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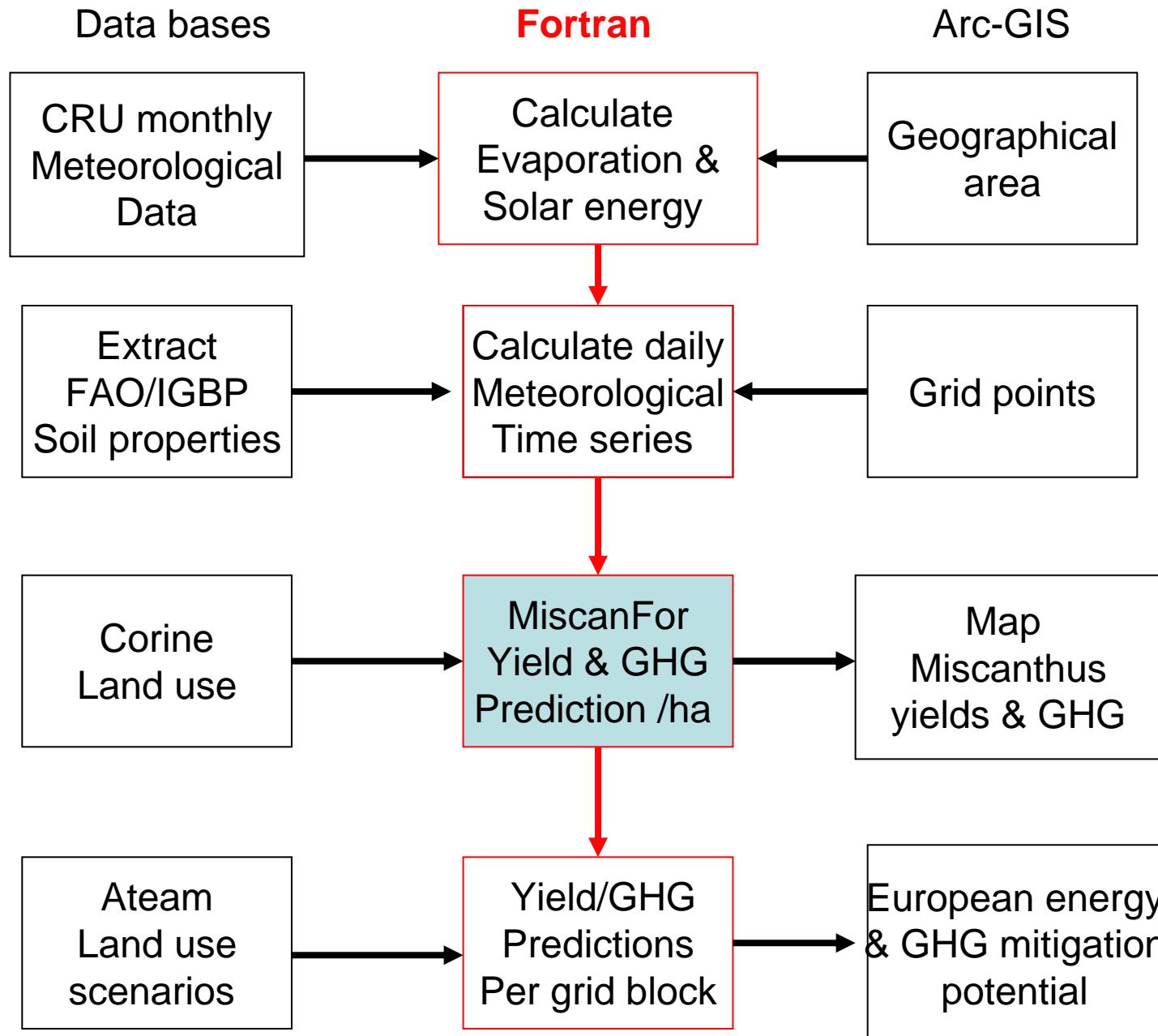
# The European potential to produce bio-energy: *Miscanthus* potential for current and future climates.

Astley Hastings

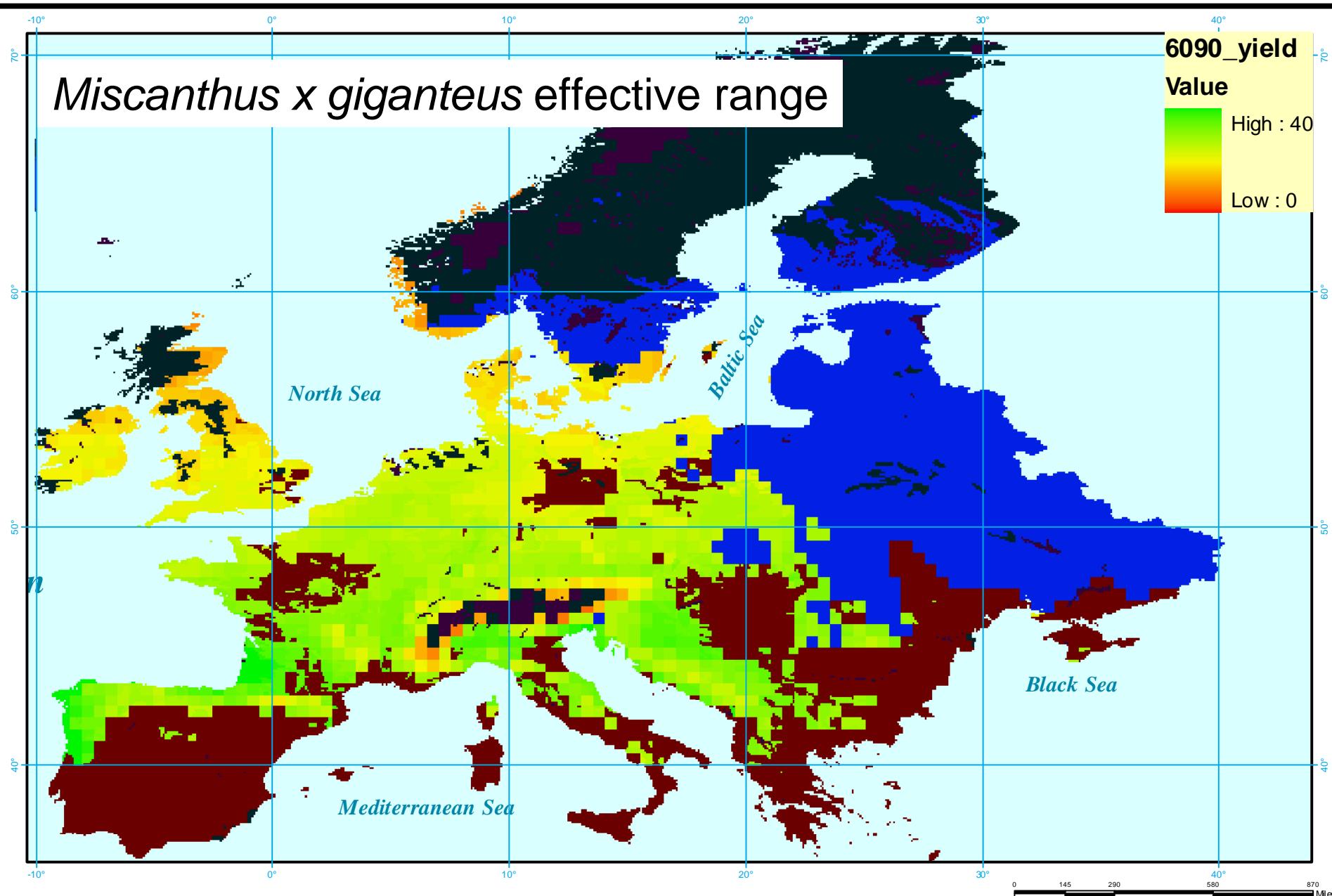
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# LCA sustainability criteria

- Net energy produced per ha land GJ ha<sup>-1</sup>
- Net energy / Energy input (EUE)
- Carbon Intensity (CI) g CO<sub>2</sub> C Equiv MJ<sup>-1</sup>



MiscanFor model framework



1960-1990 Mean peak yield

# *Miscanthus*

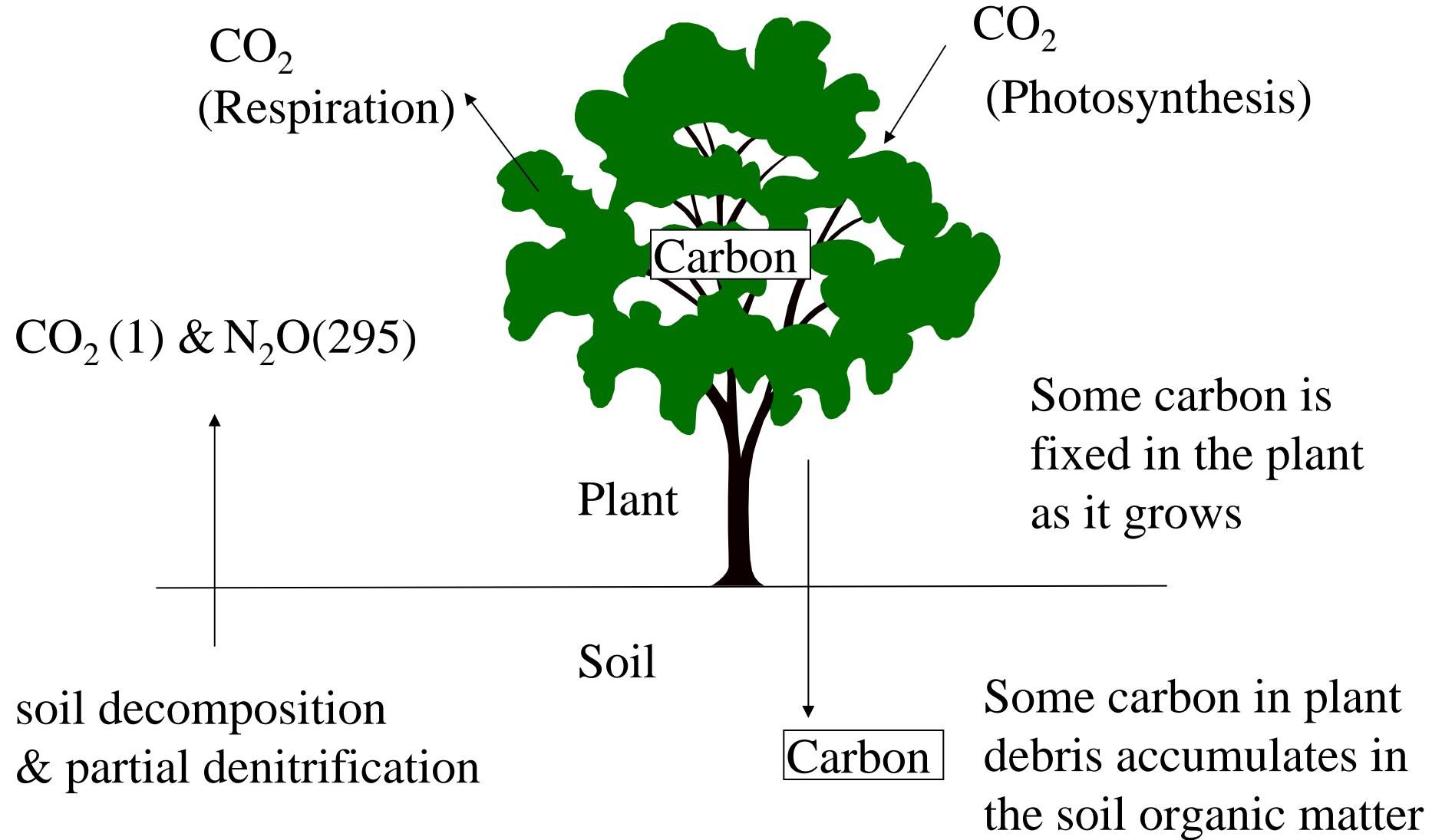
## Energy yields net GJ/ha

- Ethanol from sugar beet 15
- Ethanol from wheat 7
- Bio-diesel from oil seed rape 17
- SRC Willow 42
- *Miscanthus* 191

Sims et al (2006)



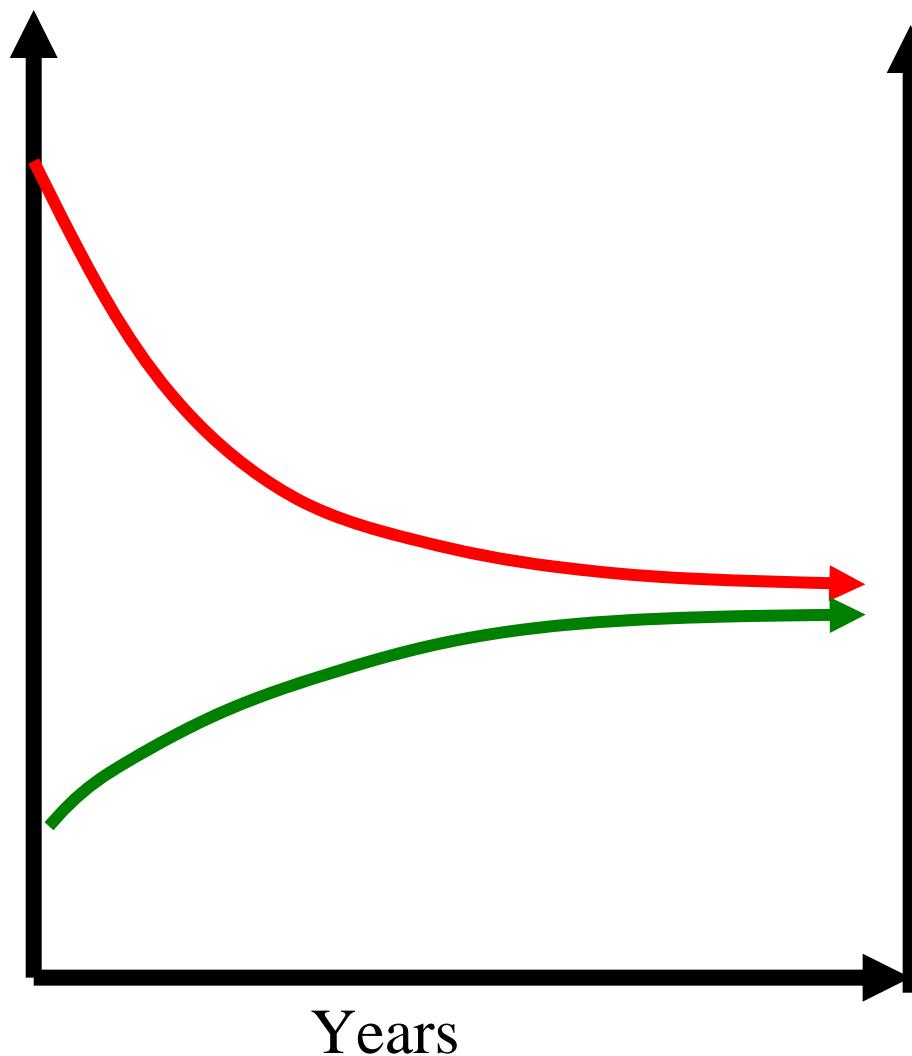
# Soil emission of greenhouse gasses



# Each ecosystem has a carbon equilibrium

**Initial Soil Carbon Level**

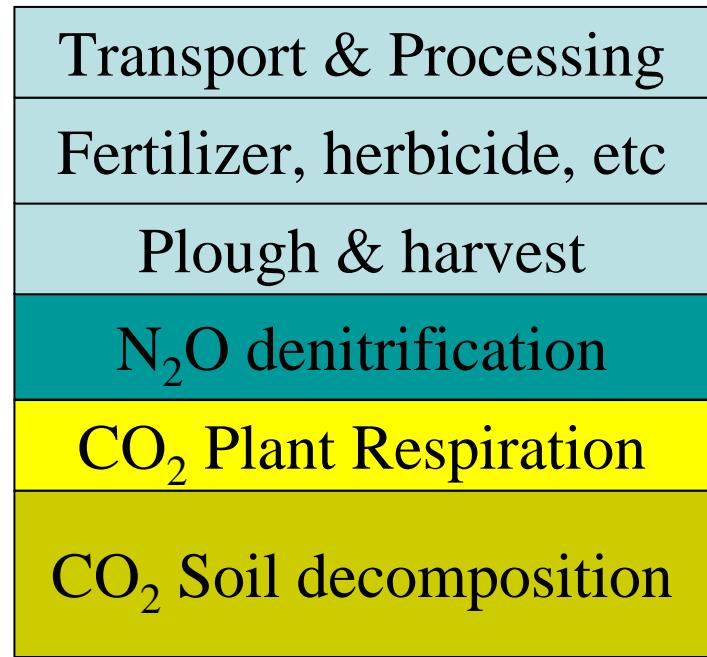
Peat land  
Wetland  
  
Forest  
Woodland  
  
Grassland/  
Miscanthus  
  
Arable land



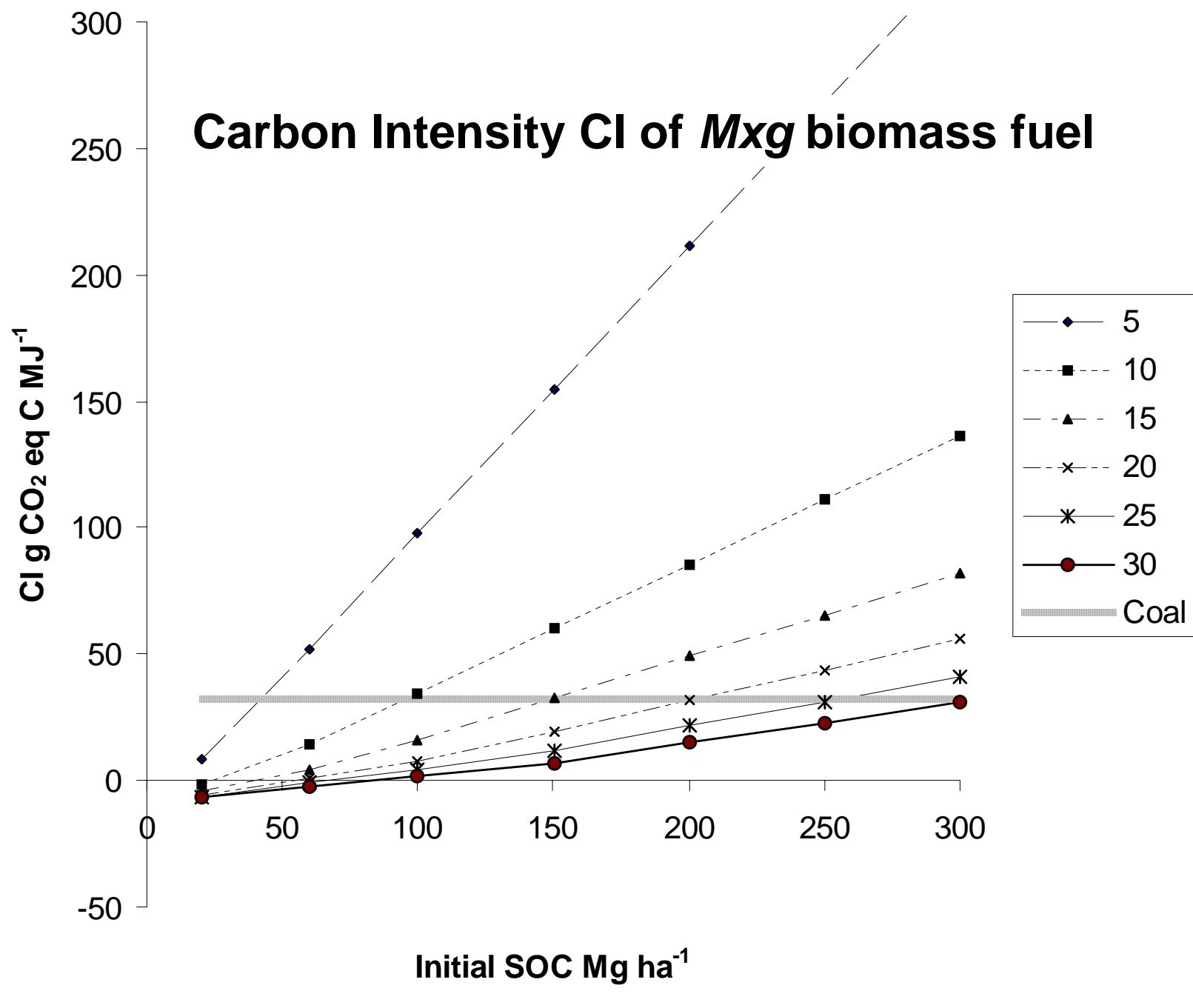
**Final soil carbon level**

Peat land  
Wetland  
  
Forest  
Woodland  
  
Grassland/  
Miscanthus  
  
Arable land

# Greenhouse gas and energy balance



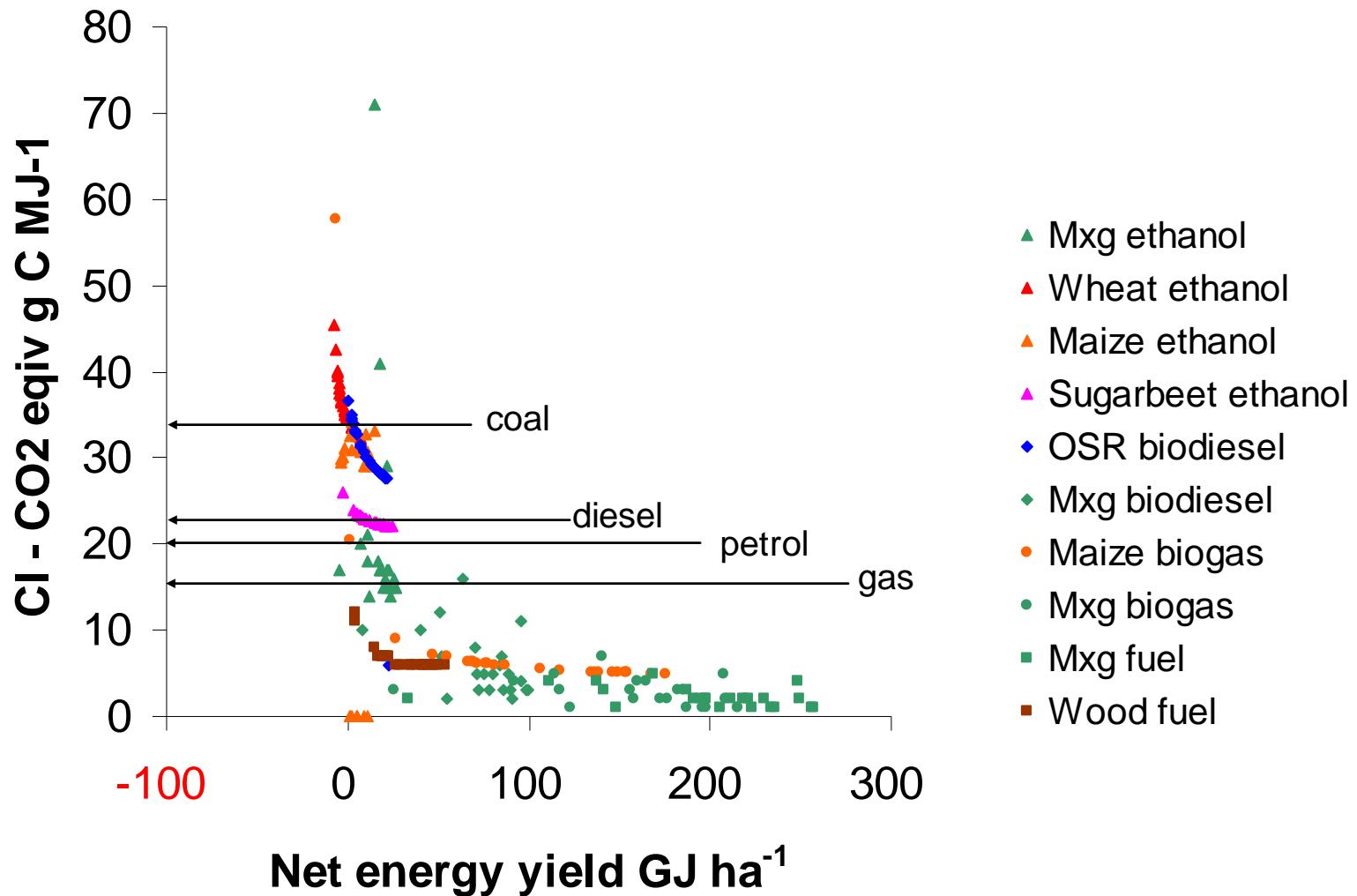
Photosynthetic  
Carbon



# Sustainability of bio-energy systems in Europe

	EUE MJ MJ <sup>-1</sup>	CI g C MJ <sup>-1</sup>	Energy Intensity GJ ha <sup>-1</sup>
Wheat ethanol	1.0	89	7
Maize ethanol	1.2	77	15
Sugarbeet ethanol	1.1	67	15
<i>Miscanthus</i> cellulosic ethanol	1.2	40	14
Oil seed rape biodiesel	1.7	67	17
<i>Miscanthus</i> biorefinery biodiesel	3.6	9	61
Green maize biogas (local use)	6.8	13	116
<i>Miscanthus</i> biogas (Local use)	8.9	4	137
SRC willow co-fired biomass fuel	5.5	14	42
<i>Miscanthus</i> co-fired biomass fuel	6.1	3	191

# Bio energy comparison



# Typical car



- 90% transmission efficiency
- Front wheel drive
- Needs 34 MJ to travel 1km at 60 kph

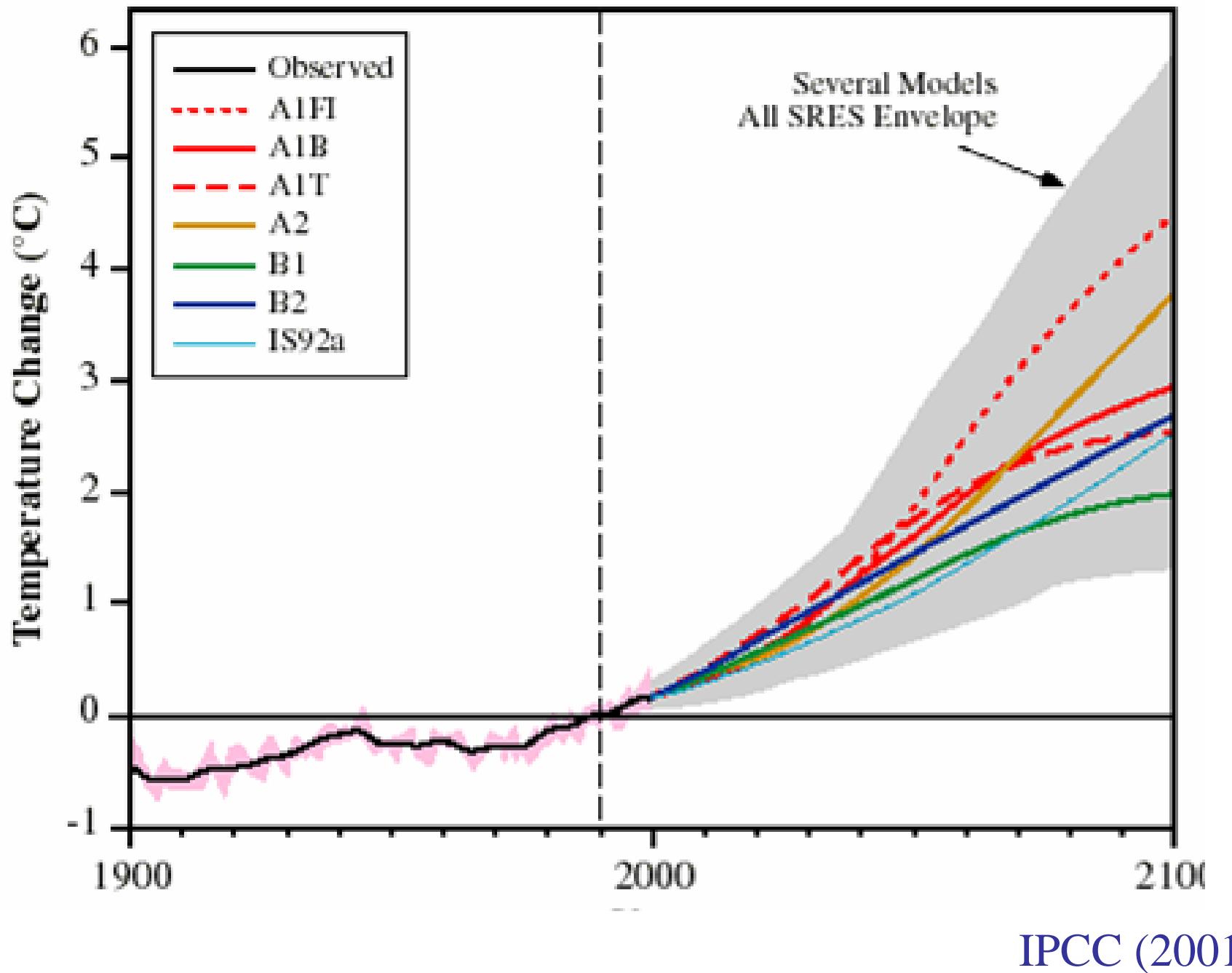
Assume all types of fuel require the same amount of construction carbon

E.g. Ignore battery carbon cost

# Carbon emission & fuel system - g CO<sub>2</sub> km<sup>-1</sup>

Otto cycle	Gasoline	129
	Maize ethanol	423
	Sugar-beet ethanol	369
	Wood cellulosic ethanol	281
	<i>Miscanthus</i> cellulosic ethanol	221
Diesel cycle	Diesel	106
	OSR biodiesel	334
	Wood bio-refined diesel	64
	<i>Miscanthus</i> bio-refined diesel	45
Electrical	UK national grid	134
	Coal	240
	Gas combined cycle	129
	Nuclear	40
	Land wind	41
	Offshore wind	88
	CHP wood	63
	CHP <i>Miscanthus</i>	36

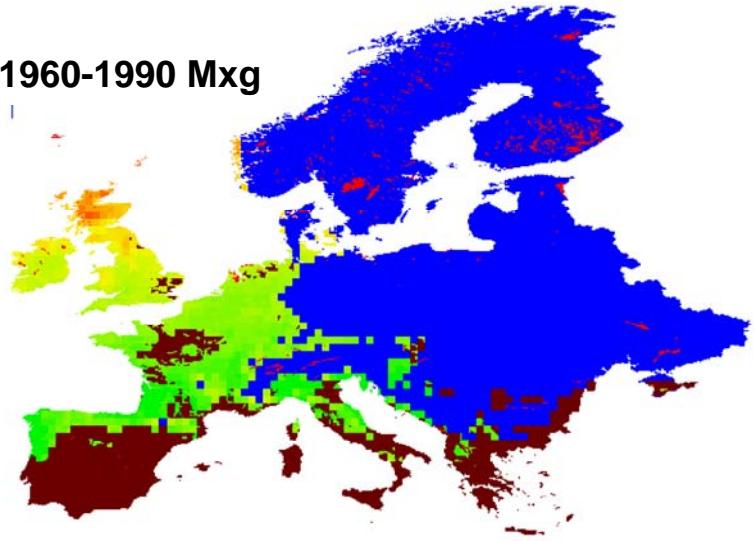
1990



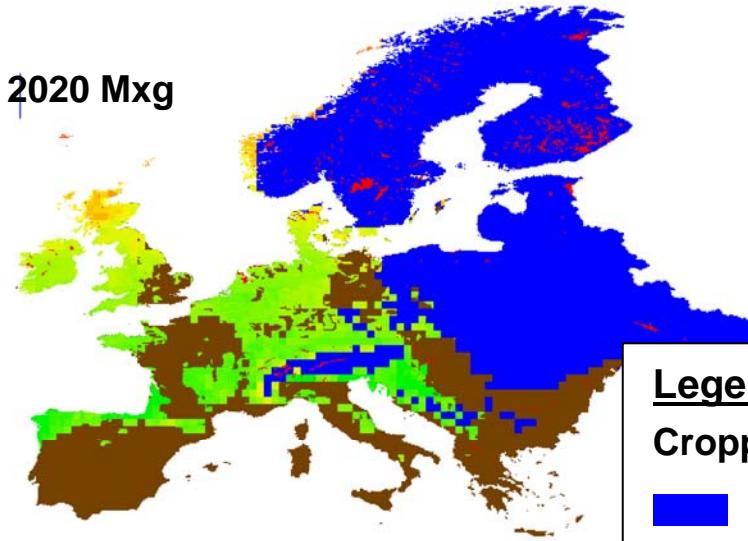
# Future of two genotypes

- *Miscanthus x giganteus*
- Theoretical ‘hi-tech hybrid’ with yield of Mxg and improved frost and drought tolerance observed in *M. sinensis*.

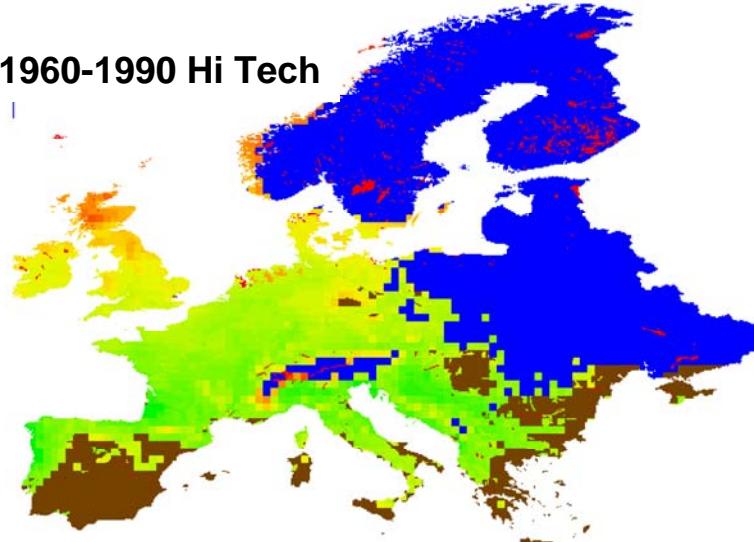
1960-1990 Mxg



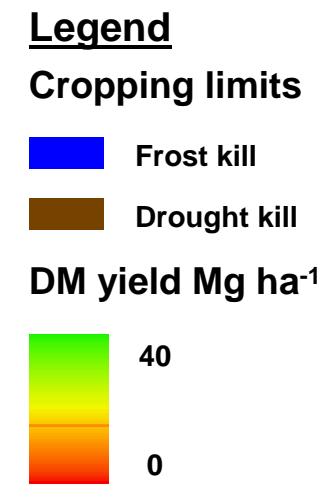
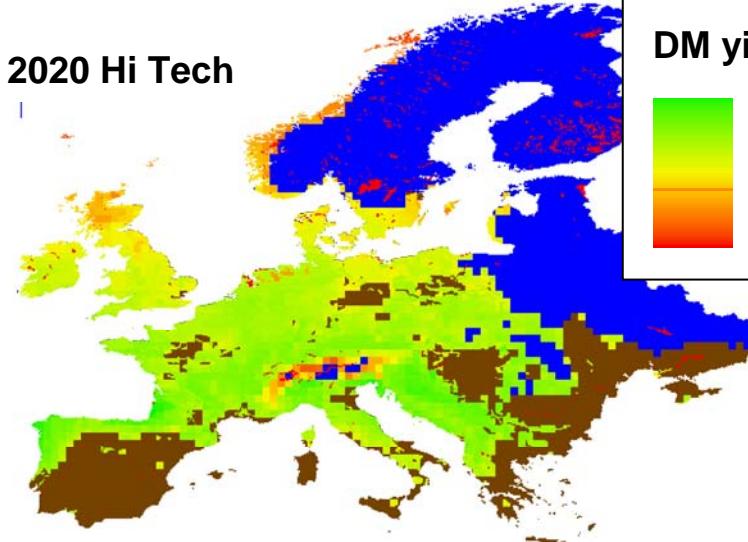
2020 Mxg



1960-1990 Hi Tech

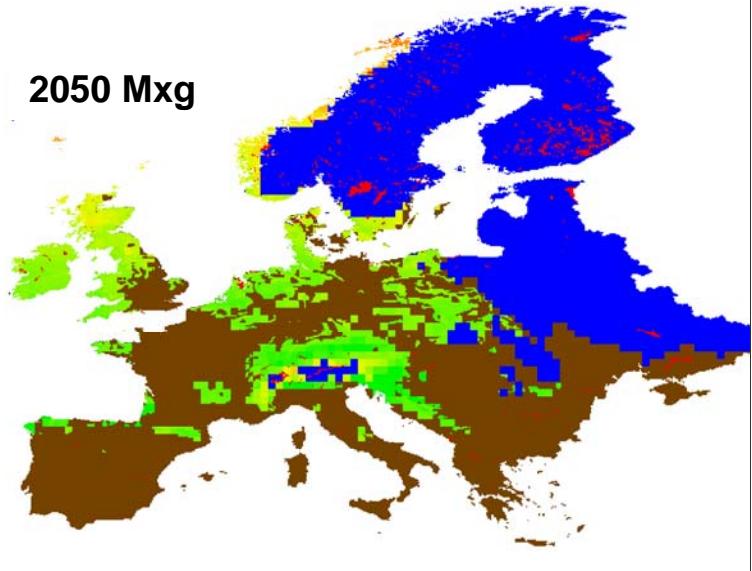


2020 Hi Tech

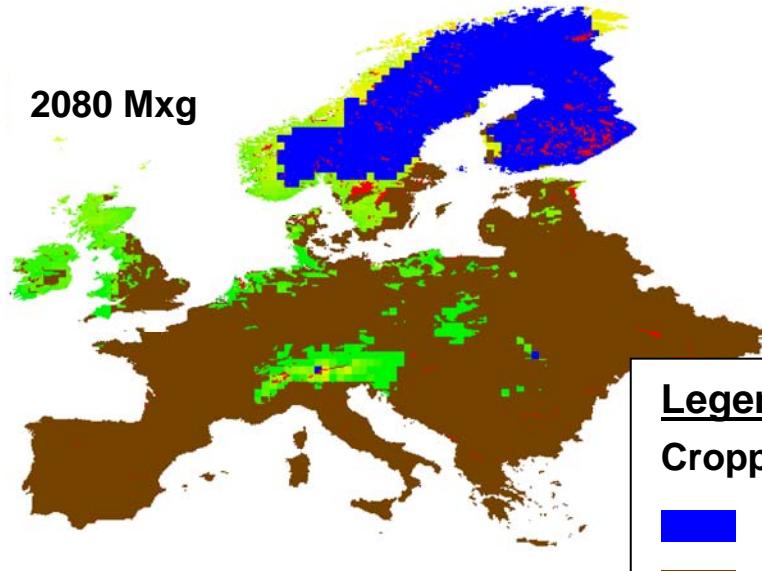


A2 scenario

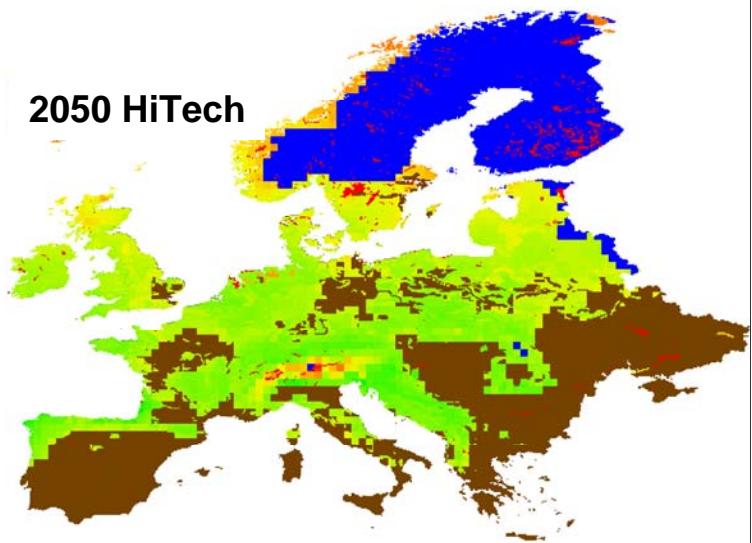
2050 Mxg



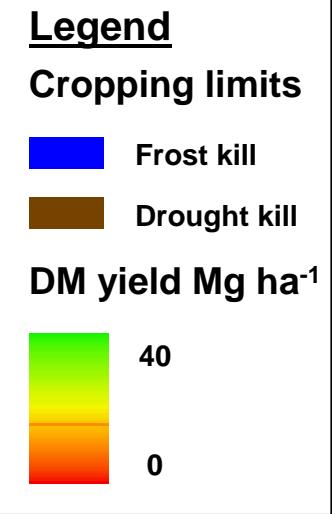
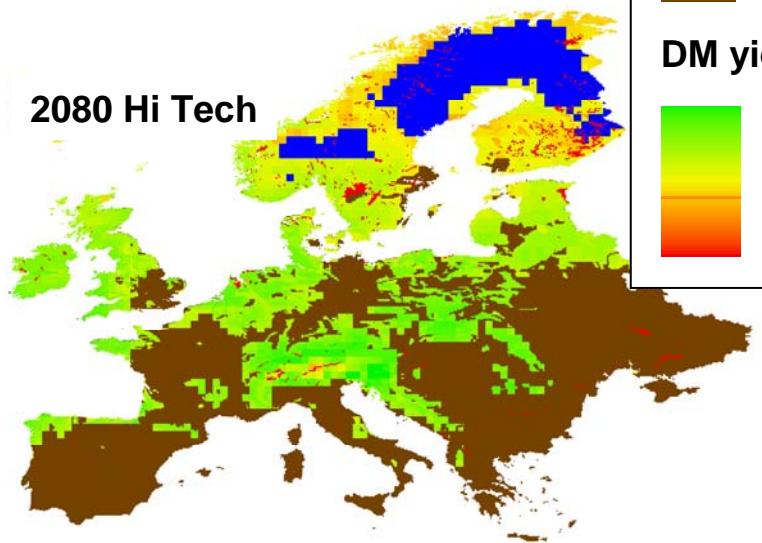
2080 Mxg



2050 HiTech

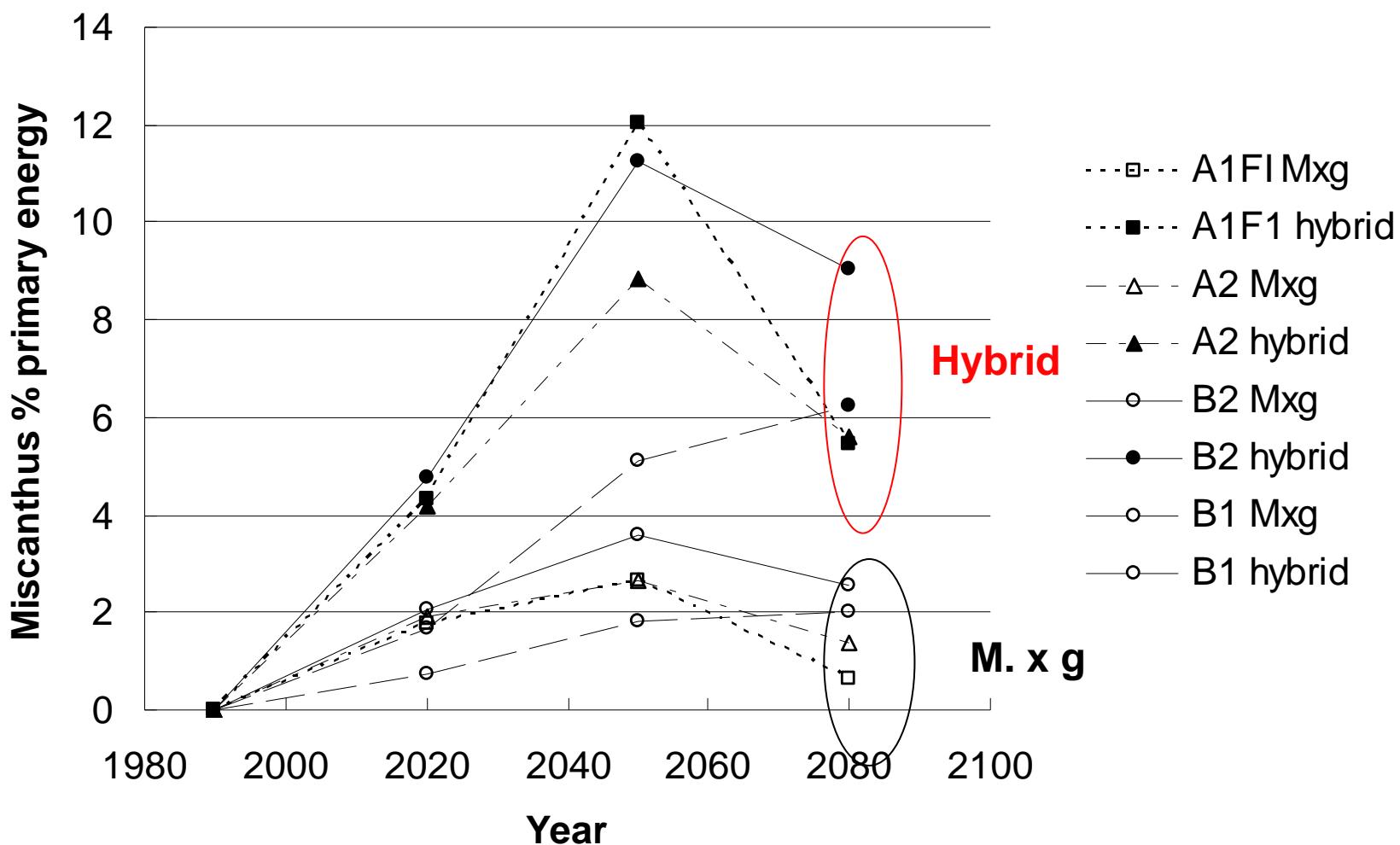


2080 Hi Tech



A2 scenario

# Potential bio-energy % European primary energy



# Conclusions

- “MiscanFor” is an improved model
- *M. x giganteus* yields will drop with climate change
- Drought resistant hybrid could provide 12% EU primary energy (7,900 PJ)
- GHG intensity is 3 g C MJ<sup>-1</sup> (18% Gas)
- 10% UK arable land produce 40,000 boed
- *Miscanthus* is a viable crop BUT..
- Requires the ‘h-tech’ hybrid.

# Acknowledgements

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- Supervisors are Prof. Pete Smith and Prof. Paul Mitchell.
- Mentors are Dr. Martin Wattenbach (School of Biological Sciences (Aberdeen)) and Dr. John Clifton Brown (The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, IGER – Aberystwyth)