

Abstract Listing Biocontrol Symposium - S1073: Biological Control of Arthropod Pests and Weeds

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PROGSYMP : Biological Control of Weeds Updates from Florida

ACCEPTED

Session:

Biocontrol Symposium - S1073: Biological Control of Arthropod Pests and Weeds (35233)

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PROGSYMP : Biological control of Brazilian peppertree in Florida

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Session:

Biocontrol Symposium - S1073: Biological Control of Arthropod Pests and Weeds (35233)

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PROGSYMP : Biological control of air potato in Louisiana: Will augmentation be needed for success?

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PROGSYMP : The Impact of the Plant Fungal Pathogen, SPFG, on *Cyrtobagous salviniae* (Calder & Sands) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae), a Biological Control Agent of *Salvinia molesta*

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PROGSYMP : Improving biological control of giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*) under climate extremes

ACCEPTED

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PROGSYMP : Biocontrol food webs in GA commodities: a molecular approach

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Modern agricultural practices are challenged to balance the trade-offs of intensifying production while simultaneously preserving biodiversity and human health. At regional scales, intensive agriculture frequently results in reduced native lands to support the very biodiversity required for sustainable productivity. However, within farms, growers have the opportunity to enhance biodiversity and associated insect mediated services such as biological control and pollination through cover cropping and wildflower pollinator habitats. And, with more growers in a region adopting these practices, a region wide increase in biological control and pollination is possible, which could lower the costs of chemical crop protection and dependence on domesticated bees for pollination. However, little is known about the structure of food webs involving natural predators and pest species in most agricultural systems.

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PROGSYMP : Potential utilization of *Stethorus punctillum* to control *Tetranychus cinnabarinus* on strawberry in greenhouses and high tunnels

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PROGSYMP : Leveraging entomopathogenic nematode movement for improved biological control

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PROGSYMP : Risks and benefits of weed diversity for conservation biological control of crop pests

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Typically, weeds are aggressively managed in crop systems because they often compete with crop species and limit yields, but weeds also contribute to non-crop plant diversity that can deliver important ecosystem services. For example, the structural complexity of living plant material can provide refuge and a suitable microclimate for predatory insects that consume crop pests. Weeds can also provide nectar and pollen resources as alternative food for omnivorous predators, which can enable them to survive in agroecosystems during times of prey scarcity. Despite the perception that all weed growth is detrimental to crop production, many vegetable varieties are relatively competitive, and tolerating some weed growth may not necessarily come at a yield cost. Moreover, small farmers who lack access to the labor resources required to cultivate frequently are often forced to tolerate weed pressure. To capitalize on biological control services conferred by weeds and to help farmers make more informed decisions about allocating limited labor resources for weed control, we are examining yield costs and pest control benefits over a gradient of weed pressure across a variety of crop families.

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PROGSYMP : Ephestia kuehniella larval diets affect the quality of host eggs and Trichogramma brassicae

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PROGSYMP : Do Acylsugars affect impact biocontrol insects as well as plant pests?

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