

Effects of beetroot-Vinasse on ascospore formation of *Venturia pirina*:

a one-year field trial on an organic Conference orchard

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Context:

Beetroot Vinasse in former trails:

- small effects on leaf degradation
- promising effects on ascospore reduction

Research aim:

- translate small scale methods to large scale field application of beetroot vinasse
- measurement of ascospore productions

Methodology:

- 500l/ha beetroot vinasse, 1x spraying
- applied in start of leaf-fall
- Leaf-litter kept in mesh cages during winter
- measurements after warm period in spring

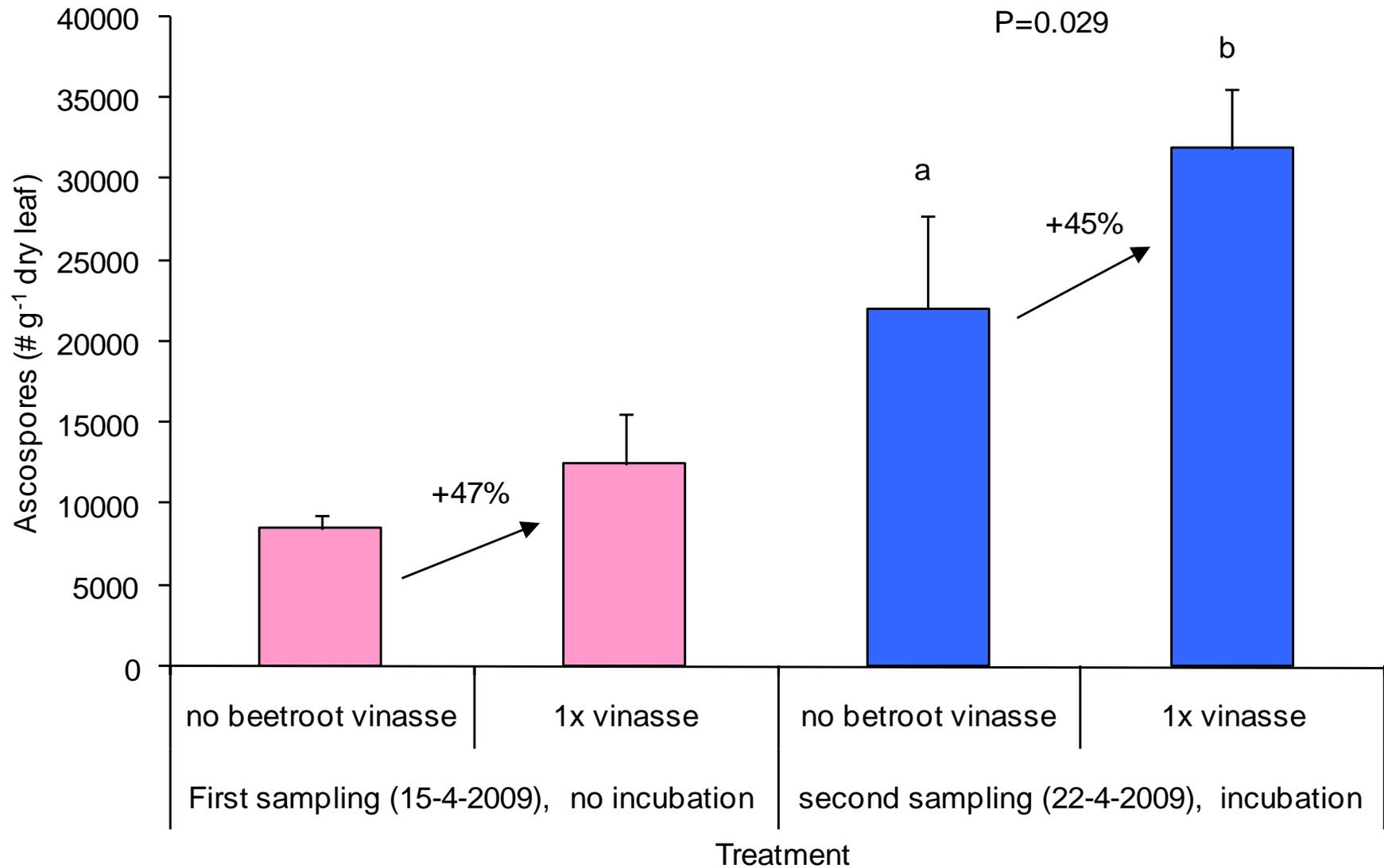


Brown coloration directly
after spraying with
beetroot-vinasse

Mesh cages in the end of
the winter →



Results



Conclusions:

In our experiment results contradicted former findings (although some comparable results were also reported elsewhere)

Note: We only measure ascospore production, not leaf degradation

Possible explanations:

- relative low ascospore numbers
- variations in beetroot-vinasse

Precautions should be taken with use of beetroot-vinasse
In-depth studies of mechanisms involved are necessary