

The Intentional & the Accidental:
The Role of Cultivated and Uncultivated Flowers in
Supporting Plant Diversity and Insect Abundance on
Farms.

Whistle Down Farm Report



Farmer-Ecologist Research Circle
Feb. 2026

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Farm Description

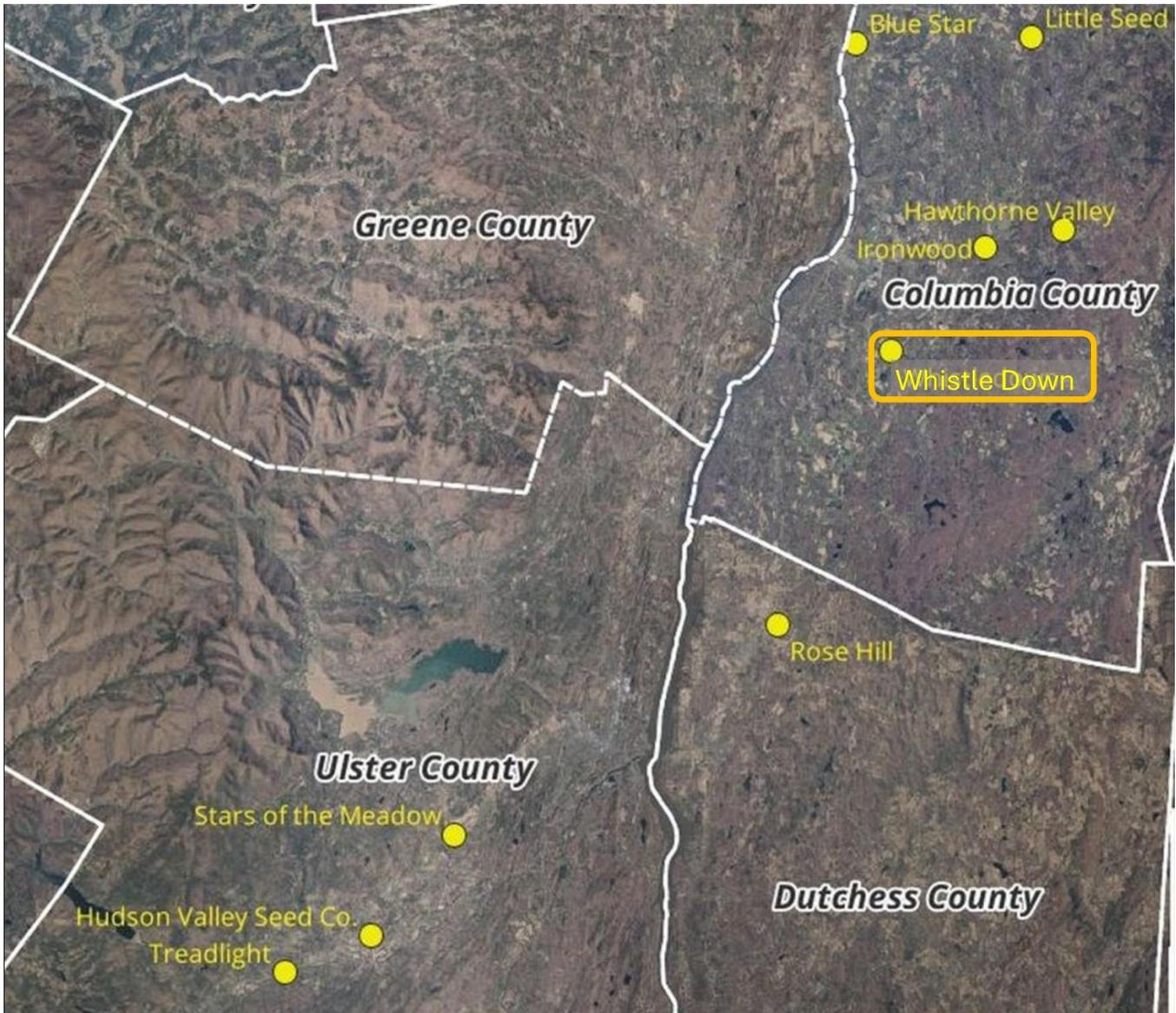


Figure 1. Whistle Down is located in Columbia County.

Whistle Down is a roughly 60 acre farm in Claverack NY. It produces veggies, berries, and woody plants using organic methods. We studied approximately 3.7 acres of this farm. Our focal area was on both sides of the farm's northern line of deer fence. The survey units (Fig. 2) included cultivated flowers/woodies, as well as other perennial (*Asparagus*) and annual (recently terminated Red Clover cover crop, by July seeded into Buckwheat cover) crops, mature cover crop, managed wildflowers, and wilder areas (including a wet meadow, and a revegetating area along floodplain forest).



Figure 2. Generalized management regimes in the Whistle Down survey units during July.

Botany

A total of 101 different flowers were found within the areas studied at Whistle Down (see Appendix). Please remember that this does NOT represent a full botanical inventory of the studied portion of this farm – it only includes those plants actually seen in flower during our three survey outings. The plant list in the Appendix includes all species we have observed in bloom during our 2025 inventories in the survey units on June 5 (“June”), July 19 (“July”), and Aug. 21 (“Aug/Sept”). The list is organized alphabetically by common name. It also includes rows with (1) the scientific name of each species, (2) its native status (when known), (3) its regional rarity, (4) its ubiquity across the survey units at Whistle Down during its flowering season, (5) duration of its observed flowering at this farm, and (6) the specific months when it was observed flowering. Please see the caption of the Appendix for more details.

We noticed a few regionally uncommon, wild-growing native species in bloom at Whistle Down. Thin-leaved Sunflower, Spotted St. John’s-wort and Clammy Ground-cherry were blooming in the wilder habitats of the riparian corridor along the west side of the study area in mid- to late-

summer. Small-flowered Agrimony was blooming in the wet meadow north of the fence in mid-August.

We observed 21 flowering species (21% of a total of 101 species) that were unique to Whistle Down and not found at any of the other farms. These included 12 wild-growing, native species mostly associated with the wilder units (riparian corridor and wet meadow).

Figure 3 shows the number of flowering species at Whistle Down during our three monthly visits in 2025. The species were grouped into four categories: wild-growing, native species; wild-growing, non-native species and wild-growing species we were unable to identify with certainty as native; cultivated native species; and cultivated non-native species.

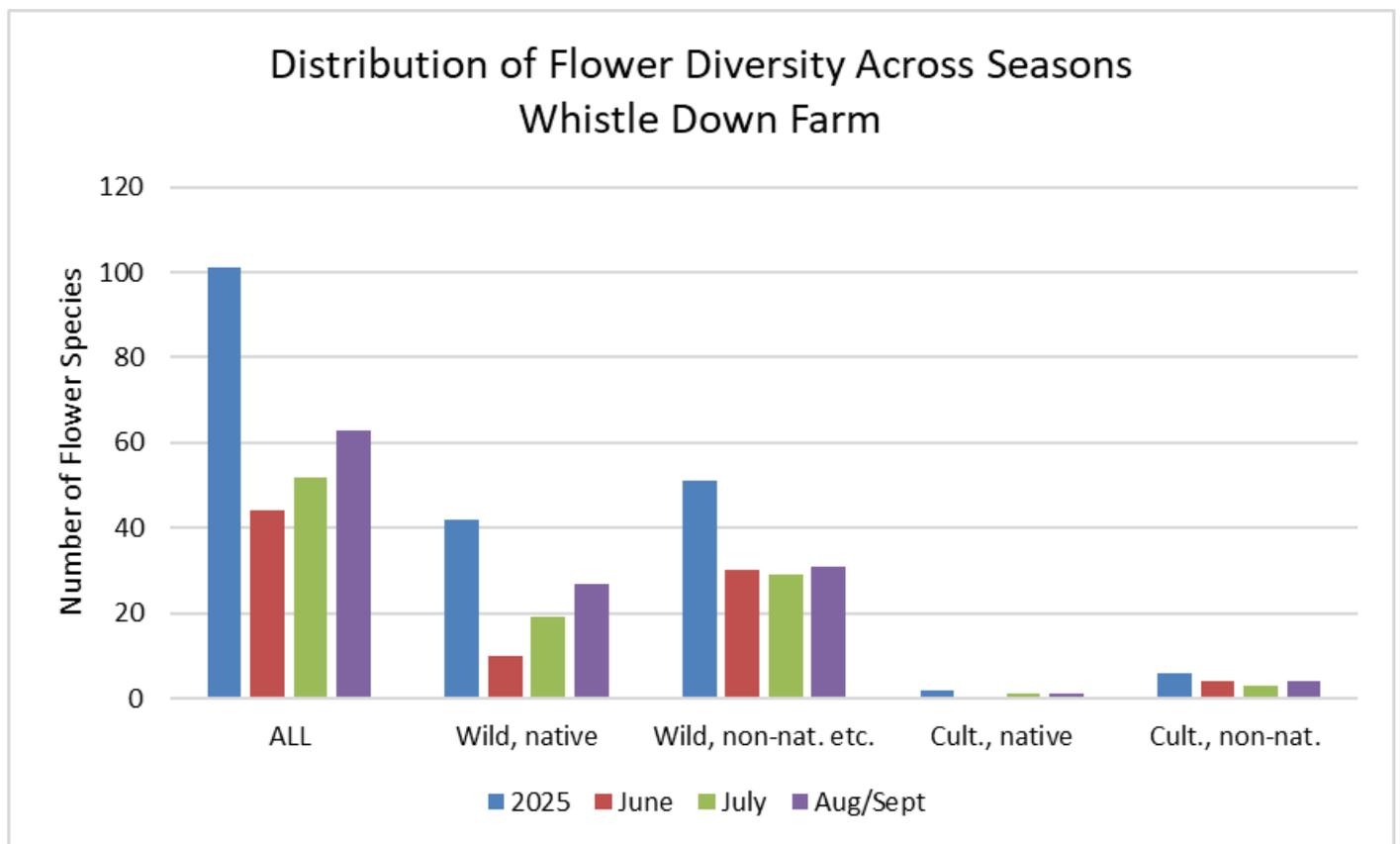


Figure 3. Distribution of flower diversity across the season at Whistle Down Farm

Most of the plants that bloomed from June to Aug/Sept at Whistle Down were wild-growing plants. As in most farms we studied in 2025, the diversity of all plants in bloom increased from June to Aug/Sept. However, this pattern was mostly driven by the wild-growing, native species. The diversity of wild-growing, non-native species in bloom at Whistle Down remained relatively constant throughout the growing season.

Whistle Down Farm

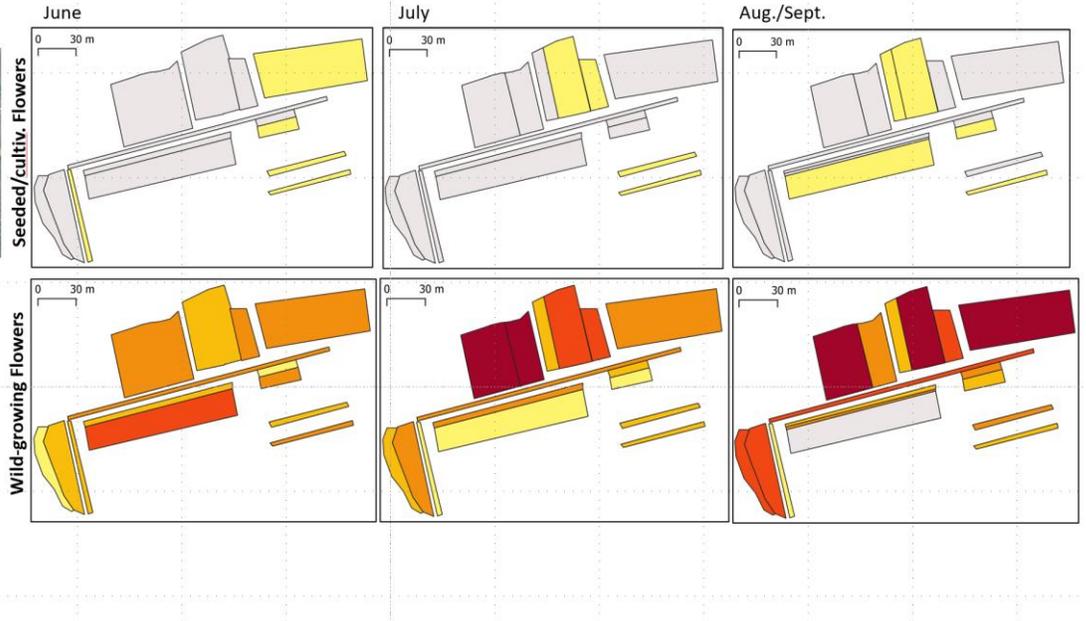


Figure 4. Comparative diversity of seeded/cultivated flowers (above) and wild-growing flowers (below) in the survey units at Whistle Down.

Whistle Down Farm

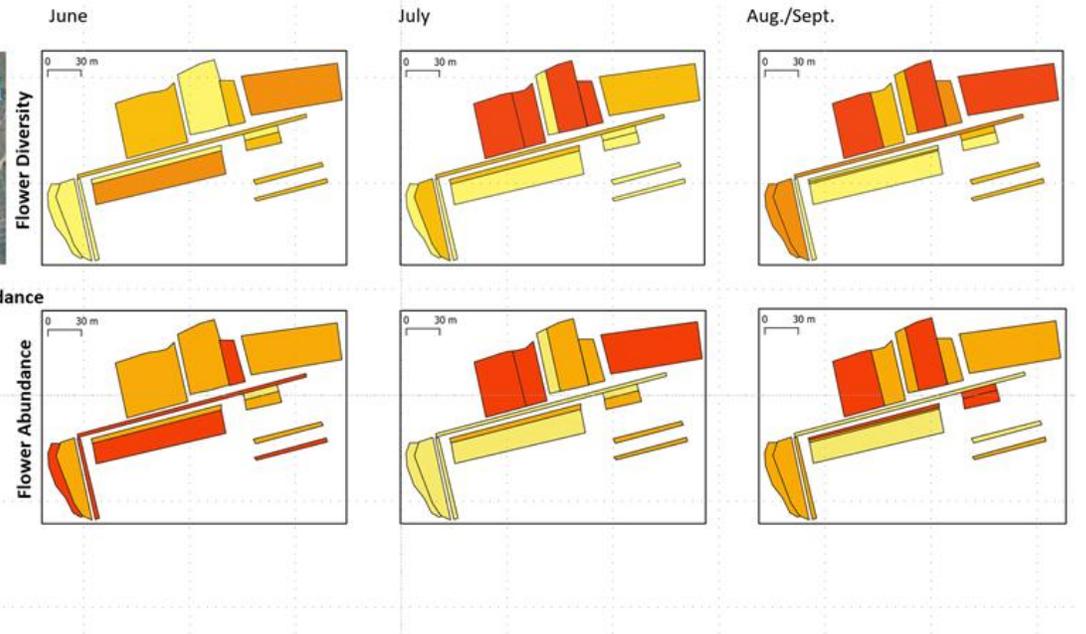


Figure 5. Flower diversity (row of maps above) and abundance (row of maps below) in the survey units at Whistle Down. Claudia ranked flower abundances from A (least) to D (most) and also had a zero category.

Figure 4 illustrates how much more wild-growing plants contributed to the flower diversity in the survey units at Whistle Down across the season.

Figure 5 illustrates that flower diversity and abundance changed quite independently of each other between survey units and across time. Survey units can have a high abundance of the flowers of a few species. They can also have a lot of species with few flowers each. For example, the large Red Clover meadow south of the Blueberries had its highest flower diversity at the end of the season, with the lowest diversity in July. However, the flower abundance in that survey unit was highest in July (Figure 5).

Flower Visitor Community

Whistle Down tended to be below average in rates of observation for bumble bees, hover flies and wasps, and at or above average rates for Honey Bees, 'other bees', and butterflies (Figure 6).

In our somewhat anecdotal but more detailed data on who the 'other' bees were, Whistle Down had the highest number of little masked bees (*Hylaeus*) - three times more bees of this genus were observed at Whistle Down than at any other farm. Ample long-horn bees (*Melissodes*) were also observed here, primarily on sunflowers. Although bumble bee observations rates were low, *B. fervidus*, *B. bimaculatus* and *B. griseocollis* were all noted at Whistle Down, in addition to the common *B. impatiens*.

Flower-favorability Data & Maps

For convenience, the flower favorability table from the main blog is repeated here (Table 1 below), even though those data are a summary of observations across all farms and outings.

Figures 7A-F show the flower favorability maps for Whistle Down. By glancing over the following maps, one gets the impression that bumble bees (Fig. 7A) are relatively favored, while 'other bees' (Fig. 7F), for example, are not.

This impression is somewhat confirmed by inspection of Fig. 8 showing Whistle Down's relative flower favorability scores. The only group with a below-average offering are the 'other bees'. The relative dearth of bumble bees seems especially surprising given the high flower favorability rating. Perhaps nesting and/or hibernation sites were scarce or bumble bee resources were drawn elsewhere on the farm. Honey Bee observation rates were somewhat above average despite the fact that Whistle Down was one of the few farms without managed hives.

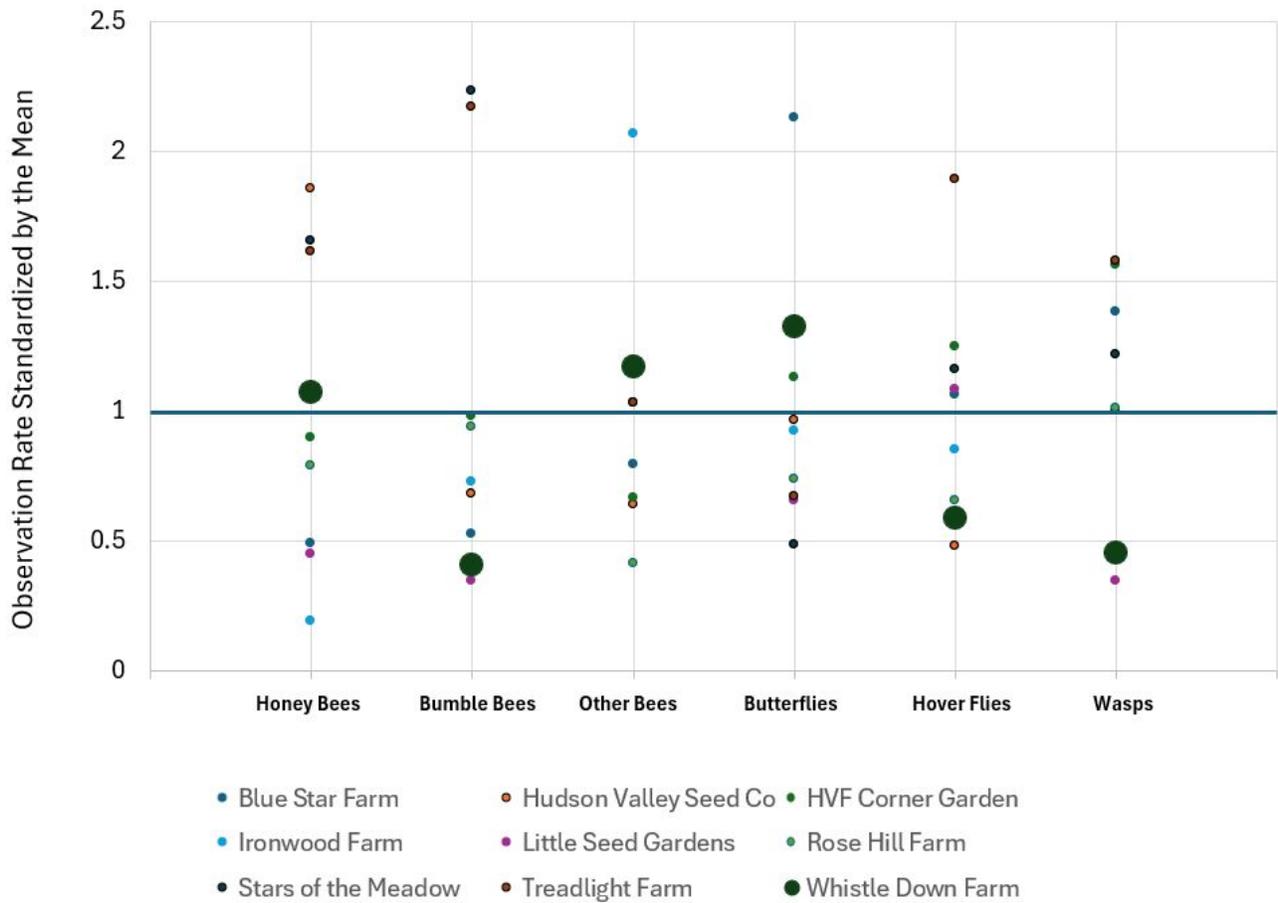


Figure 5. The standardized Whistle Down observation rates for the various insect groups relative to the mean for all farms (the solid line at 1).

Table 1. Most favored plants by our six insect groups, based on data from all farms and all outings. Lists are alphabetical and only include those flowers with notably higher than average visitation rates by the given groups. Plant species native to the Hudson Valley are marked with an asterisk. Colored boxes highlight those species found on three or more lists. Black blocking indicates flowering times observed during the season.

| | Jun | Jul | Aug-Sep | | Jun | Jul | Aug-Sep | | Jun | Jul | Aug-Sep |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|---------|------------------------------|-----|-----|---------|---------------------------|-----|-----|---------|
| Bumble Bee | | | | Honey Bee | | | | Other Bees | | | |
| Anise Hyssop | | | | Arugala | | | | Anise Hyssop | | | |
| Appalachian Mountain-mint | | | | Basil | | | | Asian Greens | | | |
| Basil | | | | Broccoli | | | | Bachelor Buttons | | | |
| Beach Rose | | | | Canada Thistle | | | | Common Sunflower | | | |
| Blackberry* | | | | Cilantro | | | | Coreopsis | | | |
| Common Milkweed* | | | | Clustered Mountain-mint* | | | | Corn Chamomile | | | |
| Hairy/Foxglove Beard Tongue* | | | | Common Milkweed* | | | | Field Bindweed | | | |
| Hedge Bindweed | | | | Garden Asparagus | | | | Goldenrod* | | | |
| Long-leaved Speedwell | | | | Goldenrod* | | | | Large Hop Clover | | | |
| Pincushion | | | | Knapweed | | | | Long-leaved Speedwell | | | |
| Purpletop Vervain | | | | Lambsquarters | | | | Oxeye Daisy | | | |
| Red Clover | | | | Narrow-leaved Mountain Mint* | | | | Quickweed | | | |
| Rocket Larkspur | | | | Purple Loosestrife | | | | Sedum, Orpine | | | |
| Spotted Bee Balm* | | | | Sedum, Orpine | | | | Smooth Blue Aster* | | | |
| Statice | | | | Smooth Blue Aster* | | | | Sulphur Cinquefoil | | | |
| Tomatillo | | | | Spotted Bee Balm* | | | | Summer Squash | | | |
| Tufted or Hairy Vetch | | | | Thumble/Tall Hedge Mustard | | | | Viper's Bugloss | | | |
| Viper's Bugloss | | | | Viper's Bugloss | | | | White Lace Flower | | | |
| Virginia Mountain-mint* | | | | Virginia mountain-mint* | | | | | | | |
| Wild Bergamot* | | | | Watermelon | | | | | | | |
| | | | | White Foxglove | | | | | | | |
| | | | | White Japanese Burnet | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wasps | | | | Butterflies | | | | Hover Fly | | | |
| Bachelor Buttons | | | | Appalachian Mountain-mint | | | | Appalachian Mountain-mint | | | |
| Broad-leaved Mountain Mint* | | | | Asian Greens | | | | Arugala | | | |
| Calico Aster* | | | | Beans | | | | Asian Greens | | | |
| Cilantro | | | | Blackberry* | | | | Bachelor Buttons | | | |
| Common Boneset* | | | | Black-eyed Susan | | | | Common Ragweed* | | | |
| Common Elder* | | | | Canada Thistle | | | | Common St. John's-wort | | | |
| Garden Strawflower | | | | Chicory | | | | Common Yarrow* | | | |
| Goldenrod* | | | | Clustered Mountain-mint* | | | | Coreopsis | | | |
| Grass-leaved Goldenrod* | | | | Common Dandelion | | | | Corn Chamomile | | | |
| Narrow-leaved Mountain Mint* | | | | Common Milkweed* | | | | Curly Dock | | | |
| Oxeye Daisy | | | | Common St. John's-wort | | | | Dill | | | |
| Partridge Pea* | | | | Feather Celosia | | | | Persicaria spp | | | |
| Rose | | | | Globe Amaranth | | | | Quickweed | | | |
| Smooth Blue Aster* | | | | Grass-leaved Goldenrod* | | | | Spotted Jewelweed* | | | |
| Spotted Bee Balm* | | | | Heal All* | | | | Sulphur Cinquefoil | | | |
| Tall Buttercup | | | | Joe-Pye Weed* | | | | Viper's Bugloss | | | |
| Watermelon | | | | Knapweed | | | | White Japanese Burnet | | | |
| Wild Carrot | | | | Marigold | | | | White Lace Flower | | | |
| | | | | Oxeye Daisy | | | | Whorled Tickseed | | | |
| | | | | Pincushion | | | | Wild Bergamot* | | | |
| | | | | Purple Loosestrife | | | | Wild Madder | | | |
| | | | | Purple-stemmed Aster* | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Purpletop Vervain | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Red Clover | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Rocket Larkspur | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Smooth Blue Aster* | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Statice | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Sweet William | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Tufted or Hairy Vetch | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Tumble/Tall Hedge Mustard | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Viper's Bugloss | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Wild Bergamot* | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Zinnia | | | | | | | |

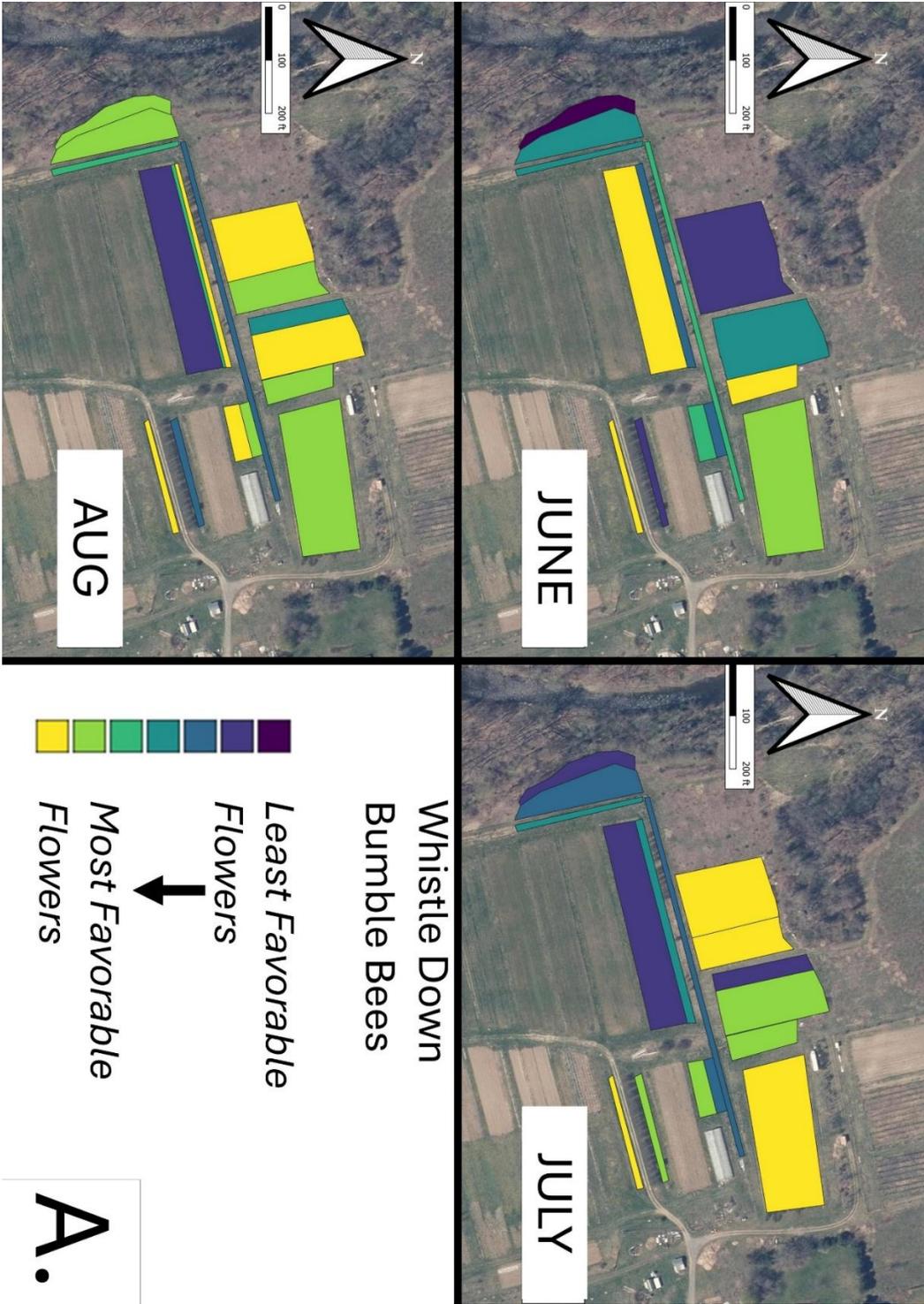


Figure 7A. Flower favorability for bumble bees in the different survey units and different months at Whistle Down. Generally, darker signifies less favored flowers, and lighter colors mean more favored.

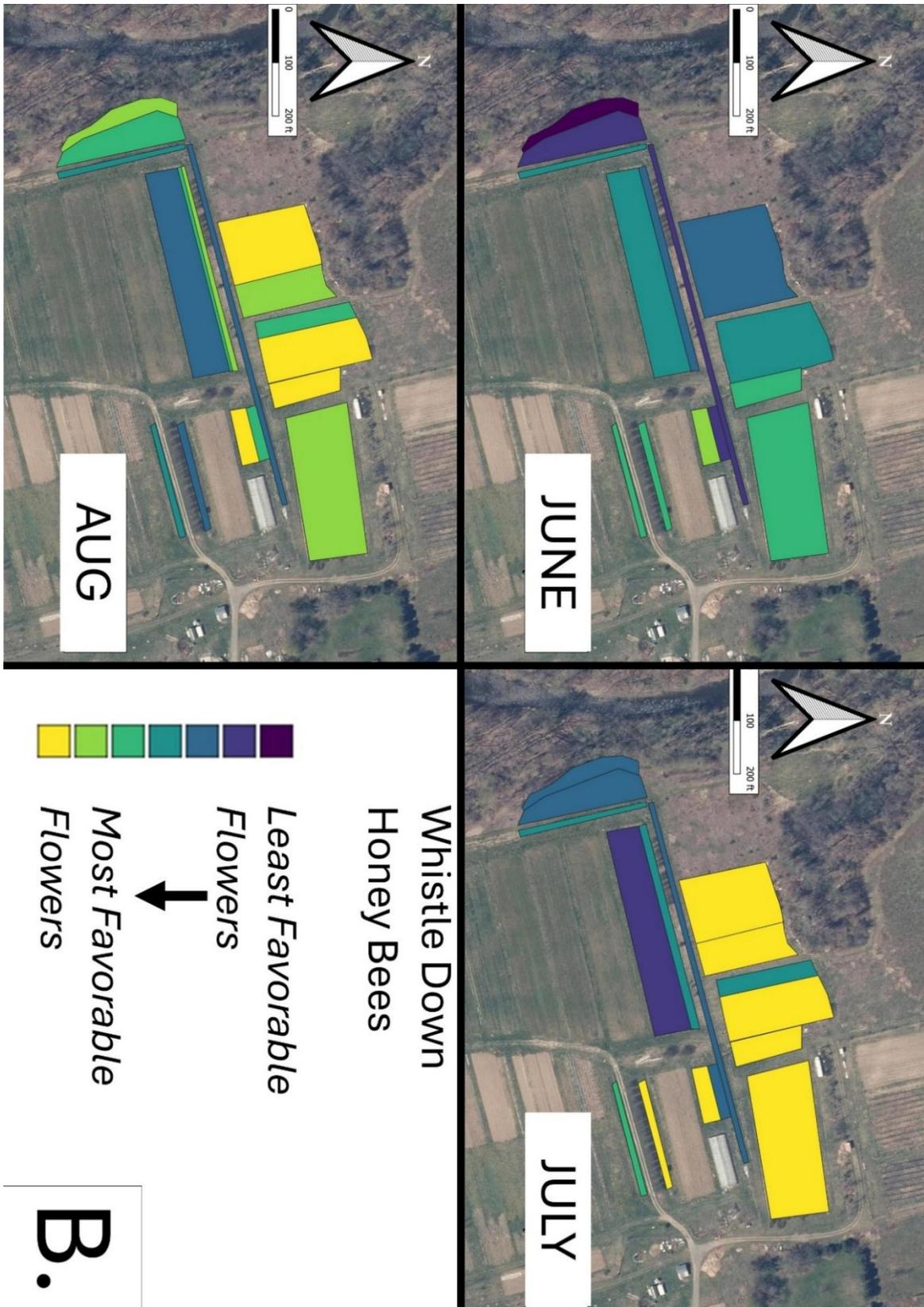


Figure 7B. Flower favorability for Honey Bees in the different survey units and different months at Whistle Down. Generally, darker signifies less favored flowers, and lighter colors mean more favored.

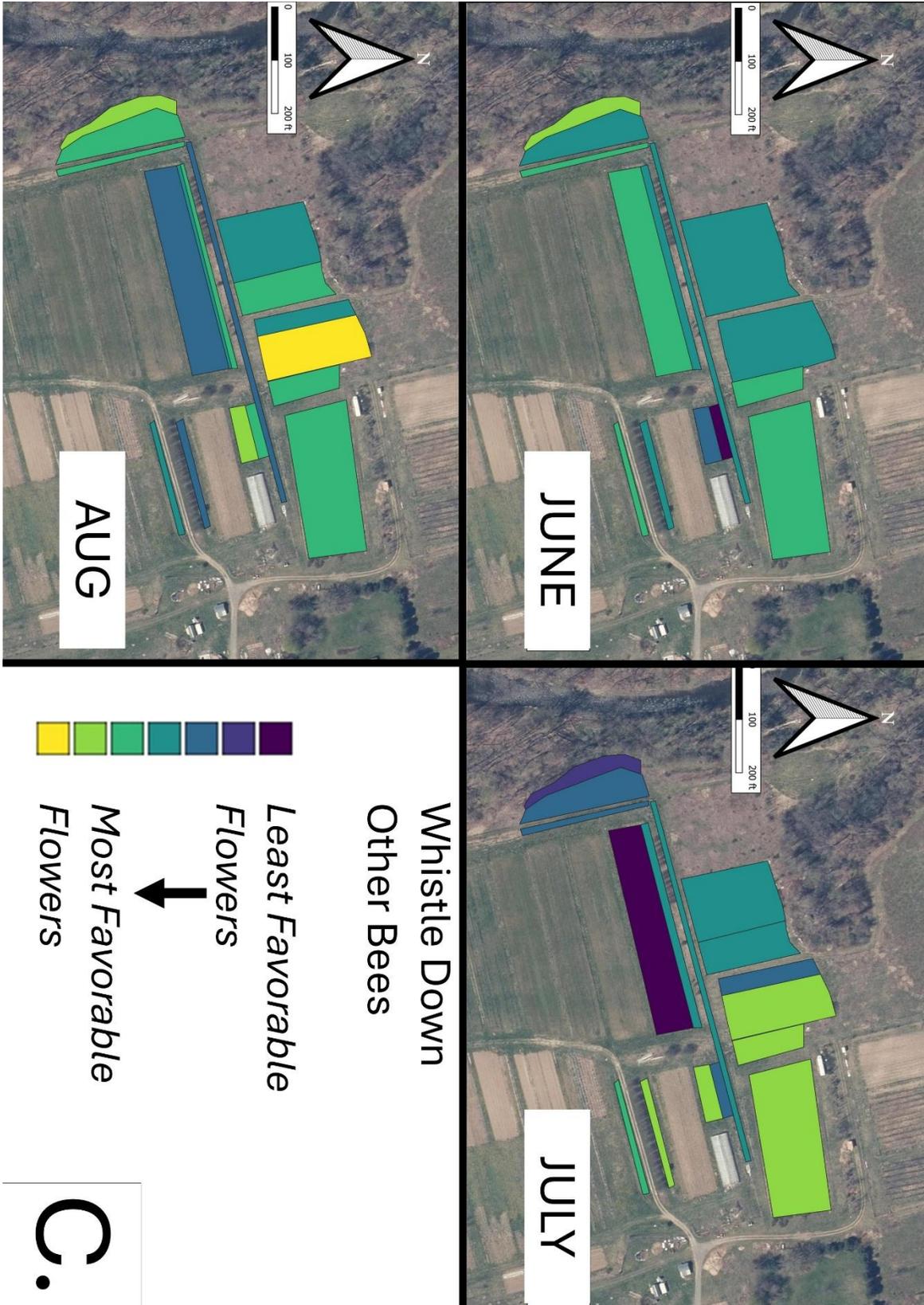


Figure 7C. Flower favorability for other bees in the different survey units and different months at Whistle Down. Generally, darker signifies less favored flowers, and lighter colors mean more favored.

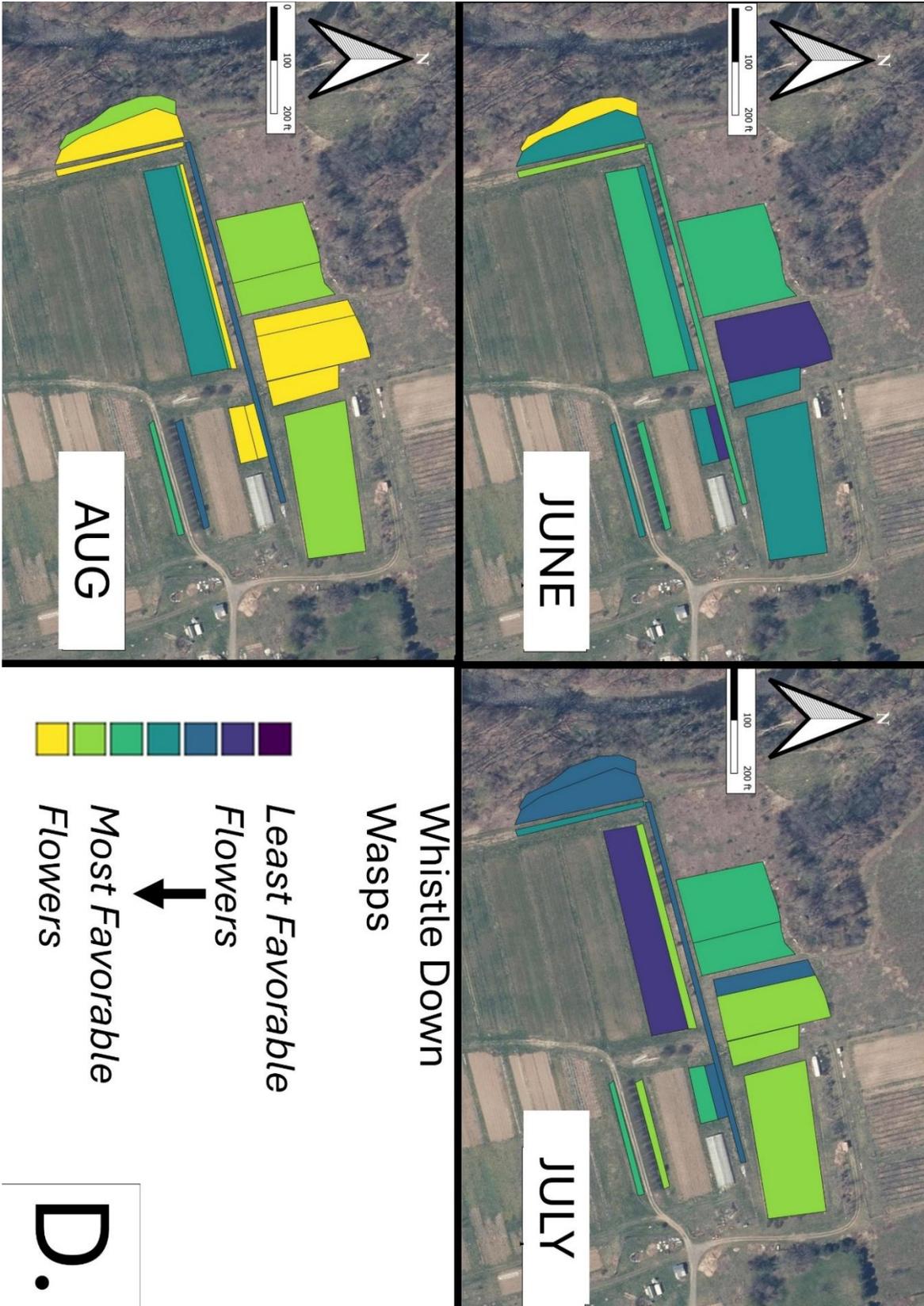


Figure 7D. Flower favorability for wasps in the different survey units and different months at Whistle Down. Generally, darker signifies less favored flowers, and lighter colors mean more favored.

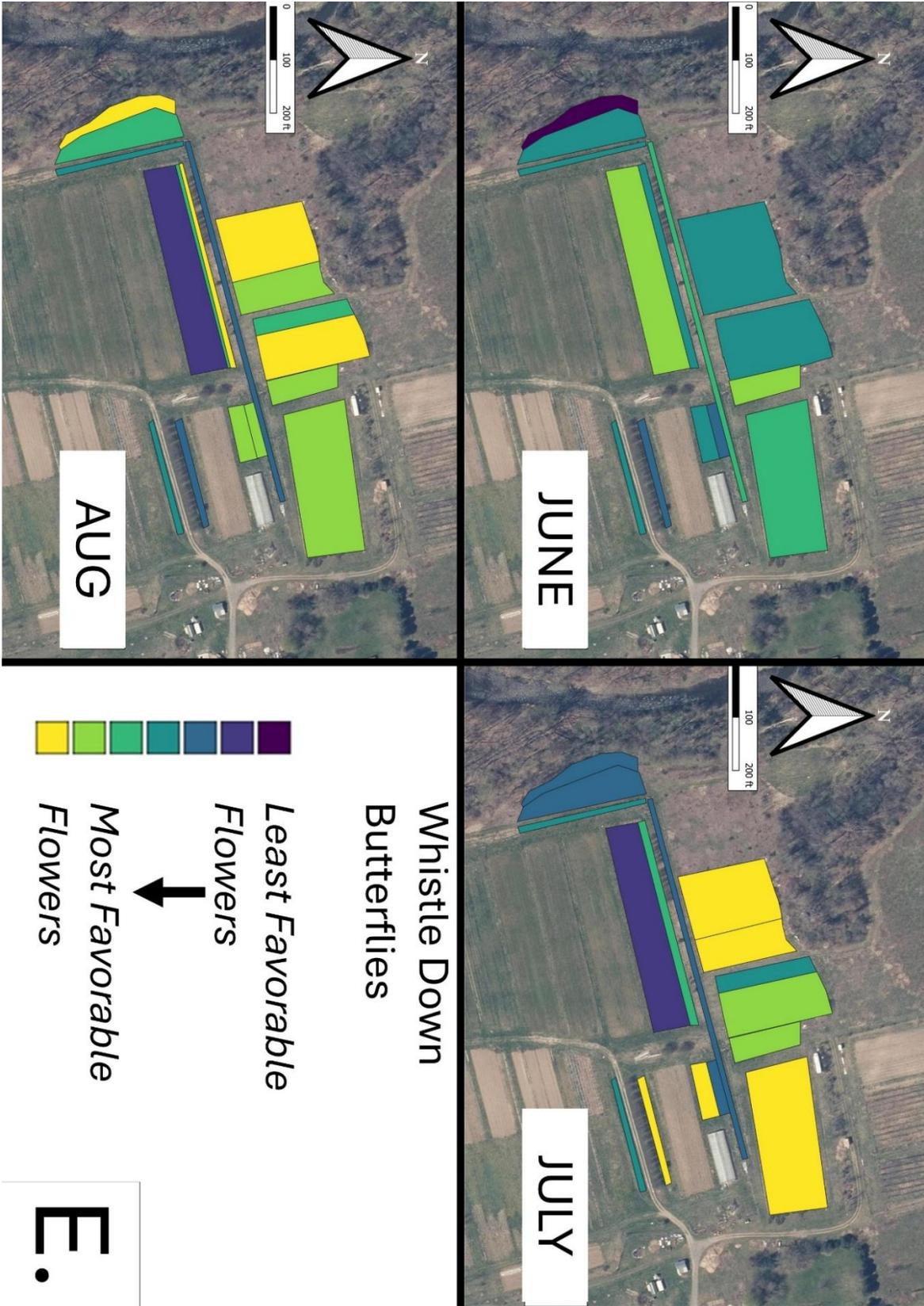


Figure 7E. Flower favorability for butterflies in the different survey units and different months at Whistle Down. Generally, darker signifies less favored flowers, and lighter colors mean more favored.

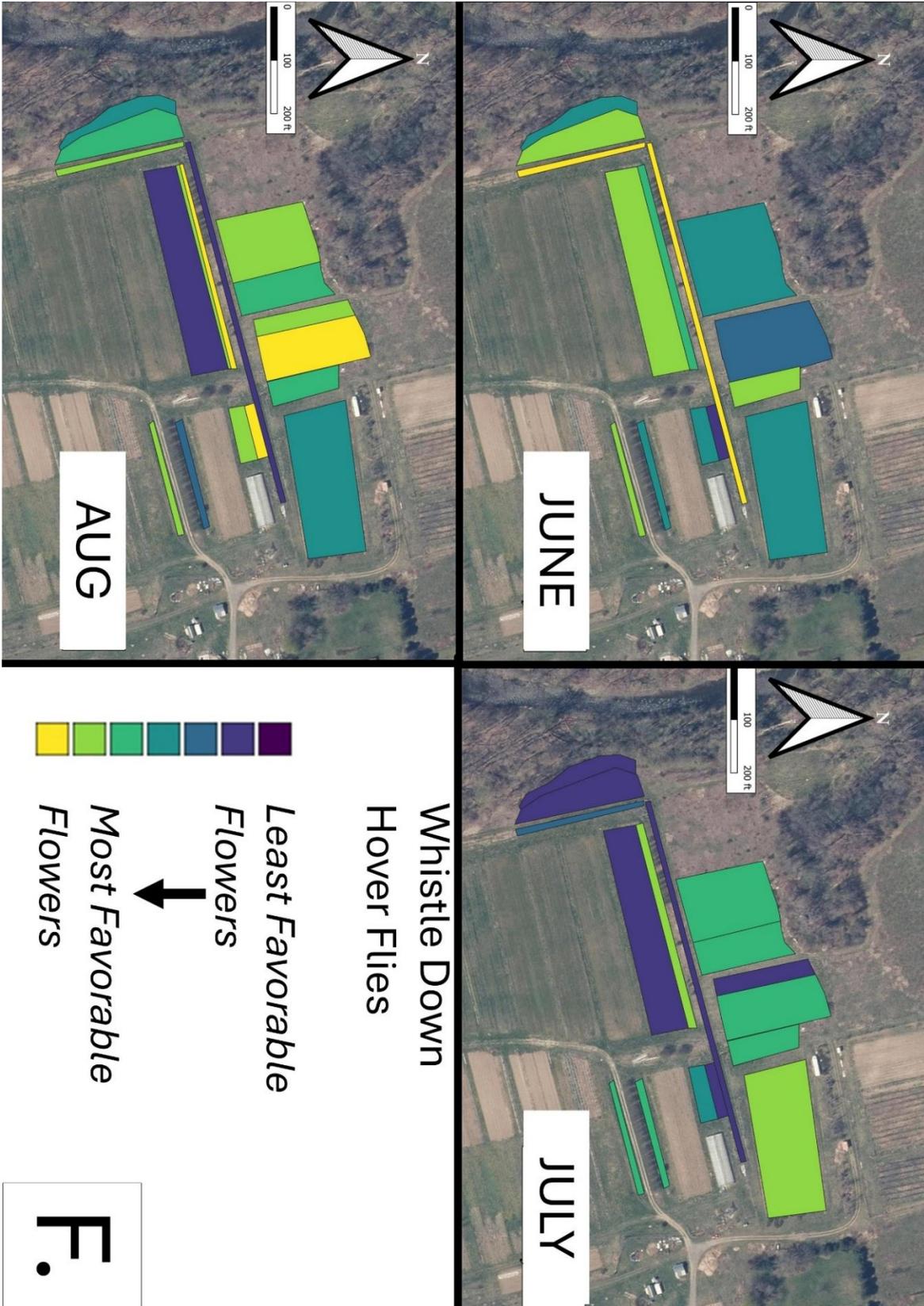


Figure 7F. Flower favorability for hover flies in the different survey units and different months at Whistle Down. Generally, darker signifies less favored flowers, and lighter colors mean more favored.

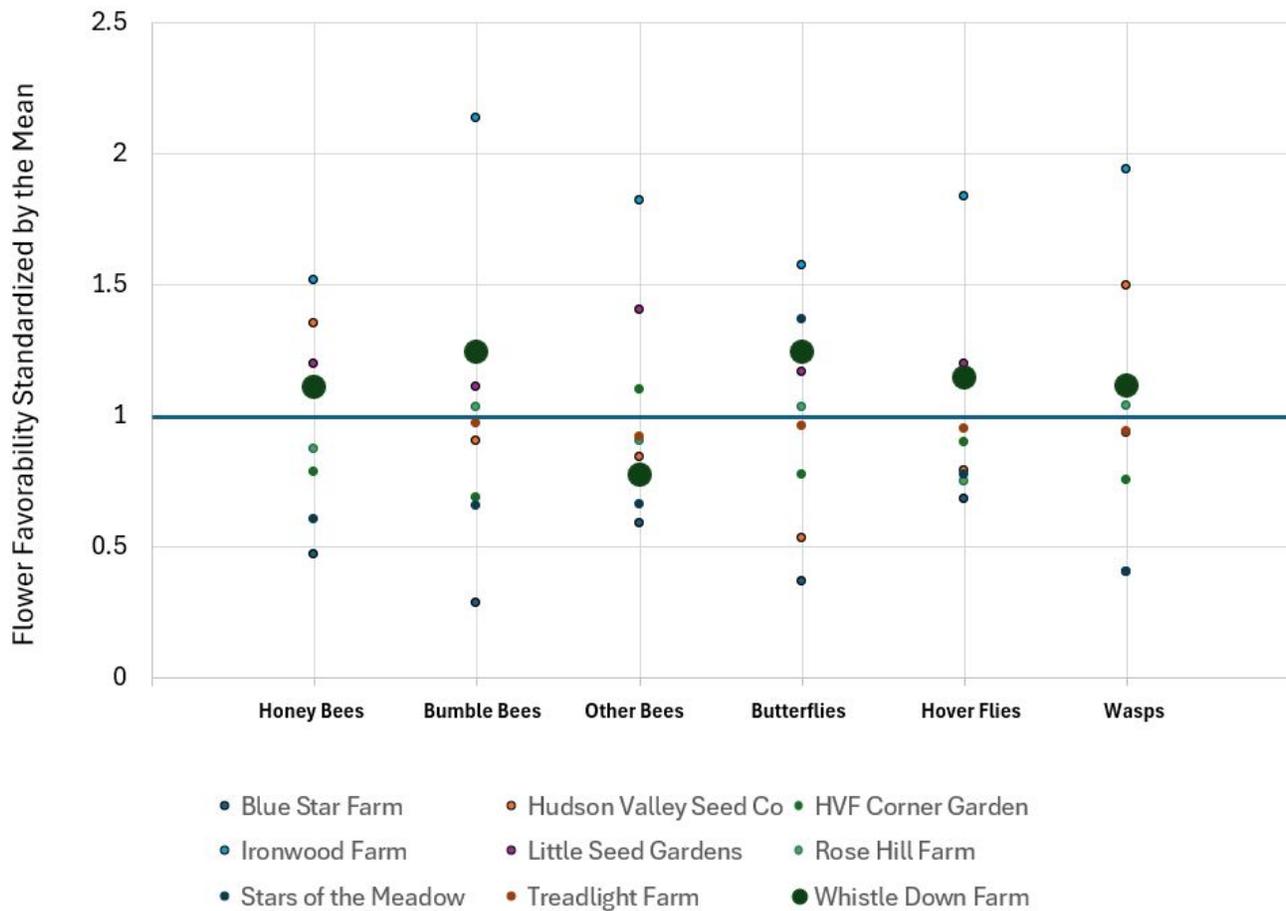


Figure 8. Standardized flower favorability scores by insect group. The solid line at one indicates the mean value across all farms.

Management Considerations

The June and July offering for ‘other bees’ (Fig. 7C), hover flies (Fig. 7F), and wasps (Fig. 7D) seemed to be relatively sparse; in June, Honey Bees resources were also scant. Were one interested in promoting populations of any of these groups, then one might refer to Table 1, and now search for early- and mid-summer flowers favored by other-bees, wasps and hover flies. These tend to be relatively short-tongued groups of insects who favor shallow flowers.

For example, the survey unit of managed wildflowers north of the fence is still early in its vegetation development. Once the seeded plants come into bloom, their early- to mid-summer favorability for the above-listed, seemingly under-supported, insect groups could be re-assessed and—if needed—this unit could be augmented with additional seeds of suitable flower species. Another example of a field whose offering could potentially be augmented is the large unit south of the Blueberries, which seemed to be a mature cover crop of Red Clover that has been invaded by Spotted Knapweed. Of course, that field may already be intended for other uses,

but, if not, then it might be a space where flower seeding, especially for 'other' bees, wasps and hover flies, could increase its contribution to supporting flower visitors. The mostly herbaceous wild area between the wooded riparian corridor and the western fenceline had a reasonable favorability for most insects late in the summer, but could benefit from enrichment planting/patch seeding of early and mid-summer flowers.

In general, the seed list for any additional wildflower seeding should include early-flowering species favorable to 'other bees', hover flies, wasps, and Honey Bees.

Potential Next Steps

Whistle Down fruit production is dependent on the flower pollination of those crops. Getting a deeper understanding of who was pollinating what at Whistle Down might help us better understand the potential relevance of flower management – Which bees are needed for pollination and which flowers do those bees seem to favor when not visiting fruit flowers?

Control of some fruit pests is helped by 'native enemies' such as aphid-consuming hover fly maggots and those parasitoid wasps whose hosts include crop pests. Again, knowing which of these are active on the Whistle Down crops and which flowers favor them, could be useful, although, admittedly, understanding the flower preferences of tiny parasitoid wasps is difficult.

It is also important to remember that spring ephemerals in forest (floodplain and swamp forest) adjacent to the farm might play a role in providing very early season floral resources to early-flying bees. It might thus be important to better understand the abundance, diversity, and insect use of these flowers.

Acknowledgments

We thank Nicholas Pandjiris for facilitating our work (and finding water for us on a hot day).

Appendix: List of Plants Observed Flowering.

On the following three pages, you find the appendix with the list of plants seen in bloom in the survey units of Whistle Down during three surveys in 2026. The column annotations are explained below.

Native: Indicates whether a species is considered native to the Hudson Valley, "Y" or not, "N." Non-native invasive species are denoted "N-I." Wild-growing species have only the entry "Y," "N," or "N-I." Cultivated species have an added "cult." Additional entries in parentheses indicate that a usually wild-growing plant is occasionally cultivated, "(cult)," or a usually cultivated plant is occasionally also found wild, "(wild)."

Rarity: A star * in this column flags species we consider rare or uncommon in the Hudson Valley.

Ubiquity: The values are calculated as the average % of survey units at the farm which contained the species in bloom during the months of its flowering season.

Duration: The number of months (1 to 3) in which the species was observed in bloom at the farm.

Fl. Season: Indicates with an "x" the months in which the species was observed in bloom at the farm.

Appendix: List of Plants Found in Bloom at the Study Units of Whistle Down Farm During Three Surveys in 2025

| Common Name by Groups | Scientific Name | Native | Rarity | Ubiquity | Duration | Fl. Season | | |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|------------|------|---------|
| | | | regionally rare/uncommon | avg. % of units during flowering season | # months in bloom (of 3) | June | July | Aug/Sep |
| agrimony, small-flowered | <i>Agrimonia parviflora</i> | Y | * | 5.9 | 1 | | | x |
| asparagus, garden | <i>Asparagus officinalis</i> | N cult (wild) | | 17.2 | 2 | x | | x |
| avens, white | <i>Geum canadense</i> | Y | | 7.1 | 1 | | x | |
| bedstraw, hedge (wild madder) | <i>Galium mollugo</i> | N | | 62.0 | 3 | x | x | x |
| bindweed | <i>Fallopia scandens/dumetorum</i> | U | | 17.6 | 1 | | | x |
| bindweed, field | <i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> | N-I | | 16.6 | 2 | | x | x |
| bindweed, hedge | <i>Calystegia sepium</i> | N | | 55.0 | 2 | | x | x |
| bittersweet, Oriental | <i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i> | N-I | | 14.3 | 1 | x | | |
| blue-eyed-grass, mountain | <i>Sisyrinchium montanum var. montanum</i> | Y | | 7.1 | 1 | x | | |
| buckwheat | <i>Fagopyrum esculentum</i> | N cult (wild) | | 5.9 | 1 | | | x |
| bugleweed, American | <i>Lycopus americanus</i> | Y | | 6.5 | 2 | | x | x |
| butter-and-eggs | <i>Linaria vulgaris</i> | N | | 25.4 | 2 | | x | x |
| buttercup, tall | <i>Ranunculus acris</i> | N | | 7.1 | 1 | x | | |
| campion, bladder | <i>Silene vulgaris</i> | N (cult) | | 5.9 | 1 | | | x |
| campion, white | <i>Silene latifolia</i> | N | | 15.8 | 3 | x | x | x |
| carrot, wild | <i>Daucus carota</i> | N | | 83.4 | 2 | | x | x |
| chickweed, common | <i>Stellaria media</i> | N | | 7.1 | 1 | x | | |
| chickweed, mouse-eared | <i>Cerastium fontanum ssp. vulgare</i> | N | | 10.1 | 2 | x | | x |
| cinquefoil, rough-leaved | <i>Potentilla norvegica</i> | N | | 18.9 | 2 | | x | x |
| cinquefoil, silver | <i>Potentilla argentea</i> | N | | 6.5 | 2 | x | | x |
| cinquefoil, sulphur | <i>Potentilla recta</i> | N | | 7.1 | 1 | | x | |
| cleavers | <i>Galium aparine</i> | Y | | 14.3 | 1 | x | | |
| clover, alsike | <i>Trifolium hybridum</i> | N | | 21.7 | 3 | x | x | x |
| clover, crimson | <i>Trifolium incarnatum</i> | N cult | | 7.1 | 1 | x | | |
| clover, large hop | <i>Trifolium aureum</i> | N | | 13.7 | 2 | | x | x |
| clover, red | <i>Trifolium pratense</i> | N (cult) | | 59.7 | 3 | x | x | x |
| clover, white | <i>Trifolium repens</i> | N | | 6.7 | 3 | x | x | x |
| cress, field penny | <i>Thlaspi arvense</i> | N | | 7.1 | 1 | x | | |
| cress, winter | <i>Barbarea vulgaris</i> | N | | 21.4 | 1 | x | | |
| dandelion, common | <i>Taraxacum officinale</i> | N | | 10.7 | 2 | x | x | |
| dock, curly | <i>Rumex crispus ssp. crispus</i> | N | | 35.7 | 1 | x | | |
| dogwood, gray | <i>Cornus racemosa</i> | Y | | 7.1 | 1 | x | | |
| elder, common | <i>Sambucus nigra</i> | U cult | | 7.1 | 2 | x | x | |
| enchanter's nightshade, common | <i>Circaea canadensis</i> | Y | | 14.3 | 1 | | x | |
| fleabane, daisy | <i>Erigeron annuus</i> | Y | | 65.5 | 3 | x | x | x |
| goldenrod, early | <i>Solidago juncea</i> | Y | | 17.6 | 1 | | | x |

Appendix: List of Plants Found in Bloom at the Study Units of Whistle Down Farm During Three Surveys in 2025

| Common Name by Groups | Scientific Name | Native | Rarity | Ubiquity | Duration | Fl. Season | | |
|------------------------------|--|--------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|------------|------|---------|
| | | | regionally rare/uncommon | avg. % of units during flowering season | # months in bloom (of 3) | June | July | Aug/Sep |
| goldenrod, flat-topped | <i>Euthamia graminifolia</i> | Y | | 21.2 | 2 | | x | x |
| goldenrod, smooth | <i>Solidago gigantea</i> | Y | | 47.1 | 1 | | | x |
| goldenrod, tall | <i>Solidago altissima ssp. altissima</i> | Y | | 17.6 | 1 | | | x |
| grape | <i>Vitis sp.</i> | Y | | 21.4 | 1 | x | | |
| ground-cherry, clammy | <i>Physalis heterophylla</i> | Y | * | 5.9 | 1 | | | x |
| ground-ivy | <i>Glechoma hederacea</i> | N-I | | 35.3 | 3 | x | x | x |
| hawkweed, meadow | <i>Pilosella caespitosa</i> | N | | 42.9 | 1 | x | | |
| hedge-parsley, erect | <i>Torilis japonica</i> | N | | 7.1 | 1 | | x | |
| hog-peanut | <i>Amphicarpaea bracteata</i> | Y | | 5.9 | 1 | | | x |
| honeysuckle, Eurasian shrub | <i>Lonicera morrowii/bella</i> | N-I | | 14.3 | 1 | x | | |
| horseweed | <i>Erigeron canadensis var. canadensis</i> | Y | | 5.9 | 1 | | | x |
| Indian-hemp | <i>Apocynum cannabinum</i> | Y | | 7.1 | 1 | | x | |
| Indian-tobacco | <i>Lobelia inflata</i> | Y | | 37.8 | 2 | | x | x |
| jewelweed, pale | <i>Impatiens pallida</i> | Y | | 5.9 | 1 | | | x |
| jewelweed, spotted | <i>Impatiens capensis</i> | Y | | 7.1 | 1 | | x | |
| Joe-Pye-weed, spotted | <i>Eutrochium maculatum var. maculatum</i> | Y | | 5.9 | 1 | | | x |
| jumpseed | <i>Persicaria virginiana</i> | Y | | 5.9 | 1 | | | x |
| knapweed, brown | <i>Centaurea jacea</i> | N-I | | 27.7 | 2 | | x | x |
| knapweed, spotted | <i>Centaurea stoebe ssp. micranthos</i> | N-I | | 65.1 | 2 | | x | x |
| lady's-thumb | <i>Persicaria maculosa</i> | N | | 14.3 | 1 | | x | |
| loosestrife, purple | <i>Lythrum salicaria</i> | N-I | | 43.7 | 2 | | x | x |
| medic, black | <i>Medicago lupulina</i> | N | | 6.5 | 2 | x | | x |
| mountain-mint, narrow-leaved | <i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i> | Y cult | * | 7.1 | 1 | | x | |
| mullein, common | <i>Verbascum thapsus</i> | N | | 16.6 | 2 | | x | x |
| mullein, moth | <i>Verbascum blattaria</i> | N | | 6.5 | 2 | | x | x |
| mustard, tower | <i>Arabis glabra</i> | Y | | 14.3 | 1 | x | | |
| mustard, tumble /tall hedge | <i>Sisymbrium altissimum/loeselii</i> | N | | 7.1 | 1 | | x | |
| pea, partridge | <i>Chamaecrista fasciculata var. fasciculata</i> | Y cult | * | 5.9 | 1 | | | x |
| pepperweed, field | <i>Lepidium campestre</i> | N | | 14.3 | 1 | x | | |
| pepperweed, wild | <i>Lepidium virginicum var. virginicum</i> | Y | * | 7.1 | 1 | x | | |
| pink, Deptford | <i>Dianthus armeria</i> | N | | 13.4 | 3 | x | x | x |
| plantain, narrow-leaved | <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> | N | | 41.2 | 3 | x | x | x |
| pokeweed | <i>Phytolacca americana var. americana</i> | Y | | 7.1 | 1 | | x | |
| primrose, common evening | <i>Oenothera biennis</i> | Y | | 24.2 | 2 | | x | x |
| radish, wild | <i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> | N | | 27.3 | 3 | x | x | x |
| ragweed, common | <i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i> | Y | | 70.6 | 1 | | | x |

Appendix: List of Plants Found in Bloom at the Study Units of Whistle Down Farm During Three Surveys in 2025

| Common Name by Groups | Scientific Name | Native | Rarity | Ubiquity | Duration | Fl. Season | | |
|----------------------------|---|---------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|------------|------|---------|
| | | | regionally rare/uncommon | avg. % of units during flowering season | # months in bloom (of 3) | June | July | Aug/Sep |
| rocket, dame's | <i>Hesperis matronalis</i> | N-I | | 21.4 | 1 | x | | |
| rose, beach | <i>Rosa rugosa</i> | N cult | | 6.7 | 3 | x | x | x |
| rose, multiflora | <i>Rosa multiflora</i> | N-I | | 64.3 | 1 | x | | |
| rush, path | <i>Juncus tenuis</i> | Y | | 7.1 | 1 | x | | |
| shepherd's-purse | <i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i> | N | | 14.3 | 1 | x | | |
| skullcap, mad dog | <i>Scutellaria lateriflora</i> | Y | | 6.5 | 2 | | x | x |
| smartweed, dotted | <i>Persicaria punctata</i> | Y | | 6.5 | 2 | | x | x |
| smartweed, low | <i>Persicaria longiseta</i> | N | | 17.6 | 1 | | | x |
| smartweed, Pennsylvania | <i>Persicaria pennsylvanica</i> | Y | | 5.9 | 1 | | | x |
| sorrel, common yellow wood | <i>Oxalis stricta</i> | Y | | 54.5 | 3 | x | x | x |
| speedwell, corn | <i>Veronica arvensis</i> | N | | 7.1 | 1 | x | | |
| speedwell, purslane | <i>Veronica peregrina ssp. peregrina</i> | Y | * | 7.1 | 1 | x | | |
| St. John's-wort, common | <i>Hypericum perforatum ssp. perforatum</i> | N | | 16.6 | 2 | | x | x |
| St. John's-wort, spotted | <i>Hypericum punctatum</i> | Y | * | 14.3 | 1 | | x | |
| stickseed, Virginia | <i>Hackelia virginiana</i> | Y | | 12.4 | 2 | | x | x |
| stitchwort, common | <i>Stellaria graminea</i> | N | | 21.4 | 1 | x | | |
| sunflower, thin-leaved | <i>Helianthus decapetalus</i> | Y | * | 5.9 | 1 | | | x |
| Susan, black-eyed | <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> | N cult (wild) | | 6.5 | 2 | | x | x |
| tearthumb, arrow-leaved | <i>Persicaria sagittata</i> | Y | | 6.5 | 2 | | x | x |
| thistle, bull | <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> | N-I | | 11.8 | 1 | | | x |
| thistle, Canada | <i>Cirsium arvense</i> | N-I | | 30.9 | 2 | | x | x |
| trefoil, bird's foot | <i>Lotus corniculatus</i> | N | | 13.4 | 3 | x | x | x |
| vervain, blue | <i>Verbena hastata</i> | Y | | 9.5 | 2 | | x | x |
| vervain, white | <i>Verbena urticifolia</i> | Y | | 13.7 | 2 | | x | x |
| vetch, slender | <i>Vicia tetrasperma</i> | N | | 28.6 | 1 | x | | |
| vetch, tufted or hairy | <i>Vicia cracca/villosa</i> | N | | 37.3 | 3 | x | x | x |
| virgin's-bower | <i>Clematis virginiana</i> | Y | | 17.6 | 1 | | | x |
| willowherb | <i>Epilobium sp.</i> | Y | | 17.6 | 1 | | | x |
| wood-nettle | <i>Laportea canadensis</i> | Y | | 7.1 | 1 | | x | |