Give Bees A Chance

Potential loss of pollinator diversity and abundance

Background

- Native pollinator significance
- General trend of decline
 - Habitat loss/fragmentation
 - Pesticides, other pollutants
- Echinacea study area surrounded by
 - expanding crop lands



Habitat Loss

Ben Lee GIS Analysis

- Pollinator Habitat: "grass/pasture or as herbaceous wetlands"

In 2004: 10.4 mi²

In 2014: 7.7 mi²

Pollinator Habitat between 2006 and 2014 0 0.5 1 3 4 Kilometers Legend Intersection of 06 and 14 Pollinator habitat 2014 Pollinator habitat 2006

http://echinaceaproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Pollinator



Pan Collection

- Pan traps set in 2004, rebooted in 2017
 - **2004**: 20 sites
 - **2018**: 39 sites
- "Sites are located within a gradient of various surrounding landscapes, some surrounded by
 natural areas, semi-natural areas, agricultural
 fields, development, or a mixture of the above."





Aim

- Given importance of pollinators, habitat loss
- Examine differences between 2004 and 2018 pollinator diversity, abundance
- Possible population declines and/or loss of diversity

Results

Families present:

2004 - Apidae, Halictidae, Colletidae, Megachilidae, <u>Andrenidae</u>, <u>Anthophoridae</u>2018 - Apidae, Halictidae, Colletidae, Megachilidae

Shannon Index: *Quantifies uncertainty when taking a random sample of a population* **2004** - 0.85

2018 - 0.83

Small, but measurable decrease









Year-Trap#	ShannonDiversity
2018-4	0.61
2004-4	1.00
2018-5	0.96
2004-5	0.68
2018-9	0.83
2004-9	0.08
2018-15	0
2004-15	0.70
2018-17	0.91
2004-17	1.00
2018-18	0
2004-18	0.38
2018-20	0
2004-20	0.46
2018-21	0.41
2004-21	0.21

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Constraints - It Bee Like That Sometimes

- 2017: Opportunity for further analysis (~a few months)
- 7 collection days in 2004, 6 in 2018
- Broadness of Family

Conclusions

- Difference in abundances collected over similar time range
 - 532 ID'd pollinators in 2004 \rightarrow 345 in 2018
 - Even with more sample sites (19)
- Measurable decrease in diversity, though small (0.02)
 - 2 Pollinator Families not present
 - More stark by site

Sources

- Echinacheaproject.org (Flog, Ben Lee work)
- Shannon, C. E. (1948) A mathematical theory of communication. The Bell System Technical Journal, 27, 379–423 and 623–656.





Thanks!

Any questions?

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