



# DESIGNING LED LIGHTING SOLUTIONS FOR NEW APPLICATIONS

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# Overview

1. Introduction
2. Macro tensions
3. Background and farm tour
4. Evolution of horticulture lighting
5. New Lights for New Applications
6. Why spectrum matters (and how we can use it)
7. Consideration for lighting efficiency
8. How can industry help AeroFarms?



# Select Leadership Biographies

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**Roger Buelow**  
Chief Technology Officer

- As CTO, Roger leads AeroFarms' innovation and capabilities team and works closely with R&D and Business Development.
- LED innovator and engineering technologist.
- 20+ years of experience in government and the private sector.
- Previously served as CTO of Energy Focus (a publicly traded company) for ten years leading their R&D, Engineering, and Operations to refit the U.S. Navy with LEDs.
- Developed lights that help regulate sleep cycles.
- Set the world record for most efficient solar cell.
- Principal investigator on over a dozen federally funded research contracts spanning military and civilian technologies Holder of 20 patents covering a wide array of technologies.
- Brought over 50 products from concept, through R&D, into engineering and then onto the open market.
- B.S. in Mathematics and an M.S. in Systems and Control Engineering from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.





**50% More Food by 2050**



# Drought





# Industrialized Farming





# Pesticides



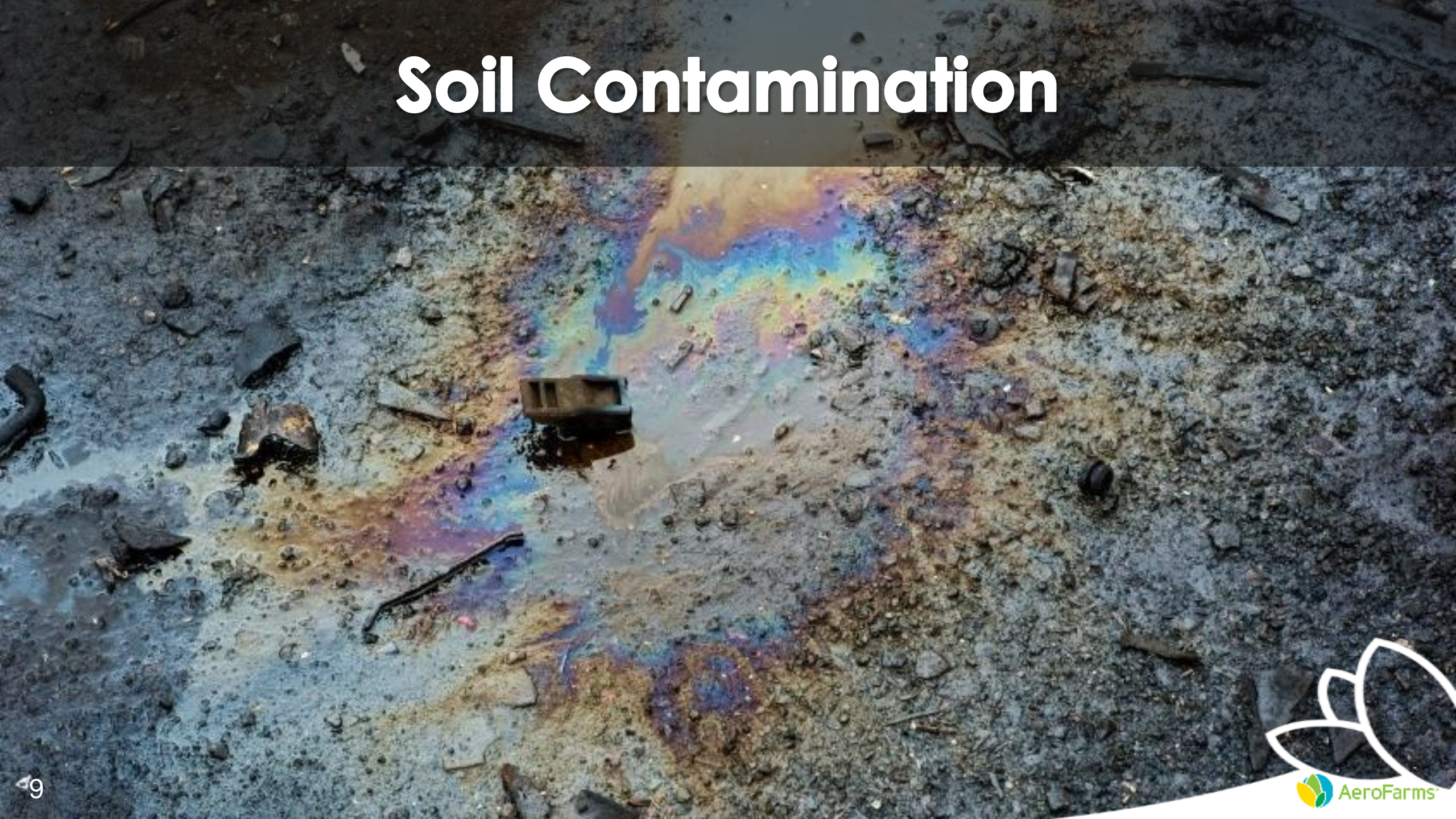


# River Runoff



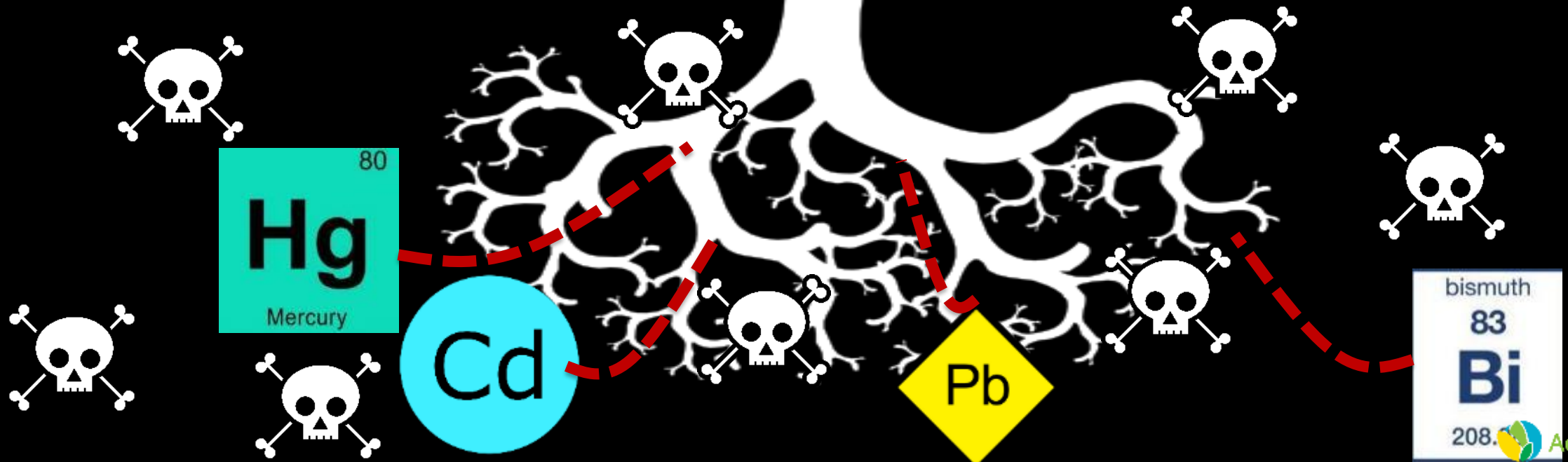


# Soil Contamination





# Roots Absorb Heavy Metals



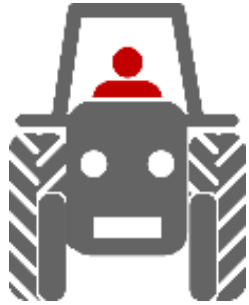


Heavy use  
of fertilizers  
and  
pesticides



+

Over  
farming



=

Record soil  
degradation



Earth lost 1/3<sup>rd</sup>  
of its arable  
land in the last  
40 years

Source:  
<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/deadly-algae-are-everywhere-thanks-to-agriculture/>

Source: <http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/dec/02/arable-land-soil-food-security-shortage>





# Food Waste





# Background

**Using 95%  
less water**

**\$100mm  
raised to  
date**

**Farming  
since 2004**

**390x more  
productive**

**Zero  
pesticides**

**700  
varieties  
grown**

**Nine farms  
built to  
date**

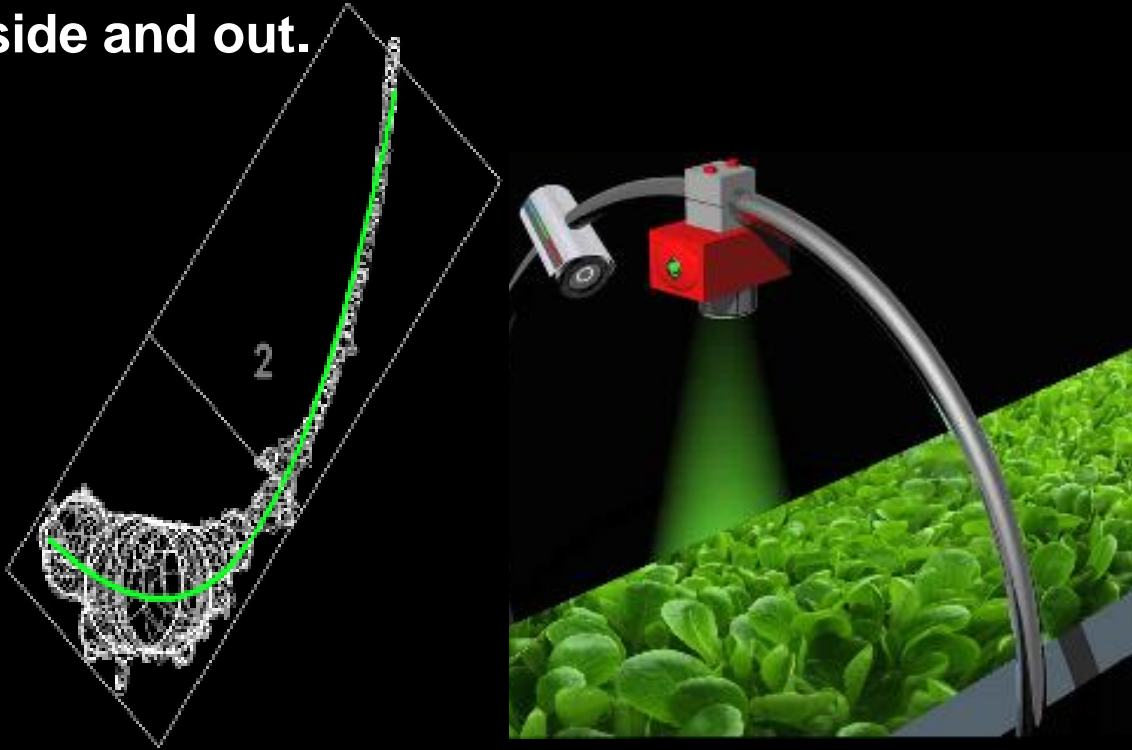
**World's  
largest  
vertical farm**

**Maximizing  
taste and  
nutrition**



# A Technology Company

AeroFarms' technology includes machine vision, machine learning, AI, IoT hardware and software - capable of mapping plants inside and out.



# A Farming Company



Aeroponics used to grow more with less: water, fertilizer, land, and time.





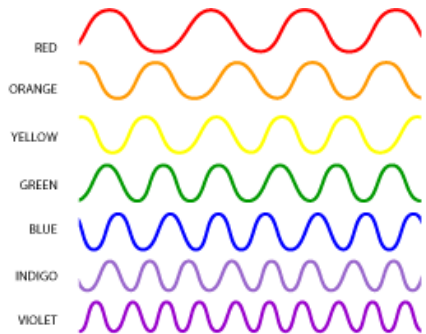
# World's Largest and Most Productive Vertical Farm





# Abiotic Stresses

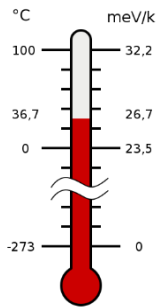
AeroFarms has mastered how to leverage abiotic stresses to enhance desirable plant attributes such as taste, texture, appearance and nutrition



Light Spectrum



Water Delivery



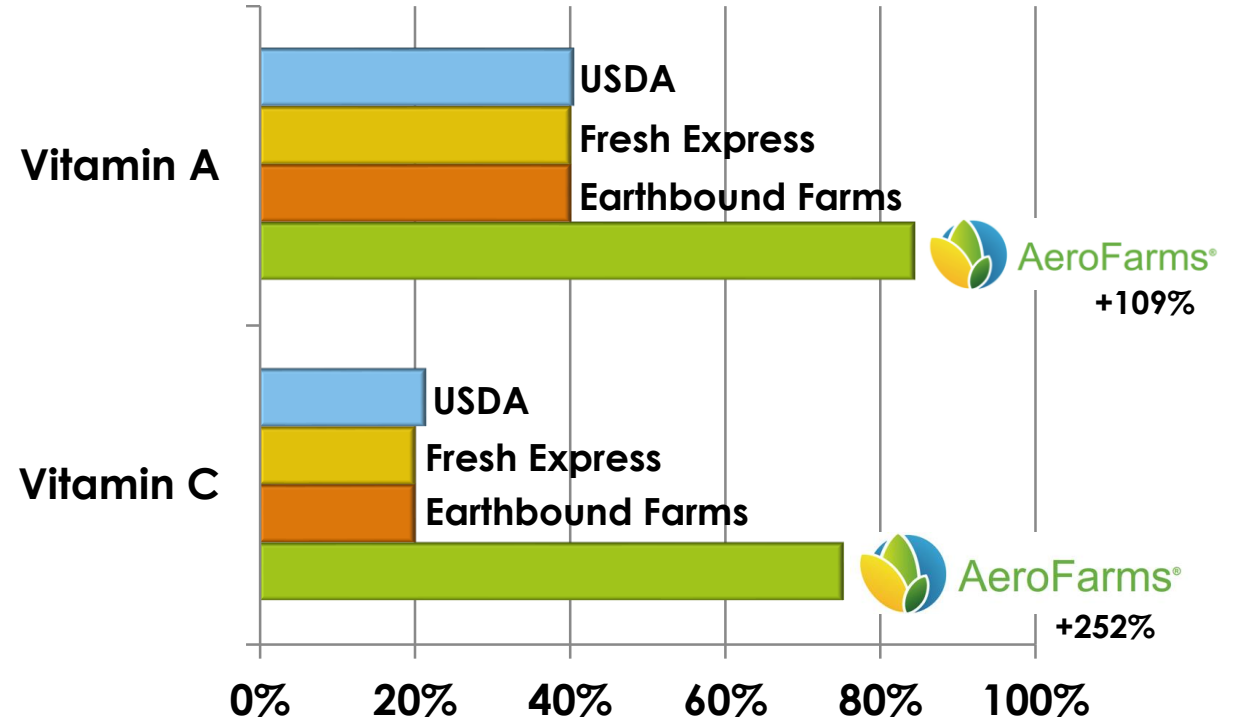
Temperature



Air Flow

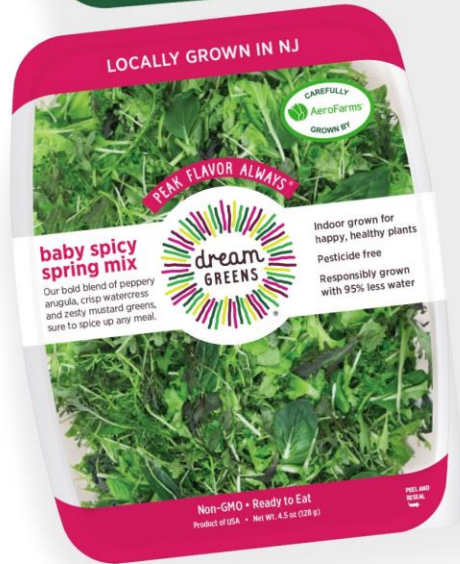
# Example: Vitamin Content

## Arugula Profile\*



- Percent Daily Values based on 2,000 calorie diet; Assessment of 85g serving size.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Party IEH/Sanipure Testing for AeroFarms. Competitors data taken from their packaging label.







# Industry Partnerships

## Airport Ads in NY/JFK, Boston, Austin, and San Francisco







# Lighting



AeroFarms®





## What's typical?

- Mostly New Installations
  - (Not pulling out fluorescent tubes)
- Lights need to be slim
- 9-12" from lights to seeds
- 2MW is a typical AeroFarms

## What's important?

1. Efficiency
2. First Cost
3. Ease of installation
4. Spectrum
5. Reliability
6. Uniformity



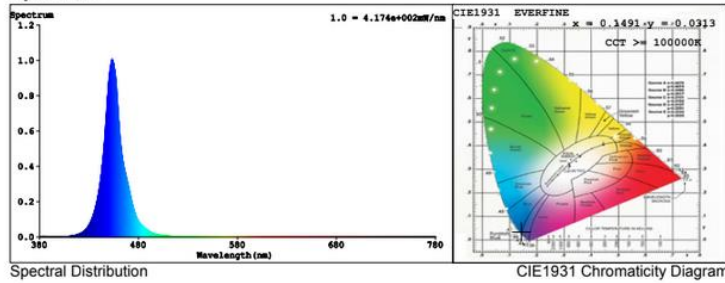
# When qualifying lights, our specification includes spectrum, efficiency, electromechanical, reliability.

## Test Condition

Temperature : 25.5Deg  
 WL Range : 380nm-780nm  
 Test Mode : Fast Test  
 Sensitivity : High

RH : 41.3%  
 IP : 53747 (82%)  
 T : 5 ms

## Spectrum



## Colorimetric Parameters

Chromaticity Coordinate:  $x = 0.1491$   $y = 0.0313$  /  $u' = 0.1938$   $v' = 0.0915$  ( $duv = 2.05e-01$ )  
 CCT >= 100000K Prcp WL: Ld=458.3nm Purity=98.6%  
 Peak WL: Lp=454nm FWHM: =17.7nm Ratio:R=0.4% G=8.3% B=91.2%

## Render Index: Ra = 0.1

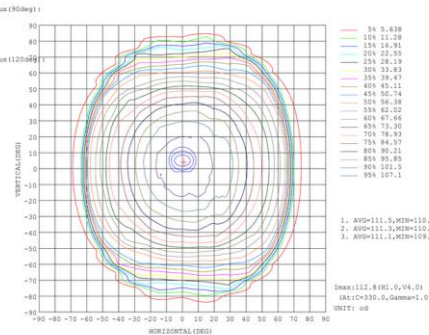
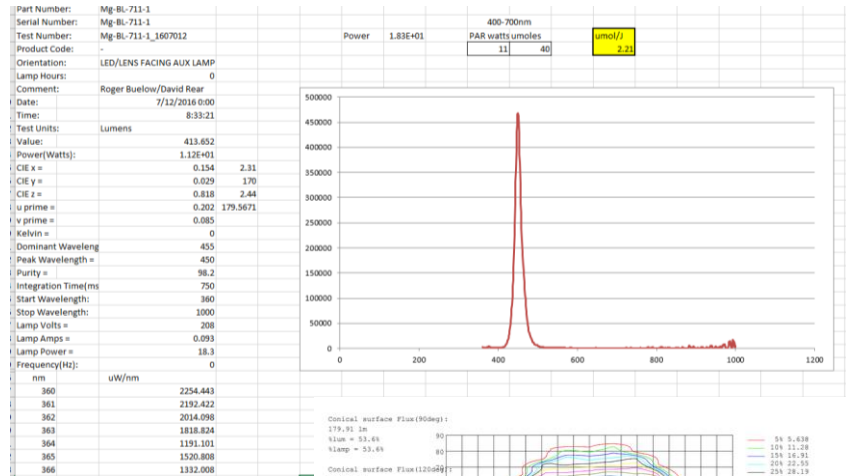
R1=0 R2=0 R3=0 R4=0 R5=1 R6=0 R7=0  
 R8=0 R9=0 R10=0 R11=0 R12=0 R13=0 R14=0 R15=0  
 WHITE:OUT

## Photometric & Radiometric Parameters

Flux = 341.60 lm Eff. : 19.62 lm/W Fe = 8.3325 W  
 Photons1: 3.164e+001  $\mu\text{mol/s}$ (400-700nm) Photons2: 3.170e+001  $\mu\text{mol/s}$ (380-780nm)  
 Photosynthetic: PPF(400-700nm): 37.102  $\mu\text{mol/s}$  PRF(400-700nm): 9751.1 mW  
 Eff(PPF) (400-700nm): 2.13  $\mu\text{mol/s/W}$

## Electrical parameters

V = 208.1 V I = 0.08757 A P = 17.41 W PF = 0.9539 F = 49.99 Hz



Summary Lighting Facts, Horticultural Applications		
Brand	XXXX	PAR flux ( $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ) 35.3
Model	XXXX	PAR efficacy ( $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{J}^{-1}$ ) 2.03
Lamp type	LED	PAR efficacy ( $\text{mol}\cdot\text{kWh}^{-1}$ ) 7.29
Voltage (VAC)	120	PAR conversion efficiency (%) 53
Current (A)	0.15	Luminous flux (lm) 372.3
Power (W)	17.4	CCT (K) 22,000
PSS (-)	0.51	CRI (Ra) -62.82
R/FR (-)	1.19	Case temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) N/A
Photon flux density (PFD) (at 9 inch mounting height):		Normalized photon flux density:
Waveband (nm)	PFD ( $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ )	UV B G R FR IR
300-399	0.32 (0.48%)	
400-499	65.63 (97.9%)	
500-599	0.71 (1.06%)	
600-699	0.11 (0.16%)	
700-799	0.09 (0.14%)	
800-900	0.18 (0.27%)	
300-900	67.04 (100%)	
400-700	66.44 (99.1%)	
PAR intensity (at 9" mounting height):		Not yet available
Measurements performed according to IESNA LM-79-08: Approved Method for Electrical and Photometric Measurements of Solid-State Lighting Products.		

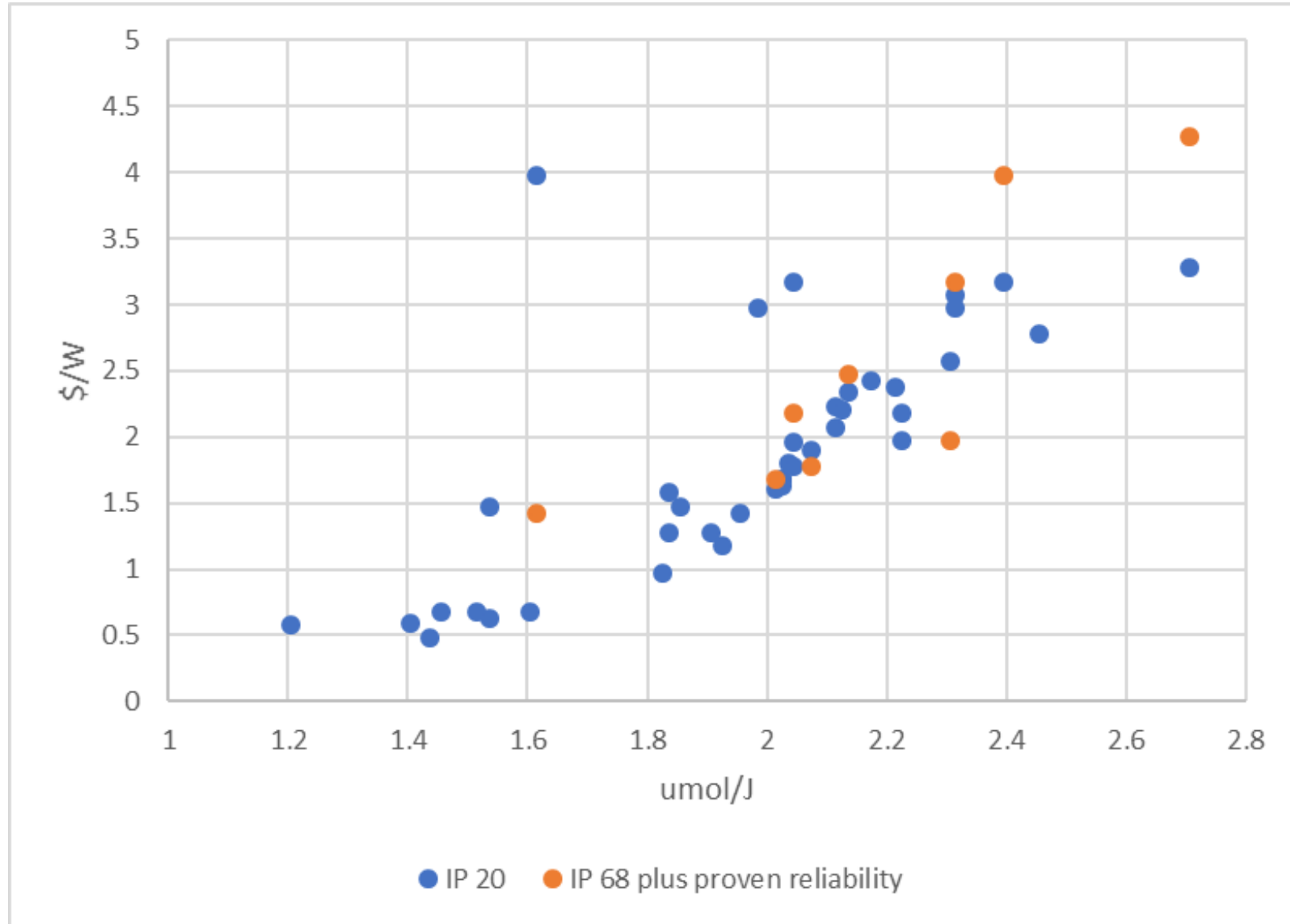
Potential vendors must supply photometry...

... in house checks ...

... Independent checks (here, Rutgers)



# In most cases, price premium for the most efficient is too high





<b>Retrofit example</b>			
	Existing	Upgraded	
Efficiency	1.9	2.4	umol/J
Total power	2.5	2.0	MW
<b><u>Investment</u></b>			
Capex per W		\$2	\$/W
Install, per W		\$0.50	\$/W
Capex, total		4.9	\$M
Energy/year	21,900	17,338	MWhr/year
Cost	1,752	1,387	\$M/yr
Savings		\$ 365	\$M/yr
Payback		14	years
Rebate		\$1	\$/W
Payback with rebate		12	years





<b>New construction</b>			
	Existing	Upgraded	
Efficiency	2.4	2.7	umol/J
Total power	2	1.78	MW
<b><u>Investment</u></b>			
Capex per W	\$2	\$3	\$/W
Install, per W	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$/W
Capex, total	5.0	6.2	\$M
Energy/year	17,520	15,573	MWhr/yea
Cost	1,402	1,246	\$M/yr
Savings		\$ 156	\$M/yr
Payback		8	years
Rebate		\$1	\$/W
Payback with rebate		6	years





A large indoor vertical farming facility with multiple levels of growing racks. The racks are filled with green plants, and the facility is illuminated with bright lights. A worker in a blue coat is visible in the foreground, and a blue scissor lift is positioned near the racks. The ceiling is high with exposed steel beams and ductwork.

# Opportunities in Vertical Farming

- Megawatts of PFC load in one customer
- Tie in rates/rebates with service upgrades (substation?)
- Popping up all over the country



# Vertical Farms Needs: “R&D Topics for the Advancement of SSL in Horticulture”

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- High efficiency, low cost
- Low cost (free) spectrum tuning
- Special beam spreads to keep light in the towers
- Feedback loops between plants and lights
- Very high reliability
- Waterproof
- Integrate other functions
- Married with a 277V personnel safety GFCI
- High efficiency, low cost (again)





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