

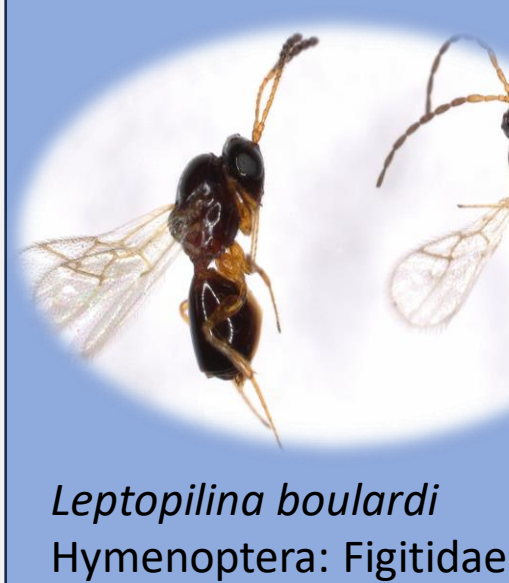
Aspects of Spotted-Wing Drosophila Biological Control Efforts in Georgia, USA

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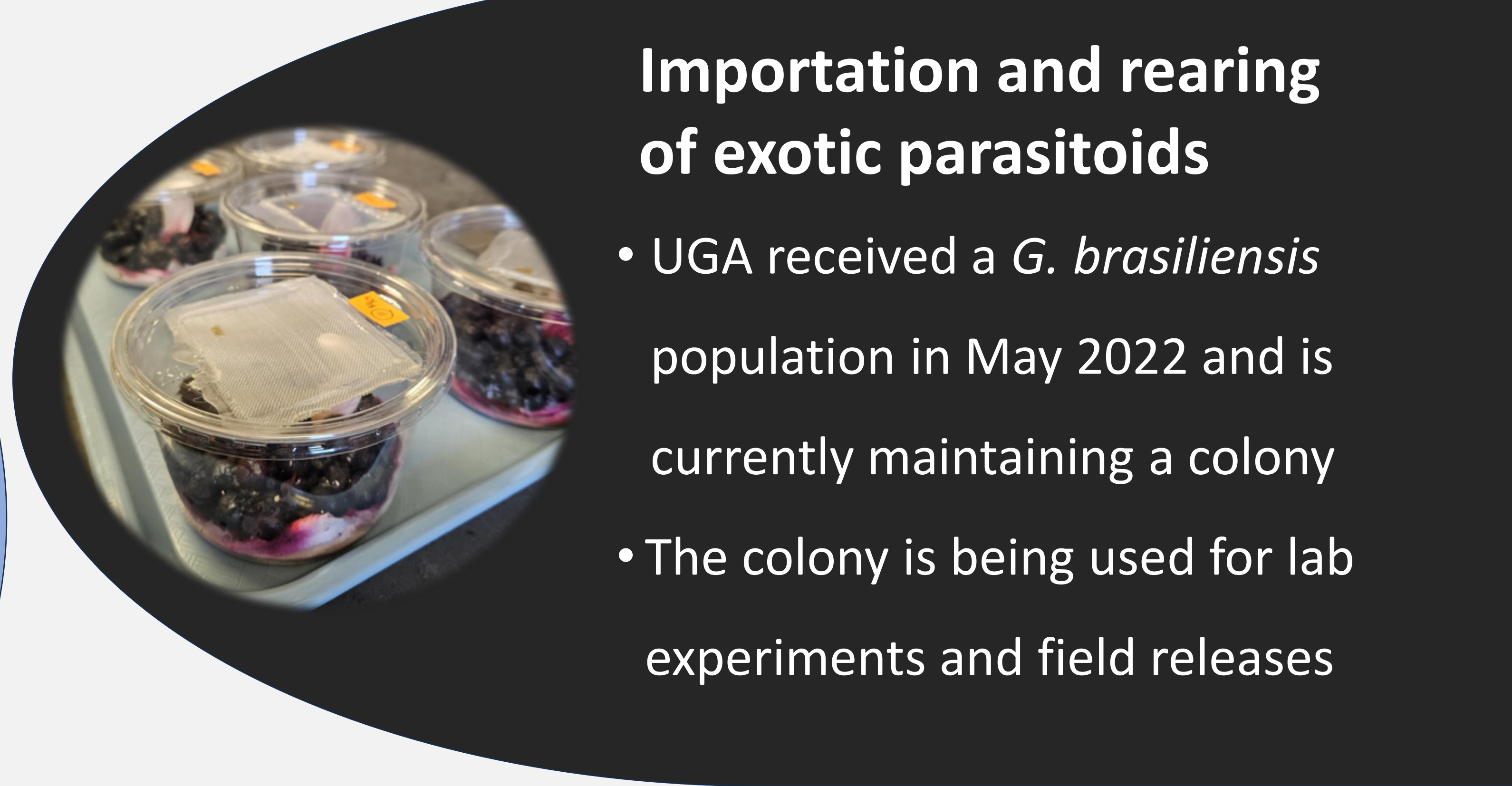
The baseline survey on resident parasitoids

- Explored the possible resident parasitoid habitats in Georgia (commercial blueberry farms and wild habitats)
- 4 species of SWD-associated parasitoids were found



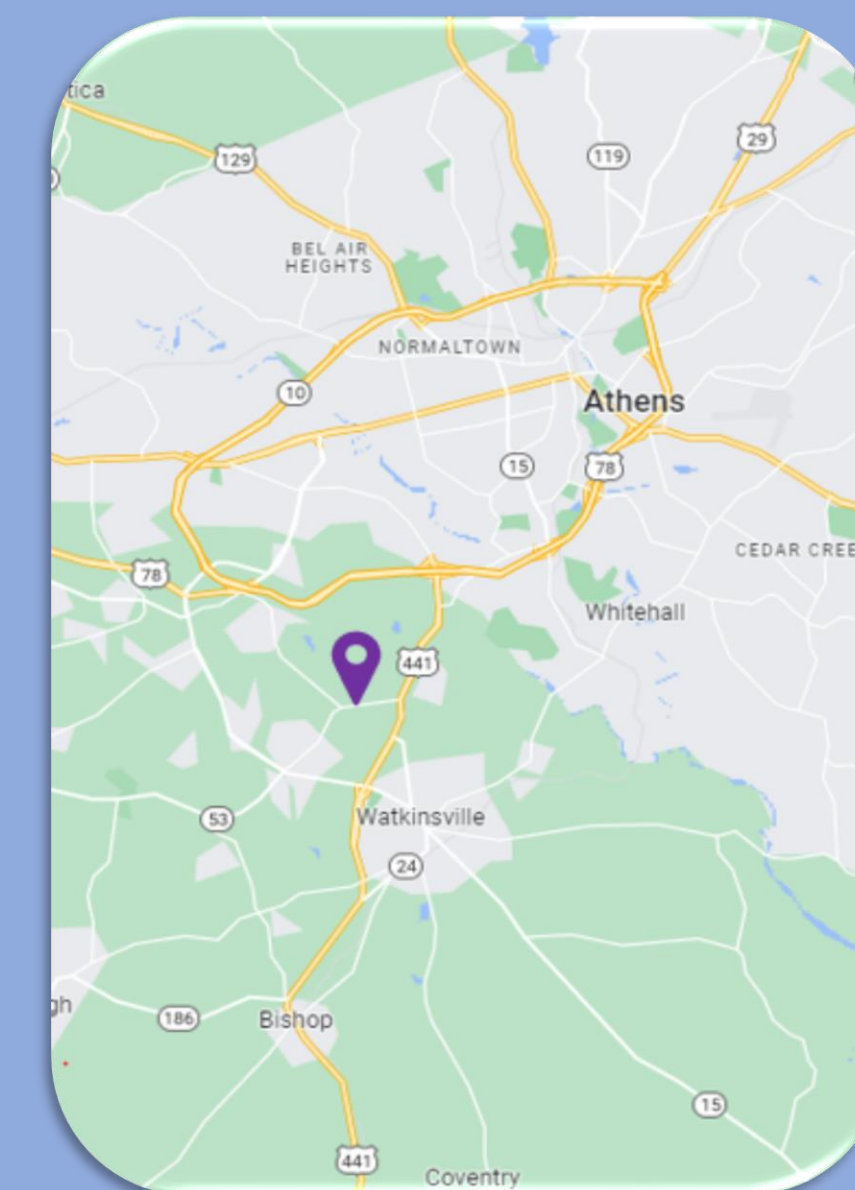
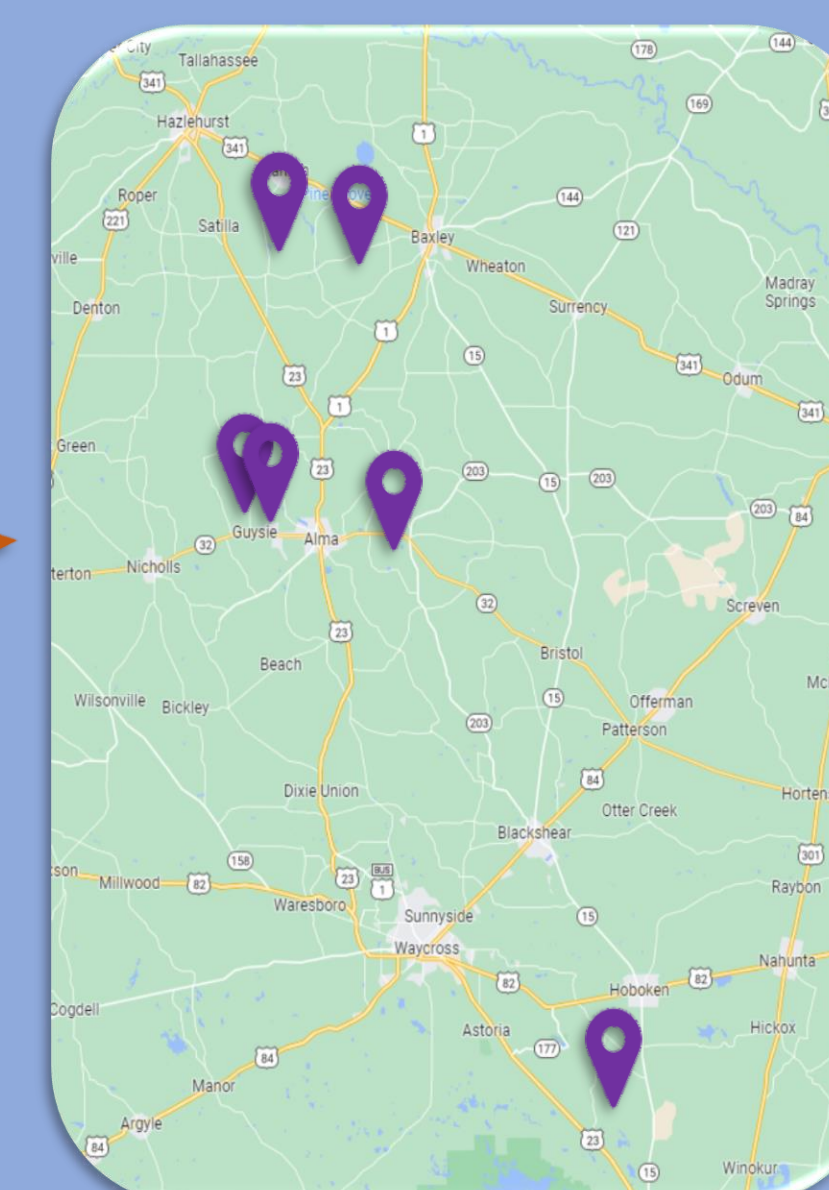
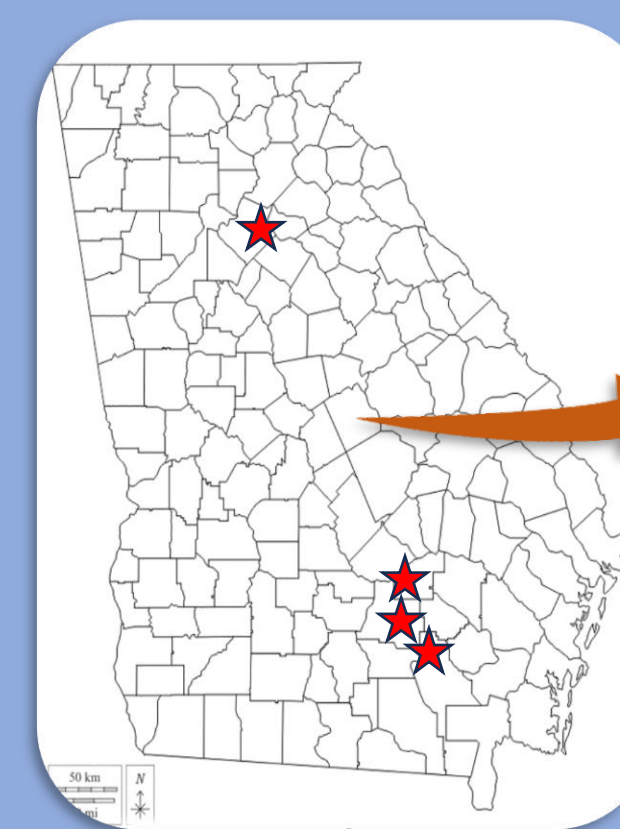
Importation and rearing of exotic parasitoids

- UGA received a *G. brasiliensis* population in May 2022 and is currently maintaining a colony
- The colony is being used for lab experiments and field releases



Classical release of *G. brasiliensis* in Georgia

- *G. brasiliensis* released in 9 locations and 14 sites between June 2022-August 2023
- Total release: 14,164 wasps (8,493 female and 5,671 males)



Identification of suitable wild host plant for *G. brasiliensis* establishment



- The preference of parasitoids to infest SWD residing on alternative host plants (wild blackberry species, common pokeweed, beautyberry, etc.) are being evaluated

Study of non-target effect of insecticides on parasitoids

Evaluation of suitable insecticides that are less toxic to the parasitoids is being done through:

- Study of the lethal effects of 9 different insecticides on parasitoid adults exposed at the field rates of applications
- Study of the sub-lethal effects of 9 different insecticides on parasitoids exposed at the reduced rates of applications



Monitoring of released *G. brasiliensis*

- Attempts to recover the adventive population of parasitoids after the release by using sentinel traps



Acknowledgments

