

How is Your Performance, bales/ML?

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Background:

Irrigators want to improve water use efficiency (WUE) in terms of bales per megalitre with the intention of maximising their profitability or \$/ML.

Irrigation benchmarking is crucial if an irrigation enterprise is going to improve its WUE. Knowing how irrigators are performing compared to their region or industry enables continuous improvement in water management.

2012/13

Irrigation Benchmarking Survey

NSW Department of Primary Industries will once again collect irrigation data to calculate irrigation benchmarks for the Australian Cotton Industry for the 2012/13 season.

Watertrack Rapid™ will be used to generate a number of irrigation performance indicators including Gross Production Water Use Index (GPWUI), Irrigation Water Use Index (IWUI), Crop Water Use Index (CWUI) and on-farm water losses.

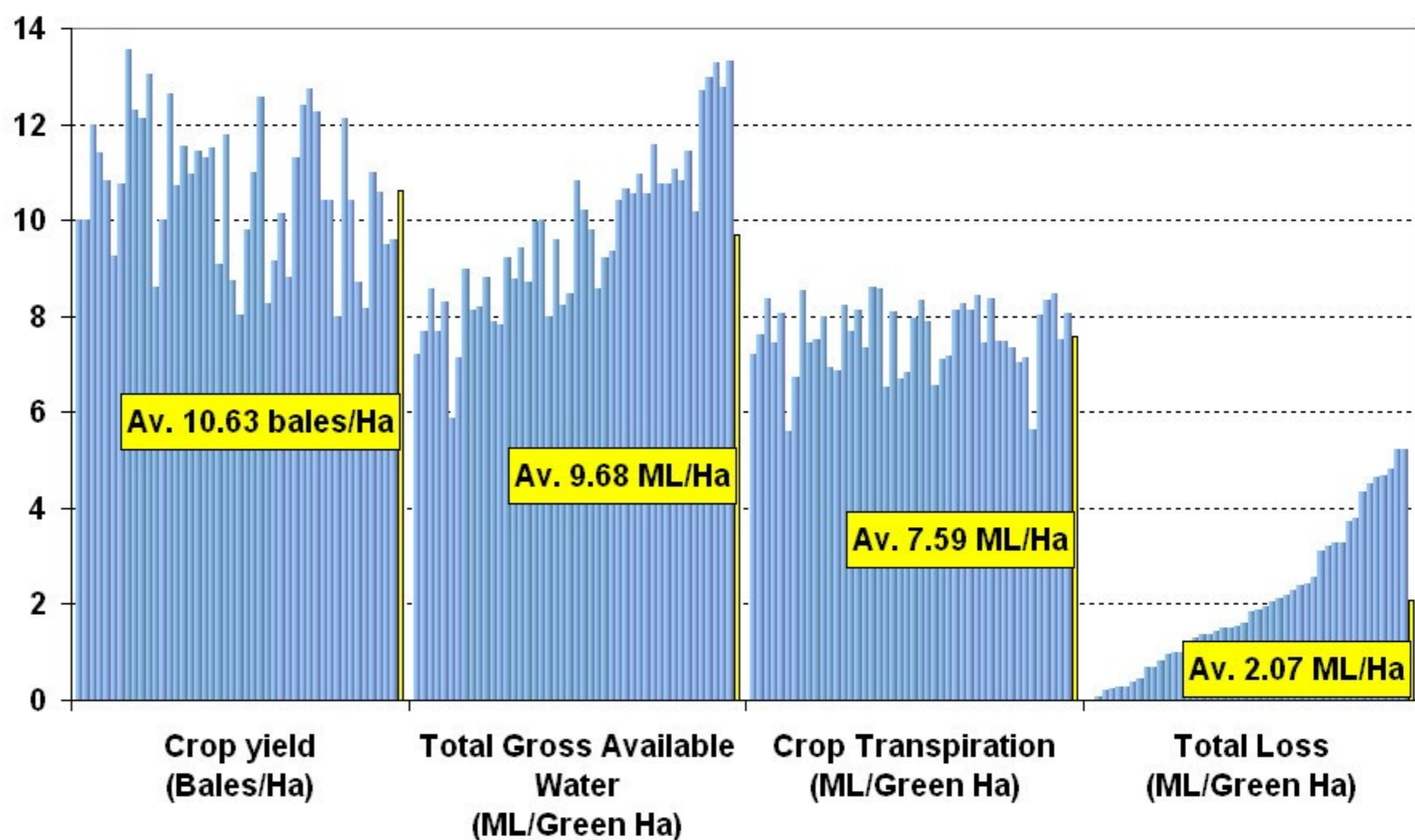
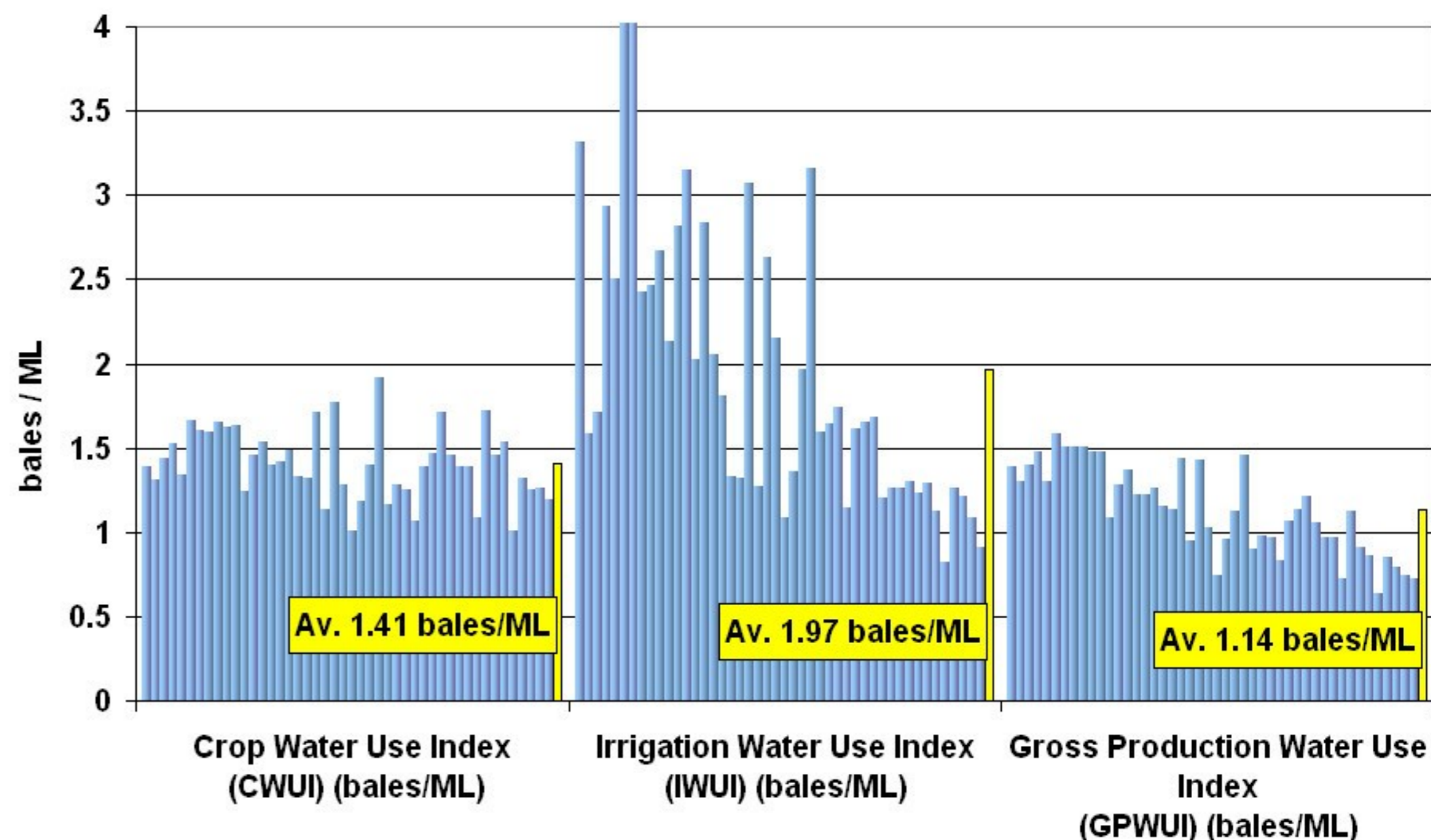


Figure 1: Variation in crop yield, total gross available water, crop transpiration and on-farm water losses for Australian cotton farms - 2008/09

Figure 2: Variation in water use indices for Australian cotton farms - 2008/09



How does your WUE compare with others in the industry?

Has your WUE changed with a greater area under production?

Has industry WUE changed in the last 4 years?

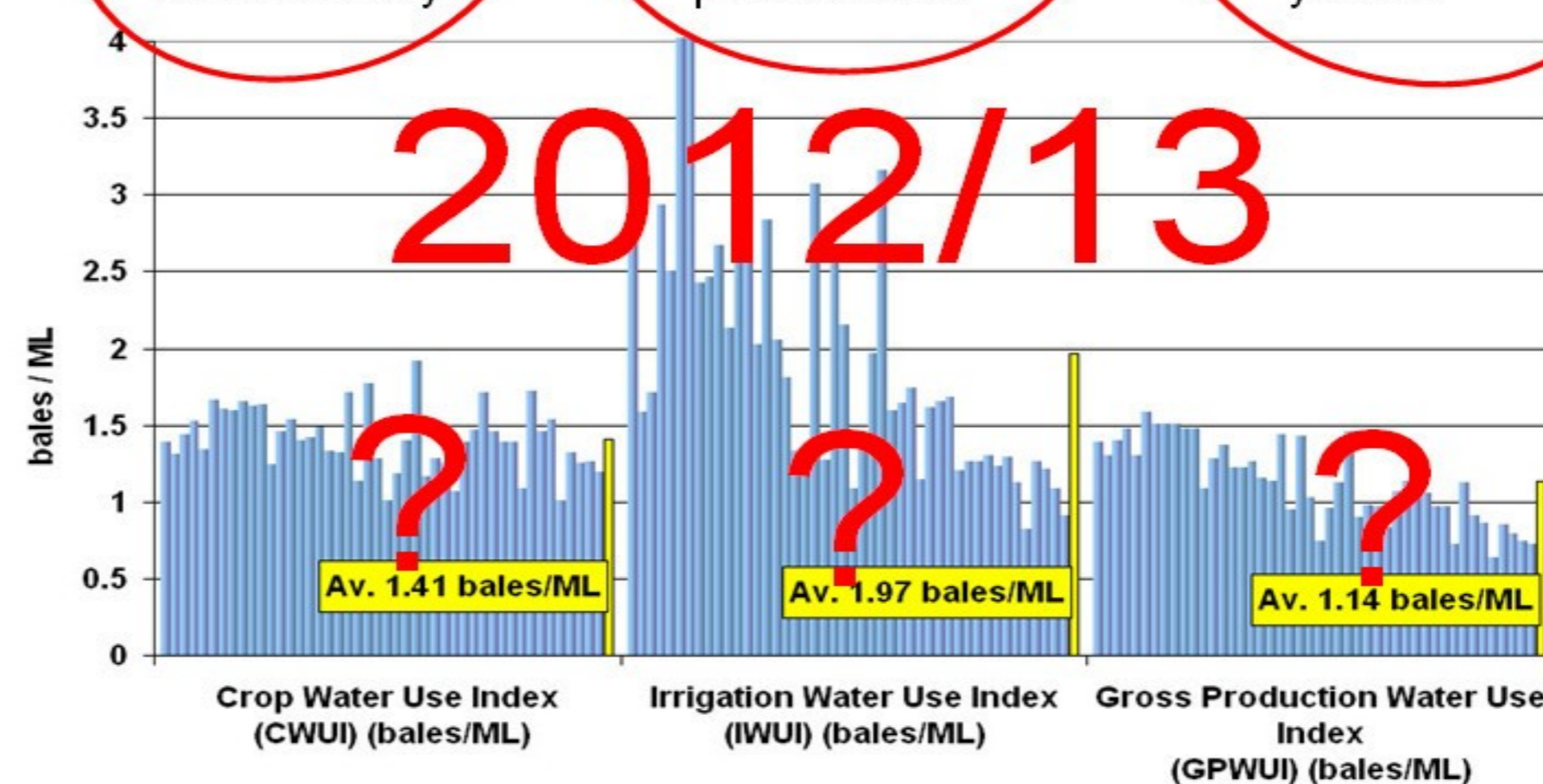


Figure 3: How are you performing compared to industry?

Establishing water use efficiency benchmarks will enable the irrigated cotton industry to monitor and determine the magnitude of industry water use efficiency gains into the future.

To find out how you are performing, sign up for the 2012/13 Australian Cotton Industries Irrigation Benchmarking Project.

Please contact: Janelle Montgomery, Irrigation Officer, NSW DPI, Moree 0428 640 990

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