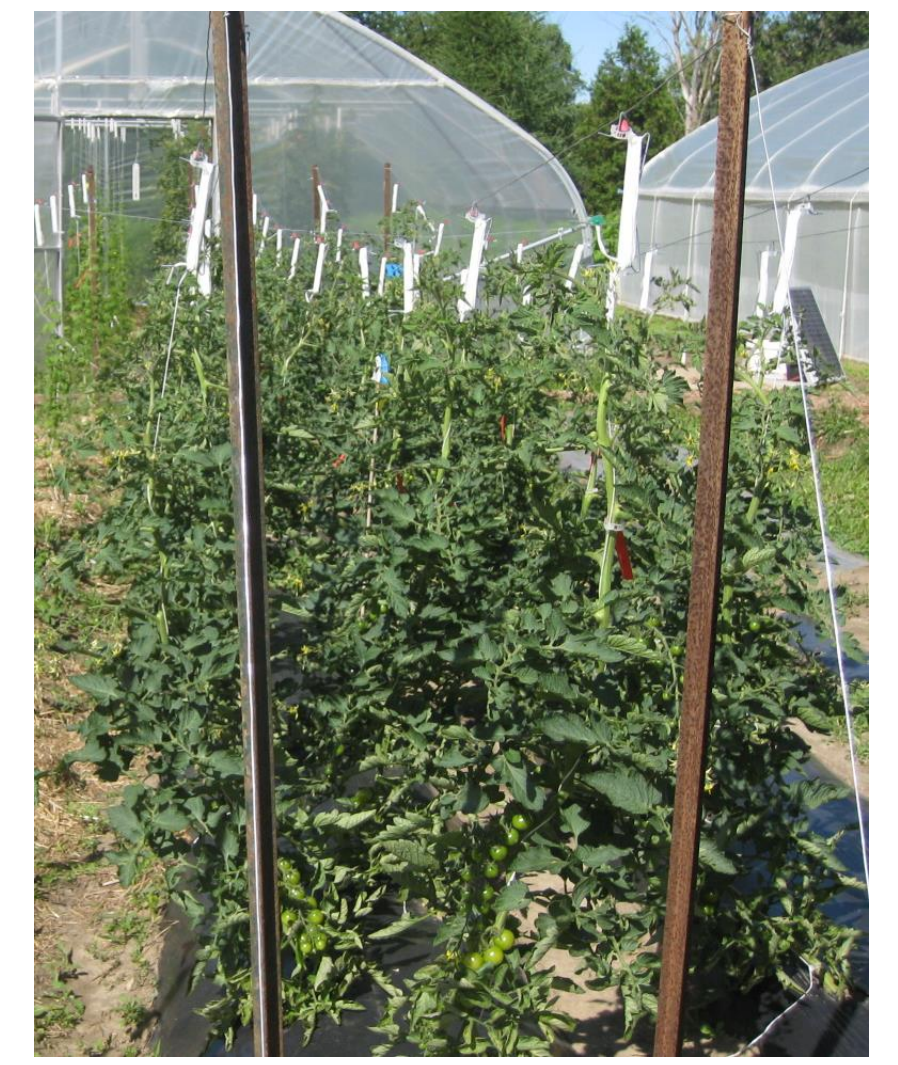


# High Tunnels can Produce Higher Yields of Organic Cherry Tomato and Bitter Melon in Southwest Ontario Climate



Trials conducted in 2015 demonstrated that high tunnels dramatically increased the yield of cherry tomato and bitter melon compared to field production.

Insect netting on rollup sides increased both fruit number & mass in bitter melon but decreased fruit mass & had no effect on fruit number in cherry tomatoes.



Bitter melon in high tunnel

Bitter melon in field

Cherry tomato in high tunnel

Cherry tomato in field

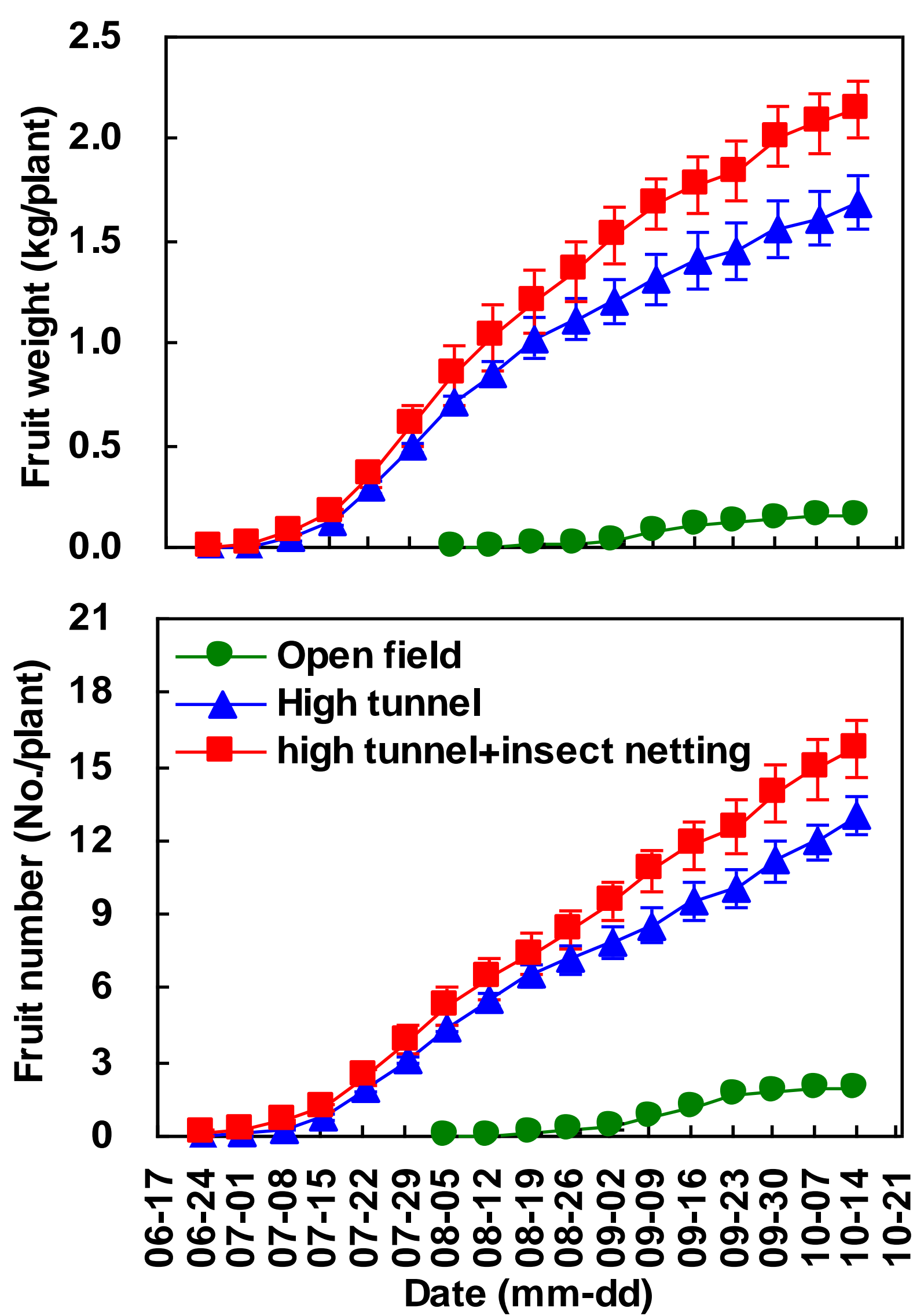


Fig. 1. Bitter melon yield.

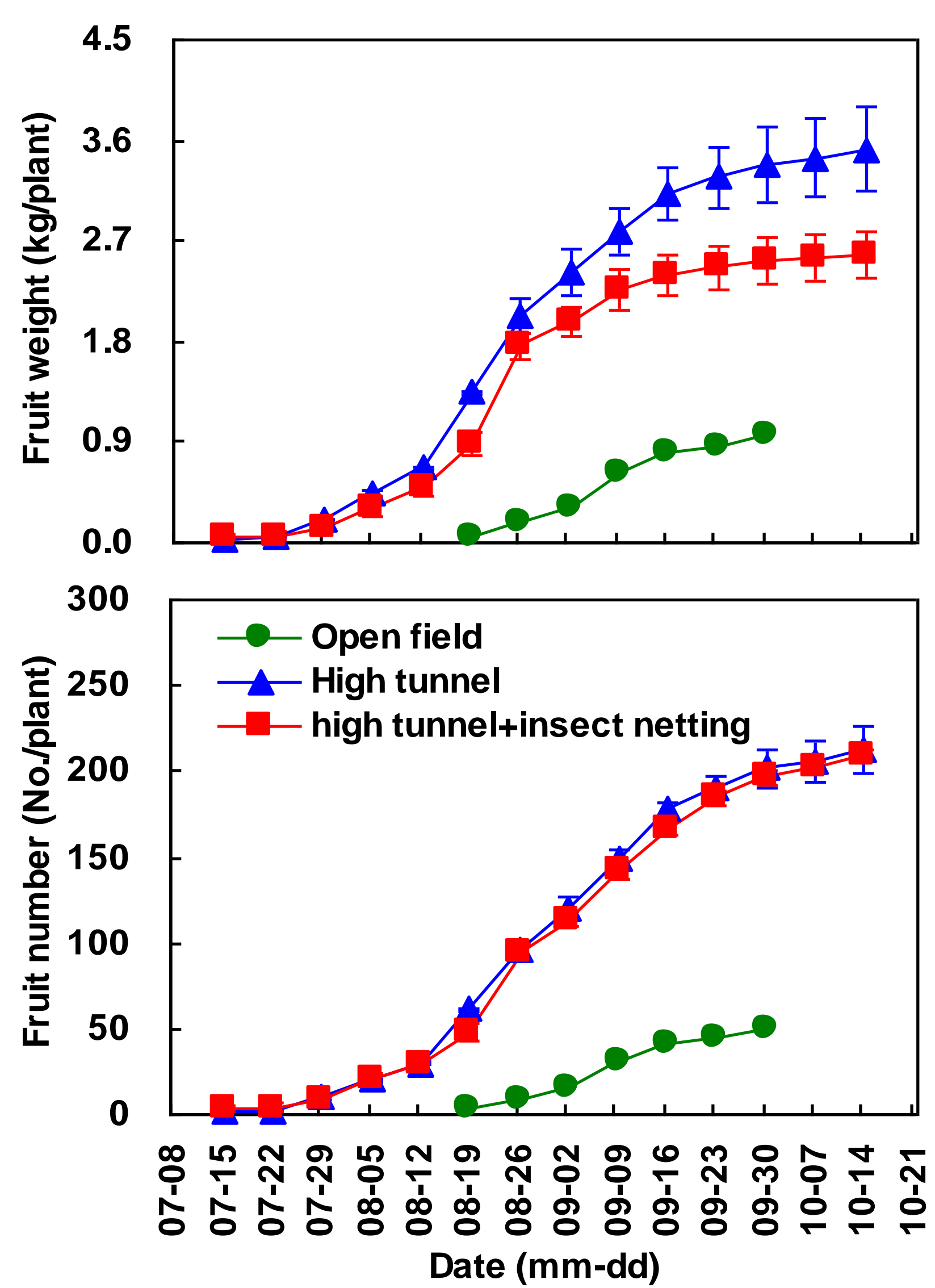


Fig. 2. Cherry tomato yield.

## A multidisciplinary research team is involved in this research project:

**Dr. Youbin Zheng:** Greenhouse organic crop production, plant nutrition

**Mr. Dave Llewellyn:** High tunnel infrastructure and plant production

**Dr. Yun Kong:** Vegetable production under controlled environments

**Dr. Rene Van Acker:** Weeds management

**Dr. Ralph Martin:** Sustainable food production

**Dr. Mary Ruth McDonald:** Integrated vegetable crop management

**Dr. W. David Lubitz:** Engineering, microclimate

**Ms. Martha Gay Scroggins:** GCUOF co-ordinator

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