

# *Quo Vadis Japonicus?* Unfortunate non-target effects of parasitoids on native stink bugs

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*Funding*

 United States Department of Agriculture  National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Specialty Crop Research Initiative

*Collaborating Institutions*

This material is based upon work that is supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Specialty Crop Research Initiative under award number 2016-51181-25409.

## ***Trissolcus japonicus* (Hymenoptera: Scelionidae) Causes Low Levels of Parasitism in Three North American Pentatomids Under Field Conditions**

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Subject Editor: Juan Rull

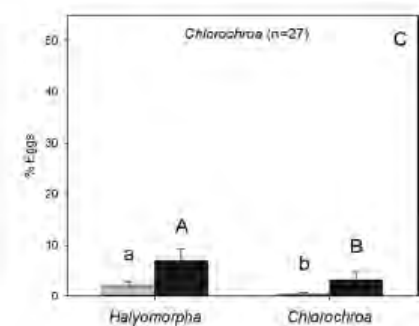
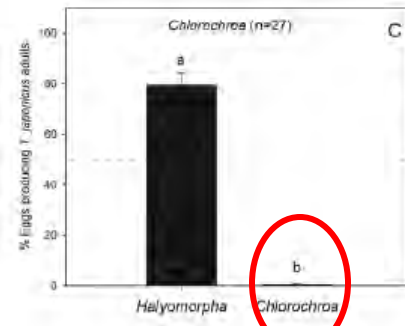
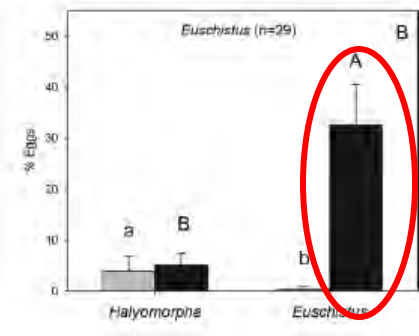
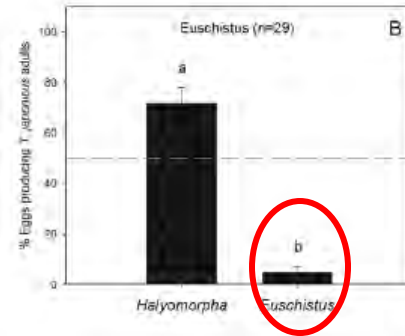
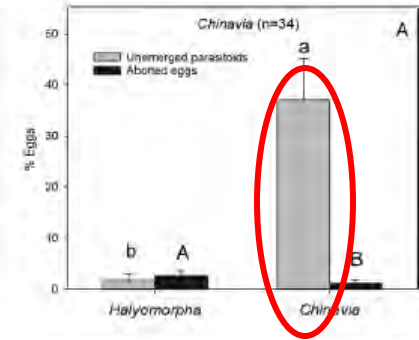
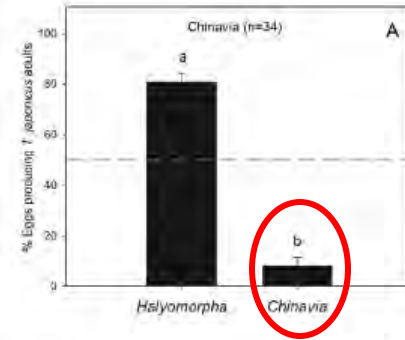
Received 11 February 2019; Editorial decision 18 June 2019

### **Abstract**

*Trissolcus japonicus* (Ashmead), an Asian parasitoid of *Halyomorpha halys* (Stål) (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae), was first detected in North America in 2014. Although testing in quarantine facilities as a candidate for classical biological control is ongoing, adventive populations have appeared in multiple sites in the United States, Canada, and Europe. Extensive laboratory testing of *T. japonicus* against other North American pentatomids and *H. halys* has revealed a higher rate of parasitism of *H. halys*, but not complete host specificity. However, laboratory tests are necessarily artificial, in which many host finding and acceptance cues may be circumvented. We offered sentinel egg masses of three native pentatomid (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) pest species (*Chinavia hilaris* (Say), *Euschistus conspersus* Uhler, and *Chlorochroa ligata* (Say)) in a field paired-host assay in an area with a well-established adventive population of *T. japonicus* near Vancouver, WA. Overall, 67% of the *H. halys* egg masses were parasitized by *T. japonicus* during the 2-yr study. Despite the ‘worst case’ scenario for a field test (close proximity of the paired egg masses), the rate of parasitism (% eggs producing adult wasps) on all three native species was significantly less (0.4–8%) than that on *H. halys* eggs (77%). The levels of successful parasitism of *T. japonicus* of the three species are

# Milnes and Beers 2019

- Reproductive effects very clear
- Non-reproductive effects less clear
- Aborted eggs ~ “black goo”



# Reproductive vs Non-reproductive Effects of Parasitoids



*Annual Review of Entomology*  
Nonreproductive Effects  
of Insect Parasitoids on  
Their Hosts

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“These effects are widespread and can cause greater impacts on host populations than successful parasitism or host feeding.”

# Molecular Approach: DNA Barcoding

Gariepy, T., T. Haye, and J. Zhang. 2014. A molecular diagnostic tool for the preliminary assessment of host–parasitoid associations in biological control programmes for a new invasive pest. *Mol. Ecol.* 23: 3912–3924.

Gariepy, T. D., A. Bruin, J. Konopka, C. Scott-Dupree, H. Fraser, M. C. Bon, and E. Talamas. 2019. A modified DNA barcode approach to define trophic interactions between native and exotic pentatomids and their parasitoids. *Mol. Ecol.* 28: 456–471.

- Unpublished CO1 barcode data
- Access to Barcode of Life
- Budget for sequencing

Received: 13 February 2018 | Revised: 28 August 2018 | Accepted: 7 September 2018  
DOI: 10.1111/mec.14868

SPECIAL ISSUE: SPECIES INTERACTIONS, ECOLOGICAL NETWORKS AND COMMUNITY DYNAMICS

WILEY MOLECULAR ECOLOGY

## A modified DNA barcode approach to define trophic interactions between native and exotic pentatomids and their parasitoids

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### Abstract

The establishment of invasive *Halyomorpha halys* (Stål) outside of its native range may impact native species assemblages, including other pentatomids, and their scelionid parasitoids. This has generated interest in defining species diversity and host–parasitoid associations in this system to better understand the impact of invasive alien species on trophic interactions in invaded regions. Information on scelionid–pentatomid associations in natural habitats is lacking, and species-level identification of these associations can be tenuous using rearing and dissection techniques. Naturally occurring pentatomid eggs were collected in areas where *H. halys* has established in Canada and were analysed using a modified DNA barcoding approach to define species-level trophic interactions. Identification was possible for >90% of egg masses. Eleven pentatomid and five scelionid species were identified, and trophic links were established. Approximately 70% of egg masses were parasitized; parasitism and parasitoid species composition were described for each species. *Teleno-*

# Is the egg half empty, or half full?

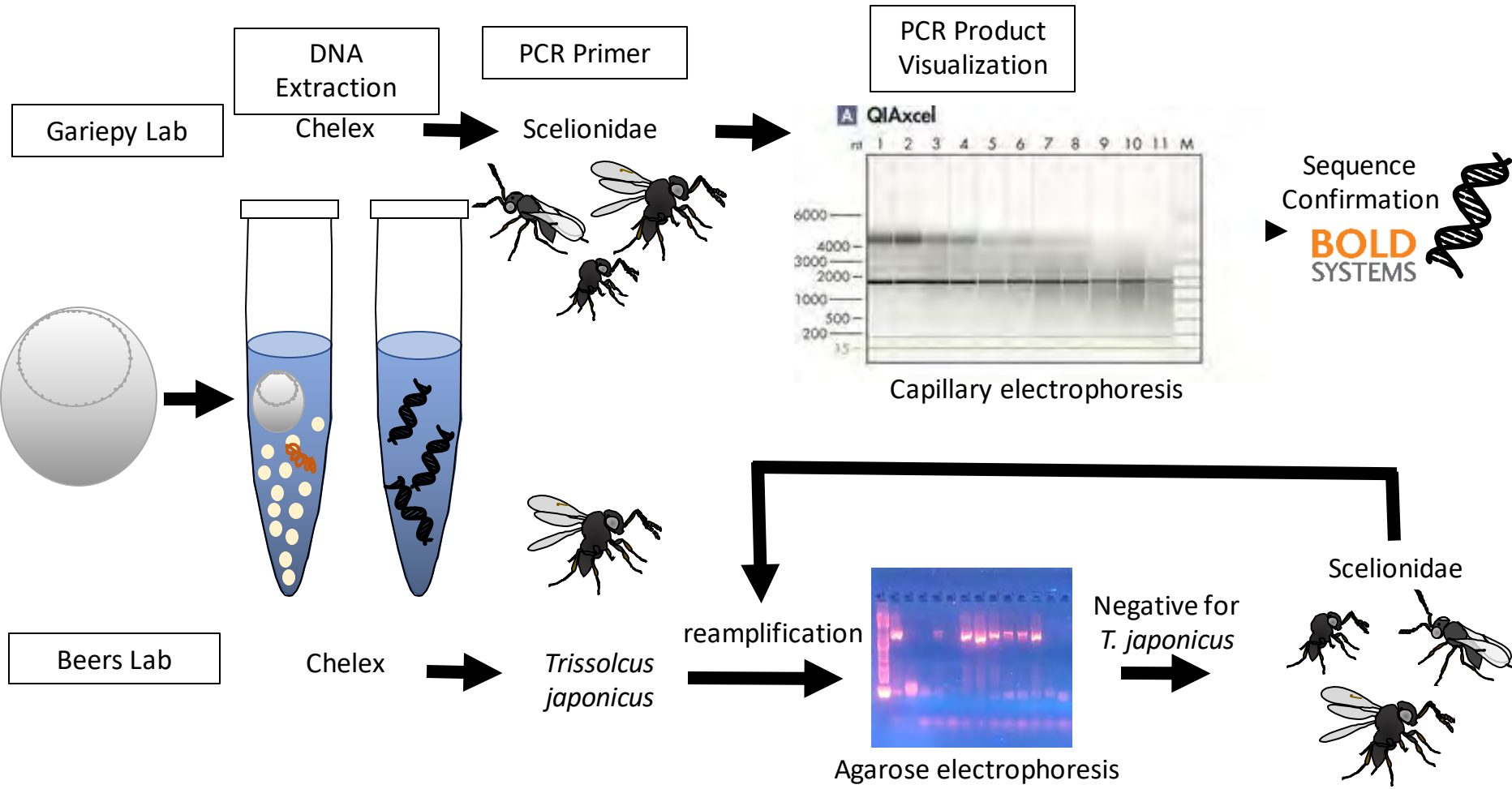
- Scelionid primer approach expensive (all samples sequenced—Gariepy method)
- Most of our parasitoids likely to be *T. japonicus*
- Needed a species-level primer (first pass), then scelionid

Primer has been tested in a time series; can detect *T. japonicus* egg in a *H. halys* egg immediately after it is laid, plus all stages right up to and after adult eclosion.

- TJ-164F: 5'-TATTGTAAC TTCACATGCATTTATTATAATC-3'
- TJ-395R: 5'-AAATTCCTGCTATATGTAGGGAAAAAATA-3'
- ~200 bp amplicon



Dr. Kacie Athey



Graphic: Kacie Athey

# Stink Bug Species for SEMs



- *Chinavia hilaris*
- *Euschistus conspersus*
- *Podisus maculiventris*
- *Halyomorpha halys*

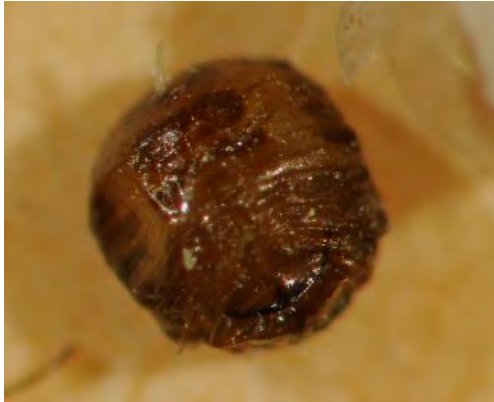
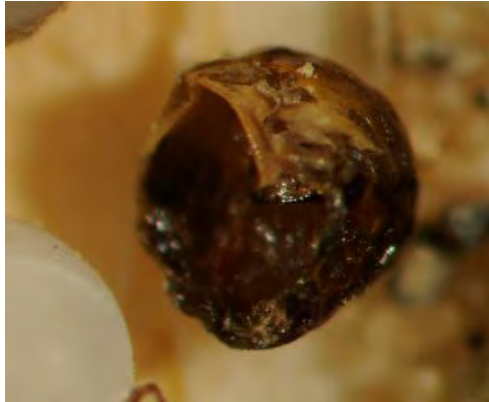




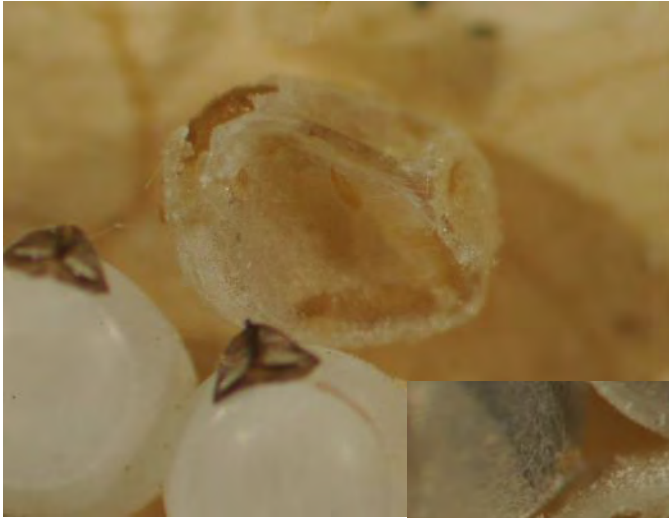
# Simplified Scheme of Egg Fate Classification

A	Stink bug nymph	Hatched/Emerged
B	Emerged parasitoid	Hatched/Emerged
C	Complete Chew	Predated
D	Incomplete Chew	Predated
E	Stylet Sheath	Predated
F	Punctured, but no stylet sheath (spider)	Predated
G	Host Feeding (Anastatus)	Predated
H	unemerged adult parasitoid	Unemerged/dissected
I	unemerged stink bug	Unemerged/dissected
J	no development, but not black	Unemerged/dissected
K	black goo	Unemerged/dissected

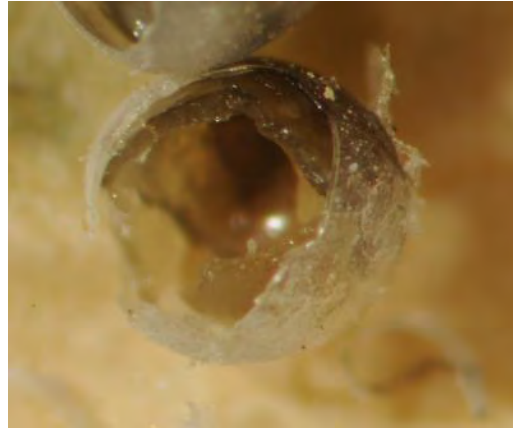
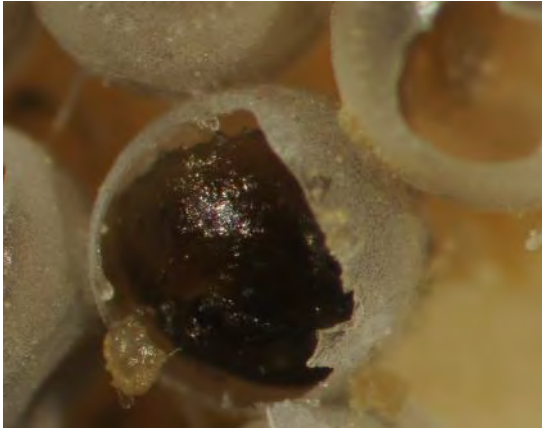
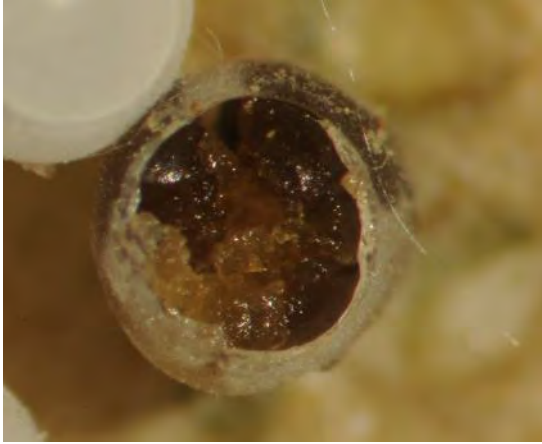
# Egg Fate - Unemerged Stink Bugs



## Egg Fate – No Development (not black)



## Egg Fate - Black Goo



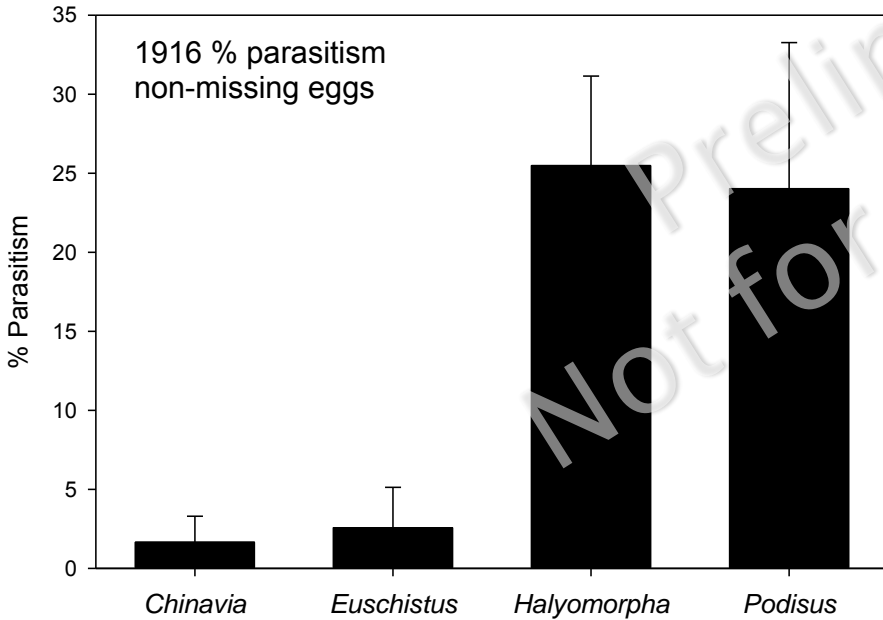
# Eggs numbered for unambiguous ID

BMSB  
Rep 1  
1916  
6 wk

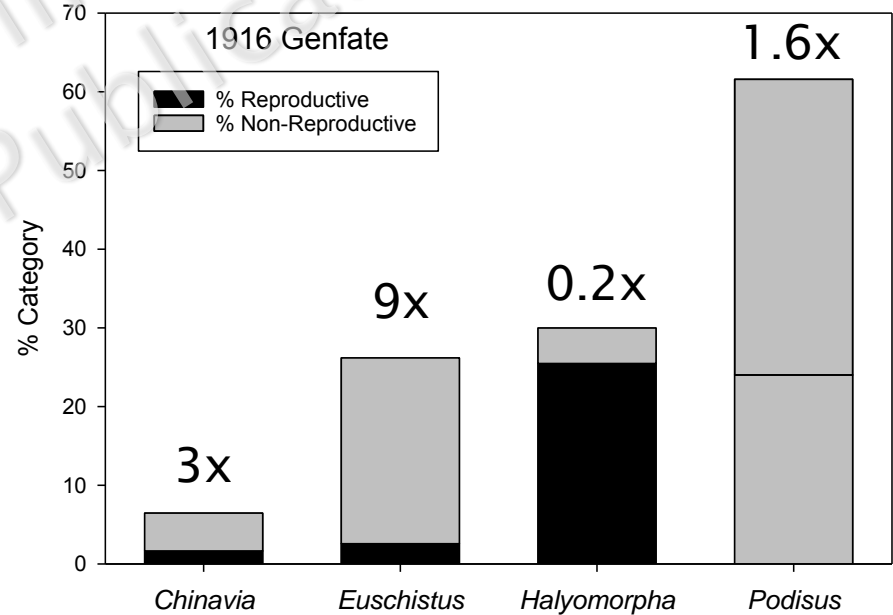


# Reproductive vs Total Impact

## Reproductive Impact



## Total Impact



# *Podisus?* Seriously?

Modified Table 1 from **Hedstrom et al. 2017**: No-choice tests with *T. japonicus* in the quarantine lab

Species	n masses	n parasitized	% parasitized	Adult parasitoids per egg mass
<i>Chinavia hilaris</i>	21	6	28.6%	5.6
<i>Chlorochroa ligata</i>	25	2	8.0%	0.8
<i>Euschistus conspersus</i>	27	0	0.0%	0
<i>Podisus maculiventris</i>	23	3	13.0%	8.5
<i>Halyomopha halys</i>	20	20	100.0%	56.7



# Thoughts and Speculations

Can we estimate non-reproductive effects from morphological characterization without the expense/trouble of PCR?

Trt	Fate	Fate Name	N eggs evaluated	N eggs PCR	N eggs PCR positive	% PCR positive
Chinavia	I	Unemerg SB	246	243	12	4.94
Halyomorpha	I	Unemerg SB	88	84	6	7.14
Podisus	I	Unemerg SB	29	28	16	57.14
Chinavia	J	Unhatch not black	21	17	6	35.29
Euschistus	J	Unhatch not black	27	27	10	37.04
Halyomorpha	J	Unhatch not black	88	85	11	12.94
Podisus	J	Unhatch not black	66	57	43	75.44
Chinavia	K	Black goo	2	2	1	50.00
Euschistus	K	Black goo	17	17	15	88.24
Halyomorpha	K	Black goo	63	59	16	27.12
Podisus	K	Black goo	22	19	10	52.63

# Thoughts and Speculations

- Negative impact of *T. japonicus* highest in soybean systems where *C. hilaris* and *P. maculiventris* co-occur?
- Negative impact of *T. japonicus* less in tree crops, or where native SB oviposition period precedes peak egg abundance of BMSB?



Photo by J. Obermeyer

# Acknowledgements



This work was supported in part by grants from USDA-NIFA (2016-51181-25409) and the Washington Tree Fruit Research Commission (CP-16-101).

This work was supported by funding from the Washington Tree Fruit Research Commission, the Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration, and USDA-NIFA SCRI grant award number 2016-51181-25409



This work was supported by funding from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Hatch project 1016563.

# Questions

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