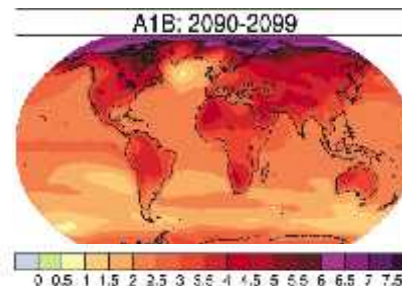


IPCC WGI AR4  
Figure SPM-7



IPCC WGII AR4  
Fig SPM-6

# Biophysical Climate Change Effects on Agro-ecosystems

U.S. EPA, USDA and Agri-Food Canada Workshop

Forestry, Agriculture & Climate Change:  
Modeling to Support Policy Analyses

September 26-29, 2011

Cynthia Rosenzweig

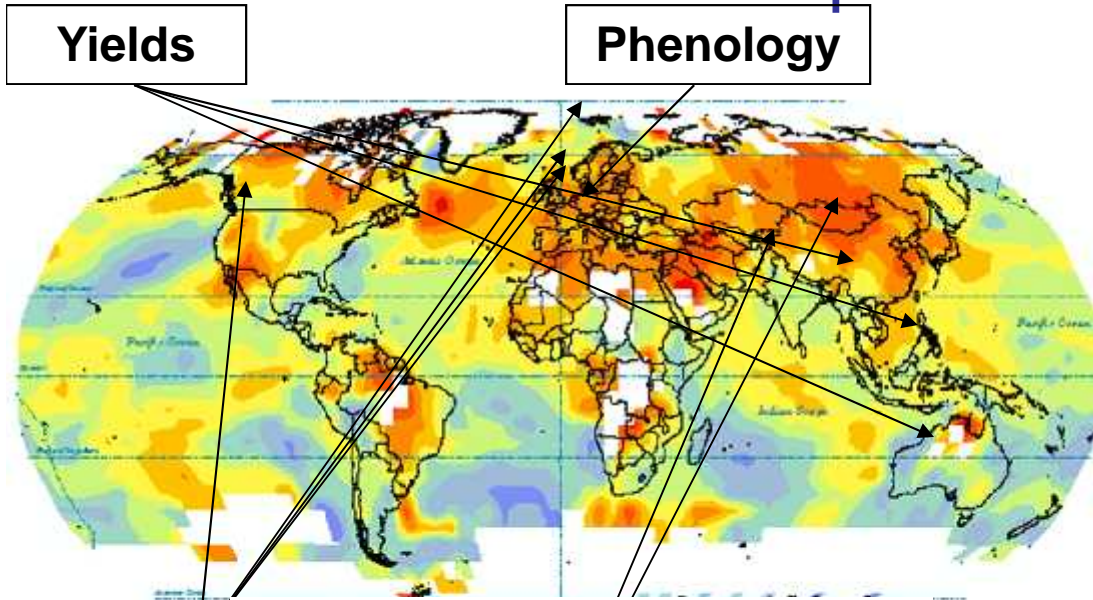
NASA/Goddard Institute for Space Studies



# Outline

- Biophysical responses of agricultural crops
- Data and models
- Adaptation
- Gaps and uncertainties
- Agricultural Model Intercomparison and Improvement Project (AgMIP)

# Observed Impacts on Agriculture

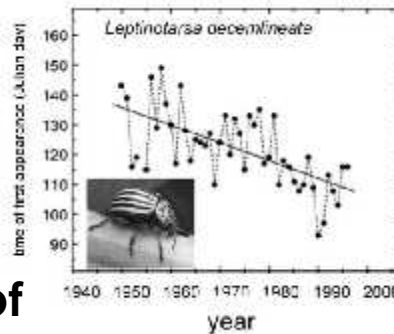
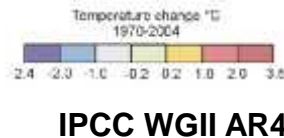


1973-2002 Annual temperature trends

Management practices, forest fires, earlier pests and diseases

<-1.2C to >1.2C

Livestock



In a six-decade long study at a biological research station in Spain, increasing earlier time of first appearance for the **potato beetle** was found.

Gordon and Sanz, 2005; Gutierrez et al., 2010

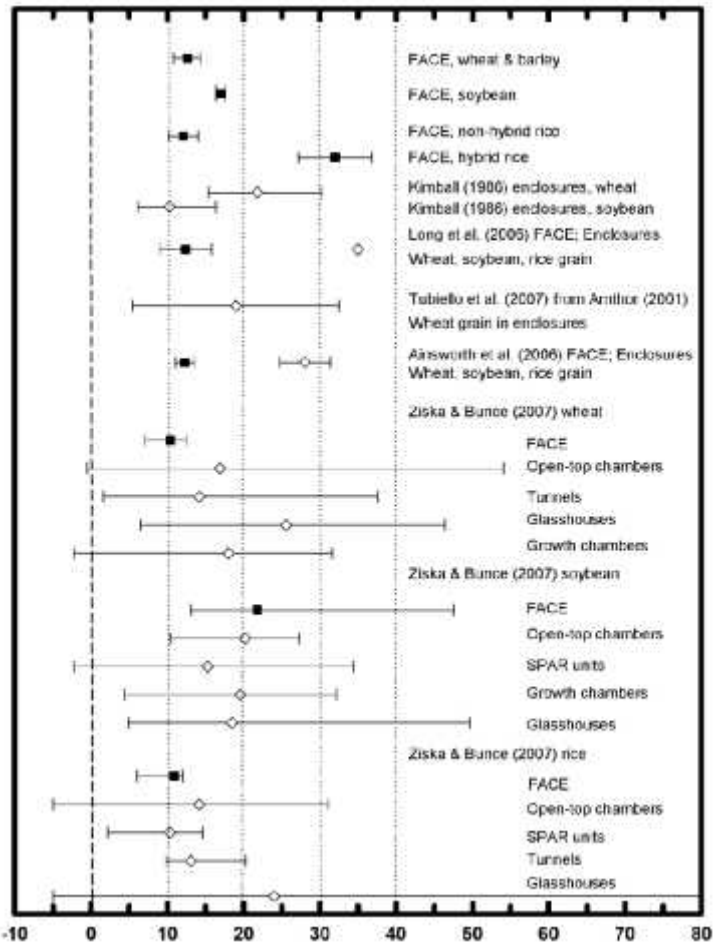
From AR4:

- High temperature effect on rice yield
- Earlier planting of spring crops
- Increased forest fires, pests in N America and Mediterranean
- Decline in livestock productivity

Since AR4:

- Growing season precipitation has decreased in food insecure regions of the western rim of the Indian Ocean (Funk et al 2008, Funk and Brown 2009)
- Longer growing season in Canada observed based on earlier start and later end (Qian et al 2010)
- Non-linear relationship between increasing temperatures and tropical maize yields in Africa (Lobell 2011)

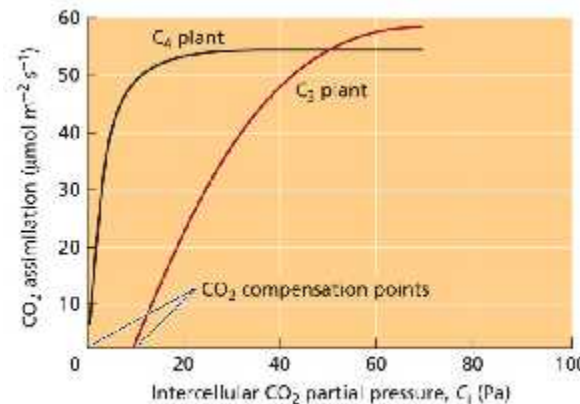
# CO<sub>2</sub> Yield Responses



Relative C3 crop yield changes due to elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (%)

Kimball 2010

- Biomass/yield with +200ppm increased by FACE in C3 species, but not in C4 except under water stressed conditions. Average C3 yield increase is ~16% in FACE.
- Low soil N often reduces these gains.
- Likely no significant difference in C3 grain crops response to elevated CO<sub>2</sub> between FACE and enclosure experiments.
- Important for simulation.



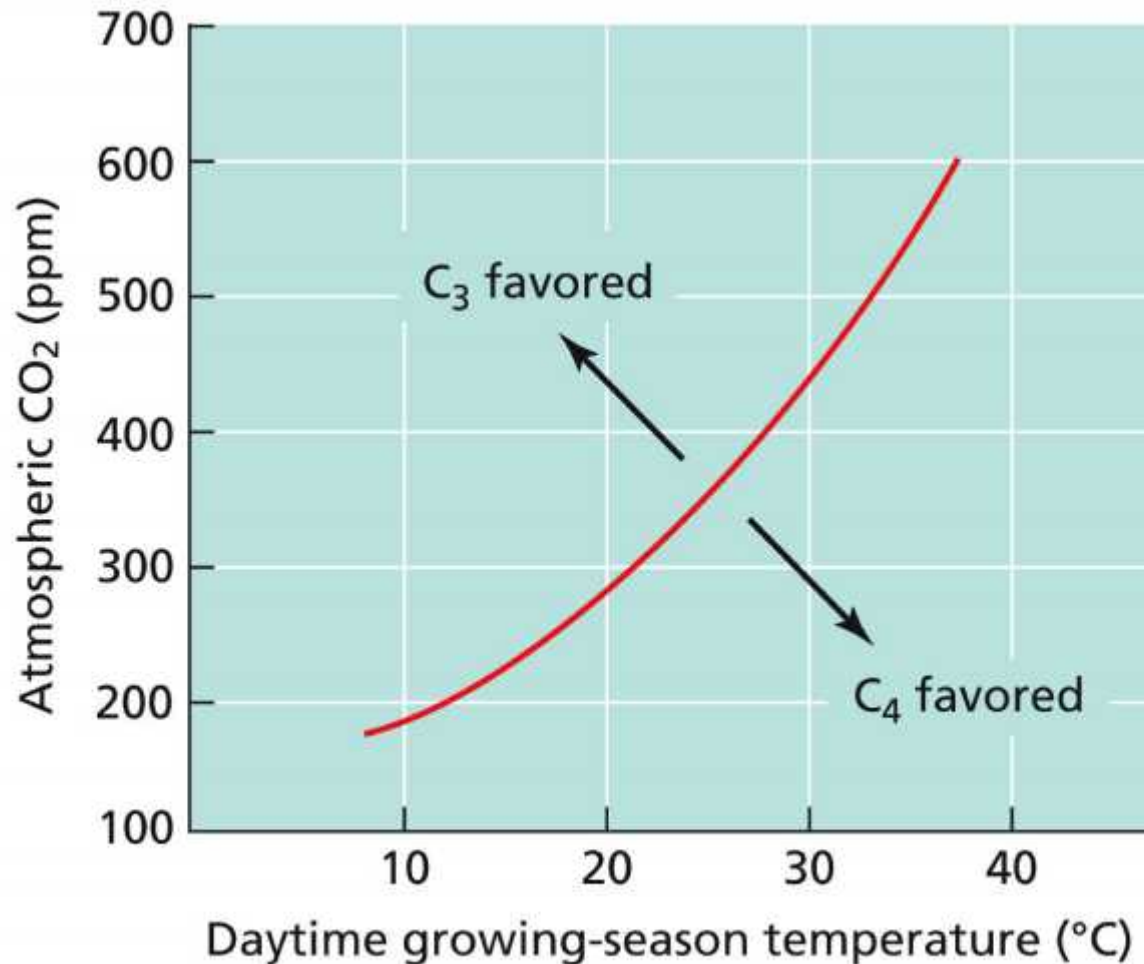
Photosynthesis response to CO<sub>2</sub>

C <sub>3</sub> Plants	C <sub>4</sub> Plants
Wheat	Corn
Rice	Sorghum
Soybean	Sugarcane
Barley	

# Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> can also favor weeds

Crop	Weed	Increasing [CO <sub>2</sub> ] favors	Environment	Reference
A. C <sub>4</sub> Crops/C <sub>4</sub> Weeds				
Sorghum	<i>Amaranthus retroflexus</i>	Weed	Field	Ziska (2003)
B. C <sub>4</sub> Crops/C <sub>3</sub> Weeds				
Sorghum	<i>Xanthium strumarium</i>	Weed	Glasshouse	Ziska (2001)
Sorghum	<i>Albutilon theophrasti</i>	Weed	Field	Ziska (2003)
C. C <sub>3</sub> Crops/C <sub>3</sub> Weeds				
Soybean	<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Weed	Field	Ziska (2000)
Lucerne	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Weed	Field	Bunce (1995)
Pasture	<i>Taraxacum and Plantago</i>	Weed	Field	Potvin and Vasseur (1997)
Pasture	<i>Plantago lanceolate</i>	Weed	Chamber	Newton <i>et al.</i> (1996)
D. C <sub>3</sub> Crops/C <sub>4</sub> Weeds				
Fescue	<i>Sorghum halapense</i>	Crop	Glasshouse	Carter and Peterson (1983)
Soybean	<i>Sorghum halapense</i>	Crop	Chamber	Patterson <i>et al.</i> (1984)
Rice	<i>Echinochloa glabrescens</i>	Crop	Glasshouse	Alberto <i>et al.</i> (1996)
Soybean	<i>A. retroflexus</i>	Crop	Field	Ziska (2000)

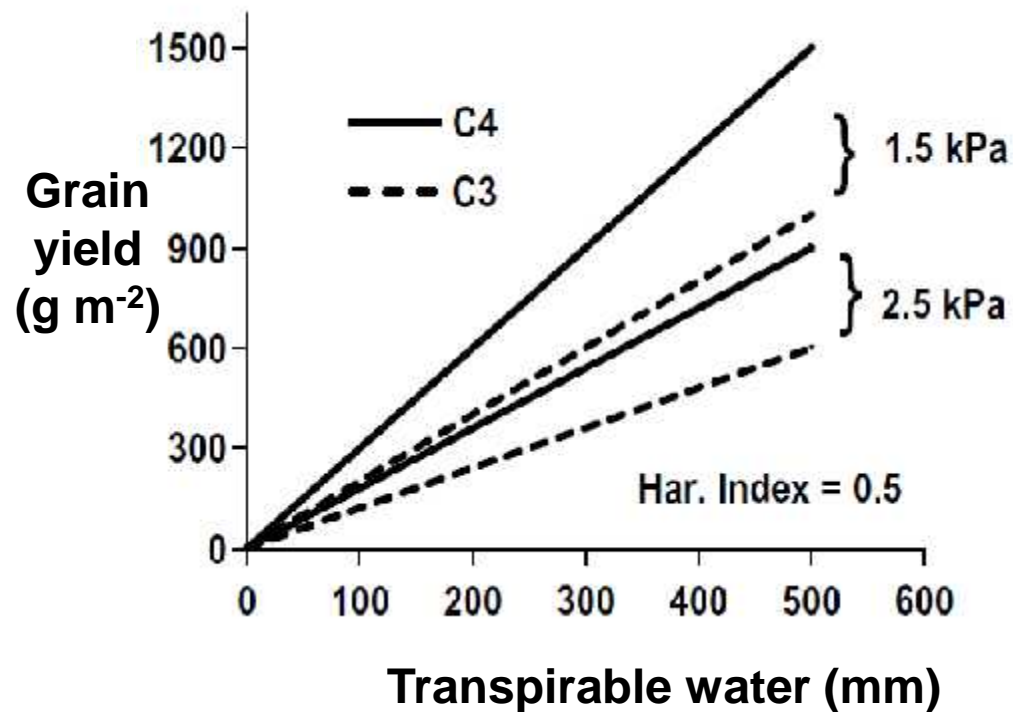
# Crop Response to Temperature



- Can shift photosynthesis curve positively
- Speed-up of phenology is a negative pressure on yield
- High-temperature stress during critical growth periods
- T-FACE experiments now underway.

PLANT PHYSIOLOGY, Fourth Edition, Figure 9.23 © 2006 Sinauer Associates, Inc.

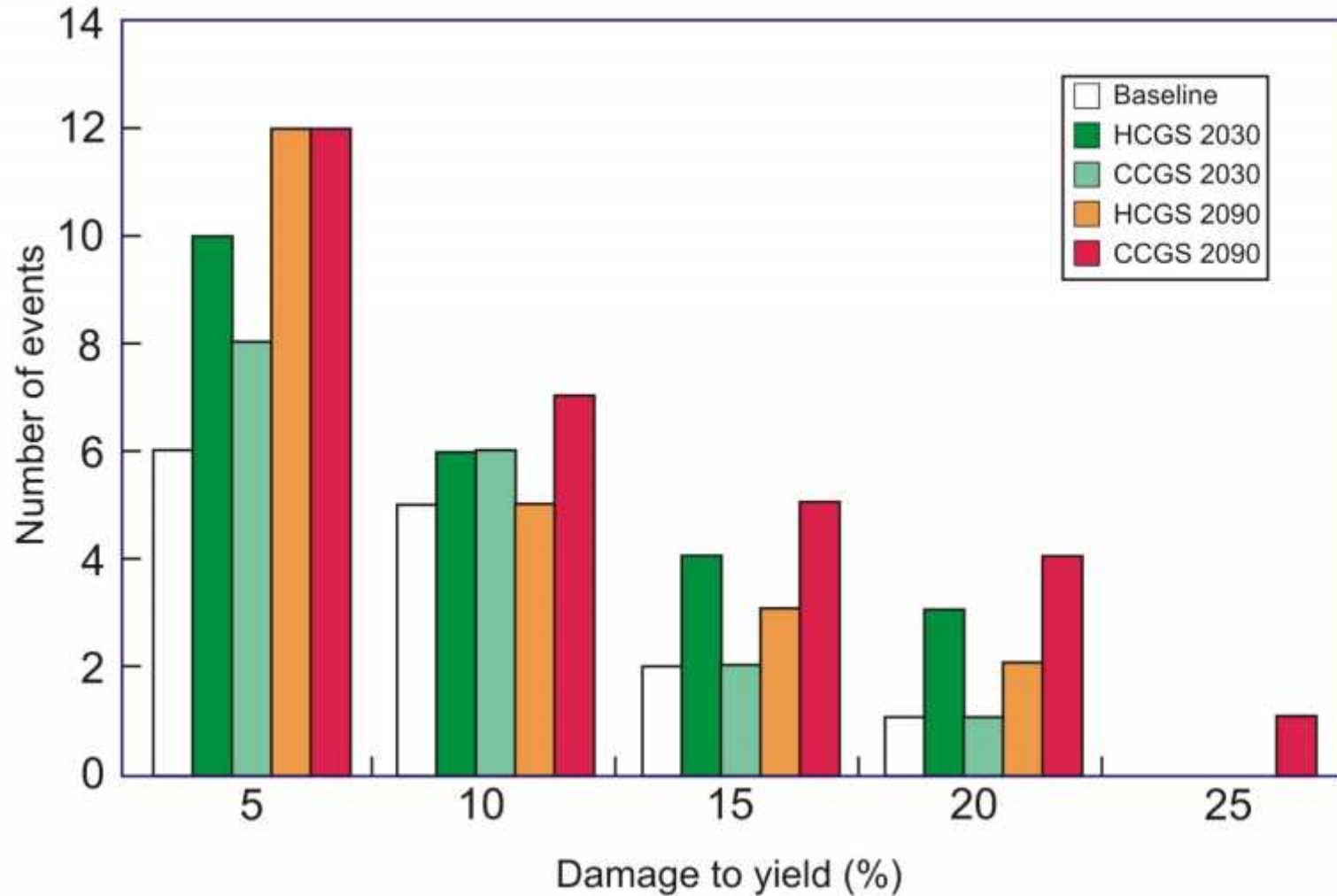
# Yield Response to Water Extreme events – Drought



- Crops need water – through precipitation or irrigation
- Drought stress affects yield during critical growth periods
- Excess water can be damaging as well

Maximum grain yield plotted as a function of the amount of transpirable soil water available through the growing season. Two vapor pressure deficit environments are presented. C4 crops favored at both higher and lower water stress.

# Extreme Events – Floods

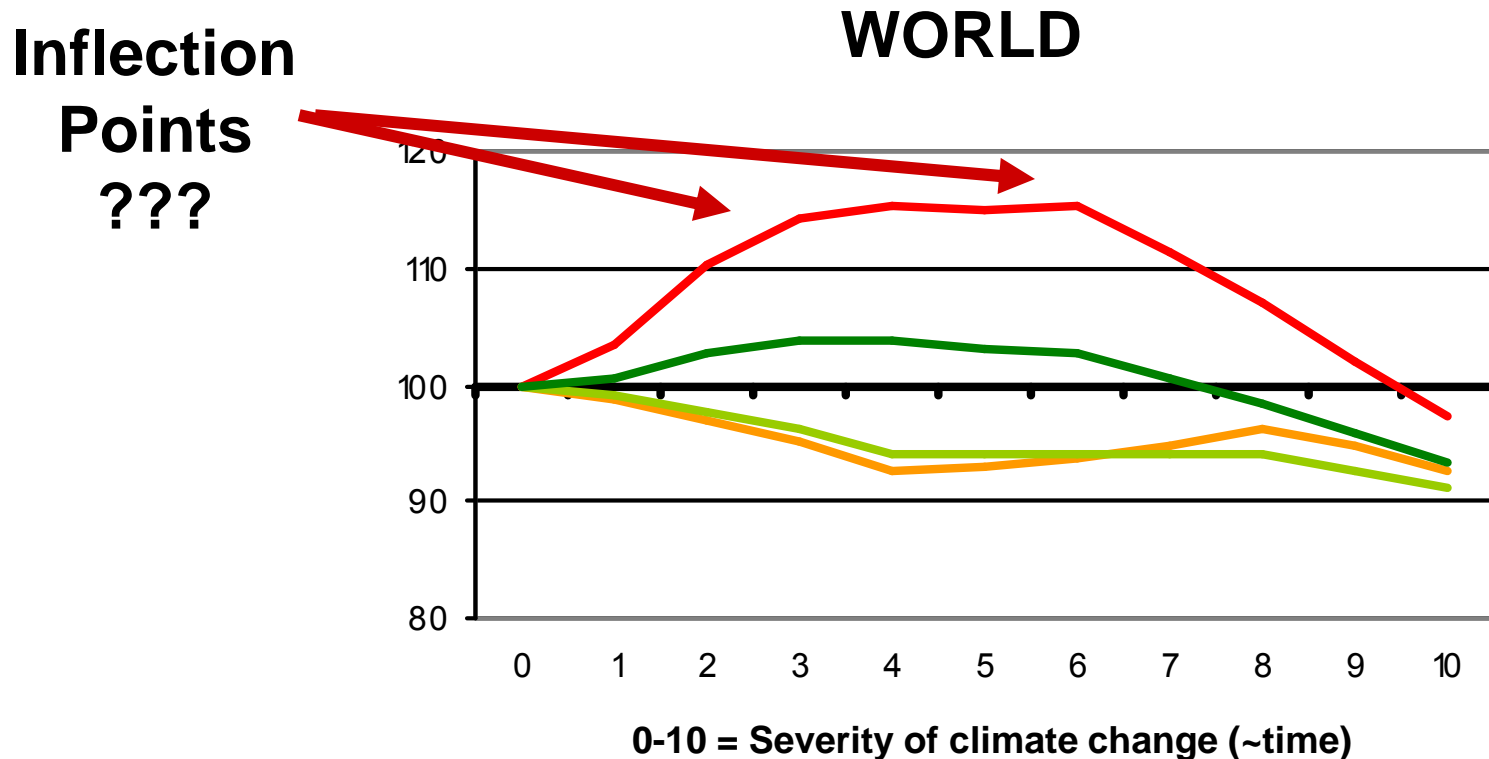


**Number of events causing damage to maize yields due to excess soil moisture conditions, averaged over all study sites, under current baseline (1951–1998) and climate change conditions. Events causing a 20% simulated yield damage are comparable to the 1993 US Midwest floods.**



# Global Effects of Climate Change are Positive in Short Term and Negative in Long Term

## Percent Change in Food Production Potential



- PRODUCTION potential with low crop response to CO2
- PRODUCTION potential with high crop response to CO2
- AREA EXTENT with low crop response to CO2
- AREA EXTENT with high crop response to CO2

# Statistical Approach

- Uses historical data to estimate statistical relationships between observed crop yields as a function of observed climate variables.
- Uses these relationships to project the yield impact of changes in climate.

## Advantages

**Relationships should integrate biophysical responses to climate variables; based on observations; data availability is improving.**

## Disadvantages

**The approach does not explain process-based changes; does not represent out-of-sample conditions; does not incorporate the effects of CO<sub>2</sub>.**

Data: yearly yield/aggregated 1° 4-hourly reanalysis, monthly, growing season, degree days climate; Spatial resolution: crop reporting districts; country level

# Expert System Approach

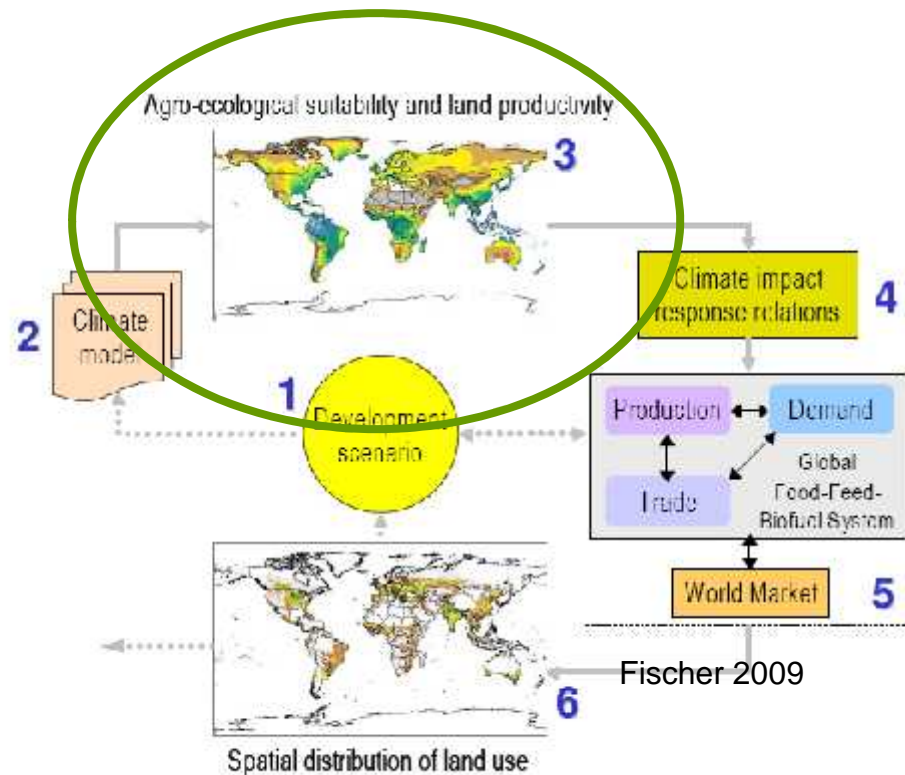
- Uses soil capability, climate, crop calendar, and simple productivity relationships to estimate production potential of agricultural systems.
- Use calculator to project effect of changes in climate on production potential.

## Advantages

Projects changes in both production potential and spatial extent of cropping systems; global extent.

## Disadvantages

Results not easily validated in current climate. Processes are represented by simplified relationships.



GAEZ Data: yearly yield/monthly climate; soils; crop calendars; ag systems; 11  
Spatial resolution 5'x5' lat/long

# Dynamic Process Crop Models

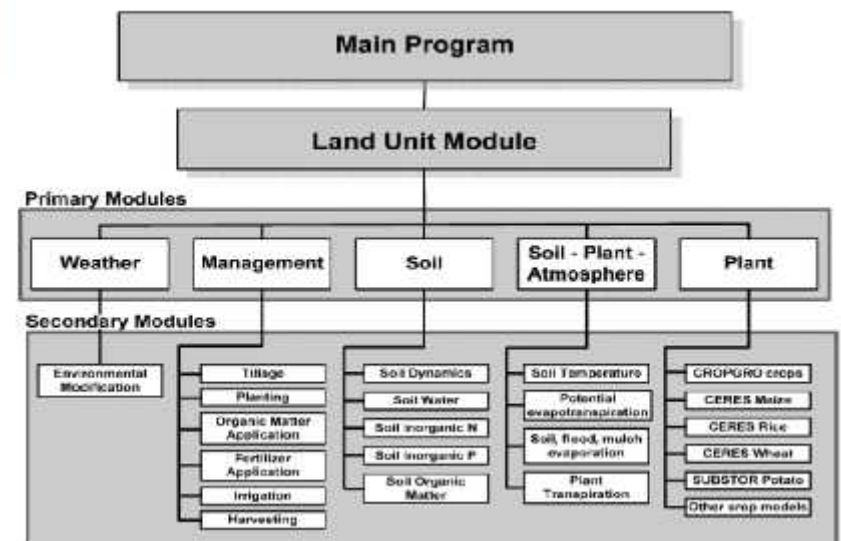
## Advantages

- Explicit simulation of processes affected by climate, including CO<sub>2</sub> effects on growth and water use.
- Management practices included.
- Cultivar characteristics can be tested for 'design' of adapted varieties.
- Testable with experimental field data.

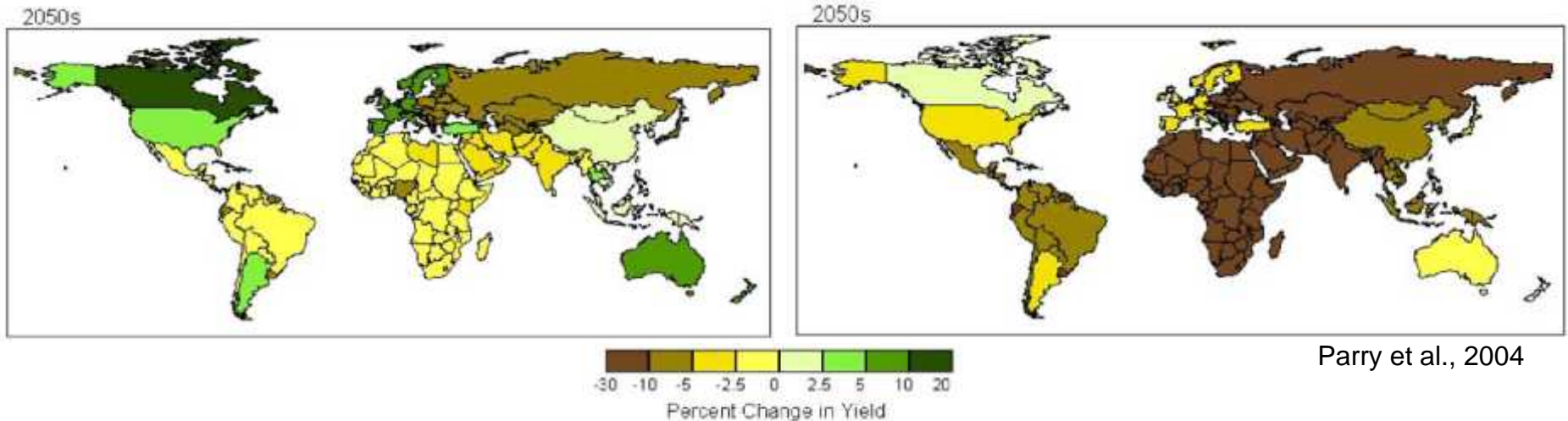
## Disadvantages

- Not all biophysical processes included.
- Aggregation from sites to regions challenging.
- Data availability varied.

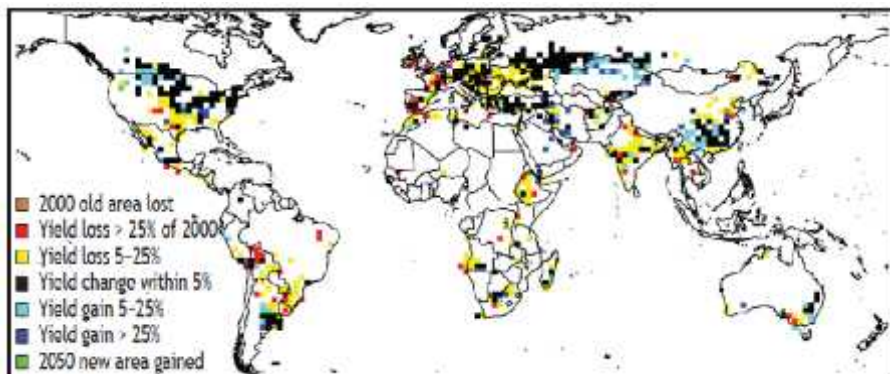
Data: daily T, P, SR; cultivar characteristics; soils, management; yearly yield  
Spatial resolution: Site-based; aggregated to regions, countries



# Projected Yield Changes 2050s



Potential changes (%) in national cereal yields for the 2050s (compared with 1990) under the HadCM3 SRES A2a scenario with and without CO<sub>2</sub> effects (DSSAT)



IFPRI 2011

Yield Effects with CO<sub>2</sub>, rainfed wheat  
 CSIRO A1B (DSSAT)

Parry et al.	-30% to +20%
IFPRI	-25% to +25%
GAEZ	-32% to +19%

GAEZ IIASA 2009 rain-fed cereals Hadley A2  
 North America -7 to -1%; Europe -4 to 3;  
 Central Asia 14-19%; Southern Africa -32 to -29

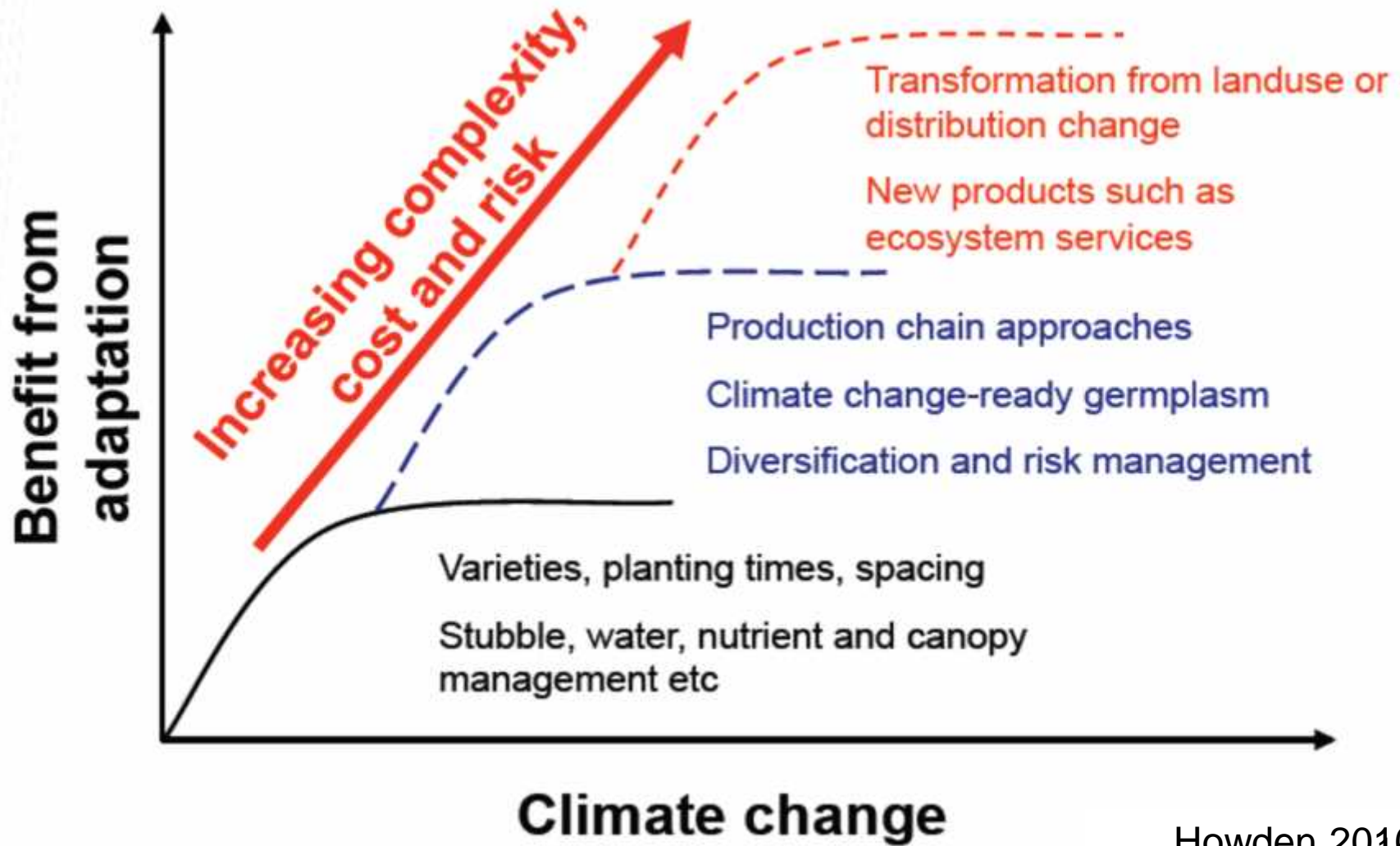
Schlenker & Lobel Africa multi GCMs  
 -22 to -2% statistical approach

13

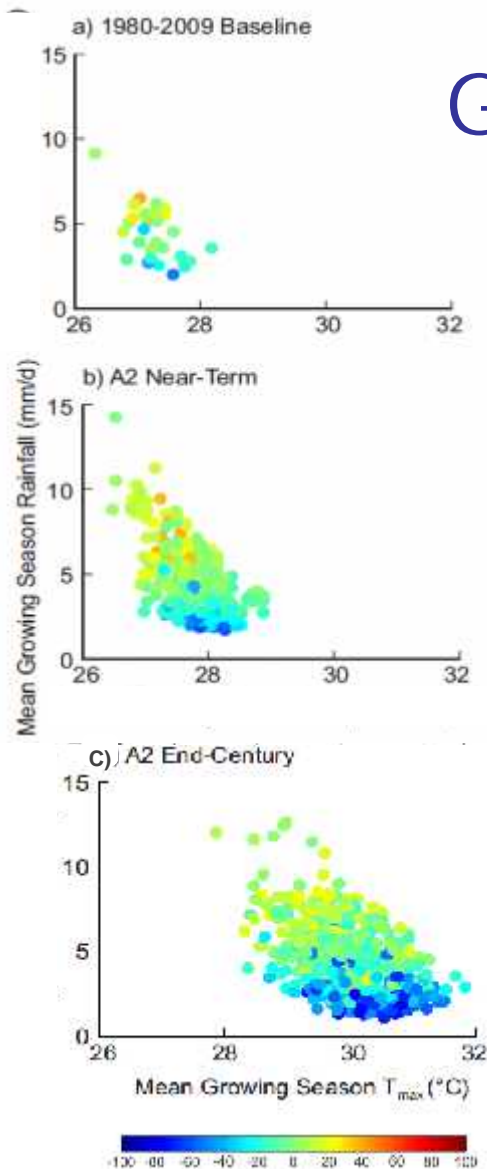
w/o adaptation

# Progressive Levels of Adaptation

## Challenges and Opportunities



# Gaps and Uncertainties



Simulated maize yield (as % change from 1970-1999 mean) sensitivity under constant CO<sub>2</sub> versus growing season temperature and rainfall. Los Santos, Panama. From Ruane et al 2012

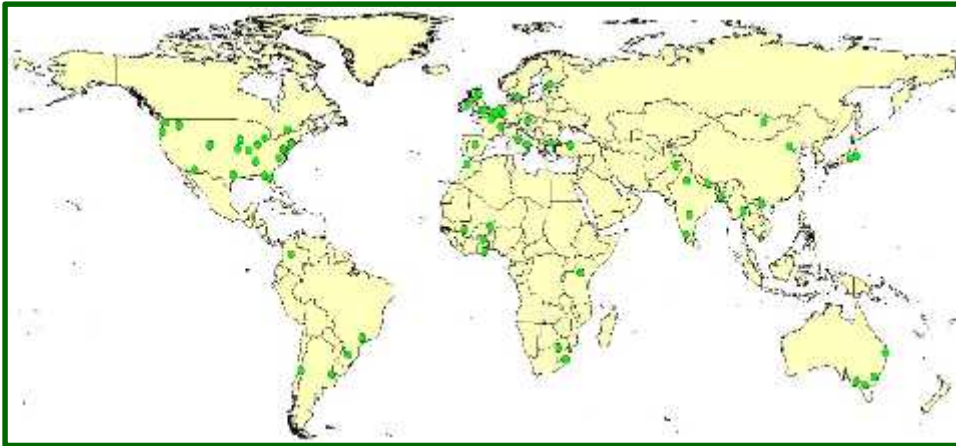
- **Precipitation – battle of T and P**
- **Models and methods are still constrained in their ability to simulate extreme weather events.**
- **The interactions of warmer temperature with CO<sub>2</sub> and ozone need continued experimental research and simulation development.**
- **Effects of changes in evapotranspiration on soil moisture and crop yield and wider interactions with water availability is poorly understood.**
- **Pests**
- **Scale of simulation influences results.**
- **Yield gaps and plateaus.**
- **Lack of multi-model comparisons and assessments.**



**AgMIP**

# AgMIP

The Agricultural  
Model Intercomparison  
and Improvement Project



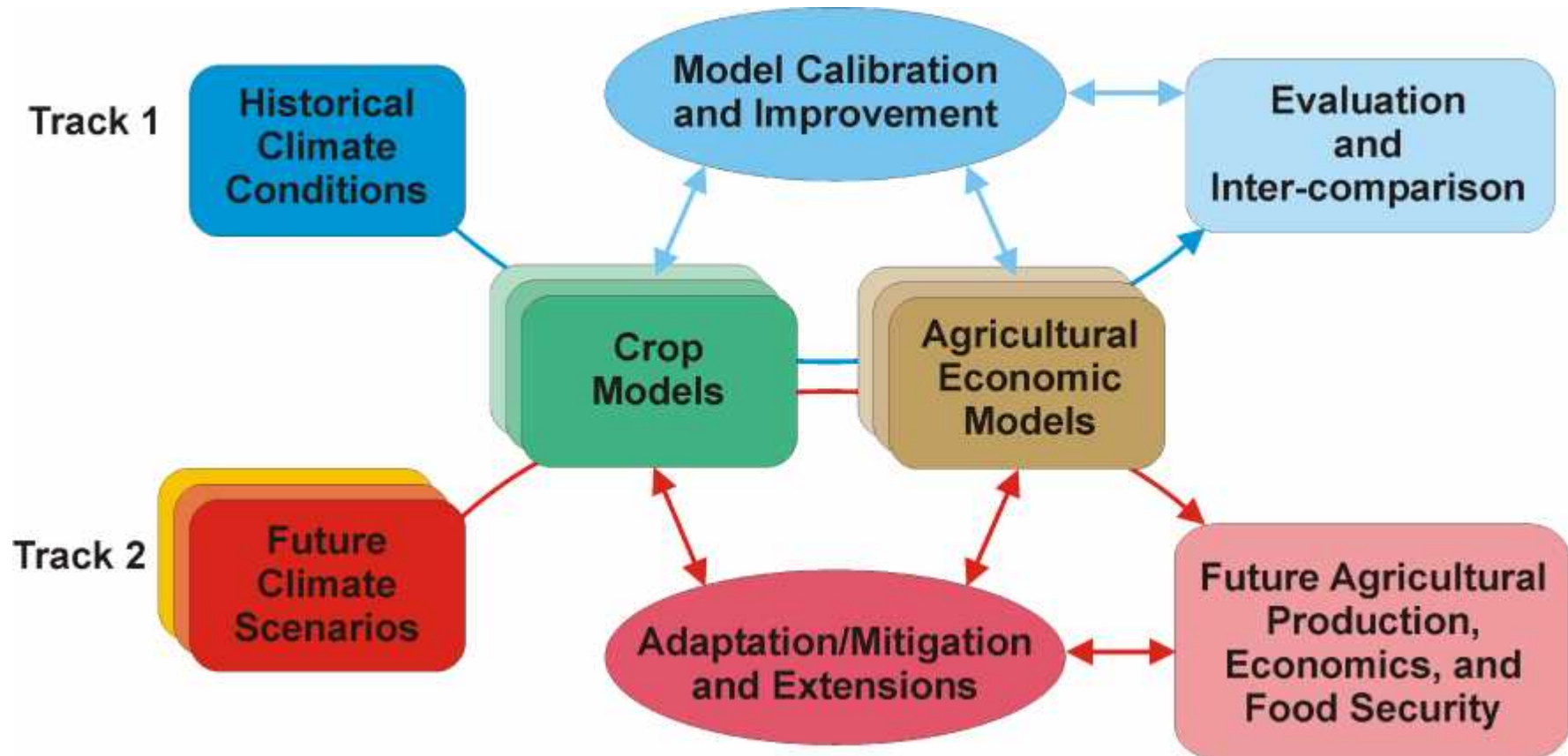
Website, forum, and list-serve  
<http://www.agmip.org>  
>270 members



Kickoff Long Beach CA Oct 2010  
Wheat Pilot Study Amsterdam April 2011  
South America Campinas Brazil Aug 2011



# AgMIP Two-Track Science Approach



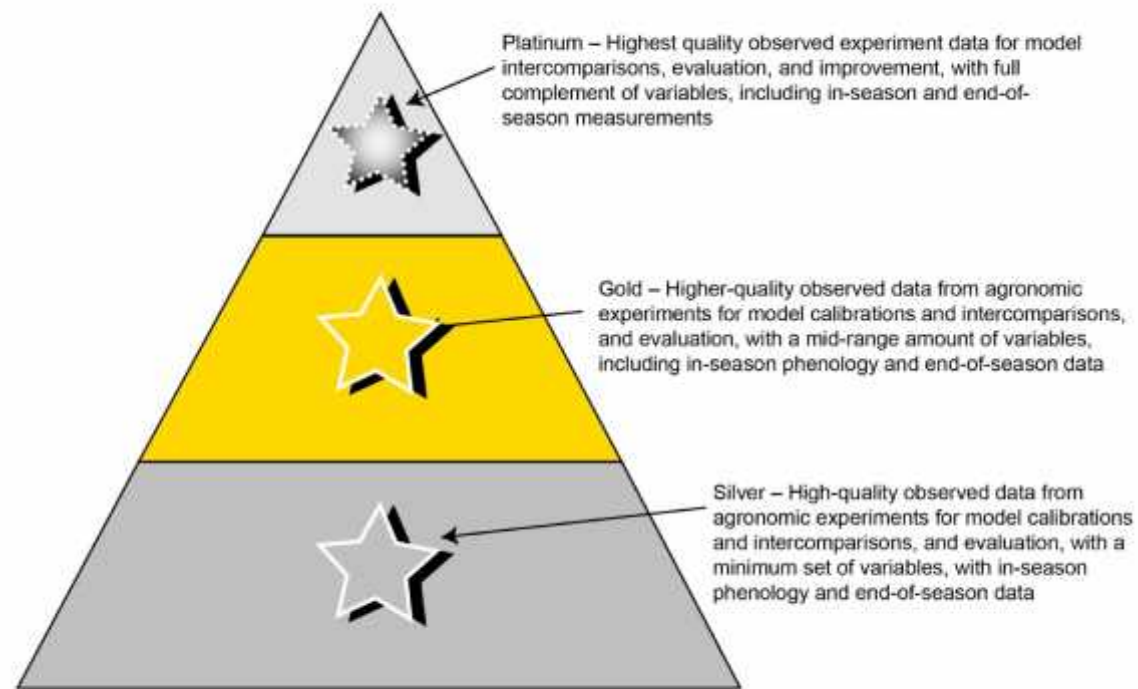
**Track 1: Model Inter-comparison and Improvement**

**Track 2: Coordinated Future Scenario Simulations**

**AgMIP Cross-Cutting Themes**

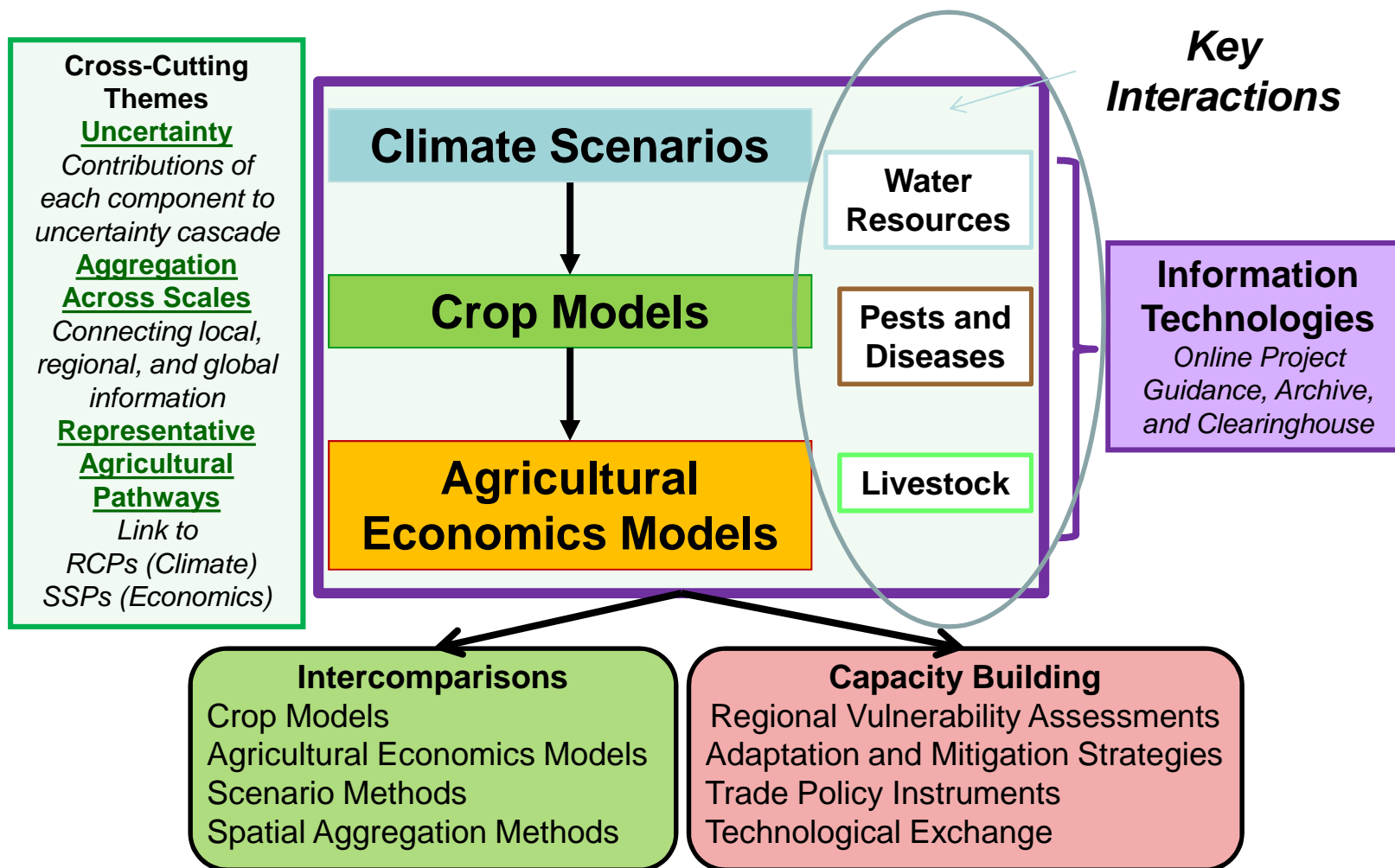
**Agricultural Pathways, Uncertainties, and Aggregation**

# AgMIP Sentinel Site Pyramid



The Sentinel Site Pyramid

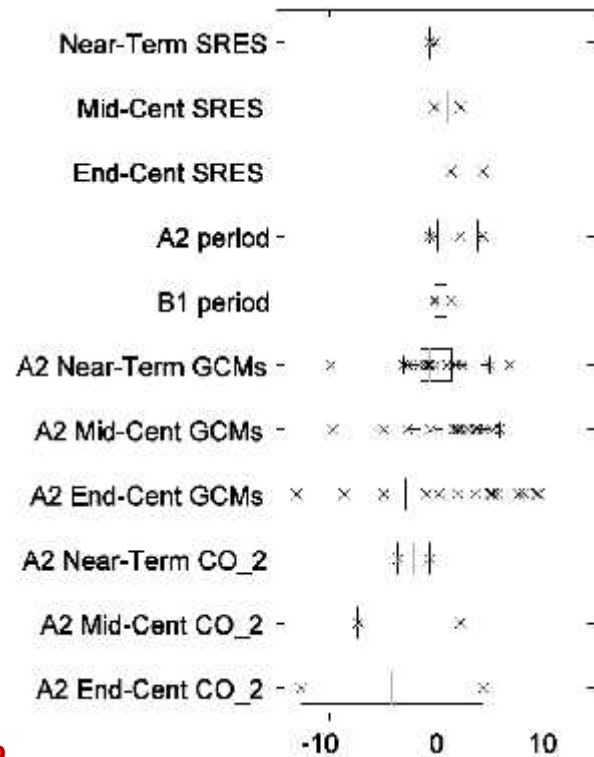
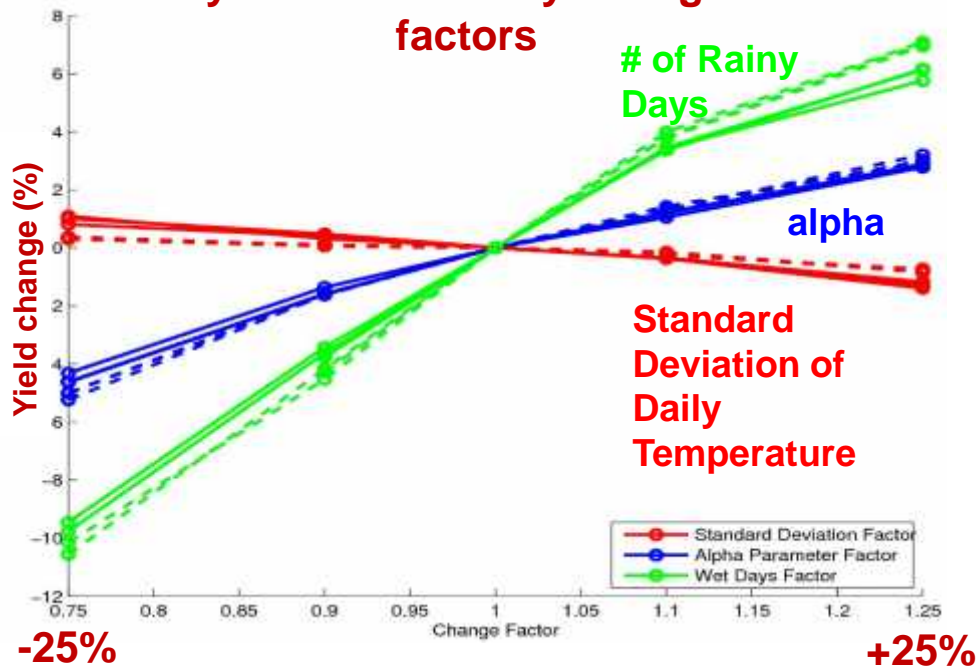
# AgMIP Teams and Linkages



# AgMIP Climate Scenarios Team

- Historical and future climate analysis for agricultural regions
- 30-year time-slices for near-term, mid-century, and end-of-century
- Ensemble GCMs and emissions scenarios (Representative Concentration Pathways - ready)
- Sensitivity to changes in temperature, rainfall, and [CO<sub>2</sub>]
- Focus on changes in daily and interannual extremes
- Comparisons of downscaling methods and weather generation techniques

**Sensitivity of SE USA Corn yield to variability change factors**

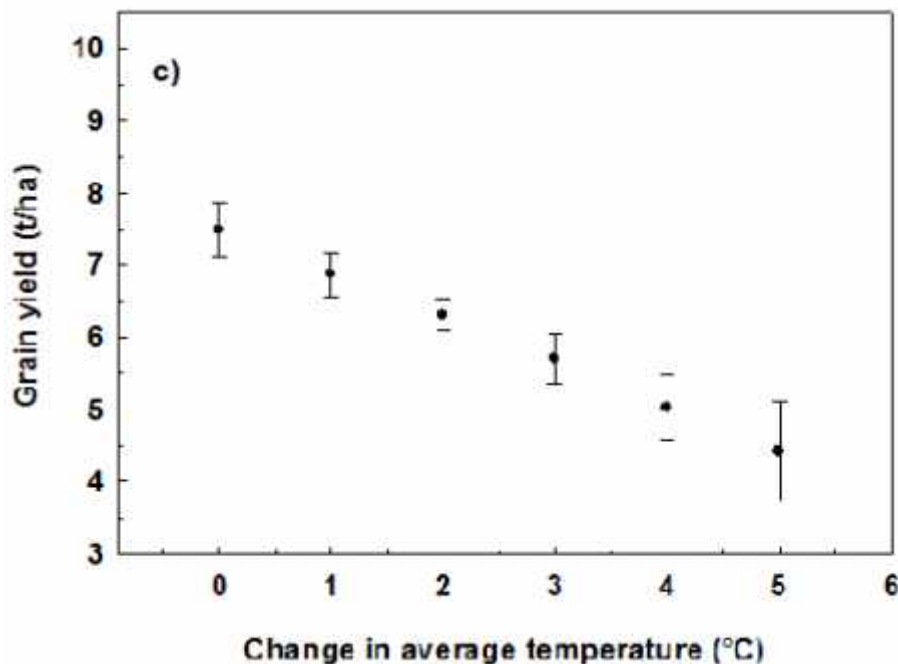


CERES-Maize simulations of Panama Maize Ruane et al., submitted

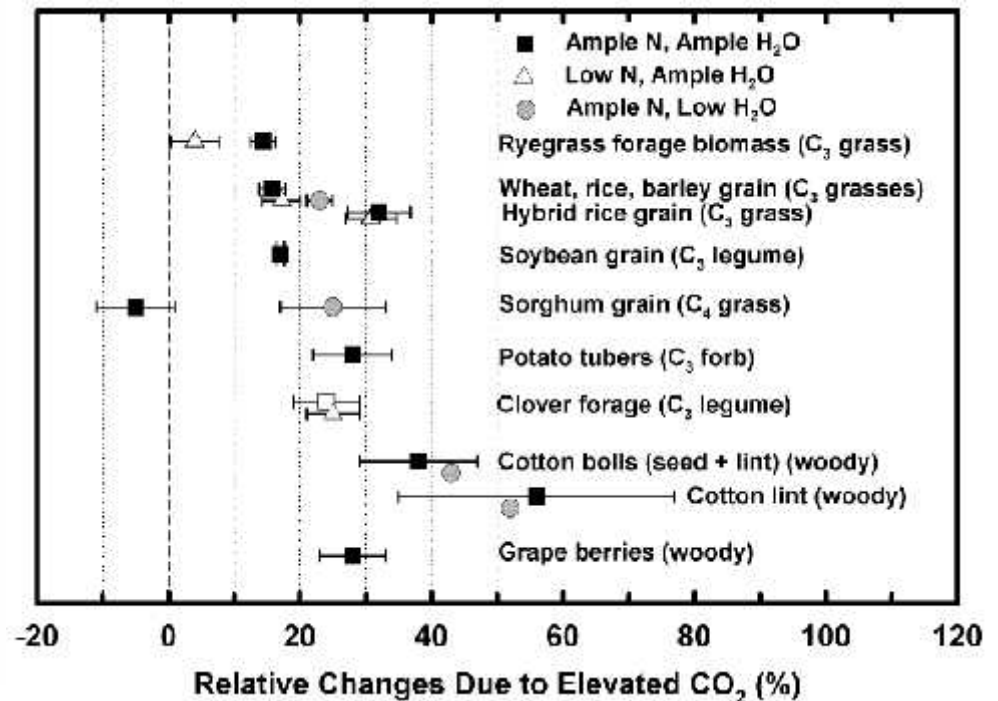
Uncertainty from many factors of climate information

# AgMIP Crop Modeling Team

- Process-based crop models to assess conditions that are outside of observed range
- Crucial to have multi-model intercomparisons
- Testing crop models with FACE CO<sub>2</sub> and temperature data
- Interactions between [CO<sub>2</sub>], rainfall, nitrogen, and temperature



Wheat at Obregon, Mexico 5 crop models  
Irrigated, no N-stress; Rosenzweig et al., 2011



FACE Yield response to +200 ppm CO<sub>2</sub>  
Kimball, 2010; in Hillel and Rosenzweig, 2010

# Next Steps for AgMIP

- **Activities**

- Economic Model Intercomparison
- UK DFID RFP for African and South Asian participants
- Regional activities
- Pilot intercomparisons of climate, crop, economic methods
- CORDEX agricultural impacts pilots
- Complementary programs

- **Regional and Global Workshops**

- Global Workshops just prior to ASA annual meeting (San Antonio, October 13-15, 2011)
- US National Climate Assessment FACE (Des Moines; 2011)
- Sub-Saharan Africa (Nairobi; January, 2012)
- South Asia (Hyderabad; February, 2012)



***For more information:  
visit [www.agmip.org](http://www.agmip.org) and join list-serve  
or contact Cynthia Rosenzweig and Alex Ruane  
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[aruane@giss.nasa.gov](mailto:aruane@giss.nasa.gov)***