

Sweetpotato for Human Food and Nutrition

Vital Hagenimana

Profit margins ('000 Ushs) for producing major crops in Soroti, Uganda.

Household Category	Cassava		Sweetpotato		Groundnuts		Millet		Sorghum		Rice		Other crops (Vegetables)	
	Profit	Hirecost	Profit	Hirecost	Profit	Hirecost	Profit	Hirecost	Profit	Hirecost	Profit	Hirecost	Profit	Hirecost
Wealthy	2,887	507	3,082	99	1,474	139	156	161	57	68	682	326	3,415	283
Medium wealthy	2,724	539	3,668	35	654	120	40	185	61	60	847	114	394	86
Poor	2,621	262	3,363	44	1,577	90	56	32	103	44	255	96	118	117
Total	8,222	1,308	10,114	179	3,705	351	253	378	221	172	1,784	536	3,927	487

Wealthy category

- Oxen for cultivation with some cows and goats for cash;
- Enough food throughout the year;
- Utilities such as a bicycles, an ox-plough and a radio;
- May be employed or having educated children;
- Hire labour regularly.

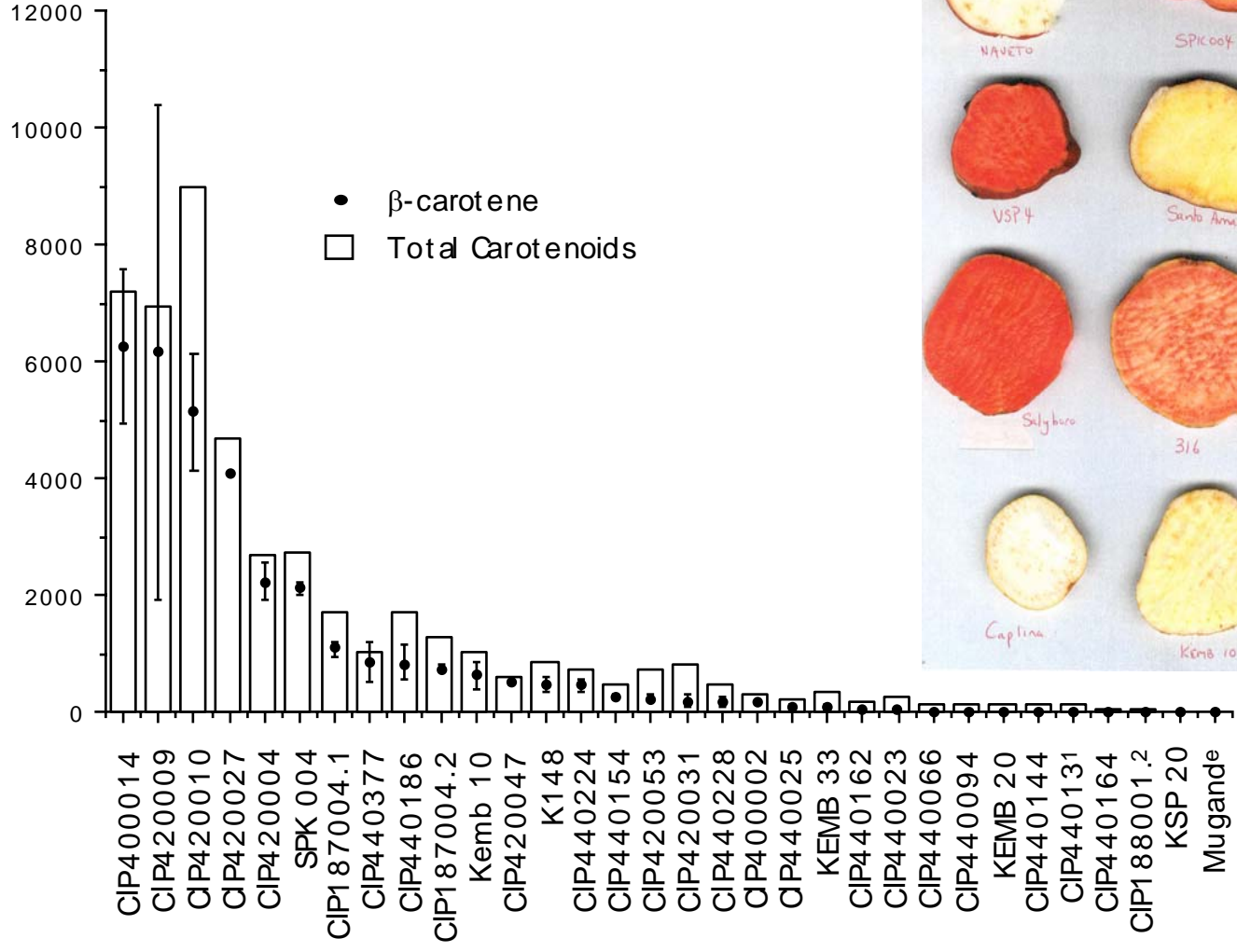
Medium wealthy category

- Hire oxen or shares with a neighbour;
- Have food throughout the year;
- Have a few goats;
- Have shared utilities like a plough;
- May be employed and have children going to school

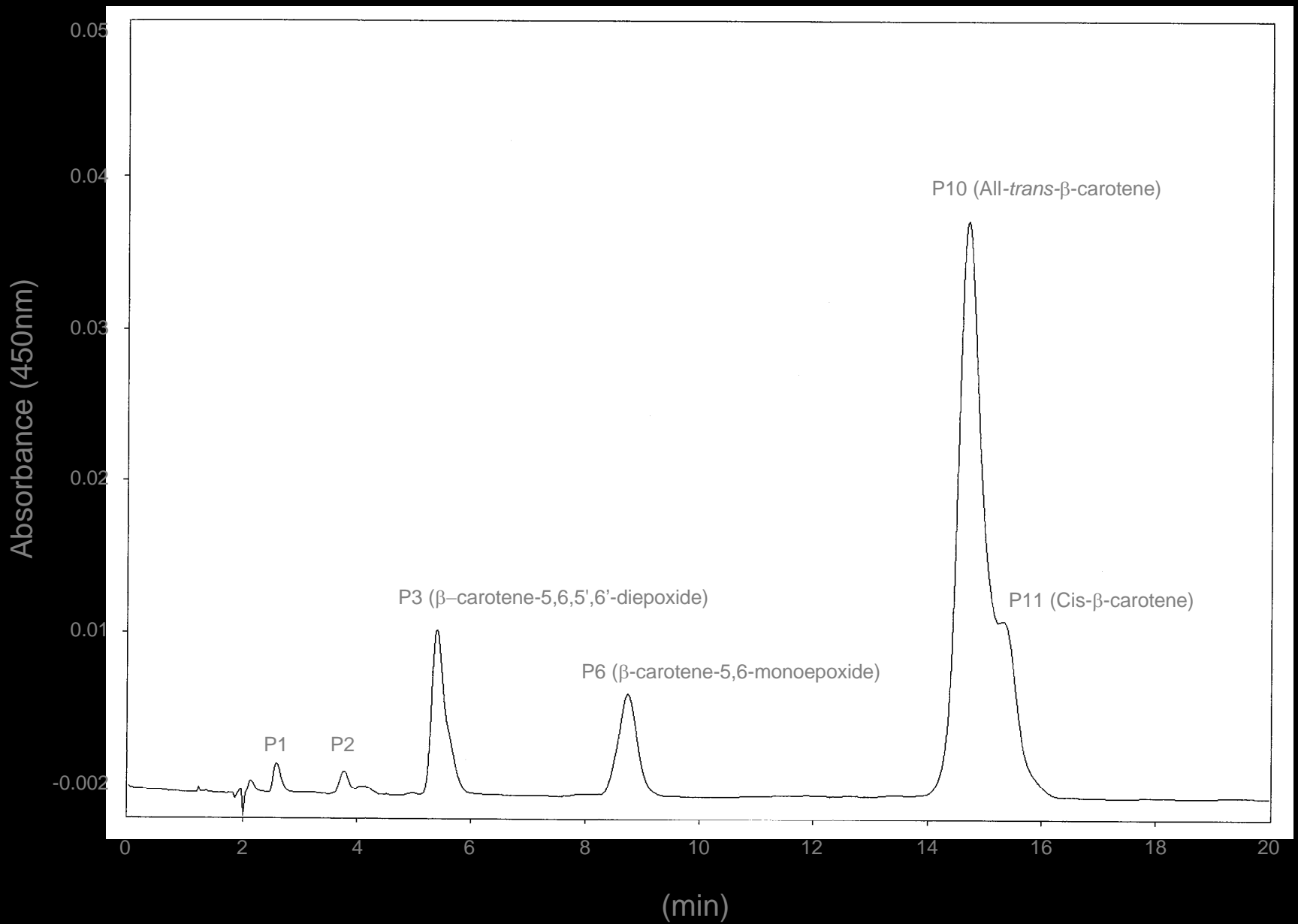
Poor category

- Normally widower orphans or widowed;
- Do not have food throughout the year;
- Are casual labourers in neighbours' fields for food or money;
- Do not have cattle but may have a few goats or pigs;
- Use mainly hand hoes for their own field operations

β -Carotene equiv. ($\mu\text{g}/100\text{g}$ fresh root)

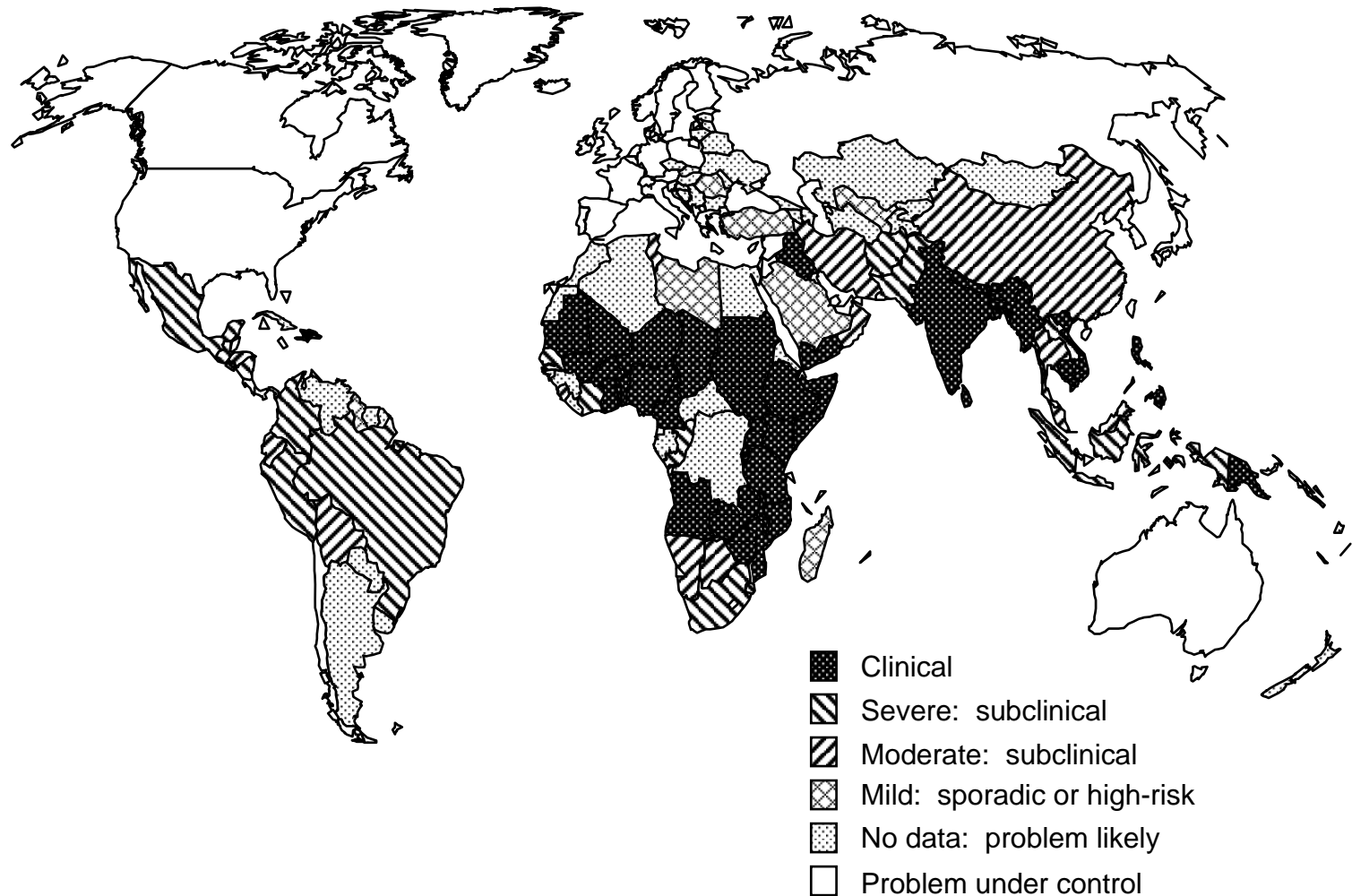


ORANGE  WHITE



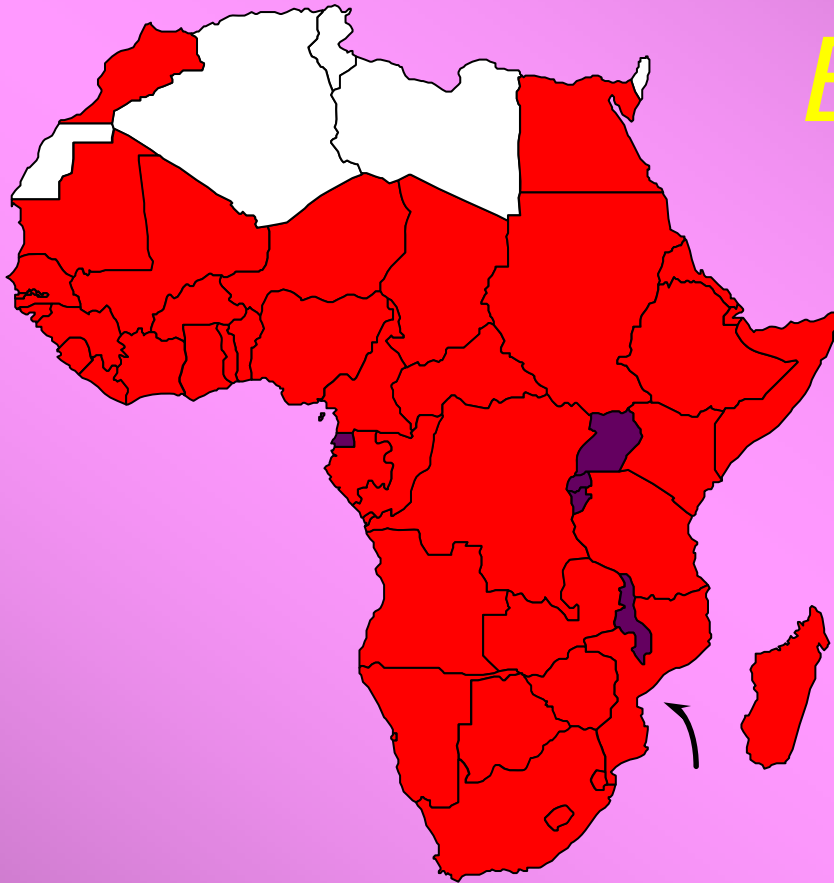
HPLC profile showing main sweetpotato carotenoids from cultivar Kakamega 4 at $\lambda = 45$

Countries Categorized by Degree of Public Health Importance of Vitamin A Deficiency: April 1995



Source: Adapted from WHO (1995). MDIS Working Paper #2, p. 19.

Beyond Home Gardens....



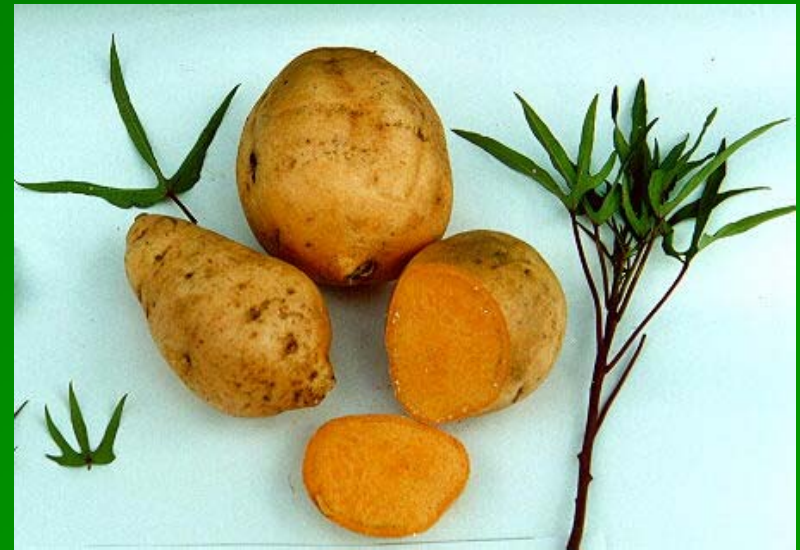
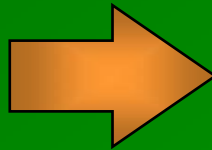
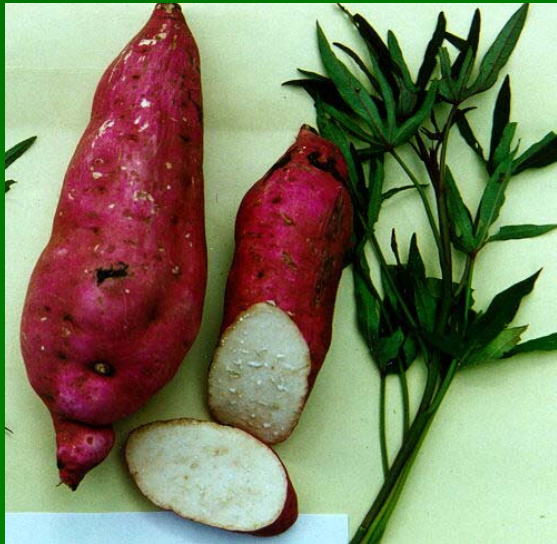
Role of Sweet Potato as Basic Food Staple

-  None Grown
-  Primary Staple: >75 kgs per capita annually
-  Secondary Food Staple

Introduction of New Cultivars:

Marginal Change in Diet
it's the texture, not the color

Improved Utilization



- ☒ Higher yielding
- ☒ Rich in Beta-Carotene
- ☒ Earlier maturing

Introduction of Processed Products

bakery products

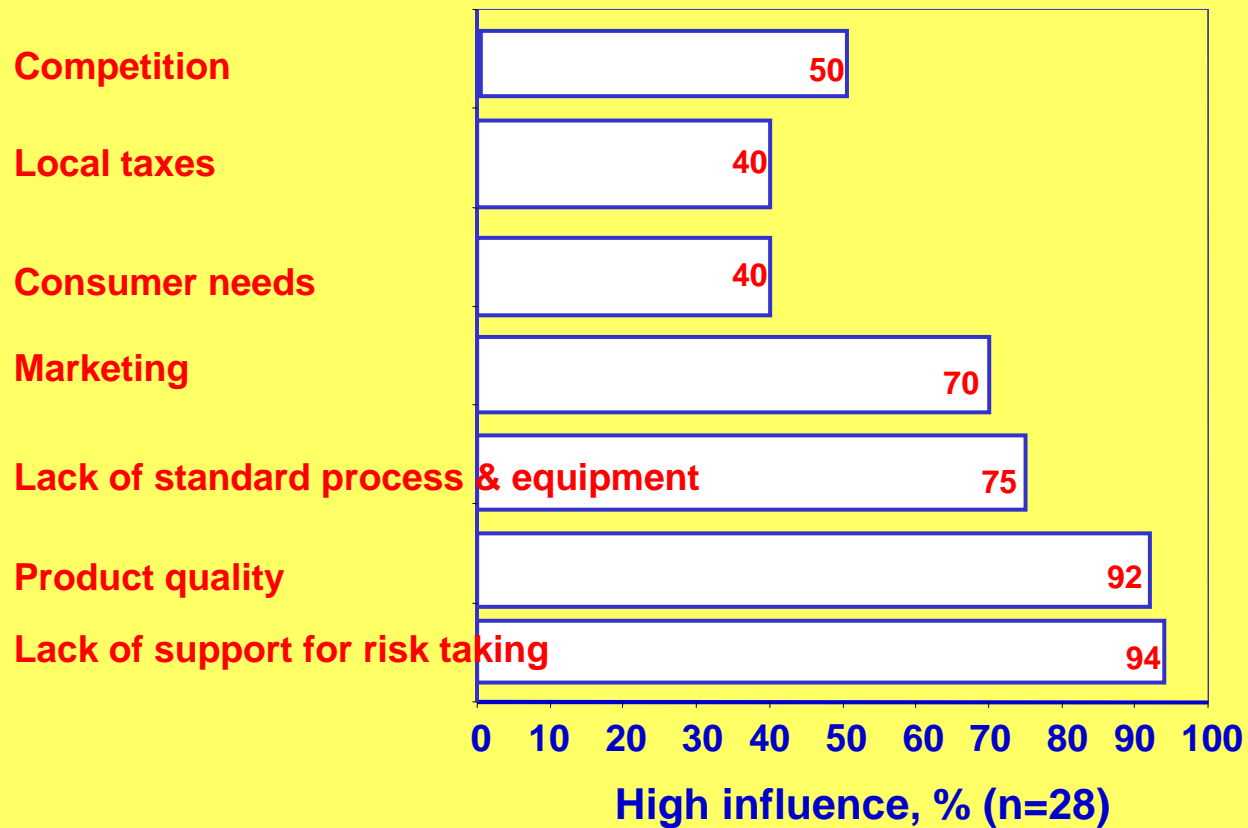
⇒ lower costs...

⇒ higher profits

Improve the product color



Strong influence on the microenterprise sale



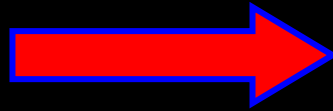


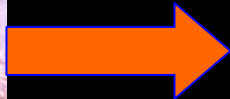
■ ***BULKINESS***

■ ***PERISHABILITY***



**Very clean Roots
Ready to be Sliced**







BEFORE



AFTER





BEFORE



AFTER

