Effects of slug herbivory on seedling recruitment in Brassica napus and B. rapa

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Propositions

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Effects of slug herbivory on seedling recruitment in *Brassica napus* and *B. rapa*

1. Slugs impede the establishment of feral *Brassica napus* populations in the Netherlands.

2. Aneuploidy does not prevent gene flow between plant species with different ploidy levels.

3. Measuring the surface area eaten is more precise than measuring the dry weight eaten and the first method is therefore preferable in experiments with slugs.

4. Slugs feed more from leaves with high water content than from leaves with low water content.

5. The effects of slug herbivory on plant growth and survival are often underestimated as compared to insect herbivory.

6. Despite two large studies, including in total 141 species, it still is not clear which characteristics protect plants best against herbivory by slugs. *Briner T, Frank T (1998) Ann. Appl. Biol. 133: 123-133, Kozlowski J, Kozlowska M (2009) J. Conchology 40: 79-90*

7. Males also contribute to female egg size and egg number in killifish. *Moshgani M, Van Dooren TJM (2011) Evol. Ecol. 25: 1179-1195.*

8. It is a matter of time until molluscicides are banned in the EU and when this occurs there is a major problem for growing crops like lettuce and oilseed rape.

9. Replacing the traditional irrigation system of qanats, subterranean aqueducts, by pump-wells destroys the habitat of native fish in desert areas of Iran.

10. The Netherlands has the highest diversity of bicycles in the world.