



New strategies for monitoring pests in (sub-)tropical crops: Insights from **DNA Barcoding** and Field Surveys

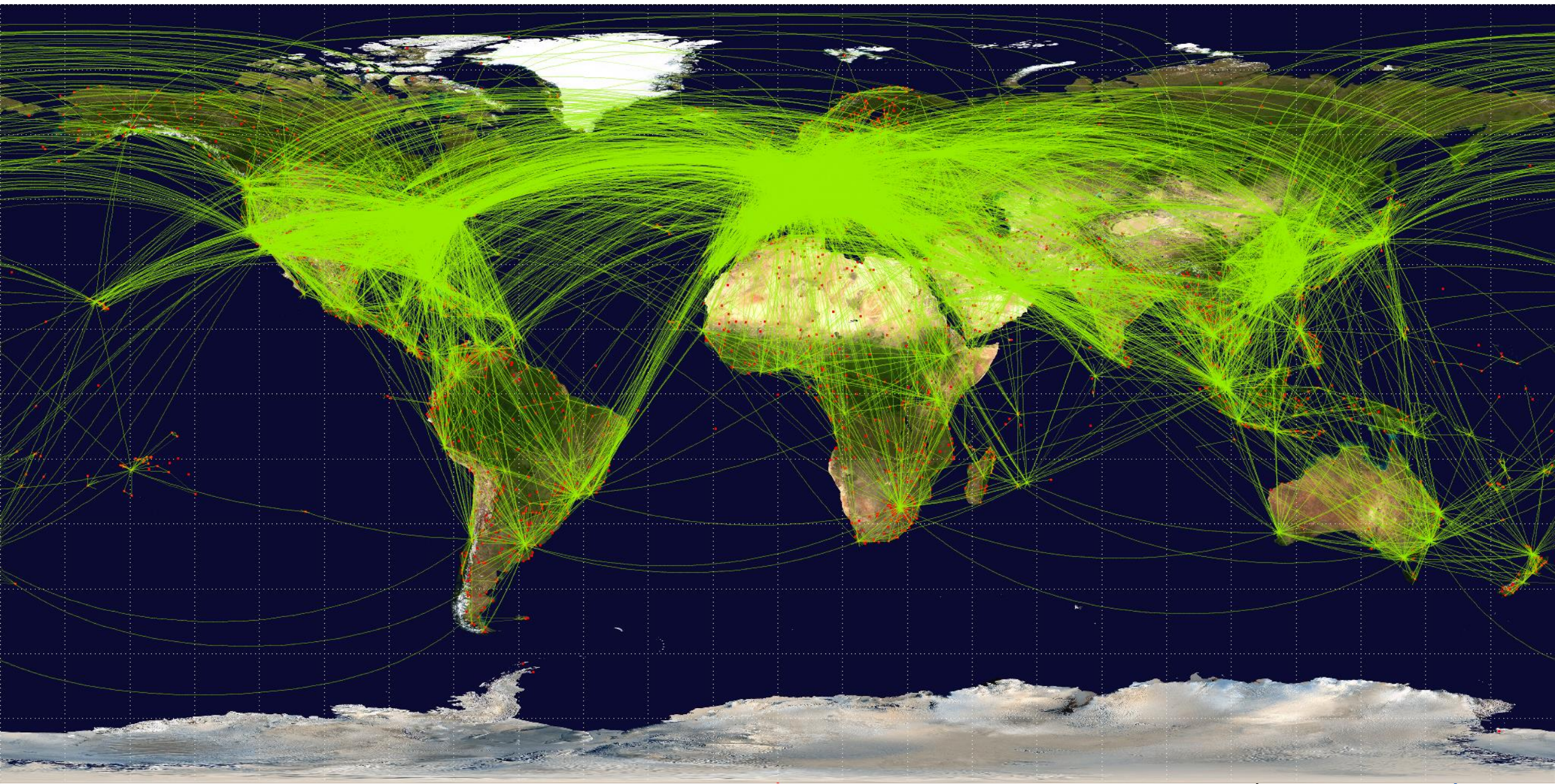
Helena Romero, Mónica Aquilino, Rosario Planelló, **Eduardo de la Peña**, CSIC

La Mayora, September 2024



Torre del Mar, Malaga 2024

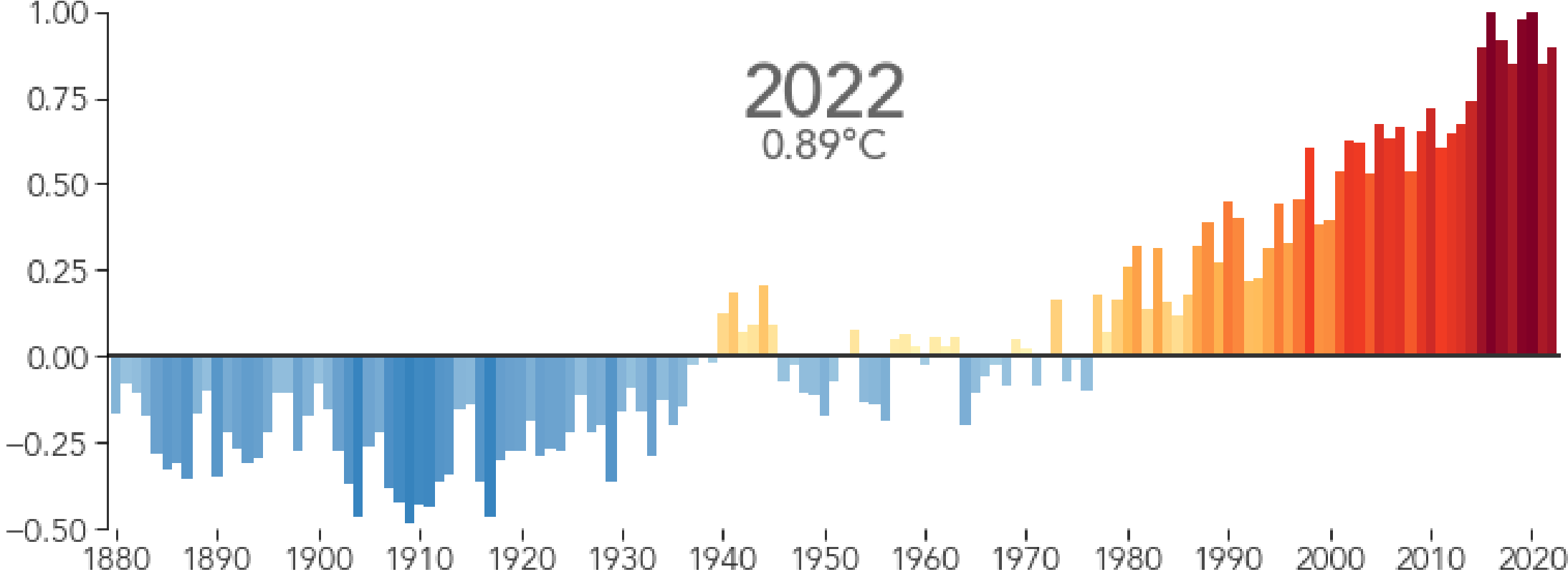




Climate change

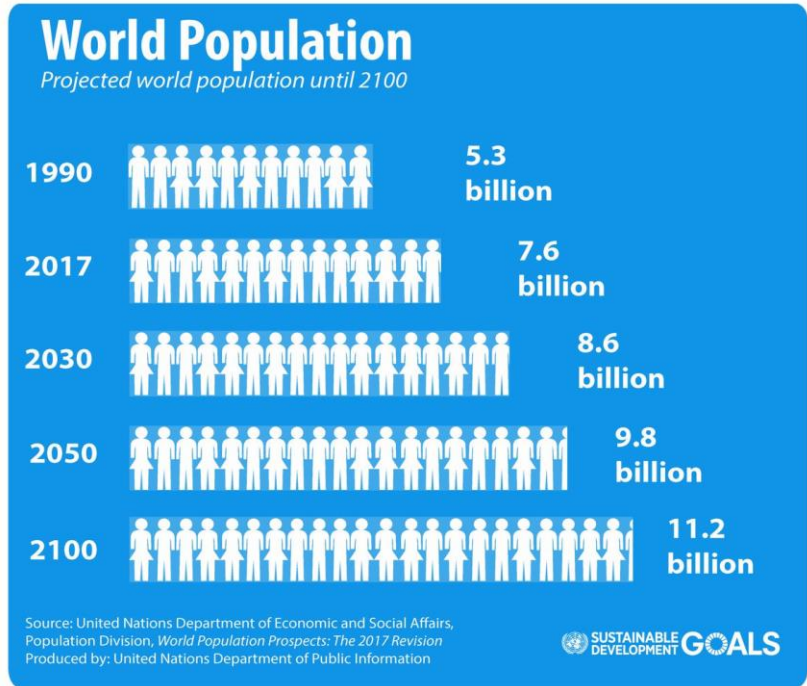
Last 9 Years Warmest on Record

Global Temperature Anomaly (°C compared to the 1951-1980 average)



Data source: NASA

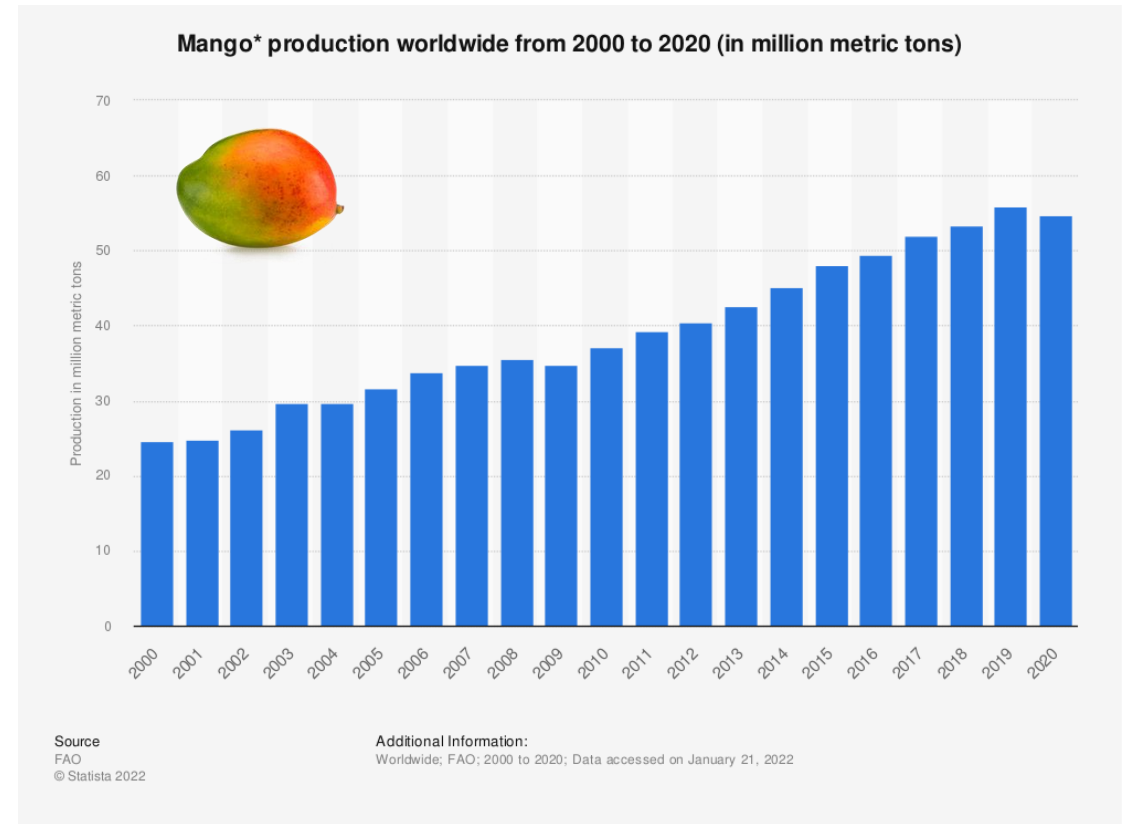
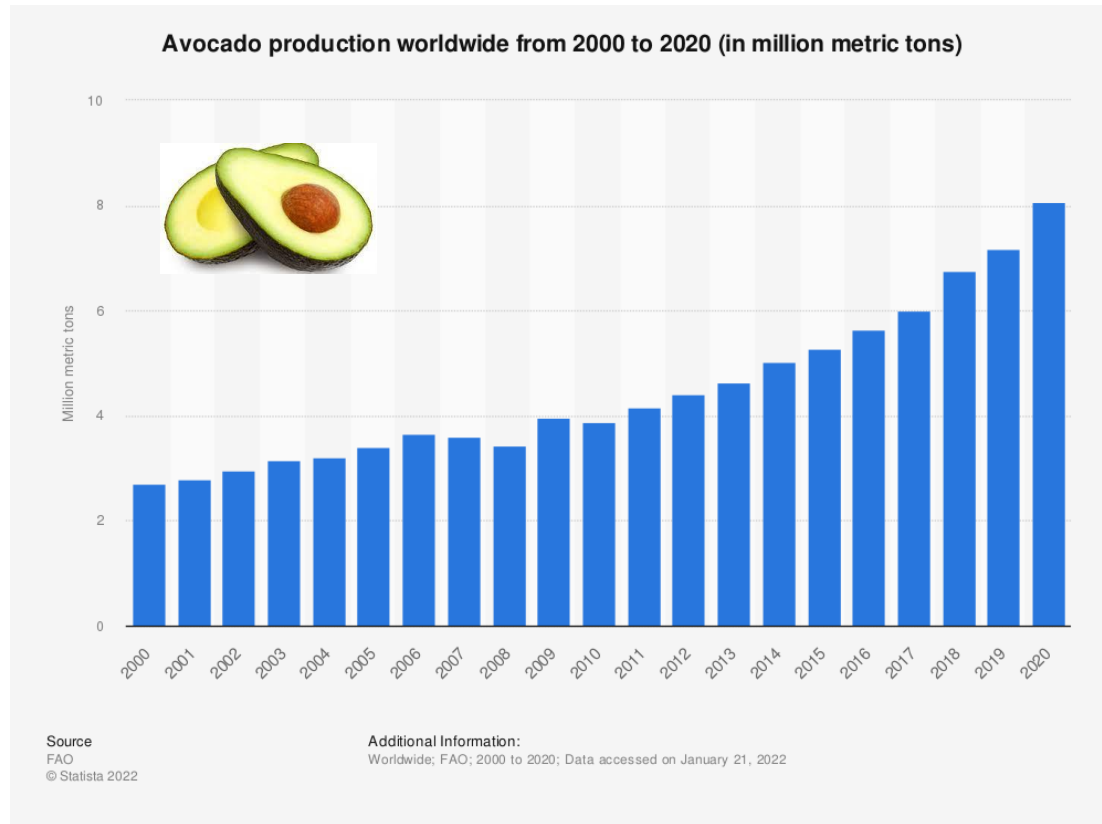
Global food systems



Commodities

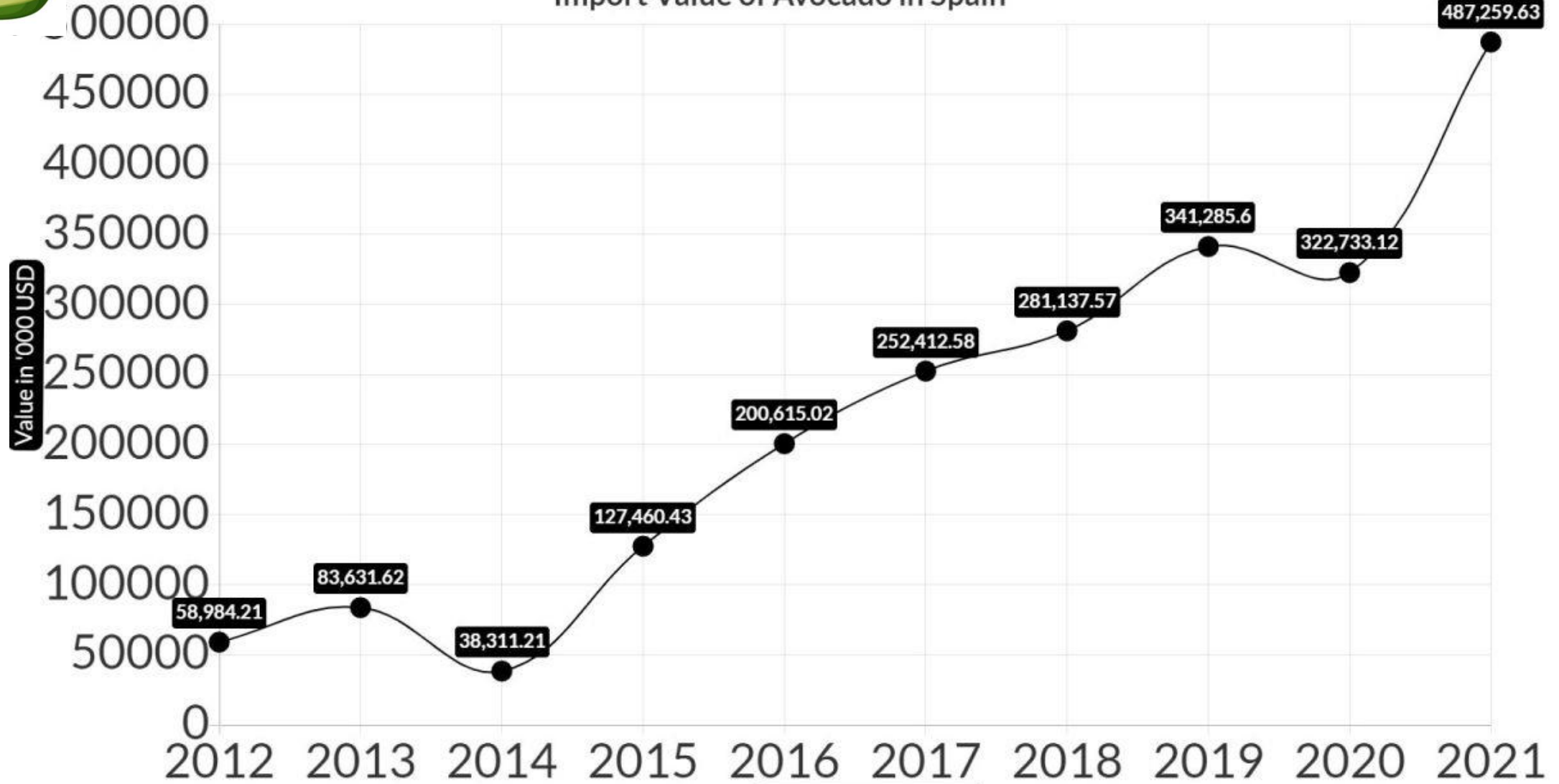
The import value of exotic fruits in Europe (e.g., pineapple, avocado, mango, lychees, passion fruits, carambola and pitahaya) increased 40% over the past five years. Export volumes of the three major fresh tropical fruits – mango, avocado and papaya have displayed the fastest average annual growth rates among internationally traded food commodities in recent years. Avocado is expected to become the second-most traded major tropical fruit by 2030, after bananas. (FAO 2022)

Increasing demand





Import Value of Avocado in Spain



Source: UN Comtrade

Pressure on production areas



Drastic land -use changes last 10 years



Consequences

Import of (fresh) fruit



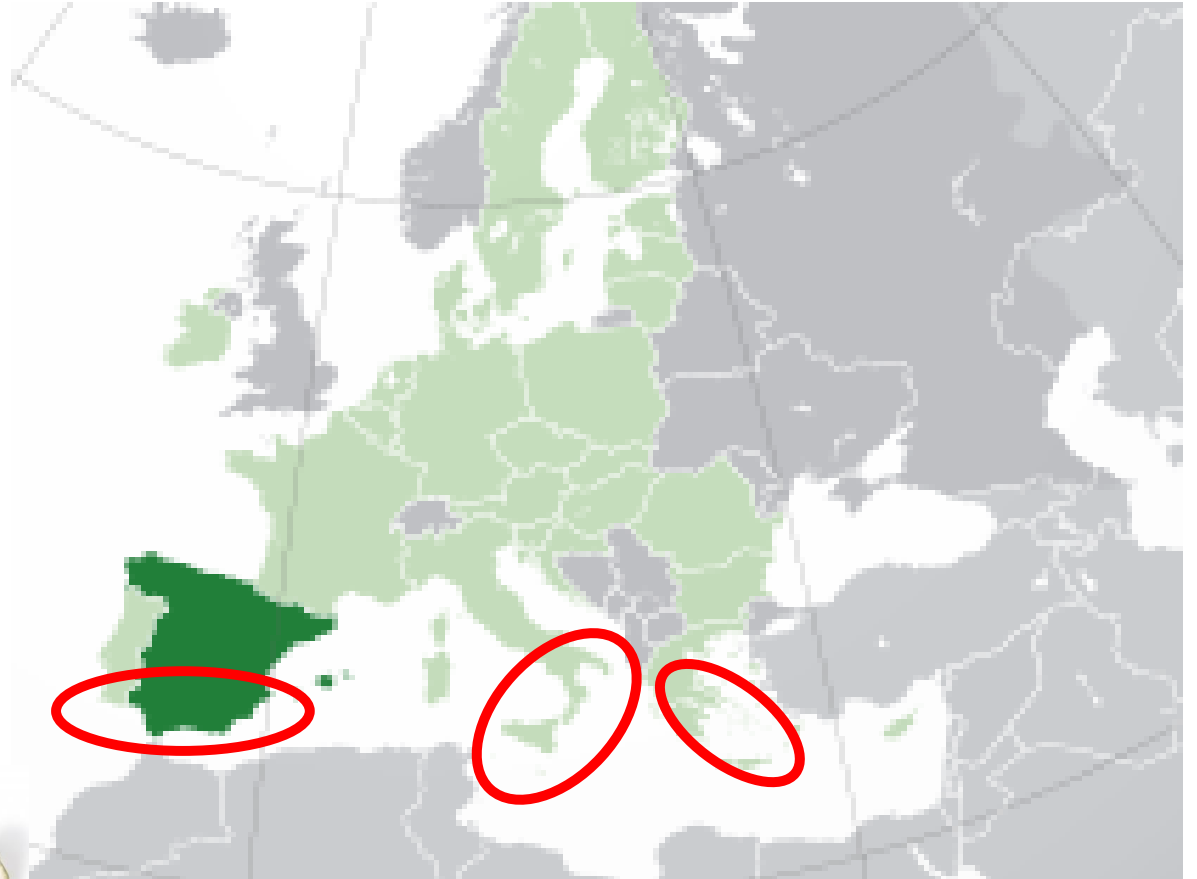
Introduction of propagation material



Subtropical crops

Production of subtropical crops spreading and diversifying:

- Portugal
- Spain
- Italy
- Greece



Producción de aguacate en España



Subtropical crops

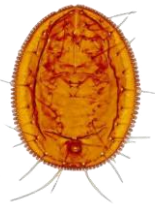


Regulation

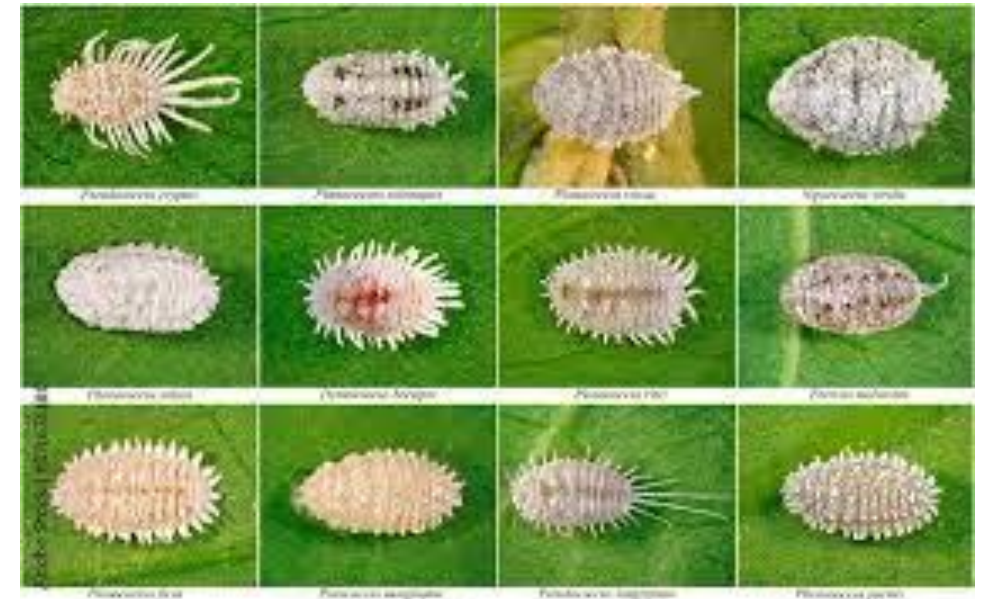
Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2019 of 18 December 2018 establishing a provisional list of high risk plants, plant products or other objects, within the meaning of Article 42 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031

Plants for planting, other than seeds, *in vitro* material and naturally or artificially dwarfed woody plants for planting, of *Acacia* Mill., *Acer* L., *Albizia* Durazz., *Alnus* Mill., *Annona* L., *Bauhinia* L., *Berberis* L., *Betula* L., *Caesalpinia* L., *Cassia* L., *Castanea* Mill., *Cornus* L., *Corylus* L., *Crataegus* L., *Diospyros* L., *Fagus* L., *Ficus carica* L., *Fraxinus* L., *Hamamelis*., *Jasminum* L., *Juglans* L., *Ligustrum* L., *Lonicera* L., *Malus* Mill., *Nerium* L., *Persea* Mill., *Populus* L., *Prunus* L., *Quercus* L., *Robinia* L., *Salix* L., *Sorbus* L., *Taxus* L., *Tilia* L., *Ulmus* L., and plants of *Ullucus tuberosus* Loz., are known to host commonly hosted pests known to have a major impact on plant species which are of major economic, social or environmental importance to the Union. Those plants are also known to commonly harbour pests without showing signs of infection, or to have a latent period for the expression of those signs. T

High Risk Plants



Pest	Family	Regulated
<i>Pulvinaria psiddi</i>	Coccidae	Proposed as q-pest
<i>Protopulvinaria pyriformis</i>	Coccidae	No
<i>Ceroplastes floridensis, C. sinensis</i>	Coccidae	No
<i>Parasaissetia nigra</i>	Coccidae	No
<i>Milviscutulus mangiferae</i>	Pseudococcidae	Proposed as q-pest
<i>Nipaecoccus viridis</i>	Pseudococcidae	Proposed as q-pest
<i>Pseudococcus longispinus, P. cryptus⁺</i>	Pseudococcidae	+Proposed q-pest
<i>Planococcus citri</i>	Pseudococcidae	No
<i>Maconellicoccus hirsutus</i>	Pseudococcidae	Proposed as q-pest
<i>Paracoccus marginatus</i>	Pseudococcidae	Proposed as q-pest
<i>Icerya seychellarum, I. aegyptiaca, I. purchasi</i>	Monophlebidae	Proposed as q-pests
<i>Aulacaspis tubercularis</i>	Diaspididae	Proposed as q-pest
<i>Aonidiella orientalis</i>	Diaspididae	Proposed as q-pest
<i>Scirtothrips dorsalis</i>	Thripidae	Q-pest; Priority pest
<i>Retithrips syriacus</i>	Thripidae	Proposed as q-pest
<i>Euwallacea fornicatus</i>	Curculionidae	Q-pest

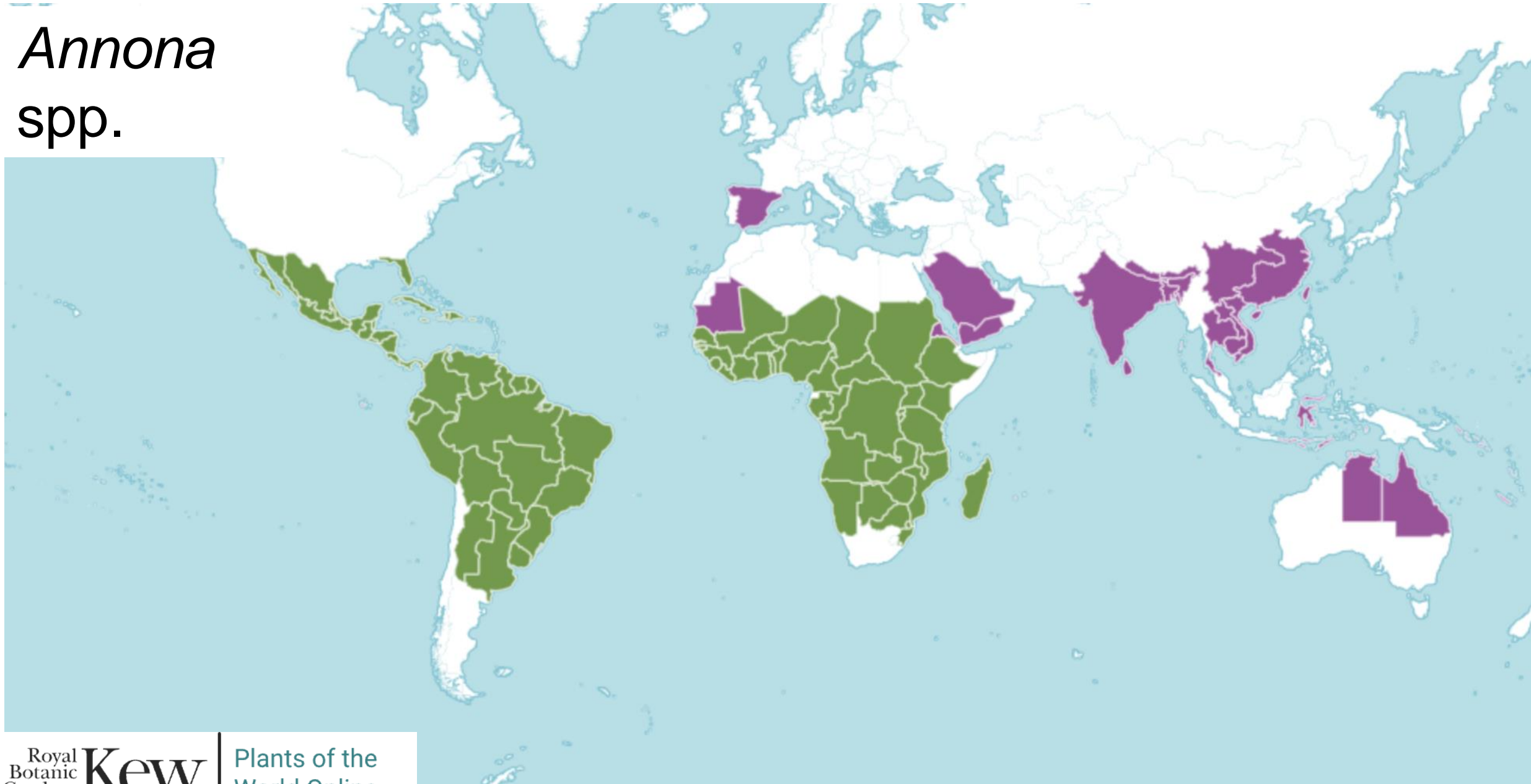


Annona spp. (custard apples, sweet apples, soursoup)





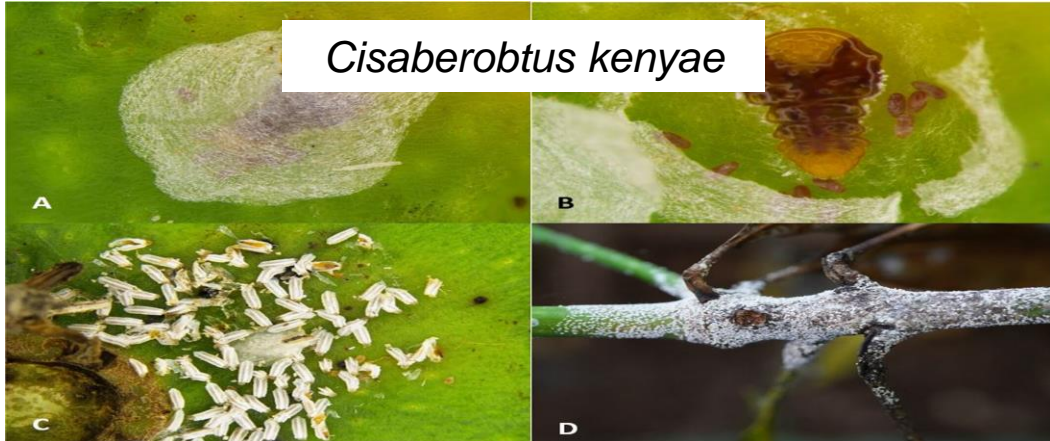
Annona
spp.



Pests



Mango pests



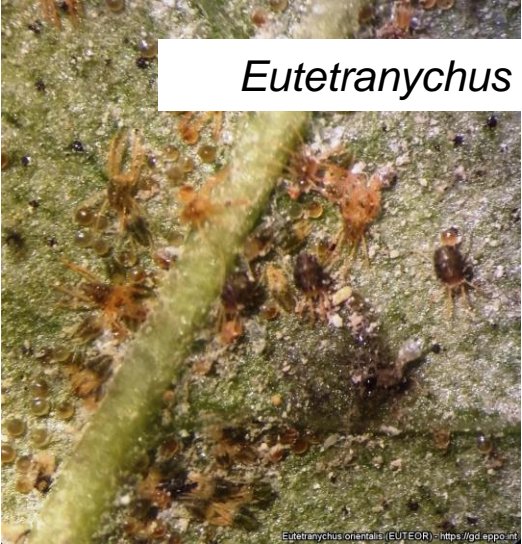


Mango pests: *Scirtothrips dorsalis*

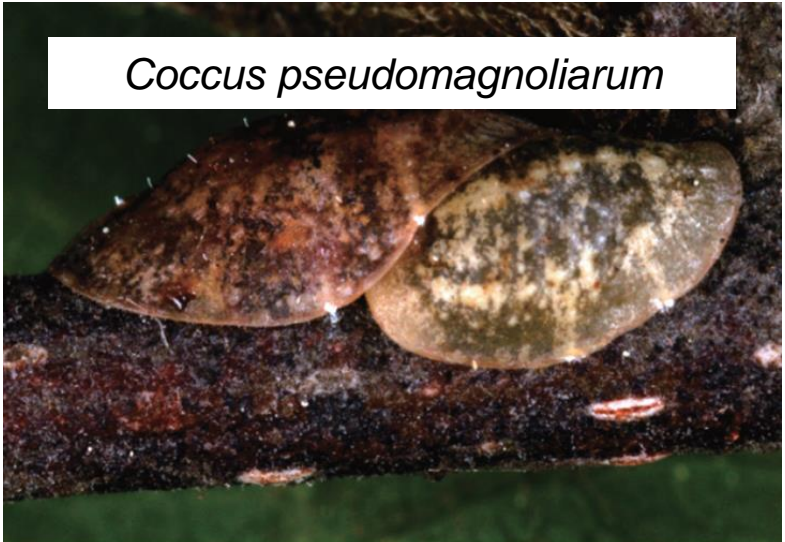


Pictures: EPPO & de a

Citrus



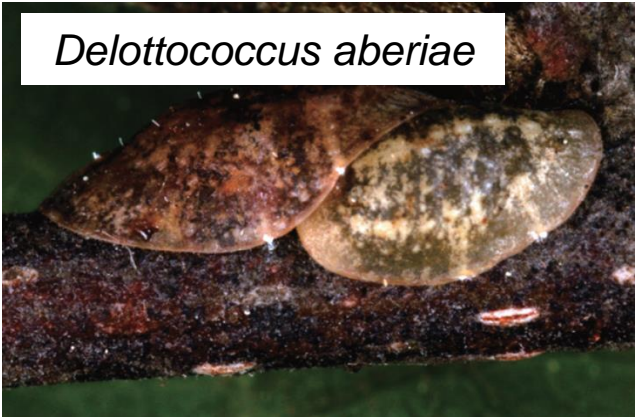
Eutetranychus orientalis and *E. banksii*



Coccus pseudomagnoliarum



Pezothrips kellyanus



Delottococcus aberiae



Trioza erytreae

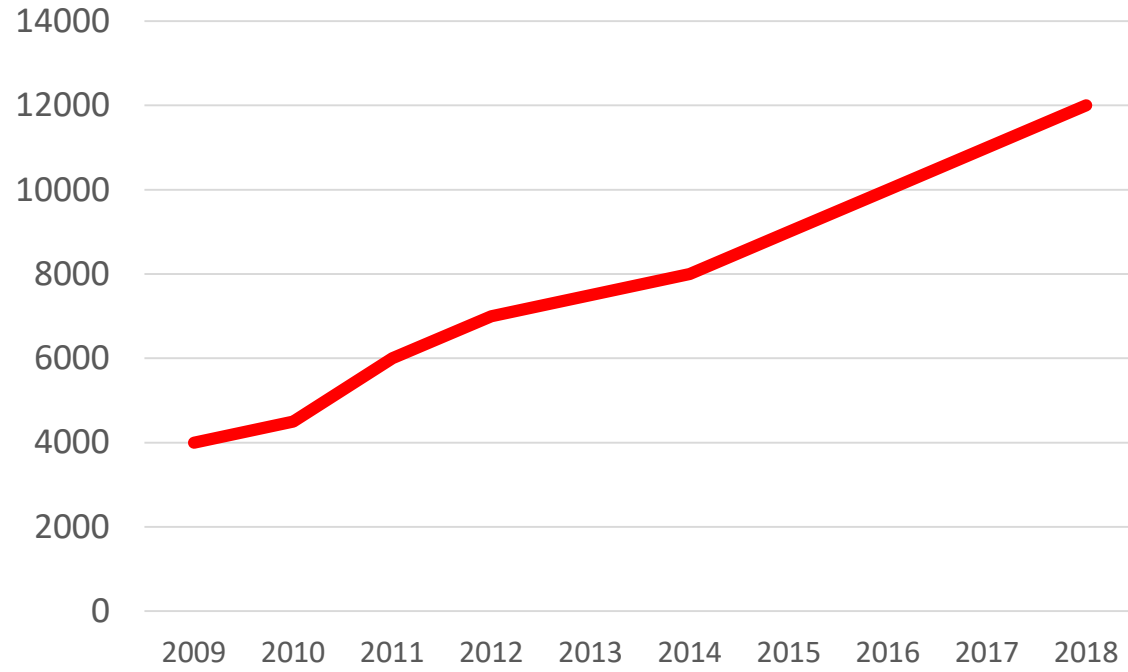


Scirzothrips spp.

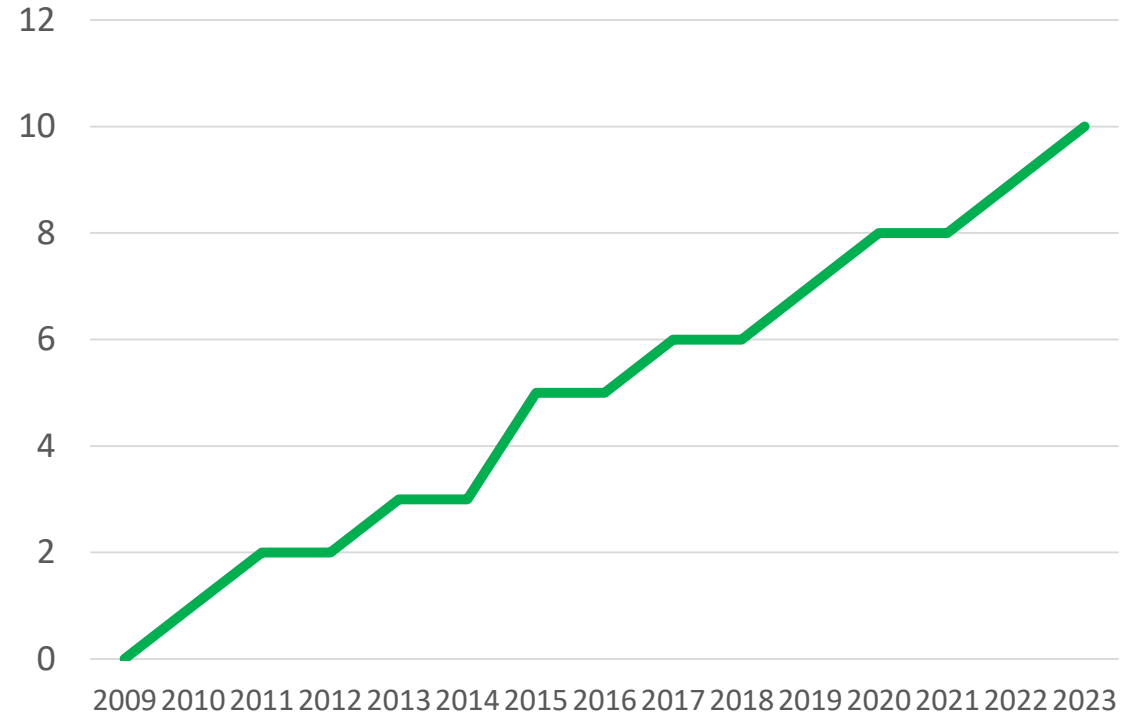
Mango



Ha



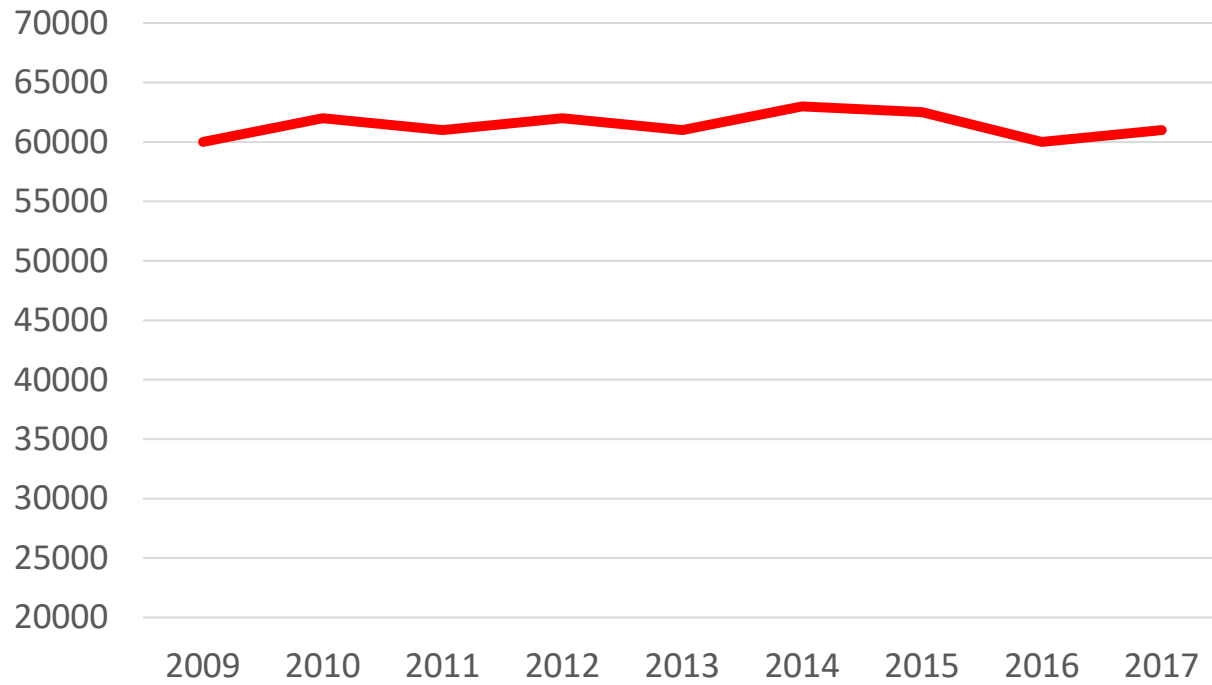
No. of pests



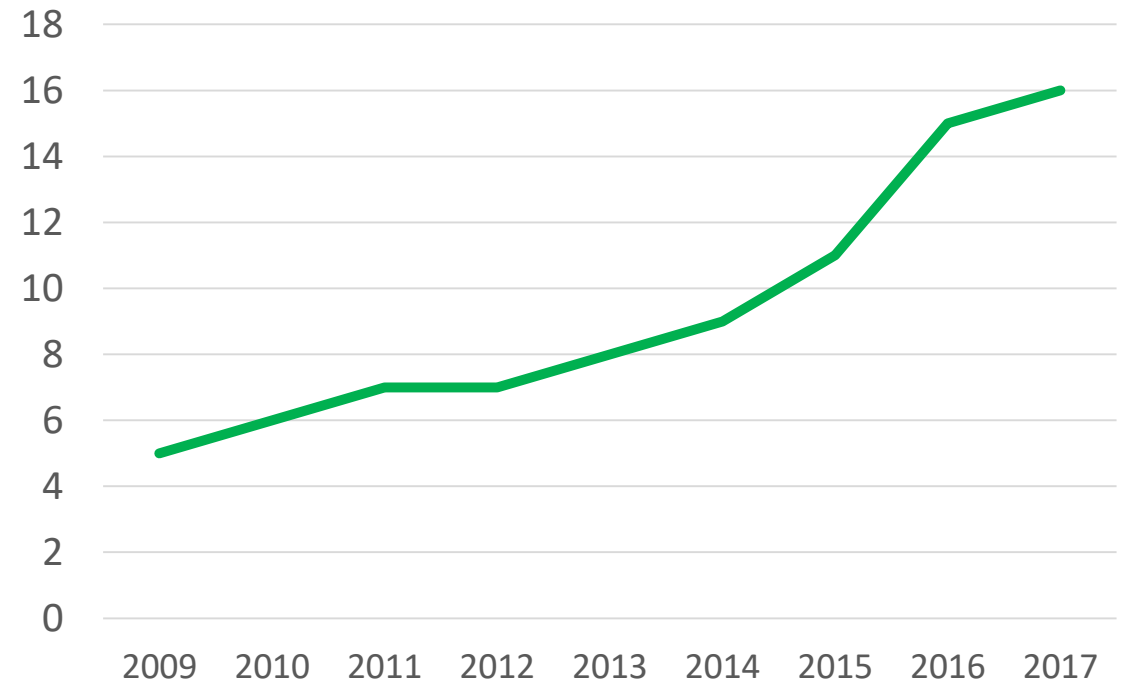
Citrus



Ha

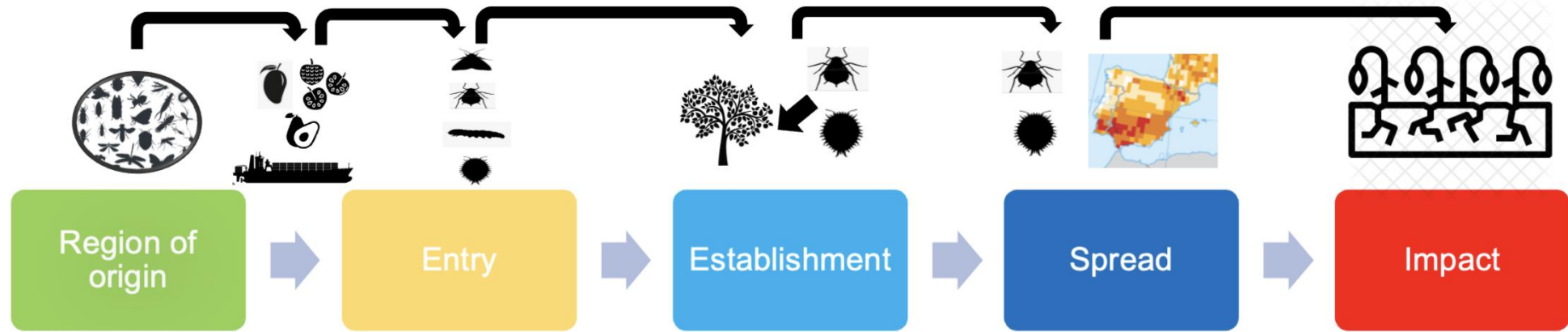


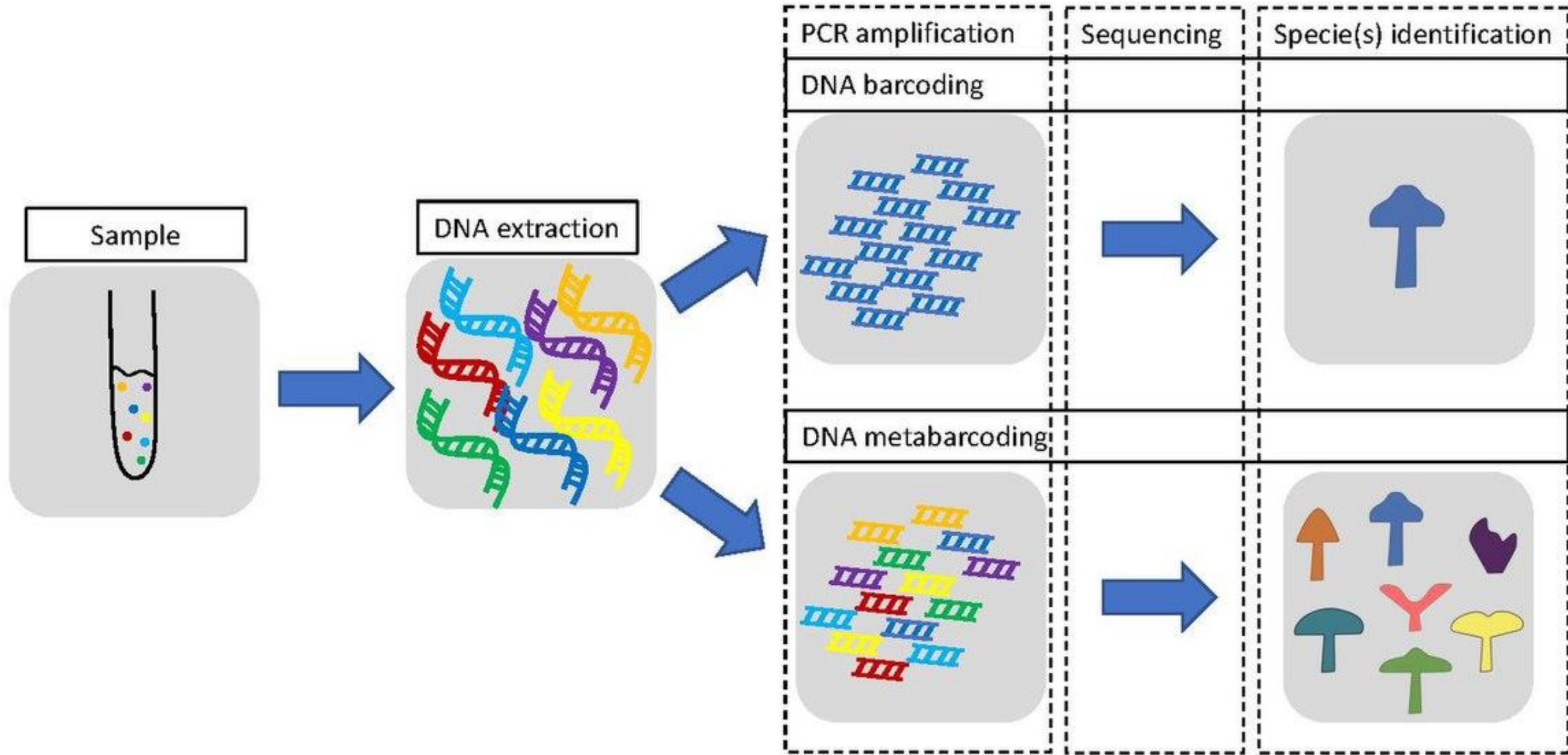
No. of pests



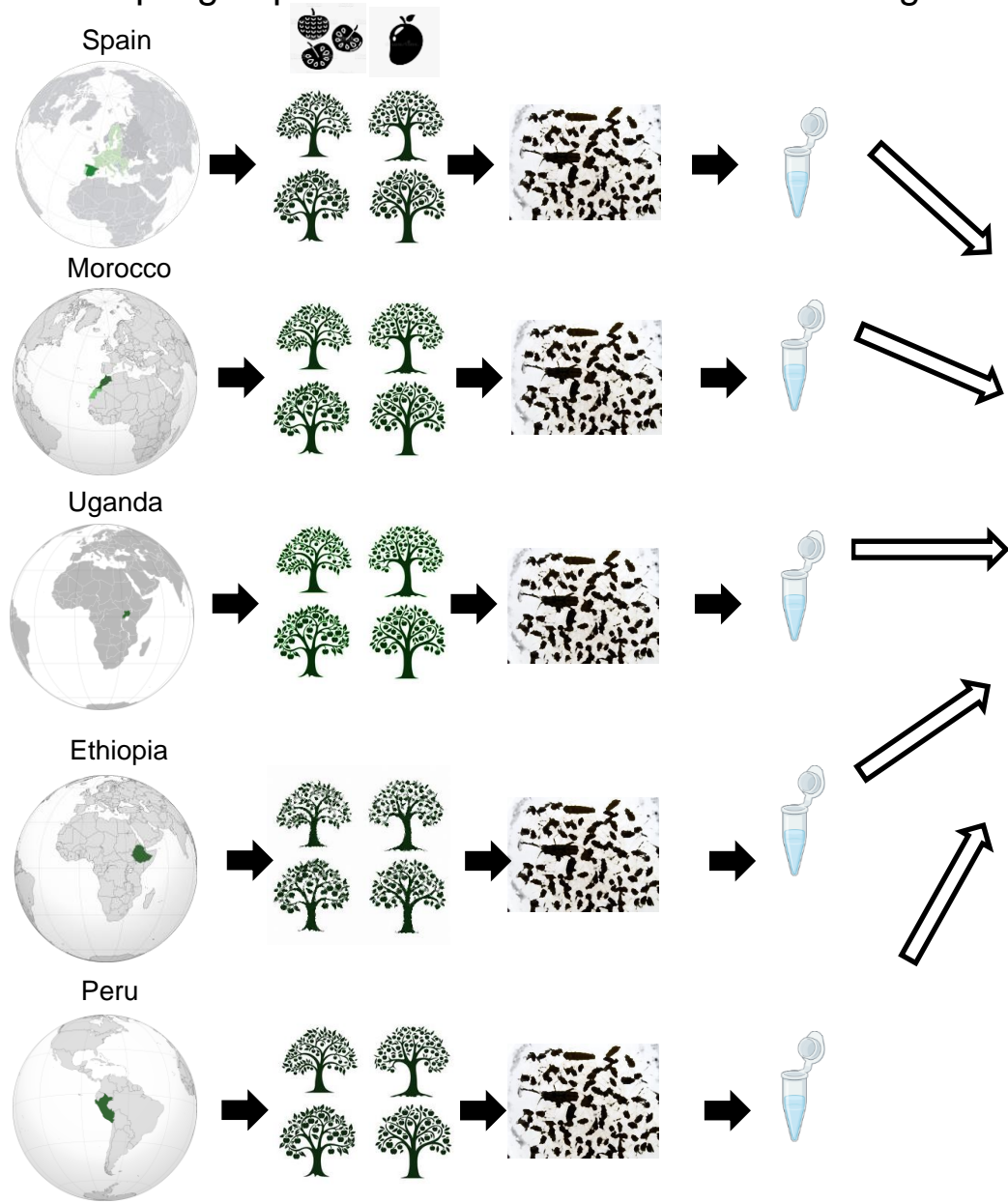
Introduction of pests

- The rate of introduction is *ca.* 1.5 species per year.
- Spill-over effects; introduction may affect at first a “minor crop” but may jump to key native crops
- Too many introductions for NPPOs and concerning authorities to respond
- **The current situation requires new approaches**
- Prioritization and early detection
- Sampling and rapid identification

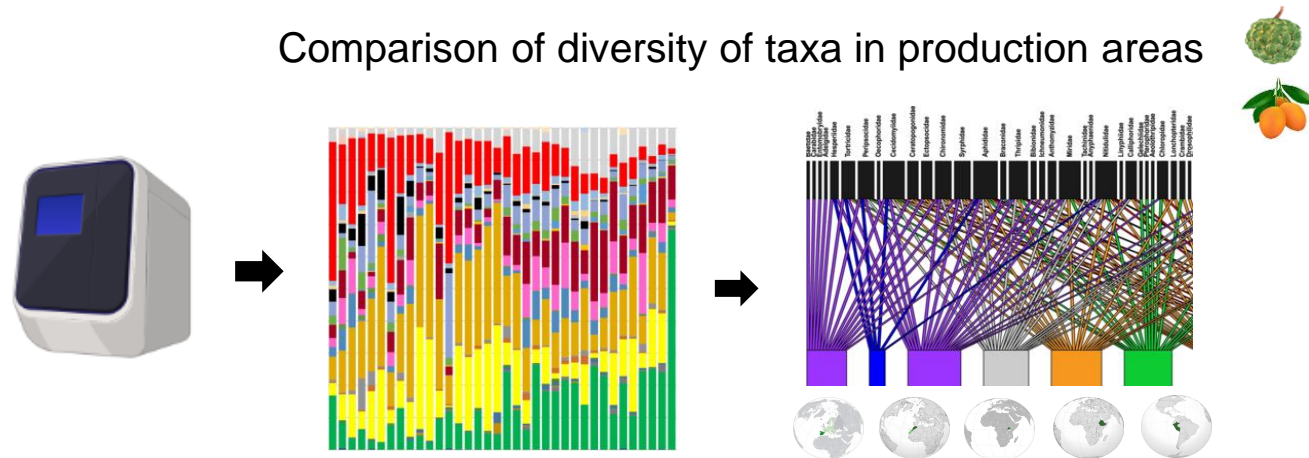




Sampling in production areas and metabarcoding



Comparison of diversity of taxa in production areas



Questions

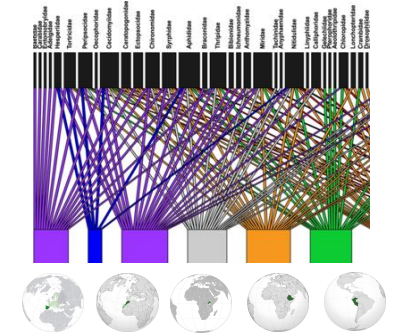
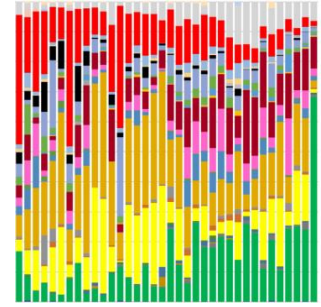
Can we use DNA barcoding for detection of regulated pests in a field situation?

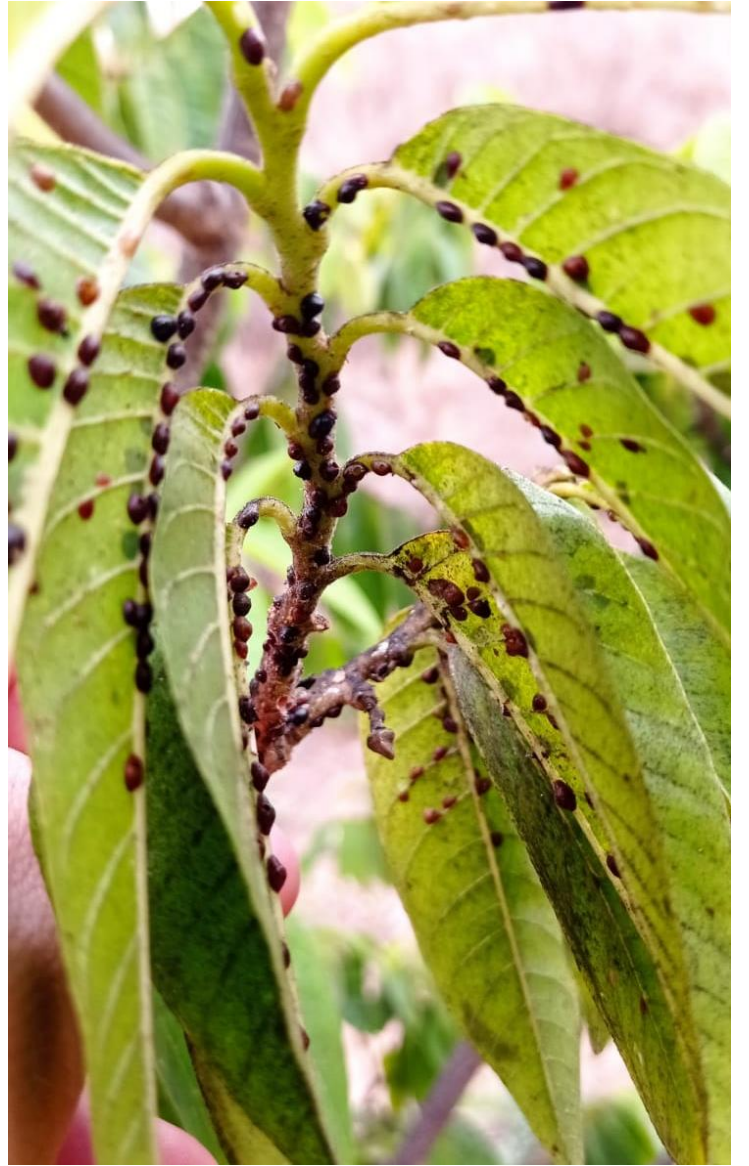
Do we detect the same targeted species using this approach?

Field samplings

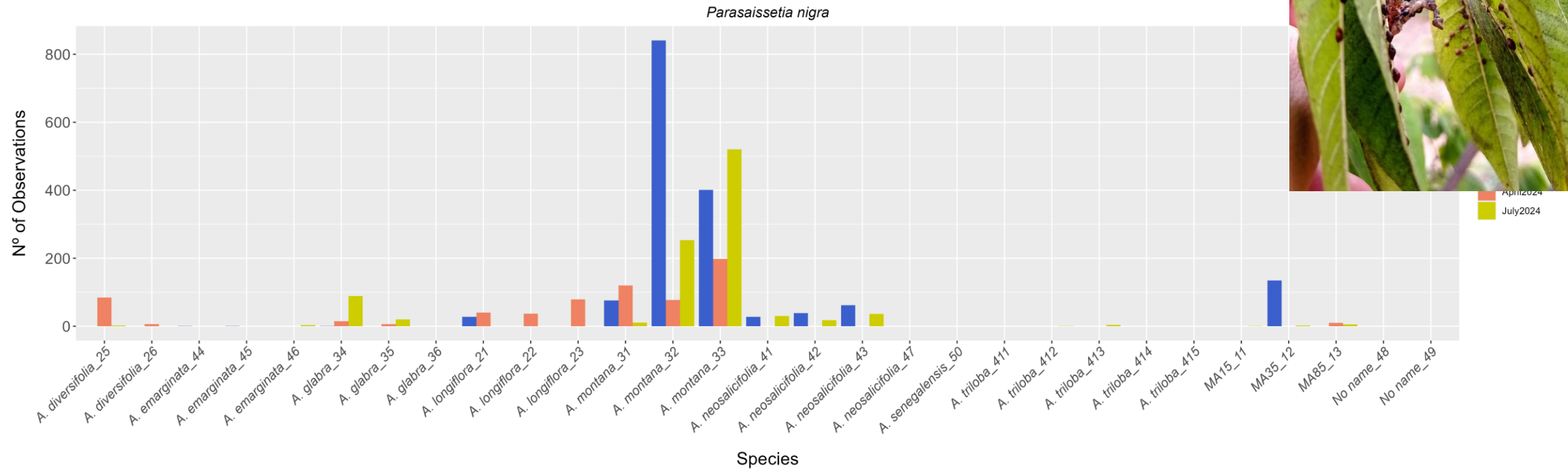


Comparison of diversity of taxa in production areas

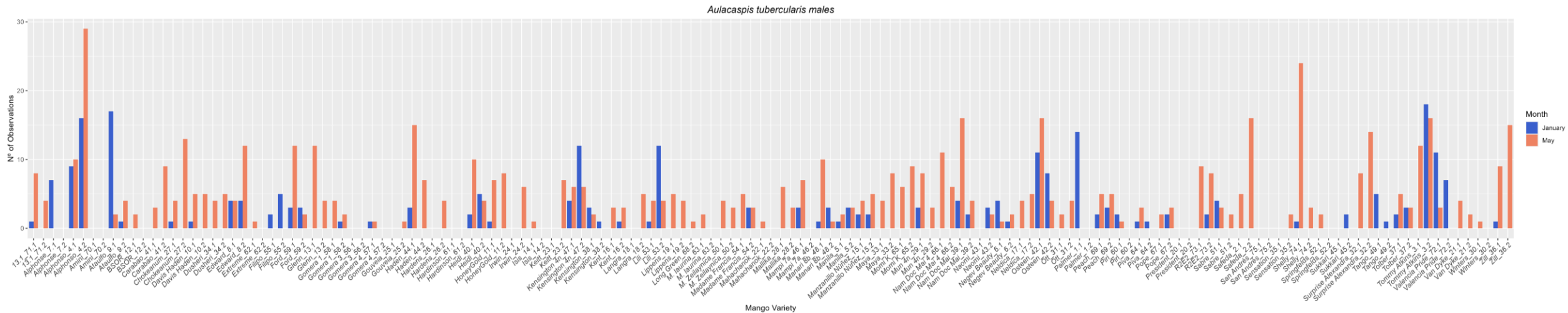




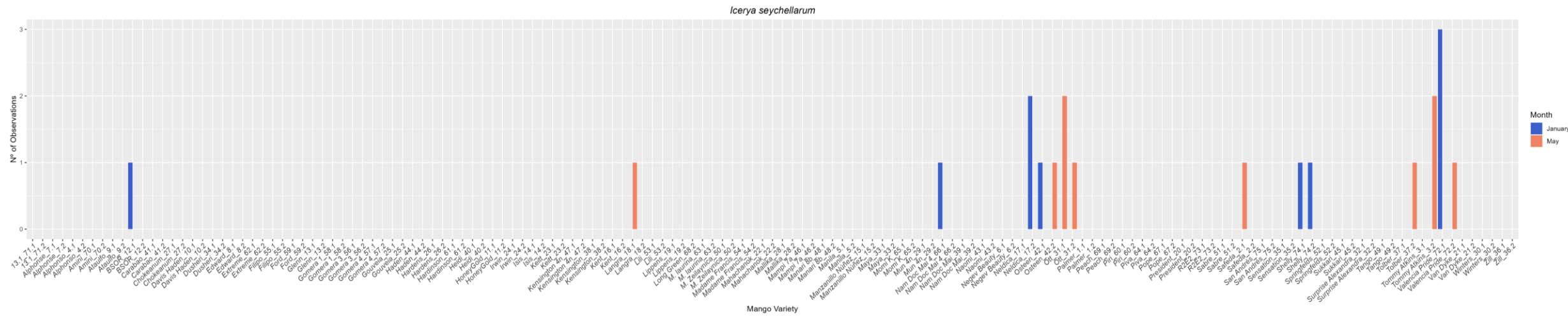
Parasaissetia nigra



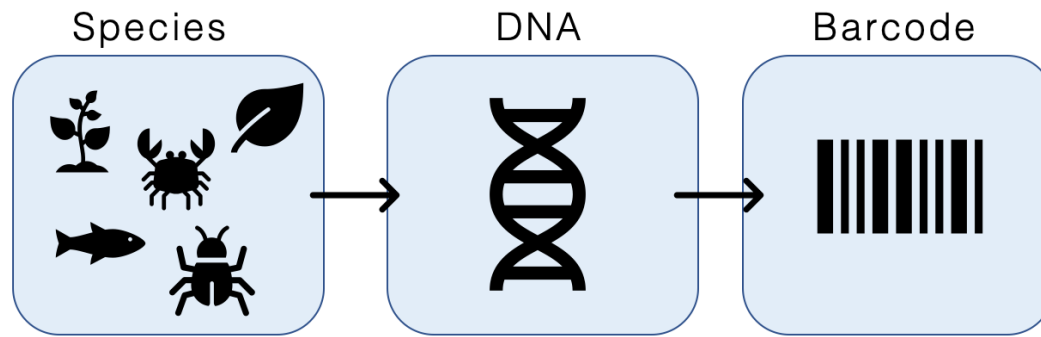
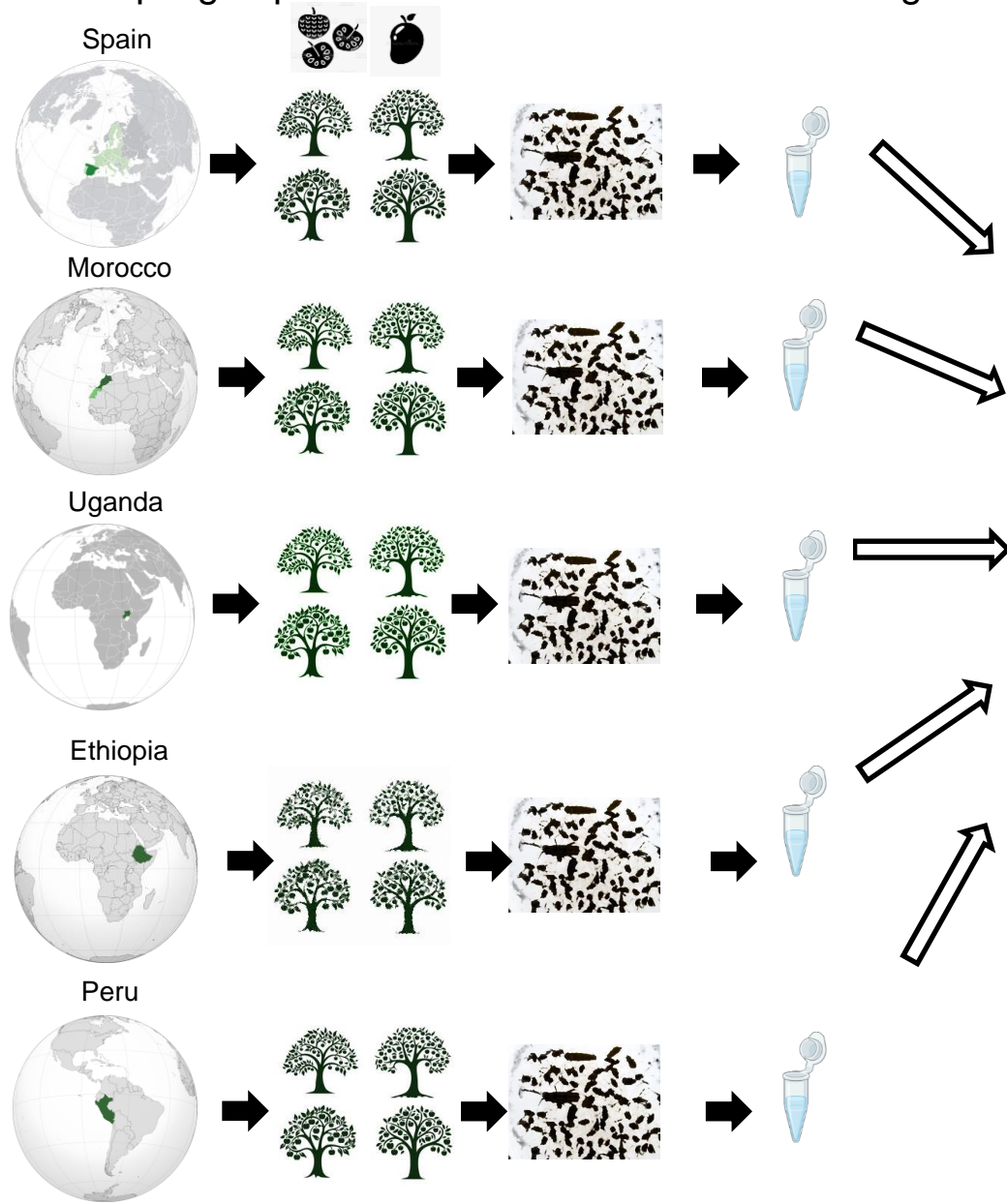
Aulacaspis tubercularis



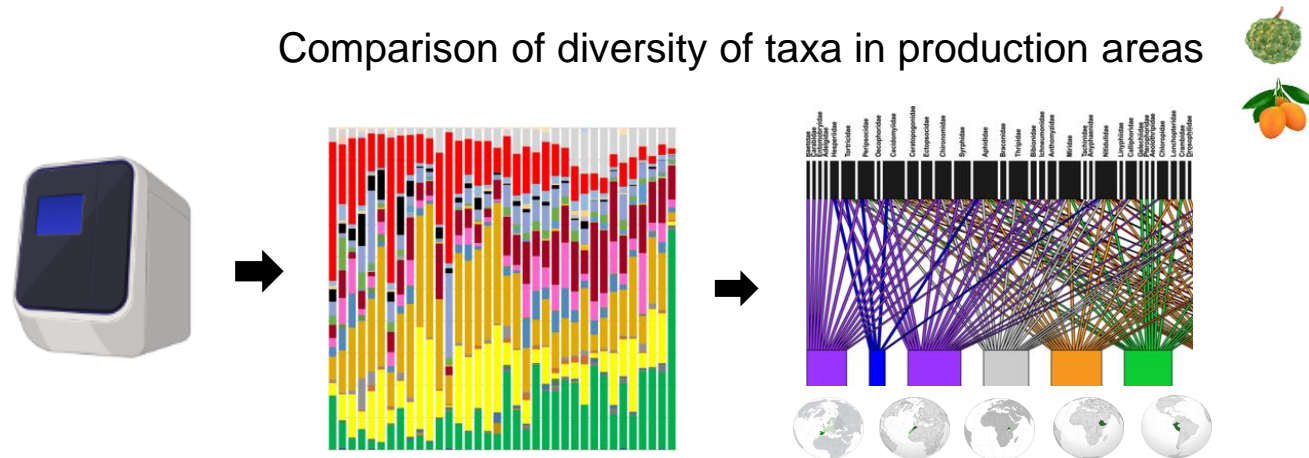
Ceroplastes rusci



Sampling in production areas and metabarcoding



Comparison of diversity of taxa in production areas

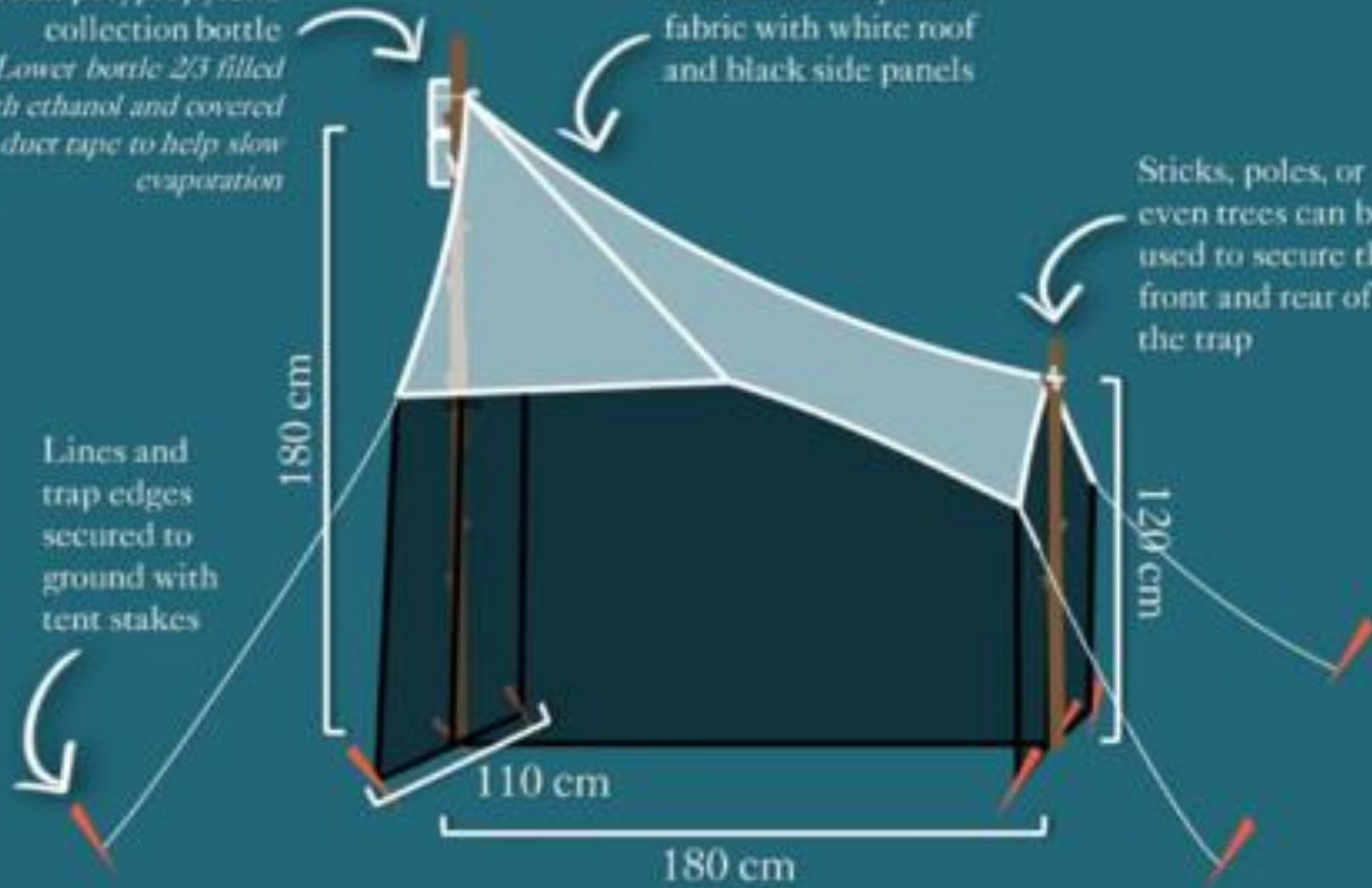


500ml polypropylene collection bottle
Lower bottle 2/3 filled with ethanol and covered in duct tape to help slow evaporation

Fine tricot warp knit fabric with white roof and black side panels

Sticks, poles, or even trees can be used to secure the front and rear of the trap

Lines and trap edges secured to ground with tent stakes



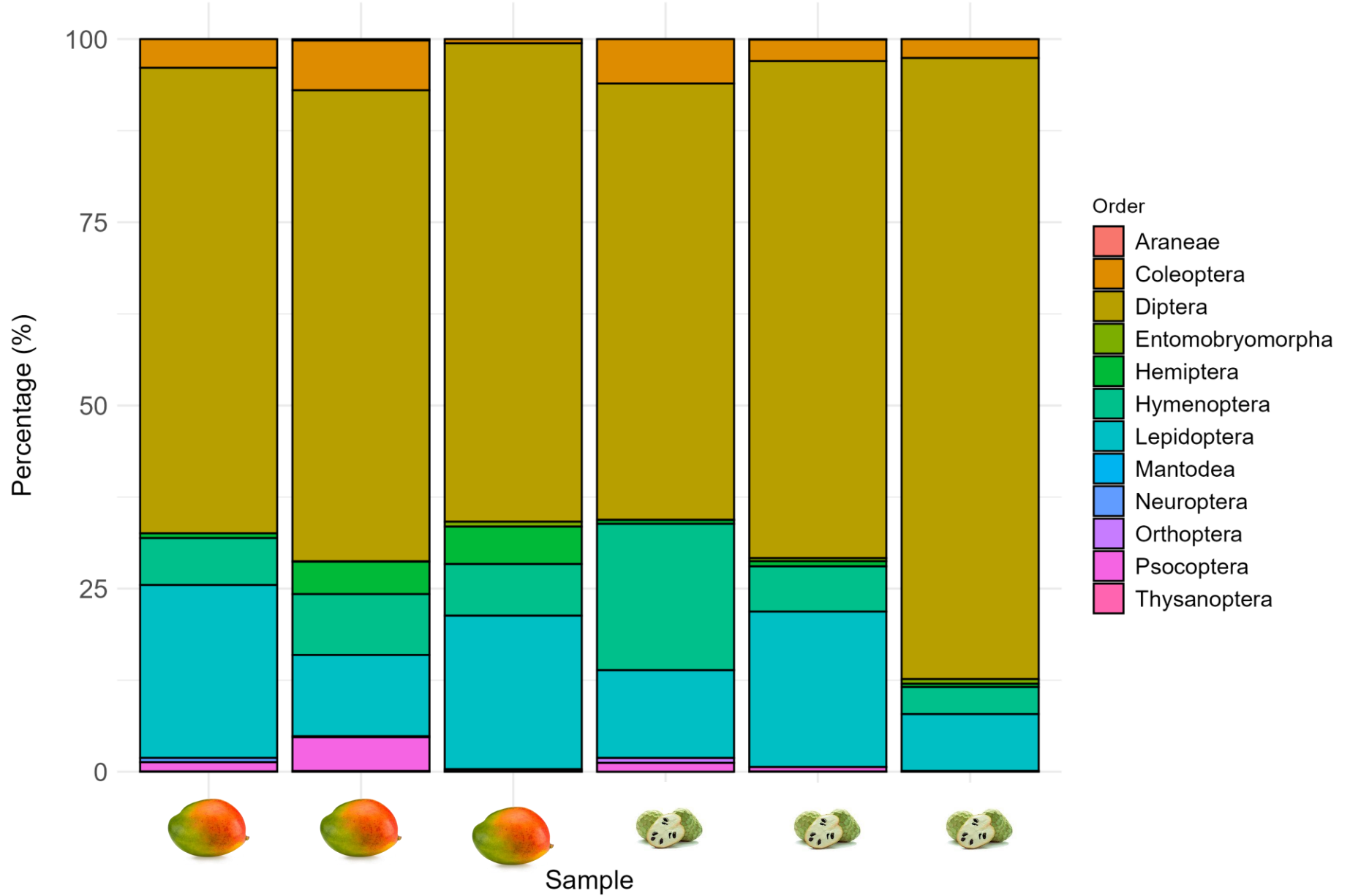
Sampling+ DNA Barcoding



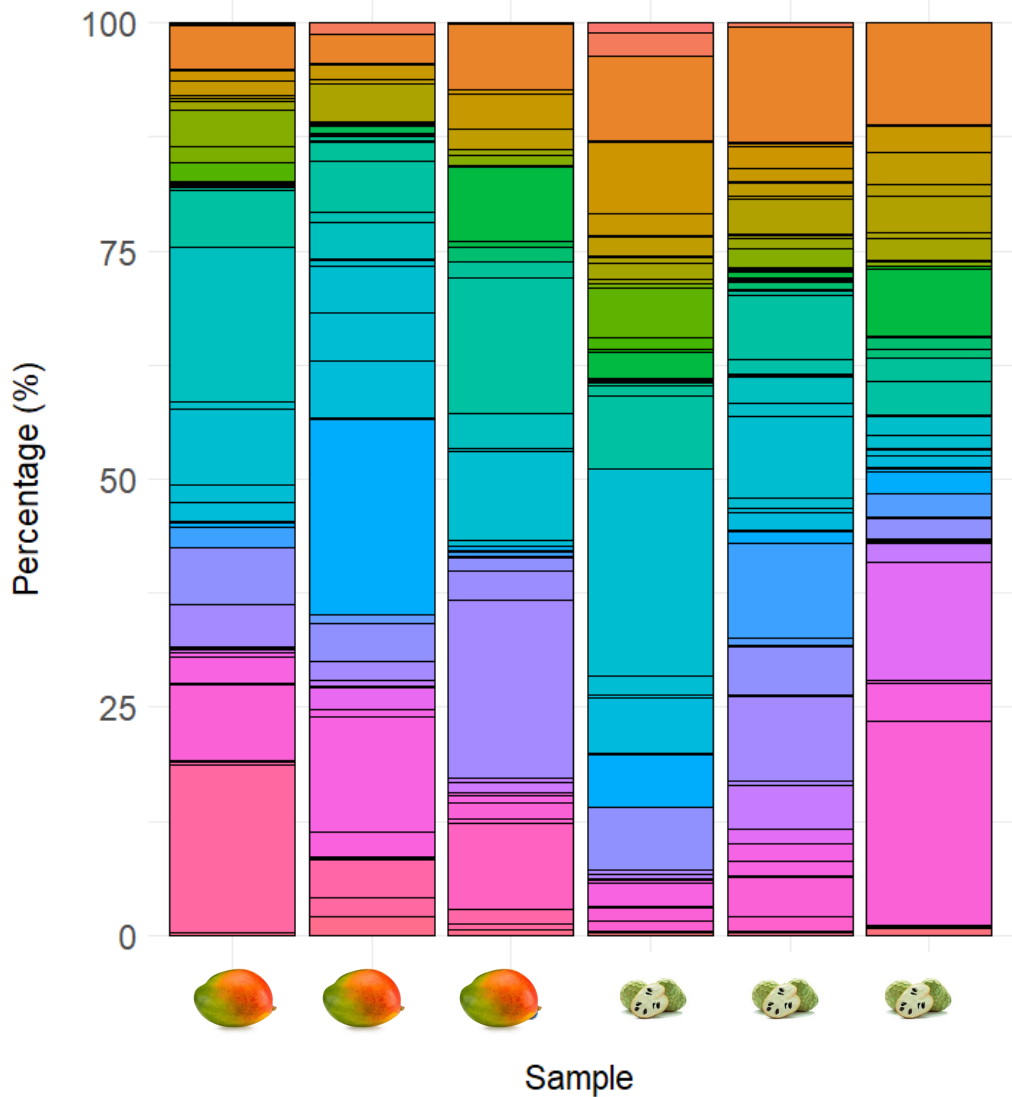
Mock samples



Percentage of each Order



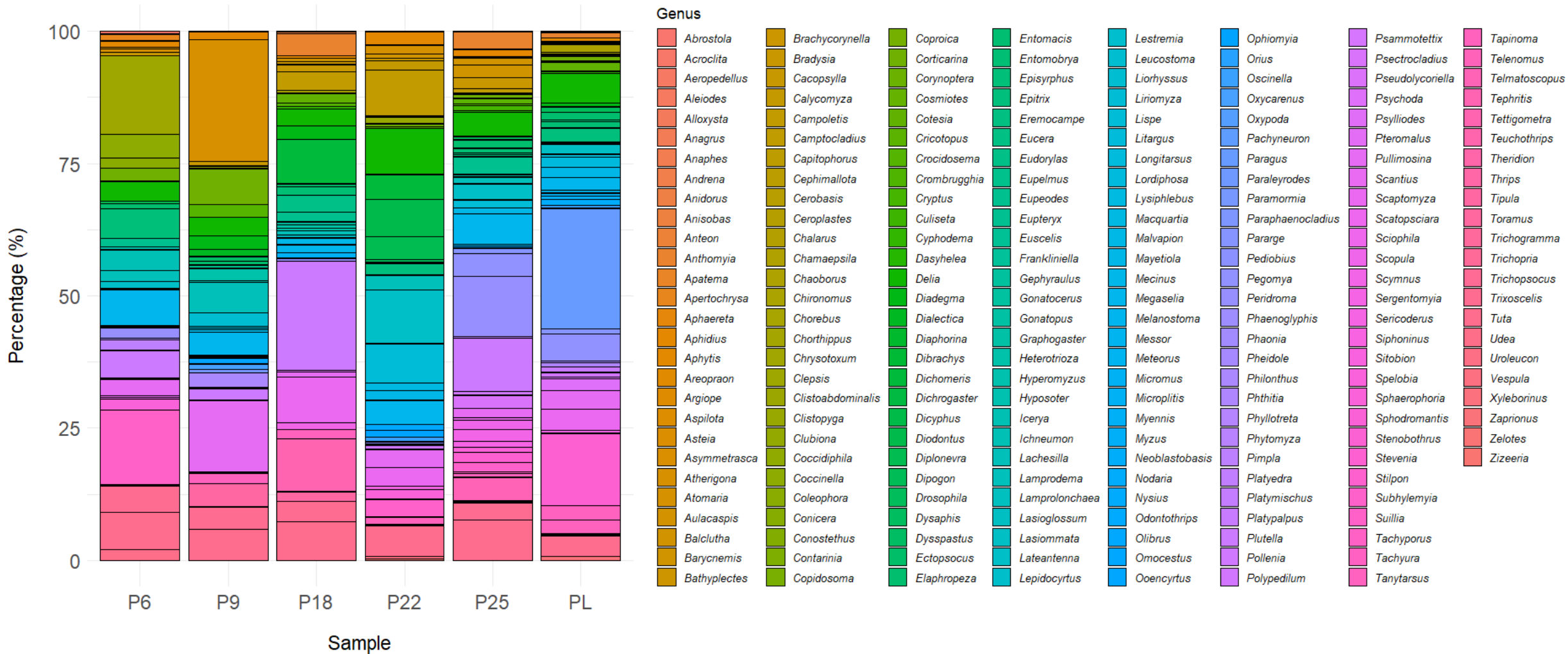
Percentage of each Family



Family

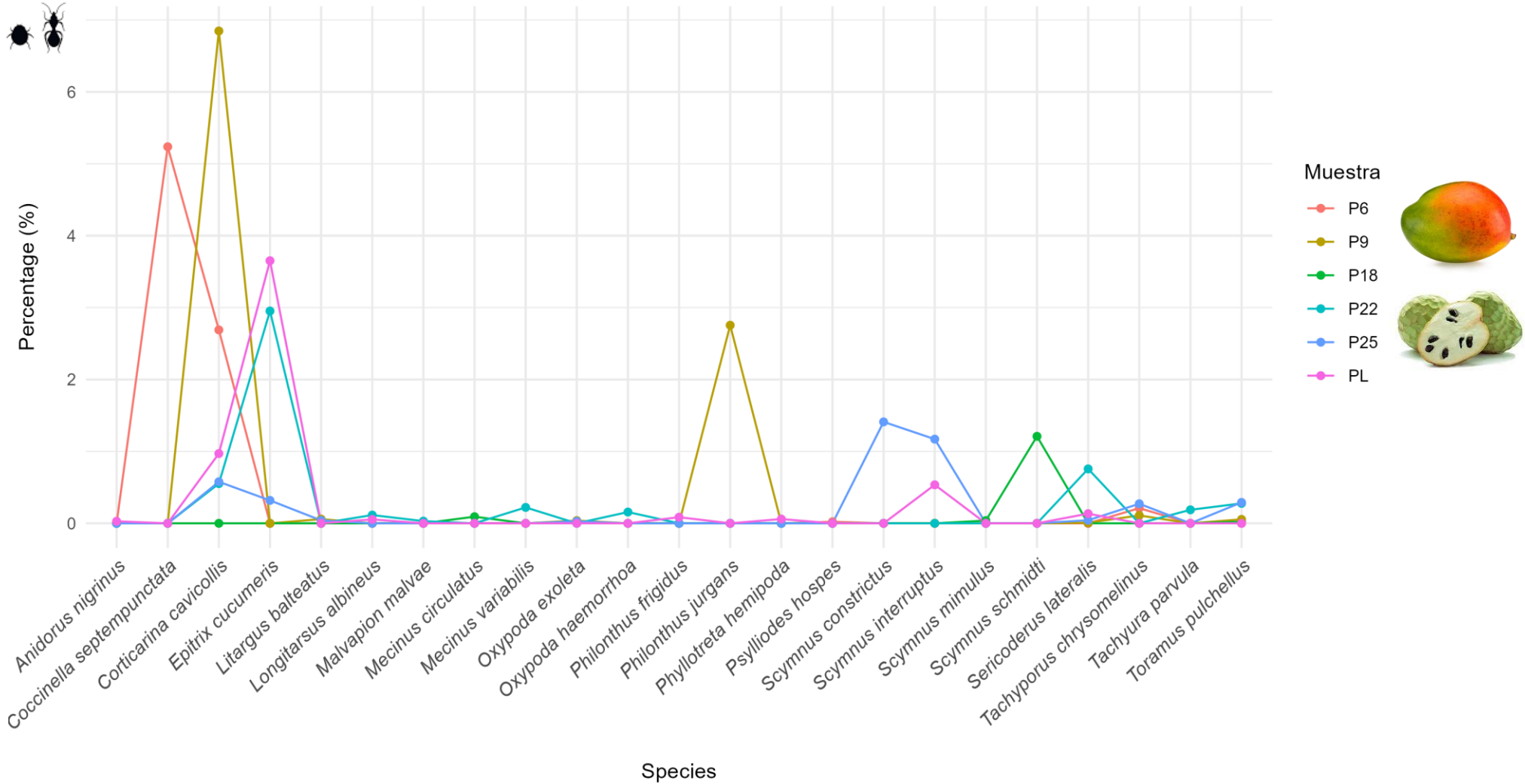
- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Acrididae | Chaoboridae | Drosophilidae | Hybotidae | Phalacridae | Staphylinidae |
| Aderidae | Chironomidae | Dryinidae | Ichneumonidae | Phlaeothripidae | Syrphidae |
| Agromyzidae | Chloropidae | Ectopsocidae | Lachesillidae | Phoridae | Tachinidae |
| Aleyrodidae | Chrysomelidae | Elachistidae | Latridiidae | Pipunculidae | Tephritidae |
| Andrenidae | Chrysopidae | Encyrtidae | Leiodidae | Plutellidae | Tetracampidae |
| Anthocoridae | Cicadellidae | Entomobryidae | Liviidae | Polleniidae | Tettigometridae |
| Anthomyiidae | Clubionidae | Erebidae | Lonchaeidae | Pompilidae | Theridiidae |
| Aphelinidae | Coccidae | Erotylidae | Lycanidae | Psilidae | Thripidae |
| Aphididae | Coccinellidae | Eulophidae | Lygaeidae | Psychodidae | Tineidae |
| Apidae | Coleophoridae | Eupelmidae | Mantidae | Psyllidae | Tipulidae |
| Apionidae | Corylophidae | Figitidae | Miridae | Pteromalidae | Tortricidae |
| Araneidae | Cosmopterigidae | Formicidae | Monophlebitidae | Pterophoridae | Trichogrammatidae |
| Asteiidae | Crabronidae | Gelechiidae | Muscidae | Pyrrhocoridae | Trichopsocidae |
| Autostichidae | Crambidae | Geometridae | Mycetophagidae | Rhinophoridae | Triozidae |
| Blastobasidae | Cryptophagidae | Gnaphosidae | Mycetophilidae | Rhopalidae | Trogiidae |
| Braconidae | Culicidae | Gracillariidae | Mymaridae | Rhyparochromidae | Ulidiidae |
| Carabidae | Curculionidae | Halictidae | Noctuidae | Scelionidae | Vespididae |
| Cecidomyiidae | Diapriidae | Heleomyzidae | Nymphalidae | Sciaridae | |
| Ceratopogonidae | Diaspididae | Hemerobiidae | Oxycarenidae | Sphaeroceridae | |

Percentage of each Genus





Percentage of Species by Order: Coleoptera



	Species	P18	P6	P9	P22	P25	PL	P- nigra	A- tubercularis	C. rusci	I. seychellarum	MOCK
Monophlebidae	Icerya seychellarum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Coccidae	Parasaissetia nigra (P)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Diaspididae	Aulacaspis tubercularis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Coccidae	Ceroplastes rusci	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1

Discussion

- Use of DNA barcoding for identification was quite powerful in detecting taxa
- Groups that we were not aware of from field samplings
- We did not detect in samples from Malaise traps (and DNA barcoding) insects that we detected by visual inspection/individual tree samplings
- Need to establish detection thresholds
- Compare sampling techniques + extraction

People

- Dr. Rosario Planelló
- **Helena Romero**, Mónica Aquilino (UNED)
- Alemayehu Kassa
- Emiel de Meyer

Jackie Epila (Lira University, Uganda)

Conserving the past, nourishing the future: unlocking the agronomical potential of food systems in Northern Uganda

GP/EFSA/PLANTS/2022/05: Development of crop-based survey tools for plants pests of fruit trees

