Newts in time and space: the evolutionary history of Triturus newts at different temporal and spatial scales

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STELLINGEN

behorende bij het proefschrift

"Newts in time and space. The evolutionary history of *Triturus* newts at different temporal and spatial scales"

1. Allopatric speciation in the crested newts appears to have happened almost simultaneously 10-11 million years ago, following geological isolation of several areas in what is now the Balkans. (*This thesis - CHAPTERS **2** and **4***)
2. The current distribution of *Triturus marmoratus* and *T. pygmaeus* is best explained by *T. pygmaeus* invading *T. marmoratus* territory and isolating some populations of the other species. (*This thesis - CHAPTER **9***)
3. Local ecological conditions determine the competitive advantage of species, and so influence their exact distribution. (*This thesis - CHAPTER **8***)
4. The current focus on nuclear gene sequencing provides some answers to biological questions and raises many new ones (*This thesis* - CHAPTERS ***3* – *6***).
5. There are (too) many methods to analyse data. However, if too much time is spent on the how, you might never get to the why.
6. The amount of genetic information we can get at a reasonable price and time is increasing at the same proportion as computer software to analyse this data is getting more complex, and therefore slower.
7. Whole genome phylogeography will become commonplace in the next decades.
8. Climate change is eliminating species faster than scientists can study them.
9. A newt is <u>not</u> a lizard that likes to be in water; it's more like a fish that doesn't need water that much.
10. There is no such thing as a Portuguese piri-piri soup. Someone should tell this to the people at the Naturalis' cafeteria.