

FIG. 1. Correlation between density of larval *Dicamptodon* and the density of large (>7.5 cm), unembedded stones among 14 stream pools.

salamander assemblages in forested regions of the Pacific northwest. Its range extends from southwestern British Columbia, through the Cascade and Coast ranges, to northwestern California (Nussbaum et al., 1983). In contrast to the majority of ambystomatid salamanders that breed in ponds and lakes *Dicamptodon* is adapted for breeding in streams (Nussbaum, 1976). Larval *Dicamptodon* are common to extremely abundant in small headwater streams throughout their range (Hawkins et al., 1983; Corn and Bury, 1989) and have been reported to comprise as much as 99% of the predator biomass in these systems (Murphy and Hall, 1981; Hawkins et al. 1983). Although abundant and a potentially important component of headwater stream food webs, few studies have examined factors influencing the distribution and abundance of larval *Dicamptodon*.

In July 1988 I conducted a survey of 14 stream pools along the north fork of Caspar Creek, Mendocino County, California, to assess the relationship between cover object density and the density of larval *Dicamptodon*. The north fork of Caspar Creek is a low-gradient (<2%) headwater stream draining second growth forest dominated by coastal redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), and tan oak (*Lithocarpus densiflora*). During low flow periods (April through November) the stream channel consists of long, shallow pools connected by short riffles. The substrate is a mixture of pebbles and cobbles overlying finer silt and sandy sediments. Relative proportions of these bed materials varied considerably among pools. Pools that I surveyed varied in surface area (mean 11.85 m<sup>2</sup>; range 5.20–15.68 m<sup>2</sup>) but were similar in depth (mean 28.0 cm; range 19.0–30 cm), canopy cover (>80%), and current velocity (range 1 to 3 cm/s). Larval salamanders were censused in each pool by turning over all loose stones and organic debris larger than 7.5 cm (longest dimension) while moving slowly upstream. Salamanders encountered were captured using a small dipnet and held until the entire pool was surveyed. Capture success of observed salamanders was 100%. A single pass was considered sufficient for a complete census since multiple passes through four randomly-chosen pools yielded only one additional salamander. No salamanders were observed escaping from pools during the survey. The number of unembedded stones larger than 7.5 cm

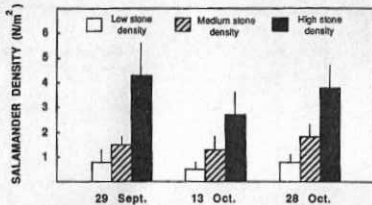


FIG. 2. Densities of larval *Dicamptodon* (mean  $\pm$  1 SE) among experimental plots of three stone densities.  $P < 0.01$  on all three dates; Friedman's Test adjusted for tied ranks (Zar, 1984).

within each pool was counted directly and stone counts and salamander abundances were converted to densities (no./m<sup>2</sup>) by dividing by pool surface area.

In addition to the pool survey, I conducted a simple experiment to test the hypothesis that within stream pools patches of streambed with high cover object density will support higher densities of larval salamanders. I established three plots in each of four different stream pools that had similar surface areas, depths, canopy cover, and substrate composition. Plots were established by removing all loose stones greater than 5 cm from a 1 m<sup>2</sup> area and replacing them with one of three stone densities that encompassed the range found during the survey. The stone sizes used encompassed the range of stone sizes found on the stream bed (small, 50.4  $\pm$  8.6 mm diameter; medium, 102.3  $\pm$  15.3 mm diameter; large, 206.8  $\pm$  21.4 mm diameter). Low density plots contained 16 small, 4 medium and 2 large stones; medium density plots contained 32 small, 8 medium and 4 large stones; and high density plots contained 64 small, 16 medium and 8 large stones. Total surface area thus was doubled between successive density treatments, with the mid density plot being roughly equivalent to mean stone density among pools. Each of the three stone densities was randomly assigned to one of the three plots within a pool so that each density was replicated four times. Intervening distances between plots were greater than 2 m so adjacent plots would not be disturbed during sampling. The plots were established on 8 September and larval salamanders were censused within them on 29 September and 13 and 28 October, 1988. Plots were searched in an upstream direction to minimize disturbance to plots not yet sampled. Each stone within a plot was turned and salamanders were collected with a small dipnet and held until all three plots within a pool were censused. All salamanders observed were captured.

A total of 130 larval salamanders was collected during the pool survey and 69 were collected from experimental plots. Mean snout-vent lengths of the two groups were 38.7 mm (SD 6.31; range 29–63 mm), and 45.5 mm (SD 6.66; range 33–60 mm), respectively. The population consisted of larvae in their first year of development and a few second-year premetamorphic individuals, which is the typical population structure in small, permanent streams (Nussbaum and Clothier, 1973).

Survey and experimental results demonstrate that cover object availability strongly influenced larval *Dicamptodon* distribution and abundance both within and among pools. There was a strong positive correlation between stone density and larval salamander density among the 14 stream pools surveyed (Fig. 1). On all three sample dates mean salamander densities were greatest in the high stone density plots and lowest in the low stone density plots and were under medium and large stones (28 and 34, respectively), while only five were under small stones and two were in the open. Although this simple experiment could not test for selection among cover objects differing in size, results suggest that there is a threshold minimum cover object size used by larval salamanders.

Previously, a small number of studies examining the effects of logging on headwater stream communities were the only published descriptions of larval *Dicamptodon* habitat use (Hall et al., 1978; Murphy and Hall, 1981; Murphy et al., 1981; Hawkins et al., 1983; Corn and Bury, 1989). Although these studies did not quantify specific relationships between substrate composition, cover availability and larval salamander density, they concluded that there is a negative relationship between quantities of fine sediments within the streambed and larval salamander densities. Fine sediments fill in crevices among large stones, effectively reducing cover availability. Thus, my results are in general agreement with these previous studies, but also provide a more detailed description of the relationship between cover and the microhabitat distribution of larval *Dicamptodon*.

Understanding relationships between key physical habitat variables and the distribution and abundance of different life stages of an organism are essential for interpreting population dynamics and life history patterns. This is particularly true for amphibians with complex life cycles (Wilbur, 1980). This study clearly demonstrates the importance of cover availability to the distribution and abundance of larval *Dicamptodon*. However, to determine how instream habitat conditions influence population dynamics of *Dicamptodon*, data must be obtained on relationships between larval abundance, survival to metamorphosis, and densities of reproductive individuals in the terrestrial environment.

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#### Genetic Variation in Populations of the American Crocodile

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The 11 extant species of the genus *Crocodylus* appear to be minimally divergent biochemically, despite their wide, circumtropical distribution. In his studies of the biochemical and immunological systematics of *Crocodylus*, Densmore (1981, 1983) found marked biochemical similarities among species of crocodiles. Specifically, starch gel electrophoresis of proteins coded by

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TABLE 1. Gene frequencies of three populations of *Crocodylus acutus*. Abbreviations: JM = Jamaica; FL = Florida; DR = Dominican Republic; alb = plasma albumin; alpha and beta globulins = those plasma protein zones; per = peroxidase; pep = peptidases; est = esterases; ald = aldolase; np = nucleoside phosphorylase; hk = hexokinase; mpi = mannose phosphate isomerase; g6pd = glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase; pgm = phosphoglucomutase; pgi = phosphoglucoisomerase; ca = carbonic anhydrase; ldh = lactate dehydrogenase; 6pgd = 6-phosphogluconate dehydrogenase; mdh = malate dehydrogenase; fh = fumarase; cat = catalase; sod = super oxide dismutase. Buffers are listed in the order of best results and preference. See methods and materials for details.

Locus	Population	Buffer	Genotype frequency: ranked from most to least anodal			
			1/1	1/2	2/2	2/3
alb	JM	E	20			
	FL		9			
	DR		28			
	alpha-1g	E				
JM		11	5	4		
FL		6	1	2		
DR		11	13	4		
alpha-2g	JM	E	18	2		
	FL		7	2		
	DR		21	4	3	
	alpha-3g	JM	E	17	3	
FL			5	3	1	
DR			14	12	2	
beta g		JM	E	20		
	FL		9			
	DR		28			
	per 1	JM	A, E			17
FL			1		8	
DR					26	
per 2		JM	A, E	12	5	4
	FL		5	3	2	
	DR		24	5		
	pep d	JM	E	17		
FL			8			
DR			25			
pep a		JM	E	10		
	FL		20			
	DR		24			
	est 1	JM	E, A	20		
FL			11			
DR			29			
est 2		JM	E, A	13	1	2
	FL		8			
	DR		18	3		

TABLE 1. Continued.

Locus	Population	Buffer	Genotype frequency: ranked from most to least anodal			
			1/1	1/2	2/2	2/3
est 3	JM	E, A		6	9	
	FL		1	5	5	
	DR		2	14	13	
	ald 1	JM	B, E		1	16
FL				5	18	
DR				5	26	
ald 2		JM	B, E	17		
	FL		19			
	DR		30			
	np	JM	B, E	2	1	15
FL			1	4	18	1
DR			7	9	14	
hk 1		JM	B	18		
	FL		18			
	DR		23			
	hk 2	JM	B	18		
FL			10			
DR			20			
mpi		JM	B			9
	FL			1	9	
	DR				14	
	g6pd 1	JM	B		3	8
FL				3	11	
DR				17	8	
g6pd 2		JM	B	12		
	FL		12	2		
	DR		19	7		
	pgm	JM	B, D, A			15
FL				7	11	3
DR				6	21	1
pgi		JM	C, B	21		
	FL		22	2		
	DR		34			
	ca	JM	D, B, A		1	17
FL			4	10	11	
DR				25	10	
ldh 1		JM	A			18
	FL			4	17	2
	DR			2	26	
	ldh 2	JM	A	15	2	
FL			19	4		
DR			21	7	1	
6pgd		JM	B, C, D			15
	FL			1	15	
	DR			5	20	

TABLE 1. Continued.

Locus	Population	Buffer	Genotype frequency: ranked from most to least anodal			
			1/1	1/2	2/2	2/3
mdh 1	JM	D			16	
	FL		3	3	12	
	DR			1	28	
	mdh 2	JM	D	16		
FL			15	2	1	
DR			26	4		
fh		JM	D	13		
	FL		11			
	DR			2		
	cat	JM	E	10		
FL			13			
DR			20			
sod 1		JM	E	11		
	FL		16			
	DR		21			
	sod 2	JM	E	11		
FL			18			
DR			18	2		

21 presumed gene loci failed to differentiate clearly more than two species of *Crocodylus*, including species from four different zoogeographic realms. Such protein conservatism may be characteristic of the *Crocodylus* in that three studies of *Alligator mississippiensis* found a low degree of heterozygosity (Gartside et al., 1977; Menzies et al., 1979; Adams et al., 1980). Three disjunct populations were distinguishable by the presence of distinctive allele frequencies at only three loci. Given the emerging pattern of genetic conservatism among the *Crocodylus*, it is of interest to consider further the question of allozymic variation within other species of this group.

We report a study of genetic variation in three populations of the American crocodile (*Crocodylus acutus*). Animals were sampled from three disjunct populations in Florida, Jamaica, and the Dominican Republic. Genotype frequency data were obtained from 32 presumptive protein loci in plasma, red blood cells and, in some cases, muscle tissue. We tested the hypothesis that these populations are not electrophoretically distinguishable. The results are relevant to an understanding of crocodylian genetics, gene flow among insular populations, and crocodylian conservation.

Crocodyles (25 individuals) from Florida were collected from the wild in Florida Bay from 1979-1982. Animals of Jamaican origin (N = 21) were obtained from the living collection at Gatorama in Palmdale, Florida, in April 1979. Nine were from animals collected in Jamaica, and twelve from offspring, most known to be from different parents than those sampled. Samples from Dominican Republic animals were

collected at the National Zoological Park (Zoodom) in Santo Domingo. Blood was obtained from 35 unrelated animals, as documented by Zoo records, ranging from three months of age to adults. Most of the animals originated in Lago Enriquillo, Dominican Republic.

Blood samples were obtained by vein puncture (Gorzula et al., 1976). Sample volumes ranged from 0.3 ml from hatchlings to 10 ml from adults. In some cases, entire hatchlings which did not survive hatching were frozen intact. Muscle tissue was sometimes obtained from adults by biopsy from the inner surface of the hind leg (Menzies et al., 1983). A small incision (about 2 cm) was made through the skin to the surface of the muscle, a small piece was removed, and the wound painted with gentian violet.

Collection and transport conditions for samples collected from Jamaican and Dominican Republic animals were similar; red cells and plasma were separated when collected and frozen separately, and muscle tissue was also frozen; all samples were transported to the laboratory on dry ice. Samples from Florida animals were collected in the field over several years. Blood and tissue were kept on ice until centrifugation of blood and freezing could be done on shore. Specimens were transported to the laboratory frozen, as above.

For electrophoresis, plasma was analyzed directly or diluted ten fold with a solution of 10 mM sodium phosphate, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM Mg<sup>2+</sup>, and 1 mM beta mercaptoethanol, pH 7.5. Red cell pellets and muscle tissue were homogenized in two to four volumes of the same solution. The homogenate was centrifuged at 10,000 × g for 20 min and the supernatant saved for electrophoretic analysis.

Electrophoretic procedures used have been described earlier (Harris and Hopkinson, 1976; Menzies and Kerrigan, 1979; Menzies, 1981). In most cases, vertical starch gel electrophoresis was used. A mixture of 11% Electrostar (Electrostar Corp., Madison, Wisconsin) and 2% Connaught Starch (Fisher Scientific, Inc.) was used with a variety of buffers (see Table 1). (A) Bridge: 0.1 M Tris base, 0.025 M citrate, pH 7.5; Gel: 1:10 dilution, pH 7.5. (B) Bridge: 0.1 M Tris base, 0.1 M Malate, 0.01 M EDTA, 0.01 M MgCl<sub>2</sub>, pH 7.4; Gel: 1:10 dilution, pH 7.4. (C) Same as B but no MgCl<sub>2</sub> or EDTA. (D) Bridge: 0.1 M sodium phosphate, 0.0001 M NADP in cathode buffer, pH 7.0; Gel: 1:40 dilution with NADP added after degassing. (E) Bridge: 0.3 M borate, pH 8.6; Gel: 0.005 M Tris citrate, 0.01 M MgCl<sub>2</sub>, pH 8.6. Staining procedures for enzyme and proteins were as described by Harris and Hopkinson (1976). Gels were scored with the gel reader not knowing the origin of coded samples. One or more samples whose genotype was known was placed on each gel to minimize ambiguity in scoring.

The standard deviation of allele frequency was calculated as  $s = (pq/n)^{1/2}$ , where p and q are the allele frequencies of the most and least common allele, respectively, and n is the number of alleles observed (Kempthorne, 1957). When more than two alleles were present, q was taken as the composite frequency of the group of least common alleles. Tests of significance by t, G and  $\chi^2$  procedures were done as described in Sokal and Rohlf (1969), and Nei (1987). Observed average heterozygosity ( $H_o$ ) was obtained by averaging heterozygote frequencies over all loci.

TABLE 2. Genetic variation in three populations of *Crocodylus acutus*.

Variation <sup>1</sup> parameters	Population		
	Jamaica	Florida	Dominican Republic
% polymorphism <sup>2</sup>	40.6	59.4	59.4
H <sub>a</sub>	0.055	0.117	0.158
Variance (H <sub>a</sub> )	0.009	0.017	0.039
H <sub>e</sub>	0.0813	0.1600	0.1492
Variance (H <sub>e</sub> )	0.0005	0.0009	0.0009

<sup>1</sup> Calculations of H<sub>a</sub>, H<sub>e</sub>, and their variances are described in the text.

<sup>2</sup> Locus considered polymorphic if frequency of most common allele  $\leq 0.99$ .

Estimated average heterozygosity per locus (H<sub>e</sub>) and variance were calculated according to Nei (1975, 1987). Genetic distance (D) was calculated as defined by Nei (1975, 1987), but modified by Hillis (1984), and Tomiuk and Graur (1988) (as D\*). Variance of D\* was calculated according to Tomiuk and Graur (1988).

Thirty-two presumed protein loci were detectable in most of the specimens. Table 1 lists the numbers of animals in each genotype group per locus, per population. Table 2 summarizes several indices of genetic variability. Percent polymorphism ranged from 40.6% for the Jamaica population to 59.4% for both the Florida and Dominican Republic populations (using an allele frequency of  $\leq 0.99$  as the cut-off criterion). Observed frequencies of heterozygotes per locus (H<sub>a</sub>) were 0.055, 0.117, and 0.158 for Jamaica, Florida, and the Dominican Republic, respectively; estimated heterozygosities per locus (H<sub>e</sub>) were 0.081, 0.16, and 0.149 for those populations.

Genetic Distance (D\*) was of the order 0.01, indicating very few codon differences between population pairs (Table 3). By this criterion, little genetic differentiation has occurred. However, in each case the D\* calculated over all loci was significantly different from zero. Allele frequencies were also compared for population pairs at each locus. According to Nei (1987), if a significant difference exists at a locus between population pairs, then the genetic distance is greater than zero. Table 3 lists those loci that had significant allele frequency differences as tested by both t-test, using the variance described by Kempthorne (1957), and  $\chi^2$ , as described by Nei (1987). Therefore, these loci are the basis of the non-zero genetic distance, D\*, over all loci.

The electrophoretic analyses indicate that more genetic variation exists within populations of the American crocodile than in most other species of vertebrates (Nevo, 1978), especially the American alligator, the only other crocodylian studied on a population basis (Gartside et al., 1977; Menzies et al., 1979; Adams et al., 1980). Because H<sub>e</sub> values for the Florida and Dominican Republic populations were similar as were those of H<sub>a</sub>, we do not believe the high heterozygosity was a sampling artifact. The lower heterozygosity (0.081) of the Jamaican sample may reflect some genetic relatedness among the captive individuals sampled. The high heterozygosity was not a function of certain protein groups often associated with high

TABLE 3. Genetic relatedness of three populations of *Crocodylus acutus*.

Population comparisons	D*	Var D*	Allele frequency differences <sup>1</sup>
Jamaica vs. Florida	0.0098	0.00001657	est-2, pgm, ca, ldh-1, mdh-1, mdh-2
Jamaica vs. Dom. Rep.	0.0131	0.00002203	alpha 2G, alpha 3G, per-2, np, g6pd-2, pgm, ca, 6pgd, mdh-2
Florida vs. Dom. Rep.	0.0104	0.00001653	np, g6pd-1, mdh-1

<sup>1</sup> Loci showing significant allele frequency differences based on t-test analysis and by Chi square according to Nei (1987).

polymorphism. Removing data of protein groups such as hydrolases and plasma proteins, caused a decrement of the order of .01 to .03 in H<sub>a</sub> and H<sub>e</sub>.

The high genetic variation we found was also unexpected because of the results of Densmore's (1981, 1983) studies. He found *C. acutus* to be biochemically indistinguishable from other congeners on the basis of qualitative genetic data derived from single or few samples per species. It now seems that species of *Crocodylus* (at least *C. acutus*) might be distinguishable from each other on the quantitative basis of gene frequencies, rather than on fixed allelic differences. This was also the case in each of the alligator studies cited.

Nonetheless, our results are consistent with Densmore's (1983) principal conclusion that the species of *Crocodylus* are closely related. We calculate genetic distances, D\*, between populations on the order of 0.01, indicating little divergence has occurred. Because the land masses where these populations reside have been separated for 40–80 million years (Hedges, 1982), it is remarkable that more differentiation or even speciation has not taken place if the populations were separated at the time of land mass separation. Thus, Densmore's (1983) suggestion is plausible, that the genus radiated post-Pliocene, and the various Caribbean populations arose by colonization rather than by vicariance. The same mechanism is likely responsible for periodic gene exchange which retarded genetic differentiation. Occasional gene influx could also serve to maintain high heterozygosity. Periods of greater or lesser gene flow might be related to changes in sea levels and currents in the Caribbean and Florida Straits over Pliocene and Pleistocene periods (Riggs, 1984).

Occasional movement of crocodiles between various populations seems possible under certain conditions (Densmore, 1981; Dunson, 1982). In recent years, American crocodiles in Florida have been observed at sea and are known to travel more than 100 km (Kushlan and Mazzotti, 1989). Distances between Florida, Cuba, Yucatan, Jamaica and Hispanola are on the same order of magnitude. If aided by currents, especially wind-driven as in the case of hurricanes, adults of this species should be able to survive such a trip.

These results have implications for the conservation of crocodylian populations. American crocodylian populations differ in their quantitative genetics and some of this variation may be of adaptational value. From the standpoint of conserving natural gene pools of crocodiles, restocking approaches to conservation should be considered only as a last resort. The conservation of crocodylians should be undertaken on a populational rather than species basis by approaches such as suggested by Kushlan (1988).

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Dear Enemy Recognition in *Anolis carolinensis*

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A territory is a more or less exclusive area that is established and defended by a group or an individual (Davies and Houston, 1984). The utilization of territories restricts access to a limited resource (e.g., food, mates, breeding sites), but defending a territory is often energetically expensive due to such potential costs as injury, mortality, or loss of foraging time (Riechert, 1988).

Dear enemy, or neighbor, recognition is the exhibition of more aggressive behavior toward strangers than toward conspecific territorial neighbors (Jaeger, 1981). Neighbors with adjacent territories pose little threat to each other, but strangers are more of a threat to an individual's territory. Because strangers are less likely to possess territories of their own, they are more apt to challenge a resident for its territory. Therefore, aggression toward a neighbor is thought to be a wasteful expenditure of energy, while aggression toward strangers is considered an appropriate energy expen-