

Engineered Nanoparticles in Food: Implications for Food Safety and Consumer Health



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Presented at the International Association for Food Protection (IAFP) Annual Meeting
St. Louis, MO July 31-August 2, 2016

What are Nanoparticles (NPs)?

- Nanoparticles (less than 100 nm) are generated *naturally* by erosion, fires, volcanoes, and marine wave action
- **A key point-** People have been exposed to nanoparticles for as long as there have been people; in other words, “nano” isn’t inherently bad
- Nanoparticles are also produced by human activities such as coal combustion, vehicle exhaust, and weathering rubber tires

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What are Engineered Nanomaterials?

- Our ability to construct and manipulate materials at the nano-scale has increased dramatically in the last decade
- Why does this matter? Materials at the nano-scale behave *differently* than the same material at the bulk or non-nano scale
- Have higher surface area to volume; can engineer for surface reactivity or other desired characteristics
- Frequently, this unique behavior can be both useful and profitable
- Nanotechnology was a \$1 billion industry in 2005; will be a \$3 trillion industry by 2020

Different size gold NPs reflect different wavelengths of light



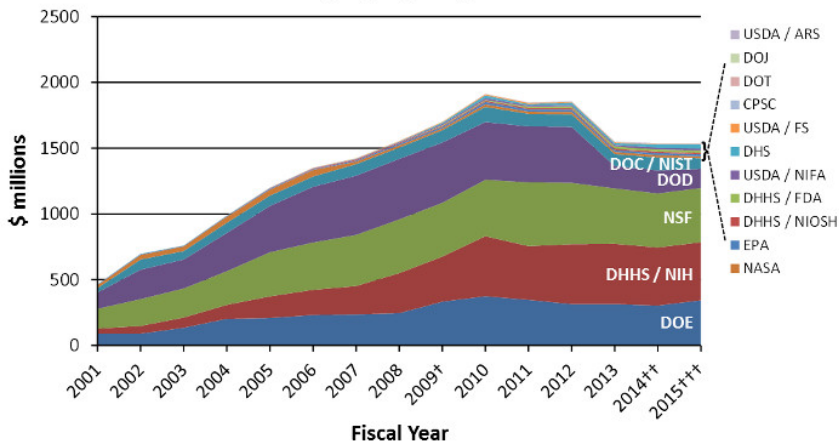
Changes in properties		
	Bulk-scale	Nano-scale
Si	Insulator	Conductive
Cu	Malleable and ductile	Stiff
TiO₂	White color	Colorless
Au	Chemically inert	Chemically active

National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI)(<http://nano.gov/>)

- Started in 2000; Clinton administration
- 2016/2017 Budget Request is \$1.5 Billion across 20+ Federal agencies. Applications- 93%; Implications- 7%.
- “The NNI consists of the individual and cooperative nanotechnology-related activities of Federal agencies with a range of research and regulatory roles and responsibilities.”

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NNI Funding by Agency, 2001-2015



† FY '09 does not include American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds for DOE (\$293 M), NIH (\$73 M), NSF (\$101 M), and NIST (\$43 M)

†† FY '14 estimate based on 2014 enacted levels; may change as operating plans are finalized

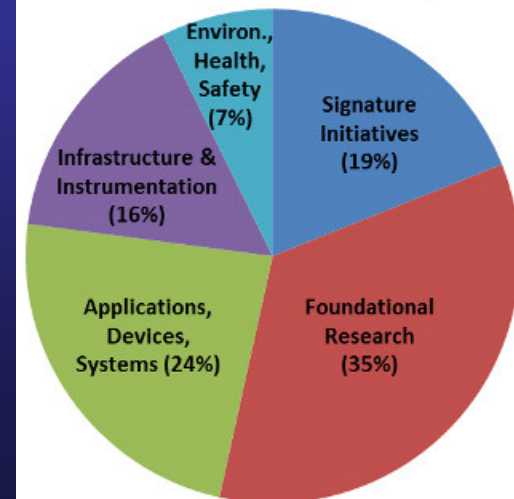
††† FY '15 request



Finally, we can drink Coke with a straw.

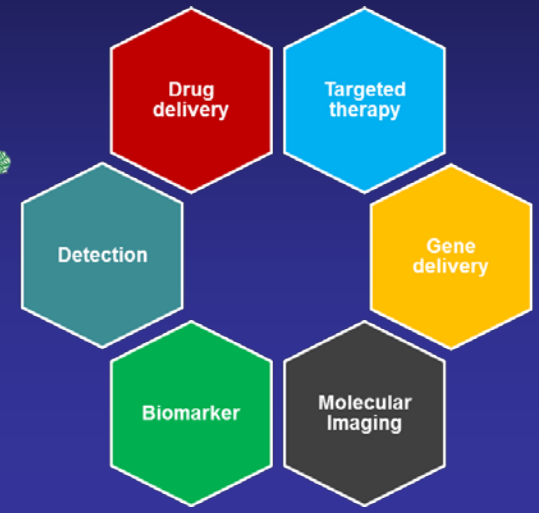
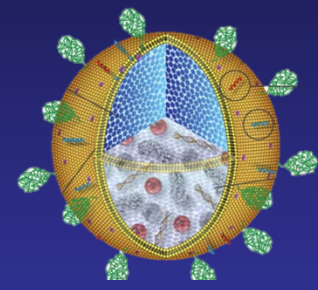
Nano.gov
National Nanotechnology Initiative

2015 NNI Investments by PCA



Nanotechnology- Applications

- Nanomedicine
- Water treatment
- Communication\electronics
- Energy
- Agriculture\food
- Textiles
- Cosmetics



5

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NANOTECHNOLOGY FOR CLEAN WATER

Arsenic, a toxic chemical found in groundwater in some parts of the world, is a hazard to human health. Nanotechnology can be used to remove arsenic from drinking water by capitalizing on the attraction between arsenic and iron oxide.

12 nanometers, or 12 billionths of a meter

1 IRON OXIDE NANOPARTICLES

2 Arsenic atoms are attracted to the iron oxide. Because the iron oxide particles are so tiny, they have a high proportion of surface area to mass. This means they have lots of surface area to which the arsenic can bind.

3 The water passes through magnetized stainless-steel wool. The iron oxide/arsenic particles stick to the magnetized steel wool.

4 This method can remove about 99% of the arsenic in contaminated water.

NOTE: The process shown in this simplified illustration takes place inside a tank. It is currently being studied and is not yet in widespread use. Nanotechnology is still in its early stages. For more information, see J. F. Gibson, D. Swartz, S. Mann, L. M. Tender, and R. M. Waymouth, "Nanotechnology for Water Purification," *Science*, 2007.

www.ct.gov/caes



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with nanosilver.eu

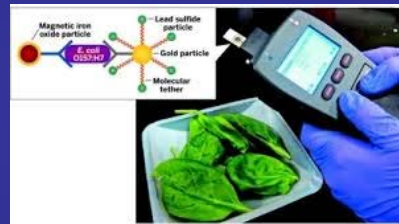
NEW

nanosilver



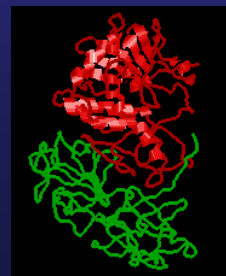
Nanomaterials and Food Protection

- Food Safety- microbes and chemicals/elements
 - Antimicrobials in food packaging
 - Nano-enabled coatings for food and equipment
 - Nanosensors for pathogen detection



- Food Defense- microbes and chemicals/elements
 - Nanosensors for specific agents of concern (biological weapons such as *B. anthracis*, Ebola [Harvard/MIT]) and others; plant proteins such as ricin and abrin.

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Nanomaterials and Agriculture

- There has been significant interest in using nanotechnology in agriculture
- The goals fall into several categories
 - Increase production rates and yield
 - Increase efficiency of resource utilization
 - Minimize waste production
- Specific applications include:
 - Nano-fertilizers, Nano-pesticides
 - Nano-based treatment of agricultural waste
 - Nanosensors

2015 Biotechnology Advances 32 (2014) 1550–1561

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect
Biotechnology Advances
journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/biotechadv

Research review paper

Application of nanotechnology for the encapsulation of botanical insecticides for sustainable agriculture: Prospects and promises

Jhones Luiz de Oliveira ^{a,1}, Estefânia Vangelie Ramos Campos ^{a,b,1}, Mansi Bakshi ^c, P.C. Abhilash ^c, Leonardo Fernandes Fraceto ^{a,b,*}

^a Department of Biochemistry, State University of Campinas, Campinas, SP, Brazil
^b Department of Environmental Engineering, São Paulo State University – UNESP, Sorocaba, SP, Brazil
^c Institute of Environment & Sustainable Development, Banarus Hindu University, Varanasi 221005, India

2012

IB IN DEPTH—Special Section on Nanobiotechnology, Part 1

NORMAN SCOTT AND HONGDA CHEN, GUEST EDITORS

(PART 2 OF THE IB IN DEPTH—SPECIAL SECTION ON NANOBIOLOGY WILL APPEAR IN THE FEBRUARY 2013 ISSUE.)

Overview

Nanoscale Science and Engineering for Agriculture and Food Systems

www.ct.gov/caes

frontiers in Chemistry PERSPECTIVE

2015 published: 18 November 2015
doi: 10.3389/fchem.2015.00094

Nanopesticides and Nanofertilizers: Emerging Contaminants or Opportunities for Risk Mitigation?

Melanie Kah ^{*}

Department of Environmental Geosciences, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

2012

JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD CHEMISTRY Review

pubs.acs.org/JAFC

Nanomaterials in Plant Protection and Fertilization: Current State, Foreseen Applications, and Research Priorities

Alexander Gogos, [†] Katja Knauer, [‡] and Thomas D. Buchelt ^{*,†}

[†]Agroscope Reckenholz-Tänikon Research Station ART, 8046 Zurich, Switzerland
[‡]Federal Office for Agriculture, 3003 Berne, Switzerland

Supporting Information



Nanomaterials and Agriculture

- Nano-fertilizers often contain nutrients/growth promoters encapsulated in nanoscale polymers, chelates, or emulsions
 - Slow, targeted, efficient release becomes possible.
 - In some cases, the nanoparticle itself can stimulate growth
- Nanosensors can be used to detect pathogens, as well as monitor local, micro, and nano-conditions in the field (temperature, water availability, humidity, nutrient status, pesticide levels...)



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Biol Trace Elem Res (2007) 119:77–88
DOI 10.1007/s12011-007-0046-4

2007

The Improvement of Spinach Growth by Nano-anatase TiO₂ Treatment Is Related to Nitrogen Photoreduction

Fan Yang · Chao Liu · Fengqing Gao · Mingyu Su · Xiao Wu · Lei Zheng · Fashui Hong · Ping Yang

J Nanopart Res (2011) 13:4519–4528
DOI 10.1007/s11051-011-0406-z

2011

RESEARCH PAPER

Beneficial role of carbon nanotubes on mustard plant growth: an agricultural prospect

Anindita Mondal · Ruma Basu · Sukhen Das · Papiya Nandy

Agric Res
DOI 10.1007/s40003-014-0113-y

2014

FULL-LENGTH RESEARCH ARTICLE

Development of Zinc Nanofertilizer to Enhance Crop Production in Pearl Millet (*Pennisetum americanum*)

J. C. Tarafdar · Ramesh Raliya · Himanshu Mahawar · Indra Rathore

JOURNAL OF
AGRICULTURAL AND
FOOD CHEMISTRY

2012

Article
pubs.acs.org/JAFC

Dissolution Kinetics of Macronutrient Fertilizers Coated with Manufactured Zinc Oxide Nanoparticles

Narges Milani,^{*,†} Mike J. McLaughlin,^{†,‡} Samuel P. Stacey,[†] Jason K. Kirby,[‡] Ganga M. Hettiarachchi,^{‡,§} Douglas G. Beak,^{‡,||} and Geert Cornelis^{†,‡}



Nanomaterials and Agriculture



- Nano-pesticides often follow a similar model to nano-fertilizers; active pesticidal (insecticide, fungicide,...) ingredient associated with or within a nanoscale product or carrier
 - Increased stability/solubility, slow release, increased uptake/translocation, and in some cases, targeted delivery (analogous to nano-based delivery in human disease research)
 - Can result in lower required amounts of active ingredients

www.ct.gov/caes

Mycobiology 39(1): 26-32 (2011)
© The Korean Society of Mycology

2011

DOI:10.4489/MYCO.2011.39.1.026

Inhibition Effects of Silver Nanoparticles against Powdery Mildews on Cucumber and Pumpkin

Kabir Lamsal¹, Sang-Woo Kim¹, Jin Hee Jung¹, Yun Seok Kim¹, Kyoung Su Kim² and Youn Su Lee^{1*}

¹Division of Bio-Resources Technology, Kangwon National University, Chuncheon 200-701, Korea

²Department of Agricultural Biotechnology, Center for Fungal Genetic Resources and Center for Fungal Pathogenesis, Seoul National University, Seoul 151-724, Korea

2014

Environment International 63 (2014) 224–235

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Environment International

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/envint



Review

Nanopesticide research: Current trends and future priorities

Melanie Kah^{*}, Thilo Hofmann^{*}

Department of Environmental Geosciences, University of Vienna, Althanstrasse 14, 1050 Vienna, Austria



JOURNAL OF
AGRICULTURAL AND
FOOD CHEMISTRY

2015

ACS Publications
Perspective
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Nanopesticides: Guiding Principles for Regulatory Evaluation of Environmental Risks

Rai S. Kookana,^{*,†,‡} Alistair B. A. Boxall,[§] Philip T. Reeves,^{||} Roman Ashauer,[§] Sabine Beulke,[‡] Qasim Chaudhry,[‡] Geert Cornelis,[#] Teresa F. Fernandes,[□] Jay Gan,[●] Melanie Kah,[△] Iseult Lynch,[▽] James Ranville,[○] Chris Sinclair,[‡] David Spurgeon,[■] Karen Tiede,[‡] and Paul J. Van den Brink^{◇,▲}

Appl Microbiol Biotechnol (2012) 94:287–293
DOI 10.1007/s00253-012-3969-4

2012

MINI-REVIEW

Role of nanotechnology in agriculture with special reference to management of insect pests

Mahendra Rai · Avinash Ingle



2011

Available online at www.sciencedirect.com



ScienceDirect

Microbiological
Research

www.elsevier.de/micres

Antifungal activity of zinc oxide nanoparticles against *Botrytis cinerea* and *Penicillium expansum*

Lili He¹, Yang Liu¹, Azlin Mustapha, Mengshi Lin^{*}



Alla Servin, Wade Elmer, Arbab Mukherjee, Roberto De la Torre-Roche, Helmi Hamdi, Jason C. White, and Christian Dimkpa



Nanomaterials and Agriculture

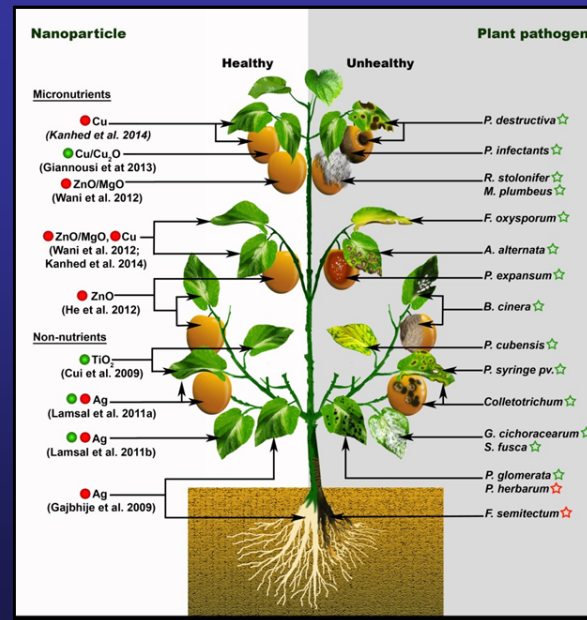
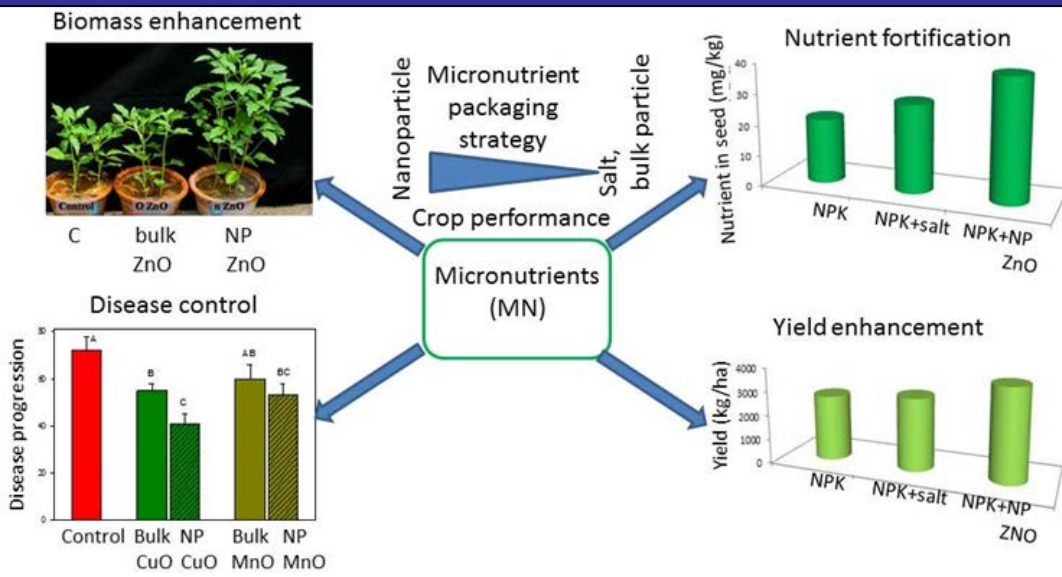
- Nanoscale based micronutrients for disease suppression (particularly root disease)
- A new research initiative at CAES
- Many micronutrients (Cu, Mn, Zn, Mg) stimulate or are part of plant defense systems.
- However, these nutrients have low availability in soil and are not readily transferred from shoot to root. What about nano versions of these nutrients?
- New USDA Grant- \$480,000; 3/16-2/19.

J Nanopart Res (2015) 17:92
DOI 10.1007/s11051-015-2807-7

REVIEW

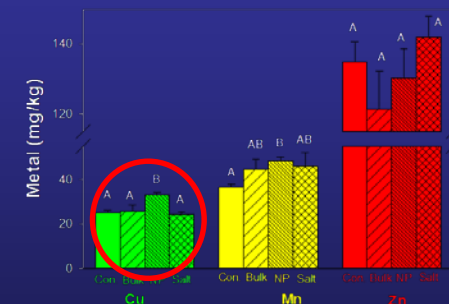
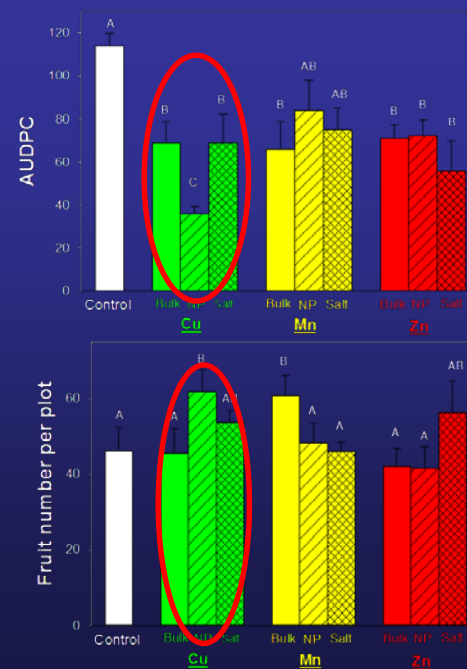
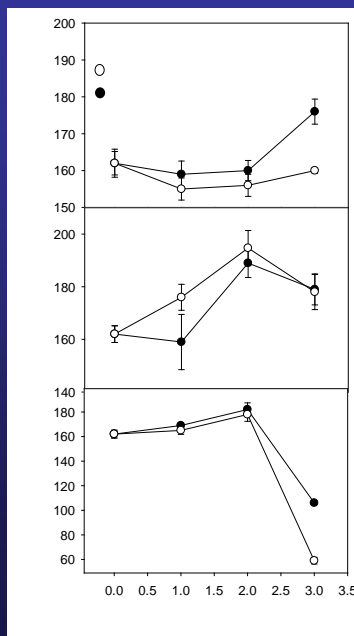
A review of the use of engineered nanomaterials to suppress plant disease and enhance crop yield

Alla Servin · Wade Elmer · Arbab Mukherjee · Roberto De la Torre-Roche · Helmi Hamdi · Jason C. White · Prem Bindrabhan · Christian Dimkpa



Nanoscale micronutrients for disease suppression

- Greenhouse and field trials with eggplant and tomato
- Single foliar application of NP (bulk, salt) CuO, MnO, or ZnO (100 mg/L) during seedling stage. Transplant to infested soil.
- NP CuO had greater disease suppression, higher Cu root content, and increased yield. NP CuO had no direct affect on the pathogen.
- \$44 per acre for NP CuO suppressed a root pathogen of eggplant, increasing yield from \$17,500/acre to \$27,650 acre.





Nanoscale based micronutrients for disease suppression

- Current field trials in CT involve eggplant, watermelon and asparagus
- Single foliar applications of NP CuO, ZnO, MnO alone or in combination.
- Two separate experimental farms (soil types) being used. A range of concentrations used; salt only controls.
- Also, collaborative work in FL where field trials involve tomato growth with multiple applications during the growing season (Kocide, CuO and MgO NPs)

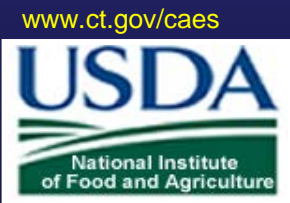
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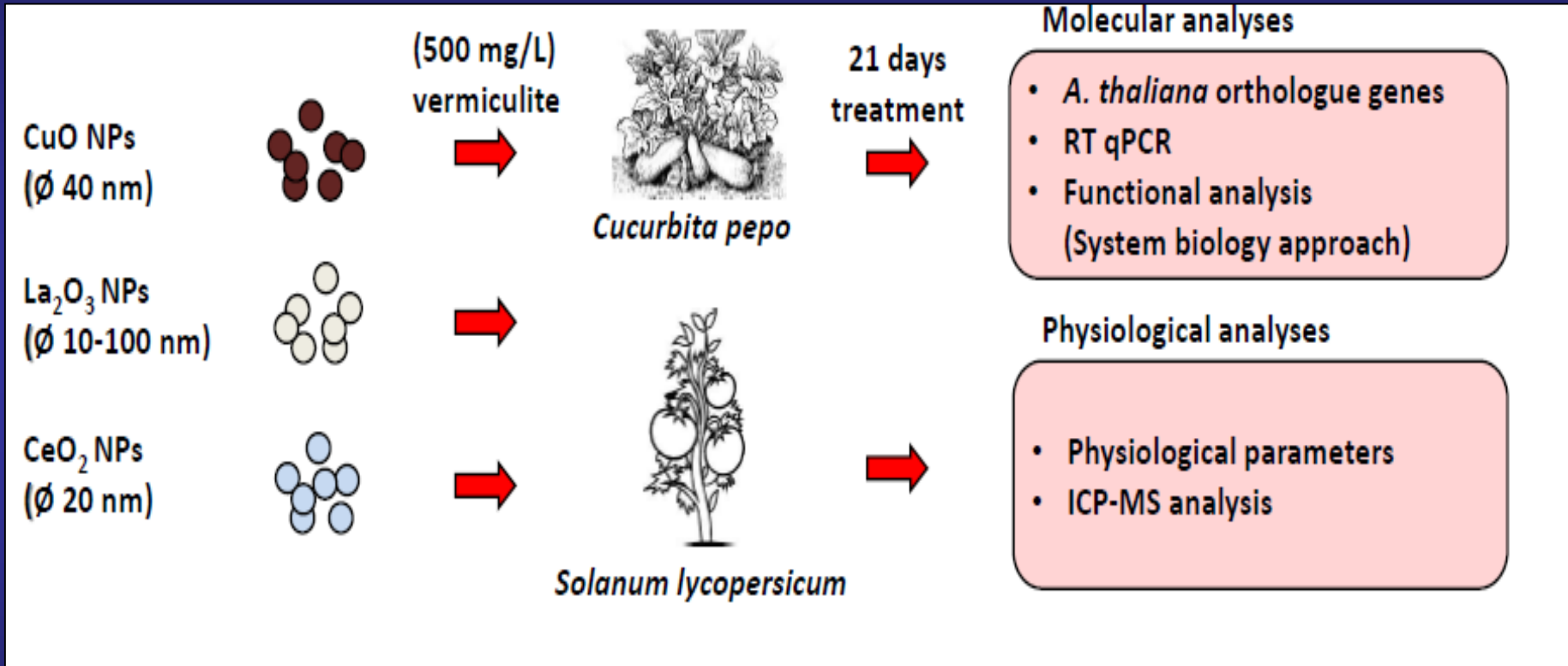


Implications: Nanotoxicology at CAES

- Two “simple” questions- Do NM behave differently? Does it matter (Is that difference of concern with regard to exposure and risk)?
- USDA NIFA -Addressing Critical and Emerging Food Safety Issues-
“Nanomaterial contamination of agricultural crops.”
 - Obj. 1: Determine the uptake, translocation, and toxicity of NM to crops.
 - Obj. 2: Impact of environmental conditions on NM fate.
 - Obj. 3: Determine the potential trophic transfer of NMs.
 - Obj. 4: Quantify co-contaminant interactions.
- USDA NIFA- Nanotechnology for Ag. and Food Systems- “Nanoscale interactions between engineered nanomaterials and biochar”
- USDA Hatch- “Impact of particle coating and weathering on nanomaterial fate and effects on crops”

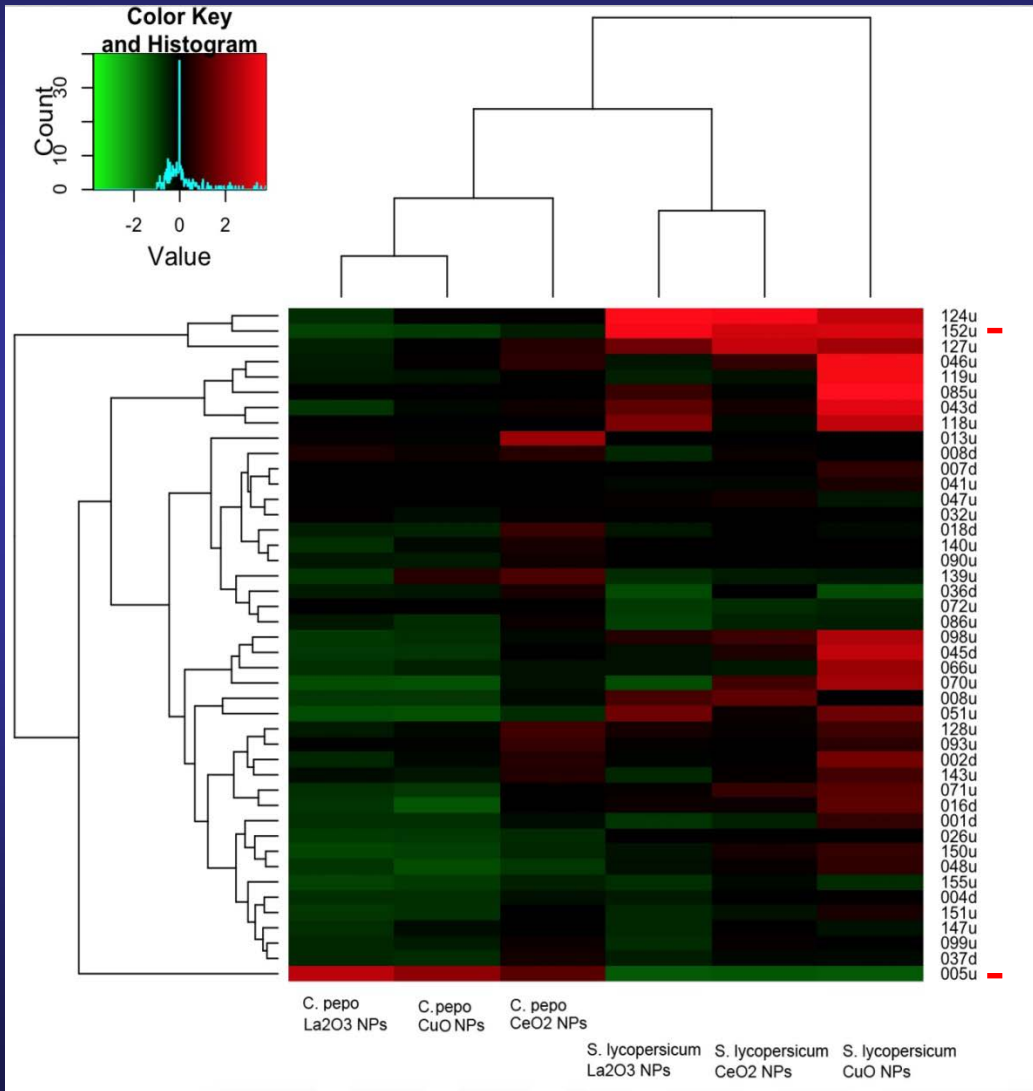


Obj. 1: Toxicity, Mechanisms, and Biomarkers



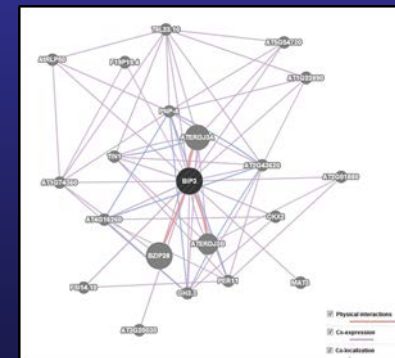
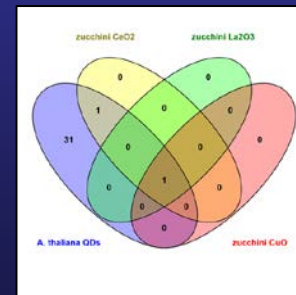
About 70 candidate/target genes identified in *A. thaliana* were located and validated through transcriptomic analyses in zucchini (*C. pepo*) and tomato (*S. lycopersicum*).

Response: Zucchini vs Tomato



Comparison between the tomato and zucchini:

- **005u** (heat shock protein) up regulated in all the treatments of zucchini, down regulated in all the treatments of tomato
- **152u** (chloroplast electron carrier) up regulated in all the treatments of tomato, down regulated in all the treatments of zucchini

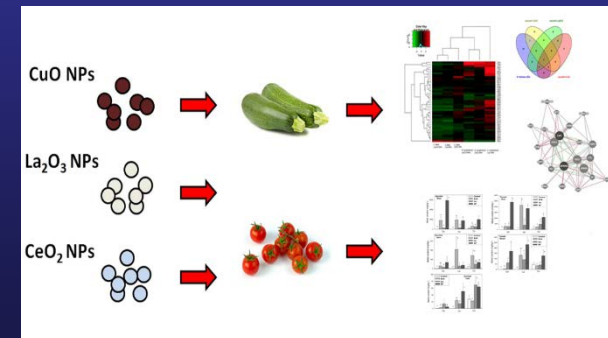
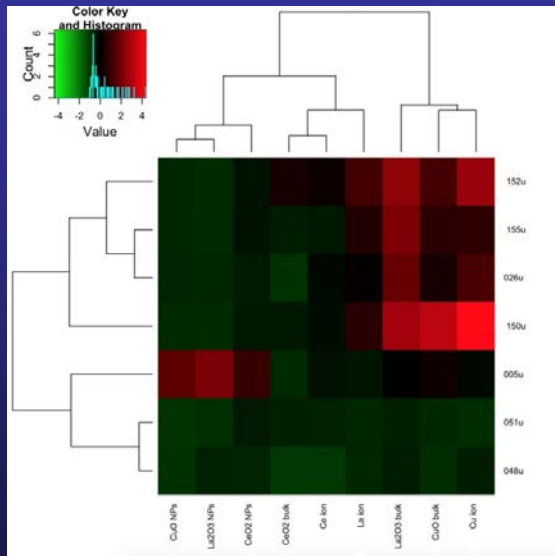
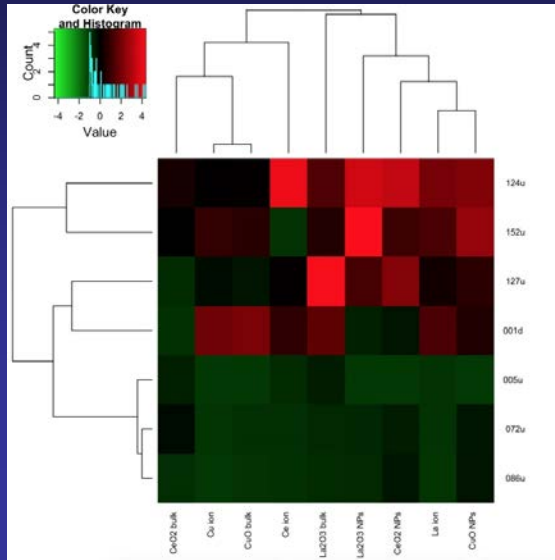


Bulk & Ion Exposure?

➤ For tomato, *CuO NPs response was unique* (as compared to bulk and ion)

➤ Lanthanides behave differently, with bulk and NP La_2O_3 grouping closely together but CeO_2 has a significant “nano” effect on transcription.

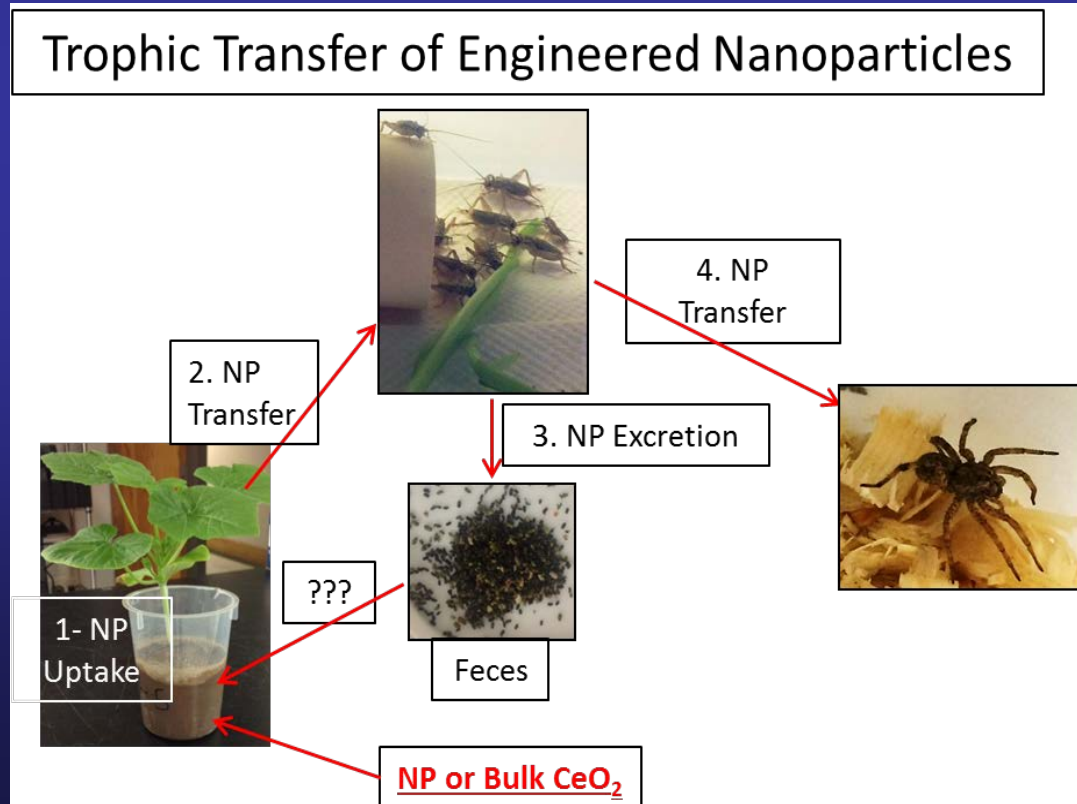
➤ For zucchini, of the 7 commonly expressed genes, *all 3 NP treatments group separately* from the corresponding bulk and ionic exposures.



Determine the trophic transfer potential of NMs

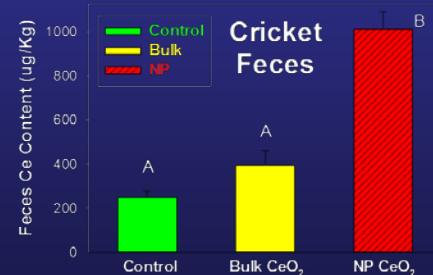
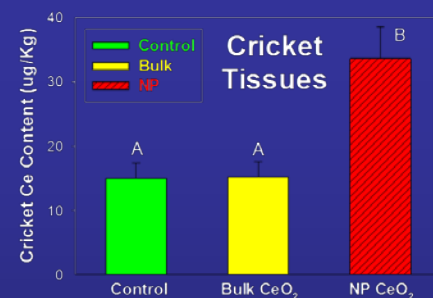
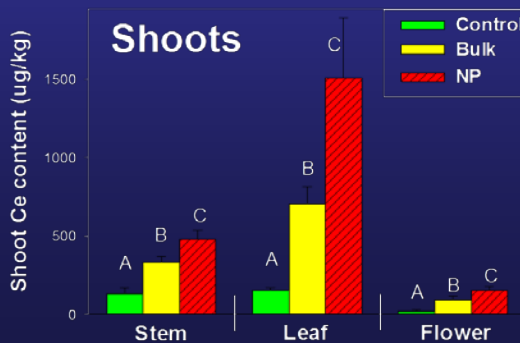
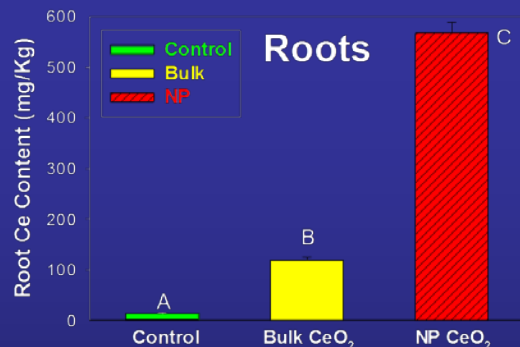
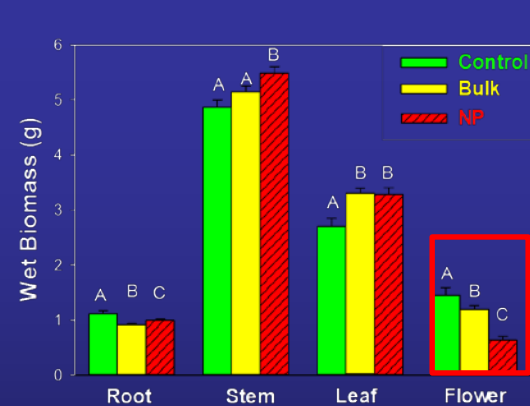
- Experiment 1 - NP/bulk CeO_2 (0 or 1000 mg/Kg) added to an agricultural loam.
- Zucchini grown for 28d from seedling.
- Roots, stems, leaves, and flowers analyzed by ICP-MS.
- Leaves used to feed crickets for 14d.
- Crickets used to feed wolf spiders for 7d.
- Insect tissues/feces by ICP-MS.

Hawthorne et al. 2014. *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 48:13102-13109



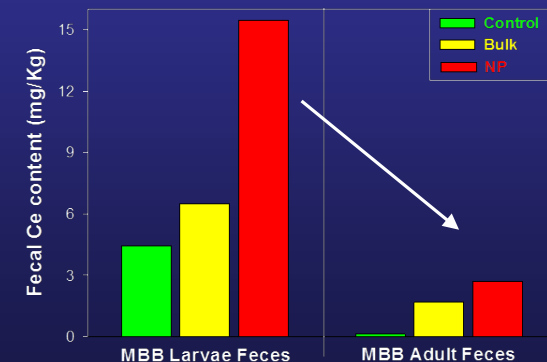
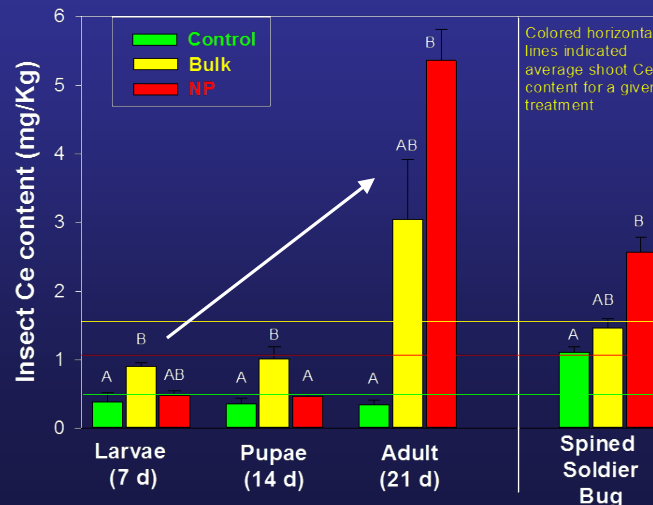
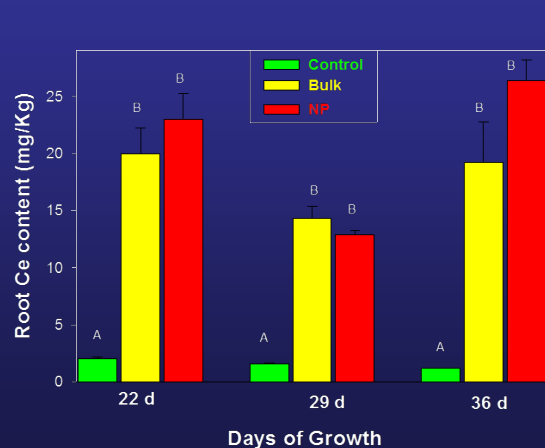
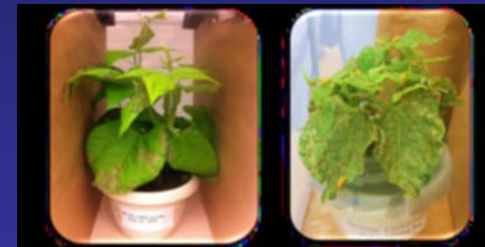
Determine the trophic transfer potential of NMs: **Exp. 1**

- Particle size-dependent transfer from soil → plant → herbivore → carnivore observed
- NP CeO₂ reduced biomass of reproductive tissues by 50%
- No biomagnification; 10-100 fold decreases at each level
- Insect feces contained 10x more Ce than insect tissues



Determine the trophic transfer potential of NMs: **Exp. 2**

- NP/bulk CeO₂ (1000 mg/kg) added to a TX soil; kidney bean grown for 35 d
- Leaves fed to bean beetle (larvae, pupae, adult);
- Beetles fed to spined soldier bugs
- Ce root/shoot content was unaffected by particle size
- Time-dependent Ce *increase* in the beetle; biomagnification in the adult.
- Time dependent *decrease* in fecal Ce content.





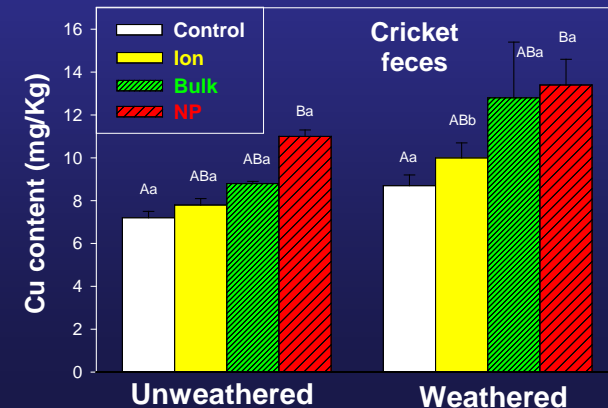
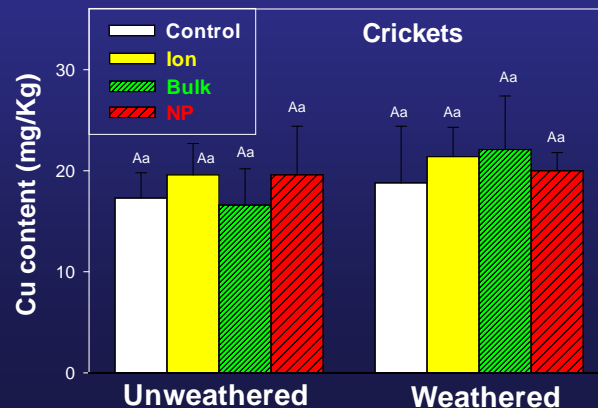
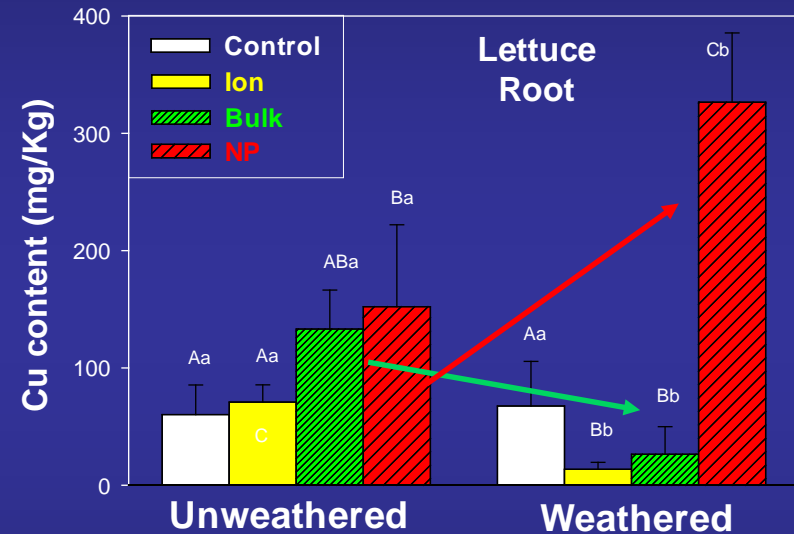
Determine the trophic transfer potential of NMs: **Exp. 3**

- Trophic transfer of NP and bulk CuO
 - 500 mg/kg in soil for 0 or 60 days, lettuce, cricket, Anolis lizards.
 - Soil was contaminated with weathered chlordane (3 mg/kg) and DDX (0.2 mg/kg)
 - Tracked Cu, chlordane and DDX content and form (ICP-MS, μ XRF, XANES, biomass, and gene expression in the plant (transcriptomics)



Determine the trophic transfer potential of NMs: **Exp. 4**

- Leaf Cu content unaffected by particle type or weathering
- Root Cu content affected by particle size upon weathering
- Cricket and fecal Cu content largely unaffected by particle type, weathering or even Cu amendment
- Lizard Cu content (head, intestine, body, feces) unaffected by Cu amendment, type or weathering



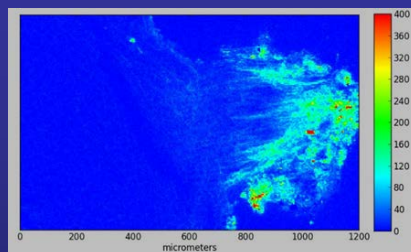
Determine the trophic transfer potential of NMs: Exp. 3

- In NP-exposed roots, Cu distribution and speciation varied with weathering status (ESRF, Grenoble France)
- Unweathered treatment had Cu hot spots in the roots; the weathered treatment had homogeneous Cu
- Cu in the weathered roots was more reduced/transformed to Cu_2O and Cu_2S forms

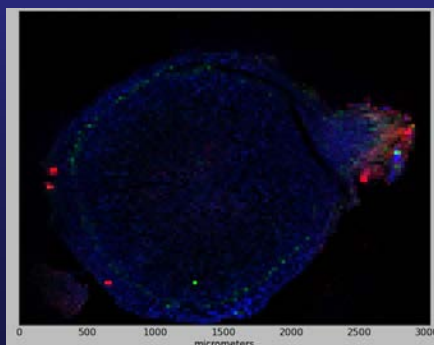
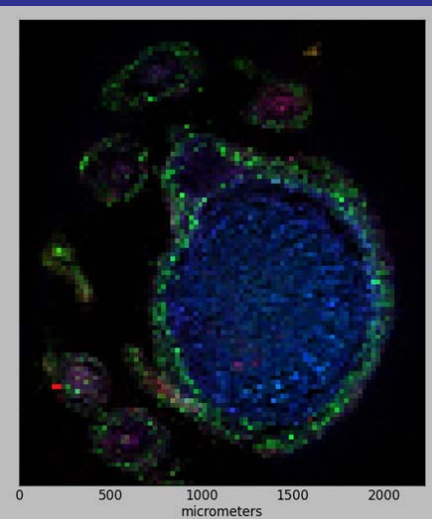
Unweathered

Spot	Components			R-factor
	CuO	Cu ₂ O	Cu ₂ S	
SR(175)	0.6580	0.342	0.0000	0.004
SR(178-)	0.0000	0.554	0.446	0.002
SR(192-)	0.458	0.355	0.187	0.001
ASR (208)	1	0.0000	0.0000	0.000
SR(231-)	0.635	0.430	0.0000	0.006
SR(242-)	0.229	0.353	0.417	0.004
AMR(263)	1	0.0000	0.0000	0.000
EMR(250-)	0.314	0.238	0.447	0.009

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Servin et al. In preparation



Weathered

Spot	Components			R-factor
	CuO	Cu ₂ O	Cu ₂ S	
A	0.0000	0.9425	0.0575	0.0009
E	0.0000	0.4599	0.4354	0.0009
SR	0.0000	0.3402	0.6239	0.0029
MR	0.0000	0.0877	0.8511	0.0019
C	0.0000	0.4647	0.4835	0.0029

A; aggregate sec root, E; Epidermis, SR; secondary root, MR; Main root, C; Cortex



Nanomaterial interactions with co-existing contaminants

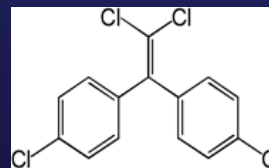
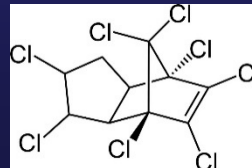
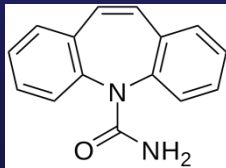
- NMs are entering agricultural systems directly (pesticide/fertilizers) or indirectly (biosolids)
- Agricultural soils contain a number of other organic chemicals
- Interactions between NM and these co-existing contaminants may be important
 - Could bioavailability of legacy pesticides be affected? A food safety issue?
 - Could efficacy of intentional agrichemicals be affected? An economic issue?
- Five publications since 2012; three more underway





Nanomaterial interactions with co-existing contaminants

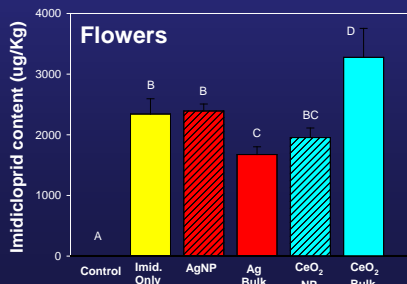
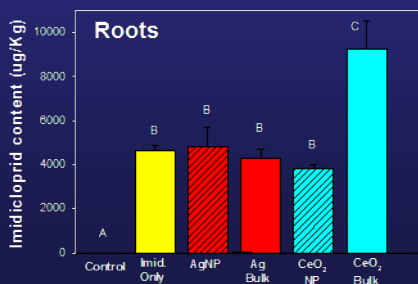
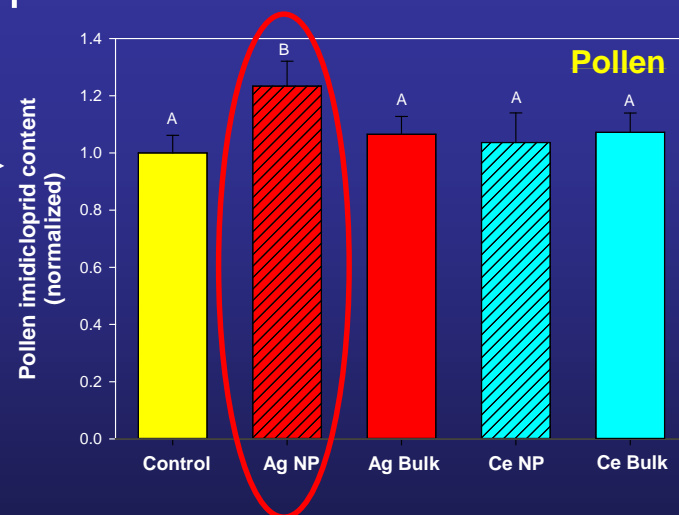
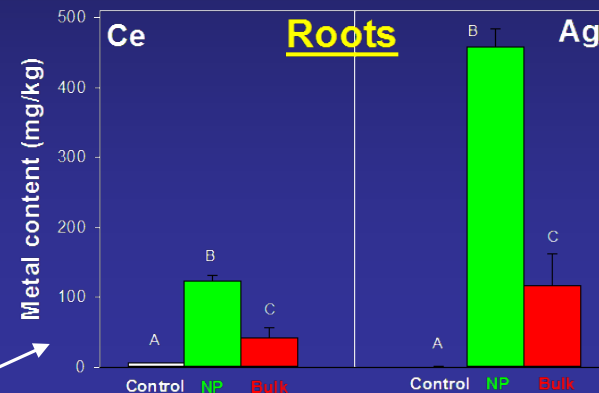
- Impact of C₆₀ or Ag on DDE accumulation by crops in vermiculite (De La Torre Roche et al. 2012. *Environ. Sci. Technol.*; De La Torre Roche et al. 2013a. *Environ. Sci. Technol.*.)
- Impact of C₆₀ on weathered DDE accumulation from soil by crop and worm species (Kelsey and White, 2013. *Environ. Toxicol. Chem.*.)
- Impact of C₆₀ on weathered chlordane and DDE accumulation by 4 crops in soil (De La Torre Roche et al. 2013b. *Environ. Sci. Technol.*.)
- Impact of functionalized/non-functionalized MWCNT on chlordane and DDE uptake by lettuce in vermiculite (Hamdi et al. 2015 *Nanotox.*)
- Impact of NP TiO₂ on Pb accumulation by hydroponic rice (Cai et al., in review)
- Impact of functionalized/non-functionalized MWCNT on carbamazepine accumulation by collard greens (Deng et al. in prep.)
- Impact of coated and uncoated NP Ag on chlordane and DDX accumulation by earthworms in soil (Mukherjee et al. in prep.)





Quantify the facilitated uptake of pesticides through NM-chemical interactions

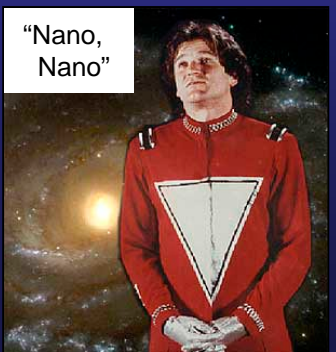
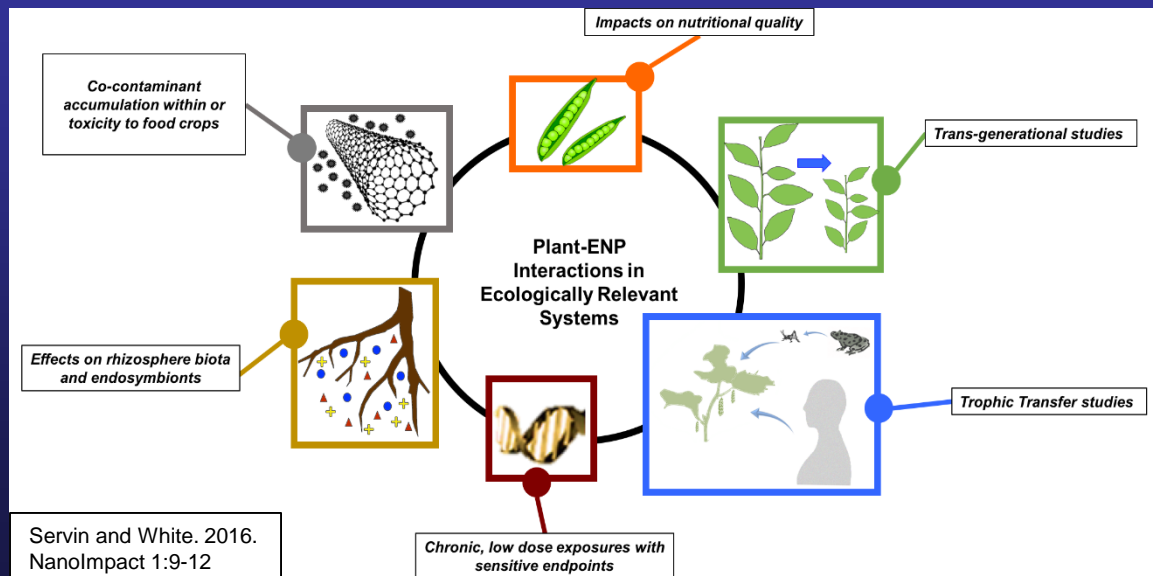
- Zucchini was grown for 28-d in soil that contained NP Ag or CeO₂ (or bulk) and imidicloprid
- Roots, shoots, flowers and pollen were analyzed for metals by ICP-MS and imidicloprid + metabolites by LC-MS/MS
- NP were accumulated at greater levels than bulk forms
- NP Ag increased pollen imidicloprid content; bulk Ce increased root and flower imidicloprid content;





Conclusions

- Are NM significant emerging class of contaminants in agriculture?
- Exposure through NM-containing pesticide/fertilizers, biosolids, food packaging/processing, and as flavor/quality amendments.
- Trophic transfer, biomagnification, food chain contamination can occur. Species-, soil-, and particle type-variability seems high.
- NMs can significantly alter the of co-contaminants. Species-, soil-, and particle type-variability seems high.
- Detailed mechanistic studies are needed; robust detection platforms are needed
- The benefits of nanotechnology to food are great but there are some EHS issues





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