

# Phenotyping for crop improvement technologies - access - knowledge

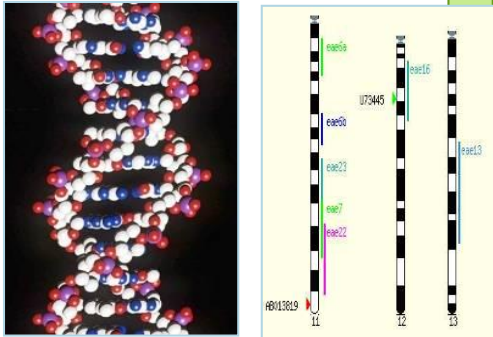
Roland Pieruschka  
IBG-2: Plant Sciences  
Forschungszentrum Jülich

# Plant Phenotyping: contribute to solving challenges



Environment

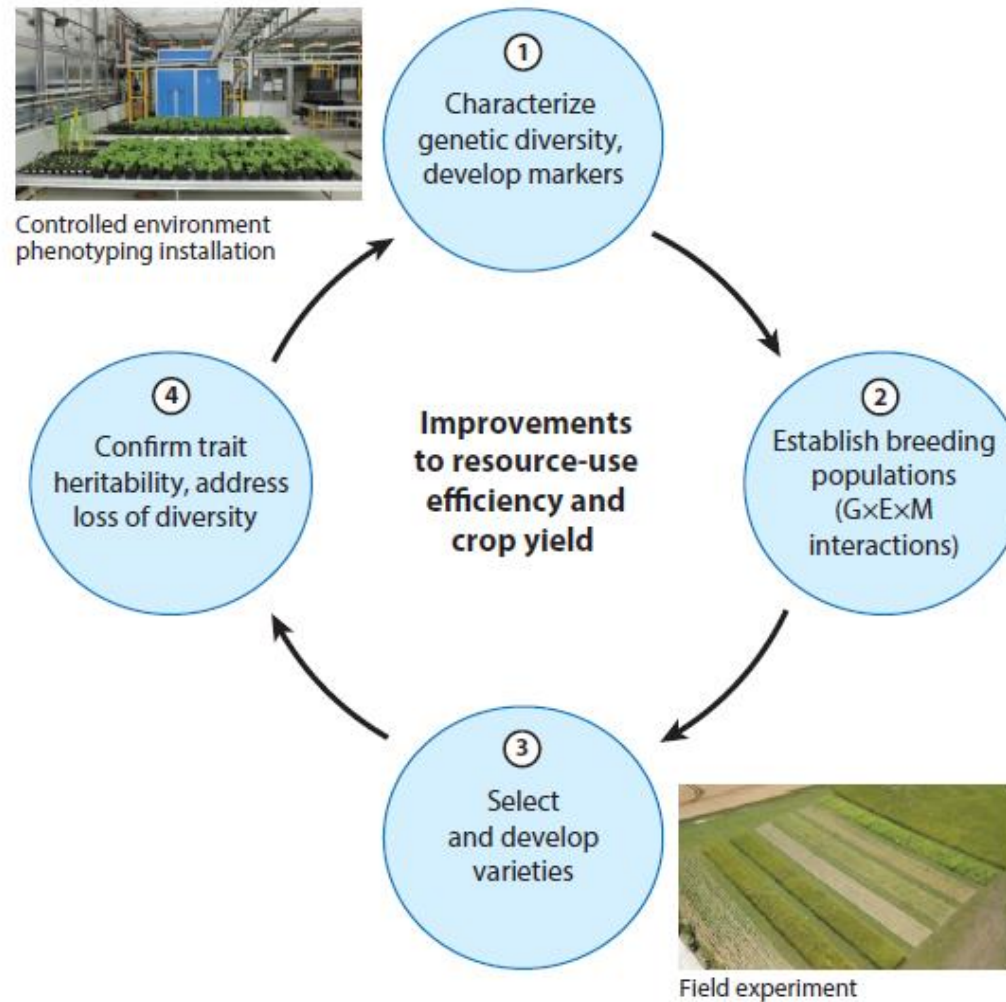
Genes



Phenotype:  
plant performance and plant production

- Higher quantity and quality of plant biomass production
- Novel characteristics and products
- Yielding in stressful environments
- Sustainable production / intensification

# Plant phenotyping to improve crop varieties



Watt et al (2020)

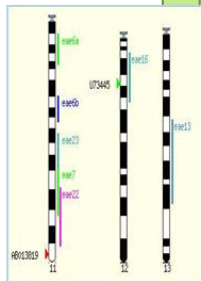
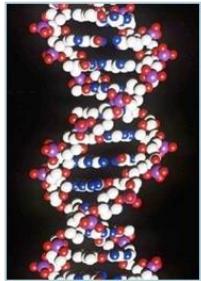
# Growing demand for plant phenotyping as a tool

Phenotype: need for quantitative assessment



Environment

Genes



- Addressing diverse crops and conditions
- Specialized infrastructure: plant characterization, environmental simulation
- Expertise is required, e.g. analysis pipelines, modelling, data re-usability
- Integrated (multi-disciplinary) approaches

# EMPHASIS - European Infrastructure for Multi-Scale Plant Phenotyping And Simulation for Food Security in a Chancing Climate

24 national communities associated with EMPHASIS

## SYNERGY

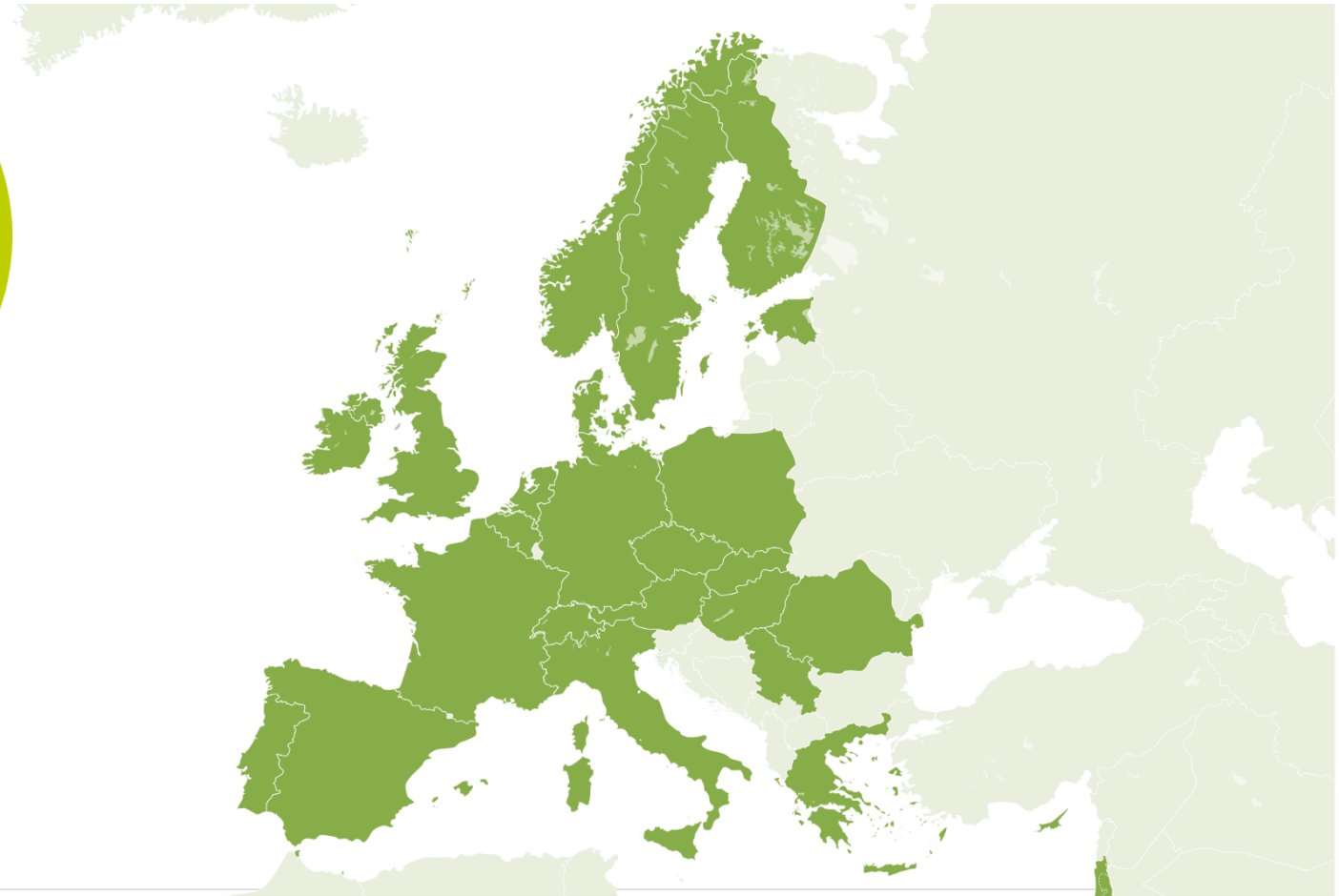
- Investments
- Data Management
- Education/ Training

## INNOVATION

- Unique Installations
- From Academia to Industry

## ACCESS

- Development
- Use
- Translation/ Dissemination





# Objectives

DEVELOPING INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROVIDING ACCESS



Develop an integrated  
pan-European  
infrastructure of  
instrumented facilities

Link data acquisition to  
a European-level data  
information system and  
modelling

Develop, evaluate  
and share knowledge  
and novel technologies

# EMPHASIS: integrating plant phenotyping in Europe

- 2016: EMPHASIS on the ESFRI Roadmap

## Preparatory Phase (2017-2020)

- Funded via a H2020
- Evaluate the phenotyping landscape in Europe
- Development of business plan with user strategy, governance, ...

## Implementation Phase (2019-2021)

- Implement to the long-term operations
- Engage countries (currently 11 ministries): decision making for future of operations / funding
- Set up of EMPHASIS pan-European Services

## Operational Phase (2022/23 onwards)

- Long-term legal entity is in place
- Sustainable operation is ensured
- Access to facilities, resources and services is in place

ESFRI

# Infrastructure in EMPHASIS

PLANT PHENOTYPING REQUIRES INTEGRATED CONCEPTS

TO FULLY EXPLORE ITS POTENTIAL



Source: EMPHASIS homepage

([https://emphasis.plant-phenotyping.eu/emphasis\\_infrastructure\\_map](https://emphasis.plant-phenotyping.eu/emphasis_infrastructure_map))



CONTROLLED CONDITIONS

- ✓ Greenhouses and growth chambers
- ✓ Monitoring of environmental conditions
- ✓ Throughput typically between 100-1000s plants



LEAN FIELD

- ✓ Field trials with environmental monitoring
- ✓ Phenotyping equipment for basic traits
- ✓ ground based or airborne sensing systems



INTENSIVE FIELD

- ✓ Detailed environmental monitoring
- ✓ High quality phenotyping measurements
- ✓ Semi-controlled intensive field sites



MODELLING

- ✓ Virtual platforms
- ✓ Different types of models: Crop Models, FSPM
- ✓ integrated or interfacing with installations



DATA & COMPUTATIONAL SERVICES

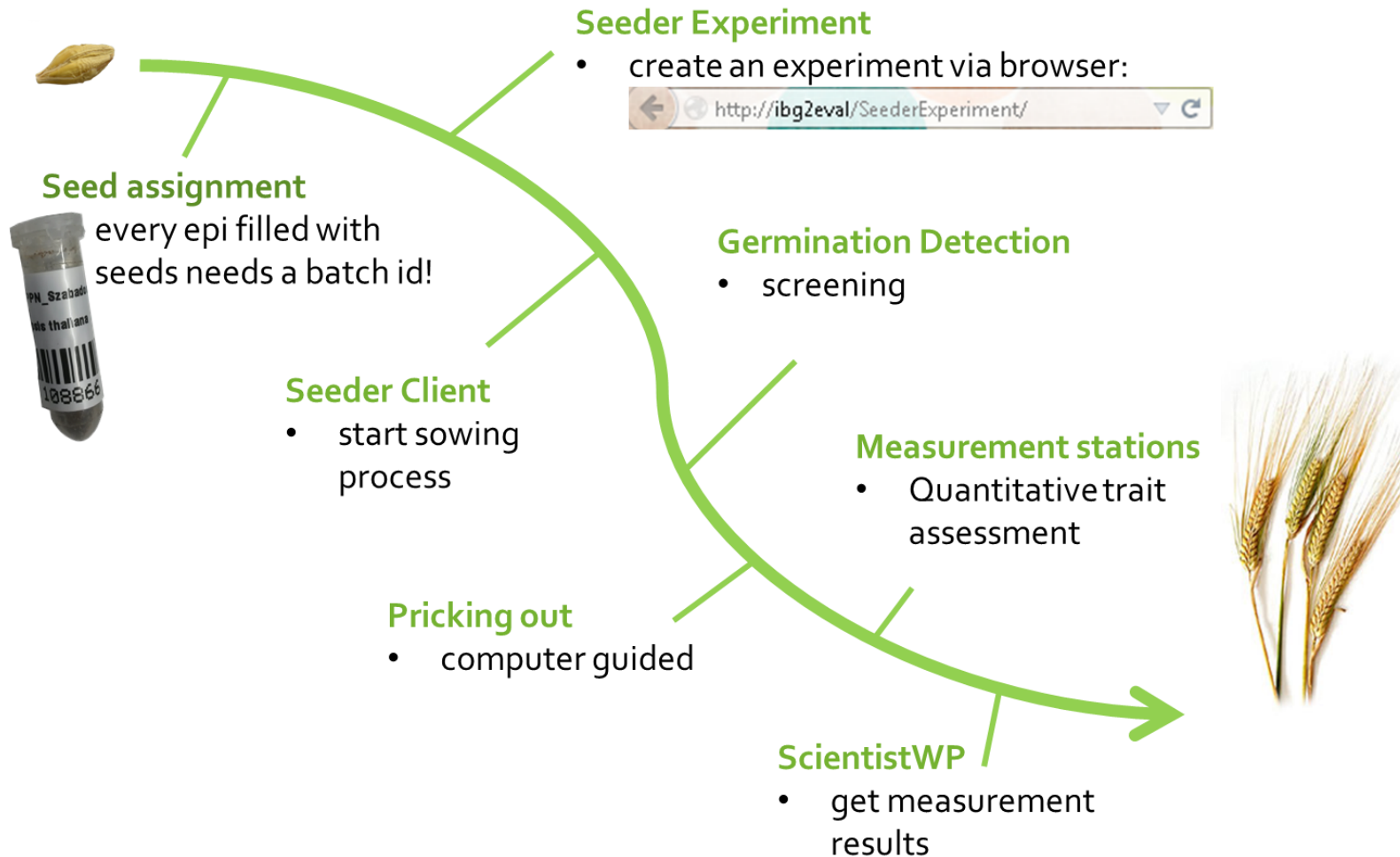
- ✓ FAIR Information systems plant phenotyping data
- ✓ Access to data
- ✓ integrated information systems



# Example: shoot traits for improved plant productivity

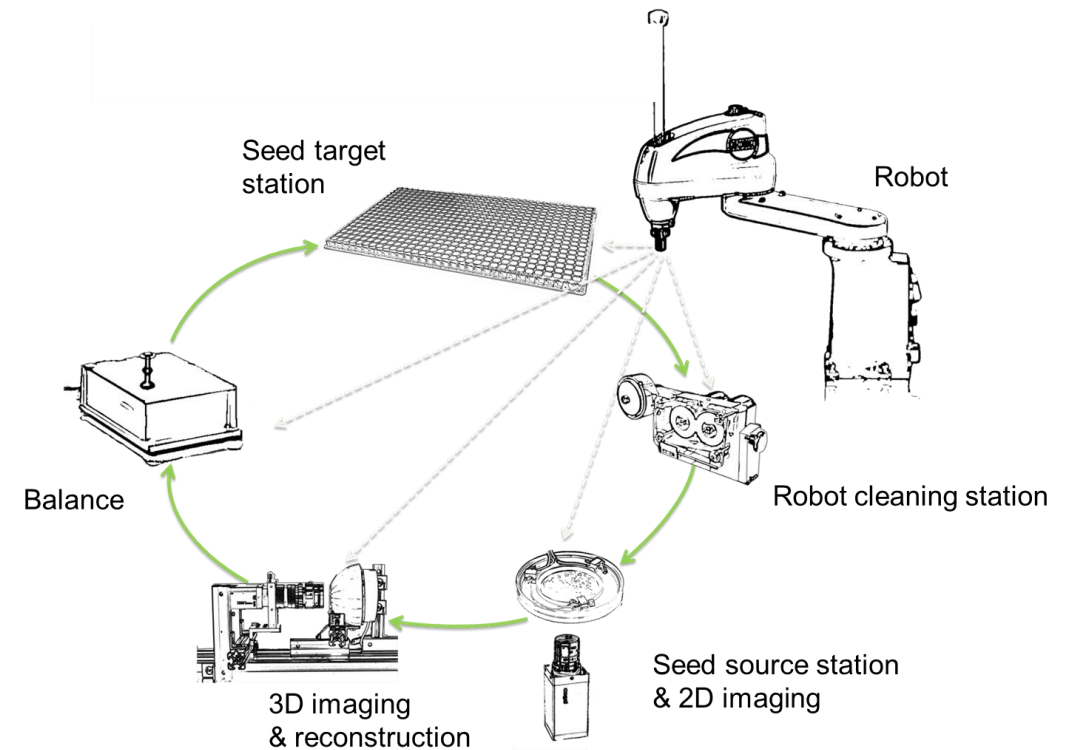
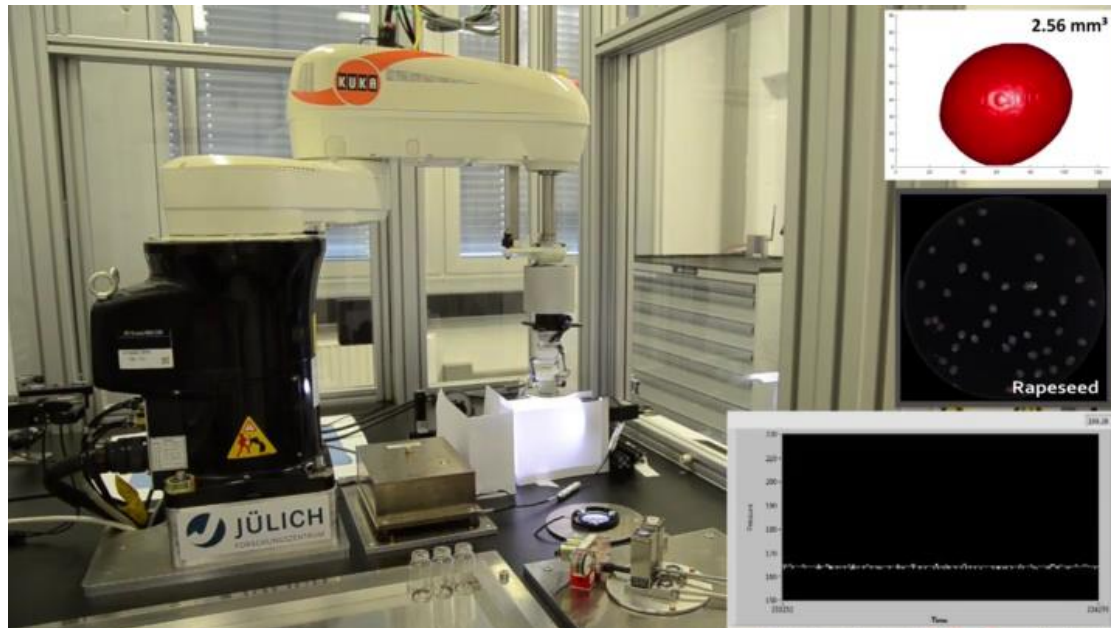
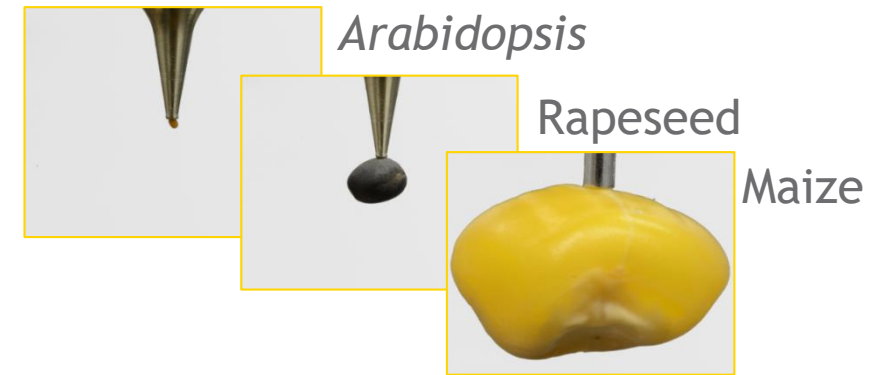


# Phenotyping pipelines



# PhenoSeeder: Phenotyping of structure and function of seeds

A robot system for phenotyping single seeds



Jahnke et al., 2016, Plant Physiol., modified

Jahnke et al (2016)



# Phenotyping of shoot structure and key functions

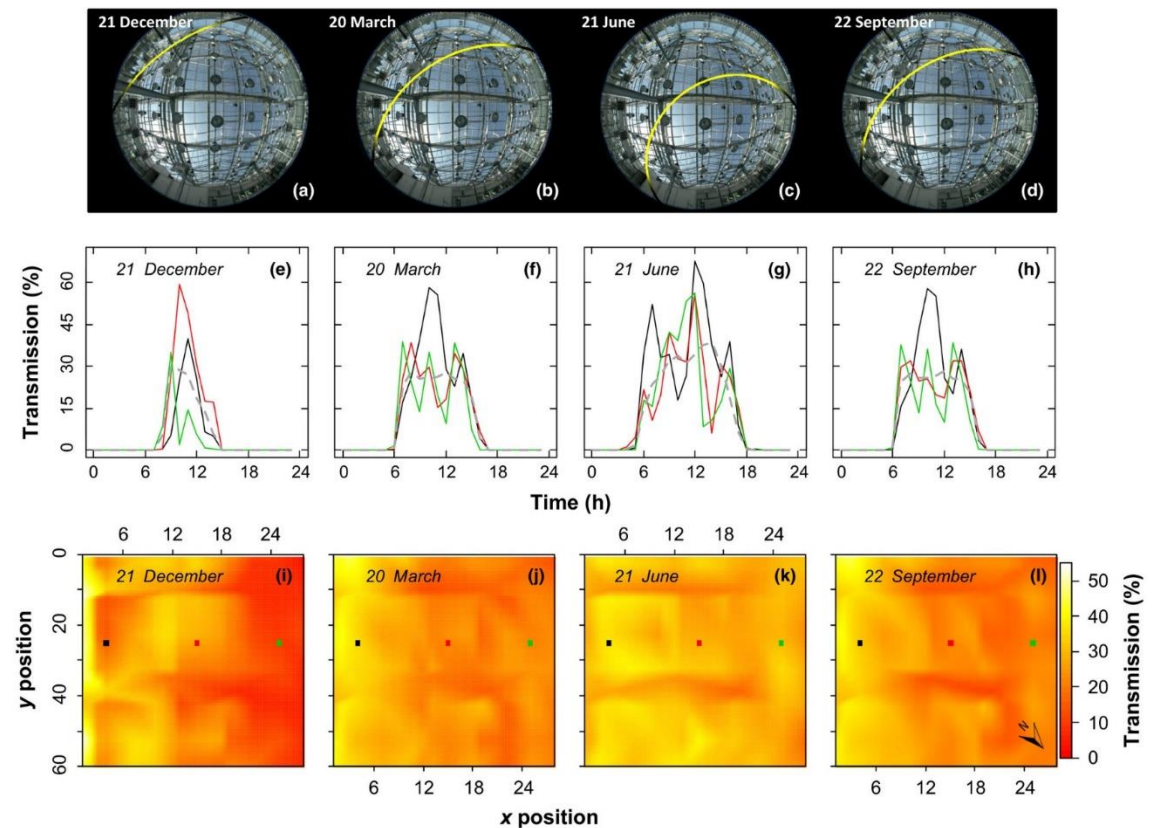
## INTEGRATED CONCEPTS AND IMPLEMENTATIONS FOR HIGH THROUGHPUT

### Growth Facilities

plant to sensor / sensor to plant...



### Environmental simulation and monitoring



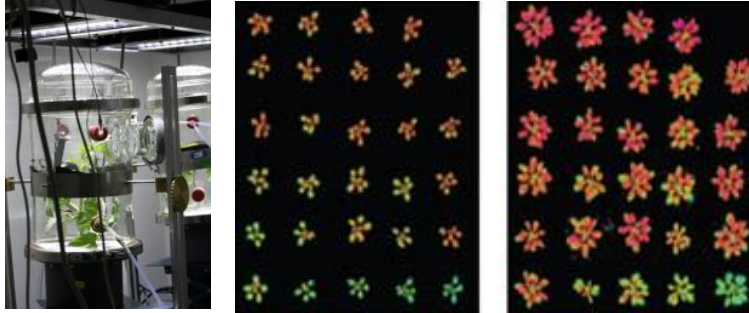
Cabrera-Bosquet et al (2016)



# Phenotyping of shoot structure and key functions

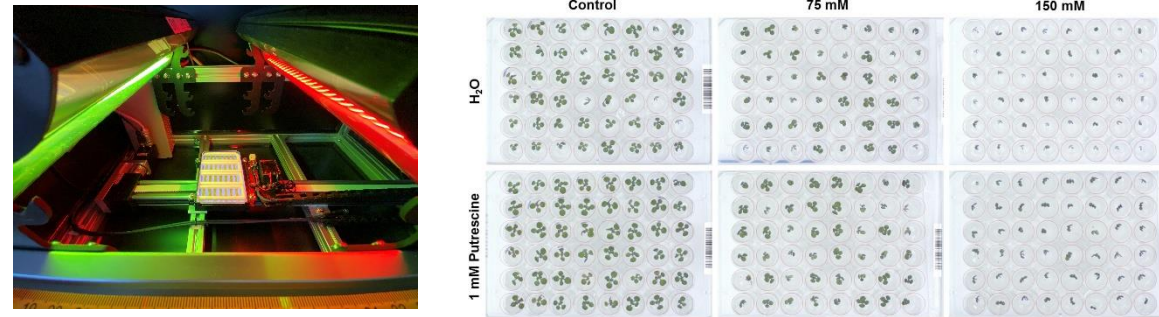
## Photosynthesis

(gas exchange, fluorescence methods)



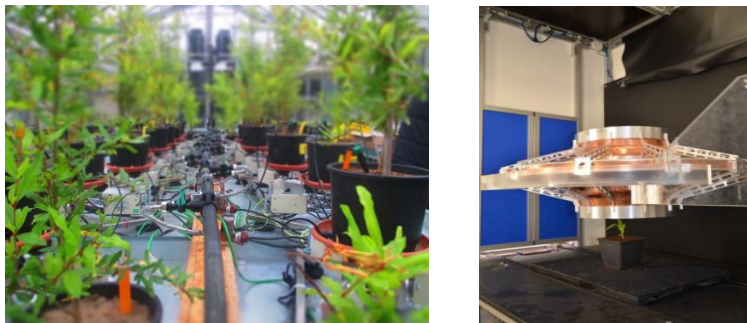
## Biotic interactions

(hyperspectral imaging, 2D RGB imaging)



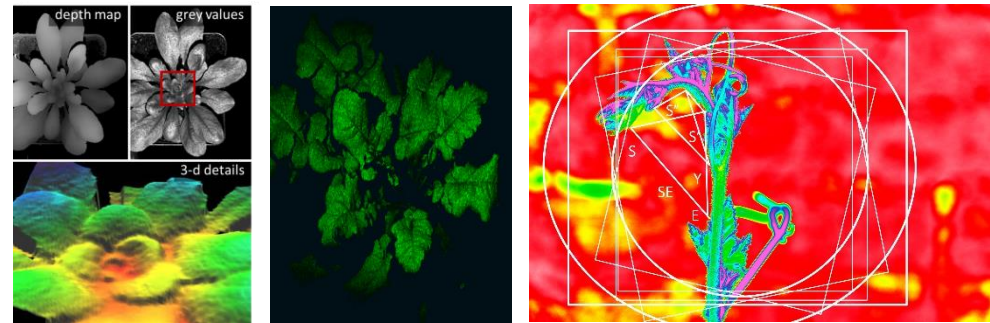
## Water relations

(gravimetric, microwaves )



## Growth, biomass and shoot structure

(2D / 3D RGB imaging)



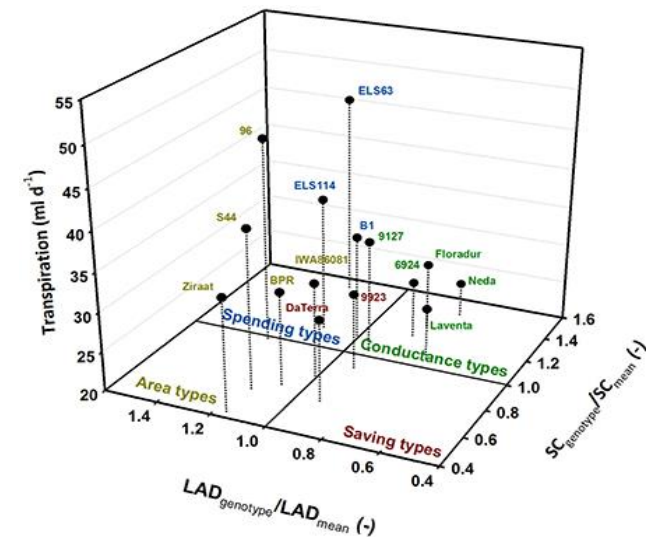
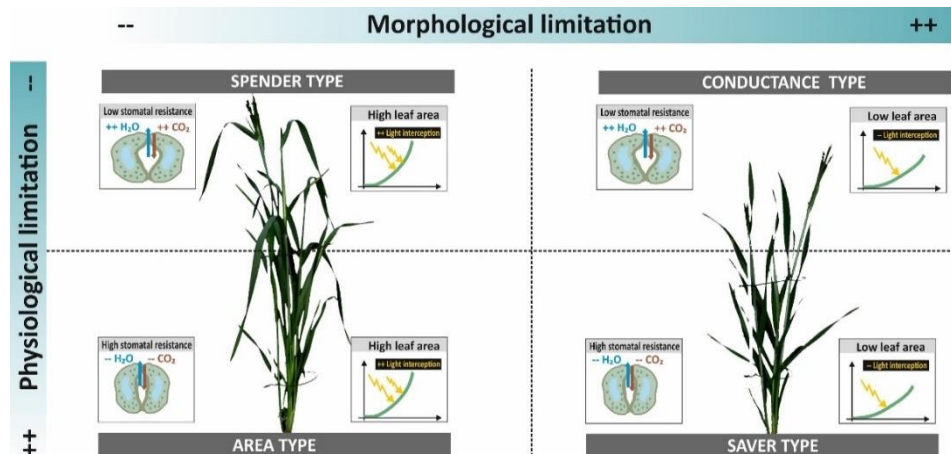
# Example: Contrasting genotypes for strategies for water acquisition



TNA scheme FP/ H2020 funded with >200 experiments

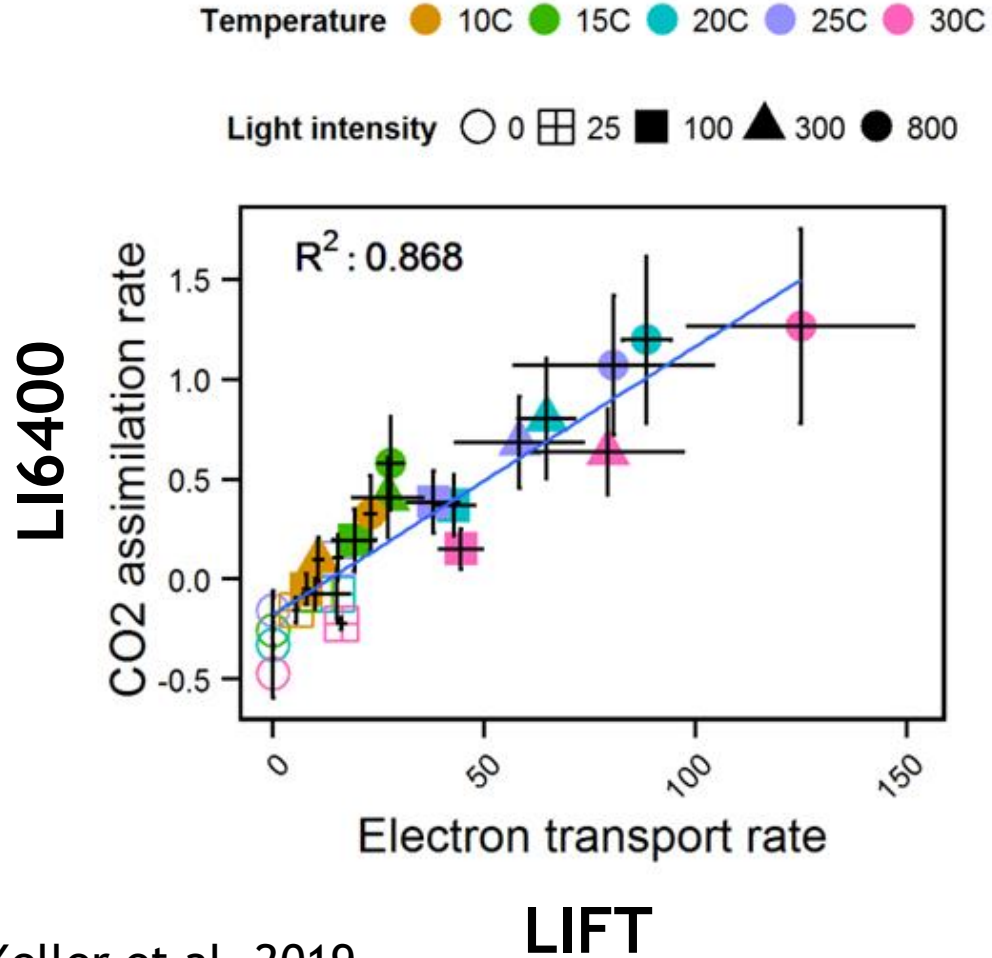
- Water use strategies for crop productivity in different drought environments

- Assess morphological and functional limitations





# Example: Measurement of photosynthetic properties with the LIFT

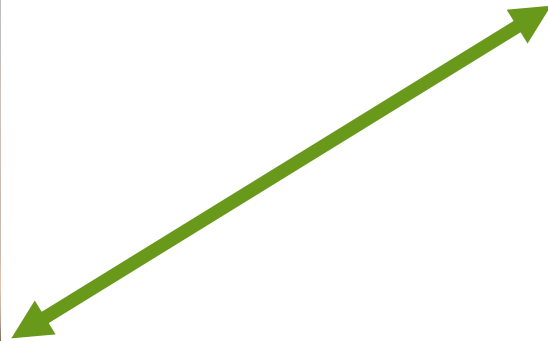


Keller et al. 2019

# Phenotyping chains

## Practical experiments

From single plant to field



CONTROLLED CONDITIONS



LEAN FIELD



INTENSIVE FIELD



MODELLING



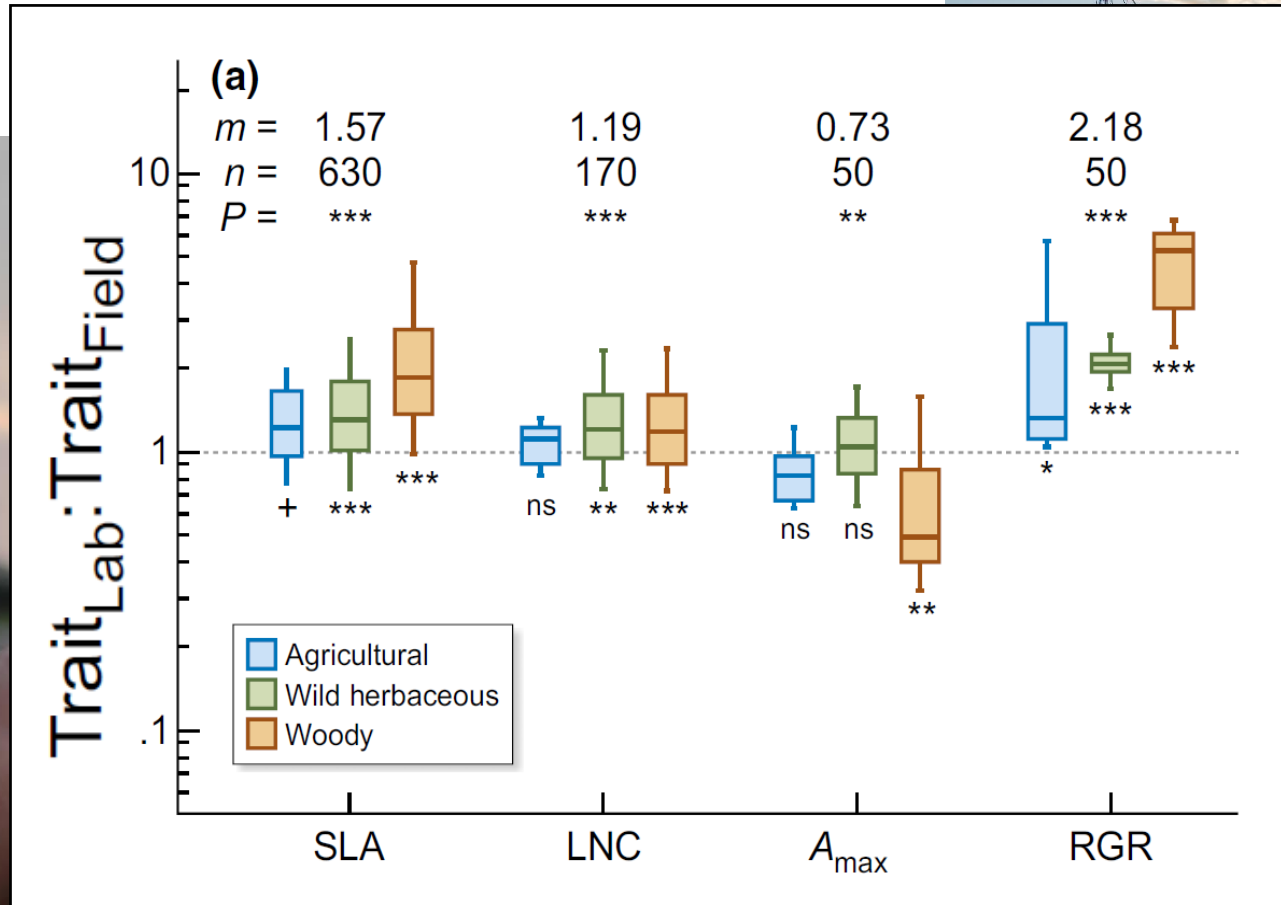
DATA & COMPUTATIONAL SERVICES



# Phenotyping chains

## Practical experiments

From single plant to field



	$r^2$
Lab to field	0,26
Field to field	0,08



CONTROLLED CONDITIONS



LEAN FIELD



INTENSIVE FIELD



MODELLING



DATA & COMPUTATIONAL SERVICES

# Data Management

Pan-European  
Information system

BrAPI

miappe

All objects have  
unambiguous identifiers  
(cameras, plants, pots,  
sensors)

*Findable / Reusable*

Prefix **diaphen** <<http://phenomefppn.fr/diaphen>>

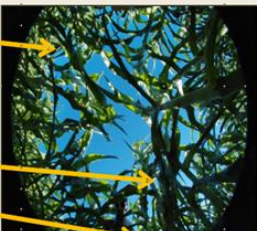
URI of plot  
<diaphen:2017/o1700029>

URI of plant:  
<diaphen:2017/17000147>

URI of leaf:  
<diaphen:2017/117000590>

URI of camera:  
<diaphen:2018/ac180002>

URI of image:  
<diaphen:2017/icD01480237>



Controlled vocabulary  
(ontologies) for

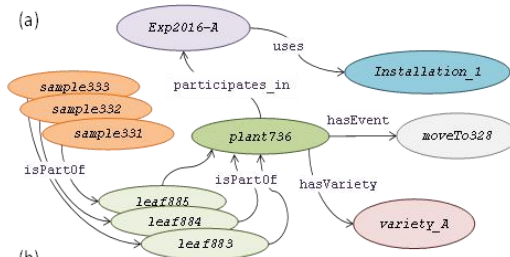
- Objects
- Events
- Traits

Standardize or track/map names with:

'triplet': definition/method/unit

*Reusable*

semantic web allows auto-  
matic metadata collection



Webservices for linking  
Phenotyping centers  
*Findable / Accessible /  
Interoperable*

EMPHASIS-Layer  
Adapter linking data bases

ontologies, references, data access, web services, registry, etc.



Long term storage Policy  
*Findable / Accessible*

## Modelling

**Quantitative Plant**  
A website presenting image analysis software tools and models for plants




Image analysis software tools

Plant models  
Developed by EMPHASIS

Image datasets

Quantitative-Plant 2013-2020

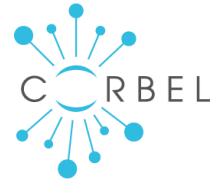
EMPHASIS JÜLICH ROSI UCLouvain

<https://www.quantitative-plant.org/model>

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🐦 [EMPHASIS\\_EU](#)

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🌐 [EMPHASIS on Plant Phenomics](#)



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EUROPEAN INFRASTRUCTURE  
FOR PLANT PHENOTYPING