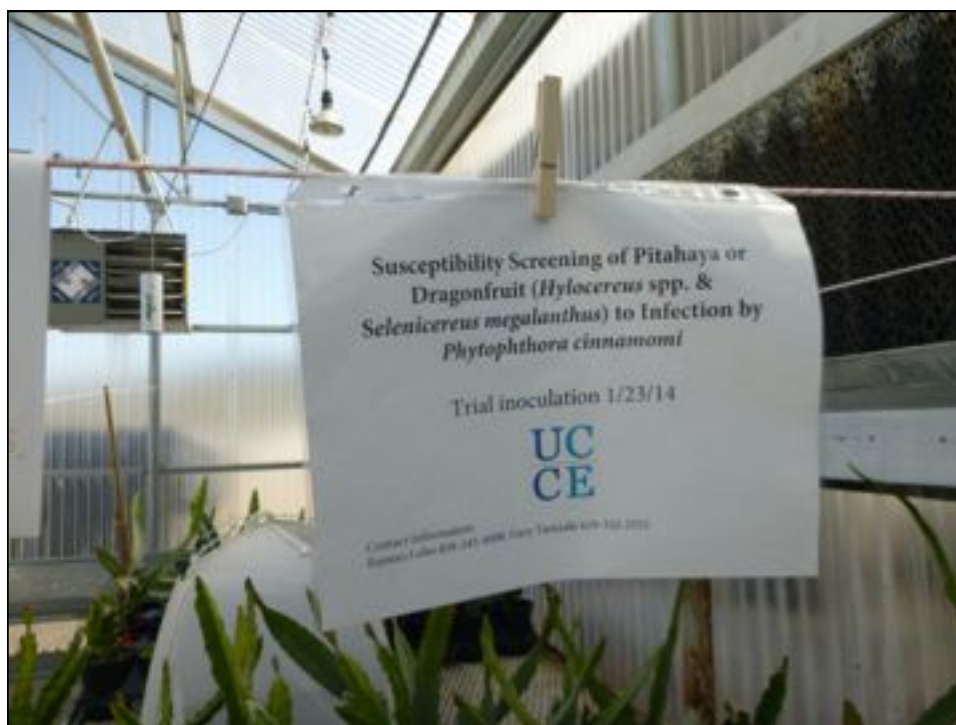


# Is Pitahaya Susceptible to Avocado Root Rot?

*Some Preliminary Results*

Gary Bender, Ramiro Lobo and Gary Tanizaki  
(UCCE San Diego County)  
Akif Escalen (UC Riverside)



## Problem: We don't know if avocado groves with root rot can be replanted to Pitahaya

- *Phytophthora cinnamomi* is a major problem in avocado groves, almost every grove has between 5% - 100% infection
- Current strategies for control are phosphorous acid, better rootstocks, wood chip mulch and gypsum




## Nursery Trial

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Varieties               | • Skin color/Flesh color |
| – Lisa (#4)               | – Red/Red                |
| – Sin Espinas (#5)        | – Pink/Red               |
| – Mexicana (#7)           | – Pink/White             |
| – Columbiana (#8)         | – Yellow/White           |
| – Valdivia Roja (#9)      | – Red/Red                |
| – Bien Hoa Red (#10)      | – Greenish Red/Fuccia    |
| – Delight (#12)           | – Red/Pinkish White      |
| – Physical Graffiti (#15) | – Red/Pink               |
| – El Grulleo (#20)        |                          |

## Two treatments

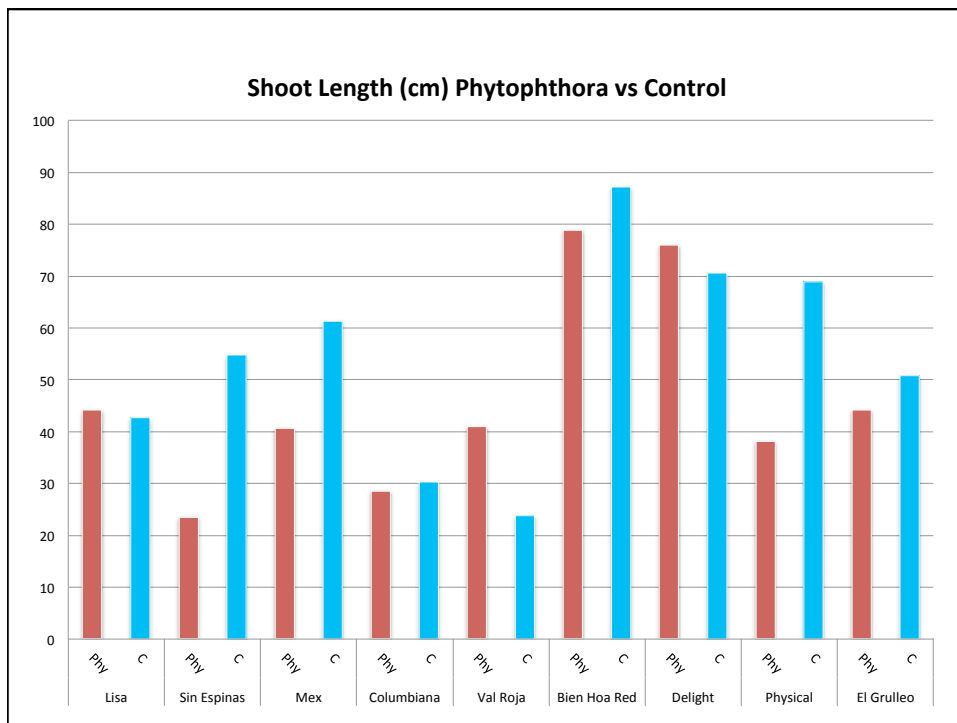
1. *Phytophthora cinnamomi*-infested soil
  - 9 varieties
  - 4 reps
  - Experiment repeated twice
2. Control
  - Same as *P. cinnamomi*

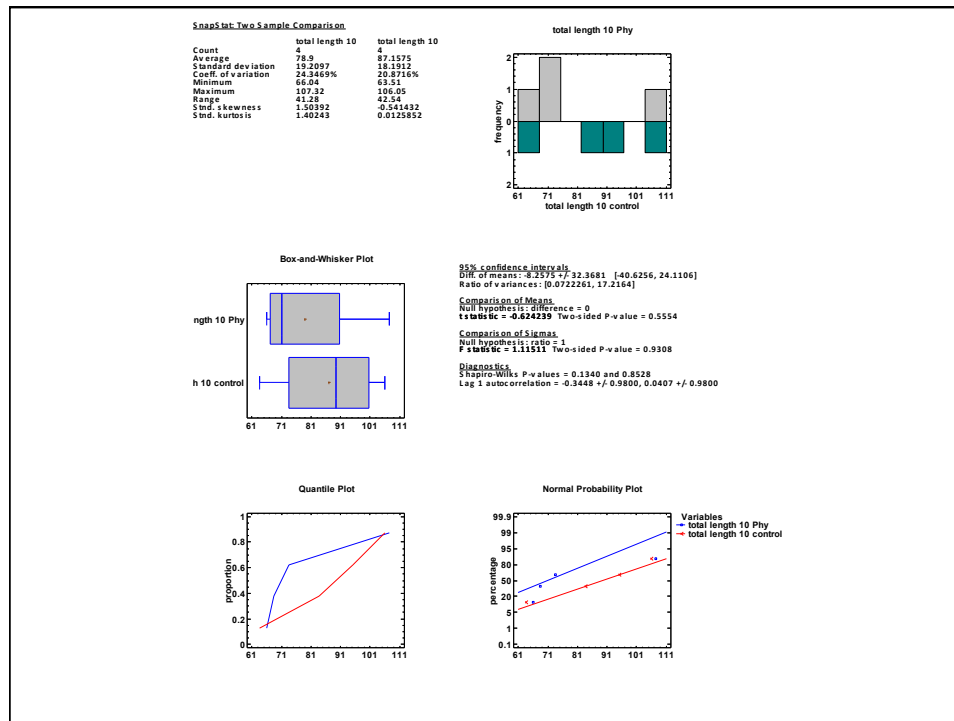
## Evaluation

- # shoots/plant
- Length of each shoot
-  Total shoot length for each plant
- Root weight
- Isolations for *Phytophthora* and DNA work
- We have the data for the first three from experiment 1
- Eskalen lab still working on root weight and isolations









## Bottom Line:

- There are no significant differences yet (at the 5% level) between the Phytophthora-inoculated and the non-inoculated controls (in total shoot length)
- Now, we have to wait for the root infection data
- And do some field trials!