

# Biological Control of Spotted Wing Drosophila

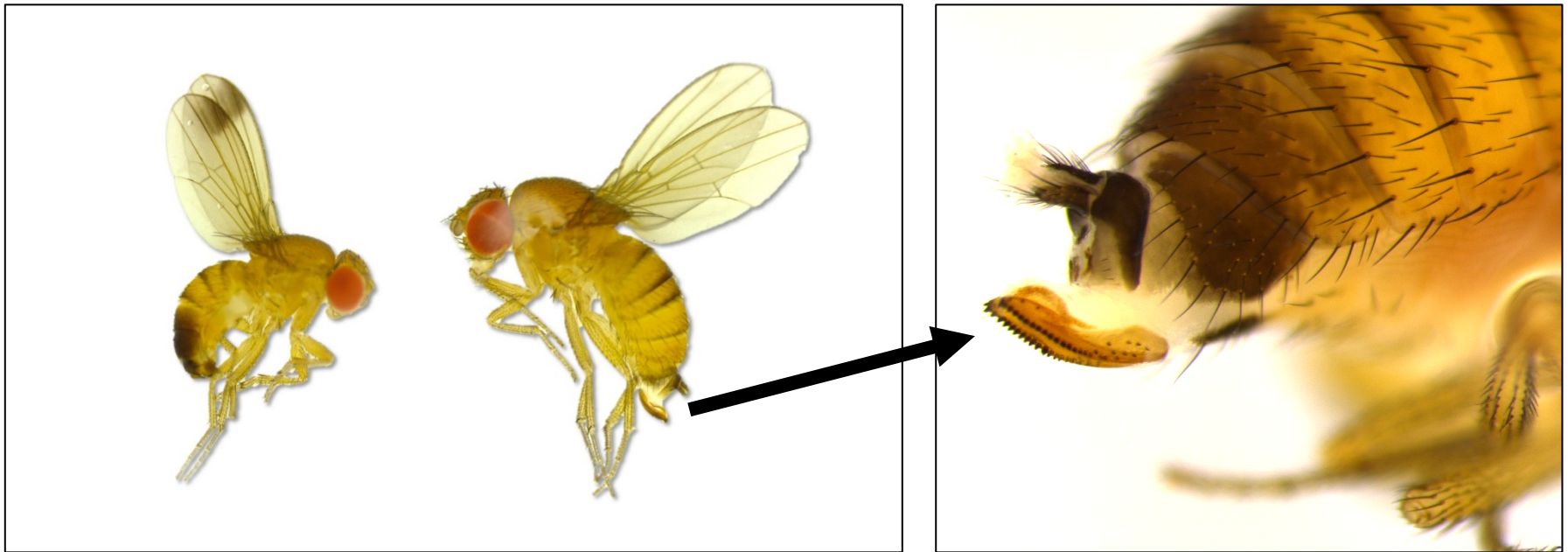


Heather Leach<sup>1</sup>, Kent Daane<sup>2</sup>, and Rufus Isaacs<sup>1</sup>

Department of Entomology

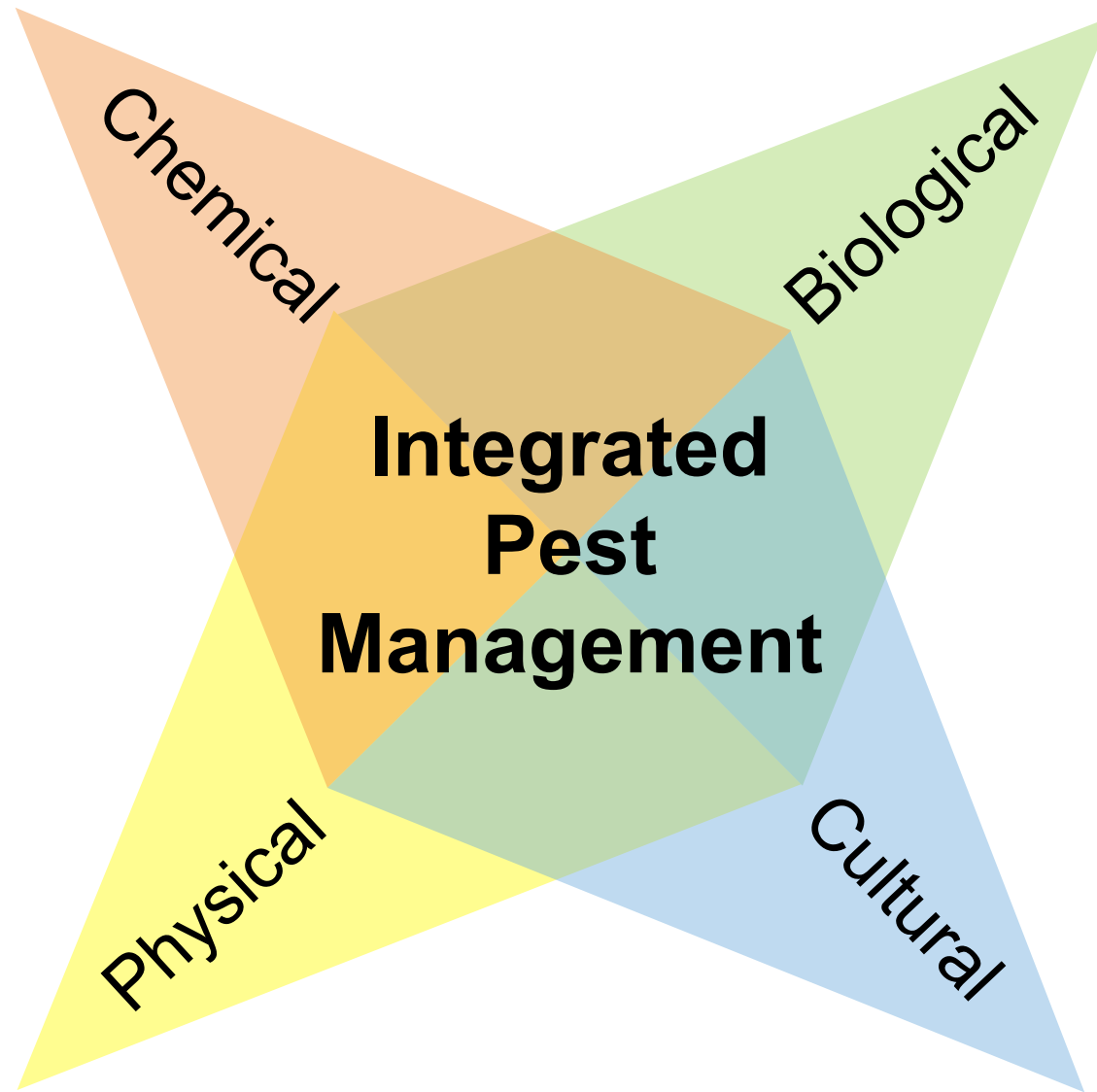
Michigan State University<sup>1</sup>, UC-Berkeley<sup>2</sup>

# Spotted Wing Drosophila





# Integrated Pest Management



# Chemical management



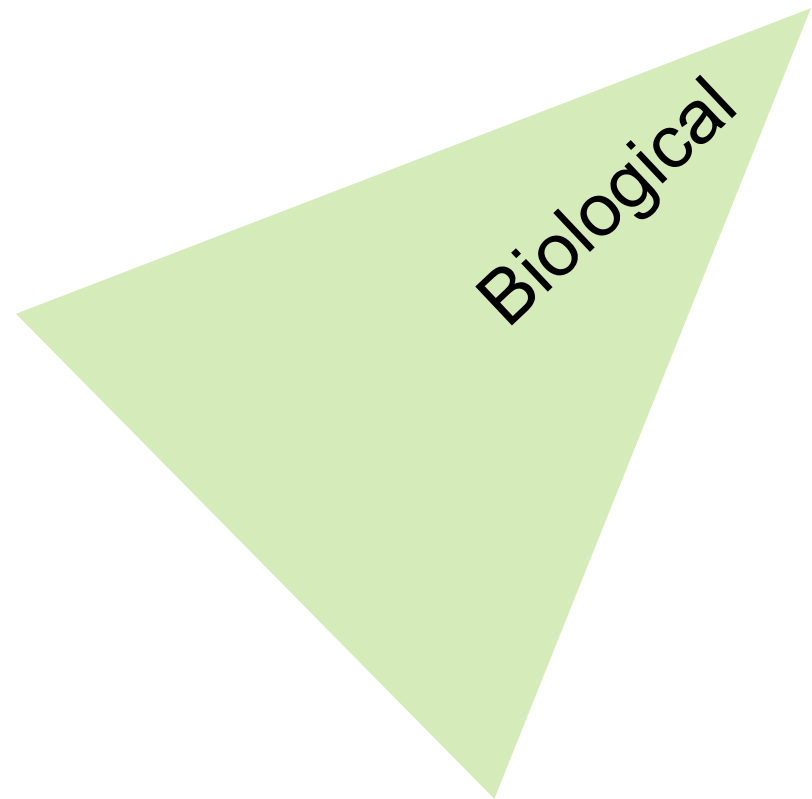
Chemical

Cost  
Sprayer fatigue  
Rain wash-off  
Limited organic options  
Resistance management  
Maximum residue limits  
Secondary pests  
Sustainability



# Biological management

Long-term control  
No additional costs to grower  
Sustainable



# What will make an effective biological control?

Host specific

Highly active (predation, egg-laying)

Can be mass-produced

Can withstand range of temperatures

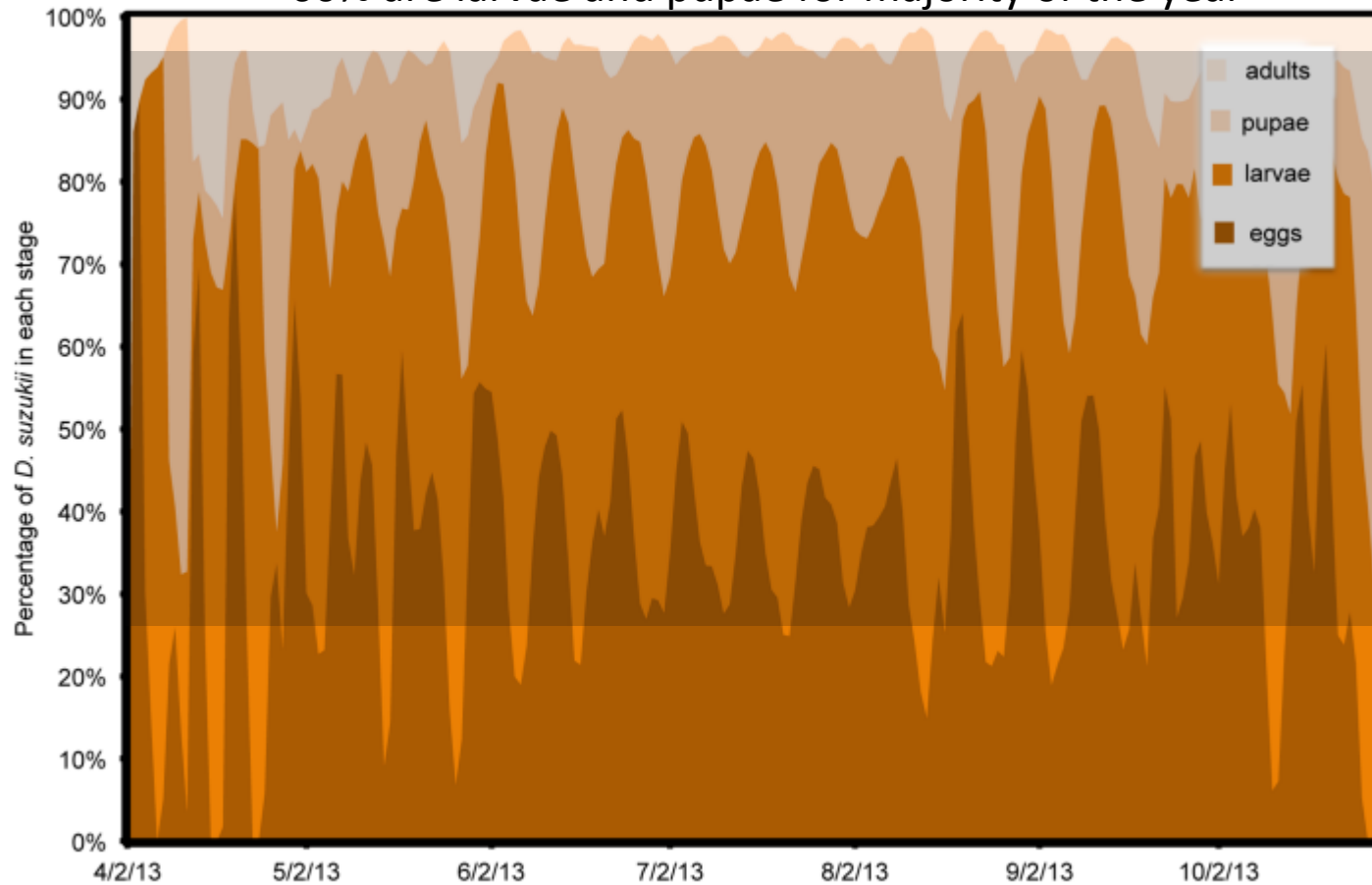
Will establish in environment

Targets the juvenile stages



# Target the juvenile stages of SWD

>60% are larvae and pupae for majority of the year



Wiman et al. 2014

# Outline

What natural enemies attack SWD in the U.S. and Europe?  
Are they enough to control SWD?

What natural enemies exist in the native regions of SWD?  
When/how will those be released to control SWD?



# Lab evaluation of commercially available biocontrols

## Nematodes

*Steinernema carpocapsae* ✗

*Steinernema feltiae* ✗

*Heterohabditis bacteriophora* ✗

## Fungal Pathogens

*Beauveria bassiana* ✗

*Metarhizium anisopliae* ✓

*Paecilomyces fumosoroseus* ✗

*Lecanicillium muscarium* ✗

## Predators

*Orius laevigatus* ✓

*Labidura riparia* ✗



Deborah Kimbrell/UC Davis



IBMA

# Lab evaluation of commercially available biocontrols

## Fungal Pathogens

*Metarhizium anisopliae* ✓

Up to 61% mortality with direct spray

Death takes up to 13 days

Does not affect number of eggs laid

No residual activity





# Lab evaluation of commercially available biocontrols

## Predators

*Orius laevigatus* ✓

50% reduction in larvae in small dishes

12% reduction in lab cages

No significant reduction in field conditions



# Predators of SWD larvae in the field



In strawberries, larvae increased by 19-34% with predator exclusion

In blueberries, larvae increased by 28-49% with predator exclusion

Ants

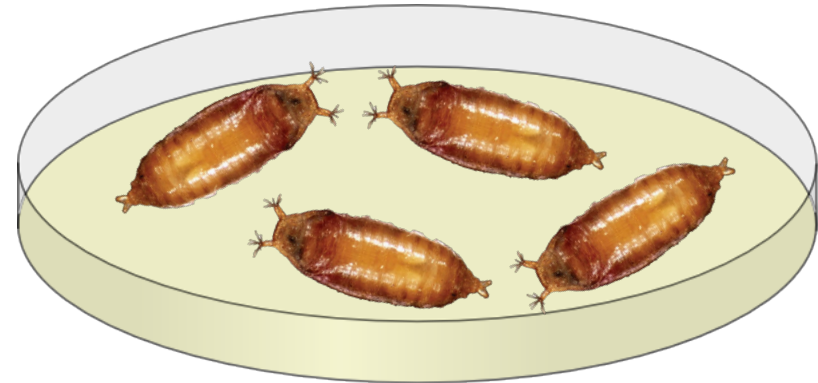
Spiders

Rove Beetles



# Predators of SWD pupae in the field

61-91% reduction in pupae when predators allowed access



Ants and spiders were very common



Ants dig up buried pupae and carry them away

Also found harvestmen, centipedes, and earwings

# Survey of native parasitoids

Surveys conducted in Europe, California, Oregon, and Michigan

Fruit collections

Sentinel traps





# Low parasitism rates found

## Pteromalidae

*Pachycrepoideus vindemiae*

Pupal Parasitoids



## Diapriidae

*Trichopria drosophilae*

Larval Parasitoids



## Figitidae

*Leptopilina heterotoma*

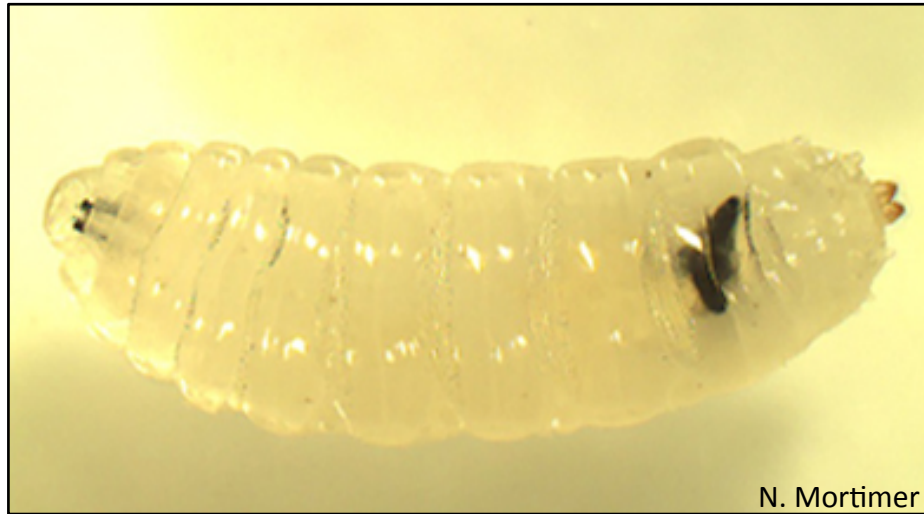
*Leptopilina bouvardi*

*Ganaspis* sp.





# Encapsulation



N. Mortimer



S. VanTimmeren

# Native Michigan parasitoids

Parasitoid ID by Kim Hoelmer,  
USDA-ARS:

*Pachycrepoideus vindemiae*

Unknown *Asobara* spp.

No figitids (larval parasitoids)



# Native European parasitoids

*Leptopilina bouleardi*



*Trichopria drosophilae*



*Leptopilina heterotoma*



*Asobara tabida*



*Pachycrepoideus vindemiae*



# Native European parasitoids – commercially available in 2017



M. Podymniak

# **Current natural enemies not providing stable or significant control**

Fungal pathogens and nematodes not successful

Predators in field surveys decreased SWD larvae and pupae

Low parasitism rates and encapsulation of parasitoids



# Classical biological control

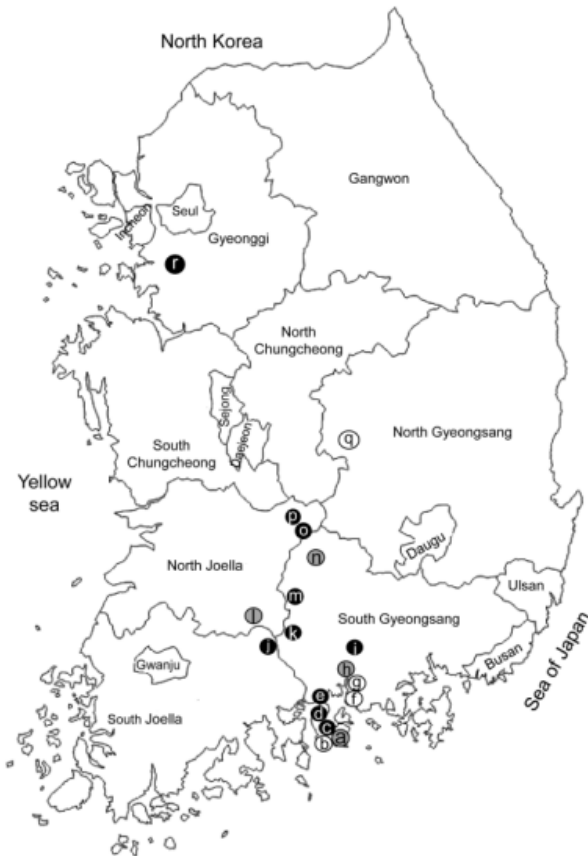
To introduce a new organism to the U.S., it must:

- Have high target control
- Low chance of attacking non-targets
- No chance of attacking economically important, endangered, or otherwise valued species

# Exploration for SWD parasitoids in Asia

Led by Kent Daane

2013, 2014, 2016 in South Korea and China



# Exploration for SWD parasitoids in Asia

## South Korea, June 2016

11,575 SWD pupae collected

149 figitids

22 braconids

3 diapriids

~6% parasitism

## China, July 2016

11,683 SWD pupae collected

929 figitids

22 braconids

3 diapriids

up to 75% parasitism

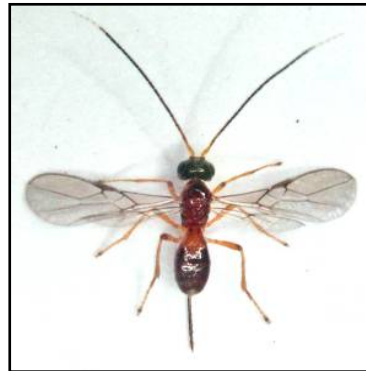
# Five common SWD parasitoids found



*Trichopria  
drosophilae*



*Pachycrepoideus  
vindemiae*



*Asobara  
japonica*

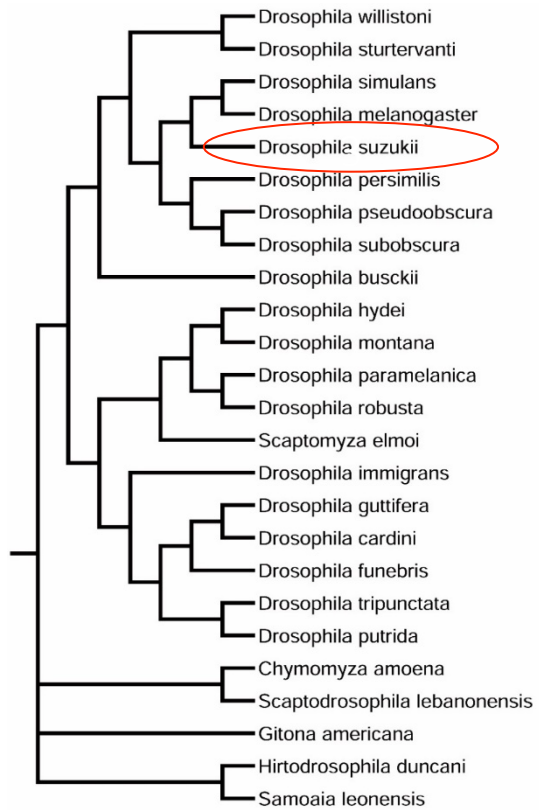


*Leptopilina  
japonica*

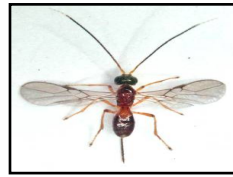


*Ganaspis  
brasiliensis*

## Host species



Host species



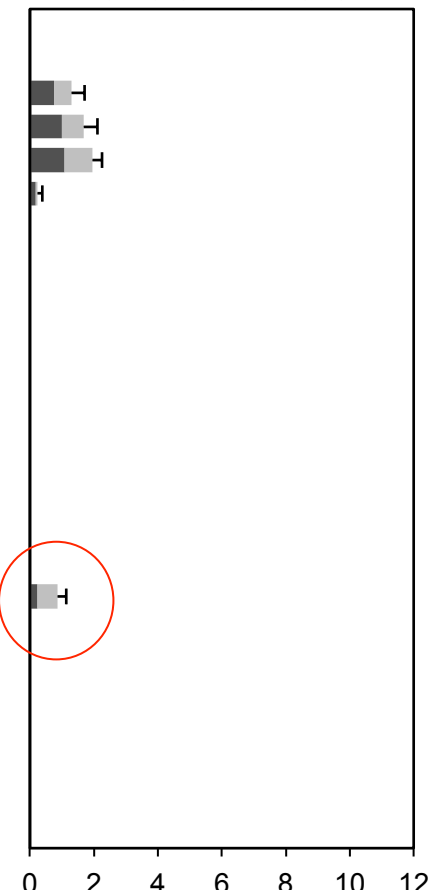
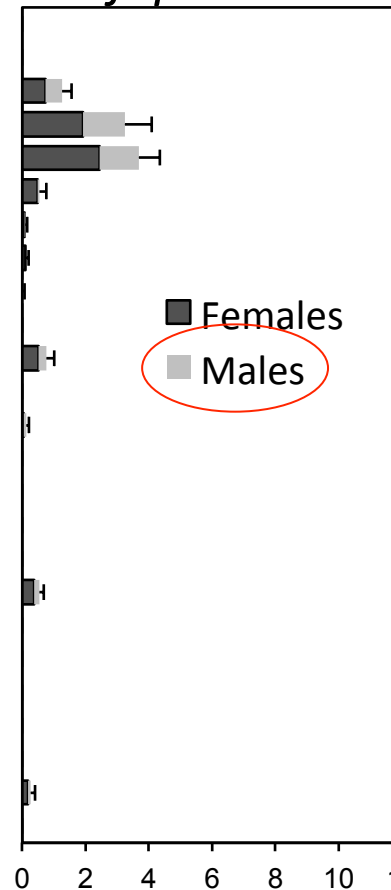
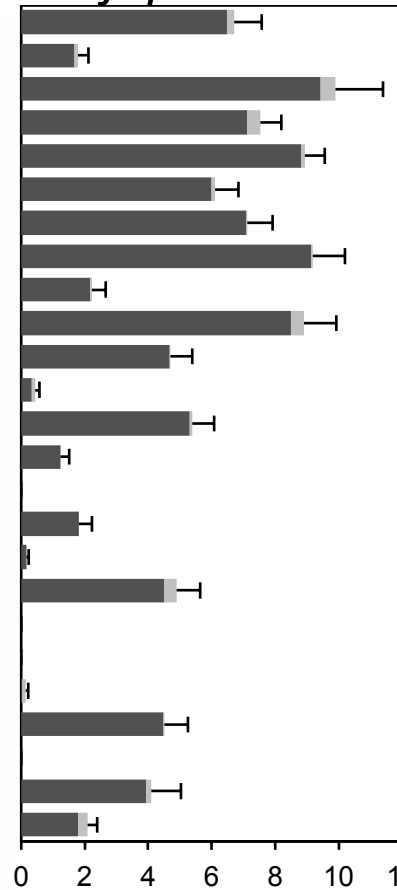
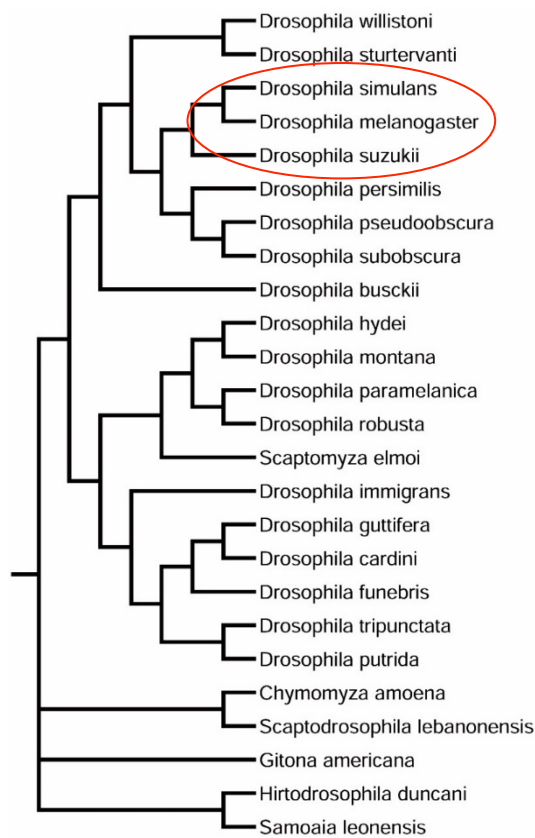
*Asobara japonica*



*Leptopilina japonica*



*Ganaspis brasiliensis*



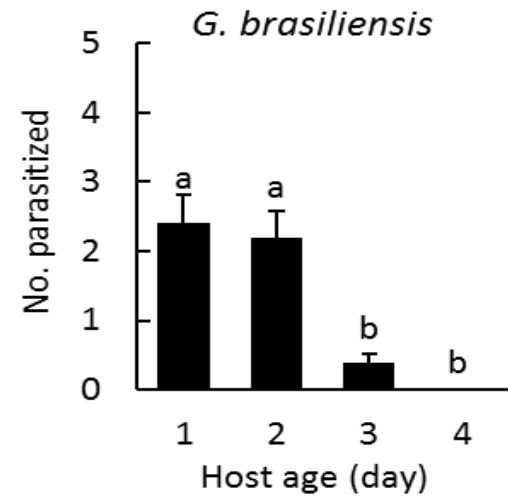
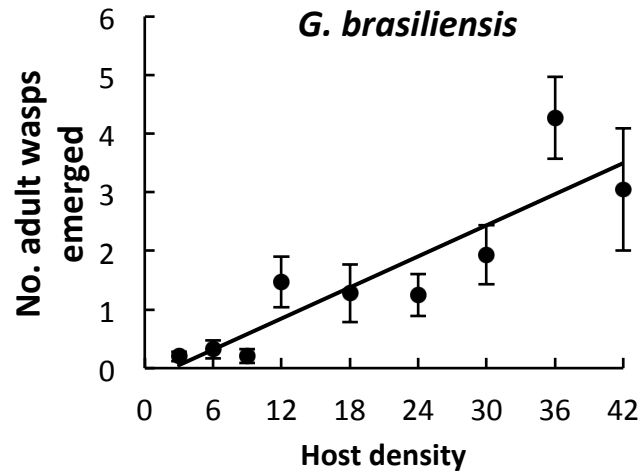
Offspring produced per day per female



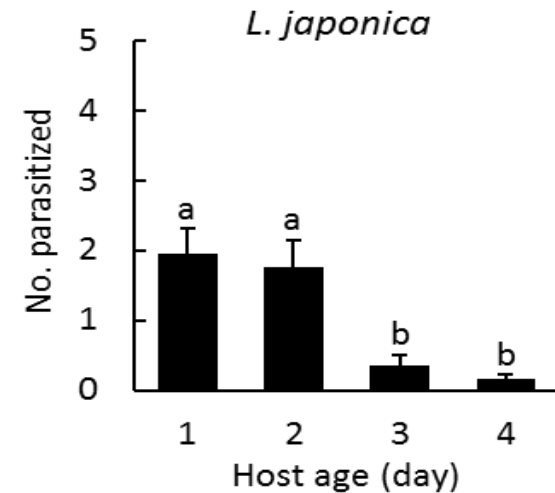
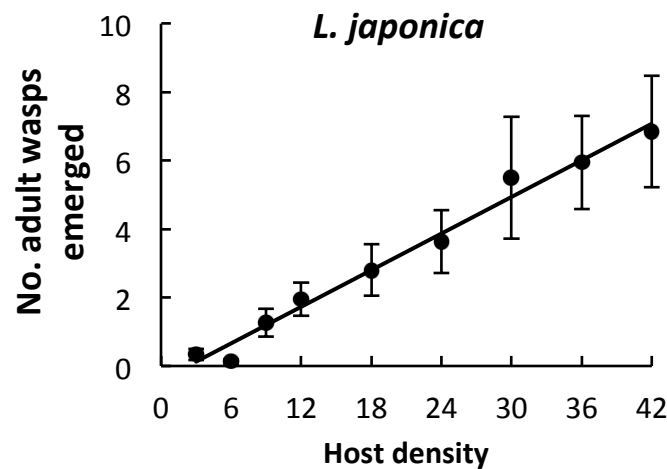
# Who should be released?



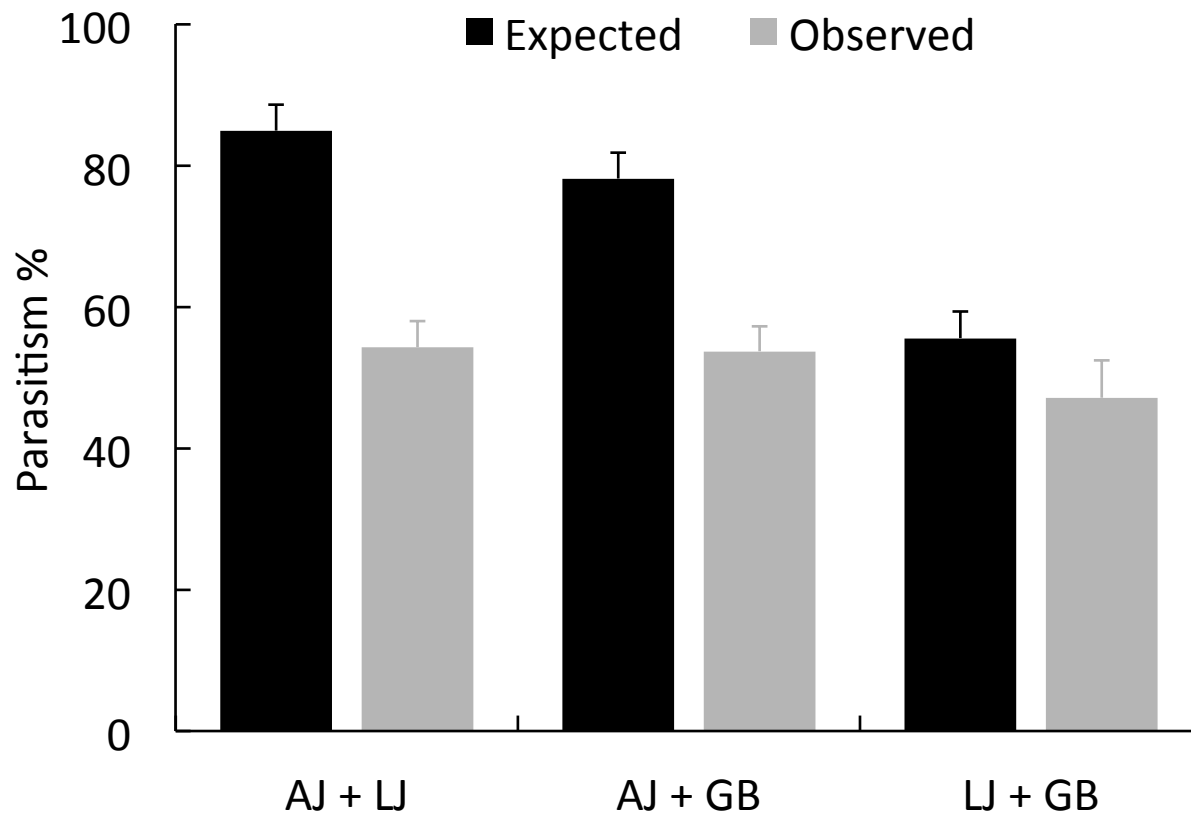
*Ganaspis brasiliensis*



*Leptopilina japonica*



# Both species are synergistic



*Ganaspis brasiliensis*



*Leptopilina japonica*

# Will they be effective biological controls?

Host specific ✓

Highly active (predation, egg-laying) ✓

Can be mass-produced ✓

Can withstand range of temperatures N/A

Will establish in environment N/A

Targets the juvenile stages ✓

# When will they be released?



USDA APHIS permit request submitted Nov 2016 to release *Ganaspis brasiliensis* and *Leptopilina japonica* from UCB Quarantine

Expecting results by end of 2017 for release in 2018

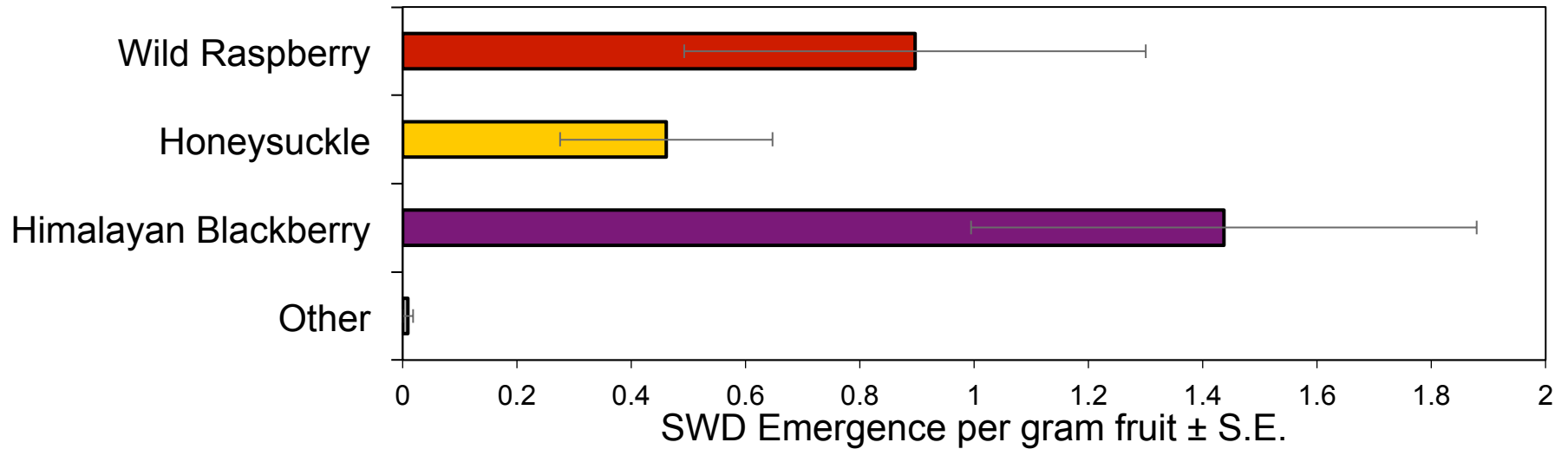
# How will they be released?

Parasitoids will be released at border edge and other refugia

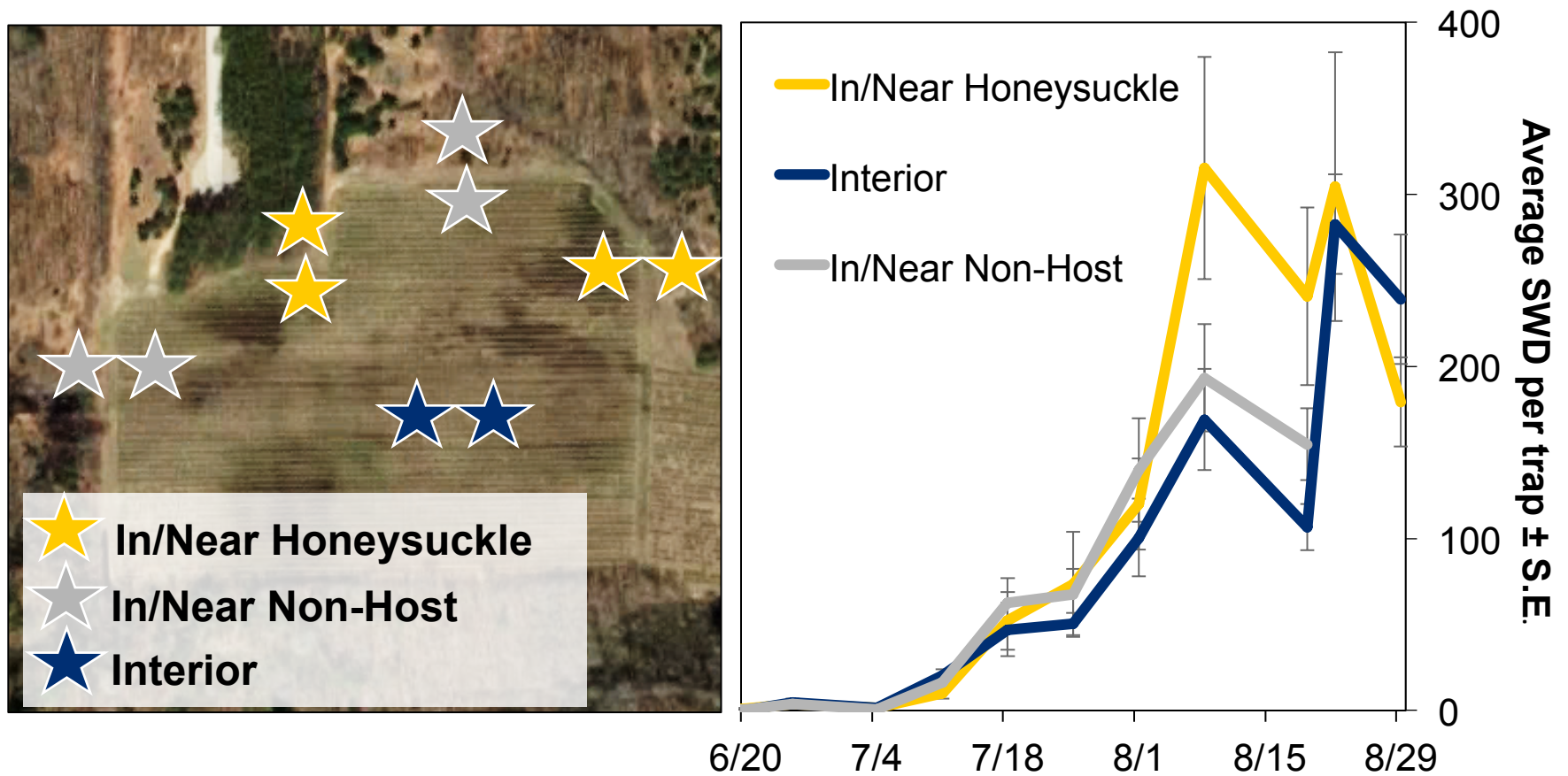
Chemical applications and other controls within crops should continue



# SWD found in wild hosts



# Honeysuckle increases SWD activity at crop edge



# Summary

Local natural enemies were evaluated for their ability to attack SWD

They are not likely to keep SWD below an economic threshold

Five parasitoids species from Asia have been evaluated for release

# Summary

A permit has been submitted for two larval parasitoids

If approved, release of these parasitoids should happen in 2018

Release will be focused in non-crop areas

Search for new parasitoids in Asia will continue



*Ganaspis brasiliensis*



*Leptopilina japonica*



# Acknowledgements



**Grower collaborators**



**Questions?**

