

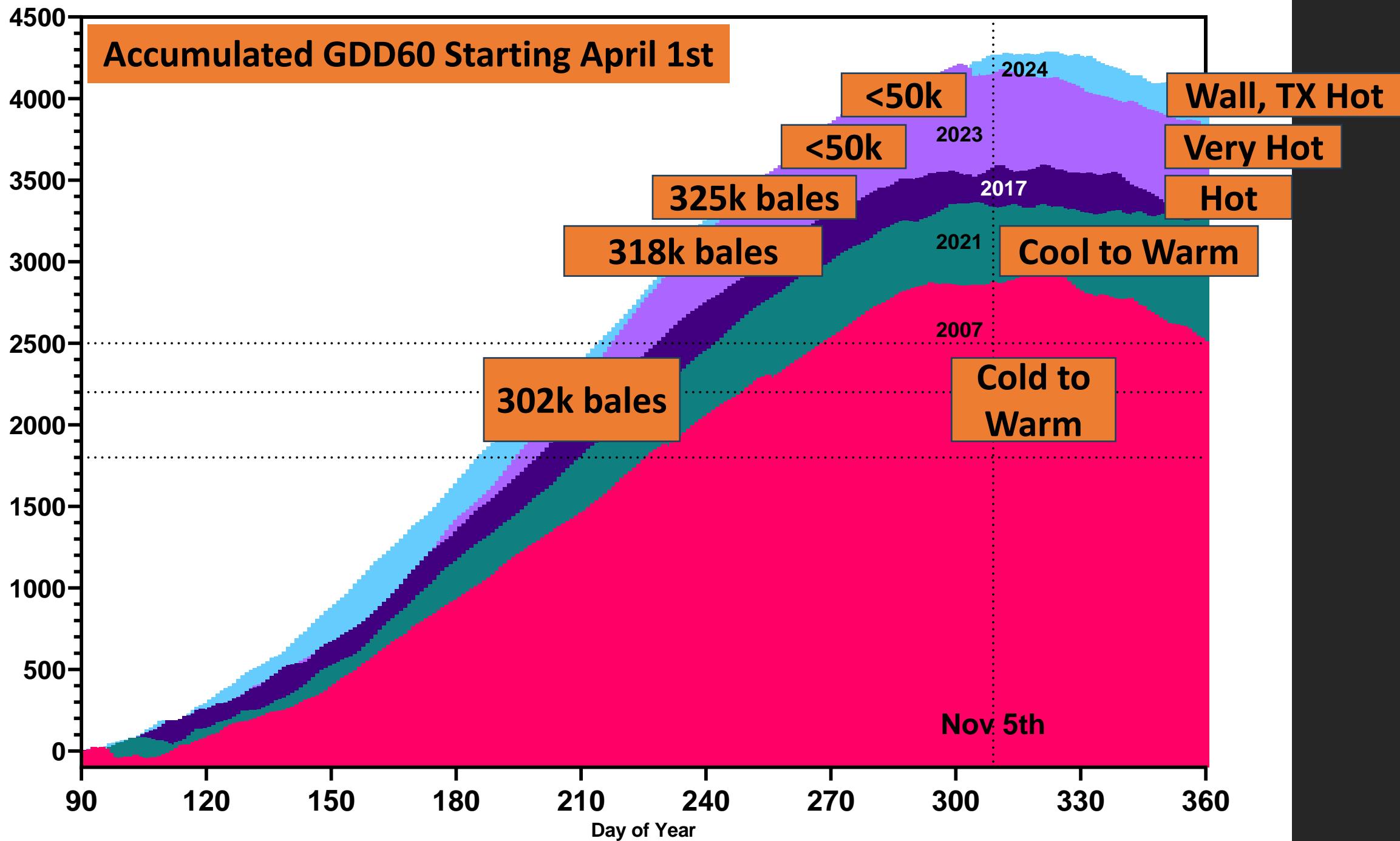
**Gregory Bryan Wilson
IPM Program Specialist, TAMU AgriLife
Extension**

**Tom Green / Runnels
Districts 3, 6, and 7**

**gregory.wilson@ag.tamu.edu
972-743-0045**

From 2022 to 2024, the area experienced prolonged heat waves during the critical growing months of May to August.

- Managing insect and weed pests has been tremendously challenged.



**Wireworms, Thrips,
Pillbugs**

**until 3rd week in
May**

**Grasshoppers,
Aphids, Stink Bugs,
and Leaf Footed
from
June until Sept**

**Very few seed treatments,
sprays, or over-threshold
pests**

**Severely reduced yield
AVG Bale : Acre = 0.13
(2022-2024)**

**Per Acre Value of Program for:
Sorghum- \$18.22
Cotton- \$27.50
Wheat- \$15.00**

**12 Weeks of Pest
Trapping**

**889 Traps-checked
in 23**

**682 Traps in 24
(missing Corpus)**

**Don't Worry!
There is nothing to fear,
We didn't catch anything of
importance.**



12 Weeks of Pest Trapping

**889 Traps-checked
in 23**

**682 Traps in 24
(missing Corpus)**

**Plus, some fall
monitoring**

**12-15/4d CBW (Miles)
3-5/4d CBW (Wall)**

**4/4d FAW (Miles)
4-5/4d CBW (Wall)**

**Both peaked end of Sept.
Until crashing the last
week in November.**

27 IPM-based lessons / programs for various AgriLife and industry events across 12 counties.

**Top 4 most discussed
topics in 2024.**

- 1. BGSM-mgmt**
- 2. Modes of Action**
- 3. What's up with these
wasps/hoppers/desert
termites?**
- 4. When should I plant?**



The Future

Top 10 Goals for 2025

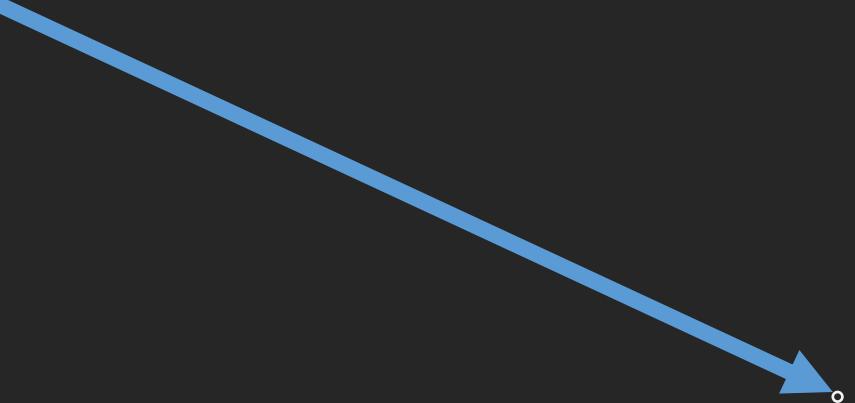
1. Greater involvement with growers (more interactions)
2. Increase presence in D7 programs
3. Hire a wonderkind
4. Scout roughly the same area
5. No drought
6. Pillbugs, Corn Leafhopper, Wireworms, Planting date, and Residue Management
7. Gain 10 pounds
8. Improve online availability of past data and newsletters
9. Automate my weather station datasets
10. Not get my butt-kicked by #Farm-Life

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The Grain of Salt



I am not trying to prove anything.

I needed insight into my growing region. (I'm still a rookie)

Seeking your experience to serve my growers better.

If there's a 10-20% chance of a significant drought in any given year

the serial probability of four in a row = 0.01% to 0.16%

Remember the drought of record from 1950 to 1957. Are we there again? Or are we in something different?

HOW HOT IS TOO HOT?

Southern Rolling Plains

Zone 8a

min avg temp - 10–15°F

Zone 8b

min avg temp - 15–20°F

2022-2024, suffered major droughts.



Characterized by hot, dry summers, a distinct dry period during the summer with high evaporation rates; essentially a semi-arid climate with significant temperature fluctuations between seasons.

Key points

Rainfall: Historical - avg annual 20 to 28 inches.

Wind: Moderate to strong winds are common.

Precipitation pattern: A noticeable dry period during the summer months.

MEAN (2007-2024)

Degrees >100 = 90 (sum of degrees)

Days of Heat >100 = 28

Most Consecutive-Days >100 = 11

Total-Days >100 = 22

Bale Output = 200,897

Seasonal Rainfall (May-Aug) = 9.7 inch

Post-Seasonal Rainfall (Sept-Dec) = 7.5

Pre-Seasonal Rainfall (Jan-Apr) = 4.1

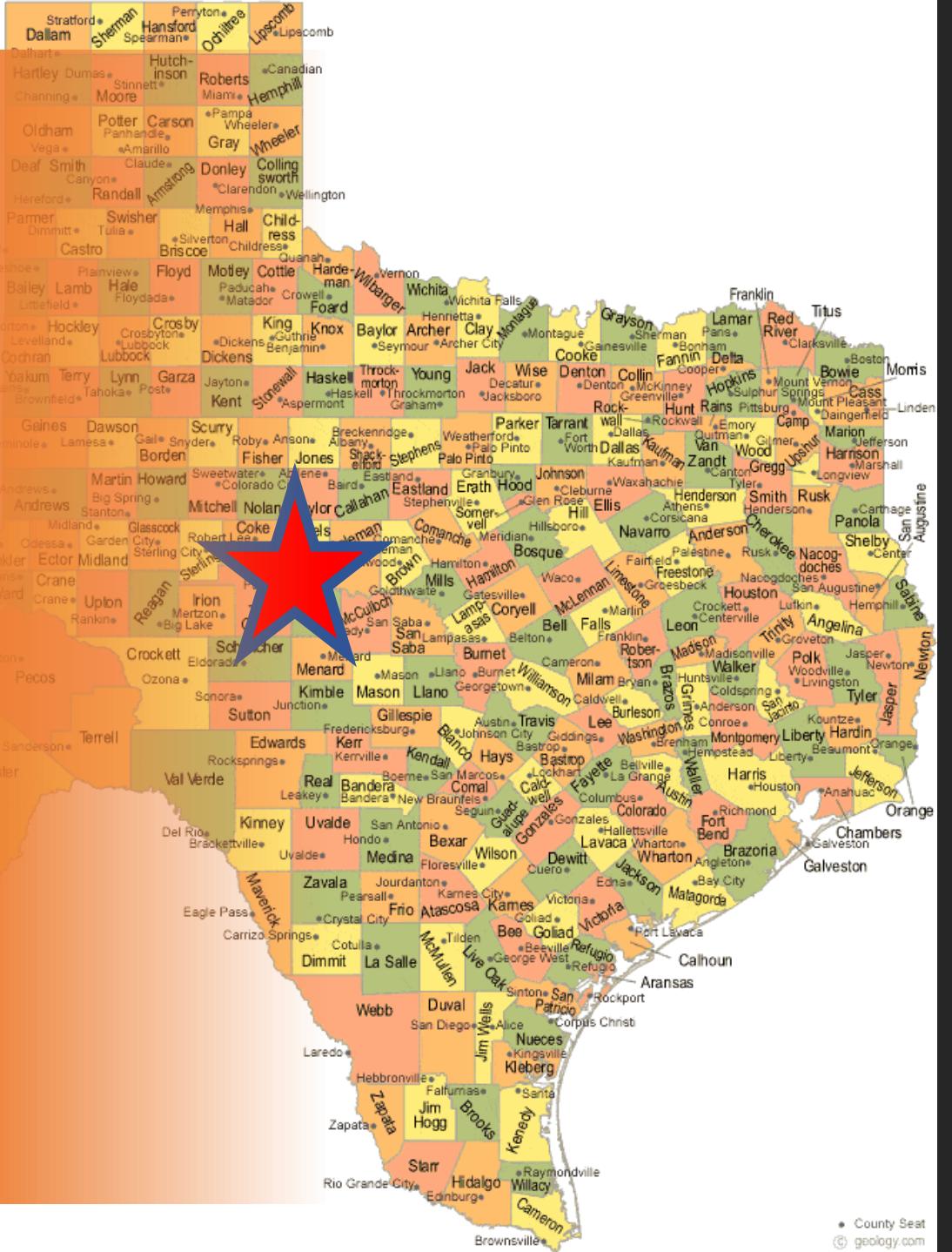
Total Annual = 21

Irrigated Acres = 33873

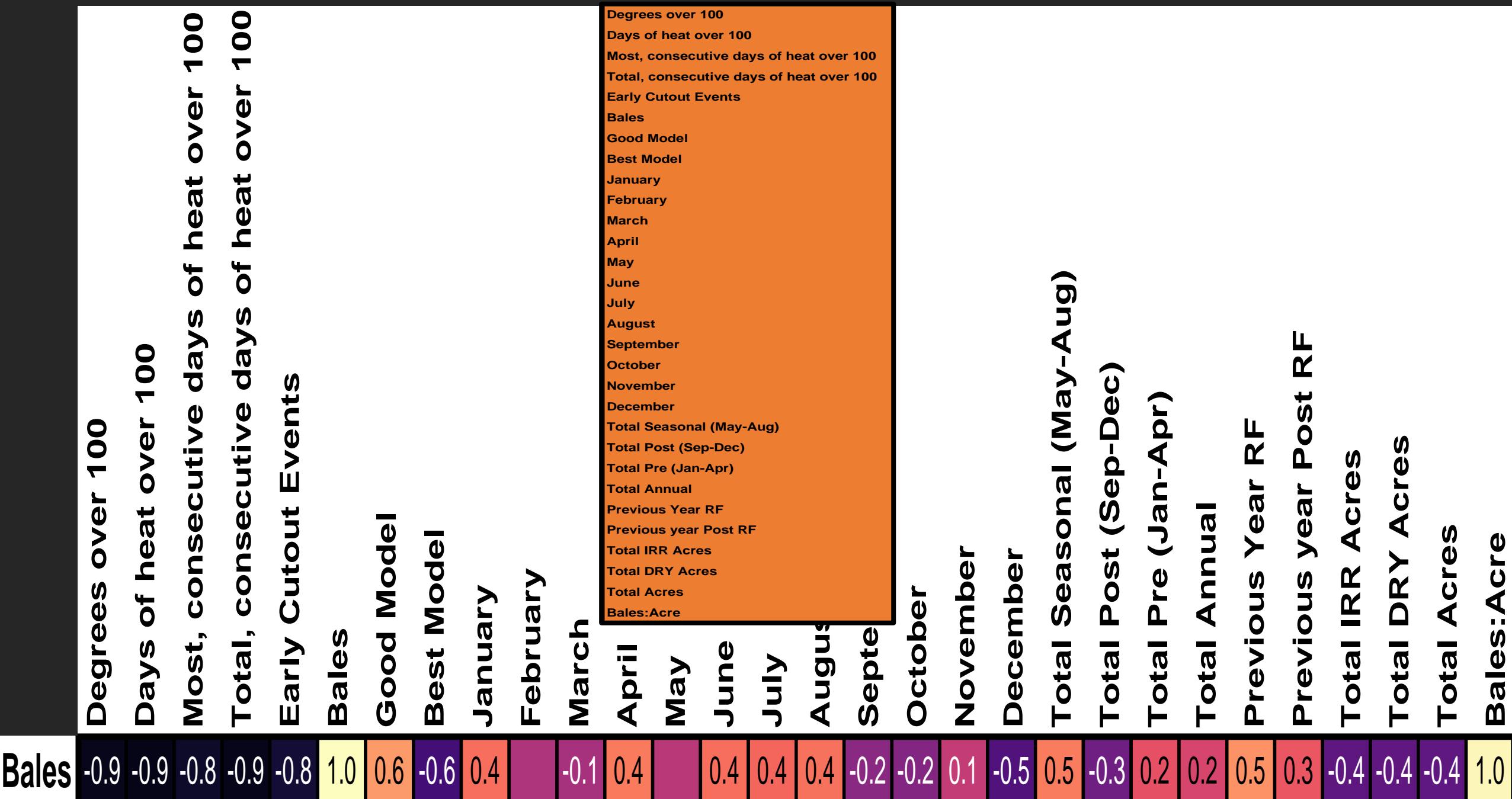
Dryland Acres = 214383

Total = 248,256

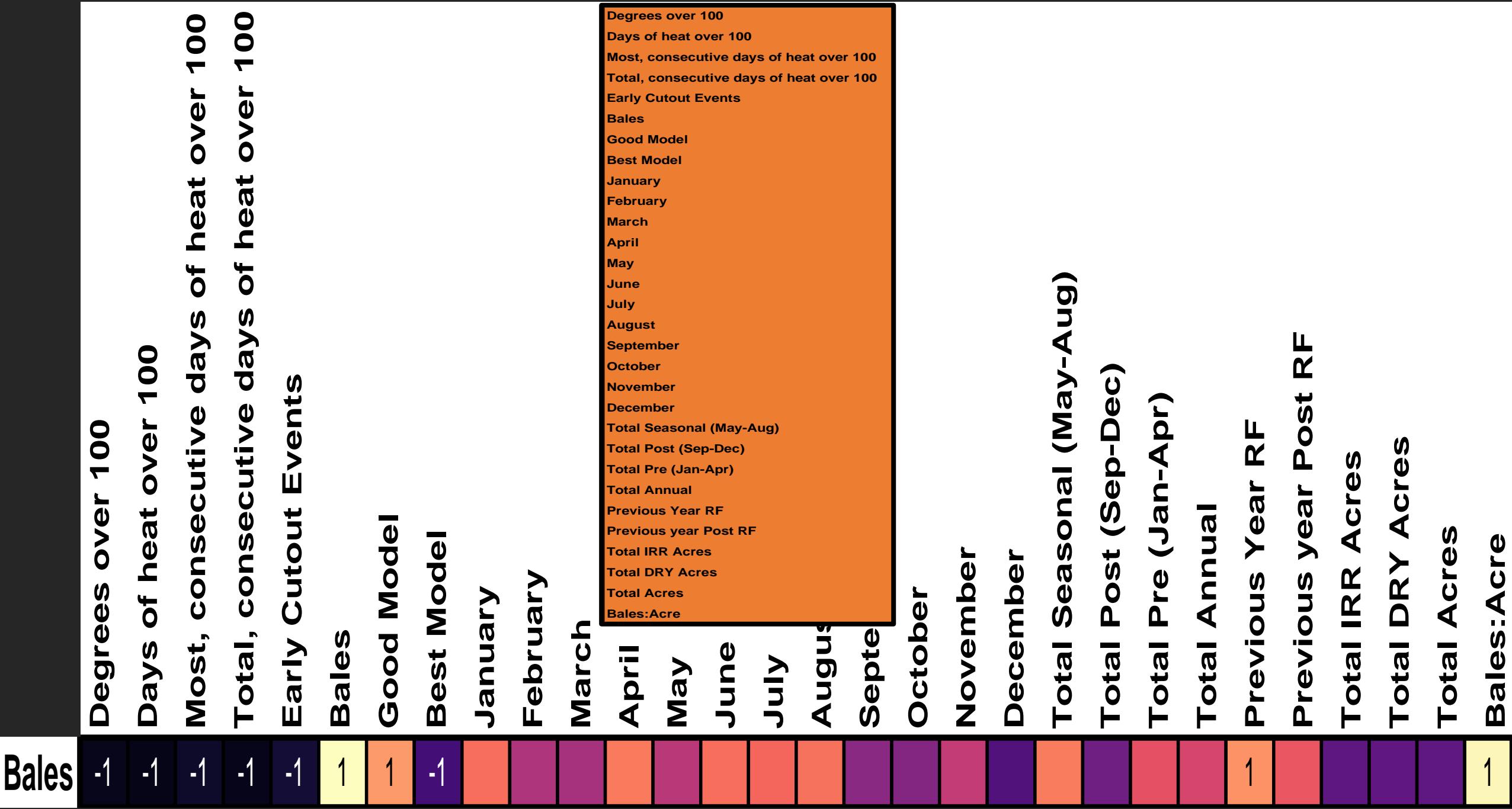
Bale to Acre Ratio = 0.80

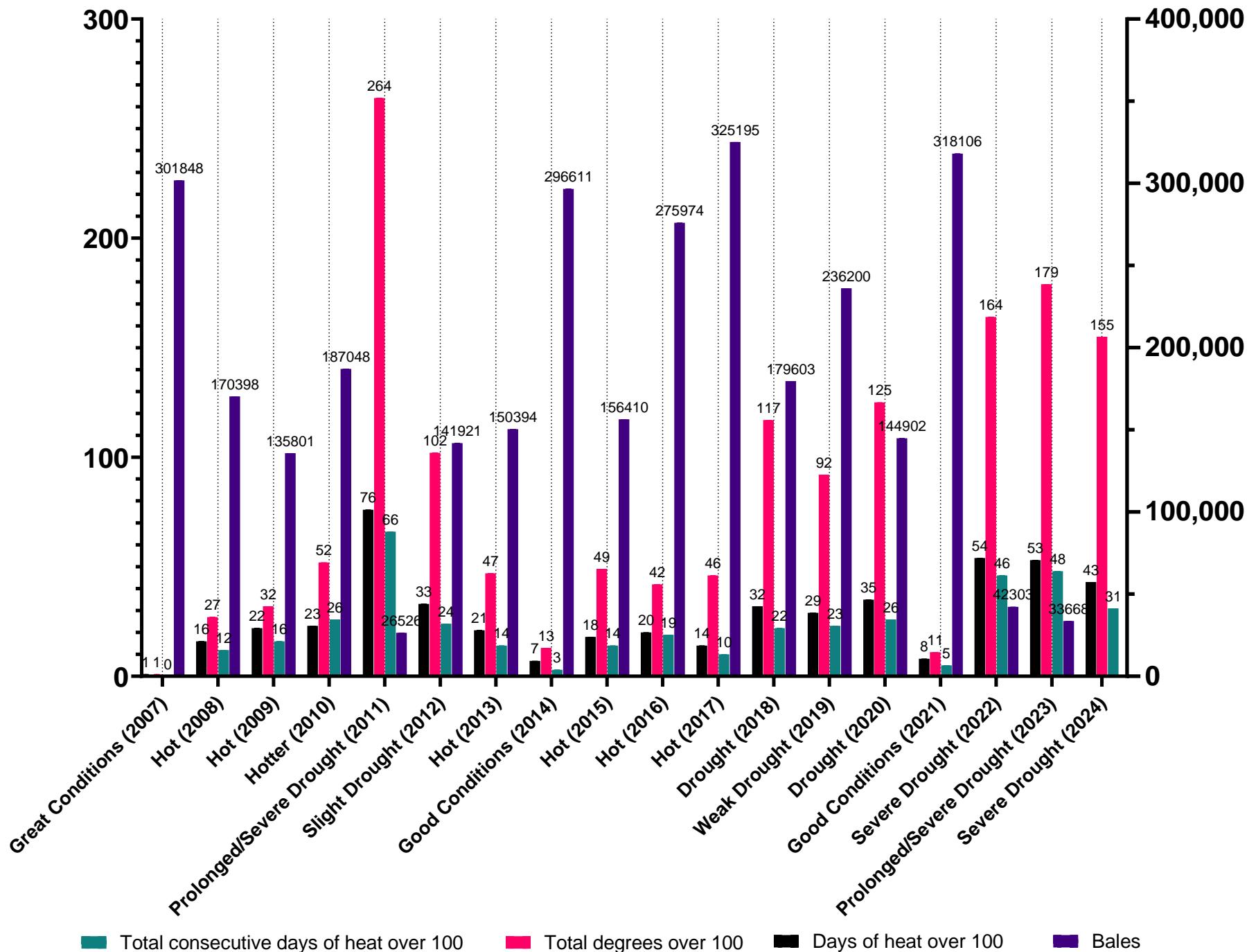


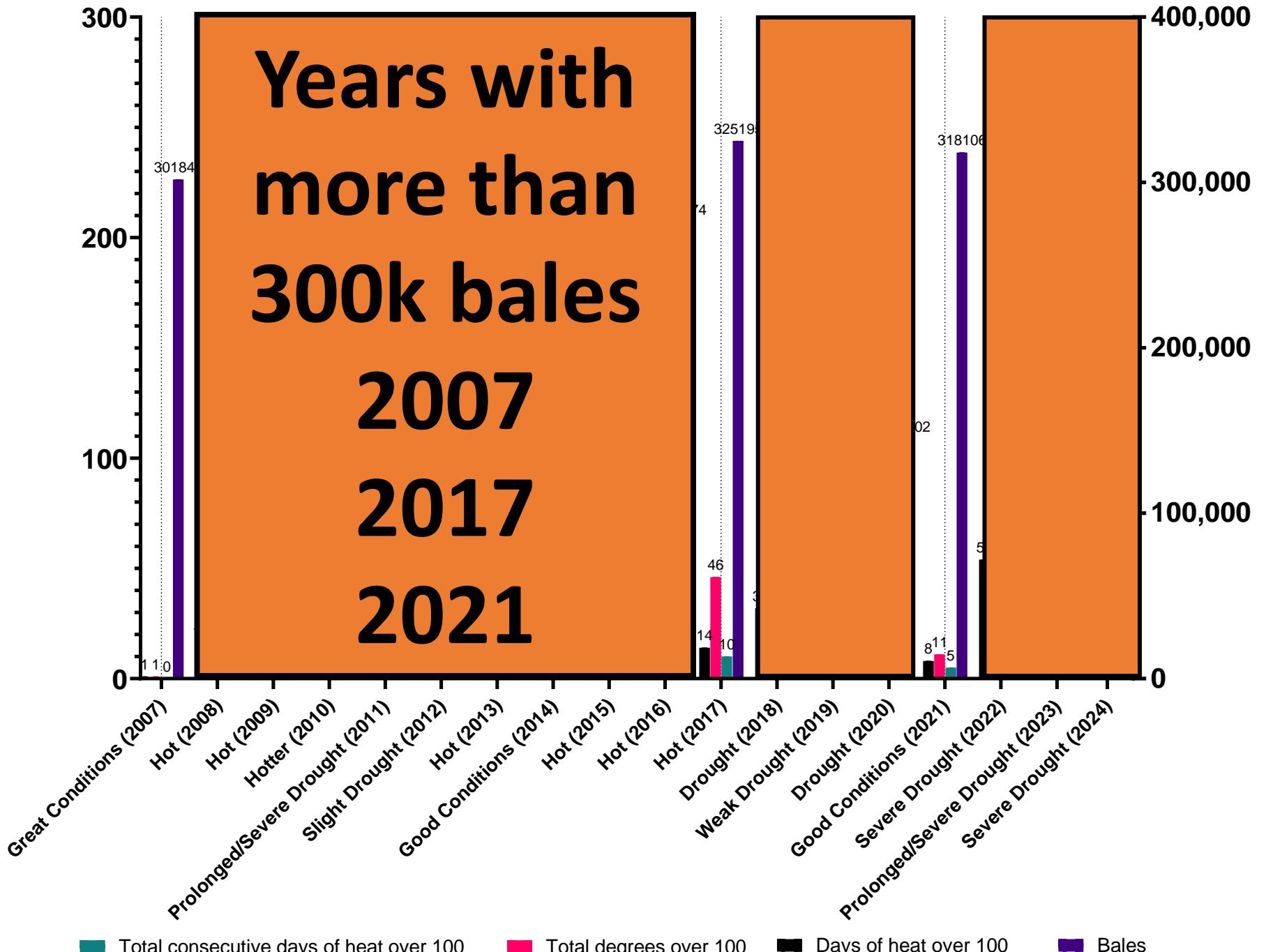
	Degrees over 100	Days of heat over 100	Most, consecutive days of heat over 100	Total, consecutive days of heat over 100	Early Cutout Events	Bales	Good Model	Best Model	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total Seasonal (May-Aug)	Total Post (Sep-Dec)	Total Pre (Jan-Apr)	Total Annual	Previous Year RF	Previous year Post RF	Total IRR Acres	Total DRY Acres	Total Acres	Bales:Acre
Degrees over 100	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	-0.9	-0.7	0.8	-0.6	0.1	-0.4	-0.3	-0.6	-0.3	-0.4	0.5	0.2	-0.2	0.4	-0.7	0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	0.6	0.4	0.5	-0.9		
Days of heat over 100	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.8	-0.9	-0.7	0.7	-0.6		-0.3	-0.3	-0.5	-0.3	-0.4	0.4	0.1	-0.1	0.4	-0.6	0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	0.6	0.5	0.5	-0.9		
Most, consecutive days of heat over 100	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.8	-0.8	-0.6	0.5	-0.7	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2	-0.4	-0.4	0.3	0.1	0.5	-0.3	0.3	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4	-0.8			
Total, consecutive days of heat over 100	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.8	-0.9	-0.6	0.6	-0.6	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	0.4	0.1	-0.1	0.4	-0.5	0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	0.6	0.5	0.5	-0.9		
Early Cutout Events	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.0	-0.8	-0.4	0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	-0.1	-0.4	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.5	0.1	-0.5	-0.5	-0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	-0.8	
Bales	-0.9	-0.9	-0.8	-0.9	-0.8	1.0	0.6	-0.6	0.4		-0.1	0.4		0.4	0.4	0.4	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	-0.5	0.5	-0.3	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	1.0
Good Model	-0.7	-0.7	-0.6	-0.6	-0.4	0.6	1.0	-1.0	0.4	-0.4	-0.1	0.2		0.7	0.6	0.6	-0.5	-0.1	0.3	-0.6	0.7	-0.4		0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	0.6
Best Model	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.4	-0.6	-1.0	1.0	-0.4	0.5		-0.3	-0.2	-0.7	-0.4	-0.5	0.6	0.2	-0.5	0.6	-0.7	0.4	-0.1	-0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	-0.7	
January	-0.6	-0.6	-0.7	-0.6	-0.4	0.4	0.4	-0.4	1.0	0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	0.6	0.2	-0.5	0.6	-0.2	-0.4	-0.2	0.1	-0.5	0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	0.4	
February	0.1	-0.3	-0.1	-0.3	-0.4	0.5	0.2	1.0	0.5	-0.1		-0.4	-0.2	-0.1	0.6	0.1	-0.7	0.1	-0.3	0.4	0.4	0.1	-0.2	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	0.2		
March					-0.4	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.2	0.4	-0.4		0.4		-0.5	0.2	0.2	0.9	0.6	-0.2	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	0.2		
April	-0.4	-0.3	-0.1	-0.3	-0.4	0.4	0.2	-0.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.6	1.0	0.1	0.8	-0.1	0.1		-0.4	-0.2	-0.2	0.5	-0.3	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.3	-0.4	-0.5	0.5	
May	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3		-0.2	-0.2		0.2	0.1	1.0	0.3	-0.4	-0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.6	0.2		0.5	-0.2	0.1	-0.8	-0.5	-0.5	0.3	
June	-0.6	-0.5	-0.2	-0.4	-0.4	0.4	0.7	-0.7		-0.4	0.4	0.8	0.3	1.0	0.2	0.3	-0.3	-0.1		-0.3	0.9	-0.2	0.6	0.6	0.1	-0.5	-0.5	-0.6		
July	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.3	-0.1	0.4	0.6	-0.4	0.6	-0.2	-0.4	-0.1	-0.4	0.2	1.0	0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	0.2	-0.4	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	0.2	-0.2	-0.1	0.2		
August	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	0.4	0.6	-0.5	0.2	-0.1		0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.4	1.0		0.5	-0.2	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.5		-0.4	0.2	0.2	0.4		
September	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	-0.2	-0.5	0.6	-0.5	0.6	0.4		-0.1	-0.3	-0.4		1.0	0.4	-0.4	0.2	-0.3	0.7	0.2	0.3	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.3	
October	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	0.2	-0.2	0.1		-0.4	0.2	-0.1		0.5	0.4	1.0	-0.2	0.6	0.2	0.9	-0.2	0.6	-0.5	-0.3	0.2	0.2	-0.2	
November	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	-0.5	-0.4	-0.7	-0.5	-0.2	0.1		-0.3		-0.4	-0.2	1.0	-0.3		-0.2	-0.6	-0.3	0.3		-0.1	0.4	0.4	0.1	
December	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.2	-0.5	-0.6	0.6	-0.2	0.1		-0.2	0.5	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2	0.2	0.6	-0.3	1.0		0.6	-0.1	0.4	-0.3	0.1	-0.1	-0.5		
Total Seasonal (May-Aug)	-0.7	-0.6	-0.3	-0.5	-0.5	0.5	0.7	-0.7	0.1	-0.3	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.2	0.5	-0.3	0.2		1.0		0.3	0.8	-0.1	-0.6	-0.5	-0.5	0.6		
Total Post (Sep-Dec)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	-0.3	-0.4	0.4	-0.5	0.4	0.2	-0.3	0.2	-0.2	-0.4	0.3	0.7	0.9	-0.2	0.6	1.0	-0.1	0.6	-0.4	-0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.2	
Total Pre (Jan-Apr)	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.5	0.2		-0.1	0.2	0.4	0.9	0.8		0.6	-0.1	0.1	0.2	-0.2	-0.6	-0.1	0.3	-0.1	1.0	0.5	0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.5	-0.4	
Total Annual	-0.3	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2	-0.5	0.2	0.2	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.6	-0.1	0.5	0.3	0.6	-0.3	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.5	1.0	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4	-0.4	0.4	
Previous Year RF	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	0.5	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	0.5	-0.2	0.1	-0.2		-0.2	-0.5	0.3	-0.3	-0.1	0.4	0.1	-0.3	1.0	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.5		
Previous year Post RF						0.2					0.3	-0.2	0.2	-0.2		0.1		0.2	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3	0.1	0.6		0.1	0.1	0.5			
Total IRR Acres	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	-0.4	-0.3	0.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.8	-0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.6	0.1	-0.3	-0.4	0.1	1.0	0.8	0.8	-0.6		
Total DRY Acres	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.4	-0.4	-0.2	0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.2	0.2	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.4	-0.1	-0.5	-0.4	0.1	-0.1	0.8	1.0	1.0	-0.4	
Total Acres	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	-0.4	-0.2	0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	-0.1	-0.5	0.2	-0.5	-0.4	0.1	-0.1	0.8	1.0	1.0	-0.5	
Bales:Acre	-0.9	-0.9	-0.8	-0.9	-0.8	1.0	0.6	-0.7	0.4		0.2	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.4	-0.3	-0.2	0.1	-0.5	0.6	-0.2	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.1	-0.6	-0.4	-0.5	1.0



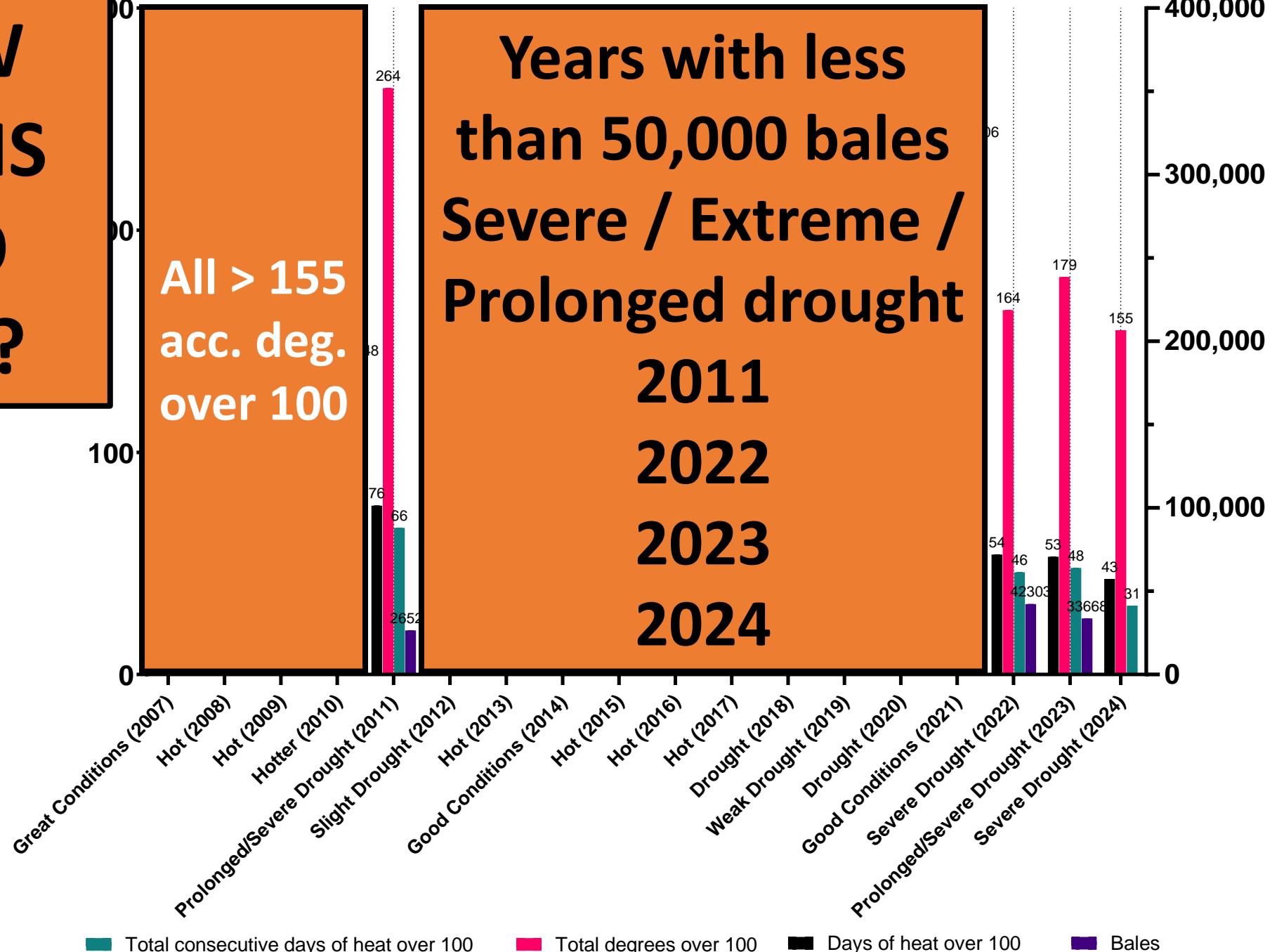
	Degrees over 100	Days of heat over 100	Most, consecutive days of heat over 100	Total, consecutive days of heat over 100	Early Cutout Events	Bales	Good Model	Best Model	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total Seasonal (May-Aug)	Total Post (Sep-Dec)	Total Pre (Jan-Apr)	Total Annual	Previous Year RF	Previous year Post RF	Total IRR Acres	Total DRY Acres	Total Acres	Bales/Acre
Degrees over 100	1	1	1	1	1	-1	-1	1	-1												-1				1				-1	
Days of heat over 100	1	1	1	1	1	-1	-1	1	-1												-1				1				-1	
Most, consecutive days of heat over 100	1	1	1	1	1	-1	-1	1	-1												-1								-1	
Total, consecutive days of heat over 100	1	1	1	1	1	-1	-1	1	-1												-1				1				-1	
Early Cutout Events	1	1	1	1	1	-1															-1				1				-1	
Bales	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	1	1	-1														1								1
Good Model	-1	-1	-1	-1		1	1	-1													-1	1							1	
Best Model	1	1	1	1		-1	-1	1													-1								-1	
January	-1	-1	-1	-1					1																					
February									1																					
March										1	1																1	1		
April										1	1	1																	1	
May											1																		-1	-1
June	-1									1	-1																			1
July										1	1																			
August										1																				
September										-1	1	1																1		
October																					1	1	1	1						
November																					1			-1						
December																					-1	1	1	1						
Total Seasonal (May-Aug)	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	1	-1															1				-1	-1	-1	1	
Total Post (Sep-Dec)																					1	1	1	1						
Total Pre (Jan-Apr)																					-1			1	1				-1	-1
Total Annual																					1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
Previous Year RF																					1	1								
Previous year Post RF																						1	1							
Total IRR Acres	1	1		1	1																-1						1	1	1	
Total DRY Acres																					-1						1	1	1	
Total Acres																					-1						1	1	1	
Bales/Acre	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	1	1	-1												1						-1		1	

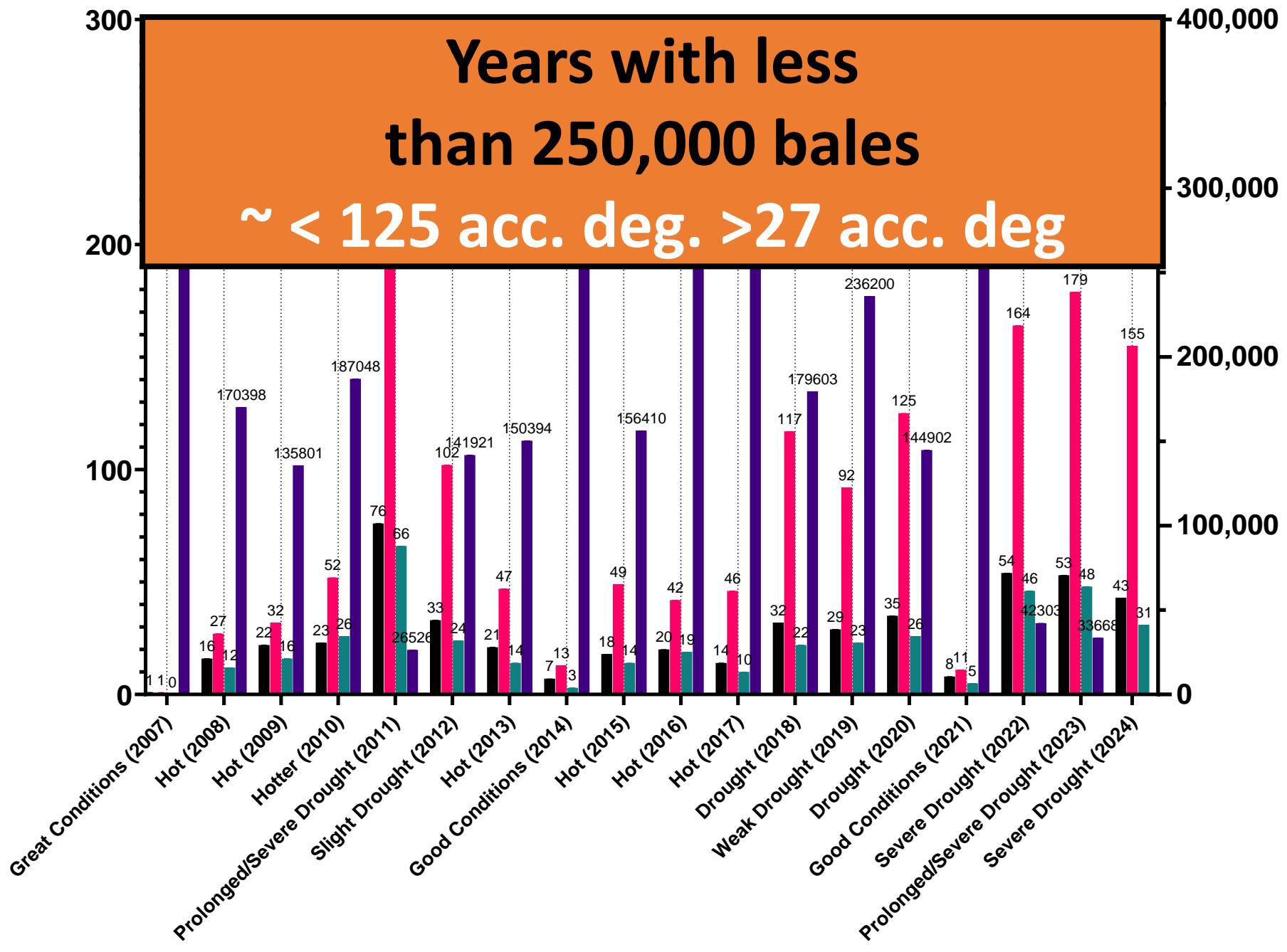


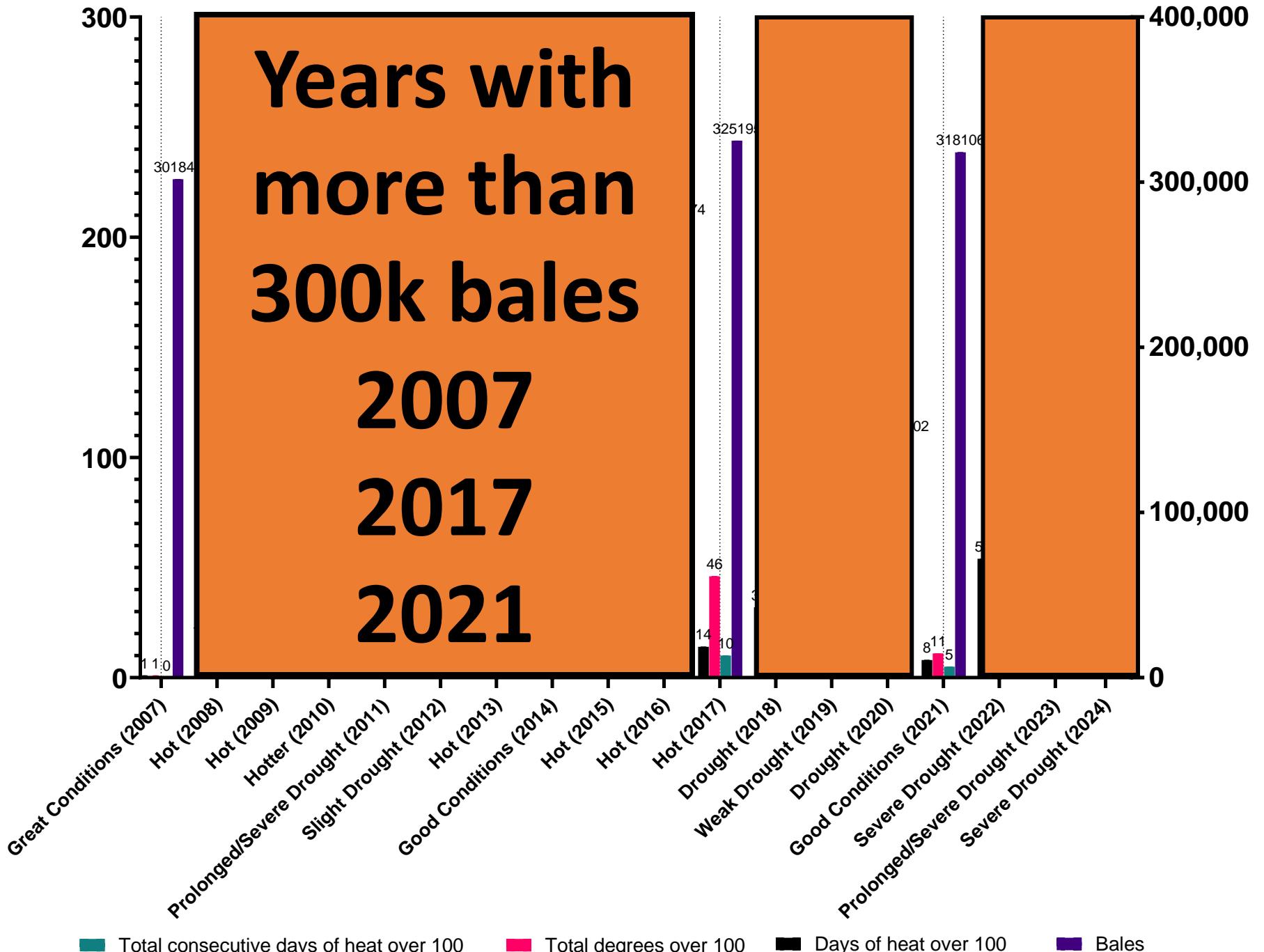




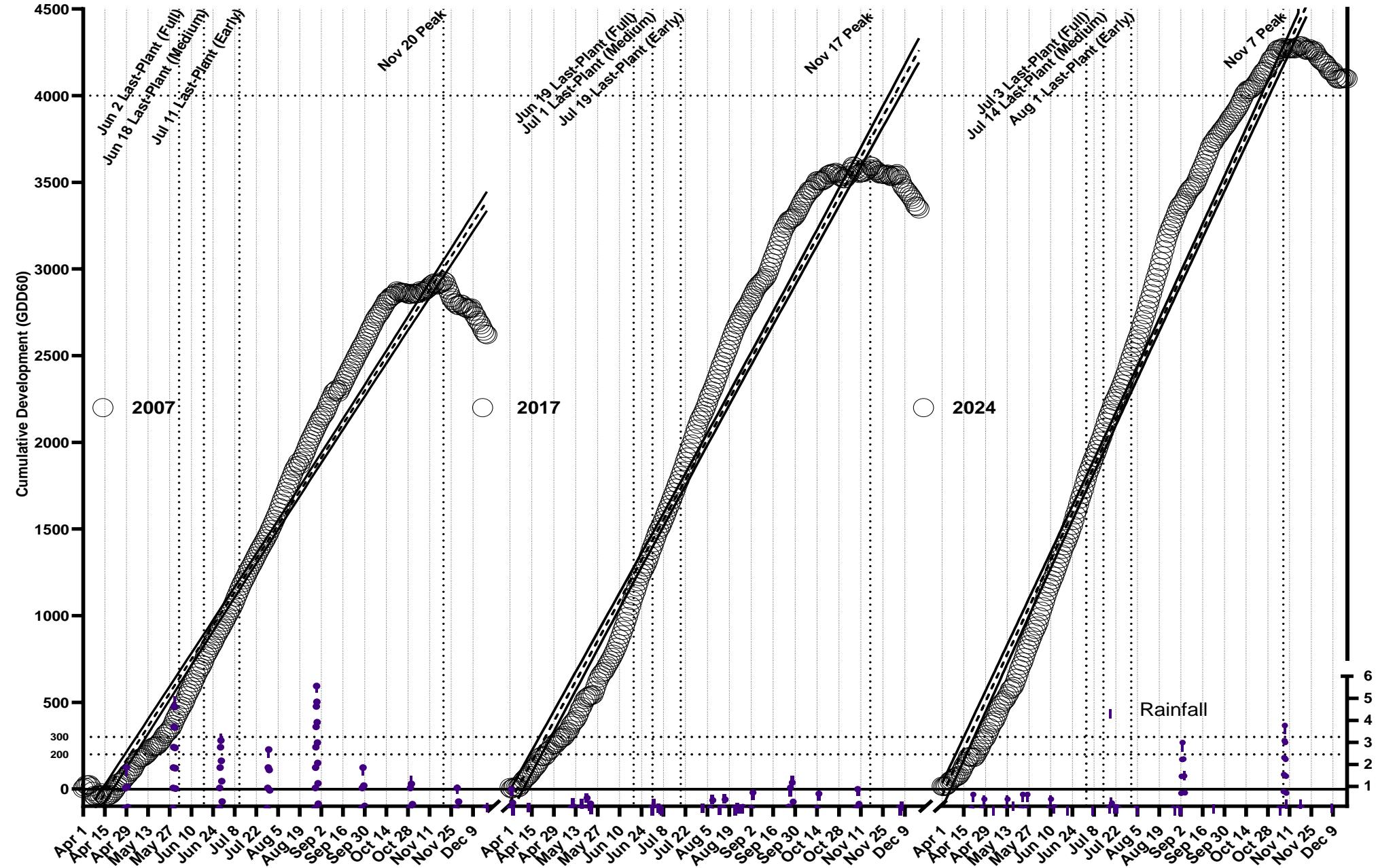
HOW HOT IS TOO HOT?







April 1st - Dec 21st Cumulative Development 2007 v 2017 v 2024



2024

- Strong El Nino to weak La Nina
 - Cool start, but ended hot persistent drought
 - Low Rainfall

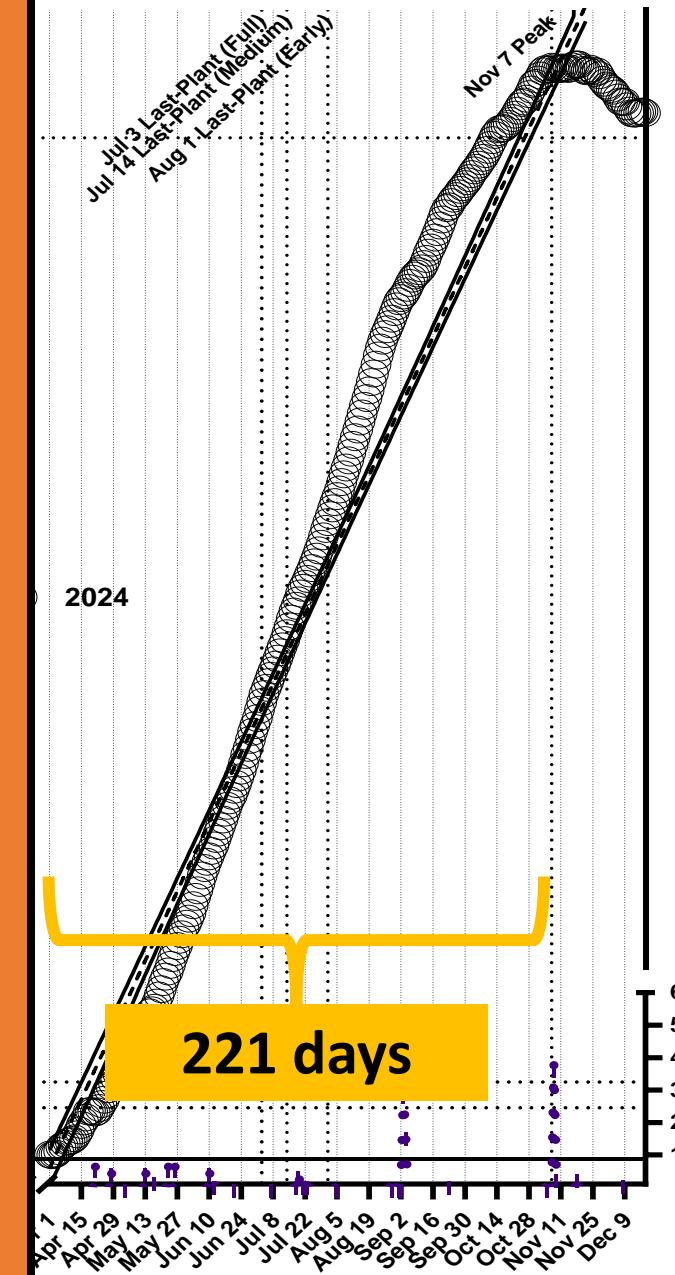
April 1

to

Accumulation Peak, Nov 07

= 221-day season

7 v 2017 v 2024



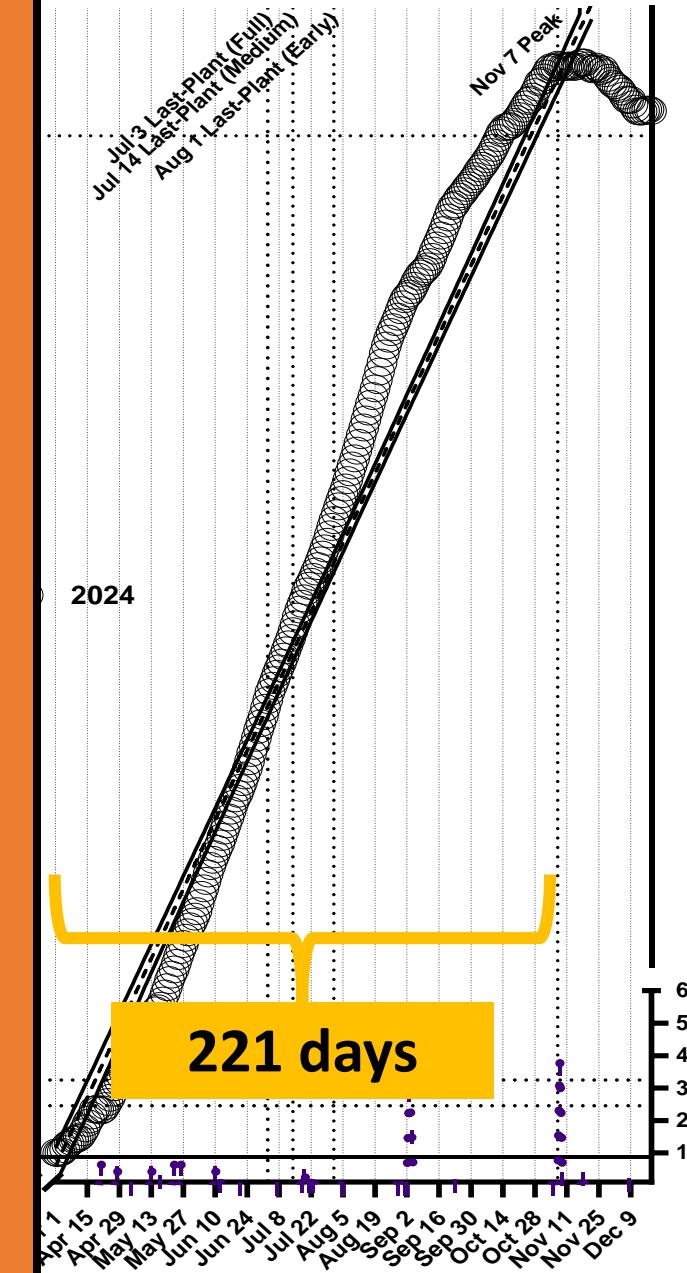
**Cumulative Seasonal
Development = 4,279 GDD60**

19.36 avg GDD per day

2,582 Bales per GDD per day

11.68 Bales per GDD

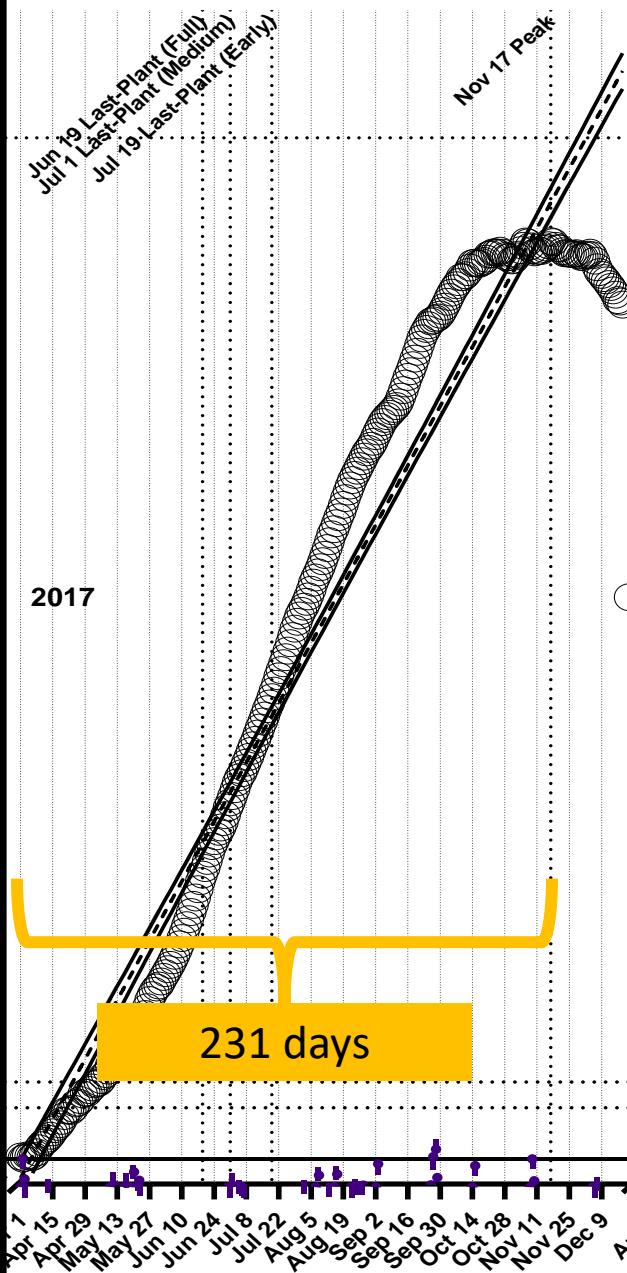
7 v 2017 v 2024



2017

- 325k Bales
- Hot, but with a warm start and cool finish
- Low Rainfall
- Neutral to weak La Nina

21st Cumulative Development 200

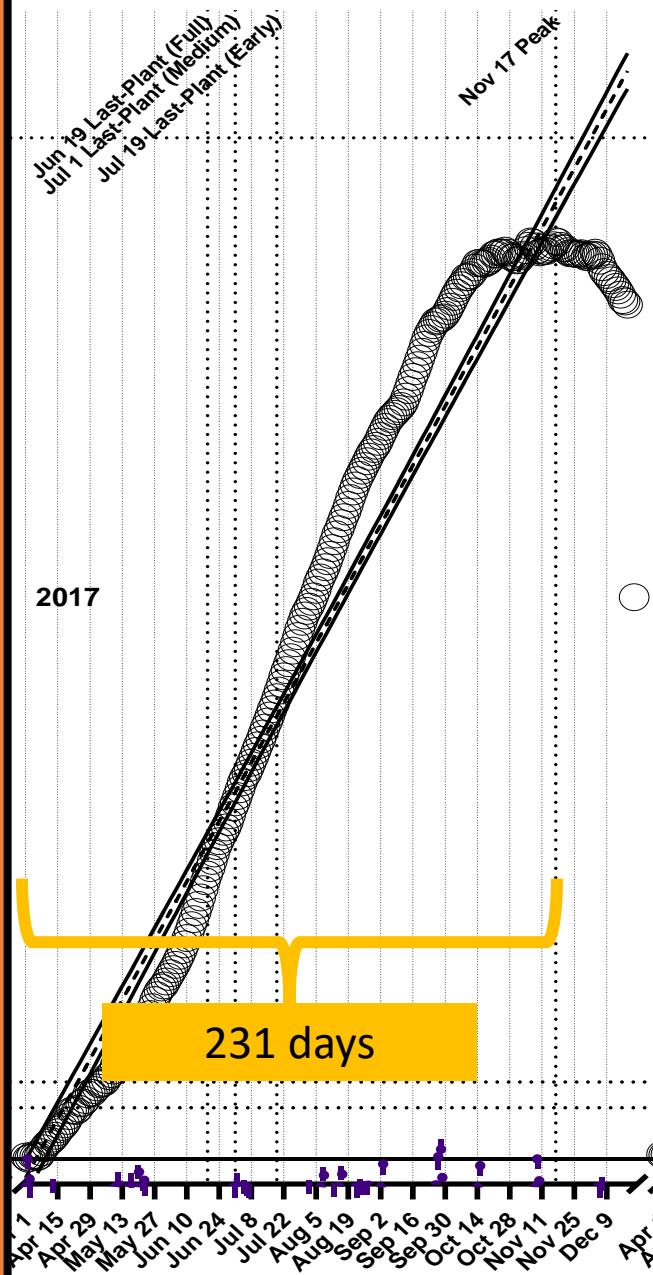


April 1
to
Accumulation
Peak, Nov 17
= 231-day
season

**Cumulative
Seasonal
Development =
3,594 GDD60**

**15.55 avg GDD per
day**

21st Cumulative Development 2007

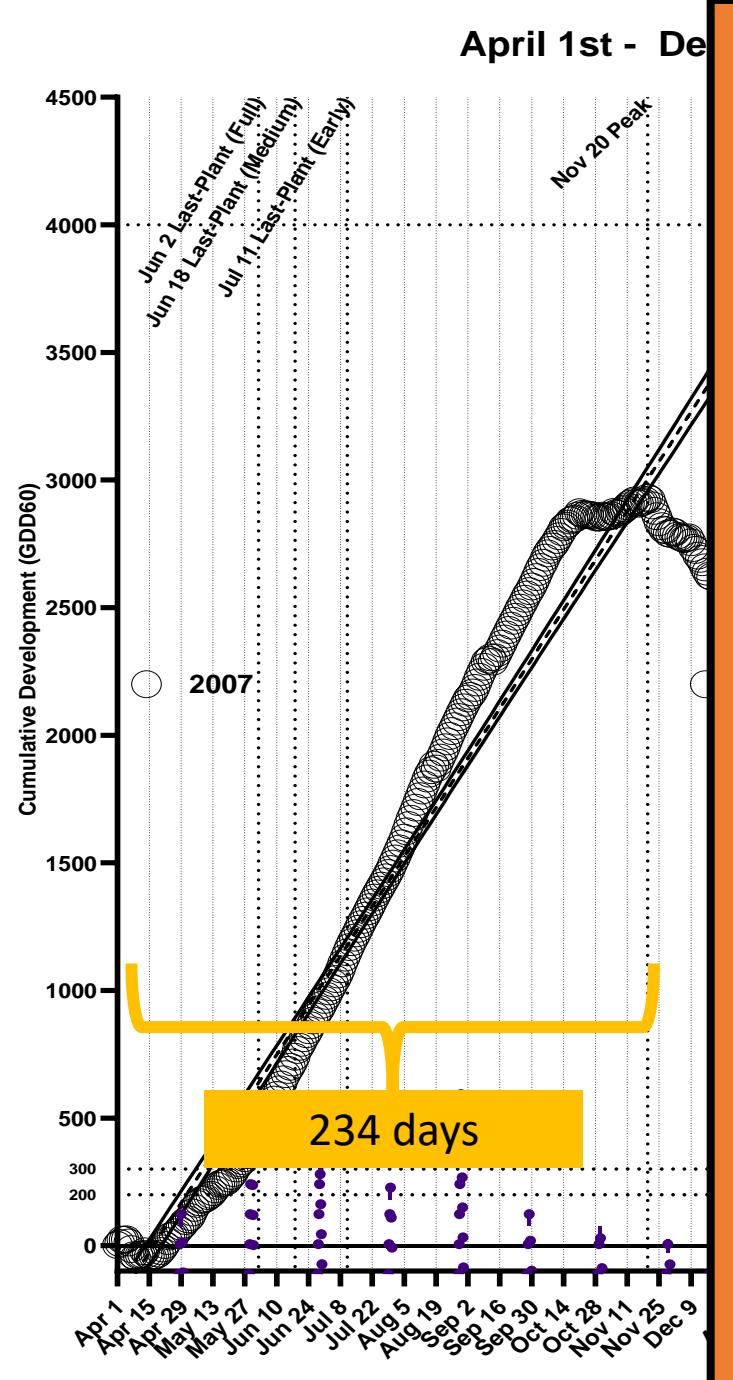


**20,900 Bales per
GDD per day**

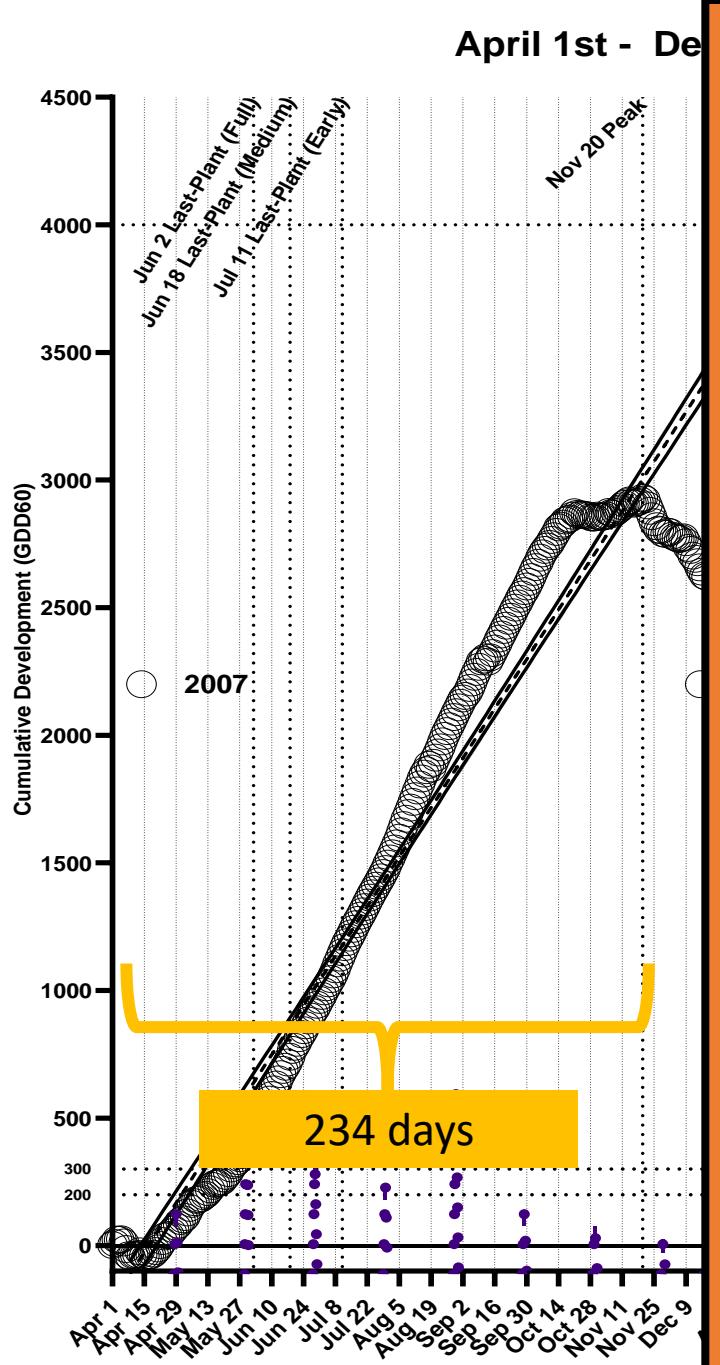
**90.42 Bales per
GDD**

2007

- 301k Bales
- Easter Freeze—*cold-year*
 - Good Rainfall
 - Weak El Nino to La Nina



April 1
to
Accumulation Peak, Nov 20
= 234-day season



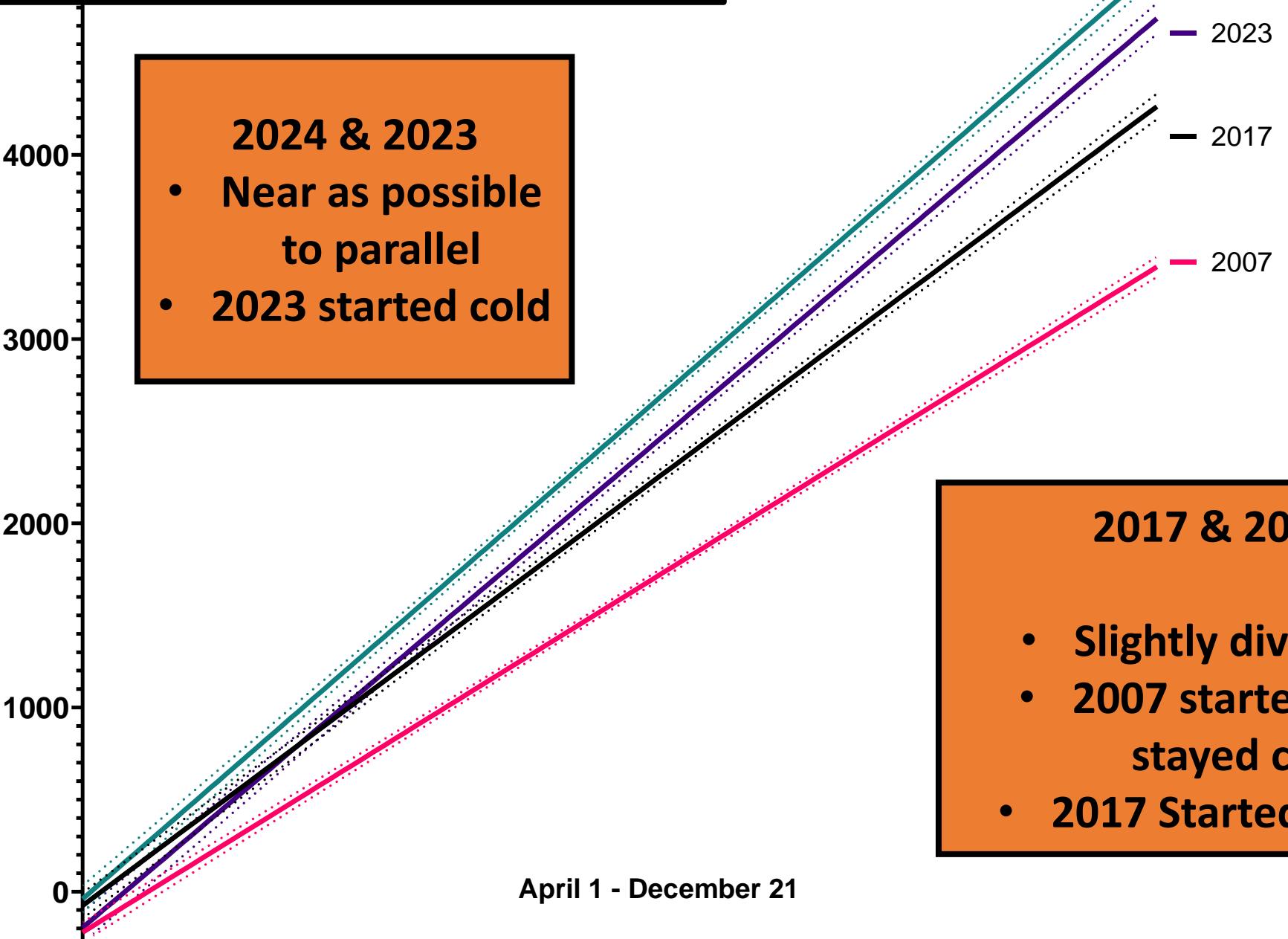
**Cumulative Seasonal
Development = 2,931 GDD**

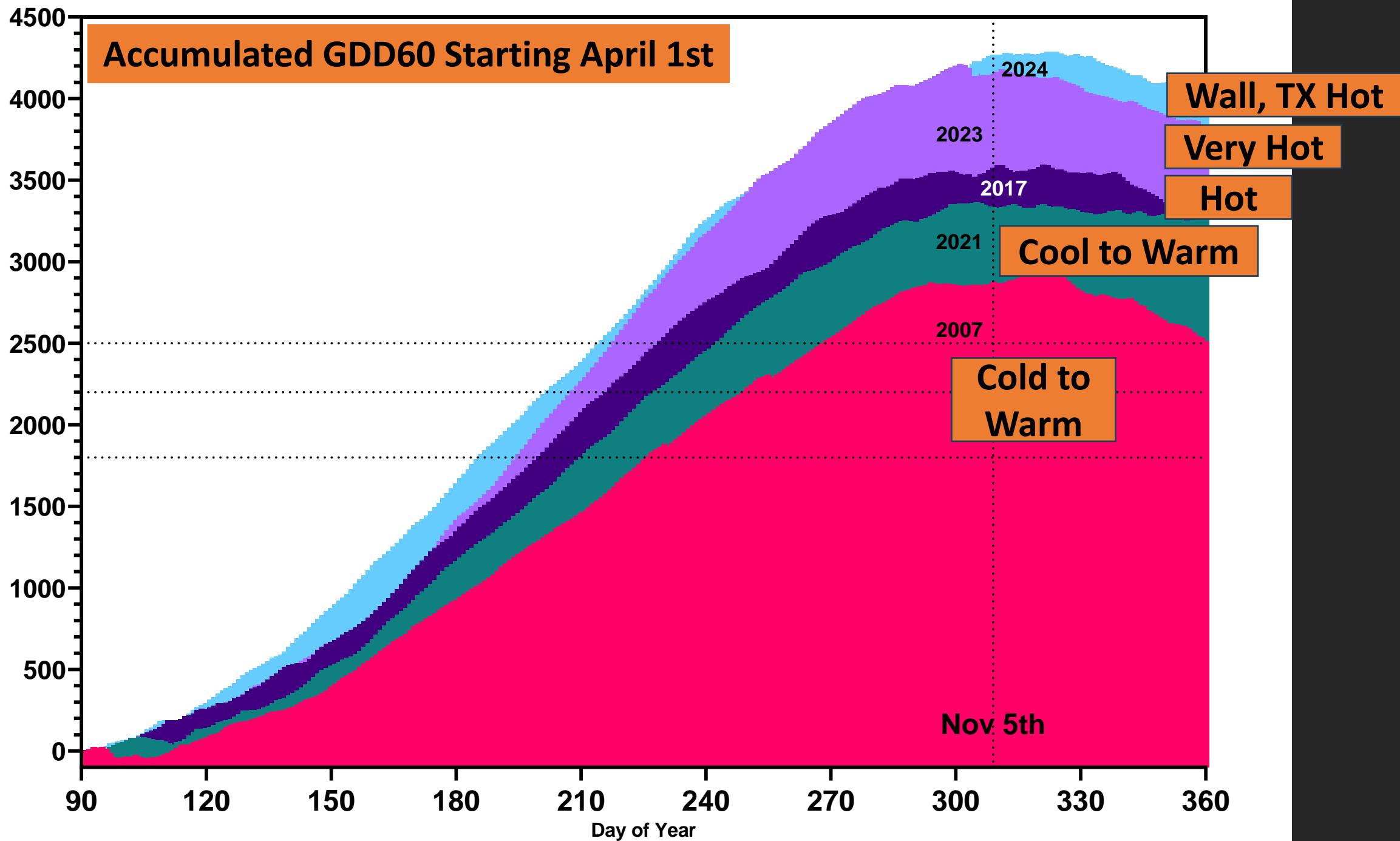
12.52 avg GDD per day

24,041 bales per GDD per day

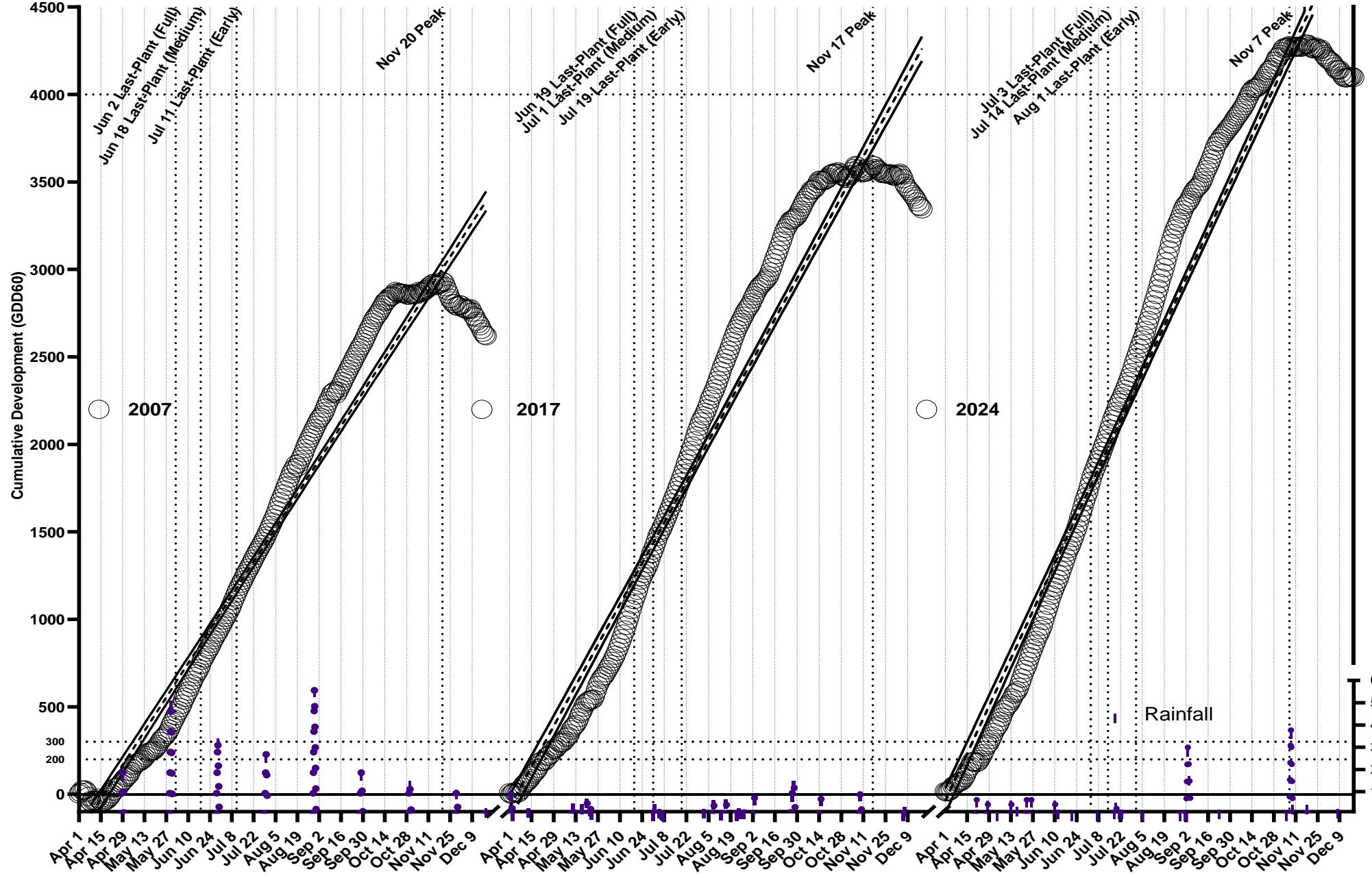
102 bales per GDD

Accumulated GDD Starting April 1st





April 1st - Dec 21st Cumulative Development 2007 v 2017 v 2024



April 1st - Dec 21st Cumulative Development 2007 v 2017 v 2024

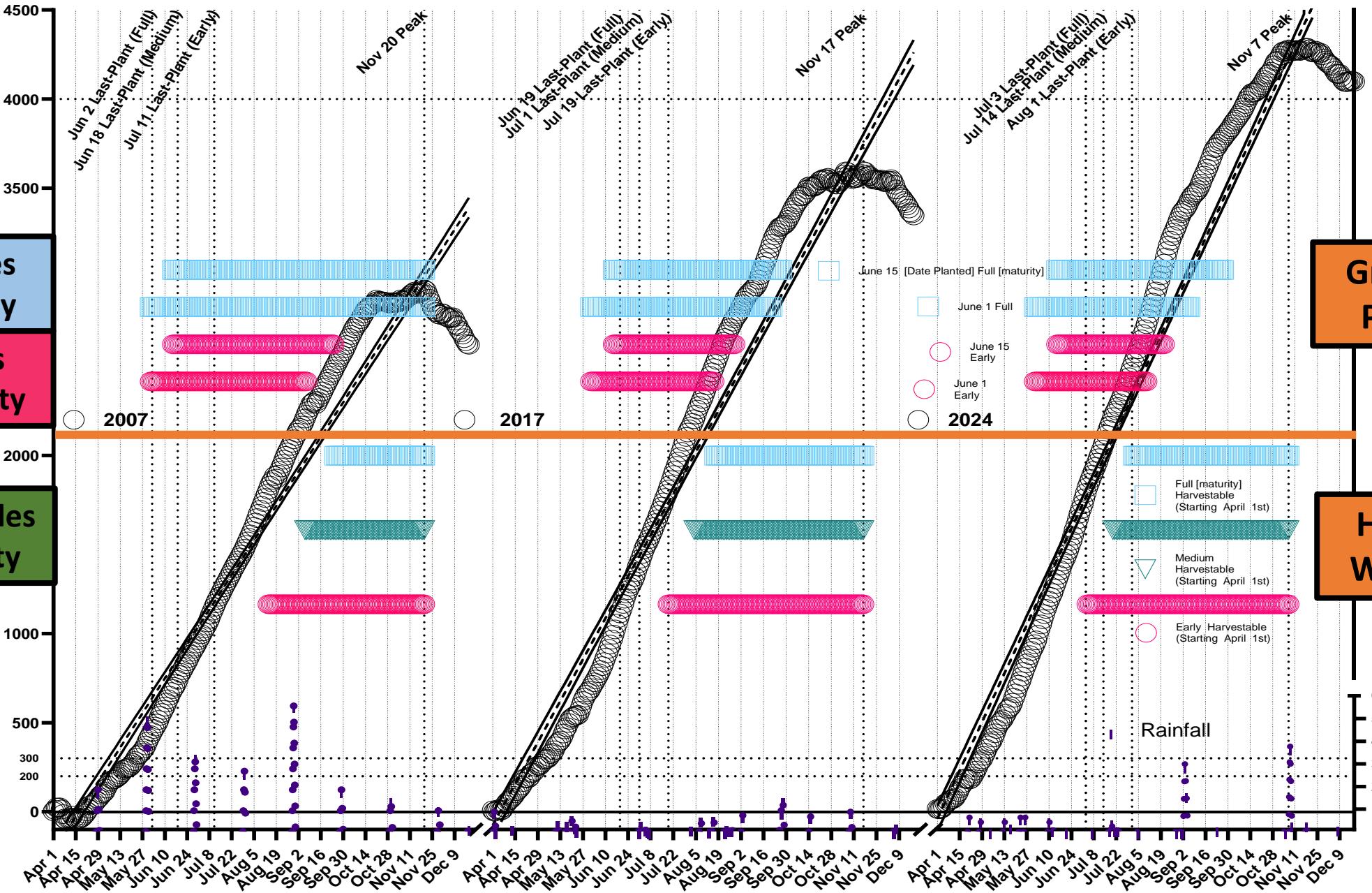
Blue Squares
Full Maturity

Pink Circles
Early Maturity

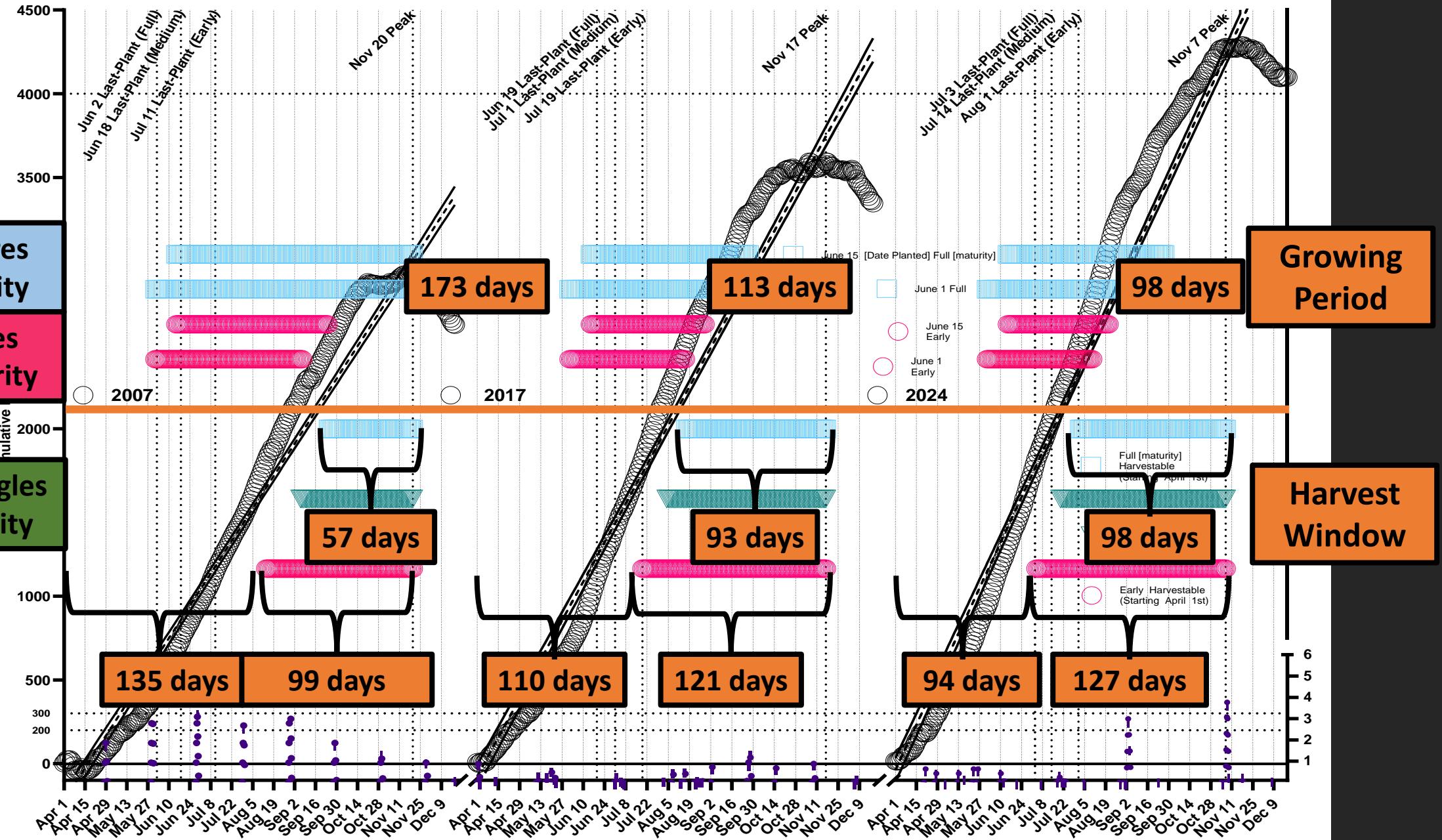
Green Triangles
Mid Maturity

Growing Period

Harvest Window



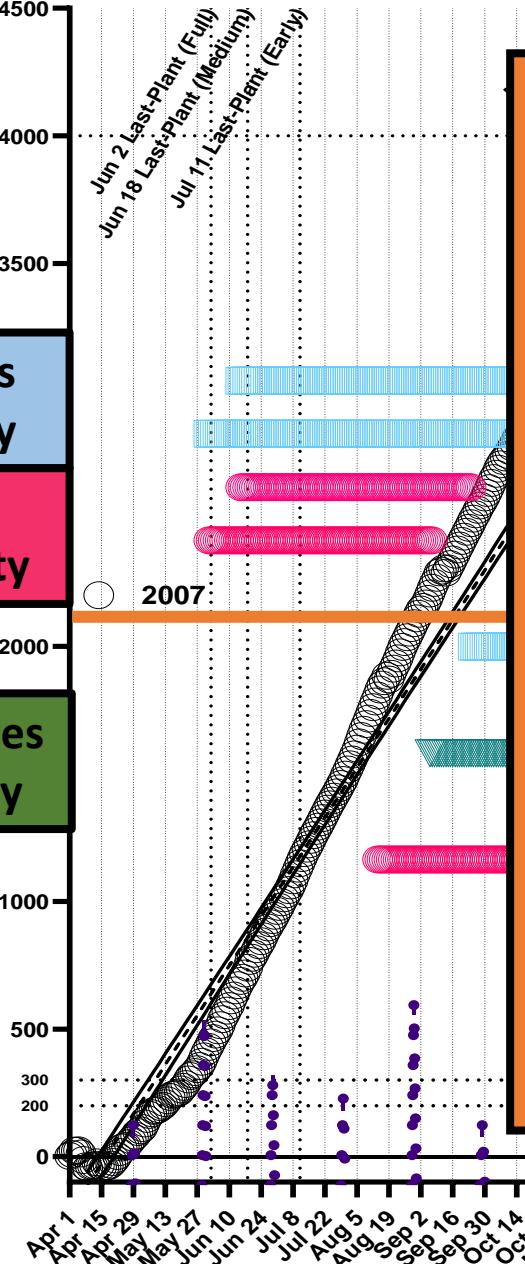
April 1st - Dec 21st Cumulative Development 2007 v 2017 v 2024



Blue Squares
Full Maturity

Pink Circles
Early Maturity

Green Triangles
Mid Maturity



Question for the audience.

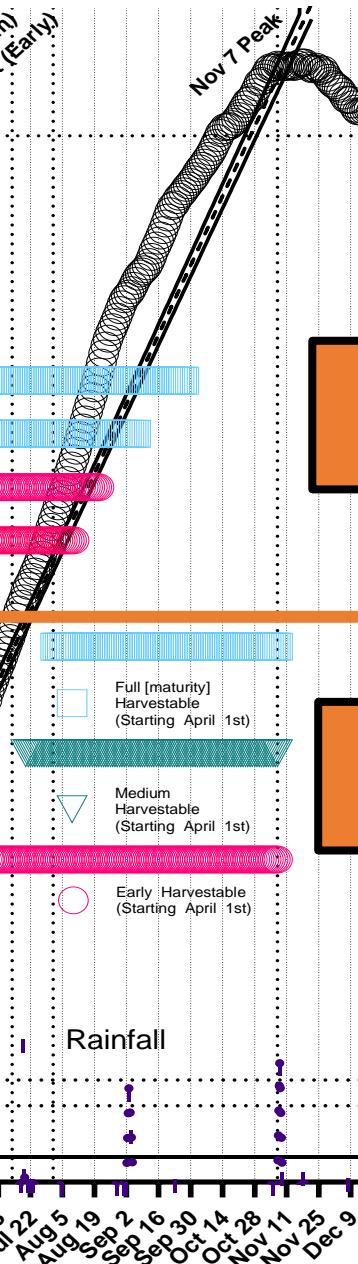
Which is better for
cotton, physiologically?

an early mat. + a long
season short window
or

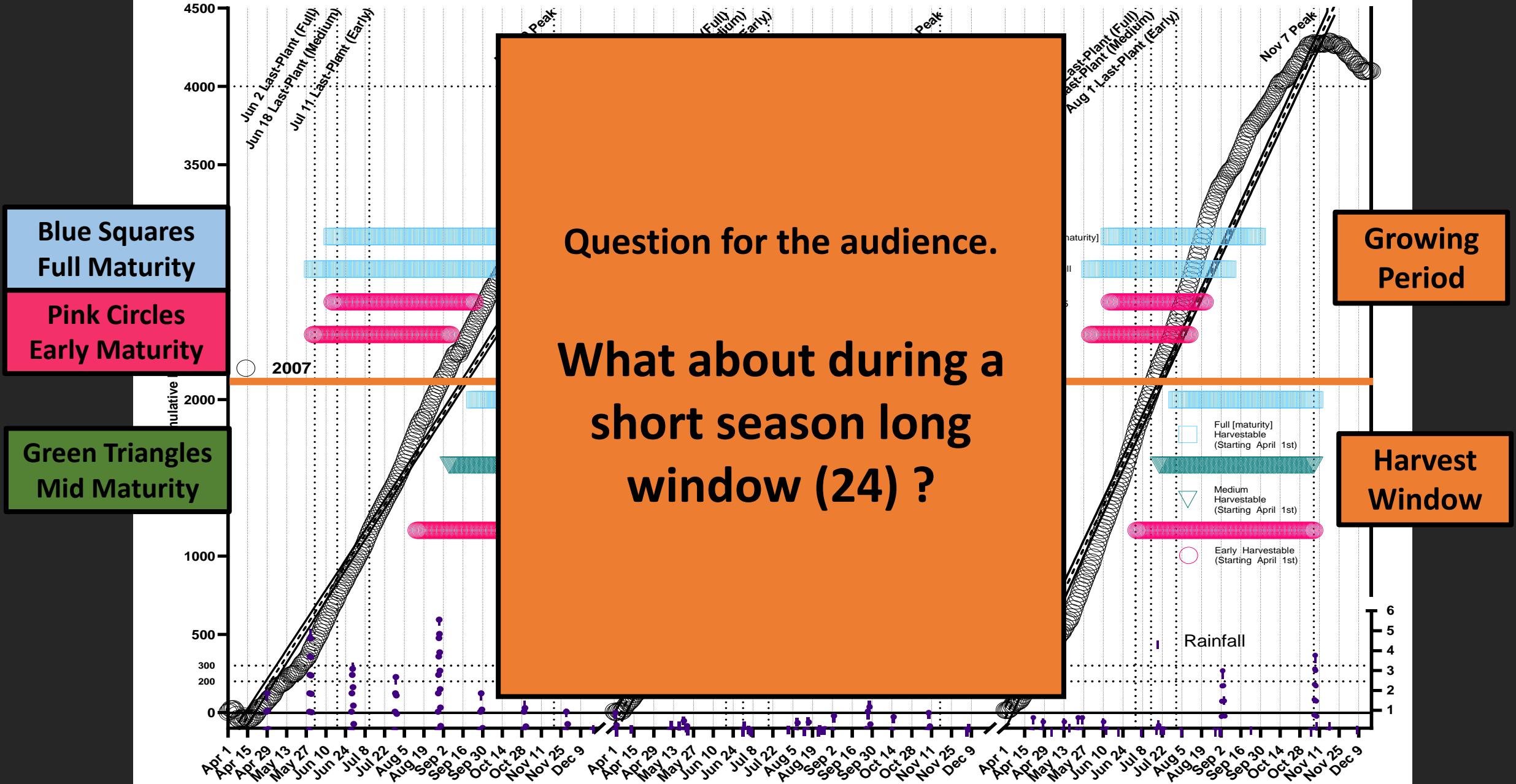
a late mat. + a long
season short window

Growing
Period

Harvest
Window



April 1st - Dec 21st Cumulative Development 2007 v 2017 v 2024



Popular Related Questions for IPM by Customers

- When should I plant?
- Can I plant on the backside of the season?
 - Can I plant as early as possible?
 - Should I use a seed treatment?

Prioritizing:

Lower Nodes
First Fruiting
Branches

Main Stem Nodes

Cost -
effectiveness of
management

Effects of
temperature
(UV) on foliar
pesticide &
length of
residual

Length /
intensity of pest
cycle

Authentic IPM Answers

1. When should I plant?

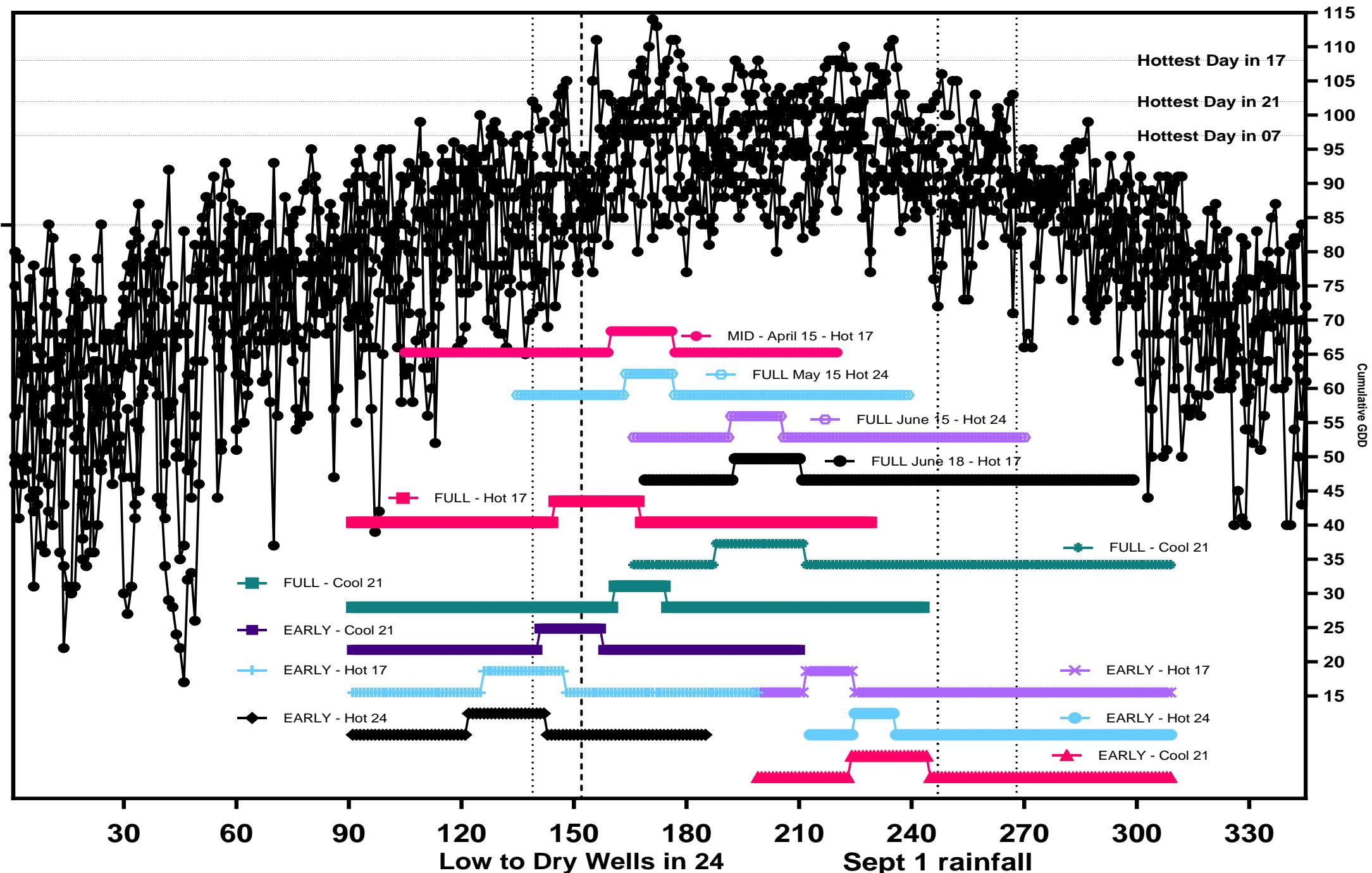
That depends.

2. Can I plant on backside/frontside of the season?

Yes, Sometimes, Maybe, but No.

3. Should I use a seed treatment?

That depends.



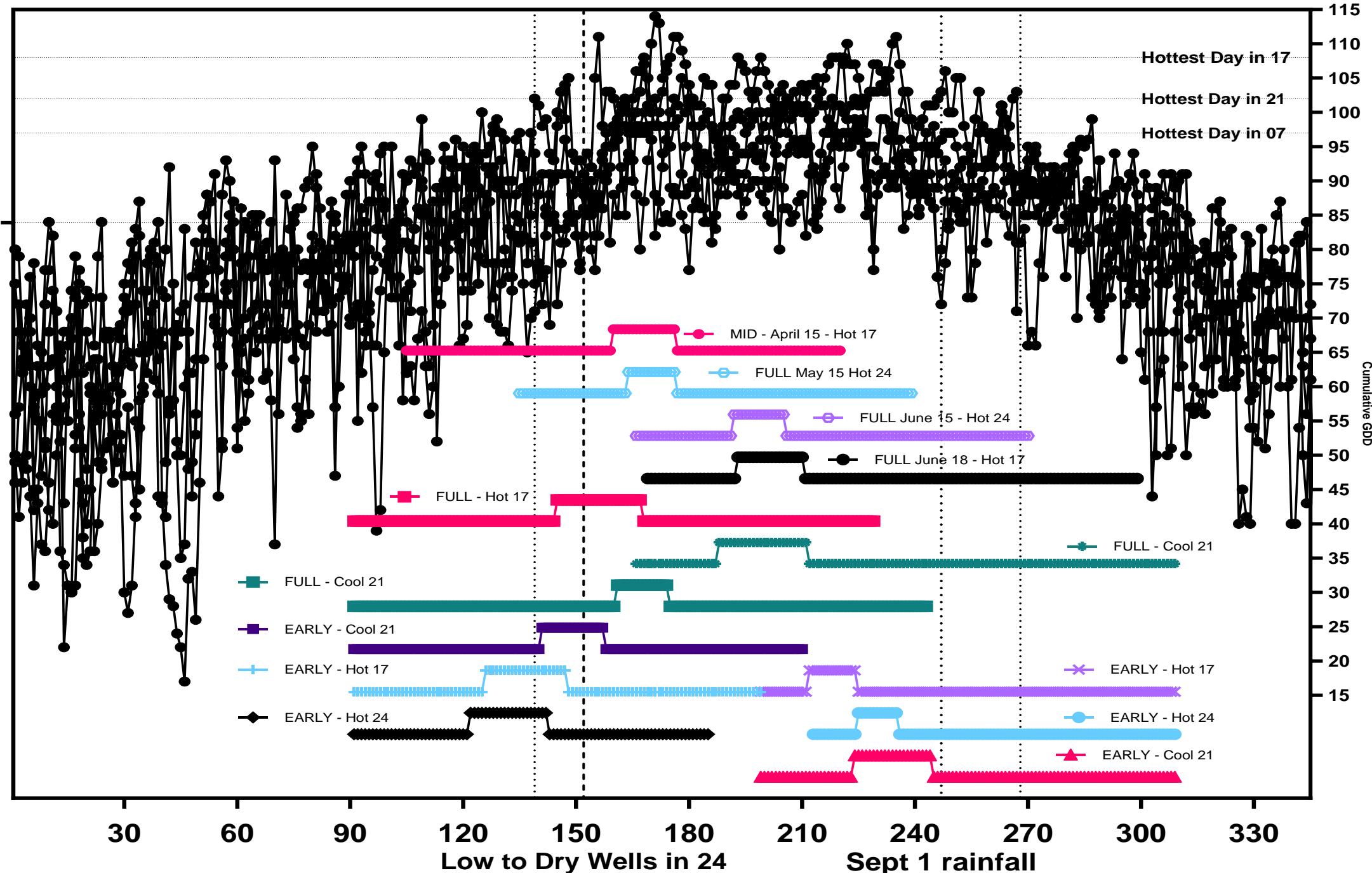
Combined- Max Temps

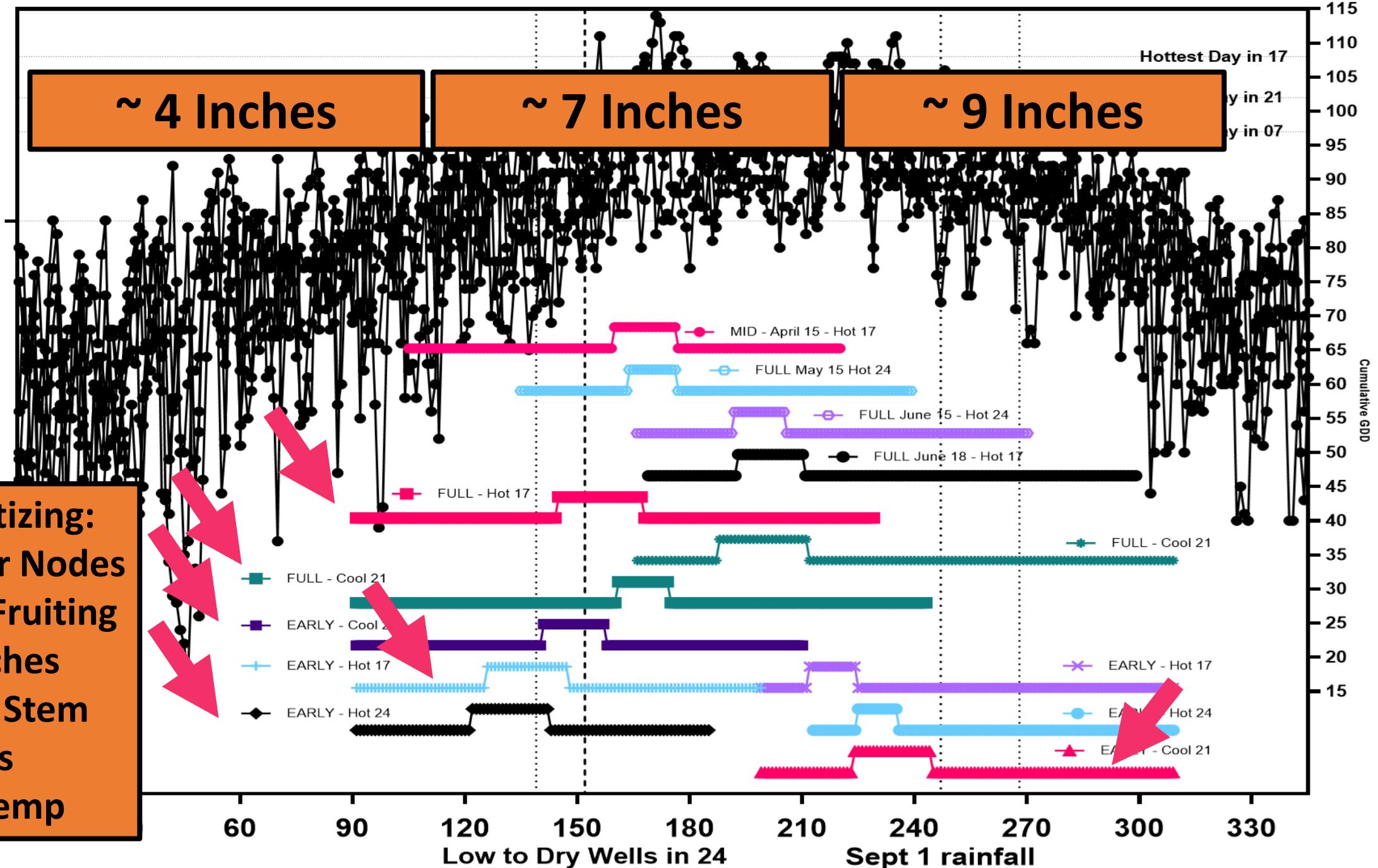
2007, 2017, 2021, 2023, 2024

Theoretical
Development per
actual data

Time till
reproductive
growth







Organophosphates (OPPs), Organochlorines (OCPs), and Carbamates:

- Typically, complete photolysis under sunlight within 64-100 hours in top-soil.

Pyrethroids:

- Can degrade rapidly under sunlight, from 1 to 4 hours.

Neonicotinoids:

- 15-60 days under sunlight in top-soil.

Effects of sunlight on foliar pesticide & length of residual

IF UNDER EXTREME SOLAR CONDITIONS

**Half-lives are shorter, especially so
with wet top-soils.**

**Evapotranspiration is at maximum;
pesticide uptake and accumulation in
leaves are both very fast.**

**Effects of
sunlight on
foliar
pesticide &
length of
residual**

2007 – Cold to Warm to Cool

102 bales per GDD

25k bales / day

2017 – Warm to Hot to Cool

90 bales per GDD

20k bales / day

2024 – Cool to Hot to Hot

12 bales per GDD

2.5k bales / day

**Cost -
effectiveness
of
management**

Flower thrips, from egg to adult, typically takes around

- **14 days if it is hot**
- **21 days if it is cool**

Cotton Fleahopper, egg to adult

- **10 days if it is hot**
- **14 days if it is cool**

2022-2024- Pests accounted for small fraction of total loss.

**Length /
intensity
of pest
cycle**

2022-2024

Grasshoppers were probably the most damaging locally, but cryptic effects regionally.

Drought-sturdy pests were abundant but had lowered effects on the regional scale.

Stinkbugs and Leaf-footed bugs did great. Still didn't move out of sorghum / weedy areas.

Thrips, wireworms, pillbugs, cotton fleahoppers, lygus, leaf beetles, leaf miners, and caterpillars all reduced.

Length /
intensity
of pest
cycle

Authentic IPM Answers

1. When should I plant?

That depends.

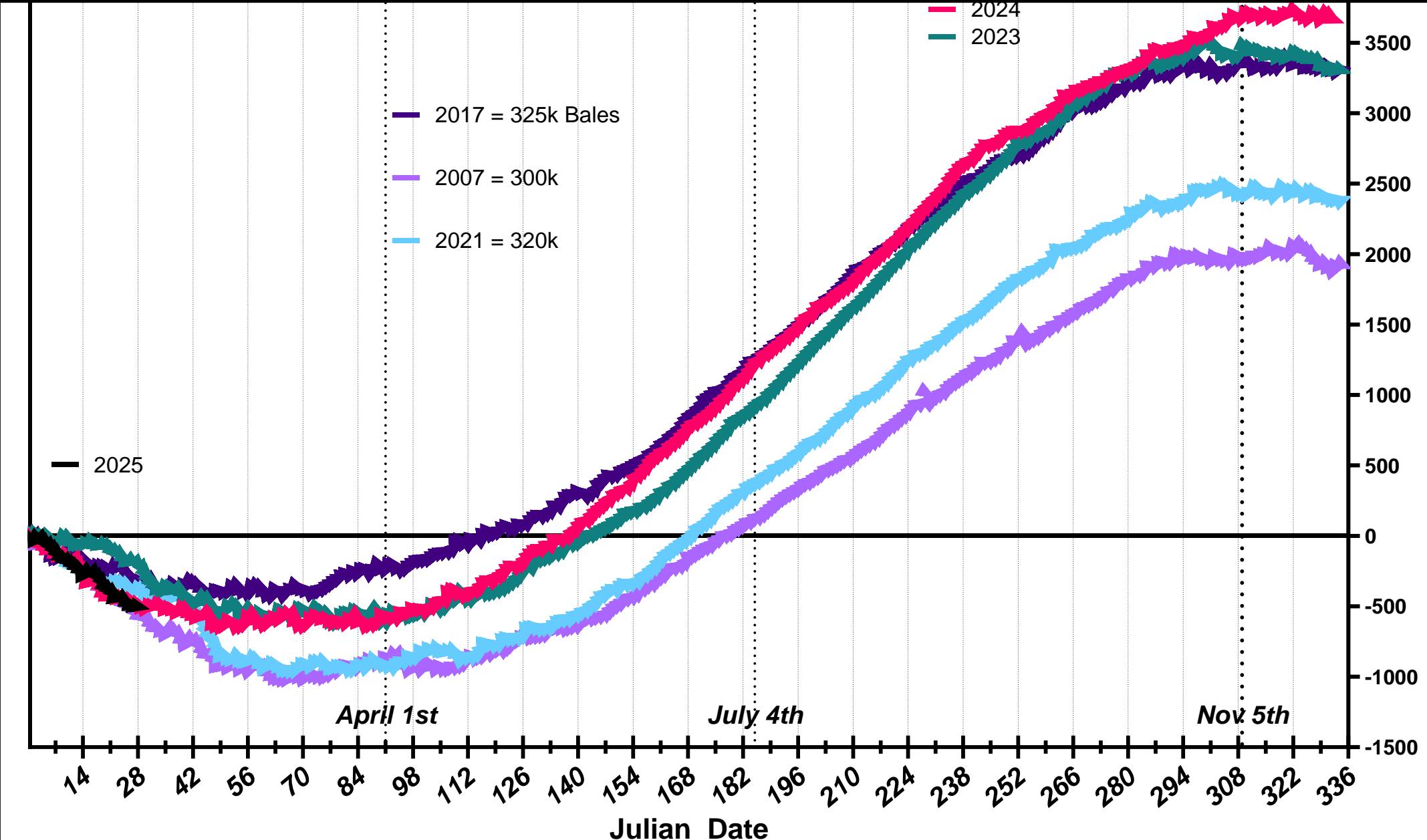
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Yes, Sometimes, Maybe, but No.

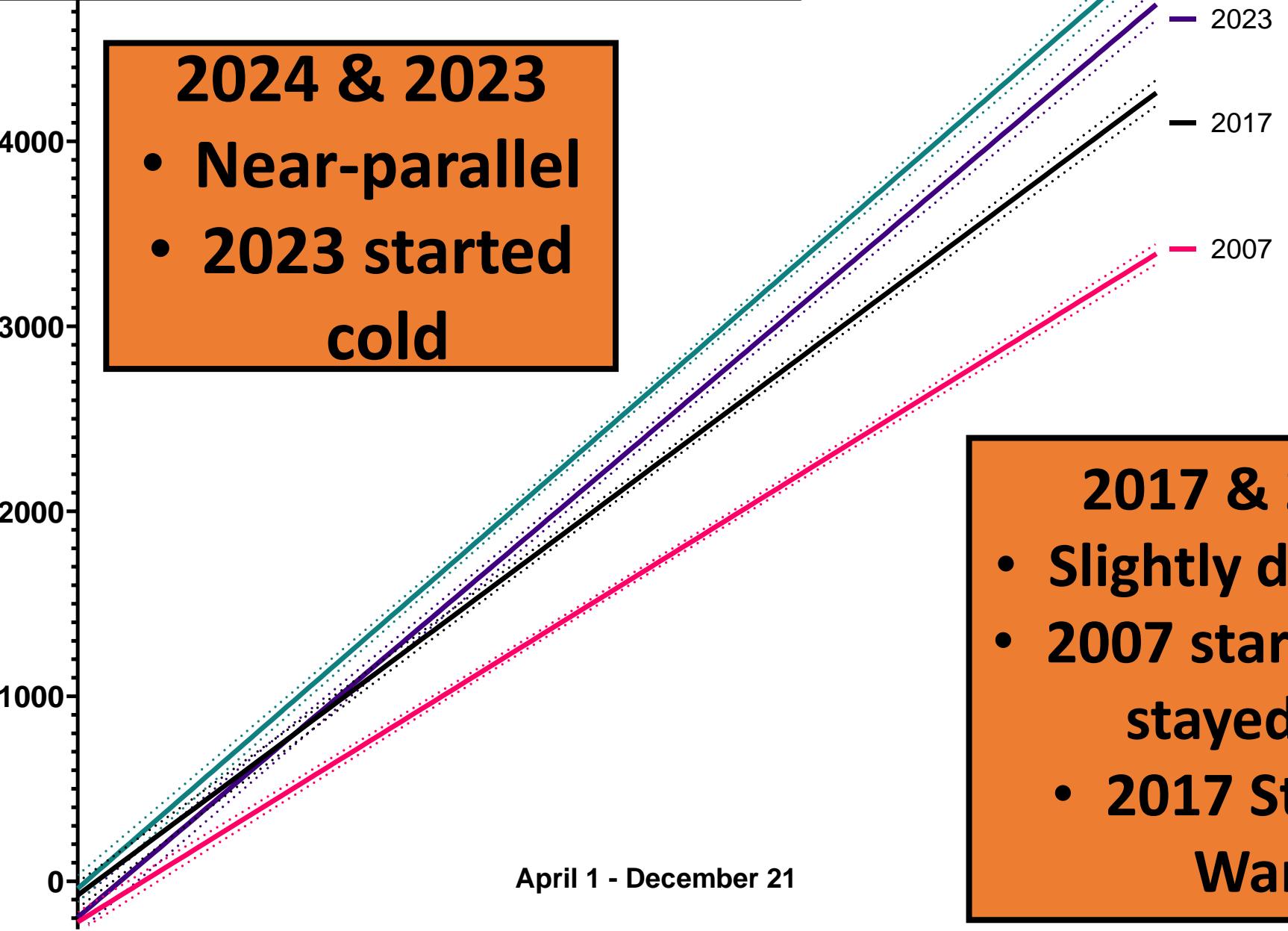
3. Should I use a seed treatment?

That depends.

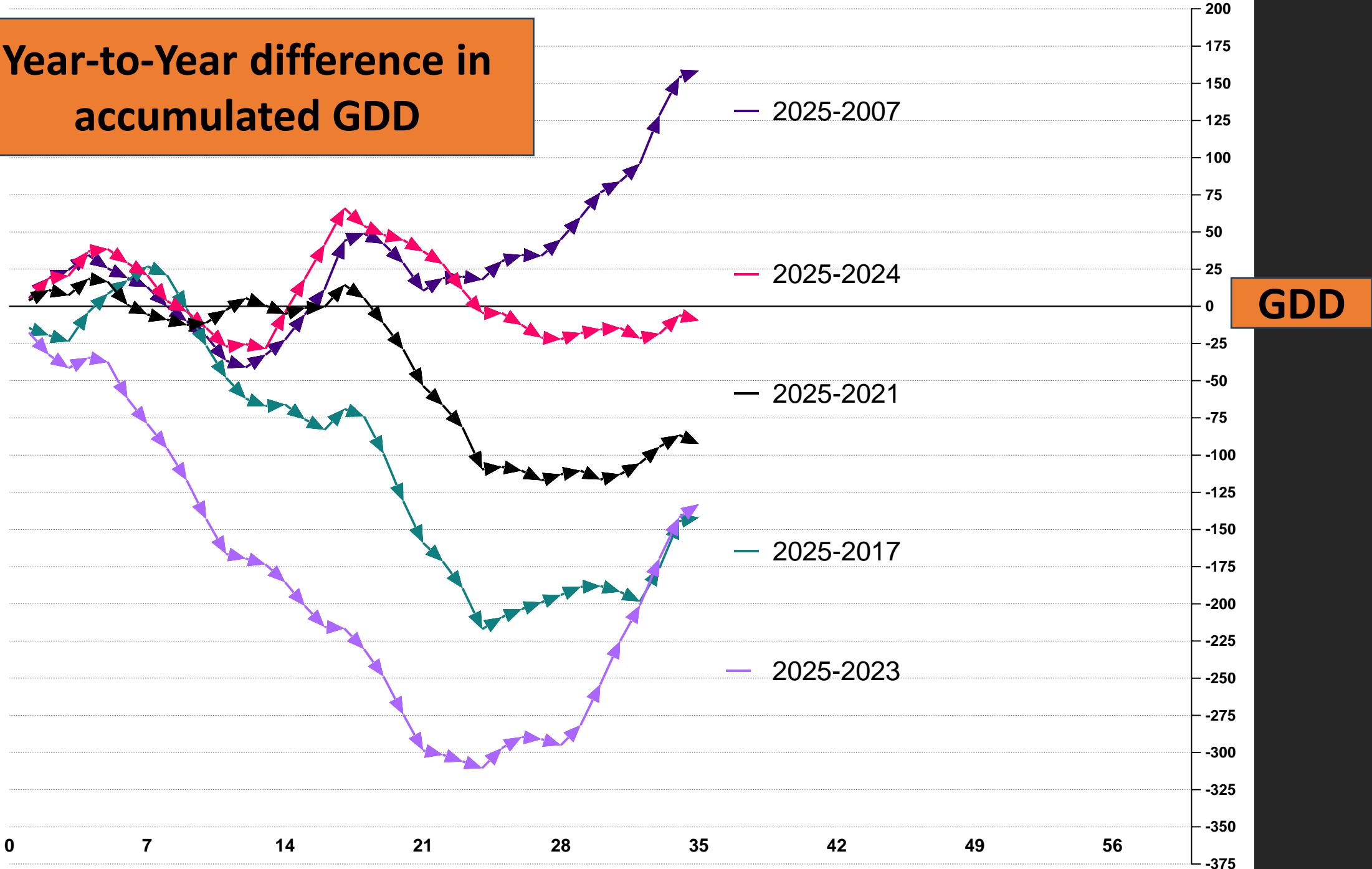
Depends on- What does 2025 look like so far compared to high-bale & low-bale years?



Accumulated GDD Starting April 1st



Year-to-Year difference in accumulated GDD



Year-to-Year difference in accumulated GDD

Wall Hot v
Cold

Wall Hot v
Cool

Cool v
Cold

Wall Hot v
Hot

2024-2007

2024-2021

2021-2007

2024-2017

GDD

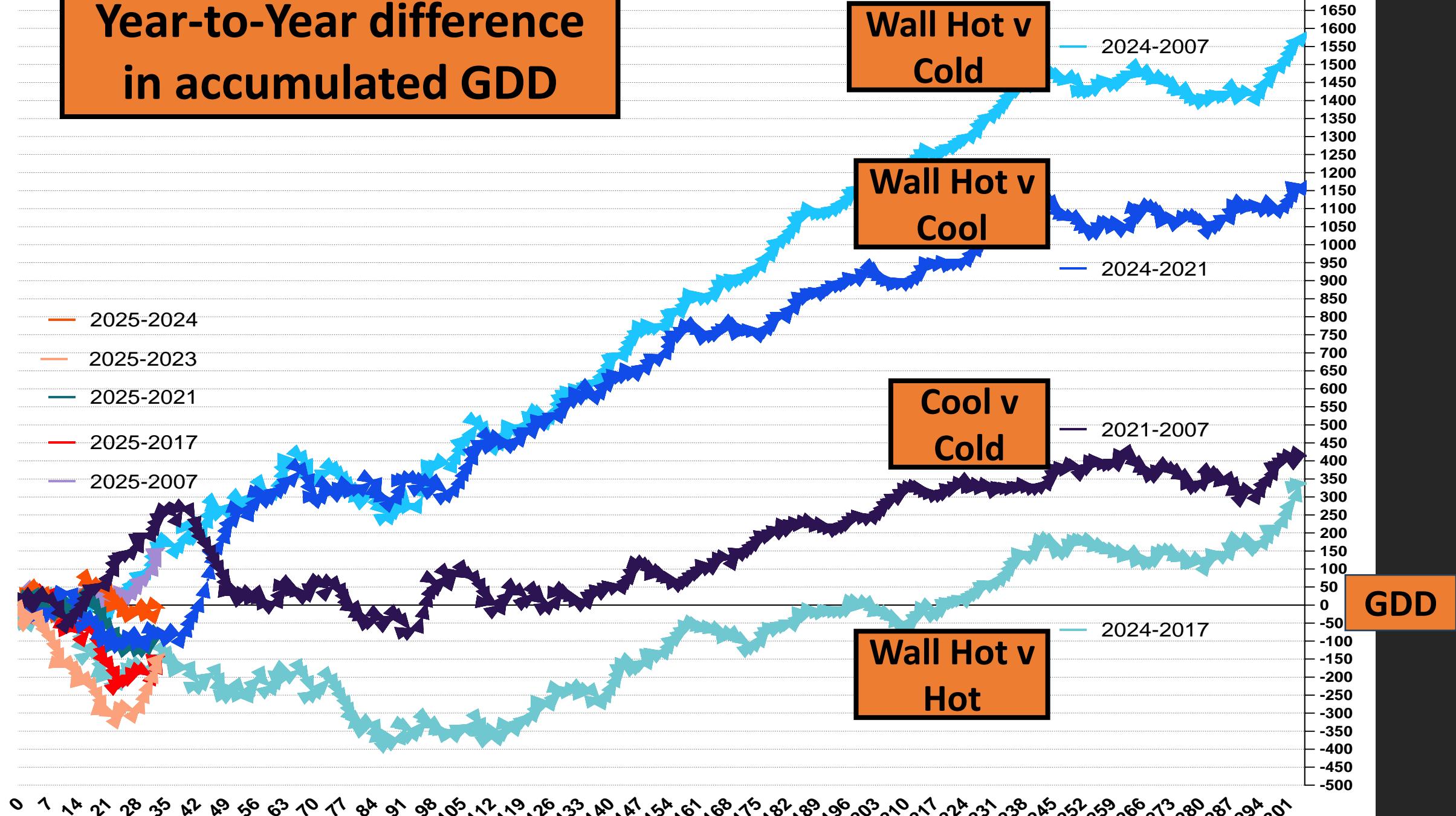
2025-2024

2025-2023

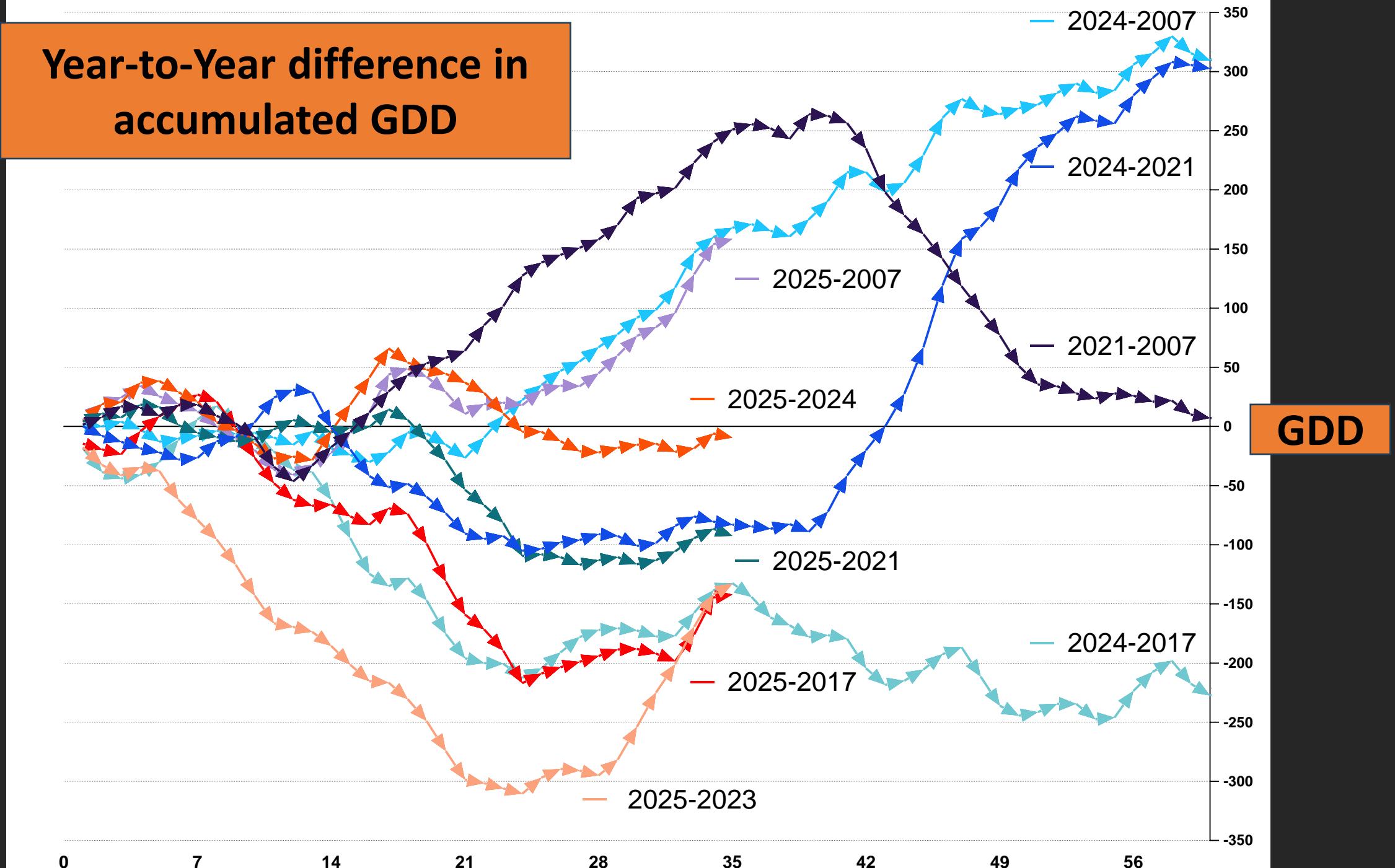
2025-2021

2025-2017

2025-2007



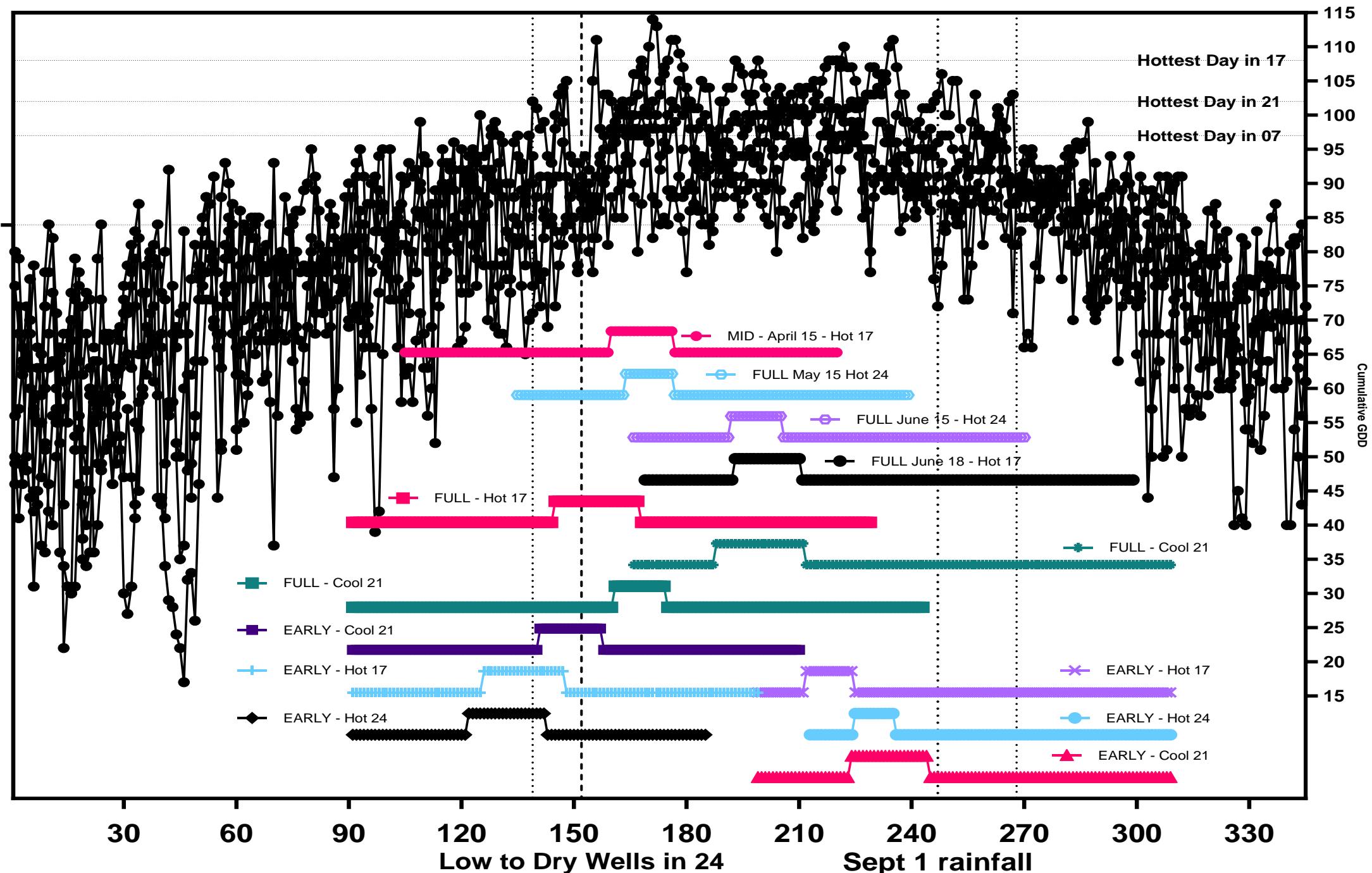
Year-to-Year difference in accumulated GDD



Questions for the audience.....

1. When/what would you plant?

- ✓ HOT YEAR – 24
- ✓ WARM YEAR – 17
- ✓ COOL YEAR – 21
- ✓ COLD YEAR – 07



Questions for the audience.....

2. Could we reduce total plant captured radiation by 50-75% (*inexpensive-foliar---calcium carbonate, chalk, whitewash, commercial products*) whenever rainfall and heating units become detrimental?
 - a. Would it help?
 - b. What does it cost?
 - c. How long does it last?
 - d. What is the name of this magical product?

Questions for the audience.....

3. Which transform (like YtY / YoY) would you use to make predictive sense of energy output and production?