



30 ans

16^e Rencontres

DE LA FERTILISATION RAISONNÉE ET DE L'ANALYSE

21, 22 et 23 novembre 2023

Palais des congrès de Tours

30 ans

16^e Rencontres

DE LA FERTILISATION RAISONNÉE ET DE L'ANALYSE

Crop Nutrition: Measure to Manage

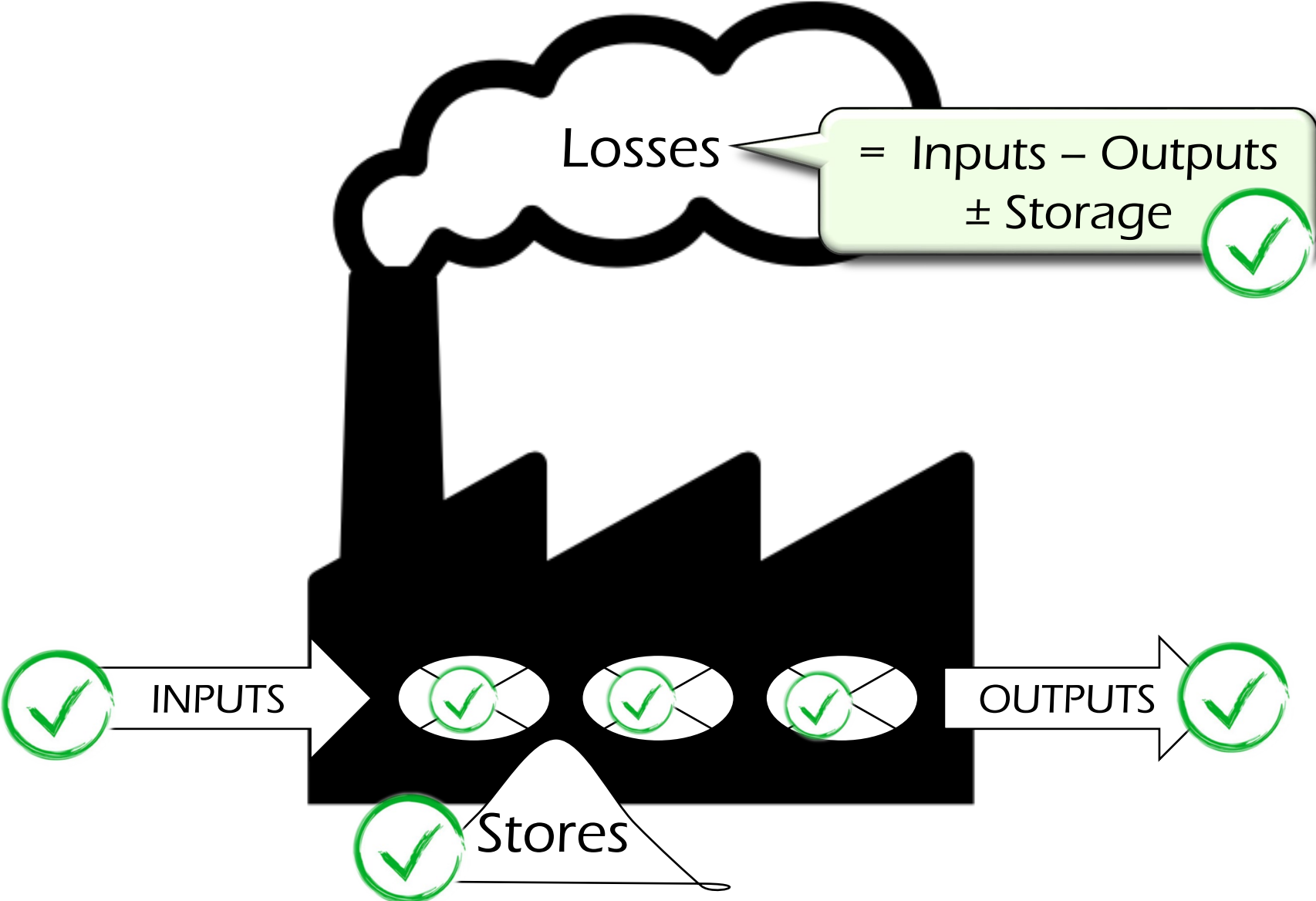
Roger Sylvester-Bradley, ADAS, UK



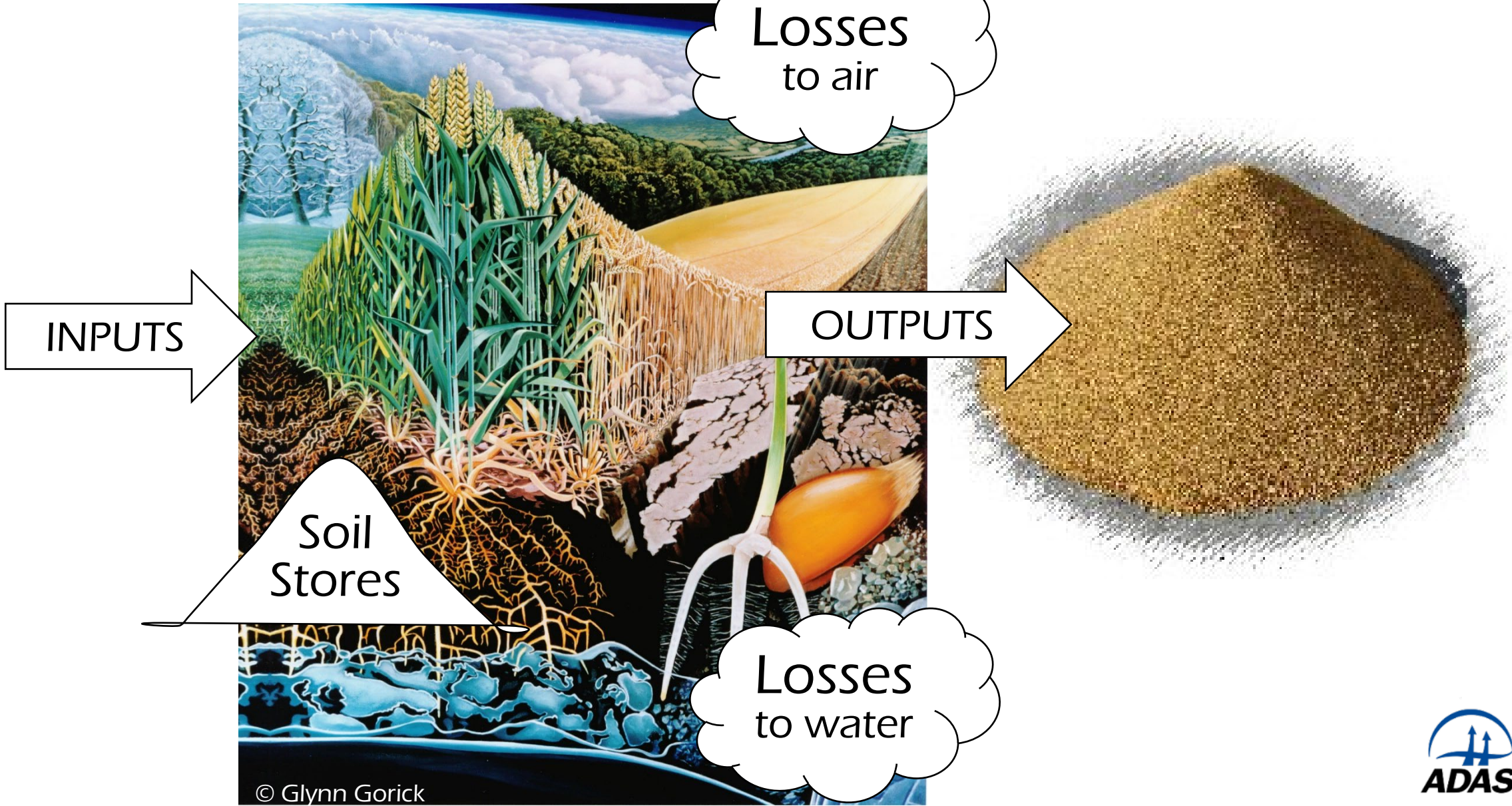
ADAS is the UK's largest independent agric. & environment consultancy



Measurements for Management



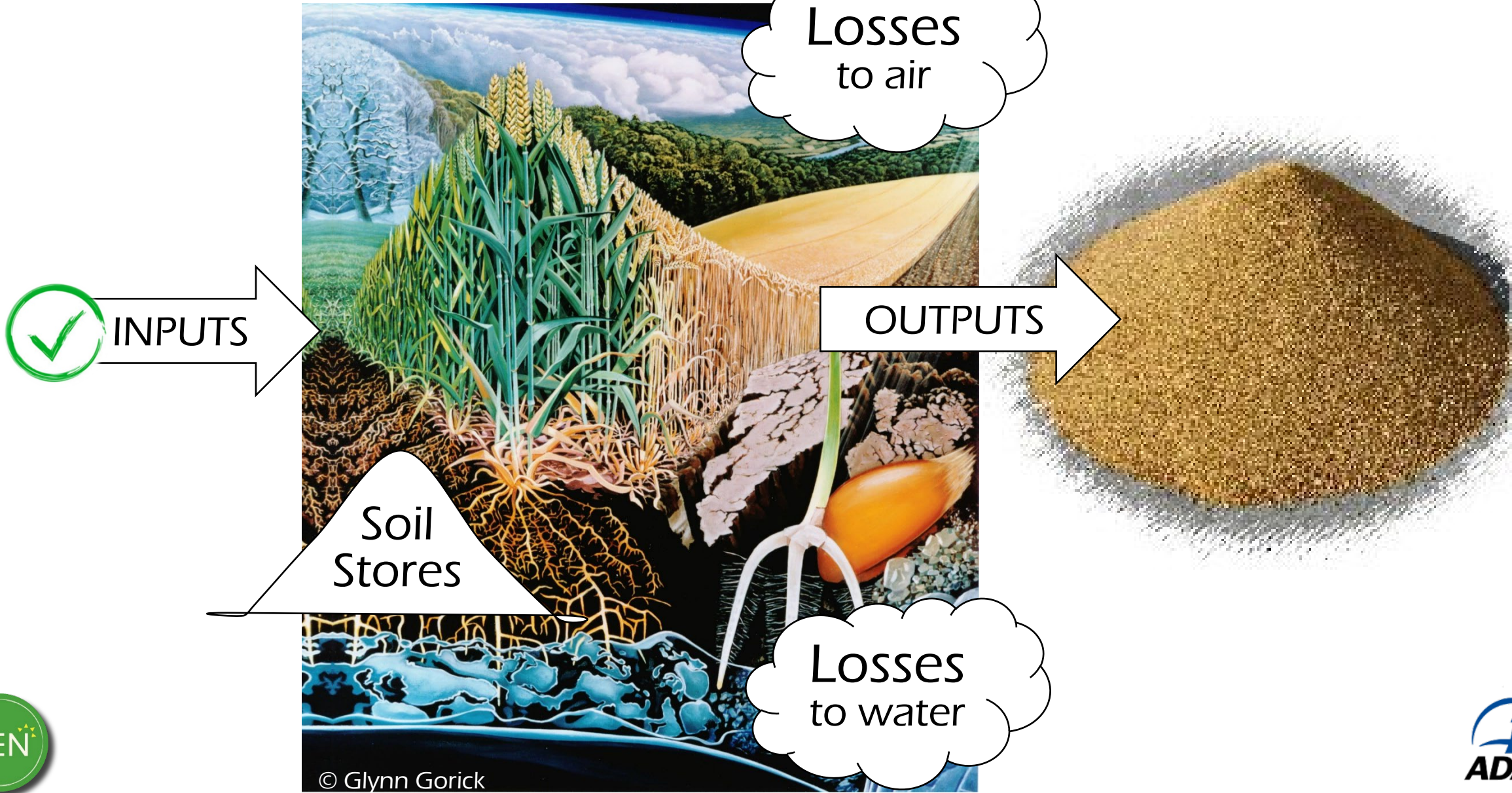
Measurements for Management .. Crop Nutrition



© Glynn Gorick



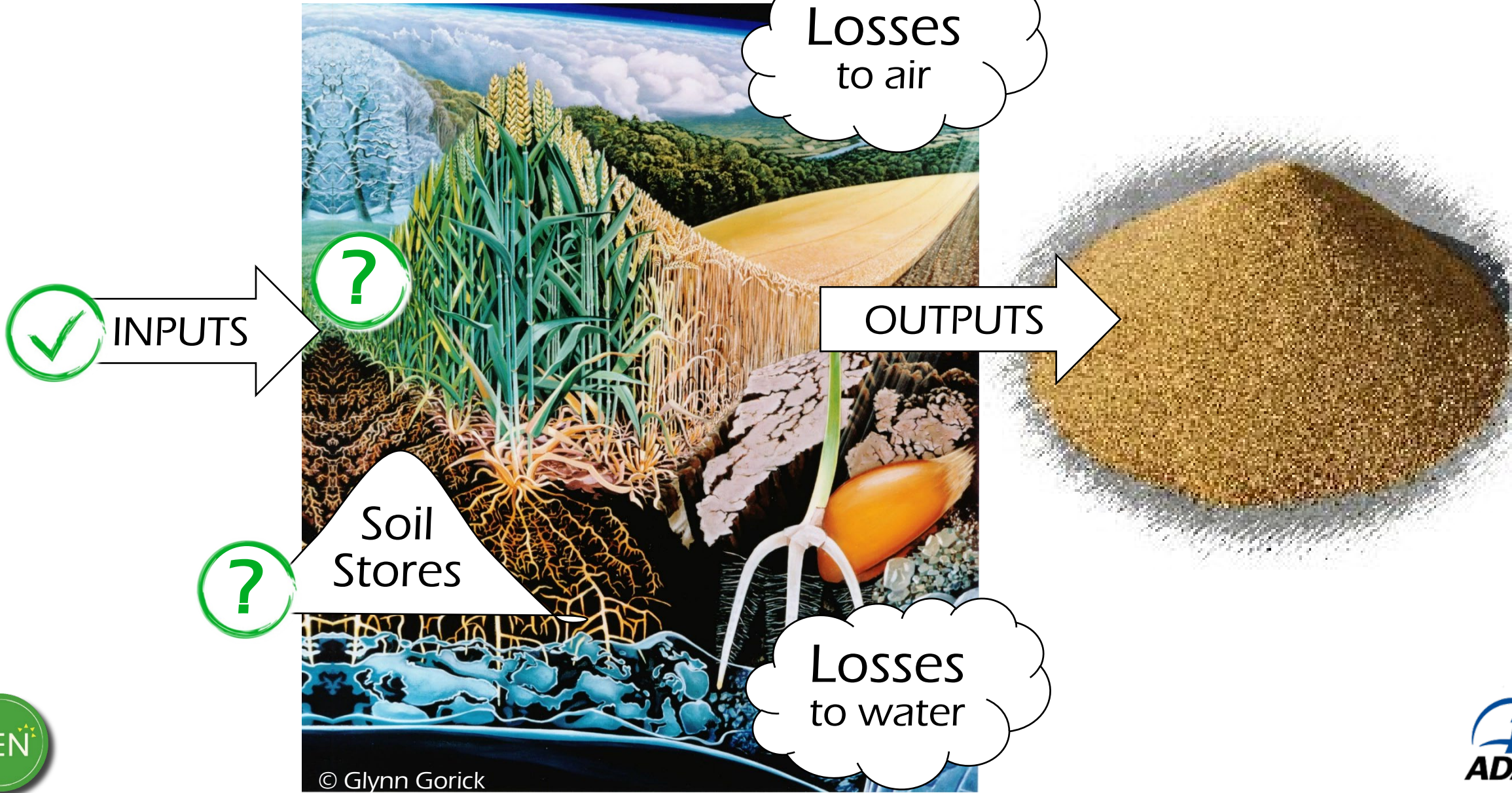
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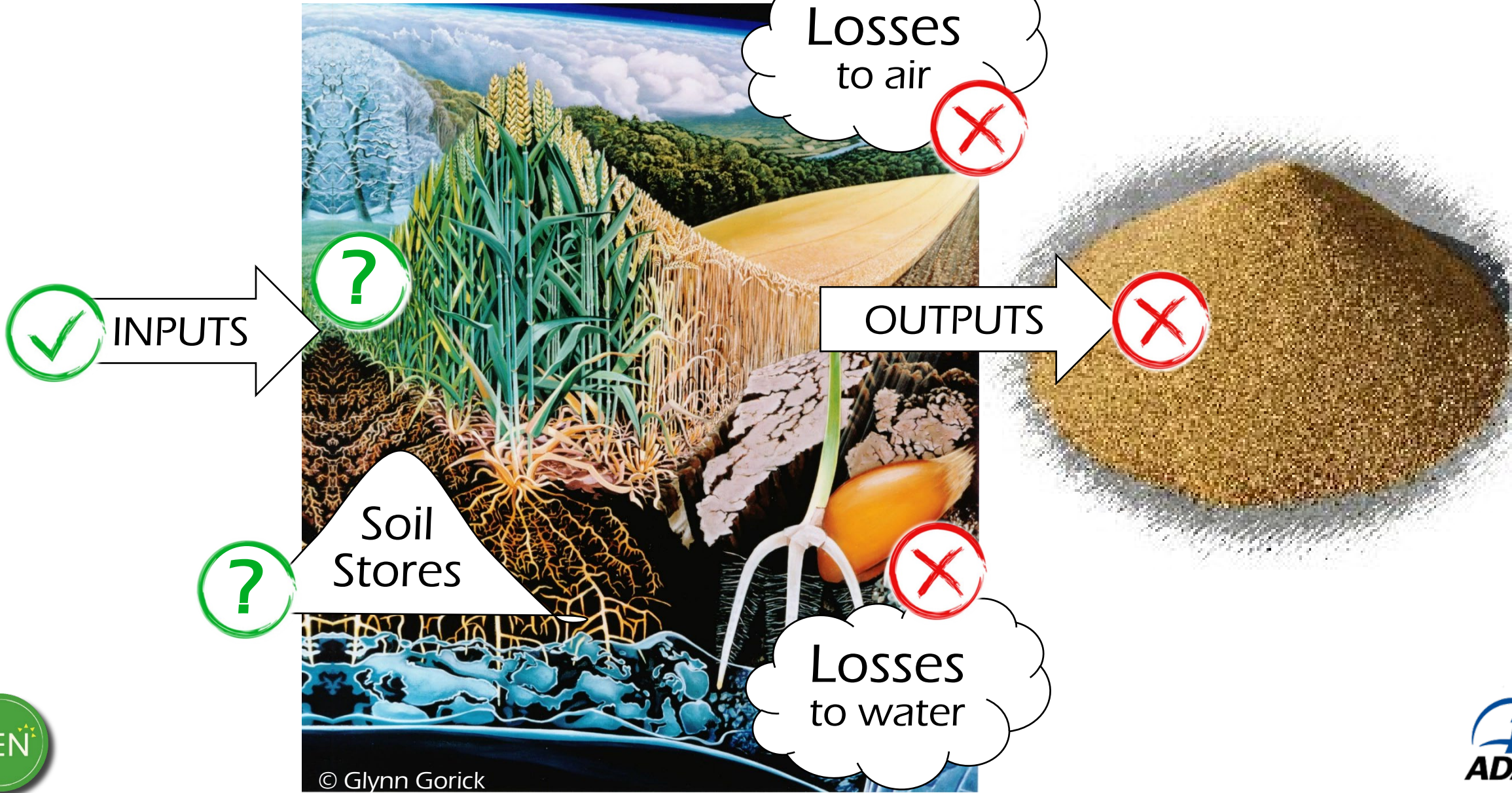
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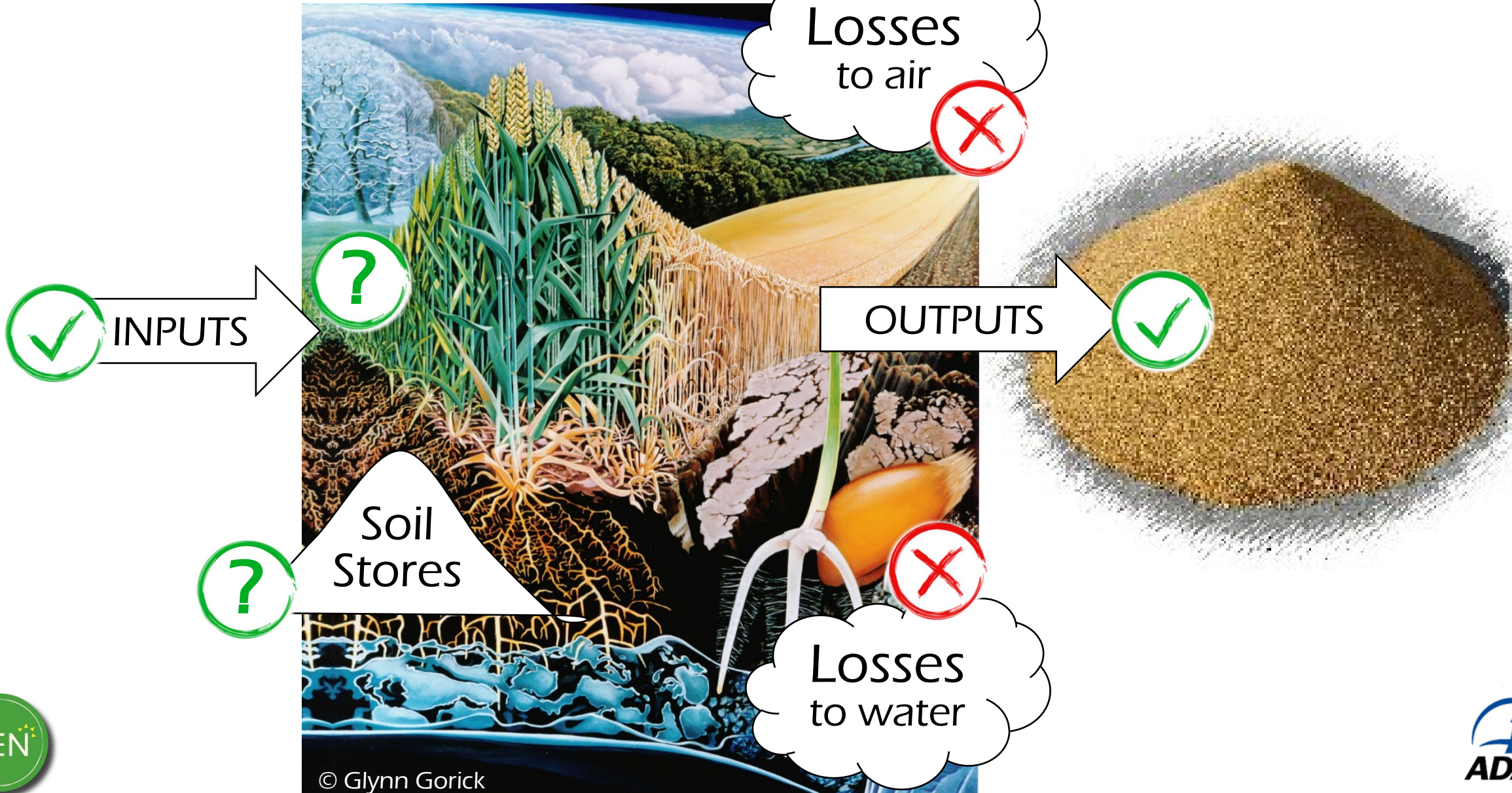
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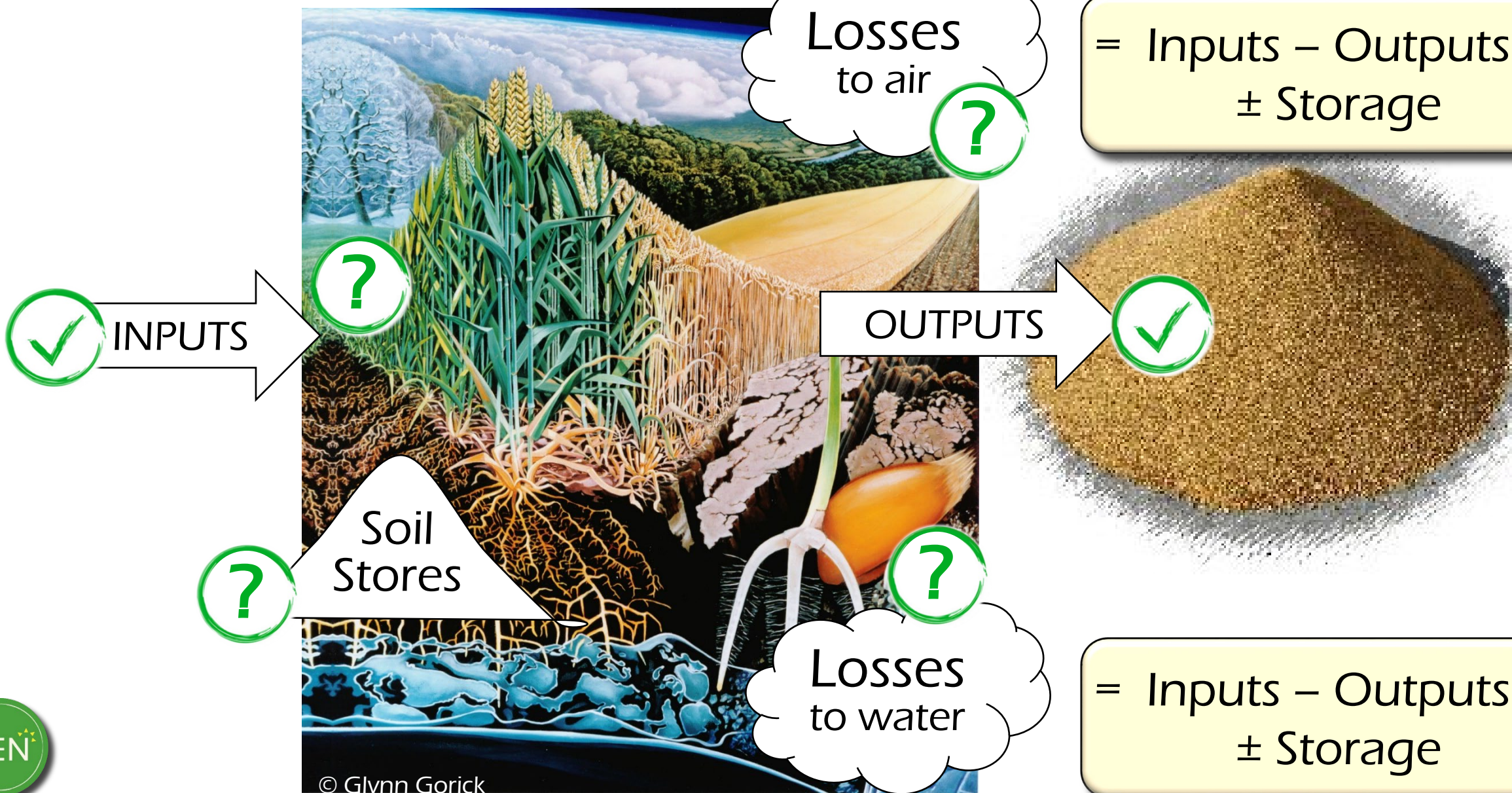
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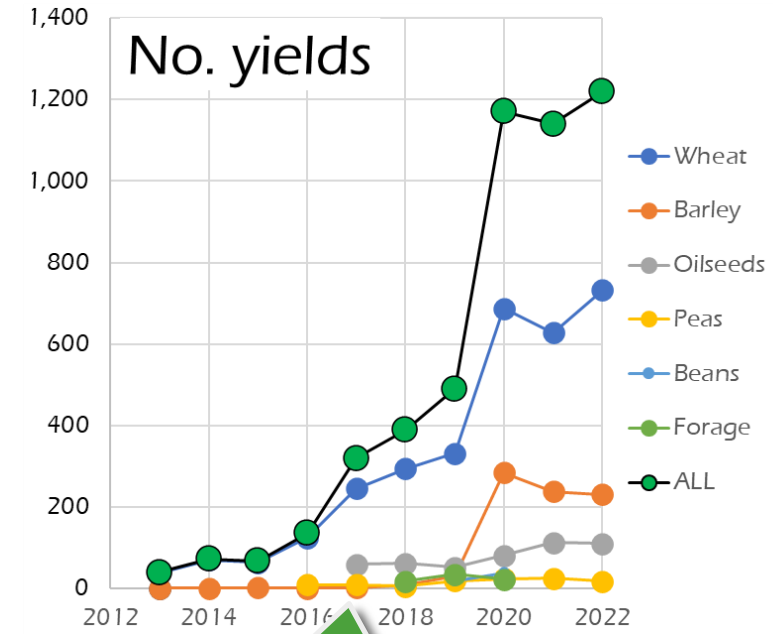
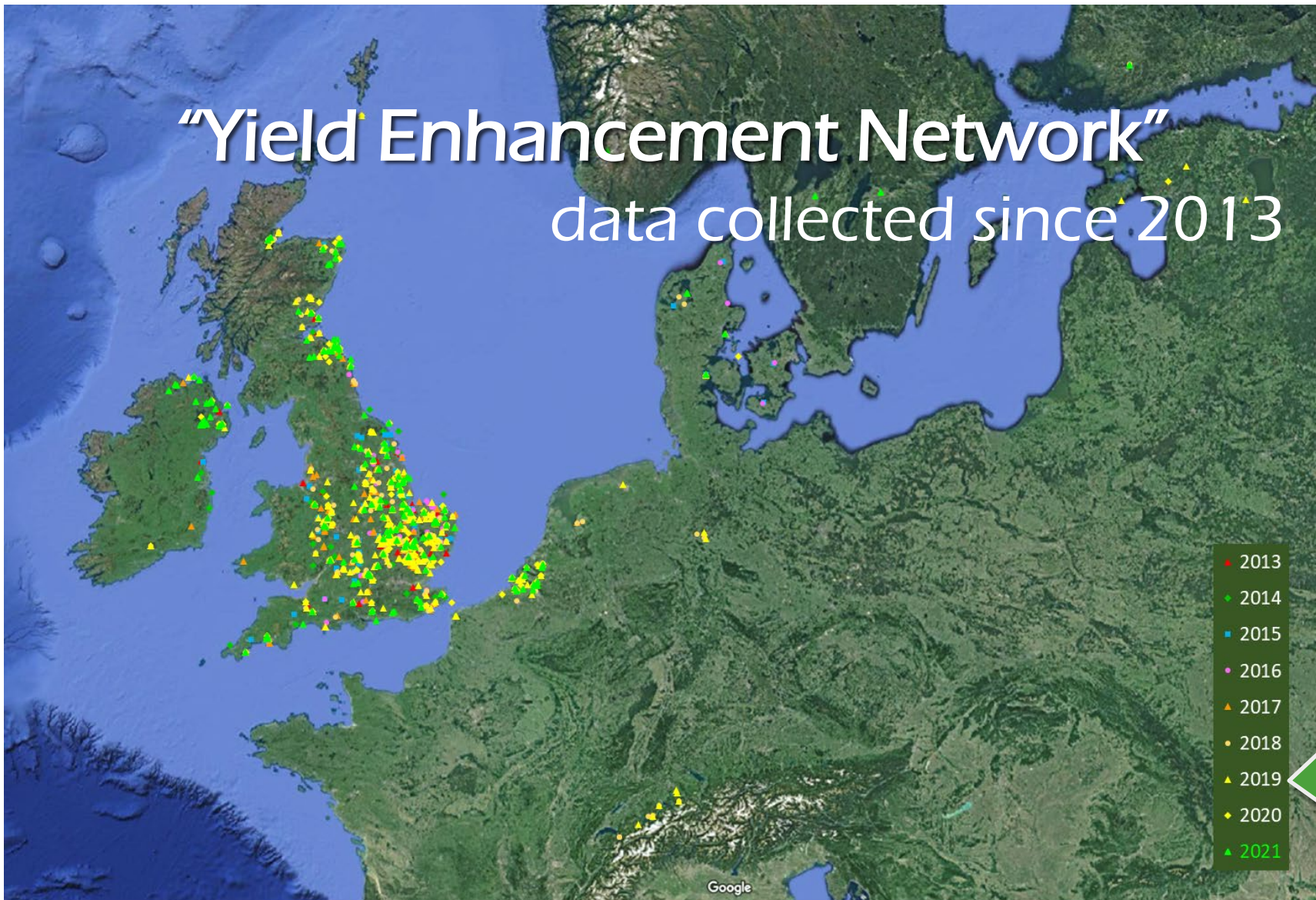


Measurements for Management .. Crop Nutrition



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"Yield Enhancement Network" data collected since 2013



~3,140
crop yields
& explanatory data
to 2021





Aim 1. Balancing Inputs & Harvests

(Aim 2: Diagnosing nutrient deficiencies)



Record nutrients bought ...
and how much applied
to each field



Record nutrient harvests from
each field
= yield x % nutrient



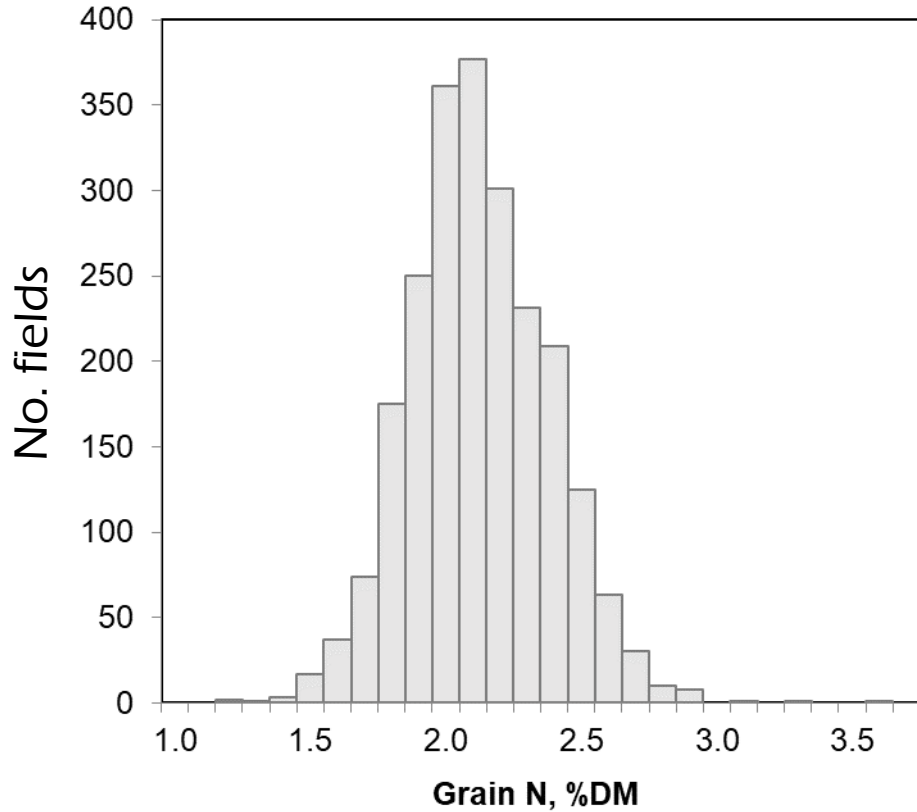
Aim 1. Balancing Inputs & Harvests

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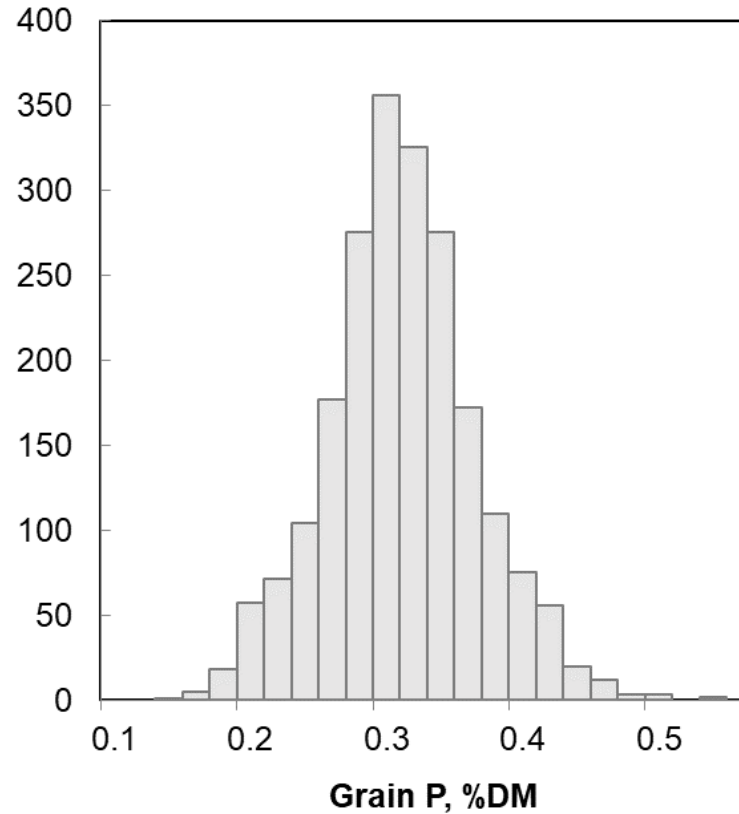
GRAIN CONCENTRATIONS VARY

~ 1,700 Wheat crops, 2013-2021

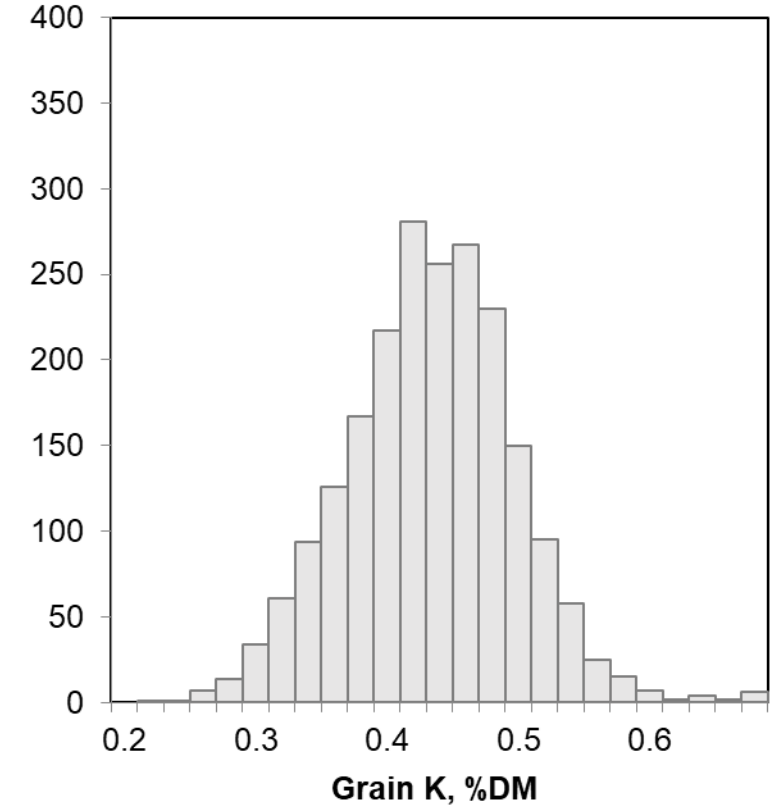
Nitrogen



Phosphorus



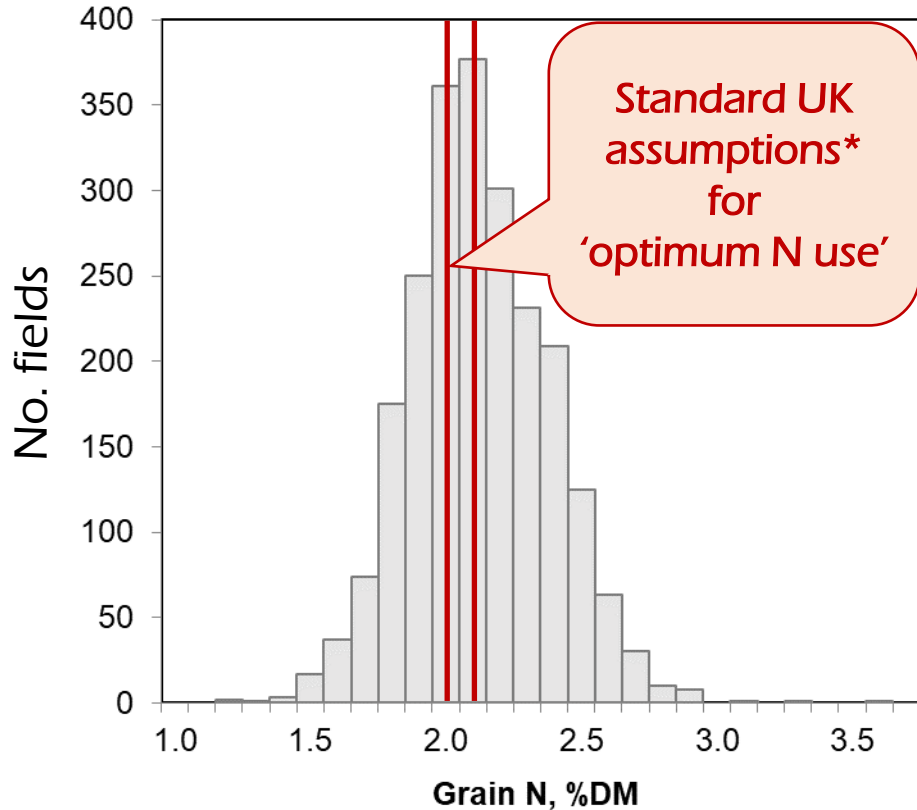
Potassium



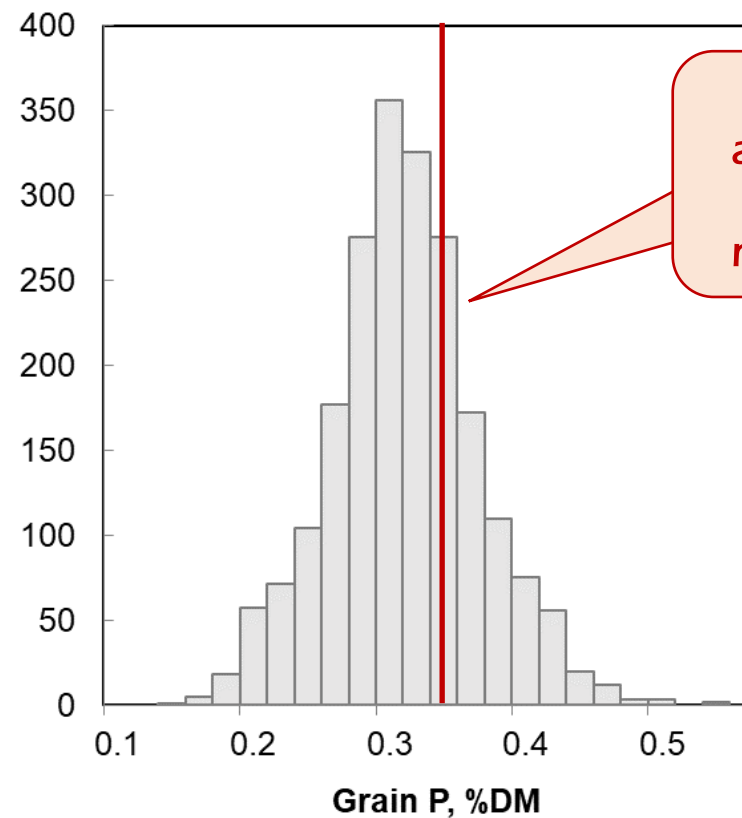
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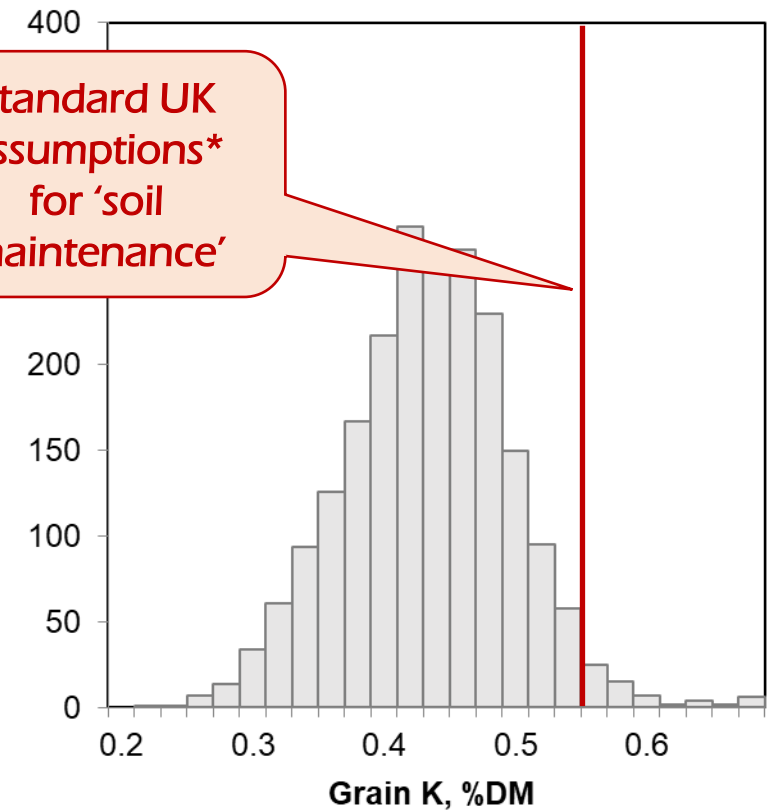
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* from: RB209 (AHDB, 2022) & www.pda.org.uk/pda_leaflets/nutrients-in-crop-material





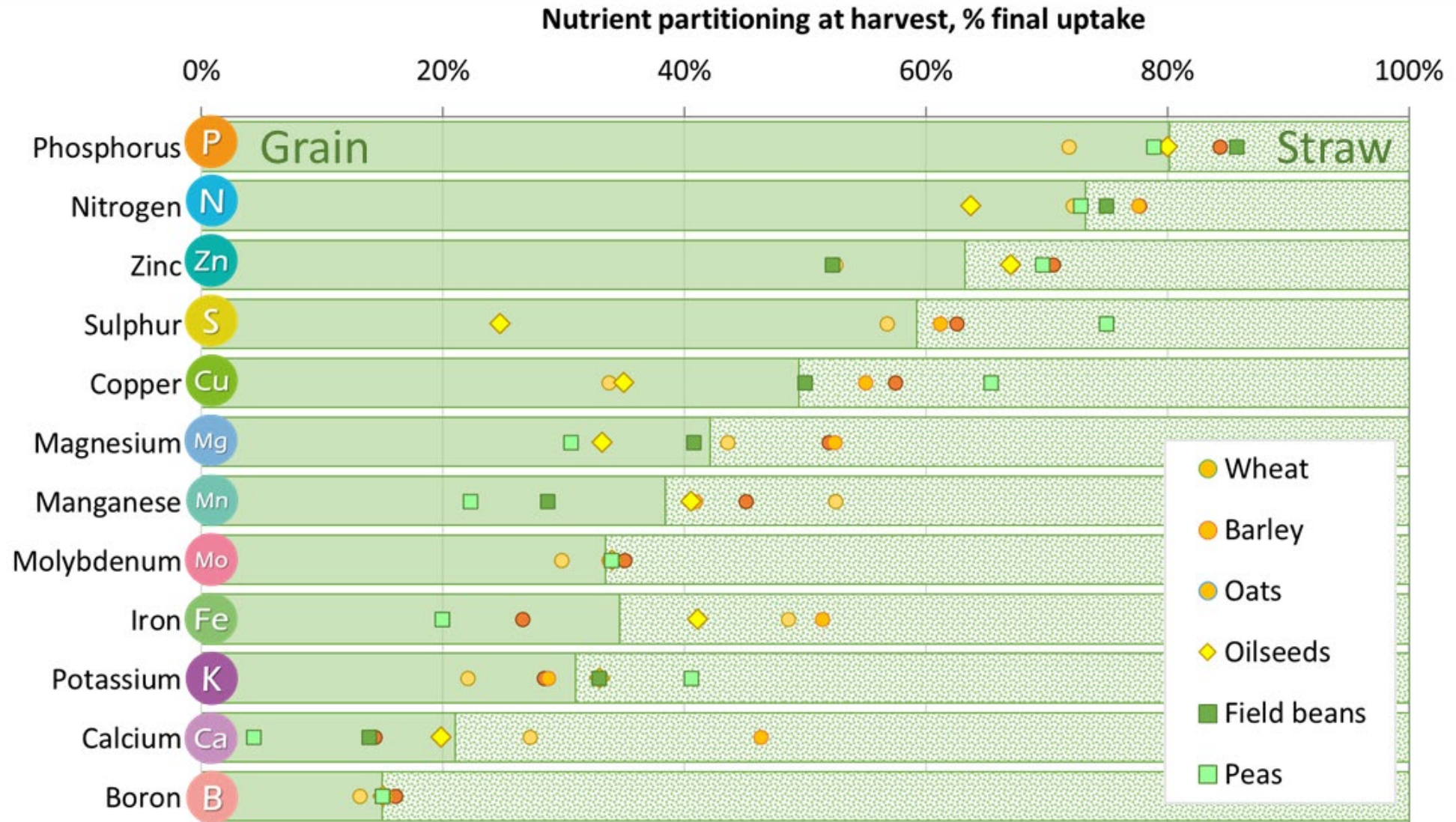
**Accurate Nutrient Balancing requires
harvest sampling and analysis
field by field**

Aim 2: Diagnosing Deficiencies

NB: Grain nutrient concentrations
diagnose final crop performance

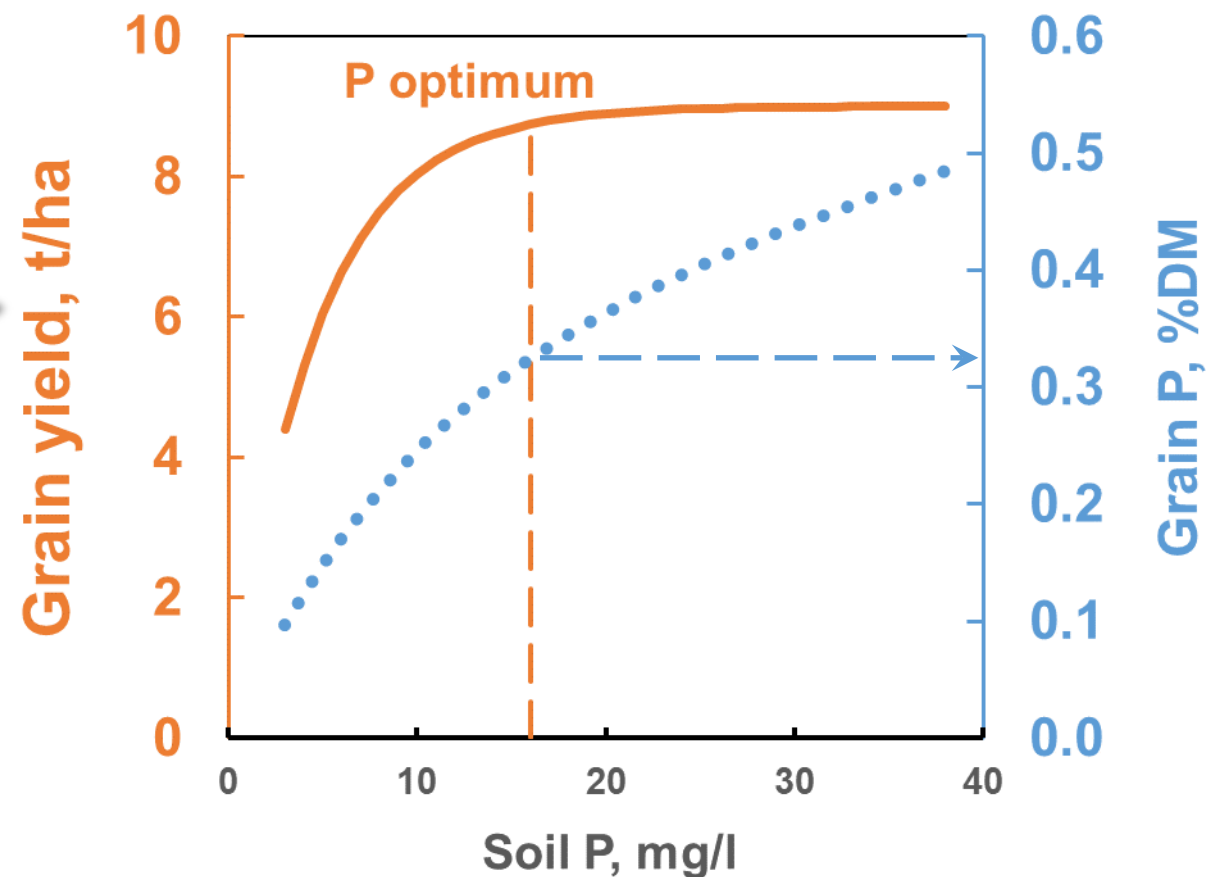


N, P etc. are redistributed to grain ... K etc. are left in straw



Grain Nutrients .. more sensitive to nutrition than Grain Yield

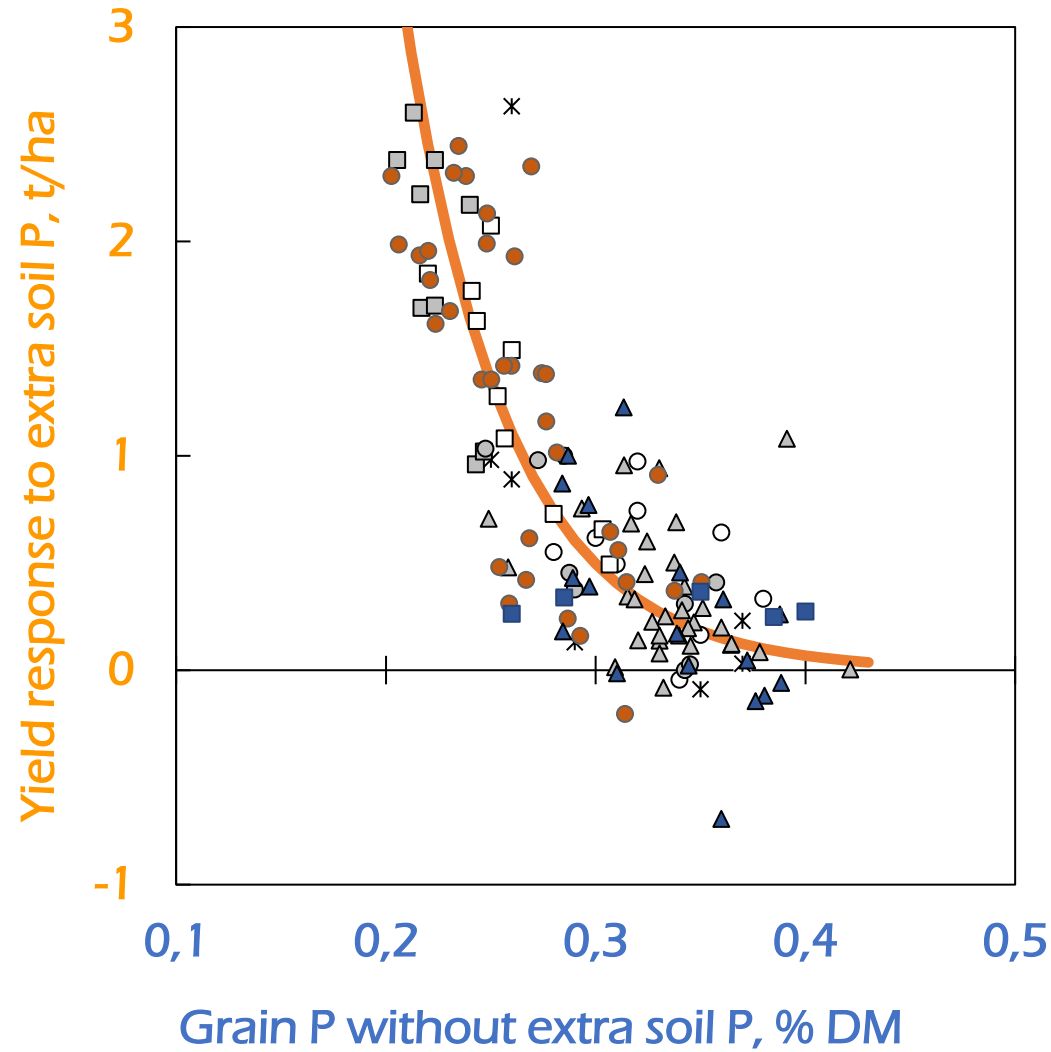
EXAMPLE :
Phosphorus



Sylvester-Bradley *et al.*, 2019
modelled on Johnston *et al.*, 2016



Evidence for critical P concentration in cereal grain ...



Old UK & Foreign data:

- × Stapleford '76-88
- ADAS '70s, 9 sites
- Tumby Bay wheat
- ◻ Tumby Bay barley
- Tylstrup, Denmark
- △ Finland, 17 sites

New AHDB data:

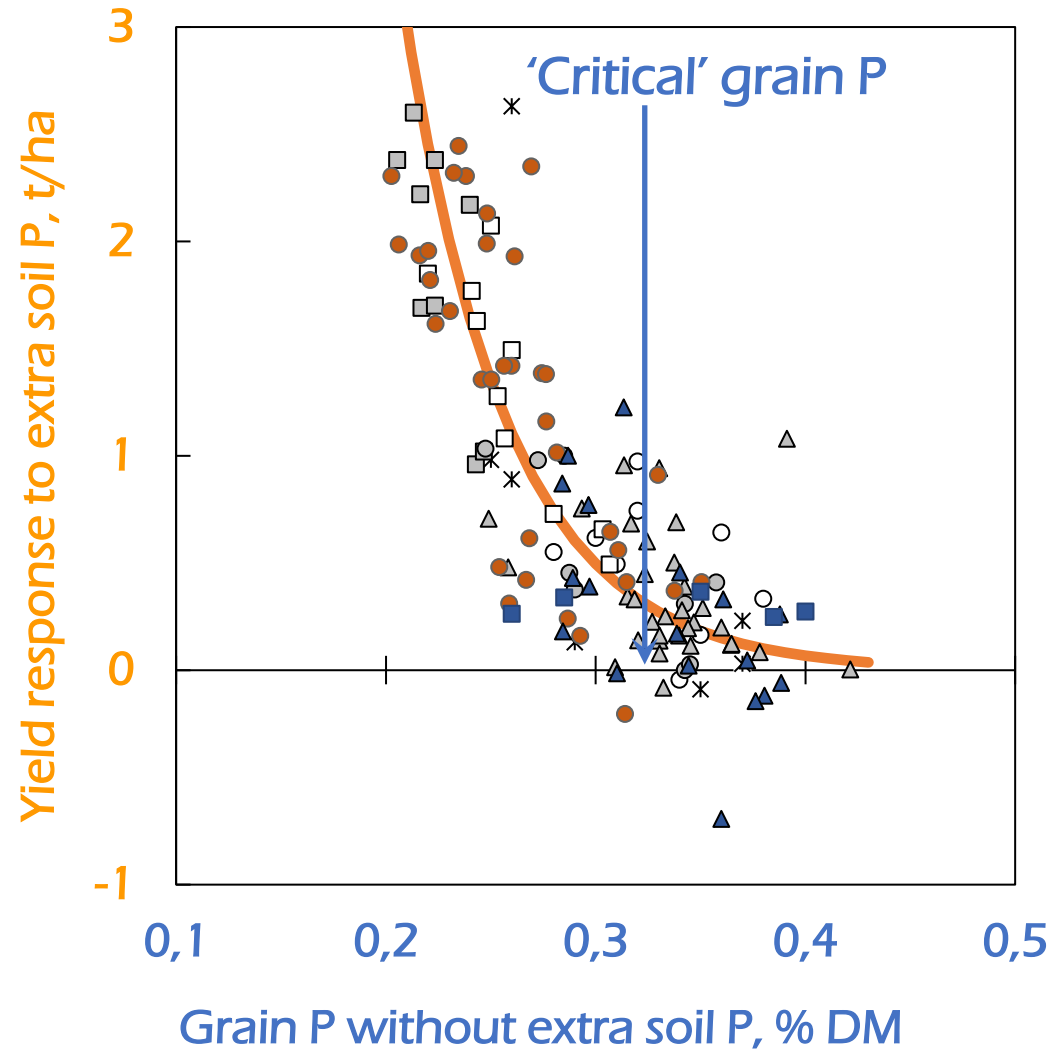
- Peldon 2015 & 2016
- ▲ Gt Charlton 2016
- Cholsey 2016



Rollett & Sylvester-Bradley, 2019; Sylvester-Bradley *et al.*, 2019



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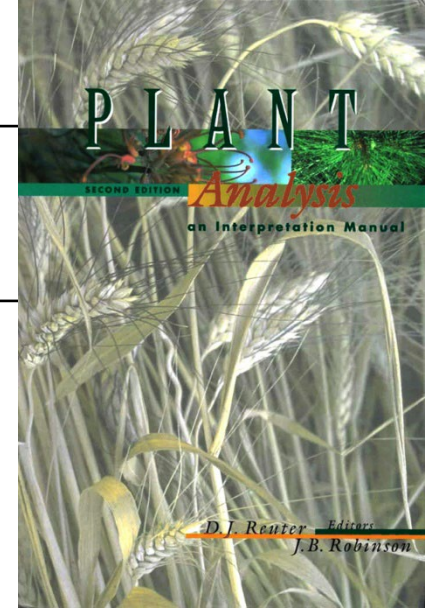


Rollett & Sylvester-Bradley, 2019; Sylvester-Bradley *et al.*, 2019



Summary: 8 critical levels in cereal grains ...

Nutrient	Concentration in grain DM	References, additional to Reuter & Robinson (1997):
N	~2%#	Sylvester-Bradley & Clarke (2009); AHDB (2022)
P	0.32%	Rollett & Sylvester-Bradley (2019); Bolland & Brennan (2008); Whitehouse (1973).
K	0.38%	Zhan <i>et al.</i> (2016)
S	0.12% or 17 N:S	McGrath (pers. comm.); McGrath <i>et al.</i> (1999)
Mg	0.08%	Ceylan <i>et al.</i> (2016)
Mn	20 mg/kg	McGrath <i>et al.</i> (2013);
Zn	15 mg/kg	McGrath <i>et al.</i> (2013); Khokhar <i>et al.</i> (2018)
Cu	3 mg/kg	Davies <i>et al.</i> (1971); Khokhar <i>et al.</i> (2018); Wadsworth, (1977; 1989); Curtin <i>et al.</i> (2008); Karamanos <i>et al.</i> (1986; 3003; 2004; 2005); Malhi <i>et al.</i> (2005); Sinclair & Withers (1995); Rehm (2008).



variety dependent

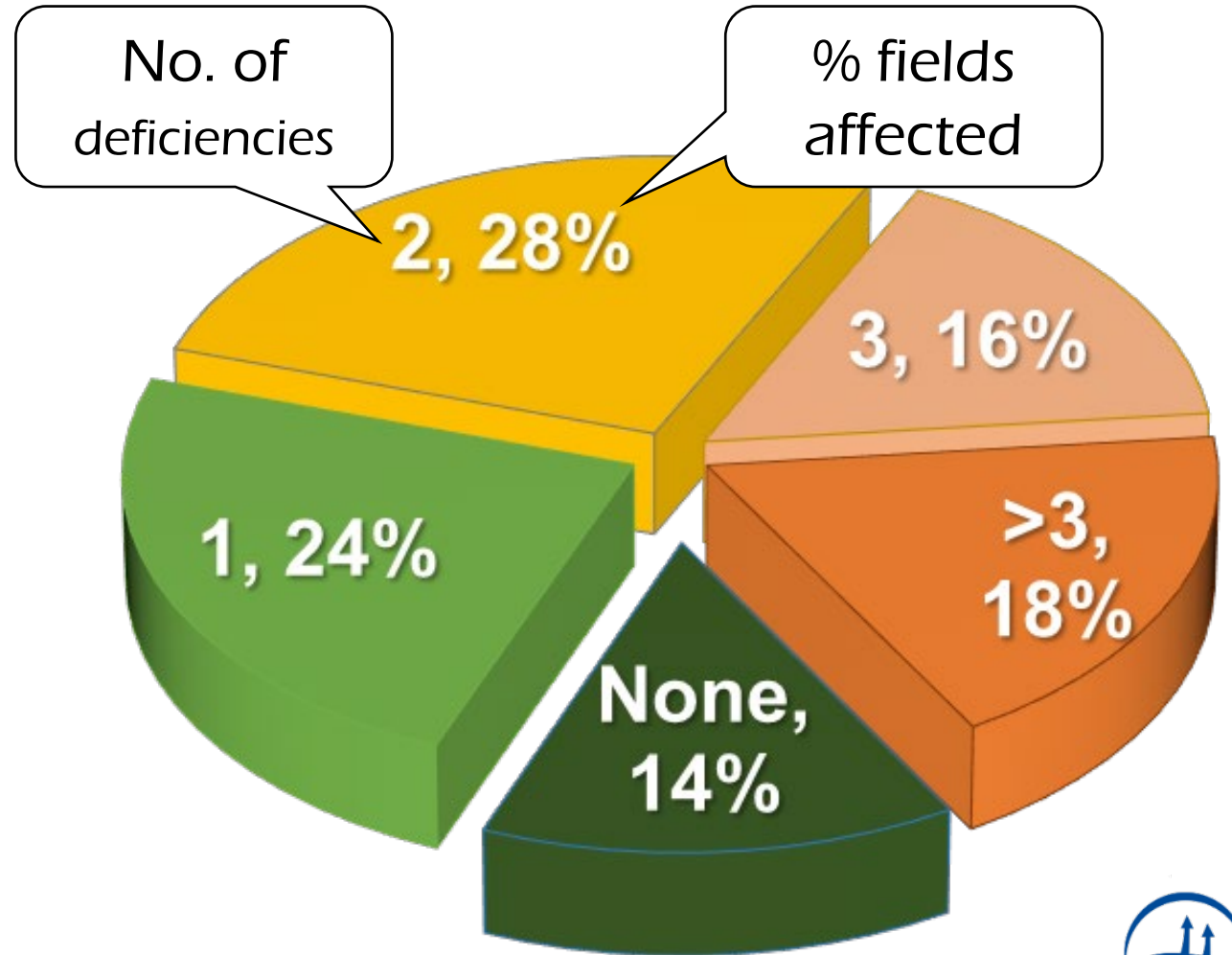
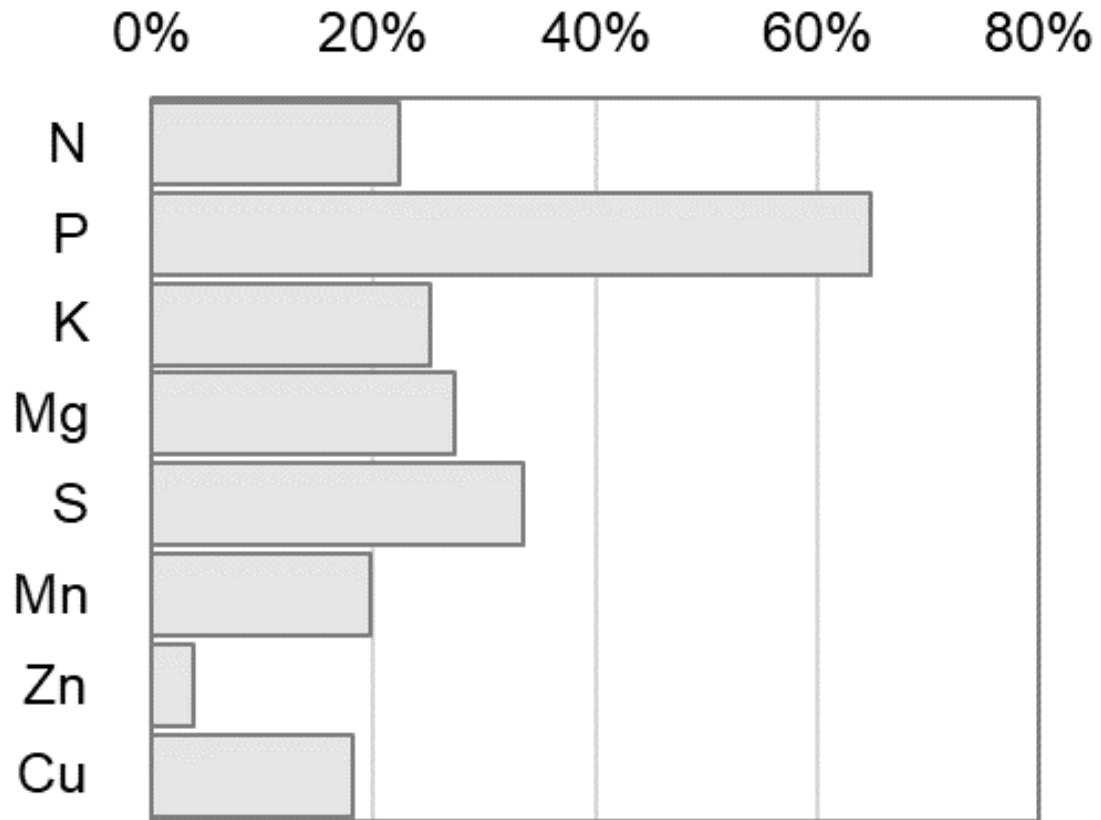




Frequencies of Deficiencies in YEN

Wheat 2013 – 2021

YEN fields affected



Estimated average cost of inaccurate nutrition in YEN exceeds €4,000* / field

* at 2022 prices

Grain analysis costs ~€60 / field .. average YEN field = 12 ha



On-farm TESTS can confirm grain nutrient diagnosis

Product Application Patches: PAPs

Product Omission Patches: POPs



Available free from www.yen.adas.co.uk



Conclusions:

- **Nutrient Harvests vary substantially between fields**
 - Many Causes: genetic, season, soil supplies, fertiliser & manure use, etc.
 - But mainly: **Farm-to-Farm**
- **85% crops have ‘deficiencies’ or ‘excesses’**
 - especially of N & P
- **Routine checks of Nutrient Harvests are a “no-brainer”**
 - Analyse Grain ... and Straw? ... as well as Soil & Leaf
 - Consider on-farm tests
- **New “Measure to Manage” project, with ARVALIS *et al.* ...**





NUTRI-CHECK NET

OPTIMISING CROP NUTRITION



nutri-checknet.eu



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From 2023 to 2025 ...

“To maximise site-specific precision in managing the nutrition of European arable crops”



30ans

Thank you

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