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Posters

Title

Variation between Santa Cruz Island and mainland bee specimens

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Introduction

- The UCSBees¹ Project has been collecting bees monthly since December, 2018
- Collection sites span Santa Barbara Ο and Ventura counties, including UC Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz Island
- Island/mainland populations of a Ο single species can vary in phenotype

Questions

- Does bee diversity vary by collecting location?
- 2. Do wings vary in a single bee species (Halictus tripartitus) by island or mainland population?

Methods

Boxes 1 and 2

Bees are collected monthly via pan traps at all collection sites. Some bees avoid pan traps², and thus supplemental bees are hand collected. Specimens are deposited as research vouchers in the UCSB Natural History Collections. Collected bees are then pinned, identified to lowest taxonomic level, and databased. Data is analyzed in R version 3.6.1. Box 3

Collected Halictus tripartitus (Halictidae) bee wings are removed, slide-mounted, and imaged with a microscope camera. Images are edited for clarity, then landmarked with the TPS software suite³.

With R package 'geomorph'⁴, landmark coordinates are aligned with a Generalized Procrustes Analysis. With R package 'vegan'⁵, an ANOSIM tests for difference between the island and mainland populations, and a biplot visualizes the output of a Principal Component Analysis.

1. Collecting Bees

Pan Trapping

- o Bowls of soapy water
- Place in morning, pick up in evening
- day

Hand Collecting





- UCSB has more specimens due to greater collecting effort
- Halictidae, the sweat bee family, is the most abundant in both collections
- Santa Cruz Island has been free of the non-native European honey bee (Apis *mellifera*) since the early 2000s
- An updated bee species checklist of Santa Cruz Island is in progress

UC SANTA BARBARA Variation between Santa Cruz Island and mainland bee specimens Undergraduate Research Charles Thrift & Katja C. Seltmann & Creative Activities Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration, UC Santa Barbara COASTAL FUND Contact Information: cnthrift@ucsb.edu & seltmann@ucsb.edu

• Bees fly into them during the

• Collect bees directly with a net

- North Campus Open Space
- Coal Oil Point Reserve
- UCSB Lagoon
- UCSB North Parcel CCBER Greenhouse

Habropoda

Halictus

Hoplitis

Hylaeus

Hesperapis

Megachile

Melecta

Hylaeus (Prosopis)

Lasioglossum (Dialictus)

Lasioglossum (Evvlaeus

Panurginus

Panurgus

Perdita

Protosmia

Sphecodes

Tetraloniella

Xeromelecta

Xylocopa

Andrena

Anthidium

Anthophora

Chelostoma

- Carpinteria Salt
- Marsh Reserve
- Santa Clara River Santa Cruz Island

Zooming in: UCSB area vs. Santa Cruz Island





3. Quantifying Island vs. Mainland Population Variation



Call: $anosim(x = dataforanosim_tri_location)$ 9999, distance = "bray") Dissimilarity: bray

ANOSIM statistic R: 0.0774 Significance: 0.033

Permutation: free Number of permutations: 9999

ANOSIM results show a significant difference between island and mainland populations (p < 0.05), but with a low R statistic, showing a weak difference.

Results and Future Directions

UCSBees Project bee collection efforts have yielded over 4000 specimens. Many collection events have continued safely into the COVID-19 pandemic, including valuable hand collecting on Santa Cruz Island. To date, the UCSBees Project has collected 126 species from 32 genera across 6 families in mainland Santa Barbara, and 140 species from 35 genera across 5 families on Santa Cruz Island. An updated bee species checklist of Santa Cruz Island is in progress for eventual publication.

Additional specimens are being added to the wing landmarking project. Population level variation in wing venation between Santa Cruz Island and mainland specimens is supported by current data, but more bees and more tests (including K-means clustering and NMDS plots) are needed.



Literature

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Biplot showing Halictus tripartitus specimens by location, with mainland wings in blue and island wings in tan. There is considerable overlap but some difference visible between the two populations.



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