

This presentation premiered at WaterSmart Innovations

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Irrifluenza



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Waterfluence

with

Dr. Aqua Sprinky

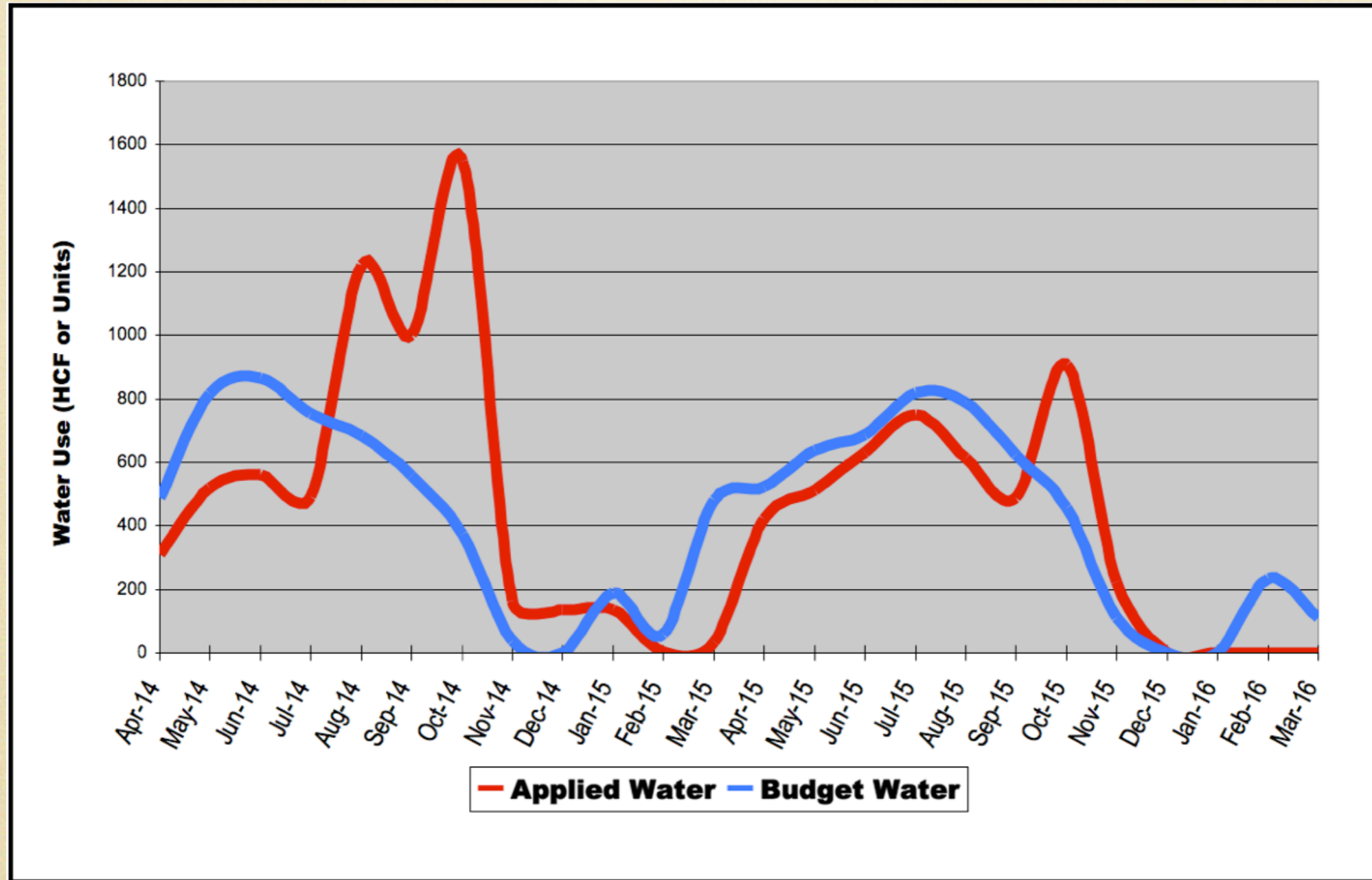
Landscape Pox?



“The Site Call”



Responses to Infection



Irrifluenza

What is it?

A Disease-like Concept Useful for Understanding
Landscape Irrigation System Problems and
Excessive Water Use

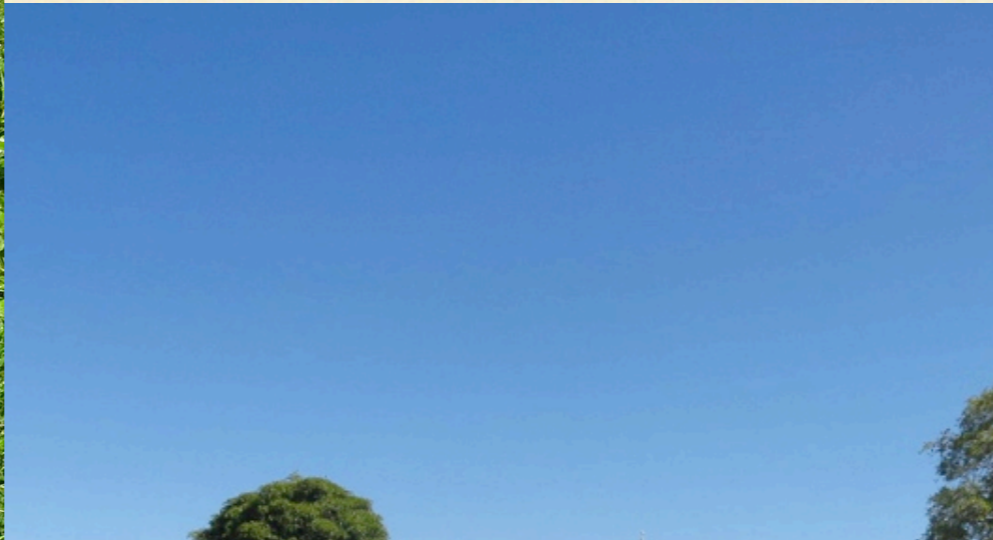
Going Viral

- Irrifluenza refers to the virus-like nature of some irrigation problems.
- Like a complex organism, an irrigation system comprises many interrelated parts and systems.
- One component's failure or out-of-spec operation can reduce overall system performance and cause other problems to occur.

Disease Concept

- A single problem sprinkler can “infect” an entire system, spreading from head to head and station to station as the irrigator applies more water to make up for degrading landscape appearance.

Symptoms



Points of Infection



Minor Details?

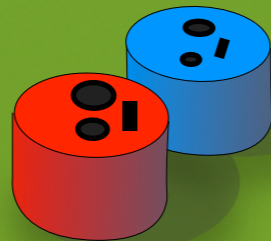


Nozzle Chalkboard Session

Dr. Sprinky says, ...

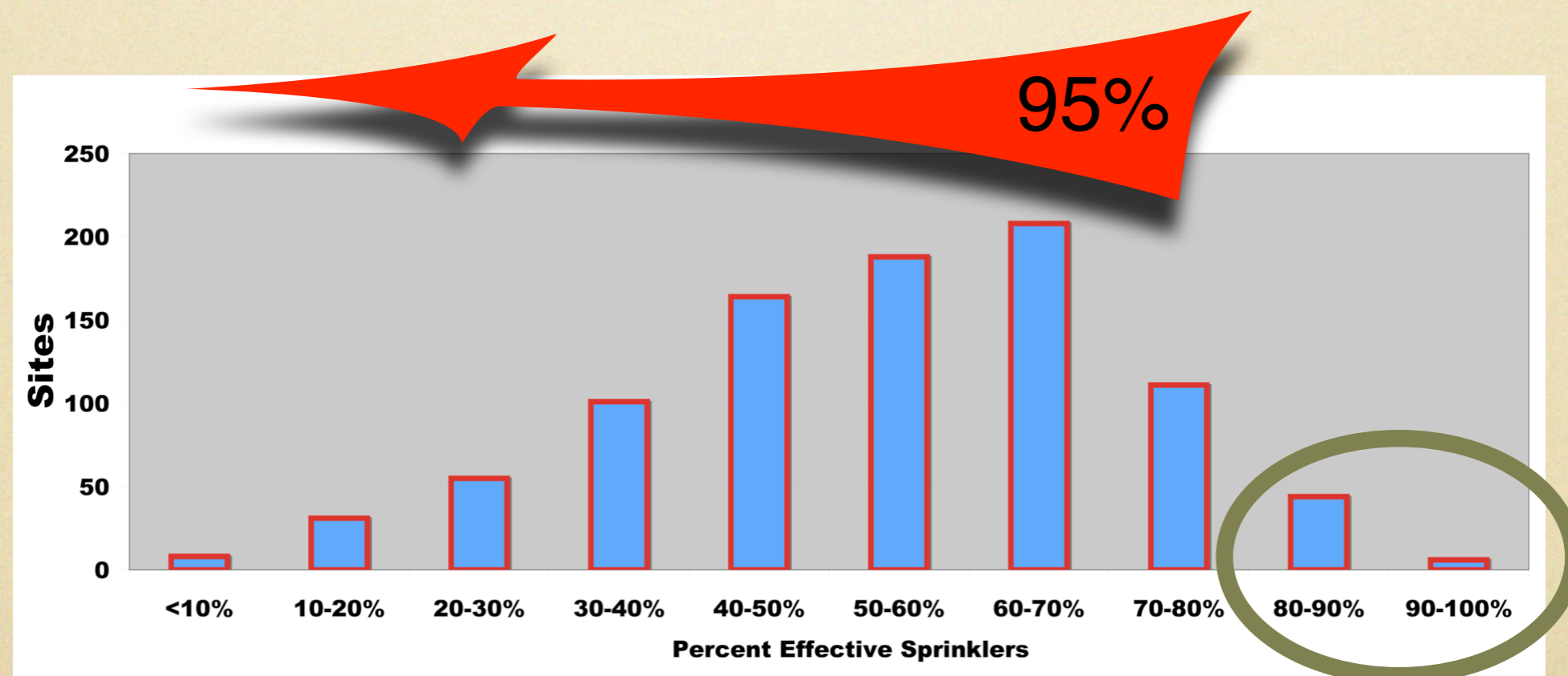
"I can change my nozzle but your sprinklers can't ..."

- 1) Operate them at the correct pressure.
- 2) With the proper nozzle.
- 3) Standing up tall.
- 4) With an aligned spray pattern ...
- 5) ... that clears surrounding plants.



How sick?

Summary of Observations		
Sprinkler Heads Observed (Sample Area)	164,858	
Effective sprinklers	94,600	57%
Ineffective sprinklers	70,258	43%
Corrective Actions for Ineffective Sprinklers		
Tuneup	Adjust spray pattern radius and arc, clean or replace nozzle, repair minor leaks, plumb and set to grade.	35%
Renovation	Remove and replace with operating sprinkler.	7%



Numeric Data



Pressure!

Low Pressure causes:

- High precipitation rates
- Low uniformity
- Poor sealing
- Valve problems
- Mostly rotor sprinklers

High Pressure causes:

- Mist
- Water hammer
- Sprinkler damage
- Poor coverage or uniformity
- Mostly spray sprinklers

5 Stages of coping with Irrifluenza

- Denial
- Anger
- Bargaining
- Depression
- Acceptance and Hope

The Holistic Cure

- *Only affected through the systematic and thorough application of irrigation knowledge from organizational top to bottom.*
- *Accurate metrics and measurement.*
- *Reenforcement for good behavior.*

“Life style changes”

- *Organizational acceptance*
- *Training*
- *Checklists*
- *Monthly THOROUGH inspections*
- *Questions and more questions*

First Aid Kit

- Fix leaks
- Correct pressures
(wholesale “adjustment”)
- Replace nozzles as needed
- Adjust new and old nozzles
(retail “adjustment”)



More Effective Sprinklers

