EcoHort 2023 Field Journal, D. Gamoso

4/24/23 – Today first sampling of the season! Did Storey Ave Block in this order:

#1 NH #2 H #3 C. Was sunny and warm, but windy in NH plot. (Although caught 4 B. Vos on Fuschia). No other bees or pollinators in other two plots. Fuschia was in full bloom in both NH, and C. Need to get flower estimates for that species.

4/30/23 Did two blocks. Got decent weather from 55-60 degrees, not too windy. Not a lot in bloom, particularly in the NH plots. Some RACA and TAOV in bloom at Fort Scott H plot. Rock purslane got a lot of action at West Crissy with “sweat bees” (dark) visiting. Also, oxalis got visited by “sweat bee” and bumble bee at NH West Crissy.

Fort Scott: C, NH, H

West Crissy: C, NH, H

5/8/2023 Pretty decent weather today. Sampled in the afternoon at West Washington Block, and Main Post Succulents. A few Bumblebees, attracted to the non-native ornamentals like Aeonium, Echium, African Daisy, and an ornamental Geranium. (Plus a hover fly checking out Stellaria media). Not a lot in bloom in terms of natives in most of the plots.

5/11/2023 did Fuschia and Fumaria flower counts at Storey Ave blocks, for the sampling that was done on 4/24/23. Used “cube” to get 3-d estimate of a 10cmX10cm cube, and then calculate the number of “cubes” for area of shrub for Fuschia at plots NH, and C

5/23/2023 Pretty decent weather. Sunny, but a little windy. Sampled:

Sheridan-Taylor block

Wyman-Wedenmeyer – only the Control plot

Today started to catch, cool, and photo hoverflies.

5/24/2023 Sampled late in afternoon Fort Scott Comm Garden block. May have caught a Bombus Caliginosus visiting Phacelia Cal. Got some decent photos. Not a lot of bloom of natives in the H and NH plots as of yet.

5/30/2023 DG,MM,KB,LG sample YMCA blocks: NH, C, H. One bee specimen at H-plot. We also co-led the Conservancy Academic interns at Battery tunnels, MM, KB, and LG doing a little interp on the grasses and weeds.

6/20/2023 DG, MM, LG sample Fort Scott Blocks and Lincoln/Lendrum blocks. Also do weeding of H and NH plots fort scott, and NH at Lincoln Lendrum.

6/21/2023 DG weed at Post office plots. Plants not looking good in Host

6/26/2023 DG, KB, MM, and LG weed, water and woodchip West Wash block, and E Wa block (just host and NH for this block). Felt good!

7/3/2023 DG, KB, and MM do more plot maintenance. Weden-Wyman: weed, compost, water, and woodchips on H and NH plots, and do same at Ft Scott Host plot. Felt good.

7/6/2023 Meeting with Sara Leon Guerrero to discuss EcoHort training for Trust. Inspired, out to do bee sampling at Weden-Wyman, all plots. Then sample Storey Ave late afternoon a C and NH (got cold and gloomy).

7/10/2023 DG, LG, MM, KB plot maintenance Fort Scott NH (weeding, compost, water, woodchips). Then sample Storey Ave plots.

7/11/2023 DG, LG, KB sample EAWA and WEWA. Possibly another Bombus caliginosus, on Aeonium!

7/12/2023 DG, Marg, sample MPSU in late afternoon/evening. Unfortunately, stayed kinda cold and windy. Saw many more Bombus in the morning at 11:30 as I did the flower counts at PowderHouse host plot. Only one at H plot in evening. Margarita caught her first bumblebee!

7/14/2023 DG sample YMCA and FSCG. Believe I got another B. Caliginosus at community garden on foxglove. Lots of bees and activity at YMCA host, and even some at the NH even though little in flower. The sun was out at YMCA, it was warm. But microclimate kinda overcast and gray at community garden.

7/19/2023 DG,LG plot maintenance POOF H and NH, YMCA NH. (Compost, water, woodchips) Bee sample SHTA H – lots of bumble bees on Horkelia (Phacelia not fully in bloom within plot). Likely caught a couple B. Caliginosus again.

7/21/2023 DG Sample SHTA NH only, and LILE . Notice so few natives survived at LILE NH, and so few in H as well. But the bees found those few plants and their tiny amounts of flowers.

7/24/2023 DG, Miguel, KB bee sample WYWE, and STAV. DG also does FOSC Control only. (H and NH shaded). Also watered plants at WYWE H and NH. At STAV, interesting that both C and NH (very windy plot) had very little action even though both had Fuschia, and NH also had Agapanthus. All the bumble bees were at the Phacelia at the host plot! Caught a couple Bombus caliginosus again.

7/25/2023 DG and LG sample SHTA Control only, and all of FSCG.

7/31/2023 DG, LG, MM sample FOSC (all), WEWA(all), and EAWA( Control only), and got flower data for EAWA Host.

8/1/2023 DG, LG, KB sample STAV all. Interesting as I observed BB’s passing through the NH plot, which had some fuschia, hydrangea, campanula, and agapanthus in bloom, they would fly in, snake through as if they were looking for something, then move on past. This happened at least 6 times. Tons of BB’s in Host plot, most on Phacelia, but also on Horkelia, and 1 on CA aster, and even Grindelia (which only had one or two flowers).

8/7/2023 DG, LG, MM sample: EAWA, YMCA, MPSU (although sunny, got really windy at MPSU Host plot, whereas C and NH seemed more sheltered). Also got flower counts for SHTA H, and NH.

8/9/2023 Note: Flower data for SHTA taken on 8/7. DG samples SHTA, but split shift. Late morning do C plot, and start H plot. Had to stop mid-way in 0-5 min netting to go to tool stewardship. Came back around 3:30 pm to finish, but was now overcast and cooler than morning. So even though a lot of flowers, particularly in NH plot, hardly any bees. In Host plot, and maybe another species of bumble bee? Large, likely a queen, resting on horkelia. Noticed the extra band at beginning of abdomen, following the thorax band. Also, when starting the photo “sandwich” for Host plot, forgot to take photo of plot first. So it’s in the middle between P1 and P2.

8/14/2023 DG and KB sample: LILE, FSCG, and WYWE. Decent weather for Presidio. So few flowers at LILE NH, at LILE H – it’s dominated by Cal gra. WYWE also flower-depauperate.

8/16/2023 DG and LG sample: FOSC, STAV, and WEWA. Decent weather.

8/21/2023 DG, LG, MM(half day) sample: MPSU, SHTA, YMCA, then do bee i.d. keying lab. Decently warm all day, not too windy, but very humid, muggy. Not much bee activity and at plots with decent amounts of flowers.

8/30/2023 DG and Margarita sample at FSCG and DG solo at WEWA. See a really cool green bee at FSCG, Control plot, oooh, and plus we may have gotten a Sphecodes there as well. Very warm, calm day, perfect for sampling.

9/3/2023 DG and LG sample LILE, EAWA, and WYWE. Decent weather throughout.

9/5/2023 DG and LG sample YMCA, SHTA, and Lucy does FTSC solo. Pretty good weather!

9/11/2023 DG , and later Miguel sample: MPSU, STAV, and FSCG. Sunny and warm temps, but windy. No specimens. Not a lot of activity.

9/18/2023 DG and Miguel sample WYWE, LILE, and WEWA. Good weather. Amazing that at LILE host plot was super buzzing around SYCH and CAL GRA, then just slight shift as Calandrinia closed up, and partial shade, totally quieted down.

9/25/2023 Bee lab, and Ecohort study presentation, and bee catching practice with Sol, Karen, Phoebe. Then sample STAV, and EAWA. Balmy, humid, but lots of sweat bee activity on fort scott when we were practicing.

9/29/2023 DG samples YMCA Host plot, only. Then got cold windy. Interesting that not visits to the CA asters, as there were plenty.

Also, to save time, how about after capture, visually i.d. Vespula, and HB’s, but no photo? At least not for me.

10/2/2023 DG and LG and Phoebe in morning sample:

YMCA: Host and Control only (NH was shaded). And it was a little after 9, and although sunny, quite cool.

SHTA: all 3 plots

In afternoon, DG and LG sample YMCA Host and Non-host, but this time Control shaded. (Will do Control tomorrow afternoon)

Finally MPSU. Definitely feel seasons changing. Even though quite warm in the middle of the day, much less bee activity.

10/3/2023 DG sample FOSC, and YMCA (the control plot, only). Good weather! Sunny, slightly cool breeze.

10/11/2023 DG and LG sample EAWA. Then LG alone does FSCG. Lots of action at host plot of FSCG – green sweat bees all over asters, Nepeta…Nice Fall weather.

10/16/2023 DG,LG, then MM in afternoon sample: LILE, SHTA, then WEWA, WYWE, STAV. Nice weather overall. Still seeing a few small dark bees around (didn’t manage to catch), but definitely much less. More pronounced is lack of Bumble Bees, (saw a couple), but definitely much less – even at STAV host plot which had a lot of PHCA, HOCA, and GRHI.

10/23/2023 DG sample MPSU and YMCA. YMCA C was done earlier to avoid shading. Still some little bees here and there – but not able to catch. Good weather. Cooler, but sunny.

11/21/2023 DG and ME in-fill plant @ WYWE. Host: remove felt fabric around plantings and add 4 handfuls compost each. Non-host: plant, and just add compost.

11/27/2023 DG finish in-fill plant WEWA host. Also in-fill LILE NH. Adding compost to all new plantings, plus some of the old ones (not all).

12/4/2023 DG in-fill plant LILE host. Add cages and compost new plantings. Also, cut back Calandrina grandiflora, and plant cuttings in NH and C plots.

12/11/2023 DG in-fill plant FSCG H and NH. Then does some plants at FOSC NH plot.

12/26/2023 DG organize plants into plots at nursery. In-fill plant FOSC NH and H.

12/27/2023 DG plant calculations to make sure have enough. In-fill plant MPSU NH and H

1/3/2024 DG in-fill plant YMCA NH. Last year’s plants looking robust!

1/8/2024 DG in-fill plant YMCA H

1/9/2024 DG in-fill plant SHTA NH (not SIMA), and weed oxalis and Calystegia and strawberry.

DG weed Host, and start in-fill planting.

1/29/2024 DG in-fill planting and weeding at WYWE NH, and finish! Host plot with compost. Looking more robust in both plots. I think the compost really is helping.

2/7/2024 DG, ME, Nay finish in-filling at FSCG. (Interesting that so few RACA survived there). Then do partial in-fill planting at EAWA H

3/6/2024 DG, ME, NDT weed and woodchip WYWE H, and DG weeds and woodchips at LILE host, NH, and FOSC NH. Feel hopeful. Particularly at WYWE, plants looking like putting on growth!

3/31/2024 Dg inaugural 2024 sampling. Beautiful, sunny day. Do SHTA, and MPSU (NH, C). need to finish Host plot for MPSU.

4/3/2024 DG and ME sample MPSU Host. A little windy and cold at times. But decent, for Presidio. The DG weeded at WYWE NH plot.

4/8/2024 DG and Jade and Mackenzie sample all plots Storey Ave and do some weeding. A little windy and cold at NH plot (as usual!) but sun was out, and bumble bees definitely out at the host plot on Phacelia.

4/10/2024 DG sample all WYWE plots and weed. Good, calm, warm weather, but no bees.

4/22/2024 DG and Jade sample just YMCA host plot. Decent conditions at host plot, although a little blustery at times. Started taking flower data on NH plot, and decided too windy and cold. So weeded NH plot and H plot.

4/24/2024 DG and ME sample YMCA NH plot. Use half of flower data from 4/22, and continue gathering flower data on remaining plants. (Note: due to DG and Jade weeding the plot on 4/22, there were a lot less weedy species present such as Geranium dissectum..) Also, Do a little weeding at FSCG Host plot. Weather conditions were similar to 4/22, and similar time of day.

04/29/2024 DG, Jade, Mackenzie sample FSCG all plots. Start with NH because going to get shaded, then H, then C. Decent conditions for Presidio. Also weeded H and NH plots.

5/1/2024 DG, ME, and GLB sample and weed WEWA. Good weather!

5/8/2024 DG and ME sample PAGO, and weed. Great weather! Plantings very little in bloom as of yet.

5/15/2024 DG, ME, EP sample and weed LILE Host plot, only. (Late in afternoon). Even though overcast, 17 degrees Celsius, and saw small “sweat” bee on Ranunculus while we counted flowers. A good amount of action. Weeded within plot, grasses

05/22/24 DG, ME and NDT (training for Nay) sample YMCA Control, and LILE Control and NH, as well as weed, finally completing sampling the blocks for both of those. Beautiful, sunny day.

6/3/2024 DG samples and weeds FOSC, and EAWA. Overcast all day, but decently warm-ish.