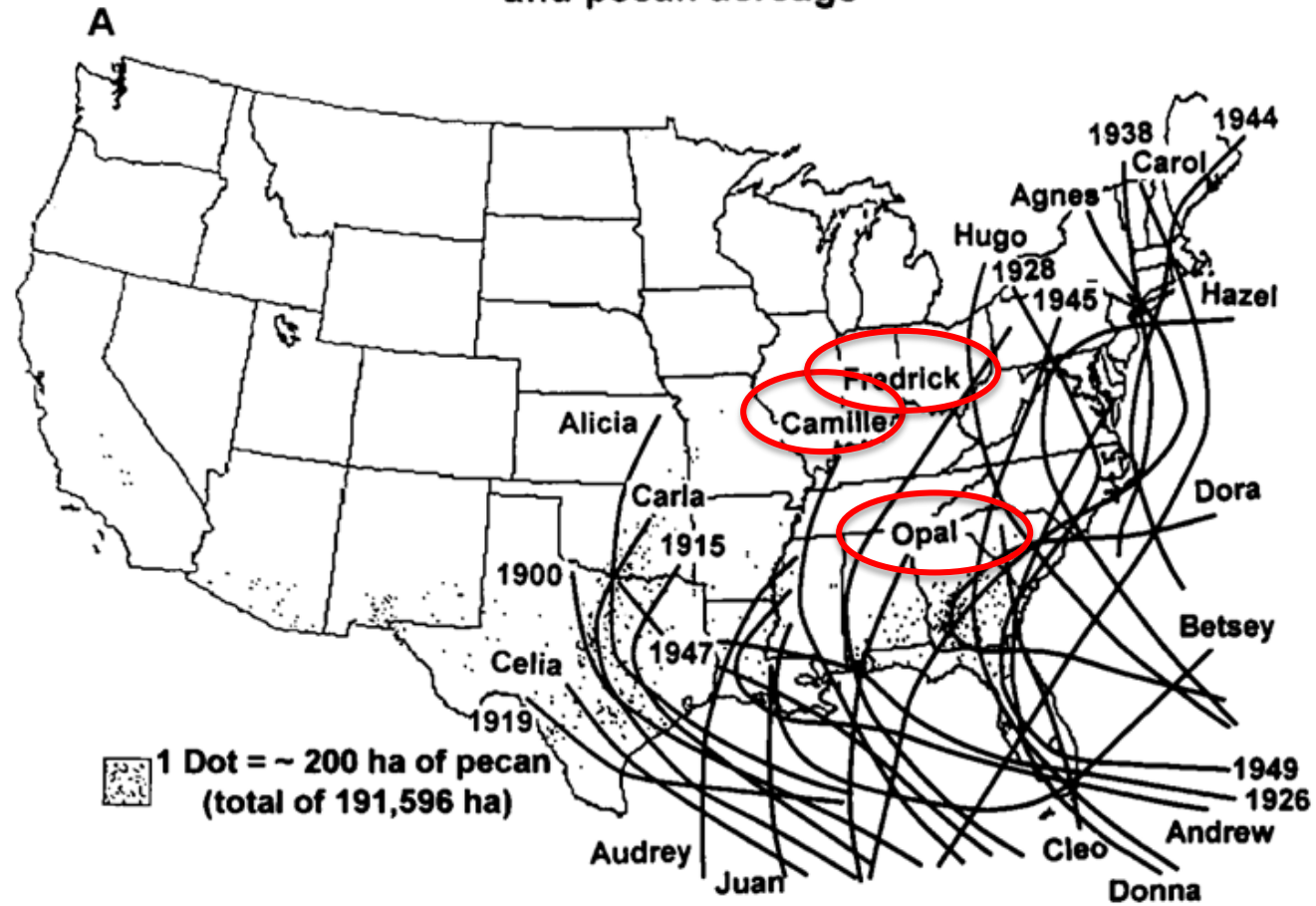


What Have We Learned From Hurricane Irma?

Lenny Wells
UGA Horticulture



Tracks of major hurricanes and pecan acreage



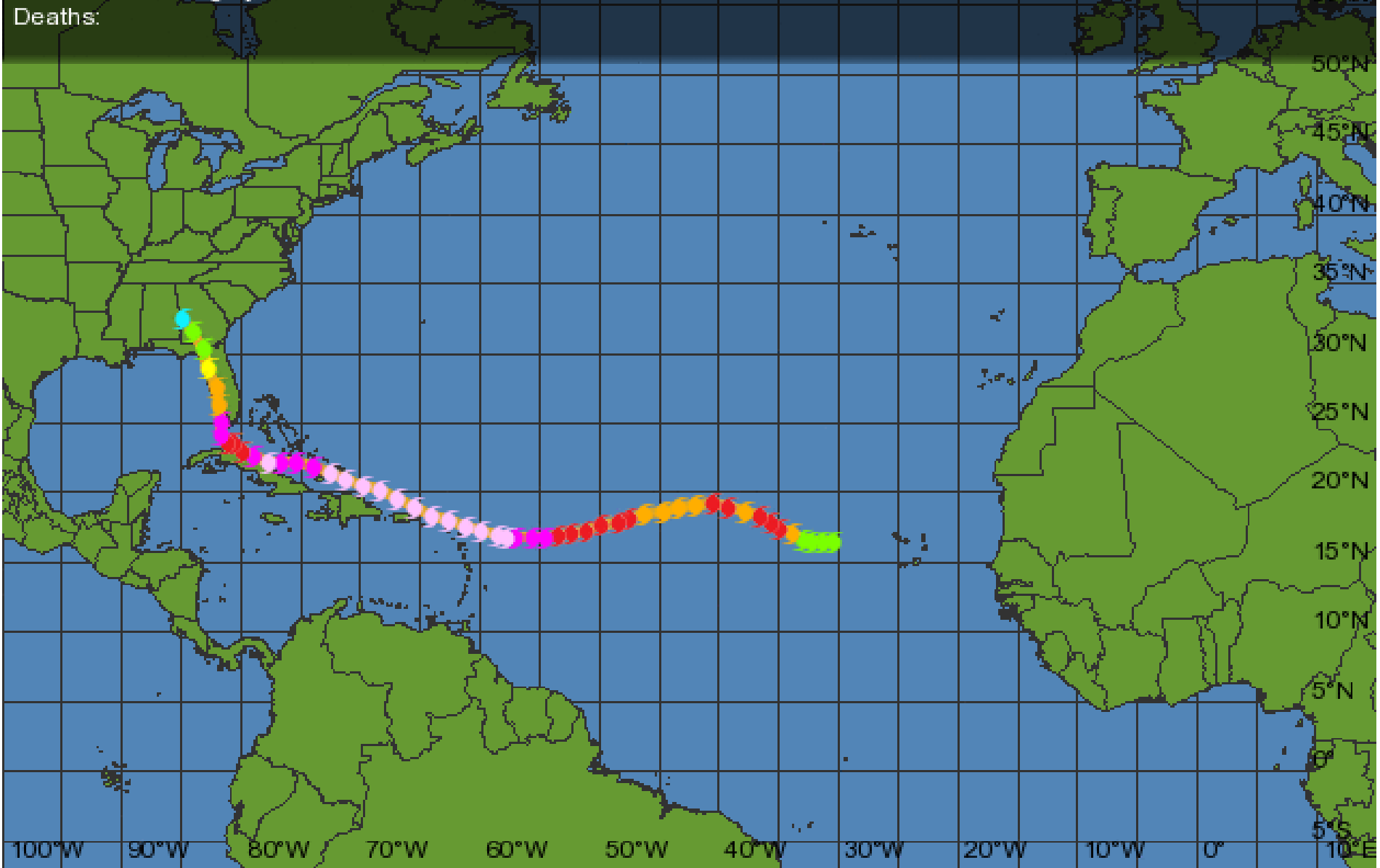
Tropical Depression Irma

Storm Category



Dates: 8/30 - 9/12 2017
Maximum Wind Speed: 185 mph
Minimum Pressure: 914 mb
US Landfall Category:
Deaths:

Tropical Depression	Tropical Storm	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	Category 5
< 39 mph	39-73 mph	74-95 mph	96-110 mph	111-130 mph	131-155 mph	156+ mph





Early estimate = 30% damage



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Uprooting

- Trees trained to central leader generally suffer less damage
- Large, spreading trees most vulnerable
- Upright, open canopies= less wind resistance



- 15-40 yr old range most susceptible
- Young (1-5 yr.) trees generally have more flexibility and less wind resistance
- 50-70 yr old trees have enough bulk and anchorage (up to a point)*



Righting Trees

- In general if lean is 45 degrees or more, better off to cut down
- Trees 10" in diameter or less have more success
- Unpredictable, but trees with broken roots rarely as productive or vigorous
- PRUNE CANOPY!



Correcting Planting Depth Problems/Slightly Leaning Trees



Limb Breakage

- Narrow angles= broken limbs or trunks



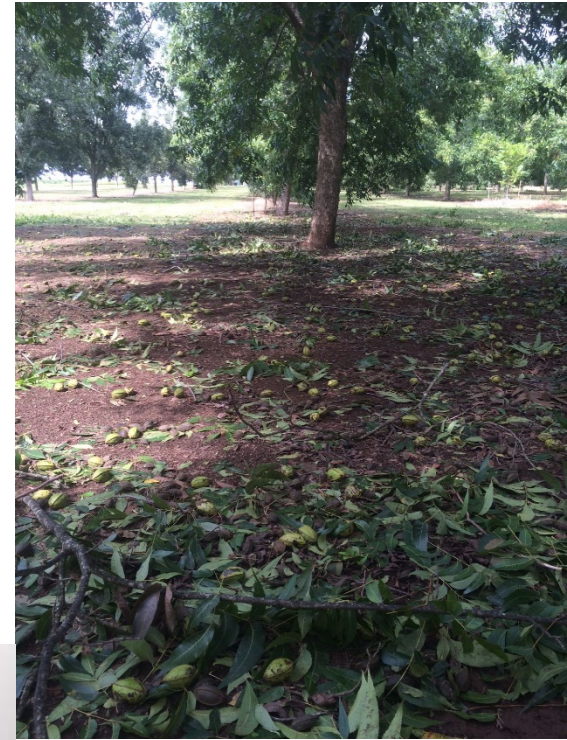


Hedging and Wind



Damage to Fruit

- Nuts blown from trees
- Shucks damaged by wind
- High % B grades



IRMA

- Est. 30% damage
- Final 2017 GA pecan crop numbers approx. 110,000,000 lbs

