

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



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What is Grafting?



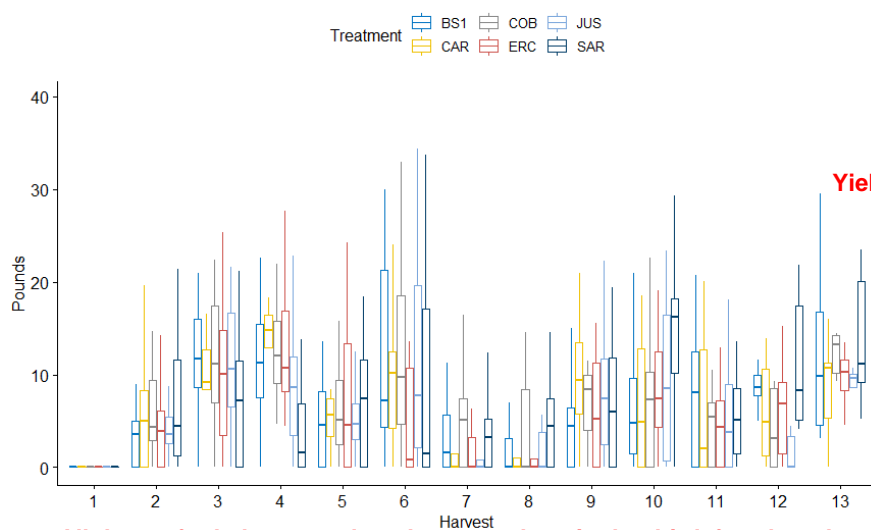
Two field trials: Reno and Fallon



Advantages:

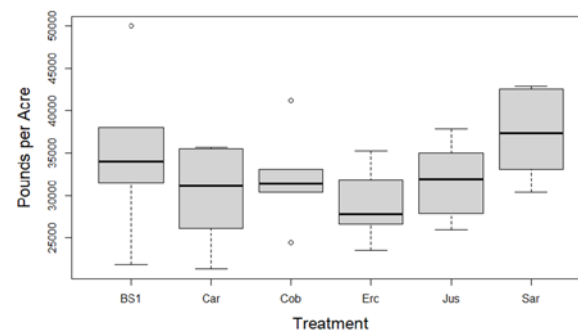
- Tolerance against abiotic stresses (e.g., salinity, drought, cold soil)
- Tolerance/Resistance against biotic stresses (e.g., nematodes, bacteria, fungus)
- Increase yield
- Anticipate yield
- Produce hybrids production plants (e.g., pomato)

Production over time



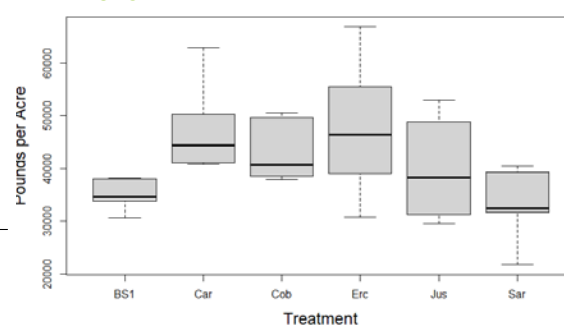
**All the grafted plants produced more melons in the third, fourth and sixth harvest compared to the ungrafted Sarah's choice**

Fallon Yield



**Yield showed opposite results between Reno and Fallon**

Reno Yield



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