

Pesticide Use in Reseeding - an IPM approach

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Outline

Weeds

- Effects
- Strategies
- Experimental results 2010-2015

Pests

Effect of weeds on grassland

Yield reduction

- Mature docks proportionally reduce grass

Poor grazing

- Animals won't graze around thistles

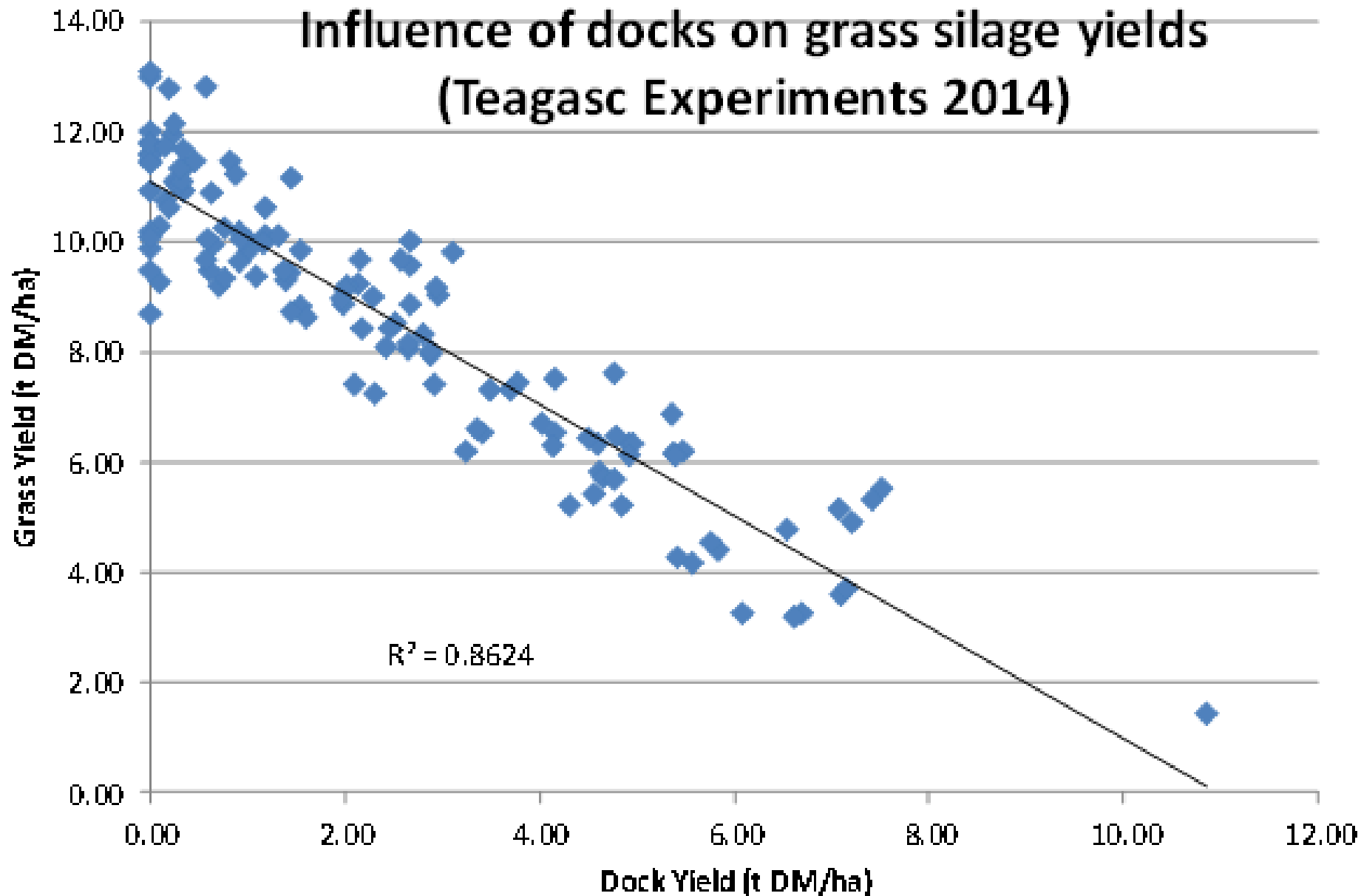
Poor silage preservation

- Chickweed and Docks have low WSC

Animal sickness (Death – extreme)

- Ragwort, Hemlock, etc...

Influence of docks on grass silage yields (Teagasc Experiments 2014)



Weed Strategies

Understanding the lifecycle

- Annual/biennial/perennial

Targeting weeds at key times

- Early post-emergence, topping, etc.

Ensuring strong sward competition

- Weakens roots, reduces juvenile recruitment

Avoiding weed build-up 'practises'

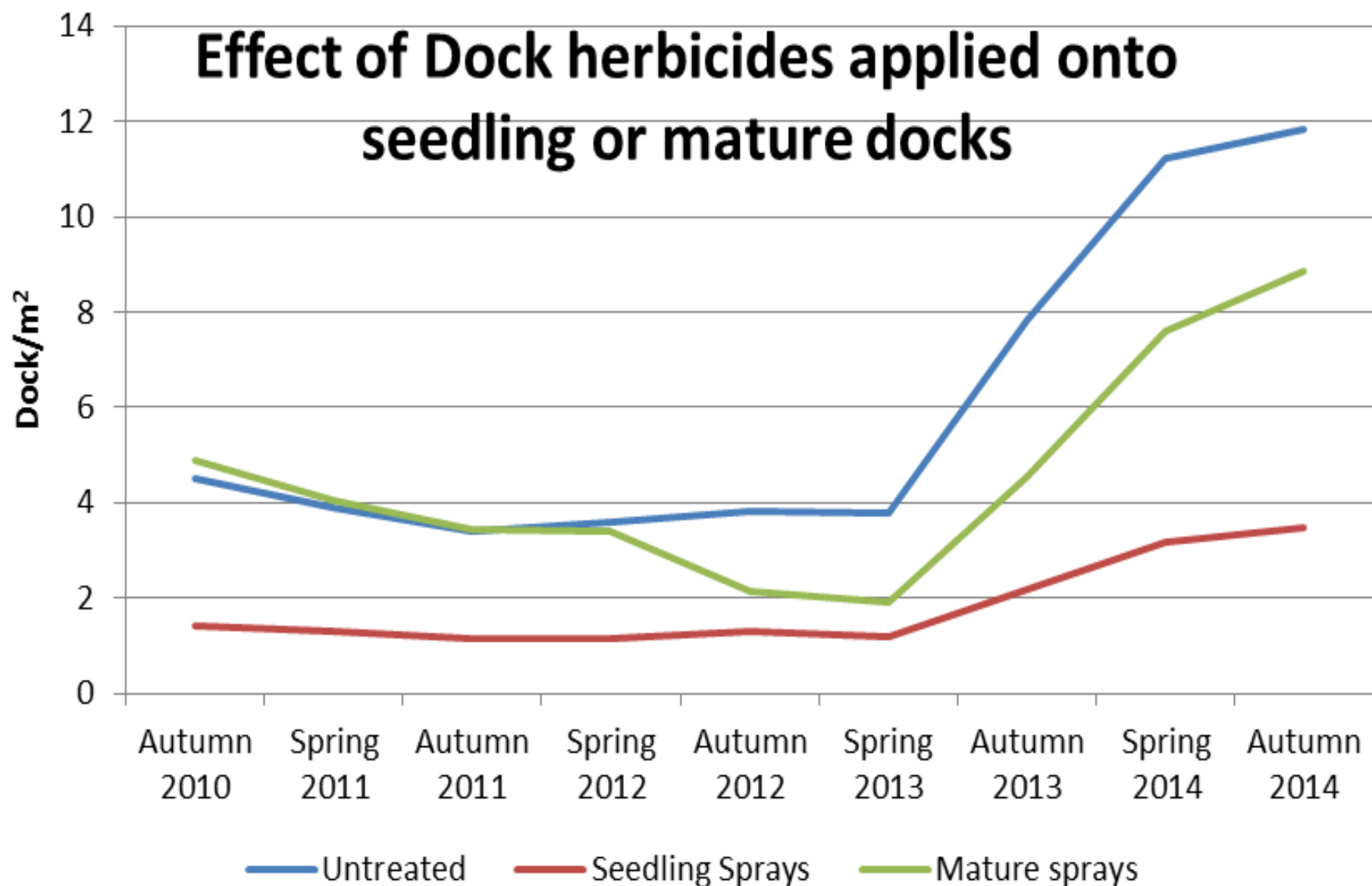
- Continuous silage, poaching, lax grazing

Post-emergence spray

**Sprayed post reseeding 2010
Weed free – spring 2015**



Teagasc Experiments 2009-2015



Why is post em. so important?



However...

Teagasc reseed practise survey 2011

453 farmers – Creighton et al, 2011

89% desiccated with glyphosate

66% reseeded in autumn

53% of dairy farmers apply a post-emergence
spray

Creeping Thistle



2 creeping thistles
connected by root system



Two forms of C. thistle in a re-seed

Creeping Thistle

Creeping thistle
emerging from
rootstock

Creeping thistle
emerging from
seed





Ensure glyphosate is applied correctly
Allow adequate time for uptake
Use appropriate technology for weeds/uptake speed needed

Pests

Leatherjackets

- Rare problem in grassland except Donegal

Frit Fly

- Occasional - warm & dry years (2014)
- September (slow growing) reseeds at risk
- Direct drilled, quick turn-around (<4 weeks)
- Normal risk: Monitor and apply pyrethroid
- High risk: Apply chlorpyrifos pre-emergence

Frit Fly larvae in grass



Information

http://www.teagasc.ie/crops/fodder_crops/

www.irishwildflowers.ie