Survey of Fruit/Frugivore Interactions

Data and Materials Produced

We aimed to compile all studies from 1949 to present that included germination trials of fruit after ingestion by frugivores. This included both studies that collected scat samples and studies that used feeding trials to produce scat samples, as long as there was a control group of seeds included in the study. Furthermore, the studies must have been published in a peer reviewed journal. We employed several approaches to finding papers. Initially, we searched through all papers cited in Traveset's 1998 paper, "Effect of Seed Passage through Vertebrate Frugivores' Guts on Germination: A Review". Next, we searched all papers that cited Traveset's 1998 paper on Google Scholar. Finally, we conducted a systematic search on Web of Science using the phrases "fruit", "germination", "ingestion", and "frugivores". The following were recorded for each study: the first author's name, the title of the study, the journal in which the study was published, the year of publication, the frugivores tested, the plants tested, the study's testing location, whether or not a feeding trial had taken place, and whether or not a germination trial had taken place. The location was then further classified as Old (N. and S.America) or New World (Asia, Africa, Europe, Oceania) and Temperate or Tropical. This was all stored in an Excel file and then put into R for analysis.

Standards, Formats and Metadata

The original data file is saved as an Excel file. The file was then cleaned in R, and the cleaned working data file was saved as a csv, because it is easier to do analysis in R with a csv file than an Excel file. A description of the data is placed in a "readme file".

Roles and Responsibilities

Responsibilties lie solely with myself, Alex Karnish.

Dissemination Methods

The data is currently in a repository on Github. The repository is currently public.

Policies for Data Sharing and Public Access

No permission restrictions will be in place for gaining the data. There are no ethical or privacy issues. The intended uses for this data are myself and the members of Dr. Rogers EBL lab.

Archiving, Storage and Preservation