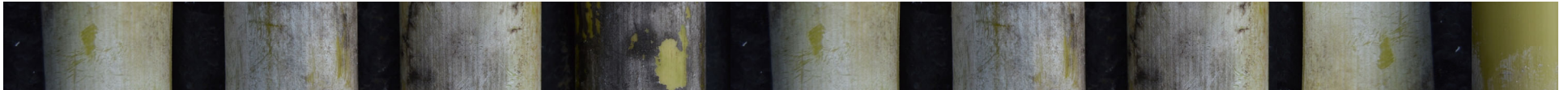


# BILLET PLANTING UPDATE



Paul White, USDA-ARS Sugarcane Research Unit  
&  
Jeff Hoy, LSU AgCenter, Sugar Research Station

# Seed treatment chemical tests

HoCP 96-540, 24" billets dip-treated.  
Fungicide and/or Insecticide (Platinum).

Silt loam soil.

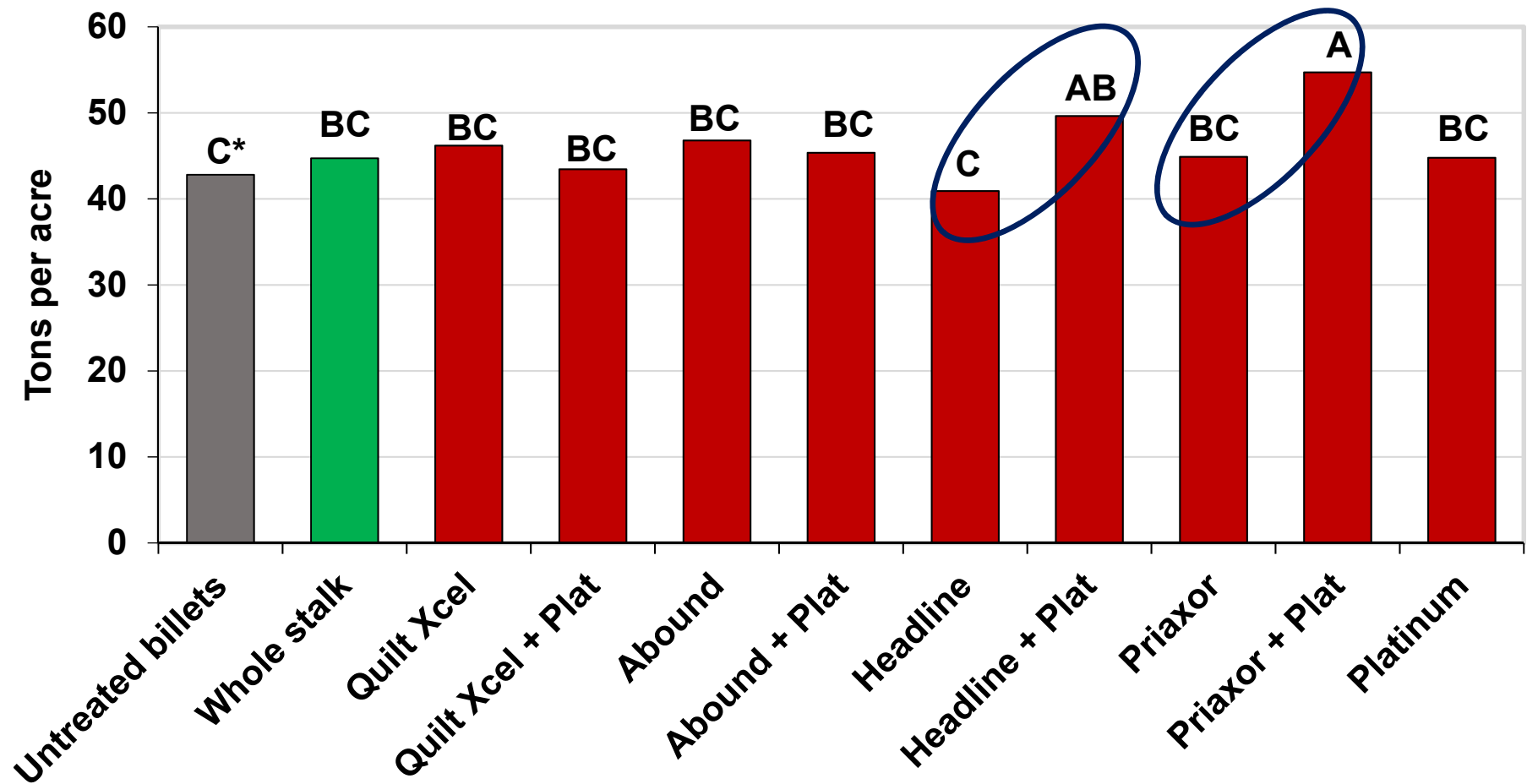
Planted at 2 running billets (2.4 tons/acre).

Combine cut yields for plant cane, first stubble,  
and second stubble.





# Planted 2016, PC, 1S, 2S averages



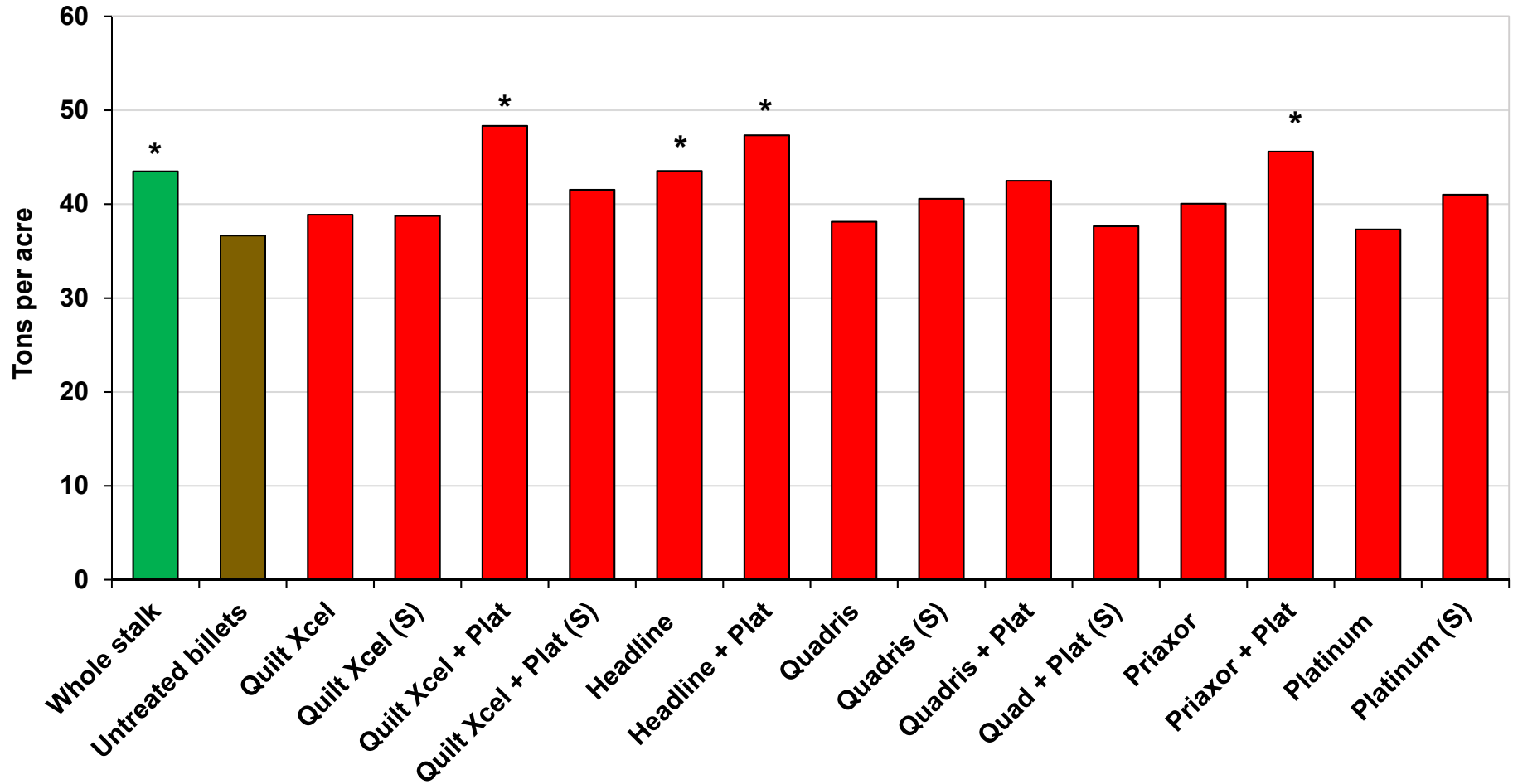
\*Bars with the same letter are not statistically different at the P<0.05 level.

## Fungicide active ingredient

	<b>Azoxy- strobin</b>	<b>Pyraclos- strobin</b>	<b>Cypro- conazole</b>	<b>Propi- conazole</b>	<b>Fluxa- pyroxad</b>	<b>Mefen- oxam</b>	<b>Chloro- thalonil</b>	<b>Fludi- oxonil</b>
<b>Quilt Xcel</b>	1.18 lb/gal (13.5%)			1.02 lb/gal (11.7%)				
<b>Quadris<sup>IF</sup></b>	2.08 lb/gal (22.9%)							
<b>Quadris Xtra</b>	1.67 lb/gal (18.2%)		0.76 lb/gal (7.3%)					
<b>Headline</b>		2.09 lb/gal (23.6%)						
<b>Priaxor</b>		2.78 lb/gal (28.6%)			1.30 lb/gal (14.3%)			
<b>Uniform</b>	2.68 lb/gal (28.2%)					1.04 lb/gal (10.9%)		
<b>Abound</b>	2.08 lb/gal (22.9%)							
<b>Dynasty</b>	0.63 lb/gal					0.31 lb/gal		0.15 lb/gal
<b>Ridomil Gold SL</b>						4.0 lb/gal (45.3%)		
<b>Bravo</b>							6.0 lb/gal (54%)	
<b>Xanthion</b>		2.09 lb/gal (23.6%)						

Fungicide trade name

# Planted 2017, PC & 1S averages



\* Indicates treatments where 2 year mean yield was greater than untreated billets.

# **Bulk seed treatment chemical test**

HoCP 96-540, 24" billets, not culled for damage or size.

Submerged in fungicide and/or insecticide.  
Silt loam soil, planted at 2-3 tons per acre.

Planted in December 2018. Combine harvested in December 2019.

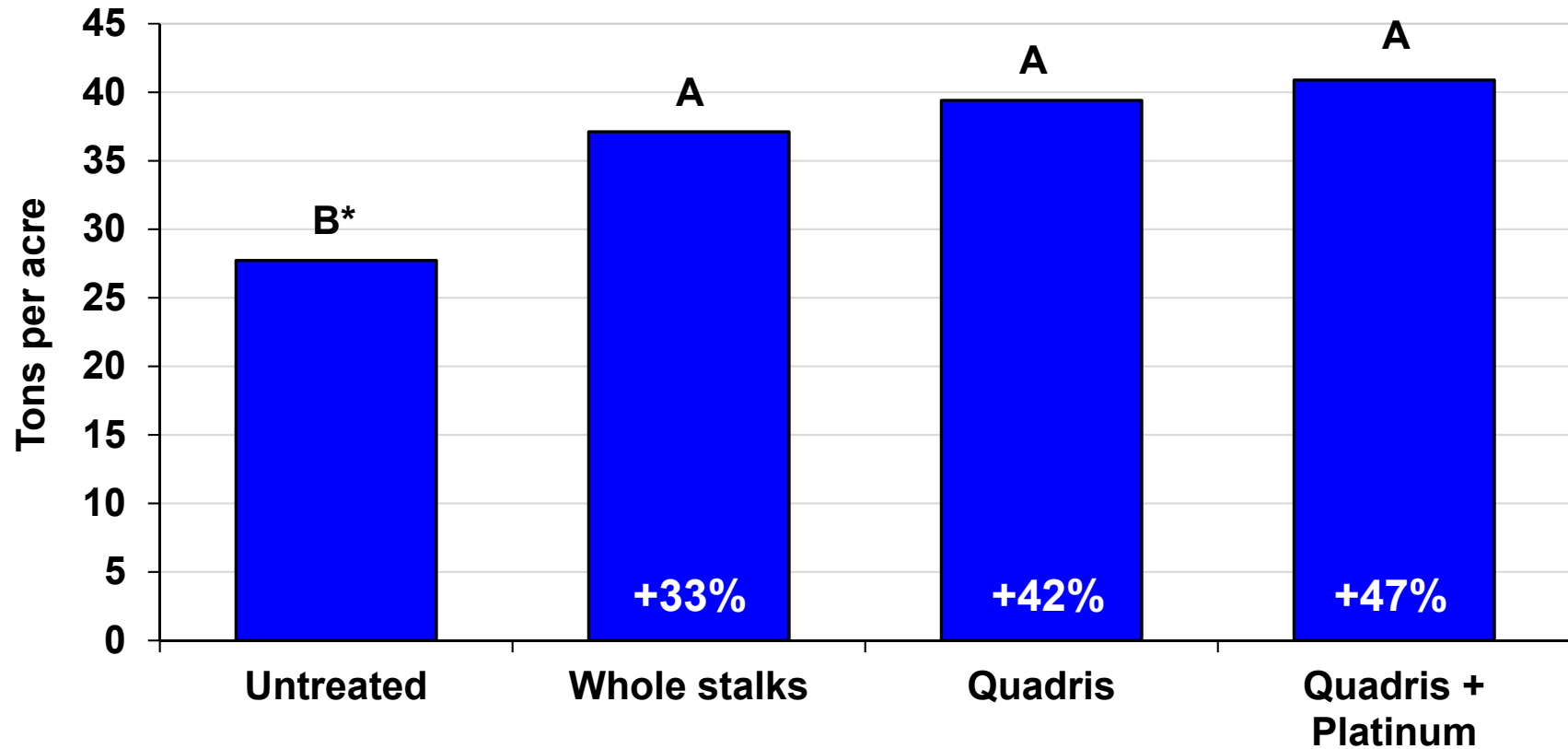








# Planted 2018, PC only



\*Bars with the same letter are statistically similar at the P<0.05 level.



# What is going on with billet planting?



# On-farm seed treatment chemical tests

- Two tests
- Applied with spray rig on planter
- Fungicide + insecticide (applied singly too in one test)

# St. Mary Parish planted Oct 22nd





# Rapides planted Sept 19 (spring shoots)



# St. Mary L 01-299 four reps (truckloads)

Treatment	TRS	Tons cane/acre	Pounds sugar/acre
Non-treated billets	173 b	38.7 b	6,680 b
Quilt Xcel	176 ab	39.3 ab	6,900 b
Quilt Xcel + Platinum	181 ab	39.8 ab	7,177 b
Platinum	195 a	41.1 a	7,990 a

# Rapides L 01-283 four reps (truckloads)


Treatment	TRS	Tons cane/acre	Pounds sugar/acre
Non-treated billets	161 b	32.6 b	5,244 b
Quilt Xcel + Platinum	186 a	39.7 a	7,398 a

# Where do we stand with billet planting?

- Currently, some having success, but not for everyone
- Seed treatment chemicals could be game changer
- Quilt Xcel has 24c label for use on billets
- Platinum full label for billet application expected for next planting season

# Seed treatment chemical things to know

- Must have good coverage of billets to work
- Probably will not be needed every year
- Will help in years with environmental stress conditions
- Will be expensive
- Could reduce risk level to allow widespread success
- MUST HAVE GOOD COVERAGE TO WORK
- WILL STILL NEED BILLETS TO BE WELL PLANTED

A photograph of a sunset over a field of sugarcane. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow of orange and yellow light across the sky. The clouds are scattered and catch the light, appearing in shades of pink, orange, and yellow. The foreground is dark, showing the silhouettes of the sugarcane plants.

Thanks!  
Questions?

