

# Expanding the Range of the Parasitoid Wasp, *Trissolcus japonicus*, (Hymenoptera: Scelionidae) in NYS.



Photograph: Elijah J. Talamas,  
ARS USDA.



Photograph: **Christopher Hedstrom**  
USDA-APHIS Quarantine Facility,  
Corvallis, Oregon

Peter J. Jentsch  
2018 Horticultural Days - Southwest Michigan  
Lake Michigan College, Mendel Center  
Benton Harbor, MI



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# Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

## Whats the Problem ??

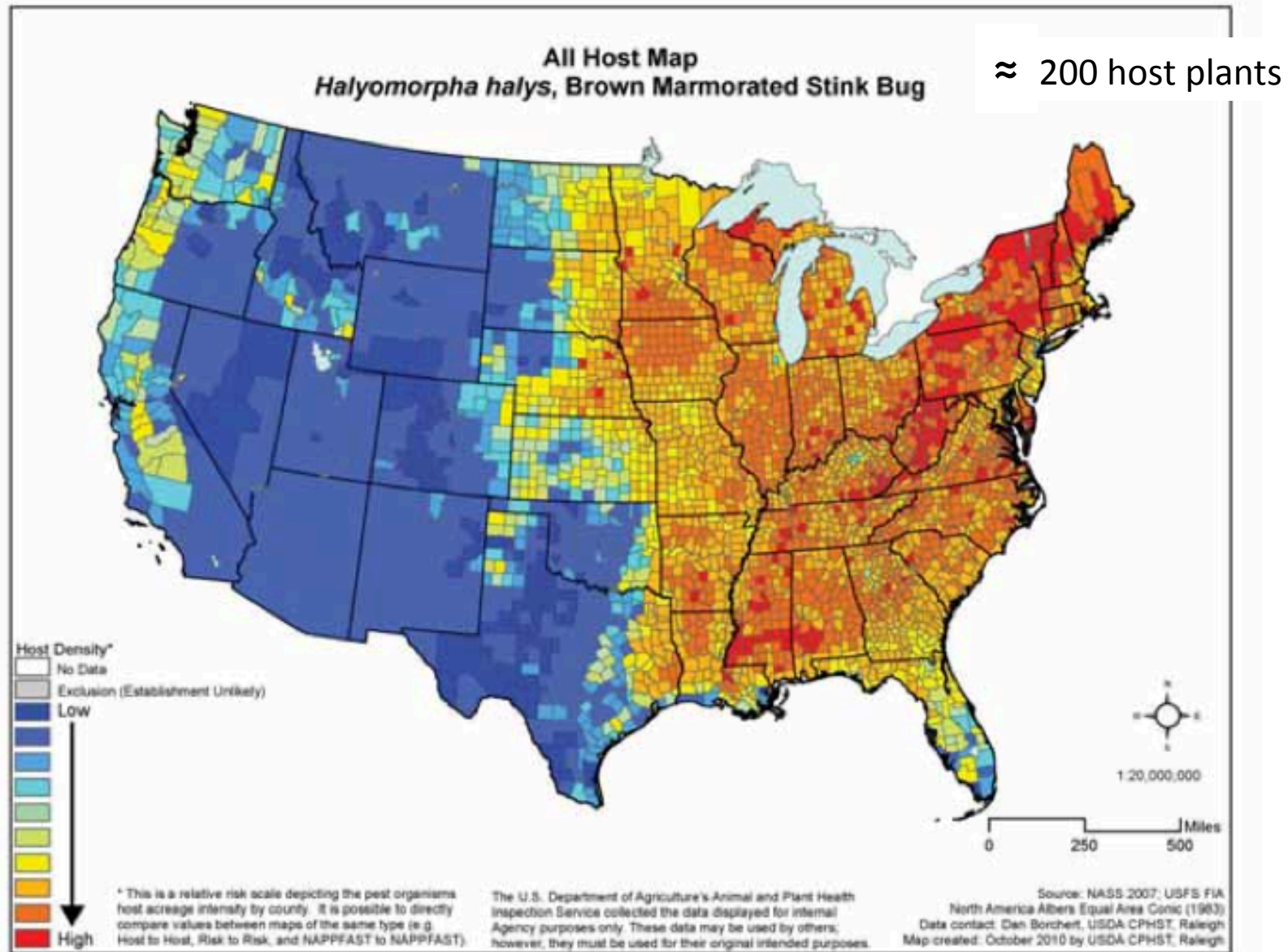


### Invasive Insect Success

- Few constraints (limited natural biological controls)
  - Native predator and parasitoid survey – increase in biocontrol
- Abundance of host plants and ideal environmental conditions



# Brown Marmorated Stink Bug: Host Plants - Food for Success

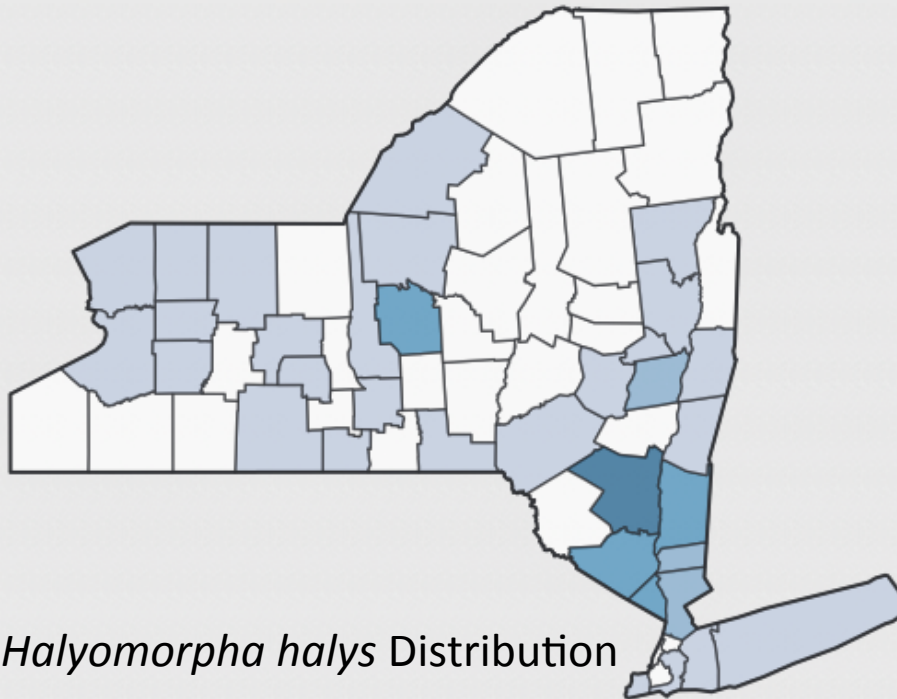


**Figure 1:** Risk maps displaying the relative density of field, vegetable, and fruit crop hosts plants of BMSB throughout the United States.

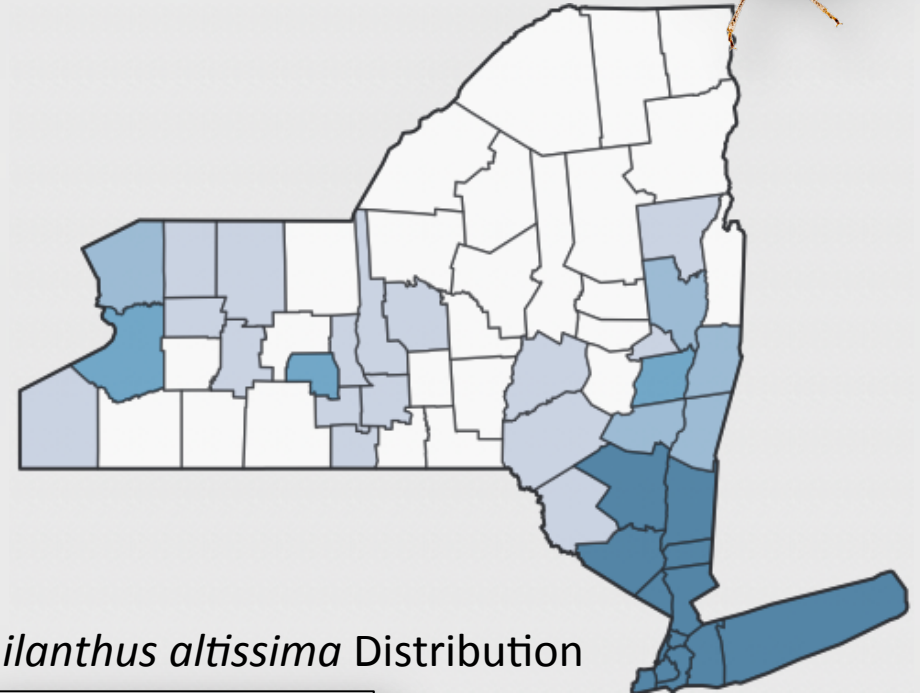


# New York Invasive Species Public Map

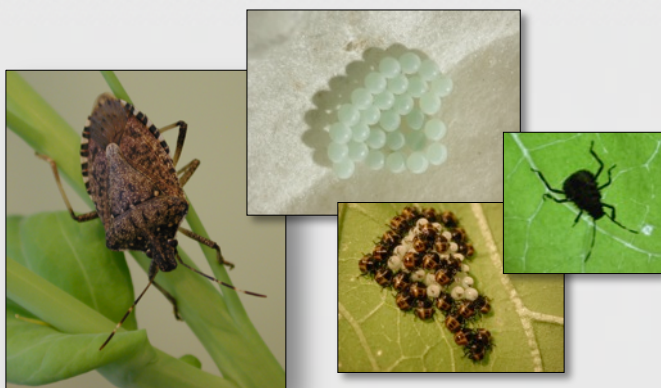
## BMSB Distribution in NYS



*Halyomorpha halys* Distribution



*Ailanthus altissima* Distribution



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# Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

## Whats the Problem ??



### Invasive Insect

- Few constraints (limited natural control-biological controls)
- Abundance of host plants and ideal environmental conditions
- Overwinters in man made structures and woodland trees



# Move Over, Bedbugs: Stink Bugs Have Landed

Published: September 26, 2010

The New York Times



Steve Ruark for The New York Times

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.

By KEN MACQUIRE

Published: September 26, 2010

Maryland 2010



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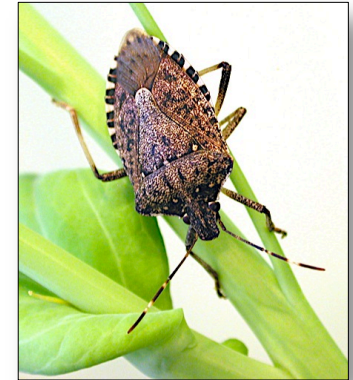
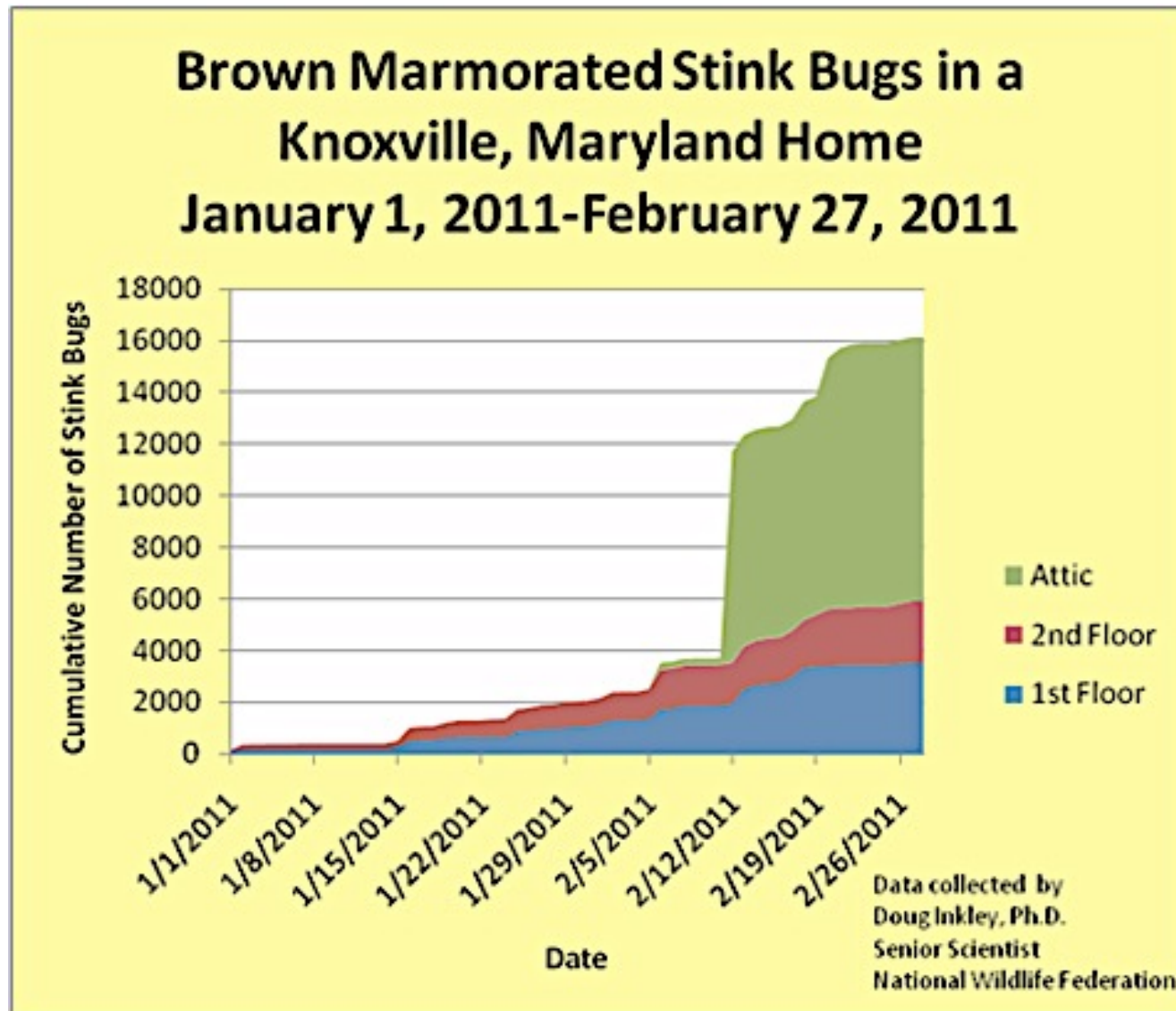
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# Managing the Invasive Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Across the Urban Agricultural Interface 2017.





## The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug in the Urban Environment



>22,000 BMSB collected from 1 home in Maryland 2011



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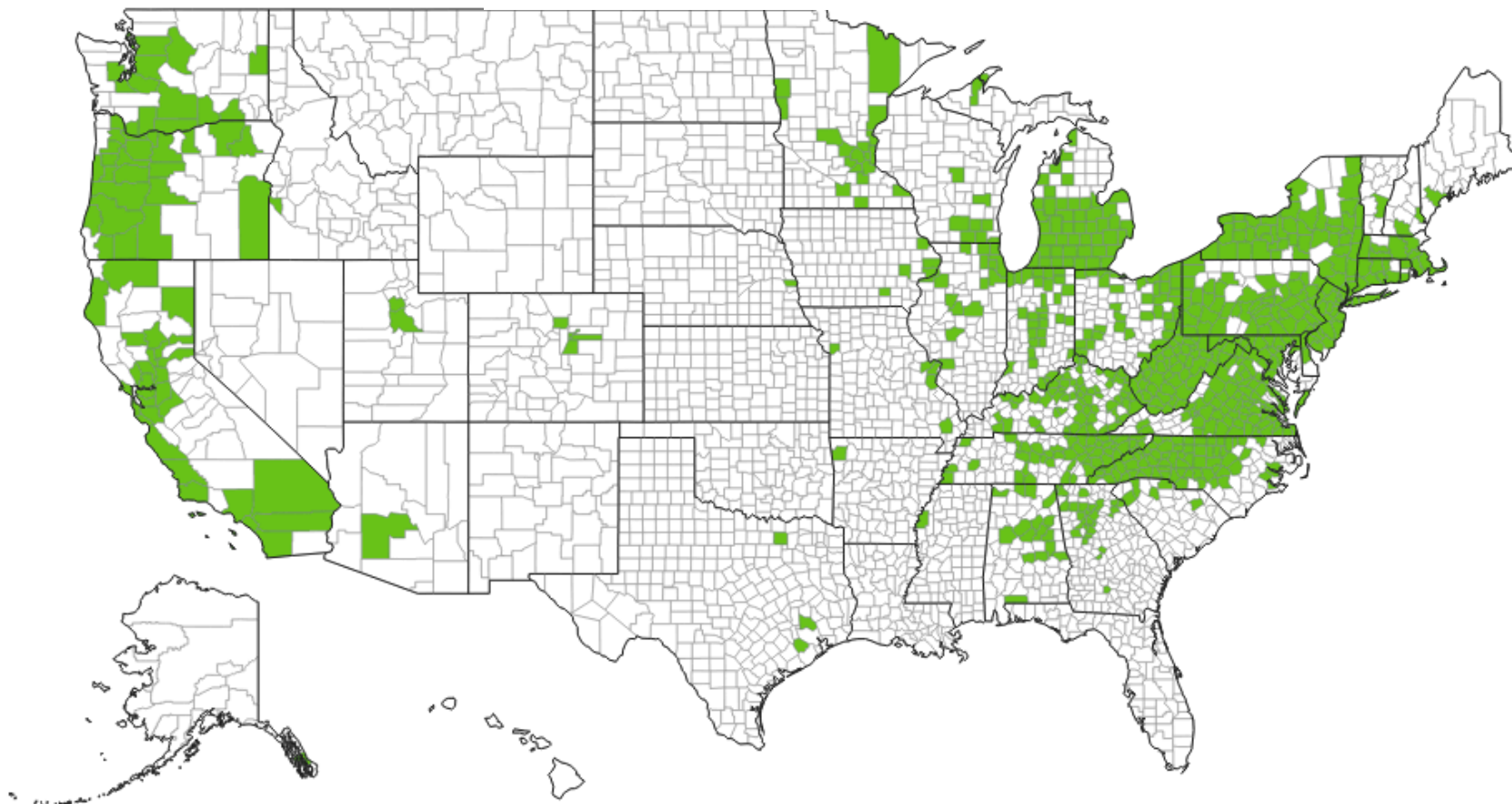
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**brown marmorated stink bug**  
*Halyomorpha halys* (Stal)

States **Counties** Points List

Citizen Science Project Participation (Homeowners)  
BMSB has been detected in all but 6 of 62 counties in NYS  
And 48 of 83 counties in Michigan



**Legend**

- ☐ No Data
- ☒ Species Reported

# Factors for BMSB Success: Overwintering



## Overwintering habitat

- The majority of BMSB reside in the woodland habitat (Standing Dead Oak (*Quercus* spp.), Locust (*Robinia* spp.) Lee, Doo-Hyung et al. 2014)
- A smaller percent of the population will aggregate in buildings where temperature extremes allow for survival in northern climates
- In woodland habitat, temperatures below  $-18^{\circ}\text{C}$  or  $-0.4^{\circ}\text{F}$  will kill 90% of the population (Kuhar, T. 2016)

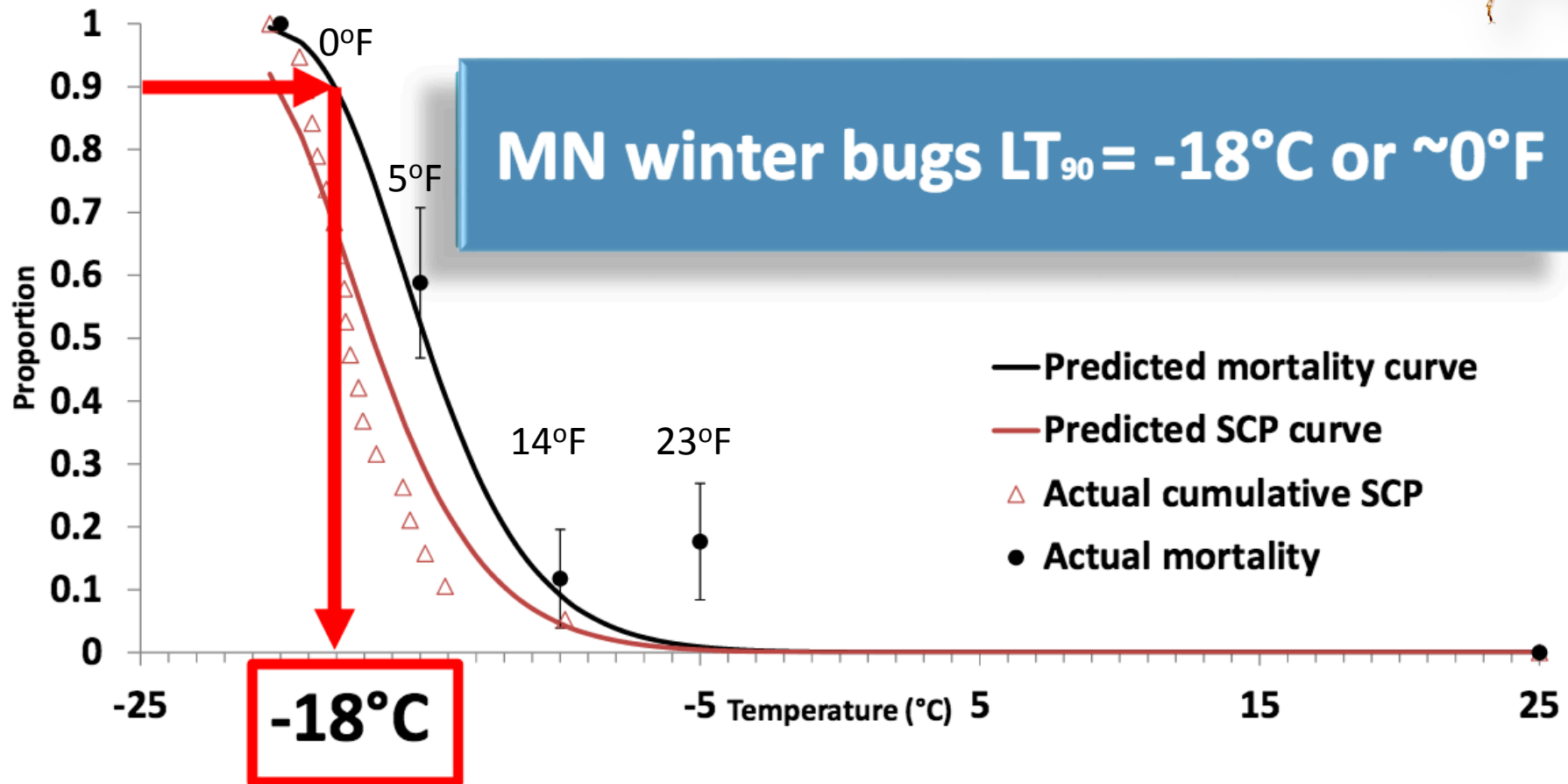




# Factors for BMSB Success: Overwintering



Predicted and observed BMSB: Cumulative SCP & proportion mortality

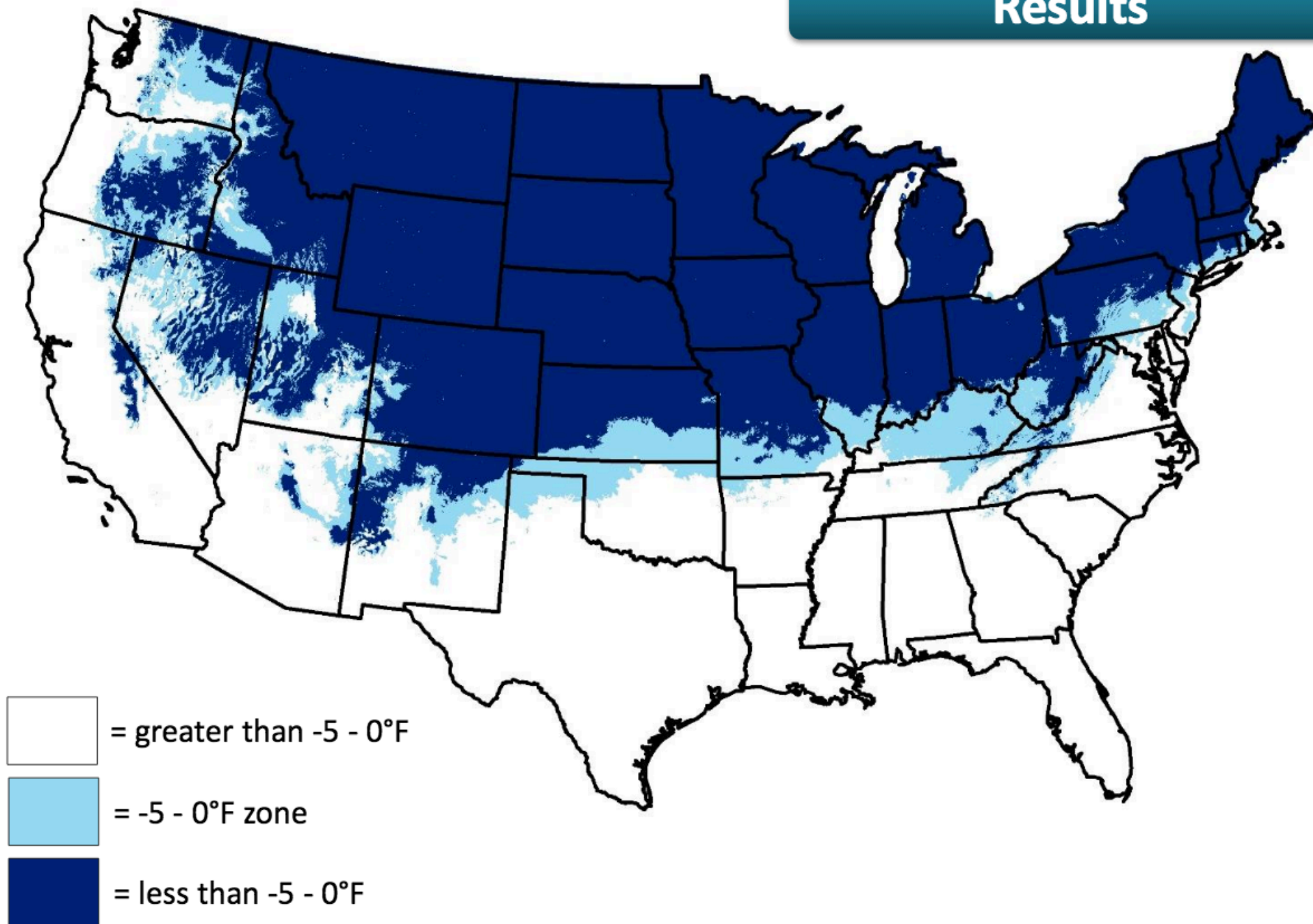


SCP:  $n=19$  bugs

Mortality:  $n=17$  bugs/each temp (mean  $\pm$  95% confidence interval)

Regression curves fitted with a Weibull distribution

## Results



# Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

## Whats the Problem ??



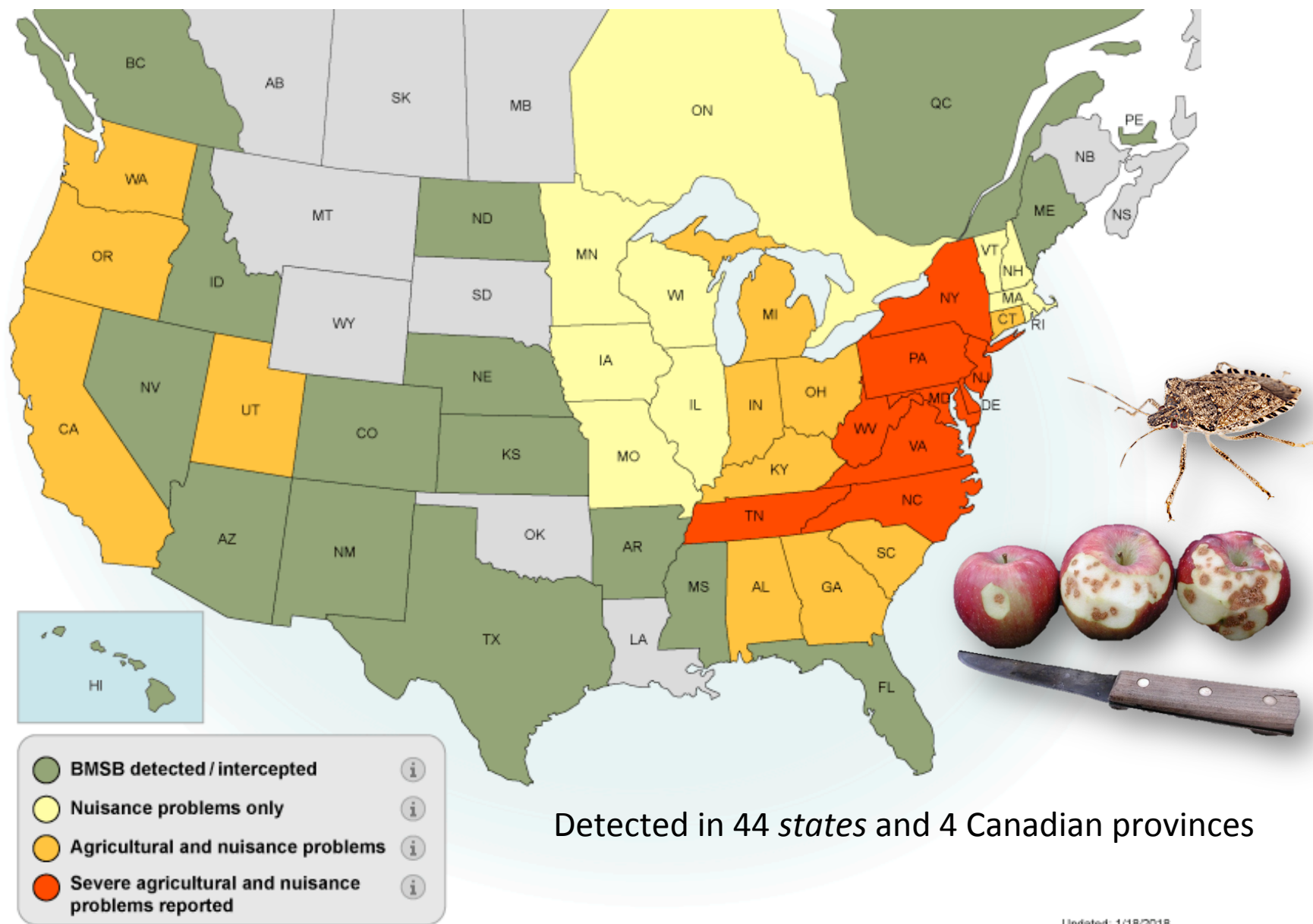
### Invasive Insect

- Few constraints (limited natural control-biological controls)
- Abundance of host plants and ideal environmental conditions
- Overwinters in woodland trees and man made structures
- Often causes ecological disruption, displacement of native spp; present in urban environments, cause damage to woodland and ornamental trees and crops.





## The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug in the Ag. & Urban Environment



# Golden Delicious Apple With BMSB Feeding Injury, Milton, NY October - 2012



5 bins: Range from 38 – 57% damage



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**Pink Lady Apple With >20% BMSB Feeding Injury,  
Campbell Hall, NY November - 2012**



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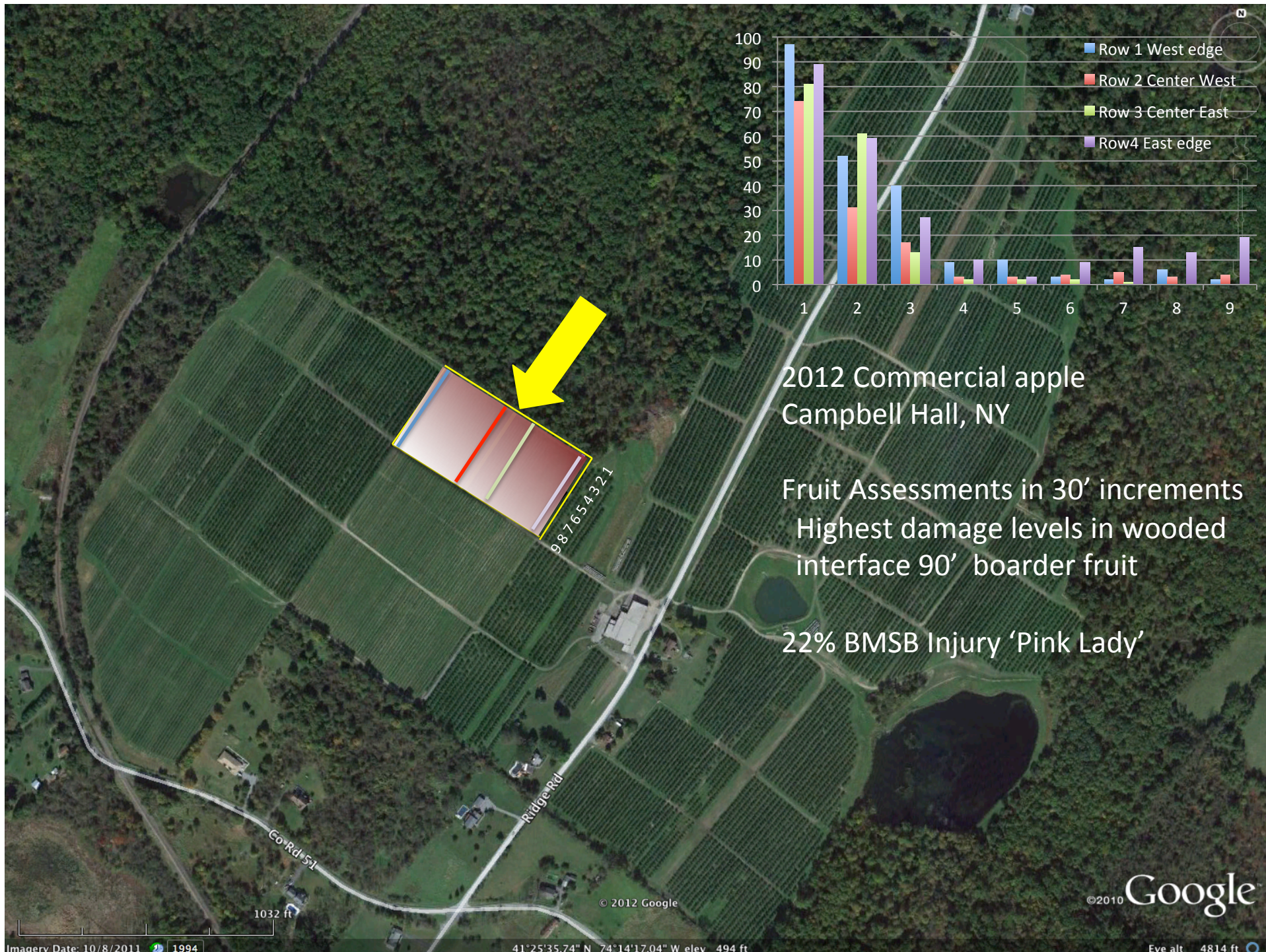
**BMSB Feeding Injury Assessment,  
Hudson Valley Research Lab, NY 2012**



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# What is Biological Control ?

## What is Biological Control (Insect Pests)

Natural control in which one organism feeds on another

- Classic Bio-Control, Conservation, Augmentation
- Predators – feed directly on pest life stages (Mantis, MCALB)
- Pathogens – disease feeds within pest life stages (Fungal spores)
- Parasitoids – feeds within pest life stages (Wasp & Fly)



## Why Use Biological Control ?

Reduce Pest Management Costs	Integrate Management Diversity
Environmental Stewardship	Reduce Insecticide Resistance
Reduce Late Season MRL's	Low-Cost Labor



# Biological Control ?



What is Biological Control (Insect Pests) - natural control

- Conservation, Classic BC, Augmentation, Release of BC organism
- Predators – feed directly on pest life stages
- Parasitoids – feeds within pest life stages
- Pathogens – disease feeds within pest life stages

Why Manage Insects Using Biological Control ?

- **Benefit Must Outweigh the Risks**
  - Increased Economics & Human Health
  - Decrease Urban Pest Annoyance





# Biological Control Risks



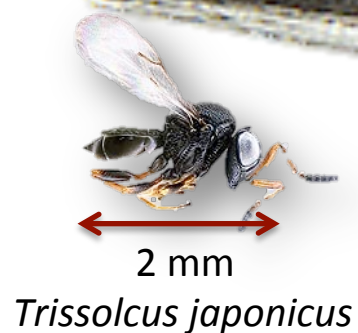
## Multicolored Asian Lady Beetle Late Season Damage to Apple

- Years of fall rains increase shoot growth
- Green aphid population increase
- Resulting in high beetle populations
- During pupation MCALB larva mouthparts bore into fruit
  - Results in fruit injury

**Economic Losses  
Risks Outweigh the Benefits**

# Introduction to *Trissolcus japonicus* (Samurai Wasp) For BMSB Management ?

## Why Use *Trissolcus japonicus* (Samurai Wasp)



Female Samurai Wasp  
Lays Its Own Egg  
Into BMSB eggs



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# *Trissolcus japonicus*, (Hymenoptera: Scelionidae)



*Trissolcus japonicus*

## Background:

- Kim Hoelmer, USDA-ARS, Newark DE, Beneficial Insects Introduction Research. In 2007 he surveyed natural enemies of BMSB in Asia, returning with live parasitoid specimens, held in U.S. quarantine facilities.
- ***Trissolcus japonicus* (Samurai Wasp)** was found to be a highly successful parasitoid. Parasitism rates of *H. halys* eggs reported to be as high as 80% in China (Talamas et al. 2013).





## Host Specificity of the parasitoid wasp, *Trissolcus japonicus*, (Hymenoptera: Scelionidae)



- In choice and non-choice tests of parasitoid wasps species found *Trissolcus japonicus* to be **highly effective**, parasitizing 60-100% of the eggs in BMSB clusters.
- *T. japonicus* is **highly specific** in choice tests, choosing BMSB over other pentitomiid eggs. However, in non-choice tests *T. japonicus* will oviposit into the eggs of the predatory spined soldier bug, *Podisus maculiventris* (Say).





# *Trissolcus japonicus*

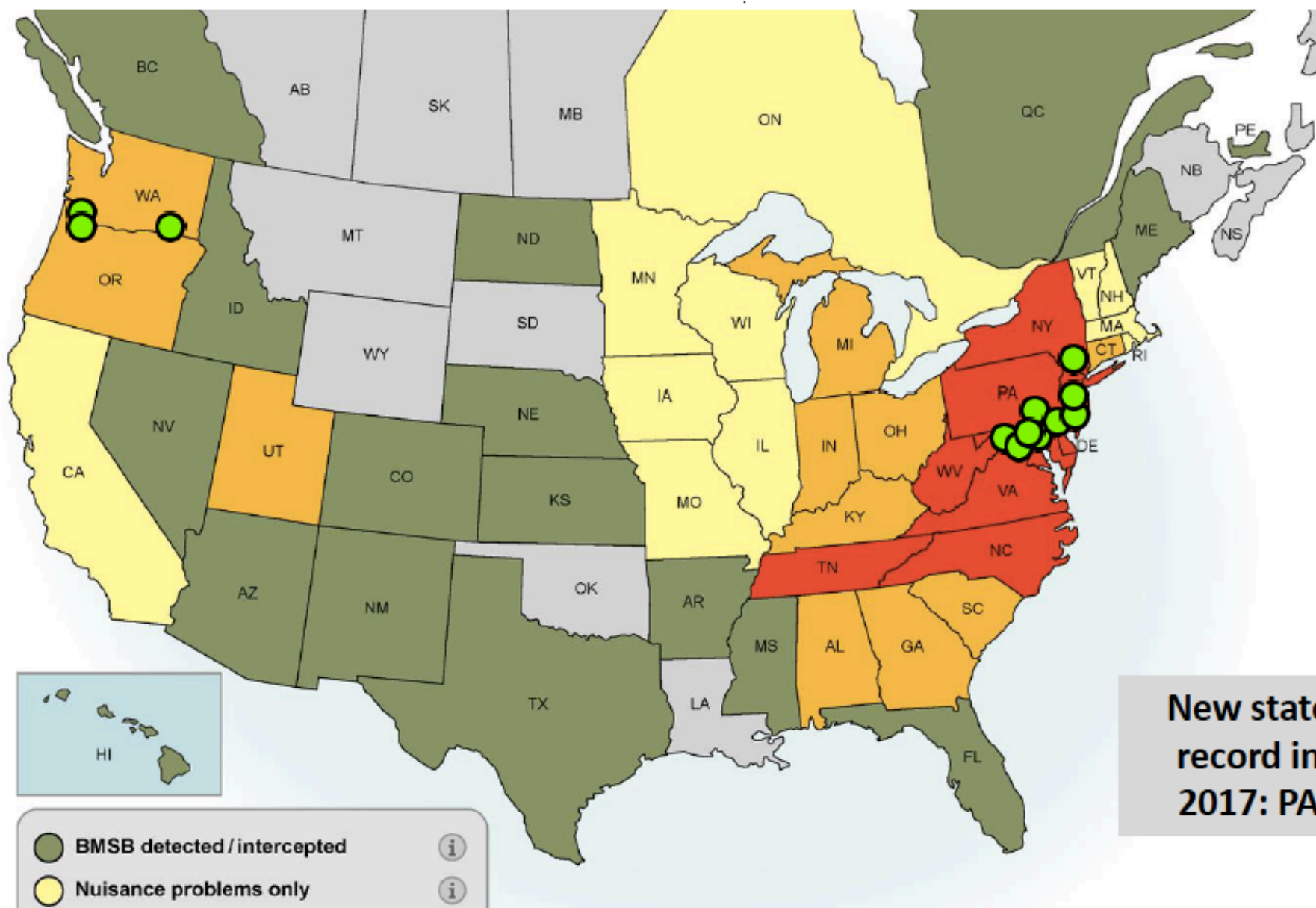
## Field Recovery Survey Sites in the US



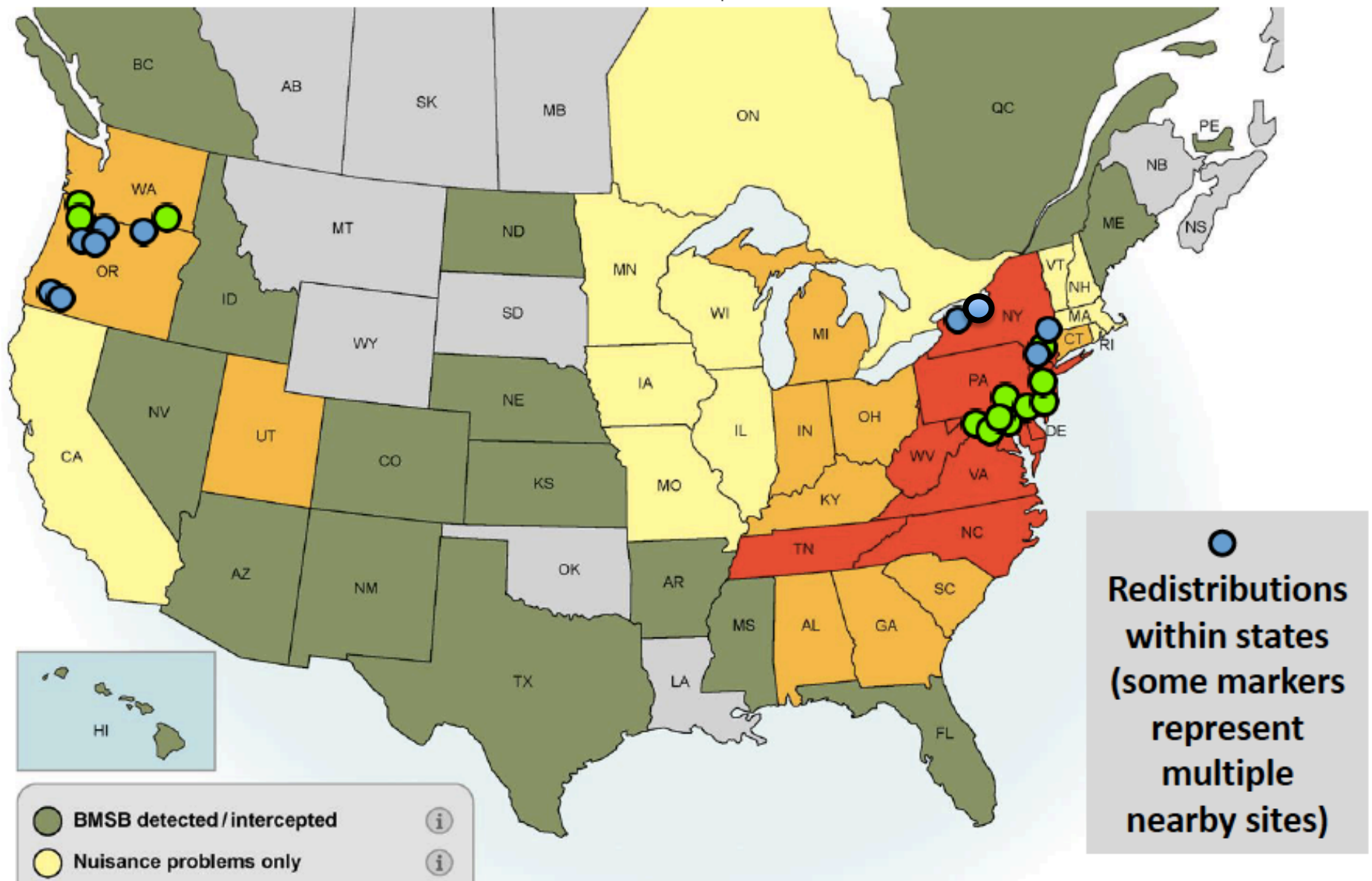
- In 2014 **adventive** populations (wild) of *T. japonicus* were found in Beltsville, MD.
- In 2015 *T. japonicus* were found in Washington, DC and Winchester, VA,.
- In 2016, *T. japonicus* was also found in VA, WV, MD, DE NJ and NY in the East, and WA and OR in the West.



DC, MD, VA, WV, DE, NJ, NY, OR, WA (as of Dec. 2016)

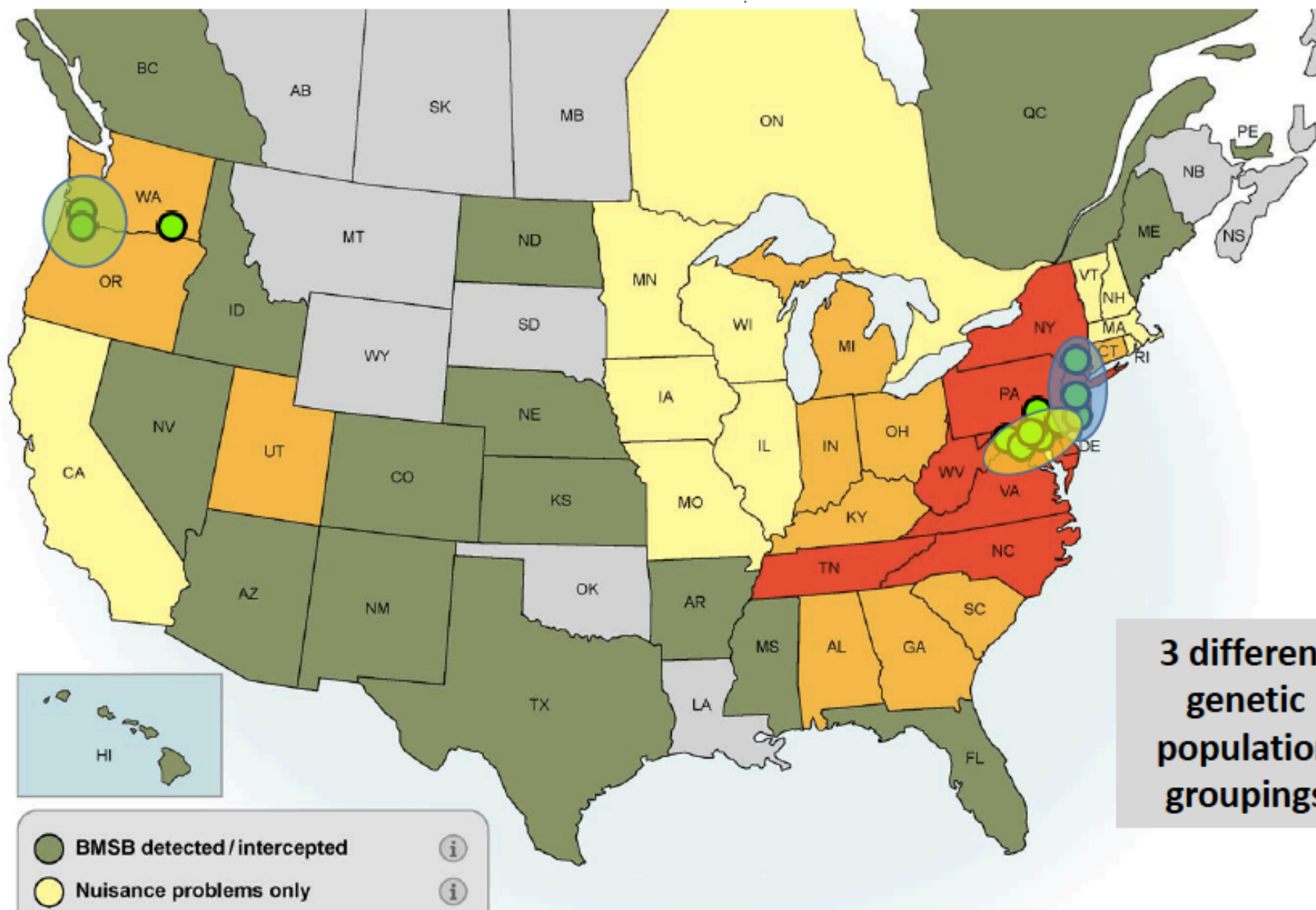


Field recoveries of *Trissolcus japonicus*  
DC, MD, VA, WV, DE, PA, NJ, NY, OR, WA (as of Dec. 2017)

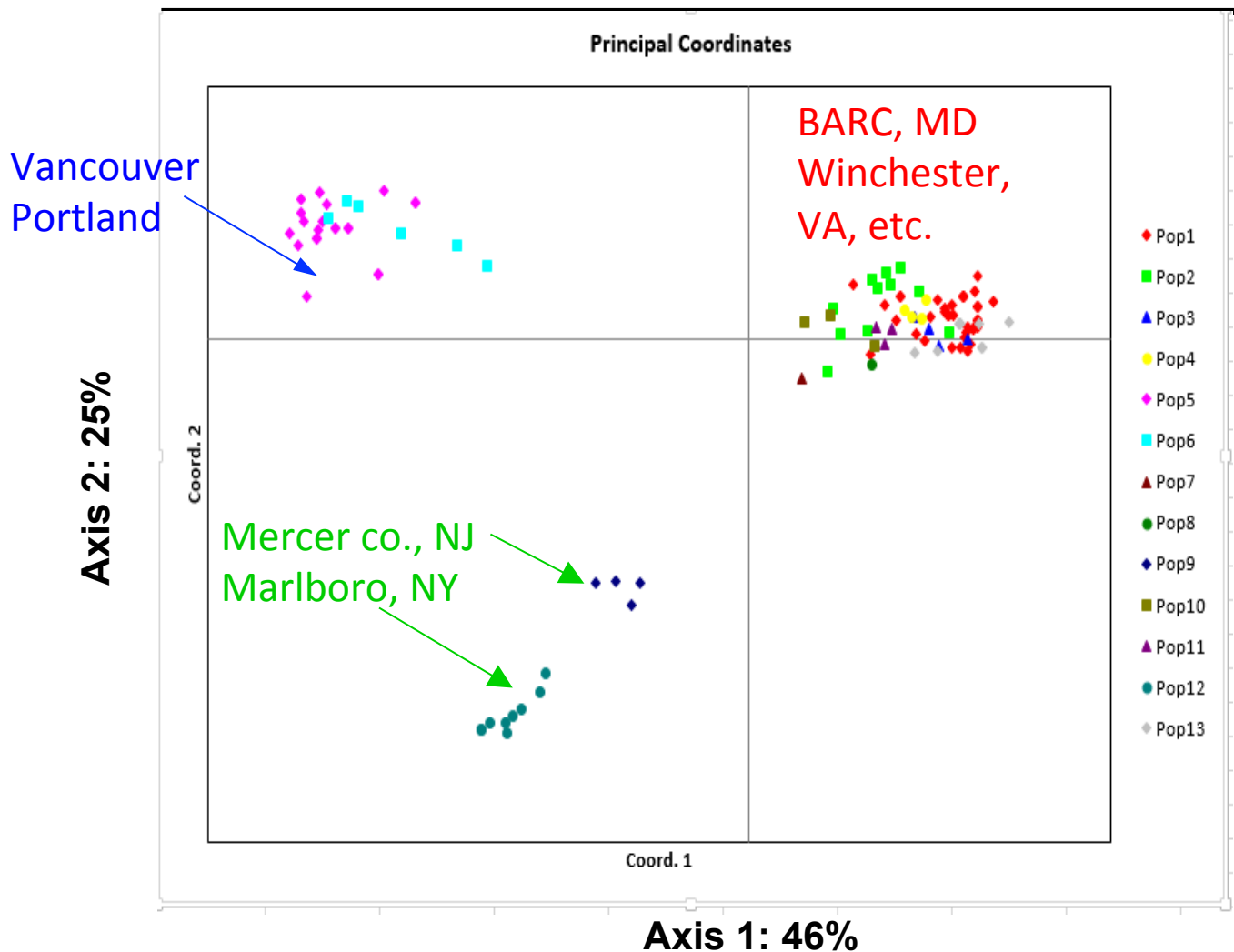


Field recoveries of *Trissolcus japonicus*  
DC, MD, VA, WV, DE, PA, NJ, NY, OR, WA (as of Dec. 2017)





# Principale Coordinate Analysis (PCoA)- 115 spécimens recovered in US génotype



**Axis 1: Split  
between  
Western  
and 2  
Eastern  
populations  
and all the  
others**

**Axis 2: Split  
between  
Western  
and the 2  
Eastern  
populations**

Dr. Marie-Claude Bon at the USDA-ARS European Biological Control Laboratory (Montpellier, France)  
DNA specimen extractions employing 23 microsatellite gene markers to differentiate genotypes .

## *Trissolcus japonicus* Field Recovery Sites in the US

\* Adventive specimens of *T. japonicus* from the US were sent to Marie-Claude Bon in USDA-ARS European Biological Control Laboratory (Montpellier, France)

\* DNA from submitted *T. japonicus* specimens was extracted and characterized using 23 microsatellite gene markers from thirteen different Asian *T. japonicus* populations, including those in quarantine in the U.S. and others collected in Asia in 2012-2013 by Kim Hoelmer's team at the USDA-ARS Beneficial Insects Introduction Research Laboratory (Newark, DE).

\* It was **determined none of the adventive finds originated from the populations held in quarantine (unpubl.), and thus represented independent introductions of *T. japonicus*.**

(E. Beers. PROC. ENTOMOL. SOC. WASH. 118(3), 2016, pp. 466–470)





## NYS DEC Liberation of Wildlife Permit

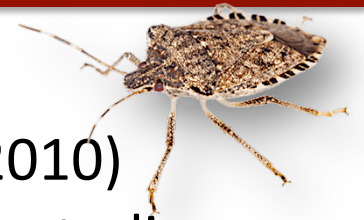
**In July of 2017 HVRL applied for a 'Liberation of Wildlife' permit.** After in-depth review of applicable provisions of the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) and Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York (NYCRR), **DEC has determined that its regulatory authority extends to the issuance of permits for the release of specifically defined species of wildlife and listed endangered, threatened, and/or invasive species.** Wildlife is defined in ECL S 11-0103. Endangered and threatened species are identified in 6 NYCRR Part 182, and listed **invasive species are identified in 6 NYCRR Part 575.**

**DEC has recently concluded that their statutory and regulatory framework around the Liberation of Wildlife Permit regulating release of biologicals such as insects does not generally apply to releasing insects into the wild, so long as the proposed release is not of an insect that is listed on either the endangered or invasive species listings.**

**Upon review by the DEC, the adventive *T. japonicus* population does not require a license or permit from DEC to undertake the movement and release of the Samurai wasp, as it is not listed within 6 NYCRR 575.**



## Expanding the Range of the Parasitoid Wasp, *Trissolcus japonicus*, (Hymenoptera: Scelionidae) in NYS.



1. Monitored BMSB to determine agricultural presence. (2010)  
Established BMSB colony adult and nymphs for bioassay studies.  
Employ BMSB eggs laid on Jalapeno leaves as sentinel eggs (2016)
2. Survey the native and adventive parasitoid complex using sentinel eggs to attract *Trissolcus japonicus* in NYS. (frozen -80C, 4min.) (2016)
3. Developed *T. japonicus* colony, began establishing release sites. Art Agnello (CALS – NYSAES), Tessa Grasswitz, CCE-LOFT, Debbie Breth, CCE-LOFT Ret. (2017)
4. Determine *T. japonicus* establishment in release sites (2017)



# *H. halys* Sentinel Egg Production and Deployment



## Sentinel Egg Survey: Field Deployment

- **July 28<sup>th</sup> – Oct 1<sup>st</sup>** : Weekly placement of eggs
- 7 WNY sentinel sites and 2 ENY sites were selected to survey for parasitoids (2017).
- Sentinel eggs fixed onto known BMSB host foliage (7 host plants). 2-3 clusters/site/wk.
- Sentinel eggs sent to cooperators in overnight shipping
- Placement in Wayne, Orleans, Ontario, Columbia, Ulster & Dutchess counties
- Recollection of eggs sent and reared at the HVRL, placed in petri dishes and held in a controlled environment chamber at 25 ° C. for 5-7d,
- Monitored for emergence of parasitoids, identified by E. Talamas (U.of Fl. Gainesville).
- Adults parasitoids reared from sentinel egg masses were provided 90% honey-water solution in 1uL droplets on dish for survival and reproduction.





# Establish Baseline Survey of Native and Invasive Parasitoids in New York State

**Sentinel Egg Staple Attachment**



**Paper Clip Attachment**



# Baseline Sentinel *H. halys* Egg Survey Placement Sites in NYS

(N=10 Farms, 3-24 clusters/site/wk. N=2700 sentinel eggs )

Farm	Town	County	Plant Host Plant	Latitude	Longitude
Schutt Orchard	Webster	Monroe	<i>Acer saccharum</i> (sugar maple)	43°11'3.78"N	77° 26' 56.76"W
Windmill Orchard	Ontario	Ontario	<i>Acer saccharum</i> (sugar maple)	43°15'50.27"N	77° 22' 35.32"W
KM Davies	Williamson	Wayne	<i>Acer saccharum</i> (sugar maple)	43°14'10.54"N	77 °11' 23.63"W
Wooded	Holley	Orleans	<i>Juglans nigra</i> ( black walnut)	43° 13' 59.52"N	78° 18' 7.27"W
Wooded	Lyndonville	Orleans	<i>Malus sp.</i> (crab apple)	43° 19' 38.28"N	-78° 19' 33.96"W
Wooded	Medina	Orleans	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i> (tree of heaven)	43°12'1.79"N	78° 23' 36.81"W
Hepworth Farms	Marlboro	Ulster	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> (black locust)	41°40'14.72"N	74° 5' 11.21"W
Hepworth Farms	Marlboro	Ulster	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i> (tree of heaven)	41°40'14.72"N	74° 5' 11.21"W
Crist Orchard	Walden	Orange	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i> (tree of heaven)	41°33'2.64"N	74° 9' 50.72"W
Minard Orchard	New Paltz	Ulster	<i>Vitis sp.</i> (wild grape)	41°42'1.47"N	74° 4' 24.13"W





# Baseline Sentinel *H. halys* Egg Survey Placement Sites in New York State

## 2017 Sentinel Egg Emergence

### Native

*Trissolcus euschisti* (6/23) (N=1)

*Telenomus podisi* (6/30) (N=3)

### Asian Invasive

*Trissolcus japonicus* (7/7)

Marlboro, Ulster Co. (N=96)





# *Trissolcus japonicus* Release Sites in New York State

Phase II – 2017  
Parasitized Egg Parasitoid Release  
'Redistribution'



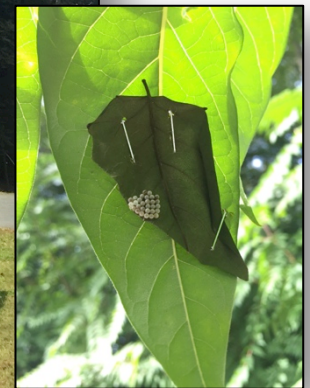
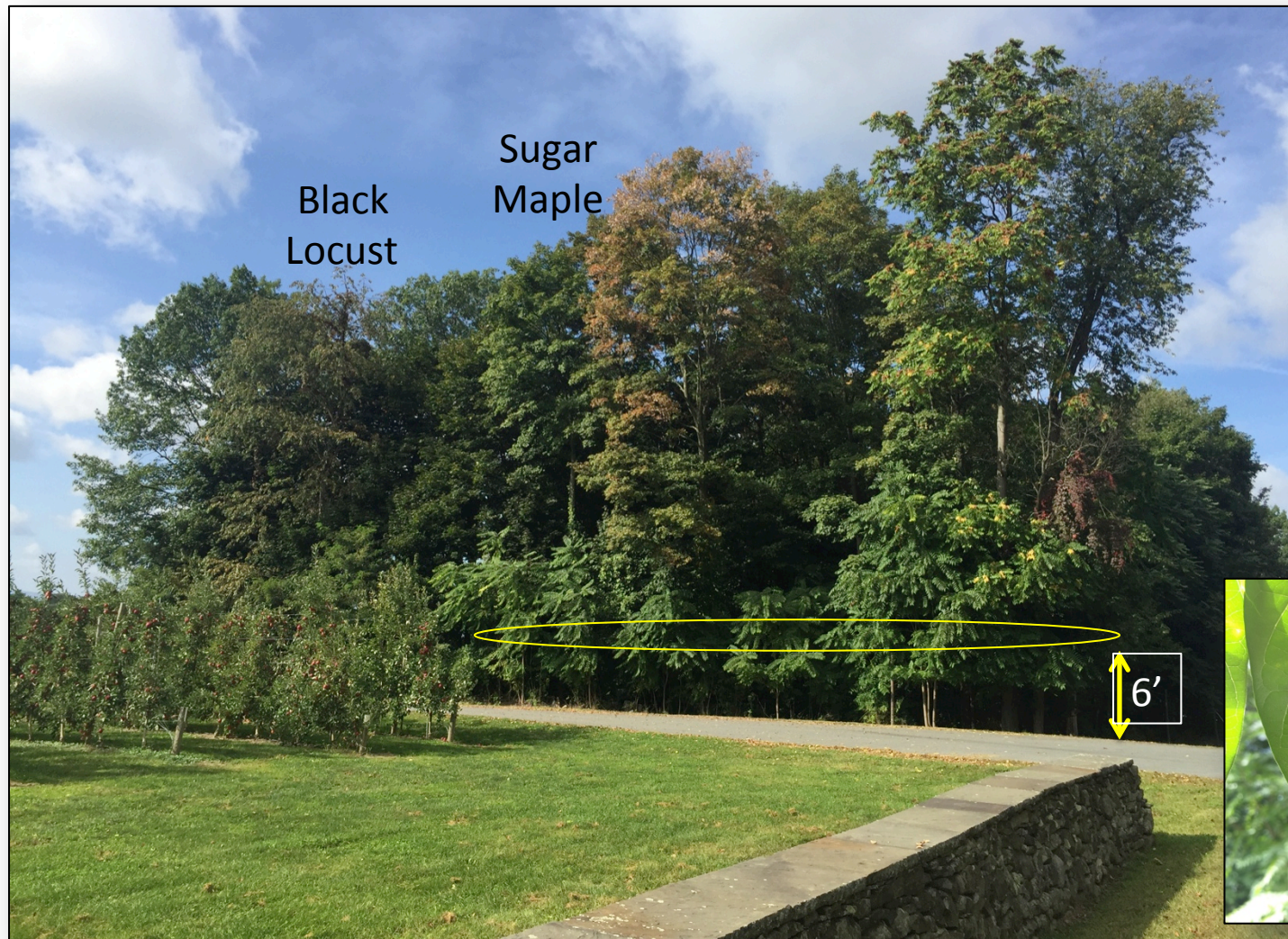
## T. Japonicus Egg Placement

- Captured adventive *T. japonicus* from Hepworth Farms in Marlboro, NY on July 7<sup>th</sup> 2017.
- Wasps reared and used to parasitize frozen BMSB eggs.
- 1<sup>st</sup> parasitized eggs sent to cooperators beginning on 15<sup>th</sup> September.
- Parasitized eggs placed onto 32 sites, on 25 farms in 5 NY counties.





# *Trissolcus japonicus* Release Sites in New York State



# Placement Sites of *T. Japonicus* parasitized eggs in NYS (N=24 Farms, 6 NY counties on 32 sites using $\approx$ 2300 eggs onto 7 host plant *sp.*)

Site	Town	County	Date	Clusters	Eggs	Placement / Host Plant	Latitude	Longitude
1	Webster	Monroe	15-Sep	3	78	Acer saccharum ( <i>sugar maple</i> )	43°11'3.78"N	77°26'56.76"W
2	Holley	Orleans	22-Sep	3	84	Black Walnut	43°14'0.42"N	78° 1'10.46"W
3	Modena	Ulster	22-Sep	3	89	Vitis riparia (Native grape)	41°41'25.15"N	74° 4'3.51"W
4	New Paltz	Ulster	22-Sep	3	76	Vitis riparia (Native grape)	41°42'1.57"N	74° 4'24.22"W
5	Clintondale	Ulster	22-Sep	3	72	Acer saccharum ( <i>sugar maple</i> )	41°41'32.91"N	74° 3'18.67"W
6	Walden	Orange	22-Sep	2	54	A. altissima (Tree of Heaven)	41°33'1.34"N	74° 9'36.77"W
7	Gardener	Ulster	23-Sep	3	74	Robinia pseudoacacia (Black Locust)	41°40'14.72"N	74° 5'11.21"W
8	Warwick	Orange	23-Sep	2	56	A. altissima (Tree of Heaven)	41°13'55.83"N	74°22'0.66"W
9	Warwick	Orange	23-Sep	2	56	A. altissima (Tree of Heaven)	41°13'52.59"N	74°23'11.62"W
10	Fishkill	Dutchess	24-Sep	3	73	Robinia pseudoacacia (Black Locust)	41°31'12.02"N	73°49'40.04"W
11	Hudson	Columbia	24-Sep	2	56	Vitis riparia (Native grape)	42°11'6.33"N	73°49'47.25"W
12	Hudson	Columbia	24-Sep	2	54	A. altissima (Tree of Heaven)	42°11'16.36"N	73°49'58.86"W
13	Marlboro	Ulster	24-Sep	2	56	Rhus sp. (Sumac)	41°38'13.67"N	74° 0'24.57"W
14	Milton	Ulster	24-Sep	3	78	A. altissima (Tree of Heaven)	41°39'4.29"N	73°59'33.93"W
15	Milton	Ulster	24-Sep	3	74	Robinia pseudoacacia (Black Locust)	41°38'43.94"N	73°59'24.84"W
16	Modena	Ulster	24-Sep	2	59	A. altissima (Tree of Heaven)	41°40'1.19"N	74° 7'44.19"W
17	Red Hook	Dutchess	24-Sep	3	73	A. altissima (Tree of Heaven)	42° 3'14.98"N	73°50'55.49"W
18	Tivoli	Dutchess	24-Sep	3	72	Robinia pseudoacacia	42° 2'56.09"N	73°52'59.69"W
19	Valatia	Columbia	24-Sep	2	59	A. altissima (Tree of Heaven)	42°14'48.18"N	73°43'25.07"W
20	Milton	Ulster	26-Sep	3	87	Acer saccharum ( <i>Sugar Maple</i> )	41°38'39.48"N	73°58'6.6"W
21	Poughkeepsie	Dutchess	28-Sep	3	76	Robinia pseudoacacia (Black Locust)	41°40'40.28"N	73°53'50.91"W
22	Clintondale	Ulster	29-Sep	3	82	Acer saccharum ( <i>Sugar Maple</i> )	41°40'39.00"N	74° 3'19.43"W
23	Clintondale	Ulster	29-Sep	3	84	Vitis riparia (Native Grape)	41°40'24.16"N	74° 3'30.29"W
24	Highland	Ulster	29-Sep	3	84	A. altissima (Tree of Heaven)	41°41'59.76"N	74° 3'7.90"W
25	Modena	Ulster	29-Sep	2	58	Robinia pseudoacacia (Black Locust)	41°40'6.74"N	73°59'39.28"W
26	New Paltz	Ulster	29-Sep	3	81	Juglans nigra (eastern black walnut)	41°42'43.82"N	74° 6'48.75"W
27	New Paltz	Ulster	29-Sep	3	86	Juglans nigra (eastern black walnut)	41°41'30.84"N	74° 7'43.96"W
28	Campbell Hall	Orange	6-Oct	3	71	Deer Fence	41°25'36.84"N	74°14'21.00"W
29	Cuddebackville	Orange	6-Oct	3	71	Corylus avellana (Hazelnut)	41°27'45.22"N	74°36'57.16"W
30	Cuddebackville	Orange	6-Oct	3	74	Corylus avellana (Hazelnut)	41°27'41.78"N	74°36'57.28"W
31	Cuddebackville	Orange	6-Oct	3	77	Corylus avellana (Hazelnut)	41°27'40.97"N	74°36'52.20"W
32	Warwick	Orange	6-Oct	3	76	Acer saccharum ( <i>sugar maple</i> )	41°17'31.47"N	74°26'15.06"W







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## Expanding the Range of the Parasitoid Wasp, *Trissolcus japonicus*, (Hymenoptera: Scelionidae) in NYS.



Photograph: **Christopher Hedstrom**  
USDA-APHIS Quarantine Facility,  
Corvallis, Oregon

### '17 Recollection of Parasitized Eggs

- Parasitized eggs collected in 11 of 32 sites in late October & November to determine % emergence.
- Of the 11 sites, 77% of clusters recovered.
- In 3 of the 11 sites Samurai Wasps was found guarding egg clusters



## Expanding the Range of the Parasitoid Wasp, *Trissolcus japonicus*, (Hymenoptera: Scelionidae) in NYS.



Photograph: **Christopher Hedstrom**  
USDA-APHIS Quarantine Facility,  
Corvallis, Oregon

### '17 Recollection of Parasitized Eggs

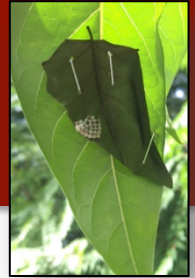
- 168 or 24.4% (N=719) successfully emerge as adults
- 0.7% partially emerged from the egg
- 66.4% of the eggs showing no sign of emergence; eggs were parasitized and unsuccessful in development







## Release Site Confirmation of Samurai Wasp Using Post Emergence Sentinel Eggs\*



- Upon emergence, sentinel eggs were placed 30 meters from *T. japonicus* in two of the release sites .
- Egg parasitism by *T. japonicus* was observed in these 2 release sites from 15<sup>th</sup> September to 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

Site	County	Google Earth Coordinates	Sentinel Eggs Placed (date)
Schutt Orchard Site 1	Monroe	43°11'3.78"N 77°26'56.76"W	9-15-2017
Schutt Orchard Site 1	Monroe	43°11'3.78"N 77°26'56.76"W	9-22-2017
Schutt Orchard Site 1	Monroe	43°11'3.78"N 77°26'56.76"W	10-3-2017
Holly	Orleans	43°13'59.52"N 78°18'7.271"W	10-3-2017

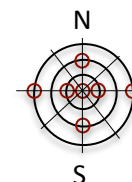


# Expanding the Range of the Parasitoid Wasp, *Trissolcus japonicus*, (Hymenoptera: Scelionidae) in NYS.



## 2018 Protocols ('17 sites)

- Placement of sentinel egg masses in 2017 release sites for recapture of *T. japonicus*.

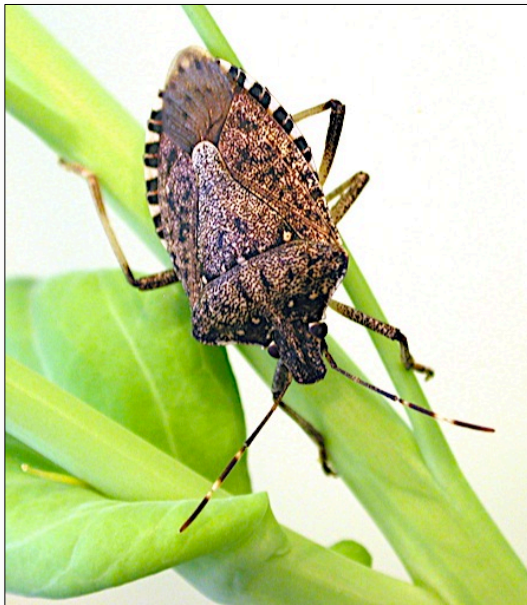


- 5d field exposure & return to HVRL.
- Rear eggs to confirm *T. Japonicus* presence to determine successful establishment.
- Re-establish sites as needed.
- Early establishment of additional sites ( $\approx 200$ ). *T.j.* parasitized eggs to NY growers upon request.





Questions??  
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The National March Madness  
Citizen Science Project  
To Find  
The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug



*Trissolcus japonicus*



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