

# Aster Fitness Landscape.

2016 # of Day to emerge. Dist. from Seed source (km)

Prairie pop<sup>s</sup> closer to fitness optima are furthest away geographically <sup>those</sup>

GL-Alvar pop<sup>s</sup> are on top of fitness optima

Seed mass is response variable

Fitness estimate reflects 2016 Seed mass estimate

2016 - year of planting - possibility of transplant effect

Overall - 2016 fitness are low.

Note: gradients smooth - reflecting minimal diff across groups

2017 - Curvature of landscapes change in 2017, w/ steeper gradients among groups.

- Pattern is consistent
- Peak in 2017 (but just GL-Alvar)

2018 - Peak of fitness landscape broadened - now all 3 regions occupy some portion of the fitness peak.

- MB-Alvar may be catching up to GL-Alvar
- GL-Alvar is still increasing.
- Prairie is also slowly catching up.

How do these tie into plasticity? &  $h^2$  gen. variation

r vs. K strategy.

Alvars - time emergence, grow like hell

Prairie - emergence & timing m

Day to TL

--can we estimate a rate in change of fitness per group per year?

Day to Germ

Alvars - extreme environment, predictability

predictability selects for adaptive plasticity

Expectations for the evol<sup>n</sup> of adaptive plasticity

(i) cues is reliable

(ii) environments vary

For Fitness landscape

- is genetic canalization occurring?
- given that MBA + PRA are catching up (diff. genotypes) are beginning to hit same fitness peak as GLA perhaps this may indicate genetic canalization

For fitness landscape → can we evaluate the occupancy of the peak?

- 2018 - fitness landscape is not symmetrical - but becoming more oblong → so is capturing more variation in the distance to garden but is NOT changing in the timing of emergence that it's capturing

[x-axis is expanding, y-axis not so much!]

AND → emergence is one of more heritable traits so movement off the fitness peak for a genetically constrained trait has a heavy cost to fitness. (impact)

Broad theme: Testing for the evol<sup>n</sup> of adaptive plasticity in heterogeneous environments.

Important references:

Acasuso-Rivero et al. 2019.

## Discussion

### P1 - Summary

- Evol<sup>n</sup> of adaptive plasticity in response to varying environments w/ reliable cues. [Overview sentence?]
- Heritable gen. var imp. in predictable extreme environments<sup>(chad)</sup> whereas plastic responses appear more prevalent for life history transitions in unpredictable environments<sup>timing</sup>.
- If emergence has strong genetic basis (high  $h^2$ ) but environment in decreasingly predictable than there is ~~in~~ likelihood of ~~not~~ reduced fitness (or a fitness cost).
- Proximity Fitness can be maximized through a combination of heritable gen. variance + plasticity ~~in phenology~~.
- Indiv. can maximize proximity to fitness optimum by matching appropriate comb. of heritable + plastic traits given the degree of <sup>environmental</sup> predictability.

### P2

- Gen. variance for phenological + life history traits
- Discuss variation in  $h^2$  in early vs. late phenological transitions [compare w/in]
- 1<sup>st</sup> • Compare  $h^2$  for phenological traits + those related to fitness (life history)
  - ↳ bring in discussion of the correlation btwn phenological traits + shift btwn regions [correlation figure]

2<sup>ND</sup>. Compare  $h^2$  w/in early v late phenology  
early v. late life history

### P3 - Aster fitness discussion

- GL Alvar always have higher fitness
  - ↳ explained by shunting of resources to reproduction early in a perennial.
- caveat: escape from native stressful enviro
- Y2 → Y3 GL-Alvars exhibit ~~orders of m~~ roughly double fitness estimates relative to Prairie

① Distinct regional <sup>fitness</sup> trajectory across regions.

MB alvar → catching up in Y3.

- Prairie exhibit slowest rate of increase
- Discuss dist. of genetic variation & likelihood (or lack) of gene flow btwn Prairie ↔ Alvar & Prairie-MBA

P4 → Fitness landscapes

- Cooperation btwn fitness optimum & fitness estimates for GLA.
  - Prairie individuals that come ~~from~~ <sup>are</sup> geographically distant are closer to fitness optimum
- major point: Distance from garden does not predict optimum
  - However, the fitness in Y1 is relatively flat
- This changes in Y2 where the landscape becomes steeper (greater diff. in isoclines) & the shape of the optimum is changing. The optimum now includes the MB alvars.

Finally in Y3 again more oblong → x-axis captures more, but y-axis still limited

P5  
- Wrapper summary (see Intro to Disc.)  
→ As emergence is a heritable trait the genetic constraints of the heritable trait may impede indiv. ability to traverse trait space to achieve fitness optimum

## P5 - Conclusion section.

- Geographic proximity does not necessarily predict fitness.
  - Early heritable life history traits determine the degree to which indiv. exhibit a match or mismatch w/ later life history traits & their environment.
  - These heritable traits may make it challenging to traverse ~~of~~ a fitness landscape.
  - Within the context of climate change where we expect ↑ extremes, ↓ predictability we may expect ...?
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# Introduction

## /compensatory plasticity/

P1 Requirements for the evol<sup>n</sup> of adaptive plasticity (in the context of climate change)

P2 • Importance of phenology (timing of life history events)  
[Function value trait paper → Mason ref.]  
& consequences of mismatch (↓ fitness)

P3 Can plasticity in late life events compensate for genetically-determined mismatches btwn enviro<sup>n</sup> & earlier life history events?

P4 This is our system, this is what we did.

P5 Specifically, we ask:

(i) Across a continuum of life history events is there variance in the heritability of life history traits?  
(higher  $h^2$  than later)

↳ Are there fitness consequences to this?

(ii) Does the heritability of phenology & life history events affect the ability to traverse the fitness landscape & proximity to the fitness optimum?

