

Mite cultivar evaluation for host plant resistance to twospotted spider mite

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The experiment was conducted in Field 35a at Cal Poly (GPS coordinates: N35°18'20"; W120°40'30") in San Luis Obispo, CA. Bare root strawberry transplants were planted into raised beds on 31 Oct 2024. Beds were covered with 1.1 mil black TIF (totally impermeable film) polyethylene mulch (TriCal Inc., Hollister, CA). The experimental area consisted of five beds, 120 ft long. Each strawberry bed was 64 in. center to center, with four rows of plants spaced 12 in. between rows and 15.5 in. between plants within a row. Plants were irrigated and fertilized via three lines of drip tape per bed. The plot was 5 ft long, replicated four times and arranged in a randomized complete block (RCB). Each plot was hand infested twice between February and March with at least 50-100 *T. urticae* adults and nymphs and allowed to proliferate until plants were either killed or external predators reduced the population. Five leaflets were collected every 2 weeks beginning on 11 Feb 2025 until 1 Jun 2025 for a total of seven collections. All adults and nymphs were counted. Normalized difference vegetation index data and trichome counts collected will be analyzed with this data in the future.

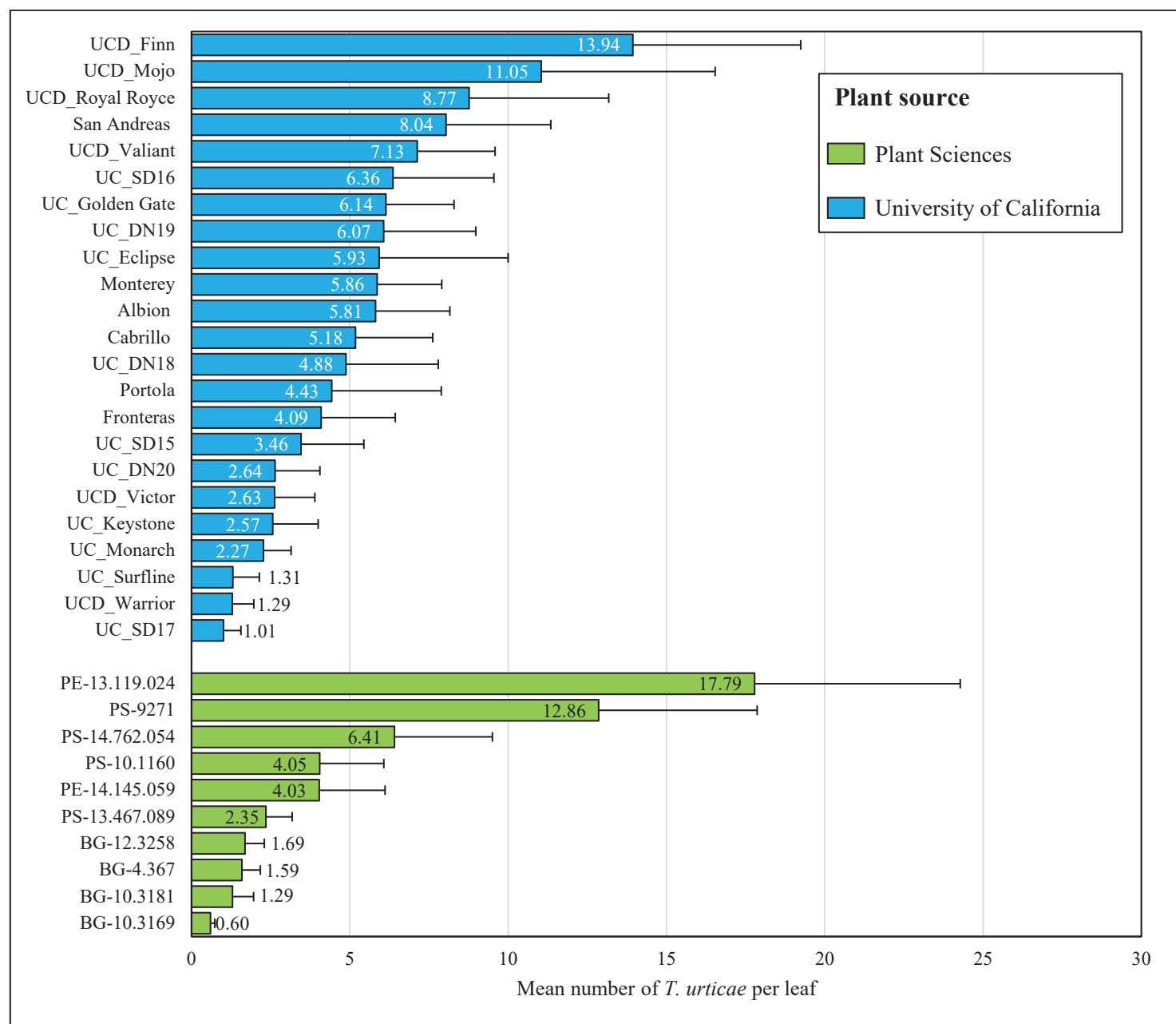


Figure 1. Twospotted spider mite (*Tetranychus urticae*) nymph and adult combined counts on genotypes/cultivars across five of the seven collection time points.

