

Dark Tobacco Ridging Project



Methods

- 2021-2022, Mayfield KY and Springfield TN
- 2 x 2 x 2 factorial treatment arrangement (4 reps):
 - Transplanted on Ridges or Flat (Flat Hilled in 1 trial)
 - Topped to 12 vs. 16 leaves or 14 vs. 18 leaves
 - Sucker control applied as spray or manual drop
 - FA at first topping; Butralin + FA at second topping
 - Manual Drop: plant-to-plant stalk rundown application
 - Spray: Directed 3-nozzle/row system with solid cone nozzles (50 gal/A)
 - Stalk harvested at 6 weeks after topping, fire-cured

2021-2022 Ridging Research

2021 Test 1 – Mayfield KY

- Flat vs. Bedded before transplanting
- 12 vs. 16 leaf topping
- Directed spray vs. Dropline

2021 1 test in Springfield TN

- Flat vs. Bedded before transplanting
- 14 vs. 18 leaf topping
- Directed spray vs. Dropline

Test 2 – Mayfield KY

- Flat vs. Hilled after transplanting
- 14 vs. 18 leaves
- Directed spray vs. Dropline

2022:

- Flat vs. Bedded before transplanting
- 12 vs. 16 leaf topping
- Directed spray vs. Dropline
- Graves Co. KY and Springfield TN

Double-Disk Hiller to Form Ridges



Forming Ridges



Flattening Tops of Ridges with Cultipacker



Transplanted Tobacco on Ridge

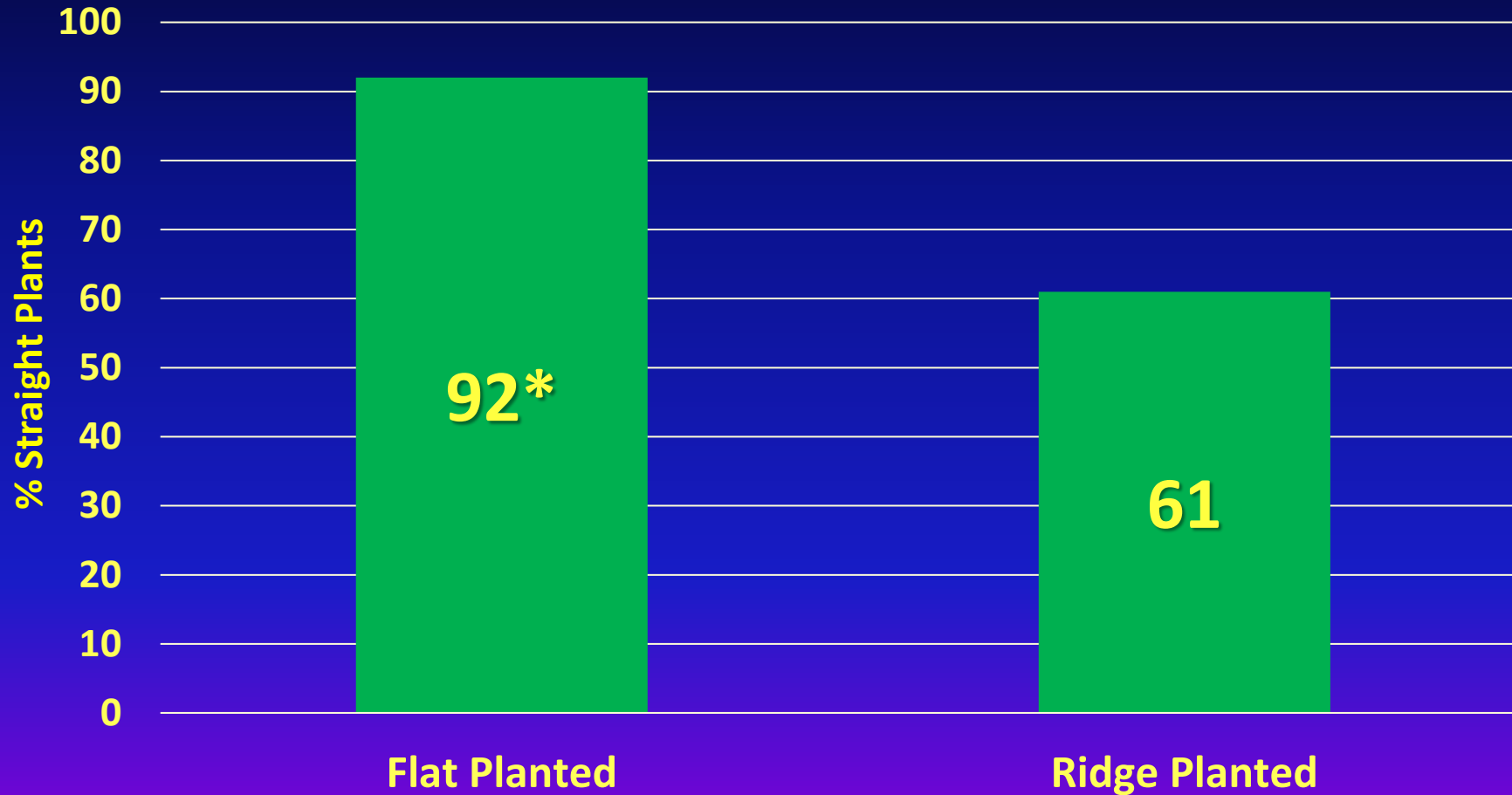


Stalk Rating



2021 Mayfield First Trial

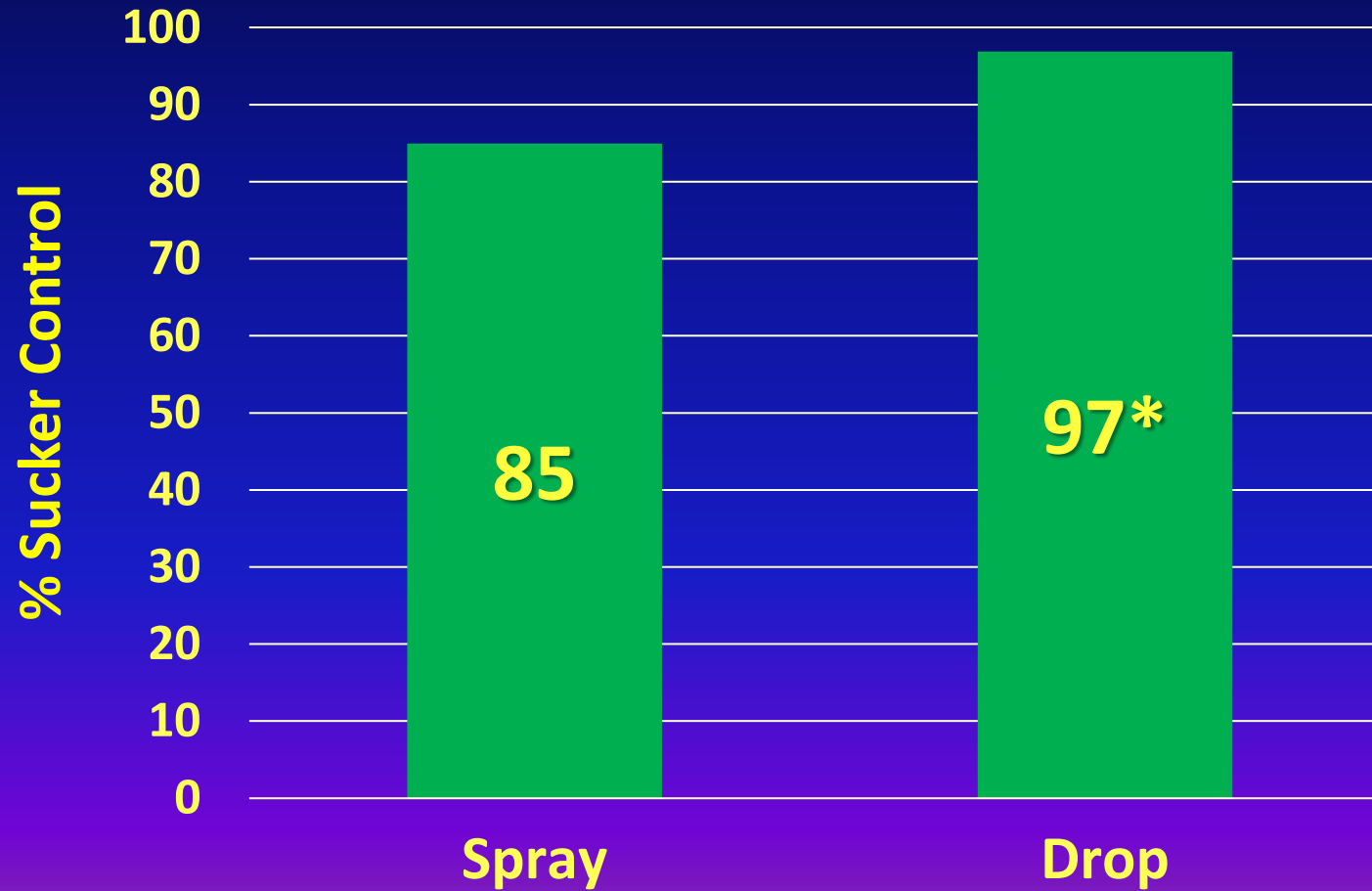
% Straight Tobacco



2021 Mayfield First Trial

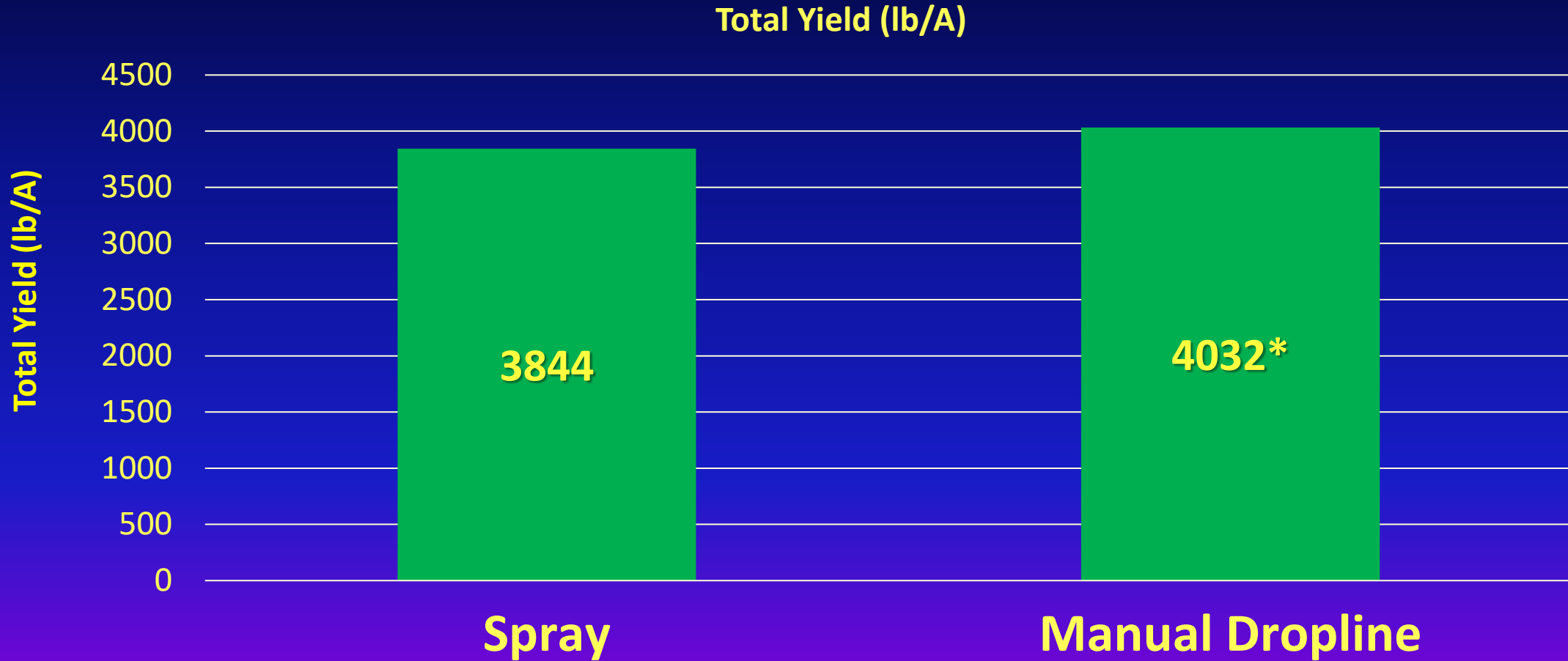
% Sucker Control

Spray vs. Dropline



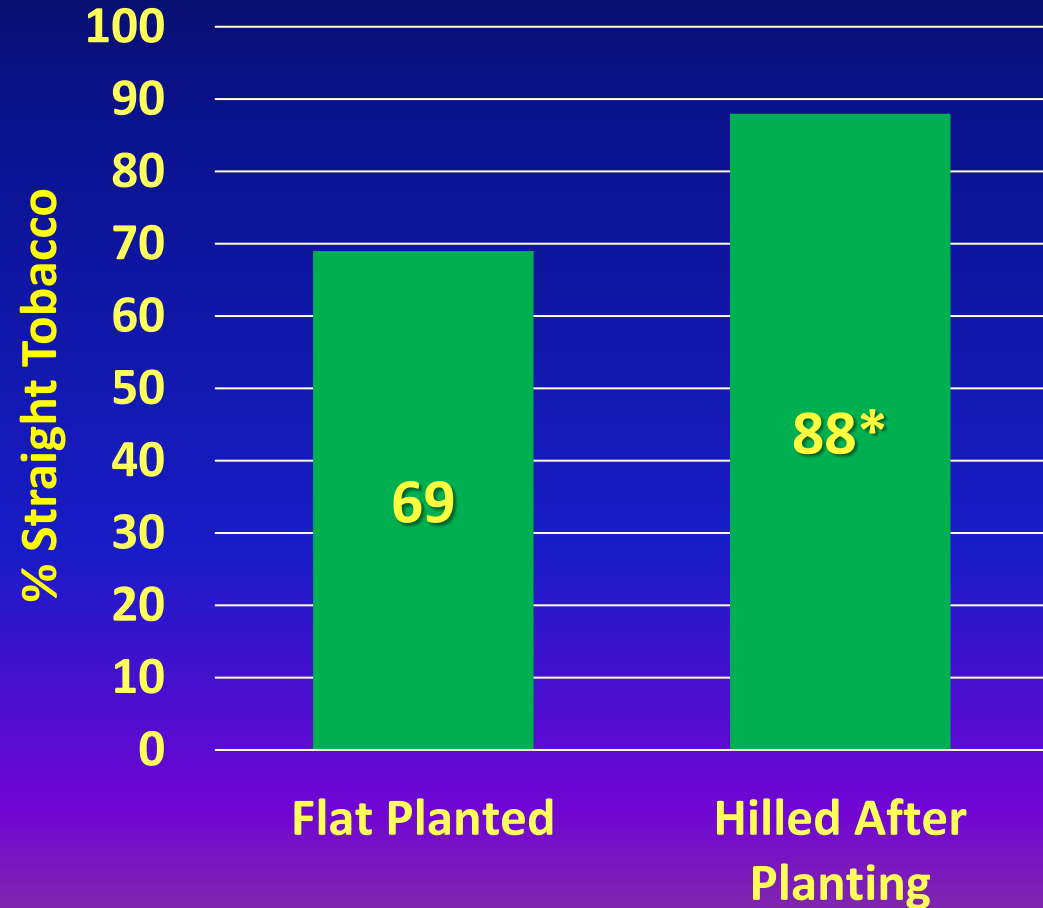
2021 Mayfield First Trial

Sucker Control Application Method Effect on Yield



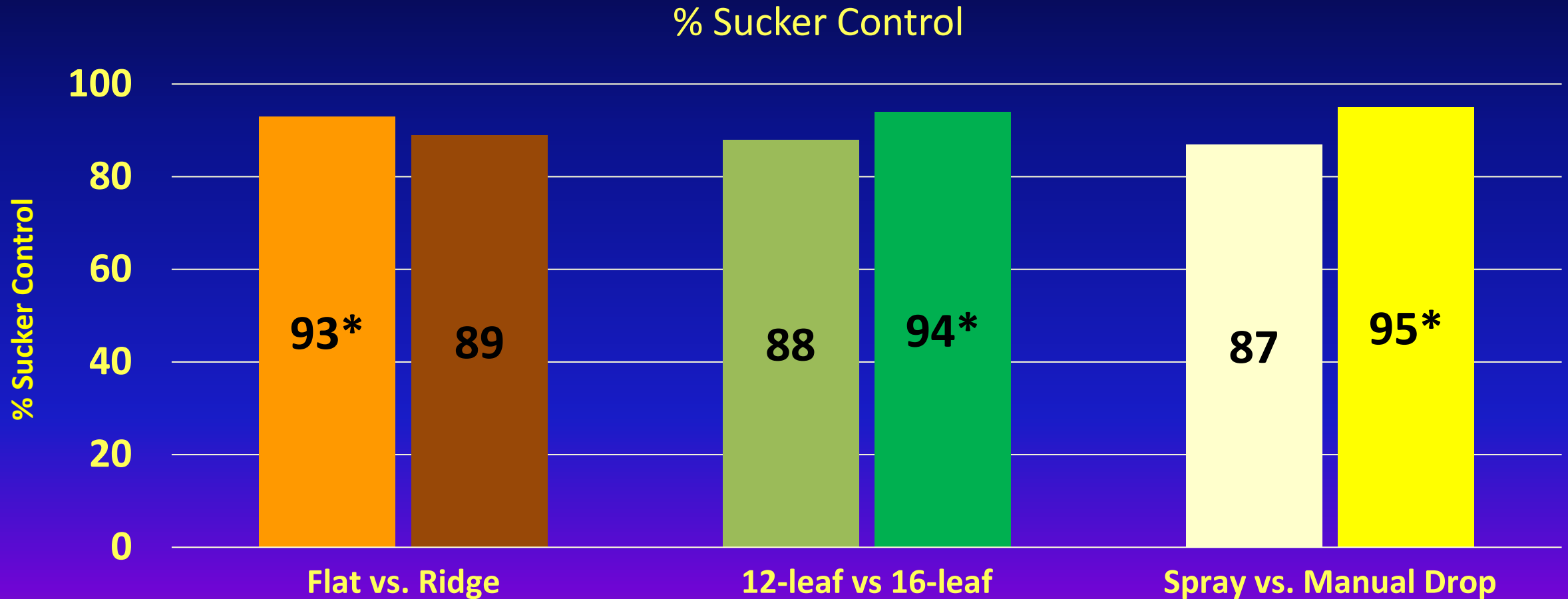
2021 Mayfield Second Trial

Flat Transplanted then Hilled - % Straight Tobacco



2022 Mayfield Trial

Effects on % Sucker Control



2022 Mayfield Trial Effects on Total Yield

Total Dark-Fired Yield (lbs/A)

