

Evaluation of Anthraquinone Bird Repellent

George Linz¹, Jeff Homan¹
& Scott Werner²

¹USDA-WS-National Wildlife Research
Center, Bismarck, ND; ²USDA-WS-
NWRC, Fort Collins, CO

NWRC Avian Repellents Research

- **Evaluation and Development**
- **Application Strategies**



Avian Repellents Research – Tested Products

Registered Fungicides:

Allegiance® FL
Apron XL® LS/Maxim® 4FS
Dividend Extreme® FS
Endura®
GWN-4770
Thiram 42-S
Tilt® EC
Trilex® FL
Quadris®
Vitavax® 200

Natural Compounds:

Aza-Direct™ (neem oil)
Caffeine (plus sodium benzoate)
Flock Buster (lemon grass oil, garlic oil, clove oil, peppermint oil, rosemary oil, thyme oil, white pepper)
Gander Gone (citrus terpenes)
9, 10 Anthraquinone™ (Seed treatment and Foliar formulations; a.i. 50% 9-10 anthraquinone)

Registered Insecticides:

Asana XL®
Baythroid 2®
Cobalt™
Endosulfan 3EC®
Karate® with Zeon Technology™
Lorsban-4E®
MustangMAX™
Scout X-TRA®
Warrior T®

Anthraquinone Experiments

- **Cage Experiments –**
 - **single birds**
- **Enclosure Experiments**
 - **known number of birds**
- **Field Experiments**
 - **variable numbers of birds**

Avian Repellents Research- cages

Lab Efficacy Testing

Preference Testing

10-12 birds

4-day choice test

untreated versus treated food

Concentration-response Testing

50-60 birds, 5-6 groups

4-day pretreatment & test

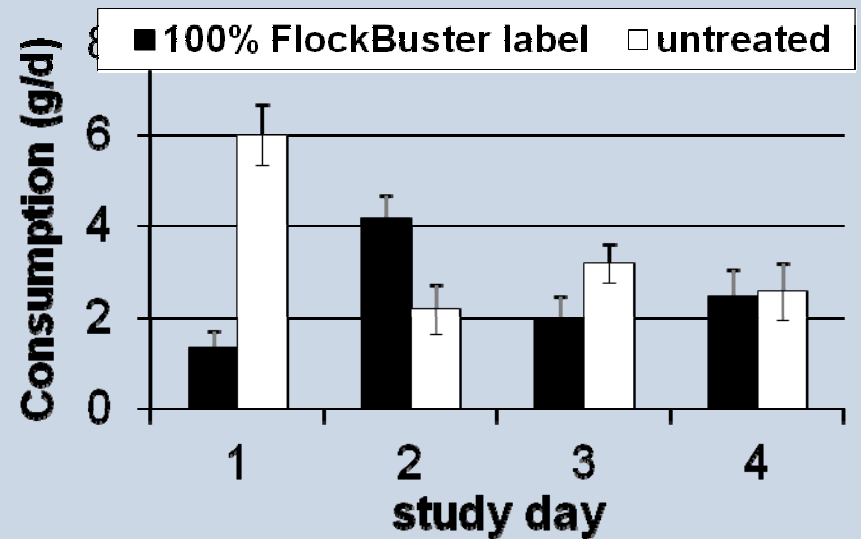
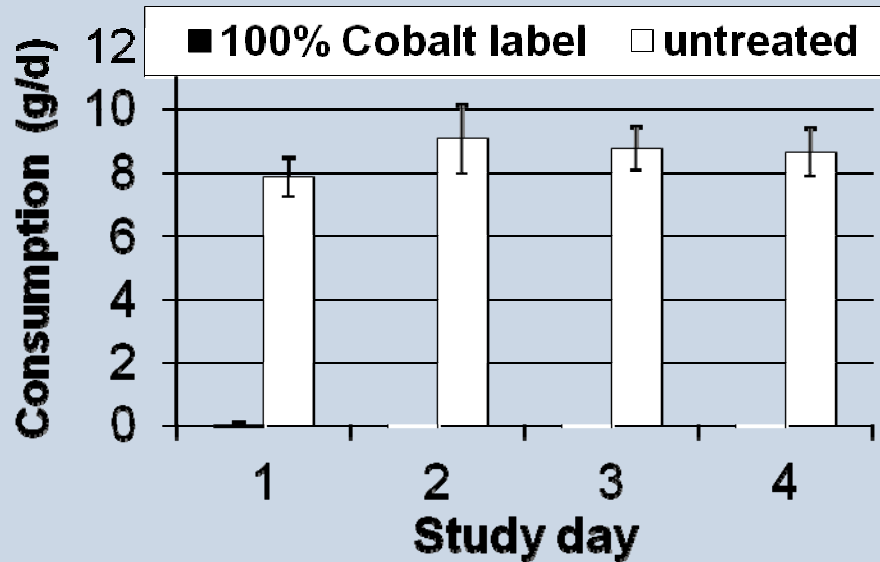
5-6 concentrations tested



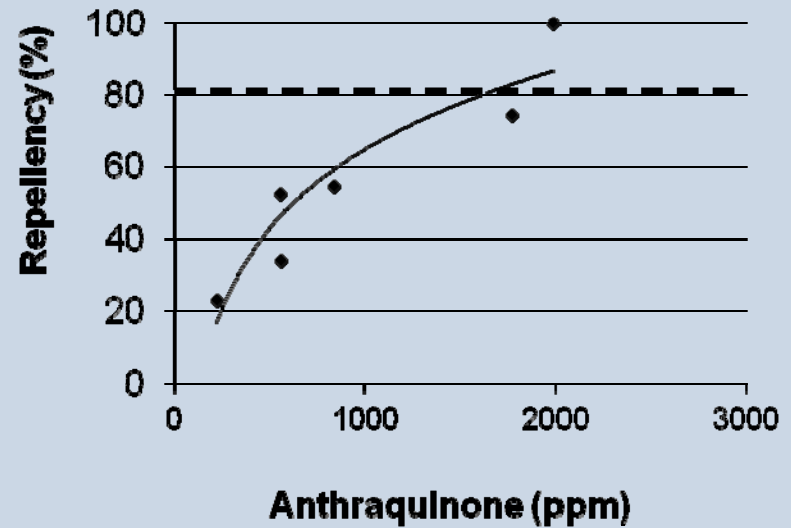
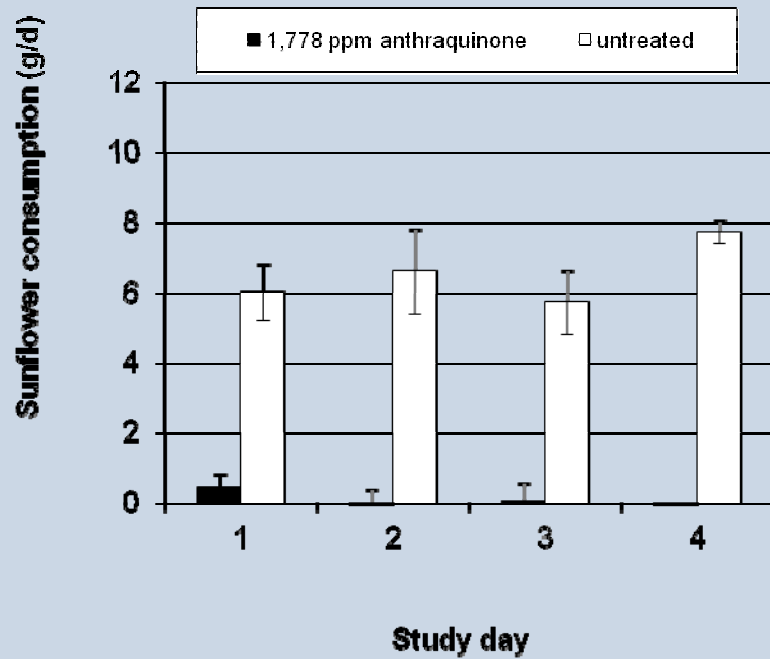
NWRC Outdoor Animal Research Facility
Fort Collins, CO



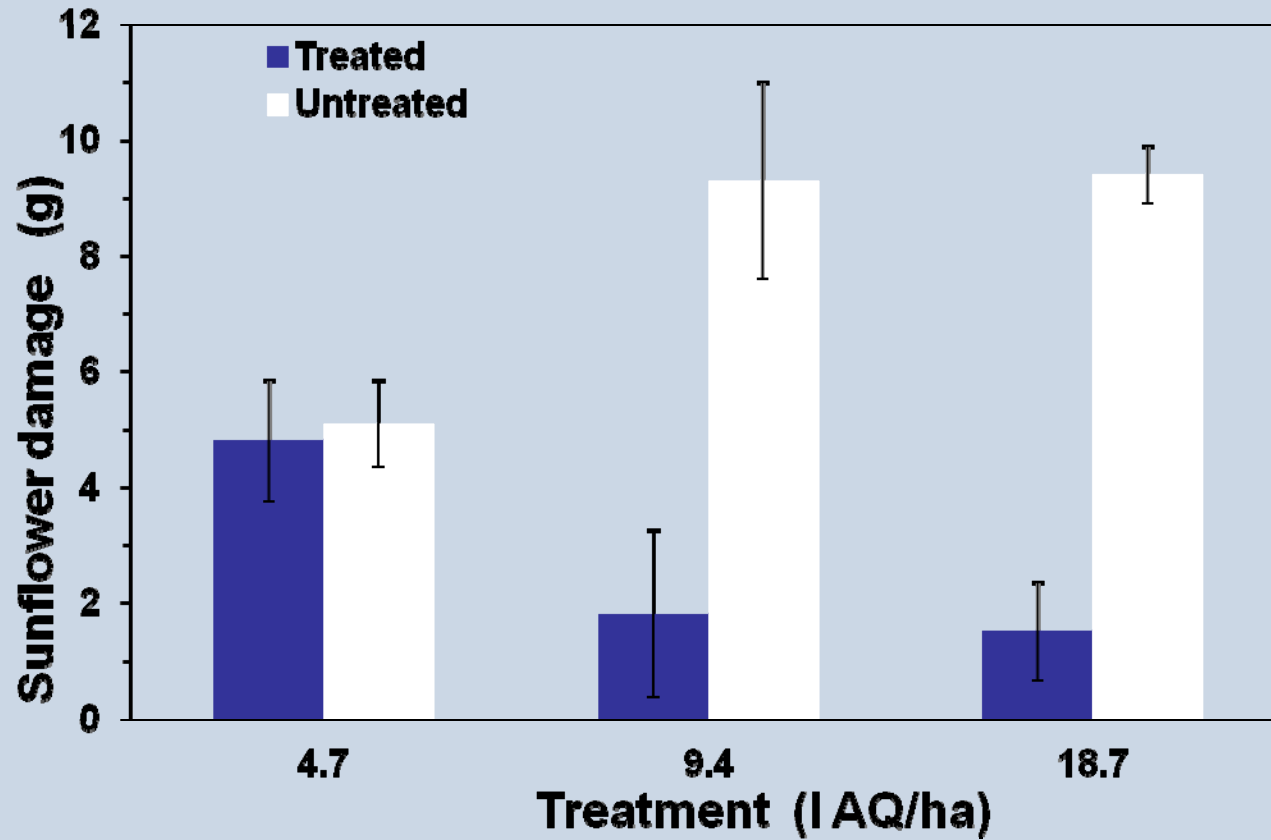
Cobalt™ and Flockbuster



Anthraquinone lab efficacy- RWBL



Back of the Head AQ Study

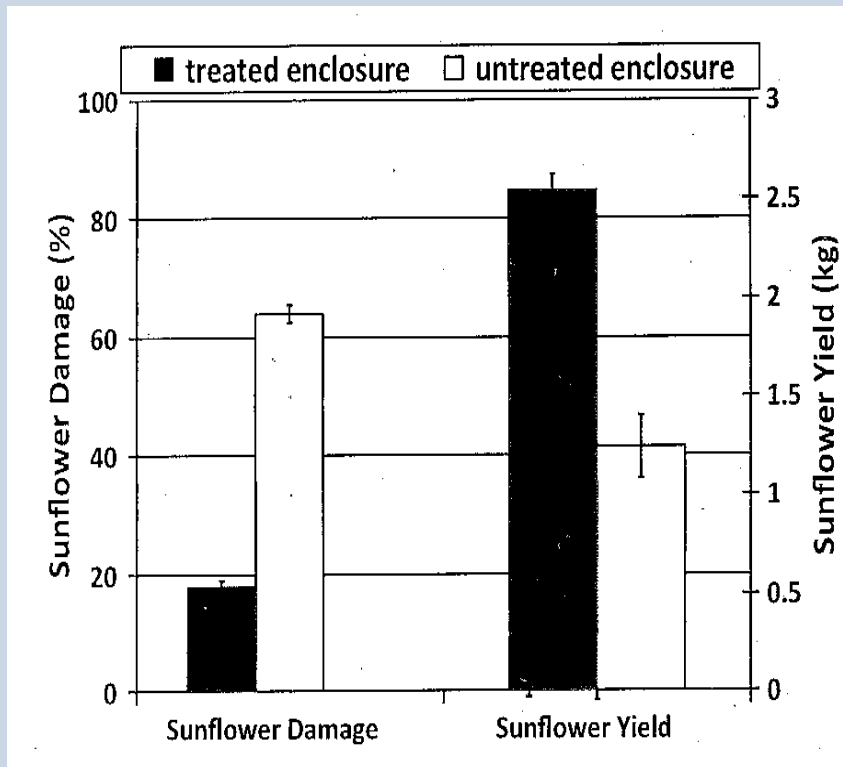


Avian Repellents Research- Enclosures

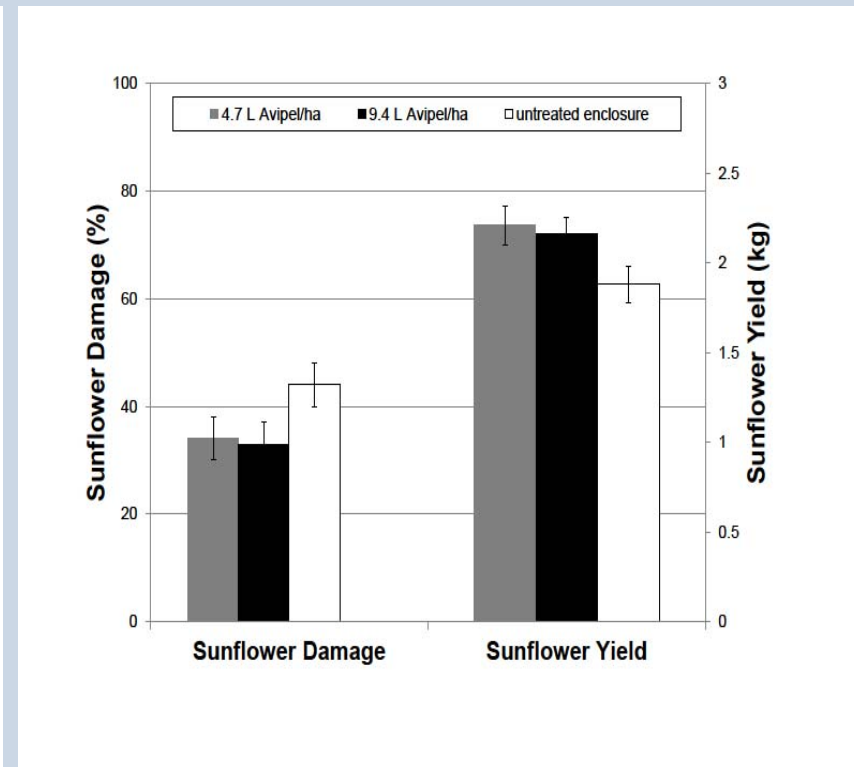


AQ Enclosure Studies

Grackles (18 I/ha)



Redwings 4.7 I/ha & 9.4 I/ha



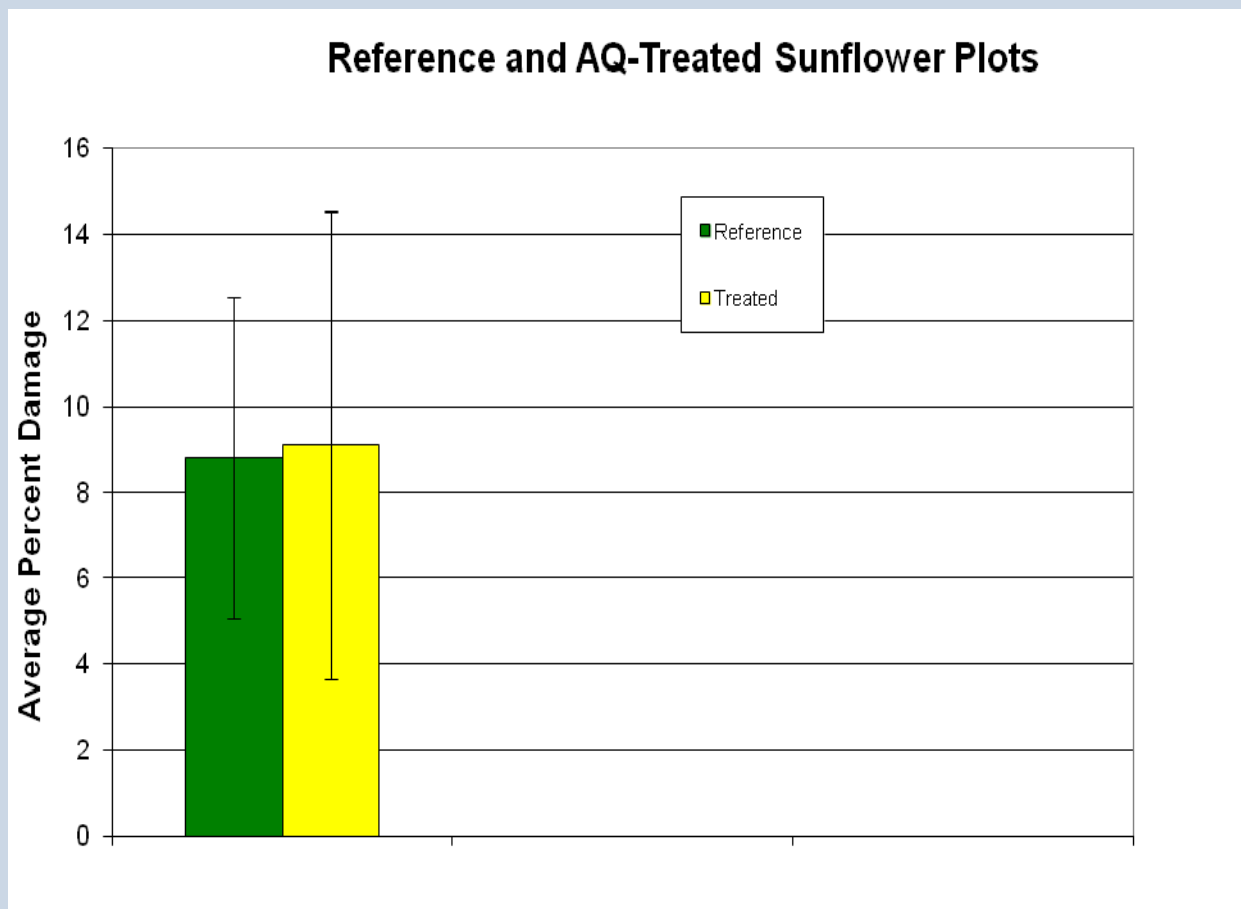
AQ Field Study - Aerial Application



Blackbirds in Wetland Adjacent to Test Strips



Results – AQ Field Study (9.4 l/ha)



Application of AQ



Aerial Application



High Boy



Hand spray

High Boys in Sunflower?

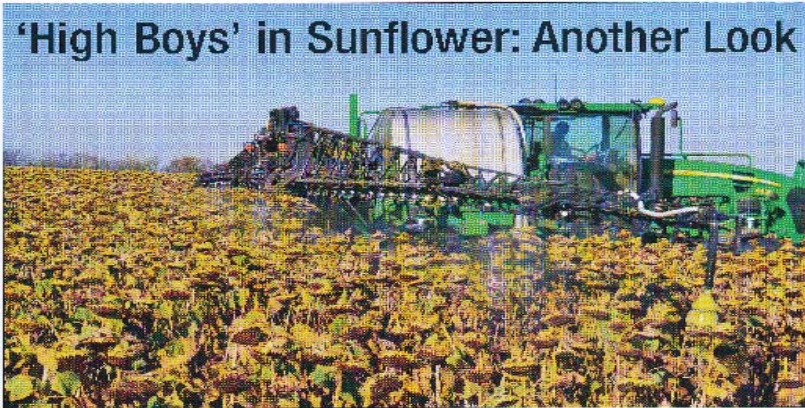


Photo: Sarah Millity

'High Boys' in Sunflower: Another Look

To desiccate or not to desiccate? The question lingers on the minds of many producers as harvest approaches each year. "There's a general stop out there this year," noted Washburn, N.D., agronomy specialist, Darrell Schetsky in early October. "There's more of an 'ear live' or 'mature' this year."

Causing that good crop means being proactive and taking action. The agronomy sector in Washburn, North Dakota, helps out area growers with its new 4830 John Deere High-Clearance sprayer. With a 100' boom and fully equipped GPS technology, the operator guides the spraying, wheel with the effort, and the satellites take care of the rest. The sprayer adjusts the flow and output of chemical, allowing the booms to step incrementally and avoid spraying the same area twice. This also saves the farmer in product cost.

Favorable early fall weather allowed the Washburn-based agronomy team to desiccate a number of sunflower fields this season. Among them were those of Washburn area producer Terry Carlson. He hired the team to spray all of his 530 acres of oil sunflower this season in stages so that his "lower harvest would fall into manageable intervals.

When he was done, after he had harvested about 220 of his sunflower acres, Carlson expressed pleasure with his yields. He had some currow, insects and emergence problems early in this sea-



son, but was looking forward to ending the season with a profitable crop. Carlson has desiccated his sunflower for past three years and says the practice has been very beneficial by helping him get the crop off early while preserving yield potential.

Getting the sunflower crop off early with the aid of a desiccant can pay good dividends for numerous growers. With today's grain values, getting the crop harvested a few weeks early can result in higher yields and lower drying costs. Late-season crop damage is well recognized when strong winds can lodge plants

on the seeds from heads. Blackbird damage can be reduced, and desiccation may also slow down head diseases such as Sclerotinia. Sometimes the market will pay a premium for early delivered seed.

These are all positives for the grower, especially when faced with a favorable crop marketing for the year.

Carlson has utilized both aerial and ground desiccant applications in the past, depending on what he's looking for in protection. "You have to be patient," he notes. "I use Roundup simply because it gives an overall coverage in one pass."



Future AQ Research

- **Rat Cancer Data Submitted to EPA**
 - **2012**
 - **18 l/ha Aerial Application**
 - **4 ha Crop Destruct**
 - **2013**
 - **Experimental Use Permit**
 - **200 ha (500 ac)**
 - **Aerial & Ground Application**

End Game

- ✓ **Desiccants**
- ✓ **Frightening Devices**
 - **Short Sunflowers?**
- ✓ **Cattail Roost Management**
 - **Chemical Repellents**
 - **Conservation Food Plots**
 - **Perennial Sunflower**



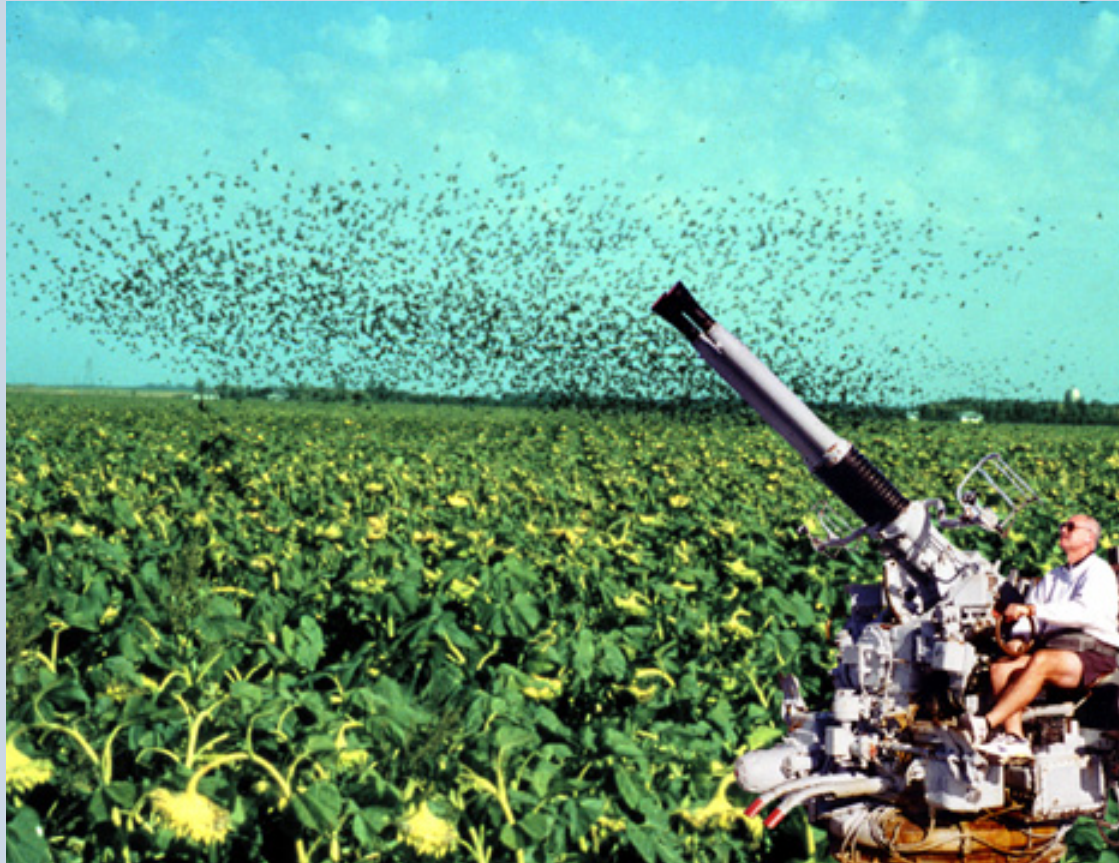
Literature

**Linz, G.M., Homan, H.J., Werner, S.J.,
Hagy, H.H. and Bleier, W.J. 2011.
Assessment of bird-management
strategies to protect sunflowers.
BioScience 61: 960–970.**

Acknowledgements

- **Turtle Lake Sunflower Growers**
- **National Sunflower Association**
- **Arkion Life Science, LLC**
- **North Dakota State University**
- **USDA-ARS**
- **Sprayers, Inc**
- **NWRC – Fort Collins**

Thank You!



United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Wildlife Services
NWRC
National Wildlife Research Center