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## Black currant – improving water availability for organic grown black currant

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**The Interreg IVB  
North Sea Region  
Programme**

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The aim is to

- improve water availability
- develop methods to reduce competition from weed in the row

Methods & materials

field grown black currant - Narve Viking, Ben Hope

Narve Viking:

- mechanical weeding in the row
- cover crops **between the rows**
  - clover-grass
  - Wolf-cover crop
- cutting of the cover crops, when precipitation is low

Ben Hope

- treatments **in the row**
- mulching:
  - black polypropylene
  - rape straw
- cover crop:
  - wee grass
- mechanical weeding

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## Cover crops between rows







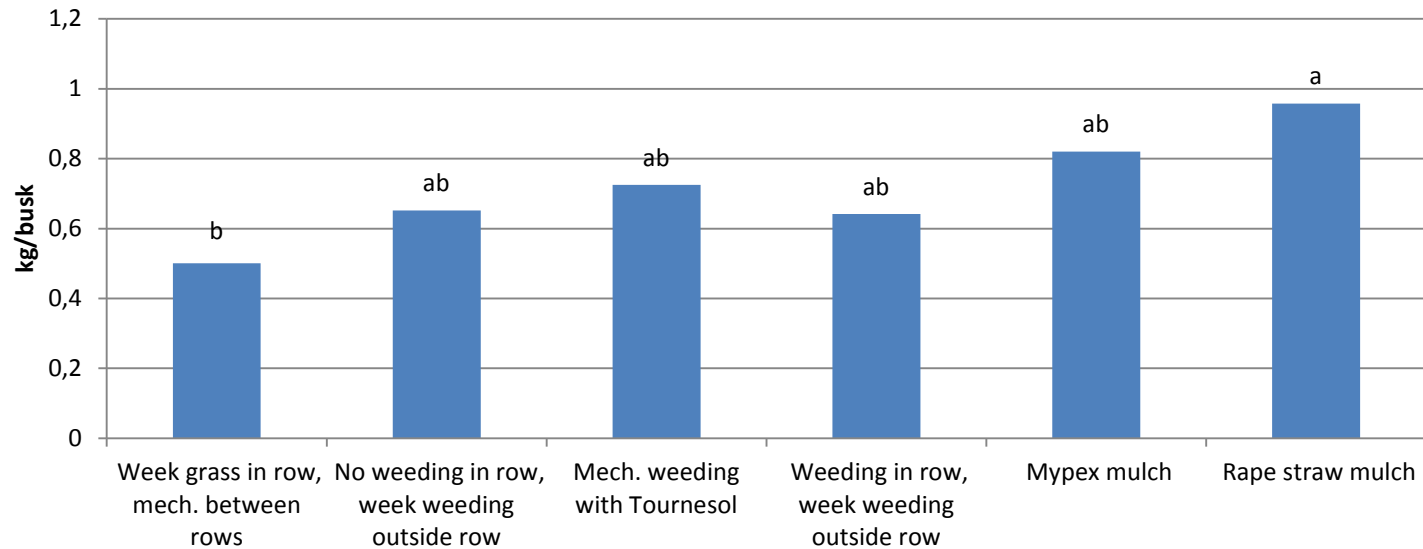
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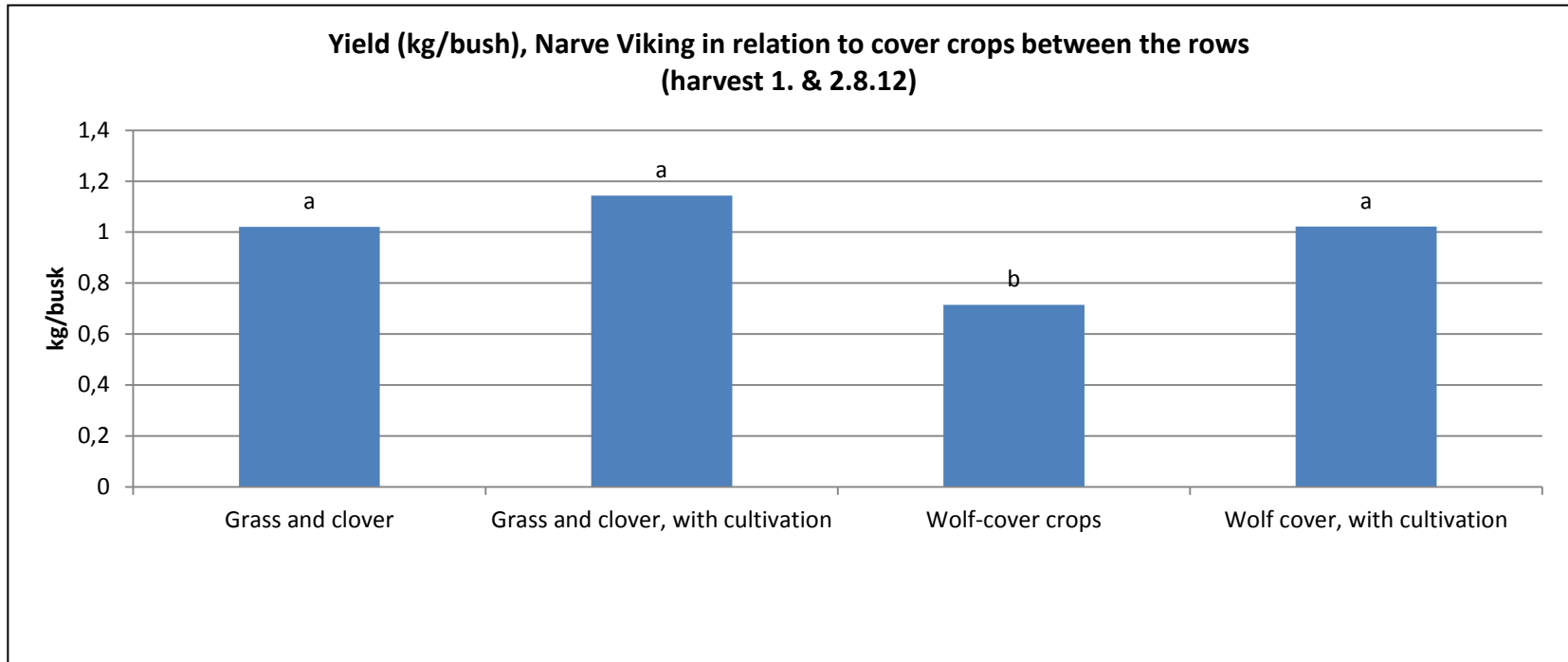
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**Yield (kg/bush), Ben Hope in relation to weeding treatment  
(harvest 1. & 2.8.12)**



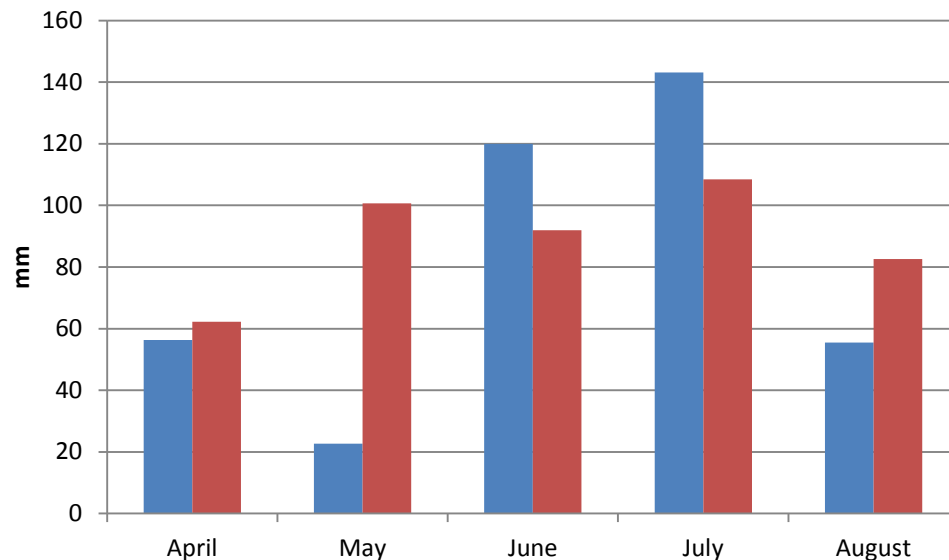
## Yield in 2012





- TRD measurements in the bush row have not been analysed yet
- Irrigation had no effect compared to non-irrigated

Precipitation & evapotranspiration in 2012 at AU Aarslev



■ Precipitation

■ Evapotranspiration

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## Conclusion

Cover crops between the rows  
cultivation time should be  
considered  
green manure from the cover crops  
could be used for mulching

Within the row  
mulching should be developed as  
above  
mulching and harvesting should be  
considered  
no competition from cover crops in the  
row

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