



Recent Advances in Biological Control of Spotted-Wing Drosophila

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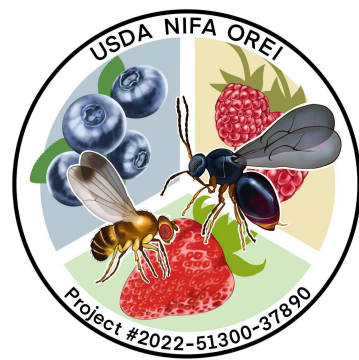
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Recent Advances in Biological Control of Spotted-wing Drosophila



USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA)-

Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative (OREI)

Award number 2022-51300-37890

Crop Protection and Pest Management (CPPM) program

Award number 2021-70006-35312

Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) program

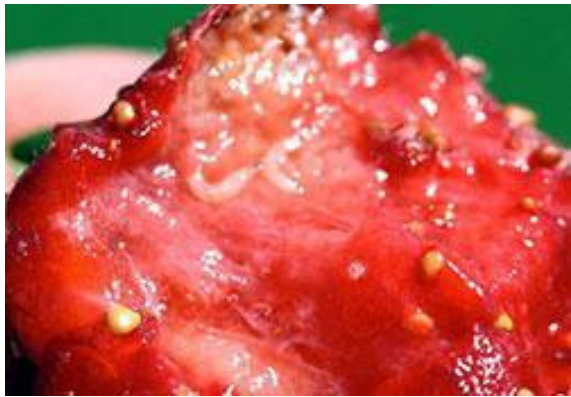
Award number 2020-5118-32140



United States Department of Agriculture
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

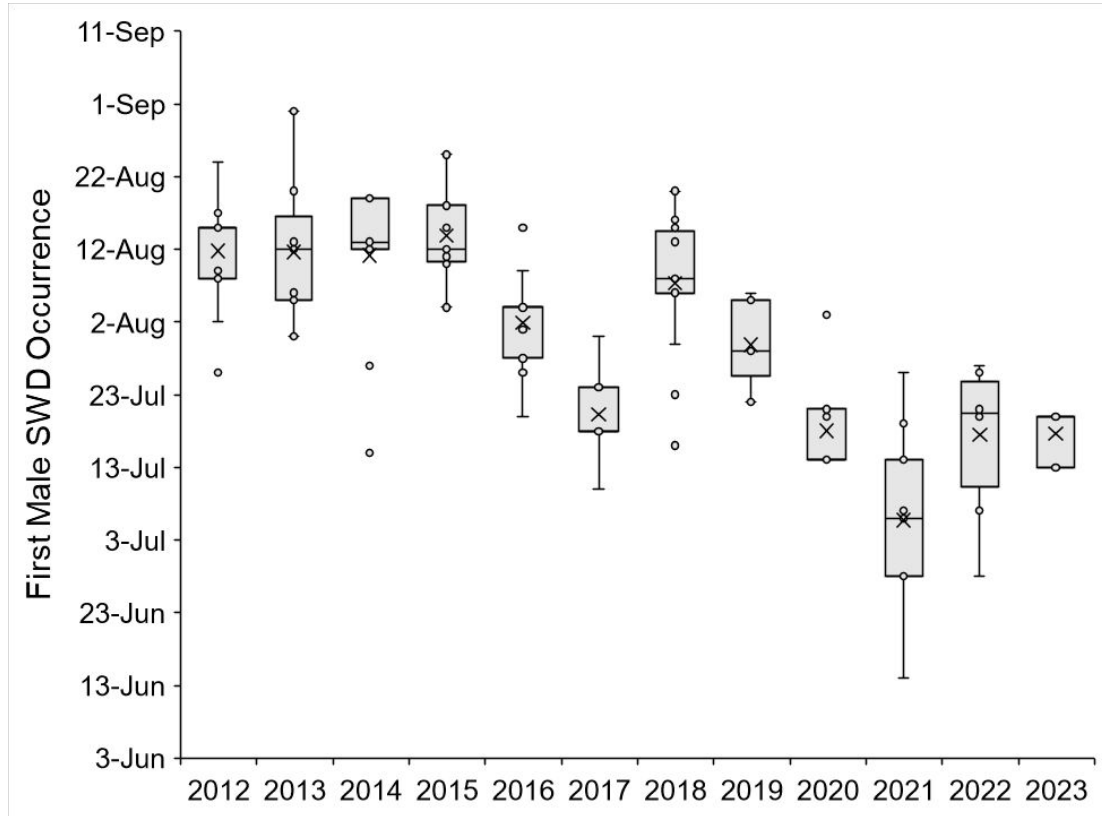
Spotted-wing Drosophila

- Native to SE Asia
- Males have dark wing spots
- Females have serrated ovipositors
- Frugivore of berry crops

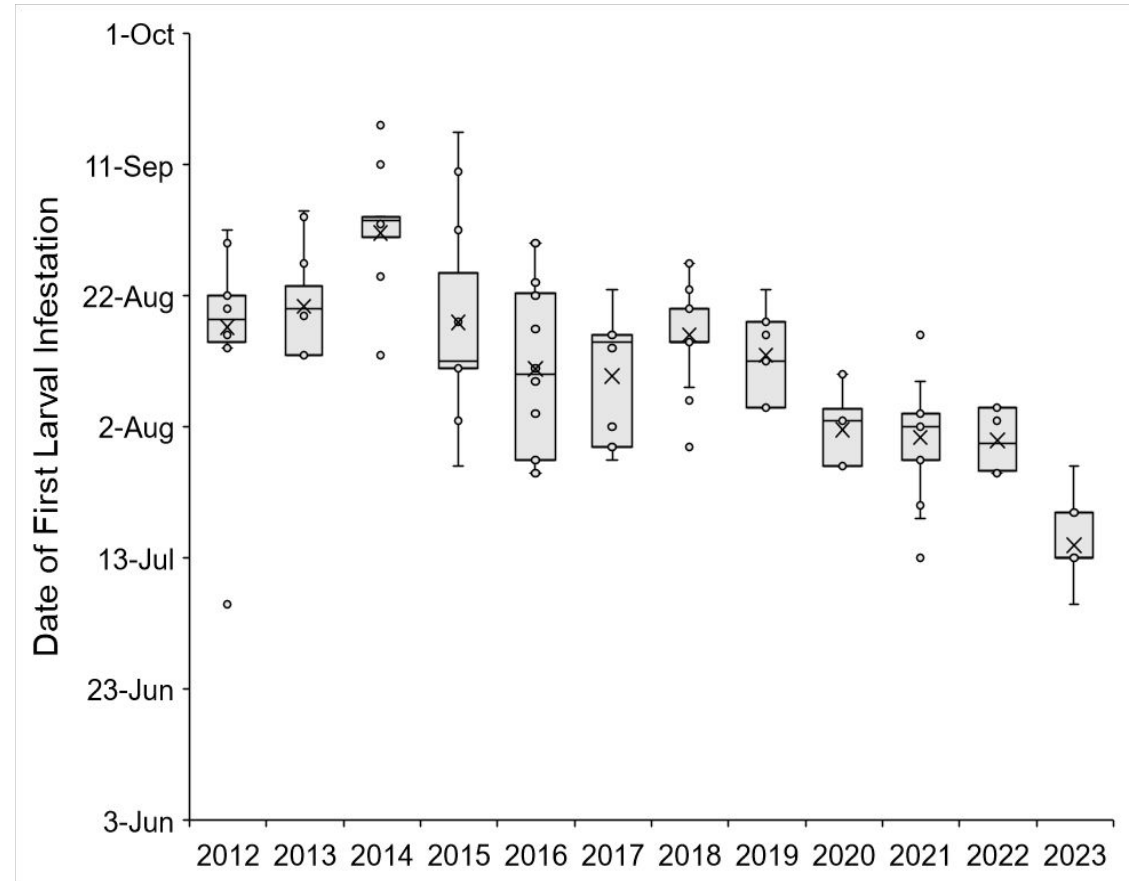




Earlier SWD Occurrences in Maine!



First adult male encounter



First larval infestation found



Tiny Insect Causing Huge Losses



Blueberries

\$859 million

*Average 13% crop
loss*



Blackberries

\$38 million

*Average 27% crop
loss*



Raspberries

\$582 million

*Average 41% crop
loss*



Cherries

\$846 million

*Average 9% crop
loss*

Crop loss statistics: <https://swd.ces.ncsu.edu/swd-impacts-2014/>



Overview of SWD Biological Controls

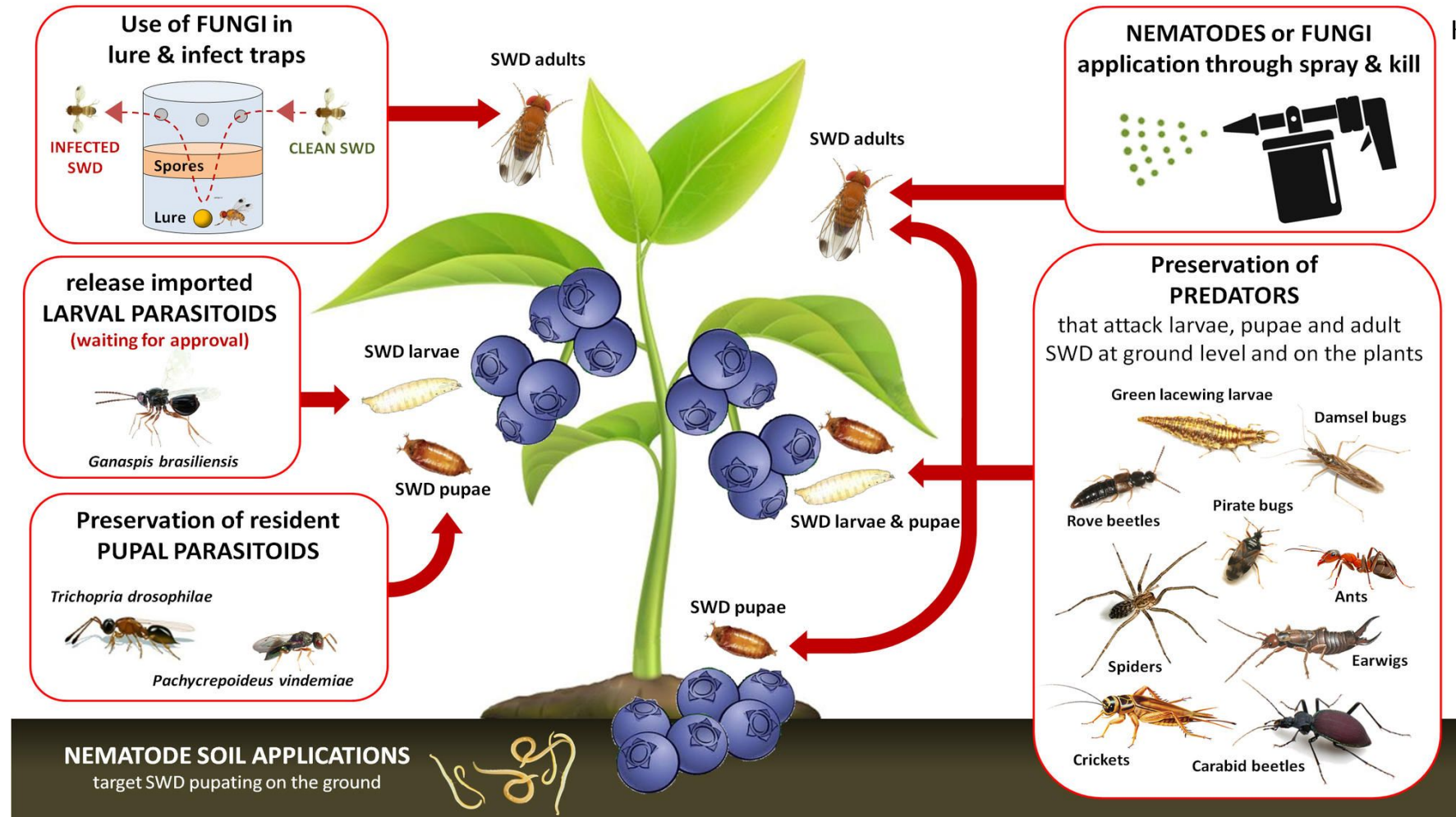


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Bio-Controls

Rossi-Stacconi et al.
2019 OSU Extension.

- Bacteria
- Fungi
- Nematodes
- Insect predators
- Insect parasitoids





Bio-Controls are Present, But Need Improvement



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Fruit	% pupae in soil
Raspberry	83-90%
Blueberry	83%



About 80% of SWD pupate outside of fruit in soil, where they are attacked by generalist predators.
Ballman et al. 2017, J. Econ. Entomol.

Predator exclusion trials showed a 19-49% reduction of SWD larvae and a 61-91% reduction of pupae by generalist predators, such as ants and spiders!
Woltz and Lee, Biol. Control



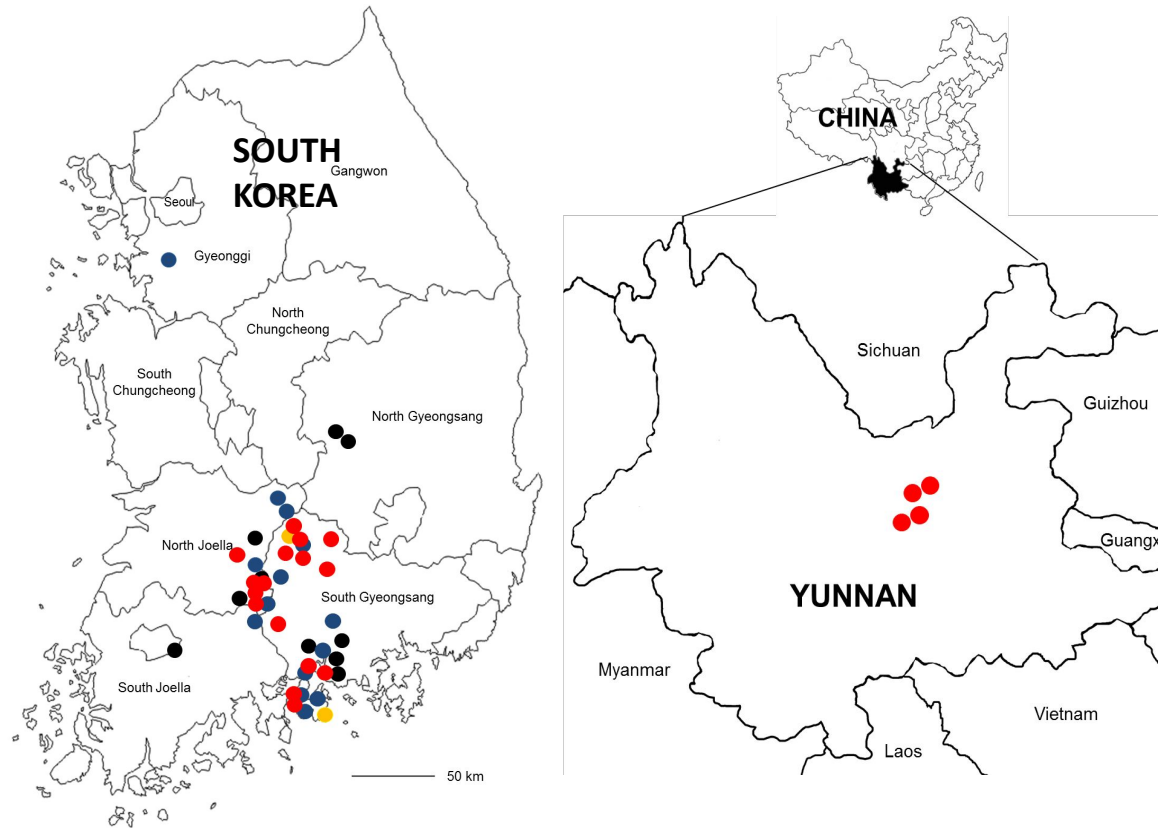
More was Needed – Started Classical Bio-Control Program



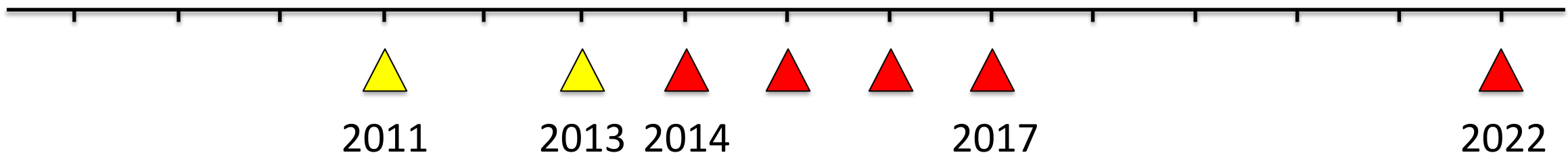
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Exploration in So. Korea (2011, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2022) and China (2013-2016) for novel parasitoids.

Asobara japonica,
Leptopilina japonica,
Ganaspis brasiliensis



Kim Hoelmer
 Massimo Giorgini
 Emilio Guerrieri
 Xingeng Wang
 Betsey Miller
 Fu-Shou Chen
 Yoohan Song
 Hong-Yin Chen
 Kent Daane





Foreign Exploration in Asia – Discovered many SWD Parasitoids

Braconidae – larval parasitoids

Asobara japonica, *A. leverii*, *A. mesocauda*, *A. unicolorata*, *A. brevicauda*, *A. elongata*, *A. triangulata*, *A. pleuralis*, *A. sp.*, *Tanycarpa chors*, *Areotetes striatiferus*

Figitidae – larval parasitoids

Ganaspis sp 1 and sp 2, *G. xanthopoda*, *Leptolamina sp.*, *Leptopilina j. japonica*, *L. decemflagella*, *L. sp. 1*

Pteromalidae – pupal parasitoids

Pachycrepoideus vindemiae

Diapriidae – pupal parasitoids

Trichopria drosophilae



Asobara japonica



Ganaspis brasiliensis



Leptopilina japonica



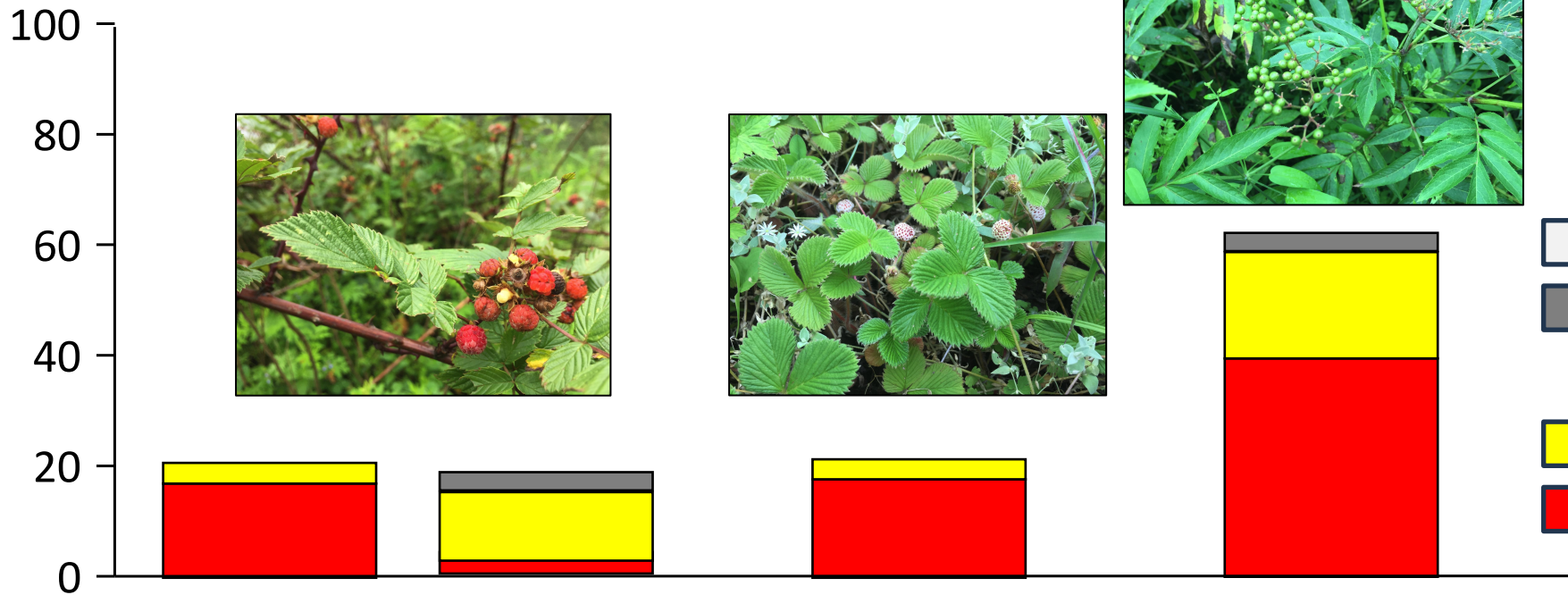
What can be expected in US?





Parasitism Levels & Species Composition in China 2016



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Parasitism and composition (%)



-  Other species
-  *Asobara japonica*
-  *Leptopilina japonica*
-  *Ganaspis sp.*

Rubus foliosus

Rubus niveus

'Mt strawberry'
Fragraria sp.

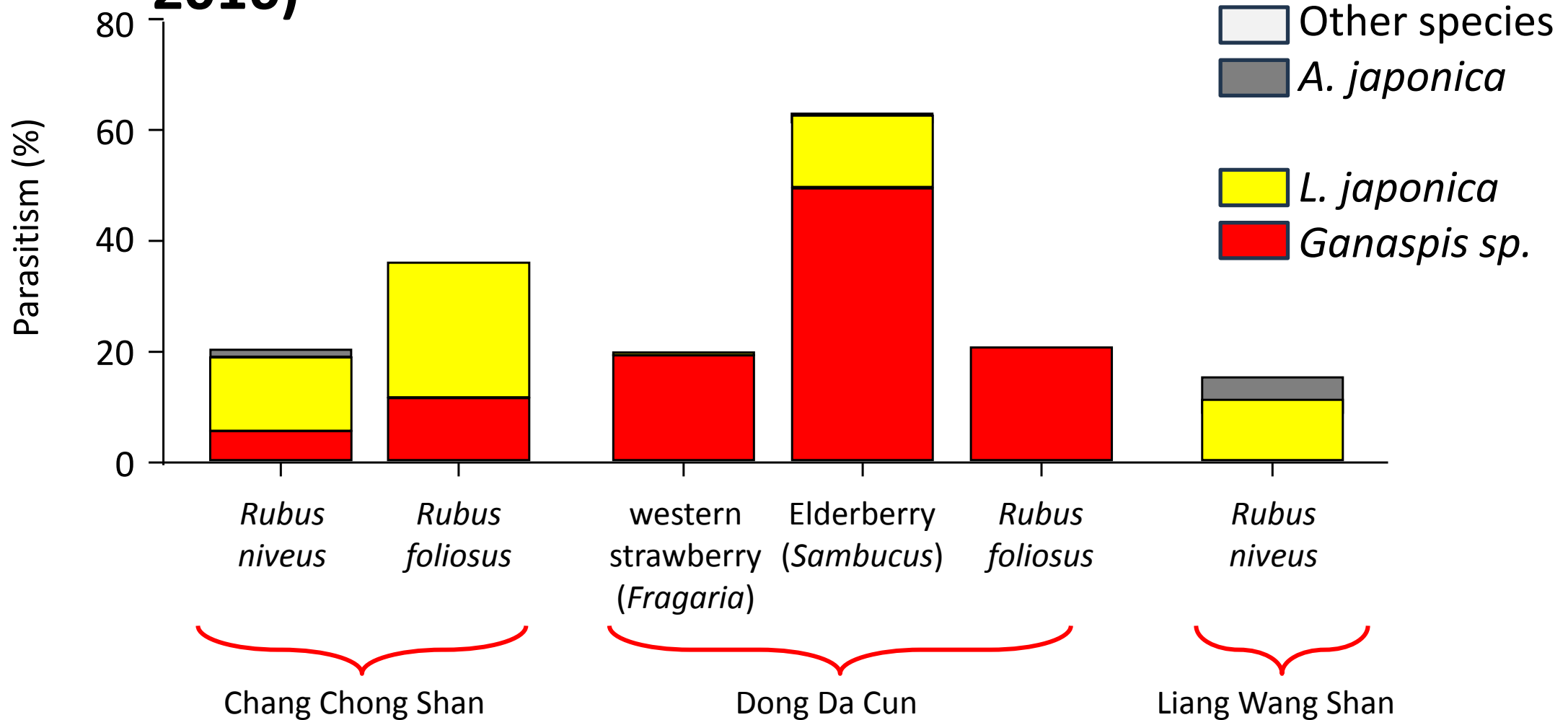
Elderberry
Sambucus adnata



Expect some variation in parasitoid impact – Variation among location as well as host plant (China 2016)



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For USDA Permits to Release – 5 years (2014-2019) of Quarantine work – Biology and Taxonomy



International team

Antonio Biondi
Xingeng Wang
Evelyne Hougardy
Matthew Buffington
Emilio Guerrieri
Massimo Giorgini



CABI group in Switzerland

“non-target” impact (kills only SWD)



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Scaptodrosophila lebanonensis



Samoia leonensis



Drosophila elmoi



Hirtodrosophila duncani



Gitona americana



Drosophila robusta



Drosophila melanogaster



Drosophila tripunctata



Drosophila subobscura



Drosophila sturtevantii



Drosophila pseudoobscura



Drosophila putrida



Drosophila suzukii



Drosophila simulans



Drosophila persimilis



Drosophila paramelanica



Drosophila montana



Drosophila willistoni



Drosophila immigrans



Drosophila hydei



Drosophila guttifera



Drosophila funebris



Drosophila cardini



Drosophila busckii



Chymomyza amoena

“non-target” impact (kills only SWD)



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Drosophila hydei



Drosophila guttifera



Drosophila funebris



Drosophila cardini



Drosophila busckii



Chymomyza amoena

“non-target” impact (kills only SWD)



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L. japonica



Hirtodrosophila duncani



Drosophila robusta



Drosophila melanogaster



Drosophila subobscura



Drosophila pseudoobscura



Drosophila suzukii



Drosophila simulans



Drosophila persimilis



Drosophila montana



Drosophila funebris



Drosophila busckii

“non-target” impact (kills only SWD)



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Ganaspis sp.



Drosophila
suzukii



Drosophila
melanogaster



Drosophila
simulans



Drosophila
persimilis

APHIS Environmental Compliance Process (2-4 yrs for insects)

(A) Petition to release a novel agent is a “federal action” that triggers the compliance with two Acts:

- (1) The Endangered Species Act (ESA) (specifically “Section 7” consultation... addresses Risk!)**
- (2) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA... addresses Risk!)**

(B) Petition will include/address at least seven components:

- (1) Proposed Action (including statement of need), (2) Target Pest Information,**
- (3) Bio-Control Agent Information, (4) Host Specificity Testing, (5) Environ. & Economic Impacts of Proposed Release (6) Pre-Release Clearance, and (7) Post Release Monitoring**

(C) Steps in the “Environmental Compliance Process” after a Petition is developed:

- (1) Petition is submitted to ad hoc review panel (full NAPPO representation)**
- (2) Decision by APHIS to move forward with the process (No Endangered Species Act concerns)**
- (3) APHIS proceeds to NEPA review – Environmental Assessment:
(i) Tribal Consultation, (ii) Publication in Federal Register for Public Comment**
- (4) APHIS makes Environmental Finding**
- (5) Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)**
- (6) Publish Final Environmental Assessment and FONSI in Federal Register**

Based on a seven-slide review
courtesy: Dr. Robert Pfannenstiel

Progress on Classical Biocontrol



A petition to release *Ganaspis brasiliensis* as a classical biocontrol from Quarantine was reviewed with USDA APHIS, and a release permit was issued in the Fall of 2021.

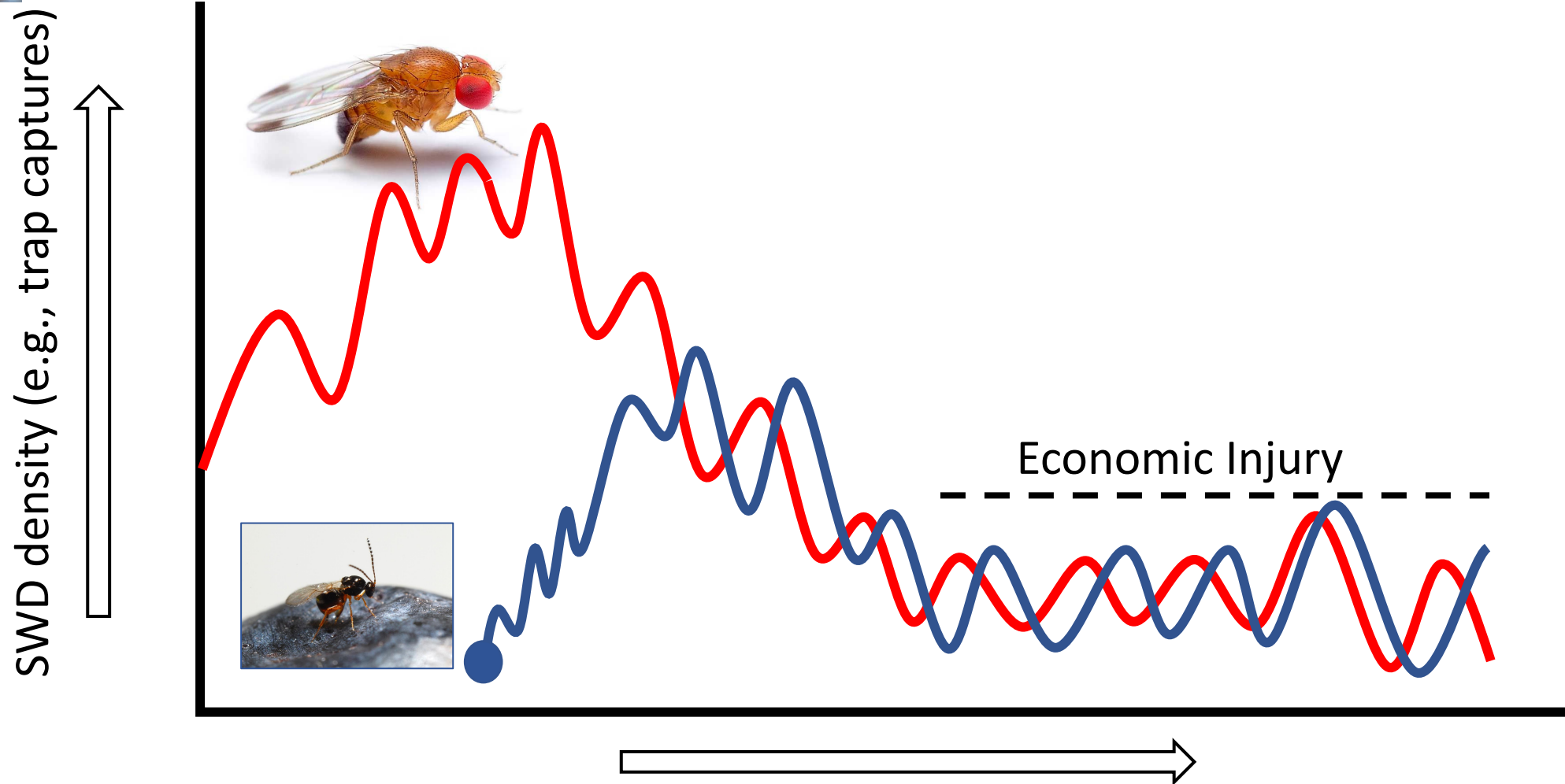
A state level release permit was granted by Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in November 2021



Classical BioControl – Introduction of Exotic Natural Enemy



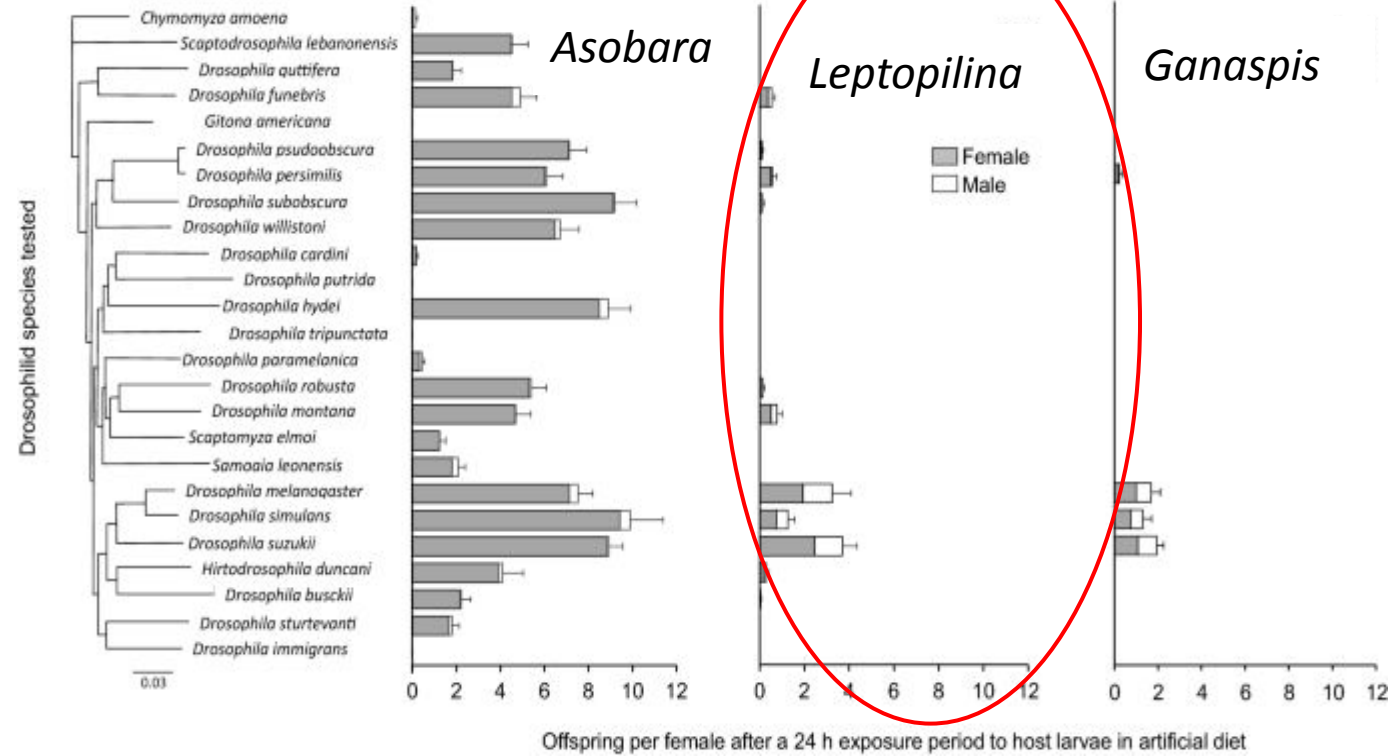
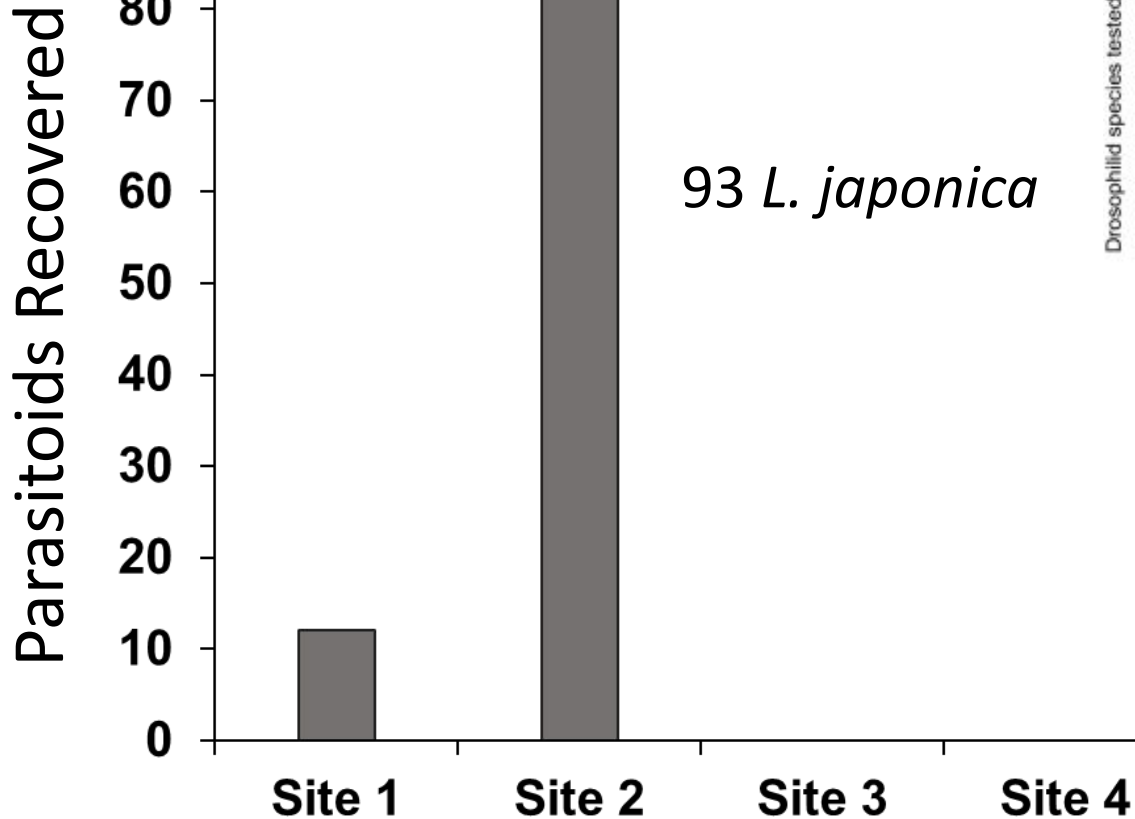
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Progress on Classical Biocontrol

Summer 2022

4800 total *G. brasiliensis*
released across four sites



First records of adventive populations of the parasitoids *Ganaspis brasiliensis* and *Leptopilina japonica* in the United States

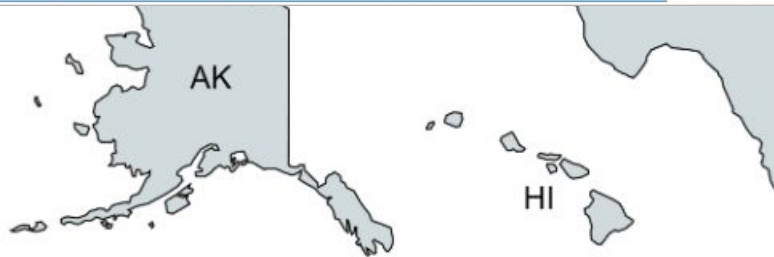
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Rebecca Schmidt-Jeffris³, Erica Moretti³, Kent M. Daane⁴,
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<http://zoobank.org/0F1430EB-3E66-4FDC-9BE3-BCB7EC31540F>



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Adventive Larval Parasitoids Reconstruct Their Close Association with Spotted-Wing *Drosophila* in the Invaded North American Range

Paul K Abram ✉, Michelle T Franklin, Tracy Hueppelsheuser, Juli Carrillo, Emily Grove, Paula Eraso, Susanna Acheampong, Laura Keery, Pierre Girod, Matt Tsuruda ... Show more

Environmental Entomology, Volume 51, Issue 4, August 2022, Pages 670–678,
<https://doi-org.wv-o-ursus-proxy02.ursus.maine.edu/10.1093/ee/nvac019>

Published: 20 May 2022 Article history ▼



First Report of *Leptopilina japonica* in Europe

by  Simone Puppato^{1,2} ✉,  Alberto Grassi¹ ✉,  Federico Pedrazzoli¹ ✉,
 Antonio De Cristofaro² ✉  and  Claudio Ioriatti^{1,*} ✉ 

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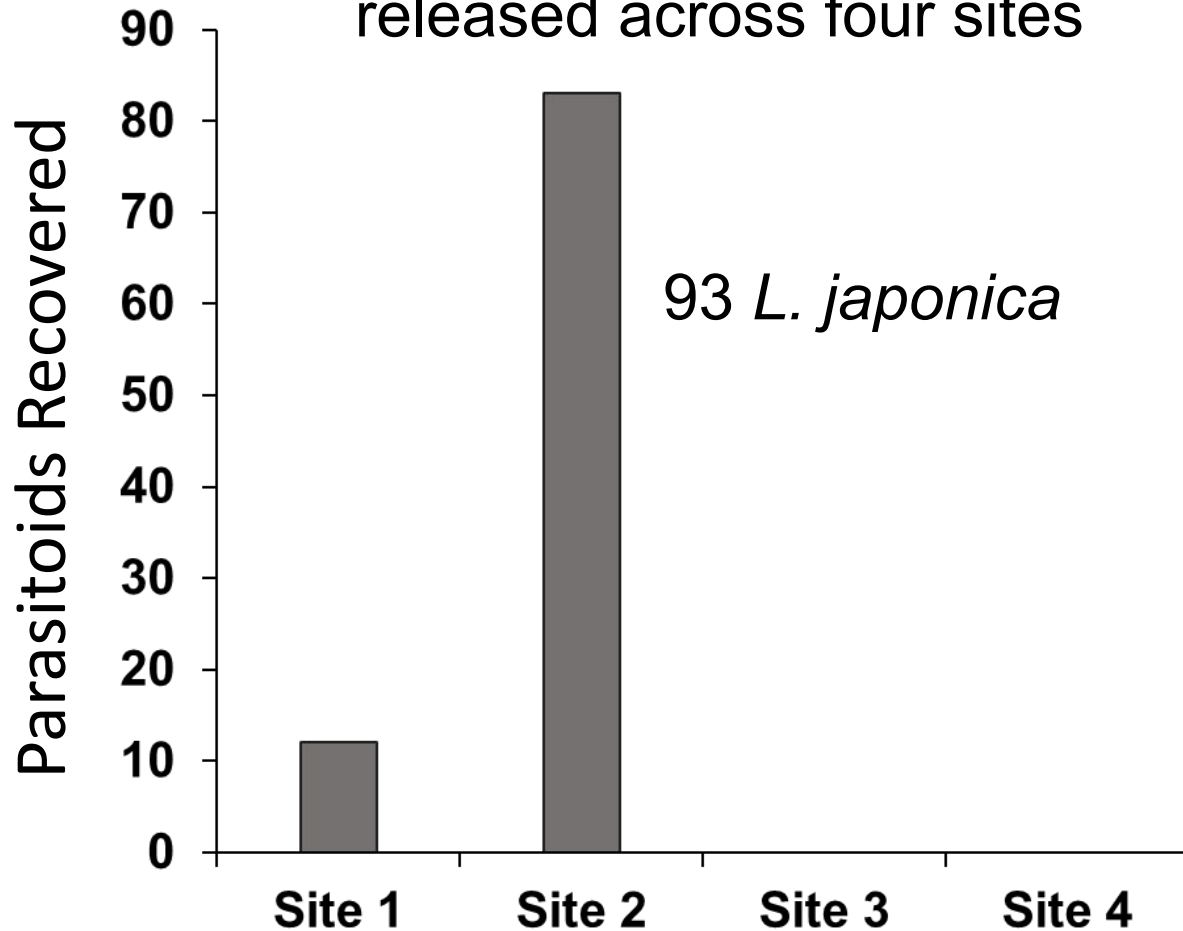
Insects 2020, 11(9), 611; <https://doi-org.wv-o-ursus-proxy02.ursus.maine.edu/10.3390/insects11090611>

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Progress on Classical Biocontrol

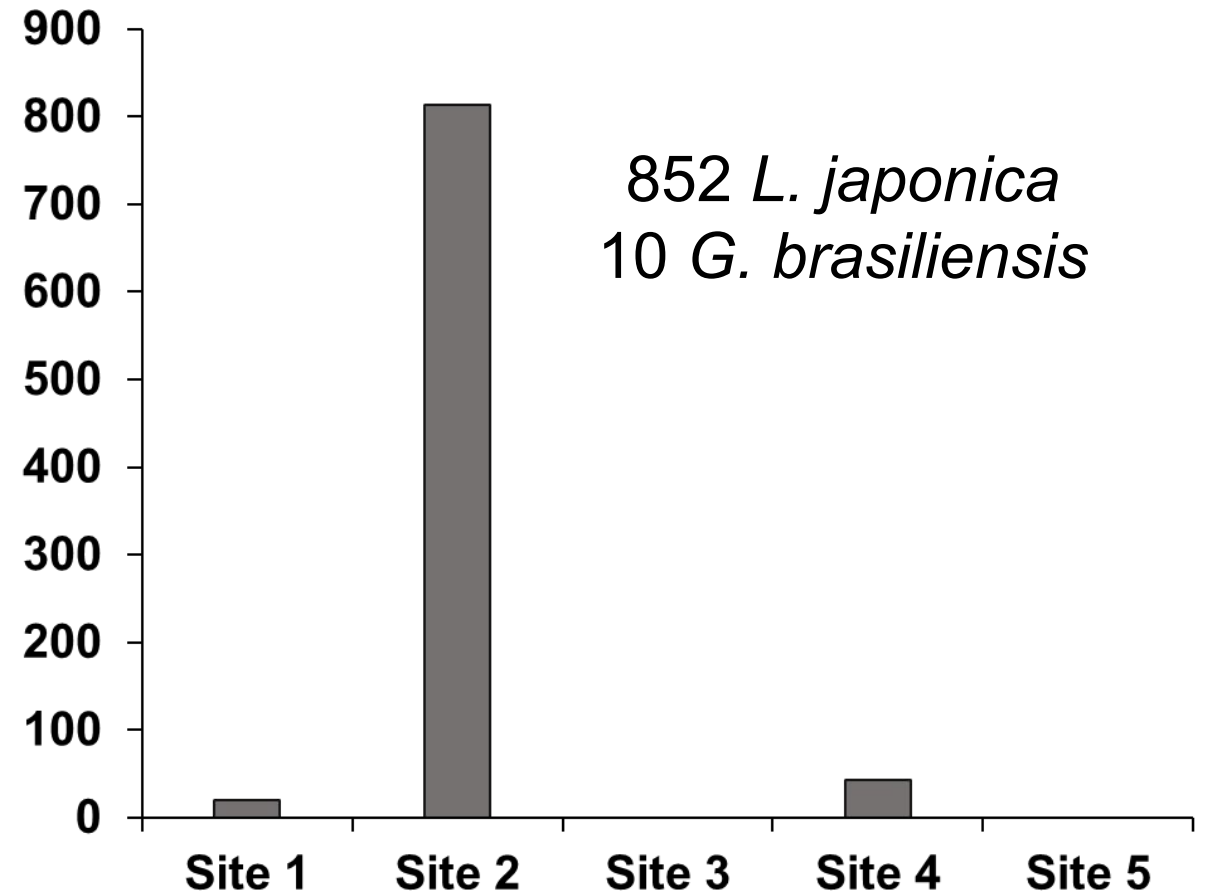
Summer 2022

4800 total *G. brasiliensis*
released across four sites

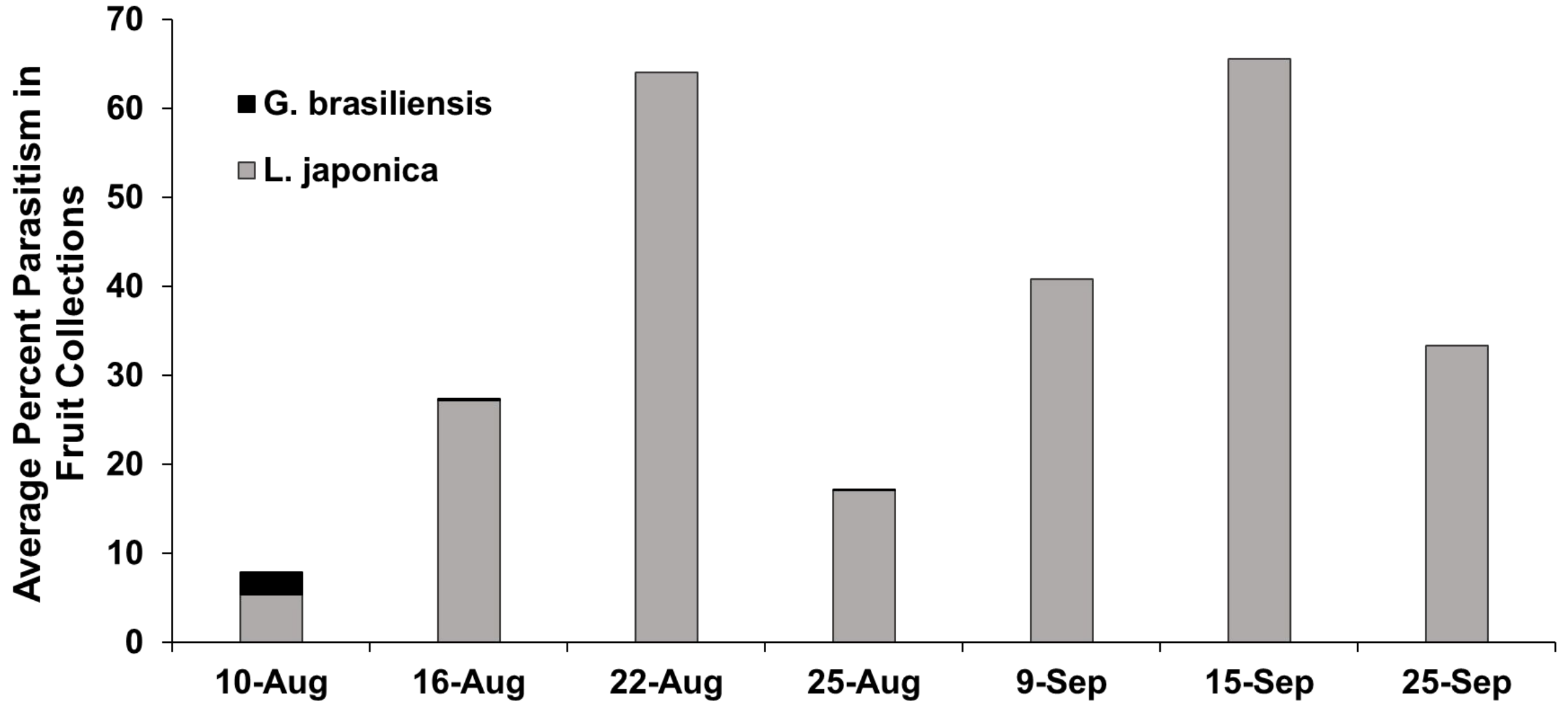


Summer 2023

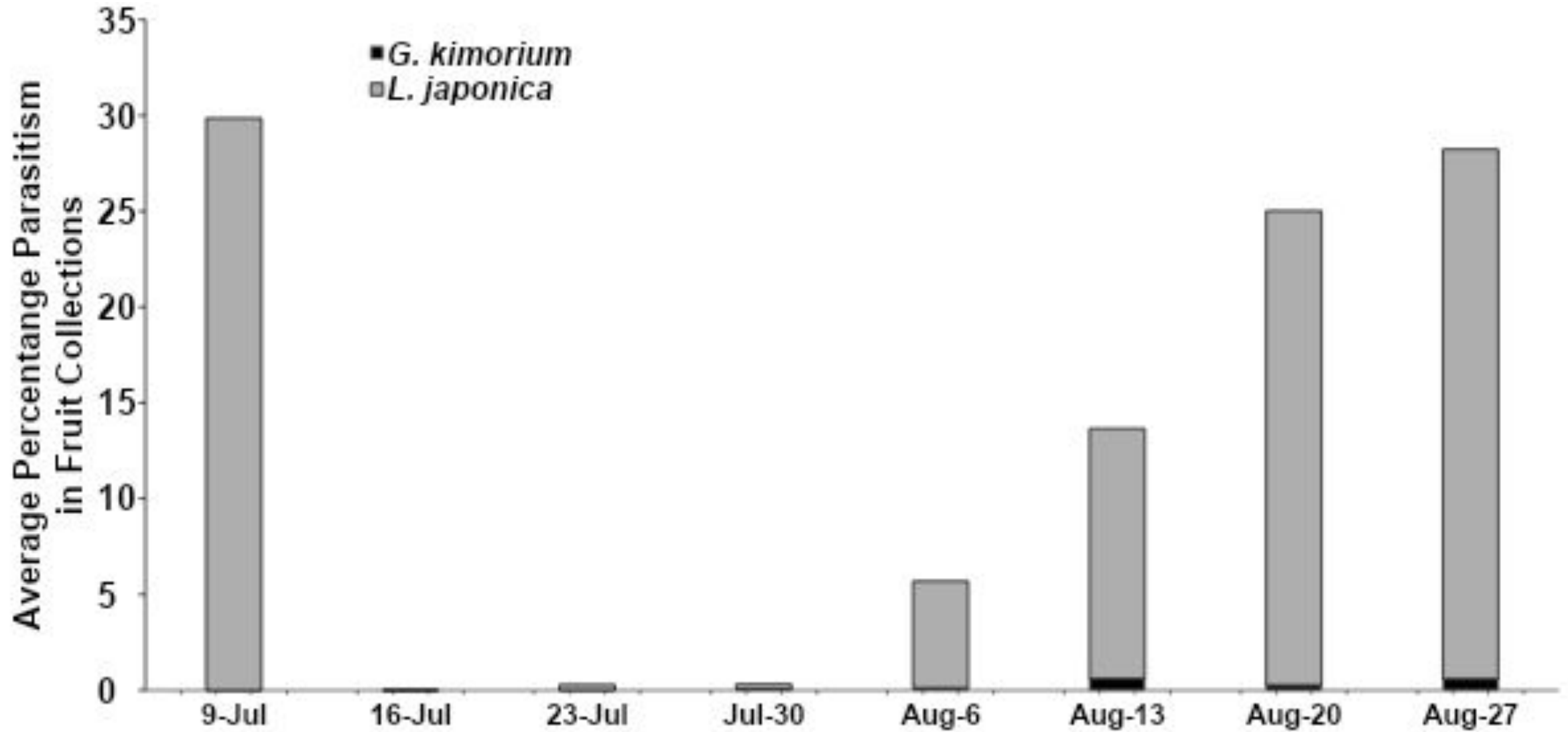
1500 total *G. brasiliensis*
released across five sites



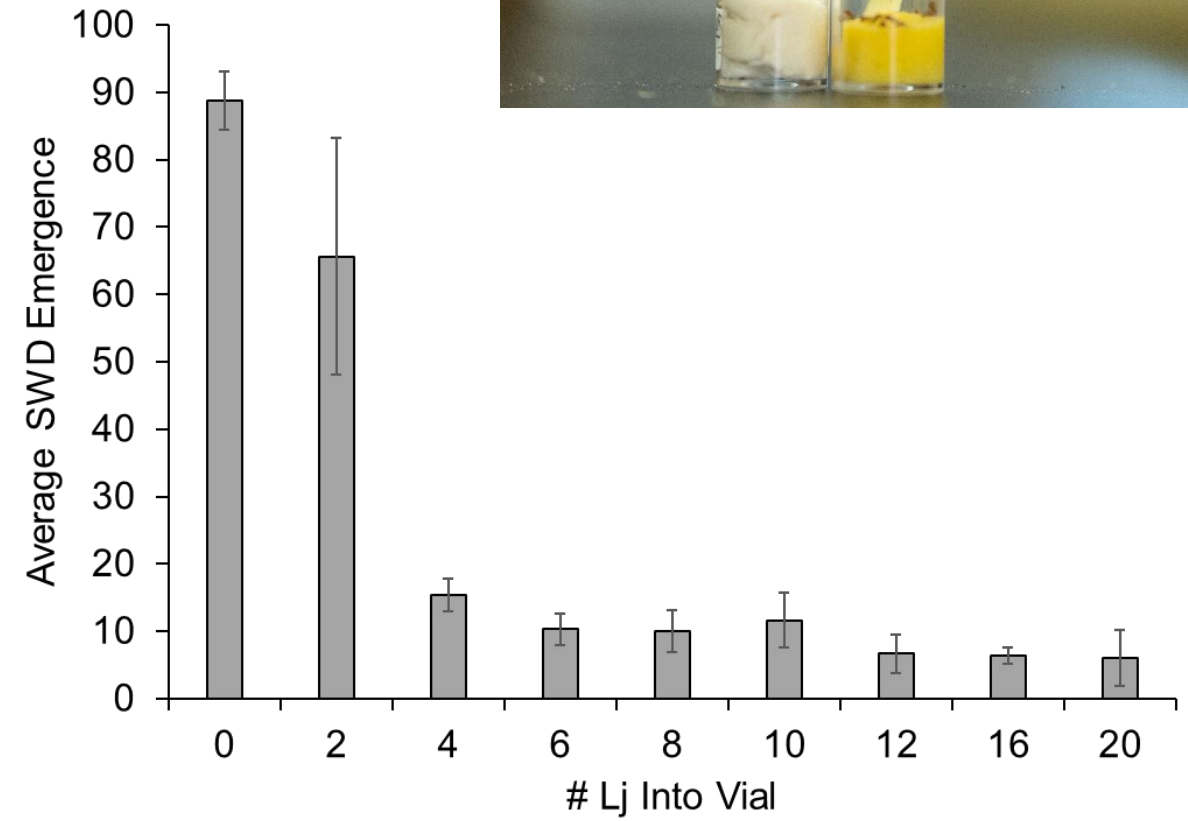
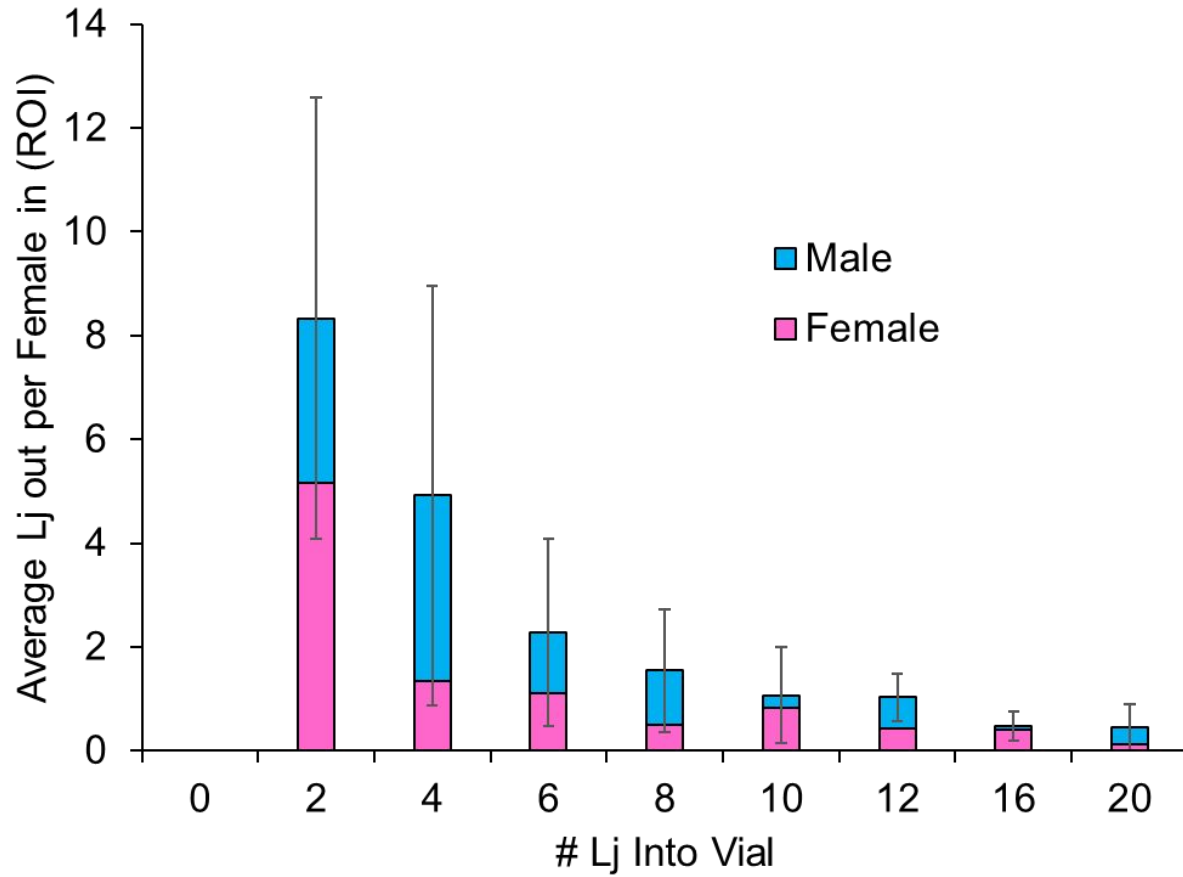
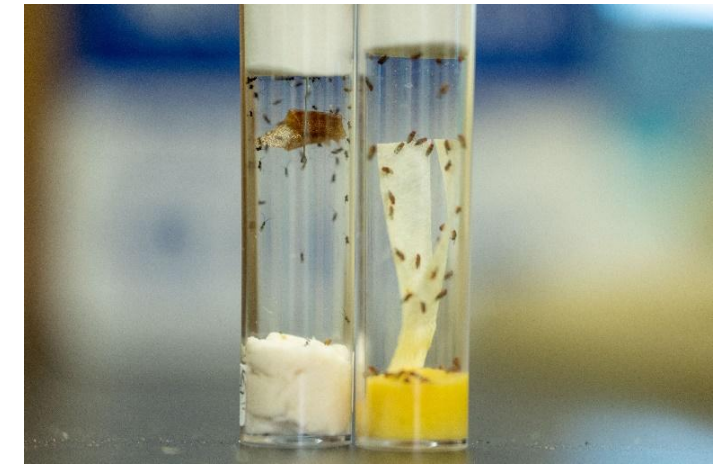
2023 Field Parasitism Rates



2024 Field Parasitism Rates

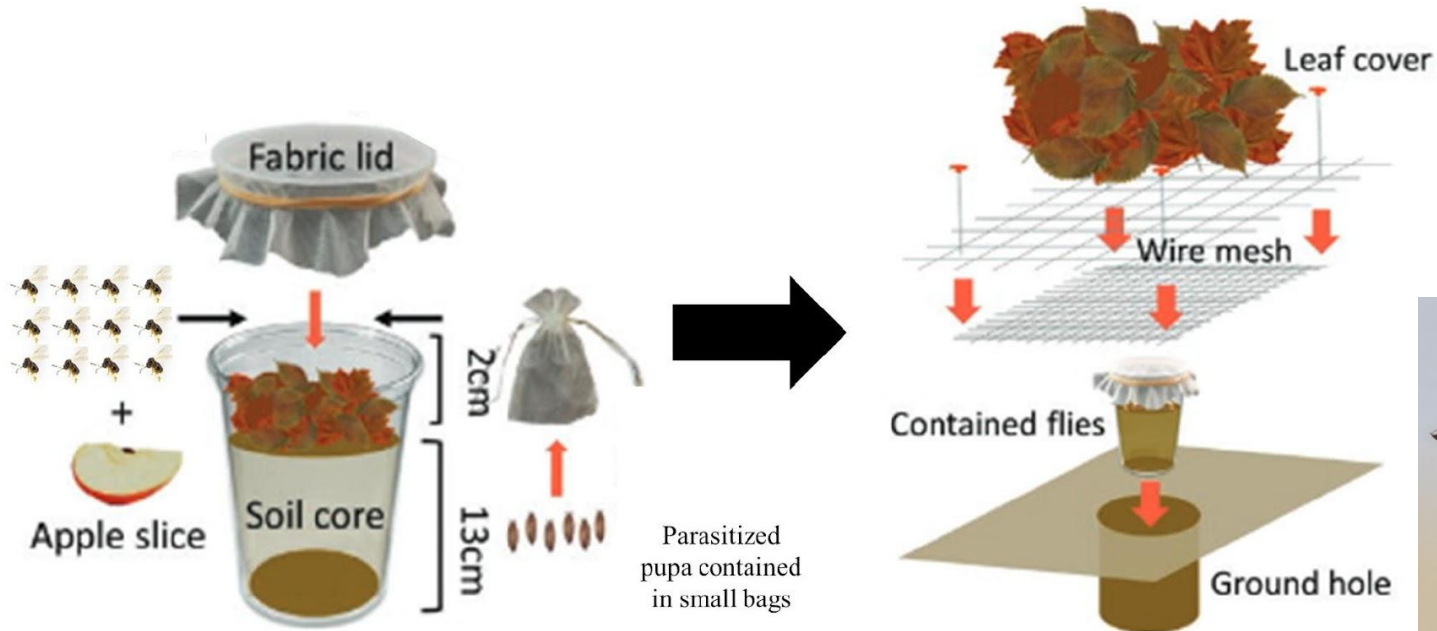
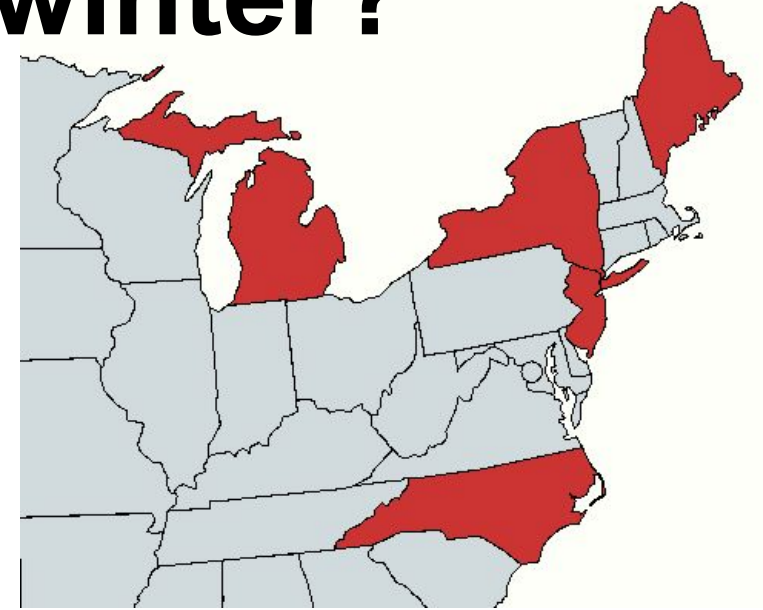


Direct Physical Impacts



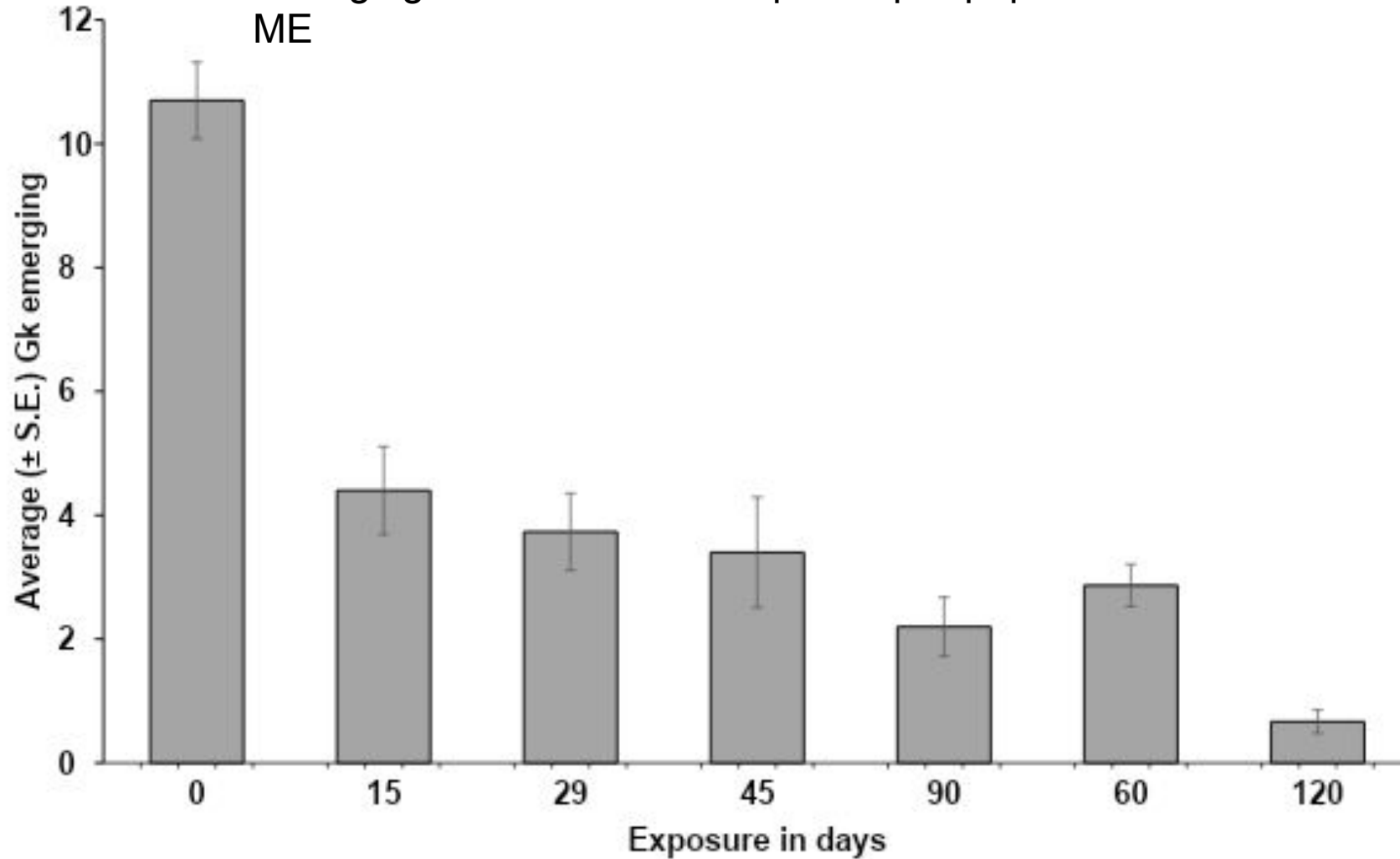
Can *Ganaspis kimorum* overwinter?

- Overwintering of diapausing *Gk* pre-pupa in NC (1), NY(2), NJ(1), ME(1) and MI(4) in 2022/3 and in NY(3), NJ(3), ME(3) in 2023/4



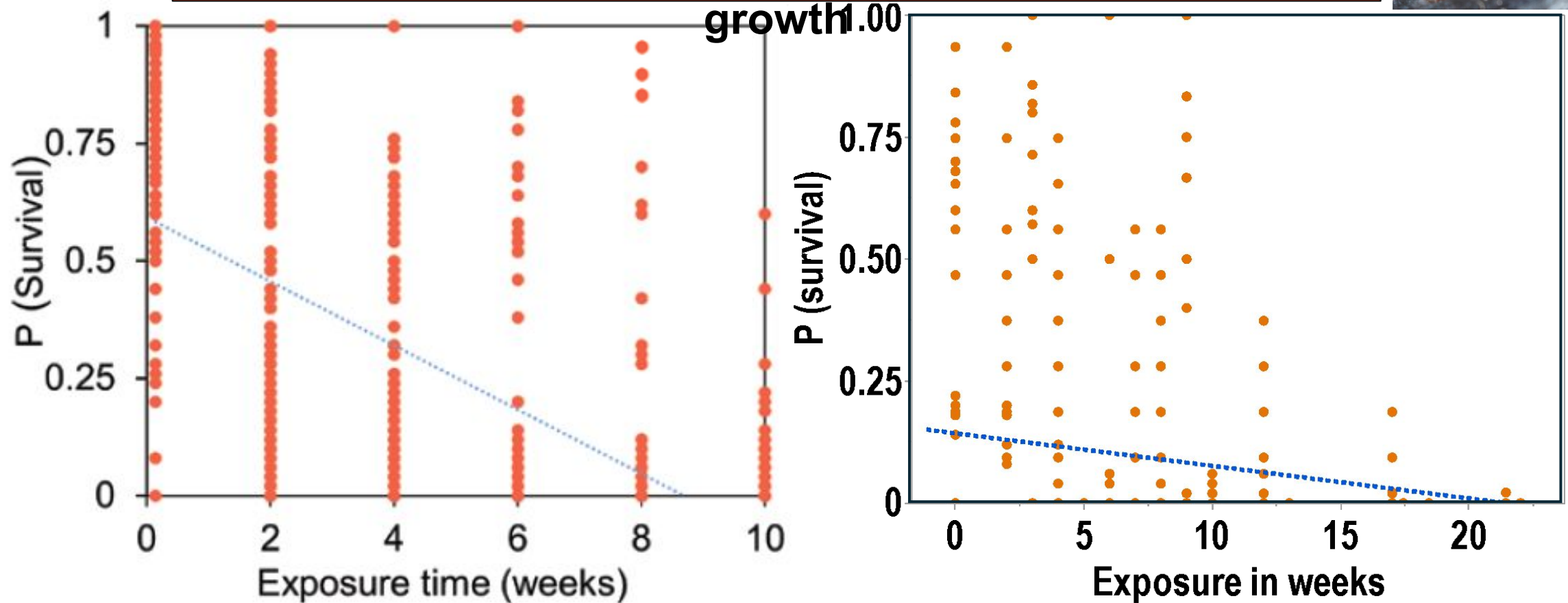
Diapausing Pre-Pupa survival

Emerging adults from field exposed pre-pupa in ME



G. kimorum overwintering survival low but persistent

Survival of SWD was observed to be low (particularly in northern states). *G. kimorum* survival looks similarly low. Collectively might impact early season populations





Tiny Insect Causing Huge Losses

Questions?

Please fill out our
survey!

Blueberries

\$859 million

Average 13% crop
loss

Raspberries

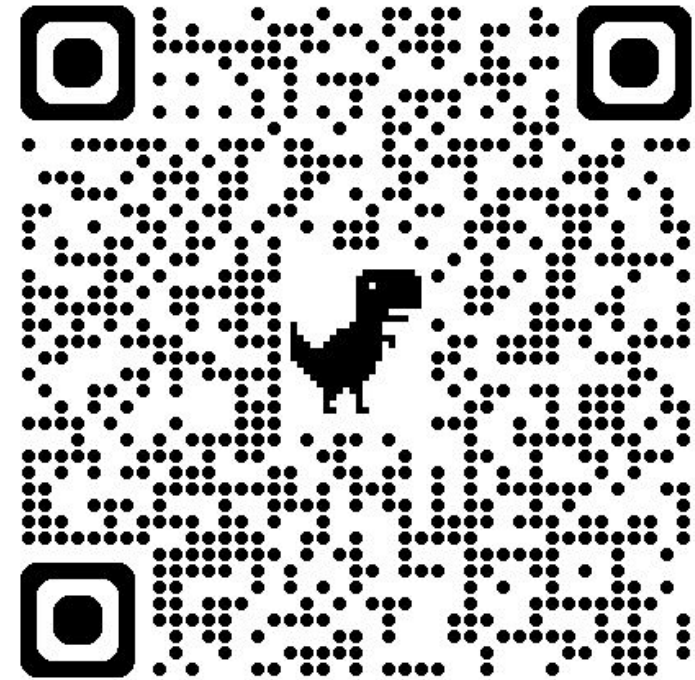
\$38 million

Average 27% crop
loss

Raspberries

\$58 million

Average 10% crop
loss



Crop loss statistics: <https://swd.ces.ncsu.edu/swd-impacts-2014/>