

# MALE MATE CHOICE

## Literature review

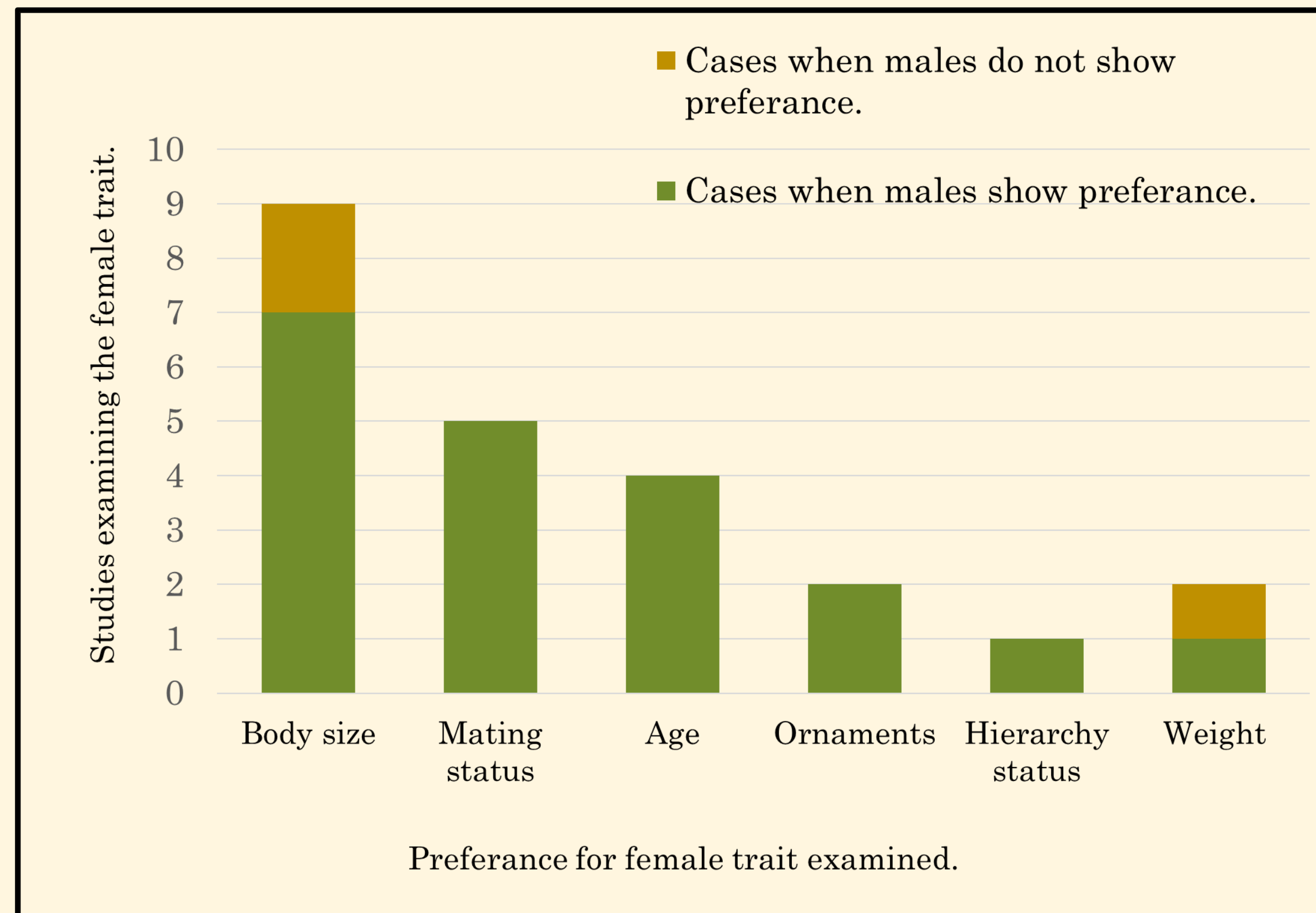
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### I. WHAT IS MALE MATE CHOICE?

We often associate mate choice with females. It may be because they invest more in reproduction than males and tend to be the choosy sex. However, males also want to maximize their reproduction success. Some studies show that when cost of reproduction and variance in female quality is high, male tend to choose between different females.

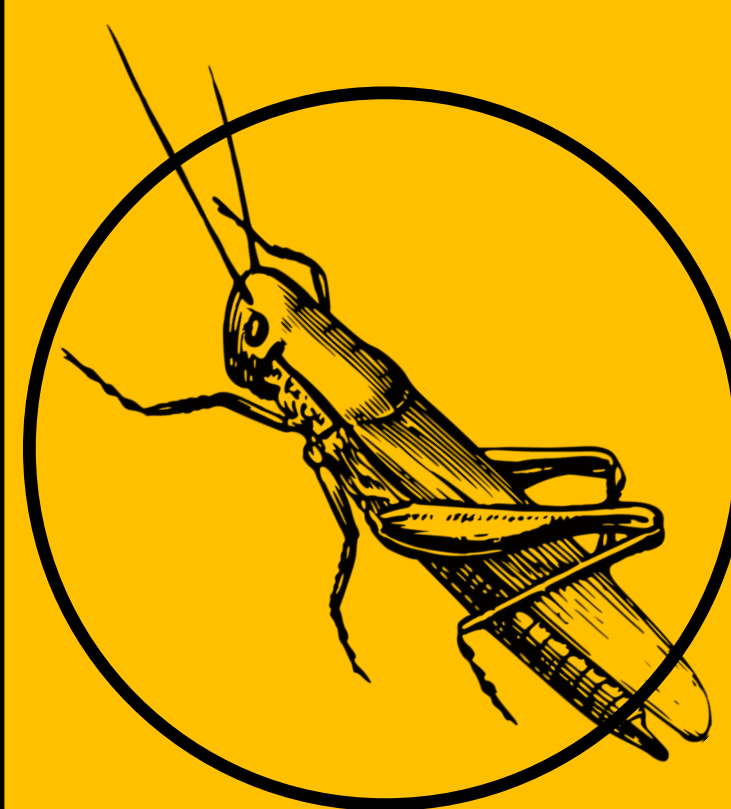
### II. WHY REASERCH INSECTS` MALE MATE CHOICE?

Until 2001 male mate choice has been observed in at least 58 species of insects. Occurrence of male mate choice is not always obvious. From one year to another insect male mate choice is more popular among researchers, but it is still not highly popular subject to study.



Graph that shows how many times a trait was preferred or not preferred.

## MATRIMONY!



A male bush cricket looking for a big female. I offer a large nuptial gift. Additionally, I can sing loudly if necessary.

VISIT ME,



SCAN ME

TODAY!

### III. SEARCHING FOR ANSWERS.

The search engine «Web of science», [www.webofknowledge.com](http://www.webofknowledge.com) was used to search for research articles on male mate choice. Phrases like

- Male mate preferences
- Male mate choice
- Cryptic male choice
- Choosy males
- Male choosiness

were used in the research. This gave 59 articles, and I also search for relevant studies in the reference lists. A total of 20 relevant studies were selected. Full list of references used here are in my rapport.

### IV. FINDINGS

The most popular insects groups to study male mate choice were beetles and crickets. It appears that female *body mass*, *age* and *mating status* are the most common traits to study male preference for. These traits are associate with high fecundity. 17 out of 20 articles found male mate choice. One of two grasshoppers species did not discriminate at all. The majority of articles were after year 2010 (12 after 2010), which may support hypothesis that researching male mate choice has been growing in popularity over the years.

Groups of insects	Number of articles	Traits that male discriminate against
Crickets	4	Body size, mating status, age, some uncertain
Grasshoppers	2	Mating status and without
Beetles	5	Body size, mating status, age
Butterflies	3	Ornaments, body size

Comparison between different insect groups, articles and traits that were studied.