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### Title

Impact of the Temperature on the Phenology of *Diaphorina citri* (Hemiptera: Liviidae) and on the Establishment of *Tamarixia radiata* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) in Urban Areas in the Lower Colorado Desert in Arizona

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1     **Impact of the temperature on the phenology of the Asian citrus psyllid, *Diaphorina citri***  
2     **(Hemiptera: Liviidae) and on the establishment of *Tamarixia radiata* (Hymenoptera:**  
3     **Eulophidae) in urban areas in the lower Colorado desert in Arizona**

4  
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12

13   **Running title:** Phenology of *D. citri* in Arizona

14

15   **Abstract**

16   The invasive pest *Diaphorina citri* Kuwayama (Hemiptera: Liviidae) was first detected in  
17   Arizona in 2009. Since late 2013, the parasitoid *Tamarixia radiata* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae),  
18   the main biocontrol agent of *D. citri*, has been released as part of a biological control program on  
19   citrus grown in urban areas of two western Arizona counties in the lower Colorado desert  
20   environment. Here we report a three-year survey aimed at assessing the impact of the release of  
21   *T. radiata* on the phenology of *D. citri* under these climate conditions. We also monitored the  
22   phenology of *D. citri* as part of this assessment on different citrus host species. We show that the

23 high summer temperatures in the Arizona desert halt the development of *D. citri* for about three  
24 months every year which appears to have limited the establishment and impact of *T. radiata*. At  
25 survey sites distant from release areas the parasitism rates over the season ranged from 0% to  
26 75% and on average peaked around 50% in 2016 but it was low or absent in 2015 and 2017  
27 respectively. We discuss the consequences of this phenology of *D. citri* in the desert areas for the  
28 prospects of long-term establishment of *T. radiata* and the management of this key citrus pest.

29

30 Keywords: *ACP*, *biological control*, *population dynamics*, *degree-day*, *citrus*

31

## 32 **Introduction**

33 *Diaphorina citri* Kuwayama (Hemiptera: Liviidae), commonly known as Asian citrus  
34 psyllid (ACP), is a worldwide citrus pest that is able to vector the phloem-dwelling bacterium,  
35 *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus*, which causes a lethal and incurable citrus disease known as  
36 citrus greening or Huanglongbing (HLB) (Bové 2006, Grafton-Cardwell et al. 2013). In the  
37 United States (USA), *D. citri* has established in almost all the southern states (Alabama, Arizona,  
38 California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Texas) and Hawaii  
39 (Grafton-Cardwell et al. 2013, Mead and Fasulo 2013). HLB has been detected in all these states  
40 except for Arizona, where the vector *D. citri*, was first detected in San Luis in October 2009  
41 without signs of HLB infections (Mead and Fasulo 2013). Following this discovery, a part of  
42 Yuma County and an area of 32 Km around Lake Havasu City in Mohave County were  
43 immediately placed under Federal quarantine for *D. citri* by the United States Department of  
44 Agriculture. While the entire state of Arizona is currently a quarantine area for *D. citri*, the pest

45 is only found in the citrus producing areas in Western Arizona and in some residential areas with  
46 backyard citrus (ADA, 2018, USDA 2018).

47 *D. citri* populations in commercial citrus are controlled using insecticides. However, the  
48 use of insecticides has proven not feasible to control *D. citri* populations in the residential  
49 environment because of resistance to ongoing treatments by residents, high costs of ongoing  
50 treatments and difficulties of operating long-term pesticide treatments in residential areas  
51 (Grafton-Cardwell et al. 2011, Hoddle and Pandey 2014). Consequently, biological control is  
52 currently the only viable management option. In an effort to reduce populations of *D. citri* and  
53 the possible establishment of HLB in urban areas from impacting nearby commercial citrus, a  
54 classical biological control program was started in late 2013. *Tamarixia radiata* (Waterson)  
55 (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae), a host specific parasitoid of *D. citri*, was started with releases on  
56 residential citrus in two areas of Arizona where the psyllid was originally found, Yuma County  
57 and Mohave County (Lake Havasu City). This parasitoid is able to parasitize *D. citri* nymphs  
58 from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> instar, preferring the last two instars (Chen and Stansly 2014). *Tamarixia*  
59 *radiata* had a significant effect on reducing *D. citri* densities in urban citrus in Southern  
60 California (Kistner et al. 2016a, Kistner et al. 2016b), although its impact varied across locations  
61 and time.

62 Abundance and migration data analyses of insect pest populations are key to achieve  
63 successful pest management programs (Pedigo and Rice 2014). As temperature drives insect  
64 development and behavior, the phenology of its life stages can be predicted by degree-days  
65 (DDs) accumulation (Cammell and Knight 1992, Nietschke et al. 2007, Gómez-Marco et al.  
66 2016, Milosavljević et al. 2018). These predictions may be used to control pest populations by  
67 targeting specific life stages, thus informing management decisions directed, for example, at

68 enhancing the efficacy of the control agents (Broatch et al. 2006, Logan et al. 2006).  
69 Additionally, predicting the pest phenology with DD models integrated on larger databases could  
70 improve pest management programs across different geographic regions (Jones et al. 2010), and  
71 biocontrol programs in particular, as they may be more affected by climate patterns and how pest  
72 population dynamics evolve over time/temperature (Milosavljević et al. 2018).

73 To evaluate the long-term establishment of *T. radiata* and its impacts on *D. citri*  
74 populations in this biological control program there is a need to understand the fluctuations in  
75 population dynamics of *D. citri*. Modeling the different *D. citri* life stages most vulnerable to  
76 parasitism or predation will result in a more precise targeting of the pest in different locations  
77 (Milosavljević et al. 2018). By providing a tool to assist with the development of sustainable  
78 management practices, these models based on temperature (DD accumulations) may then help  
79 halting the spread and establishment of *D. citri* in Arizona.

80 In this study we present the results of a three-year evaluation of our work to release and  
81 establish *T. radiata* on citrus trees in two urban areas of western Arizona. We document the lack  
82 of establishment, parasitism levels and the phenology of *D. citri* populations in these areas on  
83 different citrus hosts. Additionally, using DD accumulations, we estimate phenology models for  
84 each *D. citri* stage (eggs, nymphs and adults). We then discuss the relevance of our findings and  
85 models to the management of *D. citri* in Arizona and how these may limit the success of *T.*  
86 *radiata* as an agent for a classical biological control program in the warmest citrus areas of  
87 Arizona.

88

## 89 **Material and Methods**

90 *Study sites*

91 *D. citri* populations were monitored on citrus trees in 32 urban sites located in two  
92 Counties (Yuma County and Mohave County, Arizona) every year from 1 January 2015 to 31  
93 December 2017 (the two first years of the program, 2013 and 2014, were excluded from the  
94 analyses because low number of sites and the surveys started on different dates). The sites from  
95 Yuma County were located in three different zones (Yuma Valley [North-West], San Luis  
96 [South] and Yuma Gila [North-East]), whereas all the sites from Mohave County were located in  
97 Lake Havasu City. Each site had one or two of the following citrus species: grapefruit (*Citrus x*  
98 *paradise* Macfad.), lemon (*Citrus limon* [L.] Osbeck), lime (*Citrus aurantifolia* [Christm.]  
99 Swingle), orange (*Citrus sinensis* [L.] Osbeck) and tangelo (*Citrus x tangelo* J.W. Ingram and  
100 H.E. Moore)) for a total of 187 study trees (Table 1). All trees were more than five years old and  
101 were not sprayed with insecticides throughout the study.

#### 102 *Meteorological data*

103 Hourly air temperatures were obtained from the nearest meteorological station for each  
104 site using the data archive of the Arizona Meteorological Network (AZMET, available at: [https://](https://cals.arizona.edu/azmet/az-data.htm)  
105 [cals.arizona.edu/azmet/az-data.htm](https://cals.arizona.edu/azmet/az-data.htm)). The following meteorological stations were used: Yuma  
106 Gila, Yuma Valley, Yuma South and Mohave-2. Temperature data were used to calculate the  
107 cumulative DD for each *D. citri* stage (see *Data analyses* section).

#### 108 *D. citri* population dynamics and phenology model data collection

109 Trees were monitored monthly at each site throughout this three-year study period. Each  
110 tree was divided into four cardinal quadrants (North, East, West and South) that were examined  
111 for *D. citri* life stages on each sampling date. At each quadrant, three flushes were randomly  
112 selected and the number of *D. citri* eggs (counted and estimated), 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> instar nymphs and 4<sup>th</sup>  
113 to 5<sup>th</sup> instar nymphs, adults (the count of this *D. citri* adults are used only for the calculation of

114 the total population in the Figure S2, *see below*) and the number of nymphs parasitized by *T.*  
115 *radiata* were recorded. Eggs and nymphs counts were used to assess the cumulative *D. citri* egg  
116 and instar load for each surveyed tree over time (Ruppel 1983) (*see Data analyses* section). In  
117 order to evaluate the *D. citri* adult populations, 64 yellow sticky traps (Scentry Biologicals Inc.  
118 [23 x 28 cm], Billings, Montana, USA) were placed on citrus trees (Monzo et al. 2015) at sites  
119 about 1.6 Km apart from the survey sites (48 in Yuma County and 16 on Lake Havasu City) and  
120 the number of *D. citri* adults were counted and traps replaced every two weeks in Yuma County  
121 and every month in Lake Havasu City.

122 To evaluate the infestation levels of *D. citri* on each individual tree over time, the average  
123 monthly numbers of *D. citri* eggs, 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> instar nymphs, and adult counts (from  
124 the yellow sticky traps), were converted to corresponding insect-days (Ruppel 1983,  
125 Milosavljević et al. 2018). These data were used to calculate the cumulative population load of  
126 each *D. citri* life stage over time for each tree (Milosavljević et al. 2018).

### 127 *Host preference*

128 To analyze whether *D. citri* populations were affected by host plant species (grapefruit,  
129 lemon, lime, orange and tangelo), the maximum *D. citri*-days recorded at each surveyed tree was  
130 analyzed by Kruskal Wallis test.

### 131 *Phenology model*

132 The percentage of total cumulative *D. citri* egg, 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> instar nymphs and  
133 adult days were calculated over each of the three sampling years (2015 to 2017) and then  
134 regressed against accumulated daily temperatures to model the population dynamics of each  
135 development stage in relation to degree days. Degree days (DDs) accumulations, based upon air  
136 temperature at each study location, were calculated for each survey year from a biofix date of 1

137 January using the direct calculation method (Milosavljević et al. 2018). The lower development  
138 threshold values used for *D. citri* eggs, 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> nymphs, 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> nymphs and adults were 8.96,  
139 10.83, 10.7 and 11 °C respectively (Liu and Tsai 2000). The upper development threshold values  
140 used for *D. citri* eggs, nymphs, and adults were 33, 33, and 41°C, respectively (Liu and Tsai  
141 2000, Hall et al. 2011). Cumulative *D. citri* load based on accumulated DDs was modeled using  
142 a sigmoid distribution (Logan 1988):

$$143 \quad y = N \cdot \max * \left( \frac{e^{b*(x-a)}}{1 + e^{b*(x-a)}} \right)$$

144 Where  $y$  is the percent cumulative *D. citri*-days,  $x$  is the observed cumulative DDs,  $a$  is  
145 the pivot point for the symmetric sigmoid function,  $b$  is the slope of the straight line delimiting  
146 the exponential period and  $N \cdot \max$  is the theoretical maximum cumulative *D. citri*-days  
147 percentage (Table 2). Separate, sigmoid distribution models were obtained for each *D. citri* life  
148 stage and year using R (R core development team 2018). Models were fit across all surveyed  
149 trees with presence of *D. citri* stages each year as the development of *D. citri* life stages did not  
150 differ significantly between citrus species (see results).

#### 151 *Detection time of D. citri populations*

152 The DDs corresponding with the first *D. citri* adult detections on the yellow sticky traps  
153 where used to obtain the detection time and quantity of the *D. citri* in the studied areas. Data  
154 from 2015 were excluded from this analysis because traps were gradually put in place throughout  
155 the year. This data was plotted on maps using the R packages “ggplot2” and “ggmap”.

#### 156 *Mass rearing and releases of T. radiata*

157 *Tamarixia radiata* wasps were reared at UCR as described by Soper (2014). Briefly, *D.*  
158 *citri* were reared on curry leaf plants, *Murraya koenigii* (L.) Sprengel (Sapindales: Rutaceae).



159 These wasps were collected from different regions of Pakistan (Hoddle 2012) and the rearing is  
160 based on several isofemale colonies to maintain genetic variability (Stouthamer 2015).  
161 Beginning in late December 2013, about 1,600-2,000 wasps were shipped from UCR to USDA-  
162 APHIS in Yuma every week by overnight mail service for a total release of 366,983 wasps by  
163 the end of 2017. *T. radiata* were shipped at a temperature between 15- 18°C in plastic tubes  
164 containing 200 wasps each provided with 70% honey on paper toweling strips. Upon arrival.  
165 wasp, releases were made as early in the day as possible. Each vial was then opened inside the  
166 foliage of a release tree and wasps were gently tapped out (one release/month/zone). Release  
167 sites were located at least ~1.6 Km from the survey sites and yellow sticky traps sites. Each  
168 release site had at least two healthy and regularly watered citrus trees per site, had current or  
169 recent *D. citri* populations and were not treated with systemic pesticides. If the site was treated  
170 with foliar spray, the release was skipped until the following month. After release, the number of  
171 wasps dead in the vials was recorded.

#### 172 *Parasitism by T. radiata*

173 Percentage parasitism (total number of parasitized 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> instar nymphs / [(total number  
174 of non-parasitized 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> instar nymphs + total number of parasitized 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> instar nymphs) x  
175 100]) was calculated for each study site and date. Sample periods with no *D. citri* 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>  
176 instars nymphs present were excluded from percentage parasitism analyses because *T. radiata*  
177 parasitizes almost exclusively these nymphal stages.

178

## 179 **Results**

### 180 *Population dynamics of D. citri in Arizona*

181 For each of the surveyed years all *D. citri* stages (eggs, nymphs and adults) were present  
182 at two different time periods, from early spring until early summer and in smaller numbers in fall  
183 (Fig. 1A, B, C and D). In the first period (spring) the earliest date when the *D. citri* eggs were  
184 detected was 48 Julian Days (JD) (February 17) in 2016 and the latest was at 185 JD (July 4) in  
185 2017. *D. citri* nymphs had the same pattern for the same period in spring. Young (1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> instar)  
186 and old (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> instar) *D. citri* nymphs appeared the earliest at 62 JD (March 2) in 2016. The  
187 latest day that young nymphs were present was at 200 JD (July 19) in 2017 and at 172 JD (June  
188 21) for old nymphs (Fig. 1B and C). The abundance of *D. citri* adults differed among years, with  
189 2016 being the year with the highest abundance (Fig. 1D). Adults of *D. citri* were first detected  
190 in traps in winter (19 JD; January 19) for all years, but adult populations did not increase until  
191 around 60 JD (end of February). The presence of *D. citri* (all the stages) on the second peak (fall)  
192 was only noticeable in 2015 (Fig. 1A, B, C, D and Fig. S2). Populations of *D. citri* were  
193 extremely low near the limit of detection, during the three months of summer every year (Fig.  
194 S2).

#### 195 *Effects of citrus species on the D. citri populations*

196 Although *D. citri* populations (eggs, 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> instar nymphs) varied across  
197 study years (Fig. 1), no significant differences were found within the same life stage among the  
198 five host citrus species studied (grapefruit, lemon, lime, orange and tangelo) in terms of  
199 maximum cumulative *D. citri*-days from 2015 to 2017 (Fig. 2) (Maximum cumulative eggs-day;  
200  $\chi^2 = 3.128$ ,  $P = 0.537$ , Maximum cumulative 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> instar by variety;  $\chi^2 = 3.678$ ,  $P = 0.451$  and  
201 Maximum cumulative 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> instar  $\chi^2 = 6.993$ ,  $P = 0.136$ ).

#### 202 *Detection time of D. citri populations*

203           The distribution of first detection dates (measured in DD) of *D. citri* adults did not show a  
204 clear pattern in 2016 and 2017. The earliest *D. citri* adults were detected on four trees, all located  
205 in North-West of Yuma area, at 10 cumulative DDs (6 January) in 2016, whereas on one tree, in  
206 the same area, at 12 cumulative DDs (5 January) in 2017 (one *D. citri* adult per trap both years).  
207 Overall, *D. citri* adults arrived earlier in 2016, at  $229.708 \pm 37.483$  SE cumulative DDs (around  
208 24 February) and  $172.25 \pm 36.23$  SE cumulative DDs (around 17 February) in Yuma County and  
209 Lake Havasu City, respectively. In 2017, *D. citri* adults were detected on the yellow sticky traps  
210 on average at  $826.857 \pm 110.203$  SE (around 29 April) and  $495.125 \pm 123.027$  SE (around 1  
211 April) in Yuma County and Lake Havasu City, respectively.

#### 212 *Phenology models*

213           The percentage of the cumulative *D. citri* eggs, nymphs and adult days were paired with  
214 accumulated DDs for all sampled sites (trees) for the three years of study (Table 2, Fig. 4). The  
215 seasonal dynamics of each life stage was dependent of the temperature and time. Logistic models  
216 described over 70% of the variation of the cumulative *D. citri* different life stages, except for  
217 adults (43%) and 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> instars (61%), both in 2015 (Table 2). Fifty percent (the half way point  
218 of the exponential increase) of *D. citri* eggs were predicted to occur, from the 1 January biofix  
219 point, at 1258 (May 16), 922 (April 22, Fig. 3) and 1291 (May 20) DDs on 2015, 2016 and 2017,  
220 respectively (Table 2). The appearance of 50% of 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> instars nymphs was predicted to occur  
221 at 854 (April 29), 1017 (May 16, Fig. 3) and 1061 (May 20) DDs on 2015, 2016 and 2017,  
222 respectively. Similarly, the increase to 50% of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> instar nymphs populations was  
223 predicted to occur at 987 (May 10), 985 (May 12, Fig. 3) and 1259 (May 31) DDs on 2015, 2016  
224 and 2017, respectively. For the adults, the appearance of half of the total population was  
225 predicted to occur at 752 (April 21), 692 (April 18, Fig. 3) and 890 (May 5) on 2015, 2016 and

226 2017, respectively (Table 2). The accumulation of 50% of the eggs was predicted earlier in 2016,  
227 consistently with the earlier detection of the adults in the same year.

### 228 *Parasitism by Tamarixia radiata*

229 A total of 82,071, 98,474 and 86,872 *T. radiata* parasitoids were released in 2015, 2016  
230 and 2017 respectively. The shipping mortality of *T. radiata* was always below 7%. Parasitism  
231 rates by *T. radiata* on *D. citri* populations were different among years, peaking on average at  
232 around 50% from April (90 JD) to June (180 JD) of 2016. The average parasitism in 2016 was  
233  $12.52 \pm 3.79\%$  (SE) when the suitable hosts (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> instar nymphs) were present, from  
234 beginning of March (62 JD) to end of June (175 JD) (Fig. 5). However, parasitism rates were low  
235 in 2015 ( $\sim 1.4\%$  in fall) (Fig. 5) and no parasitism was recorded in 2017.

236

### 237 **Discussion**

238 In this study we examine the population dynamics of *D. citri* in citrus trees from urban  
239 areas of the Arizonan deserts, notably showing that *D. citri* populations were at undetectable  
240 levels in summer for about three months every year. This disappearance may be due to the usual  
241 high summer temperatures in Yuma County and Mohave County (Lake Havasu City) (Fig. S1).  
242 Interestingly, Sales et al. (2018) found that experimental heat waves compromise sperm  
243 functionality in a model insect *Tribolium castaneum* Herbst (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae).  
244 Consequently, the heatwaves that occur in desert areas, as the ones from our study, may also  
245 affect the reproductive success of the *D. citri* adults in summer (Fig. S1).

246 We also confirmed that the cumulative temporal populations of *D. citri* life stages  
247 infesting citrus can be predicted using deterministic DD models (adjusted  $R^2 > 0.7$ ; except for

248 2015 since surveys and trapping started in spring), confirming the usefulness of this approach.  
249 The models developed here suggest a time when each psyllid life stage should likely be  
250 abundant. The predictions obtained in our models were similar to those obtained by  
251 Milosavljević et al. (2018) for urban citrus trees in Southern California. The main difference is  
252 that the exponential increase phase of *D. citri* populations occurred earlier in Arizona (April-  
253 May) than in Southern California (May-July) (Milosavljević et al. 2018). As a result, the  
254 maximum populations were reached earlier in Arizona than in Southern California. However, as  
255 commented above, *D. citri* populations do not increase during summer in the Arizonan desert, as  
256 happens in Southern California (Milosavljević et al. 2018). In this three-year survey we found  
257 that urban citrus grown in Arizona support lower year-round *D. citri* densities compared to urban  
258 citrus grown in Southern California (e.g., Fig. S2). Two factors may explain this: i) *D. citri*  
259 populations are extremely reduced in the heat of Western Arizona summers because thermal  
260 maximum temperature for development are exceeded; ii) Citrus have reduced flushing periods  
261 under these summer weather conditions. These factors make the risk of *D. citri* and the possible  
262 harboring of HLB in urban citrus in Yuma County a much less of a threat for the commercial  
263 citrus compared to the situation in Southern California.

264         The phenology of *D. citri* described here and the lack of availability of summer hosts  
265 appears to have affected the success of the efforts to establish *T. radiata* in this classical  
266 biological control program. In 2016, when *D. citri* was more abundant, parasitism of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>  
267 nymphs was much higher than in 2015, whereas no parasitism was detected in 2017. These  
268 observations are consistent with previous studies that show *T. radiata* parasitism rates vary  
269 significantly depending on geographic area, season, and availability of appropriate life stages for  
270 parasitism (Tsai et al. 2002, Michaud 2004, Qureshi and Stansly 2009, Kistner et al. 2016a,

271 Milosavljević et al. 2018). The parasitoid was recovered at least once at 23 of 32 survey sites,  
272 and in one instance at a location ~24 Km away from the closest release site. Sequencing of a  
273 fragment of the mitochondrial gene COI confirmed that *T. radiata* recovered at this non-release  
274 and non-survey site were indeed from UCR (data not shown). As the survey sites were distant  
275 from the release sites, the 2016 recoveries suggest that *T. radiata* established for part of the year  
276 or one winter but it is unclear if they are capable of permanent establishment as shown by the  
277 absence of parasitism throughout 2017. This would be consistent with the fact that *D. citri* may  
278 not be able to reproduce under the summer desert temperatures, thus depriving the specific  
279 parasitoid *T. radiata* of hosts for a prolonged period. Continued surveys in subsequent years of  
280 these areas after releases stop may confirm lack of permanent establishment or if *T. radiata* is  
281 present in numbers so low as to often be undetectable.

282         Because of these conditions of few hosts available during the summer months, continuing  
283 with release efforts to establish this parasitoid in the hottest Western parts of Arizona is not likely  
284 to increase the odds of permanent establishment. After five years of releasing *T. radiata* in this  
285 area for a total of more than 460,000 have been released. This is a large number relative to other  
286 classical biological control programs and should have been sufficient for establishment. Given  
287 that long-term establishment at sufficient parasitoid densities does not appear to be a realistic  
288 goal in Western Arizona, other measures for possible control or management for control of *D.*  
289 *citri* in these urban areas could be considered. First, it is not clear that these populations, if  
290 unmanaged, represent a significant risk to commercial citrus production. Our data show for two  
291 of three survey years *D. citri* numbers were low during the spring months and adult and nymphal  
292 populations were at near undetectable levels for all of the three survey years during the summer,  
293 a pattern which continued into the fall and early winter of each year. Whether or not these urban

294 populations represent a risk to commercial citrus will depend on how close specific *D. citri*  
295 infested urban citrus trees are to production areas, their quality as hosts, and if a given year's  
296 environmental conditions favor high *D. citri* population growth. Decisions to manage *D. citri* on  
297 urban citrus trees will depend on these factors and the availability of control tools. It is likely that  
298 only urban trees nearest to commercial citrus production areas would need management as *D.*  
299 *citri* dispersal distance is limited within a year. In the California program for example, residential  
300 buffer treatments on urban citrus trees and ornamental citrus relatives are only applied to urban  
301 areas within 400-800 m buffer zone around commercial citrus (CDFA 2018). If HLB were to be  
302 detected in urban citrus in these areas that would change this risk appraisal.

303         The effect of augmentative or inoculative releases of *T. radiata* have not been studied.  
304 However, if augmentative or inoculative releases of *T. radiata* were deemed to be an effective  
305 management strategy releases should be made, based on the models, when suitable nymph  
306 instars are present. DDs models for each *D. citri* life stage can inform the timing of releases of  
307 natural enemies or of pesticides treatments (Milosavljević et al. 2018). These pest management  
308 choices will target specific *D. citri* life stages to decrease the maximum pest populations. For  
309 example, our models suggest that inoculative releases of *T. radiata* in urban citrus desert areas in  
310 Arizona should be concentrated before ~984 DDs (i.e., mid-May), when *D. citri* nymphs  
311 susceptible for parasitism were already in the exponential population increase phase, and again in  
312 the fall ~4113 DDs (i.e., end of October). In addition, using the framework developed by  
313 Milosavljević et al. (2018) for California, and applied in this work for Arizona, DDs models  
314 could be extended to areas situated in hot desert regions similar to the one studied here. As this  
315 approach is applicable to a totally different bioclimatic area, it would be possible to develop a

316 web-based decision support system for *D. citri* management by citrus growers in other similar  
317 regions in Arizona, California and Mexico.

318 Our data also show that *D. citri* do not have a preferred citrus host species, as the  
319 phenology and density of *D. citri* eggs and nymphs being observed across sites and years was  
320 similar on the five citrus species studied (grapefruit, lemon, lime, orange and tangelo). This  
321 confirms previous findings (Tsai et al. 2002, Nava et al. 2007, Kistner et al. 2016a), except for  
322 lime (*Citrus × aurantiifolia* Swingle), which supported higher *D. citri* densities in a previous  
323 survey (Kistner et al. 2016a). The lack of variation in host plant suitability for oviposition and  
324 nymph development and attractiveness to adult *D. citri* suggest that DDs models for *D. citri*  
325 populations may be developed independently of the citrus species infested by the pest in  
326 Arizona. However, cumulative temporal *D. citri* populations consistently coincided with leaf  
327 flushing patterns over time in other areas (Hall et al. 2008, Kistner et al. 2016a, Milosavljević et  
328 al. 2018) and the availability of young plant tissue on citrus host trees should be taken into  
329 account to evaluate *D. citri* population growth in Arizona.

330 First detection of *D. citri* adults, in 2016 and 2017 (Fig. 3), does not clarify if every year  
331 new adults invade the desert areas in Arizona from surrounding areas, or if a few *D. citri* life  
332 stages survive the summer temperatures. The rate of increase of *D. citri* population growth may  
333 be dependent on the number of adults that overwinter in these areas to start the next generation  
334 and these in turn are dependent on how many *D. citri* adults survive the previous summer. We  
335 have shown that summer temperatures in this area cause a severe population bottleneck for *D.*  
336 *citri* populations persisting into the fall. Understanding how and where *D. citri* survive during the  
337 summer months may be important for managing the risk of *D. citri* near commercial citrus. Trap  
338 and visual inspection counts of *D. citri* adults show that while the numbers are extremely low,



339 some adults can be found during the summer months. How they survive is uncertain, though it is  
340 known in the native range of *D. citri* in Pakistan that adults manage to survive on citrus where  
341 summer temperature can peak at 45°C (Khan et al. 2014). There is evidence that there may be a  
342 period of heat acclimation which allows adult *D. citri* to better adapt for high summer heat  
343 survival (Hall and Hentz 2014). This may be occurring in the dry hot desert citrus production  
344 areas of Arizona, California and Mexico along with *D. citri* adults finding cooler places with  
345 suitable micro-climatic niches within these areas where there may be higher survival. Future  
346 surveys will be conducted in such areas to possibly identify niches where *D. citri* may survive.

347

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353

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#### 450 **Figure legends**

451 **Fig. 1.** Population dynamics of means of cumulative insect-days of *D. citri* (A) eggs, (B) 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup>  
452 instar nymphs, (C) 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> instar nymphs pooled across trees with *D. citri* presence of any  
453 stages on each year per site (trees with no presence of *D. citri* throughout each year were not  
454 used for this calculation, Table 1) and (D) adults. Immature *D. citri* stages data were obtained

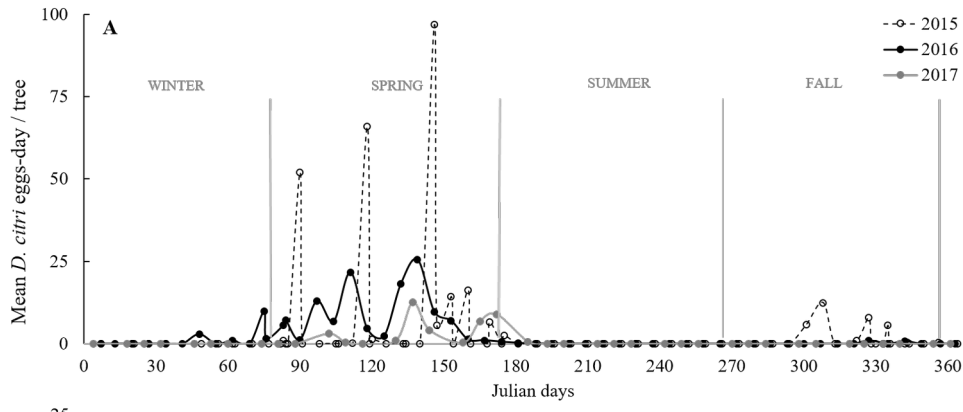
455 from visual surveys from 2015 throughout 2017, whereas adult data were obtained from yellow  
456 sticky traps placed on citrus trees throughout the same time period (2015, n= 24; 2016, n=30;  
457 2017, n=25).

458 **Fig. 2.** Mean ( $\pm$ SE) maximum cumulative *D. citri* egg, 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> instar, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> instar nymphs  
459 and adult-days from 2015 to 2017 on five citrus species (grapefruit, lemon, lime, orange and  
460 tangelo). No significant differences were found between hosts plants within the same life stage  
461 based on the Kruskal Wallis test.

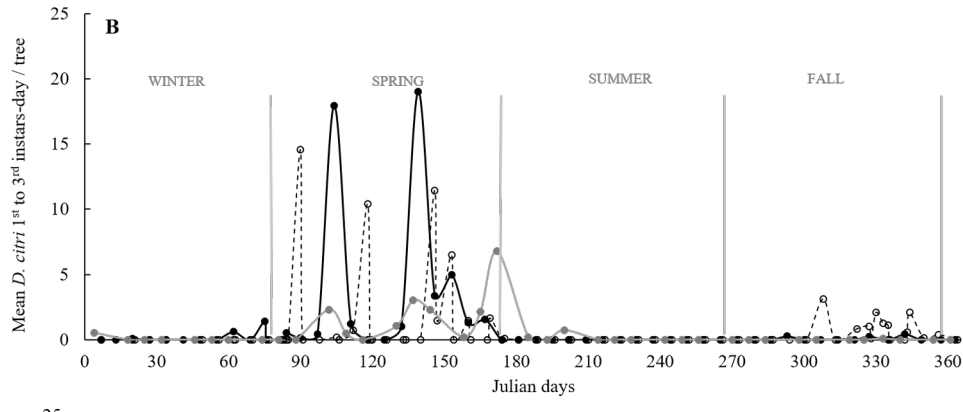
462 **Fig. 3.** Detection time (measured in cumulative DDs) of *D. citri* adults to Yuma County and  
463 Lake Havasu City (Mohave County), Arizona in 2016 and 2017. The cumulative DDs were  
464 calculated with the *D. citri*-adults development thresholds (Liu and Tsai 2000). The DDs  
465 continuum was break for each month (2016; January = 70 DDs, February = 265 DDs, March to  
466 December > 507 DDs, for 2017; January = 70 DDs, March = 487 DDs, April = 820 DDs and  
467 May to December > 1220 DDs). The size of the bubble indicates the number of *D. citri* adults  
468 counted at that time.

469 **Fig. 4.** Cumulative insect-days for each *D. citri* development stage in relation to cumulative  
470 degree-days for 2016. Shown are cumulative insect-days of *D. citri* (A) eggs (B) 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> instar  
471 nymphs (young nymphs) (C) 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> instar nymphs (old nymphs) and (D) adults. The points  
472 represent the raw data and the curves show the best-fit logistic model for each *D. citri* life stage.

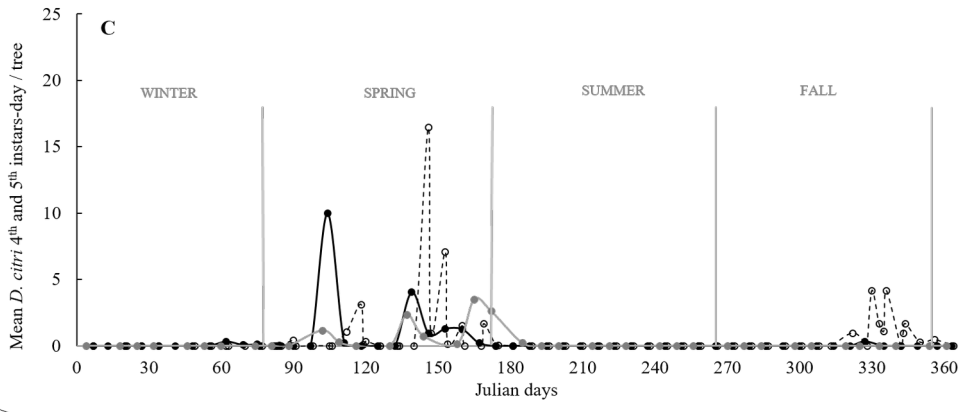
473 **Fig. 5.** Percentage parasitism trends for *T. radiata* attacking *D. citri* nymphs on citrus trees from  
474 Arizona (Yuma County and Mohave County) in 2015 and 2016. No parasitism was found in  
475 2017. Only trees with suitable *D. citri* nymphal stages are shown in the figure.



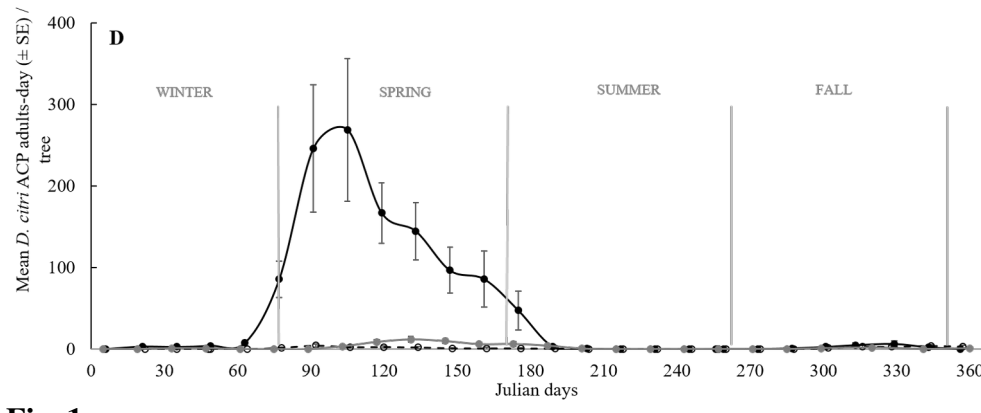
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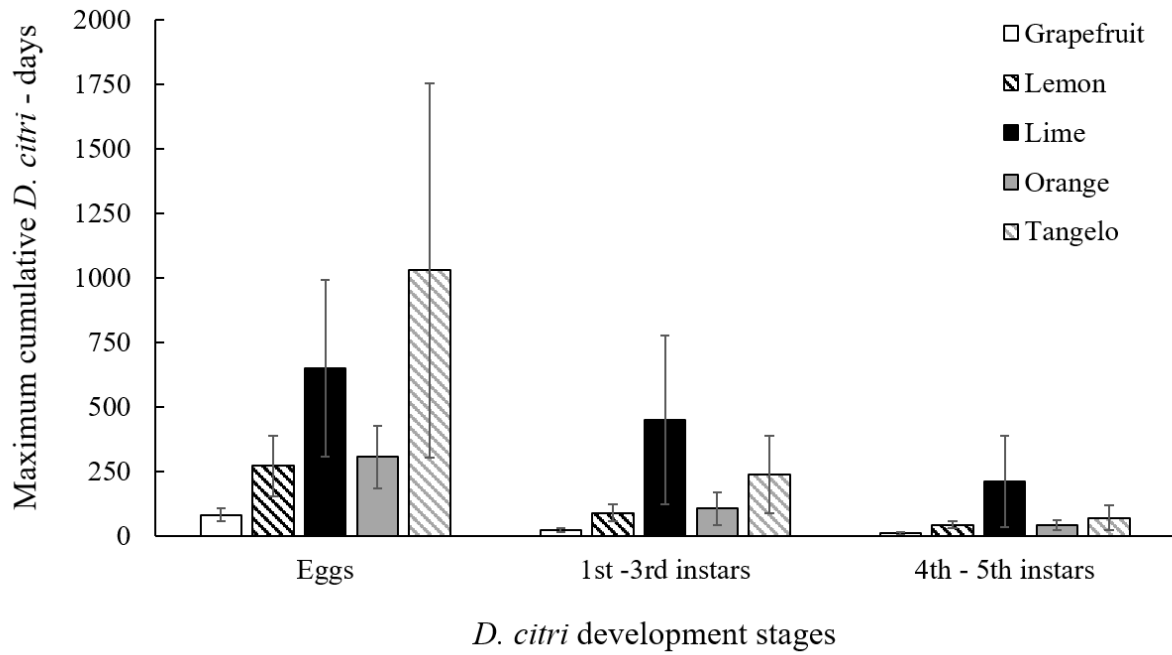


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**Fig. 1.**

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483 **Fig. 2.**

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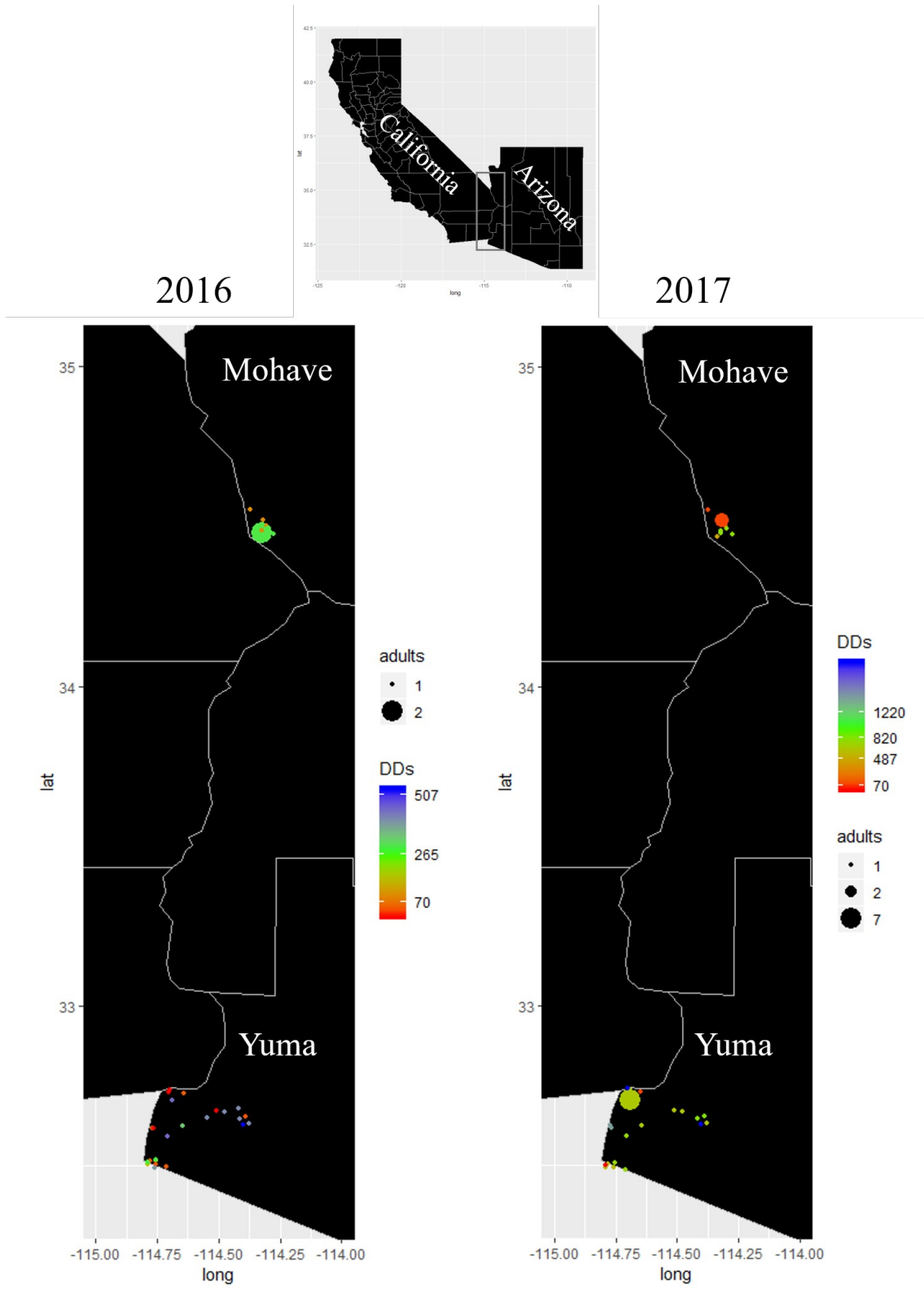
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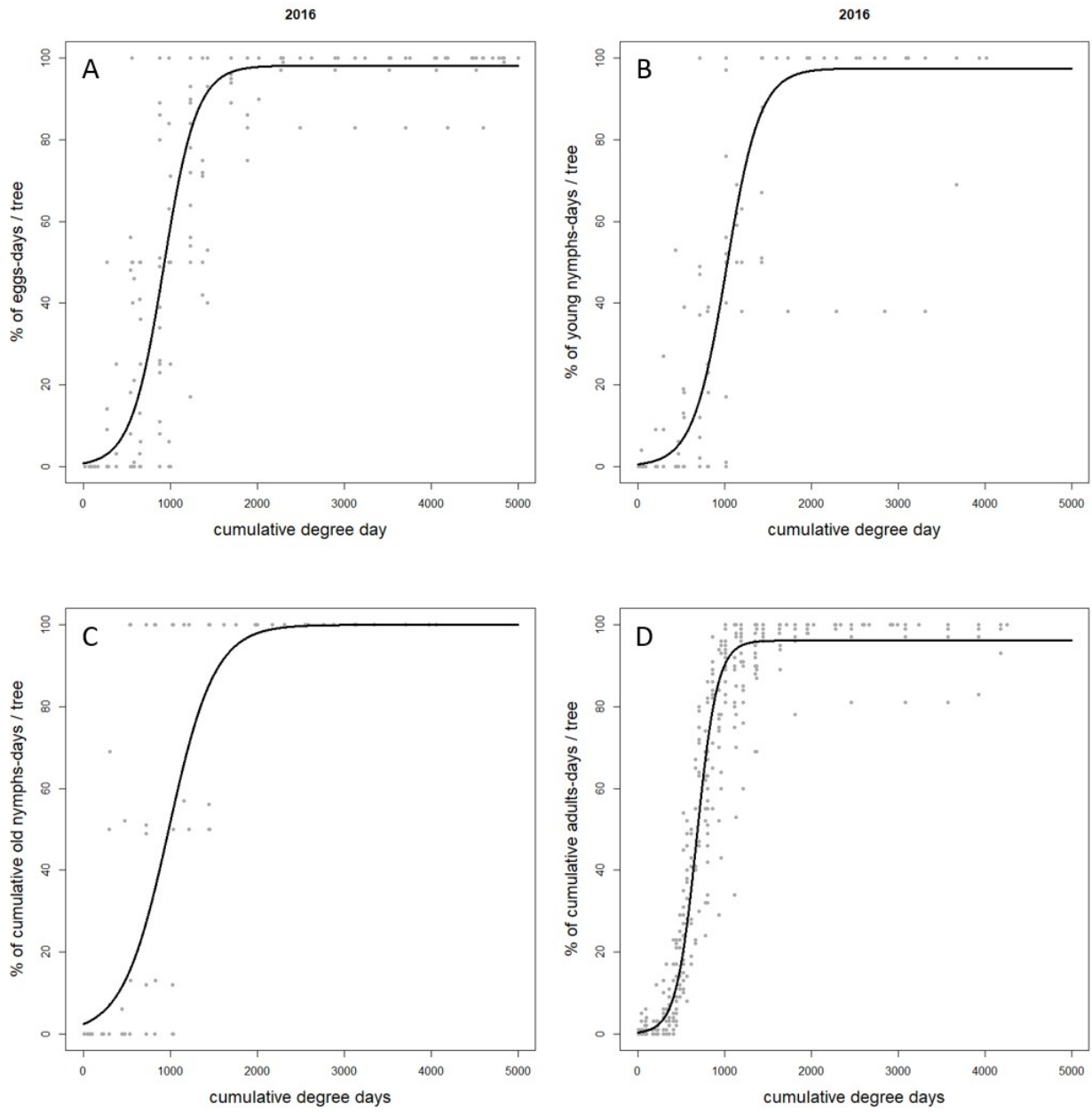
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495 **Fig. 3.**

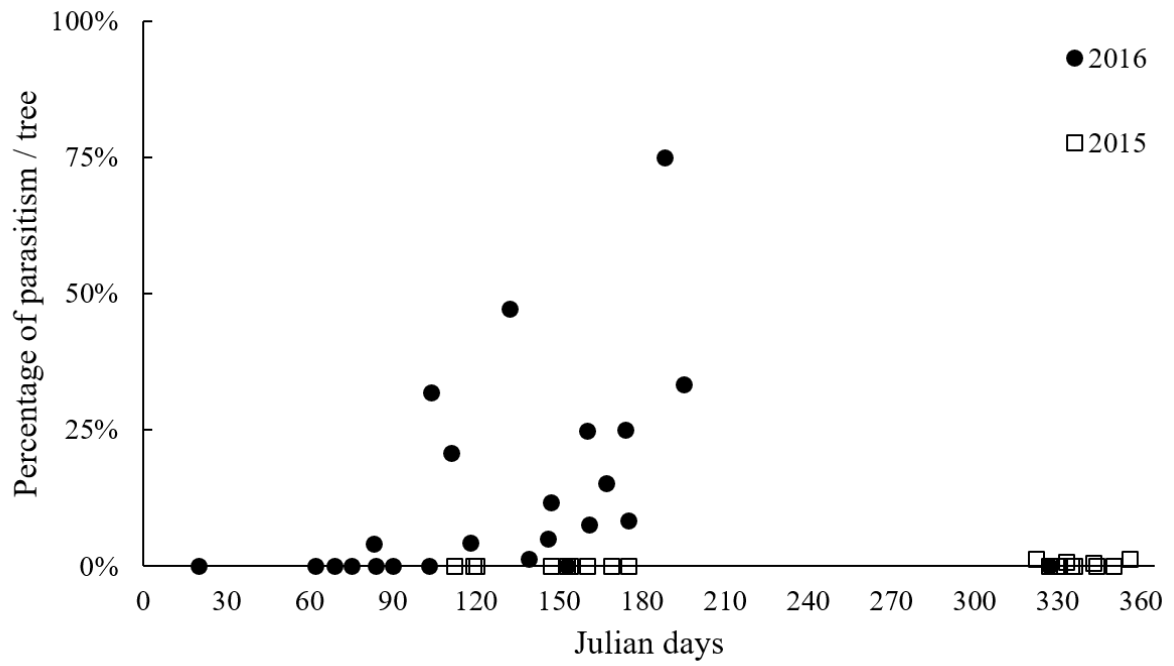


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498 **Fig. 4.**

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502 **Fig. 5.**

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514 **Table 1.** Number of trees with presence of *D. citri* stages (eggs, 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> nymphs)  
 515 for each citrus species surveyed from 2015 to 2017.

Year	Citrus species	Total number of trees sampled / month	Number of trees with <i>D. citri</i> presence for each stage		
			Eggs	Nymphs	
				1st to 3rd	4th and 5th
2015	Grapefruit	17	2	1	1
	Lemon	16	3	3	3
	Lime	6	-	-	-
	Orange	20	5	4	5
	Tangelo	6	3	2	2
	Total percentage (n=65)		20%	15%	17%
2016	Grapefruit	15	11	8	4
	Lemon	18	10	7	4
	Lime	5	4	4	4
	Orange	17	12	5	2
	Tangelo	7	4	4	3
	Total percentage (n=62)		66%	45%	27%
2017	Grapefruit	15	1	3	-
	Lemon	17	6	5	4
	Lime	5	1	1	1
	Orange	17	5	4	5
	Tangelo	6	2	2	2
	Total percentage (n=62)		25%	25%	20%

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521 **Table 2.** The best-fit parameters of the logistic model for each *D. citri* developmental stage  
 522 (eggs, 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> instars, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> instar nymphs and adults)

year	<i>D. citri</i> life stage	Logistic parameters				R <sup>2</sup>	Degree days at N.max	Number of trees
		b ± SD		a ± SD				
2015	eggs	0.004	± -	1257.600	± -	0.79	2615	6
	1 <sup>st</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> instars	0.006	± 0.0003	853.526	± 16.638	0.61	1785	5
	4 <sup>th</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> instars	0.009	± 0.0007	987.081	± 14.542	0.70	1536	6
	adults	0.005	± 0.0002	751.929	± 9.172	0.43	1938	20
2016	eggs	0.005	± 0.0001	921.705	± 8.831	0.88	1969	30
	1 <sup>st</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> instars	0.005	± 0.0001	1017.259	± 9.905	0.90	1975	26
	4 <sup>th</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> instars	0.004	± -	984.661	± -	0.80	2391	15
	adults	0.000	± 0.0002	692.105	± 4.685	0.96	1365	35
2017	eggs	0.008	± 0.0003	1290.546	± 14.411	0.93	2500	15
	1 <sup>st</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> instars	0.005	± -	1061.205	± -	0.91	2099	14
	4 <sup>th</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> instars	0.005	± -	1259.301	± -	0.96	2354	12
	adults	0.006	± 0.0001	890.239	± 6.791	0.86	2131	29

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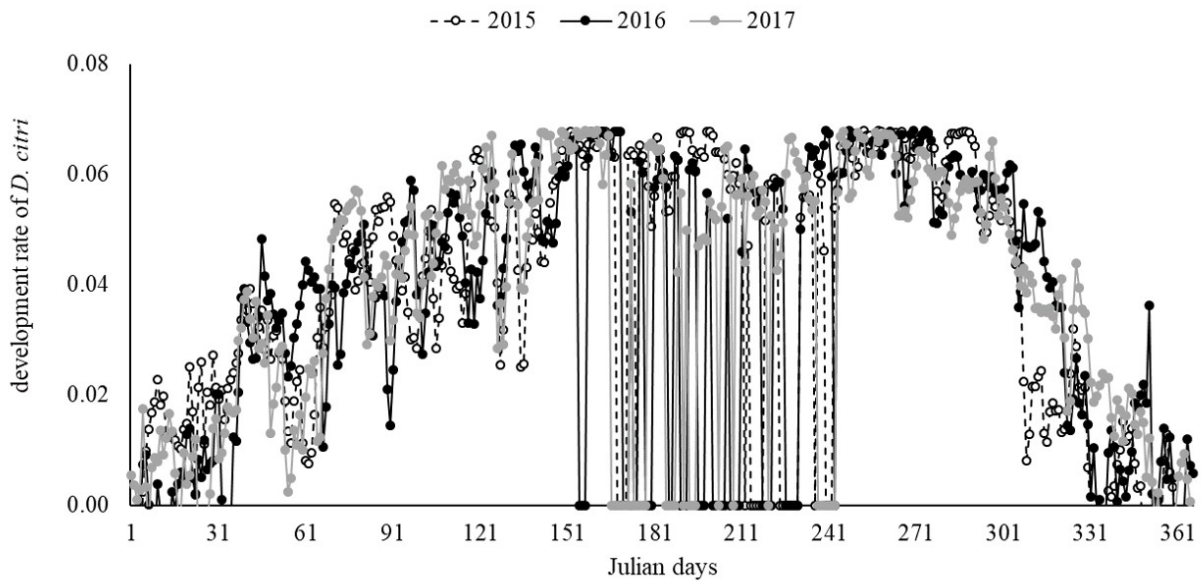
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535 **Supplementary Material**



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537 **Figure S1.** Developmental rate of *D. citri* calculated with the average temperature per day (average of the  
538 four zones of study; Yuma Valley, San Luis, Yuma Gila and Lake Havasu City) using the modified  
539 nonlinear model equation (Lactin 1995) calculated by Liu 2000 for the combined mature stages of *D. citri*  
540 ( $b = 0.0777$ ,  $T_{max} = 41.9700$ ,  $\Delta = 12.6581$ ,  $\lambda = -0.0914$ ,  $R^2 = 0.94$ ). When the maximum temperature per  
541 day exceed the  $T_{max} = 41.97$  °C the development rate was recalculated as 0.

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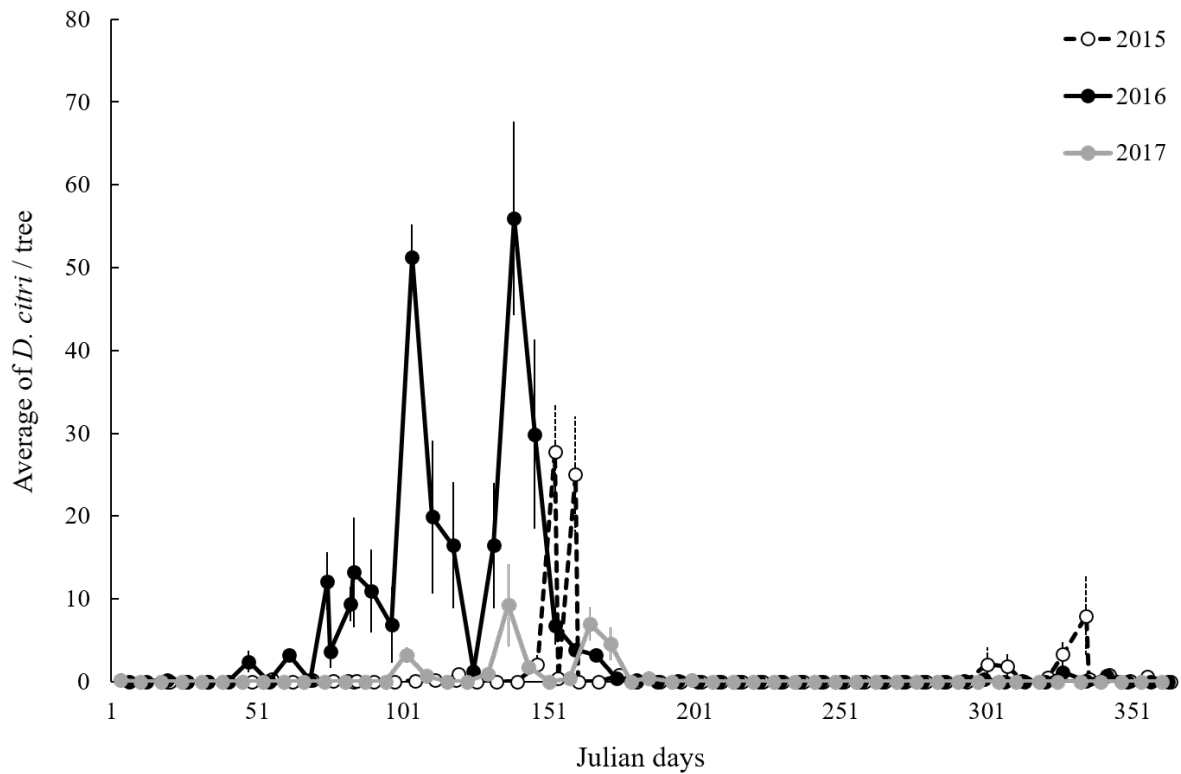
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553 **Figure S2.** Average ( $\pm$ SE) of the total *D. citri* population (sum of all the stages) per citrus tree (n= $\sim$ 16)

554 from urban areas in the four zones of study (Yuma Valley, San Luis, Yuma Gila and Lake Havasu City)

555 in tree consecutive years (from 2015 to 2017).