

UC Ag Experts webinar series

Vine Mealybug Controls in California Vineyards



Kent Daane, Glenn Yokota, Monica Cooper, Vaughn Walton, Rodrigo Almeida, Kai Blaisdell, Luca Brillante, Raksha Malakar-Kuenen, Thomas Martin, Nathan Mercer, Maher Al Rwahnih, Vicki Klaassen, Chris Geiger, Valeria Hochman, Brian Hogg, Michael Lopez, James Brown, Chi-Wei Tsai, Christina Wistrom, Ash Sial, Betsy Boyd,

Outline:

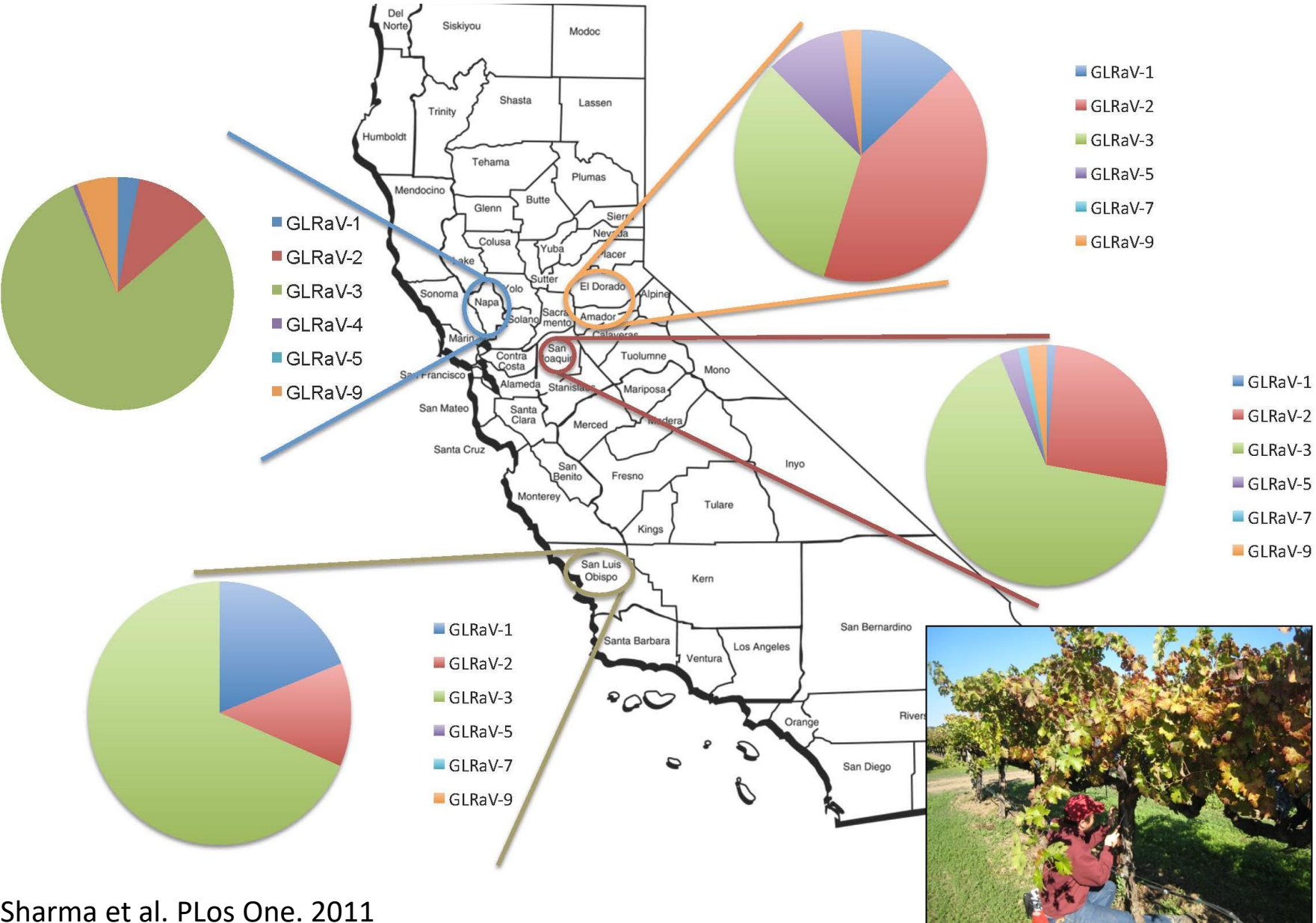
- 1) Leafroll and Vectors
- 2) Mealybug species, biology & monitoring
- 3) Biological & Chemical mealybug controls
- 4) Mating disruption for “vine” mealybug
- 5) Areawide Programs and Roguing
- 6) Discussion

Grape leafroll associated viruses



Delaying budbreak, flowering, and berry maturation; including changes in color, reduced sugar content, and increased acidity in juice

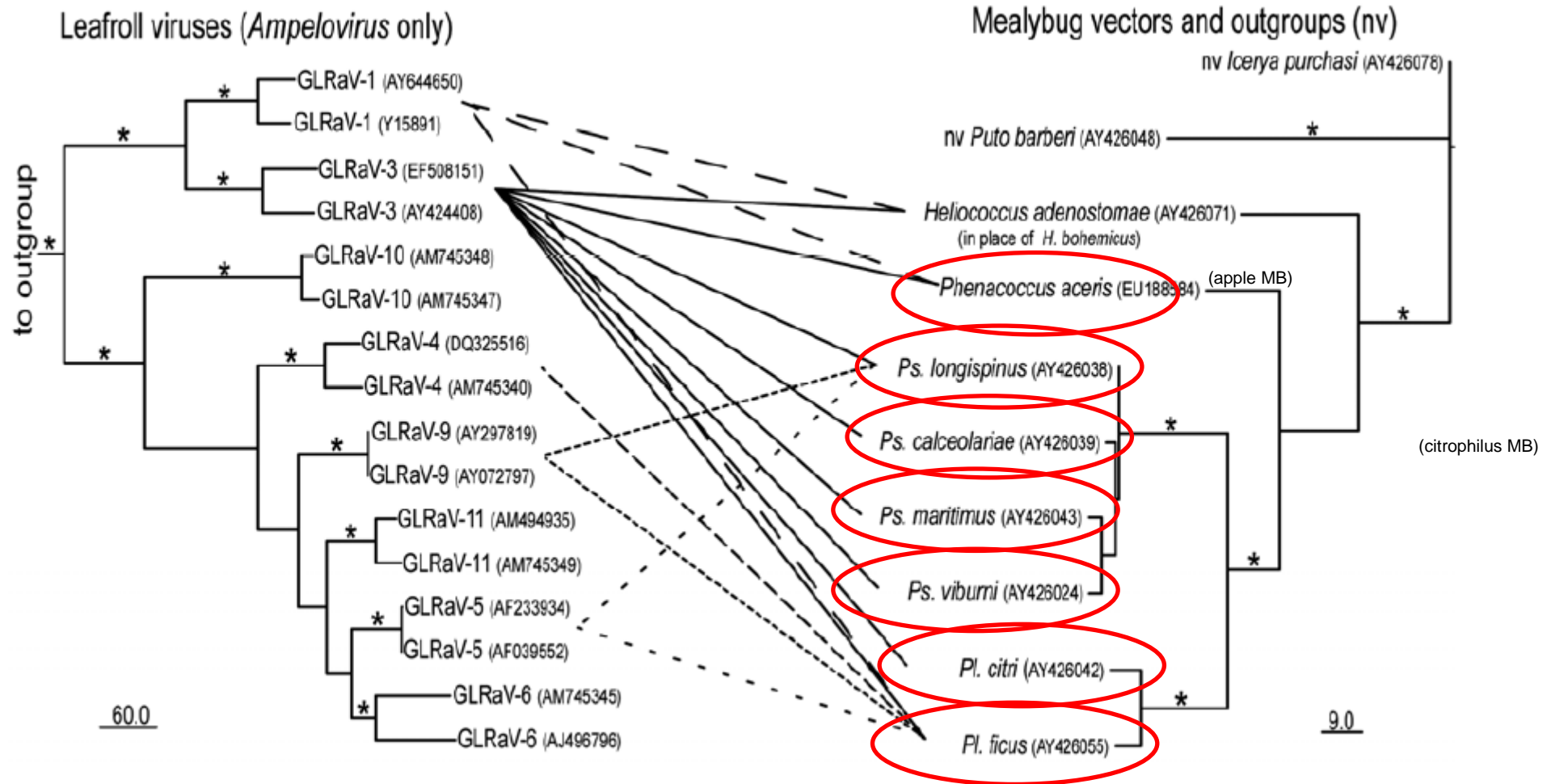
Different leafroll species/groups and strains within species/groups



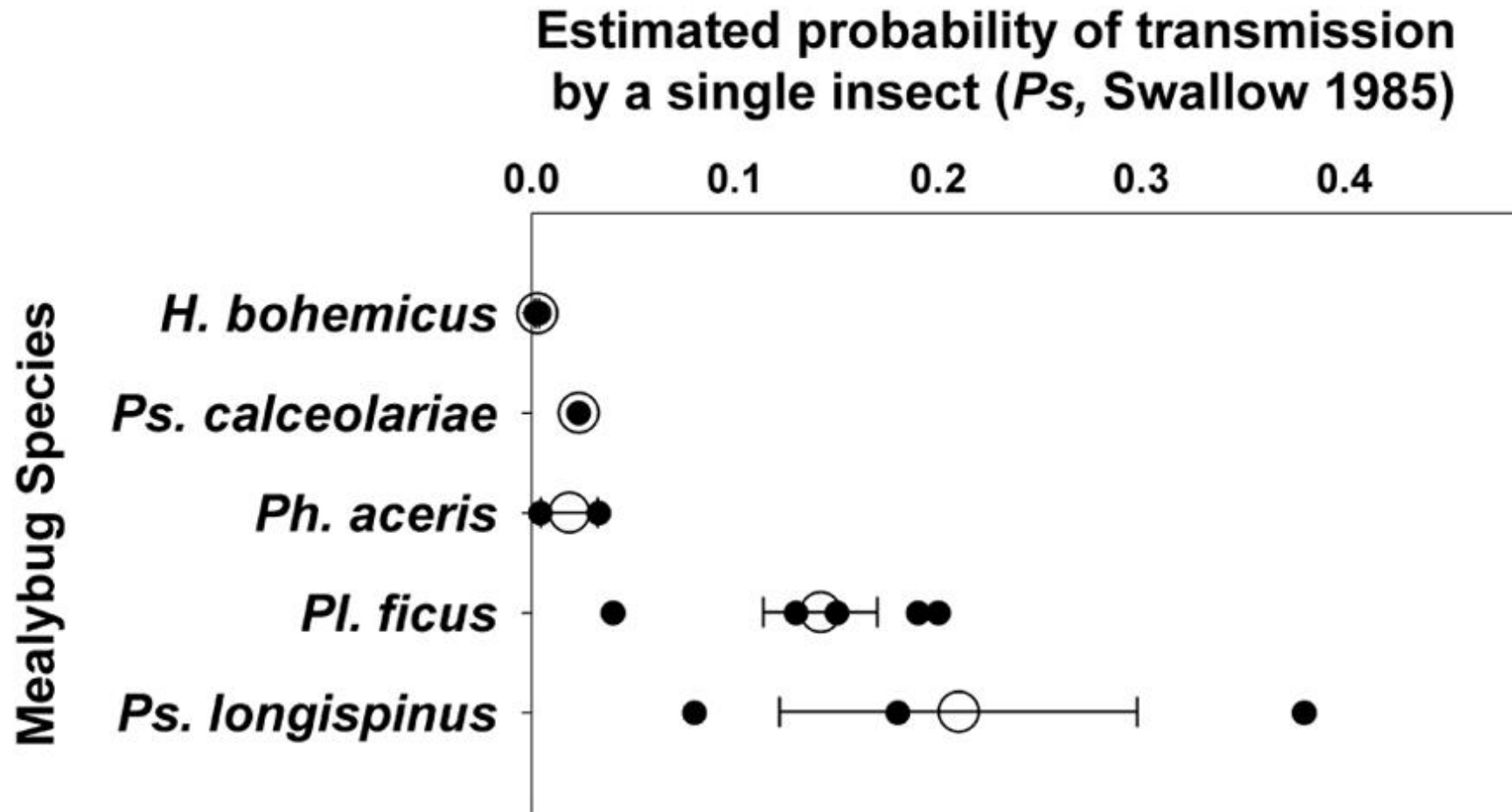
Mealybugs as leafroll vectors is the concern for wine growers



There is no vector-pathogen specificity or fidelity

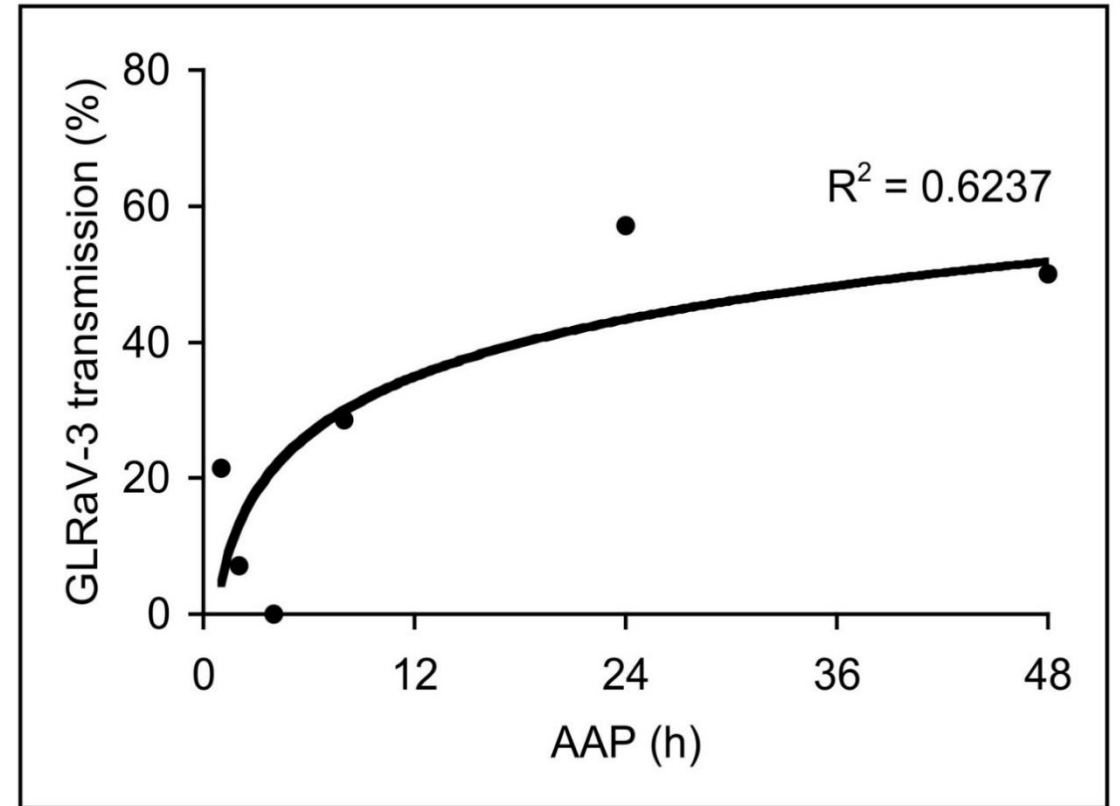


Vectors of Leafroll 3: mealybug spp. efficiency may vary

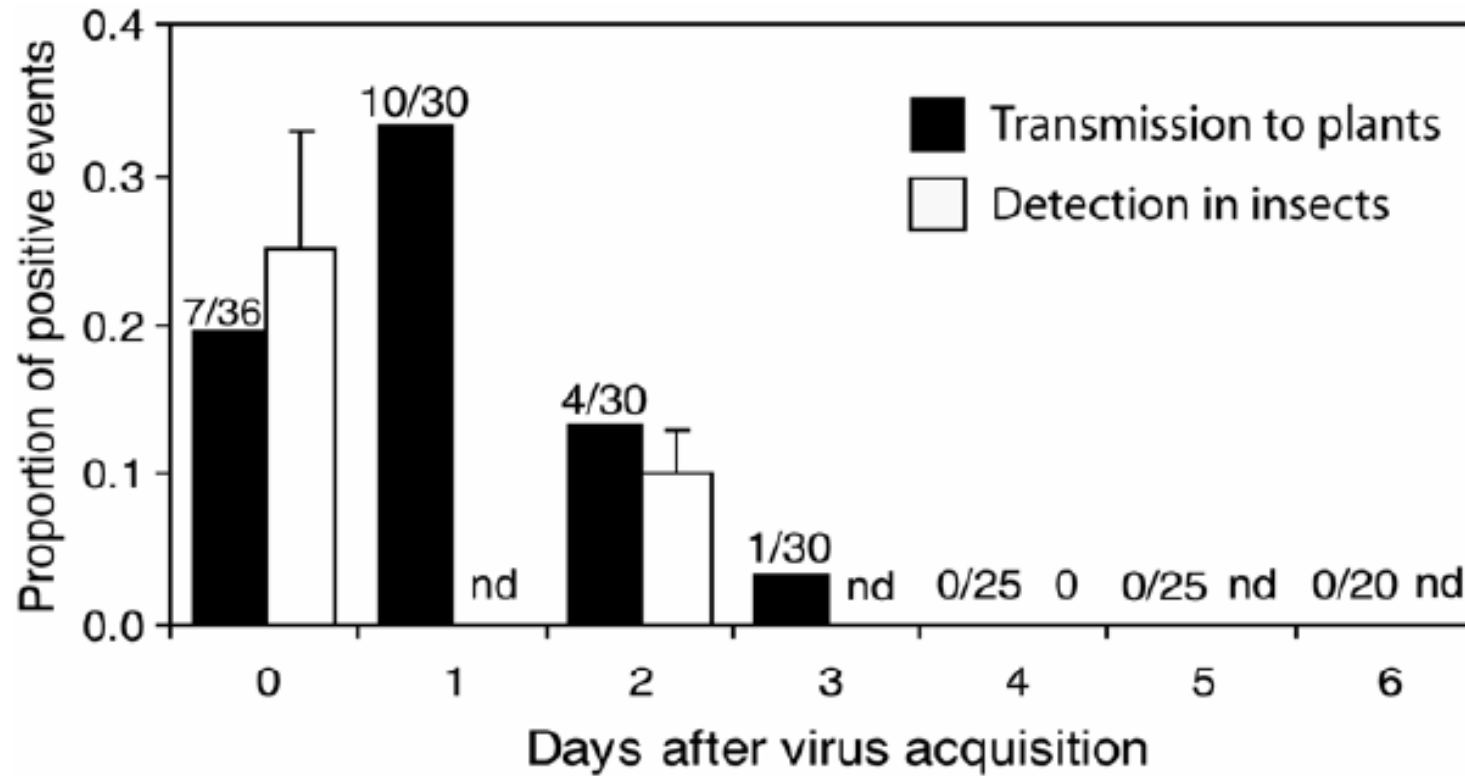


Key Transmission Facts – Acquisition & Transmission

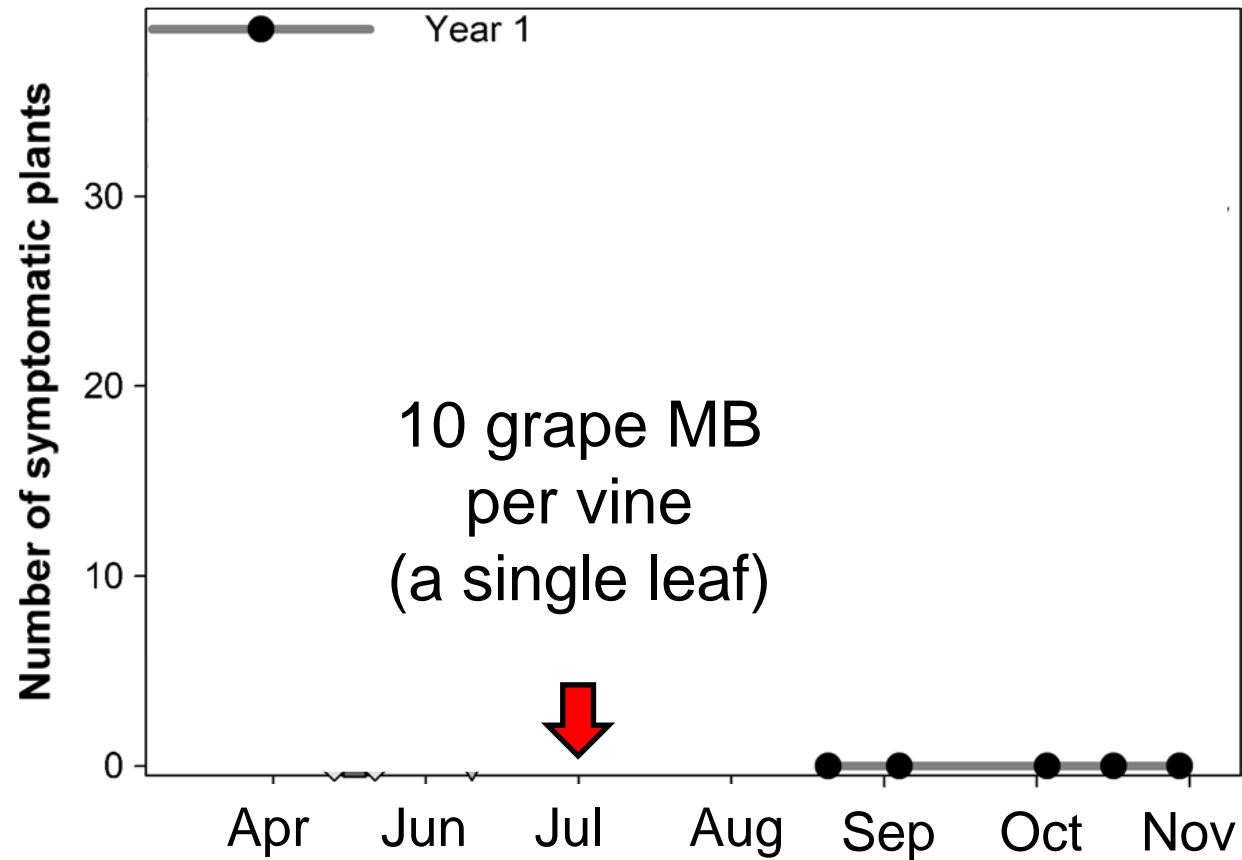
- Crawlers **acquired** virus w/in 1 hr, and could **transmit** the virus w/in 1 hr
- Peak at 24 hr, all stages could acquire and transmit the pathogen for GLRaV



Semi-persistent transmission (lost after four days, or each molt)



How long before GLRaV Symptoms occur?

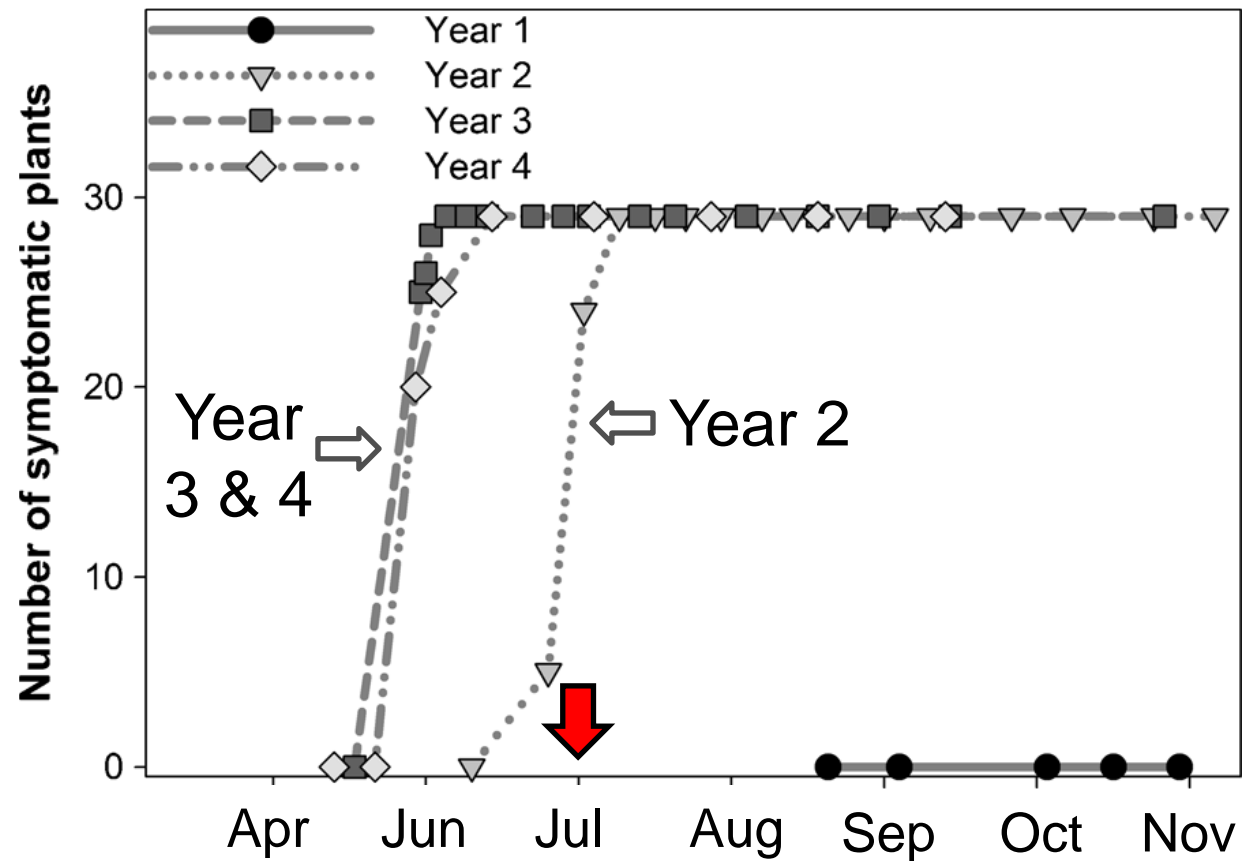


10 grape MB per plant (on a single leaf);
48 h acquisition (in lab), 48 h inoculation (in field 19 July, Movento)

Blaisdell et al. 2016 *European J Plant Pathology*



How long before GLRaV Symptoms occur?



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48 h acquisition (in lab), 48 h inoculation (in field 19 July, Movento)

Blaisdell et al. 2016 *European J Plant Pathology*



Outline (California-based presentation):

- 1) Leafroll and Vectors
- 2) Mealybug species, biology & monitoring**
- 3) Biological & Chemical mealybug controls
- 4) Mating disruption for “vine” mealybug
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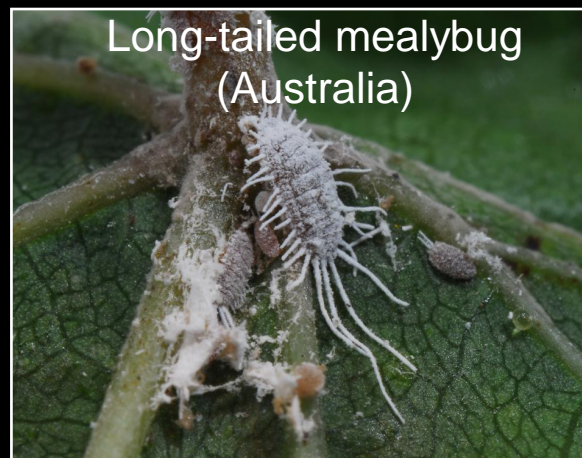
Vine MB is 1 of 8 important invasive mealybug species in California vineyards and orchards



Obscure mealybug
(South America)

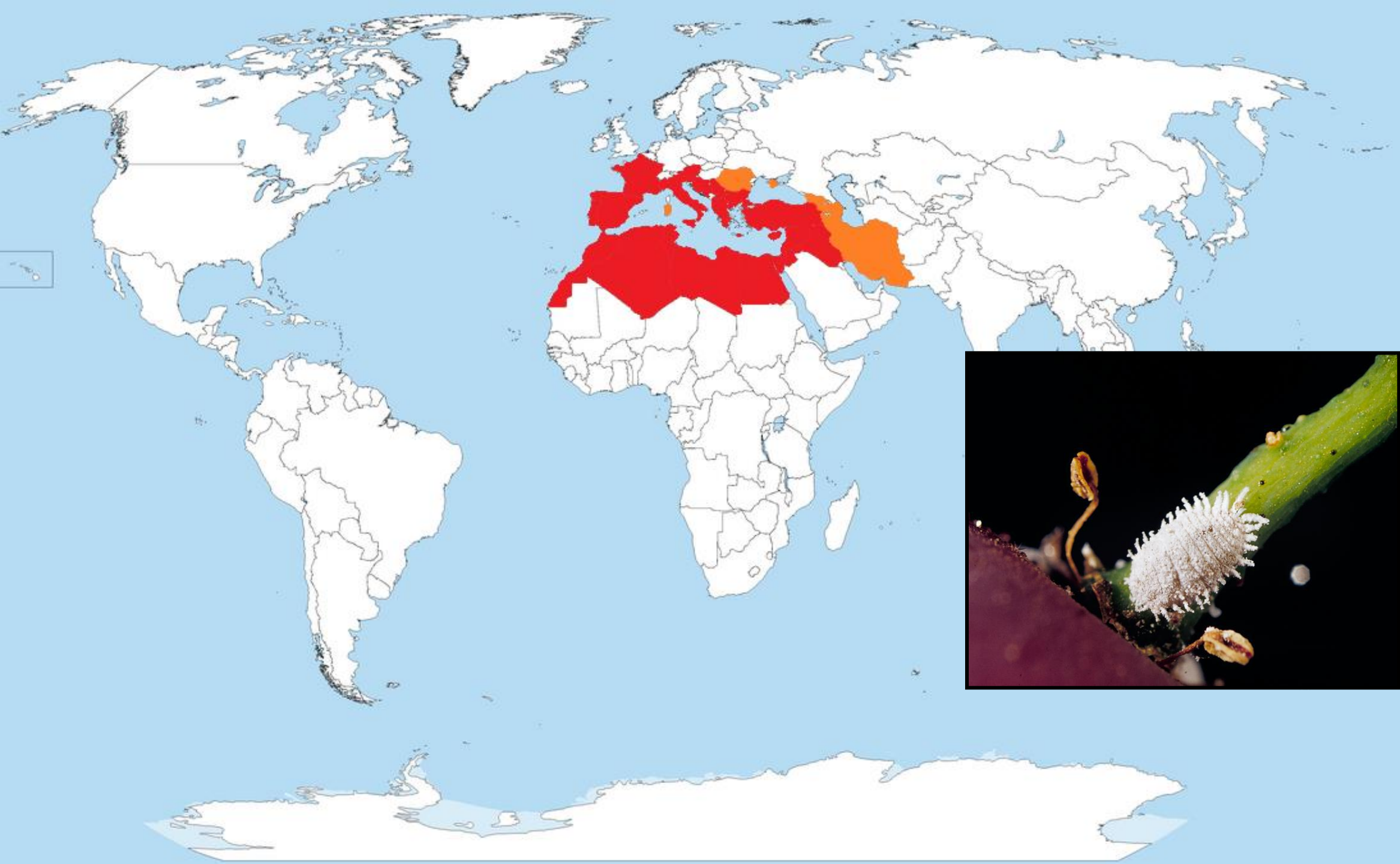


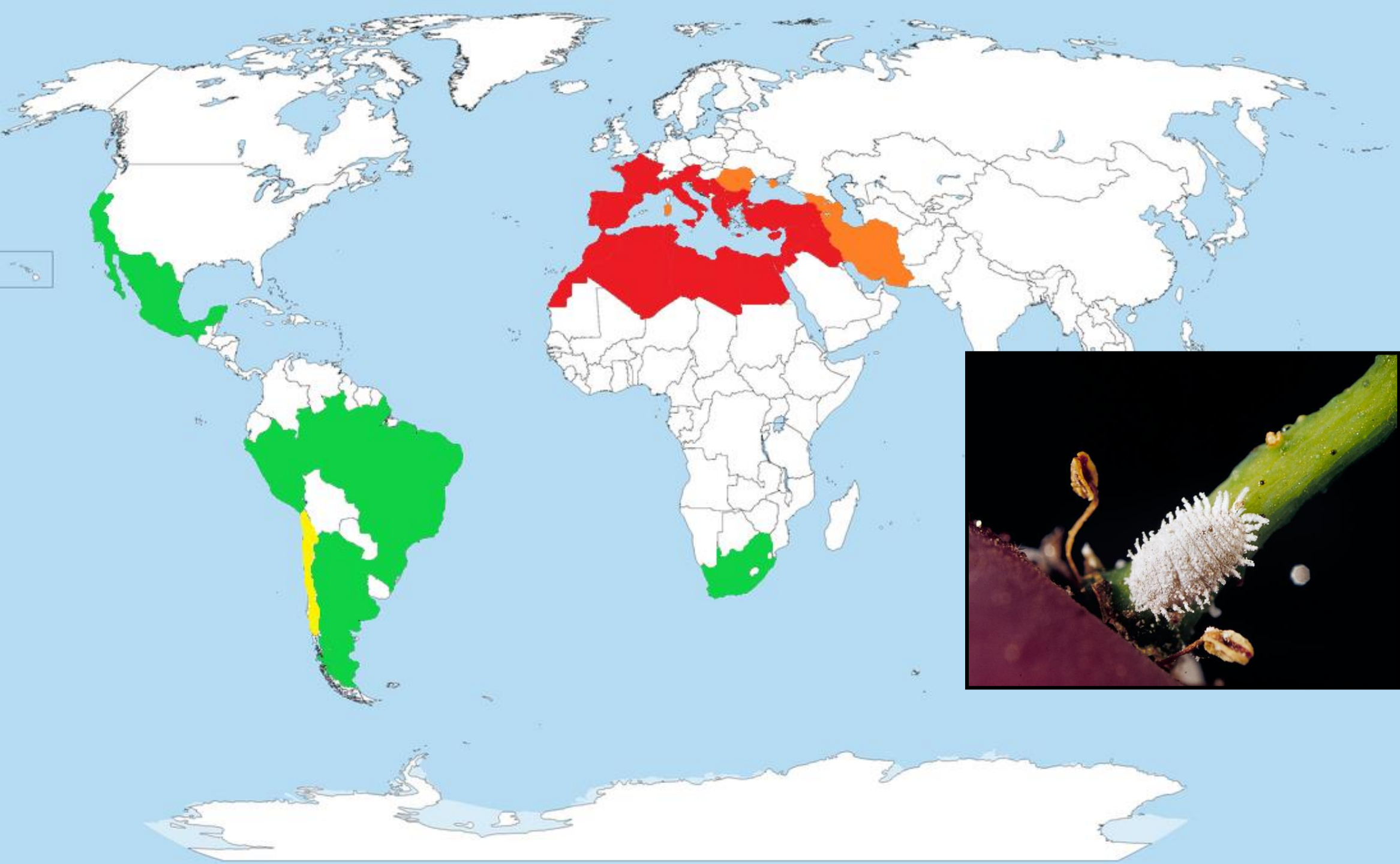
Long-tailed mealybug
(Australia)



Gill's mealybug
(native – southeastern US)










Vine mealybug
(Mediterranean)




Obscure mealybug
(South America)



Long-tailed mealybug
(Australia)



Gill's mealybug
(native – southeastern US)



Vine MB causes more damage
1) has more eggs,
2) on leaves leading to leaf drop
3) more honeydew excretion

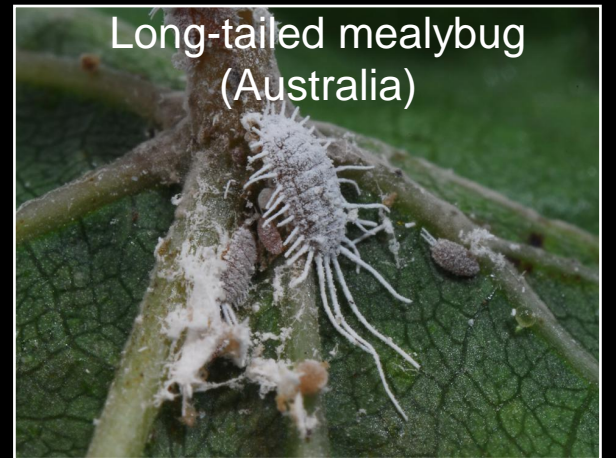
Pseudococcus maritimus (Grape MB)
North America



Obscure mealybug
(South America)



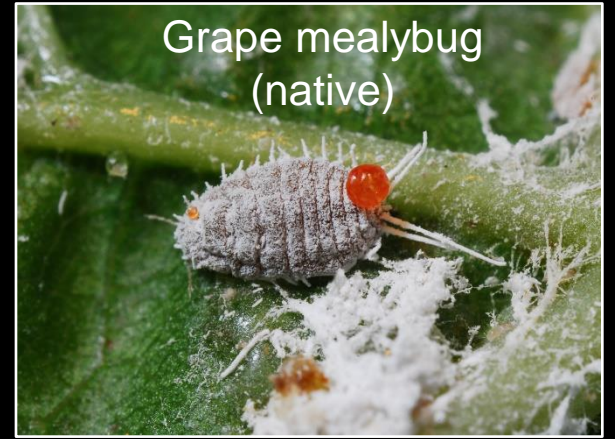
Long-tailed mealybug
(Australia)



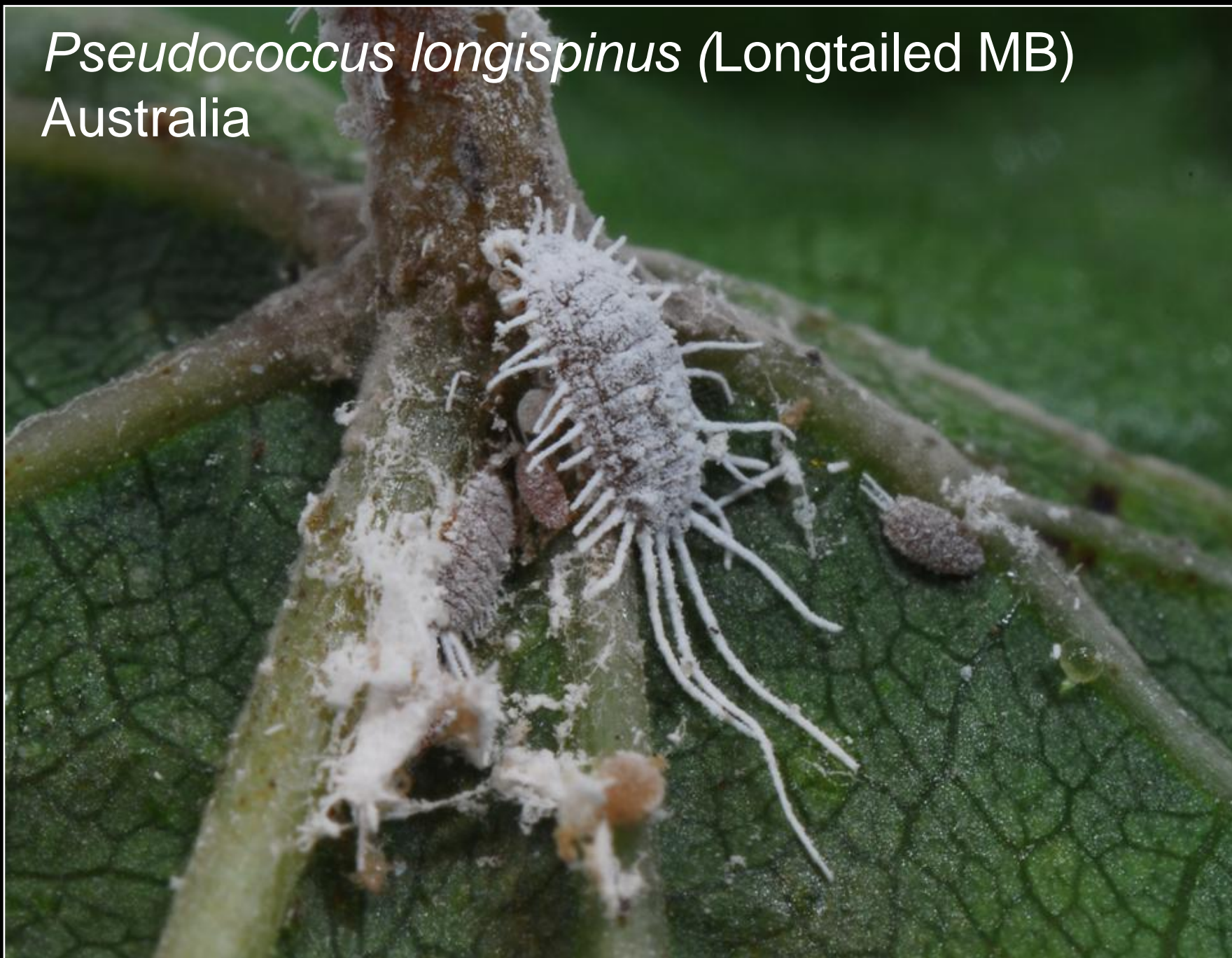
Gill's mealybug
(native – southeastern US)



Pseudococcus viburni (*P. affinis*) Obscure MB
South America



Pseudococcus longispinus (Longtailed MB)
Australia



Comstock mealybug
(Japan/China)



Citrophilus mealybug
(Australia)



Gill's mealybug
(native – southeastern US)



During molts, MB lose wax – including “tails”

just molted

cast “skin”

Mature adult



Pseudococcus calceolariae (Citrophilus or Scarlet)
Australia

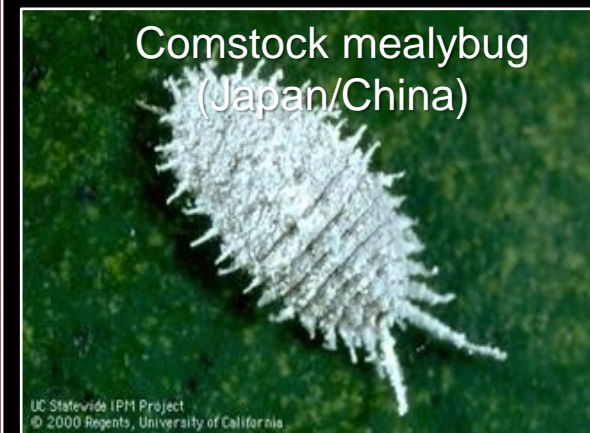


Citrus mealybug
(Asia)



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Comstock mealybug
(Japan/China)



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Gill's mealybug
(native – southeastern US)



Ferrisia gilli (Gill's MB)

(southeastern US... maybe, related to *F. virigata*... Jamaica)



Comstock mealybug
(Japan/China)



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Citrophilus mealybug
(Australia)



Gill's mealybug
(native – southeastern US)



Planococcus citri (Citrus mealybug)
(Asia)

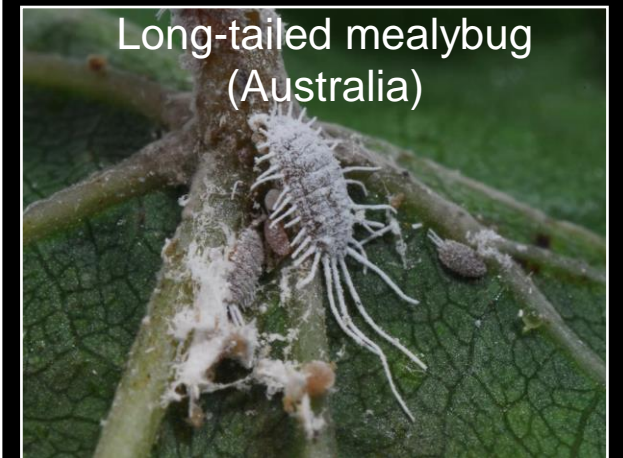


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Vine mealybug
(Mediterranean)

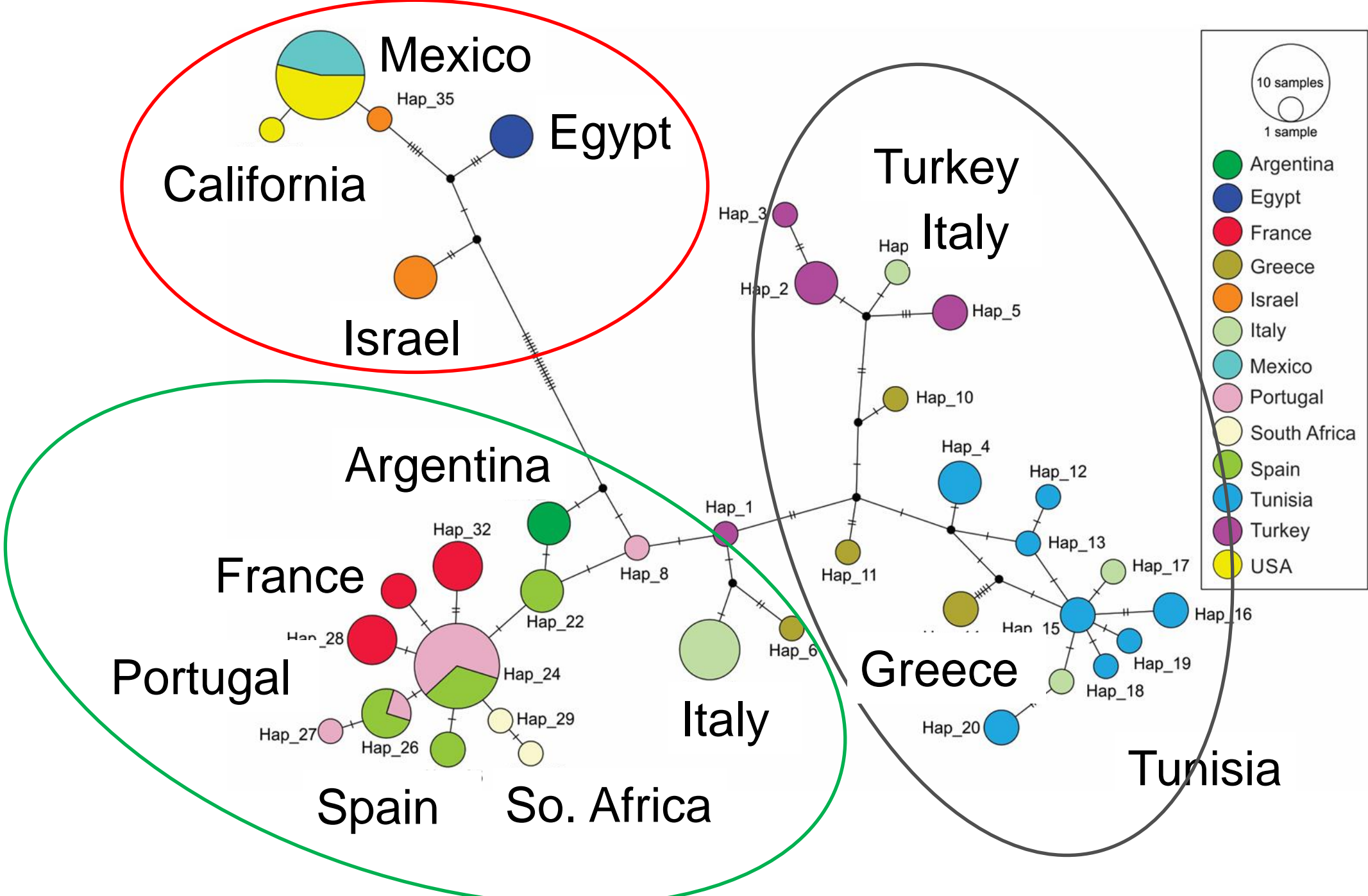


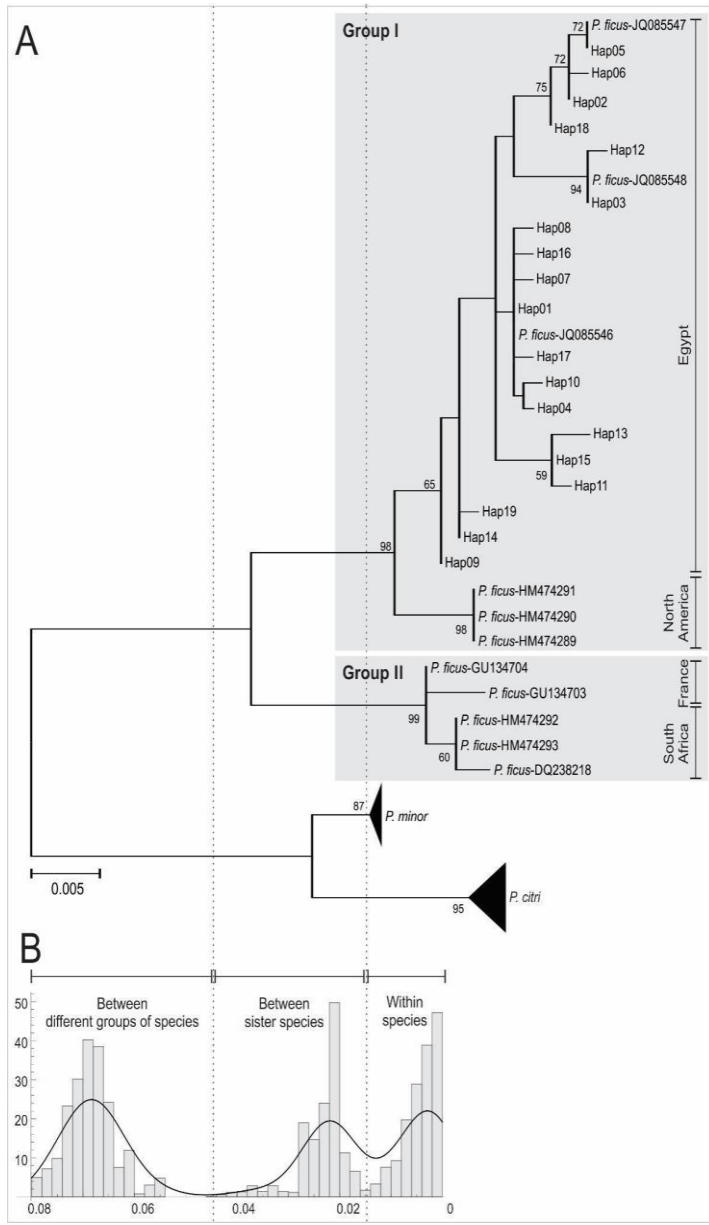
Long-tailed mealybug
(Australia)



Gill's mealybug
(native – southeastern US)



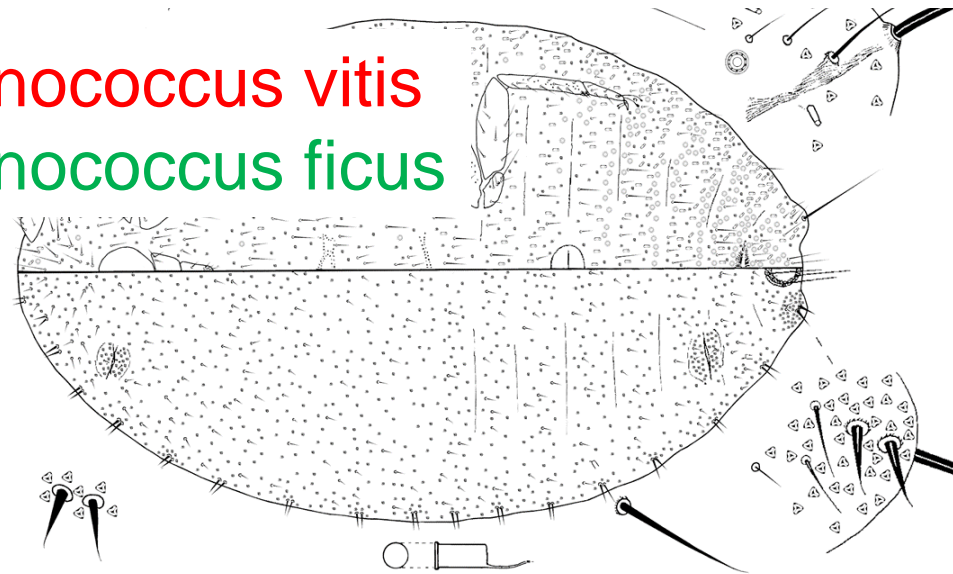




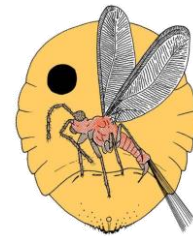
Identifying cryptic species of *Planococcus* infesting vineyards to improve control efforts

Margarita C. G. Correa¹ · Ferran Palero^{2,3} · Vitor C. Pacheco da Silva⁴ · M. Bora Kaydan^{5,6} · Jean-Francois Germain⁷ · Shaaban Abd-Rabou⁸ · Kent M. Daane⁹ · Arturo Cocco¹⁰ · Elie Poulin¹¹ · Thibaut Malausa²

← *Planococcus vitis*
 ← *Planococcus ficus*



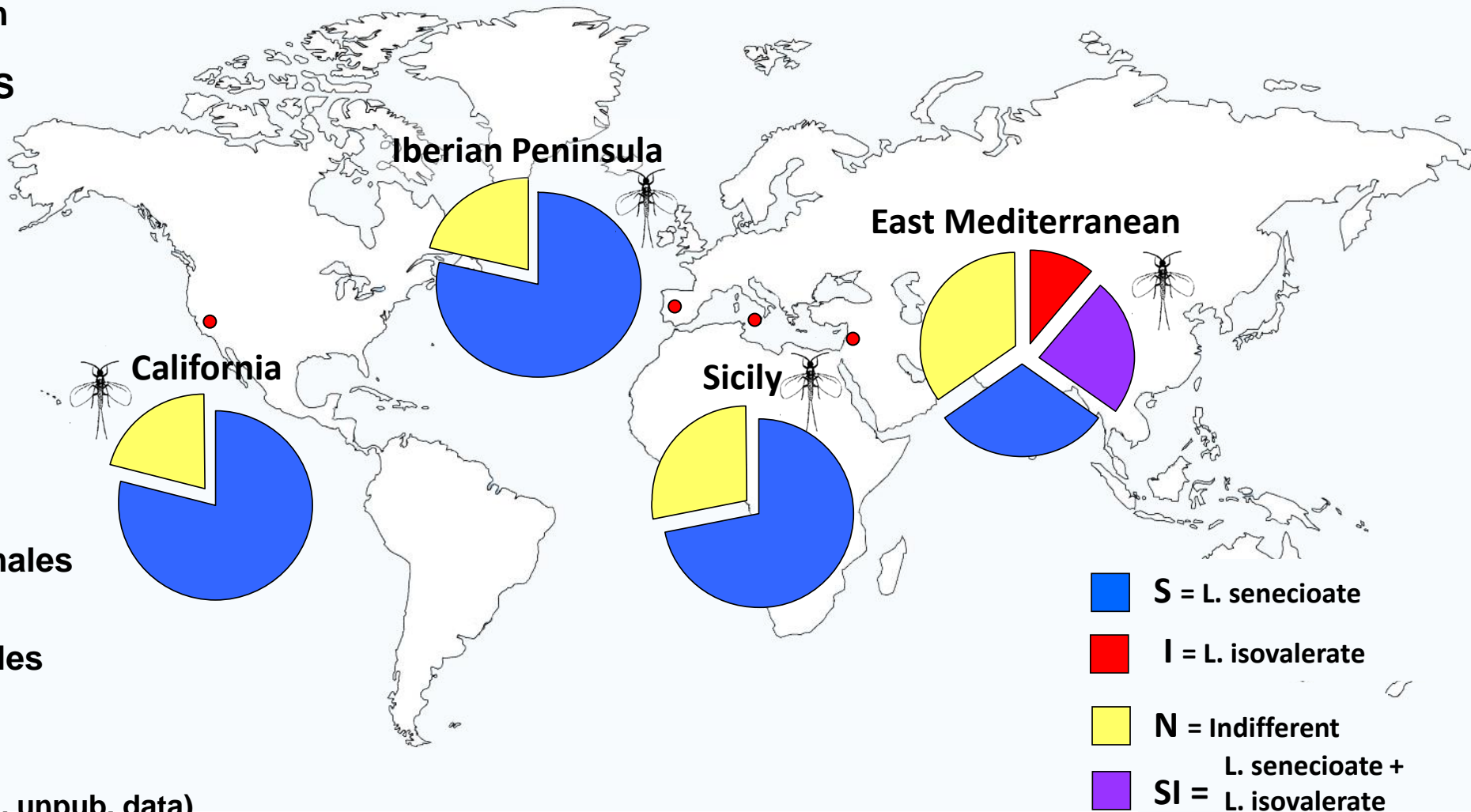
P. ficus pherotypes distribution



XVI ICS - Tbilisi

All 9 pherotypes were found in Israeli populations

Pherotypes observed in Sicily, Portugal and California belonged to S and N groups

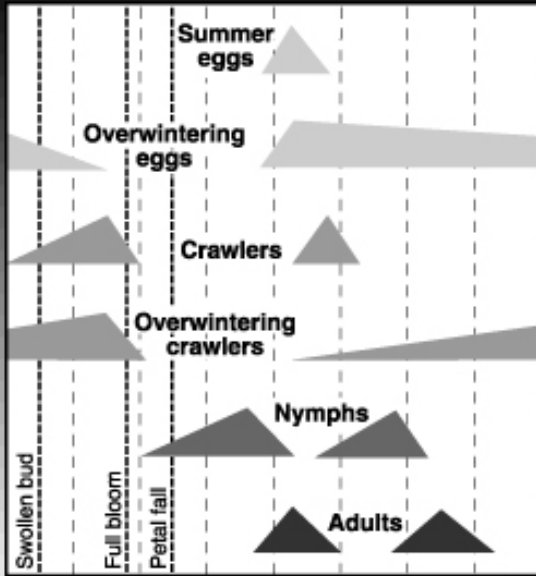


In California:

- no production of *L. isovalerate* by females
- no attraction to *L. isovalerate* by males

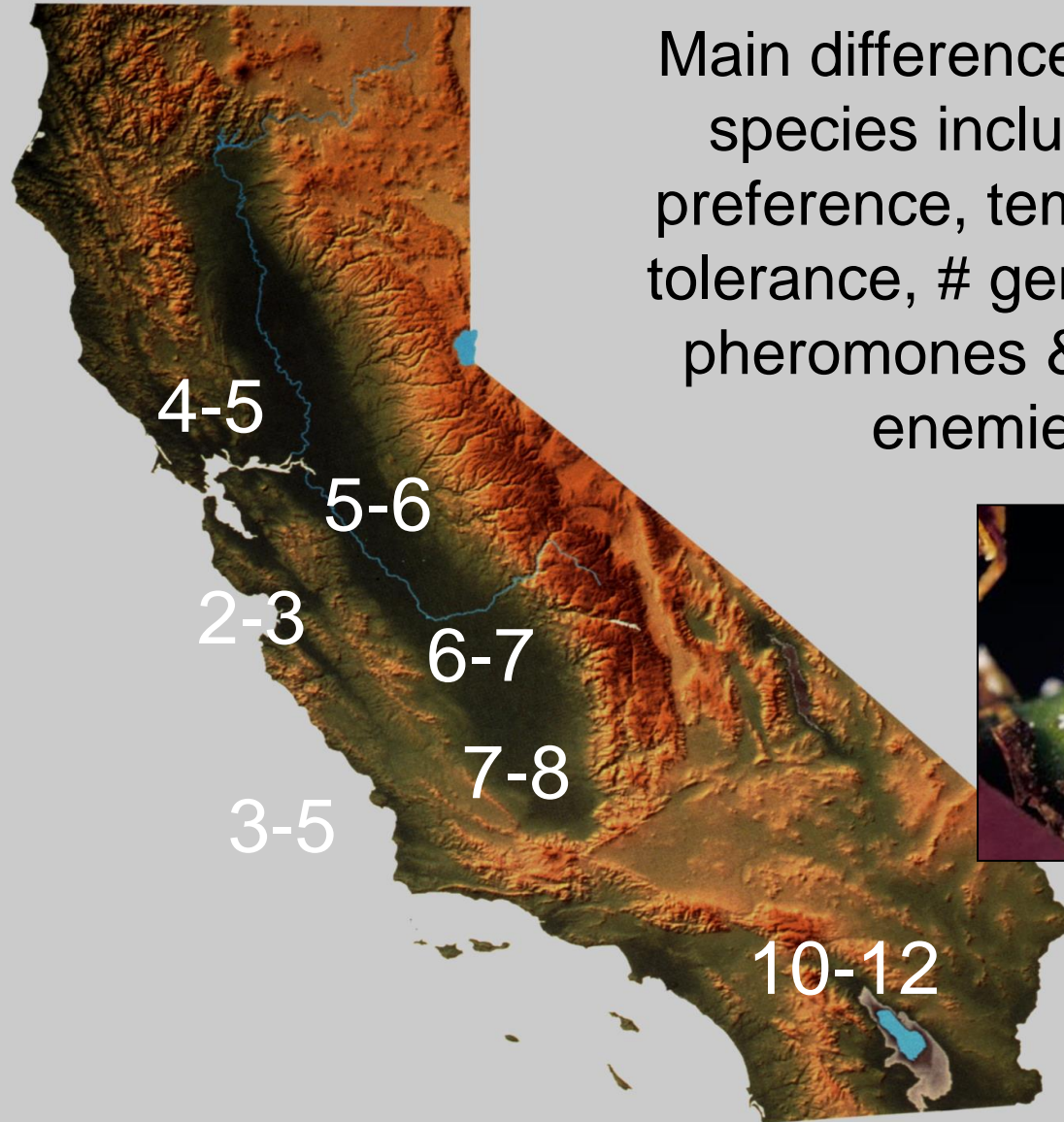
(Kol Maimon et al., 2010; Mendel, unpub. data)

Grape Mealybug Life History



Mar. April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct.

There is one full and a partial second generation each year. Some eggs laid by first generation adults hatch during the summer; others overwinter. Some second generation crawlers also overwinter. Timings based on observations on pears in central Washington. Dates may vary on different hosts.



Main differences among species include host preference, temperature tolerance, # generations, pheromones & natural enemies



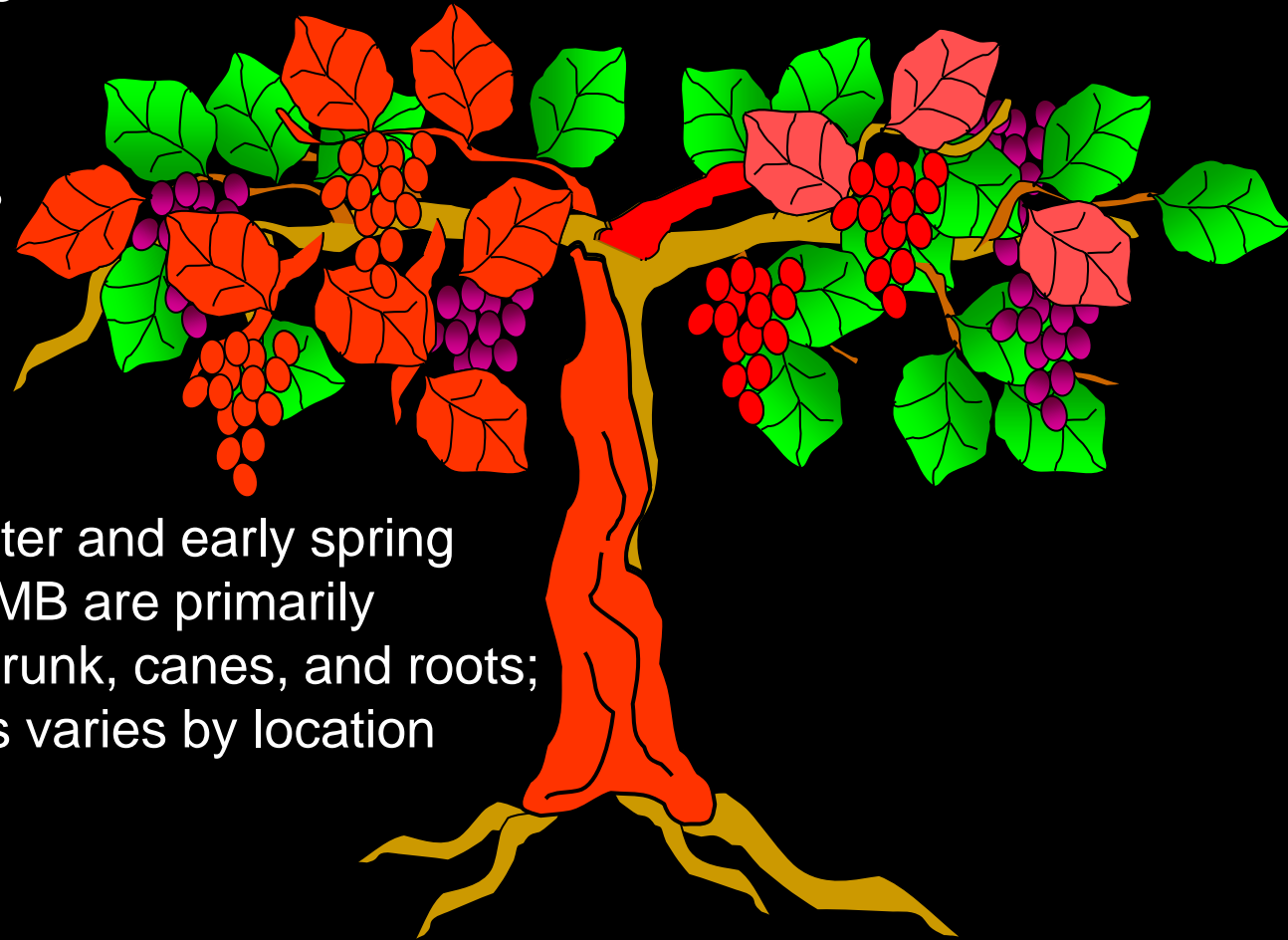
General seasonal changes in mealybug location

Summer and fall onto
leaves and into fruit

Early summer onto leaves

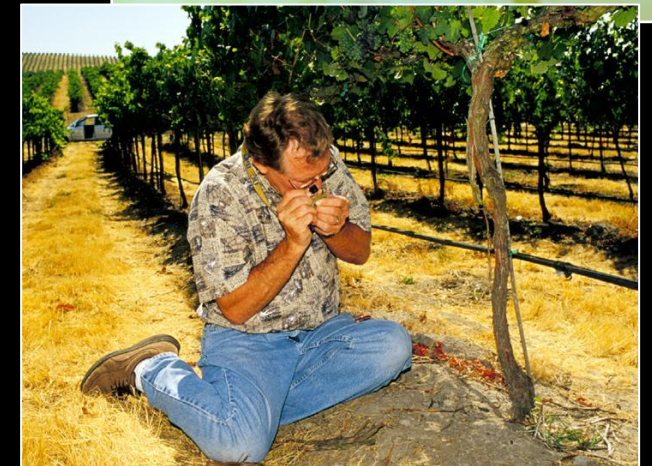
Spring onto canes

Winter and early spring
MB are primarily
on the trunk, canes, and roots;
this varies by location



VMB underground on roots, or under bark on the trunk, cordon, and canes remains a problem. This creates a 'refuge' from controls.







Sniffer Dog Trial

Summary by Neil McRoberts (UCD):

- dogs were on scent for VMB and Leafroll in indoor and some limited outdoor trials with potted plants
- the LR virus dogs were tested outdoors at Russel Ranch, needed to get use to working on trellised vines
- probably 1-4 months of work to see field effectiveness.



How long does it take for mealybugs to
'Acquire' and 'Transmit' the GLRaV pathogen?

- A) Days
- B) Hours
- C) Weeks
- D) Never

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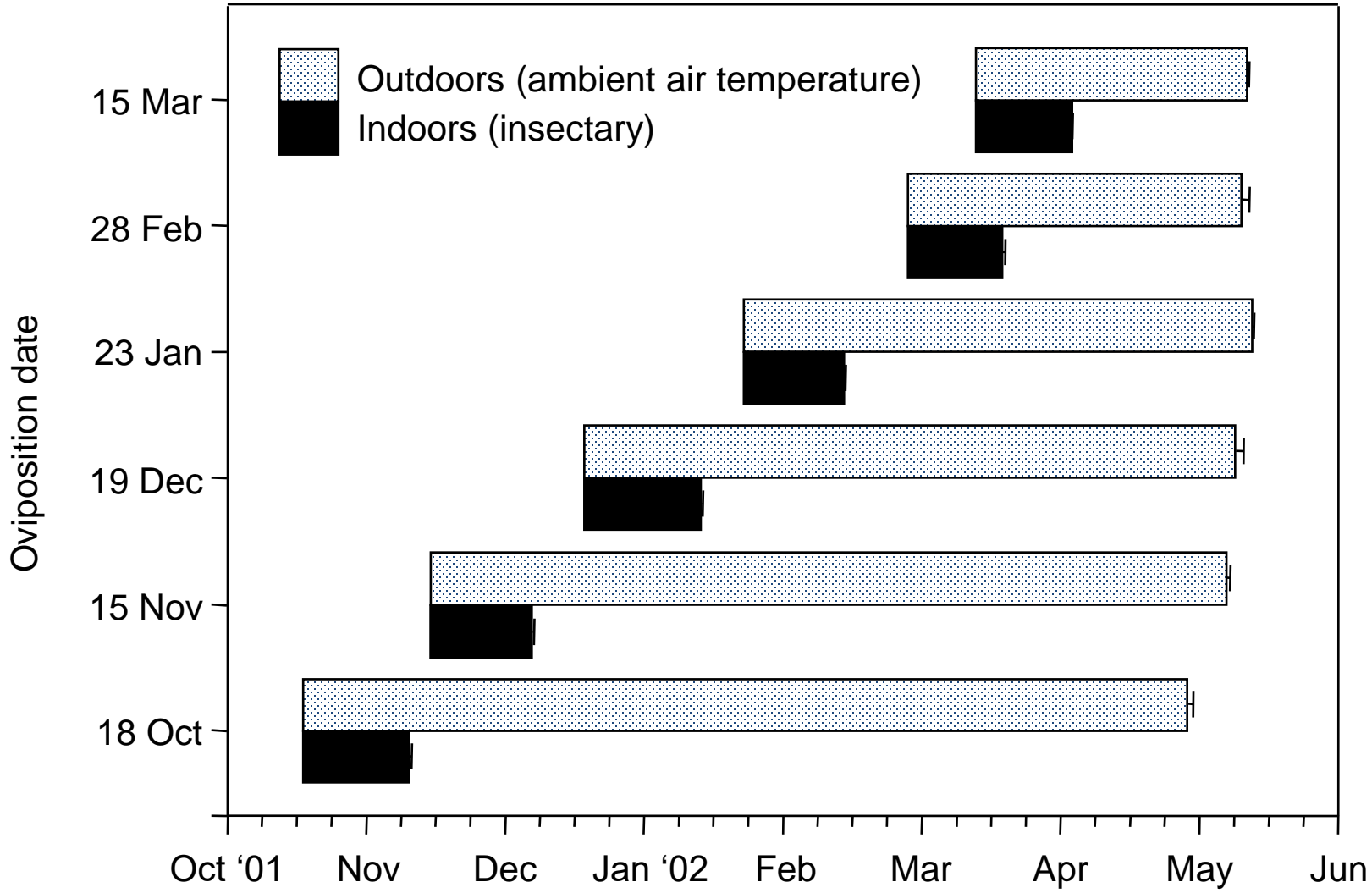
There are a number of predators that attack VMB

- Lacewings
- Midges
- Lady beetles



They tend to more common when VMB densities are high





Anagyrus pseudococci oviposition and adult emergence dates



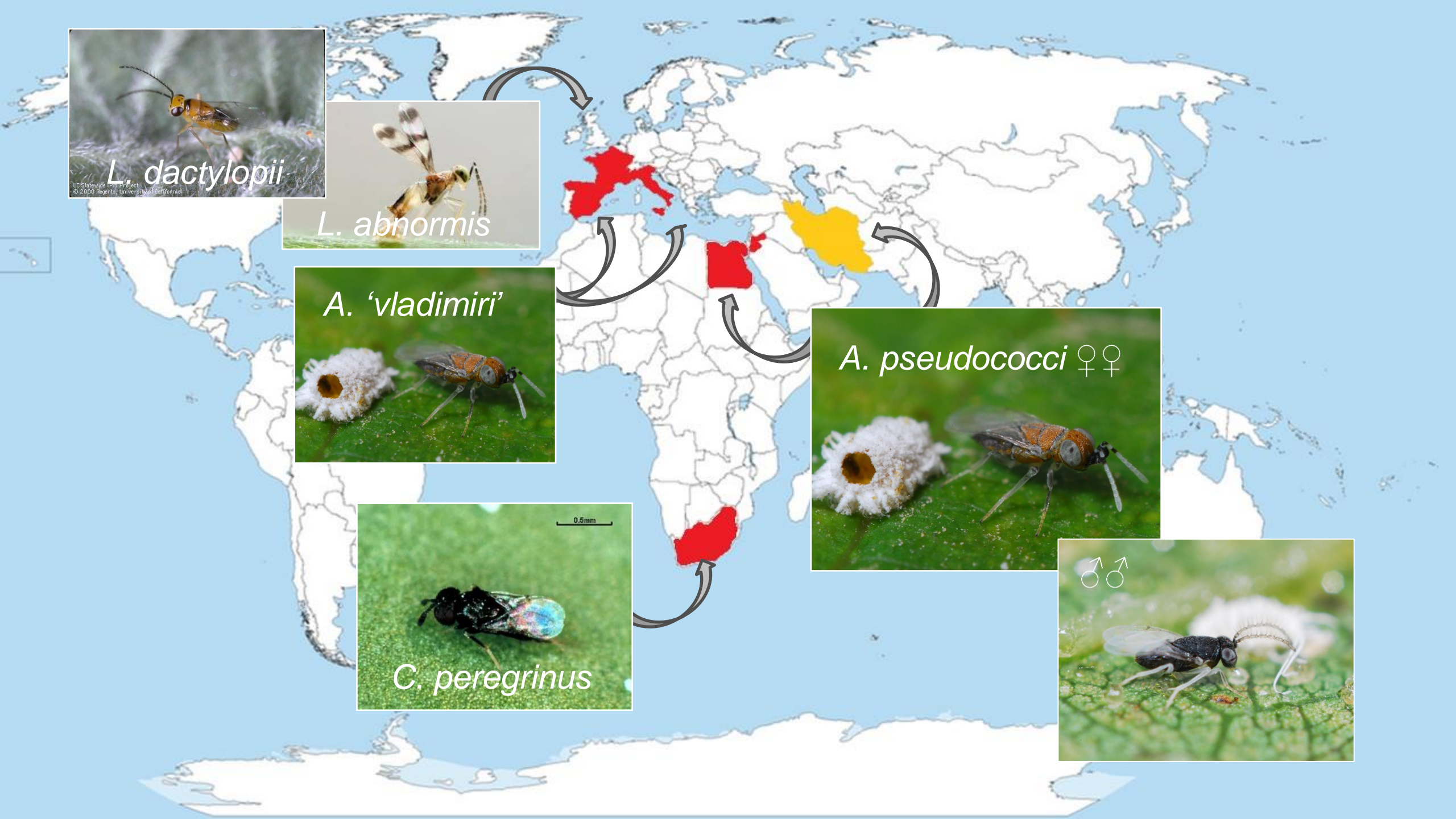


UAV-IQ Drone releases of NE

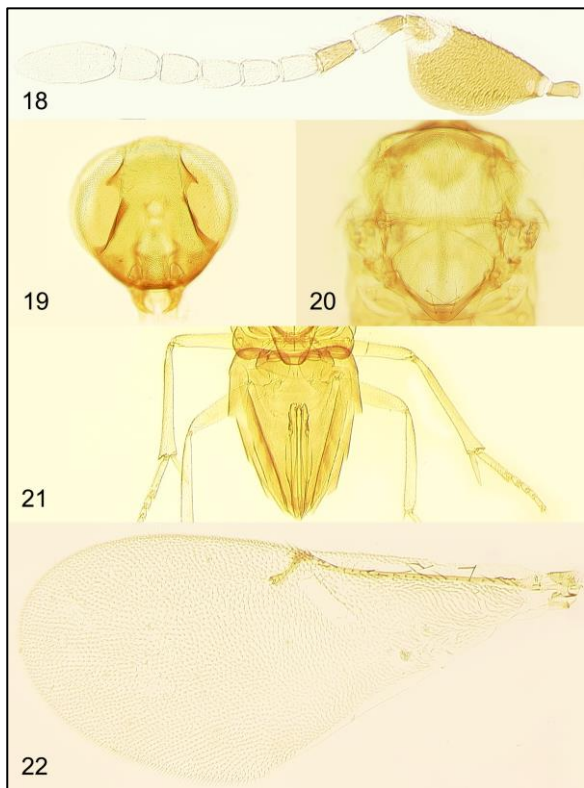




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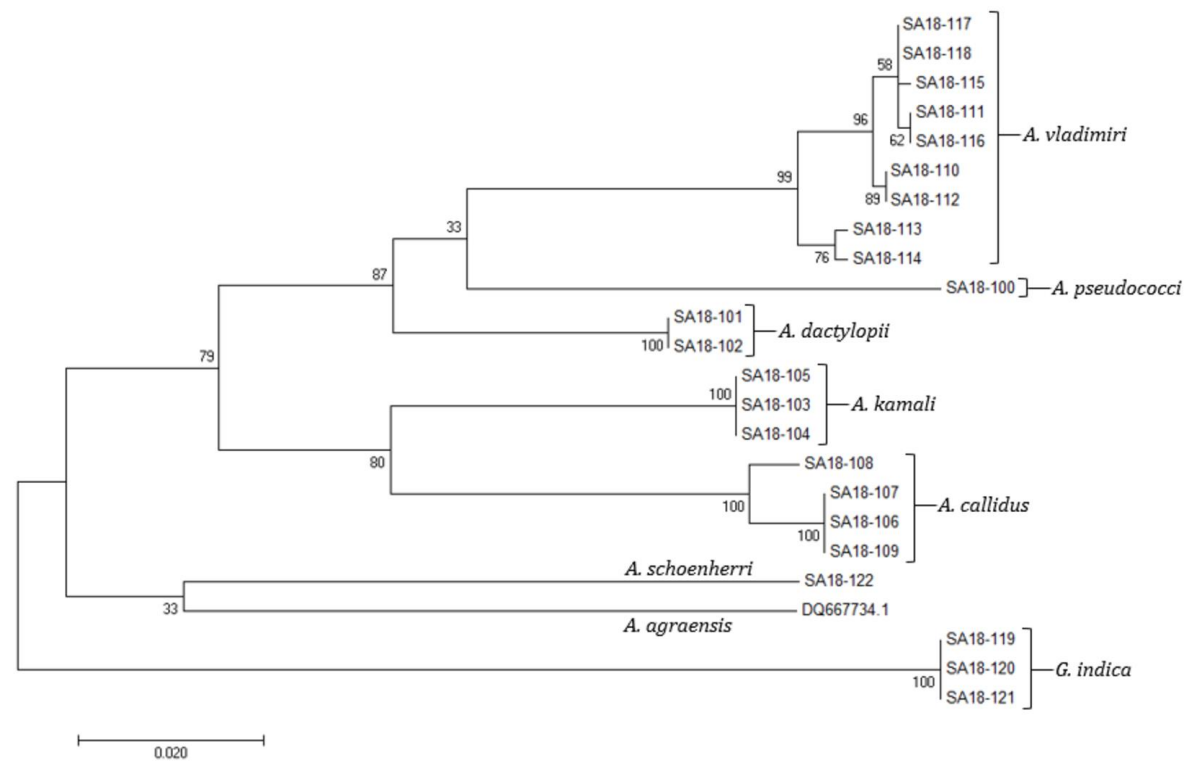
Anagyrus pseudococci vs *Anagyrus vladimiri*



Figs 18-22 *A. vladimiri*



Fig 29 *A. dactylopii*
 Figs 30-31 *A. kamali*
 Fig 32-33 *A. kivuensis*
 Fig 34 *A. pseudococci*



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Natural enemies of *Planococcus ficus* (Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae) in Fars Province vineyards, Iran

Majid Fallahzadeh^{a*}, George Japoshvili^b, Nazila Saghaei^c and Kent M. Daane^d

Order: Family	Species	Host association	Number
Hym.: Encyrtidae	<i>Anagyrus agraeus</i> Saraswat	Primary parasitoid – <i>P. ficus</i>	846
	<i>Anagyrus dactylopii</i> (Howard)	Primary parasitoid – <i>P. ficus</i>	415
	<i>Anagyrus mirzai</i> Agarwal & Alam	Primary parasitoid – <i>P. ficus</i>	631
	<i>Anagyrus pseudococci</i> (Girault)	Primary parasitoid – <i>P. ficus</i>	9120
	<i>Leptomastix dactylopii</i> Howard	Primary parasitoid – <i>P. ficus</i>	5923
	<i>Leptomastix flava</i> Mercet	Primary parasitoid – <i>P. ficus</i>	714
	<i>Prochiloneurus bolivari</i> Mercet	Primary/Secondary parasitoid	1202
	<i>Homalotylus turkmenicus</i> Myartseva	Primary parasitoid – coccinellids	259
	<i>Homalotylus vicinus</i> Silvestri	Primary parasitoid – coccinellids	438





Hydrogel Ant Management



Hydrogel Trial (Lodi, Pavement ant)

5 insecticides at 5 and 10 GPA

Crystals w/ 25% sucrose water

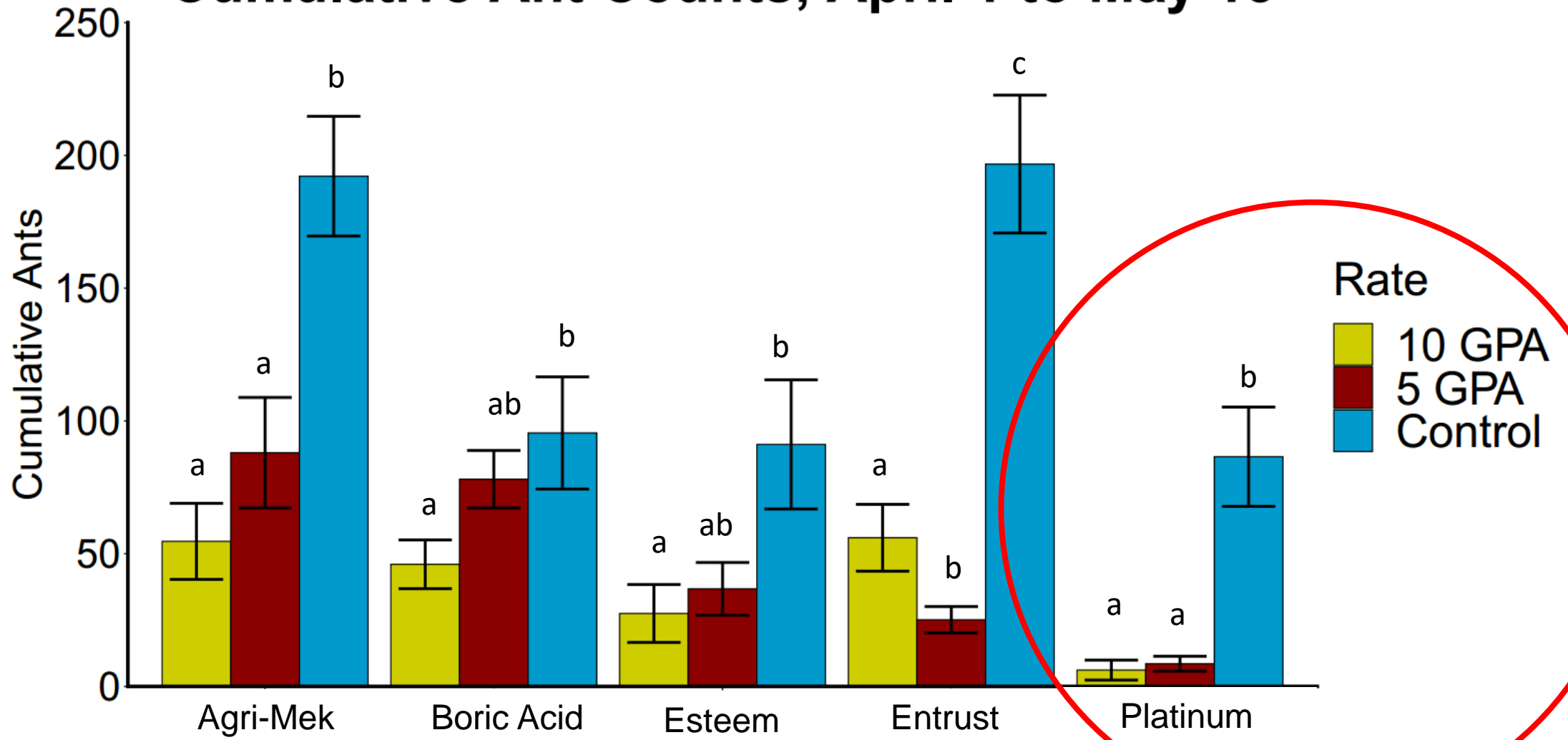
1 or 2 applications (1/100 or 1/200 label rate)



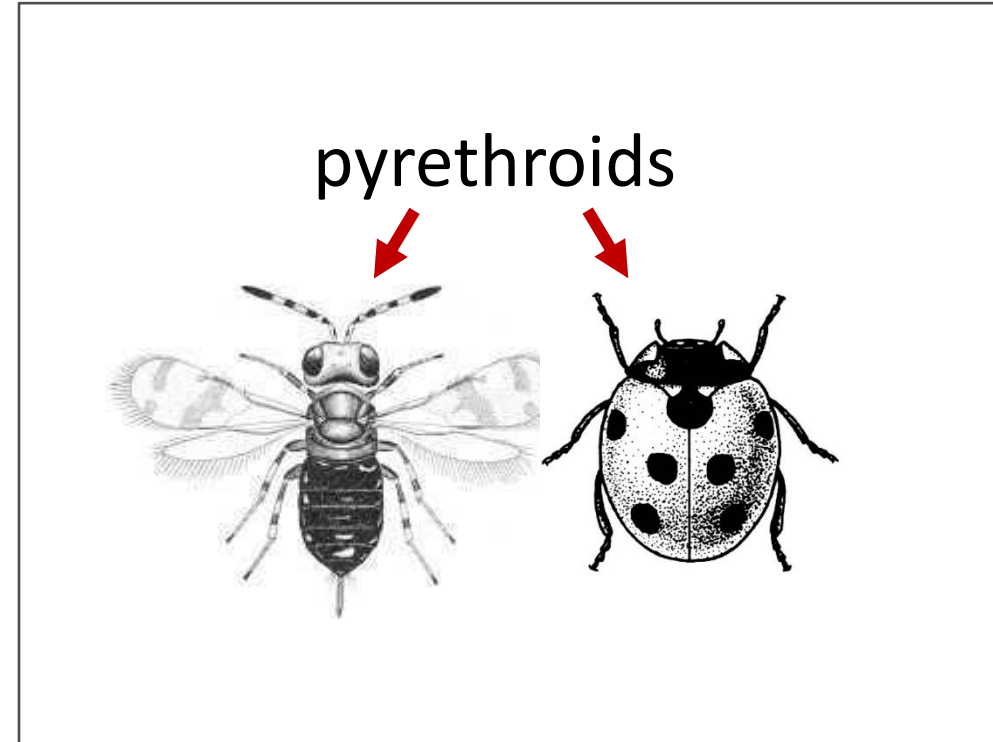
Insecticide	Label Rate	10 GPA	5 GPA
Agri-Mek	4.25 fl oz	0.042 fl oz	0.021 fl oz
Boric Acid	5%	6.7 dry oz	3.3 dry oz
Esteem	16 fl oz	0.16 fl oz	0.08 fl oz
Entrust	6 fl oz	0.06 fl oz	0.03 fl oz
Platinum	2.67 dry oz	0.026 dry oz	0.013 dry oz



Cumulative Ant Counts, April 1 to May 13

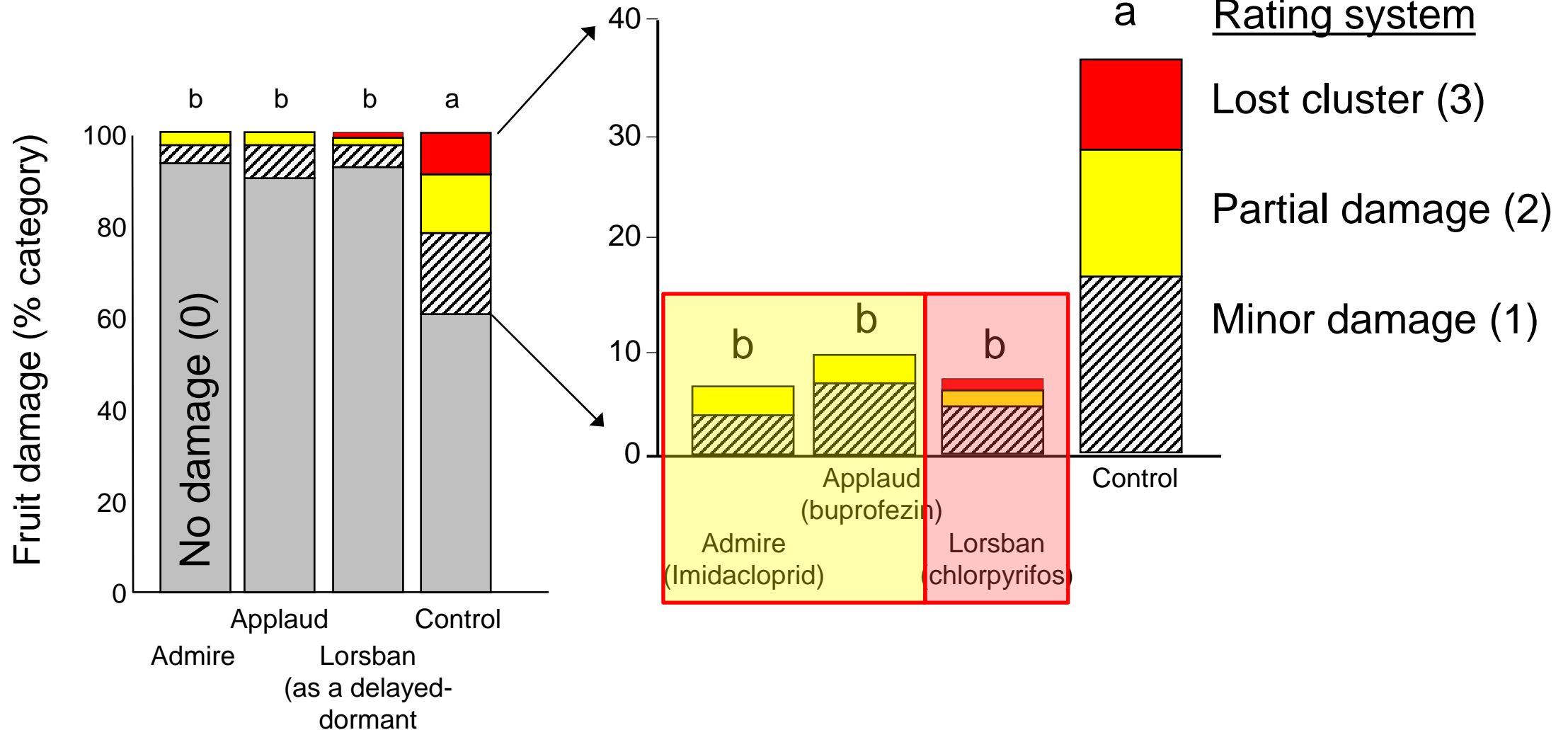


Insecticides for Mealybugs and Natural Enemies

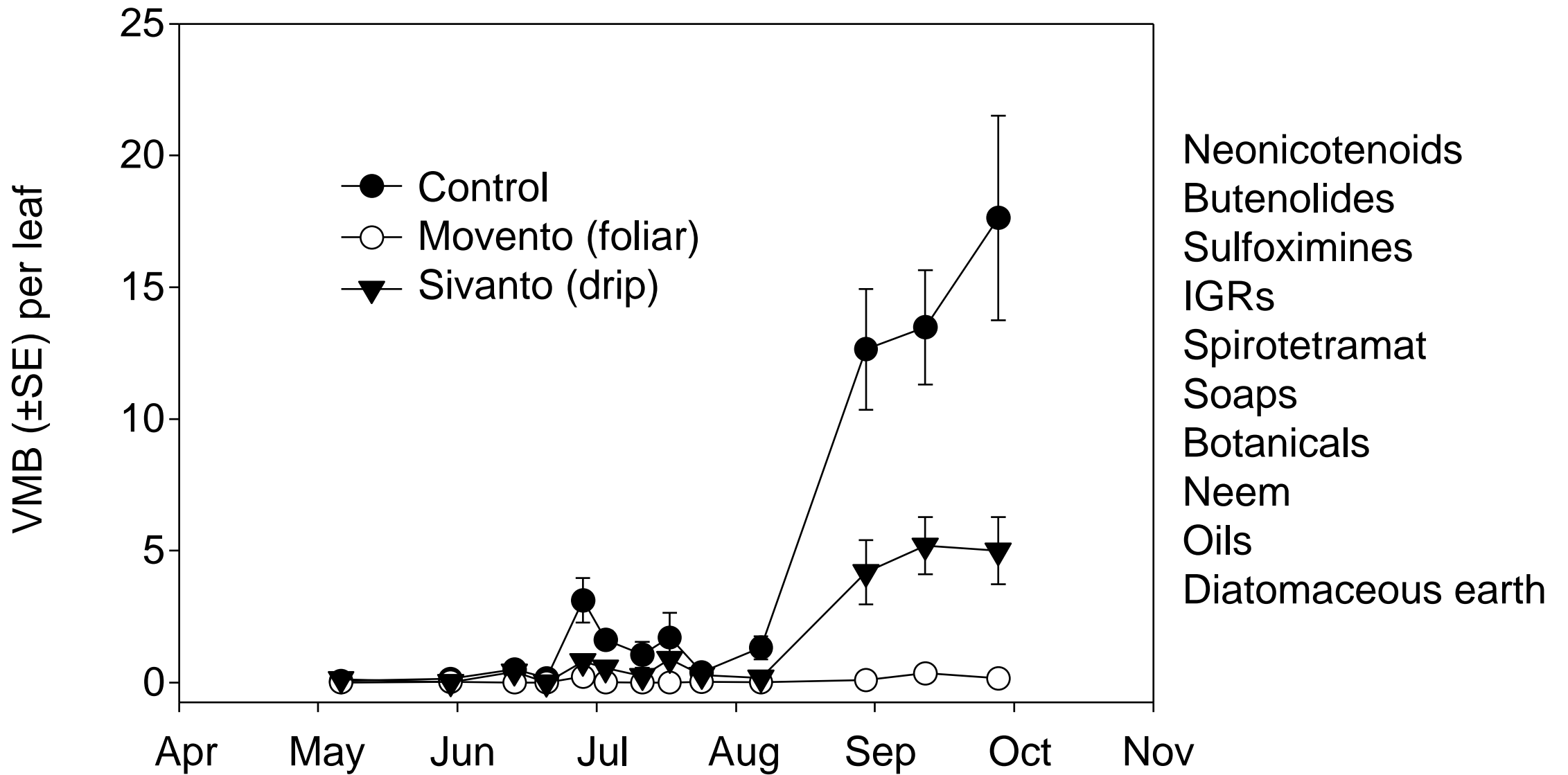


For most crops, selection of pesticides is the primary method to conserve natural enemies – even more important the cover crops

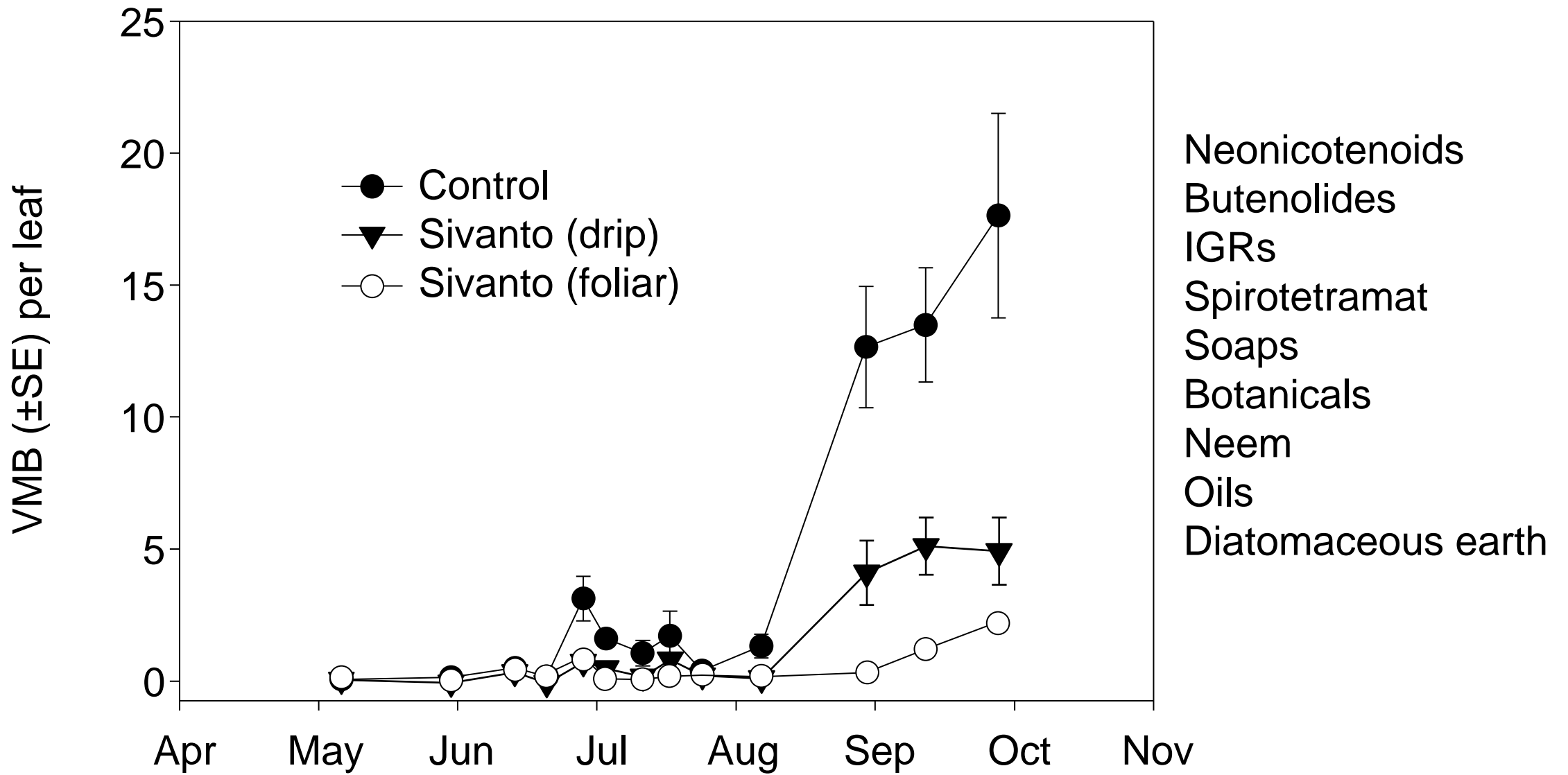
In the 1990s, Chemical Industry and UC sought alternates to in-season OPs and Carbamates



Spray Volume: 100 GPA; Air-blast Sprayer; label rate.
 Details in Daane et al. 2006. *Calif. Agricul.* 60(1): 31-38.
 Vine mealybug (*P. ficus*) was the target pest; Del Rey, CA.



2019, Fresno Co. (westside)
 material applied with backpack sprayer



2019, Fresno Co. (westside)
 material applied with backpack sprayer



neem



pyrethrin
(botanical)



soaps



oils



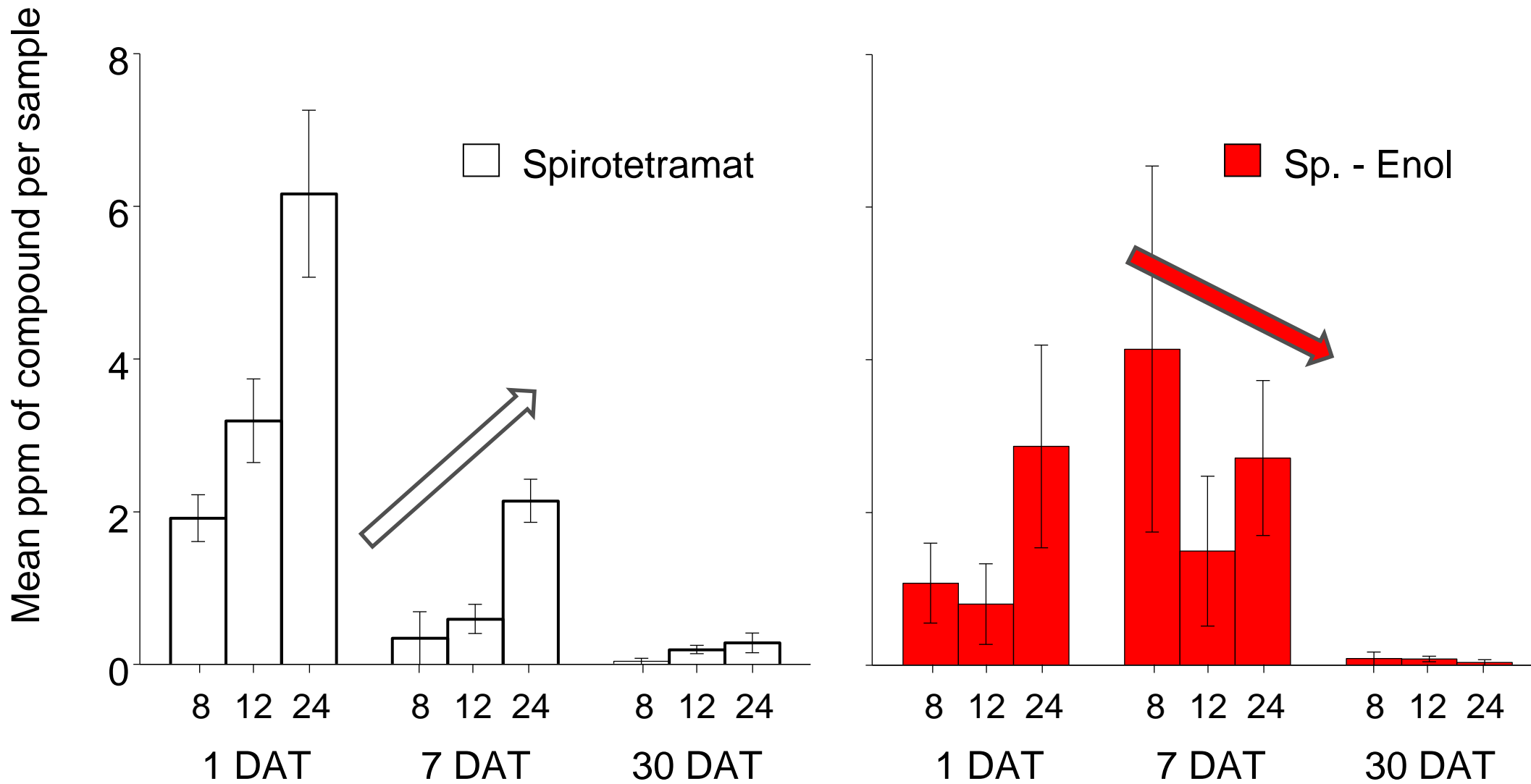
Diatomaceous earth



- 1) Little residual (repeated sprays)
- 2) Target smaller stages

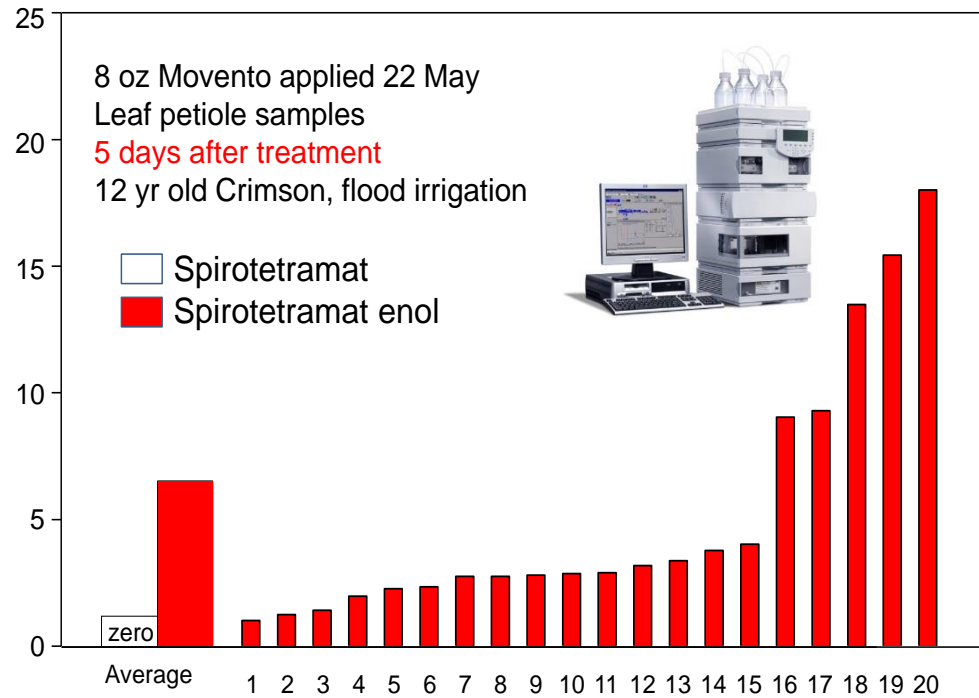


- 3) Broad spectrum



Spray rate of Movento (8, 12, 24 oz / acre) at and above label rate

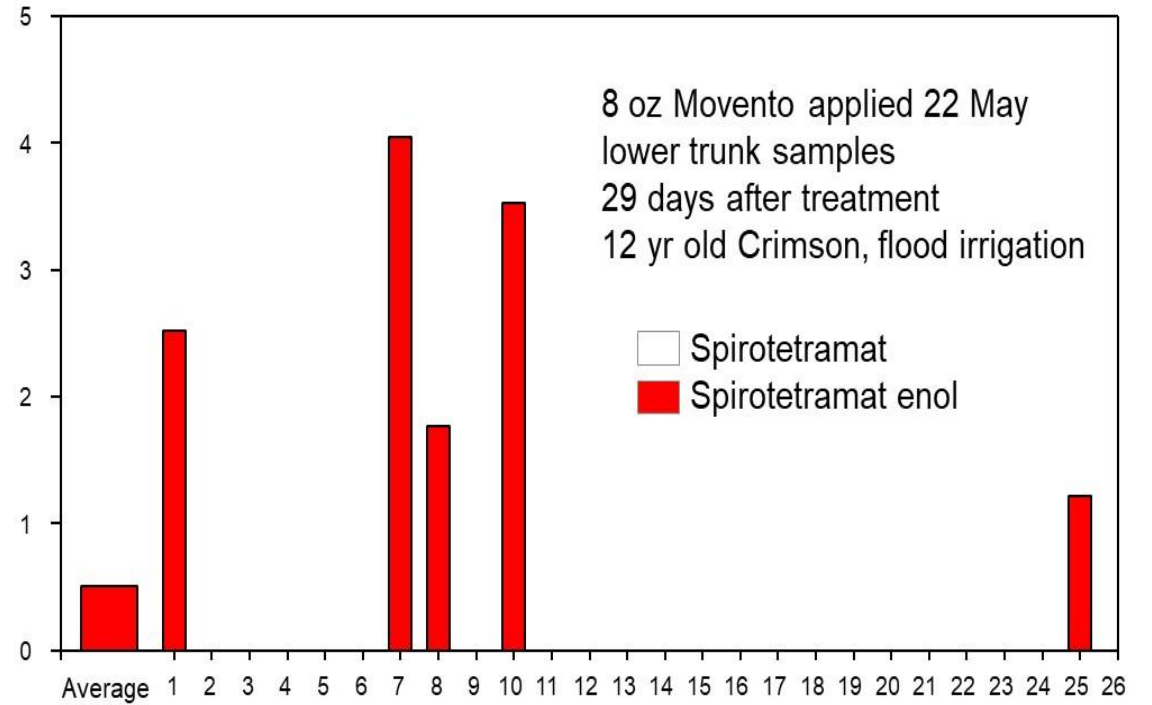
Spirotetramat and Spirotetramat enol mg / liter



Average and Individual samples

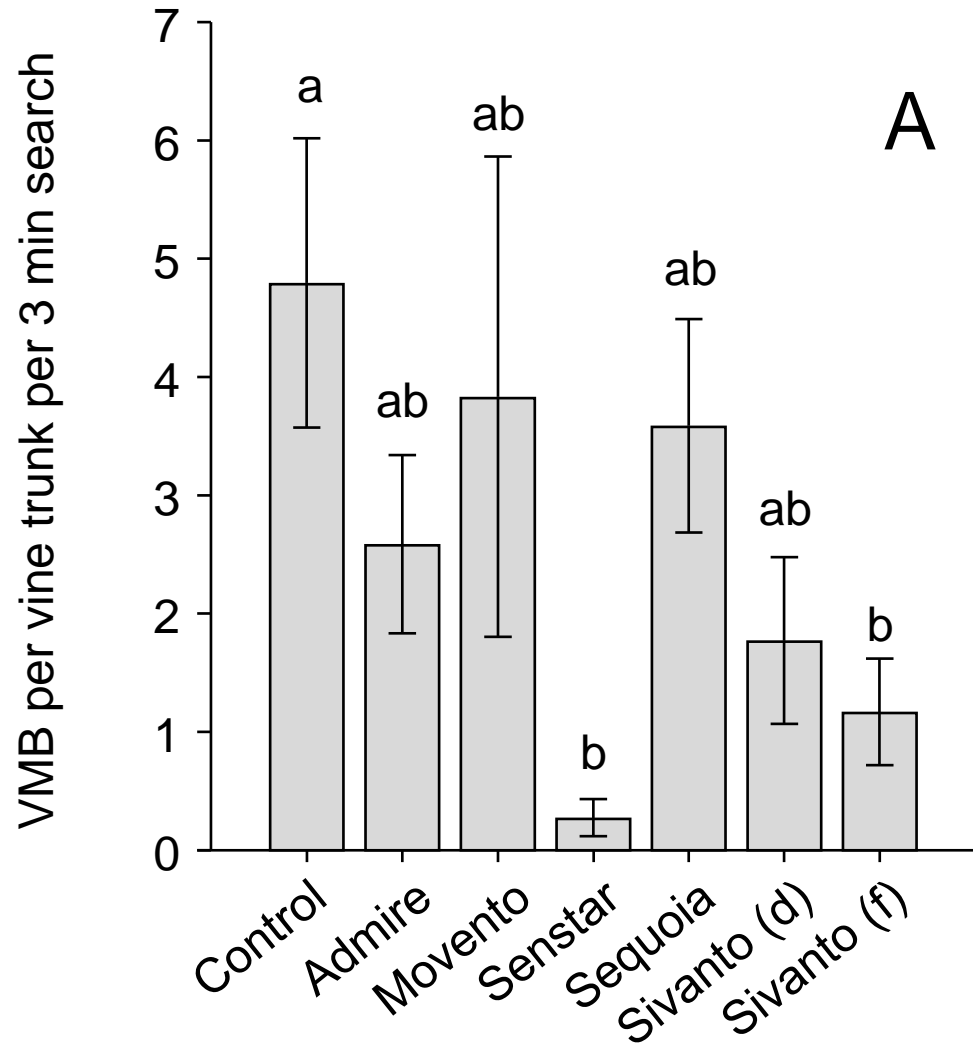


Spirotetramat and Spirotetramat enol (ppm)

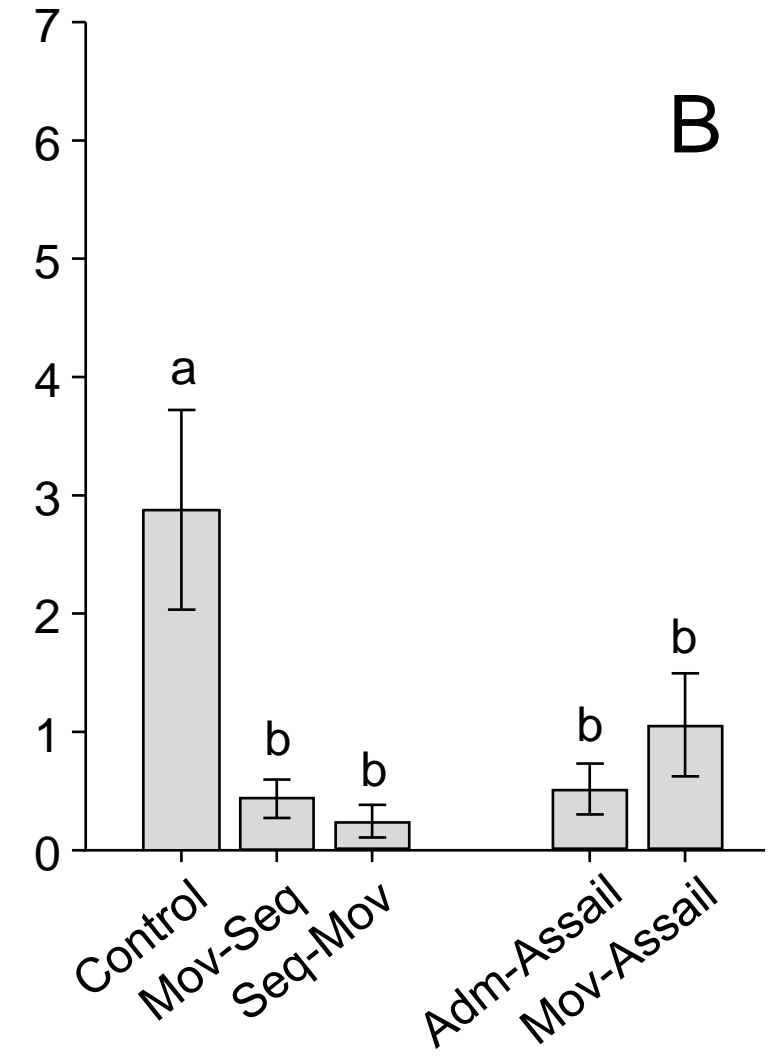


Different vines, same row





Admire (14 oz) & Sivanto (28 oz) (Drip) - applied at shoot elongation (30 Apr)
 Movento (8 oz) & Senstar (16 oz) - applied at bloom (12 May)
 Sequoia (5.75 oz) & Sivanto (14 oz) Foliar – timed to crawlers (1 Jul)



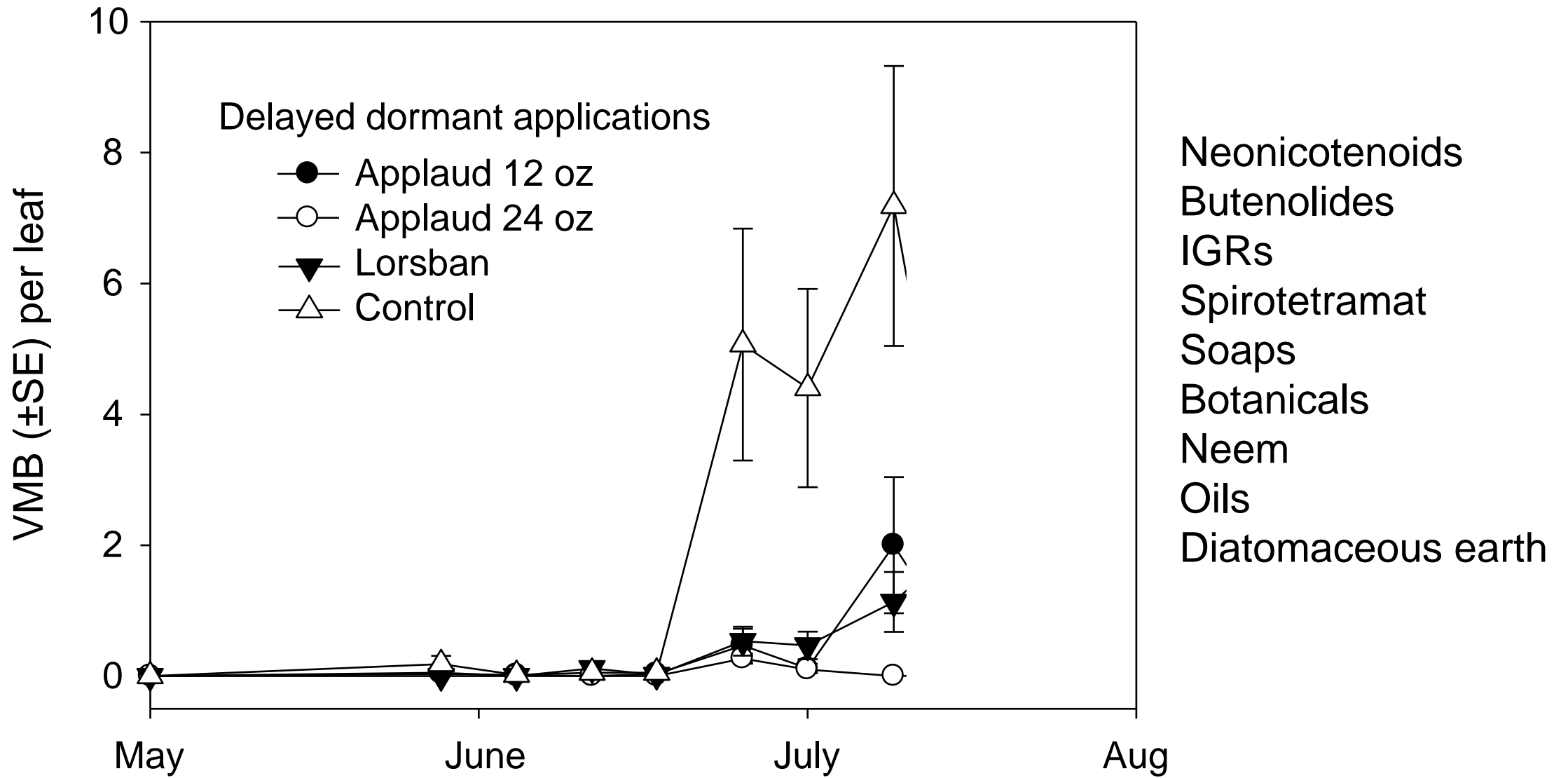
Movento (17 Jun)-Sequoia (1 Jul) & Sequoia (17 Jun)-Movento (1 Jul)
 Admire (12 May)- Assail (5.3 oz, 1 Jul)
 Movento (17 Jun) – Assail (5.3 oz, 1 Jul)

Sivanto as flupyradifurone
 Vexer as methoxyfenozide
 (IGR, similar to Intrepid)

2023, Fresno Co. (eastside)
 applied with backpack sprayer



Treatment formulation ^a	Rate of product per acre ^b	Mean (\pm SE) pest per 3 minute trunk count	
		mealybug	carpenter moth
No-spray control	-	32.1 \pm 6.9 a	5.00 \pm 0.76 a
Sivanto	18.6	10.4 \pm 2.4 b	2.17 \pm 0.65 b
Sivanto + Pentrabark	18.6	15.6 \pm 3.5 b	3.25 \pm 0.71 ab
Vexer	16	11.2 \pm 3.7 b	2.83 \pm 0.56 b
Vexer + Pentrabark	16	14.4 \pm 3.5 b	3.00 \pm 0.71 b
		$F_{4,55} = 4.226, P = 0.005$	$F_{4,55} = 2.559, P = 0.049$ ^c



2018, Fresno Co. (eastside)
 material applied with backpack sprayer

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- Saturate a field with sex pheromones to reduce and delay mating
- Plastic dispensers, aerosol devices, sprayable and isomate dispensers
- Works best when pest population is low, and when used over a larger area (multiple vineyards)

Suterra



Trècè



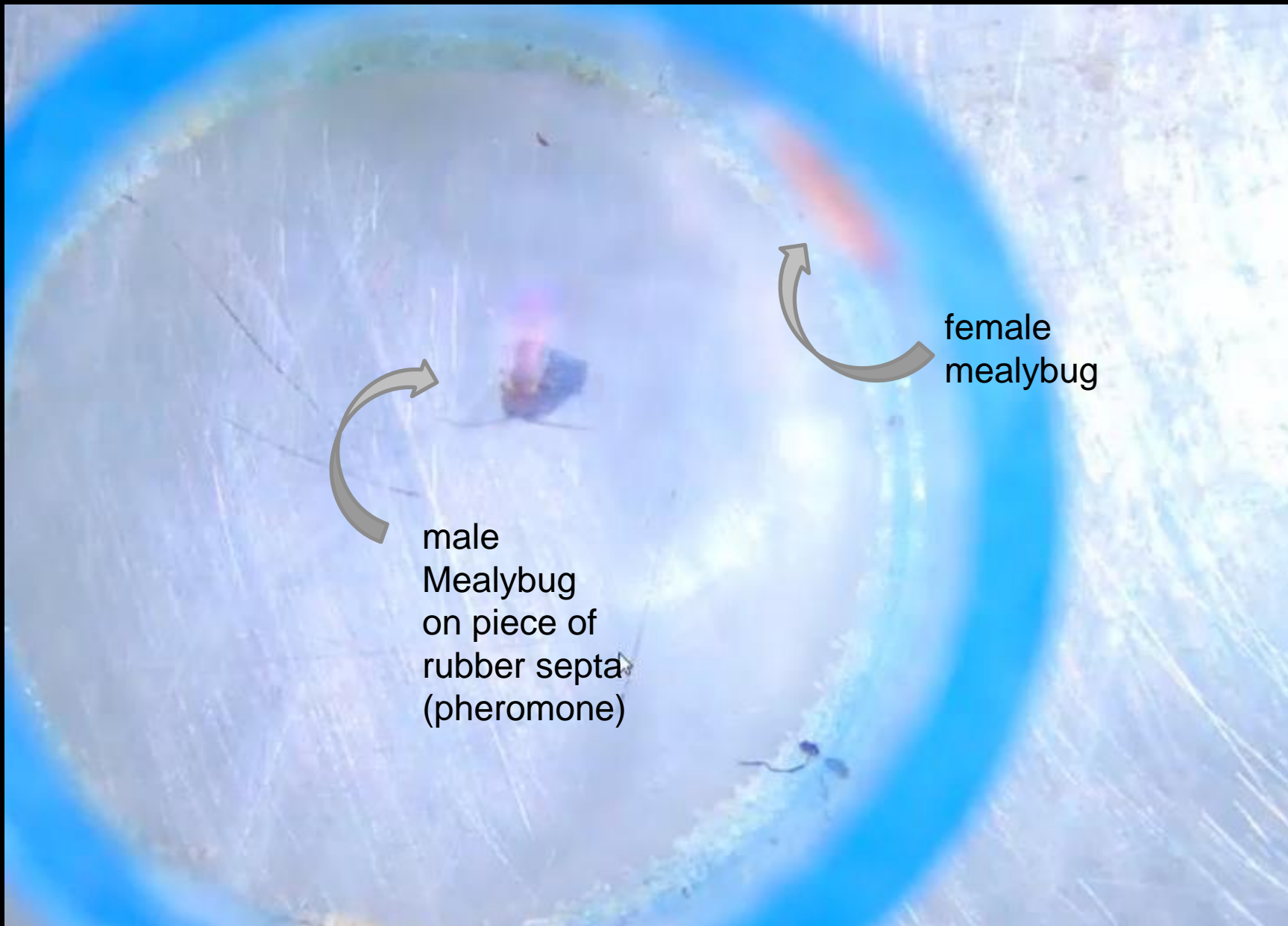
Pac BioControl



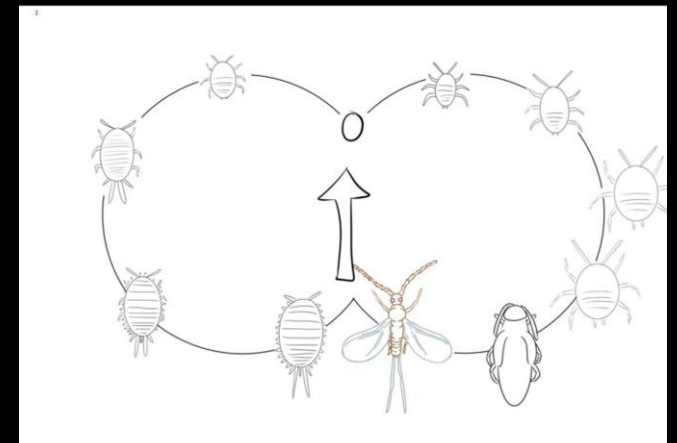
Semios - aerosol

Damage still occurs with insecticides applied and/or natural enemies released; for this reason we explored the use of sex pheromones





Video of adult male VMB attempting to mate with a tiny slice of a pheromone lure. A live female mealybug in the same container will be ignored.

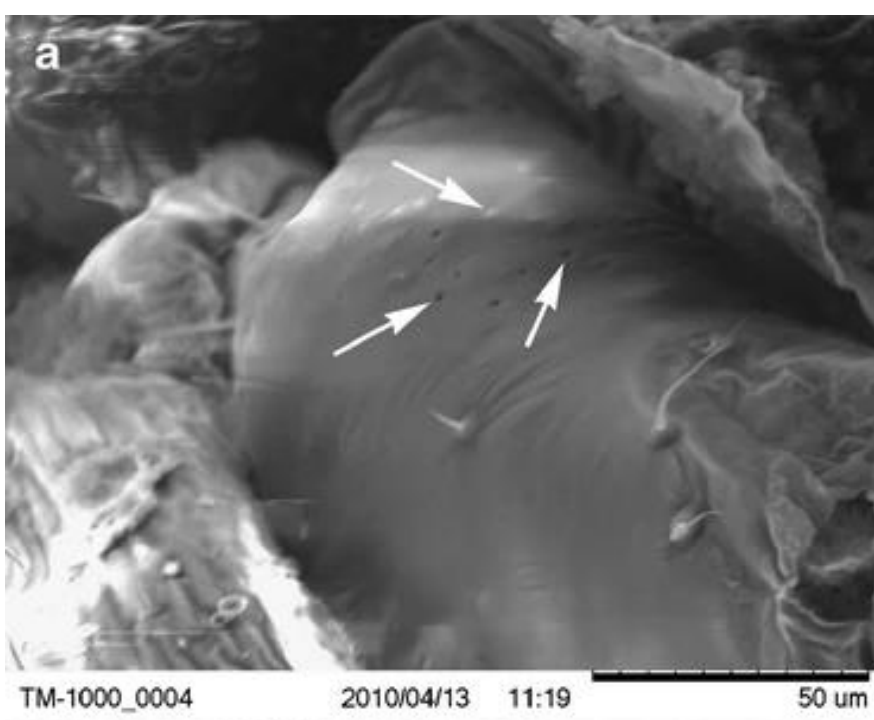


Reproductive Biology of Three Cosmopolitan Mealybug (Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae) Species, *Pseudococcus longispinus*, *Pseudococcus viburni*, and *Planococcus ficus*

REBECCA A. WATERWORTH,¹ IAN M. WRIGHT, AND JOCELYN G. MILLAR

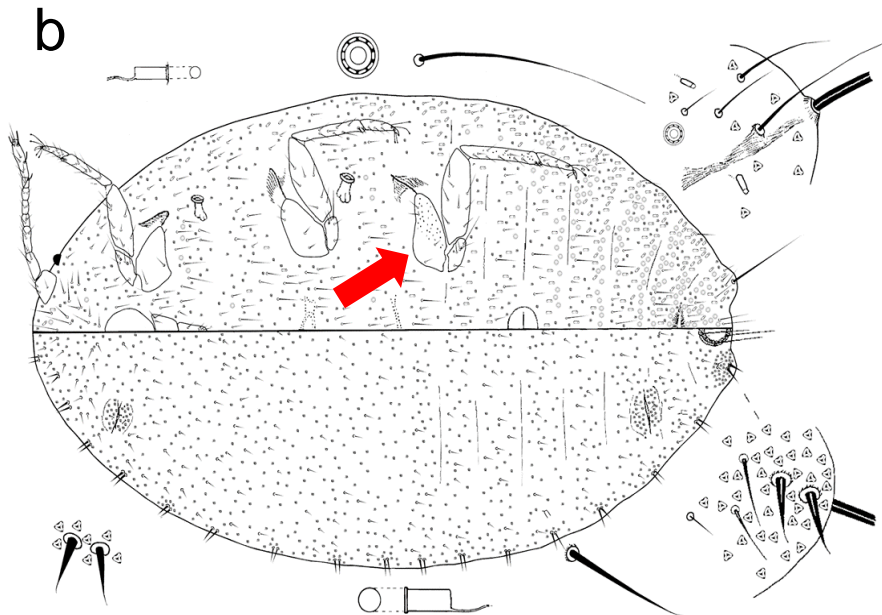
Department of Entomology, University of California, Riverside, CA 92521

Ann. Entomol. Soc. Am. 104(2): 249–260 (2011); DOI: 10.1603/AN10139

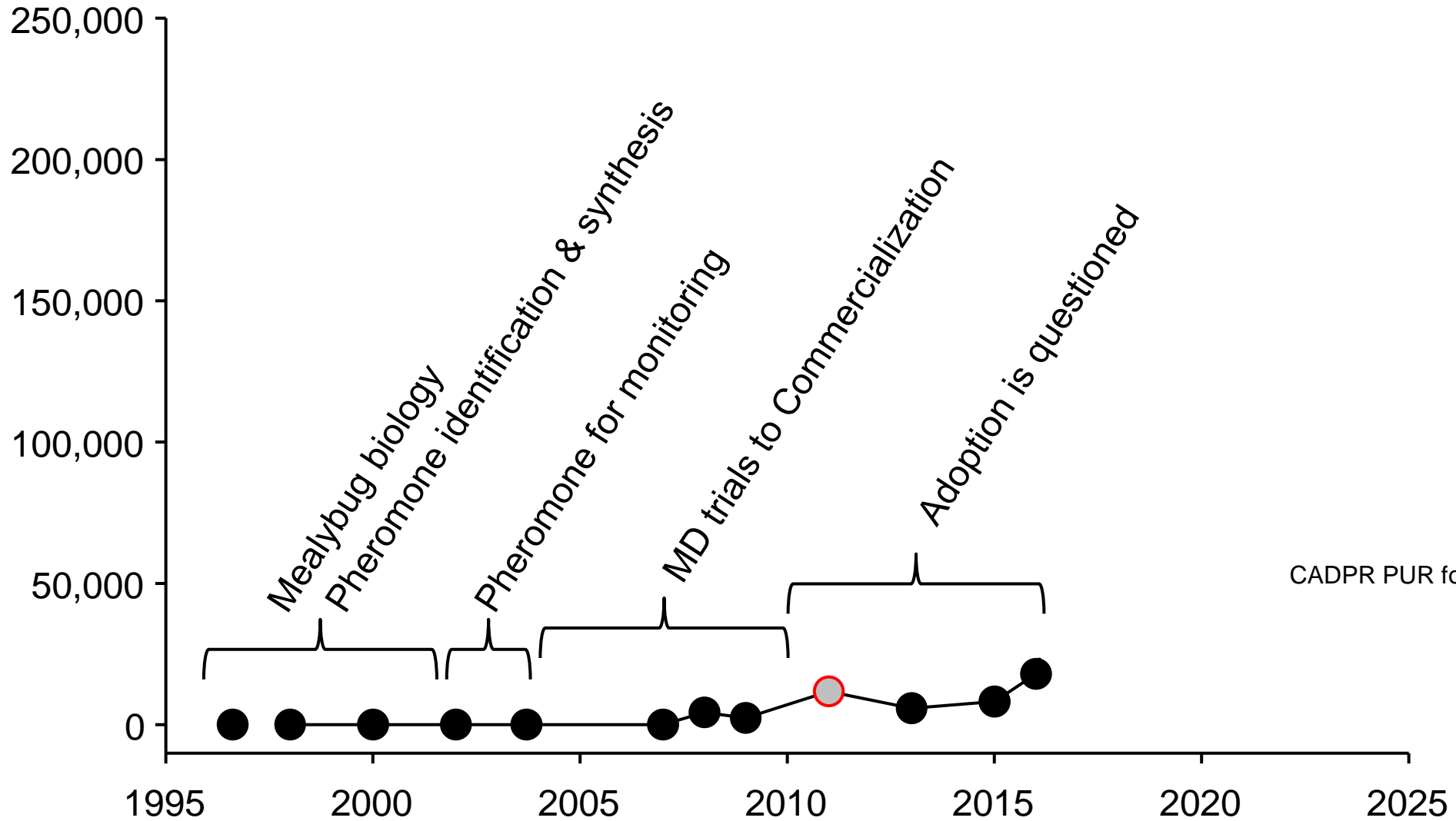


(a) Electron micrograph of the [hind leg] coxa of an adult female [vine mealybug] at 1200x. Translucent pores are apparent as small openings on the surface.

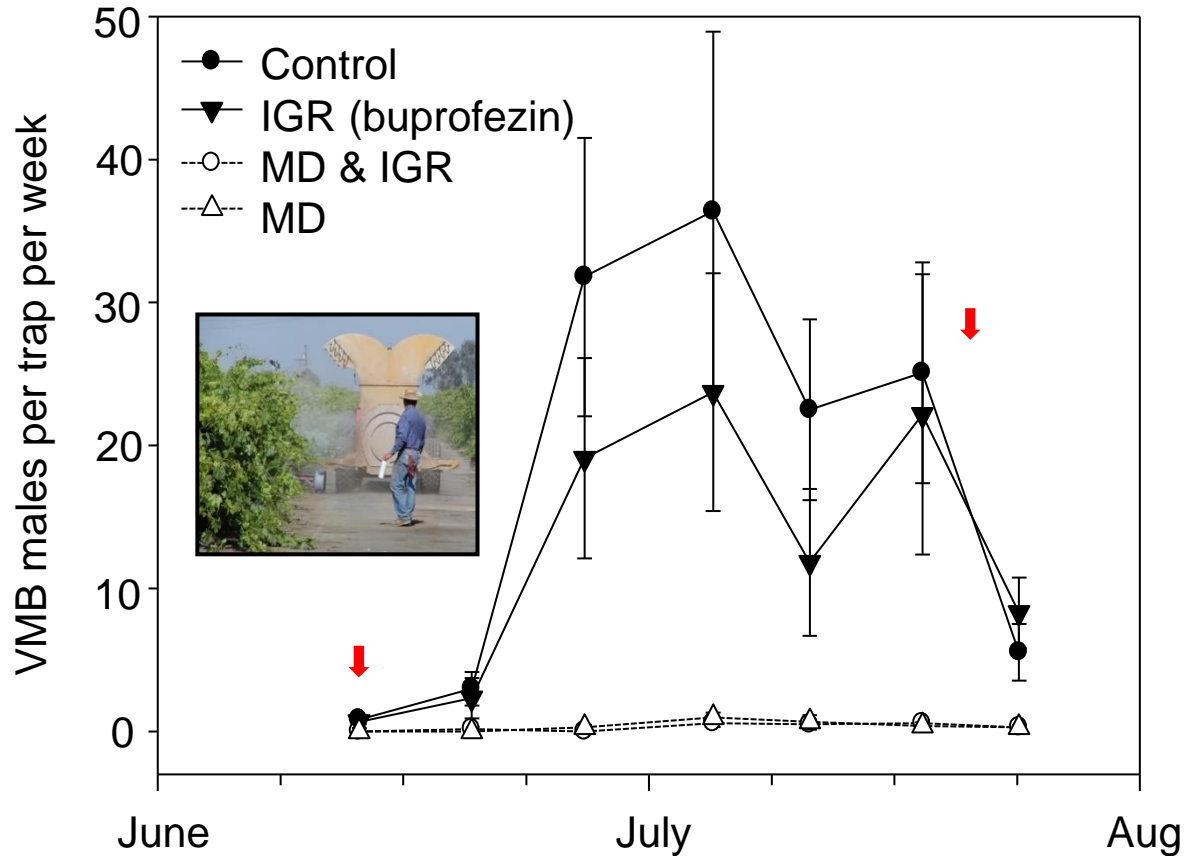
(b) Top and bottom view of mealybug, showing location of the 'coxa' segment of the hind leg.



California acreage with VMB MD



2015-present, change in attitude & use, and products

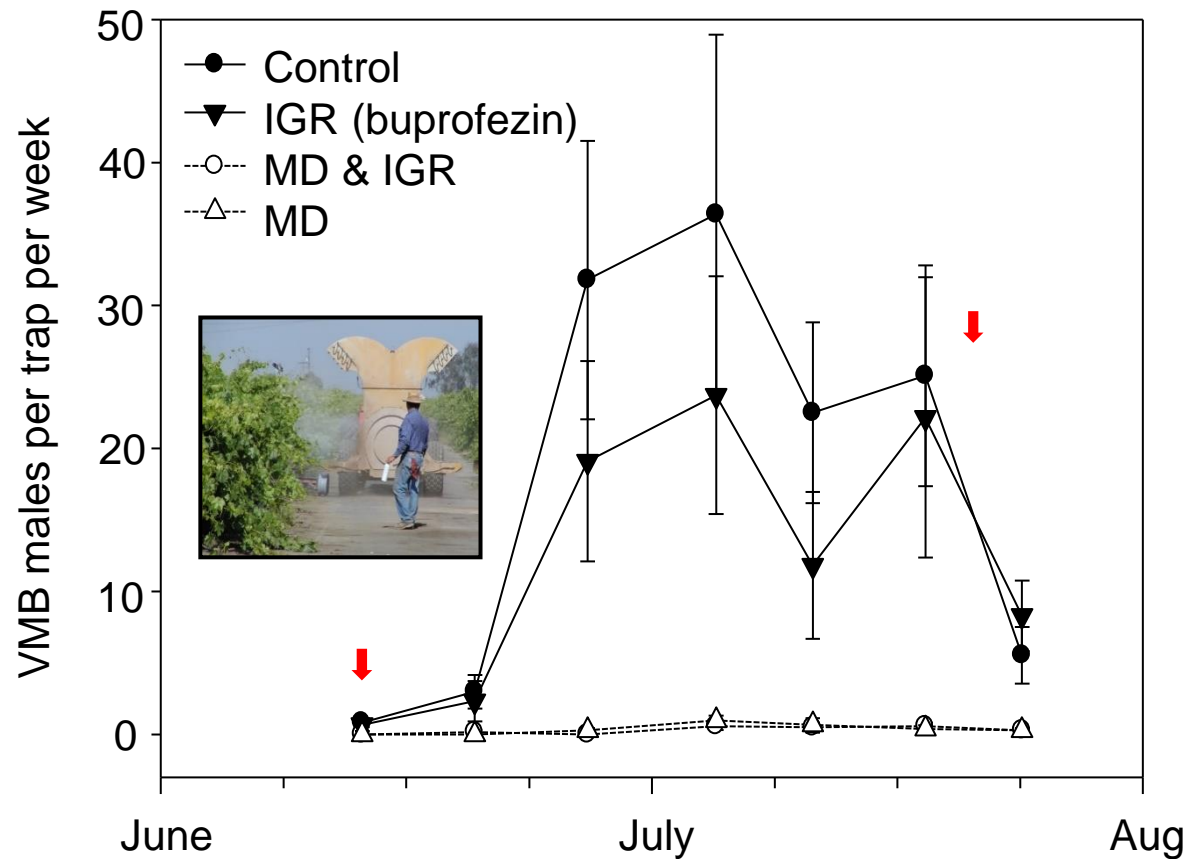


David Haviland (UCCE) conducted large scale efficacy & cost studies – using Suterra's flowable (sprayable) material

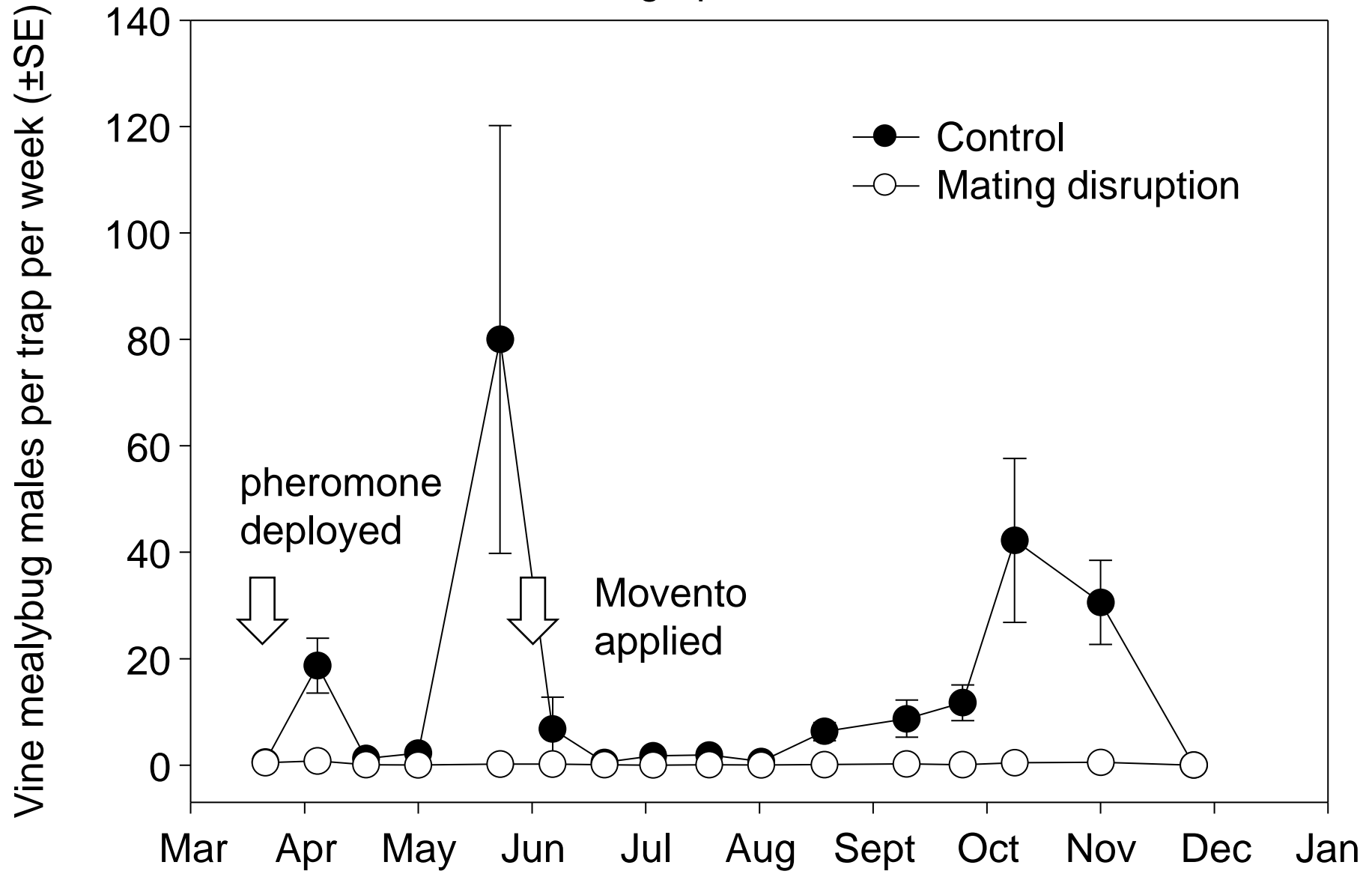


Monica Cooper (UCCE), Brian Hogg (USDA) conducted larger 'areawide' trials using passive dispensers

2015-present, change in attitude & use, and products

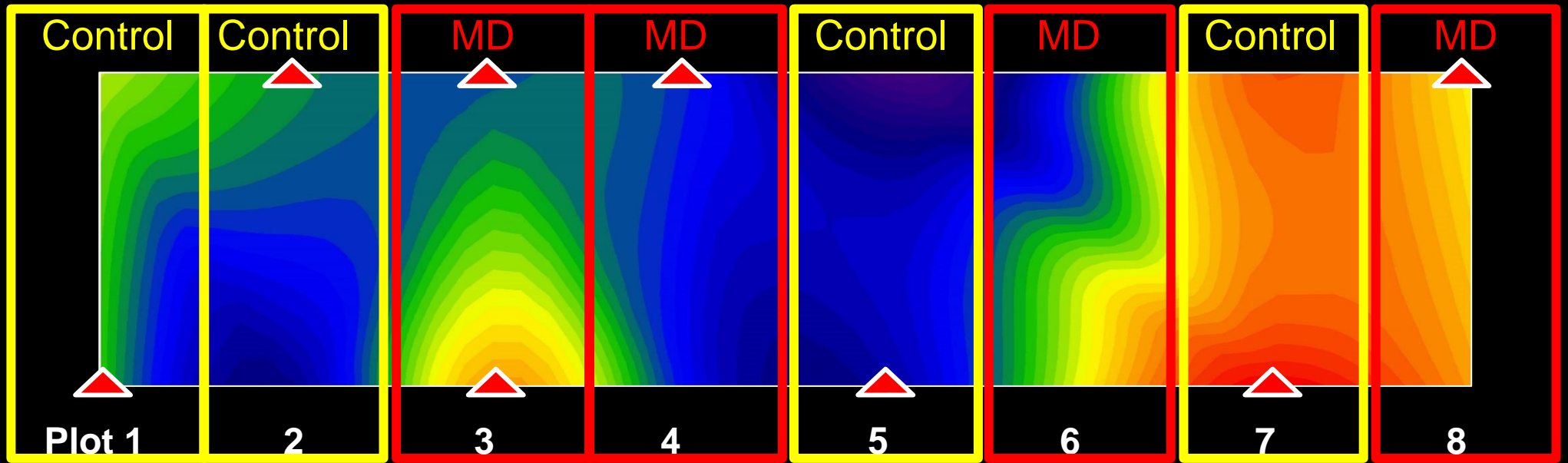


SJV Winegrape Plot 2019

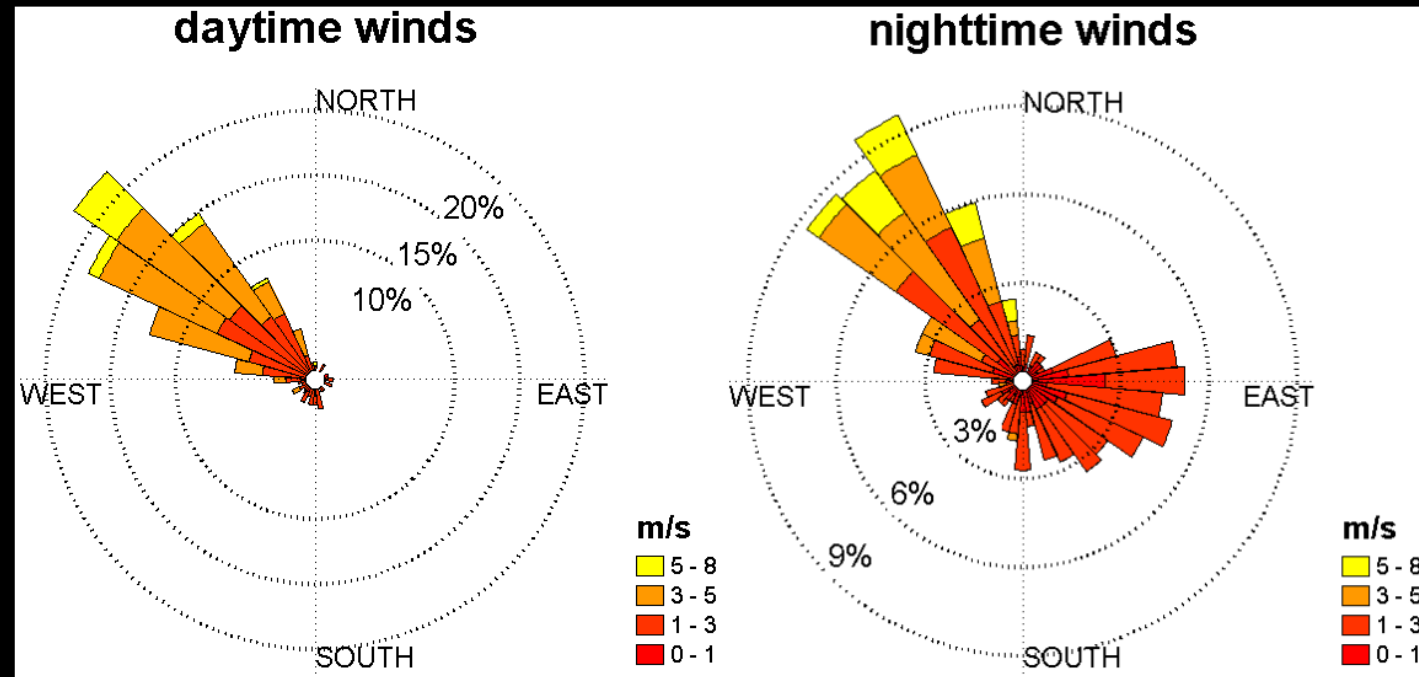


May
2018

185 vines per row

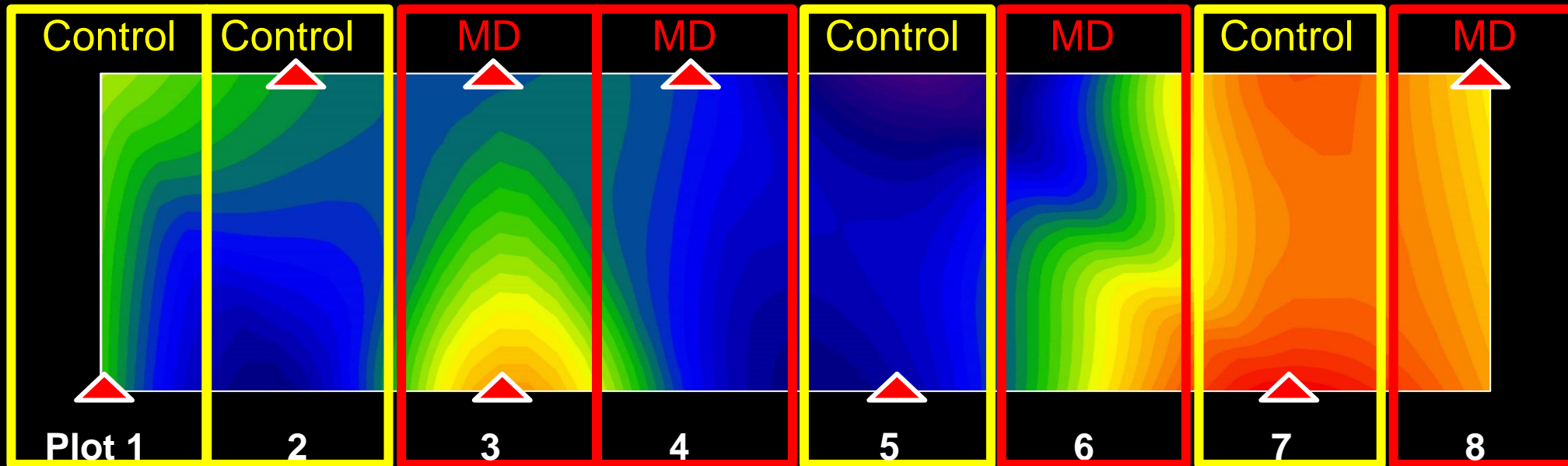


Log(x+1) vmb/trap prior to pheromone deployment



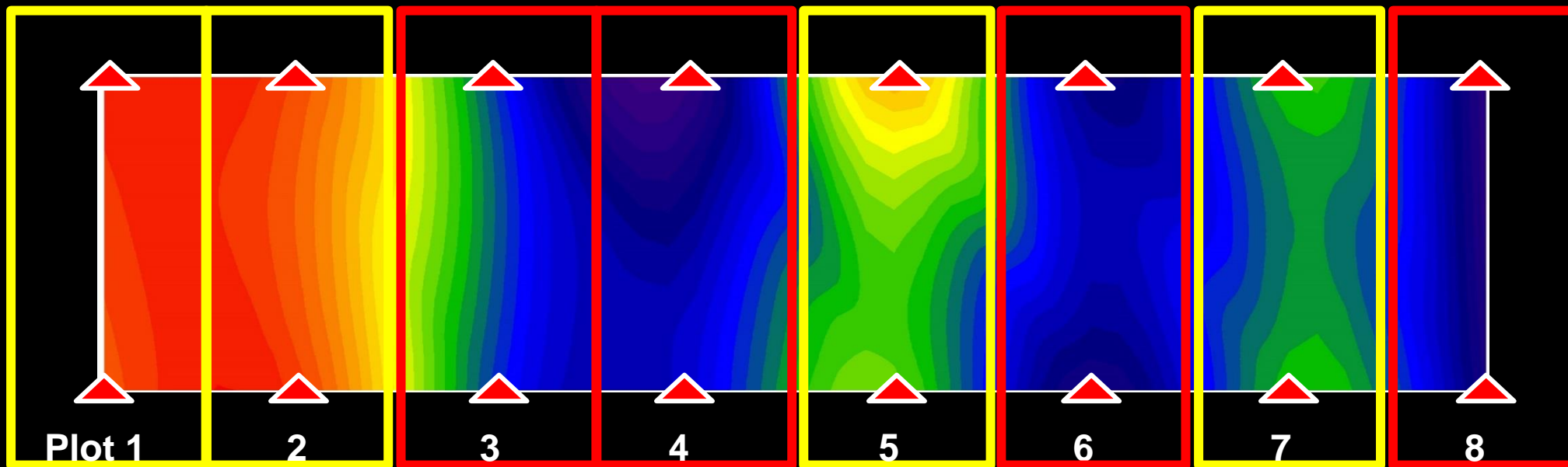
May
2018

185 vines per row



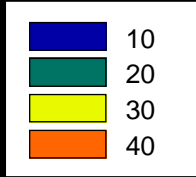
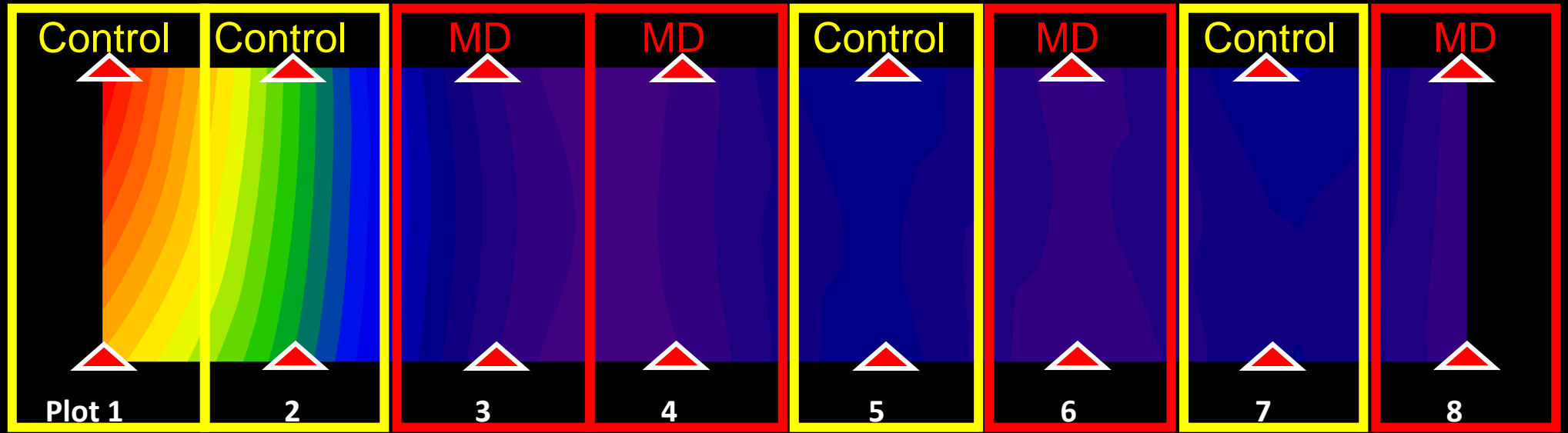
Oct
2018

185 vines per row



April
2019

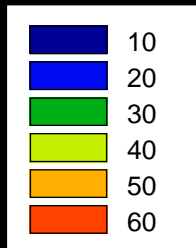
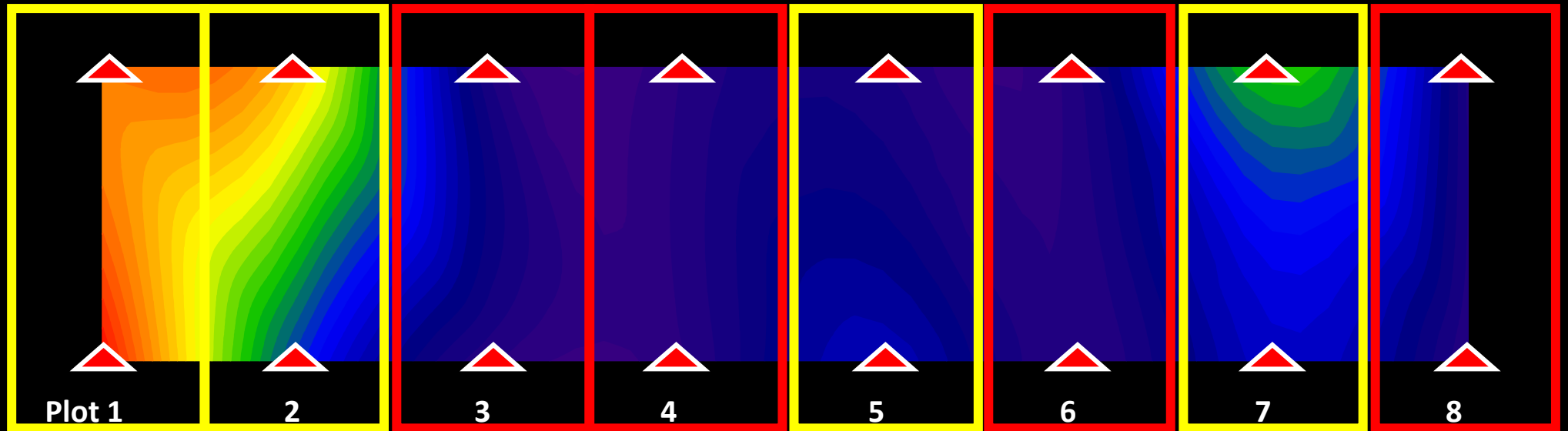
185 vines per row



VMB/trap/week prior to pheromone deployment

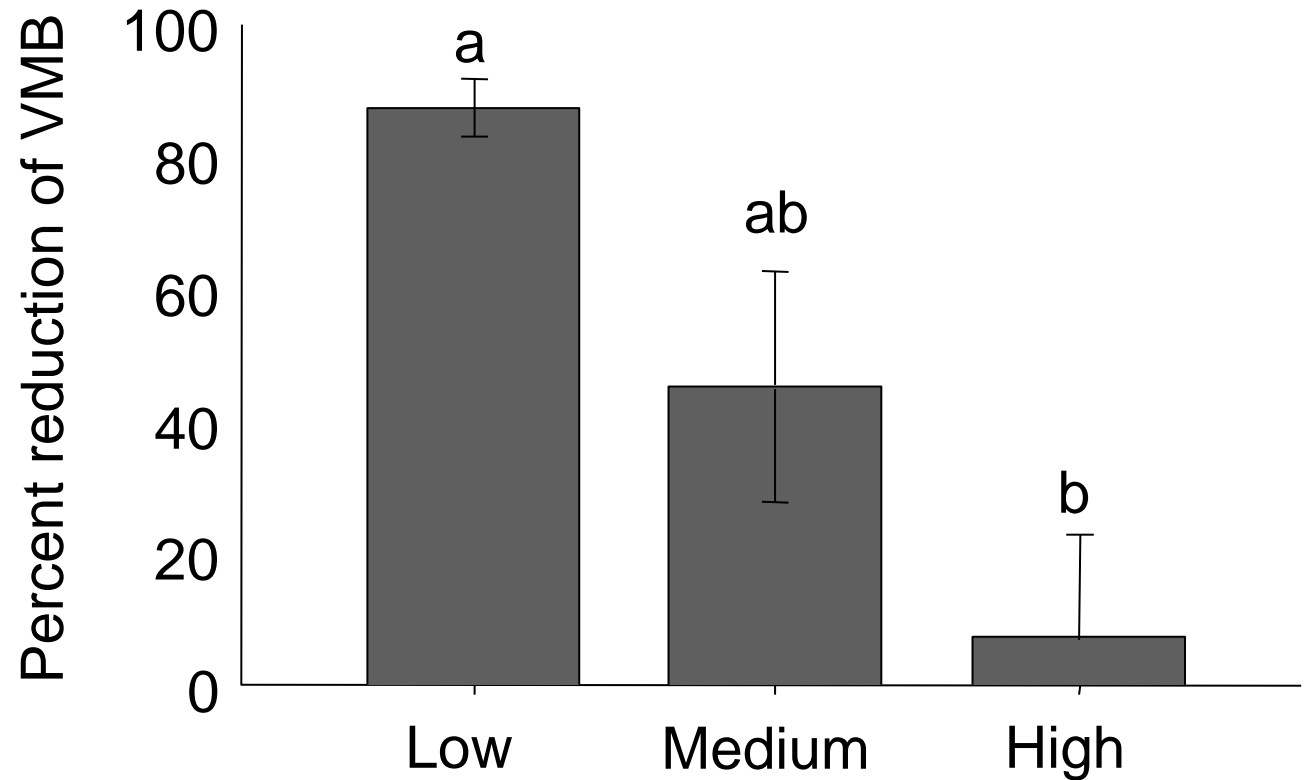
Nov
2019

185 vines per row



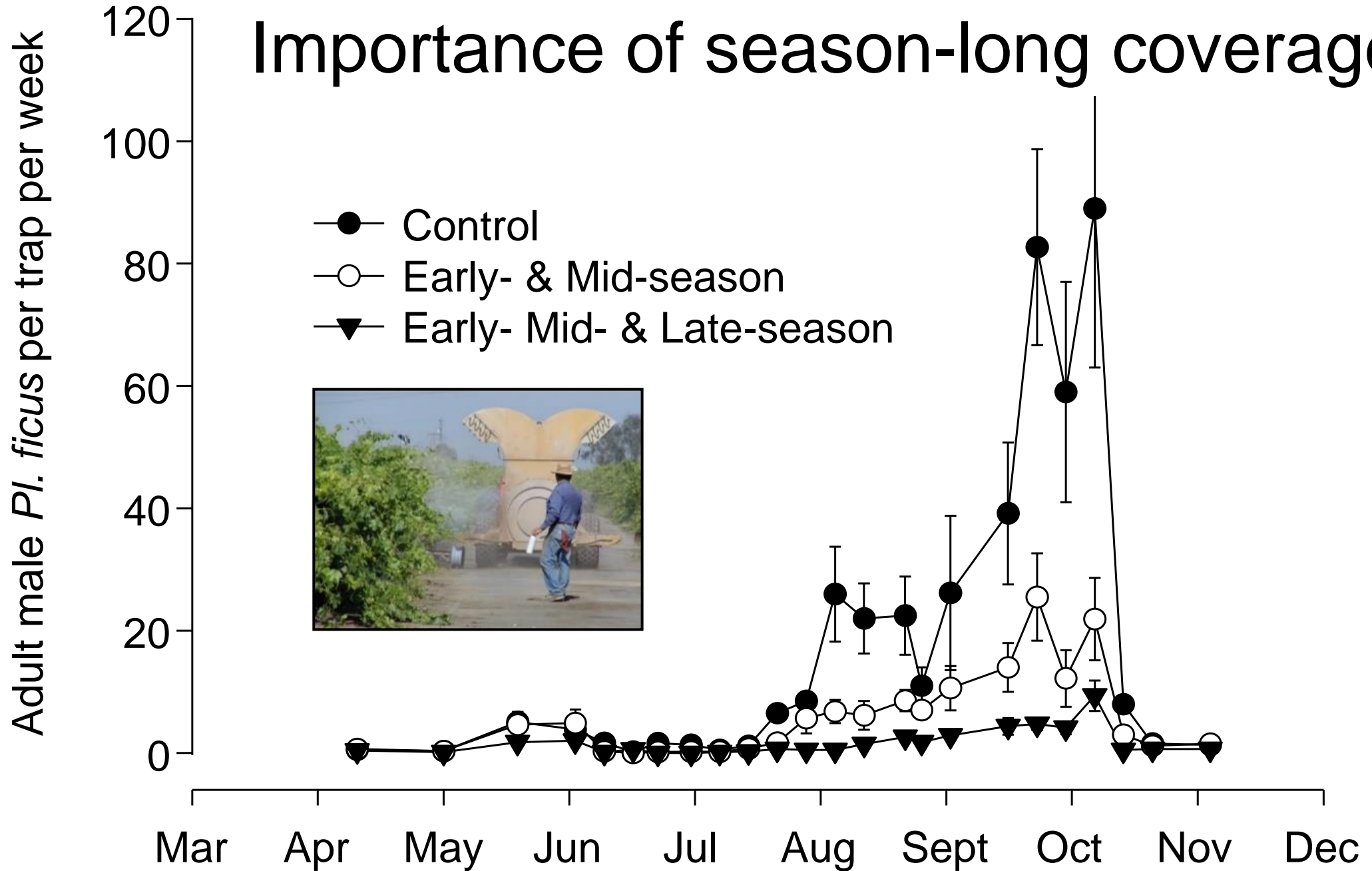
VMB/trap/week in November 2019 (VMB recovering from pesticides)

Impact of mealybug density – like other MD programs



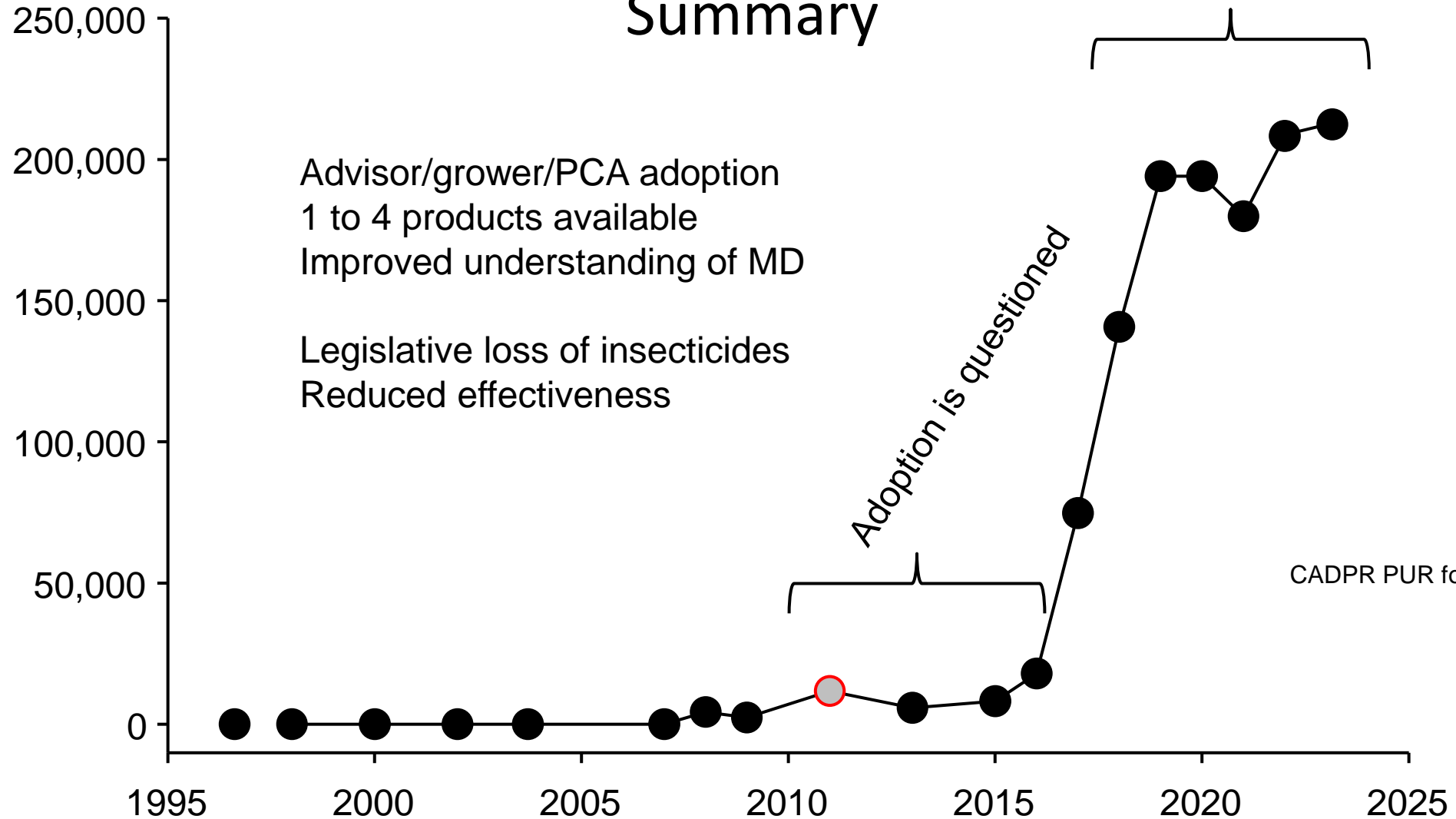
This is why MD and insecticides are best used in combination

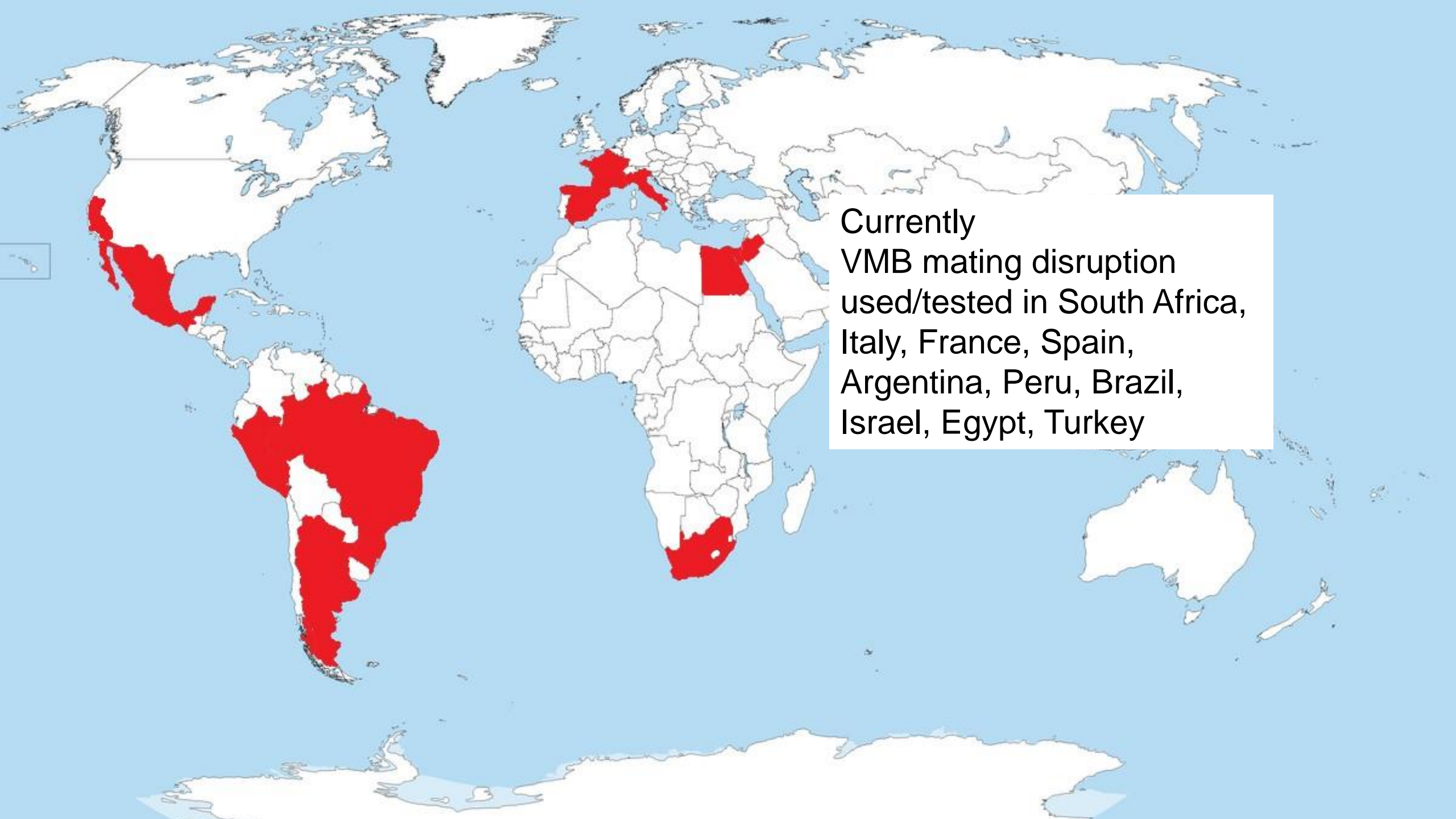
Importance of season-long coverage



Summary

California acreage with VMB MD



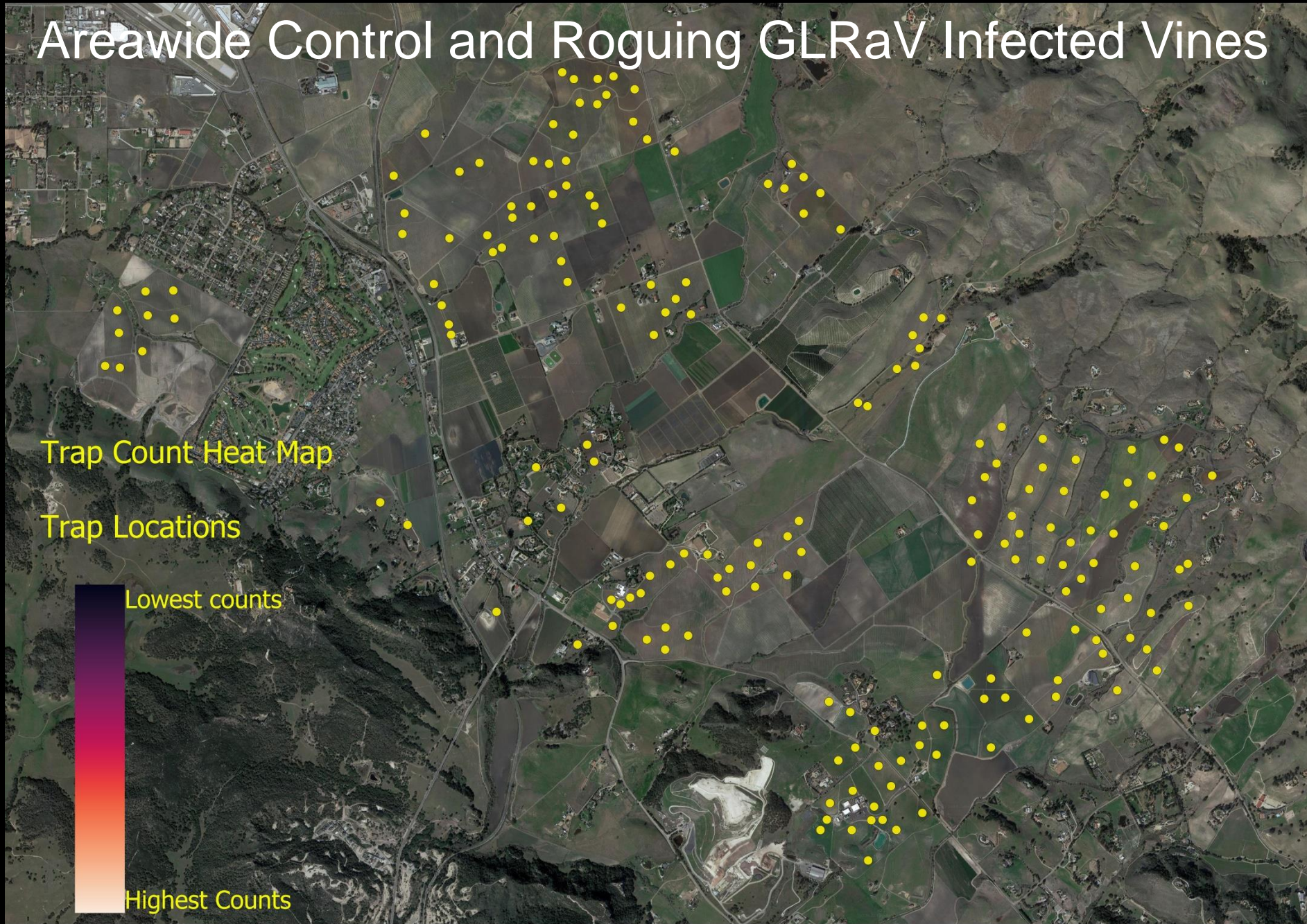


Currently
VMB mating disruption
used/tested in South Africa,
Italy, France, Spain,
Argentina, Peru, Brazil,
Israel, Egypt, Turkey

The female sex pheromone is emitted from:

- A) Female hind coxae
- B) Male antennae
- C) Female spiracles

Areawide Control and Roguing GLRaV Infected Vines



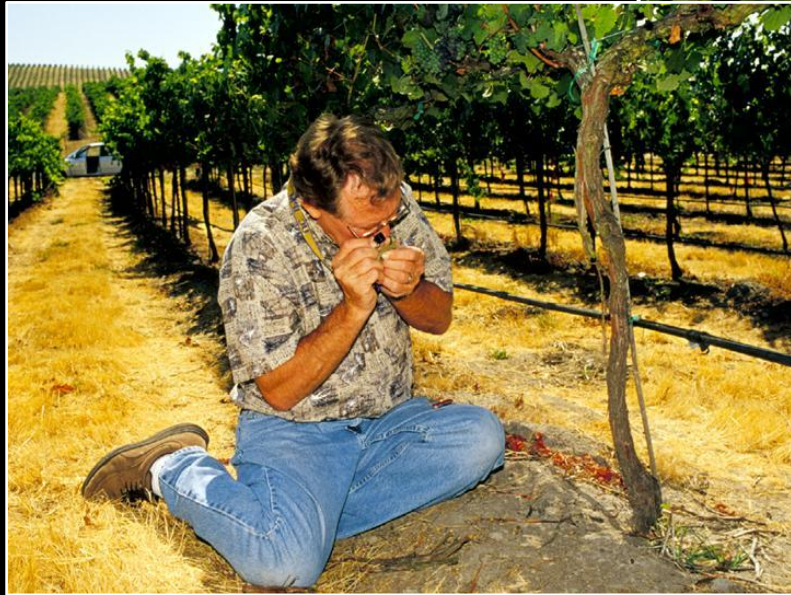
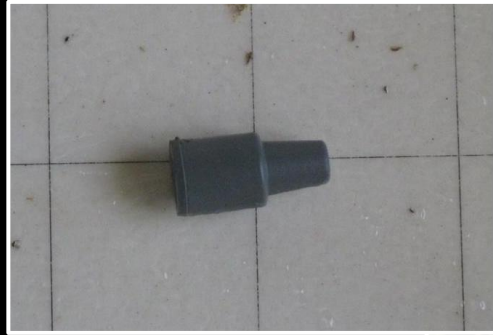
Trap Count Heat Map

Trap Locations

Lowest counts

Highest Counts

Monitoring: Pheromone-baited traps establish the presence of MB & quantify abundance



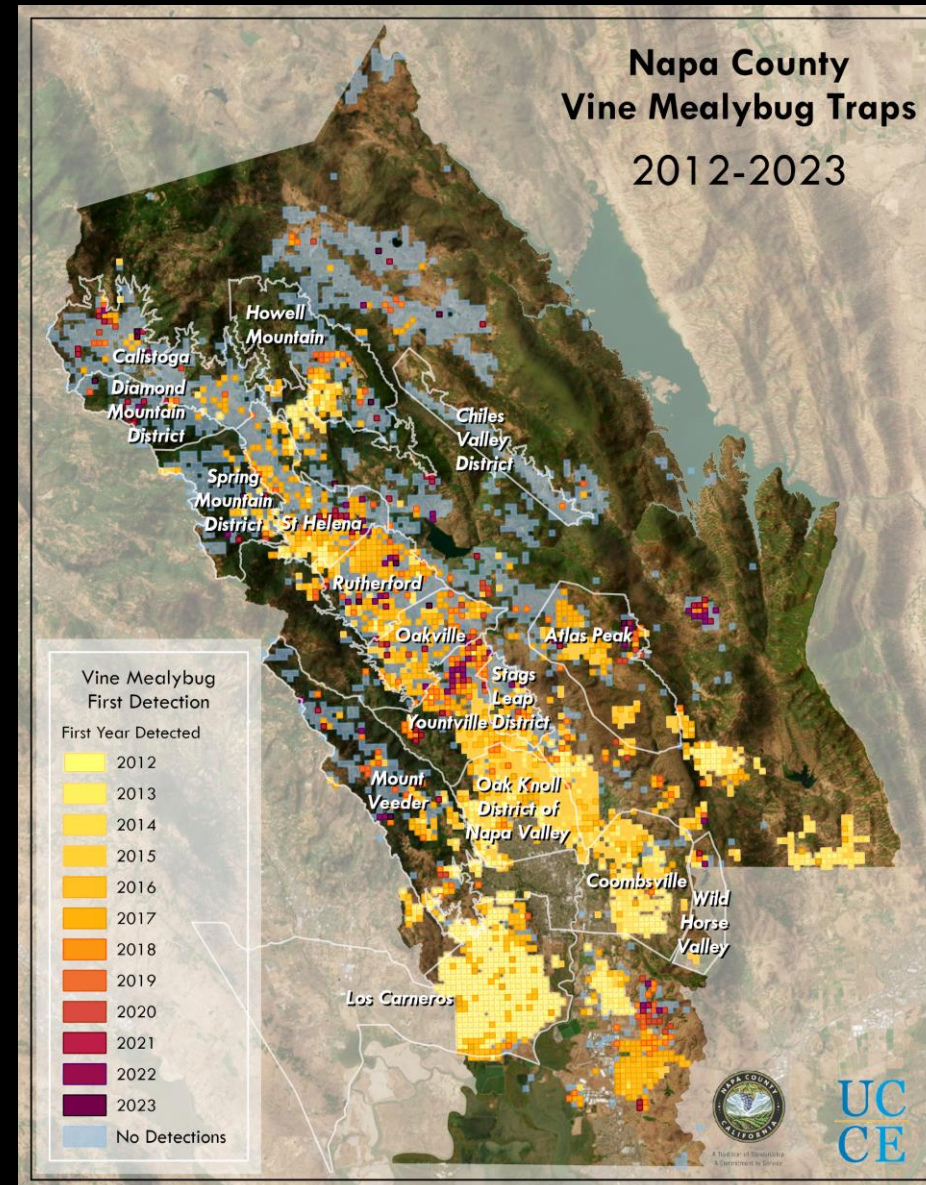
courtesy ML Cooper

Regional trapping: public-private partnerships

Napa County Pest & Disease Control District

Public-private partnership
Grower self-assessment

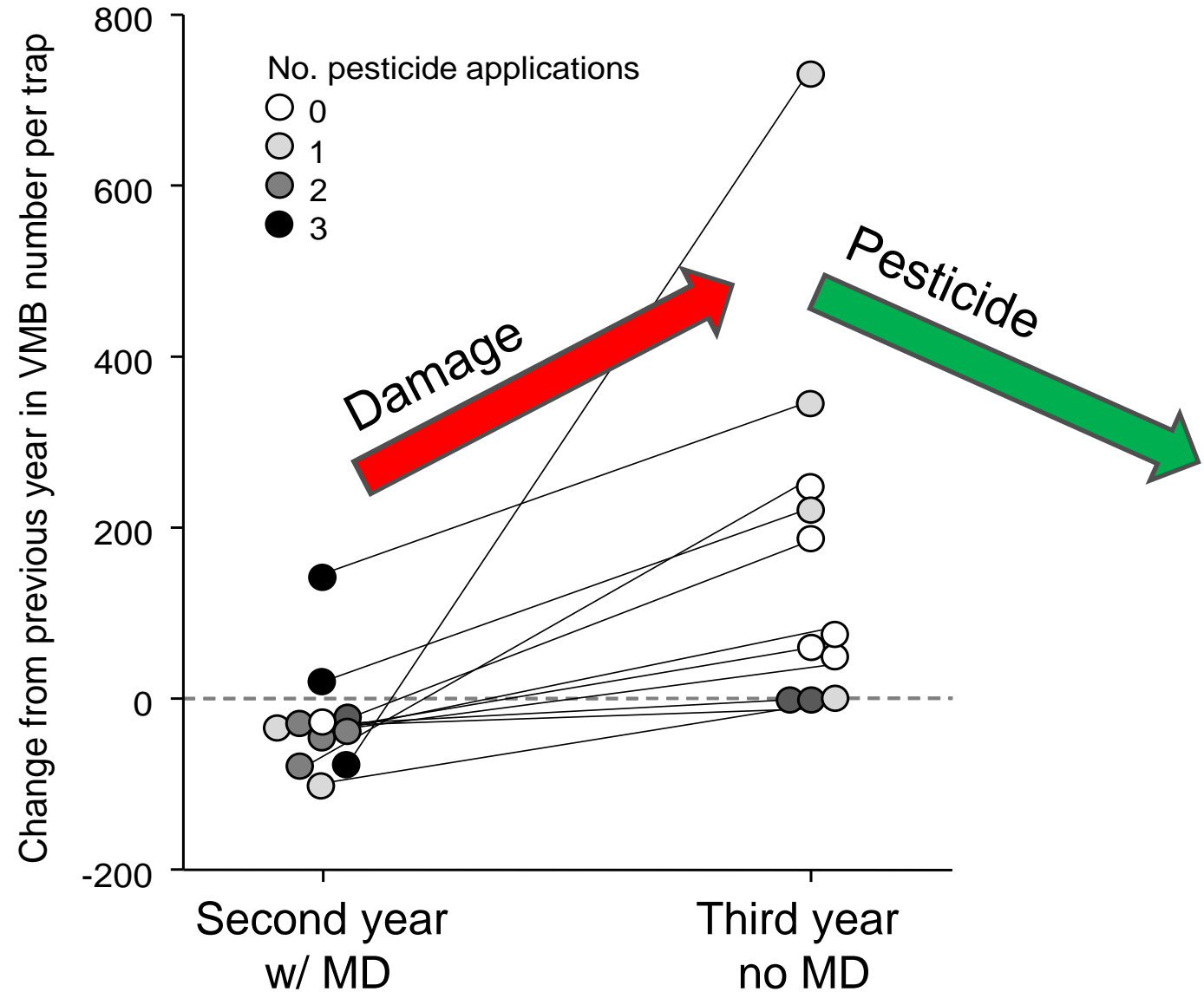
VMB detection trapping since 2012



courtesy ML Cooper

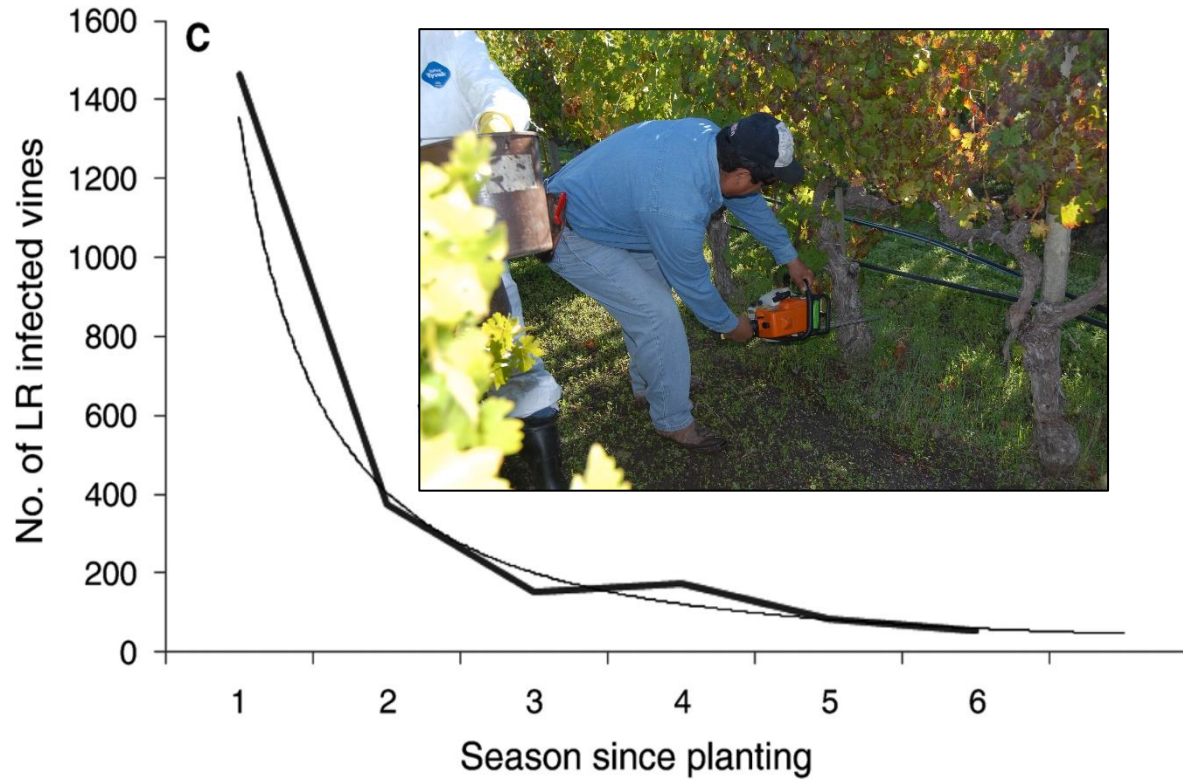
VMB Density Change - Areawide Monitoring & Decision Program (Napa)

Mealybug density increased in third year, after MD areawide program stopped, and note that growers no longer notified about hotspots & used less insecticides



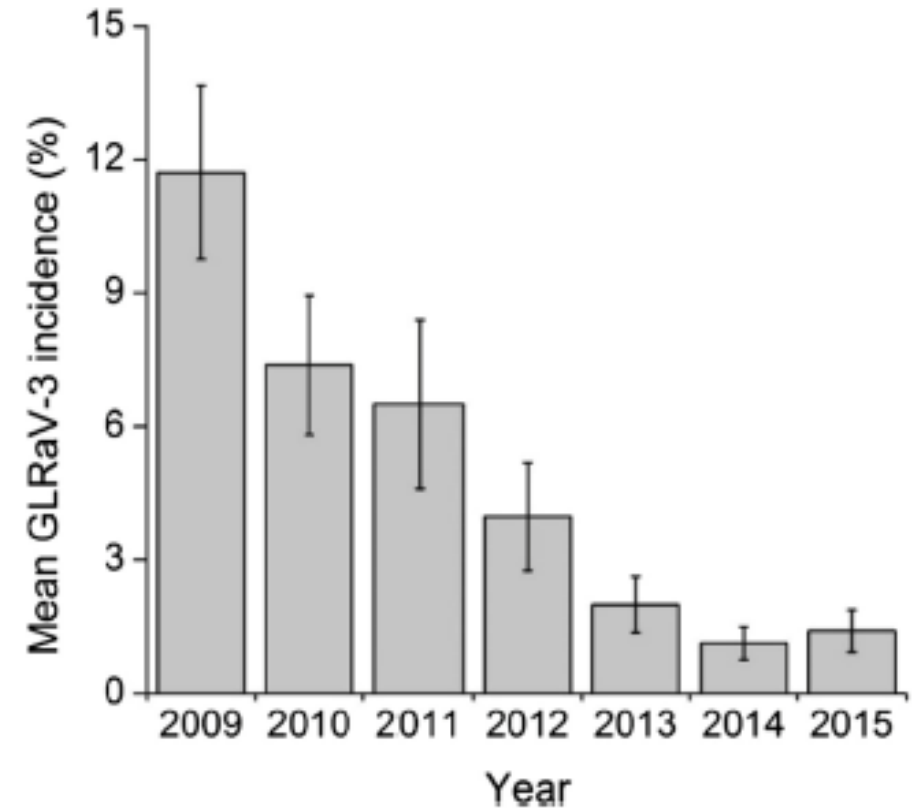
Roguing: The key to Leafroll control

I. South Africa



GLD-infected vines observed in different seasons following roguing of infected plants. Analysis is for vineyards on virgin soil w/ an initial infection of >1%. Pietersen et al. 2013. *Am. J. Enol. Vitic.* 64:2.

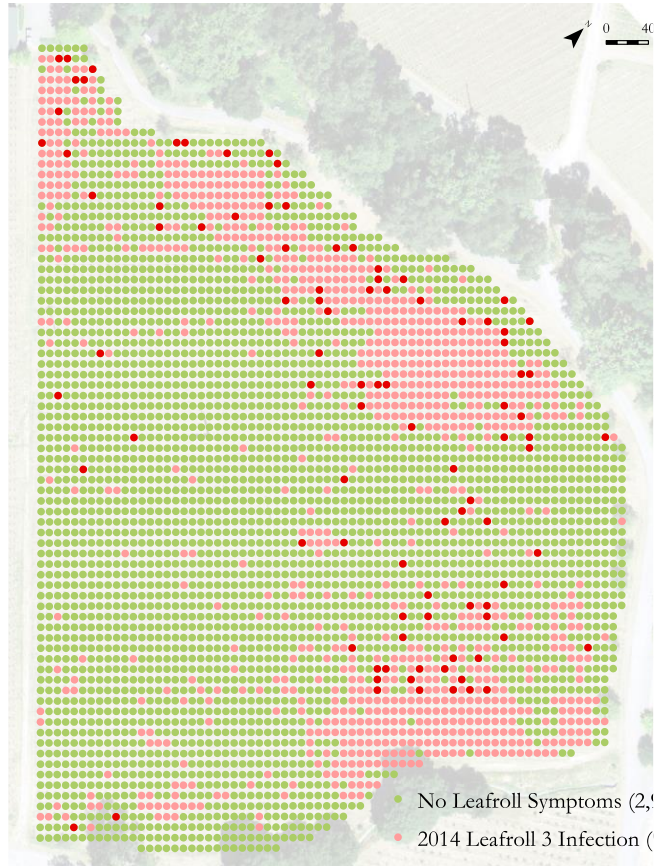
II. New Zealand



GLRaV-3 incidence 2009 to 2015 (9-11 vineyards) after roguing and replacement of infected vines. Bell et al. 2018. *J. Plant Path.* 100: 399-408.

Roguing: The key to Leafroll control

III. Napa



GLRaV vines
removed
annually

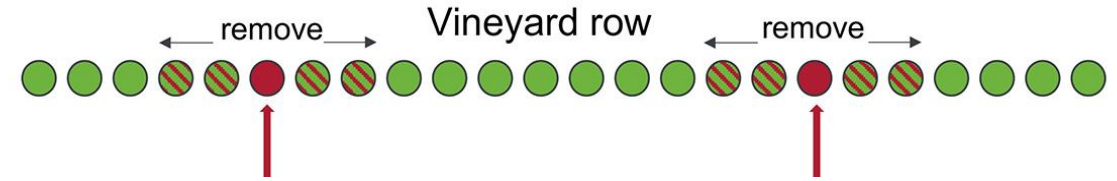
2014-15:
936 vines

2015-16:
96 vines

2016-17:
33 vines

GLRaV-3 incidence 2014 to 2017 after roguing and replacement of infected vines. MacDonald et al. 2021. *J. Econ. Entomol.* 114: 1452-1461.

IV. New York



GLD detection in a Cabernet franc vineyard. Treatments are colored in roguing only, roguing+insecticides, insecticides only, and control. Hesler et al. 2021. *Research Focus (New York)* Hesler et al. 2022. *Am J Enol Vitic* 73:4.

Roguing Impediments: Surveying MB & Leafroll

Distinguish visual symptoms (Napa)



Asymptomatic but infected



Leafroll



Neither



Leafroll



Red blotch



Leafroll & Red blotch

Roguing Impediments: MB & GLD Density

New Zealand (2009/2015)

(1) Initial disease incidence

(2) Vector abundance
P. calceolariae
(citrophilus mealybug)

0.4%

Low abundance:
6 MB per 100 leaves

5%

2% leaf infestation

10%

Moderate abundance:
26 MB per 100 leaves

15%

7% leaf infestation

20%

>20%

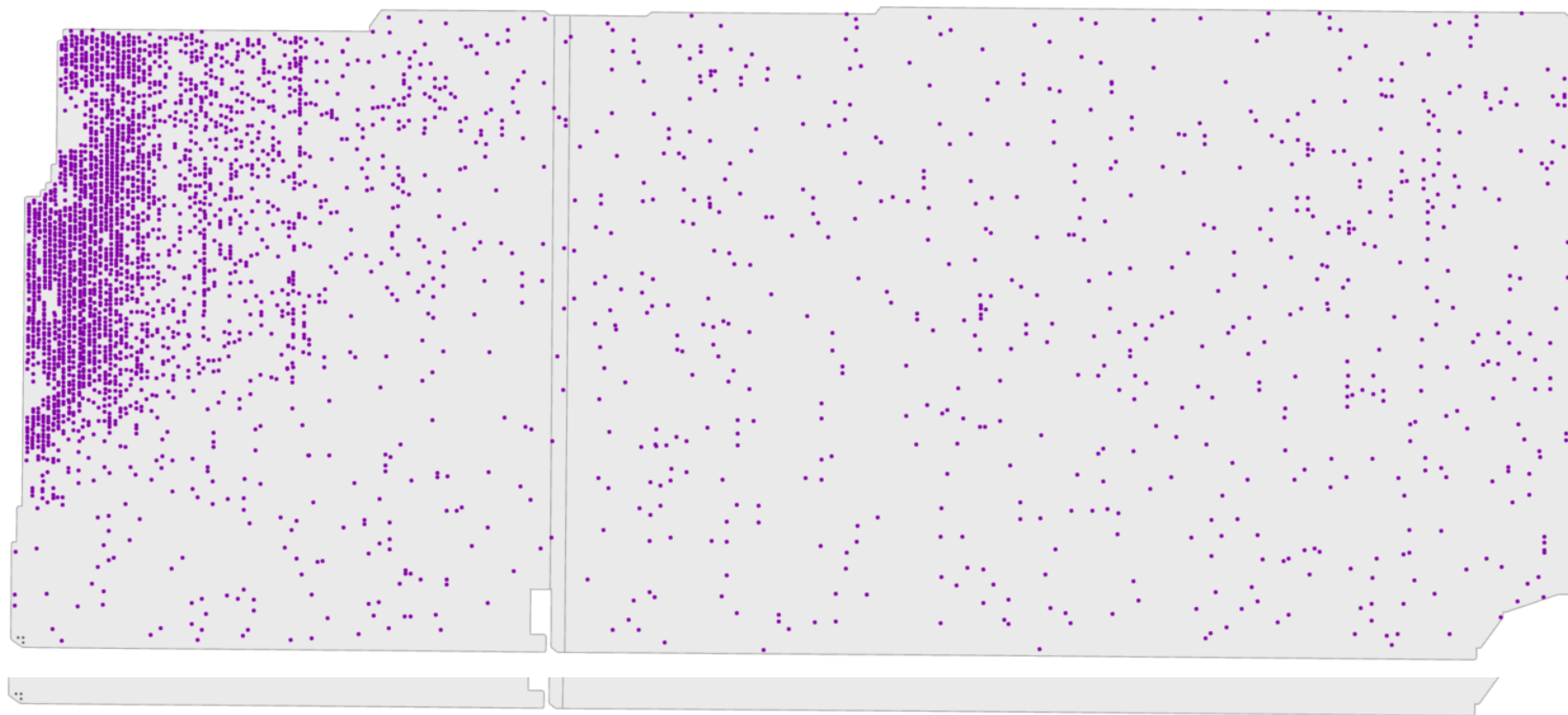
High abundance:
75 MB per 100 leaves
21% leaf infestation

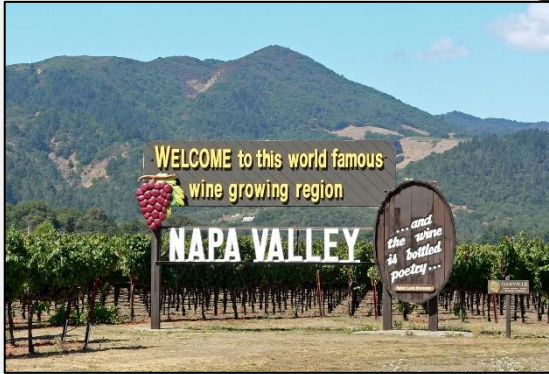
Roguing is optimal response, but...
with moderate MB & high GLD incidence... roguing is more expensive + less effective.



80-acre Pinot Noir vineyard, planted in 2015. Initially with an eastern-cluster that shifted to a random dispersal. Rounding all symptomatic vines in 2019 to 2022, but large jump in 2023.

Year	Virus Incidence (%)	Rogued?
2019	2.4	Yes
2020	1.5	Yes
2021	1.6	Yes
2022	1.6	No
2023	6.4	Yes

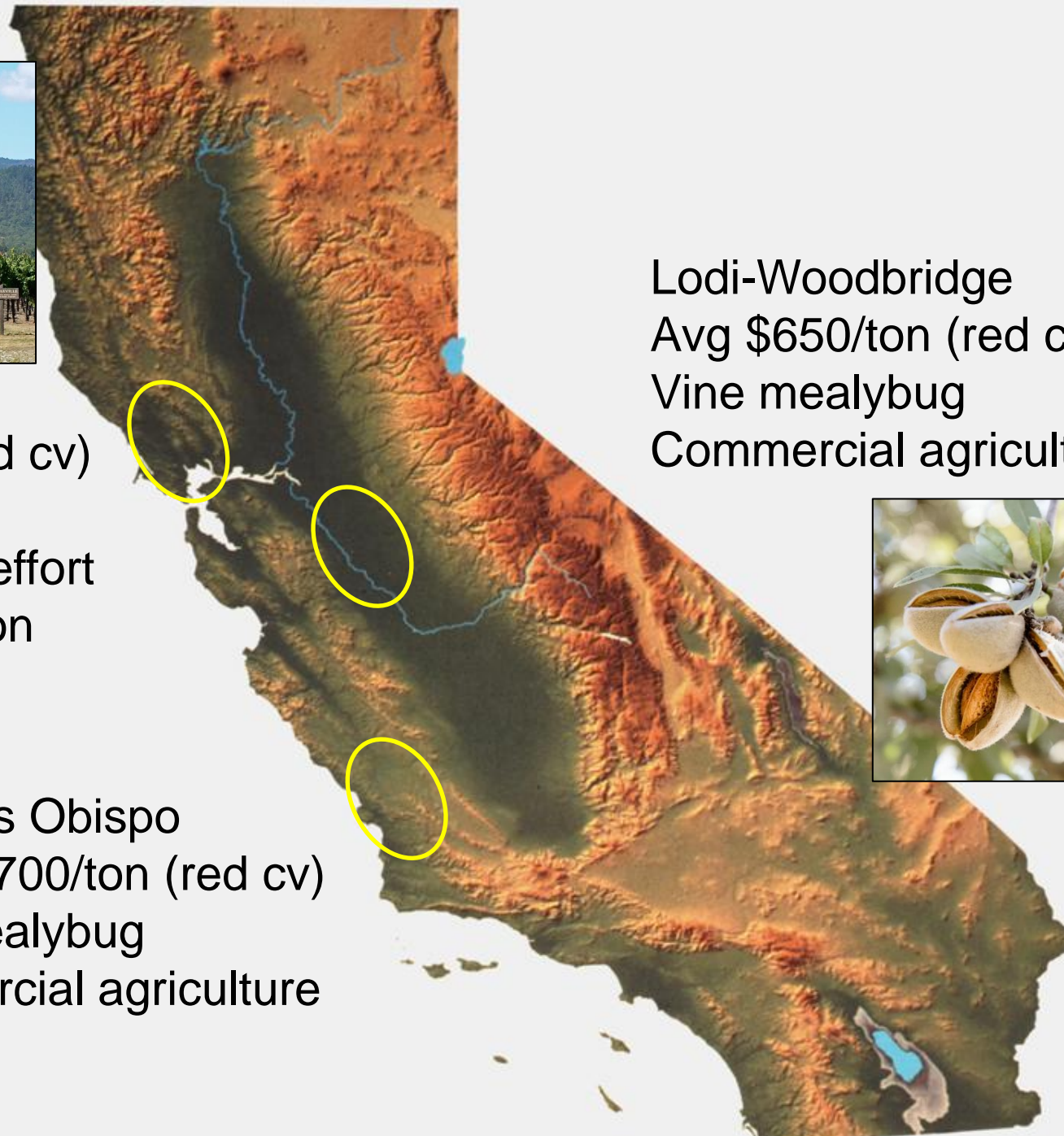




Napa
 Avg \$8,000/ton (red cv)
 Grape mealybug
 LBAM – areawide effort
 Heritage wine region



San Luis Obispo
 Avg \$1,700/ton (red cv)
 Vine mealybug
 Commercial agriculture



Lodi-Woodbridge
 Avg \$650/ton (red cv)
 Vine mealybug
 Commercial agriculture

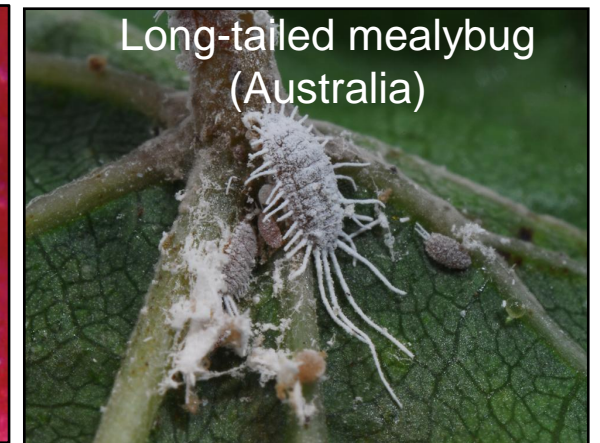


Are different regional studies comparable?

New York and Napa Studies



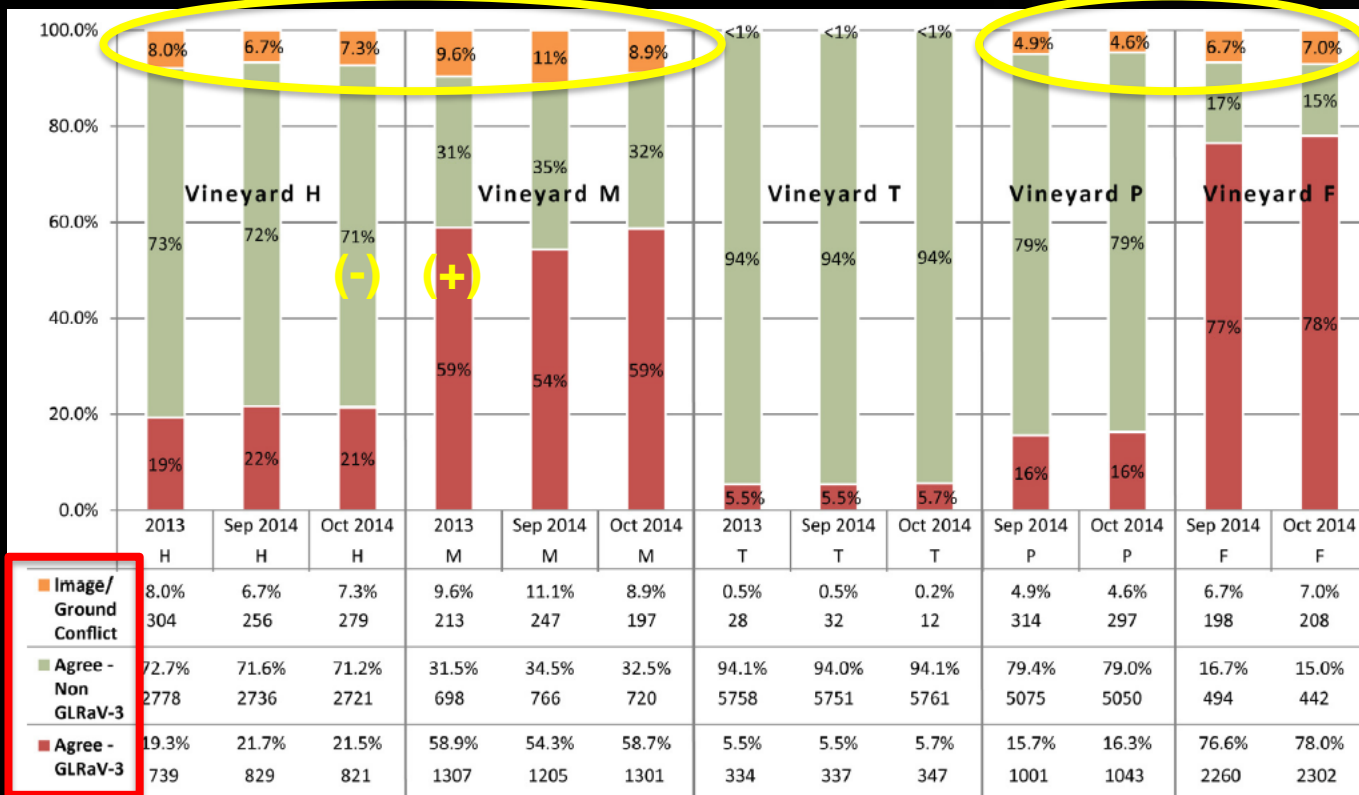
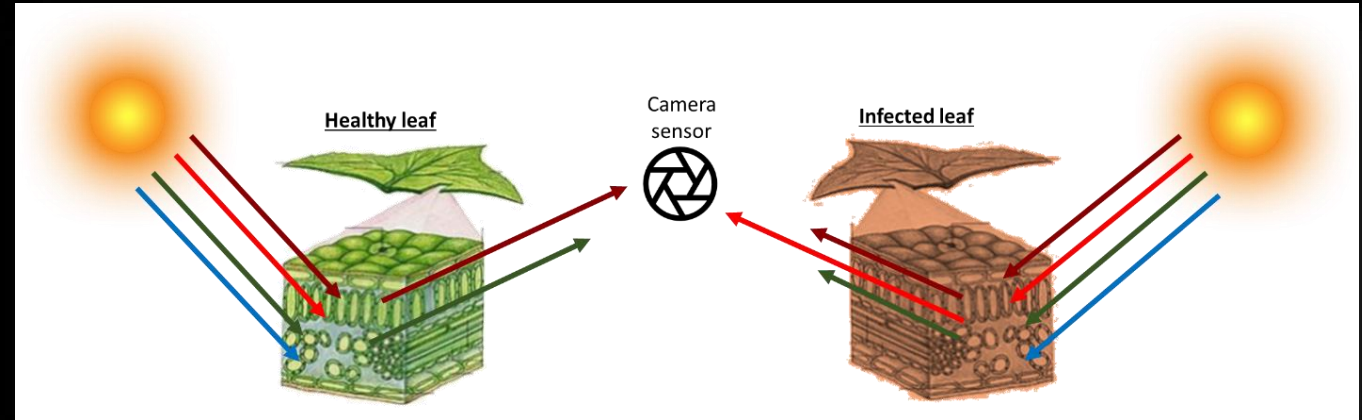
New Zealand Studies



Israel and South Africa studies based on “*Planococcus ficus*” and this is the primary concern for most California and now Oregon growers

Decision-support tools

Airborne hyperspectral imaging for LR-3



Red Leaf

A snapshot of the vineyard to identify red leaves, which could highlight disease, nutrient deficiency, mites, girdling issues or other concerns that need addressing.

Grapevine leafroll disease management: challenges & opportunities

Monica Cooper, Farm Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension, Napa County

UCCE-Napa Viticulture Team:

Malcolm Hobbs, Selena Vengco, Jennifer Rohrs, Hannah Fendell-Hummel, Sarah MacDonald

Funding:

CDFR PD/GWSS Program

American Vineyard Foundation

Napa County Wine Grape Pest & Disease Control District



courtesy ML Cooper

Summary

- 1) There are no vine mealybug controls that provide 100% removal of the pest.
- 2) Biological controls are present, but on their own not enough for 'vector control.'
- 3) No single pesticide application provides 100% control. Trial results can vary (David has mentioned 'consistency'). OMRI materials have not worked as well as conventional materials (data not shown).
- 4) Mating disruption can be a part of VMB management; MD works best at low pest densities, and with multiple years of application and larger areas under MD (areawide controls).
- 5) Areawide management can increase grower communication, selection of the best materials, and a reduction of reinvasion from nearby mealybug sources.
- 6) Leafroll control is harder. Roguing is a difficult decision and, I get it, not always economical. Still, roguing on an areawide basis has been shown to work elsewhere and selective roguing can be a part of the Central Coast plan.



Thank you

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