## Show Me a Picture, Tell Me A Story

## Harvard Forest Schoolyard Ecology Program: <br> Level II \& III Data Visualization and Analysis Workshop

| Date | Sampled | Fallen |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 9/22/2004 | 10 | 0 |
| $9 / 22 / 2004$ | 10 | 0 |
| $10 / 6 / 2004$ | 10 | 0 |
| $10 / 13 / 2004$ | 10 | 0 |
| $10 / 19 / 2004$ | 10 | 0 |
| $10 / 27 / 2004$ | 10 | 0 |
| $11 / 4 / 2004$ | 5 | 5 |
| $9 / 28 / 2005$ | 24 | 3 |
| $10 / 5 / 2005$ | 24 | 3 |
| $10 / 12 / 2005$ | 24 | 8 |
| $10 / 19 / 2005$ | 24 | 10 |
| $10 / 26 / 2005$ | 24 | 13 |
| $11 / 2 / 2005$ | 24 | 20 |
| $11 / 10 / 2005$ | 24 | 24 |
| $9 / 20 / 2006$ | 24 | 2 |
| $9 / 27 / 2006$ | 18 | 6 |
| $10 / 4 / 2006$ | 24 | 11 |
| $10 / 11 / 2006$ | 24 | 16 |
| $10 / 18 / 2006$ | 24 | 17 |
| $10 / 25 / 2006$ | 24 | 18 |
| $11 / 1 / 2006$ | 24 | 23 |
| $11 / 8 / 2006$ | 12 | 12 |
| $9 / 12 / 2007$ | 24 | 4 |
| $9 / 19 / 2007$ | 24 | 4 |
| $9 / 26 / 2007$ | 24 | 9 |
| $10 / 3 / 2007$ | 24 | 13 |
| $10 / 10 / 2007$ | 24 | 20 |
| $10 / 17 / 2007$ | 24 | 21 |
| $10 / 24 / 2007$ | 24 | 23 |
| $10 / 31 / 2007$ | 6 | 6 |
|  |  |  |

Betsy A. Colburn

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Thursday, January 9, 2020
Harvard Forest, Petersham, MA

## Schoolyard Science phenology data set in comma-delimited text (.csv) format, as on the Harvard Forest Schoolyard Science website, and in a spreadsheet.

## .CSV

School,Teacher,Date,Julian,TreeID,Species,Ltotal,Lfallen,Tcolor ARM,Miller,2004-09-06,250,2,CH,5,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-09-22,266,1,YB,10,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-09-22,266,2,CH,10,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-09-22,266,3,RM,5,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-09-22,266,4,RM,5,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-09-22,266,5,CH,10,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-09-22,266,6,WH,10,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-09-22,266,7,RM,5,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-09-29,273,1,YB,10,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-09-29,273,2,CH,5,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-09-29,273,3,RM,5,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-09-29,273,4,RM,5,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-09-29,273,5,CH,10,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-09-29,273,6,WH,10,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-09-29,273,7,RM,5,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-10-06,280,1,YB,10,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-10-06,280,2,CH,10,0,NA ARM,Miller,2004-10-06,280,3,RM,5,2,NA

## spreadsheet

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| School | Teacher | Date | Julian | TreeID | Species | Ltotal | Lfallen | Tcolor |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 6 / 2004$ | 250 | 2 | CH | 5 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 22 / 2004$ | 266 | 1 | YB | 10 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 22 / 2004$ | 266 | 2 | CH | 10 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 22 / 2004$ | 266 | 3 | RM | 5 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 22 / 2004$ | 266 | 4 | RM | 5 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 22 / 2004$ | 266 | 5 | CH | 10 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 22 / 2004$ | 266 | 6 | WH | 10 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 22 / 2004$ | 266 | 7 | RM | 5 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 29 / 2004$ | 273 | 1 | YB | 10 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 29 / 2004$ | 273 | 2 | CH | 5 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 29 / 2004$ | 273 | 3 | RM | 5 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 29 / 2004$ | 273 | 4 | RM | 5 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 29 / 2004$ | 273 | 5 | CH | 10 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 29 / 2004$ | 273 | 6 | WH | 10 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $9 / 29 / 2004$ | 273 | 7 | RM | 5 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $10 / 6 / 2004$ | 280 | 1 | YB | 10 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $10 / 6 / 2004$ | 280 | 2 | CH | 10 | 0 | NA |
| ARM | Miller | $10 / 6 / 2004$ | 280 | 3 | RM | 5 | 2 | NA |

## Data Analysis - Understanding Results of Sampling

- Spreadsheets and Tables
- Original data
- Modified data
- Additional extracted data
- e.g., growing season (Buds, Leaves)
- e.g., biomass accrual for plot or species (Changing Forests)
- Graphs and Figures
- Statistics
- Models


## Considerations for Analyzing \& Graphing Data

- What do you have for original data?
- What do you want to find out? (What are the questions you are asking of your data?)
- What kinds of additional information can you obtain (from your data or elsewhere) to help answer your questions? (Weather data, other schools' data...)
- What kind of graphs(s) [or statistics, or models] can help you address your questions?
- What graphs [or statistics, or other illustrations] can help you tell your story effectively?

Tree species sampled in a schoolyard phenology study. ARM Schoolyard data. a. Pie graph. b. Stacked bar graph. (Species codes as in a.) c. Bar graph.


Aquatic Macroinvertebrates in a Cape Cod Vernal Pool in April, 1996. Data from EA Colburn


To a very large extent, the choice of how to present data graphically is simply a matter of the investigator's preferences - much of the time, there is no "right" or "wrong" way to illustrate results. What graphical presentation is most informative? What graphs are easiest to understand and interpret?

Leaf fall in one tree over four years of sampling. ARM Schoolyard data.



What kinds of data from Our Changing Forests or Woolly Bully could be shown with a similar graph? What would be different on the graph?

Leaf fall in Multiple Trees. ARM Schoolyard data.


Leaf fall in Multiple Trees. ARM Schoolyard Data.


Mean 50\% bud break(BB), $\mathbf{7 5 \%}$ leaf development(75) and $50 \%$ leaf fall(L50) for 4 species (Acer rubrum-

ACRU $n=5$, Betula alleghaniensis-BEAL $n=3$, Quercus rubra-QURU $n=4$ and $Q$. alba-QUAL $n=3$ )


YEAR




Understory trees 1969 and 2011


Fig. 3. (A) Aboveground biomass in living stems in the canopy (black) and the subordinate level (grey), (B) and biomass in the canopy, (C) and subordinate level by species. The values above the bars in panels B and C indicate the number of stems that comprise the biomass represented in each bar.



Megaplot abundance of common trees and shrubs*


How are Density and Biomass of Woody Plants Related?



For results from Woolly Bully sampling, there are various ways to graph data on branch growth and HWA infestation. Some of these are also appropriate for graphing tree growth in plots for Our Changing Forests

## Before Data Analysis:

- Look at the Data and Check for:
$\checkmark$ Errors
$\checkmark$ Missing or Duplicate Information
- Add or Correct Data as Needed


## Before Creating Graph(s):

- Obtain Additional Information Needed to Answer Your Question(s) - Growing Season, Tree Growth, \% of Leaves Fallen, Site Elevation, Weather Data....
- The Data Base Calculates Some of these Variables; You may Want to Add Others, and/or to Manipulate Your Data in Various Ways

Create Visual Representation(s) of your Data - Graph(s)!

- What Question(s) Do You Want to Explore Through a Graph?
-What are the Axes?
- What Data are being Graphed?
-What are the Units Shown?
- Are Numbers and Words Legible?
- Would a Different Kind of Graph of the Same Data Provide Additional or Better Information?


## Take Time to Look at the Graph(s) You Create:

- What pattern(s) do you see?
- How do patterns relate to the basic questions your study is trying to answer?
- What factors might explain the patterns? What might be causing them?
- How can you use the graphs with your students?

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { Go to it - } \\
\text { Happy Data } \\
\text { Visualization AND } \\
\text { Interpretation! }
\end{gathered}
$$

## Growing Season Calculation:

1. Determine $50 \%$ bud burst and $50 \%$ leaf-fall dates for each tree, or

Alternatively, you could calculate the average for each species,
or average for all trees at a site, depending on your analysis goals.
2. Subtract budburst date from leaf-fall date; this gives the number of days in the growing season for the selected tree(s)
3. This approach could also be used to estimate average duration of flooding in some vernal pools, if data are available on both the increase in water depth in spring, and the decline in water levels as the hydrologic year progresses

## Calculating Julian Date from Standard Date: use the Excel formula below



## Estimating date of $\mathbf{5 0 \%}$ leaf fall, bud burst, pool filling or drying, or other event



Date of measurement

Use data measuring change in factor of interest -- water depth, growth, leaf fall, etc.
Look at the data, and choose two points bracketing the $50 \%$ level -- the formula below finds the $50 \%$ point between them d1 and d2 are the julian days when measurements were made before and after the $50 \%$ level was reached p1 and p2 are the percent of leaf-fall estimated for measurement dates d1 and d2, respectively Plug the values for $\mathrm{d} 1, \mathrm{~d} 2, \mathrm{p} 1$, and p 2 into the following formula:
$50 \%$ Leaf-fall or bud-burst Julian Date:

$$
d 1+[(d 2-d 1)(50-p 1) /(p 2-p 1)]
$$

NOTE: For measurements of water depth, growth, etc., plug in the comparable Julian days

http://harvardforest.fas.harvard. edu/schoolyard/data-analysis

EXAMPLE: Spring

Fall


If 50\% bud-burst was at day 100 (April 10 in a non-leap year), and if $50 \%$ leaf-fall was day $\mathbf{2 7 8}$, then $\mathbf{2 7 8 - 1 0 0 = 1 7 8 : ~ t h e ~ g r o w i n g ~}$ season was 178 days long for this particular tree or group of trees


