



Travis Trimm

Thesis Defense
College of Science and
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Department of Biological Sciences
MS, Biology

**Foraging Sources of Pollen for East
Texas *Melissodes* Species (Hymenoptera: Apidae:
Eucerini)**

Melissodes is a genus of native bee found throughout east Texas. Their presence on plants found in the region is understudied and could reveal novel or important plant pollinator interactions. This study aims to explore the dietary range of *Melissodes* species across east Texas and create a list of plants utilized in pollen collection. To accomplish this, specimens of *Melissodes* were collected from areas across east Texas and taken from institute collections in order to extract pollen samples from their bodies. Pollen grains were then examined using a scanning electron microscope in order to be identified. Many of the *Melissodes* species examined seem to exhibit generalist foraging tendencies as well as having a direct preference for pollen of the Asteraceae family.

Event Information

April 1st, 2024
1:00 pm
Life Sciences building

Committee Members

Dr. Jerry Cook
Dr. Justin Williams
Dr. John Pascarella



Sam Houston State University

PUBLIC DEFENSE ANNOUNCEMENT