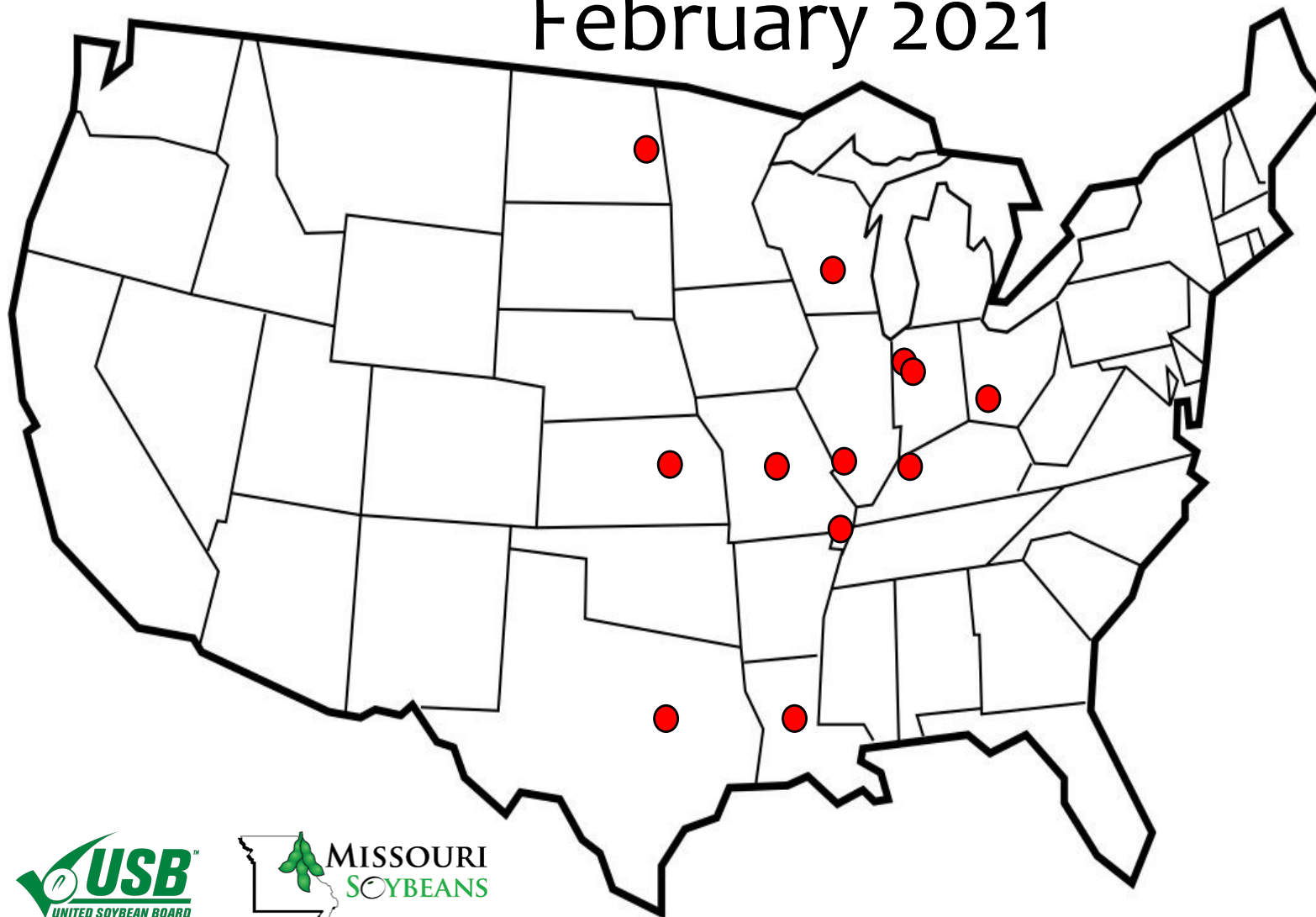


How Accurate are Available Weather Resources for Pesticide Applicators?



USDA Climate Hub ADIM Workshop

February 2021



Nicholas Arneson
Nikola Arsenijevic
Kevin Bradley
Ivan Cuvaca
Karla Gage
Maggie Ginn
Zachary Howard
Joe Ikley
Bill Johnson
Jamie Knight
Sarah Lancaster
Lauren Lazaro
Travis Legleiter
Mark Loux
Eric Miller
Taylor Nix
Scott Nolte
Bryan Young
Rodrigo Werle
Marcelo Zimmer



USDA Climate Hub ADIM Workshop

February 2021

Weather Tools

Car thermometer

Engenia Spray Tool

Kestrel Handheld

NOAA

Pocket Spray Smart

RRXtend Spray

SpotOn Inversion Tester

Weather Underground

Dates

May to September 2021

20 tests per location

Different times of day

Variables Measured

Air Temperature, Wind Speed, Wind
Direction, Inversion Potential

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Air Temperature by Resource

June 3 at 3:12 PM at West Lafayette, IN



Weather Resource	Air Temp °F
Engenia Spray Tool	78
Kestrel Handheld	84
NOAA	77
Pocket Spray	78
RRXtend Spray	78
Weather Station	79
Weather Underground	82

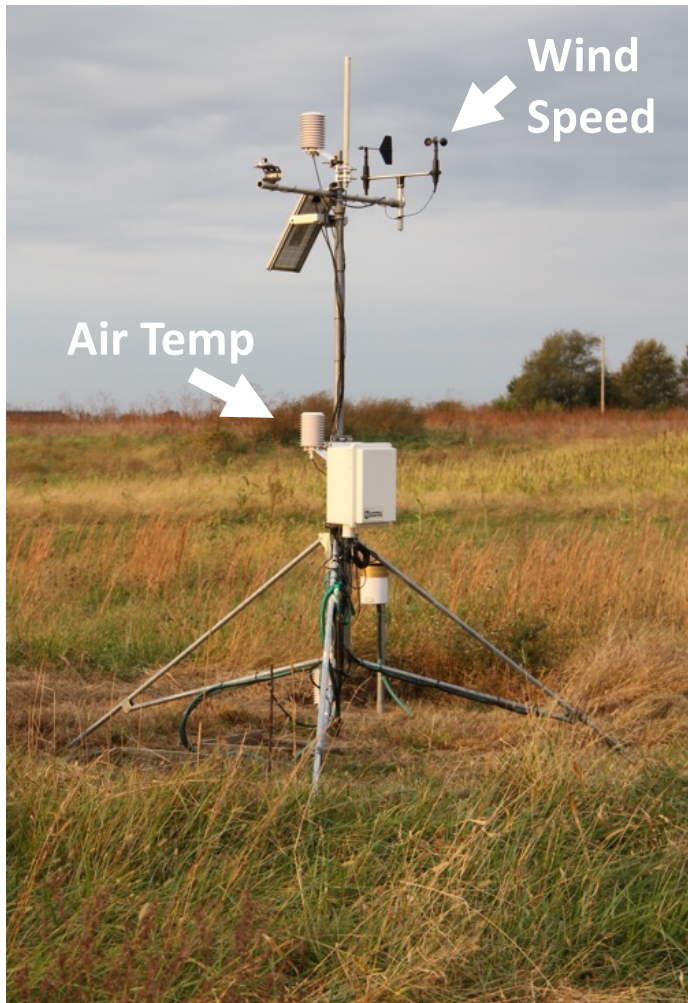
Air Temperature by Resource

June 14 at 12:23 PM at Carbondale, IL



Weather Resource	Air Temp °F
Engenia Spray Tool	83
Kestrel Handheld	83
NOAA	81
Pocket Spray	84
RRXtend Spray	85
Weather Station	83
Weather Underground	82

Using Weather Stations as a Point of Reference



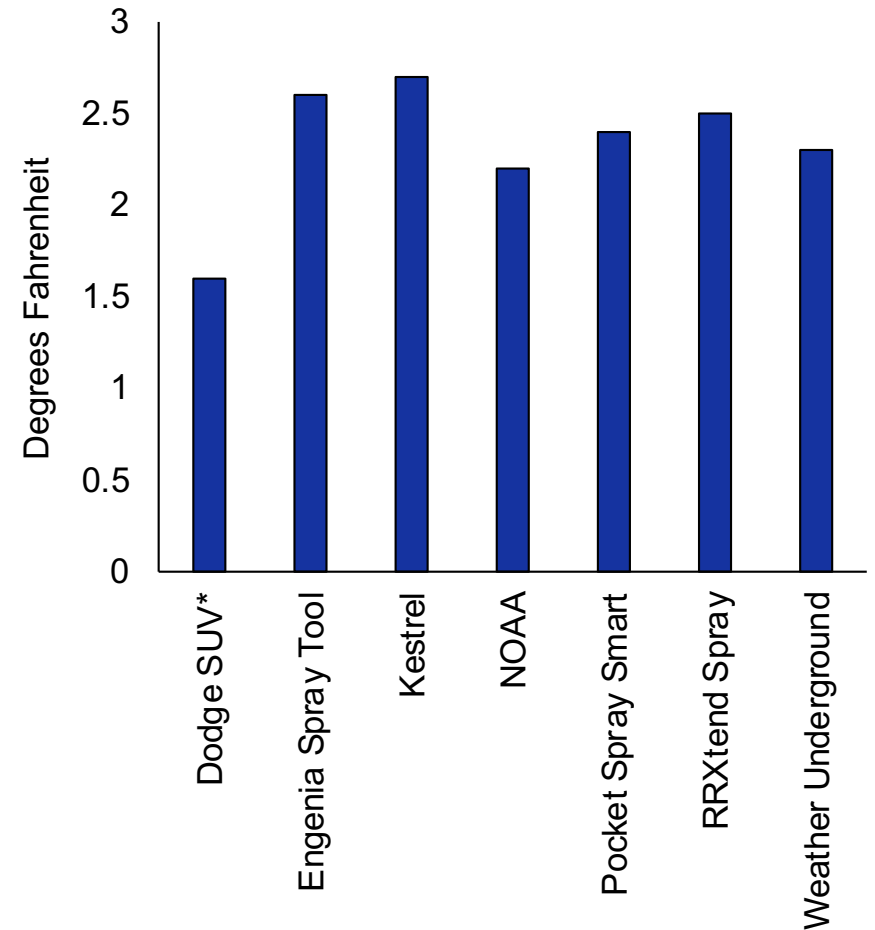
- Real-time weather data
- Averaged in 5-minute intervals
- Routine QC



Dr. Pat Guinan
State Climatologist

Air Temperature Variations

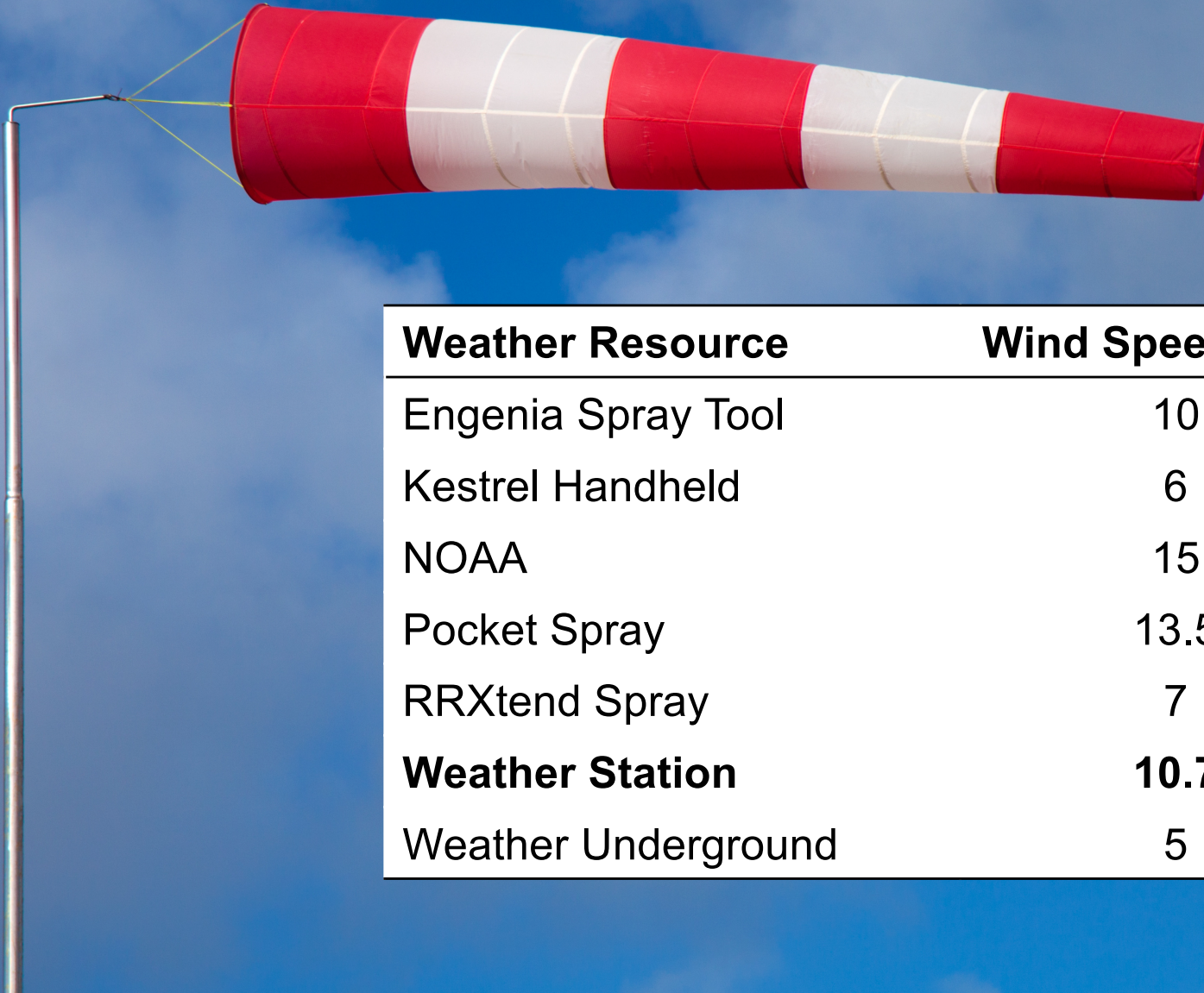
Deviation of air temperature from weather station



n=1,571

Wind Speed by Resource

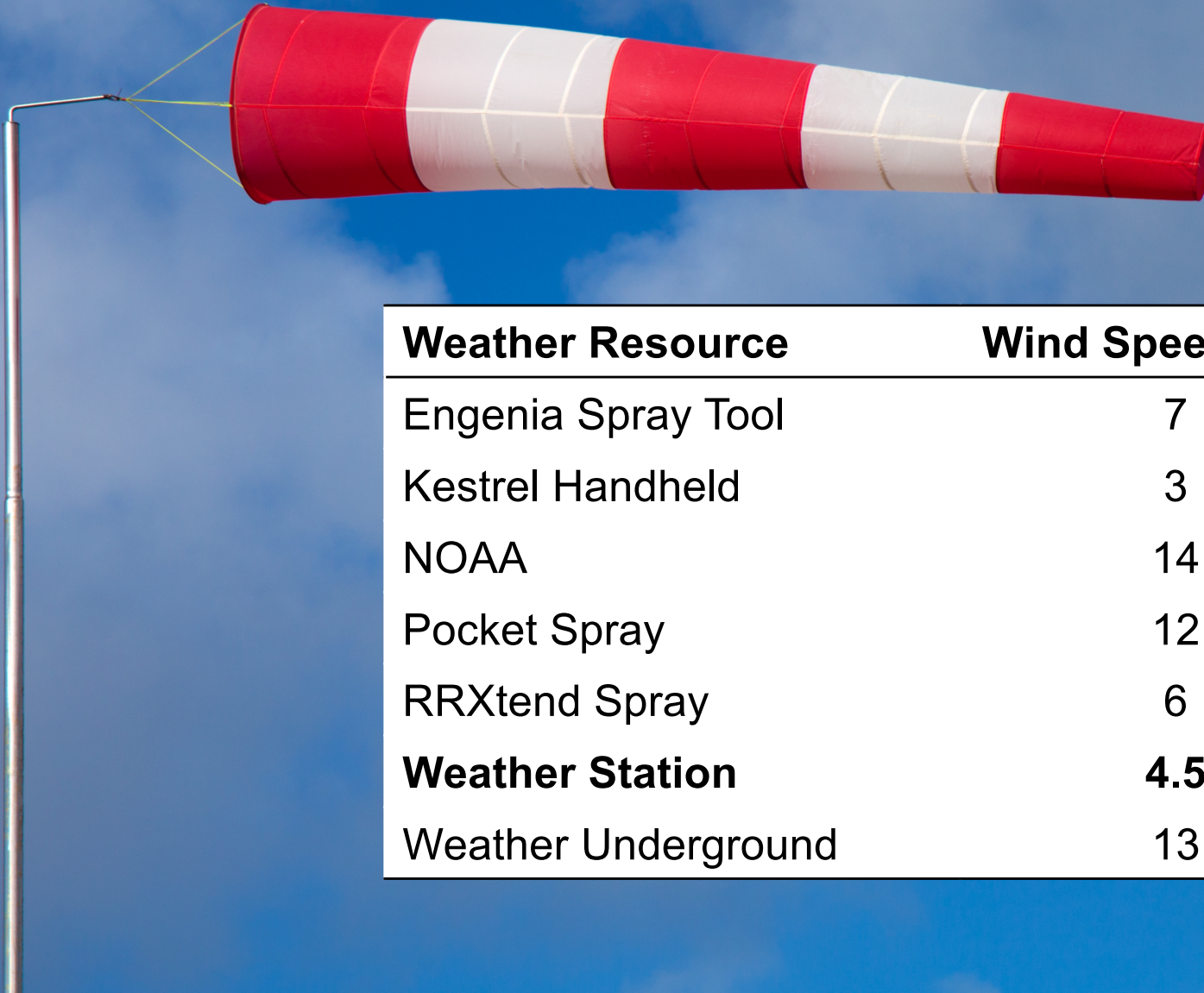
May 28 at 9:15 AM, Columbia, Missouri



Weather Resource	Wind Speed (mph)
Engenia Spray Tool	10
Kestrel Handheld	6
NOAA	15
Pocket Spray	13.5
RRXtend Spray	7
Weather Station	10.7
Weather Underground	5

Wind Speed by Resource

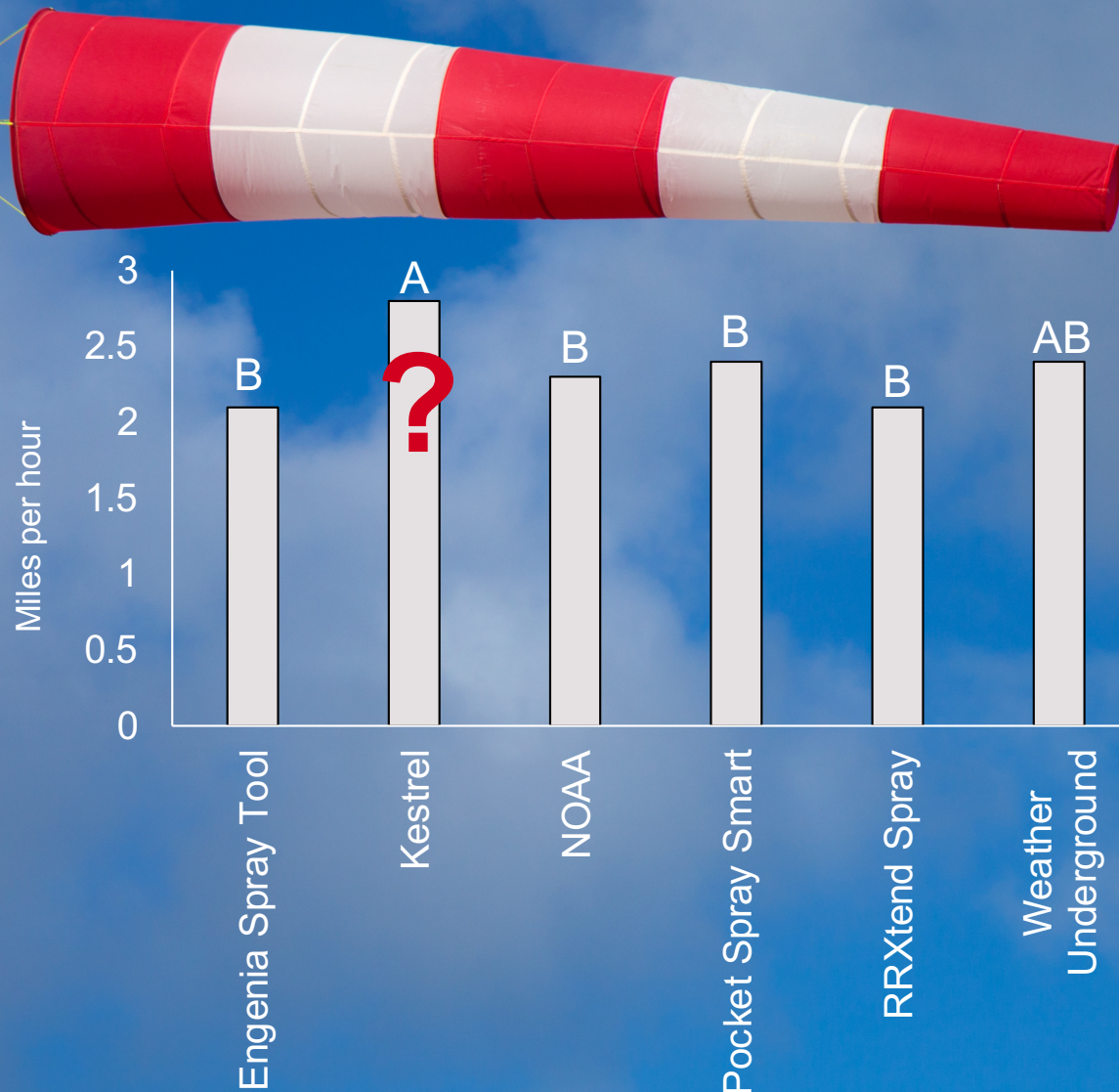
June 24 at 12:23 PM, Carbondale, Illinois



Weather Resource	Wind Speed (mph)
Engenia Spray Tool	7
Kestrel Handheld	3
NOAA	14
Pocket Spray	12
RRXtend Spray	6
Weather Station	4.5
Weather Underground	13

Wind Speed Variation

Deviation of wind speed from weather station

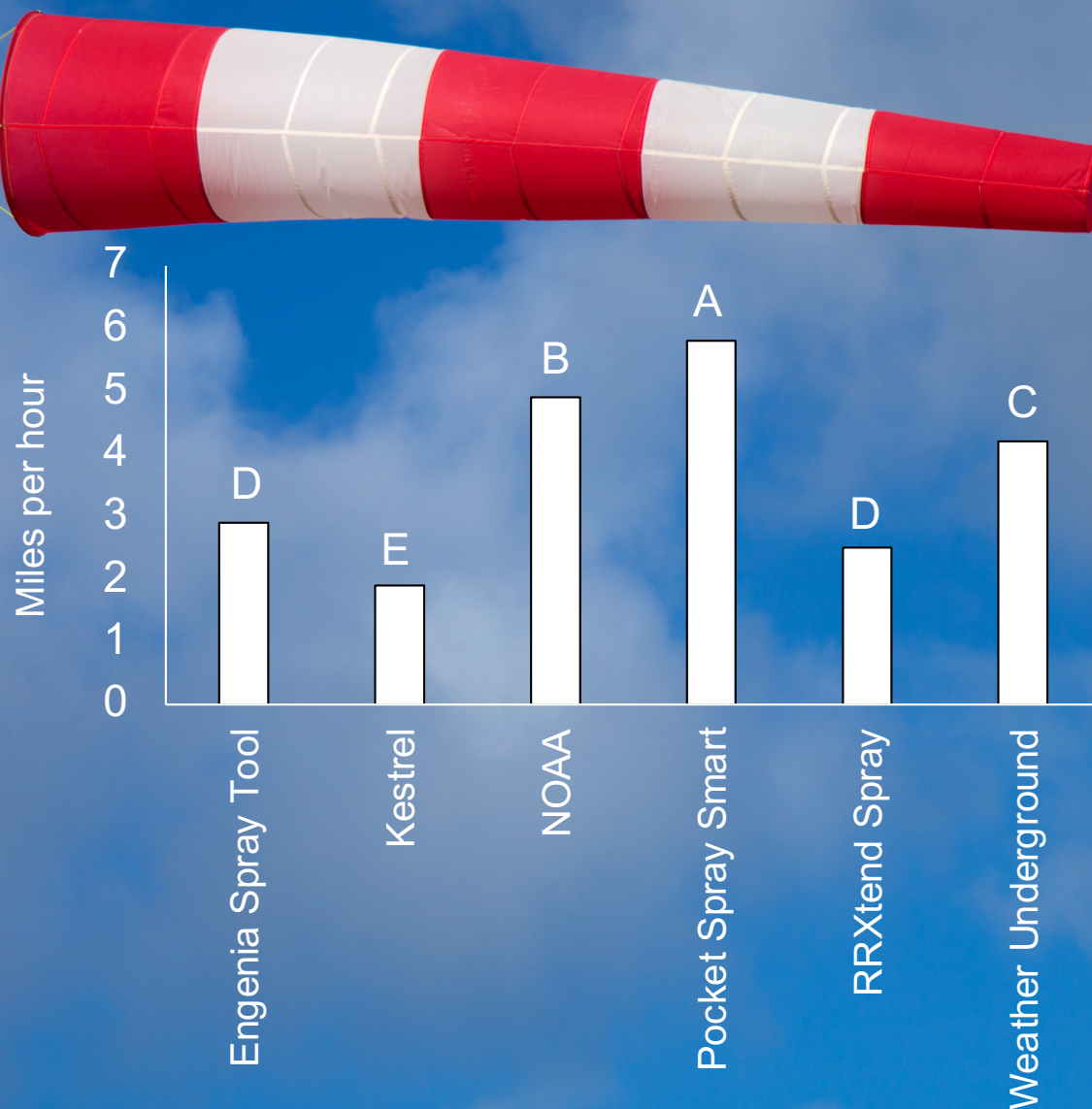


n=1,560

Wind Speed Variation

Transform weather station wind speed to ~boom height:

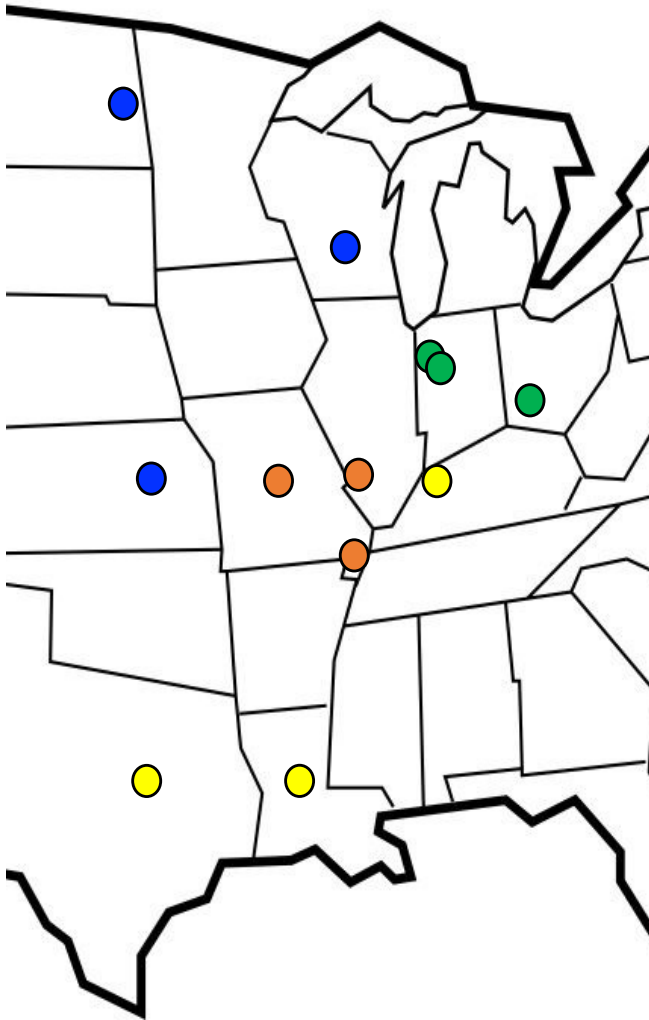
$$V_2 = v_1(Z_2/Z_1)^\alpha$$



n=1,458
p<0.01

Wind Speed Variation

Across all apps



North Dakota^a

Kansas^{ab}

Ohio^{bc}

Wisconsin^{bcd}

Kentucky^{cde}

Missouri_Portageville^{def}

Indiana^{ef}

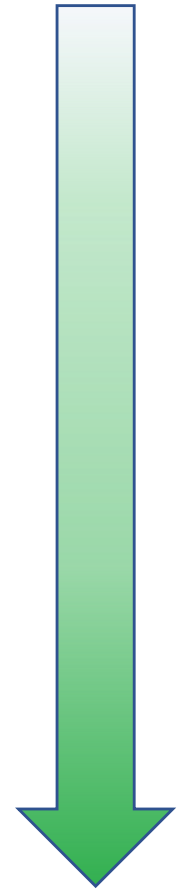
Illinois^{ef}

Texas^f

Missouri_Columbia^{fg}

Louisiana^g

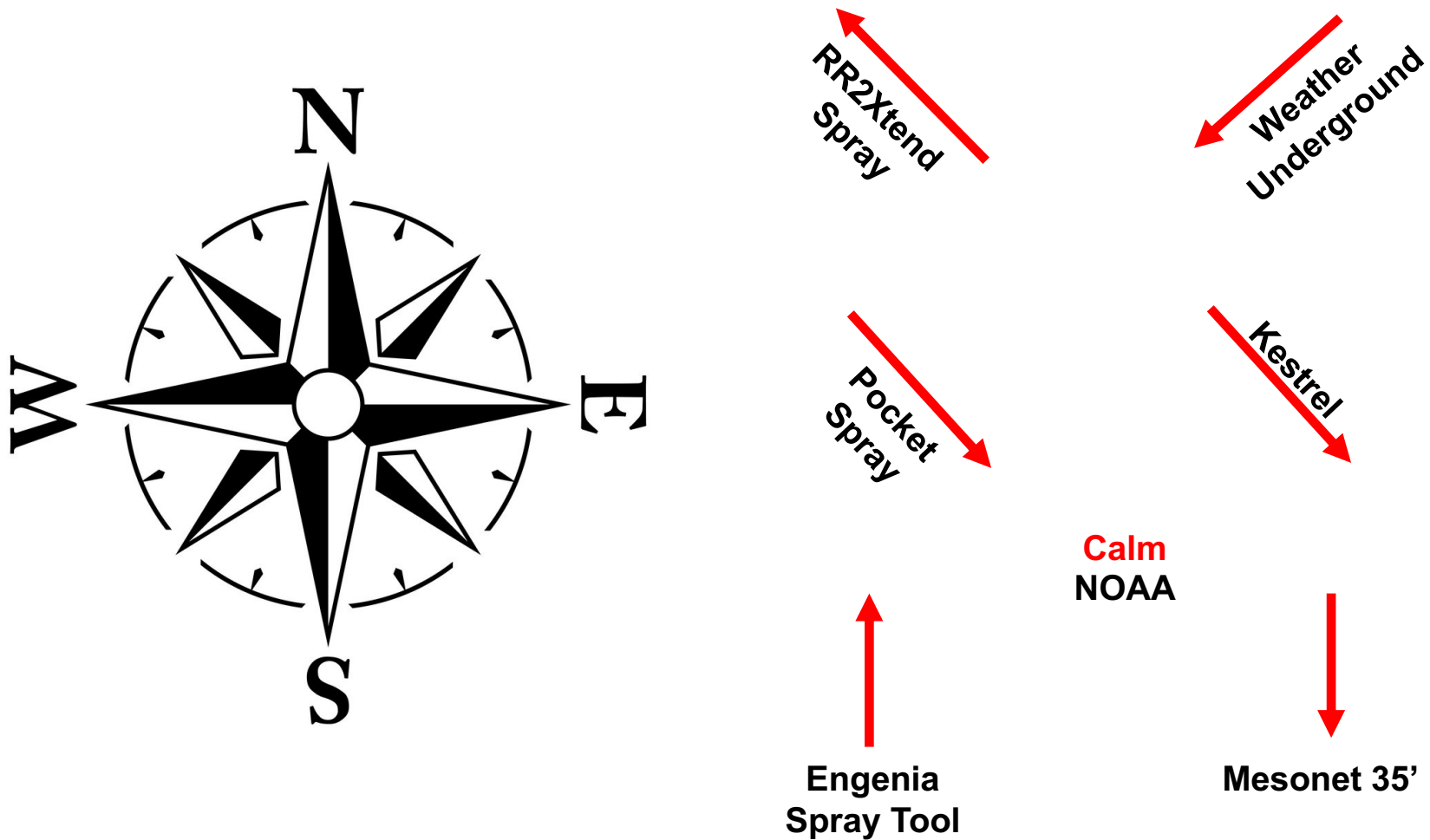
Most
variation



Least
variation

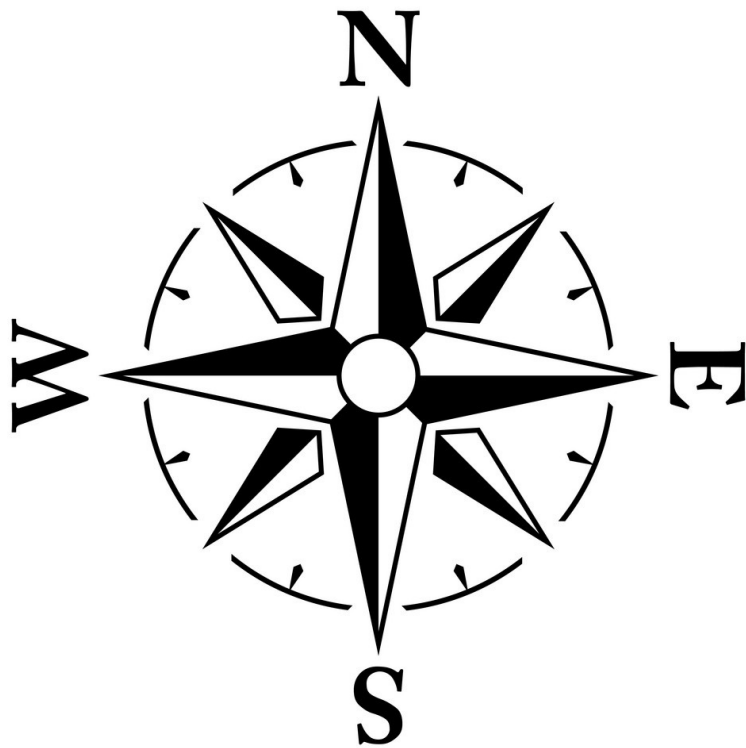
Wind Direction by Resource

(June 14, 2021 at 5:10 PM, Kansas)



Wind Direction by Resource

(July 6, 2021 at 9:15 AM, Kentucky)



RR2Xtend
Spray

Weather
Underground

Pocket
Spray

NOAA

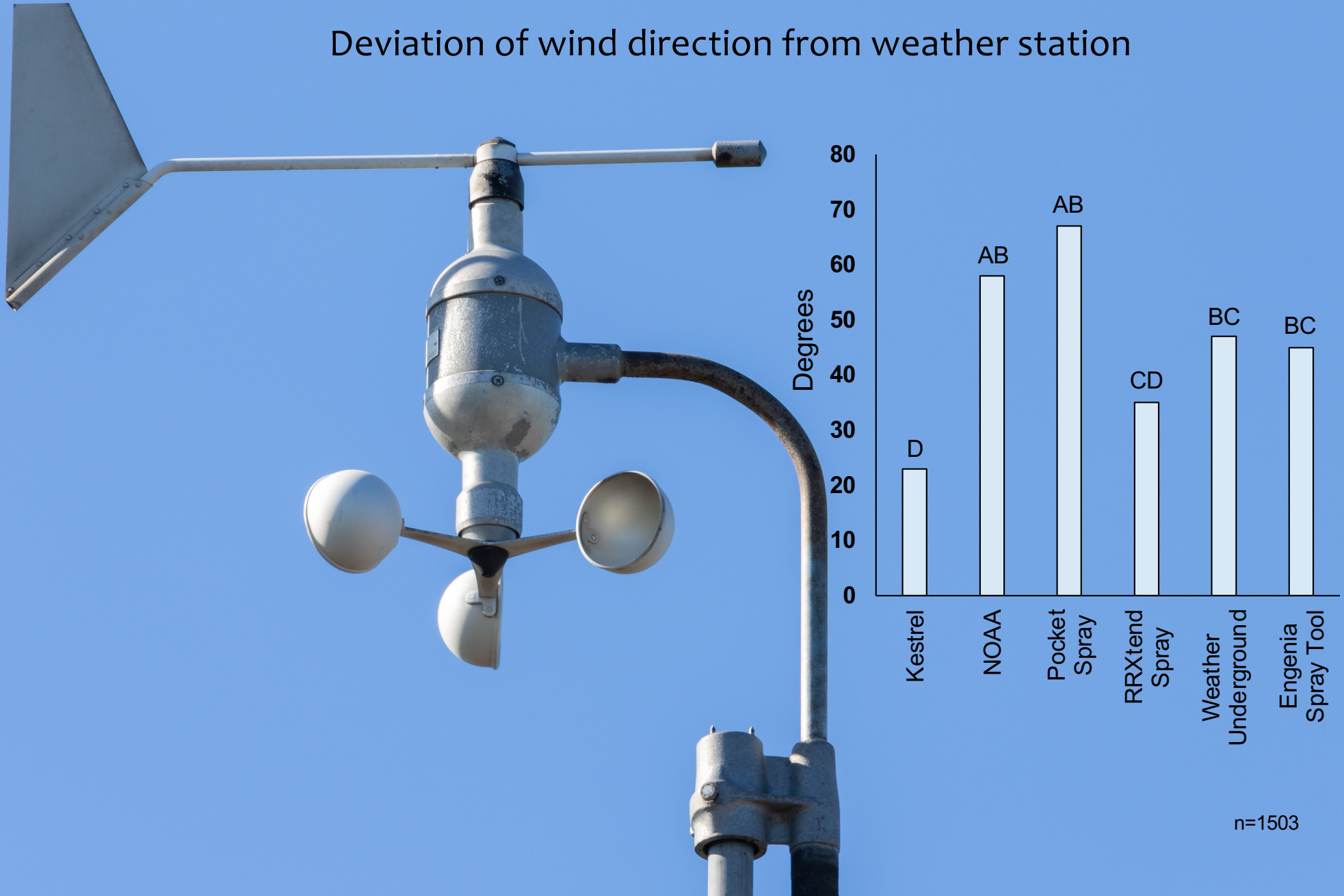
Kestrel

Engenia
Spray Tool

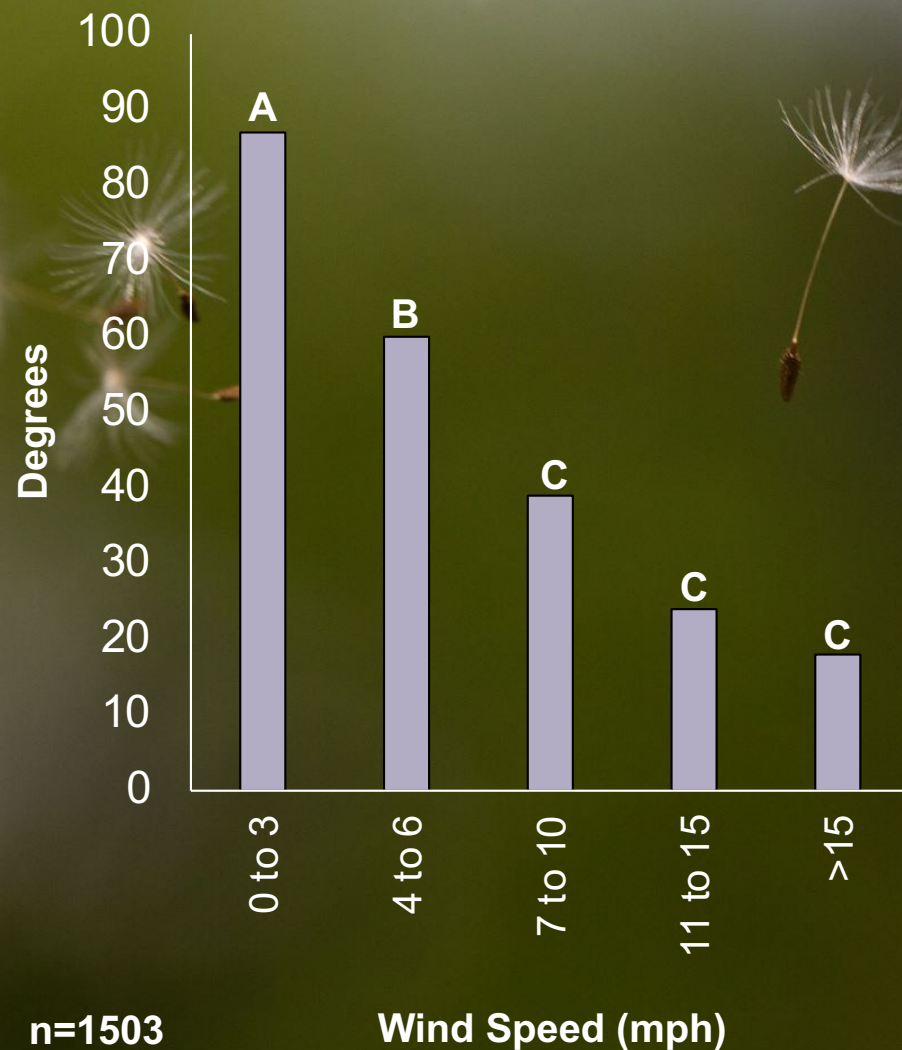
Mesonet
35'

Variation in Wind Direction

Deviation of wind direction from weather station

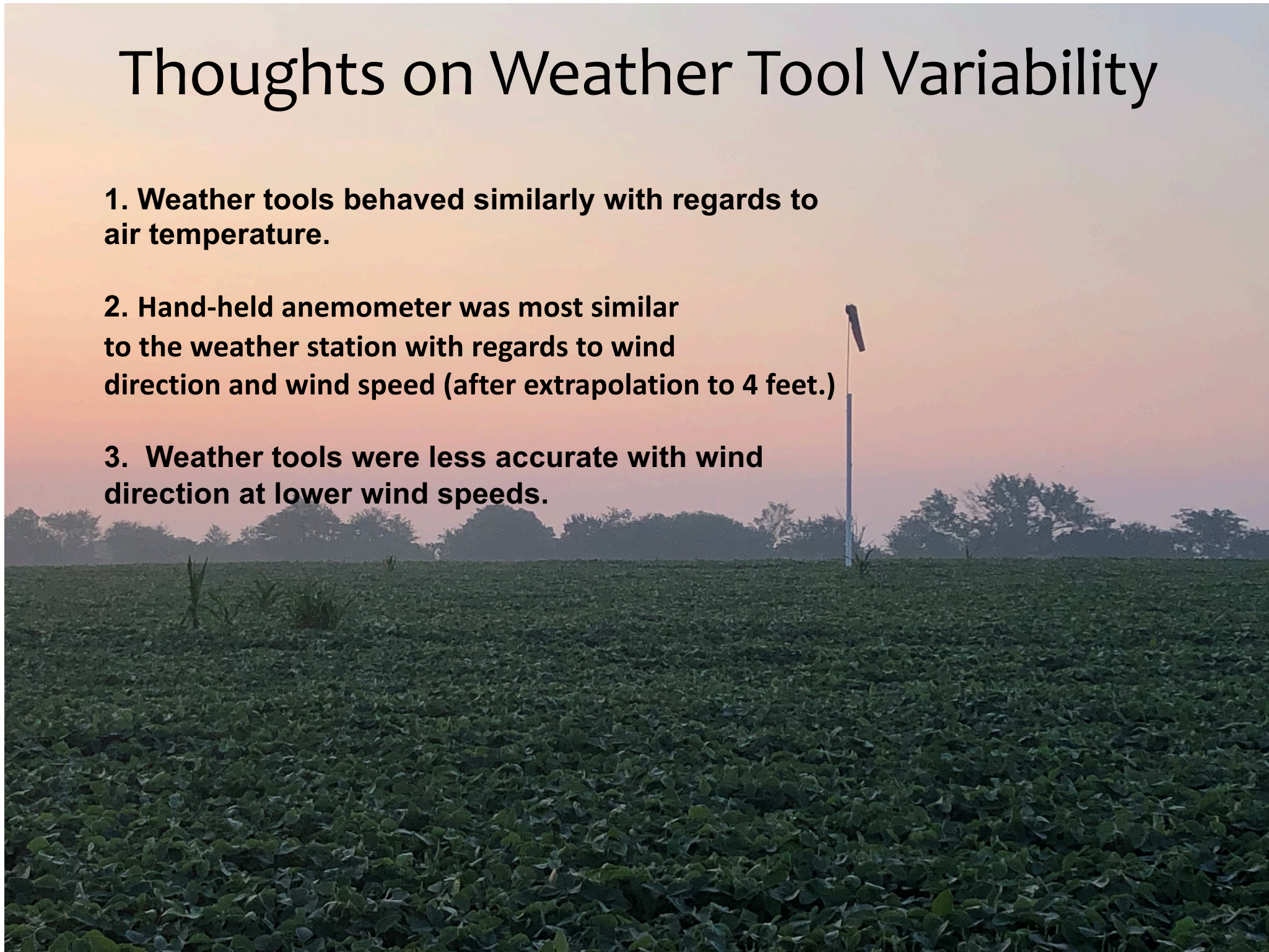


Wind direction was more accurate at higher wind speeds



Thoughts on Weather Tool Variability

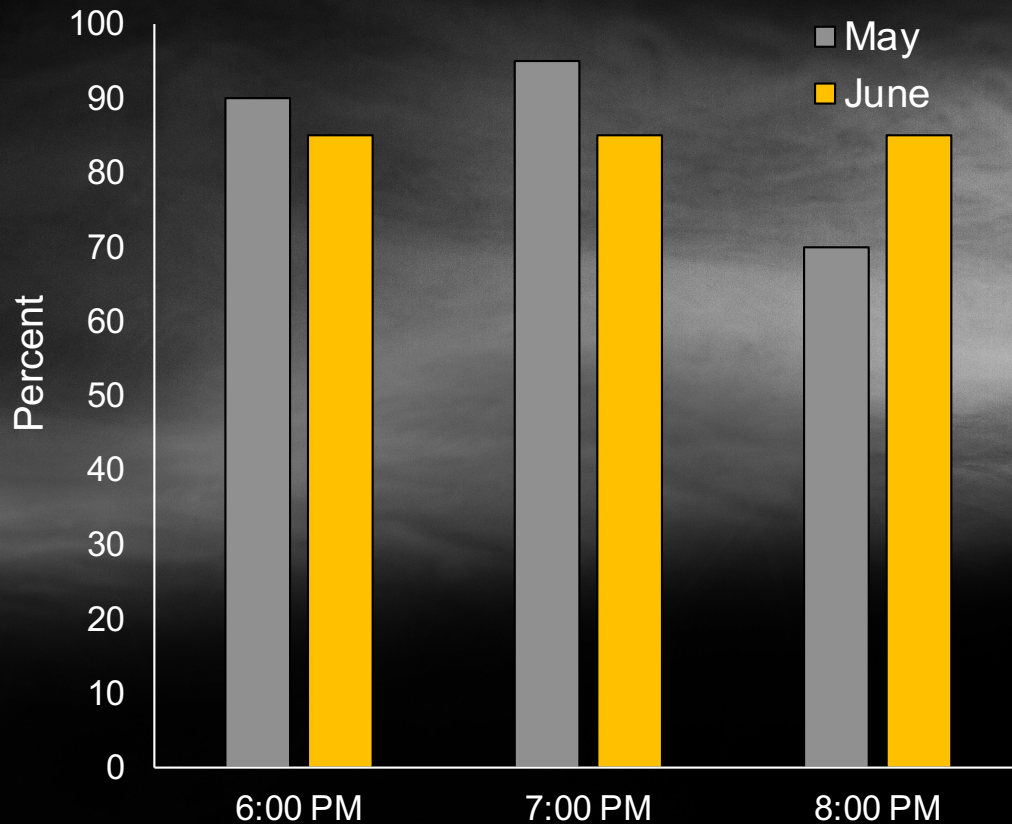
- 1. Weather tools behaved similarly with regards to air temperature.**
- 2. Hand-held anemometer was most similar to the weather station with regards to wind direction and wind speed (after extrapolation to 4 feet.)**
- 3. Weather tools were less accurate with wind direction at lower wind speeds.**



Forecasting Inversions

Predicted evening wind speeds were recorded during the day and compared to actual evening wind speeds.

How often did the forecasted wind speeds result in correct application decisions?*



- RRXtend Spray App was used for analysis.
- Missouri data is presented.
- Performance has been topography dependent.

Questions?

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weed
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