**Dispersal Simulation Notes 26/02/2013**

Total colony food, which is group productivity or individual fitness for each member of the colony

Total food = total instar in colony scaled by –(ax+b)2 + c → this is a completely symmetrical function. Perhaps not that realistic?

c: defines where the maximum lies

By deciding what these numbers are will scale the size of the colonies:

Max colony size: 50? Therefore with this exactly symmetrical scaling function dx/dy = 0 at x=25

Other options is basically : modified from Aviles 1999

f(N)= a Nd e-cN where a is a scaling factor denoting the maximum up the y-axis, d is > 1 and denotes how skewed the graph is and c is kinda the group carrying capacity. For the minute N will be total instar.

Food to each spider from colony food

Scaled by relative size compared to others within the colony. So it is just relative size multiplied by total colony food. This is pure scramble competition, everyone gets the same amount compared to their size. I need to think about how to model contest competition.

Growth to individual size

Need maximum growth per time step: need to think about it in terms of an individual growth rate and obviously has to be a function of their current size.

Simplest could be purely linear function with a maximum – do I need a maximum?

Growth = m \* individual food

No- negative growth which can result in death

Easist just to say that –ve growth = death for the minute?

Increasing instar levels: set instar list for the predefined sizes to reach next instar level.