

TO SELF OR NOT TO SELF?

HIGHER INBREEDING DEPRESSION IN A METAL TOLERANT ECOTYPE

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CONTEXT

Inbreeding depression

- is a major parameter of mating system evolution
- can greatly affect demography
- depends on genetics and environnement
- often increases with stress

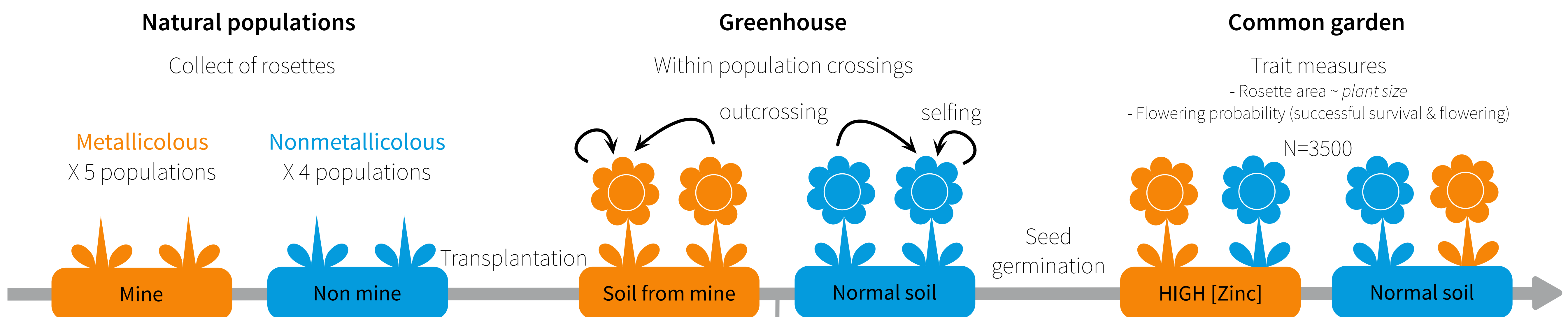
Noccaea caerulea

- grows on both mine and normal soils (*metallicolous* / *nonmetallicolous* ecotype)
- has a mixed mating system (selfing rates: 0.25 / 0.4)

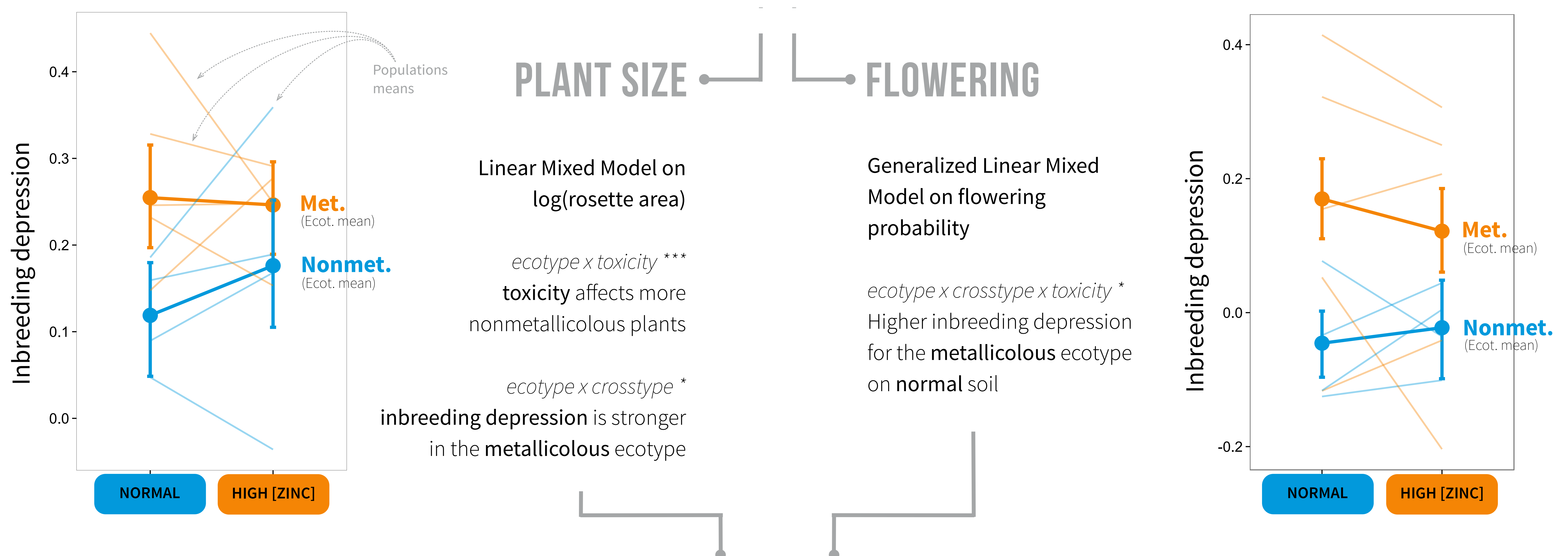
QUESTIONS

- Severity of inbreeding depression in *N. caerulea*?
- Dependence on ecotype and soil toxicity?

WHAT WE DID



WHAT WE FOUND



SO WHAT?

- > Population inbreeding depression ranges from -20% to 44%.
- > Some populations harbour **outbreeding depression**, especially in the *nonmetallicolous* ecotype.
- > There is **higher** inbreeding depression in *metallicolous* populations.
- > The effect of **toxicity** on inbreeding depression depends on **trait** and **ecotype**.

TAKE HOME MESSAGES

- > Inbreeding depression in *Noccaea caerulea* in some populations and some traits.
- > Higher inbreeding depression in the metallicolous than in the nonmetallicolous ecotype.
- > Weak and inconsistent effect of toxicity on inbreeding depression.

Hyp1

Lower selfing rates → less purging of recessive, deleterious mutations in metallicolous populations

Hyp2

Trade-offs associated with toxicity tolerance → plants more susceptible to inbreeding depression (less able to respond to genetic "stress")