

Research Questions

What does the client think is the problem?

- The client thinks that the Monarch butterfly population at Miller's Pond has sharply increased this year from previous years.
- The client thinks that the Monarch butterfly population at Miller's Pond has declined this year from previous years.
- The client thinks that there have been many changes that are causing an increase in the Monarch butterfly population at Miller's Pond. He wants to know what the reasons for these changes are.

Here's the big point: What specifically does the client want us to do?

- Victor wants us to help him with conducting another Monarch butterfly census count. He wants us to come up with a new way to count Monarchs at Miller's Pond.
- Victor wants us to help him sort through the data and analyze the specimens he has. He wants to know if the change in Monarch butterfly population numbers is due to normal variation or if there are other causes.
- Victor is a little sketchy about what he wants. I think he's looking to us to figure out what to do next. He seems really confused about the whole situation.

What does Victor think might be the cause of fewer numbers of Monarch butterflies at Miller's Pond? (Mark all correct answers!)

- Warm weather in Mexico may have caused the Monarch butterflies to stay there and not migrate north.
- Herbicide use or pesticide use such as the Bt corn toxin found in cornfields near Miller's Pond.
- Absence of milkweed plants at Miller's Pond.
- Extreme weather conditions at Miller's Pond and surroundings in the spring
- Increased numbers of infected monarch larvae
- Less plentiful milkweed or wild flowers near Miller's Pond