



Biofortified and functional food: a healthy future?

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19 May 2011**

Agronomic Biofortification of Food Crops with Macro- and Micro- Mineral Elements

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**The University of
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School of Biosciences - UoN



University Park (UP)



Sutton Bonington (SB)



Semenyih, Malaysia (UNMC)

Food security

“Sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life for all”
(www.fao.org)

Hungry (2006):

872.9m energy-malnourished <1825 kcal d⁻¹

13.4% globally*

*“Hidden hungry” (i.e. higher risk of physiological disorders):
Vitamins and minerals, e.g.*

~50% Fe

~30% Zn

+ Se, Ca, Mg, I, Cu...

*Minimum daily energy requirement (MDER) assuming light work; FAO, 2006: <http://faostat.fao.org/>

Biofortification of food crops

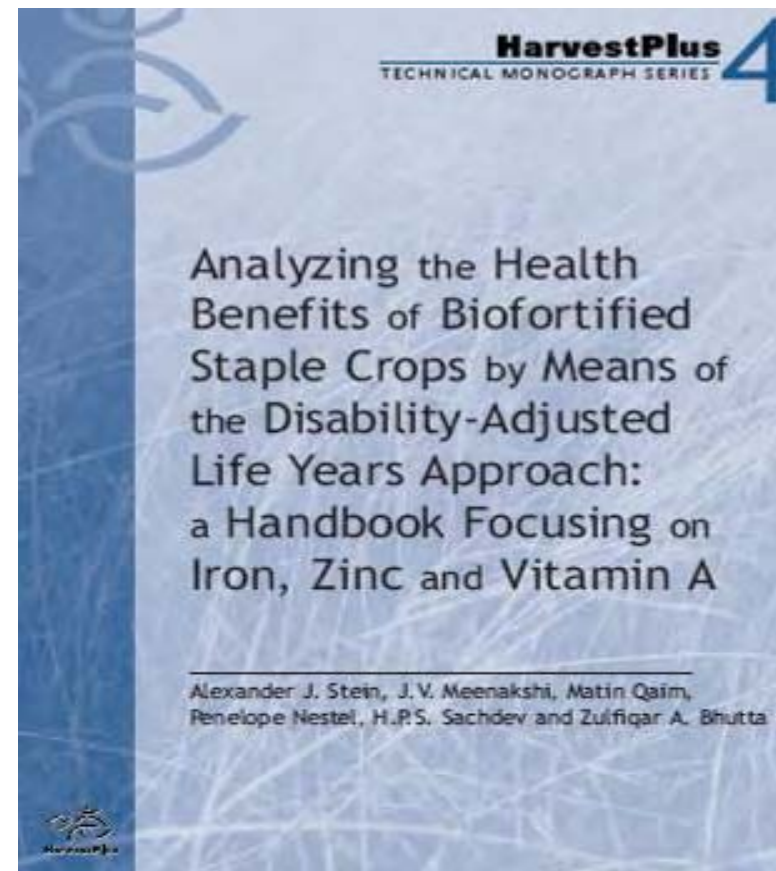
The process of increasing the bioavailable nutritional content of the edible portion of crop through:

breeding (*genetic biofortification*)

agronomy (*agronomic biofortification*)

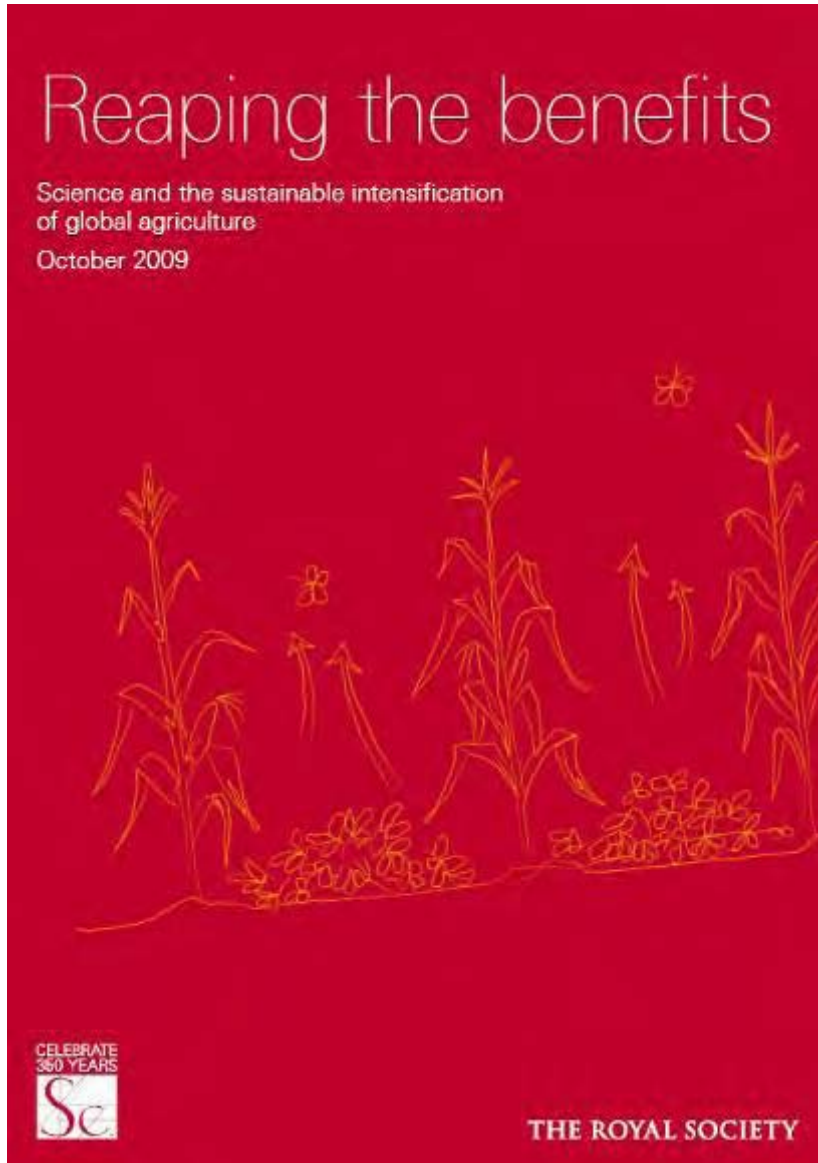


Biofortification of food crops



www.harvestplus.org

Biofortification of food crops



Oct. 2009

“The preferred strategy to eliminate hidden hunger... [is to] increase the diversity of diet with increased access to fruit and vegetables...

where the lack of infrastructure or other factors prevents [this], biofortified varieties may provide a good short-term solution”

Biofortification of food crops



HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT
PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

POSTNOTE

Number 367 November 2010

Biofortification of Foods



Overview

- Undernutrition is a significant global health burden.
- Biofortification uses selective breeding and/or genetic modification to increase the

http://www.parliament.uk/documents/post/postpn367_biofortification.pdf

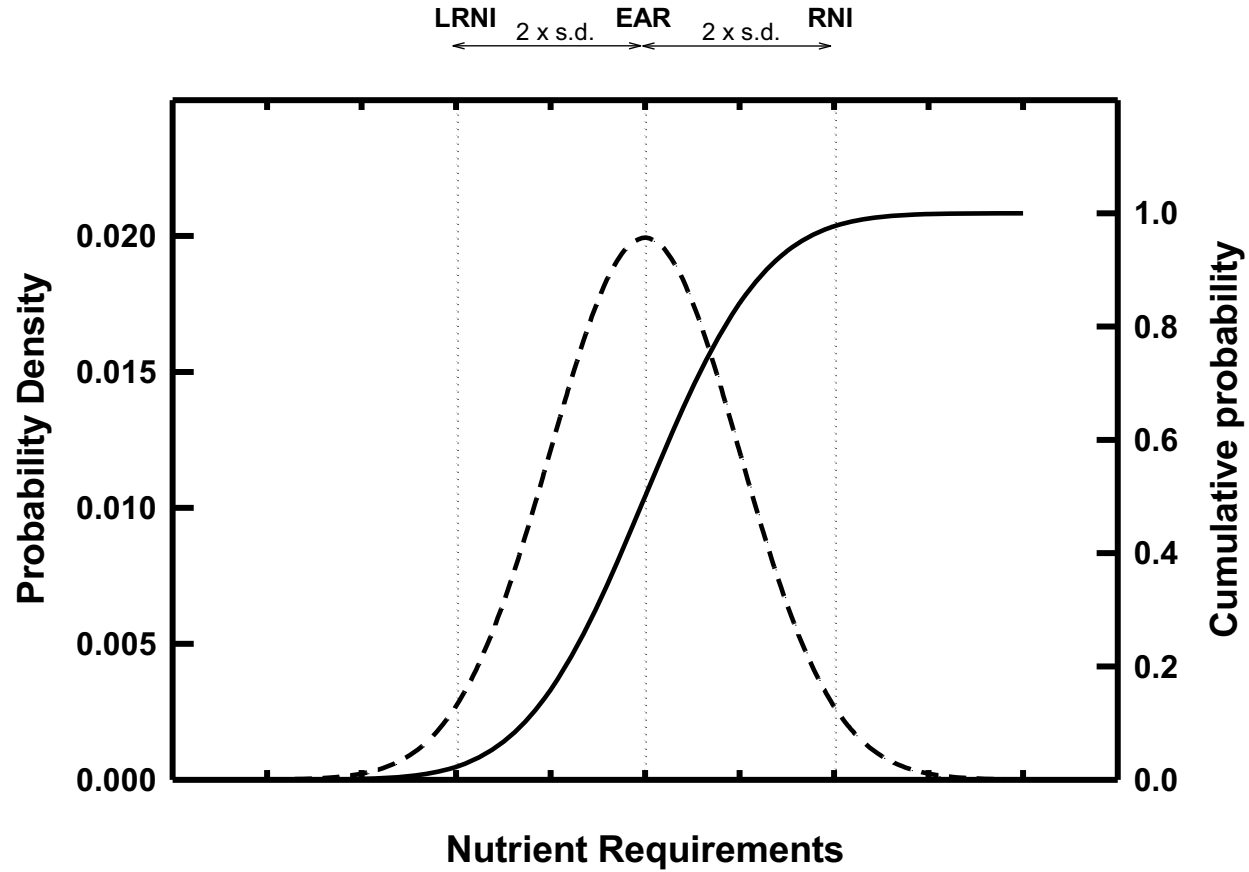
Mineral biofortification of food crops

Evidence of widespread mineral deficiencies in all countries

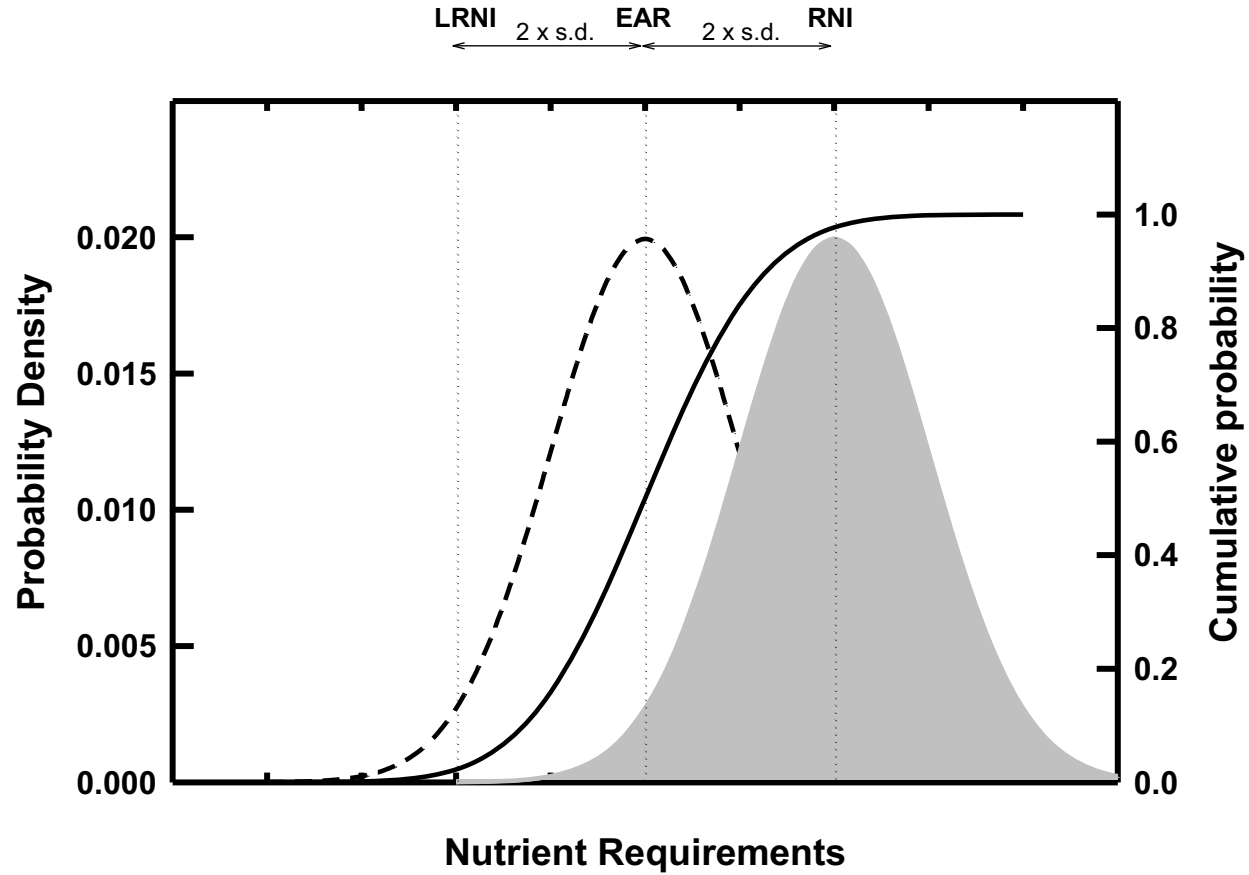
Dietary surveys (vs recommended intakes)

Tissue analysis (e.g. blood plasma, toenails etc.)

UK Dietary Reference Value (DRV) framework



UK Dietary Reference Value (DRV) framework



US Dietary Reference Intake (DRI) framework

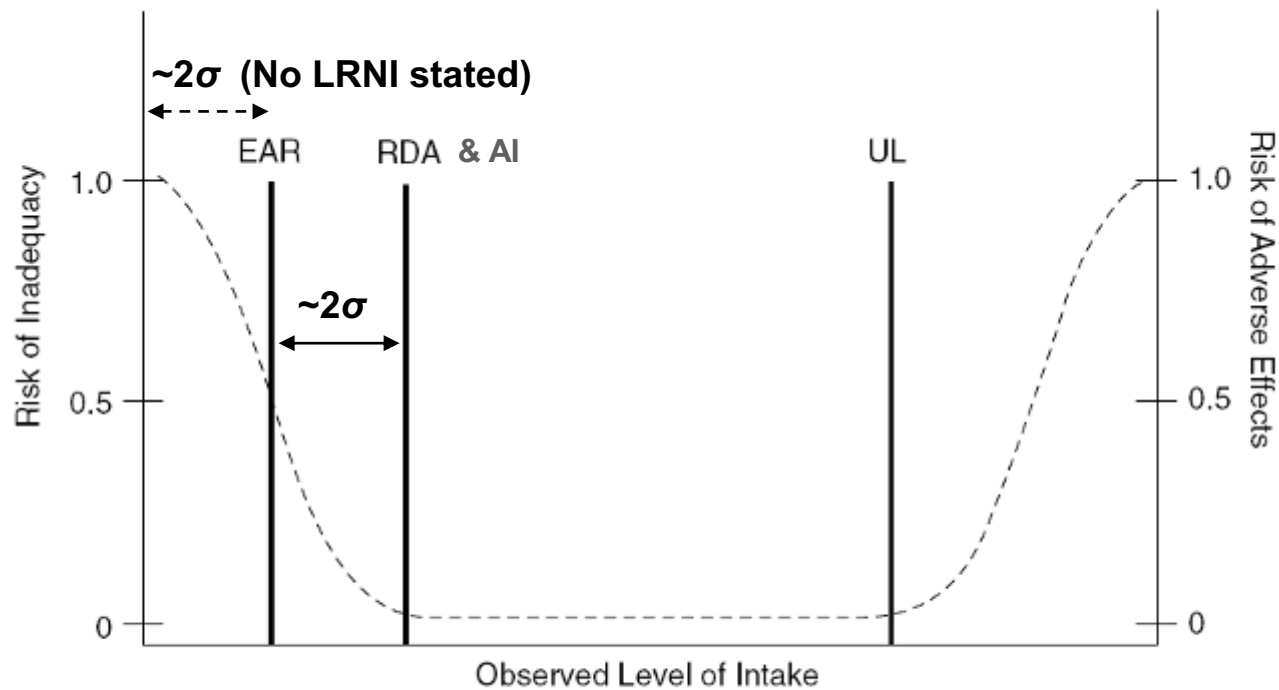



FIGURE S-1 Dietary reference intakes. This figure shows that the Estimated Average Requirement (EAR) is the intake at which the risk of inadequacy is 0.5 (50%) to an individual. The Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) is the intake at which the risk of inadequacy is very small—only 0.02 to 0.03 (2 to 3%). The Adequate Intake (AI) does not bear a consistent relationship to the EAR or the RDA because it is set without being able to estimate the average requirement. It is assumed that the AI is at or above the RDA if one could be calculated. At intakes between the RDA and the Tolerable Upper Intake Level (UL), the risks of inadequacy and of excess are both close to 0. At intakes above the UL, the risk of adverse effect may increase.

Compare DRV/DRIs with UK & US dietary intake surveys

	Volume 3
The National Diet & Nutrition Survey: adults aged 19 to 64 years Vitamin and mineral intake and urinary analytes	

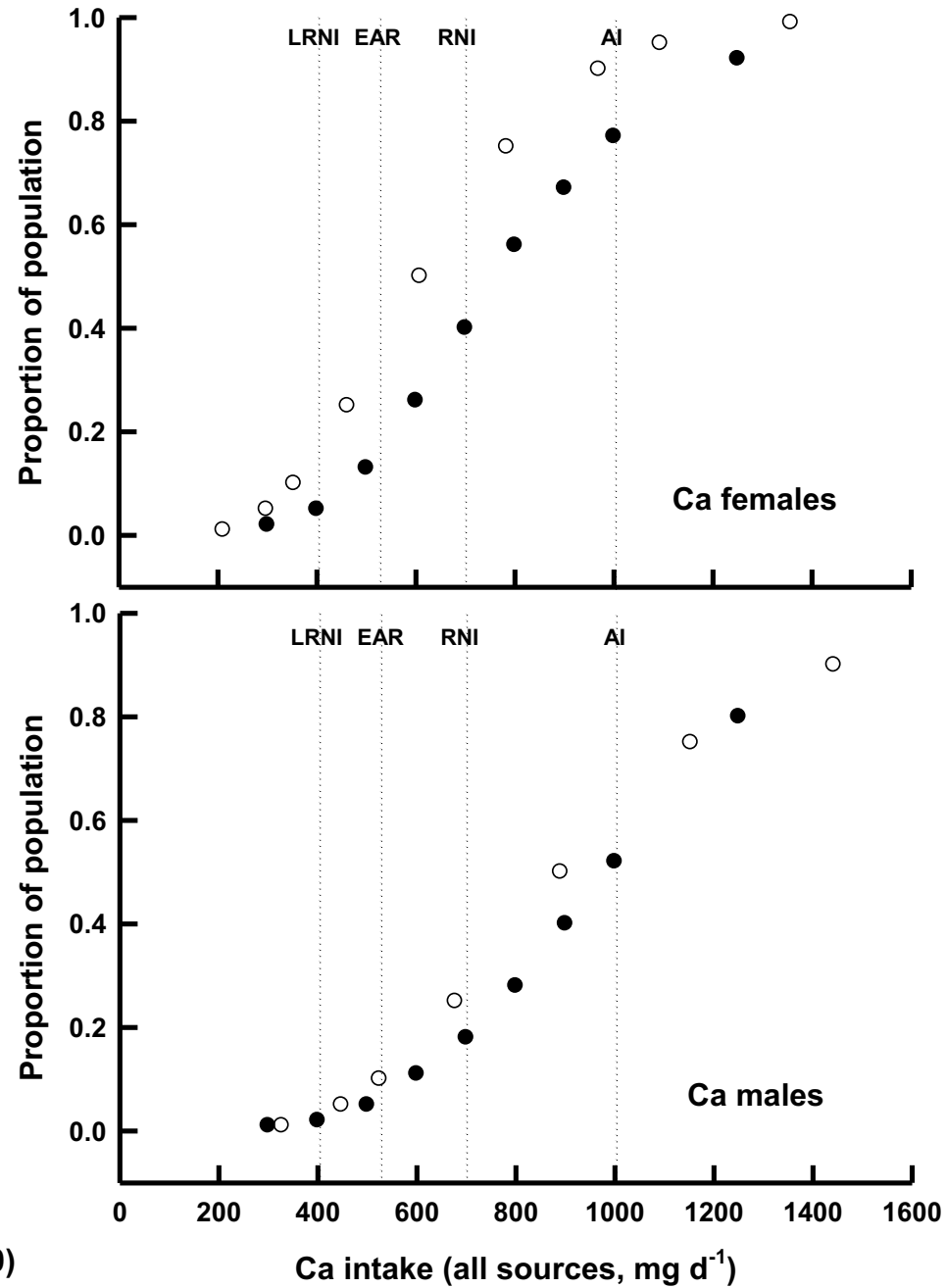
<p>DRI DIETARY REFERENCE INTAKES FOR <i>Calcium, Phosphorus, Magnesium, Vitamin D, and Fluoride</i></p> <p>Standing Committee on the Scientific Evaluation of Dietary Reference Intakes Food and Nutrition Board Institute of Medicine</p>
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2003/2004

1997/2005

Ca intake (survey)

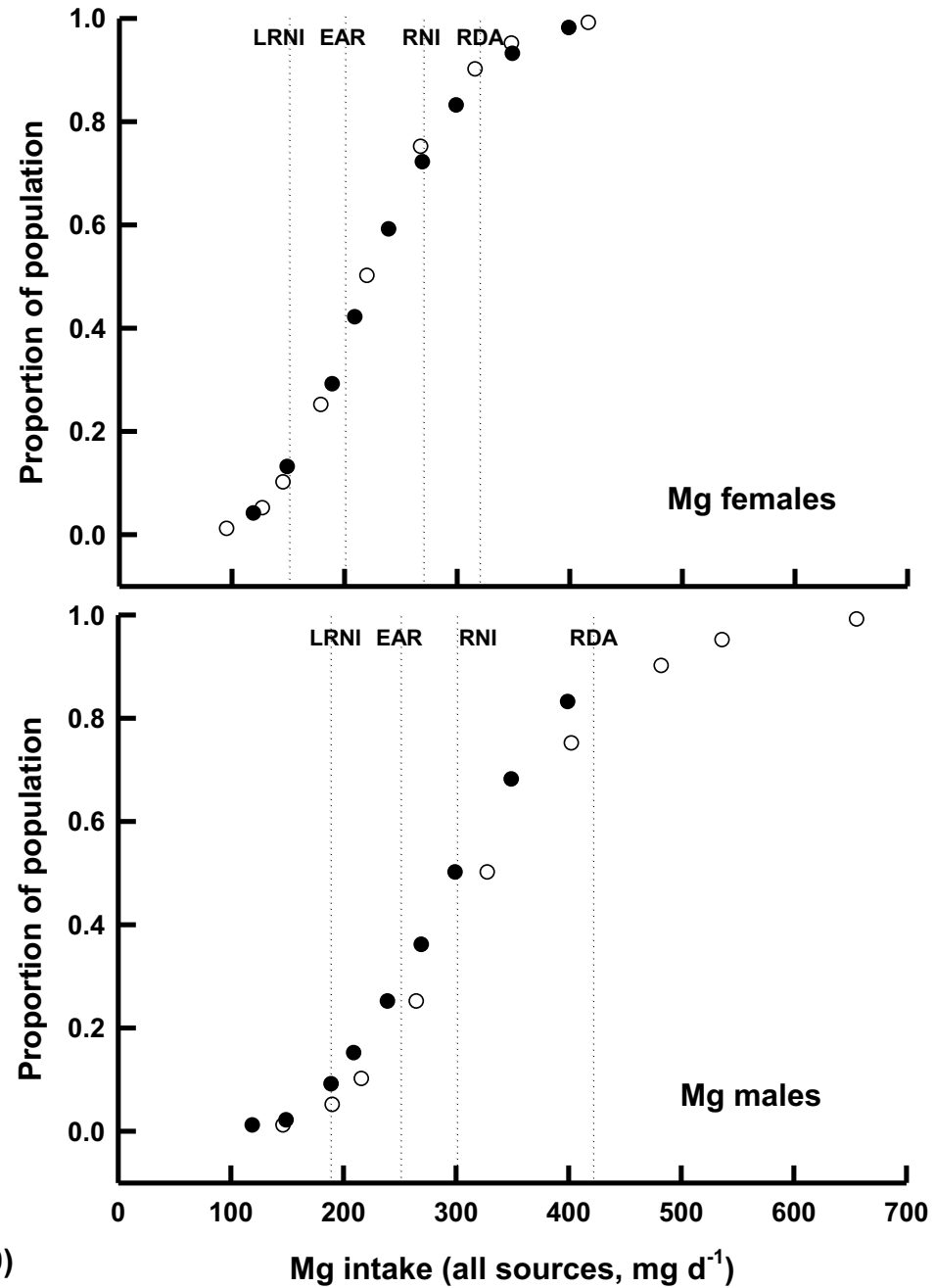
- UK
- US



Broadley MR, White PJ. (2010)

Mg intake (survey)

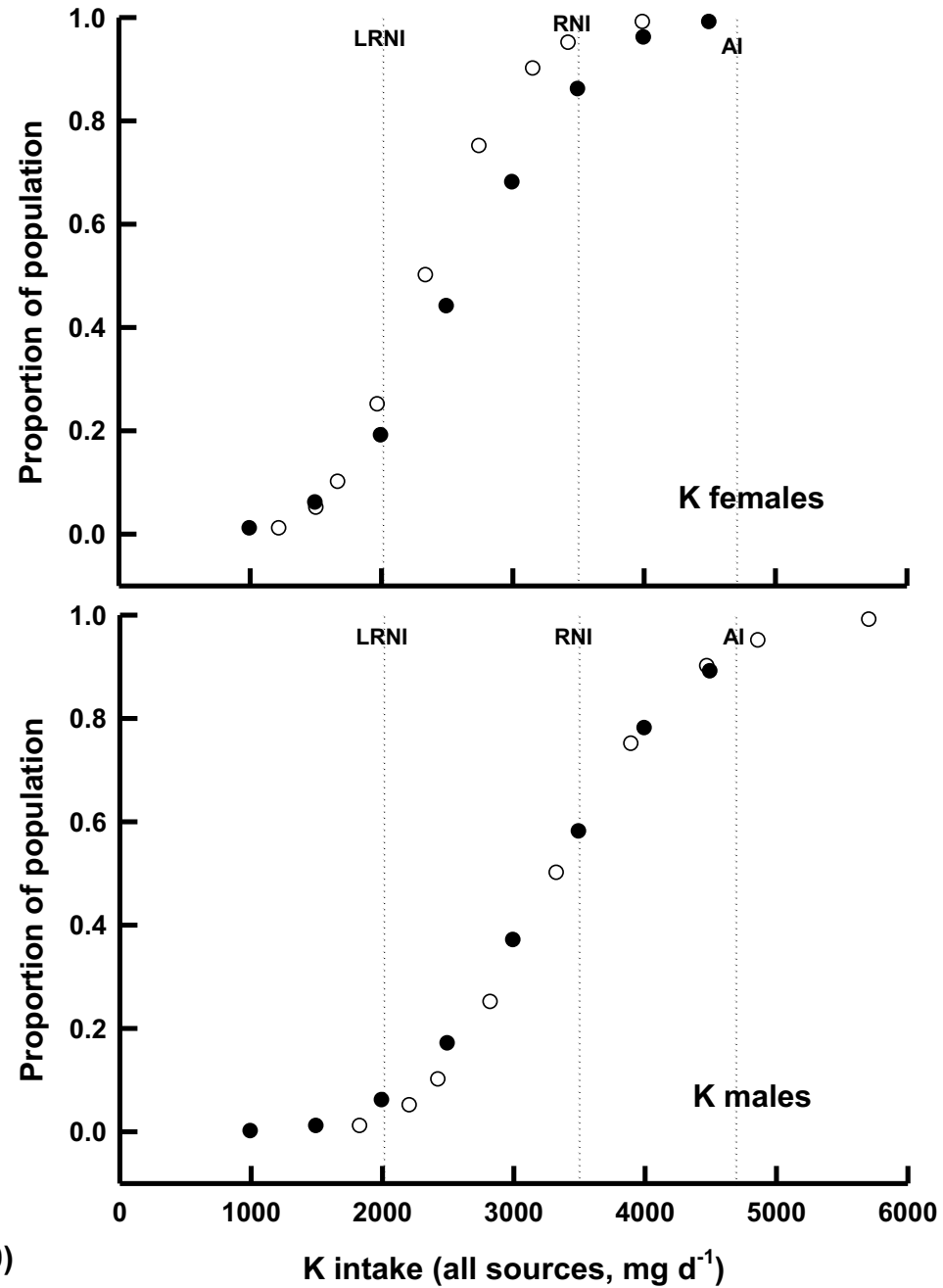
- UK
- US



Broadley MR, White PJ. (2010)

K intake (survey)

- UK
- US



Suboptimal mineral intake is widespread



Ca-deficient: 25.5m UK & US adults (esp. US women) = 8.8%

Mg-deficient: 25.5m UK & US adults (esp. women) = 8.8%

K-deficient: 40.2m UK & US adults (esp. women) = 14.6%

Broadley MR, White PJ. (2010). Eats roots and leaves. Can edible horticultural crops address dietary calcium, magnesium and potassium deficiencies? *Proceedings of the Nutrition Society*, **69**, 601-612.

Mineral deficiencies are widespread

Table 2. UK and US adults at risk of sub-optimal Ca, Mg and K intake based on dietary surveys⁽⁵⁻⁸⁾

	Intakes <UK LRNI		Intakes <UK RNI	
	%	× 10 ^{6*}	%	× 10 ⁶
Ca				
UK females	5	1.2	40	9.6
UK males	2	0.5	18	4.3
US females	16	19.7	63	75.7
US males	3	4.1	28	33.1
Total		25.4		122.8
Mg				
UK females	13	3.1	72	17.3
UK males	9	2.2	50	12.0
US females	12	14.0	76	90.6
US males	5	6.0	39	46.3
Total		25.3		166.2
K				
UK females	19	4.6	86	20.6
UK males	6	1.4	58	13.9
US females	27	32.0	96	114.6
US males	3	3.4	58	69.0
Total		41.4		218.2

RNI, reference nutrient intake; LRNI, lower RNI.

*Assuming 48 and 240 million UK and US adults, respectively, 50:50 males: females.

Mineral deficiencies are widespread... why?

UK / US not energy restricted (trade and production)

US = 1st (3830 kcal d⁻¹)

UK = 16th (3440 kcal d⁻¹)

UK / US diets “diverse” in theory (non-starchy foods)

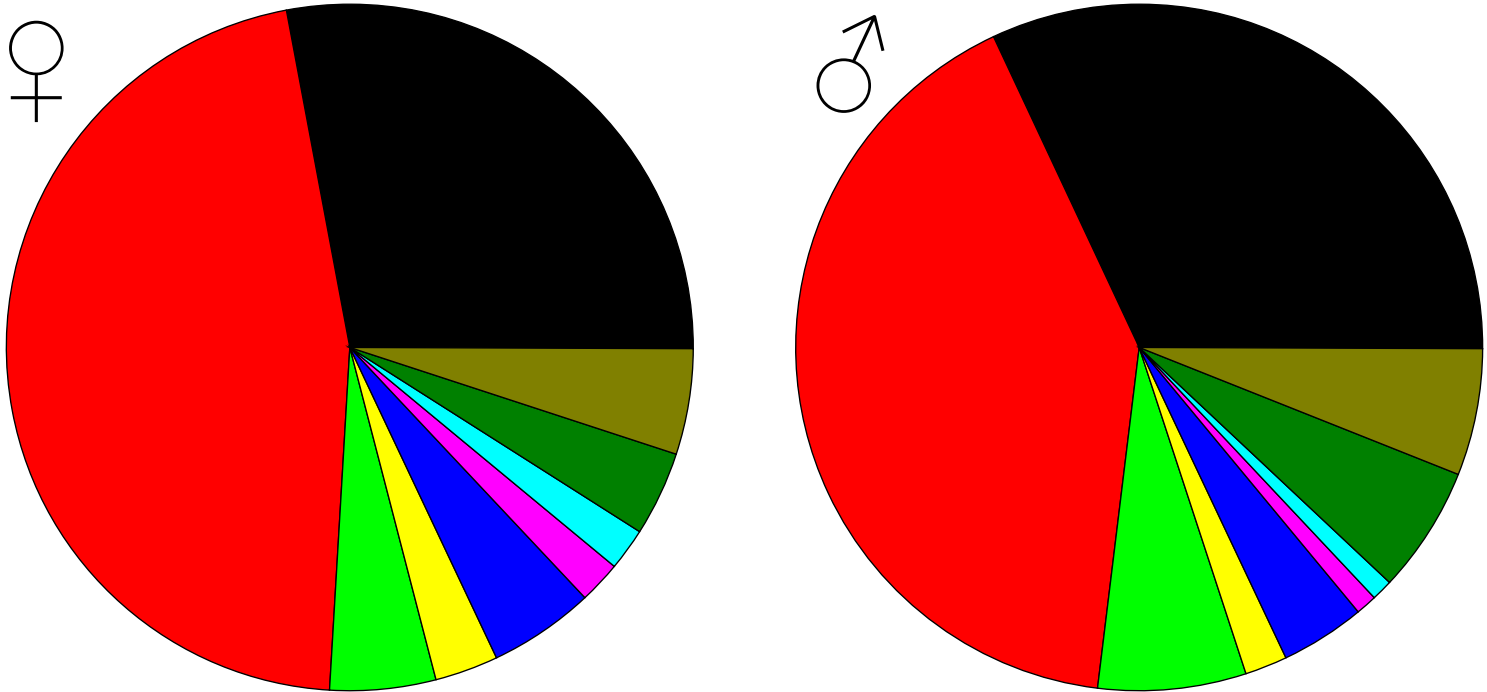
...but UK mean (median) fruit + veg. portions d⁻¹

♀ = 2.9 (2.4)

♂ = 2.7 (2.2)

Dietary sources of minerals

Calcium intake (UK)

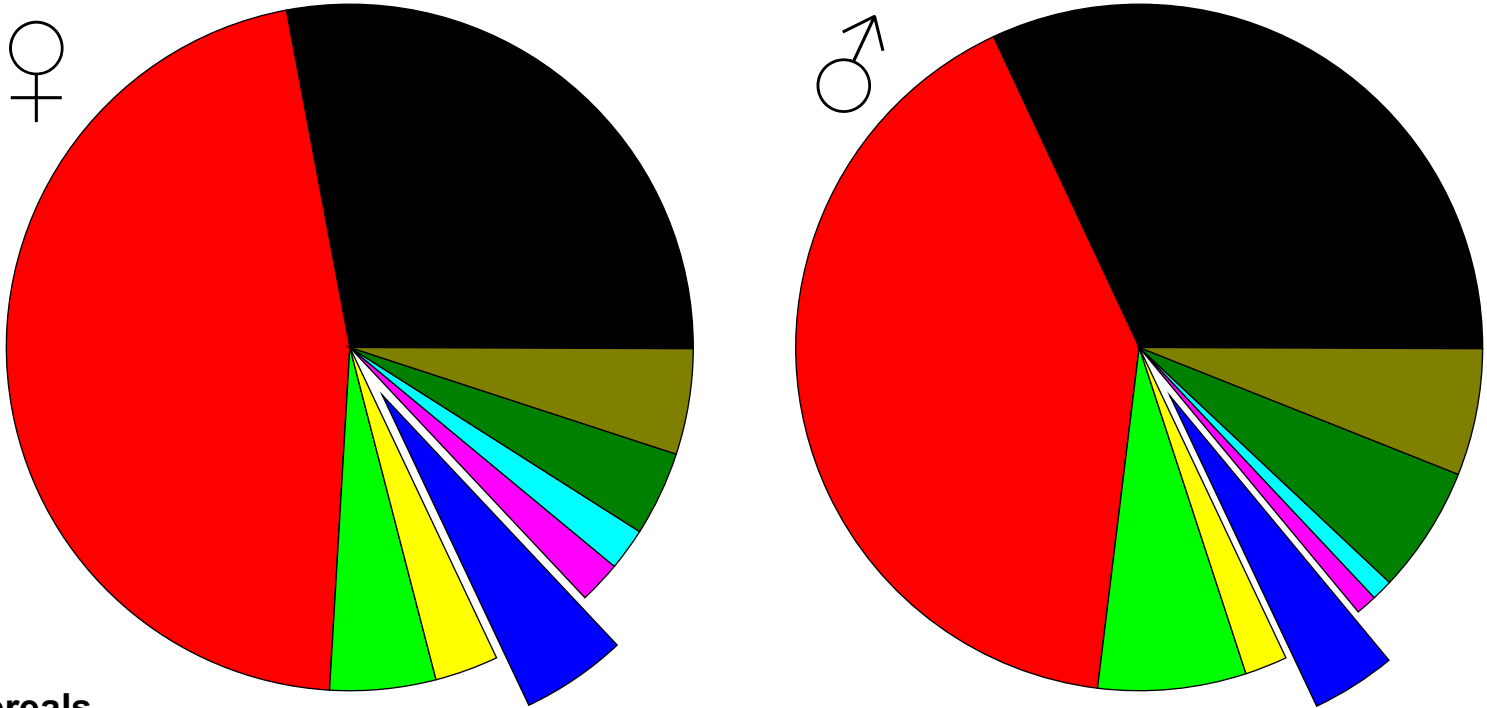


- cereals**
- milk and dairy
- meat
- fish

**N.B. UK legislation requires processed wheat flour to be fortified with Ca and Fe, and the “B vitamins” thiamin and nicotinic acid (“Statutory Instrument 1998 No. 141, The Bread and Flour Regulations 1998”; <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si1998/19980141.htm>). Processed flour must contain Ca within the range 235-390 mg 100 g⁻¹ flour; exceptions for wholemeal flour, self-raising flour with Ca >200 mg 100 g⁻¹, wheat malt flour

Dietary sources of minerals

Calcium intake (UK)

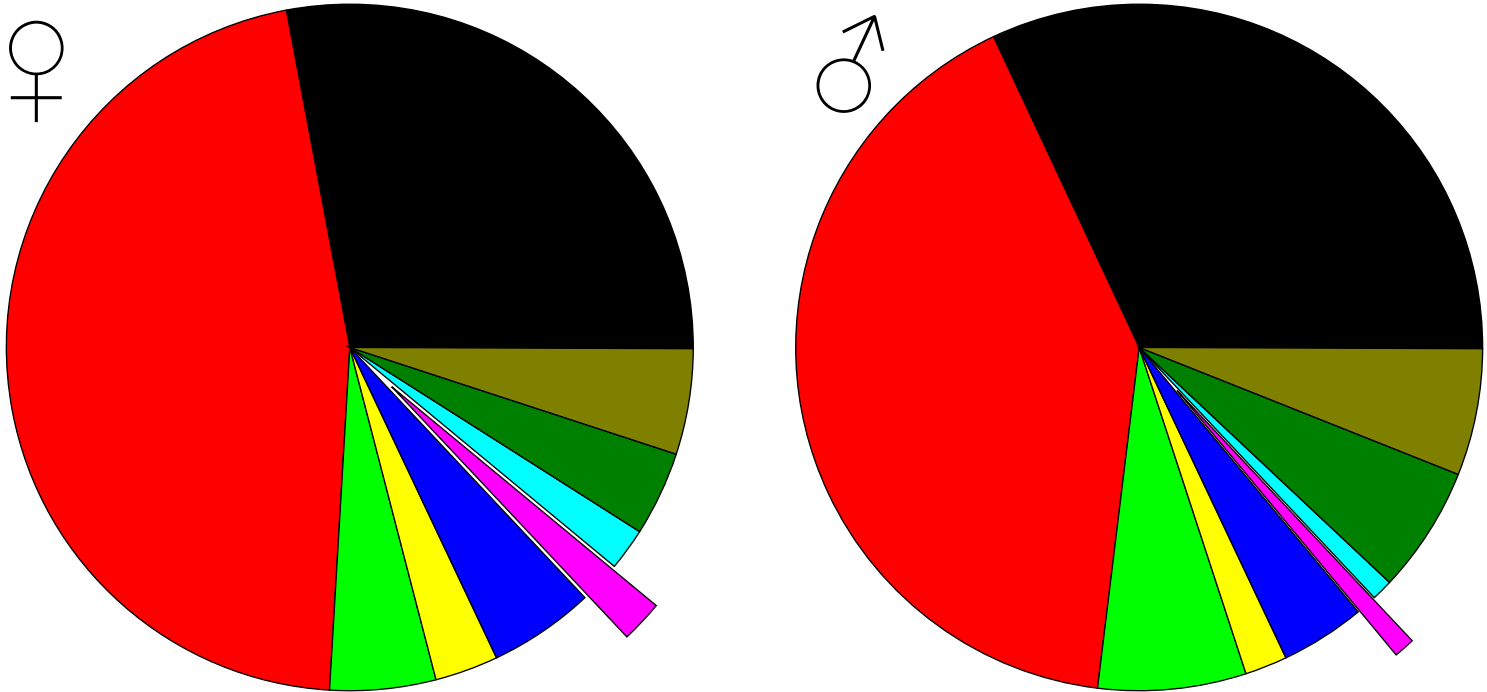


- cereals
- milk and dairy
- meat
- fish
- vegetables (excl. potatoes)

Broadley MR, White PJ. (2010)

Dietary sources of minerals

Calcium intake (UK)

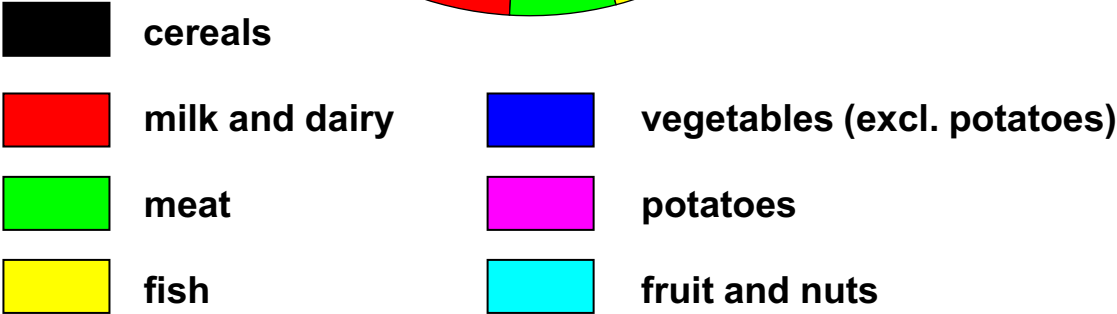
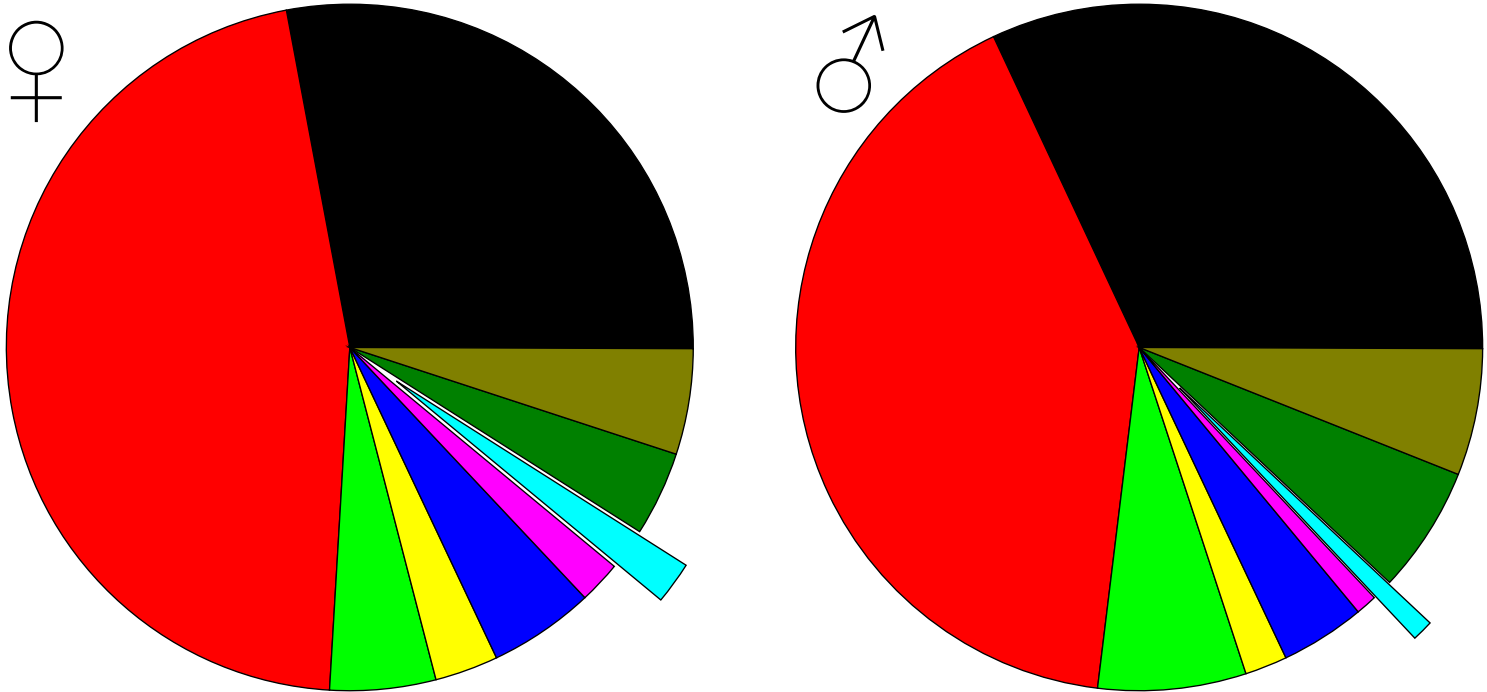


- cereals
- milk and dairy
- meat
- fish
- vegetables (excl. potatoes)
- potatoes

Broadley MR, White PJ. (2010)

Dietary sources of minerals

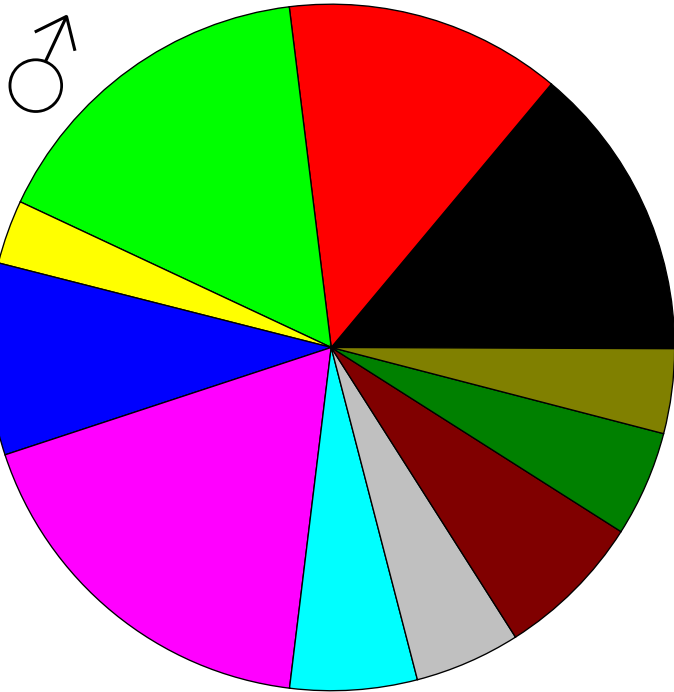
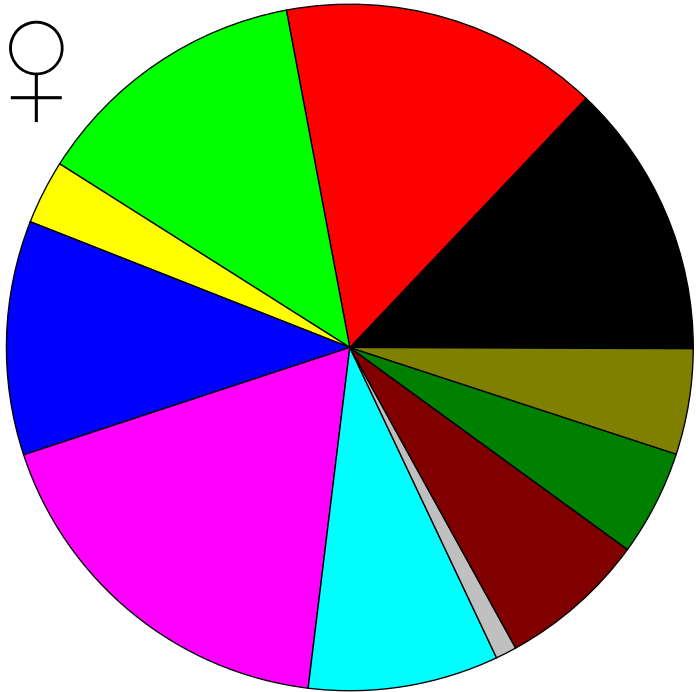
Calcium intake (UK)










Broadley MR, White PJ. (2010)

Dietary sources of minerals

Potassium intake (UK)

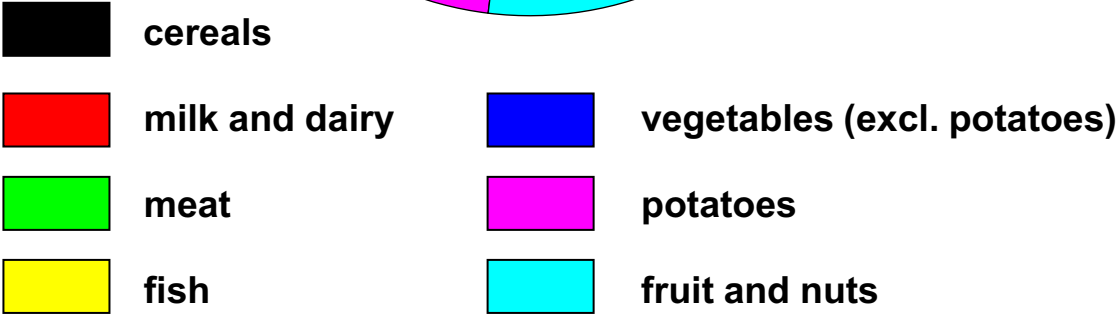
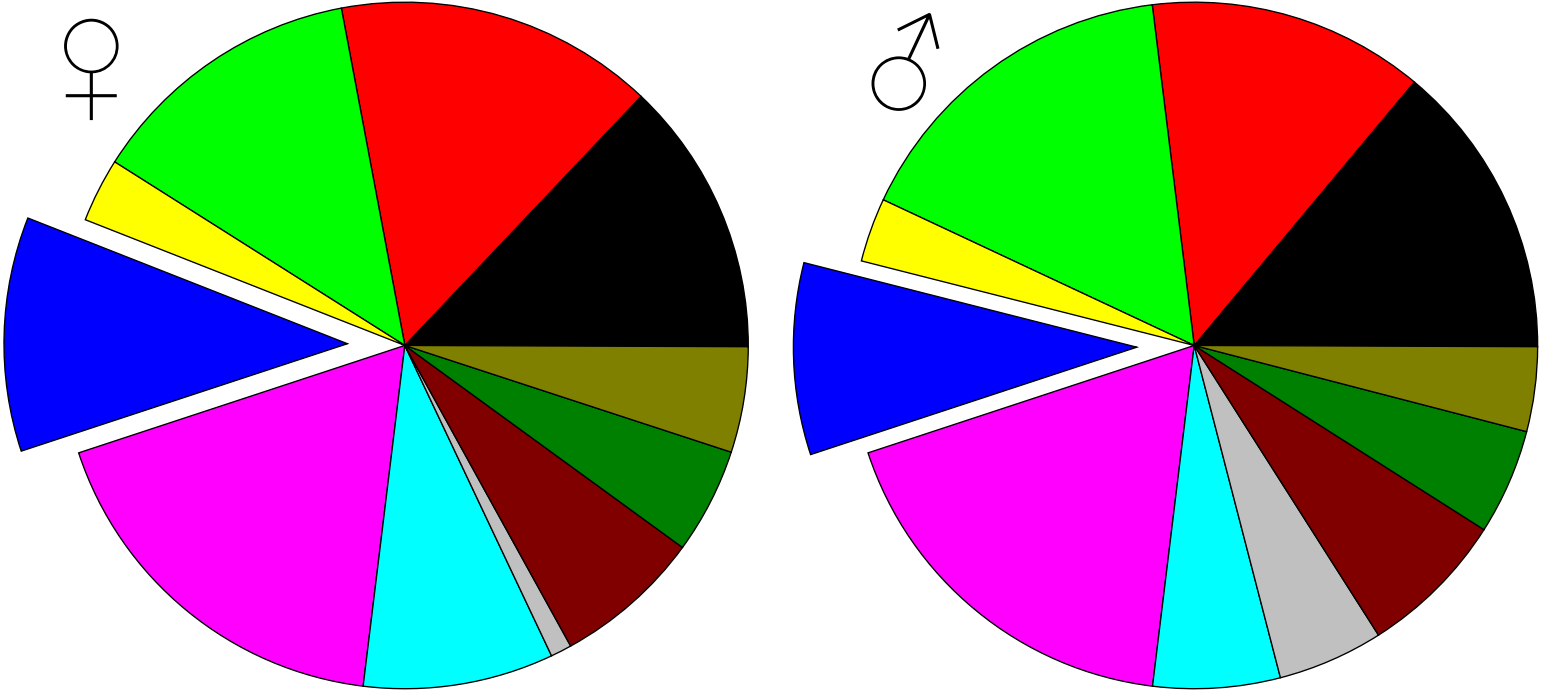


-  cereals
-  milk and dairy
-  meat
-  fish
-  vegetables (excl. potatoes)
-  potatoes
-  fruit and nuts

Broadley MR, White PJ. (2010)

Dietary sources of minerals

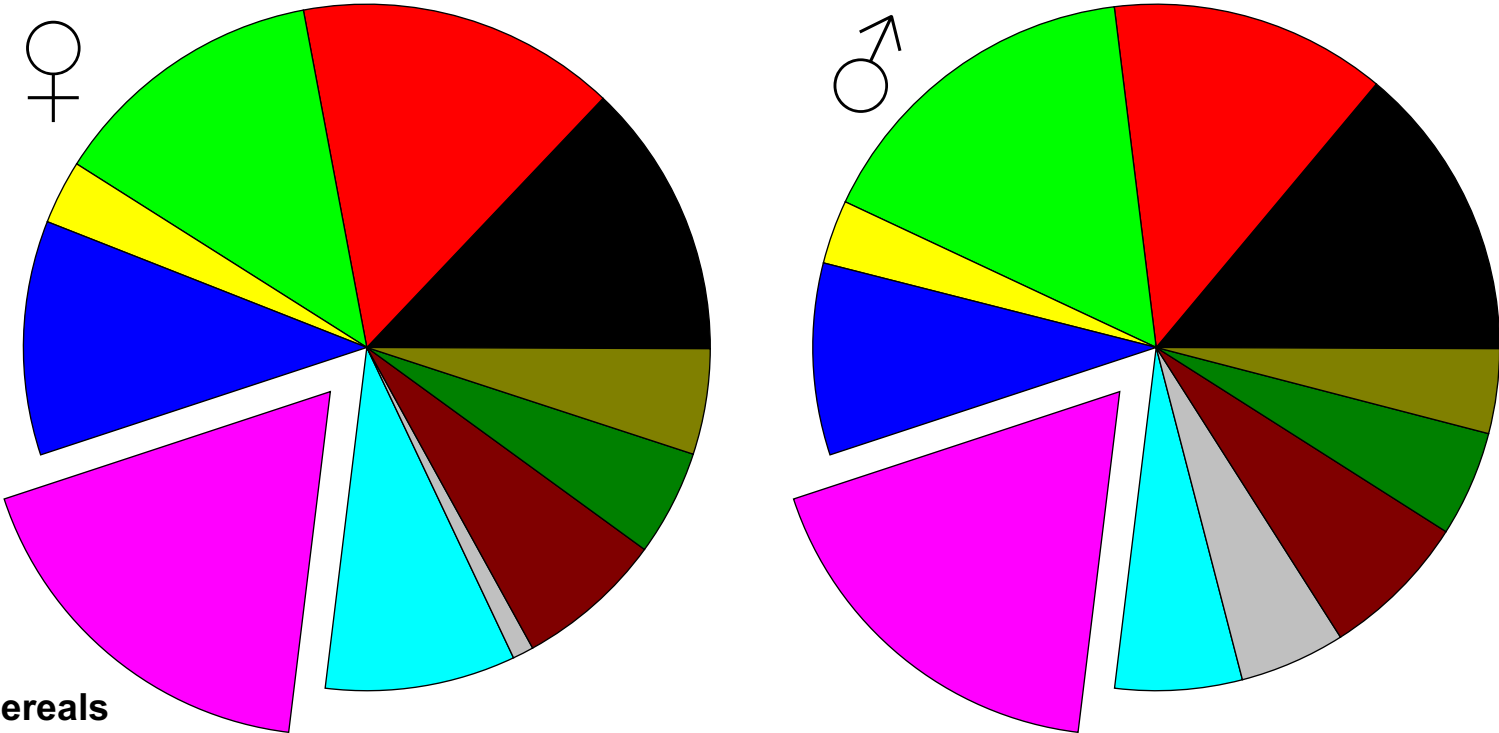
Potassium intake (UK)



Broadley MR, White PJ. (2010)

Dietary sources of minerals

Potassium intake (UK)

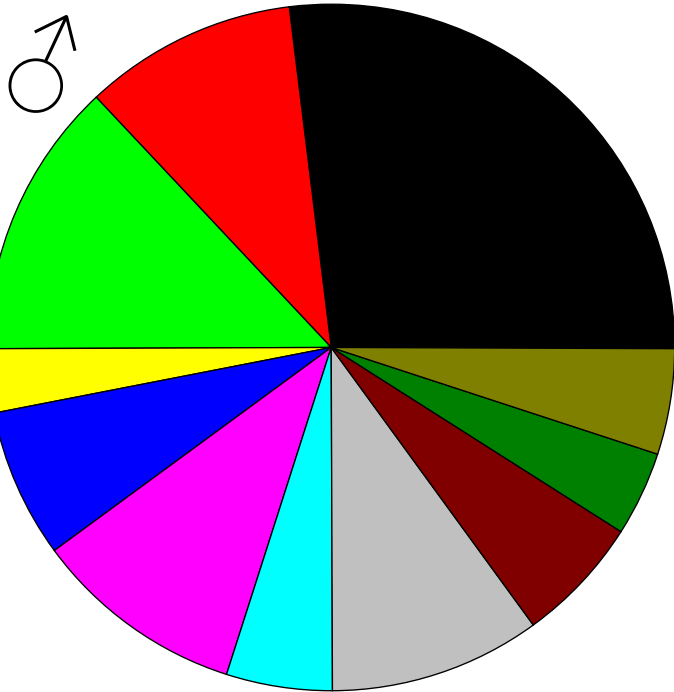
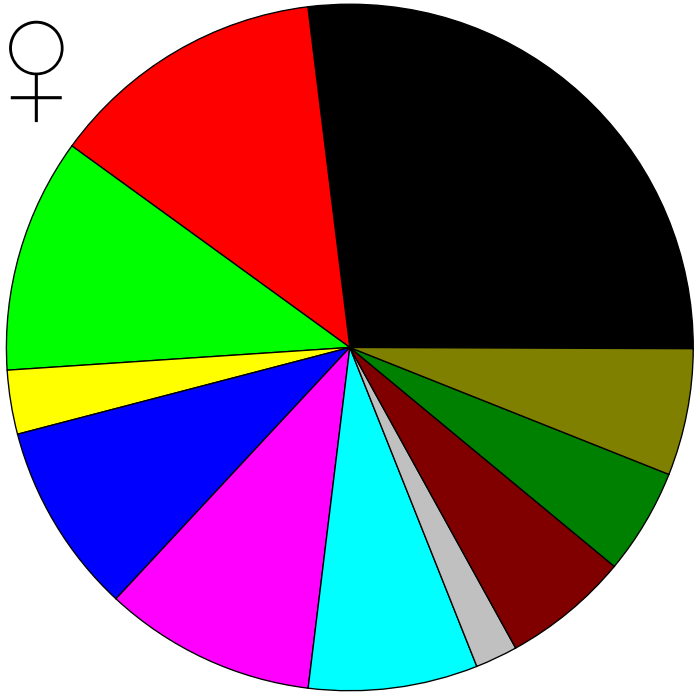


- cereals
- milk and dairy
- meat
- fish
- vegetables (excl. potatoes)
- potatoes
- fruit and nuts

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Dietary sources of minerals

Magnesium intake (UK)

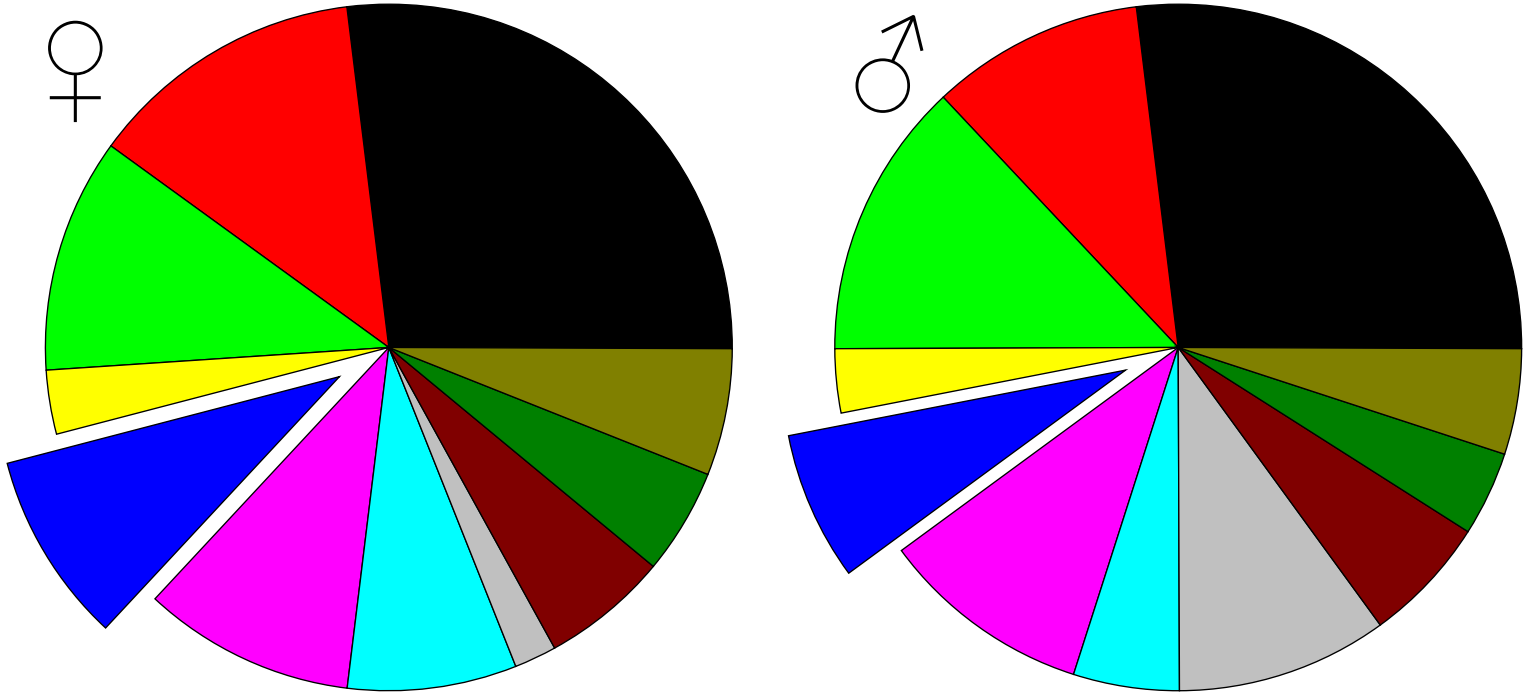


- cereals**
- milk and dairy**
- meat**
- fish**
- vegetables (excl. potatoes)**
- potatoes**
- fruit and nuts**

Broadley MR, White PJ. (2010)

Dietary sources of minerals

Magnesium intake (UK)

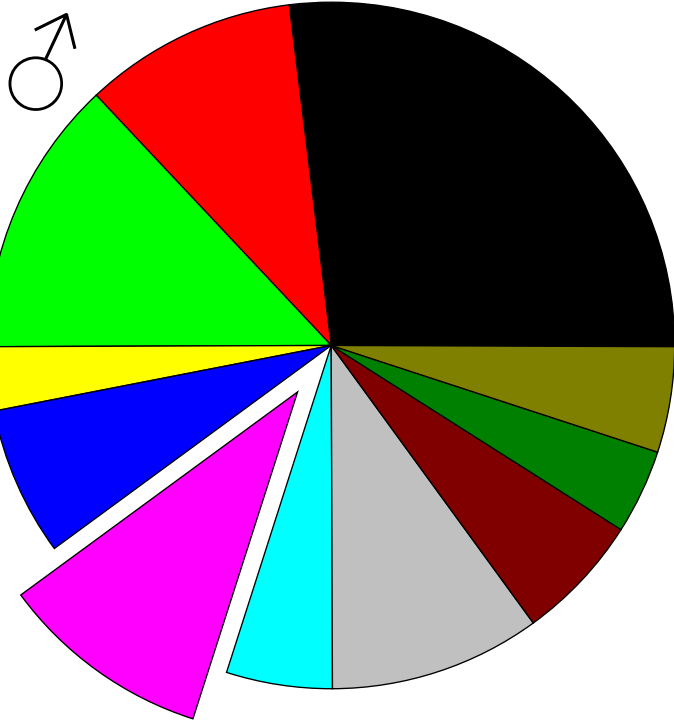
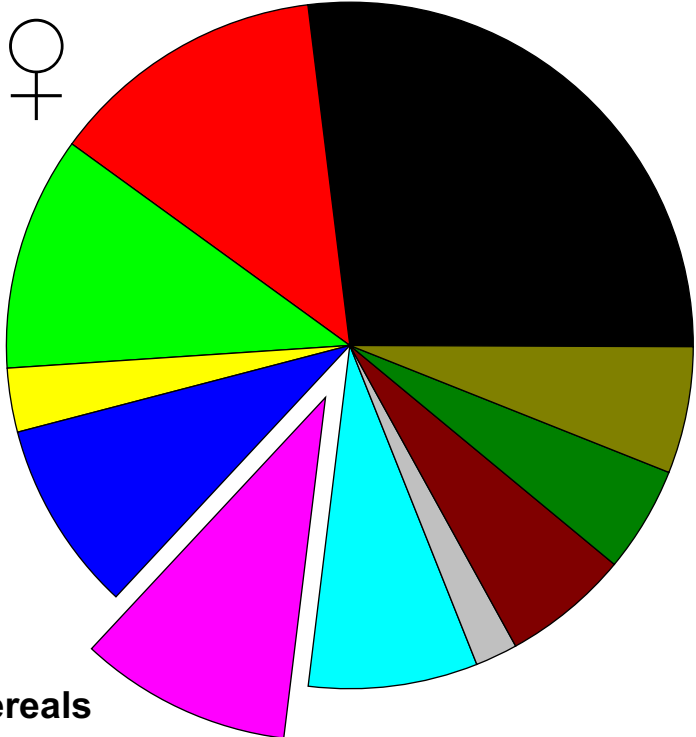


- cereals
- milk and dairy
- meat
- fish
- vegetables (excl. potatoes)
- potatoes
- fruit and nuts

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Dietary sources of minerals

Magnesium intake (UK)

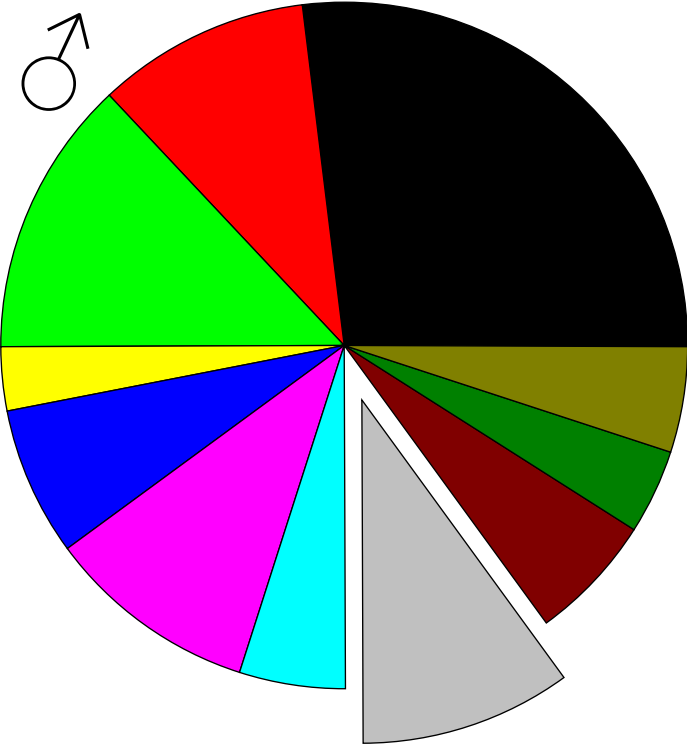
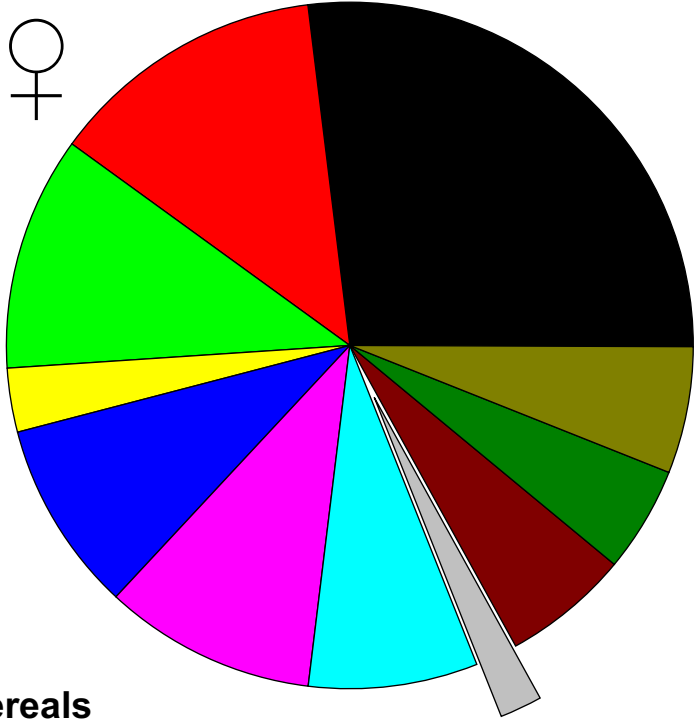










- cereals
- milk and dairy
- meat
- fish
- vegetables (excl. potatoes)
- potatoes
- fruit and nuts

Broadley MR, White PJ. (2010)

Dietary sources of minerals

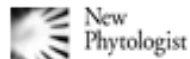
Magnesium intake (UK)



-  cereals
-  milk and dairy
-  meat
-  fish
-  vegetables (excl. potatoes)
-  potatoes
-  fruit and nuts
-  beer and lager

Broadley MR, White PJ. (2010)

Simulate altered food consumption and composition



Review

Research review

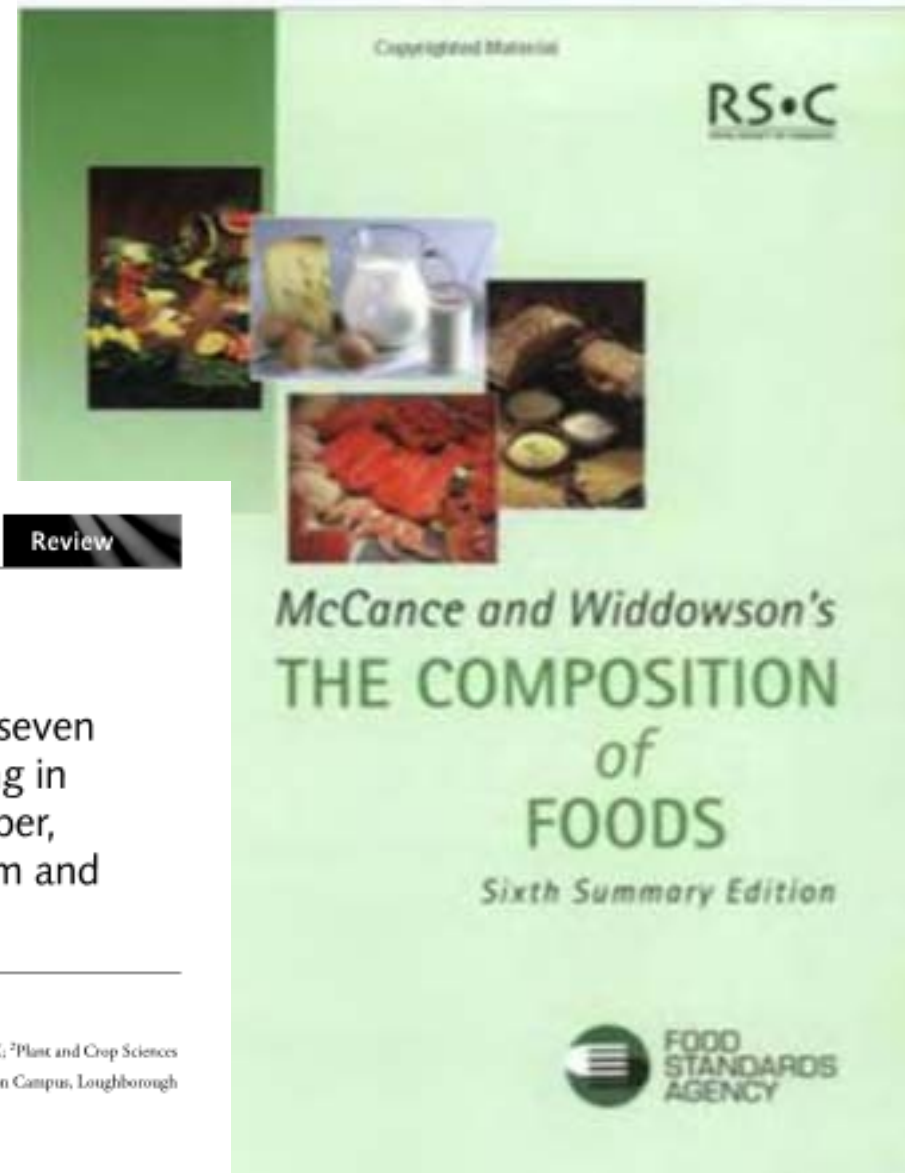
Biofortification of crops with seven mineral elements often lacking in human diets – iron, zinc, copper, calcium, magnesium, selenium and iodine

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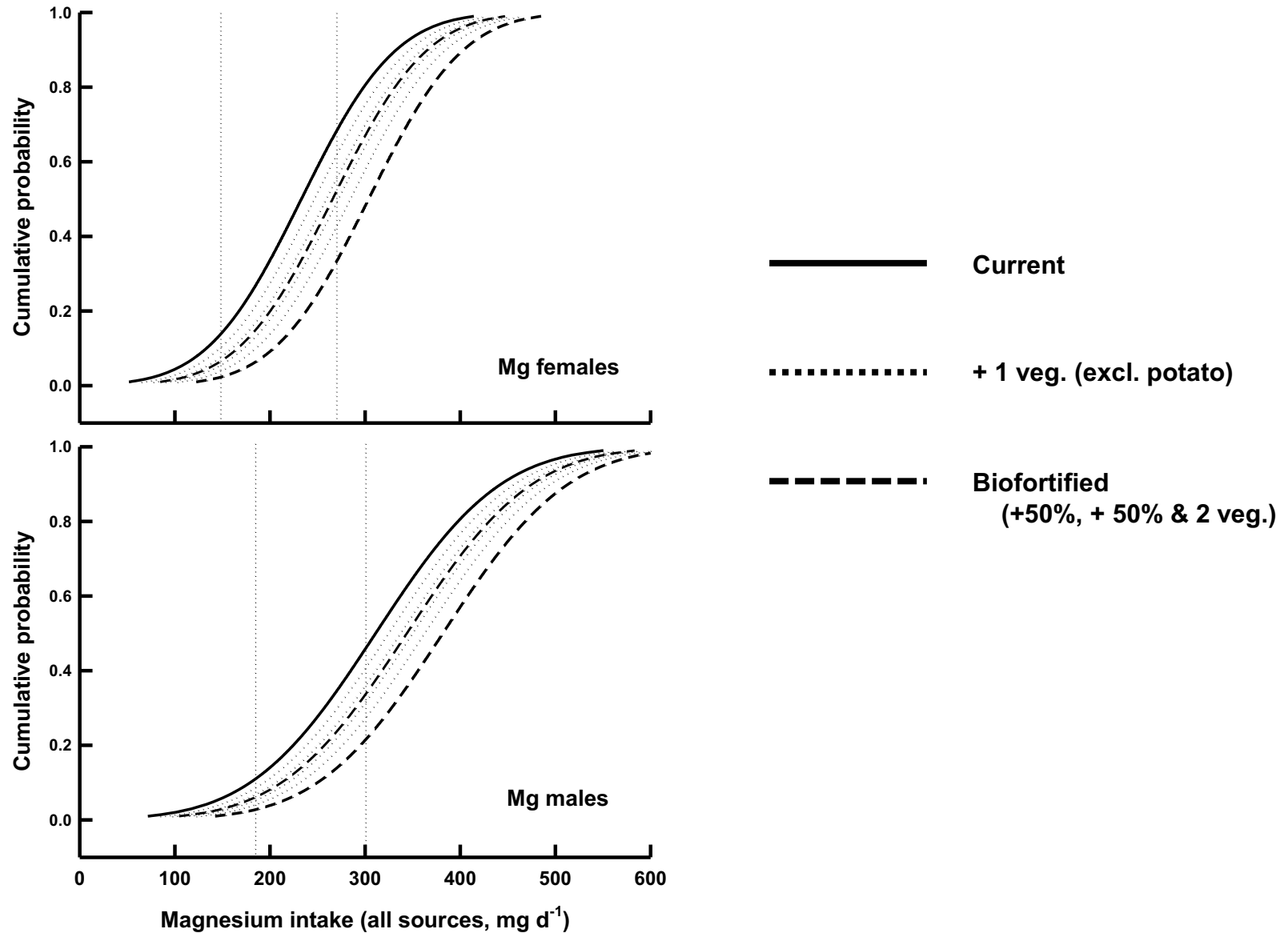
Received: 75 September 2008
Accepted: 10 November 2008

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Impact of horticultural biofortification



Impact of horticultural consumption / biofortification



	+2 veg.	+50% biofort.	both
Calcium	0.5m	0.3m	1.0m (60%)
Magnesium	1.4m	2.0m	4.0m (75%)
Potassium	3.0m	4.1m	4.2m (70%)

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doi:10.1017/S0029665110001588

The Winter meeting of the Nutrition Society supported by the Society for Experimental Biology and the British Society of Animal Science was held at the University of Reading on 15 December 2009

Symposium on ‘Food supply and quality in a climate-changed world’

Eats roots and leaves. Can edible horticultural crops address dietary calcium, magnesium and potassium deficiencies?

Martin R. Broadley^{1*} and Philip J. White²

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²*Scottish Crop Research Institute, Invergowrie, Dundee DD2 5DA, UK*

Biofortifying *Brassica* with Ca and Mg (2009-2013)

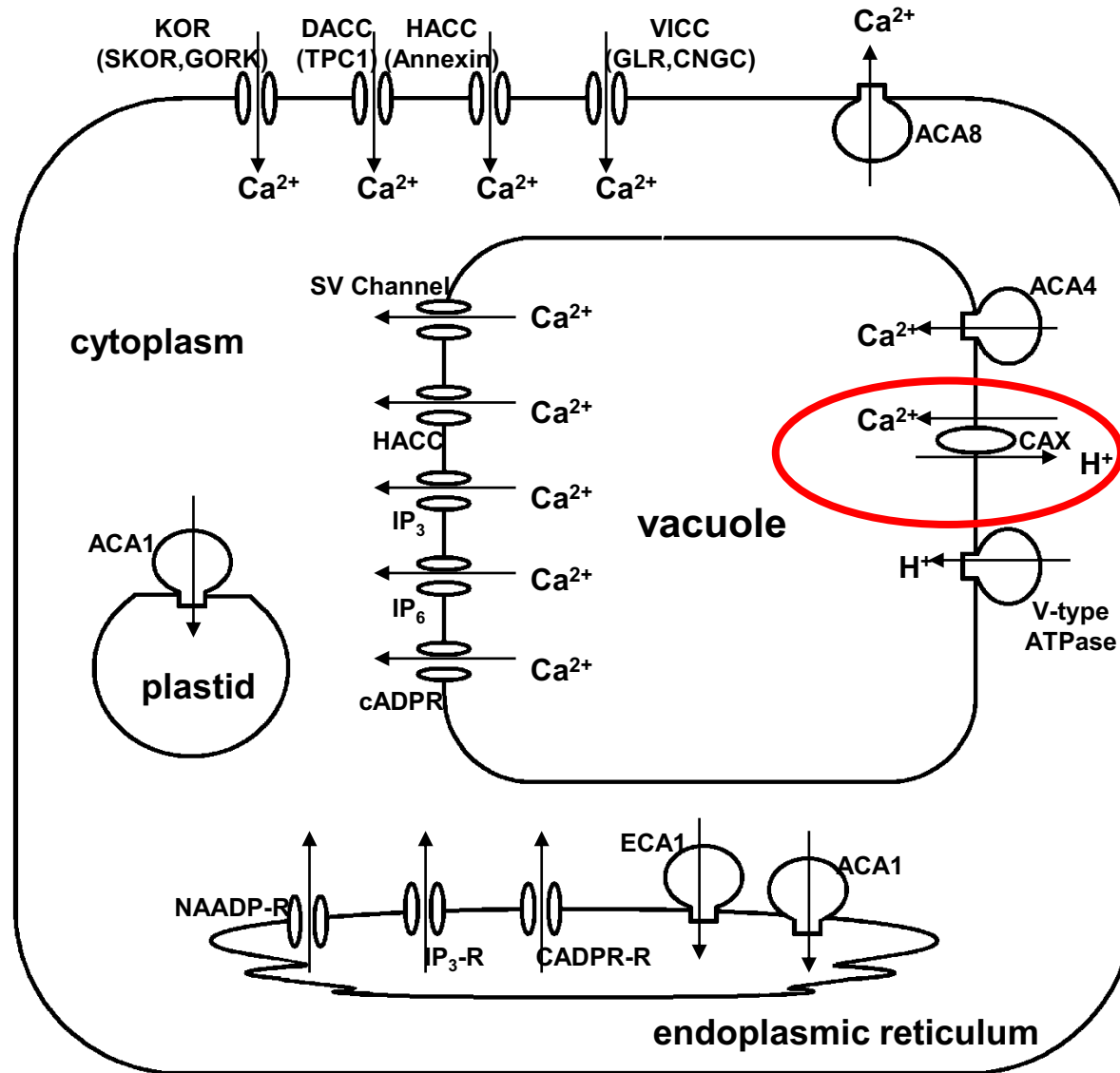


The University of
Nottingham



The James
Hutton
Institute

Candidate genes



Vacuolar Ca accumulation via $\text{P}_{2\text{B}}$ -ATPases (ECA/ACA), $\text{Ca}^{2+}/\text{H}^+$ antiporters (CAX)

Candidate genes

Overexpression of modified CAX1 (sCAX1) increases bioavailable Ca in:

Carrot:	100% increase in Ca	Morris J et al. (2008). <i>PNAS</i> 105, 1431-1435
Lettuce:	25-32% increase in Ca	Park S et al. (2009). <i>Plant Biotechnol. J.</i> 7, 106-117
Tomato:	>20% increase in Ca	Park S et al. (2005). <i>Plant Physiol.</i> 139, 1194-1206
Potato:	>100% increase in Ca	Park S et al. (2005). <i>J. Ag. Food Chem.</i> 53, 5598-5603

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All hail the super carrot! - January 16, 2008

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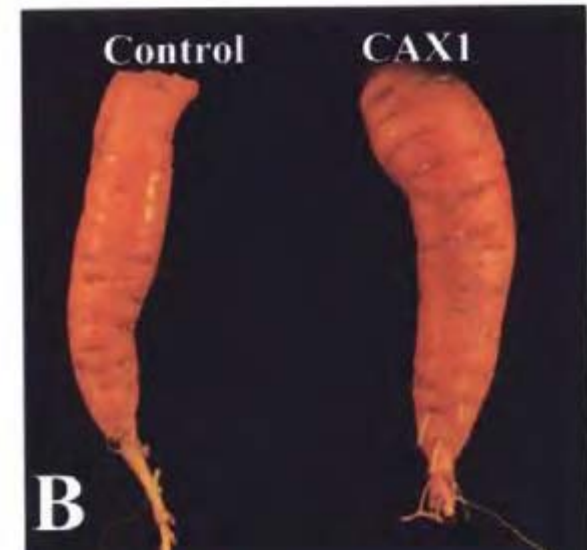
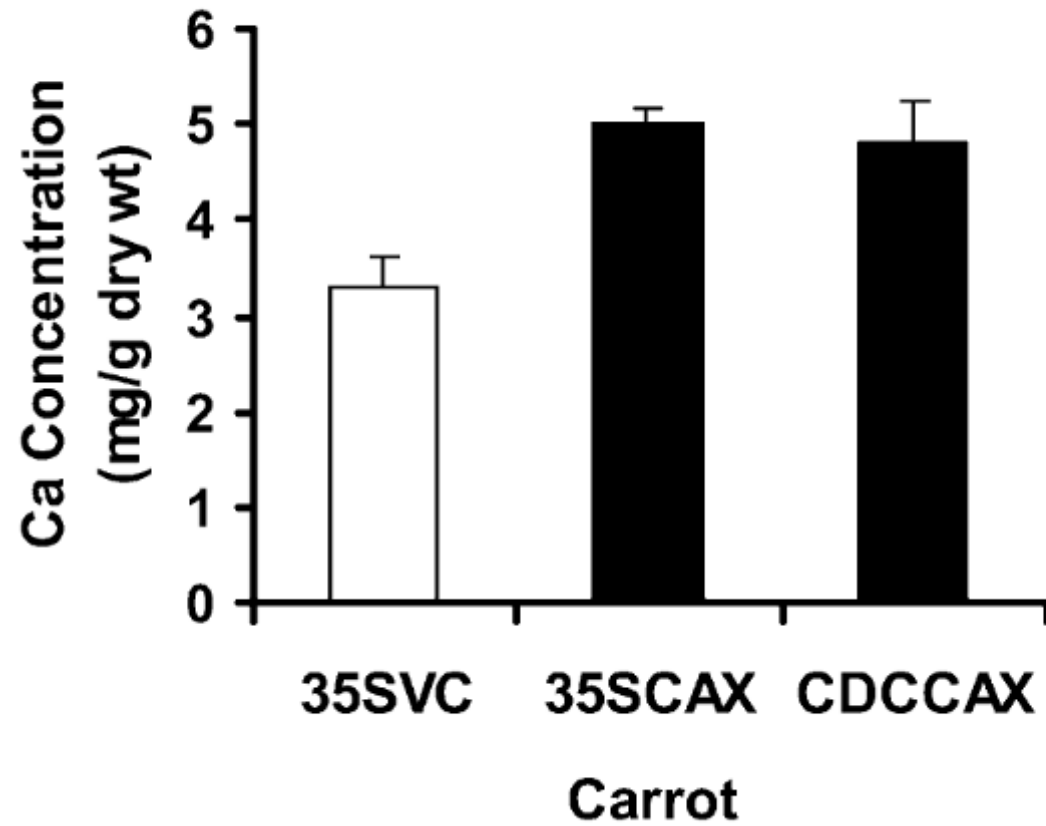
A genetically modified carrot delivers 41% more calcium to the body, Texas scientists have shown. Kendal Hirschi and colleagues had previously engineered the carrots to have a two fold higher calcium content, but it was unclear whether consumption of this marvel of science actually increased the amount of calcium in the body of the eater.

Now, in a paper that should [shortly appear in PNAS](#), they report that people who ate 100g of their 'super carrots' absorbed 41% more calcium than those who ate boring old normal carrots. This could help to treat osteoporosis, notes the briefest [press release](#) ever.

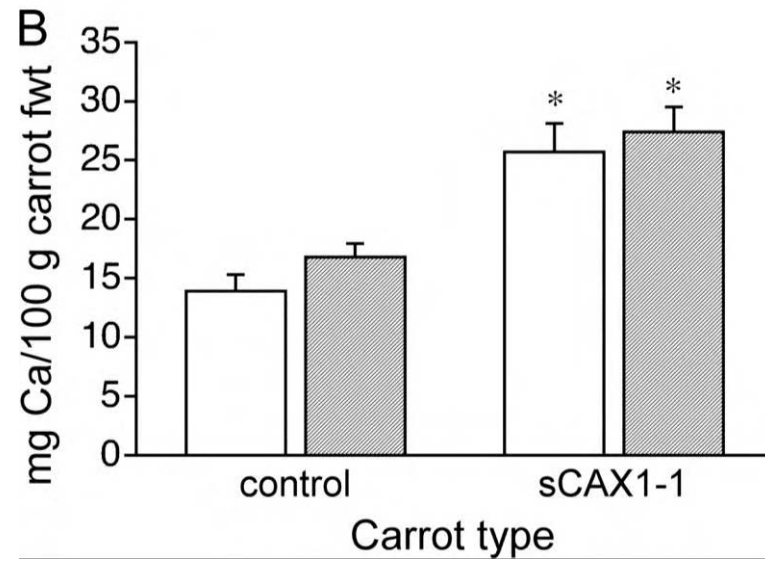
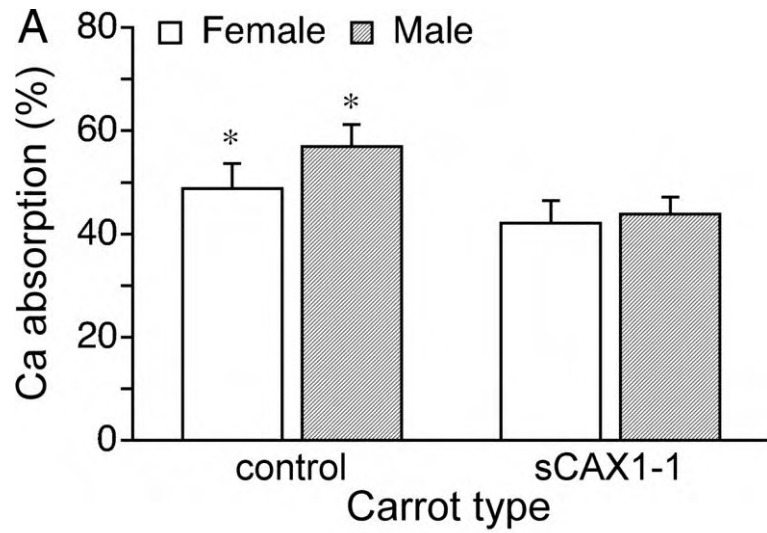
Whether these carrots will overcome consumer scepticism about GM foods remains to be seen. "Much more research needs to be conducted before this would be available to consumers," admits Hirschi ([BBC](#)).



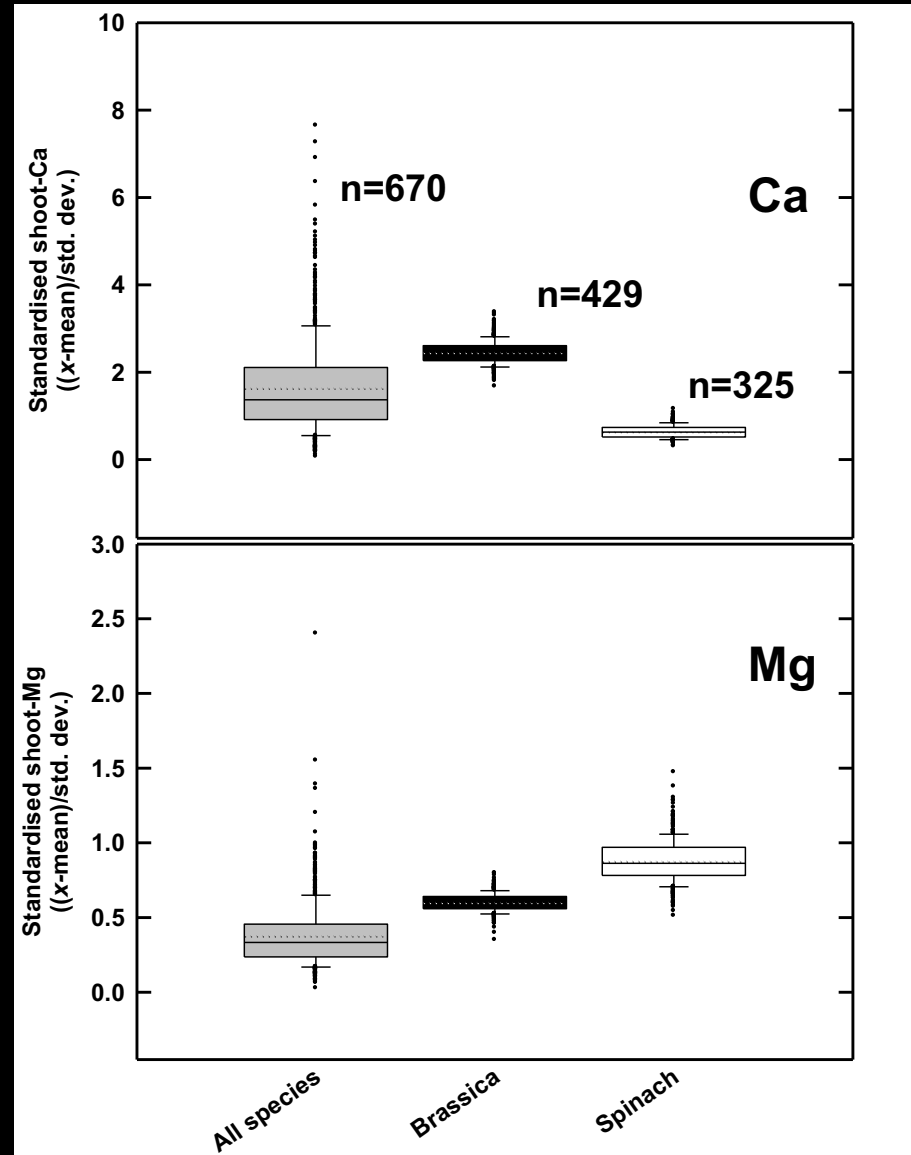
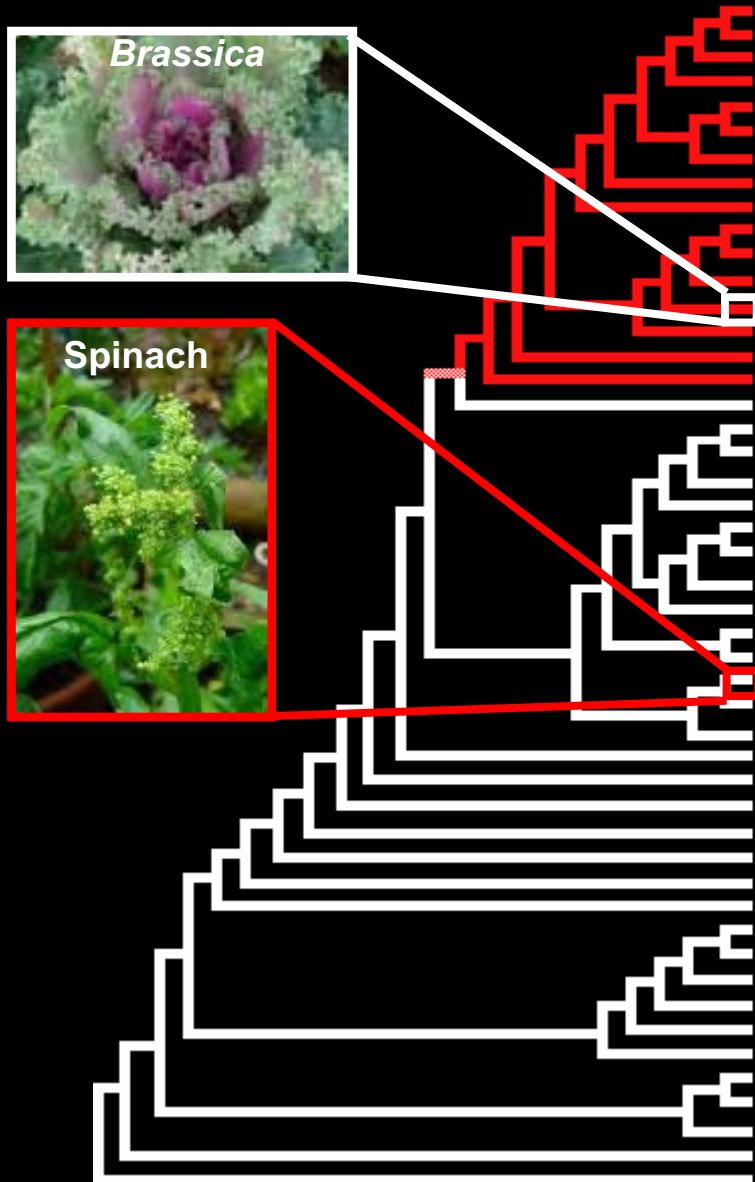
Candidate genes



Candidate genes



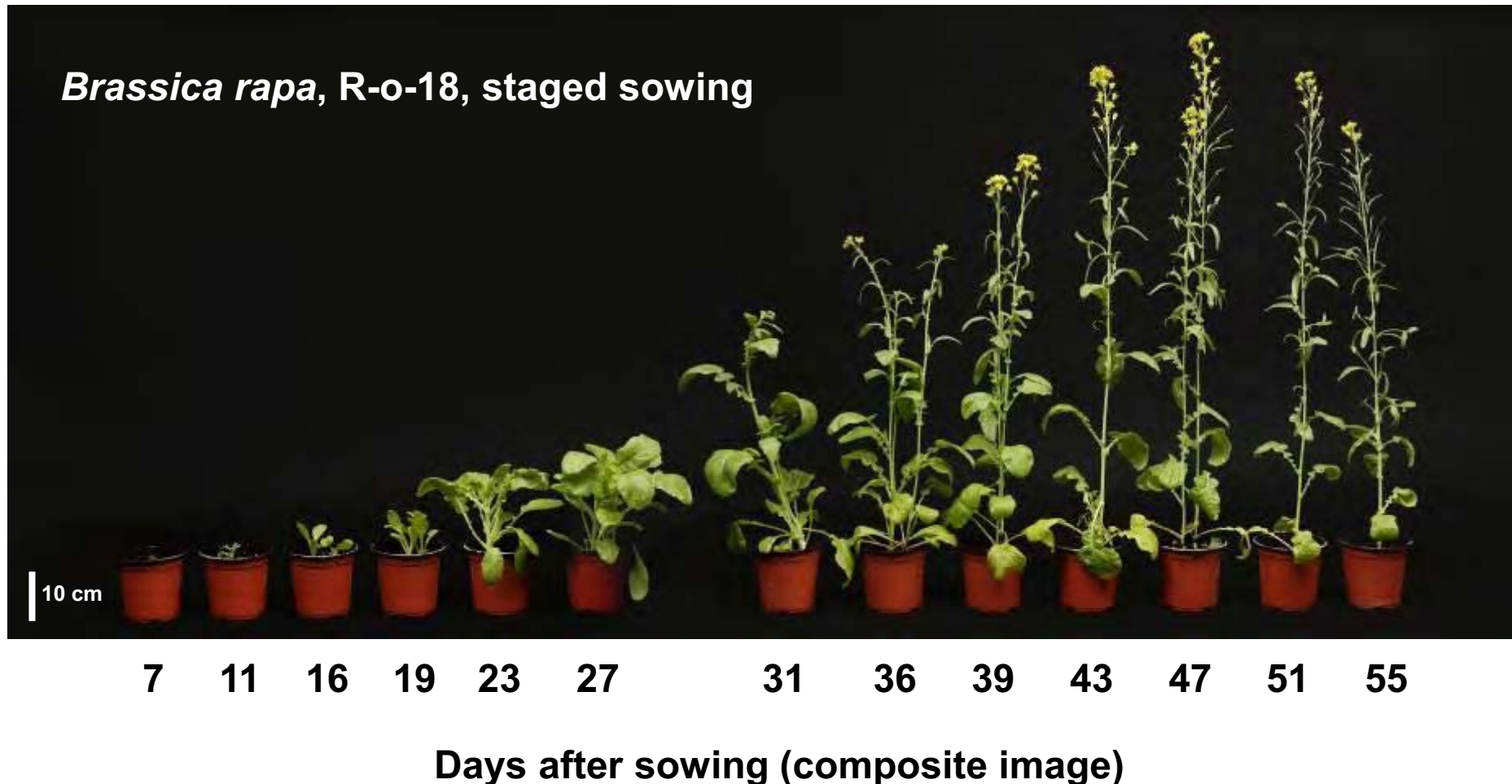
Brassica is a good breeding target for Ca and Mg



***Brassica* is a good breeding target for Ca and Mg**

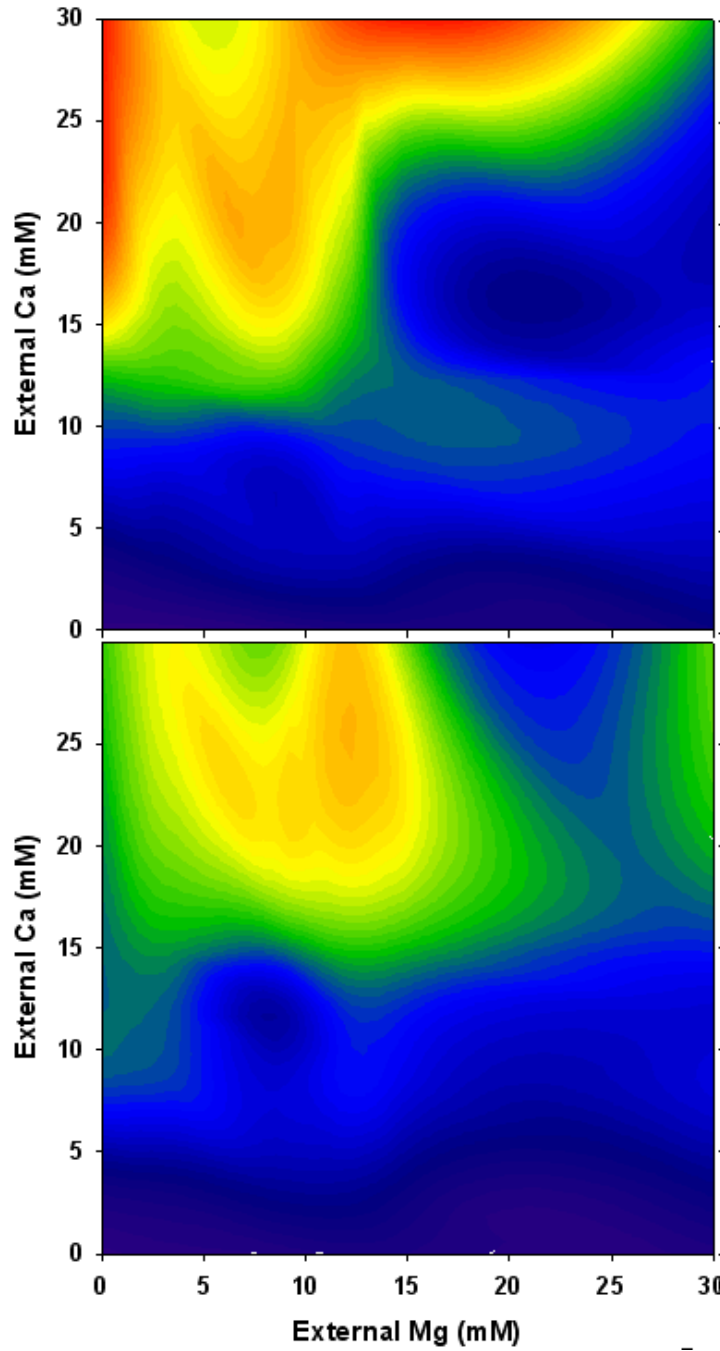
***Brassica rapa* rapid-cycling, selfs easily, sequenced, current major focus for**

G_xE work and novel gene identification:

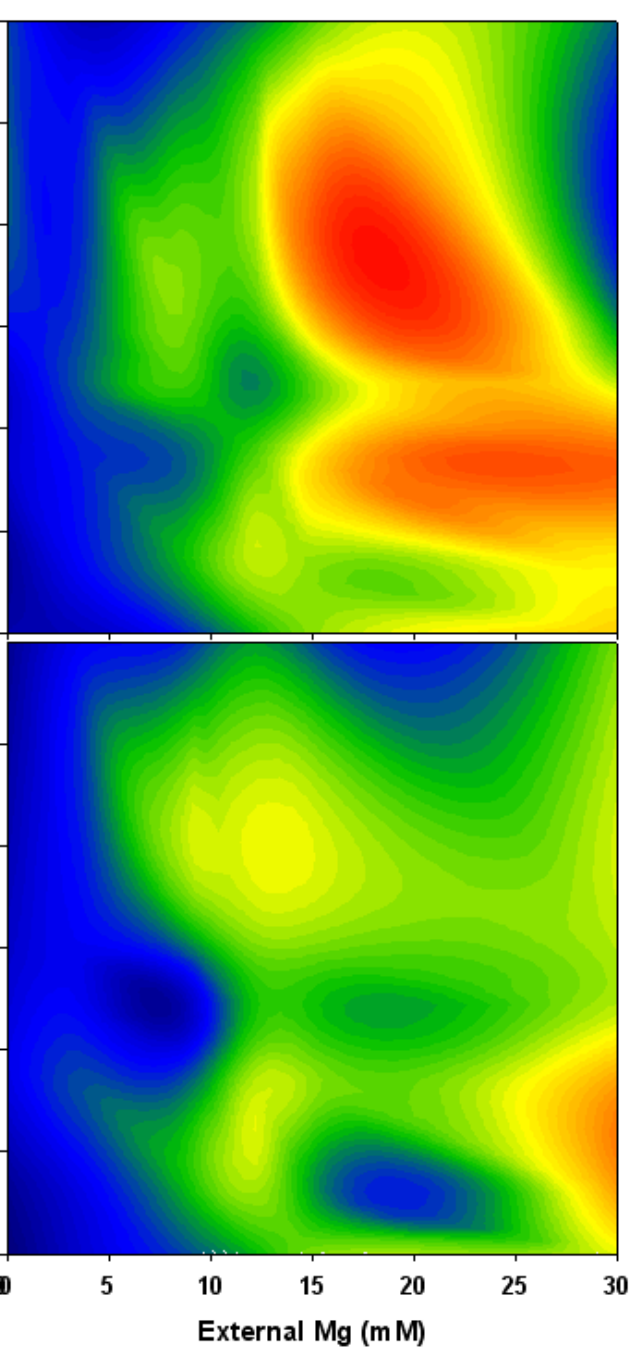
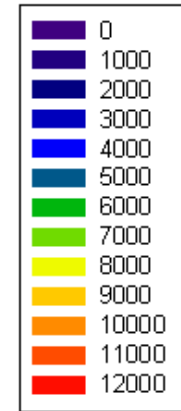


GxE

Ca (mg kg⁻¹)

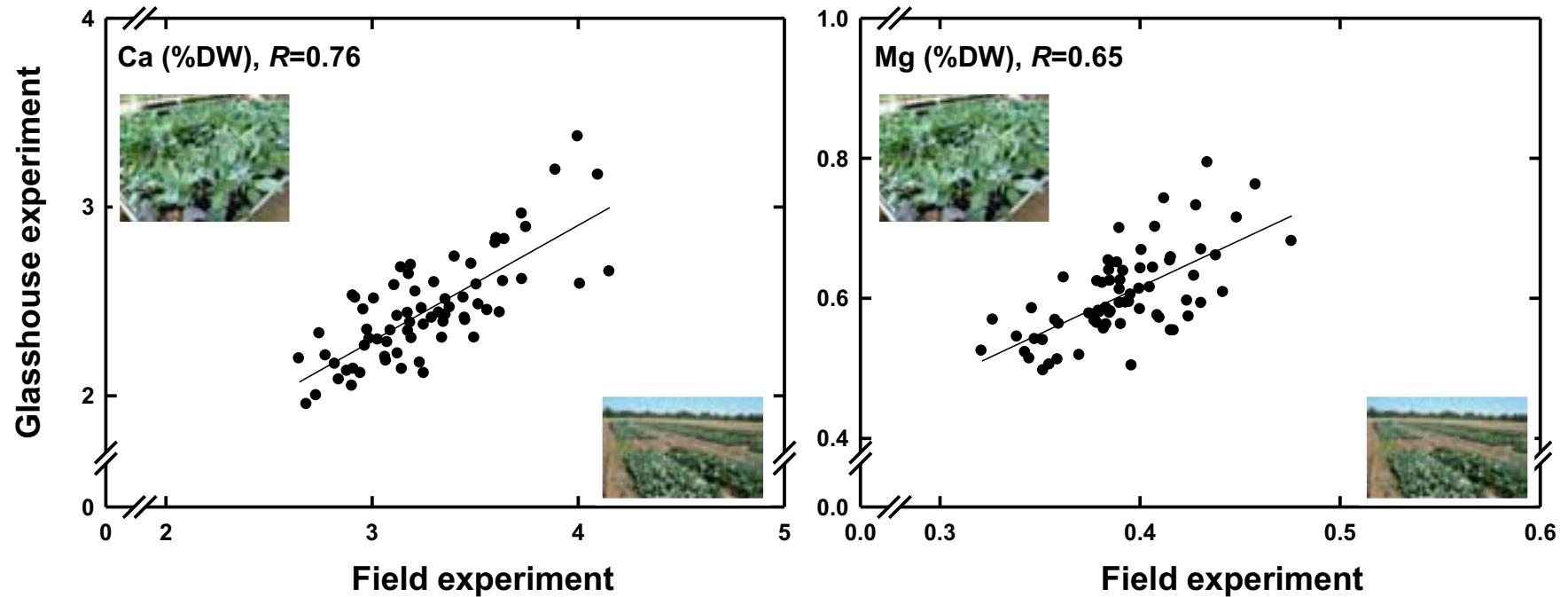


Mg (mg kg⁻¹)

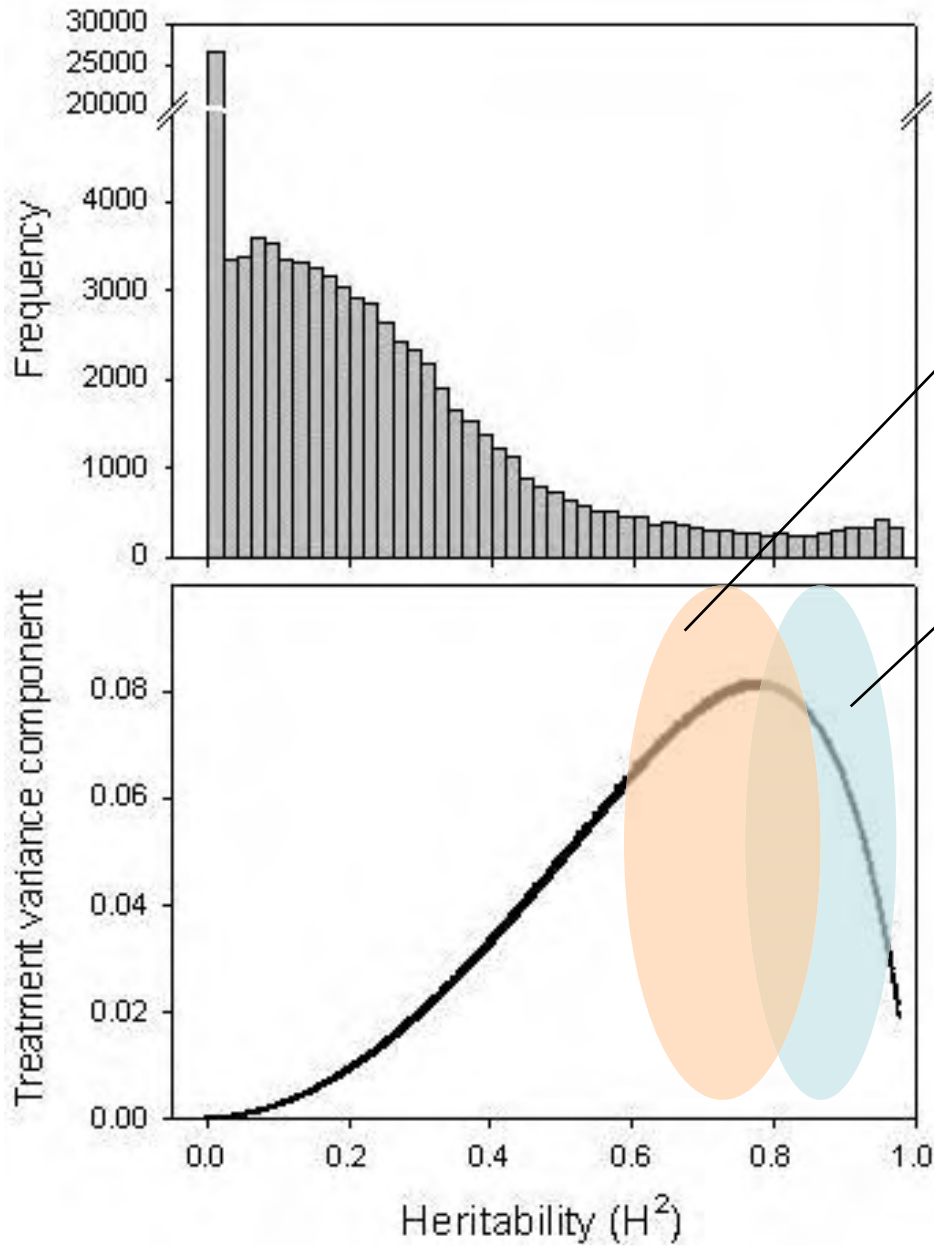




F₁ hybrids in field vs glasshouse experiments (2002-2007)...



...indicates strong genetic component to leaf/shoot Ca and Mg

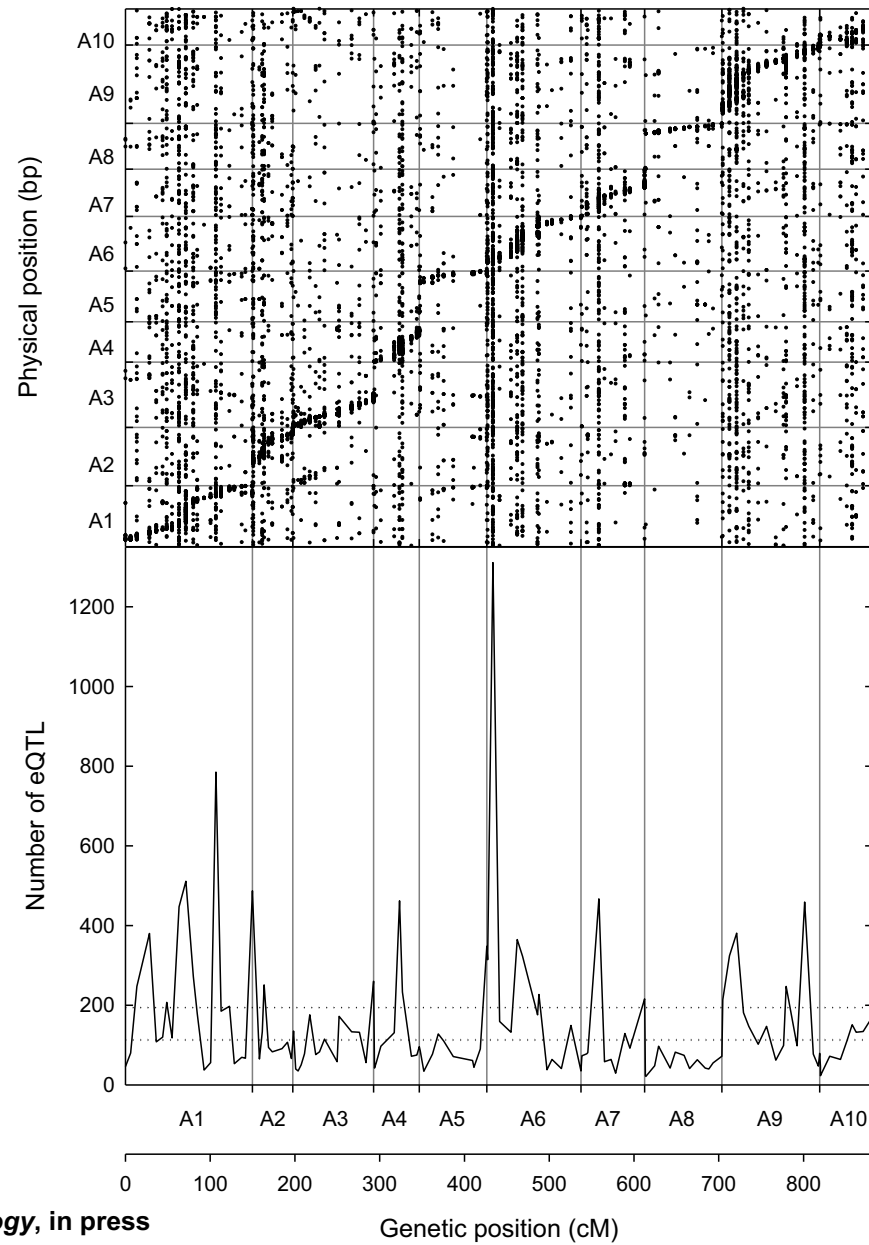


Nutrient-responsive genes

GEMs

- A01**
0.0 B_1085801
6.1 B_1085361
13.6 B_1015719
28.3 X_1086574
36.5 B_1029534
44.0 B_1070754
48.9 B_1022937
55.0 X_1029712
63.4 B_1083979
71.4 B_1085660
80.1 B_1046490
84.8 B_1058320
92.8 B_1069118
100.5 B_1078734
106.9 B_1083235
113.0 B_1003895
122.8 B_1068139
128.6 B_1036106
137.3 B_1040373
141.8 X_1030250
149.8 B_1067157
- A02**
0.0 B_1074435
8.2 B_1047869
11.6 B_1069353
13.8 B_1015829
19.0 B_1079168
23.4 B_1030989
35.0 B_1075669
41.4 B_1061225
46.1 B_1043024
47.6 B_1022947
- A03**
0.0 B_1079779
3.4 B_1049545
6.3 B_1049045
9.9 B_1081457
13.8 B_1040426
20.1 B_1080104
27.1 B_1007971
31.5 X_1018563
37.5 B_1073371
52.3 B_1051178
54.8 B_1074149
69.5 B_1060539
78.8 B_1035519
86.4 B_1056277
95.4 B_1061264
- A04**
0.0 B_1079174
3.1 B_1049770
8.7 B_1069803
24.3 B_1076615
30.6 B_1063725
34.0 B_1086451
44.5 B_1057332
54.0 B_1081129
- A05**
0.0 B_1001672
5.2 B_1004436
15.4 B_1035935
22.4 B_1054230
28.7 B_1041876
40.1 B_1017866
62.9 B_1086052
64.4 B_1086373
72.0 B_1006651
79.6 B_1027650
- A06**
0.0 B_1046553
7.2 B_1046098
15.1 B_1066026
28.6 B_1052005
35.9 B_1057766
42.1 B_1048330
59.8 B_1076009
61.5 B_1016918
70.9 X_1043260
76.8 B_1068324
88.0 B_1083974
99.2 B_1054958
111.1 B_1002627
- A07**
0.0 B_104496
6.9 B_1082795
8.0 B_1046384
21.1 B_1086439
27.7 B_1007588
35.5 B_1075077
40.8 B_1044241
51.8 X_1053506
57.7 B_1085534
75.0 B_1040772
- A08**
0.0 B_10269
1.4 X_1083277
11.9 B_1088144
16.5 B_1083805
30.1 B_1024895
36.3 B_1066173
46.6 B_1059083
53.1 B_1066011
62.3 B_1076745
71.5 B_1046174
75.8 B_1024916
80.8 B_1032898
91.3 B_1047397
- A09**
0.0 B_102630
9.0 B_1009421
17.3 B_1056826
25.4 X_1068625
31.7 B_1052774
42.8 B_1072164
52.7 B_1075103
63.6 B_1068235
72.7 X_1044376
75.8 B_1049712
88.7 B_1044003
97.7 B_1049533
107.8 B_1074696
113.7 B_1087899
115.3 B_1033566
- A10**
0.0 B_109976 B_1069978
11.9 B_1074529
24.7 B_1084997
32.2 B_1083779
38.4 X_1086526
43.1 B_1048449
51.3 B_1066827
62.5 B_1086209

Targets regulating leaf Ca and Mg concentration (eQTL)



Selenium

Essential for animals, not plants

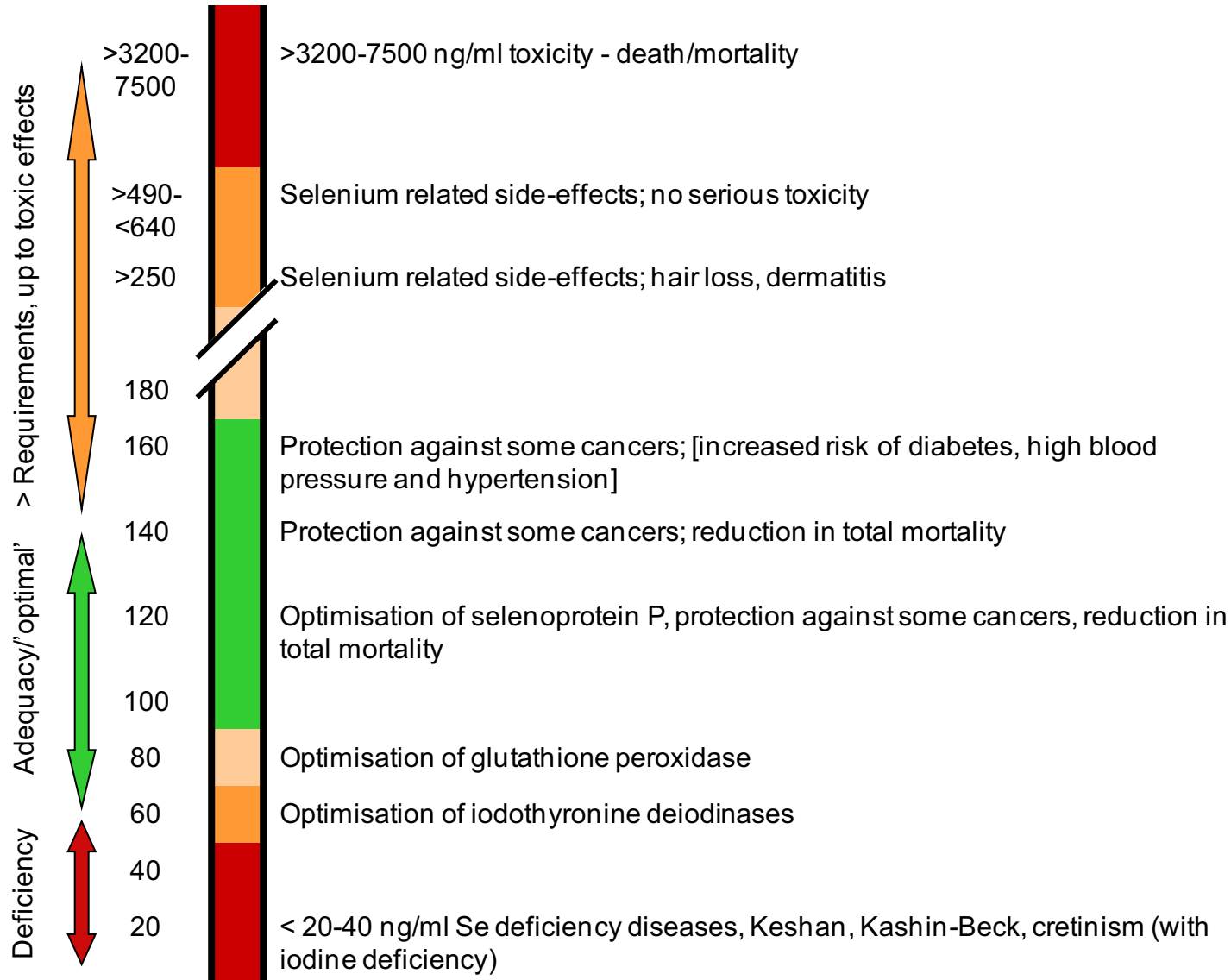
25 mammalian selenoproteins

Many identified roles in health



References

Serum/
plasma
selenium
(ng/ml)



Yang et al 1983, Lech et al 2002

Reid et al 2004

Lippman et al 2009

Yu et al 1999, [Bleys et al 2007, Laclaustra et al 2009]

Nomura et al 2000, Combs et al 2001, Bleys et al 2008, Yu et al 1999, [Vogt et al 2003]

Combs et al 2001, Burk 2006, Hurst 2010, Thompson 2004, Bleys et al 2008

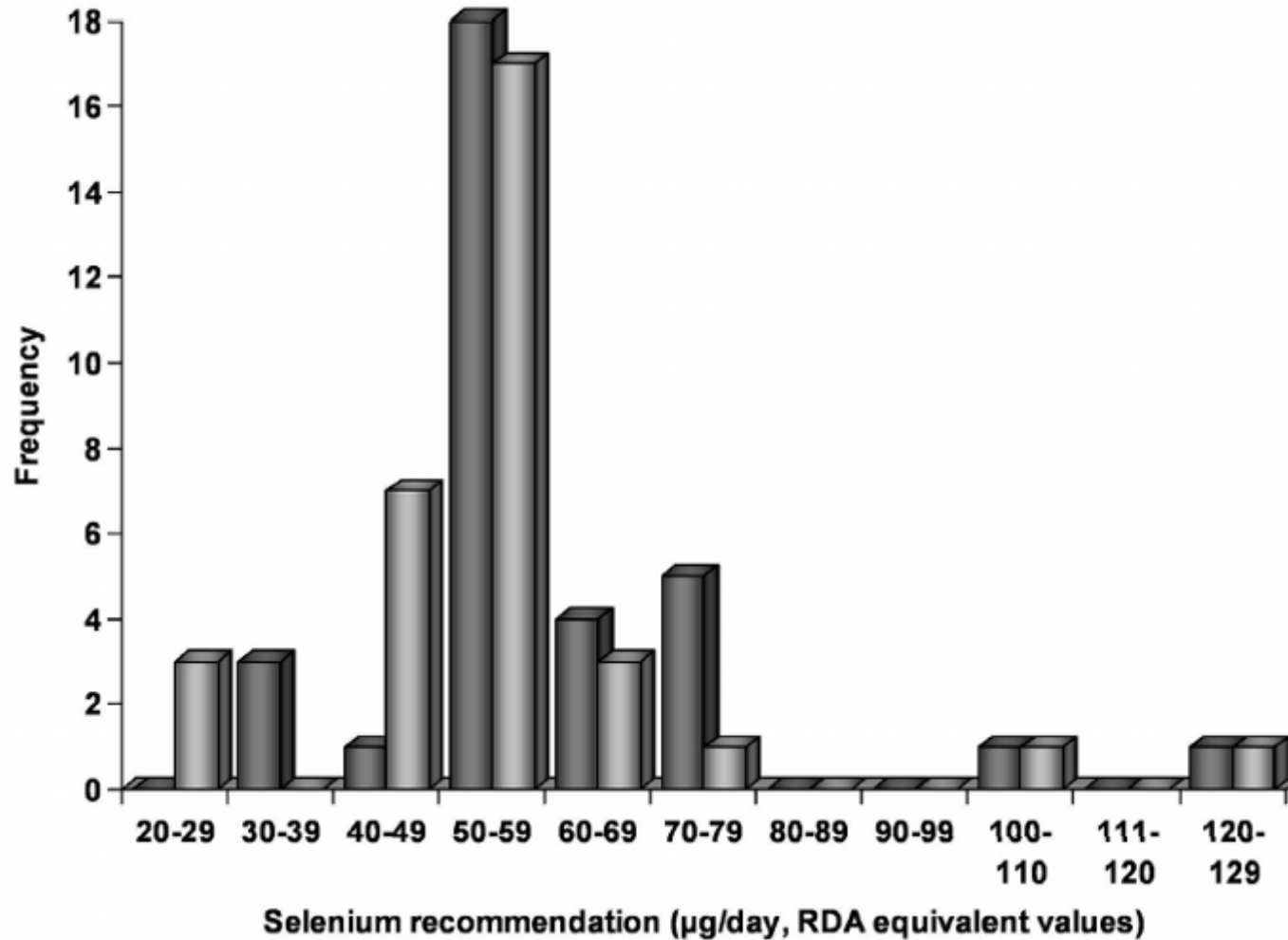
Thompson 2004

Thompson 2004

Thompson 2004; Shi et al 2010

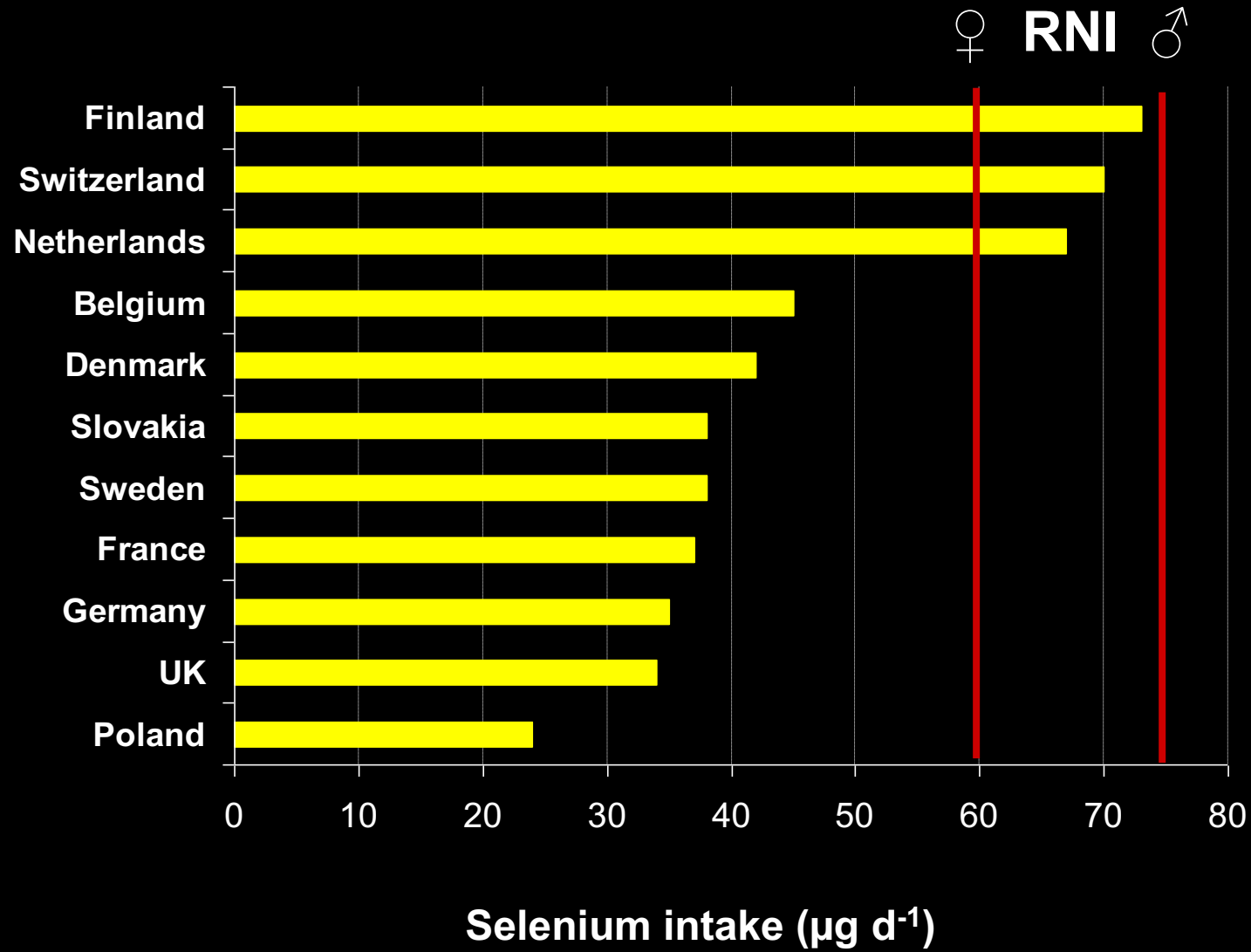
> Requirements, up to toxic effects
Adequacy/optimal
Deficiency

Selenium recommended intakes

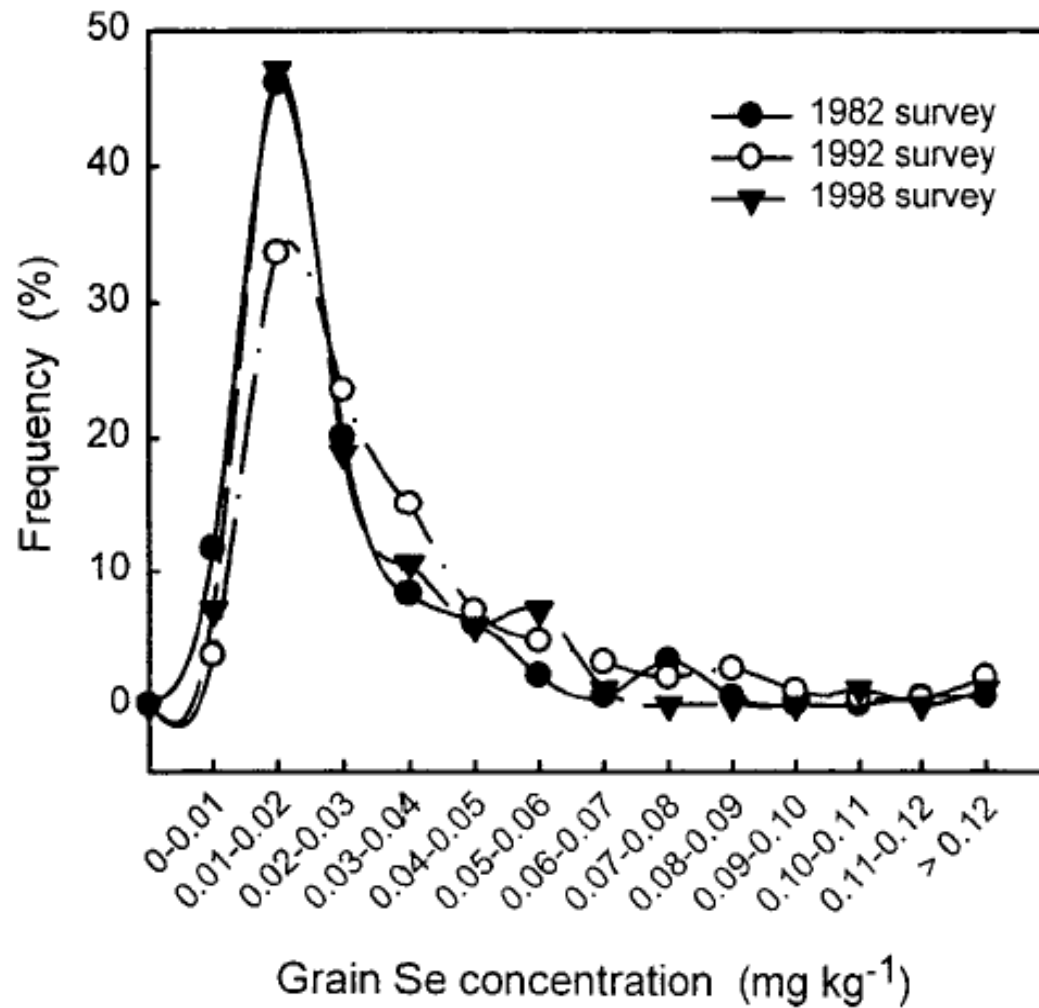


SJ Fairweather-Tait et al. (2011). Current diversity in Se recommendations. Compiled using the EURRECA Nutri-RecQuest database. Where recommendations are given as ranges the midpoint has been used. Males (M) and females (F) are shaded as dark grey or light grey bars respectively.

Selenium actual intakes



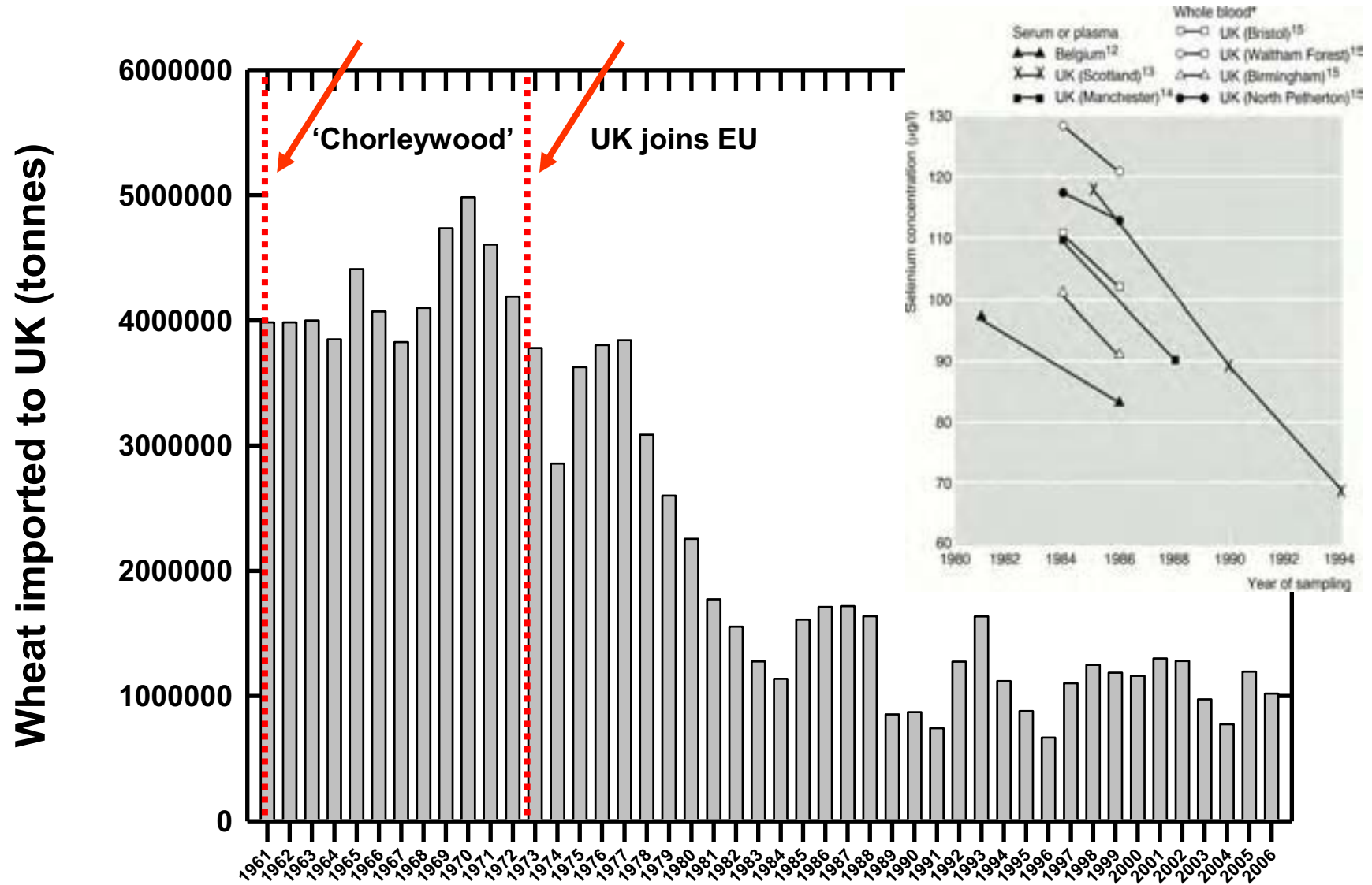
Wheat-grain Se (UK)



Canada = 0.760 mg kg⁻¹

Figure 1. Distribution of selenium in bread-making wheat grain varieties collected from representative sites throughout the UK during 1982 ($n=180$), 1992 ($n=187$) and 1998 ($n=85$).

Low dietary Se intakes in UK



SJ Fairweather-Tait *et al.* (2011). *Antiox. Redox Signal.* 14, 1337-83. Figure 5a. UK wheat imports 1961-2006.

Low dietary Se intakes in UK

~87 μg Se person d^{-1} ←

~17 μg Se person d^{-1} ←

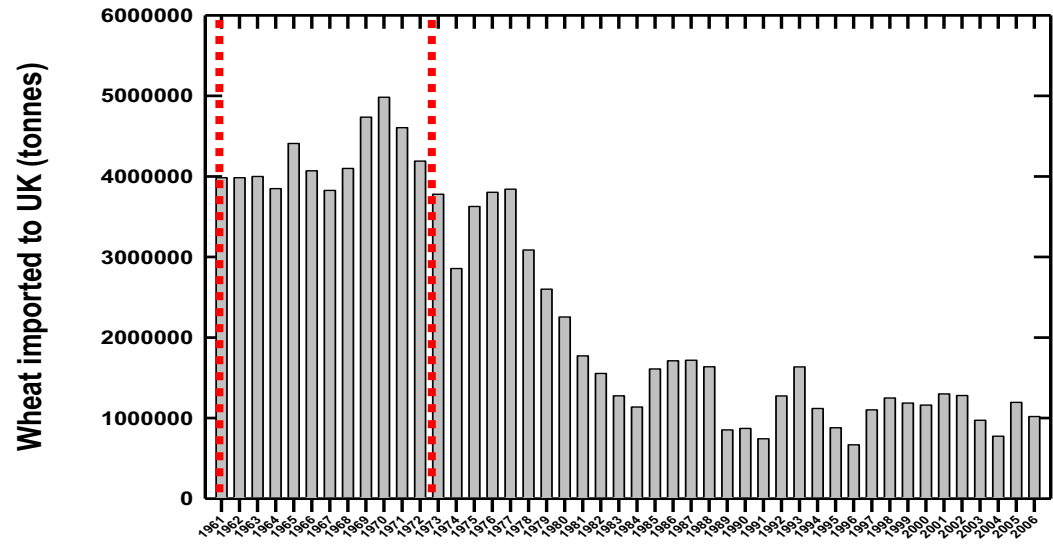
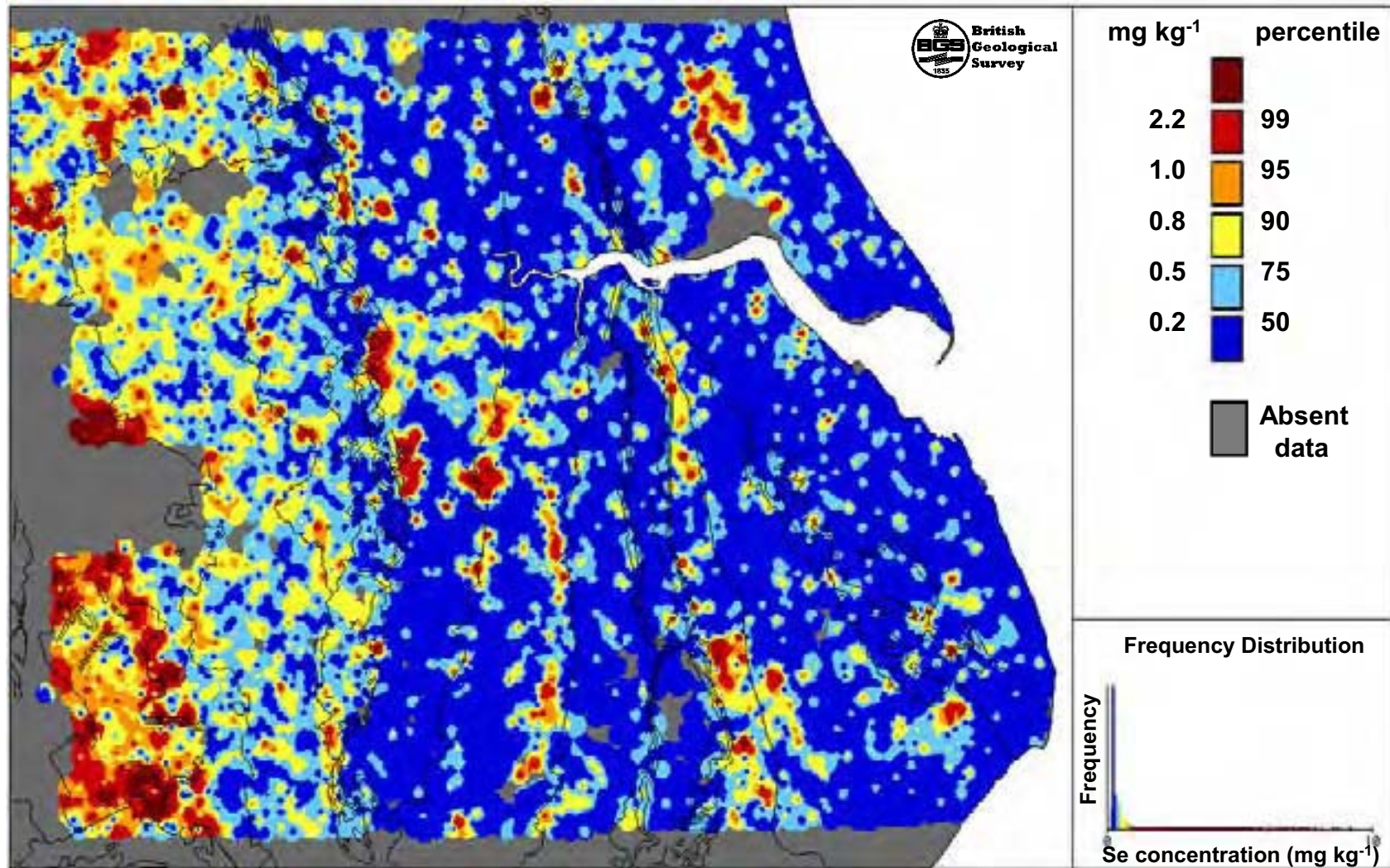




Image NASA
Image © 2007 TerraMetrics
Image © 2007 GeoContext

© 2007 Google™

Low baseline selenium in UK soils



Biofortification experiments, UK (2005-2009)

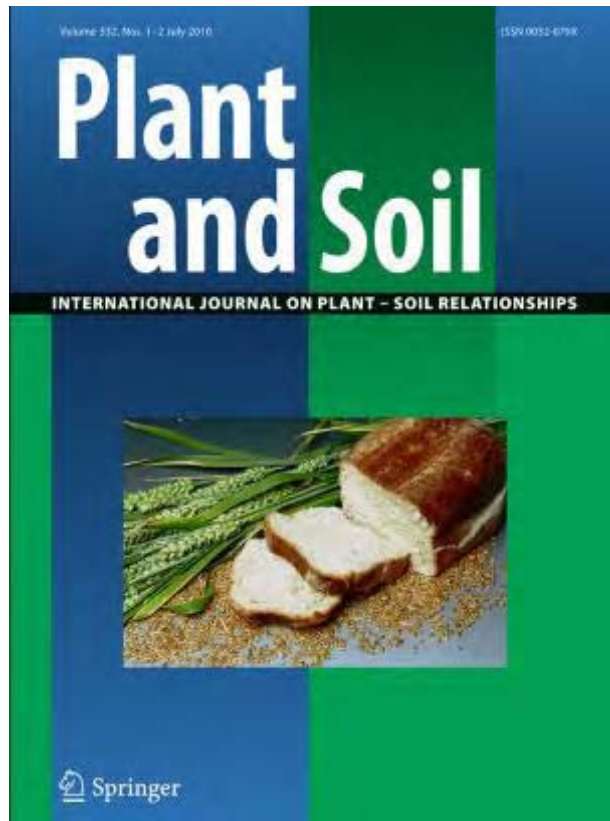


Biofortification experiments, UK (2005-2009)

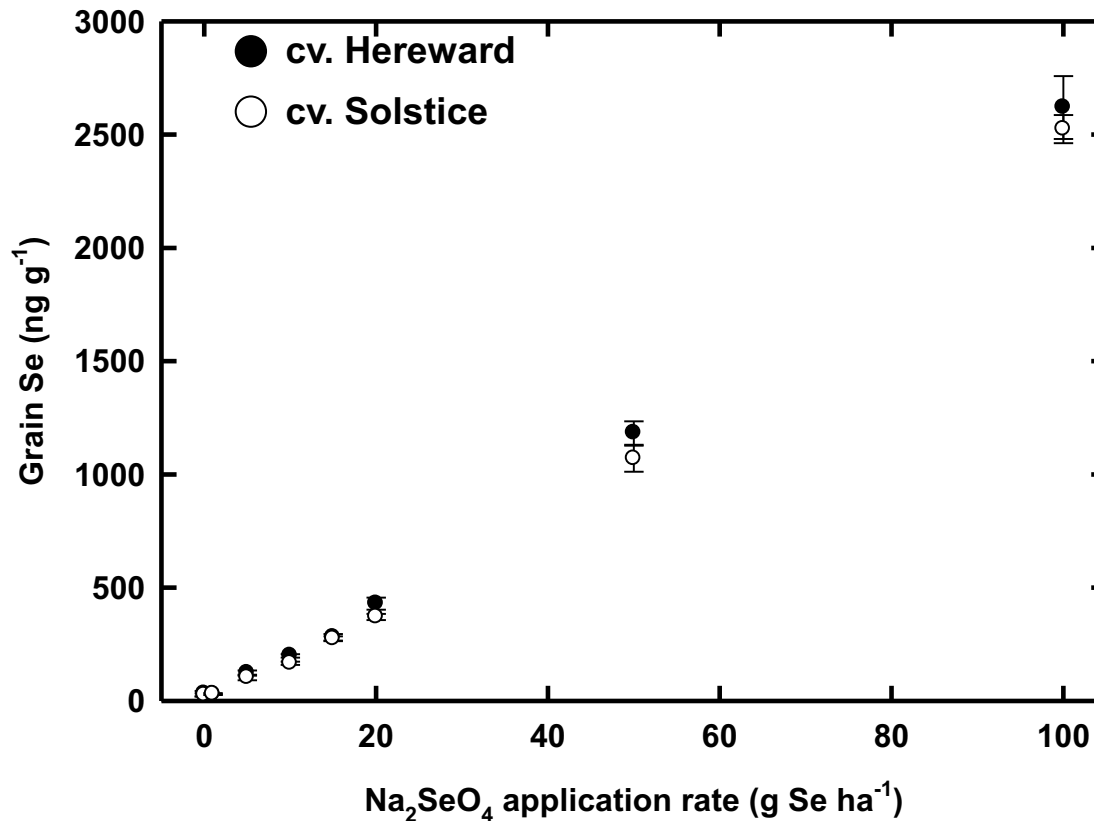


University of Nottingham, Sutton Bonington Farm, 2006

Biofortification experiments, UK (2005-2009)



16-24 ng Se g⁻¹ grain . g⁻¹ Se ha⁻¹



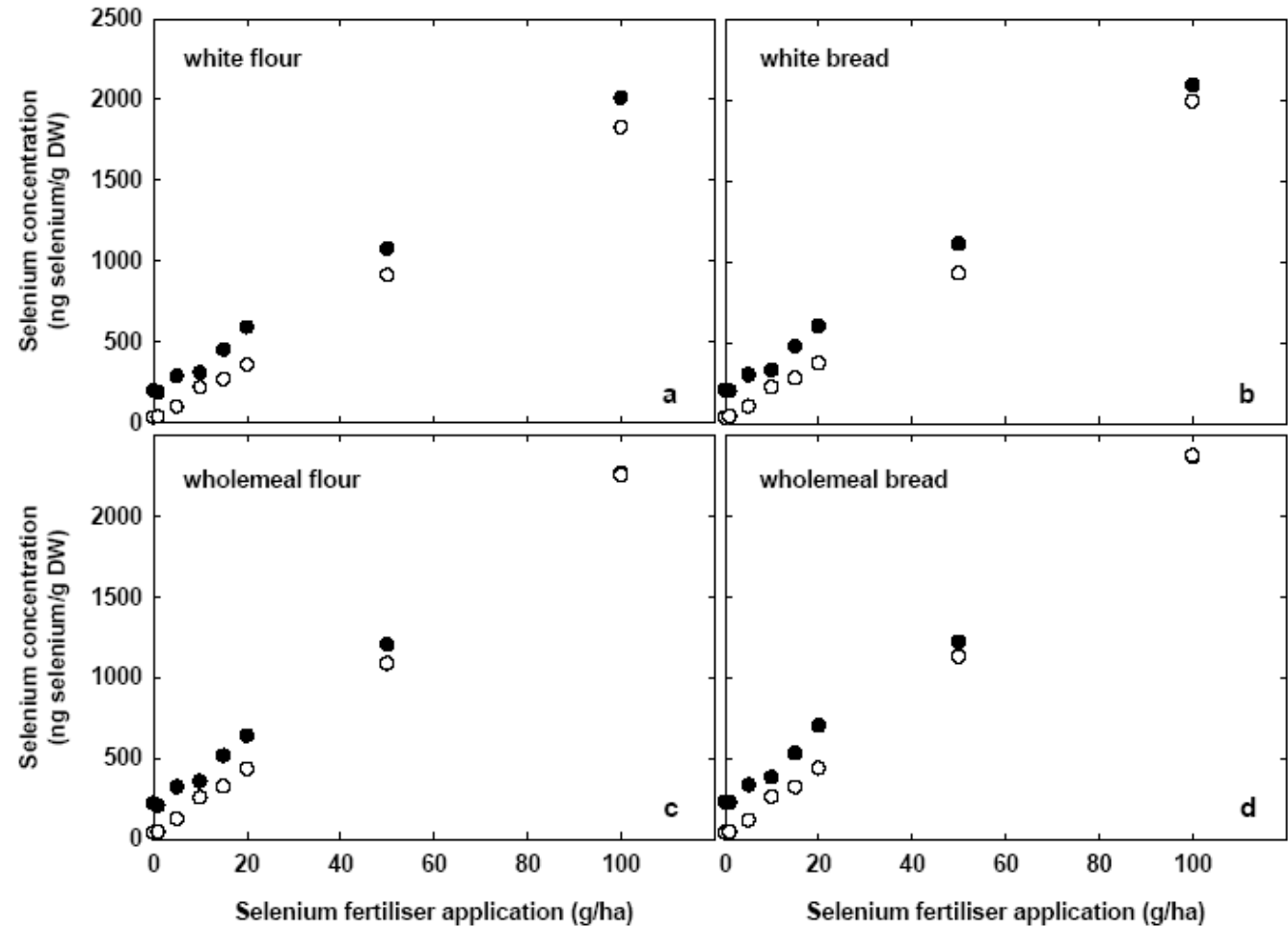
Broadley MR, Alcock J, Alford J, Cartwright P, Fairweather-Tait SJ, Foot I, Hart DJ, Hurst R, Knott P, McGrath SP, Meacham MC, Norman K, Mowat H, Scott P, Stroud JL, Tovey M, Tucker M, White PJ, Young SD, Zhao F-J (2010). Selenium biofortification of high-yielding winter wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) by liquid or granular Se fertilisation. *Plant & Soil*, 332, 5-18.

Stroud JL et al. (2010). *Plant & Soil*, 332, 19-30.

Stroud JL et al. (2010). *Plant & Soil*, 332, 31-40.

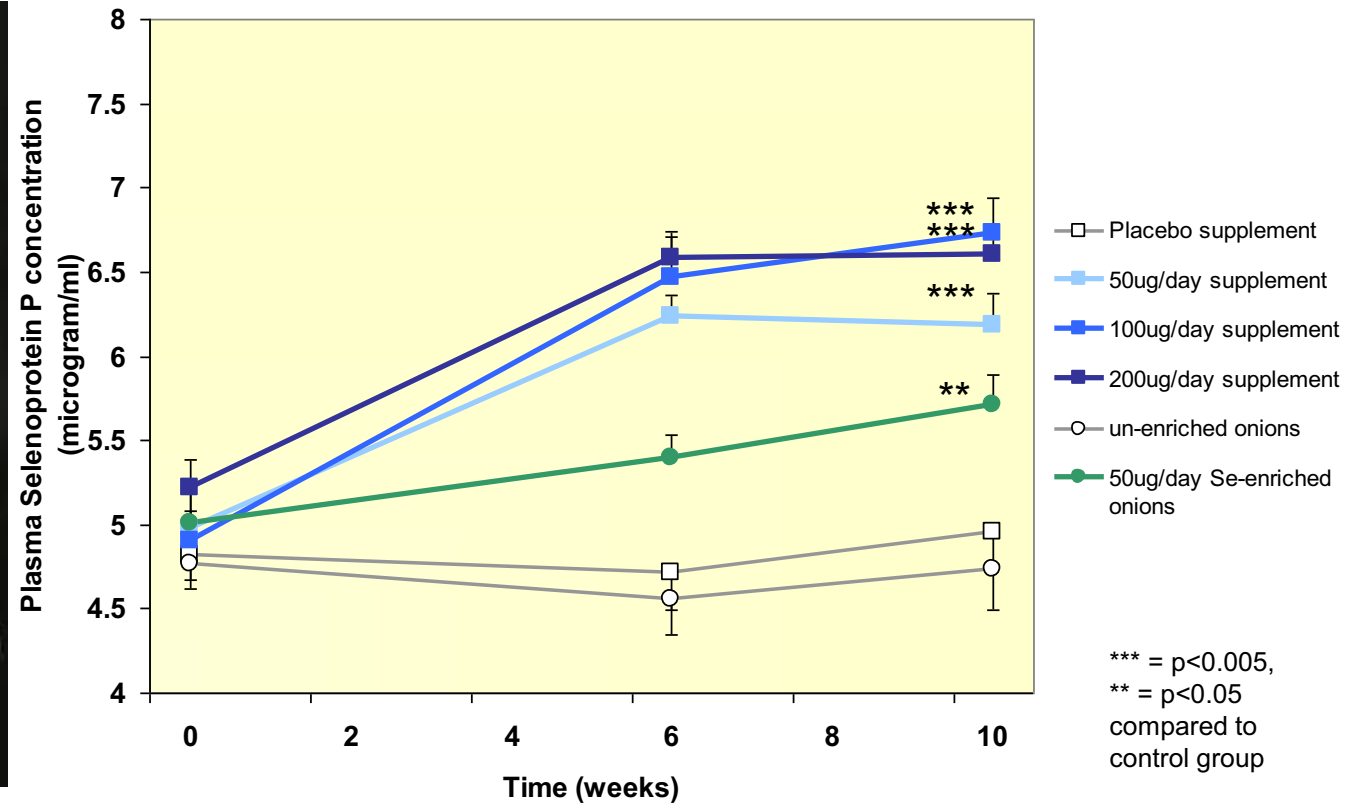
Hart DJ et al. (2011). *Food Chemistry*, 126, 1771-1778.

Biofortification experiments, UK (2005-2009)



5 g Se ha⁻¹ = ~3.5 µg Se slice bread

Health outcomes...? (feeding studies UK, 2005-2009)



Biofortification-related work, Malawi, Zambia (2008-...)

Phase I, 2008-11



The University of
Nottingham

Phase II, 2010-11



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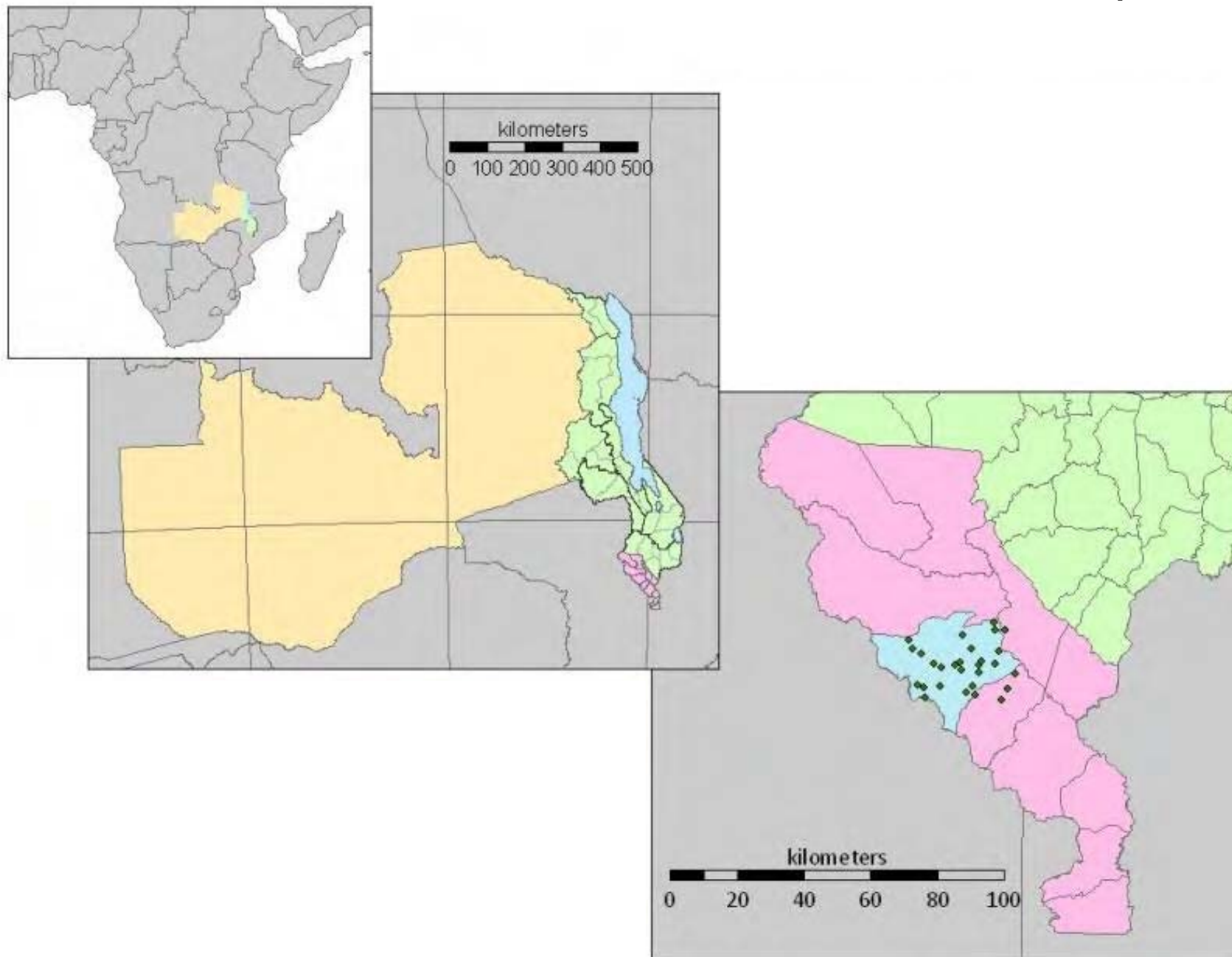
UNIVERSITY
OF MALAWI

UEA

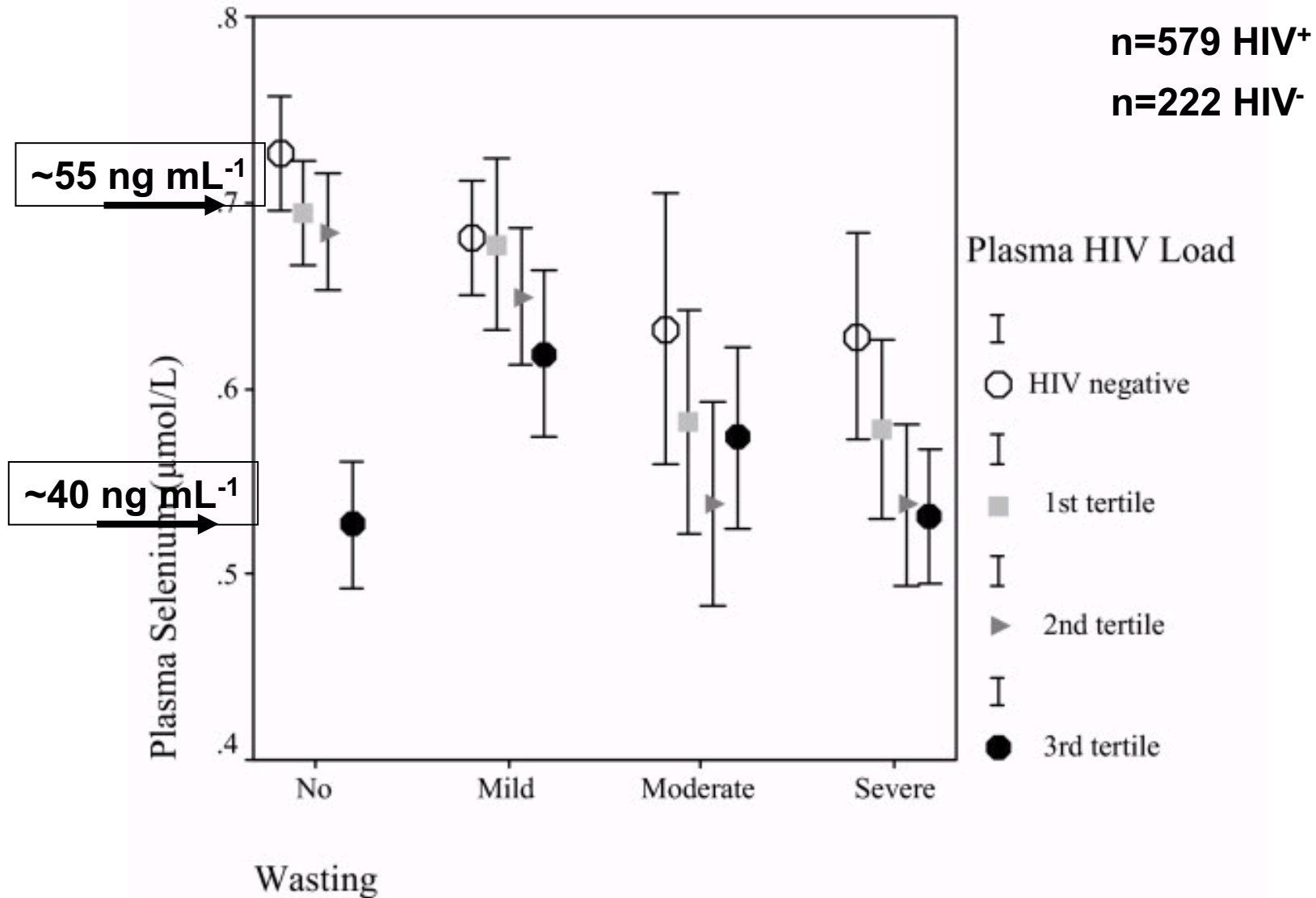
University of East Anglia

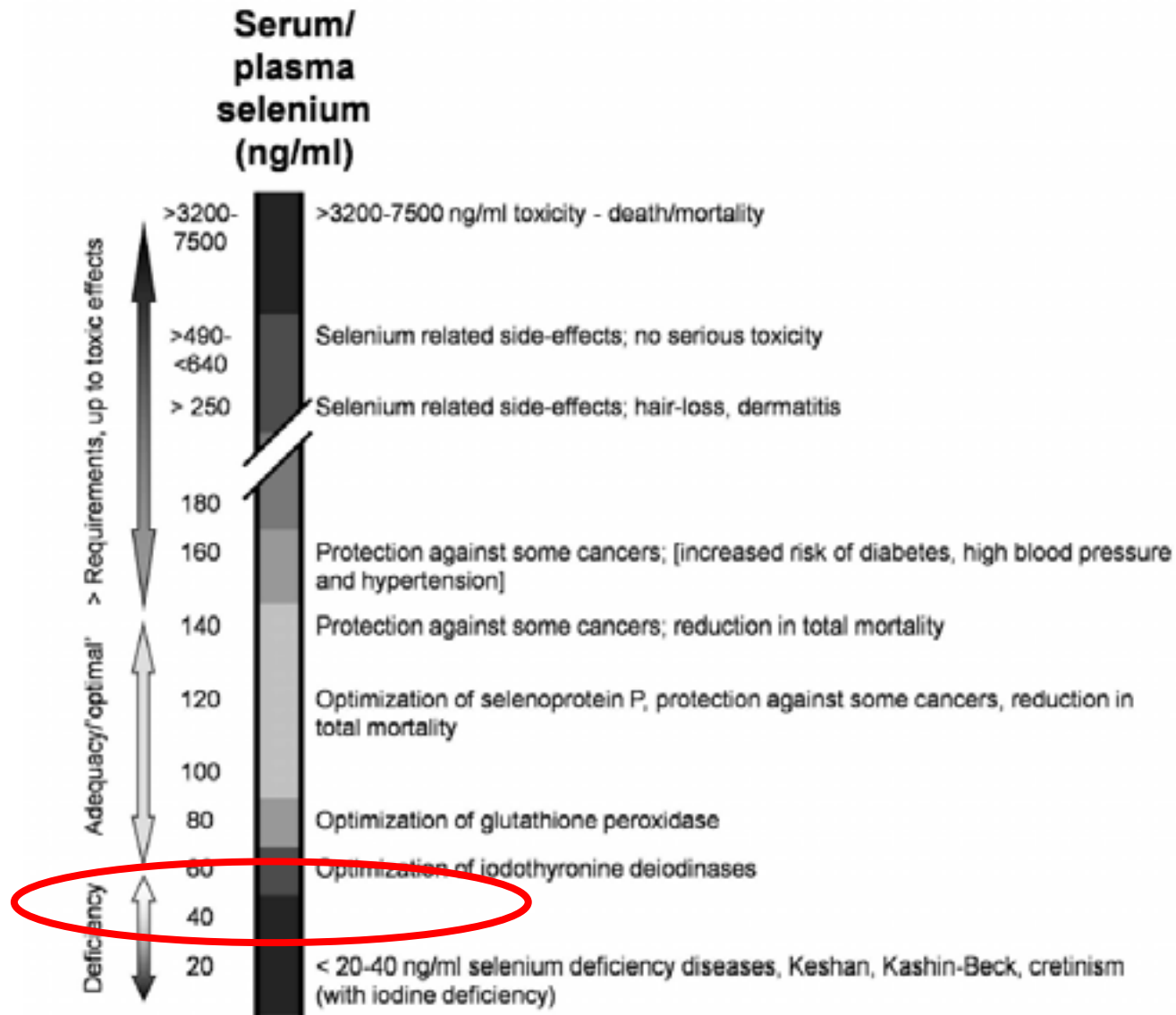
Phase III....

Biofortification-related work, Malawi, Zambia (2008-...)



Low plasma Se status in Malawi





Yield security in Malawi

Agricultural Input Subsidy Programme (AISP) since 2005/06

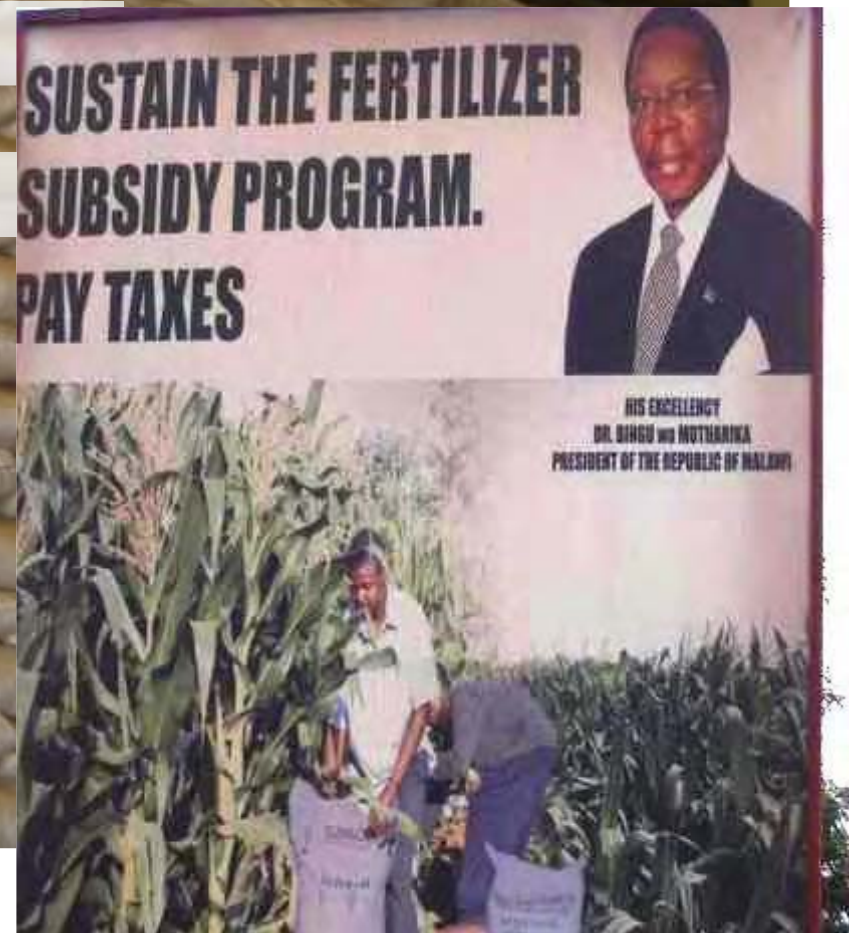
0.2 Mt fertilizers distributed in 2008/09

3.2 Mt maize in 2007 (1.2 Mt exported)

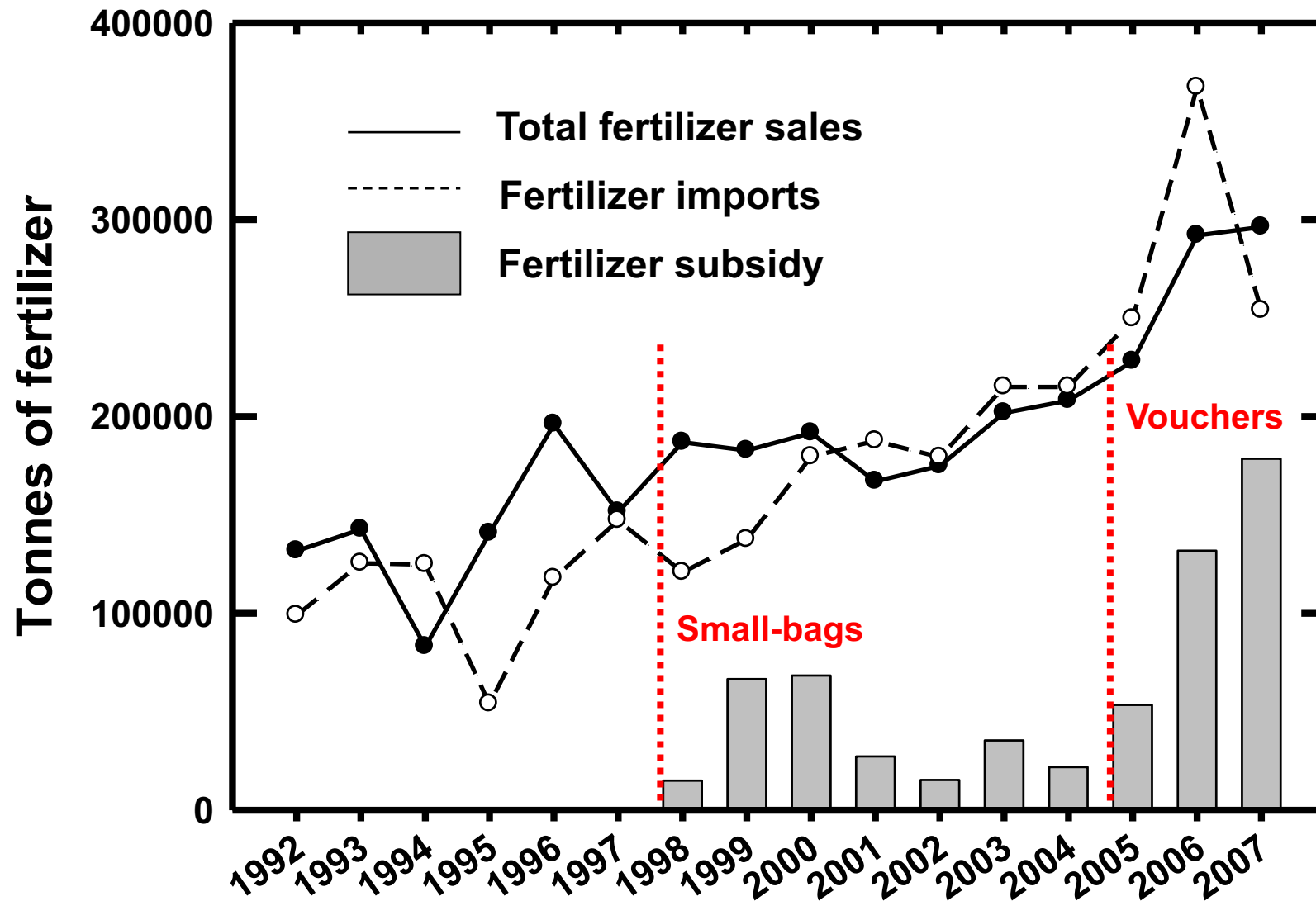
6.6% of GDP spent on AISP

Coupons worth ~10% of income for half of all households

<http://go.worldbank.org/KIGRBO00B0>



Yield security in Malawi



Yield security in Malawi

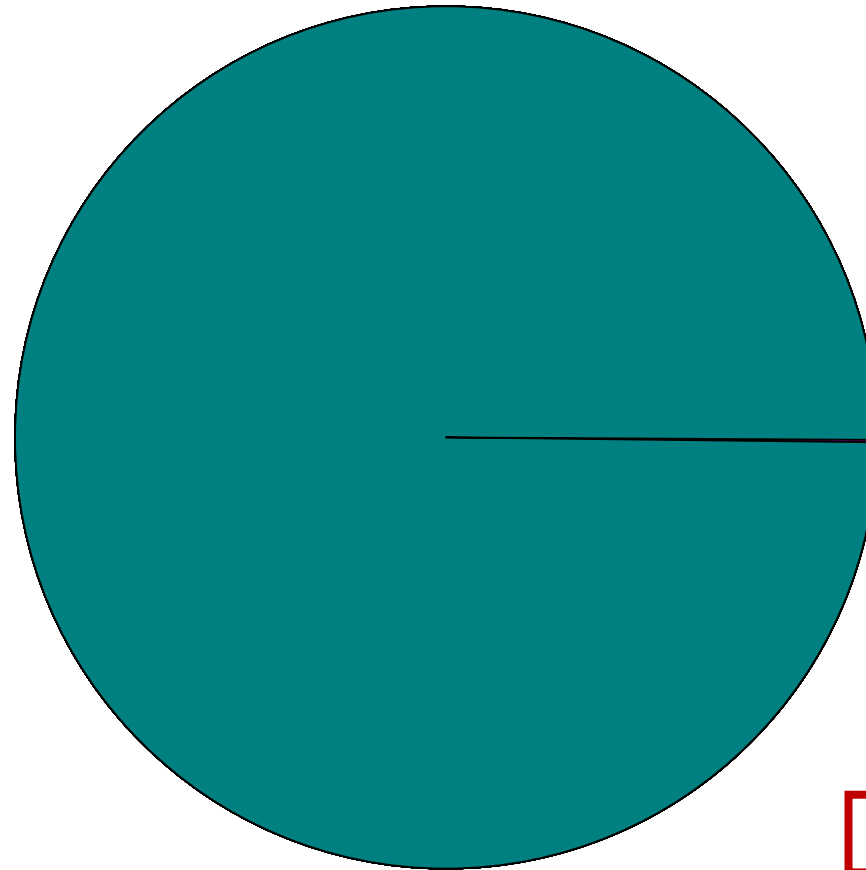
>50% of Malawian calorie intake from maize (0.35 kg person⁻¹ d⁻¹)
















<http://go.worldbank.org/KIGRBO00B0>
<http://faostat.fao.org>

Dietary energy *availability* in Malawi

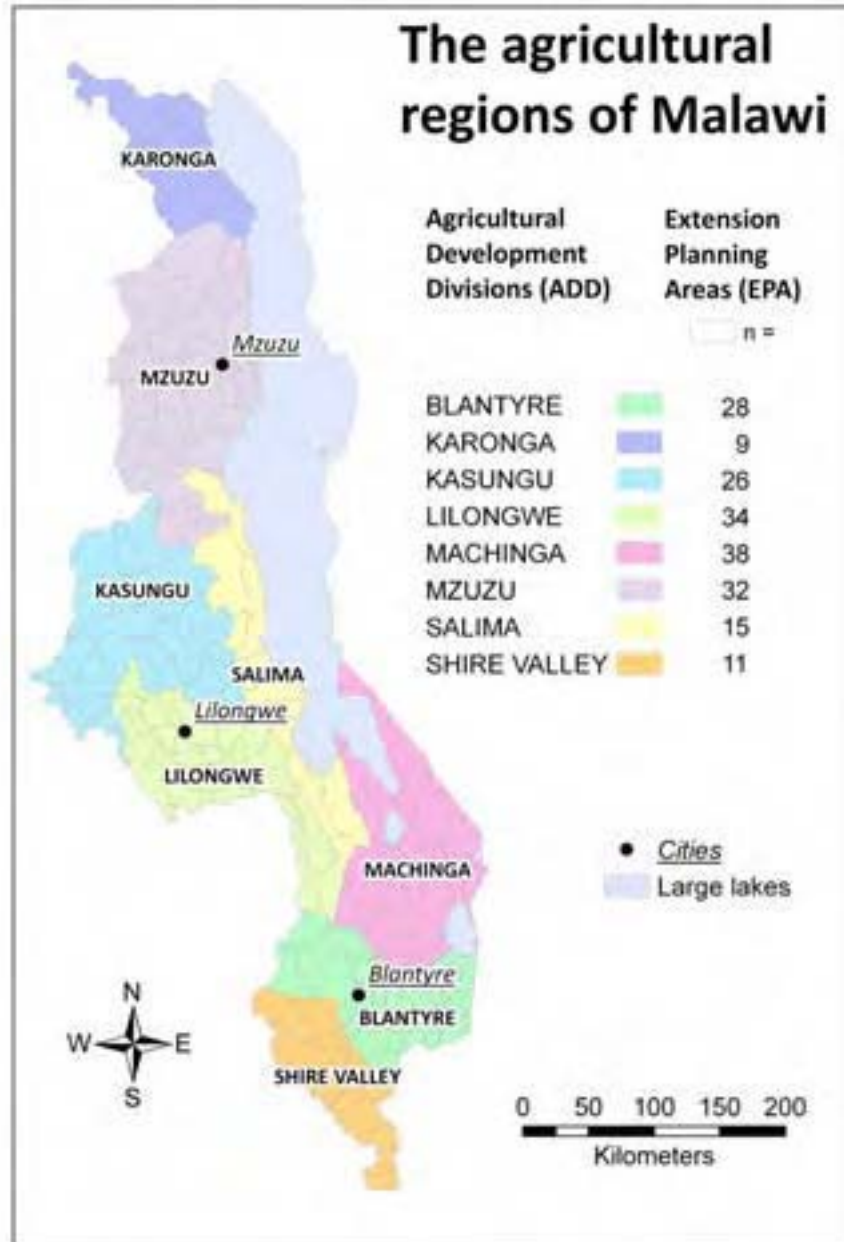
FAO, 2011 (2007)



2,172 kcal person⁻¹ d⁻¹

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---|---------------|---|----------|---|-------------|
|  | maize |  | other pulses |  | plantain |  | beans |
|  | potato |  | groundnut oil |  | wheat |  | banana |
|  | cassava |  | veg. oil |  | rice |  | other fruit |
|  | raw sugar | | | | | | |

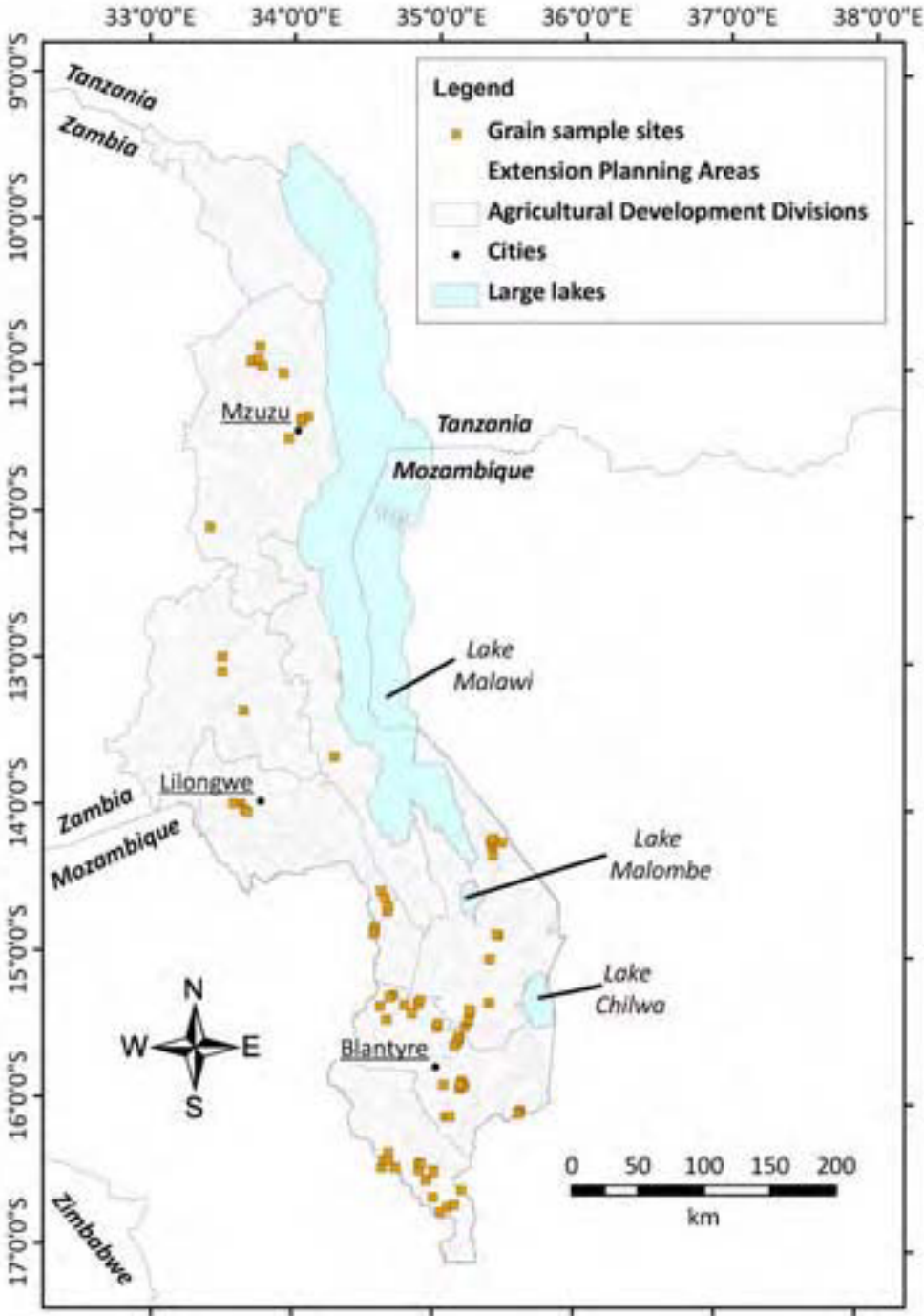
Phase I



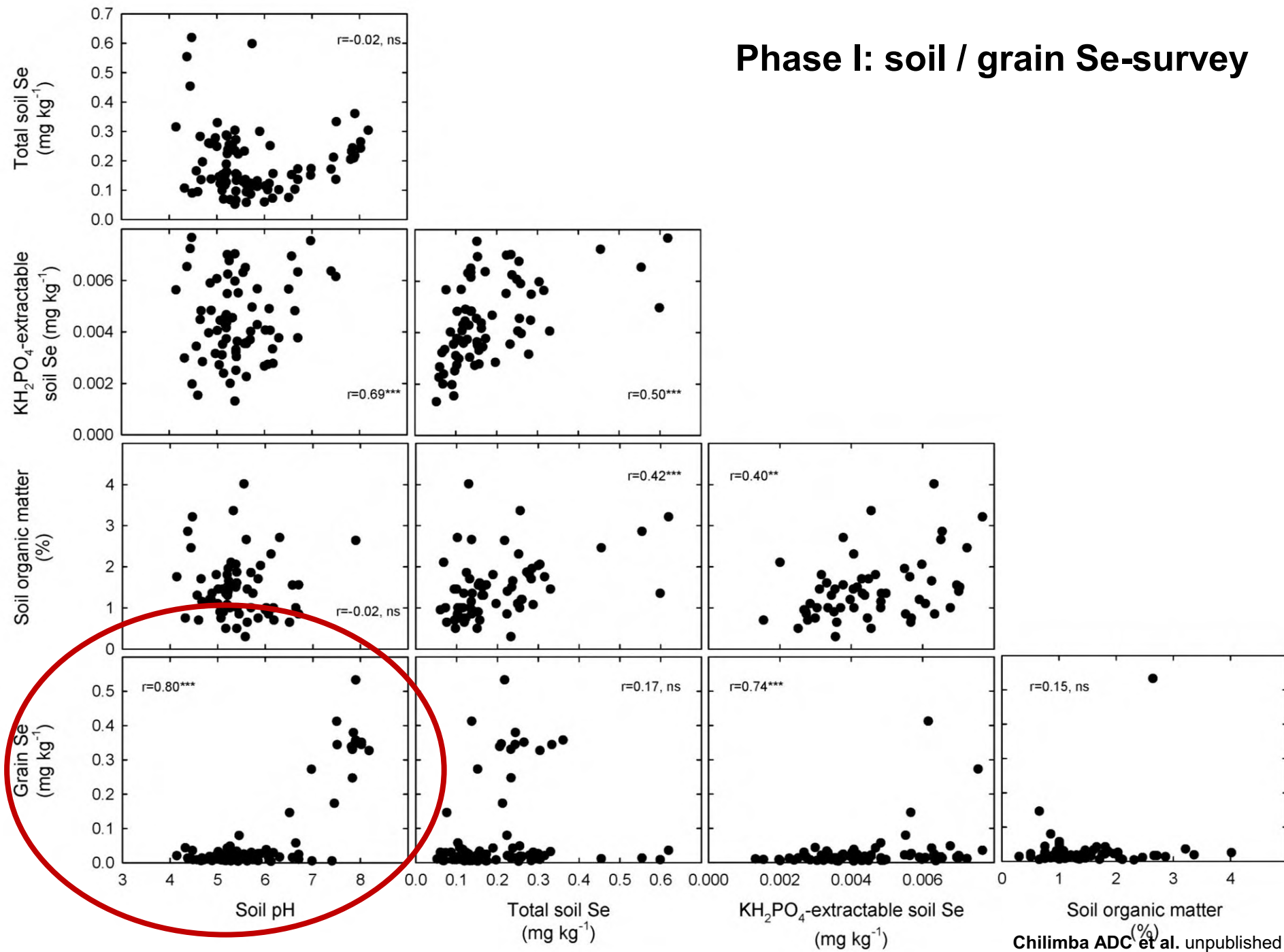
- Soil / grain survey

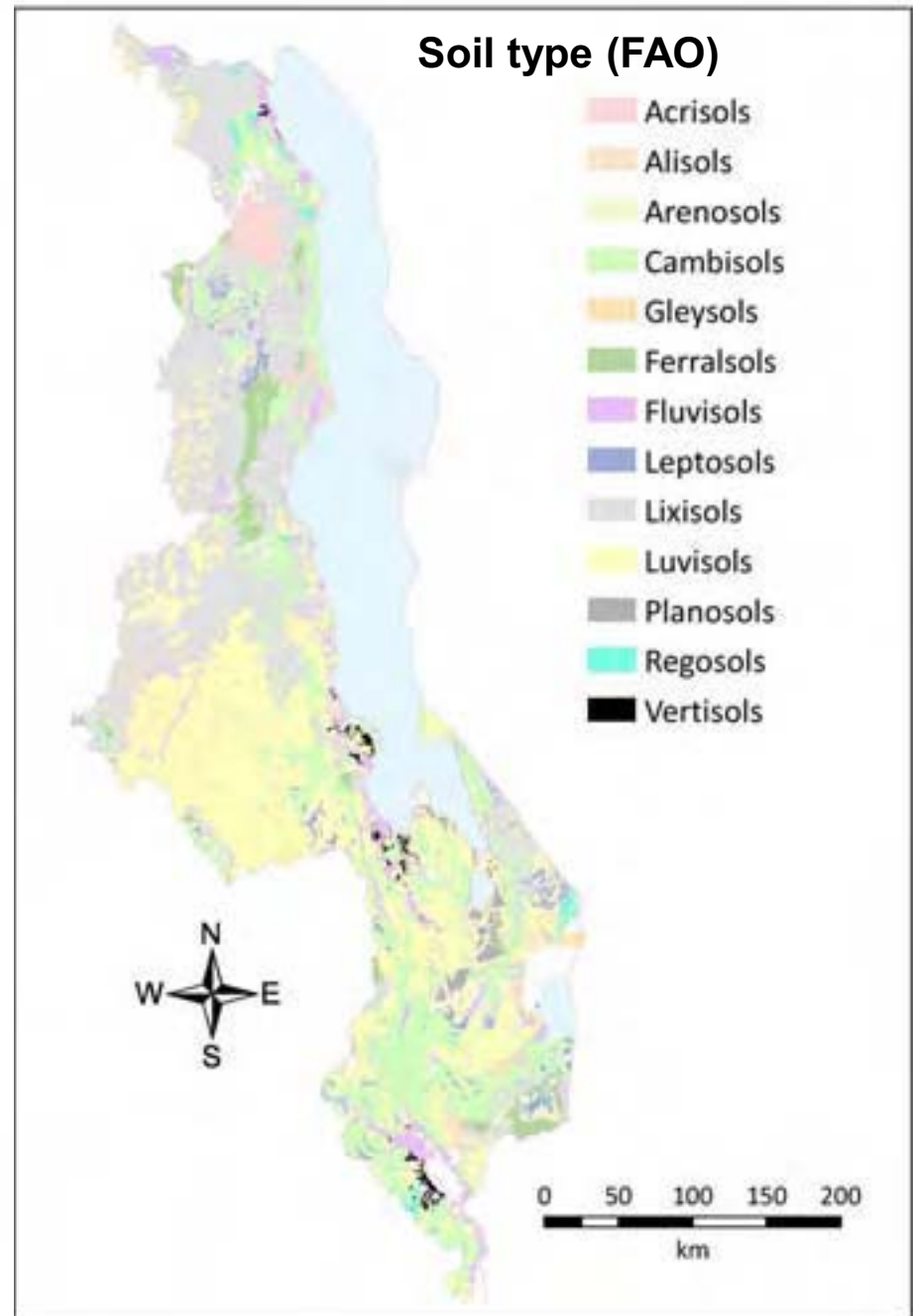
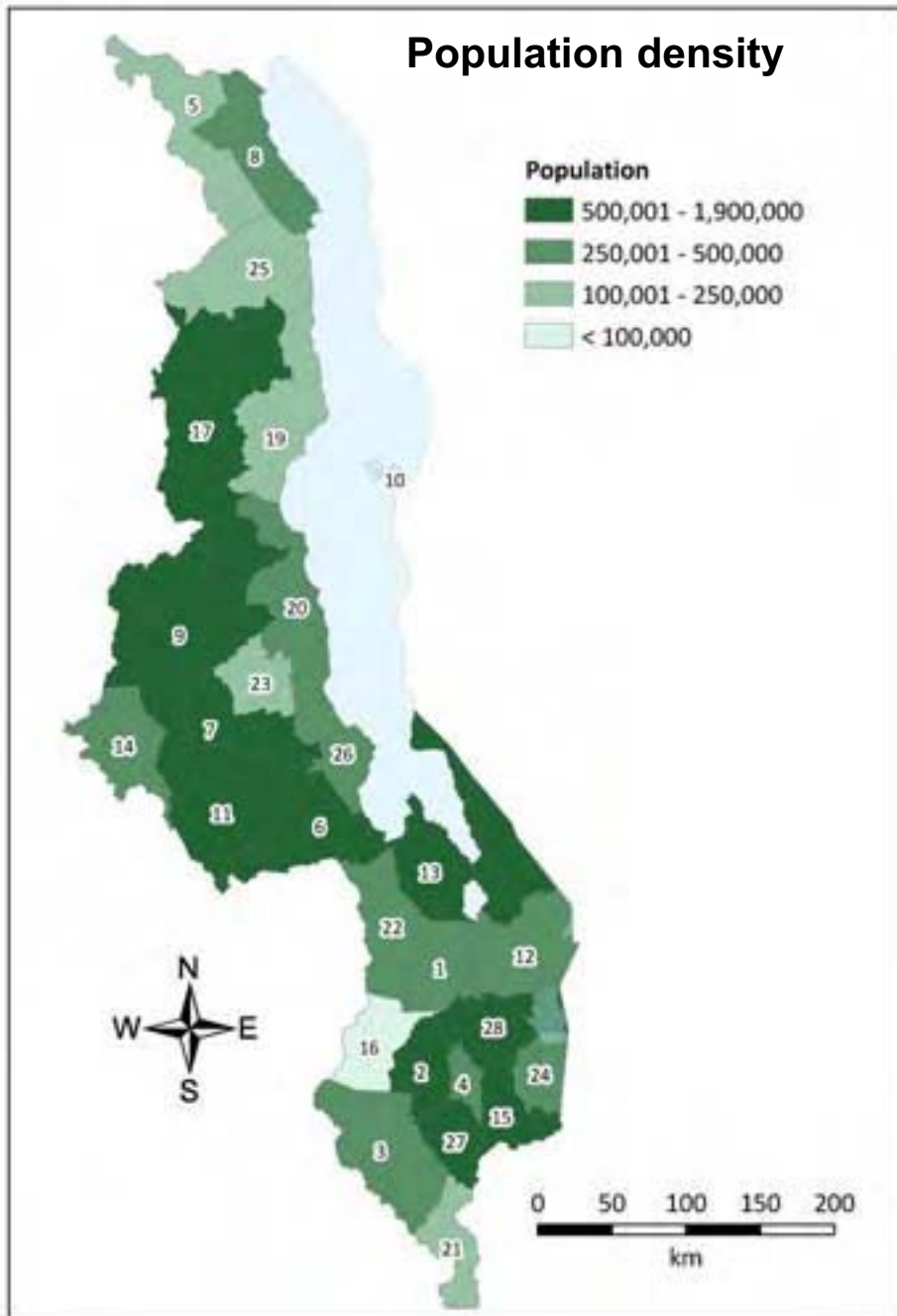
- Fertilizer experiments

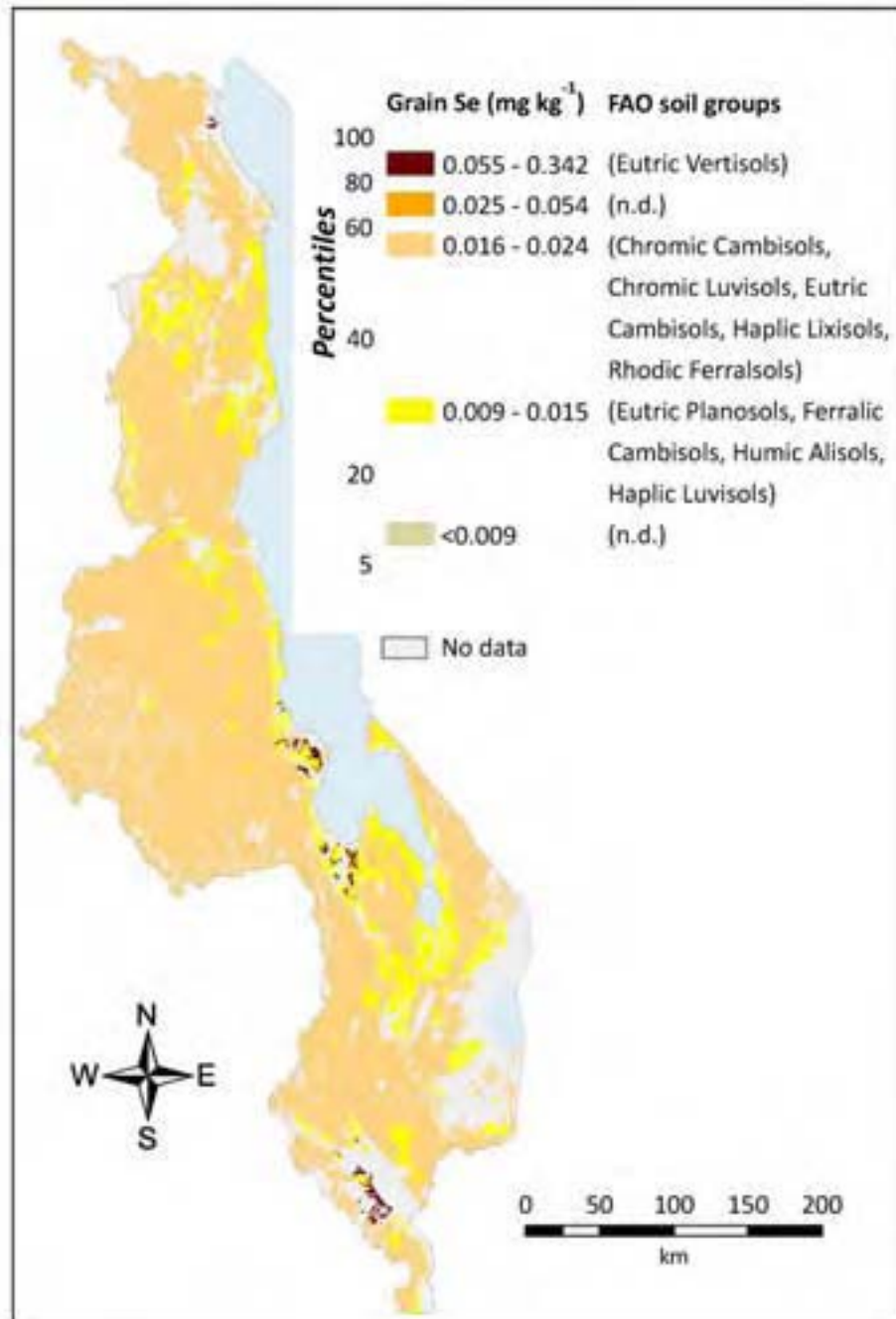
Phase I: soil / grain Se-survey



Phase I: soil / grain Se-survey







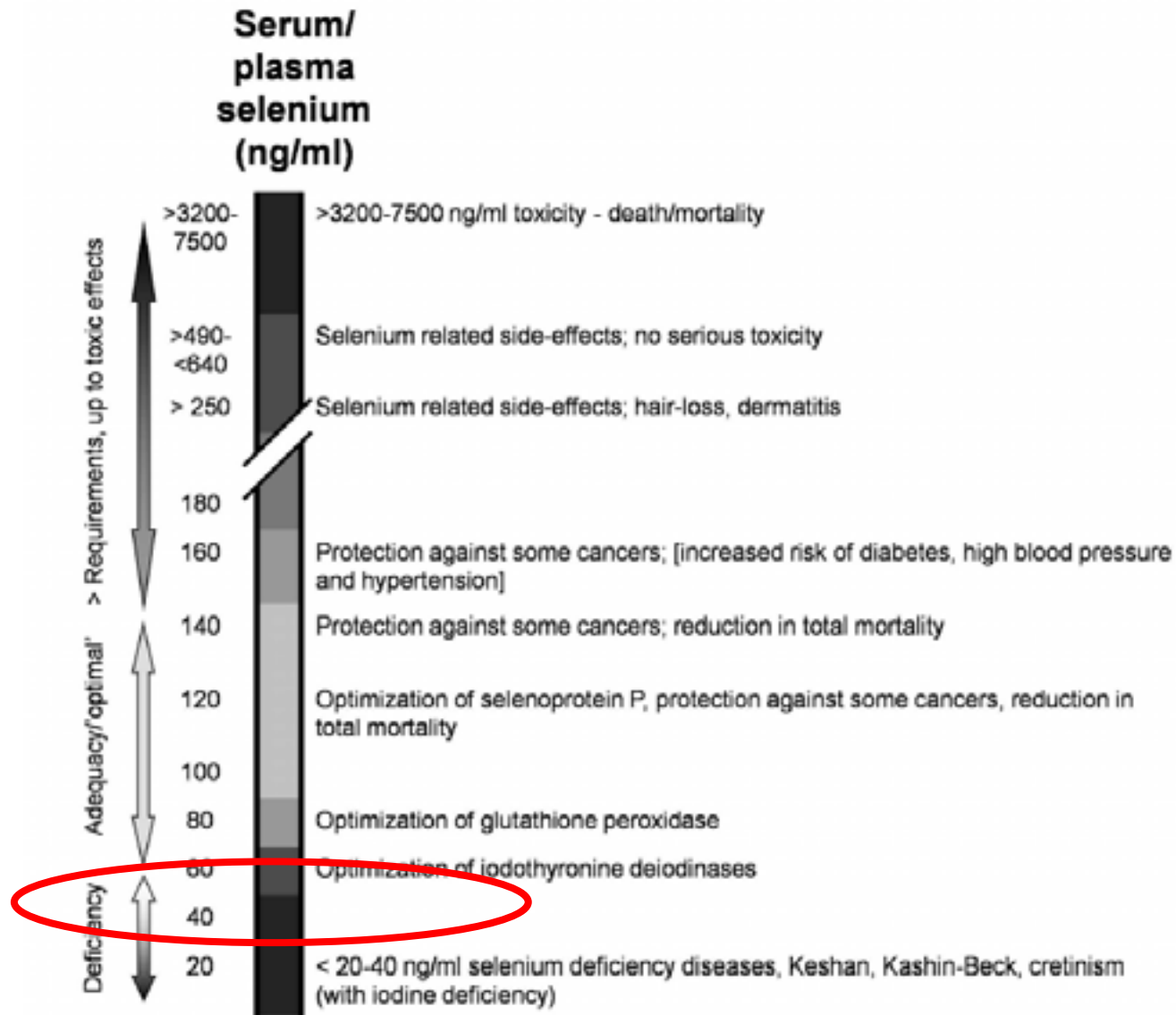
Phase II: data integration

Se intake from maize sources:

50% of population	<6.0 $\mu\text{g d}^{-1}$
75%	<7.0 $\mu\text{g d}^{-1}$
90%	<7.5 $\mu\text{g d}^{-1}$

**Se intake from non-maize sources:
15-22 $\mu\text{g d}^{-1}$**

Se deficiency is the norm, based on intake...



Phase I: fertilizer experiments



January 2009

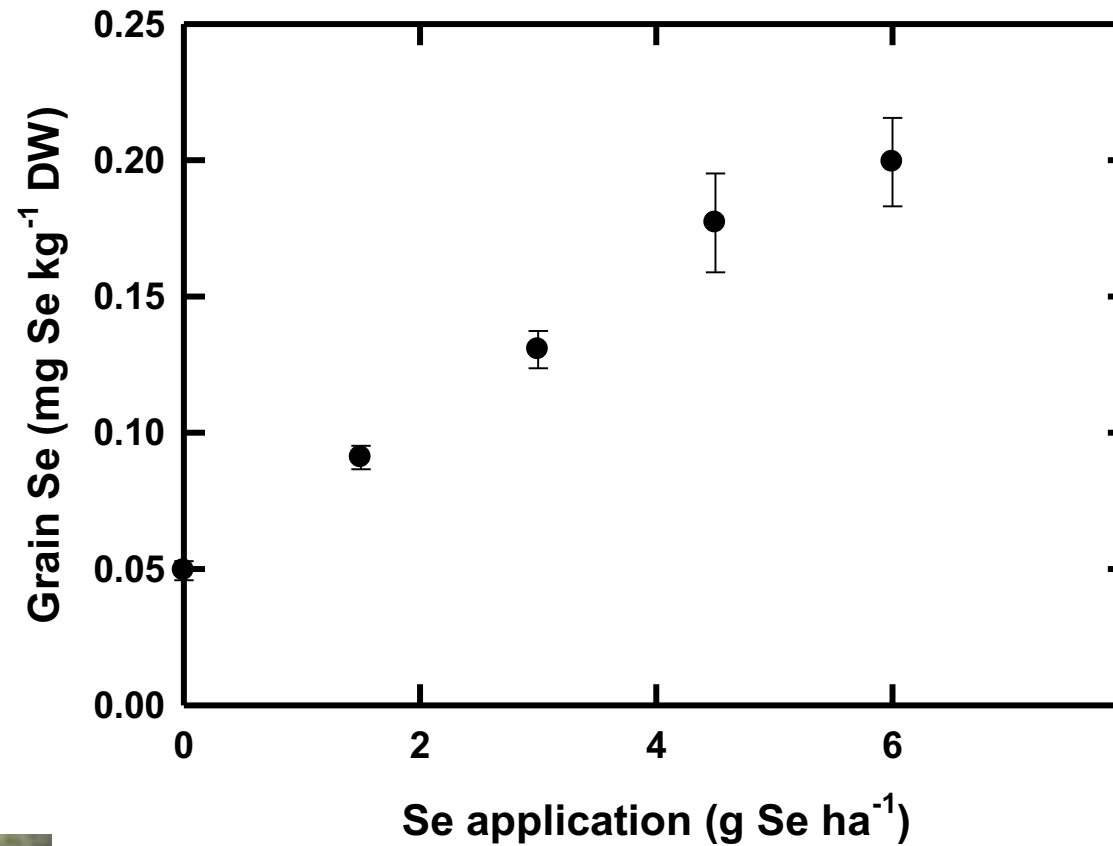
Phase I: fertilizer experiments



January 2009

Maize-grain Se (2009)

Makoka



Phase I: preliminary conclusions

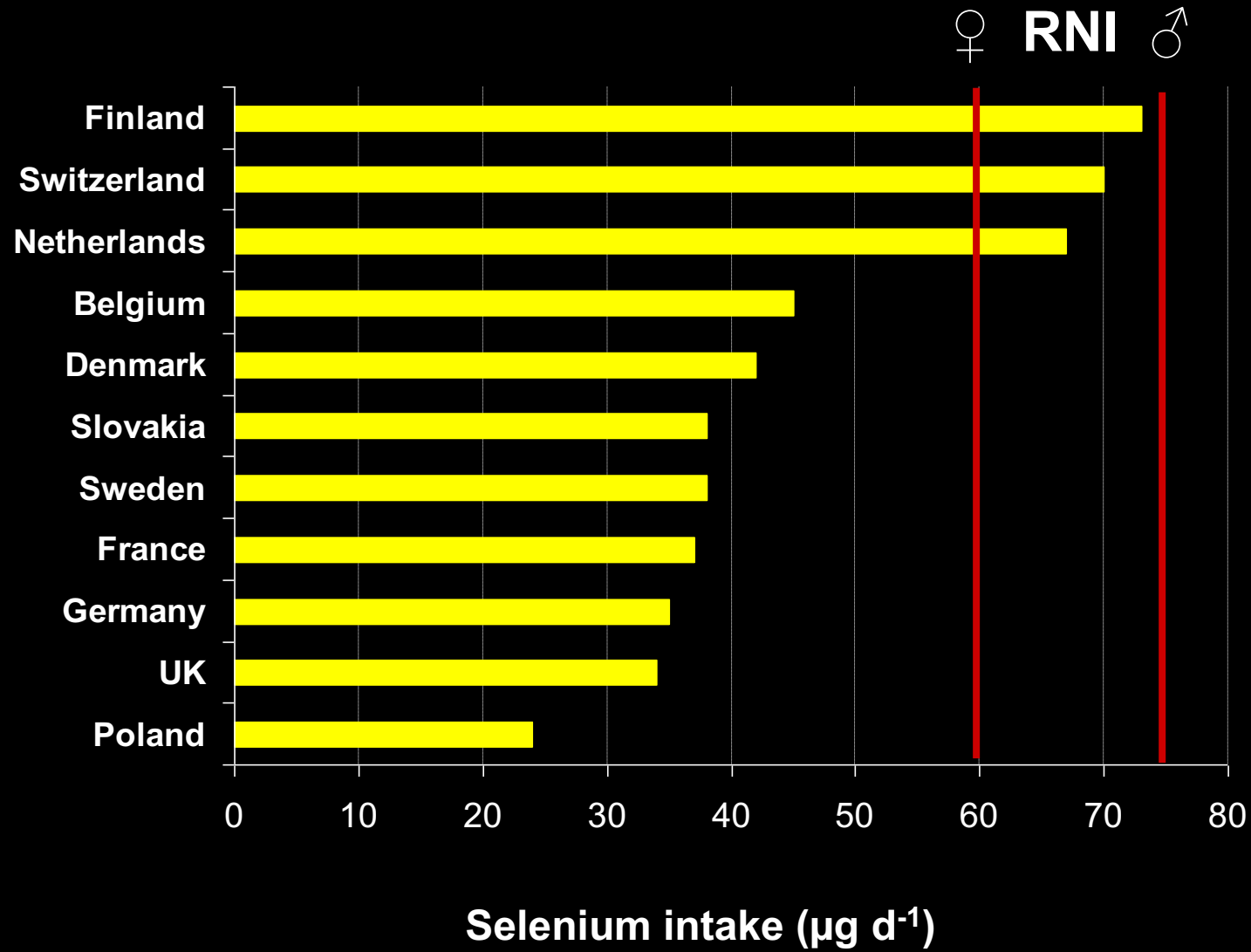
0.015 mg Se kg⁻¹ grain . g⁻¹ Se ha⁻¹ [*~9 g ha⁻¹ for 55 μg d⁻¹*]

200 kg ha⁻¹ fertilizer basal dressing typical [*e.g. 23:10:5:5 NPKS*]

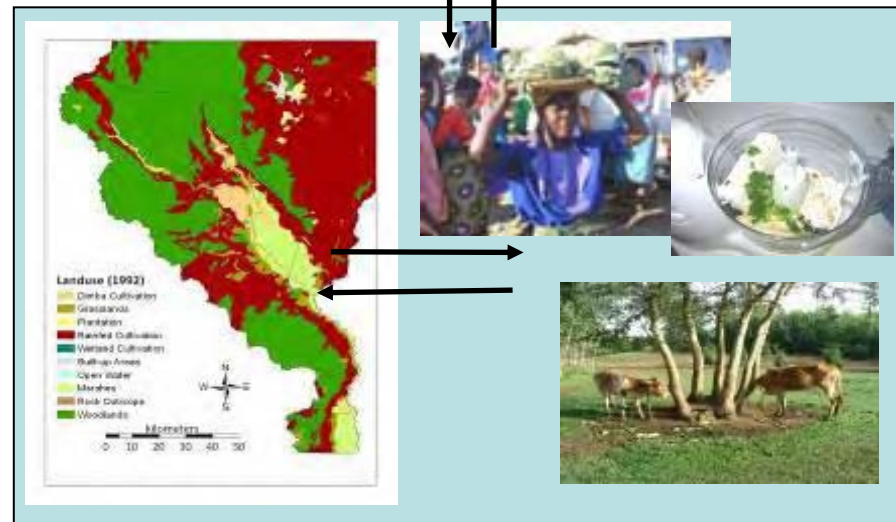
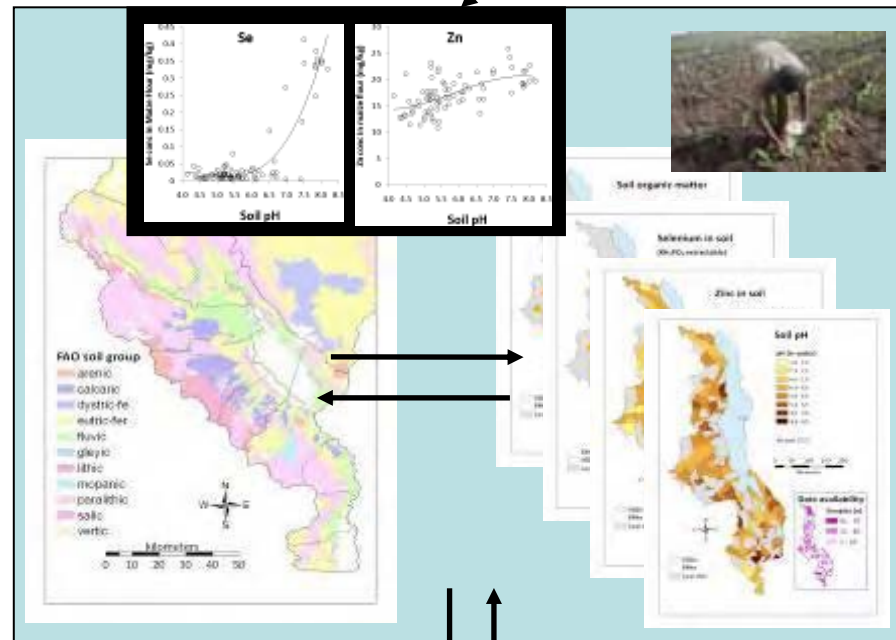
Existing products would deliver 10 / 2.2 g Se ha⁻¹ at typical N rates
[23:10:5:5:0.005Se]
[25:5:5:0.0012Se]

200,000 t fertiliser Se-enriched at USD \$30 t⁻¹ (??) = \$6m annum⁻¹
[*<50¢ capita⁻¹*]

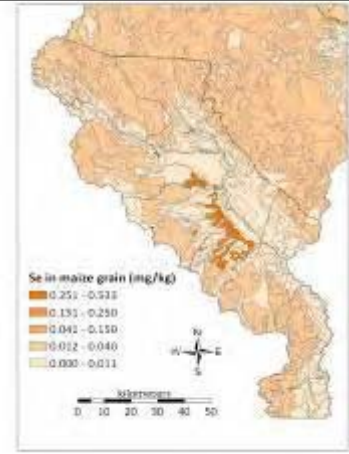
Selenium actual intakes



Phase III: data integration



TFs / Dietary intakes



health outcomes

Summary

Billions are malnourished due to mineral supply limitations

Biogeochemical cycles, agriculture, dietary choice underpin supply

Much more data collection / integration required

- *soils-crops-people-health outcomes*

Nutritionally-informed agriculture: mineral intervention when required

- *engagement // fertilizer and breeding sectors*

- *awareness of likely market failure*

Acknowledgements (current/recent activities)

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BBSRC

Malawi: Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of Health

ESPA (NERC/DFID/ESRC)

Yara