

# Egan Spring Wheat Management

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**Optimizing N and Water Use for Sustainable Wheat Production: A collaborative project with Univ. of Idaho**

# Egan

- Developed for resistance in wheat midge via *sm1* gene
  - Stripe rust resistance (*Yr36*)
  - The first variety developed with high grain protein content (*Gpc-B1*) gene
- 

# Egan- a pest control tool

- Nitrogen Management
- Water Management

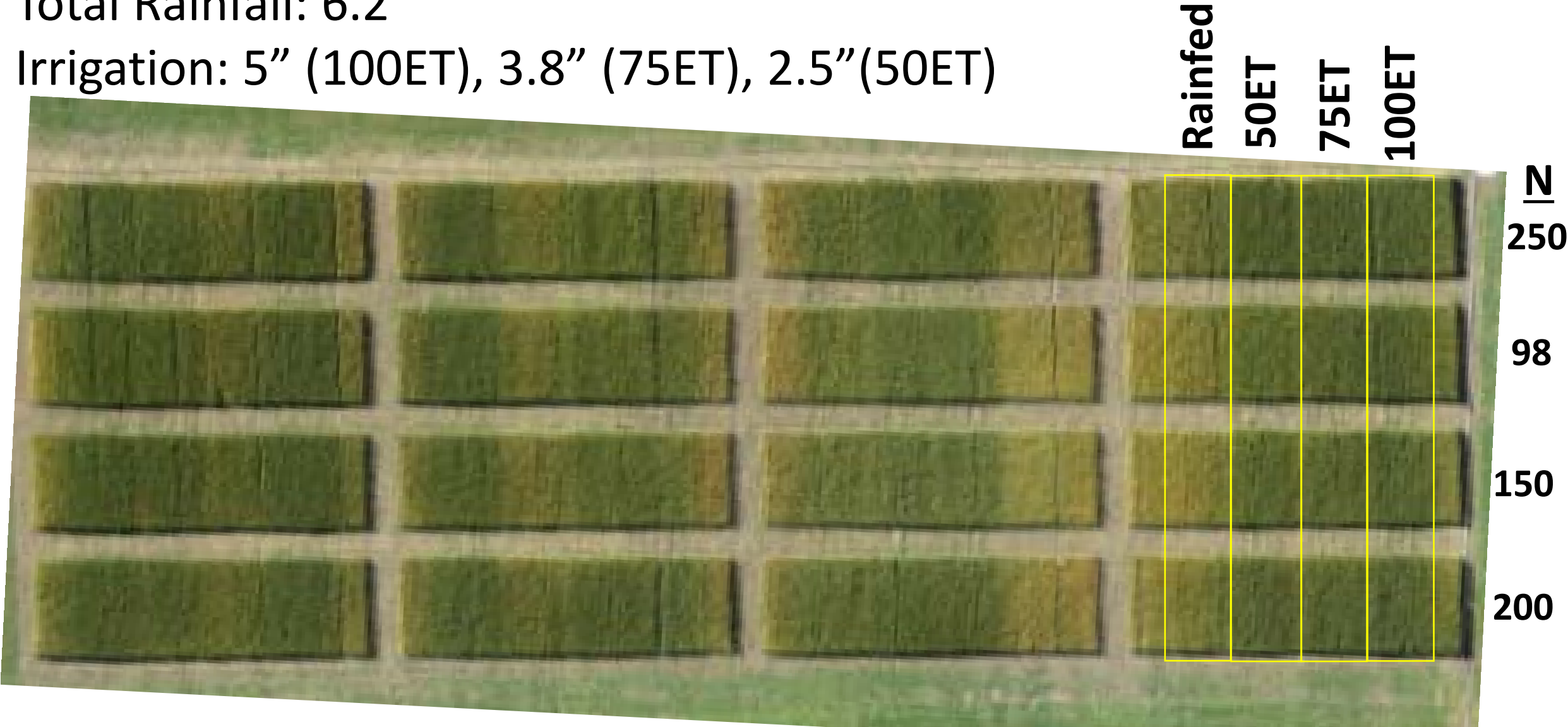
Objective: Determine the optimal N and water requirement for Egan

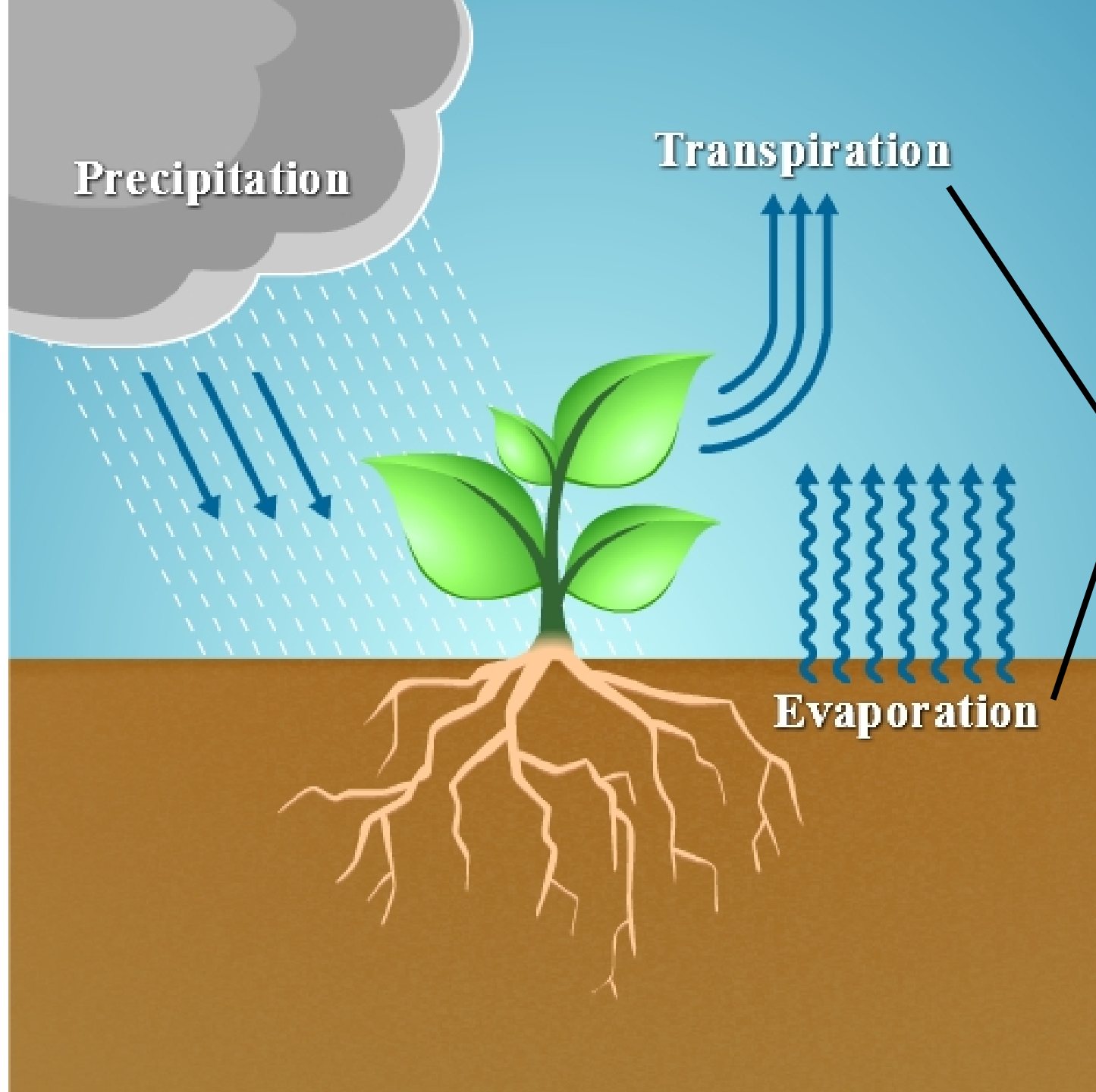
Row spacing: 8 inches; Target population: 25 plants/ft<sup>2</sup>

Available Soil Water @spring: 2.8"

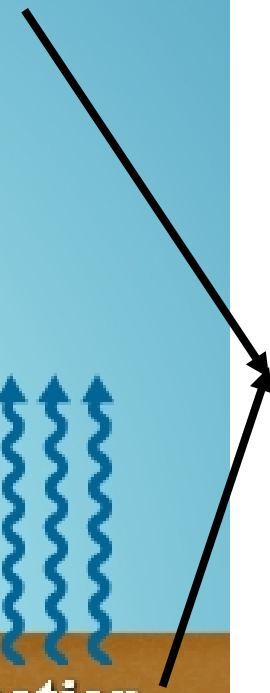
Total Rainfall: 6.2"

Irrigation: 5" (100ET), 3.8" (75ET), 2.5"(50ET)





**Evapotranspiration  
(ET)**



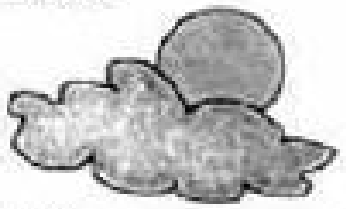
Creston, Montana AgriMet Weather Station (CRSM)

Latitude: 48.1875 N  
Longitude: 114.12777 W  
Elevation: 2950'  
Installation Date: 4/1/1988



<http://www.usbr.gov/pn/agrimet/agrimetmap/crsmda.html>

climate



Radiation  
Temperature  
Wind speed  
Humidity

+

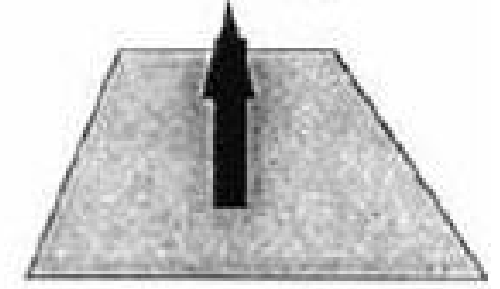
grass  
reference  
crop



well watered  
grass

=

$ET_0$



$K_c$  factor



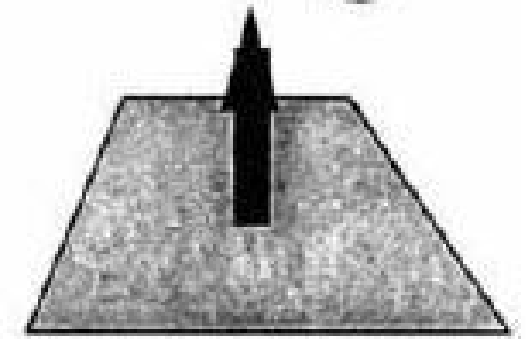
well watered crop

x

=

$ET_0$

$ET_c$



optimal agronomic conditions

# Daily Crop Water Use (Crop ET)

$$ET_c = ET_o \times K_c$$

*For example:*

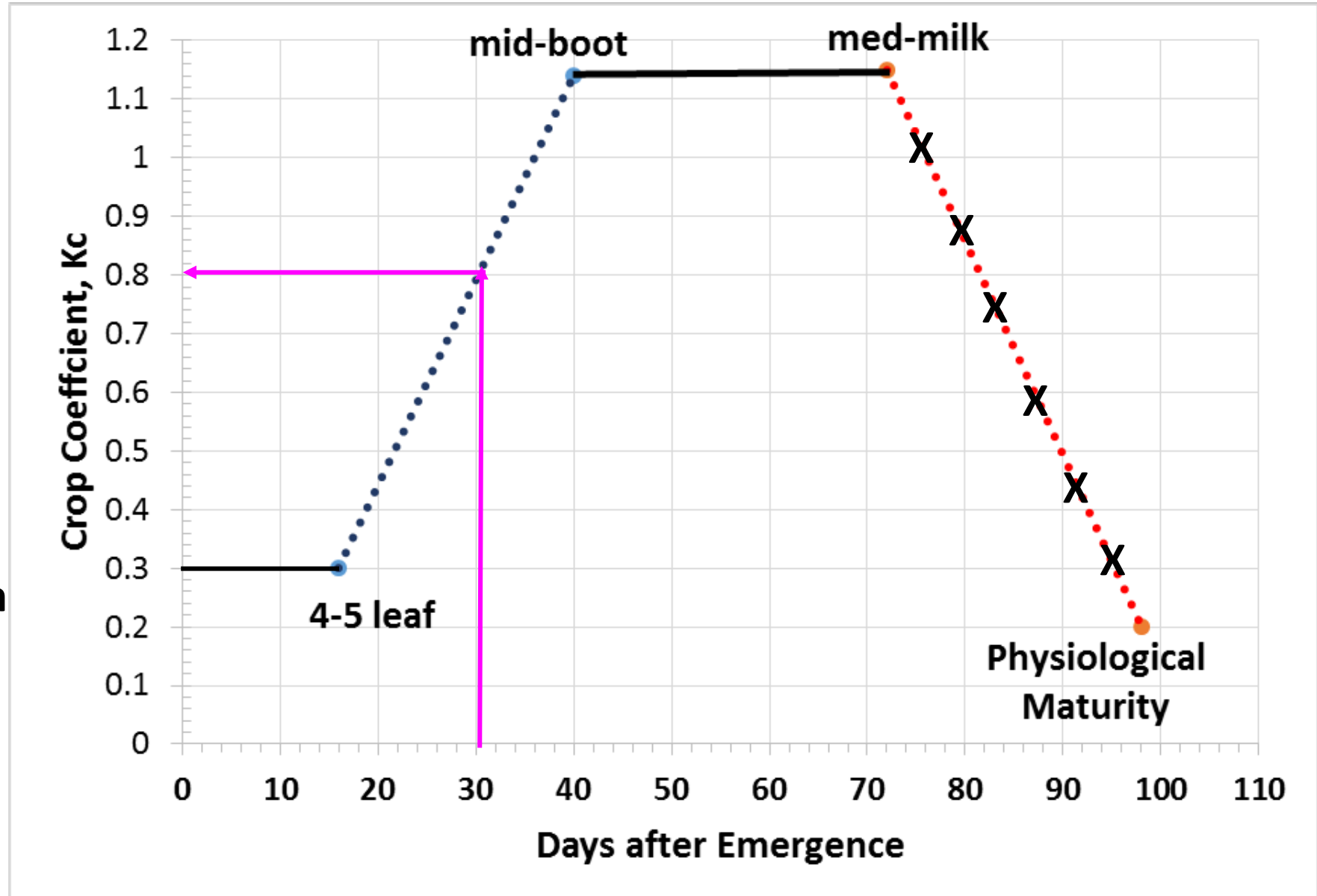
Creston W. Station

$ET_o$ : 0.4

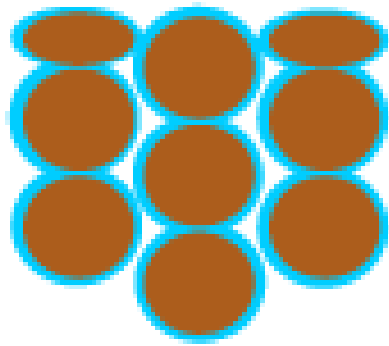
Current  $K_c$ : 0.8

$$ET_c = 0.4 \times 0.8 = 0.32 \text{ in}$$

<http://www.usbr.gov/pn/agrimet/cropcurves/cropcurves.html>



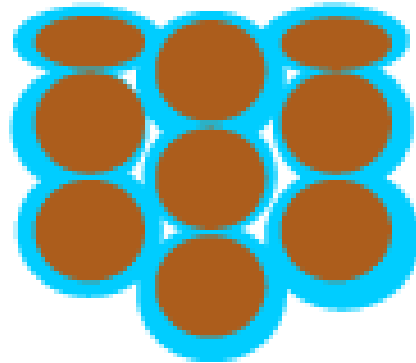
Permanent Wilting Point



Remaining water adheres to soil particles and is unavailable to plants

Wilting point →

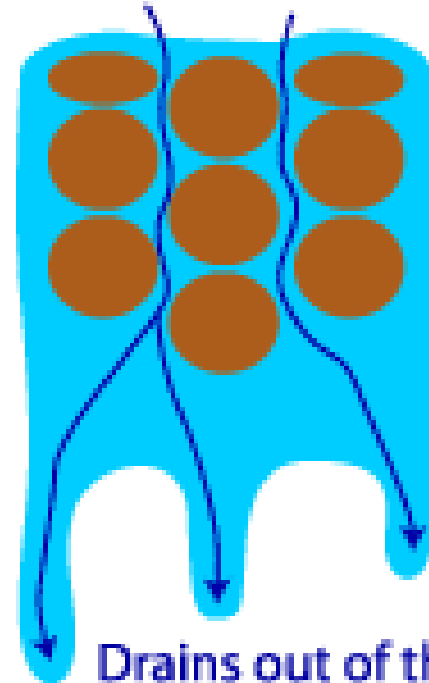
Field Capacity



Water held in micropores

Available water-plant roots can absorb this

Saturated Water Content



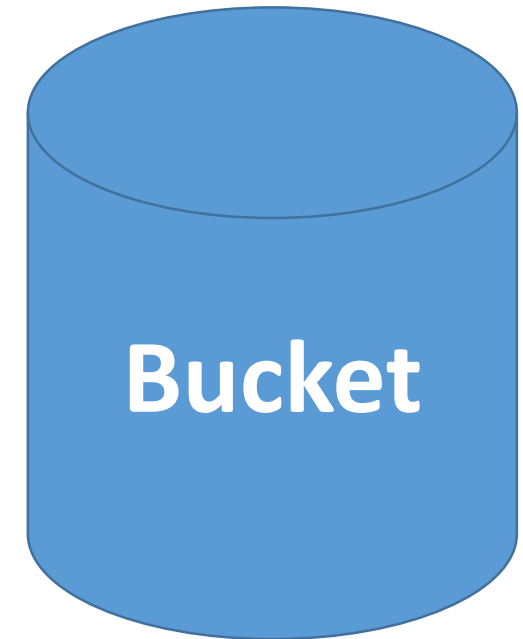
Drains out of the root zone

← Field capacity

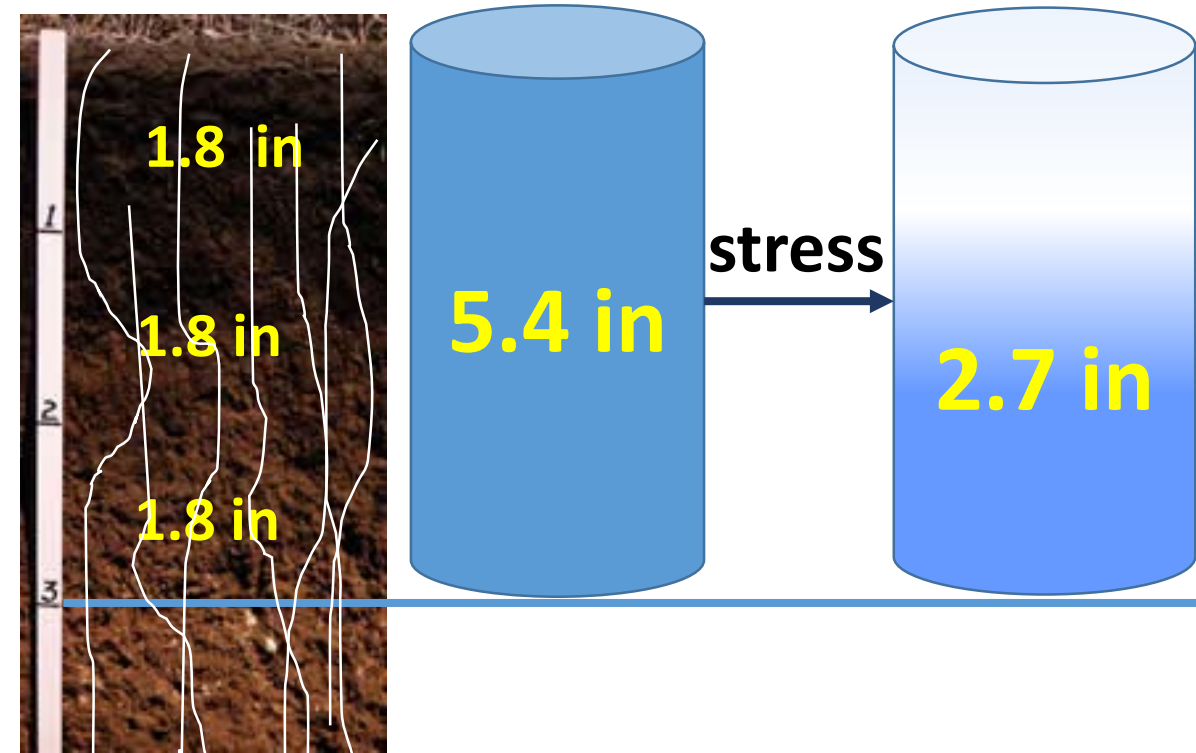
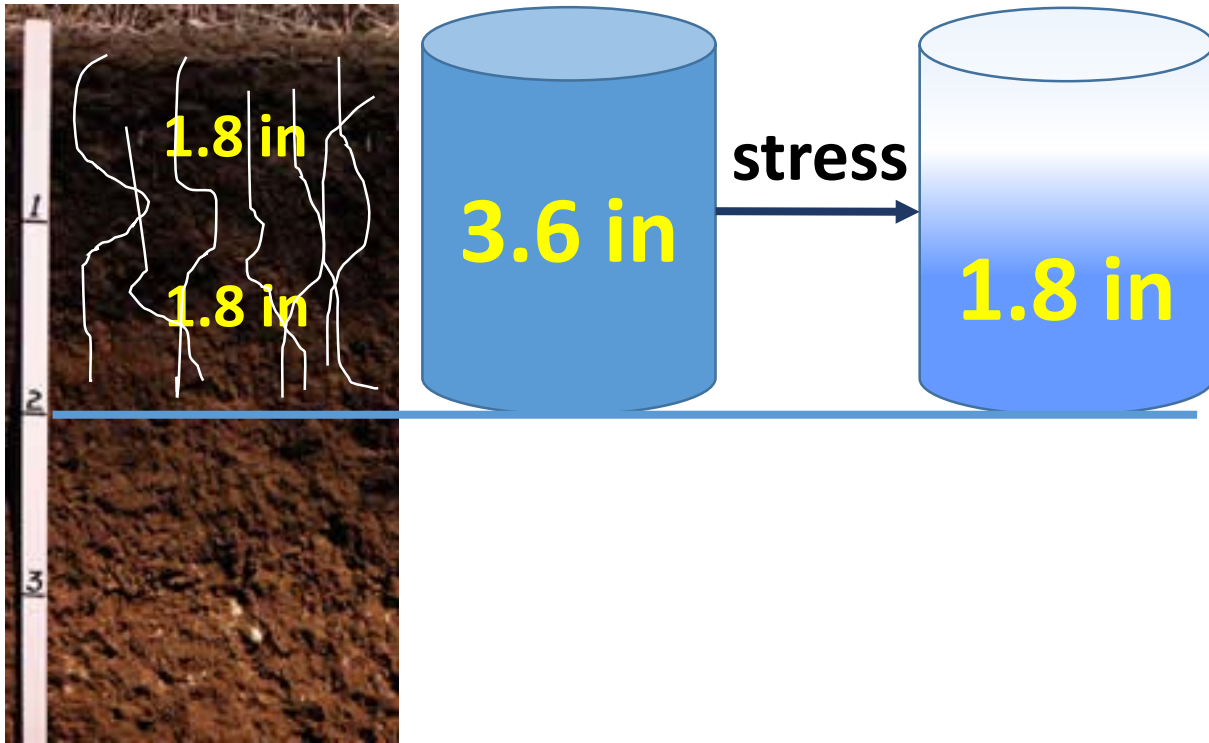
**Available water for plant growth**



Soil Texture	Water Holding Capacity (in/ft soil)
Coarse sand	0.25-0.75
Fine sand	0.75-1.00
Loamy sand	1.10-1.20
Sandy loam	1.25-1.40
Fine sandy loam soil	1.50-2.00
Silt loam	2.00-2.50
Silty clay loam	1.80-2.00
Silty clay	1.50-1.70
Clay	1.20-1.50



# Water Holding Capacity of a Fine Sandy Loam Soil

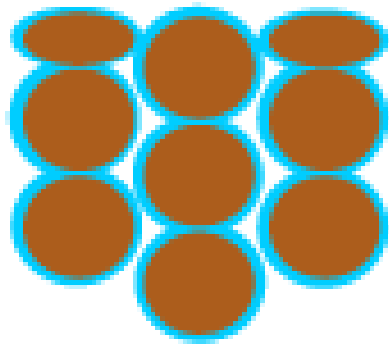


**1.5 or 2 ft Soil Depth to Consider: early vegetative**

**3 ft Soil Depth to Consider: ~Boot**

$$PAW_{\text{Today}} = PAW_{\text{yesterday}} - \text{CropET} - \text{Other Losses} + \text{Rainfall} + \text{Irrigation}$$

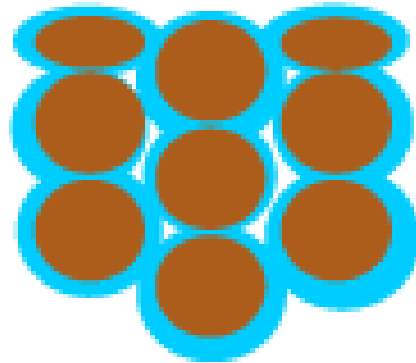
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Remaining water adheres to soil particles and is unavailable to plants

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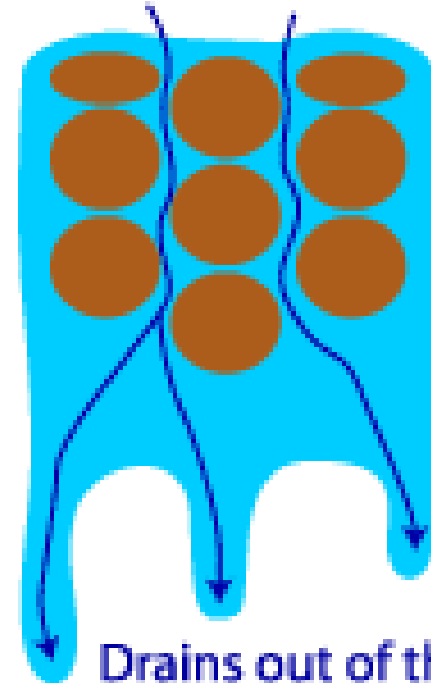
Field Capacity



Water held in micropores

Available water-plant roots can absorb this

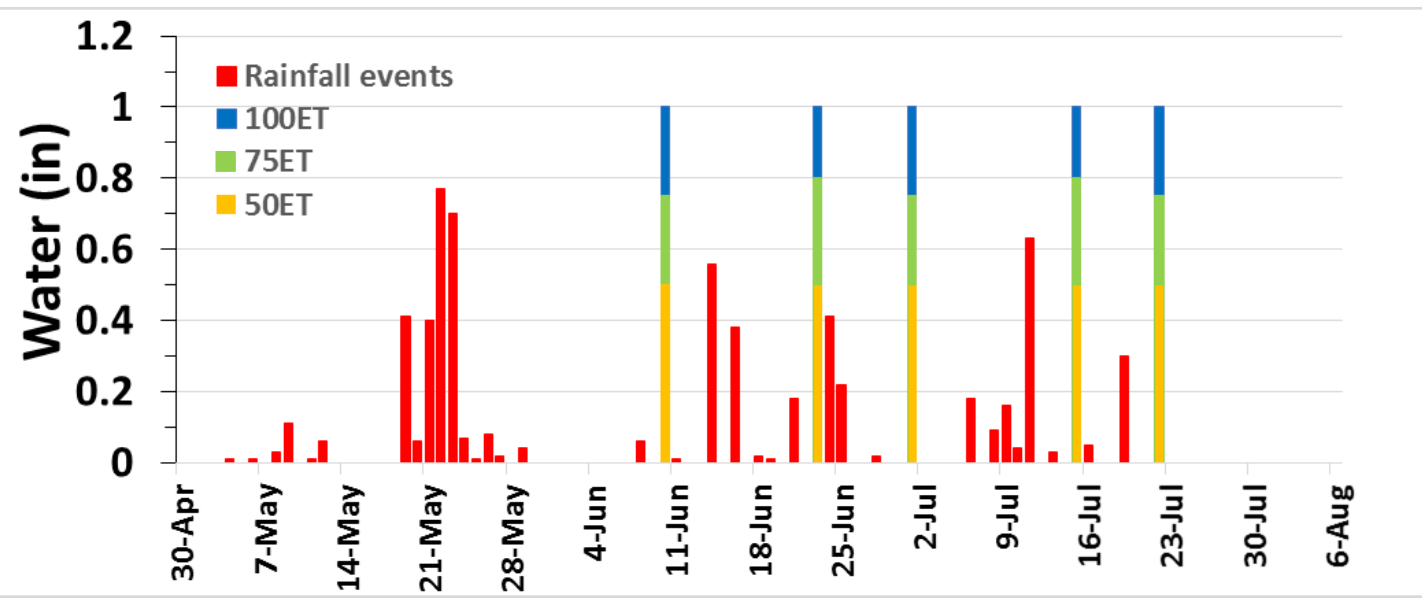
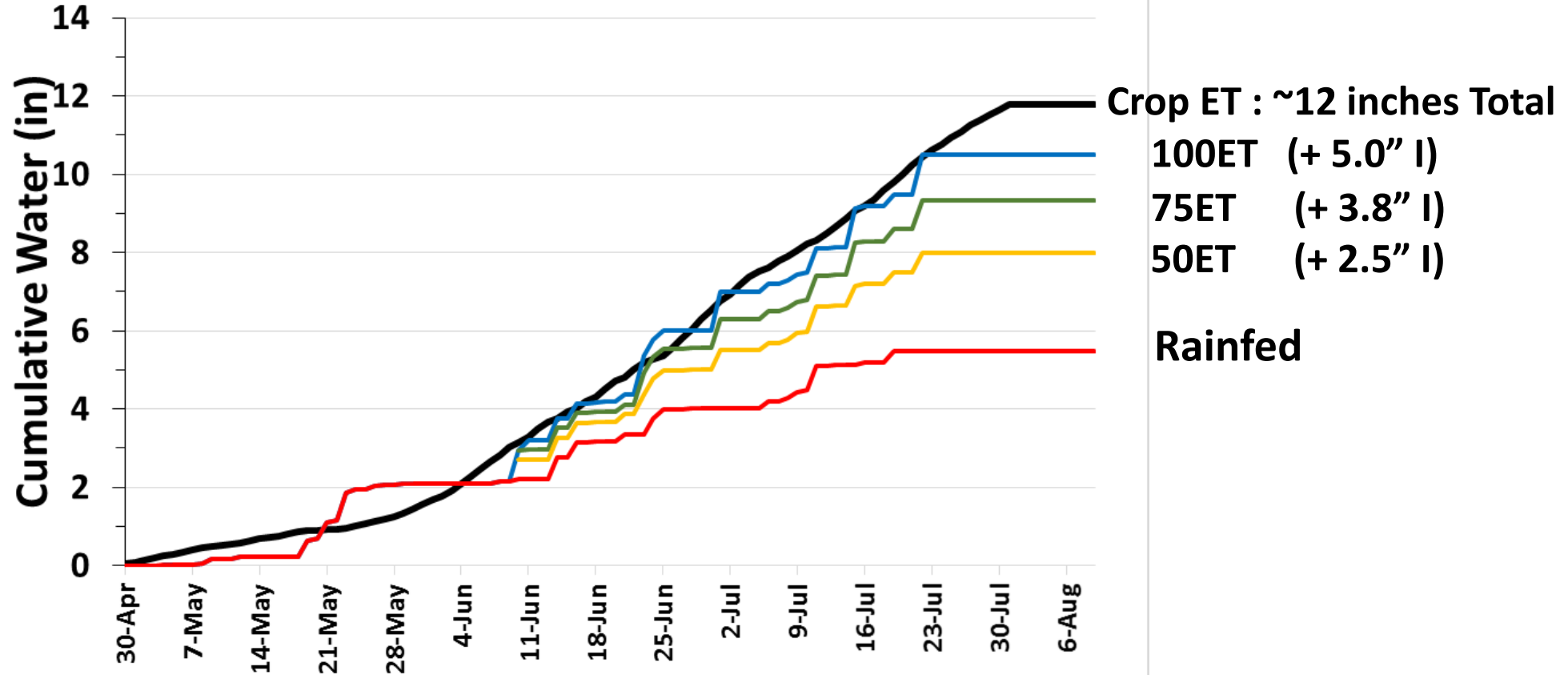
Saturated Water Content

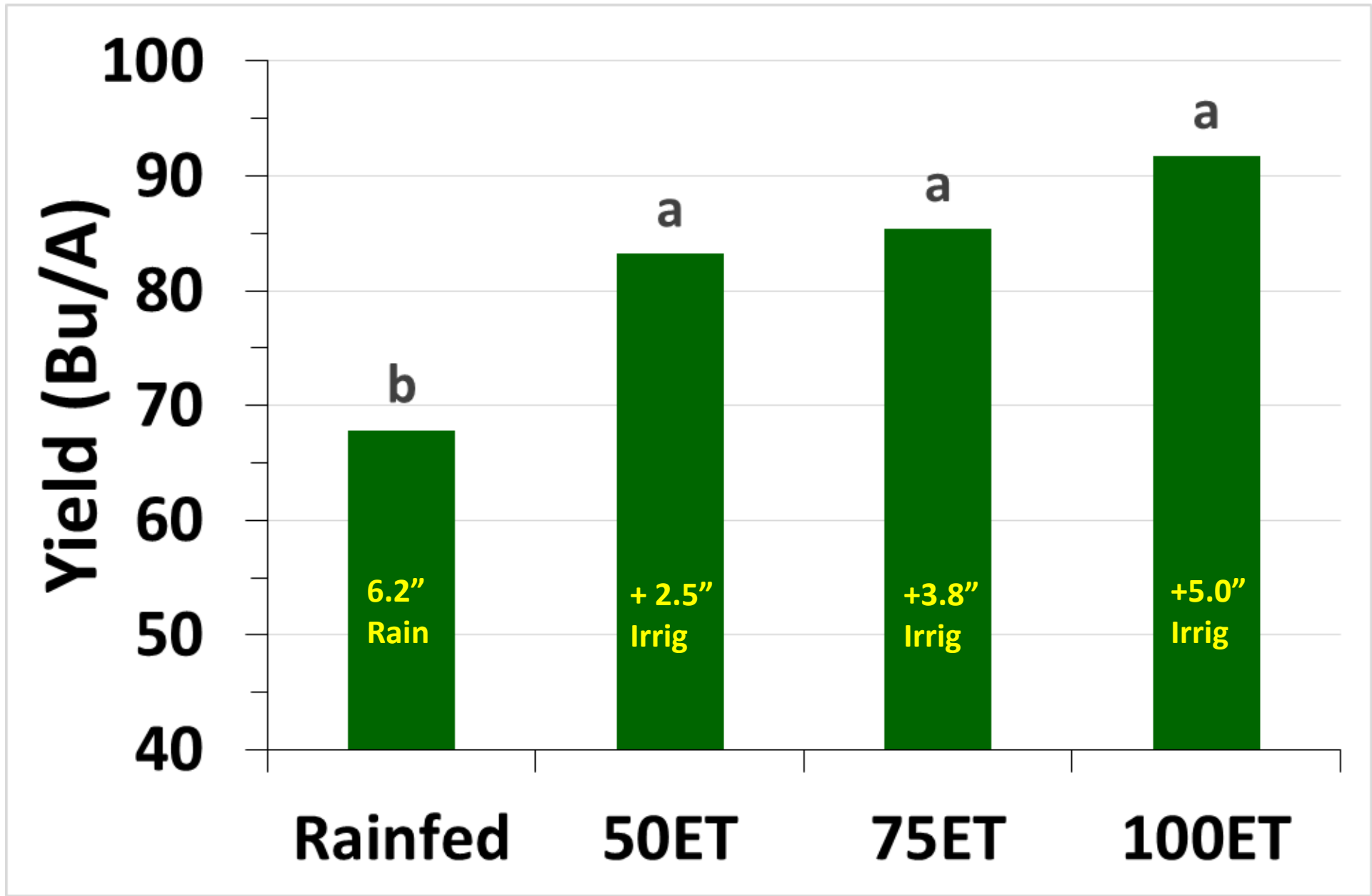


Drains out of the root zone

← Field capacity

**Available water for plant growth**

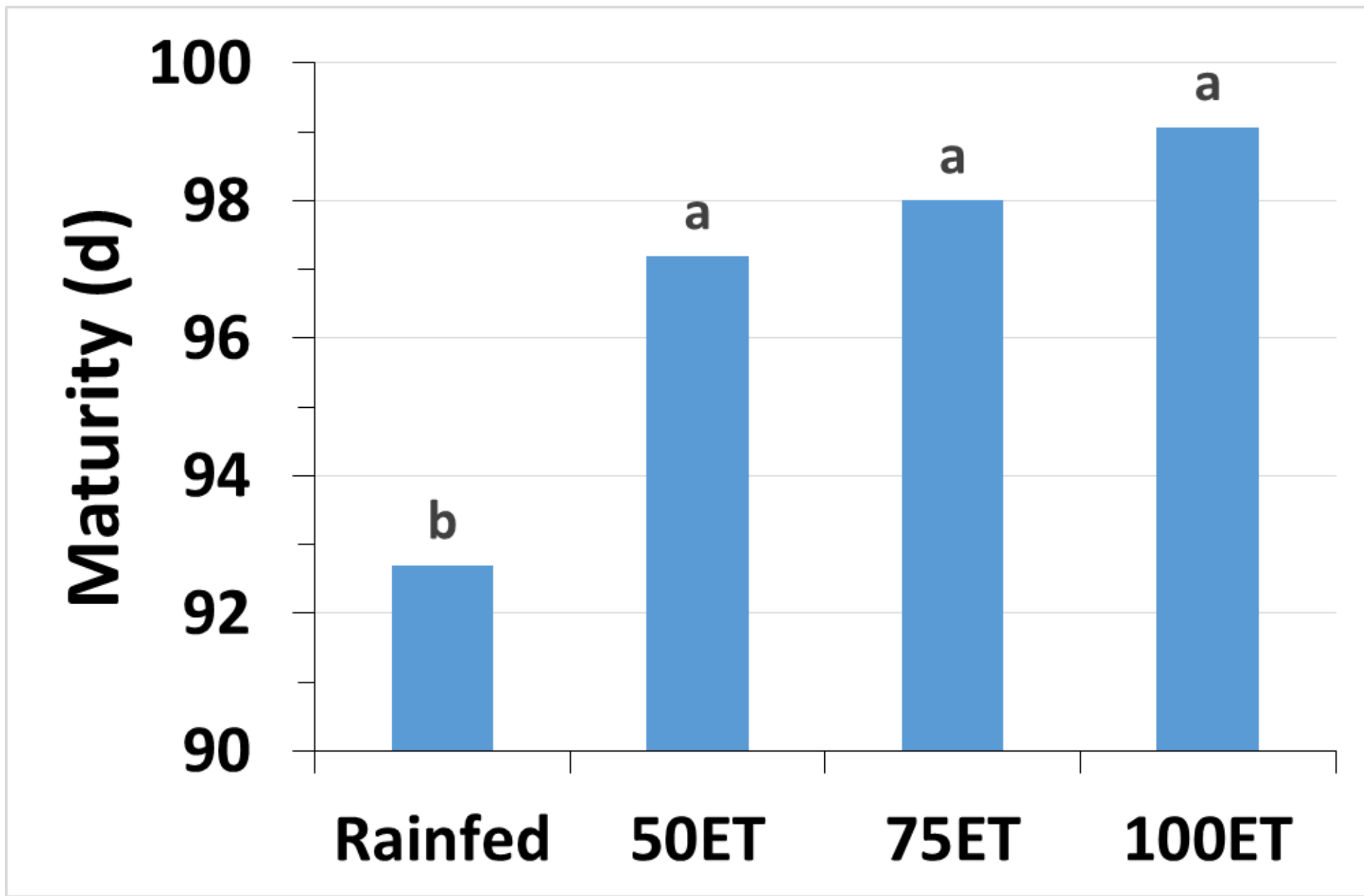


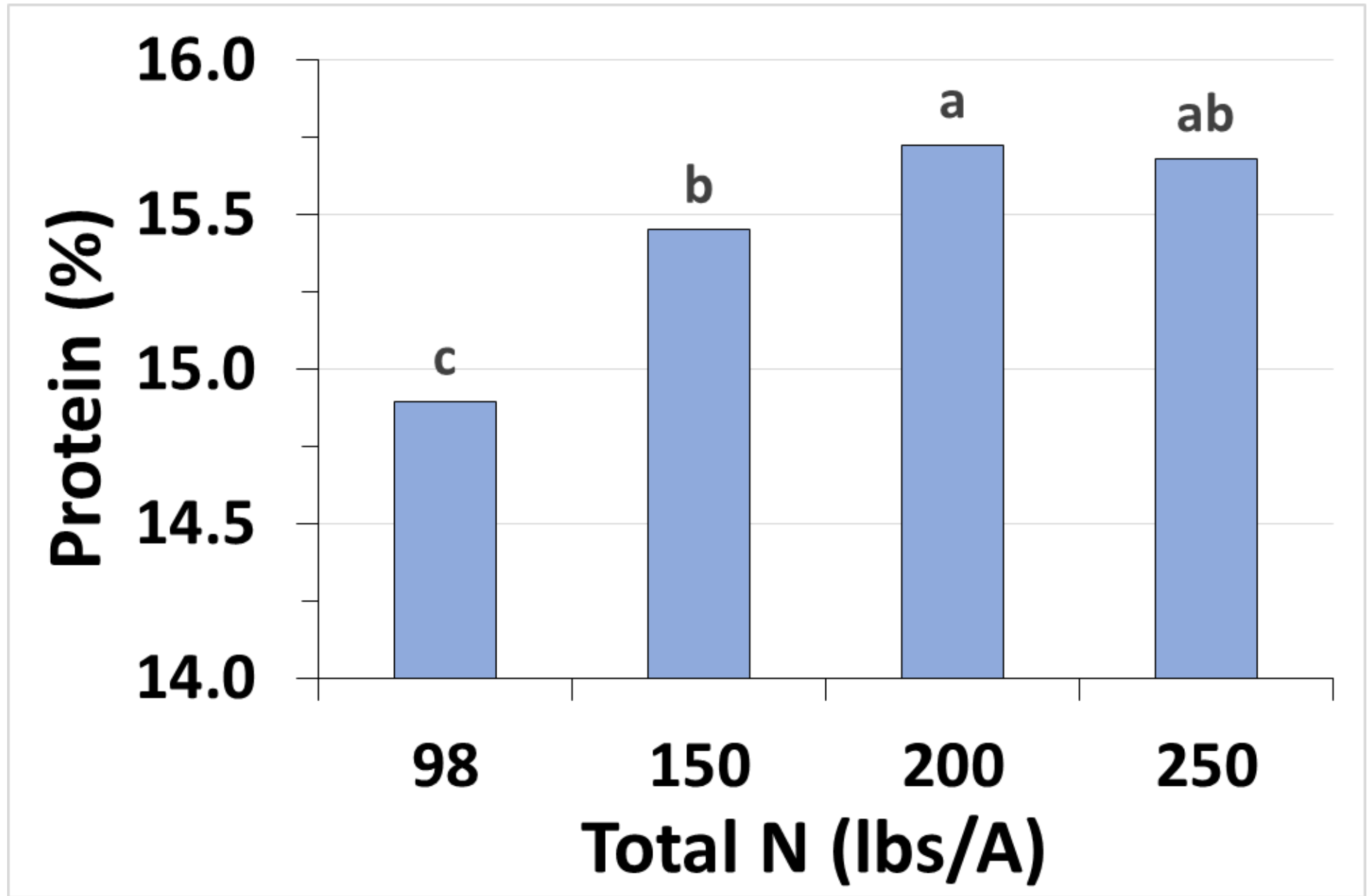


Water: 0.0025

N: 0.2948

Water x N: 0.5526

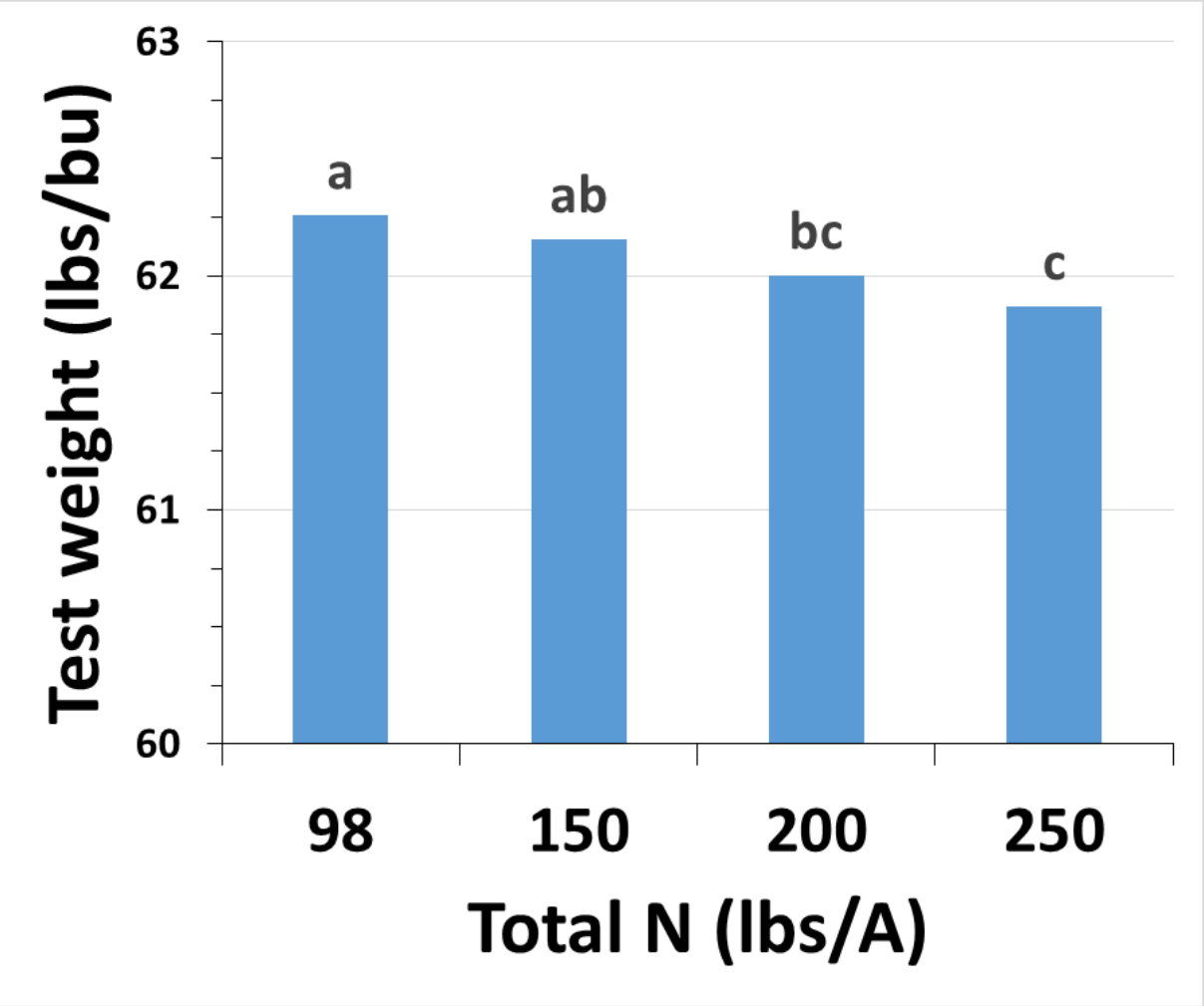
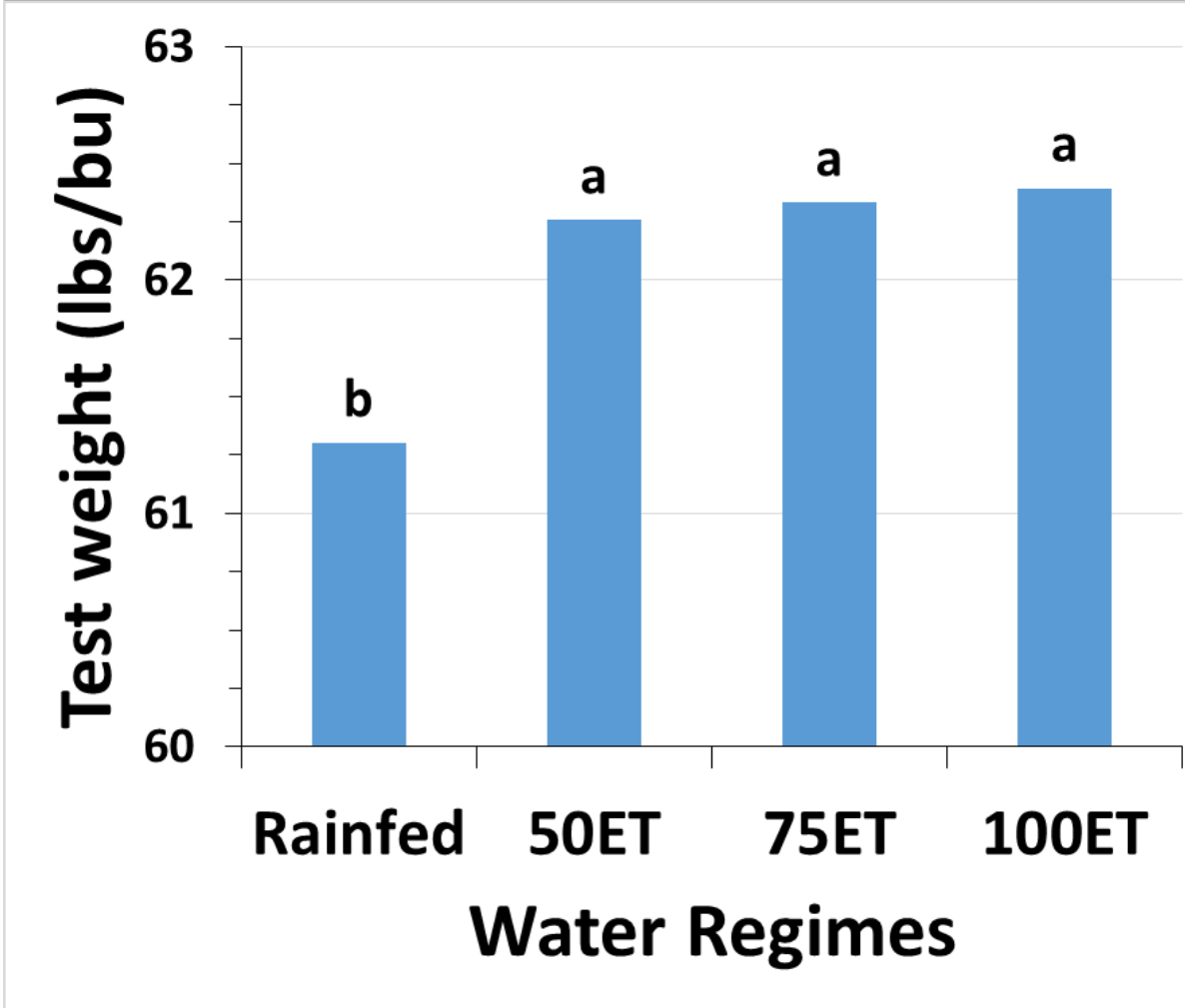




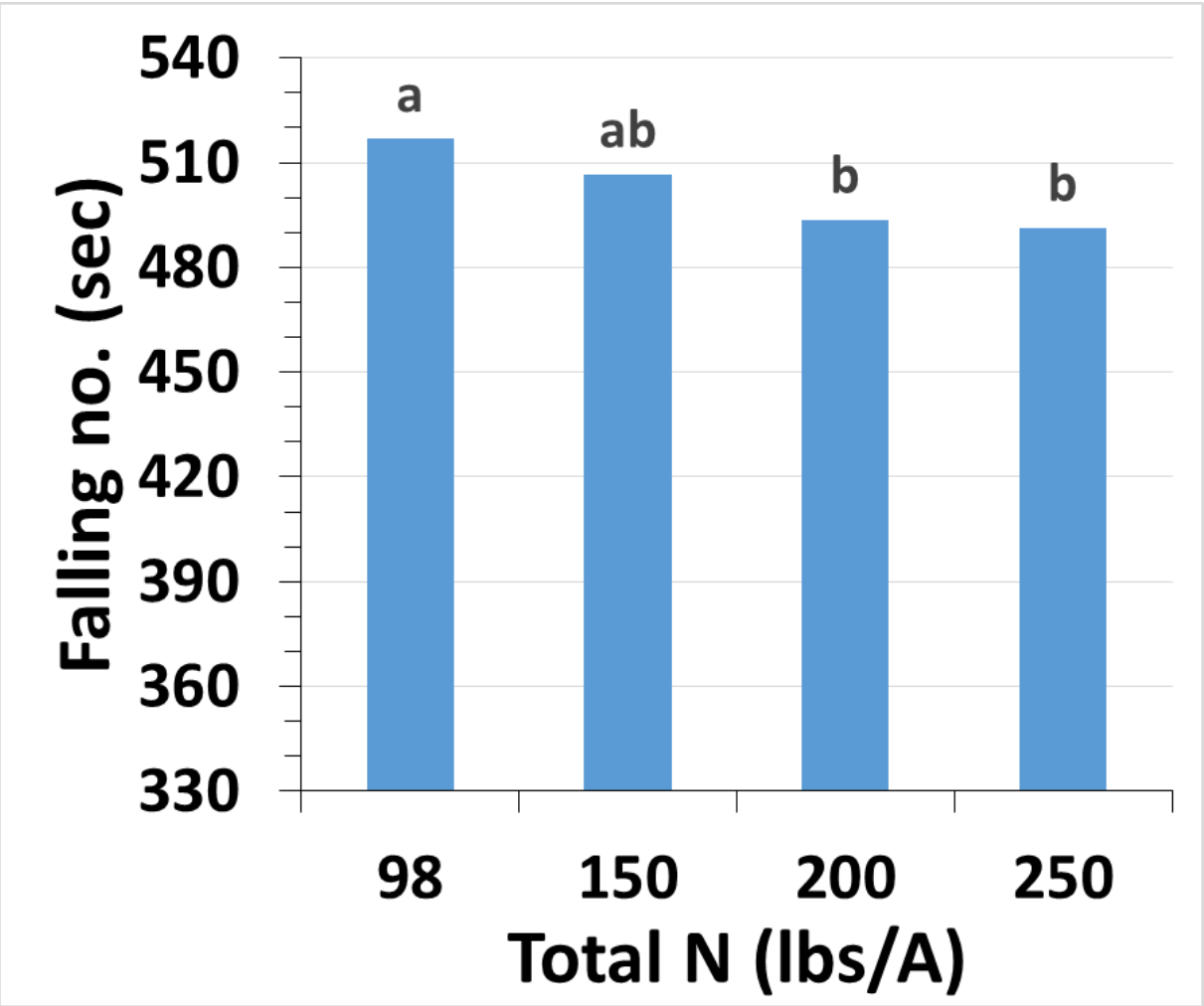
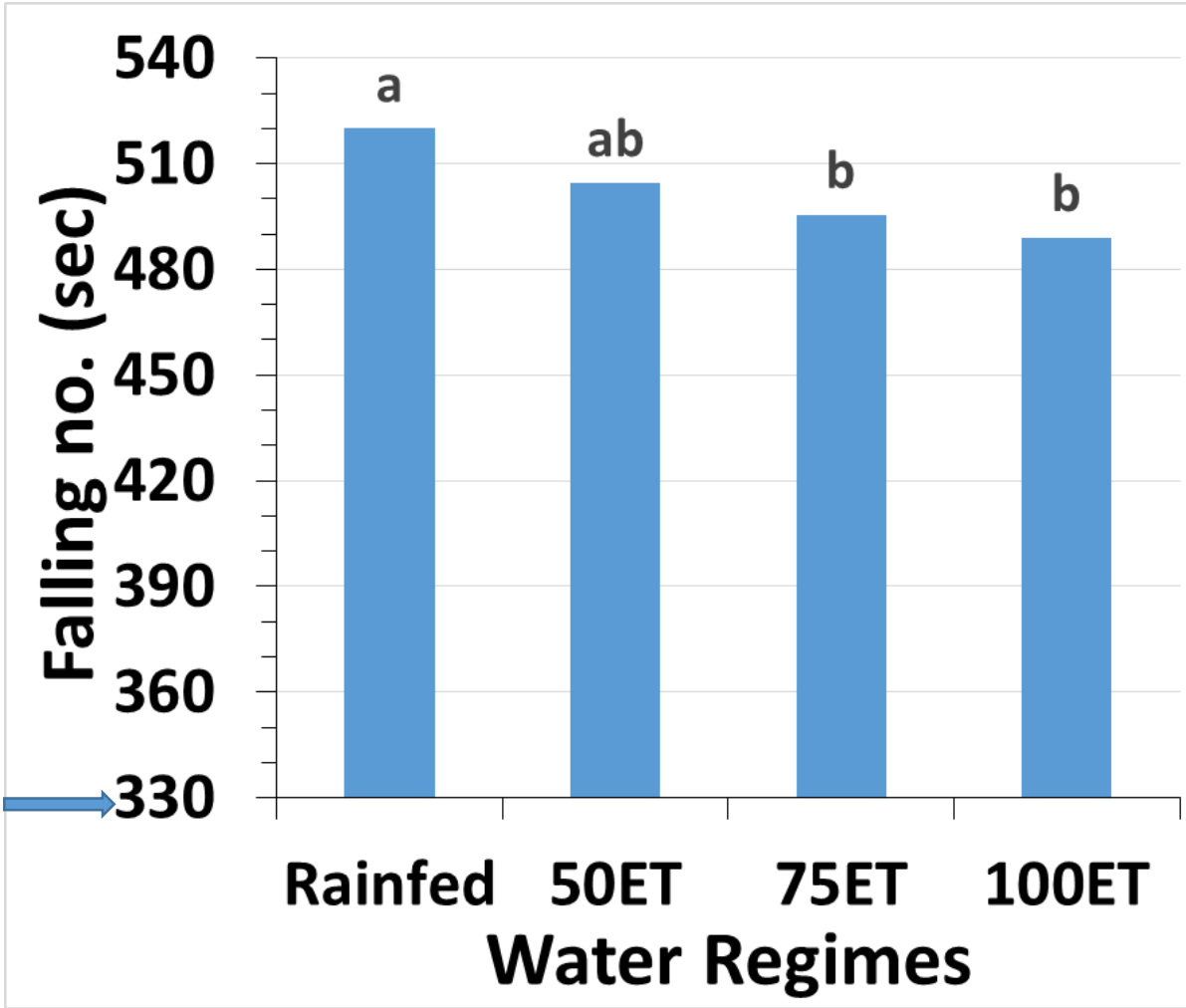
Water: 0.9261

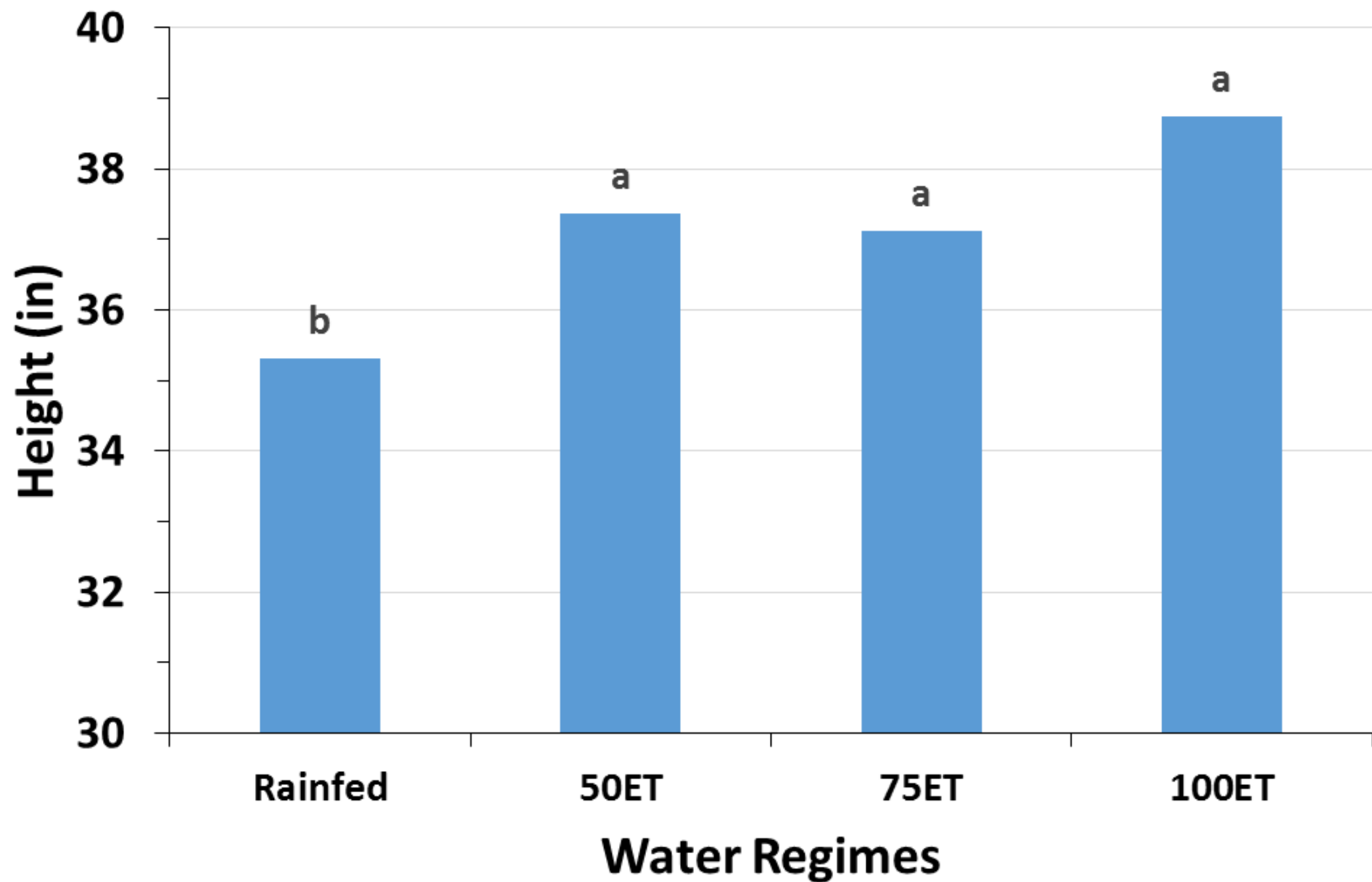
N: 0.0001

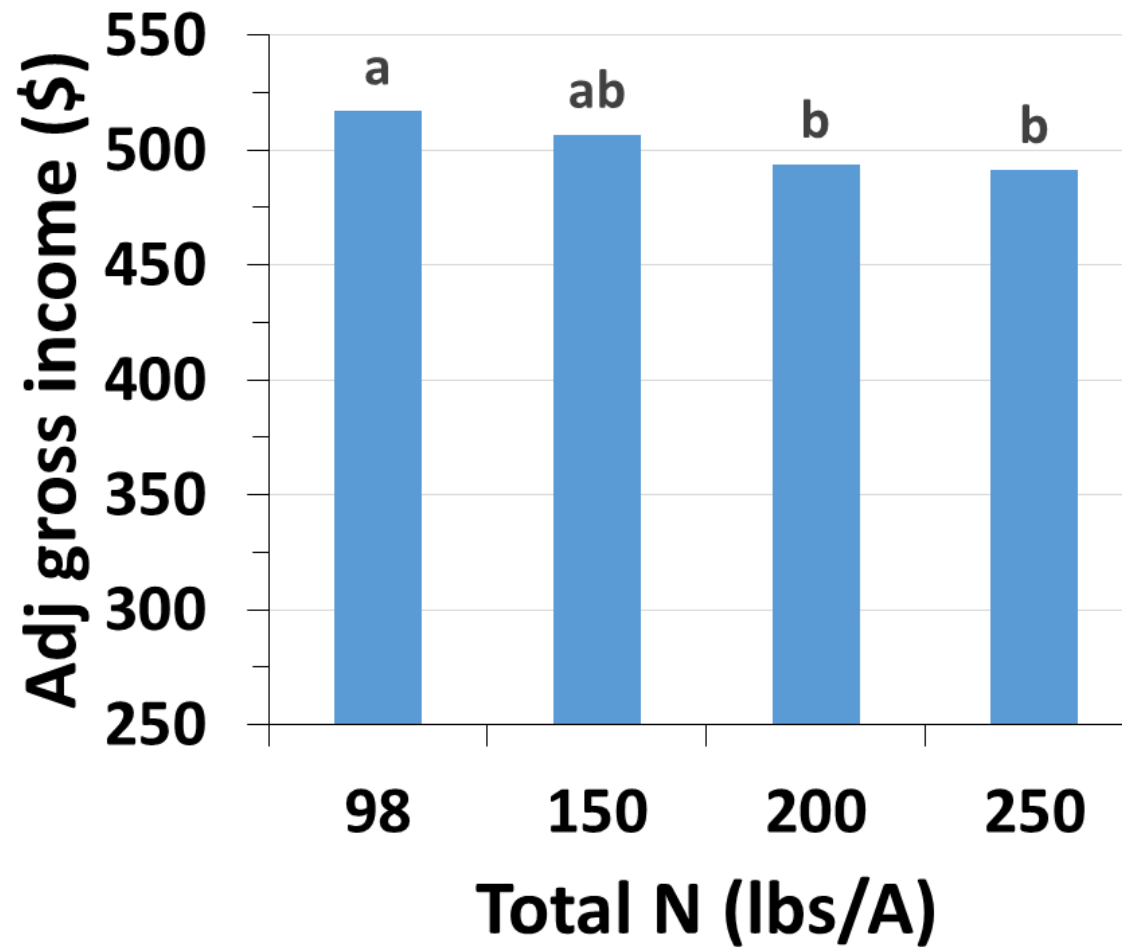
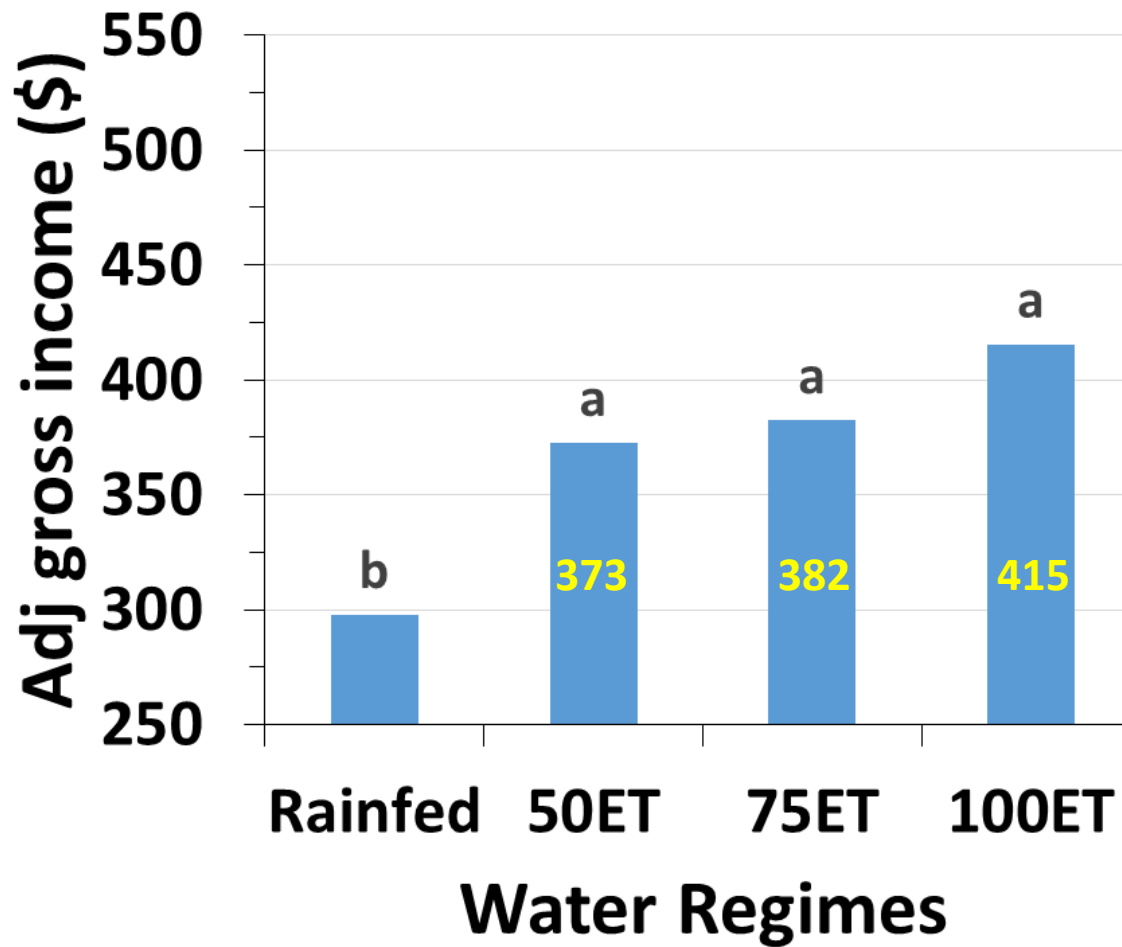
Water x N: 0.0662

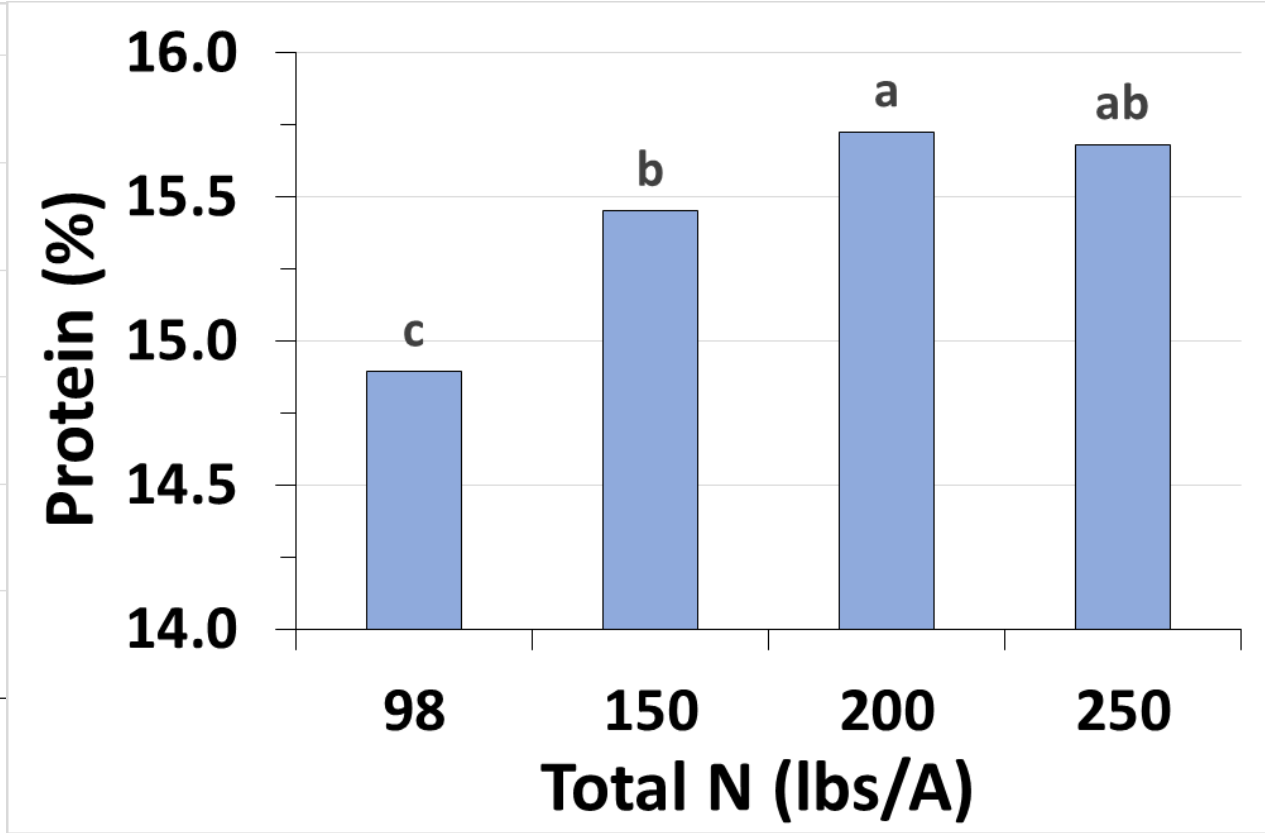
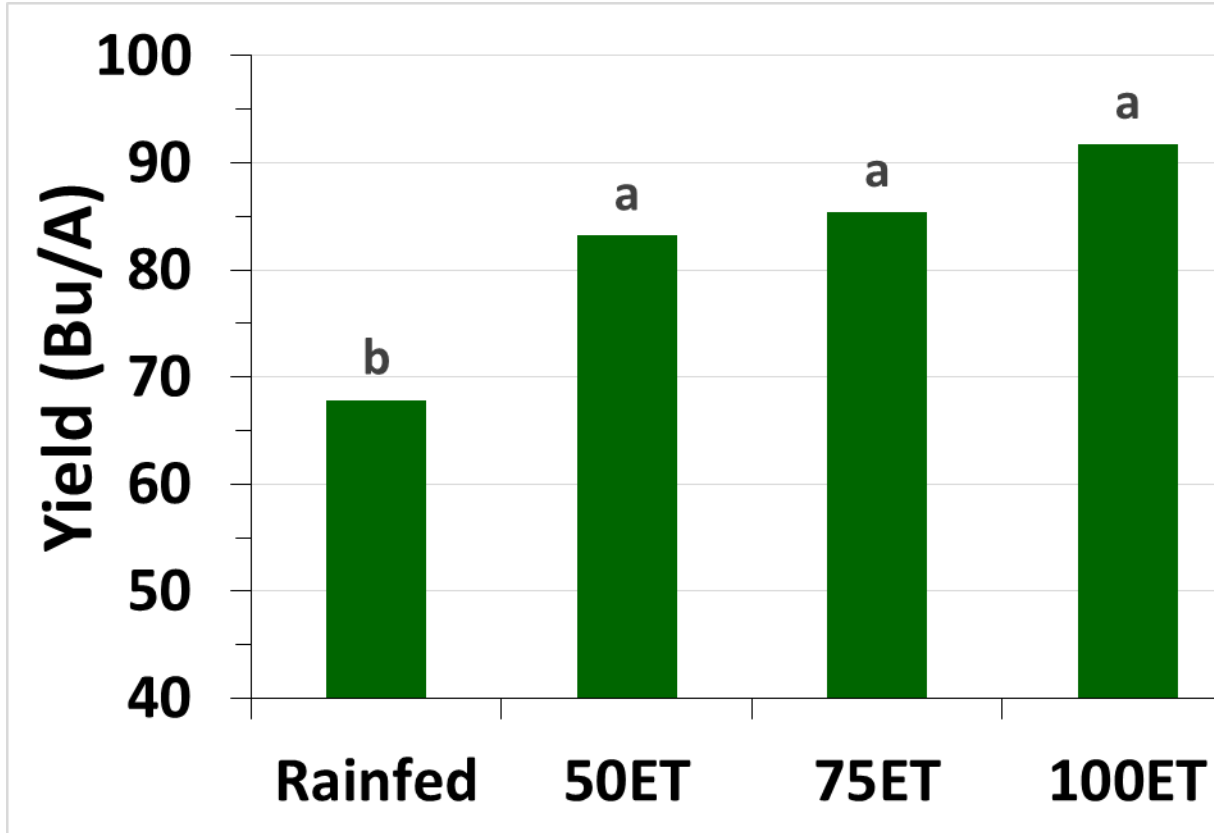












# Based on 1-yr (2016) data alone

	N Treatment lbs	Irrigation
Yield	98	<b>50ET</b>
Protein	200	
Adjusted Gross Income	98 (150)	<b>50ET</b>

6.2" R + 2.5" I + ~2.8" spring  
stored moisture in the soil

# DISCUSSION