

U.S. Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center  
**Coffee Berry Borer Research Update**

Robert Hollingsworth, Research Entomologist

808-959-4349

[robert.hollingsworth@ars.usda.gov](mailto:robert.hollingsworth@ars.usda.gov)



## PBARC's response to CBB

- Participated in informational meetings, along with CTAHR, HDOA, APHIS and other organizations
- Participated in Incident Command Structure set up by HDOA
- Participating on Coffee Berry Borer Task Force/Science Advisory Panel (Eric Jang, Tracie Matsumoto)
- Organized a symposium on Coffee Berry Borer held here at Waikoloa in March (Eric Jang and Robert Hollingsworth), which included the participation of a USDA-ARS expert on CBB (Fernando Vega) and an expert on the use of *Beauveria* (Stefan Jaronski, who later gave a separate presentation to Kona growers on considerations for use of *Beauveria*).
- Coordinated a grant application which included CTAHR and PBARC scientists (Tracie Matsumoto)
- Provided scientific data and testimony in support of successful *Beauveria* registration efforts which were guided by HDOA (Robert Hollingsworth, Tracie Matsumoto)

# Research Activities

- Carried out research related to freezing tolerance (Eric Jang, Robert Hollingsworth, Peter Follett, with additional cooperation from other PBARC scientists)
- On-going studies related to improved traps (Eric Jang)
- On-going flower synchronization studies (Tracie Matsumoto)
- Carried out *Beauveria* efficacy trial in heavily infested coffee in Honomalino (Robert Hollingsworth, Tracie Matsumoto, Elsie Burbano, Marc Meisner, Mark Wright)
- On-going *Beauveria* persistence and efficacy trial in Captain Cook (Tracie Matsumoto, Lisa Keith, Robert Hollingsworth)
- On-going laboratory and field trials testing feasibility of entomogenous nematodes (*Steinernema carpocapsae*) against CBB (Roxana Cabos, Robert Hollingsworth)

# Research on Freezing as a Potential Quarantine Treatment for Green Coffee



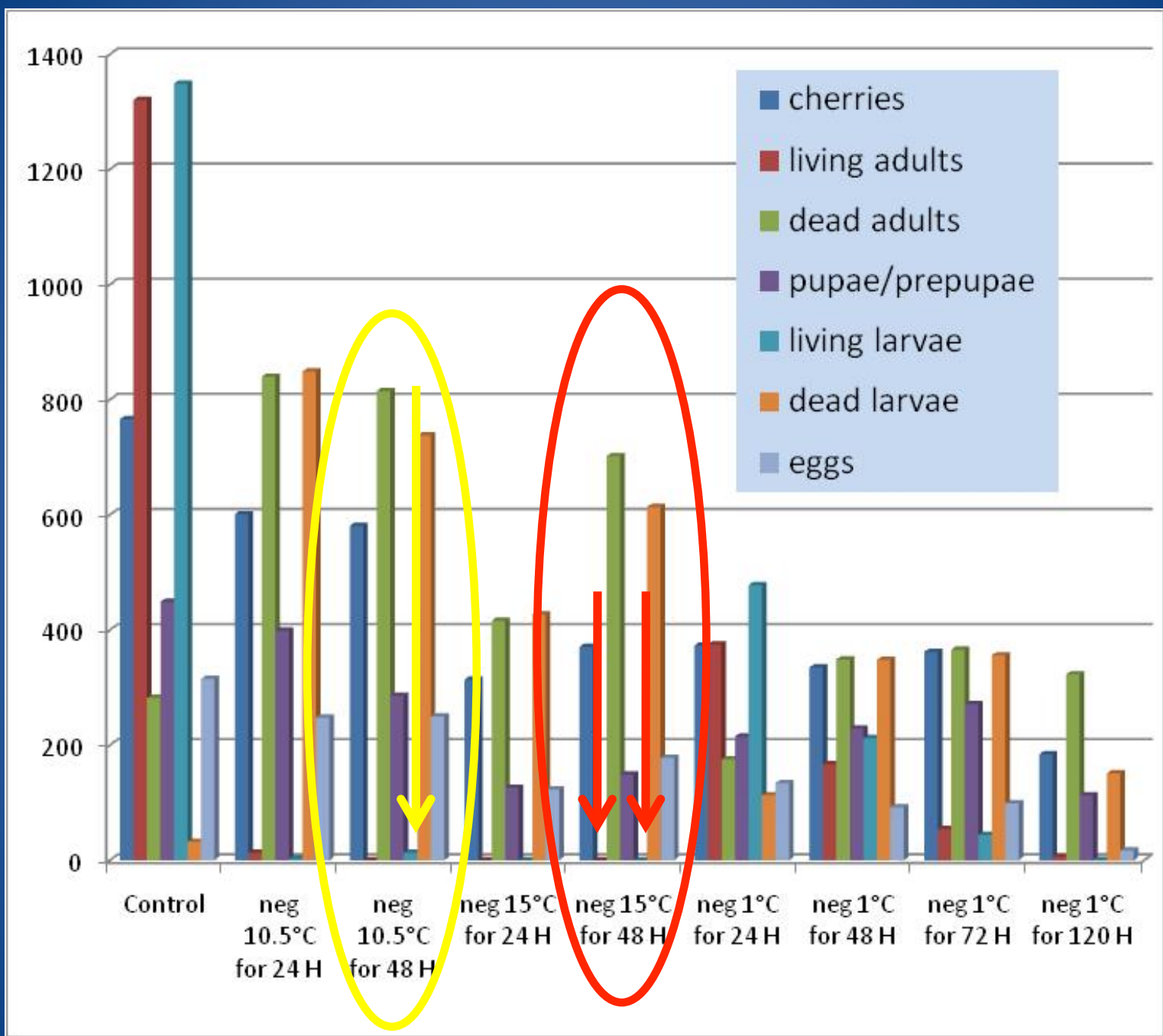
1. Cherries frozen for 1-5 days at different temperatures
2. Cherries dissected to determine survival of beetles

# Research on Freezing as a Potential Quarantine Treatment for Green Coffee: >15,000 insects examined

Coffee Berry Borer Freezing Experiment

containers	freezer	cherries	living adults	dead adults	pupae/ prepup ae	living larvae	dead larvae	eggs	sum across life stages
15	Control	766	1321	282	449	1349	32	315	2748
8	neg 10.5°C for 24 H	601	13	840	399	3	849	248	2352
8	neg 10.5°C for 48 H	581	0	815	286	13	738	250	2102
5	neg 15°C for 24 H	314	0	416	126	0	427	123	1092
5	neg 15°C for 48 H	371	0	702	149	0	614	178	1643
4	neg 1°C for 24 H	373	375	175	215	478	113	134	1490
4	neg 1°C for 48 H	335	167	349	229	212	348	92	1397
4	neg 1°C for 72 H	362	54	366	271	44	356	99	1190
4	neg 1°C for 120 H	184	6	323	113	1	151	17	611
57	TOTALS	3887	1936	4268	2237	2100	3628	1456	15625

Note: Containers were small, round ventilated plastic cups (about 500 ml) with a 2-cm thick layer of plaster of Paris/activated charcoal at 9:1 ratio in the bottom. Containers were half-filled with coffee cherries before being placed into freezer.



# Coffee Berry Borer Trapping (Eric Jang, Lori Carvalho)

## Trap Types:

**Scentry 1** = paper trap w/ sloped roof

**Scentry 2** = paper trap w/ flat roof. Developed by Scentry Biologicals, Billings, Montana

**Bucket 1** = one entry window (15cm tall, 15 cm in diameter, 7.5 X 7.5 cm window; red pepper Krylon Fusion spray paint)

**Bucket 3** = three entry windows

**Brocap**® = developed by CIRAD and PROCAFE

## New area of research:

- (1) Pher- emit dispenser
  - (2) Scentry Sticky traps
- Evaluations are on-going



**Scentry 1**



**Scentry 2**



**Bucket 1**



**Brocap**

# Coffee Berry Borer Trapping

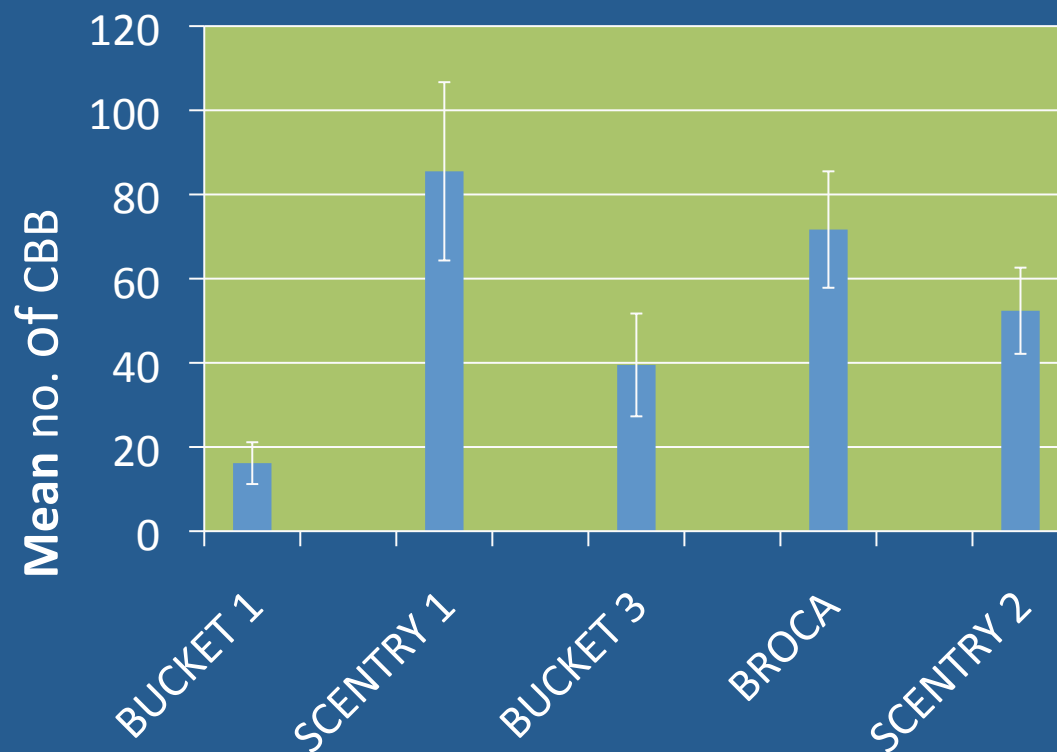
**Location:** Coffee Farm in Kainaliu. Traps were placed 15 m apart

**Lures:** Coffee Berry Borer Pouches from Scentry (11g)

**Trapping period:** April – July 2011

## Results :

Scentry 1 and Scentry 2 paper traps did just as well as the plastic Brocap® trap. The bucket traps did not capture as many CBB as the other trap types but trap captures were increased with three entry windows compared to one entry window.





# Control of Coffee Flowering to reduce CBB levels in field – Tracie Matsumoto



Without sanitation coffee berries will always be present in this field



# *Beauveria* efficacy trial in heavily infested coffee in Honomalino



# *Beauveria* efficacy trial in heavily infested coffee in Honomalino

*Sprayed:*

(1) **Mycotrol** (at 1 qt/acre)  
+ **EcoSpreader** (silicone spreader),  
~350 ml spray solution  
(15 seconds) per tree

- Versus -

(2) **Unsprayed**

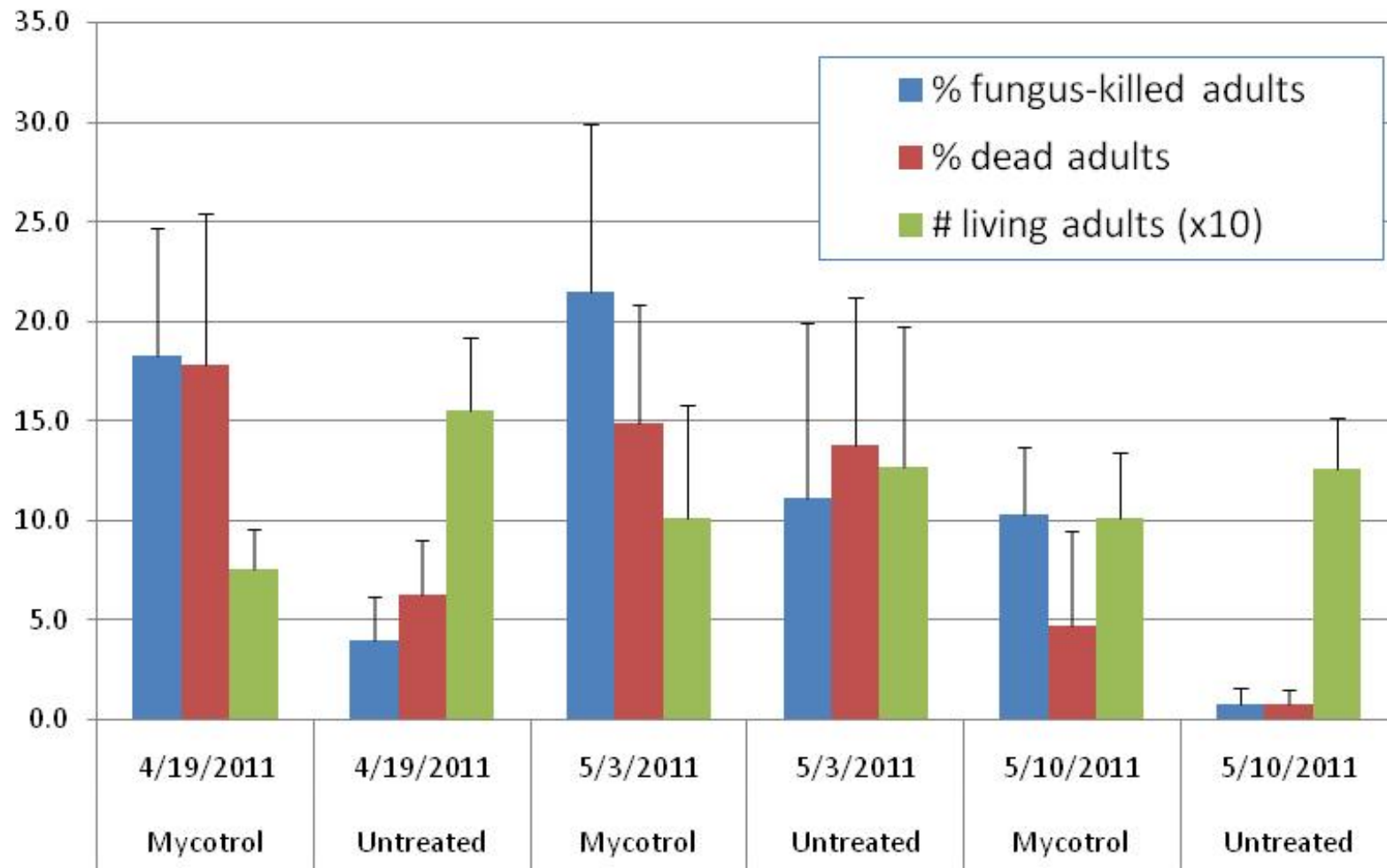
*Harvested cherries the next day.*

• *Held the cherries in the lab for 7 days, then started dissections*

*Second and third collections of cherries from same trees made 2 and 3 weeks later; started dissecting the day after collection*



# *Beauveria* efficacy trial in heavily infested coffee in Honomalino



# Field Plot: Greenwell 1

*Beauveria* persistence (Lisa Keith), Strain Identification (Tracie Matsumoto) and Efficacy (Robert Hollingsworth)



10 trees

3 trees

Spray rate = 1.5 qt/acre

Control; "no spray"

# Field Sample (Tree 6)

- Lisa Keith



high



middle

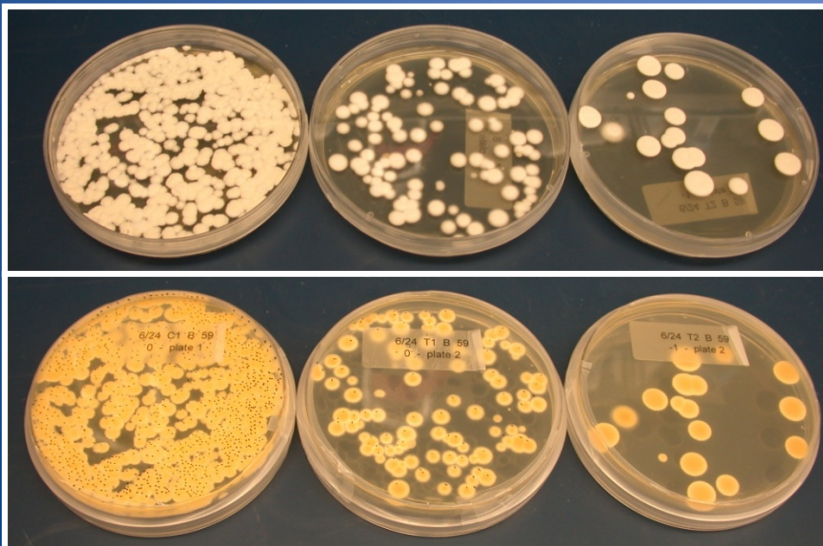
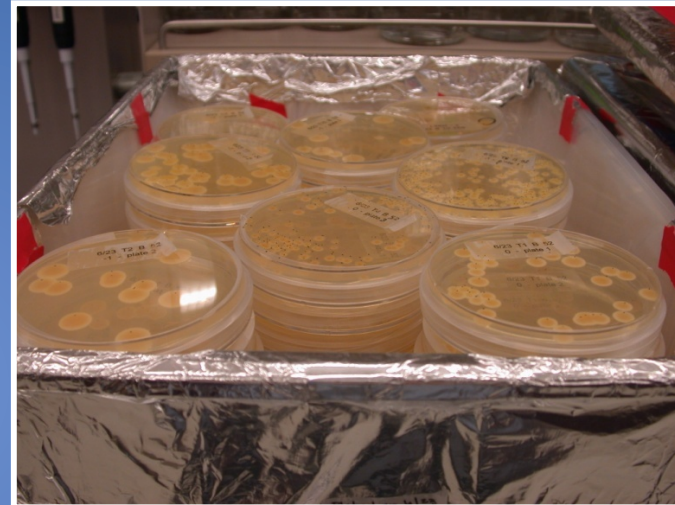


low



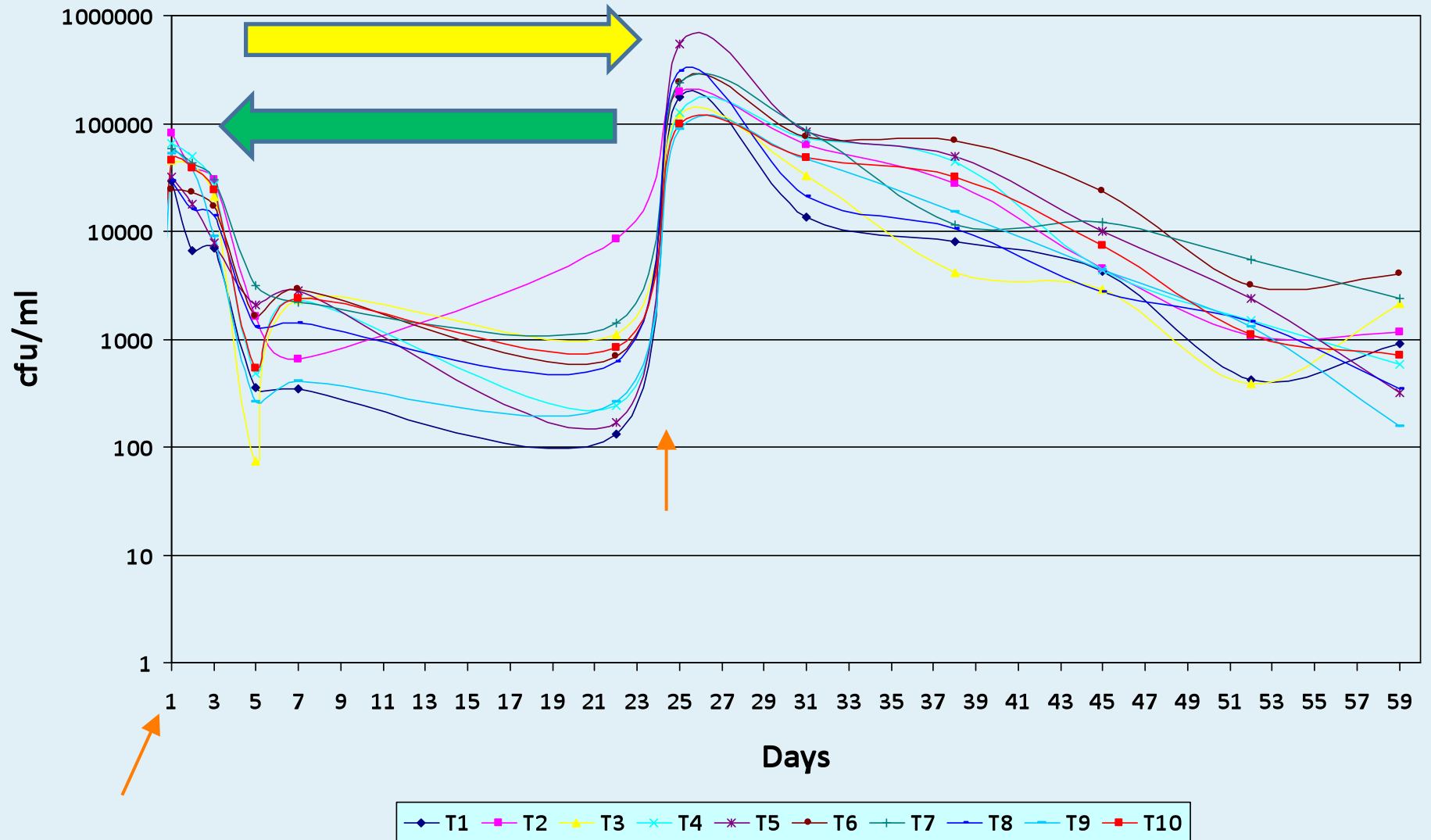
1 sample = 15 berries  
5 berries/branch

# Laboratory Results - Lisa Keith



***B. bassiana* GHA field persistence on coffee berries at Greenwell 1**

→ [Sprayed on Day 0 (4/25/11), Day 24 (5/19/11)]



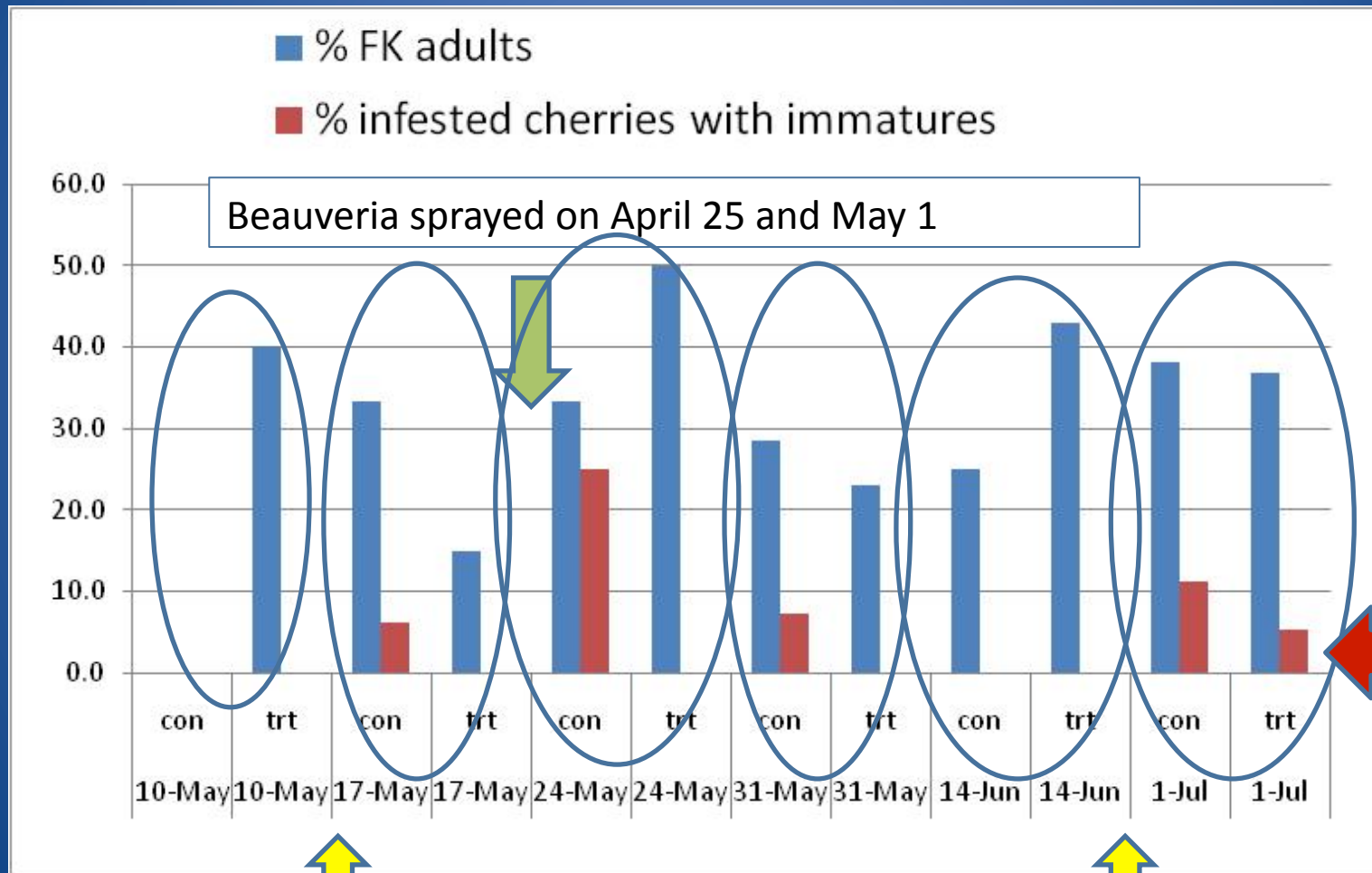
15 berries randomly selected from 3 branches/tree/time point; washed with 1x wt/vol water + Silwet; diluted, plated & counted



# GHA Strain Field Persistence Results

- Trends indicate:
  - *B. bassiana* GHA strain persisted longer in the field than expected (detected 23 days post 1<sup>st</sup> spray and 35 days post 2<sup>nd</sup> spray)
  - ~ 1-2 log GHA decrease within first week after sprays
  - Cumulative effect observed after second spray (field baseline for GHA became higher)

# % fungus-killed adults and % cherries with immatures – Robert Hollingsworth



Timing of accidental sprays

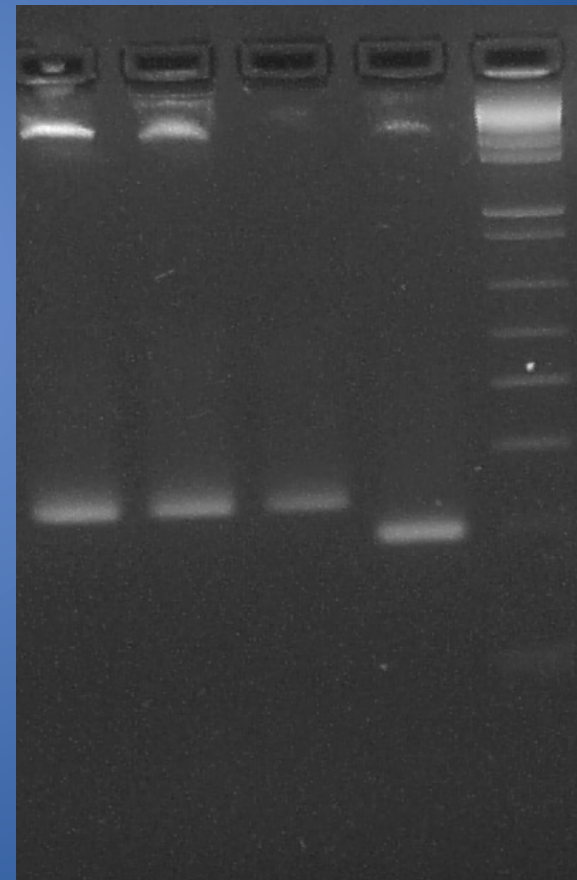


# GHA Strain Molecular Identification

- Tracie Matsumoto

- In progress:
  - Look at the relative representation of GHA vs “native” *Beauveria* isolates on coffee berries
  - Determine the relative numbers of beetles killed by GHA vs “native” *Beauveria* isolates

“native” strains GHA mol wt



Primer set Ba12

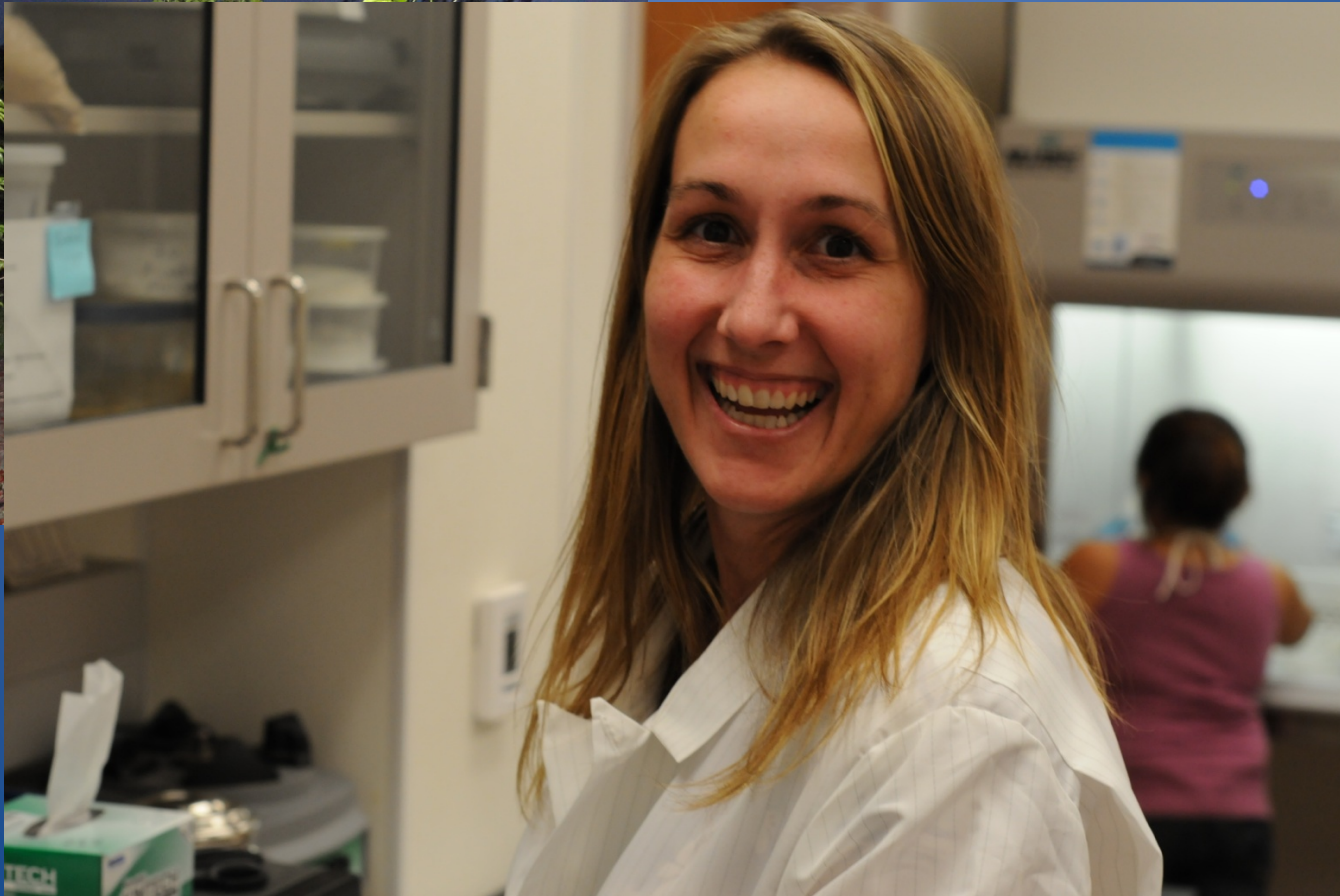
# Entomopathogenic Nematodes

- Roxana Cabos, Robert Hollingsworth



Juveniles exiting  
body of  
decomposing  
CBB larvae

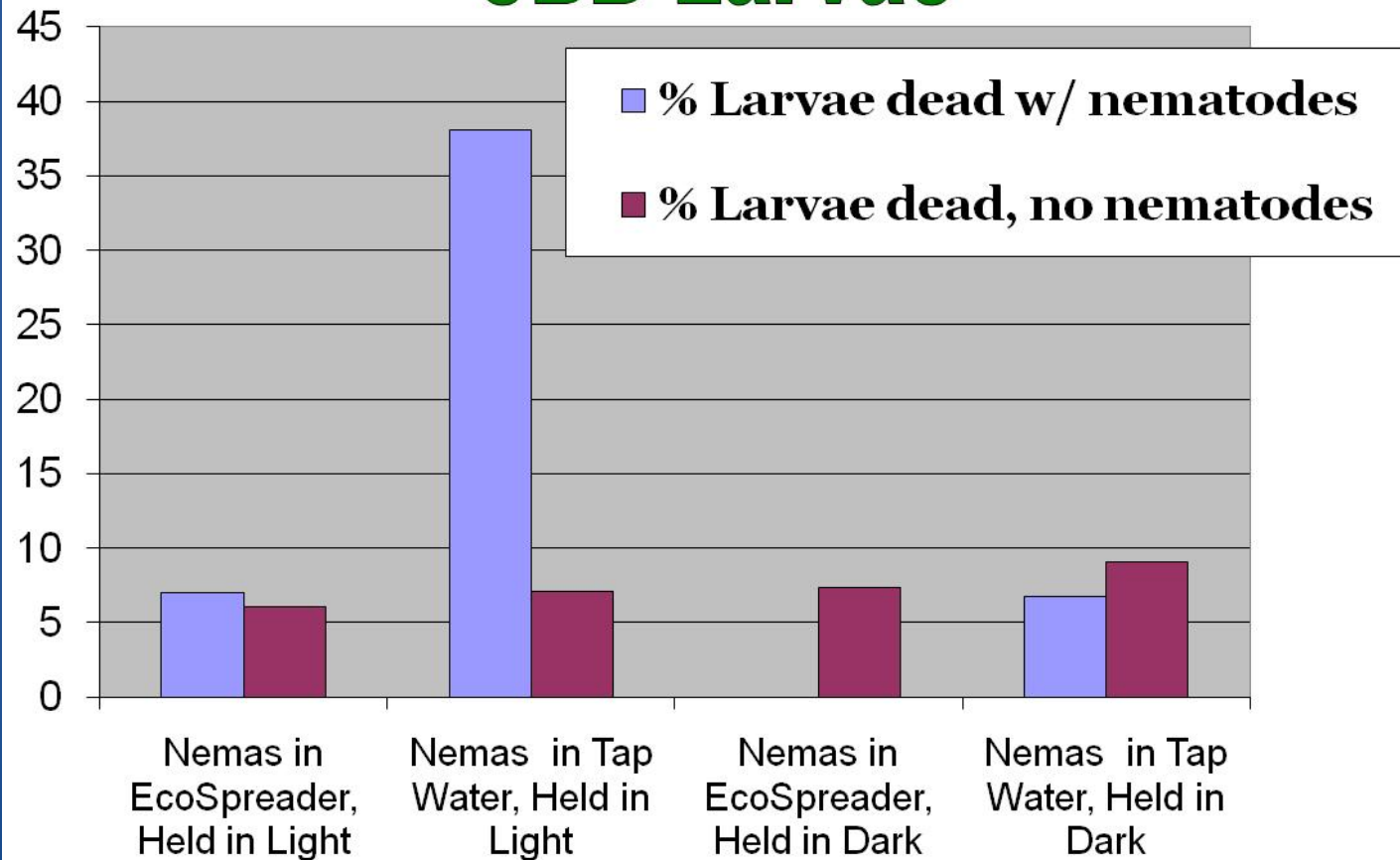
# Nematode field test was a bust



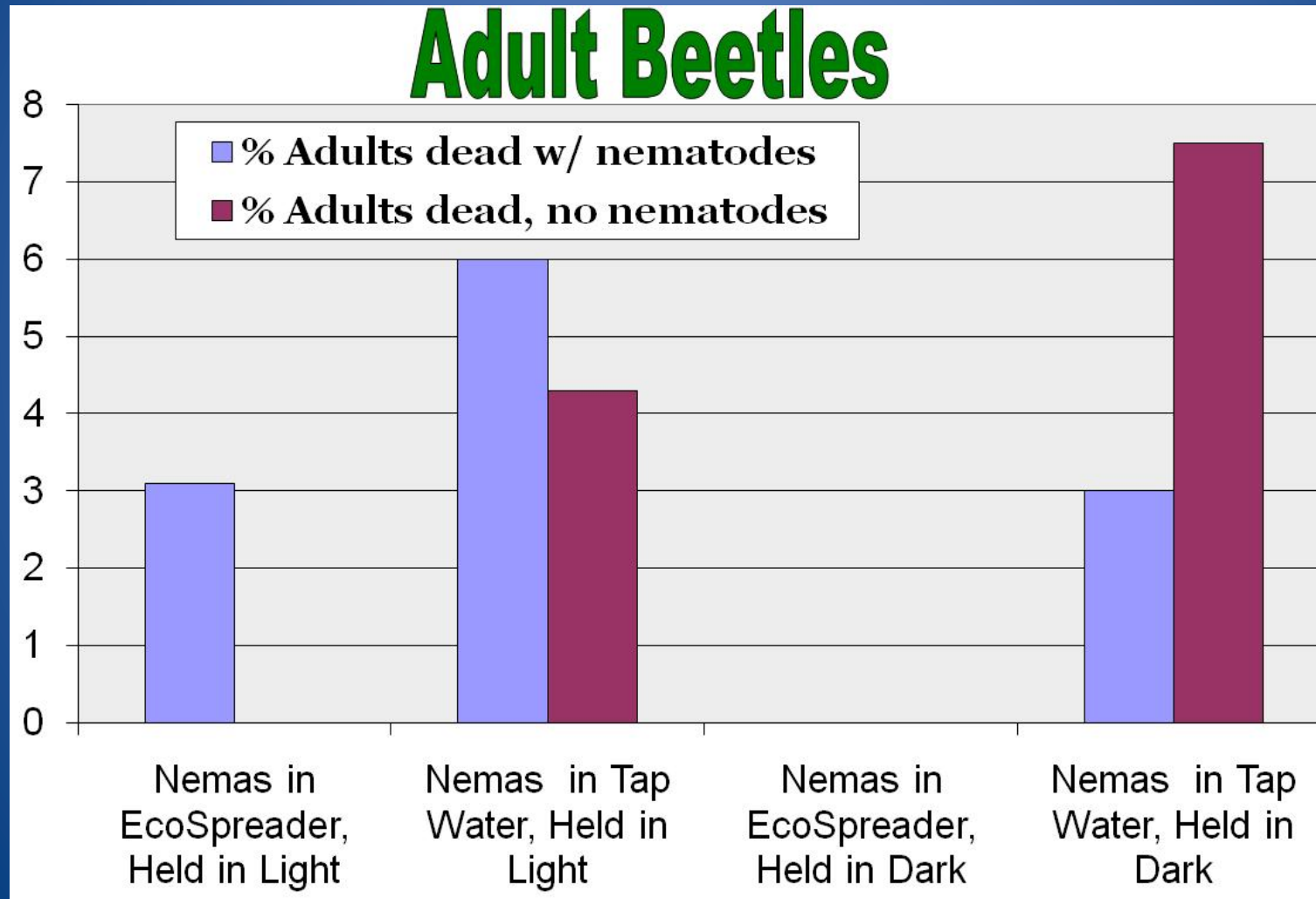
**Roxana Cabos**

# Efficacy of nematodes depending on light and liquid carrier

## CBB Larvae



# Efficacy of nematodes depending on light and liquid carrier



# Coffee Berry Borer Larva in Action

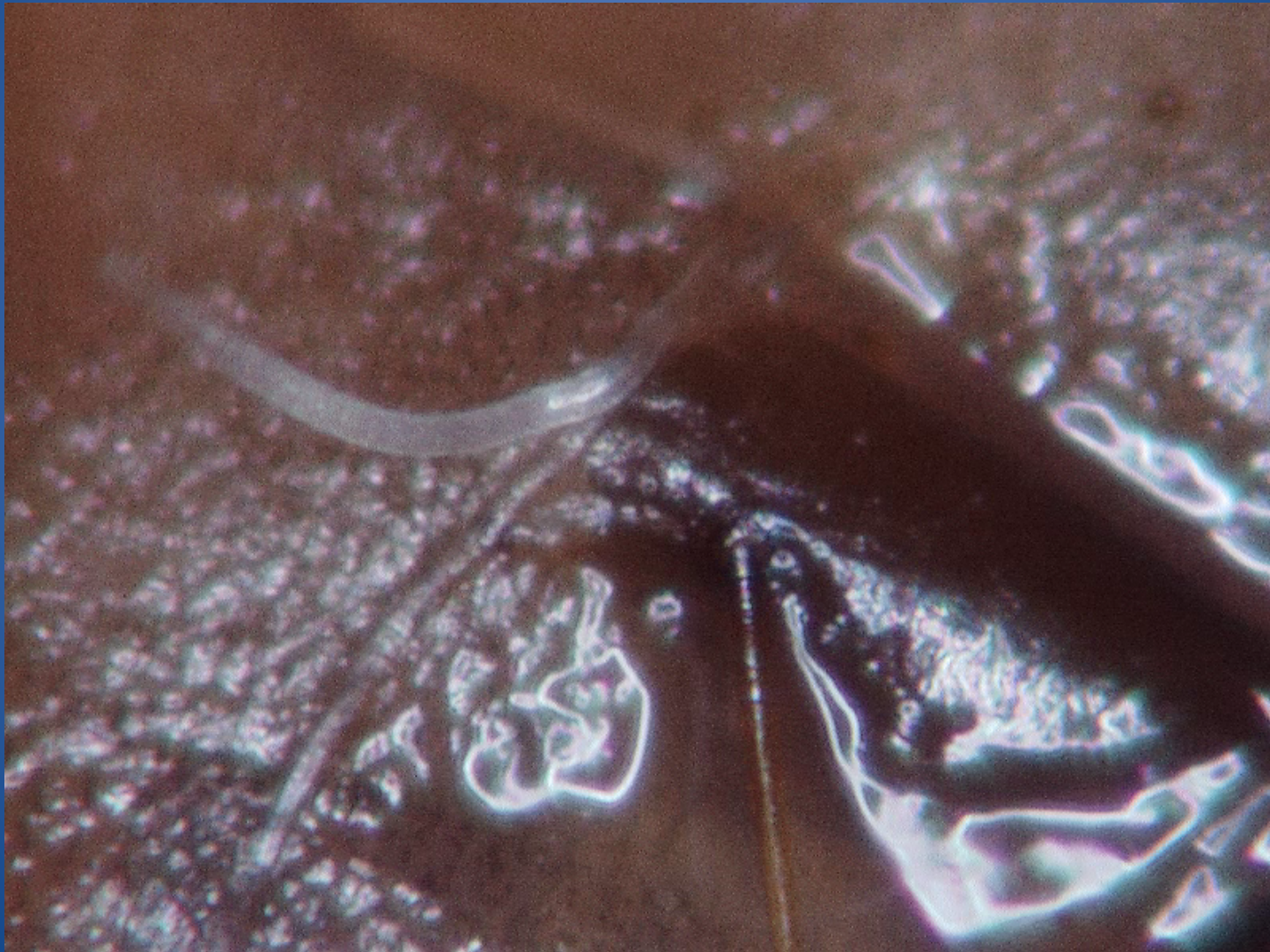




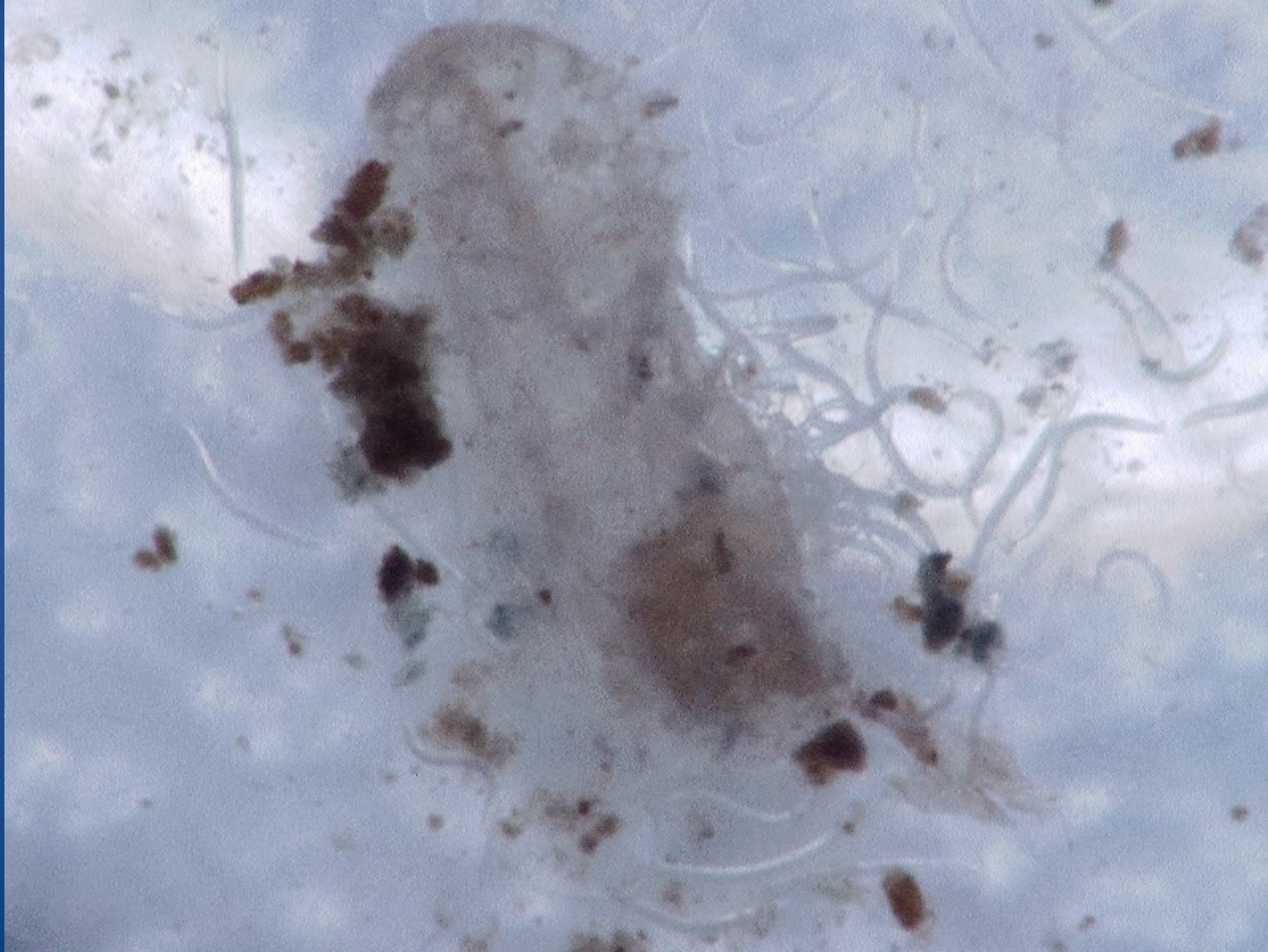
# Nematodes getting ready to break free of Mom



# Nematode searching for Host Insect



# Nematodes wiggling after spilling out of dead CBB larva





**Adult**



**Larva of predatory thrips**

# Predator Thrips

*Karnyothrips flavipes*, a predator thrips, is a biological control agent for Coffee Berry Borer in Kenya.

*Karnyothrips* lay eggs inside infested coffee beans. Adults and larva thrips feed on CBB eggs and larvae.

# Monitoring effectiveness of naturally occurring and sprayed *Beauveria*

- If anyone within the Captain Cook – Holualoa area is interested in having us monitor levels of *Beauveria* infection in infested coffee cherries, call Robert Hollingsworth at 808-959-4349 or write to [robert.hollingsworth@ars.usda.gov](mailto:robert.hollingsworth@ars.usda.gov)
- (1) We will collect and dissect 20 coffee cherries every two weeks from an ordinary part of your field and also from unsprayed “experimental control” trees you agree to leave alone
- (2) We will ask you when you last sprayed *Beauveria*
- (3) We will dissect the cherries and let you know the percentage of beetles which are fungus-killed

**We are only looking for 3-4 farms**

# Acknowledgments:

- Guidance and assistance from US-PBARC Center Director **Dennis Gonsalves**, HDOA Plant Industry Administrator **Lyle Wong** and Plant Pest Control Branch Manager **Neil Reimer**, CTAHR Special Research Director and Entomologist **Ken Grace**, UDSA-ARS Entomologist **Fernando Vega**, USDA-ARS Entomologist **Stefan Jaronski**, and coffee growers **Pepe Miranda**, **Tom Greenwell**, and **Andres Magana**