**Mantid activity**

June 17, 2016

Plan for 2016

5 days on 10 to 10 light cycle. Then place inside short food vials on Tue, turn on DAMs on Wed before 8 AM for > 24 h.

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Notes from Oct. 2015: I got 36 spiders and ~ 15 mantids from Ian on Thu AM and placed them in the humidified chambers at 25oC with lights on from 10 to 22.

I fed each spider > 3 flies and placed many flies and a food bottle inside the mantid cage on Fri and Mon. Spiders will be with no new food until Thu (regular schedule) and mantids will be with no food from Tue at 11 until Thu AM.

Predators will experience 5 days in our experimental settings before we start recording on Wed at 8 AM.

Tue: Place wet dental pad at the bottom of each mantid vial (try to secure them within 12 mm from the bottom, do not use agar – it failed before!). Move spiders and mantids individually into DAM vials. Set up the DAM vertically with the vials being horizontal as we did with the flies.

Wed before 8 AM. Turn on DAM

Thu after 8 AM turn off DAMS. Feed spiders & mantids. Return to Ian.

**Below is the fly protocol**

Day 1. Clear before 8 AM, aspirate (no CO2) at 3 PM 1 male into each vial containing ~4 ml food medium (12 mm high). Vials are 22 mm wide and 48 mm long with snap cap containing a ventilation hole in the centre. Place 32 vials horizontally in the activity monitor and inside a humidified Tupperware at 25oC and ~70% RH. The horizontal distance between the food and the IF sensors is about 7 mm. An LED light bulb will provide illumination with lights on at 10 AM and off at 10 PM.

Day 2. Start recording before 8 AM.

Day 3. End the 24 h recording after 8 AM. Keep only the 8 AM to 8 AM readings. Note dead flies and omit these vials. Preps for next replicate: Clear at 8 AM, sex at noon and place in snap cap vials males for the next replicate.

Day 4. Start recording before 8 AM.