

Alix B. Whitener

Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center
1100 North Western Avenue
Wenatchee, WA 98801

WSU Entomology Department
alix.crilly@wsu.edu
509-669-1656

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Entomology (Matriculated Fall 2013, Candidacy Fall 2015, Anticipated Graduation Spring 2018)

Washington State University (WSU), Pullman, WA

Behavior and pest management of *Drosophila suzukii* in central Washington sweet cherry

Committee: Elizabeth Beers (chair), Laura Corley Lavine, Allan Felsot, and David Crowder

GPA: 3.92

Bachelor of Science - Biology and Anthropology (2008 – 2013)

Western Washington University (WWU), Bellingham, WA

Minor: Women's Studies

RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT

- WSU Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center, (TFREC) Wenatchee, WA , Graduate Research Assistant (2013 – Present)
- WSU TFREC, Wenatchee, WA , Undergraduate Laboratory Technician (2009 – 2012)

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2nd Place Competition for the President's Prize (\$50), Ten-Minute Paper, Entomological Society of America, 2015
- Larry Larson Graduate Student Award for Leadership in Applied Entomology (\$500), ESA, 2015
- George Tamaki Scholarship Award (\$600), WSU Department of Entomology, 2015
- 1st Place Competition for the President's Prize (\$150), Poster, Pacific Branch ESA, 2015
- 1st Place, Texting Competition, PB-ESA, 2015
- 2nd Place, Linnaean Games Team (\$1000), PB-ESA, 2015
- Student Leadership Award, PB-ESA, 2015
- Travel Award (\$228), PB-ESA, 2015
- Errett-Deck Fellowship (\$2,500), WSU, 2015
- Hambelton Fellowship (\$2,500), TFREC, 2015
- 1st Place Poster Presentation in Agricultural and Natural Sciences (\$800), WSU Wiley Research Expo, 2015
- 2nd Place Competition for the President's Prize (\$50), 10-Minute Paper, ESA, 2014
- Student Certification Award (\$500), Board Certified Entomologist (BCE) Intern, ESA, 2014
- Honorable Mention, Student Poster Competition, PB-ESA, 2014
- 2nd Place, Texting Competition, PB-ESA, 2014
- 2nd Place, Linnaean Games Team, PB-ESA, 2014
- Travel Award (\$300) PB-ESA, 2014
- 2nd Place Poster Presentation in Agricultural and Natural Sciences (\$400), WSU Wiley Research Expo, 2014
- President's Honor, Western Washington University, Fall and Spring 2013
- WWU Athletic Scholarship, (Tuition and Student Fees) 2009-2012
- National Pygmy Goat Association Scholarship (\$500), 2008

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Chelan/Douglas Co. 4H Scholarship (\$500), 2008
- Wenatchee Apple Blossom Festival Scholarship (\$500), 2008
- Wenatchee Education Association Scholarship (\$350), 2008
- Bill Lawson Broadband Scholarship (\$3000), 2008
- 2nd Place Veterans of Foreign Wars Tribute National Scholarship (\$5,000), 2008

PUBLICATIONS

- Schmidt-Jeffris, R.A., K. Dye, **Whitener, A.B.** (*in prep*) "Entomological Society of America Student Debates 2015: Synergy in Science—Partnering for Solutions: **Introduction.**" American Entomologist, projected publication year: 2017
- Mori, B.A., **A.B. Whitener**, Y. Leinweber, S. Revadi, E.H. Beers, P. Witzgall, and P.G. Becher. (*in prep*) "Mating-enhanced yeast feeding response in *D. suzukii* females improves population control." Journal of Applied Ecology, projected publication year: 2016
- Whitener, A.B.**, and E.H. Beers. (*in prep*) "The impact of different trap dimensions on capture of *Drosophila suzukii* (Diptera: Drosophilidae)." Journal of Economic Entomology, projected publication year: 2016
- Whitener, A.B.** (*submitted*) "Entomological Society of America Student Debates 2014: Management Strategies--Solutions to Grand Challenges: *Topic 2: Neonicotinoids are causing the death of bees essential for pollinating our food crops. The use of neonicotinoids should end: Unbiased Introduction.*" American Entomologist, projected publication year: 2016

ANTICIPATED RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- Invited Talk: Whitener, A.B.** "TITLE TBD." Larry L. Larson Graduate Student Award in Applied Entomology Seminar, Dow Headquarters. Indianapolis, IN (2016)
- Whitener, A.B.** and E.H. Beers. "Efficacy of field-aged insecticide residues for control of *Drosophila suzukii*." Student Poster Competition, Pacific Branch ESA (PB-ESA). Honolulu, HI (2016)
- Whitener, A.B.**, B. Mori, P. Witzgall, and E.H. Beers. "TITLE TBD." Student Paper Competition, Entomological Society of America (ESA) National Meeting, International Congress of Entomology (ICE). Orlando, FL (2016)
- Mori, B.A., **A.B. Whitener**, S. Revadi, T. Dekker, E.H. Beers, P. Witzgall, and P.G. Becher. "Detangling behavioral responses to semiochemicals in the spotted wing drosophila, *Drosophila suzukii*." ESA National Meeting, ICE. Orlando, FL (2016)

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- Whitener, A.B.** and E.H. Beers. "Efficacy of various attractant baits and lures for monitoring *Drosophila suzukii*." Student Paper Competition, ESA National Meeting. Minneapolis, MN (2015)
- Whitener, A.B.** and E.H. Beers. "Baseline mortality of spotted wing drosophila after exposure to select insecticides." Student Poster Competition, PB-ESA. Coeur d'Alene, ID (2015)
- Whitener, A.B.** and E.H. Beers. "Baseline mortality of spotted wing drosophila after exposure to select insecticides." Student Poster Competition, Wiley Research Exposition. Pullman, WA (2015)

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

Whitener, A.B. and E.H. Beers. "Effects of droplet size, density, and concentration of spinosad attracticide on control of *Drosophila suzukii* (Diptera: Drosophilidae)." Orchard Pest and Disease Management Conference (OPDMC). Portland, OR (2015)

Invited Talk: Whitener, A.B. "Neonicotinoids are causing the death of bees essential for pollinating our food crops. The use of neonicotinoids should end: Unbiased Introduction." Introduction to the Student Debates, ESA National Meeting. Portland, OR (2014)

Invited Poster Presentation: Whitener, A.B., R.A. Schmidt, and R.A. Zinna. "Meeting the Challenge: Entomological Education and Outreach on the Palouse." Teaching Symposium Invited Poster, ESA National Meeting. Portland, OR (2014)

Whitener, A.B. and E.H. Beers. "Effects of droplet size, density, and concentration of spinosad bait spray on control of *Drosophila suzukii* (Diptera: Drosophilidae)." Student Paper Competition, ESA National Meeting. Portland, OR (2014)

Invited Talk: Whitener, A.B. "IPM, Sprayer Calibration, and Spotted Wing Drosophila." Orchardng Workshop. Mt. Vernon, WA (2014)

Invited Talk: Whitener, A.B. "'Who's who' in recent invasive species of the Pacific Branch." Invasive Species Symposia Invited Talk, PB-ESA. Tucson, AZ (2014)

Whitener, A.B. and E.H. Beers. "Designing a better fly trap: spotted wing drosophila and the impacts of specific trap factors on trapping success." Student Poster Competition, PB-ESA. Tucson, AZ (2014)

Whitener, A.B. and E.H. Beers. "Designing a better fly trap: spotted wing drosophila and the impacts of specific trap factors on trapping success." Student Poster Competition, Wiley Research Exposition. Pullman, WA (2014)

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

- Entomological Society of America Member (2013-Present)
 - Student Affairs Committee (SAC) Vice Chair (2015-2016, will Chair SAC 2016-2017)
 - Student Debates Event Co-Coordinator (Minneapolis, 2015)
- Entomological Society of America Pacific Branch Member (2013-Present)
 - Pacific Branch 'Elevator Opportunity' Student Symposium Co-Chair (2015)
 - SAC Pacific Branch Representative (2014-2016)
 - Pacific Branch Career Fair Committee Chair (2014-Present)
- WSU Entomology Graduate Student Association Member (EGSA) (2013-Present)
 - President (2014-2016)
 - WSU President's Leadership and Engagement Award of Distinction to EGSA (2014, 2015)
- North Central Washington Beekeepers' Association Member (2013-Present)
 - Event coordinator and volunteer for outreach programs (2014-Present)
- Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) Member (2013-Present)

PUBLIC AND/OR PRIVATE SECTOR SERVICE

- Identification of arthropod specimens for community members and orchard consultants, WSU Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center (2013-Present)

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

- Mentor for the College Mentor Program for the Wenatchee High School (2015-Present)
- Teaching Assistant – IPM course ‘Insecticides and the Environment’ (Spring 2015)
 - 60-minute Lecture: ‘Introduction to Pesticide Resistance, Insecticides and Herbicides’

SERVICE TO NOMINEE’S INSTITUTION

- Wenatchee TFREC Strategic Review Committee, Graduate Student Representative (2015)
- Bi-University Graduate Speaker Seminar Series (BUGSS) Committee, Graduate Student Representative (2013-2015)
- Academic Affairs Committee (AAC), Graduate Student Representative (2013-2015)

SERVICE TO COMMUNITY AND OTHER

- Beekeeping demonstrations at the Chelan County Fair (2015)
- Chelan-Douglas County Master Gardener’s *Insects, Bugs, and Spiders* Event volunteer (2015)
- WSU EGSA Student Choice Speaker Coordinator & Volunteer (2015)
- Outreach to the Community
 - Outdoor Science Day, Islamic Center of Pullman, USDA-ARS-PWI to LaCrosse Schools Science Days (2015)
- WSU Insect Expo volunteer (2014)
 - Coordinator (2015)
- Bug Appétit volunteer (2014)
- WSU Insect Cinema Cult Classic volunteer(2014)
- WSU Bug Feed volunteer (2013)
- 4H Groups of Whatcom, Chelan, Snohomish and Douglas Counties volunteer judge & clinician (2008-Present)

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

- Board Certified Entomologist Graduate Student Intern (2015-Present)
 - Passed Qualification Exam: December 2015
 - Passed Specialty Exam (General Entomology): December 2015
- WSU Grant Writing Workshop (2014)
- Public Operator Pesticide Certification for Washington State (2013-Present)