



# Bio-Protection

*Bioprotection science for New Zealand*

## **Floral resource provision in biological control: the effect on multi-trophic interactions in agricultural systems**

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**Location of Project:** Bio-Protection Research Centre, Lincoln University

**Abstract:** Current research in the Bio-Protection Research Centre is investigating the consequences of adding floral resources to insect communities in agriculture. It is currently unclear if the presence of a predator mediated by floral resources, results in increased crop yields or reduced crop damage. Additionally, we will investigate the role of flowers mediating the trophic cascade via floral diversity acting counter-intuitively by favouring the herbivore more than the natural enemy. The findings of this research will assist in identifying direct and indirect trophic cascade effects of floral resource provision in cropping systems.