



# Heat treatment of Mills & Storage structures

**IAOM Western District Meeting**

**Spokane, WA**

**July 21-23, 2021**

**Dr. Raj Hulasare**

**Scientist & Product Manager,**

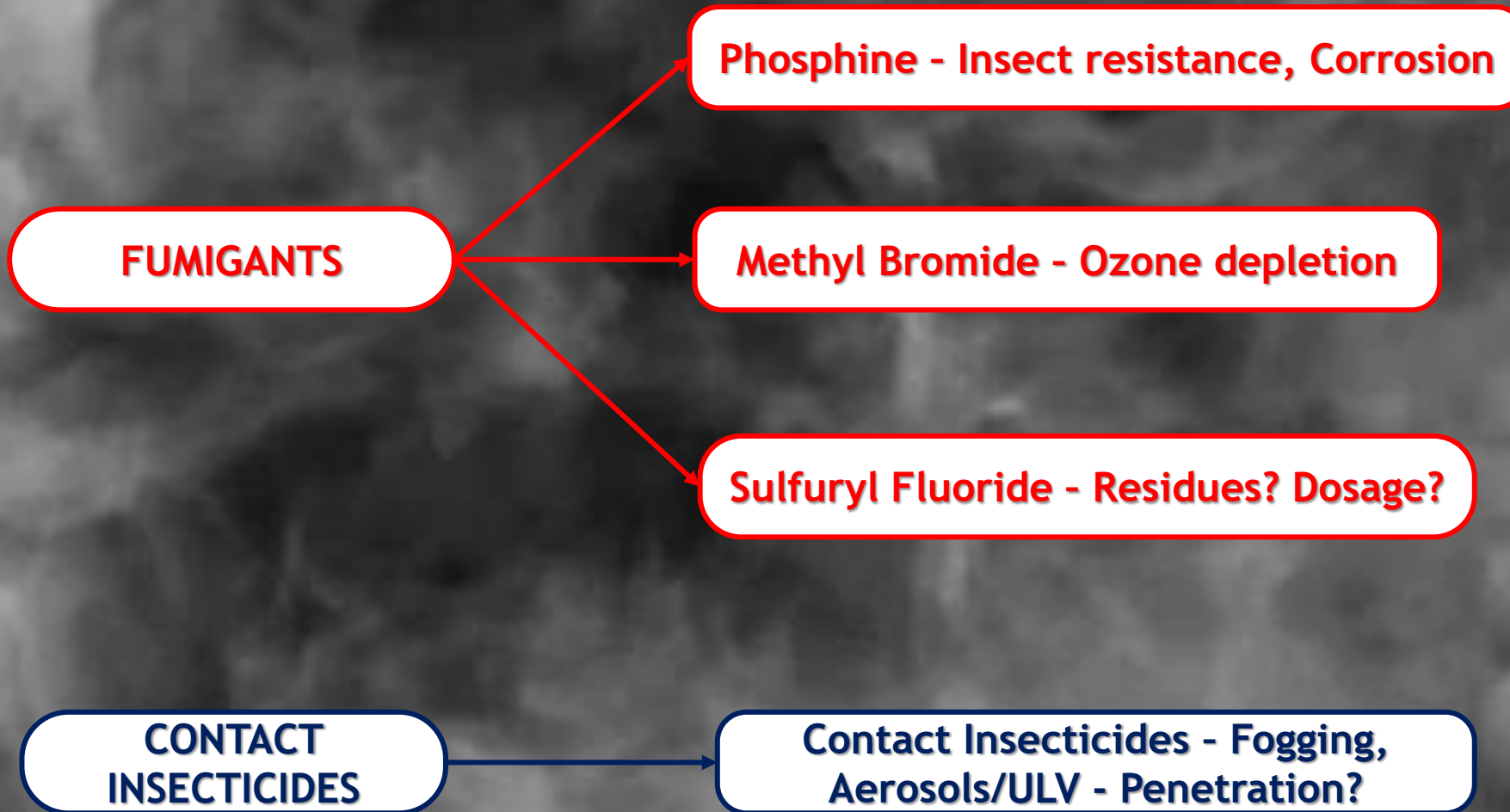
**Thermal Remediation**

**Sunbelt Rentals**

**Burnsville, MN, USA**



# Structural Fumigation



# Back to Basics

## First Use of Heat

258 Years Ago . . .

**In 1762 – France: 69°C/ 156°F for 3 d, moth**

# Heat treatment of Mills

**>100** Years Ago . . .

**1913 - Kansas, Mid-West USA, Southern Canada**



# Heat in mills to control insects

## > 100 Years ago.....Manhattan, Kansas

40

JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC ENTOMOLOGY

[Vol. 6

February, '13]

### FURTHER DATA ON HEAT AS A MEANS OF CONTROLLING MILL INSECTS

By P.

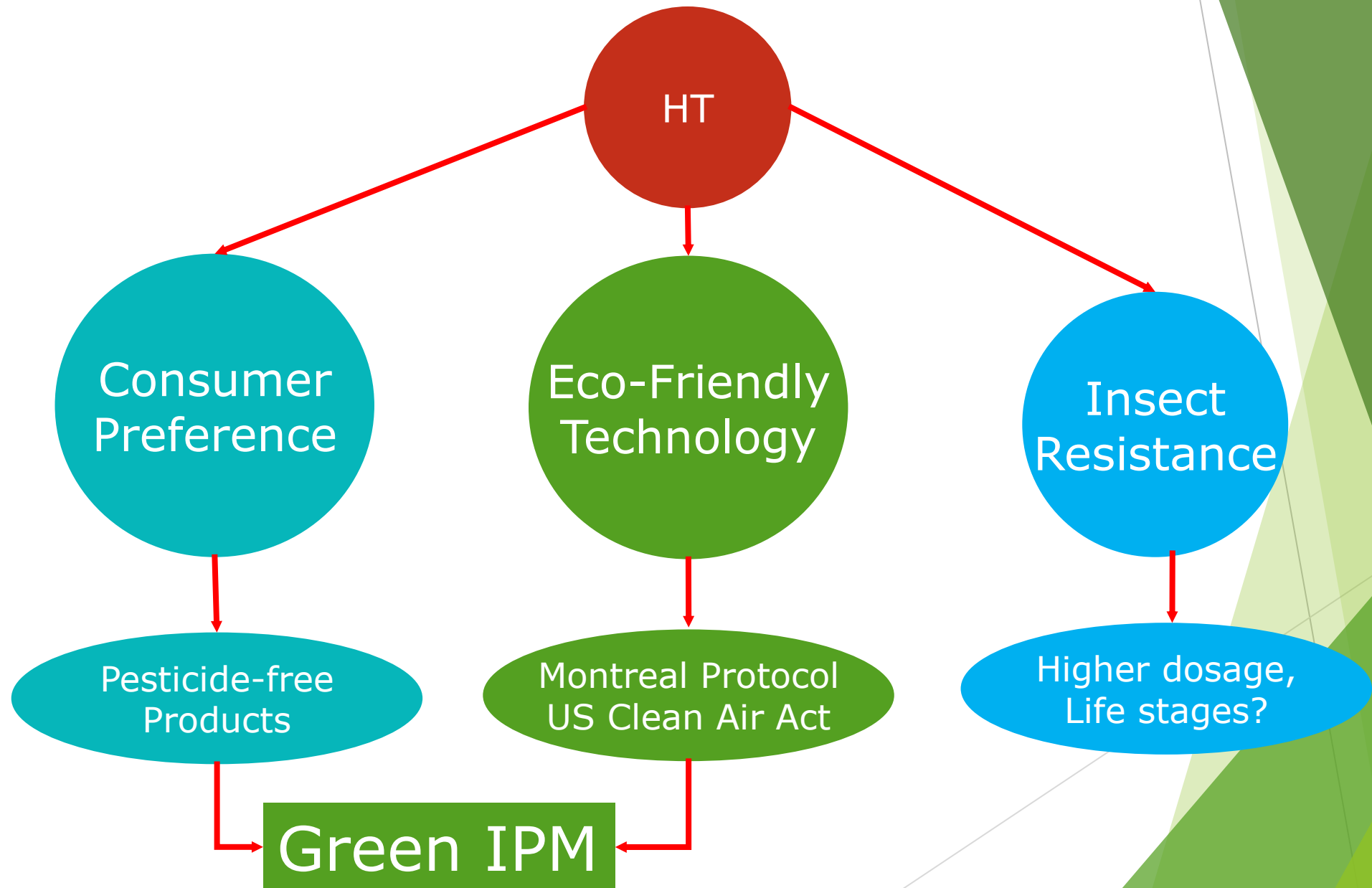
...In Kansas the heating of more than twenty mills has absolutely proven that no stage of insect, even in the most inaccessible places, could withstand the heat....February, 1913

it was still in the experimental stage. Now, after years this method has been so developed that now a large number of mill men are satisfied that it is the only practical and efficient method at present known of completely controlling all classes of mill-infesting insects. In Kansas the heating of more than twenty mills has absolutely proven that no stage of an insect, even in the most inaccessible places, could withstand the heat, and several flour mills in Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, southern Canada, and elsewhere, have corroborated the practicability and the efficiency of heat as a means of controlling mill insects.

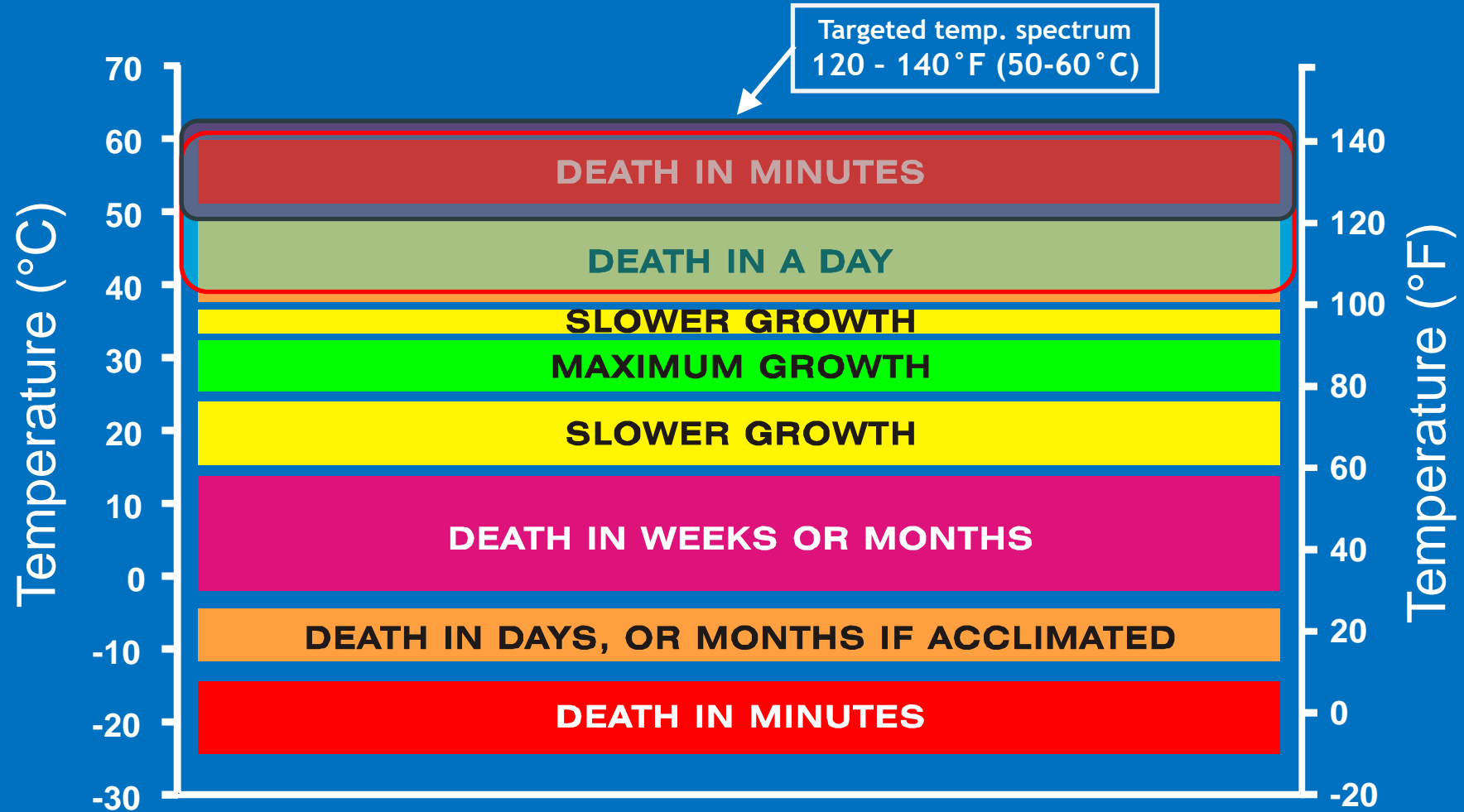
No mill could and yet a few insect infestation fumigation was in sufficient without any the mill, the until nearly \$ that far more much as the live Mediterranean was satisfied. Later addition most effective

No. 2. Dutton, Kansas, of the fumigation of three days common mill European flour

# Drivers - Heat Treatment (HT)?



# Temperature Effects on Insects

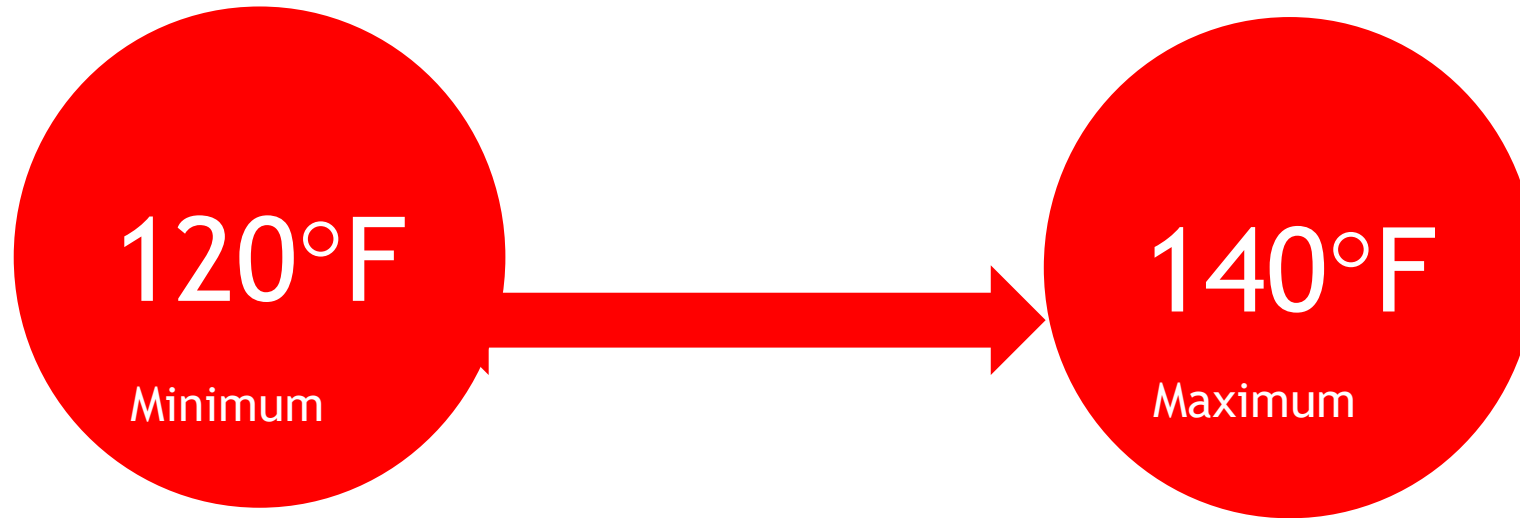


**WINTERPEG!!**

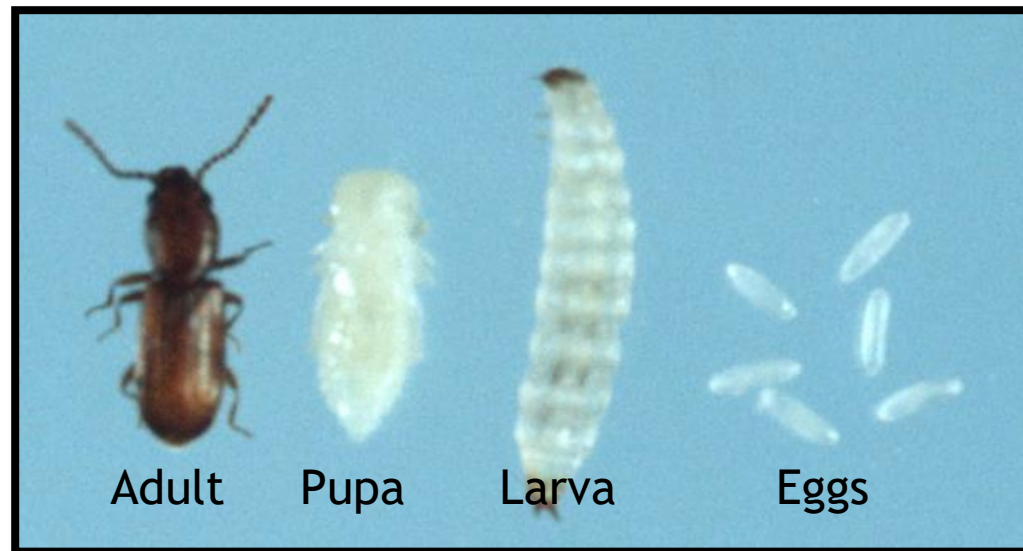
Source: P. Fields, AAFC, Canada



# Heat treatment Concept



Kills **ALL** Stages of Insect Life Cycle



# Heat - Advantages



## • safe • effective • eco-friendly

- Non-Chemical
- People-Safe

- Kills all life stages

- No ozone depletion
- No Toxicity or
- Corrosion issues

Can go inside for inspections DURING the heat treatment

- No evacuation of People • No Sealing • Spot Treatments

# Efficacy to Control Pests

- MBr – Methyl bromide
- $\text{PH}_3$  - Phosphine
- SF (Profume)
- $\text{CO}_2$  – Carbon dioxide
- $\text{O}_3$  - Ozone

. . . . .

**Efficacy – function of temperature – Winter fumigation?**

**Heat treatments – Throughout the year!**

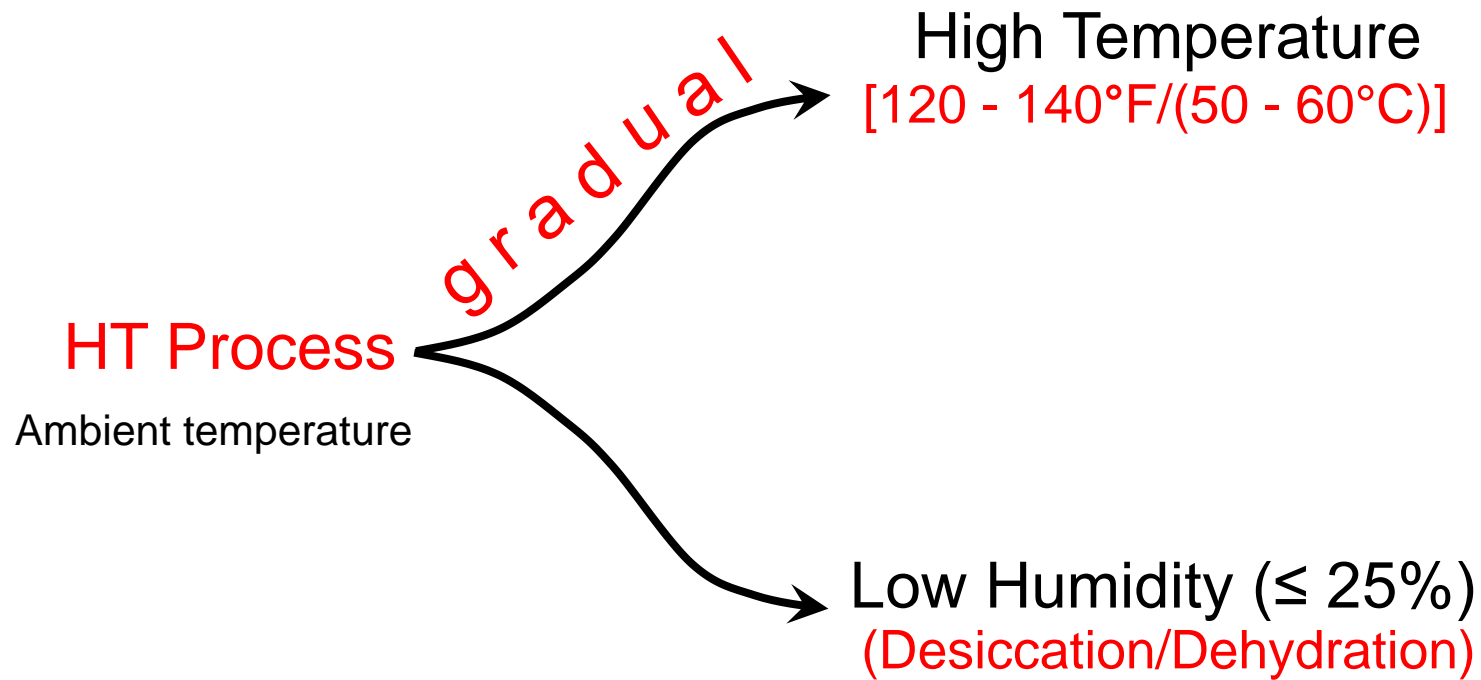
# Christmas Heat treatment - December Snowing!



Outside temperature: 26-30°F/ -1 to -3°C



# Heat Treatment



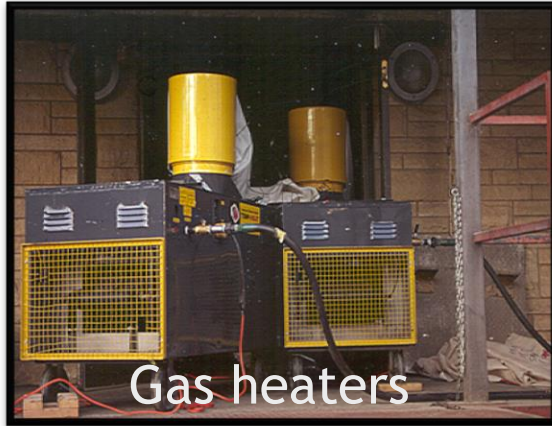
**Insect Death by Dehydration (low RH)/desiccation**

# Heat & Insect Death

- **High temperature** –
  - Death by Dehydration (low RH)/desiccation
- **Above 50 °C / 120 °F**
  - Cell membranes “melt”
  - Enzyme destruction
  - Change in salt balance
  - Protein coagulation



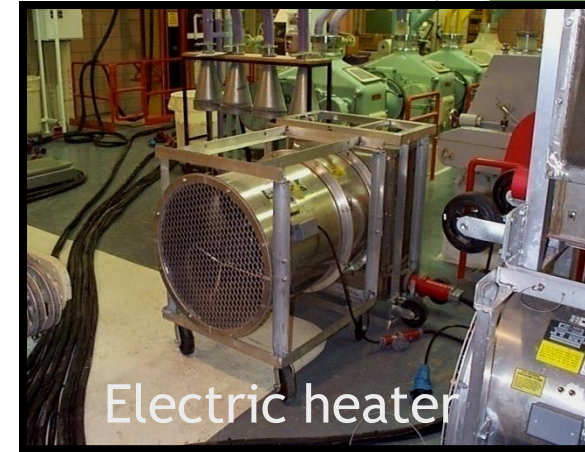
**Heat treatment concept:** Raising the ambient air temperature of the complete facility, or a part of it, to 50-60°C (122-140°F), and maintaining these temperatures for at least 24 hours



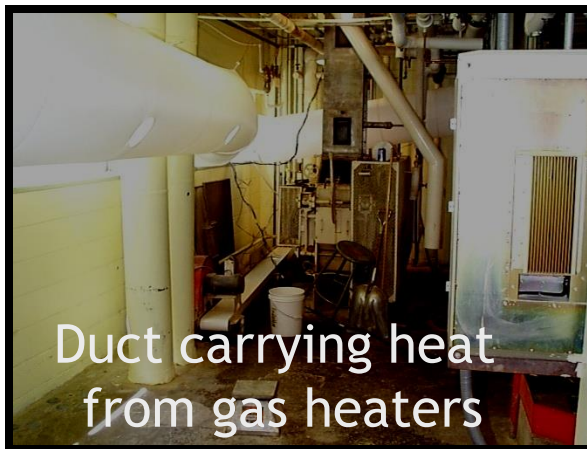
Gas heaters



Steam heater



Electric heater

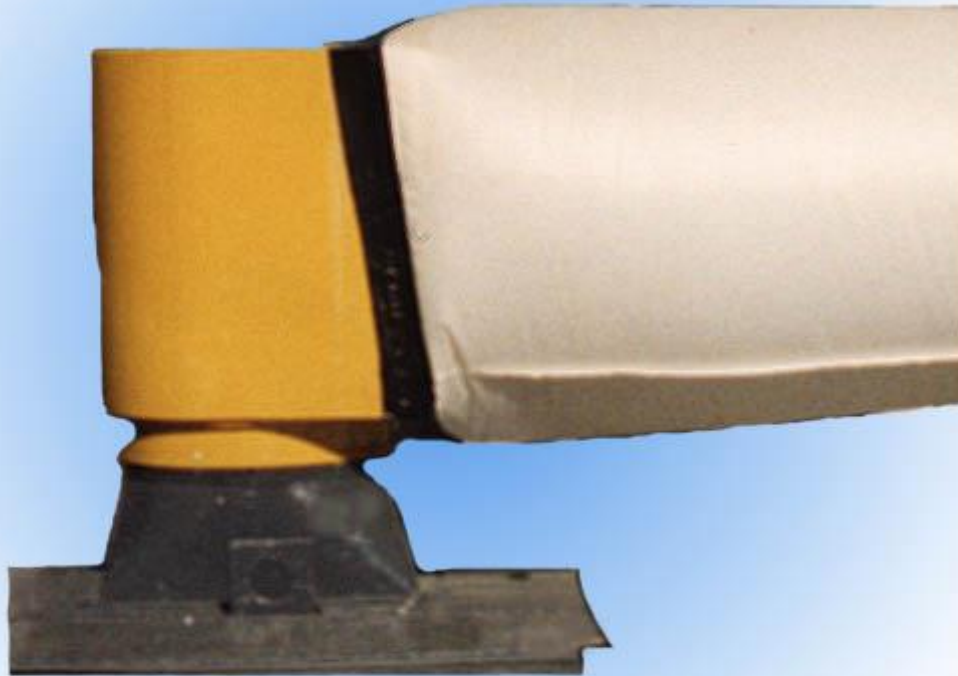


Duct carrying heat from gas heaters

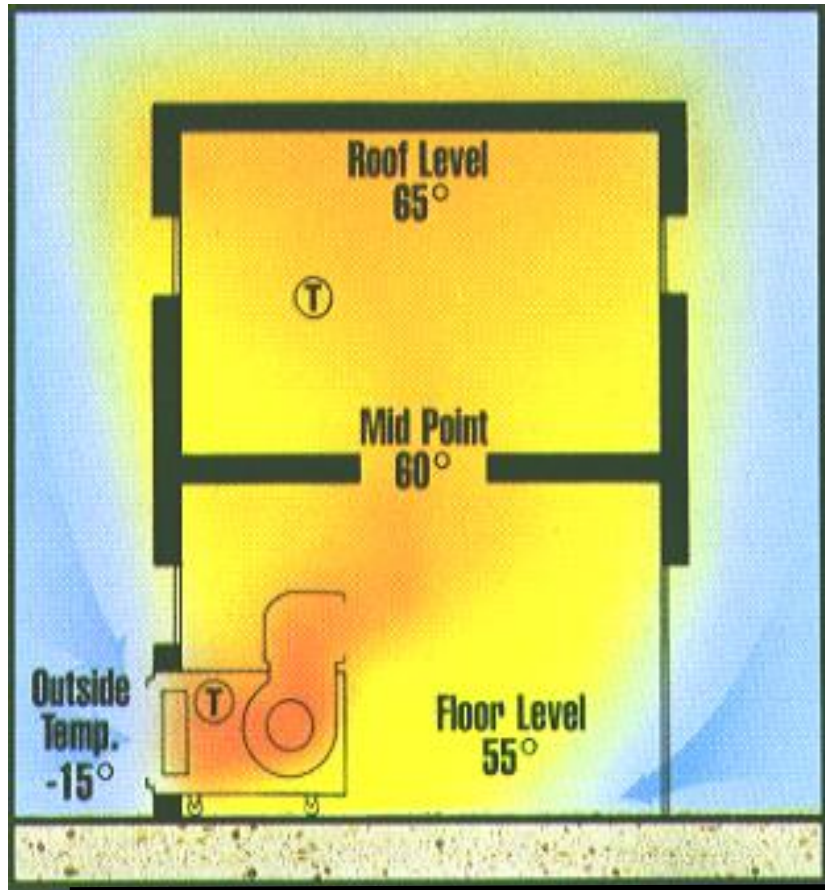


Fan

# Process



# Positive Pressurization – Forced ambient air (Patented Process)

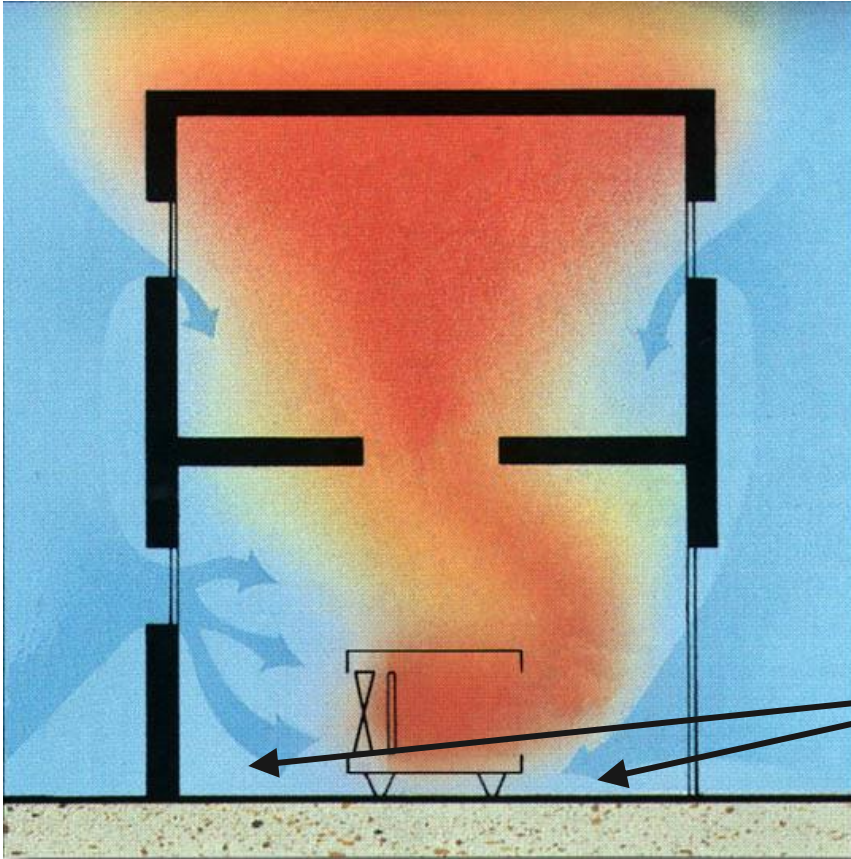


## US & Canadian Patents

- Positive pressure
  - Good air distribution
  - Hot air is pushed into corners, cracks and crevices
- Calculated and controlled infiltration - air changes
- Lower relative humidity



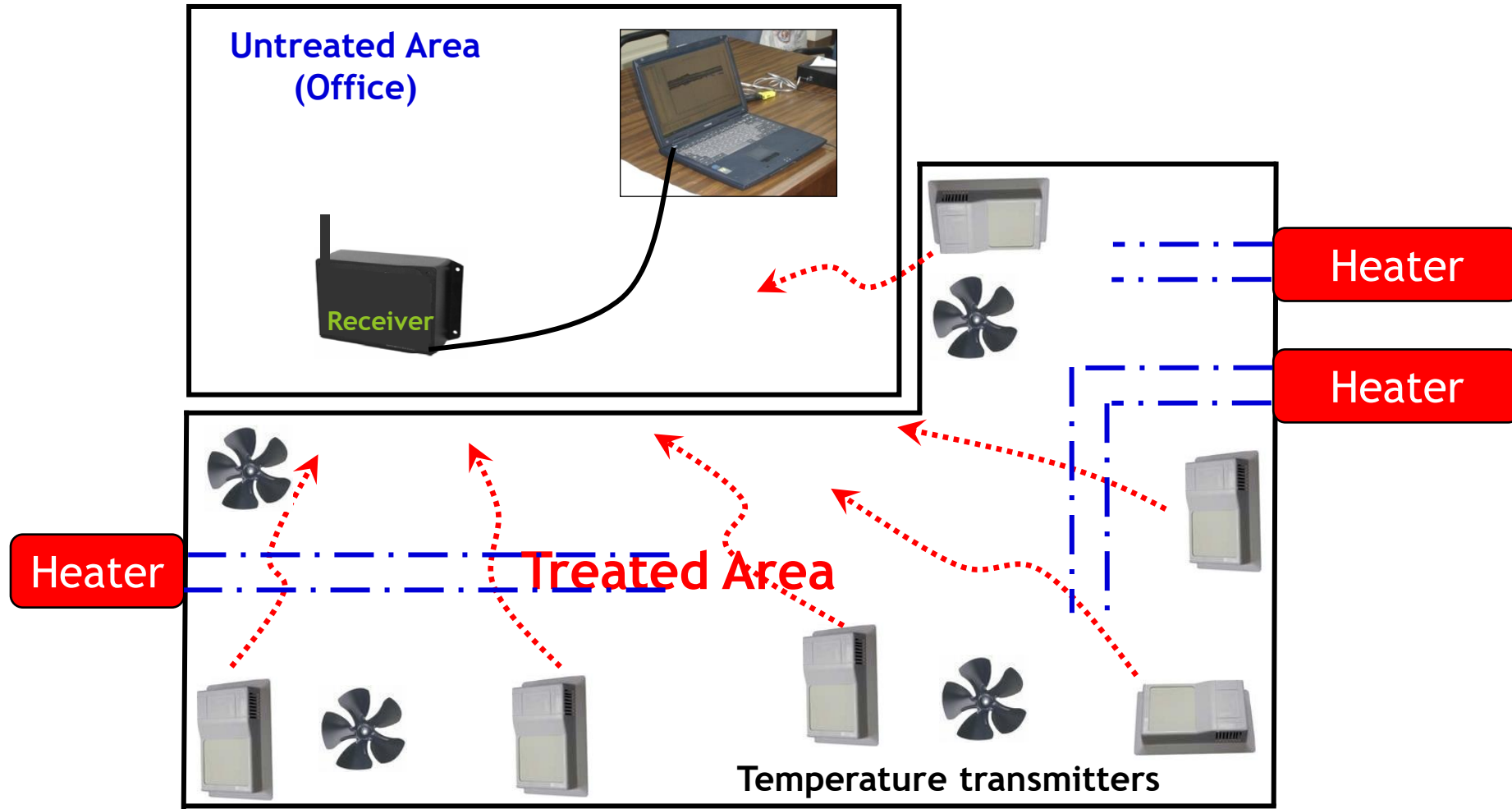
# Re-circulating Inside Air



- Negative pressure
- Poor air circulation
- Uncontrolled infiltration
  - No air changes

Low temperature zones  
(cold spots)

# Real-time Wireless Temperature Monitoring



# Start of the Heat Treatment

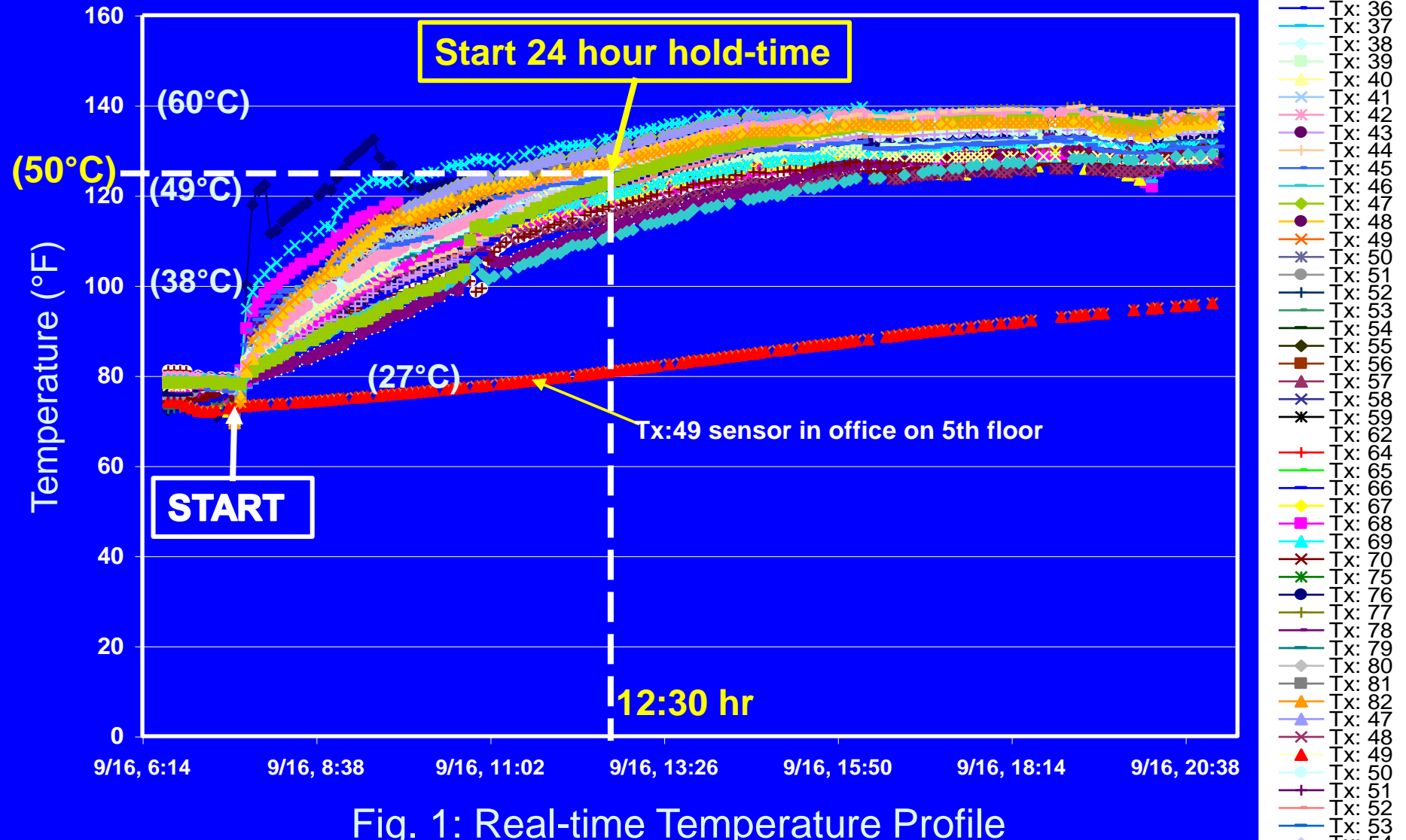


Fig. 1: Real-time Temperature Profile



# End of the Heat Treatment

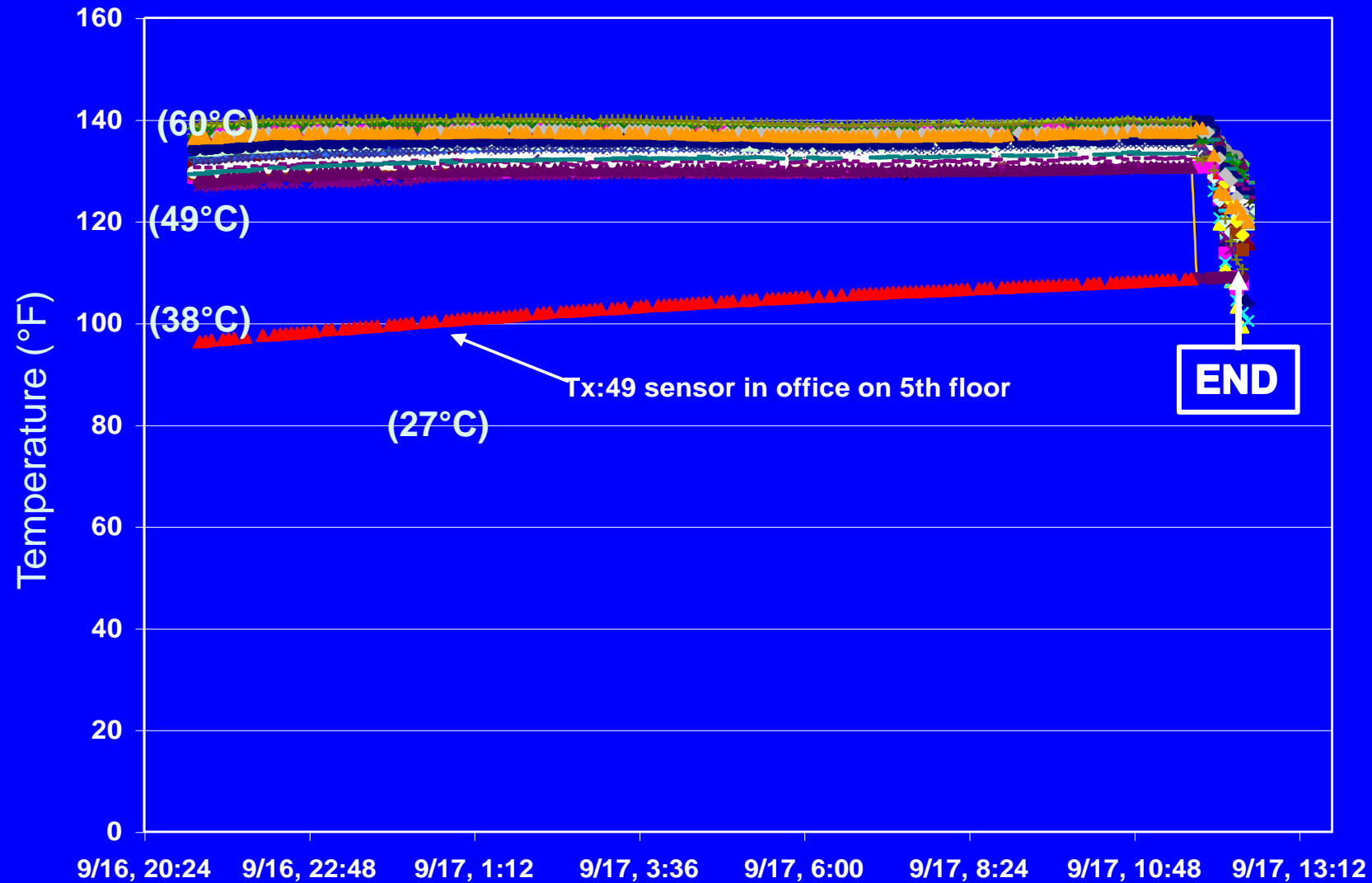
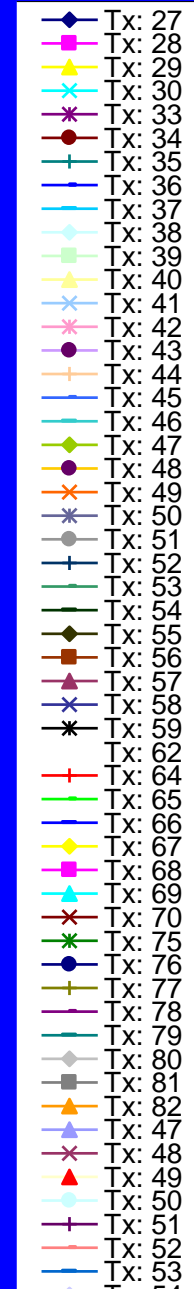


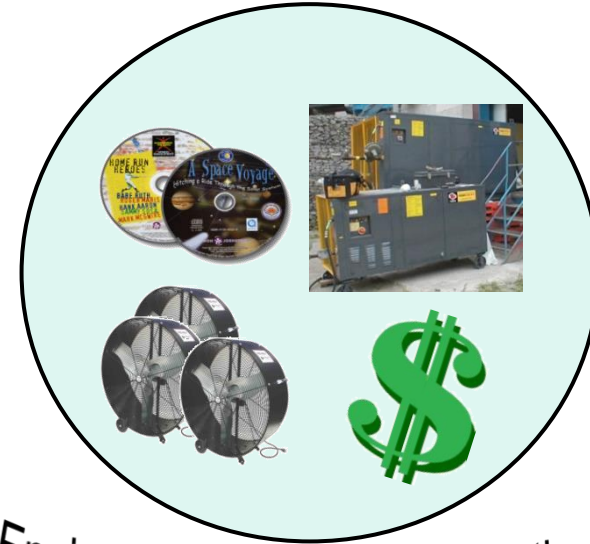
Fig. 2: Real-time Temperature Profile



# Steps in Heat Treatment



Visit & Feasibility



Engineering, Equipment & Estimate



Setup, HT, Document & Review



Equipment mobilization

# Important Pre-heat Treatment Checklist

- Remove tension from drive belts to avoid stretching
- Perform sanitation and remove all food products
- Sprinkler heads should withstand 127°C
- Protect heat sensitive equipment

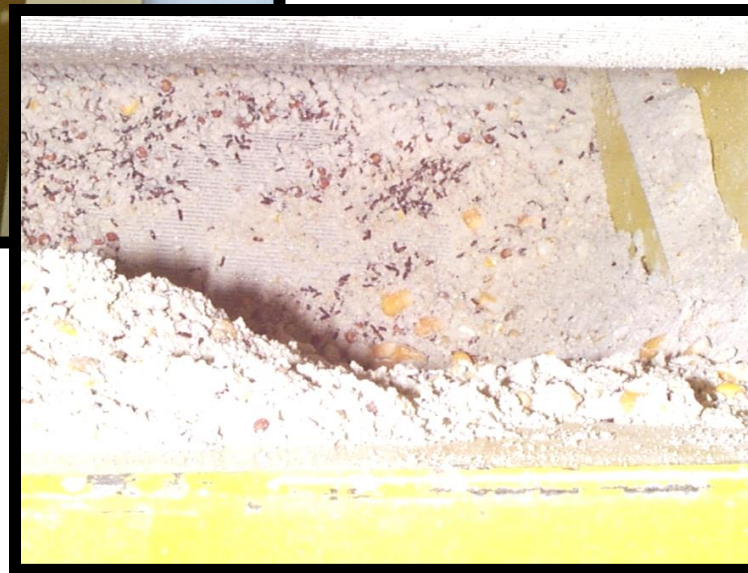




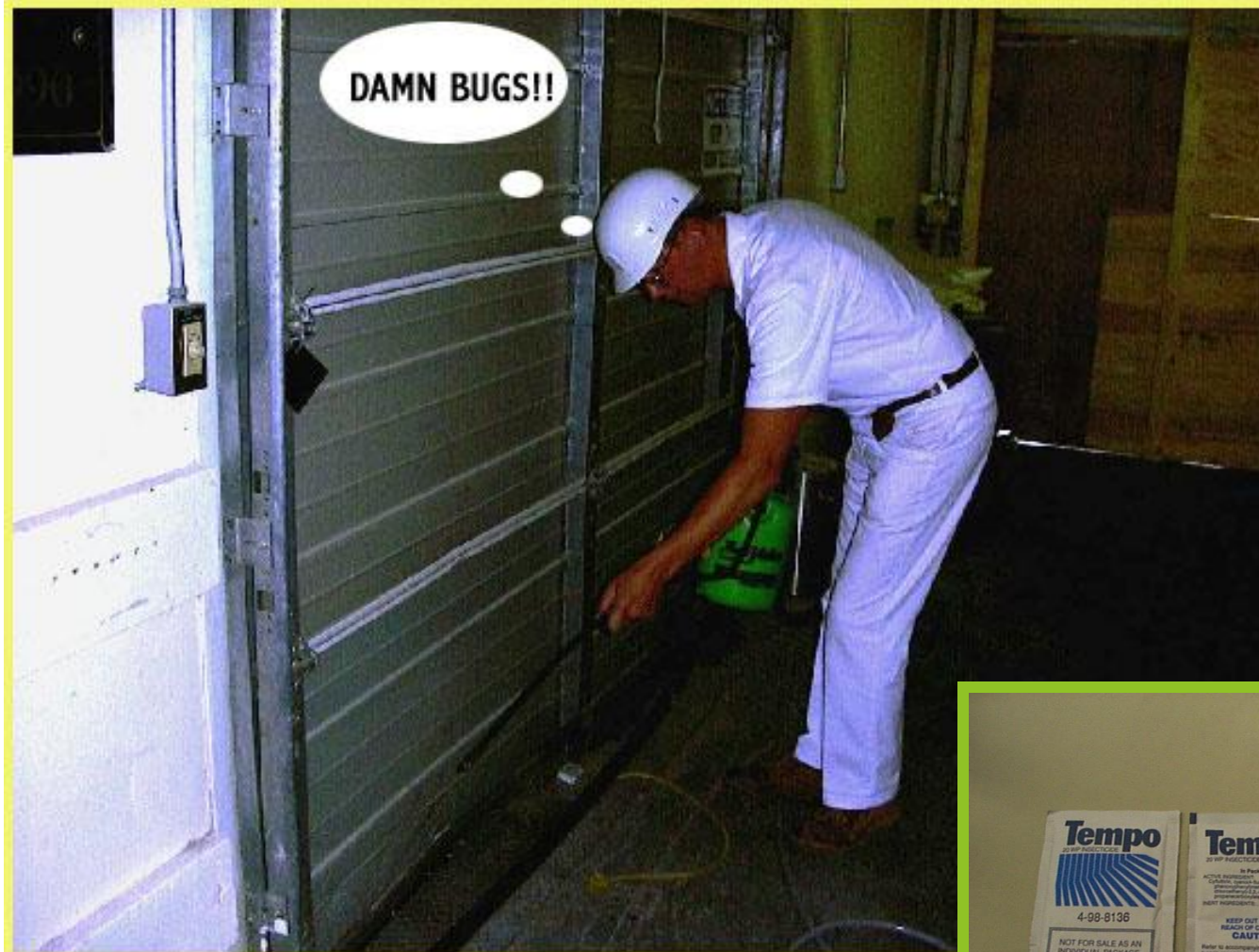
# Sanitation is the key



Important as heat does not penetrate products well.







### Perimeter Spray/Dust

Apply a residual pesticide such as cyfluthrin (Tempo) or diatomaceous earth

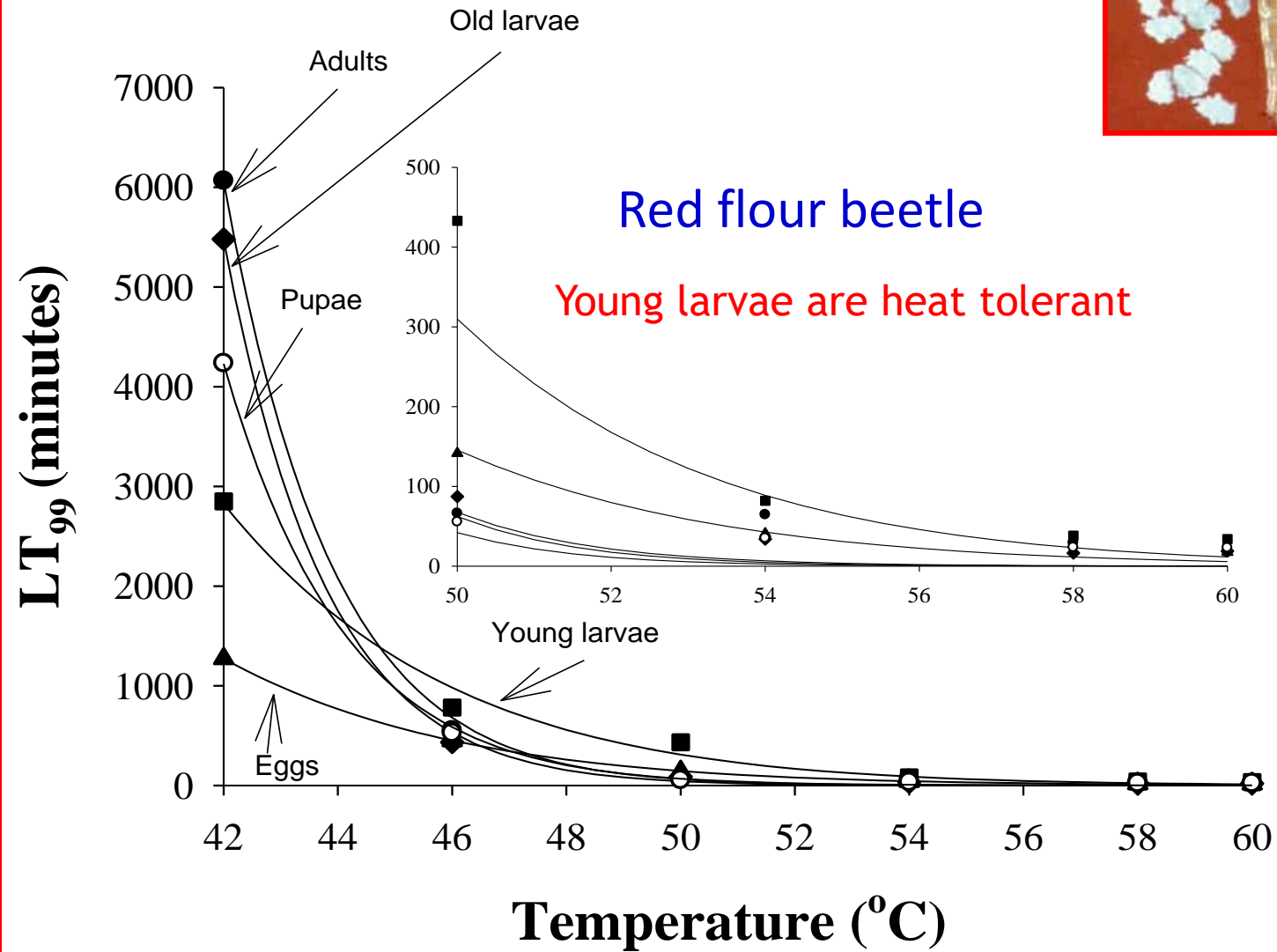


## Comparison of Heat Tolerant Stages of Four Species (LT<sub>99</sub> in minutes (95% CL))

Species	Stage	46°C/115°F	50°C/122°F	54°C/129°F
Cigarette beetle	Eggs	598.1 (571.21-633.10)	165.45 (152.62-182.84)	37.87 (35.14-41.56)
Red flour beetle	Young larvae	430.7 (364.3-573.6)	432.8 (365.3-572.6)	81.9 (60.4-207.7)
Confused flour beetle	Mature larvae	299.46 (281.81-324.88)	90.05 (81.80-102.26)	55.71 (48.75-67.25)
Indianmeal moth	Mature larvae	69 (62-80)	34 (29-43)	Not tested

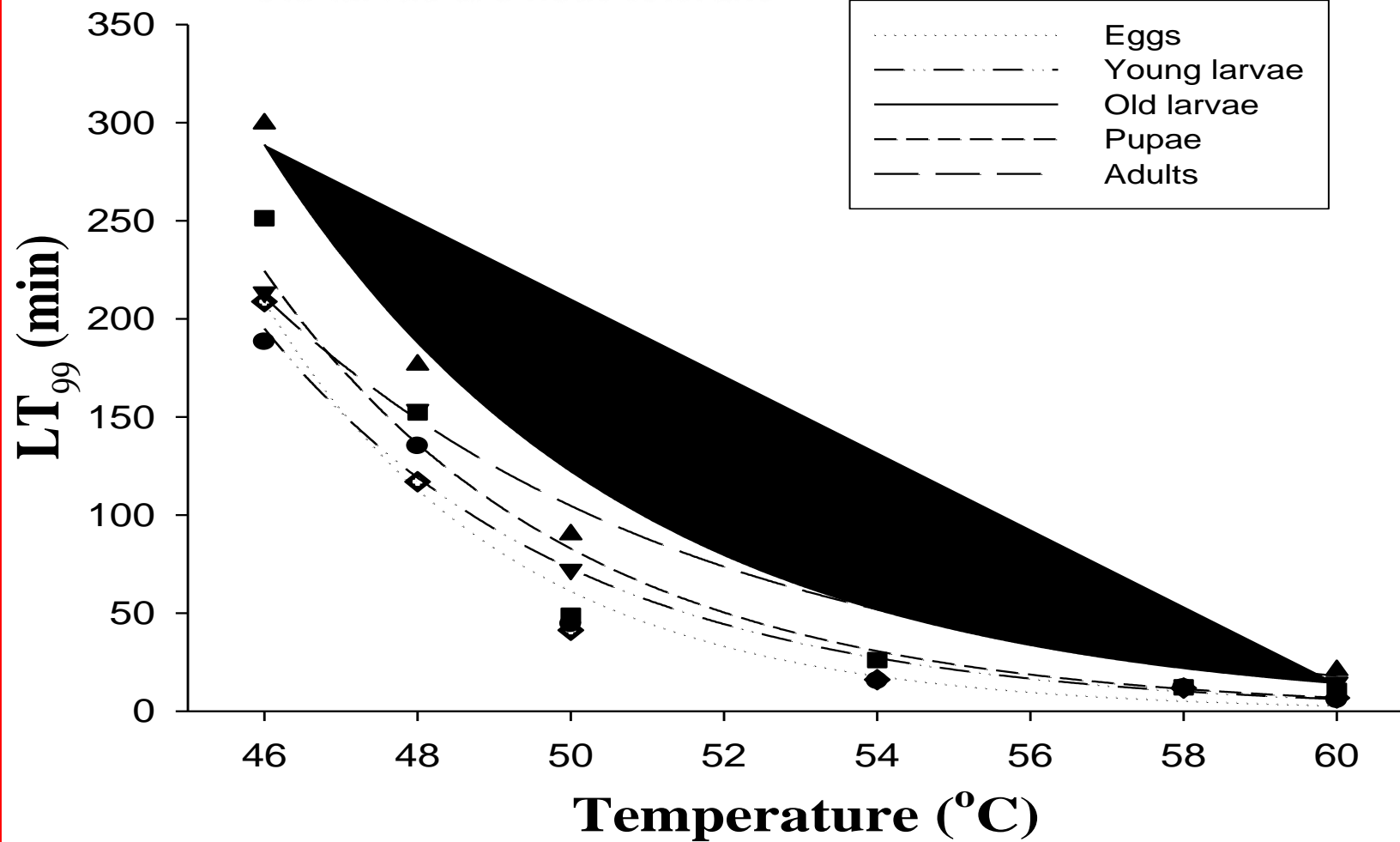
Source: Dr. Subi, KSU, KS





## Confused flour beetle

Old larvae are heat tolerant



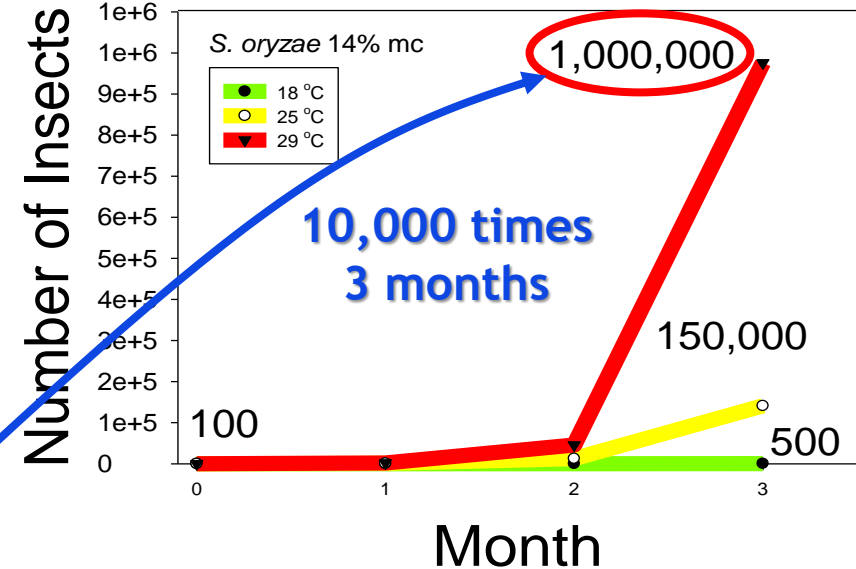
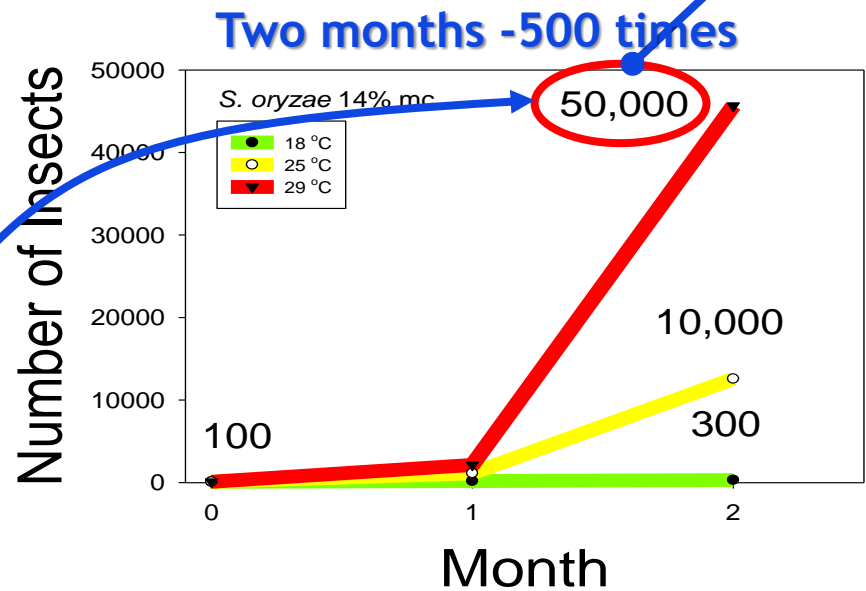
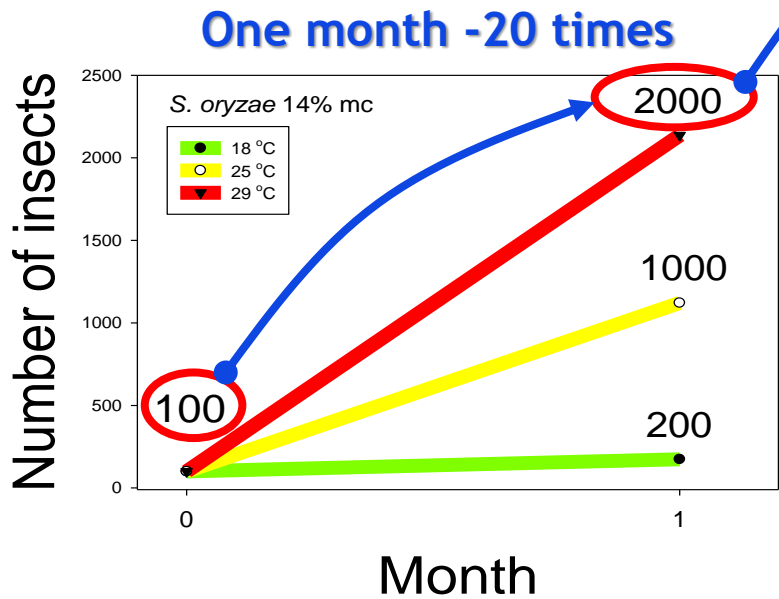
Insect stage	Sanitation level	Treatment	% Mean (SE) mortality <sup>a</sup>	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>
Adults	2 cm	MB	100a	69.90	<0.0001
		SF	100a		
		Heat	90.1 (1.2)b		
	dusting	SF	100	1.00	0.4219
		MB	100		
		Heat	98.7 (1.3)		
Pupae	2 cm	MB	100	2.56	0.1568
		SF	100		
		Heat	95.4 (2.9)		
	dusting	MB	100	0.60	0.5787
		SF	98.7 (1.3)		
		Heat	97.3 (2.7)		
Large larvae	2 cm	MB	99.8 (0.1)a	8.62	0.0172
		SF	100 (0.0)a		
		Heat	96.1 (1.3)b		
	dusting	MB	99.9 (0.1)	1.73	0.2552
		SF	100		
		Heat	98.2 (1.3)		
Small larvae	2 cm	MB	100a	5.39	0.0457
		SF	100a		
		Heat	93.5 (2.8)b		
	dusting	MB	100	3.69	0.0901
		SF	100		
		Heat	99.4 (0.3)		
Eggs	2 cm	MB	99.9 (0.1)	1.02	0.4145
		SF	92.3 (7.3)		
		Heat	99.3 (0.3)		
	dusting	MB	99.9 (0.1)	1.25	0.3523
		SF	88.7 (10.0)		
		Heat	99.8 (0.1)		

K-State Study  
(2009-2010)

$n = 3/\text{trt}$

Trt time=24 h for all

# Exponential Growth of Insect Populations



# THERMAL REMEDIATION

## Industrial Applications

- Food Processing
- Rice Mills
- Flour Mills
- Pet Food
- Corn Mills
- Cereal Processing
- Bakeries
- Warehouses
- Baby Food Plants
- Wood Packaging
- Tobacco Companies

Organic processing plants/storages

Entire structure or spot treatment

# Heat Treatment of Bins & Silos





# Bins & Silos

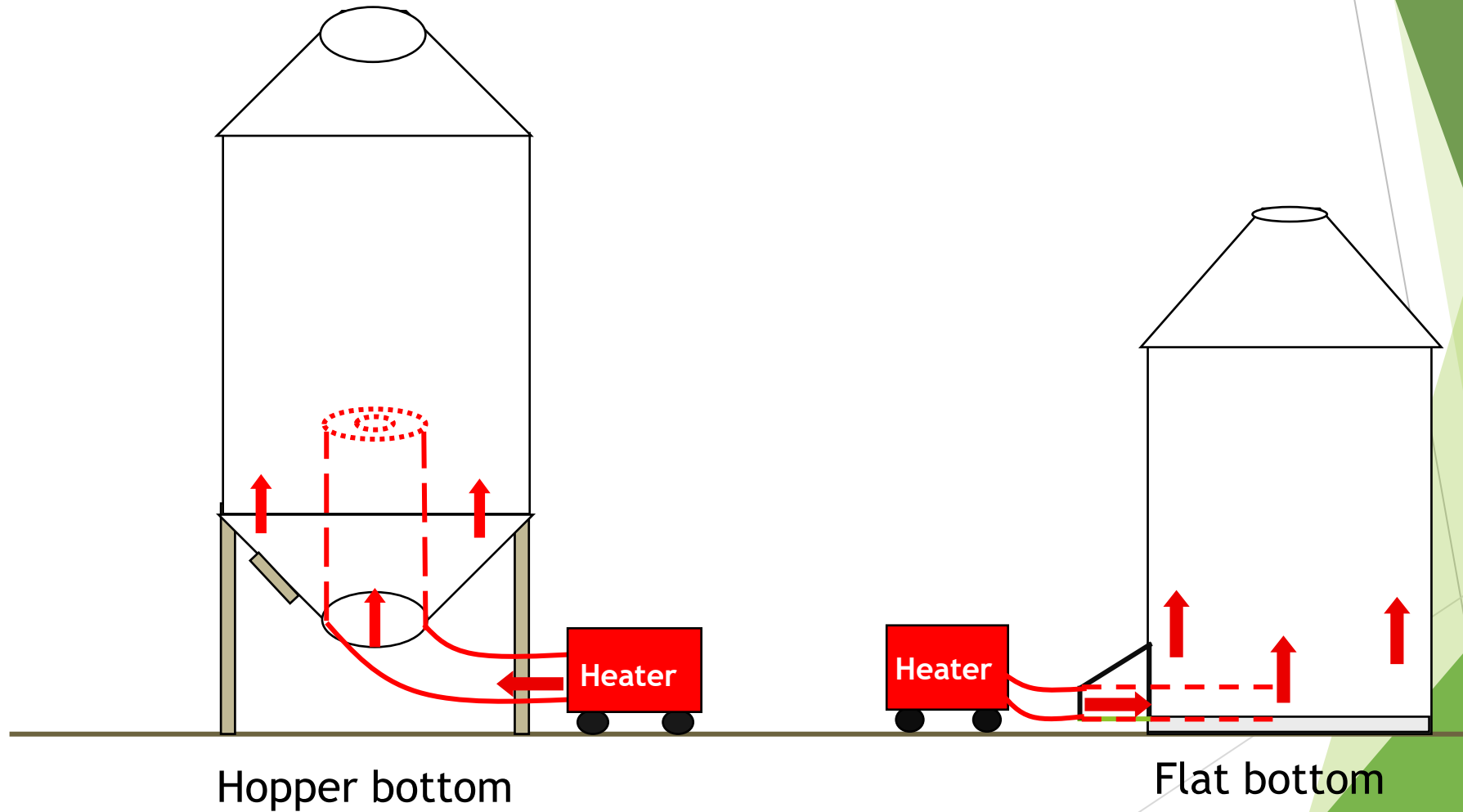
## ▶ Pre-loading or Pre-harvest HT

- On-farm bins
- Elevators storages
- Processing facilities
- Organic processing plants

## ▶ Bin/Silo types

- Concrete
- Metal
  - GI bins
  - Tanks

# HT of bins and silos



# Bin/Silo Heat treatment



**Empty Metal Silo - India**

# Advantages of HT of Bins/Silos

- ▶ S E E
- ▶ Shorter treatment times (4 to 12 hours)
- ▶ Bins/Silos in facilities
  - Treated in rotation without shut-down
- ▶ No retrofitting – existing transition, bin-entry
- ▶ On farm or warehouses – no extensive sealing or evacuation

# Conclusions

- ▶ Heat kills all life stages of insects
- ▶ Good method to locate insect problems in industrial plants
- ▶ Repeat customers = efficacy of heat
- ▶ Viable alternative to methyl bromide
- ▶ Economies of scale - will make it more affordable

## On Site Images



**Heater Placement on multiple floors**



**Heater Placement under rolling shutter**



# Heater Placement & Layout

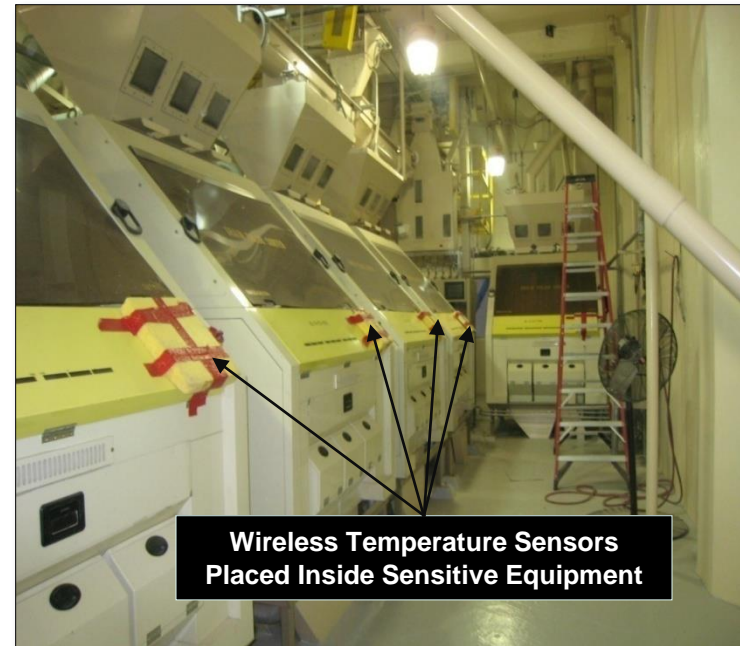


**Heater Partially inside Packaging Plant**



**Duct & Fan Layout - Packaging**

# Basement, Sensitive Equipment





## **Partial/Spot heat treatment in a Warehouse/Plant**



**Packaging Area in warehouse**



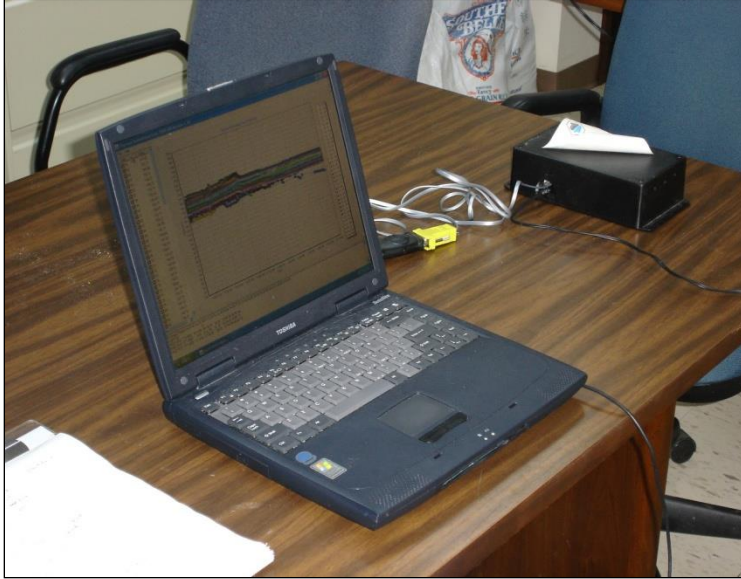
**Spot Treatment in Cookie Packaging Plant**

# Sprinkler heads and opening the machines





# Temperature Profile, Beetles, & Rats!!!!



# Concrete Bins, Basement and Head house







Pasta Mill, Monterrey, Mexico



High temperature duct through the 'well' of Stairwell to six floors of the mill



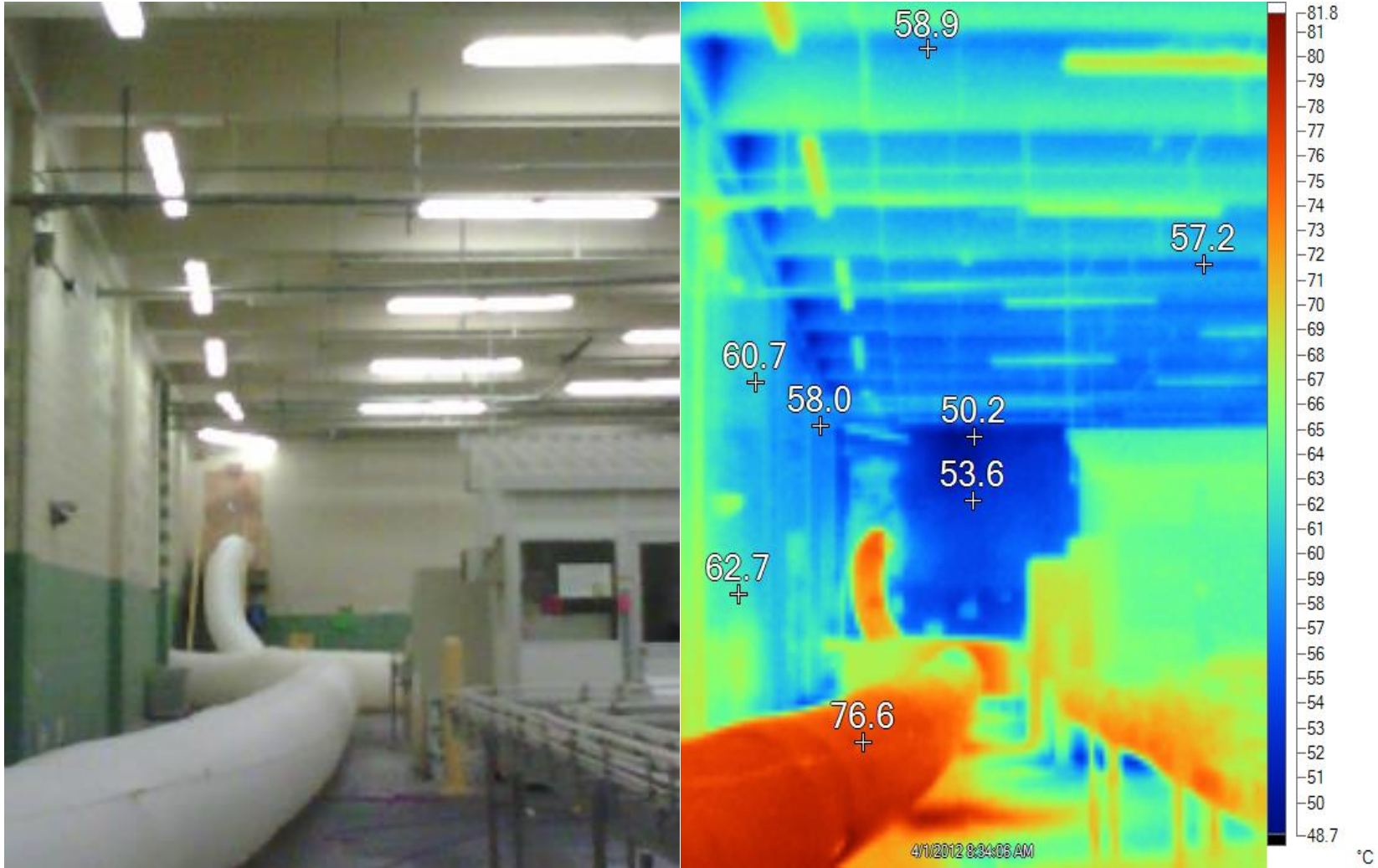
Philippines



Flour Mill, Philippines



# Packaging Hall



## Heat Treatment: Scientific Process

It's more of an Art – HOW you apply it



[Raj.Hulasare@sunbeltrentals.com](mailto:Raj.Hulasare@sunbeltrentals.com)

Ph: 1-800-836-7432 - Raj