Effects of Control Burns and Weather on *Lecanosticta acicola* Spore Dispersal

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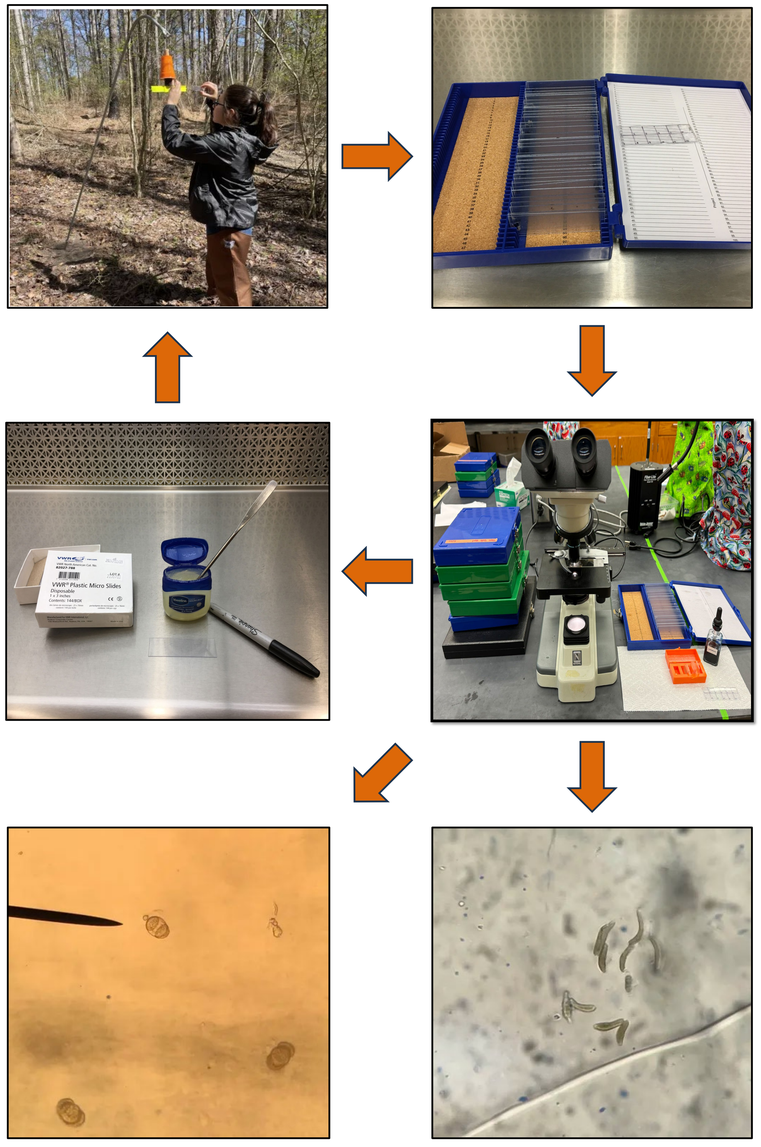
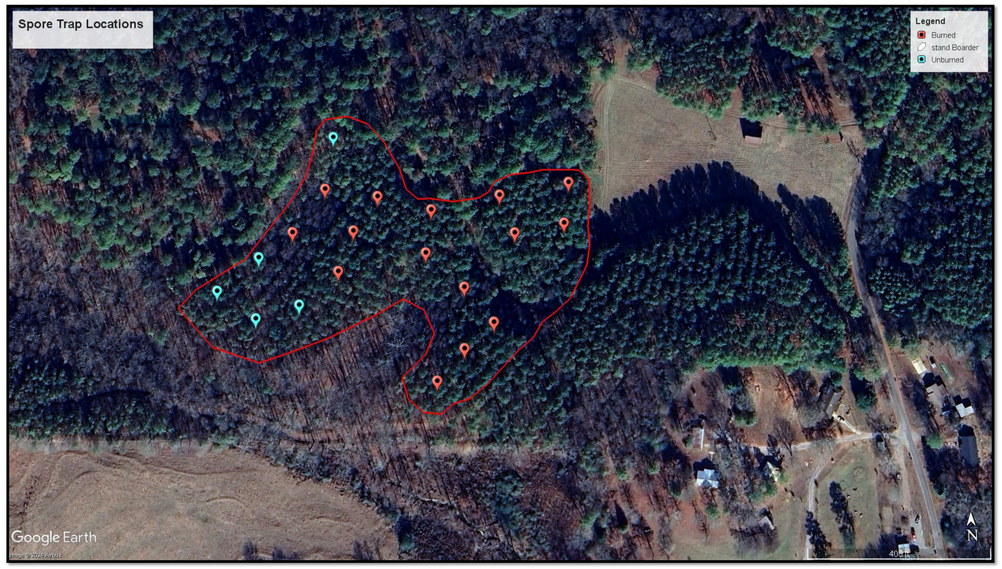
Overview

The objective of this study is to investigate the impact of weather and controlled burns on the dispersal of *Lecanosticta acicola*, a primary foliar pathogen responsible for the defoliation of loblolly pine in Alabama.

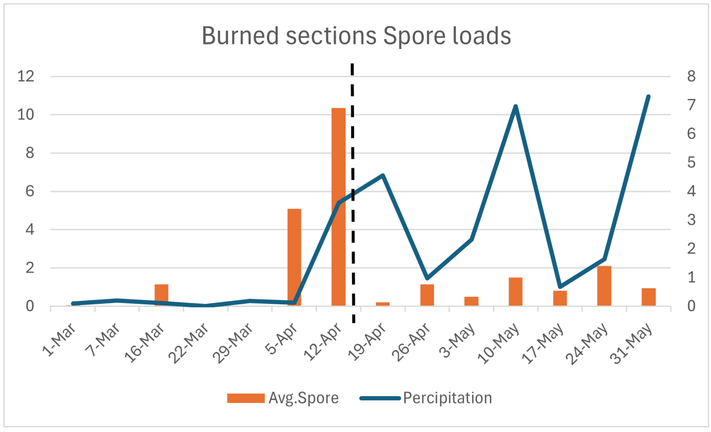
Methodology

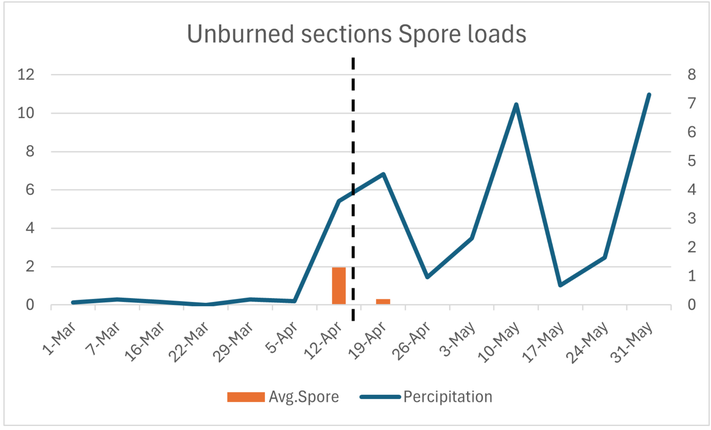


Study Area Map



Results





Discussion

Preliminary observation of the data shows a trend between number of spores dispersed and amount of precipitation in the area.

Next Steps

A more detailed analysis of the data is necessary before further inference can be made. Additionally, more spore trap are planned to be collected.

Expected Future Outcomes

- Enhanced predictive models for spore dispersal that will help forecast periods of high spore dispersal risk, enabling forest managers to implement timely preventive measures.
- Optimized management strategies for pine plantations, these findings will provide valuable insights into the environmental conditions that favor the dispersal and growth of *Lecanosticta acicola*. Forest health professionals can develop targeted management strategies based on these insights.

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