



# Study of the behavior of *Culex tarsalis* in a rice field environment using a BG-Counter

Presented by :

**Mario Boisvert, PhD**

Placer Mosquito & Vector Control District

Roseville, CA

**AMCA**

Orlando, FL

March 1<sup>st</sup> 2019



# OBJECTIVES

- Document peak(s) of activity of *Culex tarsalis* using BG-Counters
- Compare data collected over 2 years at the Locust Rd site
- Analyze data from five sites with different environments





PLACER  
MOSQUITO  
& VECTOR  
CONTROL  
DISTRICT





Integrated printed circuit board which incorporates :

- An infrared sensor
- Environmental sensors for temperature, RH and ambient light
- A SD card for onboard data storage, a fan and a CO<sub>2</sub> valve control



## Chart Settings

Insect Type

Date:

2017-08-23@12:00

Mosquito Sum:

On

y-Axis Range:

Auto

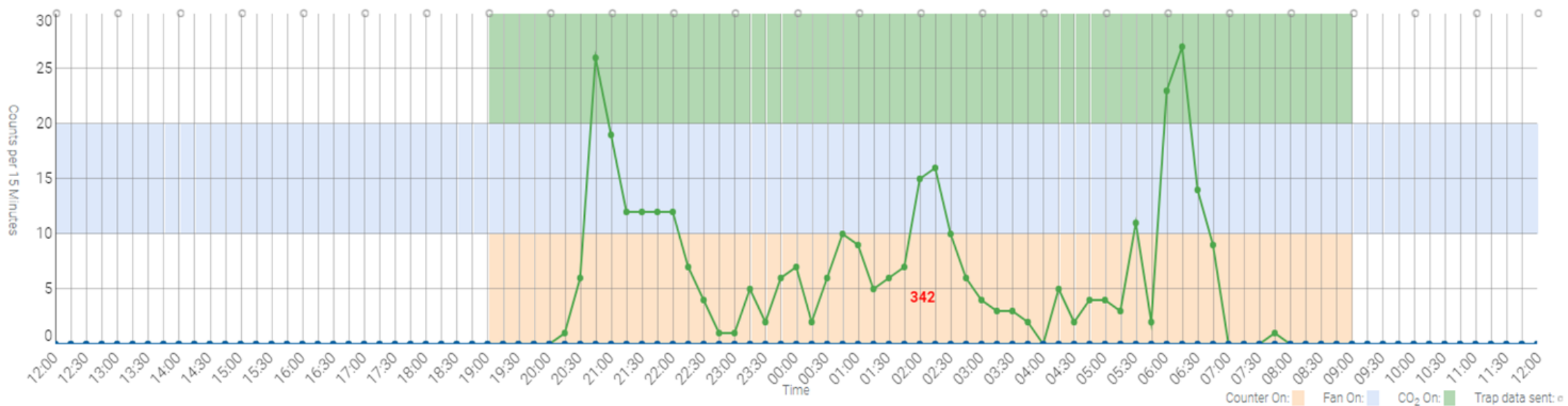
BeeGee1

List

Export

< Previous Day

Next Day >







## 5 sites

- 3 sites mainly surrounded by rice fields  
(Locust, Philip and Pinto)
- 1 site mainly surrounded by corn (Amoruso)
- 1 site is the Sierra Pacific Industries (Log decks)  
(logs transformed into lumbers for framing and fencing)



PLACER  
MOSQUITO  
& VECTOR  
CONTROL  
DISTRICT

# Locust Rd – 2-year comparison

Averaged number of mosquitoes for each 15 min increment period (averaged for 2 weeks)

Locust - 2017 - Abundance

- First two weeks of July
- Last two weeks of July
- First two weeks of August
- Last two weeks of August
- First two weeks of September
- Last two weeks of September

140  
120  
100  
80  
60  
40  
20  
0

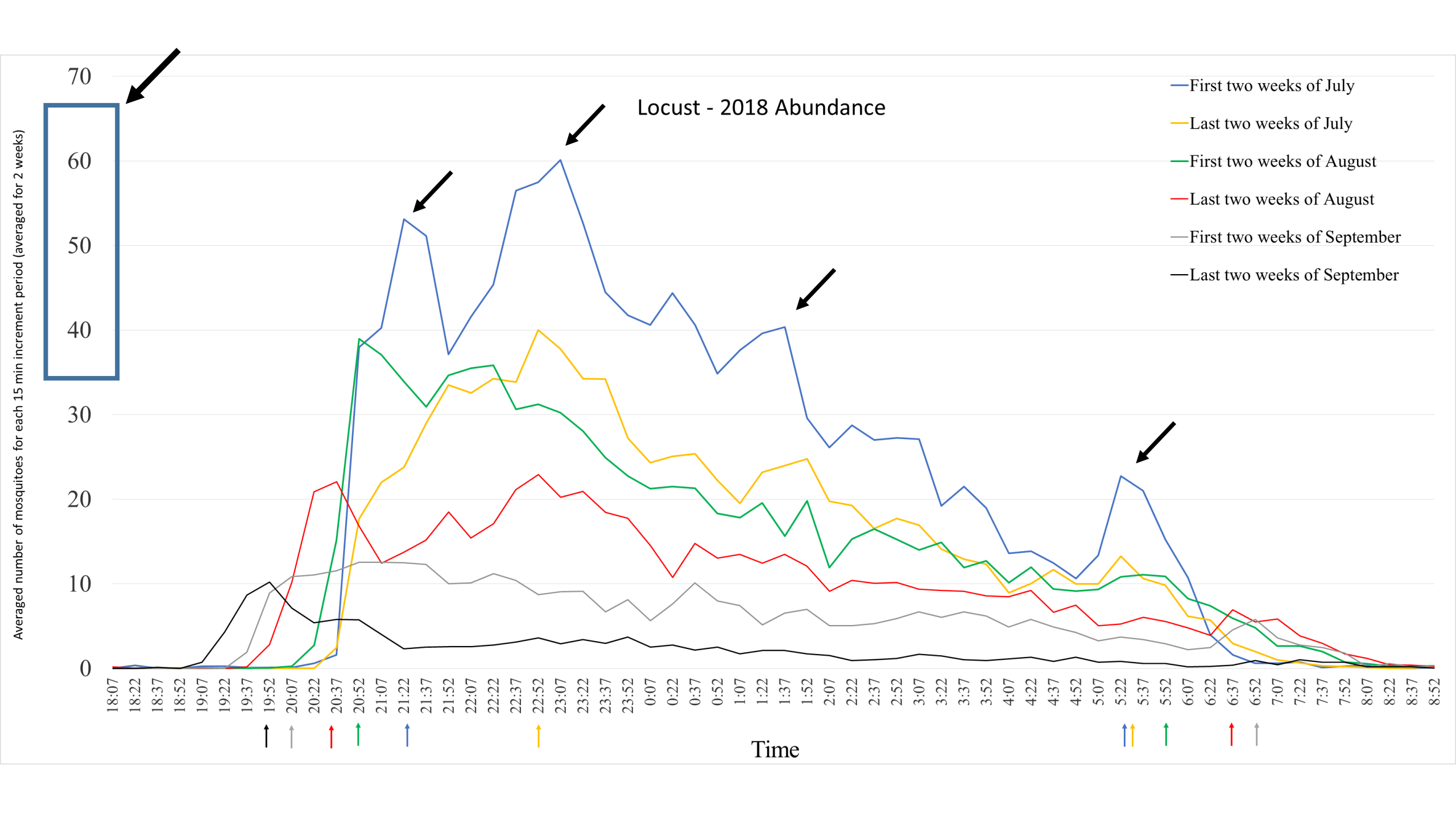
18:07 18:22 18:37 18:52 19:07 19:22 19:37 19:52 20:07 20:22 20:37 20:52 21:07 21:22 21:37 21:52 22:07 22:22 22:37 22:52 23:07 23:22 23:37 23:52 0:07 0:22 0:37 0:52 1:07 1:22 1:37 1:52 2:07 2:22 2:37 2:52 3:07 3:22 3:37 3:52 4:07 4:22 4:37 4:52 5:07 5:22 5:37 5:52 6:07 6:22 6:37 6:52 7:07 7:22 7:37 7:52 8:07 8:22 8:37 8:52

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑



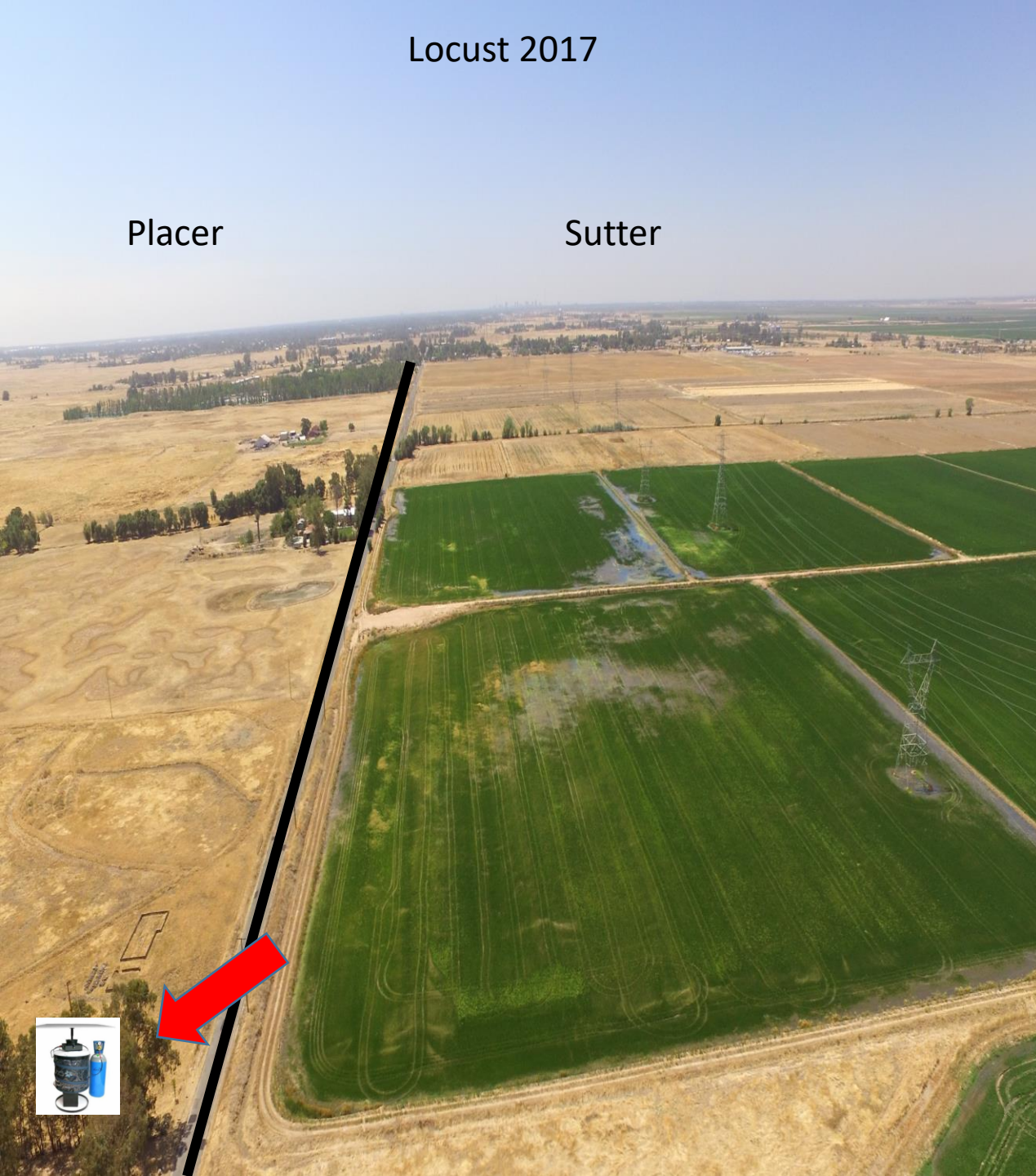




Locust 2017

Placer

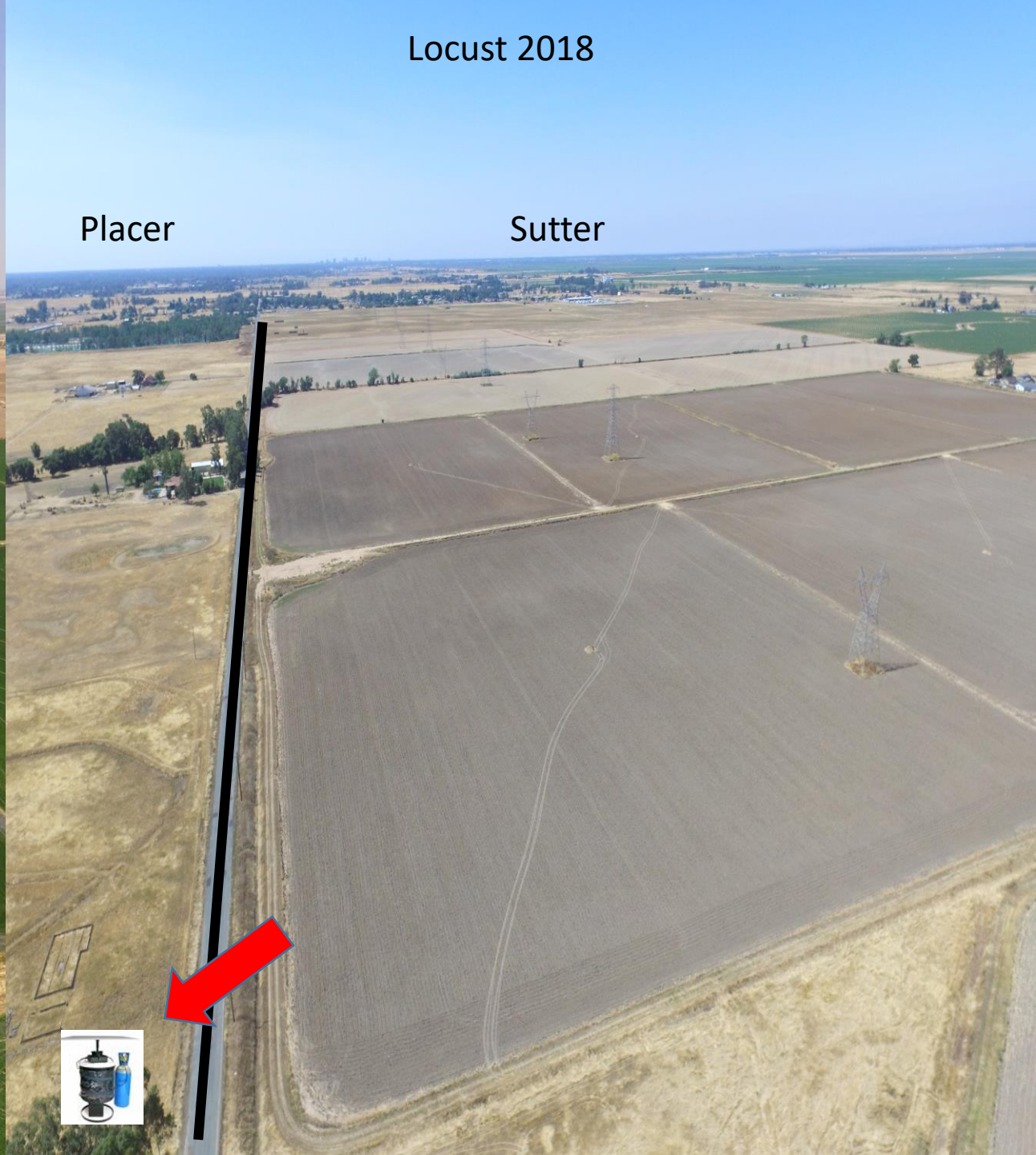
Sutter



Locust 2018

Placer

Sutter



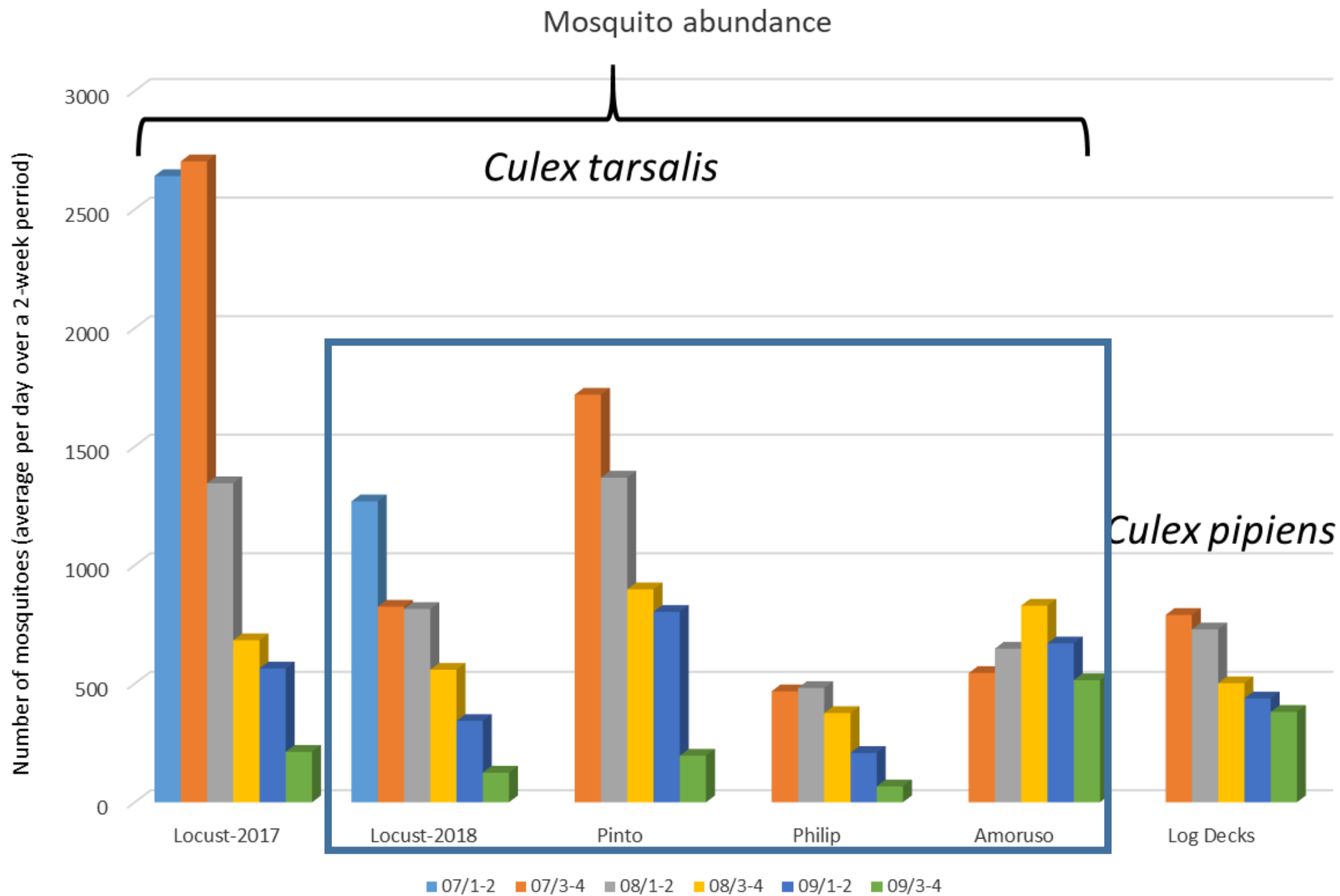


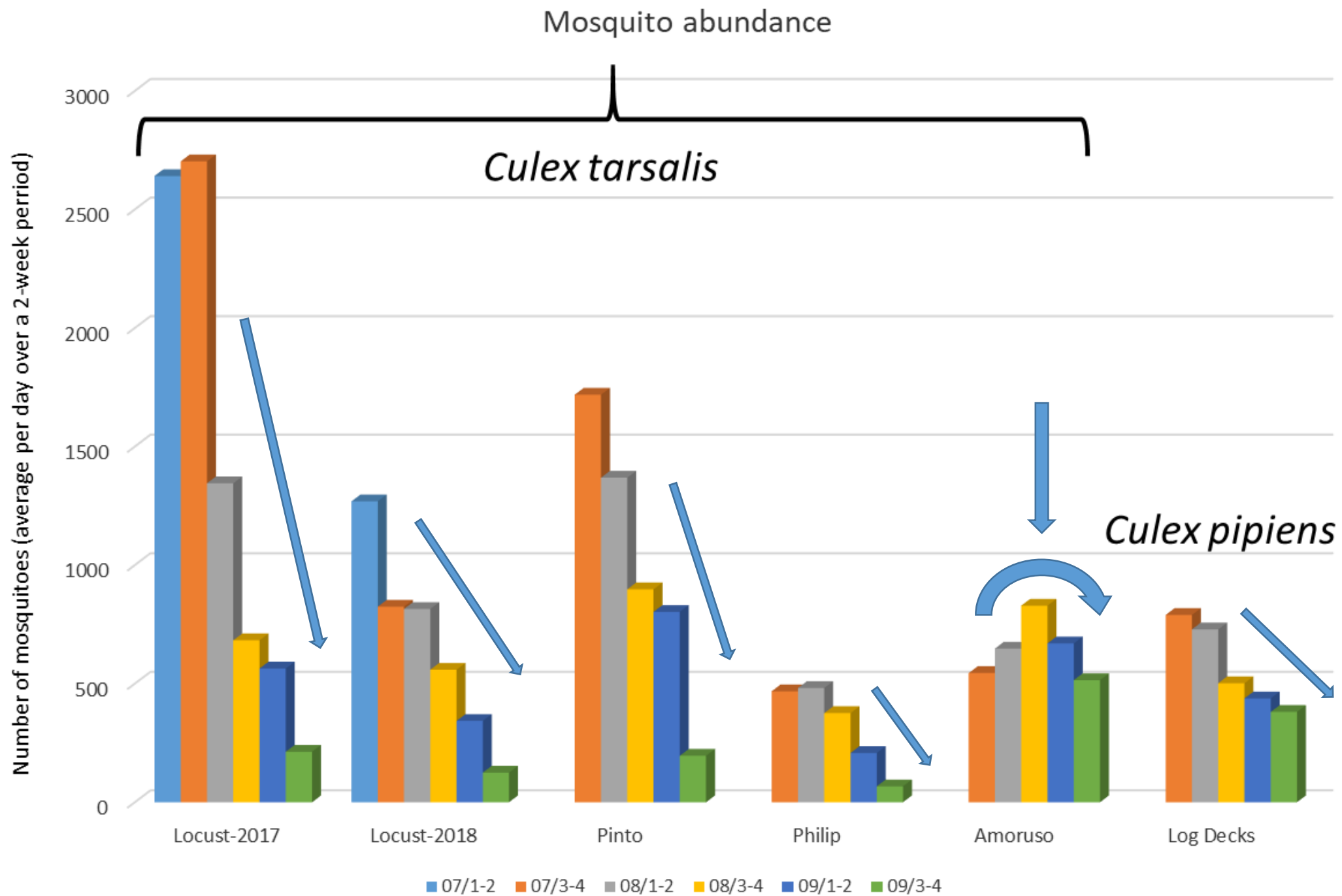


PLACER  
MOSQUITO  
& VECTOR  
CONTROL  
DISTRICT

# Abundance









- The abundance of mosquitoes can vary greatly per site
  - Location of the site
  - Larvicide treatments
  - Productivity of the surrounding sites (food, water temperature, etc.)
  - Movement of mosquito populations
  - Temperature, relative humidity (to be determined)

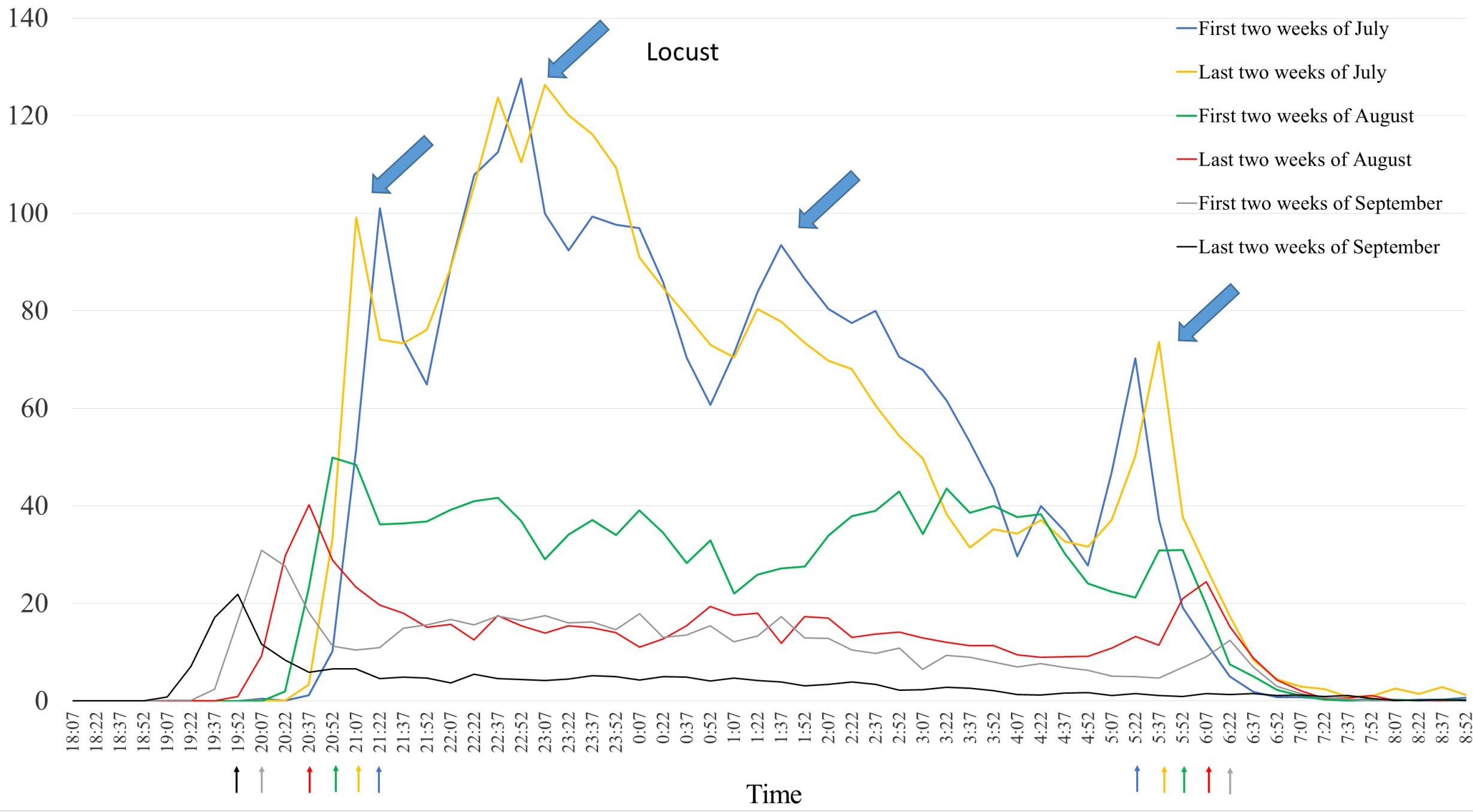




PLACER  
MOSQUITO  
& VECTOR  
CONTROL  
DISTRICT

# Patterns

Averaged number of mosquitoes for each 15 min increment period (averaged for 2 weeks)



Averaged number of mosquitoes for each 15 min increment period (averaged for 2 weeks)

140

120

100

80

60

40

20

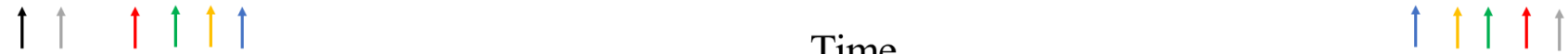
0

Locust - Abundance

- First two weeks of July
- Last two weeks of July
- First two weeks of August
- Last two weeks of August
- First two weeks of September
- Last two weeks of September

18:07 18:22 18:37 18:52 19:07 19:22 19:37 19:52 20:07 20:22 20:37 20:52 21:07 21:22 21:37 21:52 22:07 22:22 22:37 22:52 23:07 23:22 23:37 23:52 0:07 0:22 0:37 0:52 1:07 1:22 1:37 1:52 2:07 2:22 2:37 2:52 3:07 3:22 3:37 3:52 4:07 4:22 4:37 4:52 5:07 5:22 5:37 5:52 6:07 6:22 6:37 6:52 7:07 7:22 7:37 7:52 8:07 8:22 8:37 8:52

Time

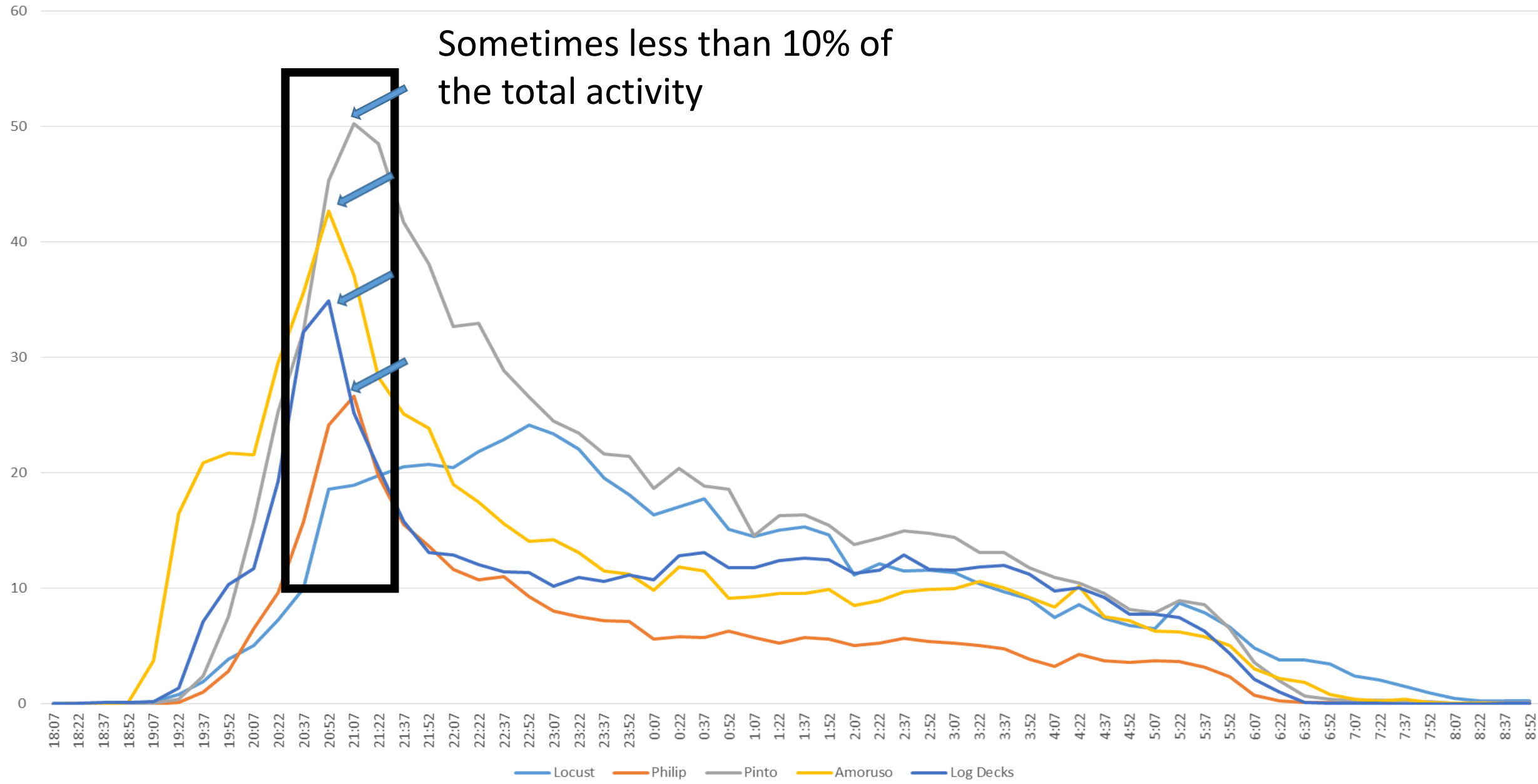




Averaged annual data for each site

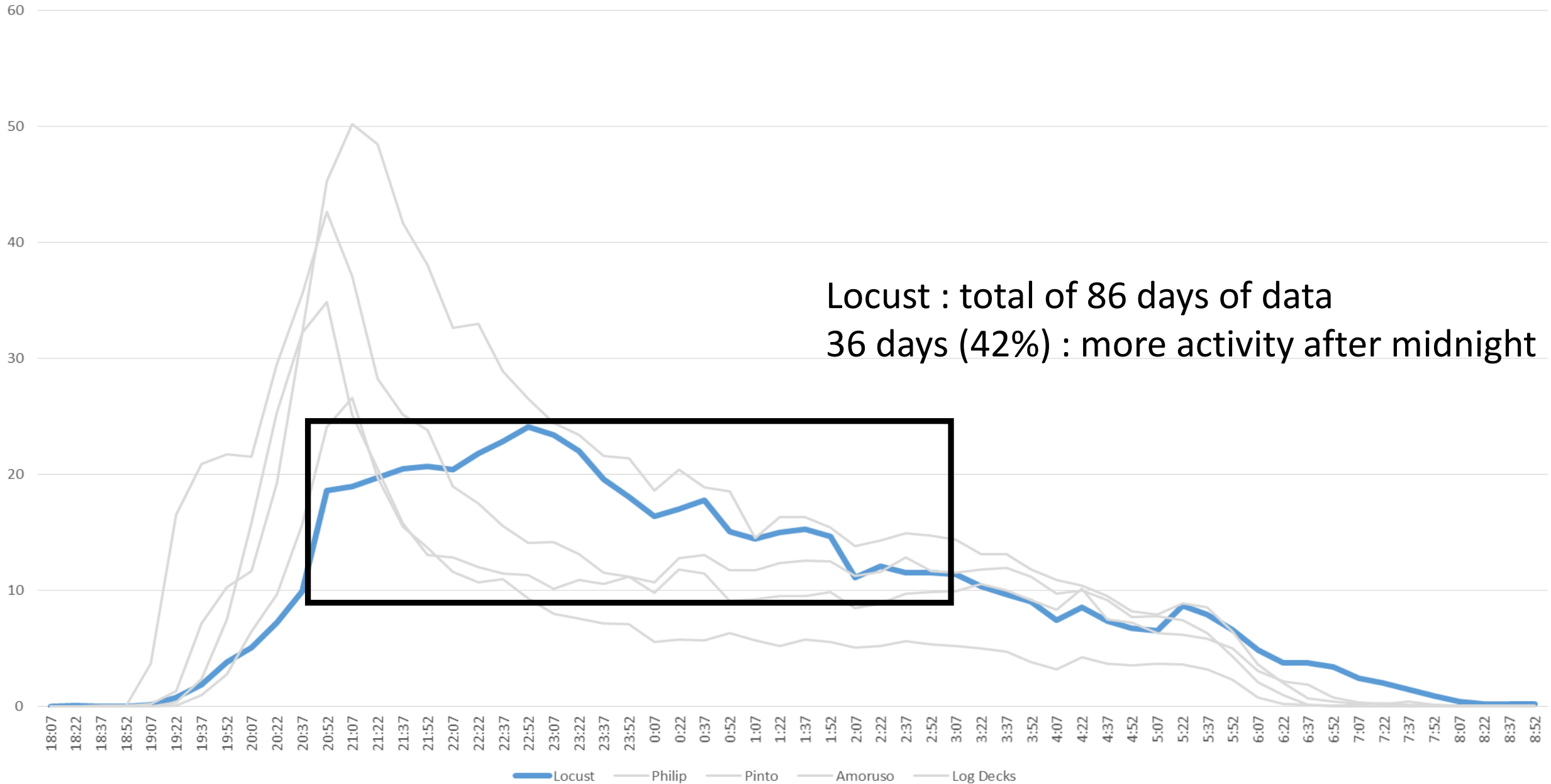
Averaged number of mosquitoes for each 15 min increment period (averaged for 2 weeks)

Sometimes less than 10% of  
the total activity



Averaged annual data for each site

Averaged number of mosquitoes for each 15 min increment period (averaged for 2 weeks)





PLACER  
MOSQUITO  
& VECTOR  
CONTROL  
DISTRICT

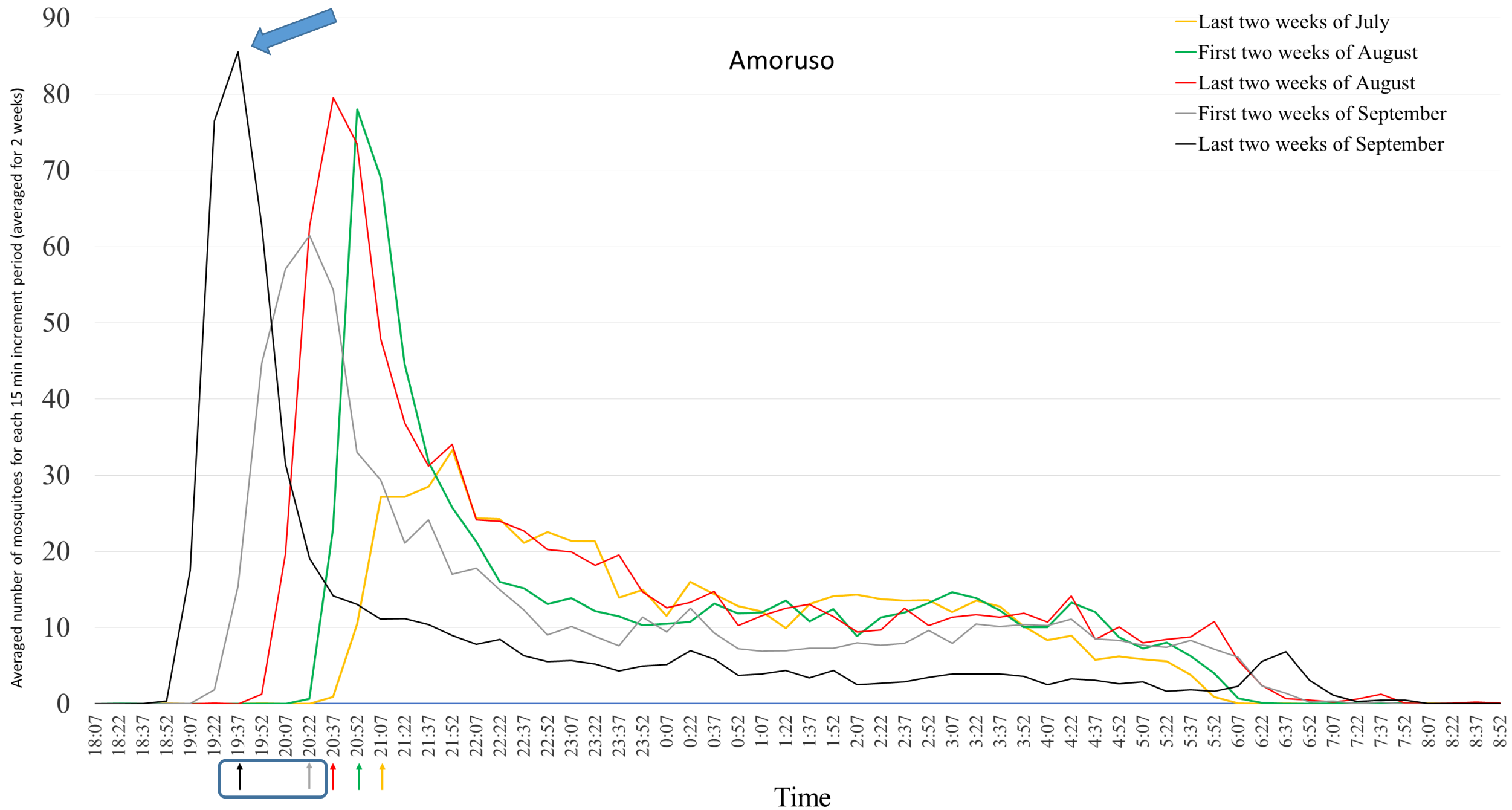
First peak of activity



# Peaks of activity

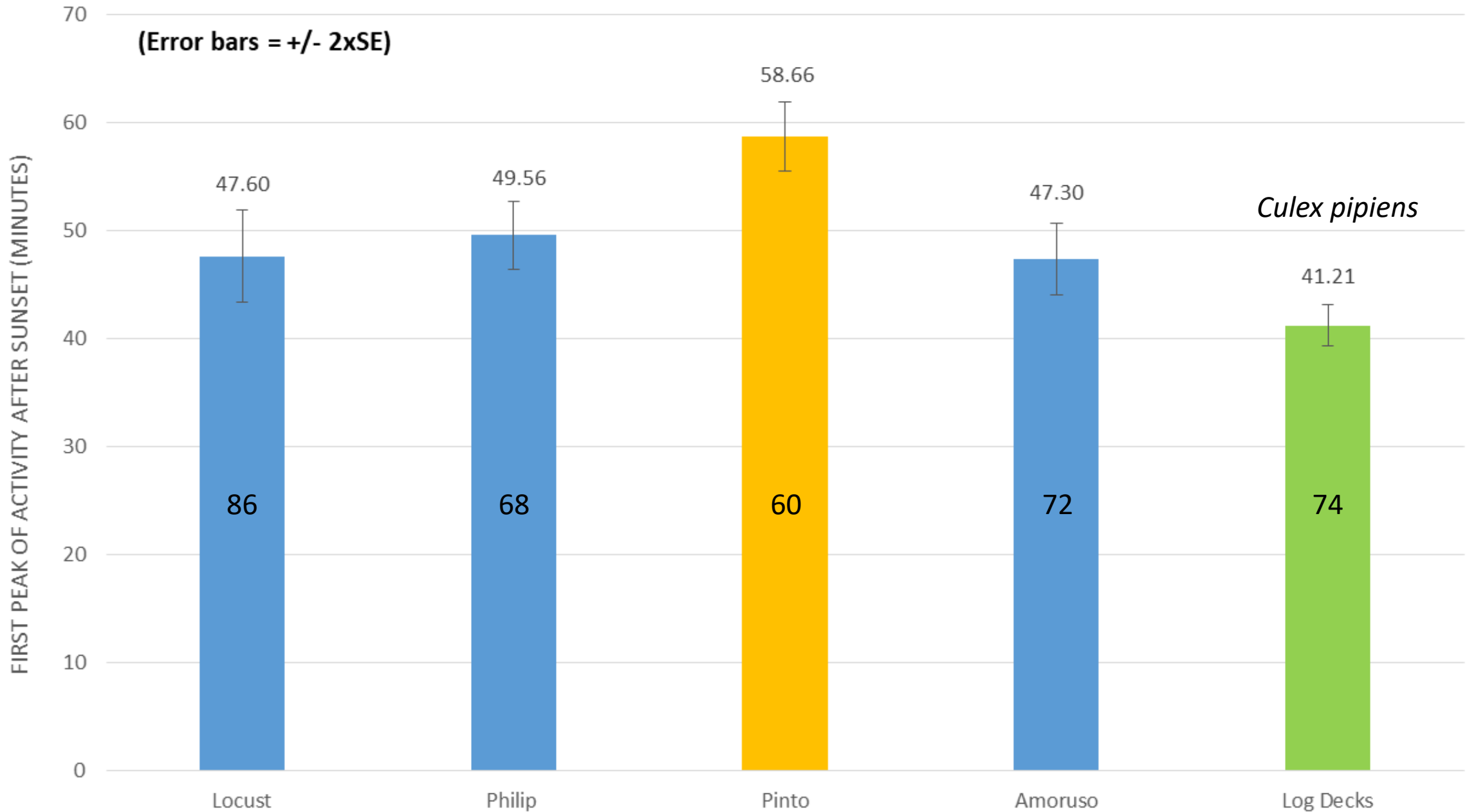
- Linear regression was used to determine if the time of the first peak (minutes after sunset) changed over the summer **within** a same site

	P-value / Intercept	Data
Locust	0.32	86
Philip	0.08	68
Pinto	0.01	60
Amoruso	0.007	72
Log Decks	0.30	74



# Time of the first peak of activity (average of all data) after sunset for each site

(Error bars = +/- 2xSE)



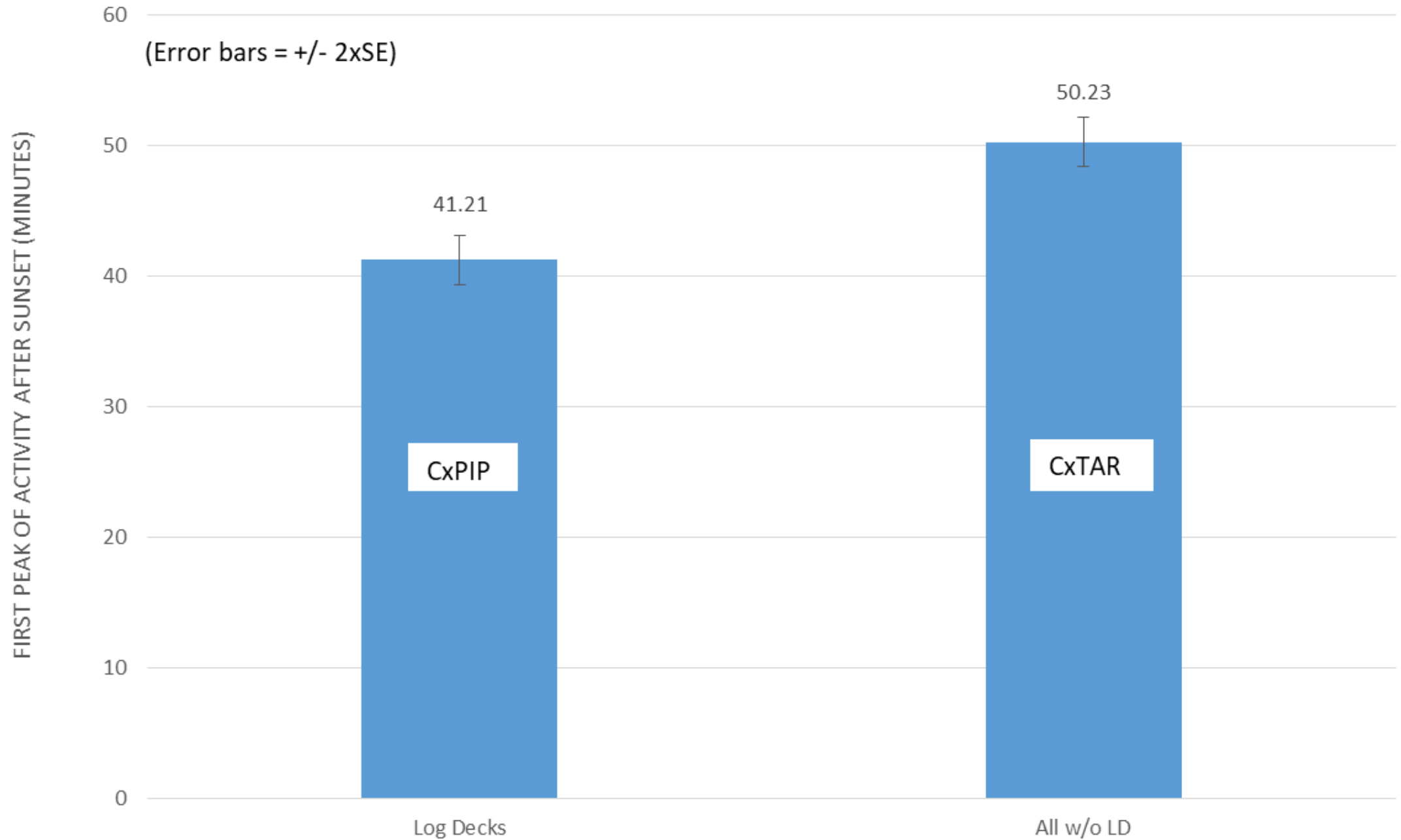


# Log Decks





## Log Decks vs ALL





# Conclusion

- Locust showed similar data (patterns, peaks) over the 2-year trial
- The abundance of mosquitoes can vary greatly per site
- **Within a same site**, the time of the first peak (minutes after sunset)  
can change over the summer



# Conclusion

- The time of the first peak of activity can vary from **different sites**
- Can we expect similar results with the other sites over a 2-year trial?



# Conclusion

- Can get a lot of information on mosquitoes using the BG-Counters
  - Peaks of activity
    - First peak after sunset
    - Peaks during the season (many peaks of activity for Locust in July)
  - Behavior of mosquitoes
    - Curve patterns
    - Activity throughout the evening and night





PLACER  
MOSQUITO  
& VECTOR  
CONTROL  
DISTRICT

Thank you

Mario Boisvert, PhD

[mariob@placermosquito.org](mailto:mariob@placermosquito.org)