

From Lab to Land

*Promoting the adoption of row planting to
teff farmers in Ethiopia*

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What?

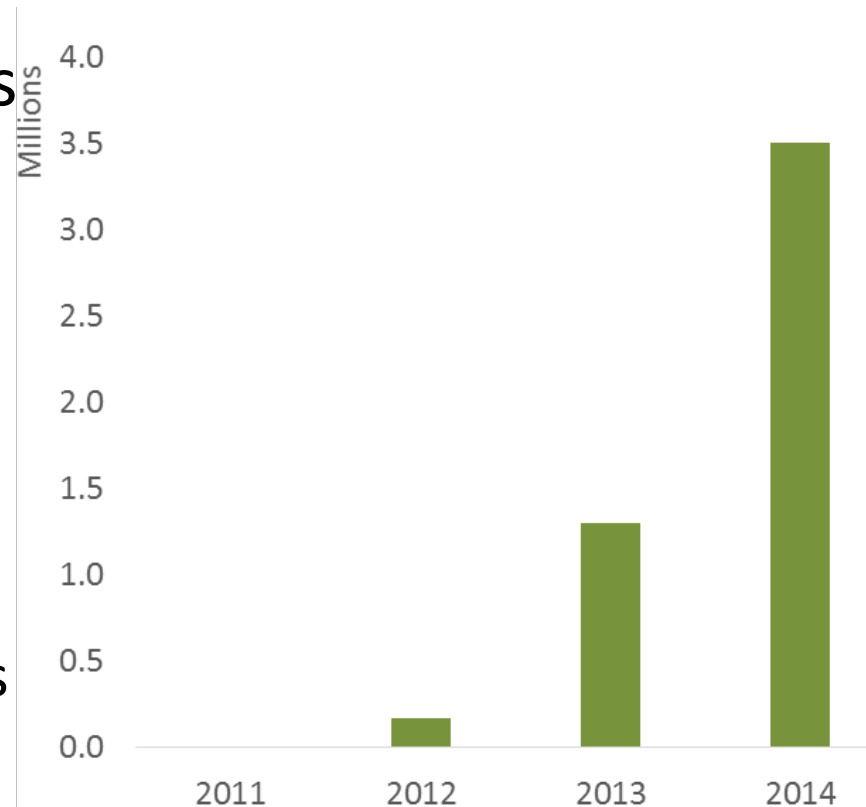
- Teff production
 - Major food crop but low yield
 - Transformation Agenda
 - Traditional broadcasting

- System of Teff Intensification (STI)
 - Row sowing at reduced seed rate
 - Complex technology



Why?

- On-station experimental trials
 - Debre-Zeit Agricultural Research Center
 - Doubling of teff yields
- On-field demonstration trials
 - Farmer Training Centers
 - 65 - 70% yield increase over national average
- TIRR package
 - National extension system
 - Rollout to >3M model farmers

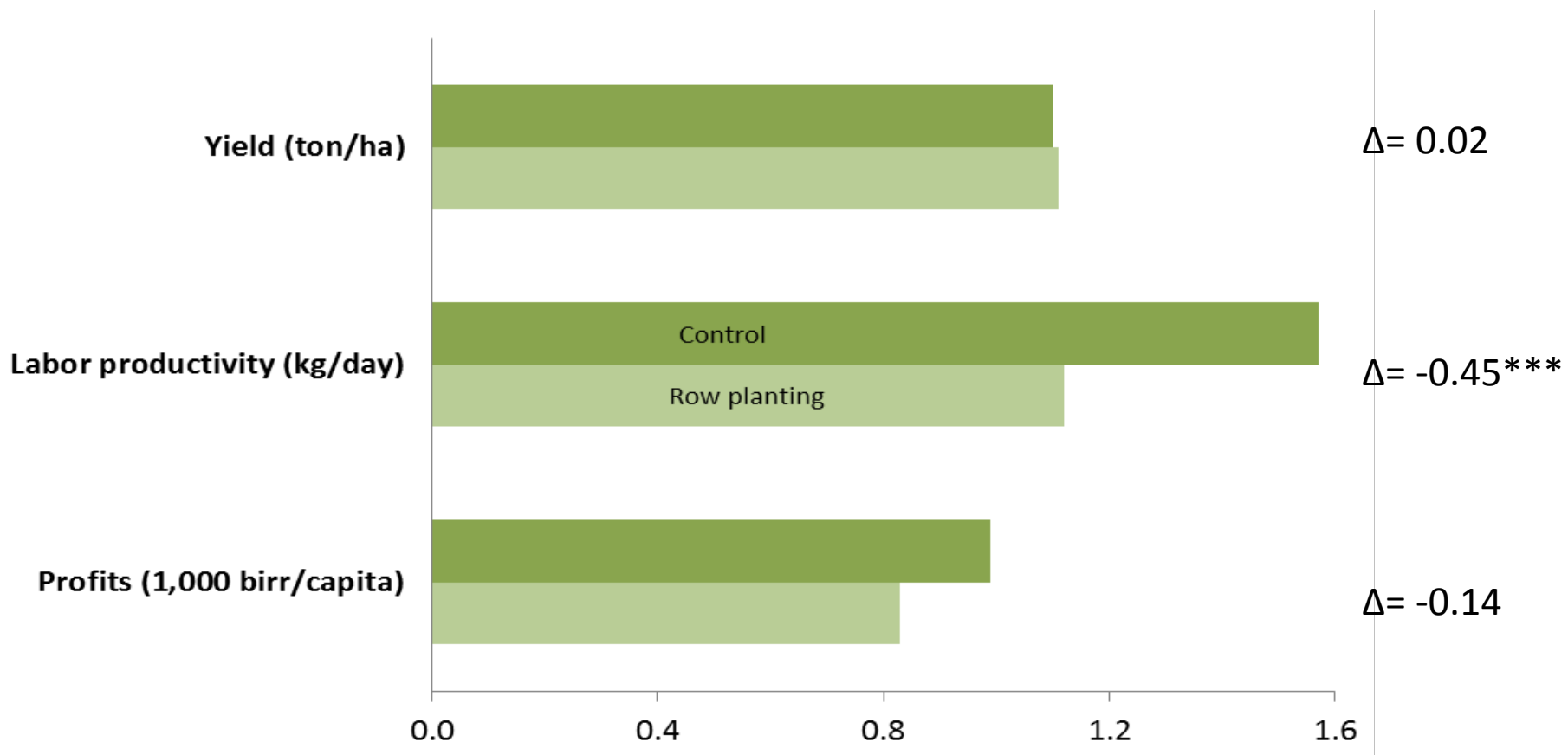


But...

- Limited scientific evidence
 - Agronomic evidence?
 - Farm level evidence?
 - Profitability impacts?
- Impact evaluation
 - Pre-scale-up phase (2012)
 - Experiment under farmers' conditions
 - Randomization (toss of a coin):
 - Farmer selection
 - Technology assignment



Farm level impact



Yield gap

- Implementation issues in promotion
 - Delivery of inputs
 - Quality of extension
- Implementation issues in adoption
 - Seed rate, number of rows, ...
 - Heterogeneous effects
- Appropriateness of row planting
 - Labor cost
 - Marginal seed reduction

Policy implications

- Understanding adoption process
 - Assessment of constraints
 - Learning by doing
 - Alternative extension approaches
- Political agronomy
 - Policy based on limited evidence
 - Right place, right time but wrong solution?
 - Rigorous evidence before up-scale

Reality...

