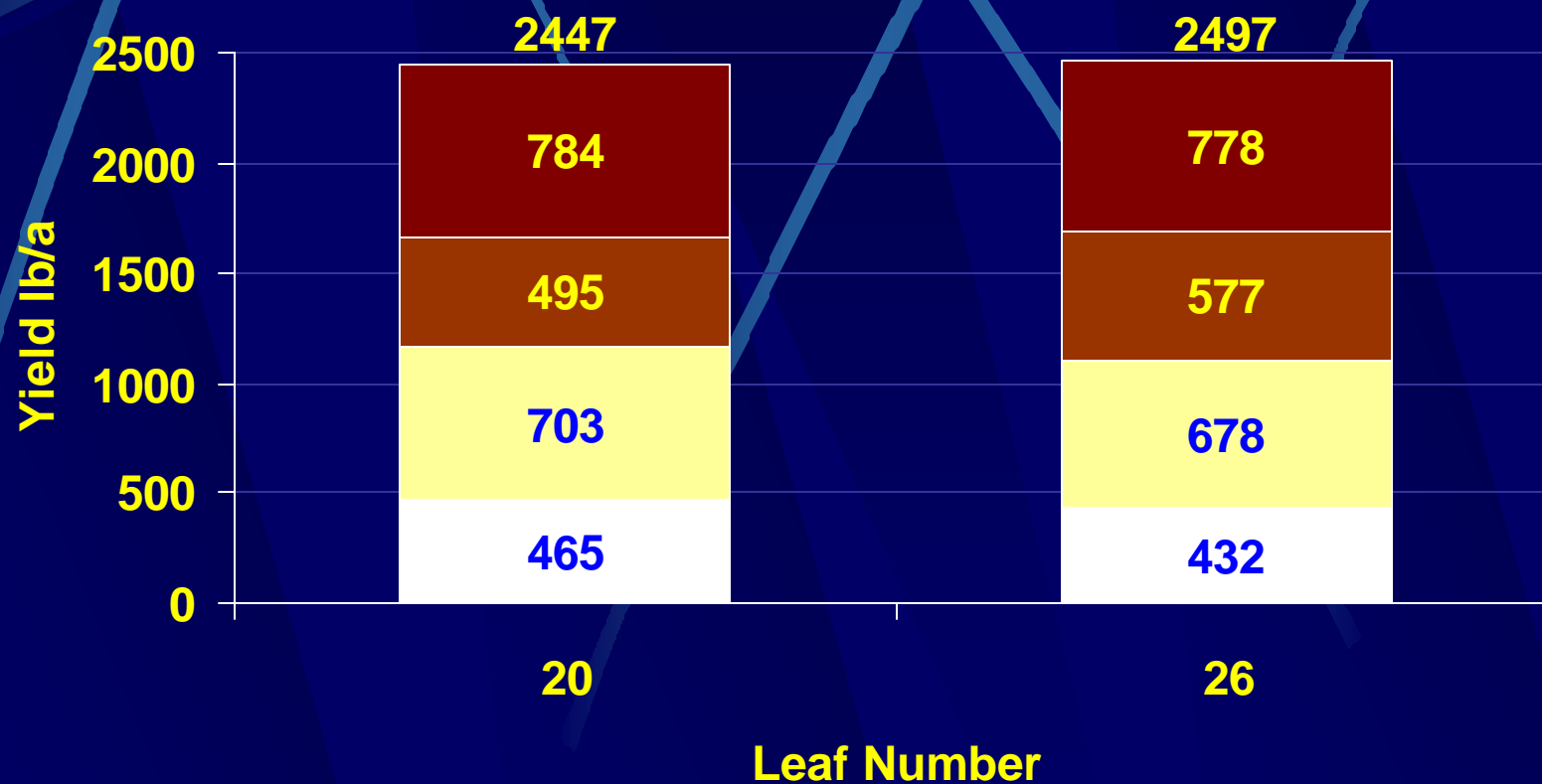


Topping Studies

Market trends point to a demand for more tips and topping higher. Tobacco topped to 26 leaves was compared with 20 leaves and yielded 50 lb/a more in Lawrence Co., but was equal in Allen Co. On average 26 leaves out yield 20 leaves by 87 lb/a. Yield per leaf however is dramatically lower at the 26 leaf topping height. A look at some costs associated with a higher leaf number indicates that the added yield in most cases will offset the added costs.

Effects of Topping Height on Yield

Lawrence Co. – Malcom Smith Farm



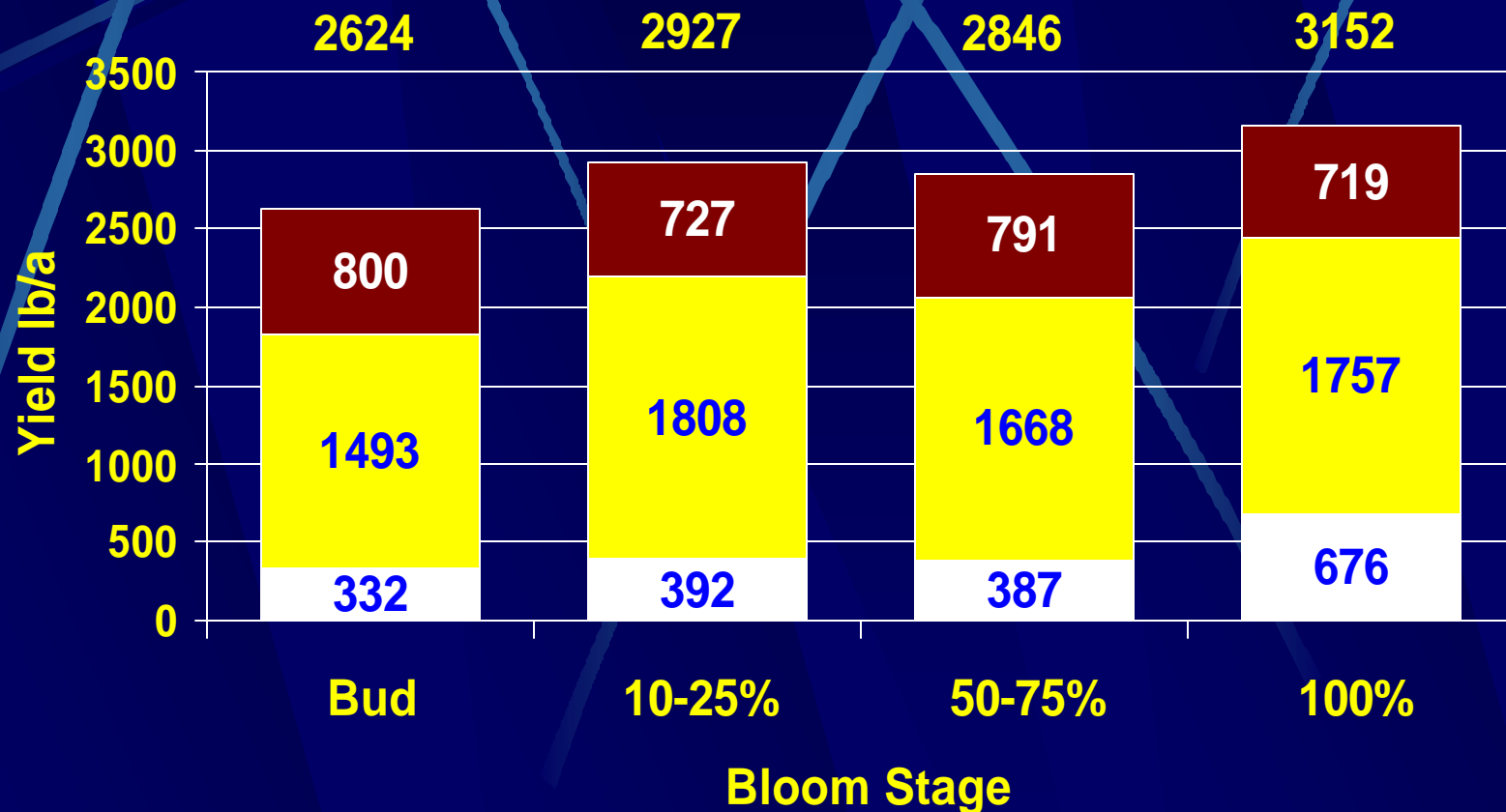
HSD 0.05 = 58 114 108 227 392

Topping Study Labor Comparisons

Lawrence Co. – Malcom Smith Farm



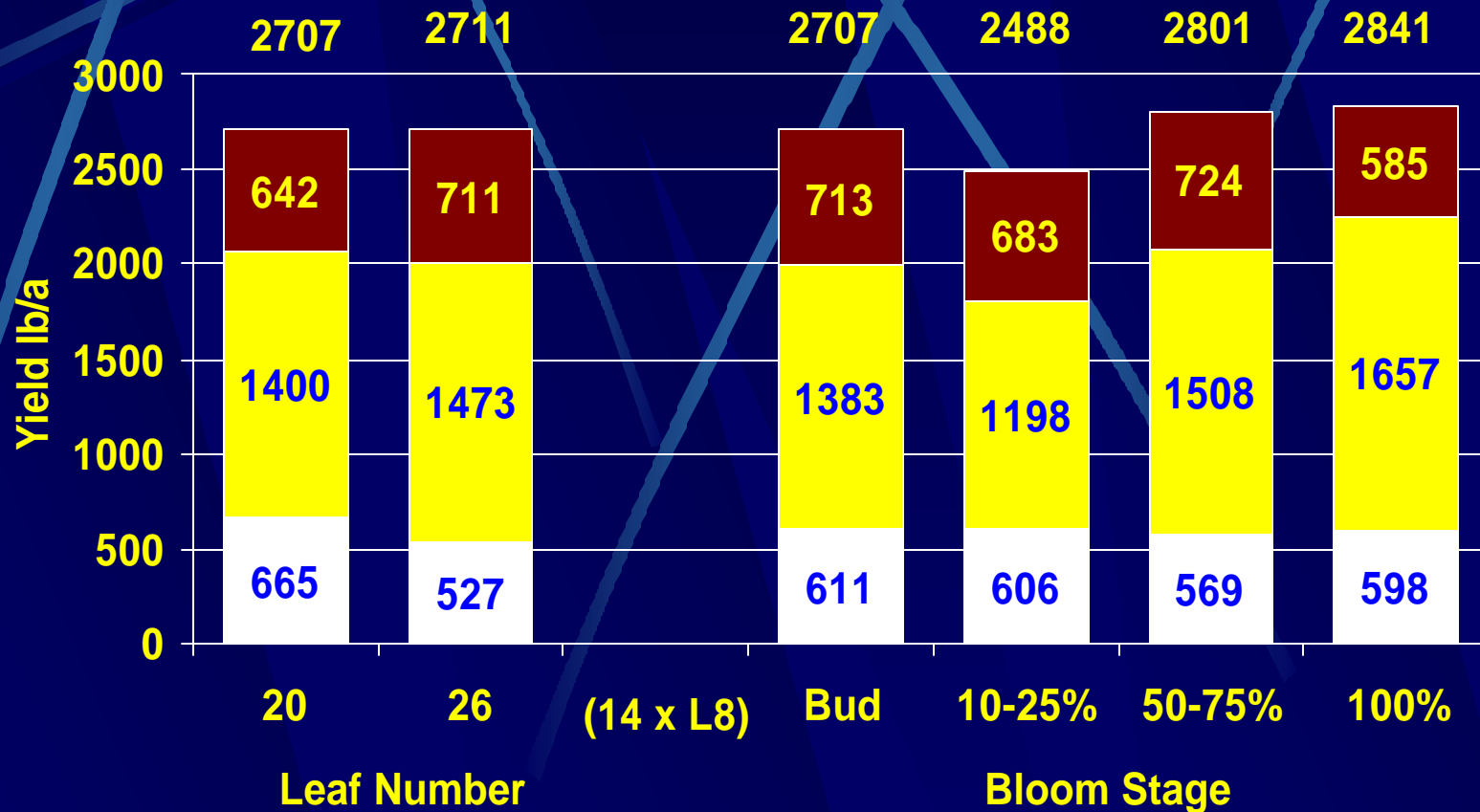
Effects of Topping Height and Timing on Yield Allen Co. – Mike Brown Farm



TN 90

HSD 0.05 = 340 508 312 390

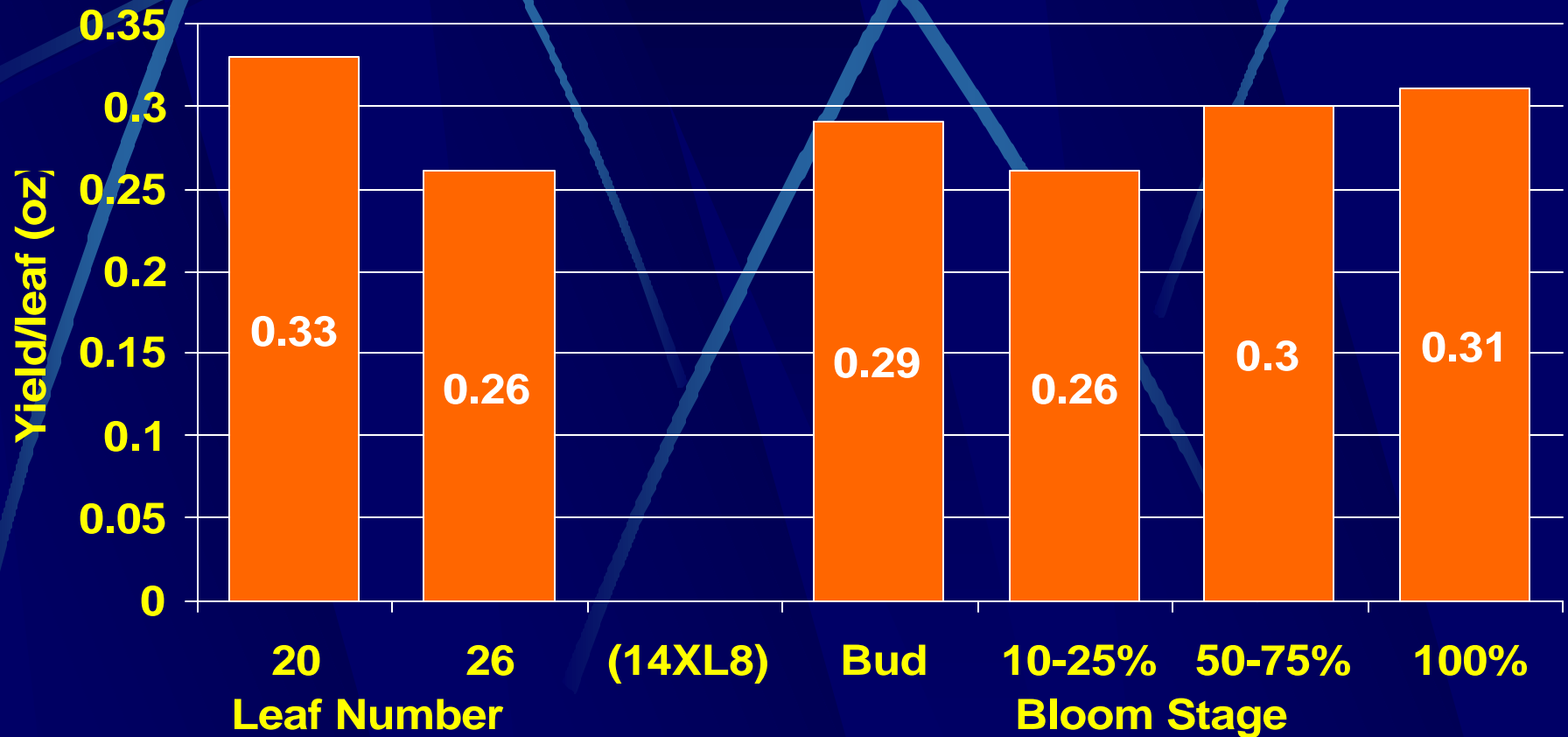
Effects of Topping Height and Timing on Yield Allen Co. – Mike Brown Farm



HSD 0.05 = 184 438 173 457

241 401 210 453

Effects of Topping Height and Timing on Yield per Leaf Allen Co. – Mike Brown Farm



HSD

0.05 = 0.025

.0475