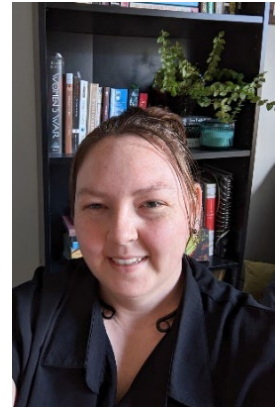


# BiNews

September 2023

## Welcome to the Department

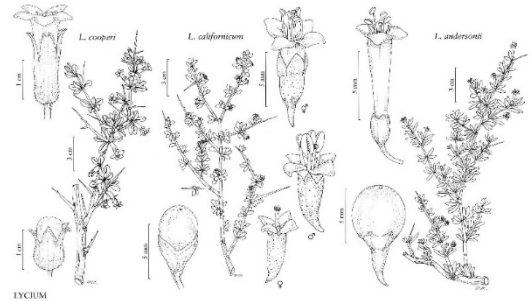
The Trapani Lab welcomed Julia LaValley to the lab recently. Julia is a PhD candidate at UMass Amherst. Welcome Julia!



## New Publication from the Levin/Miller Lab

Rachel Levin and Jill Miller are authors of a new [publication](#) in Flora of North America, published in August 2023.

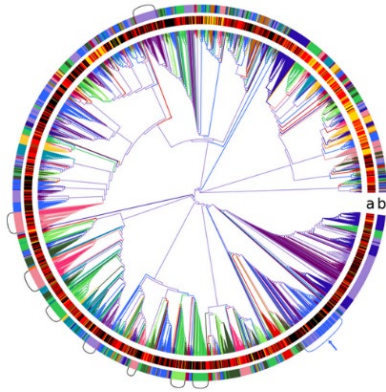
Levin, R. A., and J. S. Miller. 2023. *Lycium*. In: Flora of North America Editorial Committee, eds. 1993+. Flora of North America North of Mexico. 22+ vols. New York and Oxford. Vol. 14.



## New Publication from the Clotfelter Lab

Derek Benson '21 and Prof. Ethan Clotfelter were co-authors on the paper "Size, but not sex, predicts pinch force and exoskeleton mechanical properties in crayfish of the genus *Faxonius*" [published recently](#) in the journal *Invertebrate Biology*. The paper, which was the result of Benson's senior thesis work, makes the case that studies of sexually-selected structures should include an analysis of the mechanical properties (e.g. compressive strength, tensile strength) of those structures.





## New Publication from the Hood Lab

The **Hood lab** has a new publication in the journal *Nature Communications*, "Dynamics of transposable element accumulation in the non-recombining regions of mating-type chromosomes in anther-smut fungi." It addresses how chromosomes evolve, by the accumulations of transposable elements, as a result of carrying the genes for mating compatibility. The paper can be found here, <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-023-41413-4>

## Jeong Lab at Plant Biology 2023, August 2023

**Professor Jeong, Claire Macero '25, Rachel Hendrickson '25, and Sara Omer '23** attended the 2023 meeting of the American Society of Plant Biology (ASPB) in Savannah, GA on behalf of the Jeong Lab. Claire presented a poster on Educational outreach, Rachel presented a poster on her research on cytosolic flux, and Sara gave a two-minute lightning talk and presented a poster on FPN3. Sara also received a travel award from ASPB to attend this conference.

## New Paper from Professor Tashjian

**Tommy Tashjian's** final postdoc paper, "Proteomic survey of the DNA damage response in *Caulobacter crescentus* was" was recently published in the *Journal of Bacteriology*. Check it out here: <https://journals.asm.org/doi/10.1128/jb.00206-23>

## Get Involved with the Biology Steering Committee

The Biology Steering Committee would love to invite students to apply to become a committee member for the 2023-2024 academic year! The primary goals of the steering committee are to build community within the Biology major through organizing events and opportunities and also to take part in searches within the department for faculty. Applications are due on Friday, October 6th at 12 PM. Check out the following link for more information about the committee: <https://www.amherst.edu/academiclife/departments/biology/about-the-department/biology-steering>

Visit the following link to apply: <https://forms.gle/1d7wm8TYZPNA8pQs9>

## Biology Monday Seminars

We have some excited talks coming up this semester. Please check out the [Seminars and Events](#) on our website for a schedule and more detailed information as it becomes available.

If you have any updates for the next issue of BioNews, please send them to [Ldavis@amherst.edu](mailto:Ldavis@amherst.edu).