

SEEDING
THE FUTURE
SINCE 1856



SBR-RTD disease complex

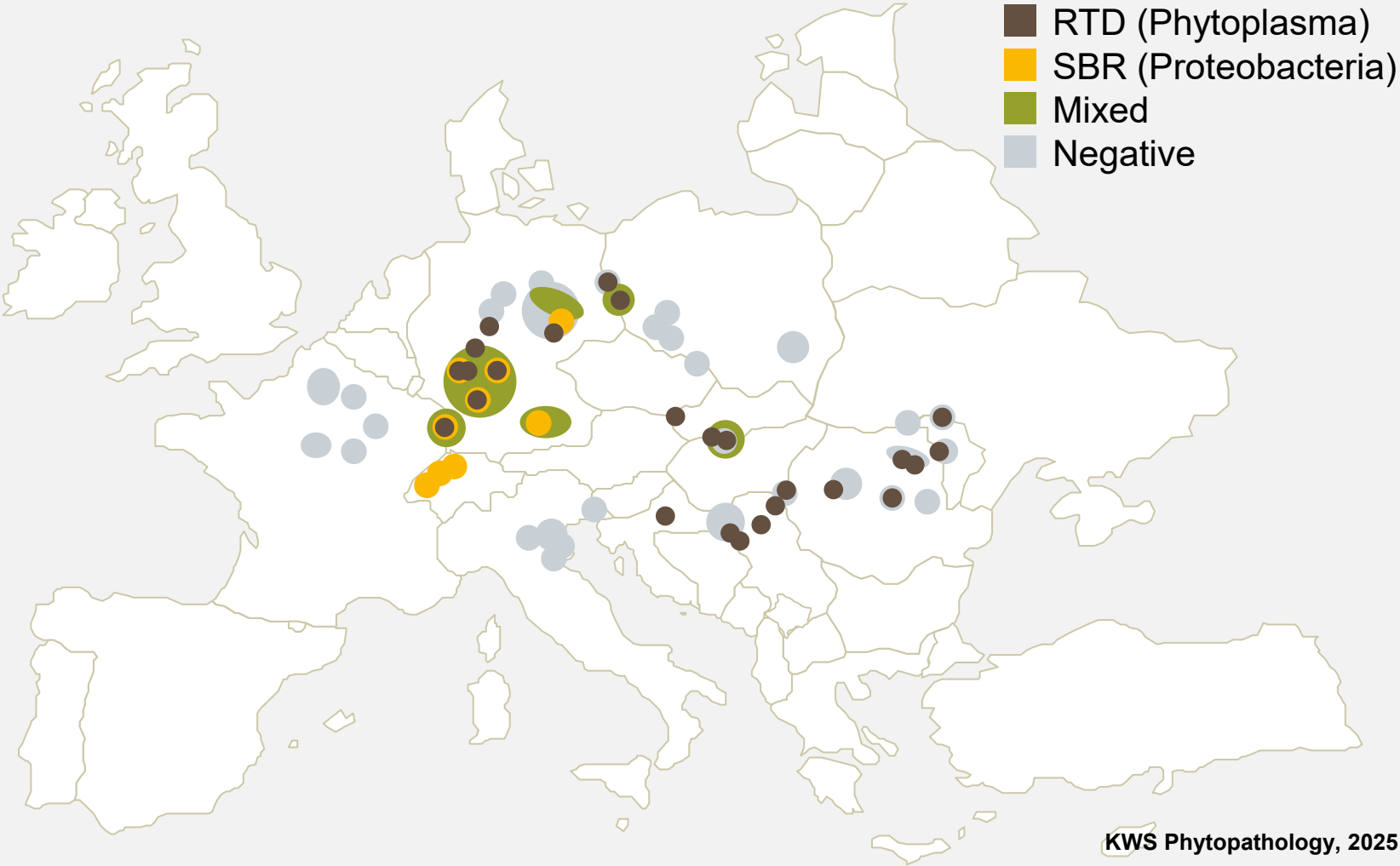
Results & Learnings Season 2025

Ing. Tomáš Otajovič |

SBR-RTD disease spread Europe 2025



Country	Dominant Disease Type
Germany	SBR+RTD
Serbia	RTD
Croatia	RTD
Romania	RTD
Slovakia	RTD
Switzerland	SBR
Moldova	RTD
Austria	RTD
Czech	RTD
Hungary	RTD
France, Elsass	SBR
Ukraine	RTD
	~ 150.000 ha





A few years ago, we knew very little or almost nothing about SBR/RTD.

Now, every year, we expand our knowledge of these diseases

We have no research institutes or trial stations dedicated specifically to this disease, if we want to learn anything about it, we have to do the research ourselves.

This is the most critical issue for the survival of sugar beets in Slovakia.

The problem isn't just the occurrence—the problem is the unpredictability.



2024

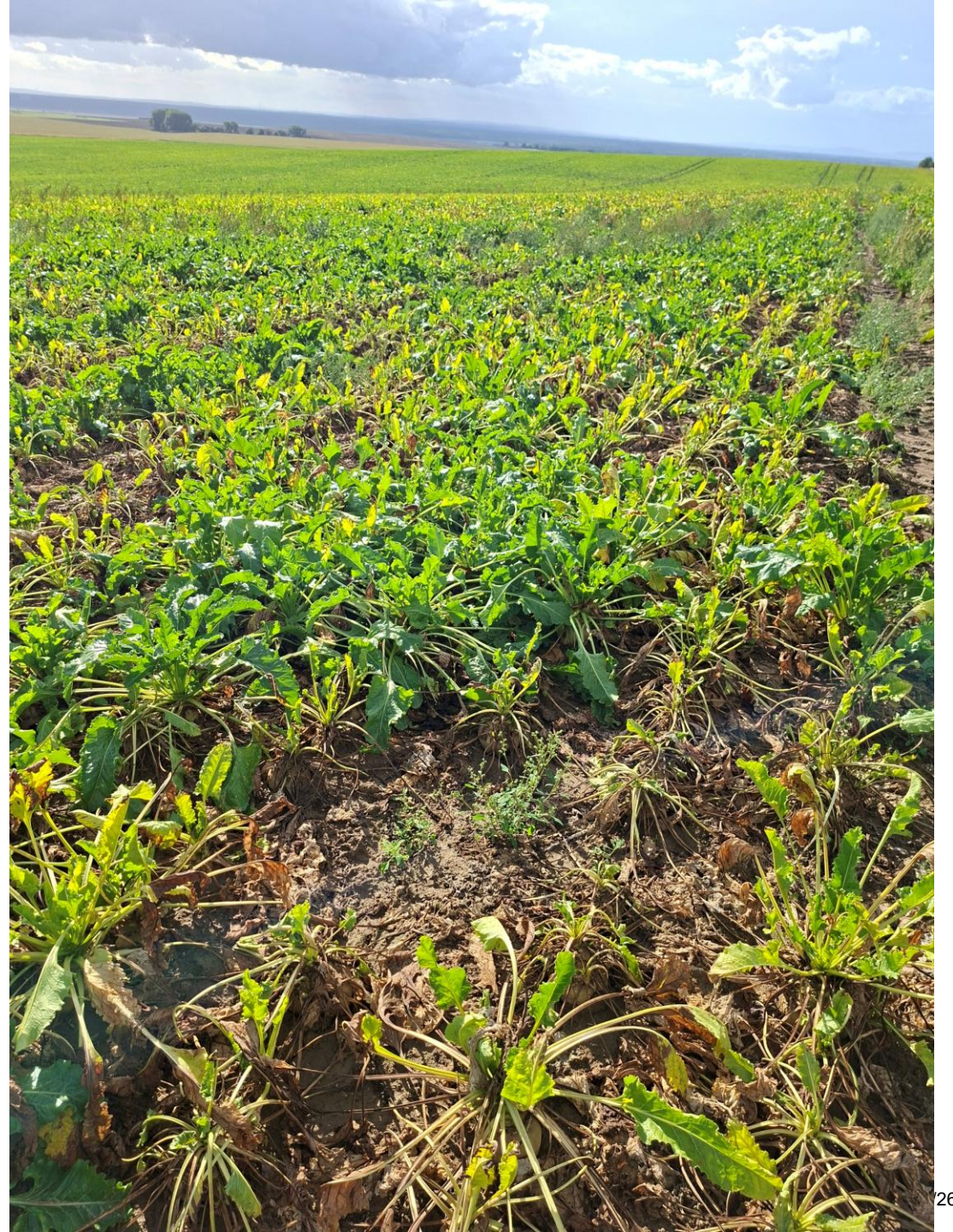


2024



2024









2025





2025



2024



2025



SBR &
RTD

SBR &
RTD



2026



Impact of Environment - Hronovce 2024-2026

Precipitation, Climatic waterbalance, Temperature



Precipitation [mm]

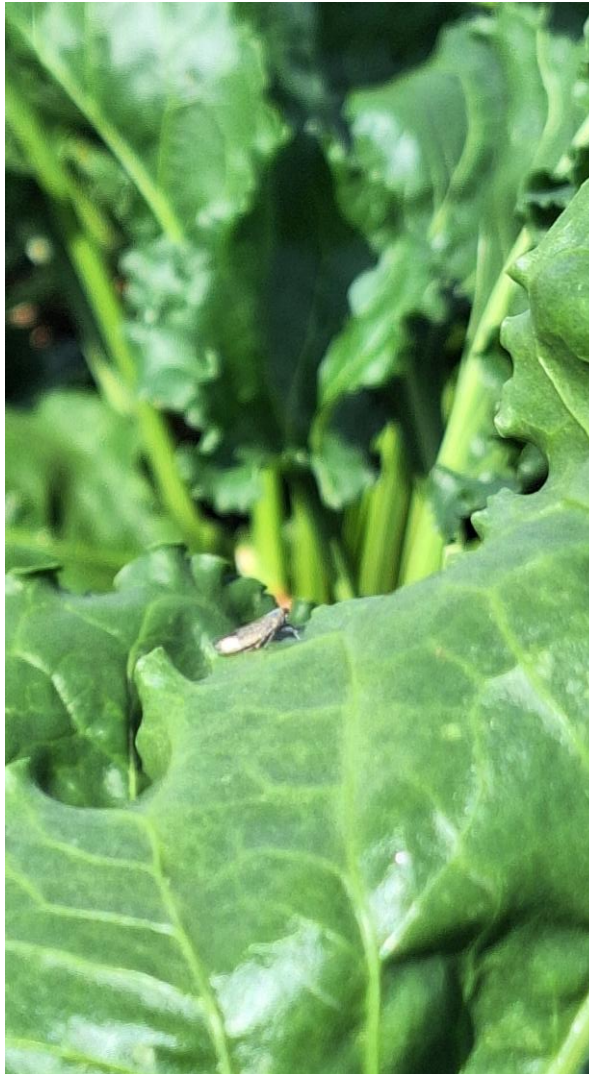
Month	2024	2025	2026*	avg. 2015-2025
January	50.6	4.4	23.2	29.46
February	42.6	6.2	28.2	33.86
March	36.8	34.2	2	26.89
April	63.4	21.8	0.6	27.86
May	53.3	23.4	12.3	56.27
June	109.7	9.3	8.7	51.09
July	0.8	41.6	3.85	46.84
August	13.4	69.7	11.25	56.53
September	36.4	42.8	-	52.23
October	7.8	10.3	-	48.86
November	9.3	43.1	-	44.77
December	9.6	2.4	-	38.67

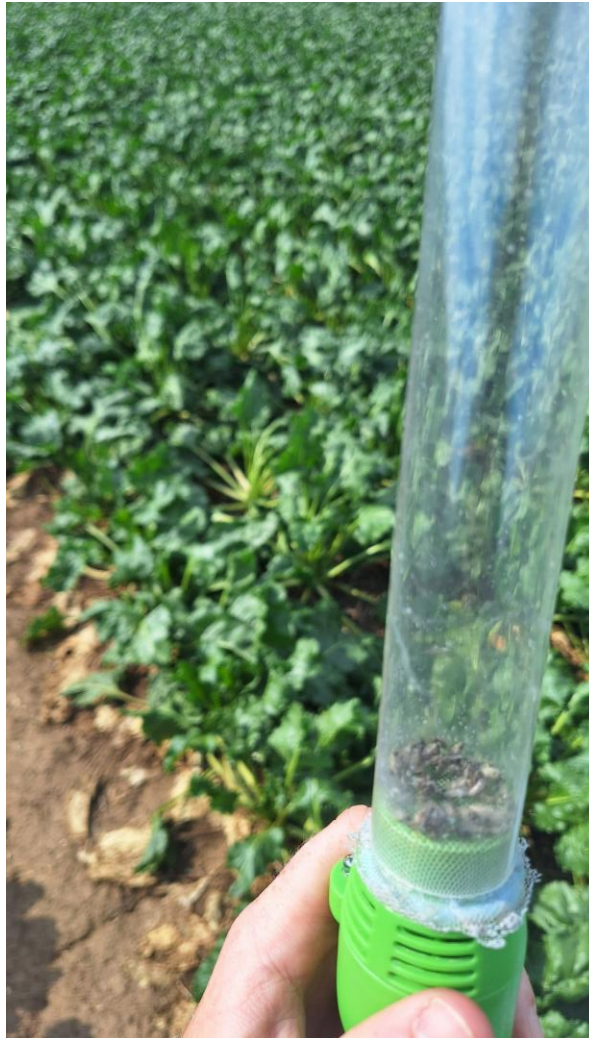
Climatic Water Balance [mm]

Month	2024	2025	2026*	avg. 2015-2025
January	35.9	-7.5	13.6	18.23
February	12.7	-16.6	9.3	11.48
March	-16.4	-17	-50.4	-24.46
April	-19.8	-67.3	-89.9	-54.9
May	-62.1	-70.5	-113.8	-53.12
June	-20	-150.1	-133.5	-88.69
July	-157.5	-100.7	-155.06	-95.07
August	-118.8	-57.1	-138.47	-65.11
September	-39.1	-26.7	-	-19.9
October	-28.3	-26.5	-	9.84
November	-5.8	29.1	-	28.41
December	0.6	-7.3	-	28.58

Temperature [°C]

Month	2024	2025	2026*	avg. 2015-2025
January	1.6	2	-2	-0.03
February	8.4	0.6	3.6	3.45
March	9.4	8	8	6.95
April	12.9	12.8	11.2	11.36
May	17.7	13.8	16.7	15.62
June	21.3	21.8	22.6	21.18
July	24.3	21.9	23.13	22.43
August	24.3	21.7	25.13	22.14
September	17.7	17.9	-	17.11
October	11.3	10.2	-	11.37
November	3.4	5.2	-	5.57
December	1.6	3.4	-	1.69

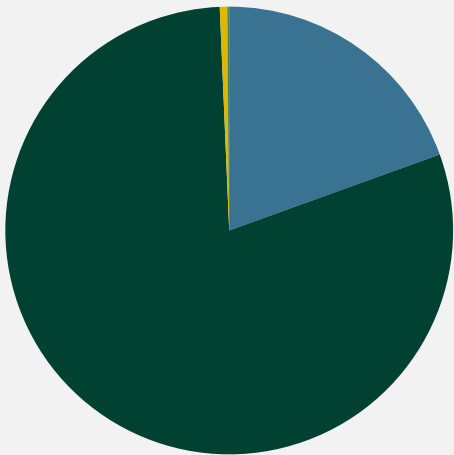




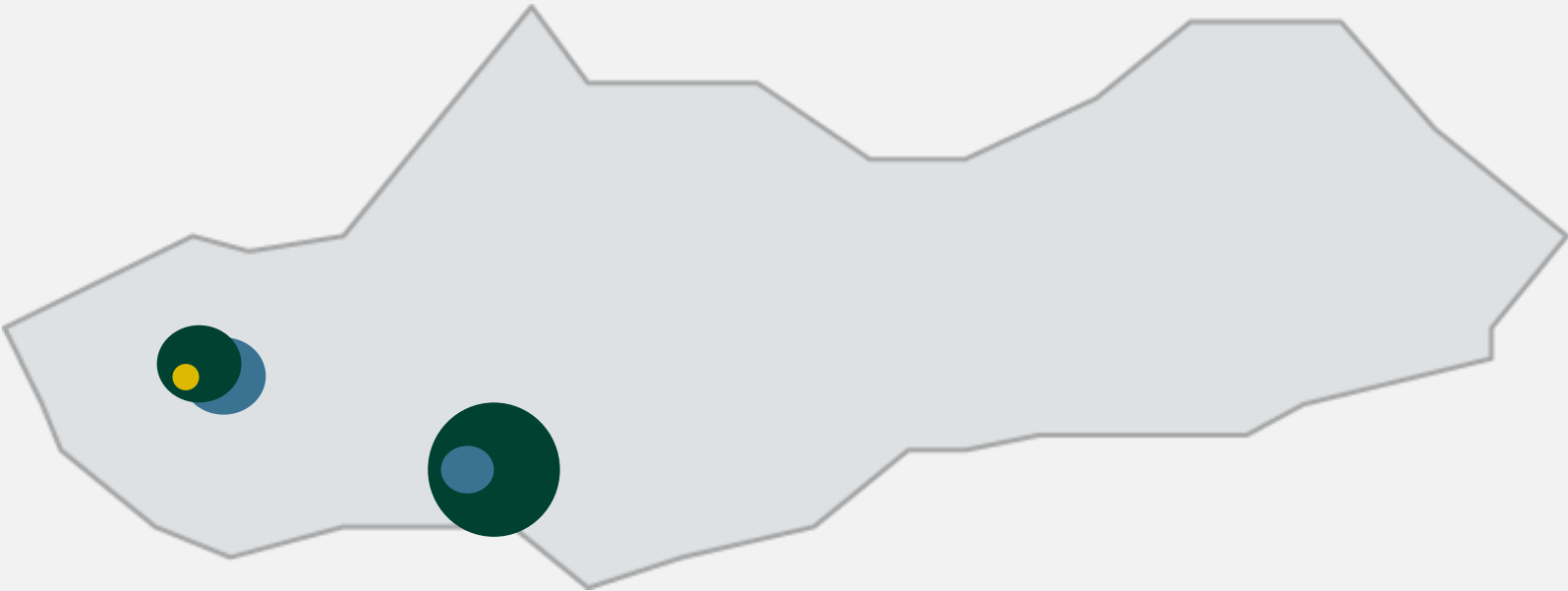
Species distribution - Slovakia



Reptalus salicinus, (formerly: *Hyalesthes obsoletus*)
Reptalus panzeri
Reptalus quinquecostatus



- Pentastiridius leporinus
- Reptalus panzeri
- Reptalus salicinus
- Hyalesthes obsoletus



Distribution of the various cicada species in Slovakia. The larger the circle, the more cicada were caught in that respective area

Agronomic Research



Agronomic Research KWS Seligenstadt July 2025



Different harvest dates

Insecticide efficacy testing

Different timepoints of insecticide application

Different planthopper exposure periods / Infestation-loss ratio

Breeding trial – genetic resources

SEL & OFG

Seligenstadt
Ochsenfurter Gau

**When do planthopper cause
highest yield losses?**

Infestation Timepoint
Small Tunnel 2024 & 2025



Relationship between planthopper flight and yield losses



	May	June	Juli	August	September
Kontrolle „immer geschlossen“	Permanent Cover				
Kontrolle „immer geöffnet“	Uncovered				
Periode 1	10 days open				
Periode 2		10 days open			
Periode 3			10 days open		
...	...	...	...	...	...
Periode 9				10 days open	

- Periodically opening and closing of plots
- Completely closed as well as completely open plots
- Planthopper exposure for a duration of 10 days



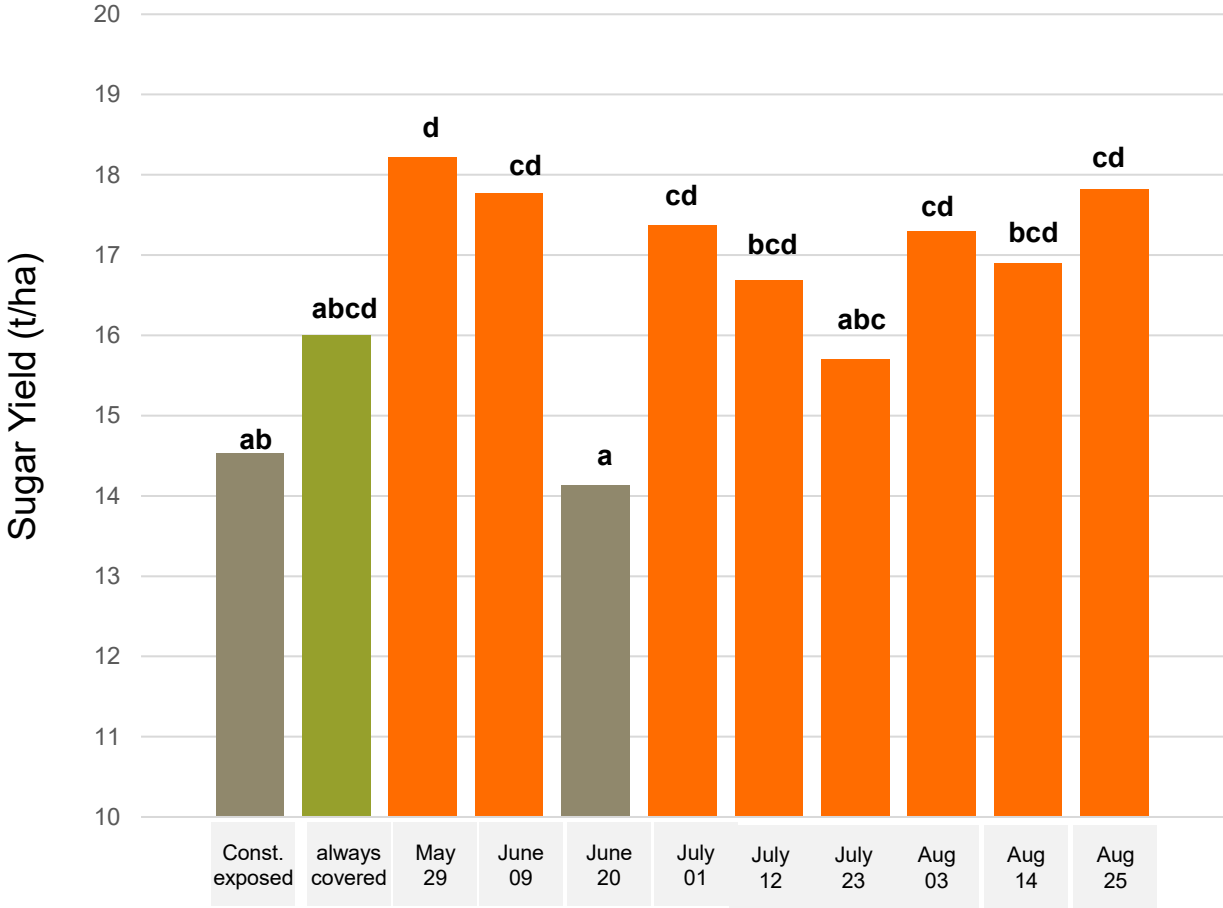
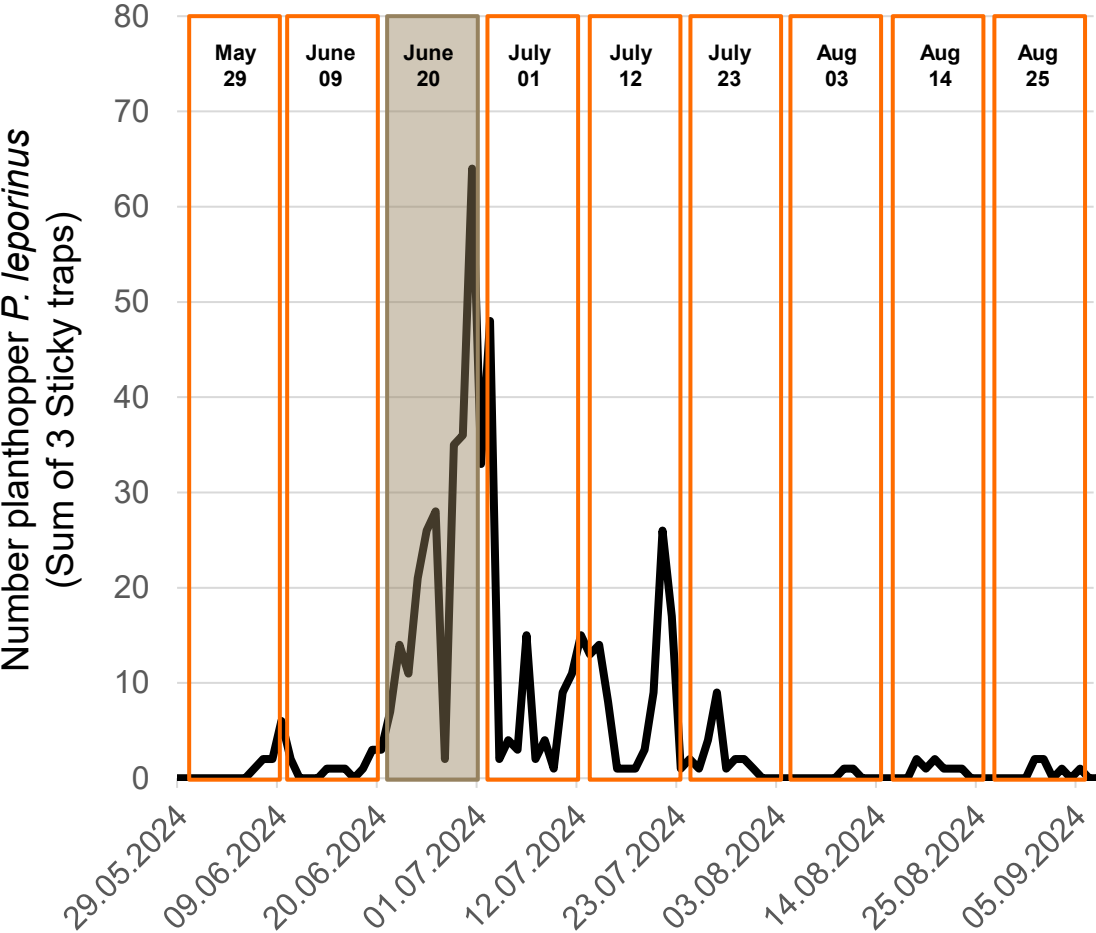
Trial method net tunnels

KWS Seligenstadt, 2025



Sugar yield t/ha

as affected by planthopper exposure for 10 days **Seligenstadt 2024**



SEL

Seligenstadt

**Can we protect the
sugarbeet with insecticide
in the ‘critical interval’?**

Control intervals
Small Tunnel 2025



Effect of insecticide protection in different periods

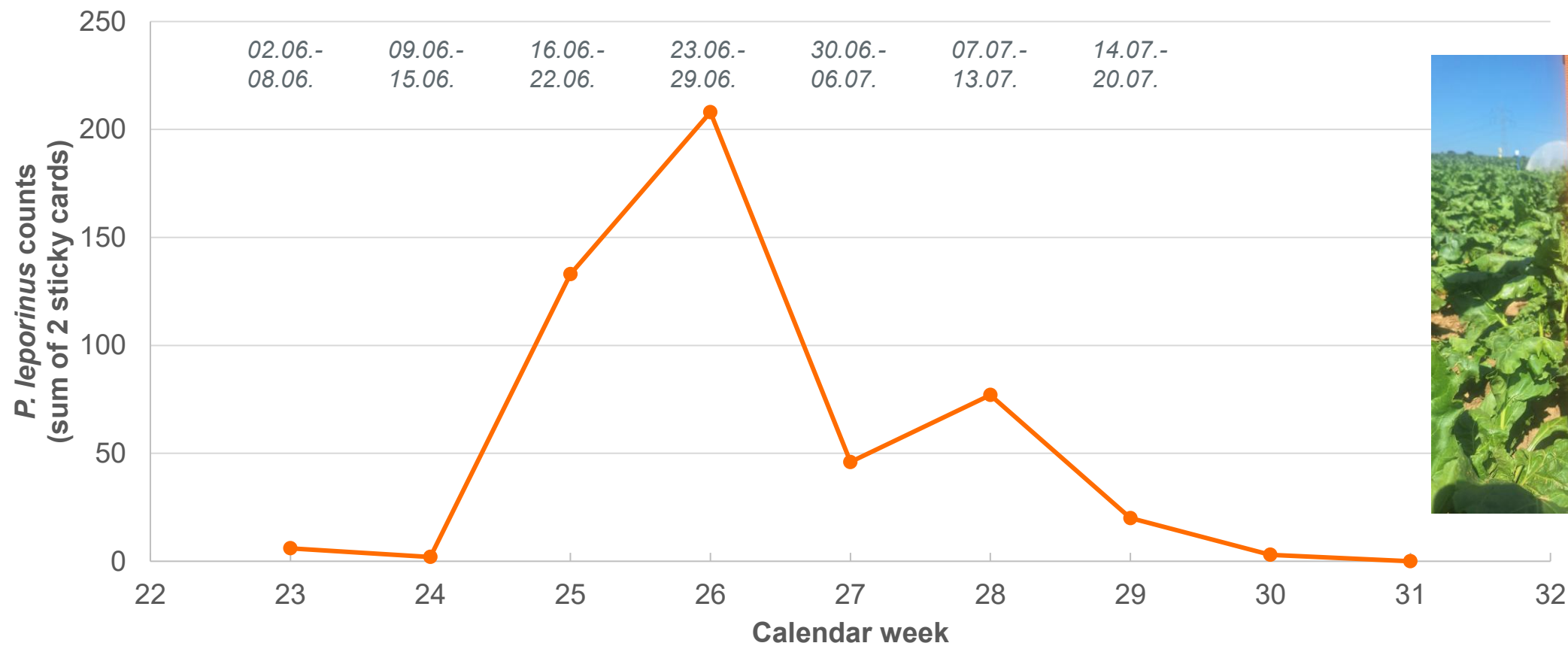
	May	June	Juli
No exposure	Permanent Cover		
Constant exposure		Uncovered	
Timepoint 1	w/ insecticide w/o insecticide	7 days open	
Timepoint 2	w/ insecticide w/o insecticide	7 days open	
Timepoint 3	w/ insecticide w/o insecticide	7 days open	
Timepoint 4	w/ insecticide w/o insecticide	7 days open	
Timepoint 5	w/ insecticide w/o insecticide	7 days open	

- Periodically opening and closing of plots
- w/ and w/o insecticide protection during exposure period
- Completely closed as well as completely open plots
- Planthopper exposure for a duration of 7 days



Planthopper flight *Pentastiridius leporinus*

KWS Seligenstadt 2025



KWS Seligenstadt, 2025

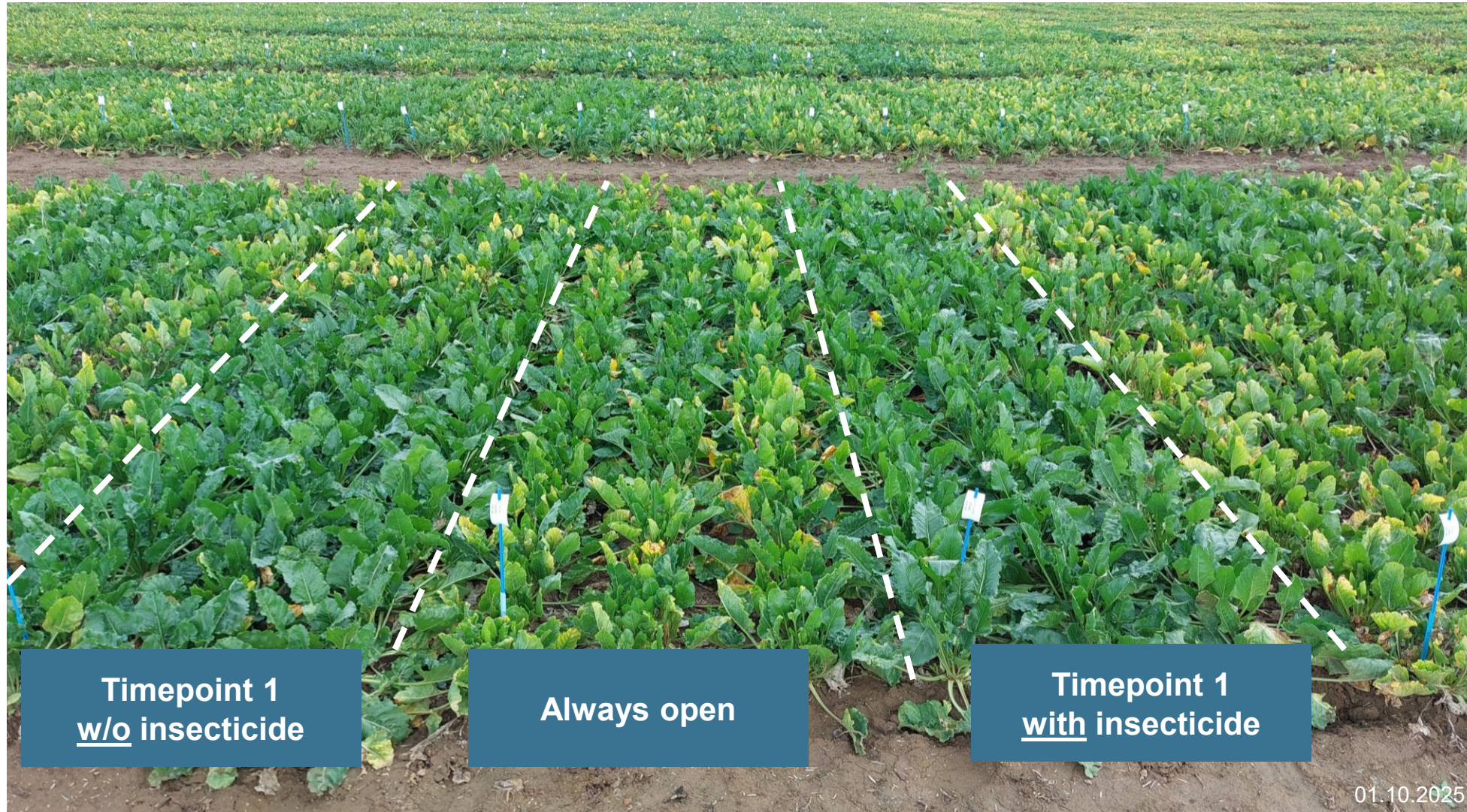
Serie 9042 Insecticide – TIMING

Timepoint 1: Planthopper exposure period 03.06.-10.06.2025, KWS Seligenstadt



T1

03.06.-10.06.2025



Serie 9042 Insecticide – TIMING

Timepoint 3: Planthopper exposure period 17.06.-24.06.2025, KWS Seligenstadt



T3

17.06.-24.06.2025



Timepoint 3
w/o insecticide

Always open

Timepoint 3
with insecticide

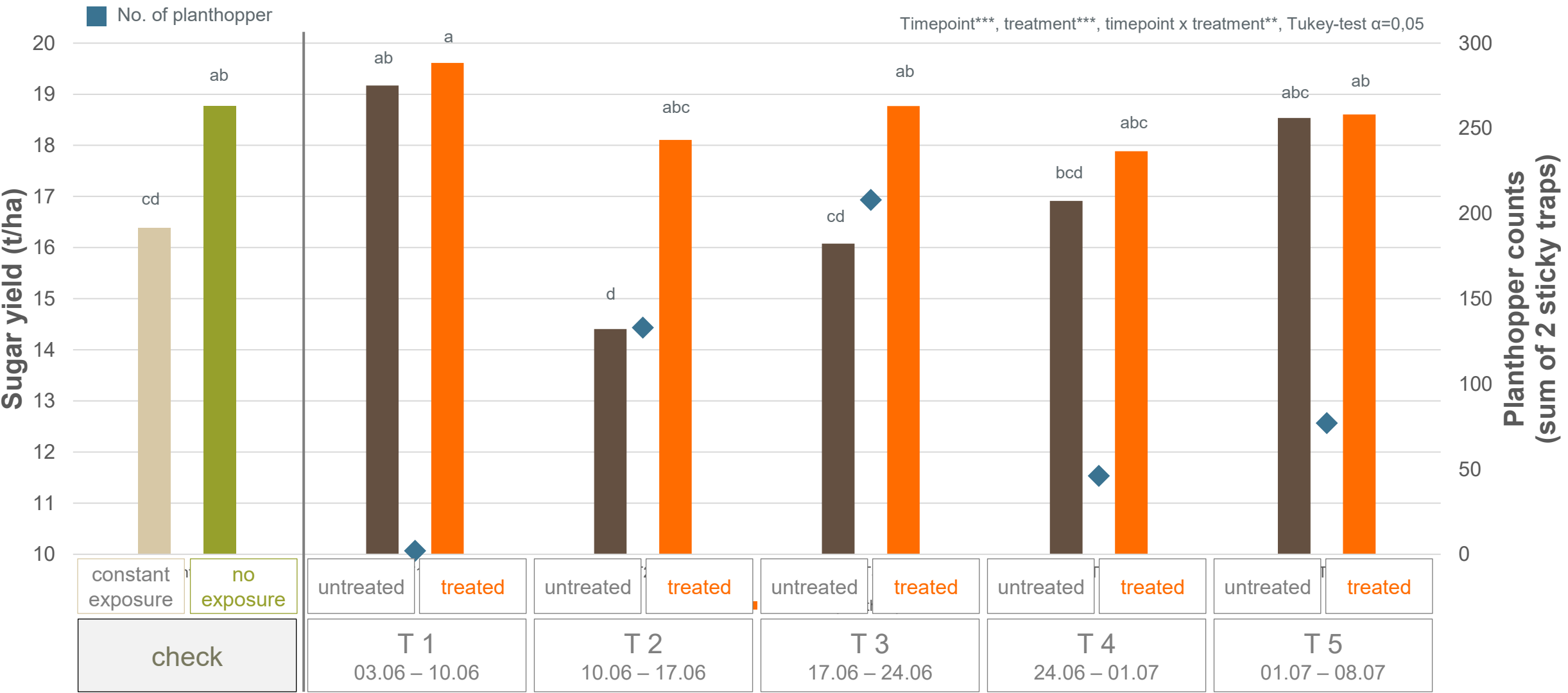
01.10.2025

SBR Trial Series 9042 Seligenstadt 2025

Insecticide x Timing

Pentastiridius Control Intervals

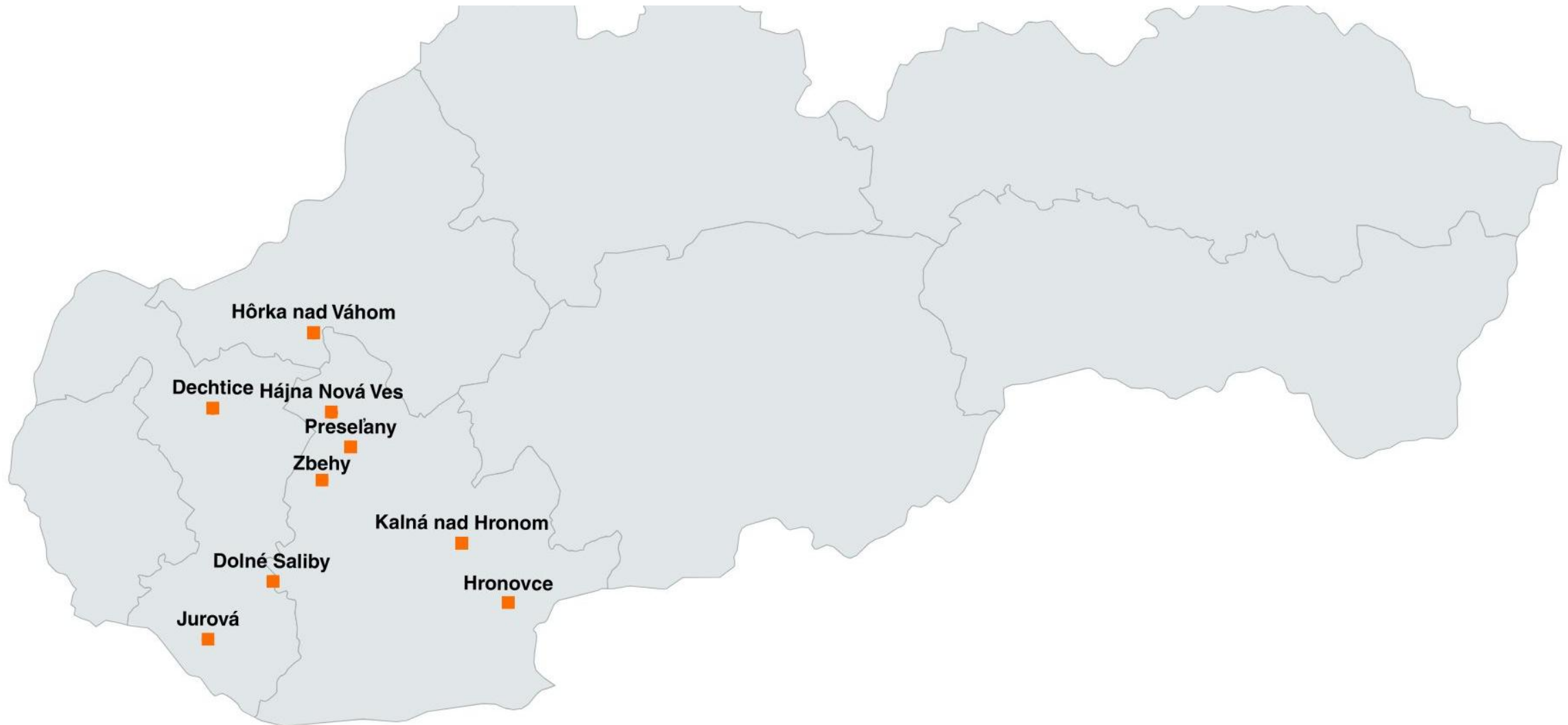
Sugar Yield [t/ha]



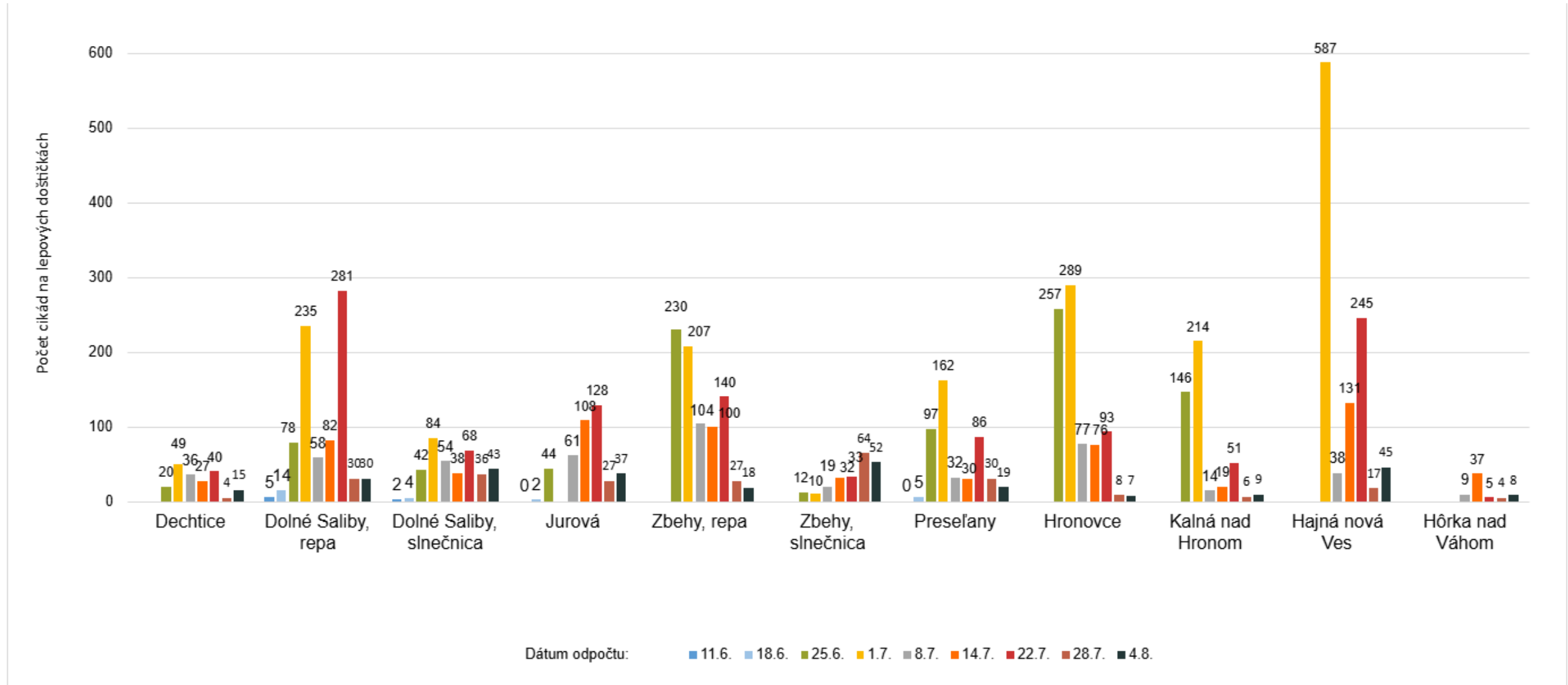
Sampling in Slovakia 2026



Locations with sticky traps



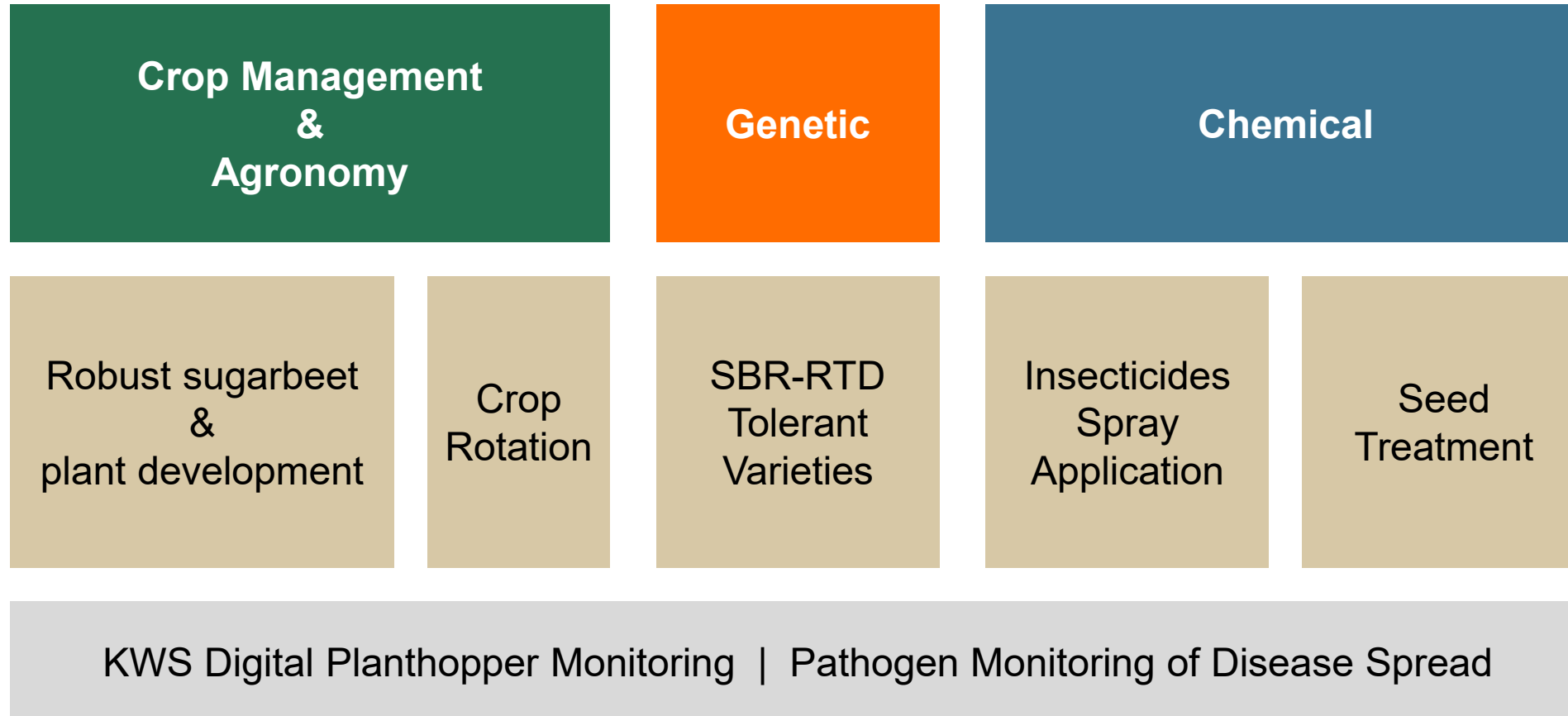
The Presence of Cicadas at Selected Locations in Slovakia







SBR-RTD Management Approach – Topics under investigation





Thank you for your attention!

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