

**Programmatic Arthropod Monitoring at
the Haleakalā High Altitude Observatories
and Haleakalā National Park
Maui, Hawai'i**

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Prepared for

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This monitoring project provides a means of gathering information that can be used to protect the native Arthropod species during development of observatory facilities and supports astronomy programs at the Haleakala High Altitude Observatory Site by promoting the good stewardship of the natural resources located there.

No new invasive arthropods were detected at the HO ATST site nor at the HALE Entrance Station.

Populations and diversity of Hawaiian indigenous species were lower than observed during June 2009. This is likely due to seasonal fluctuations in these populations.



The endemic plant, *Tetramolopium*, found growing in rock crevice at the HO ATST site.

III. INTRODUCTION

The Haleakalā volcano on the island of Maui is one of the highest mountains in Hawai'i, reaching an elevation of 10,023 feet (3,055 m) at its summit on Pu'u 'Ula'ula. Near the summit is a volcanic cone known as Kolekole with some of the best astronomy viewing in the world. In 1961, an Executive Order of Hawai'i Governor Quinn established the Haleakalā High Altitude Observatories Site, sometimes referred to as "Science City". The site is managed by the University of Hawai'i.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has authorized the development of the Advanced Technology Solar Telescope (ATST) within the 18-acre University of Hawai'i Institute for Astronomy High Altitude Observatories (HO) site. The ATST represents a collaboration of 22 institutions, reflecting a broad segment of the solar physics community. The ATST project will be the largest and most capable solar telescope in the world. It will be an indispensable tool for exploring and understanding physical processes on the Sun that ultimately affect Earth.

The ATST Project will be contained within a 0.74 acre site footprint in the

HO site. An Environmental Impact Statement was completed for the ATST project (NSF 2009), and the NSF issued a Record of Decision in December of 2009. The Haleakalā National Park (HALE) Road Corridor will be used for transportation during construction and use of the ATST.

The HO and HALE road corridor contain biological ecosystems that are both unique and fragile. The landscape at HO is considered to be an alpine dry shrubland vegetation type. A diverse fauna of resident insects and spiders reside in the there (Medeiros and Loope 1994). These arthropods inhabit unique natural habitats on the bare lava flows and cinder cones with limited vegetation. Vegetation covers less than 5% of the open ground, and food is apparently scarce.

The ecosystem at the HO is extremely xeric, caused by relatively low precipitation, porous lava substrates that retain negligible amounts of moisture, little plant cover, and high solar radiation. The dark, heat-absorbing cinder provides only slight protection from the extreme temperatures. Thermal regulation and

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Sampling of arthropod habitats was approved in a permit obtained from the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Permit # FHM09-188) issued in June, 2009 and the National Park

Service (Permit # HALE-2010-SCI-0001) issued on March 22, 2010. Sampling began on March 23, 2010 and was completed on March 29, 2010.



The ATST site at HO has sparse vegetation among bare lava flows and cinder.

IV. QUESTIONS OF INTEREST

Important Questions of Interest are those with answers that can be efficiently estimated and that yield the information necessary for management decision-making. The following Questions of Interest were developed for Programmatic Monitoring and are the focus of this report.

Question 1

What are the characteristic arthropod populations at the ATST site and along the HALE Road Corridor?

Justification:

Programmatic Monitoring will yield a comprehensive description of the characteristic arthropod populations at the ATST site and along the HALE Road Corridor. The monitoring will provide reliable scientific information about the current status and trends in their populations, including all species of special interest.

Monitoring goals:

- 1) To describe the characteristic arthropod populations at the ATST site and along the HALE Road Corridor,
- 2) To provide historical records of change in native arthropod species population attributes, and characteristics.

V. METHODS

Site Description

The Haleakalā High Altitude Observatories (HO) site is located on Kolekole Hill. The site is at 3,052-m (10,012-ft) above sea level, adjacent to Pu`u `Ula`ula, also known as Red Hill, the highest elevation on Maui, 3,055-m (10,023-ft). The 7.3-ha (18.1-ac) site was established in 1961, and the first telescope, the Mees Solar observatory was dedicated in 1964. The site now consists of five telescope facilities.

The ATST site is on undeveloped land located east of the existing Mees Solar Observatory facility. Annual precipitation averages 1,349.2-mm (53.14-in), falling primarily as rain and mist during the winter months from November through April. Snow rarely falls at the site.

The Haleakalā National Park Entrance Station is at about 2,072 m (6,800 ft) on the western slope of Haleakalā. Sampling locations were determined with guidance and cooperation from HALE personnel. Annual precipitation here averages 1,750 mm (70 in), falling primarily as rain and mist during the winter months from November through April.

Procedures

The selection of a trapping technique used in a study was carefully considered. When the target species of the trapping system are rare or important for other reasons (i.e., endangered, keystone species, etc.) live-trapping should be considered. Entomologists have long believed that they can sample without an impact on the population being sampled. It has been assumed that collecting makes only a small impact on the populations of interest. While that assumption remains to be tested, responsible entomologists consider appropriate trapping techniques to ensure survival of local populations of interest. The sampling methods that were used during this study are similar to those used during the 2007 arthropod inventory conducted on the western slope of Haleakalā and were reviewed by HALE natural resource staff and modified according to their comments.

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spiders and caterpillars were stored in vials filled with 70% ethyl alcohol.

Identification

Specimens were mounted and identified to the lowest taxonomic level possible within the time frame of the study. Many small flies and micro-Hymenoptera were sorted to morpho-species and will be sent to reliable experts for identification. Identification of arthropods is difficult, even for experts. More time needs to be allotted for this necessary task in all arthropod inventory projects. All specimen identifications are provisional until they can be confirmed by comparison to museum specimens or by group/taxon experts.

References for general identification of the specimens included Fauna Hawaiiensis (Sharp (ed) 1899-1913) and the 17 volumes of Insects of Hawai'i (Zimmerman 1948a, 1948b, 1948c, 1948d, 1948e, 1957, 1958a, 1958b, 1978, Hardy 1960, 1964, 1965, 1981, Tentorio 1969, Hardy and Delfinado 1980, Christiansen and Bellinger 1992, Liebherr and Zimmerman 2000, and Daly and Magnacca 2003). Other publications that were useful for general identification included The Insects and Other Invertebrates of Hawaiian Sugar Cane Fields (Williams 1931), Common Insects of Hawai'i (Fullaway and Krauss 1945),

Hawaiian Insects and Their Kin (Howarth and Mull 1992), and An Introduction to the Study of Insects Sixth Edition (Borror, Triplehorn, and Johnson 1989).

For specific groups specialized keys were necessary. Most of these had to be obtained through library searches. Keys used to identify Heteroptera included those by Usinger (1936, 1942), Ashlock (1966), Beardsley (1966, 1977), and Gagné (1997). Keys used to identify Hymenoptera included Cushman (1944), Watanabe (1958), Townes (1958), Beardsley (1961, 1969, 1976), Yoshimoto and Ishii (1965), and Yoshimoto (1965a, 1965b).

Species identification of those specimens identified to genus or species levels are unconfirmed and subject to change after comparison to specimens in museums.

In many cases changes in family and generic status and species synonymies caused species names to change from those in the keys. Species names used in this report are those listed in Hawaiian Terrestrial Arthropod Checklist Third Edition (Nishida 1997). Schedule/Start and End dates

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Sampling was conducted over seven days and five nights in March 2010, starting on March 23, 2010 and ending on March 29, 2010. Sampling typically began at 9:00 am and run until about 2:00 pm. A break was taken to prepare for night sampling

which resumed at 8:00 pm and continued until midnight. Pitfall traps were open for 120 trap nights, and light traps were deployed for 18 trap nights.



Lucosid wolf spider in leaf litter under a *Dubautia* at the ATST site.

HALE ENTRANCE STATION SITE

Twenty-two species of arthropods were collected and observed at sites near the HALE Entrance Station. The species included nine endemic Hawaiian arthropods, eleven non-indigenous arthropods, and two species of unknown status.

Several species of moths were collected with light traps. All but one species were collected in June 2009. The one new species, *Ophiusa disjungens*, a non-indigenous moth (Family Noctuidae), is called the guava moth but it also feeds on other Myrtaceae including gum trees. This species is known from many of the main islands of Hawai'i.

Earwigs, abundant during the June 2009 sampling, were in low abundance. Only a few immature specimens were collected in pitfall traps.

One ant species, *Hypoponera opaciceps*, was observed. They occurred only near the small fee station parking lot, and in low abundance. This ant species was also collected during the June 2009 sampling.

Six specimens of the non-indigenous carabid beetle, *Trechus obtusus* Erichson were found, but none of the endemic *Mecyclothorax* species collected during June 2009 were detected.

No new invasive species were observed that could impact native arthropod species. The species of indigenous arthropods have been observed at the site during other surveys. Diversity was lower than that observed in June 2009.

DISCUSSION

No new invasive arthropods were detected at the HO ATST site nor at the HALE Entrance Station.

Populations and diversity of Hawaiian indigenous species were lower than observed during June 2009. This is likely due to normal seasonal fluctuations in

these populations. The trend of these populations will be carefully monitored during future Programmatic Monitoring session.

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APPENDIX A HO ATST ARTHROPOD SPECIES LIST

A list of Arthropod species detected during the March 2010 sampling at the HO ATST site.

Class	Order	Family	Genus	Species	Subspecies	Authority	Status	host 1	host 2
Arachnida	Araneae	Lycosidae	Lycosa	hawaiiensis		simon	endemic		
Insecta	Coleoptera	Carabidae	Trechus	obtusus		Erichson	non-indigenous		
Insecta	Coleoptera	Coccinellidae	Coccinella	septempunctata		Linnaeus	non-indigenous	Dubautia	
Insecta	Coleoptera	Coccinellidae	Olla	v-nigrum		(Mulsant)	non-indigenous	Dubautia	
Insecta	Coleoptera	Coccinellidae	Psyllobora	taedata		LeConto	non-indigenous	Dubautia	
Insecta	Coleoptera	Curculionidae							pukiawe
Insecta	Diptera	Calliphoridae	Calliphora	vomitorea		(Linnaeus)	non-indigenous		
Insecta	Diptera	Calliphoridae	Lucilia	sericata		(Meigen)	non-indigenous		
Insecta	Diptera	Muscidae	SP1						
Insecta	Diptera	Muscidae	SP2						
Insecta	Diptera	Syrphidae	Toxomerus	marginatus		(Say)	non-indigenous		pukiawe
Insecta	Heteroptera	Lygaeidae	Nysius	coenosulus		Stål	endemic	Dubautia	pukiawe
Insecta	Heteroptera	Lygaeidae	Nysius	communis		Usinger	endemic	Dubautia	pukiawe
Insecta	Heteroptera	Lygaeidae	Nysius	lichenicola		Kirkaldy	endemic	pukiawe	
Insecta	Heteroptera	Lygaeidae	Nysius	terrestris		Usinger	endemic		Pukiawe
Insecta	Heteroptera	Miridae	Orthotylus	sp.1			endemic	Dubautia	
Insecta	Heteroptera	Miridae	Orthotylus	sp.2			endemic	Dubautia	pukiawe
Insecta	Heteroptera	Miridae	Trigonotylus	hawaiiensis		(Kirkaldy)	endemic	Dubautia	
Insecta	Homoptera	Delphacidae	Nesosydne	osborni		Muir	endemic	Dubautia	pukiawe
Insecta	Homoptera	Psyllidae	SP1						
Insecta	Homoptera	Psyllidae	Trioza	ohiacola		Crawford	endemic		
Insecta	Hymenoptera	Colletidae	Hylaeus	nivicola		Meade-Waldo	endemic	Dubautia	pukiawe
Insecta	Hymenoptera	Unknown 1							
Insecta	Hymenoptera	Unknown 2							
Insecta	Hymenoptera	Unknown 3							
Insecta	Hymenoptera	Unknown 4							
Insecta	Hymenoptera	Unknown 5							
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Cosmopterigidae	Hyposmocoma	sp.2			endemic		
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Noctuidae	Agrotis	biliopa		Meyrick	endemic		
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Noctuidae	Agrotis	mesotoxa		Meyrick	endemic		
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Noctuidae	larvae						
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Noctuidae	Pseudaletia	unipunctata		(Haworth)	non-indigenous		
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Pterophoridae	Stenoptilodes	taprobanes	brachymorpha	(Meyrick)	non-indigenous		

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APPENDIX B HALE ARTHROPOD SPECIES LIST

A list of Arthropod species detected during the March 2010 sampling at the
HALE Entrance Station.

Class	Order	Family	Genus	Species	Subspecies	Authority	Status	host 1
Crustacea	Isopoda	Porcellionidae	Porcellio	scaber		Latreille	non-indigenous	
Diplopoda	Julida	Allajulus	latistriatus			(Curtis)	non-indigenous	
Insecta	Coleoptera	Carabidae	Trechus	obtusus		Erichson	non-indigenous	
Insecta	Coleoptera	Cerambycidae	Plagithmysus	funebrius		Sharp	endemic	mamane
Insecta	Dermaptera	Forficulidae	Forficula	auricularia		Linnaeus	non-indigenous	
Insecta	Diptera	Calliphoridae	Calliphora	vomitaria		(Linnaeus)	non-indigenous	
Insecta	Diptera	Calliphoridae	Lucilia	sericata		(Meigen)	non-indigenous	
Insecta	Diptera	Muscidae	SP1					
Insecta	Heteroptera	Miridae	Orthotylus	sp.2			endemic	mamane
Insecta	Homoptera	Psyllidae	SP1					
Insecta	Hymenoptera	Formicidae	Hypoconera	opaciceps		(Mayr)	non-indigenous	
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Cosmopterigidae	Hyposmocoma	sp.1			endemic	
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Cosmopterigidae	Hyposmocoma	sp.2			endemic	
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Crambidae	Eudonia	sp.			endemic	
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Crambidae	Udea	pyranthes		(Meyrick)	endemic	
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Noctuidae	Agrotis	epicremna		Meyrick	endemic	
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Noctuidae	Agrotis	xiphias		Meyrick	endemic	
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Noctuidae	Megalographa	biloba		(Stephens)	non-indigenous	
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Noctuidae	Ophiusa	disjungens		(Walker)	non-indigenous	
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Noctuidae	Pseudaletia	unipunctata		(Haworth)	non-indigenous	
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Noctuidae	Spodoptera	exigua		(Huebner)	non-indigenous	
Insecta	Lepidoptera	Tortricidae	Cydia	sp. 1			endemic	