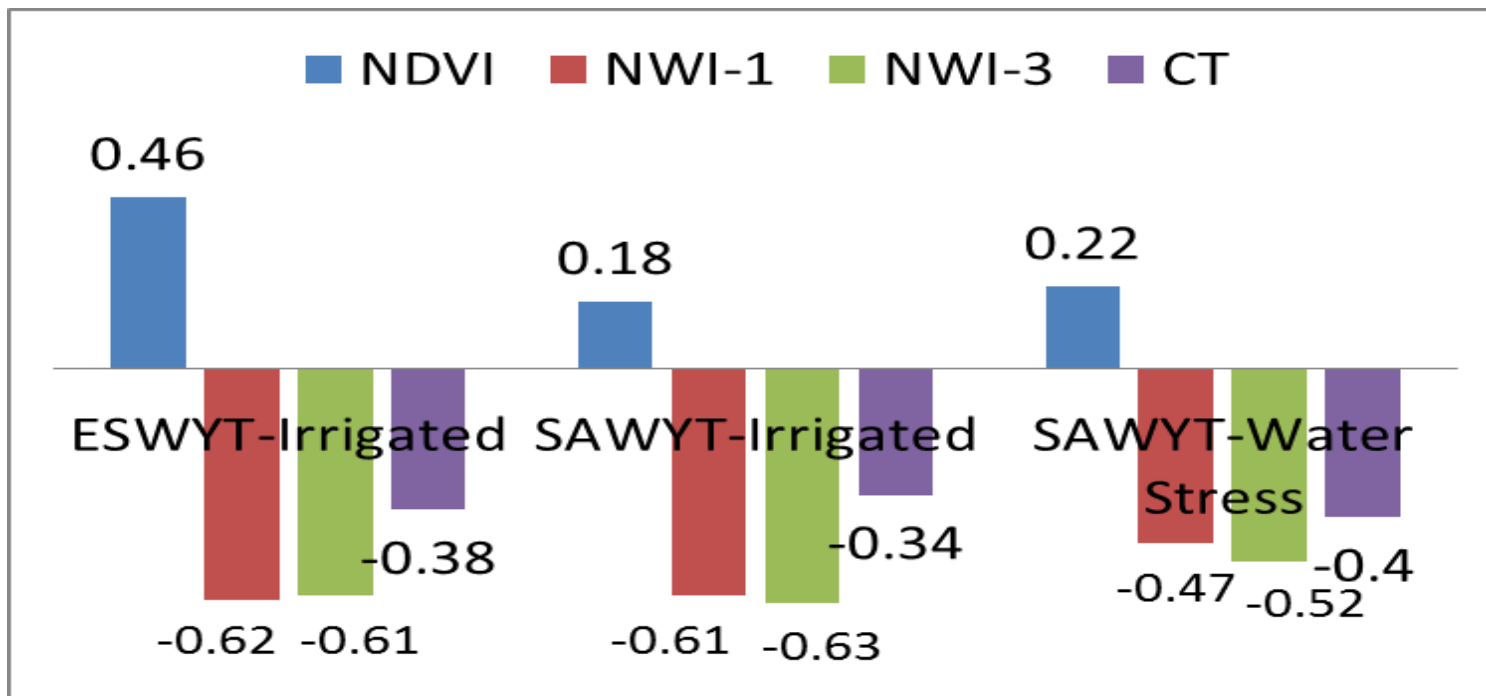
Average H and CR in individual environment and across environments in different experiments



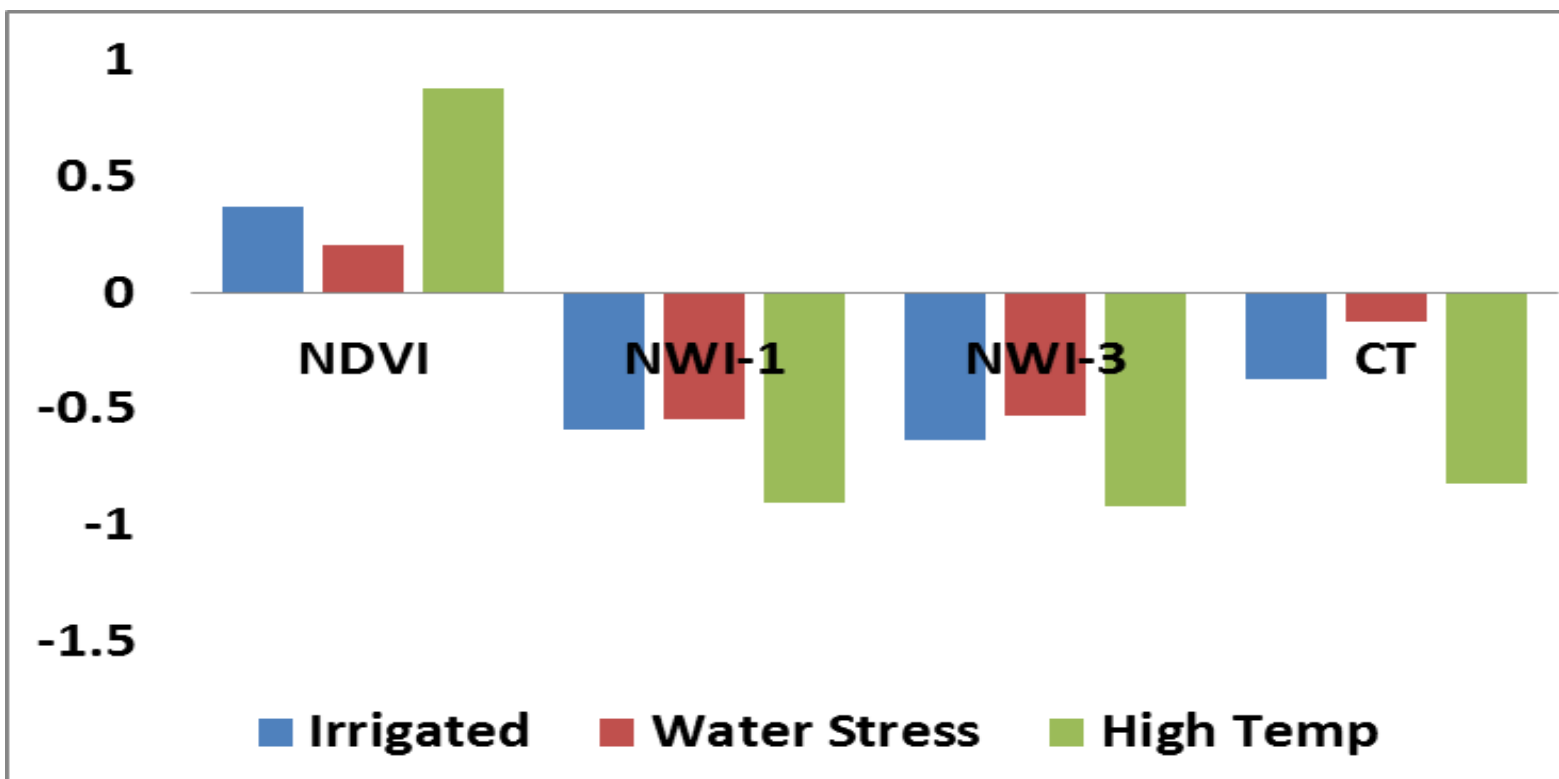
TRENDS in Plant Science

Near-infrared spectroscopy on agricultural harvesters [2,3] and spectral reflectance of plant canopy [4–6] present new opportunities to develop novel phenotyping platforms that enable large-scale screenings of genotypes for several traits in multilocation field trials.

Montes, Melchinger and Reif , 2007, TRENDS in Plant Science, Vol.12 No.10, Novel throughput phenotyping platforms in plant genetic studies



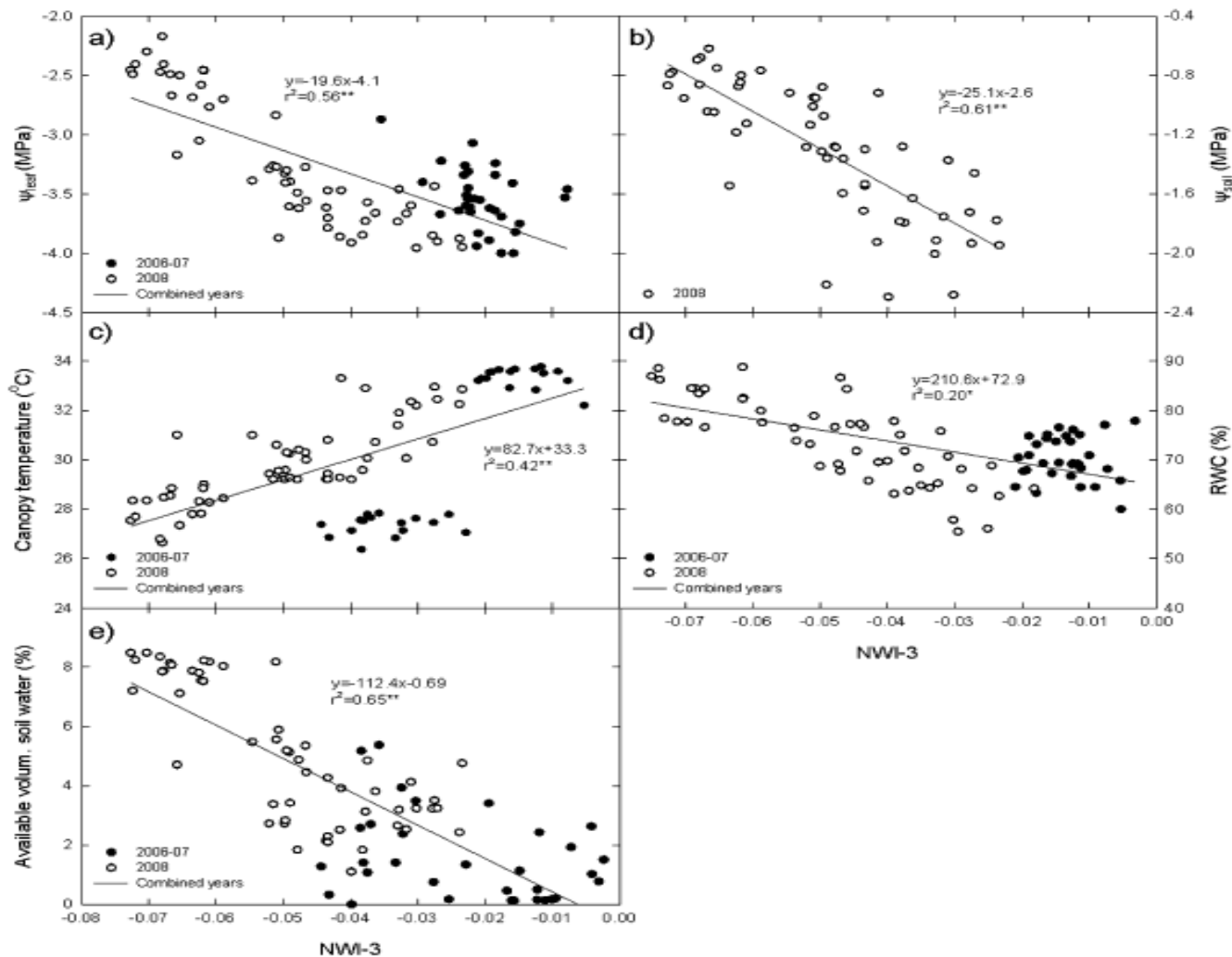
PC between indices and grain yield for Elite Spring Wheat Yield Trial (ESWYT), and Semi-Arid Wheat Yield Trial (SAWYT) grown under well-irrigated and water-stressed conditions during three years and across years.



PC between indices and grain yield for High Temperature Wheat Yield Trial (HTWYT) grown under well-irrigated, water-stressed, and high-temperature conditions during three years and across years.

	Yield	NDVI	NWI-1	NWI-3
SAWYT-Well irrigated	0.81	0.89	0.8	0.79
SAWYT-Well irrigated	0.77	0.86	0.83	0.83
SAWYT-Water stress	0.62	0.49	0.37	0.41
HTWYT-Well irrigated	0.72	0.95	0.75	0.71
HTWYT-Water stress	0.74	0.96	0.87	0.87
HTWYT-High Temperature	0.78	0.90	0.83	0.84

Heritability for indices and grain yield for ESWYT, SAWYT, and HTWYT grown under different growing conditions. Average of combined growth stages (heading and grain-filling) during three years and across years.



Relationships of the normalized water index 3 (NWI-3) with leaf water potential (Ψ_{leaf}), soil water potential (Ψ_{soil}), leaf relative water content (RWC), canopy temperature (CT), and available volumetric soil water (AVSW) by combining determinations across environments for a subset of sister lines (SBS-I and SBS-II), advanced lines (ALN), and synthetic lines (SYNDER).

	Canopy reflectance					
	Uncorrected		Scattered		Smoothed	
	RNDVI	NWI-3	RNDVI	NWI-3	RNDVI	NWI-3
All combined lines ($n = 20$)	0.66**	-0.85**	0.59	-0.85**	0.58	-0.84**
	Wax on leaves					
Intermediate waxy leaves ($n = 8$)	0.37	-0.90**	0.36	-0.95**	0.37	-0.85**
Waxy leaves ($n = 12$)	0.82**	-0.74**	0.81**	-0.85**	0.53	-0.75*
	Wax on spikes					
Intermediate waxy spikes ($n = 6$)	0.27	-0.70	0.50	-0.82*	0.28	-0.58
Waxy spikes ($n = 14$)	0.77**	-0.83**	0.74**	-0.86**	0.60	-0.86**
	Leaf orientation					
Curved leaves ($n = 9$)	0.91**	-0.92**	0.90**	-0.82**	0.89**	-0.59**
Erect leaves ($n = 11$)	0.30	-0.74**	0.17	-0.74**	0.08	-0.71*
	Spike orientation					
Curved spikes ($n = 5$)	0.56	-0.65	0.23	-0.27	0.17	-0.78
Erect spikes ($n = 15$)	0.42	-0.64*	0.67*	-0.87**	0.46	-0.54
	Awns on spikes					
Awnless spikes ($n = 6$)	0.83*	-0.96**	0.83*	-0.93**	0.66	-0.94**
Awned spikes ($n = 14$)	0.57*	-0.81**	0.39	-0.77**	0.29	-0.72**

Correlation coefficients between grain yield and spectral reflectance indices calculated with uncorrected, scattered, and smoothed canopy reflectance of 20 advanced wheat lines.

Gutierrez et al., 2015, IJRS, 36(3):701-718.

Elisabeth Becker and Urs Schmidhalter, *Frontier in Plant Science*, 8, March, 2017.

water and normalized water indices (WI and NWI—1 to 4), which are only provided by the passive sensor, showed the strongest relationships with the drought stress related parameters ($r = -0.49$ to -0.86) and grain yield ($r = -0.88$) at anthesis. This paper indicates that precision phenotyping allows the integration of water indices in breeding programs to rapidly and cost-effectively identify drought-tolerant genotypes. This is supported by the fact that grain yield and the water indices showed the same heritability under drought conditions.

Gisaw et al. 2016. Use of spectral reflectance for indirect selection of yield potential and stability in Pacific Northwest winter wheat. 196: 199-206

Normalized water band index (NWI) showed consistent response to selection across environments, higher genetic correlation with yield (0.51–0.80, $p < 0.001$), and highest indirect selection efficiency (up to 143%). A yield predictive model with one or more SRIs explained 41–82% of total variation in grain yield. The repeatability of genotypic performance between years increased when selection was conducted based on both SRIs and grain yield compared to selection based on yield or SRI alone. The generally high heritability of SRIs and their significant genotypic correlation with grain yield highlight the possibility to improve yield and yield stability in winter wheat through remotely sensed phenotyping approaches.

What we are working on ?

NDVI and early biomass



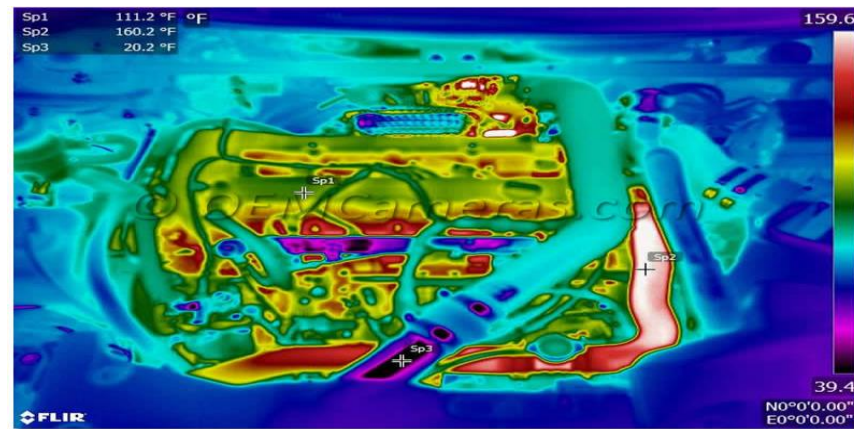
What we are working on ?

NDVI and canopy temperature

FLIR VUE™ PRO R



FLIR VUE PRO R
Radiometric Thermal Imaging Camera



FLIR VUE PRO R 640 13mm
Measurement Example using FLIR Tools
Palette: Rainbow HC

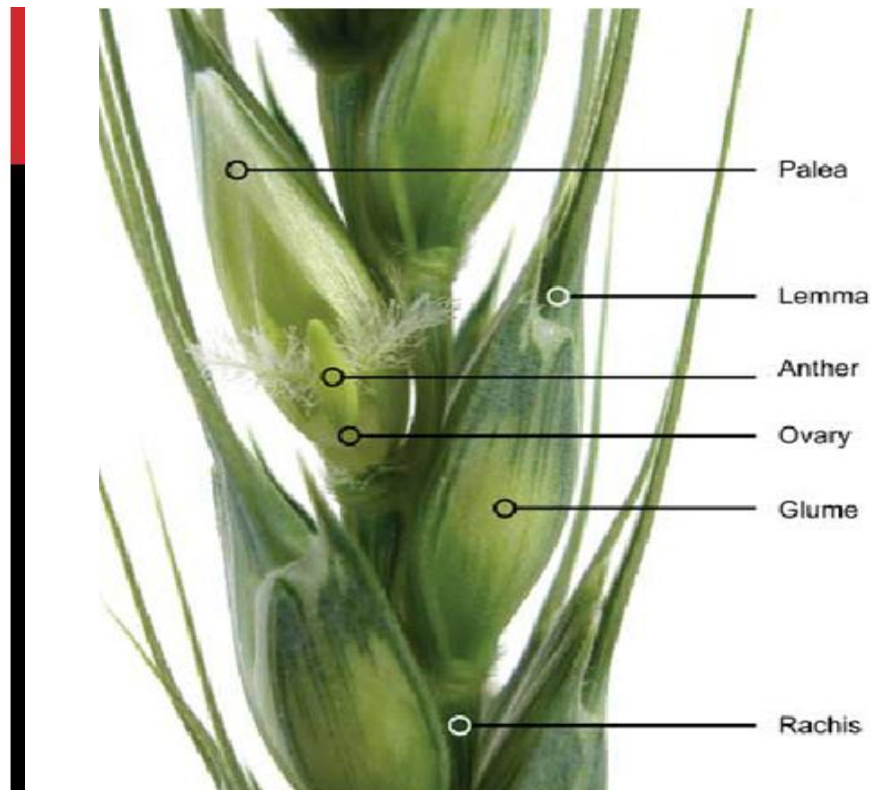
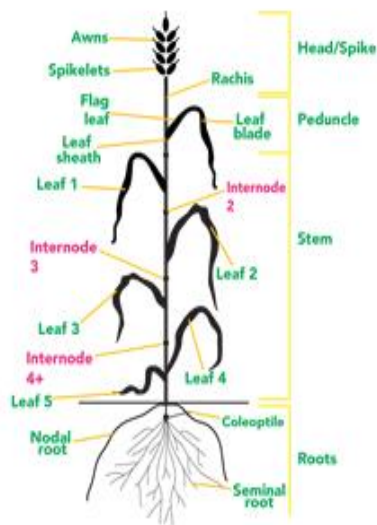


What we are working on ?

Improve harvest index



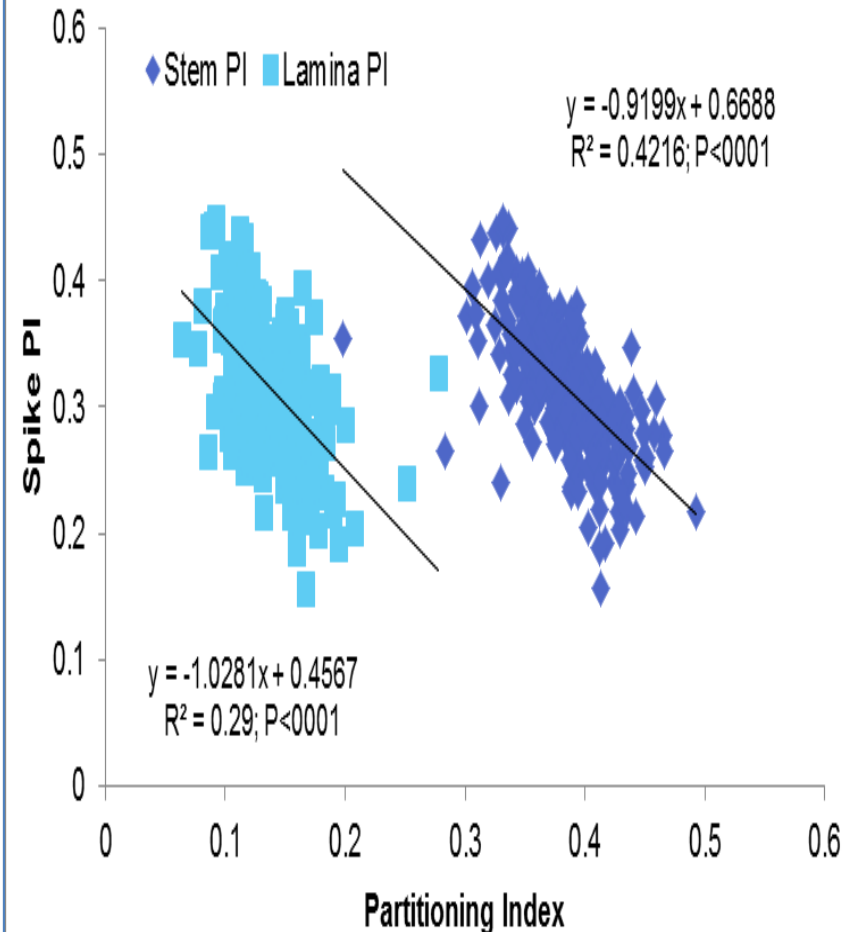
Grain yield = AGDM x HI

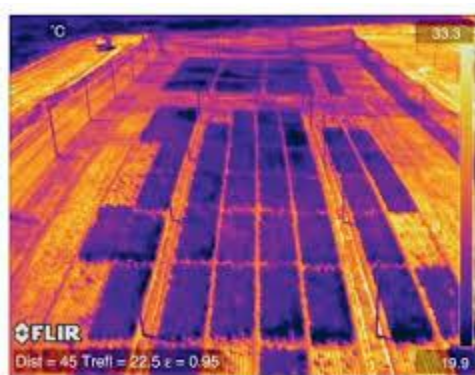


What we are working on ?

Improve harvest index

		Range 16-17 (Min-Max)	Sig.	GY	HI	Grains m ⁻²
Yield components	Yield g m ⁻²	358.7-612.9	***	*	0.64***	0.89***
	HI	31.9-52.6	***	0.64***	*	0.51***
	Grains m ⁻²	9723.7-18737	***	0.89***	0.53***	*
	FE grns g ⁻¹	36.8-80.6	**	0.407***	0.402***	0.49***
	AGDM g m ⁻²	1224.6-3013.1	***	0.35***	-0.21**	0.39***
DM shoot ⁻¹	Stem	0.36-1.75	***	0.15*	0.12	-0.10
	Spike	0.37-1.63	**	0.31***	0.36***	0.21***
	Lamina	0.11-0.86	*	0.17**	0.10	0.07
Part. Index GS65+7d	Stem	0.2-0.49	*	-0.16*	-0.17**	-0.20**
	Spike	0.16-0.45	***	0.23***	0.30***	0.25***
	Lamina	0.06-0.28	***	-0.04	-0.13*	-0.03





Acknowledgement:

Matthew Reynolds (CIMMYT)

Maarten Van Ginkel (CIMMYT/ICARDA)

Arthur Klatt (Oklahoma State University)

Bill Raun (Oklahoma State university)

Marvin Stone (Oklahoma State university)

Bishwajit Prasad(Oklahoma State university)

Mario Gutierrez(Oklahoma State university)

My Graduate Students:

Jahangir Khan

Dipendra Shahi