**Title: Nectar compounds impact bacterial and fungal growth and shift community dynamics in a nectar analog**

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Dear Editor,

I am writing to submit our original research manuscript titled “Nectar compounds impact bacterial and fungal growth and shift community dynamics in a nectar analog ” for consideration for the journal Microbial Ecology.

We believe that this paper is of general interest to your readership. We examine the hypothesis that filtering due to inhospitable nectar chemistry is a main driver of the low diversity of microbes found in floral nectar. This study is the first to broadly compare if microbes, isolated from nectar and other habitats, vary in resistance, and therefore colonizing ability, to a range of nectar compounds and if these compounds impact microbe-microbe interactions. Our results suggest that compounds that plants produce in nectar, often assumed to evolve primarily in response to plant interactions with macro-organisms including pollinators or herbivores, can also affect microbial growth and assembly on plants.

No part of this paper or the findings within are in any separate work, published or unpublished, or are currently submitted to another journal. This paper has been made available as a preprint at biorxiv (<https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.03.29.485809>). All authors have read and approved the submitted version and give consent for publication in EMI/EMIR if accepted. All local, national, and international regulations and conventions, and normal scientific ethical practices, have been respected and followed.

We believe the following scientists have the expertise to rigorously review this work:

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Thank you for your time and consideration,

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