

### BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF BMSB BY SAMURAI WASP (*TRISSOLCUS JAPONICUS*)



First Detector Workshop Kate Richardson M.S. Ecology Student Utah State University



# Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) Invasion

- Invasive from Asia
- Severe agricultural pest and urban nuisance
- Advantageous traits
  - Polyphagous
  - Long distance dispersal
  - Overwinters in human structures







# **BMSB** in Utah

- 2012- First detection
- 2016- Establishment & nuisance problems
- 2017- First crop damage









# APPLE

TART CHERRY



# PEACH

# Trying to Control BMSB

#### Broad Spectrum insecticides

- Low effectiveness-adults
- Costly
- Disrupt IPM
  - Kill beneficials & natural enemies
  - Insecticide resistance
  - Secondary pest outbreaks







**Biological Control Shows Promise** 

- Egg Parasitoids
- Classic & Conservation Biocontrol



## **Utah Native Parasitoid Contenders**







#### Anastatus sp.

#### Telenomus sp.

#### Trissolcus sp.

### Low parasitism: 0.5-3.7% (Holthouse et al. 2020)





# Samurai Wasp Discovered in Utah

- Trissolcus japonicus
- Salt Lake City, Utah, June 2019
- Mean parasitism rate 78.5%
  (Holthouse et al. 2020)





Updated: 3/10/2021

# **Environmental Challenges**

- Novel landscape
- High elevation (>1200 m)
  - Heavy snowfall
- Arid, hot summers
- "Marginal" & "Unsuitable"



(Avila & Charles 2018)

### RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- 1. Survey native & exotic parasitoids
  - Impacts of groundcover diversity
- 2. Compare cover crop floral resource candidates
- 3. Assess viability of kairomones for increasing field egg parasitism rates



# Where is samurai wasp?

Surveys using yellow sticky cards

Objective 1



#### Urban areas

- More detection sites
- Higher densities



# **Enhancement via Floral Resources**

- Floral diversity
  - Ornamentals
  - Strip/border cropping
- Benefits for samurai wasp:
  - Food
  - Habitat
  - Extended lifespan (Rahat et al. 2005; McIntosh et al. 2020)







# FLORAL TURF BARE

#### Objective 1

#### Bare orchards detect the most Trissolcus wasps



#### Objective 1

#### Bare orchards detect the most Samurai Wasp





# Comparing Attraction via Olfactometer

- Controlled lab conditions
- 4 cover crop species
  - Alfalfa
  - Buckwheat
  - Red Clover
  - Sweet Alyssum



Objective 2

# Samurai wasp did not show preference

Objective 2



Residence time in the treatment vs. control arm of the Y-tube olfactometer out of 5 minutes

# Using Kairomones to Increase Parasitism

- Stink bug chemical cues
  - N-Tridecane is attractant
  - E-2-decenal is repellant
- Novel Lures
  - 4:1 n-Tridecane to e-2-decanal
  - 9:1 n-Tridecane to e-2-decanal
  - 1:0 n-Tridecane to e-2-decanal

Objective 3

- Control

#### Objective 3

# Average Fate of Egg Masses by Lure Type



- 103 Total eggs showed parasitoid emergence
  - 6 egg masses
- 100- T. japonicus
  - 5 egg masses
- 3- T. euschisti
  - 1 egg mass



# Encouraging Samurai Wasp Establishment

#### Use less insecticides

- Spinosad
- Sulfoxafor
- Increase Floral diversity
  - Wildflowers
  - Ornamental flowers
  - Strip/border cropping



# If you see a parasitoid wasp:



#### LEAVE IT ALONE!

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# QUESTIONS?



kate.richardson@usu.edu