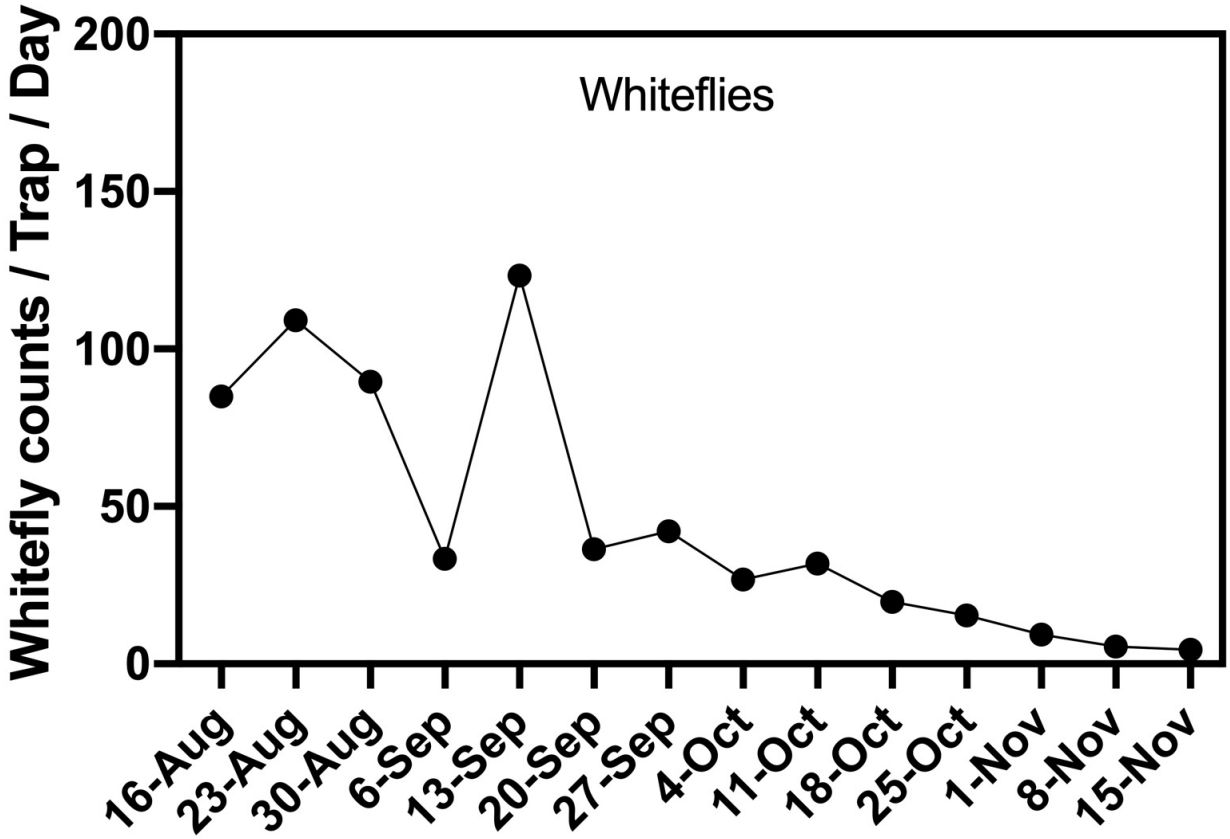
Areawide monitoring of key insect pests across the Imperial Valley: 15 November 2024 updates

The adult insect counts from the monitoring trap network for 15 November 2024 are presented below. Each dot in the graph represents the average insect counts from 19 traps across the Valley for that sampling week, and the value is expressed as pest counts per trap per day.

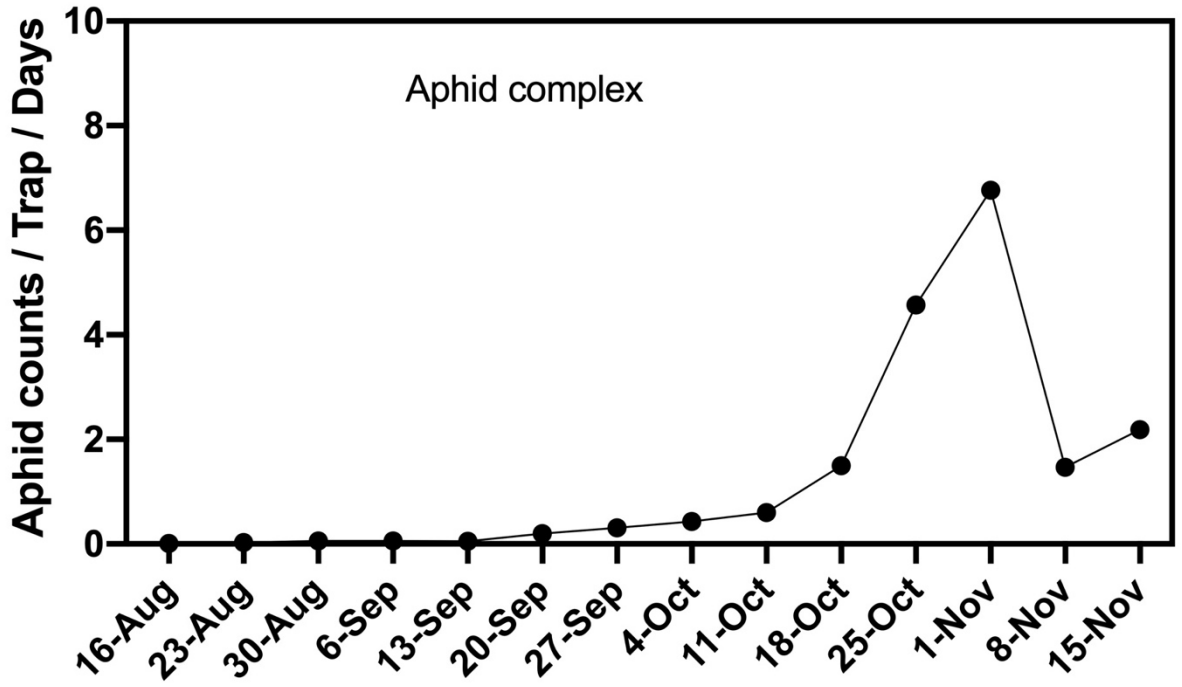
Whiteflies

The whitefly counts in the traps consisted mainly of sweetpotato whitefly (*Bemisia tabaci* MEAM1). Additionally, a small fraction of the total count (< 5%) comprises bandedwinged whiteflies, *Trialeurodes abutilonia*, and other minor species. We have noticed a consistent decline in their numbers in the traps over the past few weeks.



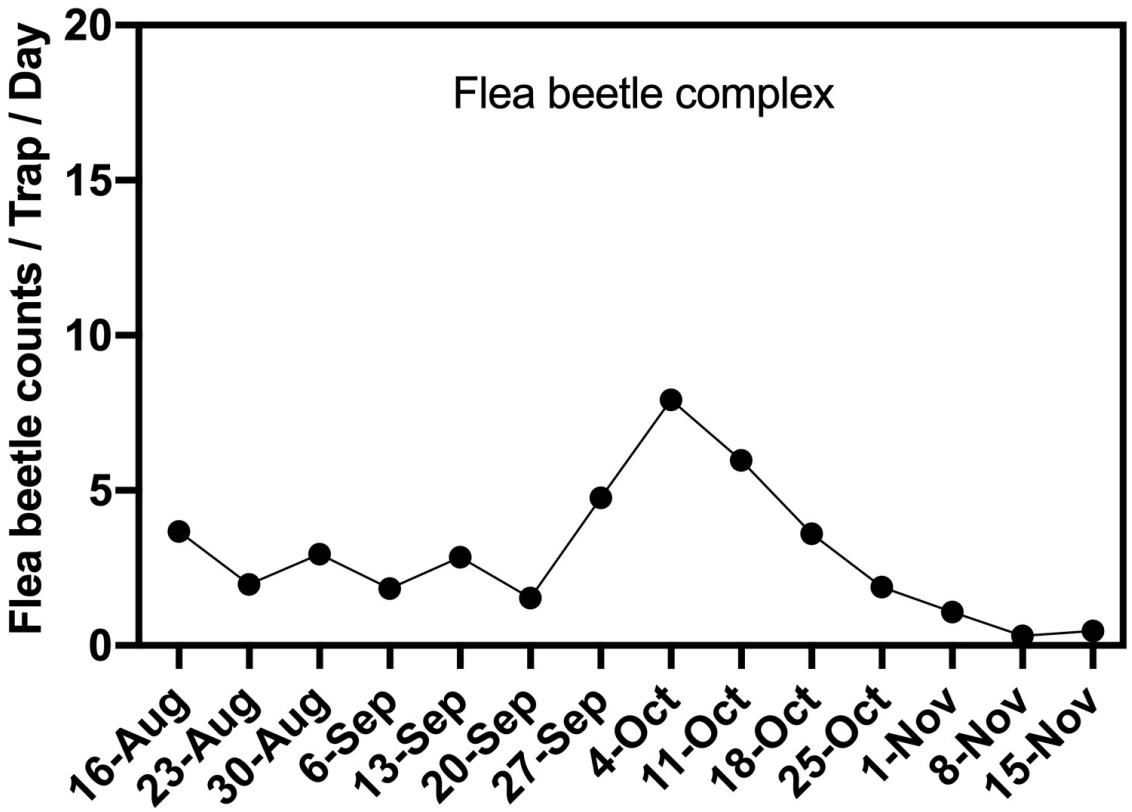
Aphids

The trap counts data of aphids below do not focus on any single species but represent the aphids complex in the Valley. The trap capture data suggests that alate (winged) aphids were almost absent in the valley during August and until the first half of September. However, with the onset of cooler weather, their numbers were steadily increasing in the Imperial Valley till the end of October.



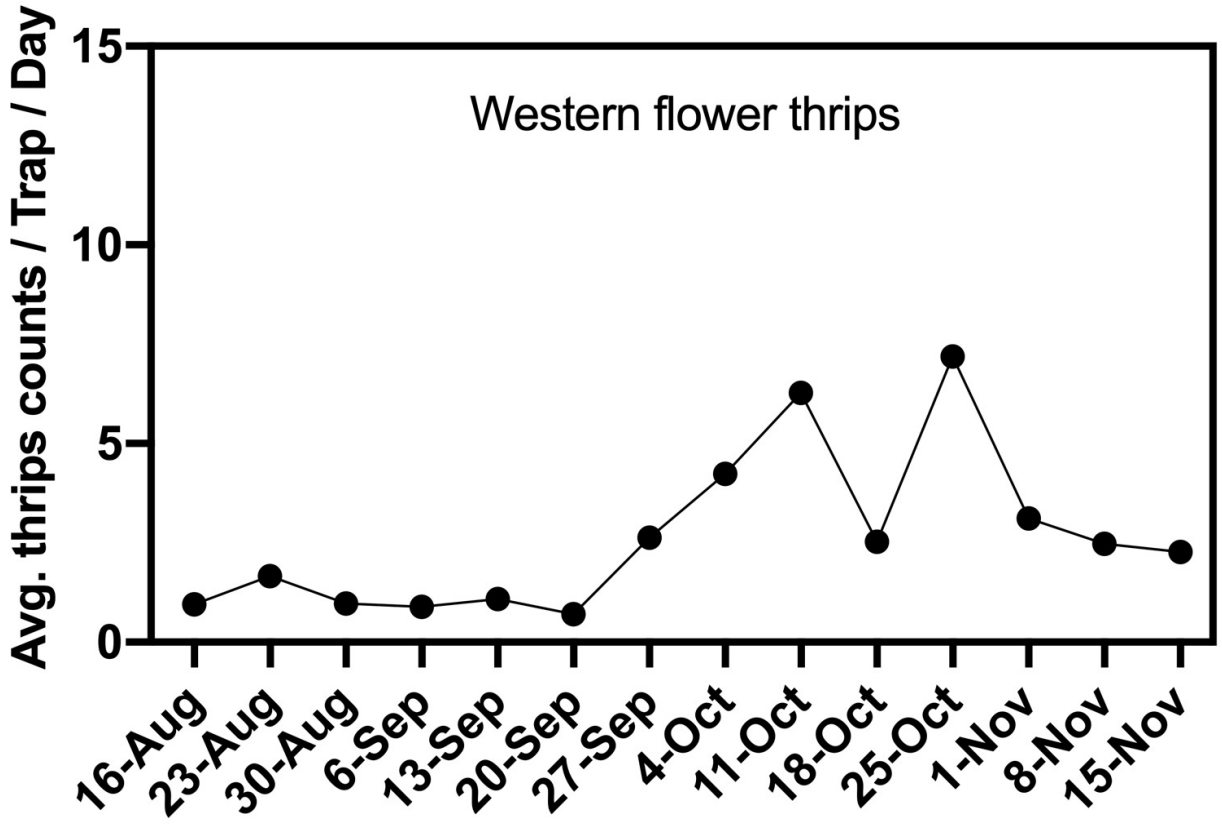
Flea beetles

The flea beetle counts in the traps comprised the pale-striped flea beetle, *Systena blanda*, desert corn flea beetle, *Chaetocnema ectypa,* and a few other minor species.



Western flower thrips

While the traps contained several thrip species, only western flower thrips, *Frankliniella occidentalis,* the major thrip species of concern for several crops in Imperial Valley, were counted to provide more specific data.



Those interested in additional data from this project, including individual trap count data, can contact Arun Babu at (442) 265 -7708 or arbabu@ucanr.edu.