

¹ Plant Metagenomic Barcoding using Angiosperms353 of Corbiculae
² from wild Bumble Bees

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⁴ **Abstract**

- ⁵ 1) DNA Barcoding has been successful for the rapid identification of species in complex ecological assemblages. However, metabarcoding in the plant kingdom has been more difficult than in others due to complications associated with evolutionary processes common in plants, limiting the applications of eDNA and metagenomics in ecology.
- ⁶ 2) Here we test the use of Angiosperms 353 probes to barcode plant species found in corbiculae pollen loads collected from wild foraging bumble bees.
- ⁷ 3) Using a high resolution long term observation study of wild bumble bees, we develop a simple framework for the application of metagenomics in plant-pollinator interactions to increase the efficiency and accuracy of applications using species distribution models, phenological modelling, and simple procedural decision making.
- ⁸ 4) By utilizing Species distribution modelling we allow users to create regionally appropriate sequence databases which are poised to increase accuracy of the sequence assignments and which minimize the need for large computational power, and run time.
- ⁹ 5) We show that the Angiosperms 353 probes, developed for phylogenomics, and which are currently being used in the largest ever plant systematic endeavor, offer significant promise to metagenomic approaches around the globe.
- ¹⁰ 6) The DNA barcoding of bumble bee corbiculae pollen loads was most accurate when combined with knowledge of what plant species were flowering in the plant community when they were collected.

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23 Thus, supplementing DNA barcoding data with ecological context is most accurate and powerful.

24 1 | INTRODUCTION

25 An enormous amount of Earths biodiversity may be attributed to the interactions between species (Soltis *et*
26 *al.* (2019), Futuyma & Agrawal (2009), Voje *et al.* (2015), Weber *et al.* (2017), Hembry & Weber (2020)).
27 These interactions not only lead to the the origin of many species but appear essential to the maintenance
28 of virtually all ecosystems (Agrawal *et al.* (2007), Valiente-Banuet *et al.* (2015), Bascompte *et al.* (2006)).
29 In order to understand and rationally conserve both the species and the ecosystems which their interactions
30 compose - Darwins ‘Entangled Bank’- integrative approaches, with the potential for scaling are required
31 immediately (Darwin (2004), Thompson (1994), Agrawal *et al.* (2007), Banerjee *et al.* (2022), Blanchet
32 *et al.* (2020), Jordano (2016)). Major limitations, imposed by a lack of taxonomic expertise, impede our
33 initial ability to identify organisms let alone more complex phenomena (Hebert *et al.* (2003)). The lack
34 of an ability to identify whole organisms, especially those from diverse clades where species are oftentimes
35 delineated along ecological lines - or on occasion cryptic, lessens the utility of them to serve as bioindicators;
36 a role they are typically pre-disposed to (Gage & Cooper (2013), Banerjee *et al.* (2022), Janzen *et al.* (2017),
37 Oliver *et al.* (2009)). The ability to identify fragments of organisms (e.g. leaf tissue) increases our ability to
38 understand the interactions of not only entire ecosystems but also a focal, generally rare and hence difficult
39 to detect, organism with their surrounding; allowing for the most precise allocation of conservation decisions
40 and funds e.g. those for restoration processes (Banerjee *et al.* (2022), Johnson *et al.* (2023)).

41 Recently barcoding (the identification of a sample from a single organism *e.g.* a piece of leaf), and metabar-
42 coding (the identification of a sample containing a mix of organisms *e.g.* soil), have shown considerable
43 promise in all Kingdoms of Life (Ruppert *et al.* (2019)). With plants the identification of members of cer-
44 tain clades to species using barcoding has been quite successful (Kress (2017)), whereas many other clades
45 have proven more problematic (Liu *et al.* (2014), Group *et al.* (2011), Coissac *et al.* (2012)), however
46 metabarcoding incurs additional challenges to those which exist for the currently implemented barcodes (Li
47 *et al.* (2015), Kress & Erickson (2007), Group *et al.* (2009), Coissac *et al.* (2012)). Particular limitations
48 of the traditional high copy number barcodes (*e.g.* ITS2, *rbcL*, *matK*, *trnH-psbA*) include the utilization
49 their rates of divergence, gene tree conflict, and hybridization (Coissac *et al.* (2016), Fazekas *et al.* (2009)).
50 Currently, most plant metabarcoding endeavors only allow the identification of material to the level of family
51 or genus.

52 [Table 1 about here.]

53 Currently the largest plant systematic endeavor ever undertaken, by the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, the
54 Plant and Fungal Tree of Life (PAFTOL) is approaching completion (Baker *et al.* (2021a)). This data set will
55 contain hybridization capture (Hyb-Seq) data from at least one species in each genus of the plant kingdom,
56 14,000+ represented species, using the popular Angiosperms353 (A353) probes (Baker *et al.* (2021a), Johnson
57 *et al.* (2019)). Data from the 10kP project, which seeks to develop reference genomes from a phylogenetically
58 diverse suite of 10,000 plant species, will contribute more species by 2030 (Cheng *et al.* (2018)). These
59 publicly available data serve to provide a phylogenetically comprehensive backbone for plant metabarcoding.
60 Similar projects, focused on whole genome sequencing of all organisms in certain geographic areas, such as
61 the ‘Darwin Tree of Life’, which aims to sequence all described taxa in Britain and Ireland, will provide
62 geographically dense data sets to seed projects globally (Life Project Consortium *et al.* (2022), Lewin *et al.*
63 (2022)). These novel genomic data sets will promote the ability to apply metabarcoding to resolve a diverse
64 array of questions relevant to theoretical and applied ecology (Kress (2017), Hollingsworth *et al.* (2016)).
65 However, the application of metabarcoding still faces challenges relating to the enormity of the genomic data
66 sets and the computational power required to process sequence data.

67 Herein we have resolved major components of the problems of accurately and effectively identifying plant
68 material without diagnostic morphological character states using the A353 Hyb-Seq probes (Johnson *et al.*
69 (2019)), within a framework which utilizes custom species sequence databases derived via species distribution
70 modelling, and temporal filtering. To increase the accuracy and efficiency of metabarcoding results in plants,
71 we are proposing reducing the number of possible candidate species by generating a user specific sequence
72 database relevant to the region of study and the ecological characteristics of interest (Bell *et al.* (2022)).
73 To achieve this goal, we first create a regional list of candidate species using digital collections gleaned from
74 herbaria, survey work, and citizen science (e.g. iNaturalist). We then use species distribution models to
75 create potential distribution maps for the candidate species to limit the impact of spatial and taxonomic
76 biases in the species list and account for spatial variations in niche availability throughout the study area.
77 This approach has the benefit of greatly reducing the size of a sequence database, which allows for the use of
78 genomic data on personal computers. This approach can significantly reduce processing time, increasing the
79 a projects efficiency, particularly as most next-generation sequence data is deposited as raw-sequence reads.

80 [Table 2 about here.]

81 Plant flowering varies over space and also in time, and in particular, contrasts in the flowering periods of
82 many plant species can provide an additional filter for identifying material in certain types of metagenomic
83 samples (Janzen (1967), Newstrom *et al.* (1994), Thompson (1994), CaraDonna *et al.* (2021)). In high

84 elevation temperate regions, pollination interactions vary temporally and are characterized by high turnover
85 in active periods of species (CaraDonna *et al.* (2017), CaraDonna & Waser (2020)). We work to develop a
86 general approach which seems applicable to many areas which utilize the temporal dimension for classifying
87 sequences in metagenomic samples (but see Davis *et al.* (2022), Figure 1).

88 [Figure 1 about here.]

89 We tested this metagenomic and informatics approach by examining the plant species composition within
90 corbiculae pollen loads of bumble bees as a case study. In particular, we use DNA barcoding to identify the
91 plant species in corbiculae pollen loads collected from overwintered queen bumble bees, and compare this
92 approach with direct observations of bee flower visits and microscopically-examined pollen slides, which has
93 shown some incongruency in several floral visitation networks involving smaller bodied fauna (Olesen *et al.*
94 (2011), Barker & Arceo-Gomez (2021), Zhao *et al.* (2019), Alarcón (2010)). The assessment of the plant
95 species in pollen is a commonly desired, across several potential applications, despite numerous potential
96 complications (Poronon *et al.* (2017), Bell *et al.* (2017), Sickel *et al.* (2015), Bell *et al.* (2019), Suchan *et al.*
97 (2019), Johnson *et al.* (2021)). The two foraging phases of the queen bumblebee life cycle are essential to
98 1) increase their weight before diapause, and 2) increase their ovary weights while establishing their recently
99 found nests. Both time periods represent potential demographic bottlenecks in bumble bee populations
100 (Sarro *et al.* (2022)). Bumblebees are one of the only groups of insects with unequivocal quantitative
101 evidence for numerous population declines, while simultaneously serving as the most effective pollinators in
102 many temperate montane ecosystems (Cameron & Sadd (2020), Goulson *et al.* (2008b), Williams (1982),
103 Colla *et al.* (2012), Bergman *et al.* (1996), Bingham & Orthner (1998), Grixti *et al.* (2009)). These
104 areas often represent the most diverse areas in the temperate and often offer the sole potential refugia for
105 multiple dimensions of biodiversity under climate change, whilst simultaneously experiencing the greatest
106 proportional changes in mean annual temperature (Brito-Morales *et al.* (2018), Pepin *et al.* (2022)). An
107 immediate understanding of how to manage previously overlooked keystone insect species, such as bumble
108 bees, is essential if the refugial potential of the temperate mountains are to be incorporated into their current
109 diversity (Loarie *et al.* (2009), Dobrowski & Parks (2016)).

¹¹⁰ **2 | METHODS**

¹¹¹ **2.1 Case Study: Bee-Flower Observations and Pollen Load Collection**

¹¹² Bee and flower observations and bee corbiculae pollen collection was conducted around the Rocky Mountain
¹¹³ Biological Laboratory (RMBL; 38°57.5" N, 106°59.3" W (WGS 84), 2900 m.a.s.l.), Colorado, USA (Appendix
¹¹⁴ 1 for site information). The area is characterized by subalpine meadow vegetation communities. Pollinator
¹¹⁵ observations of *Bombus Latreille* spp. (Apidae Latreille) were conducted from May 29th – July 23rd of
¹¹⁶ 2015 in six study sites as a part of a larger study (described in Ogilvie and CaraDonna 2022). Observations
¹¹⁷ of *Bombus* foraging took place for one hour at each field site, with equal time spent searching for bee in
¹¹⁸ the major vegetation types (dry, and wet meadows, and aspen forest). Corbiculae pollens loads were, non-
¹¹⁹ lethally, collected from queens encountered by capturing them in an insect net and transferring them into a
¹²⁰ restraining device (“bee squeezer”, Kearns *et al.* (2001)). We then collected a single pollen load (i.e., from
¹²¹ one leg) from the bee and then released it. At weekly intervals at each site, we also recorded the abundances
¹²² of flowers visited by bumble bees within belt transects spread over the three vegetation types (0.5 x 40 m
¹²³ transects in each vegetation type, 60 m² total area per site).

¹²⁴ **2.3 | Pollen Morphological identification**

¹²⁵ **2.3.1 | Pollen Reference Library**

¹²⁶ To qualitatively identify, and quantitatively note, the plant species present in corbiculae loads microscopy
¹²⁷ was used. A pollen reference library of fuchsin-jelly stained grains which may be present in corbiculae loads
¹²⁸ of slides was assembled from slides previously prepared by the authors (n = 21), and other researchers (n =
¹²⁹ 38) (Beattie (1971), Brosi & Briggs (2013)). Using five years of observational data on *Bombus* Queen Bee
¹³⁰ foraging at these studies sites (Ogilvie & CaraDonna (2022)), as well as the RMBL Vascular Plant Checklist
¹³¹ (Frase & Buck (2007)), an additional 62 voucher slides for species were prepared and imaged at 400x (Leica
¹³² DMLB, Leica MC170 HD Camera, Leica Application Suite V. 4.13.0) from non-accessioned herbarium col-
¹³³ lections to supplement the number of species and clades covered (Appendix 3).

¹³⁴ We used clustering techniques to supplement our subjective opinions of which plant taxa were distinguishable
¹³⁵ via light microscopy, and to develop a dichotomous key to pollen morphotypes. Ten readily discernible cate-
¹³⁶ gorical traits were collected from each specimen in the image collection. These traits were transformed using
¹³⁷ Gower distances, and clustered using Divisive Hierarchical clustering techniques (Maechler *et al.* (2022)).
¹³⁸ Using the cluster dendrogram, elbow plot, and heatmaps (Hennig (2020)), of these results morphological

¹³⁹ groups of pollen which could not be resolved via microscopy were delineated, and a dichotomous key was
¹⁴⁰ prepared (Appendix 6). This key was then used to identify the pollen grains sampled from corbiculae loads
¹⁴¹ to morphotypes in a consistent manner.

¹⁴² **2.3.2 | Preparation of Pollen Corbiculae Loads**

¹⁴³ To prepare the pollen slides from corbiculae, all corbiculae loads were broken apart and rolled using dissection
¹⁴⁴ needlepoints to increase heterogeneity of samples. *Circa* 0.5mm² of pollen was placed onto a ~4mm² fuchsin
¹⁴⁵ jelly cube (Beattie (1971)) atop a graticulated microscope slide, with 20 transects and 20 rows (400 quadrants)
¹⁴⁶ (EMS, Hartfield, PA). The jelly was melted, with stirring, until pollen grains were homogeneously spread
¹⁴⁷ across the microscope slide. Slides were sealed with Canada Balsam (Rublev Colours, Willits, CA) followed
¹⁴⁸ by sealing with clear nail polish to prevent oxidation; all samples are noted in Appendix 4. To identify the
¹⁴⁹ pollen present in corbiculae loads, light microscopy at 400x (Zeiss Axioscope A1) was used. In initial sampling
¹⁵⁰ in three transects, each pollen grain was identified to morphotype and counted; an additional two transects
¹⁵¹ were scanned for morphotypes unique to that slide, if either transect contained a unique morphotype than
¹⁵² all grains in that transect were also identified and counted. Subsequent to the first round of sampling, non-
¹⁵³ parametric species richness rarefaction curves (Oksanen *et al.* (2022)), and non-parametric species diversity
¹⁵⁴ rarefaction curves were used to assess the completeness of sampling (Chao *et al.* (2014), Hsieh *et al.* (2020)).
¹⁵⁵ Slides not approaching the asymptote of the rarefaction curve were then re-sampled, and analysed iteratively
¹⁵⁶ for up to a total of seven transects (Appendix 7 & 8).

¹⁵⁷ **2.4 | Molecular Barcoding**

¹⁵⁸ **2.4.1 | Species reference list**

¹⁵⁹ **2.4.1.1 Spatial Analyses** We first generated a short list of potential candidate species. We downloaded,
¹⁶⁰ from the Botanical Information and Ecology Network ‘BIEN’ (Maitner (2022)), all records adjacent to the
¹⁶¹ field sites to develop an ecologically relevant list of vascular plant species, with expected biotic pollination,
¹⁶² which may be present at the study area. To reduce the number of species to include in the reference sequence
¹⁶³ databases, we then generated Species Distribution Models (SDMs) for these taxa to predict their distribution
¹⁶⁴ throughout the study area.

¹⁶⁵ To minimize the number of species for which SDM’s were to be generated, BIEN was queried at a distance
¹⁶⁶ of up to 100km from our study area and all plant species records were downloaded. To account for the

167 stochasticity of botanical collecting and offset the number of records associated with the research station,
168 this data set was bootstrap re-sampled 250 times, with 90% of samples selected, to create a testing data
169 set. The median of the logistic regression assessing the probability of occurrence of a species record as a
170 function of distance from the study area was used as a threshold distance, under which, to include species
171 as candidates for distribution modelling.

172 **2.4.1.2 Distribution Modelling** To determine which clades to include in the reference sequence database
173 we used Species Distribution Modelling. We used all occurrence records from BIEN ($n = 23,919$) within a
174 50km border of the ecoregion, Omernik level 3, which includes the study area (*No. 21 “Southern Rockies”*)
175 to construct the species distribution model (Omernik (1987)). These records were copied into two, initially
176 identical, sets, one for generating machine learning models (ML; Random Forest, and Boosted Regression
177 Tree’s), and the other for Generalised Linear (GLM) and Generalized Additive Models (GAM) (Barbet-
178 Massin *et al.* (2012)). Ensembled predictions have been shown to outperform their constituent models,
179 on average, and to reduce the ecological signal to the analytical noise of individual runs (Araujo & New
180 (2007)). No single method of producing SDMs has been shown to universally outperform others when faced
181 with a large and diverse number of applications, in our case a great number of species with different biology
182 and ecology (Elith* *et al.* (2006), Qiao *et al.* (2015)). In the spirit of these findings, multiple families of
183 models, which can be generated together as they have similar requirements regarding the number and ratios
184 of Presence to Absence records were ensembled together (Barbet-Massin *et al.* (2012)).

185 We then generated 4,029 absence points, locations where the focal taxon is anticipated missing, through a
186 random stratification of 19% of the land cover in the area and included them in (Land Management (2019)).
187 To achieve a larger absence data set, we generated 1,000 pseudo-absence records for each taxon by randomly
188 selecting coordinates located at least 10km away from an occurrence record. For ML models, these pseudo-
189 absences were reduced so that the ratio of presence to absence records were balanced (Barbet-Massin *et al.*
190 (2012)). To achieve this, we removed absence records inside of 10% of the mean sample value of any predictor
191 variable the presence records; the required number of absence records were then randomly sampled.

192 To predict the potential distribution of each species we used 26 environmental variables at 30m resolution,
193 six related to climate, five soil, four topographic, four related to cloud cover, with the remaining reflecting
194 assorted abiotic parameters (Wilson & Jetz (2016), Wang *et al.* (2016), Hengl *et al.* (2017), Robinson *et*
195 *al.* (2014)) (Appendix 2). These publicly available data sets, were selected as they pertain to a wide range
196 of variables interacting with plant physiology. For linear regression models these predictors underwent both
197 *vifstep* (theta = 10, max observations = 12,500) and *vifcor* (theta = 0.7, max observations = 12,500) to

198 detect highly correlated variables, and collinear features were removed leaving 16 variables (Naimi *et al.*
199 (2014)).

200 Modelling: Random Forest and Boosted Regression Trees, were sub sampled with 30% test and two replicates
201 each before weighted ensemble based on True Skill Statistics (tss) (Naimi & Araujo (2016)). Generalised
202 linear models (GLM) and Generalised additive models (GAM) with 30% sub sampling and three replicates
203 each were also ensembled using the tss (Naimi & Araujo (2016)). TSS was chosen as the ensemble criterion as
204 it has been shown to work across a wide range of species occurrences prevalence (Allouche *et al.* (2006)). The
205 results of these models were extracted on a cell-by-cell basis to a polygon feature derived from a minimum-
206 spanning tree which encompasses the study sites, and species from either ensemble with greater than 50%
207 mean habitat suitability across all cells were considered present for further purposes (Prim (1957)).

208 A total of 535 species were modelled using Generalized Linear Models and Generalized Additive Models and
209 534 species were modelled using Random Forest and Boosted Regression Trees. To evaluate the accuracy of
210 the species distribution models, additional presence records from GBIF ($n = 61,789$), and AIM ($n = 12,730$)
211 were used as test and training sets ($n = 74,519$) for logistic regression (Ocdownload Gbif.Org (2021), Land
212 Management (2019)). Additional novel absence records were generated from the AIM data set to create a
213 data set where each species has balanced presence and absences. Eleven or more paired presence and absence
214 records were required for this testing, resulting in 334 species being included in the logistic regression (Mdn
215 = 110.0, $\bar{x} = 223.1$, max = 1568 record pairs used) with a 70% test split (Kuhn (2022)).

216 2.4.2 | Temporal Analyses

217 For assignment of reads to ecologically probabilistic species subsequent to BLAST, flowering time was used
218 as a filter. To estimate the duration of dates in which plant species were flowering Weibull estimates of
219 several phenological parameters all spatially modelled taxa were developed (Belitz *et al.* (2020), Pearse *et*
220 *al.* (2017)). Only BIEN records which occurred in the Omernik Level 4 Ecoregions within 15km of the
221 study area ($n = 5$ Level 4 Ecoregions, or conditionally 6 ecoregions if enough records were not found in
222 the nearest 5), and which were from herbarium records were included. To remove temporally irrelevant
223 herbarium records, i.e. material collected during times which flowering is impossible at the study area due
224 to snow cover, we used the SnowUS data set (Iler *et al.* (2021), Tran *et al.* (2019)) from 2000-2017 were
225 analyzed for the first three days of contiguous snow absence, and the first three days of contiguous snow cover
226 in fall. Herbarium records after the 3rd quantile for melt, and the 1st quantile for snow cover of these metrics
227 were removed. Species with > 10 records had their Weibull distributions generated for the date when 10%
228 of individuals had begun flowering, when 50% were flowering, and when 90% of individuals had flowered,

229 we used the initiation and cessation dates, respectively, as effective start and ends of flowering. These
230 estimates were compared to a long-term observational study of flowering phenology 1974-2012 (CaraDonna
231 *et al.* (2014)), and the floral abundance data from 2015, using Kendall's tau.

232 **2.5.2 | Barcode references library**

233 All lab work was carried out at The Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Plant Conservation Science Center at the
234 Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, Illinois, U.S.A.

235 **2.5.2.1 | Sampling Species for Barcoding** Using five years (2015-2020) of observational data on *Bombus*
236 queen interactions with flowering plants at these studies sites, we identified the plant taxa most frequently
237 visited by queens across all years. In order to capture more variability inherit in the 353 loci we sequenced the
238 12 most visited taxa twice using samples collected from one site within the Gunnison Basin River Drainage
239 and one individual collected from another more distal population. In addition we included a congener - or
240 a species from a closely related genus to serve as an outgroup for all 12 taxa. We also sequenced another
241 15 taxa of plants commonly visited by *Bombus* workers, based on the abundances, and immediate access to
242 plant tissue, in the aforementioned data set (Appendix 3). Plant collections were identified typically using
243 a combination, of dichotomous keys and primary literature as required (Flora of North America Editorial
244 Committee (1993+), Hitchcock & Cronquist (2018), Ackerfield (2015), Lesica *et al.* (2012), Cronquist *et al.*
245 (1977+), Allred & Ivey (2012), *Jepson flora project* (2020), Mohlenbrock (2002)).

246 **2.5.2.2 | Plant Genomic DNA Extraction** Plant genomic DNA was isolated from ~ 1 cm² of leaf tissue
247 from silica-gel dried or herbarium material using a modified cetyltrimethylammonium (CTAB) protocol
248 (Doyle & Doyle (1987)) that included two chloroform washes. DNA was quantified using a Nanodrop 2000
249 (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, Massachusetts, USA) and Qubit fluorometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific).

250 **2.5.2.3 | Pollen Genomic DNA Extraction** To extract genomic DNA from pollen a CTAB based
251 protocol was modified from Lahlamjahi *et al.* and Guertler *et al.* (2014, 2014). A SDS extraction buffer
252 (350µL , 100mM Tris-HCl, 50 mM EDTA, 50 mM NaCl, 10% SDS v/v., pH 7.5) was added to the sampled
253 followed by vortexing to allow dissolution of corbiculae. Pollen grains were then macerated with Kontes Pellet
254 Pestles, and the tip of these washed with 130 µL of the SDS extraction buffer, samples were then incubated
255 for 1 hour at 30°C. This was followed by the addition of 10% CTAB solution (450ul, of 20 mM Tris-Cl pH.
256 8.0, 1.4 M NaCl, 10 mM EDTA pH 7.5, 10% CTAB, 5% PVP, ~85% Deionized water) and RNase (10 uL

257 of 10 mg/mL) and samples were incubated for 40 minutes at 37°C, on a heat block (Multi-Blok, Thermo
258 Fisher Scientific, Waltham Massachusetts) set to 40°C. After 20 minutes incubation, Proteinase K (15 µL of
259 20mg/ml) and DTT (12.5 µL of 1M in water) were added, and the samples were further incubated at 60°C
260 for 1 hour. Samples were then incubated overnight at 40°C. 500 µL of Phenol-Chloroform-Isoamyl alcohol
261 (25:24:1) were added, vortexed, and centrifuged at 10,000 rpm for 10 minutes and the aqueous phase was
262 pipetted to a 1.5 ml centrifuge tube.

263 To precipitate the DNA, chilled Isopropyl alcohol & 3 mM Sodium acetate (5:1) equivalent to $\frac{2}{3}$ of the volume
264 of sample were added, with 1 hour of chilling at -20°C, followed by 10 minutes of centrifuging at 13,000 rpm.
265 The supernatant was pipetted to a new 1.5 ml centrifuge tube, and 70% EtOH (400 µL) were added before
266 chilling at -20°C for 20 minutes followed by centrifugation at 13,000 rpm for 10 minutes. Both tubes were
267 then washed with 75% EtOH (400 µL), inverted, centrifuged at 13,000 rpm for 4 minutes, and the solution
268 discarded, then washed with 95% EtOH (400 µL), inverted, centrifuged at 13,000 rpm for 4 minutes, and the
269 solution discarded. Pellets were dried at room temperature overnight before resuspension in nuclease free
270 H₂O. Extractions were assessed using a Nanodrop 2000 (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and Qubit fluorometer
271 (Thermo Fisher Scientific). DNA extracts were then cleaned using 2:1 v./v. Sera-Mag beads (Cytiva, Little
272 Chalfont, UK) to solute ratio following the manufacturer's protocol, eluted in 0.5x TE, and the eluent allowed
273 to reduce by half volume in ambient conditions. DNA was quantified using a Qubit fluorometer.

274 **2.5.2.4 | Fragmentation, Library Preparation & Target Enrichment** Sequence library preparation
275 was performed using the NEBNext Ultra II FS-DNA Library Prep Kit for Illumina (New England BioLabs,
276 Ipswich, Massachusetts, USA) using slightly modified manufacturers recommendation. Fragmentation was
277 performed at $\frac{1}{2}$ volume of reagents and $\frac{1}{4}$ enzyme mix for 40 minutes at 37°C, with an input of 500 ng cleaned
278 DNA. Adapter Ligation and PCR enrichment were performed with $\frac{1}{2}$ volumes, while cleanup of products
279 was performed using SPRI beads (Beckman Coulter, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA) and recommended volumes
280 of 80% v./v. ethanol washes. The exception was the herbarium specimens which were not fragmented and
281 only end repaired, with similar library preparation of all samples. Products were analysed on 4% agarose
282 gels, and a Qubit fluorometer. Libraries were pooled and enriched with the Angiosperms 353 probe kit V.4
283 (Arbor Biosciences myBaits Target Sequence Capture Kit) by following the manufacturer's protocol and
284 Brewer et al. 2019. Sequencing was performed using an Illumina mi-Seq with 150-bp end reads, (NUSeq
285 Core, Chicago, Illinois).

286 **2.6 | Computational Processes and Analyses.**

287 **2.6.1 | Reference Library Data Processing** Sequences were processed using Trimmomatic, which
288 removed sequence adapters, clipped the first 3 bp, discarding reads less than 36 bp, and removing reads
289 if their average PHRED score dropped beneath 20 over a window of 5 bp (Bolger & Giorgi (2014), Tange
290 (2021)). Contigs generated were mapped to a reference with HybPiper with using target files created by
291 M353 (Johnson *et al.* (2016), McLay *et al.* (2021)).

292 **2.6.2 | Sequence Identification** A custom Kraken2 database was created by downloading representative
293 species indicated as being present in the study area by the spatial analyses from the Sequence Read Archive
294 (SRA) NCBI (Wood *et al.* (2019)). These sequences were processed in the same manner as our novel
295 sequences. The Kraken2 database was built using default parameters. Kraken2 was run on sequences using
296 default parameters (Appendix 9). Following Kraken2, Bracken was used to classify sequences to terminal
297 taxa (Lu *et al.* (2017)). Finally all reads which could be classified by these databases were passed to a local
298 BLAST database.

299 **2.6.3 | Identification of Sequence Matching Loci** A local NCBI database was built using the same
300 processed novel and downloaded sequences as the previous database (Camacho *et al.* (2009)).

301 **2.7 | Integrated Observational, Molecular, and Palynological Corbiculae**

302 To precisely classify the contents of each corbiculae load the sequences classified by molecular methods were
303 compared with the fieldwork which at a very fine resolution, recorded the presence and absence of species
304 and their duration of flowering, and was interpreted ala the computer derived temporal and spatial data sets.
305 The quantitative counts of grains from microscopy, were combined with the semi-quantitative sequencing
306 results, to estimate the abundance of each identified species in each corbiculae load.

307 To reclassify the sequence reads, these data were combined with the flora observation data, and mapped
308 by genus. If more than one species in the genus was flowering at that time and site, than the reads were
309 split evenly between the taxa. For sequence data which did not match at the genus level, a user subjectively
310 scored them based on the species composition and phenological activity at each site, the queen interaction
311 data, and pollen assignments. To estimate the abundance of each of these species in the corbiculae loads,
312 these data were combined with the microscopy data. For each morphotype detected in pollen, and each
313 classified sequence read which was not detected via microscopy, they were given a value of 0.5% to indicate

their trace presences. When more than a single species belonged to a morphotype group in a single sample, the quantitative values from the morphological work were multiplied by the relative sequence abundance of each species in the load. All final compositions were standardized to a sum of 100%, by adding or subtracting the differences (induced by classifying records as ‘trace’) to all species with abundances > 1%.

3 | RESULTS

3.1 | Floral Observations

In 2015 the six sites were surveyed once weekly from May 27-July 27 for a total of 52 hours. A total of 723 overwintered queen-pollen foraging interactions were observed (range per bee species by week range = 1-18, $\bar{x} = 3.46$, median = 2), with a range of total observed interactions per bee species across this time period (minimum = 1, $\bar{x} = 59.08$, median = 19, max = 184). Plants varied widely in the number of interactions which they partook in with each species of bee (range per plant species by week minimum = 1 - 20, $\bar{x} = 3.51$, median = 2), with a range of total observed interactions per plant species over this time period (minimum = 1, $\bar{x} = 20.26$, median = 4, max = 141). The number of plant species which bees were observed interacting with varied more narrowly (range = 1 - 18, $\bar{x} = 8$, median = 6), interactions were observed with a total of 36 plant species.

A total of 66 corbiculae loads were collected from bees, 64 of them from queens.

[Figure 2 about here.]

3.2 | Spatial Analyses

[Table 3 about here.]

[Table 4 about here.]

The threshold distance under which a species would undergo species distribution modelling was the median (25.009 km) of the logistic regression assessing the probability of occurrence of a species record as a function of distance from the study area. A 2-sample test for equality of proportions with continuity correction (X-squared = 13.254, df = 1, p-value = 0.000136, 95% CI 0.04-1.00) was used to test whether more of the records located in the broad ecological sites present at the field station, between the distance of the median

339 (25.009 km) to the third quantile (ca 43.830 km) of the regression distance, were true presences at the field
340 station. Including these records would have resulted in modelling an additional 222 species distributions of
341 which 30 are true presences, these taxa were not modelled.

342 Across the entire spatial domain of modelling all ensembled models ($n = 968$) had an accuracy of 0.84 (95%
343 CI 0.8356 - 0.8443), kappa = 0.68, p-value < 0.001, sensitivity = 0.80, specificity = 0.87, AUC = 0.92.

344 In the area of the minimum-spanning tree encompassing the field sites, of the 554 vascular plants with biotic
345 pollination, the 493 ML ensembles accurately predicted the presence of 362 (65.3%), incorrectly predicted the
346 presence of 64 (11.6%), incorrectly predicted 34 true presences (6.1%) as being absent, and correctly predicted
347 the true absence of 33 (6.0%). The balanced accuracy of the ensembled models is 0.627 (Sensitivity = 0.340,
348 Specificity 0.914). Of the 554 vascular plants with biotic pollination, the 475 LM ensembles accurately
349 predicted the presence of 286 (51.6%), incorrectly predicted the presence of 41 (14.3%), incorrectly predicted
350 93 true presences (16.8%) as being absent, and correctly predicted the true absence of 55 (9.9%). The
351 balanced accuracy of the ensembled models is 0.664 (Sensitivity = 0.573, Specificity 0.754). Of the 554
352 vascular plants with biotic pollination syndromes in the flora 13 (2.3%) were in the Orchid family and 41
353 (7.4%) are non-natives, both of which are restricted from the database, and can only reduce the number of
354 true predicted presences by roughly 10%.

355 Of the 117 plant species identified to the species level across the spatial extents of all plots and duration of
356 queen bee activity, the ML ensembles predicted the presence of 105 (89.7%) of them, and LM ensembles 102
357 (87.2%). Of the missing species two (1.7%) are Orchids, six (5.1%) are non-native, and one (0.85%) is of
358 contested taxonomic standing, all of which (7.65%) are restricted from the initial query database.

359 3.2 | Microscopic Pollen identification

360 Using the fuchsin jelly preparation and light microscopic analyses of grains and scoring of 10 character states
361 resulted in the establishment of 28 morphotypes which grains could be classified into (Appendix 6). From the
362 37 samples that were counted and based on rarefaction we identified substantial amounts of the abundance
363 and morphotype richness of the samples (morphotype richness, $\bar{x} = 4.5$, median = 4, min = 1, max = 9)
364 (Appendix 7 & 8). The number of counted pollen grains in each sample range from (514 - 19924, $\bar{x} = 3319$,
365 median = 1891).

367 **3.3 | Metabarcoding Pollen Identification**

368 **3.3.2 | Temporal Analysis**

369 The first date of modeled snow melt in the Gothic area ($n = 17$, $\bar{x} = 137.9$, Mdn = 135, 3rd quartile =
370 151), and the first date of a consistent winter snow base ($n = 17$, $\bar{x} = 299.9$, Mdn = 300, 1st quartile =
371 291) from 2000-2017, were used as delimiters for the inclusions of herbarium records in modelling. Of the
372 439 species predicted likely present in the area via logistic regression, 332 species (64.4%) with more than 10
373 records in the focal level 4 ecoregions ($\bar{x} = 35.016$, Mdn = 35, max = 96) had Weibull estimates calculated,
374 an additional 56 species (11.2%) with enough contributing records from the “Sedimentary Mid-Elevation
375 Forests”, a large ecoregion generally just beneath the elevation bands occupied by the five ecoregions around
376 the study area had Weibull estimates also calculated ($\bar{x} = 13.868$, Mdn = 13, max = 24).

377 Only 58 of these 388 species ($n = 34.6$, Mdn = 31) were able to be compared to plot based observational
378 data from the long term (1974–2012) data set (CaraDonna *et al.* (2014)). Of these species relatively high
379 accord was observed between the long-term ground truthed data set, and the modelled species. There was
380 very strong evidence that the Weibull estimates were positively associated with the observed onset ($p <$
381 0.0001, tau = 0.61), peak ($p < 0.0001$, tau = 0.65), and cessation of flowering ($p < 0.0001$, tau = 0.49).
382 There was moderate evidence that the Weibull estimates had a weak positive association with the observed
383 duration of flowering ($p = 0.58$, tau = 0.17).

384 Of the previous 58 species compared, 47 of these could be compared to transect based data from the six
385 sites observed in 2015. Due to methodological differences, the peak flowering was not compared, and due to
386 the low performance of attempts to model ‘duration’ in the previous step it was also not compared. There
387 was very strong evidence that the Weibull estimates were positively associated with the observed onset ($p <$
388 0.0001, tau = 0.58), and cessation of flowering ($p < 0.0001$, tau = 0.40).

389 [Figure 4 about here.]

390 [Figure 5 about here.]

391 **3.3.1 | Molecular analysis of corbiculae loads**

392 The 54 corbiculae loads had DNA extracted and underwent various steps towards hyb-seq, in the end a total
393 of 44 corbiculae samples were sequenced, 7,752,353 reads were recovered from sequencing. The number of
394 reads per sequence varied widely (range = 76 - 508,795, $\bar{x} = 176,189.8$, Mdn = 138,395). Of the possible 353

395 loci, the number which were recovered from each sample, and informative to BLAST were range = 24 - 353,
396 $\bar{x} = 305.5$, Mdn = 331. The number of reads per loci from across all samples had a range of 178 - 506,653,
397 $\bar{x} = 20,688$, Mdn = 12,616 (Appendix 11).

398 After trimming 7,865,680 sequences remained. 10,682,538 reads were matched using Kraken, of the reads
399 classified by Kraken 10,160,768 reads were matched using Bracken, of the reads classified by Kraken 7,549,608
400 reads were matched using BLAST. Based upon subjective review of the three classifiers (Appendix 12)
401 BLAST was chosen as the classification method which yielded the most probable results by the field ecologist,
402 and its values were used for all subsequent analyses.

403 [Table 5 about here.]

404 The initial classification of sequences which were made by BLAST were reviewed programmatically, using
405 predicted presence of the species (from spatial modelling), modelled flowering time (from temporal mod-
406elling), and taxonomy (from existing sources). A sequential process was utilized which reassigned sequences
407 based on binary combinations of the factors above (Appendix 15). Given the relative sparsity of the number,
408 and relatedness, of species represented in the sequence database this was performed to: 1) Identify locally
409 present species represented by surrogates in the DB 2) Reduce false classifications of focal species 3) Identify
410 high confidence sequence matches. Of the top ten taxa which were identified by BLAST for the 680 distinct
411 records, 55.4% of the reads were classified to a species representing 48.3% of all classified reads, 41.9% of the
412 reads were classified to genus representing 48.3% of all classified reads, and 0% of the records were classified
413 to family.

414 Of the 0 classifications which were assigned to genera without any species predicted by spatial analyses, were
415 investigated by hand after post-processing steps. These were all assigned via post-processing conditions (:
416 , Appendix 15). These were manually assigned to a variety of ranks, occasionally to genus - 0, and species
417 - 0, by consultation of the alpha-taxonomic literature (Sadeghian *et al.* (2015), Sennikov & Kurtto (2017),
418 Rabeler & Wagner (2016), Pusalkar & Singh (2015), Moore & Bohs (2003), Weber (1998)).

419 To determine at which level species in pollen loads could be detected the results of light microscopy were
420 compared to the molecular results. The pollen samples contained three morphotypes which could readily be
421 identified via microscopy. Two of these mapped to the clades (Boraginaceae & Heliantheae Alliance), and one
422 to a Asteraceae less the Heliantheae Aliiance (Sunflower Tribe) (Boraginaceae grains were detected in 92.3%
423 of samples where the proportion of target grains were between 0.01-1 (n = 13 Mdn = 0.663). Asteraceae type
424 1, non-helianthoids, were detected in 50% of samples where the proportion of target grains were between
425 0.001-0.01 (n = 4 Mdn = 0.001) Asteraceae type 2, Helianthoids, were detected in 33.3% of samples where

426 the proportion of target grains were between 0.001-0.01 ($n = 6$ Mdn = 0.005); however, Asteraceae were
427 detected in 80% of samples where the proportion of target grains were between 0.001-0.01 ($n = 10$ Mdn =
428 0.003). Both morphotypes of Asteraceae pollen were detected in 100% of samples where the proportion of
429 target grains were between 0.01-1 ($n = 2$ Mdn = 0.338).

430 [Figure 6 about here.]

431 To detect whether the sequencing reads were semi-quantitative the subset of all pollen morphotypes distin-
432 guishable by microscopy were compared to the sequence reads. In all instances sequence reads were pooled
433 to the highest taxonomic rank associated with the morphotype, e.g. if both species of *Mertensia* Huth, or
434 one species and read only classified to genus were present in a sample, the reads were summed. The total
435 percentage of the ten most abundant grains per sample were then were then relativized to constitute the
436 entire sample.

437 The relationship between the number of pollen grains in a sample and the number of sequence reads is roughly
438 linear, where grains which are present in trace amounts are overestimated by sequence counts, while grains
439 present in high amounts are underestimated. This is likely due to the proportion of high false positives which
440 occur in the classification process with next-generation sequencing (Bell *et al.* (2021)). There was evidence
441 of a strong correlation between the proportion of grains per morphotype and the number of sequences per
442 group (0.426, $p < 0.0001$, $n = 32$).

443 A number of suspected false positives were returned by the sequence classified, in all instances these were
444 species present in low abundances at the field station which were also returned with a common species in the
445 same family. To ascertain the extent to which records of multiple species in a family, which were suspected
446 to be sampling artefacts occurred in molecular samples an index of similarity, ala Jaccard, the affinity index
447 was used to assess co-occurrence (Mainali *et al.* (2022), Mainali & Slud (2022)). Numerous taxa from the
448 family Ranunculaceae Jussieu (*Caltha* L. sp., *Thalictrum* L. spp., *Trollius* L. sp., *Aquilegia* L. spp.), had α
449 scores which indicated that they are only present when a more common confamilial taxa *Delphinium barbeyi*
450 (Huth) Huth *nuttallianum* Pritz. were recorded. A similar relationship was observed in the Hydrophyllaceae
451 R.Br. with samples placed in *Nemophila* Nutt., which only occurred when the more abundant *Hydrophyllum*
452 L. species were present. The flower size and sparsity of *Nemophila breviflora* A. Gray make it unlikely to
453 be visited by Bumble Bees, and it is a false positive. The floral morphology and orientation of flower of
454 *Thalictrum* spp. also makes them unlikely to be visited, and while evidence of visits to *Caltha* and *Trollius*
455 are lacking, due to the association between the reads these results appear unlikely.

456 **3.6 | Integrated Observational, Molecular, and Palynological Results**

457 [Figure 7 about here.]

458 [Table 6 about here.]

459 **4 | DISCUSSION**

460 We have demonstrated how the Angiosperms533 hyb-seq probes may be used for plant barcoding in a
461 metagenomic context (Johnson *et al.* (2019), Hollingsworth *et al.* (2016)). This was exemplified in an
462 ecologically relevant scenario, where the results have immediate implications for natural history guided
463 fundamental science and land management. The test pollen loads contained a number of closely related
464 taxa, some in notoriously morphologically difficult clades with rapid rates of diversification (e.g. *Mertensia*,
465 *Lupinus* L.), at naturally occurring proportions (Nevado *et al.* (2016), Nazaire & Hufford (2014)). We
466 incorporated spatial and temporal approaches for creating custom sequence databases an approach which
467 is readily applicable to any lab group with the capacity to perform next-generation sequencing across the
468 entirety of multiple continents, and which we expect to be highly beneficial in many study areas. By
469 combining insights from these novel approaches with an extensive observational field based study we show
470 how these methods may be applied to test a variety of hypotheses related to ecological interactions.

471 The SDM's which we generated, with relatively few occurrence records and few modelling iterations, per-
472 formed beyond expectations, likely due to the utility of the predictor variables and strong alignment of
473 vegetation by orographic precipitation in the study area. However, we had difficulties in evaluating our
474 predictions in an operational context. We utilized the database query approach, to only model species with
475 a high probability of not being dispersal limited to the focal area, and focused on a relevant subset of many
476 of these species ranges to reduce the contributions of range wide adaptions on habitat (Sork (2018), Joshi
477 *et al.* (2001)). While the models worked well compared to both test, and validation with external point
478 data, moving from points to polygon features was more difficult. We were able to compare our results to
479 1) a Flora, 2) lists of plants used by Bumble Bees at plots; the former inappropriate in that it contained
480 a great number of species which we sought to use modelling to reduce *e.g.* all strictly alpine species, and
481 the latter inappropriate in that it contained only species relevant to *Bombus* but had no official ‘absence’
482 data. Further given the, size of the minimum spanning tree which we extracted points to, a formal floristic
483 inventory would still be a time intensive process. Accordingly, we expect the real results of our data lay
484 somewhere in between these two evaluations; with an excess of species predicted present (Dubuis *et al.*

485 (2011), Calabrese *et al.* (2014), Pinto-Ledezma & Cavender-Bares (2021)), but few enough that they lend
486 themselves to metabarcoding. We observe that our models seemed very capable of effectively identifying
487 alpine species and removing them in binomial contexts.

488 In regards to the case study, our results indicate the overall information gleaned from observations of queen
489 Bumble Bee foraging and analysis of pollen records are largely congruent. Relaxing concerns regarding dif-
490 ferences between the broad insights gleaned from observational, as compared to data derived from the pollen
491 records (Barker & Arceo-Gomez (2021), Zhao *et al.* (2019), Alarcón (2010)). In general when interaction
492 networks are considered at coarse levels, such as the duration of a season, our perceptions regarding the
493 generality of interactions at smaller time scales may be inflated relative to the actualized interactions within
494 them, e.g. a week (CaraDonna & Waser (2020)). These results indicate a possibility that at even finer levels
495 *Bombus* display high amounts of floral fidelity within foraging bouts, an observation which implies that part
496 of the reason for the high efficiency of *Bombus* as a pollinator might partially be related to their lack of
497 movement of hetero-specific pollen (Broosi & Briggs (2013), Ashman & Arceo-Gómez (2013), Galloni *et al.*
498 (2008), Broosi (2016)). The mechanisms behind this observed fidelity are likely related to pollen nutritional
499 values, specifically high concentrations of protein, and the absence of particular amino acids required for
500 larval development in other flower more commonly used by workers (Genissel *et al.* (2002), Tasei & Aupinel
501 (2008), Goulson *et al.* (2005), Goulson *et al.* (2008a), Hanley *et al.* (2008)).

502 [Table 7 about here.]

503 Also regarding the case study, some foraging preferences of *Bombus*, at this field site and across several
504 localities globally emerge. These suggest the need for land managers to maintain relatively high amounts
505 of members of the plant families Fabaceae, Boraginaceae, and Ranunculaceae, in Western North American
506 montane landscapes (Goulson *et al.* (2005), Goulson (2010), Liang *et al.* (2021), Bontsutsnaja *et al.* (2021)).
507 Numerous historic practices reduce the ability of many landscapes to support stable populations of *Bombus*.
508 Historic livestock grazing involved the removal of many species known to have compounds toxic to cattle.
509 In particular, the removal of locoweeds (*Astragalus* & *Oxytropis*) and larkspurs (*Delphinium*) were common
510 across public lands administered by the U.S. Forest Service (Ralphs & Ueckert (1988), Aldous (1919), Ralphs
511 *et al.* (2003)). Further actions, generally initiated by early settlers, involved the channelization and incising
512 of streams, culling of beavers, and leaving cattle concentrated on higher order stream banks, processes which
513 lowered water tables and reduced the extent of stream-associated wetlands and the mesic meadows fringes
514 which provide habitat for many species of ‘tall’ *Mertensia* (e.g. *M. ciliata*), to an extent *Delphinium barbeyi*
515 and many species of native *Trifolium* (Dahl (1990), Naiman *et al.* (1988), Belsky *et al.* (1999), Cooke &

516 Reeves (1976)). Fire suppression resulted in the succession of many Aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) groves
517 to Conifer stands, decreasing the mosaic of age structured habitats in many landscapes, adversely effecting
518 habitat for tall *Mertensia* species and several species of *Delphinium* (Brewen *et al.* (2021), Keane (2002)).
519 Finally the effects of Nitrogen deposition, given the West's rapidly growing population still pose adverse
520 effects on the abundance of species of Fabaceae at urban-rural interfaces (see Stevens *et al.* (2018), Fenn
521 *et al.* (2003)). Current solutions to the above issues, involve targeted burns, reintroduction of beavers
522 and beaver habitat analogs, and the possibility of re-seeding a variety of 'locoweeds' and 'larkspurs' in
523 areas now seldom used, or only used for early, grazing. The highly enthusiastic response of land managers,
524 and homeowners, to plant *Asclepias*, using genetically appropriate materials, to improve Monarch Butterfly
525 (*Danaus plexippus*) habitat provides an effective framework for the latter (Oberhauser *et al.* (2015), Basey
526 *et al.* (2015)).

527 [Table 8 about here.]

528 We have concerns regarding the number of persons training to become and practice botany, and grave
529 concerns regarding the funding mechanisms for floristic and field based botanical research and for centralized
530 authorities to produce consensus opinions on alpha taxonomy (Prather *et al.* (2004b), Kramer & Havens
531 (2015), Prather *et al.* (2004a), Crisci *et al.* (2020), Manzano (2021), Stroud *et al.* (2022)). To reduce
532 the effects of a low population density of botanists on the maintenance of and production of Flora's and
533 to foster meta-genomics across landscapes without field stations we utilized Species Distribution Modelling
534 to generate predictive species lists. In this proof-of-concept example we performed several iterations of
535 modelling runs, and several approaches (i.e. the 'linear models', and the 'machine learning'), which took
536 notable amounts of compute power. We suspect the possible deleterious nature of this endeavor may be
537 reduced by: 1) more field surveying by crews will reduce the need to generate as many species 2) fewer
538 runs of models, 3) only running machine learning models which do not require an explicit process to reduce
539 spatial autocorrelation. However, given the time required to perform all aspects of a study, even our amount
540 of computation was negligible. Further, we are very optimistic about the possibility for persons to perform
541 these tasks, as mentioned we utilized roughly only one quarter of the records which were digitally available
542 for presence, and we suspect others will have enough records to perform this process nearly anywhere else in
543 the temperate. In certain scenarios modelling of predicted species via more formally tailored S(tacked)-SDM
544 or J(oint)-SDM approaches may be beneficial (Wilkinson *et al.* (2021), Pinto-Ledezma & Cavender-Bares
545 (2021), Schmitt *et al.* (2017)).

546 Tandem to the lack of continued expertise required to generate and maintain species lists, is the expertise

547 required to continue tracking when major phenological events occur in many plant species at relatively fine
548 scales or under novel climates. Knowledge of these events is currently limited to general time periods of only
549 a handful of phenological events and groups of organisms (e.g. flowering initiation, or trees) (Prather *et al.*
550 (2004a), Li *et al.* (2016)). While many programs and initiatives exist to collect phenological information on
551 subsets of easily identifiable charismatic species to detect major trends in phenology, these capture only a
552 subset of the extent diversity (Betancourt *et al.* (2005), Havens *et al.* (2007)). In many instances it appears
553 that while landscapes respond similarly to environmental variables which predict phenological responses,
554 that individual species vary widely in their responses to similar environmental cues, or respond to different
555 cues (Augspurger & Zaya (2020), Xie *et al.* (2015), Xie *et al.* (2018), CaraDonna *et al.* (2014)). As can
556 be seen here, predictions of when a single, major phenological event occurs is already data limited. A more
557 promising approach for the tropics may lay in utilizing circular statistics (Park *et al.* (2022)).

558 The nearly complete Plant and Fungal Tree of Life (PAFTOL) will provide a comprehensive phylogenetic
559 backbone of the entire plant kingdom, and the inclusion of A353 probes with lineage specific probe sets is
560 common in producing massive genetic datasets (Baker *et al.* (2021b)). We predict that the A353 probes
561 which it is utilizing to work nearly immediately for DNA barcoding of whole plant material, and that more
562 elaborate validation studies in controlled metabarcoding settings, utilizing existing experimental designs,
563 will have favorable results (Bell *et al.* (2017), Bell *et al.* (2019), Bell *et al.* (2021), Lamb *et al.* (2019)). In
564 particular the harvesting of loci with more variation in certain lineages, and or with more variable flanking
565 regions, will prove promising for identifying closely related plant material. We suspect that conserved reaches
566 of genes resulted in the high amounts of reads in somewhat obscure species. Given that the A353 loci are
567 nuclear, single copy, and a variety are present the possibility of identifying target loci for quantitative
568 purposes is high, without continual PCR enrichment is possible; this would align with relatively high efficacy
569 of WGS (Lang *et al.* (2019), Peel *et al.* (2019), Bell *et al.* (2021)). Recent evidence indicates that the
570 potential for identifying nearly cryptic taxa and even infra-specific inference, of either whole plant material,
571 and perhaps in metagenomic context are possible (Ottenlips *et al.* (2021), Wenzell *et al.* (2021), Loke et
572 al. in prep, Slimp *et al.* (2021), Beck *et al.* (2021)). We further believe that in synthetic phylogenetic
573 trees - with incorporation of NGS backbones - will allow in automatic reassignment of reads as a function of
574 phylogenetic distance with measures of uncertainty (Hinchliff *et al.* (2015), Smith & Brown (2018), Baker
575 *et al.* (2021a)).

576 **5 | CONCLUSION**

577 We believe that the combination of spatial and temporal models, united and guided by localized natural
578 history knowledge, provides the essential components of a framework for approaching the coarse elucidation
579 of ecological interactions using DNA Barcoding. Herein we crudely utilized this thinking via binary outcomes,
580 should a species predicted be predicted present or not? Is it unequivocally flowering or not? Myriad data
581 show biological systems and ecological interactions have more variance than can be reasonably discretely
582 parsed. We expect that within a framework developed from our preliminary works studies of pollinator
583 behavior may be enacted via this approach at a landscape level, e.g. the scale of an entire drainage basin
584 such as the Gunnison which is quickly becoming one of the worlds few model ecosystems. We hope that the
585 A353 probes as tools for metabarcoding play a role in these endeavors.

586 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS:** R.C.B conducted botanical collections, conducted all molecular lab
587 work, lead all analyses, and writing. J.E.O conceived, designed, and conducted ecological fieldwork, assisted
588 with analyses, and writing. P.J.C conducted ecological fieldwork, assisted with ecological analyses, and
589 writing. E.J.W. prepared, imaged, and collected trait data on pollen reference slides, and assisted with
590 analysis of trait data and writing a dichotomous key. S.T. assisted with spatial analyses and writing. J.B.F.
591 conceived, and designed lab work, analyses, and integration of approaches, assisted with writing, and secured
592 funding for molecular work.

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608 LSU, MA, MACF, MEL, MICH, MIL, MIN, MNHN, MO, MT, MW, NCSC, NSW, NY, O, OBI, PI, RBG,
609 RSA, SD, SDSU, SFV, TENN, TRT, UA, UAC, UAM, UAZ, UBC, UBC, UCR, UCS, UCSB, UMO, UNM,
610 UPS, US, USCH, USF, USU, UTEP, UWBM, V, VT, W, WSCO, WU, XAL, YPM, Z.

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612 **PEER REVIEW** The peer review history for this document is available at ...

613 **DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT** The queries required to download all data used in this project
614 are located in... All novel sequencing data are located at NCBI...

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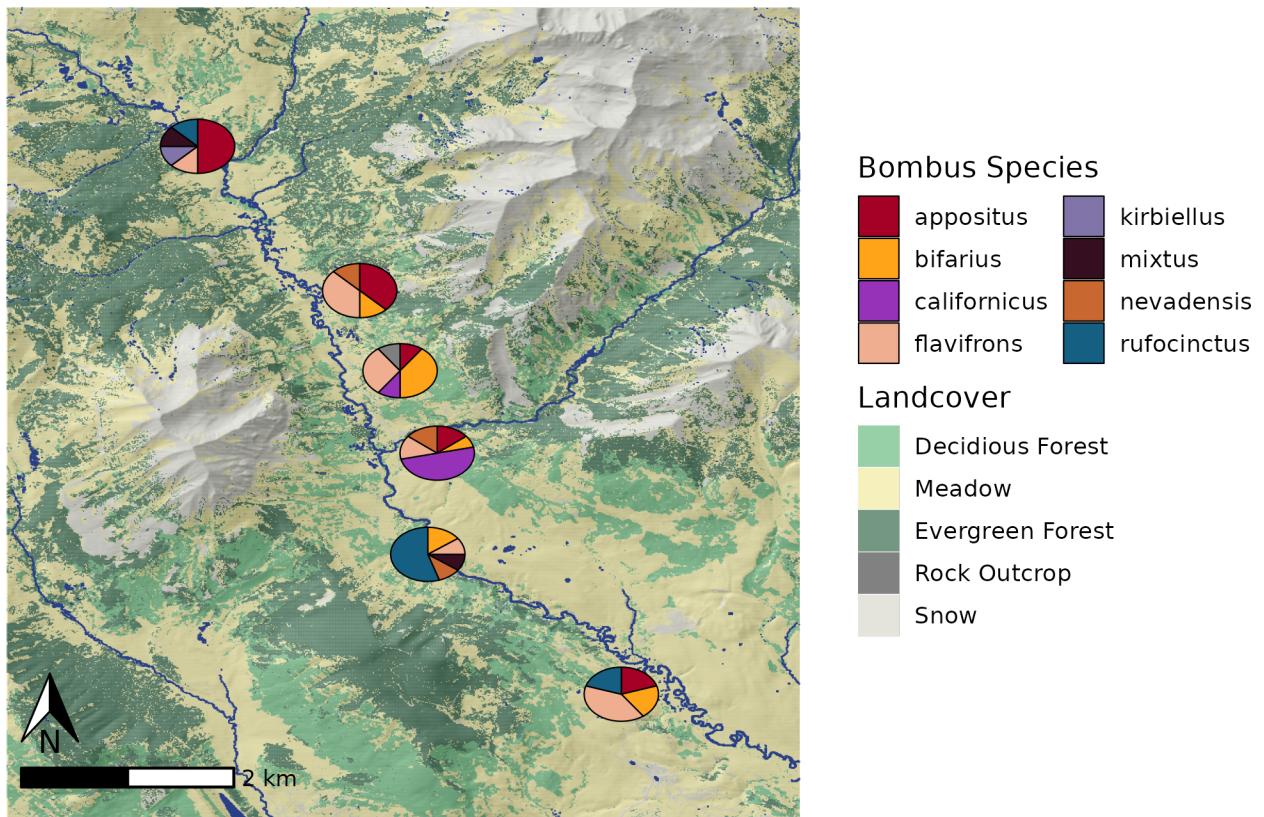
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620 **References**

621 **Supporting**

Origins of Corbiculae Loads



Upper East River Valley, Colorado

624 Appendix 2 - Species Distribution Models Predictors

Layer	LM	Description	Source
1.	N	Mean annual cloudiness - MODIS	Wilson et al. 2016
2.	Y	Cloudiness seasonality 1 - MODIS	Wilson et al. 2016
3.	N	Cloudiness seasonality 2 - MODIS	Wilson et al. 2016
4.	Y	Cloudiness seasonality 3 - MODIS	Wilson et al. 2016
5.	N	Beginning of the frost-free period	Wang et al.
6.	N	Climatic moisture deficit	Wang et al.
7.	N	Degree-days above 5C	Wang et al.
8.	N	Mean annual precipitation	Wang et al.
9.	Y	Mean annual precipitation as snow	Wang et al.
10.	Y	Temperature seasonality	Wang et al.
11.	Y	2015 Percent Grass/Herbaceous cover - MODIS	(MOD44B)
12.	Y	2015 Percent Tree cover from Landsat 7/8	(GLCF)
13.	Y	Soil probability of bedrock (R Horizon)	SoilGrids
14.	N	Soil organic carbon (Tonnes / ha)	SoilGrids
15.	N	Surface soil pH in H ₂ O	SoilGrids
16.	Y	Surface soil percent sand	SoilGrids
17.	Y	Soil USDA class	SoilGrids
18.	N	Topographic elevation	EarthEnv DEM
19.	Y	Topographic elevation, moving window.	EarthEnv DEM
20.	Y	Topographic percent slope	EarthEnv DEM
21.	Y	Topographic wetness index	EarthEnv DEM
22.	Y	Topographic aspect	EarthEnv DEM
23.	Y	Annual potential solar radiation computed	r.sun
24.	N	Estimated actual (w/-cloud) solar radiation	r.sun / Wilson et al. 2016
25.	Y	Log-transformed distance to surface water	Global Surface Water Explorer
26.	Y	Percent surface water	Global Surface Water Explorer

Table 1: samples used in creating the Reference Library

Taxon	Family	Accession	Pres.	Locality	Date Col.	GenBank	Dist. (km)
<i>Cirsium parryi</i> (A. Gray) Petr.	Asteraceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	20.IX.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Cirsium parryi</i> (A. Gray) Petr.	Asteraceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	20.IX.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Ericameria parryi</i> (A. Gray) G.L. Nesom & Baird	Asteraceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	20.IX.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Erigeron speciosus</i> (Lindley) De Candolle	Asteraceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	18.VII.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Erigeron subtrinervis</i> Rydb. Ex Porter & Britton	Asteraceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	20.VII.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Helianthella quinquenervis</i> (Hook.) A. Gray	Asteraceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	18.VII.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Helianthus multiflora</i> Nutt.	Asteraceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	18.VII.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Heterotheca villosa</i> (Pursh) Shinners	Asteraceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	20.IX.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Senecio sera</i> Hook.	Asteraceae	CHIC tba	P	Idaho, Idaho	26.VII.2020	tba	105.0
<i>Symplytrichum foliacum</i> (Lindl. Ex D.C.) G.L. Nesom	Asteraceae	CHIC tba	S	Illinois, McHenry	28.VII.2020	tba	1624.6
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> F.H. Wigg.	Asteraceae	CHIC tba	S	Illinois, McHenry	28.VII.2020	tba	1624.6
<i>Mertensia ciliata</i> (James ex Torr.) G. Don	Boraginaceae	ID 1754185	S	Idaho, Valley	18.VI.2018	tba	979.3
<i>Mertensia ciliata</i> (James ex Torr.) G. Don	Boraginaceae	ID 169837	P	Idaho, Adams	10.VII.2014	tba	991.5
<i>Mertensia fusiformis</i> Greene	Boraginaceae	RMH 720522	P	Colorado, Gunnison	7.VI.1997	tba	44.8
<i>Mertensia fusiformis</i> Greene	Boraginaceae	RMH 720600	P	Colorado, Gunnison	9.VII.1997	tba	38.9
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i> L.	Campanulaceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	18.VII.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Lathyrus lanszwertii</i> Kellogg var. leucanthus (Ryd.) Dorn	Fabaceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	18.VII.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Lathyrus lanszwertii</i> Kellogg var. leucanthus (Ryd.) Dorn	Fabaceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	18.VII.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Lupinus argenteus</i> Pursh	Fabaceae	CHIC tba	P	Nevada, Pershing	29.V.2018	tba	971.2
<i>Lupinus argenteus</i> Pursh	Fabaceae	ISU 10387	P	Colorado, Gunnison	29.VI.2010	tba	0.2
<i>Lupinus bakeri</i> Greene	Fabaceae	ISU 10142	P	Colorado, Gunnison	15.VIII.2010	tba	2.6
<i>Vicia americana</i> Muhl. ex Willd.	Fabaceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	18.VII.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Vicia americana</i> Muhl. ex Willd. var. minor Hook.	Fabaceae	CHIC tba	S	Montana, Carbon	4.VII.2019	tba	10020.8
<i>Frasera speciosa</i> Douglas ex Griseb	Gentianaceae	RMH 721930	P	Colorado, Gunnison	20.VI.1997	tba	66.2
<i>Frasera speciosa</i> Douglas ex Griseb	Gentianaceae	RMH 719305	P	Colorado, Gunnison	7.VII.1997	tba	19.8
<i>Hydrophyllum capitatum</i> Douglas ex. Benth	Hydrophyllaceae	RMH tba	P	Colorado, Mesa	30.VI.2011	tba	64.6
<i>Hydrophyllum capitatum</i> Douglas ex. Benth	Hydrophyllaceae	RMH tba	P	Colorado, Delta	8.VI.2011	tba	65.3
<i>Hydrophyllum fendleri</i> (Gray) Heller	Hydrophyllaceae	ID 161100	P	Washington, Yakima	9.VI.2008	tba	1429.7
<i>Hydrophyllum fendleri</i> (Gray) Heller	Hydrophyllaceae	ID 164040	P	Idaho, Idaho	27.V.2009	tba	1014.4
<i>Agastache pallidiflora</i> (Heller) Rydberg	Lamiaceae	CHIC tba	S	Arizona, Coconino	17.VII.2020	tba	617.7
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i> (L.) Holub	Lamiaceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	18.VII.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Delphinium barbeyi</i> (Huth) Huth	Ranunculaceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	18.VII.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Delphinium nuttallianum</i> Pritz.	Ranunculaceae	ID 166162	P	Idaho, Gem	15.VI.2011	tba	982.5
<i>Delphinium nuttallianum</i> Pritz.	Ranunculaceae	ID 179376	P	Idaho, Gooding	29.IV.2017	tba	733.7
<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i> Pursh	Rosaceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	18.VII.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i> Pursh	Rosaceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	18.VII.2020	tba	3.6
<i>Potentilla hippiana</i> Lehman.	Rosaceae	CHIC tba	S	New Mexico, Catron	15.VIII.2020	tba	573.8

(Continued on Next Page)

Table 1: samples used in creating the Reference Library (*continued*)

Taxon	Family	Accession	Pres.	Locality	Date Col.	GenBank	Dist. (km)
Potentilla pulcherrima Lehman.	Rosaceae	CHIC tba	S	Colorado, Gunnison	18.VII.2020	tba	3.6

^a Accession includes both Herbarium and Accession number

^b Pres. refers to Preservation method. 'S' denotes silica gel dried, 'P' denotes pressed

^c All Localities are in the United States of America

628 Appendix 4 - All Pollen Reference Slides Used to Establish Morphotypes

Table 1: All Pollen Voucher Slides Consulted

Taxon	Family	Locality	Accession	Type	Prepared by	Date
<i>Cymopterus lemnoides</i> (J.M. Coulter & Rose) Dorn	Apiaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i> L.	Apiaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Ligusticum porteri</i> J.M. Coulter & Rose	Apiaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Osmorhiza depauperata</i> Phil.	Apiaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Maianthemum stellatum</i> (L.) Link	Asparagaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> L.	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> L.	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Acourtia wrightii</i> (A. Gray) Reveal & King	Asteraceae	NV, Clark, Gold Butte	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Antennaria racemosissima</i> Hook.	Asteraceae	WY, Park, Ishawooa Mesa	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Arnica latifolia</i> Bong.	Asteraceae	ID, Blaine, Wildhorse Canyon	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Artemisia scopulorum</i> A. Gray	Asteraceae	CO, Hinsdale, Uncompahgre Peak	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Canadanthus modestus</i> (Lindl.) G.L. Nesom	Asteraceae	ID, Idaho, Whiskey Creek	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Chaenactis douglasii</i> (Hook.) Hook. & Arn.	Asteraceae	MT, Carbon, Pryor Mtn. Rd.	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Erigeron corymbosus</i> Nutt.	Asteraceae	MT, Carbon, Pryor Mtn. Rd.	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Erigeron flagellaris</i> A. Gray	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Erigeron speciosus</i> (Lind.) DC.	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Erigeron speciosus</i> (Lindl.) DC.	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Helianthella quinquenervis</i> (Hook.) A. Gray	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Heliotropium multiflorum</i> Nutt.	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Heliotropium multiflorum</i> Nutt.	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Heterotheca villosa</i> (Pursh) Shinners	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Heterotheca villosa</i> (Pursh) Shinners	Asteraceae	AZ, Coconino, Lake Mary Rd. & 209	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Hymenoxys hoopesii</i> (A. Gray) Bierner	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Hymenoxys rusbyi</i> (A. Gray) Cockerell	Asteraceae	AZ, Coconino, Lake Mary Rd. & 209	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Ionactis stenomeria</i> (A. Gray) Greene	Asteraceae	ID, Idaho, Marshall Mountains	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Senecio hydrophilus</i> Nutt.	Asteraceae	ID, Custer, E. fl. Salmon River	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Senecio integrerrimus</i> Nutt.	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Senecio serrula</i> Hook.	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Senecio wootonii</i> Greene	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Solidago lepida</i> DC.	Asteraceae	ID, Idaho, American River	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Symphotrichum foliacum</i> (Lindl. ex DC.) G.L. Nesom	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Symphotrichum subspicatum</i> (Nees) G.L. Nesom	Asteraceae	ID, Custer, E. fl. Salmon River	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> F.H. Wigg	Asteraceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> F.H. Wigg	Asteraceae	IL, McHenry, Barrington	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Lappula squarrosa</i> (Retz.) Dumort.	Boraginaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Mertensia ciliata</i> (James ex Torr.) G. Don	Boraginaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Mertensia fusiformis</i> Greene	Boraginaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Boechera</i>	Brassicaceae	NV, Washoe, Mt. Rose	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Boechera stricta</i> (Graham) Al-Shehbaz	Brassicaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Cardamine cordifolia</i> A. Gray	Brassicaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Draba aurea</i> Vahl. Ex Hornem	Brassicaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014

(Continued on Next Page)

Table 1: All Pollen Voucher Slides Consulted (*continued*)

Taxon	Family	Locality	Accession	Type	Prepared by	Date
<i>Draba spectabilis</i> Greene	Brassicaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Erysimum capitatum</i> (Douglas ex Hook.) Greene	Brassicaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Lepidium montanum</i> Nutt.	Brassicaceae	NM, Catron, Zuni Dry Lake	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Smelowskia americana</i> Rydb.	Brassicaceae	ID, Blaine, Pioneer Mtns Crest	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Thlaspi arvense</i> L.	Brassicaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i> L.	Campanulaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i> L.	Campanulaceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Downingia</i>	Campanulaceae	CA, Nevada, Truckee Meadows	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Lonicera involucrata</i> (Richardson) Banks ex Spreng.	Caprifoliaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Minuartia nuttallii</i> (Pax.) Briq.	Caryophyllaceae	ID, Blaine, Wildhorse Canyon	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Stellaria longifolia</i> Muh. Ex. Willd.	Caryophyllaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Parnassia kotzebuei</i> Cham. ex Spreng	Celastraceae	ID, Lemhi, Terrace Lakes	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Sedum lanceolatum</i> Torr.	Crassulaceae	ID, Lemhi, Terrace Lakes	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Astragalus robbinsii</i> (Oakes) A. Gray	Fabaceae	ID, Custer, Lake Creek	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Glycyrrhiza lepidota</i> Nutt.	Fabaceae	ID, Butte, Warm Springs Creek	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Lathyrus eucomus</i> Butters & H. St. John	Fabaceae	NM, Catron, Zuni Salt Lake	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Lathyrus lanszwertii</i> var. <i>leucanthus</i> (Rydb.) Dorn	Fabaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Lathyrus lanszwertii</i> var. <i>leucanthus</i> (Rydb.) Dorn	Fabaceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Lupinus argenteus</i> Pursh	Fabaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Lupinus argenteus</i> Pursh	Fabaceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Lupinus argenteus</i> Pursh	Fabaceae	NV, Pershing, Star Peak Canyon	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Lupinus crassus</i> Payson	Fabaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Lupinus sericeus</i> Pursh	Fabaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Melilotus albus</i> Medik.	Fabaceae	NM, Catron, Hwy 159	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Trifolium hybridum</i> L.	Fabaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Trifolium pratense</i> L.	Fabaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Vicia americana</i> Muhl. Ex Willd.	Fabaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Vicia americana</i> Muhl. Ex Willd.	Fabaceae	UT, Cache, Spawn Creek	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Vicia americana</i> Muhl. Ex Willd.	Fabaceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Geranium</i>	Geraniaceae	NM, Catron, Jim Smith TH. Rd.	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Geranium richardsonii</i> Fisch. Trautv.	Geraniaceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Phacelia</i> sp.	Hydrophyllaceae	NV, Nye, Toiyabe Crest	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Iris missouriensis</i> Nutt.	Iridaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Agastache palliflora</i> (A. Heller) Rydb.	Lamiaceae	AZ, Coconino, Lake Mary Rd. & 209	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Erythronium grandiflorum</i> Pursh	Liliaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Linum lewisii</i> Pursh	Linaceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Zigadenus elegans</i> Pursh	Melanthiaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Anticlea elegans</i> (A. Gray) Zomlefer & Judd	Melanthiaceae	ID, Blaine, Wildhorse Canyon	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Cistanthe/Calyptidium</i>	Montiaceae	NV, Nye, Toiyabe Crest	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i> (L.) Holub	Onagraceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Epilobium obcordatum</i> A. Gray	Onagraceae	ID, Lemhi, Bighorn Crags	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Castilleja miniata</i> Douglas ex Hook.	Orobanchaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010

(Continued on Next Page)

Table 1: All Pollen Voucher Slides Consulted (*continued*)

Taxon	Family	Locality	Accession	Type	Prepared by	Date
<i>Castilleja sulphurea</i> Rydb.	Orobanchaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Pedicularis groenlandica</i> Retz.	Orobanchaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Pedicularis racemosa</i> Douglas ex Benth.	Orobanchaceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Corydalis aurea</i> Willd.	Papaveraceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Erythranthe guttata</i> (DC.) G.L. Nesom	Phrymaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Penstemon wilcoxii</i> Rydb.	Plantaginaceae	MT, Missoula, Mission Mtns vic.	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Collomia linearis</i> Nutt.	Polemoniaceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Phlox condensata</i> (A. Gray) E.E. Nelson	Polemoniaceae	CO, Hinsdale, Uncompahgre Peak	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Polemonium foliosissimum</i> A. Gray	Polemoniaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Polemonium occidentale</i> Greene	Polemoniaceae	ID, Custer, Lake Creek	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Polemonium viscosum</i> Nutt.	Polemoniaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2010
<i>Bistorta bistortoides</i> (Pursh) Small	Polygonaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Eriogonum</i> spp.	Polygonaceae	NV, Washoe, Hwy 445	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Polygala barbeyana</i> Chodat	Polygonaceae	NM, Eddy, Yeso Hills	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Polygonum polygaloides</i> L.	Polygonaceae	MT, Missoula, Mission Mtns	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Androsace filiformis</i> Retz.	Primulaceae	ID, Custer, Bradshaw Creek	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Aquilegia coerulea</i> E. James	Ranunculaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Aquilegia coerulea</i> E. James	Ranunculaceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Aquilegia elegantula</i> Greene	Ranunculaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Delphinium barbeyi</i> (Huth) Huth	Ranunculaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Delphinium nuttallianum</i> Pritz. Ex Walp.	Ranunculaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Ranunculus alismifolius</i> Geyer ex Benth.	Ranunculaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Ranunculus glaberrimus</i> Hook.	Ranunculaceae	ID, Lemhi, Agency Creek	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Ranunculus inamoenus</i> Greene	Ranunculaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Ranunculus</i> spp.	Ranunculaceae	NV, Washoe, Mt. Rose	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Thalictrum sparsiflorum</i> Tuzc. Ex Fisch. & C.A. Mey.	Ranunculaceae	ID, Custer, E. fk. Salmon River	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Dasiphora fruticosa</i> (L.) Rydb.	Rosaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Dasiphora fruticosa</i> (L.) Rydb.	Rosaceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Fragaria virginiana</i> Duchesne	Rosaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Geum triflorum</i> Pursh	Rosaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Potentilla biennis</i> Greene	Rosaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Potentilla hippiana</i> Lehm.	Rosaceae	NM, Catron, Jim Smith TH.Rd.	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Potentilla pulcherrima</i> Lehm.	Rosaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Physical	P.J.C.	2014
<i>Potentilla pulcherrima</i> Lehm.	Rosaceae	CO, Gunnison, Washington Gulch	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Salix bebbiana</i> Sarg.	Salicaceae	ID, Custer, Lake Creek	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Salix geyeriana</i> Andersson	Salicaceae	ID, Butte, Clyde	tba	Novo	E.J.W.	2021
<i>Mitella stauropetala</i> Piper	Saxifragaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Valeriana occidentalis</i> A. Heller	Valerianaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010
<i>Viola canadensis</i> L.	Violaceae	CO, Gunnison, Gothic	None	Image	H.M.B.	2010

* All Localities are in the United States of America

† Accession refers to whole-plant vouchers, all specimens are deposited at CHIC.

‡ Type Refers to whether both a physical and digital copy exist; 'Image' denotes only digital

§ Date refers to the Date of preparation.

⁶³² Appendix 5 - Pollen Dendrogram

- 1a: Pollen shed in clumps (tetrads/polyads); grains generally triangular, with an annulus subtending the porate apertures (go 34)
- 1b: Pollen generally dispersed as single units (monads); grains seldom if ever with annulus.
- 2a: Apertures porate, always lacking colpi
- 3a: grain outline from equatorial view circular
- 4a: Pores distributed along the equator.
- 5a: Pores > 5 (stephanoporate)
- 6a: Ornamentation homobrochate (~ *MENTZELIA*)
- 6b: Ornamentation otherwise (~ *POLYGALA*)
- 5b: Pores < 5 (*CURRENTLY OPEN*)
- 4b: Pores +/- distributed across grain (pantoporate)
- 7a: Ornamentation with striate ornamentation (~ *POLEMONIUM*)
- 7b: Ornamentation otherwise
- 8a: Ornamentation, slightly irregular - without regularly repeating features (scabrate) (~ *STELLARIA*)
- 8b: Ornamentation forming regularly repeating (reticulate) cells of varying shapes.
- 9a: spacing between the grid cells large (lophate), the walls of the cells with another set of projecting ornamentation (~ *OPUNTIA*)
- 9b: spacing between cells small, the wall of the cells without projecting features.
- 10a: Pores extending beyond the reticulate grids (~ *ARENARIA*)
- 10b: Pores extending beyond the reticulate grids (~ *PHLOX*)
- 3b: Outline from equatorial view otherwise (usually slightly triangular)
- 11a: Outline elliptic (*CURRENTLY EMPTY*)
- 11b: Outline not elliptic, grains often with acute, if rounded, angles along sides (e.g., triangular, polygonal) (*EMPTY*)
- 2b: Apertures with colpi, occasionally also with pores in addition (coporate)
- 12a: Grains with bristles tapering to points (echinate), and tri-colporate.
- 13a: Grains uniformly echinate, less the apertures. (Asteraceae 1)
- 13b: Grains with echinate bristles on ridges of lophae (Asteraceae 2)
- 12b: Grains without echinate ornamentation - this lead includes projections with ornamentation with round tips.
- 14a: Grains with either less than 3 apertures, or with two distinct ornamentation types (generally $\frac{1}{2}$ psilate, $\frac{1}{2}$ reticulate).
- 15a. Grains apparently lacking any apertures. (~ *IRIS*)
- 15b. Grains aperturate
- 16a. Ornamentation on one face of grain psilate, the other homobrochate (~ *ZIGADENUS + ANTICLEA*)
- 16b. Ornamentation psilate across both faces of grain (~*ERYTHONIUM*)
- 14b. Grains with either 3 or more apertures, or with an elongated spiral like aperture
- 17a. Grain with spiral like colpi
- 18a. Spiral with deep well-defined furrows (~ *ERYTHRANTHE GUTTATA*, syn. obsolete. *MIMULUS*)
- 18b. Spirals without well-defined grooves, ornamentation evidently perforate (~ *RANUNCULUS ALISMIFOLIUS*)
- 17b. Grains with colpi these not forming irregular spiral motifs.
- 19a. Grains elliptic, essentially perfectly cylindrical along longest axis, except for minor inundations along equatorial region. Apertures, of two types (heteroaperturate). (~ *BORAGINACEAE*)
- 19b Grains shaped similar or not, but never heteroaperturate.
- 20a. From a polar view, grains notably polygonal (hexagonal), also evident when seldom seen from a equatorial view. (~ *PHACELIA*/ maybe *Hydrophyllaceae*, *Hydrophyllum* not sampled)
- 20b. From a polar view, grains not with 6 convex apices

- 21a. Grains elliptic, with a short colporate aperture on each psilate face, the edges of each face and the apices with a distinct (homobrochate) textured ornamentation. (~ POLYGONUM)
- 21b. Grains otherwise, not featuring a mix of ornamentations independent of the apertures.
- 22a. Ornamentation perforate, the three colpi very short, their longest axis parallel to the equator rather than perpendicular. These colpi often times almost appearing to be slightly raised on an annulus like feature (~ LONICERA)
- 22b. Grains not as described in all aspects of the above.
- 23a. Apertures colporate
- 24a. Outline of grain in equatorial view circular, ornamentation smooth. (~MORPHOTYPE A).
- 24b. Grains otherwise
 - 25a Grains distinctly triangular from polar view (go 26)
 - 25b Grains elliptic (go 27)
 - 26a Grains very large, clearly strongly triangular in cross section. (~ GERANIUM)
 - 26b Grains smaller (SIZE), weakly triangular in cross section (~ POTENTILLA/DASIPHORA in part)
 - 27a Grains elliptic to weakly circular (~MORPHOTYPE B)
 - 27b Grains elliptic, much longer pole to pole than across equator.
 - 28a Grains with evident protrusions of the pore, colpi short, scarcely noticeable (~ APIACEAE)
- 23b. Apertures colpate
 - 30a Ornamentation psilate (~MORPHOTYPE C).
 - 30b Ornamentation otherwise
 - 31a Ornamentation homobrochate (~ MORPHOTYPE D)
 - 31b Ornamentation otherwise
 - 32a. Ornamentation bacculate, grains large, (~LINUM)
 - 32b. Ornamentation otherwise
 - 33a. Ornamentation of minor cross-corrugated grooves (fossulate) (~CORYDALIS)
 - 33b. Ornamentation of scarcely perceptible irregular features (scabrate) (~RANUNCULUS IN PART)

34a: Annula subtending the apertures – making grains appear more or less triangular; Pollen often with viscin threads (ONAGRACEAE)

34b: Apertures not annulate – grains appear more or less circular (~ERICACEAE)

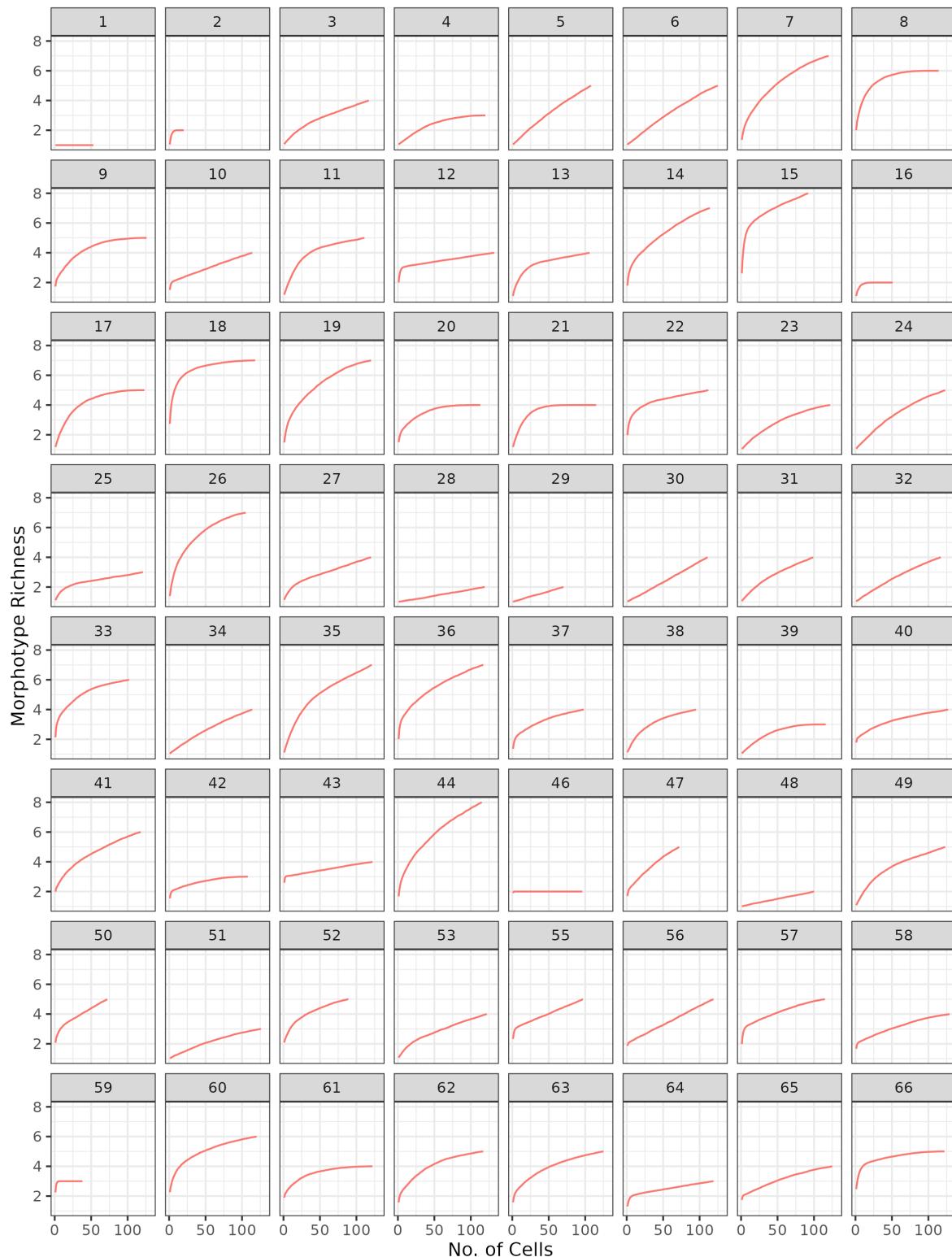
Morphotype A: Trifolium, Lupinus, Glycrrhiza, Mitella, Geum

Morphotype B: Lupinus, Lathyrus, Potentilla, Androsace, Bistorta, Vicia

Morphotype C: Jeffersonia, Micranthes, Prunus, Delphinium, Androsace, Penstemon, Orthocarpus, Scutellaria, Aquilegia, Castilleja, Draba)

Morphotype D: Salix, Boechera

Rarefaction Curves of Species Richness
Calculated as random plot order with 1000 bootstrap replicates



Used to assess completeness of subsampling. VEGAN package 'specaccum' function used

Species Richness Abundance Estimating via Hill Numbers ($q = 0$)

Confidence Interval of 99% with 1000 Bootstrap replicates

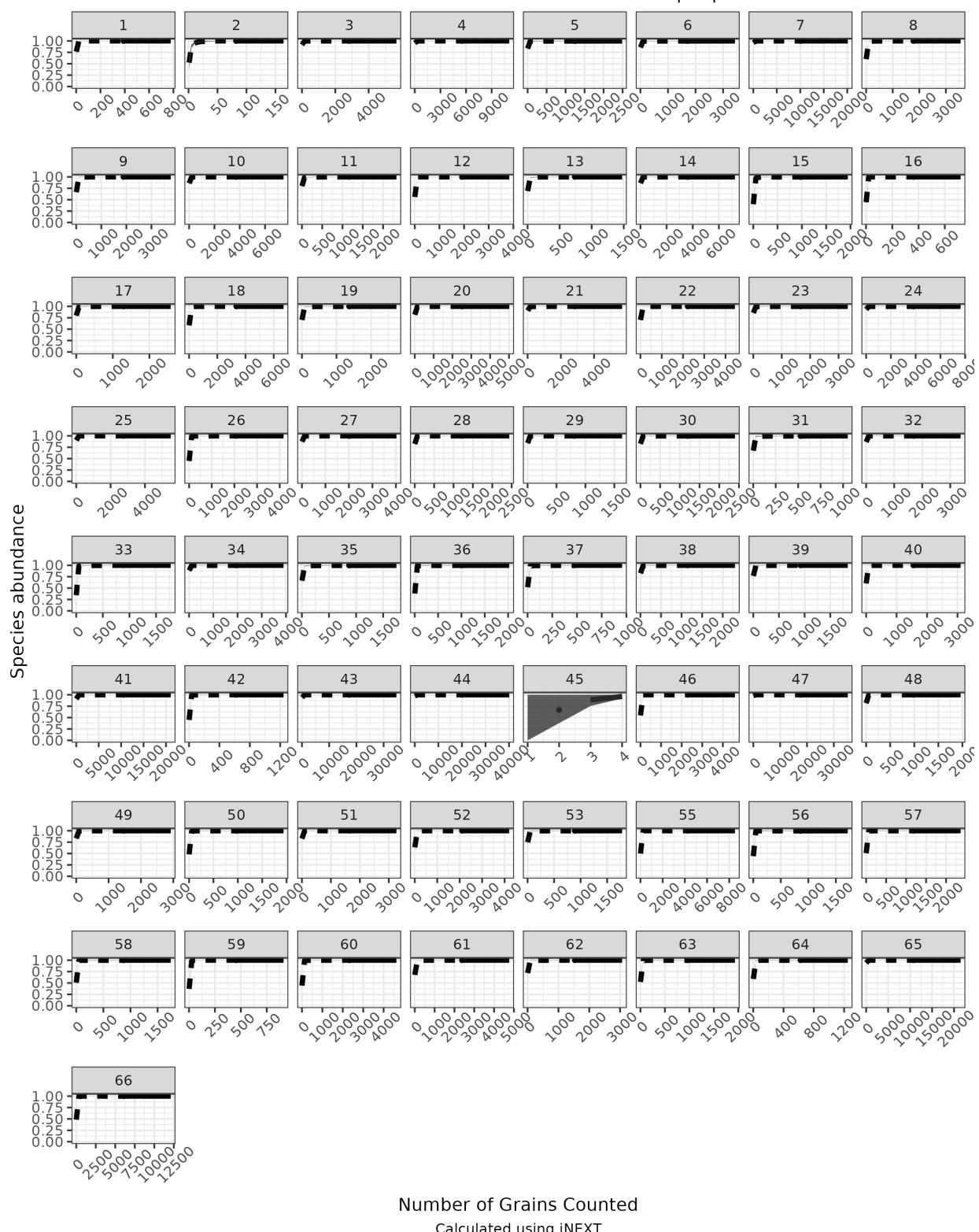


Table 1: All species present in the Reference Sequence Databases
(Kraken and BLAST)

Order	Family	Taxon
Alismatales	Potamogetonaceae	<i>Potamogeton wrightii</i>
Apiales	Apiaceae	<i>Osmorhiza aristata</i>
Asparagales	Amaryllidaceae	<i>Allium stamineum</i>
	Asparagaceae	<i>Streptopus amplexifolius</i>
Asterales	Asteraceae	<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i> <i>Antennaria carpatica</i> <i>Antennaria dioica</i> <i>Artemisia sibirica</i> <i>Brickellia dentata</i> <i>Chrysanthemus greenei</i> <i>Cirsium pannonicum</i> <i>Cirsium parryi</i> <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> <i>Crepis pygmaea</i> <i>Ericameria parryi</i> <i>Erigeron ecuadoriensis</i> <i>Erigeron grandiflorus</i> <i>Erigeron rosulatus</i> <i>Erigeron uniflorus</i> <i>Helianthella quinquenervis</i> <i>Heterotheca villosa</i> <i>Hieracium avilae</i> <i>Hieracium jubatum</i> <i>Hymenoxys hoopesii</i> <i>Leucanthemum graminifolium</i> <i>Microseris lindleyi</i> <i>Omalotheca supina</i> <i>Packera quercetorum</i> <i>Pseudognaphalium attenuatum</i> <i>Pseudognaphalium frigidum</i> <i>Pseudognaphalium lacteum</i> <i>Pseudognaphalium oxyphyllum</i> <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> <i>Scabrethia scabra</i> <i>Senecio adenophyllus</i> <i>Senecio algens</i> <i>Senecio apolobambensis</i> <i>Senecio candollei</i> <i>Senecio chionogeton</i> <i>Senecio formosus</i> <i>Senecio funcii</i> <i>Senecio gilliesii</i> <i>Senecio humillimus</i> <i>Senecio nutans</i> <i>Senecio puchei</i> <i>Senecio rufescens</i> <i>Senecio spinosus</i> <i>Senecio tephrosioides</i>

(Continued on Next Page)

Table 1: All species present in the Reference Sequence Databases
(Kraken and BLAST) (*continued*)

Order	Family	Taxon
		<i>Solidago chilensis</i>
		<i>Stilpnolepis intricata</i>
		<i>Symphyotrichum foliaceum</i>
		<i>Taraxacum cucullatum</i>
		<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>
		<i>Tonestus lyallii</i>
		<i>Townsendia formosa</i>
	Campanulaceae	<i>Campanula argaea</i>
		<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>
Boraginales	Boraginaceae	<i>Cynoglossum amplifolium</i>
		<i>Cynoglossum anchusoides</i>
		<i>Cynoglossum pringlei</i>
		<i>Mertensia ciliata</i>
		<i>Mertensia fusiformis</i>
	Hydrophyllaceae	<i>Hydrophyllum canadense</i>
		<i>Hydrophyllum capitatum</i>
		<i>Hydrophyllum fendleri</i>
		<i>Nemophila menziesii</i>
Caryophyllales	Caryophyllaceae	<i>Arenaria globiflora</i>
		<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>
		<i>Cerastium arvense</i>
		<i>Cerastium lanceolatum</i>
		<i>Minuartia recurva</i>
		<i>Odontostemma leucasterium</i>
		<i>Pseudostellaria heterophylla</i>
		<i>Sagina procumbens</i>
		<i>Schizotechium monospermum</i>
		<i>Shivparvatia glanduligera</i>
		<i>Stellaria graminea</i>
		<i>Stellaria holostea</i>
		<i>Stellaria obtusa</i>
	Polygonaceae	<i>Rumex induratus</i>
		<i>Rumex spinosus</i>
Celastrales	Celastraceae	<i>Parnassia faberi</i>
		<i>Parnassia palustris</i>
		<i>Paxistima canbyi</i>
Ericales	Ericaceae	<i>Gaultheria prostrata</i>
		<i>Moneses uniflora</i>
		<i>Orthilia secunda</i>
		<i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i>
	Polemoniaceae	<i>Collomia grandiflora</i>
		<i>Ipomopsis aggregata</i>
		<i>Phlox douglasii</i>
	Primulaceae	<i>Androsace studiosorum</i>
		<i>Androsace vitaliana</i>
Fabales	Fabaceae	<i>Astragalus pelecinus</i>
		<i>Lupinus argenteus</i>
		<i>Lupinus sericeus</i>

(Continued on Next Page)

Table 1: All species present in the Reference Sequence Databases
(Kraken and BLAST) (*continued*)

Order	Family	Taxon
Gentianales	Gentianaceae	<i>Vicia americana</i> <i>Frasera speciosa</i> <i>Gentiana cruciata</i>
Hyphomicrobiales	Xanthobacteraceae	<i>Azorhizobium caulinodans</i>
Lamiales	Lamiaceae	<i>Agastache pallidiflora</i>
Liliales	Colchicaceae	<i>Prosartes smithii</i>
	Liliaceae	<i>Erythronium dens-canis</i>
	Melanthiaceae	<i>Anticlea elegans</i> <i>Veratrum viride</i>
Malpighiales	Hypericaceae	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>
	Salicaceae	<i>Populus alba</i>
	Violaceae	<i>Viola odorata</i>
Myrtales	Onagraceae	<i>Chamaenerion angustifolium</i> <i>Epilobium canum</i> <i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>
Ranunculales	Berberidaceae	<i>Berberis sibirica</i>
	Papaveraceae	<i>Corydalis aitchisonii</i>
	Ranunculaceae	<i>Actaea heracleifolia</i> <i>Anemone anemonoides</i> <i>Anemone obtusiloba</i> <i>Aquilegia ecalcarata</i> <i>Caltha palustris</i> <i>Delphinium barbeyi</i> <i>Delphinium gracile</i> <i>Delphinium nuttallianum</i> <i>Pulsatilla chinensis</i> <i>Thalictrum thalictroides</i> <i>Thalictrum tuberosum</i> <i>Trollius europaeus</i>
Rosales	Elaeagnaceae	<i>Shepherdia argentea</i>
	Rosaceae	<i>Crataegus bipinnatifida</i> <i>Dasiphora fruticosa</i> <i>Geum ternatum</i> <i>Hedlundia austriaca</i> <i>Holodiscus argenteus</i> <i>Karpatiosorbus devoniensis</i> <i>Micromeles japonica</i> <i>Potentilla anserina</i> <i>Potentilla pulcherrima</i> <i>Potentilla tetrandra</i> <i>Rubus chingii</i>
Sapindales	Sapindaceae	<i>Acer campestre</i>
Saxifragales	Crassulaceae	<i>Rhodiola rosea</i> <i>Sedum nudum</i>
	Grossulariaceae	<i>Ribes rubrum</i>
	Saxifragaceae	<i>Lithophragma parviflorum</i> <i>Saxifraga biflora</i> <i>Saxifraga fortunei</i>

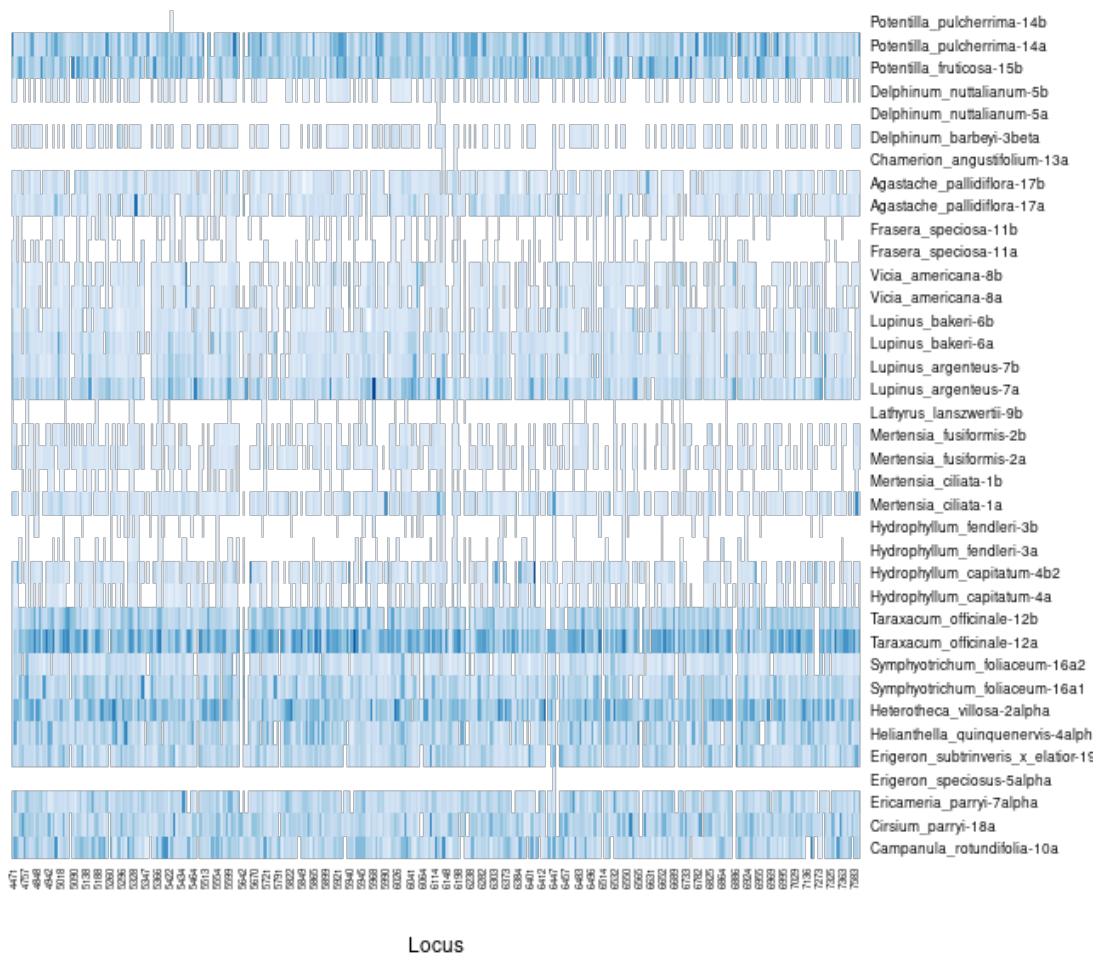
(Continued on Next Page)

Table 1: All species present in the Reference Sequence Databases
(Kraken and BLAST) (*continued*)

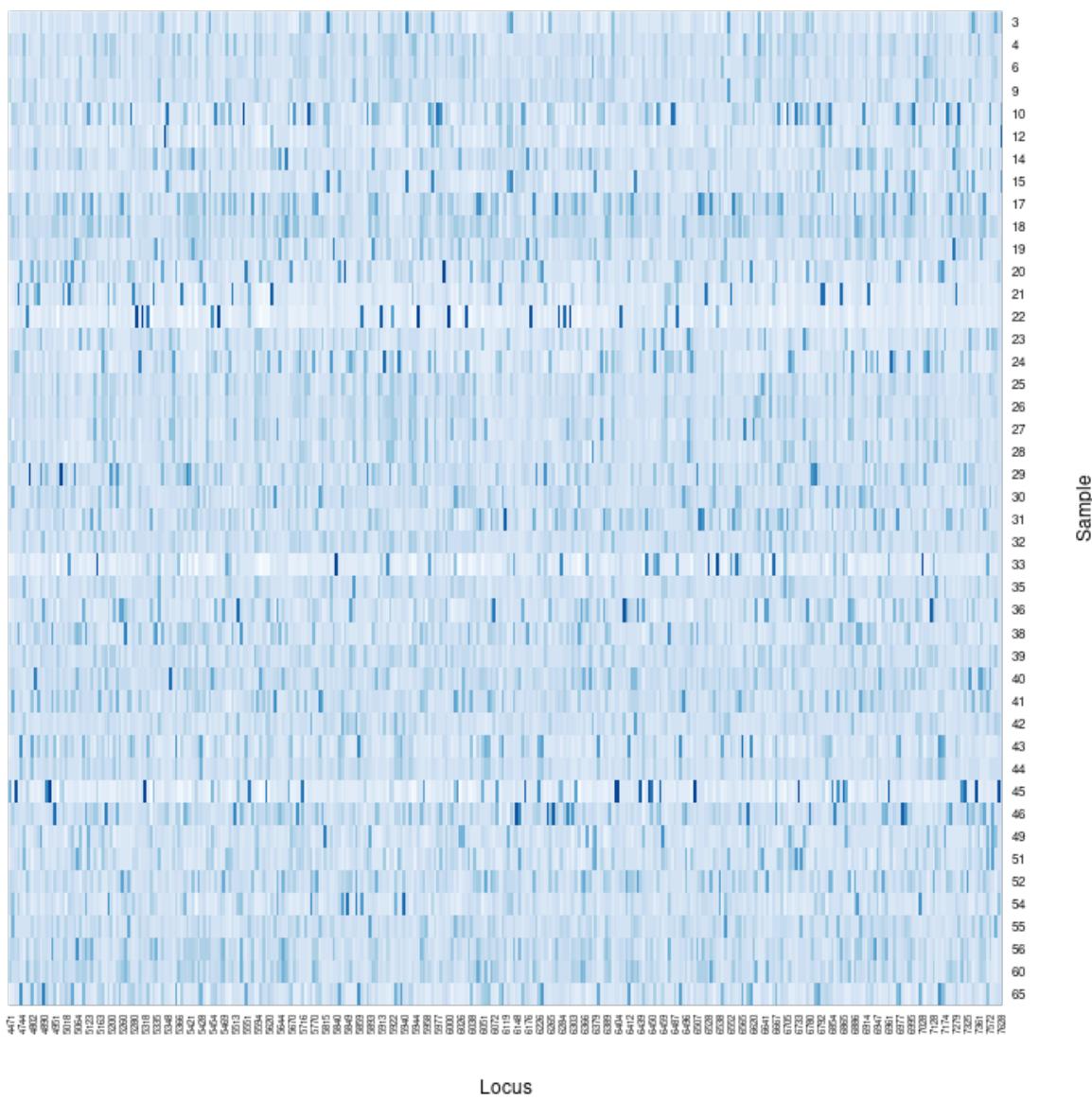
Order	Family	Taxon
		Saxifraga maderensis
		Saxifraga oppositifolia
		Saxifraga portosanctana
		Saxifraga x geum

x geum* \end{longtable}

Loci & Nucleotides Returned per Reference Sample

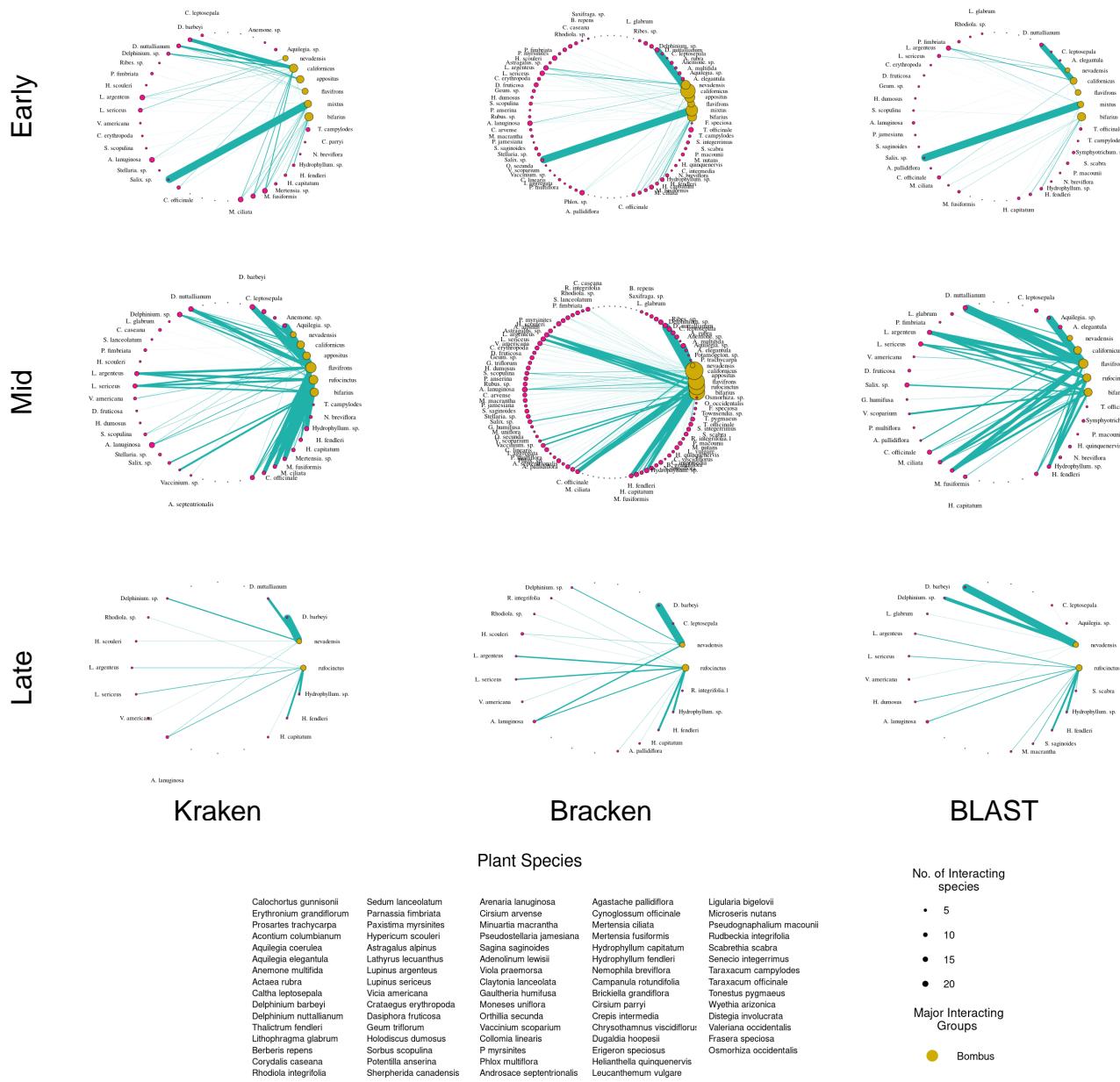


Percent matched reads



649

Comparision of Foraging Patterns from Three Sequence Alignment Algorithms



652 Appendix 13 - Models used for Species Distribution Model Ensembles

653 The two machine learning models utilize Ensemble learning.

654 **Ensemble learning** utilizes many sets of trees, each tree being composed of many binary decisions, to
655 create a single model. Each independent variable (- or *feature*) may become a node on the tree - i.e. a
656 location on the tree where a binary decision will move towards a predicted outcome. Each of the decision
657 tree models which ensemble learning utilizes is a weak model, each of which may suffer due to high variance
658 or bias, but which produce better outcomes than would be expected via chance. When ensembled these
659 models generate a strong model, a model which should have more appropriately balanced variance and bias
660 and predicts outcomes which are more strongly correlated with the expected values than the individual weak
661 models.

662 **Random Forest (RF)** the training data are continually bootstrap re-sampled, in combination with random
663 subsets of features, to create nodes which attempt to optimally predict a known outcome. A large number
664 of trees are then aggregated, via the most common predictions, to generate a final classification prediction
665 tree. Each individual prediction tree is generated independently of the others.

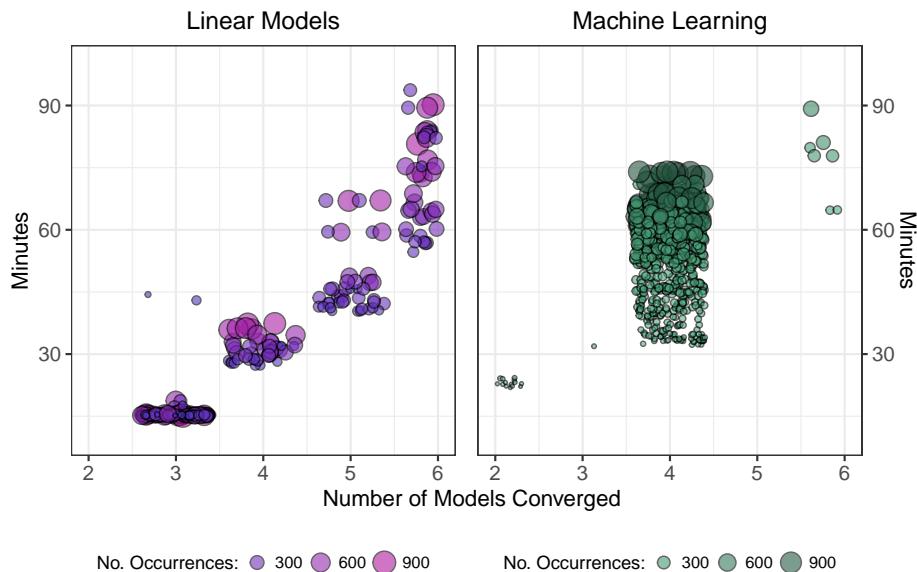
666 **Boosted Regression Tree (BRT)** (or Gradient Boosted tree) An initial tree is grown, and all other trees
667 are derived sequentially from it, as each new tree is grown the errors in responses from the last tree are
668 weighed more heavily so that the model focuses on selecting dependent variables which refine predictions.
669 All response data and predictor variables are kept available to all trees.

670 **Bias** predictions from an algorithm are systematically in error due to being prejudiced for or against certain
671 results, due to assumptions during learning.

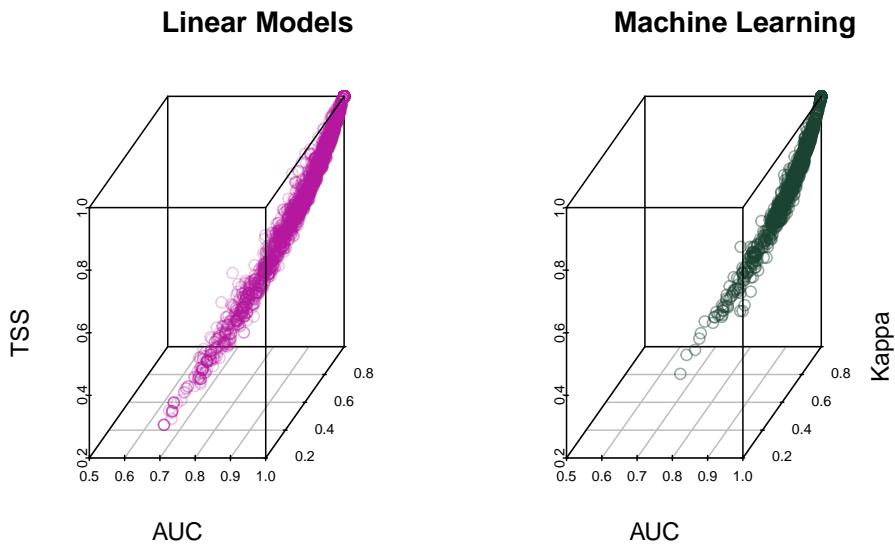
672 **Variance** errors in models due to an over-reliance and sensitivity of training to outliers in training data.

673 In general, Random Forest models have high bias and low variance, where boosted regressions trees have lower
674 bias and higher variance. Theoretically, the weaknesses and strengths of bootstrap aggregation (bagging) as
675 implemented by Random Forests are supplemented by the boosting.

Time Spent Fitting and Projecting Models onto Gridded Surfaces



Collectively it took 215 hours for all of the GLM and GAM to run, and for the converged models to be ensembled, and predicted onto a raster surface; it took 419 hours for the same process to be carried out for the Random Forest and Boosted Regression Tree models.



Results for each converged individual model which were then ensembled, using weights from the True Skill Statistic (TSS).

Table 1: Subset of Possible Combinations for re-classifying Sequences by Incorporating Ecological Factors

Spatial	Temporal	Congener	Confamilial	Congeners	Confamilials	Condition	Return	Rank
1	1	1	1	0	0	A.1	Input	Species
1	1	1	1	1	0	A.2	Input	Species
1	1	1	1	0	1	A.3	Input	Species
1	1	1	1	1	1	A.4	Input	Species
1	1	1	0	0	0	A.5	Input	Species
1	1	1	0	1	0	A.6	Input	Species
1	1	0	1	0	0	A.7	Input	Species
1	1	0	1	0	1	A.8	Input	Species
1	1	0	0	0	0	A.9	Input	Species
1	0	1	1	0	0	B.1	Congener	Species
1	0	1	1	0	1	B.2	Congener	Species
1	0	1	0	0	0	B.3	Congener	Species
1	0	1	1	1	0	C.1	Congener	Genus
1	0	1	1	1	1	C.2	Congener	Genus
1	0	1	0	1	0	C.3	Congener	Genus
1	0	0	1	0	0	D.1	Confamilial	Species
1	0	0	1	0	1	E.1	Confamilial	Family
1	0	0	0	0	0	F.1	Input	Species
0	0	1	1	0	0	G.1	Congener	Species
0	0	1	1	0	1	G.2	Congener	Species
0	0	1	0	0	0	G.3	Congener	Species
0	0	1	1	1	0	H.1	Congener	Genus
0	0	1	1	1	1	H.2	Congener	Genus
0	0	1	0	1	0	H.3	Congener	Genus
0	0	0	1	0	0	I.1	Confamilial	Species
0	0	0	1	0	1	J.1	Confamilial	Family

Note, for both ‘Congener’ and ‘Confamilial’ (*in the singular*) ‘1’ denotes that a species is present; in a sense the genus is monotypic in space and time. For both ‘Congeners’ and ‘Confamilials’ (*in the plural*), ‘1’ denotes that two or more species are present; ‘Confamilial’ again representing a monotypic entity in space and time.

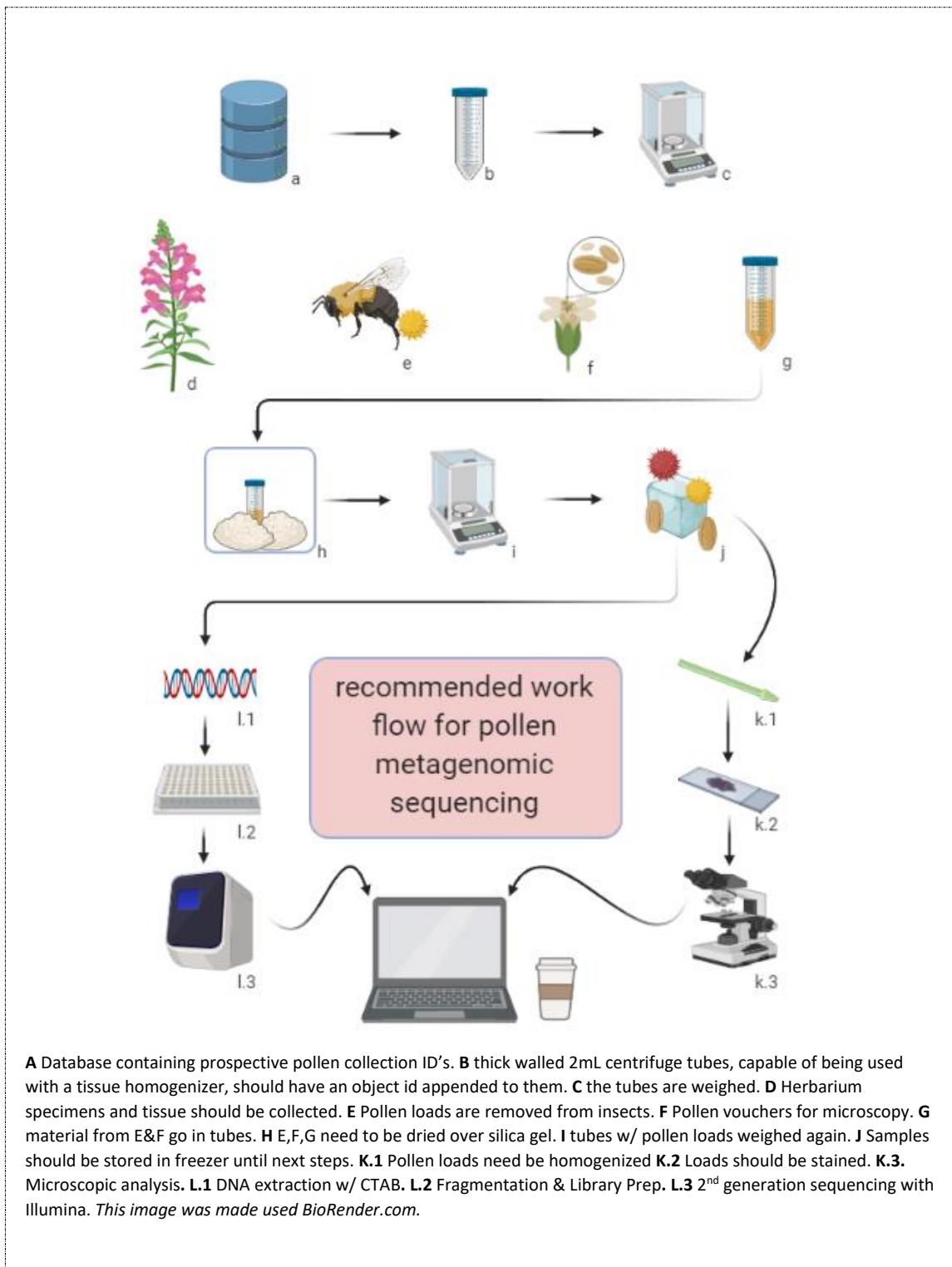
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Spatial} == 1 \& \text{ Temporal} == 1 \sim \mathbf{A} \\ \text{Spatial} == 1 \& \text{ Temporal} == 0 \& \text{ Congener} = 1 \sim \mathbf{B} \end{aligned}$$

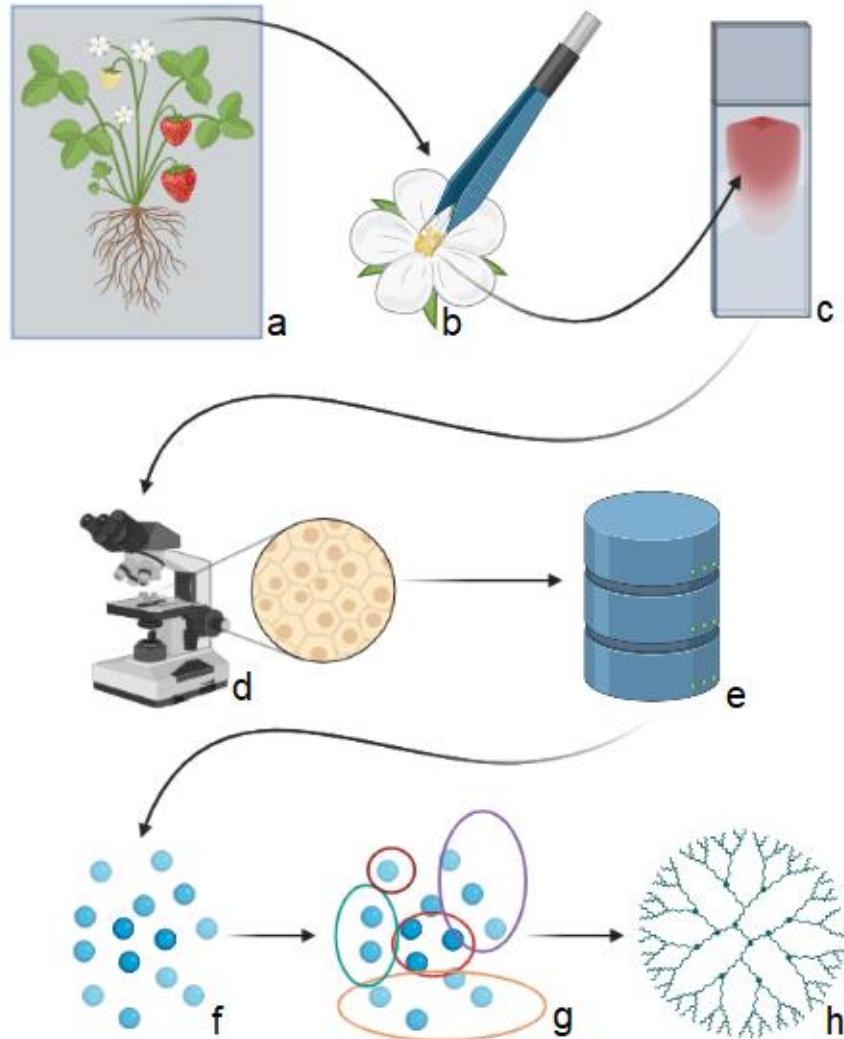
The temporal dimension is now buffered and a form of \mathbf{A} is employed
 $\text{Spatial} == 1 \& \text{ Temporal} +/- \text{ Buffer} == 1 \sim \mathbf{X}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Spatial} == 1 \& \text{ Temporal} == 0 \& \text{ Congeners} >= 2 \sim \mathbf{C} \\ \text{Spatial} == 1 \& \text{ Temporal} == 0 \& \text{ Congeners} == 0 \& \text{ Confamilial} == 1 \sim \mathbf{D} \\ \text{Spatial} == 1 \& \text{ Temporal} == 0 \& \text{ Congeners} == 0 \& \text{ Confamilial} >= 2 \sim \mathbf{E} \\ \text{Spatial} == 1 \& \text{ Temporal} == 0 \& \text{ Congener|s} == 0 \& \text{ Confamilial|s} == 0 \sim \mathbf{F} \end{aligned}$$

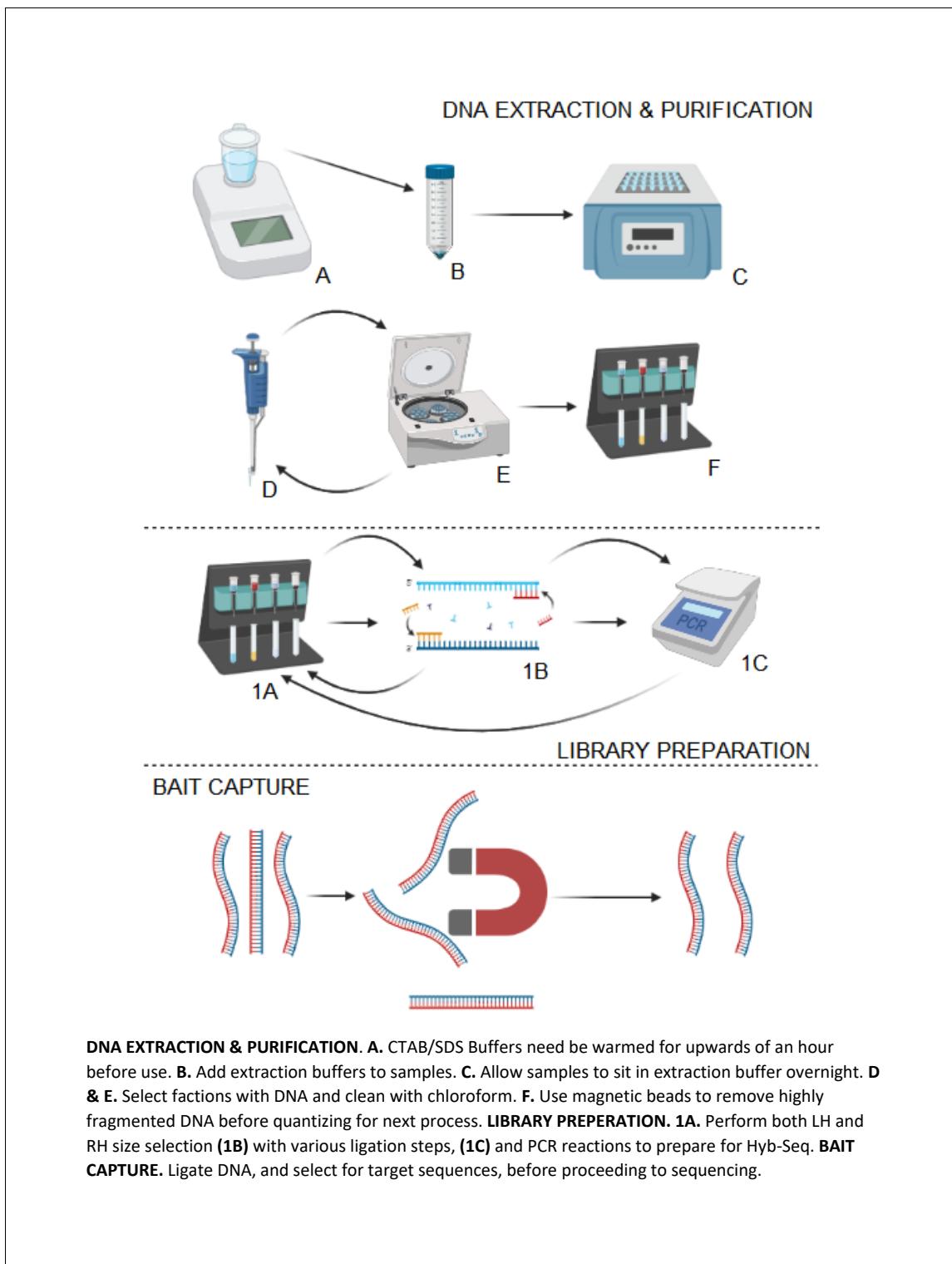
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Spatial} == 0 \& \text{ Temporal} == 0 \& \text{ Congener} == 1 \sim \mathbf{G} \\ \text{Spatial} == 0 \& \text{ Temporal} == 0 \& \text{ Congeners} == 1 \sim \mathbf{H} \\ \text{Spatial} == 0 \& \text{ Temporal} == 0 \& \text{ Confamilial} == 1 \sim \mathbf{I} \\ \text{Spatial} == 0 \& \text{ Temporal} == 0 \& \text{ Confamilials} == 1 \sim \mathbf{J} \end{aligned}$$

While the overall order matters, \mathbf{X} in particular may significantly alter conclusions.





A. An herbarium collection in flower from which pollen may be removed. **B.** The careful removal of pollen from dehiscent anthers using dissection tools. **C.** Place the pollen on a fuchsin jelly cube and melt it with stirring on a hotplate, for ca. 30 seconds. **D.** Microscopic imaging, of specimens and collection of character trait data. **E.** Immediate input and accessioning of files to a database. **F.** Ordination of traits into 2-dimensional space. **G.** Agglomerative clustering of data points into similar groups. **H.** Recovery of bifurcating decisions in development of clusters, or handwritten keys to visually diagnosable groups.



CTAB-DNA POLLEN EXTRACTIONS

Adapted from Lalhmangiahi et. al & Guertler et al. by Benkendorf, Fant, & Noble.

SAMPLE PREPARATION AND GRINDING

- a1) Add 380 μ L extraction buffer (100 mM Tris-HCl, 50 mM EDTA, 50 mM NaCl, 10% SDS, pH 7.5). This solution will need to be warm enough for the SDS to be in solution, requires heat and stirring.
- a2) Vortex samples at speed > 2000, until pellet breaks apart, ca. 20-30 seconds.
- a3) Use the Pellet Pestle Motor (Kontes) for ca. 15 seconds to macerate samples.
- a4) Add 100 μ L extraction buffer to wash the tip of the pestle into the centrifuge tube, and burst bubbles.
- a5) Allow to sit at 35°C for 1 hour, use vortex occasionally if sedimentation of pollen occurs.

EXTRACTION AND ISOLATION OF DNA

- b1) Warm CTAB buffer to remove any precipitants if present.
- b2) Add 480 μ L 10% CTAB buffer.
- b3) Add 10 μ L RNase (10mg/mL); invert by hand, incubate for 40 minutes at 37°C, increase heat to 60°C wait 20 minutes before continuing to b4.
- b4) Add 15 μ L proteinase K (20mg/mL) & 12.5 μ L DTT (1 molar in H₂O); invert by hand, incubate for 1 hr. at 60°C.
- b5) Incubate overnight at 40°C (*note: this is a hard stopping point*)
- b6) Add 500 μ L of Phenol-chloroform-isoamyl alcohol vortex samples, centrifuge at 10,000 rpm (10 min.)
- b7) Transfer the uppermost aqueous layer to a new 2 mL centrifuge tube.

DNA PRECIPITATION

- c1) Add slightly chilled Isopropyl alcohol & Sodium Acetate 3mM 5:1, equivalent to ca. 2/3 of the removed layer. Store at -20°C, 1 hour to allow precipitation.
(Note: potential stopping point for a day or more, samples can stay at -20°C for days)
- c2) Centrifuge at 13,000 rpm for 10 minutes.
- c3) Pour supernatant into new 2mL centrifuge tube, add 400 μ L 70% EtOH. Store at -20°C for 20 minutes.
- c4) Spin at 13,000 rpm for 10 minutes, discard supernatant.
for both tubes the following steps apply
- c3) Add 400 μ L of 75% EtOH, invert tube x3, centrifuge at 13,000 rpm for 4 minutes; discard supernatant
- c4) Add 400 μ L of 95% EtOH, invert tube x3, centrifuge at 13,000 rpm for 4 minutes, discard supernatant
- c5) Dry tubes in vacuum centrifuge for 30 minutes on medium heat at 15 mmHG.

RESUSPENSION OF DNA

- d1) Add 40 μ L of dna free H₂O to sample.
- d2) place on heat block at 37°C until pellet resuspends with occasional use of vortexes.

NOTES: a 10% CTAB preparation will not readily stay in solution, maintain it on heatblock until you are ready to use it. After adding it to extraction tubes move them to heat block immediately (*i.e.* in batches of 5-10).

Solutions

Extraction buffer (100 mM Tris-HCl, 50 mM EDTA, 50 mM NaCl, 10% SDS - pH 7.5, ca. 32 mL H₂O)

For 100 samples (50 mL solution)

10 grams SDS (Sodium Dodecyl Sulfate , d = 1.01 g/cm3)

146.1 mg Sodium Chloride (NaCl, mw = 58.4 g/mol)

930.6 mg EDTA (EthyleneDiamineTetraacetic Acid Disodium Salt dihydrate, mw = 372.24 g/mol)

Add 20 mL deH₂O

5 mL Tris-HCl pH 8.0 (1 molar- kept in fridge)

Fill to 50 mL with deH₂O

Auto clave on 'Liquid' setting for 15 minutes.

Dissolution may require heat and stirring (3 & 4 settings respectively, ca. 15 min.)

10% CTAB solution (20 mM Tris-Cl pH 8.0, 1.4 M NaCl, 10 mM EDTA pH 7.5, 10% CTAB, 5% PVP, 40 mL DiH₂O)

For 100 samples (50 mL solution)

add ~30 mL deH₂O,

1 ml Tris-HCl pH 8.0 (1 molar- kept in fridge; 2-Amino-2-(hydroxymethyl)propane-1,3-diol)

4.08 g Sodium Chloride (NaCl, mw = 58.4 g/mol)

4 mL EDTA pH 7.5 (0.125 molar – kept in fridge; 2,2',2'',2'''-(Ethane-1,2-diyl)dinitrilo)tetraacetic acid)

5 g CTAB (hexadecyl(trimethyl)ammonium bromide, mw = 364.45, FYI this is 274 mM)

Auto clave on 'Liquid' setting for 15 minutes.

2.5 g PVP-40 (1-ethenylpyrrolidin-2-one) – add after autoclave

Fill to 50 mL with deH₂O

Dissolution of PVP will require 2-3 hrs, at 65°C with stirring. Before use allow one hour of stirring and heat to resuspend all salts in the solution.

Sodium acetate solution (3mM)

For 100 samples (10 mL solution)

20.4 mg Sodium Acetate trihydrate (mw = 136.08 g/M)

to 50 mL deH₂O

Auto clave on 'Liquid' setting for 15 minutes.

Phenol-chloroform Isoamyl alcohol (25:24:1) Saturated with 10 mM Tris pH 8.0, EDTA

For 100 samples (50 mL solution) (no need to make, is bought)

25 mL Phenol

24 mL Chloroform (Trichloromethane)

1 mL Isoamyl alcohol

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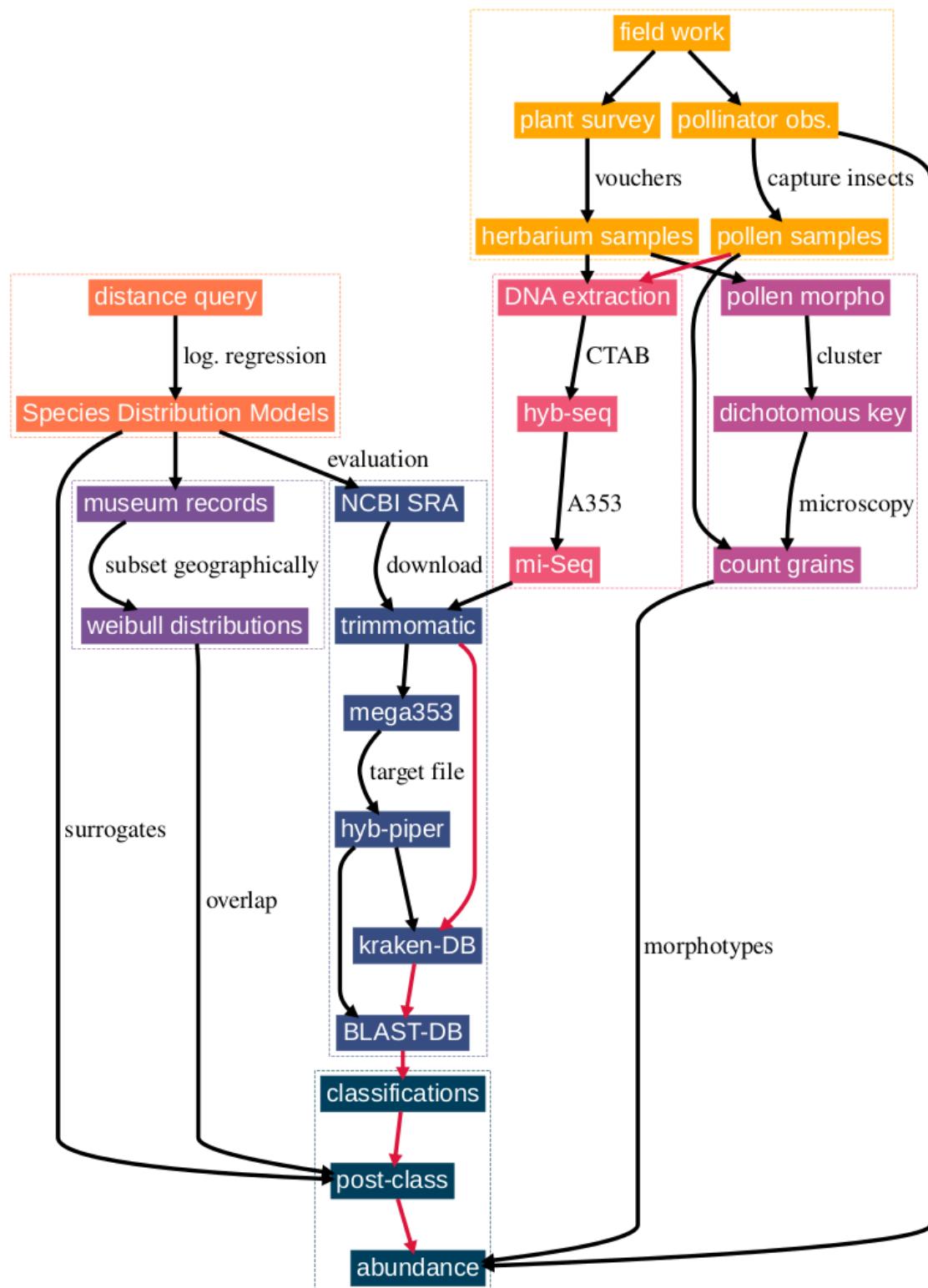
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Table 1: Queen Bee Pollen Loads examined

Subgenus	Species	Author	Tongue Length	Microscope Slides	Metagenome Samples
Subterraneobombus Vogt	<i>B. appositus</i>	Cresson 1879	Long	11	NA
Pyrobonbus Dalla Torre	<i>B. bifarius</i>	Cresson 1879	Short	11	NA
Thoracobombus Dalla Torre	<i>B. californicus</i>	Smith 1854	Long	8	NA
Pyrobonbus Dalla Torre	<i>B. flavifrons</i>	Cresson 1864	Medium	13	NA
Pyrobonbus Dalla Torre	<i>B. mixtus</i>	Cresson 1879	Short	3	NA
Bonbius Robertson	<i>B. nevadensis</i>	Cresson 1874	Long	5	NA
Cullumanobombus Vogt	<i>B. rufocinctus</i>	Cresson 1864	Short	13	NA
Pyrobonbus Dalla Torre	<i>B. sylvicola</i>	Kirby 1837	Short	1	NA

^a All subgenera follow the system of Williams et al. 2008, and placements were found from the NMH website.^b Tongue Lengths collected from Pyke et al. 2012



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Filtering Species by Geography and Ecology
and stratifying over a temporal gradient

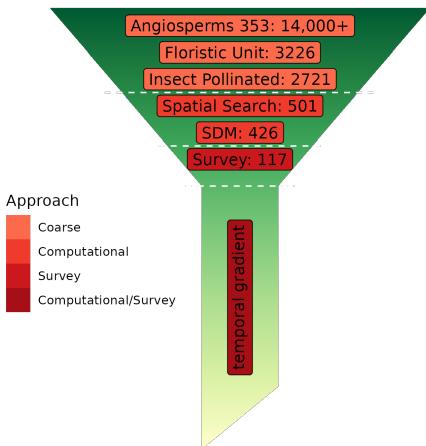


Figure 1: Simplified Conceptual Diagram of three approaches leading towards classification of sequencing results, and the number of species associated with them in our area. The upper three boxes indicate a common coarse approach, assuming one has a digitized Flora, which is not always the case. The center two boxes indicate the computational approach illustrated here. The final box indicates the use of the expert field data in the case study. The stem of the final applies to both Computational and Expert Survey results, and should be thought of as using time ala chromatography, in the post-classification process.

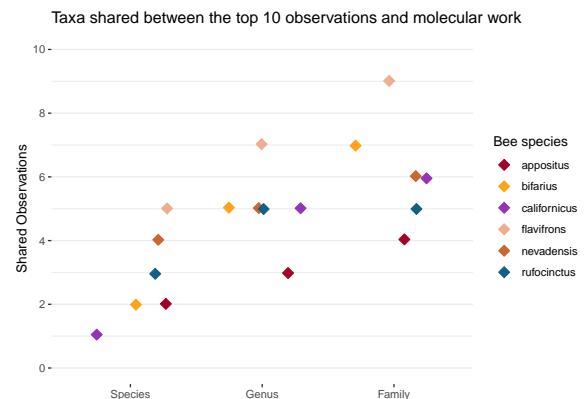
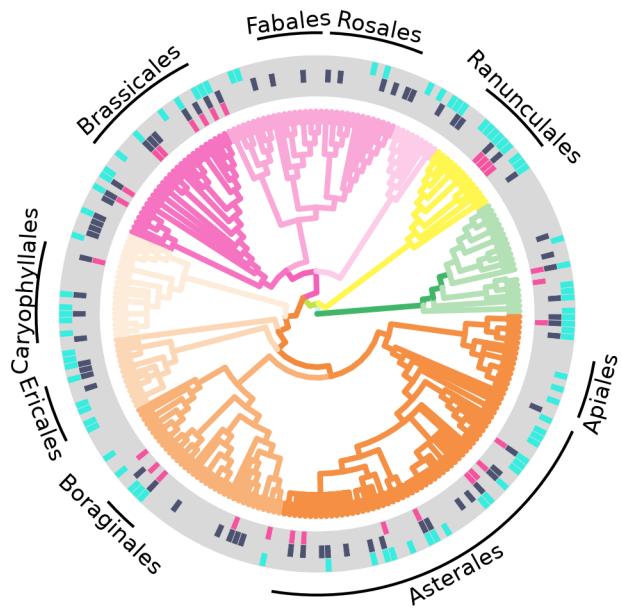


Figure 2: Number of the ten most commonly visited plants which are also in the top ten most common sequences

Biotically pollinated plant genera with morphological or molecular data



Status [lacking] [observed] [sequenced] [slide]

Figure 3: Phylogenetic tree of all biotically pollinated plant genera in the study area. The innermost ring indicates every genus which Queen Bee's were observed to visit. The intermediate ring indicates that at least a single morphological pollen voucher slide was prepared for a member of the genus. The outermost ring indicates that sequence data were available for at least a member of that genus. Branch colors follow APG 4.

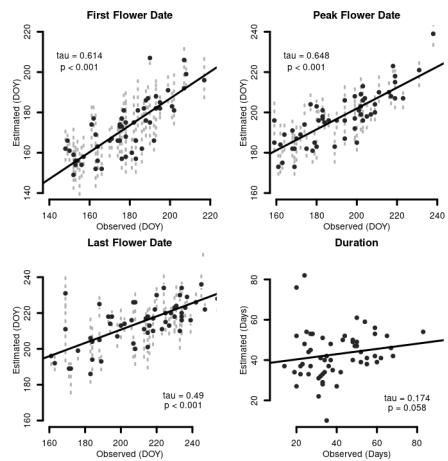


Figure 4: Modelled dates of when major flowering events occurred compared between long term and modelled data

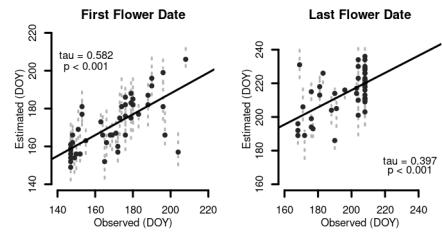


Figure 5: Modelled dates of when major flowering events occurred compared between 2015 and modelled data

Correlation of Proportion Counted Grains and Sequence Reads

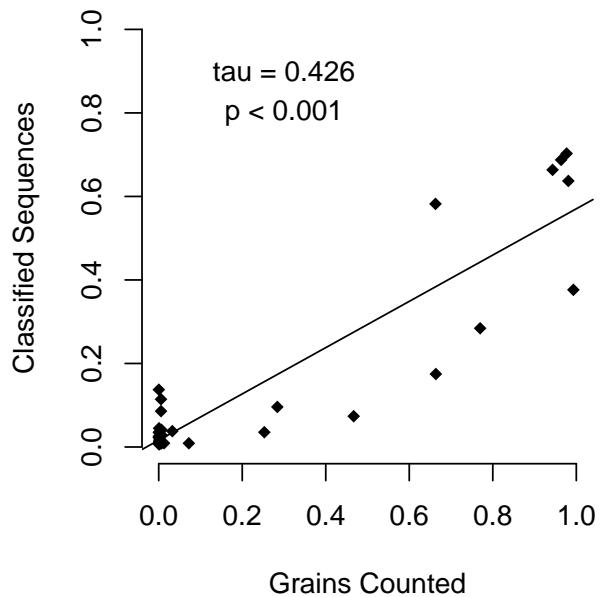


Figure 6: Relationship between morphological count data and sequence reads

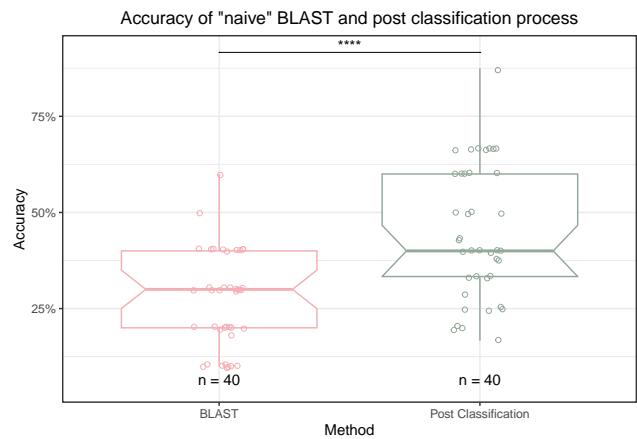


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Table 2: Applications of Plant Metabarcoding

Application	Example	Citations
Plant-Animal Interactions	Dietary Preferences of herbivores	Soininen et al. 2009; reviewed in Banerjee et al. 2022
Noxious Weed Detection	Presence of species by hydrologic Basin	Coghlan et al. 2021; Xu et al. 2018
Detection of Rare Species	Presence of Rare Aquatic Species; Others	Tsukamoto et al. 2021, reviewed in Banerjee et al. 2022
Forensic Science	Identifying the provenance of materials found at crime scene	Allwood et al. 2020
Pharmaceutical	Identifying adulterants in wholesale products	Bell et al. 2022

Table 3: Current Issues Facing Plant Metagenomics

Issue	Our Approach	Possible Advances
Taxonomic Resolution	A353	Coissac et al. 2016, Kress 2017, Johnson et al. 2023
Reference Library - Phylogenetic	Kew PAFTOL, no phylogenetic biases	Kress 2017, Bell et al. 2022, Johnson et al. 2023
Reference Library - Spatial	Some bias persists towards Europe	Cheng et al. 2018, Darwin Tree of Life 2022, Lewin et al. 2020, Bell et al. 2021
Reference Library Generation	Spatial Modelling; Code within	Bell et al. 2022
Uncertainty with Matches	Temporal Filter System	Bell et al. 2022
Species Surrogates	Temporal Filter System	?
False Positives	Spatial & Temporal Modelling, Jaccard Index, high quality reference loci	Bell et al. 2021

Table 4: Logistic regression assessing accuracy of SDMs

Metric	Value	Metric	Value
Accuracy (Training)	83.75	F-Score	0.84
Accuracy (Test)	84.00	AUC	0.92
Recall	81.03	Concordance	0.92
True Neg. Rate	86.97	Discordance	0.08
Precision	88.04	Tied	0.00

Table 5: Species Distribution Modeling evaluation contingency table

		Training		Testing	
		Absence	Presence	Absence	Presence
Absence	Absence	25620	3838	11130	1653
	Presence	6614	28248	2758	12024

Table 6: Post classification of Sequences via Taxonomy and Ecology, top 15 most abundant reads

Condition	No. Class.	Prcnt. Class.	Total Seqs	Rank
A	143	21.0	32.0	Species
B	205	30.1	10.5	Species
C	5	0.7	0.4	Genus
G	29	4.3	7.8	Species
H	280	41.2	47.9	Genus
None met	18	2.6	1.4	Multiple

Table 7: Plant species detected in five or more corbiculae loads

Family	Genus	Species	No. Samples	Mean Prop. ^a
Asteraceae	Erigeron	sp.	6	0.5
	Senecio	integerrimus		
	Symphyotrichum	eatonii	5	
	Taraxacum	officinale	11	6.9
Boraginaceae	Mertensia	fusiformis	22	23.7
		ciliata	7	39.9
Celastraceae	Parnassia	palustris	5	0.5
Fabaceae	Lupinus	sericeus	23	15.5
Hydrophyllaceae	Hydrophyllum	fendleri	22	15.1
		capitatum	6	32.7
Ranunculaceae	Delphinium	barbeyi	7	45.9
		nuttallianum	21	70.0
Rosaceae	Dasiphora	fruticosa	7	0.6
Salicaceae	Salix	sp.	9	8.3
Violaceae	Viola	praemorsa	6	0.5

^a The mean only calculated across the samples where the species was detected

Table 8: Limitations Faced and Possible Solutions

Method Component	Limitations	Paths Forward
Stage 1 Species Filter	Test Data	Flash Plant Species Surveys on Plot
Species Distribution Modelling	Number of Records; Taxonomically Difficult Groups	Develop and Disseminate Education Materials; Herbaria Collections
Phenological Modelling	Post-Initiation of Climate Change Records	Advocate Herbarium Collections
Database Generation	Adequate Phylogenetic/Spatial Representation	Plant and Fungal Tree of Life; 10kP
Read Re-assignment	Discrete Frequentist Data	Posterior-Probabilities; Floral Abundance, Nectar/Pollen Nutrition
False Positives	Which True Species?	Jaccard Index, Plot Abundance
Semi-Quantitative Inference	Genome Size, Pollen Grain Size?	Spike Samples with Reference Materials; Several C Sizes

Table 9: Errors faced with components of the framework

Component	Example	Correction
Spatial	"Scabrethia Scabra" (false positive)	<i>Wyethia arizonica</i>
Molecular (Reference Library)	"Asteraceae" (wrong order)	<i>Frasera</i>
Molecular Reference (Loci)	"Trollium" (false positives, same family as target)	<i>Lupinus</i> sp.
DNA difficult to extract	"Agastache" (Hemiparasites)	<i>Pedicularis</i>
Reclassification (Genus)	"Epilobium"	<i>Chamaenerion latifolium?</i>
Reclassification (Family)	"Paxistima myrsinoides"	<i>Parnassia palustris</i>