G x E Interaction in Sunflowers for the Northern Plains

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What is G x E Interaction

- The ability of a genotype to interact with its environment either positively or negatively
- If there is no interaction, then the best genotype in one environment will be superior in them all
- If an interaction is present, then a particular genotype will perform differently when placed in different environments



Background

- Importance of G x E interaction
 - Over half a century
 - Many crops, most famously maize
- G x E in sunflowers has been studied in many countries
 - South Africa, Sudan, Italy, Argentina
- Very little research done in the Northern Plains



Objectives

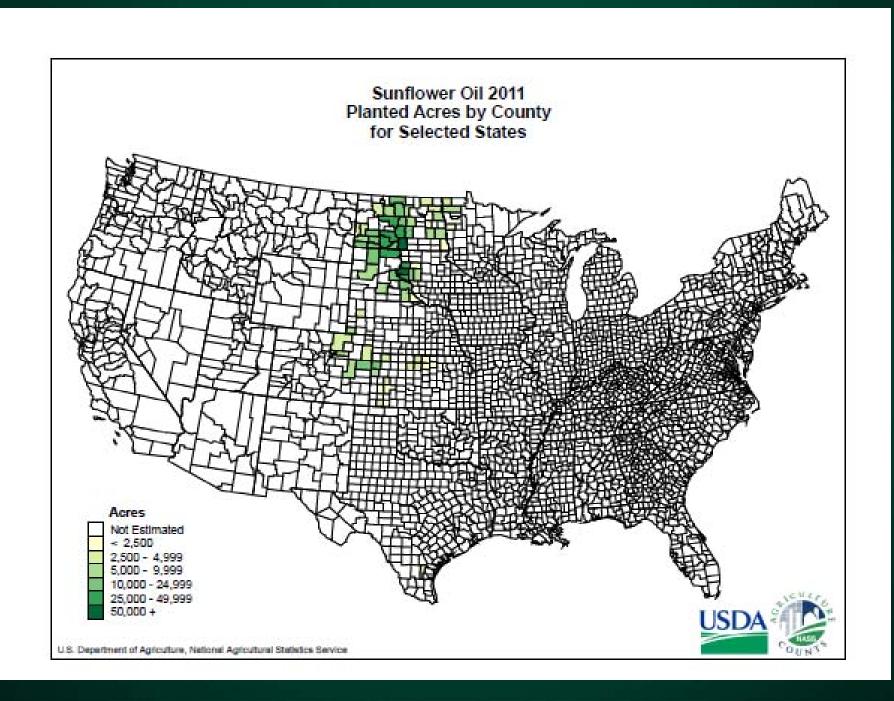
- Understand G x E in this region
 - Yield and Oil
 - Determine mega-environments
- Analyze the rate of improvement
 - 1970-present



Impact

- Understand sunflower breeding's testing environments currently available
- Ability to optimize resources
- Understand how germplasm has changed over 40 years
- Provide a phenotypic dataset to evaluate genomic prediction models for future studies







Locations

Cultural

- No-till vs conventional
- Populations

Environmental

- Soil Type
- pH
- Rainfall
- Elevation



Materials and Methods

- 6 locations, 2 replications, 2 years
- USDA maintaining Velva, Mandan, Wyndmere and Eureka
- Carrington, NDSU
- Crookston, Winfield Solutions



Materials and Methods

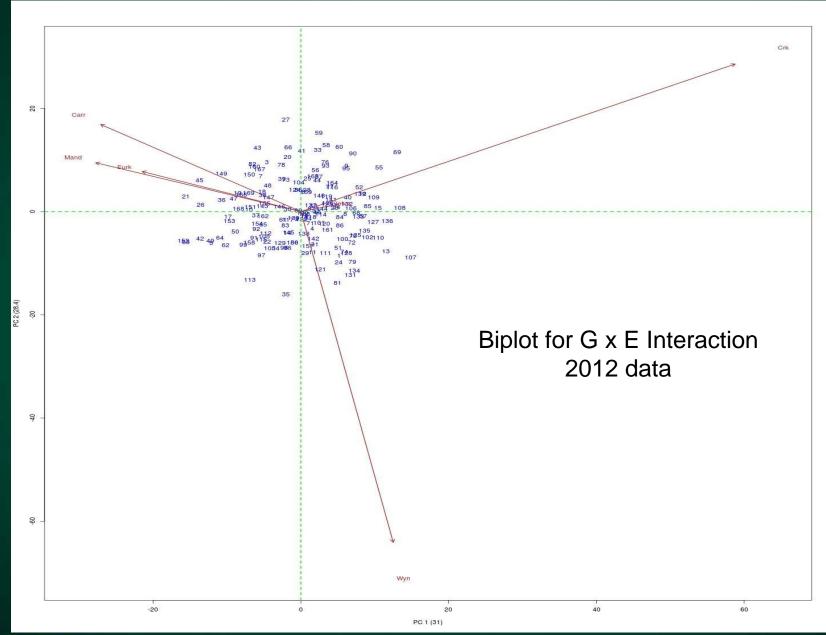
- 79 A-line from the USDA since 1970 x 2 R-line testers (373 & 377)
- 7 treatments are commercial hybrids
- 4 are modern hybrids currently used in the USDA
- RCBD with each rep as a lattice
 - 169 treatments total
 - 13 units per incomplete block
- AMMI function of R used to run the analysis on Peppermint Linux OS

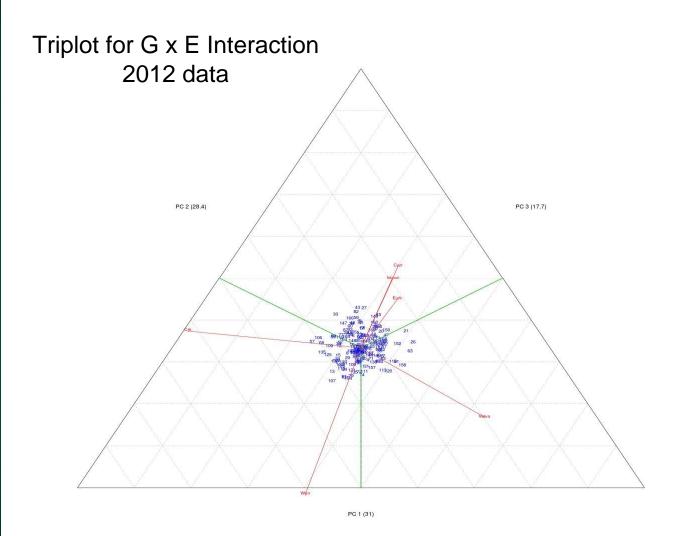


AMMI Model

- Additive Main Effect and Multiplicative Interaction
 - Combines the analysis of variance and principal components analysis
 - Analysis of variance
 - Additive main effects analysis
 - PCA
 - G x E interaction
- Summarizes patterns within the relationships of genotypes and environments
- Results are shown using a biplot or triplot graph







Conclusions

- A genotype by environment interaction exists
- Many are stable across all the environments
- Many of the commercial hybrids are trending towards the western environment, but in general the material is broadly adapted
- Carrington, Mandan and Eureka are all very similar environments
- Wyndmere and Crookston are in an environment all their own
- Analyzing the triplot shows Velva weakly separated into another environment



Thank you!

- National Sunflower Association
- National Sclerotinia Initiative
- •Dr. Brent Hulke, Leanne Matthiesen, summer students
- Winfield Solutions
- •USDA Mandan
- •NDSU Carrington
- Curt Lee Agrotech, Velva
- David Grenz Eureka
- Todd and Arnold Woodbury Wyndmere



Questions?

Go Bison!!!

