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Edge Effects, Invasion, and the Spatial Pattern of Herb-Layer Biodiversity in an Old-Growth Deciduous Forest Fragment

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ABSTRACT: Habitat loss and fragmentation are major threats to global biodiversity, altering both habitat structure and availability. Small preserves nested within landscapes dominated by human commerce can serve as long-term storehouses of biodiversity, yet they are vulnerable to threats such as exotic plant invasion and disturbance. The Drew Woods State Nature Preserve (DWSNP) in Darke County, Ohio, provided an opportunity to understand the capacity of a small old-growth preserve for maintaining regional floristic biodiversity and assessing ecological threats. A series of six approximately biweekly herbaceous layer samplings were conducted across 32 1-m² circular plots within DWSNP, and percent vegetative cover was estimated for each herbaceous species identified. The vascular flora of this 6-ha site was inventoried and used for a Floristic Quality Assessment. Spatial patterns were visualized using ArcGIS software, and linear regression analyses and non-metric multidimensional scaling were used to test for relationships between measures of diversity and cover and environmental variables. A total of 176 species were identified across 124 genera and 67 families, and the majority of species were native (89.2%). Characteristic native herb species included *Jeffersonia diphylla* (twinleaf), *Trillium sessile* (toad trillium), *Allium tricoccum* (wild leek), and *Erythronium americanum* (trout lily), all of which are indicative of high-quality forest. A north–south gradient of species richness was found across all samplings, with the southernmost plots tending to be most species-rich ($P < 0.01$, $r^2 \leq 0.42$). This pattern appeared to be linked with gradients of light and temperature that are likely driven by edge effects. Old-growth forests are known for their resiliency, a trait that was evident in the high-quality flora of DWSNP; however, they are not immune to invasion by exotic species. We discovered a significant, nascent, invasion of *Alliaria petiolata* (garlic mustard), which has the potential to negatively impact the biological integrity of the site if left unchecked. Small forest fragments in agricultural landscapes can act as important reservoirs of biodiversity, but effective preservation and management of these sites requires an understanding of the threats to their ecological integrity as well as environmental drivers of diversity.

Index terms: diversity, edge effects, Floristic Quality Assessment Index, herbaceous layer, old-growth forest

INTRODUCTION

Understanding the factors underlying patterns of biodiversity is a venerable goal in ecology that has taken on increased urgency due to global-scale anthropogenic acceleration of species extinction rates (Rockström et al. 2009; Costello et al. 2013). In the Eastern Deciduous Forest (EDF) of temperate eastern North America, the herbaceous layer is a biodiversity “treasure-house” (*sensu* E.O. Wilson; Ricketts et al. 1999; Gilliam 2007). These species-rich herbaceous communities are variable across both spatial and temporal gradients (Gleason 1926; Braun 1950; Whittaker 1956; Small and McCarthy 2002), and their composition is shaped by an array of local factors, including microtopography, soil fertility, and overstory canopy structure (Bratton 1976; Brewer 1980; Thompson 1980; Croizer and Boerner 1984; Whitney and Foster 1988; Hutchinson et al. 1999; Ford et al. 2000; Gilliam and Roberts 2003; Small and McCarthy 2005; McEwan and Muller 2011; Chapman and McEwan 2013). The herbaceous flora of the EDF includes an array of locally rare species, some of which have low reproductive

rates, minimal dispersal distances, and complex dormancies (Bierzychudek 1982; Matlack 1994; Whigham 2004; Albrecht and McCarthy 2006). These “slow plants” are poorly suited to survival in a dynamic anthropogenic landscape (Duffy and Meier 1992; Jules 1998; Matlack 2005; Vellend et al. 2007), and the extinction debt created by land conversion can persist for decades (Vellend et al. 2006).

In landscapes dominated by human commerce, documenting and preserving biodiversity often takes place in fragmented parcels. In large agricultural regions, like the Midwest of North America, habitats are intermingled into a patchwork of farmland and quasi-suburban development. Small patches of habitat in anthropogenic landscapes may play a critical role in maintaining regional biodiversity and landscape utility for a wide range of species (Scherr and McNeely 2008; Edvardsen et al. 2010; Polyakov et al. 2013). Fragmented forest preserves, especially those that are directly adjacent to agricultural lands, may be subjected to edge effects, resulting in altered soil moisture, temperature, light, and wind exposure (Wales 1972; Ranney

1977; Matlack 1993), as well as impacts from herbicide drift and fertilizer runoff (Boutin and Jobin 1998). Invasive species may also be able to penetrate into these habitat fragments (Wilson et al. 2013), with subsequent effects on biodiversity and ecosystem function (Mack et al. 2007; Powell et al. 2011; McEwan et al. 2012).

An old-growth forest parcel located in a matrix of agricultural lands in western Ohio (USA) provided an opportunity to document floristic biodiversity in a high-quality forest fragment and explore the influence of edge effects on herb-layer diversity. This small (~ 6 ha) stand of old-growth forest is nearly square in shape and is surrounded by agricultural fields—a quintessential habitat fragment in an agricultural landscape. The natural hydrology is intact, and the stand typifies the oak-maple swamp forests that dominated this region of North America prior to European settlement. Our objectives were to: (1) document overall floristic biodiversity in the site, including the presence of invasive species; (2) assess floristic diversity relative to spatial position within the parcel; and (3) assess spatial variation of temperature and light in the understory environment.

METHODS

Study Site

The study was performed at Drew Woods State Nature Preserve (DWSNP, 40°15'N, 84°39'W) in Darke County, Ohio. This 6-ha forest remnant consists of undrained oak-maple swamp forest (Anderson 1982; Boerner and Kooser 1991; Goins et al. 2013) and is surrounded on the east, west, and south sides by agricultural fields. The north edge is adjacent to a road; however, beyond the road are more agricultural fields. The climate of DWSNP is characterized by warm, humid summers and cold winters, with no distinct dry season. Mean annual precipitation is 95.5 cm, and the mean annual temperature is 10.2 °C (National Climatic Data Center 2012). The site has relatively flat topography with soils characterized as Blount silt loam and Glynwood silt loam (Boerner and Kooser 1991).

Data Collection

Thirty-two plots were established by Goins et al. (2013) in 2011 using a systematic sampling approach. Plot center stakes were established approximately 40 m apart according to a digitally created grid. Plots were laid out as equidistant as possible with a few exceptions due to vernal and semi-permanent ponds. The herbaceous layer (all nonwoody species) was sampled biweekly during the spring of 2012 (March 25, April 9, April 21, May 5, May 19, and June 3) within 1-m² plots centered around each plot stake. The percent vegetation cover for each species was estimated using a modified Domin scale (McCune and Grace 2002): <1%, 1–5%, 6–10%, 11–25%, 36–50%, 51–75%, 76–90%, 91–100%.

Floristic surveys were conducted during 2011 and 2012 to assess total plant diversity at the site. Systematic survey approaches included the previously mentioned herbaceous layer sampling, as well as a woody species inventory conducted by Goins et al. (2013). Additional species were identified while moving between plots and during random walks through DWSNP. Voucher specimens were collected and deposited in the University of Dayton herbarium. Botanical nomenclature follows Jones (2005).

Soil temperature was measured at a soil depth of 10 cm using micro-T Temperature Loggers (model no. DS1921G, NexSens Technology) placed 1 m north of 16 systematically selected plots throughout the stand. Daily high average soil temperatures for the northernmost ($n = 5$) and southernmost ($n = 5$) plots were calculated using measurements taken at 4:00 PM. These T-loggers were located within 80 m of the northern or southern forest edge, likely within the depth of edge effect. Two additional T-loggers were attached to the top of 1-m-tall stakes at the center of DWSNP, one on the north side of a large tree and one on the south side to record air temperatures. Average daily high air temperatures were calculated from measurements taken at 4:00 PM by these two suspended T-loggers. To obtain leaf area index measurements, canopy images were taken 1 m above the center of each plot prior to leaf fall in September 2012,

using a CID-120 Canopy Imager (CID Bio-Science, Inc.). Plot coordinates were obtained using a Garmin eTrex Legend H GPS unit.

Data Analysis

Relative importance values (RIV) were used to rank species within each sampling date and were calculated as the mean of relative cover and relative frequency values for each species. Minor species had an RIV value of less than one. “True” Shannon diversity ($\exp(H')$), species richness, and total cover (cm² m⁻²) were calculated for each plot.

The Floristic Quality Assessment Index (FQAI) for Ohio (Andreas et al. 2004) was used to assign Coefficient of Conservatism (C of C) values to all species in the DWSNP flora. These values are indicative of relative habitat fidelity, where a low value indicates tolerance of a wide range of habitats, and a high value indicates greater habitat specificity and sensitivity to disturbance. A site-wide FQAI score (I) provided an overall assessment of the site's quality and was calculated using Eqn. 6 provided by Andreas et al. (2004), where CC_i is the Coefficient of Conservatism value for each species and N_{native} is the number of native species within the evaluated community:

$$I = \sum (CC_i) / \sqrt{(N_{\text{native}})}$$

In addition, mean C of C values were calculated for each plot, dividing the sum of C of C scores by species richness (including nonnative species).

Distances to western and southern edges were measured in ArcGIS using GPS plot locations and edge polygon data, donated by Darke County Auditor's GIS department. Linear regression was used to test for relationships between herb layer measurements (species richness, Shannon diversity, cover, mean C of C, *Alliaria petiolata* cover) and environmental variables (distance to western and southern edges, leaf area index). Non-metric multidimensional scaling (NMDS) procedure and constrained correspondence analysis (CCA) were used to assess whether patterns of native spe-

cies composition (based on abundance data collected May 5) were associated with environmental variables (“vegan” and “labdsv” packages in R version 3.0.1). The final NMDS solution contained three axes (stress = 16.8), which provided a substantial reduction in stress over a two-axis solution (stress = 23.4); additional axes beyond three did not improve stress.

RESULTS

Site-wide, we identified a total of 176 vascular plant species across 124 genera belonging to 67 different families. Overall, the majority of these species were dicots, and there were only two species of ferns identified at the site (Table 1). Approximately one-third of the monocot species belonged to the genus *Carex* (sedge, 13 species; Appendix). Characteristic herbaceous species for this site included *Jeffersonia diphylla* (twinleaf), *Trillium sessile* (toad trillium), *Allium tricoccum* (wild leek), and *Erythronium americanum* (trout lily; Table 2), which are indicative of mature, high-quality forest (Andreas et al. 2004). In addition, two rare medicinal species, *Panax quinquefolius* (American ginseng) and *Hydrastis canadensis* (goldenseal) were found at the site (Appendix). Overall, 128 species in Drew Woods had a Coefficient of Conservatism of 3 or higher, indicating a community composed largely of species typically limited to high-quality sites that are relatively stable with little disturbance (see Table 1 in Andreas et al. 2004; Figure 1). In addition, the overall FQAI score for the site (based on the complete flora list) was 51.5, which was on par with other

qualitative FQAI scores given by Andreas et al. (2004) for other high-quality sites in Ohio.

Nineteen nonnative species were found in Drew Woods, most of which were cosmopolitan weeds restricted to the perimeter of the site (Appendix). Three woody invasive species, *Ailanthus altissima* (tree-of-heaven), *Lonicera maackii* (amur honeysuckle), and *Rosa multiflora* (multiflora rose), were found at low frequencies within the site. The invasive herb *Alliaria petiolata* (garlic mustard) was the most important species in many of our quantitative surveys (Table 2), and this level of importance, interestingly, was achieved even though the species is relatively constrained within the site. We found that *A. petiolata* was well established on the western boundary of the site and is penetrating the interior of the site; however, its density was quite low across the majority of the plots (Figure 2A).

There were no significant east–west trends in DWSNP, but a north–south gradient of species richness was found consistently throughout all six sampling dates, with the southernmost plots tending to be most species-rich ($P < 0.01$, $r^2 \leq 0.42$). This pattern was most readily obvious on the May 5 sampling during which species richness peaked in the southern portion of the study area, with the northern portion relatively species-poor (Figure 2B, Table 3). Shannon diversity exhibited a statistically significant north–south trend for three of the sampling dates (April 9, April 21, May 5), and all of these relationships were relatively weak ($P < 0.05$, $r^2 \leq 0.18$). Total herbaceous

cover and mean C of C did not exhibit any significant spatial patterns within the site (Table 3); however, *Alliaria petiolata* cover was greater near the southern edge of the site ($P = 0.037$, $r^2 = 0.15$). *Alliaria petiolata* cover did not exhibit significant relationships with native species richness ($P = 0.72$), native Shannon diversity ($P = 0.96$), or native cover ($P = 0.50$).

Soil temperature and canopy cover (as measured by leaf area index (LAI)) also varied along a north–south gradient. In general, the southernmost plots experienced slightly higher average daily soil temperatures than the northernmost plots (Figure 3). LAI increased significantly with distance from the southern forest edge ($P < 0.0005$, $r^2 = 0.37$), indicating more open canopy towards the southern edge of the stand. Herb species richness and Shannon diversity on May 5 exhibited inverse linear relationships with LAI, where plots with greater canopy cover tended to have lower species richness and diversity (richness $P = 0.014$, $r^2 = 0.16$; Shannon diversity $P = 0.039$, $r^2 = 0.11$; Table 3). The NMDS ordination reflected these patterns as plots tended to cluster based on their location in either the northern or the southern half of the forest stand (Figure 4). Distance to southern edge was the only significant term in the CCA model ($F = 2.31$, $P = 0.015$), indicating that species composition varies among plots along a north–south gradient (Figure 4).

DISCUSSION

Habitat loss and fragmentation are among the most important threats to global biodiversity (Fahrig 2003; Mantyka-Pringle et al. 2012), and much attention has been given to assessing the conservation value of remnant forest patches. Drew Woods State Nature Preserve is an important habitat refuge in a landscape largely dominated by agriculture, harboring a number of plant species that have relatively high coefficients of conservatism (scores ranging 5–7) according to the Floristic Quality Assessment Index for Ohio (Andreas et al. 2004). Unfortunately, it is also highly isolated from other forest patches, which

Table 1. Taxonomic summary of plant species identified in Drew Woods State Nature Preserve, a 6-ha forest remnant in Darke County, Ohio. Percent native species calculated based on native statuses in the Floristic Quality Assessment Index for Ohio (Andreas et al. 2004).

Division	Families	Genera	Species	% Native Species
Ferns and Fern Allies	2	2	2	100
Monocots	15	21	38	92.1
Dicots	50	101	136	88.2
Total	67	124	176	89.2

Table 2. Relative importance values (RIV) of herbaceous species sampled across 32 1-m² plots located in DWSNP. Values were calculated by averaging together relative cover and relative frequency of each species. Minor species have an RIV < 1 at all sampling dates. All species are rank ordered by RIV on April 21, including minor species.

Minor species: *Maianthemum racemosum*, *Elymus hystrix*, *Solidago ulmifolia*, *Festuca subverticillata*, *Carex jamesii*, *Laportea canadensis*, *Carex albursina*, *Cystopteris protrusa*, *Prenanthes altissima*, *Galium circaezens*, *Allium canadense*, *Carex blanda*, *Lysimachia ciliata*, *Solidago caesia*, *Sonchus arvensis*, *Tradescantia virginiana*, *Phytolacca americana*, *Pilea pumila*, *Teucrium canadense*, *Triosteum angustifolium*.

Species	Relative Importance Value					
	March 25	April 9	April 21	May 5	May 19	June 3
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	15.37	14.31	13.29	15.44	13.96	15.44
<i>Floerkea proserpinacoides</i>	12.83	11.57	10.47	4.07	-	-
<i>Sanicula odorata</i>	5.92	5.58	7.22	8.44	9.89	11.15
<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	6.16	5.76	7	9.58	14.28	16.62
<i>Claytonia virginica</i>	10.02	8.76	6.6	3.46	-	-
<i>Dentaria laciniata</i>	11.29	7.87	6.2	3.32	2.31	-
<i>Galium aparine</i>	4.12	4.46	4.84	5.36	6.38	3.08
<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>	3.26	5.45	4.58	4.53	4.19	1.12
<i>Trillium sessile</i>	6.23	5.29	4.24	3.57	3.32	3.46
<i>Hydrophyllum macrophyllum</i>	3.84	3.69	3.71	4.22	3.53	2.99
<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	2.38	4.3	3.22	4.12	3.73	2.63
<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>	0.29	1.22	2.9	3.86	4.49	5.16
<i>Polygonatum pubescens</i>	0.29	2.17	2.01	1.97	2.3	2.34
<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	-	0.73	1.75	1.89	2.07	2.21
<i>Erythronium americanum</i>	2.38	2.22	1.72	0.61	-	-
<i>Jeffersonia diphylla</i>	0.29	0.87	1.61	3.05	2.7	3.04
<i>Viola pubescens</i>	1.76	1.47	1.54	1.75	2.06	2.22
<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	1.17	0.98	1.39	1.76	1.73	1.84
<i>Cardamine douglassii</i>	2.06	1.68	1.39	0.81	-	-
<i>Symphyotrichum lanceolatum</i>	0.6	0.87	1.25	1.13	1.58	2.66
<i>Polygonum virginianum</i>	-	0.49	1.24	1.56	1.73	1.84
<i>Allium tricoccum</i>	1.49	1.15	1.22	0.61	0.46	0.73
<i>Viola sororia</i>	1.18	1.19	1.18	1.96	2.53	2.96
<i>Geum vernum</i>	1.18	0.94	1.13	1.42	1.95	2.11
<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>	0.59	0.98	1.04	1.02	1.15	0.98
<i>Uvularia grandiflora</i>	0.59	0.7	0.98	1.01	1.03	1.12
<i>Oxalis stricta</i>	0.29	0.24	0.62	1.02	1.96	2.09
<i>Lithospermum latifolium</i>	-	-	0.21	0.81	1.27	1.6

limits the dispersal of plants and animals into or out of the stand (Boerner and Kooser 1991). The ecological integrity of such habitat “island” refuges is subject to a number of factors, including edge effects, local species extinctions, and invasive species (Honday et al. 2005). The long-term value of these forest fragments is unclear in the face of climate change,

as the broader range of suitable habitat for many plant species is predicted to shift as global temperature and precipitation patterns change (Walther et al. 2002). Species unable to disperse over long distances face challenges in migrating across dissected landscapes in order to “keep up” with shifting suitable habitats (Pitelka et al. 1997; Neilson et al. 2005).

Edge habitats provide ideal conditions for many shade-intolerant nonnative species, while forest interiors are less easily invaded (Brothers and Spingarn 1992). This phenomenon appears to be true for the majority of the nonnative species found in DWSNP; however, the integrity of the site is being threatened by *Alliaria petiolata*, which has successfully penetrated the southwest

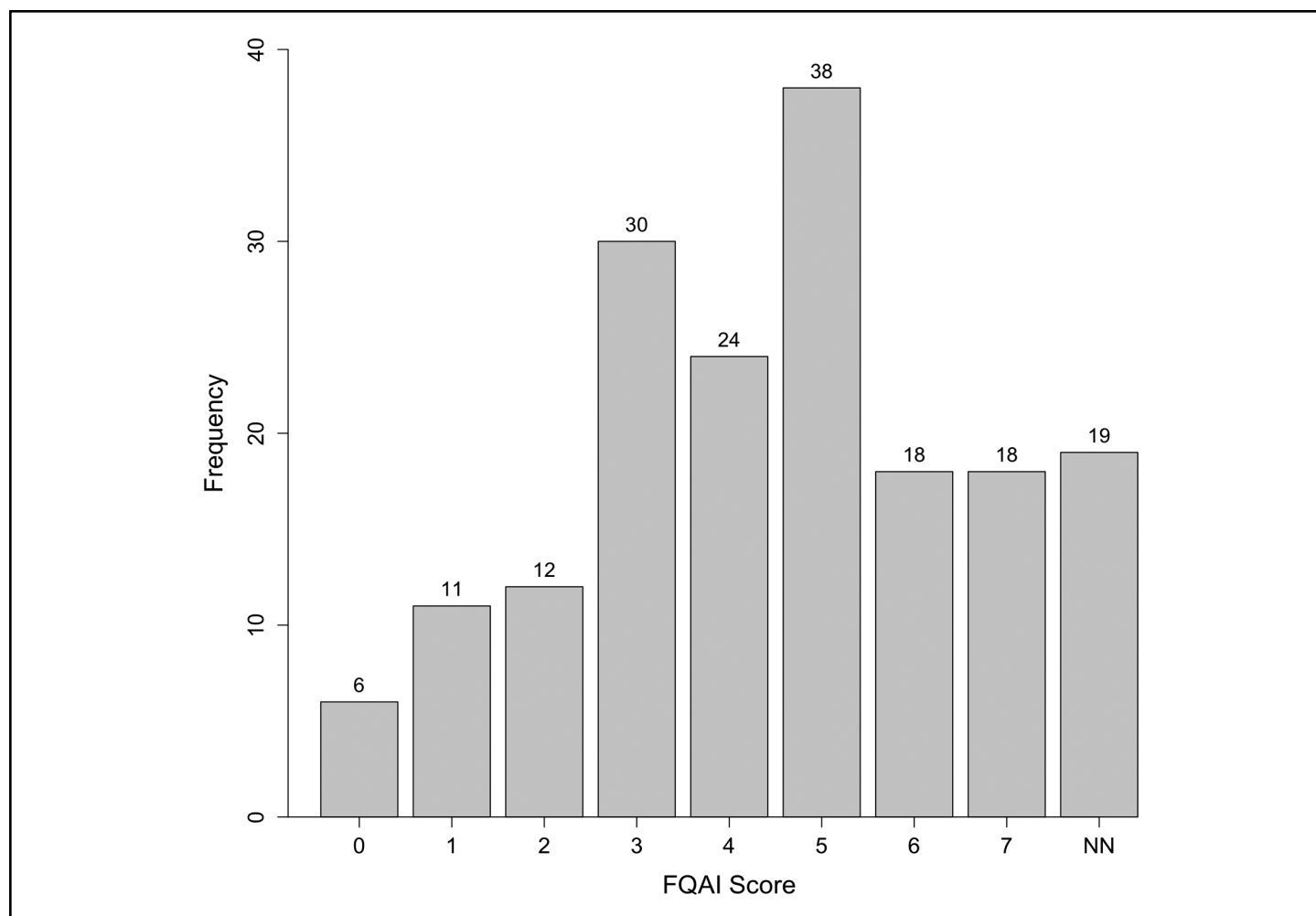


Figure 1. Frequencies of Coefficient of Conservatism scores of all plant species within DWSNP, according to the Ohio Floristic Quality Assessment Index (Andreas et al. 2004). The bar labeled “NN” represents nonnative species.

quadrant of the site. One important finding of our work was that although *A. petiolata* is relatively constrained spatially (Figure 2A), it is still the most abundant plant in Drew Woods based on cover. The local density of *A. petiolata* in invaded areas is vastly greater than what is attained by native species, and if left unchecked, this invasion could have negative consequences for the native species present in the site. Even though *A. petiolata* did not have any statistically significant negative impacts on herb-layer diversity in DWSNP at the time of this study, its ability to form monocultures and suppress the growth of native herbs (Stinson et al. 2007) is cause for concern.

Environmental gradients occurring perpendicular to the edge of a forest remnant may influence the spatial patterns of biotic com-

munities. Such gradients usually include increased wind exposure, increased solar radiation, decreased moisture, and higher temperatures closer to the forest edge (Ranney 1977; Laurance et al. 1997). Nightly atmospheric re-radiation of heat also contributes to the temperature gradient seen across forest edges adjacent to open areas, such as roads or agricultural fields (Murcia 1995). In the northern hemisphere, these gradients tend to be more evident along south-facing forest edges than north-facing ones (Wales 1972; Palik and Murphy 1990), a phenomenon that was observed in Drew Woods. Boerner and Kooser (1991) estimated that approximately 42% of DWSNP consisted of edge, assuming a 30-m edge effect. Over time, closure of the side canopy along an edge has a dampening effect on these edge-related gradients (Matlack 1993), a process that has

been present in DWSNP for decades. Still, we were able to detect some edge-driven variations in temperature and light, and we hypothesize that these microclimatic trends are still influencing patterns of herb-layer diversity in DWSNP.

Forest remnants act as important reservoirs of genetic diversity, but the isolated nature of these stands may contribute to a loss of allelic richness and heterozygosity as a result of bottlenecks and/or inbreeding (Young et al. 1996; Honnay et al. 2005). Genetic diversity among herb species within DWSNP may be impacted by such isolation, as we witnessed a number of native plants with morphological anomalies (e.g. 4-, 5-, and 6-leaved *Trillium sessile*, 6-petaled *Claytonia virginica* (spring beauty), 3-leaved *Podophyllum peltatum* (mayapple)). It was beyond the scope of

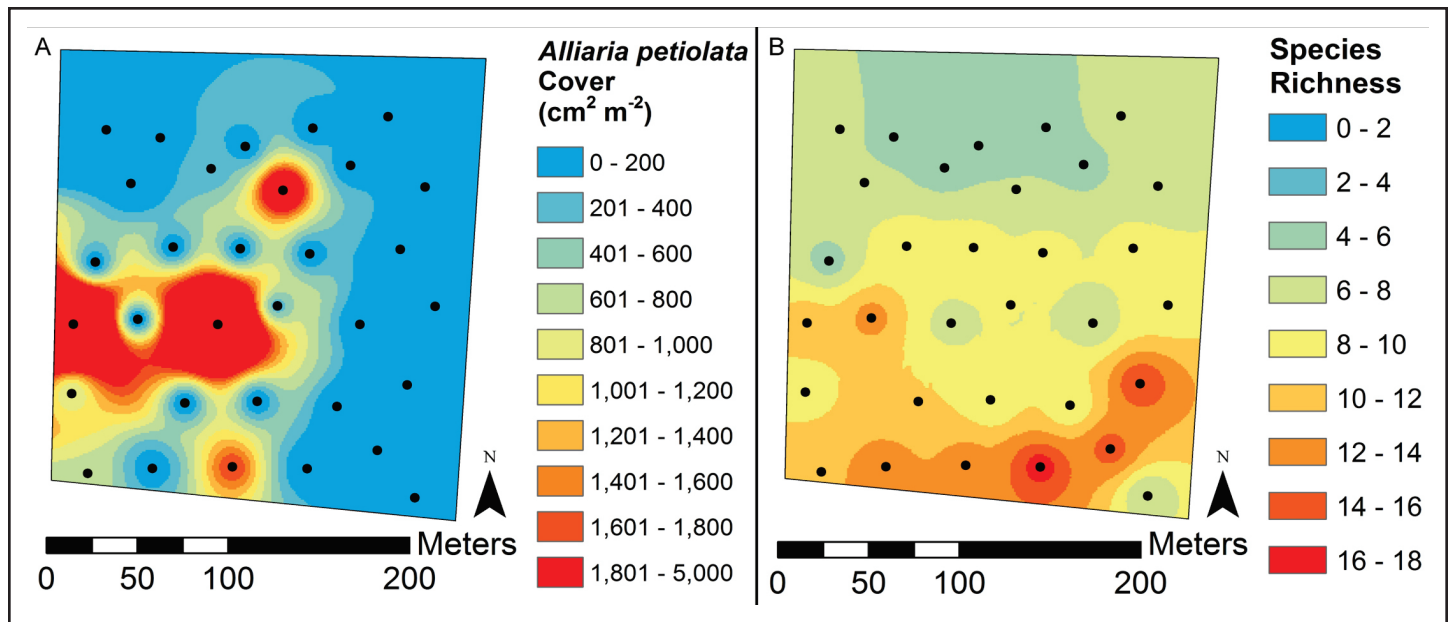


Figure 2. Inverse distance weighted interpolations of (A) *Alliaria petiolata* cover ($\text{cm}^2 \text{m}^{-2}$), and (B) herbaceous species richness sampled across 32 1-m^2 plots in DWSNP on May 5, 2012. Species richness displayed a significant north–south trend across all 6 sampling dates ($P < 0.01$, $r^2 \leq 0.42$); this pattern was strongest on May 5.

this project to pursue the genetic basis or fitness consequences of these morphologies; however, in our experience with floristic surveys (McEwan et al. 2005; Chapman et al. 2012), the concentration of anomalies in DWSNP was unusual.

In summary, the flora of DWSNP indicates that this old-growth remnant is an important storehouse of biodiversity in the agriculture-dominated landscape of western Ohio. The assemblage of plant species found there is typical of minimally impacted oak-maple swamp forest, but whether the

site will retain its value as a high-quality representative of the region’s historically natural flora is uncertain. Goins et al. (2013) described an ongoing shift in overstory composition from *Quercus* (oak) and *Carya* (hickory) to *Acer* (maple), which, coupled with the impending loss of *Fraxinus* (ash) due to the emerald ash borer (Poland and McCullough 2006), may influence future herb-layer composition at the site. In addition, *Alliaria petiolata* poses a significant threat to the site’s floristic biodiversity if left unmanaged. Small preserves surrounded by areas of heavy human use can provide storehouses of biodiversity that serve as

both genetic reservoirs and examples of desired endpoints for forest restoration and management; however, continued monitoring and discrete management interventions are likely needed to maintain ecological integrity of such sites.

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Response Variable	Distance to Southern Edge		Distance to Western Edge		Leaf Area Index (LAI)	
	r^2	P	r^2	P	r^2	P
Species Richness	0.42	0.000033	-0.033	0.92	0.16	0.014
Shannon Diversity	0.18	0.0099	0.048	0.12	0.11	0.039
Total Cover	-0.023	0.59	0.0084	0.27	-0.028	0.69
Plot Mean C of C	0.02	0.21	-0.016	0.48	-0.0015	0.34
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i> cover	0.15	0.037	-0.023	0.59	-0.026	0.64

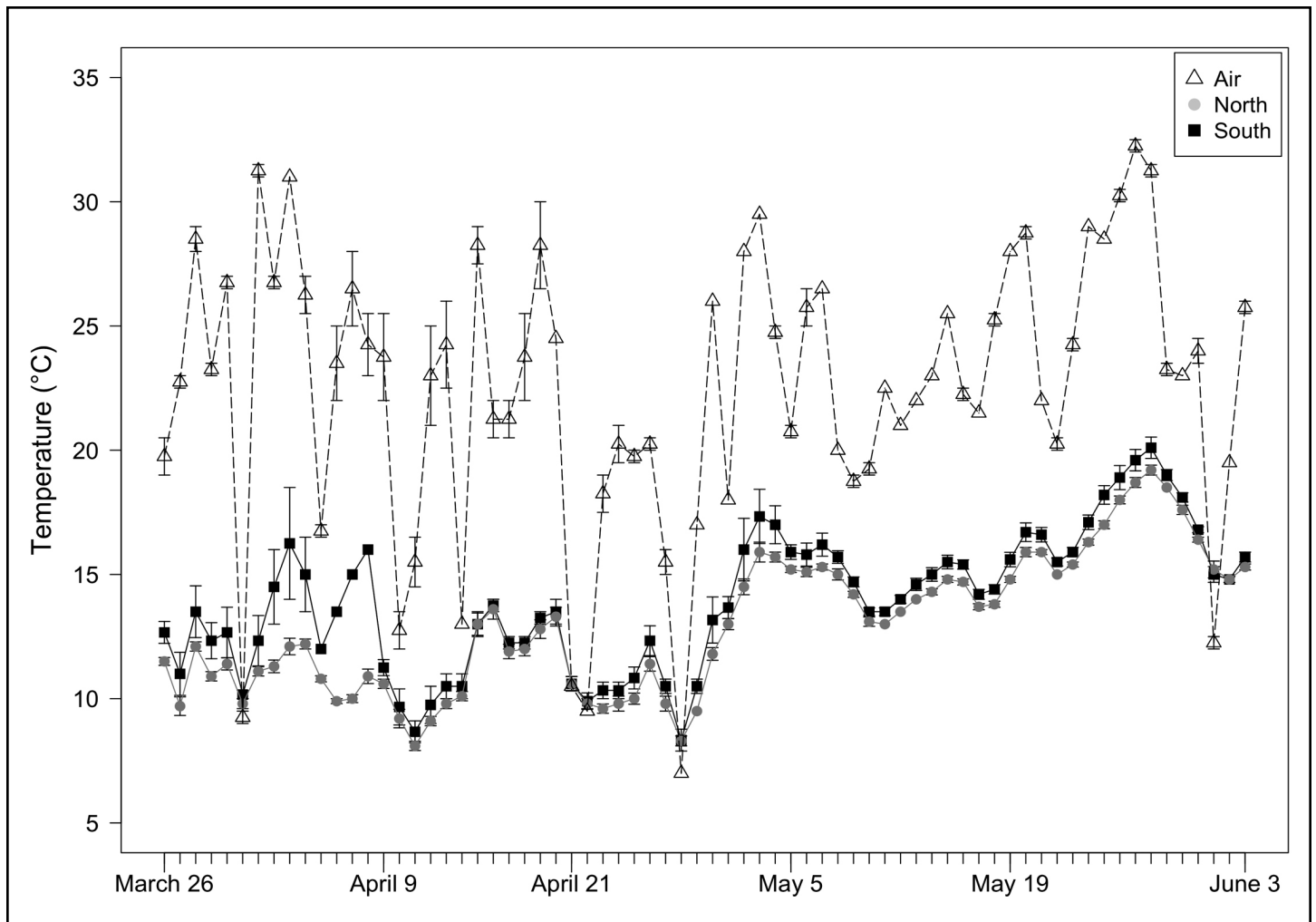


Figure 3. Mean daily high soil temperatures (4:00 PM) recorded by micro-T temperature loggers buried 10 cm deep near northern ($n = 5$) and southern ($n = 5$) plots in DWSNP. Air temperatures were recorded by micro-T loggers suspended 1 m above ground ($n = 2$). Erratic data between March 26 and May 4 were omitted, as some loggers were dug up by animals between sampling dates. Error bars represent \pm standard error (SE).

Julia Chapman was concluding her Master of Science in Biology degree at the University of Dayton at the time of this study. Since then, she has been teaching introductory biology lab courses at UD and has continued her involvement in forest ecology research as a research technician in the McEwan lab.

Amy Myers was an undergraduate student at the University of Dayton at the time of this study. Since completing her dual Bachelor of Science degrees in Biology and Education in May 2013, she has been teaching at Piqua High School in Piqua, Ohio.

Albert Burky is a Professor in the Department of Biology at the University of Dayton.

His research focuses on the ecology of both temperate and tropical crustaceans, fish, clams, and snails. Some of his previous work on freshwater clams was conducted in vernal ponds at Drew Woods.

Ryan McEwan is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology at the University of Dayton. His research focuses on long-term forest dynamics, ecological impacts of invasion, and biodiversity and ecosystem function relationships.

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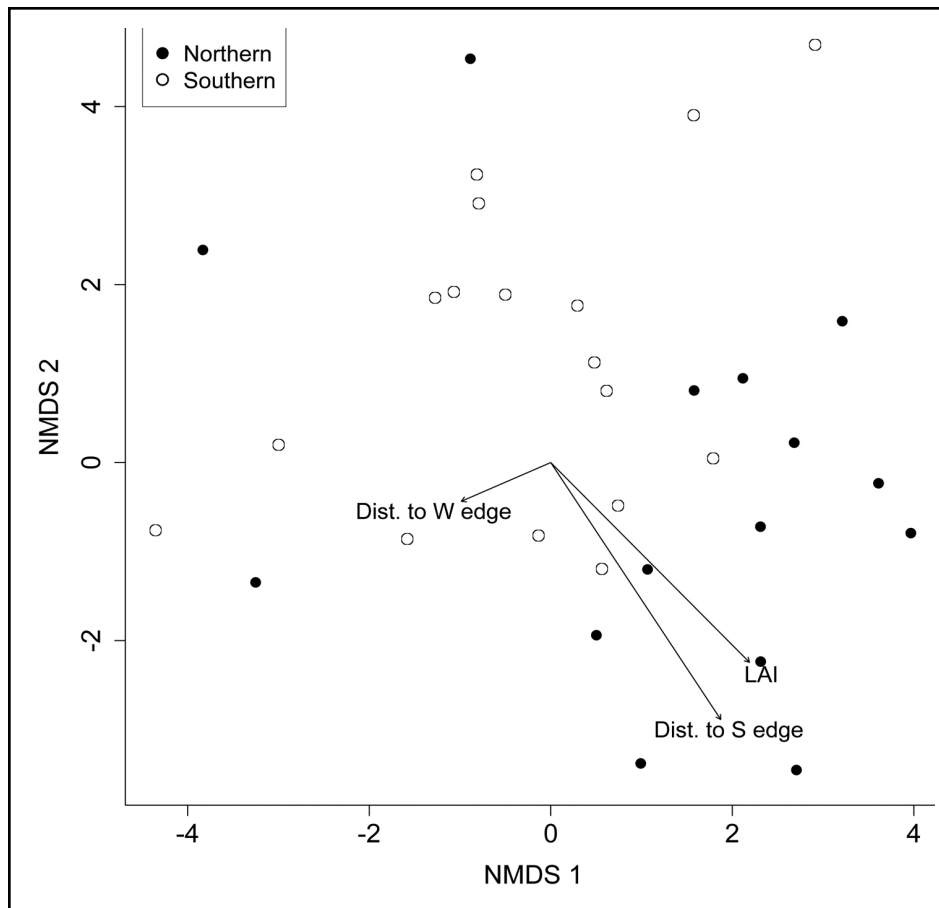


Figure 4. NMDS ordination plot based on native herbaceous species abundances sampled on May 5, 2012. This solution had three axes, but only axes 1 and 2 are shown here. Plot symbols are coded based on plot location in either the northern (solid black) or southern (open) half of DWSNP. Three environmental vectors are overlaid: distance to western edge (Dist. to W edge), distance to southern edge (Dist. to S edge), and leaf area index (LAI); however, only distance to southern edge was significant in the CCA model ($F = 2.31$, $P = 0.015$).

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FERNS AND FERN ALLIES

Dryopteridaceae

Cystopteris protrusa (Weath.) Blasdell

Ophioglossaceae

Botrychium virginianum (L.) Sw.

ANGIOSPERMS – DICOTS

Aceraceae

Acer negundo L.

Acer rubrum L.

Acer saccharinum L.

Acer saccharum Marshall

Anacardiaceae

Toxicodendron radicans (L.) Kuntze

Apiaceae

**Conium maculatum* L.

**Daucus carota* L.

Osmorhiza claytonii (Michx.) C.B. Clarke

Osmorhiza longistylus (Torr.) DC

Sanicula odorata (Raf.) Pryer & Phillippe

Apocynaceae

Apocynum cannabinum L.

Araliaceae

Panax quinquefolius L.

Aristolochiaceae

Aristolochia serpentaria L.

Asteraceae

Ambrosia artemisiifolia L.

Ambrosia trifida L.

**Arctium minus* Bernh.

Bidens discoidea (Torr. & A.Gray) Britton

**Chrysanthemum leucanthemum* L.

**Cichorium intybus* L.

Erigeron annuus (L.) Pers.

Eupatorium purpureum L.

Eurybia divaricata (L.) G.L.Nesom

***Packera glabella* (Poir.) C.Jeffrey

Prenanthes altissima L.

Solidago caesia (L.)

Solidago ulmifolia Muhl.

***Sonchus arvensis* L.

Symphotrichum lanceolatum (Willd.) G.L. Nesom

Balsaminaceae

Impatiens capensis Meerb.

Berberidaceae

Caulophyllum thalictroides (L.) Michx.

Jeffersonia diphylla (L.) Pers.

Podophyllum peltatum L.

Betulaceae

Carpinus caroliniana Walter

Corylus americana Walter

Ostrya virginiana (Mill.) K.Koch

Bignoniaceae

Campsis radicans (L.) Seem. ex Bureau

***Catalpa speciosa* Warder ex Engelm.

Boraginaceae

Lithospermum latifolium Michx.

Brassicaceae

**Alliaria petiolata* (M. Bieb) Cavara & Grande

Cardamine douglassii (Torr.) Britton

Dentaria laciniata Muhl. ex Willd.

Campanulaceae

Campanulastrum americanum (L.) Small.

Lobelia siphilitica L.

Caprifoliaceae

**Lonicera maackii* (Rupr.) Maxim.

Sambucus canadensis L.

Triosteum angustifolium L.

Viburnum acerifolium L.

Continued

Viburnum dentatum L.

Viburnum prunifolium L.

Caryophyllaceae

**Dianthus armeria* L.

Silene virginica L.

Celastraceae

Celastrus scandens L.

Euonymus obovatus Nutt.

Cornaceae

Cornus drummondii C.A.Mey

Cornus florida L.

Fabaceae

Cercis canadensis L.

Gleditsia triacanthos L.

Gymnocladus dioica (L.) K.Koch

Robinia pseudoacacia L.

Fagaceae

Fagus grandifolia Ehrh.

Quercus alba L.

Quercus bicolor Willd.

Quercus coccinea Münchh.

Quercus macrocarpa Michx.

Quercus muehlenbergii Engelm.

†*Quercus palustris* Münchh.

Quercus rubra L.

Quercus stellata Wangenh.

Geraniaceae

Geranium maculatum L.

Grossulariaceae

Ribes cynosbati L.

Hippocastanaceae

Aesculus flava Ait.

Aesculus glabra Willd.

Hydrophyllaceae

Hydrophyllum macrophyllum Nutt.

Hydrophyllum virginianum L.

Juglandaceae

Carya cordiformis (Wangenh.) K.Koch

Carya glabra (Mill.) Sweet

Carya laciniosa (F.Michx.) Loudon

Carya ovata (Mill.) K.Koch

Carya tomentosa (Poir.) Nutt.

†*Juglans cinerea* L.

Juglans nigra L.

Lamiaceae

**Lamium purpureum* L.

Lycopus americanus Muhl.

Teucrium canadense L.

Limnanthaceae

Floerkea proserpinacoides Willd.

Menispermaceae

Menispermum canadense L.

Moraceae

Morus rubra L.

Oleaceae

Fraxinus americana L.

Fraxinus nigra Marshall

Fraxinus pennsylvanica Marshall

Fraxinus quadrangulata Michx.

Onagraceae

Circaea lutetiana (L.) Asch. & Magnus

Orobanchaceae

Conopholis americana (L.) Wallr.

Oxalidaceae

Oxalis stricta L.

Continued

Papaveraceae*Sanguinaria canadensis* L.**Phytolaccaceae***Phytolacca americana* L.**Polemoniaceae***Phlox divaricata* L.*Polemonium reptans* L.**Polygonaceae****Polygonum convolvulus* L.*Polygonum virginianum* L.**Rumex crispus* L.**Portulacaceae***Claytonia virginica* L.**Primulaceae***Lysimachia ciliata* L.**Ranunculaceae***Anemonella thalictroides* (L.) Spach.*Cimicifuga racemosa* (L.) Nutt.*Hydrastis canadensis* L.**Rosaceae***Agrimonia pubescens* Wallr.*Amelanchier arborea* (F.Michx.) Fernald*Crataegus mollis* (Torr. & A.Gray) Scheele*Crataegus punctata* Jacq.*Geum vernum* (Raf.) Torr. & A.Gray*Potentilla simplex* Michx.†*Prunus serotina* Ehrh.*Prunus virginiana* L.*Rosa carolina* L.**Rosa multiflora* Thunb.*Rubus allegheniensis* Porter.*Rubus occidentalis* L.**Rubiaceae***Cephalanthus occidentalis* L.*Galium aparine* L.*Galium circaezans* Michx.*Galium concinnum* Torr. & A.Gray**Rutaceae***Zanthoxylum americanum* Mill.**Salicaceae***Populus deltoides* W.Bartram ex Marshall**Simaroubaceae****Ailanthus altissima* (Mill.) Swingle**Tiliaceae**†*Tilia americana* L.**Ulmaceae**†*Celtis occidentalis* L.*Ulmus americana* L.*Ulmus rubra* Muhl.**Urticaceae***Boehmeria cylindrica**Laportea canadensis* (L.) Wedd.*Pilea pumila* (L.) A.Gray**Vitaceae***Parthenocissus quinquefolia* (L.) Planch.*Vitis vulpina* L.**Violaceae***Viola pubescens* Aiton*Viola sororia* Willd.

ANGIOSPERMS – MONOCOTS

Alliaceae*Allium canadense* L.*Allium tricoccum* Sol.**Araceae***Arisaema dracontium* (L.) Schott.*Arisaema triphyllum* (L.) Schott.**Commelinaceae***Tradescantia virginiana* L.

Continued

Convallariaceae

Maianthemum racemosum (L.) Link.
Polygonatum pubescens (Willd.) Pursh.

Cyperaceae

Carex albursina Sheld.
Carex amphibola Steud.
Carex blanda Dewey
Carex cephalophora Muhl. ex Willd.
Carex cristatella Britton.
Carex gracilescens Steud.
Carex grayi J.Carey
Carex hyalinolepis Steud.
Carex jamesii Schwein.
Carex muskingumensis Schwein.
Carex rosea Schkuhr ex Willd.
Carex shortiana Dewey
Carex vulpinoidea Michx.

Dioscoreaceae

Dioscorea villosa L.

Hemerocallidaceae

**Hemerocallus fulva* (L.) L.

Hyacinthaceae

Camassia scilloides (Raf.) Cory

Juncaceae

Jucus tenuis Willd.

Lemnaceae

Lemna minor L.

Liliaceae

Erythronium albidum Nutt.
Erythronium americanum Ker Gawl

Poaceae

**Bromus inermis* Leyss.
Cinna arundinacea L.
Elymus hystrix L.
Elymus virginicus L.
Festuca subverticillata (Pers.) E.B.Alexeev.

Smilacaceae

Smilax herbacea L.
Smilax hispida Raf.

Trilliaceae

Trillium sessile L.

Uvulariaceae

Uvularia grandiflora Sm.

*Nonnative to U.S.

**Nonnative to Ohio

†Listed in Boerner and Kooser 1991