RADIO-TAGGED BEES AND RADIOACTIVE PLANTS: NEW APPROACHES TO TRACK HONEY BEE MOVEMENT IN AG ENVIRONMENTS

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Abstract

Honey bees and other pollinators often forage within and near agricultural environments. A recent research focus has been investigating how and where bees may encounter agricultural pesticides, in order to minimize their exposure by moving bees out of harm's way, changing practices, or a combination of the two approaches. This presentation will summarize the work being conducted in my laboratory by postdoctoral researcher Dr. Sebastian Shepherd. These studies use a combination of technologies, both in the open field and in semi-field environments (high tunnels) to assess insect movement and behavior following typical levels of pesticide exposure, including results of preliminary work that highlight the complex nature of these questions.

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