

ENHANCING MELON PRODUCTION AND ADAPTATION IN HIGH DESERT ENVIRONMENT THROUGH GRAFTING ON SQUASH HYBRIDS ROOTSTOCKS



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What is Grafting?



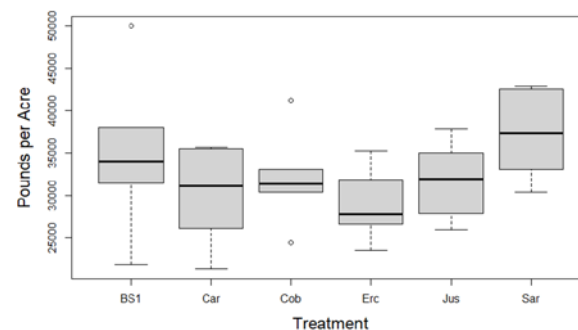
Two field trials: Reno and Fallon



Advantages:

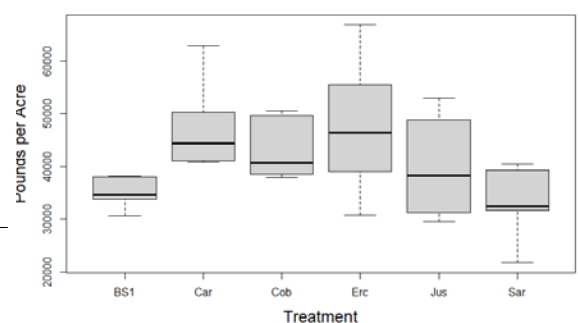
- Tolerance against abiotic stresses (e.g., salinity, drought, cold soil)
- Tolerance/Resistance against biotic stresses (e.g., nematodes, bacteria, fungus)
- Increase yield
- Anticipate yield
- Produce hybrids production plants (e.g., pomato)

Fallon Yield



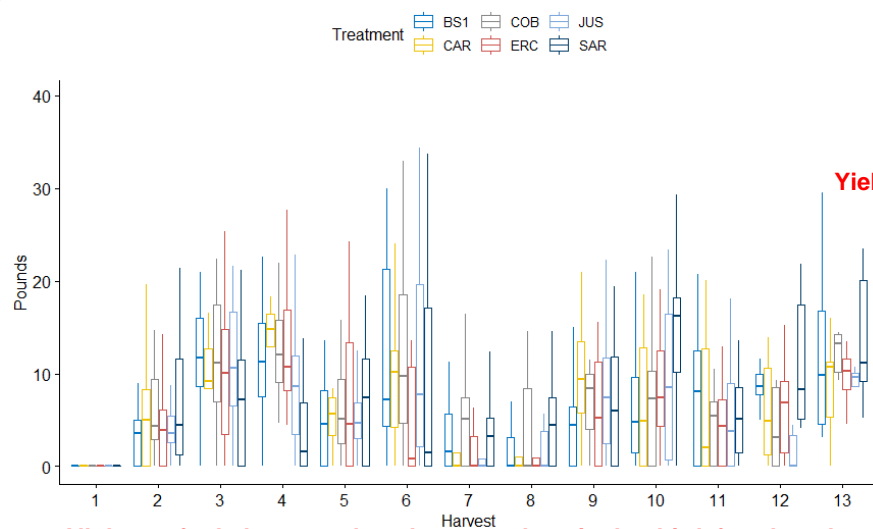
Yield showed opposite results between Reno and Fallon

Reno Yield



No differences in quality regarding Brix Grade between grafted and ungrafted plants

Production over time



All the grafted plants produced more melons in the third, fourth and sixth harvest compared to the ungrafted Sarah's choice