

Biotic Resistance from Native Predators Predicts Mosquito Invasion Success and Informs Biocontrol Strategies

Ross N. Cuthbert, Amanda Callaghan, Jaimie T. A. Dick



QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST



University of
Reading



SAIAB
South African Institute
for Aquatic Biodiversity



Department for the
Economy



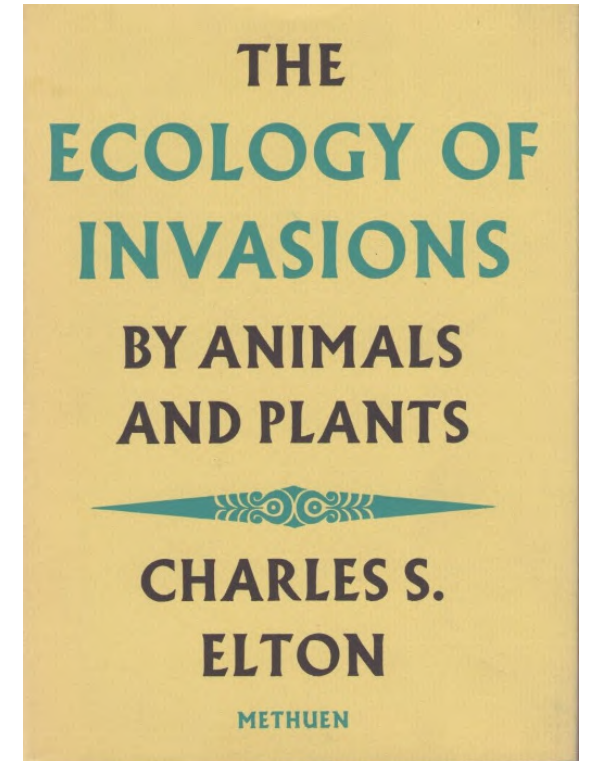
Biotic resistance hypothesis

Communities resist invasion *via* **predation, competition, parasitism, disease** and **aggression**

Greater diversity = higher resistance

Parallels between **invasion** and **biocontrol** sciences

- Invasion: biotic resistance **regulates invader success (?)**
- Biocontrol: biotic resistance **controls pests**





Biocontrol & invasion parallels

Biocontrol agent
success/failures in novel
range often recorded

Drivers have parallels to
understanding **invasion
success**

Invasion science **lacks
predictive/quantitative
measures** for success

Plant Pathology

An International Journal
The British Society for Plant Pathology



 Free Access

Biological Control of Weeds. A World Catalogue of Agents and
their Target Weeds.

M. H. Julien and M. W. Griffiths (eds). 21 × 29.5 cm, 223 pp. UK, Wallingford: CAB International
[<http://www.cabi.org>]. 1998. £27.50. ISBN 085199 234 X (paperback).

Morag Webb

OIKOS

SYNTHESISING ECOLOGY

 Full Access

The elephant in the room: the role of failed invasions in
understanding invasion biology

Rafael D. Zenni, Martin A. Nuñez

First published: 24 January 2013 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1600-0706.2012.00254.x> | Cited by: 117



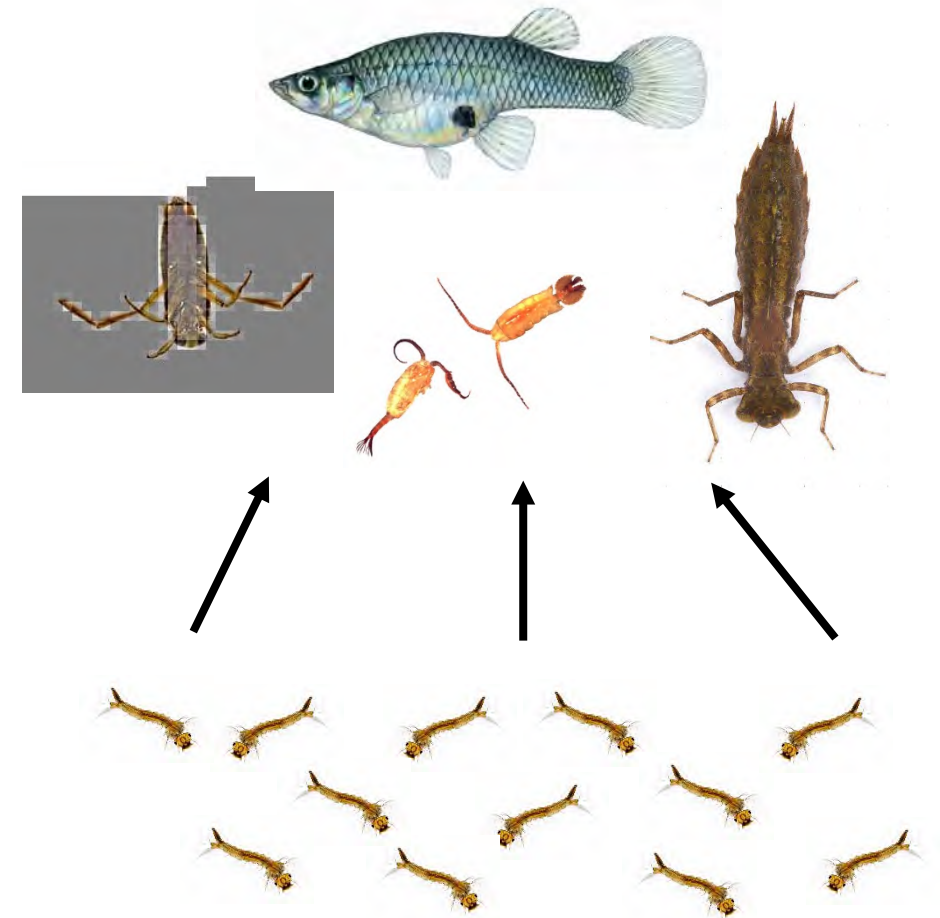
Mosquito control: bridging invasion and biocontrol sciences

Deadliest animals in world

- **435,000 deaths** from **malaria/yr** (WHO, 2018)

Many highly **invasive pest** species which also cause **disease**

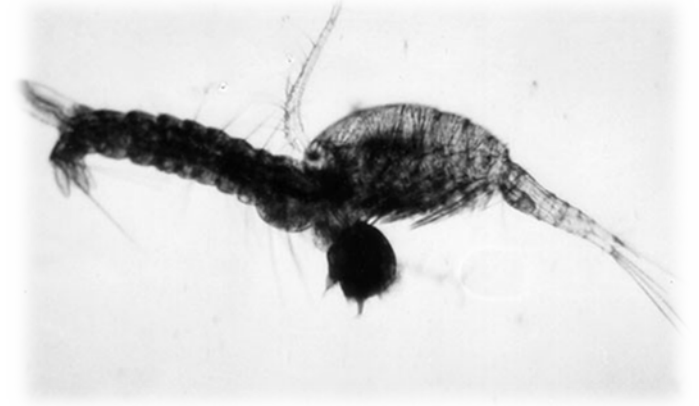
Aquatic life stages suffer high biotic resistance





Copepods and mosquito control

- Most successful predatory natural enemy
 - e.g. **community-scale dengue vector elimination**
- **Widespread, diverse and abundant**
- Tolerate **minute, ephemeral systems** unlike other predators



Calanoid Copepods: An Overlooked Tool in the Control of Disease Vector Mosquitoes

Ross N Cuthbert ✉, Tatenda Dalu, Ryan J Wasserman, Amanda Callaghan, Olaf L F Weyl, Jaimie T A Dick

Journal of Medical Entomology, Volume 55, Issue 6, November 2018, Pages 1656–1658,

New strategy against *Aedes aegypti* in Vietnam

Brian Kay, Vu Sinh Nam



Asian tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*)

Most invasive mosquito species globally

- > 25 European countries
- **Drought-/freeze-resistant eggs**
- Exploits **minute container-style habitats**

Major threat to public health

- Zika, dengue, chikungunya

Superior larval resource competitor

...but often fails to displace natives

Biotic resistance mediates success?





Recent UK arrival



EXPRESS

Home of
the Daily and
Sunday Express

UK disease WARNING:
Aggressive tiger mosquitoes to
invade UK bringing dengue fever
& Zika

Killer mozzie alert: Britain facing INVASION of mosquitoes carrying deadly diseases

BRITAIN faces an invasion by record numbers of Asian tiger mosquitoes carrying deadly diseases because of the balmy weather, say experts.

By **Laura Nell** / Published 19th April 2018

CORRESPONDENCE | [VOLUME 17, ISSUE 2, P140, FEBRUARY 01, 2017](#)

Detection of the invasive mosquito species *Aedes albopictus* in southern England

[Jolyon M Medlock](#) ✉ • [Alexander GC Vaux](#) • [Benjamin Cull](#) • [Francis Schaffner](#) • [Emma Gillingham](#) • [Valentin Pfluger](#) et al. [Show all authors](#)

Published: February, 2017 • DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099\(17\)30024-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099(17)30024-5)



VAMPIRE BUGS Fears Asian tiger mosquitoes that carry
dengue fever, West Nile virus and Zika to invade UK this
summer



Quantifying biotic resistance

Applying **classic ecological concepts**

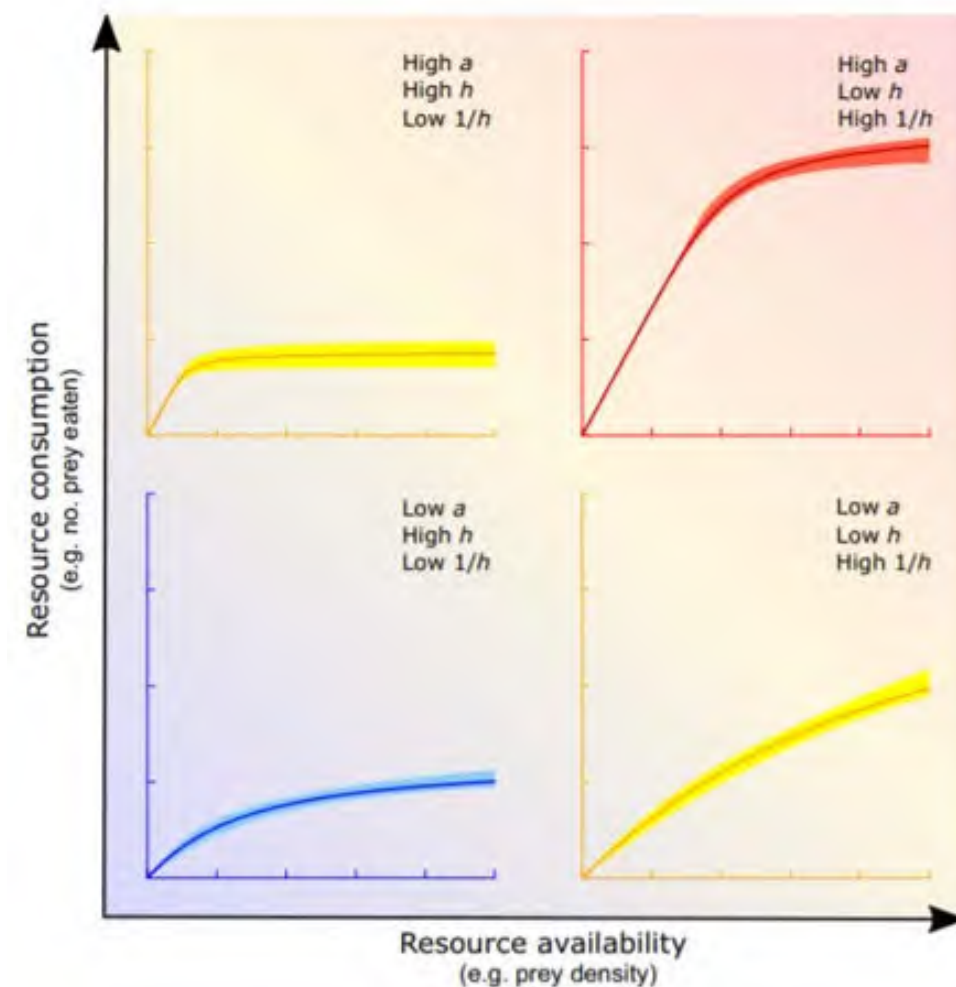
(1) Functional Response (FR)

- resource use \sim resource density

Key parameters predict *per capita* ecological impact: **attack rate (a)**, **handling time (h)**

- High a , low h = high impact

FR Ratio (FRR): a/h



Cuthbert *et al.* (2019) *Biol. Invasions*



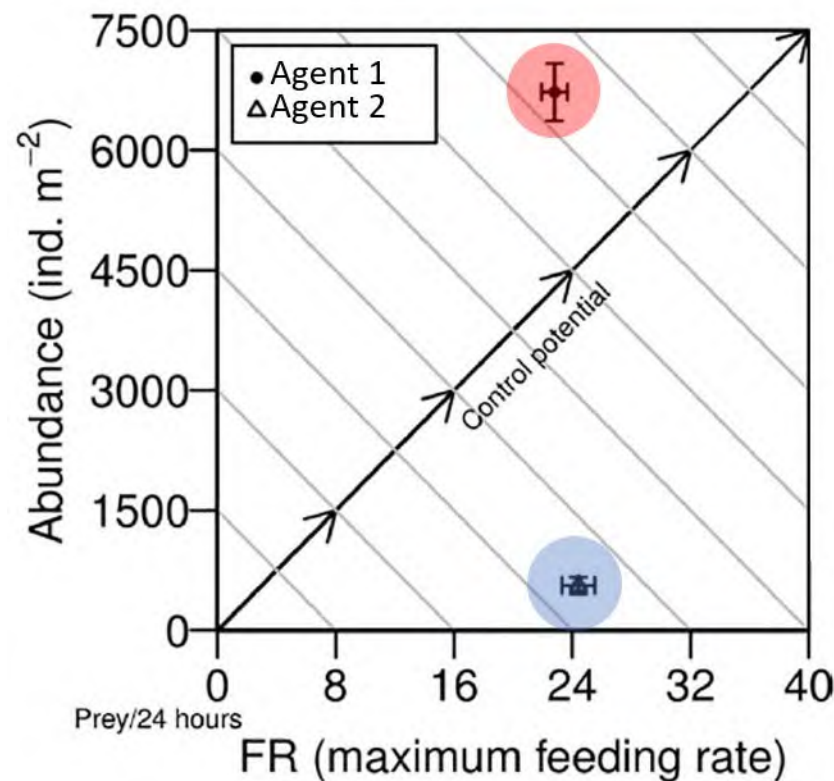
Quantifying biotic resistance

(2) Numerical Response (NR)

- predator aggregation \sim prey density
- $NR \times FR = \text{Total Response (TR)}$

NR **proxies** (e.g. predator abundance, fecundity)

High FR & NR = high **population-level biotic resistance**



Comparing biocontrol agents:
Relative Control Potential

Cuthbert *et al.* (2018a, b) *Biol. Control*



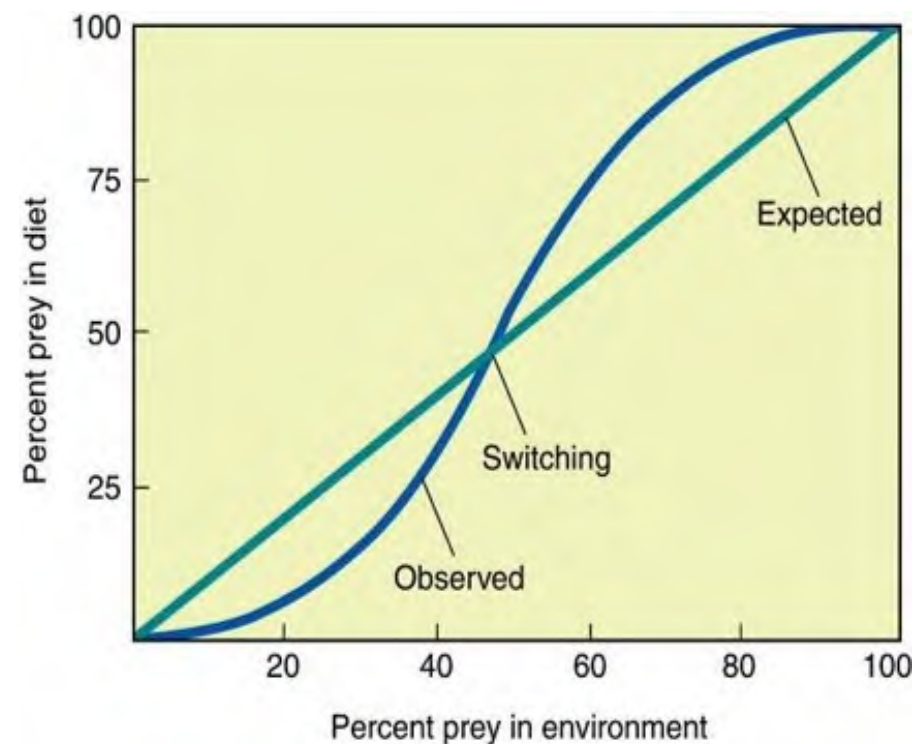
Quantifying biotic resistance

(3) Prey preferences & switching

- predation rate \sim prey frequency

Switching among prey is **stabilising mechanism** (Murdoch 1969)

Frequency-independent preferences = **high biotic resistance**



Using functional responses and prey switching to quantify invasion success of the Pacific oyster, *Crassostrea gigas*

Patrick W.S. Joyce^{a,*}, James W.E. Dickey^b, Ross N. Cuthbert^c, Jaimie T.A. Dick^d, Louise Kregting^e

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN

Intermediate predator naïveté and sex-skewed vulnerability predict the impact of an invasive higher predator

Received: 23 May 2018
Accepted: 14 September 2018
Published online: 24 September 2018

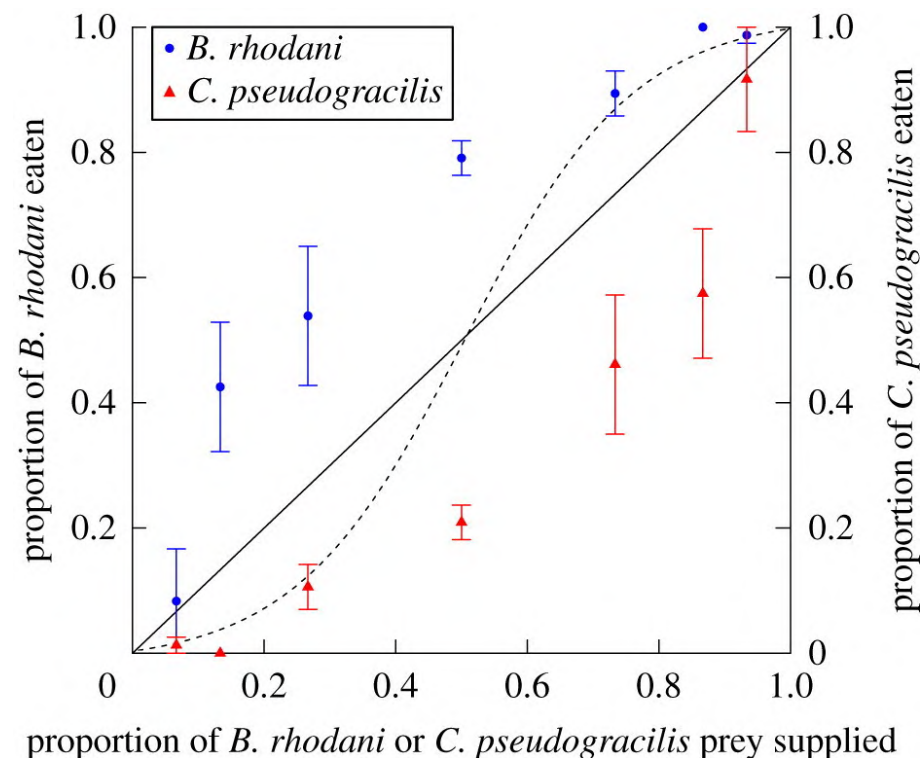
Ross N. Cuthbert^{1,2,3}, Tetenda Delu^{4,5}, Ryan J. Wasserman^{1,6}, Jaimie T.A. Dick¹, Lubabalo Mofu⁷, Amanda Callaghan⁷ & Olaf L.F. Weyl¹



Quantifying biotic resistance

Frequency-independent preference
for **native** mayfly over **invasive** shrimp

Aligns with **field** patterns of success



ROYAL SOCIETY
OPEN SCIENCE

rsos.royalsocietypublishing.org

Research



Cite this article: Cuthbert RN, Dickey JWE, McMorow C, Lavery C, Dick JTA. 2018

Resistance is futile: lack of predator switching and a preference for native prey predict the success of an invasive prey species. *R. Soc. open sci.* **5**: 180339.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rsos.180339>

Resistance is futile: lack of predator switching and a preference for native prey predict the success of an invasive prey species

Ross N. Cuthbert, James W. E. Dickey, Clare McMorow, Ciaran Lavery and Jaimie T. A. Dick

Institute for Global Food Security, School of Biological Sciences, Queen's University Belfast, Medical Biology Centre, 97 Lisburn Road, Belfast BT9 7BL, UK



Study system

Biotic resistance compared between larval
invasive *A. albopictus* and **native *Culex pipiens***

By three **native predatory copepods**

- *Macrocyclus albidus*, *Macrocyclus fuscus*,
Megacyclus viridis

Laboratory mesocosm **feeding experiments**

- (1) **FRs** (single prey species, different densities)
- (2) **Switching** (both prey species, different ratios)



Aedes albopictus (invader)



Culex pipiens (native analogue)



General methods

Starve predators to **standardise hunger** (24 h)

Introduce predators into arenas containing one of a **range of prey densities/proportions** for fixed feeding time

- (1) FRs:** Determine **Type**; fit appropriate **model**; non-parametric **bootstrapping** to compare curves
- (2) Switching:** fit/examine **preference model** across prey proportions



Invader/native biotic resistance

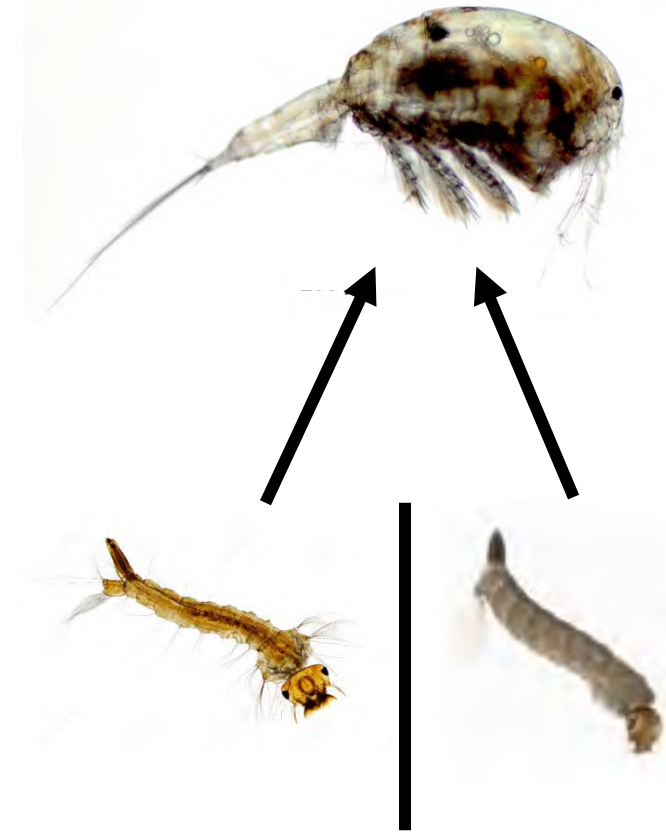
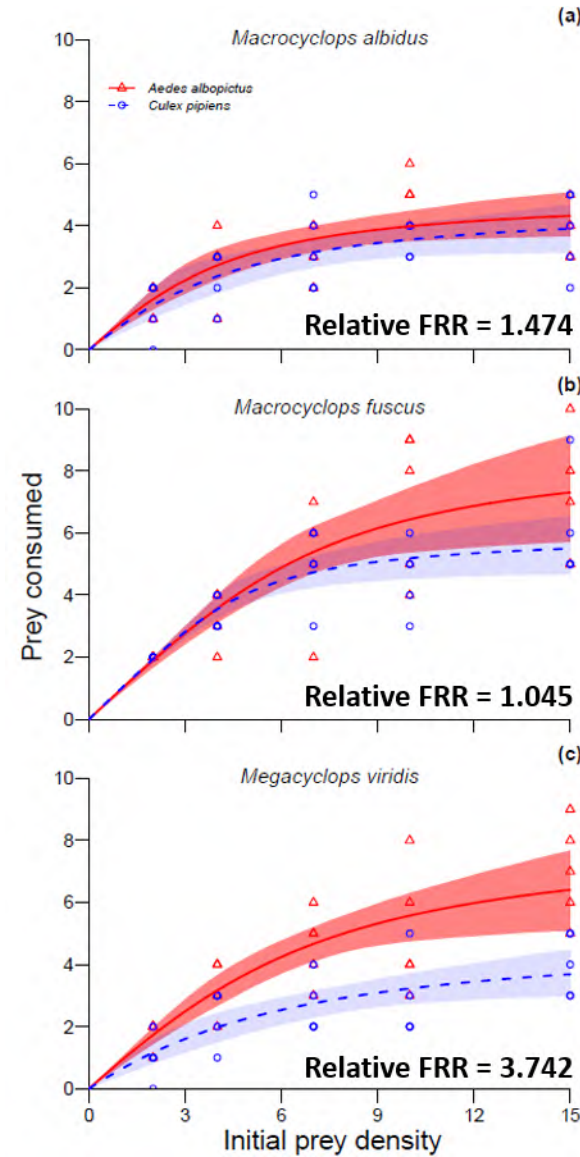
(1) FRs

Consistently **higher FR** magnitude towards invader

Invader/native **FRR** calculated (a/h)

- Relative FRR = FRR_i / FRR_n

FRR always higher towards invader by all native predators





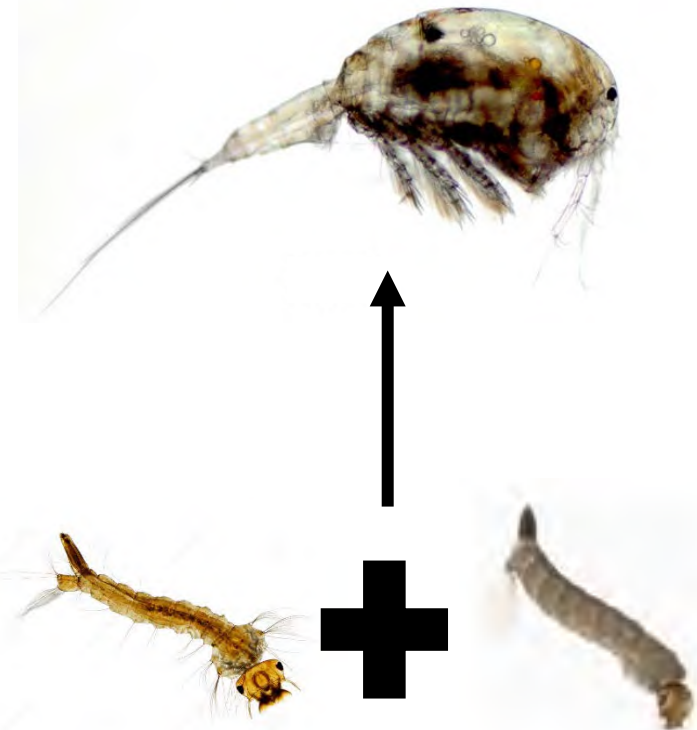
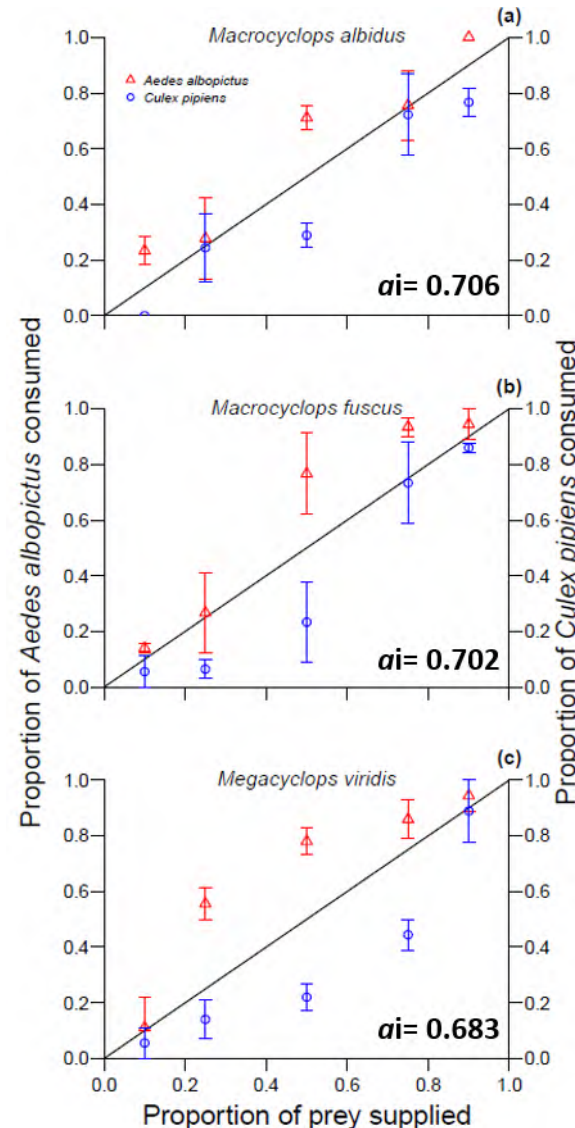
Invader/native biotic resistance

(2) Switching

Consistent **preference for invader**
over native mosquito

Predators **did not switch** from
invader

Invader preference indices
calculated (ai , Manly, 1974)





Comparing predator efficacy: Biotic Resistance (BR) potential

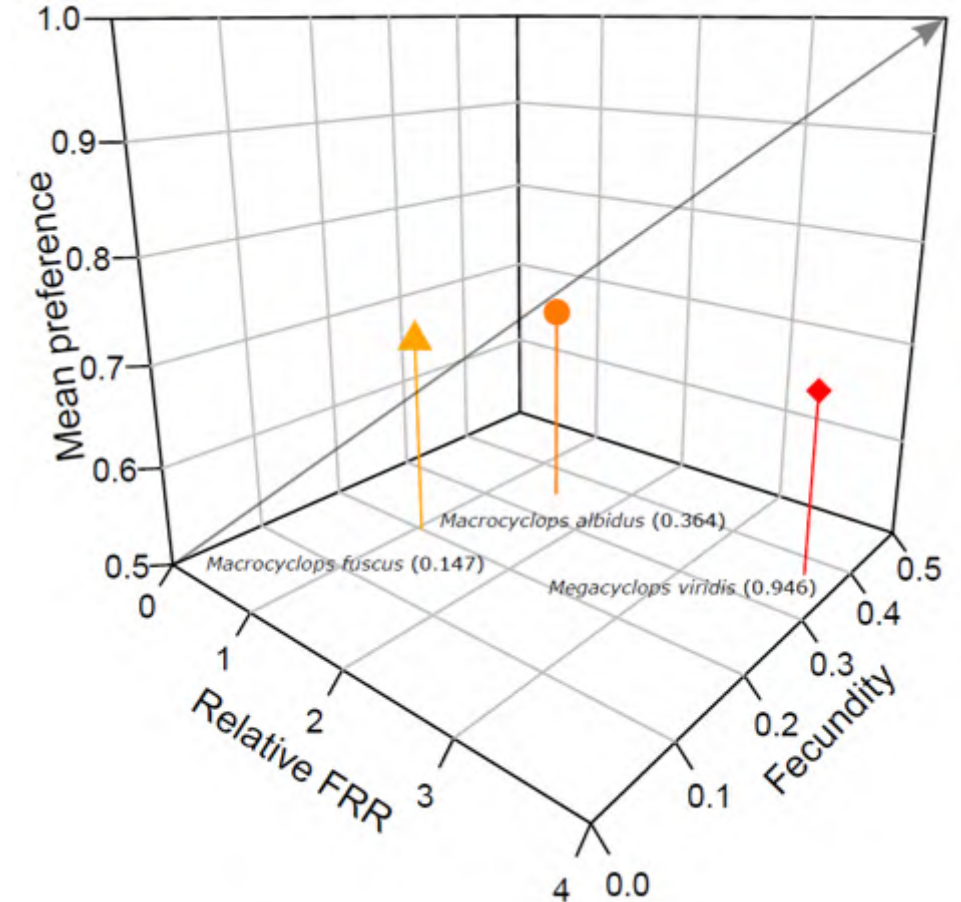
(3) NRs

Copepod **fecundity** (reproductive effort) used as **proxy**

$$\text{BR} = \text{Relative FRR} \times ai \times \text{NR}$$

Differential impacts

- *M. viridis* > *M. albidus* > *M. fuscus*





Synthesis

All **native predators** displayed:

- (1) Consistently **higher FR(R) towards invader** over native;
- (2) Frequency-independent **preference for invader**

Differential biotic resistance may limit *A. albopictus* **invasion success**

BR a novel metric to **compare natural enemies** for biocontrol



Field patterns

Aedes albopictus frequently **fails to displace native mosquitoes**

Behaviour, naïveté?

Resident predators may **offset competitive advantage**

Invasion success predictable in this system, and likely for other **habitats/taxa**

Oecologia (2008) 155:631–639
DOI 10.1007/s00442-007-0935-4

COMMUNITY ECOLOGY - ORIGINAL PAPER

**Do natural container habitats impede invader dominance?
Predator-mediated coexistence of invasive and native
container-dwelling mosquitoes**

Banugopan Kesavaraju · Kavitha Damal ·
Steven A. Juliano



Biological Invasions 3: 151–166, 2001.
© 2002 Kluwer Academic Publishers. Printed in the Netherlands.

**Testing predictions of displacement of native *Aedes* by
the invasive Asian Tiger Mosquito *Aedes albopictus* in Florida, USA**

L.P. Lounibos^{1,*}, G.F. O'Meara¹, R.L. Escher¹, N. Nishimura¹, M. Cutwa¹, T. Nelson^{1,3},
R.E. Campos^{1,4} & S.A. Juliano²



Output

**SCIENTIFIC
REPORTS**
nature research

OPEN

A novel metric reveals biotic resistance potential and informs predictions of invasion success

Ross N. Cuthbert^{1,2*}, Amanda Callaghan² & Jaimie T. A. Dick¹

Invasive species continue to proliferate and detrimentally impact ecosystems on a global scale. Whilst impacts are well-documented for many invaders, we lack tools to predict biotic resistance and invasion success. Biotic resistance from communities may be a particularly important determinant of the success of invaders. The present study develops traditional ecological concepts to better understand and quantify biotic resistance. We quantified predation towards the highly invasive Asian tiger mosquito *Aedes albopictus* and a representative native mosquito *Culex pipiens* by three native and widespread cyclopoid copepods, using functional response and prey switching experiments. All copepods demonstrated higher magnitude type II functional responses towards the invasive prey over the analogous native prey, aligned with higher attack and maximum feeding rates. All predators exhibited significant, frequency-independent prey preferences for the invader. With these results, we developed a novel metric for biotic resistance which integrates predator numerical response proxies, revealing differential biotic resistance potential among predators. Our results are consistent with field patterns of biotic resistance and invasion success, illustrating the predictive capacity of our methods. We thus propose the further development of traditional ecological concepts, such as functional responses, numerical responses and prey switching, in the evaluation of biotic resistance and invasion success.



Output



Management of Biological Invasions (2020) Volume 11 Article in press

CORRECTED PROOF

Research Article

In for the kill: novel biosecurity approaches for invasive and medically important mosquito species

Ross N. Cuthbert^{1,2,3,*}, Eoghan M. Cunningham^{1,2}, Kate Crane^{1,2}, Jaimie T.A. Dick^{1,2}, Amanda Callaghan³ and Neil E. Coughlan^{1,2}

¹Institute for Global Food Security, School of Biological Sciences, Queen's University Belfast, 19 Chlorine Gardens, Belfast BT9 5DL, Northern Ireland, UK

²Queen's Marine Laboratory, Queen's University Belfast, 12-13 The Strand, Portaferry BT22 1PF, Northern Ireland, UK

³Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, School of Biological Sciences, University of Reading, Harborne Building, Reading RG6 6AS, England, UK

Author e-mails: rcuthbert03@qub.ac.uk (RNC), ecunningham18@qub.ac.uk (EMC), kcrane02@qub.ac.uk (KC), j.dick@qub.ac.uk (JTAD), a.callaghan@reading.ac.uk (AC), neil.coughlan.zoology@gmail.com (NEC)

*Corresponding author