

# Management tactics for control of pollen beetle in oilseed rape

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# The problem: pollen beetle *Meligethes aeneus*

- Brassica specialist pest
- Oviposits in buds causing yield loss
- Pyrethroid resistance



## The solution?

**Reduce the no. sprays and area sprayed  
by manipulation of host-location behaviour**



**–yellow colour of the flowering crop**

**– host plant volatiles**

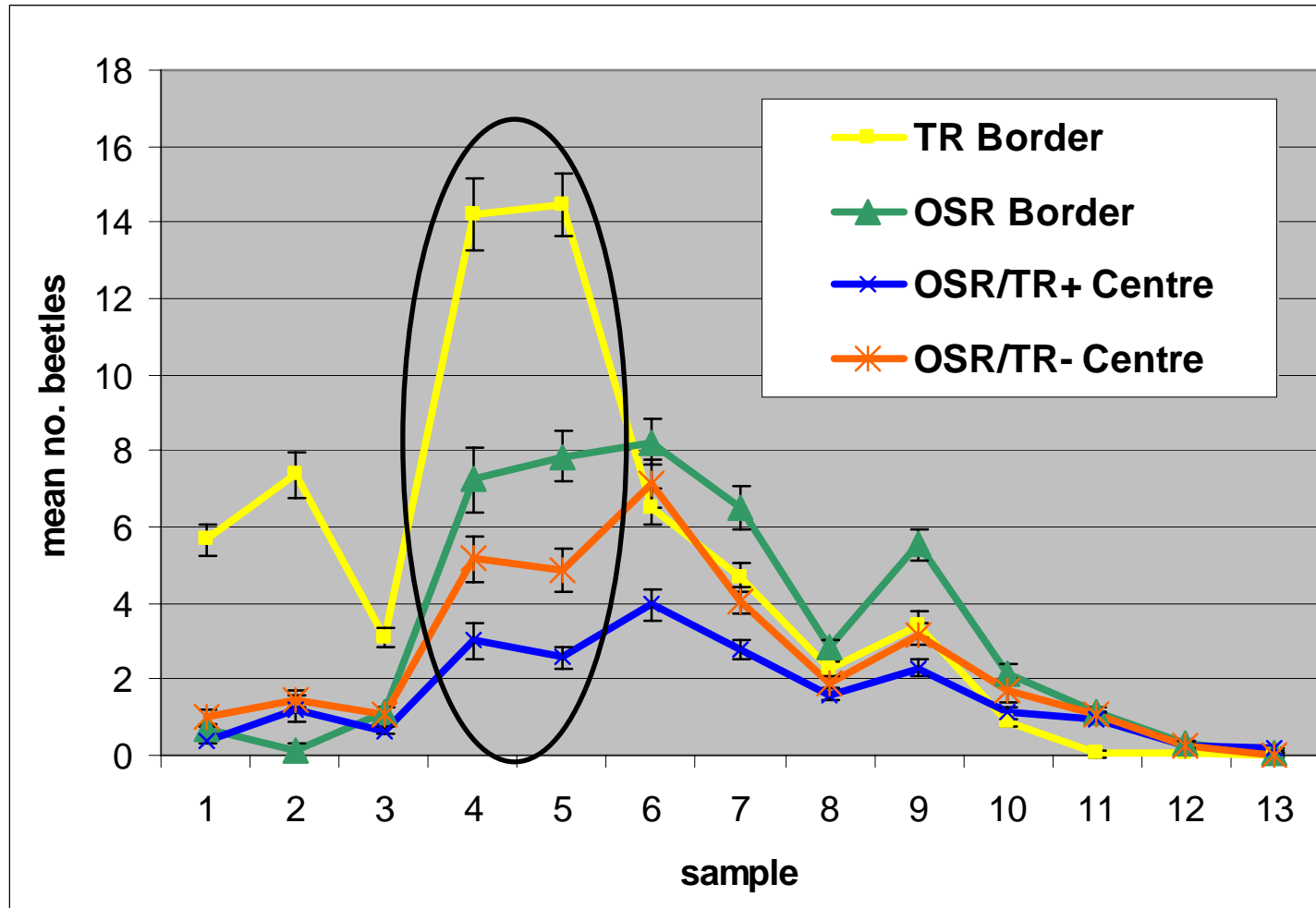
**floral odour**

**alkenyl isothiocyanates**

**Turnip rape (*Brassica rapa*) trap crops are more attractive than *B. napus* as they flower earlier and have more attractive odour (phenylacetaldehyde & indole)**



# Turnip rape trap crops reduced level of infestation in centre plot to below spray threshold



# Possible LINK project

- Test the trap cropping method on a field scale in winter rape cropping system



# Possible LINK project

- Test the trap cropping method on a field scale in winter rape cropping system
  - need high yielding, early flowering cv. of TR
  - ultimately need to breed OSR with the attractive characteristics of TR
- Improve decision making
  - monitoring traps
  - decision support (proPlant) [www.proPlant.de](http://www.proPlant.de)