

Comparison of resident insect populations in conventional and organic citrus orchards

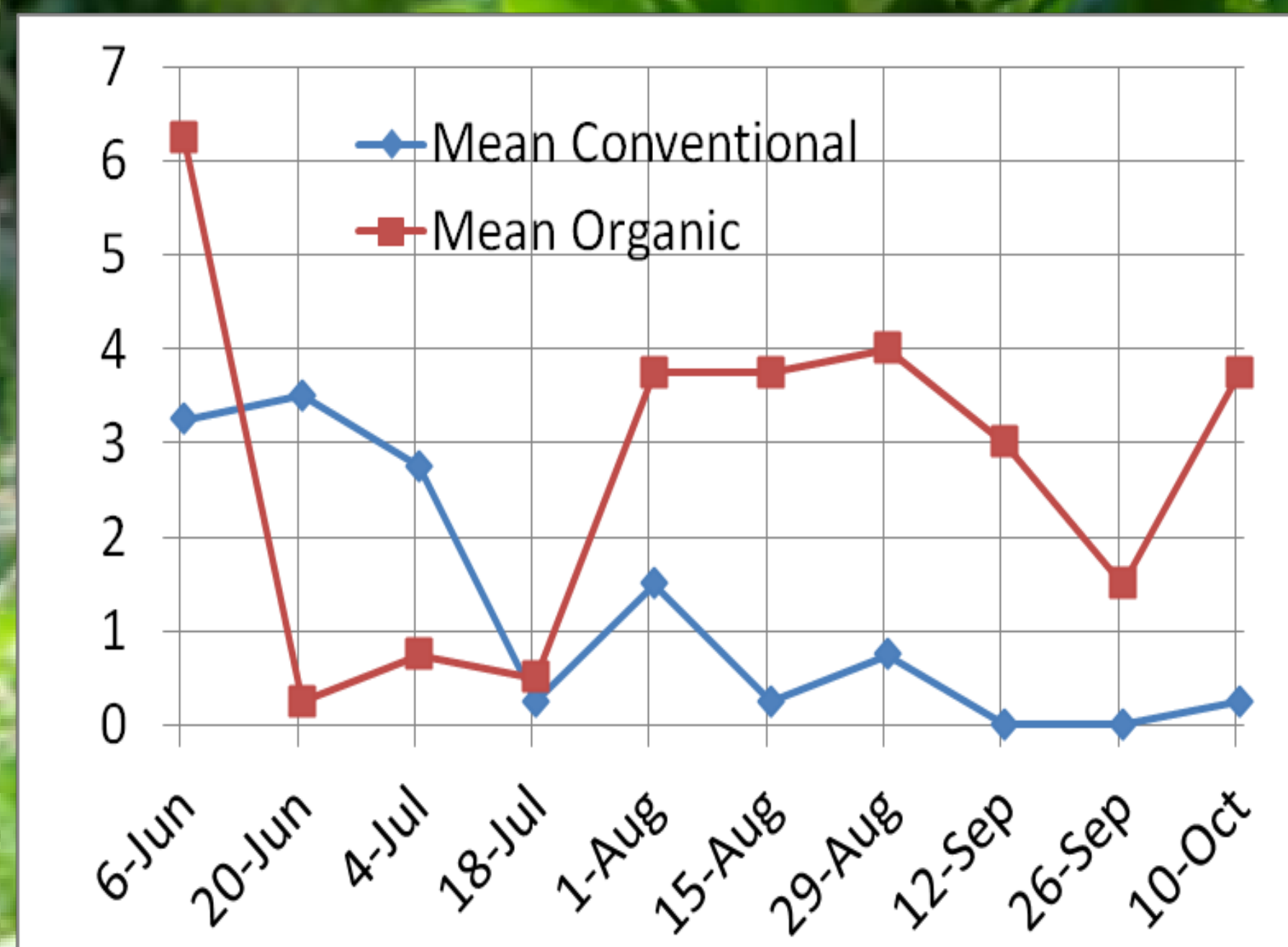
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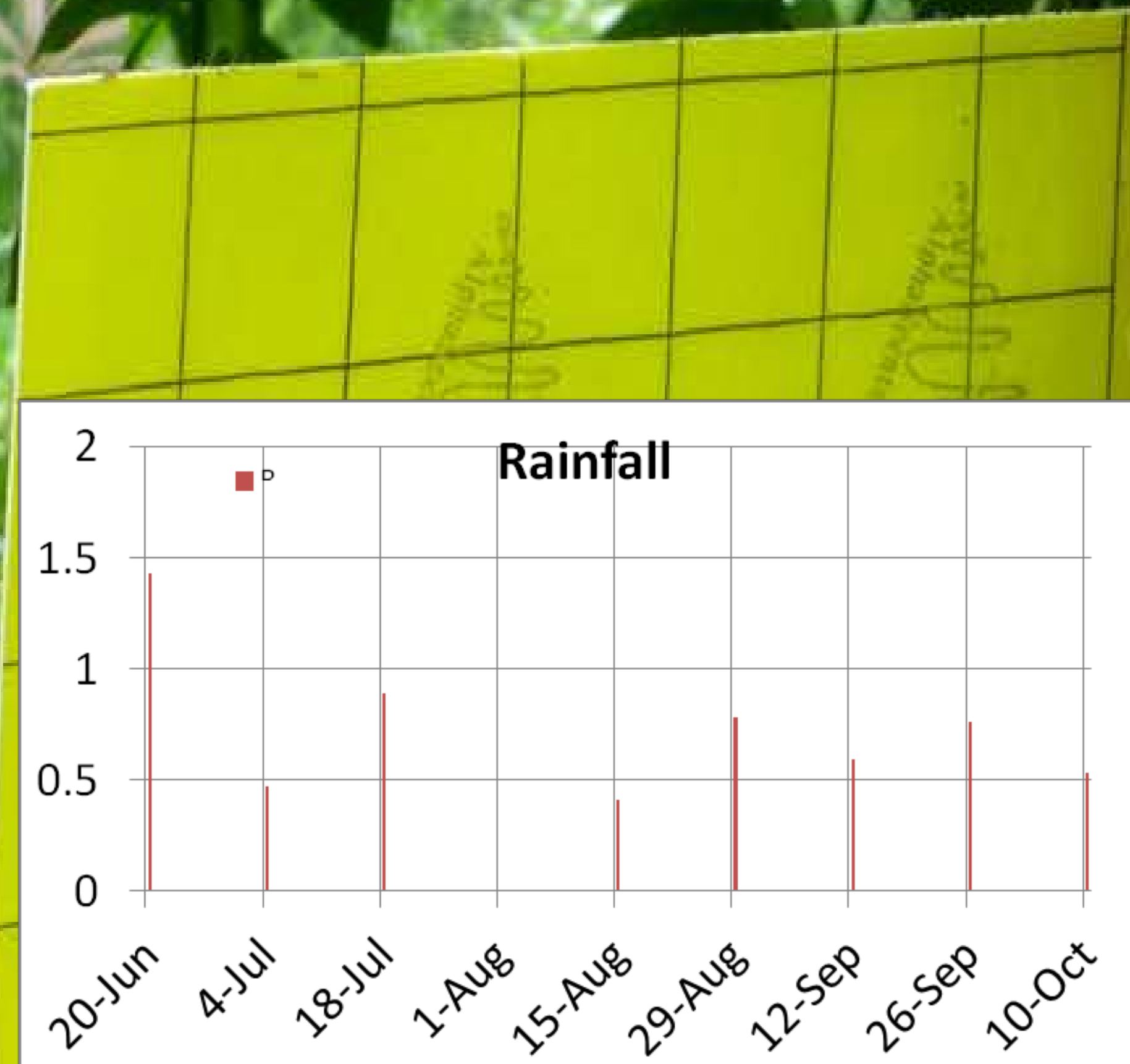
Apoidea

F=4.76 P=0.03



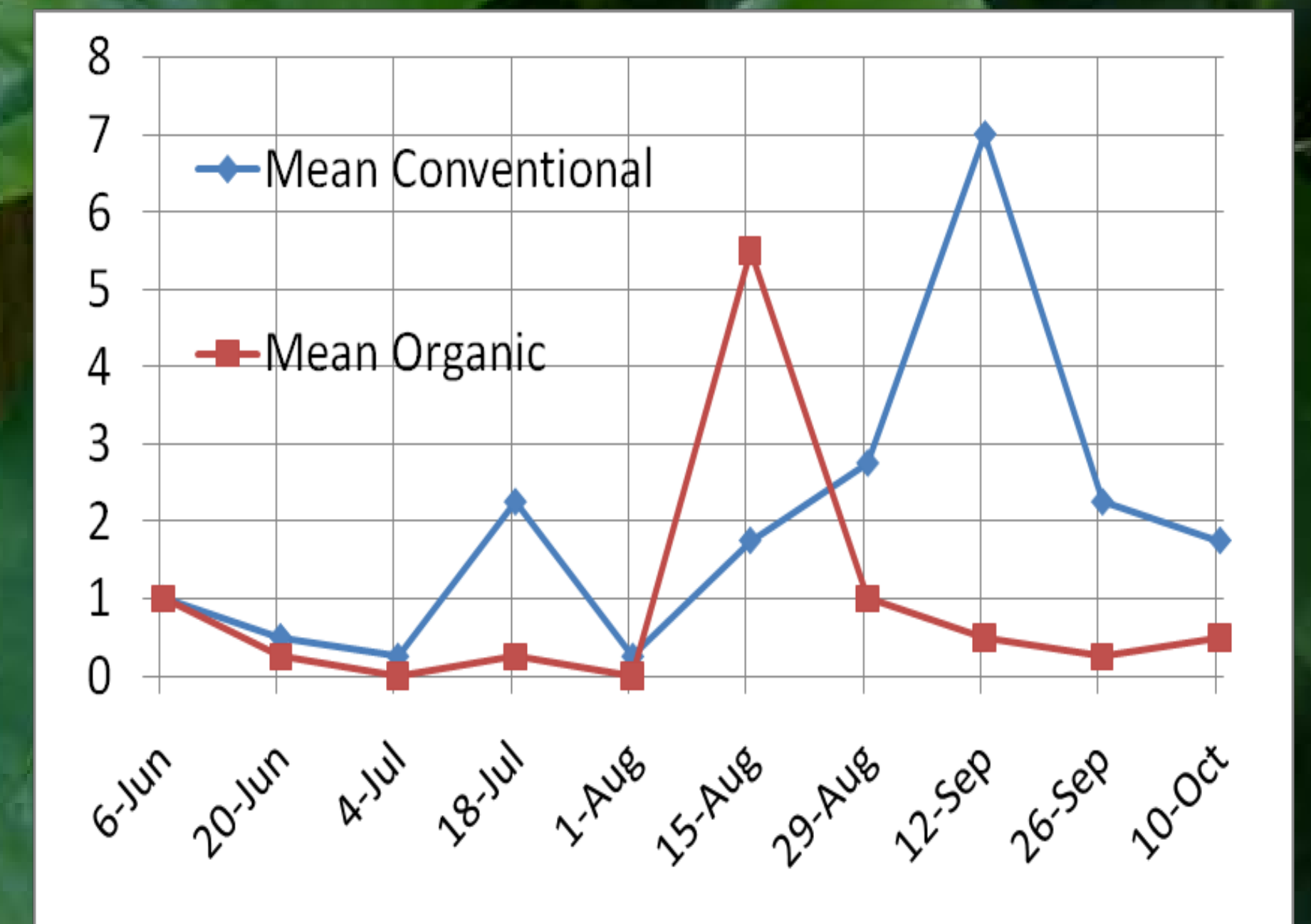
In the case of the Apoidea group, findings indicate that bees and sphecids are readily established in the organic orchard with minimal activity in the conventional.

For this project sticky sight traps were used to sample insect populations in both conventional and organic citrus orchards.



Tephritidae

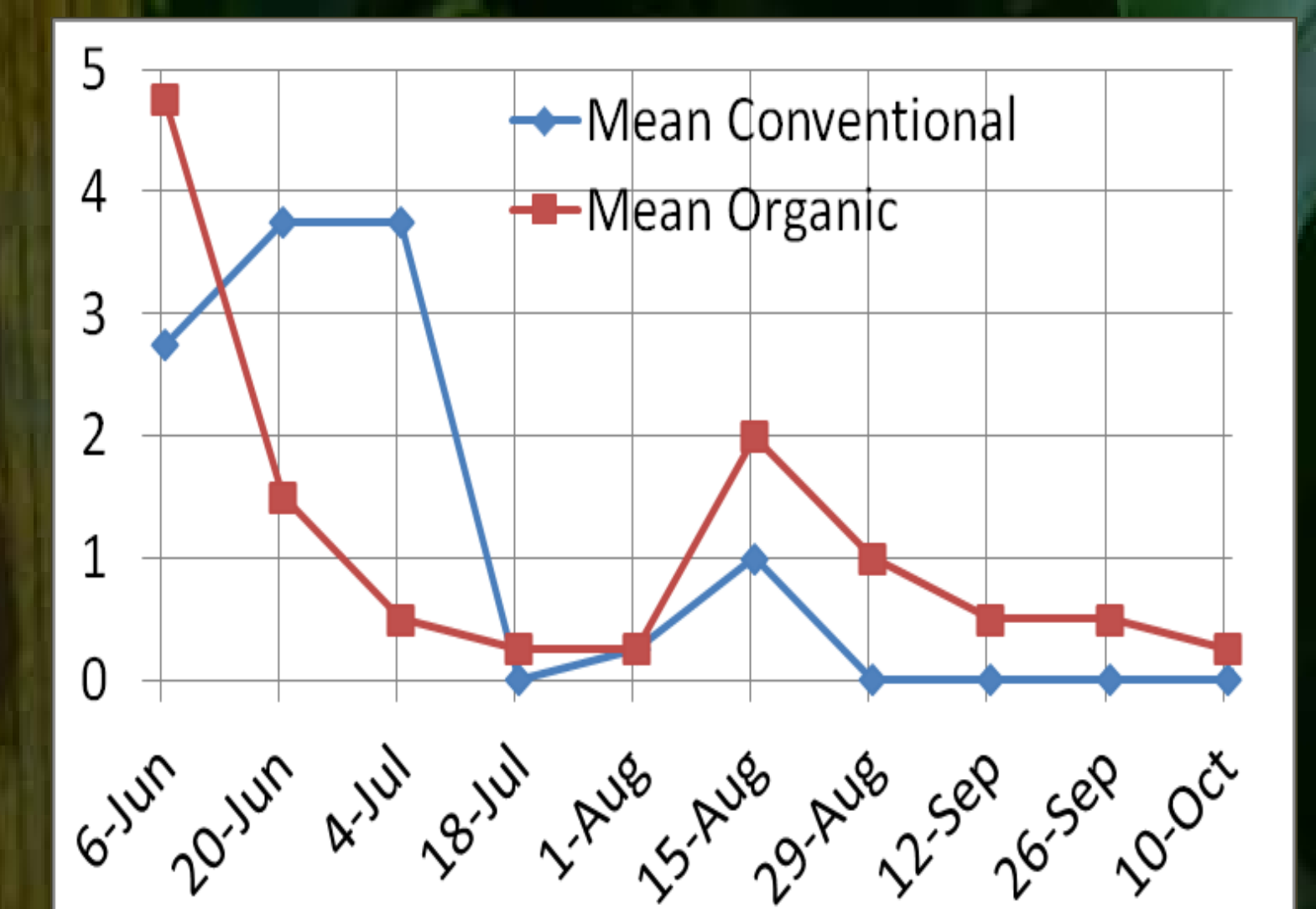
F=4.23 P=0.04



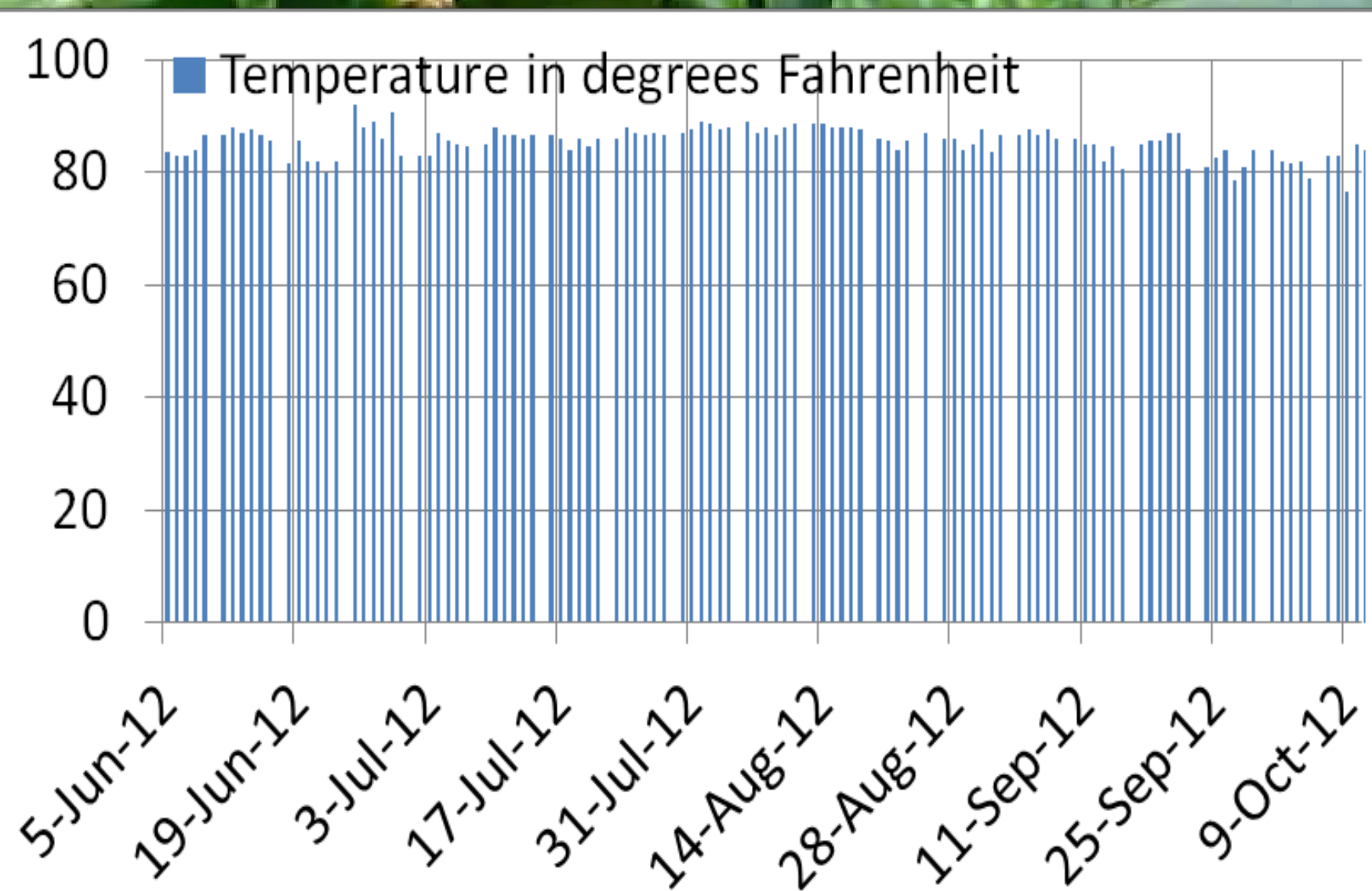
The Tephritidae group were more active on the conventional orchards, although all specimens found were sterile males identified by UV light. That aside, they lasted much longer in the conventional orchard, while population declines in the organic orchard were swift.

Heteroptera

F=0.04 P=0.84



The Heteroptera group showed relatively no change between the orchards and both were as likely to have species present as not.



Four static trap points were set up within each orchard (one organic and one conventional) and were then monitored on a two week basis. The traps were retrieved, replaced and then visually assessed for number and species present, using graphing software to determine population blooms and declines within the orchards. At the end of the twenty-two week collections this data was matched up with weather data to better gauge why populations rose or declined.