

Production of Strawberry in Substrate (RaBeT system)

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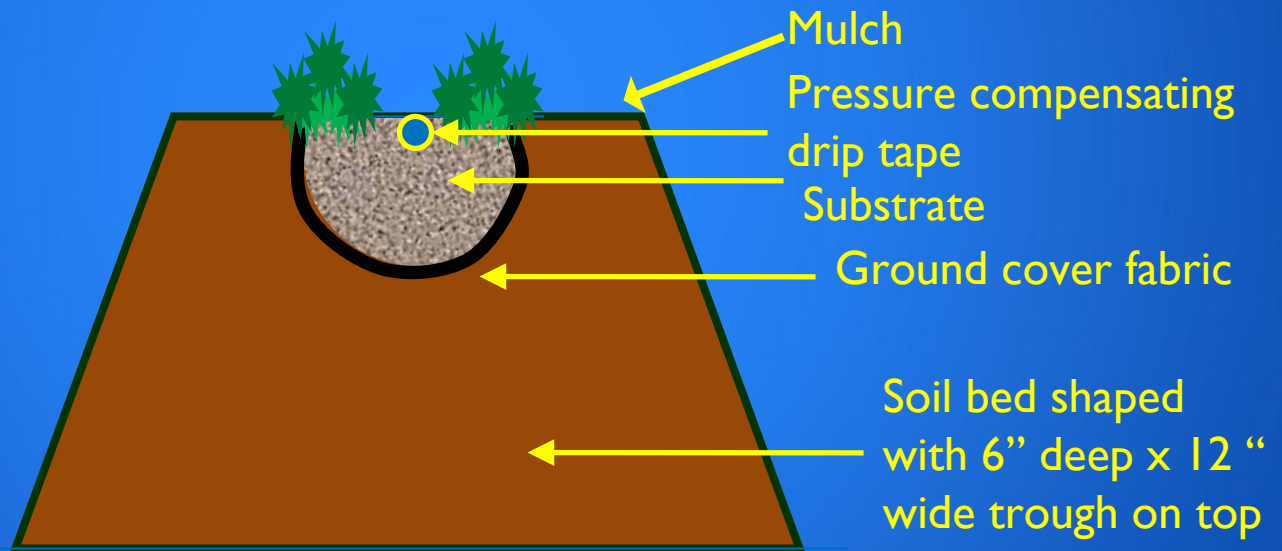
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The Raised Bed System (single trough)



2011 RaBeT Trials

Santa Maria & Watsonville (MBA)

Substrate treatments:

- Peat-Perlite (70:30)
- Coir
- Amended soil:
50% soil, 25% coir, 25% rice hulls
- Standard treatments:
 - fumigated and unfumigated soil beds

**Amended
soil**

COIR

**Fumigated
Grower's
Standard**

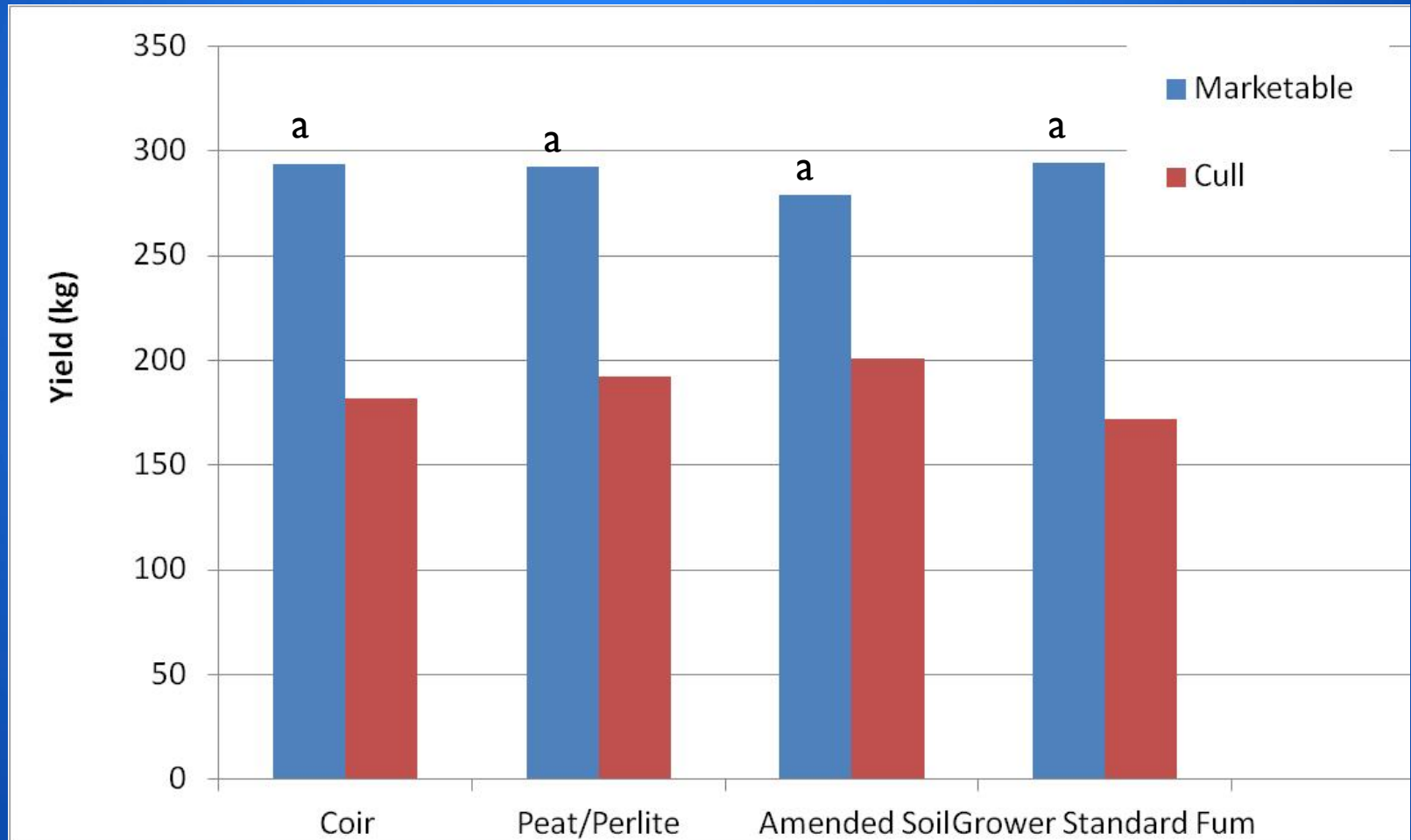
Peat Perlite

**Unfumigated
Grower's
Standard**

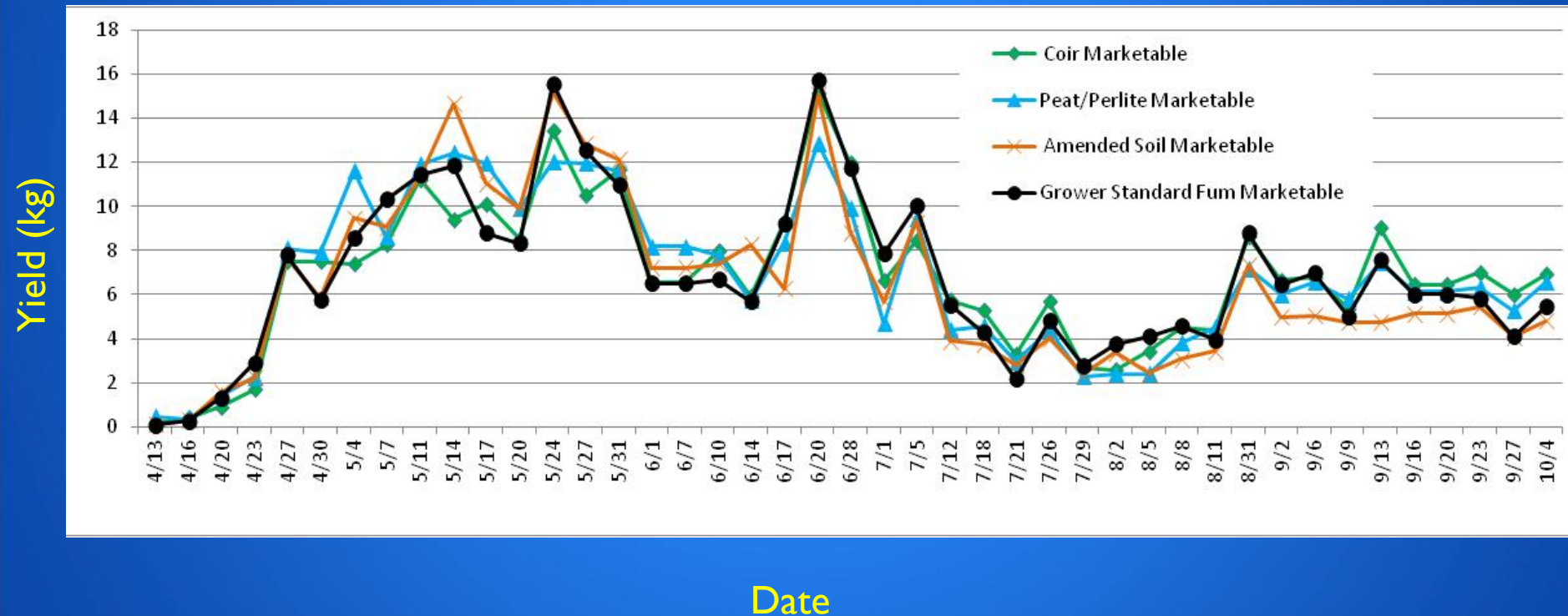


Santa Maria Yield Comparison

(4 beds; 80 plants/harvest plot; 320 plants total)
April 13, 2011 through Oct 4, 2011



Santa Maria Yield over Time



*True growers standard

No significant differences between treatments

Economics

Upfront \$5000-7000

Fertigation system

Pressurized drip tape & Ground cover fabric

Electricity source

Recurring: Substrate

- 4 row system: \$13,000-\$16,000/acre
- 2 row system: ~ \$9000-10,000/acre

2011-2012 MBA Experiment



20+ treatments
(~ 1 acre)

Amended soil
percentage and soil
types

Fertigation water
recycling system

Second season?
Reuse of substrate

Cheaper materials:
compost
amendments

Grower Demos



EC



Acknowledgments

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DPR

Participating Growers

