



DANISH  
TECHNOLOGICAL  
INSTITUTE

# CHALLENGES DESIGNING A FIELD TRIAL

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# CHALLENGES DESIGNING A FIELD TRIAL



## Test of Biologicals / Biostimulants

- How do we find
  - The right experimental area?
  - The right test set-up / design?



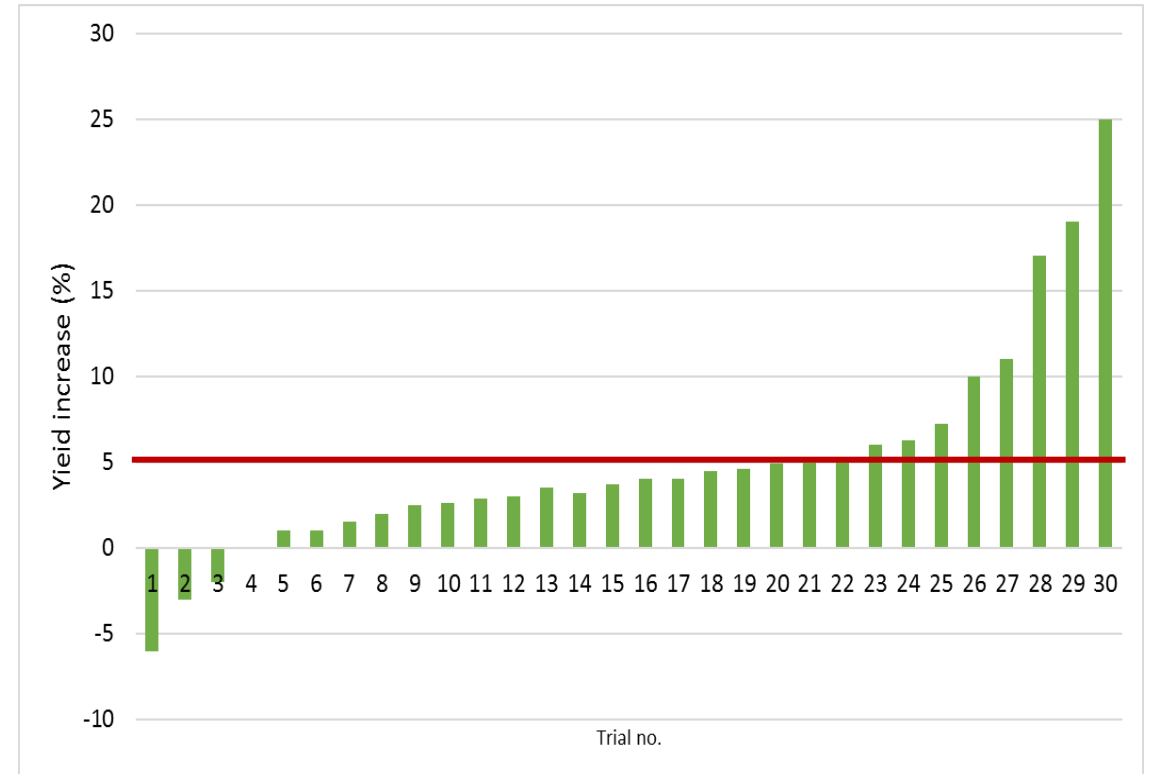
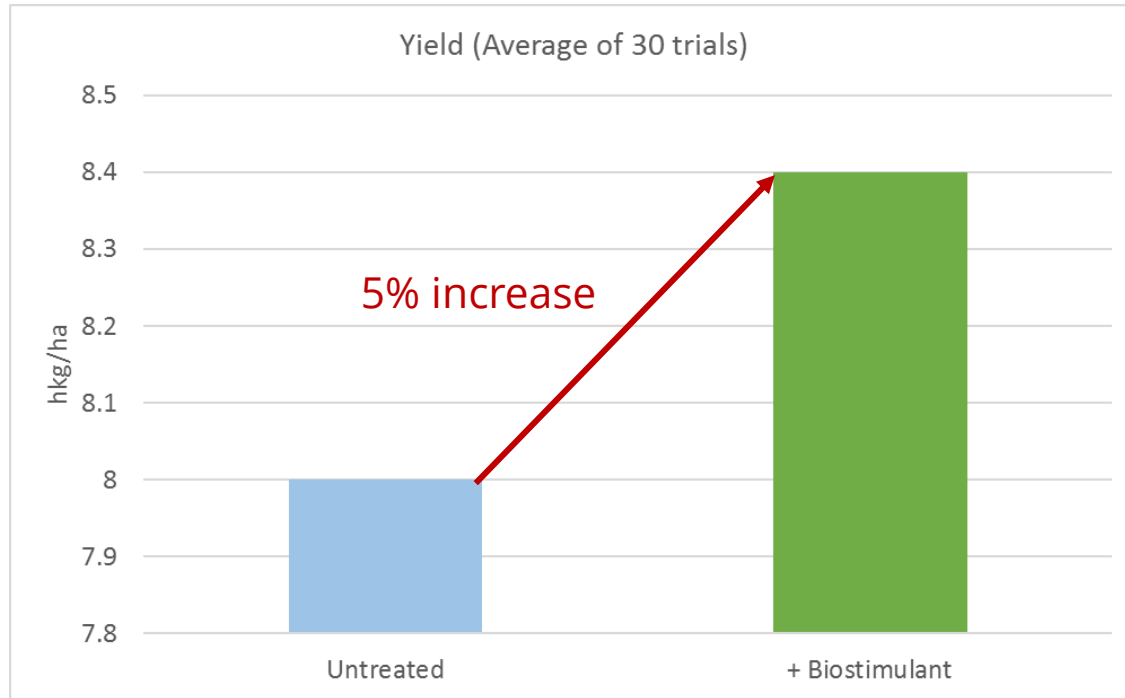
# THE EXPERIMENTAL AREA



- Painkillers only work on people in pain
- It has always been difficult to find the right areas with the right weed species, pests, diseases etc.
- The arrival of new biologicals / biostimulants where mode of action hardly are described, and effects vary greatly do not make it easier



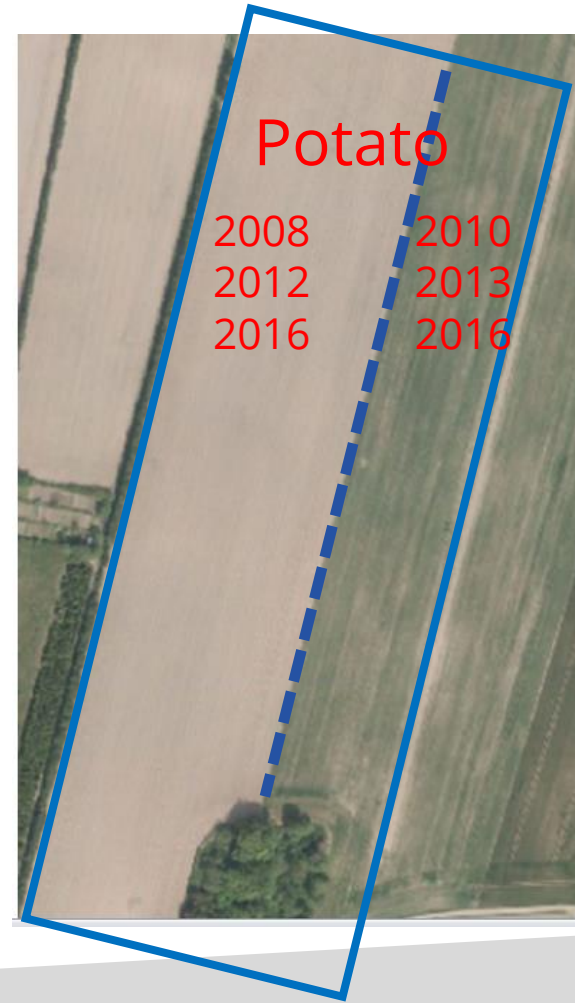
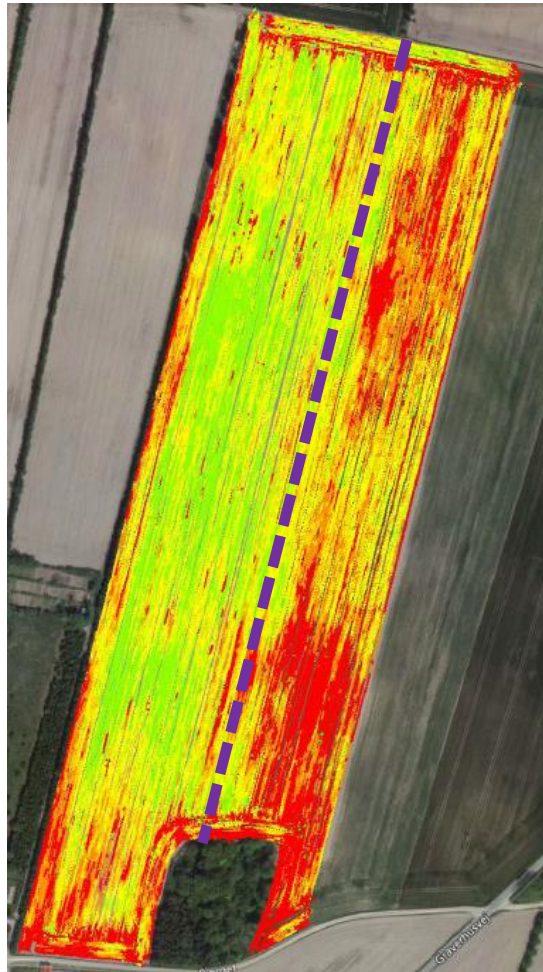
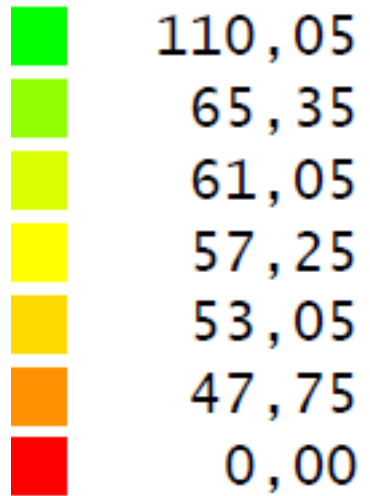
# TESTING BIOLOGICALS IN THE FIELD



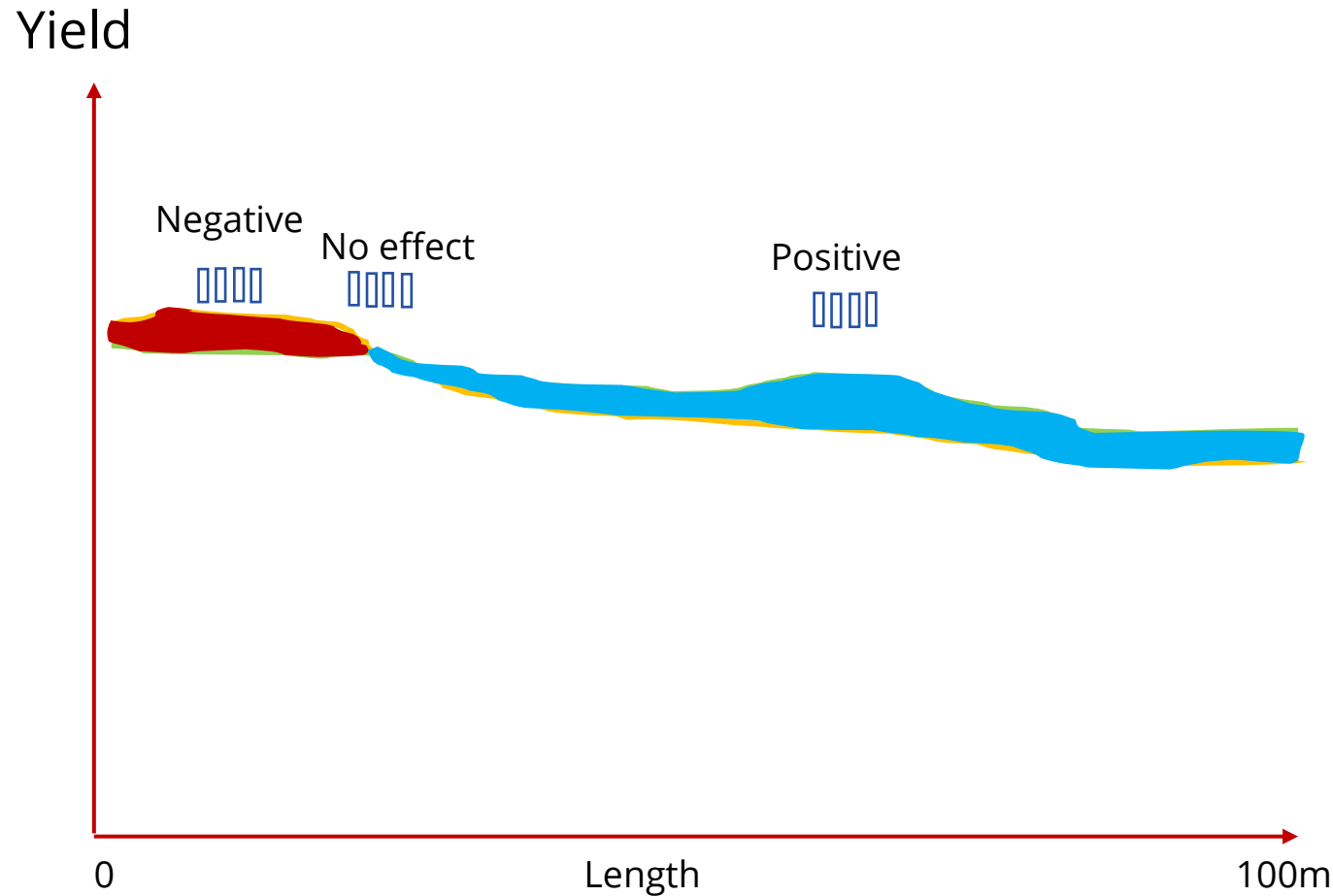
# IN-FIELD VARIATION

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Tonnes/ha



# HOW CAN WE DEMONSTRATE A 5% NET YIELD



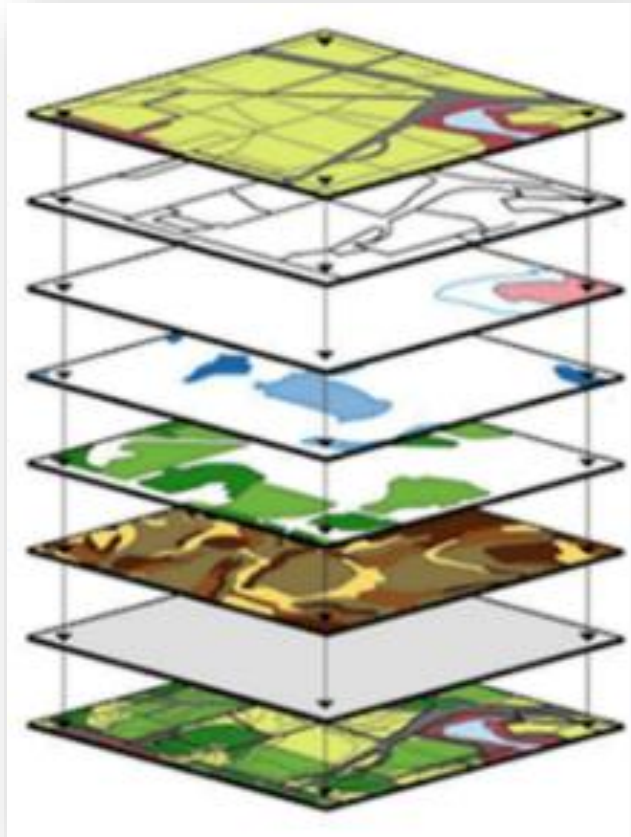
- Untreated control
- Treated

Where do I locate the trial?

What's the reason to positive results?



# ONFARM<sup>PLUS</sup> CAN BE PART OF THE SOLUTION



- OnFarm<sup>Plus</sup> is trials where the plots are in stripes along the field
- Instead of one registration per plot, modern sensors with RTK-GPS collect data from thousands of points in the field.
- Analysis of geo-referenced layer-on-layer data requires advanced geostatistical models.
- As more and more sensors are available the future experimental work can get more explanatory variables without extra work



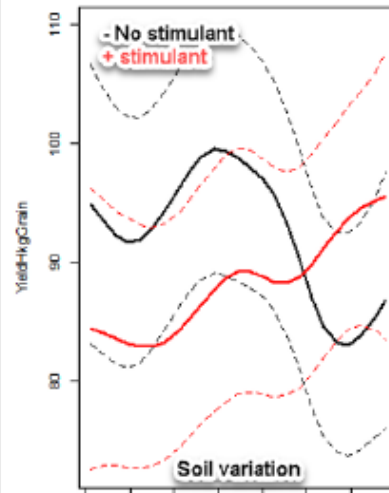
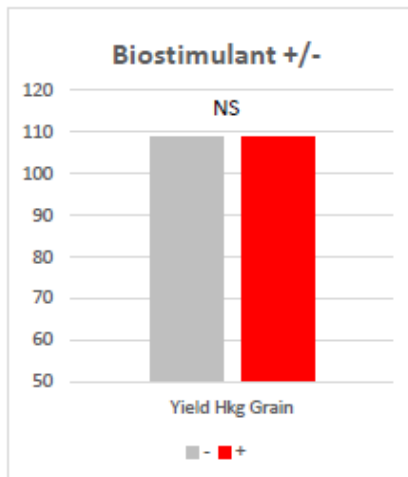
# ONFARM<sup>PLUS</sup>

## Traditionel markforsøg

Småparceller  
Lav variation  
4-6 lokaliteter  
Gruppering af jordtype  
Klassisk statistik

## OnFarm<sup>PLUS</sup>

Stribeparceller  
Variation i bonitet  
1-2 lokaliteter  
Brug af sensormålinger  
Geostatistik



Gives you the opportunity to:

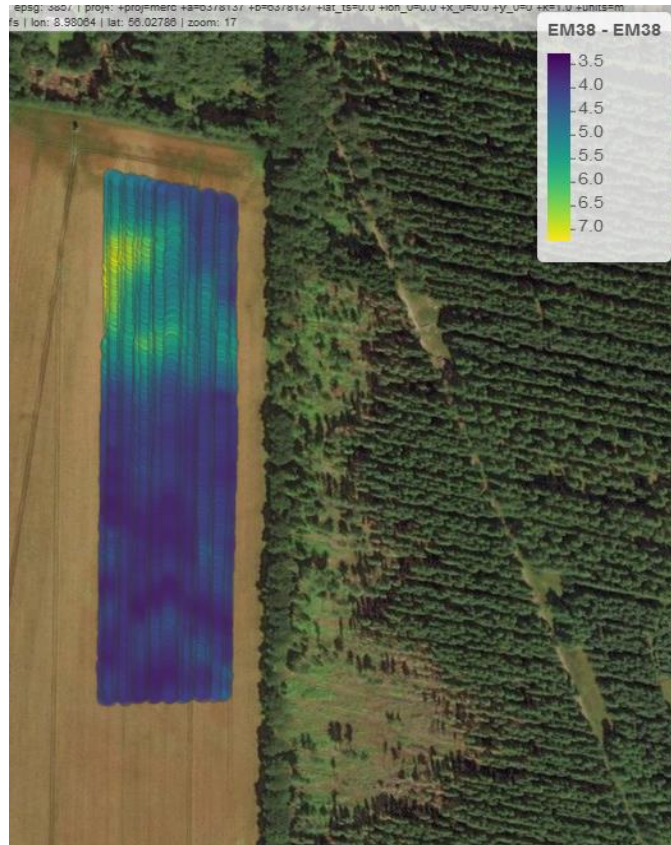
- provides experiments with increased statistical power and thus more certain conclusions.
- makes it possible to demonstrate a yield increase for a treatment depending on e.g. soilvariation or biomass







# 040261818-001. ONFARM<sup>PLUS</sup> +/- INHIBITOR OF NITRIFICATION IN MANURE TO POTATOES (LANDSFORSØG)



## Formål:

- At undersøge, om anvendelsen af nitrifikationshæmmer (NH) i gylle påvirker knoldudbytte i kartofler

OnFarm<sup>Plus</sup> forsøg med sensordata:

- EM38
- Flowhøst
- GPS

Model:

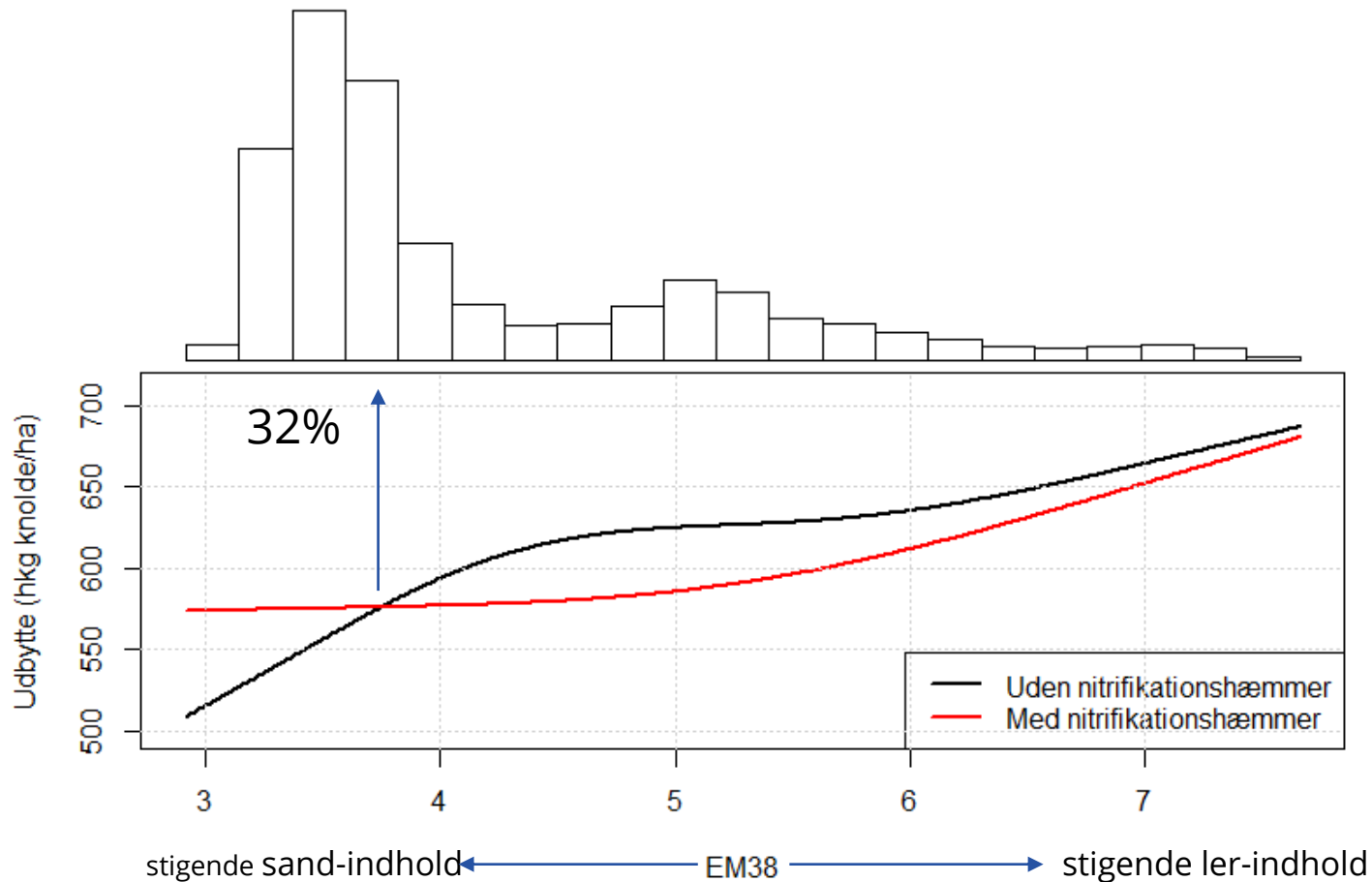
$$\text{Udbytte} \sim f(x, y) + f(\text{EM38}, \text{LF1})$$

↑  
geografi

↑  
synergieffekt af  
NH og EM38



# 040261818-001. ONFARM<sup>PLUS</sup> +/- INHIBITOR OF NITRIFICATION IN MANURE TO POTATOES (LANDSFORSØG)



Analyzed as a traditional field trial there was no significant differences shown

- A significant interaction between inhibitor and EM38 was shown! ( $p < 0.001$ )
- For a sandy soil ( $EM38 < 3.7$ ) the inhibitor results in a higher yield.
- 32% of the area had  $EM38 < 3.7$ .
- In the intire field the inhibitor had a yield increase at  $-0,02$  hkg/ha (break-even).
- In a sandy field ( $EM38 < 3.7$ ) a yield increase is expected

# OTHER WAYS TO TEST BIOSTIMULANTS?

Any ideas?





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**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR ATTENTION**