

Estimating the probability of detection under cryptic heterogeneity

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Probability of detection

- Essential to the study of Ecology
 - What is present
 - How many are present
 - Management
 - EIS



Detectability

- Everything has a detection probability
- Detection probabilities for flora and fauna are often < 1



Mackenzie *et al.* (2002), Wintle *et al.* (2004)

Probability of Detection

- Bernoulli or Binomial distribution

$$D = 1 - (1 - d)^v$$

Wintle *et al.* 2005

- v = number of visits/samples
- d = single visit detectability

Heterogeneity and detection

- Although single visit detectability is considered, models do not consider heterogeneity
- Consideration of spatial scale
 - Landscape
 - Local area or habitat patch
 - Confined area *i.e.* grain silo

Heterogeneity and detection

- Irrespective of spatial scale species detection will be influenced by:-
 - Proportion of site/habitat utilised
 - Density of individuals
 - Individual species detectability
 - Sampling intensity

Cryptic Heterogeneity

- It is often difficult to determine how heterogeneous an environment is
 - Species dependent
 - Temporal influence
 - Microclimatic factors



Elmoultie *et al.* 2010 *in press*

biosecurity built on science

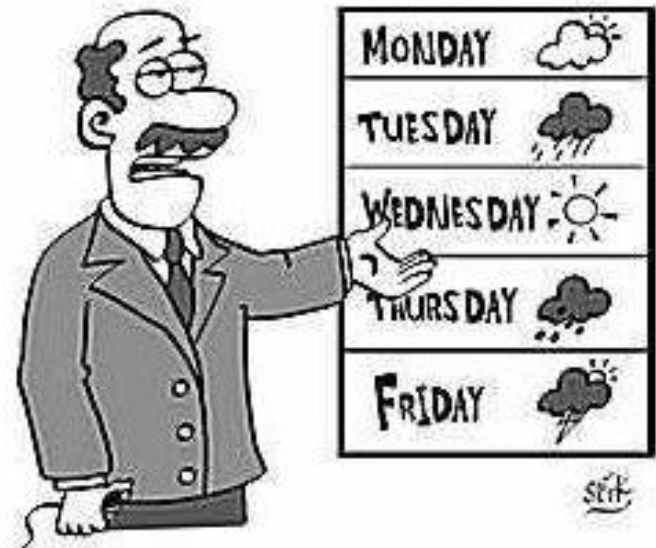
Considering heterogeneity

$$P1(d) = 1 - (1 - p + pe^{-\alpha\lambda d})^n$$

- p represents the proportion of the site utilised
- α represents the sub sample size (area)
- λ density of what is being sampled the populated portion of the site
- d single visit detectability
- n number of subsamples

Parameter estimates

- generating parameter estimates
 - p (heterogeneity)
 - λ (density)
 - d (detectability)



Here's the 5 day forecast. To be honest, after tomorrow, your guess is as good as mine!

Elmoultie *et al.* 2010 *in press*

Example – insects in grain

- Insect pest are major problem in stored grains
- Detection probabilities typically based on assumption of homogeneity

i.e. Love et al. 1983 – $P2(d) = 1 - (1 - \theta)^v$

θ = Sample fraction & v = number of insects

Elmouttie et al. 2010 in press

Example - insects in grain

- Develop parameter estimates
(p, λ)
 - Intensive sampling
(25 x 3 samples drawn)
 - *Sitophilus oryzae*, *Rhyzopertha dominica*, *Cryptolestes* spp.



Model Validation

- Use parameter estimates to populate both models (Homogeneous/Heterogeneous)
 - (0.75,0.85,0.95)
 - Sample surrounding silo's
 - Replicated in each test silo



Elmoultie *et al.* 2010 *in press*

Results

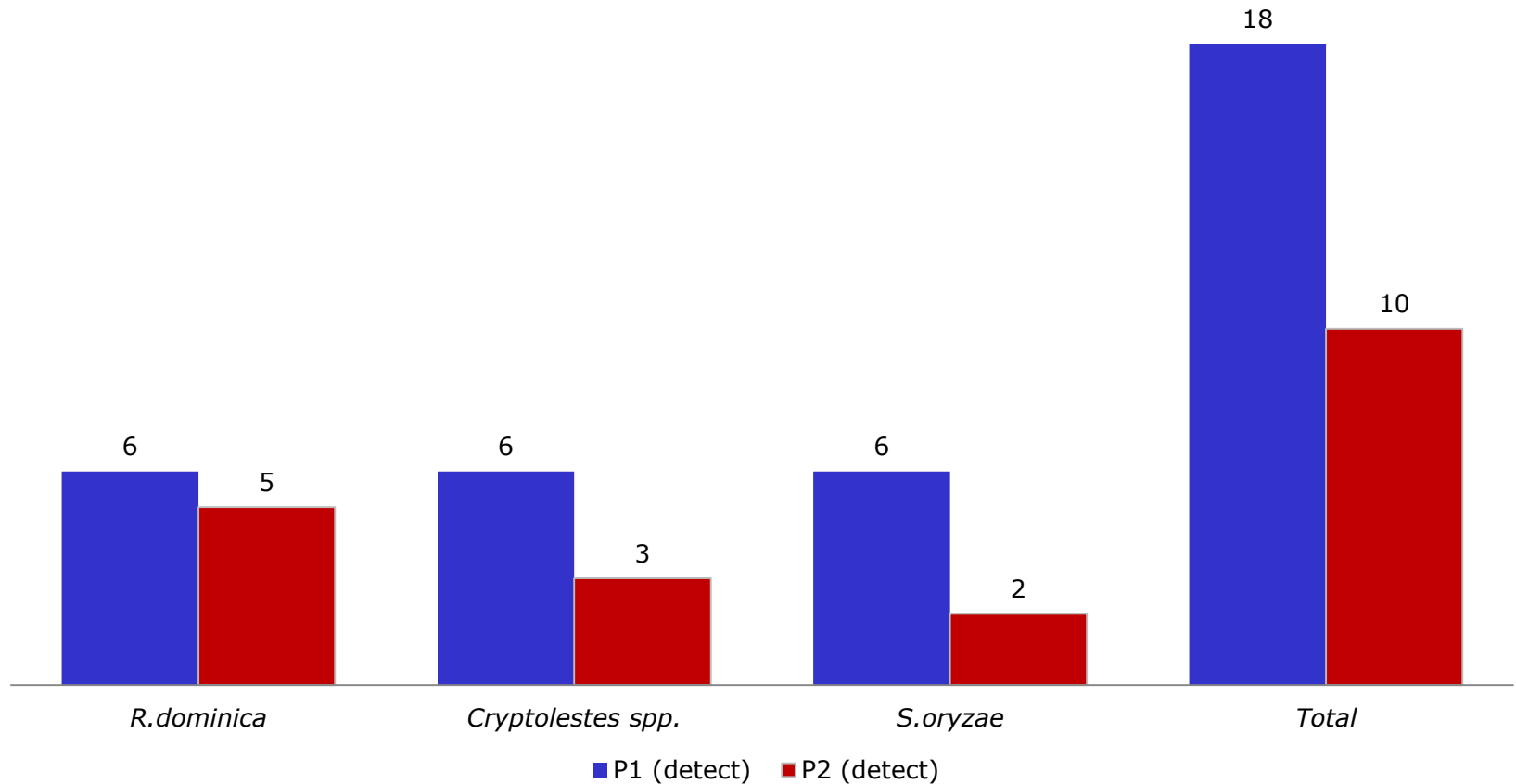
Predictions of Two models. $P1(d)$ – predictions assuming heterogeneity and $P2(d)$ – prediction for model which does not consider heterogeneity

		<u>$P1(d)$</u>	<u>$P2(d)$</u>
	Probability of Detection(%)	Model Prediction – Sampling intensity	Model Prediction – Sampling intensity
<u><i>R. dominica</i></u> <u>$p = 0.61; \lambda = 13.1$</u>	95	3	1
	85	2	1
	75	1	1
<u><i>Cryptolestes Spp.</i></u> $p = 0.5; \lambda = 17.4$	95	5	1
	85	3	1
	75	2	1
<u><i>S. oryzae</i></u> $p = 0.2; \lambda = 13.04$	95	13	1
	85	9	1
	75	6	1

Elmouttie *et al.* 2010 *in press*



Results



Example – detectability < 1

- Two Australian tropical Rainforest plants
 - *Acronychia acidula*, *Acronychia vestita*
 - Patchily distributed
 - Not in equal densities
 - Can be difficult to identify

Parameter Estimation

- p & λ estimated from single rainforest site
- d estimated from proportion of *A. vestita* – *A. acidula* and expert opinion
- Parameters used to populate model for two detection probabilities (0.85, 0.95)

Parameter estimates

- $p = 56\%$ of sample units
- $\lambda =$ mean density of 1.1 individuals per sample unit
- $d = 0.16$ 'real ratio'
= 0.2 expert opinion

Results

Detection success (15 replicate trials) for *Acronychia vestita* under intensity (n), predicted when species detectability is incorporated and when it is not.

<i>P1(d)</i>	<i>n</i> <i>d= 0.16</i>	<i>S1</i>	<i>S2</i>	<i>n</i> <i>d= 0.2</i>	<i>S1</i>	<i>S2</i>	<i>n</i> <i>d=1</i>	<i>S1</i>	<i>S2</i>
85	20	15	13	17	13	12	4	3	0
95	32	15	15	28	15	13	7	6	3

Discussion

- Considering species distribution improves detection probability estimates
- Misidentification needs to be considered
- Expert opinion can provide robust estimates for certain model parameters

Thank you

- For more information, please email

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