Impact of semi-natural habitat restoration in agroecosystems on pest and beneficial insect biodiversity

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Abstract: Semi-natural habitat enhancements on farmland are a potential source of ecosystem services including supporting beneficial insect populations but may also serve as a reservoir for crop associated pests. During the 2020 growing season, pest and beneficial insects were collected in different habitat enhancements, including grassland set-asides, pollinator seed mixes, hedgerows, and control field margins, across 28 field sites in Delta, British Columbia, Canada. Biodiversity surveys included a focus on the agricultural pest of berries and small fruit, *Drosophila suzukii*, and associated parasitoid wasps. Data collected will contribute towards a better understanding of the effects of these habitat amendments on insect biodiversity, pest pressure, and natural biological control.

Bio: Matt was born in Toronto but grew up in Simi Valley, California. Throughout the completion of his B. Sc. in biology at the University of British Columbia, he was exposed to and developed a passion for insect ecology and sustainable agriculture. Matt joined the Plant-Insect Evolution and Ecology lab in January of 2020 in the plant science program, pursing an M. Sc. Degree under the supervision of Dr. Juli Carrillo.