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The evolution of lifespan in the butterfly *Bicyclus anynana*

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Stellingen

behorende bij het proefschrift
The evolution of lifespan in the butterfly *Bicyclus anynana*
door
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Variation in adult appearance, performance and behaviour are intimately linked through the developmental genetic program.

(This thesis, chapters 2, 5, 6)

Mechanisms of ageing contribute to adaptive phenotypic plasticity.

(This thesis, chapter 5)

The scope of the response to selection is made possible by the variation underpinning developmental phenotypic plasticity.

(This thesis, chapter 3, 5)

Males and females might have evolved different physiological solutions to cope with stress.

(This thesis, chapters 4, 5, 6)

Ageing is ultimately the consequence of life itself

Under wild-type conditions, wild-type organisms always live longer than single-gene mutants.

Generally optimistic people do not need stringent caloric restriction to live a healthy, long life.

To elucidate the function of a gene for an organism, one ultimately has to study its variation in environments relevant for the organism.

Using capitals for common nouns, verbs, proverbs and adverbs in titles of articles published in some scientific journals hampers readability and should be avoided.

Much research that uses vertebrate models for human biology can be done faster, cheaper, scientifically better and arguably ethically sounder when using invertebrate models.

Europe is a myth, but the (expansion of the) EU is in fact the foremost assurance for durable peace and well-being in our corner of the globe.