

# Pheromone-Based Monitoring and Management Tools for the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug in Apple Orchards



**Tracy C. Leskey**

USDA-ARS

Appalachian Fruit Research Station

Kearneysville, WV 25430 USA



# My Introduction to BMSB on October 8, 2003



***Shell Service Station and Snax Store, Hagerstown, MD***

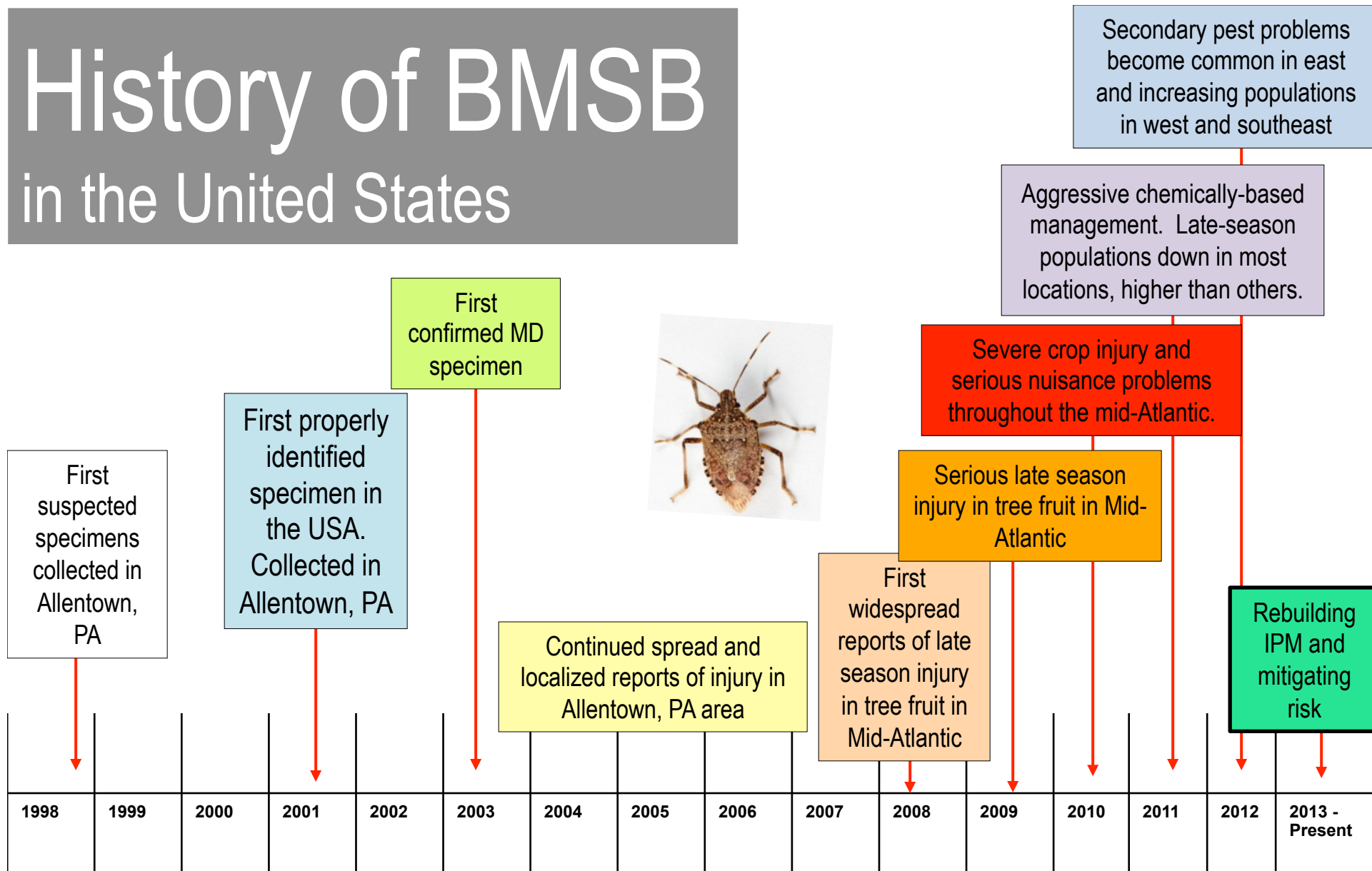


# 2010 BMSB Outbreak in Mid-Atlantic





# History of BMSB in the United States





Many Mid-Atlantic  
Growers Experienced  
Catastrophic Damage  
Levels of

>50%

in Stone Fruit Crops



# Widespread Severe Damage

In Fruit, Vegetables, and Row Crops







**\$37 Million**

In Losses For  
Mid-Atlantic Apple  
Growers

Leskey et al. 2012 a,b

# Widespread Nuisance Problems For Homeowners and Businesses

HOME PAGE TODAY'S PAPER VIDEO MOST POPULAR TIMES TOPICS

Subscribe to The Times | Help | TimesPeople

The New York Times

U.S.

Search All NYTimes.com

Go

ING DIRECT

WORLD U.S. N.Y. / REGION BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY SCIENCE HEALTH SPORTS OPINION ARTS STYLE TRAVEL **JOB S** REAL ESTATE

POLITICS EDUCATION BAY AREA CHICAGO

**Star Safety System™**  
Standard on every new model.



Craig Payne  
Automotive Engin  
Toyota Technical

## Move Over, Bedbugs: Stink Bugs Have Landed



Kelli Wilson and her father, Richard Lee Pry, cleared stink bugs from her porch Friday in Burkittsville, Md. The shield-shaped invaders have damaged fruit and vegetable crops.



# Building A Collaborative Team and Identifying Priorities



*We promote and fund integrated pest management for environmental, human health, and economic benefits.*



Got Pests? ▶

Need Funding? ▶

- ▶ HOME
- ▶ ABOUT US
- ▶ IPM IN ACTION
- ▶ GRANT PROGRAMS
- ▶ WORKING GROUPS
  - Marmorated Stink Bug
  - Pollinator

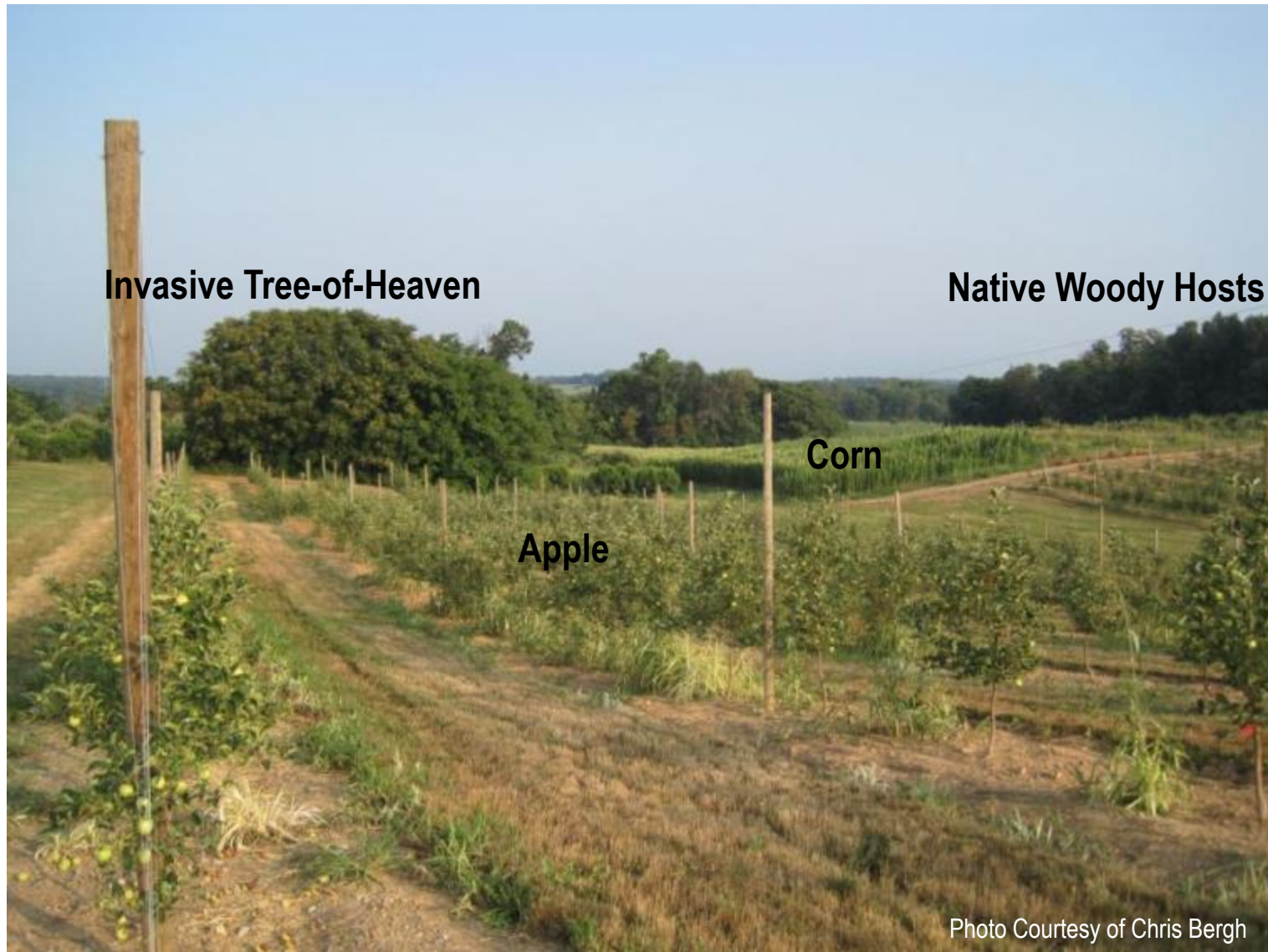
HOME » WORKING GROUPS » Marmorated Stink Bug

## Brown Marmorated Stink Bug IPM Working Group

Funded in 2010 and 2011, this working group has established itself as the primary platform for facilitating and coordinating research and outreach efforts for [Brown Marmorated Stink Bug](#) (BMSB) across the United States. The group hosts formal meetings on BMSB at which members share the latest research results and field observations and established research and extension priorities. Participants include researchers, extension personnel, growers, pest control operators, and a hotel manager. [Learn about this working group's plans for 2011-12.](#)



# Landscape-Level Threat To Crops



Biology, Ecology, and Management of Brown Marmorated Stink Bug in Orchard Crops, Small Fruit, Grapes, Vegetables, and Ornamentals USDA-NIFA SCRI Coordinated Agricultural Project

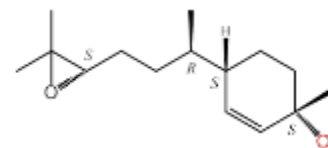




# Research Priorities



Studies of BMSB  
Biology, Behavior  
and Ecology



Identification of  
Aggregation  
Pheromone



Identification of Effective  
Biological Control Agents






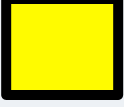
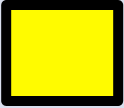
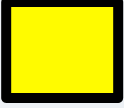


Identification of  
Effective Insecticides



Standardized  
Sampling/Monitoring  
Techniques

# Insecticides Used Against BMSB in Tree Fruit

Insecticide	Lethality	Residual Activity (3d)	Beneficials
Methomyl (Lannate)	HIGH	LOW - MODERATE	
Endosulfan (Thionex)	HIGH	LOW	
Bifenthrin (Brigade)	HIGH	LOW	
Fenpropathrin (Danitol)	HIGH	LOW	
Lambda-Cyhalothrin (Warrior)	MODERATE	LOW	
Clothianidin (Belay)	MODERATE	MODERATE	
Dinotefuran (Scorpion, Venom)	HIGH	LOW	
Thiamethoxam (Actara)	MODERATE	LOW - MODERATE	

# JUNE 2011

		SPRAY SCHEDULE - BMSB			- ARMS in Stone Fruit		apples - peaches -	McHenry Highland Festival*
		* every other row lg. apples, peaches * every 4th row bellis apples			1	2	3	Blueberries Brambles Cherries (4th)
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Early Summer Season rates begin this weekend check spray cherries	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
Father's Day		19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	7/1	7/2		

## SPRAY SCHEDULE - BMSB

\* every other row lg. apples, peaches  
\* every 4th row bellis apples

- ARMS in Stone Fruit  
Pome Fruit + Brambles

apples - peaches -

McHenry Highland Festival\*

Blueberries  
Brambles  
Cherries  
(4th)

apples  
peaches, plums  
strawberries  
(OUTSIDE)

cherries) 1/2  
potatoes  
tomatoes  
vegetables

cherries 1/2  
1/2 Brambles  
1/2 Blueberry  
blackberry

apples  
peaches, plums  
(INSIDE)

blueberries 37/40  
44  
Brambles 13, 15,  
16, 44, 41

Early Summer Season rates begin this weekend  
check spray cherries

Apples  
Peaches  
(OUTSIDE)

vegs. tomatoes  
cherries  
grapes, gooseb  
plums, apricot

Blueberries  
Brambles

Apples  
peaches  
(INSIDE)

check spray cherries  
cherries  
tomatoes, flowers

Blueberries  
Brambles  
vegetables

Peach  
Apple  
(OUTSIDE)

Father's Day

Brambles,  
Blueberries,  
grapes, gooseberries  
(OUTSIDE)

Peaches  
Apples  
(INSIDE)

cherries/plums  
(inside)

Bramble  
(inside)  
Blueberry  
(inside)

peach  
apple  
(outside)

Summer Season rate begin this weekend

Brambles  
Blueberries  
(outside)

Apple  
peach  
cherry

tomatoes  
vegs. flowers  
potatoes

Brambles  
Blueberries  
(inside)

Apples  
Peaches  
(OUTSIDE)

tomatoes, veg  
potatoes, flowers

woods edge  
orchard

(50/48) 26

27

28

29

30

7/1

7/2



# Key Components of Trap-Based Monitoring



- Visual Stimulus
- Olfactory Stimulus
- Capture Mechanism
- Deployment Strategy



# One Attractant Available Prior to 2012

- Methyl (2E, 4E, 6Z)-decatrioneate is an attractant produced by the Asian stink bug, *Plautia stali*.
- Cross attractive to BMSB and other pentatomids.



# 2009-2010 BMSB Response to Visual Stimuli

**Black**

**Green**

**Yellow**

**White**

**Clear**



**Trunk  
Mimic**

**Foliar  
Stimulus**

**Foliar  
Stimulus**

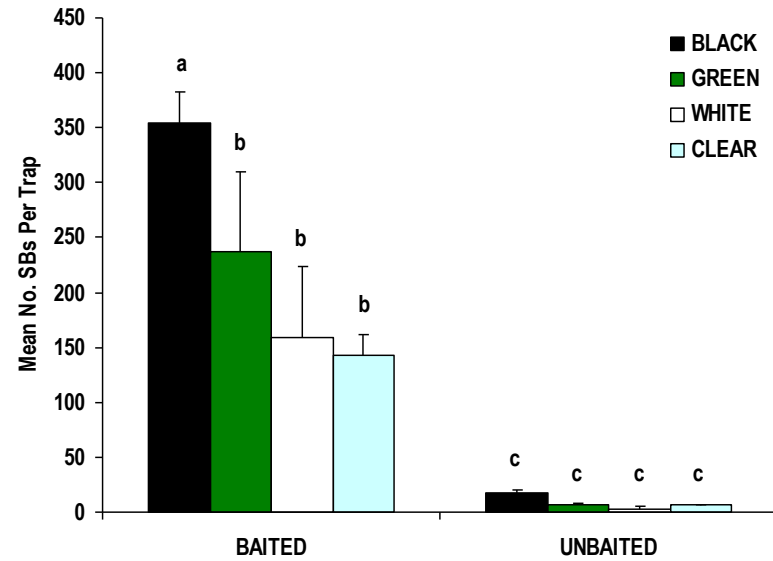
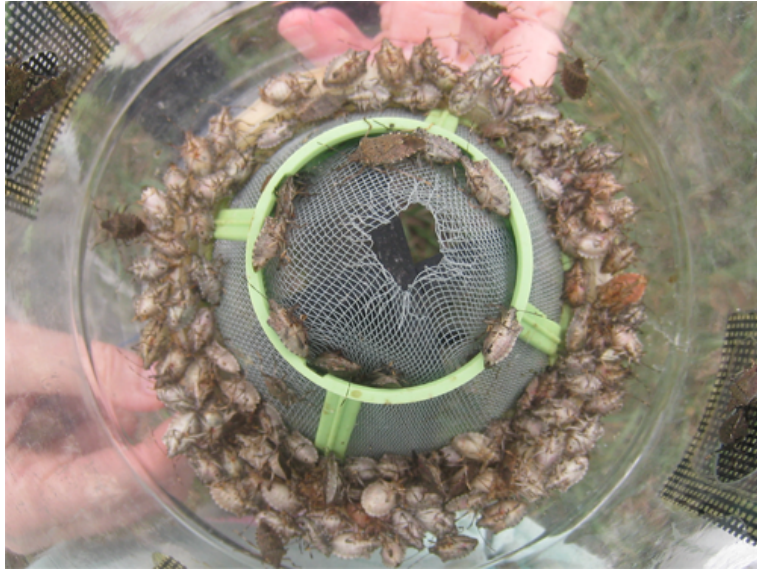
**Unapparent  
Stimulus**

**Unapparent  
Stimulus**

- **Responses to visual stimuli associated with trap bases.**
- **Baited and unbaited traps at the periphery of orchards. Four replicates. Sampled twice weekly.**
- **Captures from October 7-November 17, 2009 and July 23-October 14, 2010.**



# Baseline Trapping Studies



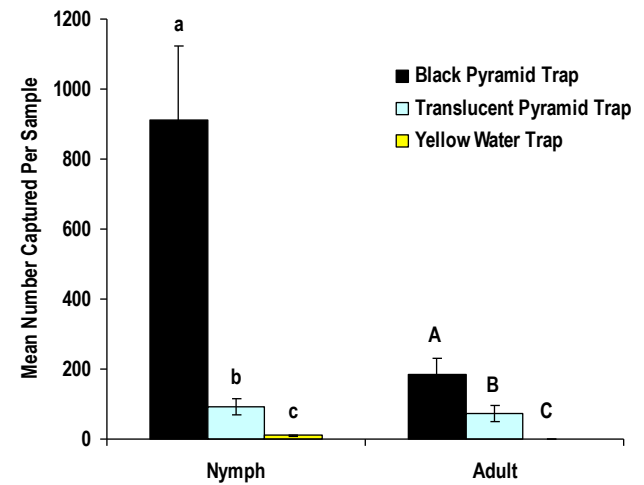
CBC America, Japan



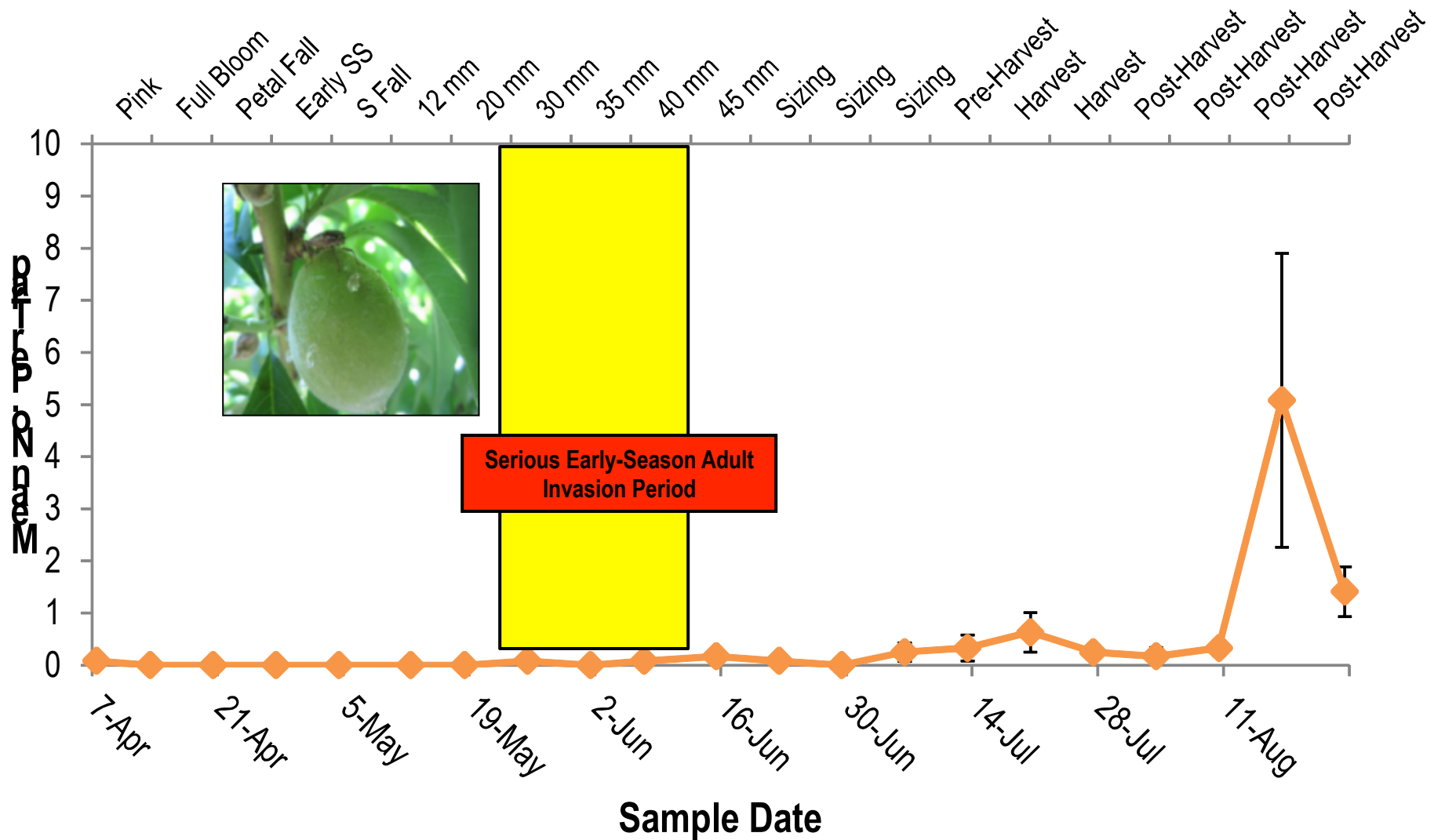
Sankei Chemicals Co., Ltd., Kagoshima, Japan



AFRS



# Serious Limitations For Season-Long Monitoring



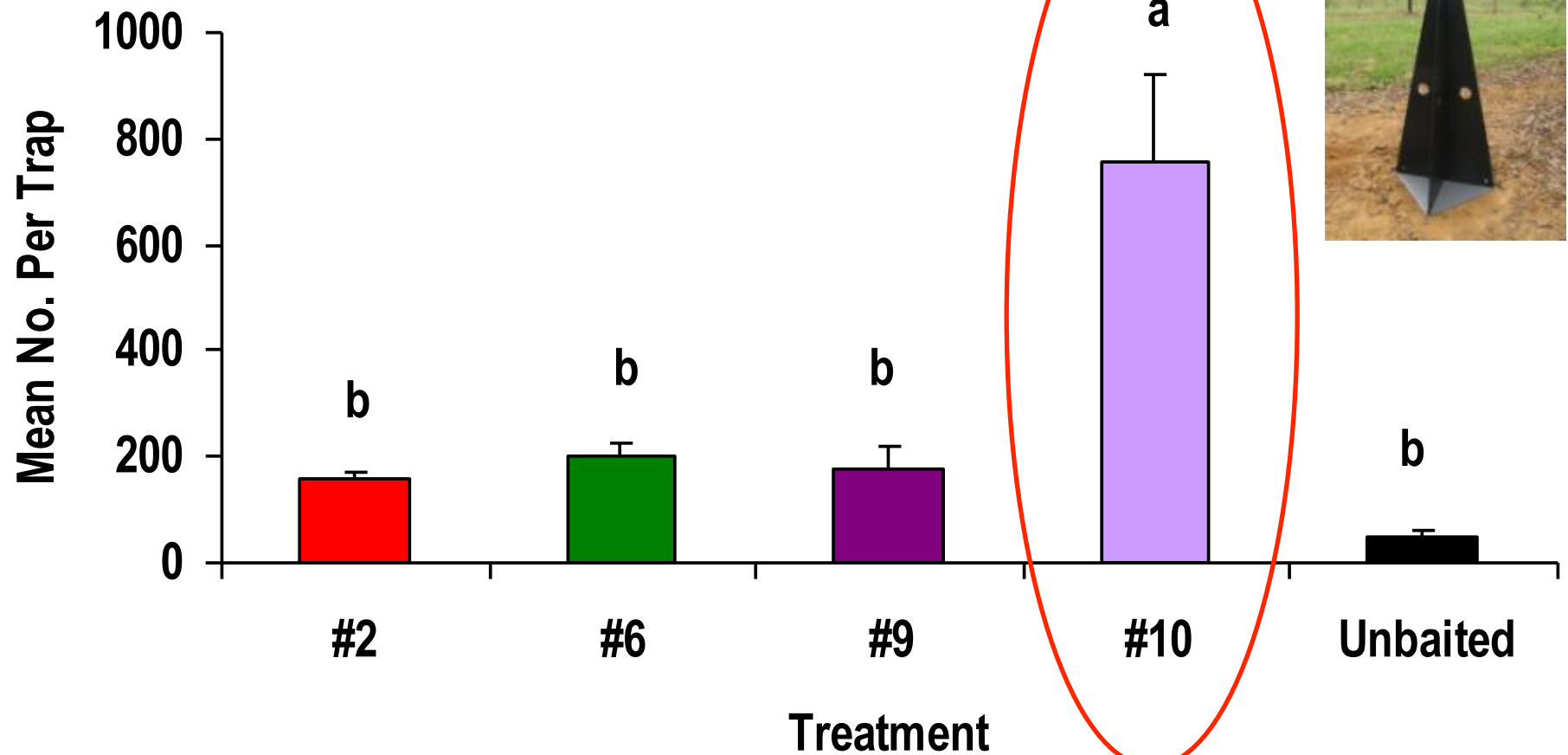


# Identification and Commercialization of BMSB Aggregation Pheromone



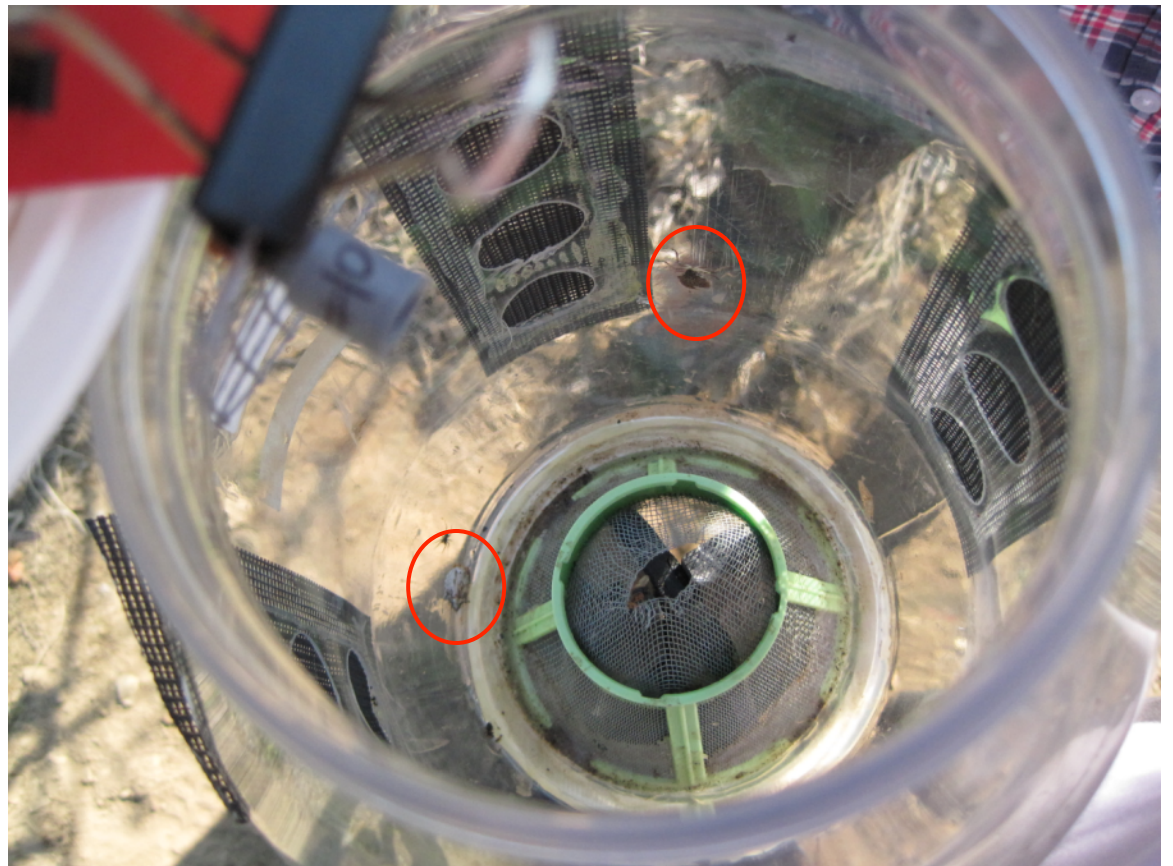
# BMSB Aggregation Pheromone Breakthrough

9-30 September 2011

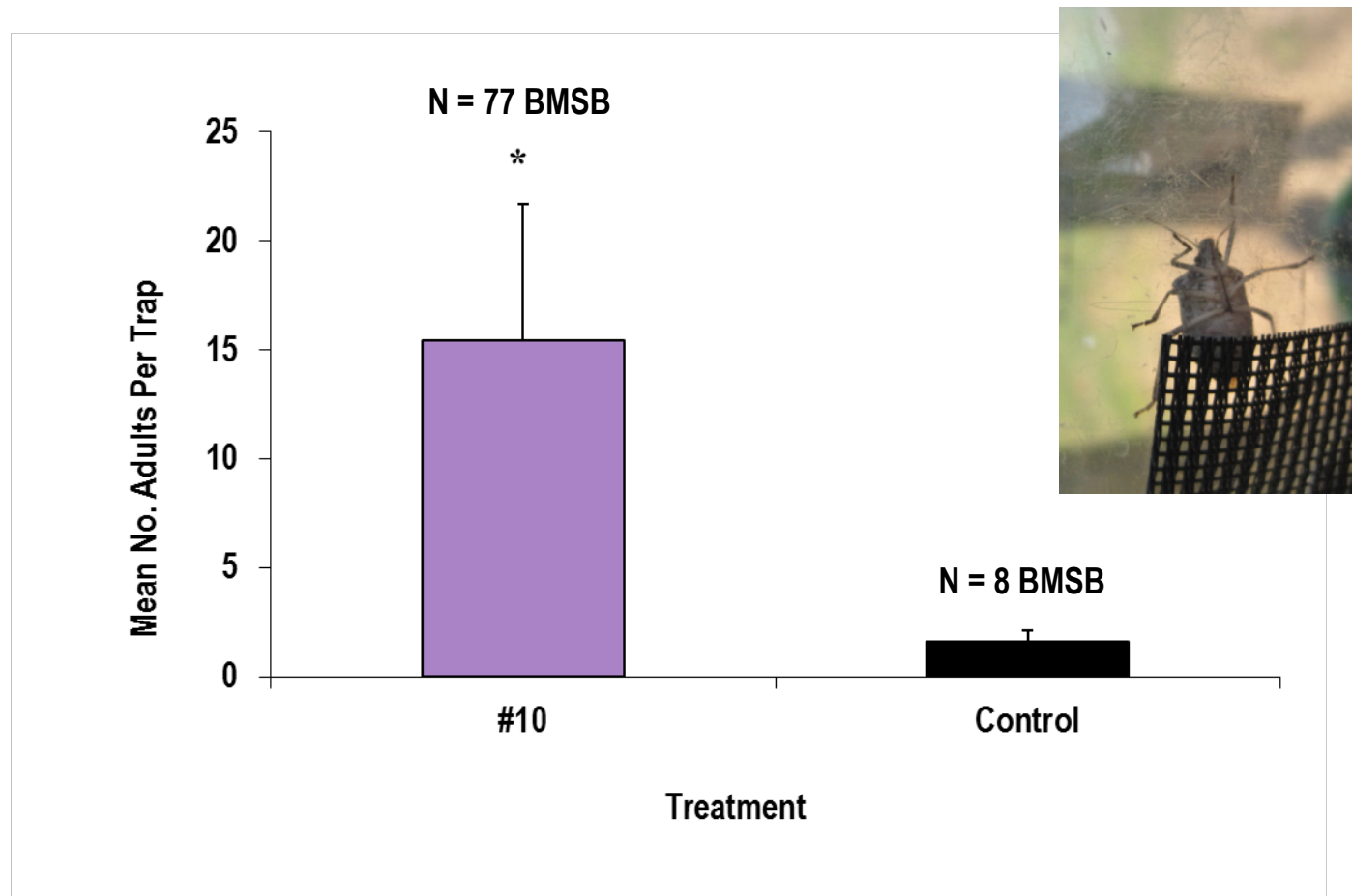




# Is #10 Attractive in the Early Season? Pre-Trial (March 20-April 17, 2012)

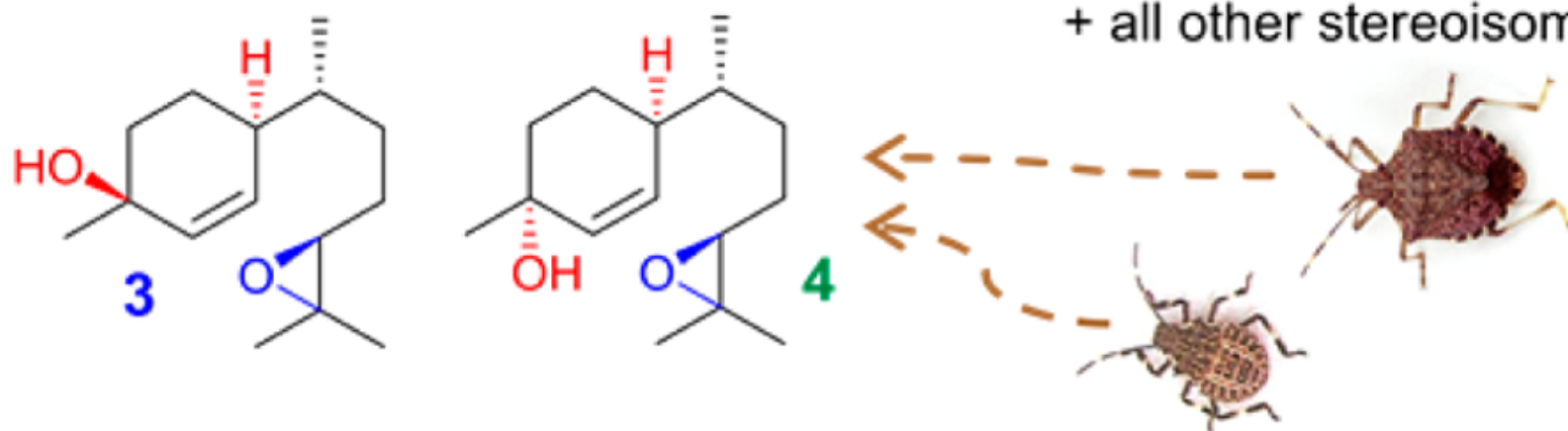
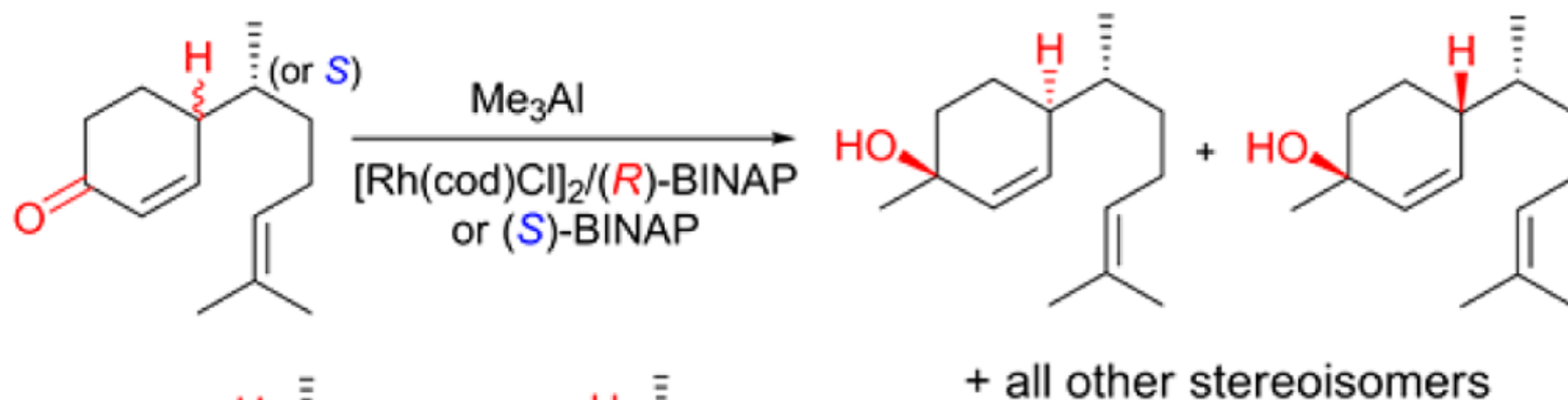


# Early Season Attraction Documented for BMSB March 20-April 17, 2012





# Two-Component BMSB Aggregation Pheromone Identified



**3+4:** aggregation pheromone of brown marmorated stink bug, *Halyomorpha halys*

# Broad Validation Across The Country

- Is BMSB attracted to the pheromone in the early season?
- Is BMSB attracted to the pheromone season-long?
- How attractive is this stimulus relative to MDT and unbaited traps?
- Traps evaluated in over 12 states across the country.





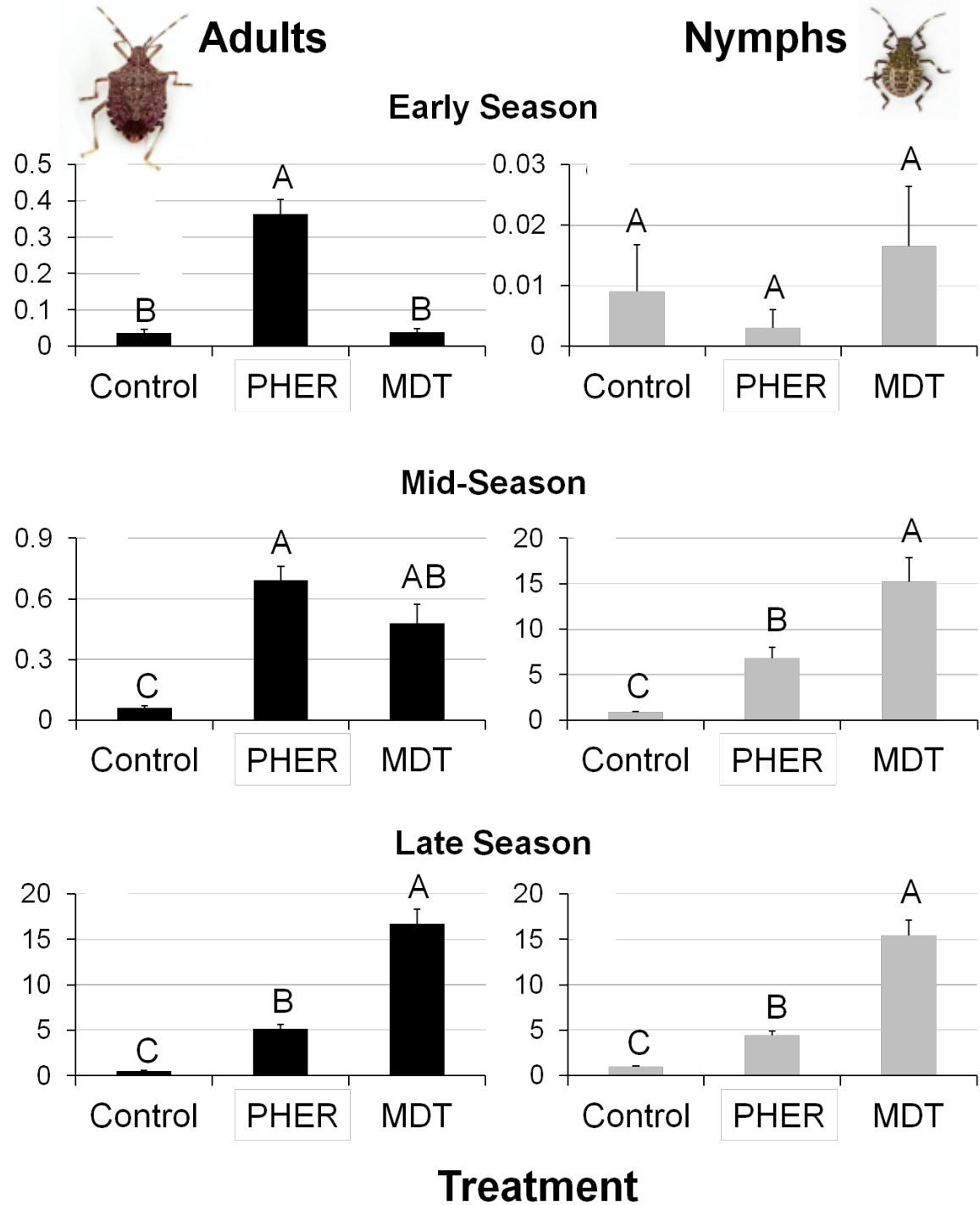
# General Protocol

- Black pyramid traps
- Three odor treatments
  - 1) BMSB Pheromone (10 mg)
  - 2) MDT (119 mg) 10X greater
  - 3) unbaited control
- Traps are deployed between wild host habitat and agricultural production areas.
- Traps were deployed in mid-April and left in place season-long.



# 2012 Summary Results

Mean Weekly Capture ( $\pm$ SE) of *H. halys* per Black Pyramid Trap

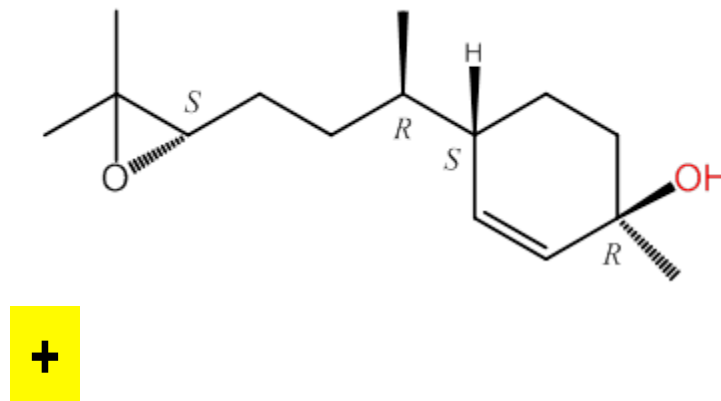
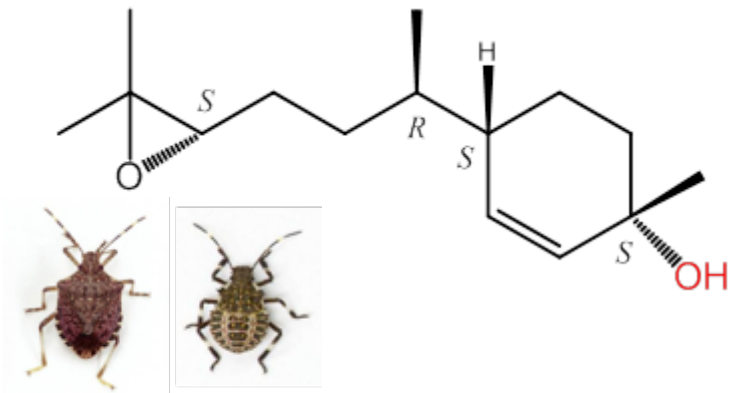




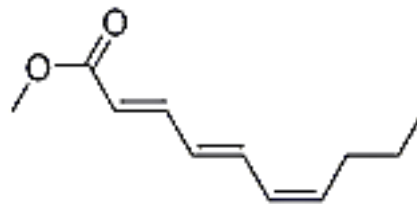
# Two-Component BMSB Aggregation Pheromone and Synergist

Main component of BMSB aggregation pheromone  
(3*S*,6*S*,7*R*,10*S*)-10,11-epoxy-1-bisabolen-3-ol

Minor component of BMSB aggregation pheromone  
(3*R*,6*S*,7*R*,10*S*)-10,11-epoxy-1-bisabolen-3-ol



Methyl (*E,E,Z*)-2,4,6-decatrienoate (MDT) acts as a synergist for BMSB pheromone



= Synergism

# General Protocol

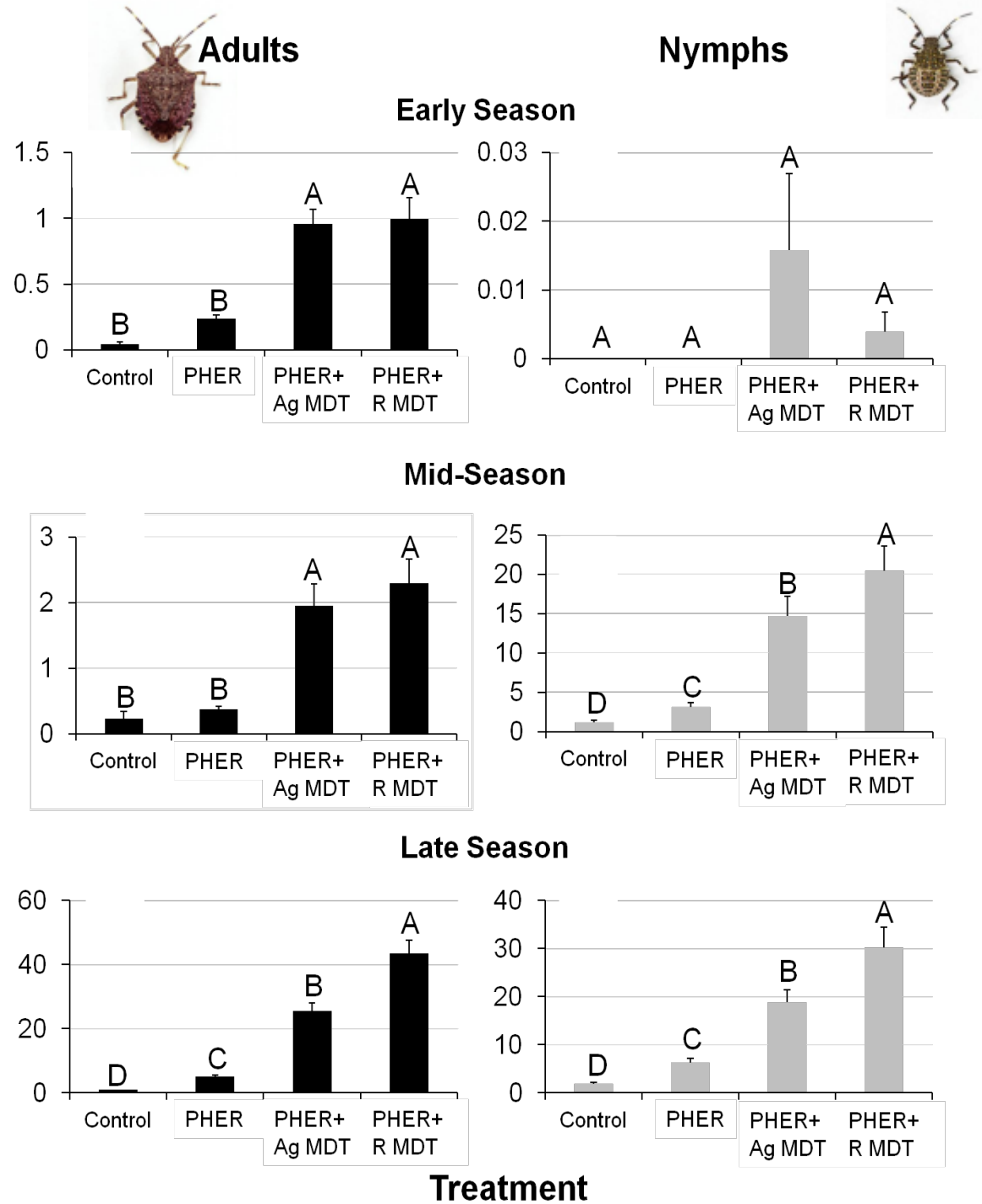
- Black pyramid traps
- Three odor treatments
  - 1) #10 (10 mg)
  - 2) #10 (10 mg) + Rescue MDT (119 mg)
  - 3) #10 (10 mg) + AgBio MDT (66 mg)
  - 4) Unbaited control
- Traps are deployed between wild host habitat and agricultural production areas.
- Traps were deployed in mid-April and left in place season-long.





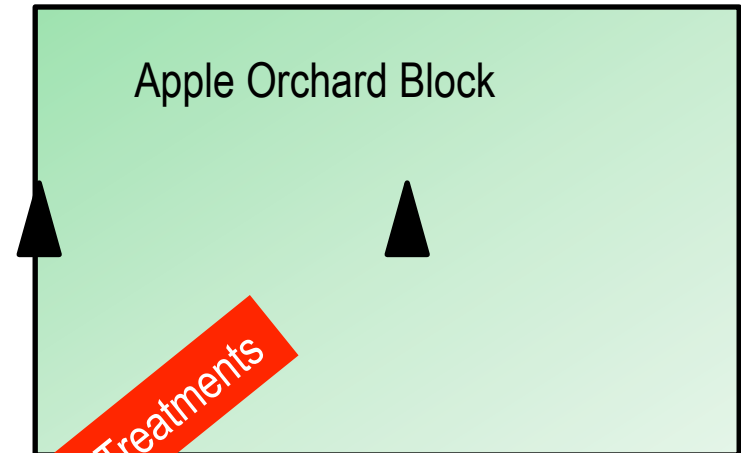
# 2013 Summary Results

Mean Weekly Capture ( $\pm$ SE) of *H. halys* per Black Pyramid Trap



# Can we use biological information provided by trap captures to guide management decisions?

- Apple blocks monitored with two baited traps. Traps checked weekly.
- When adult captures in either trap reached a set threshold, the block was treated with BMSB material (ARM).
- Block treated again 7-d later. Threshold was then reset.

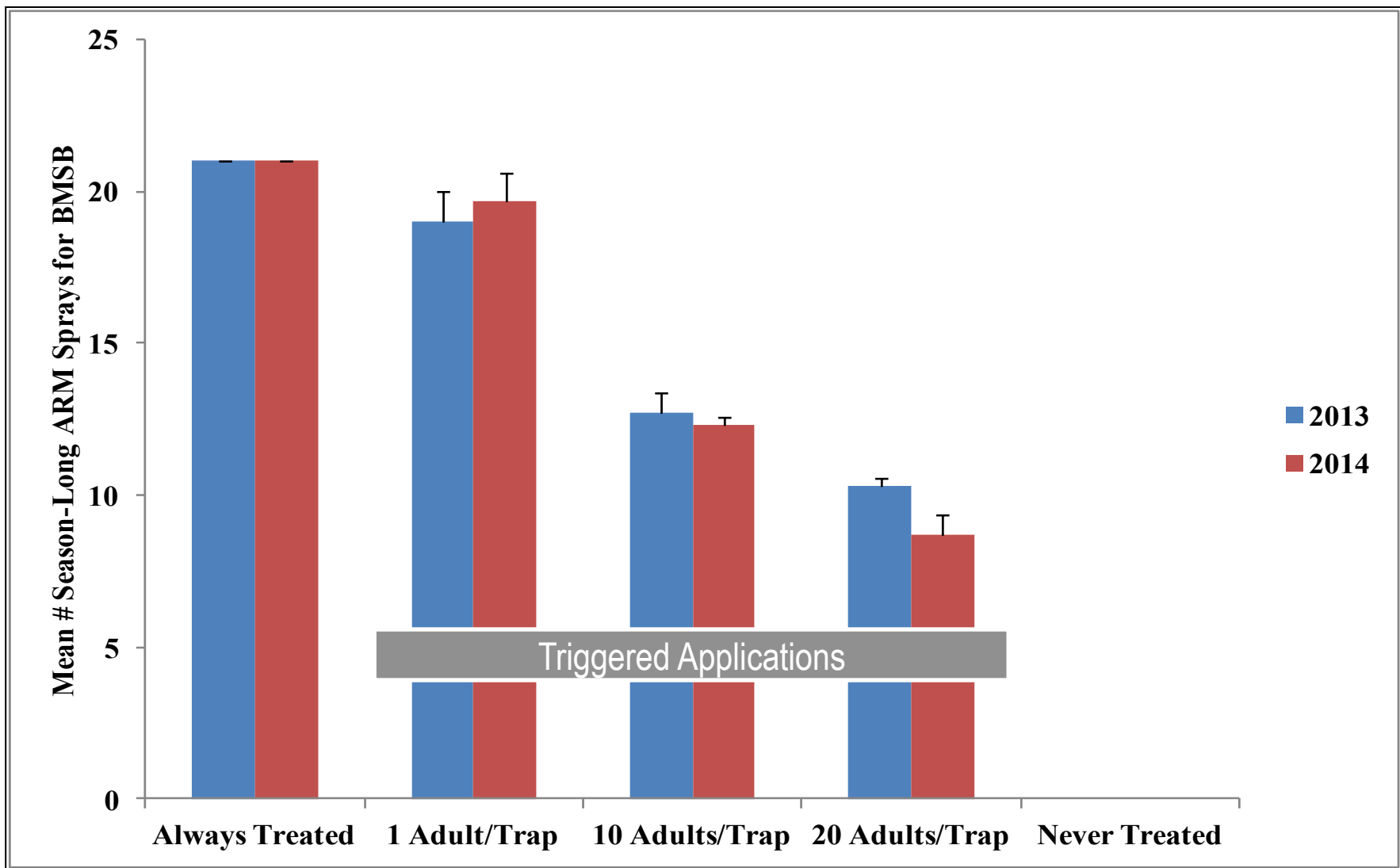


## Sprays Triggered at:

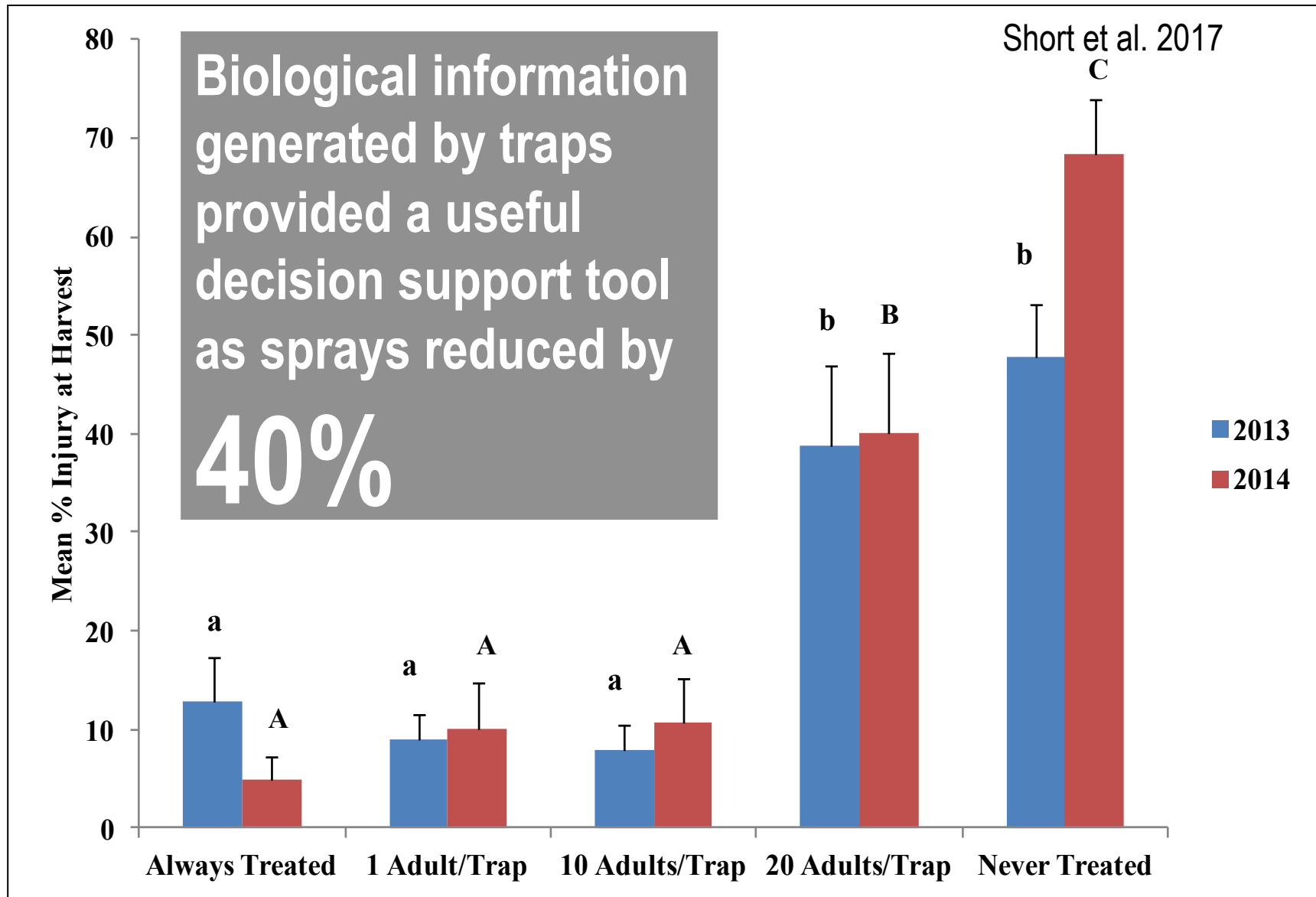
- 1) 1 Adult / Trap
- 2) 10 Adults / Trap
- 3) 20 Adults / Trap
- 4) Treated Every 7 d
- 5) No Spray (Control)



# Season-Long Insecticide Applications Made Against BMSB

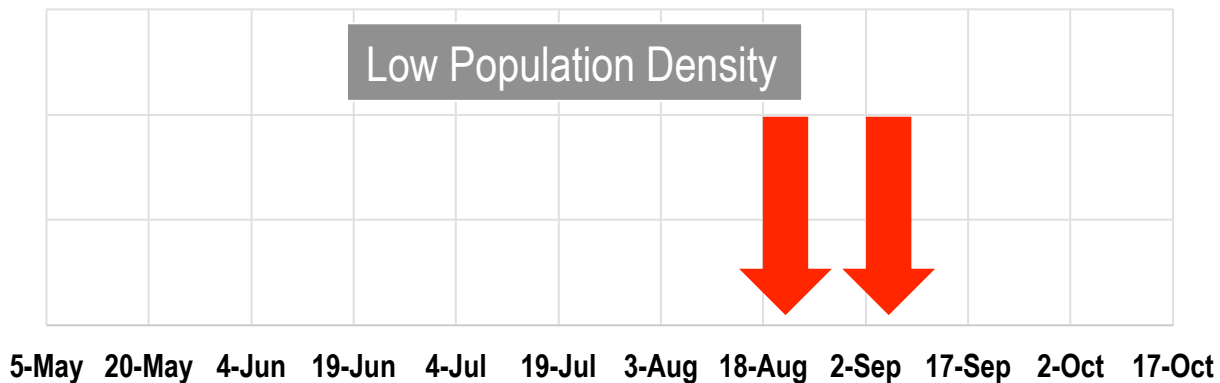
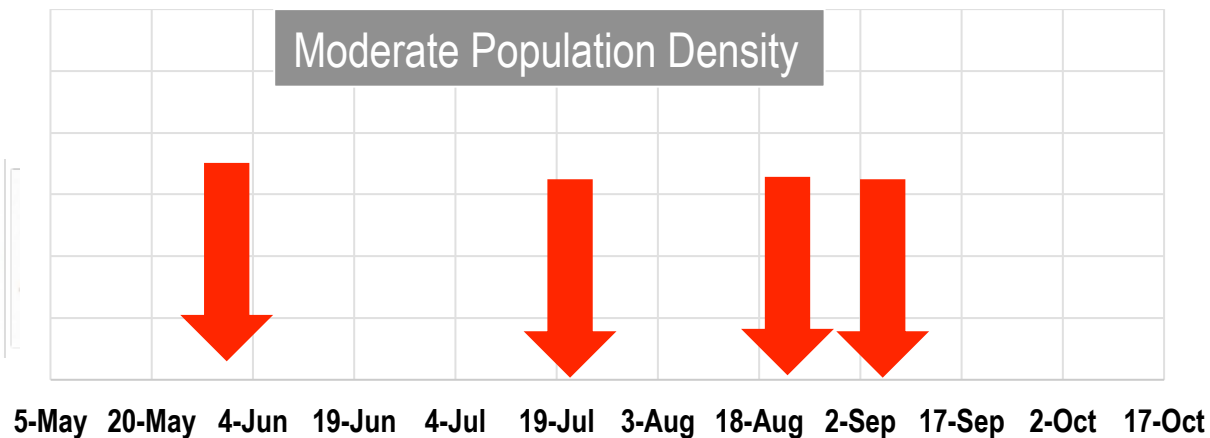
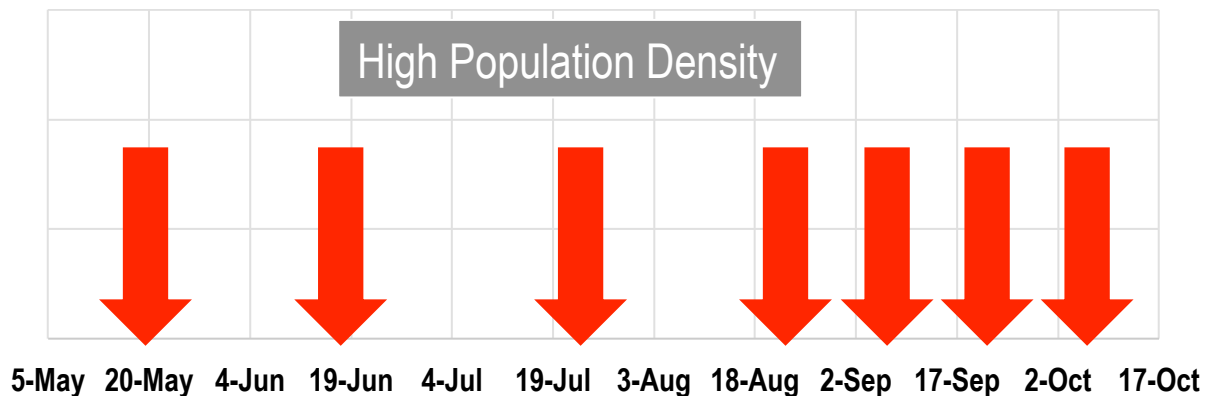


# BMSB Injury at Harvest





# Timing of Insecticide Applications



# Can we make trapping simpler for growers?



- **Visual Stimulus**
  - Large black pyramid (trunk-mimicking stimulus)
- **Olfactory Stimulus**
  - PHER + MDT
- **Capture Mechanism**
  - Tapered pyramid attached to inverted funnel jar with DDVP strip
- **Deployment Strategy**
  - Traps placed in peripheral row or border area

# Can we utilize other trap styles?

Experimental  
Standard  
Wooden  
Pyramid



Coroplast  
Pyramid



Small Pyramid  
(Ground)



Small Pyramid  
(Limb)



Small Pyramid  
(Hanging)



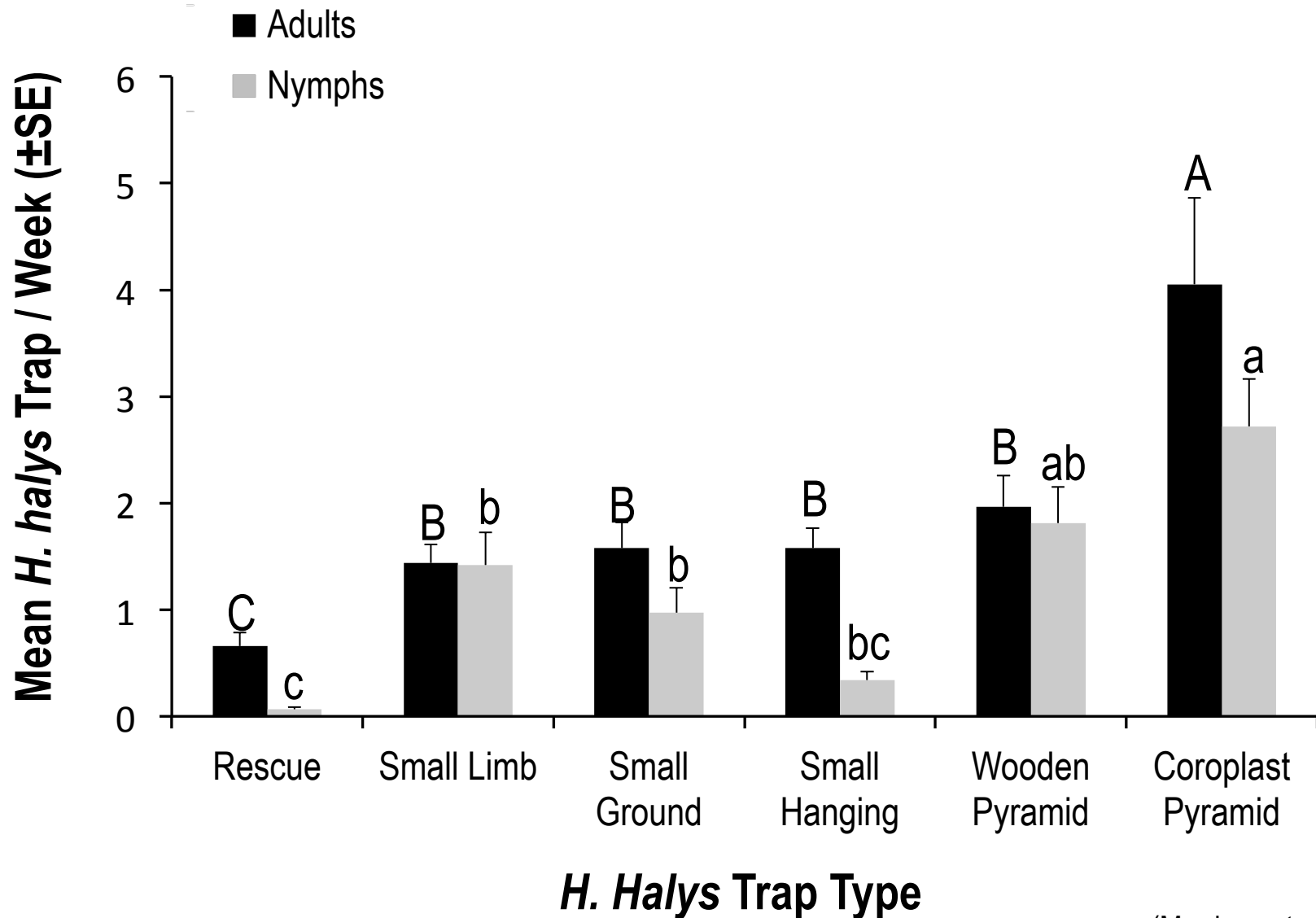
Rescue  
(Hanging/  
Foilage)



- Are captures similar among other trap types and deployment strategies compared with our experimental standard?
- Baited with BMSB Pheromone + MDT synergist. Two years of data from commercial orchards.



# Season-Long Trap Captures / Sensitivity



(Morrison et al. 2015)

# Coroplast vs. All Others

Coroplast Pyramid



Experimental Standard Wooden Pyramid



Small Pyramid (Ground)



Small Pyramid (Hanging)



Small Pyramid (Limb)



Rescue (Hanging/ Foilage)



(Morrison et al. 2015)

# New Trap Comparisons

Delta Trap



Yellow Sticky Card



Standard Coroplast Pyramid



Small Black Pyramid



Pipe Trap

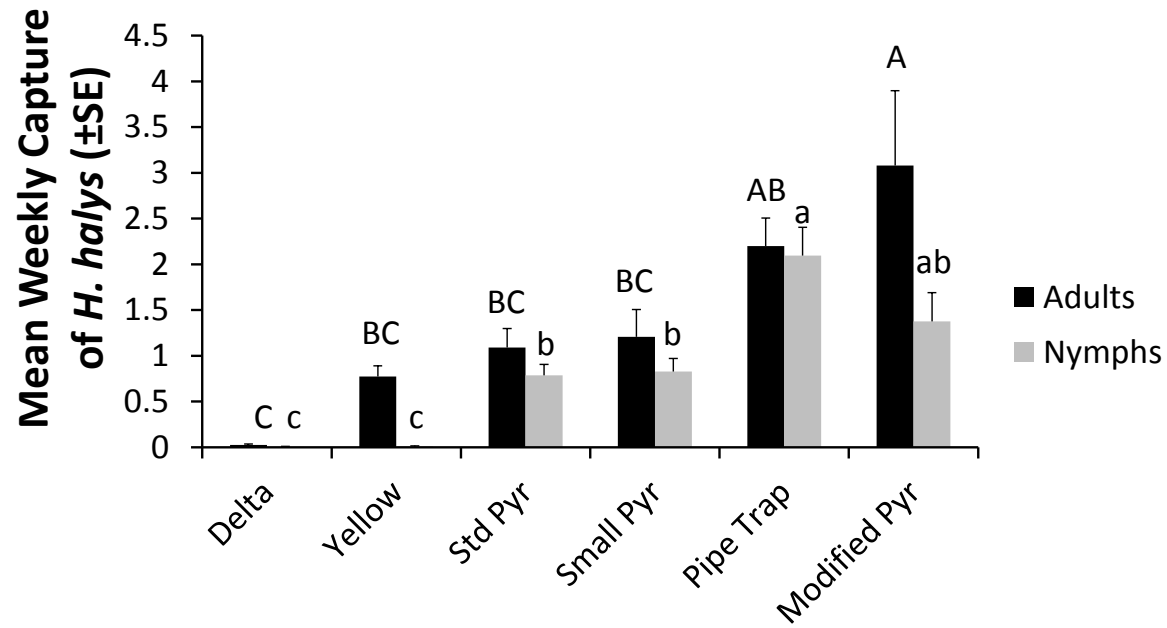


Modified Jar Top Pyramid

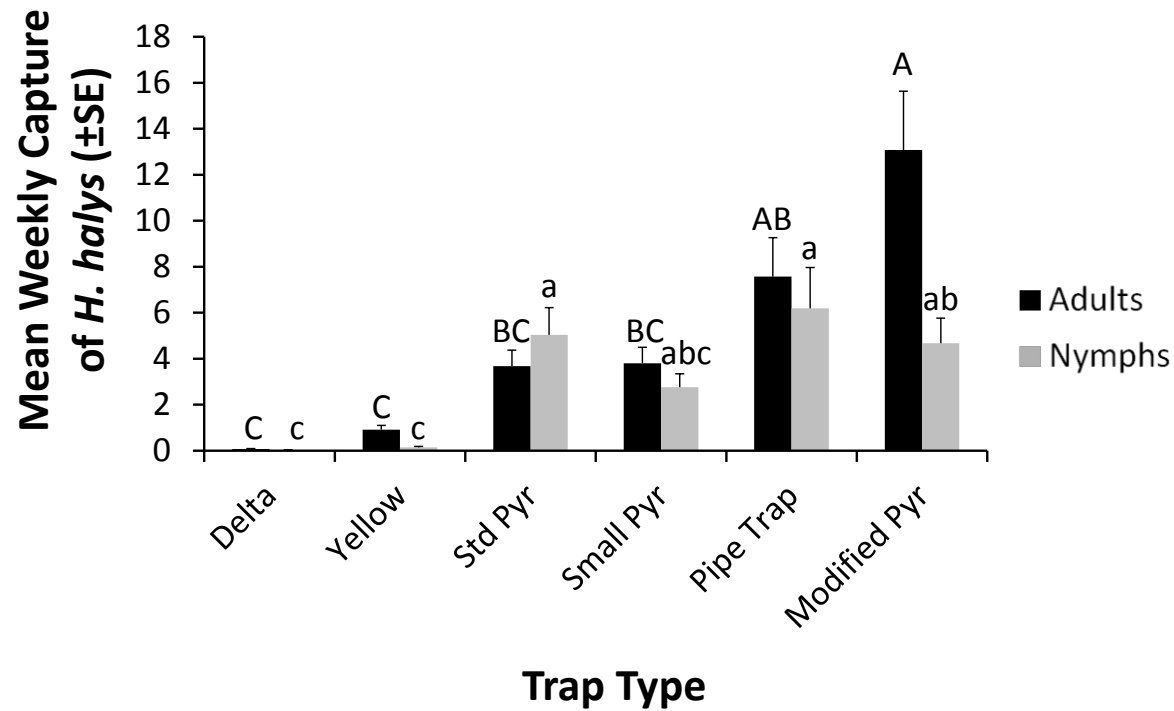




## 2015 Results



## 2016 Results



# Standard Pyramid vs. All Others

Delta Trap



Yellow Sticky Card



Standard Coroplast Pyramid



Small Black Pyramid



Pipe Trap



Modified Jar Top Pyramid



# Standard Traps vs. Clear Sticky Cards

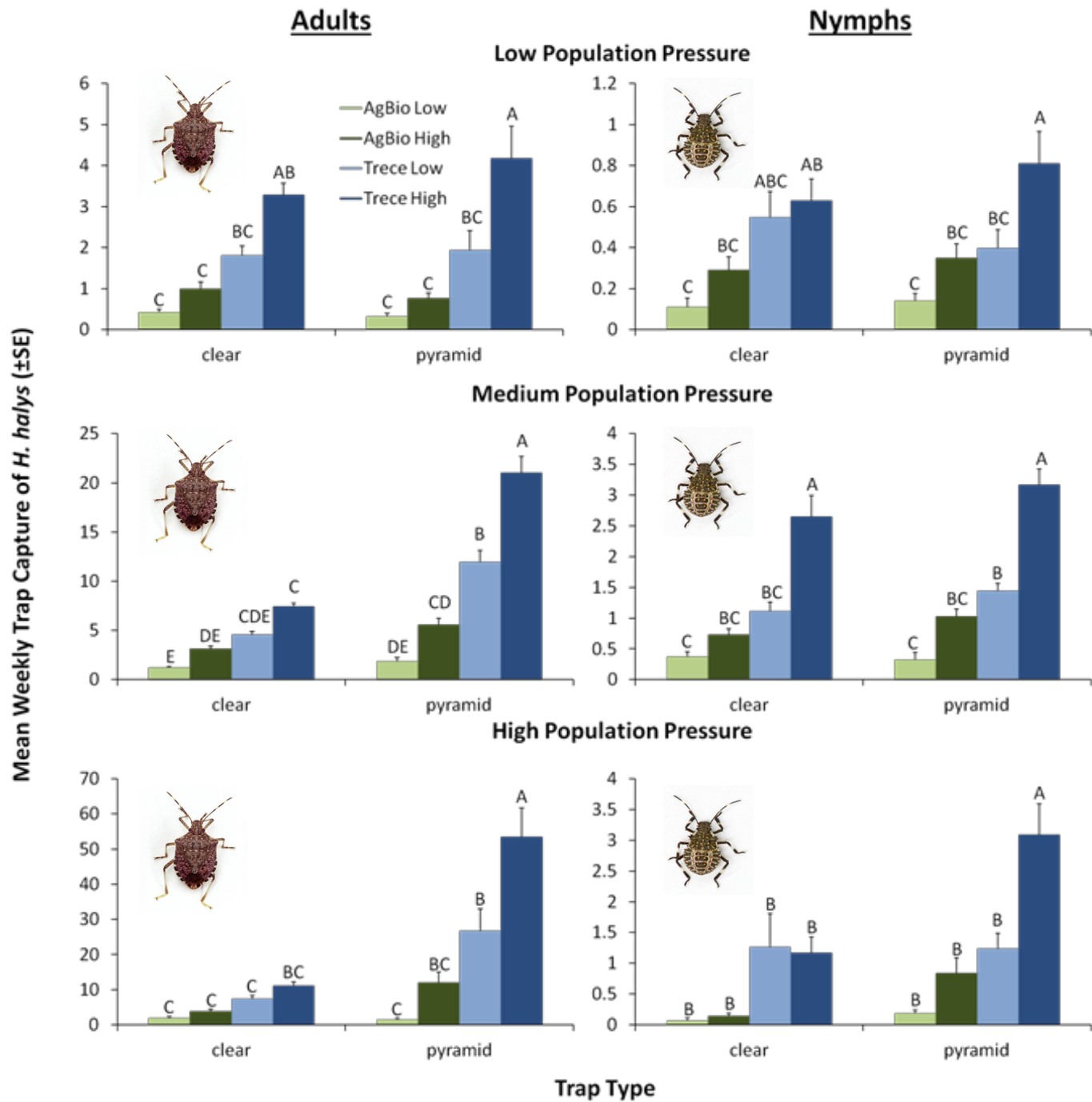


- Monitoring Loading (1x, 5/50) and Surveillance Loading (4x, 20/200) loading.
- Twelve sites in WV, MD and VA.
- Season-long trap captures.

**Ministry for Primary Industries**  
Manatū Ahu Matua



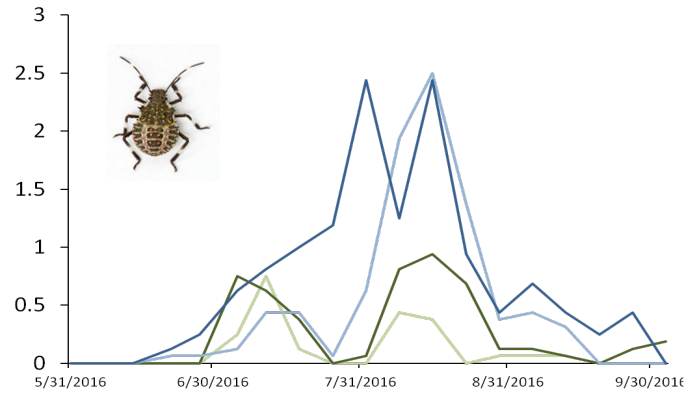
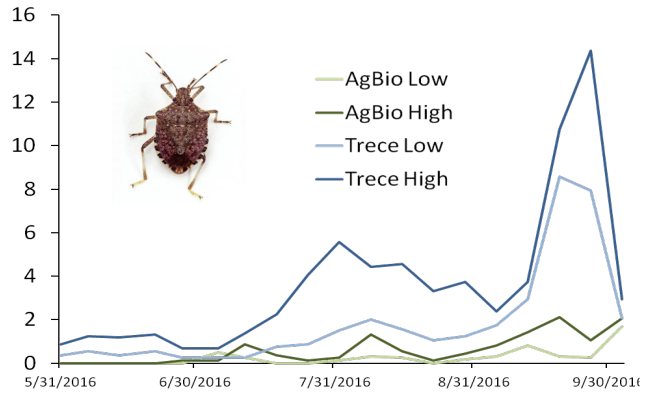




### Adults

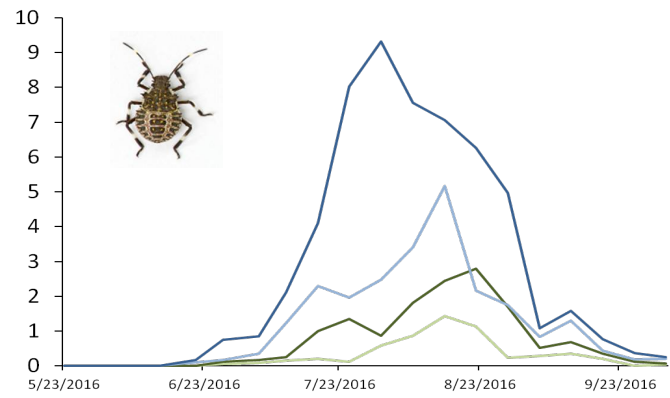
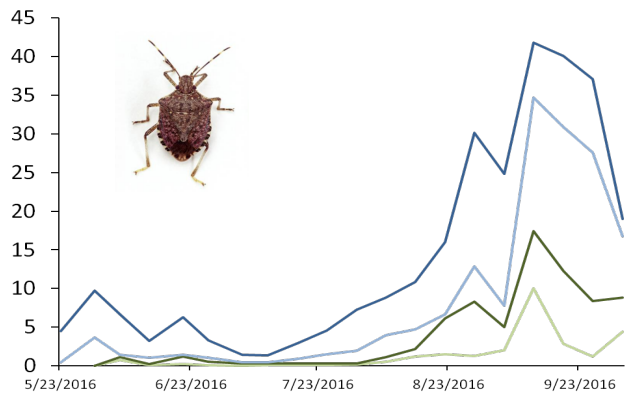
### Nymphs

#### Low Population Pressure

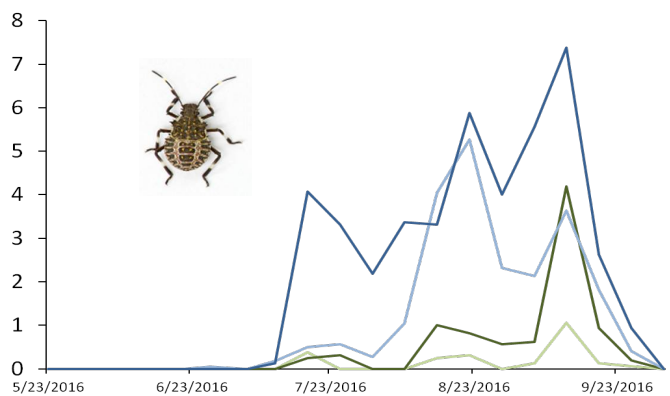
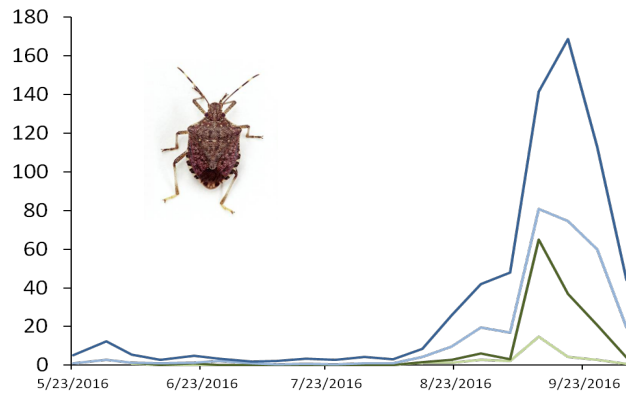


#### Medium Population Pressure

Mean Weekly Trap Capture of *H. halys*



#### High Population Pressure





Date

# Correlations Between Pyramid Traps and Sticky Cards



**Table 1.** Pearson correlation coefficients between captures of *H. halys* in pyramid traps compared to clear sticky cards under low, medium, and high population pressure

Population Pressure		Adults			Nymphs	
		df	<i>P</i>		<i>r</i>	df
<i>Trece Low</i>						
Low	0.777	37	0.0001	0.883	37	0.0001
Med	0.617	158	0.0001	0.499	158	0.0001
High	0.663	40	0.0001	0.414	40	0.007
<i>Trece High</i>						
Low	0.740	37	0.0001	0.703	37	0.0001
Med	0.528	158	0.0001	0.462	158	0.0001
High	0.673	40	0.0001	0.322	40	0.04



# Strong Correlations Between Pyramid Traps and Sticky Cards For Adults and Nymphs Under High, Moderate and Low Pressure



# Key Components of Trap-Based Monitoring



- Visual Stimulus
  - Upright wooden post
- Olfactory Stimulus
  - Trece 1x Lure
- Capture Mechanism
  - Double sided sticky card attached to top of post
- Deployment Strategy
  - In border regions between wild host habitat and agricultural production or other habitat.

# What Are Our Next Steps For Monitoring?



- **Trap Style.** Can we develop a more user-friendly trap design?
- **Lure Efficiency.** What is the distance of response?  
How many traps do we need?
- **Trap Location.** Where should traps be deployed?  
What is the impact of surrounding vegetation?
- **Decision support tools.** Can we develop thresholds with these modified designs and for other crops?



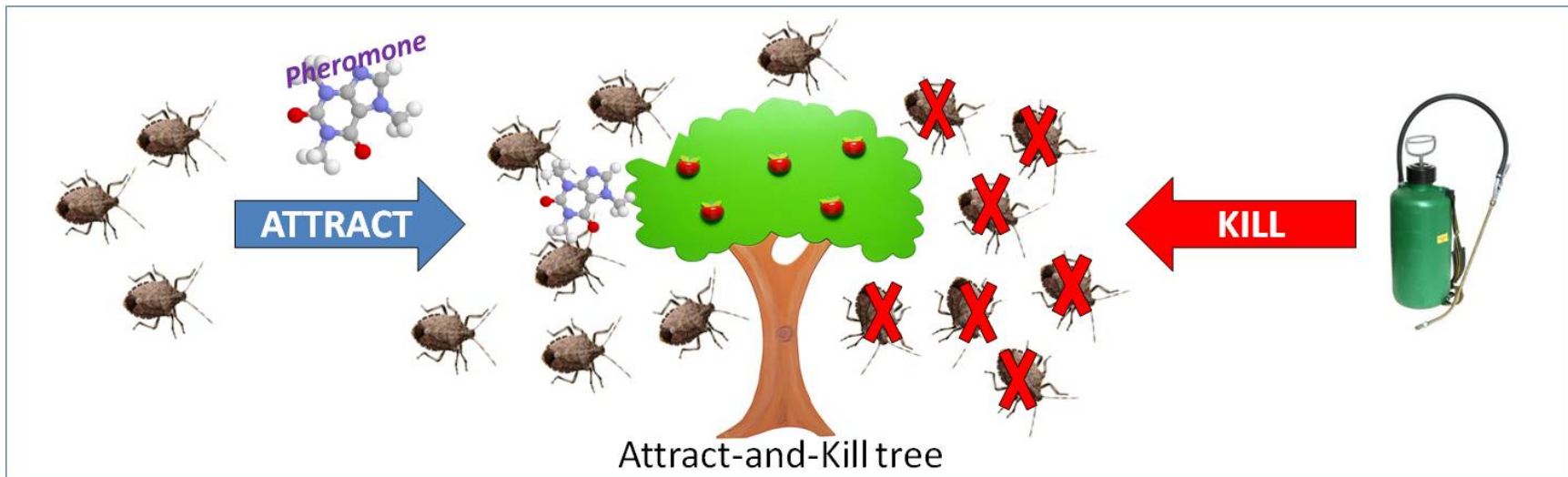
# Aggregation Vs. Sex Pheromone

Area Response  
Attractive To Males, Females and  
Nymphs

Point  
Source  
Attractive  
to Males  
Only



# Can We Reduce Insecticide Inputs Further?



# Do BMSB show a dose-response when pheromone deployed in association with apples trees?

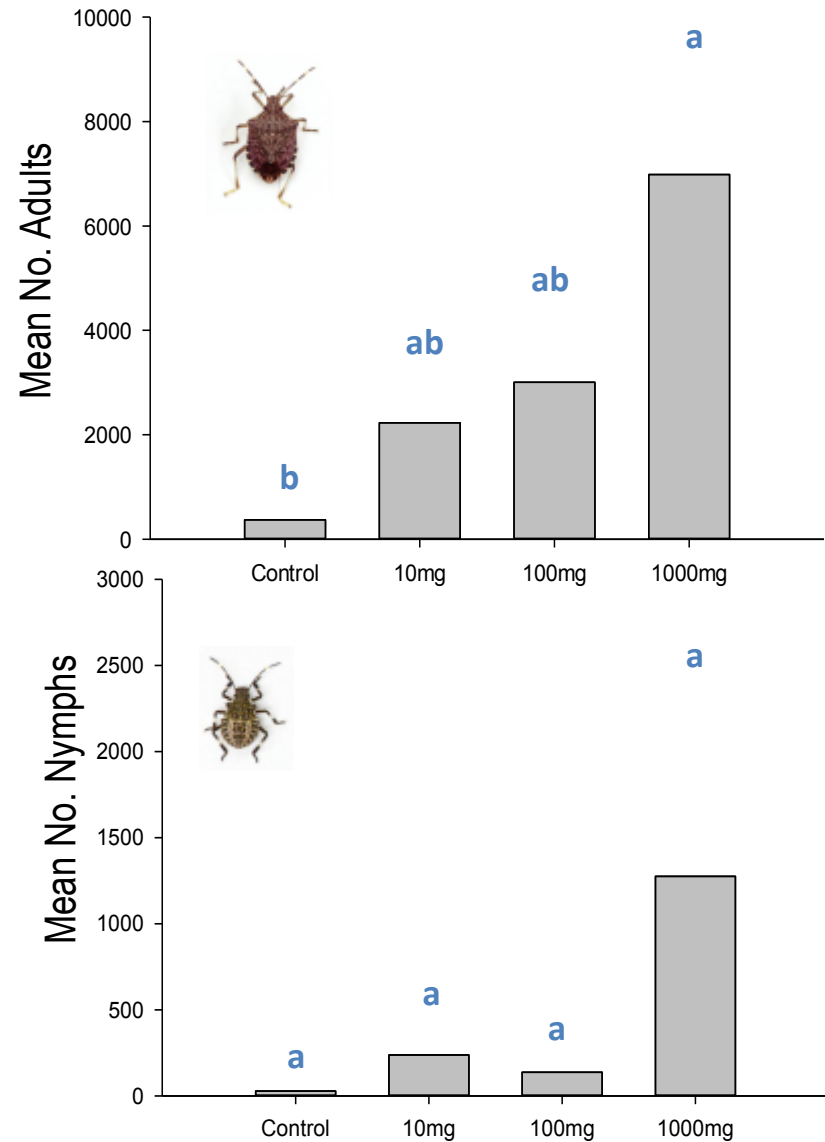
- Baited apples trees with 10, 100 or 1000 mg pheromone + synergist along with unbaited control.
- Treated trees with bifenthrin 48h later.
- Counted number of bugs 6h and 6d after treatment.





# Tentative Conclusions

- BMSB do show a strong dose-dependent response to the pheromone + synergist.
- Continuous killing over the course of a week.
- Attract-and-kill hold promise based on preliminary results.



# Behavioral Basis for Attract and Kill in Apple

- Attraction To A Spatially Precise Location

< 2 m from bait source



- Long Retention Time

Remain on baited host plant for > 24h



- Effective Killing Mechanism

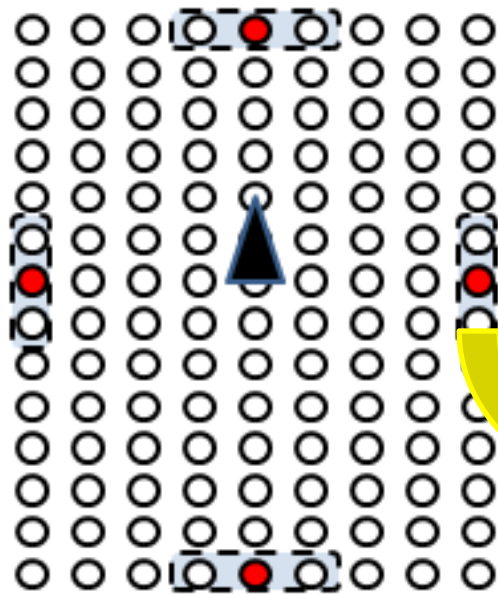
Season-long program

Date of Application	BMSB Trade Name	A.I.	Recommended Rate/A	Gal/A Restrictions	Season Max	Max applications	Min spray interval	PHI
15-May	Lannate SP	methomyl	1 lb	50 gal/A	5 lb/A	none	5-7 d	14 d
22-May	Mustang Maxx	zeta-cypermethrin	4 oz	20 gal/A	24 oz/A	none	7 d	14 d
29-May	Lannate SP	methomyl	1 lb	50 gal/A	5 lb/A	none	5-7 d	14 d
5-Jun	Mustang Maxx	zeta-cypermethrin	4 oz	20 gal/A	24 oz/A	none	7 d	14 d
12-Jun	Lannate SP	methomyl	1 lb	50 gal/A	5 lb/A	none	5-7 d	14 d
19-Jun	Bifenture EC	bifenthrin	6.4 oz	50 gal/A	32 oz/A	none	30 d	14 d
26-Jun	Lannate SP	methomyl	1 lb	50 gal/A	5 lb/A	none	5-7 d	14 d
3-Jul	Endigo ZCX	thiamethoxam + lani	6 oz	20 gal/A	28 oz/A	none	10 d	35 d
10-Jul	Endigo ZCX	thiamethoxam + lani	6 oz	20 gal/A	28 oz/A	none	10 d	35 d
17-Jul	Endigo ZCX	thiamethoxam + lani	6 oz	20 gal/A	28 oz/A	none	10 d	35 d
24-Jul	Endigo ZCX	thiamethoxam + lani	6 oz	20 gal/A	28 oz/A	none	10 d	35 d
31-Jul	Endigo ZCX	thiamethoxam + lani	6 oz	20 gal/A	28 oz/A	none	10 d	35 d
7-Aug	Endigo ZCX	thiamethoxam + lani	6 oz	20 gal/A	28 oz/A	none	10 d	35 d
14-Aug	Endigo ZCX	thiamethoxam + lani	6 oz	20 gal/A	28 oz/A	none	10 d	35 d
21-Aug	Endigo ZCX	thiamethoxam + lani	6 oz	20 gal/A	28 oz/A	none	10 d	35 d
28-Aug	Endigo ZCX	thiamethoxam + lani	6 oz	20 gal/A	28 oz/A	none	10 d	35 d
4-Sep	Bifenture EC	bifenthrin	6.4 oz	50 gal/A	32 oz/A	none	30 d	14 d
11-Sep	Venom	dinotefuran	6.75 oz	50 gal/A	13.5 oz/A	none	2-7 d	3 d
18-Sep	Leverage 2.7	imidacloprid + cyflu	5.1 oz	100 gal/A	5.1 oz	none	14 d	7 d
25-Sep	Venom	dinotefuran	6.75 oz	50 gal/A	13.5 oz/A	none	2-7 d	3 d

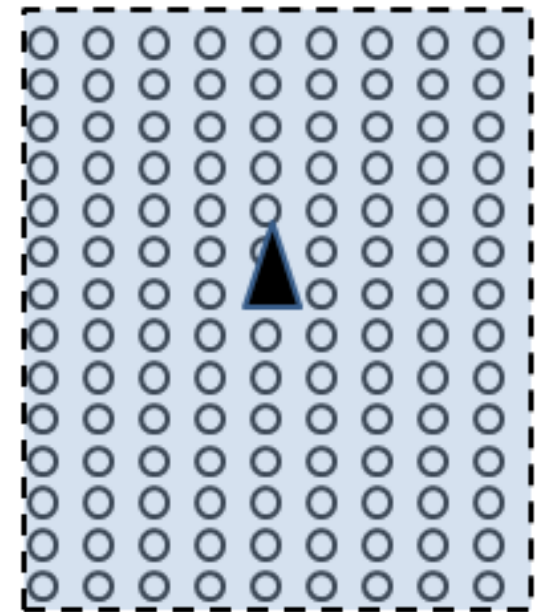
# Commercial Attract-and-Kill Set-Up

- 10 Orchard Blocks in MD, WV, VA, PA and NJ
- Two treatments: 'Attract and Kill' and Grower Standard
- Monitored with baited pyramid traps

Attract-and-Kill Block



Grower Standard



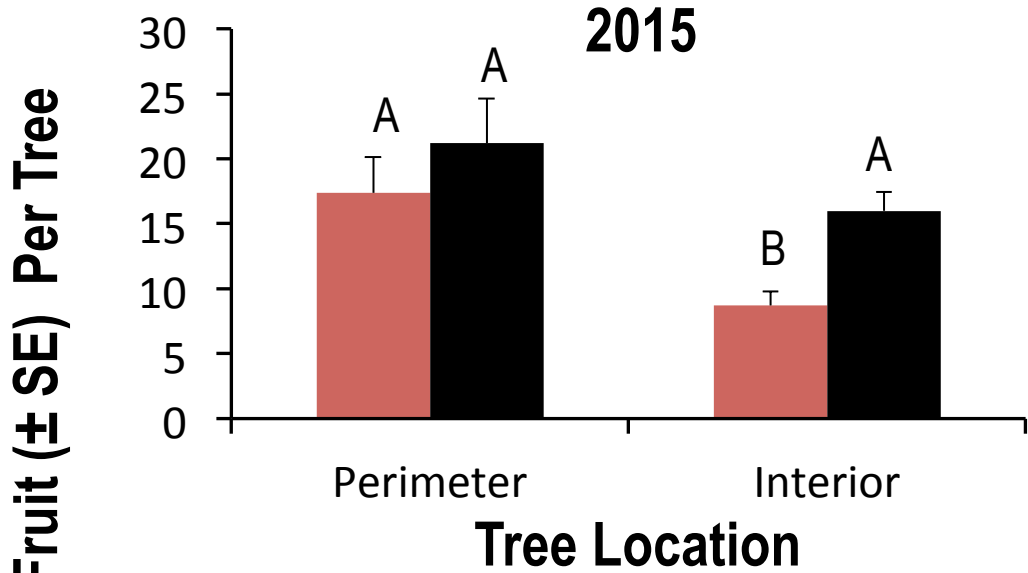


# Damage Assessments To Fruit

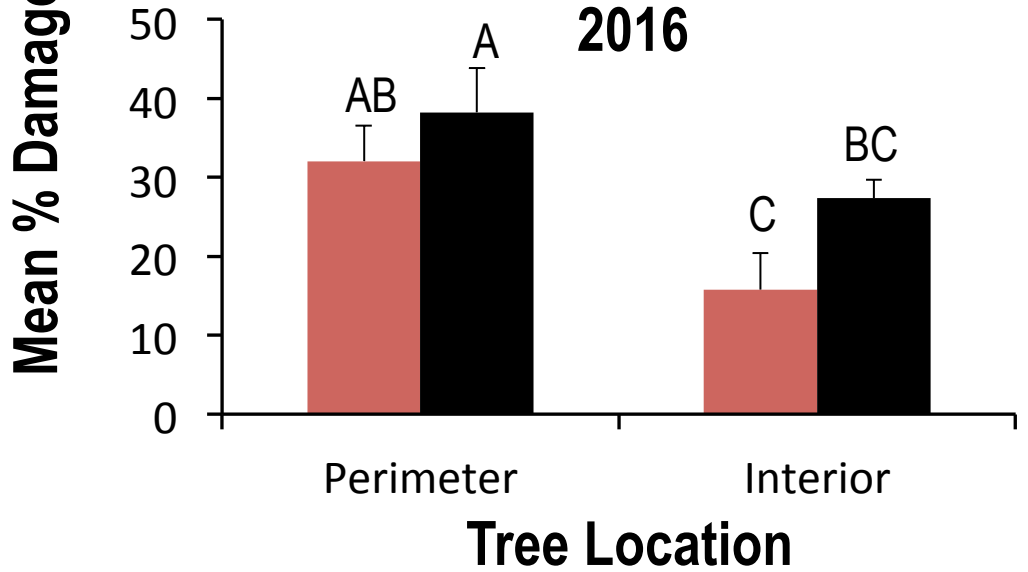
- Damage samples taken early-season, mid-season and at harvest.
- Destructively sampled 10 fruit/tree from 16 interior trees, 4 exterior and baited 'attract and kill' trees.
- Counted the number of internal damage sites.
- Identical numbers of fruit sampled in grower standard blocks.



# Commerical SARE Attract-and-Kill Summary



Low Population Density



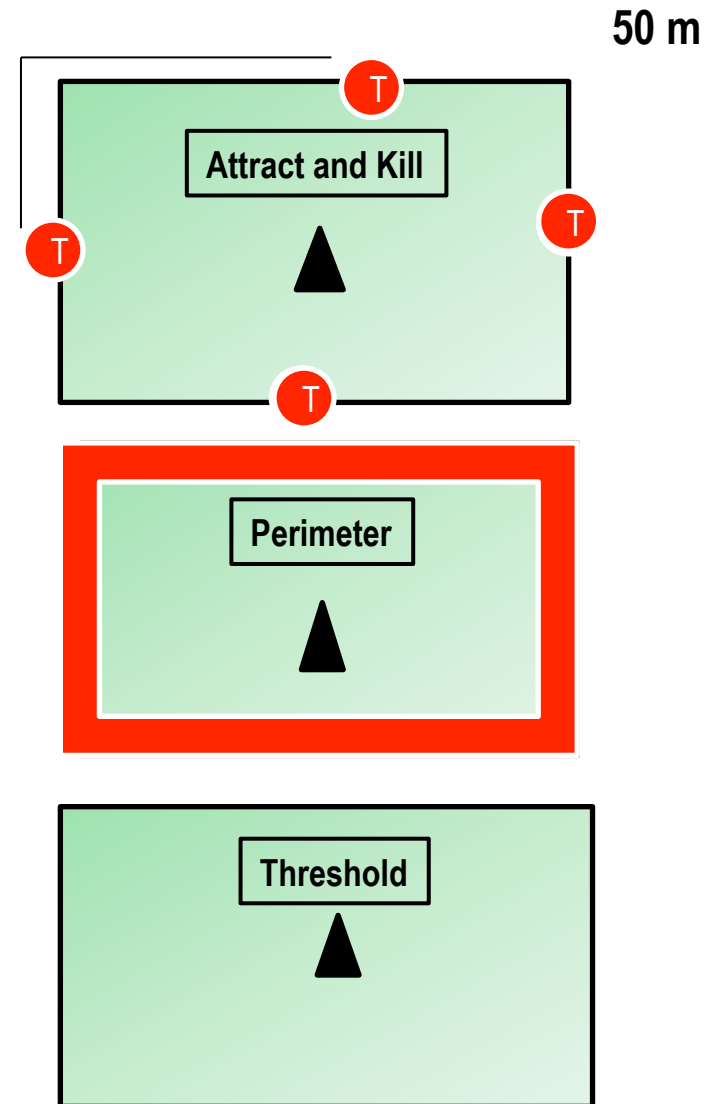
Higher Population Density



# 2015-2016 Perimeter-Based Management Trials

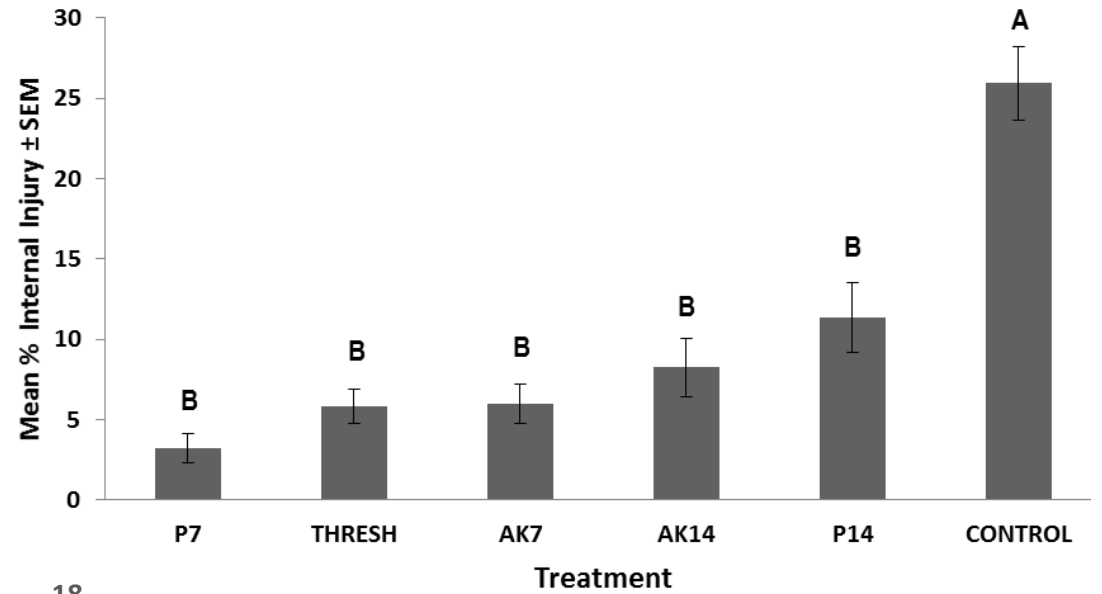
- Can we reduce spray intervals for perimeter-based management?
- Apple blocks managed by the following perimeter-based management strategies and compared with treatment threshold and an unsprayed control.

- 1) Standard AK – 7-d intervals
- 2) Modified AK – 14-d intervals
- 3) Standard Full Perimeter – 7-d intervals
- 4) Modified Full Perimeter – 14-d intervals
- 5) Treatment Threshold (10 BMSB/Trap)
- 6) Control (No Insecticide Applications)

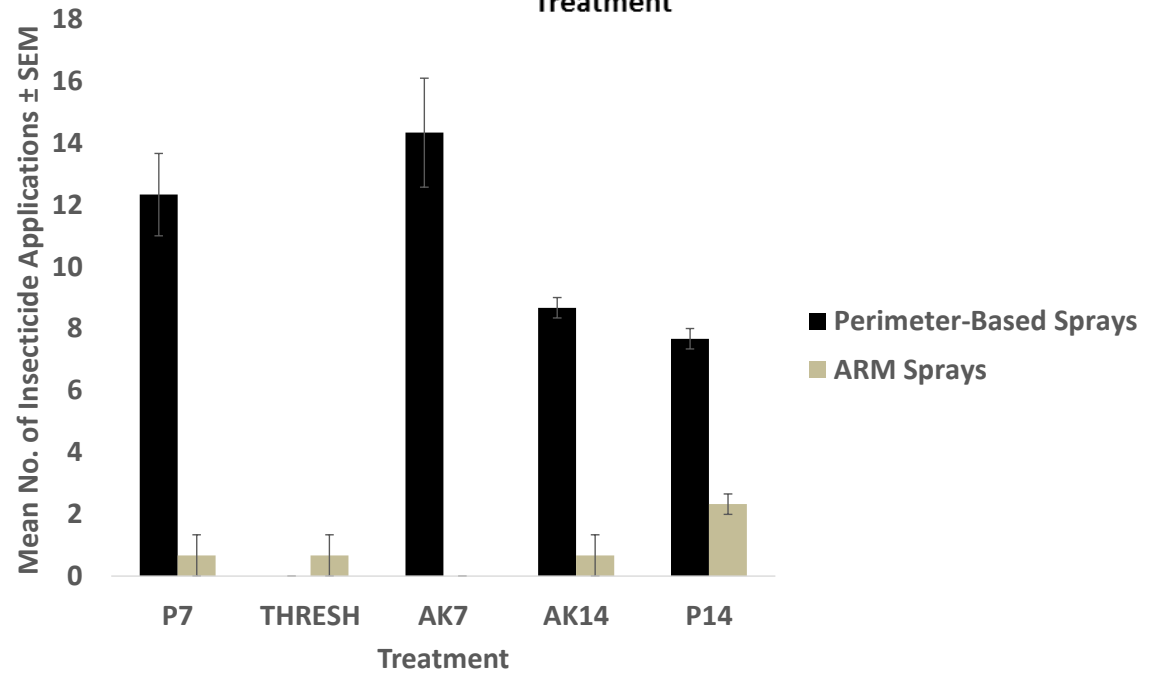




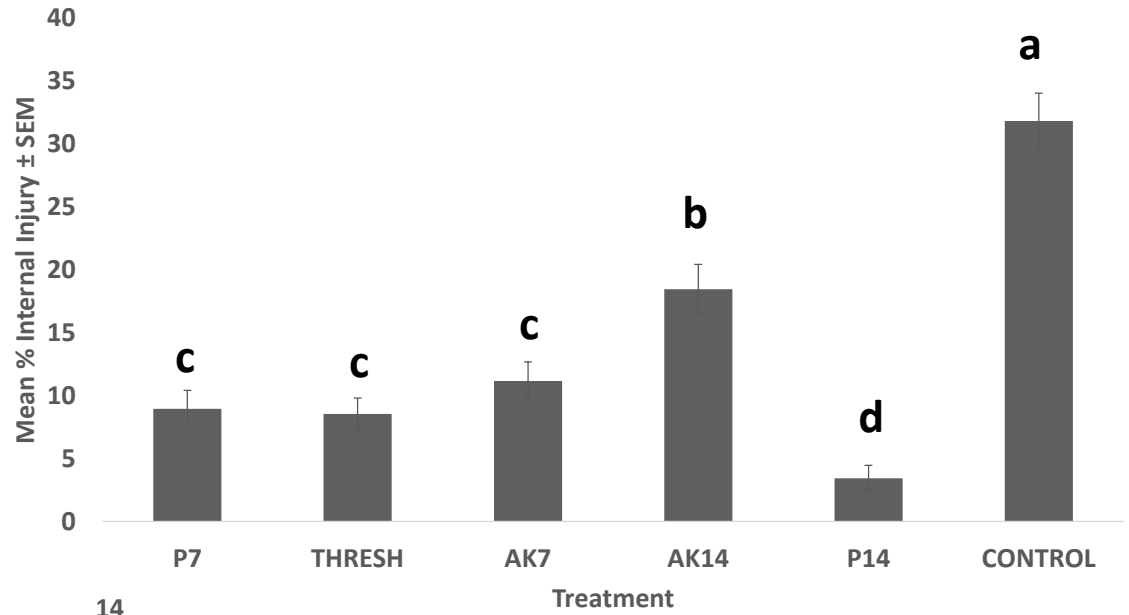
# 2015 Harvest Results



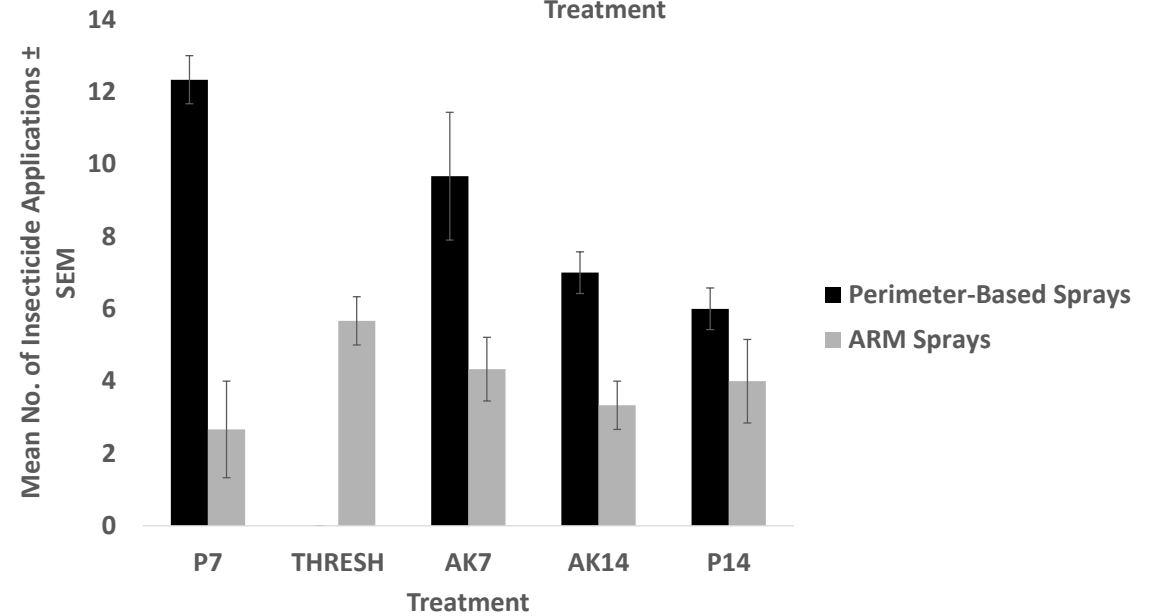
Low Population Density



# 2016 Harvest Results



Higher Population Density



# Cost/Benefit by Program

- **Percentage of Orchard Treated**
  - AK = ~3%
  - Perimeter = ~20%
  - Threshold = ~100%
- **Number of Standard Spray Events**
  - Standard 7d interval = ~12 / season
  - Modified 14d interval = ~7 / season
  - Threshold = ~3 / season
- **Additional Arm Sprays Triggered by Monitoring Traps**
  - AK 7d = 2 , AK 14d = 2
  - P 7d = 2, P 14d = 3
- **Cost of Pheromone**
  - Monitoring = \$4.35 per lure changed at 8-week intervals
  - AK = \$830/acre
- **Other Considerations**
  - Labor and fuel
  - Secondary pests
  - Longer term benefits



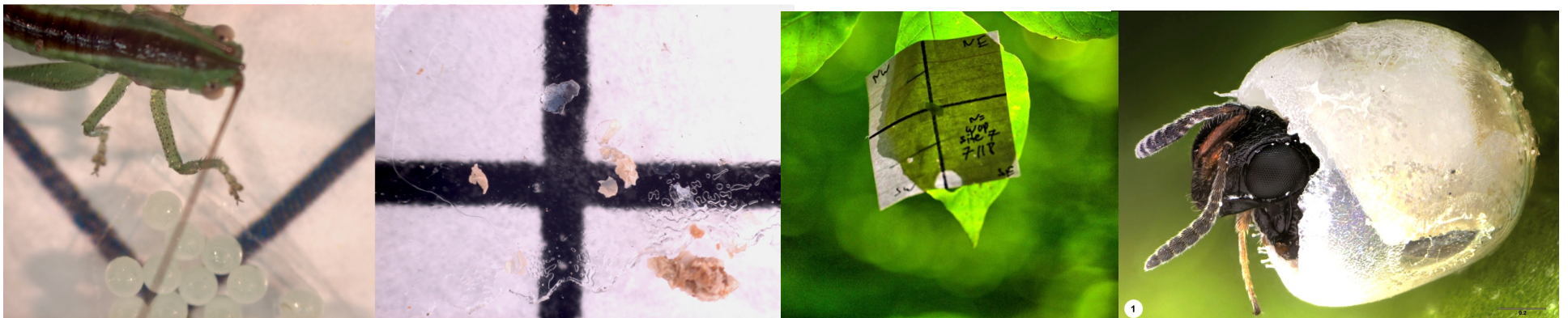


# Tentative Conclusions

- Pheromone-based tools hold promise for BMSB management in apple orchards. Traps can be used as decision-support tools and simpler trap designs likely will increase adoptability.
- Perimeter Spray and Attract and kill can work to reduce insecticide inputs in commercial orchards. Some growers are not willing to commit to a 7d regime. Cost of pheromone for attract and kill is high. Need to reduce cost via commercial competition, other refinements such as inclusion of host plant volatiles or fewer baited trees.
- NEXT STEP – Perimeter sprays triggered by threshold.

# Future Project Directions

- Continued cooperative, collaborative and integrated approach to research and Extension on a national level.
- Developing IPM-based strategies including trap-based treatment thresholds, border sprays, cultural control, behavioral control, etc.
- Strong emphasis on long-term, landscape-level solutions including conservation biological control as well as classical biological control.



# Acknowledgements



- BMSB SCRI CAP Team and Leskey Lab
- USDA NIFA SCRI # 2011-51181-30937, USDA NIFA OREI #2012-51300-20097
- NE SARE # LNE14-334





# Acknowledgements



- BMSB SCRI CAP Team and Leskey Lab
- USDA NIFA SCRI # 2011-51181-30937, USDA NIFA OREI #2012-51300-20097
- NE SARE # LNE14-334

