



# **Agenda**

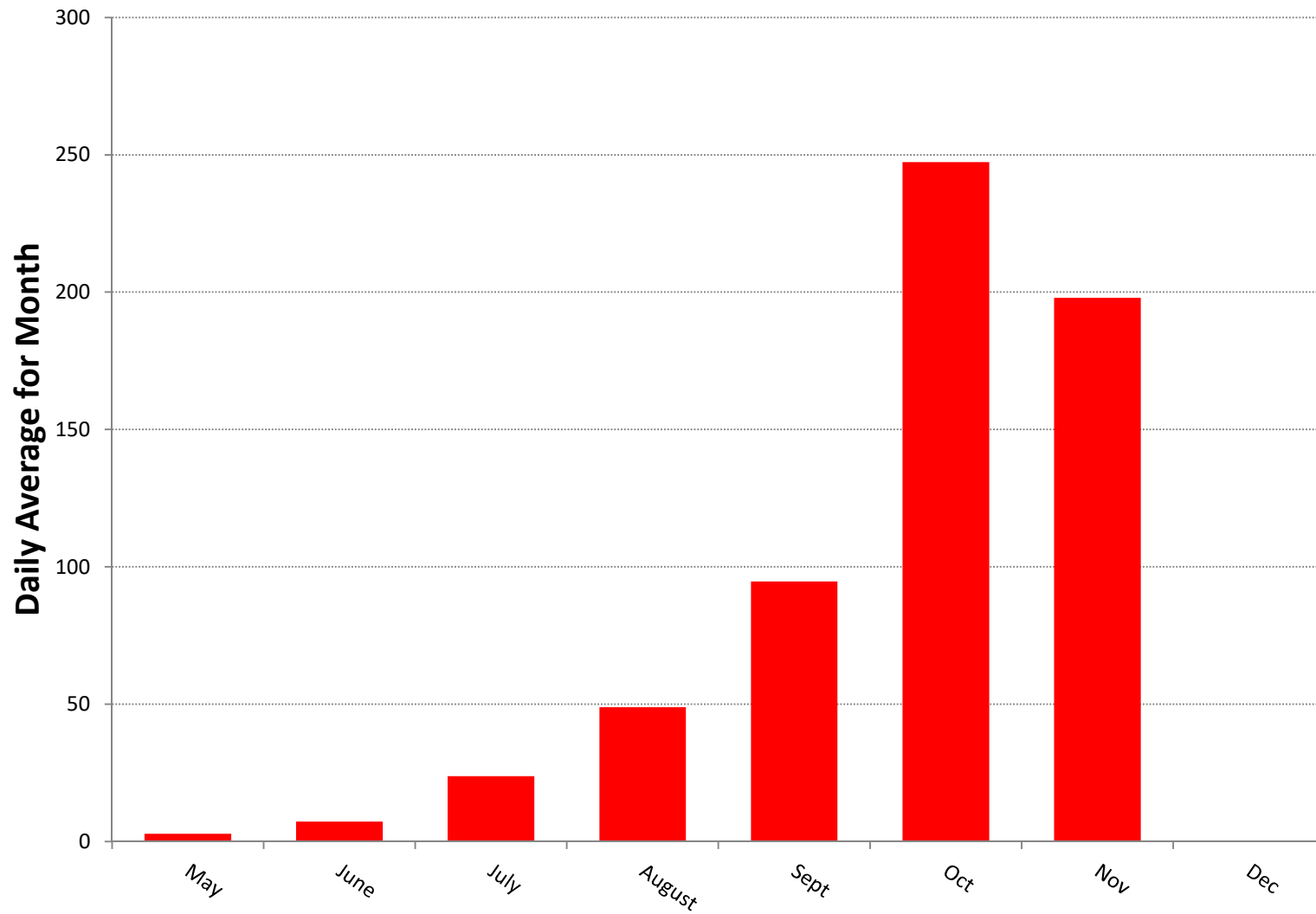
- 1. Introduction**
- 2. What we have done**
- 3. What we know and have observed**
- 4. What we do not know**
- 5. Control measures**
- 6. Source of the problem**
- 7. Penn State**
- 8. Going forward**
- 9. Discussion**

# **What We Have Done**

- 1. Collect home owner counts to profile the problem over time**
- 2. Over 200 soil samples to determine if the source of the problem is internal to Harrogate**
- 3. Monthly air sampling at 20 – 30 sites**
- 4. Continuous air sampling at three sites**
- 5. Ran a major test spraying the exterior of homes**
- 6. Repellent tests**
- 7. Homeowner interviews**
- 8. Linked the problem to the mushroom farms**

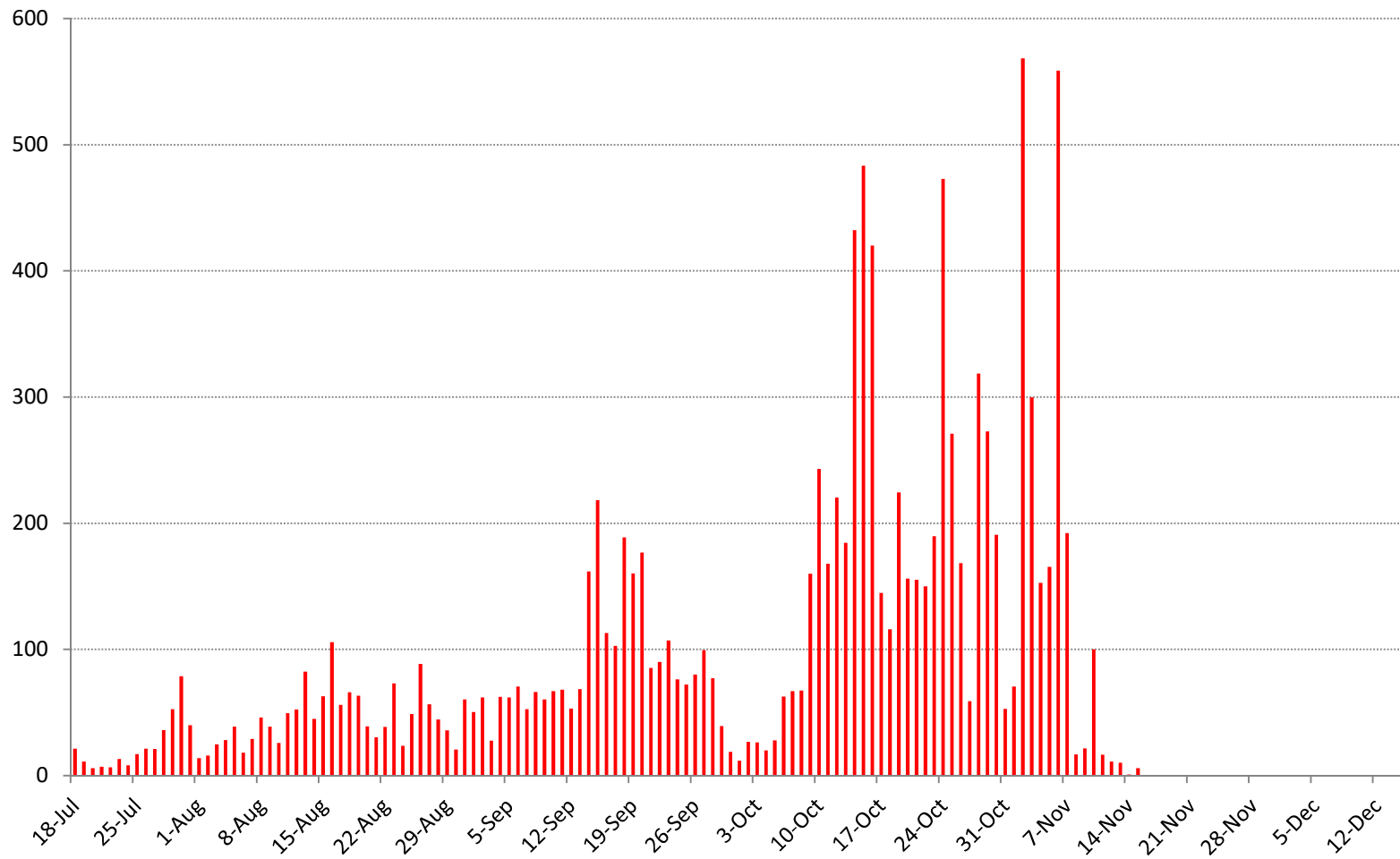
# In Home Counts Are Increasing

Monthly Average Phorid Counts For Multiple Homes



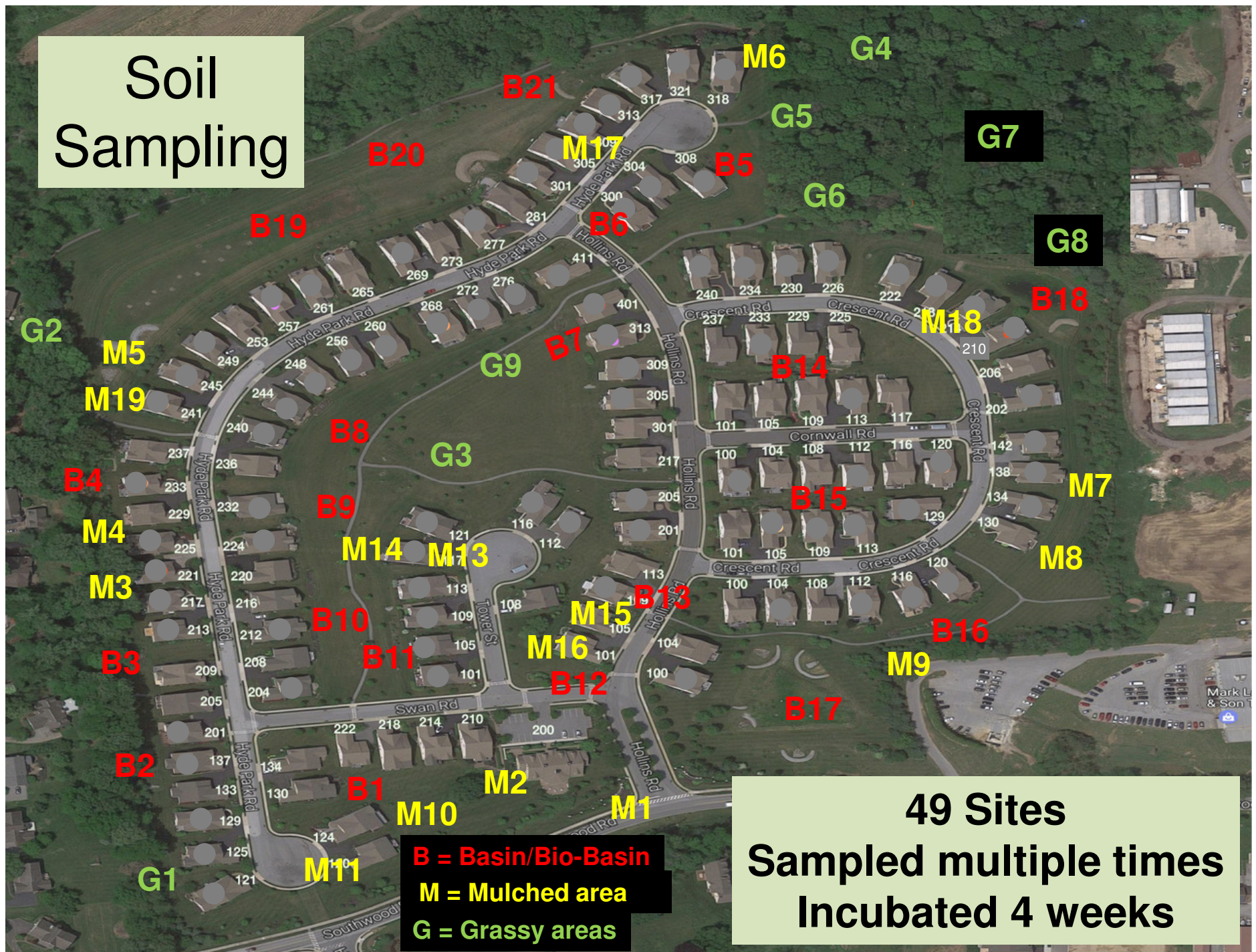
# In Home Counts Vary A Lot

**Average Daily Phorid Fly Count at Multiple Homes**





# Soil Sampling



# Soil Sampling Results

**Zilch**

**0**

**Nuthin**

**Zero**

**Zip**

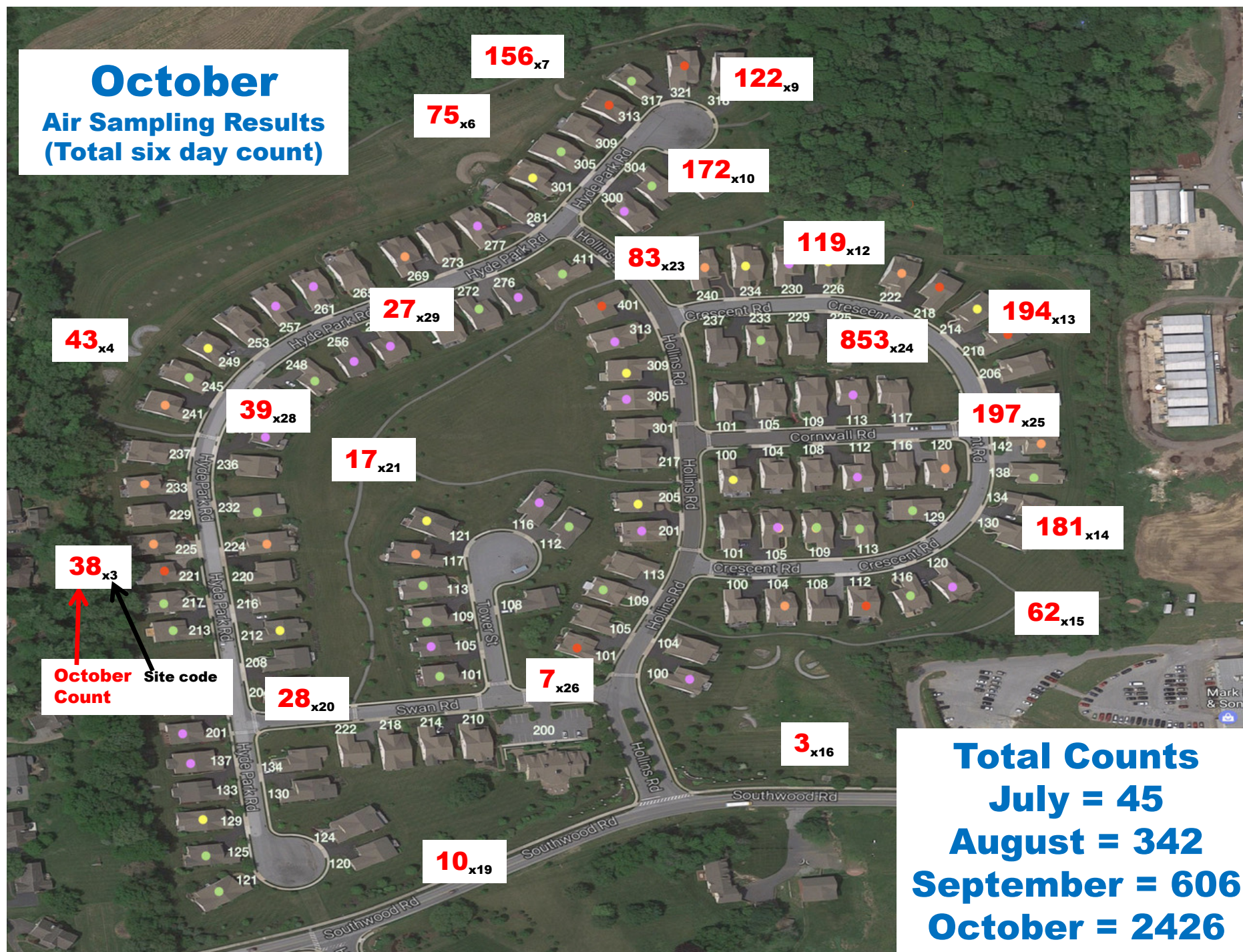
**Nada**

**The phorid flies in our homes  
Are NOT coming from breeding  
Within our community**



# October

Air Sampling Results  
(Total six day count)



**Total Counts**  
July = 45  
August = 342  
September = 606  
October = 2426

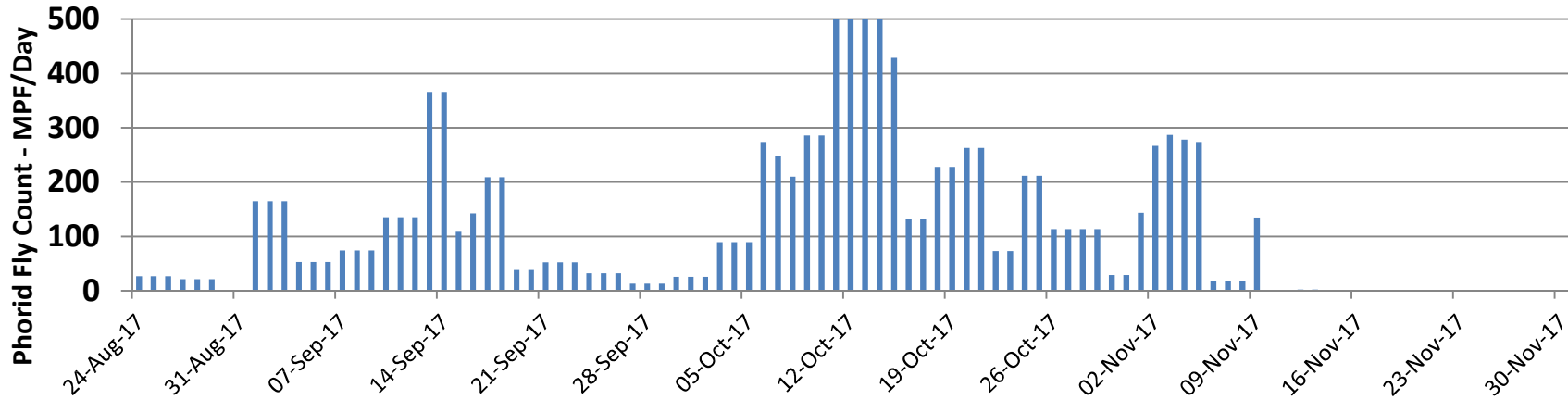


# Three Continuous Air Sample Sites

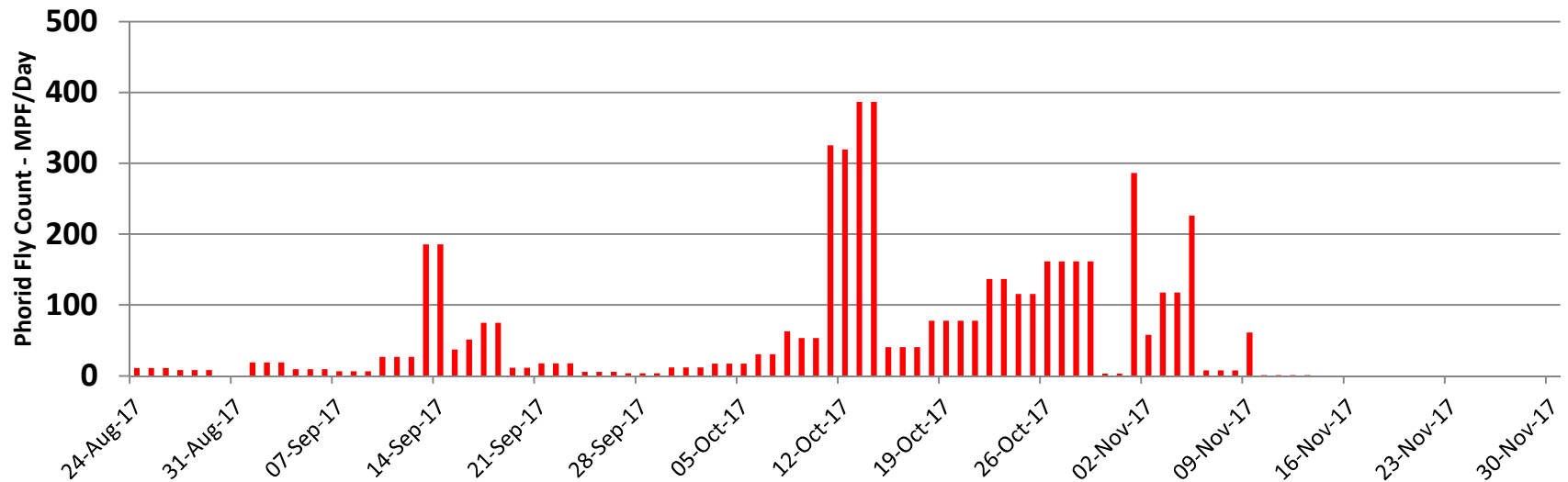


# Results of Continuous Air Sampling

## Outdoor Phorid Count at 202 & 142 Crescent

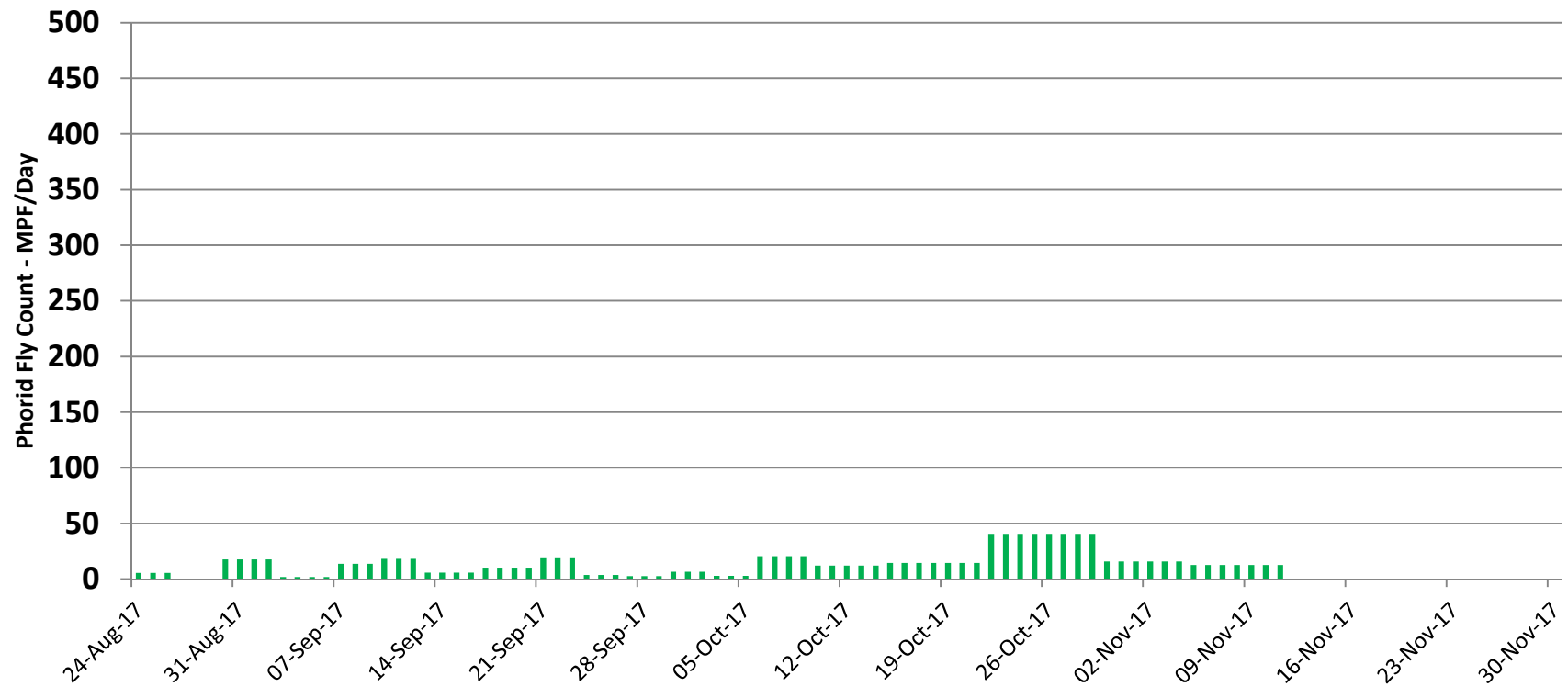


## Outdoor Phorid Count Behind 401 Hollins



# Results of Continuous Air Sampling

Outdoor Phorid Count at Southwood & Limestone



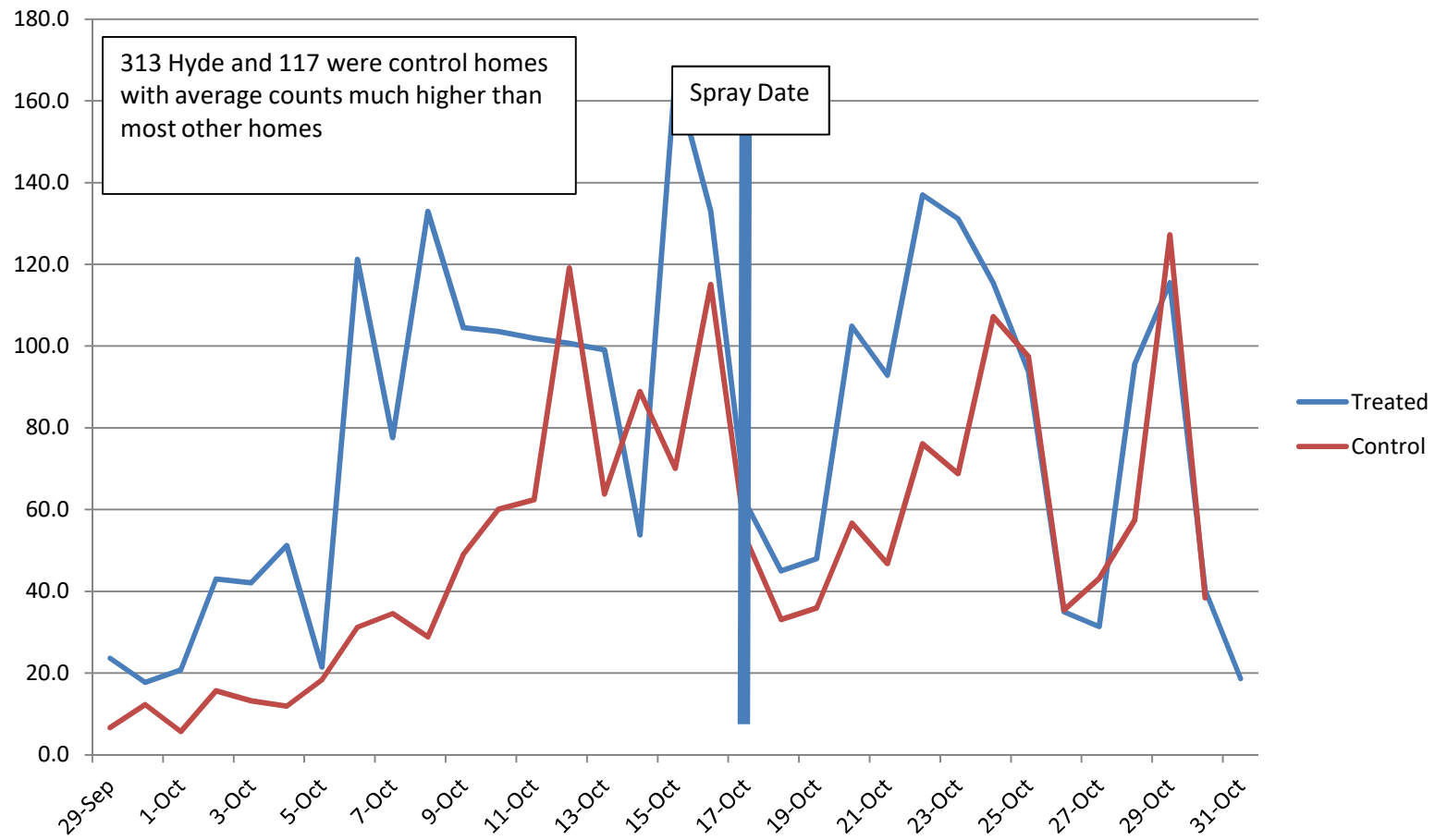
# **Spray Test**

- 1. Objective = determine if an insecticide can kill or block the phorid flies as they enter our homes**
- 2. Large scale test of about 25 homes**
- 3. 13 treated; the rest untreated**
- 4. Wanted to see a big drop in the treated homes**
- 5. Started with an 18 day “base line” period 29-Sept**
- 6. Sprayed 13 homes on 17-Oct**
- 7. Completed the test 13 days later on 31-Oct**



# Spray Test

**Spray Test - Daily Average Counts without 117 Tower & 313 Hyde**



## Spray Test Comparisons

(Numbers = Daily Counts)

### Treated Homes

Home	Before	After
1xx Hyde	15	16
3xx Hyde	10	11
3xx Hyde	18	34
1xx Cornwall	15	23

Little or No  
Change

### Control Homes

Home	Before	After
1xx Hyde	40	65
2xx Hyde	66	63
1xx Cornwall	69	50
1xx Tower	170	191
2xx Crescent	72	56
2xx Crescent	1	3

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2xx Hyde	63	193
2xx Hyde	64	241
2xx Hollins	108	191

Counts  
Increase

2xx Hyde	75	116
2xx Hyde	83	130
3xx Hyde	11	59
3xx Hyde	406	1353

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2xx Crescent	394	230
1xx Crescent	35	9

Counts  
Drop

# **Spray Test**

## **1. Results:**

- A. Some sprayed homes went up, some stayed the same**
- B. Two sprayed homes saw some improvement**
- C. Some “control” homes went up, some stayed the same**

## **2. Conclusion - Bifenthrin does not provide good control, but it may help high count homes**

# **What We Know**

- 1. Counts increase with time – both indoors and outside**
- 2. Indoor counts vary widely home to home**
- 3. Spikes happen –indoors and outside follow in lockstep**
- 4. Soil sampling – ZERO phorid flies**
- 5. Higher outdoor counts closer to the mushroom farms**
- 6. Low counts at Southwood and Limestone**



# **Team Observations**

- 1. Wide variation in individual perceptions**
- 2. Open doors and windows = high counts**
- 3. Vacations generally mean low counts**
- 4. They probably infiltrate our homes more than realized**
- 5. Homeowner interviews showed no obvious differences between high and low count homes.**

# **What We Do Not Know**

- 1. Why phorid flies enter our homes**
- 2. How they enter our homes**
- 3. Why individual homes are so different**

# **Current Knowledge About Control**

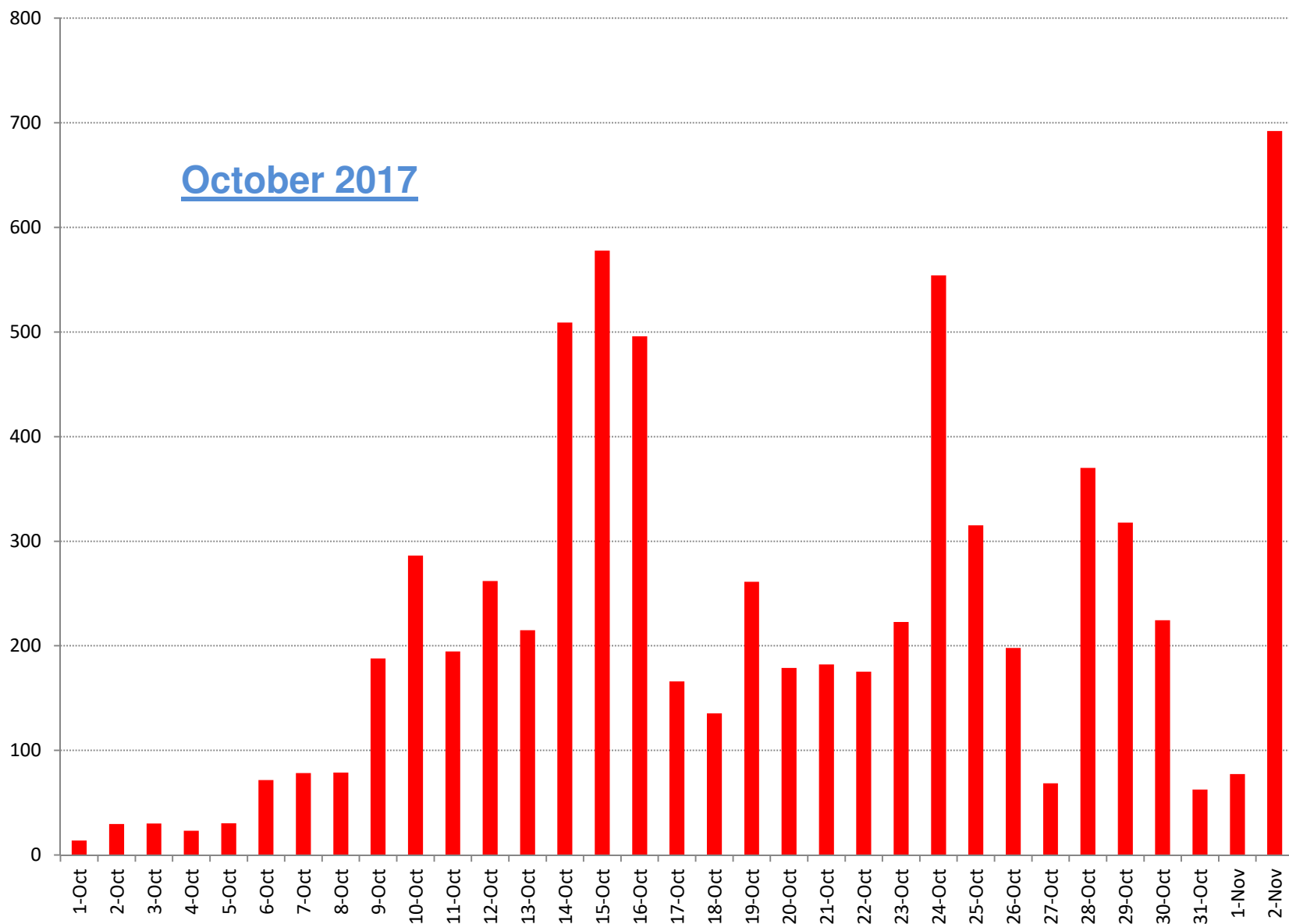
- 1. Fly lights are the best available technology**
- 2. Exterior treatment with bifenthrin may reduce counts, but does not control phorid flies**
- 3. Ditto Cedarcide PCO**
- 4. Repellants have shown some reduction in counts, but do not provide good control of the problem**

# **The Source of the Phorid Flies**

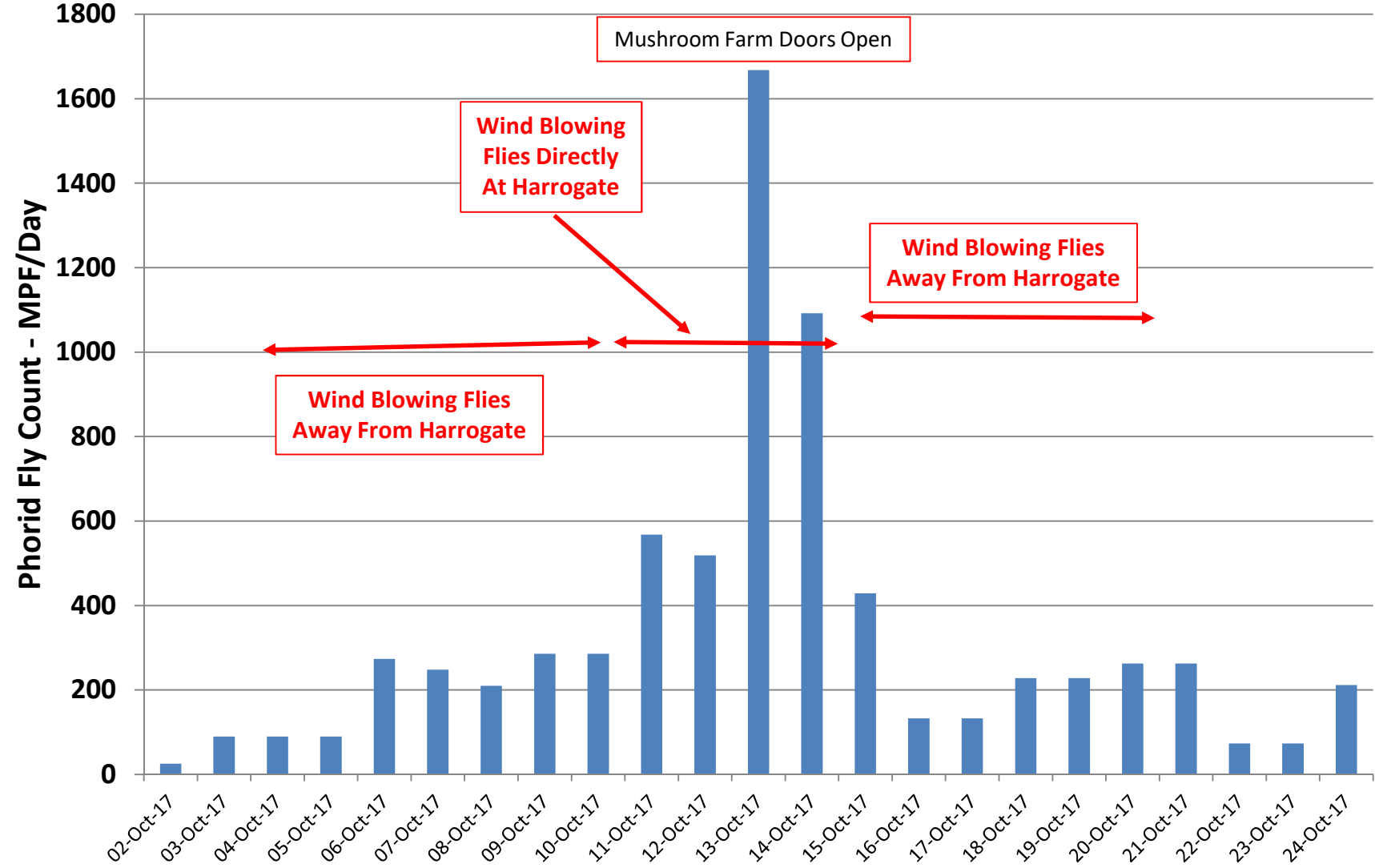
**It is the mushroom farms**



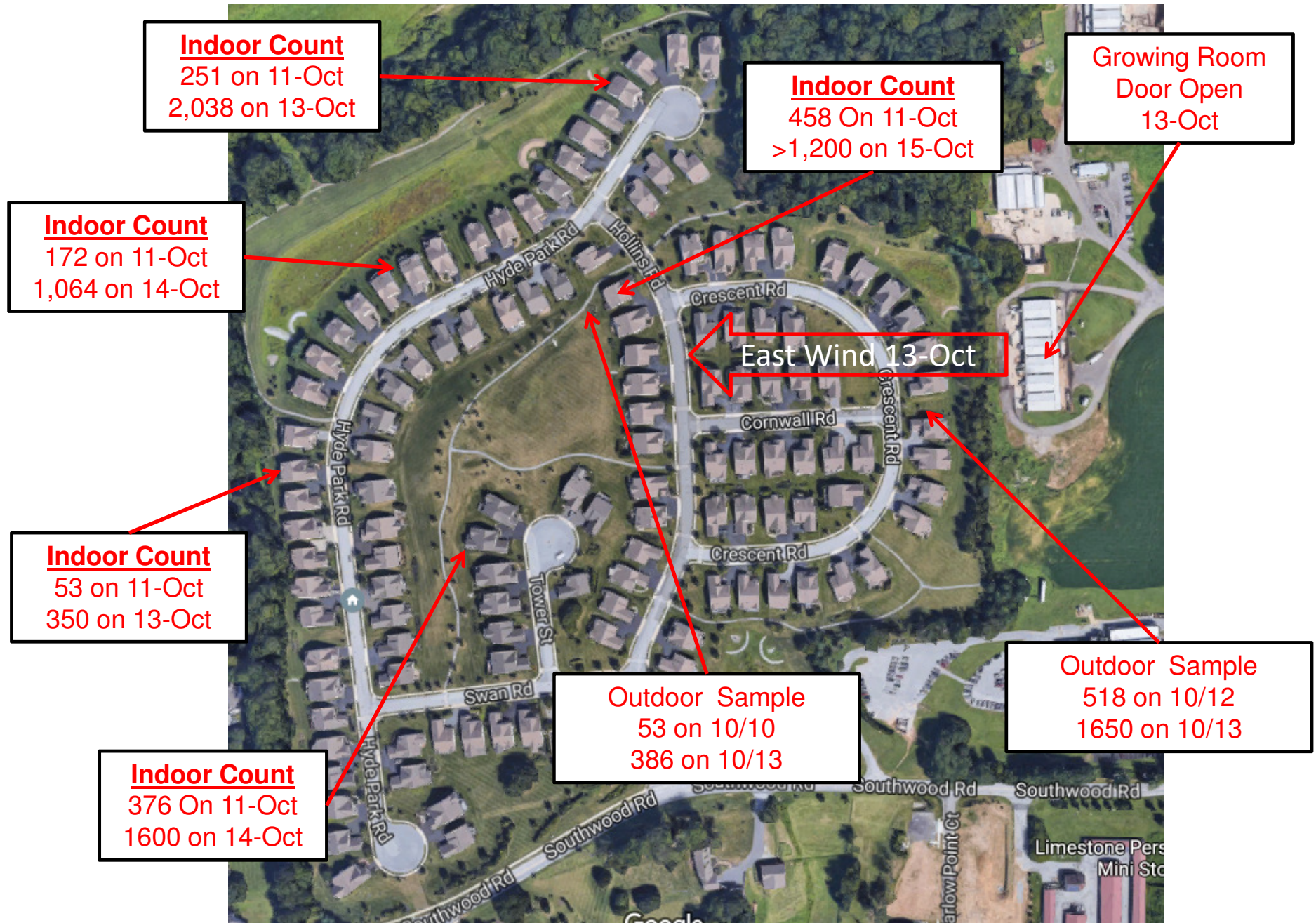
## Average Daily Phorid Fly Count at Multiple Homes



# Outdoor Phorid Counts Between 202 & 142 Crescent

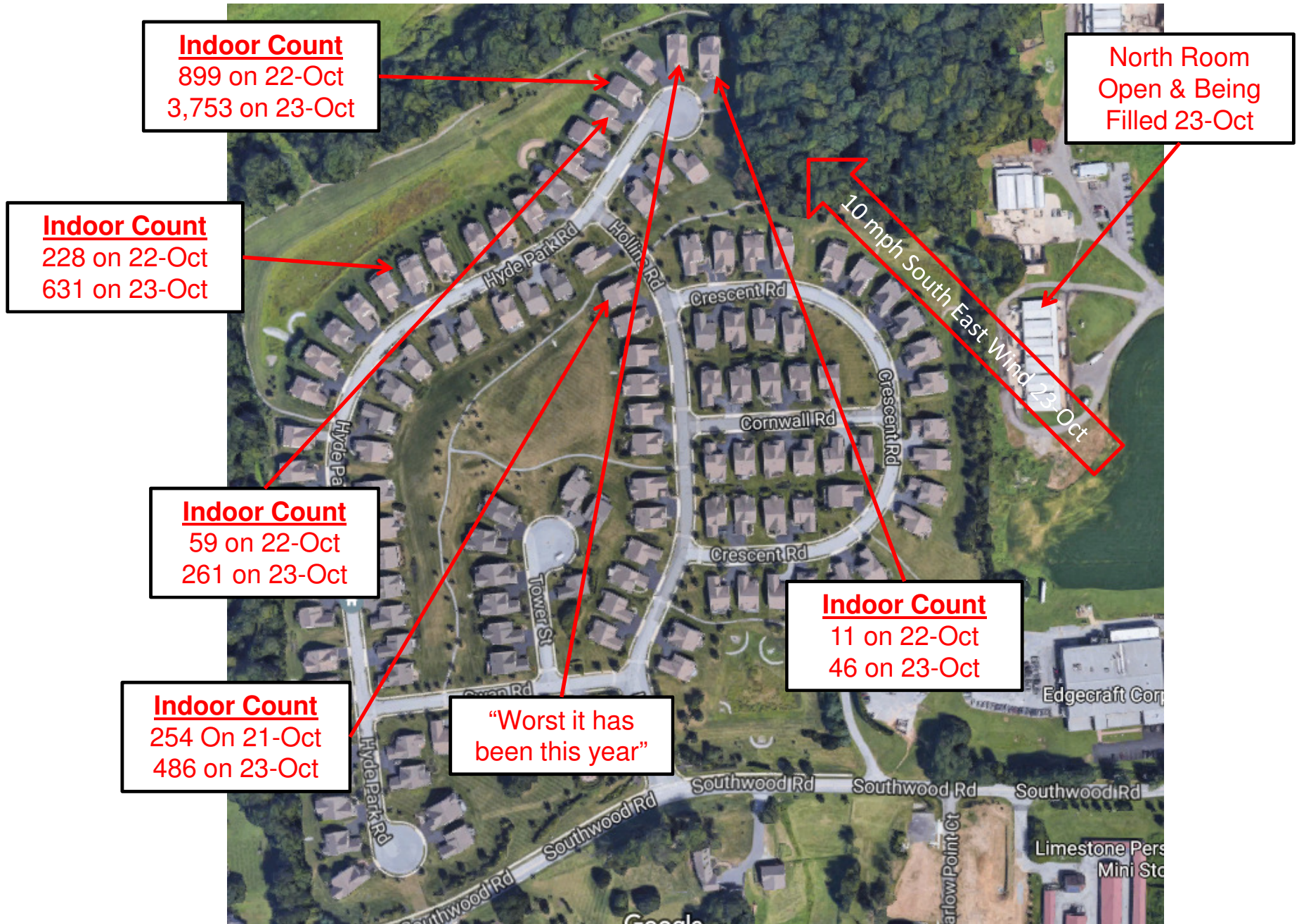


## Phorid Fly "Attack" October 13 - 15, 2017





## Phorid Fly “Attack” October 23, 2017





## Mushroom Farm Activities During Phorid Fly “Attack” October 23, 2017

10:15 am Door Open



1:00 pm One side loaded second side ready



1:05 pm Second side started loading

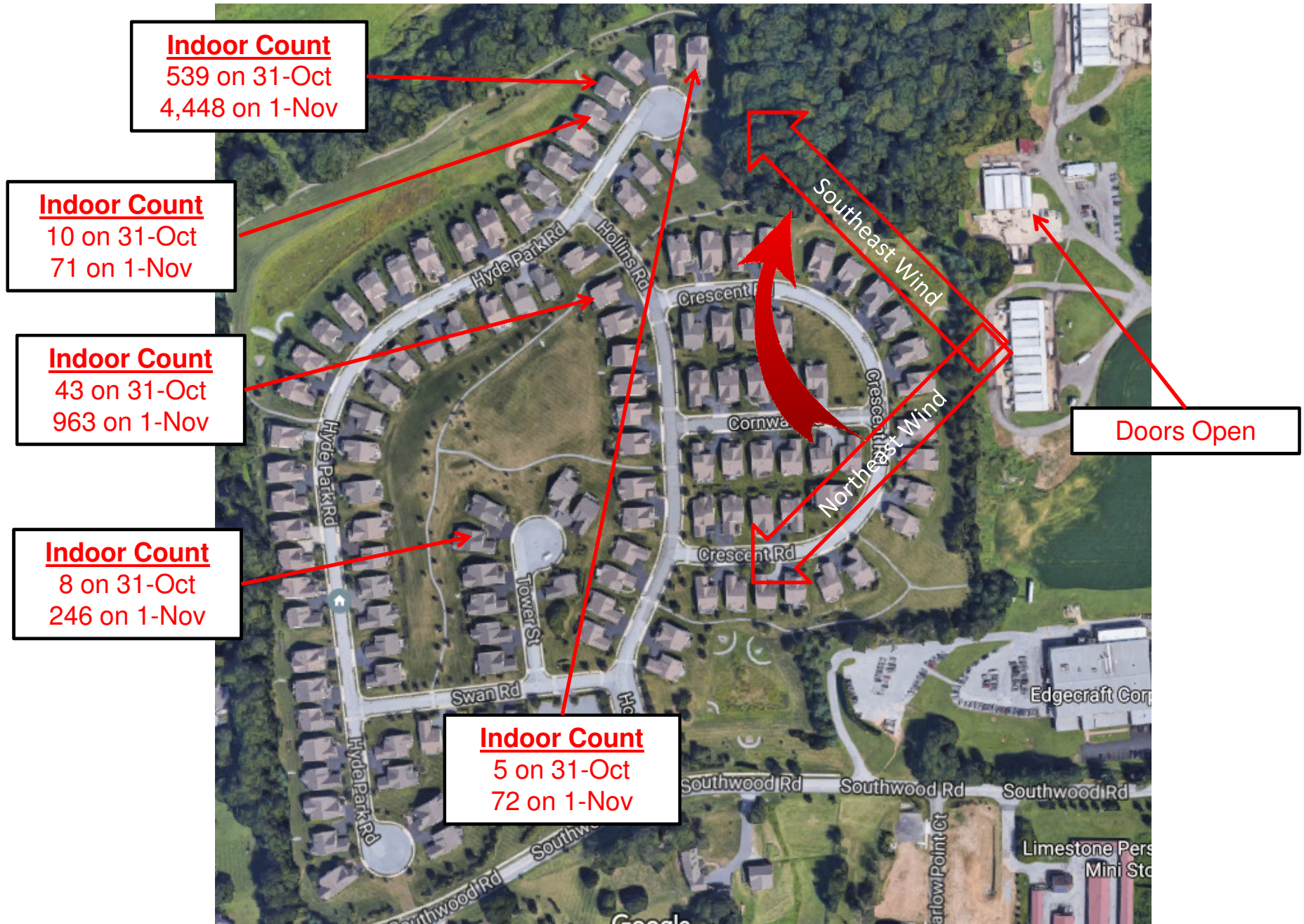


Next Day at 10:45 am operation complete

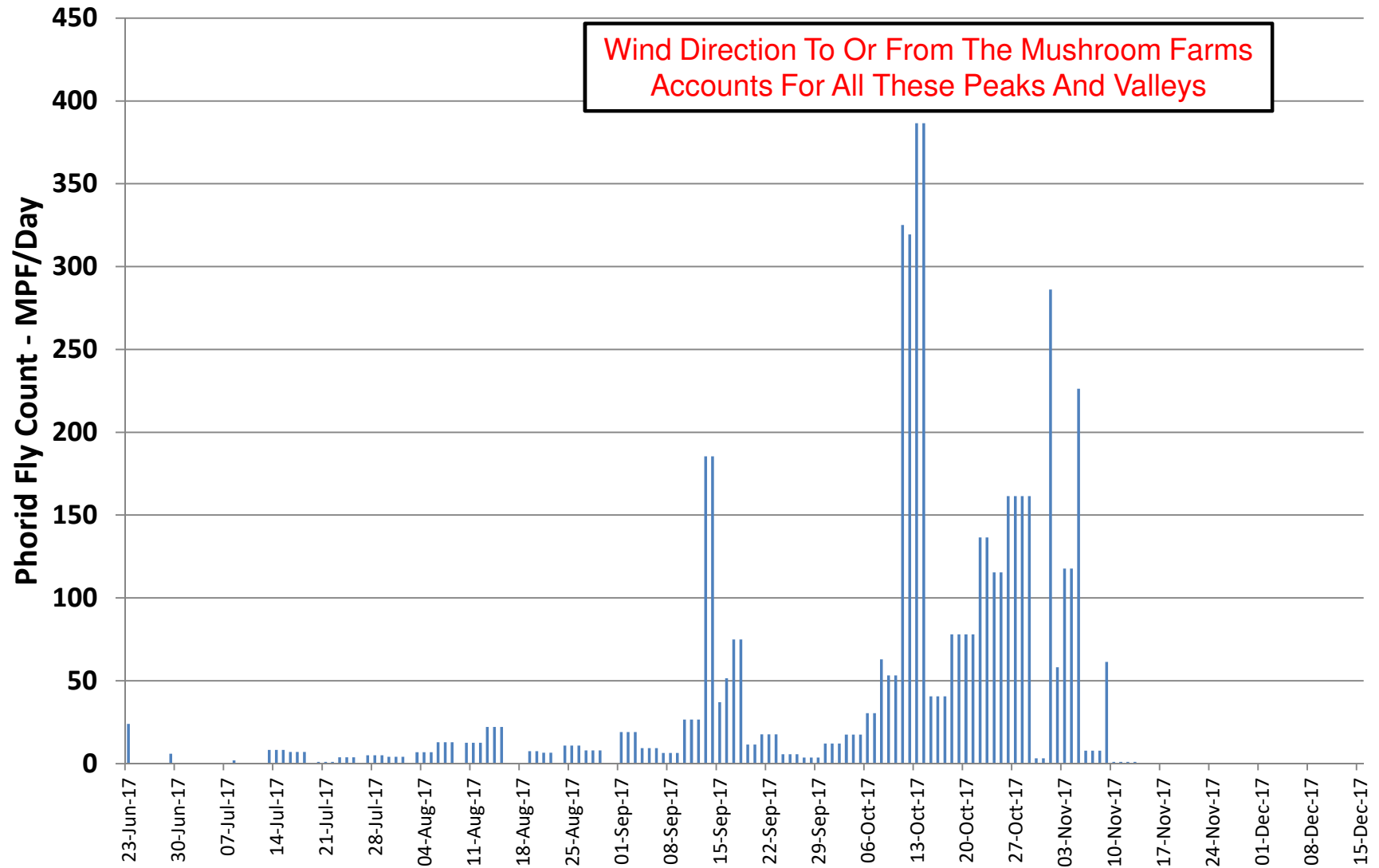




## Phorid Fly “Attack” November 1, 2017



## Outdoor Phorid Counts Behind 401 Hollins



# **The Source of the Phorid Flies**

**It is the  
mushroom farms**

# **Conclusions**

- 1. The fly population builds spring to fall**
- 2. Wide variability in how homes are affected**
- 3. The flies are coming from the mushroom farms**
- 4. Insecticides or repellents may help but do not eliminate the problem**
- 5. Two logical points of control**
  - A. At the source – a political issue**
  - B. Where they are entering our homes – if we knew where**

# **Penn State Phorid Fly Management**

## **Research Strategies**

- **Use of biological pesticides to kill fly larvae in the mushroom soil.**
- **Use of eaves tubes to stop adult fly movement between adjacent rooms.**
- **Collect adult flies using mushroom house air circulation system.**
- **Attract adult flies using sex pheromones.**

# **Going Forward**

- 1. Spray test follow up – residents of control homes will be contacted as to their wishes to have their homes sprayed**
- 2. No means have been found at this time of completely eliminating the problem, just suppressing it.**
  - Asking neighbors to share remedies they are using within their homes**
- 3. No insecticides, repellents or anything else should be applied to the bio-basins or other common areas in the community.**
- 4. The Board will define a policy regarding what can be sprayed and where it can be sprayed to manage Phorid Flies.**
- 5. The Board will be scheduling a meeting with NGT representatives to present the findings of the Vetting Team.**