

Nick Stoltz: "The Effects of Specified Gendered Colonies on Laricobius nigrinus Rearing Efficiency in a Lab Setting"

Tsuga canadensis, also known as the eastern hemlock, is an important keystone species in Georgia forests. This tree is also in grave danger as we speak. This study aims to increase its efficiency by examining the proportions of male to female beetles in each breeding chamber rather than random assortment. If a significant difference is found between random assortment and non-random assortment, the rearing methods of these predatory beetles could become more efficient. The implications of increased beetle counts could turn the tide against the HWA sooner than expected. This allows for quicker regeneration of healthy forests ultimately restoring an important piece of Georgia's ecosystem.

Gerran Collins, Edward Surles: "Moderating Effects of Motivational Learning with Incentive Following Perinatal Exposure to Ethanol"

Research shows that exposure to ethanol (EtOH) can lead to long lasting impact on brain development (Schaffner, 2020). For this study C57BL/6J mouse pups were perinatally exposed to EtOH through the dams voluntary drinking from gestational day 4 to postnatal day 12. In adulthood, pups were tested in the radial arm maze (RAM). The RAM assesses learning and memory in mice by having the mice explore the apparatus to retrieve a food reward. This apparatus is used to give insight into learning behavior and memory processing. Thus, FAS mice did not show a sufficient learning curve even in the shock groups due to developmental issues. These results indicate that exposure to EtOH during critical periods of development leads to learning deficits that are not easily overcome by incentive learning.

Evelyn Tello-Mendoza: "Beyond the Birds and the Bees: Self-efficacy in Sex Practices within the LGBTQ+ Community"

Sex education programs have been tailored to address the heteronormative and cisgender population. Not having inclusive programs further marginalizes underrepresented groups like the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, etc. (LGBTQ+) community and people of color (POC). This qualitative study focused on LGBTQ+ POC current access to sexual health resources and information. Data was collected from five self-identifying LGBTQ+ POC, and three White LGBTQ+ members. Understanding the availability of resources can be used to inform future policy and programming for sex education programs. Findings from this study provide an understanding of current access to sexual health information and resources.

If you need this document in an alternate format for accessibility purposes (e.g. Braille, large print, audio, etc.), please contact University Relations at universityrelations@ung.edu or 706- 864-1950.