

Winter 2013-14: Lasting impacts



Winter 2013-14: Three notable events. (So far...)

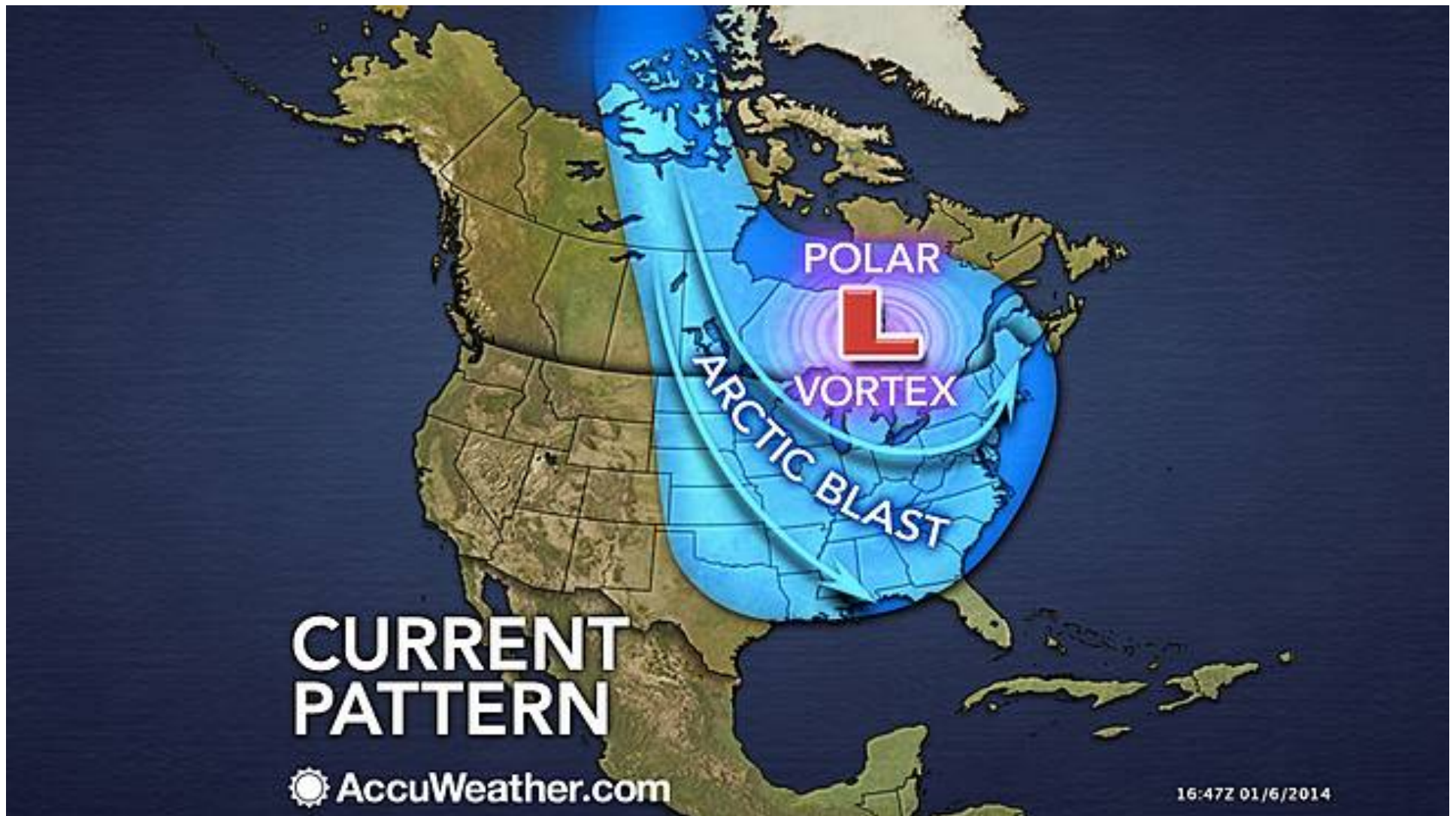
- December ice storm
- January-February cold outbreak
- Above average snowfall

December 2013 Ice storm

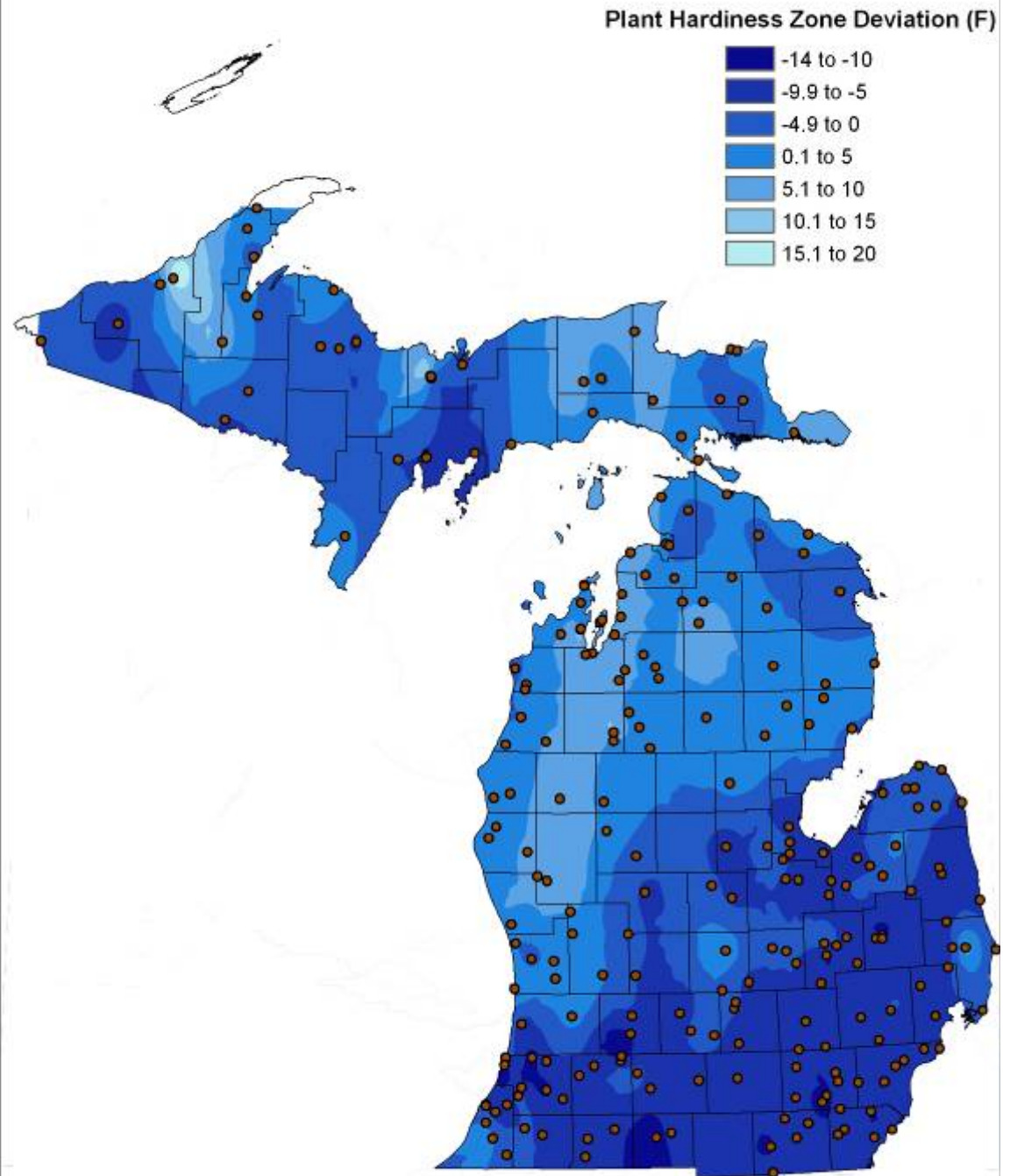




“Polar Vortex”



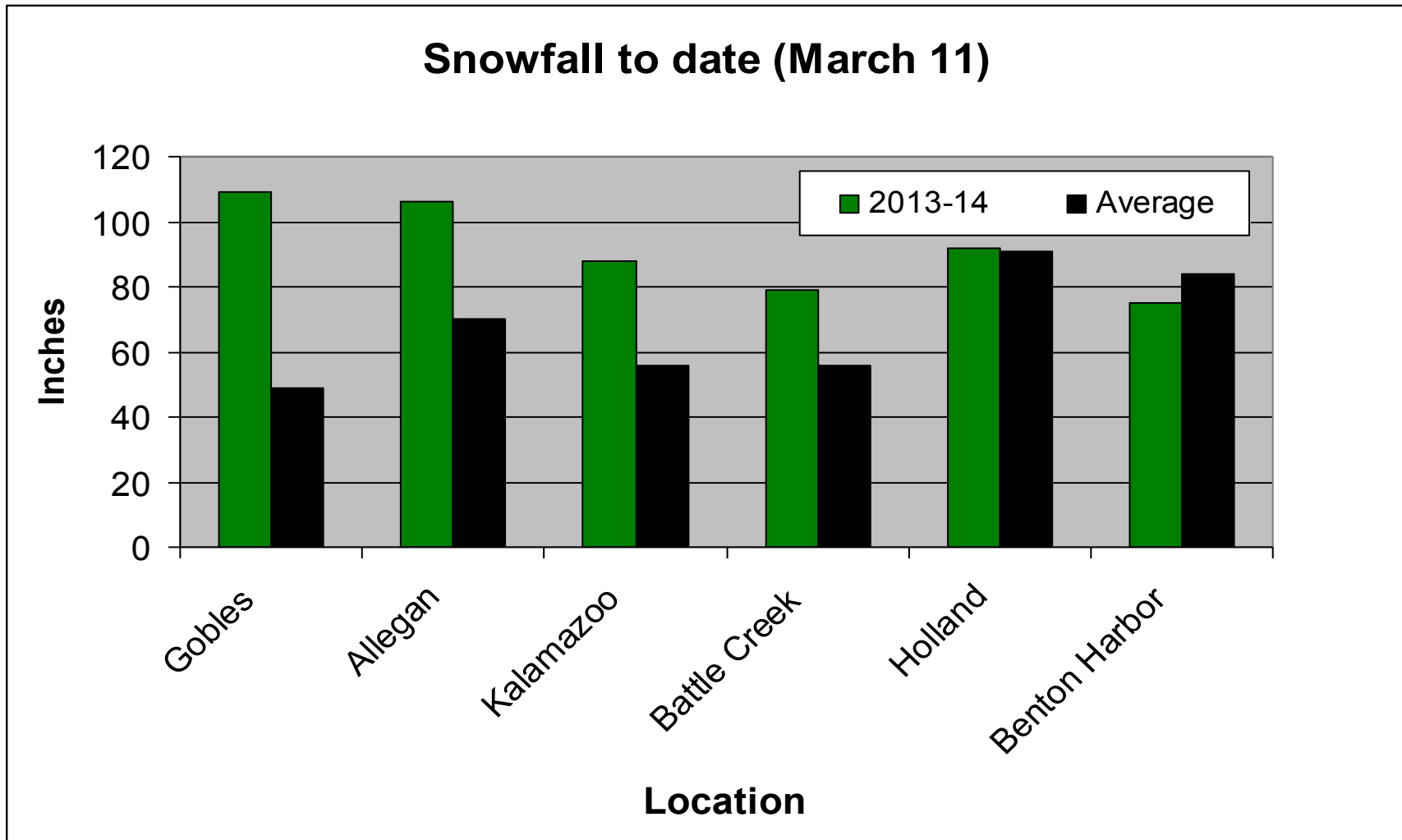
Impact of 'Polar Vortex' event was greatest in southern Lower Michigan



2013-14
snowfall



2013-14 Snowier than average – except along lakeshore



Likely impacts

- Ice damage (Lansing-Flint)
- Cold damage and dieback on marginally hardy trees and shrubs (redbud, sweetgum, baldcypress, Japanese maples)
- Mammal damage – voles, mice, rabbits, deer
- Salt damage

Saving graces...

- Weather was cold but stayed cold – fewer hardening/de-hardening cycles
- Heavy snow cover protected many shrubs other low-growing plants

Acknowledgments

- Dr. Bert Cregg, Michigan State University,
Department of Horticulture