

Regional and harvest date relationships with storage quality of Honeycrisp apples



Chris Watkins and Jackie Nock
Department of Horticulture
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14850

Today's presentation

- Background
- Maturity
- Fruit drop and yield
- Storage quality
- Storage disorders
- Conclusions



ReTain (aminoethoxyvinylglycine; AVG)

Harvista (1-MCP)

Plant Growth Regulator

ReTain®

Soluble Powder

FOR USE ON APPLE, PEAR, AND STONE FRUIT
(EXCEPT CHERRY)

ACTIVE INGREDIENT:
[2S]-2-Amino-4-(2-aminoethoxy)butanoic acid hydrochloride 10%
OTHER INGREDIENTS 90%
TOTAL 100%

EPA Reg. No. 73049-45
EPA Est. No. 33762-IA-001 (Lot No. Suffix "04")
33887-AP-1 (Lot No. Suffix "00") List No. 13217

INDEX:

- 1.0 First Aid
- 2.0 Precautionary Statements
- 2.1 Hazards to Humans and Domestic Animals
- 2.2 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- 2.3 User Safety Recommendations
- 2.4 Environmental Hazards
- 3.0 Directions for Use
- 4.0 Agricultural Use Requirements
- 5.0 General Information For Use
- 6.0 General Application Instructions
- 7.0 Compatibility With Other Agricultural Products
- 8.0 Apple and Pear
- 9.0 Stone Fruit (except Cherry)
- 10.0 Storage and Disposal
- 11.0 Notice to User

**KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN
CAUTION**

1.0 FIRST AID

If inhaled:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Move person to fresh air. If person is not breathing, call 911 or an ambulance, then give artificial respiration, preferably by mouth-to-mouth, if possible. Call a poison control center or doctor for further treatment advice.
If on skin or clothing:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take off contaminated clothing. Rinse skin immediately with plenty of water for 15-20 minutes. Call a poison control center or doctor for treatment advice.

1.0 FIRST AID

Have the product container or label with you when calling a poison control center or doctor or going for treatment. You may also contact 1-800-852-0555 (24 hours) for emergency medical treatment and/or transport emergency information. For all other information, call 1-800-9-VINEYNT (920-3363).

2.0 PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENTS

2.1 HAZARDS TO HUMANS AND DOMESTIC ANIMALS

CAUTION
Harmful if inhaled or absorbed through skin. Avoid breathing spray mist. Avoid contact with skin, eyes, or clothing. Wash thoroughly with soap and water after handling. Remove and wash contaminated clothing before reuse.

2.2 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Applicators and other handlers must wear:

- Long sleeved shirt and long pants.
- Shoes plus socks.
- Waterproof gloves.

Hard-wired applicators must wear dustless filtering respirator (MSHA/NIOSH approved filtered prefix TC-21CL or a NIOSH approved respirator with N, R, P, or HC filter when applying this product).

Follow manufacturer's instructions for cleaning/maintaining PPE. If the label instructions for washables, use detergent and hot water. Keep and wash PPE separately from other laundry.

2.3 User Safety Recommendations

Users should:

- Wash hands before eating, drinking, chewing gum, using tobacco, or using the toilet.
- Remove clothing immediately if pesticide gets inside. Then, wash thoroughly and put on clean clothing.
- Remove PPE immediately after handling this product. Wash the outside of gloves before removing. As soon as possible, wash thoroughly and change into clean clothing.

2.4 Environmental Hazards

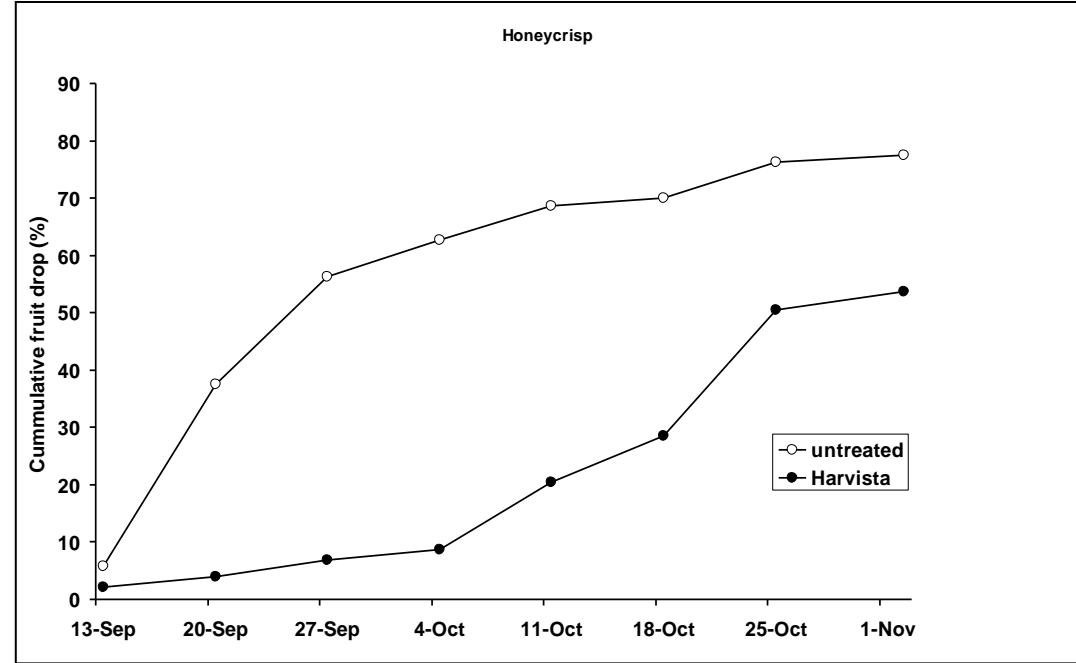
Do not apply directly to water, to areas where surface water is present or to material areas below the mean high water mark. Do not contaminate water when disposing of equipment washwater and rinsate.

3.0 DIRECTIONS FOR USE

It is a violation of Federal law to use this product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling. Do not apply this product in a way that will contact workers or other persons, either directly or through drift. Only protected handlers may be in the area during application. For any requirements specific to your State or Tribe, consult the State/Tribe agency responsible for pesticide regulation.

4.0 AGRICULTURAL USE REQUIREMENTS

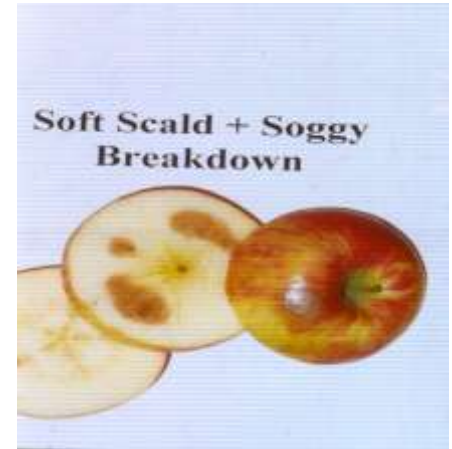
Use this product only in accordance with its labeling and with the Worker Protection Standard, 40 CFR part 170.



Honeycrisp – the profitable but difficult child!

1. Highly susceptible to a number of serious physiological problems in air storage

- Bitter pit
- Soft scald
- Soggy breakdown
- Senescent breakdown
- Greasiness
- Poorly understood, e.g. wrinkling



2. Fruit should be conditioned at 50F for 7 days to reduce risk of soft scald development

But, conditioning aggravates bitter pit in an already susceptible variety



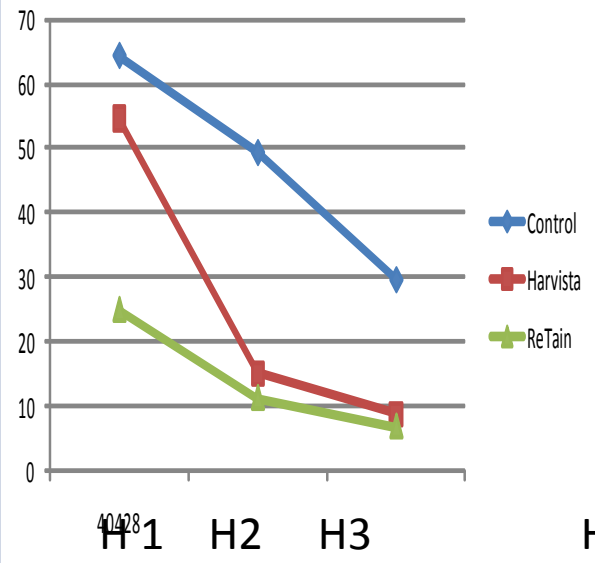
Regional and harvest date effects

- **Two year trial (2009; 2010)**
- **Untreated, ReTain, Harvista**
- **3 harvest dates (commercial pickers), but variable among regions because of color issues**
- **Plus and minus Smartfresh after conditioning (50°F for 7 days)**
- **Air (38°F) and CA (3% O₂, 1.5% CO₂) (38°F)**
- **3 and 6 months storage plus 4 days at 68°F**

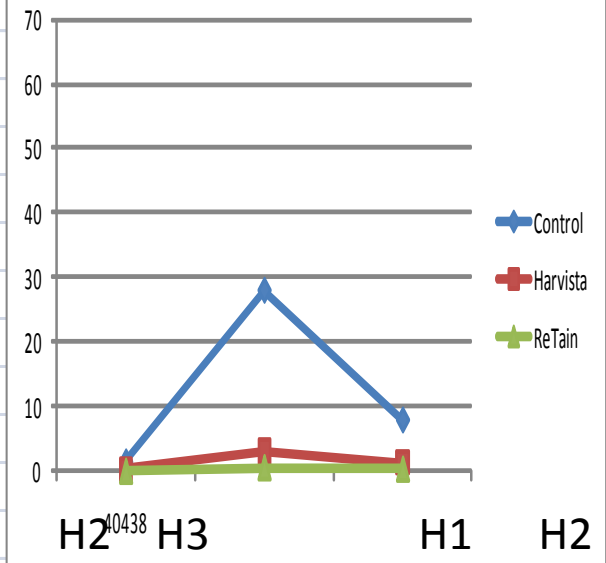
AT HARVEST - MATURITY

**EFFECTS OF REGION AND
PREHARVEST TREATMENT**

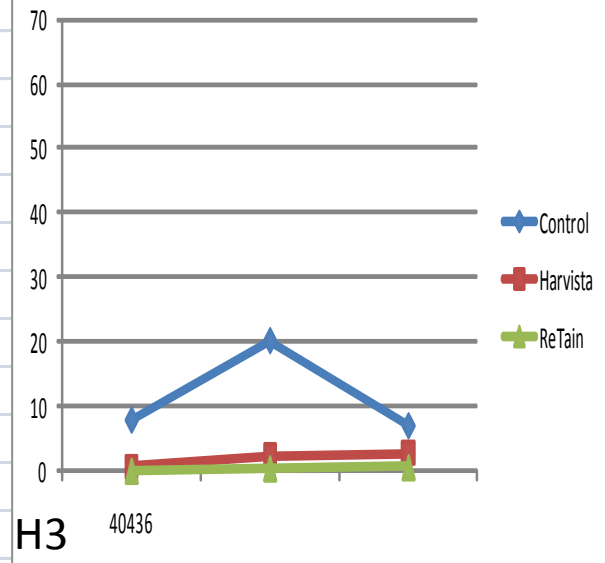
IEC (ppm): Hudson Valley



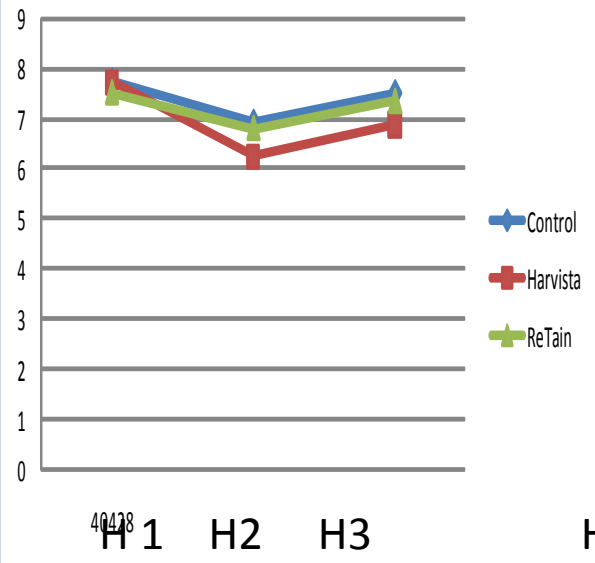
IEC (ppm): Western NY



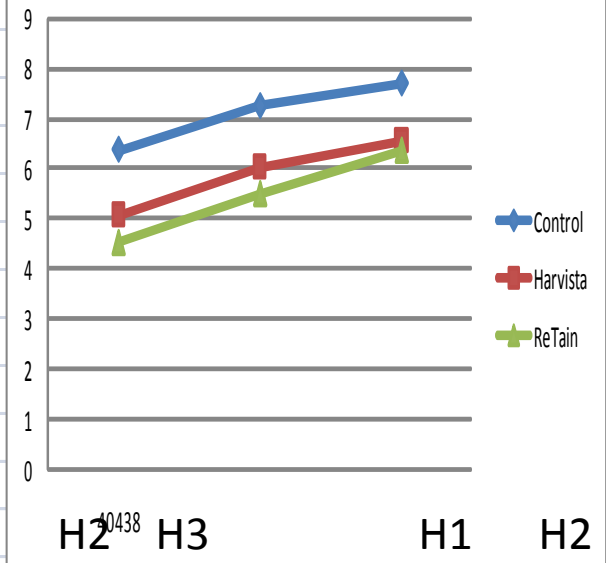
IEC (ppm): Champlain



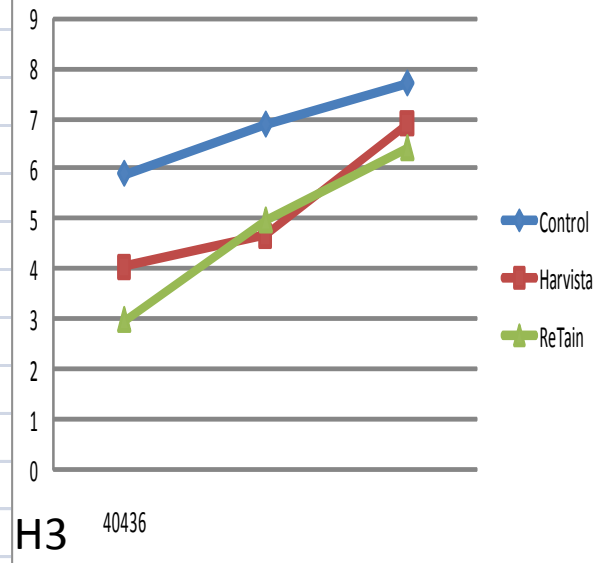
Starch index: HV



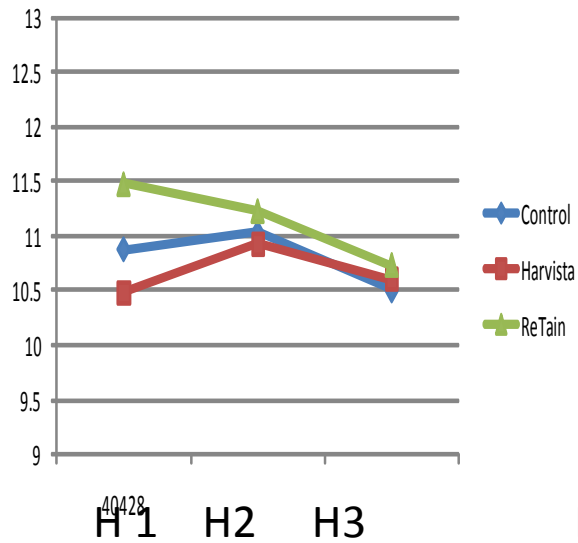
Starch index: WNY



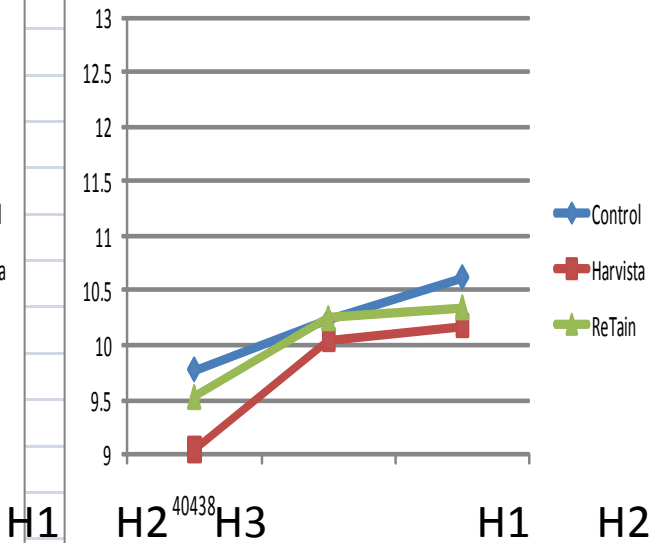
Starch index: Champlain



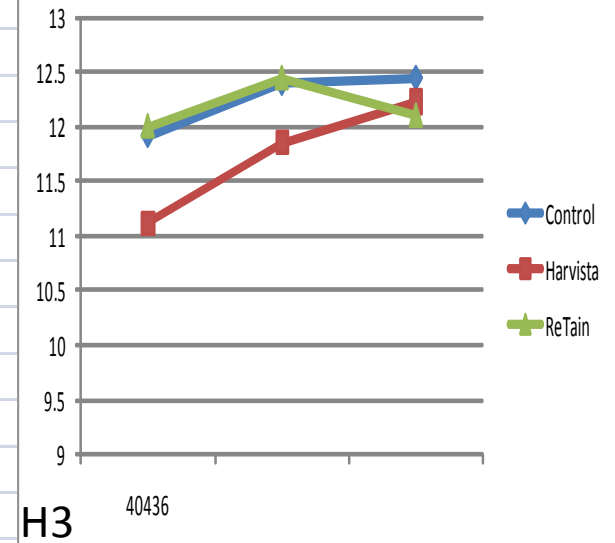
SSC (%): HV



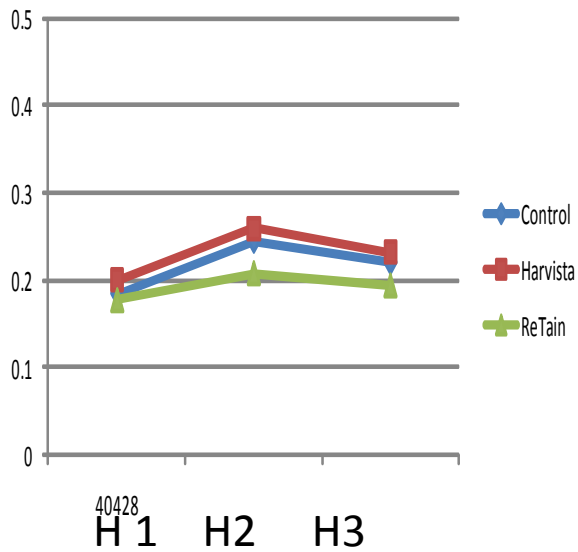
SSC (%): WNY



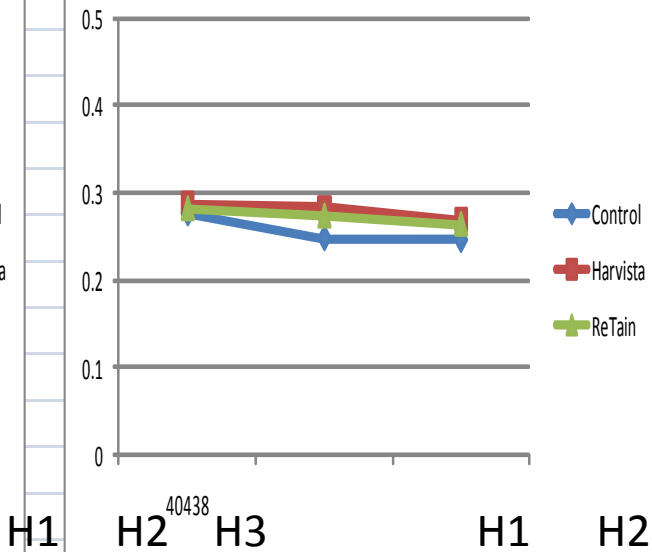
SSC (%): Champlain



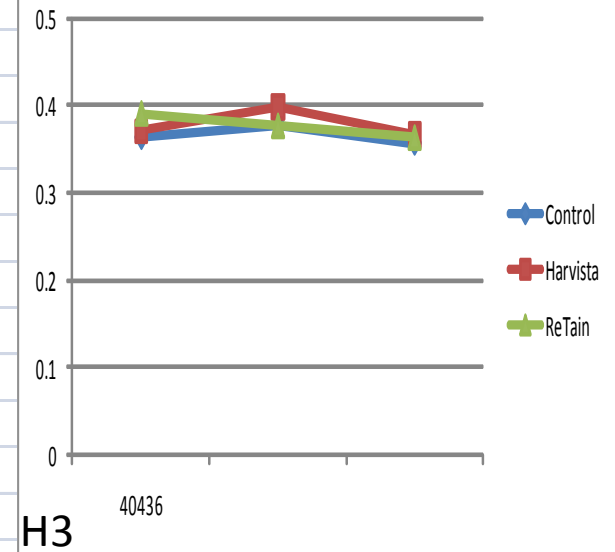
TA (%): HV



TA (%): WNY



TA (%) Champlain



Effect of preharvest treatment on the starch index [2010]

Pre-harvest trt	HV	WNY	Champlain
Untreated	7.4	7.4	7.2
Harvista	7.2	5.8	6.4
ReTain	7.2	6.5	7.0
Significance	NS	***	***

Effect of preharvest treatment on acidity[2010]

Pre-harvest trt	HV	WNY	Champlain
Untreated	0.389	0.303	0.364
Harvista	0.347	0.328	0.355
ReTain	0.334	0.317	0.361
Significance	NS	NS	NS

Effect of preharvest treatment on firmness (lb-f) [2010]

Pre-harvest trt	HV	WNY	Champlain
Untreated	14.3	13.4	15.2
Harvista	14.3	14.0	15.5
ReTain	14.4	13.8	15.5
Significance	NS	*	NS

Summary

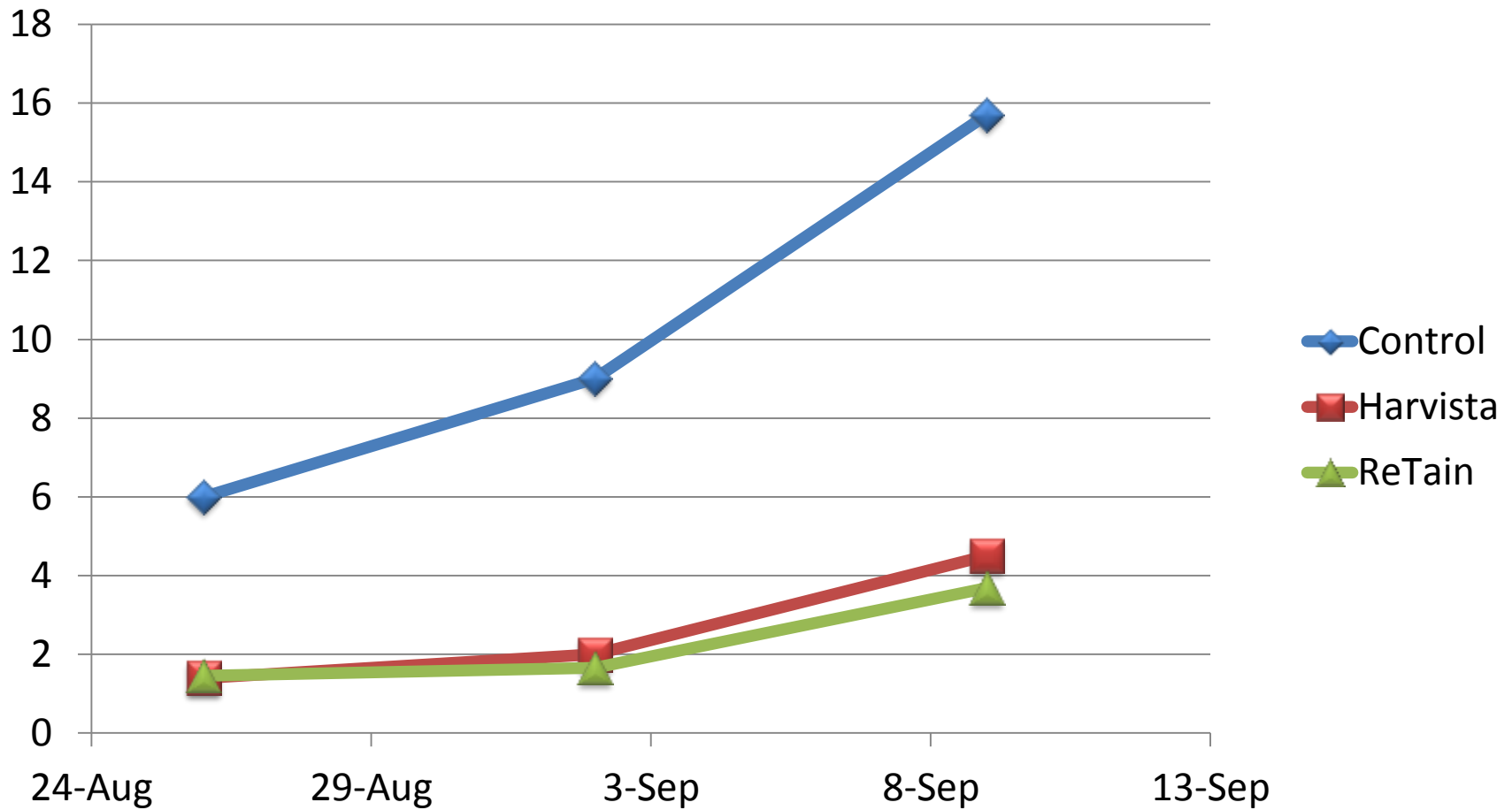
- Harvista and ReTain inhibit ethylene production of Honeycrisp apples
 - sometimes starch
 - sometimes firmness
- Effects on other maturity indices are small or absent
- Many factors affecting acidity and starch that are not simply growing region related

AT HARVEST – YIELD AND
DROP

**EFFECTS OF REGION AND
PREHARVEST TREATMENT**

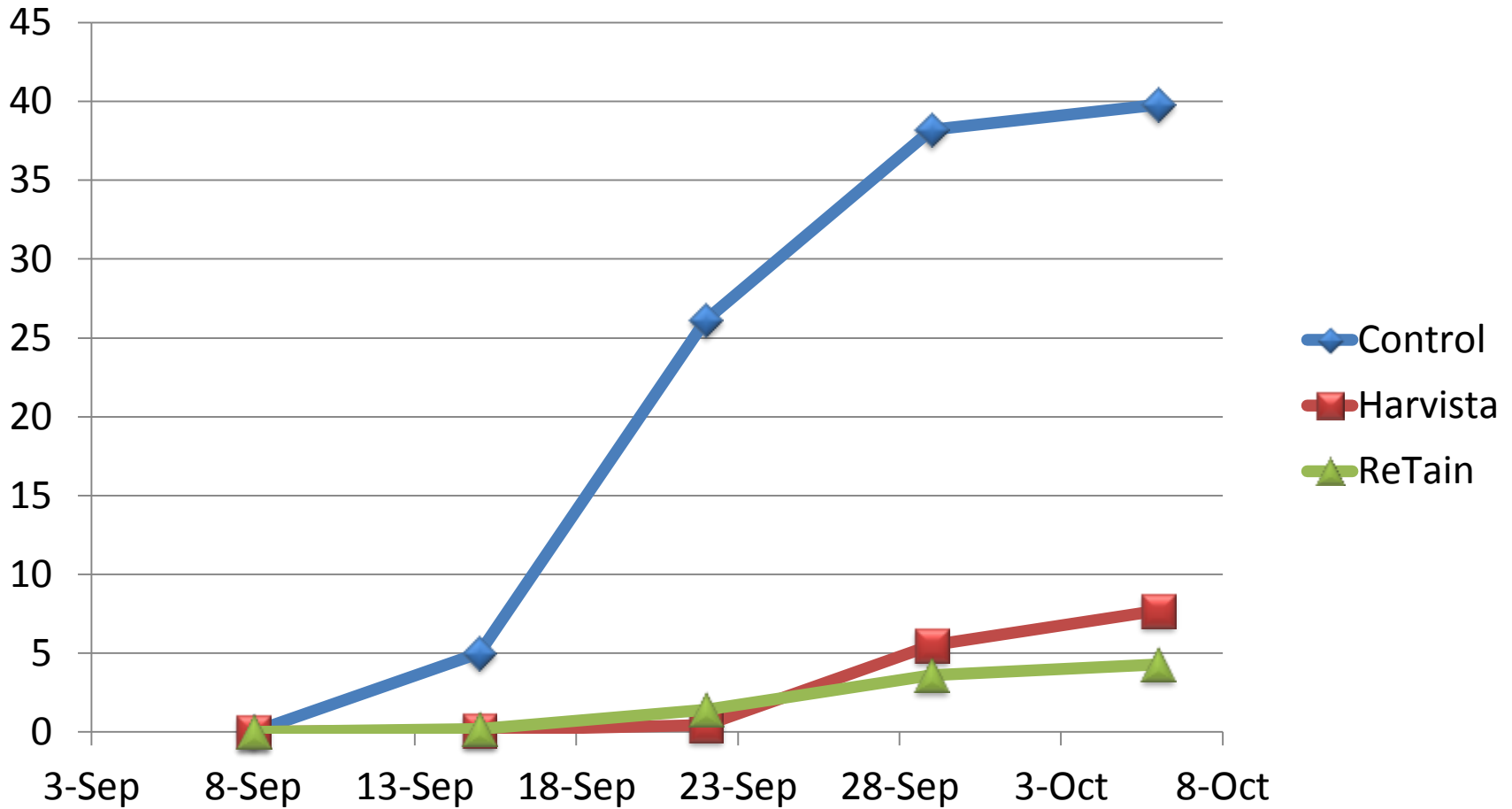
HUDSON VALLEY (2010)

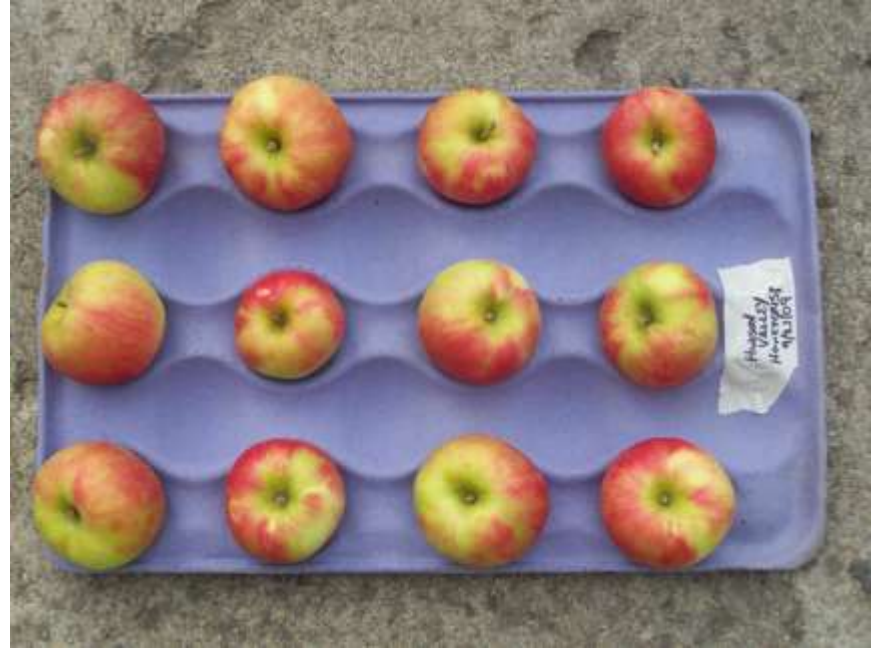
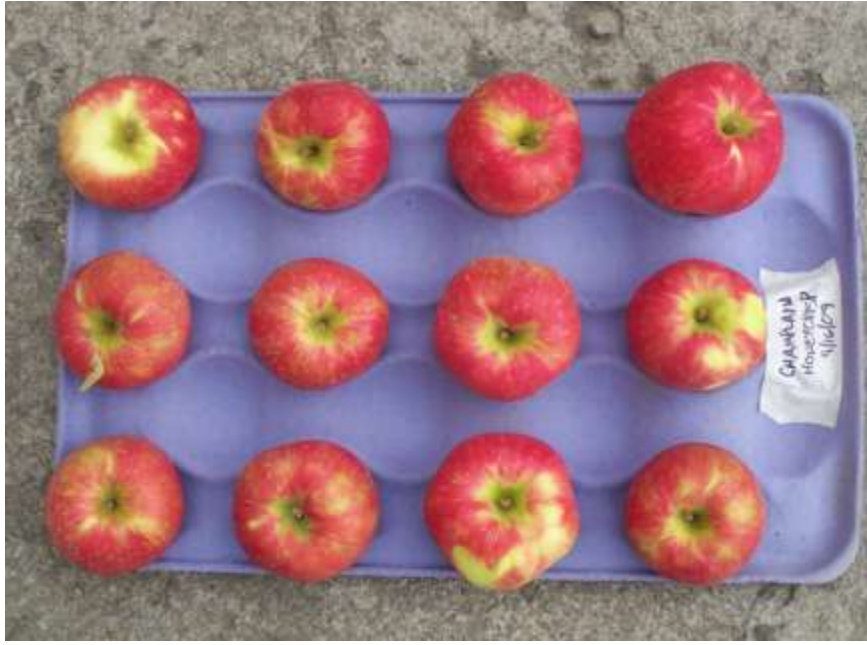
Accumulated drop (%)



CHAMPLAIN (2010)

Accumulated drop (%)





Summary

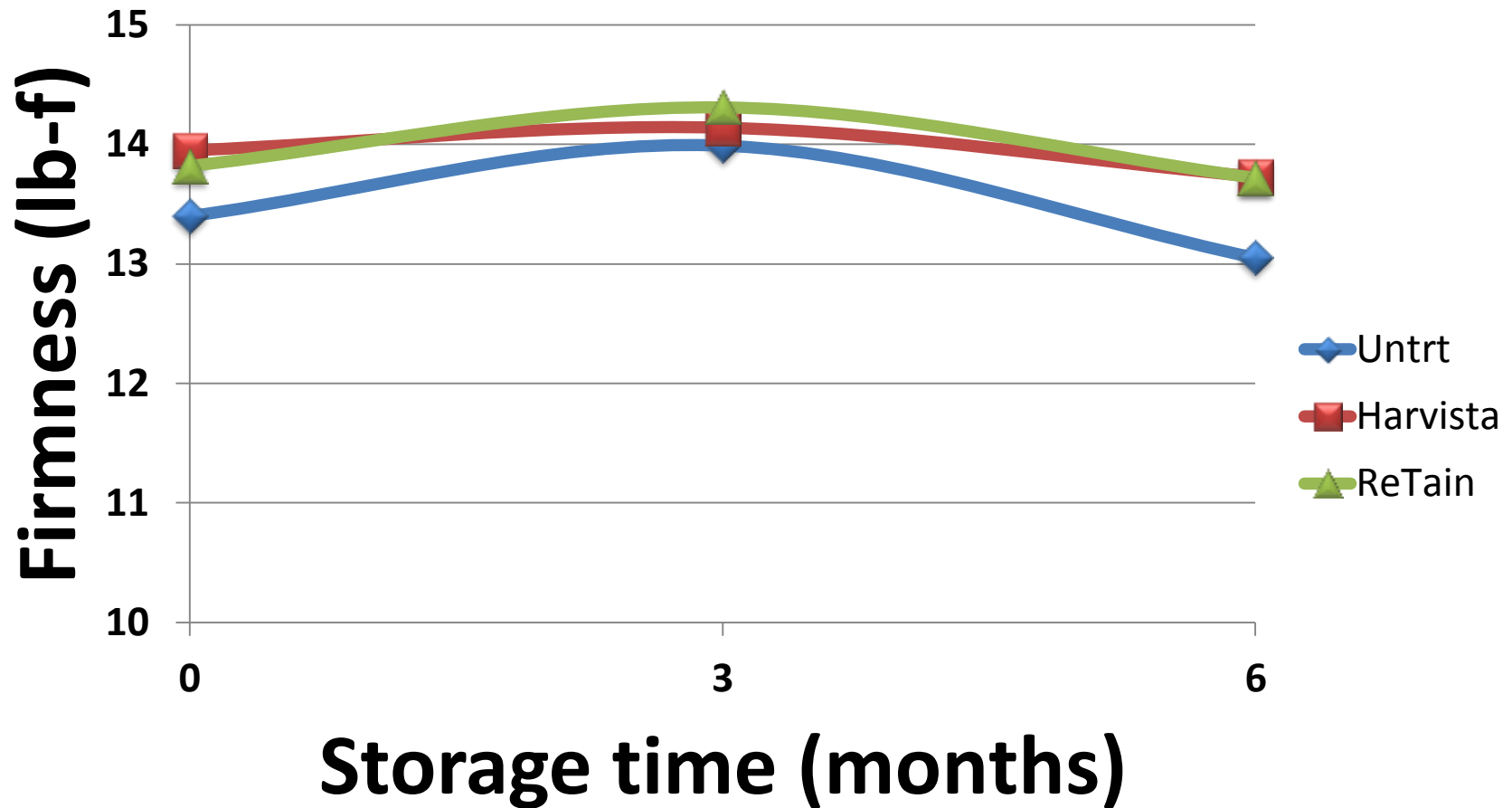
- Harvista and ReTain control drop of Honeycrisp apples, but can have undesirable effects on fruit color at the rates used
- Seriousness of red color inhibition depends on growing climate
- More work needed on ReTain rates

STORAGE

**EFFECTS OF PREHARVEST TREATMENT
AND STORAGE TYPE ON FIRMNESS, SSC
AND TA**

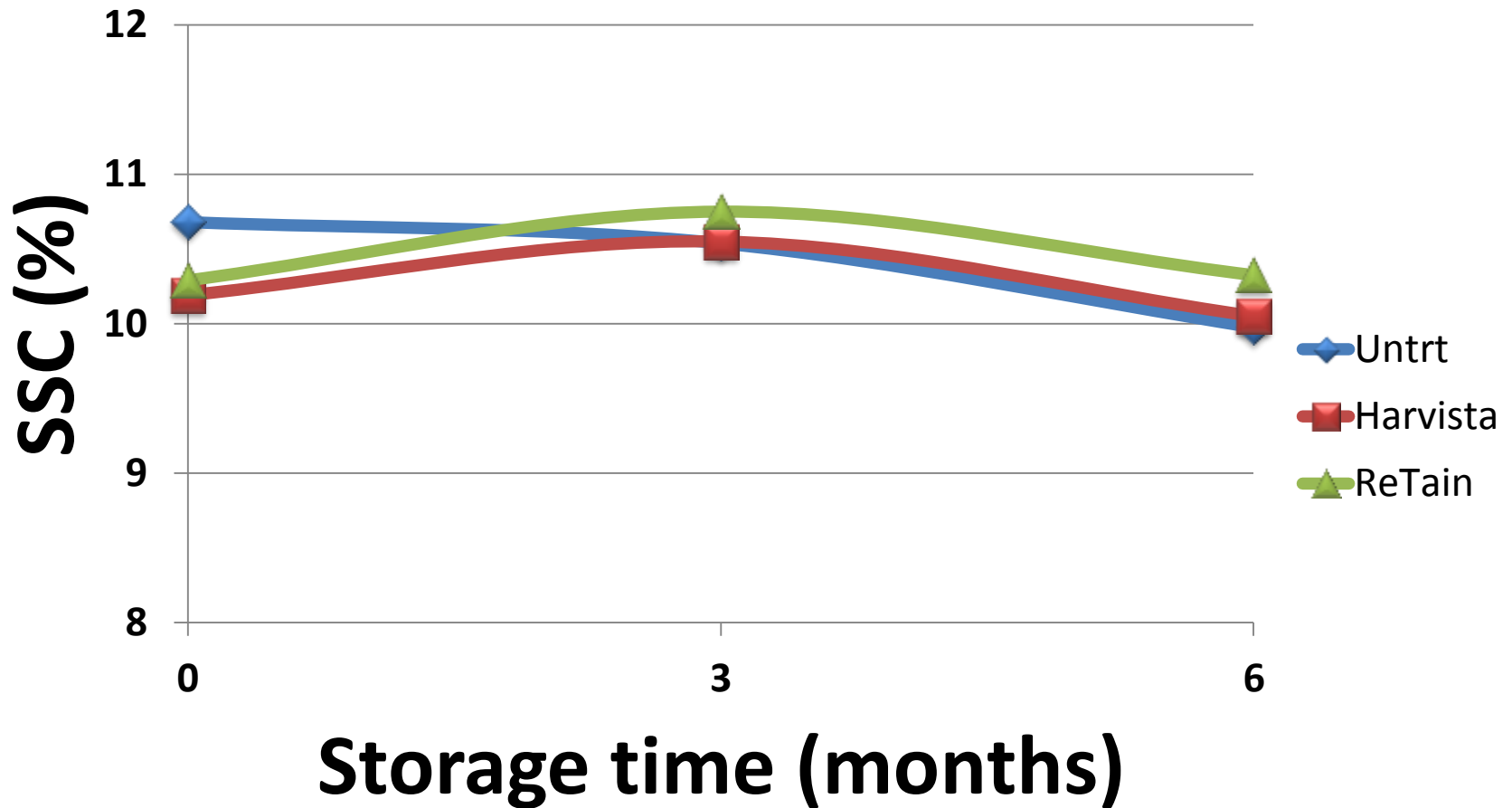
WNY: Firmness (lb-f) in air storage

Effect of preharvest treatment



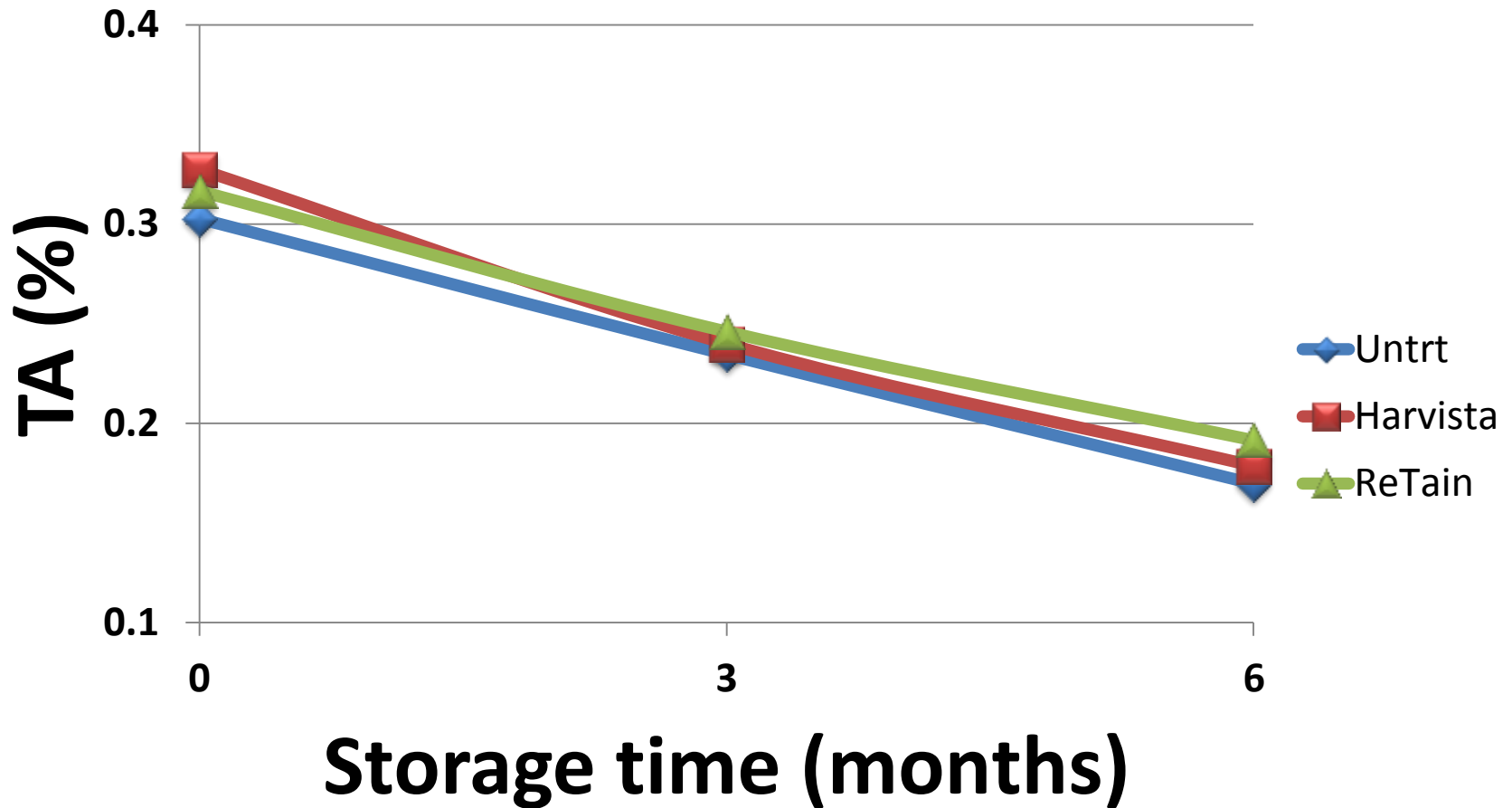
WNY: SSC (%) in air storage

Effect of preharvest treatment



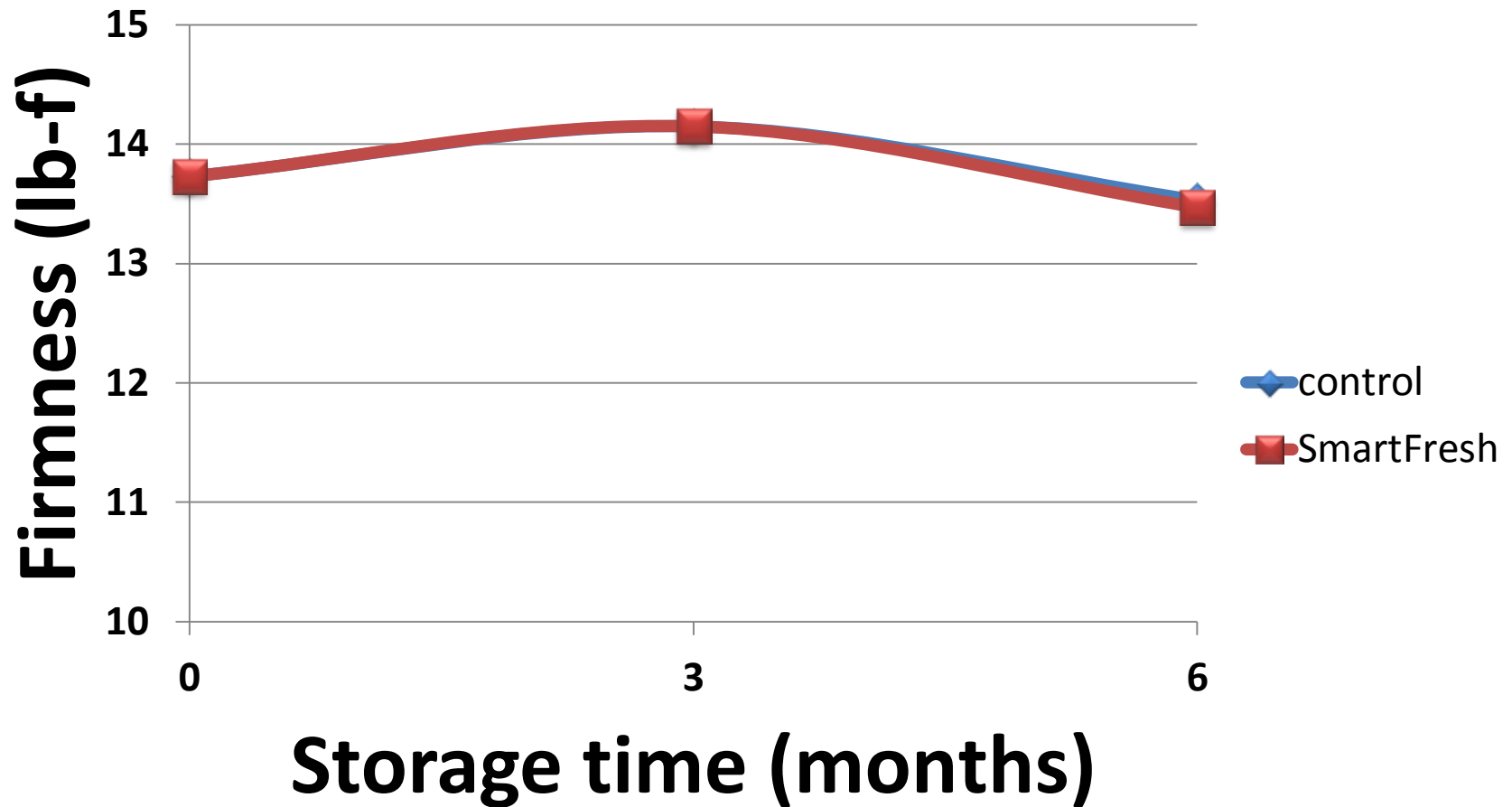
WNY: Acidity (%) in air storage

Effect of preharvest treatment



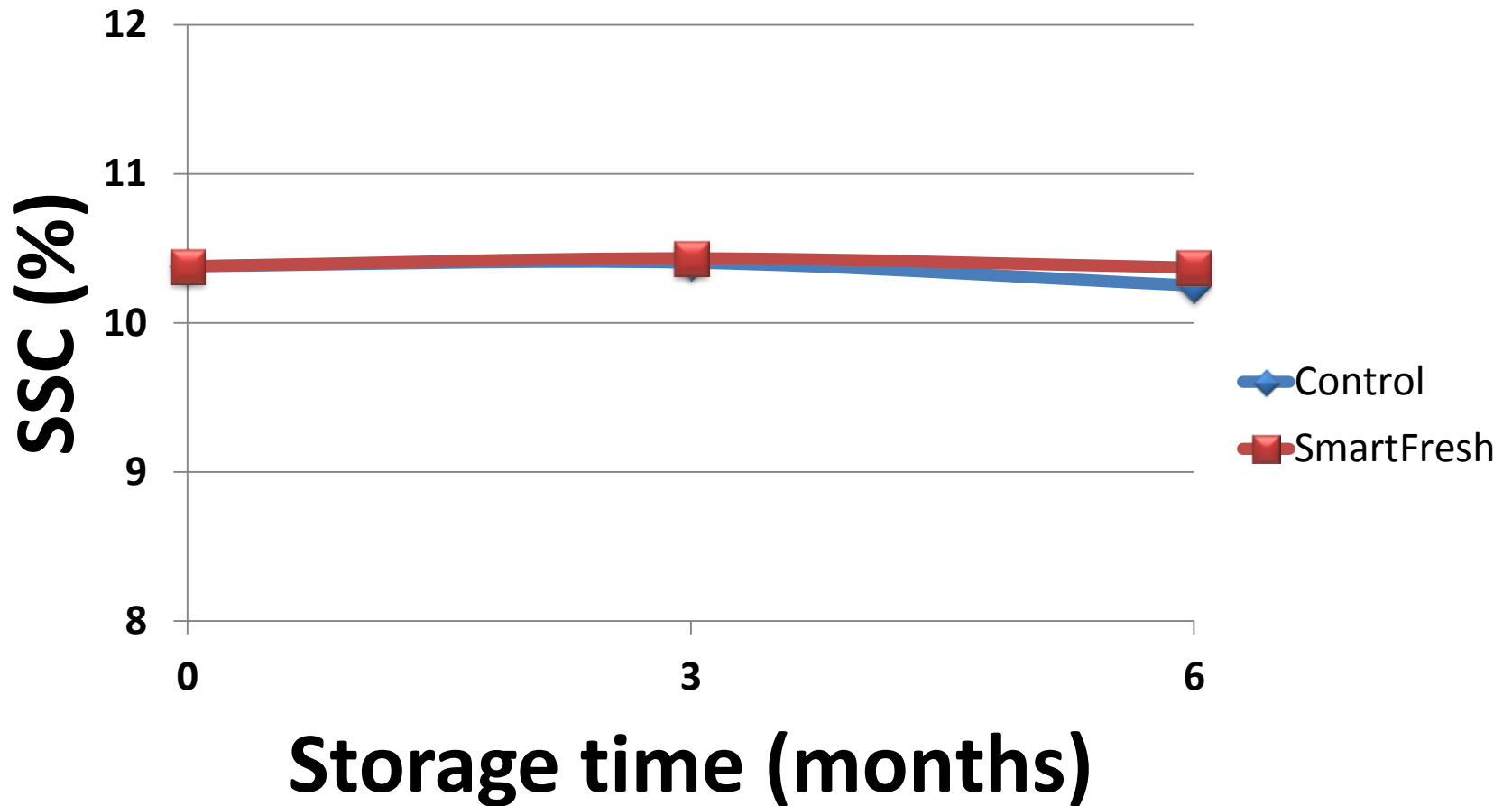
WNY: Firmness (lb-f) in air storage

Effect of SmartFresh



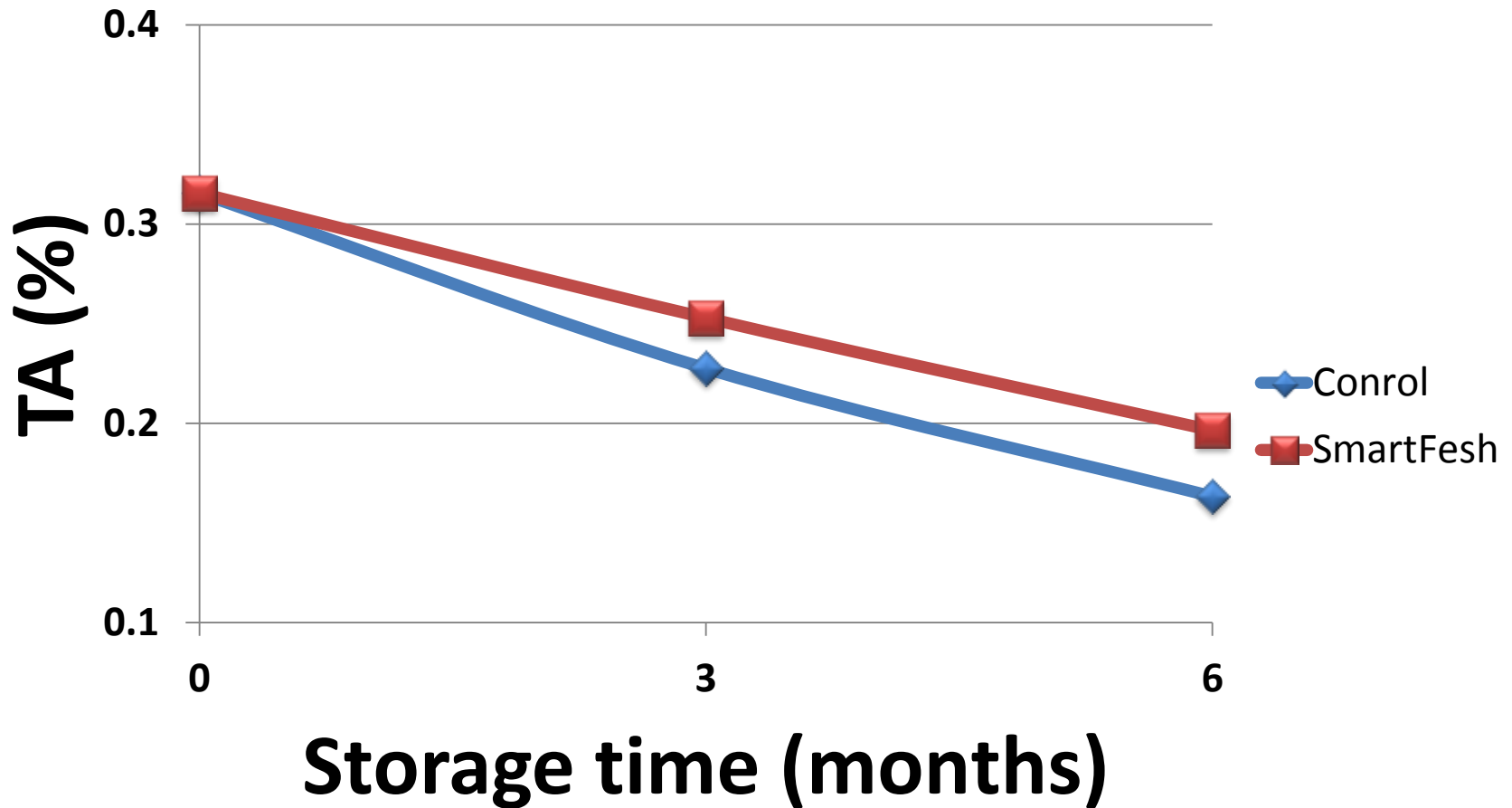
WNY: SSC (%) in air storage

Effect of SmartFresh



WNY: Acidity (%) in air storage

Effect of SmartFresh



Champlain summary: Air vs CA

	3 months		6 months	
	Air	CA	Air	CA
Firmness (lb-f)	15.9	16.0	15.5	15.5
SSC (%)	13.1	13.1	12.2	12.8***
TA (%)	0.305	0.310	0.248	0.297***

Champlain summary: Untrt vs SF (air)

	Untreated	SF	Untreated	SF
	3 mo	3 mo	6 mo	6 mo
Firmness (lb-f)	16.0	15.9	15.5	15.5
SSC (%)	13.0	13.2	12.0	12.4*
TA (%)	0.291	0.318	0.228	0.267***

Champlain summary: Untrt vs SF (CA)

	Untreated	SmartFresh	Untreated	SmartFresh
	3 mo	3 mo	6 mo	6 mo
Firmness (lb-f)	16.0	16.0	15.6	15.5
SSC (%)	13.2	13.1	12.7	13.0
TA (%)	0.309	0.310	0.288	0.306

Summary

- Little consistent effect of preharvest treatments on firmness, SSC and acidity
- CA superior to air storage, especially acidity
- Air plus SmartFresh is roughly equivalent to CA storage
- Little effect of SmartFresh in CA



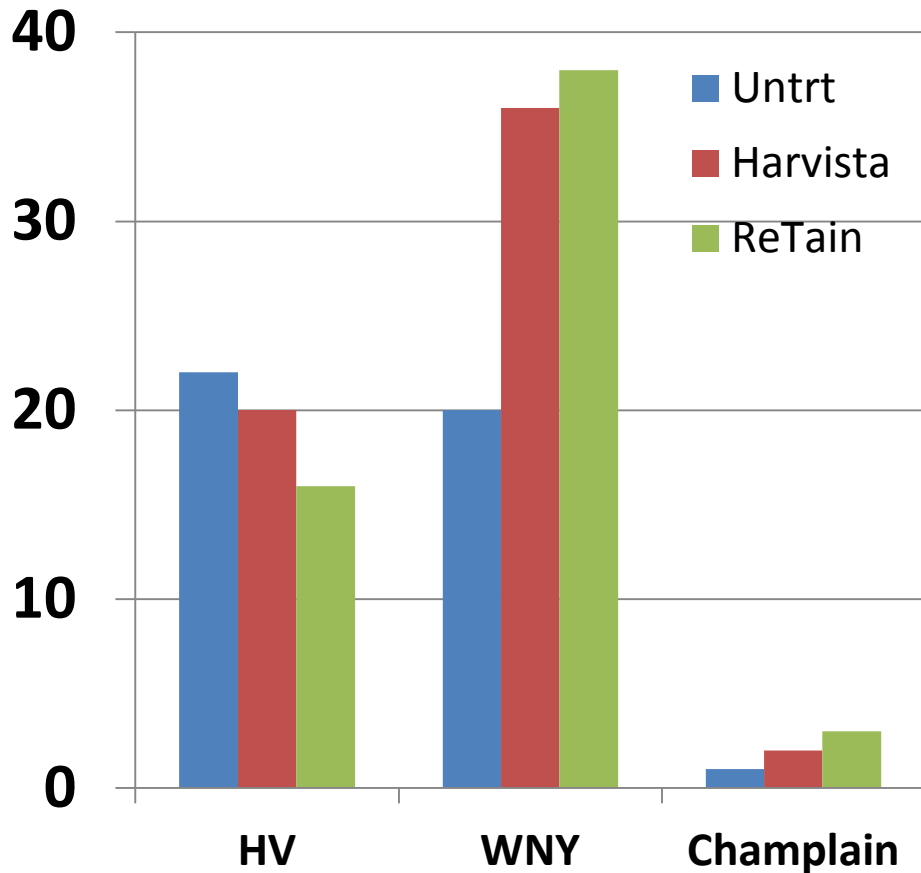
STORAGE

**EFFECTS OF PREHARVEST TREATMENT
AND STORAGE TYPE ON DISORDERS**

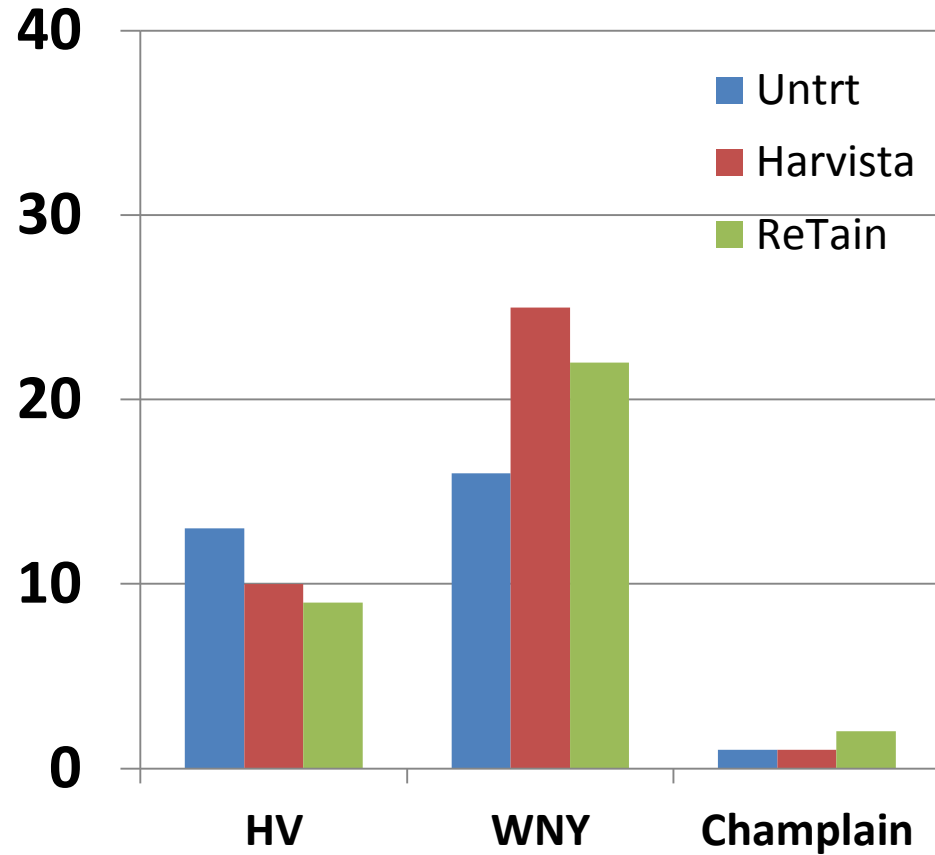
Bitter pit

Effect of preharvest trt (storage removals combined)

Air storage



CA storage



Soft scald (air)

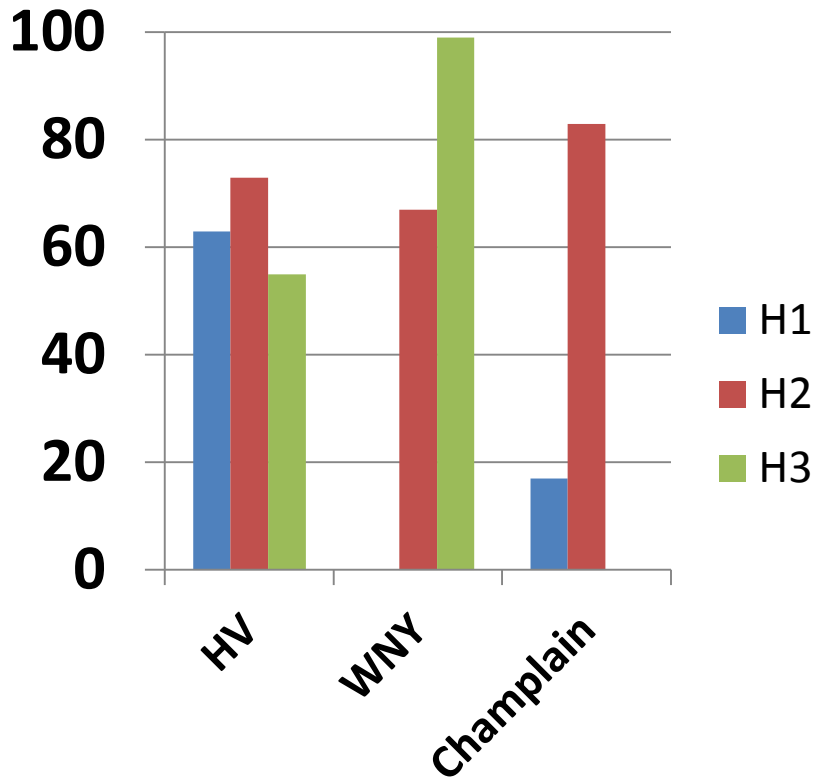
- Champlain: affected by harvest date only: 0% at H1, 12% at H2 (despite conditioning)
- HV and WNY: negligible (<1%)



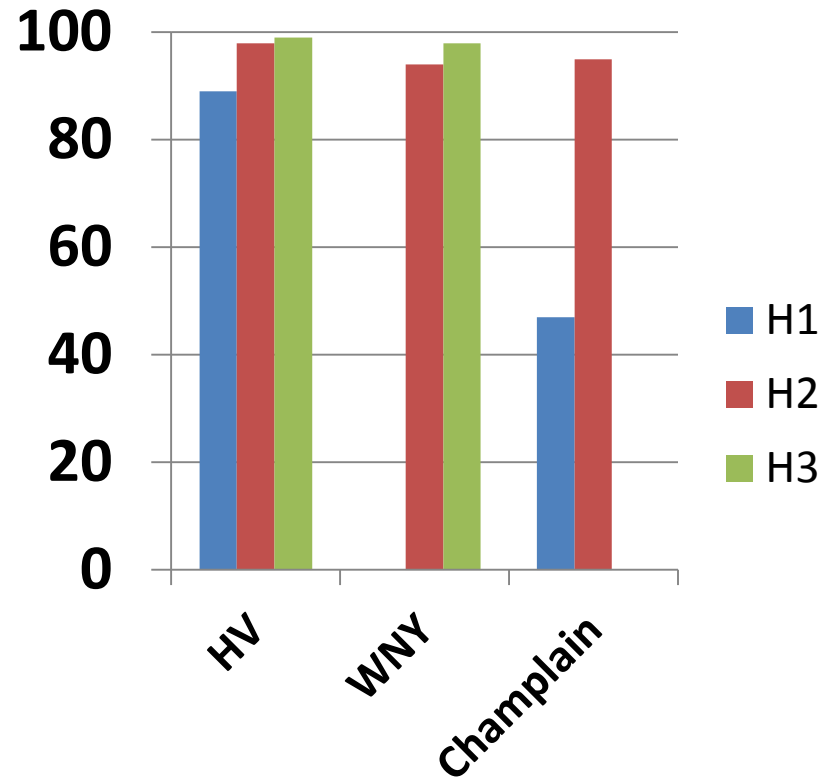
Greasiness in air storage

Effect of harvest date

3 months



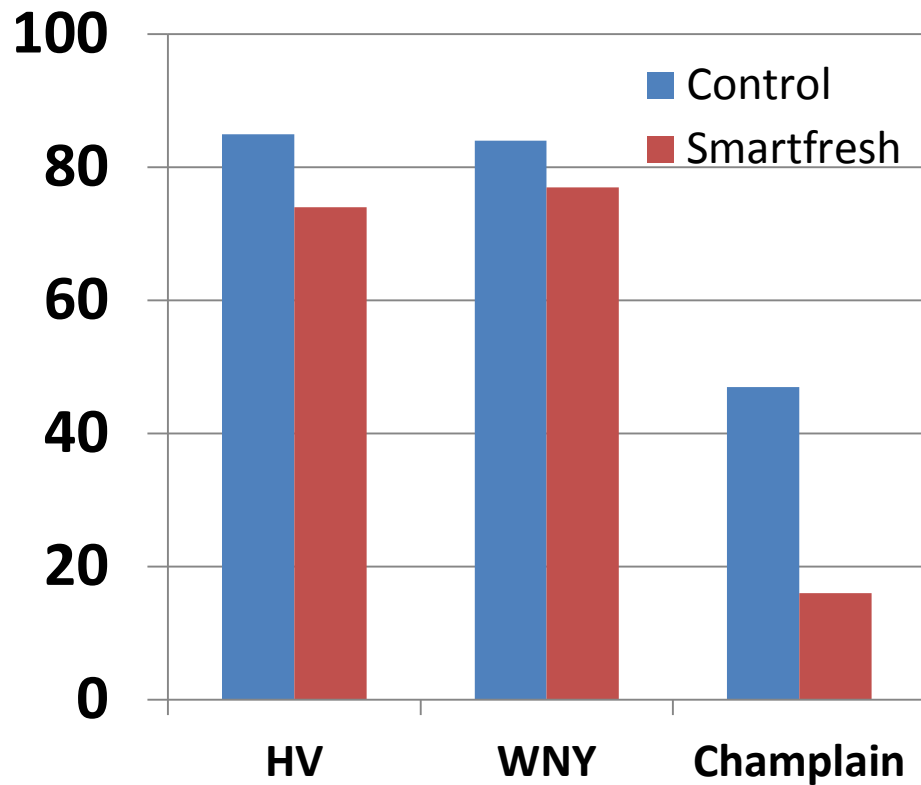
6 months



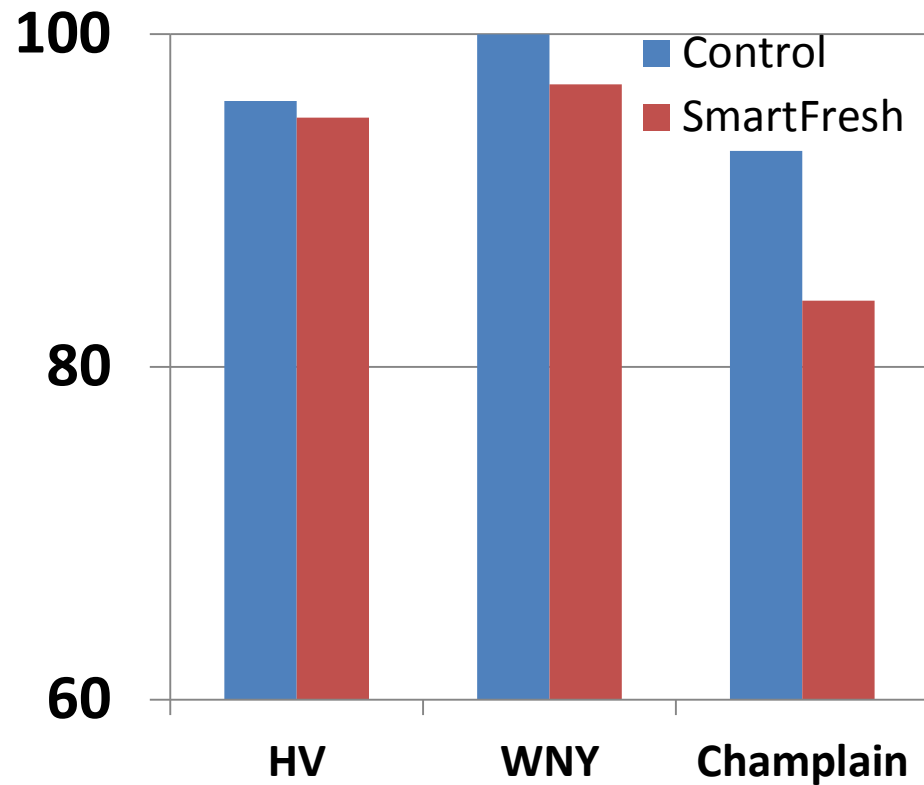
Greasiness in air storage

Effect of SmartFresh

3 months



6 months

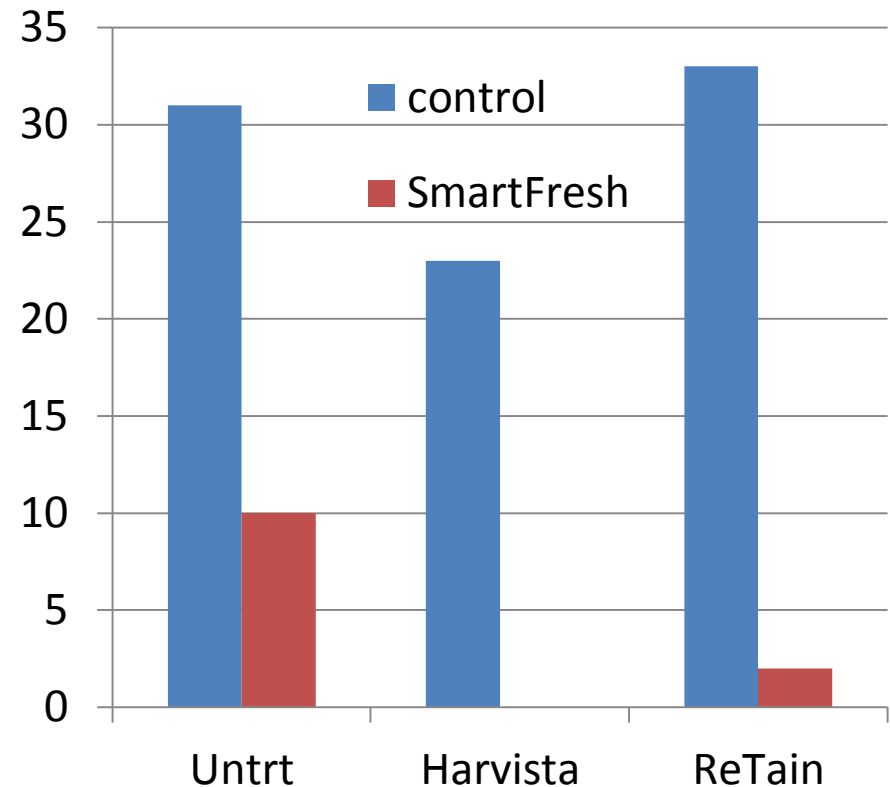


Greasiness in air storage

Effect of preharvest treatment

Often significantly lower in Harvista and ReTain trts, but not commercially meaningful in timeframes tested

Lower incidence resulted in best SF effect (Champlain, H1 and 3 months air storage)

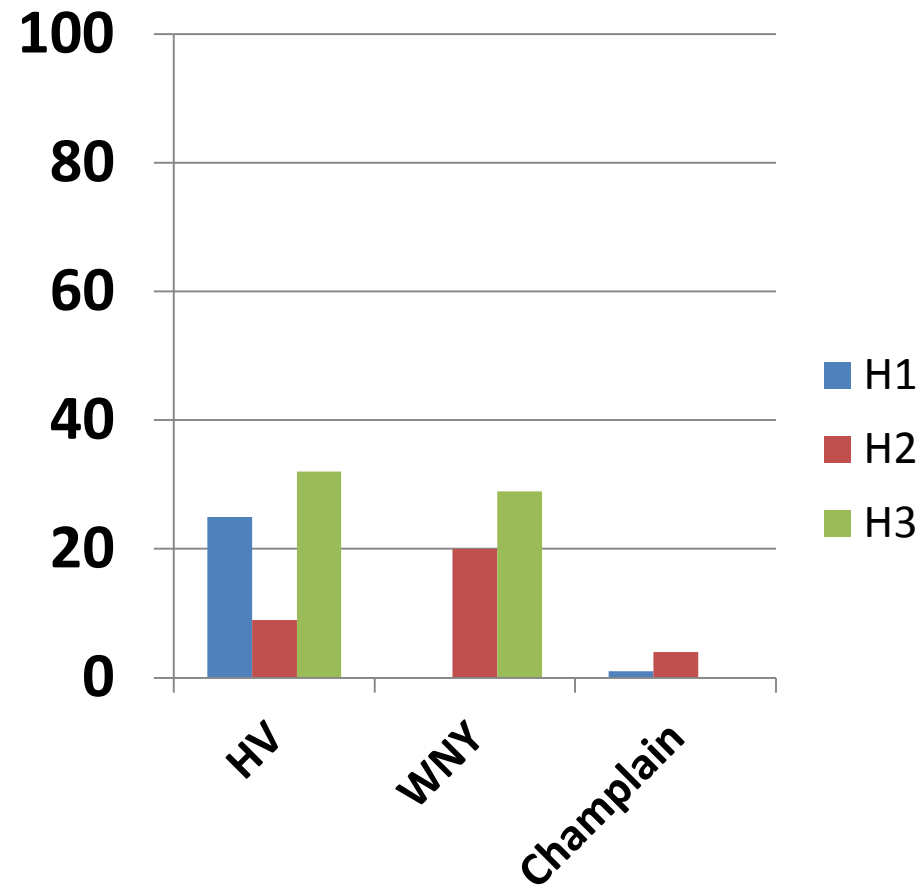


Champlain harvest 1; 3 months air storage

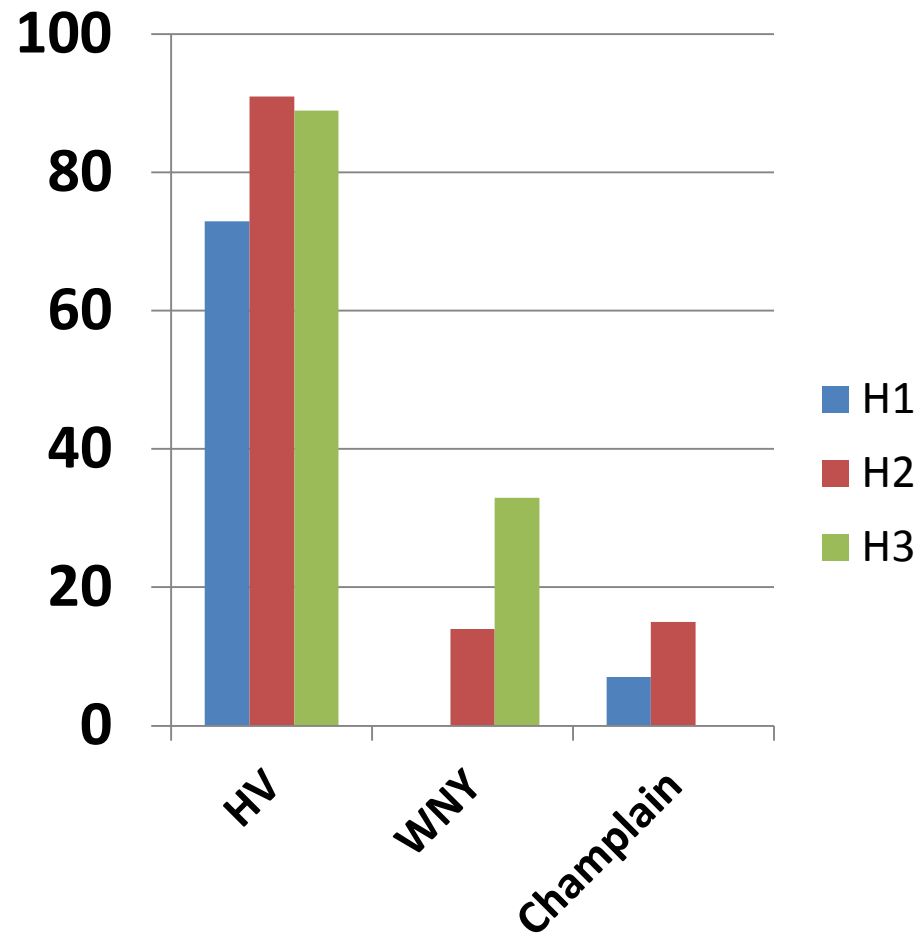
Greasiness in CA storage

Effect of harvest date

3 months



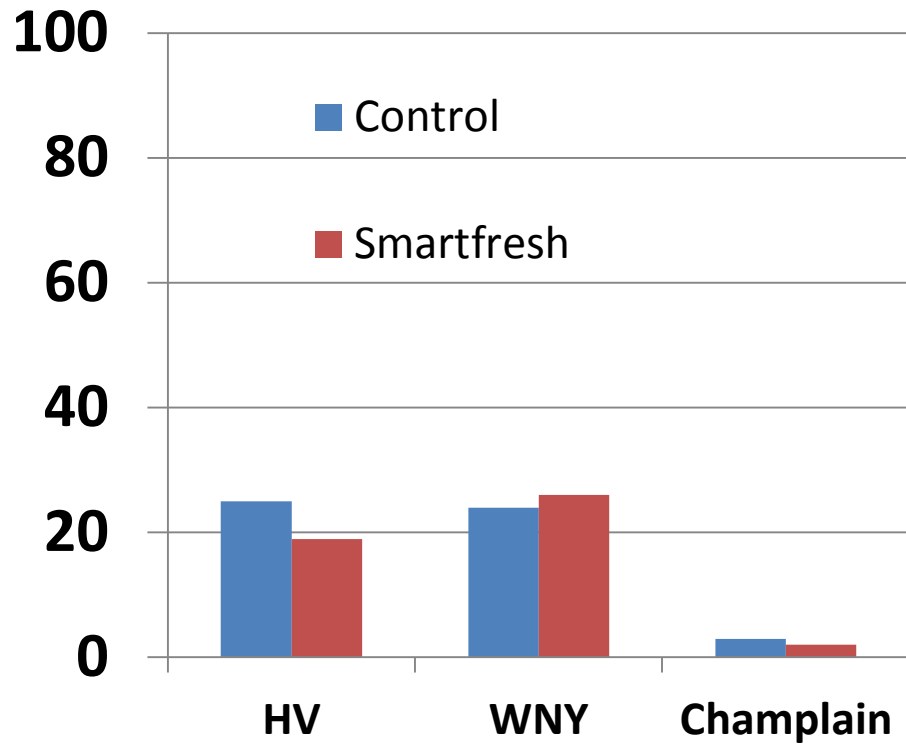
6 months



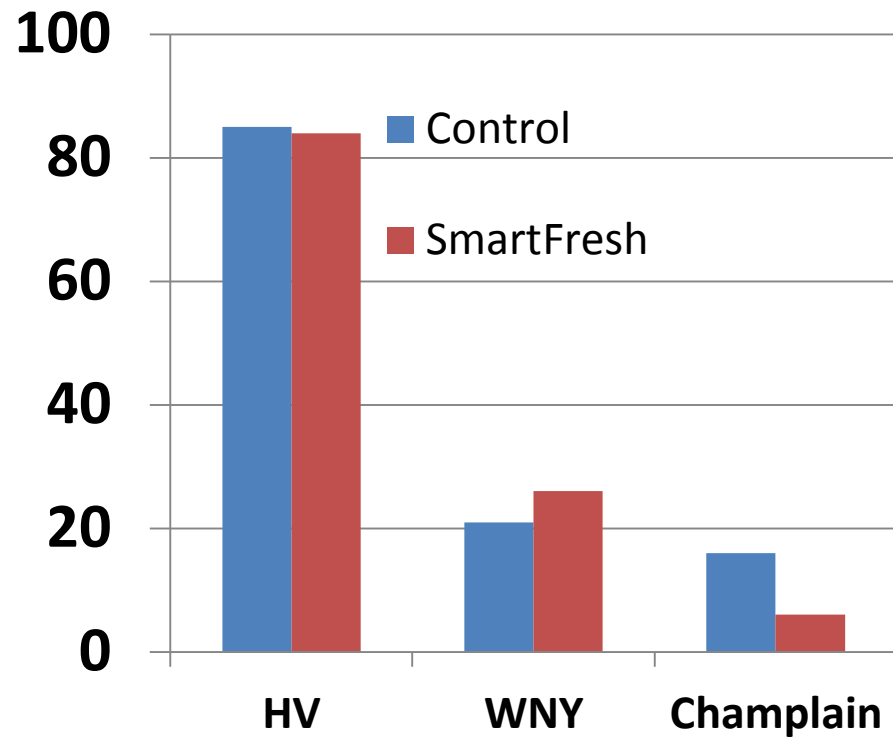
Greasiness in CA storage

Effect of SmartFresh

3 months

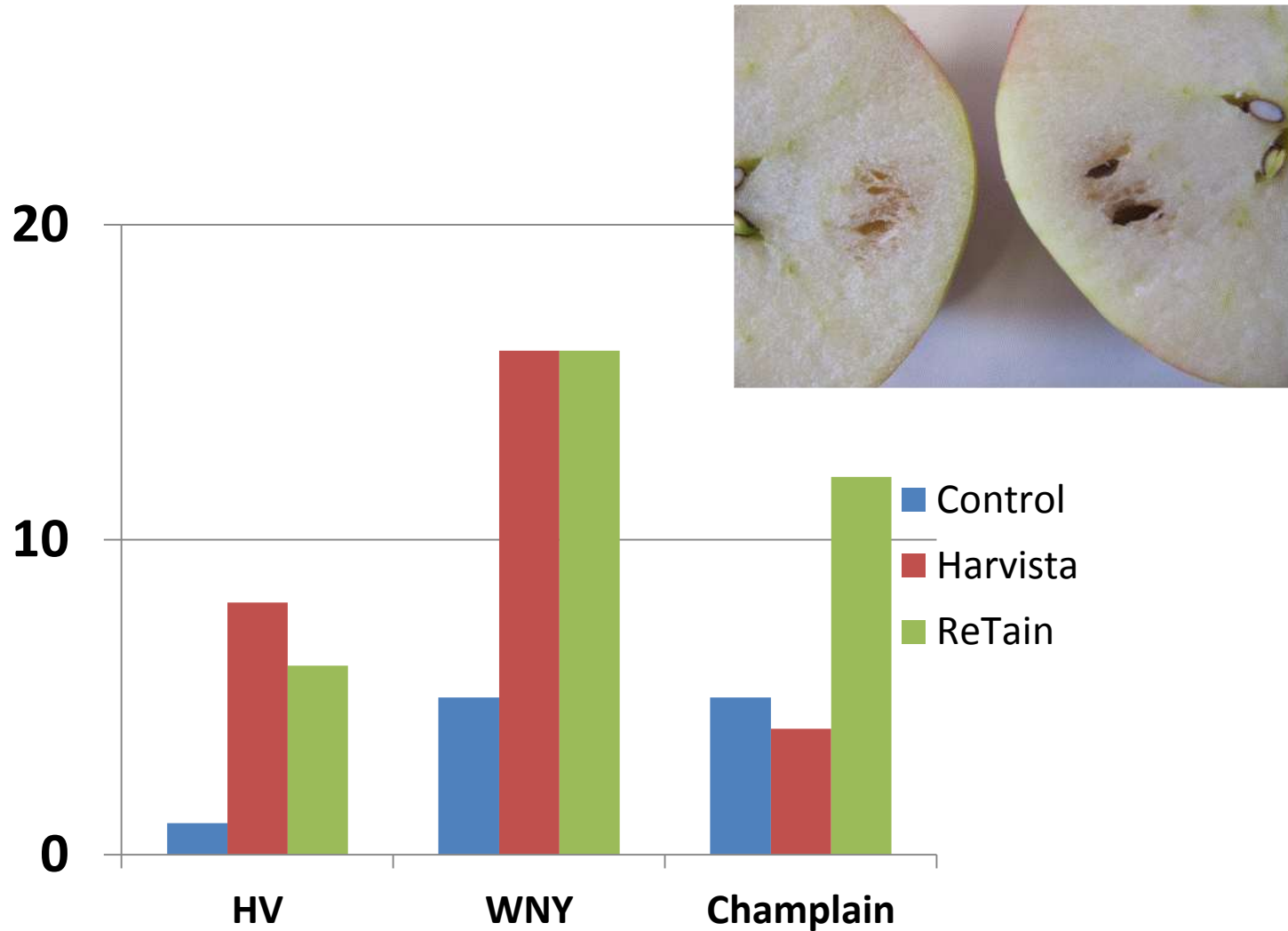


6 months



Internal CO₂ injury (CA only)

Effect of preharvest trt



Conclusions

- Regional effects on HC storage quality are high, and marketing plans should reflect this reality
- More work is required on the effects of ReTain rates and timing, especially in southern regions
- SmartFresh recommended for longer term air storage – can help maintain higher SSC and TA , and reduce greasiness for short term storage
- CA can maintain TA, reduce pit and greasiness, but not recommended because of risk of carbon dioxide injury [Harvista and ReTain can aggravate].

The people and the funding

The people

- Mike Fargione
- Ron Jones
- Randi Wintamute
- Liza White

The growers

- JD Fowler
- Jeff Crist
- Seth Forrence

Visiting scholars and students

- Yanping Ma
- Inkyu Kang
- Yifan Cheng

Funding

NY Farm Viability Institute

NY Apple Research Development Program

AgroFresh Inc.

Valent BioSciences

Federal Funds Project NE1036



THANKS AND QUESTIONS