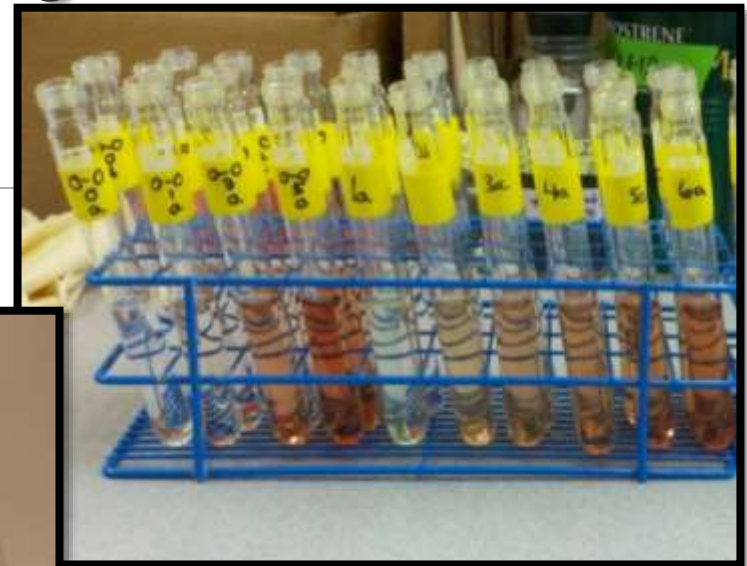




# *Exciting World of Chelation*

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# What We Hope to Learn Today

What is a chelate?

What is a ligand?

Why do we use chelates in soil fertility?

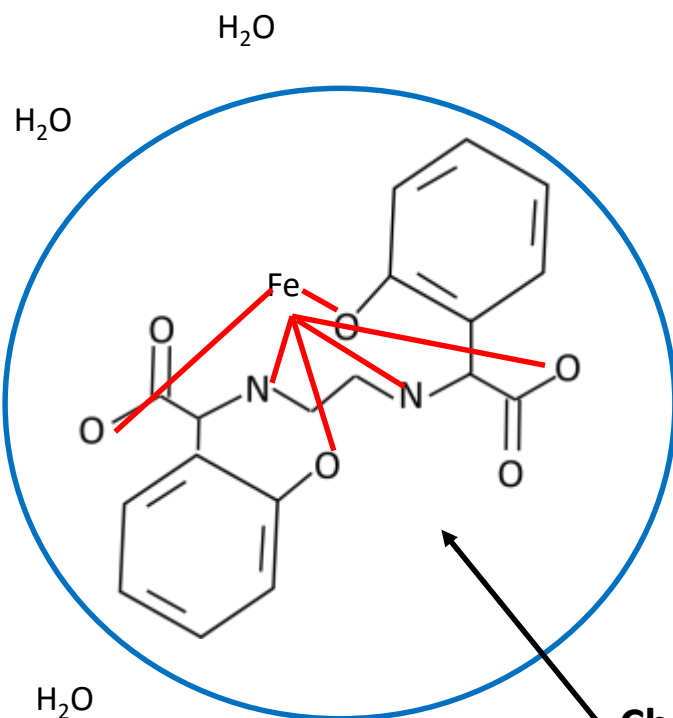
What is a stability constant and why is it important to chelate chemistry?

What causes iron deficiency chlorosis in soybeans.

How chelates play a role in the Fe uptake mechanism of plants.

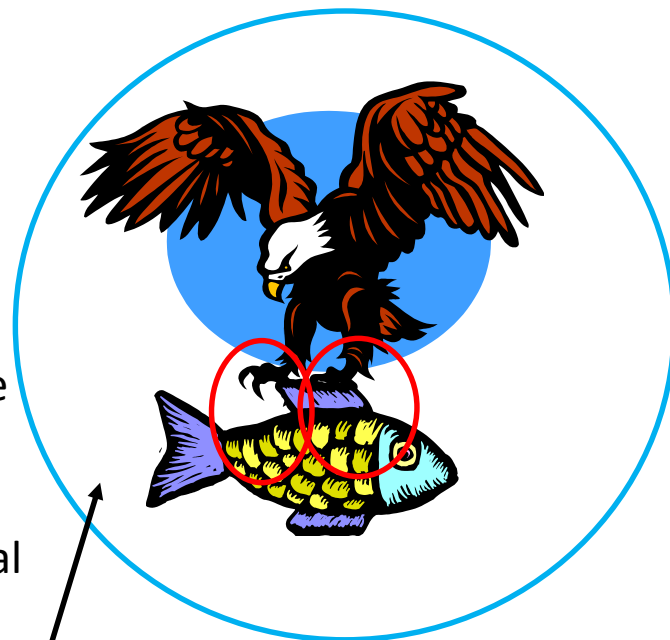
# Chelate Means Claw

**Ligand** = organic molecule that complexes metal ion with more than one bond



**Metal Ion** = bonds to ligand with more than one bond

**Chelate** = an insoluble metal ion bonded by more than one bond to an organic molecule called a ligand – Prevents the metal ion from reacting with other materials



**Chelate = Ligand + Metal Ion**

# Chelates Increase Solubility

Increase the solubility of insoluble metal ions

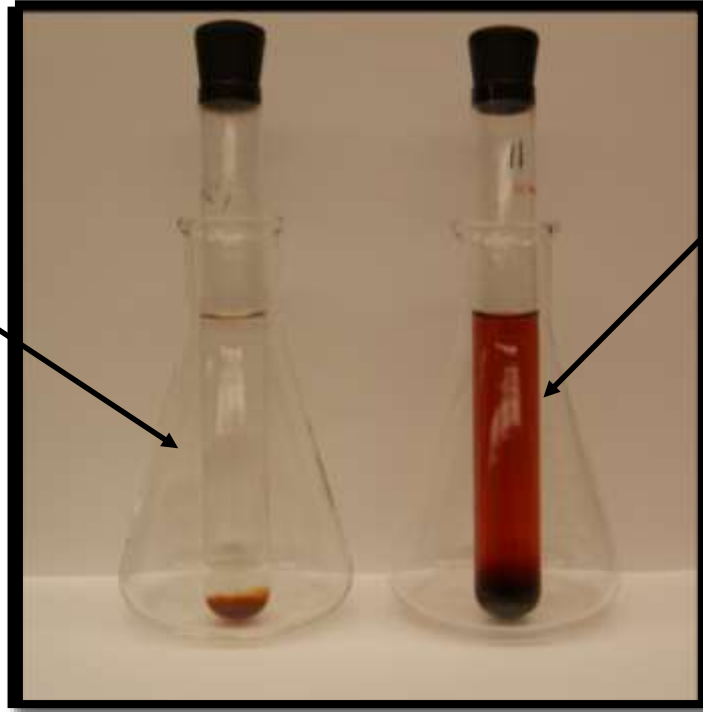
What's solubility?

- How much of a substance can be dissolved into another substance



# Chelates Increase Solubility

Iron nitrate shaken  
with water



Iron nitrate shaken  
with EDDHA ligand

Non-chelated Iron reacts with water and precipitates solid  $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})$  species which plant roots can't take up

# Stability Constant

The strength of the bond between the ligand and the metal ion which is described by a number called a “Log K”

1) The greater the stability constant, the more difficult it is to break apart the chelate

2) The greater the stability constant, the more the ligand prefers that metal ion

Table 3. Formation constants (Log K values) for some metal chelates (Lindsay, 1979).

	EDTA <sup>†</sup>	DTPA <sup>‡</sup>	EDDHA <sup>§</sup>
Reaction	----- Log K -----		
Fe(III) + L ↔ Fe(III)L	26.50	29.19	35.40
Ca + L ↔ CaL	11.61	12.02	8.20
Mg + L ↔ MgL	9.83	10.61	9.00

† ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid

‡ diethylene triamine pentaacetic acid

§ ethylene diamine di(hydroxyl phenyl acetic acid)

$$K_{Fe(III)EDDHA} = \frac{[Fe(III)EDDHA]}{[Fe(III)][EDDHA]} = 10^{35.40}$$

[https://www.akzonobel.com/dissolvine/functions/the\\_right\\_chelate/](https://www.akzonobel.com/dissolvine/functions/the_right_chelate/)



# Stability Constant



Picture Courtesy of Dr. R. Jay Goos, NDSU



Picture Courtesy of Dr. R. Jay Goos, NDSU



Picture Courtesy of Dr. R. Jay Goos, NDSU

# Ligand Isomer Effect on Stability Constant

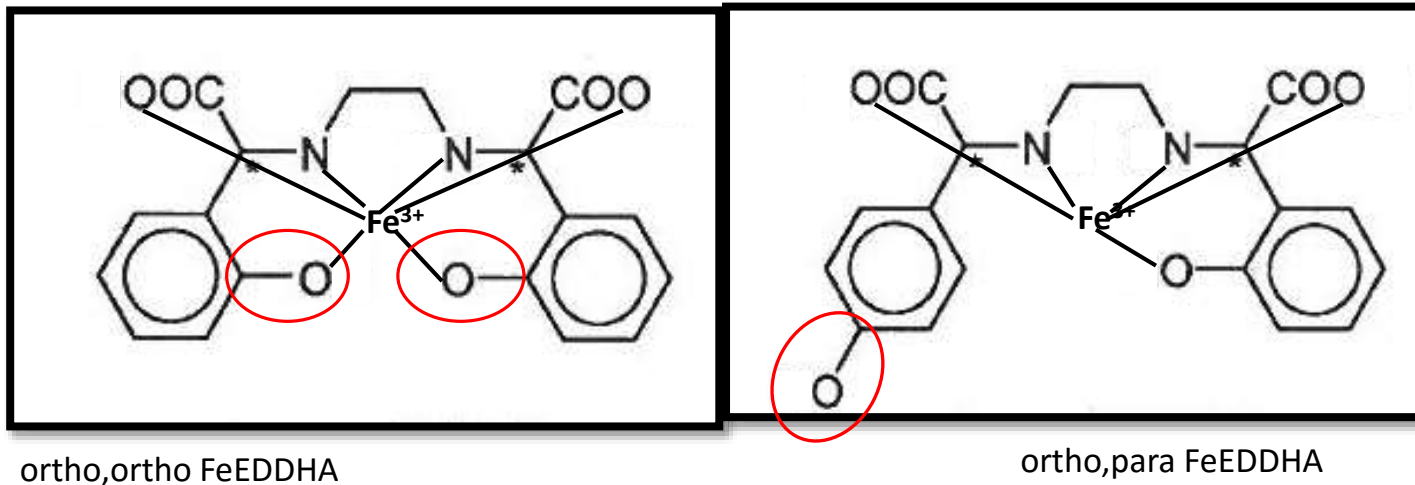


Table 4. Stability constants of different FeEDDHA regioisomers. (Yunta et al., 2003a, 2003b).

Regioisomer	Log K
racemic o,o-FeEDDHA	35.86
meso o,o-FeEDDHA	34.15
o,p-FeEDDHA	28.72

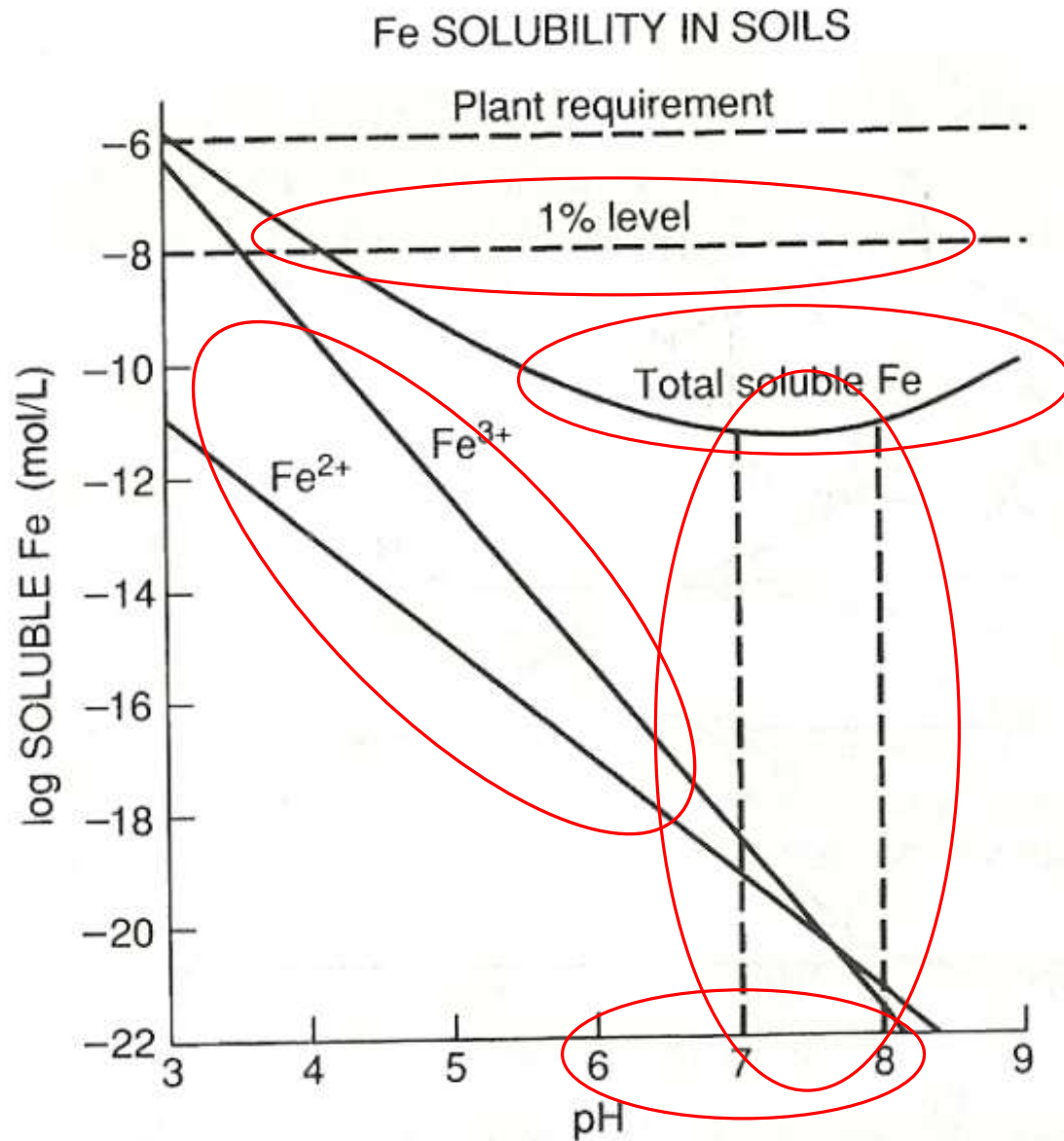
Pictures adapted from  
Yunta et al., 2003



# Effect of Different Ligand Isomers on Stability Constant

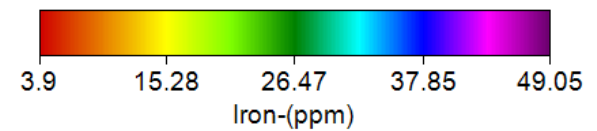
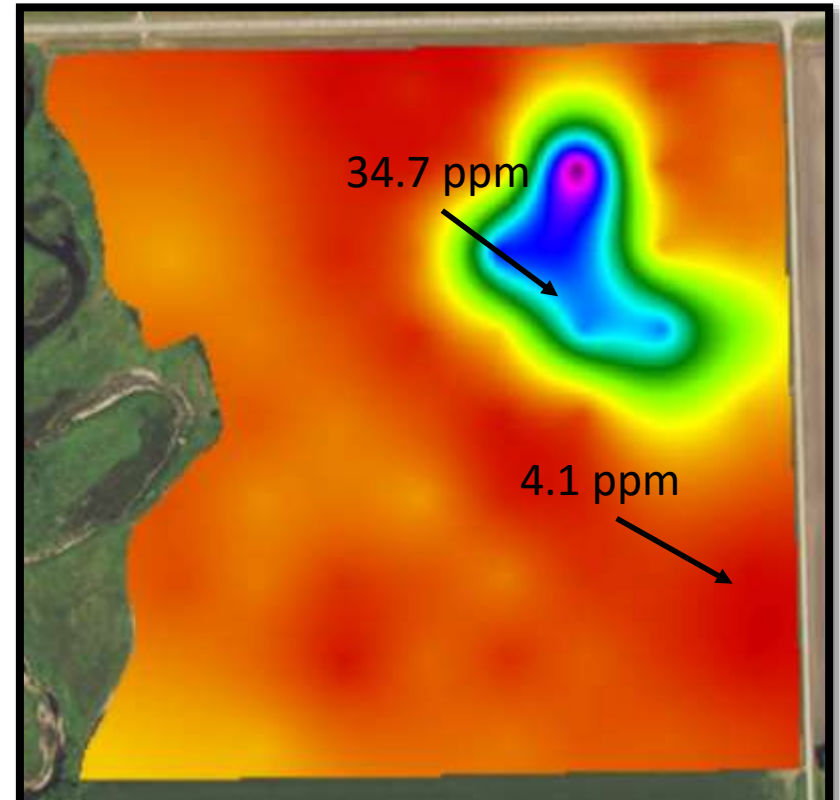
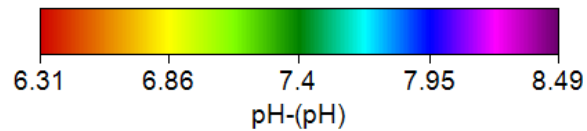
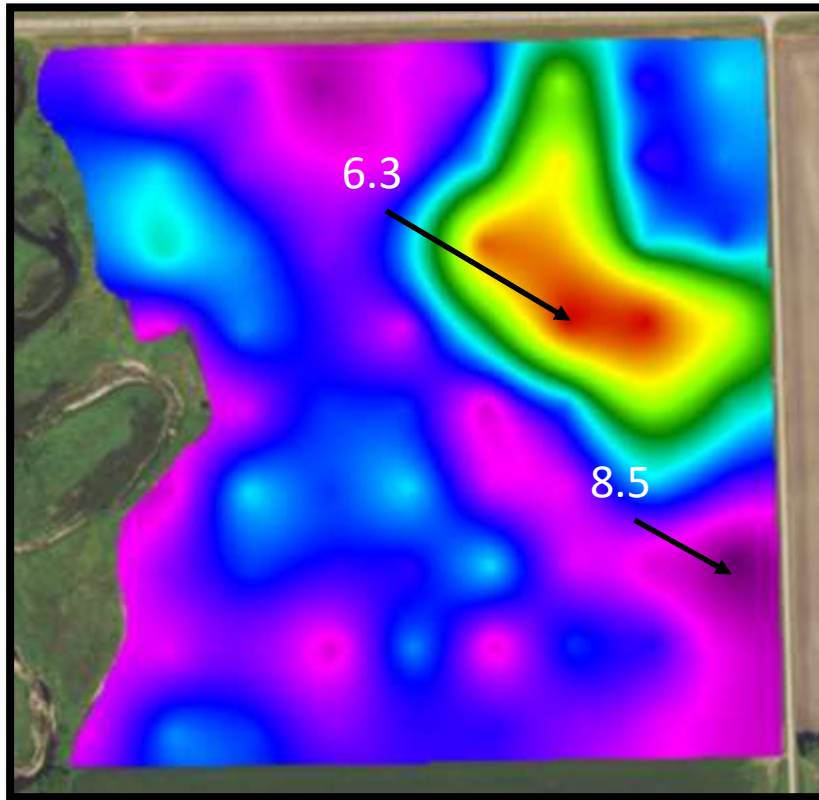


# Iron Chemistry in Soil



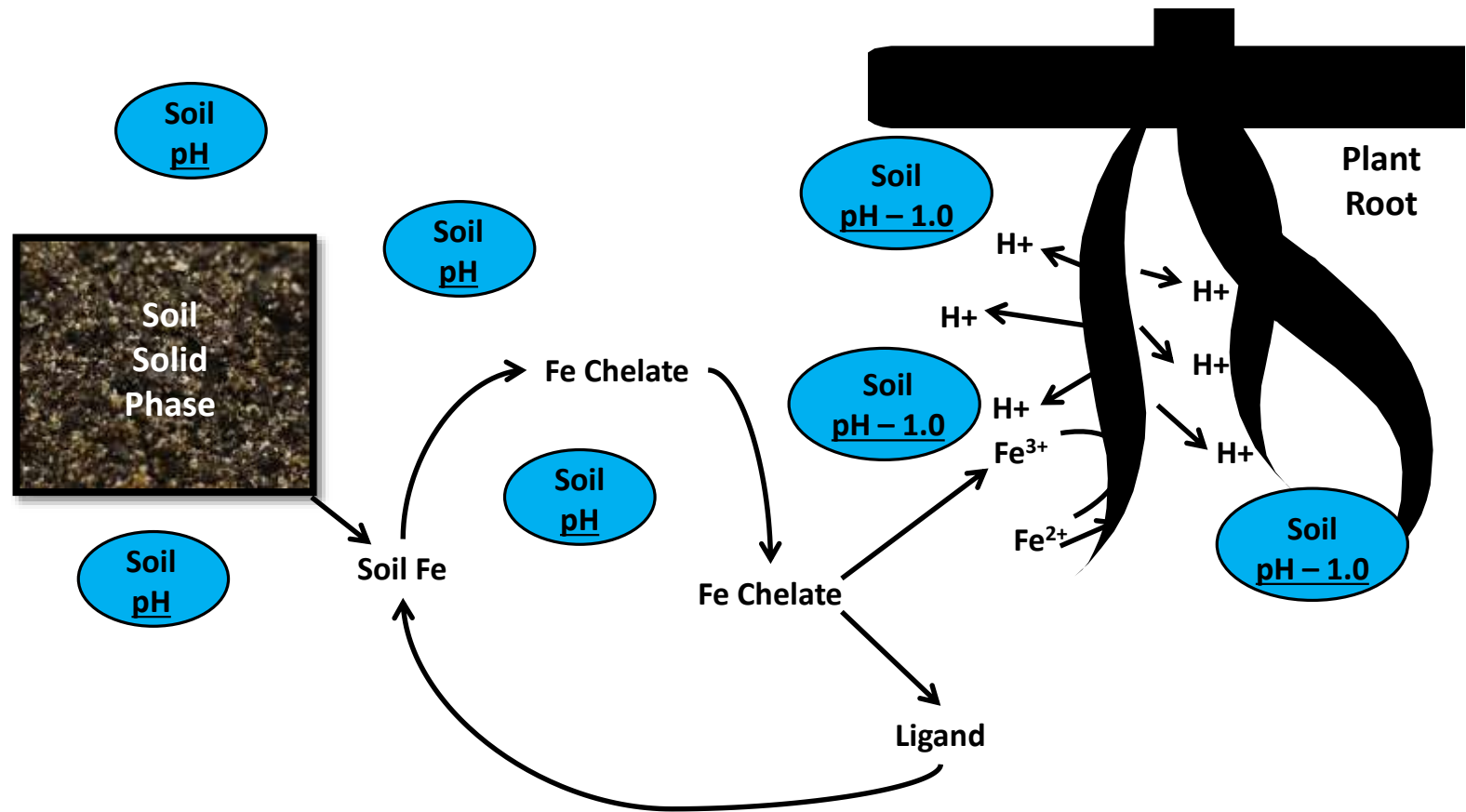
(Lindsay, 1974)

# Iron Chemistry in Soils

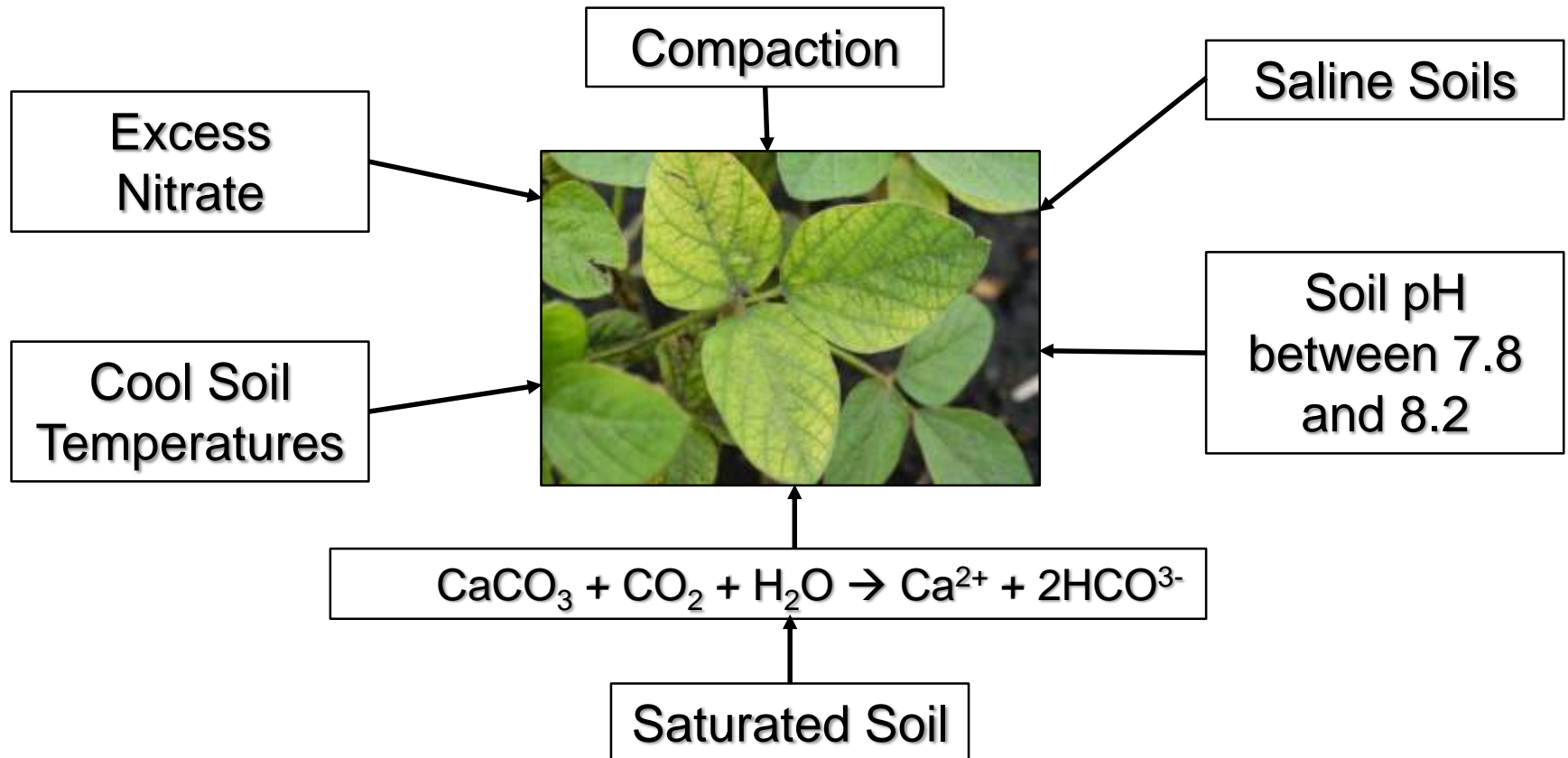


# Strategy I Fe Uptake Mechanism

## "The Shuttle Effect"



# Factors that Contribute to IDC in Soybean



# Diagnosis of Potential IDC Soils

Risk of iron chlorosis in soybeans based on salinity and  $\text{CaCO}_3$  content of soil

$\text{CaCO}_3$ , %	Salinity, mmho/cm			
	< 0.25	0.26-0.5	0.51 - 1.0	> 1.0
0 - 2.5	Low	Low	**	High
2.6 - 5.0	Moderate	Moderate	High	V. High
> 5.1	Moderate	High	V. High	Extreme

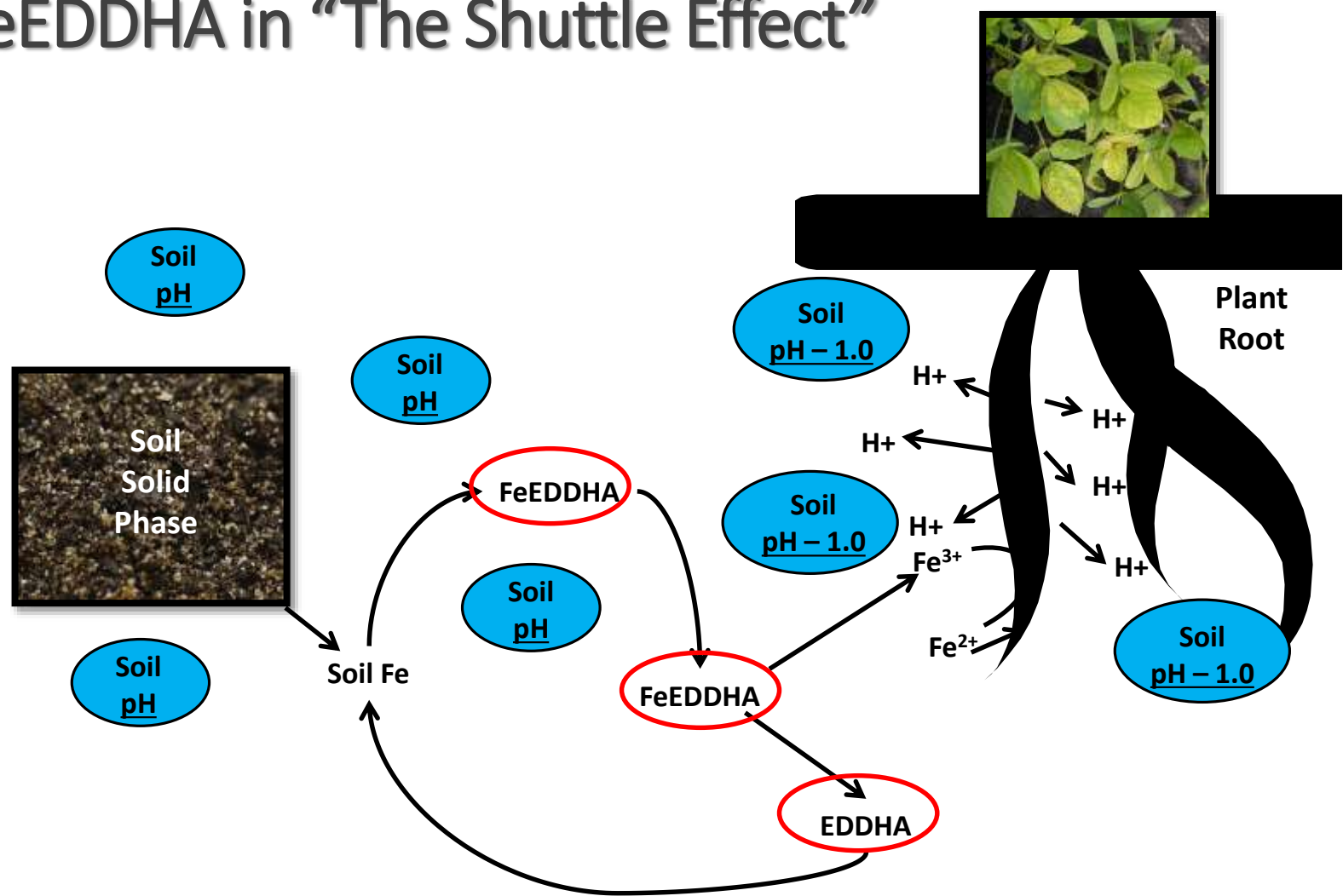
\*\* Low if  $\text{CaCO}_3$  is less than 1%, moderate if  $\text{CaCO}_3$  is 1-2.5%

Agvise Laboratories- Slightly modified by Dr. R Jay Goos



# Soybean Iron Uptake Mechanism

## FeEDDHA in “The Shuttle Effect”



# Are There Any Questions?



# Review...

- 1) A chelate is made up of \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 2) The purpose of using chelates in soil fertility is to \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 3) The greater the \_\_\_\_\_ , the more the chelate wants to stay intact.
- 4) What is solubility? Chemical characteristic that describes how much of a substance can be dissolved in another substance.
- 5) The \_\_\_\_\_ - FeEDDHA isomer is the most effective isomer for managing IDC in soybean.
- 6) As soil pH increases, the solubility of Fe in soils \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 7) (circle one) There (is/is not) enough iron soluble in any given “normal” agriculture soil to provide the basic requirement for plant nutrition.
- 8) There are 3 steps to the iron uptake mechanism of a soybean plant.  
1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) \_\_\_\_\_ inhibits the iron uptake mechanism of a soybean plant.
- 10) Name three contributing factors to the development of IDC.