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Male mating success evolves in response to increased levels of male- male competition.
Singh, Tejinder (/jspui/browse?type=author&value=Singh%2C+Tejinder) Narasimhan, ChechiAaditya (/jspui/browse?type=author&value=Narasimhan%2C+ChechiAaditya) Biswas, Broti (/jspui/browse?type=author&value=Biswas%2C+Broti) Prasad, Nagaraj Guru (/jspui/browse?type=author&value=Prasad%2C+Nagaraj+Guru)
Male mating male-male competition
2022
Oxford University Press
Evolution, 76(7), 1638-1651.
Male-biased operational sex ratios can increase male-male competition and can potentially select for both increased pre- and postcopulatory male success. In the present study, using populations of Drosophila melanogaster evolved under male-biased (M) or female-biased (F) sex ratios, we asked whether (a) male mating success can evolve, (b) males are better at mating females that they have coevolved with, (c) males mating success is affected by female mating status, and (d) male mating success is correlated with their courtship effort. We directly competed M and F males for mating with (a) virgin ancestral (common) females, (b) virgin females from the M and F populations, and (c) singly mated females from the M and F populations. We also assessed the courtship frequency of the males when paired with mated M or F females. Our results show that M males, evolving under an increased level of male-male competition, have higher mating success than F males irrespective of the female evolutionary history. However, the difference in mating success is more pronounced if the females had mated before. M males also have a higher courtship frequency than F males, but we did not find any correlation between mating success

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