

**Agricultural Technologies** 

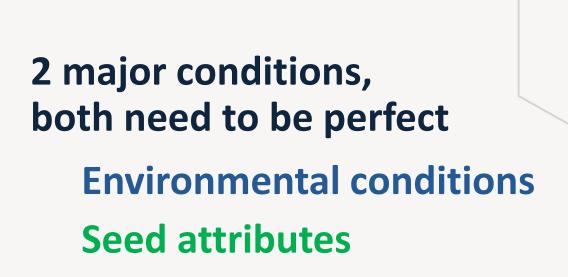
# Seed Storage Management

Johan van Asbrouck Rhino



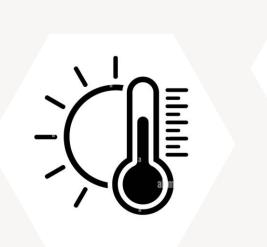


How does your company decide what seed lots should be stored till next season, and what seed lots should be sold this year?





## The environment





Humidity



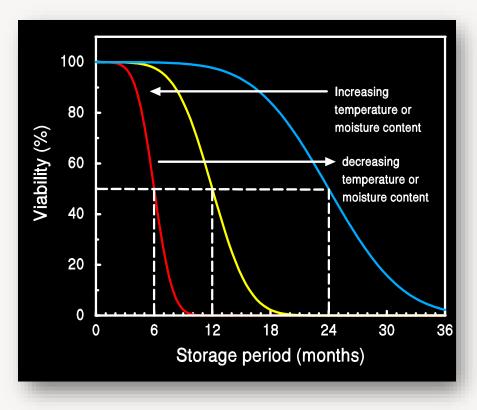


Packaging

Temperature

Oxygen

# **Thumb Rules of Seed Storage**



James' Rule: Temp (°F) + RH (%) < 100 Temp (°C) + RH (%) < 60

#### Harrington's Rule:

Seed longevity decreases by one-half for every 1% increase in moisture content or every 10°F (6°C) increase in temperature.

#### Bradford's Metronome Rule:

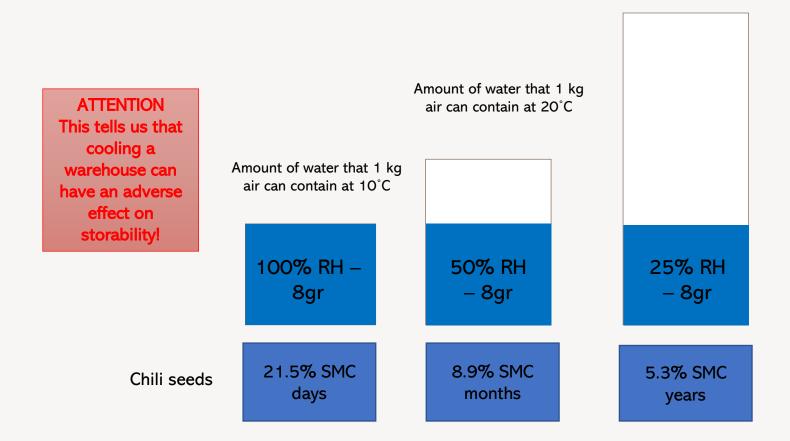
The "clock" starts running as soon as the seeds are mature and they have a total number of ticks before death. The rate at which the metronome ticks depends upon the temperature and moisture content.



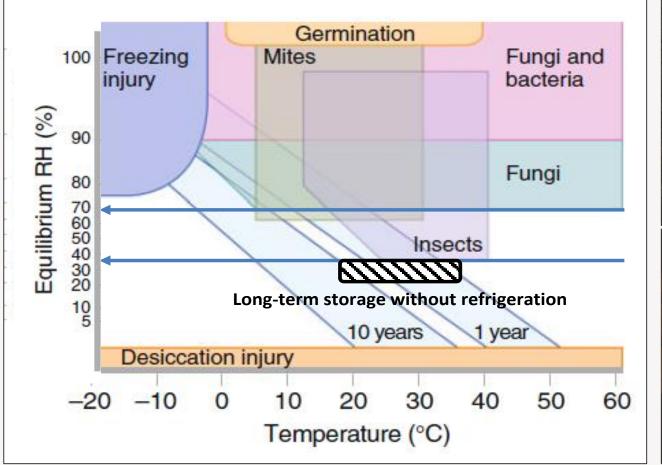
## Water content of the air

And the impact of temperature

Amount of water that 1 kg air can contain at 35°C



### Other storage problems are reduced at low RH





Adapted from Roberts EH (1972) Viability of Seeds. Chapman and Hall Ltd., Syracuse, NY, pp 14-58.



## Impact of oxygen

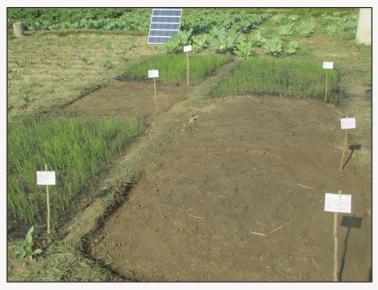
#### Positive

Oxidation of lipids, starch, sugars ... delivers energy , necessary to germinate and grow

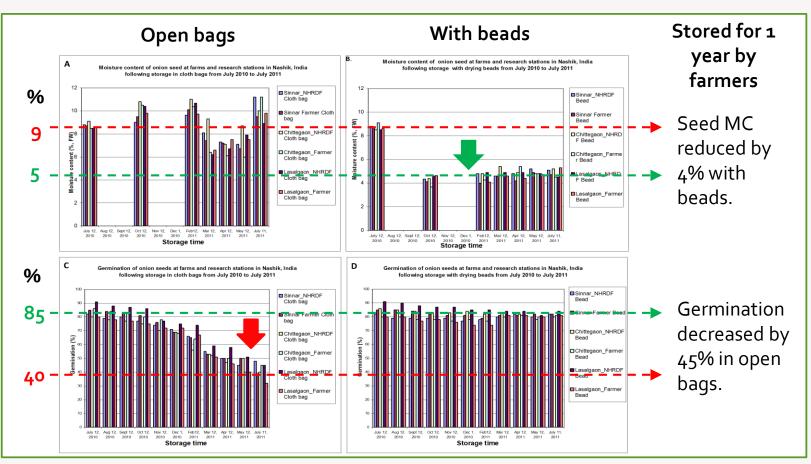
#### Negative

Oxidation during storage can deteriorate important cell structures (DNA, mitochondria, membranes, lipids ...) Oxygen levels (>2%) is needed for insects, fungi ... to survive and reproduce

# Impact of seed moisture and packaging



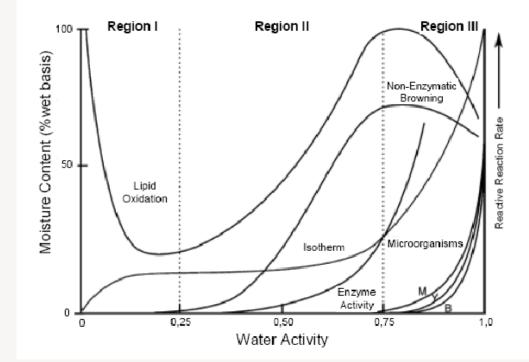
Onion seed storage field trial, Basantpur, Rupandehi, Nepal



Courtesy of Dr. Keshavulu Kunusoth, ANGRAU, Hyderabad, India

Open storage vs. bead storage of onion seeds in Nashik, India and Basantour, Nepal

## Key constraint: Ideal moisture level



Water activity stability map (adapted from Labuza)

In order to minimize all metabolic activities, the water activity (or eRH)should be below 25% but higher than 15%

The corresponding moisture content can be calculated through the Cromarty equation and would be for:

At 20 Celsius	25% RH	15% RH
Rice	7.5%	6.0%
Corn	7.5%	5.5%
Chilies	6.0%	4.5%
Tomato	6.5%	5.0%
Cabbage	5.0%	4.0%
Onion	6.5%	5.0%
Melon	5.5%	4.0%

### **Seed Related Factors**



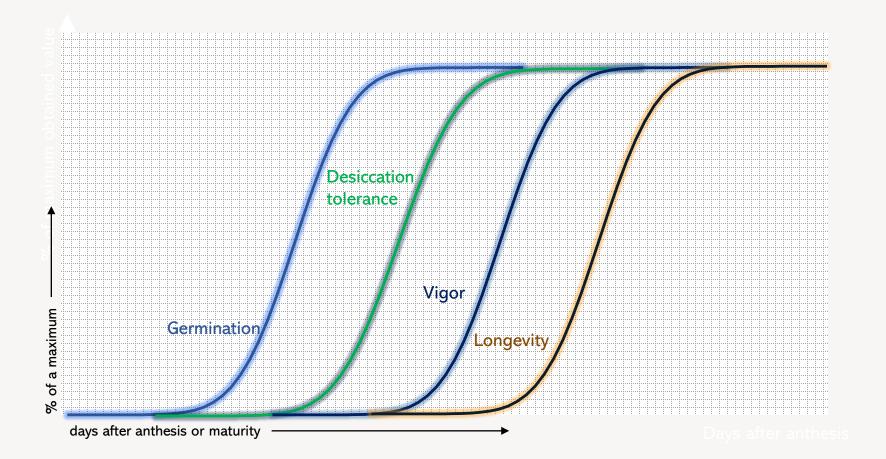
First, a seed will establish its final goal... the ability to germinate

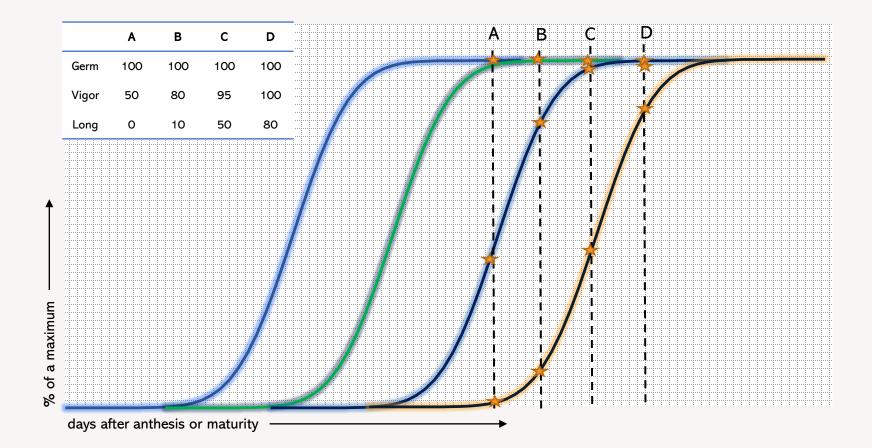
Second, it will develop a desiccation tolerance (orthodox seeds)

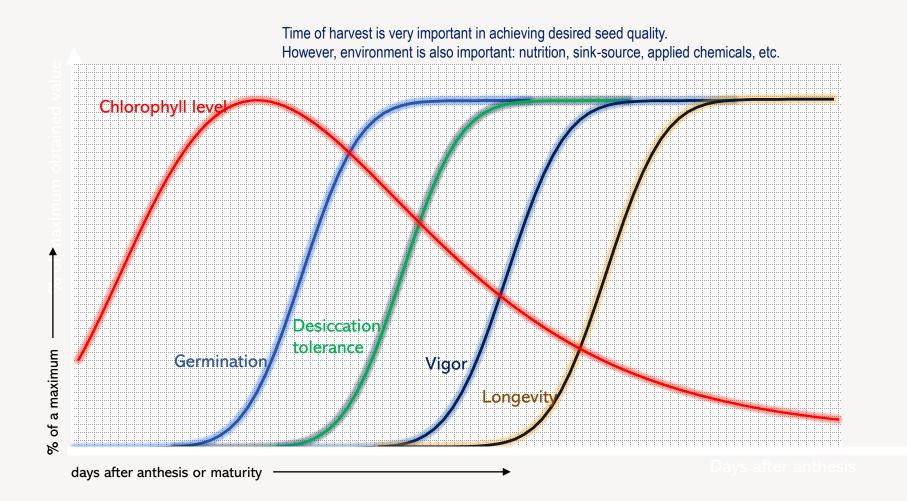
Third, it will produce energy reserves, seen as vigour

Last, but not least, it will prepare itself for lesser than optimal conditions (longevity, storability)

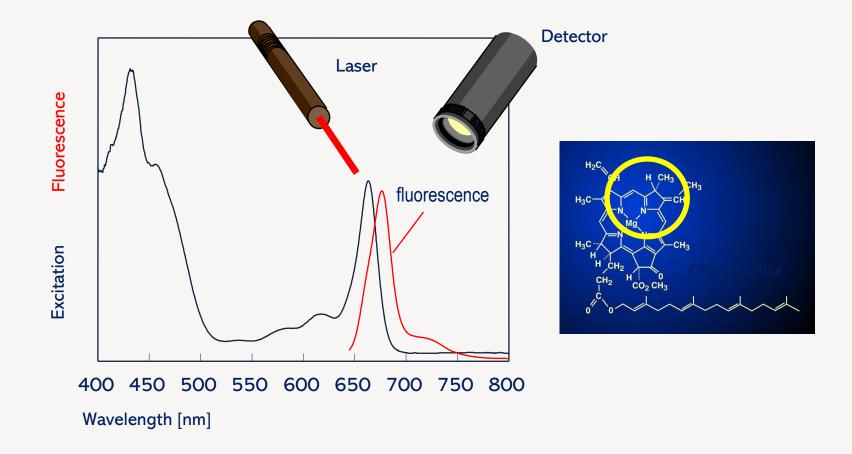




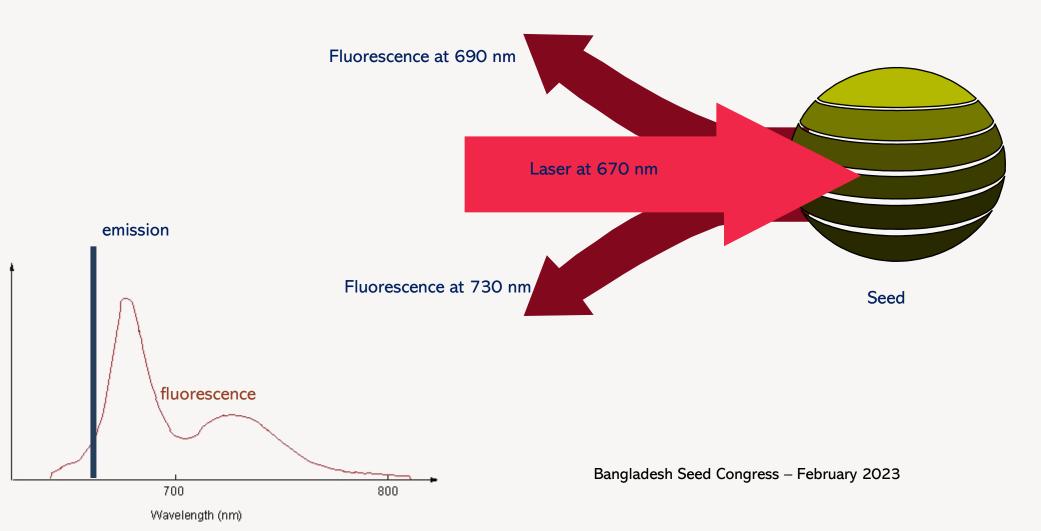




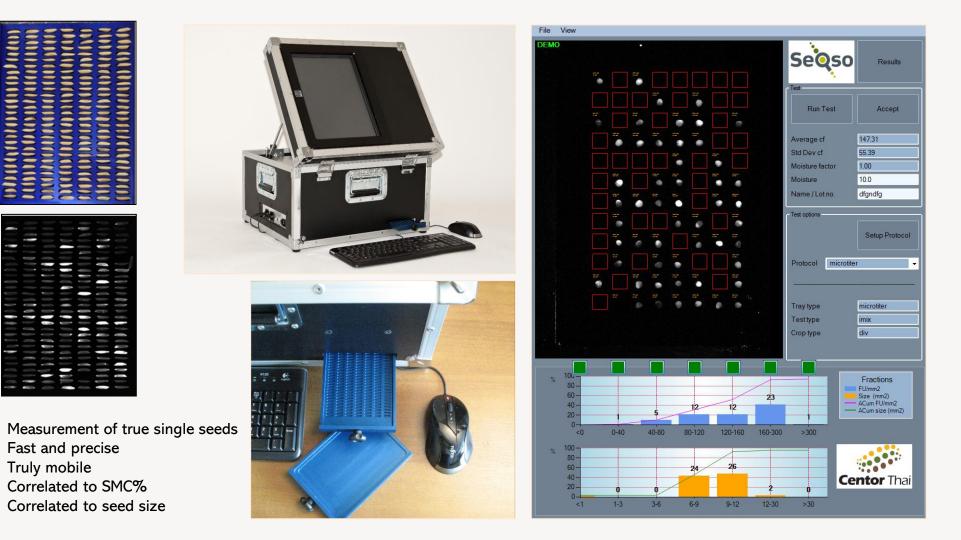
#### Spectral properties of chlorophyll



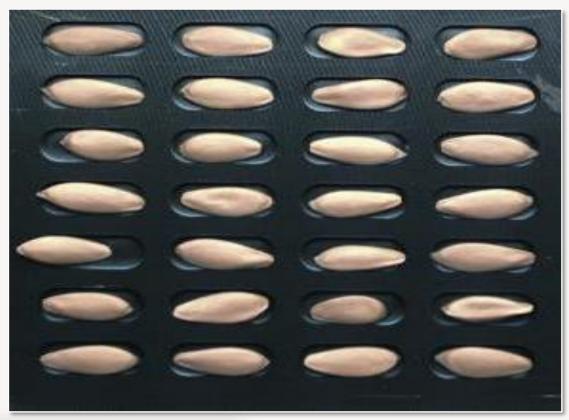
#### Principle of CF measurement



### **CF** Mobile



## **CF** Analyzer





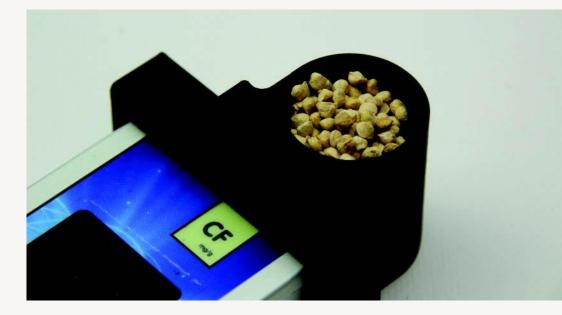
Measurement of true single seeds or sample averages Fast and precise Correlated to SMC% Correlated to seed size

Bangladesh Seed Congress – February 2023



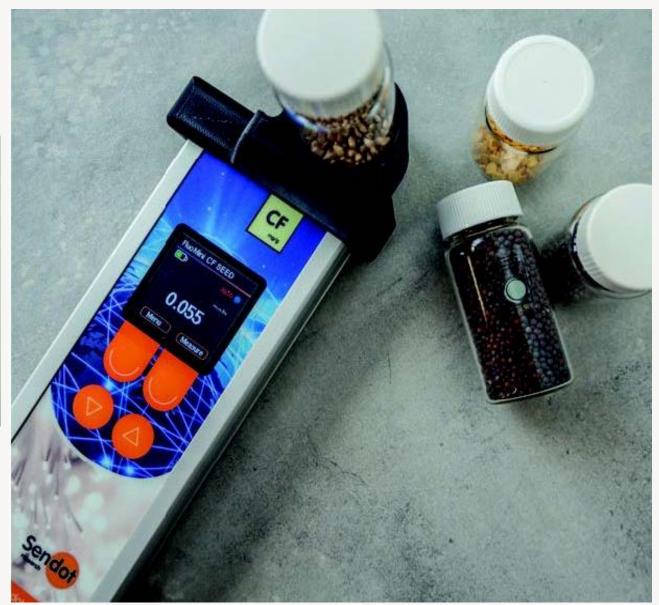
### **CF** Sensor

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Measurement of sample averages only Simple, fast and precise Display in mg chlorophyll per gram sample Cost effective

## Making the CF technology available to all seed technologists



Delivers the answer to what seed lot should I sell first? – and minimize my losses due to seed inventory deterioration

### Meet our team



#### Johan Van Asbrouck

Executive chairman



Patcharin Taridno (Ann)

Sales & Technology Director



#### Shakeel Imran

Sales lead for South Asia

International Seed Academy



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Bangladesh Sales Manager



# Thank you

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