
Poster Session 2 – Conservation and Ecosystem Services

96 A review of methods for studying the seed-rodent interaction

Hongjun Li, Haifeng Gu, Zhibin Zhang

State Key Laboratory of Integrated Management of Pest Rodents and Insects, Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, No.1 Beichen West Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100101, P.R. China., lihj@ioz.ac.cn

Although seed dispersal by rodents is one of the most important mechanisms in the ecology and evolution of mutualistic systems, we still have very limited knowledge about the seed dispersal systems due to limitation of research methods of identifying the relation between seeds and rodents at individual level. Most of previous methods in studying seed-rodent interactions , e.g. direct observation, metal-tagged, oil paint-marked, thread-marked, fluorescent-pigment, radioisotope- labeled method, are not able to track the individual or species hoarding seeds. Recently, we developed a method combing seed tagging and infrared cameras tracking methods which could identify the individual relation between seeds and rodents. Our method allows us to estimate the seed-rodent interaction strength, and to assess the benefits and losses of scatter hoarding and conspecific or interspecific seed pilferage, which is essential for exploring the mechanism of species coexistence and network stability of seed-rodent systems.

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Jens Jacob, Jana Eccard (Editors)

6th International Conference of Rodent
Biology and Management
and
16th Rodens et Spatium

Potsdam, Germany, 3-7 September 2018

Book of Abstracts



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Editors:

Jens Jacob¹ and Jana Eccard²

¹Julius Kühn Institute, Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants,
Institute for Plant Protection in Horticulture and Forests, Vertebrate Research,
Toppeideweg 88, 48161 Münster, Germany

²University of Potsdam, Institute of Biochemistry and Biology,
Animal Ecology Group, Maulbeerallee 1,
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