

# Cereal models for climate adaptation

## Insights and needs

Scott Chapman (Senior Principal Research Scientist CSIRO, Adj. Prof. UQ QAAFI)

21-22 May 2014

PLANT INDUSTRY / CLIMATE ADAPTATION FLAGSHIP

[www.csiro.au](http://www.csiro.au)

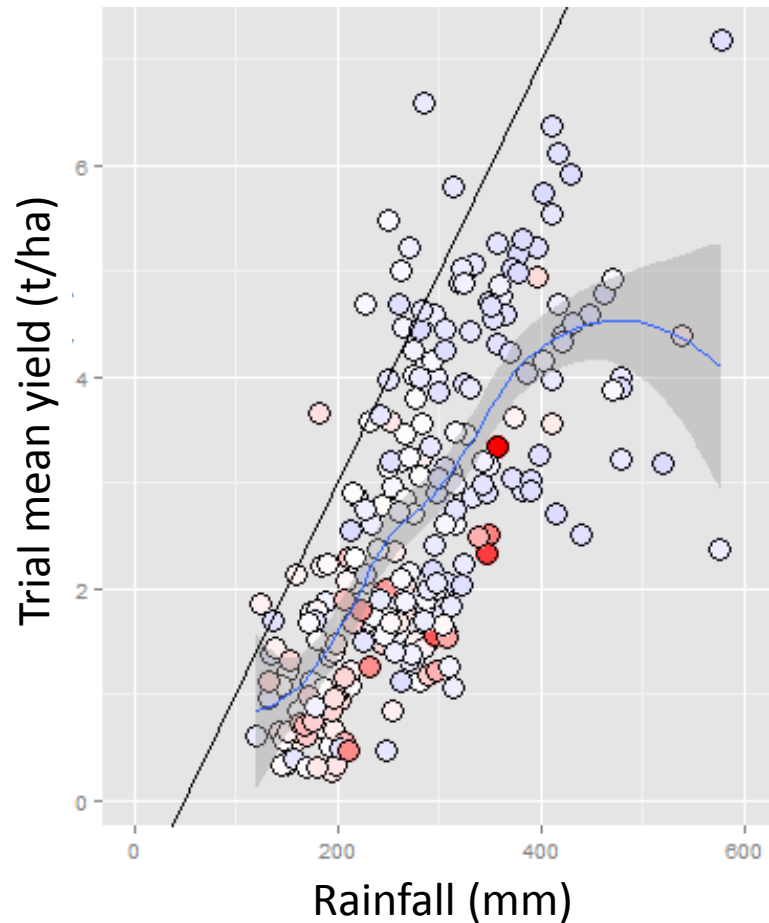


THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA

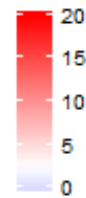
**QAAFI**  
Queensland Alliance for  
Agriculture and Food Innovation



# Heat effects in yield trials – Evidence from National Variety Trials



Numb. Hours > 30C  
(-300/+100C around flowering)



Heat around flowering  
reduced trial mean yield in  
at least 30 trials

Trial yield from South Australia and  
western Victoria (Australia)

# Breeding and modelling adaptive traits

## Issues in developing and using models for prediction of phenotype

## Issues in modelling high temperature effects

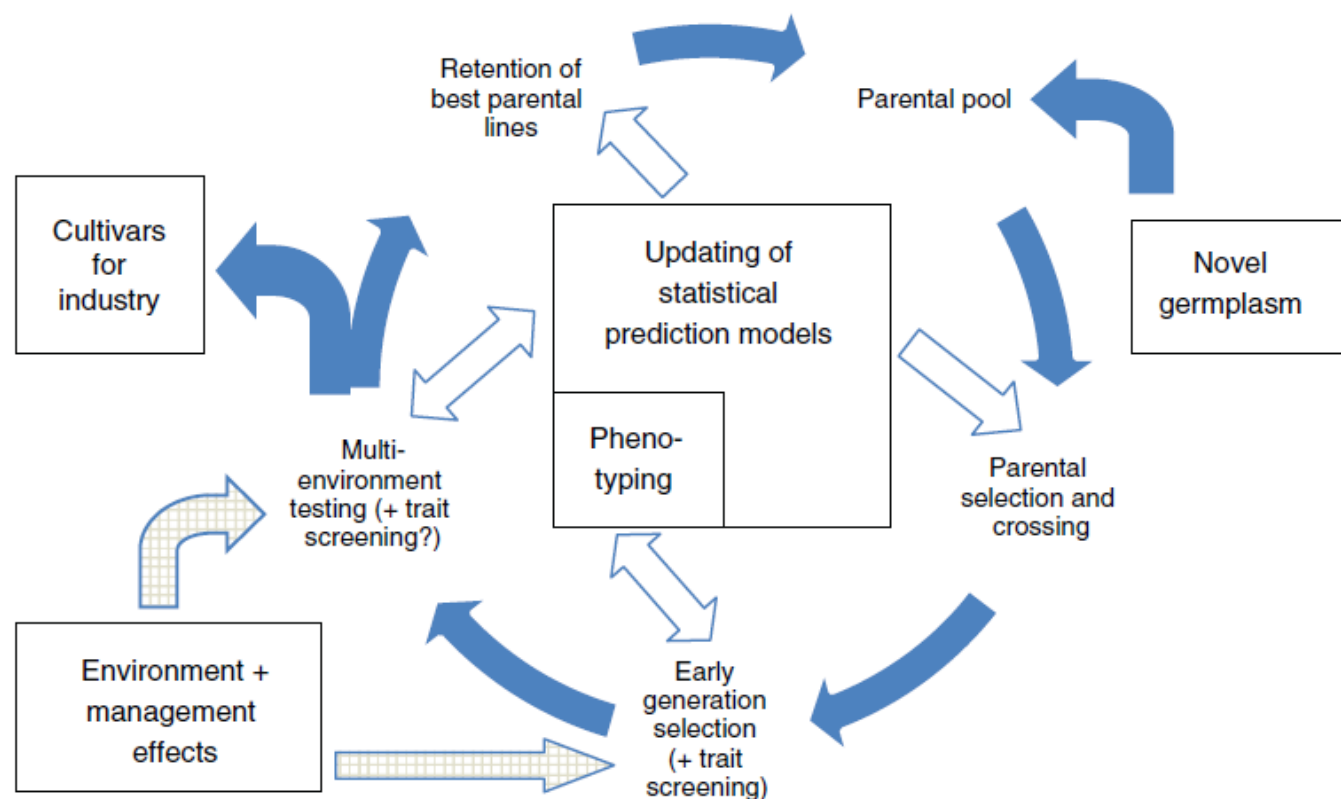
# Breeding and modelling adaptive traits

Issues in developing and using models for prediction of phenotype

Issues in modelling high temperature effects

## Plant adaptation to climate change—opportunities and priorities in breeding

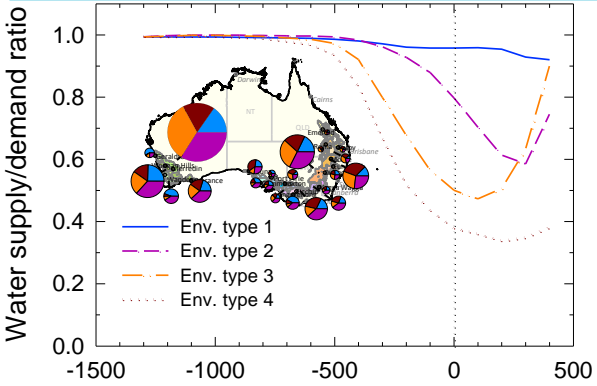
Scott C. Chapman<sup>A,C,D</sup>, Sukumar Chakraborty<sup>A</sup>, M. Fernanda Dreccer<sup>B,C</sup>,  
and S. Mark Howden<sup>C</sup>



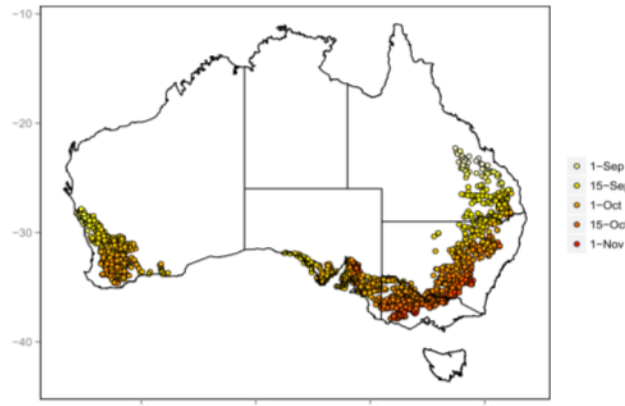
**Fig. 1.** Basic components of a modern breeding program. Solid arrows show germplasm flow as it is introduced, improved, and delivered as cultivars. Hatched arrows show where environment (either on-farm or managed in breeding program) impacts phenotyping and selection. Open arrows show information flow from core technologies of program (phenotyping methods, DNA analysis, statistical prediction) to select parents and cultivars.

# Modelling in breeding

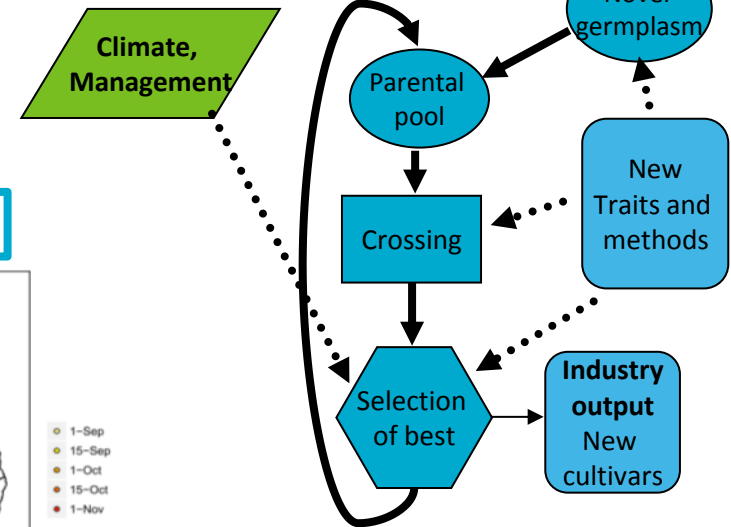
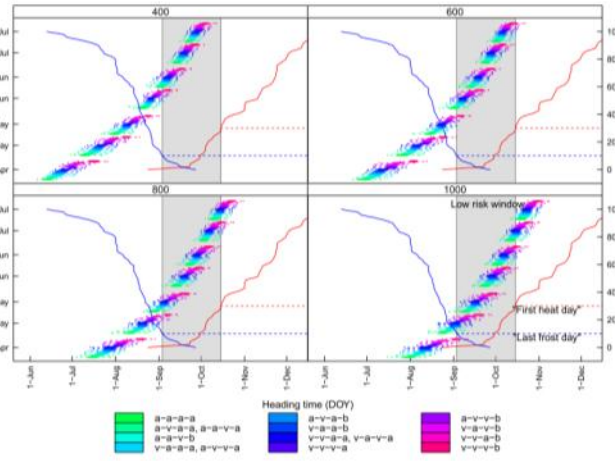
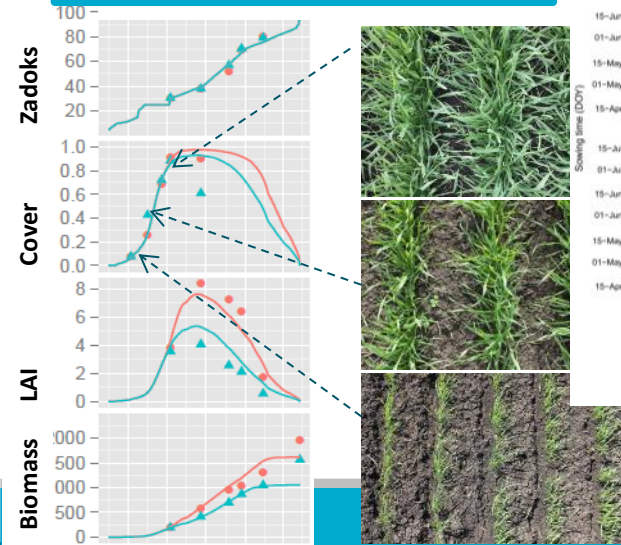
## Environment characterisation - Drought patterns to interpret GxE



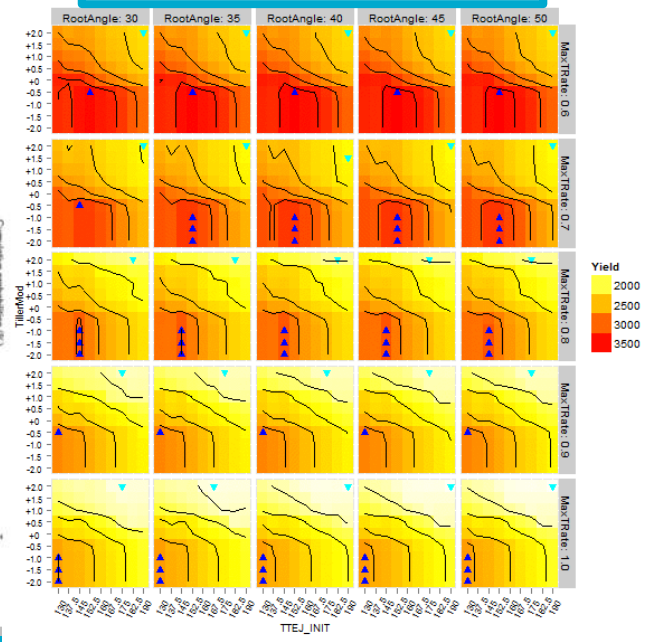
## Prediction of Adaptation



## In-season 'phenotyping'



## Evaluation of trait value



S Chapman, F Dreccer, B Zheng, K Chenu

# Breeding and modelling adaptive traits

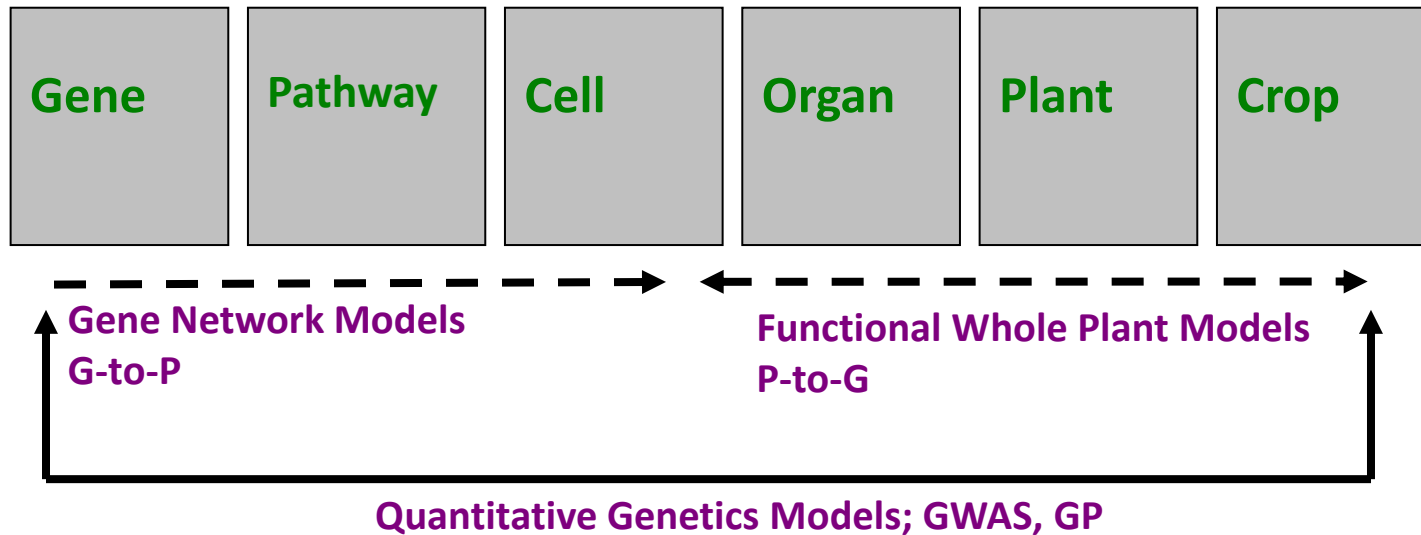
## Issues in developing and using models for prediction of phenotype

## Issues in modelling high temperature effects

# Gene-to-Phenotype Prediction

## The “Phenotypic Distance” Issue

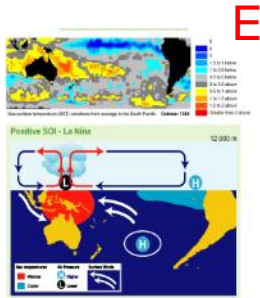
High temperature – direct and indirect effects....



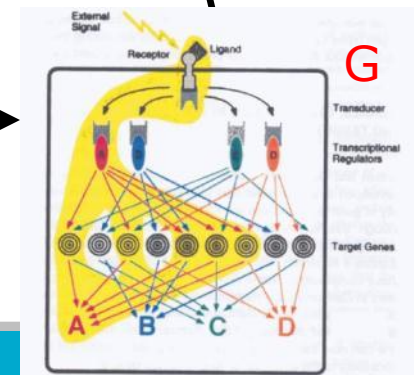
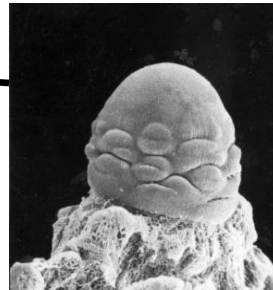
– G & E context dependencies



# Plants adapting across scales

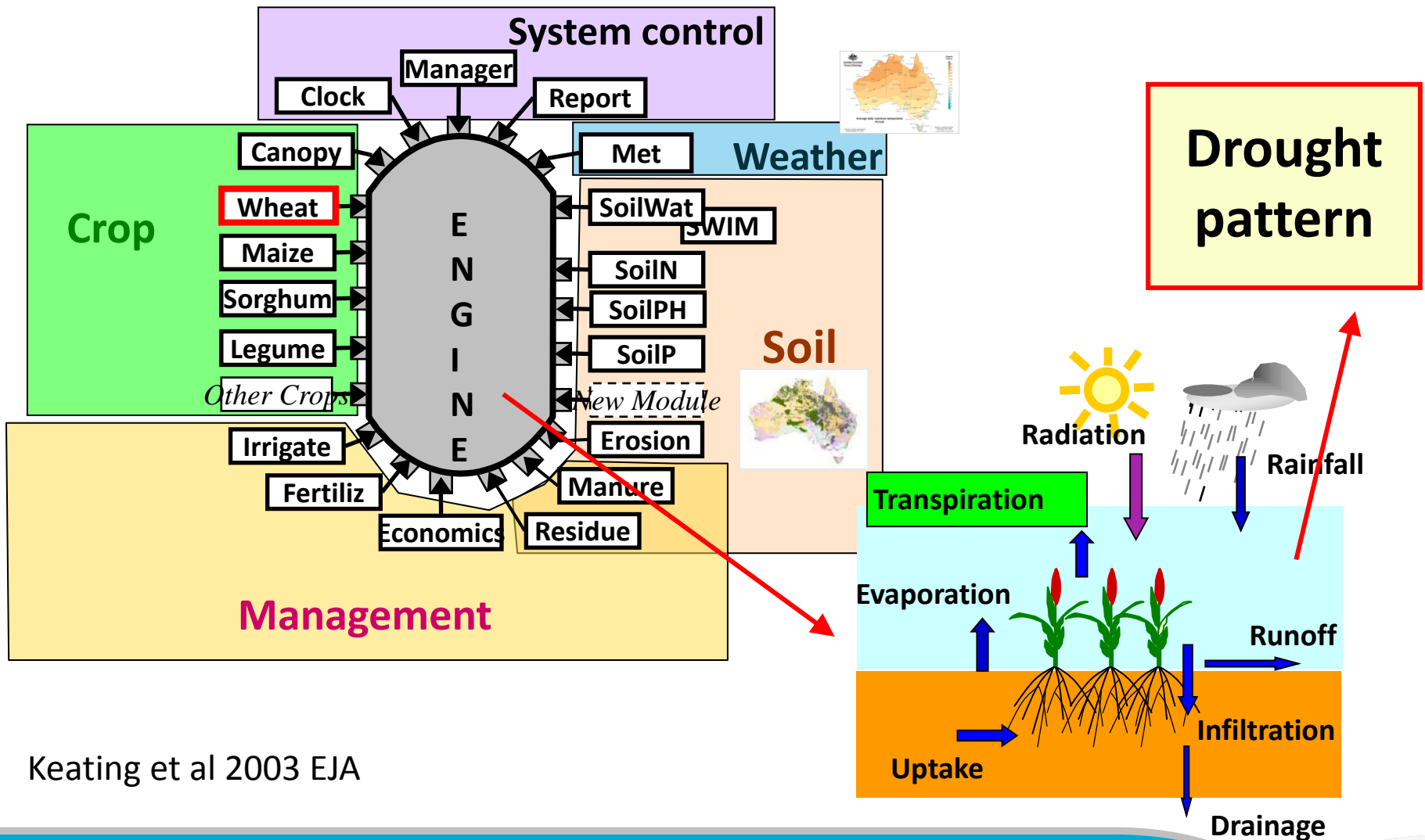


- Sensing, signalling, responding
- (perception, memory, attention)?



Chapman et al 2002 in 'Quantitative Genetics, Genomics and Plant Breeding' (CABI)  
Hammer et al 2006, Trends in Plant Sci.

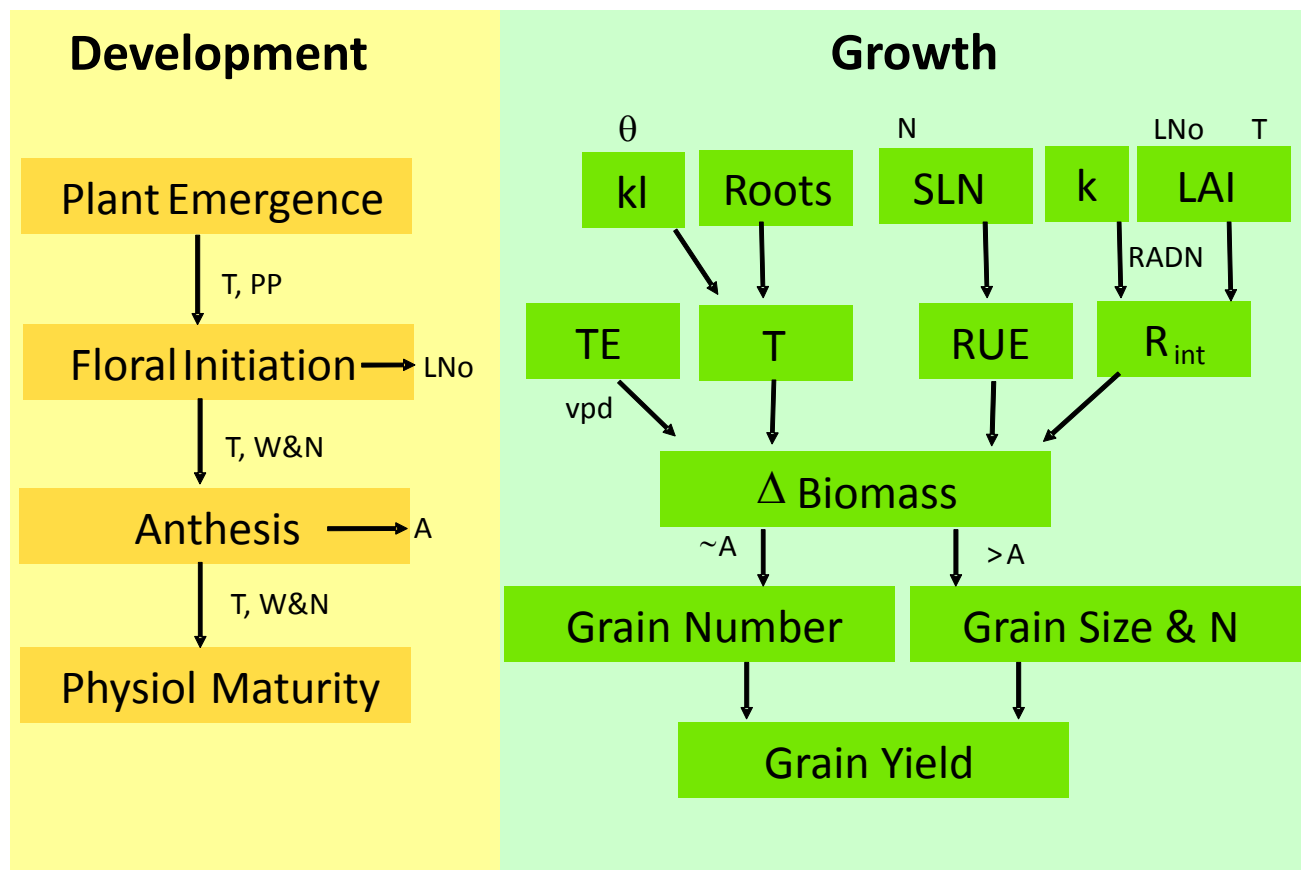
# Capturing physiology into a simulation model - APSIM



Keating et al 2003 EJA

# Where does heat fit?

- Development
- Growth
- Partitioning
- Energy balance
- Water balance



Which needs are where?

# Breeding and modelling adaptive traits

## Issues in developing and using models for prediction of phenotype

## Issues in modelling high temperature effects

# Issues in modelling response to heat

- Adaptation
  - Avoidance/escape
    - Changes in cropping system, phenology, agronomy
  - Heat or VPD or both
  - Direct effects on growth, partitioning and yield
    - Supra-optimal effects
    - Extreme/catastrophic effects
- Specific issues with Model structure
  - Timestep
    - Daily timestep, but can be extended to hourly
  - Scaling
    - Estimating canopy and organ temperatures

# Modelling needs to capture heat effects

Component	Modelling Needs	Urgency	Current
Phenology	Improved prediction of leaf number and sensitive growth stages	***	Good
	Variation associated with development (tillering etc)	*	Poor
Growth	Expansive growth (leaf, stem, root extension), inc. CO2	**	Mod
	Photo-system function (leaf and spike function)	**	Poor
	Night-time temperature (development + respiration)	****	Poor
	Grain set and abortion	*****	Varies
Partitioning	Grain expansion (grain size) and filling	****	Poor
	Changes in allocation and senescence of biomass	*	Poor
	Grain quality	**	Varies
Energy balance	Canopy + soil + irrigation/rainfall effects	***	Poor
	Temperatures of organs	***	Poor
	Diurnal dynamics	**	Mod
Water balance	Simulation of leaf+root transpirational cooling (& CO2?)	****	Poor
	Integration of heat and VPD effects on organ growth	****	Poor

# Issues in modelling high temperature

## - Development

- Heading time
  - Reasonable models for these
- Prediction of leaf number and sensitive growth stages
  - Over/under estimation of leaf initials (wheat, rice)
  - Interaction of warm temperature with leaf expansion rate and observed leaf appearance (all cereals)
- Variation associated with development of multiple organs
  - Tiller initiation and response to temperature (all except maize)
  - Uniformity of development and timing of sensitive stages
    - e.g. % of grains exposed to heat events

*Journal of Experimental Botany*, Vol. 64, No. 12, pp. 3747–3761, 2013  
doi:10.1093/jxb/ert209 Advance Access publication 19 July, 2013  
This paper is available online free of all access charges (see [http://jxb.oxfordjournals.org/open\\_access.html](http://jxb.oxfordjournals.org/open_access.html) for further details)



RESEARCH PAPER

**Quantification of the effects of *VRN1* and *Ppd-D1* to predict spring wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) heading time across diverse environments**

Bangyou Zheng<sup>1</sup>, Ben Biddulph<sup>2</sup>, Dora Li<sup>2</sup>, Haydn Kuchel<sup>3</sup> and Scott Chapman<sup>1,\*</sup>

Zheng et al 2013 JExpBot, Zheng et al 2012 GCB

**Global Change Biology**

Global Change Biology (2012), doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2486.2012.02724.x

**Breeding for the future: what are the potential impacts of future frost and heat events on sowing and flowering time requirements for Australian bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) varieties?**

BANGYOU ZHENG<sup>†</sup>, KARINE CHENU<sup>‡</sup>, M. FERNANDA DRECCER<sup>§</sup> and SCOTT C. CHAPMAN<sup>†</sup>

# Issues in modelling high temperature

## - Growth

- Response of expansive growth to high temperature
  - Non-linear responses of leaf, stem and root growth
- Photo-system function (leaf and spike)
  - Supra-optimal temperature effects on photosynthesis
  - Radiation/heat induced senescence
- Night-time temperature (development and respiration)
  - Biomass 'cost'
- Grain set and abortion
  - Direct influences on pollination, ovary development and initial grain growth





# Issues in modelling high temperature

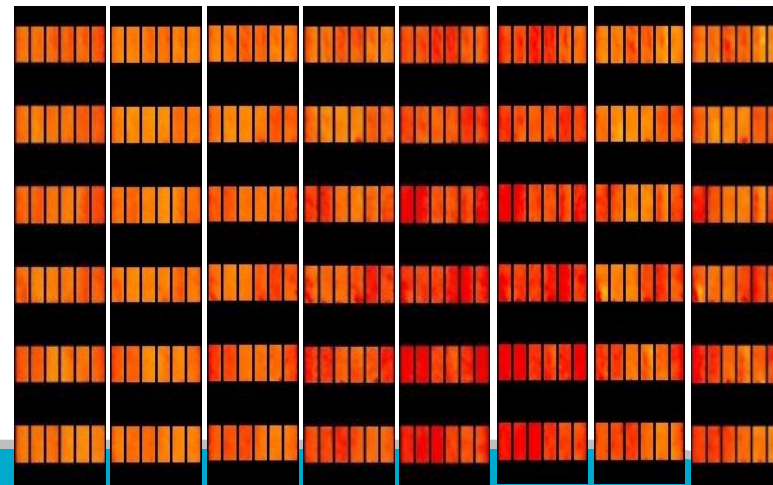
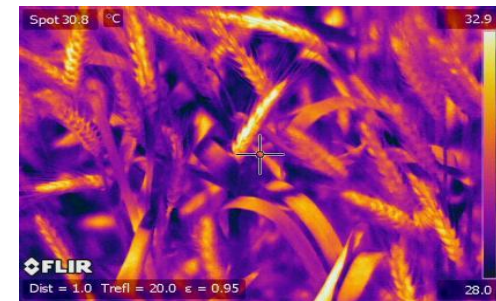
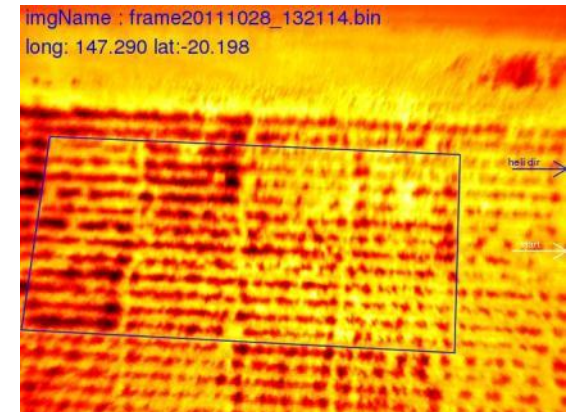
## - Partitioning

- Grain expansion rate and size
  - Setting limits on maximum size?
- Grain filling/translocation function
  - Influences on effectiveness of translocation
- Changes in allocation and senescence of biomass
  - Effects on premature leaf death
- Grain quality
  - Variation in quality components (dilution)

# Issues in modelling high temperature

## - Energy balance

- Differential effects on 'crop' temperature
  - Canopy + soil + soil condition (wetness, mulch)
- Estimation of temperatures of organs
- Diurnal dynamics of temperature



# Issues in modelling high temperature - Water balance

- Simulation of transpirational cooling
  - per se estimation
  - ‘Influence’ of biology in the dynamics of cooling
- Integration of heat and VPD effects on organ growth
  - Influences of VPD on organ expansion (maize leaf and grain)



# Modelling needs to capture heat effects

Component	Modelling Needs	Urgency	Current
Phenology	Improved prediction of leaf number and sensitive growth stages	***	Good
	Variation associated with development (tillering etc)	*	Poor
Growth	Expansive growth (leaf, stem, root extension), inc. CO2	**	Mod
	Photo-system function (leaf and spike function)	**	Poor
	Night-time temperature (development + respiration)	****	Poor
	Grain set and abortion	*****	Varies
Partitioning	Grain expansion (grain size) and filling	****	Poor
	Changes in allocation and senescence of biomass	*	Poor
	Grain quality	**	Varies
Energy balance	Canopy + soil + irrigation/rainfall effects	***	Poor
	Temperatures of organs	***	Poor
	Diurnal dynamics	**	Mod
Water balance	Simulation of leaf+root transpirational cooling (& CO2?)	****	Poor
	Integration of heat and VPD effects on organ growth	****	Poor

# Cereal models for climate adaptation

Scott Chapman  
CSIRO  
QAAFI Adjunct Professor

Acknowledgements to  
GRDC, GCP, DAFF



## Acknowledgements

B Zheng, F Dreccer - CSIRO

K Chenu, D Jordan, G Hammer  
QAAFI/UQ

G McLean, Al Doherty – DAFF  
Queensland