

# Lighting and Energy

Krishna Nemali Ph.D.

Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist

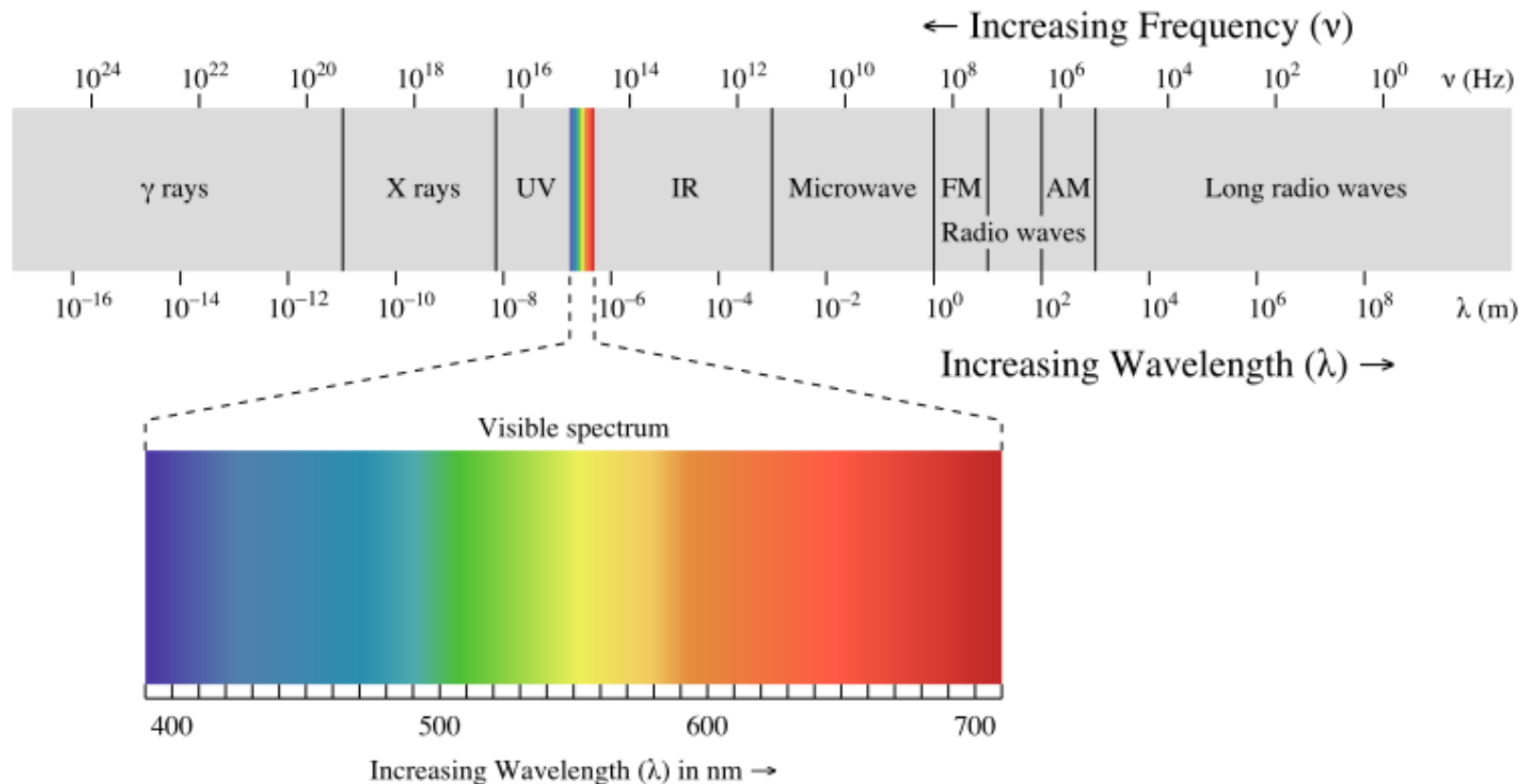
Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

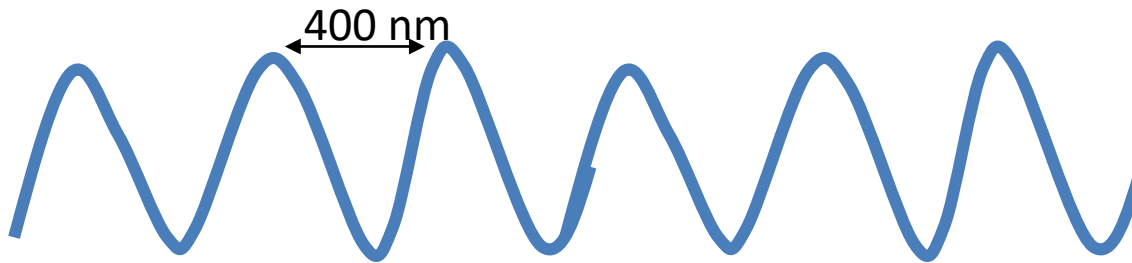
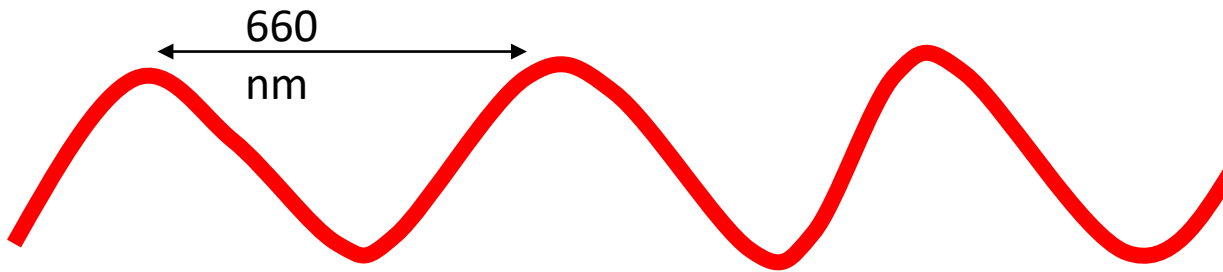
Purdue University, West Lafayette

Tel: 765-494-8179

Email: [KNEMALI@Purdue.edu](mailto:KNEMALI@Purdue.edu)

Light exists in both **wave** (with certain frequency and energy) and **particle** (photons with certain intensity) forms





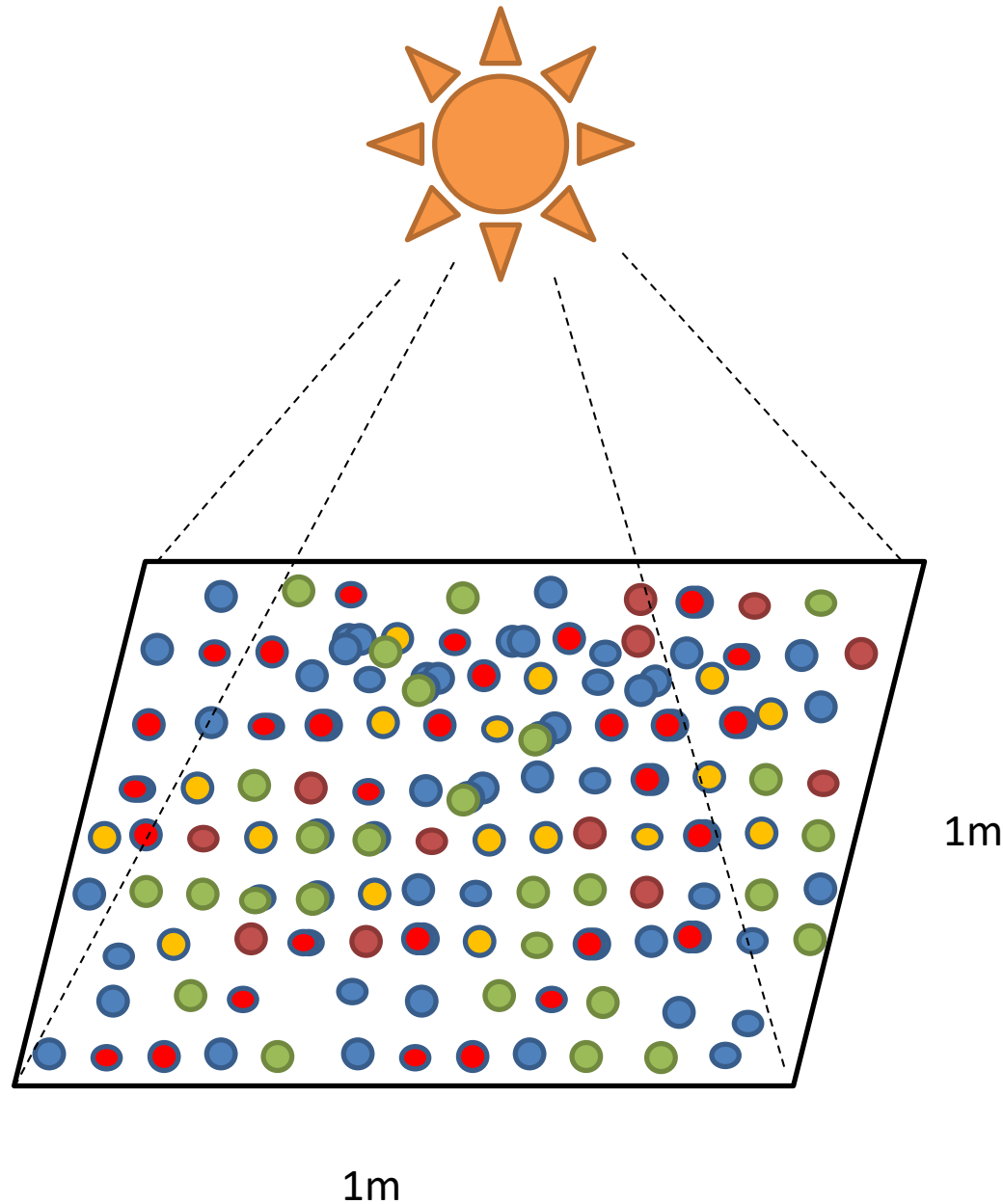
$$Energy = h \times \frac{C}{\lambda}$$

'h' is Planck's constant ( $4.136 \times 10^{-15}$  eV s)  
 C is velocity of light ( $2.99 \times 10^{17}$  nm/s)  
 $\lambda$  is wavelength of photons (nm)

$$\text{Energy of a blue photon} = 4.136 \times 10^{-15} \text{ eV s} \times \frac{2.99 \times 10^{17} \text{ nm/s}}{400 \text{ nm}} = 3.09 \text{ eV}$$

$$\text{Energy of a red photon} = 4.136 \times 10^{-15} \text{ eV s} \times \frac{2.99 \times 10^{17} \text{ nm/s}}{660 \text{ nm}} = 1.87 \text{ eV}$$

Light intensity is number of photons of light (400-700 nm) incident on a  $\text{m}^2$  area in a second



## Units of light intensity ( $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ )

One mole contains  $6.022 \times 10^{23}$  entities of a substance

Micro mole is millionth of a mole

$1 \mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s} = 6.022 \times 10^{17}$  light particles (photons) hitting a  $\text{m}^2$  area in one second

Full sun is  $2000 \mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ , supplemental lighting provides  $\sim 100 \mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$

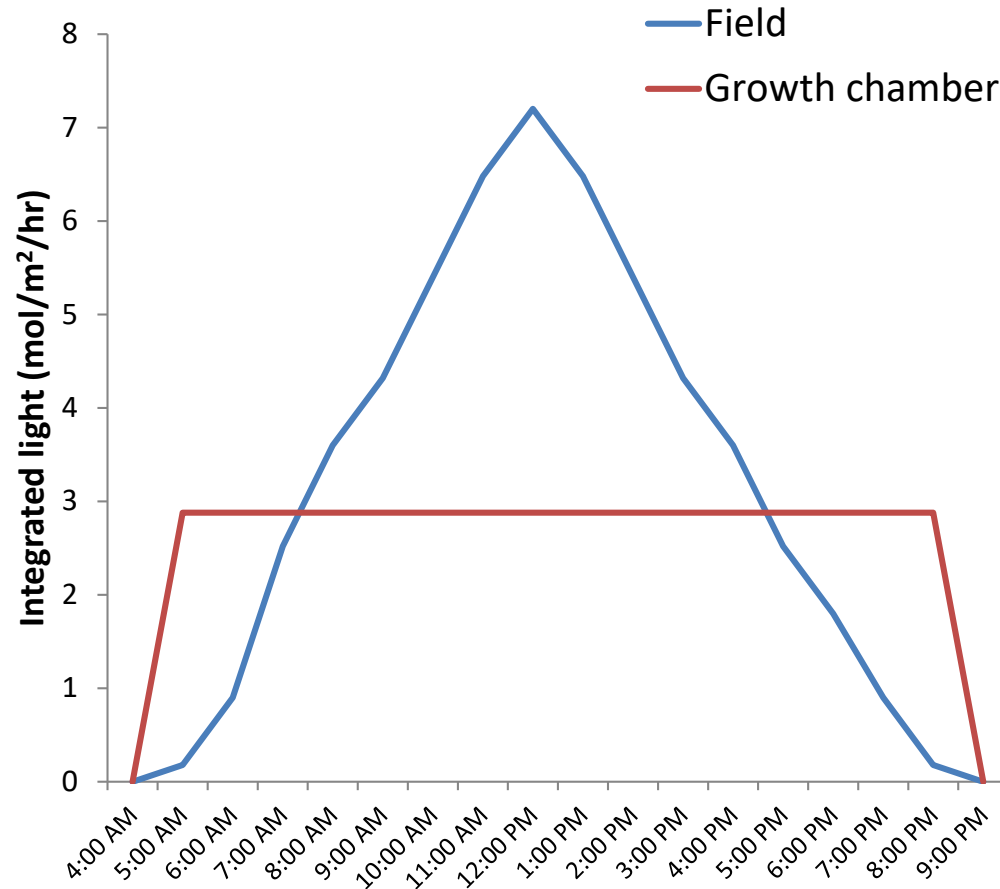
# Daily Light Integral (DLI)

Total intensity of light incident on a m<sup>2</sup> area in a day

Units are mol/m<sup>2</sup>/d (compare with light intensity)

$$DLI = \textcolor{brown}{x} \frac{\mu\text{mol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{ s}} \times 10^{-6} \frac{\text{mol}}{\mu\text{mol}} \times 3600 \frac{\text{s}}{\text{h}} \times \textcolor{teal}{y} \frac{\text{h}}{\text{d}}$$

# Light units: Daily light integral (DLI)



$$\text{DLI} = 48 \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{day}}$$

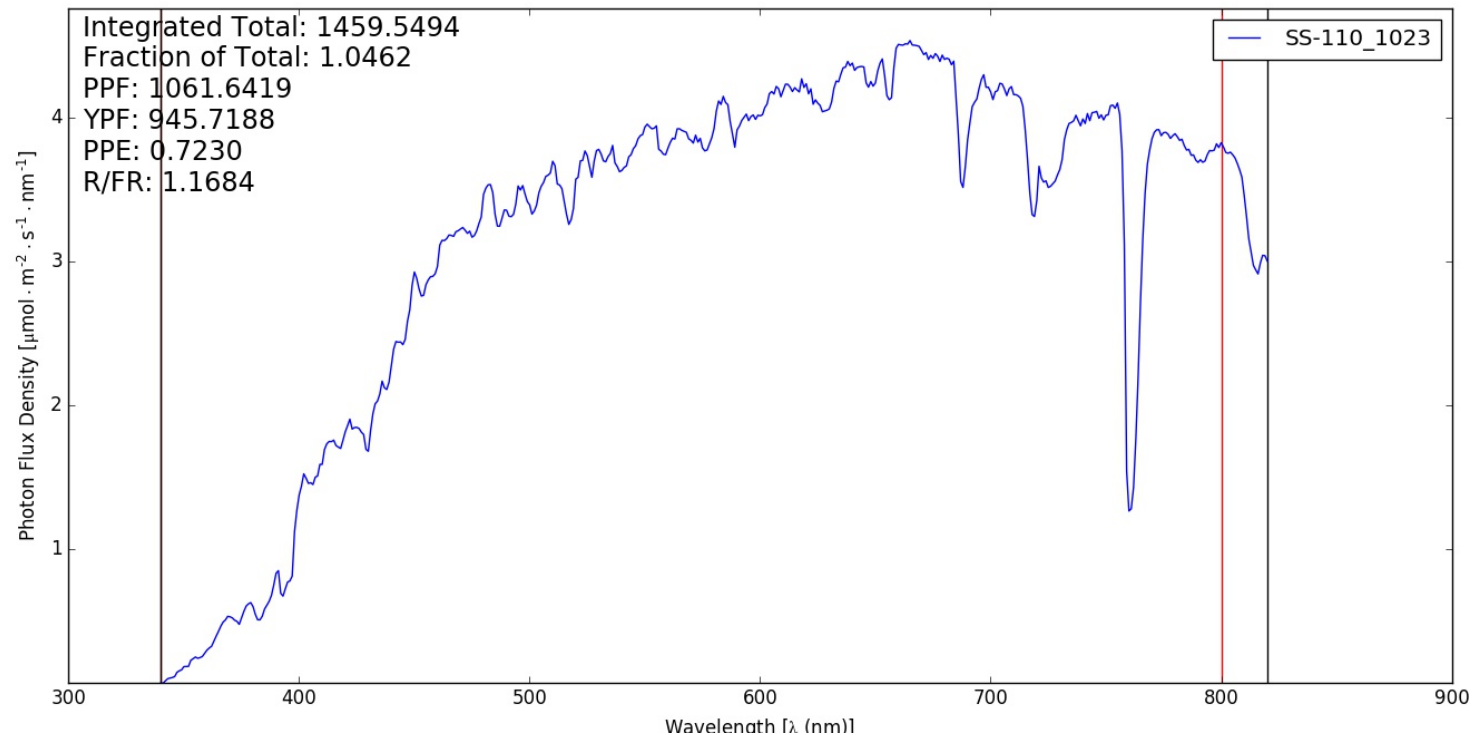
# Quantum sensors measure light intensity



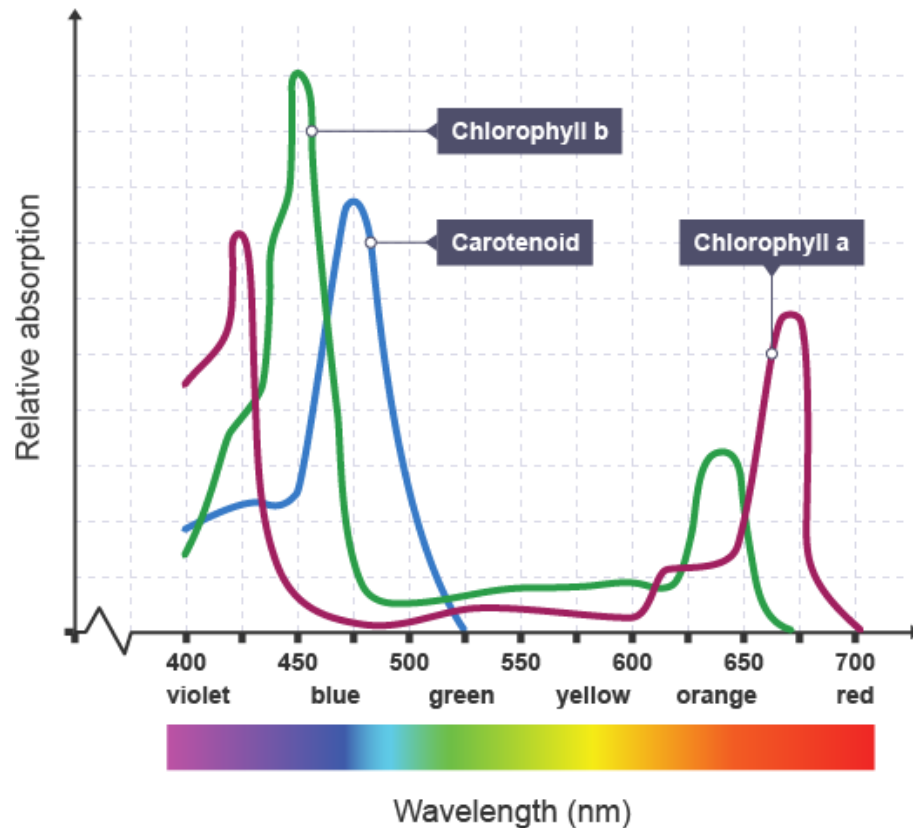


# Light Composition

- Refers to the relative proportion of photons received at each wave length
- It can be quantified by measuring intensity of individual wavelengths of light
- Units:  $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}/\text{nm}$

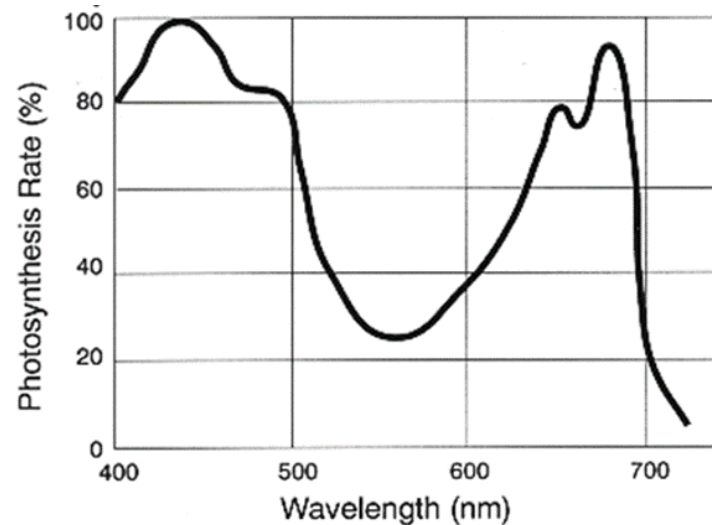
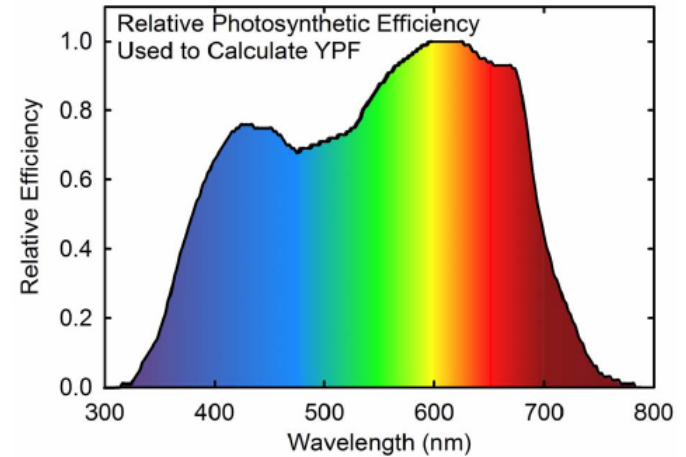
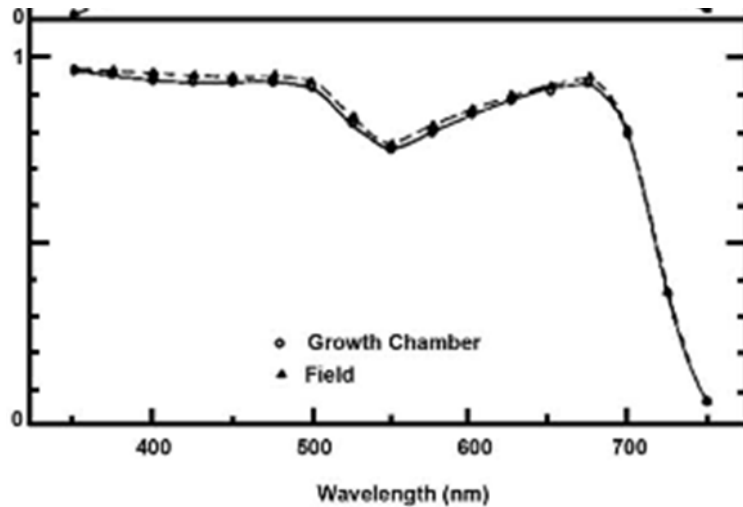


# Light absorption vs. Color

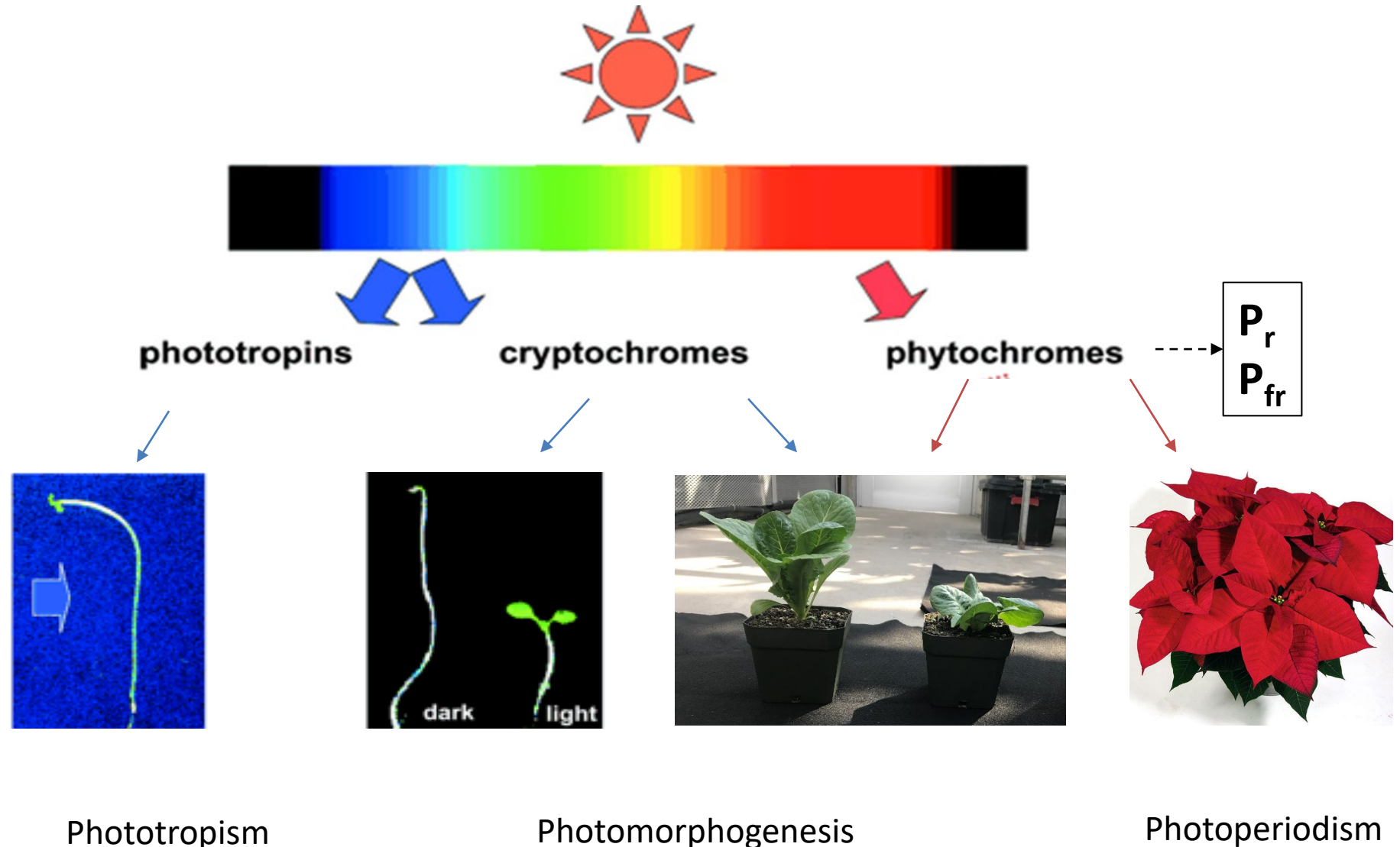


Blue and green light is absorbed by non-chlorophyll pigments

# Light composition affects photosynthesis

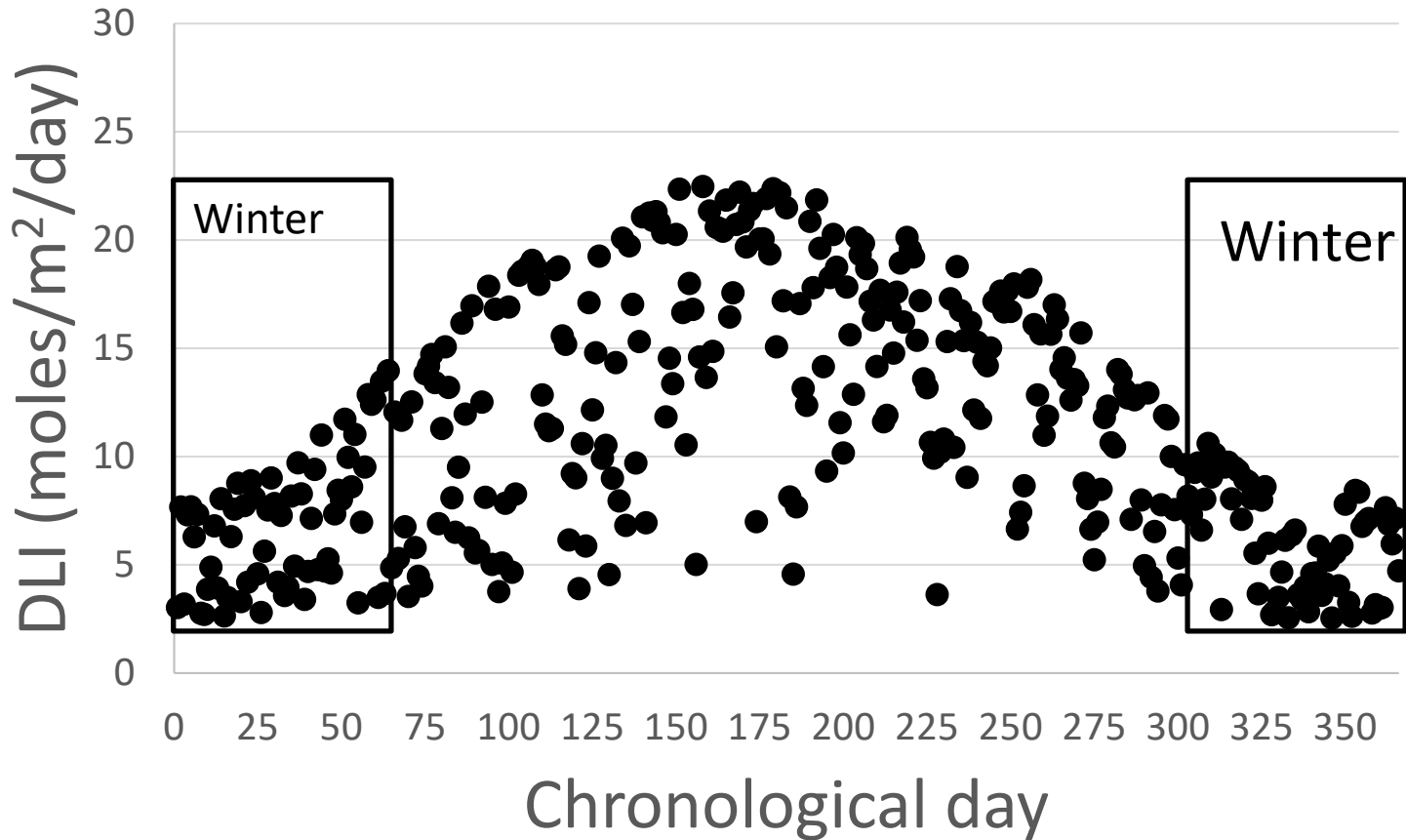


# Light composition effects on plants



Artificial / Supplemental Lighting

How much sunlight do we get inside greenhouse?



Lettuce requires a daily total of 15 to 20 mol/m<sup>2</sup> of light



20 mol/m<sup>2</sup>/day



10 mol/m<sup>2</sup>/day

Artificial source of lighting is used to provide most (winter greenhouse) of the light

# Supplemental lighting

- Provide additional light for photosynthesis during cloudy days or winter months
- Extend photoperiod
- Improve crop quality
- Indirect benefit of heating in winter
- Can provide 100 to 400  $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$



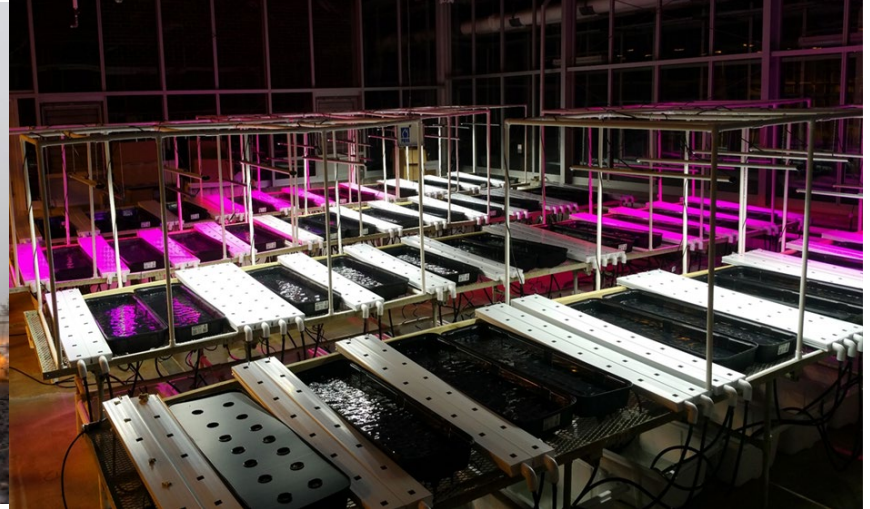
# Composition of different types of lighting

## Light Distribution

Light source	Light distribution percentage			
	Blue	Green	Red	Far red
Cool-white fluorescent lamp	21	52	24	2
High-pressure sodium lamp	5	51	38	6
Incandescent lamp	2	13	34	52
Metal halide lamp	18	49	25	8
Sun (direct sun and sky)	23	26	26	25

Courtesy: Erik Runkle, Michigan State Univ.

# Supplemental lighting options for greenhouse



High Pressure Sodium



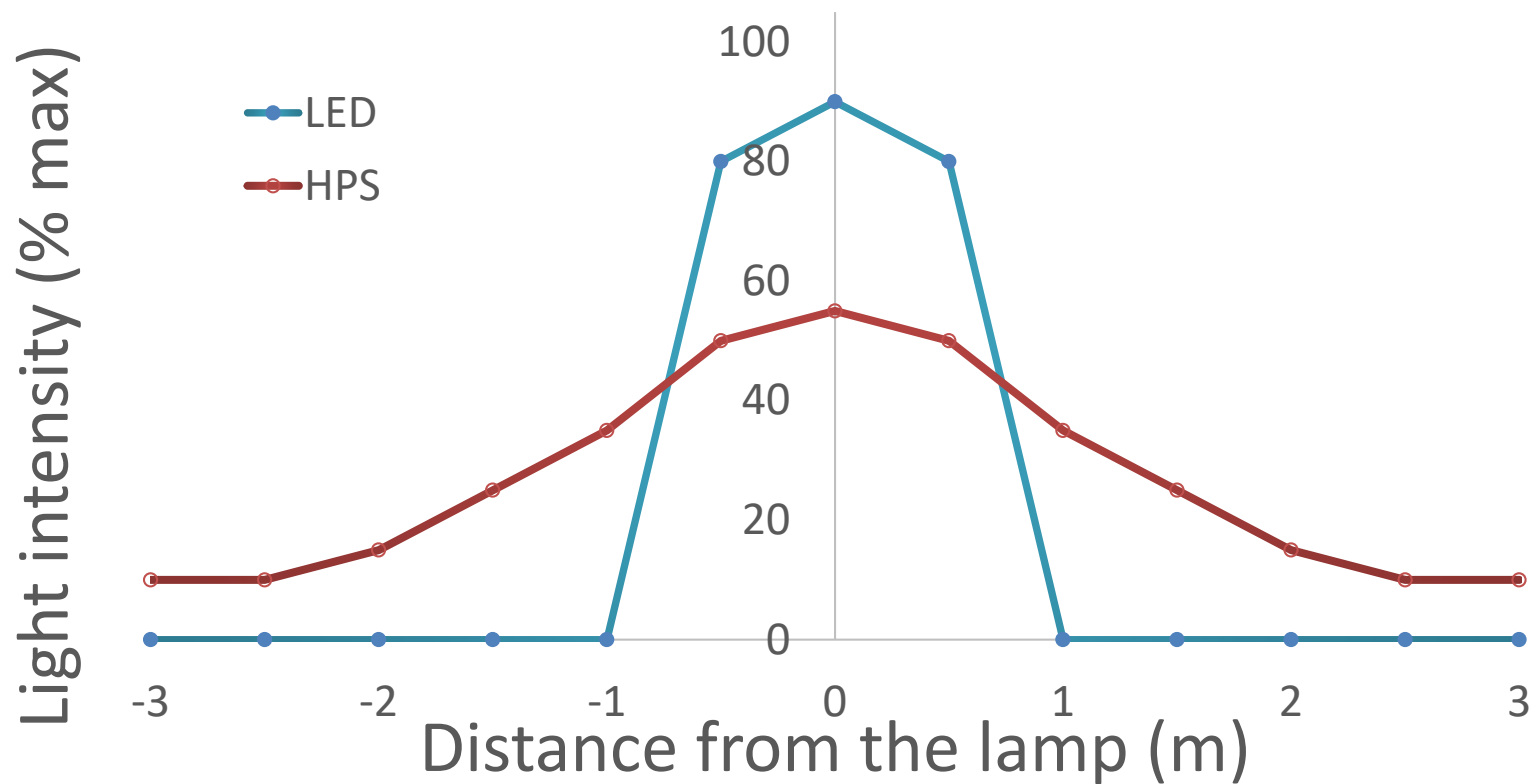
SE 400W \$235

LED



320 W \$750

# LED vs HPS



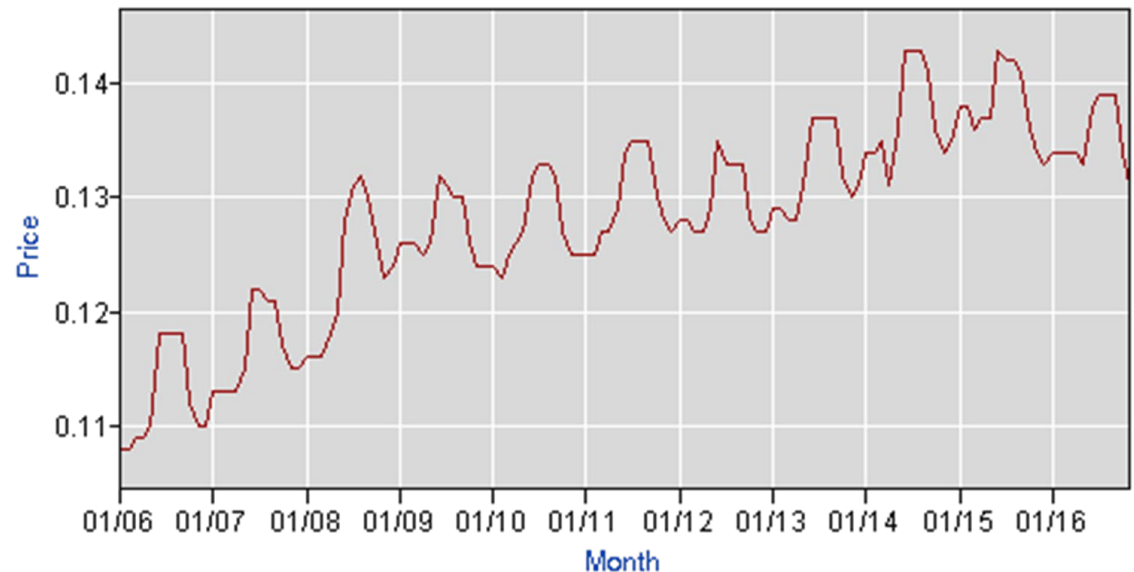
# Electrical energy consumption and cost

**Kilo Watt hour (KWh):** A measure of electrical energy consumption; equivalent to 1000 W of electrical power consumed in an hour.

Electrical companies charge based on number of KWh (5 to 35 cents/KWh)

Look for power (watts) consumption under manufacturer specifications.

Example: HPS lamps: 400/1000 W



# Optimal Lighting

$$EUE \left( \frac{g}{KWh} \right) = PE \left( \frac{mol}{KWh} \right) \times LUE \left( \frac{g}{mol} \right)$$

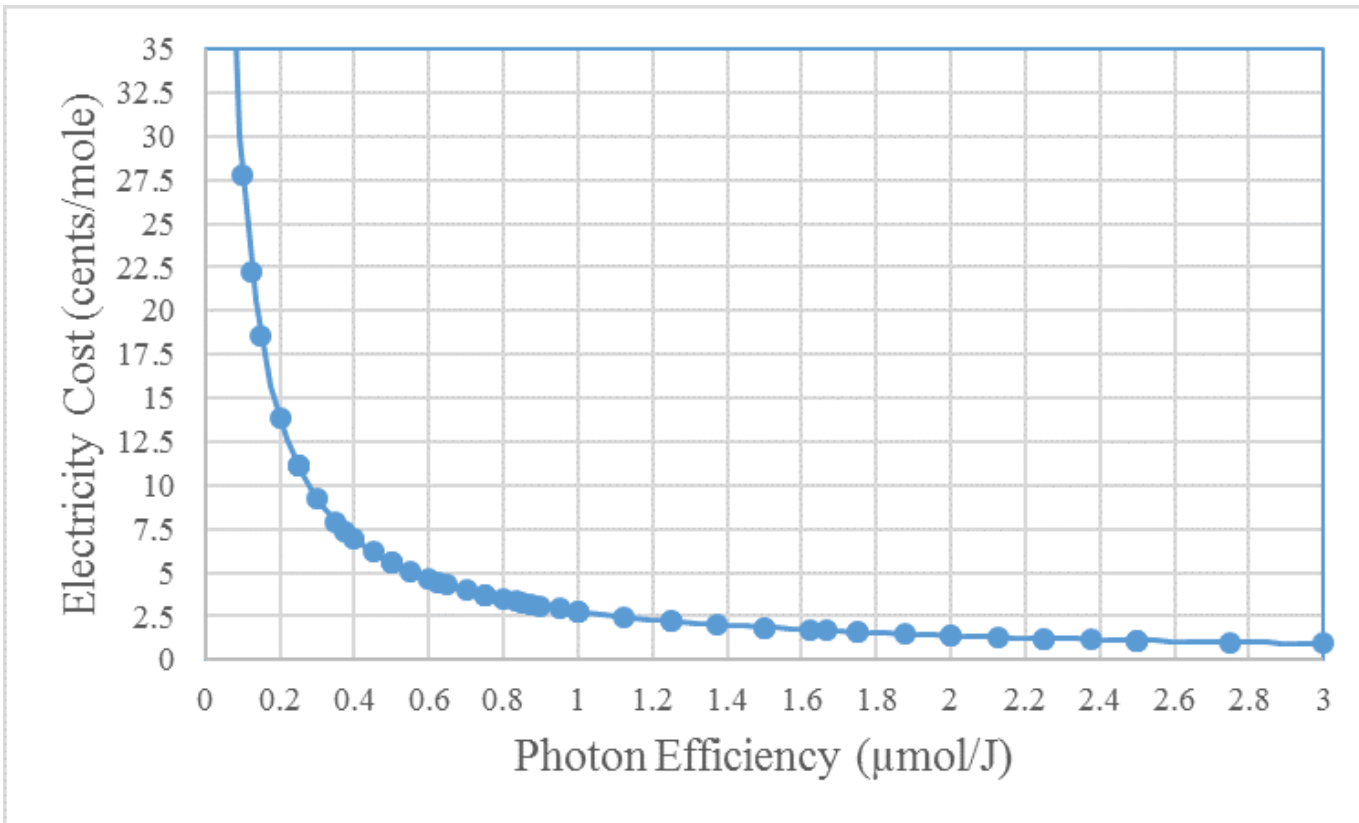
- EUE is energy-use-e efficiency (grams produced per unit energy consumed)
- PE is photon efficiency (mol of light generated per unit of energy consumed)
- LUE is light-use-efficiency (grams produced per mol of light generated)

# Photon Efficiency (PE)

- It is light output per unit energy input
- Photon efficiency =  $\frac{50}{21} \times \frac{\mu\text{mol/s}}{\text{Joule/s}} = 2.38$   
 $\mu\text{mol/J}$

Specs	
Voltage input	120-277 V
Power consumption	21-30 W
Light output	50-62.5 $\mu\text{mol/s}$
Efficiency	2.0-2.3 $\mu\text{mol/J}$
Ingress Protection	IP66 (UL/CSA for damp & wet locations)

# Electrical Cost vs. Photon Efficiency



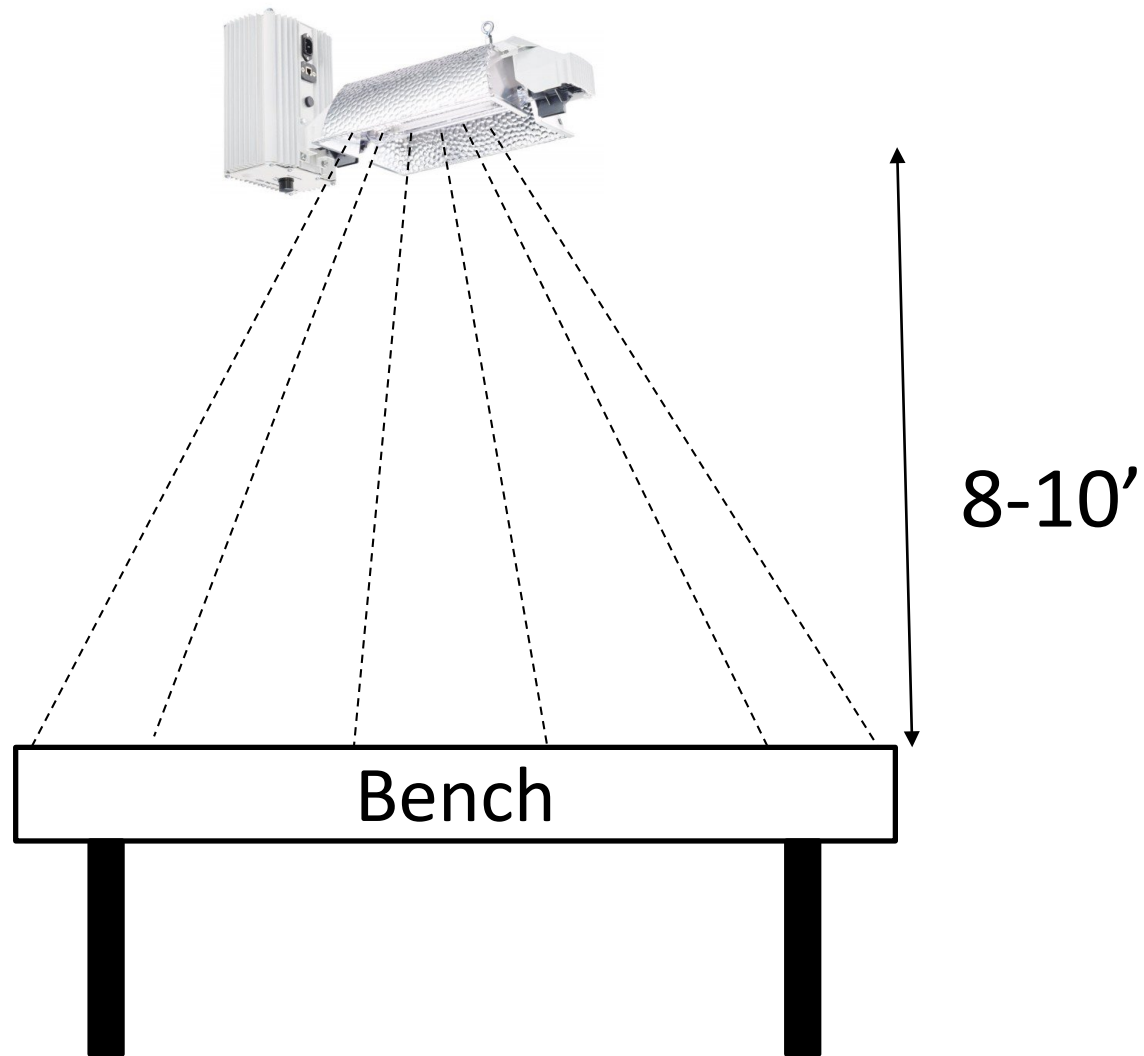
# Light-use-efficiency (LUE)

Grams produced per mole of light generated by the fixture

- Fraction of generated light that is intercepted by plants
  - Fraction of intercepted light absorbed by plants
    - Fraction of absorbed light used in photosynthesis
      - Fraction of photosynthate that is converted to economic produce



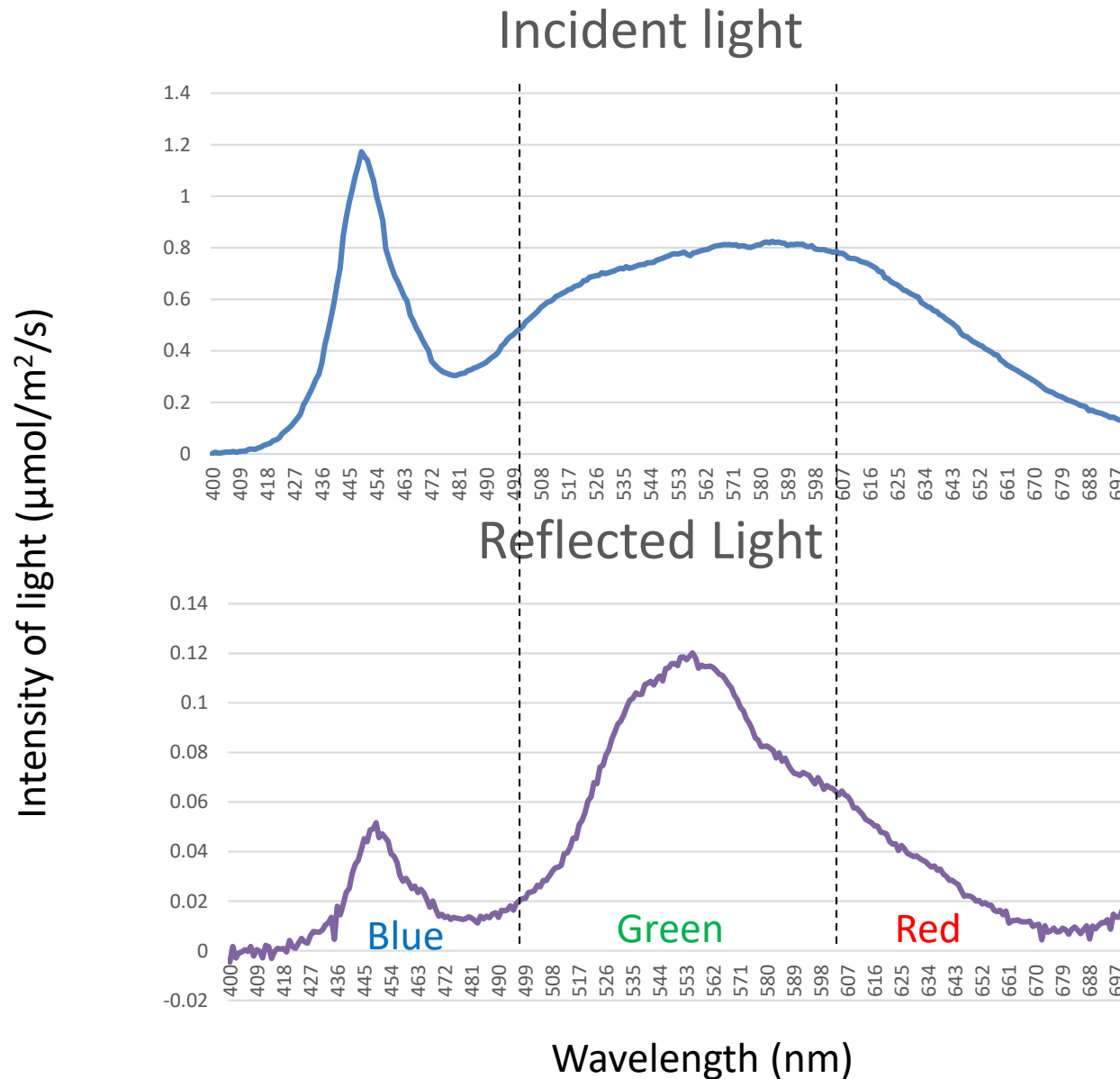
# Light interception



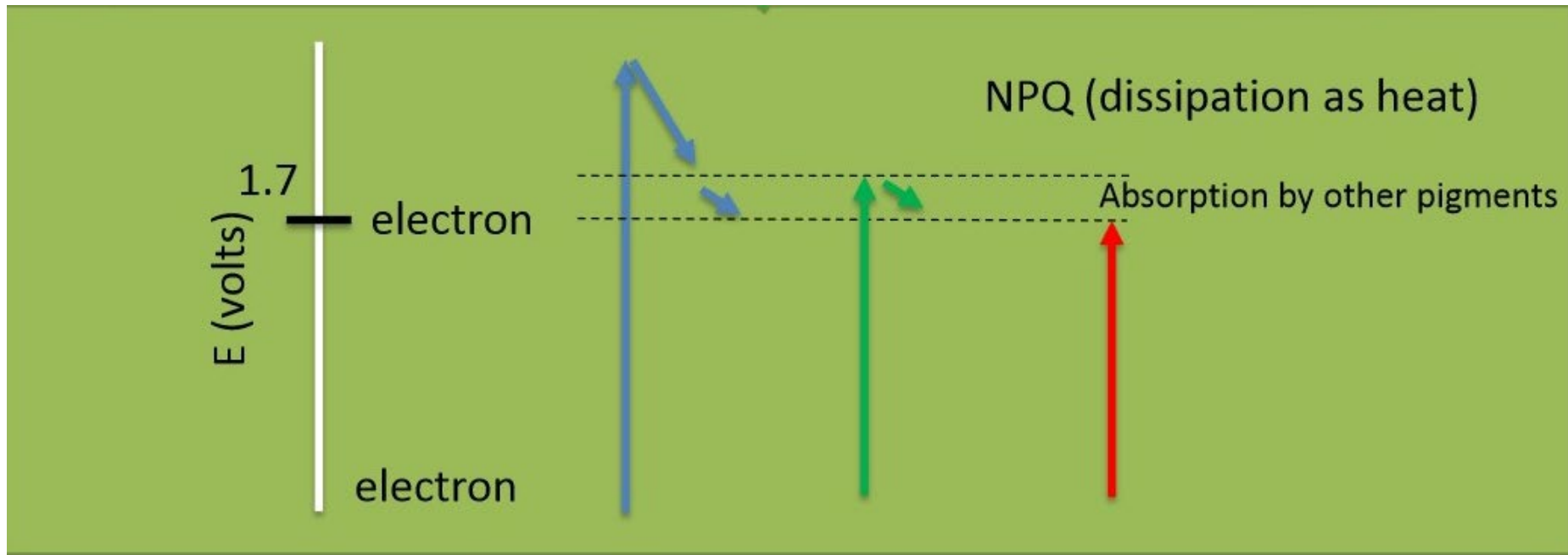
Which set of plants intercept more light?



# Light absorption is affected by composition



# Fraction of absorbed light used in photosynthesis



# Photosynthates to yield

Sugars are used for energy generation, growth, secondary metabolites and osmolytes.

Leafy greens have higher proportion of photosynthates partitioned to economic yield (up to 80%)



Increased anthocyanin as tradeoff for growth



# Sunlight



Monetary value of sunlight received annually in a 3000 ft<sup>2</sup> greenhouse is approx. \$278000 annually!!