

# **Status of Insecticide Resistance: Bt Cotton**

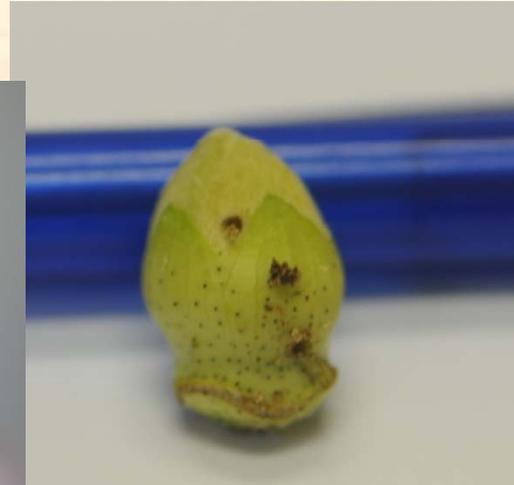
**Ryan Jackson**  
**USDA-ARS-SIMRU**

# Bollworm

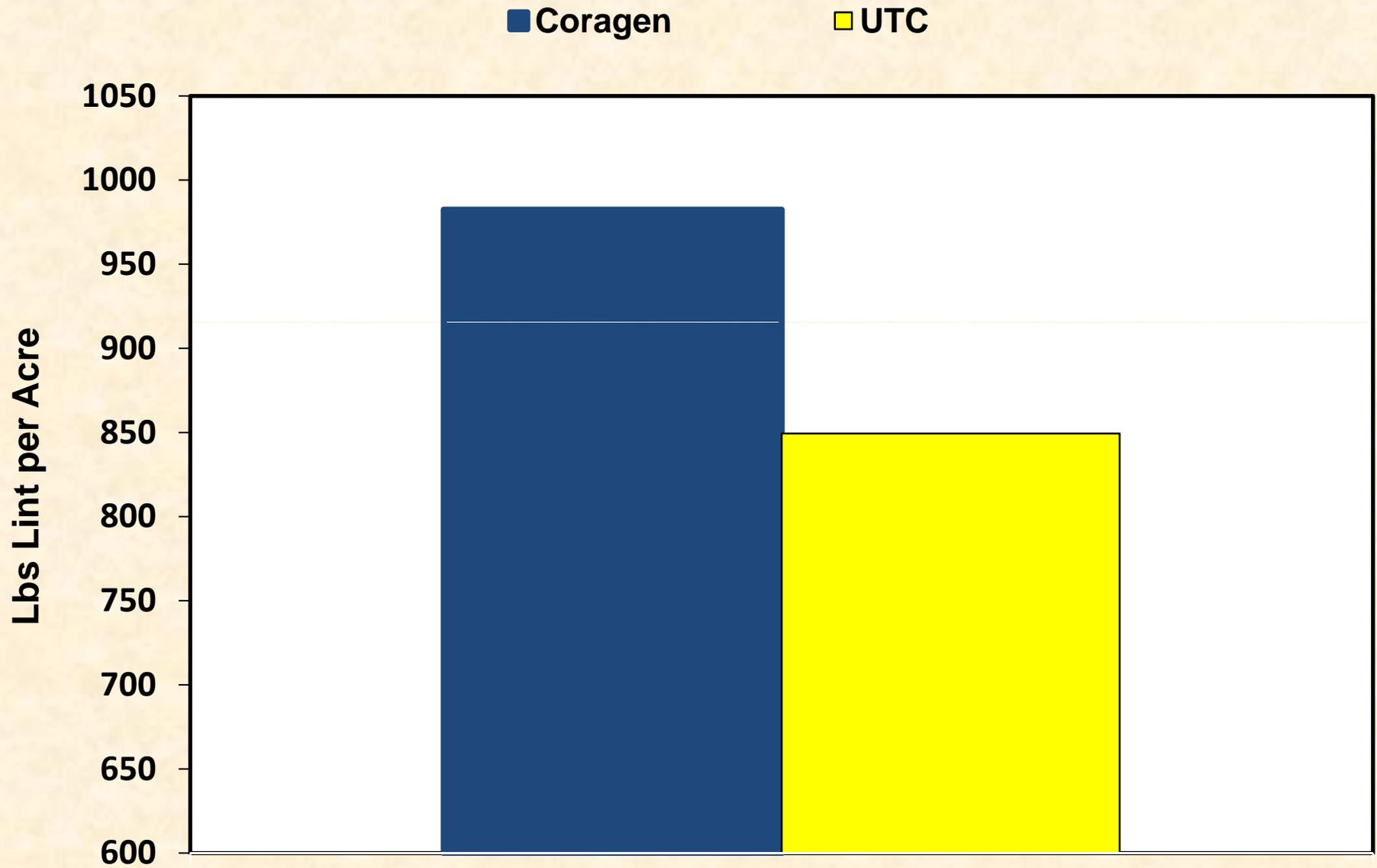
MS averaged  
1.7 insecticide  
applications/acre  
of Bt cotton for  
bollworm control



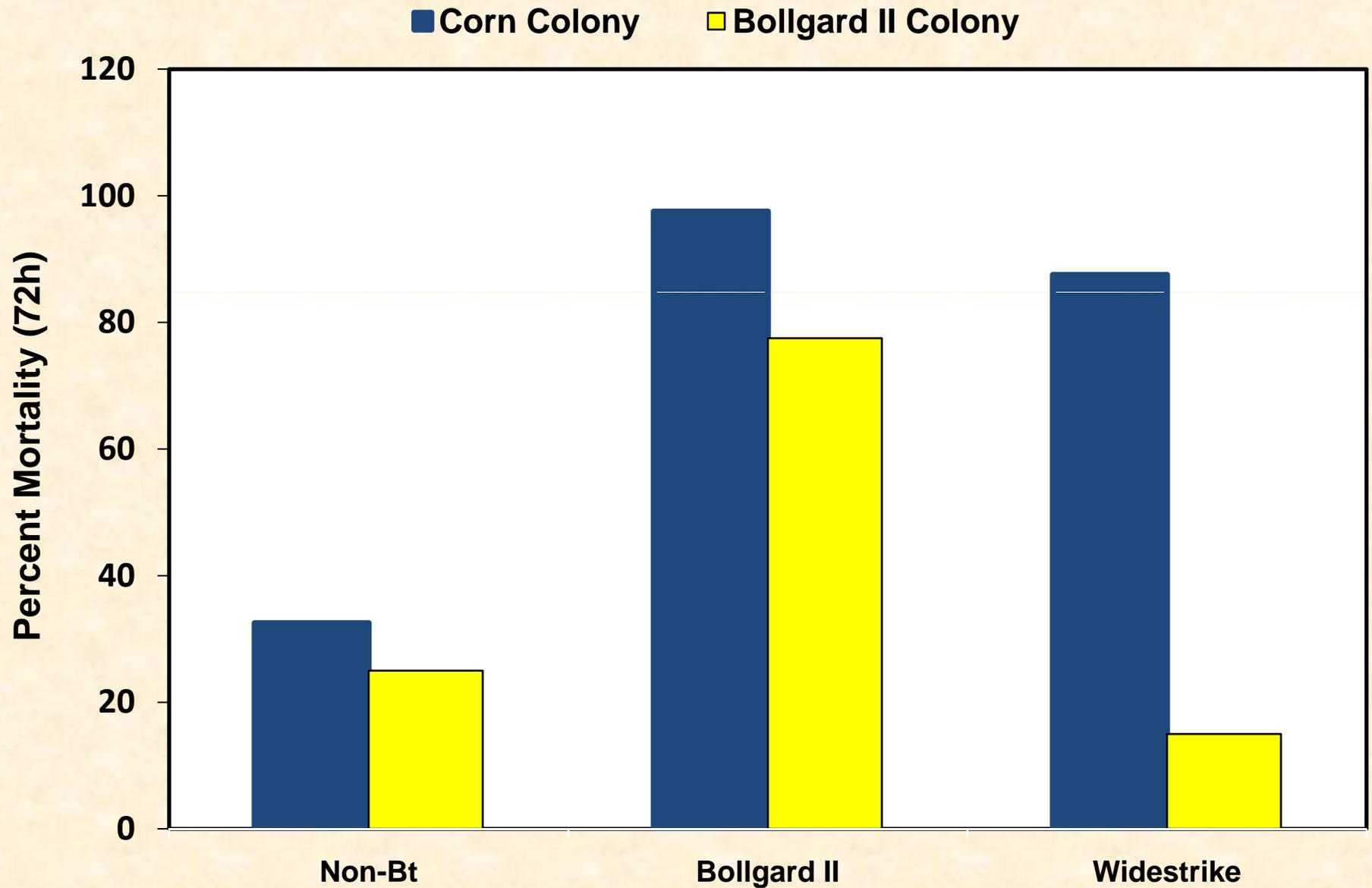
# Bollworm Damage to Bollgard II Cotton



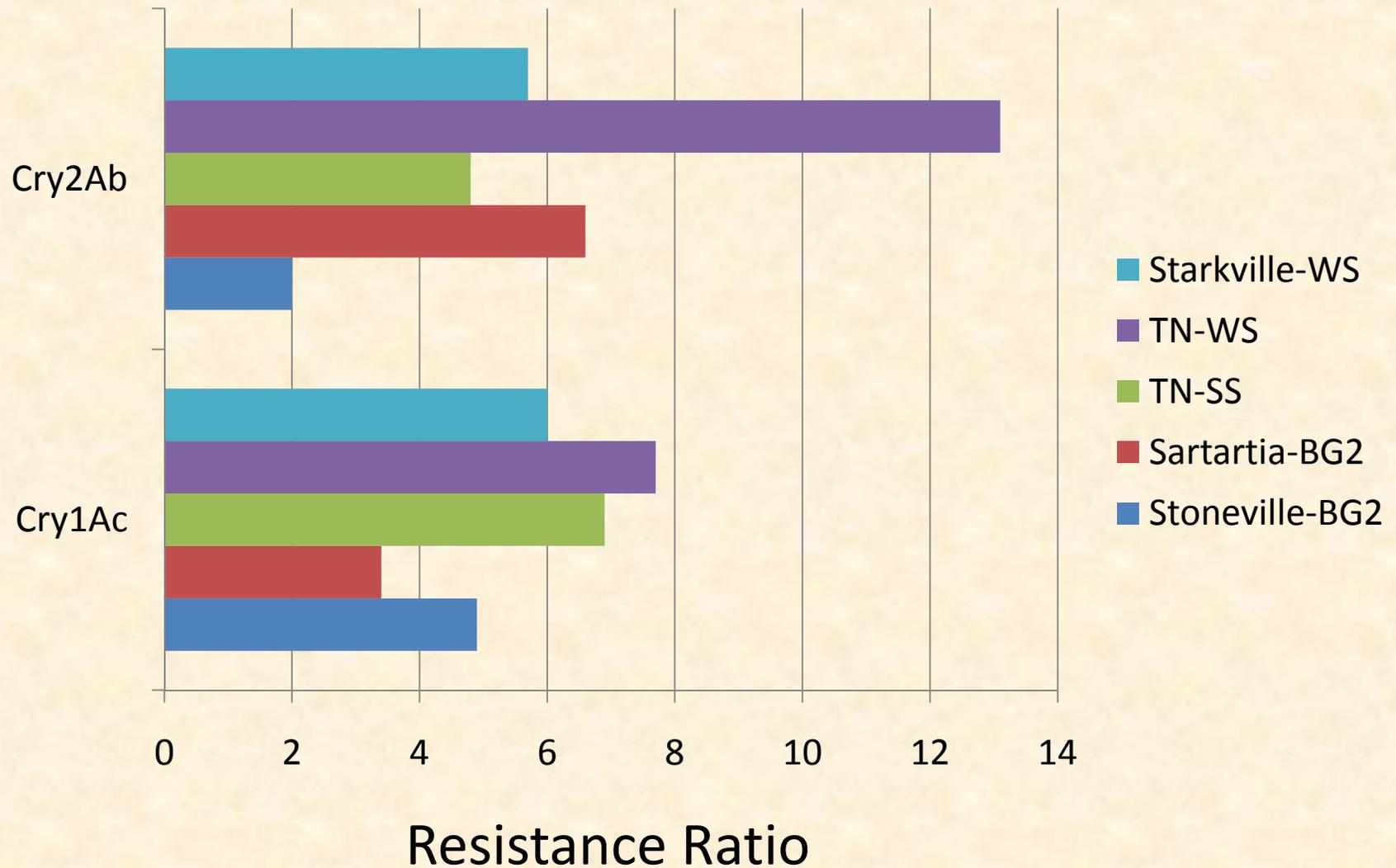
# Bollworms on Bollgard II Cotton



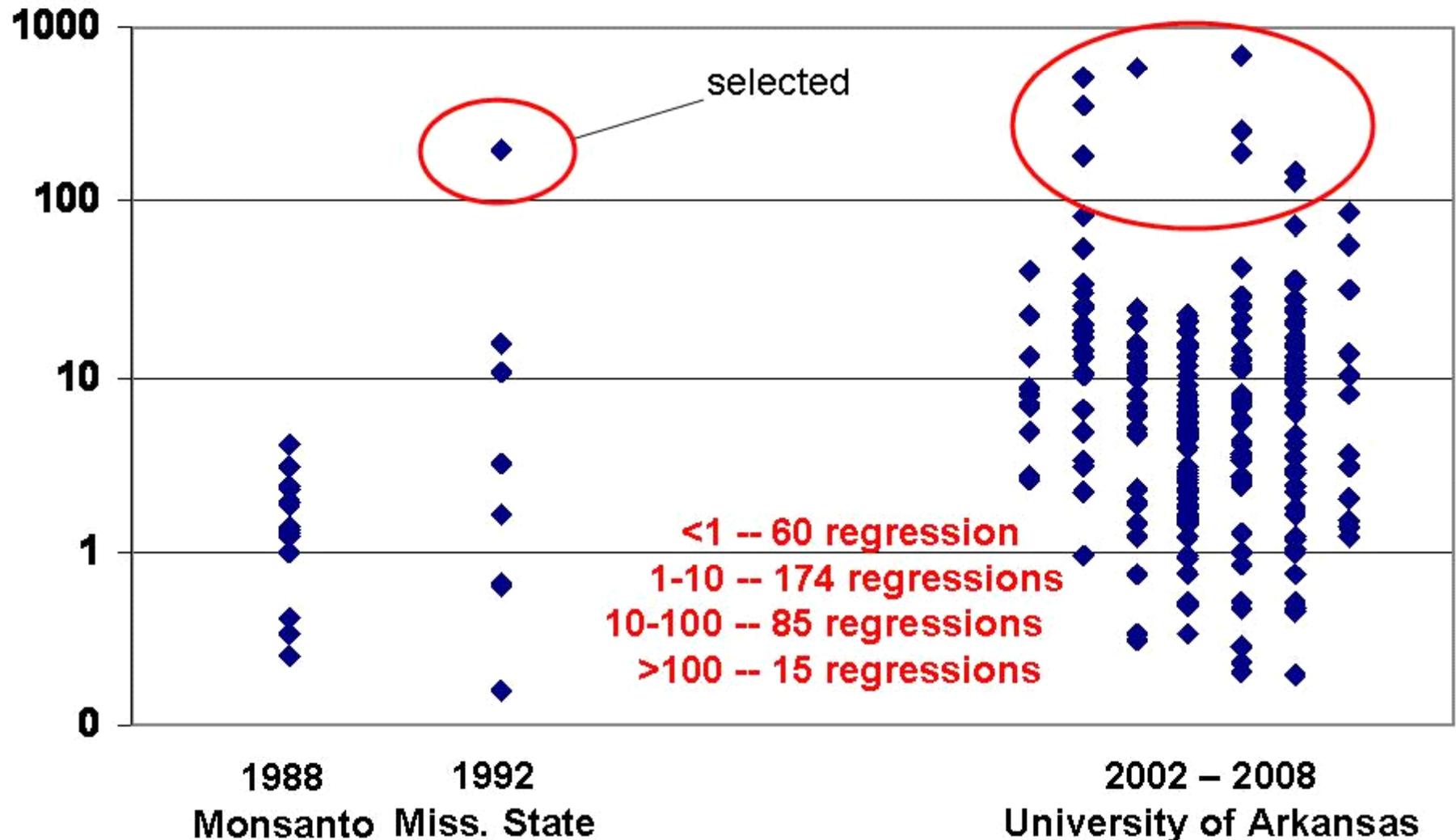
# Mortality of Bollworms on Bt Technologies



# Resistance Ratios of Various Bollworm Populations to Bt Proteins



**LC50 Ratios (LC50 field colony/LC50 laboratory susceptible)  
Diet Incorporation Assays for Cry1Ac Susceptibility  
*Helicoverpa zea* – 1988-2008**



**LC<sub>50</sub> estimates, percent mortality, and percent mortality + stunting (100µg/ml) for bollworm colonies exposed to Cry1Ac in diet incorporation assays.**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Crop</b>	<b>LC<sub>50</sub></b>	<b>95% CL</b>	<b>%M</b>	<b>%ML1</b>
<b>LAB</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>9.9-17.1</b>	<b>66.2</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Stoneville</b>	<b>Bollgard 2</b>	<b>81.7</b>	<b>62.3-108.6</b>	<b>40.6</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Satartia</b>	<b>Bollgard 2</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>78.0-107.3</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>59.4</b>
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>Smartstax</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>31.7-105.4</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>80.6</b>
<b>Starkville</b>	<b>Widestrike</b>	<b>71.2</b>	<b>53.2-97.5</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>86.2</b>

**LC<sub>50</sub> estimates, percent mortality, and percent mortality + stunting (150µg/ml) for bollworm colonies exposed to Cry2Ab2 in diet incorporation assays.**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Crop</b>	<b>LC<sub>50</sub></b>	<b>95% CL</b>	<b>%M</b>	<b>%ML1</b>
<b>LAB</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>41.6-60.3</b>	<b>94.1</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Stoneville</b>	<b>Bollgard 2</b>	<b>219.2</b>	<b>142.6-1053.9</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>12.9</b>
<b>Satartia</b>	<b>Bollgard 2</b>	<b>592.9</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.9</b>
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>Smartstax</b>	<b>91.2</b>	<b>54.9-205.6</b>	<b>39.1</b>	<b>69.6</b>

# **Status of Bt Cotton**

- **Bt cotton continues to be an amazing control technology for certain caterpillar pests.**
- **Bollworms are capable of causing economic damage to this technology under some conditions.**
- **If making supplemental foliar applications of insecticides to alleviate problems with bollworm “escapes”, don’t wait until they reach bloom tags.**
- **Continued monitoring for Bt susceptibility and its relationship to field performance will help to make better management decisions in the future.**