



Mating behaviour checking in the black soldier fly (*Hermetia illucens* L.) using SNP data: Parentage assignment for pedigree reconstruction

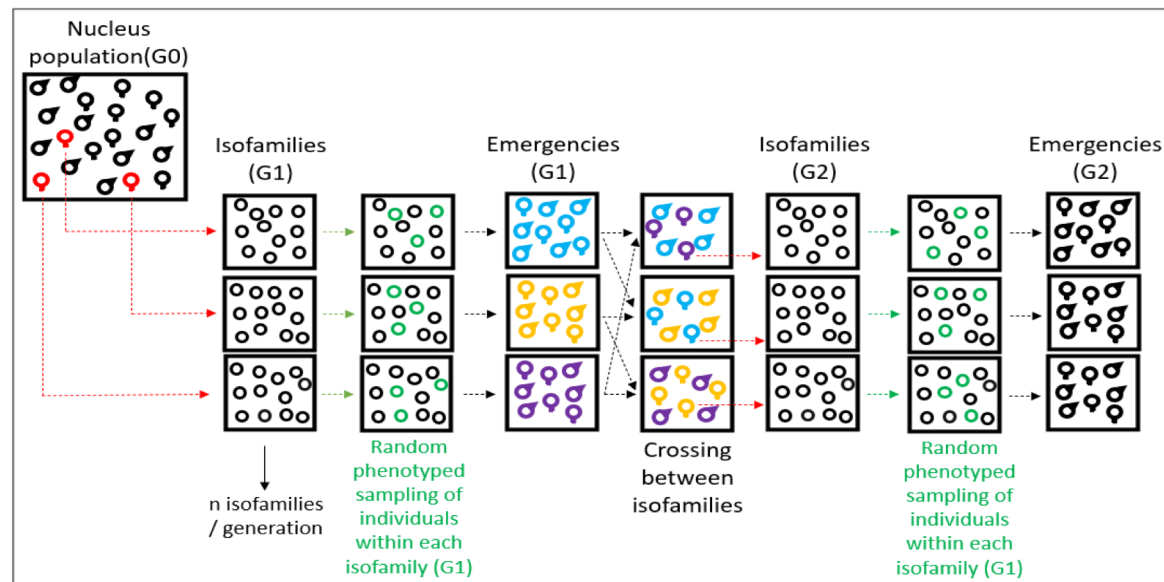
Donkpegan Armel¹ & Alexandra Guigue²

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Athens, Greece 29-31/01/2025

> Background

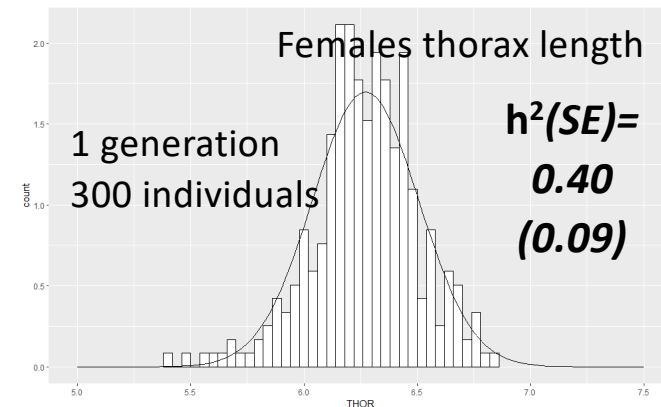
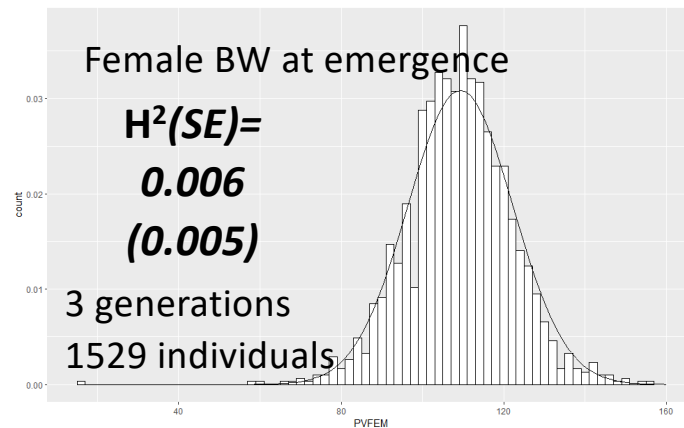
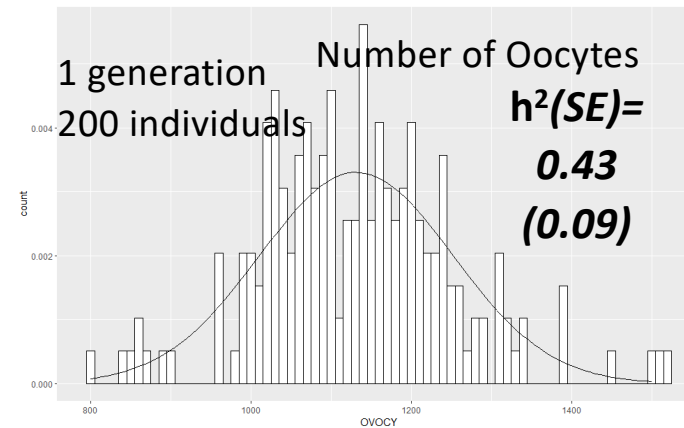
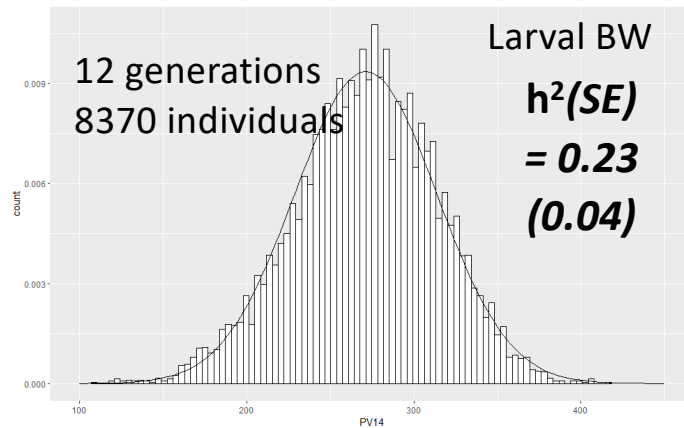
- In 2019, we developed a family pedigree breeding scheme in the black soldier fly (BSF)



- Clutches are isolated and collected per female, with the assumption that one clutch is mated by a single male and a single female
- Random phenotyped => used to built pedigree over generation and genetic parameters estimation

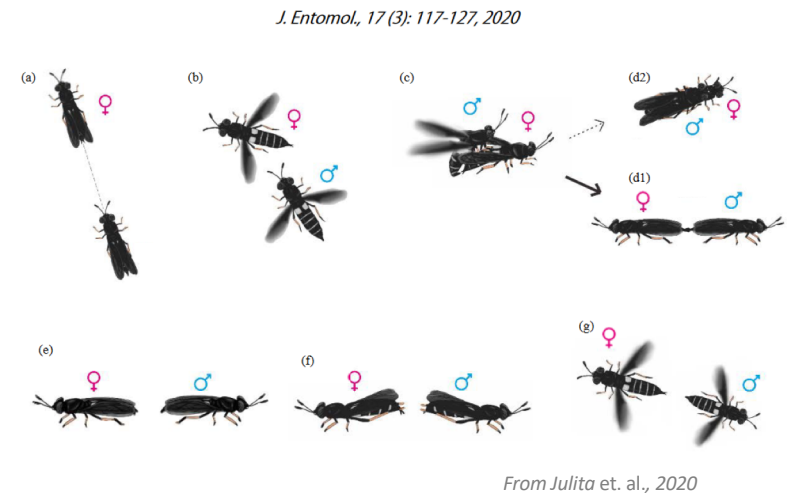
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- Using these scheme for h^2 estimation by REstricted Maximum Likelihood (REML)



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- Beginning of this study in 2019 => no information was available about BSF polygamy
- Up until 2021, no reports in literature of multiple mating in *BSF*



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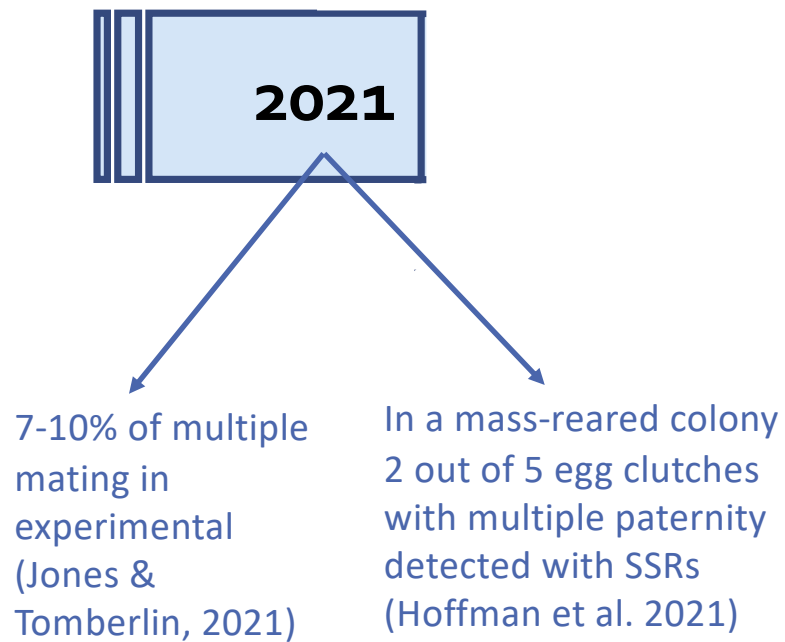
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- But since then:



7-10% of multiple
mating in
experimental
(Jones &
Tomberlin, 2021)

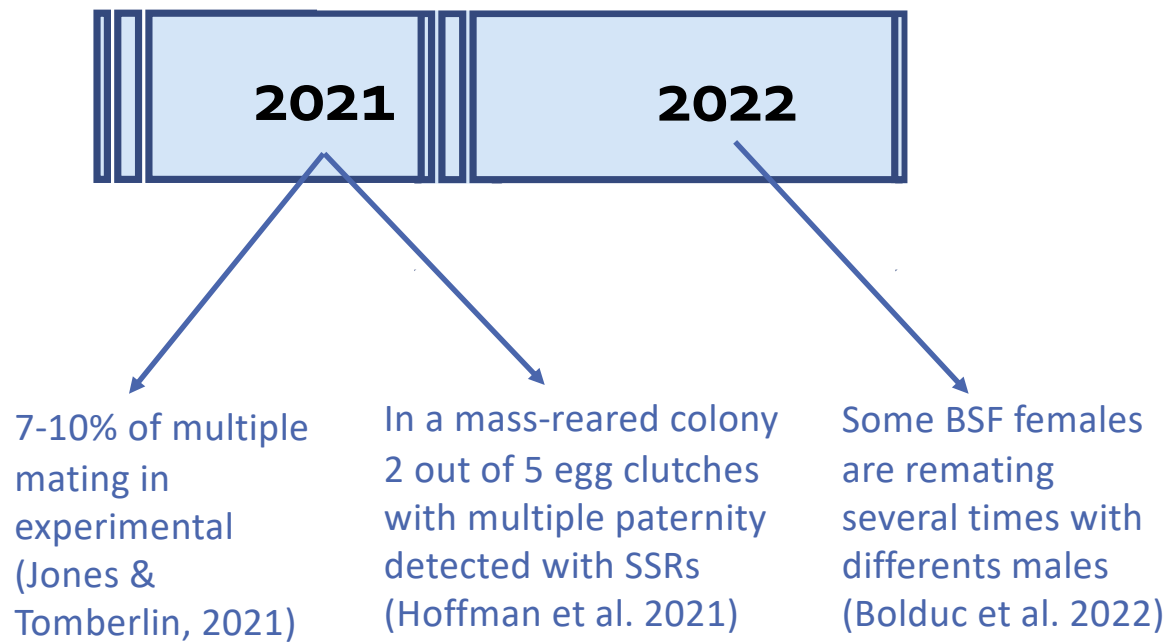
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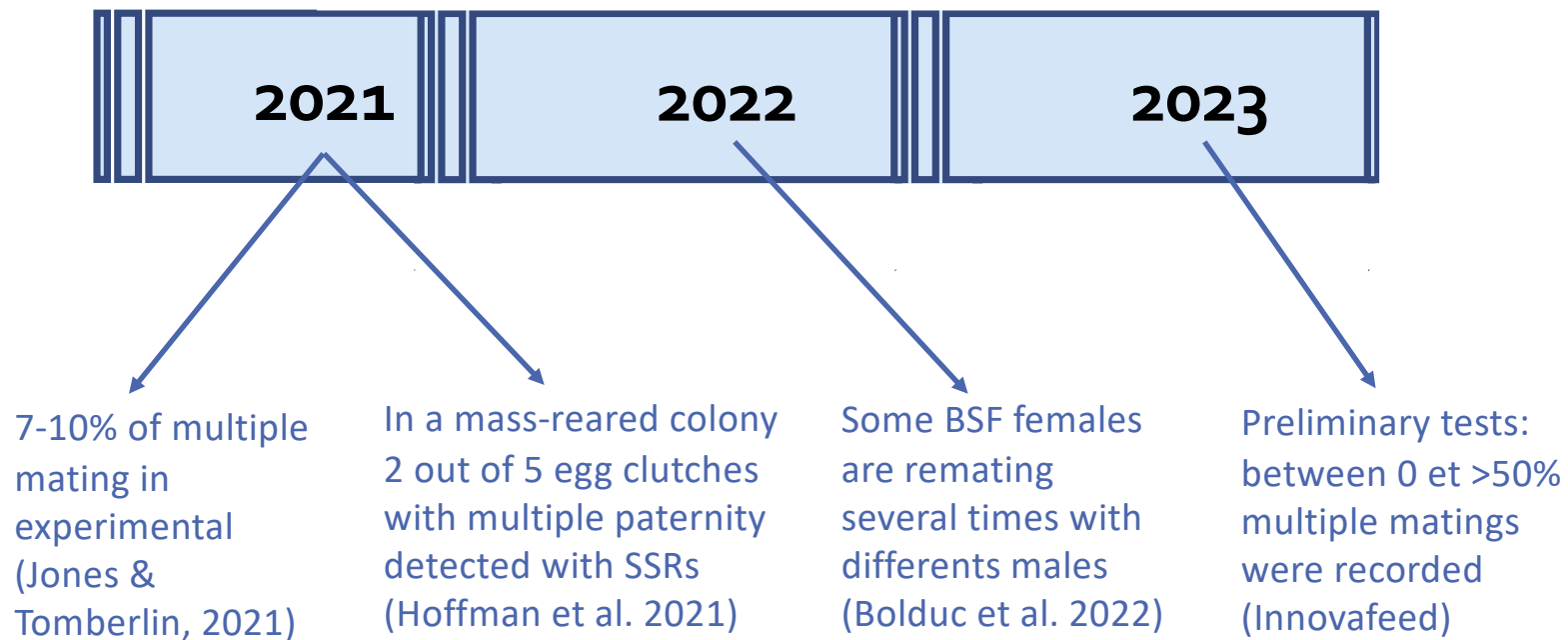
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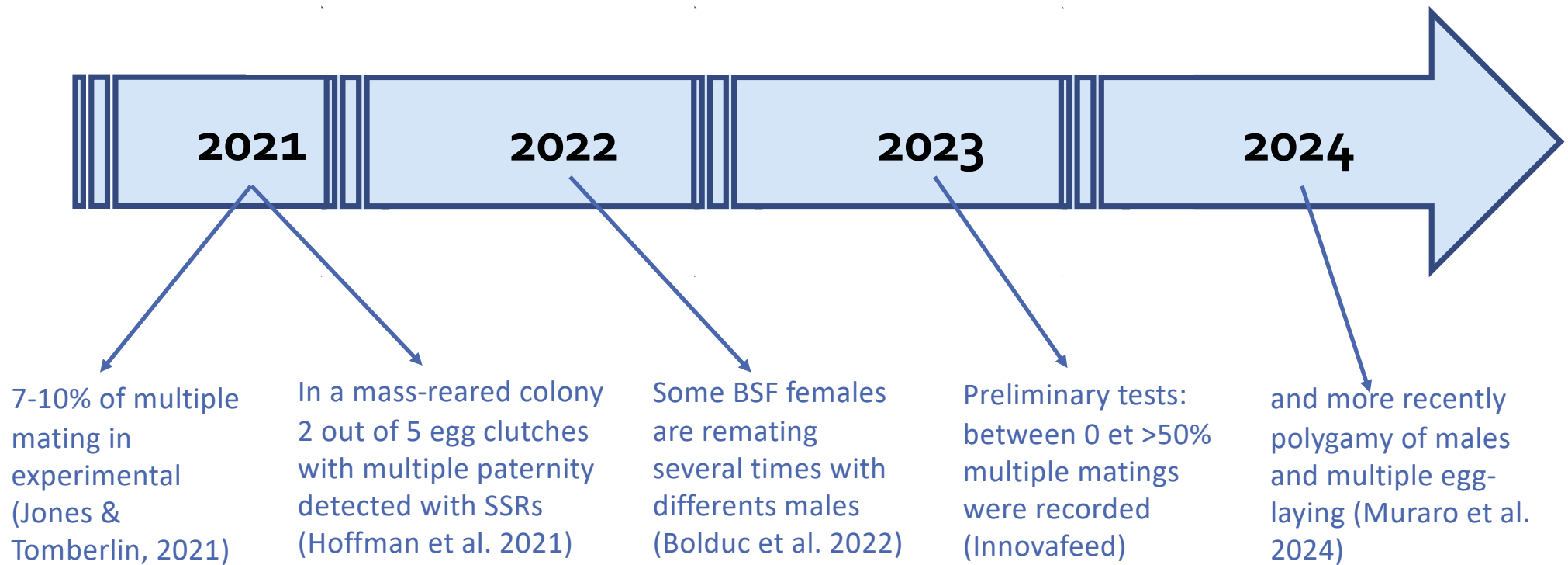
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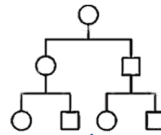
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> Background

- All these observations raise questions about our initial hypothesis

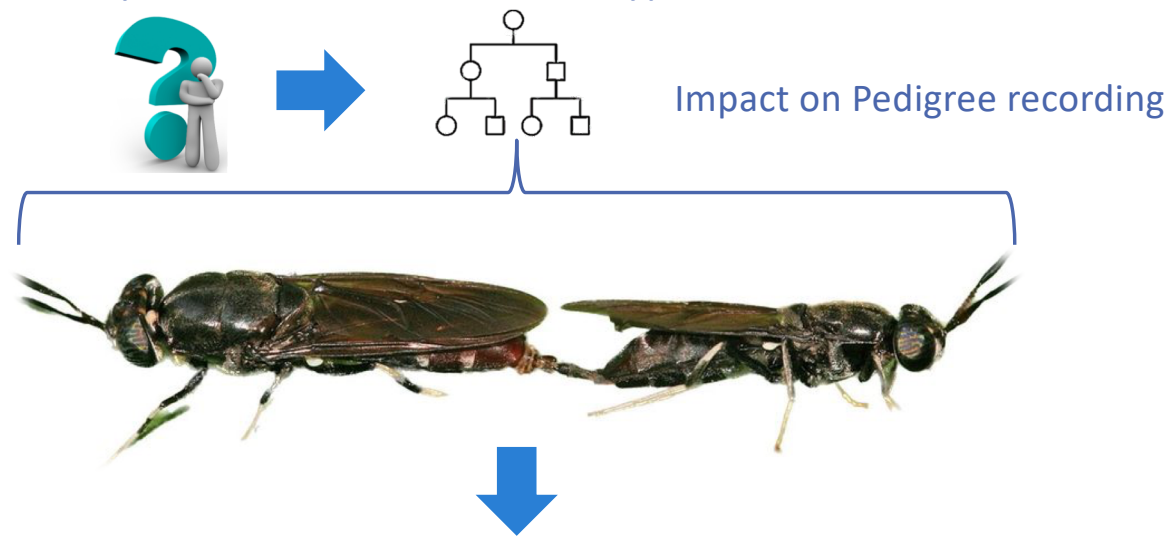


Impact on Pedigree recording



> Objective

- All these observations raise questions about our initial hypothesis

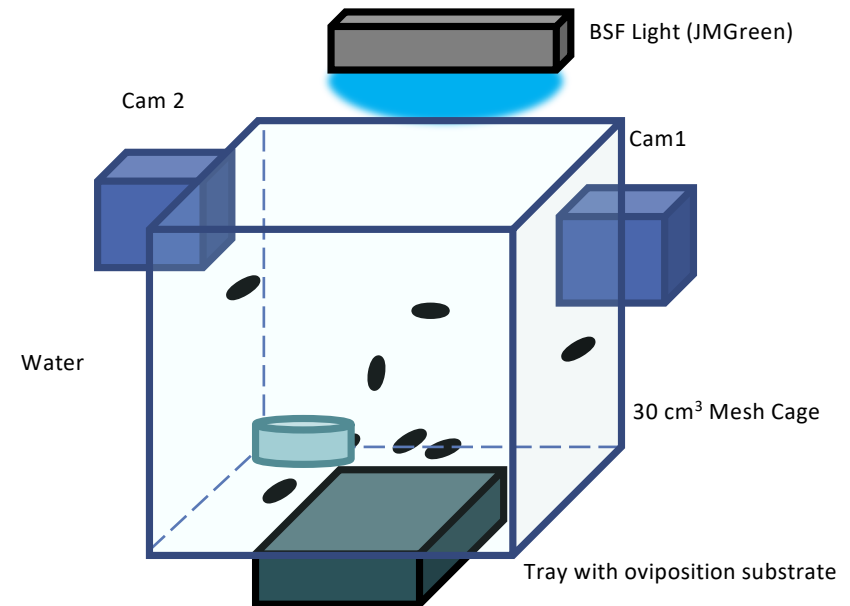


The aim of present study was to test the monogamy hypothesis in our pedigree breeding selection scheme through a parentage assignment design

Specifically, the goal is to quantify paternal contributions to offspring in a multiple mating context.

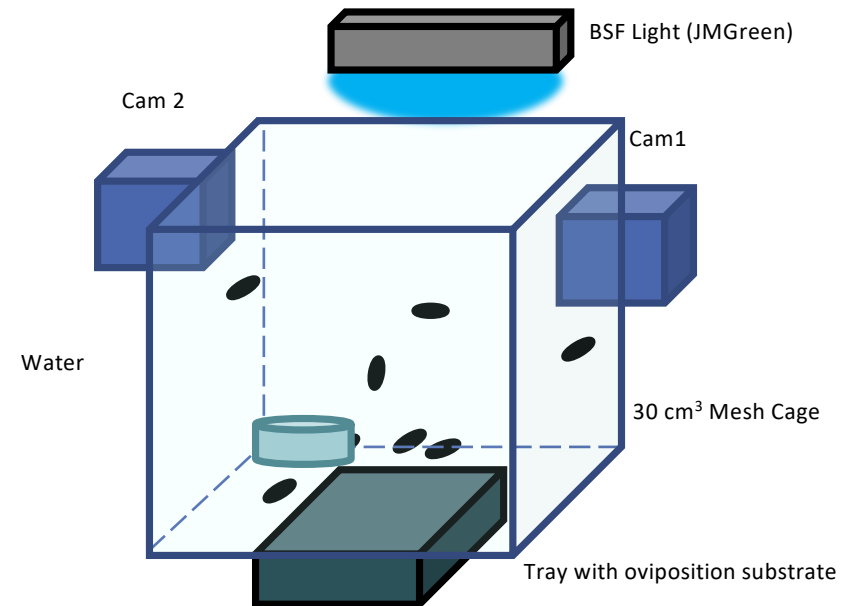
> Experimental setting

- Rearing of 19 females and 21 males under standard environmental conditions
- Marking of individuals with Posca Markers – marking did not interfere with mating – (derived from Jones & Tomberlin, 2020)
- Water and oviposition substrate are provided
- 2 cameras – 1 pic/30s over 7 days



> Experimental setting

- Number of mating pairs over time and identity of partners
- Timing and duration of mating
- Isolation and collection of clutches/female; with known potential fathers according to mating pairs
- Around 30 larvae selected and genotyped/clutch

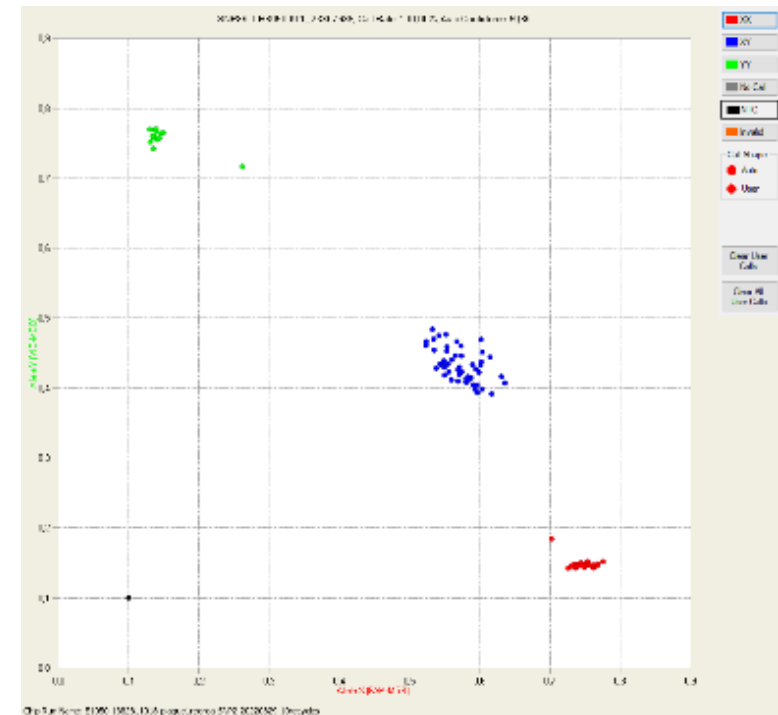


Not recorded: Night-time behaviour, remating behaviour, failed mating attempts

> Experimental setting

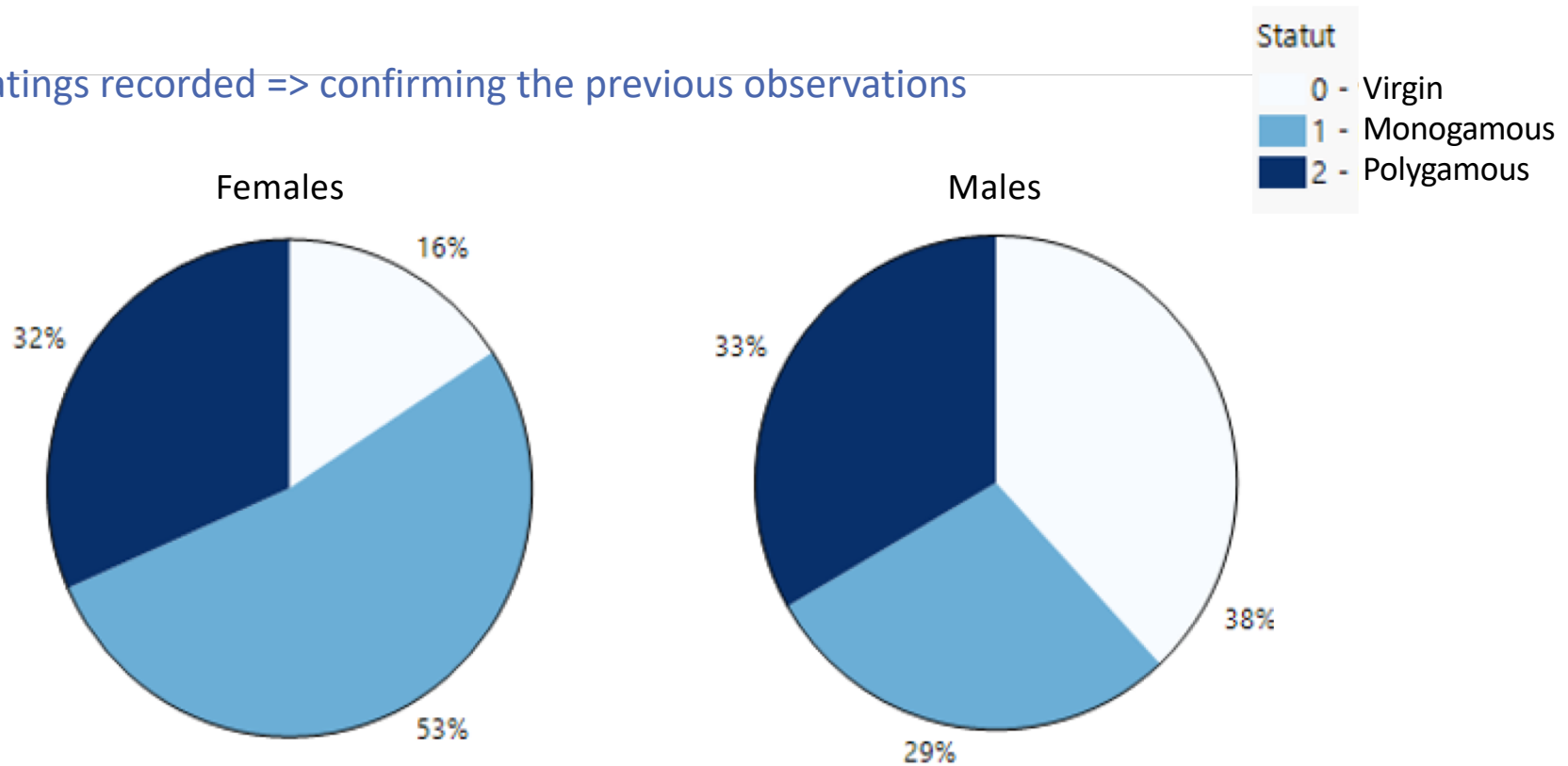
- DNA extraction and genotyping
- 173 offspring from 10 males and 6 females
- using the 96 Kompetitive allele specific PCR (KASP) SNP genotyping chip developed on BSF
- Parentage assignment analysis by probability method (R package APIS)

Griot et al. (2020). APIS: An auto-adaptive parentage inference software that tolerates missing parents. *Molecular ecology resources*, 20(2), 579-590.



> Mating behaviour

- 26 matings recorded => confirming the previous observations



- In order to quantify the paternal contribution to offspring => polygamous females (6) and males (10) and a random sample of around 30 larvae/offspring were genotyped

> Parentage assignment

- Results of assignment of 173 larvae to 10 males 6 females



Rate of assignment: 54 %

Males	P01												
	P02												
	P03												
	P04												
	P05												
	P06												
	P07												
	P08												
	P09												
	P10												
		M01		M02		M03		M04		M05		M06	
Females													

females	N	% Assignment
Mo1	29	34,48
Mo2	30	40
Mo3	31	67,74
Mo4	30	76,67
Mo5	30	93,4
Mo6	23	0

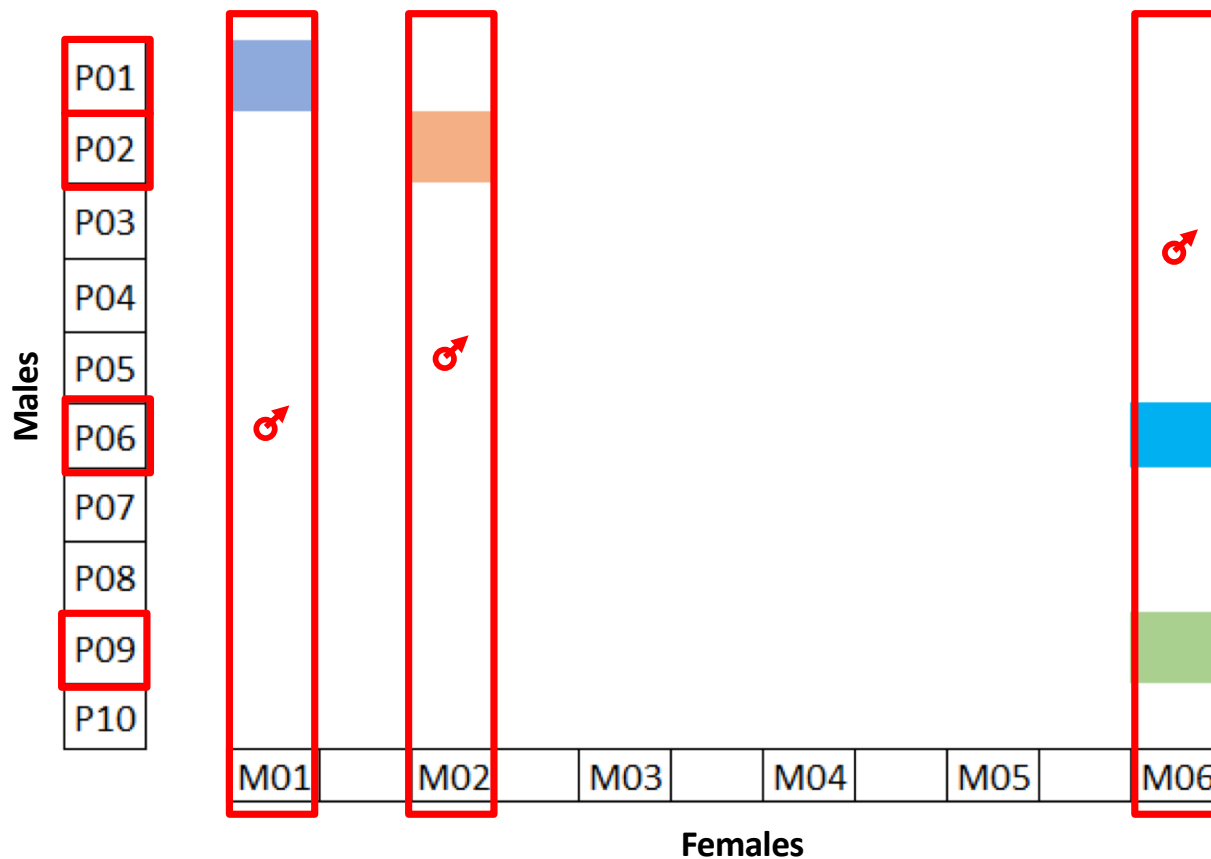
- Corresponding to recorded mating patterns

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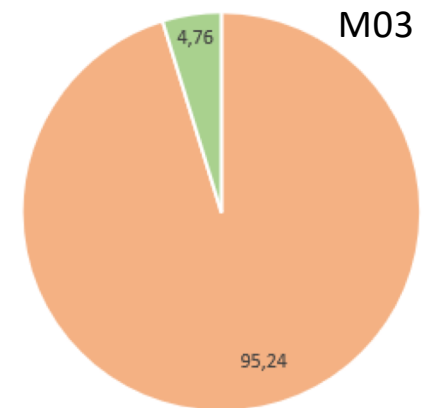
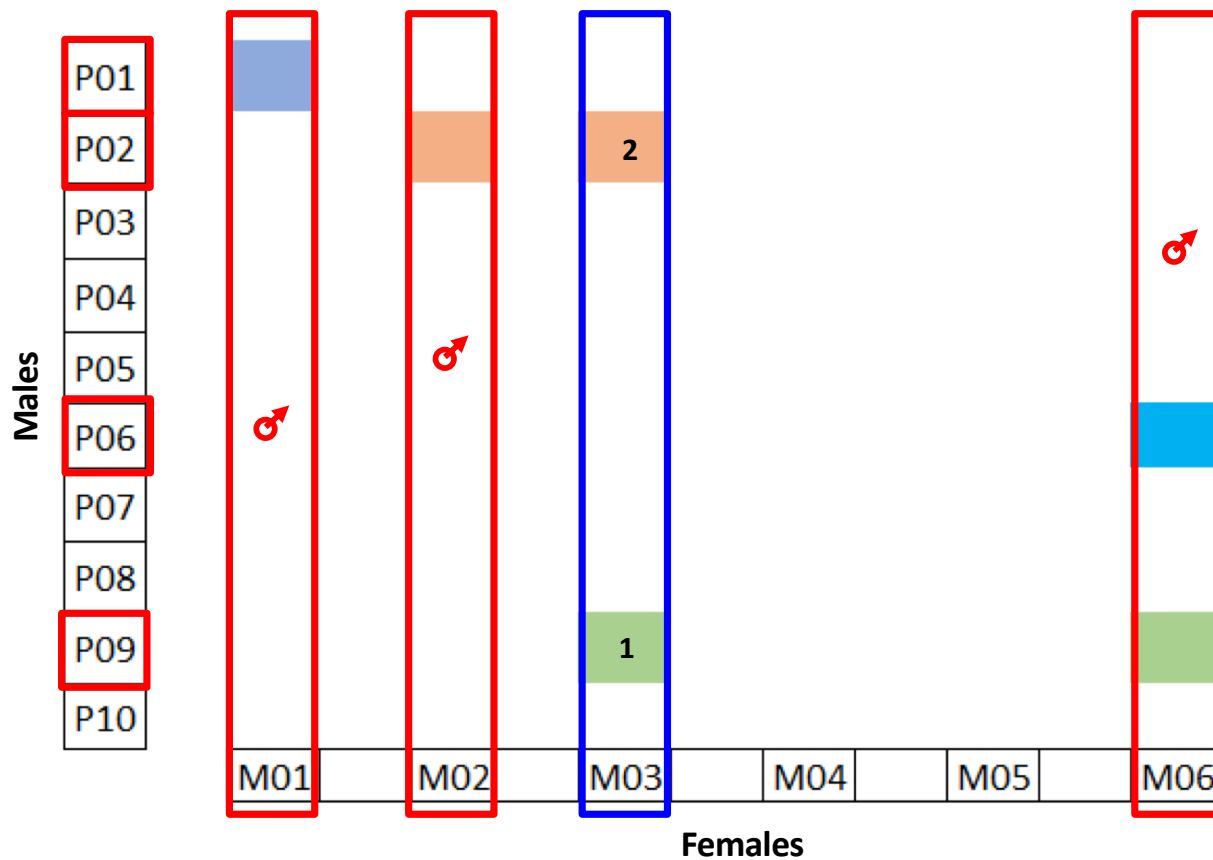


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- Corresponding to recorded mating patterns
- 3 families had unsatisfactory results (< 50%) because the smale' genotypes were missing

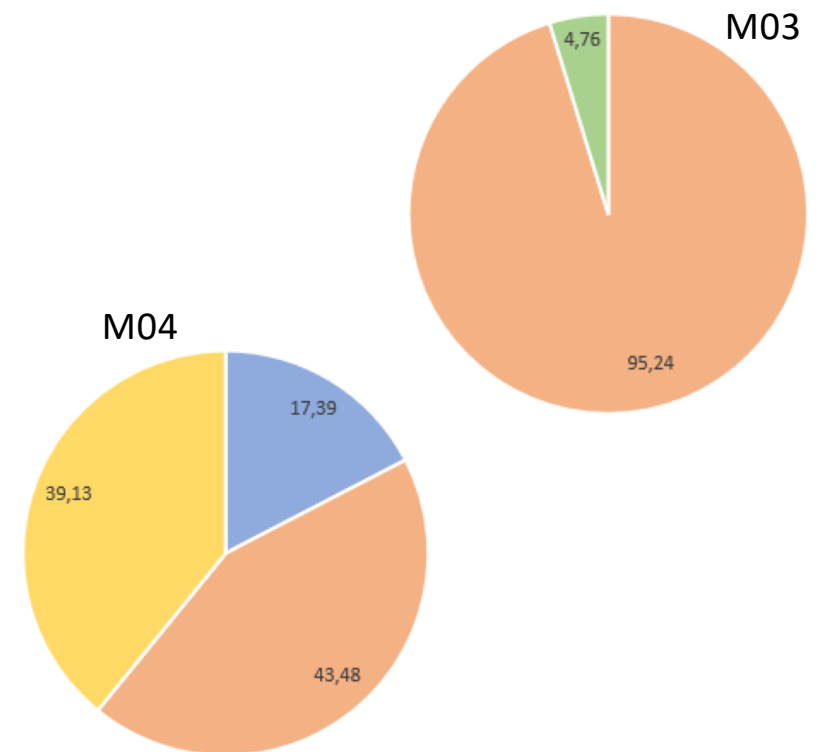
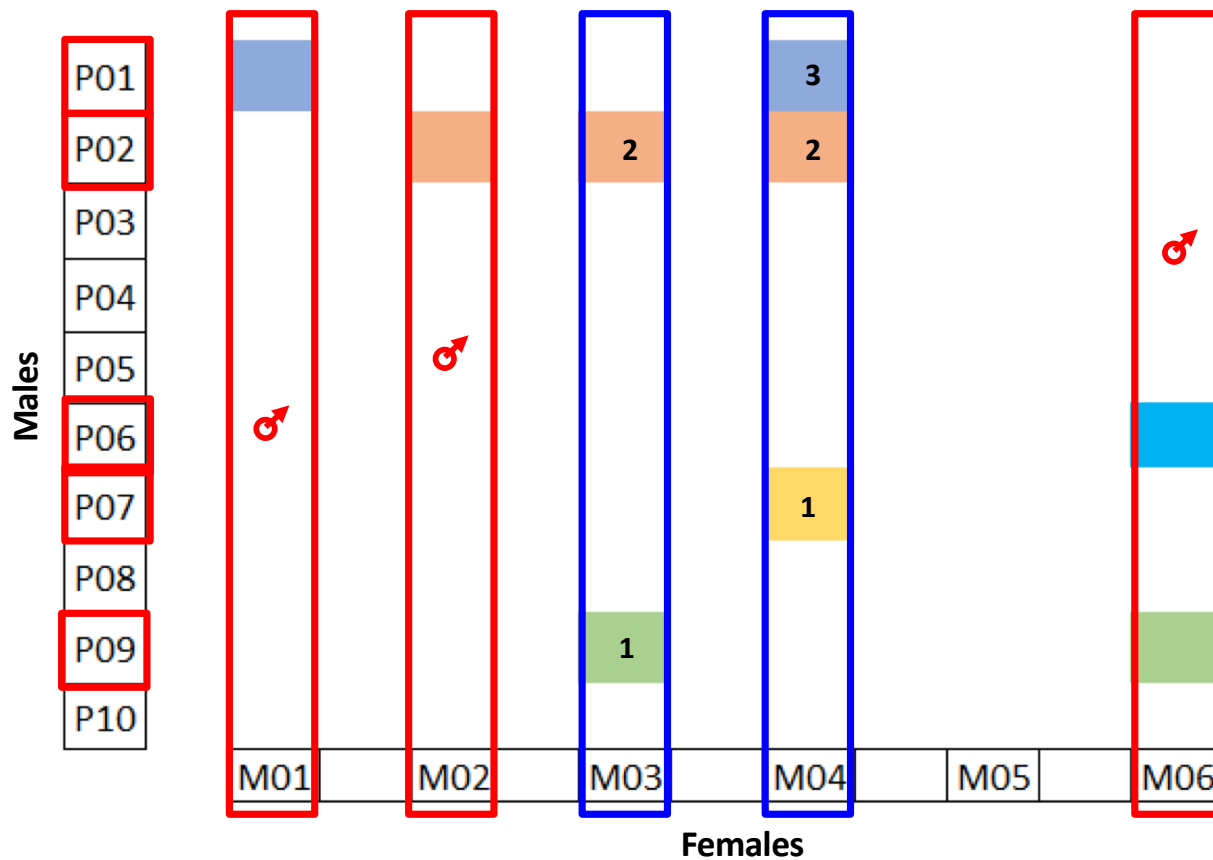
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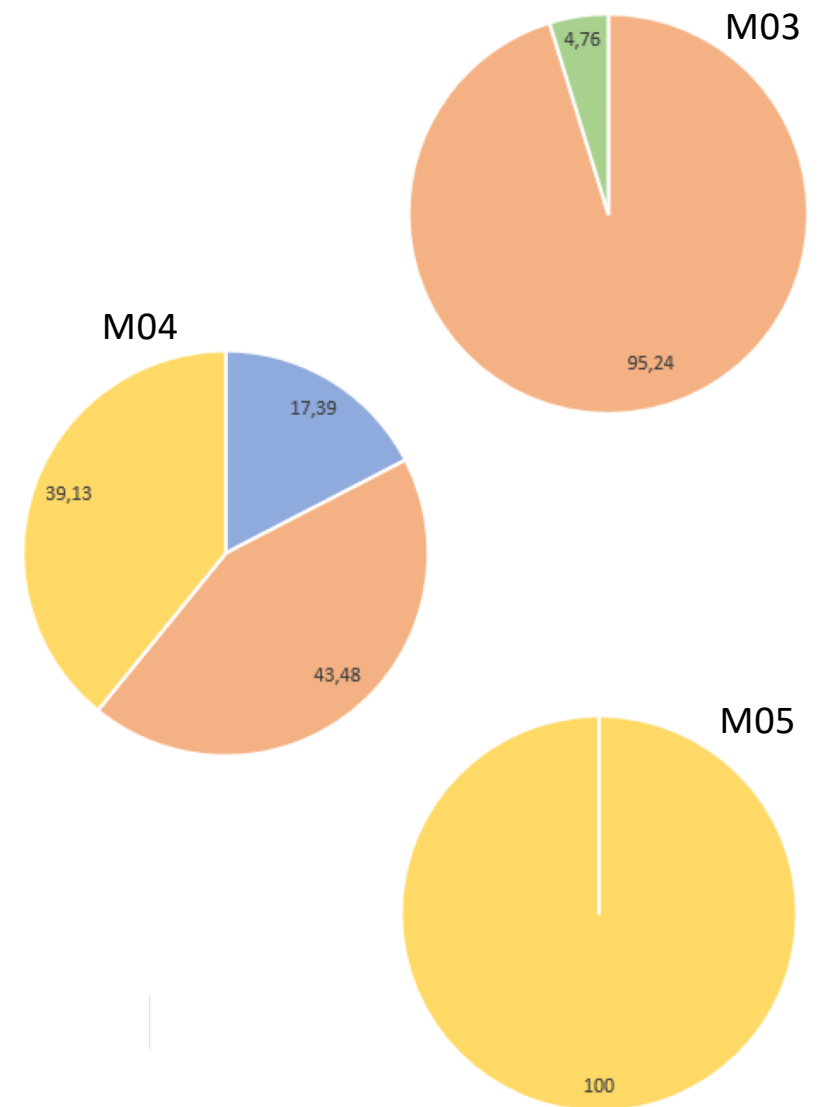
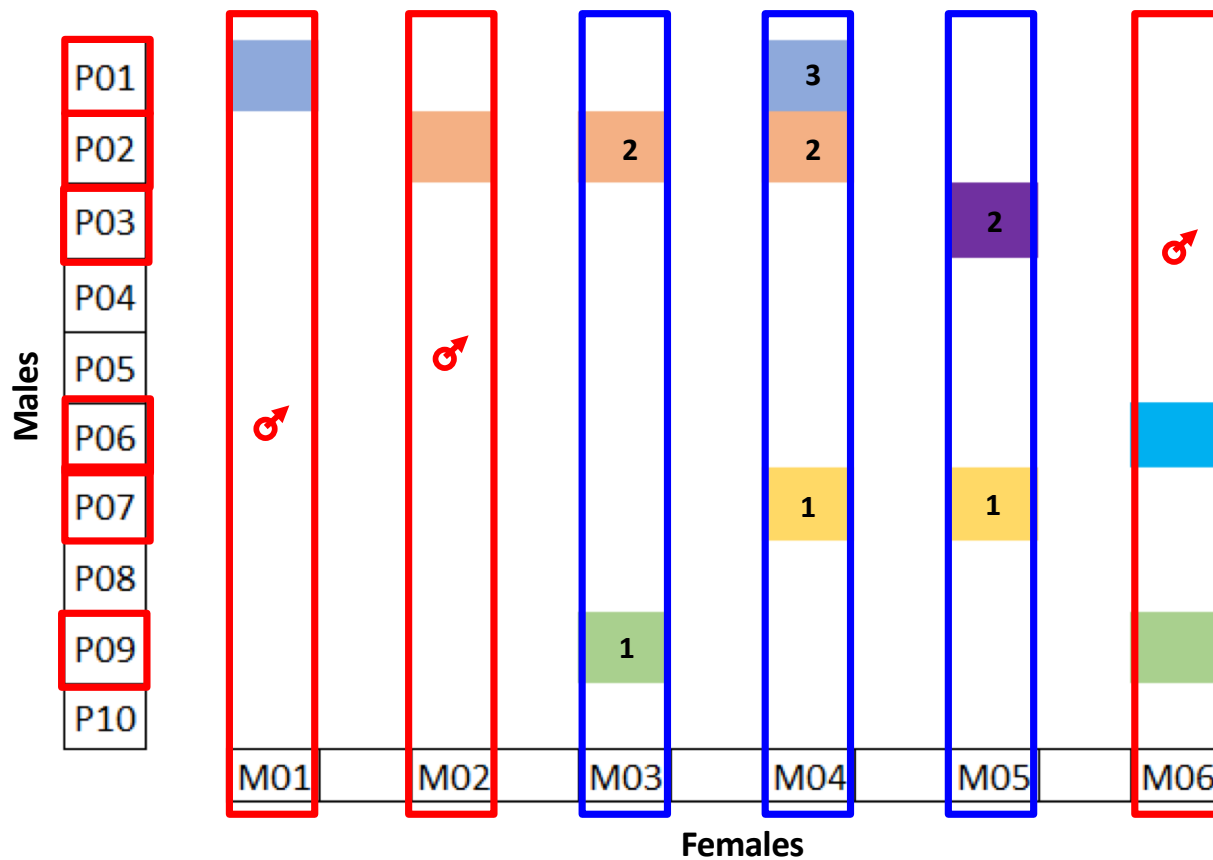
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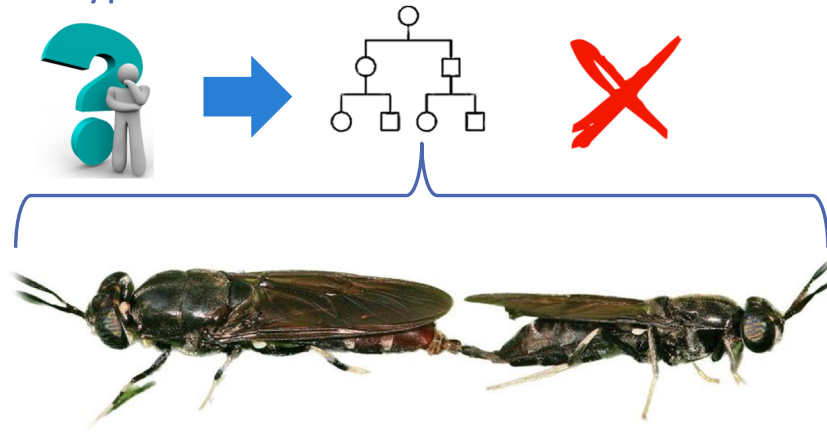
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> Conclusion and take-home messages

- No evidence of our initial hypothesis



- $\approx 10 - 20\%$ of pedigree error are probably recorded in our system
- However, do these error proportions have a negative impact on the estimation of genetic parameters and the EBVs prediction ?
- One study on Estimation of Pedigree Errors in the UK Dairy Population and the Impact on Selection, showing that with 8.8 - 13.1% pedigree errors, there is a loss of response to selection of around 2 to 3% (Visscher et al. 2002)
- But we need more data to accurately quantify this error rate in BSF system

> Many thanks

Partners :



Alexandra Guigue

Service providers :



Thank you for your attention