You Want Flies with That?

Farm Biodiversity and Food Safety

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Figure: FAO: Cattle under Coconut, Sri Lanka

Comanaging fresh produce for nature conservation and food safety

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In 2006, a deadly Escherichia coli O157:H7 outbreak in bagged spinach was traced to California's Central Coast region, where >70% of the salad vegetables sold in the United States are produced. Although no definitive cause for the outbreak could be determined, wildlife was implicated as a disease vector. Growers were subsequently pressured to minimize the intrusion of wildlife onto their farm fields by removing surrounding noncrop vegetation. How vegetation removal actually affects foodborne pathogens remains unknown, however. We combined a fine-scale land use map with three datasets comprising ~250,000 enterohemorrhagic E. coli (EHEC), generic E. coli, and Salmonella tests in produce, irrigation water, and rodents to quantify whether seminatural vegetation surrounding farmland is associated with foodborne pathogen prevalence in California's Central Coast region. We found that EHEC in fresh produce increased by more than an order of magnitude from 2007 to 2013, despite extensive vegetation clearing at farm field margins. Furthermore, although EHEC prevalence in produce was highest on farms near areas suitable for livestock grazing, we found no evidence of increased EHEC, generic E, coli, or Salmonella near nongrazed, seminatural areas. Rather, pathogen prevalence increased the most on farms where noncrop vegetation was removed, calling into question reforms that promote vegetation removal to improve food safety. These results suggest a path forward for comanaging fresh produce farms for food safety and environmental quality, as federal food safety reforms spread across ~4.5 M acres of US farmland. pathogens are carried by domestic animals (e.g., cattle) and wildlife; however, whereas S. enterica is readily isolated from many wildlife hosts (10, 11), EHEC is generally more prevalent in cattle than in wildlife. In one study, for example, 37.9% of cattle van 7.4% of wildlife samples obtained from California's Central Coast tested positive for EHEC (12). Prevalence can vary by location, however, for example, ~12% of cattle shed the EHEC strain E. coli O157:H7 in the midwestern United States (13), whereas only 26–7.1% did so in California's Central Coast (12, 14). Similarly, whereas E. coli O157:H7 was detected in <2% of bird, deer/elk, and feral pig samples across 50 studies worldwide (15), detection rates were higher in the Central Coast region (22%, 3.4%, and 4.7%, respectively) (12). These higher rates suggest that wildlife could potentially vector E. coli onto farm fields (6).

If it discourages wildlife vector movements onto farm fields, then vegetation removal could mitigate food safety risk. The influence of noncrop vegetation in farming landscapes on EHEC or Salmonella prevalence is unknown, however. Although some pathogens are sufficiently prevalent to enable investigation of the effects of surrounding landscape composition on pathogens (16), low pathogen prevalence generally constrains such investigations. One response to this situation has been to relate landscape features to indicators (e.g., generic E. coli) as a proxy for known pathogens (17, 18). Another approach has been to assume that exposures result primarily from contact with local livestock or

Figure: Karp et al., 2015

Significance

Fresh produce has become the primary cause of foodborne illness in the United States. A widespread concern that wildlife vector foodborne pathogens onto fresh produce fields has led to strong pressure on farmers to clear noncrop vegetation surrounding their farm fields. We combined three large datasets to demonstrate that pathogen prevalence in fresh produce is rapidly increasing, that pathogens are more common on farms closer to land suitable for livestock grazing, and that vegetation clearing is associated with increased pathogen prevalence over time. These findings contradict widespread food safety reforms that champion vegetation clearing as a pathogen mitigation strategy. More generally, our work indicates that achieving food safety and nature conservation goals in produce-growing landscapes is possible.

Figure: Karp et al., 2015, significance

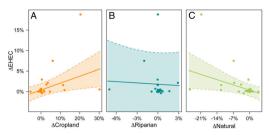


Fig. 3. (A) EHEC prevalence in leafy greens increased on farms that replaced nonriparian natural vegetation with crops between 2005 and 2012 (likelihood ratio test: n = 28 farms, $\chi^2 = 4.22$, P = 0.04). (B and C) in contrast, EHEC did not change when riparian vegetation was removed (n = 28, $\chi^2 = 0.07$, P = 0.79) (B) and increased when other natural vegetation was removed (note the negative scale of the x-axis; n = 28, $\chi^2 = 4.55$, P = 0.03) (C). Solid lines depict predicted effects on EHEC from linear models, dotted lines are prediction intervals, and points are farms.

Figure: Karp et al., 2015, trends

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57	Fresh produ	2009	San Benito	Hollister	31	Arugula	44	4	0
58	Fresh produ	2009	San Benito	Hollister	25	Arugula	233	0	0
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61	Fresh produ		Monterey	King City		Arugula	11	0	0
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66	Fresh produ	2010	San Benito	Hollister	30	Arugula	29	0	0
67	Fresh produ	2010	San Benito	Hollister	18	Arugula	47	0	0
68	Fresh produ	2010	Monterey	Watsonville	28	Arugula	1	0	0
69	Fresh produ	2011	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Arugula	103	0	0
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71	Fresh produ	2011	Monterey	King City		Arugula	29	0	0
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73	Fresh produ	2011	Monterey	King City	50	Arugula	154	0	0
74	Fresh produ	2011	Monterey	King City	68	Arugula	45	0	0
75	Fresh produ	2011	Monterey	King City	52	Arugula	1	0	0
76	Fresh produ	2011	Monterey	Soledad	60	Arugula	61	0	0
77	Fresh produ	2011	Monterey	Soledad	99	Arugula	36	0	0
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82	Fresh produ	2011	San Benito	Hollister	29	Arugula	85	0	0
83	Fresh produ	2011	San Benito	Hollister	30	Arugula	69	0	0
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85	Fresh produ	2011	San Benito	Hollister	27	Arugula	192	1	0
86	Fresh produ	2011	San Benito	Hollister	25	Arugula	134	0	0
87	Fresh produ	2011	San Benito	Hollister	18	Arugula	9	0	0
88	Fresh produ	2011	Santa Cruz	Watsonville	35	Arugula	21	0	0
89	Fresh produ	2011	Monterey	Watsonville	33	Arugula	18	0	0
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91	Fresh produ	2012	Monterey	King City	37	Arugula	165	1	0
92	Fresh produ	2012	Monterey	King City	38	Arugula	25	0	0
93	Fresh produ	2012	Monterey	San Lucas	63	Arugula	32	4	0
94	Fresh produ	2012	Monterey	King City	53	Arugula	67	0	0
95	Fresh produ	2012	Monterey	King City	67	Arugula	37	0	0
96	Fresh produ	2012	Monterey	Soledad	60	Arugula	81	0	0
97	Fresh produ	2012	Monterey	Soledad	99	Arugula	24	0	0
98	Fresh produ	2012	San Benito	Hollister	34	Arugula	101	0	0
99	Fresh produ	2012	San Benito	Hollister	29	Arugula	92	0	0
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101	Fresh produ	2012	San Benito	Hollister	19	Arugula	181	2	0
102	Fresh produ	2012	San Benito	Hollister	31	Arugula	193	1	0
103	Fresh produc	2012	San Benito	Hollister	27	Arugula	172	0	0
104	Fresh produc	2012	San Benito	Hollister	25	Arugula	456	1	0
105	Fresh produc	2012	Monterey	Watsonville	26	Arugula	31	0	0
106	Fresh produc	2012	Monterey	Watsonville		Arugula	78	0	0
107	Fresh produ	2012	San Benito	Hollister	21	Arugula	71	0	0

113	Fresh produ	2013	Monterey	Soledad	62	Arugula	71	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Soledad		Arugula	28	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Soledad		Arugula	109	2	0
	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister		Arugula	97	0	0
	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister		Arugula	118	0	0
	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister		Arugula	45	31	0
	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister		Arugula	194	1	3
	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister		Arugula	176	7	0
	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister		Arugula	145	1	0
	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister		Arugula	36	1	0
	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister		Arugula	25	Ô	0
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	Fresh produ		Monterey	King City		Chard Beets	84	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	King City		Chard Beets	7	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Greenfield		Chard Beets	5	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	King City		Chard Beets	7	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Greenfield		Chard Beets	34	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Soledad		Chard Beets	1	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Soledad		Chard Beets	6	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Soledad		Chard Beets	11	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Soledad		Chard Beets	154	0	ď
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	Fresh produ		Monterey	Soledad		Chard Beets	87	0	ō
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Gonzales		Chard Beets	76	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Gonzales		Chard Beets	20	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Chular		Chard Beets	105	Ö	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Chular	74		4	Ö	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Salinas		Chard Beets	64	Ö	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Chular		Chard Beets	41	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Chular		Chard Beets	27	Ö	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Spreckels		Chard Beets	37	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Chular		Chard Beets	27	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Chular		Chard Beets	15	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Salinas		Chard Beets	36	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Salinas		Chard Beets	23	0	0
	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister		Chard Beets	311	0	0
	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister		Chard Beets	178	0	0
	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister		Chard Beets	146	0	0
	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister		Chard Beets	94	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Watsonville		Chard Beets	21	0	0
	Fresh produ		Santa Clara		12	Chard Beets	160	0	0
	Fresh produ	2008	Monterey	King City	37	Chard Beets	103	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	King City	39	Chard Beets	173	1	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	San Lucas		Chard Beets	158	0	0
	Fresh produ	2008	Monterey	King City	100	Chard Beets	63	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	King City		Chard_Beets	676	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Greenfield		Chard_Beets	1	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Soledad		Chard_Beets	252	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Soledad		Chard_Beets	87	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	Chular		Chard_Beets	36	0	0

169	Fresh produc	2008	Monterey	Chular	94	Chard Beets	4	0	0
170	Fresh produ		Monterey	Salinas	75	Chard Beets	35	0	0
171	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister	34		366	0	0
172	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister		Chard Beets	231	0	0
173	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister	19	Chard Beets	62	1	0
174	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister	31		79	0	0
175	Fresh produ		Monterey	Watsonville		Chard Beets	41	0	0
176	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister	18	Chard Beets	37	0	0
177	Fresh produ		Monterey	Watsonville	33	Chard Beets	17	0	0
178	Fresh produ		Monterey	Watsonville		Chard Beets	3	0	0
179	Fresh produ		Monterey	San Ardo		Chard Beets	186	1	0
180	Fresh produ		Monterey	San Lucas			58	2	0
181	Fresh produ		Monterey	King City		Chard Beets	179	0	0
182		2009	Monterey	King City	39	Chard Beets	142	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	San Lucas		Chard Beets	419	2	0
184	Fresh produ	2009	Monterey	King City	50	Chard Beets	587	3	0
185	Fresh produ	2009	Monterey	King City	68	Chard Beets	31	0	0
186	Fresh produ	2009	Monterey	Greenfield	51	Chard Beets	26	1	0
187	Fresh produ		Monterey	Soledad	81	Chard Beets	1	0	0
188	Fresh produ	2009	Monterey	Soledad	62	Chard Beets	271	0	0
189	Fresh produ		Monterey	Soledad	99	Chard Beets	77	0	0
190	Fresh produ		Monterey	Chular	43	Chard Beets	2	0	O
191	Fresh produ	2009	Monterey	Salinas	44	Chard Beets	20	0	O
192	Fresh produ	2009	Monterey	Gonzales	49	Chard Beets	7	0	0
193	Fresh produ	2009	Monterey	Chular	41	Chard_Beets	41	0	0
194	Fresh produ	2009	Monterey	Salinas	98	Chard Beets	9	0	0
195	Fresh produ	2009	Monterey	Salinas	59	Chard Beets	13	0	0
196	Fresh produ	2009	Monterey	Salinas	46	Chard Beets	28	0	0
197	Fresh produ	2009	Monterey	Salinas	75	Chard Beets	25	0	0
198	Fresh produ	2009	San Benito	Hollister	25	Chard Beets	51	0	0
199	Fresh produc	2009	San Benito	Hollister	18	Chard_Beets	731	0	0
200	Fresh produc	2009	Monterey	Watsonville	33	Chard_Beets	27	0	0
201	Fresh produc	2009	Monterey	Watsonville	28	Chard_Beets	49	0	0
202	Fresh produc	2009	Santa Clara	Gilroy	24	Chard_Beets	3	0	0
203	Fresh produc	2010	Monterey	King City	37	Chard_Beets	1	0	0
204	Fresh produc	2010	Monterey	King City	39	Chard_Beets	5	0	0
		2010	Monterey	King City	50	Chard_Beets	28	0	0
206	Fresh produ	2010	Monterey	King City	52	Chard_Beets	2475	5	2
207	Fresh produ	2010	Monterey	Soledad	62	Chard_Beets	3	0	0
208	Fresh produc	2010	Monterey	Gonzales	49	Chard_Beets	36	0	0
209	Fresh produ		San Benito	Hollister	29	Chard_Beets	60	0	0
210	Fresh produc	2010	San Benito	Hollister	19	Chard_Beets	26	0	0
211	Fresh produc	2010	San Benito	Hollister	25	Chard_Beets	11	0	0
212	Fresh produc	2010	San Benito	Hollister	18	Chard_Beets	50	0	0
213	Fresh produ		Monterey	San Ardo	40	Chard_Beets	378	0	0
214	Fresh produ	2011	Monterey	King City	37		286	0	0
215	Fresh produ	2011	Monterey	King City	39	Chard_Beets	156	0	0
216	Fresh produ	2011	Monterey	King City	38	Chard_Beets	20	0	0
217	Fresh produ	2011	Monterey	San Lucas		Chard_Beets	207	0	0
	Fresh produ		Monterey	King City		Chard_Beets	556	0	0
219	Fresh produ	2011	Monterey	King City	53	Chard_Beets	77	0	0

Nhat was t€	Test Year	Test County	Nearest Tov	Farm C-1	Crop	Total Tests	# Positive for EHEC	# Positive for Salmonella
resh produ	2007	San Benito	Hollister	31	Arugula	172	0	
resh produ	2008	San Benito	Hollister	31	Arugula	2	0	
Fresh produ	2009	San Benito	Hollister	31	Arugula	44	4	
Fresh produc	2011	San Benito	Hollister	31	Arugula	51	0	
resh produ	2012	San Benito	Hollister	31	Arugula	193	1	
Fresh produc	2013	San Benito	Hollister	31	Arugula	45	31	
resh produ	2007	San Benito	Hollister	31	Chard_Beets	146	0	
Fresh produc	2008	San Benito	Hollister	31	Chard_Beets	79	0	
resh produ	2012	San Benito	Hollister	31	Chard_Beets	98	2	
Fresh produ	2007	San Benito	Hollister	31	Chinese cab	67	0	
resh produ	2008	San Benito	Hollister	31	Chinese cab	17	0	
Fresh produ	2011	San Benito	Hollister	31	Chinese cab	38	0	
Fresh produc	2012	San Benito	Hollister	31	Chinese cab	24	0	
Fresh produ	2013	San Benito	Hollister	31	Chinese cab	45	31	
Fresh produc	2007	San Benito	Hollister	31	Lettuce	120	0	
resh produ	2008	San Benito	Hollister	31	Lettuce	342	0	
resh produ	2007	San Benito	Hollister	31	Spinach	31	0	
resh produ	2008	San Benito	Hollister	31	Spinach	153	3	
Fresh produ	2009	San Benito	Hollister	31	Spinach	246	19	
resh produ	2010	San Benito	Hollister	31	Spinach	54	1	
resh produ	2011	San Benito	Hollister	31	Spinach	182	14	
Fresh produc	2012	San Benito	Hollister	31	Spinach	103	20	
resh produ	2013	San Benito	Hollister	31	Spinach	264	100	

Figure: Karp et al., 2015, farm 31

What	was t€	Test Year	Test County	Nearest Tov	Farm C-1	Crop	Total Tests	# Positive for EHEC	# Positive for Salmonella
Fresh	produ	2009	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Arugula	110	0	
Fresh	produ	2011	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Arugula	103	0	
Fresh	produ	2013	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Arugula	87	13	
Fresh	produ	2009	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Chard_Beets	186	1	
Fresh	produ	2011	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Chard_Beets	378	0	
Fresh	produ	2012	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Chard_Beets		3	
Fresh	produ	2013	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Chard_Beets	77	0	
Fresh	produ	2009	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Chinese cab	157	0	
Fresh	produ	2011	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Chinese cab	281	0	
Fresh	produ	2012	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Chinese cab	128	0	
Fresh	produ	2013	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Chinese cab	276	10	
Fresh	produ	2009	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Cilantro	2	0	
Fresh	produ	2009	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Dill	1	0	
Fresh	produ	2012	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Kale_Cabba	99	6	
Fresh	produ	2013	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Kale_Cabba	171	4	
Fresh	produ	2009	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Lettuce	27	0	
Fresh	produ	2012	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Lettuce	501	0	
Fresh	produ	2013	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Lettuce	537	0	
Fresh	produ	2009	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Spinach	489	5	
Fresh	produ	2011	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Spinach	781	4	
Fresh	produ	2012	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Spinach	447	48	
Fresh	produ	2013	Monterey	San Ardo	40	Spinach	800	75	

Figure: Karp et al., 2015, farm 40

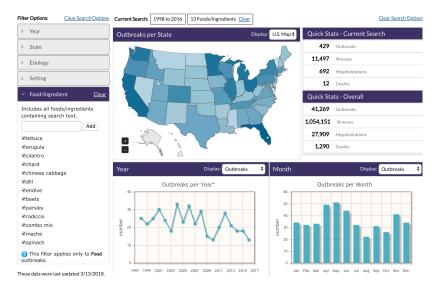


Figure: CDC produce-related outbreaks 1998-2016

Estimated total costs from non-fatal and fatal bicycle crashes in the USA: 1997–2013

Abstract

Introduction Emergency department visits and hospital admissions resulting from adult bicycle trauma have increased dramatically. Annual medical costs and work losses of these incidents last were estimated for 2005 and quality-of-life losses for 2000.

Methods We estimated costs associated with adult bicycle injuries in the USA using 1997–2013 non-fatal incidence data from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System with cost estimates from the Consumer Product Safety Commission's Injury Cost Model, and 1999–2013 fatal incidence data from the National Vital Statistics System costed by similar methods.

Results Approximately 3.8 million non-fatal adult bicycle injuries were reported during the study period and 9839 deaths. In 2010 dollars, estimated adult bicycle injury costs totalled \$24.4 billion in 2013. Estimated injury costs per mile bicycled fell from \$2.85 in 2001 to \$2.35 in 2009. From 1999 to 2013, total estimated costs were \$209 billion due to non-fatal bicycle injuries and \$28 billion due to fatal injuries. Inflation-free annual costs in the study period increased by 137% for non-fatal injuries and 23% for fatal injuries. The share of non-fatal costs associated

Figure: Bicycle injury costs, BMJ

– Procedure-based + Precautionary Principle \rightarrow LCD?

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- "Kill-steps": Is a gram of cure worth an ounce of prevention?

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- Other post-harvest tech?

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- Who should be responsible? Farmers? USDA? Distributors?
 Retailers?

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