

Bat Player: Evaluation of a Low-Cost Bat Lure for Bat Research and Monitoring

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Background

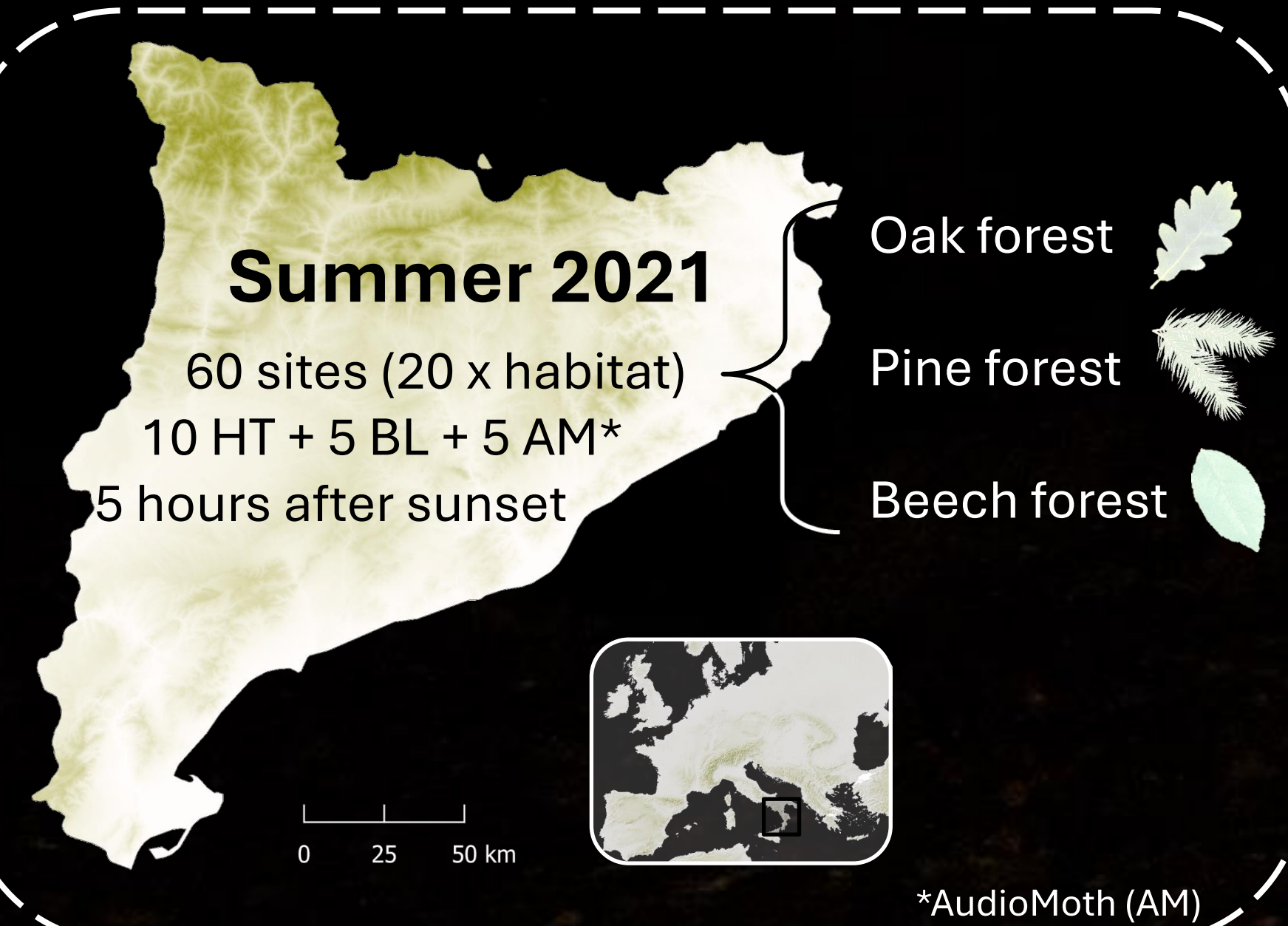
Bat lures—devices that broadcast acoustic stimuli to attract bats—have gained popularity, but they are expensive and not yet fully trusted. Addressing these limitations is essential for advancing bat monitoring and conservation efforts. Therefore, we asked:

- Can a low-cost bat-lure (BL) attract forest bats to a harp trap (HT)?
- Within a forest, is it better to bat lures in open areas or traditional harp traps in strategic corridors?
- If we set a harp-trap in a corridor it is better to use a bat-lure to attract them, or does it disturb?



Low-cost bat-lure

Methods



Question A



Question B

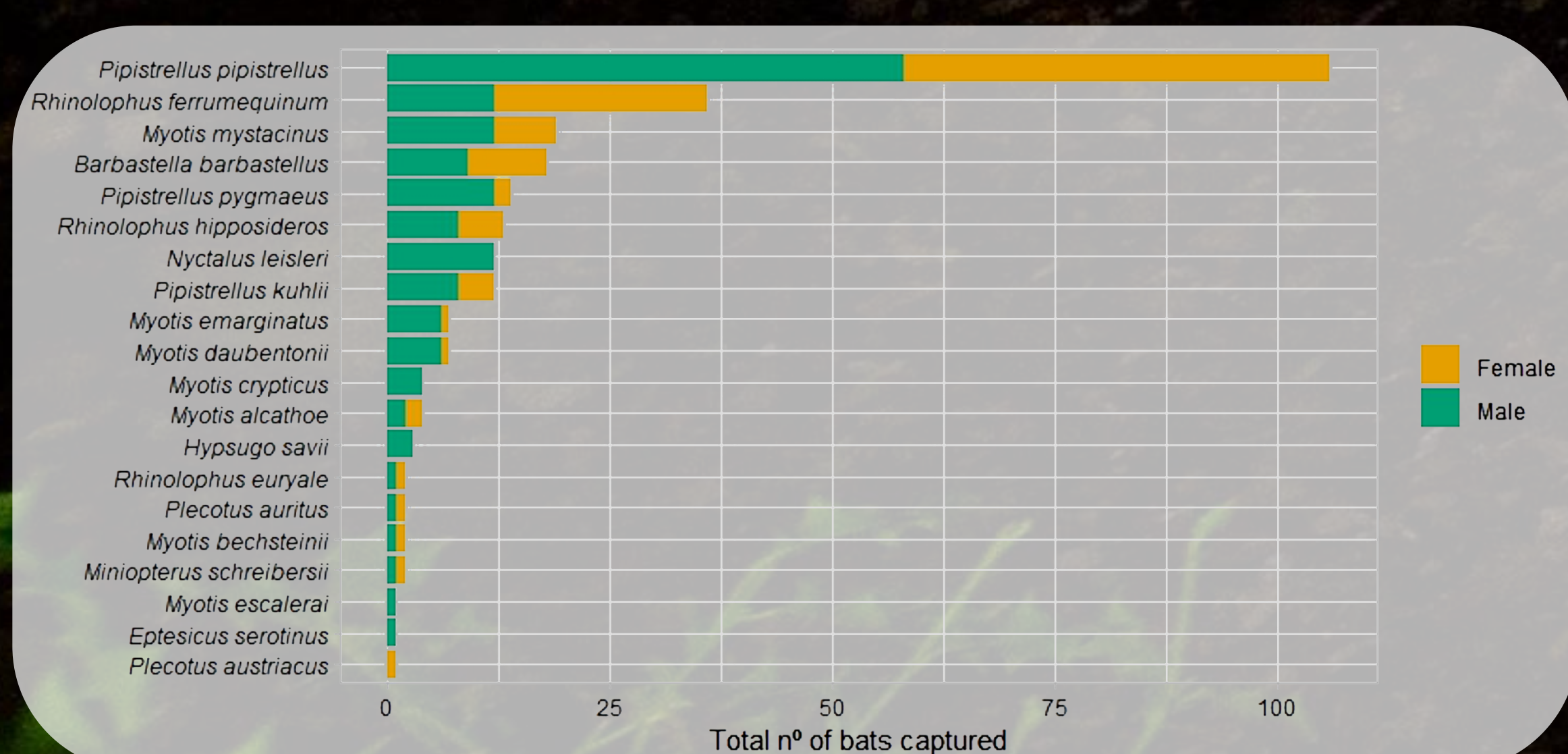


Question C

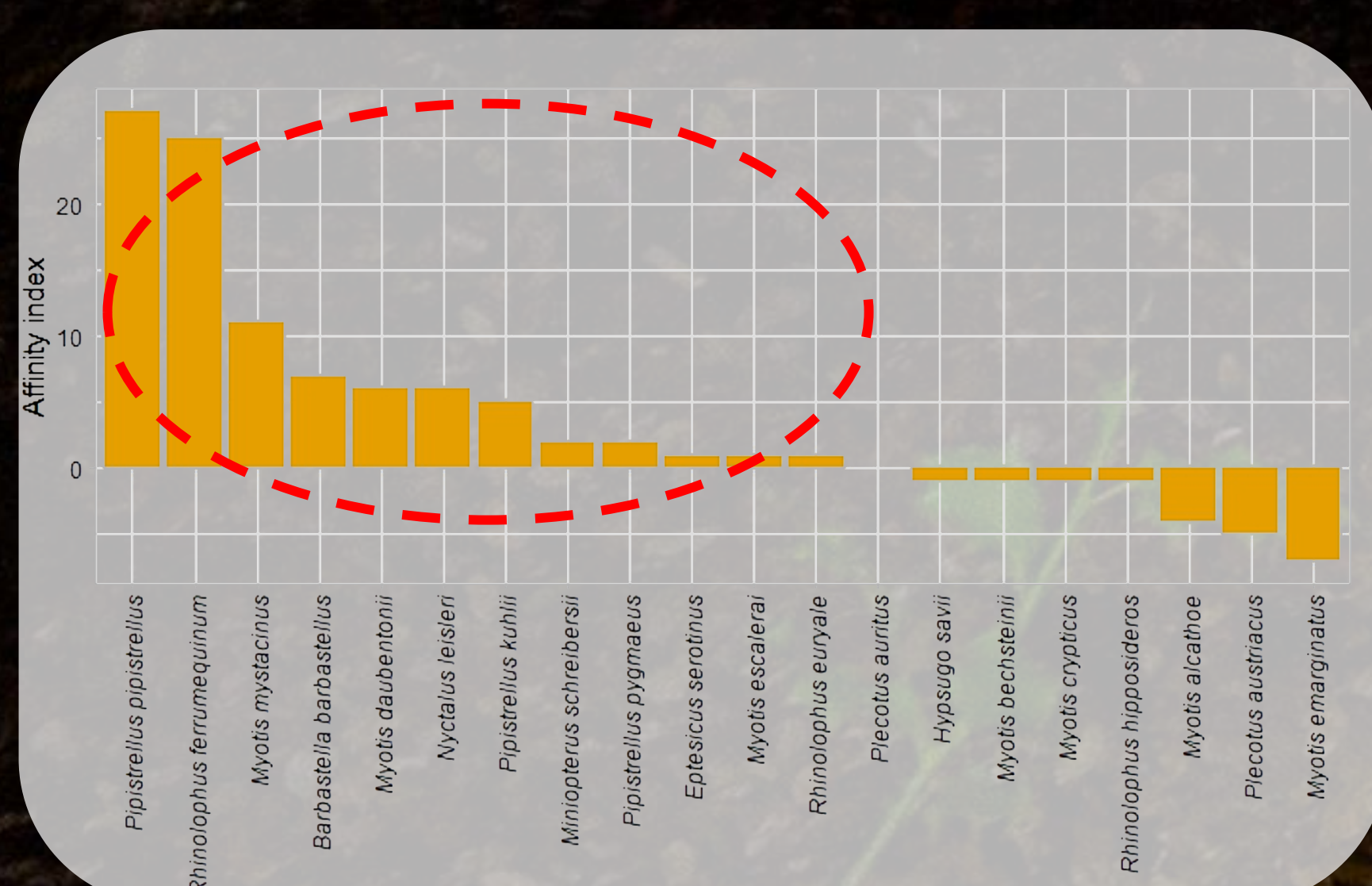


Results

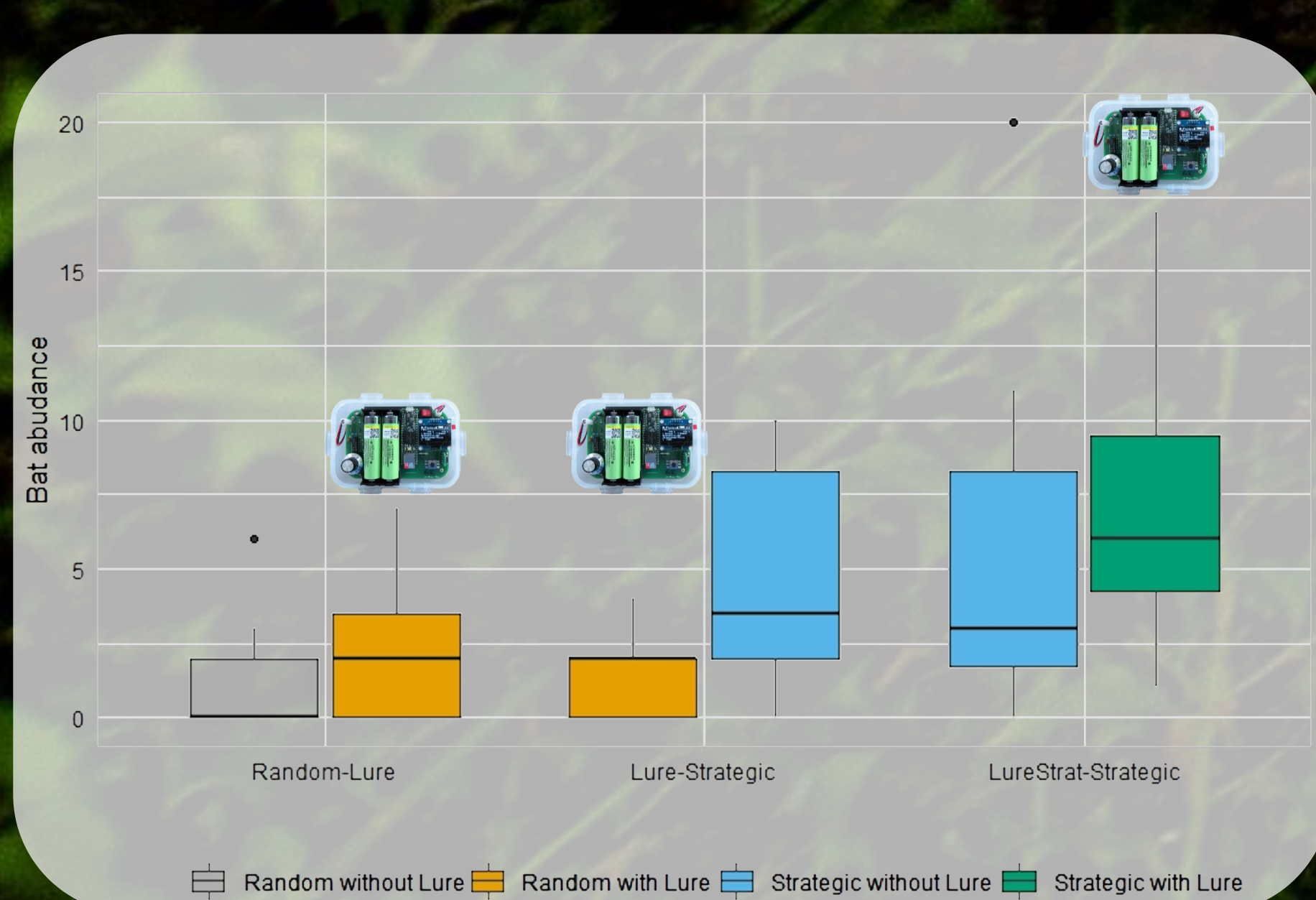
Species attracted to the bat lures:



But are they all equally attracted?



Question A Question B Question C



Take-home message

- 1) Low-cost bat-lures attract forest-dwelling species when there are no corridors or ponds.
- 2) Low-cost bat-lures can increase the efficiency of harp-traps in corridors inside forests.
- 3) The effect of the bat lure is species-specific. More research is needed to understand the effect of seasonality, broadcasted sound composition, habitat, roost proximity.
- 4) New opportunities arise for the capture of rare species worldwide, especially where funding is limited.

