

Adaptation to larval crowding in *Drosophila ananassae* and *Drosophila nasuta*

***nasuta*: increased larval competitive ability without increased larval feeding rate**

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1 **ABSTRACT**

2 The canonical view of adaptation to larval crowding in fruitflies, built on results from 25
3 years of experimental evolution studies on *D. melanogaster*, is that enhanced competitive
4 ability evolves primarily through increased larval feeding and foraging rate, at the cost of
5 efficiency of food conversion to biomass, and increased larval tolerance to nitrogenous
6 wastes. We show that populations of *D. ananassae* and *D. n. nasuta* subjected to extreme
7 larval crowding evolve greater competitive ability and pre-adult survivorship at high
8 density primarily through a combination of reduced larval duration, faster attainment of
9 minimum critical size for pupation, greater efficiency of food conversion to biomass,
10 increased pupation height and, perhaps, greater urea/ammonia tolerance. This is a very
11 different suite of traits than that seen to evolve under similar selection in *D. melanogaster*
12 and seems to be closer to the expectations from the canonical theory of *K*-selection. We
13 discuss possible reasons for these differences in results across the three species. Overall,
14 the results reinforce the view that our understanding of the evolution of competitive ability
15 in fruitflies needs to be more nuanced than before, with an appreciation that there may be
16 multiple evolutionary routes through which higher competitive ability can be attained.

17 INTRODUCTION

18 Adaptation to crowding leading to greater competitive ability, first conceptualized as r -
19 and K -selection theory (MacArthur and Wilson 1967), is an important phenomenon in
20 ecology and evolution that has been extensively studied in *Drosophila melanogaster* over
21 the past three decades, using experimental evolution approaches (reviewed in Joshi 1997;
22 Mueller 1997; Prasad and Joshi 2003). With lifespan, fecundity, starvation resistance and
23 desiccation resistance, some of the other traits extensively examined via experimental
24 evolution in *D. melanogaster*, there have been conflicting reports of differing patterns of
25 correlated responses to selection between laboratories (Ackermann et al. 2001; Prasad &
26 Joshi 2003; Rose et al. 1996), leading, in part, to a growing appreciation that evolution is
27 often “local” (Rose et al. 2005). In the case of adaptation to crowding, however, the
28 pattern of correlated responses to selection has been largely consistent over two separate
29 selection experiments, involving *D. melanogaster* populations originating from different
30 geographical sources (r - and K -populations: Mueller and Ayala 1981; UU and CU
31 populations: Joshi and Mueller 1996), and the suite of traits through which selected
32 populations evolved greater competitive ability was very different from the canonical
33 version of r - and K -selection theory (Mueller 2009).

34 Results from the two selection studies on adaptation to crowding in *D.*
35 *melanogaster* have been reviewed extensively (Joshi 1997; Mueller 1997; Joshi et al.
36 2001; Prasad and Joshi 2003; Dey et al. 2012) and, consequently, we will just summarize
37 the major correlated responses of pre-adult traits to selection observed. Relative to the low
38 density r -populations, the crowding adapted K -populations exhibited higher (i) pre-adult
39 survivorship, when assayed at high larval density (Bierbaum et al. 1989), (ii) pre-adult

40 competitive ability (Mueller 1988), (iii) larval feeding rate (Joshi and Mueller 1988), (iv)
41 larval foraging path length (Sokolowski et al. 1997), (v) pupation height (Mueller and
42 Sweet 1986; Joshi and Mueller 1993), and (vi) minimum food requirement for pupation
43 (Mueller 1990). Pre-adult survivorship of the *r*- and *K*-populations did not differ
44 significantly when assayed at low larval density (Bierbaum et al. 1989). Pre-adult
45 development time in the *K*-populations was lower than that of the *r*-populations at low (30
46 larvae per vial) and moderately high (160 larvae per vial) density, but greater at very high
47 (320 larvae per vial) density (Bierbaum et al. 1989). The evolution of higher larval feeding
48 rate and pupation height in crowding adapted populations was subsequently verified with
49 a separate set of populations (*rK* and *r*×*rK* populations), by Guo et al (1991).

50 Relative to the control UU populations, the larval crowding adapted CU
51 populations exhibited higher (i) pre-adult survivorship, when assayed at high larval
52 density (Mueller et al. 1993; Shiotsugu et al. 1997), (ii) larval feeding rate (Joshi and
53 Mueller 1996), (iii) larval foraging path length (Sokolowski et al. 1997), (iv) minimum
54 food requirement for pupation (Joshi and Mueller 1996), and (v) tolerance to nitrogenous
55 wastes like urea (Shiotsugu et al. 1997; Borash et al. 1998) and ammonia (Borash et al.
56 1998). Pre-adult survivorship of the CU and UU populations did not differ significantly
57 when assayed at low larval density (Mueller et al. 1993; Shiotsugu et al. 1997). CU pre-
58 adult development time was similar to the UU populations when assayed at low larval
59 density, but lower than the UU populations when assayed at high larval density (Borash
60 and Ho 2001). Pupation height of the CU populations was greater than the UU controls
61 during early generations of CU selection (Mueller et al. 1993), but did not differ
62 significantly from the controls after about 60 generations of selection (Joshi and Mueller

63 1996); possible reasons for this are extensively discussed by Joshi et al. (2003). Urea and
64 ammonia tolerance were not assayed on the *r*- and *K*-populations, whereas competitive
65 ability was not assayed on the CU and UU populations.

66 The *K*-populations differed from the *r*-populations in experiencing higher larval as
67 well as adult density and, moreover, were kept on an overlapping generation regime
68 whereas the *r*-populations were kept on discrete generations (Mueller and Ayala 1981).
69 The CU populations, on the other hand, differed from the UU controls only in larval
70 density (Joshi and Mueller 1996). Given the congruence in the pre-adult traits that evolved
71 in the CU and *K*-populations, it is likely that these traits represented a response primarily
72 to levels of larval crowding. Thus, the overall picture that emerged from these two studies
73 was that long-term exposure to larval crowding in *Drosophila* selected for increased larval
74 feeding and foraging activity, at the cost of efficiency at converting food to biomass, a
75 greater tendency to pupate away from the food, and a higher tolerance to toxic levels of
76 metabolic waste. It makes sense that these traits would contribute to greater pre-adult
77 survivorship in a crowded larval culture characterized by diminishing food levels, greater
78 chance of pupal drowning on the increasingly mushy food surface, and a rapid buildup of
79 levels of nitrogenous waste. This has been the canonical view of adaptations to crowding
80 in *Drosophila* for the past fifteen years or so (Mueller 1997; Joshi et al. 2001; Prasad and
81 Joshi 2003; Mueller 2009; Mueller and Cabral 2012).

82 The notion that faster feeding is a strong correlate of pre-adult competitive ability
83 in *Drosophila* has a lot of support. Populations selected for faster feeding rate are also
84 better competitors (Burnet et al. 1977)), and populations selected for rapid pre-adult
85 development evolve both reduced feeding rate and reduced competitive ability (Prasad et

86 al. 2001; Shakarad et al. 2005; Rajamani et al. 2006). Similarly, populations selected for
87 increased parasitoid resistance evolve both reduced feeding rate and reduced competitive
88 ability (Fellowes et al. 1998, 1999). The notion that there is a cost to faster feeding (Joshi
89 and Mueller 1996) is supported by the rapid return of feeding rates to control levels when
90 CU populations were maintained at moderate densities (Joshi et al. 2003). There is also
91 evidence for a trade-off between urea/ammonia tolerance and larval feeding rate.
92 Populations selected for greater urea and ammonia tolerance, respectively, also show
93 reduced larval feeding rate (Borash et al. 2000) and larval foraging path length (Mueller et
94 al. 2005), and populations selected for greater urea tolerance do not survive any better
95 than controls at high larval density (Shiotsugu et al. 1997). In general, larval feeding rate
96 and foraging path length appear to be positively correlated (Joshi and Mueller 1988, 1996;
97 Sokolowski et al. 1997; Borash et al. 2000; Prasad et al. 2001; Mueller et al. 2005). Thus,
98 the evolution of competitive ability in *Drosophila* seems to be the outcome of a balance
99 between mutually antagonistic traits like increased larval feeding and foraging behaviour
100 (and perhaps pupation height), greater tolerance to nitrogenous wastes, and a reduced
101 efficiency of conversion of food to biomass. Indeed, the CU populations exhibit a
102 temporal polymorphism for two of these traits: offspring of early eclosing flies in a
103 crowded culture show higher feeding rates, whereas offspring of late eclosing flies show
104 greater urea/ammonia tolerance than controls (Borash et al. 1998).

105 Given that the above view of adaptation to larval crowding in *Drosophila* is built
106 around studies on a single species (*D. melanogaster*), we wanted to investigate whether
107 other species of *Drosophila* would also respond to larval crowding by evolving essentially
108 the same set of traits. If the genetic architecture of traits relevant to fitness under larval

109 crowding is reasonably conserved across congeners, then we should see a similar pattern
110 of correlated responses to selection for adaptation to larval crowding in other *Drosophila*
111 species. We report results from two selection experiments, on *D. ananassae* and *D. nasuta*
112 *nasuta*, involving selection for adaptation to larval crowding. *D. ananassae* is ecologically
113 and phylogenetically closer to *D. melanogaster* (*Sophophora* Subgenus, Melanogaster
114 Group, Melanogaster Subgroup), being a cosmopolitan human commensal and belonging
115 to the Melanogaster Group, Ananassae Subgroup and Ananassae Species Complex,
116 whereas *D. n. nasuta* belongs to the *Drosophila* Subgenus, Immigrans Group, Nasuta
117 Subgroup and Frontal Sheen Complex, and is found primarily in orchards and open land.
118 Our results showed that selected populations of both *D. ananassae* and *D. n. nasuta*
119 exhibited similar patterns of correlated responses to selection for adaptation to larval
120 crowding, but that these populations evolved greater competitive ability through traits
121 very different from those seen earlier in *D. melanogaster* populations subjected to similar
122 selection.

123 **MATERIALS & METHODS**

124 **Experimental populations**

125 This study used eight laboratory populations each of *D. ananassae* and *D. n. nasuta*. Four
126 control *D. ananassae* populations (AB₁₋₄: **A**nanassae **B**aseline) were derived from a single
127 population, initiated in May-June 2001 with about 300 wild-caught females from
128 Bangalore, India, and maintained as a single population on a 21-day discrete generation
129 cycle for 34 generations (Sharmila Bharathi *et al.* 2003). The four AB populations were
130 maintained on a 21-day discrete generation cycle at 25° ± 1 C, ~90% relative humidity,

131 constant light and on cornmeal medium. Larval density was regulated at 60-80 larvae per
132 vial (9 cm × 2.4 cm) with 6 mL food. Forty vials were set up per replicate population.
133 Twelve days after egg-collection, eclosed adults (1500-1800) from all 40 vials were
134 collected into Plexiglas cages (25 × 20 × 15 cm³) containing a petridish of food that was
135 changed every alternate day, and a moistened ball of cotton. On day 18 after egg-
136 collection, the flies were given food along with a generous smear of live yeast-acetic acid
137 paste. On day 21 from the previous egg-collection, fresh food plates were put into the
138 cages and eggs collected from them after 18 h to initiate the next generation.

139 From the AB populations, four populations (ACU₁₋₄: Ananassae Crowded as
140 larvae and Uncrowded as adults) were derived, one each from each of AB₁₋₄, two
141 generations after the AB populations were established. The ACU populations were
142 selected for adaptation to larval crowding by subjecting them to a density of 550-600 eggs
143 per vial with 1.5 mL of food. In initial generations the density was lower; the final
144 densities were attained by generation 15 of ACU selection. The ACU populations were
145 otherwise maintained the same as the AB controls, except that only 20 vials of eggs were
146 collected each generation (to keep the number of breeding adults similar to controls: 1500-
147 1800), and the collection of eclosed adults into the cages continued until day 18 from
148 previous egg-collection.

149 Four control *D. n. nasuta* populations (NB₁₋₄: Nasuta Baseline) were derived, after
150 24 generations as a single population on a 21 day discrete generation cycle, from a
151 laboratory population established using about 70 females collected from orchards and
152 domestic garbage dumps in different parts of Bangalore, India, during October-November
153 2001 (Sharmila Bharathi *et al.* 2003). The four NB populations were maintained on a 21-

154 day discrete generation cycle at $25^{\circ} \pm 1$ C, ~90% relative humidity, constant light and on
155 cornmeal medium. The larval density was regulated at 60-80 larvae per vial (9 cm \times 2.4
156 cm) with 6 mL food. Fifty two vials were set up per replicate population to keep the
157 number of breeding adults at about 1500-1800. Twelve days after egg-collection, eclosed
158 adults from all 40 vials per replicate population were collected into Plexiglas cages (25 \times
159 20 \times 15 cm³) containing a petridish of food that was changed every alternate day, and a
160 moistened ball of cotton. On day 18 after egg-collection, the flies were given food along
161 with a generous smear of live yeast-acetic acid paste. On day 21 from the previous egg-
162 collection, fresh food plates were put into the cages and eggs collected from them after 18
163 h to initiate the next generation.

164 From the NB populations, four populations (NCU₁₋₄: Nasuta Crowded as larvae
165 and Uncrowded as adults) were derived, one each from each of NB₁₋₄, two generations
166 after the NB populations were established. The NCU populations were selected for
167 adaptation to larval crowding by subjecting them to a density of 350-400 eggs per vial
168 with 2 mL of food. In initial generations the density was lower; the final densities were
169 attained by generation 15 of NCU selection. This difference from ACU in larval density is
170 to compensate for the larger size at each stage of the *D. nasuta* larvae. The NCU
171 populations were otherwise maintained in the same way as the NB controls, with similar
172 adult population size, except that the collection of eclosed adults into the cages continued
173 until day 18 from previous egg-collection, and only 40 vials with eggs were set up.

174 Since each ACU or NCU population was derived from one control population,
175 selected and control populations bearing identical numerical subscripts are more related to
176 each other than to other populations with which they share the selection regime.

177 Therefore, control and selected populations with identical subscripts were treated as
178 blocks, representing ancestry, in the statistical analyses.

179 **Collection of flies for assays**

180 All control and selected populations were maintained under common (control-type)
181 rearing conditions for one complete generation prior to assays, to eliminate non-genetic
182 parental effects. The progeny of these flies, hereafter ‘standardized flies’, were then used
183 for the various assays. To obtain progeny for assays, standardized flies in cages were
184 provided yeast-acetic acid paste on food for three days before egg collection. A fresh
185 petridish with food was then placed in the cages and the flies were allowed to lay eggs for
186 ~14 h, after which eggs were removed from the food with a moistened paintbrush and
187 placed into vials for setting up the various assays. All assays were conducted at $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$,
188 under constant light.

189 **Pre-adult survivorship**

190 After 42 generations of ACU selection, eggs laid by standardized flies were placed into
191 vials at a density of either 70 or 600 per vial containing 1.5 mL of food. Eight such vials
192 were set up for each replicate AB and ACU population at each density in single-species
193 culture. Eight such vials at each density were also set up in two-species cultures, in
194 competition with a common competitor, a white eyed mutant population of *D.*
195 *melanogaster*, maintained for about 90 generations in the laboratory on a three week
196 discrete generation cycle. The white eyed population was derived from spontaneously
197 occurring mutant individuals in the JB populations (Sheeba et al. 1998) in our laboratory.
198 For the two-species cultures, eggs laid by standardized ACU, AB or white eyed flies were

199 collected and placed into vials at a density of either 70 (35 ACU or AB eggs and 35 eggs
200 from the white eyed mutant population) or 600 (300 ACU or AB eggs and 300 eggs from
201 the white eyed mutant population) per vial containing 1.5 mL of food. Eight such vials
202 were set up for each replicate AB and ACU population at each density. The number of
203 flies eclosing in each vial was recorded and used to calculate pre-adult survivorship.

204 At generation 76 of NCU selection, an assay similar to that described above was
205 set up using the NB and NCU populations and the white eyed *D. melanogaster*. The only
206 difference from the *D. ananassae* assay was that the low and high density treatments
207 comprised of 70 or 350 eggs in vials with 2 mL of food.

208 **Duration of pre-adult life-stages and pre-adult development time**

209 After 53 generations of ACU selection, pre-adult development time was assayed at a high
210 density of 600 eggs per vial with 1.5 mL of food. Eggs from standardized AB and ACU
211 flies were dispensed into each vial using a moistened paintbrush. Eight such vials were set
212 up per replicate population. After the pupae darkened, vials were checked every 6 h and
213 the number of eclosing flies recorded.

214 After 71 generations of ACU selection, pre-adult development time was assayed at
215 a low density of 30 eggs per vial with 6 mL of food (An earlier study at generation 41 of
216 ACU selection had shown that pre-adult development time did not differ significantly
217 between low densities of 30 or 70 eggs per vial with 6 mL of food: data not shown). Eggs
218 from standardized AB and ACU flies were dispensed into each vial using a moistened
219 paintbrush. Ten vials were set up per replicate population. After the pupae darkened, the
220 vials were monitored for eclosion at 2 h intervals, and the number of eclosing flies

221 recorded. As part of the same assay, egg hatching time and the duration of each larval
222 instar and the pupal stage were also determined. For assaying egg hatching time, 30 eggs
223 from the standardized flies were arranged on a small agar cube in a food vial in six rows
224 of five eggs each. Ten such vials were set up per population. Fifteen hours after egg
225 laying, the vials were checked for any hatched eggs once every hour, till no eggs hatched
226 for three consecutive hours. For assaying instar and pupal duration, eggs of approximately
227 identical age were harvested over a three hour period from the standardized flies and
228 dispensed into vials with 6 mL of food at a density of 30 eggs per vial. Sixty such vials
229 were set up per population. Forty three hours after the midpoint of the three hour egg
230 laying period, four vials per population were removed from the incubators and immersed
231 in hot water. The dead larvae were removed and kept in 70% ethanol for subsequent
232 examination. Every two hours, this process was repeated. The larval instars were
233 differentiated based on the number of 'teeth' in the larval mouth hooks. From these data,
234 the number of larvae of each instar present in each two-hourly sample was determined,
235 and the median time of each molt was obtained by interpolation. For pupal duration and
236 pre-adult development time, ten vials per population were set up with 30 eggs in 6 mL of
237 food. After the first pupa was seen, the vials were screened every two hours and any new
238 pupae that had formed were marked on the vial with different coloured marker pens.
239 Thereafter, the vials were monitored for eclosion and the number of eclosing males and
240 females in each vial was determined every two hours. These observations yielded data on
241 egg to pupa and egg to adult development time, from which the pupal duration could be
242 calculated.

243 After 84 generations of NCU selection, pre-adult development time was assayed at
244 a high density of 350 eggs per vial with 2 mL of food. Eggs from standardized NB and
245 NCU flies were dispensed into each vial using a moistened paintbrush. Eight such vials
246 were set up per population. After the pupae darkened, the vials were checked every 6 h
247 and the number of eclosing flies recorded.

248 After 62 generations of NCU selection, egg hatching time, larval instar duration,
249 pupal duration and pre-adult development time of the NB and NCU populations were
250 assayed exactly as described above for the ACU and AB populations.

251 **Larval feeding rate**

252 After 71 generations of ACU selection, the feeding rates of AB and ACU larvae were
253 measured at physiologically equalized ages, based on the difference in AB and ACU
254 development time. This was done by collecting eggs from the standardized ACU flies 5 h
255 later than the AB flies. Thus, at the time of assay, ACU larvae were 58 h old, whereas AB
256 larvae were 63 h old and thus approximately in the same relative stage of their larval
257 development. Following Joshi and Mueller (1996), about a hundred eggs laid over a four
258 hour period were collected from standardized flies and placed into two petridishes with
259 non-nutritive agar each for AB and ACU populations. Twenty-four hours later, twenty-
260 five newly hatched larvae were transferred from these agar petridishes to a petridish
261 containing a thin layer of non-nutritive agar overlaid with 1.5 mL of 37.5% yeast
262 suspension. Four such petridishes were set up per population. The larvae were then
263 allowed to feed for 58 (ACU) or 63 (AB) h, by which time they were in the early third
264 instar. At this point, 20 larvae from each population were assayed for feeding rate,

265 following the procedure of Joshi and Mueller (1996), by placing them individually in a
266 small petridish (5 cm diameter) containing a thin layer of agar overlaid with a thin layer of
267 10% yeast suspension. After allowing for a 15 sec acclimation period, feeding rate was
268 measured under a stereozoom microscope as the number of cephalopharyngeal sclerite
269 retractions in a 1 min period. Selected and control populations, matched by the subscripted
270 indices, were assayed together, with one larva from the selected population and one from
271 the control population being assayed alternately. The same procedure was followed for
272 assaying larval feeding rate of 20 larvae from each NCU and NB population, after 77
273 generations of NCU selection.

274 **Larval foraging path length**

275 Twenty early third instar larvae for each population were assayed for larval foraging path
276 length. The collection of larvae for the assay was exactly as described above for larval
277 feeding rate assays. For assaying foraging path length, individual larvae were placed in a
278 small petridish (5 cm diameter) containing a thin layer of agar overlaid with a thin layer of
279 10% yeast suspension. After allowing for a 15 sec acclimation period, the larvae were
280 allowed to move around on the petridish for 1 min. The path traversed by the larvae on the
281 yeast surface was traced onto a transparency sheet and later measured with a thread and
282 ruler. Selected and control populations, matched by subscripted indices, were assayed
283 together at generations 52 and 81 of ACU and NCU selection, respectively.

284 **Pupation height**

285 Eggs from standardized flies were collected and placed into vials with 6 mL of food at a
286 density of 50 (ACU/AB) or 70 (NCU/NB) eggs per vial. Ten and eight such vials were set

287 up per population for *D. ananassae* and *D. n. nasuta*, respectively. Once all pupae had
288 formed, pupation height of each pupa was measured, following Joshi and Mueller (1993),
289 as the distance between the surface of the food medium to the point between the anterior
290 spiracles of the pupa. Any pupa on or touching the surface of the food was given a
291 pupation height of zero. Assays were conducted at generations 39 and 34 of ACU and
292 NCU selection, respectively.

293 **Larval urea and ammonia tolerance**

294 After 49 generations of ACU selection, eggs laid over a four hour period by standardized
295 flies were collected and exactly 30 eggs per 6 mL food were placed into vials at three
296 concentrations each of urea (0, 14 and 18 g/L) or ammonia (0, 15 and 30 g/L NH₄Cl) in
297 the food. These are values that allowed the detection of differences in urea/ammonia
298 tolerance between selected and control populations in previous studies on *D. melanogaster*
299 (Shiotsugu et al. 1997; Borash et al. 1998). Ten vials were set up per population at each
300 concentration of either urea or ammonia, and the number of eclosing flies in each vial was
301 recorded to calculate pre-adult survivorship. Both urea and ammonia were used as there is
302 some confusion about which compound actually increases in concentration in crowded
303 larval cultures, although it is likely that it is ammonia in the case of *D. melanogaster*
304 (Botella et al. 1985; Borash et al. 1998). The NCU and NB populations were assayed in an
305 identical manner after 76 generations of NCU selection, except that the egg-laying period
306 was 12 hours, and the concentrations used were 0, 9 and 11 g/L for urea and 0, 15 and 20
307 g/L for ammonia, as earlier studies had shown that *D. n. nasuta* larvae were more sensitive
308 to urea and ammonia than their *D. ananassae* counterparts, and *D. n. nasuta* females are
309 not as fecund as *D. ananassae* females (data not shown).

310 **Minimum feeding time and dry weight after minimum feeding**

311 These assays were conducted only on the ACU and AB populations. After 45 generations
312 of ACU selection, critical minimum feeding time for pupation was assayed by setting up
313 freshly hatched larvae, from eggs laid by standardized flies, onto petridishes with agar
314 overlaid with 1.5 mL of 37.5% yeast suspension, as described above for the feeding rate
315 and foraging path length assays. Twenty five larvae were placed into each petridish, and
316 sixty such petridishes were set up per population. At 46, 49, 52 and 55 h after egg hatch, a
317 total of 150 larvae per population per time point were removed from the yeast, gently
318 washed in water to remove any yeast sticking to their bodies, and placed in ten vials
319 containing 5 mL of non-nutritive agar, at a density of 15 larvae per vial. These vials were
320 subsequently monitored for pupation and eclosion, and the pre-adult survivorship after
321 feeding for different periods of time noted. Using the information from this assay, a
322 second assay was carried out after 68 generations of ACU selection to measure the dry
323 weights at eclosion of ACU and AB flies that had fed as larvae for different durations of
324 time, roughly corresponding to pre-adult survivorship of 13, 25, 50 and 60%, respectively
325 (feeding for 54, 56, 59 and 62 h for AB, and 50, 55, 58 and 60 h for ACU populations,
326 respectively). Freshly hatched larvae were collected, shifted to yeast and then removed
327 and placed into agar vials after feeding for different durations corresponding to pre-adult
328 survivorship of 13, 25, 50 and 60% for ACU and AB populations, exactly as described
329 above. Once eclosions began in the agar vials, flies were collected every 4 h and frozen
330 for subsequent weighing. Frozen flies were sorted into batches of five males or five
331 females each and dried at 70°C for 36 h before weighing in batches.

332 **Statistical analyses**

333 Since assays on ACU/AB and NCU/NB populations were conducted at different times,
334 data from the two species were analyzed separately. All traits were subjected to
335 completely randomized block analyses of variance (ANOVA). All ANOVAs treated
336 replicate population 1..4 (representing ancestry) as random blocks crossed with the fixed
337 factor selection regime. Additional fixed factors, crossed with both selection regime and
338 block, were included when relevant. These factors were larval density and type of culture
339 (single- or two-species) for pre-adult survivorship, pre-adult life-stage for life-stage
340 duration, urea or ammonia concentration in the food for urea and ammonia tolerance, and
341 larval feeding duration or survivorship for the assays on minimum critical feeding time
342 and of dry weight at eclosion after feeding for different time durations corresponding to
343 four different pre-adult survivorship levels. Development time data from low and high
344 density were analyzed separately, rather than incorporating larval density as a factor,
345 because the low and high density assays were conducted at different times for each
346 species. Data on pre-adult survivorship were arcsine-squareroot transformed before
347 ANOVA. For all traits, ANOVAs were done on replicate population mean values and,
348 therefore, only fixed factor effects and interactions could be tested for significance. All
349 analyses were implemented using Statistica for Windows rel.5.0 B, (Stat Soft 1995).
350 Multiple comparisons were done using Tukey's HSD test.

351 **RESULTS**

352 **Pre-adult survivorship**

353 Pre-adult survivorship at high larval density is the primary trait expected to be under direct
354 selection in populations exposed to high larval crowding each generation. With regard to

355 survivorship at low versus high larval density, the broad pattern of results was very similar
356 in the two species (Figure 1). In both species, pre-adult survivorship was, on an average,
357 significantly higher at low rather than high larval density, and in selected compared to
358 control populations (Figure 1, Table 1). The trend was for survivorship to be higher, on
359 average, in single-species cultures than in two-species cultures, but the difference was
360 significant only in the case of *D. ananassae* (Table 1). Both species showed a significant
361 selection regime \times larval density interaction (Table 1), with selected and control
362 populations' survivorship not differing significantly at low density, and with selected
363 populations showing significantly higher survivorship than controls at high density
364 (Figure 1). Both species also showed a significant culture type \times larval density interaction
365 (Table 1). In *D. ananassae*, averaged over selection regimes, survivorship at low density
366 in both types of cultures was similar whereas survivorship at high density was
367 significantly greater in single-species than two-species cultures (Figure 1). In *D. n. nasuta*,
368 a somewhat opposite pattern was seen. Averaged over selection regime, survivorship at
369 low density in single-species cultures was higher than in two-species cultures (Figure 1),
370 but not significantly so. However, at high density, survivorship in two-species cultures
371 was higher than in single-species cultures but, again, not significantly so. In fact, the only
372 clear significant difference in the multiple comparisons was that between single-species
373 cultures at low and high densities (Figure 1.). In the case of *D. ananassae*, there was also a
374 significant culture type \times selection regime interaction (Table 1), but the only clearly
375 significant differences in multiple comparisons were between survivorship in two-species
376 cultures at high density on the one hand, and in the other three culture type \times selection
377 regime combinations on the other (Figure 1).

378 **Pre-adult development time**

379 In general, pre-adult development time in *D. n. nasuta* was higher than that in *D.*
380 *ananassae*, as also noted earlier (Sharmila Bharathi et al. 2004). Pre-adult development
381 time was, in general, greater in males than in females, and greater at high rather than low
382 larval density, as is usually the case in *Drosophila* (Figures 2,3, Table 2).

383 Interestingly, in both species at both larval densities, there was a significant main
384 effect of selection regime, with selected populations consistently showing substantially
385 lower development time than control populations at both densities (Figures 2,3, Table 2).
386 On an average, AB development time was higher than that of ACU populations by about
387 14 and 29 h at low and high larval density, respectively (Figures 2A, 3A), whereas that of
388 NB populations was greater than that of NCU populations by about 17 and 29 h at low and
389 high larval density, respectively (Figures 2B,3B). In three of the four assays, there was no
390 significant selection regime \times sex interaction (Table 2). In *D. n. nasuta* at high larval
391 density, control males and females had similar development times whereas NCU males
392 had significantly higher development time than NCU females, albeit by just about 1 h
393 (Figure 3B).

394 **Pre-adult life-stage duration**

395 The overall pattern of pre-adult life-stage durations in both species was similar to what is
396 seen in *Drosophila* spp. in general. Consistent with the pre-adult development time results,
397 both species showed a main effect of selection regime (Table 3), with life-stage durations
398 being greater in control rather than selected populations, on an average (Figure 4). In *D.*
399 *ananassae*, a 20 h egg stage was followed by two larval instars of about 24 h each, a third

400 larval instar of about 46 h and a pupal stage lasting about 87 h (Figure 4A); there was no
401 significant selection regime \times life-stage duration interaction. In *D. n. nasuta*, all pre-adult
402 life-stages differed significantly from one another in duration, with a 23 h egg stage,
403 followed by two larval instars of about 27 and 29 h, respectively, a longer third larval
404 instar of about 63 h and a pupal stage lasting about 87 h (Figure 4B). The longer larval
405 instar durations in *D. n. nasuta* are consistent with their larger adult size compared to *D.*
406 *ananassae* (Sharmila Bharathi et al. 2004). *D. n. nasuta* also showed a significant
407 selection regime \times life-stage duration interaction (Table 3), with a large (~ 12 h) reduction
408 in third instar duration in the NCU populations (Figure 4B). We note that, given the time
409 interval between subsequent observations (1 h for egg-hatch; 2 h for larval instars), our
410 screening might be too coarse to pick up small but consistent differences on the order of
411 30 min – 1 h. However, the differences between selected and control populations in the
412 durations of different pre-adult life-stages, though often not significant, did add up
413 roughly to the overall difference seen in pre-adult development time between selected and
414 control populations in both species.

415 **Larval traits**

416 Surprisingly, larval feeding rate did not differ significantly between selected and control
417 populations in either species (Table 4). Mean (\pm s.e.) larval feeding rates in sclerite
418 retractions per min were, in fact, extremely similar between selected and control
419 populations of both species (AB: 128.33 ± 3.13 ; ACU: 131.55 ± 3.05 ; NB: 112.76 ± 5.29 ;
420 NCU: 113.03 ± 4.34). In both species, selected populations showed significantly greater
421 mean (\pm s.e.) pupation height in cm than control populations (AB: 1.02 ± 0.28 ; ACU: 1.60

422 ± 0.20 ; NB: 0.44 ± 0.12 ; NCU: 1.54 ± 0.11) (Table 4). In case of larval foraging path
423 length, the results varied between species, with *D. ananassae* showing a significant main
424 effect of selection regime while *D. n. nasuta* did not (Table 4). AB populations had mean
425 (\pm s.e.) foraging path length in cm of 5.52 ± 0.61 , compared to 7.38 ± 0.60 in the ACU
426 populations. NB and NCU populations had mean (\pm s.e.) foraging path length in cm of
427 4.24 ± 0.53 and 4.08 ± 0.43 , respectively.

428 **Larval urea and ammonia tolerance**

429 There was no clear pattern to the results of assays on pre-adult survivorship in the
430 presence of metabolic wastes like urea (Figure 5) and ammonia (Figure 6) in the food
431 medium, except for strong evidence for the toxic effects of these compounds, reflected in
432 significant main effects of concentration in all four ANOVAs (Table 5).

433 ACU populations had lower survivorship than AB controls across all levels of
434 urea, including 0 g/L, and thus showed no evidence of greater or lesser urea tolerance than
435 the AB controls (Figure 5A), with a significant main effect of selection regime but no
436 significant selection regime \times concentration interaction (Table 5). There was suggestive
437 evidence for greater ammonia tolerance in the ACU compared to the AB populations
438 (Figure 6A). At 0 g/L of ammonia in the food, ACU populations had significantly lower
439 survivorship than AB controls, whereas at 30 g/L, the ACU survivorship was higher,
440 though not significantly so, than the AB survivorship (Figure 6A). The selection regime \times
441 concentration interaction was also significant for this assay (Table 5).

442 In the case of *D. n. nasuta*, there was no significant effect of selection regime or of
443 the selection regime \times concentration interaction in the urea tolerance assay (Table 5).

444 However, there was a non-significant trend of NCU survivorship being lower than NB at 0
445 g/L and higher than NB at 11 g/L (Figure 5B). In case of ammonia, NCU populations had
446 consistently lower survivorship than NB controls at all concentrations (Figure 6B) and
447 there was no significant effect of selection regime or of the selection regime \times
448 concentration interaction, yielding no suggestion of increased ammonia tolerance in the
449 NCU populations.

450 **Minimum critical feeding time**

451 In the minimum critical feeding time assay, only significant main effects of selection
452 regime and feeding duration were seen (Table 6), with pre-adult survivorship increasing
453 from feeding durations from 46-55 h, and with ACU survivorship being higher than that of
454 the AB populations at every feeding duration (Figure 7A). At 55 h of feeding as larvae,
455 ACU survivorship was over 50% while that of the AB populations was less than 30%
456 (Figure 7A). Overall, ACU populations seemed to attain similar levels of survivorship
457 approximately 6 h before the AB controls (Figure 7A), which is commensurate with the
458 5.48 h difference between their first and second instar durations combined. These results
459 suggest that larvae in the ACU populations attain their minimum critical size for pupation
460 approximately 5-6 h before their AB controls.

461 In the ANOVA on data from the assay of dry weight at eclosion of individuals that
462 had fed for different durations of time as larvae, corresponding to four different levels of
463 pre-adult survivorship, only the main effects of sex and survivorship were significant
464 (Table 6). On an average, females were significantly heavier than males, and dry weight at
465 eclosion tended to increase with survivorship (Figure 7B). At no survivorship level was

466 there a significant difference between the dry weights of AB and ACU flies (Figure 7B),
467 suggesting that the minimum critical size for pupation in the selected and control
468 populations is probably not different, even though the ACU populations attain it faster
469 than the AB controls.

470 **DISCUSSION**

471 It is clear that both the ACU and NCU populations did evolve adaptations to larval
472 crowding over the course of selection: in both species, pre-adult survivorship at high
473 density and competitive ability was greater in selected than in control populations (Figure
474 1, Table 1). The overall pattern of correlated responses to selection in the two species was
475 also similar, and, more importantly, different from that reported earlier in case of *D.*
476 *melanogaster* in that it did not involve the evolution of higher feeding rates (Table 4).

477 In clear contrast to what was seen earlier in *D. melanoagster*, both ACU and NCU
478 populations evolved faster pre-adult development time than their controls (Table 2), with
479 the difference being apparent at both low (Figure 2) and high (Figure 3) assay density. The
480 pre-adult development time difference between selected and control populations is entirely
481 due to reduction in the duration of larval instars (Figure 4). In absolute terms, the
482 reductions in pre-adult development time in the selected populations (~14 h in ACU, ~17
483 h in NCU) are quite large. For comparison, populations of *D. melanogaster* subjected to
484 strong directional selection for reduced pre-adult development time showed a reduction of
485 ~16 h in the larval duration, and ~10 h in pupal duration, after 50 generations of selection
486 (Prasad et al. 2001). In the earlier studies on *D. melanogaster*, CU populations showed no
487 difference from controls in development time at low density, whereas they were faster

488 developing than controls when assayed at high density (Borash and Ho 2001). While the
489 *K*-populations did show faster development than *r*-populations when assayed at low
490 density (Bierbaum et al. 1989), this cannot be unequivocally ascribed to density-dependent
491 selection. The *K*-populations were on an overlapping generation maintenance regime and,
492 relative to a discrete generation regime like that of the *r*-populations, this itself would
493 impose direct selection for faster development. If we put the results on life-stage duration
494 (figure 4) and development time (Figures 2,3) together with those from the minimum
495 feeding time assay (Figure 7), the ACU and NCU populations have evolved faster
496 development, especially in the first two larval instars, enabling them to reach the critical
497 minimum size for pupation about 6 h earlier than controls. This is particularly impressive
498 considering that *D. melanogaster* populations selected directly for rapid development
499 reached the critical size only about 2 h before controls after 50 generations of selection
500 (Prasad et al. 2001). At the same time, the weights of ACU and NCU flies are not different
501 from controls after feeding for different durations close to the minimum feeding time
502 (Figure 7, Table 6). Thus, in terms of time, ACU and NCU larvae are clearly more
503 efficient at converting food to biomass than controls during the first two (and an early part
504 of the third) larval instars, becoming equally heavy adults as controls after feeding for
505 about 6 h less. Of course, whether they are more efficient also in terms of food consumed
506 cannot be determined from these experiments. However, these results do suggest that
507 unlike the *K*- and CU populations, (Mueller 1990; Joshi and Mueller 1996), the ACU and
508 NCU populations have evolved to become more rather than less efficient than controls.
509 The faster development of the ACU and NCU populations, relative to controls, is also
510 interesting in the context of observations that faster development correlates with greater

511 competitive ability across species of *Drosophila* (Krijger et al. 2001), even though direct
512 selection for rapid development leads to the evolution of reduced competitive ability
513 (Shakarad et al. 2005) through reduced larval feeding rate, foraging path length and
514 pupation height (Prasad et al. 2001) as well as reduced larval urea tolerance (Joshi et al.
515 2001).

516 Unlike in *D. melanogaster*, larval feeding rates did not evolve to become greater in
517 the ACU and NCU populations (Table 4), although these populations clearly evolved
518 greater competitive ability than controls (Figure 1). In fact, we measured feeding rates at
519 various points during ACU and NCU selection, and also at various larval stages, and there
520 was never any difference between selected and control populations in either species (data
521 not shown). Interestingly, larval foraging path length was greater in ACU populations than
522 in AB populations, whereas NCU and NB populations had very similar foraging path
523 lengths (Table 4). Thus, at least in *D. ananassae*, the consistent positive relationship
524 between larval feeding rate and foraging path length seen in *D. melanogaster* (Joshi and
525 Mueller 1988, 1996; Sokolowski et al. 1997; Borash et al. 2000; Prasad et al. 2001;
526 Mueller et al. 2005) seems to be uncoupled. Pupation height evolved to become greater in
527 both ACU and NCU populations, relative to controls, mirroring results from the *K*-
528 populations (Mueller and Sweet 1986), but not the CU populations (Joshi and Mueller
529 1996; but see also Mueller et al. 1993 and Joshi et al. 2003). One possible reason for the
530 evolution of increased pupation height in the *K*-populations but not the CU populations
531 has been speculated to be the greater hardness and dryness of the cornmeal based food (*r*-
532 and *K*-populations) compared to banana based food (UU and CU populations). It was
533 suggested that banana food being much softer and more fluid compared to cornmeal food,

534 perhaps the UU populations were also under selection for increased pupation height due to
535 greater risk of pupal drowning on the food surface even at their relatively low rearing
536 density (Joshi et al. 2003). In this context, we note that our ACU/AB and NCU/NB
537 populations are maintained on a relatively hard and dry cornmeal food and this might be
538 the reason for the evolution of greater pupation height in selected populations, relative to
539 controls.

540 Compared to other traits, the results on urea and ammonia tolerance in the selected
541 and control populations were not very clear. While pre-adult survivorship clearly
542 decreased with increasing amounts of urea or ammonia in the food (Figures 5,6, Table 5),
543 there was no clear evidence for greater urea or ammonia tolerance in the selected
544 populations, except for greater ammonia tolerance in the ACU populations, relative to the
545 AB controls (Figure 6A). There was a slight suggestion of a trend towards increased urea
546 tolerance in the NCU populations, relative to NB controls in that NCU survivorship at 0
547 g/L was below that of NB populations and became slightly higher than NB populations at
548 11 g/L (Figure 5B). However, there was no significant selection regime \times urea
549 concentration interaction (Table 5), indicating that this is at best a suggestive result. It
550 might be that crowded *D. ananassae* and *D. n. nasuta* cultures have experienced
551 differential levels of urea versus ammonia build-up to which they have adapted.
552 Moreover, we have seen, in other studies with *D. melanogaster*, that the detection of
553 between-population differences in urea/ammonia tolerance is often affected by an
554 interaction between the specific concentrations used and the larval density (Avani Mital,
555 Gitanjali P. Vaidya and Amitabh Joshi, *unpubl. data*). It is, therefore, possible that we
556 were unable to detect significant differences between selected and control populations due

557 to the specific concentrations and larval densities used in our assays of urea and ammonia
558 tolerance. It is also known that larval exposure to urea markedly reduces subsequent
559 fecundity in *D. melanogaster*, and that populations selected for increased larval urea
560 tolerance undergo smaller fecundity declines than controls when reared as larvae on food
561 with urea (Shiotsugu et al. 1997). Thus, it is also possible that the ACU and NCU
562 populations might have evolved greater tolerance to the detrimental effects of urea on
563 fecundity; our experiments did not explore this possibility.

564 Overall, the crowded *D. ananassae* and *D. n. nasuta* populations seem to evolve
565 greater competitive ability and pre-adult survivorship at high density primarily through a
566 combination of reduced duration of the larval stage, faster attainment of minimum critical
567 size for pupation, greater efficiency of food conversion to biomass, increased pupation
568 height and, perhaps, greater urea/ammonia tolerance. This is in contrast to *D.*
569 *melanogaster*, in which crowding adapted populations evolve greater competitive ability
570 and pre-adult survivorship at high density primarily through a combination of increased
571 larval feeding rate and foraging path length, at the cost of reduced efficiency of food
572 conversion to biomass, and greater urea/ammonia tolerance (Mueller 1997; Prasad and
573 Joshi 2003; Mueller 2009). Thus, the ACU and NCU populations appear to have
574 responded to crowding in a manner closer to the canonical notion of *K*-selection, in
575 contrast to the primarily α -selection responses shown by the *K*- and CU populations of *D.*
576 *melanogaster* (see also Dey et al. 2012). Thus, the results underscore the fact that there
577 are, in principle, multiple routes to the evolution of greater competitive ability (Joshi et al.
578 2001; Dey et al. 2012), something that has also been experimentally demonstrated in the
579 context of inter-specific competition in *Drosophila* (Joshi and Thompson 1995).

580 At this point, we can only speculate about the reason(s) for why the evolution of
581 increased competitive ability in the ACU and NCU populations occurred in a manner so
582 different from that seen earlier in *D. melanogaster*. We believe there are three possible
583 reasons for the observed discrepancy in correlated responses to selection for adaptation to
584 larval crowding across the three species, and the three proposed explanations are not
585 mutually exclusive. First, it is possible that the pattern of genetic variances and
586 covariances among traits relevant to survival in a crowded culture is different from that in
587 *D. melanogaster* in the two species studied here (*D. ananassae* and *D. n. nasuta*). For
588 example, maybe the AB and NB populations do not harbor additive genetic variance for
589 larval feeding rate. Such differences of genetic architecture could simply reflect between-
590 species differences, being the result of historical selection pressures and contingencies.
591 However, if that were the case, we would have expected the results from *D. ananassae* to
592 be closer to *D. melanogaster*, as compared to *D. n. nasuta*, given the phylogenetic and
593 ecological relationships of these species (see Introduction, last paragraph). A second, more
594 likely, possibility is that these differences of genetic architecture between *D. ananassae*
595 and *D. n. nasuta* on the one hand, and *D. melanogaster* on the other, are because the ACU
596 and NCU populations represent selection on relatively recently wild-caught populations
597 (see Materials and methods) whereas the *K*- and CU populations involved selection on
598 populations that had already been in the laboratory for a large number of generations
599 (Mueller and Ayala 1981; Joshi and Mueller 1996). There might be significant differences
600 in the genetic architecture of fitness-related traits between wild and laboratory
601 populations. Finally, it is possible that the discrepancies between the results of this study
602 and those from earlier work on *D. melanogaster* are due to differences in the specific

603 details of the respective maintenance regimes of selected populations in the various
604 studies. Such small differences in selection regimes have been implicated in the different
605 trajectories of pupation height in the *K*- versus the CU populations (Joshi et al. 2003). The
606 *K*-populations were maintained on a serial transfer system in half-pint milk bottles with
607 about 350 mL food per bottle (Mueller and Ayala 1981), while the CU populations were
608 maintained in 6 dram vials (2.2 cm dia) at a density of about 1000-1500 eggs per vial in
609 about 5 mL of food. Unlike in our ACU and NCU populations, neither food amount nor
610 number of eggs per vial were exactly controlled in CU maintenance. In the CU
611 populations, eggs were laid by adult females onto thin films of food on four watch glasses
612 per cage. These films of food with eggs on them were then sliced up and divided roughly
613 equally among 40 vials that each contained about 3 mL of food (A. Joshi, *pers. obs.*).
614 Thus, our ACU and NCU populations had a smaller absolute amount of food per rearing
615 container (bottle/vial) than the *K*- and CU populations, and also differed from the latter in
616 specific densities of eggs per mL of food. It is, therefore, possible that the time course of
617 food depletion and nitrogenous waste build-up in the ACU and NCU cultures is somewhat
618 different from that in the *K*- and CU populations. It has been shown theoretically that
619 optimal feeding rates are likely to decline as the concentration of nitrogenous waste in the
620 food increases (Mueller et al. 1995). Thus, at least in principle, it is possible that the
621 optimal feeding rates in the ACU and NCU populations are actually less than they were
622 for the *K*- and CU populations, and that is why increased feeding rates did not evolve in
623 our experiments. Subsequent studies will attempt to discriminate between these various
624 explanations. However, for the time being, we believe that these results underscore the
625 need for a more nuanced understanding of adaptations to larval crowding in *Drosophila*,

626 with a greater appreciation for the fact that increased competitive ability can be attained
627 through the evolution of fairly different suites of traits. We also need to be cognizant of
628 the fact that seemingly small differences of maintenance in otherwise similar selection
629 regimes might mediate the evolution of very different trajectories in phenotypic space.

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638

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FIGURES

Figure 1. Mean pre-adult survivorship at low and high larval density in the selected and control populations of the two species, when cultured alone or in the presence of equal numbers of eggs of white-eyed *D. melanogaster* competitors. Error bars are standard errors around the mean of the four replicate population mean values. Significant differences between pairs of means are indicated by labeling them with different letters. For both species, as the three-way interaction between type of culture, selection regime and larval density was not significant, only the difference between the mean pre-adult survivorships of selected and control populations at high and low larval densities, averaged over type of culture (single- or two-species), is highlighted.

Figure 2. Mean male and female pre-adult development time at low larval density in the selected and control populations of the two species. Error bars are standard errors around the mean of the four replicate population mean values. For both species, significant differences between pairs of means are indicated by labeling them with different letters. For *D. ananassae*, as the interaction between sex and selection regime was not significant, only the difference between the mean pre-adult development time of males and females, averaged over selection regimes is highlighted.

Figure 3. Mean male and female pre-adult development time at high larval density in the selected and control populations of the two species. Error bars are standard errors around the mean of the four replicate population mean values. Significant differences between

pairs of means are indicated by labeling them with different letters. For both species, as the interaction between sex and selection regime was not significant, only the difference between the mean pre-adult development time of males and females, averaged over selection regimes is highlighted.

Figure 4. Mean duration in hours of different pre-adult life-stages at low larval density in the selected and control populations of the two species. Error bars are standard errors around the mean of the four replicate population mean values. For each species, significant differences between pairs of means are indicated by labeling them with different letters. For *D. ananassae*, the interaction between selection regime and life-stage was not significant. Consequently, only the differences in mean duration between life-stages, averaged over block and selection regime, have been highlighted.

Figure 5. Mean pre-adult survivorship at low density with three different levels of urea in the food medium in the selected and control populations of the two species. Error bars are standard errors around the mean of the four replicate population mean values. For each species, significant differences between pairs of means are indicated by labeling them with different letters. For both species, the interaction between selection regime and urea level was not significant. Consequently, only the differences between mean survivorship at different urea levels, averaged over block and selection regime, have been highlighted.

Figure 6. Mean pre-adult survivorship at low density with three different levels of ammonia in the food medium in the selected and control populations of the two species. Error bars are standard errors around the mean of the four replicate population mean values. For each species, significant differences between pairs of means are indicated by labeling them with different letters. For *D. n. nasuta* the interaction between selection regime and ammonia level was not significant. Consequently, only the differences between mean survivorship at different ammonia levels, averaged over block and selection regime, have been highlighted.

Figure 7. (A) Mean pre-adult survivorship after larval feeding for different amounts of time, and (B) mean dry weight (in 10^{-3} g) at eclosion after larval feeding for different amounts of time corresponding to four different mean pre-adult survivorship levels, in the *D. ananassae* selected and control populations. Error bars are standard errors around the mean of the four replicate population mean values. For both traits, significant differences between pairs of means are indicated by labeling them with different letters. For both traits, the interaction between selection regime and feeding duration/survivorship was not significant. Consequently, only the differences in mean survivorship between the different levels of feeding duration, and differences in mean dry weight at eclosion at different levels of survivorship, averaged over block, selection regime and sex, have been highlighted.

Table 1. Summary of results of four-way ANOVA on mean arcsin squareroot transformed pre-adult survivorship at low and high density in the two sets of selected populations and controls, in single-species cultures and in two-species competitive cultures with equal numbers of white-eye *D. melanogaster* eggs. Since the analysis was done on population means, block and interactions involving block were not tested for significance.

Effect	ACU/AB		NCU/NB	
	$F_{1,3}$	P	$F_{1,3}$	P
culture type	17.44	0.03	1.54	0.30
selection	14.11	0.033	43.67	<0.01
density	1621.07	<0.01	51.54	<0.01
culture type × selection	11.81	0.04	5.50	0.10
culture type × density	10.03	0.05	17.46	0.03
selection × density	525.03	<0.01	60.88	<0.01
culture type × selection × density	2.94	0.19	2.12	0.24

Table 2. Summary of results of two-way ANOVA on mean pre-adult development time, assayed at low and high larval density at different generations in the two sets of selected populations and controls. Since the analysis was done on population means, block and interactions involving block were not tested for significance.

	<u>ACU/AB</u>		<u>NCU/NB</u>	
<u>Low density</u>				
Effect	$F_{1,3}$	P	$F_{1,3}$	P
selection	49.23	<0.01	115.50	<0.01
sex	82.32	<0.01	3.75	0.15
selection × sex	1.93	0.26	18.61	0.02
<u>High density</u>				
Effect	$F_{1,3}$	P	$F_{1,3}$	P
selection	60.37	<0.01	364.65	<0.01
sex	41.18	<0.01	13.09	0.04
selection × sex	8.58	0.06	5.49	0.10

Table 3. Summary of results of three way ANOVA on mean pre-adult lifestage (egg, L1, L2, L3, pupa) duration in the two sets of selected populations and controls. Since the analysis was done on population means, block and interactions involving block were not tested for significance.

	<u>ACU/AB</u>		<u>NCU/NB</u>	
Effect	$F_{1,3 \text{ sel}/ 4,12 \text{ else}}$	P	$F_{1,3 \text{ sel}/ 4,12 \text{ else}}$	P
selection	168.38	<0.01	115.50	<0.01
life-stage	1778.55	<0.01	9485.70	<0.01
selection × life-stage	1.46	0.28	37.05	<0.01

Table 4. Summary of results of two way ANOVA on mean larval feeding rate, foraging path length and pupation height in the two sets of selected populations and controls. Since the analysis was done on population means, block and interactions involving block were not tested for significance; only the F and P values for the main effect of selection regime are shown.

	ACU/AB		NCU/NB	
Trait	$F_{1,3}$	P	$F_{1,3}$	P
feeding rate	0.54	0.52	0.06	0.82
foraging path length	94.51	<0.01	0.48	0.54
pupation height	18.12	0.02	51.62	<0.01

Table 5. Summary of results of three way ANOVA on mean arcsin squareroot transformed pre-adult survivorship at three different concentrations of urea or ammonia in the food medium in the two sets of selected populations and controls. Since the analysis was done on population means, block and interactions involving block were not tested for significance.

	<u>ACU/AB</u>		<u>NCU/NB</u>	
<u>Urea tolerance</u>				
Effect	$F_{1,3 \text{ sel/ } 2,6 \text{ else}}$	P	$F_{1,3 \text{ sel/ } 2,6 \text{ else}}$	P
selection	20.39	0.02	0.14	0.73
concentration	54.77	<0.01	24.88	<0.01
selection × concentration	0.51	0.62	0.32	0.74
<u>Ammonia tolerance</u>				
Effect	$F_{1,3 \text{ sel/ } 2,6 \text{ else}}$	P	$F_{1,3 \text{ sel/ } 2,6 \text{ else}}$	P
selection	0.14	0.73	45.29	0.73
concentration	199.34	<0.01	417.76	<0.01
selection × concentration	14.97	0.02	0.88	0.46

Table 6. Summary of results of three way ANOVA on mean arcsin squareroot transformed pre-adult survivorship (factors: block, selection regime and larval feeding duration) and mean dry weight (factors: block, selection regime, sex and pre-adult survivorship) of eclosing flies after larvae were allowed to feed for different time periods in the AB and ACU populations. Since the analysis was done on population means, block and interactions involving block were not tested for significance.

Effect	Survivorship		Dry weight	
	$F_{1,3 \text{ sel}/ 3,9 \text{ else}}$	P	$F_{1,3 \text{ sel}/ 3,9 \text{ else}}$	P
Selection	174.79	<0.01	0.01	0.94
feeding duration (for survivorship)	37.07	<0.01		
Survivorship (for dry weight)			16.39	<0.01
Sex (for dry weight)			223.27	<0.01
selection × feeding duration (for survivorship)	0.35	0.78		
selection × survivorship (for dry weight)			2.76	0.10
selection × sex (for dry weight)			3.25	0.17
survivorship × sex (for dry weight)			1.40	0.30
selection × survivorship × sex (for dry weight)			0.48	0.71

Figure 1.

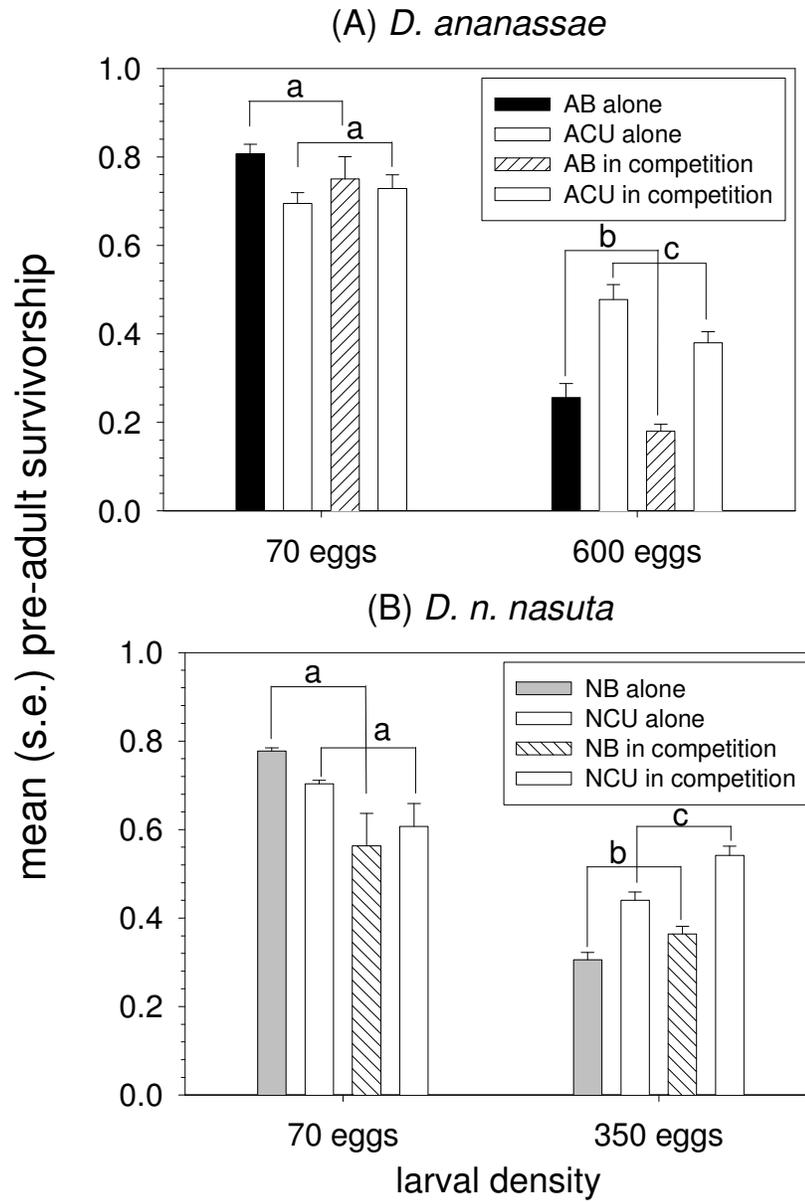


Figure 2.

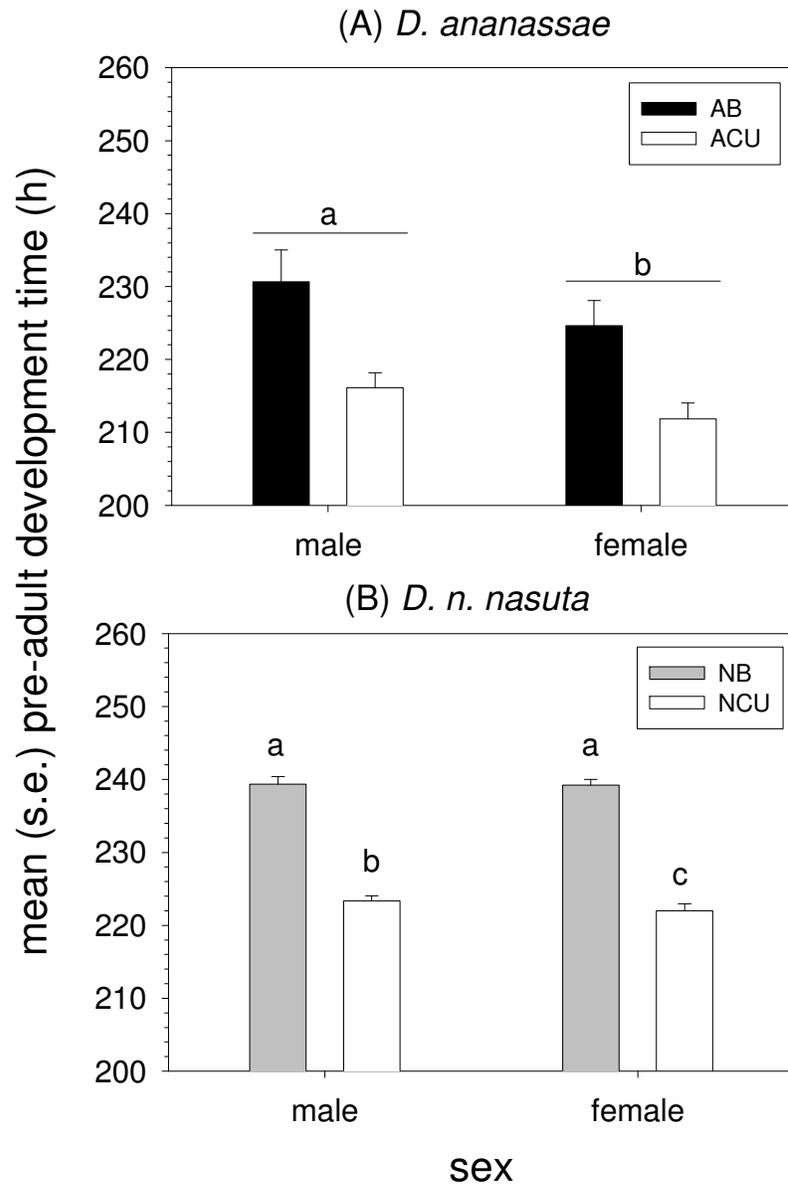


Figure 3.

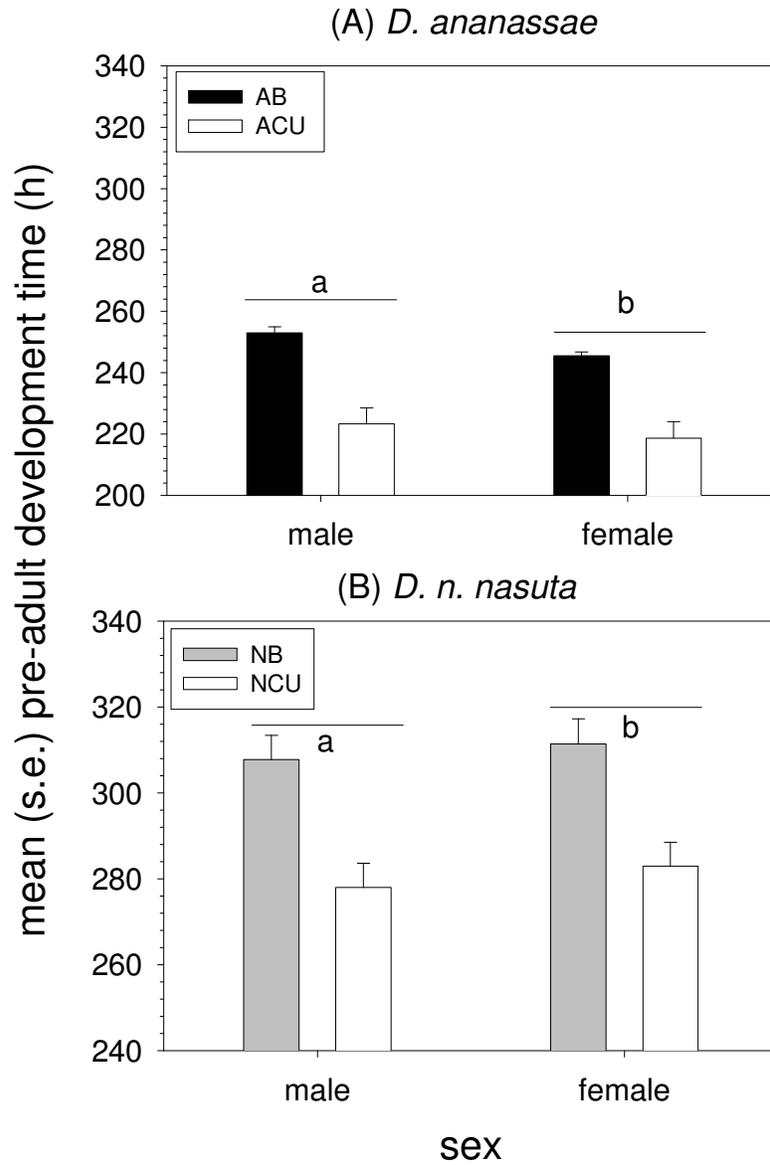


Figure 4.

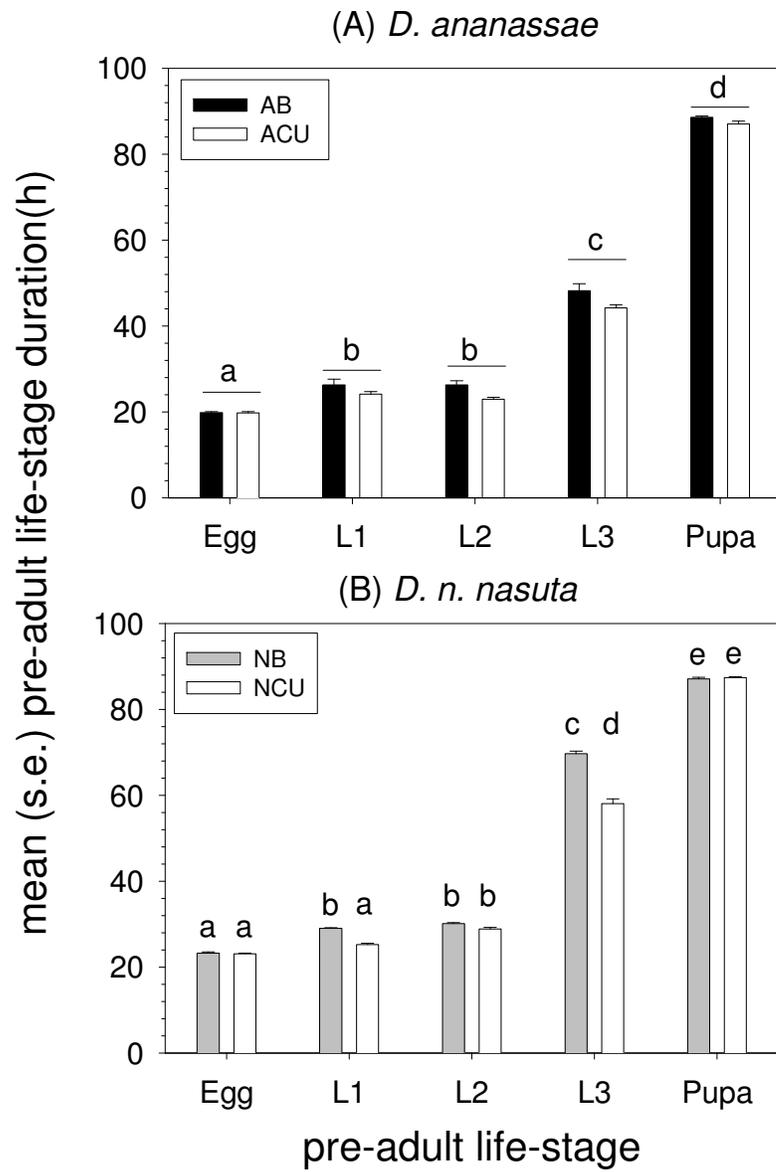


Figure 5.

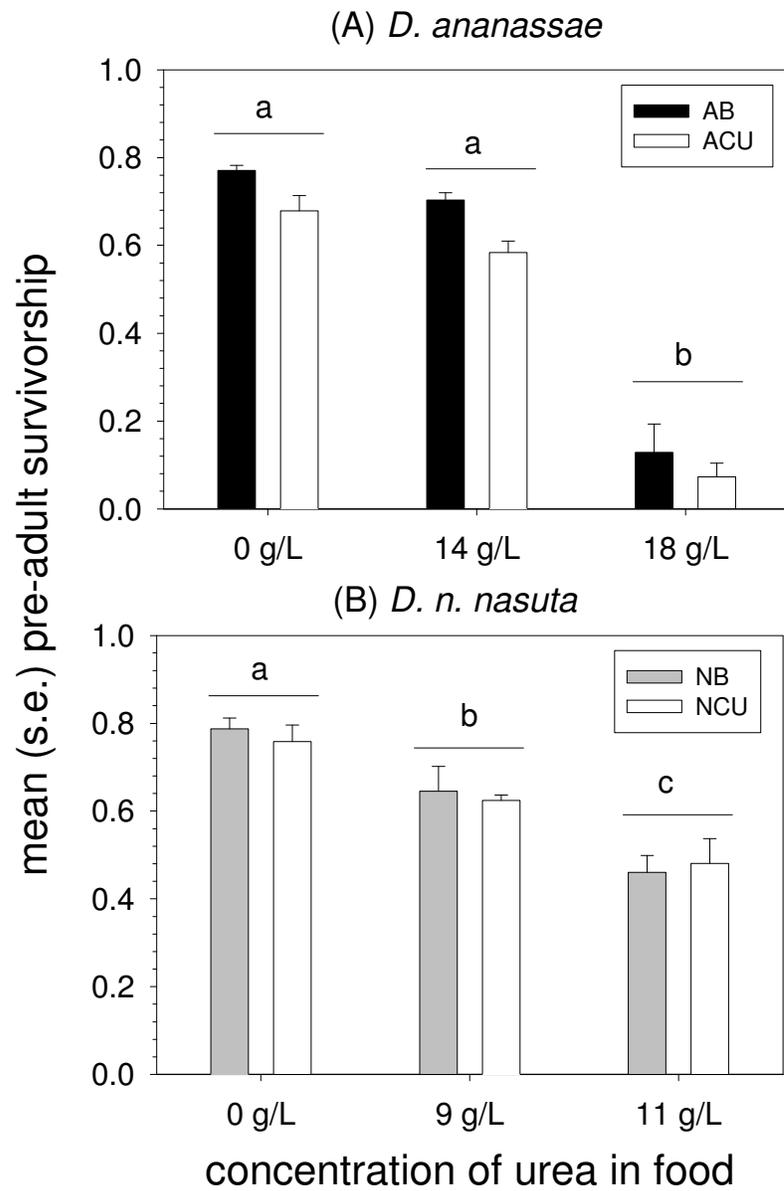


Figure 6.

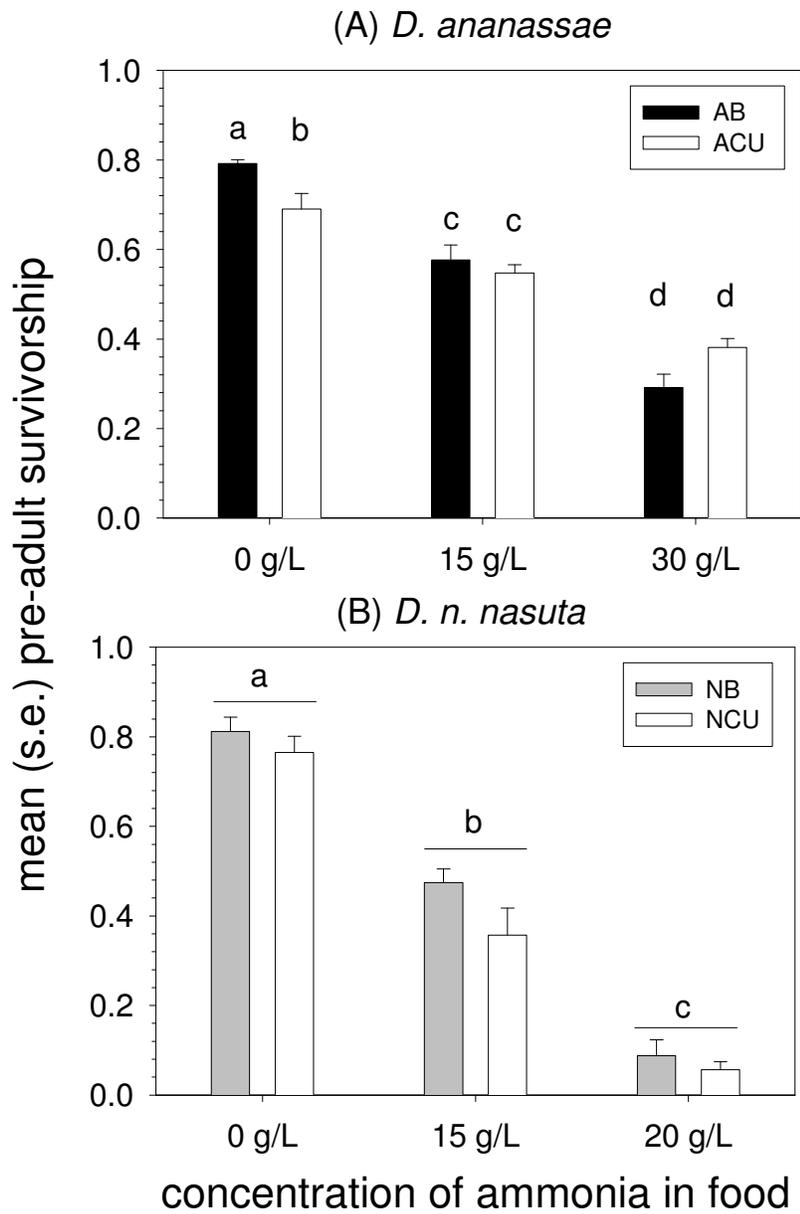


Figure 7.

