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Phenotyping complex traits: adaptability to drought and frost in perennial ryegrass

LAMMC



LITHUANIAN
RESEARCH CENTRE
FOR AGRICULTURE
AND FORESTRY

Gražina Statkevičiūtė

«Edit Grass 4 Food» meeting
Tallinn, 28th October, 2022

Coping with drought

Escape



Avoidance



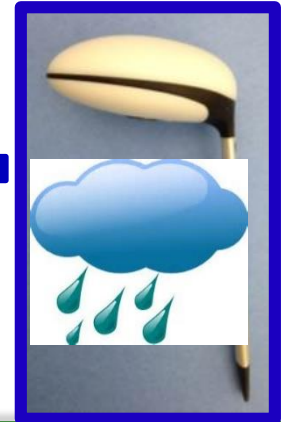
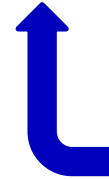
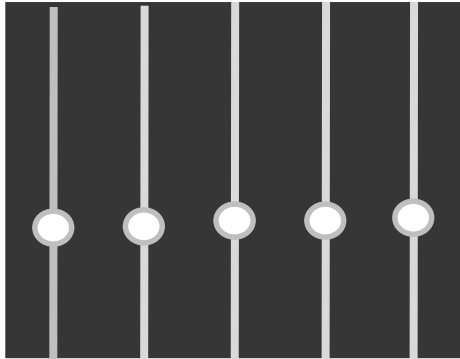
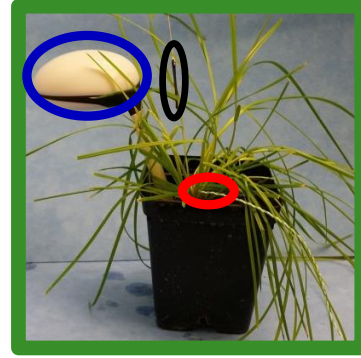
Tolerance



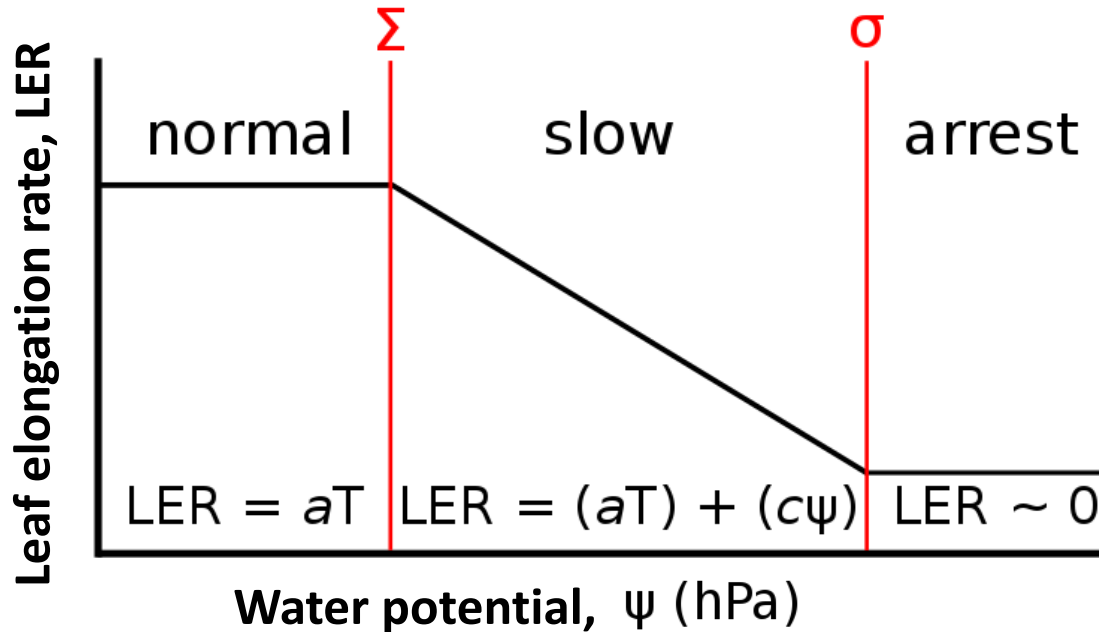
Improving drought tolerance



Phenotyping platform



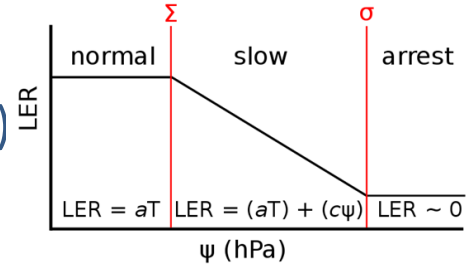
Leaf growth under water deficit



T = temperature
a, c = genotypic response

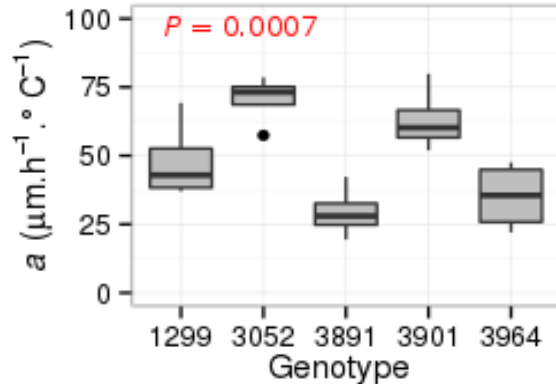
Leaf growth under water deficit

The phenotyping approach enables to determine when water potential (Ψ) slows (Σ) and arrests (σ) leaf elongation rate (LER)

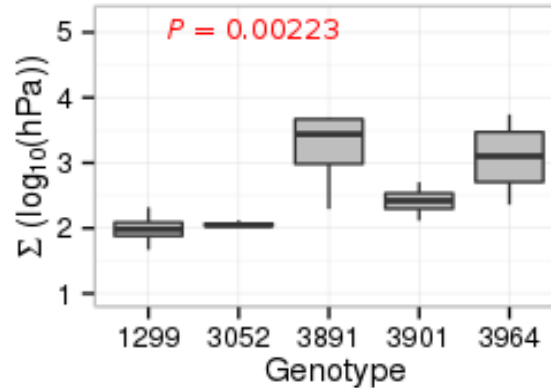


Genotypic differences

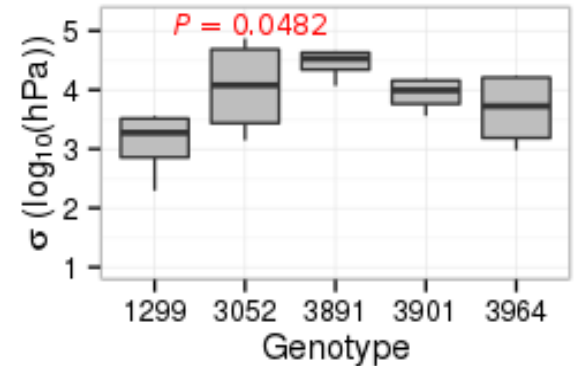
a , growth rate



Σ , growth slow



σ , growth stop



Applicability of the approach

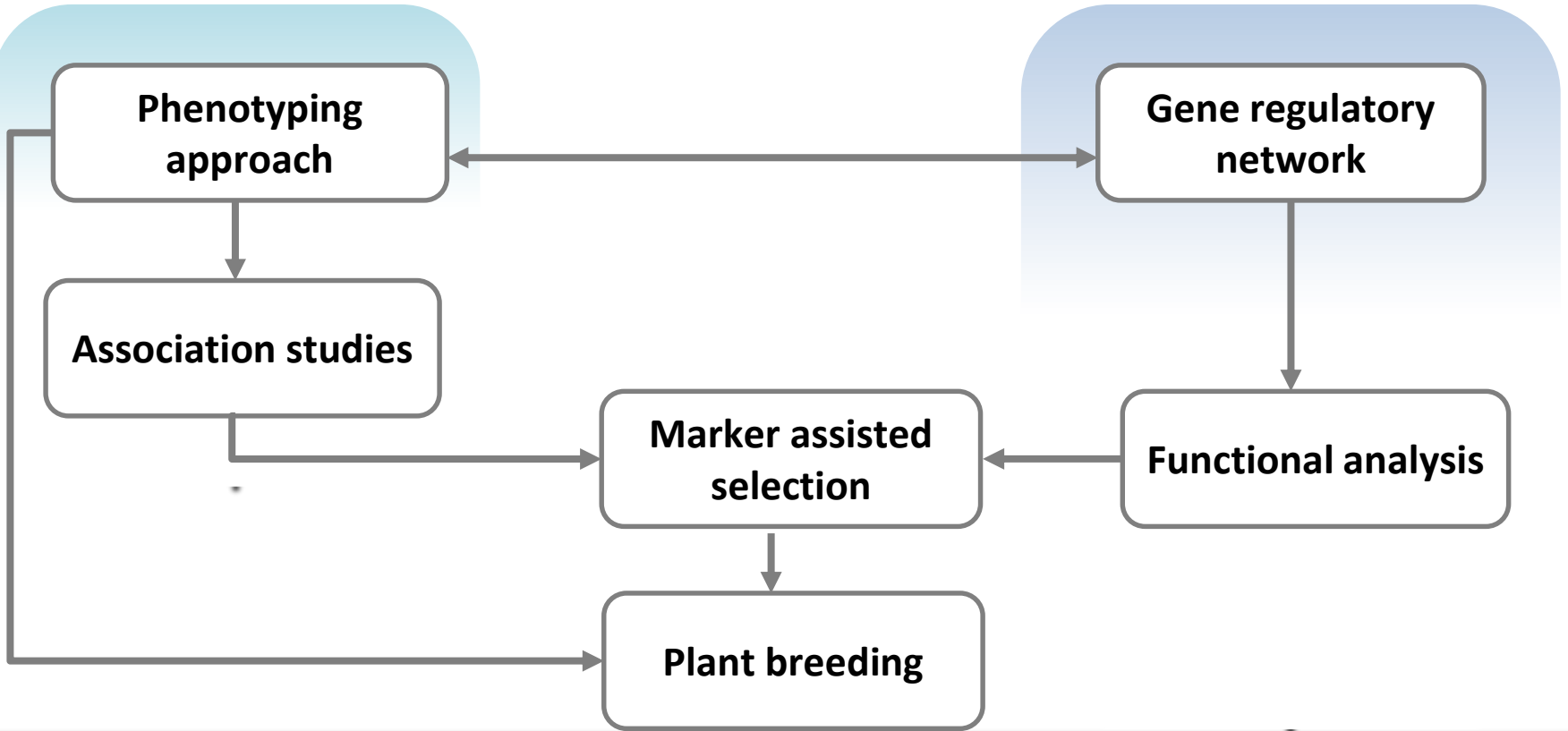
- Determines genotypic response to water stress
- Time independent phenotypic response
- Non-invasive, labour and cost effective
- Adaptable in field
- Can be used in any monocot species
- Applicable to other abiotic stress



Phenotyping a Dynamic Trait: Leaf Growth of Perennial Ryegrass Under Water Limiting Conditions

Steven Yates^{1†}, Kristina Jaškūnė^{2†}, Frank Liebisch³, Sebastian Nagelmüller³, Norbert Kirchgessner³, Roland Kölliker¹, Achim Walter³, Gintaras Brazauskas² and Bruno Studer^{1}*

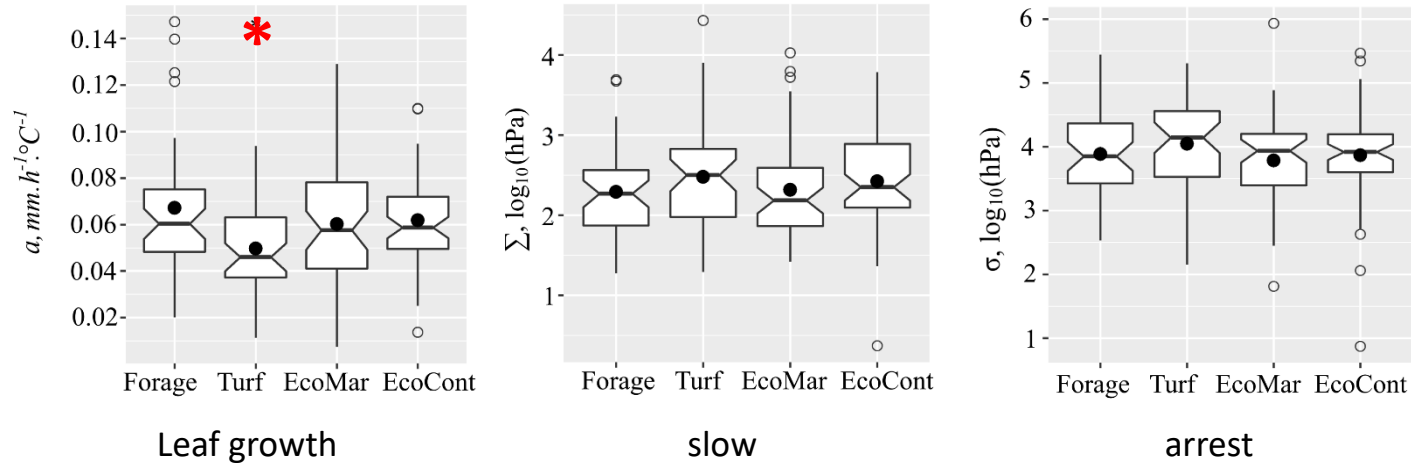
Use of the approach



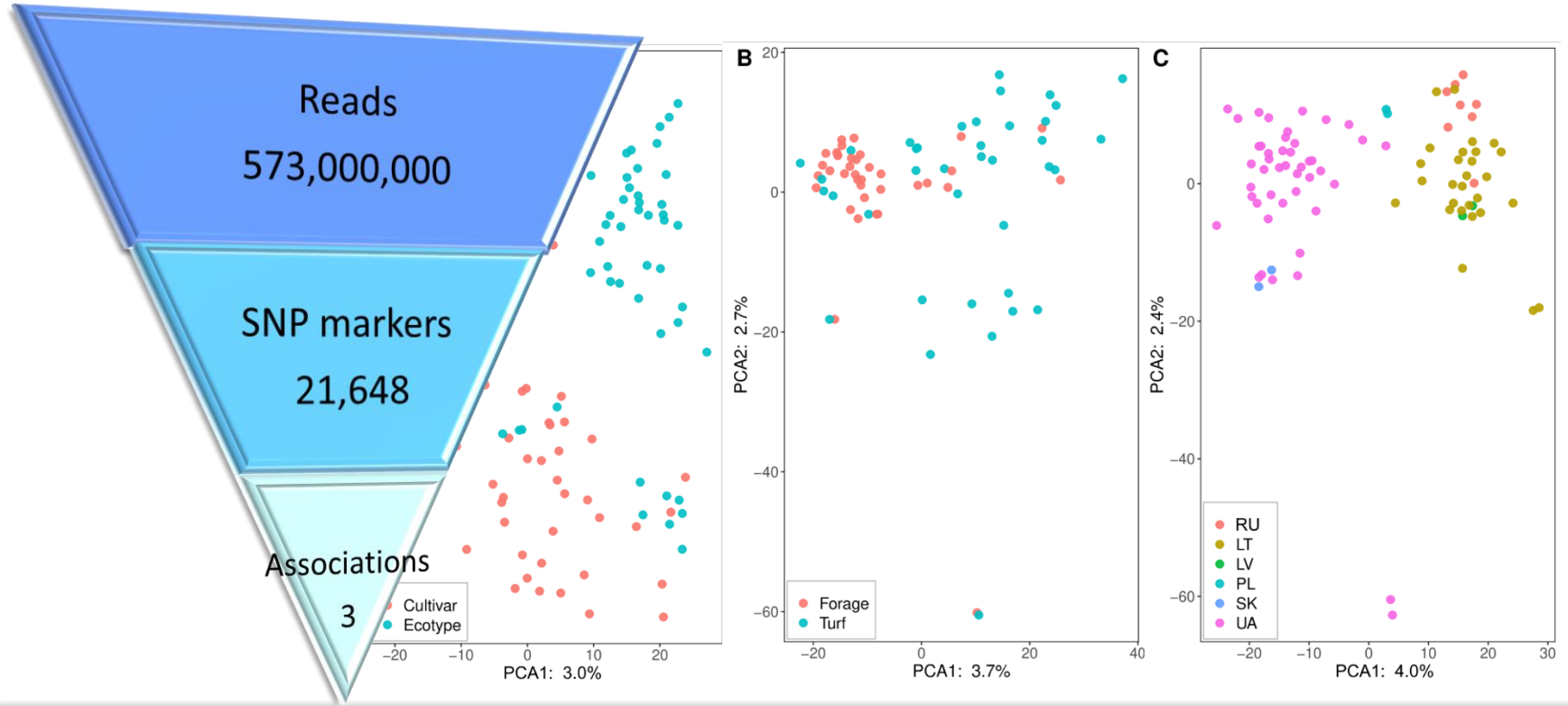
Phenotyping a diverse panel

197 perennial ryegrass genotypes

- Cultivars – 43 forage and 46 turf
- Ecotypes - 50 maritime and 58 continental origin



Genotyping-by-sequencing



GWAS for biomass formation

Scaffold	Position	Gene prediction (blastn)	Location	Scaffold position in barley genome	GWAS method	SNP effect	MAF	P-value	P-value s FDR	P-values (Bonferroni correction)
scaffold_20866 ref0045961	1878	Transcription factor MYB41 (XM_003573090.4)	outside gene (708 bp)	Hv_chr6H	FarmCPU	-0.548	0.091	4.19E-07	0.009	0.009
					BLINK	NA	0.091	4.15E-07	0.009	NA
					MLMM	NA	0.091	8.16E-07	0.009	0.018
scaffold_4484 ref0039062	32616	Phytochrome B (XM_020328926.1)	intron	Hv_chr4H	FarmCPU	0.739	0.054	1.79E-07	0.019	0.039
					BLINK	NA		1.78E-06	0.019	NA
scaffold_21802 ref0017195	728	NA	intergenic space	NA	MLMM	NA	0.256	4.43E-07	0.009	0.010



Genome-Wide Association Study to Identify Candidate Loci for Biomass Formation Under Water Deficit in Perennial Ryegrass

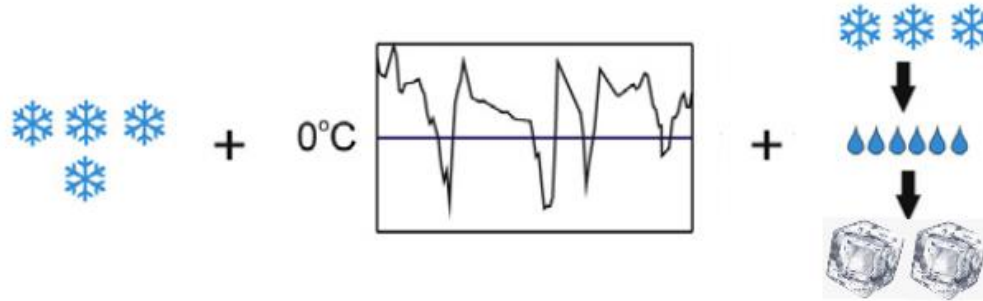
Kristina Jaškūnė^{1}, Andrius Aleliūnas¹, Gražina Statkevičiūtė¹, Vilma Kemešytė², Bruno Studer³ and Steven Yates^{3*}*

Climate change impact on cold tolerance

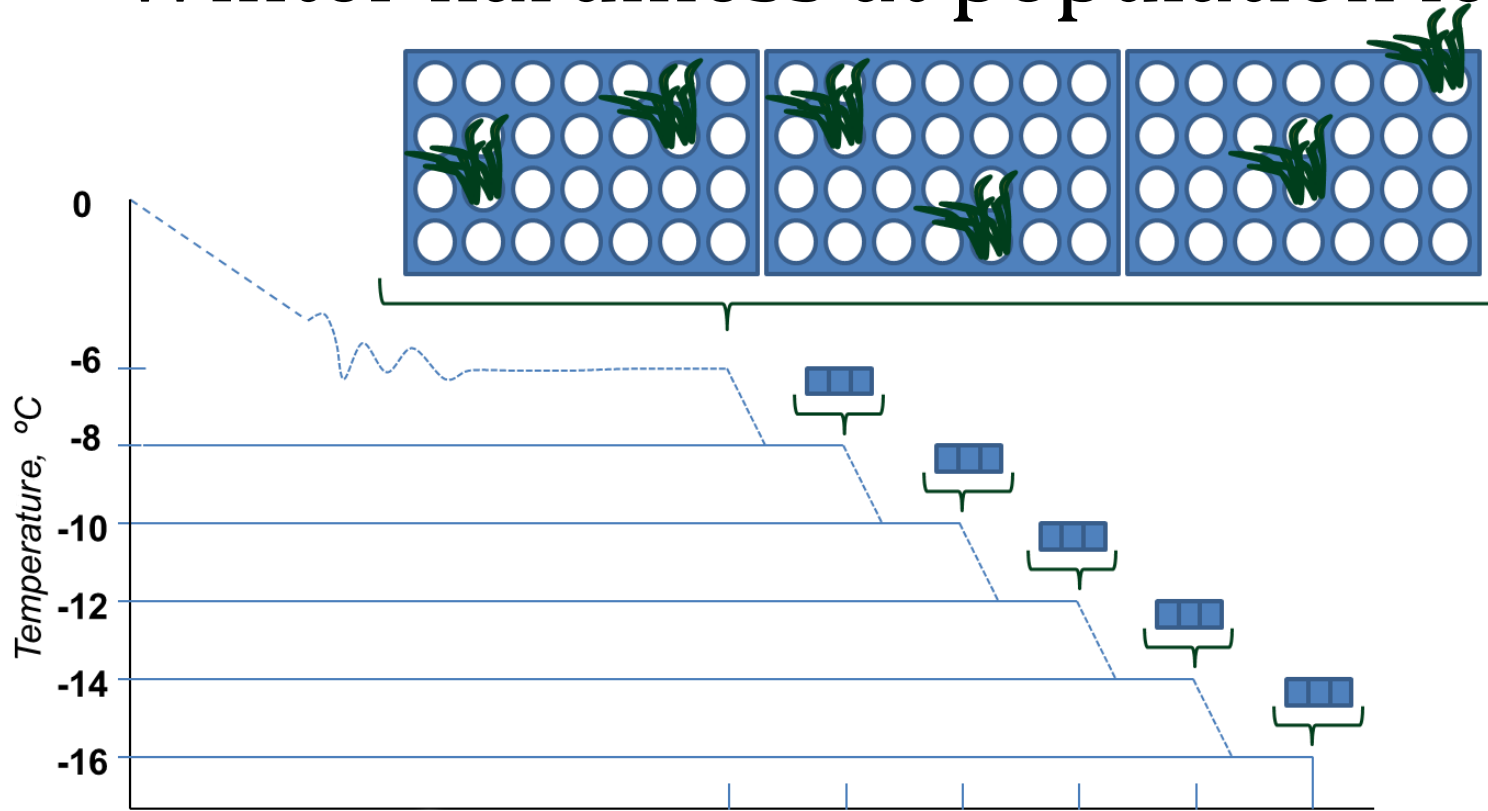
Autumn



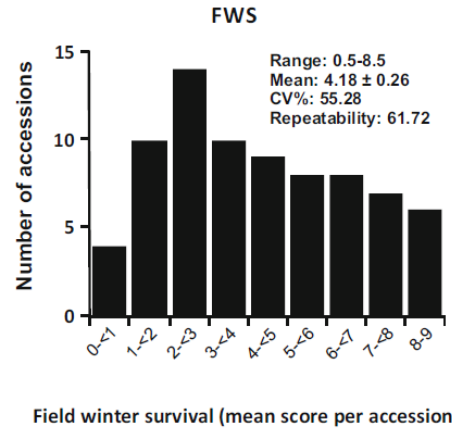
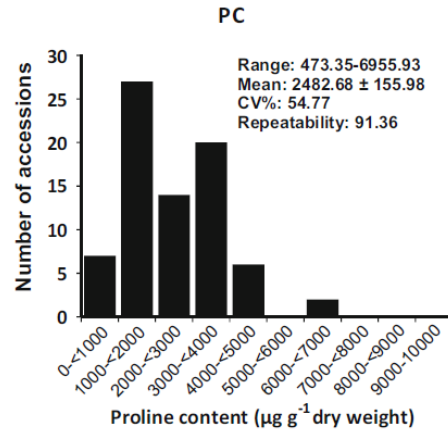
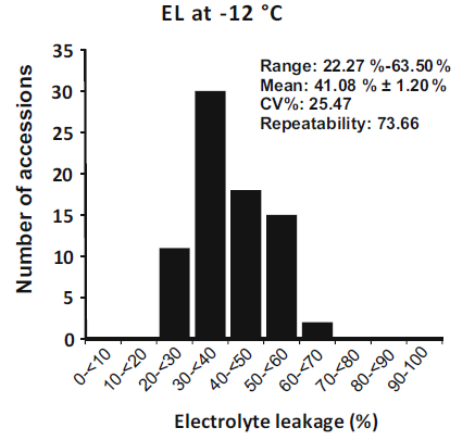
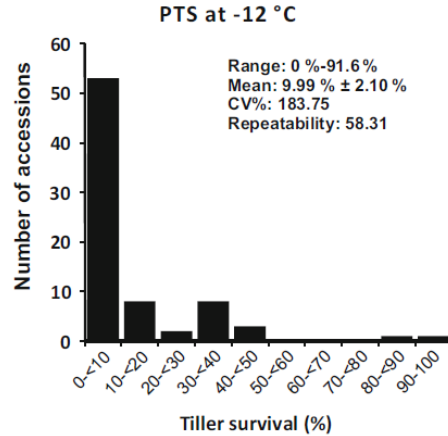
Winter



Winter hardiness at population level

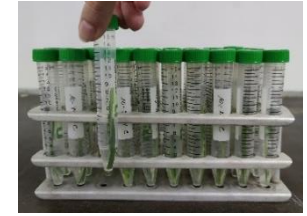
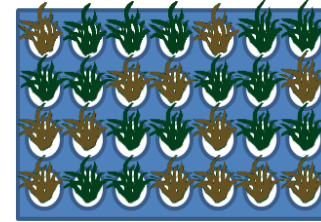
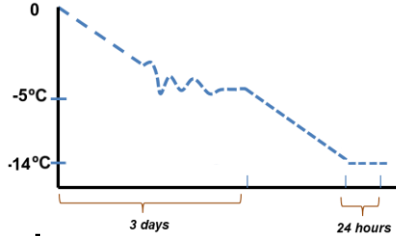
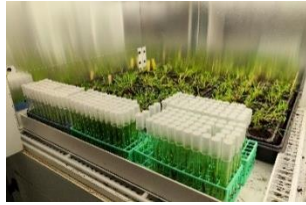
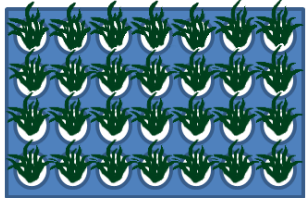


Variation of winter hardiness



Freezing tolerance test

160 genotypes
8 clones per genotype



Establishment

3 weeks
+20°C

Acclimation

1 week +5°C
2 weeks +2°C

Freezing test

24 hours
-12/-14°C

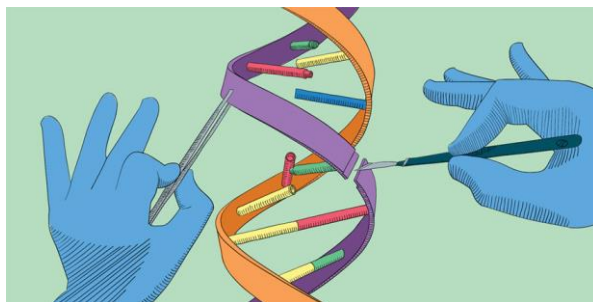
Regrowth

3 weeks
+20°C

**Tolerance
evaluation**

Tiller survival
Electrolyte leakage

Improving adaptability and resilience of perennial ryegrass for safe and sustainable food systems through CRISPR-Cas9 technology



Thanks

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- Prof. Bruno Studer, dr. Steven Yates
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