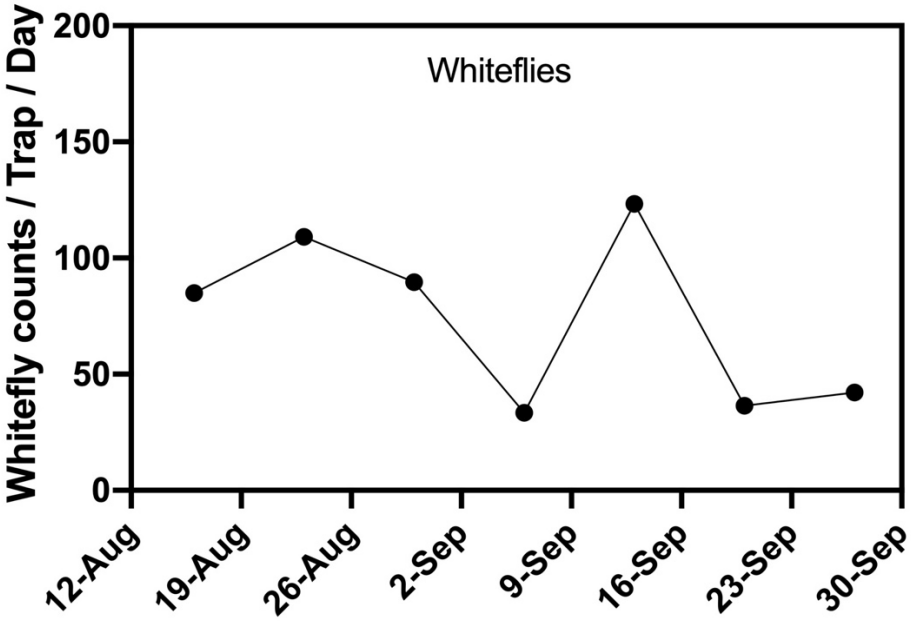
Areawide monitoring of key insect pests across the Imperial Valley: September 2024 updates

The adult insect counts from the monitoring trap network for August and September 2024 are presented below. Each dot in the graph represents the average insect counts from 19 traps across the Valley for that sampling week, and the value is expressed as pest counts per trap per day.

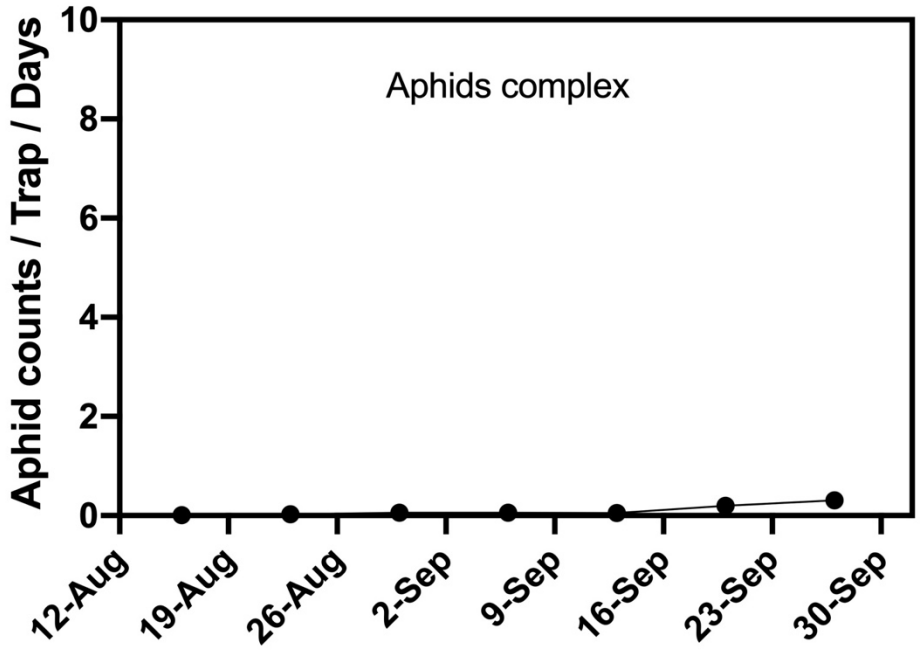
Whiteflies

The whitefly counts in the traps consisted mainly of sweetpotato whiteflies (*Bemisia tabaci* MEAM1). Additionally, a small fraction of the total count (< 5%) comprises bandedwinged whiteflies, *Trialeurodes abutilonia*. and other minor species.



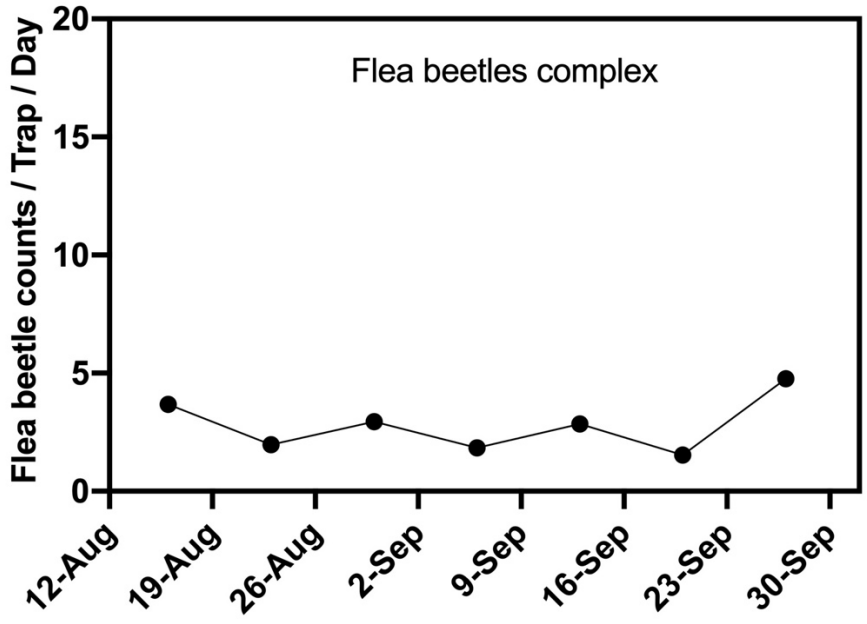
Aphids

The trap counts data of aphids below do not focus on any single species, but represent the aphids complex present in the Valley. The trap capture data suggests that alate (winged) aphids were almost absent in the valley during August and until the first half of September.



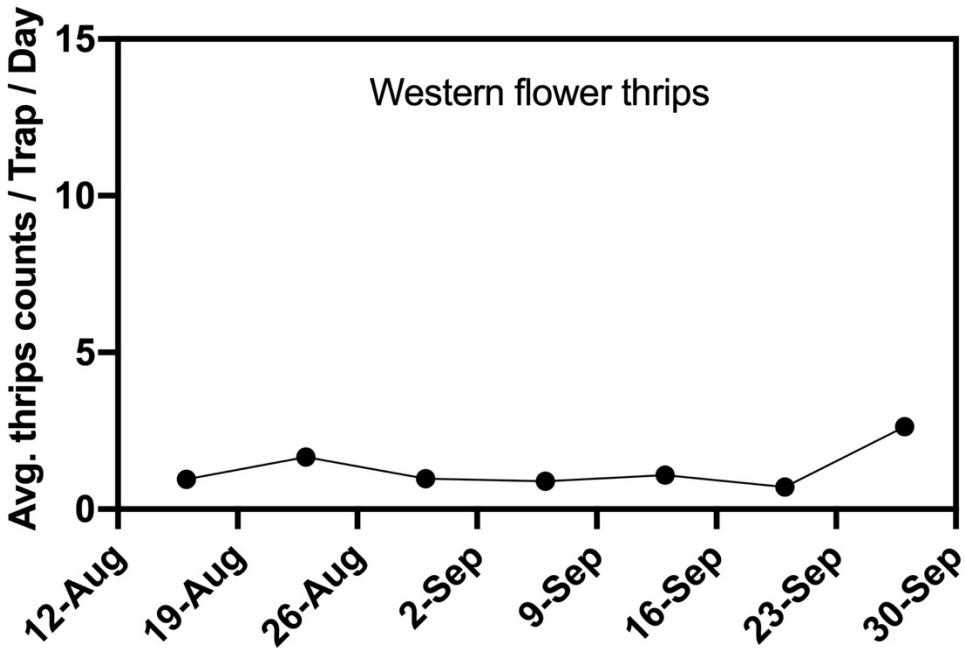
Flea beetles

The flea beetle counts in the traps were predominately of pale-striped flea beetle, *Systena blanda*, desert corn flea beetle, *Chaetocnema ectypa,* and a few other minor species.



Western flower thrips

While the traps contained a number of thrip species, only western flower thrips, *Frankliniella occidentalis,* the major thrip species of concern for a number of crops in Imperial Valley, were counted to provide more specific data.



Those interested in additional data from this project, including individual trap count data, can contact Arun Babu at (442) 265 -7708 or arbabu@ucanr.edu.