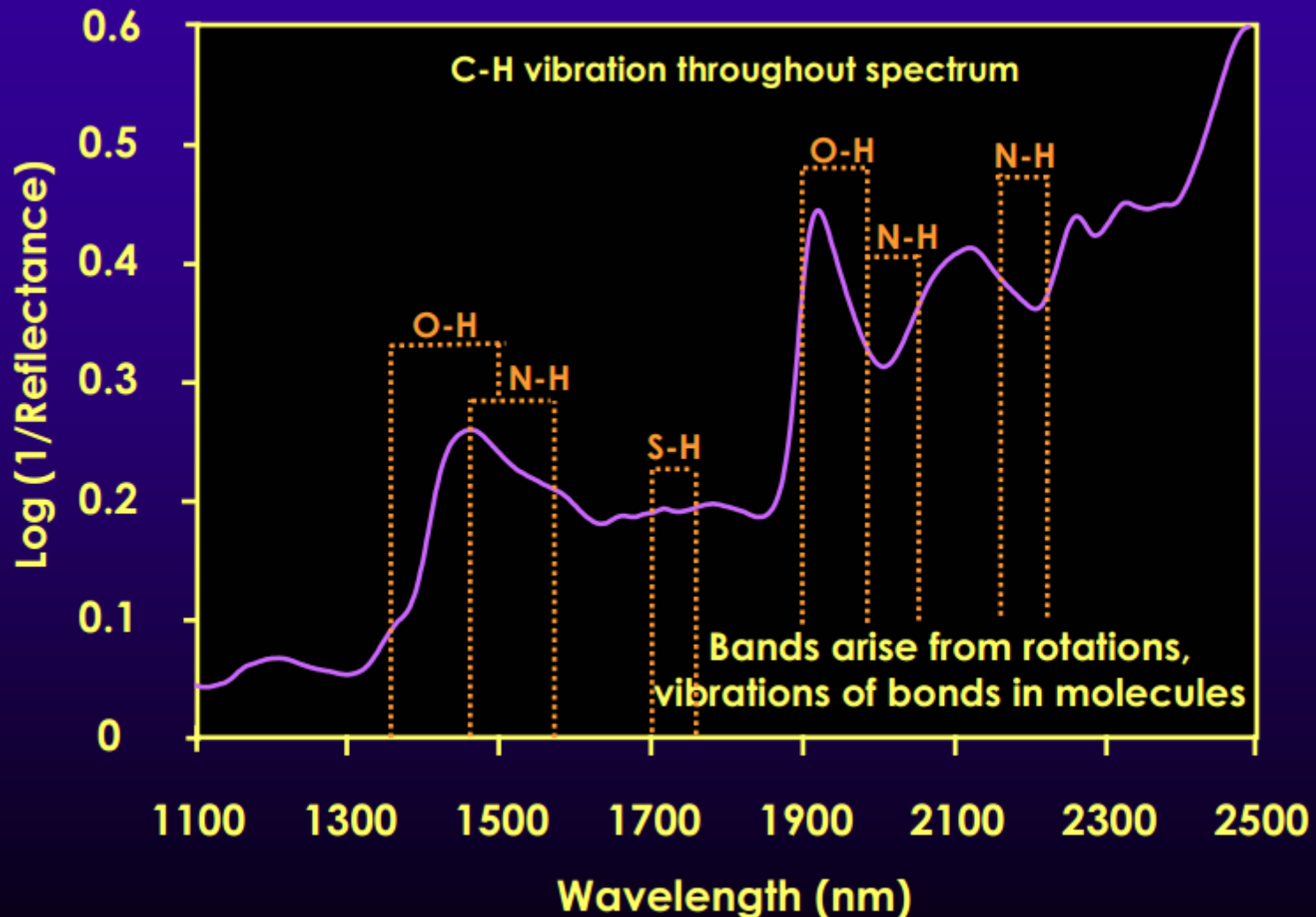


# Using near infrared (NIR) imagery to determine freeze injury on pine seedlings

Scott Enebak, Brian Via, Tom Starkey and Ryan Nadel  
Auburn University – School Forestry & Wildlife Sciences

# NIR spectrum of Typical Wood Sample

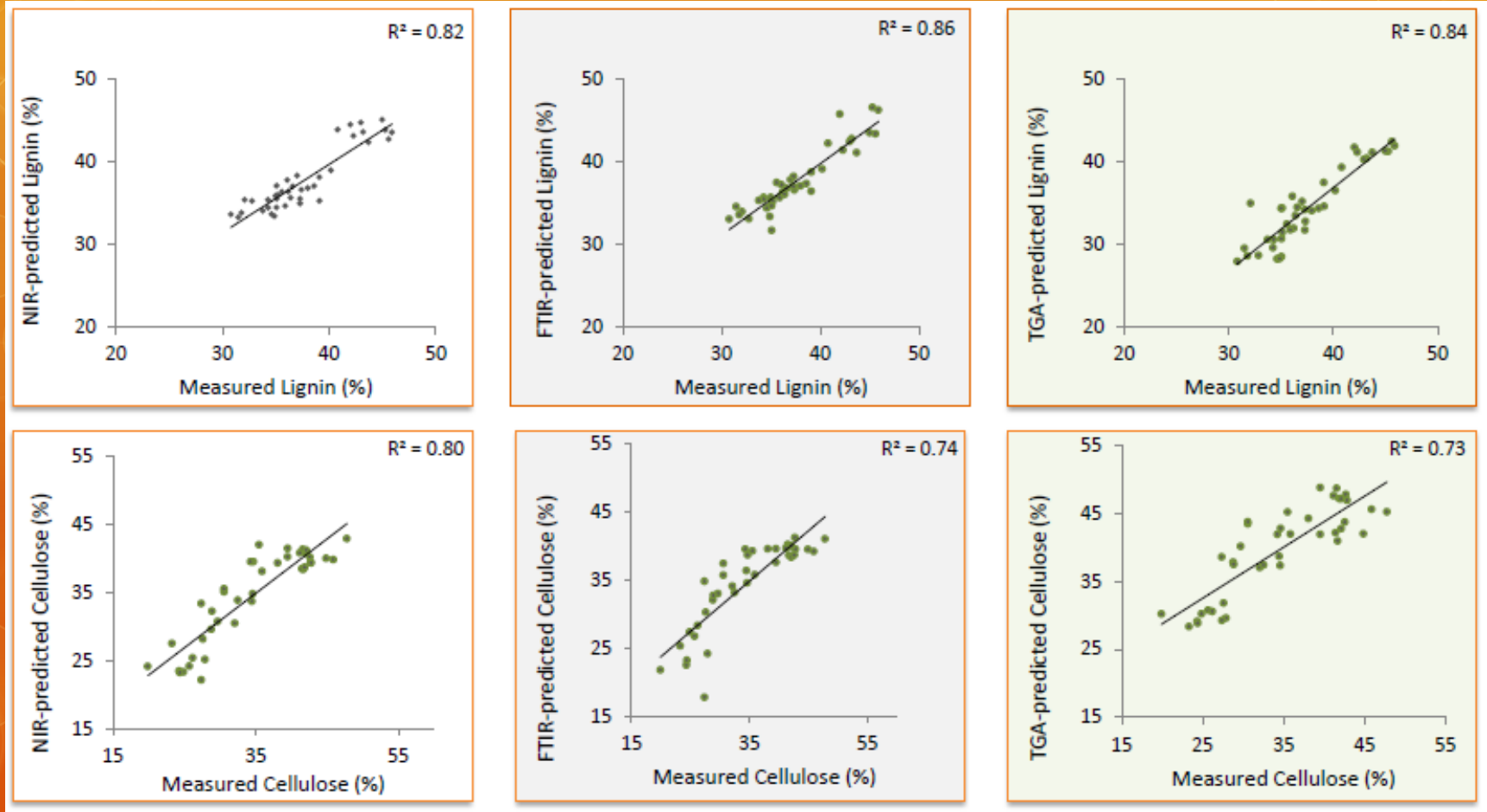


# NIR is Practical for Analyzing Genetic Families

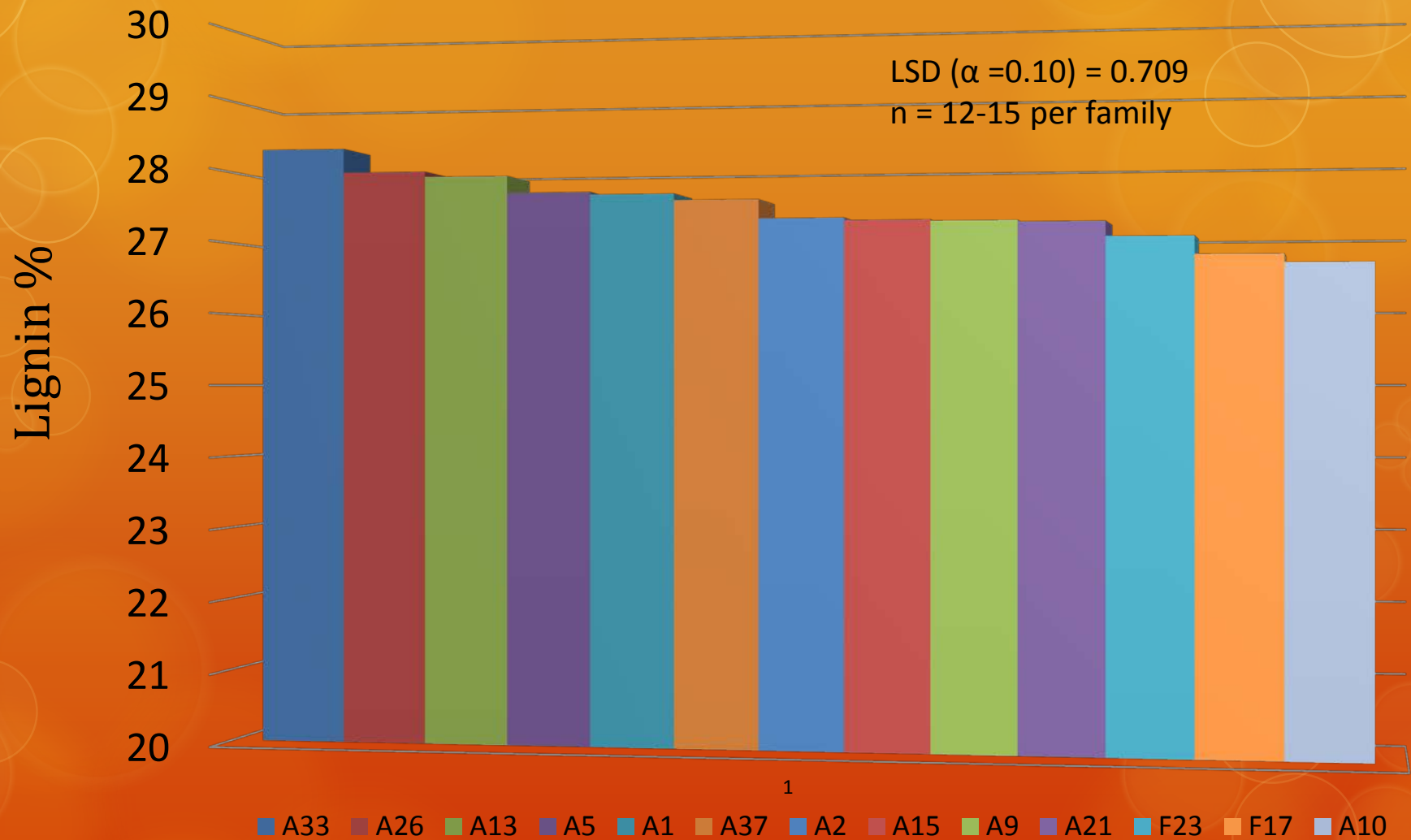


Cellulose, Extractives,  
Lignin, Hemicellulose

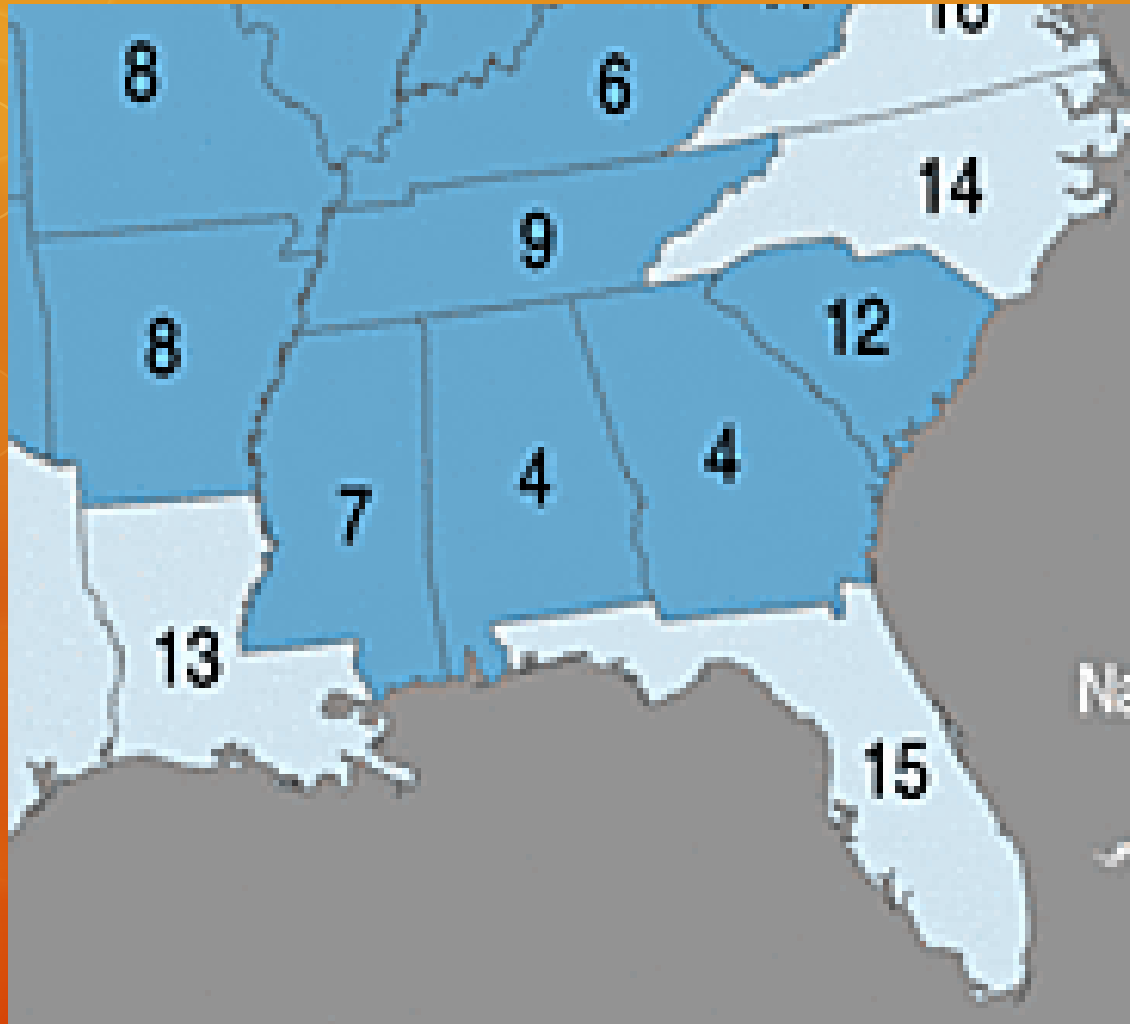
# Comparison of NIR to FTIR and TGA for Wood Chemistry?



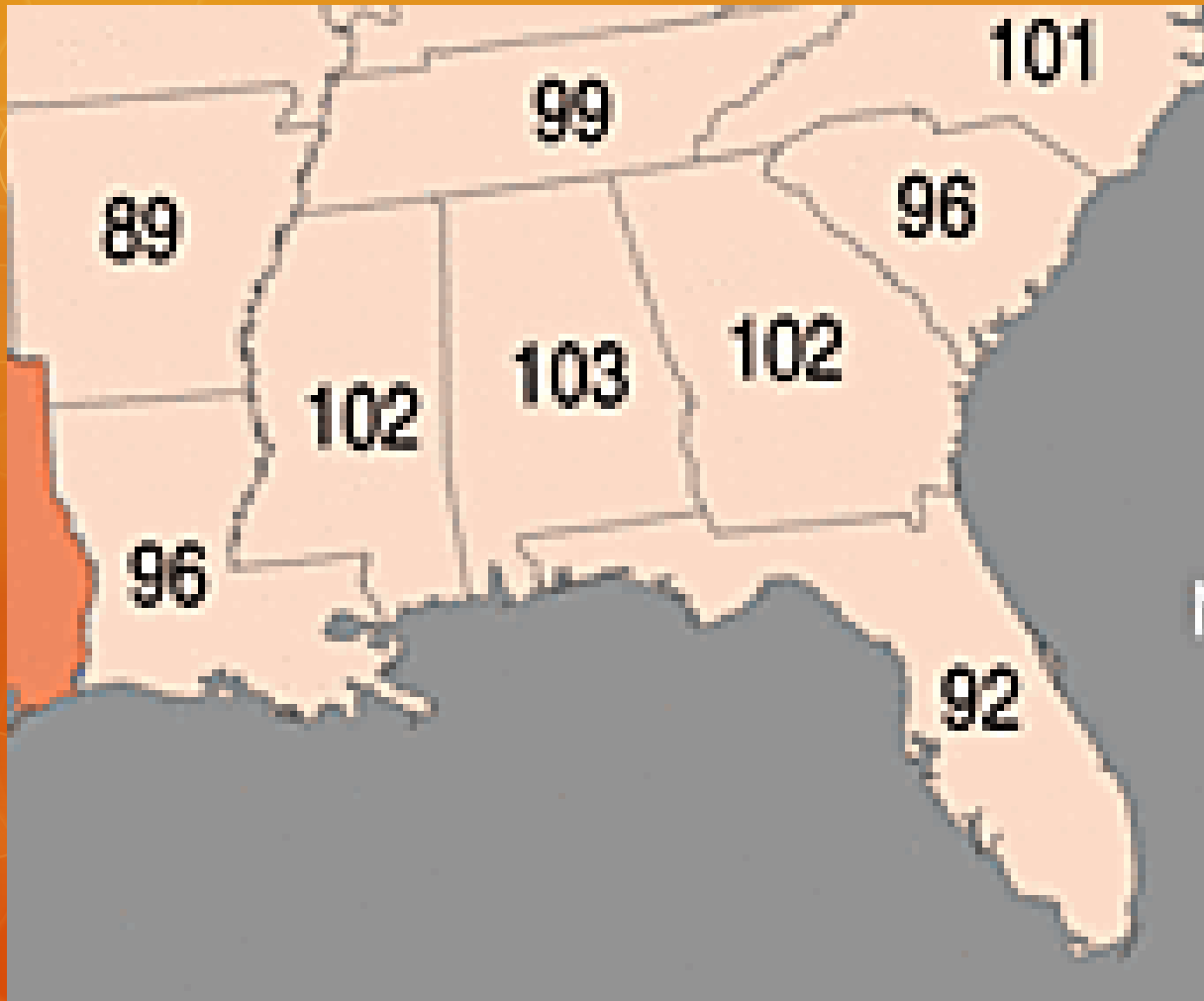
## Using Near Infrared to Measure Lignin Content of Genetically Improved Families.



In the southeast US: November, 2014 –  
7<sup>th</sup> coldest in 119 years

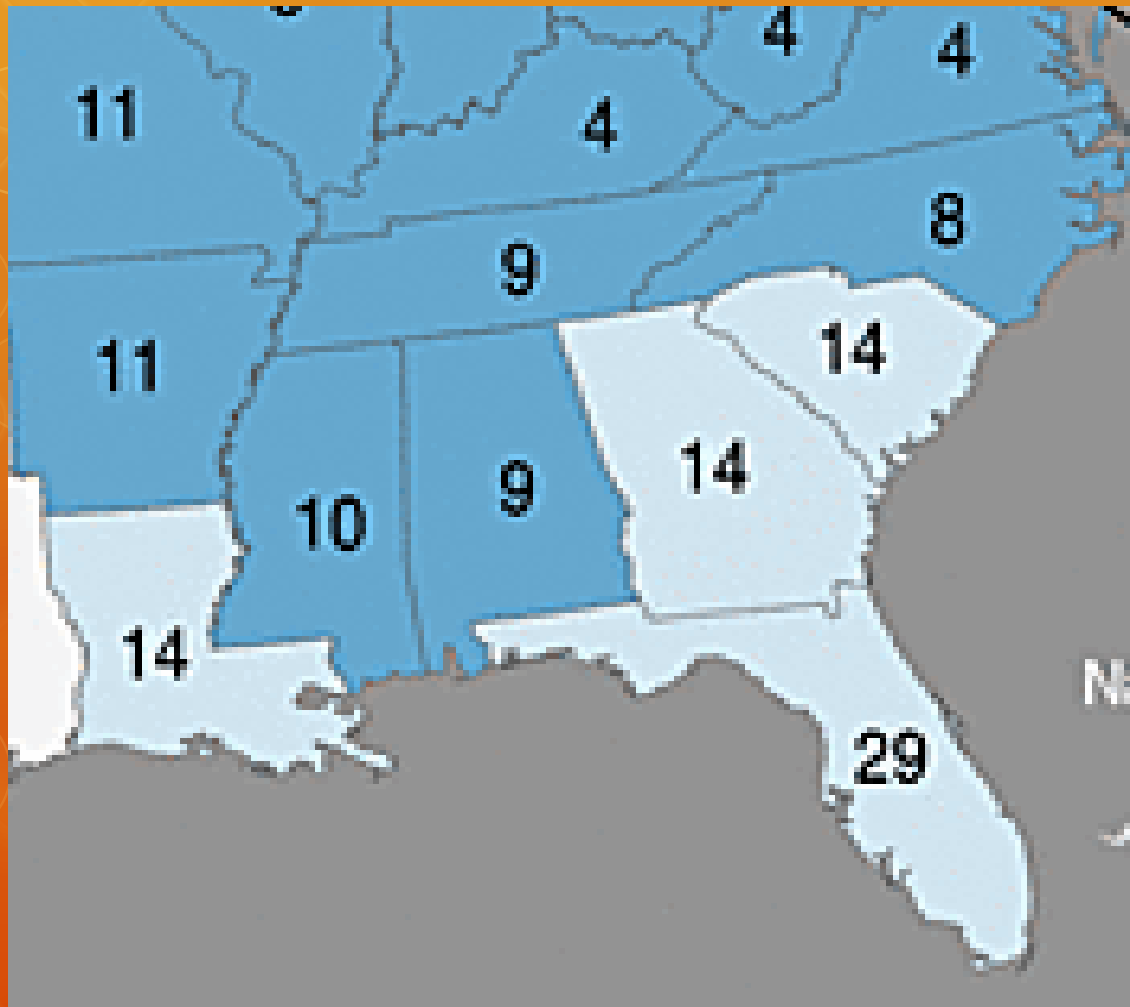


In the southeast US: December, 2014—  
99<sup>th</sup> warmest in 119 years

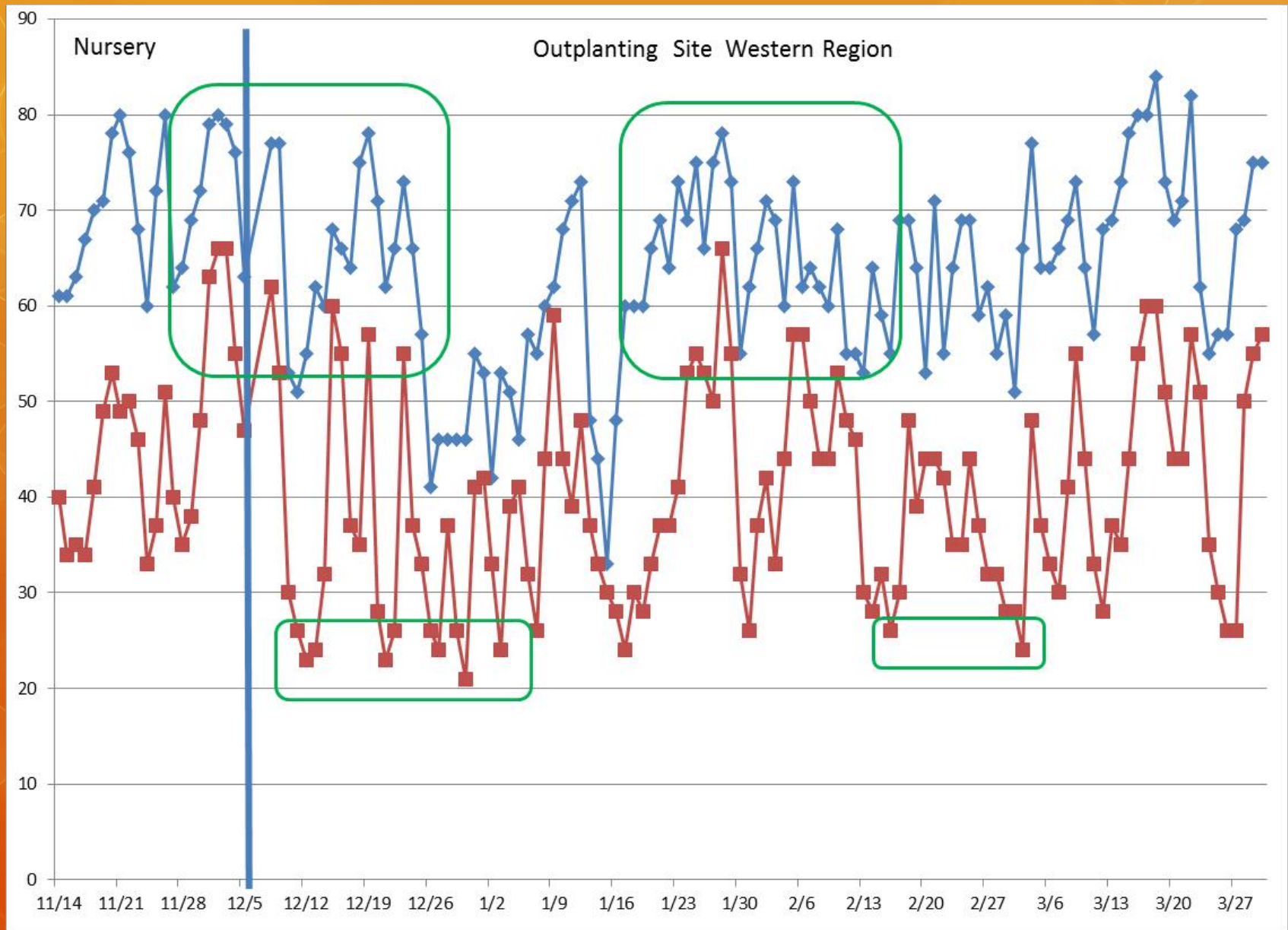




In the southeast US: February, 2015 –  
10<sup>th</sup> coldest in 120 years







# "Normal" Freeze Injury





# Freeze Injury 2013 - Recovery









# Auburn University

## Southern Forest Nursery Management Cooperative

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### RESEARCH REPORT 08-02

WARM NIGHTTIME TEMPERATURES AFFECT THE ABILITY OF  
LOBLOLLY PINE (*PINUS TAEDA*) SEEDLINGS TO TOLERATE FREEZING

by

David B. South, Tom Starkey, M. Anisul Islam and Douglass F. Jacobs

#### INTRODUCTION

Nursery seedlings that undergo a hard freeze might result in poor outplanting performance if the roots have been injured by a freeze (Carlson 1985; Lantz 1985; Rowan 1985; Cameron RA and Lowerts GA 2007). In some cases, injury from a freeze will be increased if seedlings are grown at high seedbed densities (Dierauf and Olinger 1979). In contrast, top-pruning can increase freeze tolerance (South et al. 1993). Freeze injury is also affected by genotype (Kolb et al. 1985;

# Can NIR be used to measure / identify freeze injury in seedlings?

- NIR is used to classify products and evaluate quality
  - Wines, fruits, herbs, olive oils
  - Identify Eucalyptus clones
  - Dairy & Eggs





# Sensitive & Tolerant Families





# Freeze Event: 1, 3 and 6 hrs



Roots clipped, small portion of  
stem exposed





# Stem held to NIR scanner

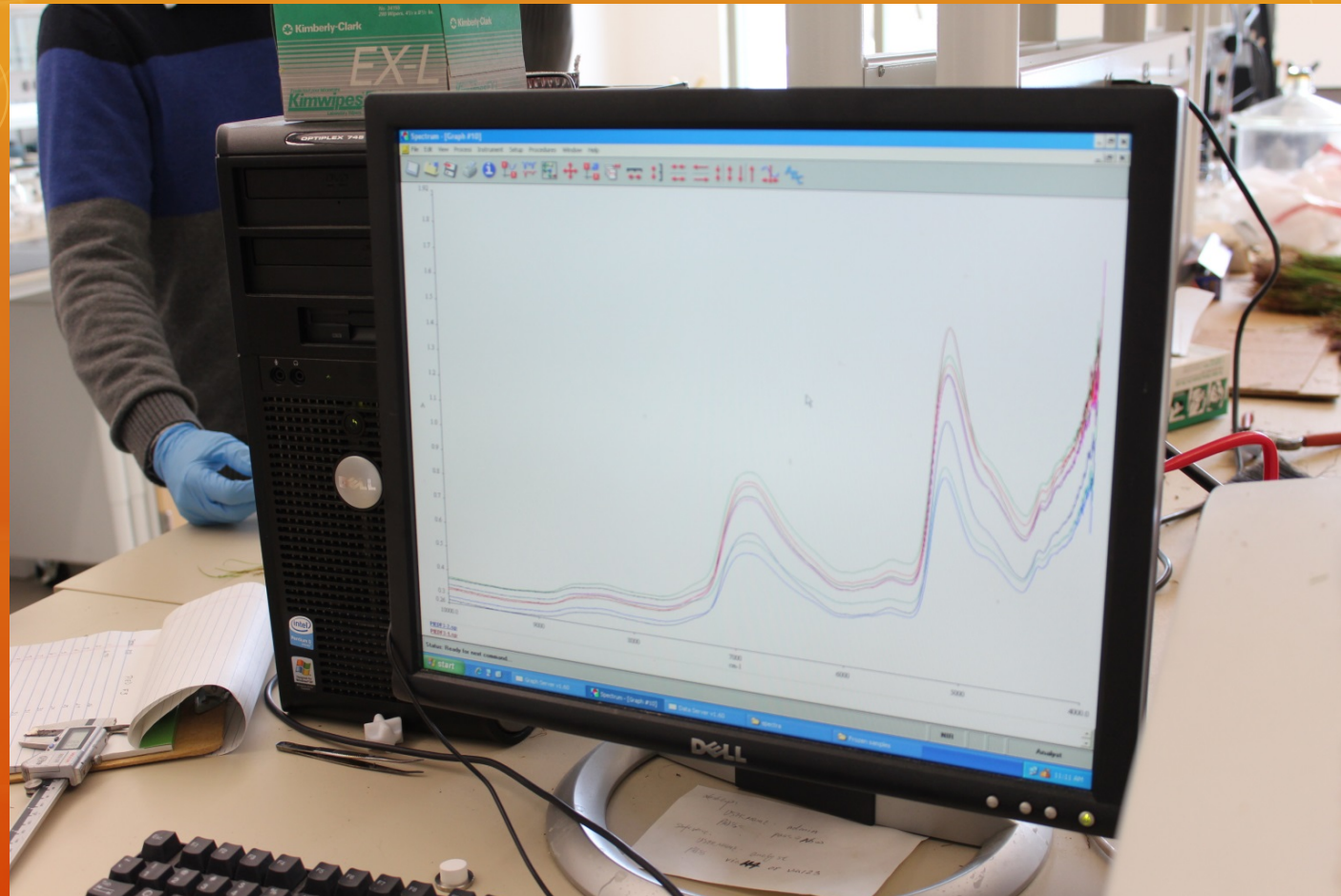


# Software scans spectroscopy of stem

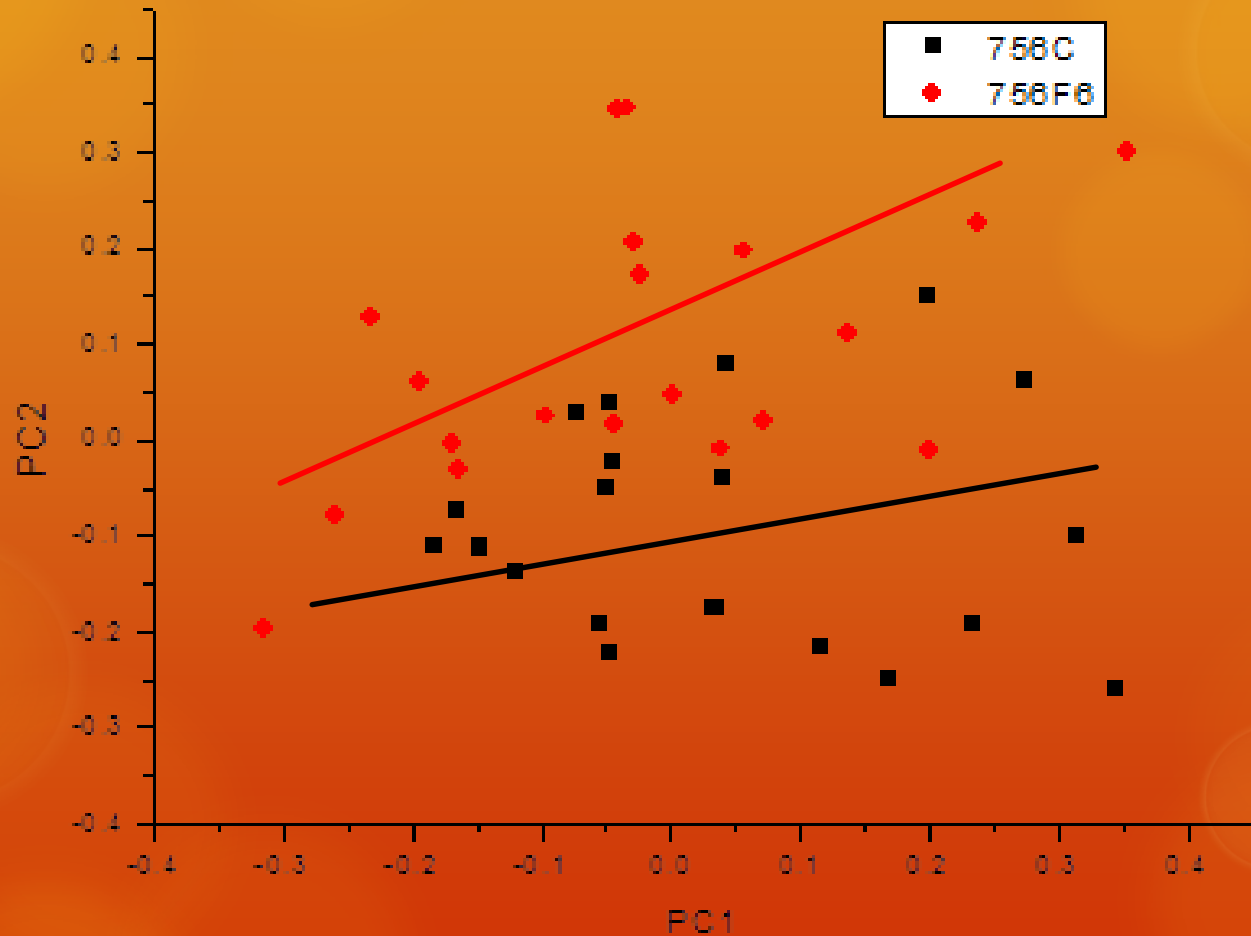




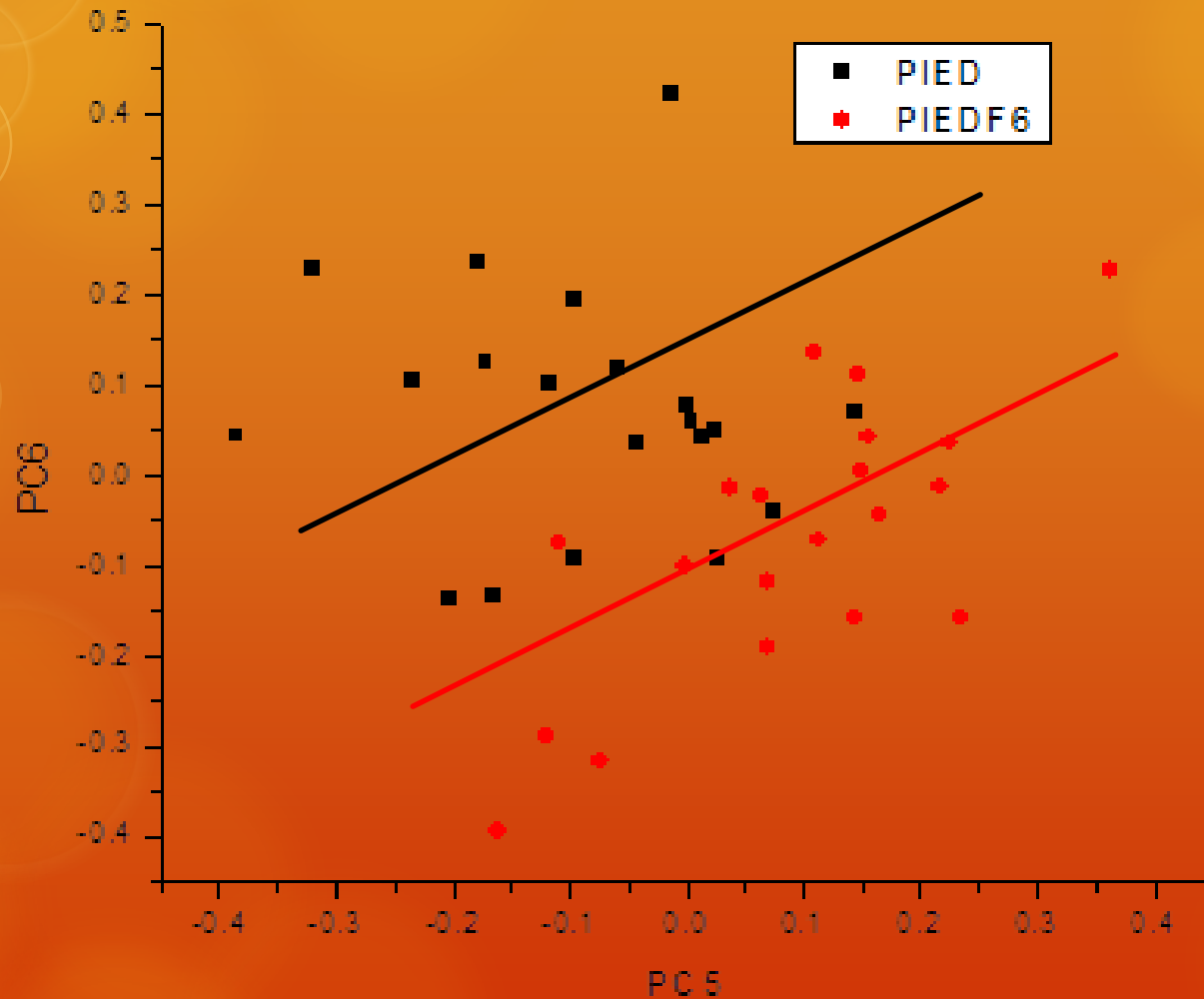
Series of samples – Calibration curves can be made



# 756 Family: Control & 6 hr

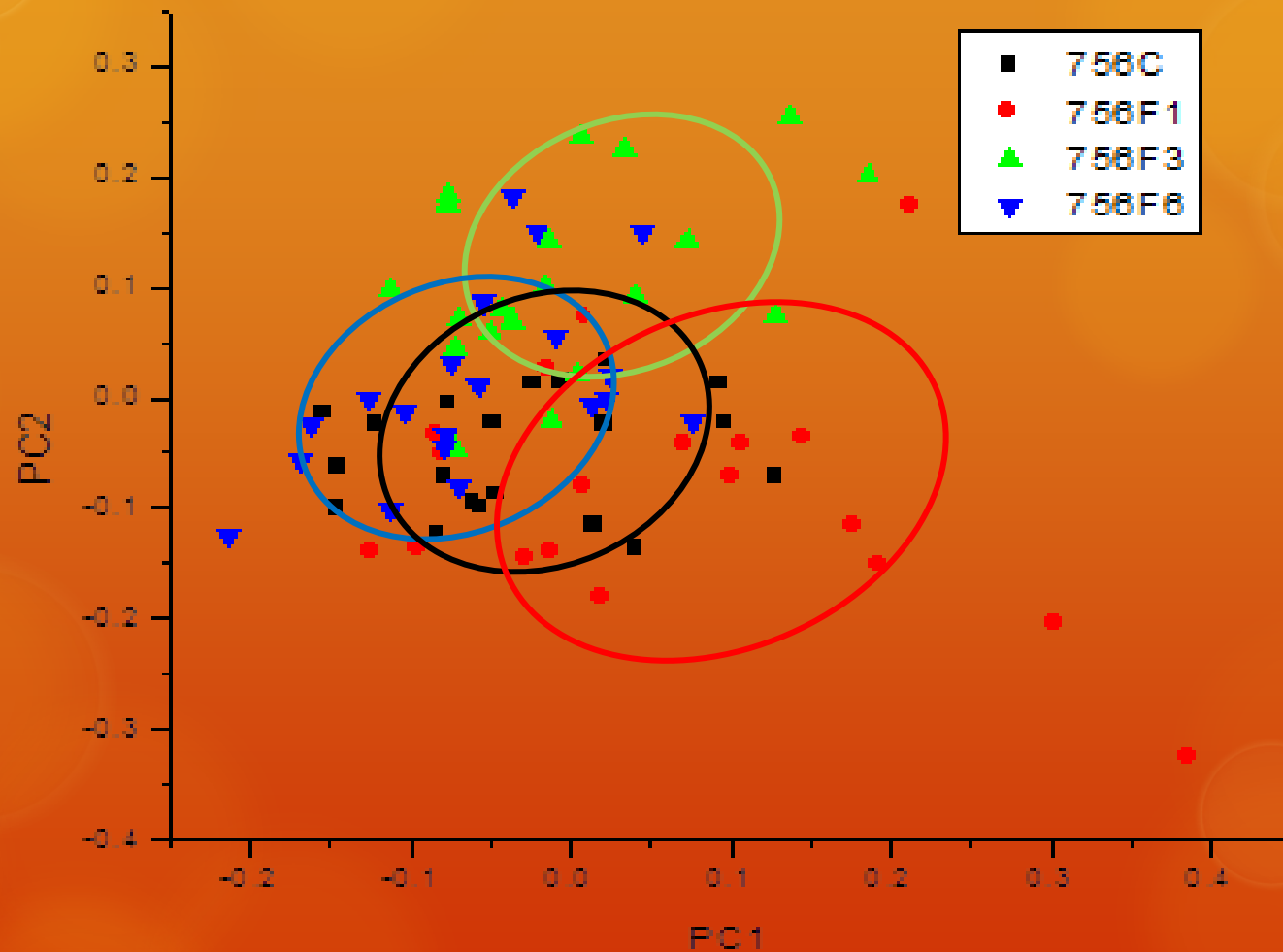


# Piedmont Family: Control & 6 hr

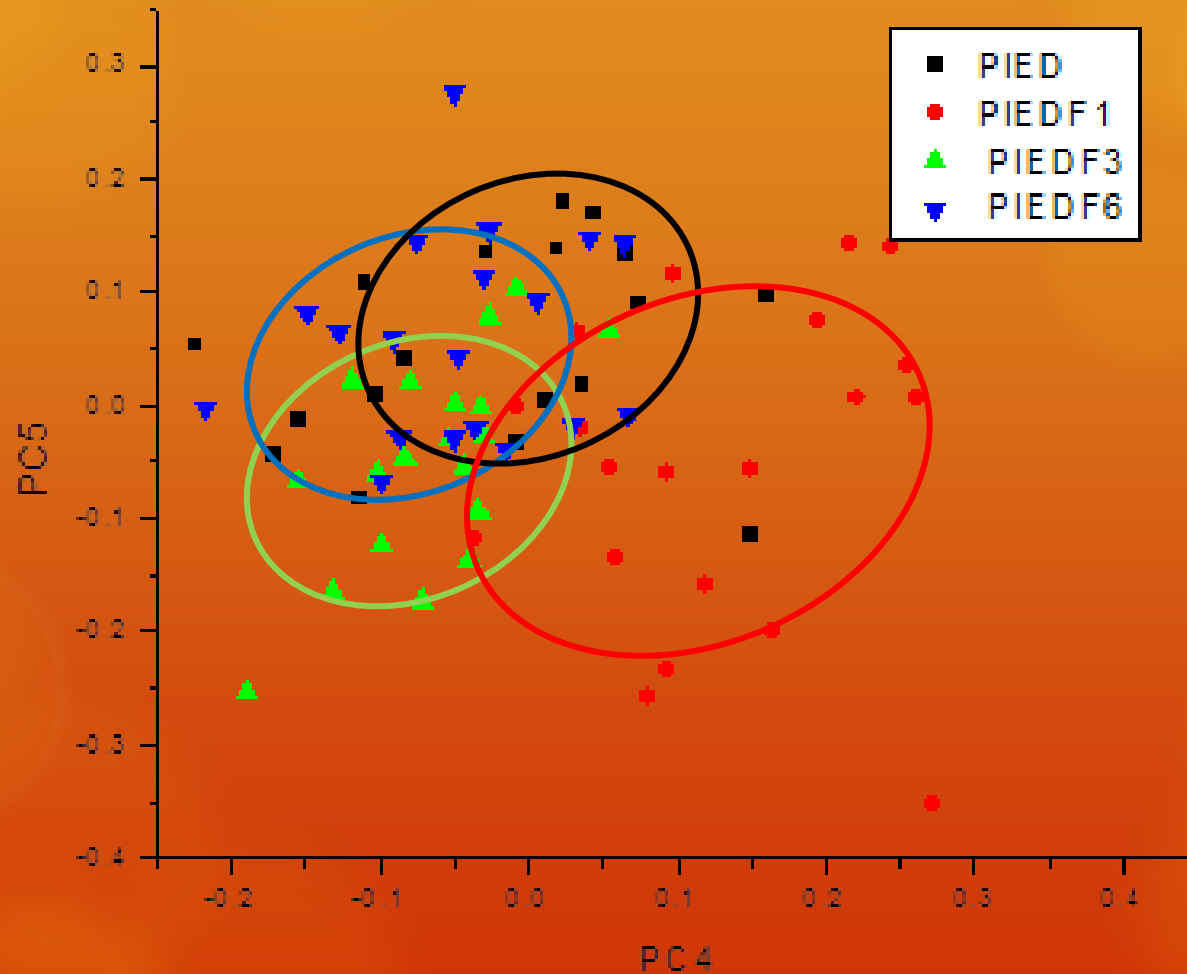




# 756 Family: Control, 1, 3 & 6 hr



# Piedmont Family: Control, 1, 3 & 6 hr



# NIR Freeze Project

- PhD student working on project
- Funded in part by SFWS
- Examine specific wavelengths
  - Sugars, Hemicellulose, Cellulose, Lignin
- Key on cell products produced when freeze injury occurs
- Tighten up curve for more precise answer
- "Have the seedlings been subjected to a damaging freeze"?

