

image processing in biology

Get an impression of your plant!

NCERA 101 Cocoa Beach, March 10, 2008 Dr. Jörg Vandenhirtz

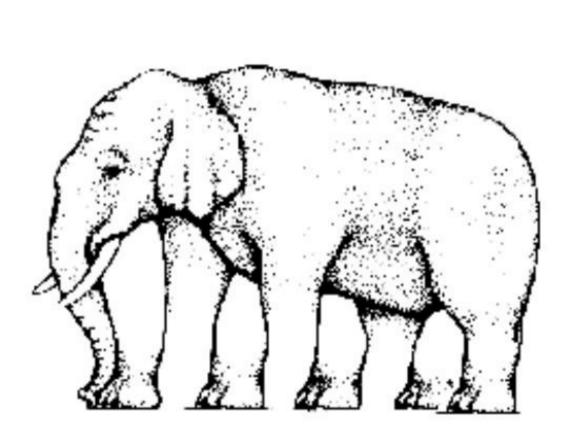


Integrated solutions for biology

- founded May 1998 in Aachen, Germany
- interdisciplinary team (biology, physics, engineering)
- development of image processing software
- development of hardware
- plant pathology, effect screening, ecotox, qc
- development of integrated solutions for research and industry in compliance with int'l standards



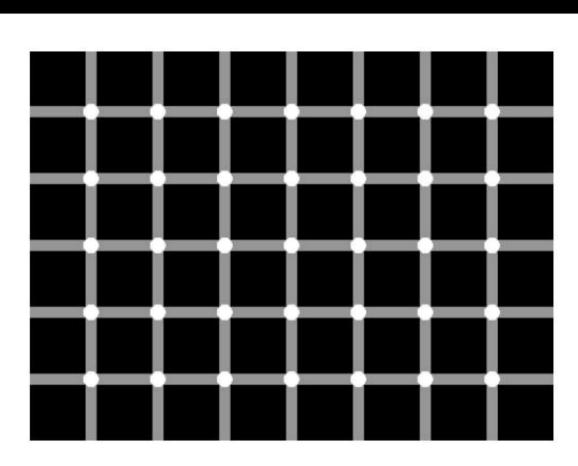
<u>The human eye</u>



How many legs does this elephant have ?



not suited for scientific measurements

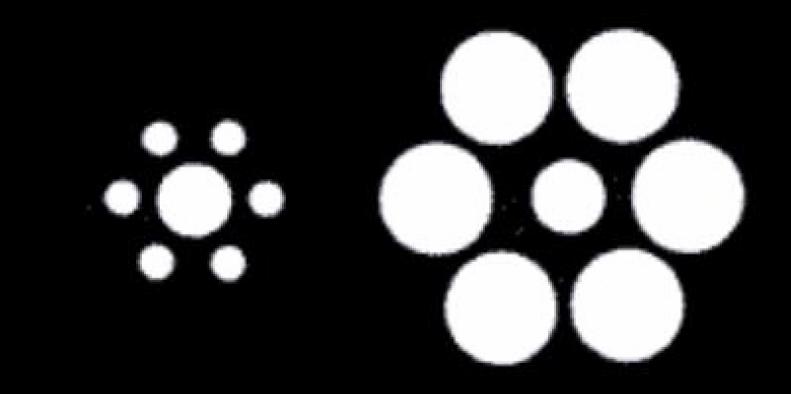


Count the number of black dots ...



not suited for scientific measurements

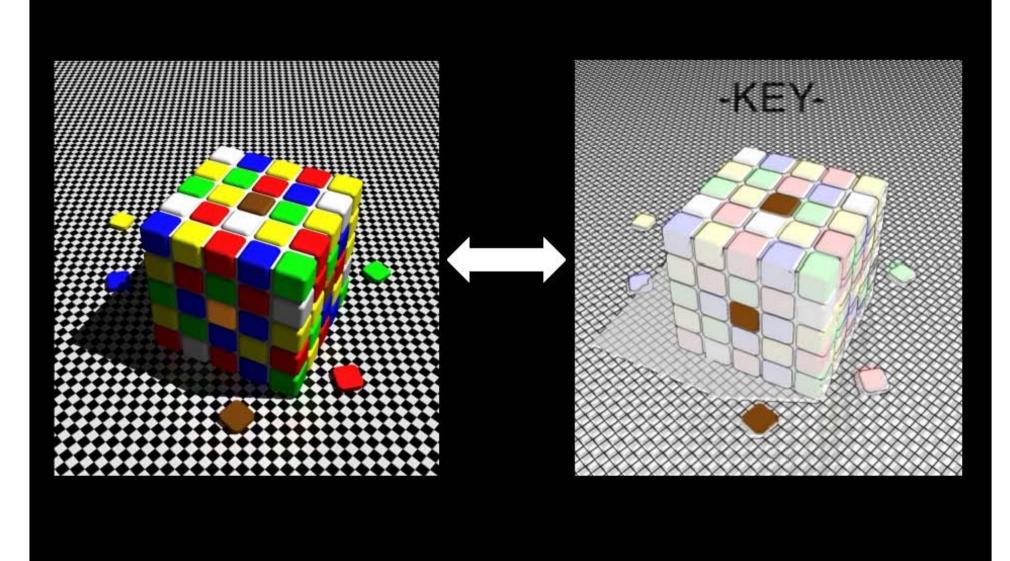
the circles in the center...

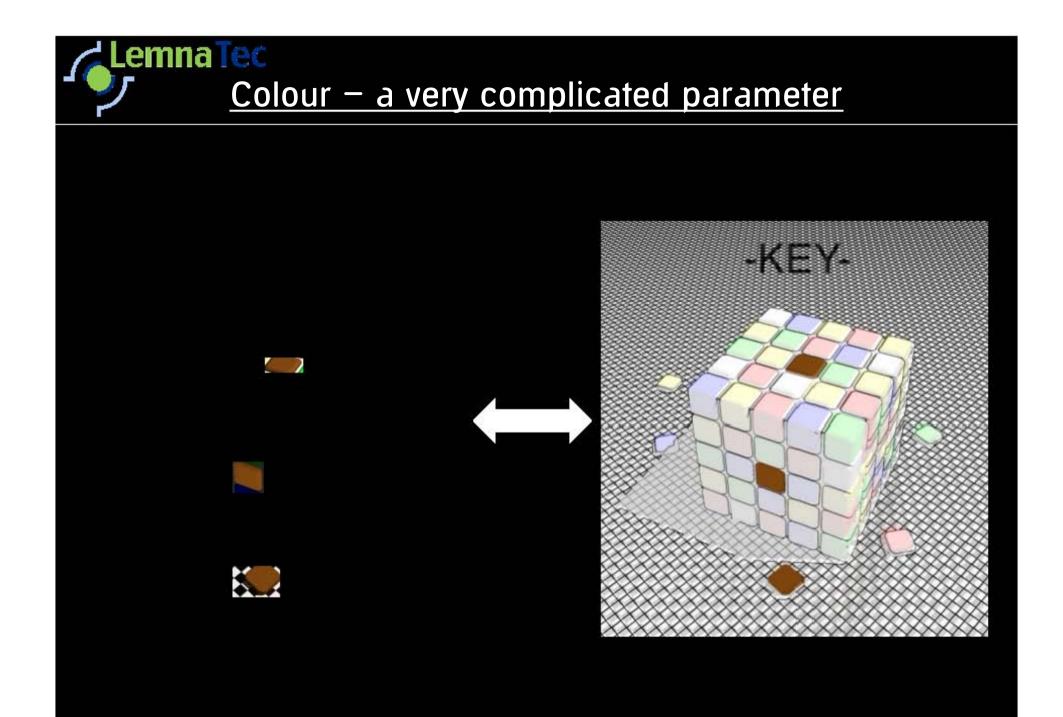


...are exactly the same size!



<u>Colour – a very complicated parameter</u>









- objects up to 20 cm x 30 cm
- microplates up to 96 wells
- manual change of samples





The LemnaTec Scanalyzer System Plant

- objects up to 25 cm x 30 cm
- max. object height 25 cm
- MTPs up to 96 wells
- manual change of samples



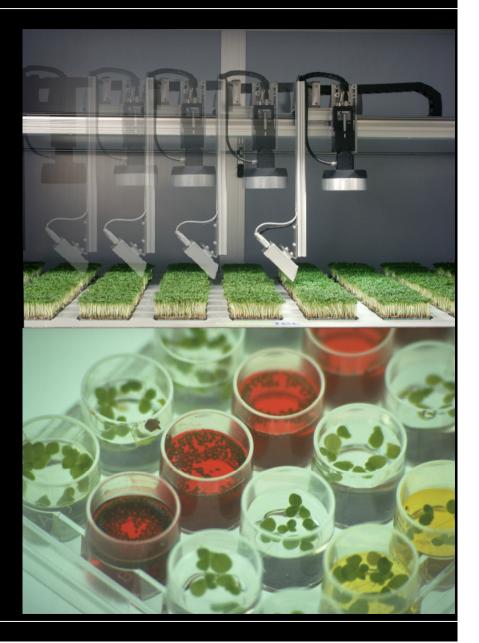




The LemnaTec Scanalyzer System HTS

Scanalyzer HTS features

- flexible size
- high number of samples
- Iarge units
- high resolution available esp.for 96 well plates
- automated image acquisition
 for mobility tests





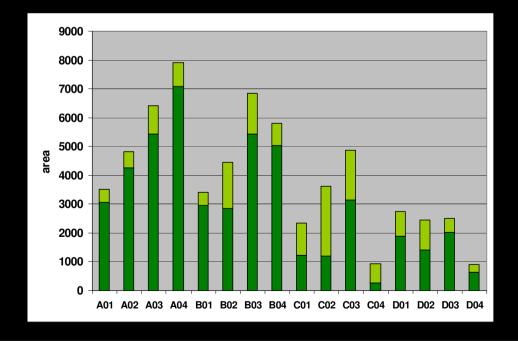
The LemnaTec Scanalyzer System HTS

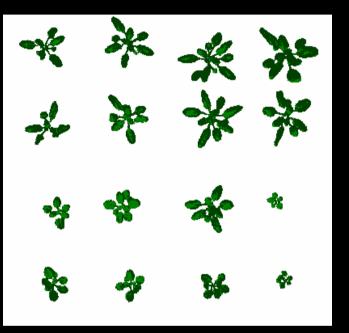


Single point assessment

Image processing provides reliable quantitative data allowing e.g. any kind of statistics and a calculation of mean values and significances.

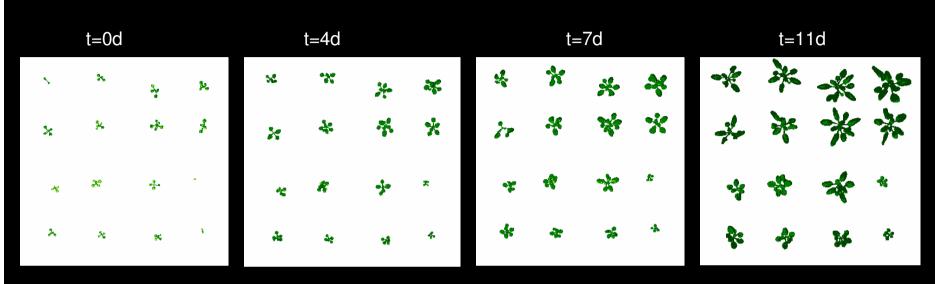
Lemna Tec



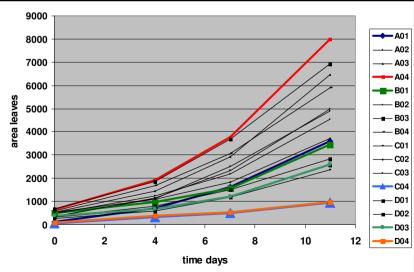


But information describing growth remains limited. Lemna Tec

Imaging in time series

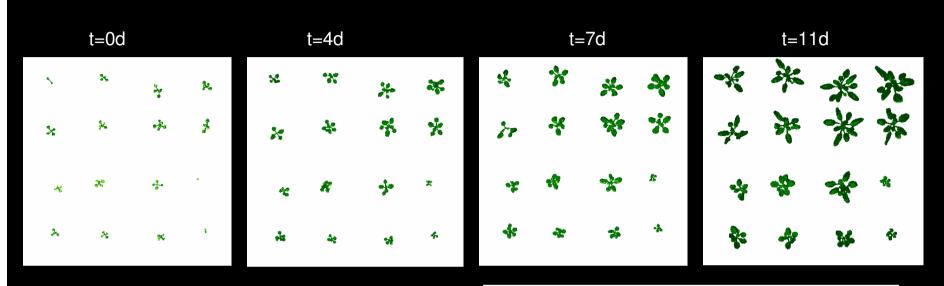


LemnaTecs image processing allows highly automated imaging in time series. But area based growth curves only show a minor part of the imformation available. How homogeneous was growth?

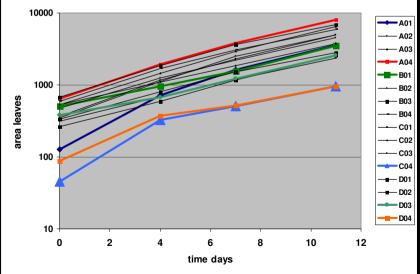


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Imaging in time series



The slope of the curves displaying growth rates show that most plants grew at a relatively constant rate but just started at different sizes e. g. due to delay in germination.

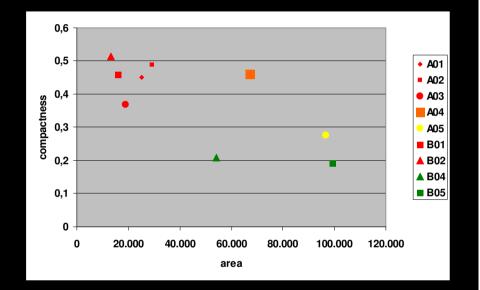


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Morphological assessment

- compactness -

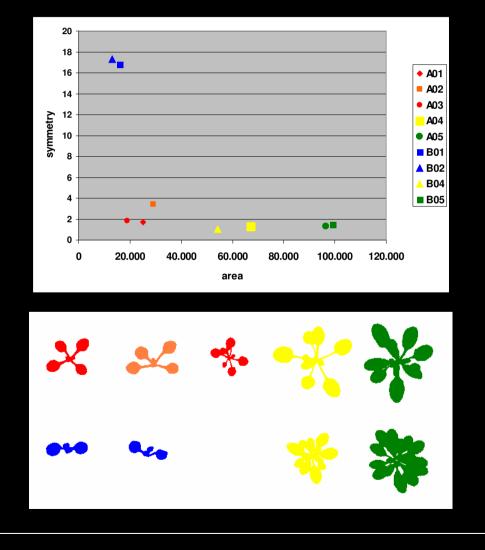
compactness is calculated
based on the size independent
rotational momentum of the plant
it describes if the leaves are
nearer around the centroid or
farther outside e. g. showing
longer stipes





Morphological assessment

- rotational symmetry -
- rotational symmetry is calculated based on the size independent 2nd moment principal axis ratio
- it describes in how far the leaves alltogether show a symmetric plant
- this may lead to completely other grouping than beforementioned compactness

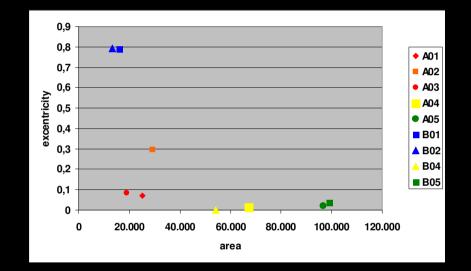


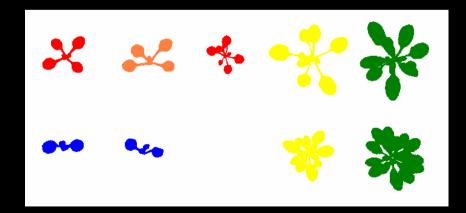
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Morphological assessment

- excentricty -

- while calculated with a different algorithm excentricity provides here quite similar grouping results as rotational symmetry
- nevertheless plant A02 shows more significant distance to A01 and A03 than with rotational symmetry





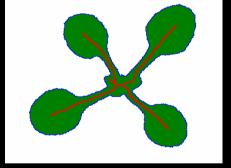


Morphological assessment

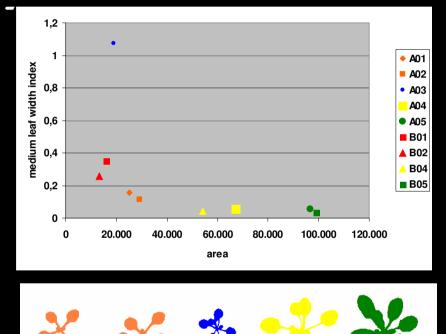
- medium leaf width index -

 the medium leaf width index is calculated from the square length of the plant skeleton divided by the leaf

area



 it describes size independent differences in "leaf width" integrating stipes, leaves and overlapping effects.



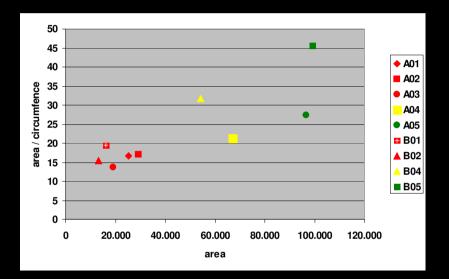


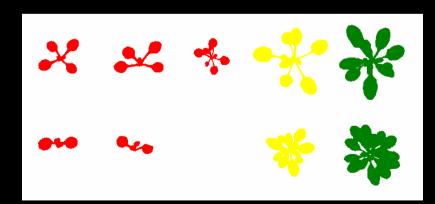
Morphological assessment

- area/circumference -

 while having some size dependency left the ratio of leaf area divided by plant circumfence may allow additional classification of morphological traits.

 as with many parameters each one provides new aspects for grouping plants which may be especially suitable for statistical QTL analysis

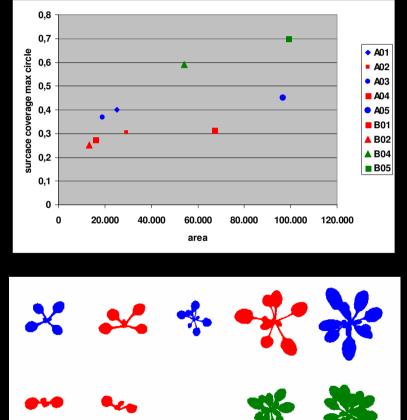






Morphological assessment - surface coverage -

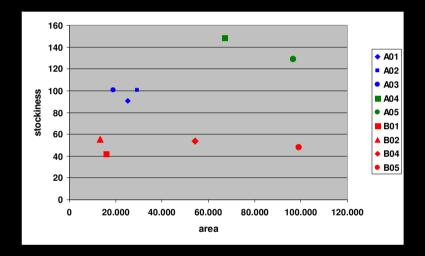
- surface coverage compares the measured plant area to the area of a circle covering the whole plant
- this parameter is intended to provide a calculation how dense the plant covers the soil in its immediate growth area





Morphological assessment - stockiness -

- stockiness is mathematically the description of roundness.
- applied to Arabidopsis images it separates plants with invisible or relatively short broad stipes from plants with long small stipes





Details of three-dimensional plant screening

3-D Measurement of trays

Only in combination With HTS Scanalyzer

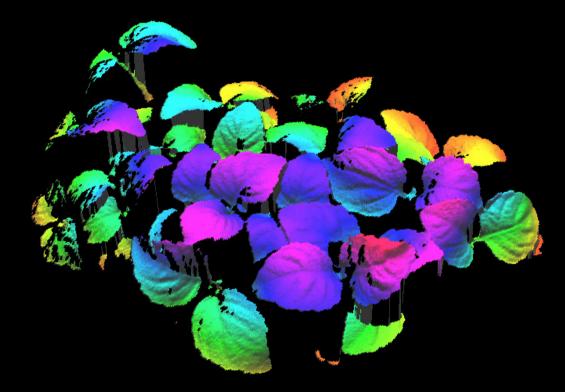


Max field of view	810 mm
Max field of view in height	400 mm
Resolution in height	0.2 mm

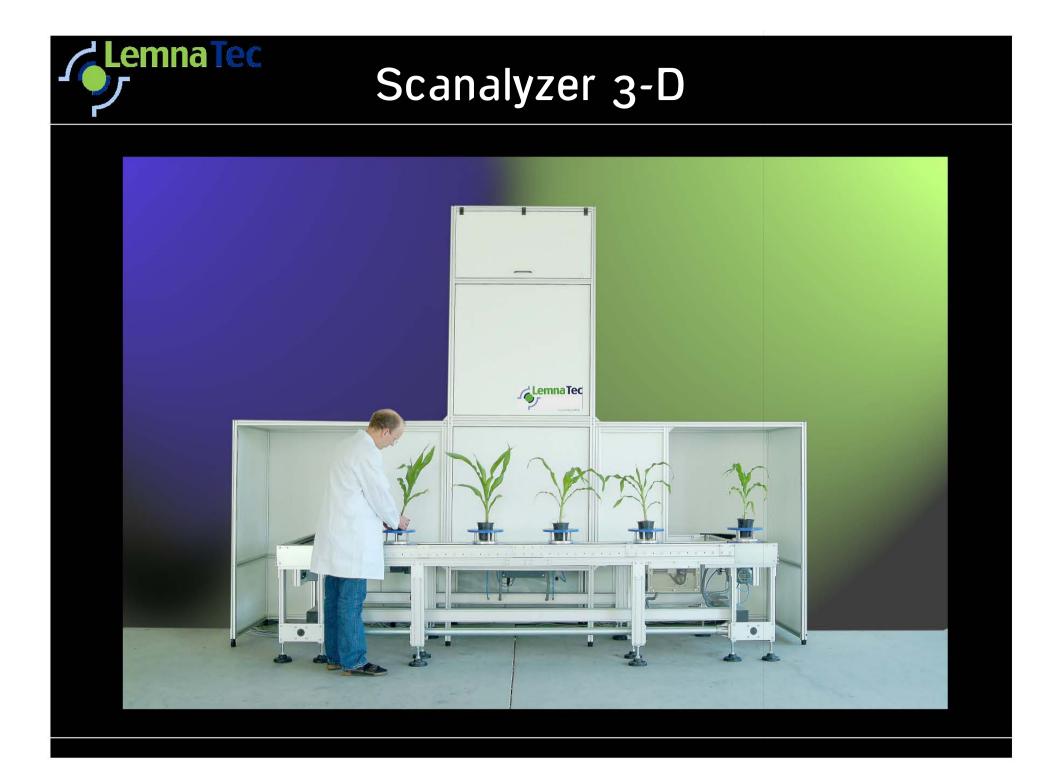


Details of three-dimensional plant screening

3-D Measurement of trays



Max field of view	810 mm
Max field of view in height	400 mm
Resolution in height	0.2 mm













Scanalyzer 3-D With scale and watering All IP 65



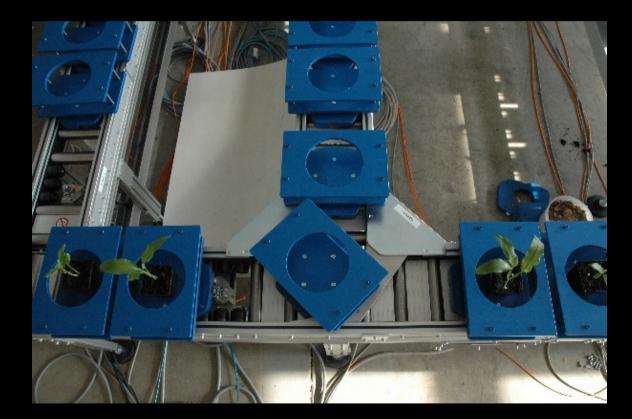


Several Loops to sort plants by:

Hit
Size
BC
Weight
Age
Etc.



















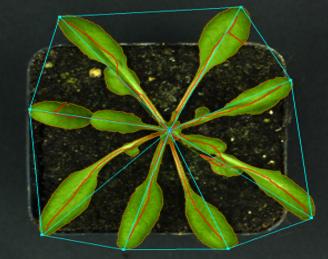
LemnaTec combines today's technology in

 robotic plant handling systems in greenhouses in the plant production industry

LemnaTec

 digital imaging with modern image processing and database integration for large datasets







High variation of growth patterns

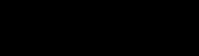
A key issue especially for GMO screening



High morphological variability makes comprehensive quantification of leaves and stem absolutely important









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Automatic zoom-in triggered by seed-date in barcode / RFID or database



Identification of first leaf appearing from soil



Details of three-dimensional plant screening

Plant colour classification - Key to plant health -





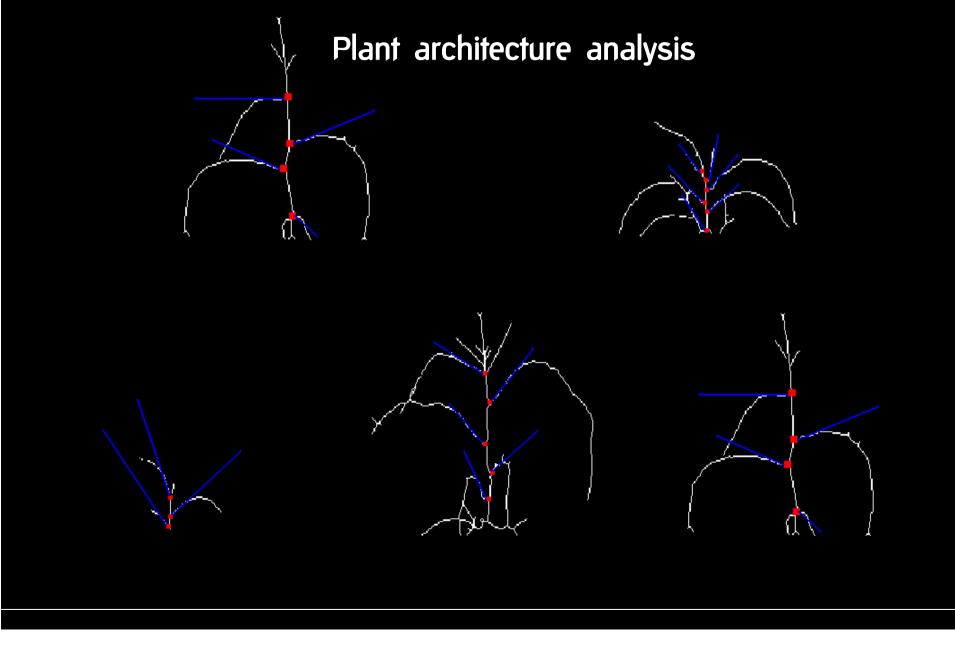
Plant skeleton analysis

- Key to growth dynamics and morphology -



- separation of stem and leaves
- information about nodes, length of leaves
- morphology
- plant growth phases

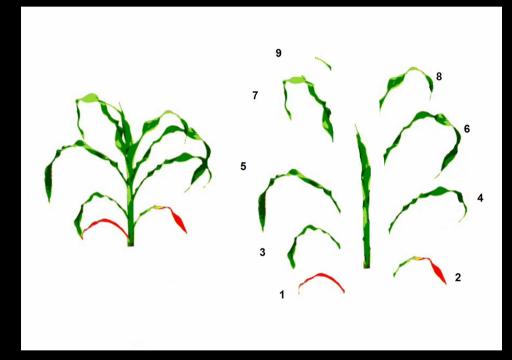






Partial analysis of corn plants

- Individual leaf length
- Individual leaf area
- Mean leaf width
- Stem length
- Stem width
- Stem volume
- Bent index
- Leaf curling index
- Leaf orientation
- Individual leaf colour classification







Identification of

main axisstem width

allows better quantification of biomass

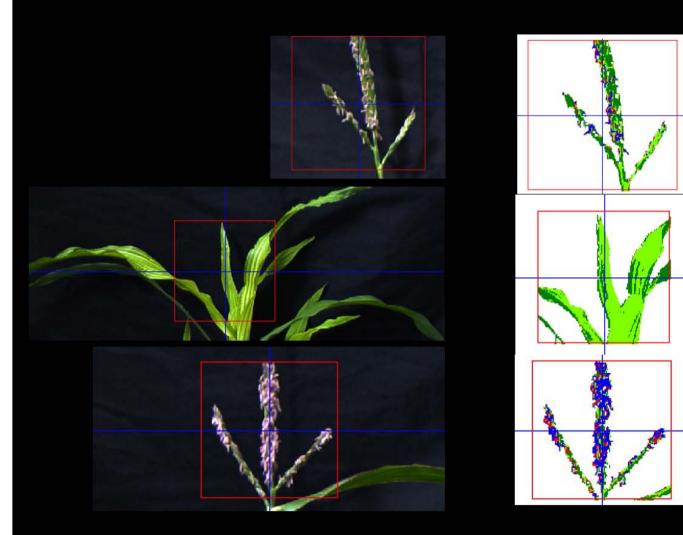


Biomass estimation based on images from x,y,z-axis For best estimation of biomass of the plants images were taken from all 3 axis

total green	total green top 5420 8914 18473 43356 51428 54743 83590 85483 139829	total green broad side 4480 4955 16243 42450 39292 36399 43380 72301 84230	edgewise 3162 3342 14691 41071 40086 56102 87281 98308 135345	Cubic /10e9 77 148 4408 75590 81002 111788 316493 607593 1594066	



Scanalyzer 3-D

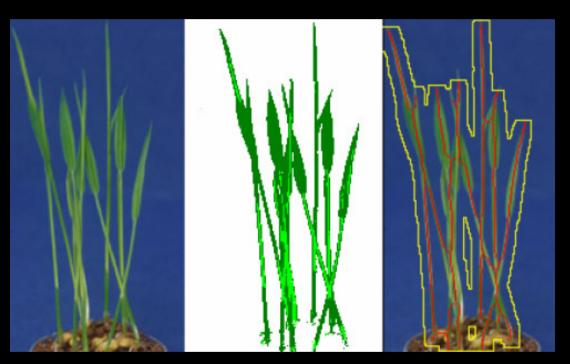


Identification of active male flower



Rice

Leaf length even with crossings
Leaf area
Leaf colours
Plant height
Plant width
Leaf density
Leaf orientation





Pepper diurnal movement

Day

Evening

leaf area
leaf colour
plant height
plant width
top/side ratio.

Skeleton analysis

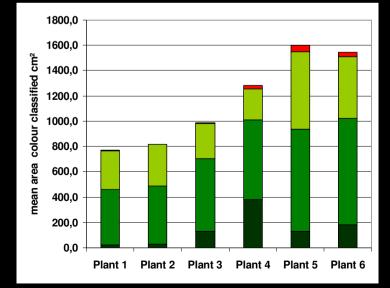




Big hybrid poplars

- Height
- Width
- Leaf areas
- Leaf colours
- Tip Colours
- Growth rates
- Stem width
- Stockiness
- Circumference/height
- Image leaf volume (cylindrical)
- Mean vertical momentMean covered area width
- Vert. moment assymetry
- 2nd moment pricipal axis ratio
- Compactness sourround area %

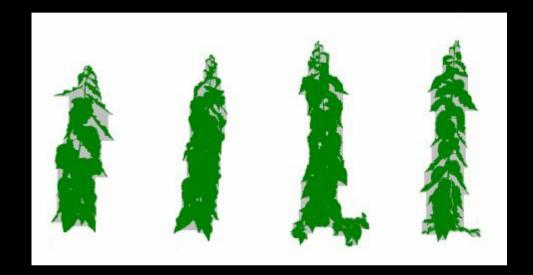




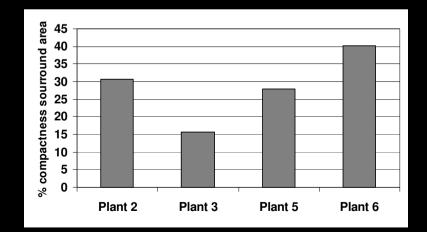


Poplar image based compactness

Image processing-based automatic identification of bay regions and holes to characterise compactness of growth.



The higher the compactness sourroundarea the lower the compactness.





Small hybrid poplars

- Height
- Width
- Top area
- Mean side area
- Colour classified areas
- Top/side ratio
- Image plant volume
- Top compactness
- Side compactness
- Top symmetry
- Side vertical momentum





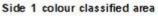


Side 1 original

Side 2 original











Side 2 colour classified area Top colour classified area



Phenotyping of growth under field-density growth conditions



- Criteria of plant growth
- Height
- Compactness
- Leaf orientation (curved, straight, kinked) bending index
- Density
- Symmetry
- Mean plant width per height

Phenotyping of growth under field-density growth conditions

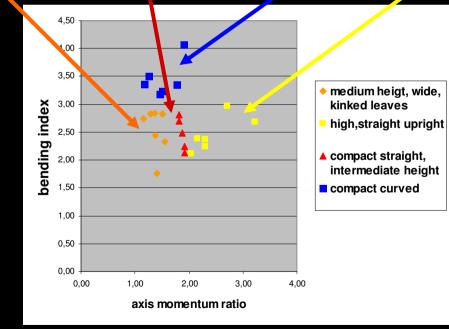


Phenotyping based on complex morphological criteria Like:

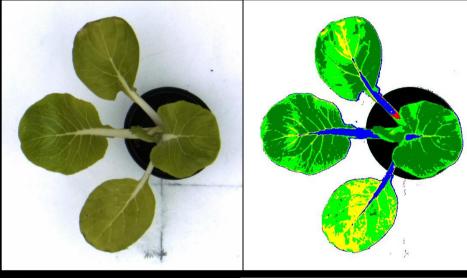
- structure orientation,
 momentum of inertia,
- height,

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- width,
- roundness,
- Compactness.







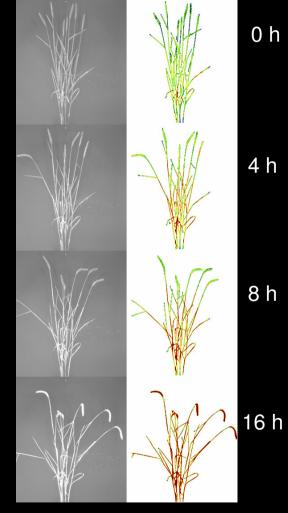
Visual and chlorophyl scan of a half boiled leaf

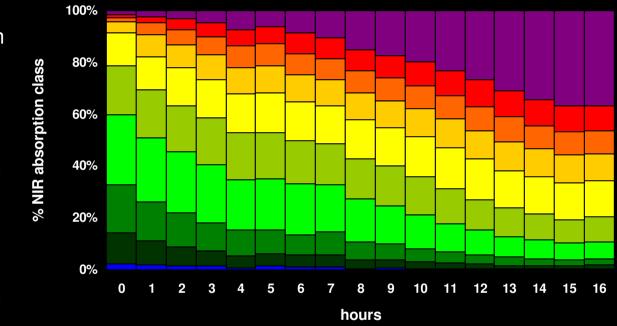
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NIR Imaging of wheat drying



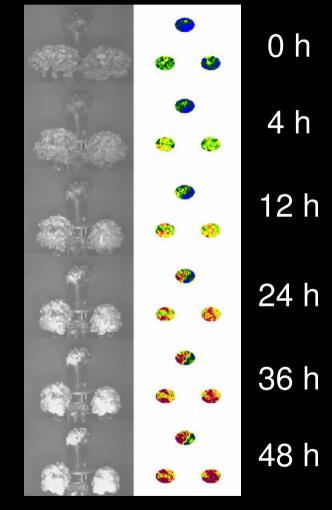


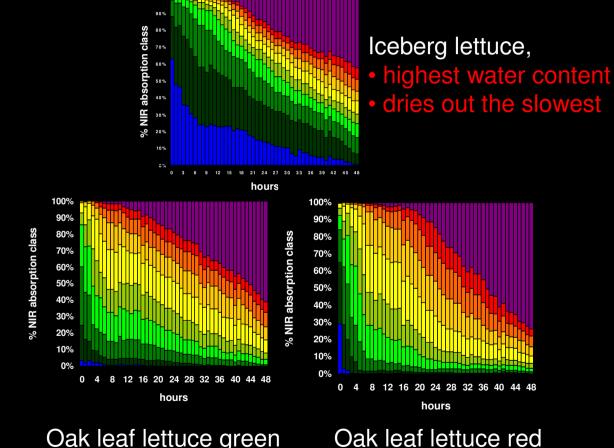
• wheat dried down over 16 h at elevated temperature

- LemnaTec NIR imaging and analysis can cover the whole water dynamics of the drying for wheat
- LemnaTec NIR cameras are suitable for detection of fine cereals structures of fully grown wheat



Lettuce evaporation dynamics - results





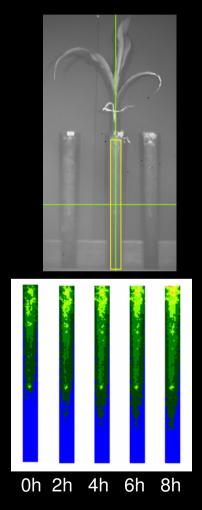
Oak leaf lettuce green

• red one dries out faster than green one

immediate reactions already in first hour measurable



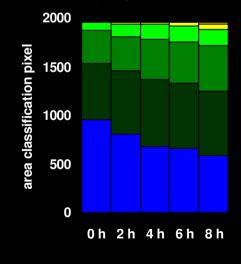
NIR imaging of corn plant in soil colums



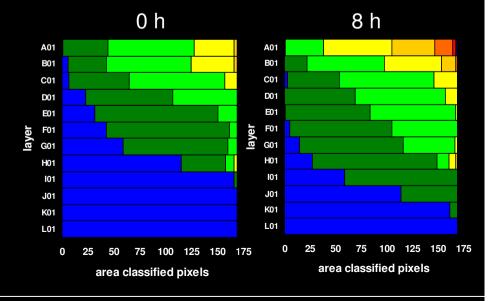
Corn plant previously shown was grown in a transparent 8 cm polyacryl column

Results of NIR monitoring allow measurement of spatial distribution water content in soil

total development of drying over time

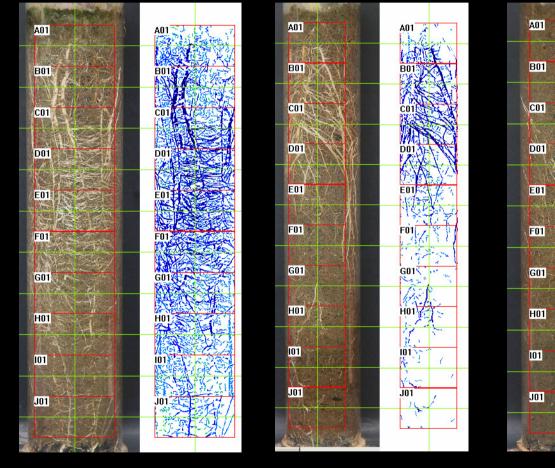


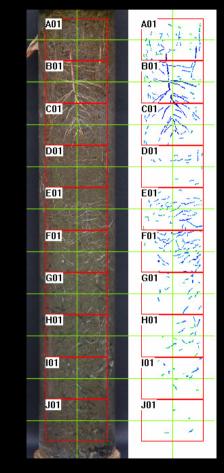
drying dynamics based on soil layer





Static root density profiles – growth pattern





Bangui

Sweet Corn Prelude

A01 .

B01

C01

D01

E01

F01

G01

H01

101

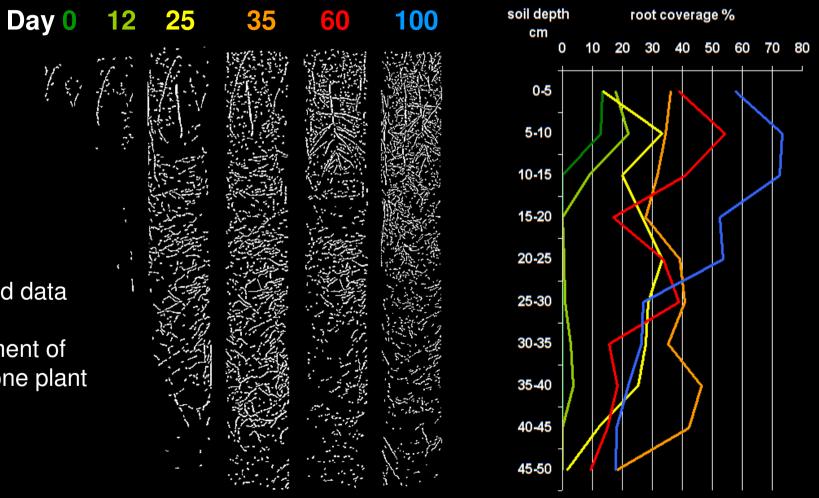
J01

Bangui



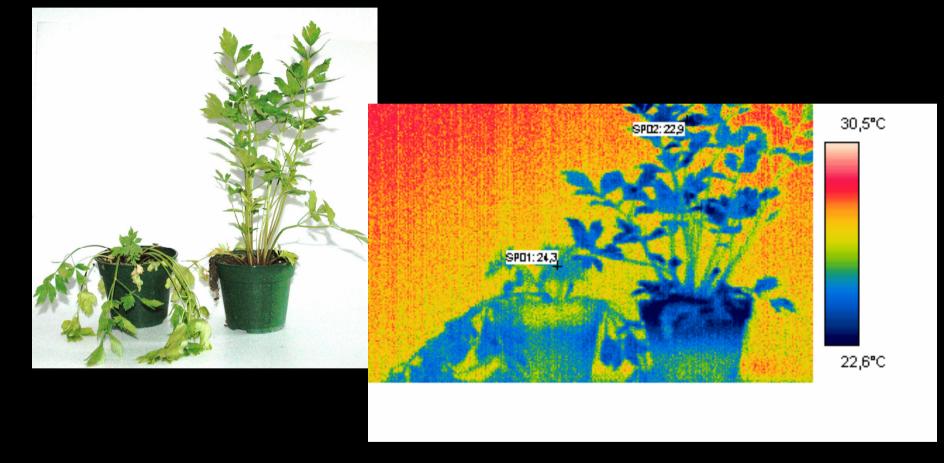
Dynamic root growth - pattern

image and data show the development of roots of one plant in time.

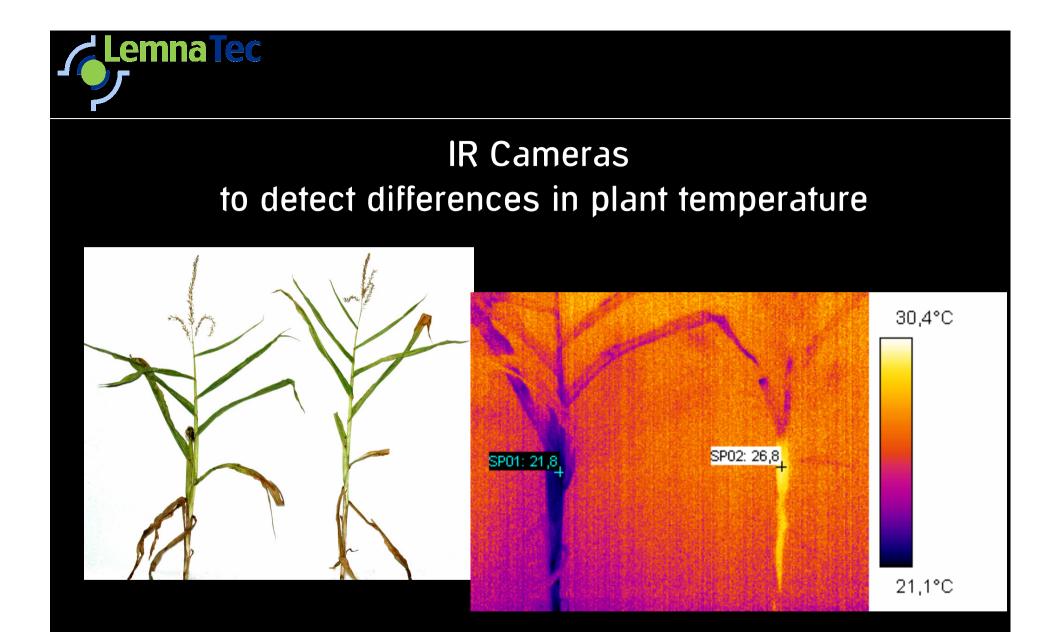




IR detection of leaf temperature



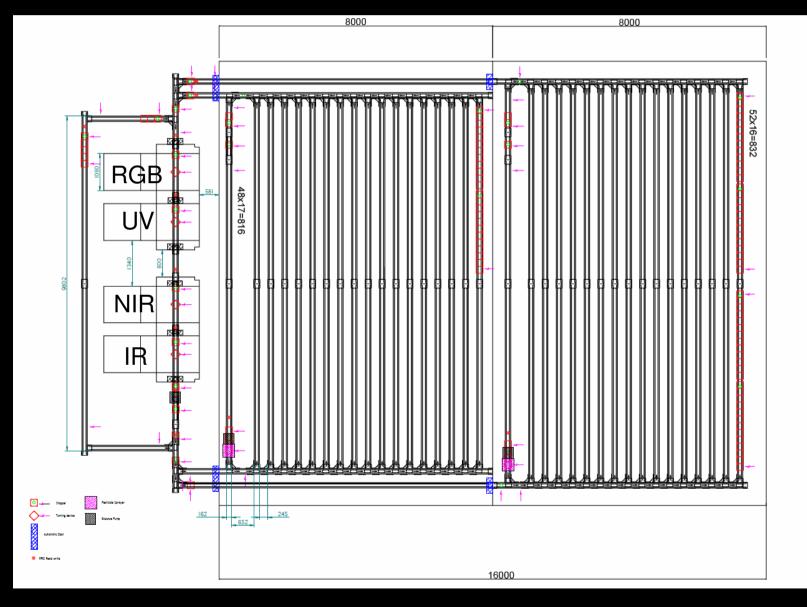
The right plant shows significantly lower leaf temperatures due to better watering. IR camera used has a resolution of 0.1 ° C at a resolution of 320 to 240 pixels

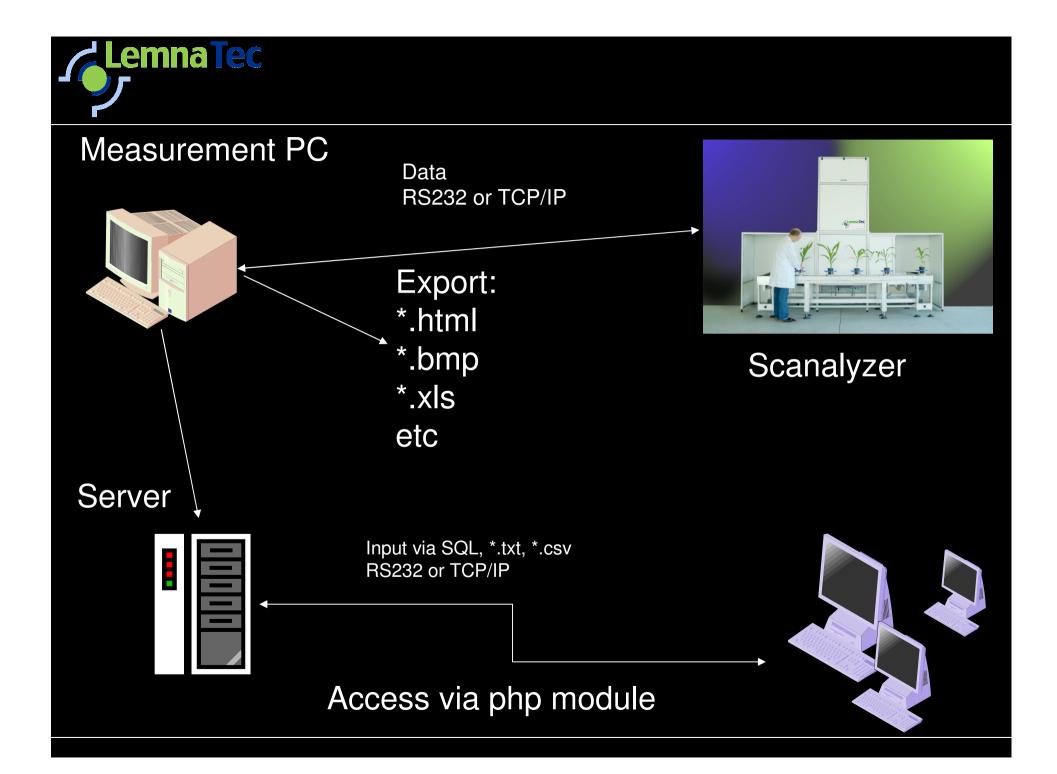


While looking quite similar in visible light the right plant is much drier resulting in higher temperature due to lower evaporation. Temperature of the right plant is very near to ambient temperature while Is significantly cooler.



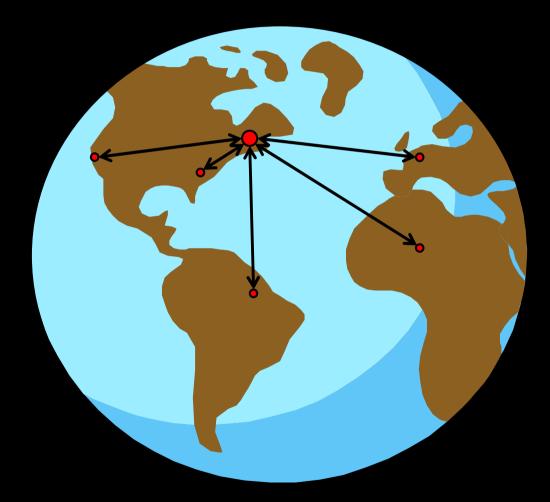
<u>Layout</u>







Research independent from Screening Location

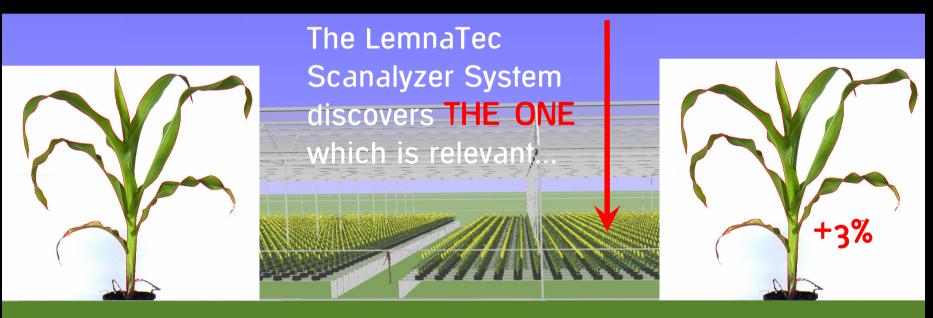


The LemnaTec Public Database Server



Finding the needle in the haystack

Modern breeding or GMO methods are able to produce THOUSANDS of new varieties per week



For example, THE plant with 3% increase in value is worth \$50m if it obtains 10% market penetration and released 2 yr earlier Automatic screening 10x more efficient than human screening



Non Destructive Plant Measurements:

- 3D Plant Architecture
- Phenotype
- Biomass
- Stress Tolerance
- Disease Resistance
- Time of Flowering
- Fluorescence (UV)
- Water use efficiency (NIR
- Thermal Imaging (IR)

The Scanalyzer System discovers the relevant variability Relevant for the scientist + Relevant for the breeder

• Future Development: X-Ray or NMRI Root Architecture etc.

Applied Research!



Most Global Players in Breeding and GMO are already using the LemnaTec Technology:

