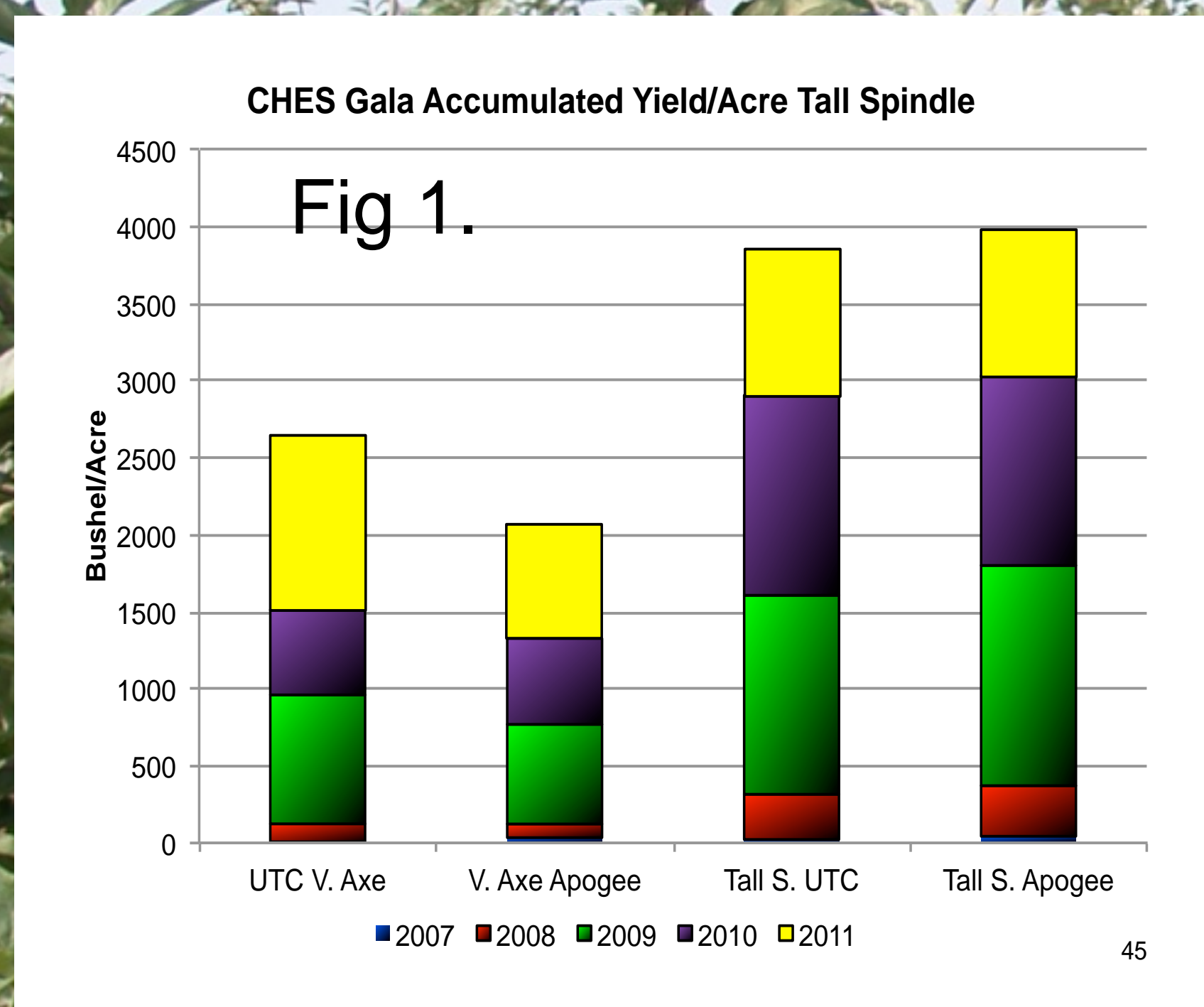


# Apogee Use on Gala in SW Michigan

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Tall Spindle Gala 2009, CHES, 4<sup>th</sup> leaf



## Tall Spindle and Apogee

In 2006, a Gala Tall spindle trial was set up at CHES. Half of the trees were treated with Apogee every year and the other half were left untreated. Apogee protects the trees and yet, reduces shoot growth which delays filling the space and thus is thought to reduce annual and accumulated yield. The trial demonstrated that excellent yields are achievable on some Tall Spindle trees and varieties with little or no loss in accumulated yield. The accumulated yield of the Apogee Gala Tall Spindle were equal (Figure 1).

This provided the background to repeat this trial on highly Fire Blight sensitive variety (Gala) in SW Michigan where Fire Blight conditions and infections are highly likely. The Apogee will protect the trees as they grow to fill the space and not reduce yield. In the CHES trial, Gala treated with Apogee continued to grow and at the end of the trial were as productive as the untreated trees.

This year 2012 a small version on the CHES trial was established at SWMREC to repeat the trial in a high risk Fire Blight area.

The objective of the SWMREC trial are:

1. To measure the accumulative yields of Gala/Nic29 Tall S. treated w/wo Apogee for Fireblight protection.
2. To demonstrate Tall Spindle system in SW MI.

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