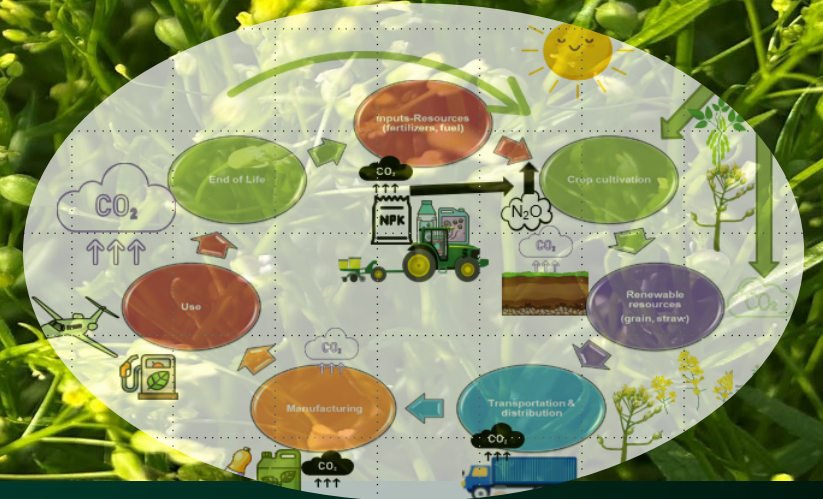
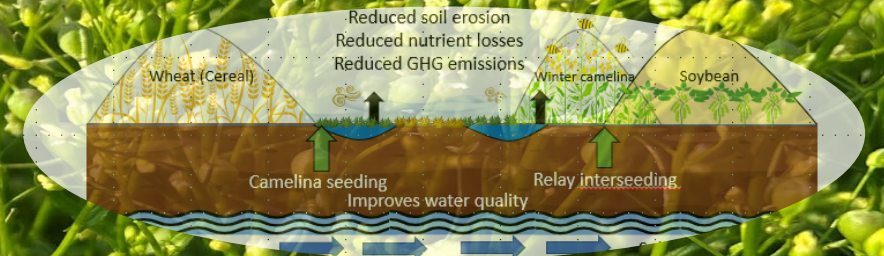


# Contribution to winter camelina carbon intensity from crops preceding or following winter camelina in the crop sequence

Marisol Berti and Ogechukwu Igboke  
Department of Plant Sciences

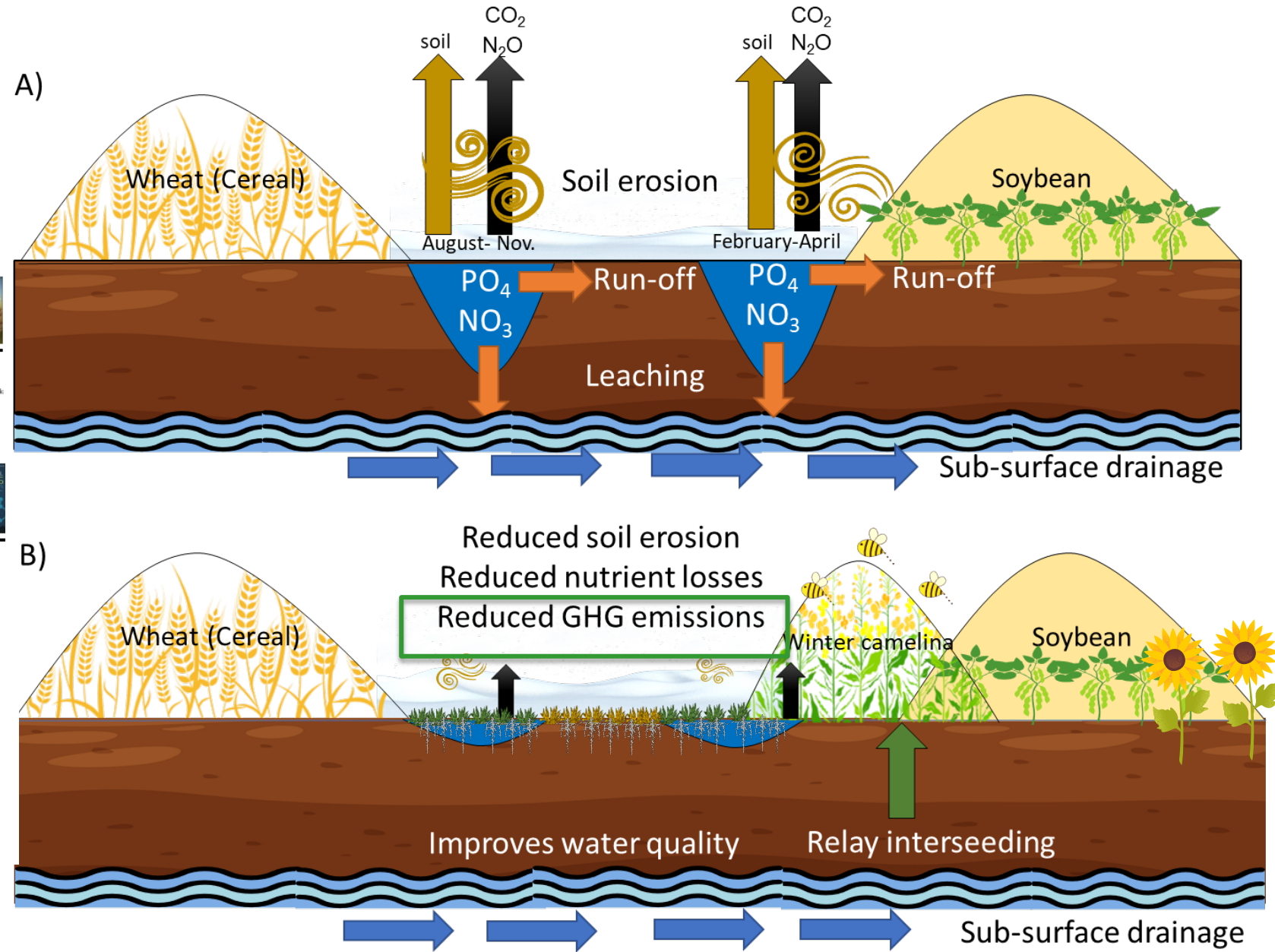


# Camelina

- ✓ Novel vegetable oil (NVO) (32-38% oil)
  - ✓ Spring and **winter biotypes**
- ✓ Intermediate oilseed crop (IOC) for SAF
  - ✓ Winter camelina very winter hardy
  - ✓ ~5000 ha in North Central US (MN,ND,MT)
- ✓ Provides soil cover and living roots
- ✓ Increases biodiversity
- ✓ Low ILUC, Low carbon intensity??
- ✓ Can be grown in marginal land??
  - ✓ **Marginal land=marginal yield**



# IOC - Low ILUC



*Agricultural Systems* 156 (2017) 1-12  
 Contents lists available at ScienceDirect  
**Agricultural Systems**  
 journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/agsy](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/agsy)

Environmental impact assessment of double- and relay-cropping with winter camelina in the northern Great Plains, USA  
 Marisol Berti<sup>a,\*</sup>, Burton Johnson<sup>a</sup>, David Rippinger<sup>b</sup>, Russ Gesch<sup>c</sup>, Alfredo Aponte<sup>a</sup>

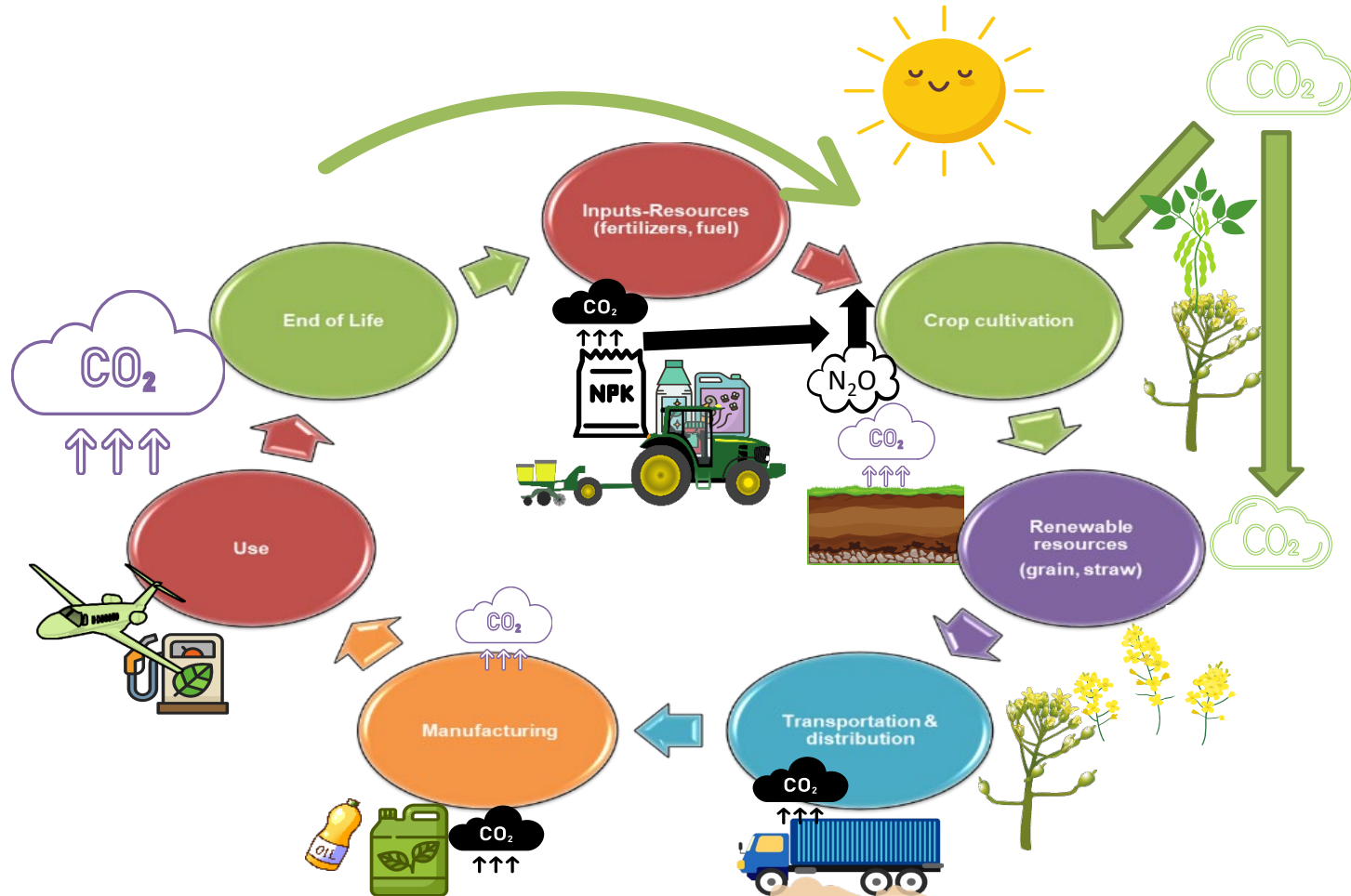
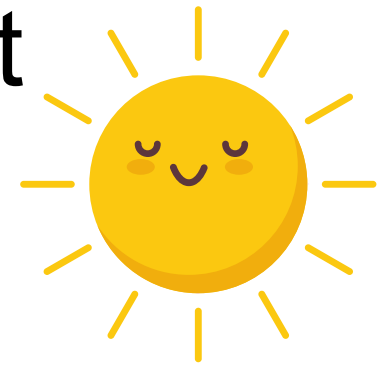
*Industrial Crops & Products* 229 (2025) 120953  
 Contents lists available at ScienceDirect  
**Industrial Crops & Products**  
 journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/indcrop](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/indcrop)

Productivity and seasonal water use of double cropped dry bean, proso millet, and sunflower after early maturing winter camelina  
 R.W. Gesch<sup>a,\*</sup>, C.A. Eberle<sup>a</sup>, M.T. Berti<sup>b</sup>, M. Ott<sup>c</sup>, J.V. Anderson<sup>d</sup>

Received: 1 December 2022 | Accepted: 14 March 2023 | Published online: 10 May 2023  
 DOI: 10.1002/agr.21343  
**AGRONOMY JOURNAL**  
 SPECIAL SECTION: ADVANCING RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS: ADAPTING TO AND MITIGATING CLIMATE CHANGE

Relay cropping as an adaptive strategy to cope with climate change  
 Russ W. Gesch<sup>1</sup> | Marisol T. Berti<sup>2</sup> | Carrie A. Eberle<sup>1</sup> | Sharon L. Weyers<sup>1</sup>

# What does carbon intensity mean and what factors affect it?



Life cycle assessment (LCA)

**Functional units and system boundary**  
**Area:** kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq. /ha (cradle-farm gate)  
**Weight:** g CO<sub>2</sub> eq./kg of seed (cradle-farm gate)  
**Energy:** g CO<sub>2</sub> eq./ MJ of biofuel (cradle-grave)

Carbon intensity	Energy g CO <sub>2</sub> eq./ MJ
Canola oil-jet fuel	47-73
Soybean oil-renewable diesel	54-63
Soybean oil-jet fuel	40-70
<b>Camelina oil-jet fuel</b>	<b>22-87</b>
Corn ethanol-jet fuel	65-100

# Can we achieve a low CI in the feedstock production?

Jet fuel 90-94 g CO<sub>2eq</sub>/MJ

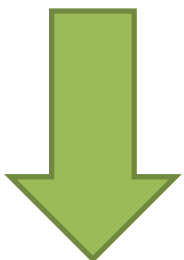


Renewable diesel  
Sustainable aviation fuel  
45-47 g CO<sub>2eq</sub>/MJ  
Cradle to grave

59-75% of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions  
are produced by farm gate  
25-41% CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions  
happen during transportation,  
extraction , conversion



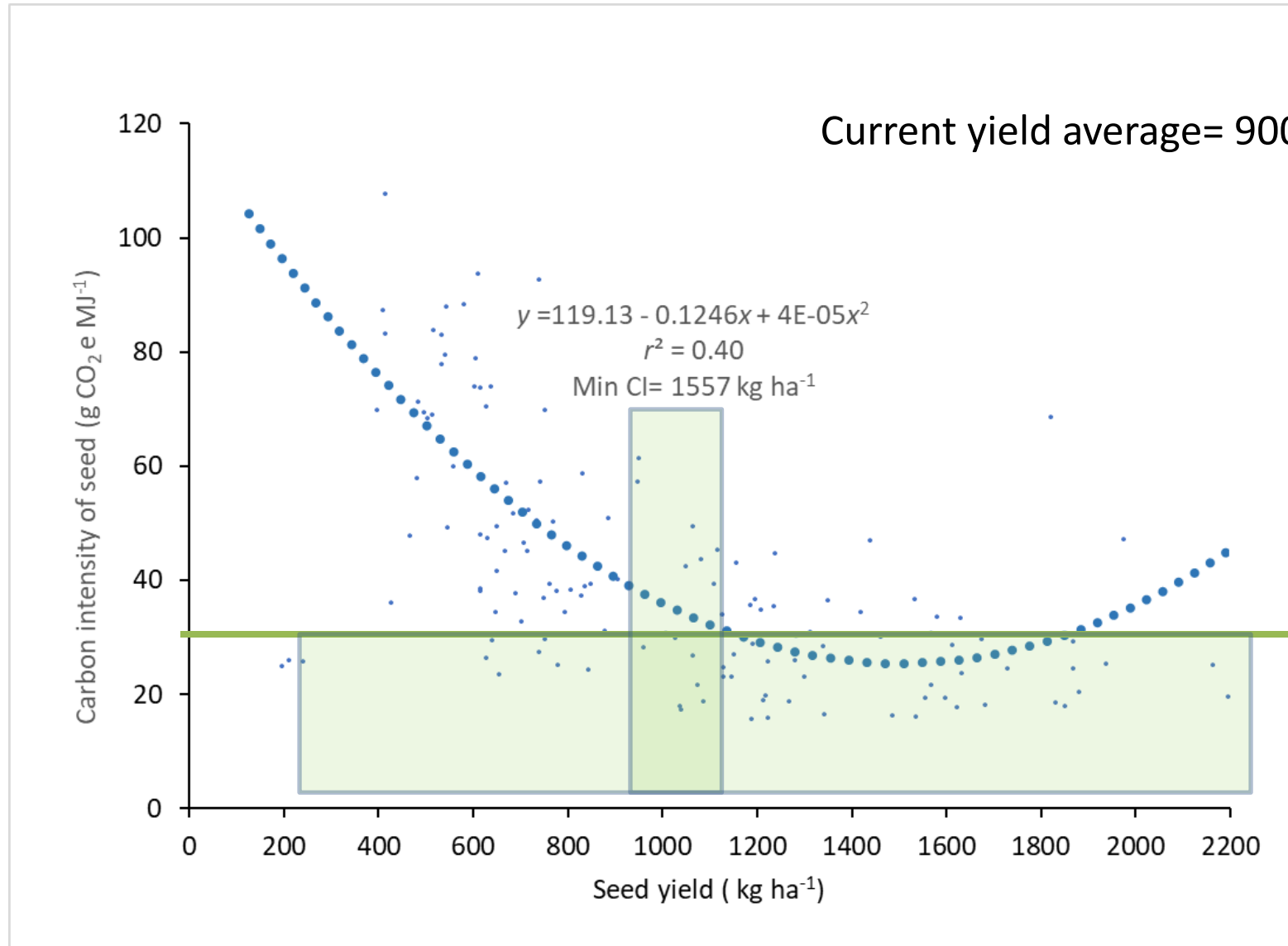
27-32 g CO<sub>2</sub> eq./MJ



Nitrogen fertilizers  
Field emissions  
50-60%

15-18 g CO<sub>2</sub> eq./MJ

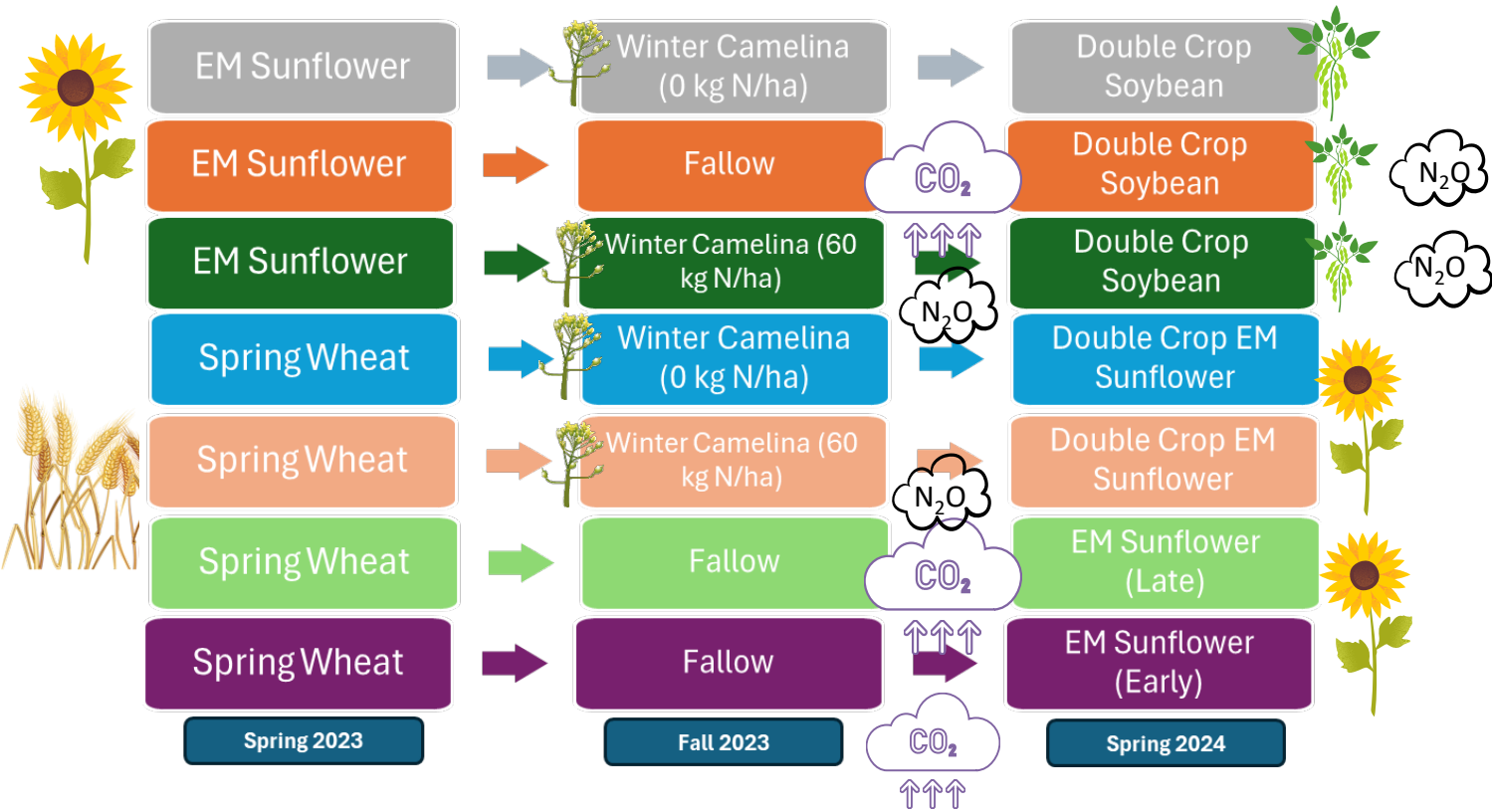
# Camelina seed yield vs carbon intensity



**Objective:** Assess the changes in productivity and carbon intensity of winter camelina into wheat-sunflower-soybean rotation.



# Crop sequences



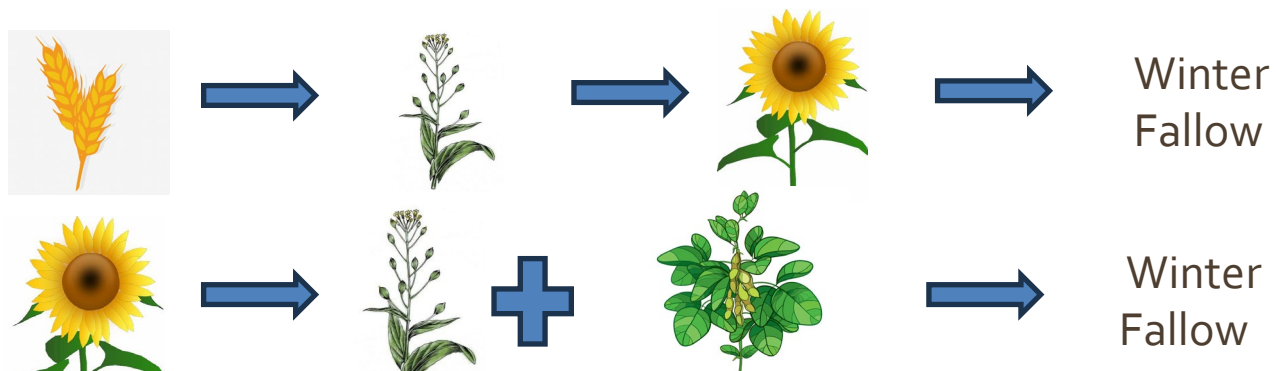
- ✓ Life cycle assessment- cradle to gate, two functional units
- ✓ g CO<sub>2</sub> eq./ha g CO<sub>2</sub> eq./MJ energy



Houston Lindell, MS student

# Effect of preceding crop on camelina yield and oil content

Crop rotation	Seed yield wheat or sunflower	Seed yield winter camelina	Camelina oil content
	kg/ha	kg/ha	%
Wheat-WC-sunflower	8450	760	35.5
Wheat-WC +N-sunflower	9580	1360	36.9
Sunflower-WC- DC soybean	3979	1675	36.7
Sunflower-WC +N-DC soybean	3020	1501	35.2
LSD (0.05)	-	527	NS



# Total GHG emissions per hectare from crop sequences



Sequence	May-Sept. 2023	Sept. 2023- July 2024 (WC or F)	May- Sept. 2024	Total cropping sequence
		kg CO <sub>2eq</sub> ha <sup>-1</sup>		
Sunflower-WC-DC soybean	1377	685	1406	3468
Sunflower-F-soybean	1378	293	1406	3077
Sunflower-WC +N-DC soybean	1377	1064	1406	3847
Wheat-WC-sunflower	1423	685	1379	3847
Wheat-WC +N-sunflower	1473	1064	798	3335
Wheat-F- sunflower (late)	1517	293	1381	3191
Wheat-F sunflower (early)	1474	293	1376	3143

Fallow N<sub>2</sub>O

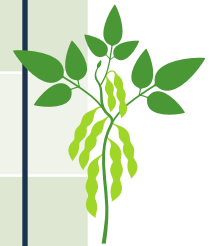


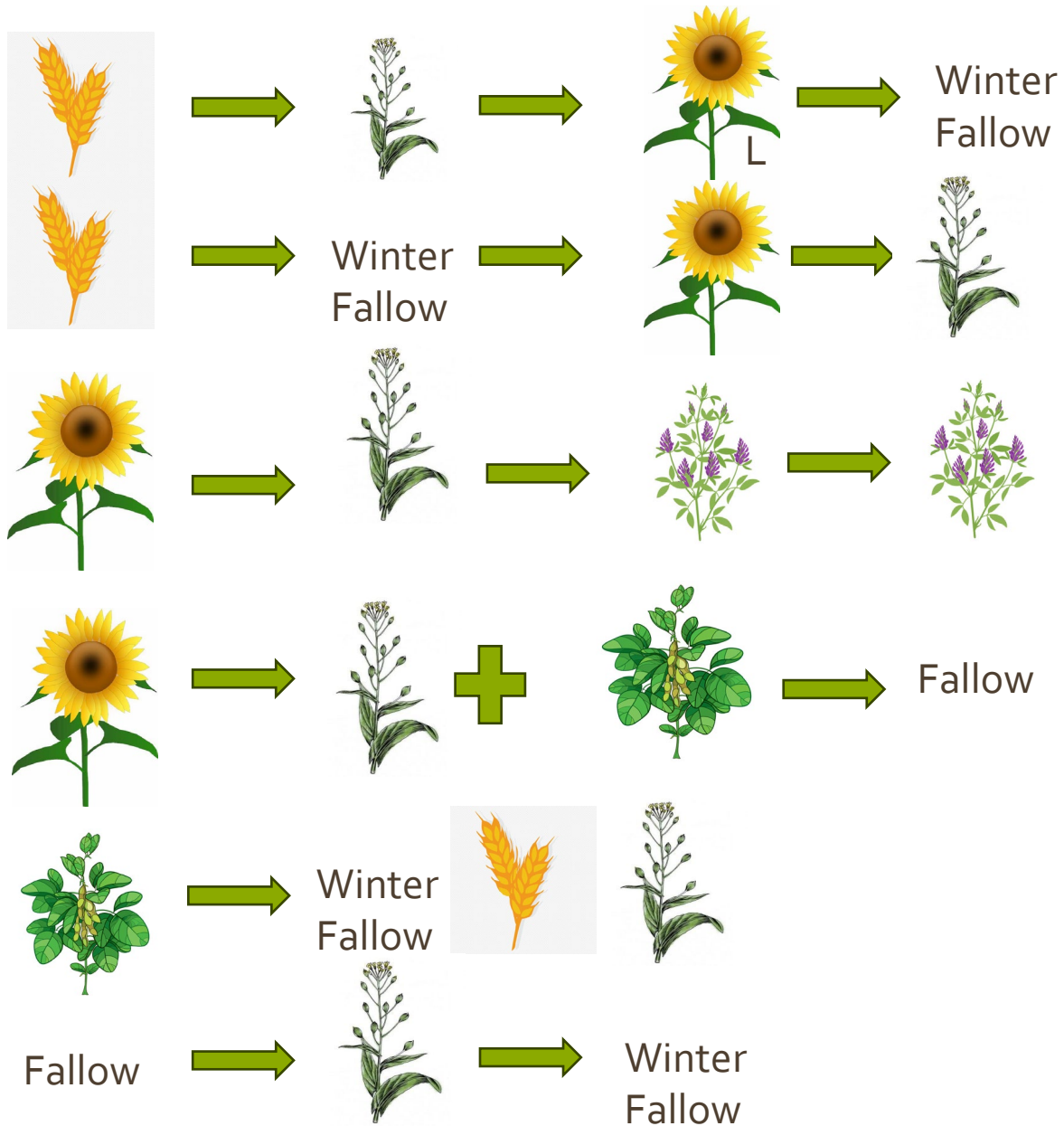
WC=winter camelina; F= winter fallow; DC=double cropping; N = nitrogen fertilizer (60 kg N/ha)

# Carbon intensity of crops in the sequence g CO<sub>2eq</sub> MJ<sup>-1</sup>

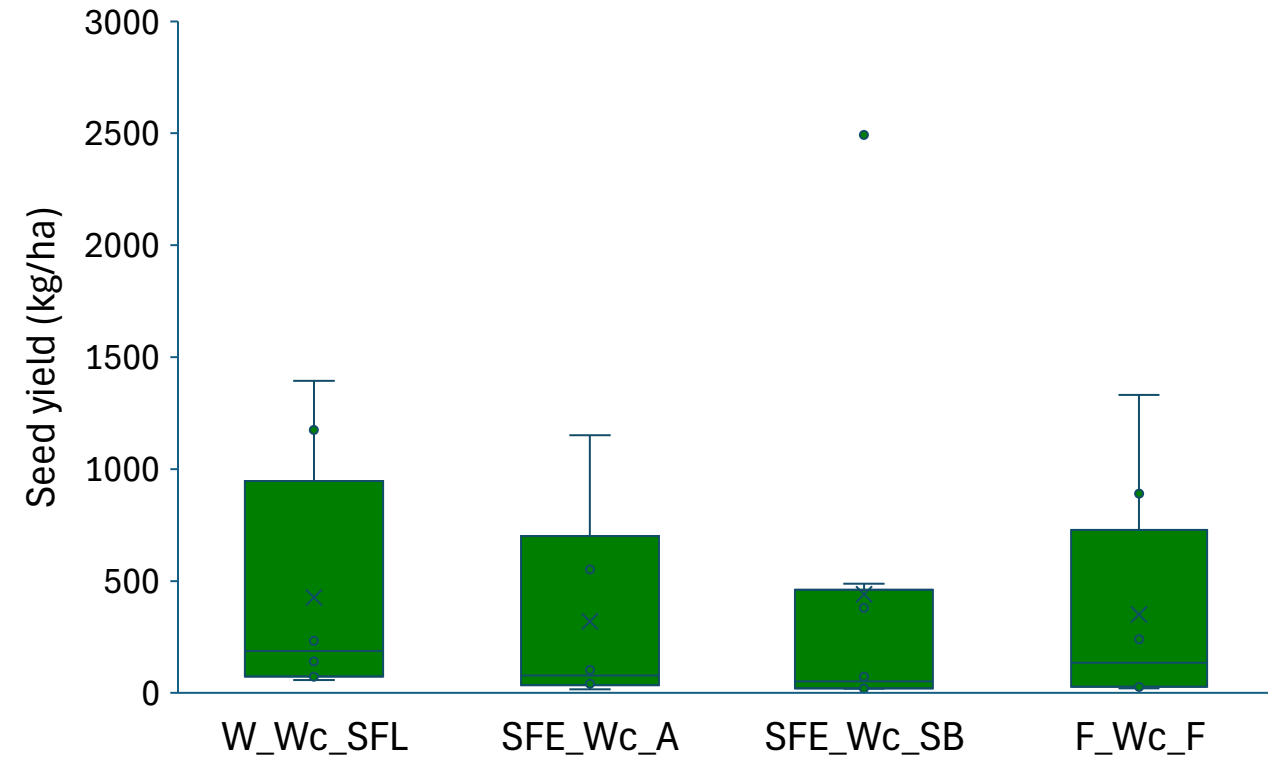


Sequence	May-Sept. 2023	Sept. 2023- July 2024 (WC)	May- Sept. 2024
Sunflower-WC-DC soybean	17.98	45.40	49.42
Sunflower-F-soybean	16.98	-	25.45
Sunflower-WC +N-DC soybean	16.02	38.42	40.71
Wheat-WC-sunflower	42.36	17.36	12.35
Wheat-WC +N-sunflower	34.86	33.09	9.71
Wheat-F- sunflower (late)	34.81	-	163.2
Wheat-F sunflower (early)	37.86	-	172.3



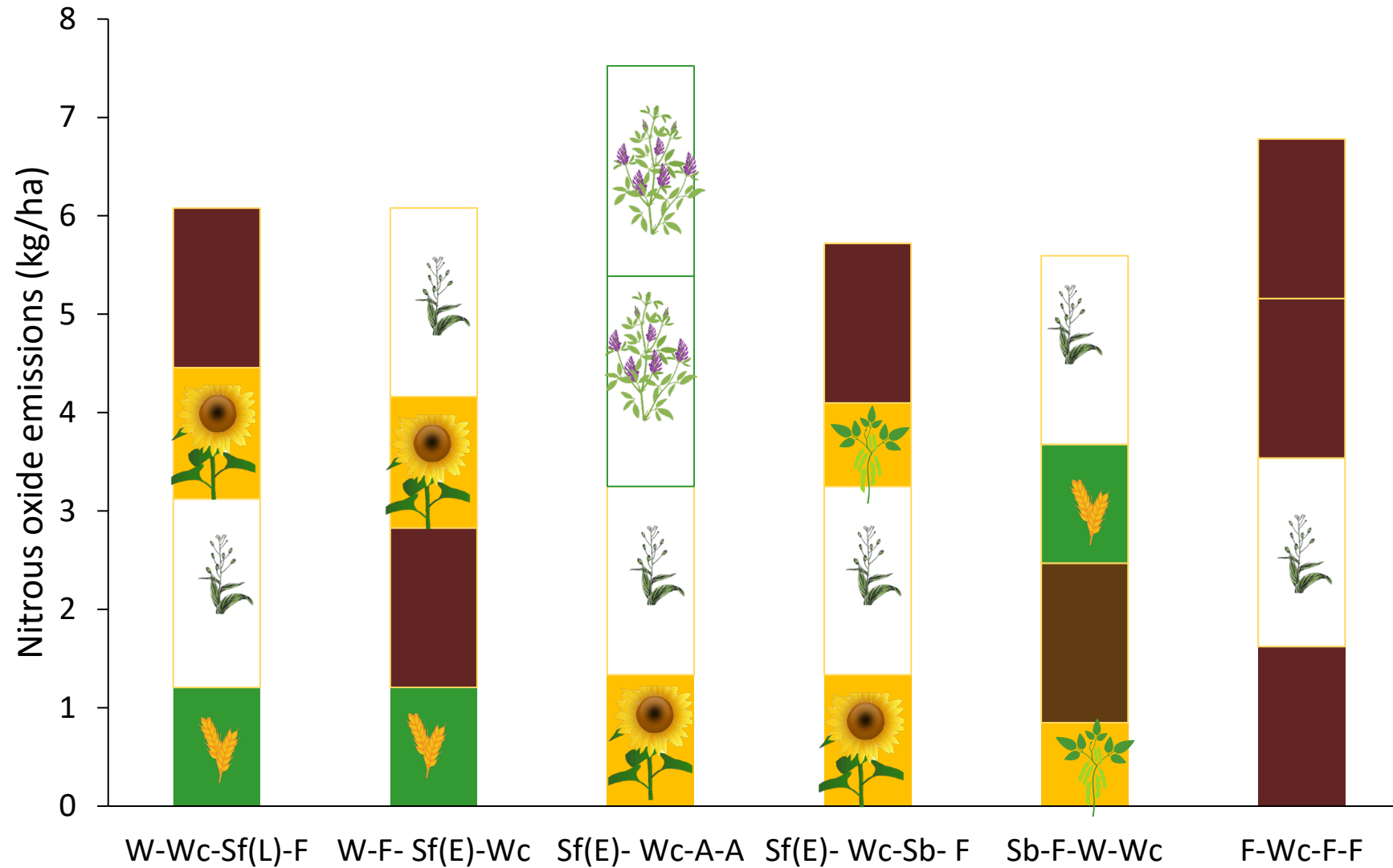


# Effect of preceding crop in camelina seed yield



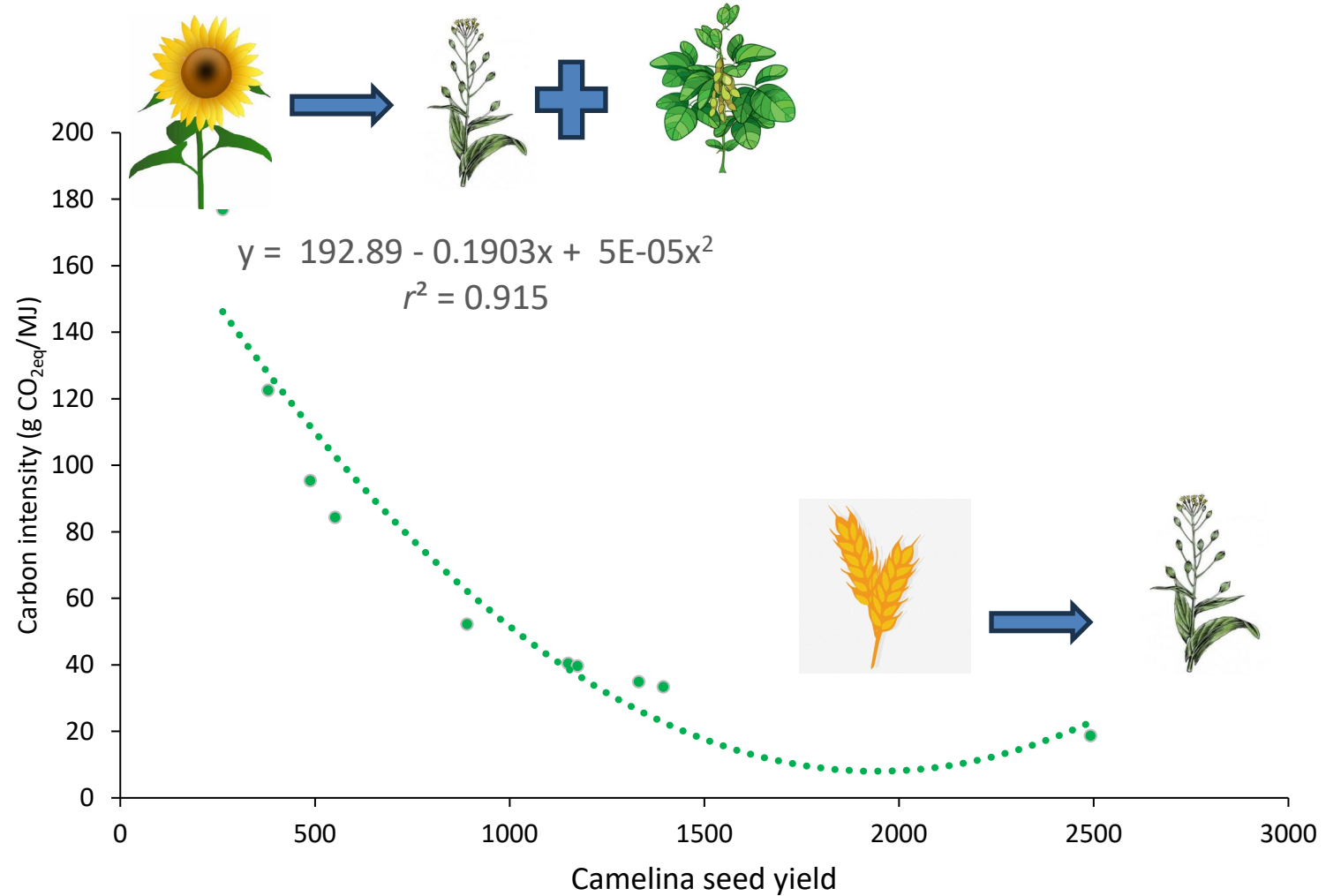
Anastasia Kurth, MS student

# Nitrous oxide emissions in cropping sequences with camelina



# Carbon intensity of camelina vs yield

- Lowest CI with camelina following wheat or fallow
- Highest CI camelina in relay with soybean



# Take aways

- ✓ CI of camelina production depends mainly on **seed yield**
- ✓ WC seed yield was higher after wheat compared with sunflower and CI was the lowest.
- ✓ Camelina after wheat requires more nitrogen than after sunflower.
- ✓ Camelina in relay with soybean had lower yields than in other rotations.
- ✓ winter camelina carbon intensity evaluation should be based on the entire crop rotation, not only on the period camelina is grown in the field.
- ✓ **More data needed to fine tune models for CI accounting**



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

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# Thank you to sponsors and my team!

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