



Evolutionary potential of reintroduced and source population of the Large Blue butterfly *Maculinea arion*

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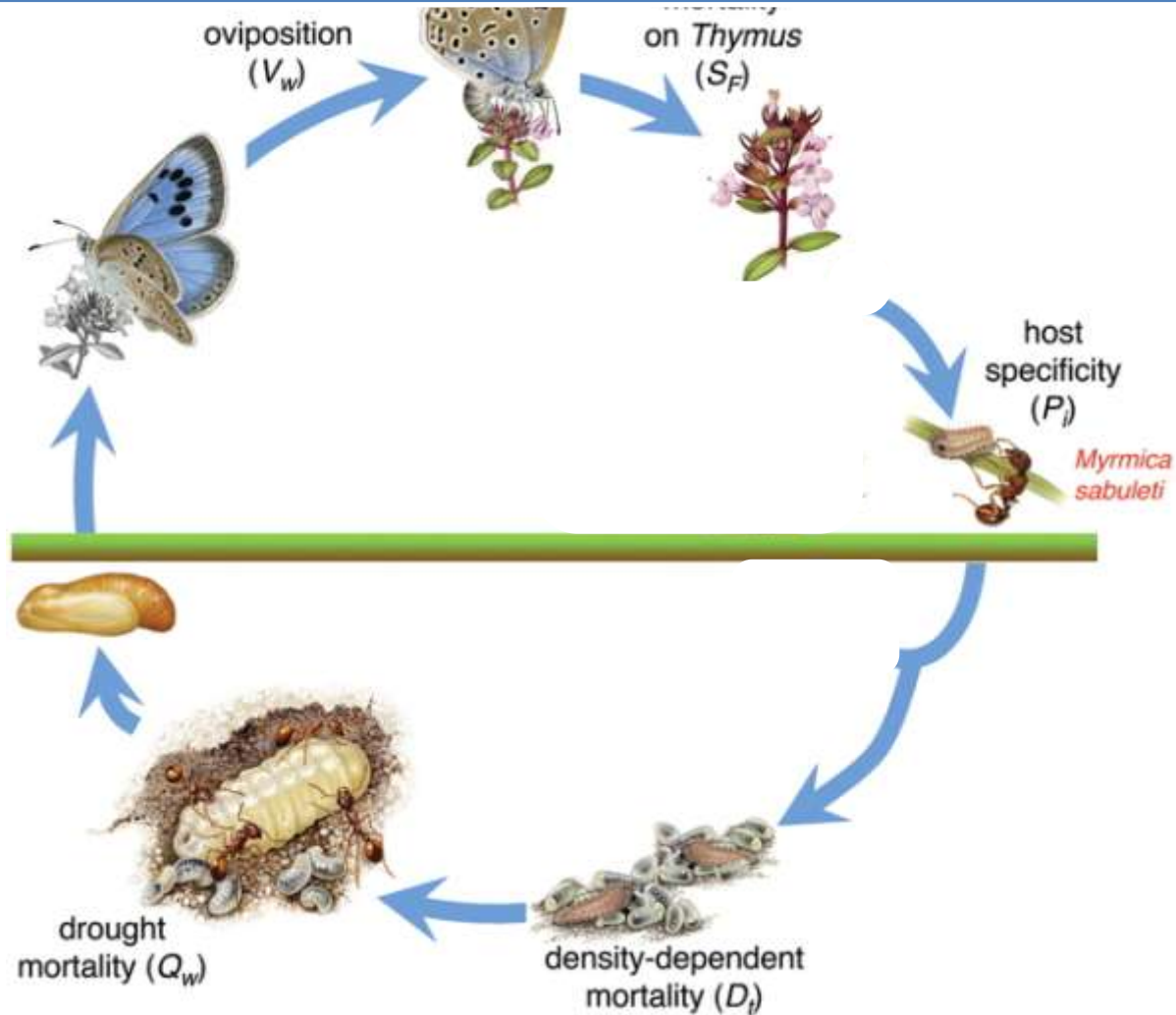
Centre for Social Evolution
University of Copenhagen

31 March 2012

Future of Butterflies III



Introduction

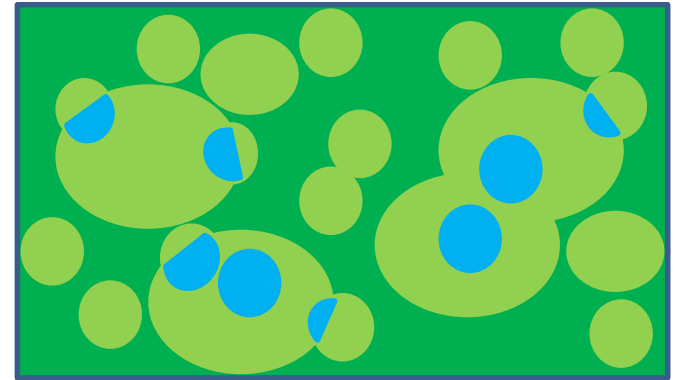




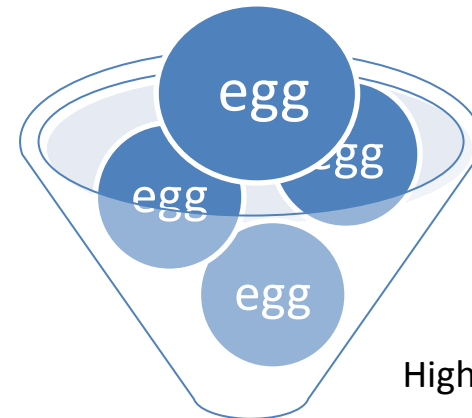
Consequences of lifestyle



- Patchy habitat



- Virulence



Small N_e



High caterpillar mortality

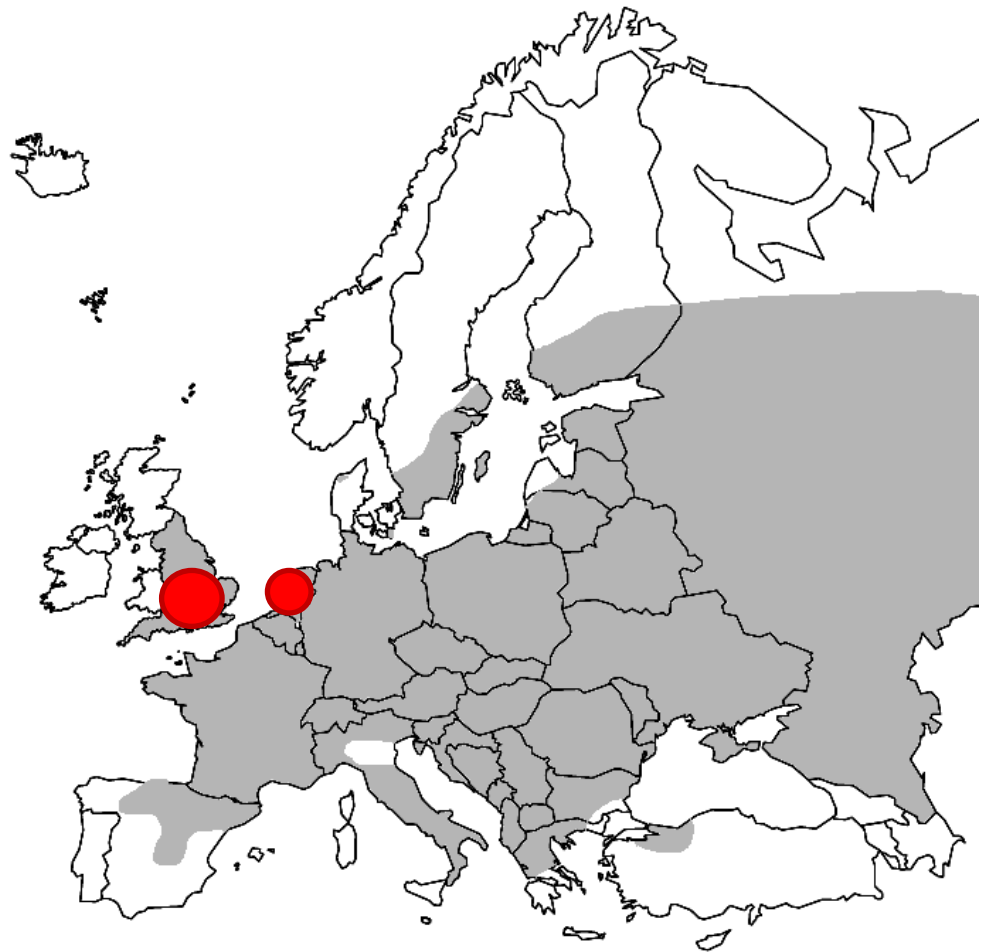


- Population bottlenecks





Populations decline and threats



After Collins butterfly guide, Tolman & Lewington 2008



Evolutionary potential of reintroduced and source populations





History of the Large Blue in the U.K.

1900

1970s

1979

1983

1992

2011

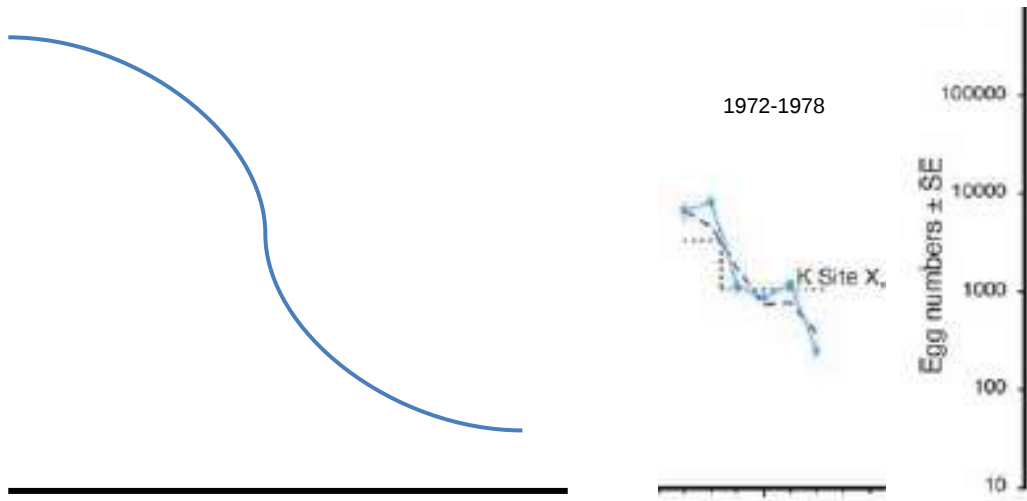
Decline

Ecological studies

Extinction

Reintroductions

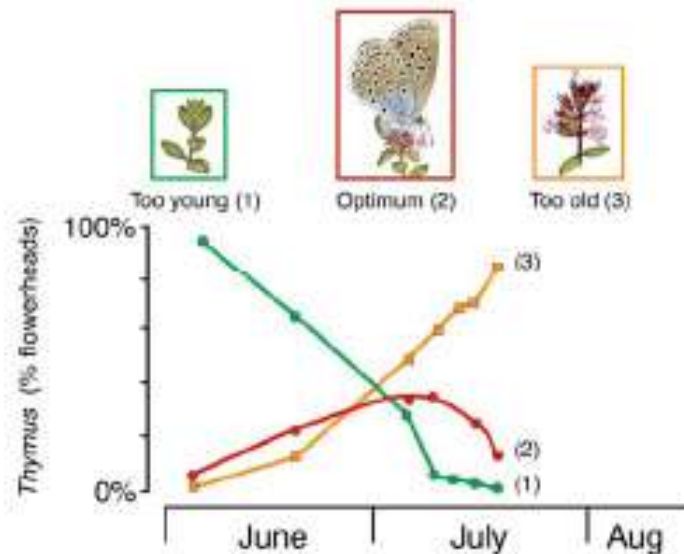
Population growth



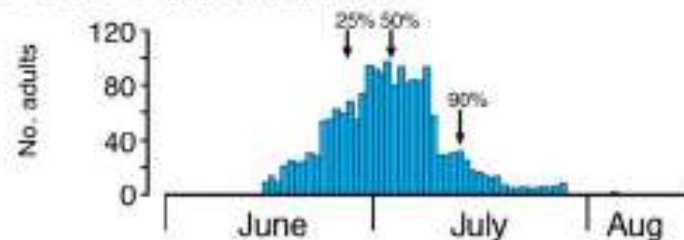
Thomas *et al.* 2009, Nature



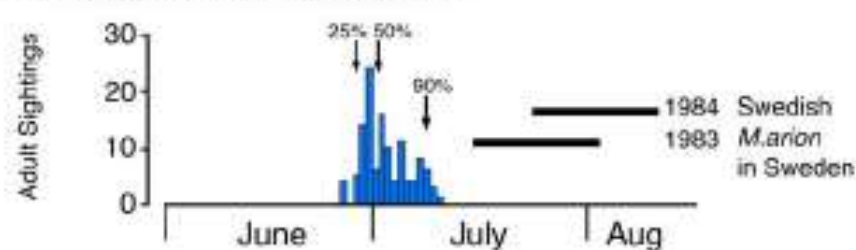
A Phenology of *Thymus* and oviposition choice



B Old UK race on Dartmoor



C Swedish *M. arion* on Dartmoor





Reintroduction history

The Large Blue butterfly in the U.K.

1900

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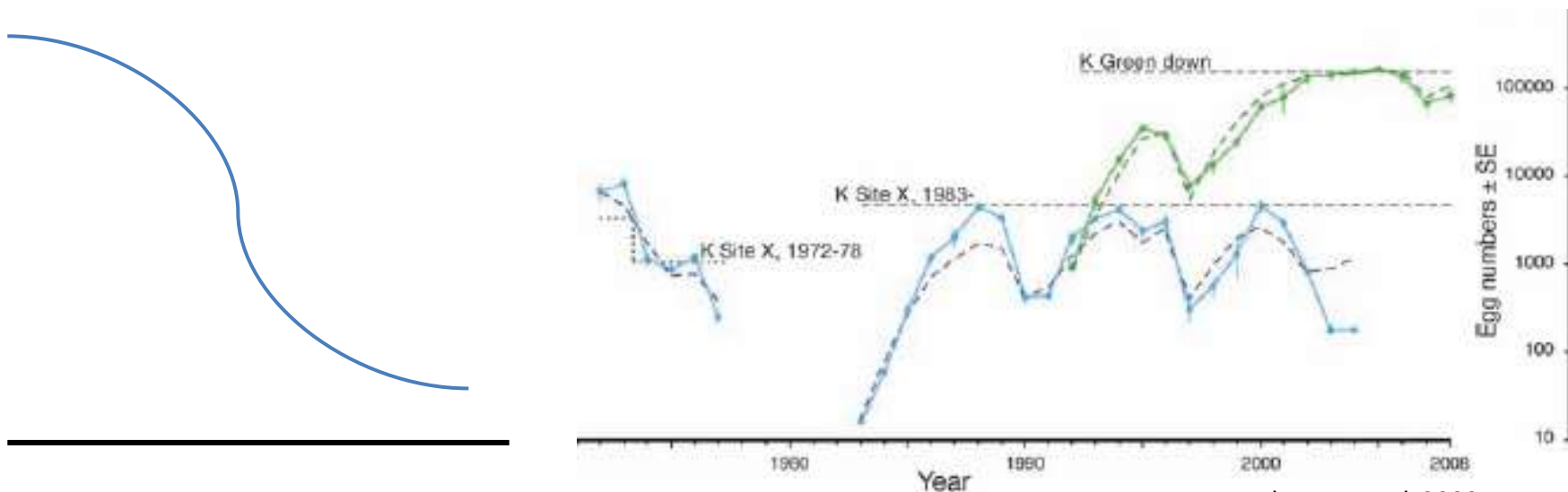
Decline

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Objectives

- 1) Characterize the population genetic structure of the Öland population (good source population?)
- 2) Analyse the levels of genetic diversity and the population genetic structure of reintroduced populations in the U.K.





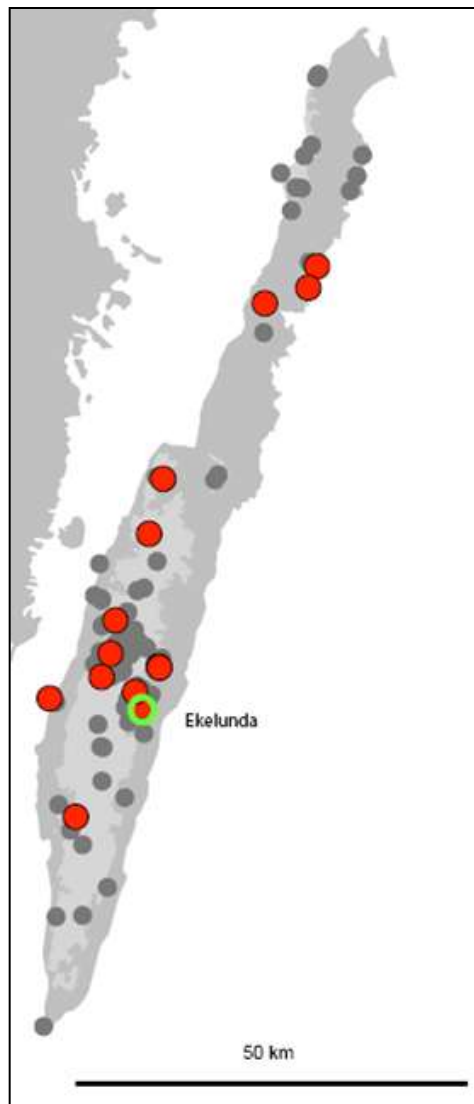
Hypotheses

The reintroduced population...

1. has lower genetic diversity than the source population
2. are genetically differentiated from the source population
3. has lower genetic differentiation among subpopulations



Öland – source population



searching

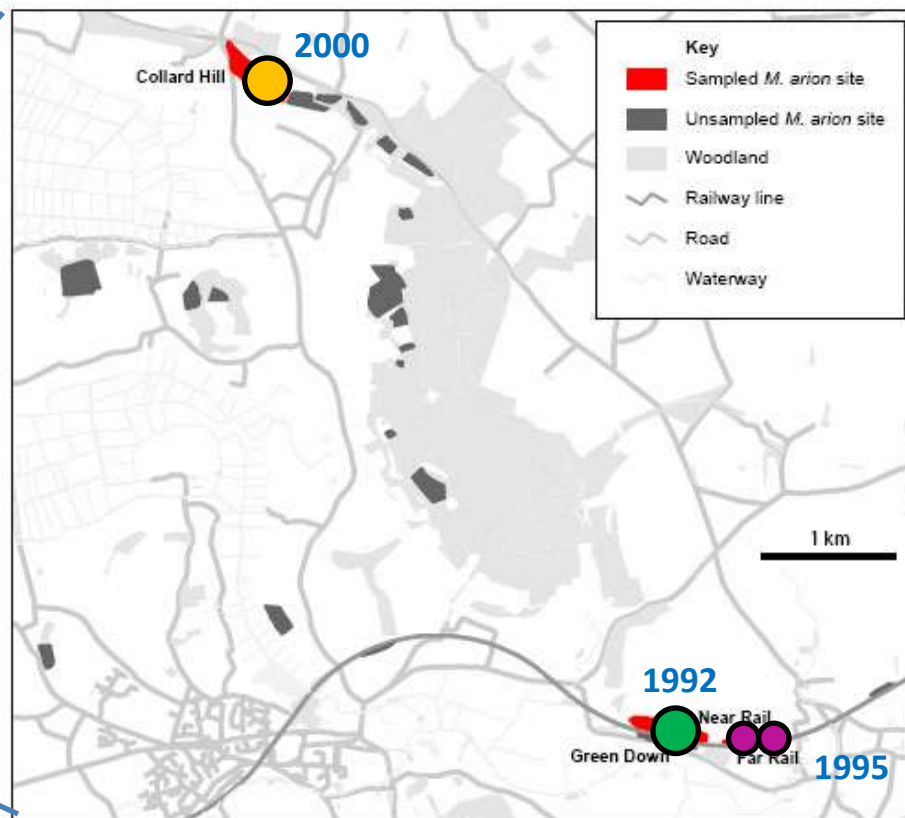


cutting wing fragments



U.K. - reintroduced populations

Polden Hills, Somerset



Field work done by David Simcox





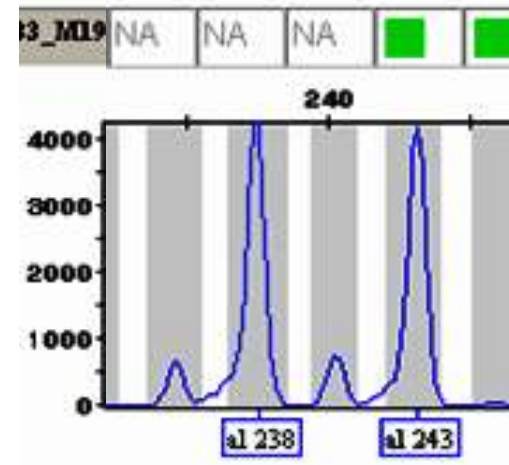
Methods – lab

DNA extraction and amplification of 14 microsatellite loci

Scoring of allele sizes



ABI 3130x machine



Allele sizes

unpublished results and conclusions removed from this
presentation

Acknowledgements

- David R Nash and Line V Ugelvig
- Anders A Illum
- David J Simcox and Jeremy A Thomas

Thanks for your attention!

