NO MOW MAY

A review of the facts and status with information on 2-R-23

Israel Del Toro Ph.D.- Ecology and Environmental Science
District 4 Alderman

WHY WE DO THIS?

Community Education of Environmental Stewardship

Conservation of Biodiversity based on transparent scientific data

Lead by example in our cities

THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD: PROCESS & TRANSPARENCY

PeerJ

No Mow May lawns have higher pollinator richness and abundances: An engaged community provides floral resources for pollinators

Israel Del Toro[1] and Relena R. Ribbons[2]

[1] Biology, Lawrence University, Appleton, WI, United States of America
[2] Geosciences, Lawrence University, Appleton, WI, United States of America

Open-Access publication of transparent review history,

data, and analyses

https://peerj.com/articles/10021/

PeerJ

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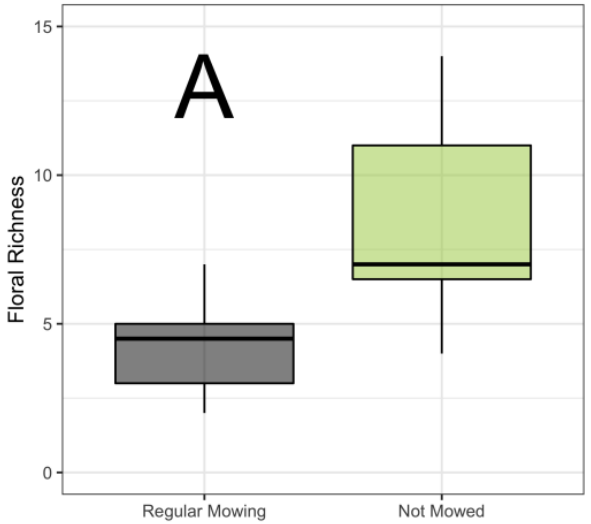

MAIN FINDINGS

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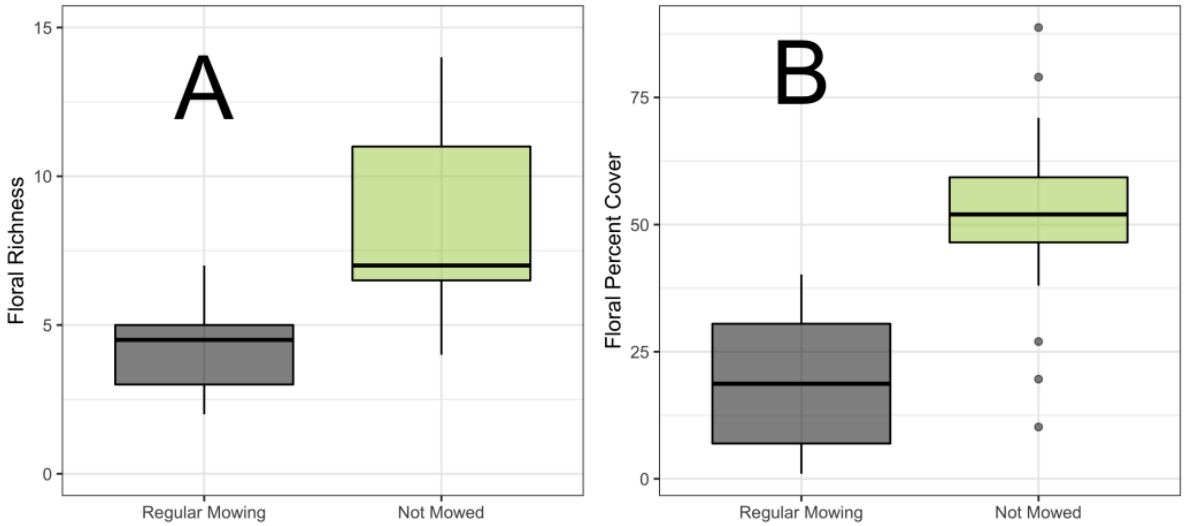

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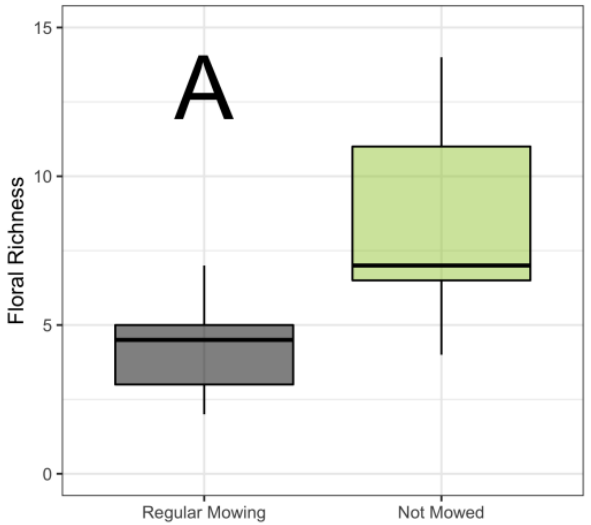

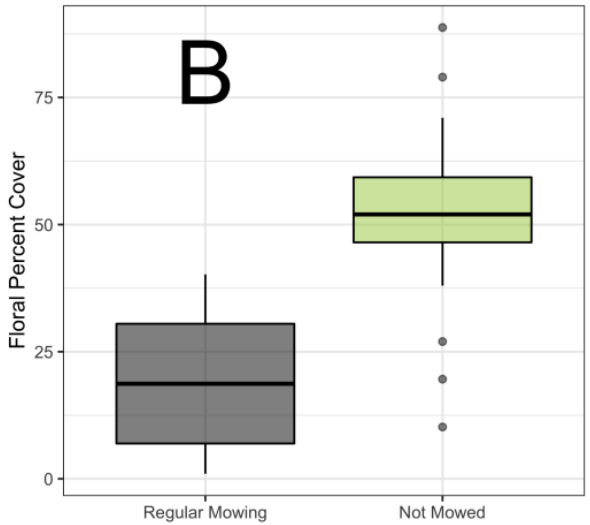

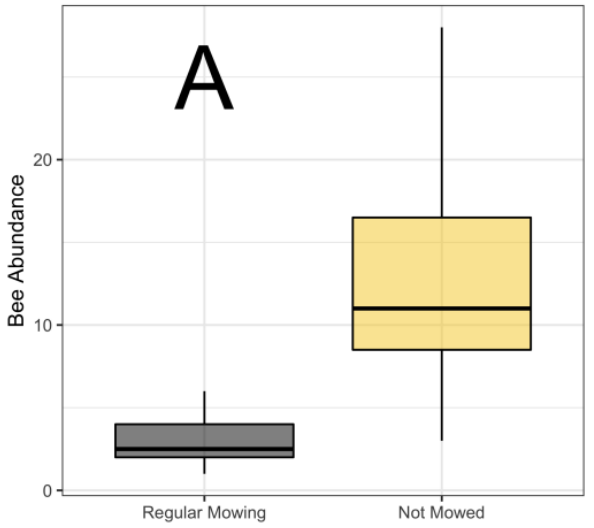

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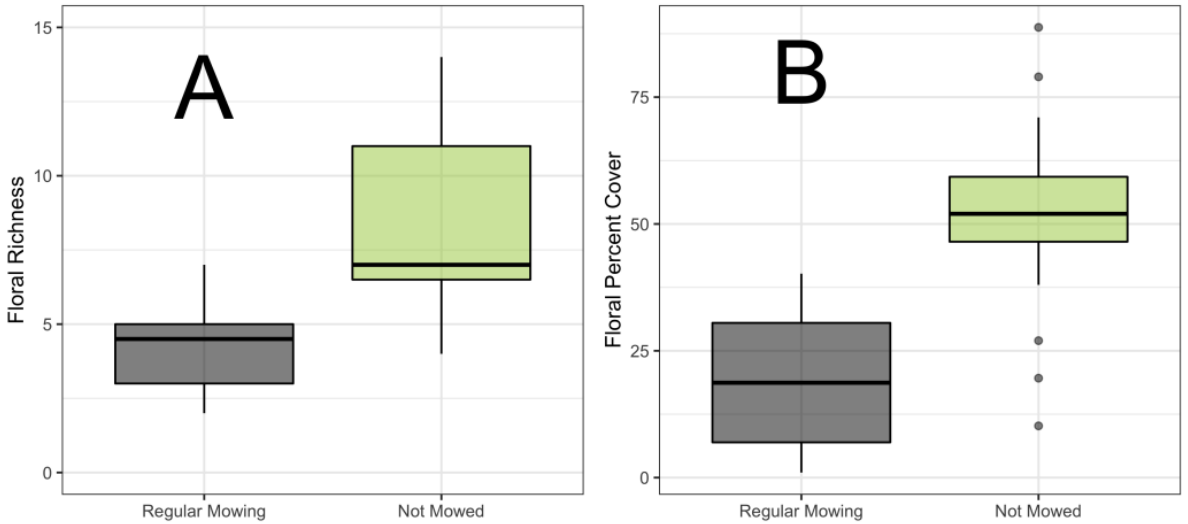

Figure 2 Boxplot of floral richness and percent cover comparisons. Boxplot showing higher median floral density (A) and richness (B) in No Mow May lawns ($n = 20$) relative to regularly mowed areas ($n = 15$).

Full-size DOI: 10.7717/peerj.10021/fig-2

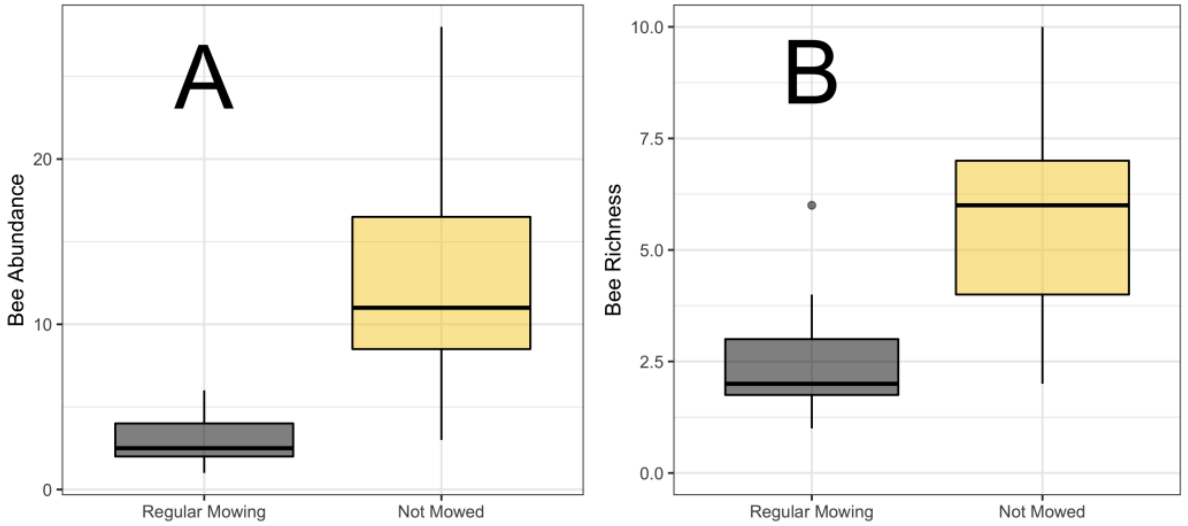

Figure 3 Boxplot of bee abundance and richness. Boxplot showing higher median bee abundance (A) and richness (B) in No Mow May lawns ($n = 20$) relative to regularly mowed areas ($n = 15$).

ACTUAL PEER-CRITICISM OF THE 2020 STUDY

Review Team:

Brock Harpur Ph.D.- Purdue University
Susannah Lerman Ph.D - US Forest Service
Christopher Watson Ph.D- Parks Canada
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PARK TO LAWN COMPARISONS

Unable to standardize for area and sampling effort

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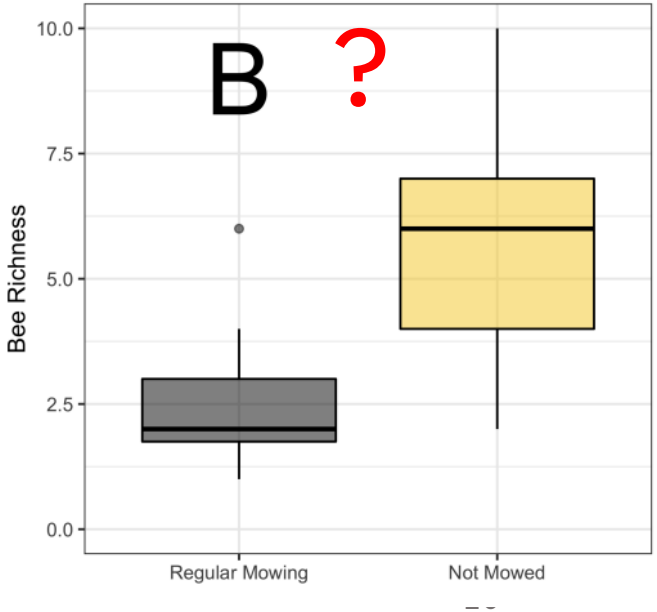
PARK TO LAWN COMPARISONS

Unable to standardize for area and sampling effort

POSSIBLE MISIDENTIFICATIONS & LACK OF COLLECTED SPECIMENS

Some species may be difficult to ID using capture release methods



SOLUTION: A FOLLOW UP STUDY IN 2021

PRO

Standardized for area sampled with a paired study design. With rigorous analyses.

PRO

Direct Lawn: Lawn comparisons

CON

Multiple observers and use of citizen science data

PRO

Larger geographic coverage and reproducibility

DECISION TO RETRACT TO INCLUDE NEW ANALYSES AND IMPROVE ON DEFICIENCIES

New Data=New Analyses= New Paper

Retraction: No Mow May lawns have higher pollinator richness and abundances: An engaged community provides floral resources for pollinators

PeerJ Editorial Office

November 18, 2022

› Author and article information

Retraction: Del Toro I, Ribbons RR. 2020. No Mow May lawns have higher pollinator richness and abundances: An engaged community provides floral resources for pollinators. PeerJ 8:e10021 https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.10021

After finding several potential inconsistencies in data handling and reporting, the authors and editorial team have agreed to retract this article with the opportunity for re-evaluation should the authors choose to submit a new version.

SOLUTION: A FOLLOW UP STUDY IN 2021

DIRECT LAWN: LAWN COMPARISONS

Standardized for area sampled with a paired study design

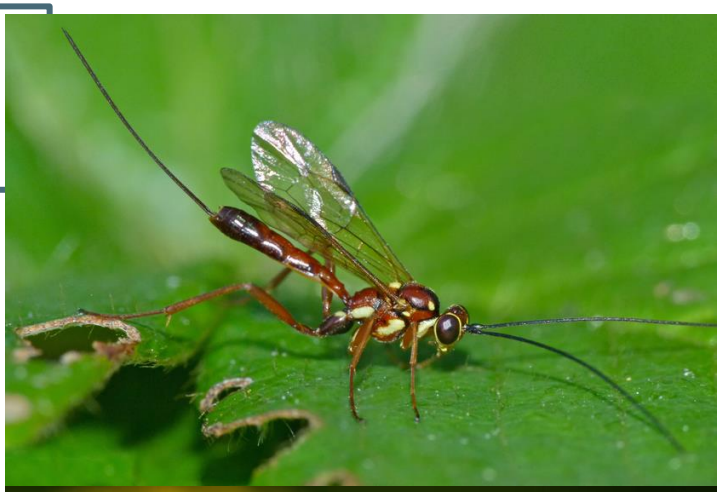
SAMPLES WERE HARVESTED & IDENTIFIED

39 Citizen Scientist Participants collecting observations at 78 sites

37 Species of Bees sampled

Diversity and abundance continues to be high in no mow lawns.

Data on additional insect groups



Rare, endangered bee found in Appleton

A Lawrence University biology professor says the species hasn't been seen before in Northeast Wisconsin

Rusty patched bumble bee on flowers at downtown Appleton home (Lavanya Murali)

By WBAY news staff

Published: Jul. 22, 2021 at 12:52 PM CDT

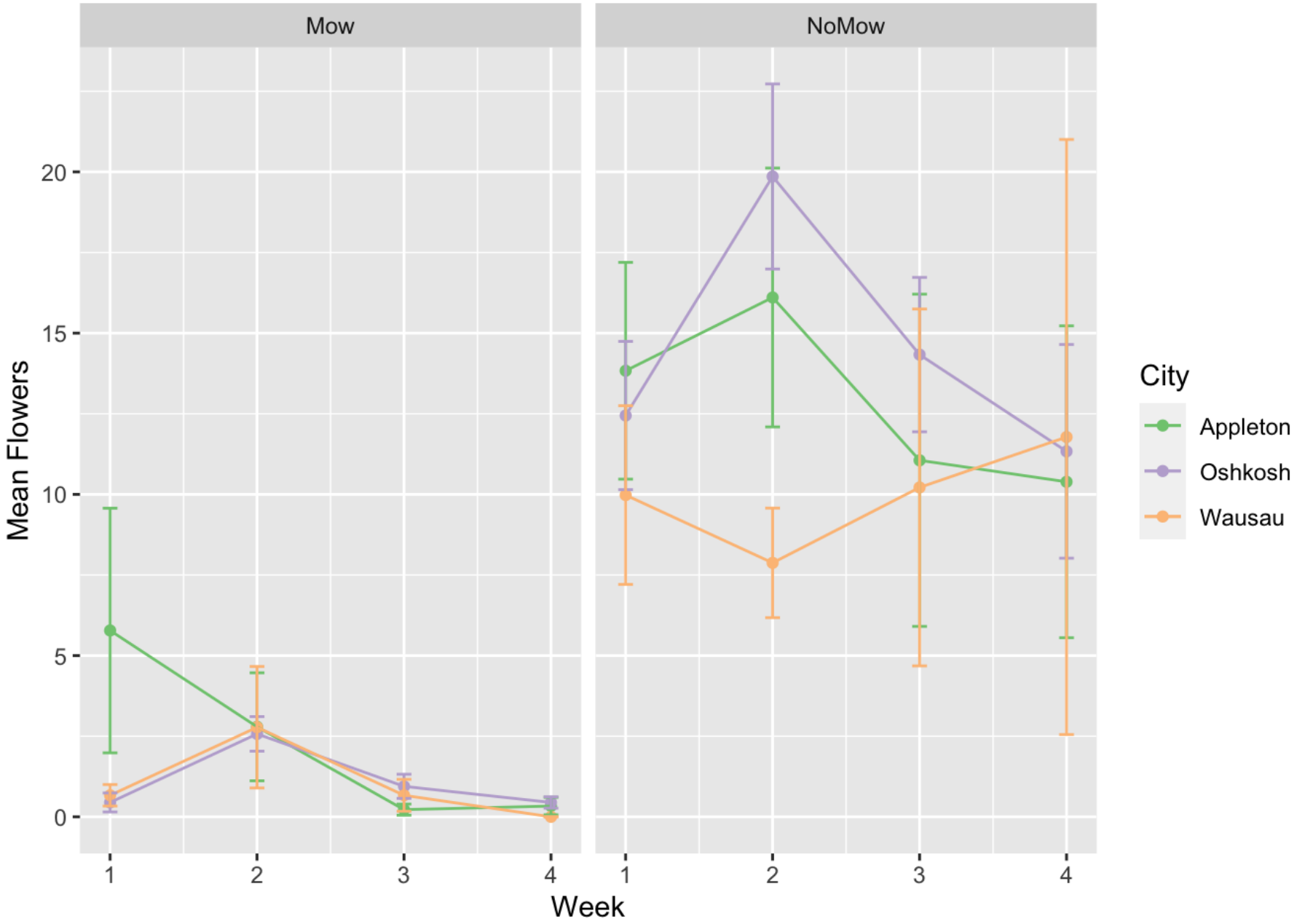
APPLETON, Wis. (WBAY) - An endangered bee has been found in Appleton.

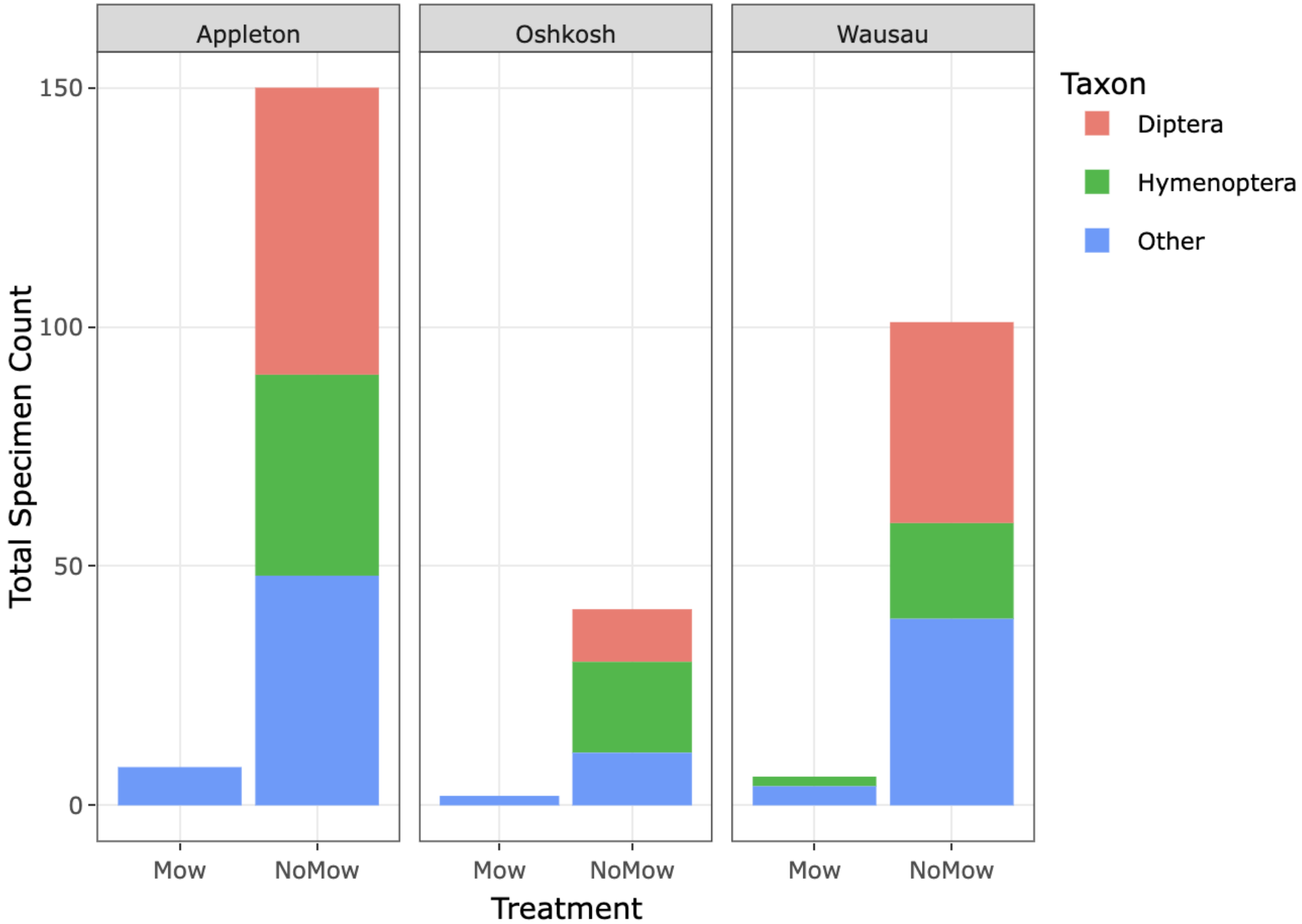
SOLUTION: A FOLLOW UP STUDY IN 2021

DIRECT LAWN: LAWN COMPARISONS

Standardized for area sampled with a paired study design. With rigorous analyses.

3 to 10X higher flowering resources!




Appleton
Oshkosh
Wausau
150
100
50
0
Total Specimen Count
Mow
NoMow
Treatment
Taxon
Diptera
Hymenoptera
Other

NO MOW MAY IS JUST ONE PIECE TO THE PUZZLE FOR BEING BETTER STEWARDS OF OUR ENVIRONMENT, CITY AND BIODIVERSITY

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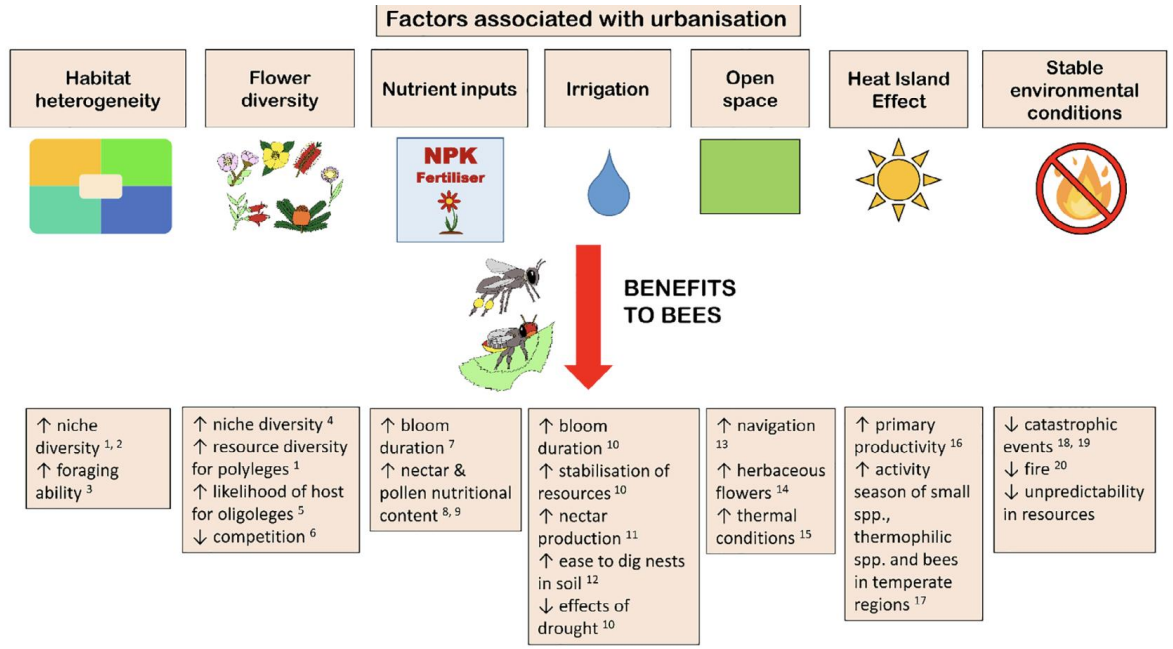
Literature on biodiversity and disturbance in urban habitat

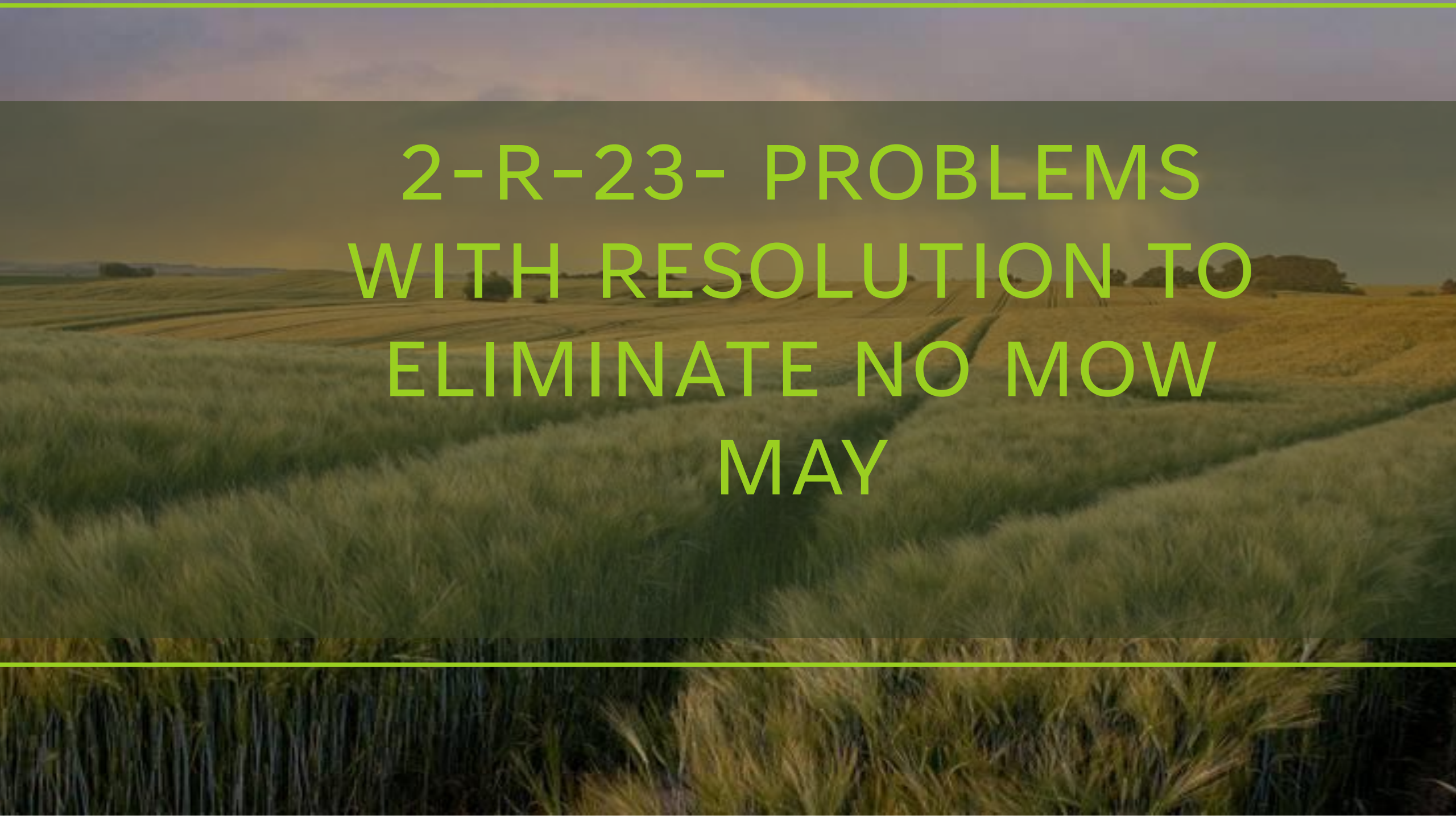
REVIEW ARTICLE

Insect Conservation and Diversity

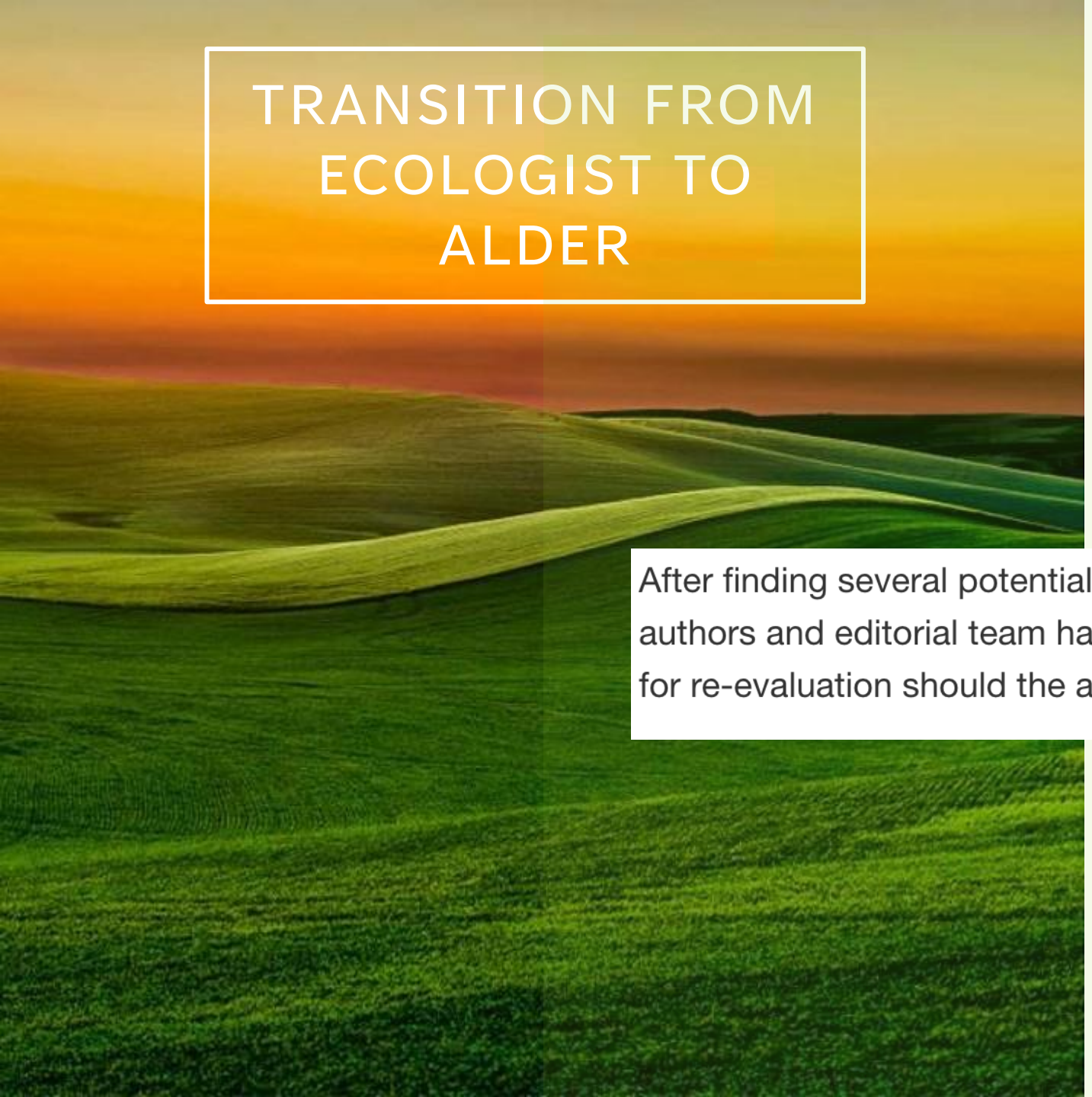
A global review of determinants of native bee assemblages in urbanised landscapes

Kit S. Prendergast | Kingsley W. Dixon | Philip W. Bateman





2-R-23- PROBLEMS WITH RESOLUTION TO ELIMINATE NO MOW MAY



TRANSITION FROM ECOLOGIST TO ALDER

"Whereas the editor of the journal noted the findings of the study are "unreliable and could impact the results", and;

This statement is factually untrue: see the actual retraction notice:

After finding several potential inconsistencies in data handling and reporting, the authors and editorial team have agreed to retract this article with the opportunity for re-evaluation should the authors choose to submit a new version.

Because it is a direct false accusation of my ability to do my professional job; this can be argued to be defamatory libel slander.

“WHEREAS THE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL NOTED THE FINDINGS OF THE STUDY ARE “UNRELIABLE AND COULD IMPACT THE RESULTS”, AND;
WHEREAS THE RETRACTION GUIDELINES FOR THE JOURNAL NOTE THAT A PAPER SHOULD BE RETRACTED IF THE FINDINGS ARE UNRELIABLE, OR THE RESULT OF FABRICATION OR FALSIFICATION”

This statement is factually untrue: see the actual retraction notice:

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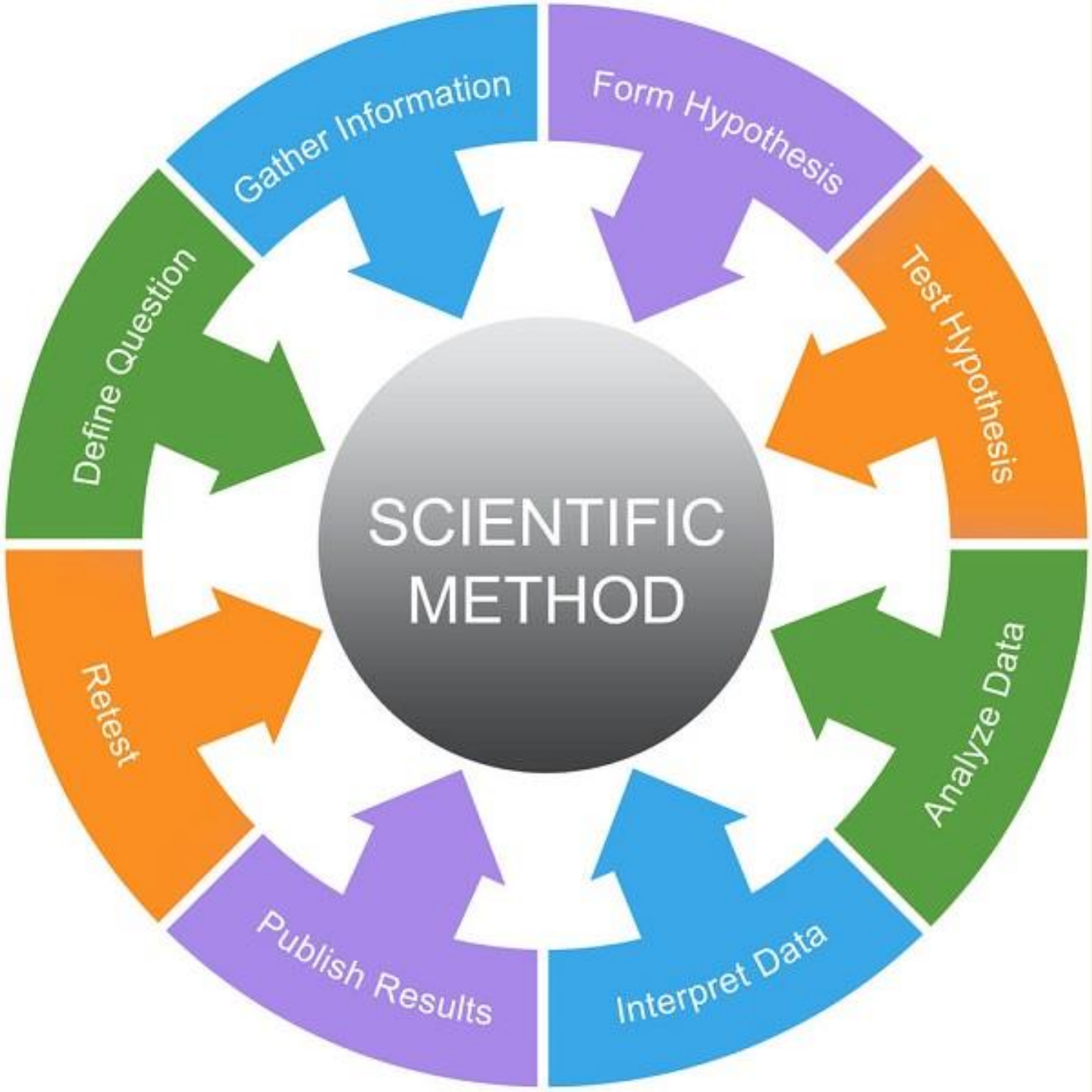

Whereas as the basis for adoption of No Mow May, the science behind the study has been **proven** to not be reliable and other **apiologists** who study bees have said that long grass provides no discernible benefit for bees and other pollinators.

RECOMMENDATION TO MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE IS TO RECEIVED AND FILE

CON

False information is presented

CON

Shows a lack of due diligence and lack of foundational understanding of the scientific method and basis

CON

Borders on Defamatory, libel slander by falsely accusing ecologists.

Please direct questions to:

Alder Del Toro
District4@Appleton.org or email all council members