# Research in Virginia on the foraging ecology of *Trissolcus japonicus* as related to its surveillance

Nicole Quinn<sup>1,2</sup>, Jared Dyer<sup>2</sup>, Elijah Talamas<sup>3</sup>, Tracy Leskey<sup>4</sup>, and Chris Bergh<sup>2</sup>

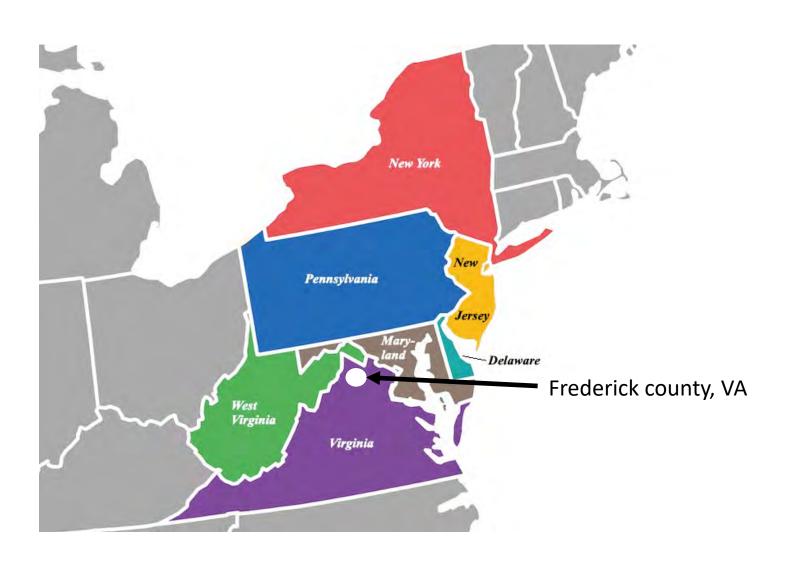
- <sup>1</sup> USDA ARS, BIIRU, Newark, DE
- <sup>2</sup> Virginia Tech AHSAREC, Winchester, VA
- <sup>3</sup> Florida Dept of Ag and Consumer Services, Gainesville, FL
- <sup>4</sup> USDA ARS AFRS, Kearneysville, WV





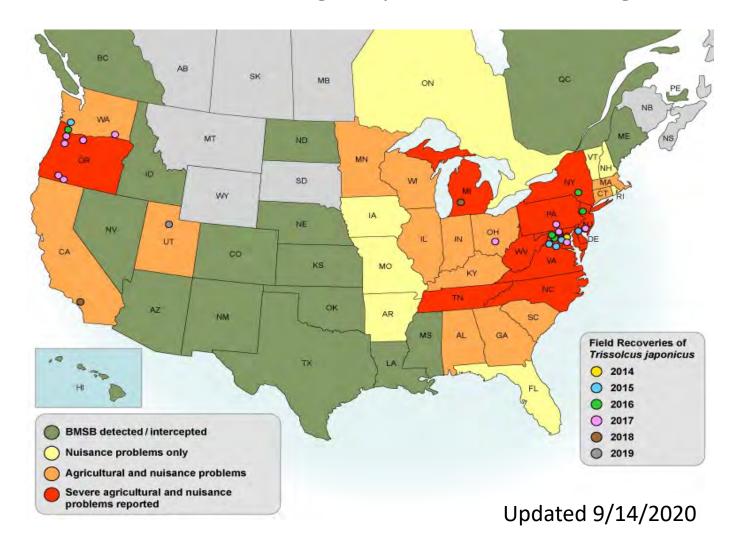
This material is based upon work that is supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Specialty Crop Research Initiative under award number 2016-51181-25409.

- 2014: 1st US detection in Beltsville, MD (sentinel eggs)
- 2015: 1st detection in Frederick Co., VA (sentinel eggs)
- 2015: Not detected elsewhere in VA by our lab (sentinel eggs)



### New State reports annually, 2014 - 2019

"How to optimize the efficiency and effectiveness of *T. japonicus* surveillance efforts to track its current distribution, range expansion, and changes in abundance?"



# Our research objectives and timeline

#### 2016 - 2017

Distribution of BMSB, its egg masses, and its parasitoids in the tree canopy **2016** 

1<sup>st</sup> T. japonicus detection via yellow sticky trap (Frederick Co., VA)

#### 2017

Sampling methods comparison

#### 2018 - 2019

Spatial and temporal effects (habitat, host plants, seasonal phenology)

#### 2019 - 2020

Effect of olfactory stimuli on BMSB egg masses and *T. japonicus* captures

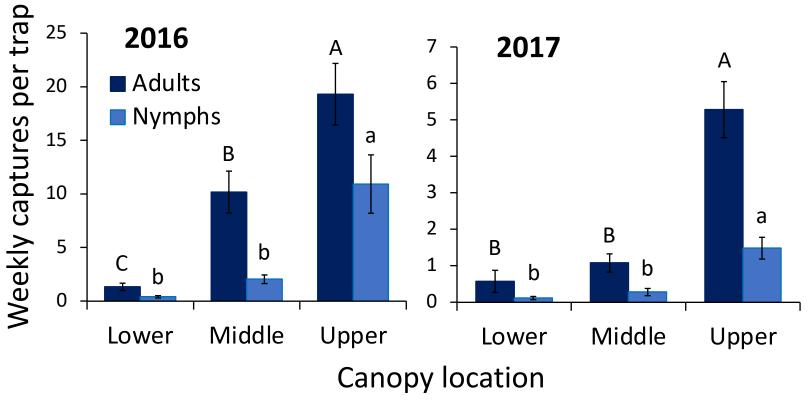
### 2020

Effect of trap location on *T. japonicus* captures; relationship between captures of *T. japonicus* and BMSB

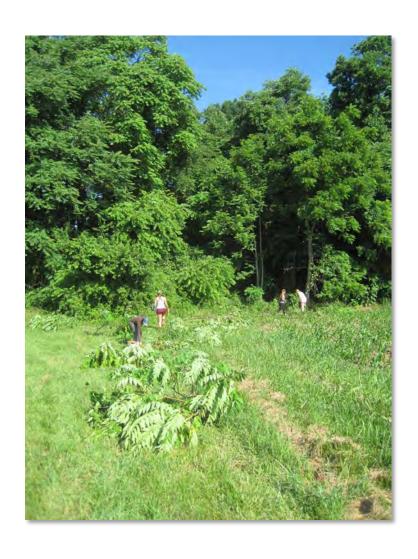
# Distribution of BMSB, its egg masses, and its parasitoids in the host tree canopy

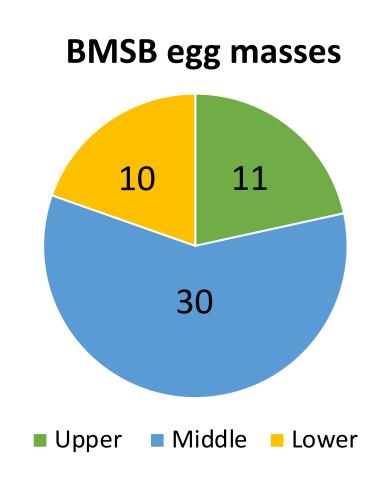


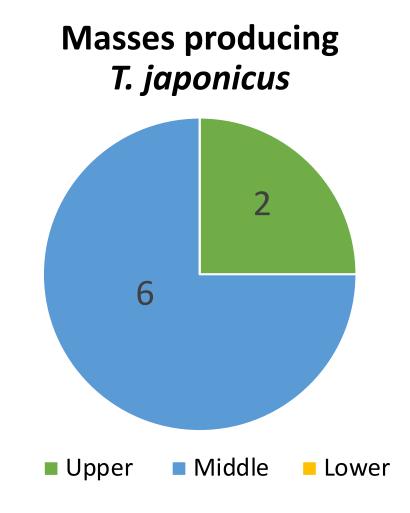




# Distribution of BMSB, its egg masses, and its parasitoids in the host tree canopy





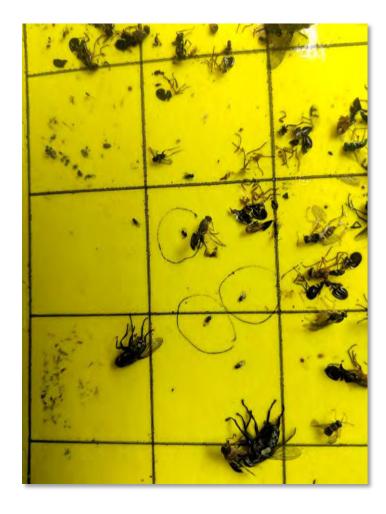


# Backfolding yellow sticky traps deployed in the mid-canopy of host trees shown to be effective for sampling *T. japonicus*

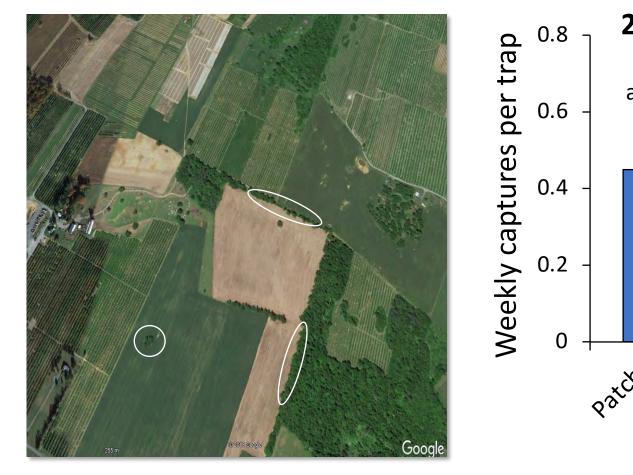
Quinn et al. J. Econ. Entomol. 2019

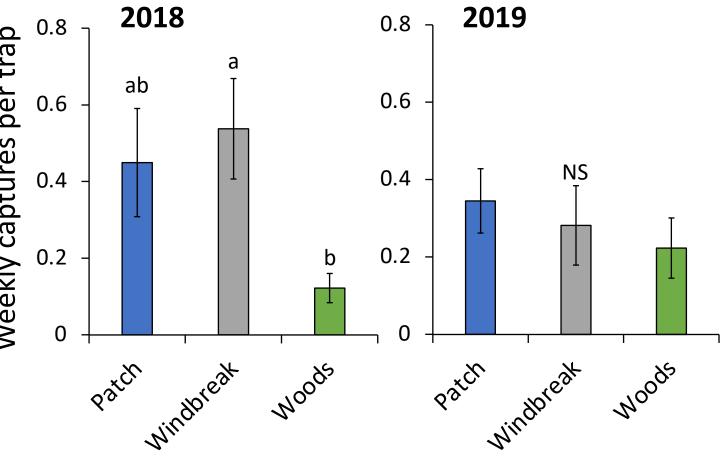






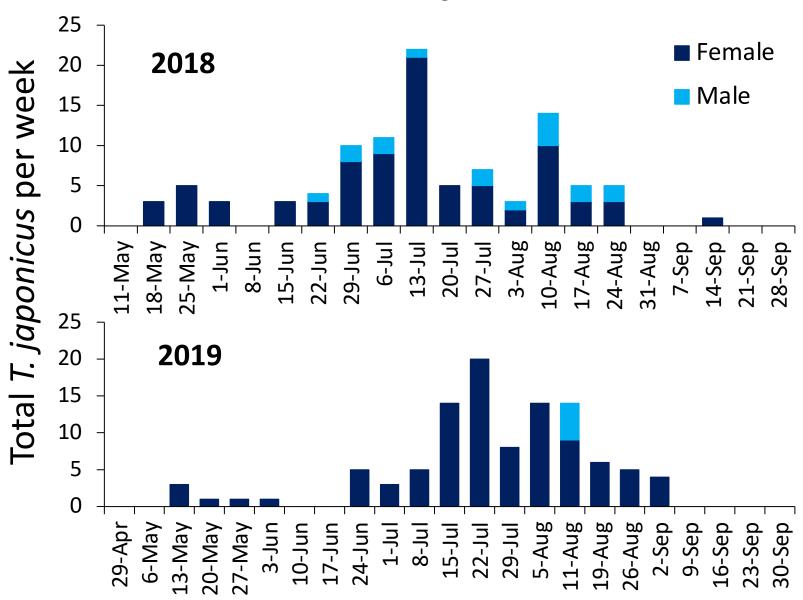
### Habitat and host plant effects and seasonal phenology





### Seasonal captures of *T. japonicus*

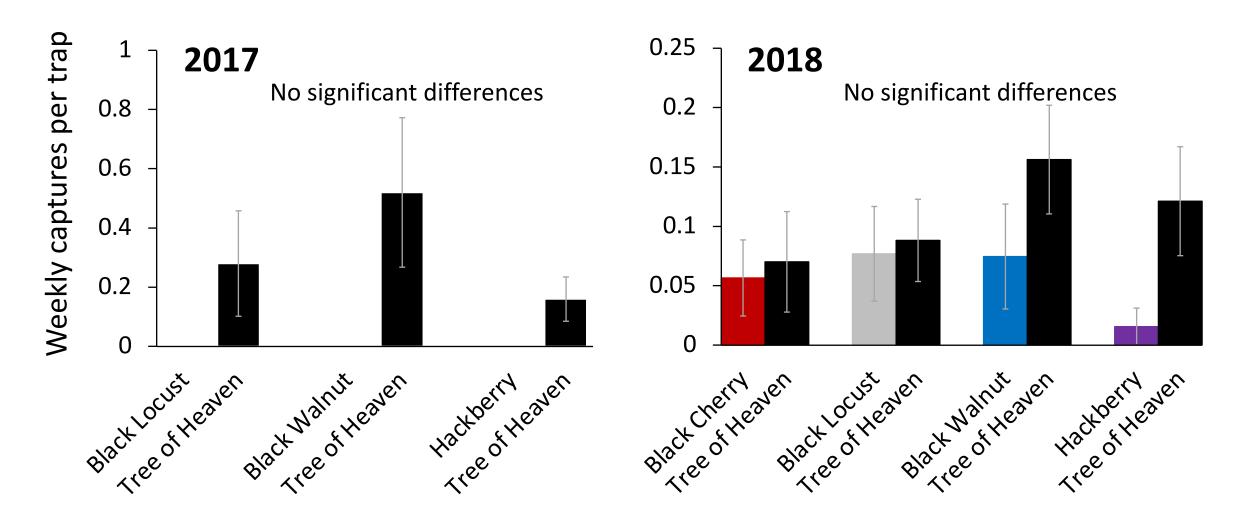
Quinn et al. 2021. Insects, doi.org/10.3390/insects12020118



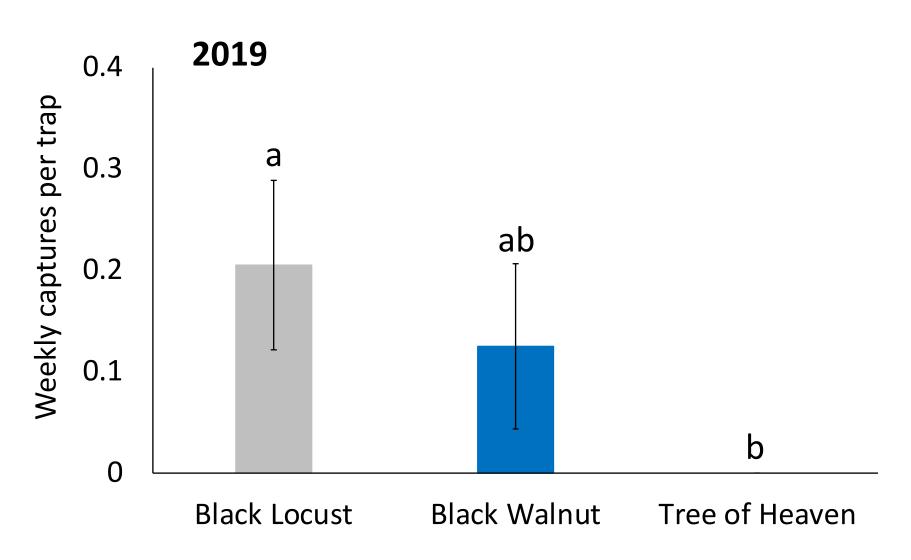
## T. japonicus captures in paired tree hosts



### T. japonicus captures in paired tree hosts

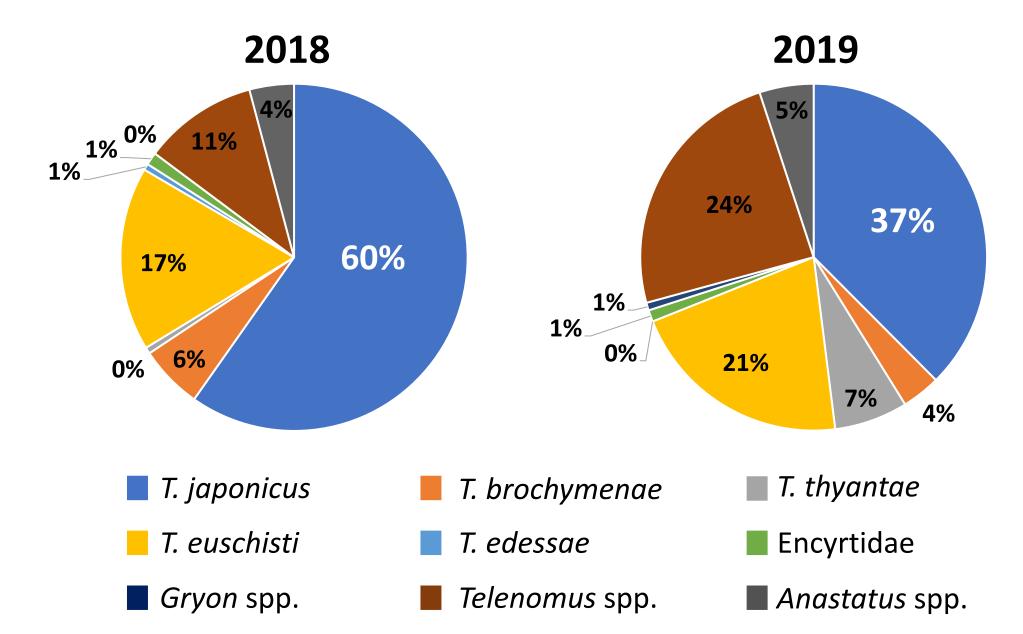


# T. japonicus captures in three tree hosts growing along a common windbreak



Quinn et al. 2021. Insects, doi.org/10.3390/insects12020118

### H. halys parasitoids captured



# Effect of olfactory stimuli on BMSB egg mass abundance and *T. japonicus* captures

### 1. Effect of pheromone lure on BMSB egg mass abundance

- Tree of heaven baited with BMSB Dual lure for two weeks
- Baited and unbaited trees felled and foliage assessed for egg masses

### 2. Effect of pheromone lure on *T. japonicus* captures

- Tree of heaven baited with BMSB Dual lure for two weeks
- Yellow sticky traps deployed in baited and unbaited trees

### 3. Effect of BMSB egg masses on *T. japonicus* captures

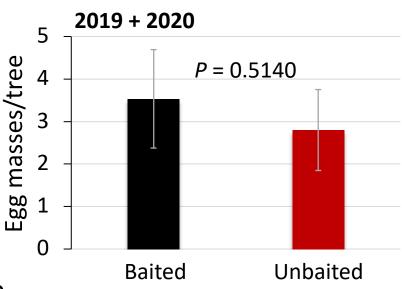
Paired yellow sticky traps baited with fresh egg masses or leaf pieces

### 4. Effect of n-tridecane on *T. japonicus* captures

Paired yellow sticky traps baited with n-tridecane or unbaited



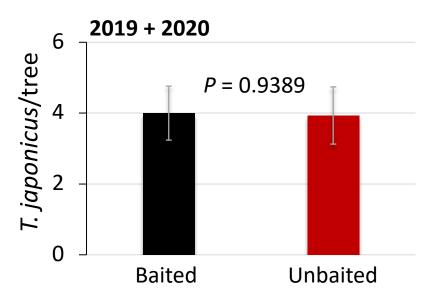




No effect of pheromone lure on egg mass abundance





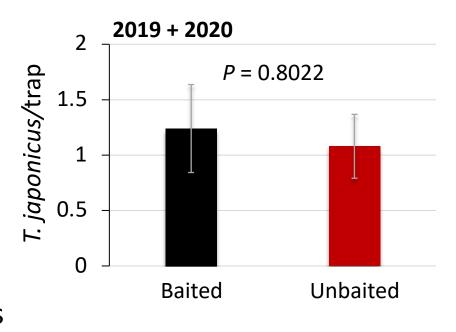


No effect of pheromone lure on *T. japonicus* captures

Dyer et al. unpublished

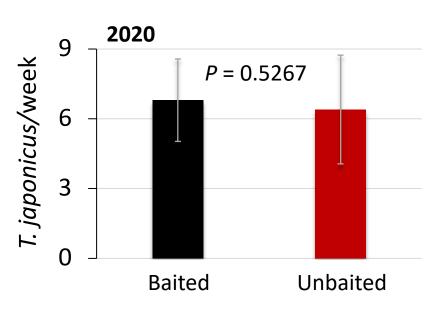


No effect of fresh egg masses on *T. japonicus* captures





No effect of n-tridecane on *T. japonicus* captures

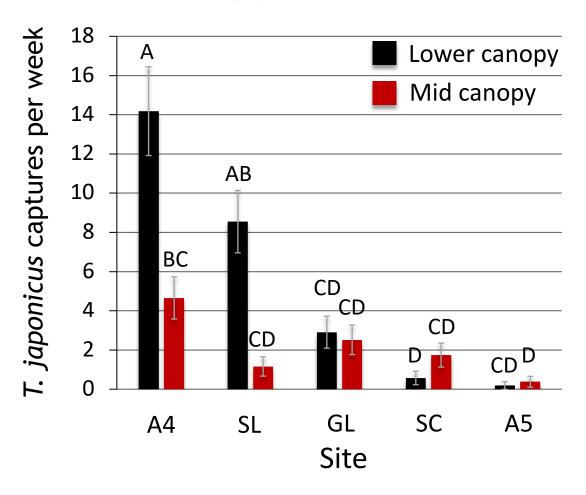


Dyer et al. unpublished

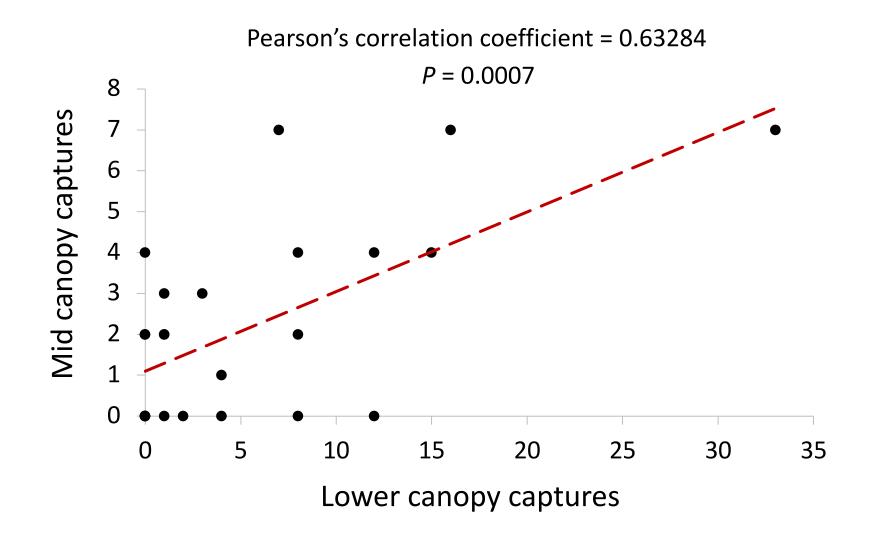


Is there an effect of trap location in the tree canopy on *T. japonicus* captures?

N = 190 *T. japonicus*; 68.9% female



### Significant correlation between captures in lower and mid canopy





Is there an effect of trap location in the tree canopy on *T. japonicus* captures?

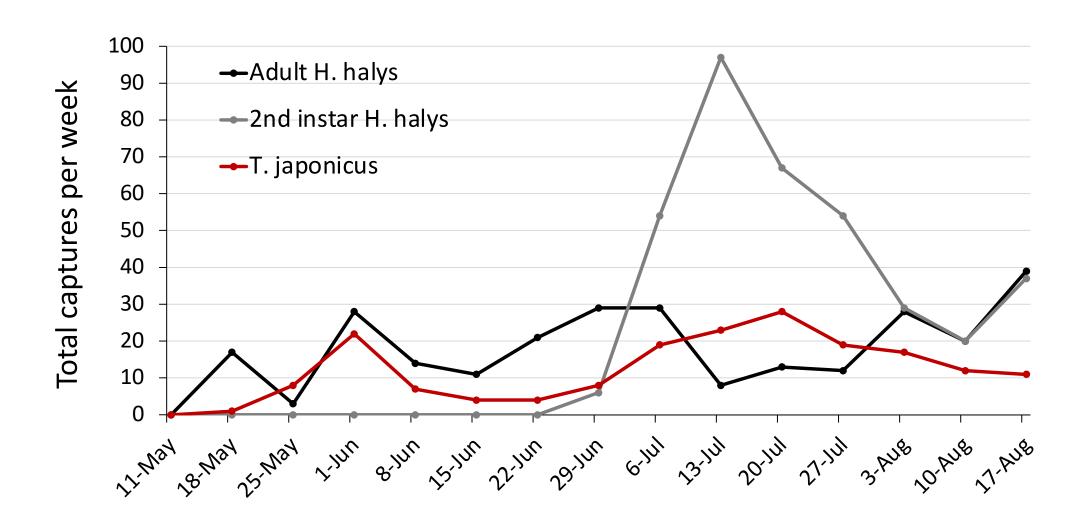
To be repeated in 2021

Are *H. halys* and *T. japonicus* captures correlated?

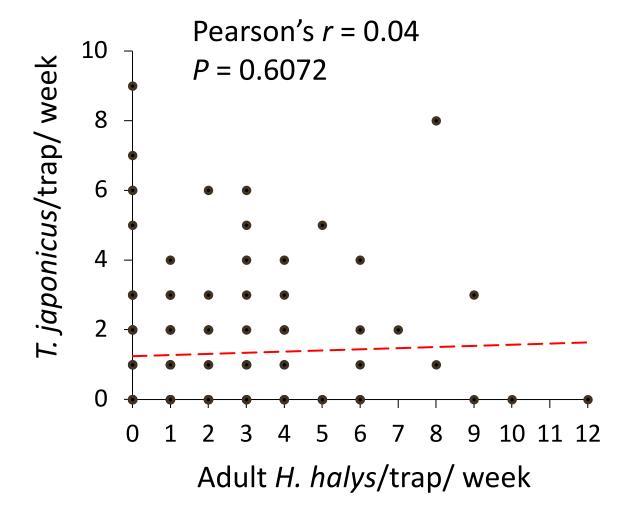
10 sites in Frederick Co., VA



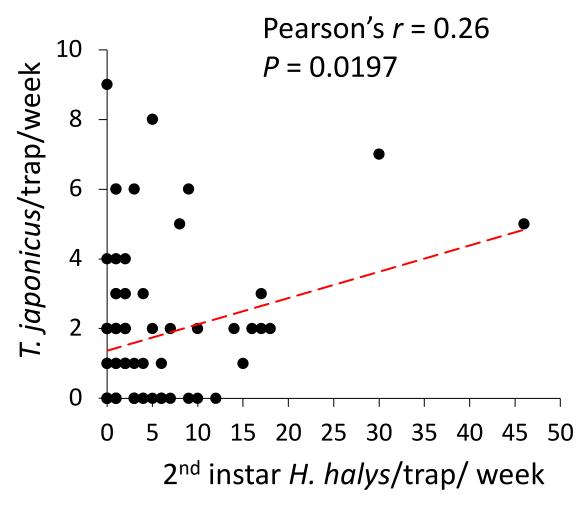
### Captures of *H. halys* adults and 2<sup>nd</sup> instars, and *T. japonicus*



### May 11 – Aug 17 (adults present)



### Jun 29 – Aug 17 (nymphs present)

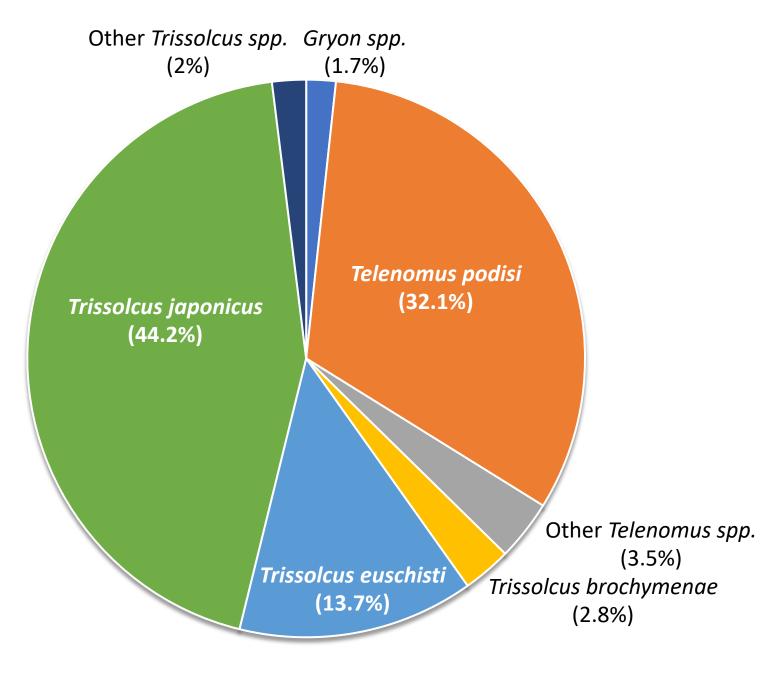


Are *H. halys* and *T. japonicus* captures correlated?

To be repeated in 2021 (15 – 20 sites)



- 1170 scelionids captured across all projects in 2020 (30 sampling sites in total)
- *T. japonicus* captured at all sampling sites in 2020













### **Additional support from:**

1. VA Dept of Ag. and Cons. Services Specialty Crop Block Grants:

301-15-161

301-17-036

301-18-021

301-20-028

2. Southern SARE Graduate Student Grant Program: RD309-137/S001521

# Thank You

# It's time for a few polling questions