Global Climate Change (in 2050)



- **1. Atmospheric increase in CO₂**
- **2. Increase in temperature**
- 3. Altered precipitation patterns

1. Atmospheric increase in CO₂







Ziska et al. (1998) Aus. J. Pl. Physiol. 25:801

2. Increase in Temperature (2050)



Mid-South Model

- 1. Earlier sowing to maximize radiation interception
- 2. Shorter season cultivars to avoid late season heat and drought
- Readily accommodated in 40 year time frame

Average 24 years of weather data (1965-1988)



Note: +3 C includes 2-week earlier sowing date

Sinclair & Rawlins (1993) Agron. J. 85:406

3. Precipitation: Currently, main factor in inter-annual yield variation

- HI = harvest index
- k_d = transpiration coefficient
- (e* e) = vapor pressure deficit
- W = water for transpiration



Soybean Yield (g dry m⁻²)



Climate Change Precipitation: The Thousand-Pound Gorilla



Change in Storm Patterns

• <u>Frequency</u>: May decrease resulting in more drought periods

•<u>Intensity</u>: May increase resulting in increased runoff losses



Changes in seasonal precipitation a concern



Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fourth Assessment. 2007. Working Group I Report "The Physical Science Basis" Chapter 11. Regional Climate Projections

Vapor Pressure Deficit unchanged from 1949 to 1996

(Szilagyi et al., J. Water Res Planning & Manag., 127:354)

$VPD \approx 0.75 \ (e_{Tmax} - e_{Tmin})$

T_{min} increase > T_{max} increase

Genetic Focus for Climate Change: Drought Tolerance

- Access More Water
- Conserve Water
- Special Sensitivity: N₂ Fixation Drought Tolerance



Transpiration Efficiency Coefficent (k_d)

C₄ (maize, sugarcane) 9 Pa

C₃ grasses (wheat, rice) 6 Pa

C₃ legumes (soybean, peanut) 5 Pa





