



**From impact
assessment to climate
change adaptation:
What do we need to
know for invertebrate
management in grains**

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**Transitioning Cereal Systems
to Adapt to Climate Change**

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From impact assessment to climate change adaptation: What do we need to know for invertebrate pest management in grains

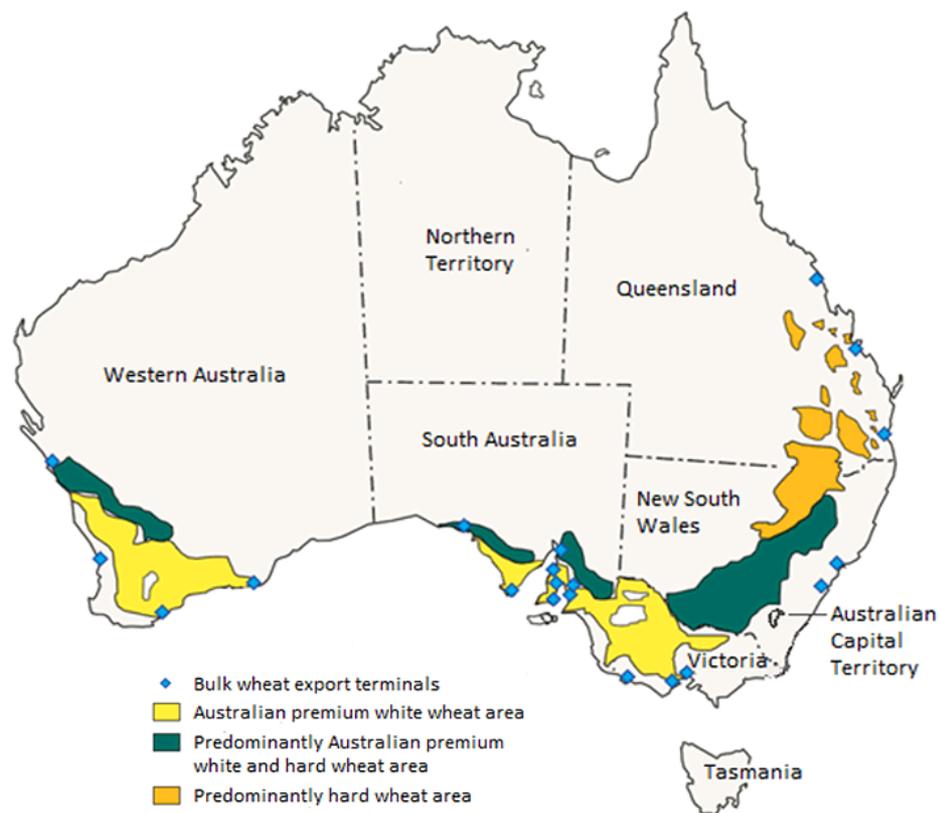
Sarina Macfadyen, Matthew Hill, Garry McDonald

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Climate change impact on grain production in Australia

- Less rainfall in autumn/winter – sowing time
- Shift to earlier sowing (assuming adequate rainfall)
- Accelerated crop development lead to reduced yields
- Heat waves may impact grain protein content



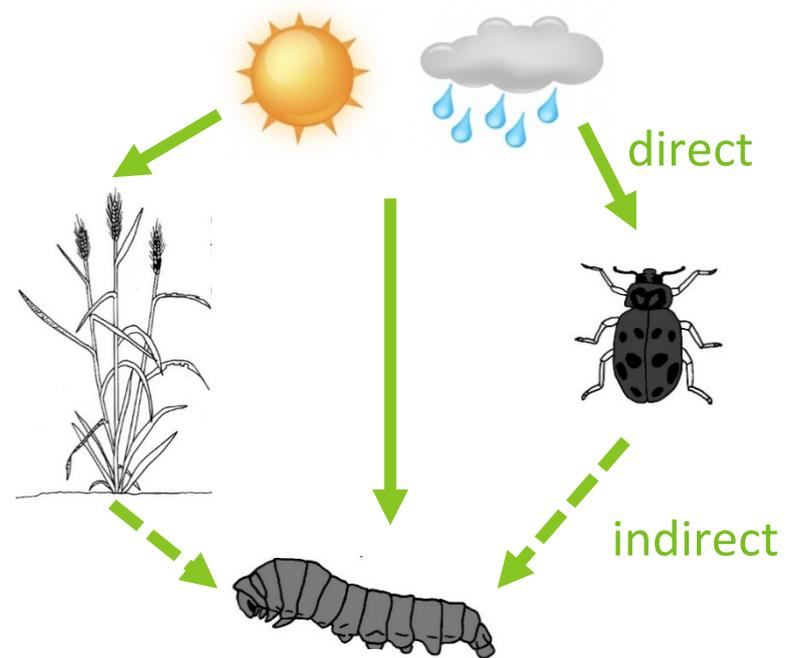
Source: ABARES

Will there be more problems from invertebrate pest outbreaks?

Response to climate change

Potential responses of pest herbivores:

1. Shifting distribution
2. Altering phenology
3. Adjusting to persist *in situ* (phenotypic plasticity or evolutionary adaptation)



- Growers manage for multiple pest species

Pest herbivore species

Plutella xylostella



Helicoverpa armigera

Halotydeus destructor



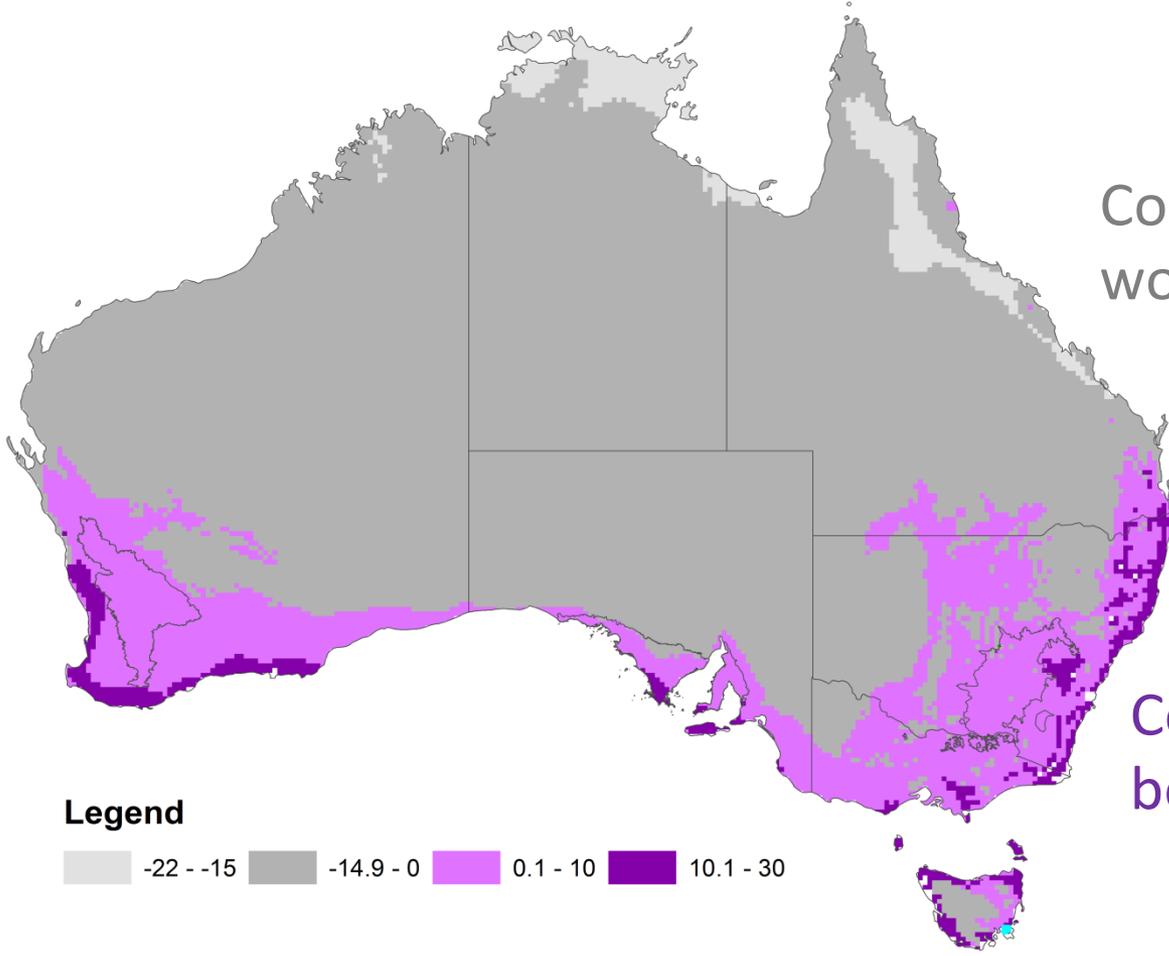
Photo: A. Weeks (CESAR)

Rhopalosiphum padi



Sminthurus viridis

1. Shift in distribution - Northern species moving south – *Helicoverpa armigera*



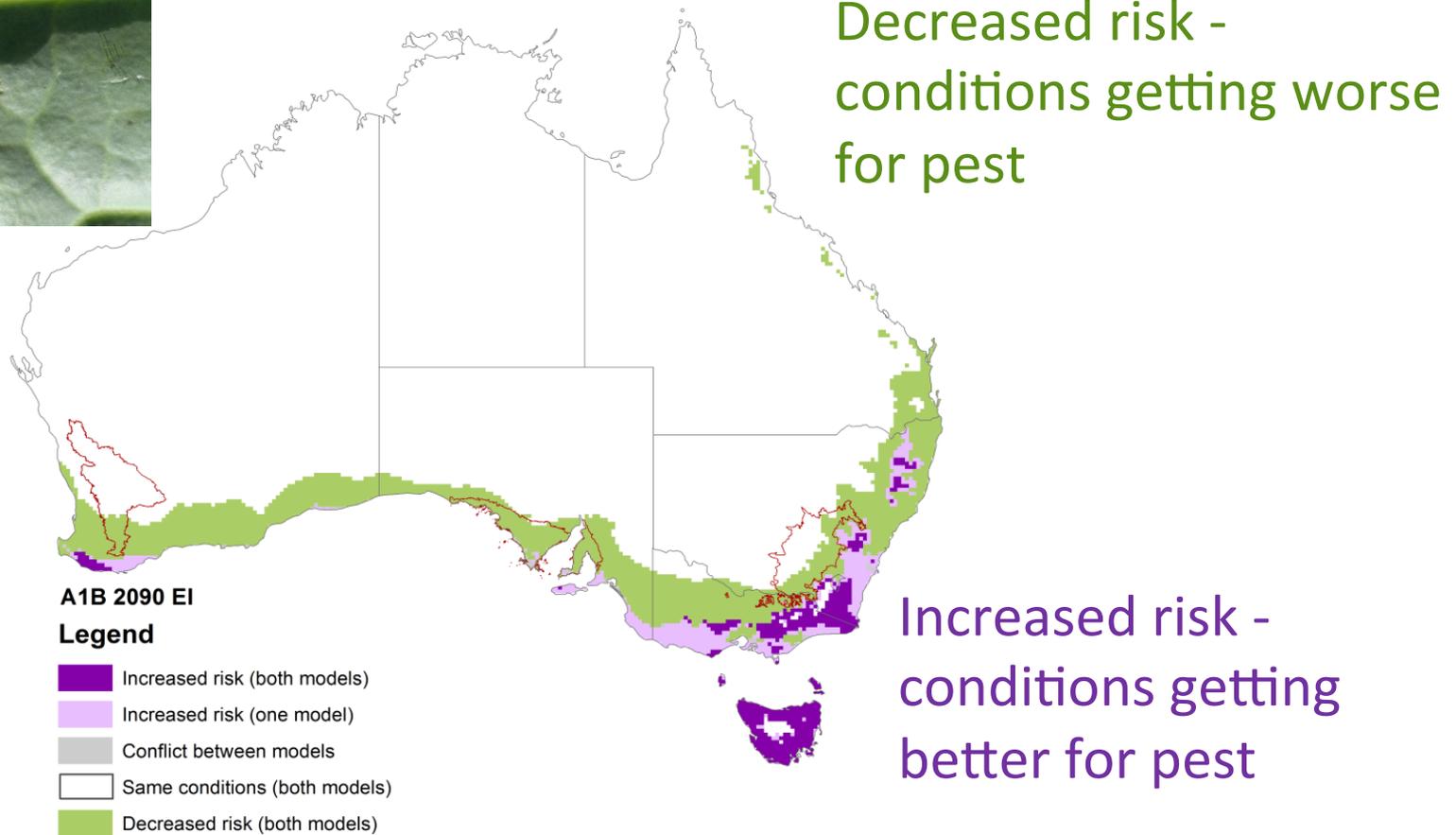
Conditions are getting worse for pest



Conditions are getting better for pest

Change in the suitable conditions (change in EI) for growth of *H. armigera*
A2, MR climate change scenario, historical and 2090

1. Reduction in risk in certain areas – *Plutella xylostella*



Change in the suitable conditions for year-round growth of *P. xylostella*
A1B and consensus areas between two GCMs (CS and MR), historical versus 2090

2. Altered phenology – interaction of rainfall and temperature

Cootamundra, NSW (*P. xylostella*)

More favourable



Mean Glw

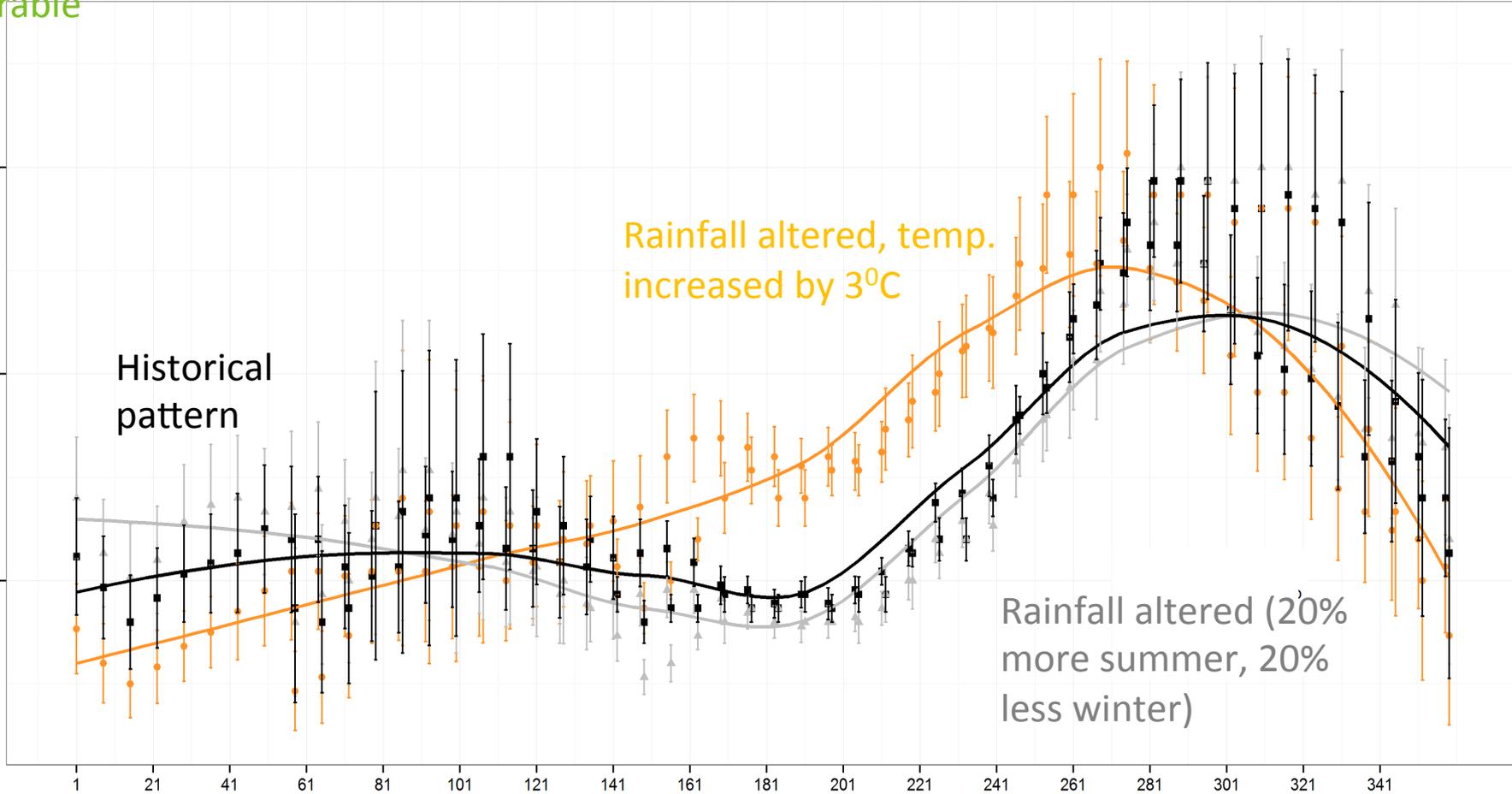
Rainfall altered, temp. increased by 3°C

Historical pattern

Rainfall altered (20% more summer, 20% less winter)

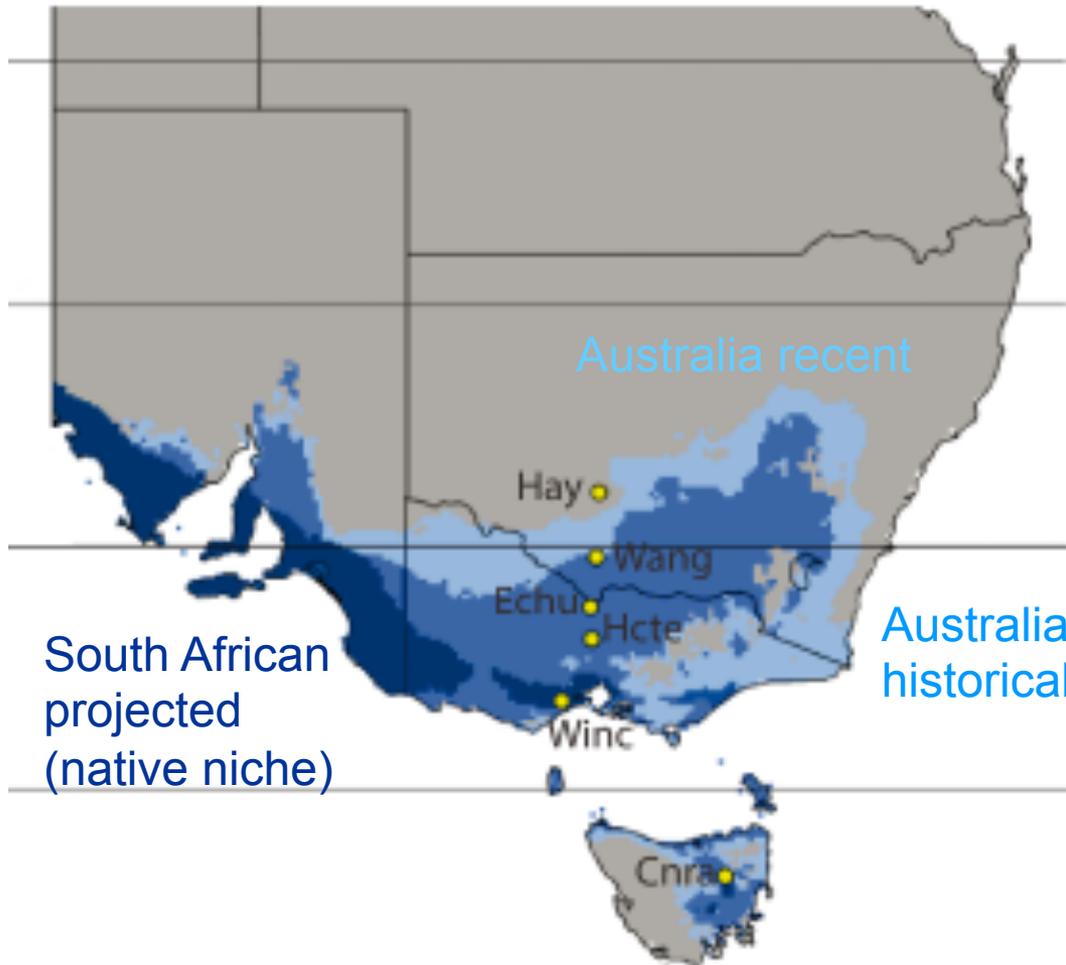
Less favourable

Day of the year



3. Adaptive capacity of pests

Halotydeus destructor

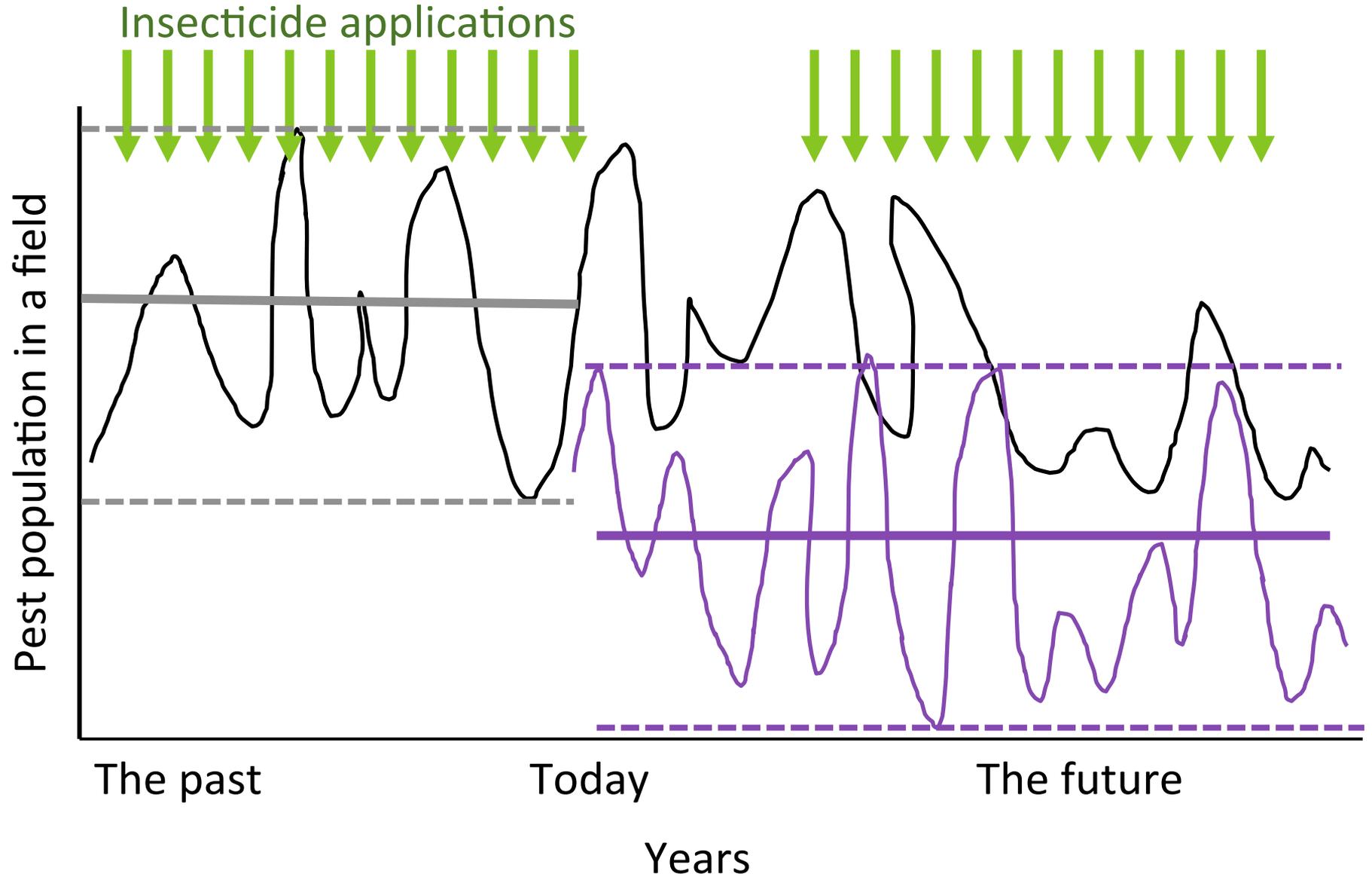


Australian populations:
Increased upper thermal threshold for movement
Recover from cold stress more quickly

Discussion areas

- Adaptive capacity of pests and natural enemies – do we understand enough?
- The current way we manage pest outbreaks is maladaptive under more variable environmental conditions.
- A reduction in pest risk across time is just as difficult to manage effectively as an increase in pest risk.

Insecticide-use in the face of uncertainty



Acknowledgements

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Thank you

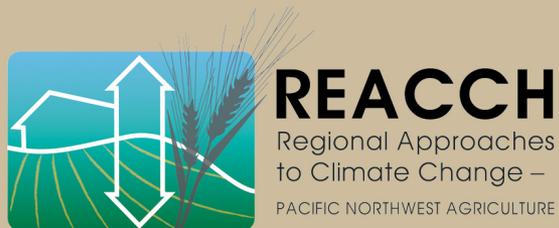


Thank you!

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