

This is a newly conceptualized INBRE study, conceived by Zoey Denevan under the tutelage of Professor Eric C. Atkinson. This study will focus on the effects of mosquito spray on insect populations with a focus on web building spiders. Observational sightings have noted that there appears to be a lack of web building spiders in towns that frequently spray for mosquitos. This brings to question the effects of mosquito spray on other insect and arachnid populations. Field work will be conducted throughout the summer and fall of 2026, concluding in the spring semester of 2027. This study hopes to find if there is indeed a difference in the biodiversity between locations that spray for mosquitoes locations that do not.