Environmental Productivity Indices for Crop Growth and Development

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Crop Growth and Development and Environment

Goals and Learning Objectives:

- To understand the effects of multiple environmental factors on crop growth and development.

  - ➤ Crop growth and development and environment and applying Environmental Productivity Index (EPI) concept using cotton as an example crop.

  - ➤ Crop growth and development and environment: Species variability, and applicability of EPI concept across species.

Crop growth and Development and Environment
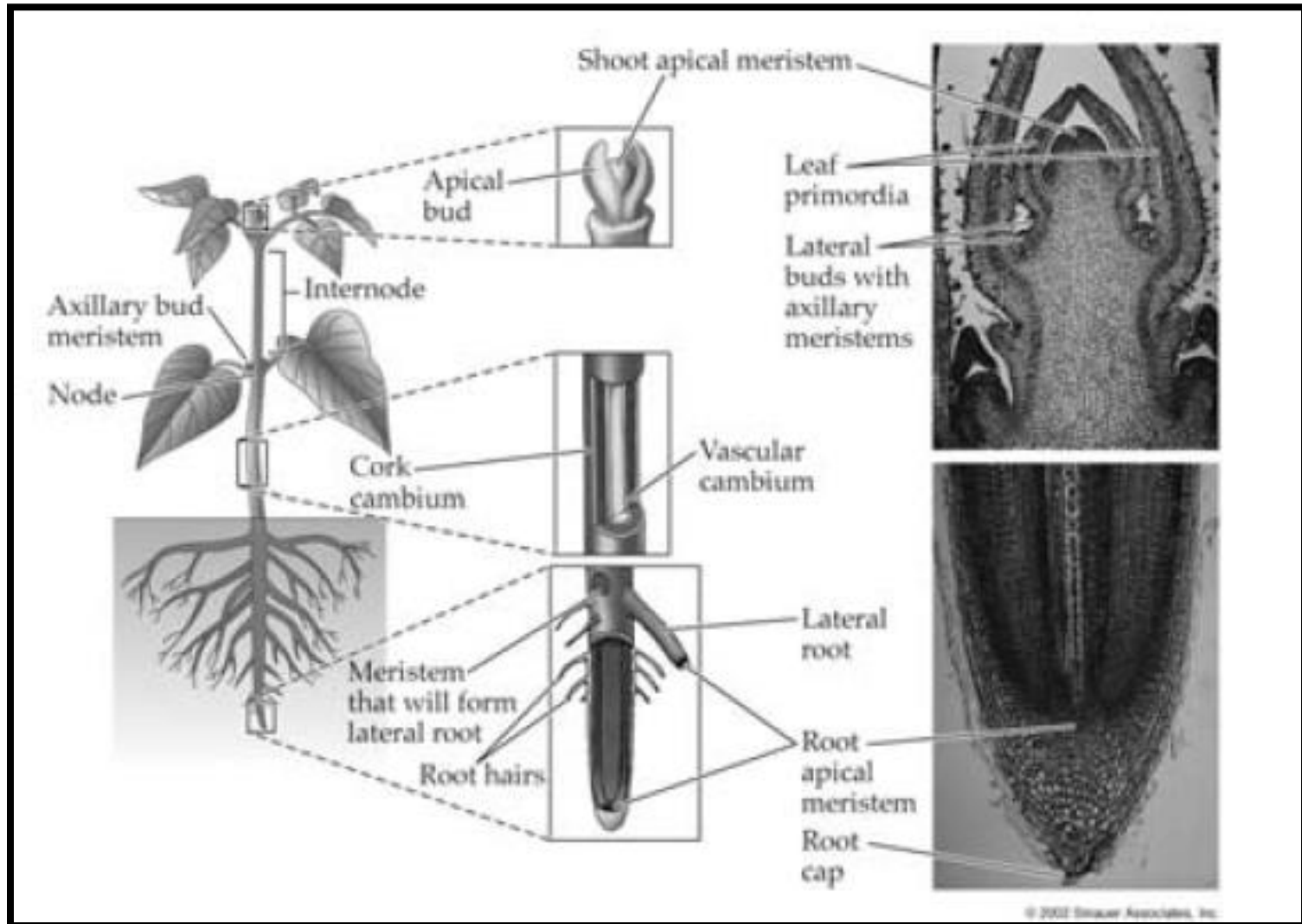
You will learn:

- ✓ Effects of environmental factors on crop growth-phenology and growth of various (individual) organs and plant as a whole.

- ✓ How to develop/build whole plant or canopy from organ-based functional algorithms.

- ✓ How to calculate potential growth and developmental rates under optimum conditions.

- ✓ How to develop environmental productivity indices (EPI) for various environmental factors to decrement the potential crop growth and developmental rates under multiple environmental conditions.

Plant Growth and Development

- Plant growth is *modular* in nature.

- Modular growth and development depends upon functional *meristems*.

- *Meristematic cells are totipotent*.

- Modules undergo primary and secondary growth.

- Modules respond to the environment in a *programmable manner*.

- Quantifying and understanding plant module responses to the environment are important to develop management tools.

Plant Growth and Development
## Modular growth depends on functional meristems

Shoot apical meristem

Apical bud

Leaf primordia

Lateral buds with axillary meristems

Axillary bud meristem

Internode

Node

Cork cambium

Vascular cambium

Meristem that will form lateral root

Root hairs

Lateral root

Root apical meristem

Root cap

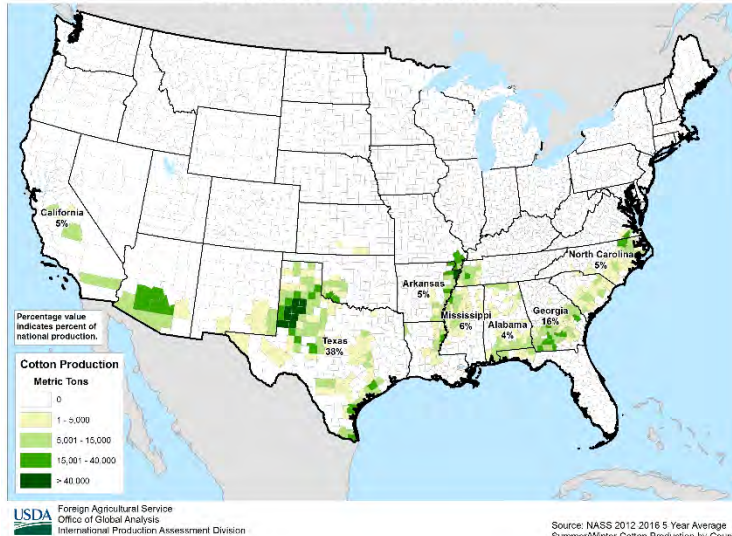© 2002 Sinauer Associates, Inc.

Plant Growth and Development

- Crop phenology
- Crop growth
  - Shoot (leaves, stems and fruiting structures)
  - Roots
- Crop growth and development – Species variability
- High temperature injury

Cotton

United States: Cotton Production
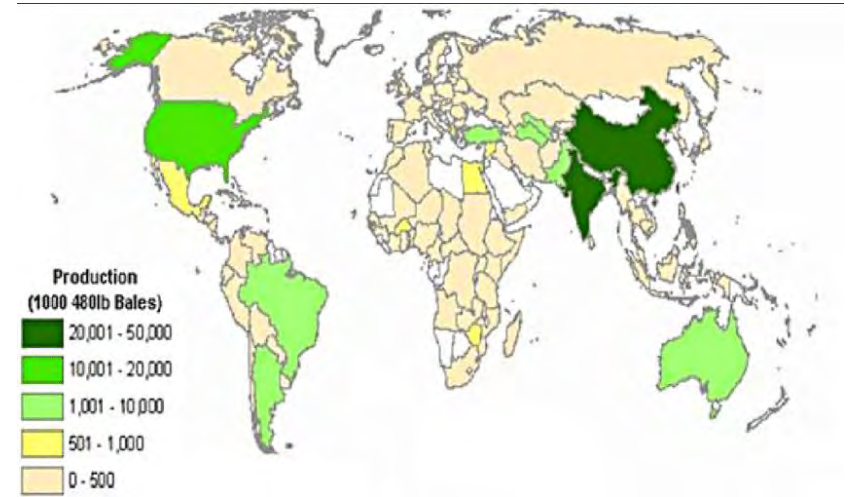
Over 14 southern states & 2019 = 13.7 million acres

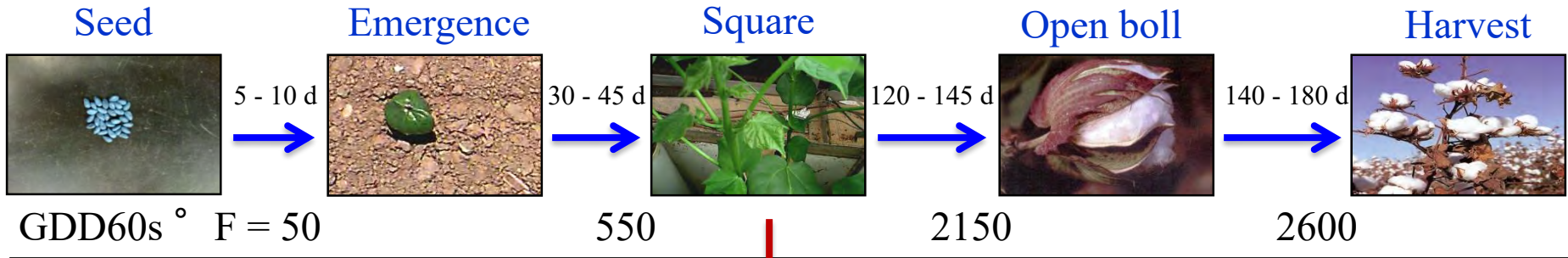Production (1000 480lb Bales)

Over 35 **countries @30 million ha**

- There are four commercially grown species of cotton, all domesticated in antiquity:
  - ✓ *Gossypium hirsutum* – Upland cotton, native to Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean and southern Florida (90%)
  - ✓ *Gossypium barbadense* – known as Extra-long staple (Pima) cotton, native to tropical South America (8%).
  - ✓ *Gossypium arboretum* - Tree cotton, native to India and Pakistan (< 2%)
  - ✓ *Gossypium herbaceum* – Levant cotton, native to southern Africa and the Arabian Peninsula (< 2%)

Environmental Productivity Indices for Crop Growth and Development
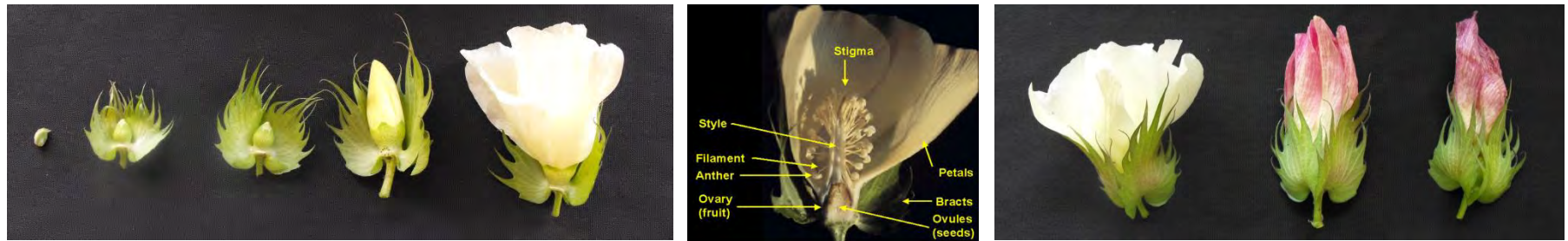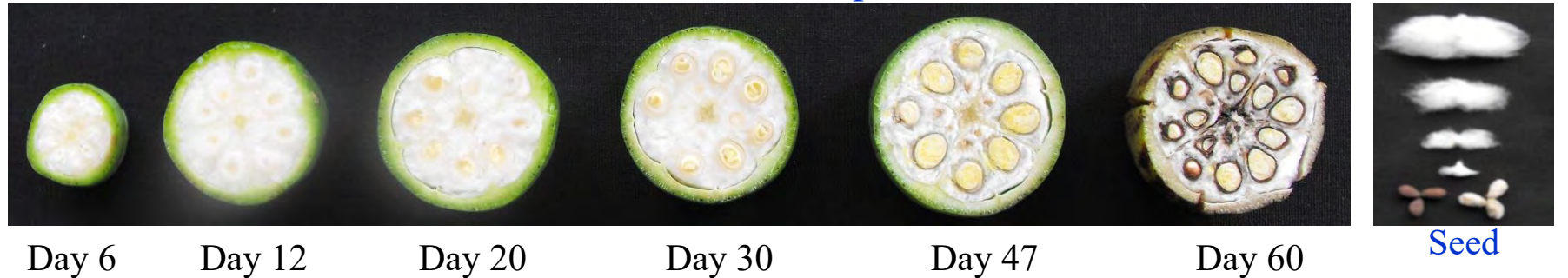
Crop Phenology

Cotton Developmental Aspects

Seed	Emergence	Square	Open boll	Harvest
	5 - 10 d	30 - 45 d	120 - 145 d	140 - 180 d

GDD60s ° F = 50   550   2150   2600

Square development → **Pollen & fertilization** → **Flower**

Stigma

Style

Filament
Anther

Petals

Ovary
(fruit)

Bracts
Ovules
(seeds)

Pin-head **to** match-head **to** candle **to** flower

Day 1   Day 2   Day 3

Boll development

Fiber, motes

Day 6   Day 12   Day 20   Day 30   Day 47   Day 60

Seed

Environmental and Cultural Factors Influencing Crop Phenology

➢ Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide (indirect)

➢ Solar Radiation (indirect)

➢ Photoperiod (direct on flowering, no effect on day-neutral plants such as modern cotton cultivars)

➢ Temperature (direct)

➢ Water (indirect)

➢ Wind (indirect)

➢ Nutrients (N, P and K) (direct & indirect)

➢ Growth Regulators (PIX) (indirect)

Canopy Development Over the Growing Season

Seed

Germination

Emergence

Square

Flower

Open boll

Mature Crop

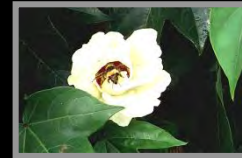# Terminology and Definitions

➢ Phenology:

- Phenology is the study of periodic biological phenomena.

- It refers to like events such as the time intervals between mainstem or branch leaves on a plant, time intervals between two successive flower buds or flowers on a branch, unlike events such as the time intervals between plant emergence and formation of flower bud, flower or mature fruit, and /or a duration of process such as the time interval between unfolding or appearance of leaf or internode, and until those organs reach maximum size or length.

- Therefore, phenology refers to the initiation, differentiation, and development of organs. It involves qualitative change in form, structure and general state of the complexity of the plant. Phenostages or the developmental events are irreversible.

Terminology and Definitions

➢ Growth:

- Growth, on the other hand, is an irreversible increase in length, area, or weight of plant as a whole or individual organ that is quantitative.

- Distinction between phenology (development) and growth may be blur at some times.

Terminology and Definitions

➢ Phenology:

Plastochrons and phyllochrons:

The time interval between two successive leaf primordia formation at the tip of a growing meristamatic region of stem or branch is defined as the plastochron. For this study, we need at least a light microscope and take anatomical sections of stems or branches to estimate the time intervals.

If the time interval refers to two successive leaf tip appearance or leaf unfolding, it is known as the phyllochron. If the leaf tip appearance or leaf unfolding is defined as a discrete size or event, then it can be examined visually without a microscope.

Also, phyllochron or leaf appearance rates are easy to verify in the field.

Timeline for Cotton Production

- **February – March:** Burn-down applications
- Roundup + Dicamba/2,4-D

- **April – May: Planting**
- 110,000 seeds/ha = 11 kg/ha

Major Phnostages
- **Early June:** Pinhead square
- **July:** 1st Bloom
- **Mid-August:** 1st Cracked Boll

- **Mid-September:** Defoliation
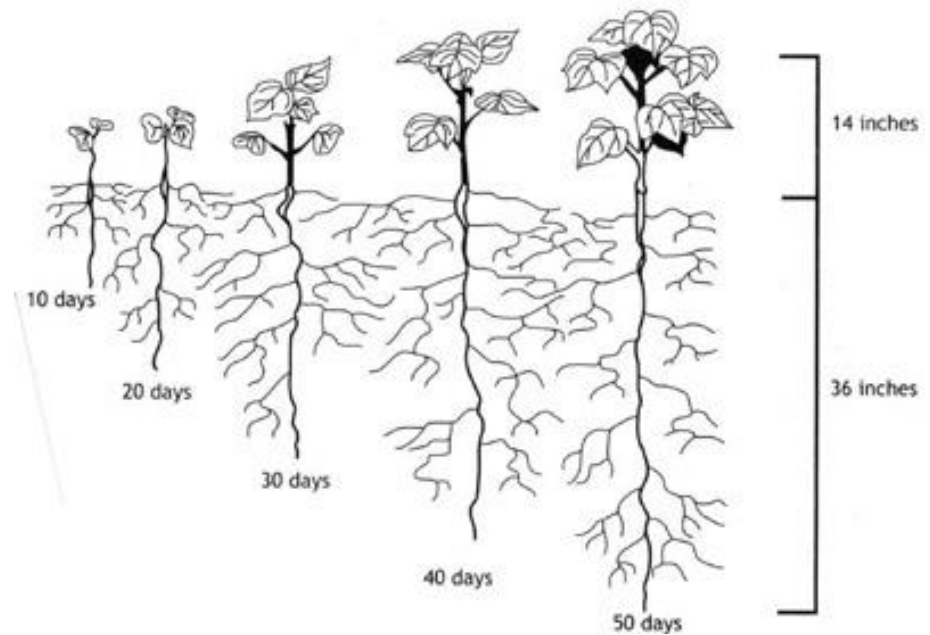- **October:** Harvest
- **October >:** Ginning

Darrin Dodds, PSS

Canopy Development Over the Growing Season
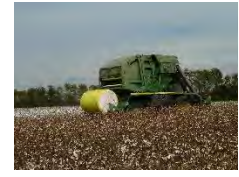## Germination, Emergence and Early-season Growth

Seed Germination - Emergence – Early Root Development
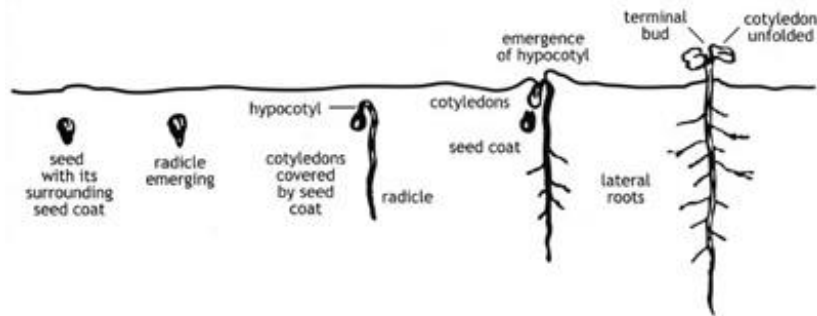
Early-season Growth and Development
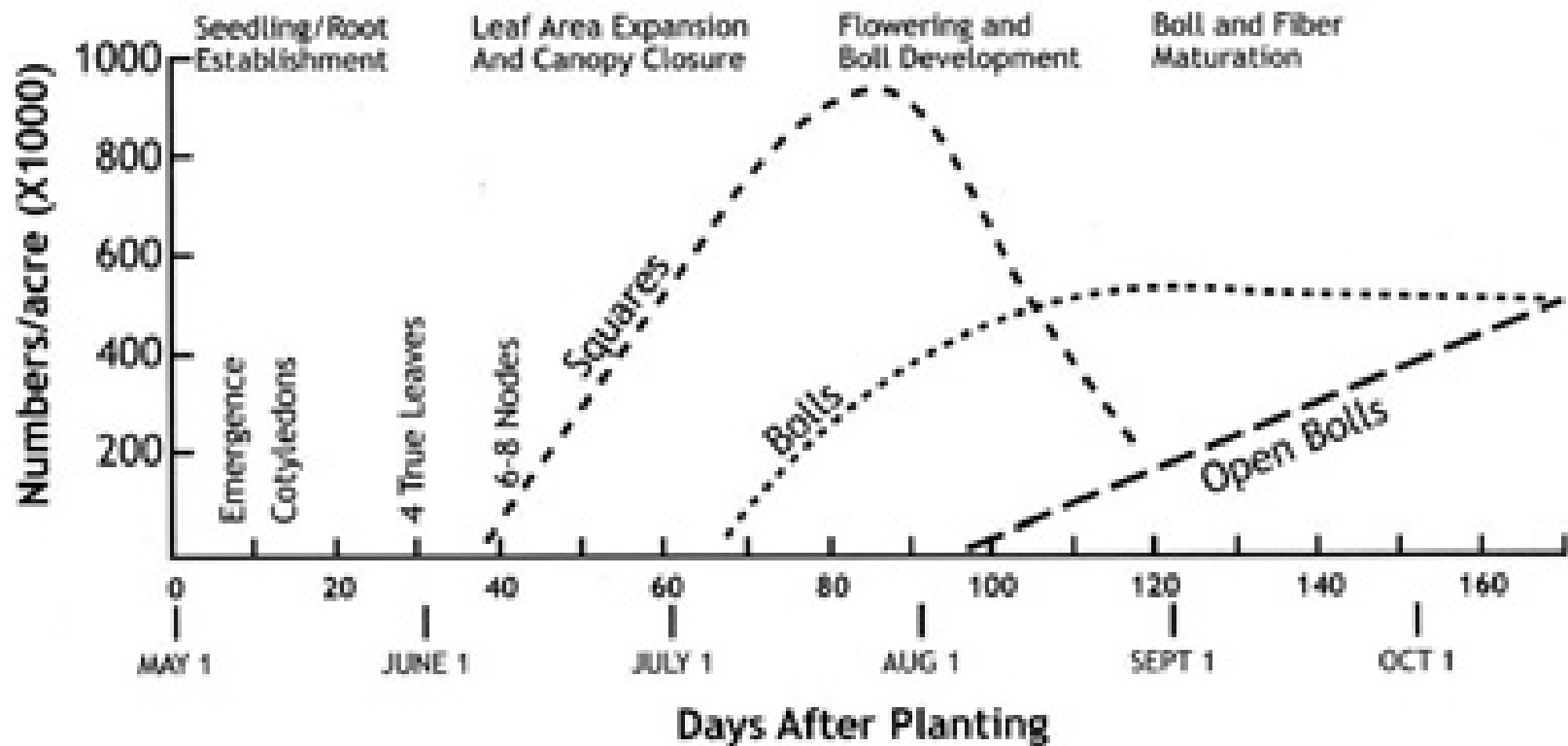
Canopy Development Over the Growing Season
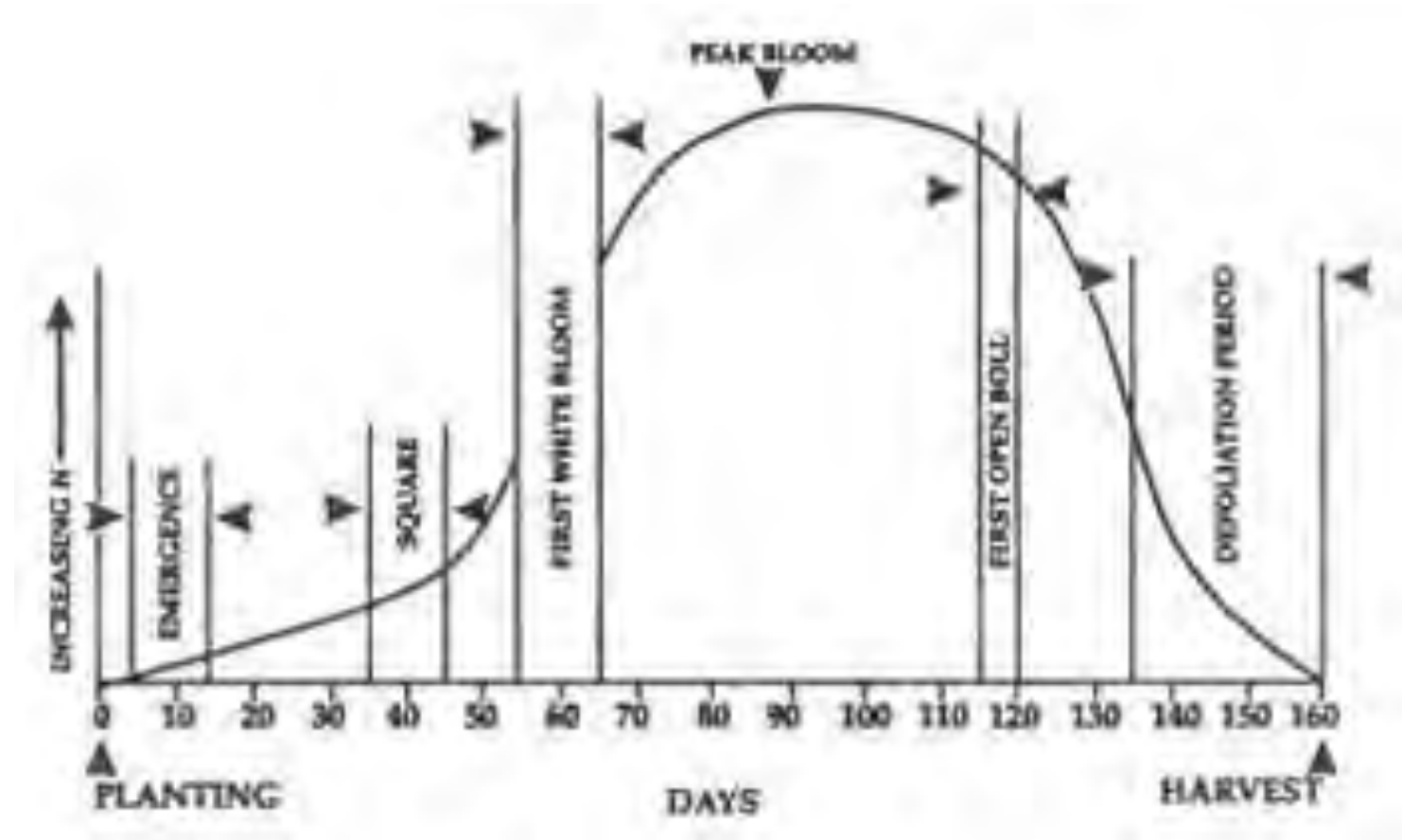
The growth and development of cotton follows typical sigmoid growth patterns

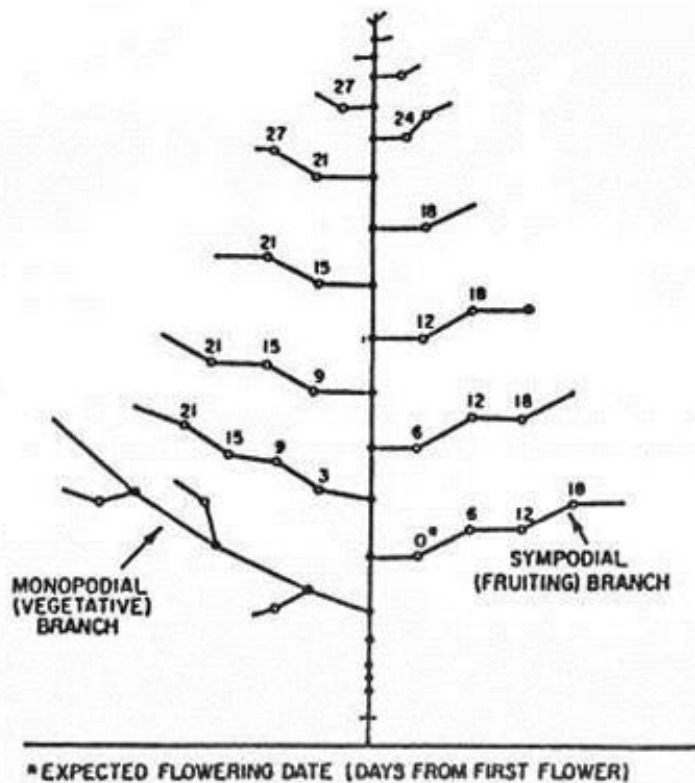# Canopy Development Over the Growing Season

The developmental phases for cotton can be divided into 5 main growth stages: (1) germination and emergence (2) seedling establishment (3) leaf area and canopy development (4) flowering and boll development, and (5) maturation.
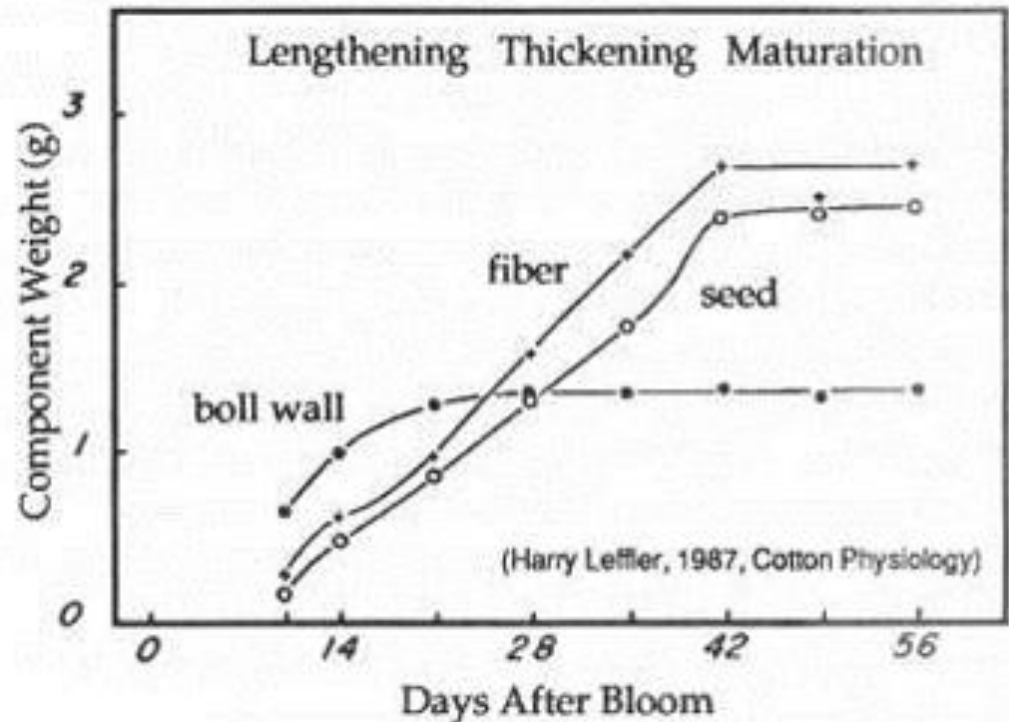
Canopy Development Over the Growing Season
Germination, Emergence and Early-season Growth
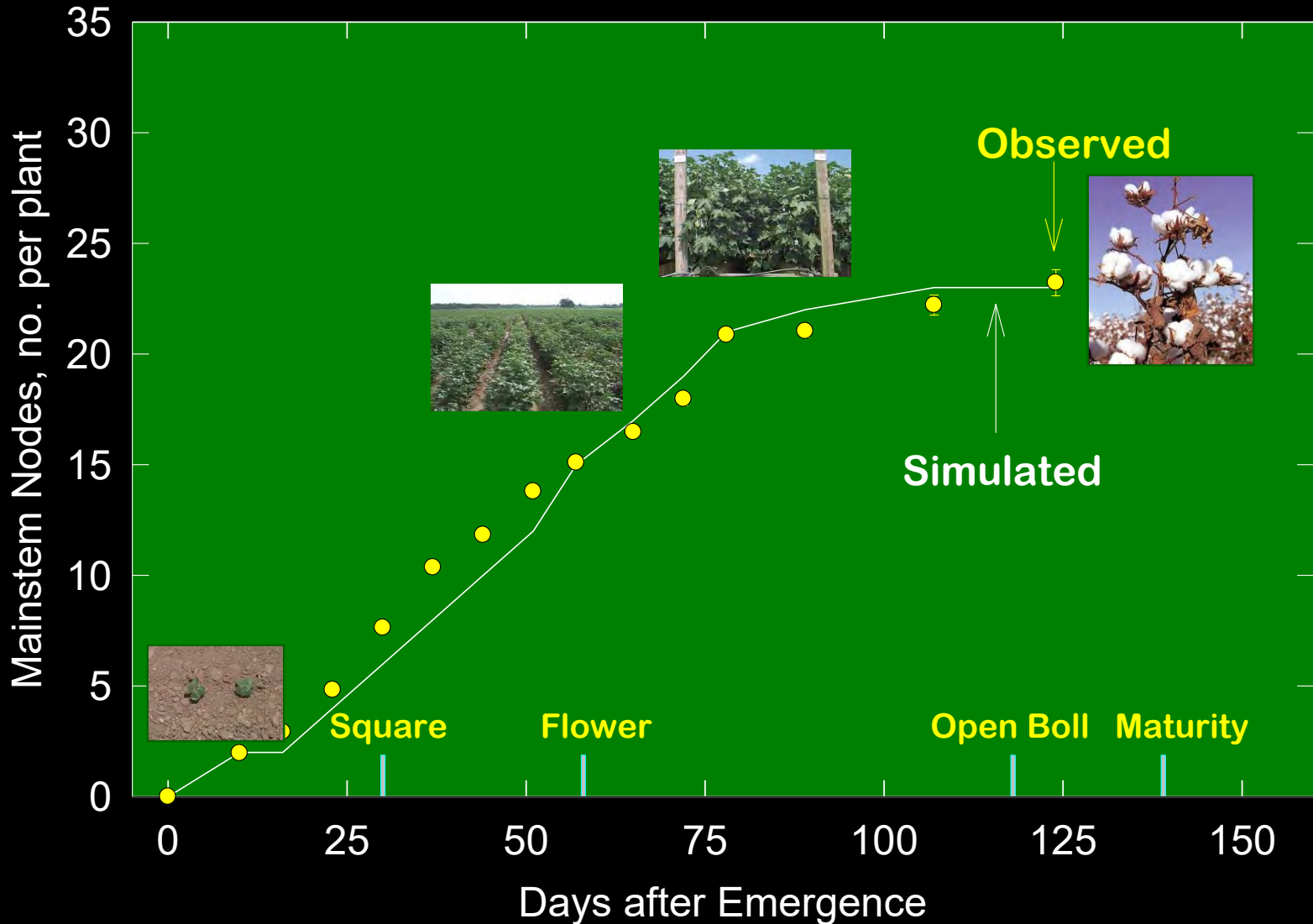
**Flowering patterns and Intervals**

Boll or Fruit Growth and Development

MONOPODIAL (VEGETATIVE) BRANCH

SYMPODIAL (FRUITING) BRANCH

*EXPECTED FLOWERING DATE (DAYS FROM FIRST FLOWER)

Lengthening Thickening Maturation

fiber

seed

boll wall

(Harry Leffler, 1987, Cotton Physiology)

Component Weight (g)

Days After Bloom

Impact of Weather on Plant Growth - Mississippi State - 1992
Temporal Trends in Mainstem Nodes - Simulated and Observed
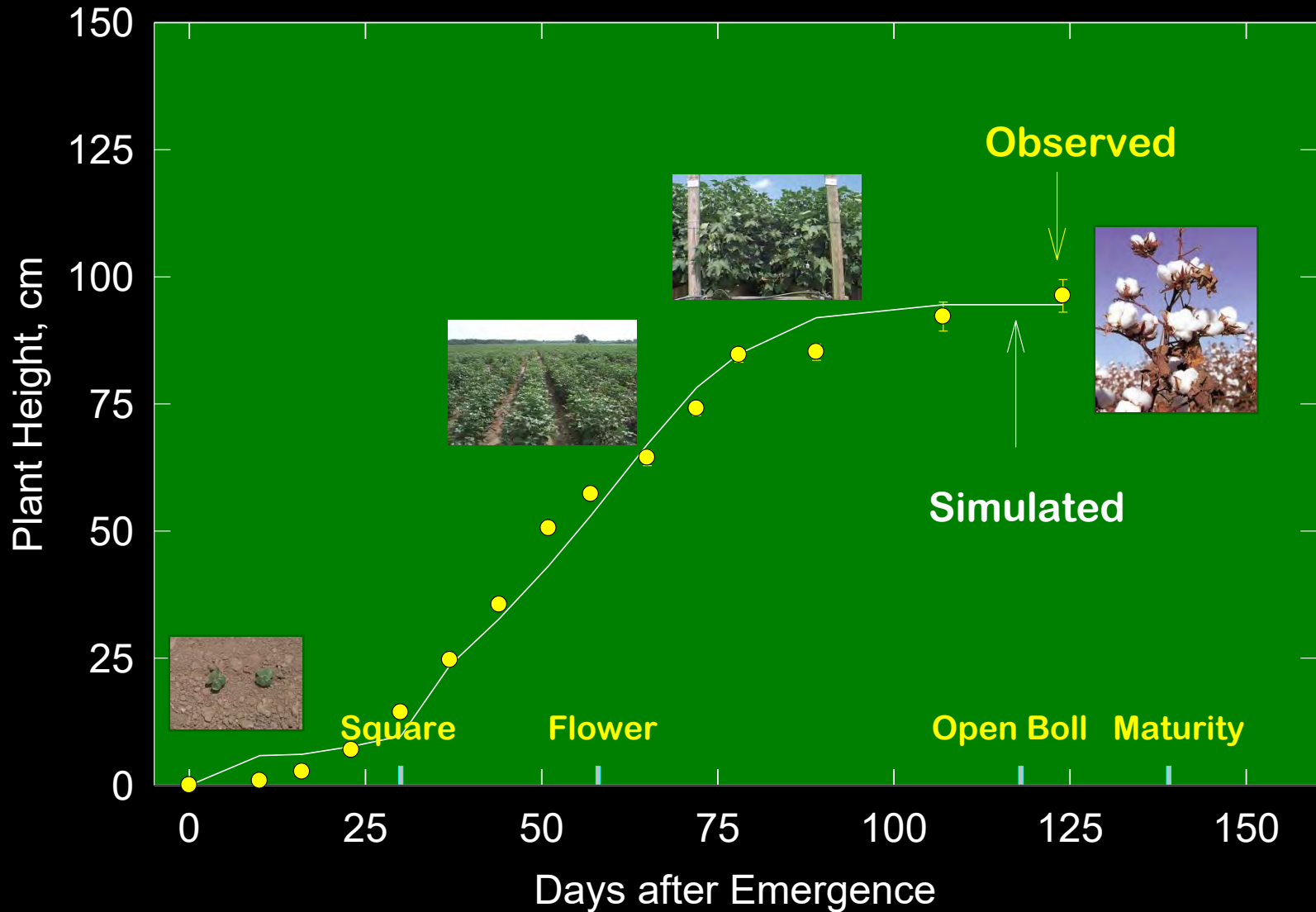
Canopy Development Over the Growing Season

The average number of days and heat units required for various growth stages of cotton in the Mid-South

Growth Stage	Days	Heat Units – DD60s
Planting to Emergence	4 to 9	50 to 60
Emergence to First Square	27 to 38	425 to 475
Square to Flower	20 to 25	300 to 350
Planting to First Flower	60 to 70	775 to 850
Flower to Open Boll	45 to 65	850 to 950
Planting to Harvest Ready	130 to 160	2200 to 2600

http://www.cotton.org/tech/ace/growth-and-development.cfm

Crop Phenology - Environment

➤ Crop phenology or development is driven by temperature and modulated by nutritional demand, particularly leaf development/supply.

➤ Temperature and photoperiod are the two main environmental factors that determine flowering in young and established plants.

➤ The cotton cultivars that are grown in the US are bred to be photoperiod insensitive and therefore, temperature is the main factor driving major phenostages.

➤ Leaf addition on the mainstem and branches, and thus square and flower appearance rates on branches are controlled by temperature, but modulated nutrient demand/supply.

Long-term Average Temperatures
for Four US Cotton Producing Areas
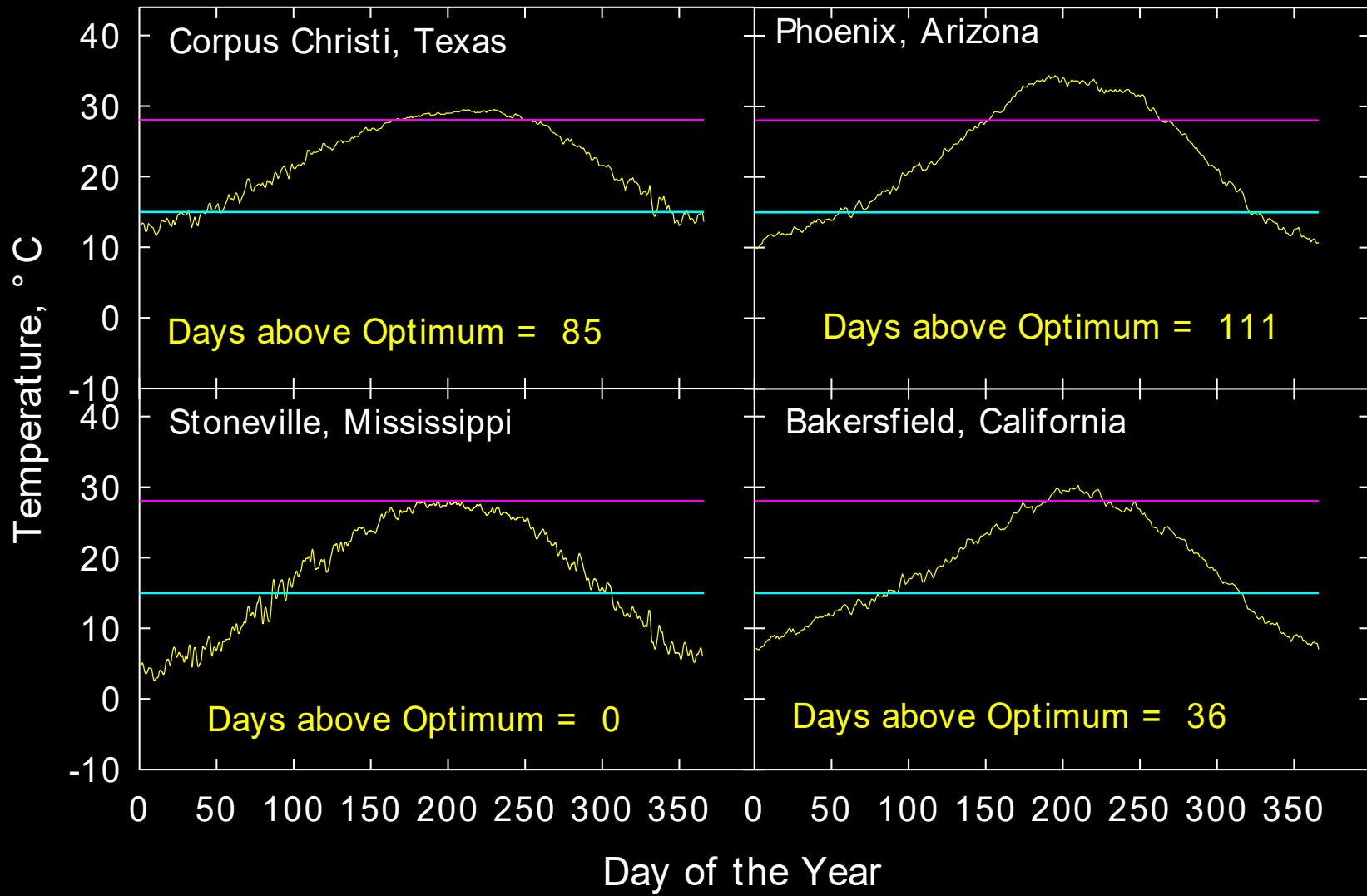
Quantifying the Effects of Environmental Factors on Crop Growth

One way to quantify the effects of environmental factors on phenology is to use environmental productivity index (EPI) concept like the way we used in calculating photosynthesis.

EPI-phenology = Temperature (potential) * Nutrient Index (C, N, P, K) * Water index * PPF Index * PGR Index etc.,

First, we have to define the potential phenology for given species or cultivar. Potential phenology is defined as the rate of development that takes place at a range of temperatures under optimum environmental conditions (optimum water and nutrient conditions).

Quantifying the Effects of Environmental Factors Crop Growth and Development

- Then, we have to account for all the environmental factors limiting to obtain that potential.

- Individual environmental factors affect the potential phenology multiplicatively, not additively, as in photosynthesis. For instance, if prolonged water stress causes plants to grow slower, the rate of addition of leaves on the mainstem or branches will reflect that condition even if the temperature and other factors are optimum.

- All the indices, range from 0 when it is totally limiting phenology and 1 when it does not limit phenology, represent the fractional limitation due to that particular factor. Therefore, phenological rates will be slower as the effect of that particular stress becomes more severe.

Quantifying the Effects of Environmental Factors Crop Phenology

This way allows one to quantify the effect of environmental factors limiting crop development or phenology in a multi-stress environment or in field conditions.

Cotton - Phenology
Phenology – Potential

Quantifying the Effects of Environmental Factors Crop Phenology – Some Considerations

It is difficult to build process-level or application-oriented crop models from data collected from the field because many factors often simultaneously affect rates of crop development and growth processes, and because many environmental and biological factors are covariants.

This makes it literally impossible to reasonably assess the causes and effects with accuracy. Instead, it is most appropriate to develop relationships or models with data from controlled-environments and validate such relationships or models with data from the field.

Again, the environmental variables in the controlled-environmental facilities, including radiation should be close to the radiation received in the field conditions, and must be not-limiting or well-defined and controlled for the given variable under consideration.
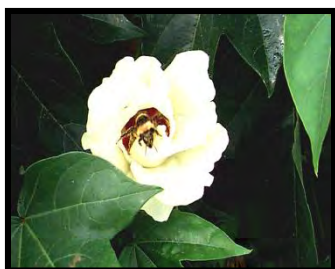
Phenology - Discrete Events and Definitions

Time from seed to germination defined as radicle of half the length of the seed and time from germination to emergence of the seedling above the ground are defined as a discrete events.

Time from emergence to square of 3-mm size is defined as a discrete event known as squaring in cotton.

The day of flower is a discrete event again. Cotton flowers are yellow or creamy – white on the first day, and then turn pink the next day.

The day of boll-opening again is a discrete event. The day when one can see the lint through the sutures of carpel wall or burr in cotton is defined as open boll

Cotton Phenostages or Developmental Stages

- Seed to seed germination
- Seed germination to emergence
- Emergence to square or first flower-bud initiation
- Square to flower
- Flower to open boll
- Open boll to crop maturity
- Adding leaves
  - ✓ On the mainstem
  - ✓ Fruiting branches
  - ✓ Vegetative branches
- Leaf and internode expansion and elongation durations
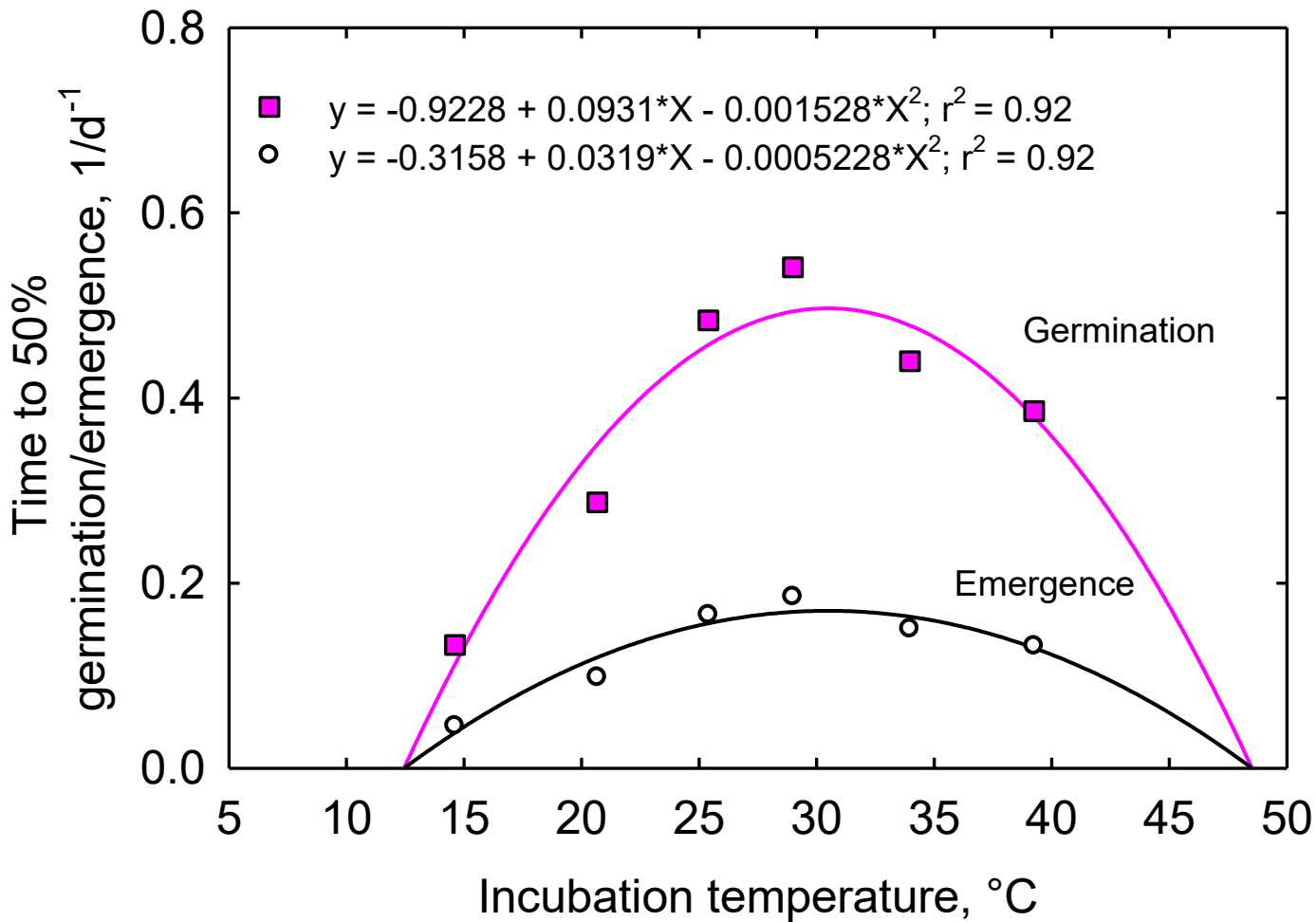- Adding vegetative branches

MONOPODIAL (VEGETATIVE) BRANCH

SYMPODIAL (FRUITING) BRANCH

*EXPECTED FLOWERING DATE (DAYS FROM FIRST FLOWER)
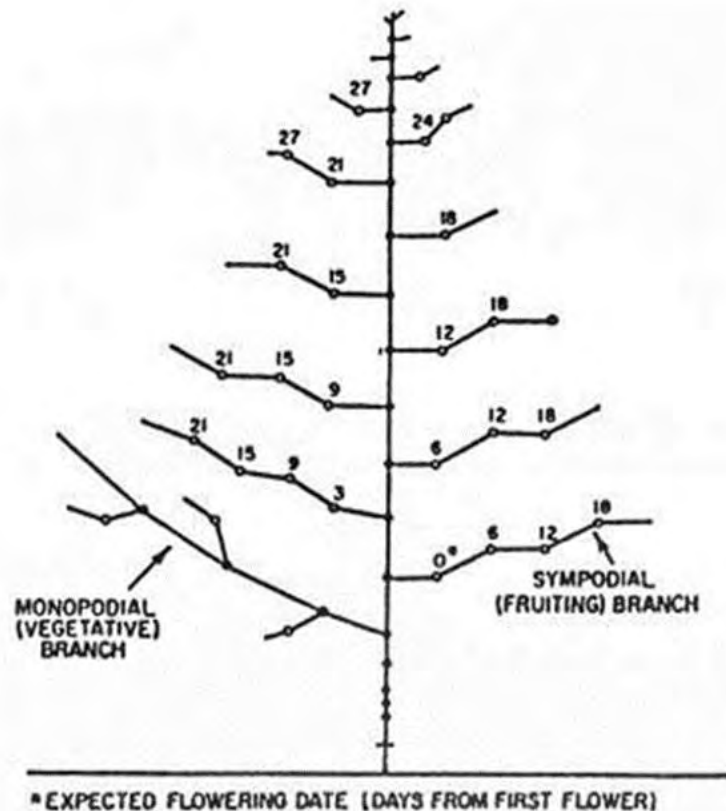
Determining Cotton Germination Rate and Maximum Seed Germination from Time-series Temperature Data
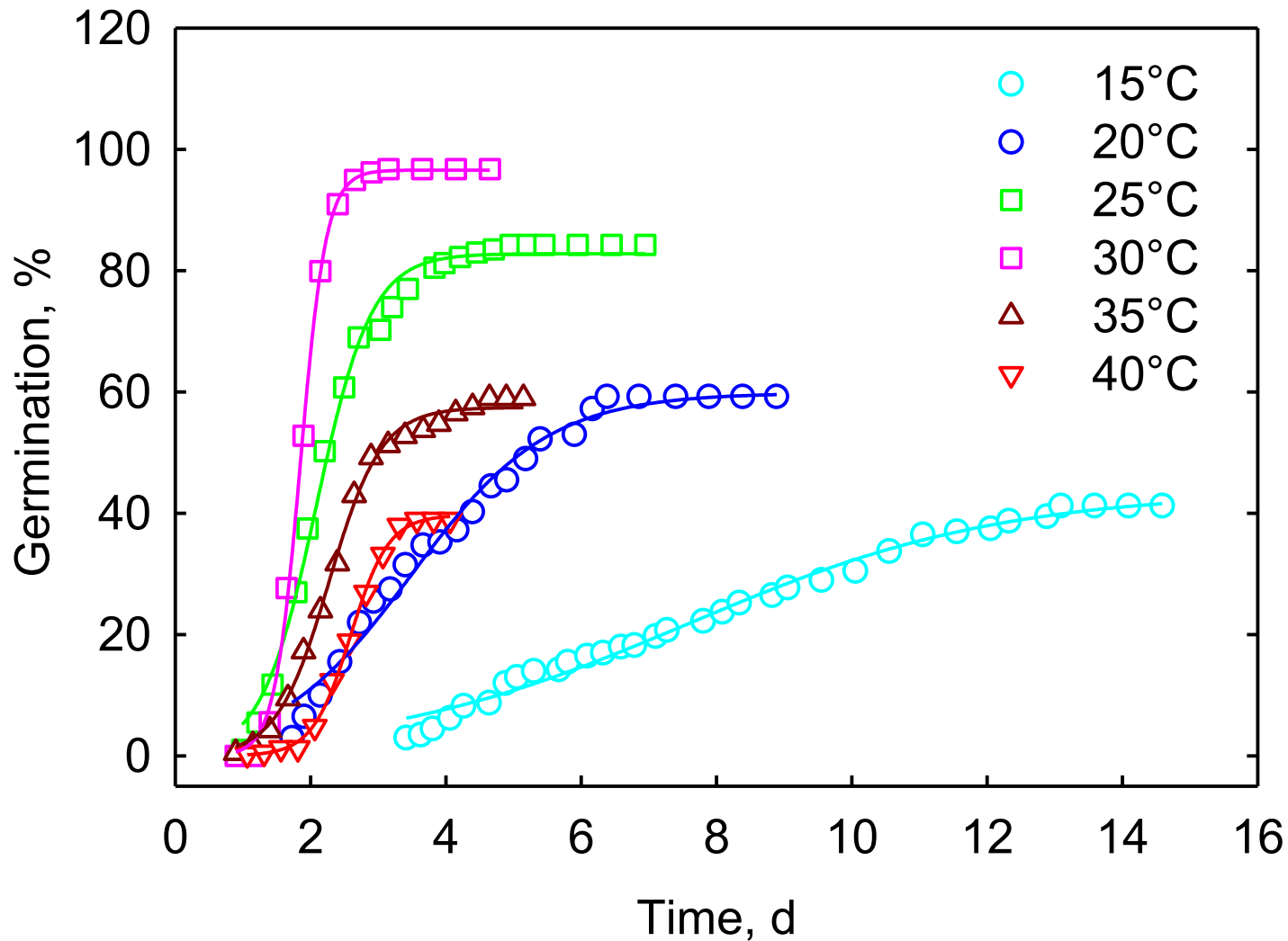
Temperature - Maximum Seed Germination

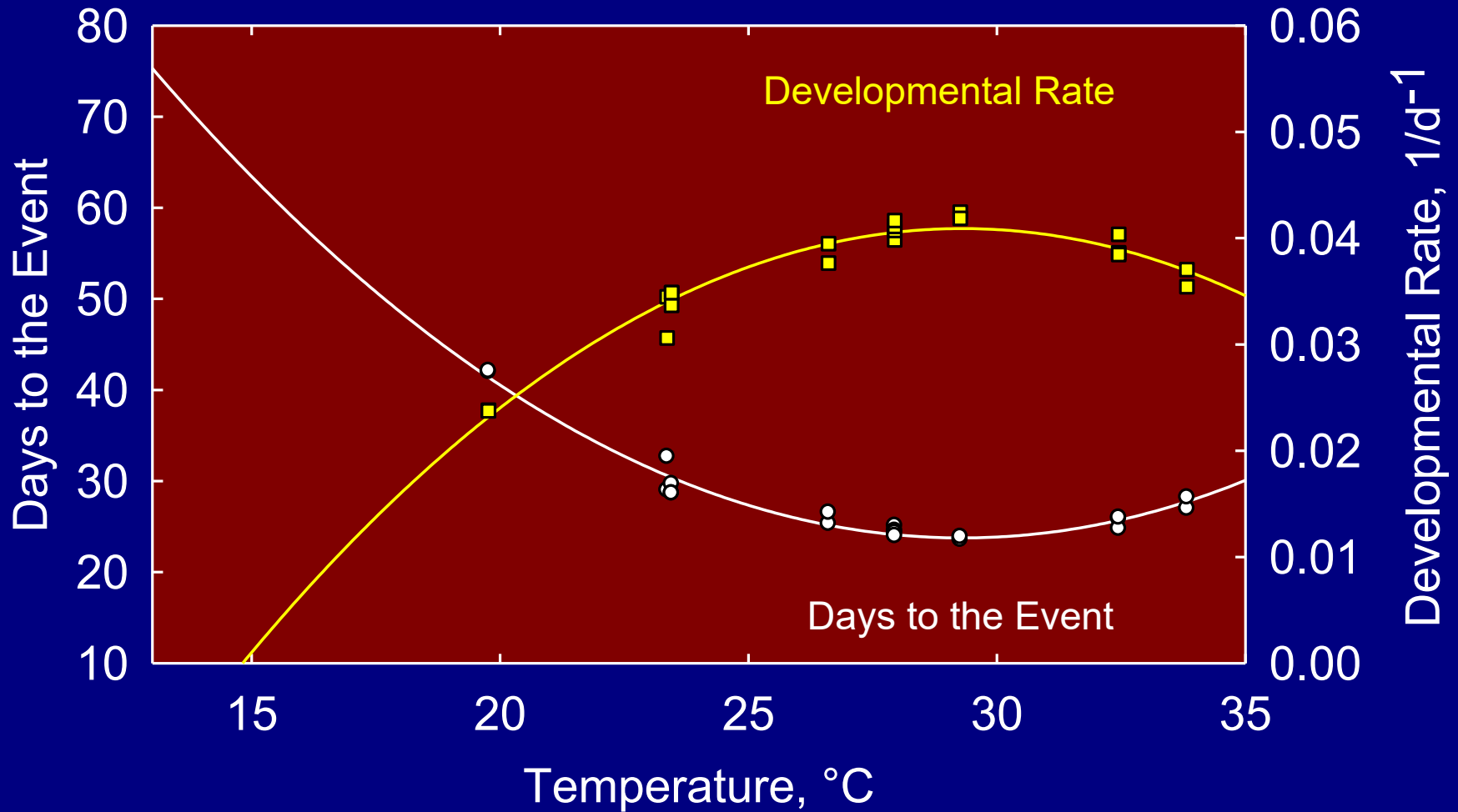$y = -125 + 15.391*X - 0.2862*X^2; r^2 = 0.79$
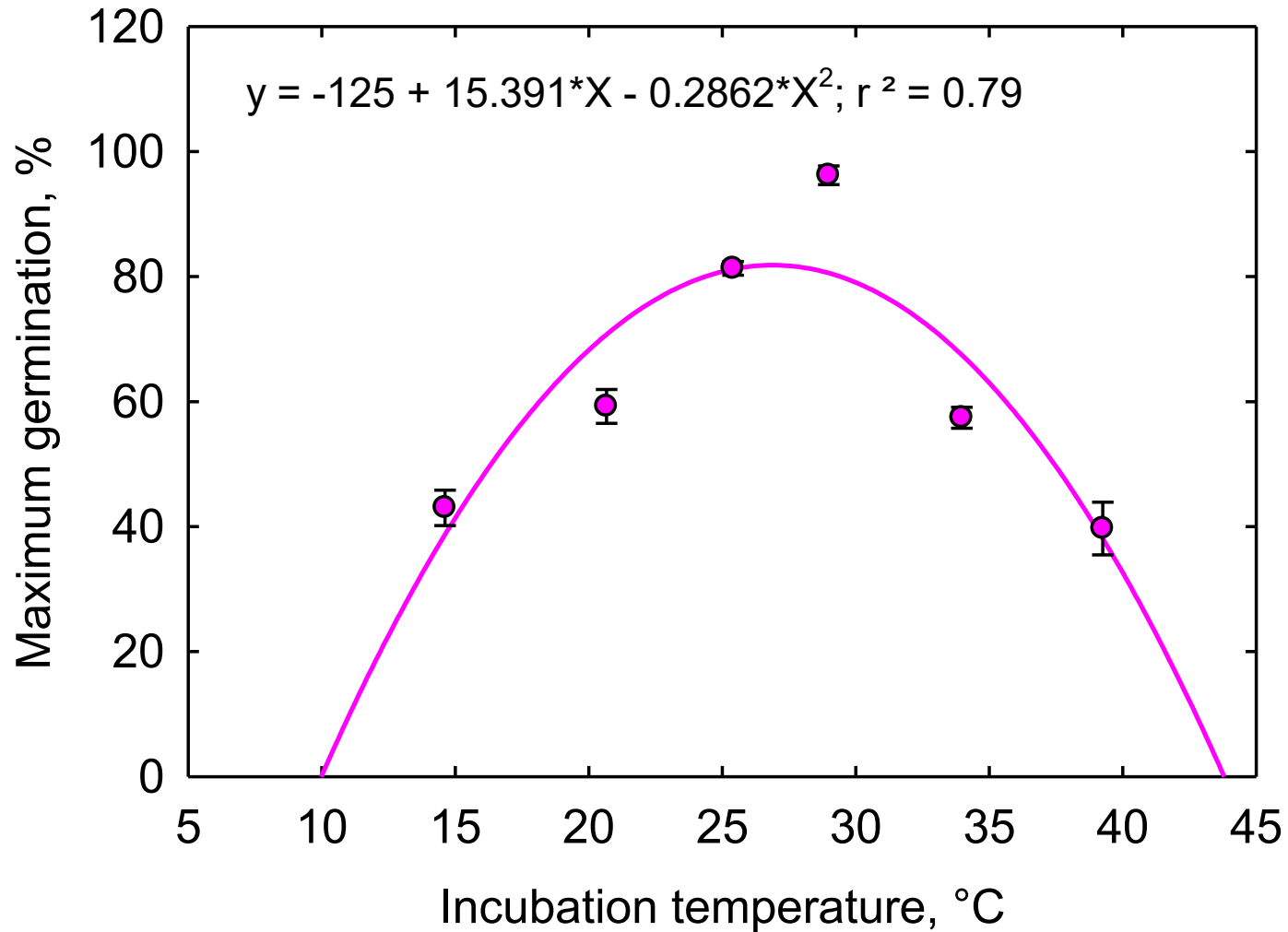
Temperature – Rate of Seed Germination and

Parameter	Tmin	Topt	TMax	Rate at Topt
SGR	12.46	30.46	48.47	0.5
SER	12.43	30.51	48.58	0.2

Temperature - Phenology
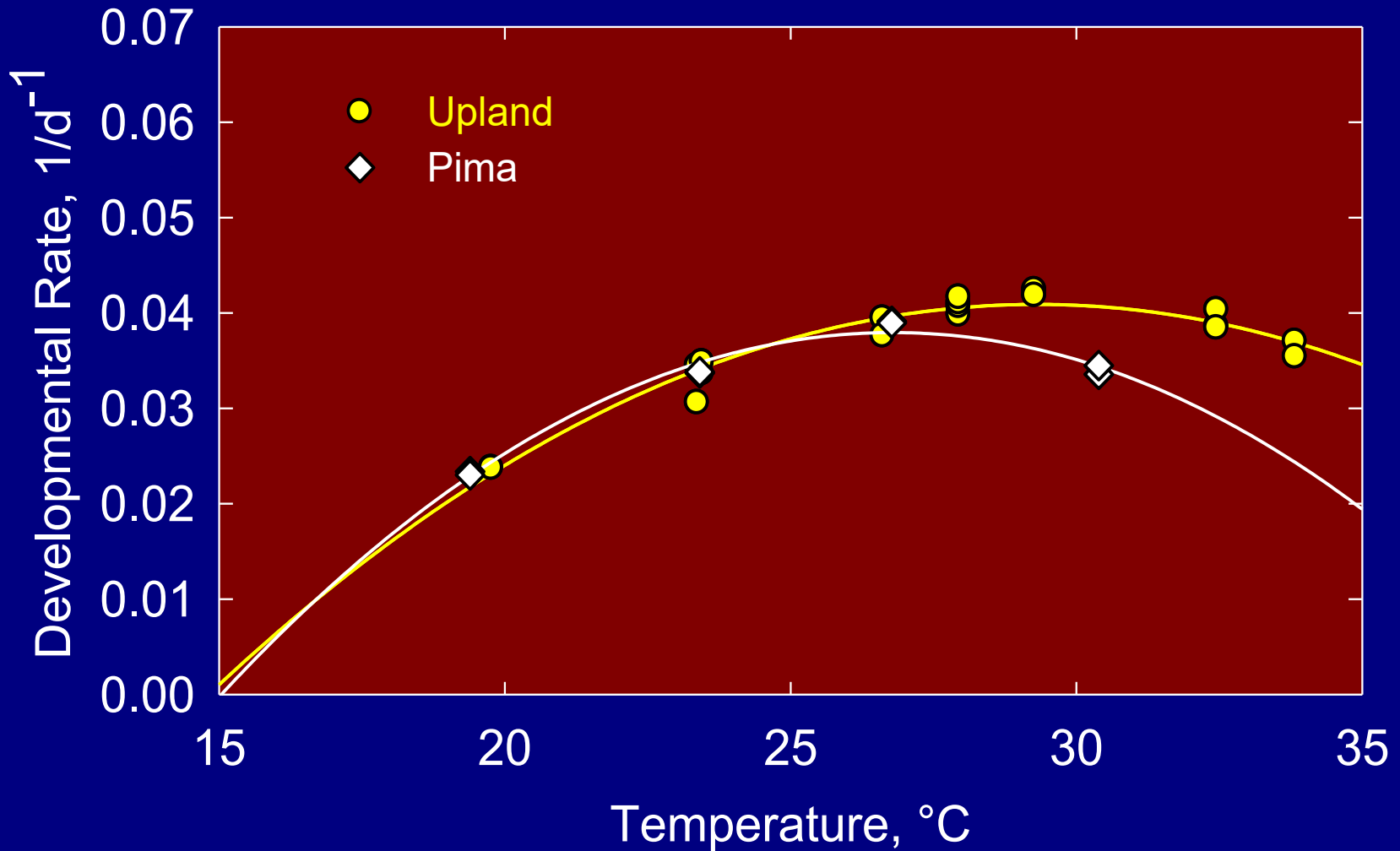## Emergence to Square
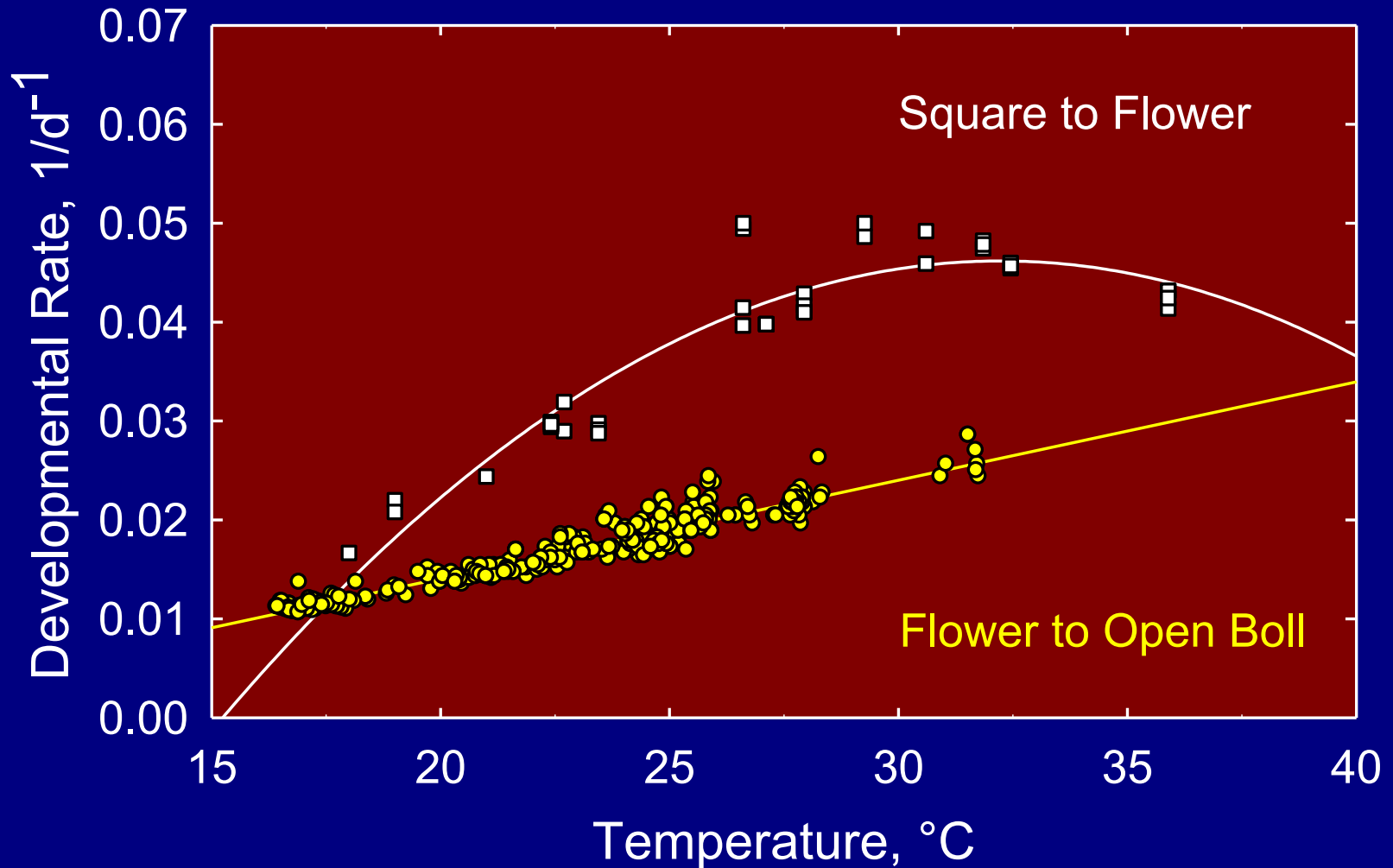
Schematic Representation of Cotton Plant Development

Temperature - Phenology
Emergence to Squaring - Species Variation

Temperature - Phenology
Square to Flower, Flower to Open Boll

Square to Flower

Flower to Open Boll

Developmental Rate, 1/d^{-1}

Temperature, °C

Temperature - Major Phenostages of Cotton

Legend:
- Emergence to Square
- Square to Flower
- Flower to Open boll

Y-axis: Days between Events (0 to 100)

X-axis: Temperature, °C (15 to 40)
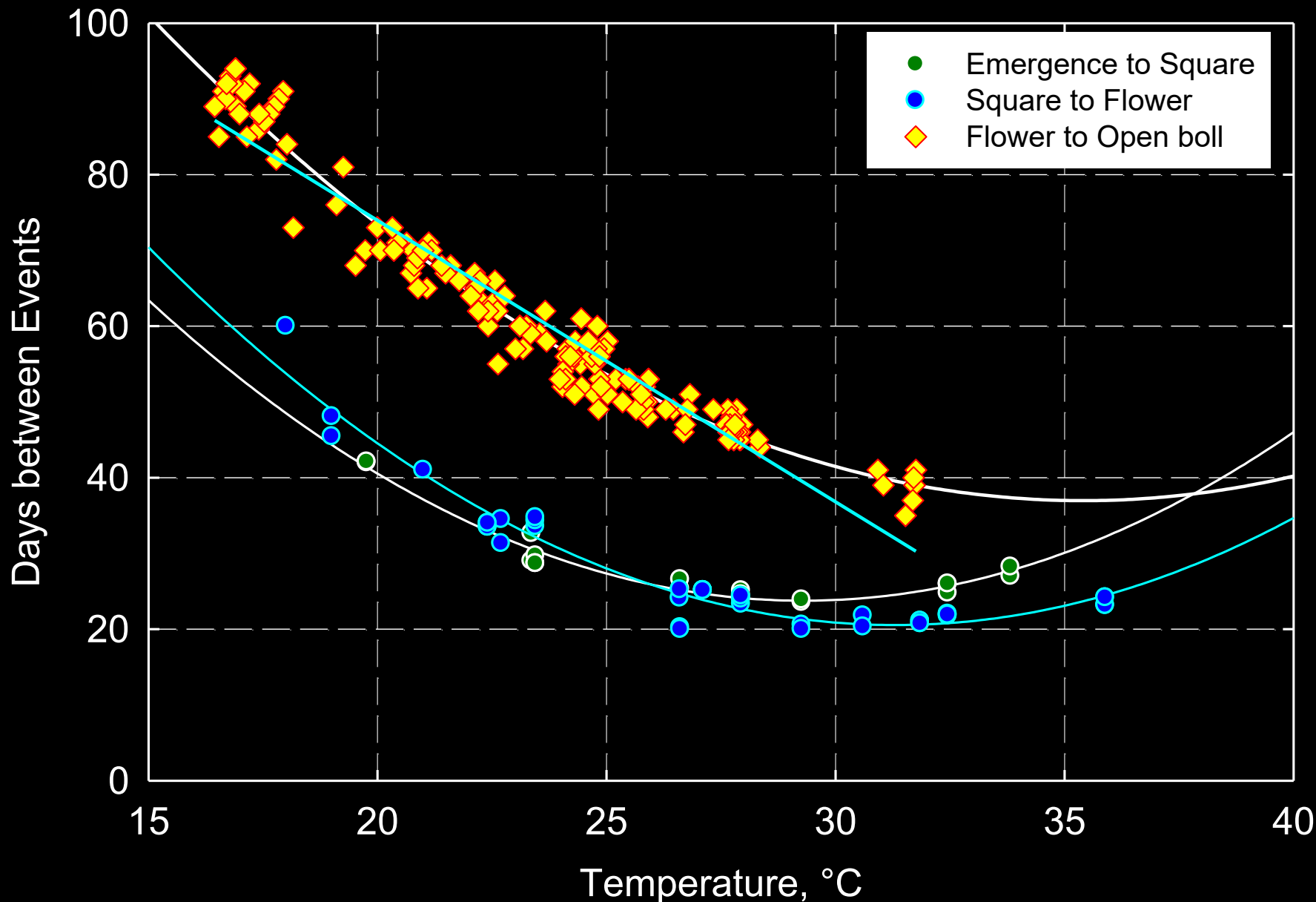
Temperature - Major Phenostages in Cotton

Rate of Development, 1/d^{-1}

Temperature, °C

Square to Flower

Emergence to Square

Flower to Open boll
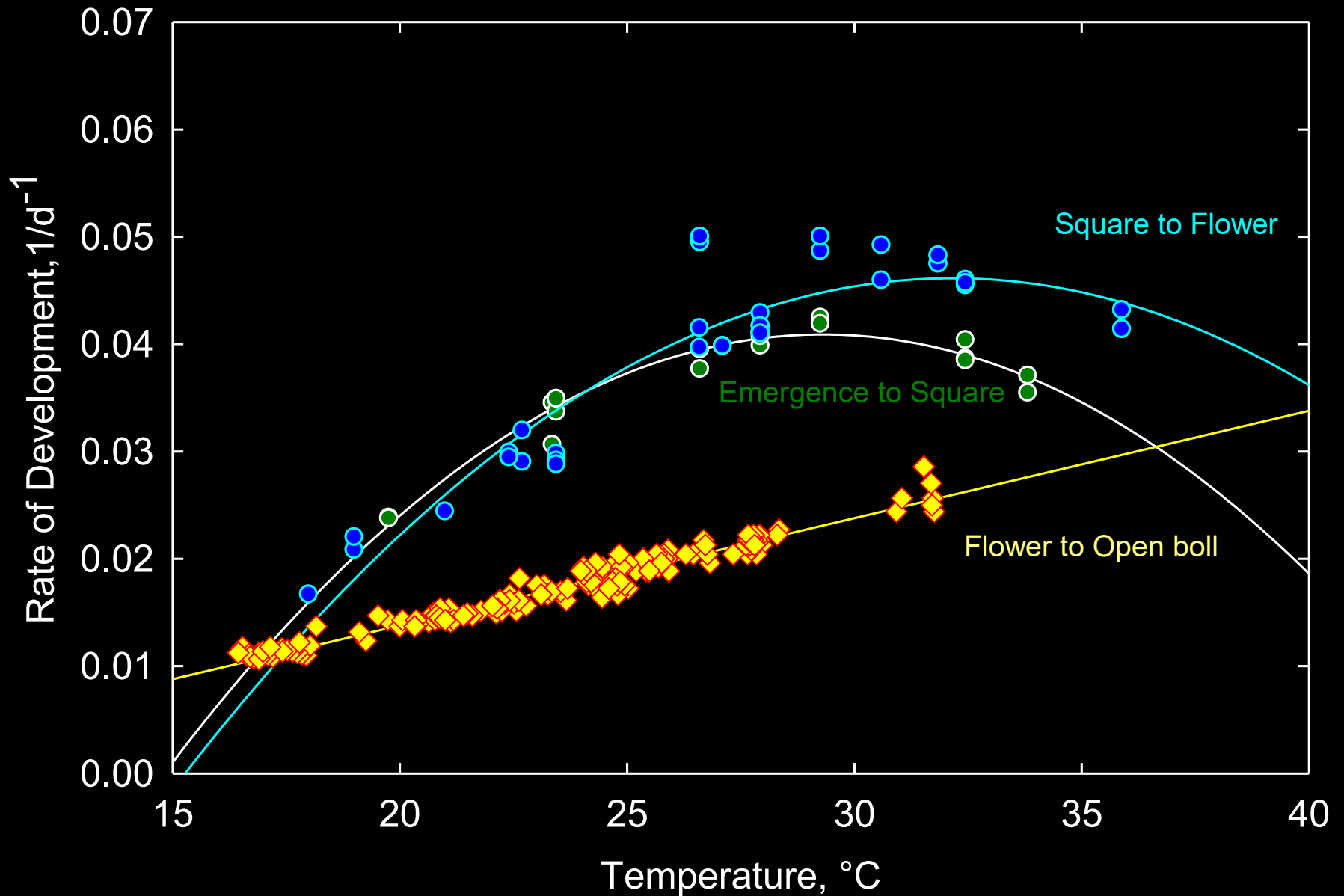
Parameters for quadratic equations regressing daily developmental rates of major cotton phenological events (y) as functions of average temperature (x), and correlation coefficients (r^2).

$$(y = a + bx \text{ or } y = a + bx + cx^2)$$

Event	Regression parameters			
	a	b	c	r^2
Seed to germination	-0.9228	0.0931	-0.001528	0.92
Seed to emergence	-0.3158	0.0319	-0.0005228	0.92
Emergence to square	-0.1265	0.01142	-0.0001949	0.98
Square to flower	-0.1148	0.00967	-0.0001432	0.94
Flower to open boll	-0.00583	0.000995	--	0.92

An example of how to calculate time to 1st square formation in cotton from a changing average temperature is shown. The daily development (Y) for cotton plants to reach 1st square from emergence can be calculated as a function of temperature (X) as follows: Daily developmental rate.
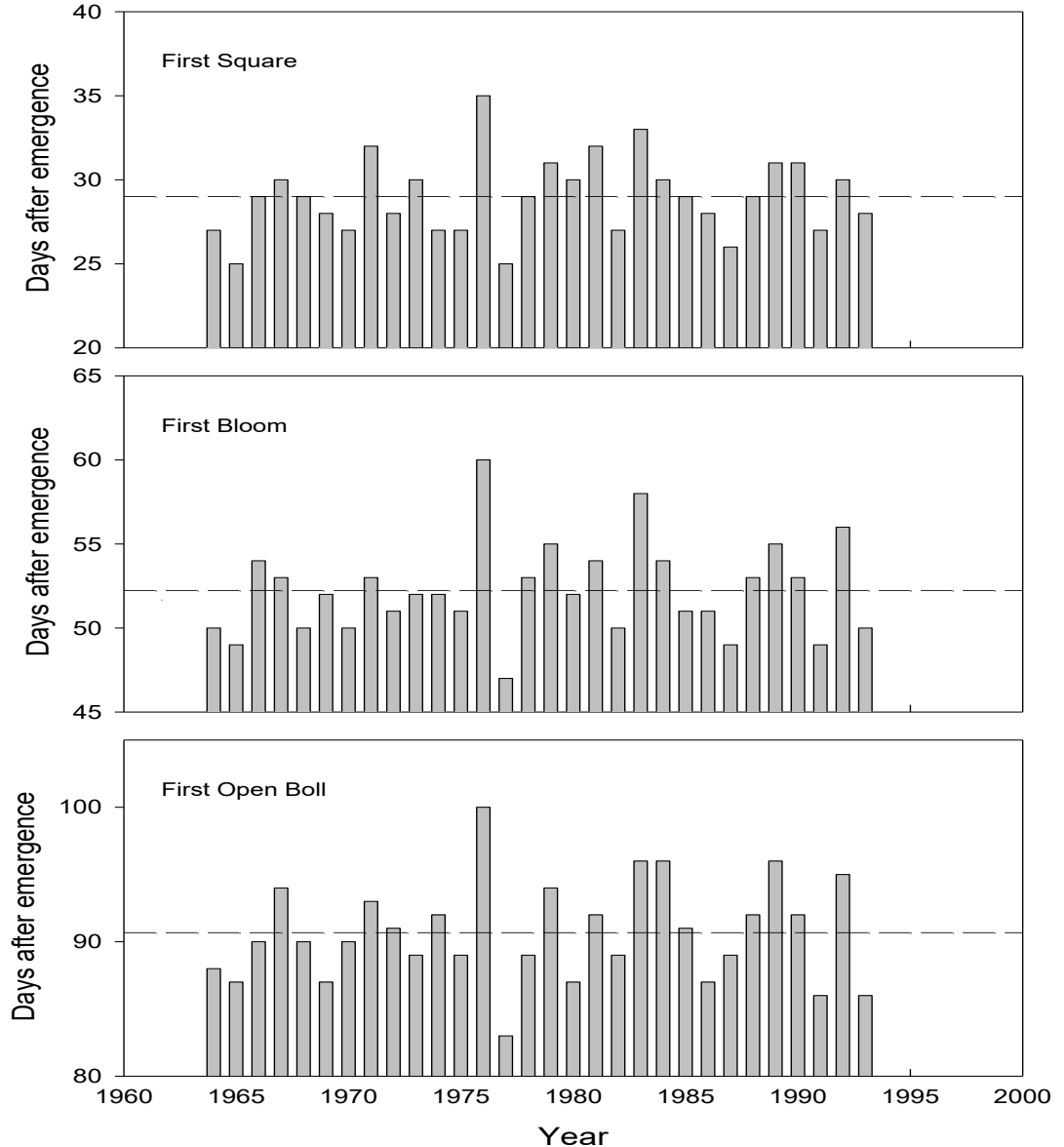
$$Y = -0.1265 + 0.01142 *X - 0.0001949 * X^2, r^2 = 0.95.$$

Days Since emergence	Average Temperature, °C	Days to 1st square at that temp.	Daily developmental rate	Cumulative value
1	22	32.89	0.030408	0.030408
2	18	62.85	0.015912	0.046320
3	14	Below the threshold temperature	No development	0.046320
4	20	41.77	0.02394	0.070260
n				1.0 or >1.0

Applying Environmental Productivity Index to Crop Phenology
Observed vs. Simulated – Major Phenological Events

slope = 1.001; r² = 0.95

Emergence to 1st open boll

Emergence to 1st flower

Emergence to 1st square

Simulated number of days to the event

Observed number of days to the event
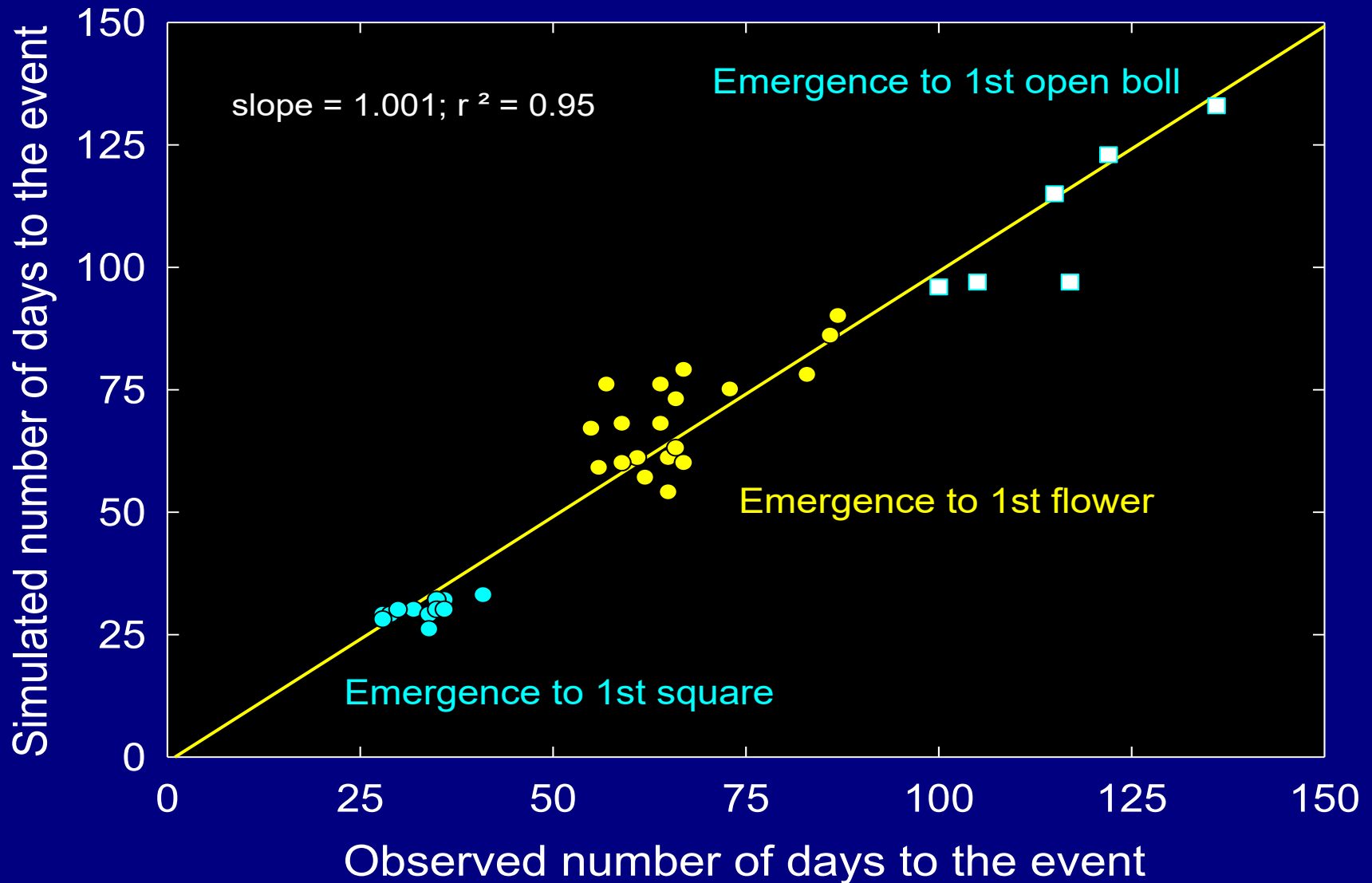
Temperature – Phenology – Growing Degree-day Concept

- Heat units, expressed in growing degree-days (GDD), are frequently used to describe the timing of biological processes.

- The basic equation used is:

$$GDD = [(T_{max} + T_{min})/2 - T_{base}]$$

Where T_{max} and T_{min} are daily maximum and minimum air temperatures, respectively, and T_{base} is the base temperature for a given developmental event or process of a crop where the development is zero.

Temperature – Phenology – Growing Degree-day Concept

- Two methods or interpretations have been reported in the literature.

Method 1:

GDD = [(maxT + minT)/2 – Tbase]

If [(maxT + minT)/2] <Tbase, then [(maxT + minT)/2] = Tbase

This approach seems to the most widespread method used for calculating GDD in small grain crops such as wheat, barley and several other crops.

Notice that the comparison to Tbase occurs after calculating avgT.

Temperature – Phenology – Growing Degree-day Concept

Method 2:

GDD = [(maxT + minT)/2 – Tbase]

where if maxT <Tbase, then maxT = Tbase,

and if minT <Tbase, then minT= Tbase.

Some times a variation of method 2 is also used:

GDD = [(maxT + minT)/2 – Tbase], where if minT <Tbase, then minT = Tbase.

Notice that the comparison to Tbase is made before calculating avgT by comparing maxT and minT or minT to Tbase individually.

This approach has also been used to calculate GDD in crops such as corn as well as in other crops.

- Not recognizing the discrepancy between methods can result in confusion and add error in quantifying relationships between heat unit accumulation and timing of biological events in crop development.

- Therefore, when describing and presenting the data on GDD's, description of method used and the base temperature are very important so that others can correctly interpret and apply reported results in their situation.

Reference: McMaster, G. S. and W. W. Wilhelm. 1997. Growing degree-days: one equation, two interpretations. Agricultural and Forest Meteorology 87: 291-300.

Temperature – Phenology
Can We Apply Growing Degree Days (GDD) Concept to Upland Cotton at a Range of Temperatures?
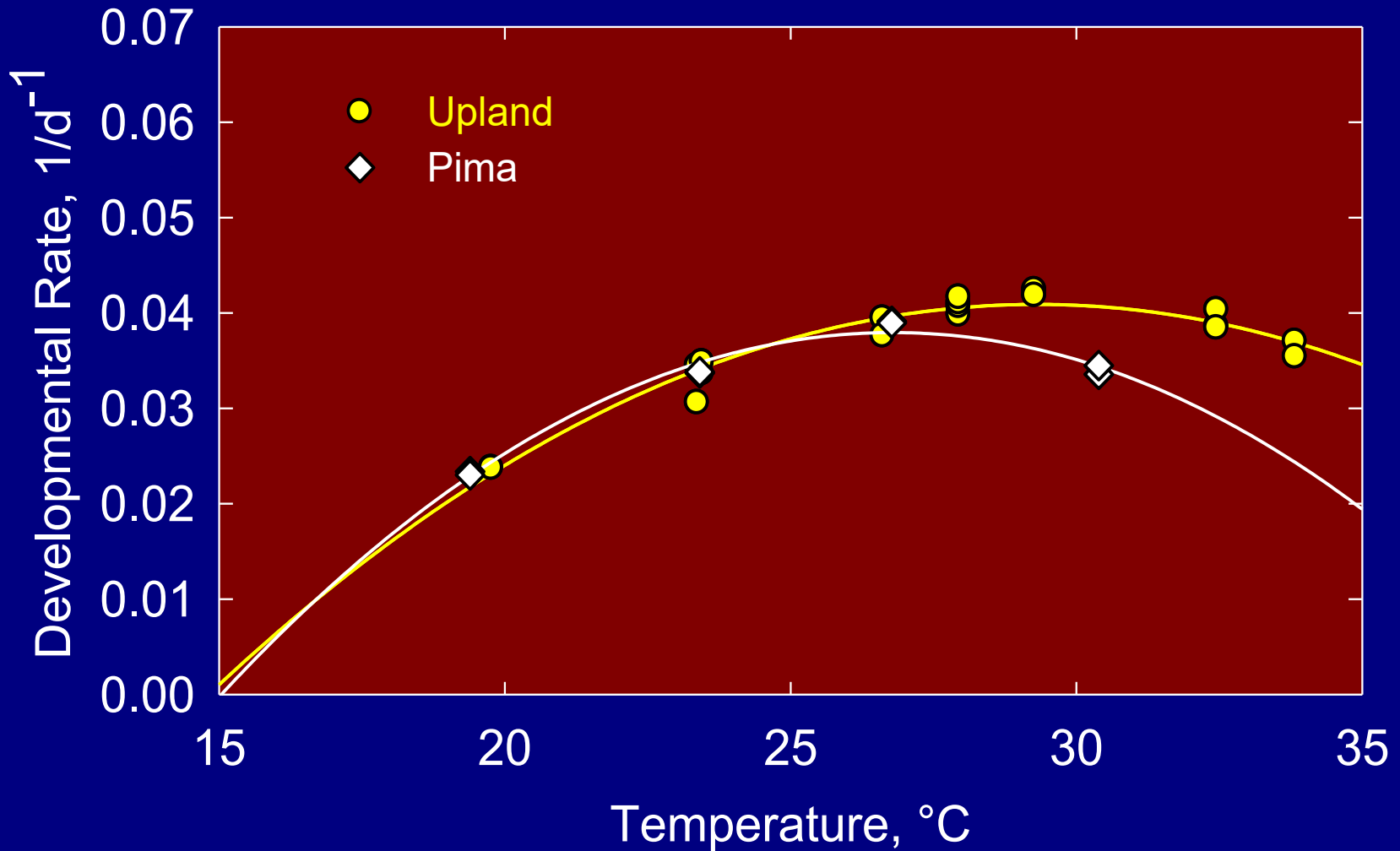
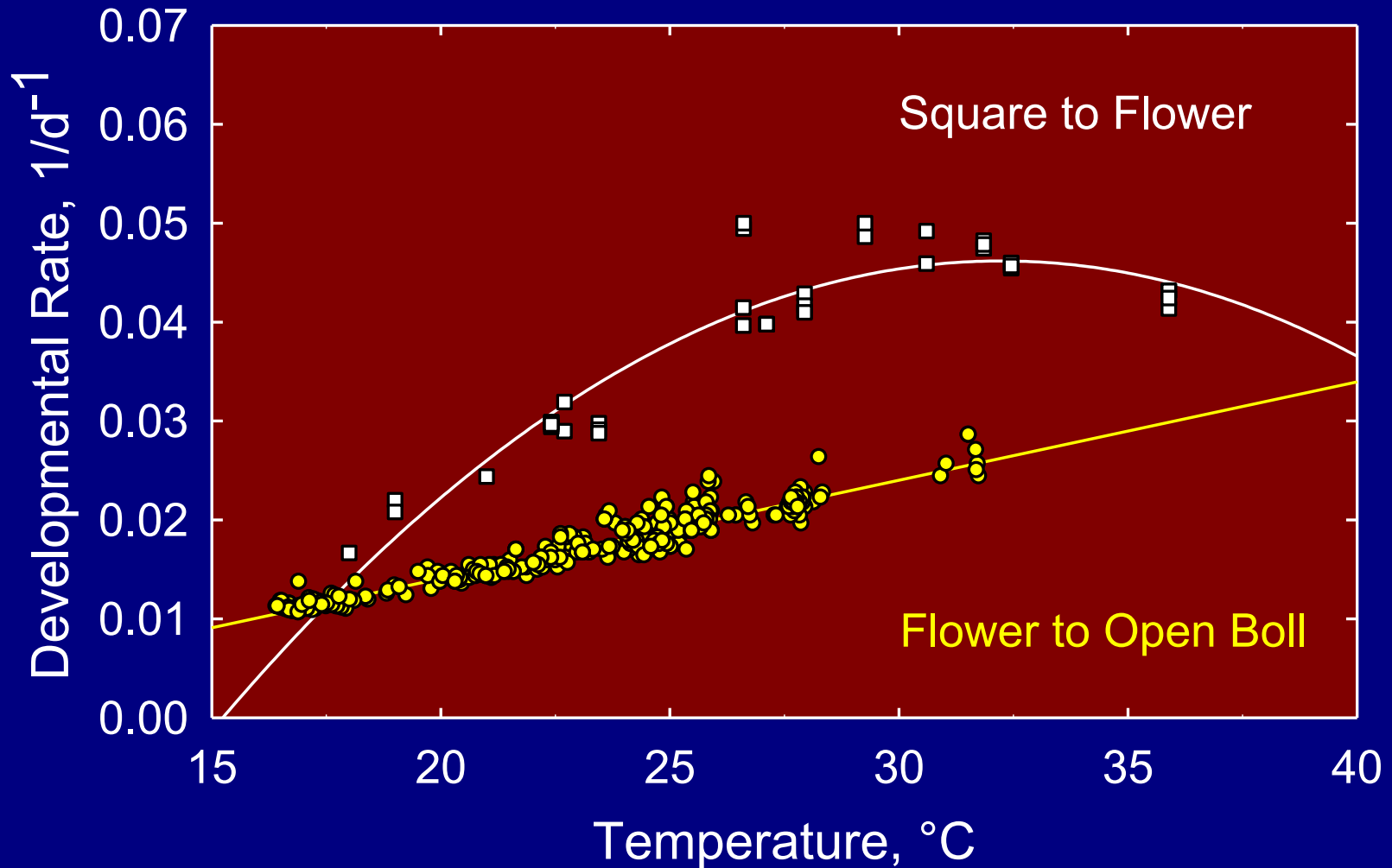| Growth Stage	Days	Heat Units – DD60s
Planting to Emergence	4 to 9	50 to 60
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http://www.cotton.org/tech/ace/growth-and-development.cfm

Temperature - Phenology
## Emergence to Squaring - Species Variation

Crop Phenology

Phyllochron intervals – Mainstem and branches

Developing mainstem and fruiting branch nodes and leaves are important aspects of overall crop development because these developmental aspects determine the number of leaves produced, and thus canopy development and light interception, particularly prior to canopy closure.

In cotton, phyllochron is defined as the day when 3 main veins appear clearly on an unfolding leaf. Defined in this way, leaf appearance or phyllochron can be used as discrete event.
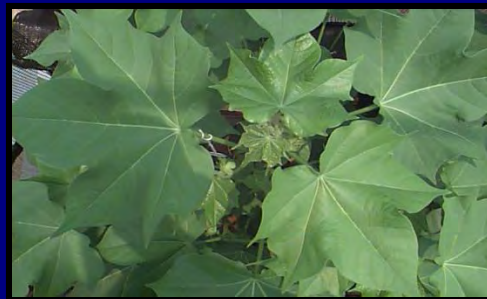
Crop Phenology – Pre-squaring, Flowering and Post-Flowering Leaf Developmental Rates: Cotton
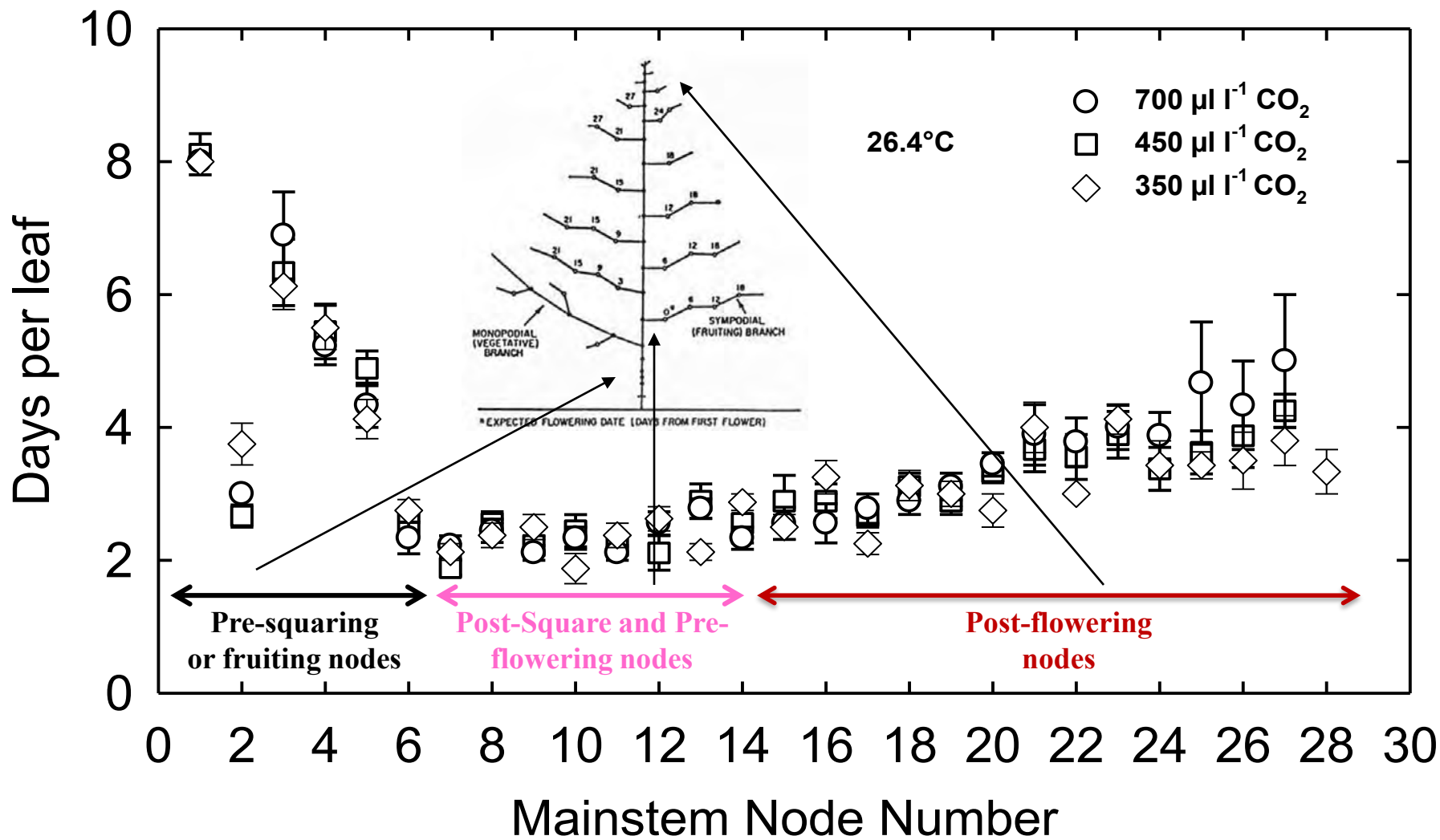
Crop Growth and Development - Environment
Response to Temperature

4-week old cotton seedlings

| 20/12 | 25/17 | 30/22 | 35/27 | 40/32 |

Temperature, °C

Temperature - Phenology
Phyllochron Intervals

T	MS-rate	days	Br.-rate	days
15	0.033	30.3	0.0271	36.9
20	0.1916	5.0	0.1057	9.5
25	0.3324	3.0	0.1584	6.3
30	0.4314	2.3	0.1852	5.4
35	0.4965	2.0	0.1860	5.4

Mainstem

Fruiting Branches

Developmental Rate, $1/d^{-1}$
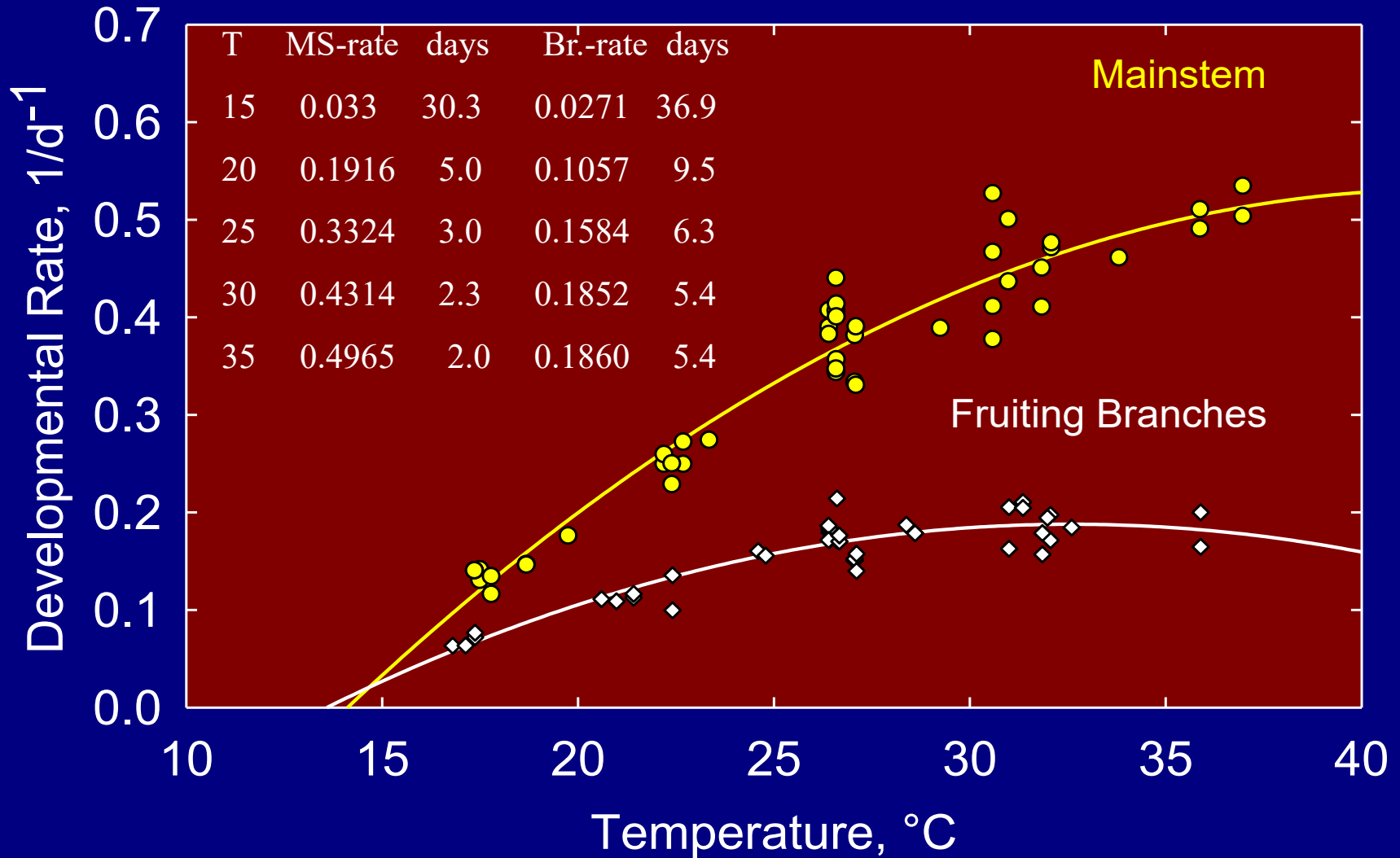
Temperature, °C

Parameters for quadratic equations regressing daily leaf developmental rates of mainstem or branches (y) for cotton as functions of average temperature (x), and correlation coefficients (r^2).

$$(y = a + bx + cx^2)$$

Event	Regression parameters			
	a	b	c	r^2
Mainstem leaves	-0.6698	0.05700	-0.0006765	0.94
Branch leaves	-0.3645	0.03389	-0.00051890	0.84

An example of how to calculate days to a leaf on the mainstem or a fruiting branch in cotton from a changing temperature conditions is shown. The daily development (Y) for cotton plants to add a leaf on the mainstem or on fruiting successively can be calculated as a function of temperature (X) as follows: Daily developmental rate.

$$Y = \text{Mainstem leaves} = -0.6698 + 0.05700*X - 0.0006765*X^2$$

$$\text{Branch leaves} = -0.3645 + 0.03389*X - 0.00051890*X^2$$

Days Since last leaf	Average Temperature, °C	Days to between leaves at that temp	Daily developmental rate	Cumulative value
1	22	3.89	0.2568	0.2568
2	18	7.30	0.1370	0.3938
3	14	below the threshold	No development	0.3938
4	20	5.1	0.2394	0.6332
5	22	3.89	0.2568	0.890
6	20	5.1	0.2394	1.129

>1, then leaf will be added

Applying Environmental Productivity Index to Crop Phenology
Observed vs. Simulated – Mainstem Nodes

Profiles = 14, Slope = 0.98
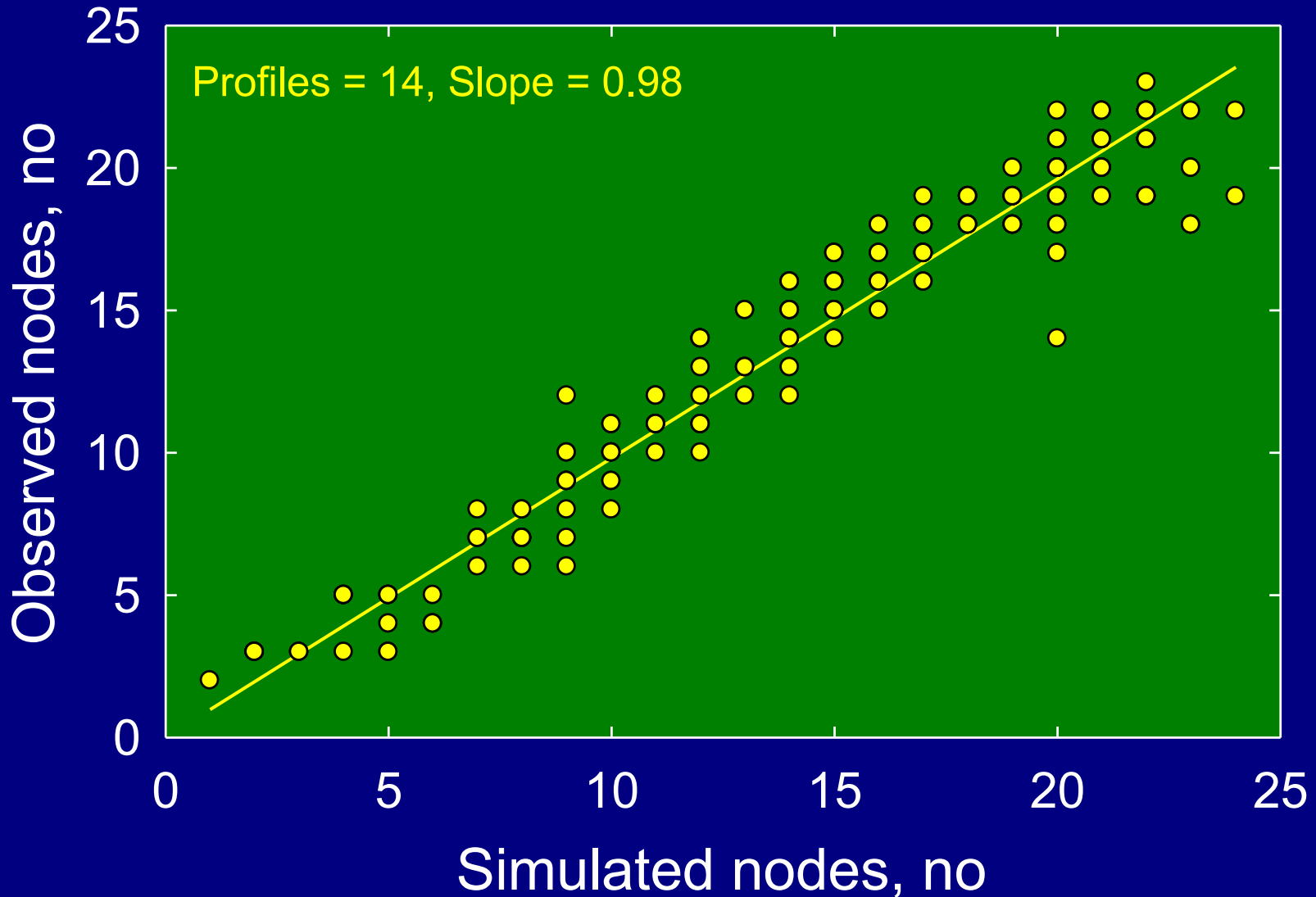
Temperature - Phenology
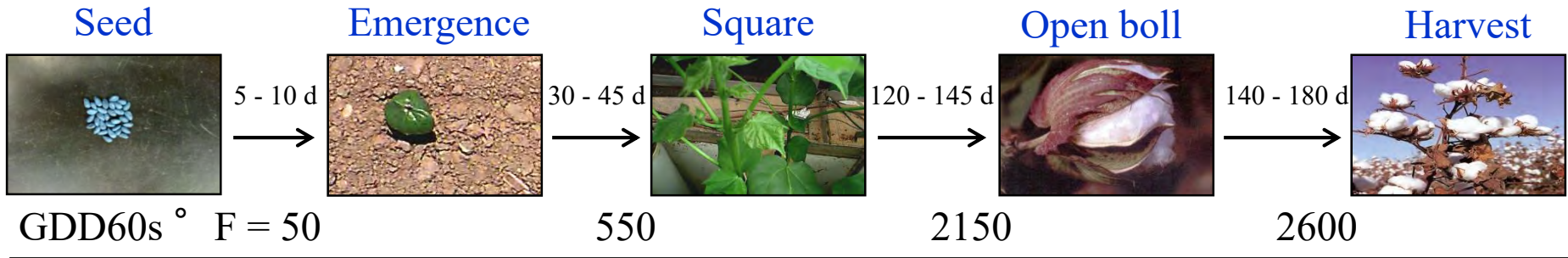## Leaf and Internode Expansion Duration Rates
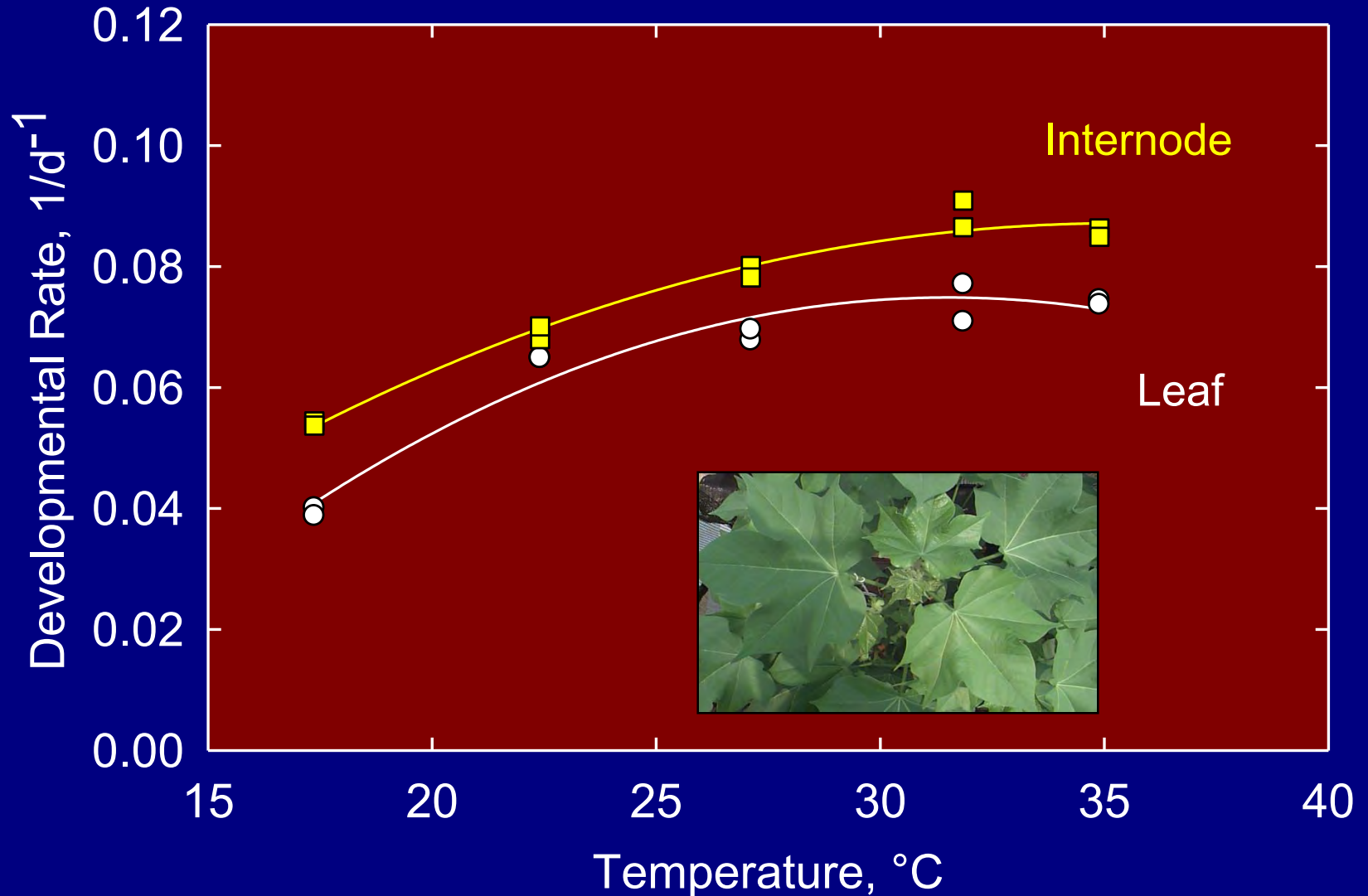
Parameters for quadratic equations regressing daily leaf area expansion or internode elongation duration rates (y) for cotton as function of average temperature (x), and correlation coefficients (r^2).

$$(y = a + bx + cx^2)$$

Event	Regression parameters			
	a	b	c	r^2
Leaves	-0.09365	0.01070	-0.0001697	0.95
Internodes	-0.04312	0.007383	-0.0001046	0.96

Cotton Potential Developmental Aspects

Seed → Emergence → Square → Open boll → Harvest

5 - 10 d → 30 - 45 d → 120 - 145 d → 140 - 180 d

GDD60s °F = 50   550   2150   2600

Square development → Pollen & fertilization → Flower

Stigma

Style

Filament
Anther

Ovary
(fruit)

Petals

Bracts
Ovules
(seeds)

Pin-head to match-head to candle to flower

Day 1   Day 2   Day 3

Boll development

Fiber, motes
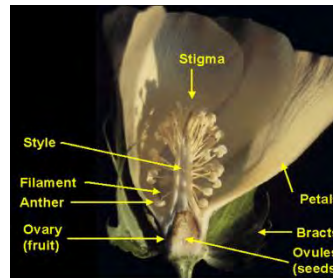
Day 6   Day 12   Day 20   Day 30   Day 47   Day 60

Seed

# Cotton Phenology – Potential Rates

$$Y = a + bx \text{ or } a + bx + cx^2$$

Seed to emergence:	a	b	c	r^2
Max. seed GR	-125	15.391	- 0.2862	0.79
Seed to germination	-0.9228	0.0931	-0.001528	0.92
Seed to emergence	-0.3158	0.0319	-0.0005228	0.92

Major life cycle events:

Emergence to square	-0.1265	0.01142	-0.0001949	0.98
Square to flower	-0.1148	0.00967	-0.0001432	0.94
Flower to open boll	-0.00583	0.000995	--	0.92

Leaf addition rates:

Mainstem Leaves	-0.6698	0.05700	-0.0006765	0.94
Branch leaves	-0.3645	0.03389	-0.00051890	0.84

Leaf and internode expansion duration rates:

Leaves	-0.09365	0.01070	-0.0001697	0.95
Internodes	-0.04312	0.007383	-0.0001046	0.96

Cotton Phenology
Accounting Stress Factors Effects
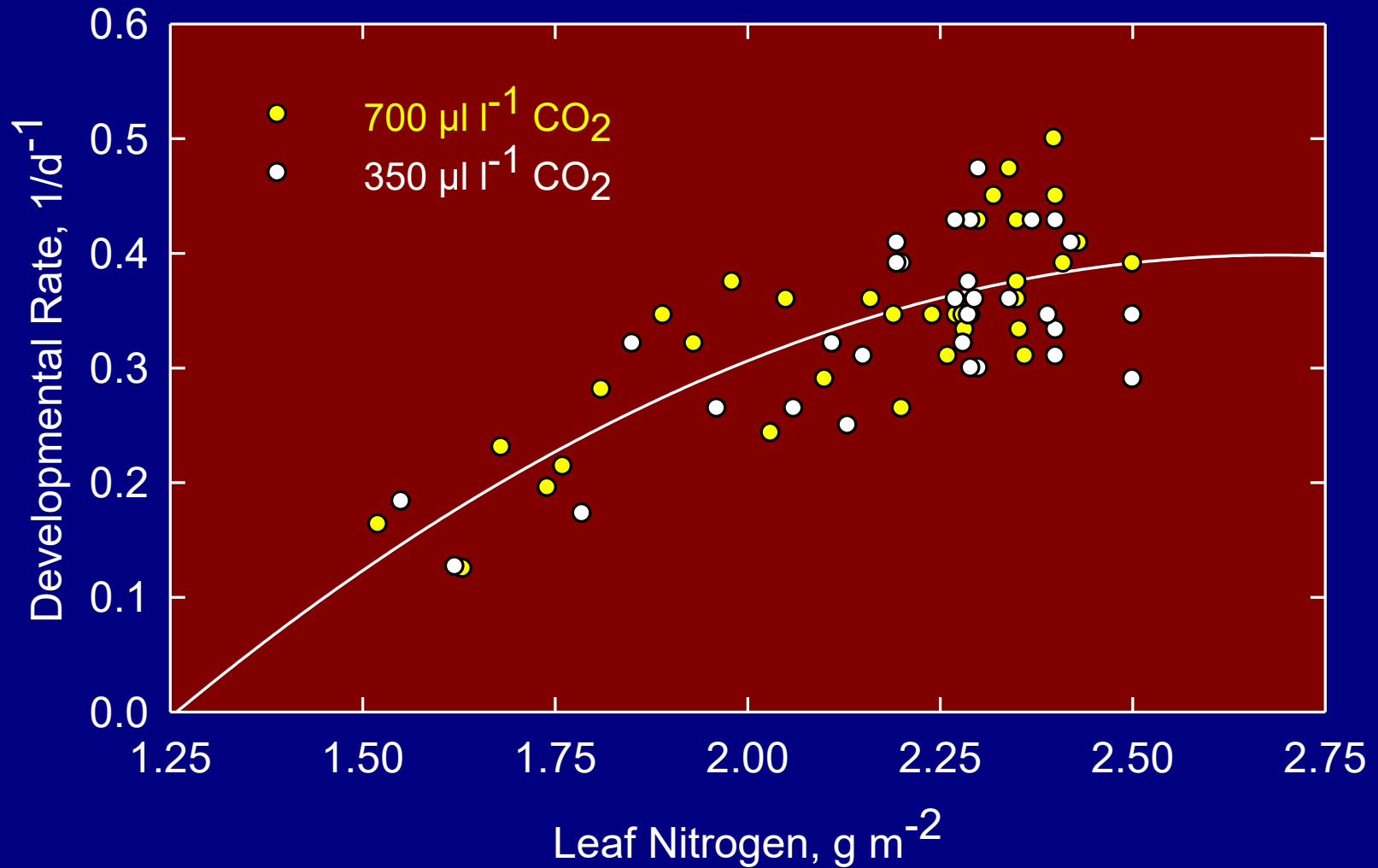
Modeling the Effects of Nitrogen on Cotton Growth and Development

Environmental Productivity Indices
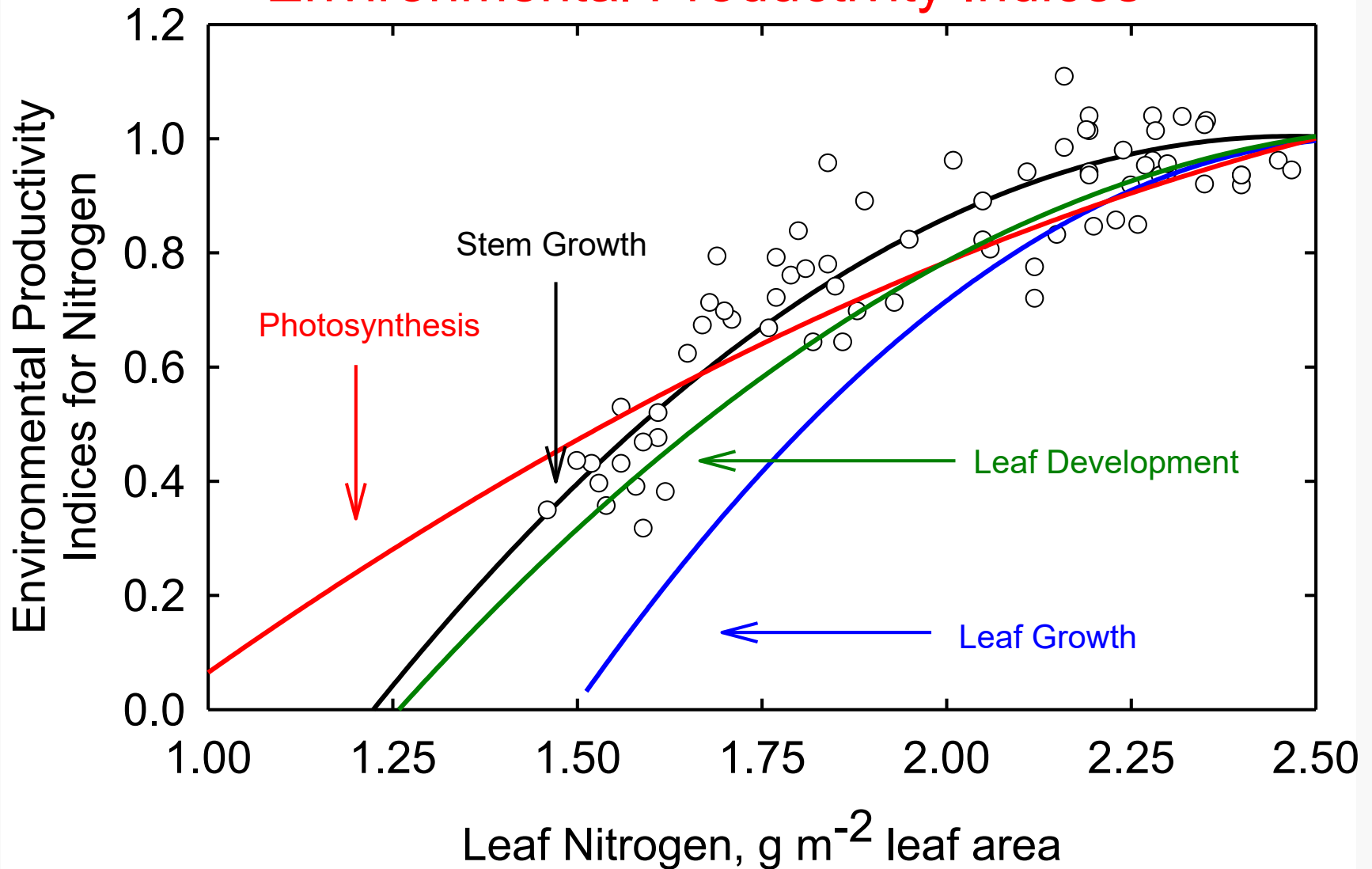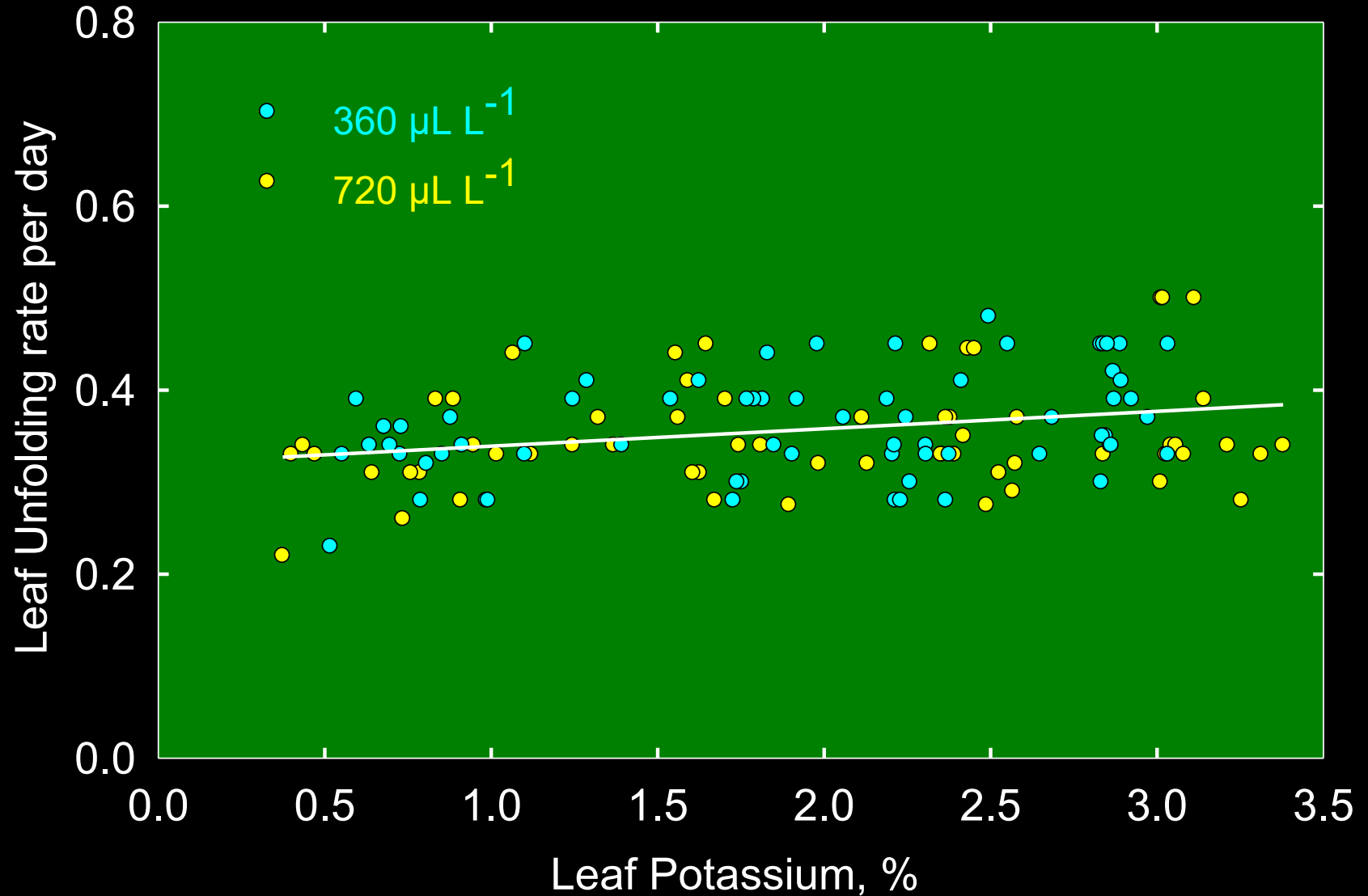
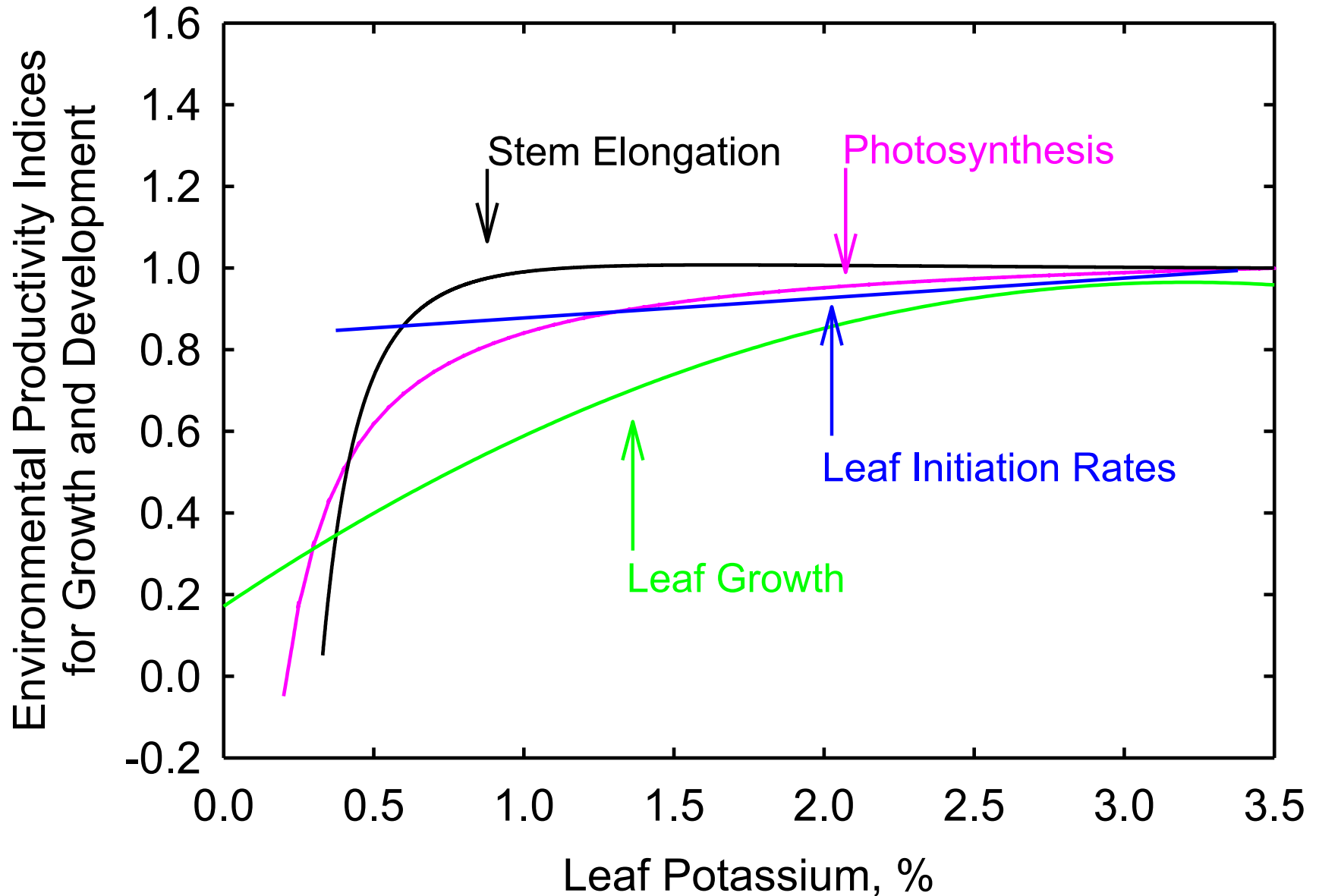Potassium – Cotton Growth

>3.05

1.15

0.94

0.39

Visual Symptoms

0.30

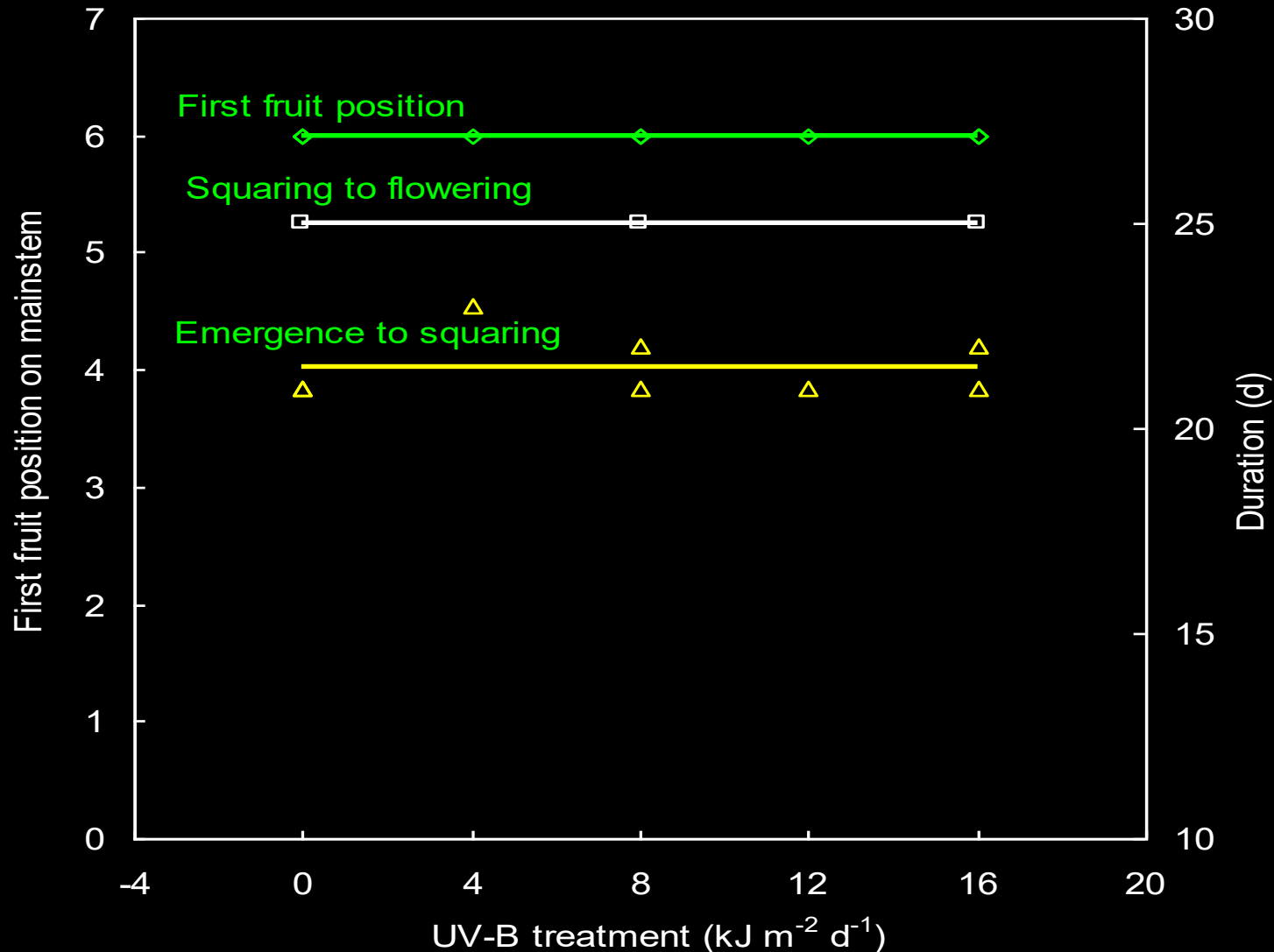# Potassium and Phenology
Leaf unfolding rates

Phenology – UV-B Radiation - Cotton
1st fruiting node, squaring, and flowering intervals

UV-B Radiation – Phenology
EPI Factors for various Developmental Processes

Node addition
$y = -0.0003x^2 + 0.0014x + 0.9997$ $R^2 = 0.4619$

Leaf area expansion
$y = -0.0015x^2 + 0.0102x + 0.9914$ $R^2 = 0.8136$

Stem elongation
$y = -0.0023x^2 + 0.0105x + 0.9926$ $R^2 = 0.9331$

UV-B index

UV-B treatments (kJ m^{-2} d^{-1})
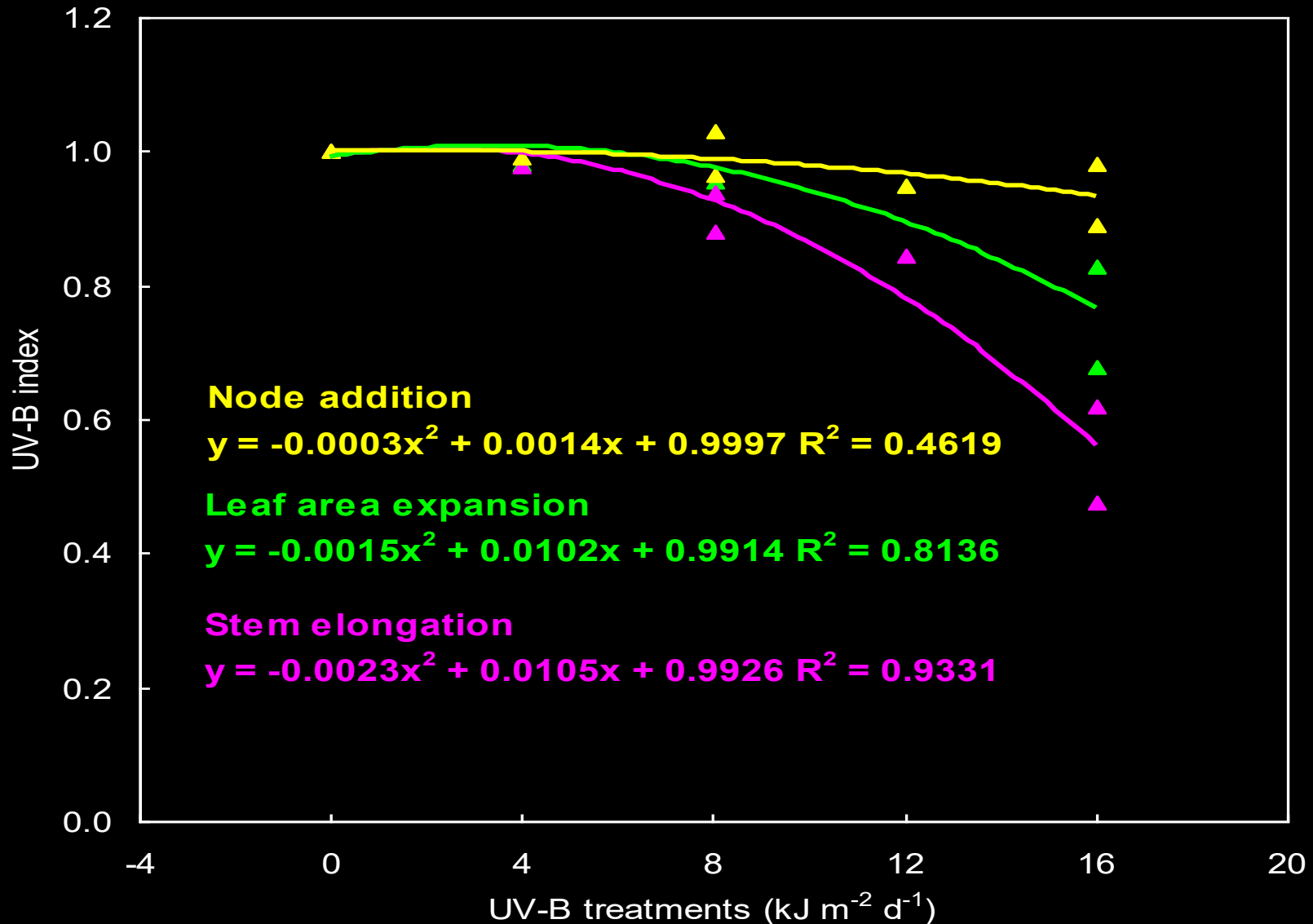
Water Stress – Phenology
Canopy and air temperature differential
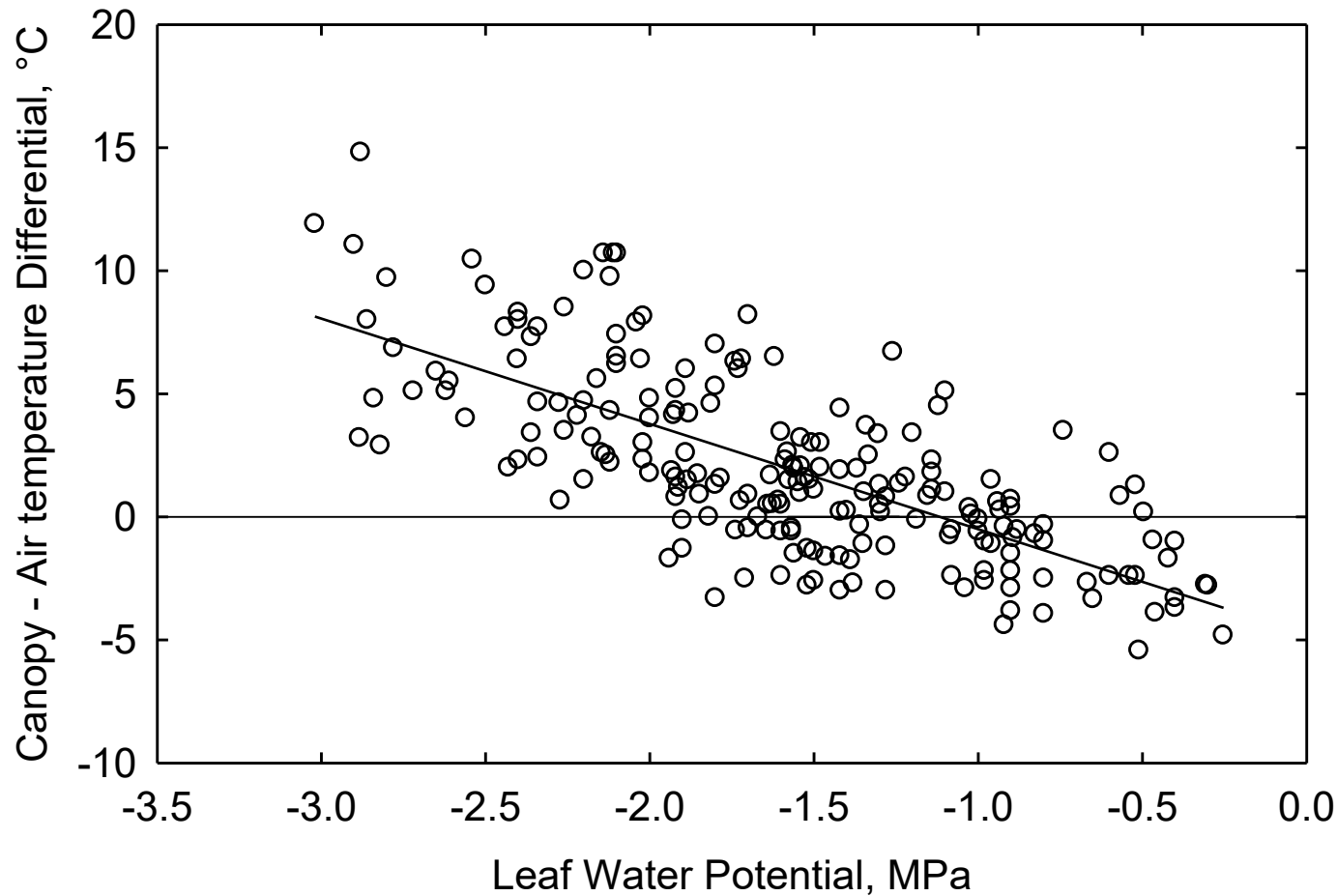
Environmental and Cultural Factors Influencing Crop Growth

- ◆ **Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide** (indirect)

- ◆ **Solar Radiation** (indirect)

- ◆ **Photoperiod** (direct effect on photoperiod-sensitive plants - flowering)
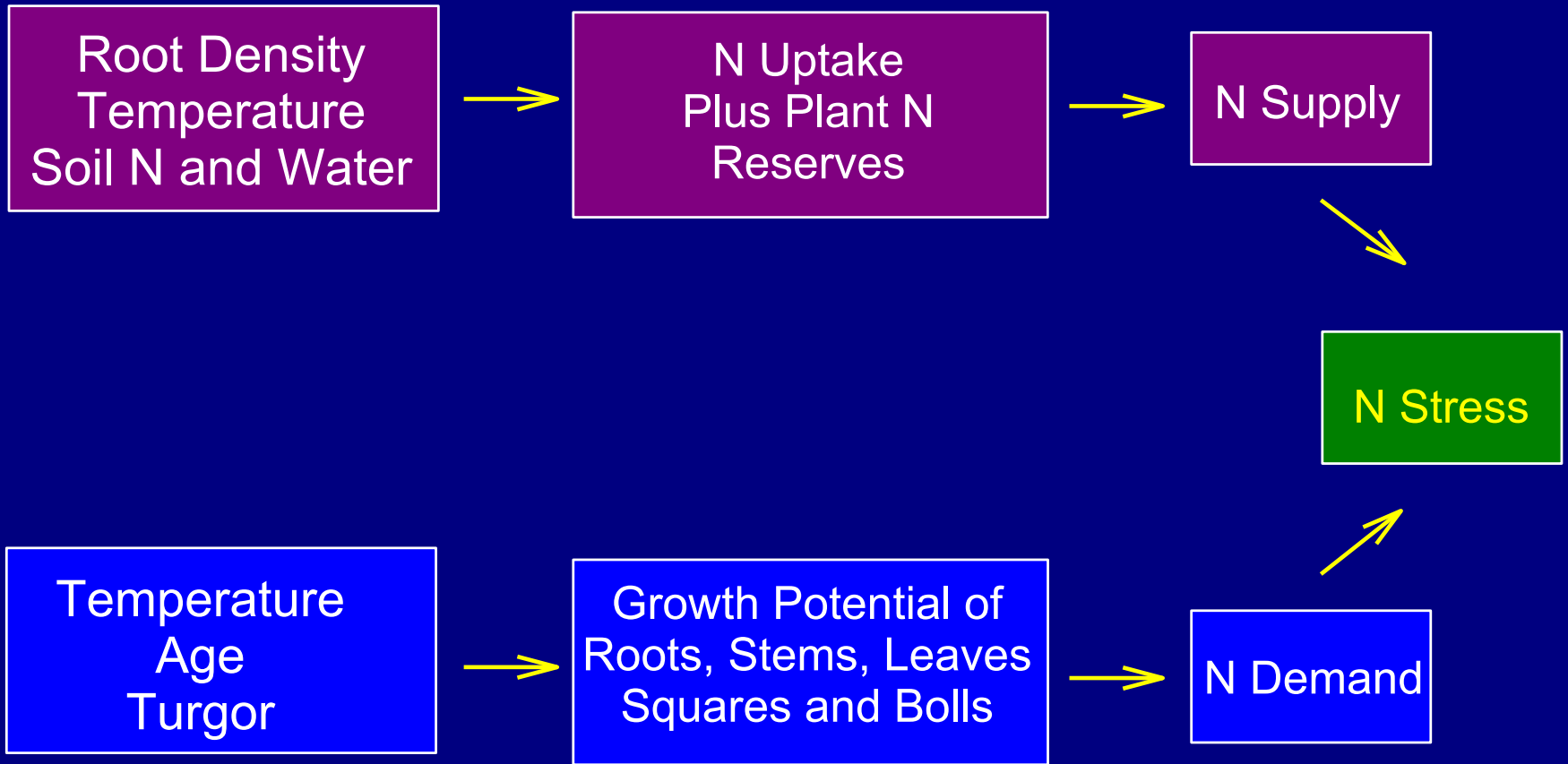
- ◆ **Temperature** (direct)

- ◆ **Water** (indirect)

- ◆ **Wind** (indirect)

- ◆ **Nutrients (N, P and K)** (direct & indirect)

- ◆ **Growth Regulators (PIX)** (indirect)

Carbohydrate Stress

Light Interception
Turgor
Solar Radiation
Leaf Minnerals

→ Photosynthesis → C Supply

C Stress

Temperature
Age
Turgor

→ Growth Potential of
Roots, Stems, Leaves
Squares and Bolls

→ C Demand

Nitrogen Stress

| Root Density Temperature Soil N and Water | → | N Uptake Plus Plant N Reserves | → | N Supply |

N Stress

| Temperature Age Turgor | → | Growth Potential of Roots, Stems, Leaves Squares and Bolls | → | N Demand |

Nutritional Stress

Nitrogen Stress

Carbohydrate Stress

Nutritional Stress

Delay Morphogenesis

Determine Actual Organ Growth

Fruit and Leaf Abscission
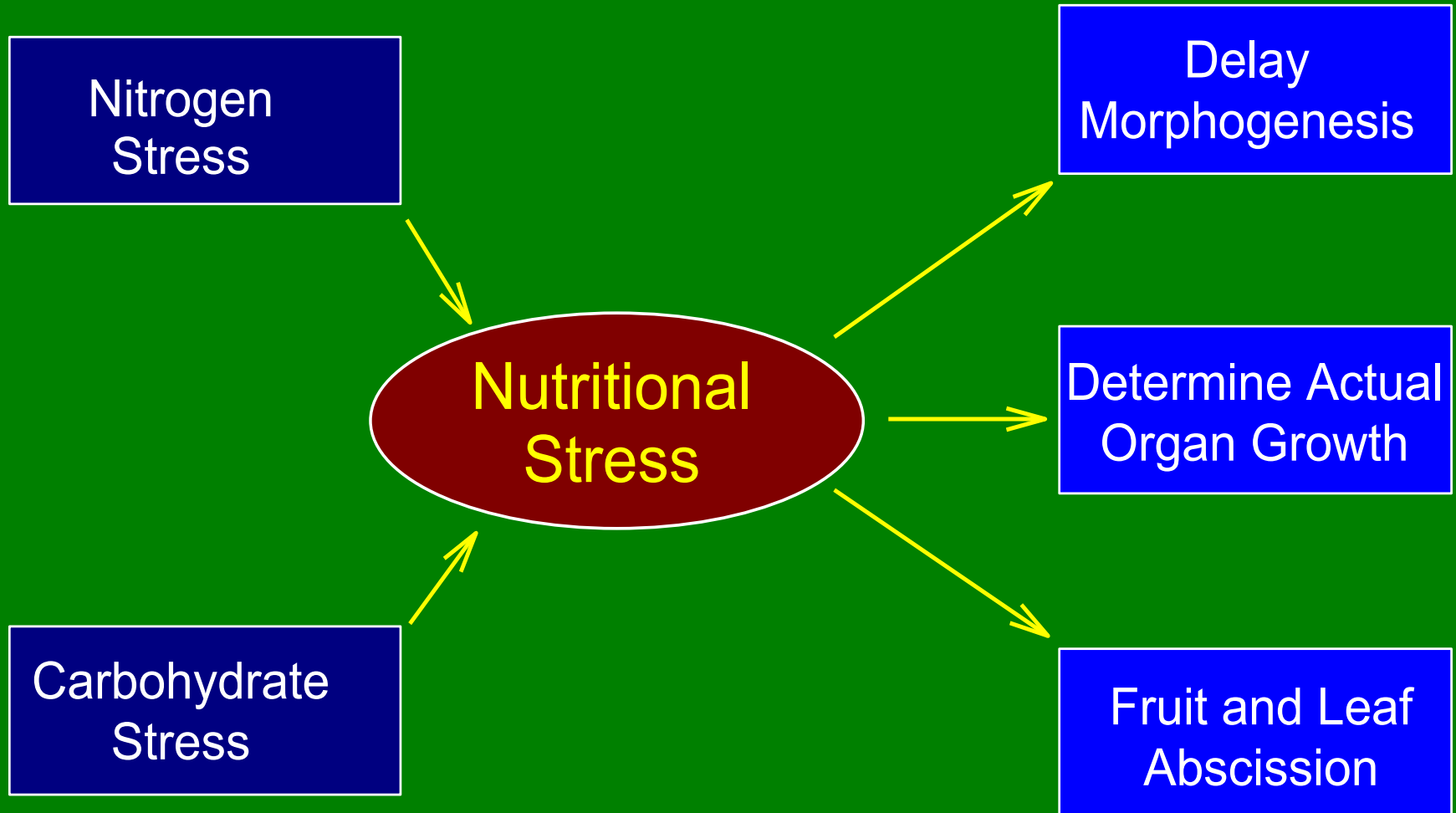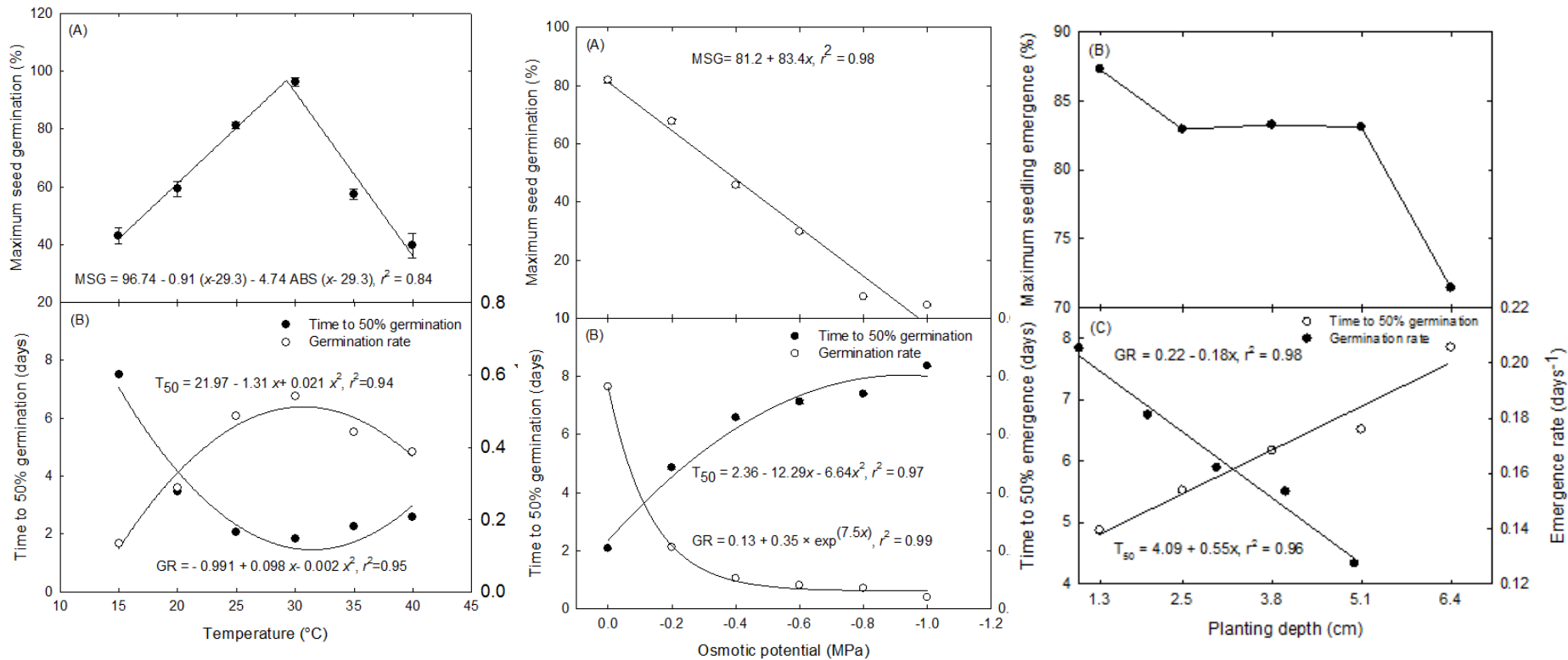
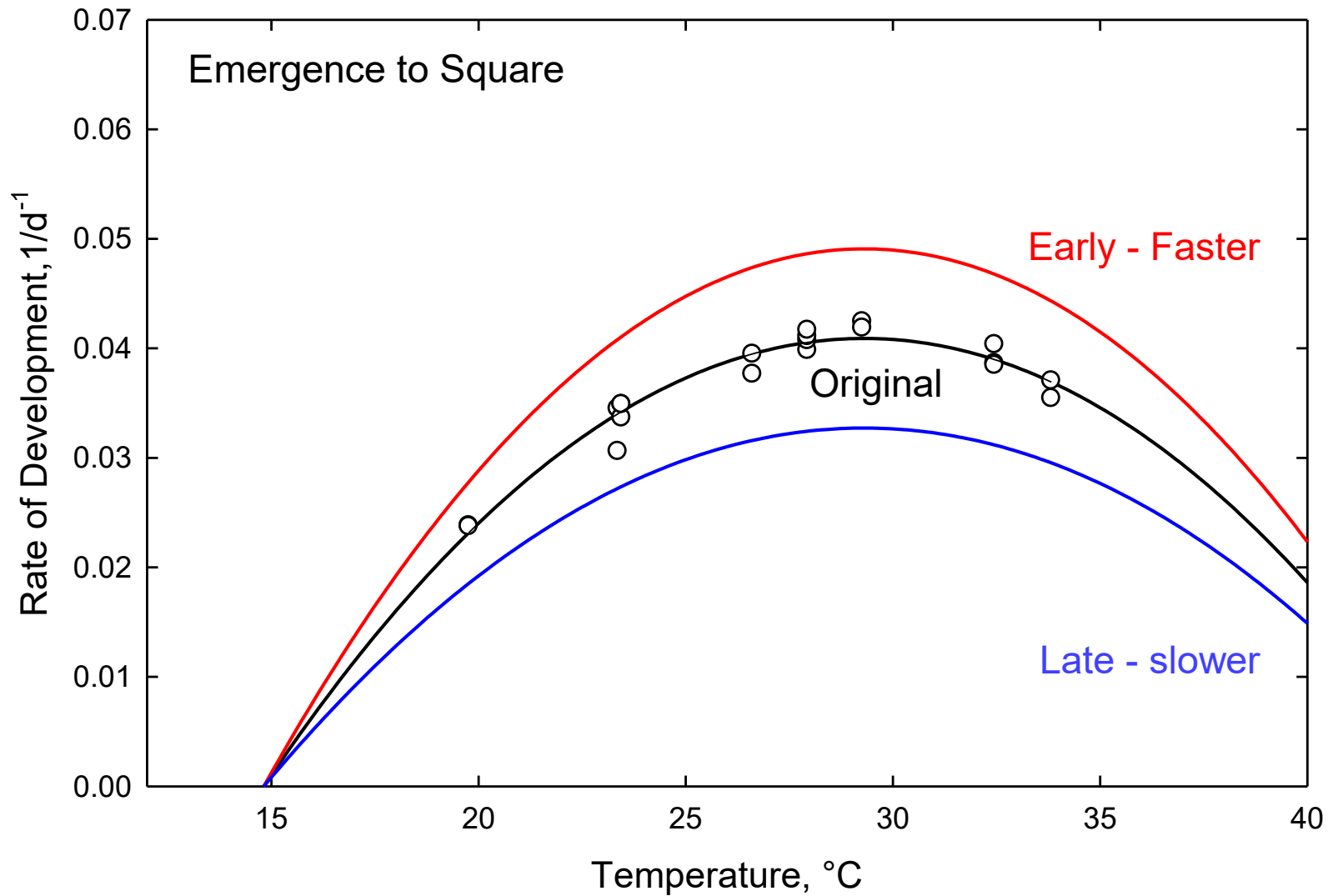# Phenology and Cotton Seed Germination

Actual cotton seed germination:

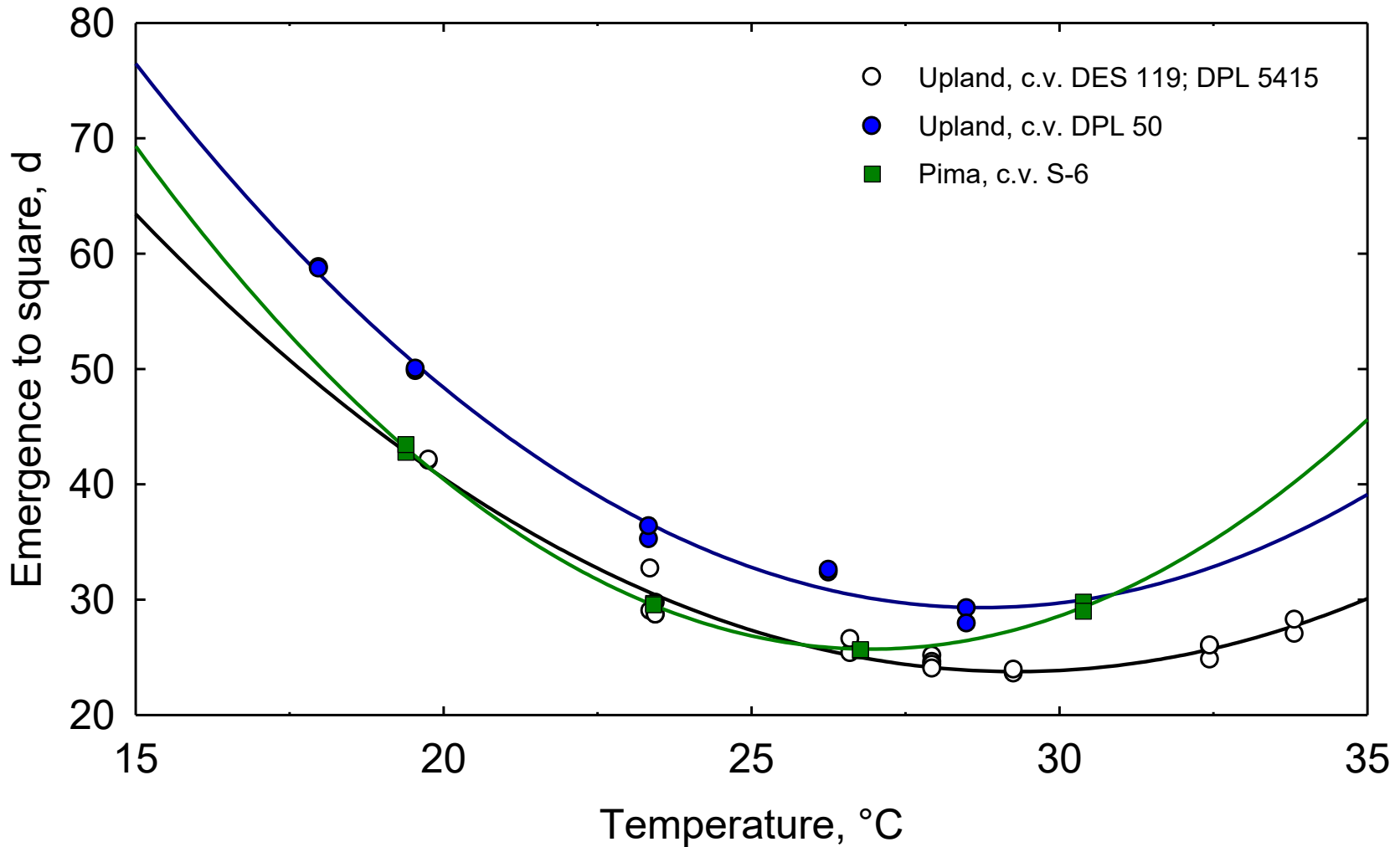Temperature (potential) * EPI indices for water stress, depth, seed quality, etc.

Phenology and Developmental Rates
What about cultivar variability?

Temperature and Phenology
Emergence to Square - Species and Varietal Variability

Crop Phenology – Summary

✓ Phenology refers to the development, differentiation, and initiation of organs. It involves both like (adding leaves on mainstem and branches) and unlike (such as seed to germination, germination to emergence, emergence to square, square to flower, flower to open boll, and open boll to crop maturity) events.

✓ Phenological events respond to the environment in a programmable manner, and therefore the events are predictable – can be modeled.

✓ Phenology involves qualitative change in form, structure, and general state of complexity of the plant.

✓ Major phenological events such as emergence to square, square to flower and flower to open boll are all temperature dependent and are not typically affected by other environmental factors in photoperiod insensitive crop such as modern cultivated cotton cultivars grown in the US.

Crop Phenology – Summary

✓ Therefore, we can estimate these events more accurately by temperature alone. However, any factor that affects canopy temperature such as water stress can modify these events or response functions.

✓ Seed germination and emergence will not only dependent on temperature, but also on other factors such as soil moisture, seed placement (depth), to certain extent seed quality, etc.

✓ Also, photoperiod in day-length (mostly nighttime) sensitive plants such as soybean can affect flowering, but not the other events.

✓ Phyllochron or leaf addition rates on the mainstem and branches are primarily governed by temperature, but modulated by other factors such as UV-B, water stress, nutrient stresses through their effects on photosynthesis (Supply) and growth conditions such as weight and sizes of various organs (that determine demand).

Crop Phenology – Summary

✓ Therefore, we can estimate the potential as a function temperature under optimum growing conditions, and then modify that potential based on EPI factors or demad/suppy concept.

✓ Again, leaf addition rates go hand-in-hand with node addition rates on mainstem and branches.

✓ Leaf and square addition rates on fruiting branches go hand-in-hand so that we can use one function to predict those events.

✓ Once the leaves and internodes are initiated, then their duration of expansion are more or less dictated by temperature irrespective of the position the plant.

✓ Similarly, once the squares are formed, then their duration of growth are dependent on temperature conditions.

Crop Phenology – Summary

✓ Accurate prediction of crop developmental events will assist farm managers in adjusting sowings of the crop so that the most critical stages of crop growth occur during periods of favorable weather.

✓ Also, accurate prediction of crop growth stages is also needed for several other management decisions such as scheduling irrigation, nutrients, pesticide, growth regulator, crop termination chemical applications, etc.

✓ Crop simulation models need accurate functional algorithms so that the models can be used for several different areas:
   ✓ Crop growth stage forecasts
   ✓ Management and policy decisions
   ✓ Natural resource management decisions
   ✓ Climate change forecasts, etc.

Crop Phenology – Suggested Reading

- Reddy, K. R., H.F. Hodges and J. M. McKinion. 1997. Crop modeling and applications: A cotton example. Advances in Agronomy, 59: 225-289.

- Oosterhuis, D.M. J. Jernstedt. 1999. Morphology and anatomy of cotton plant. In: Cotton: Origin, History, Technology, and Production, W.C. Smith (Ed.) John Wiley & Sons, Inc. pp. 175-206.

- Plant growth Modeling for Resource Management, Vol 1. Current Models and Methods, 1987, K. Wisol and J. D. Hesketh (Eds.), CRS Press, pp. 170.

- Plant Growth Modeling for Resource Management, Vol II. Quantifying Plant Processes. 1987. K. Wisol and J. D. Hesketh (Eds.), CRC press, pp. 178.

- Predicting Crop Phenology. 1991. T. Hodges (Ed.), CRC Press. Pp. 233.