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3

4 **Winter warming effects on overwinter survival, energy use, and spring emergence of**  
5 ***Cerotoma trifurcata* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae)**

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**19 Abstract**

20 1 Bean leaf beetle *Cerotoma trifurcata* (Förster) (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) is a pest of  
21 soybean in USA and is becoming a concern in Canada. The projected increase in winter  
22 temperatures under climate change could affect overwinter survival, timing of spring  
23 emergence, and ultimately, the severity of this pest.

24 2 We assessed the potential effects of warmer winters in field experiments performed in  
25 three consecutive years. Three warming levels were applied: heated ~4°C above ambient,  
26 unheated with snow cover left intact, and unheated with snow cover removed. Survival and  
27 date of emergence were assessed in all years, and beetle lipid content was analyzed in one  
28 year to determine rates of energy use.

29 3 Overwinter survival was 6.5–14.5% among years. Winter warming inconsistently affected  
30 overwinter survival, increasing survival in one winter, decreasing survival in the warmest  
31 winter, and having no effect in one winter. Beetles that received supplemental winter  
32 warming emerged ~2 weeks earlier in spring, and lipid content did not differ among  
33 treatment groups.

34 4 Earlier spring emergence may allow for the production of an additional generation per  
35 year of *C. trifurcata* under future climate change. However, further experiments are  
36 required to establish the relation between overwinter survival and subsequent beetle  
37 population growth to determine potential pest status and best management practices  
38 under future climate conditions.

39

40 Keywords: bean leaf beetle, climate change, overwintering energetics, phenology, soybean  
41 pest, temperature increase

## 42 Introduction

43 Ectothermic animals such as insects are vulnerable to winter temperatures, and their  
44 overwinter survival, body condition, and timing of emergence could be affected by climate  
45 change-induced increases in the occurrence and frequency of winter warming events (IPCC  
46 (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), 2013; Williams *et al.*, 2015). The winter  
47 conditions insects experience result from interactions between temperature, snow cover,  
48 and thermal variability (Williams *et al.*, 2015). Although low temperatures are the most  
49 obvious (and most studied) source of mortality (Bale & Hayward, 2010), overwintering  
50 insects also contend with energy drain, water loss, and pathogen pressure, among other  
51 stressors (Danks, 2000; Sinclair *et al.*, 2013; Sinclair, 2015), and herbivorous insects are  
52 under phenological pressure to emerge in synchrony with their host plants with sufficient  
53 post-winter energy reserves to maintain fitness (Williams *et al.*, 2015). In nature, most  
54 thermal regimes fluctuate, and such fluctuations can have unexpected consequences,  
55 depending on whether the fluctuations lead to cold mortality or energy savings at low  
56 temperatures, and energy drain or damage repair at higher temperatures (Colinet *et al.*,  
57 2015). Thus, warmer winters could increase survival by reducing chilling injury (Bale &  
58 Hayward, 2010) or allowing earlier spring emergence (Hahn & Denlinger, 2007; van Asch *et*  
59 *al.*, 2007; Pozsgai & Littlewood, 2011), but could decrease survival by reducing insulating  
60 snow cover (Lawrence & Slater, 2010), leading to exposure to lethal air temperatures (Joshi  
61 *et al.*, 2009; Bale & Hayward, 2010) or increased rates of energy use that deplete energy  
62 reserves (Bosch & Kemp, 2003; Irwin & Lee, 2003; Williams *et al.*, 2003; Hahn & Denlinger,  
63 2007, 2011). The relative importance of each of these scenarios remains to be determined  
64 and is likely to be both region and species specific.

65 Current understanding of the relationship between temperature and survival is  
66 based mainly on results from laboratory studies under relatively constant temperatures,  
67 which are poor approximations for performance outcomes under fluctuating temperatures  
68 (Colinet *et al.*, 2015). Studies using controlled fluctuating temperatures show that sufficient  
69 frequency and duration of warm periods can allow repair of accumulated chilling injuries  
70 and improvements in low-temperature survival (Renault *et al.*, 2004; Colinet *et al.*, 2006;  
71 Marshall & Sinclair, 2011). However, energy demands are greater under fluctuating  
72 temperatures because metabolic rates increase at higher temperatures (Colinet *et al.*, 2015),  
73 so cumulative warming duration may deplete energy stores. Overwintering in the field often  
74 involves additional mortality risks from desiccation, predators, and pathogens (Payah &  
75 Boethel, 1986; Lam & Pedigo, 2000), as well as exposure to unpredictably changing  
76 temperatures that require continuous physiological adjustments (Colinet *et al.*, 2015;  
77 Kingsolver *et al.*, 2015). Thus, a greater understanding of the relative importance of survival  
78 and energy use for overwintering insects under field conditions is required.

79 The bean leaf beetle *Cerotoma trifurcata* (Förster) (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) is a  
80 pest of soybean *Glycine max* (L.) Merrill and other legumes. It is native to eastern North  
81 America, but sources of anecdotal information disagree about when its range extended into  
82 southern Ontario, Canada (Chittenden, 1898; McCreary, 2013). Coincident with increases in  
83 soybean production, *C. trifurcata* has increasingly been considered a pest of potential  
84 economic importance (Witkowski & Echtenkamp, 1996; McCreary, 2013) because of its  
85 ability to cause feeding damage to soybean plant tissues and root nodules (Smelser &  
86 Pedigo, 1992; Lundgren & Riedell, 2008) and to transmit *Bean pod mottle virus* and fungi  
87 that reduce grain yield and quality (Shortt *et al.*, 1982; Giesler *et al.*, 2002).

88 *Ceratoma trifurcata* overwinters as an adult under leaf litter and is freeze intolerant,  
89 with Minnesota populations having a mean supercooling point of  $-8.9^{\circ}\text{C}$  in February  
90 (Carrillo *et al.*, 2005). It currently produces 2–3 generations/year in central and southern  
91 United States (Pedigo, 1994), and 1 generation/year in southern Ontario (McCreary, 2013).  
92 An increase in the number of generations produced per year could be problematic because  
93 although insecticide treatments can suppress overwintered and first-generation populations,  
94 subsequent generations can still reach economic injury levels (Bradshaw *et al.*, 2008).  
95 Overwintering stress could be a bottleneck limiting the ability of *C. trifurcata* to attain high  
96 population numbers and high reproductive fitness in its northern range. If so, increasing  
97 temperatures might allow expansion of its distribution (Berzitis *et al.*, 2014), improved  
98 survival and fitness, and development of additional generations.

99 Our objective was to determine the likely effects of increasing winter temperatures  
100 on overwintering *C. trifurcata*. Using field experiments conducted in three years, we  
101 examined the effect of warmer winters on the overwinter survival, rates of energy use, and  
102 date of spring emergence of *C. trifurcata*. First, we hypothesized that increased winter  
103 temperatures with coincident decreased snow cover affect *C. trifurcata* overwinter survival  
104 and timing of emergence. We predicted that beetles would emerge earlier and have better  
105 survival with supplemental heating during winter, but that the loss of snow cover would  
106 reduce the positive effect of heating in colder winters. Second, we hypothesized that  
107 increasing mean temperatures lead to increased overwinter energy use. We predicted that  
108 beetle lipid content would decrease faster in beetles that received supplemental winter  
109 heating.

110

## 111 **Materials and Methods**

112 *Winter warming experiment*

113 An outdoor field experiment was repeated in 2011, 2012, and 2013, with slight differences  
114 in timing and sample sizes. Adult *C. trifurcata* were collected each fall from soybean fields  
115 near Wroxeter (43.86° N, 81.19° W) and Ennotville (43.65° N, 80.32° W), Ontario. Beetles  
116 were collected over a period of 2–4 weeks when soybean plants were physiologically  
117 mature. After collection, beetles were maintained in outdoor mesh cages (Bugdorm BD2120,  
118 MegaView Science, Taiwan) for up to 8 weeks and were provided with potted soybean and  
119 alfalfa plants. The outdoor conditions allowed natural acclimation of beetles to decreasing  
120 temperatures and photoperiod. In preparation for the experiments, beetles were brought  
121 indoors briefly for counting in December (2011) or November (2012, 2013), placed in 6-L  
122 pots (20 cm diameter) containing packed soil collected from an agricultural field (Elora,  
123 Ontario: 43.64° N, 80.41° W; Gleyed Brunisolic Grey Brown Luvisol developed on loam till),  
124 and covered by 4 cm (depth) of loose leaf litter collected from mixed-deciduous hedgerows  
125 at the Elora agricultural field. There were 25, 70, and 50 beetles/pot in 2011, 2012, and  
126 2013, respectively, reflecting beetle availability. The pots were then buried with their tops  
127 level with the soil surface in an open area on the University of Guelph campus (43.527° N,  
128 80.229° W) that had been prepared by light tilling. Pots were covered by mesh to prevent  
129 beetle escape, and left to overwinter.

130 Three levels of a warming treatment were applied to the buried pots in a  
131 randomized complete block design with six (2011) or eight (2012, 2013) replicates: heated  
132 ~4°C above ambient temperature, unheated with snow cover left intact (control), and  
133 unheated with snow cover removed. Snow was removed manually by sweeping it off of the  
134 mesh within 24 h of snowfall. Heating prevented snow accumulation, so the snow removal  
135 treatment controlled for this effect. Heat lamps (model 100011596, Zilla, Franklin,

136 Wisconsin) were installed ~30 cm above all pots, but only those in the heated group  
137 contained 150 W ceramic bulbs (ExoTerra PT-2047, Hagen, Montreal, Quebec). Ambient  
138 temperature at the soil surface under the leaf litter was measured at 15-min intervals in  
139 each pot using a sensor connected to an Argus greenhouse control system (Argus Control  
140 Systems, White Rock, British Columbia) that turned the heat lamps on and off to maintain  
141 4°C differential between heated and control pots. Although heat lamps tended to run  
142 continuously, realized temperature differences were often <4°C (Fig. 1). In 2013, a Hobo Pro  
143 v2 data logger (U23-001, Onset Computer Corporation, Bourne, Massachusetts) was placed  
144 under the leaf litter in one control and one heated pot in the same block to record humidity  
145 at 30-min intervals.

146 In spring (mid-March 2012, early April 2011, 2013), each pot and lamp were covered  
147 by an emergence tent (Bugdorm BD2400, MegaView Science) with the bottom cut open and  
148 the edges buried under the soil to prevent beetle escape. The mesh was then removed from  
149 the pots, and potted alfalfa plants were placed in each tent as a food resource. Tents and  
150 foliage were searched thoroughly for emerged beetles daily after 10:00 h, when *C. trifurcata*  
151 is reported to be most active (Krell *et al.*, 2003); beetles that had emerged were removed  
152 and counted. Tents were searched daily for 2-3 weeks after the last emerged beetle  
153 detection, after which pots were removed, and the leaf litter (and soil in 2011) were  
154 searched for live beetles.

155 The proportion of individuals surviving the winter was calculated based on the total  
156 number placed in the pot at the start of the experiment and the number that emerged in  
157 the spring. The dates of first and median emergence were determined for pots with at least  
158 one emerging beetle. Based on daily minimum and maximum temperatures recorded under  
159 the leaf litter, the number of degree-days accumulated at first emergence was calculated



160 for each pot for 2011 and 2012 beginning March 1 and using a base of 10°C, estimated as  
161 the lower developmental threshold in Ontario (McCreary, 2013). Several malfunctioning  
162 temperature probes in May prevented degree-day calculations for 2013 (heat lamps were  
163 left on in affected pots during this time).

164

#### 165 *Lipid analysis*

166 In 2013, rates of energy use by *C. trifurcata* were compared in the heated and control  
167 groups by collecting individuals for lipid analysis before the experiment began (baseline)  
168 and at three times during the winter. Fifteen baseline individuals were sampled in  
169 November prior to placing beetles into pots. For the next two sampling times, 15 individuals  
170 were enclosed in a 10 cm diameter flattened mesh bag filled with leaf litter, and one bag  
171 was placed between the soil surface and leaf litter in each heated and control pot at the  
172 beginning of the experiment. Bags were removed from one-half of the replicates on 28  
173 January and from the other half on 13 March, taking care to minimize disturbance to the  
174 overlying leaf litter. Bags were allowed to warm at room temperature for 3 h, and then all  
175 live individuals, identified as those whose legs moved when their body was prodded, were  
176 collected. For the final sampling time, individuals were collected immediately following  
177 emergence in spring. All collected beetles were lyophilized for 48 h (Free Zone 4.5-L Freeze  
178 Dry System model 7751020, Labconco, Kansas City, Missouri) and stored at -20°C until  
179 analysis.

180 Lyophilized beetles were sexed, and neutral lipids and soluble protein were  
181 quantified individually in one female and one male from each pot as available. Because we  
182 expected lipids to compose the majority of the body mass and to decline during winter, we  
183 used protein as an estimate of metabolizing tissue mass to standardize body size. Beetles

184 were homogenized in 100  $\mu$ L 0.05% Tween 20 and diluted tenfold in Tween 20 solution. One  
185 aliquot was taken for lipid extraction and quantification while another was centrifuged for  
186 10 min at 12,000  $\times g$  and used for protein assay. Lipids were extracted using a Folch  
187 extraction, with the diacylglycerol glyceryl 1,3 distearate (D8269, Sigma-Aldrich Canada)  
188 added as an internal standard, and measured by thin layer chromatography coupled to a  
189 flame ionization detector (TLC-FID; Iatroscan MK-6 TLC-FID Analyzer, Iatron Laboratories,  
190 Tokyo, Japan) following the protocol of Williams et al. (2011). Total protein content was  
191 measured spectrophotometrically in triplicate using a bicinchoninic acid assay based on the  
192 methods of Gefen et al. (2006).

193

#### 194 *Statistical analysis*

195 Proportion survival was compared among treatments using generalised linear mixed models  
196 with a binomial distribution and log-log link function. Maximum likelihood estimation was  
197 performed via the Laplace approximation in SAS 9.4 (SAS Institute, Cary, North Carolina).  
198 Warming was a fixed effect, block was a random effect, and years were analysed separately  
199 due to different numbers of blocks among years. The block effect was excluded from the  
200 model for 2011 because it did not explain any variance and caused a nonpositive definite  
201 covariance matrix. Overdispersion was evaluated using the Pearson  $\chi^2$  statistic divided by  
202 the degrees of freedom. Significant warming effects were decomposed using Tukey-Kramer  
203 tests.

204 Date of first emergence, median date of emergence, and degree-days accumulated  
205 at first emergence were compared among treatments using mixed-model ANOVA and  
206 restricted maximum likelihood estimation, followed by Tukey's multiple comparisons for  
207 significant effects, in JMP 12 (SAS Institute). Warming was a fixed effect, block was a

208 random effect, and years were analysed separately. Degree-day data were log transformed.  
209 The analysed data met statistical assumptions in all years, except date of first emergence  
210 and median date of emergence in 2012; transformation did not improve these data  
211 (emergence timing was more variable in heated than other groups), and they were left  
212 untransformed for analysis.

213 Lipid content was compared using ANCOVA followed by Tukey's multiple  
214 comparisons in JMP 12. Treatment, time, sex, and their interactions were fixed effects, and  
215 protein was a covariate. Because the unit of replication differed, baseline data were  
216 excluded from the ANCOVA. Data were Box-Cox transformed to meet statistical  
217 assumptions. Data are archived at the University of Guelph Agri-environmental Research  
218 Data Repository (Berzitis *et al.*, 2013).

219

## 220 Results

### 221 *Microclimate conditions*

222 Ambient air temperatures were warmer in 2012 than in 2011 or 2013 (see Supporting  
223 Information, Appendix S1 for further details). Temperatures under the leaf litter differed  
224 substantially among treatments and years (Fig. 1a-c). On average, heated pots were warmer  
225 than control pots, and more so in March–April than January–February. In contrast, pots with  
226 snow removed were colder than control pots when snow was present (Jan–Feb 2011 and  
227 2013), but did not differ in the absence of snow cover (Mar–Apr 2011 and 2013, and most  
228 of 2012). Temperature variability was similar among treatments within years (see  
229 Supporting Information, Appendix S1). Mean vapour pressure in 2013 was slightly lower and  
230 more variable in the heated (mean 660 Pa, range 210–1240 Pa) than the control pot (700 Pa,  
231 350–1180 Pa; Fig. 1d).

232

233 *Overwinter survival*

234 At least one beetle survived in each pot except for one control pot in 2011, one heated pot  
235 in 2012 and 2013, and two snow removal pots in 2013. Across all treatments, survival was  
236 13.3% in 2011, 14.5% in 2012, and 6.5% in 2013 (range of 0–44% survival among pots).

237 Across all years and treatments, survival was 11%. Warming increased overwinter survival  
238 compared to the control in 2011 ( $F_{2,15} = 4.38$ ,  $P = 0.03$ ,  $\chi^2/df = 1.71$ ), although care should be  
239 taken in interpreting this result because the  $P$  value is fairly large and the data are  
240 somewhat overdispersed. Warming decreased survival compared to the control and snow  
241 removal pots in 2012 ( $F_{2,14} = 17.6$ ,  $P = 0.002$ ,  $\chi^2/df = 1.41$ ; Fig. 2). There was no effect of  
242 warming in 2013 ( $F_{2,14} = 2.11$ ,  $P = 0.2$ ,  $\chi^2/df = 1.12$ ).

243

244 *Lipid content*

245 Triacylglycerols (TAG) were the only neutral lipids detected in *C. trifurcata* samples. TAG was  
246 significantly lower in spring-emerged (April/May) beetles compared to those sampled in  
247 January and March (Table 1 and Fig. 3). TAG content did not differ for any other effect or  
248 interaction, and the effect of the protein covariate was nonsignificant (Table 1).

249

250 *Date of emergence and degree-day accumulation*

251 *Cerotoma trifurcata* emerged significantly earlier in the heated than control and snow  
252 removal groups in all years (2011:  $F_{2,9} = 38.2$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ; 2012:  $F_{2,13} = 11.3$ ,  $P = 0.001$ ; 2013:  
253  $F_{2,11} = 7.81$ ,  $P = 0.009$ ; Fig. 4). Beetles began to emerge approximately 12 d (2013) to 22 d  
254 (2012) earlier in the heated than the other groups. Median date of emergence was also  
255 significantly earlier in the heated than control and snow removal groups in all years (2011:

256  $F_{2,9} = 23.0$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ; 2012:  $F_{2,14} = 10.0$ ,  $P = 0.002$ ; 2013:  $F_{2,11} = 16.9$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ; data not  
257 shown). Median emergence was approximately 8 to 15 d earlier in the heated than the  
258 other groups. There was no difference in the number of degree-days (base 10°C)  
259 accumulated at the date of first emergence among treatment groups (2011:  $F_{2,9} = 0.50$ ,  $P =$   
260  $0.6$ ; 2012:  $F_{2,14} = 2.34$ ,  $P = 0.13$ ).

261

## 262 Discussion

263 Consistent with our predictions, *C. trifurcata* that experienced supplemental winter  
264 warming emerged significantly earlier than individuals in the control and snow removal  
265 groups across all years of study. Calculated degree-day accumulation at first emergence did  
266 not differ among the treatment groups, suggesting that increased late winter and early  
267 spring temperatures can advance the phenology of *C. trifurcata*. Contrary to our predictions,  
268 supplemental winter warming in the field did not consistently increase the cold survival of *C.*  
269 *trifurcata*, but was contingent upon the year of the experiment. The depletion of *C.*  
270 *trifurcata* lipid energy reserves did not differ among heated, control, and snow removal  
271 treatment groups, but was strongly affected by time, with lipid content lower upon spring  
272 emergence than at any other sampling time.

273

### 274 *Temperature and beetle survival*

275 *Cerotoma trifurcata* experienced very low winter survival in our field experiment: <15% in  
276 any year of the study and as low as 6.5% in 2013. These low rates of survival are consistent  
277 with estimates of 11–23% overwinter survival in soybean fields in Iowa, USA (Lam & Pedigo,  
278 2000), which has a similar climate to southern Ontario, and are greater than the low of 0%  
279 survival in soybean fields in North Carolina, USA (Boiteau *et al.*, 1980), which has a more

280 moderate climate. However, most *C. trifurcata* tend to overwinter in less exposed areas  
281 than soybean fields such as field margins and woodlands, where individuals shelter inside  
282 rolled leaves and hollow acorns (Lam & Pedigo, 2000; Lam *et al.*, 2002); survival may be  
283 somewhat higher in these habitats across the beetle's U.S. range, e.g., 18–51% in Iowa (Lam  
284 & Pedigo, 2000), 34–59% in Minnesota (Carrillo *et al.*, 2005), 33% in North Carolina (Boiteau  
285 *et al.*, 1980), and 4–67% in Louisiana (Payah & Boethel, 1985). Thus, overwinter survival of *C.*  
286 *trifurcata* appears to be highly variable, and potentially lower in Ontario than in other areas  
287 of its range.

288 Contrary to expectations, the application of supplemental winter warming did not  
289 consistently improve *C. trifurcata* overwinter survival, but differed by year, likely due to  
290 complex interactions of temperature and snow cover. In the warmest winter (2012),  
291 supplemental warming decreased beetle survival, suggesting that *C. trifurcata* overwinter  
292 survival in Ontario could remain low under climate warming. There are a number of  
293 hypotheses for decreased beetle survival at warmer winter temperatures. First, higher  
294 metabolism under warmer winter temperatures could lead to higher rates of energy use  
295 and reduced survival (Irwin & Lee, 2003; Hahn & Denlinger, 2007; Sinclair, 2015). Our  
296 measurements of *C. trifurcata* lipid content in 2013 suggest that this was likely not the case:  
297 lipid content was relatively stable until March, suggesting that beetles do not begin  
298 depleting this energy reserve until early spring. Additionally, Boiteau *et al.* (1979), who  
299 visually classified the size of *C. trifurcata*'s internal fat body as lean, intermediate, or fat in  
300 dissected beetles, noted little depletion of fat reserves during diapause. Although *C.*  
301 *trifurcata* activity has been examined during and postdiapause (Boiteau *et al.*, 1979;  
302 Schumm *et al.*, 1983), little is known about what triggers natural diapause termination,  
303 which information would be helpful in predicting *C. trifurcata* responses to changing climate.

304 A second hypothesis for decreased survival at warmer winter temperatures is that  
305 exposure to warmer temperatures could result in the loss of cold tolerance, increasing  
306 susceptibility to subsequent cold snaps (Williams *et al.*, 2015). Increasing temperature is a  
307 primary cue for diapause termination in other temperate chrysomelid species (Lefevere &  
308 de Kort, 1989; Watanabe & Tanaka, 1998; Nahrung & Allen, 2004). There is likely a complex  
309 relationship between survival and temperature such that low temperatures contribute to  
310 energy savings for the beetle but cause chilling injuries to accumulate when temperatures  
311 fall below a threshold (Sinclair, 2015). Experiments using fluctuating thermal regimes would  
312 be required to address this hypothesis.

313 Third, increased variability in winter climate could cause greater variation in soil  
314 moisture content due to snowmelt, drying, and refreezing (Williams *et al.*, 2015), leading to  
315 unpredictable physiological responses and survival outcomes for insects. In the Colorado  
316 potato beetle (*Leptinotarsa decemlineata*), a temperate, freeze-intolerant chrysomelid in  
317 which adults overwinter in soil and experience high overwinter mortality, beetles have  
318 higher freezing points and mortality in moist than in dry substrate (Costanzo *et al.*, 1997).  
319 Monitoring changes in soil moisture and *C. trifurcata* water content among winter warming  
320 treatments would allow further examination of this hypothesis.

321

### 322 *Increased temperatures and earlier spring emergence*

323 Supplemental winter warming resulted in consistently earlier spring emergence of *C.*  
324 *trifurcata* across all years of study, ranging approximately 12–22 d earlier than in the control  
325 and snow removal groups but with similar degree-day accumulation. This advance in  
326 phenology of *C. trifurcata* could be beneficial or detrimental to survival, depending on  
327 climate variability in any given year. In years when late winter and early spring

328 temperatures are highly variable, earlier emergence could increase the risk of mortality due  
329 to early reductions in the beetle's cold tolerance (Hayward *et al.*, 2005; Sobek-Swant *et al.*,  
330 2012), increasing its vulnerability to subsequent cold spells (Bale & Hayward, 2010; Williams  
331 *et al.*, 2015). For example, in our field experiment, some *C. trifurcata* in the heated  
332 treatment group emerged in mid-March 2012 when air temperatures surpassed 20°C; these  
333 beetles were collected as soon as they emerged, but if they had remained outdoors, it is  
334 possible that the subsequent decrease in temperature to a low of 6°C for three weeks could  
335 have caused potentially fatal accumulation of chilling injuries.

336         Successful earlier emergence and survival of *C. trifurcata* would effectively increase  
337 the length of its growing season and allow greater accumulation of developmental degree-  
338 days (Ziter *et al.*, 2012; Berzitis *et al.*, 2014), which could allow the development of a second  
339 reproductive generation of *C. trifurcata*. The comparable dates of emergence of beetles  
340 from the heated group in this study (27 April on average) and beetles in Iowa at present (23  
341 April and 4 May; Smelser & Pedigo, 1991), where there are two generations, support this  
342 possibility. However, phenological synchrony of *C. trifurcata* and its food resources will be  
343 important for subsequent population growth and pest status. Although *C. trifurcata* is native  
344 to North America and, prior to soybean emergence, feeds on wild native legumes, several  
345 herbaceous plant species, and leguminous crops such as alfalfa and sweet clover  
346 (Waldbauer & Kogan, 1976; Helm *et al.*, 1983; Hammack *et al.*, 2010), it is possible that  
347 those resources are not abundant enough to support development of large populations. For  
348 example, Jeffords *et al.* (1983) noted large *C. trifurcata* populations and subsequent pest  
349 problems in Illinois, USA in a year when its emergence was well synchronized with soybean  
350 emergence, but small early season *C. trifurcata* populations and few subsequent pest  
351 problems in a year when soybean planting was delayed because of wet spring weather.



352 There have been suggestions that later soybean planting dates might be useful for  
353 management of *C. trifurcata* by causing mortality of newly emerged overwintering beetle  
354 populations prior to soybean emergence due to a lack of food resources (Hammack *et al.*,  
355 2010). However, in field studies in central Iowa and eastern Nebraska, USA that compare  
356 effects of early and late planting (usually early vs. late May) on *C. trifurcata* abundance and  
357 feeding damage as well as prevalence of *Bean pod mottle virus* in soybean, results differ  
358 among studies and are highly dependent on early spring and early fall weather conditions  
359 (Pedigo & Zeiss, 1996; Witkowski & Echtenkamp, 1996; Krell *et al.*, 2005). In Ontario, where  
360 appropriate soybean maturity groups range from group III in a small area of southwestern  
361 Ontario to group 00 elsewhere in southern Ontario (OSACC 2015), early soybean planting  
362 (early May) is a strategy used to maximize grain yield (Andrews 2011). In addition, hay  
363 (including alfalfa and other legumes) comprises the third largest crop area in Ontario after  
364 corn and soybean (OMAFRA 2015), which would present an abundant early spring food  
365 resource for *C. trifurcata*. Field observations also suggest that *C. trifurcata* migrates from  
366 senescing soybean fields late in the growing season to soybean fields that are not yet  
367 mature (Pedigo & Zeiss, 1996; Bradshaw *et al.*, 2008), indicating that late planted soybean  
368 fields could be at risk for *C. trifurcata* colonization if growers do not synchronize their  
369 planting efforts. Therefore, field studies in Ontario are required to determine how  
370 overwinter survival affects population development, and how management practices might  
371 be best adjusted to address *C. trifurcata* in combination with other weed and pest issues.

372

### 373 Supporting Information

374 **Appendix S1.** Further details of microclimate conditions under the leaf litter in experimental  
375 pots in the winter warming experiment, 2011-2013.

376

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542  
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For Review Only

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552

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553 **Table 1.** ANCOVA results for effects of warming treatment, sampling date, and beetle sex on  
 554 Box-Cox transformed beetle lipid (triacylglycerol) content.

555

Source	df <sup>a</sup>	F ratio	P value
Protein	1	0.79	0.40
Treatment	1	0.34	0.56
Date	2	897.6	< 0.001
Sex	1	0.19	0.67
Treatment × Date	2	1.07	0.35
Treatment × Sex	1	0.57	0.45
Date × Sex	2	0.12	0.89
Treatment × Date × Sex	2	2.55	0.09

556 <sup>a</sup>Error df = 38.

557

**558 Figure captions**

559 **Figure 1.** Mean and range of daily minimum and maximum temperatures ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) recorded  
560 under the leaf litter in the heated, control, and snow removal treatment groups over the  
561 first four months of the year for 2011 (a), 2012 (b), and 2013 (c), and (d) mean daily vapour  
562 pressure (Pa) recorded under the leaf litter in one set of replicates from the heated and  
563 control treatment groups in 2013. Dates  $<365$  indicate early winter in the previous year.  
564 Solid lines indicate means; thicker, semi-transparent shading indicates the difference  
565 between minimum and maximum temperatures in (a–c).

566

567 **Figure 2.** Proportion of *Cerotoma trifurcata* surviving the winter in heated, control, and  
568 snow removal treatment groups in 2011, 2012, and 2013 (mean  $\pm$  SE). Means and SEs are  
569 back-transformed from generalized linear mixed models using the inverse link function and  
570 the delta method. Different lowercase letters indicate significant differences within years  
571 (Tukey-Kramer,  $\alpha = 0.05$ ).

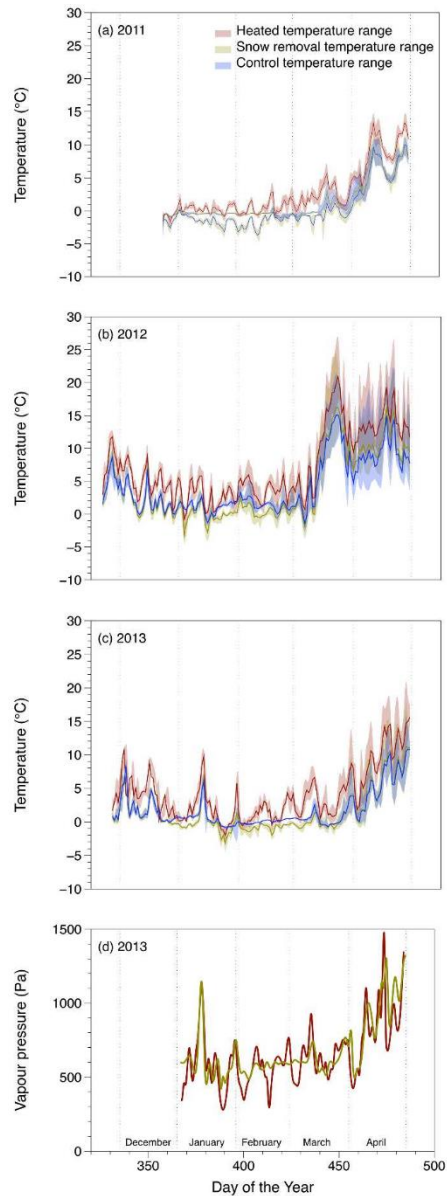
572

573 **Figure 3.** Triacylglycerol content (mg/mg soluble protein content) of *Cerotoma trifurcata* in  
574 November 2012 (prior to overwintering) and from heated and control groups in January,  
575 March, and at spring emergence in April or May 2013 (mean  $\pm$  SE). Different lowercase  
576 letters indicate significant differences (Tukey's HSD,  $\alpha = 0.05$ ); numbers indicate sample  
577 sizes.

578

579 **Figure 4.** Date of first emergence of *Cerotoma trifurcata* from heated, control, and snow  
580 removal treatment groups in 2011, 2012, and 2013 (mean  $\pm$  SE). Different lowercase letters  
581 indicate significant differences within years (Tukey's HSD,  $\alpha = 0.05$ ).

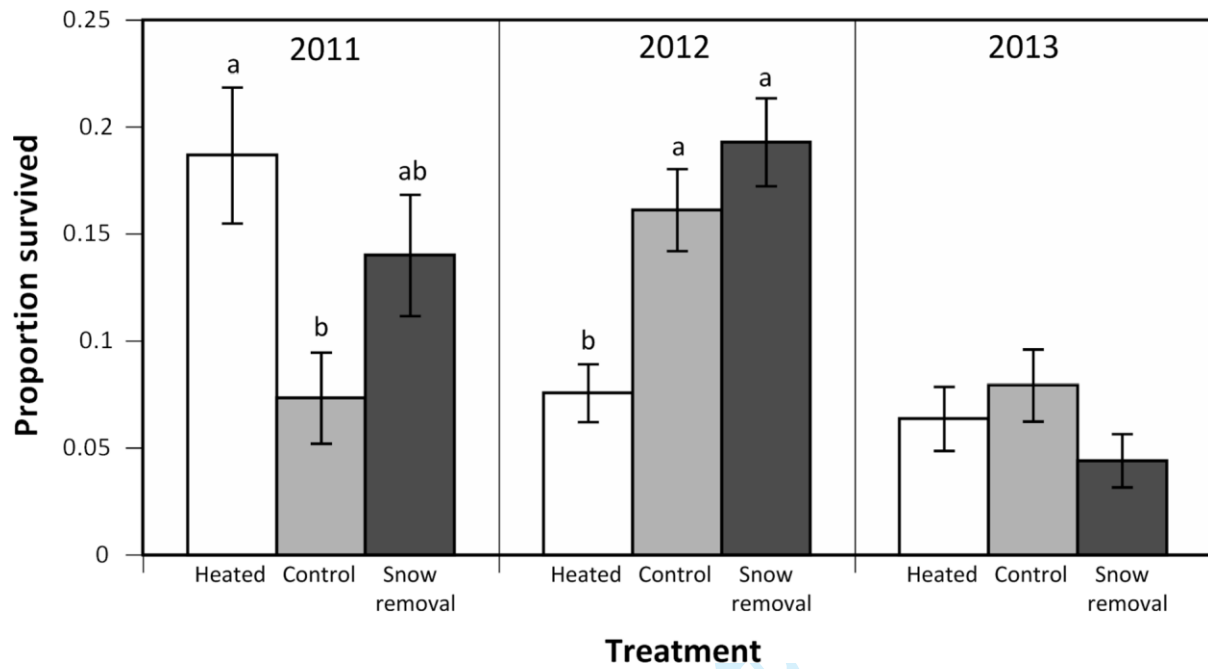




Mean and range of daily minimum and maximum temperatures ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) recorded under the leaf litter in the heated, control, and snow removal treatment groups over the first four months of the year for 2011 (a), 2012 (b), and 2013 (c), and (d) mean daily vapour pressure (Pa) recorded under the leaf litter in one set of replicates from the heated and control treatment groups in 2013. Dates <365 indicate early winter in the previous year. Solid lines indicate means; thicker, semi-transparent shading indicates the difference between minimum and maximum temperatures in (a-c).

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3 Fig.2 – Berzitis et al.

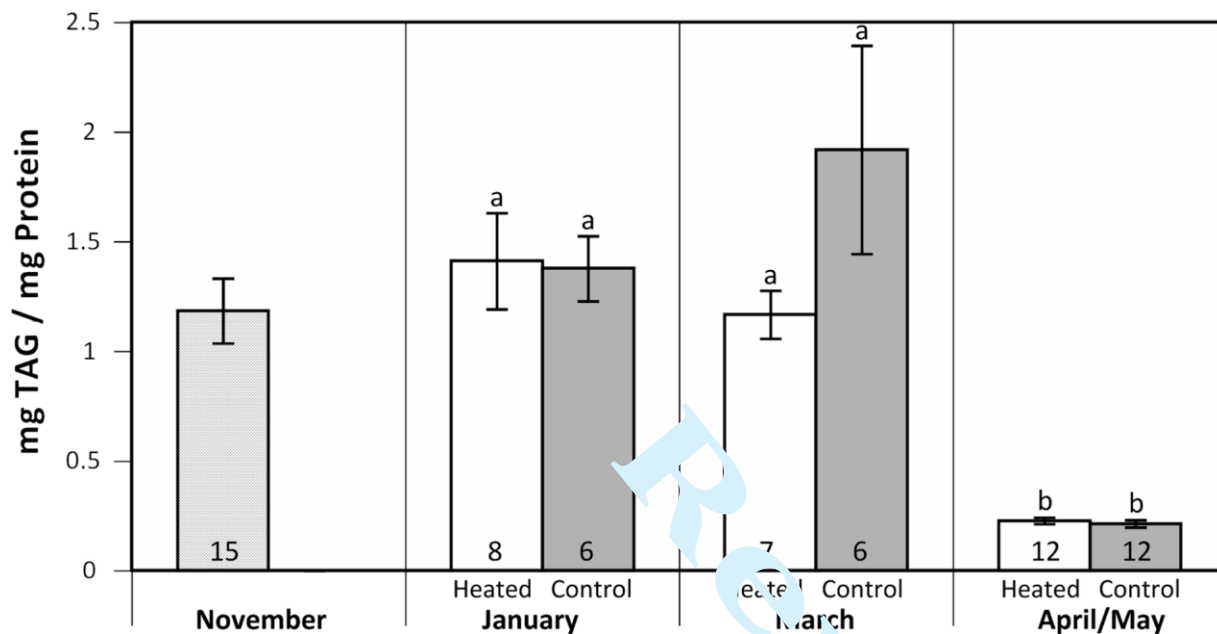
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4 Fig.3 – Berzitis et al.

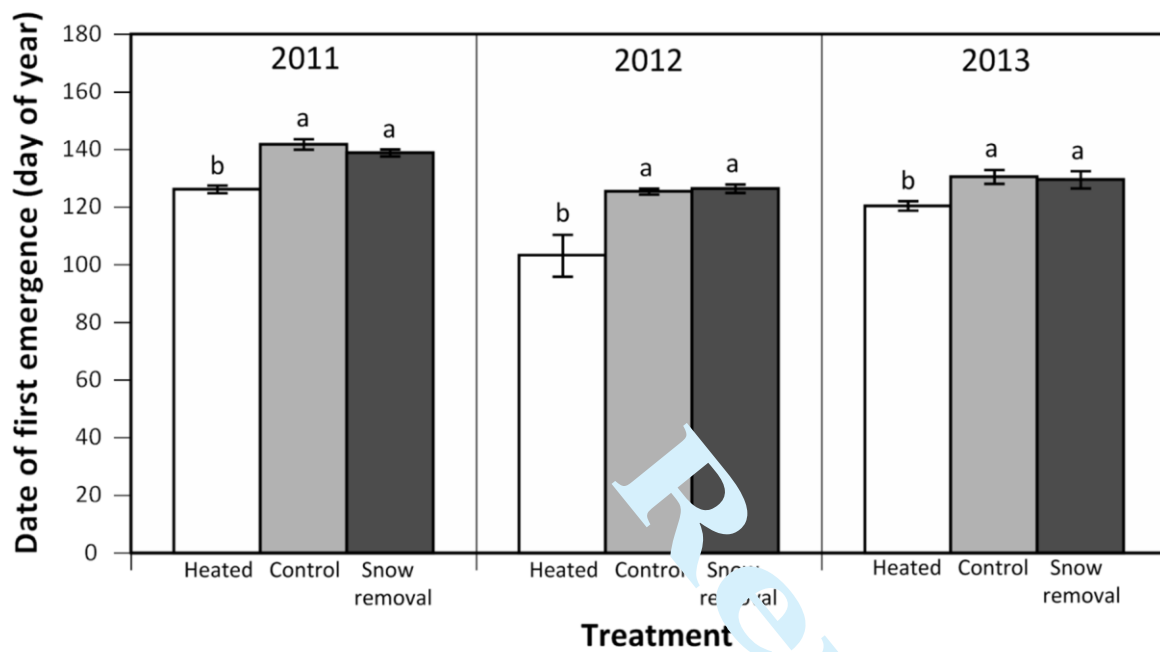
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5 Fig.4 – Berzitis et al.

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