



# Clubroot status in Colombia

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# Colombia

- 1 141 748 km<sup>2</sup>
- Gate of South America
- 32 departments= Provinces
- Agriculture : 6.4% of GDP in 2017 (World bank, 2018)





# Cruciferous crops in Colombia

Cabbage

45734.34 t

1242 ha

25.5 t/ha

Broccoli

14966.9 t

804.66 ha

19.28 t/ha

Cauliflower

10359.70 t

553.6 ha

18.72 t/ha



**3.5%** of the croppable area in vegetable crops



Major constraints in  
cruciferous crops production



# Clubroot disease



*Plasmodiophora brassicae*  
Woronin



First report 1969



Disease effect  
over yield?

Disease  
distribution in  
Colombia?

Pathogen in-  
field  
distribution?

Pathogen spread  
among fields?

# First clubroot survey (2017)

Determine the prevalence of the disease in the main producing areas of cruciferous crops in Colombia.

Evaluate the correlation between soil characteristics, weather and agronomic management practices with the prevalence of the disease.





# Sampling and surveying

8 departments



Departments with  
largest cropped  
area in cruciferous  
species

125 points  
visited

Cundinamarca  
Antioquia  
Boyacá  
Valle del Cauca  
Cauca  
Nariño  
Norte de Santander  
Caldas

Prevalence:  
observed/reported

93 surveys  
were applied

# Results



National prevalence=53.6%

Norte de Santander:88.9%

Valle del Cauca: 70%

Caldas: 66.7%

Cauca: 66.7%

Boyacá: 55.6%

Cundinamarca: 52.6%

Antioquia: 29.4%

Nariño: 0%

# Soil and weather characteristics

Variable	Point-biserial correlation/disease' prevalence	p-value
<b>Soil attributes</b>		
pH	0.272	0.0037*
ECEC <sup>a</sup>	0.259	0.0058*
<b>Elements contents in soil</b>		
Calcium <sup>b</sup>	0.268	0.004*
Aluminum <sup>b</sup>	-0.259	0.030*
Phosphorus <sup>b</sup>	0.413	<0.0001**
Copper <sup>b</sup>	0.268	0.0042*
Boron <sup>b</sup>	0.289	0.002*
<b>Weather</b>		
Days with rain per year	-0.297	0.002*

<sup>a</sup> Effective cation Exchange capacity.

<sup>b</sup> Determination of the content of the elements in the soil.

<sup>c</sup> Historical annual averages (1981-2010).



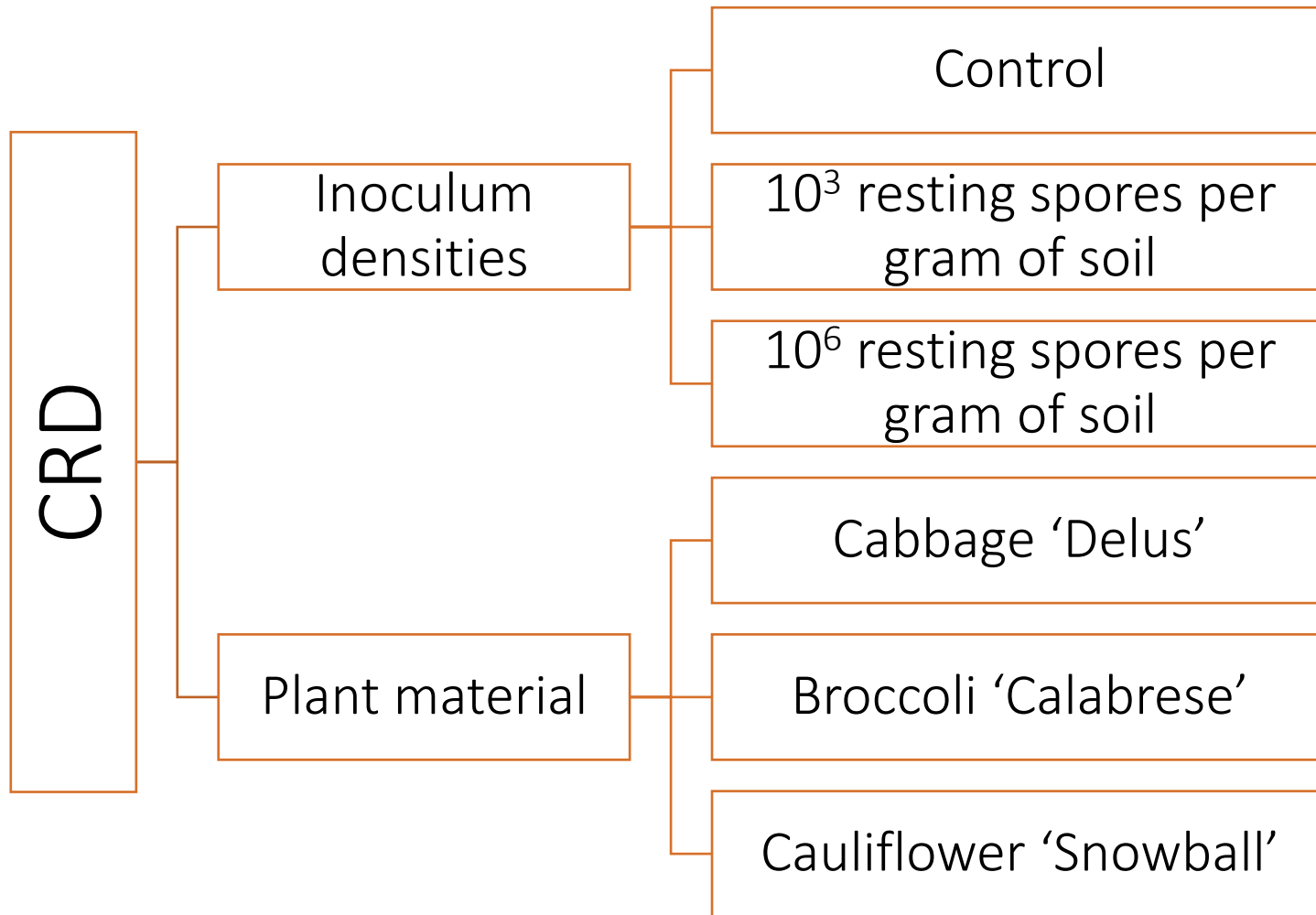
# Management practices

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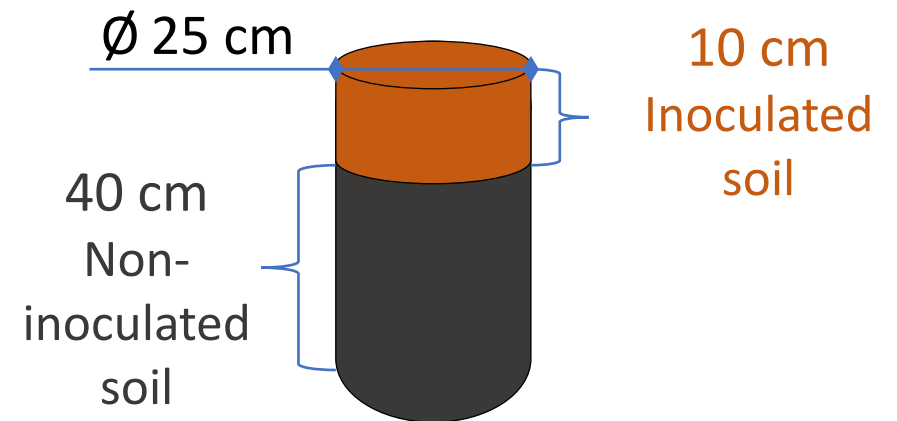
Variable	Point-biserial correlation/disease' prevalence	<i>p</i> -value
Sowing crucifers	0.763	<.0001*
Resistance	-0.489	0.0006*

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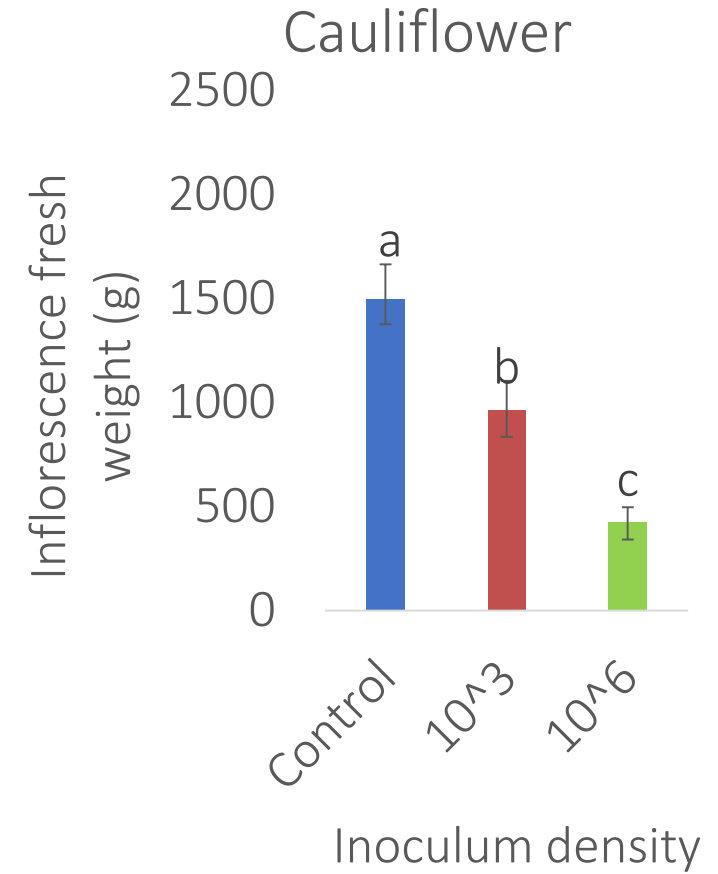
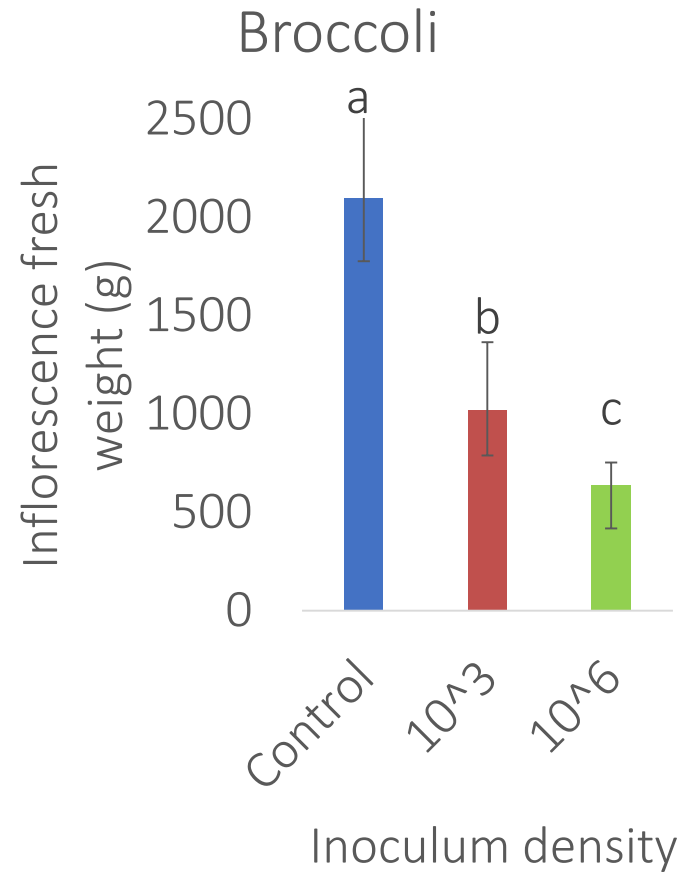
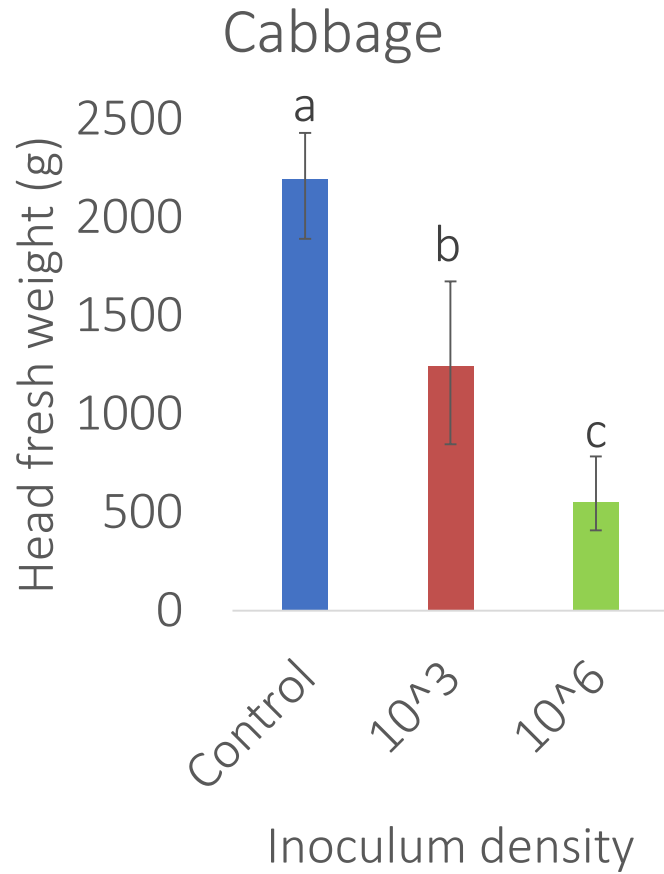
# Effect of inoculum density of *P. brassicae* on yield of cabbage, cauliflower and broccoli yield



- Substrate → soil:sand (2:1)
- Inoculation first 10cm
- Outdoors



# Fresh weight





Control

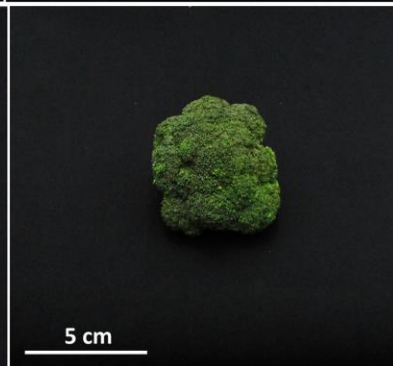
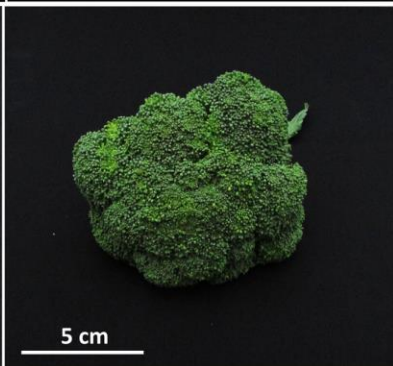
$10^3$  resting spores  
per gram of soil

$10^6$  resting spores  
per gram of soil

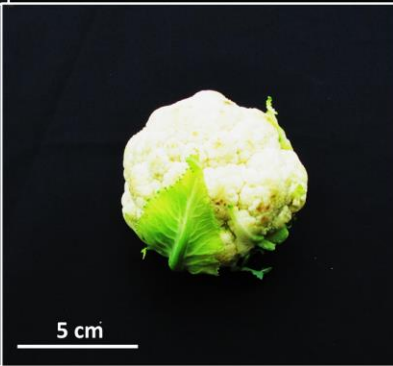
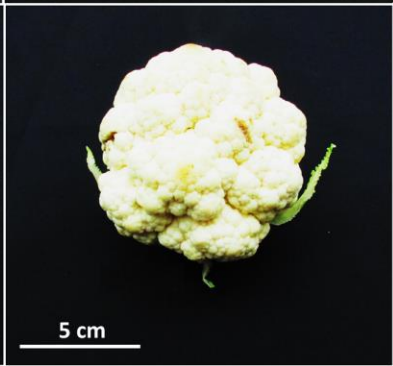
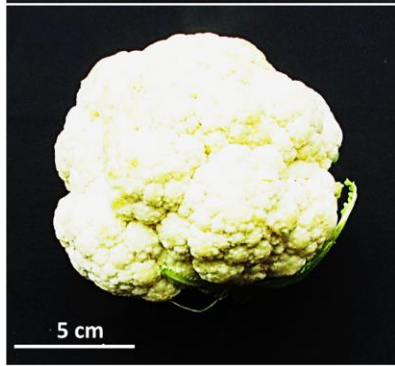
Cabbage



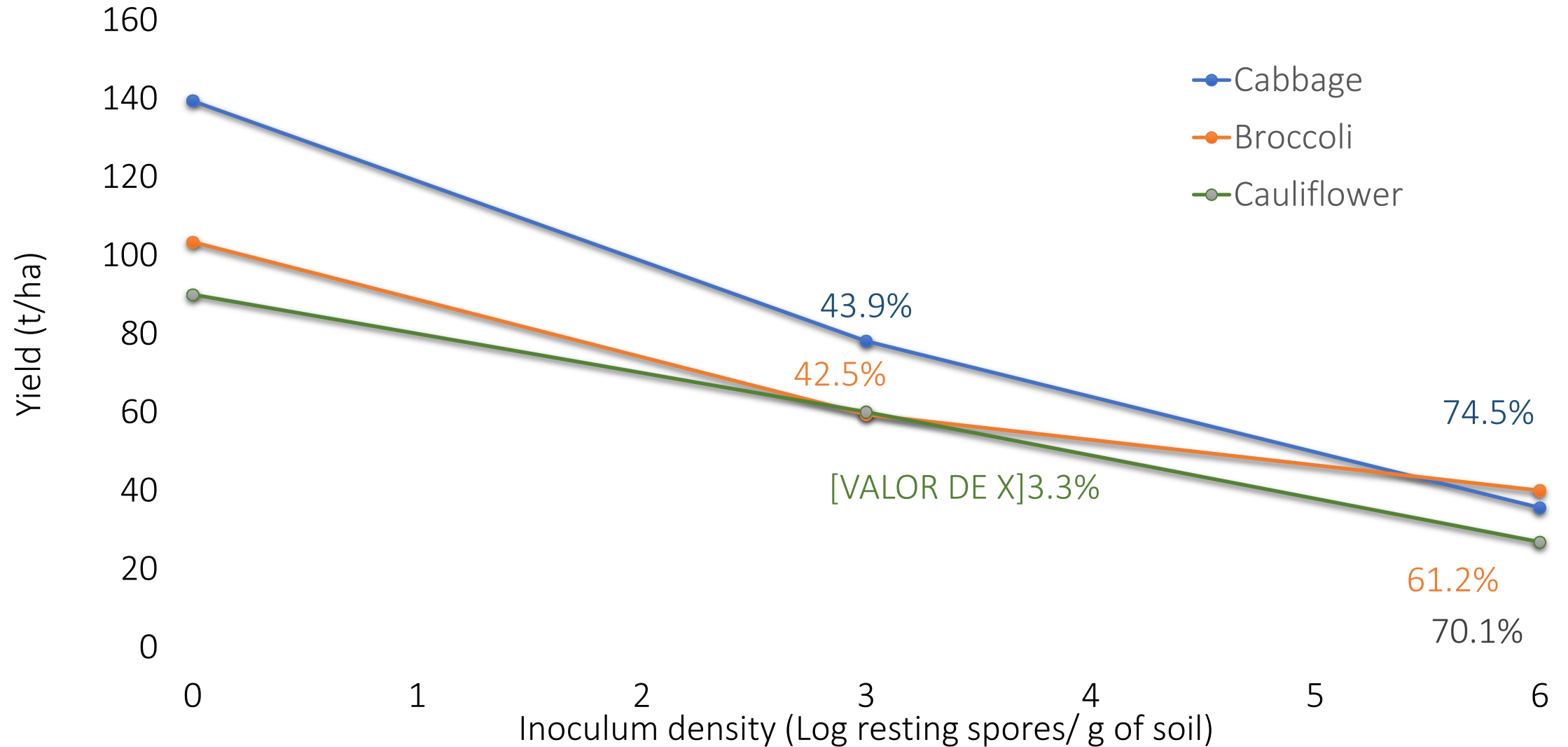
Broccoli



Cauliflower



# YIELD REDUCTION



# Assessment of vertical and horizontal distribution of *Plasmodiophora brassicae* in soil

- Assess the vertical and horizontal distribution of *Plasmodiophora brassicae* in soil to identify spatial patterns

Soil samples collection in a commercial field

- 0-15 and 15-30 cm
- Regular grid 20x30m
- Field 2.3ha
- 30 samples

Inoculum density quantification

- Extraction of resting spores from soil (Takahashi & Yamaguchi, 1987)
- Quantification with Neubauer chamber in light microscope

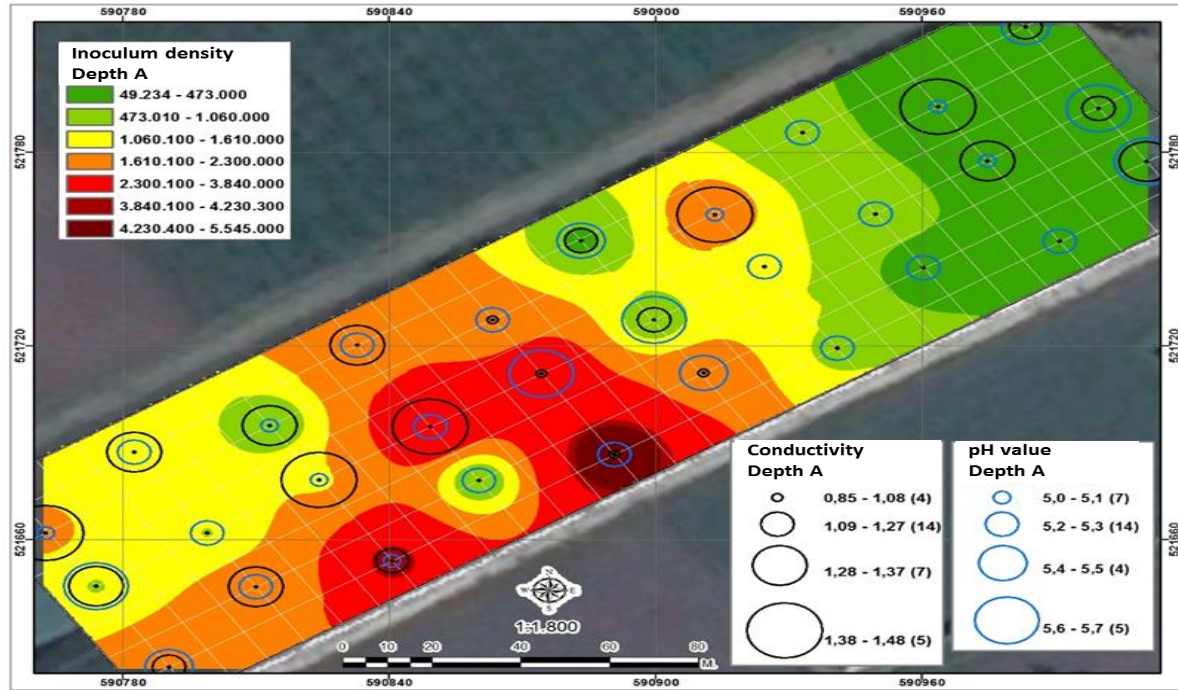


# Spatial patterns

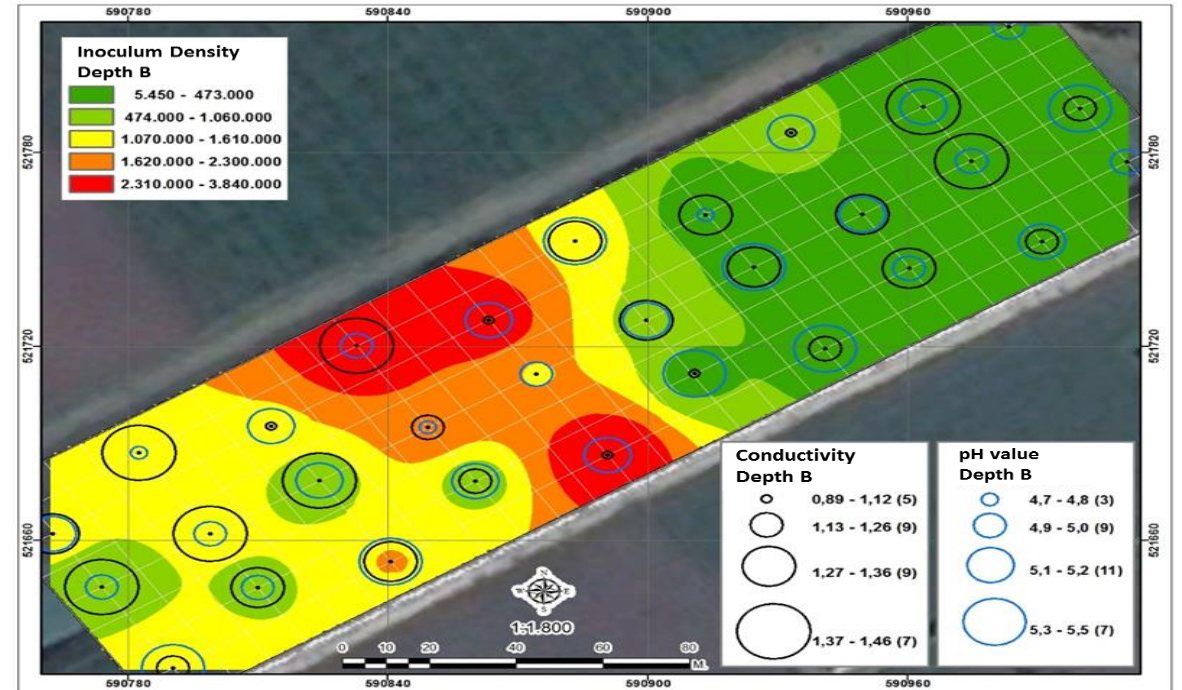
Parameter	A	B
Range	77.14	34.96
Structural variance	95%	100%
Model adjustment	Spherical	Spherical

- Patchy pattern
- Mean inoculum density (resting spores · g of soil<sup>-1</sup>):
  - 0-15 cm =  $1 \times 10^6$
  - 15-30 cm =  $7 \times 10^5$ .
- Anisotropic trend at 45°
- Patch size
  - 0-15cm: 77.14 m between
  - 15-30 cm: 34.96 m
- Almost 100 % of the variance was explained by spatial variance.

## Spatial patterns of the pathogen 0-15 cm



## Spatial patterns of the pathogen 15-30 cm



Conductivity  
Depth B

pH value  
Depth B



# Clubroot disease dissemination by the irrigation system

- Evaluate the presence of viable resting spores of the pathogen in superficial water and sediments along different points of one of the main irrigation districts in the Savannah of Bogotá





# Materials and methods

## Irrigation channel sediments and irrigation water collection

San Isidro farm reservoir

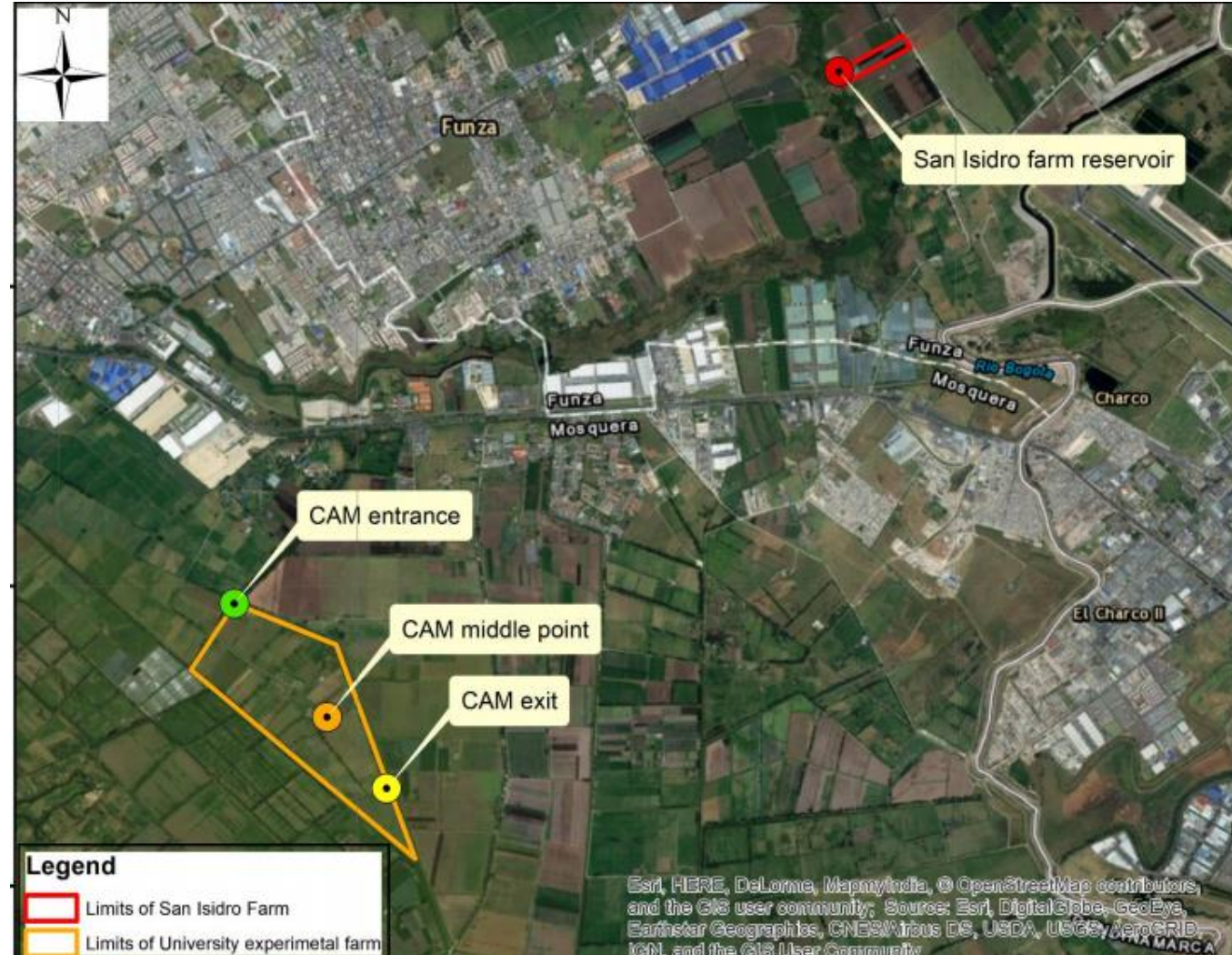
University experimental farm (CAM)

## Hydroponic bioassays

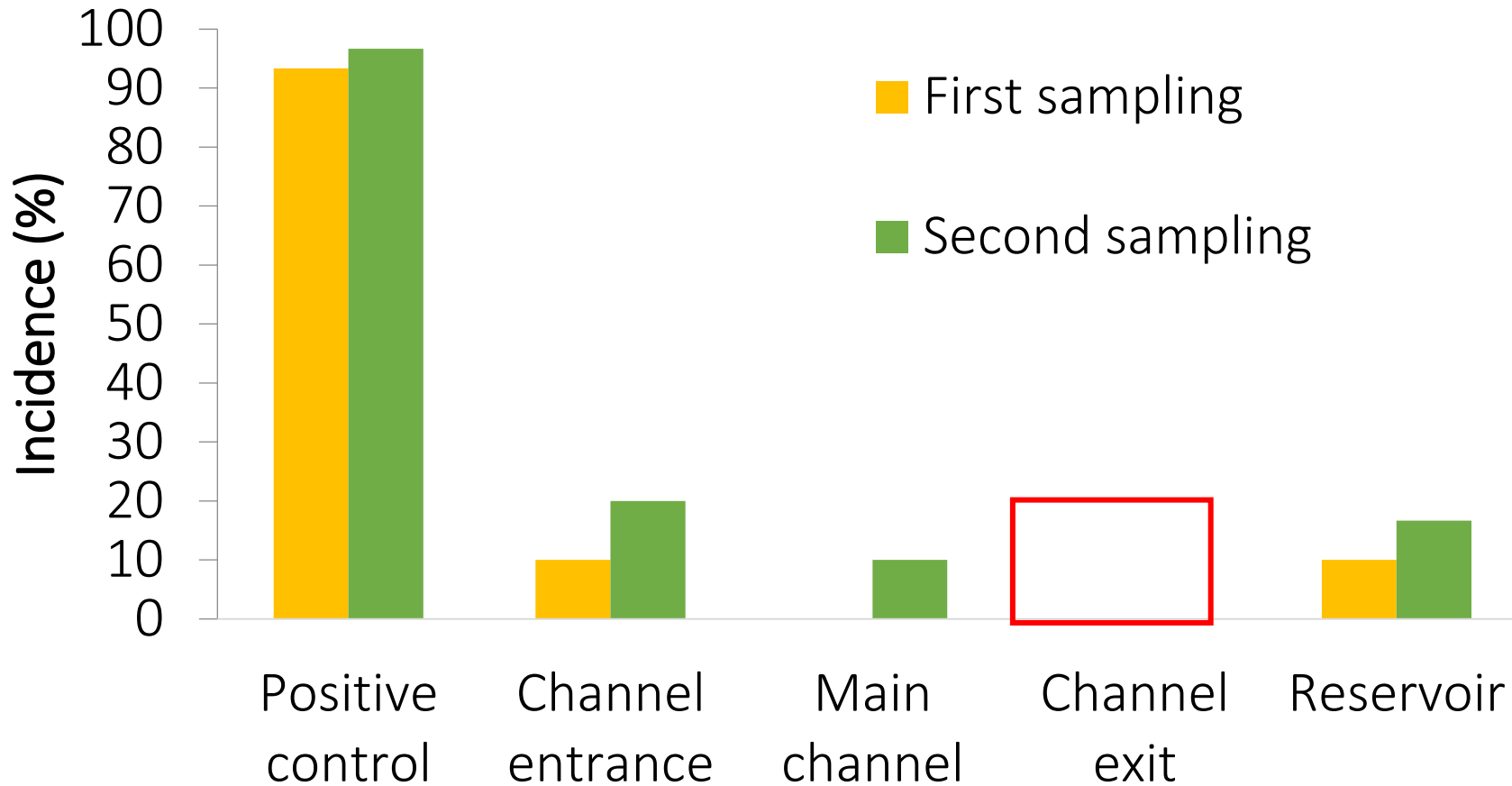
## Root hairs observation

21 days after inoculation

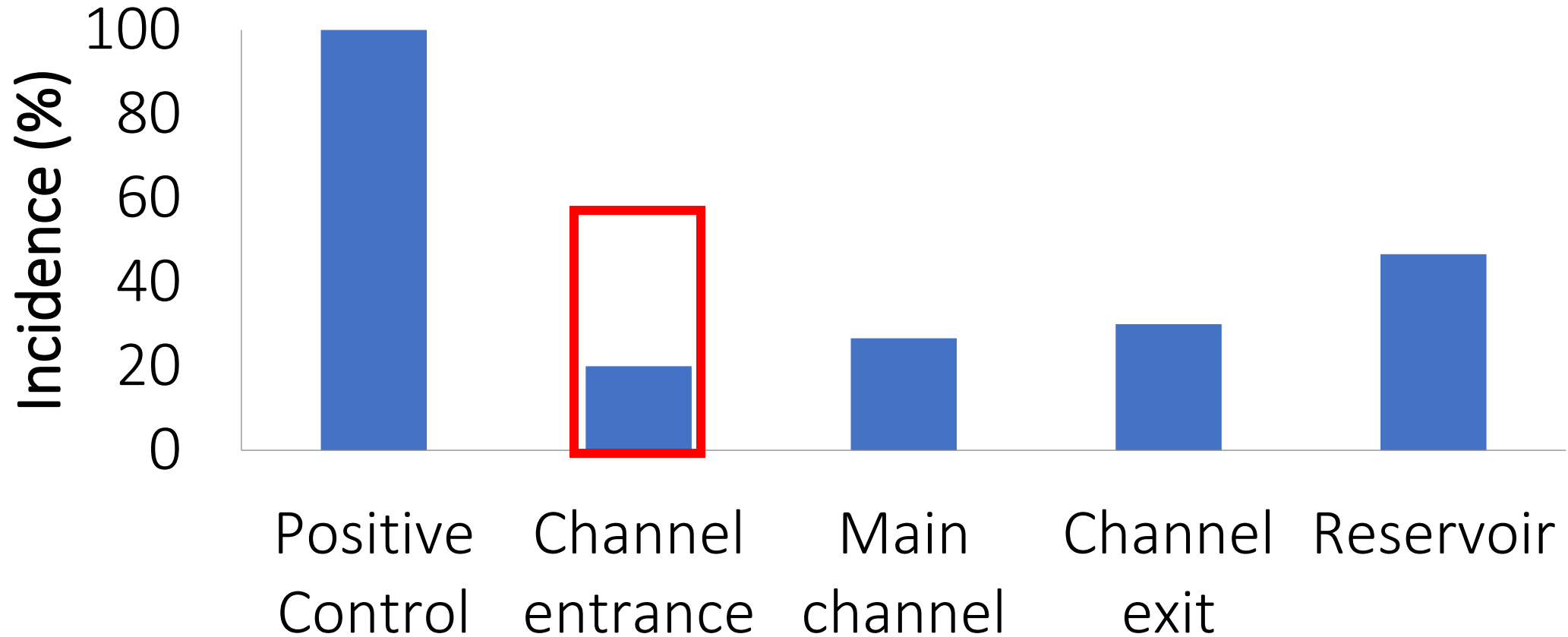
Optical microscope (40X – 100X) (Voorips, 1992)



# Viability inoculum in irrigation water



# Viable inoculum in sediments



# Conclusions

- Clubroot disease is widely spread in Colombia
- Clubroot disease losses are related with the pathogen inoculum density. Mild infestation levels cause losses from 30-43% and high infestation levels cause losses from 60-75%
- Disease behaviour shows some differences compared with what has been observed in other regions of the world (in-field distribution, soil properties + disease prevalence)
- More efforts are required to understand the disease behaviour in tropical areas such as Colombia where weather and production conditions differ





THANK YOU

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