Local Mate Competition of Males determines Alternative Reproductive Tactics in Spider Mites

MSc thesis available on Local Mate Competition (LMC) and Alternative Reproductive Tactics (ARTs) in two-spotted spider mites Tetranychus urticae. Based on LMC, our hypothesis is that the degree of genetic relatedness of competing males influences their ARTs. Males competing with close kin are more likely adopting the sneaking tactic than males competing with non-kin. Suitable candidates should have a keen interest in behavioral ecology/animal behavior and possess advanced English skills. Basic knowledge of arthropods is assumed; experience in (experimental) work with mites and/or insects is a plus but not obligatory.

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