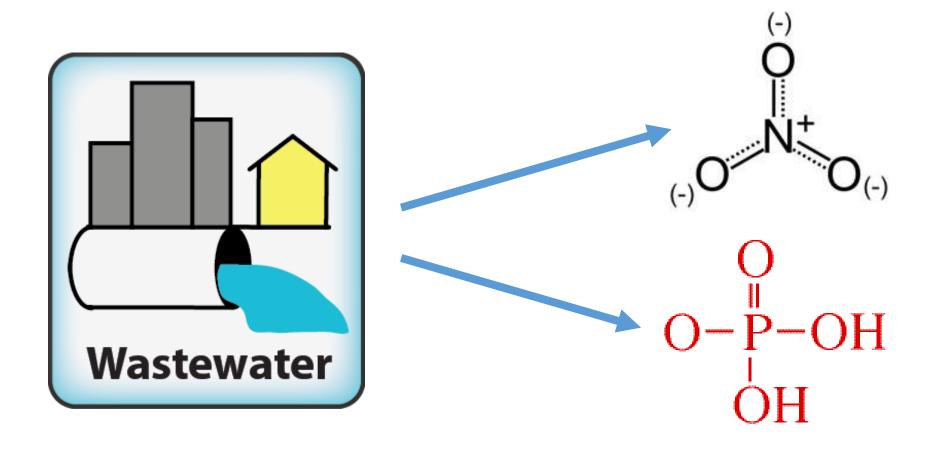
The Effects of Caffeine on Linked Aquatic-Terrestrial Food Webs

Melanie M. Marshall Bowling Green State University



Pharmaceuticals and PCP's?





I Avoid Triclosan. Do You?

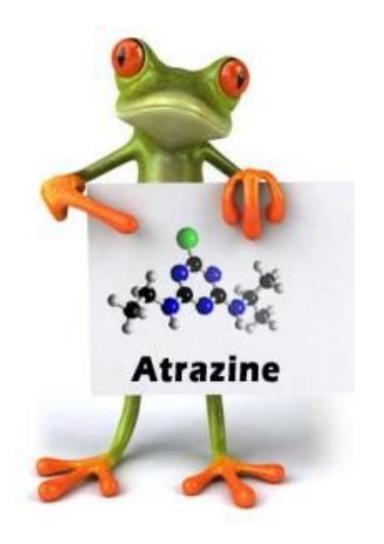


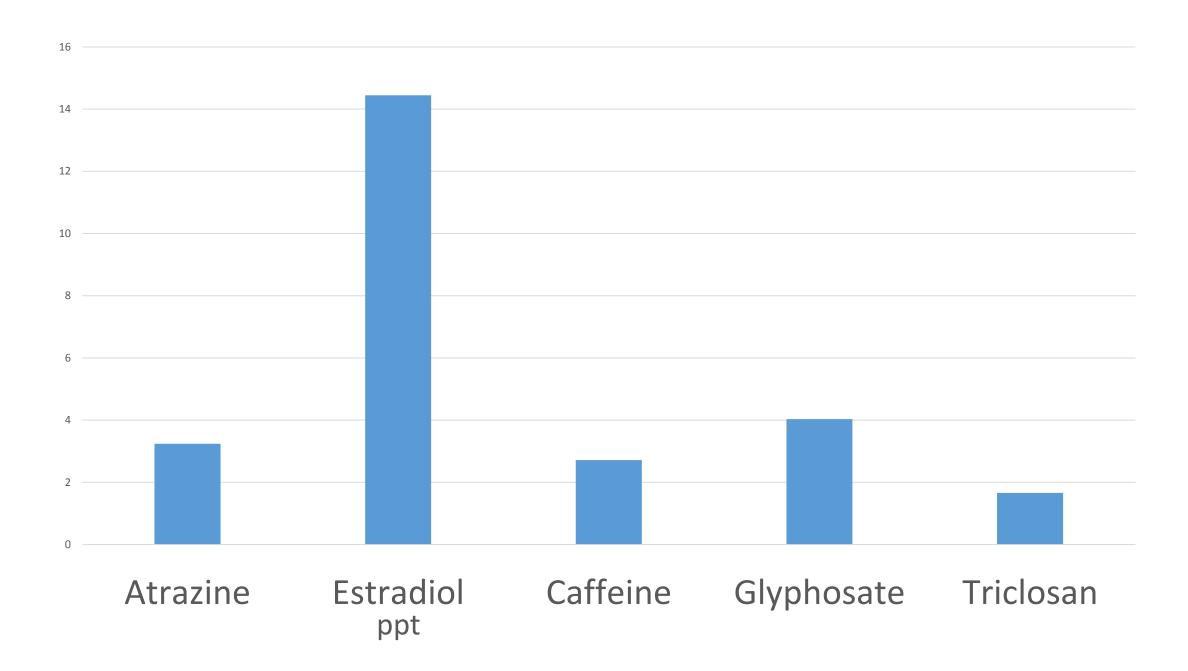












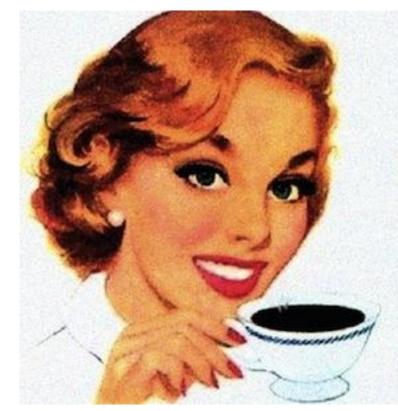






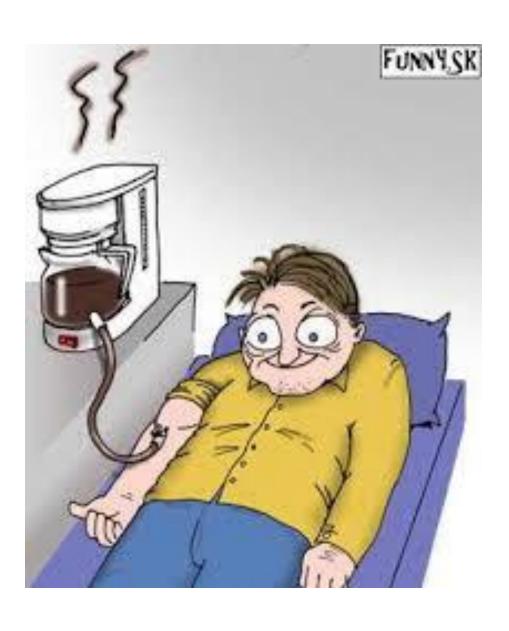






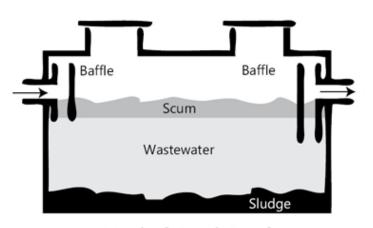
I HAVEN'T HAD MY COFFEE YET

DON'T MAKE ME KILL YOU



According to Buerge et. al. 2003:

- Global average consumption:
 - 70 mg/person/day
 - 460,000 kg/day
- United States:
 - 210 mg/person/day
 - 63,000 kg/day

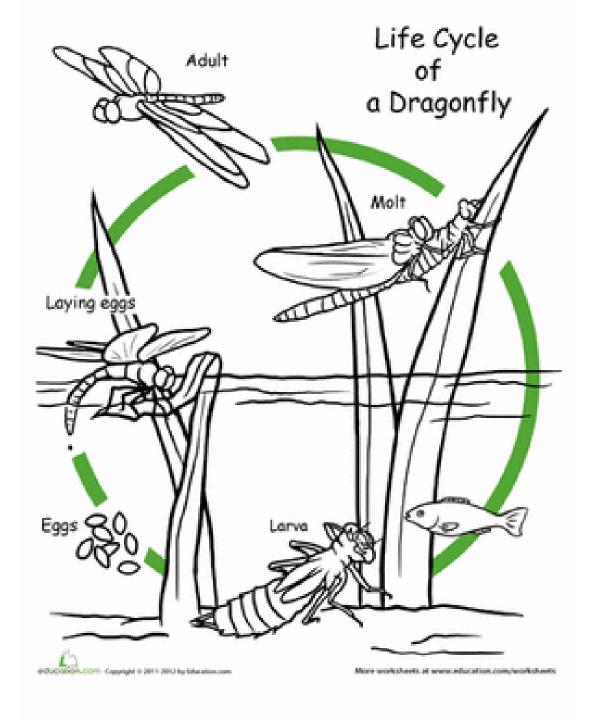


Possible Contributors

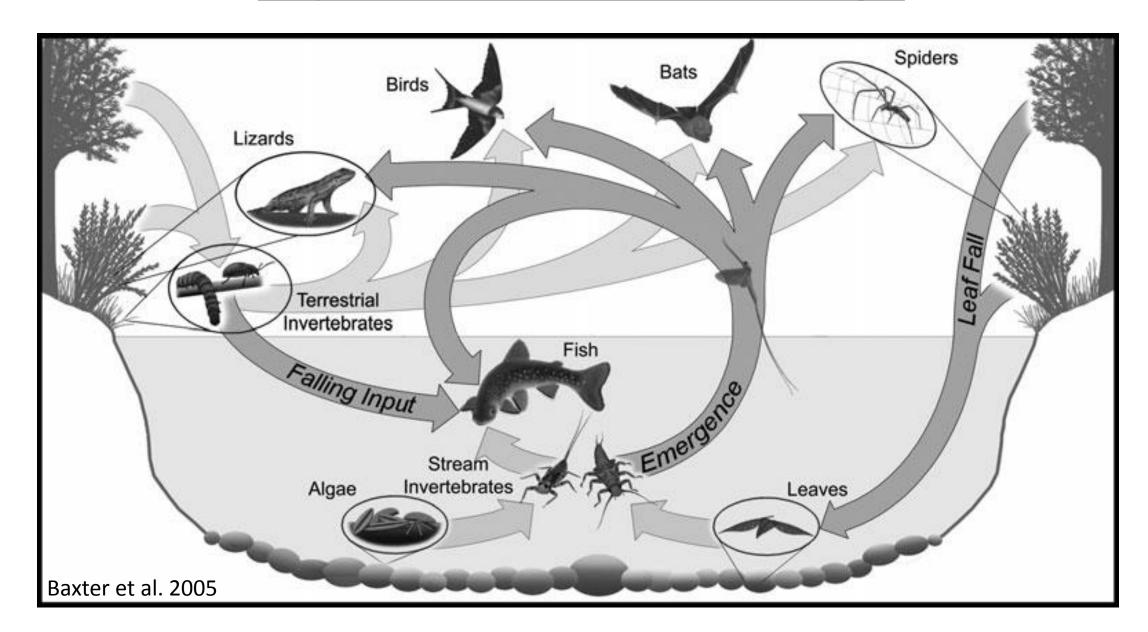


Typical Septic Tank

Emergent Insects

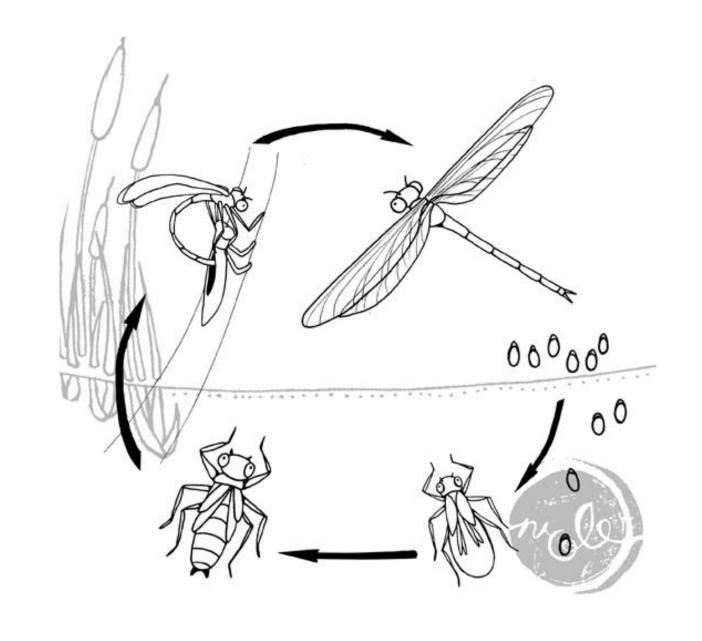


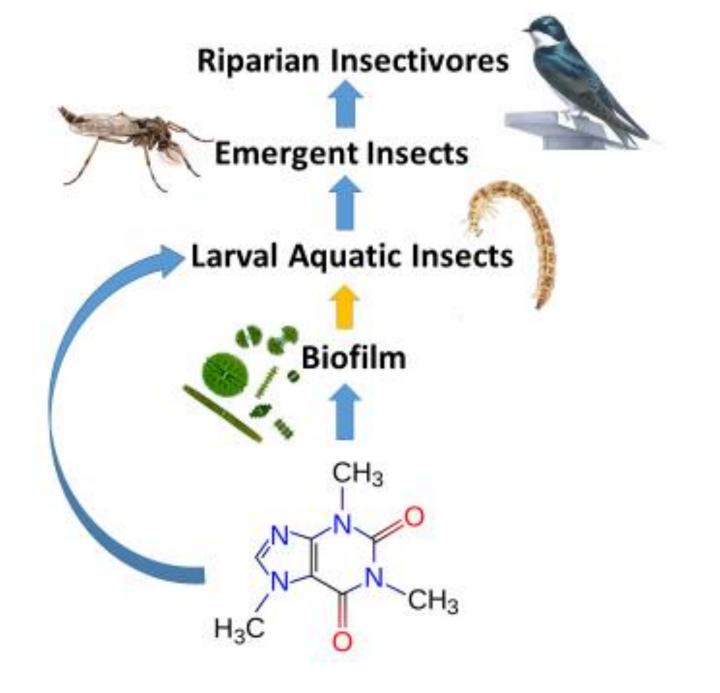
Aquatic-Terrestrial Linkage



Aquatic-Terrestrial Linkage

- Kraus et al. 2014
 - Decline of emergent insects along a metals gradient
- Walters et al. 2008
 - ¹³C and ¹⁵N isotopes
 - Aquatic contaminants in riparian predators





Biofilm Components



1. Algal Biomass

2. Bacterial Biomass

3. Fungal Biomass



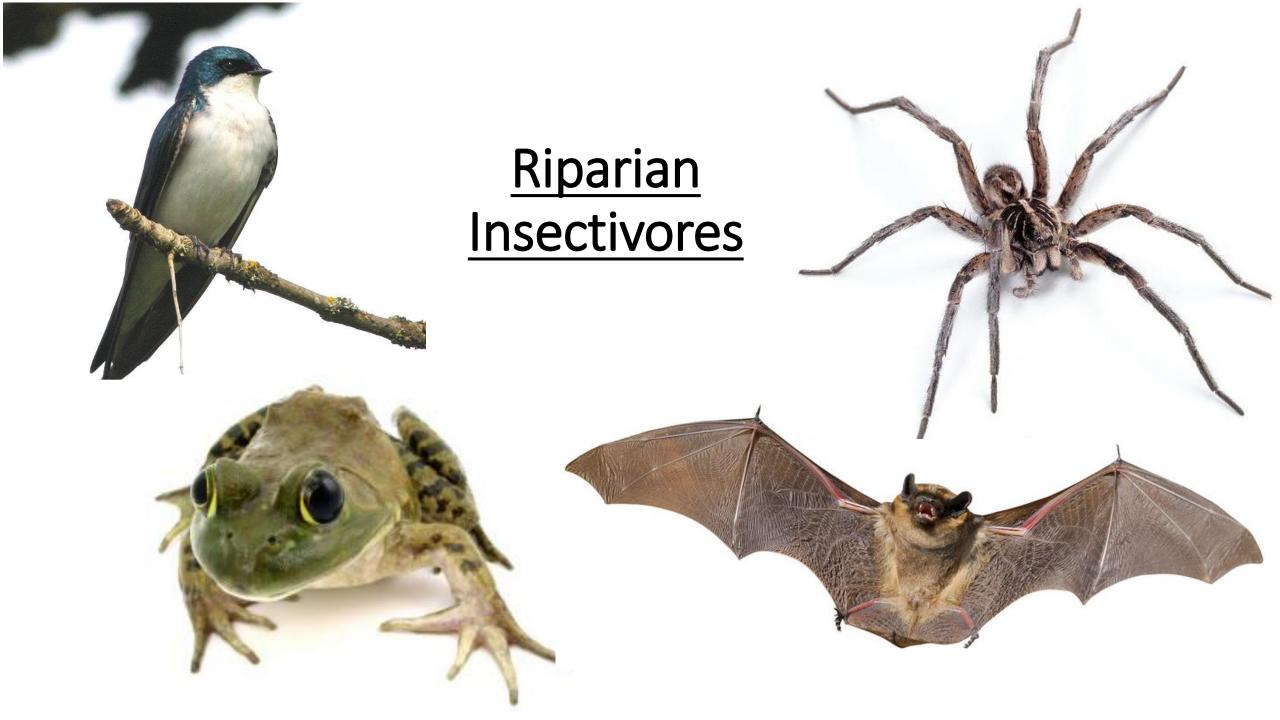




<u>Invertebrates</u>







Hypotheses

- 1. Decline in photosynthetic components of biofilm
 - Decreasing nutritional value
 - Less food for larval aquatic insects

- 2. Direct negative effect on aquatic insects
 - Fewer adult emergent insects
 - Less food for riparian predators



<u>Maumee</u>

- 1. Haskins
- 2. Liberty Center
- 3. Napoleon
- 4. Defiance

Sandusky

- 1. Fremont
- 2. Tiffin
- 3. Bascom
- 4. Sycamore

<u>Portage</u>

- 1. Pemberville
- 2. Bowling Green
- 3. Bloomdale
- 4. Fostoria

Caffeine Testing

$$CH_3$$
 N
 N
 CH_3
 CH_3
 CH_3
 CH_3

Biofilm Sampling

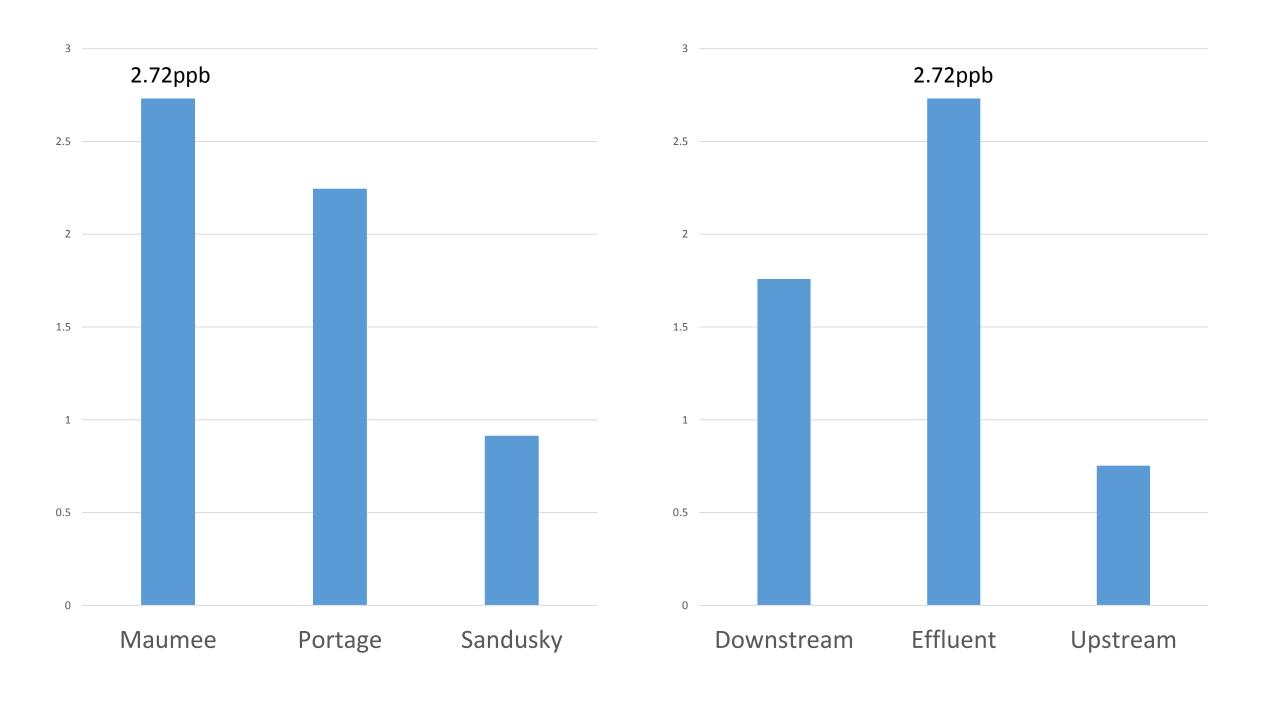
Emergent Insect Sampling



Caffeine Concentrations - ELISA



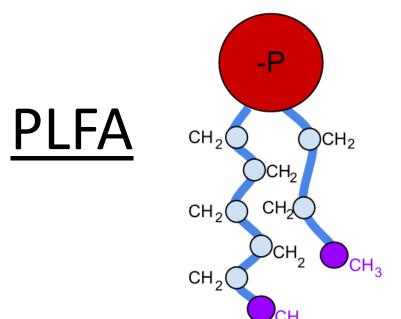




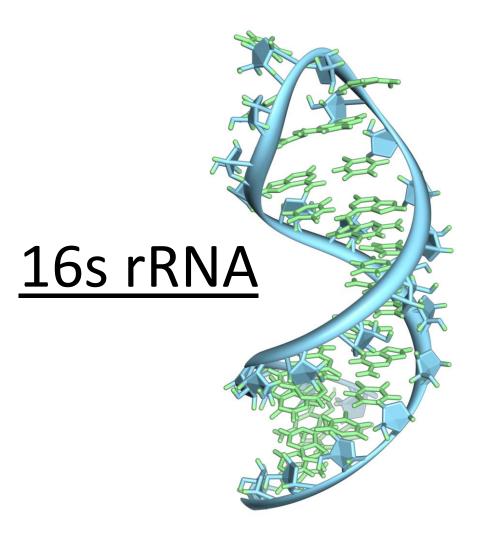
Biofilm

- 1. Abundance
- 2. Composition
- 3. Nutritional value





Stoichiometry C:N:P



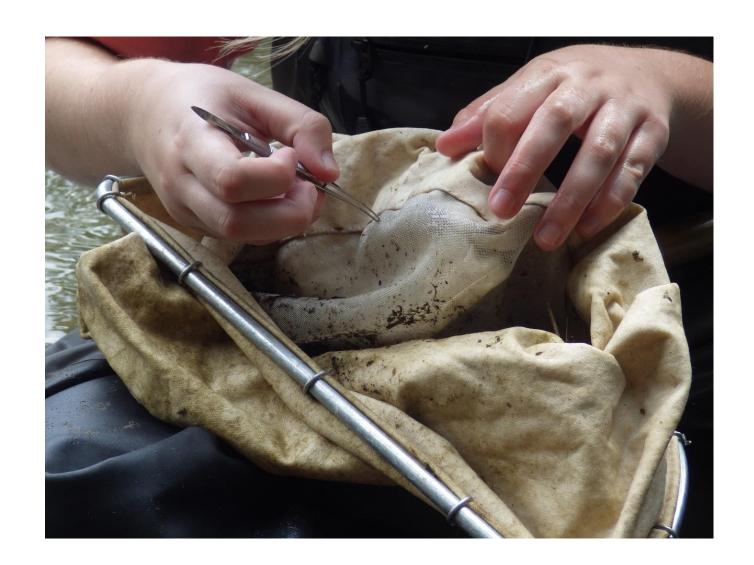
Decrease in biofilm P uptake?





Higher caffeine — More P in the water that is available for use by toxic algae blooms?

Aquatic Insect Larvae



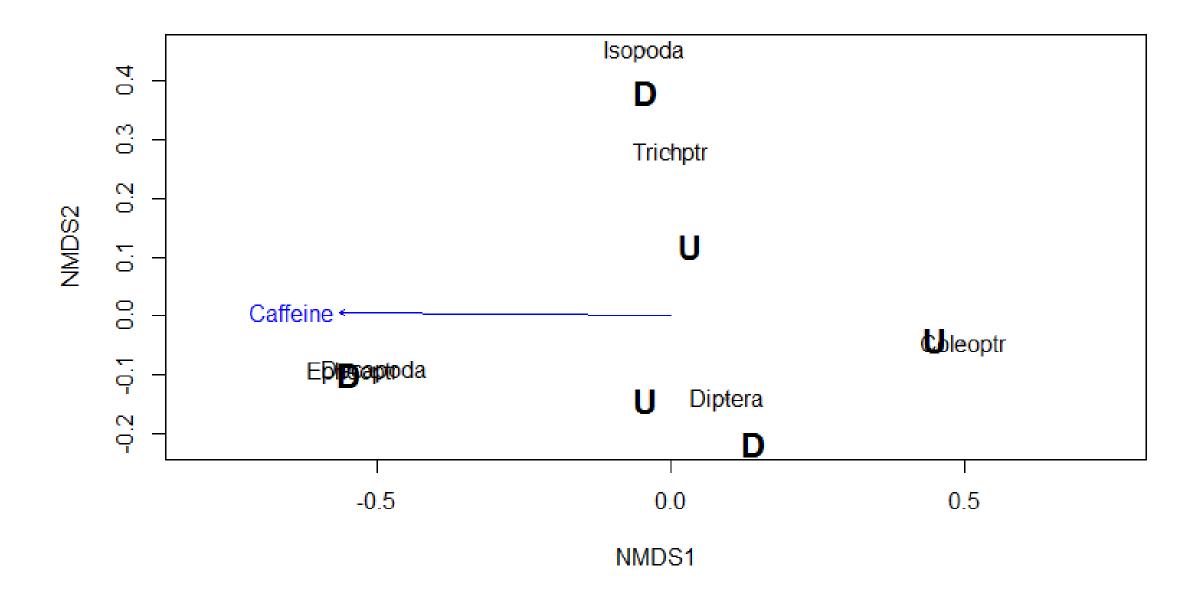




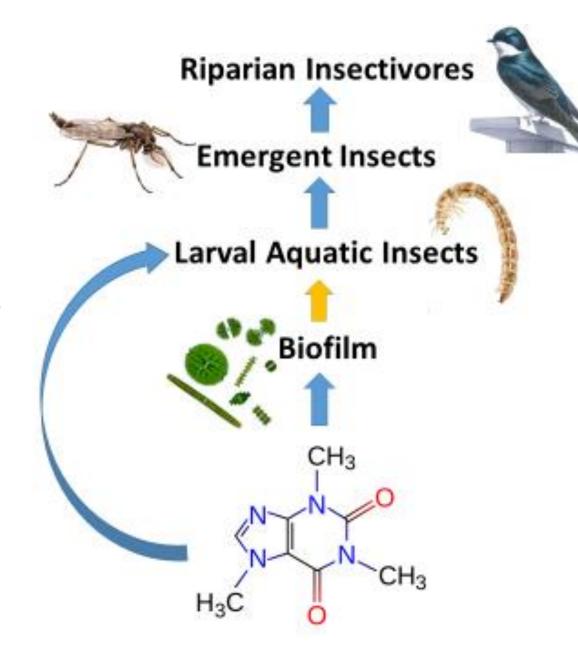








Direct and Indirect Effects on Emergent Insects



Lab Studies

Field Studies

1. Observational





Field Studies

2. Manipulative





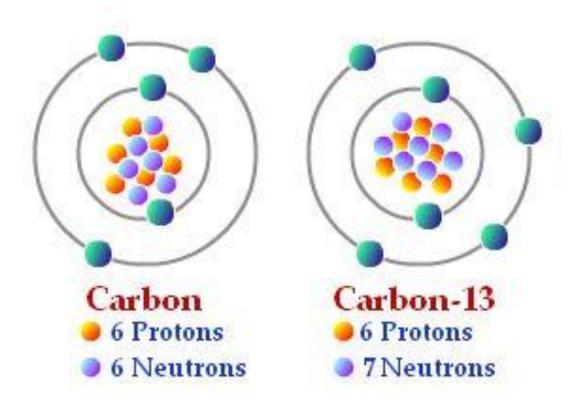
Other Studies

Meta-analysis

Citizen Study



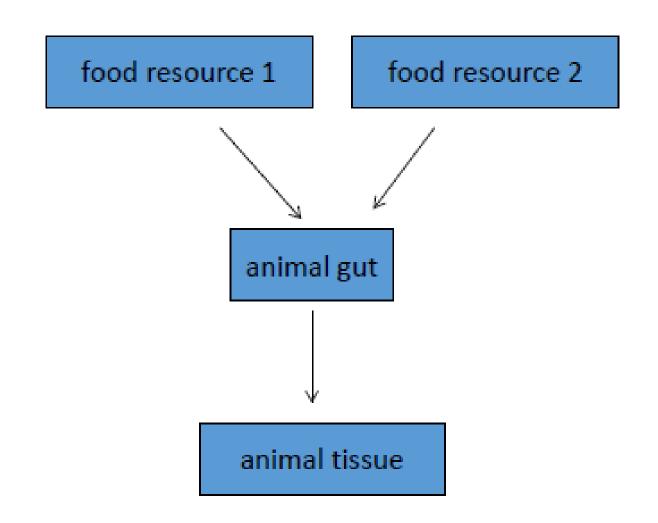
Other Studies



Stable Isotope Ratios

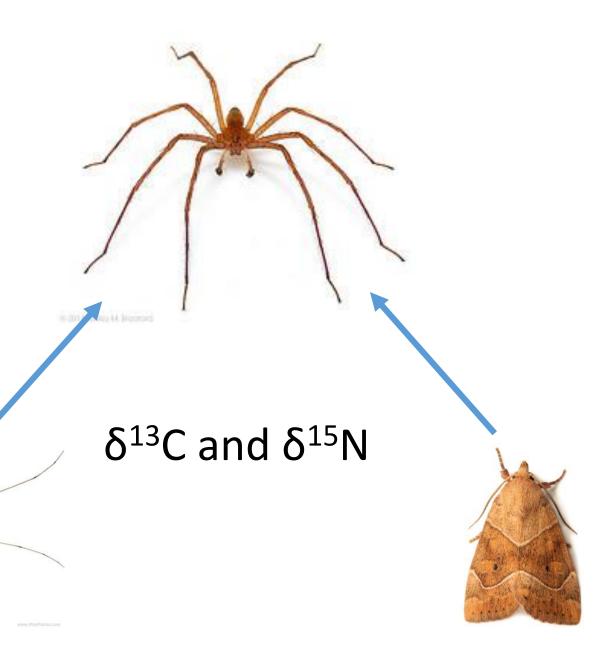
13C/12C

You are what you eat!



Other Studies

 Stable Isotopes – Quantify reliance of predators on emergent insects vs terrestrial insects



<u>Purpose</u>

- 1. Caffeine deserves attention
- 2. Emergent Insects connect food webs
- Linked Food Webs need to better understand
- 4. Wastewater Treatment needs re-evaluated
- **5. Freshwater Resources** essential environmental concern

Dr. Kevin McCluney

Dr. George Bullerjahn

Dr. Paul Moore

Dr. Laura Johnson

Haley Ingram
Nadya Mirochnitchenko



Wastewater Plants in the Maumee, Sandusky, and Portage Watersheds