

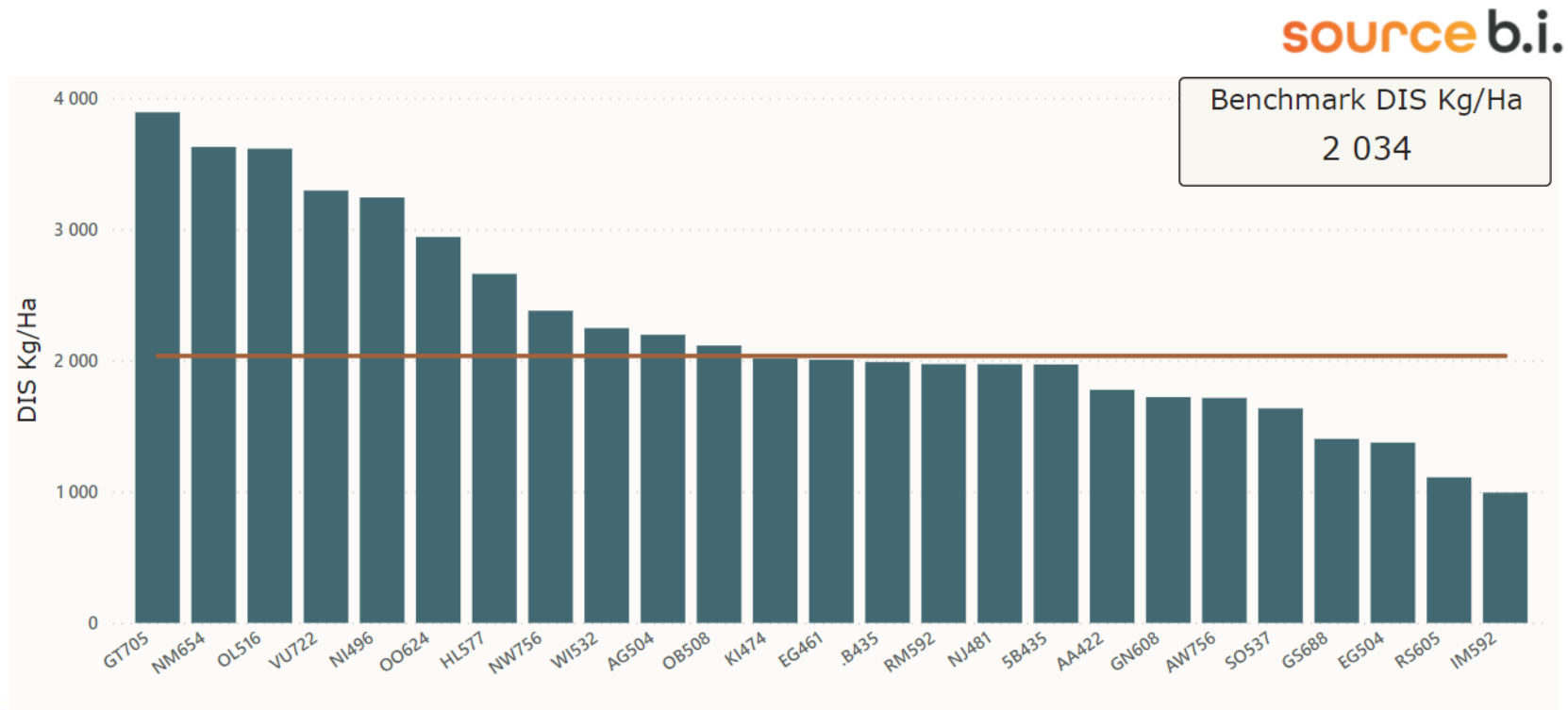
SAMAC Macadamia Day
10 November 2021



The Veldtology™ tool
to assess farming practices from
land preparation to dehusking

Lize van der Merwe
Veldtology (Pty) Ltd
lize@veldtology.co.za
082 650 9814

Apart from environmental factors,
why are there differences in yield and quality
among different producers?



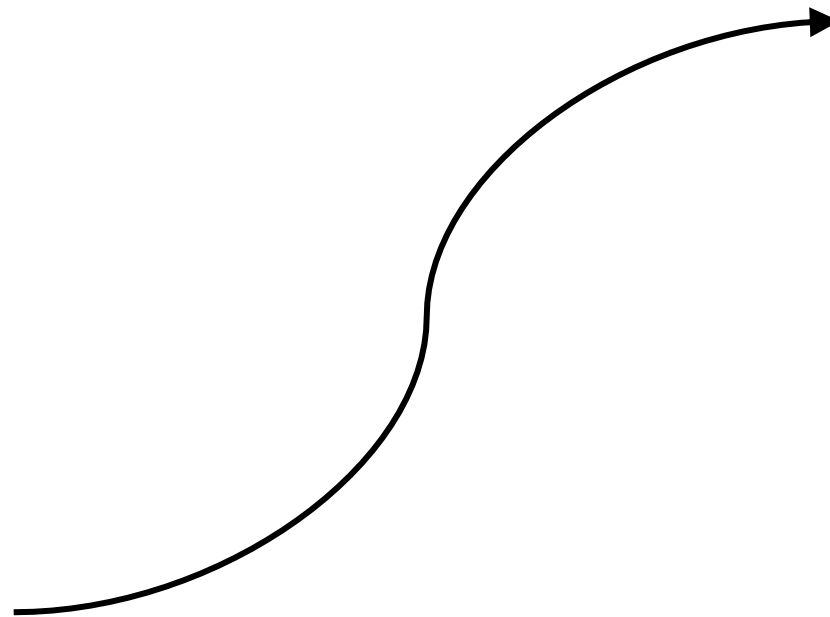


FUTURE
ORCHARDS

Environmental factors

Genetic factors

Differences in **management**



Nut **production**

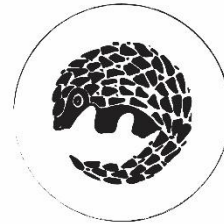
Quality of nuts

Market access



Differences in **management**

Management styles
at farm level
&
day-to-day management
of operations
at a **block level**



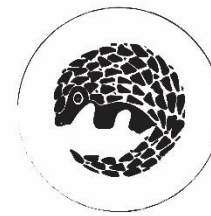
VELDTOLOGY



Identify **gaps** in the
management **system**



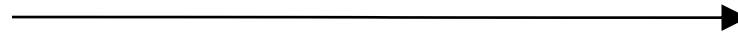
Overview of the



VELDTOLOGY

tool

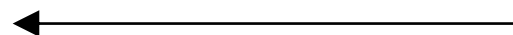
What management operations **drive** production and quality?



Unpack these into **closed-ended questions** that also encapsulate Best Operational Practice

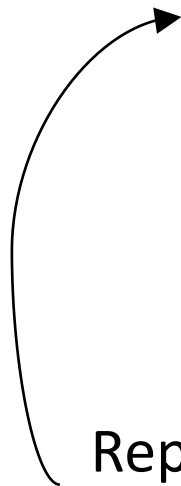


Comparison of actual management vs. BOP



Report **compliance** with BOP

SCORE



What management operations **drive** production and quality?

Basic operations:

- Land preparation
- Irrigation
- Plant nutrition
- Pruning
- Pest control

Enhancing practices:

- Flowering and pollination
- Integrated pest management
- Mulch
- Soil conservation



Unpack these into **closed-ended questions** that also encapsulate Best Operational Practice (BOP)

Example questions from the Pruning section:

Q1: Is there an annual survey of tree HEIGHT?

Q2: Is there an annual survey of tree RADIUS?

Q3: What is the EFFECTIVE SPRAY HEIGHT when controlling insect pests?

Q4: Is tree height COMPARABLE with effective spray height?



Comparison of actual management vs. BOP

Actual management

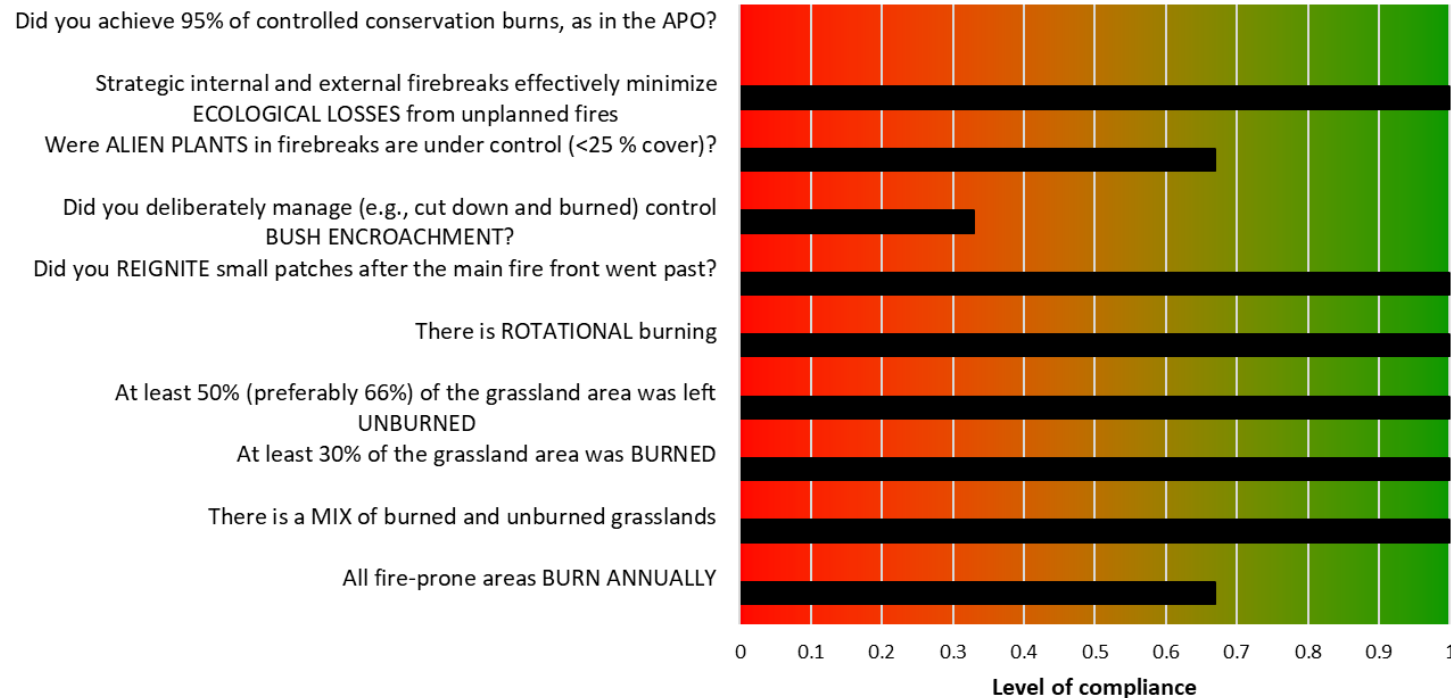
Best Operational Practice
(BOP)

Compliance
(range 0 to 1)

Q1	Yes	Yes	1
Q2	Yes	No	0
Q3	No	No	1
Q4	Yes	No	0
Q5	Yes	Yes	1

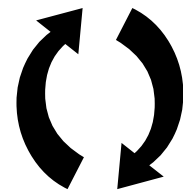


- 1) Report compliance with BOP
- 2) Improvements over time
- 3) Compare notes with your neighbour



Next steps...

Farmers'
involvement



**Number
crunching
and analysis**

What are the **factors limiting**
production and quality in each region?

