

# Production Water – Current and Ongoing work

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SMART PATH Kickoff Meeting

# How much *Salmonella* is in FL Surface Water?

18 sites in Central Florida

Public access

Rural – away from animal agriculture

August 2010 – 2011

202, 10 L water samples

*E. coli* & *Salmonella* MPNs, TPC

2 Lakes

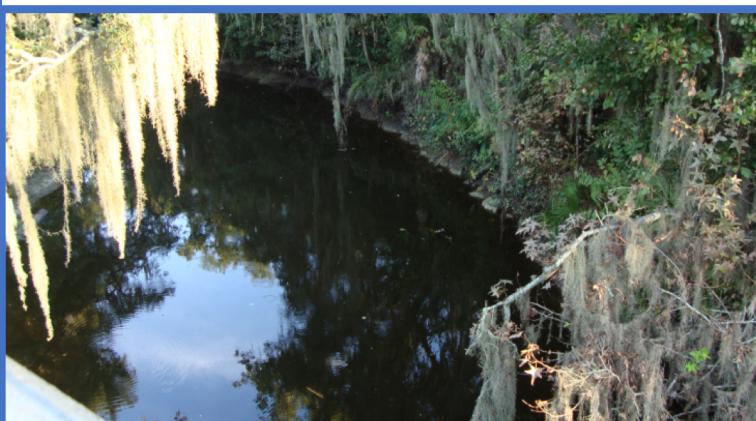
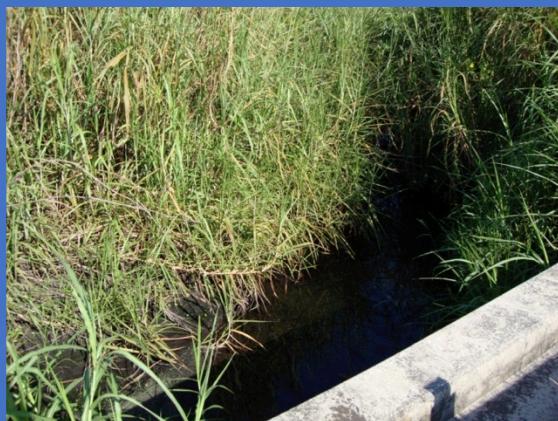
1 Pond

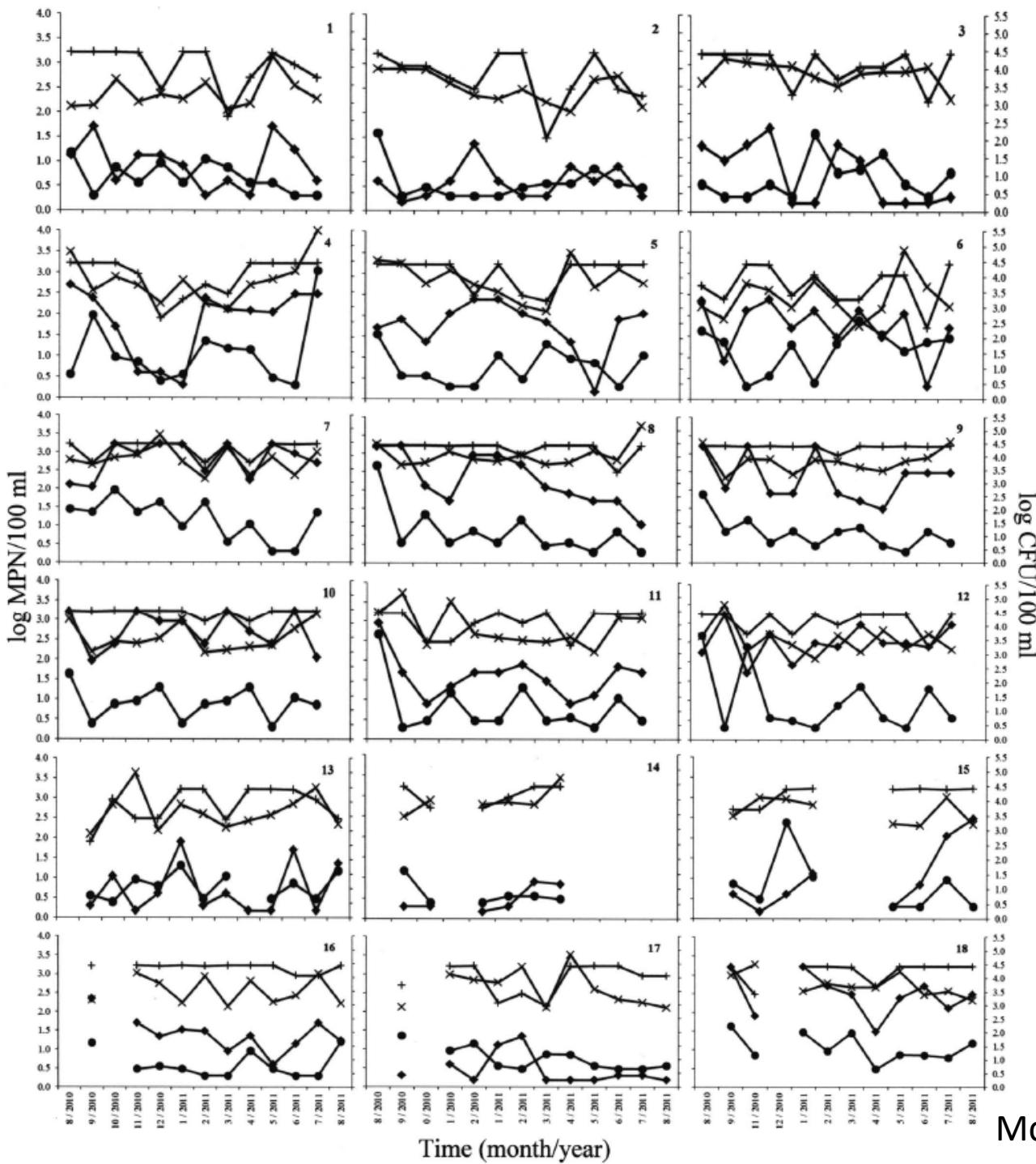
6 Creeks

2 Streams

1 River

6 Canals



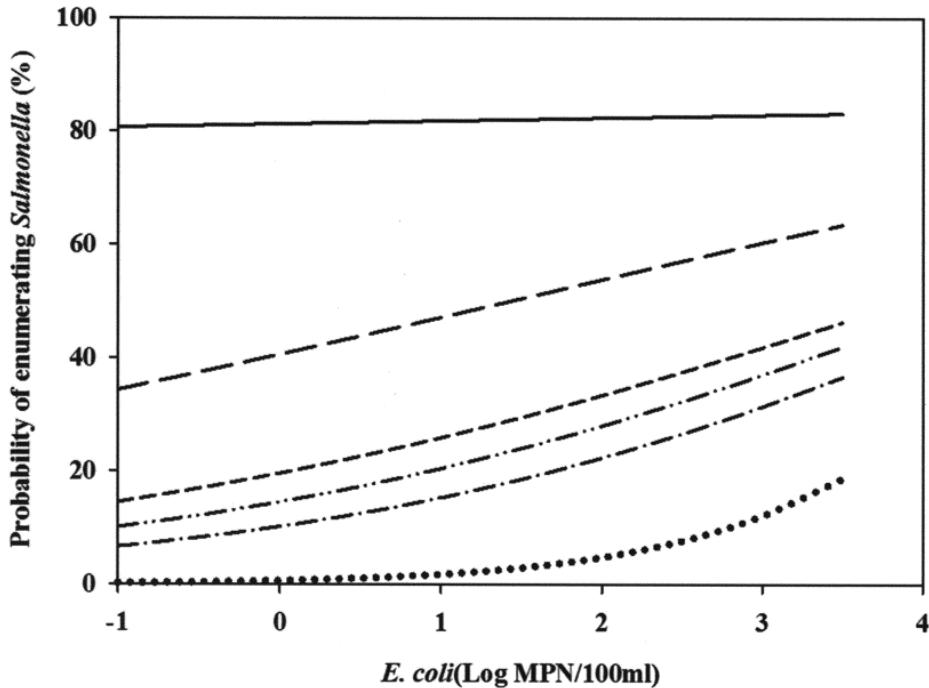


**Figure.** Populations of *Salmonella* enumerated via MPN enrichments in LB, TT broth, and isolation on XLT4 (●), *E. coli* (○), and coliforms (X) enumerated via MPN method using Colisure, all reported in log MPN/100 ml (left axis), and aerobic plate counts (X), enumerated on TSA and reported in log CFU/100 ml (right axis), as determined for each of eighteen Central Florida sites sampled monthly for a continuous twelve-month period.

# *E. coli* for predicting *Salmonella* concentrations



- *E. coli* log MPN/100 ml values not strongly linearly correlated with *Salmonella* log MPN values
- Multiple logistic regression analysis could be used to predict the probability of *Salmonella* concentration exceeding a given concentration



**Figure:** Logistic regression model for predicting the probability of enumerating: *Salmonella*

- $\geq 3$  MPN/100 ml (solid line)
- $\geq 5$  MPN/100 ml (long dashes)
- $\geq 10$  MPN/100 ml (short dashes)
- $\geq 15$  MPN/100 ml (dash two dots)
- $\geq 20$  MPN/100 ml (dash one dot)
- $\geq 60$  MPN/100 ml (dotted)

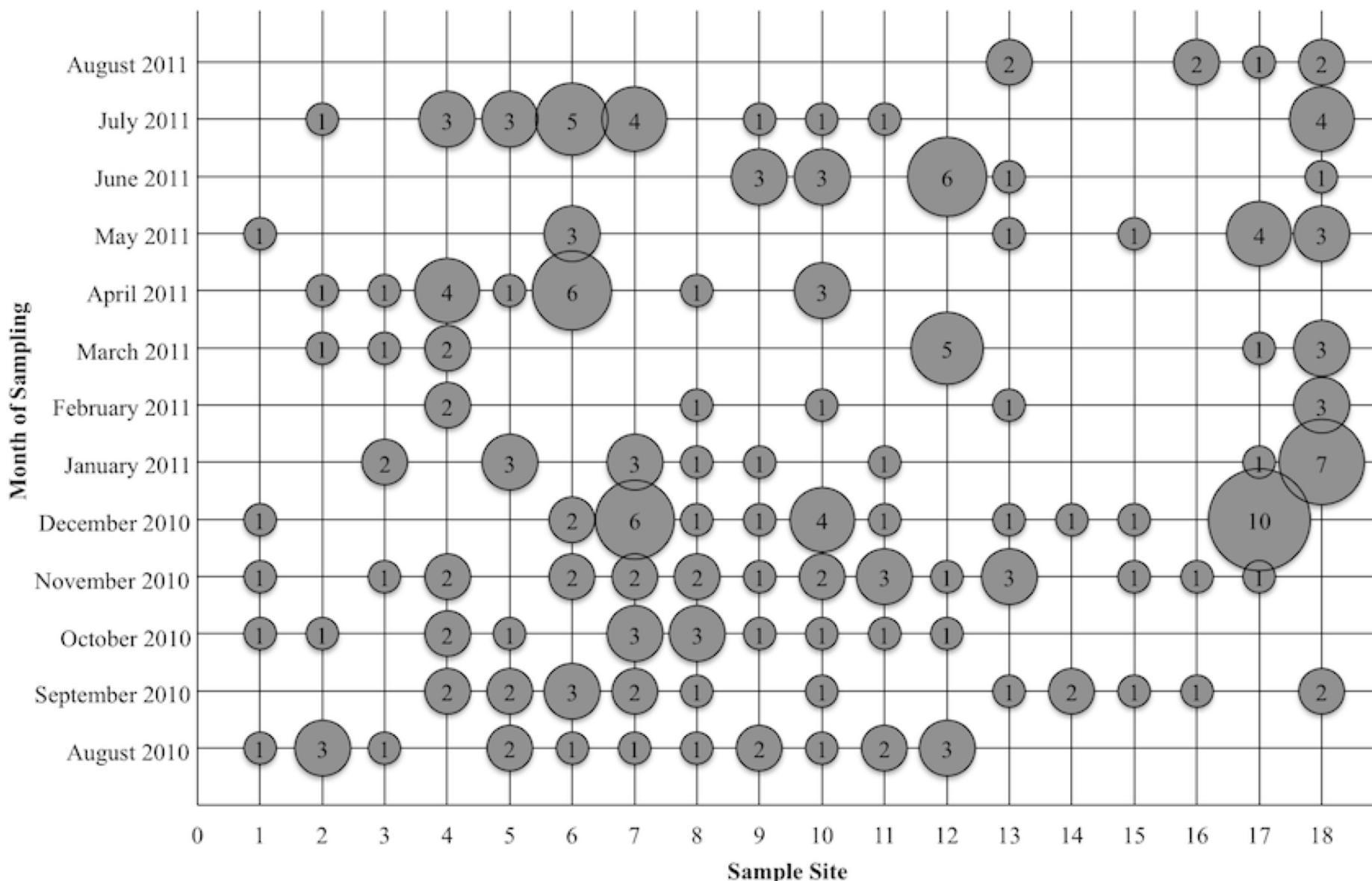


Figure 1. Unique *Salmonella* isolates from eighteen sampling sites over the 12 month survey (19). The bubble size represents the number of unique isolates collected at the specified sampling site and sample date.

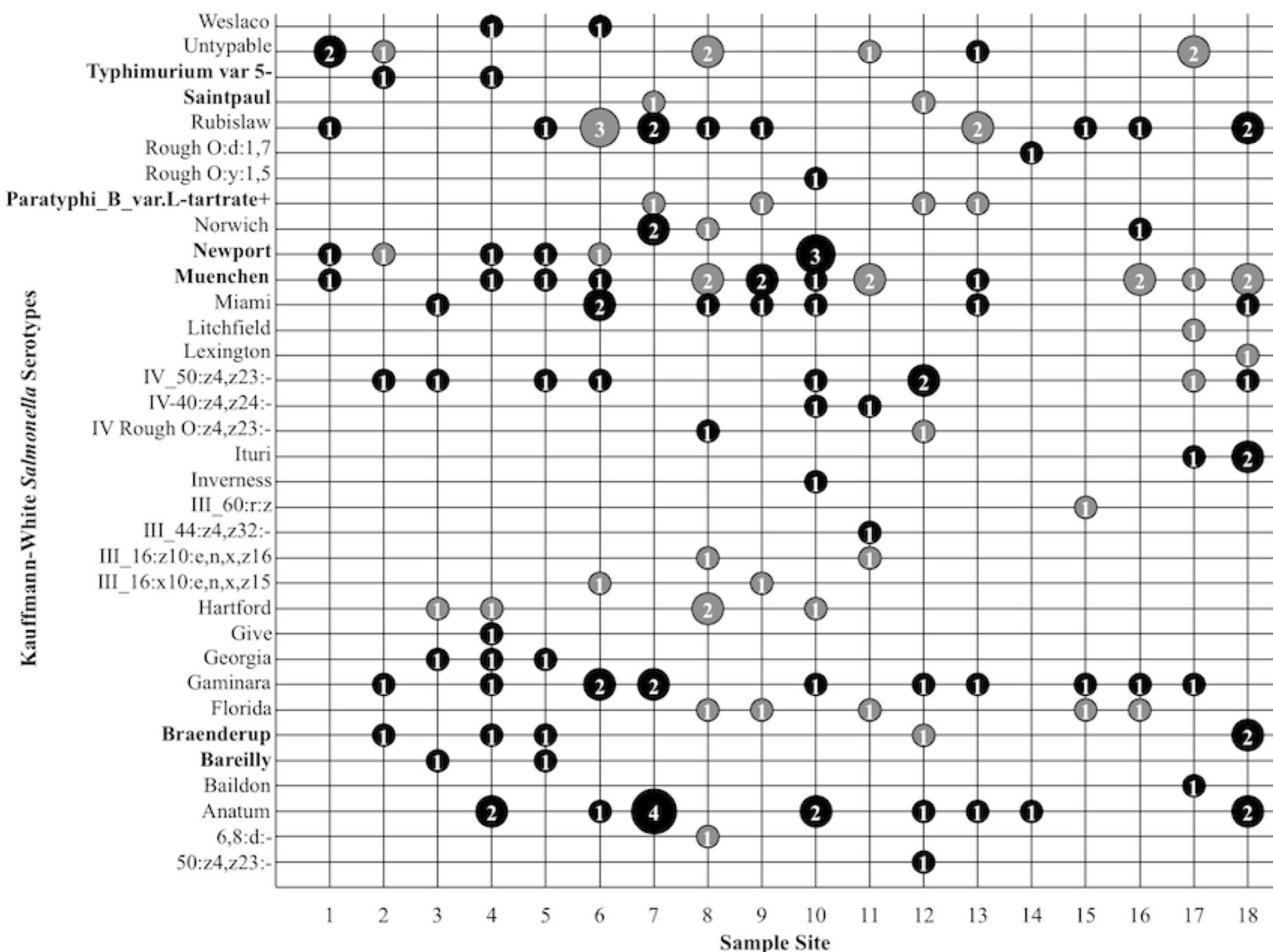


Figure 2. Frequency of isolation of each serotype by locations across all 12 sample times.

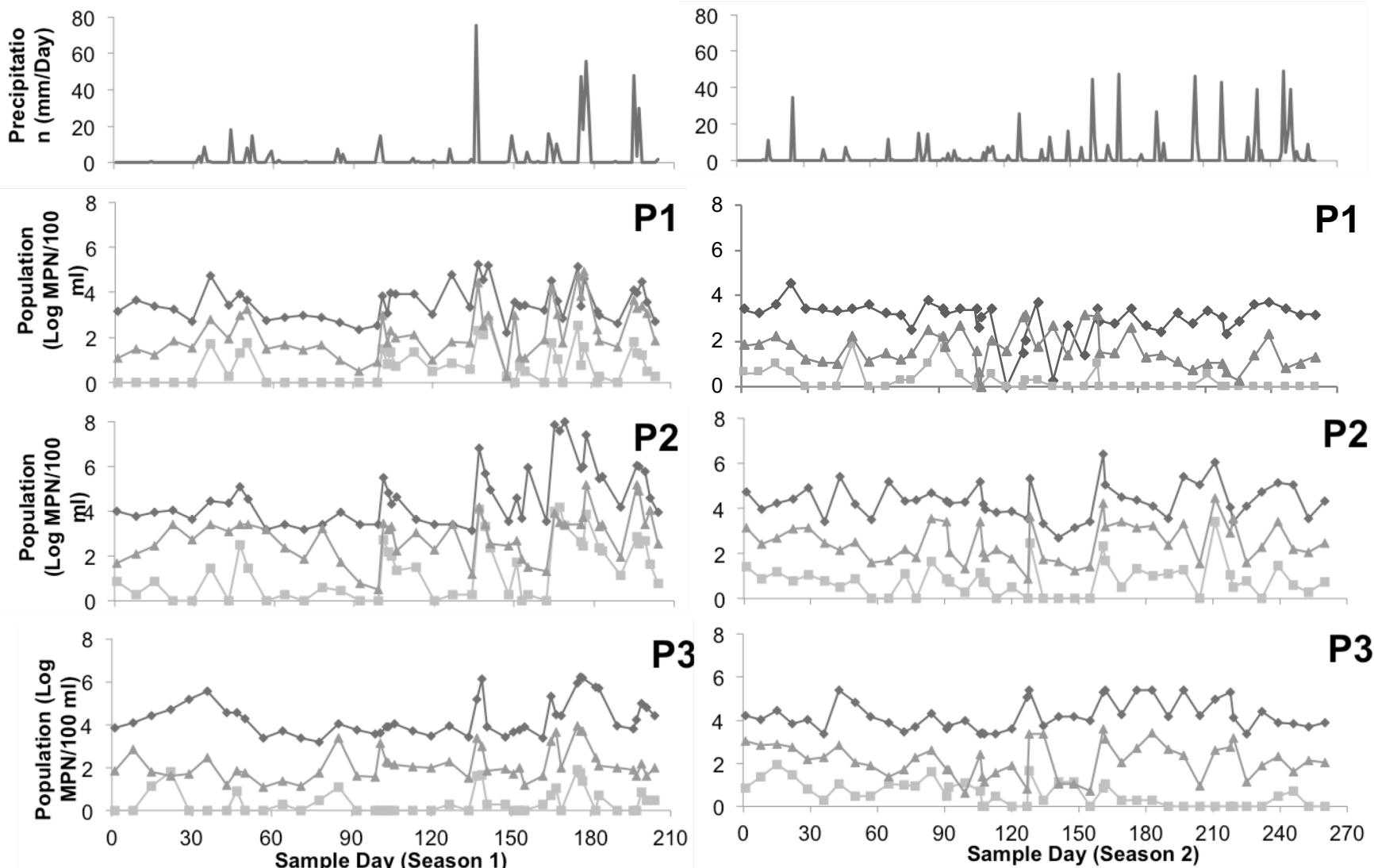
# Does our water comply with current PSR Requirements?

- Six ponds sampled over two harvest years
  - Ponds all used as agricultural water
  - 2012-2013 and 2013-2014; October/November – May/June
  - 89 water samples in each pond
  - 5 additional water samples collected in 2014-15
- All samples evaluated for generic *E. coli*, coliforms, enterococci, and *Salmonella*



Pond Code	Approximate Pond Age (years)	The conditions around pond	Sunlight exposure
Pond 1	3	Grassed, elevated, low run off	High
Pond 2	45-49*	Open soil, not elevated, high run off, connected to a creek	Low
Pond 3	3	Grassed, not elevated, low run off	High
Pond 4	24	Grassed, not elevated, low run off	High
Pond 5	4-5	Grassed, not elevated, low run off	High
Pond 6	7	Lightly grassed, not elevated, medium run off	Medium

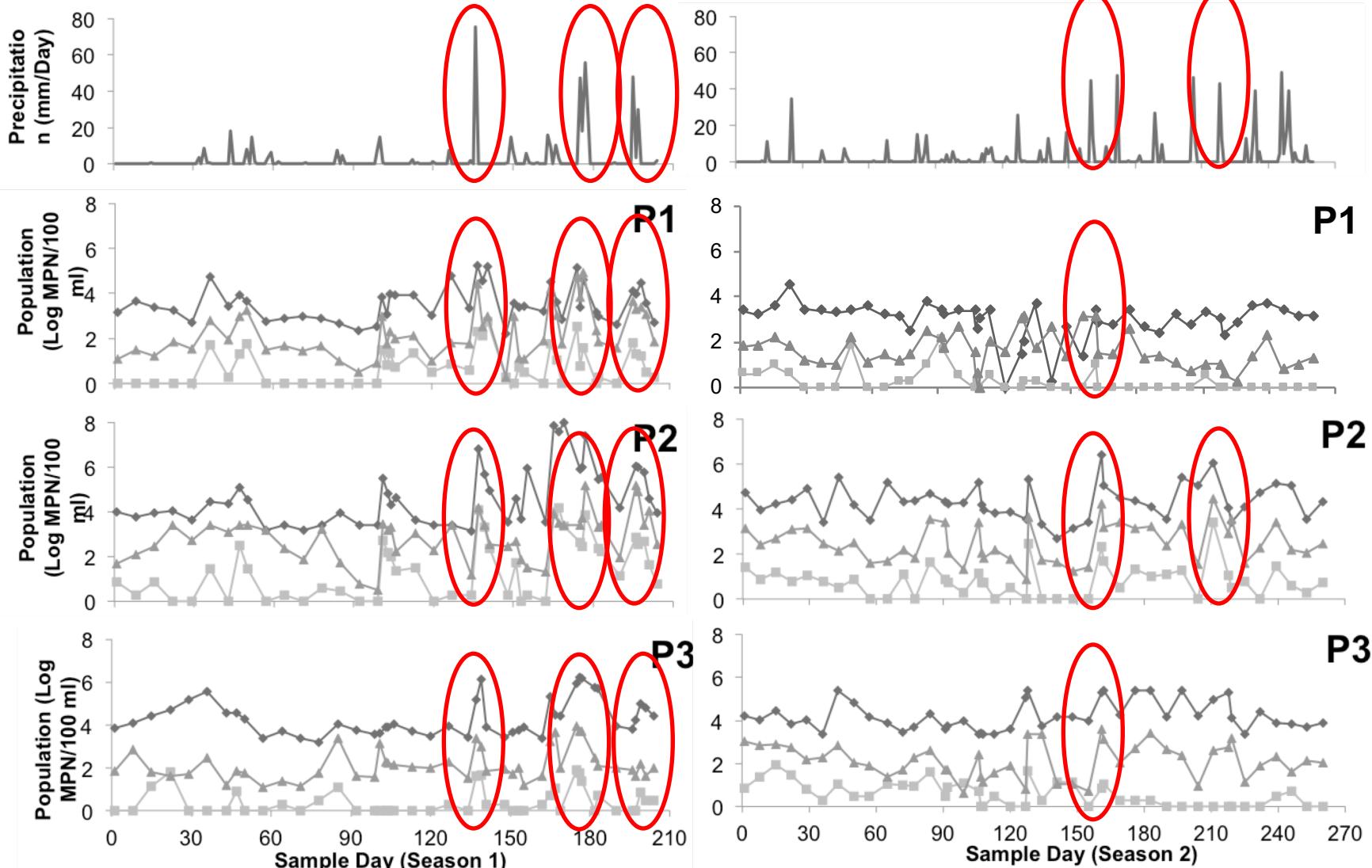
# Presence of indicators



Most Probable Number of Total coliform ( ), Generic *E. coli* (■), and Enterococci (▲) (Log MPN/100 ml) from six agricultural ponds (P1-P3) in Central Florida.

Topalcengiz et al., PLoS One 12(4): e0174889

# Presence of indicators



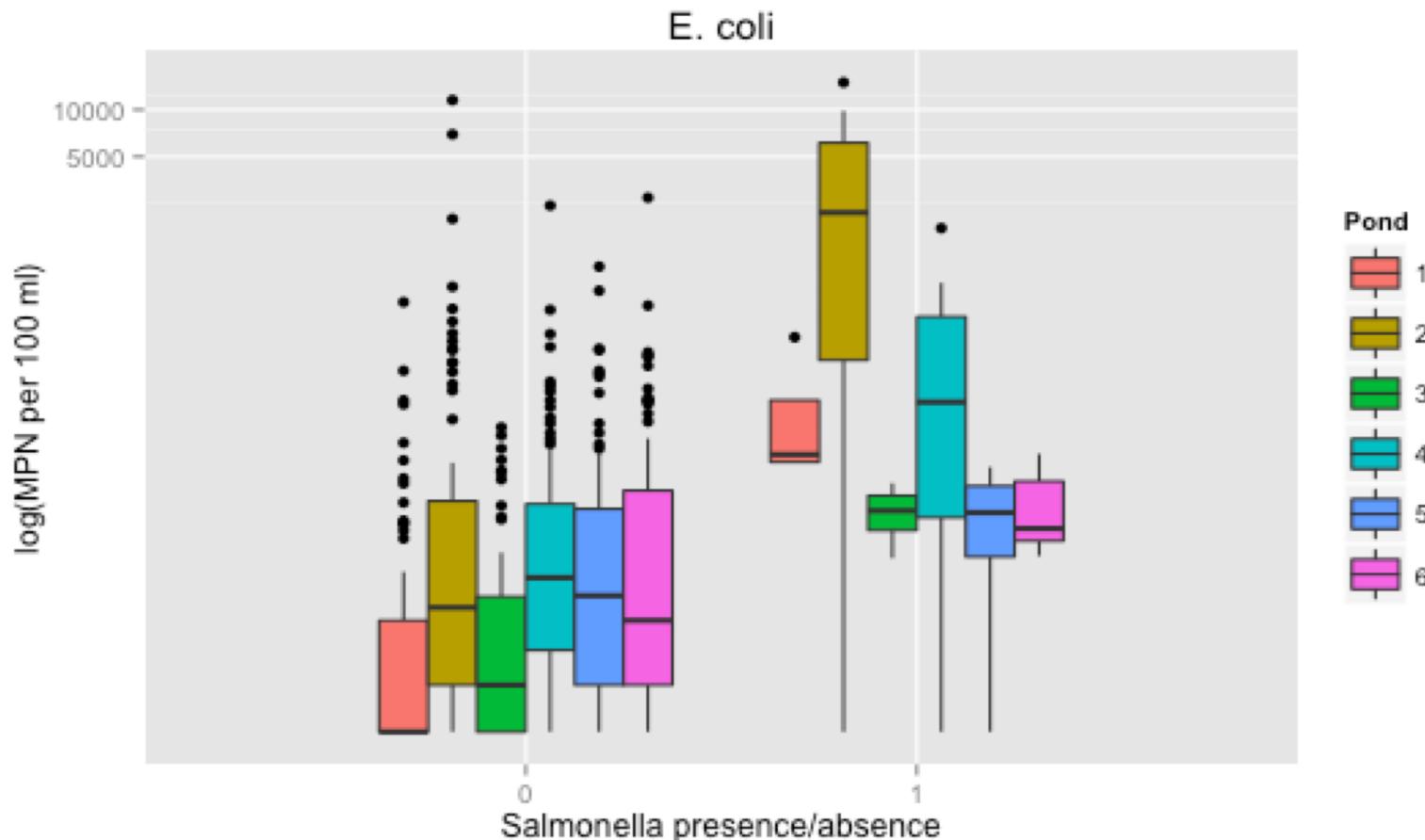
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# How does surface water in West Central Florida relate?

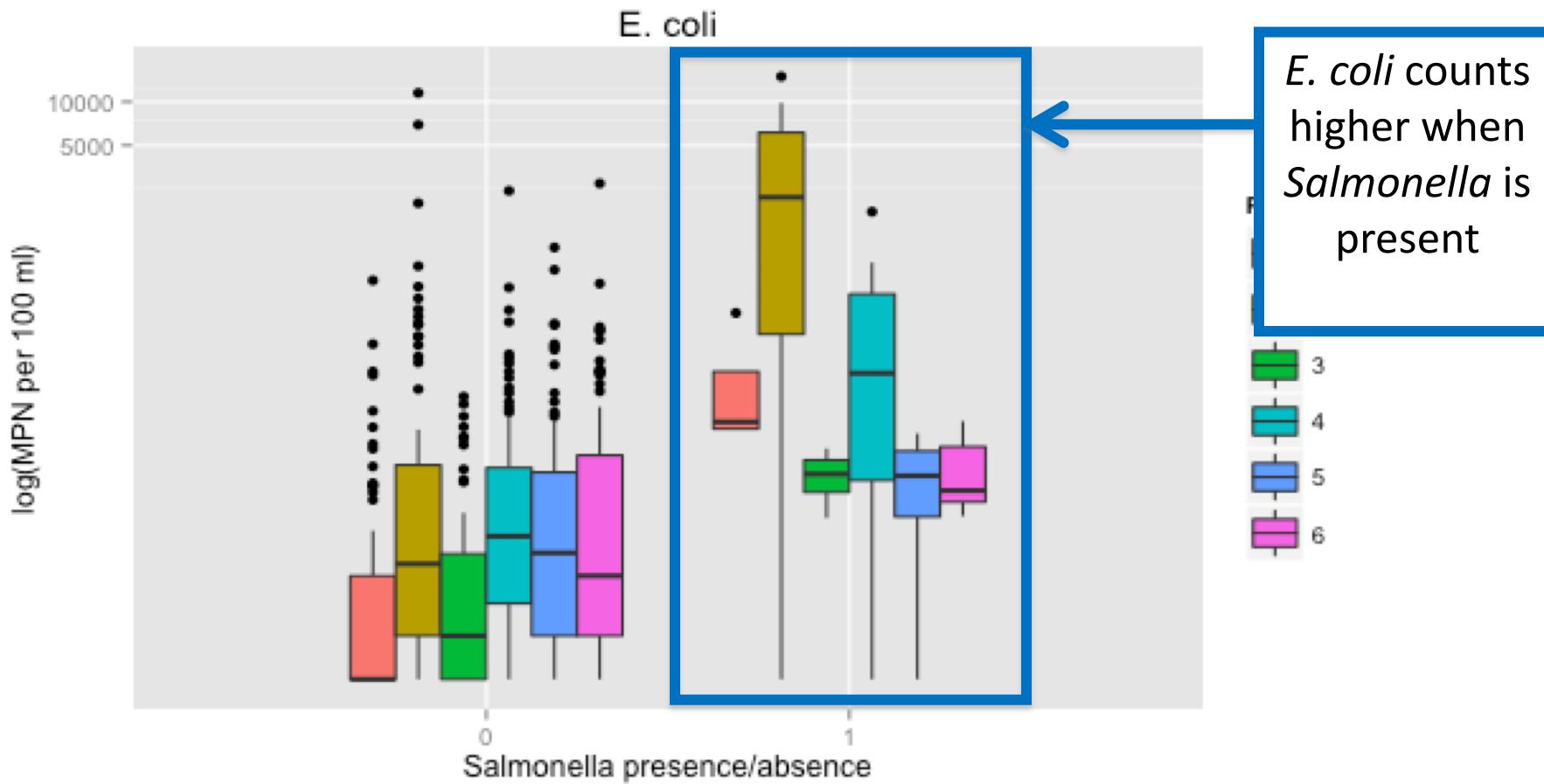
- $\geq 126$  *E. coli*/100 ml geomean in at least 20 water samples over 2 years
  - All ponds compliant
- $\geq 410$  *E. coli*/100 ml STV in at least 20 water samples over 2 years
  - All ponds compliant
- All ponds meet the baseline MWQP in the new proposed rule
- *Salmonella* was detected in 26/540 (4.8 %) 150 ml samples, in all ponds and both growing seasons.
  - 57.7 % (15/26) of the *Salmonella* positive samples were from ponds 2 and 4, where the WQP was the poorest.

# Is *E. coli* really a good indicator?



Six ponds in West Central Florida, each sampled 89 times in 2012-2014.

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# Acknowledgements – Funding Sources

- USDA NIFA Specialty Crops Research Initiative 2008-51180-04846



Sampling Methods to Evaluate the Microbial Safety of Fresh Produce

- USDA NIFA Specialty Crop Research Initiative 2011-51181-30767



# Bridging The Gap: Effective Risk Mitigation Through Adoption Of Agricultural Water Treatment Systems

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the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S.  
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07427.

# What are we doing?

1

- Stakeholder-driven curriculum development



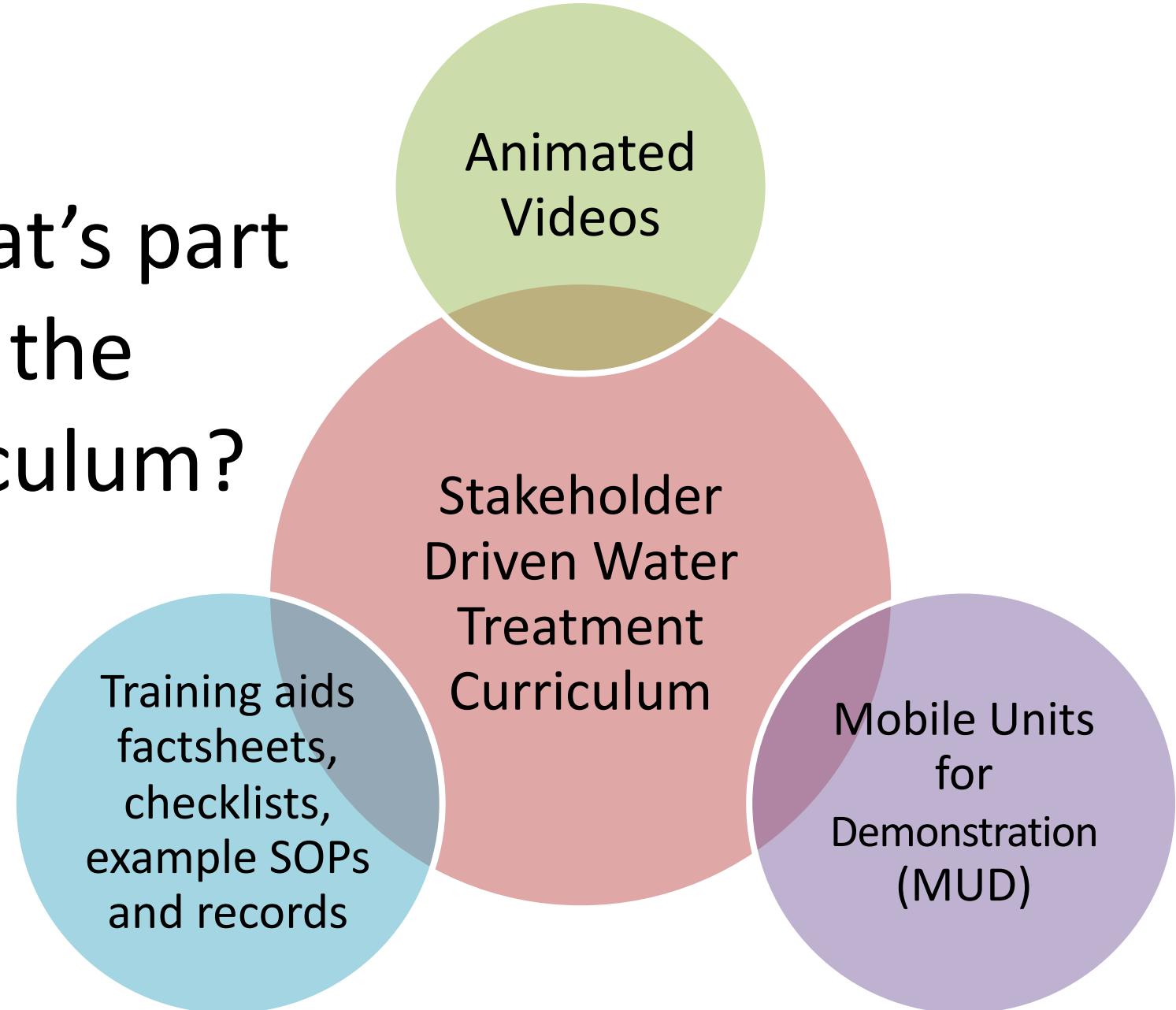
2

- Curriculum delivery
  - Stakeholders in FL, NC, TN, VA
  - Train-the-trainer

3

- Evaluation (FL, NC, TN, VA)
  - Short and medium outcomes

# So what's part of the curriculum?



# Modules

# Activities

Agricultural Water Treatment and FSMA

Definition Bingo

Ag Water Treatment Tools

Methods for Monitoring

Developing On-farm Ag Water Treatment Programs

Intro to Mobile Units for Disinfection (MUD)  
Developing an SOP for Ag Water Treatment

Implementing On-farm Ag Water Treatments

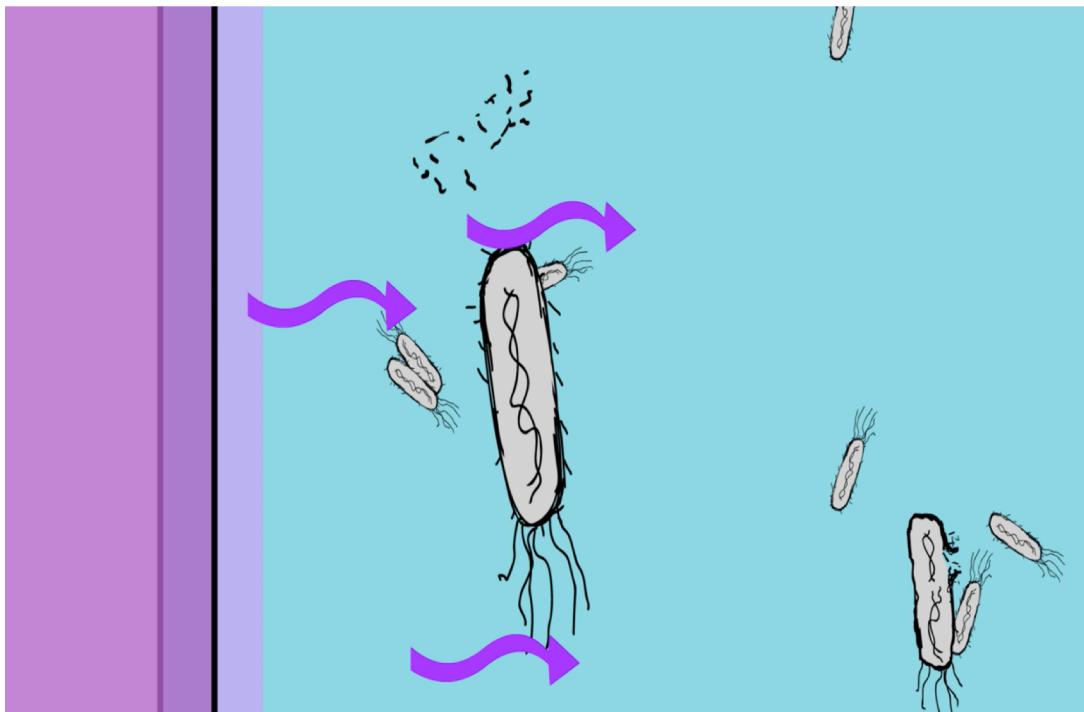
Troubleshooting with MUDs

# MUDs

- Portable demonstration unit
- Facilitates hands-on learning activities
- Approximately \$3,500



# Animated Videos



Introductory video

UV light

Tablet chlorination

Chemigation highlighting  
peroxyacetic acid (PAA)

# Interactive Chlorine Test Strip Lab

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01

Can growers select the correct test strips?

02

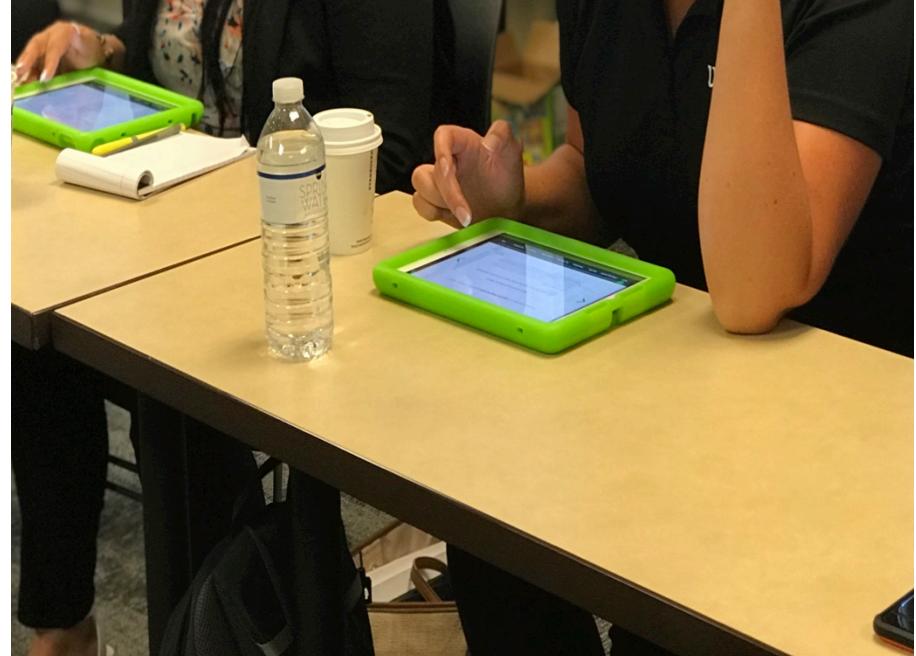
Can they follow directions on the label?

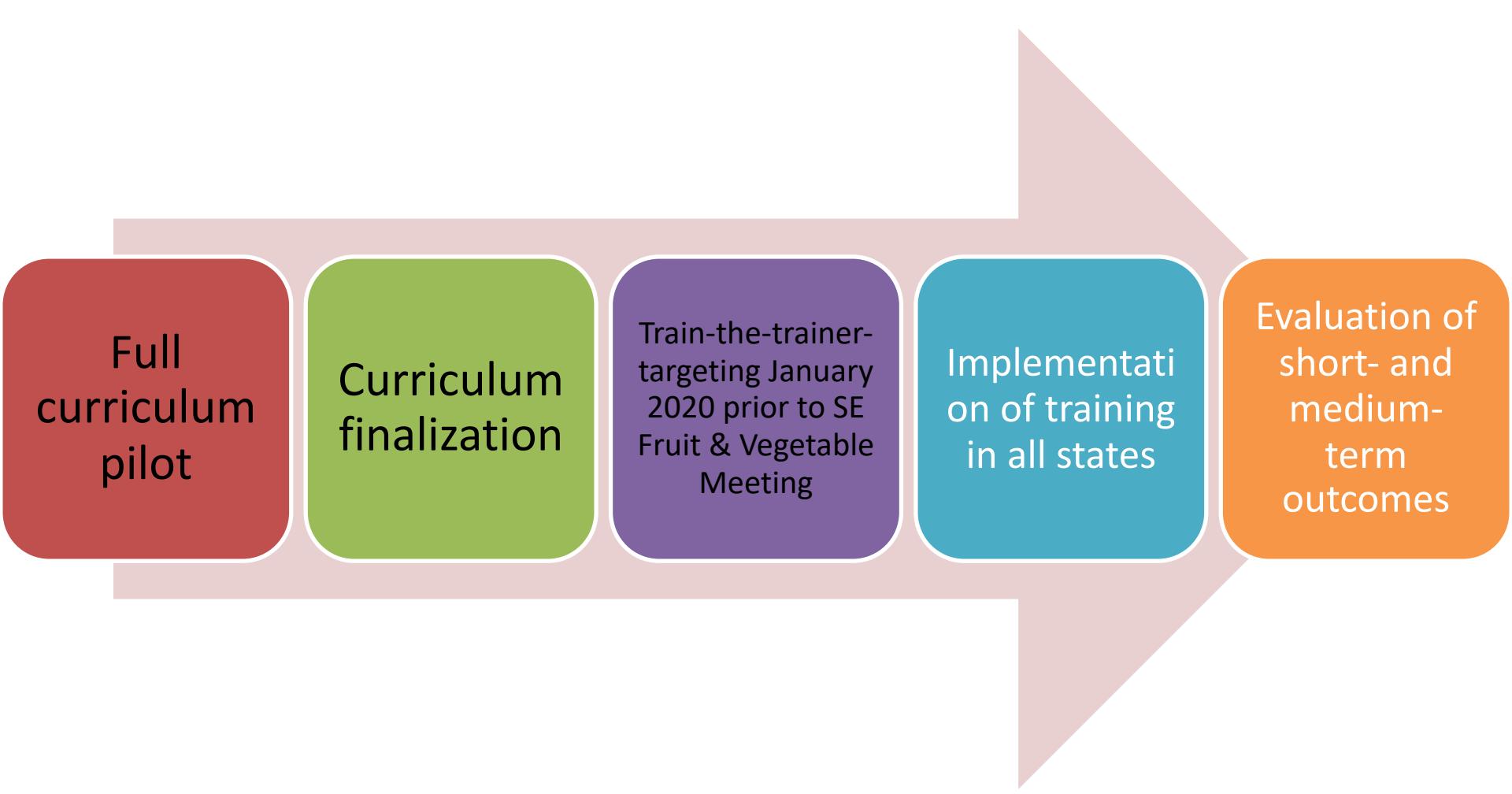
03

Do they understand the difference between a valid and invalid result?

04

Do they understand a result with higher than labeled values necessitates corrective actions?





Full curriculum pilot

Curriculum finalization

Train-the-trainer-targeting January 2020 prior to SE Fruit & Vegetable Meeting

Implementation of training in all states

Evaluation of short- and medium-term outcomes

# Implementation