COLLECTING TOBACCO PRODUCT WASTE IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

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Introduction

- An emerging area of tobacco research is the impact of tobacco product waste (TPW) on the environment;
- Waste product collection can mobilize communities, but these efforts may or may not coincide with scientific methods required for peer reviewed publications

Citizen Scientist Approach

- Count-based
- Non-labor intensive
- In local environments (e.g., residential neighborhoods)
- Well suited for use in under resourced areas such as California's Central Valley

Aims

To compare two protocols used to collect TPW and assess:

1. Whether they provide similar estimates
2. The accessibility of these methods for citizen scientists (e.g., ease, time, information obtained)

Methodology

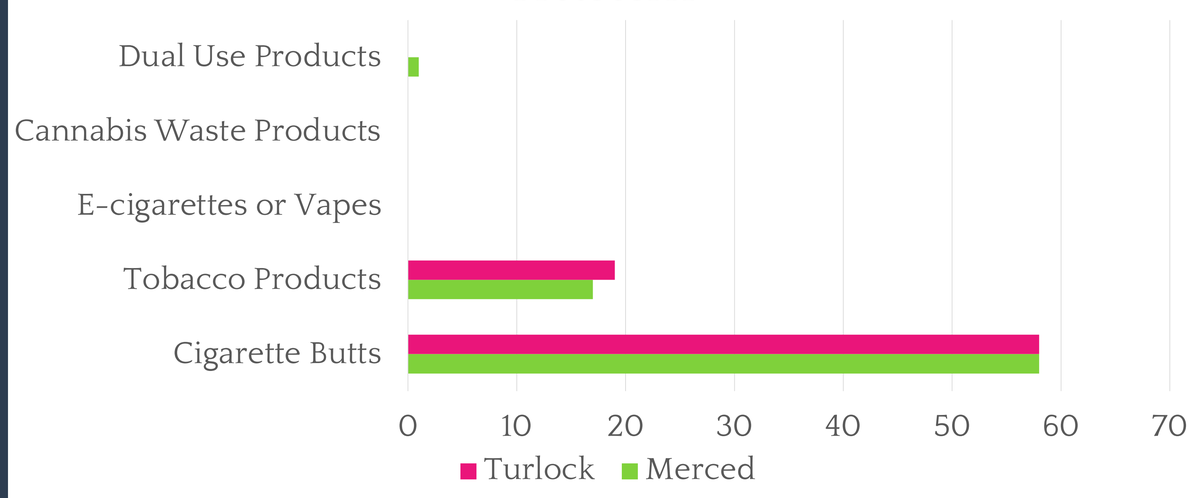
Protocol A – San Diego State University

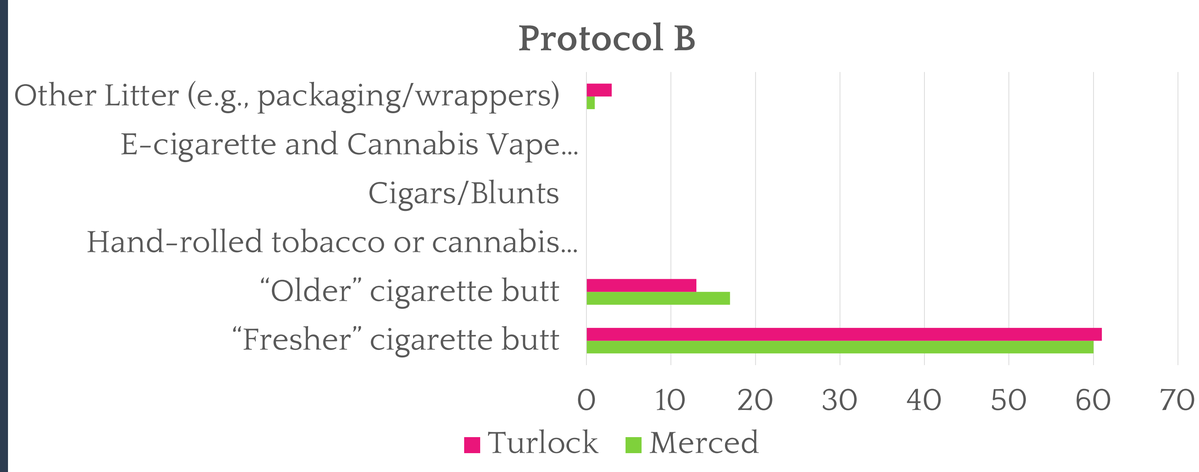
1. Pairs provided with geographic bounds and 20-inch hoop
2. One partner places hoop on ground where TPW was visible
3. Using Survey123, the other partner marks:
   a) Geo-location
   b) Type & amount of TPW
   c) Brief site description
   d) Takes photo of hoop with TPW inside
4. Continued protocol until all TPW within their geographic bounds was recorded

Protocol B – University of California, Merced

1. Pairs provided with geographic bounds and waste container
2. Each pair sets a personal 10-minute timer
3. One partner points out visible TPW, the other picks and bags TPW
4. After 10-minutes elapsed, each pair counts, sorts, and records their TPW
5. After all waste was counted, citizen scientists took a photo of their waste and upload to Survey123

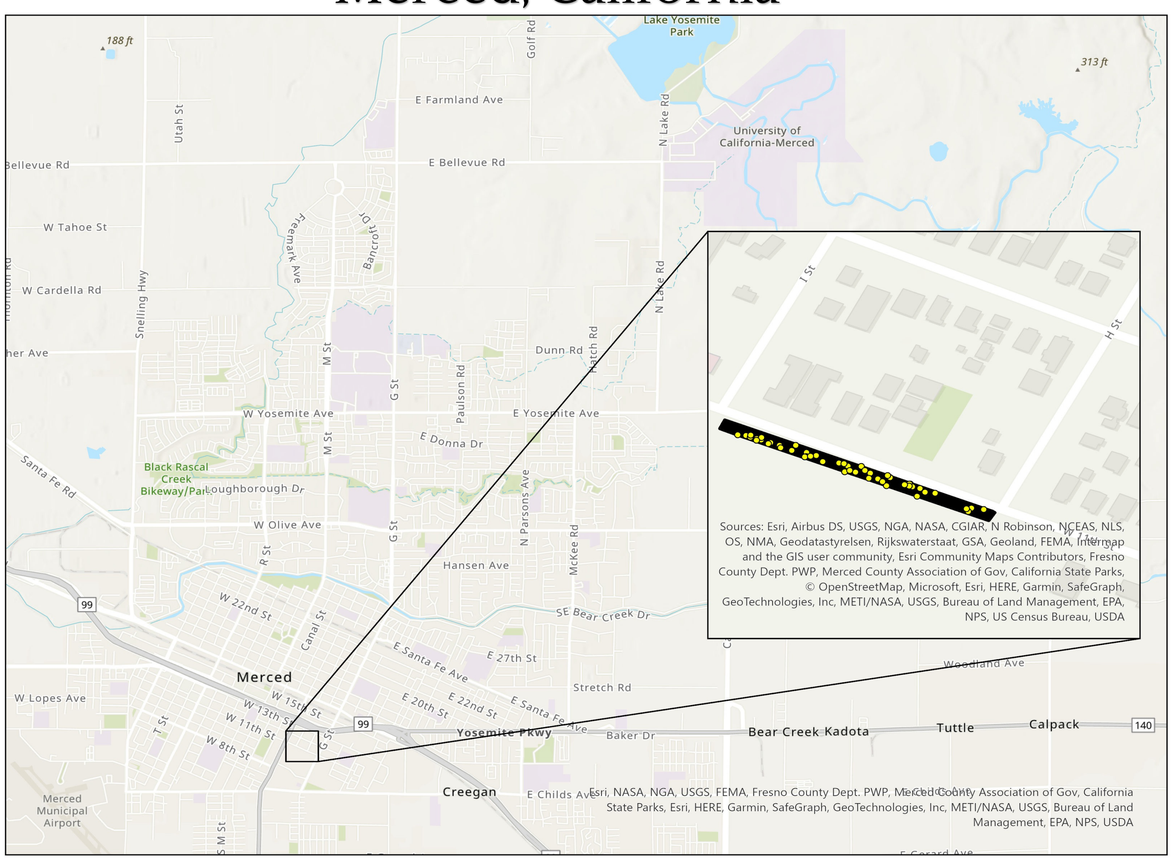
Results



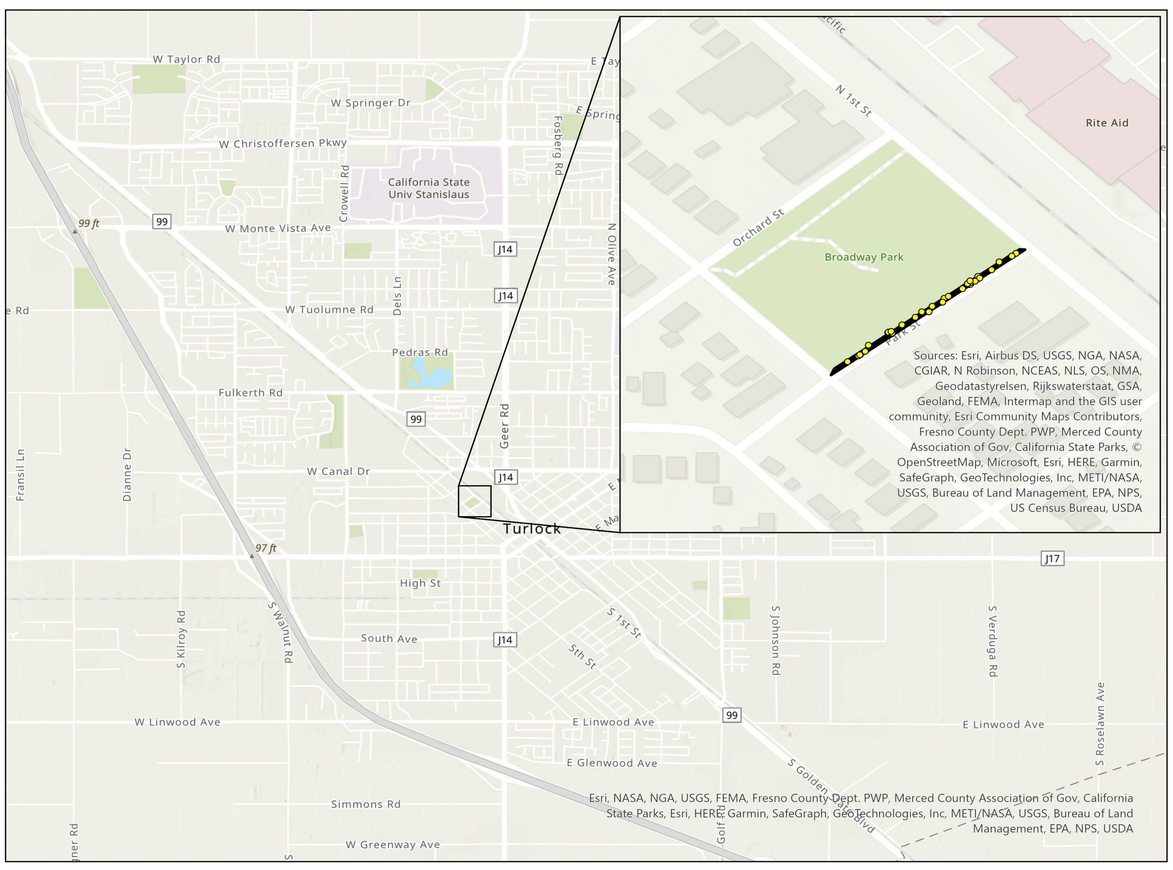


Maps

Merced, California



Turlock, California



Conclusion

- Both cities yielded comparable amounts of waste
- Both protocols yielded similar counts of TPW
- Citizen scientists prefer Protocol B
- This area of investigation is well suited to citizen scientist approach to data collection, particularly in areas with fewer available resources
- To view site images, please scan QR code!

Acknowledgements

This research was funded by [list all funding sources for the presented work]

This project was supported by Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program (TRDRP) grant (28PC-004)

	Tobacco Industry	E-cigarette & nicotine product industry (excluding pharma)	Pharma Industry
The work being presented has received funding or other means of support from any of the following sources:	No	No	No
Any of the authors have received funding (including consultancy) from any of the following sources in the past 5 years:	No	No	No

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