

# *Insect Visitors to Tanoak Flowers: An Undocumented Casualty of Sudden Oak Death?*

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**Pacific Southwest  
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*Science that makes a difference*



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Photo by Mack Casterman, MROSD



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# Observation protocol-

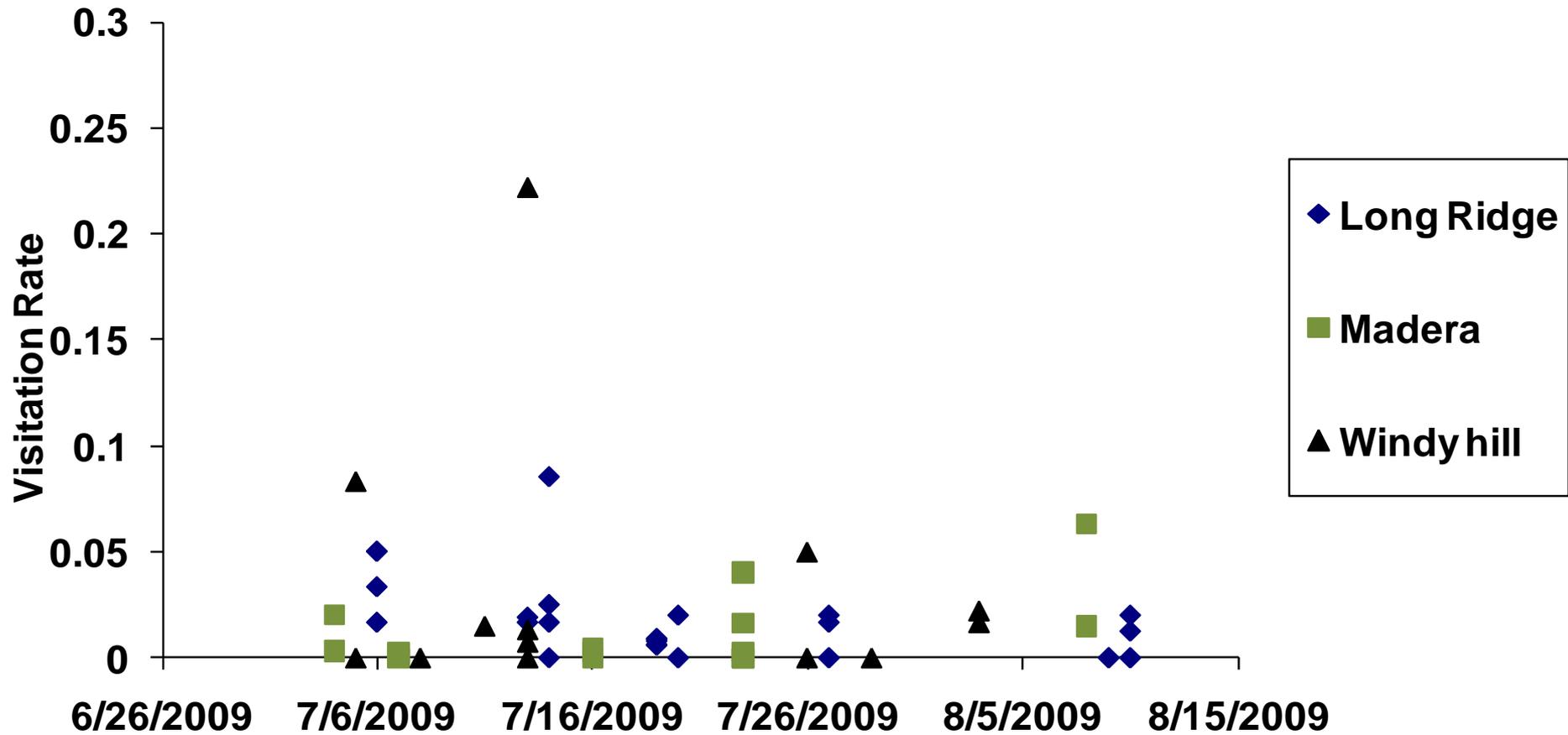
- Name:
- Date:
- Time:
- Weather: (circle all that apply) Sunny Cloudy Calm Breezy Windy
- Approximate Temp:
- Location:
- 
- Start Time: End Time:
- Number of focal male flower spikes observed:
- Number of focal female flowers observed:
- The flowers are in: Sun Shade
- 
- Record of visitors to focal flowers (make a tally in each box for each visit):
- Bees Flies Butterflies/moths Birds
- Notes: (include comments on observations from non-focal flowers)



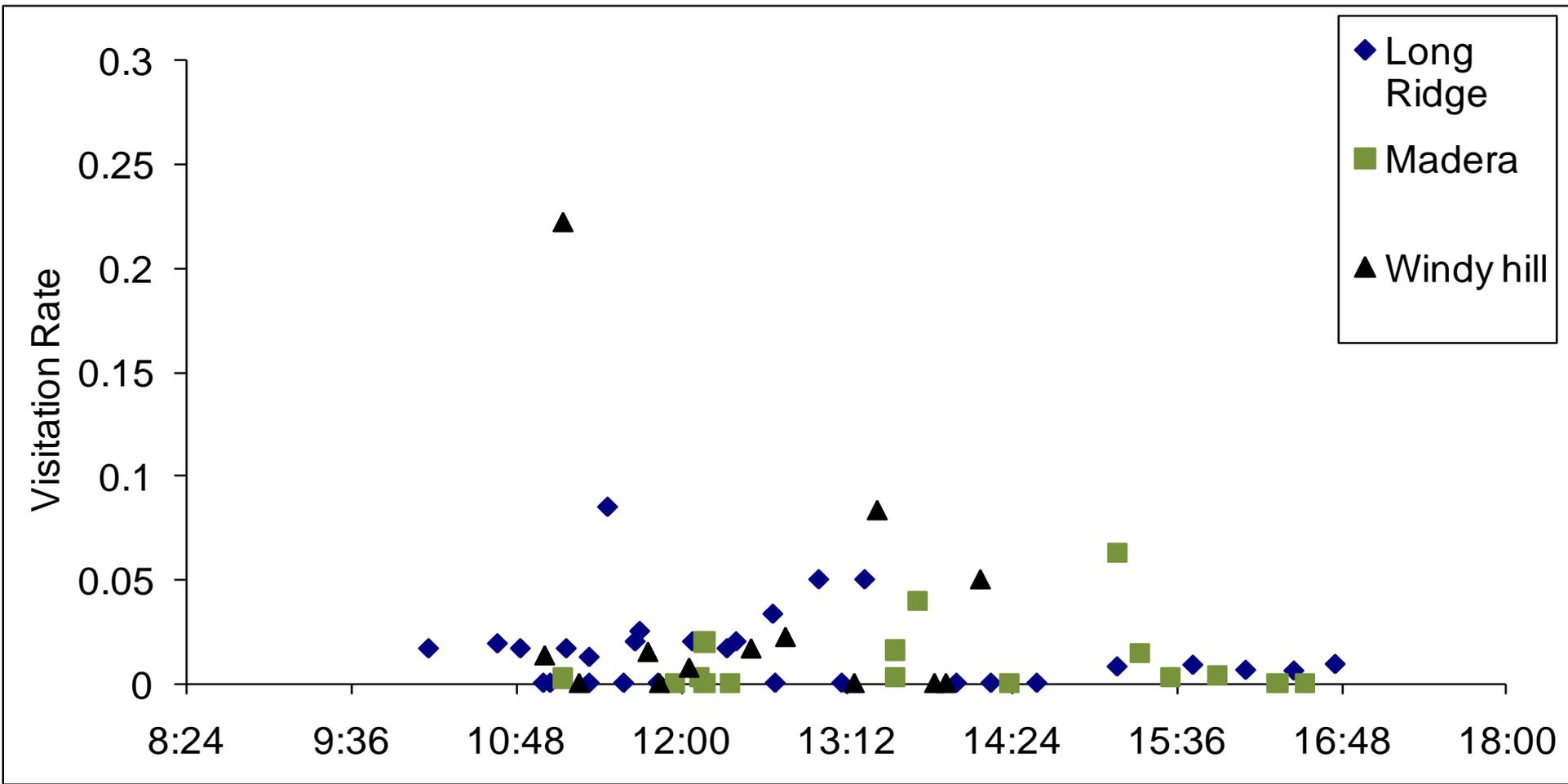
# Lots of visitors were observed

Site	Time	Visitors observed
Long Ridge	4.5 hours	56
Madera	2.7 hours	41
Windy Hill	2.9 hours	51
Total	11.4	148

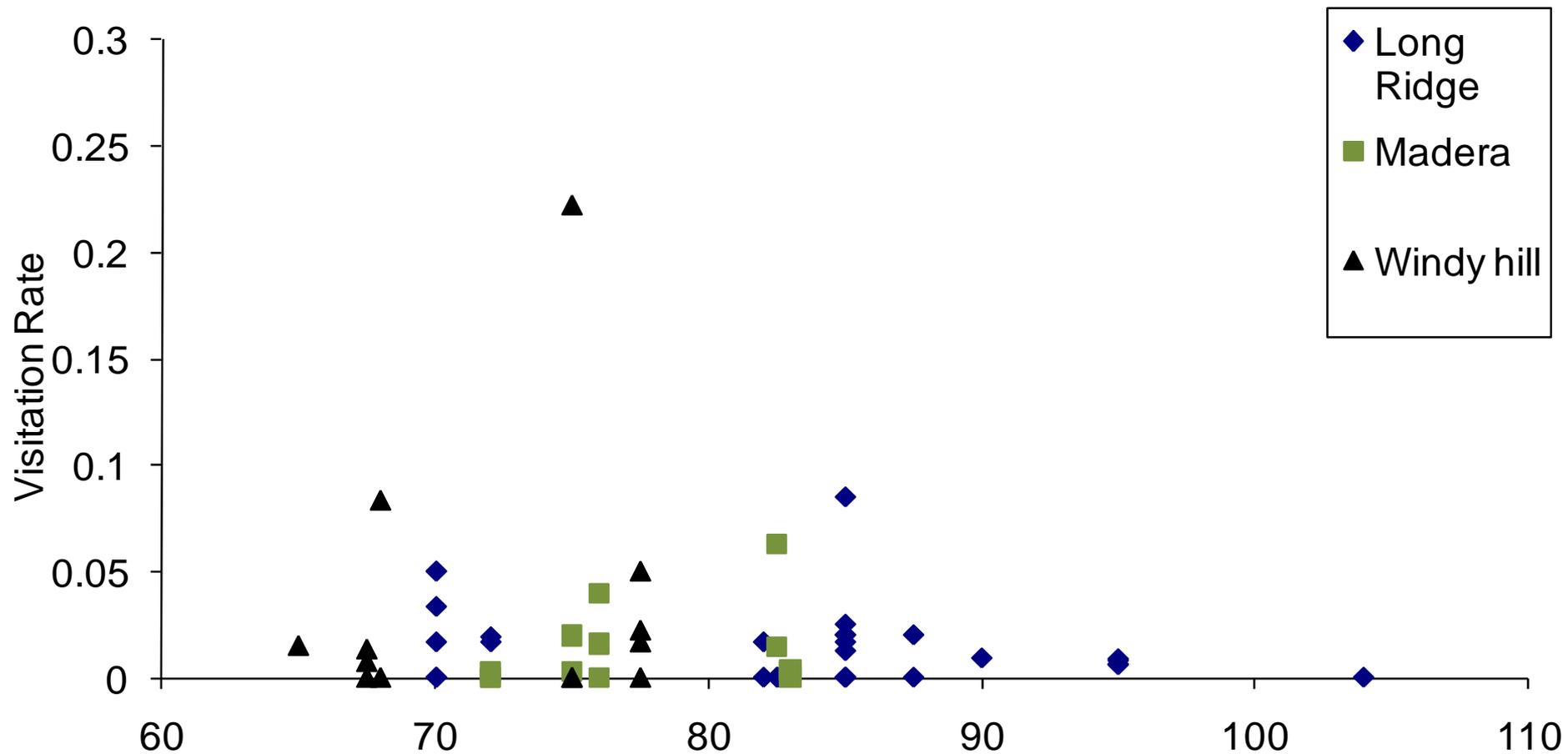
# Visitors came consistently

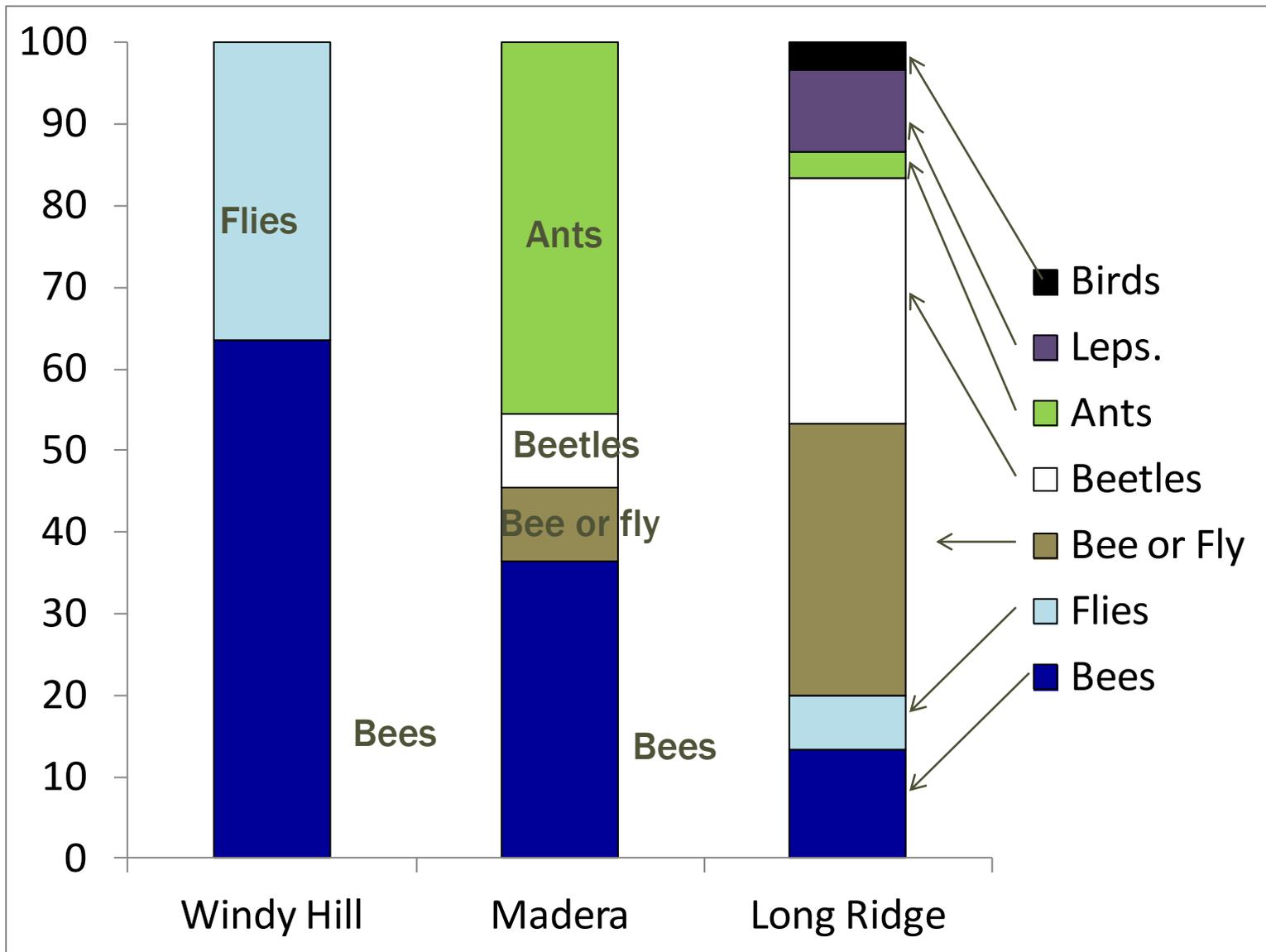


# More visitors came in the AM

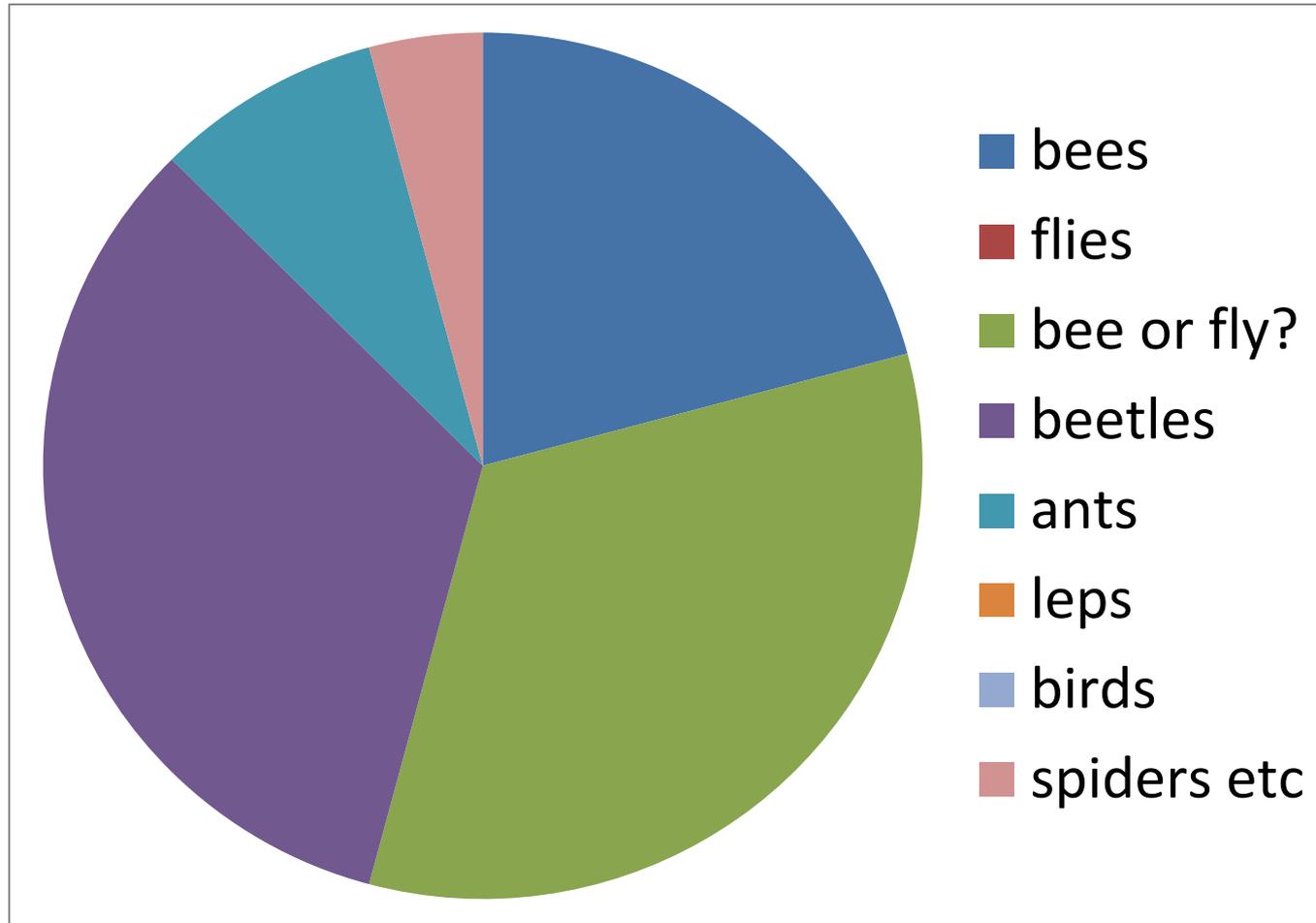


# Most visitors came in nice weather





# More visitors were recorded in 2011



2 hours of observations- 24 visits recorded

# Summary

- **What we know-**
  - Insects visit tanoak flowers
- **What we don't know-**
  - Who are the visiting insects?
  - Do they pollinate tanoak flowers?
    - Bagging data suggests yes!
  - Do they rely on Tanoaks as a major food source?
  - How important are tanoaks in supporting native insect communities?