

GENETIC ANALYSIS OF A POPULATION OF TRIBOLIUM. VI. POLYMORPHISM AND DEMOGRAPHIC EQUILIBRIUM

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ABSTRACT

Demographic and genetic data of continuously growing populations of *Tribolium castaneum* initiated with identical age structures but with different frequencies of the unsaturated fatty acid-sensitive allele were collected for 68 weeks.—The life history data provided the following insights: Genotypic differences for total number of offspring were due primarily to larval viability. The total lifetime offspring production of the genotypes predicted a stable polymorphic genetic equilibrium. The genotypic reproductive functions forecast that a stable age structure was not a prerequisite for genetic equilibrium.—Those cultures initially segregating for the unsaturated fatty acid-sensitive allele converged to an equilibrium allele frequency of 0.25 and a genotypic array composed of equal numbers of +/+ and +/cos individuals.—The numbers of larvae, pupae and adults during the first six weeks were quadratic functions of the initial frequency of the sensitive allele. Qualitative age structure changes that followed were similar in all cultures and demographic equilibrium was realized at week 50. The overall demographic pattern during the 68-week study was interpreted in terms of the interactions among the numbers of small larvae, large larvae plus pupae, and adults.

SELECTION in an age-structured population with overlapping generations has been examined in a number of recent theoretical papers (CHARLESWORTH 1970, 1972, 1973, 1974; CHARLESWORTH and CHARLESWORTH 1973; CHARLESWORTH and GIESEL 1972a, 1972b; ANDERSON and KING 1970; KING and ANDERSON 1971 and DEMETRIUS 1974, 1975a,b, 1977). These investigations provide a framework for the interpretation of empirical studies; an example is the projection by CHARLESWORTH (1972) that a stable age structure is, in general, a prerequisite for the existence of a polymorphic genetic equilibrium.

The present paper is focused on the relationship between the demographic and genetic structure of continuously growing populations using the *Tribolium* population model (NEYMAN, PARK and SCOTT 1956; BELL 1969; MERTZ 1972; KING and DAWSON 1972; COSTANTINO 1974). The design of the experiment centers on cultures initiated with identical age structures but with different frequencies of the unsaturated fatty acid-sensitive allele (COSTANTINO, BELL and ROGLER 1967, 1968; COSTANTINO, MUMMA and BRUSZEWSKI 1970; COSTANTINO

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and ROWE 1972; SCULLY and COSTANTINO 1975). We are concerned with (i) population projections (*e.g.*, genetic equilibrium, rate of convergence to the stable age distribution, etc.) based on the analyses of life history data, (ii) the nature of the genetic equilibrium at the unsaturated fatty-acid-sensitive locus, (iii) the impact of the different initial allele frequencies on the numbers of larvae, pupae and adults, and (iv) the approach to and properties of the demographic equilibrium.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Two genetically related strains of the flour beetle *Tribolium castaneum* Herbst were used: one strain was a genetically heterogenous wild type (Purdue Foundation) and the other, derived from the first by laboratory selection (YAMADA and BELL 1969), was homozygous for the corn-oil-sensitive (*cos*) mutation (COSTANTINO, BELL and ROGLER 1967). Throughout this paper we refer to these strains as $+/+$ and *cos/cos*; $+/\textit{cos}$ is used to designate interstrain crosses. Experimental lines were labelled using allele frequency at the *cos* locus. Other loci are likely to be segregating in these lines, so that we can not attribute all observed effects to this one locus. All animals were cultured in chambers maintained at $33 \pm 1^\circ$, $42 \pm 6\%$ relative humidity and grown on standard medium (percentage composition: 95% wheat flour and 5% dried brewers yeast) or on corn oil medium (percentage composition: 90% wheat flour, 5% dried brewers yeast and 5% liquid corn oil) using standard *Tribolium* techniques.

Life history data. Adult mortality schedules for each genotype were obtained by culturing 200 newly emerged adults on 50 grams of corn oil medium. The cultures were changed every 2 weeks for a period of 18 weeks and the number of live and dead adults recorded.

Egg production for thirty single-pair matings of each genotype was recorded at the end of one week and thereafter every 2 weeks for 14 weeks by setting each pair on fresh corn oil medium and collecting the eggs produced during a 24 hr interval.

Time to pupation and time to the adult stage were measured for the $+/+$, $+/\textit{cos}$ and *cos/cos* genotypes by placing 25 eggs of each genotype into 30 creamers containing corn oil media and counting two creamers daily from 15 to 30 days after egg laying. The total number of animals present for a given lifestage was recorded.

The 68-week study. Genetic and demographic relationships were examined in 11 experimental treatments in which the initial *cos* allele frequency ranged from 0 to 1 in increments of 0.1. Five replicates were maintained for each of the initial allele frequencies 1, 0.9, 0.8, 0.7, 0.6, 0.5; three replicates were maintained for each of the allele frequencies 0.4, 0.3, 0.2, 0.1, 0.0. The initial genotypic arrays were constructed from combinations of the $+/+$ and *cos/cos* homozygotes; the initial demographic array consisted of 10 newly emerged adult females and 10 newly emerged adult males. Each population was grown on 20 g of corn oil medium, which was changed every two weeks. The numbers of small and large larvae, pupae, and adults were counted every two weeks for 68 weeks. In addition, at week 52 and at week 68 both the frequency of the sensitive allele and the genotypic array were estimated in the 0.9, 0.7, 0.5, 0.3 and 0.1 cultures.

Genetic polymorphism. In a separate experiment, conducted identically to the above "68-week" study, allele frequency and the genotypic array were estimated in 12 replicates for each initial allele frequency of 0.9, 0.7, 0.5, 0.3, and 0.1. To assure independence of samples, three replicates from each initial frequency were sampled at 2, 6, 12 and 16 weeks. At these four times, 50 larvae were removed from each culture, placed on standard medium in $75 \pm 3\%$ relative humidity, allowed to pupate, then sexed, and backcrossed to *cos* homozygotes. Eggs collected from these matings were set on corn oil medium in $42 \pm 6\%$ relative humidity and the number of subsequent pupae and adults were counted. The ratio of animals recovered to eggs introduced was calculated. A value of approximately 0.85 indicated that the backcross larva was of the $+/+$ genotype; a value of 0.45 indicated that the unknown individual was of the $+/\textit{cos}$ genotype and a value of 0.10 pointed to the larva as of the *cos/cos* genotype. Five percent of the

crosses resulted in no animals being recovered and were discarded. Allele frequencies and the genotypic arrays were estimated based on the results of three replicates of 50 individuals each.

RESULTS

Life history data

The life history information (Table 1) indicates that for the *cos/cos* genotype, compared to the *+/+* and *+/cos* genotypes (see Table 2 for statistical analyses), larval viability is reduced, days to pupation and adulthood are extended and egg production in a 24 hr interval is lower. A comparison of these criteria for the *+/+* and *+/cos* genotypes reveals meaningful differences in egg production, and days to pupation and adulthood. No differences in the number of adults surviving to 8 weeks were observed.

To further analyze and integrate these data with the theoretical literature we note that

$$\int_0^{\infty} \exp(-rx)l(x)m(x)dx = 1$$

where *r* is the intrinsic rate of increase *l(x)* is the probability of an individual living to week *x* from week 0, and *m(x)* is the number of offspring produced per unit time at age *x*. The *l(x)* and *m(x)* schedules were computed for each of the genotypes and these data are sketched in Figure 1 as *V(x) = l(x)m(x)*.

TABLE 1

Life history information

Genotype	Eggs produced in 24 hr interval	Days to pupation	Days to adulthood	Number of animals surviving to pupation (25 maximum)	Number of surviving adults at 8 weeks (200 maximum)
<i>cos/cos</i>	14.30 ± 0.94	23.61 ± 0.50	26.67 ± 0.40	2.10 ± 0.43	157.5 ± 6.5
<i>+/cos</i>	19.83 ± 0.68	19.77 ± 0.33	22.68 ± 0.43	19.80 ± 0.56	156.5 ± 11.5
<i>+/+</i>	18.60 ± 0.78	21.28 ± 0.11	24.23 ± 0.11	17.20 ± 1.22	165.0 ± 0.0

TABLE 2

Analyses of variance of life history data

Source of variation	Egg production		Days to pupation		Days to adulthood		Survival to pupation		Number of surviving adults at 8 weeks	
	Degrees freedom	Mean squares	Degrees freedom	Mean squares	Degrees freedom	Mean squares	Degrees freedom	Mean squares	Degrees freedom	Mean squares
Genotype	2	288.88*	2	88.50*	2	141.38*	2	985.45*	2	43.17
<i>+/+,+/cos</i> vs. <i>cos/cos</i>	1	523.60*	1	101.80*	1	269.85*	1	1904.07*	1	14.08
<i>+/+</i> vs. <i>+/cos</i>	1	54.16*	1	76.20*	1	12.90*	1	12.80*	1	72.25
Residual	87	19.61	349	2.67	169	1.06	27	70.10	3	116.33

* Significant at the 0.05 level of probability.

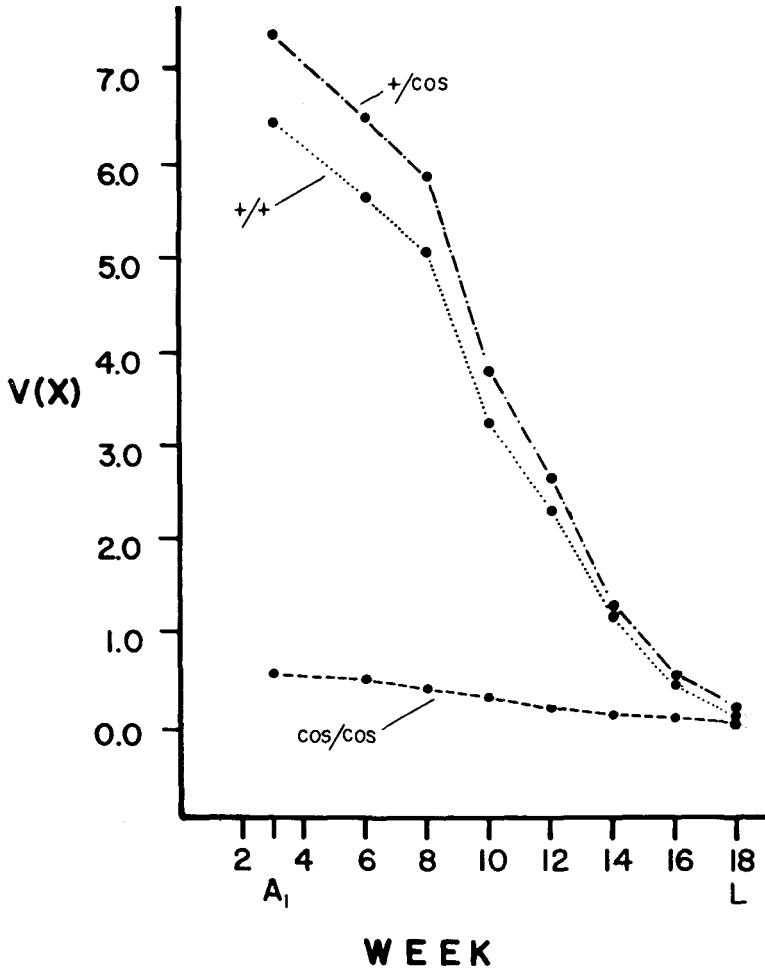


FIGURE 1.—Observed $V(x)$ -functions for three genotypes of *T. castaneum*.

The total lifetime offspring production, S , of females of each of the genotypes was examined using (LEWONTIN 1965)

$$S = \int_0^{\infty} V(x) dx = V(T)(L-A)/2$$

where $V(x) = 2S(L-x)/(L-A)^2$ is a triangular reproductive function, A is the age of first reproduction which, in these data, is identical to T the age of peak reproduction, and L is the age of last reproduction (Figure 1). The association among A , L , S and r was obtained from

$$\int_A^L \exp(-rx)V(x) dx = 1$$

as $[\exp(-rA)/r] + [\exp(-rL) - \exp(-rA)]/(L-A)r^2 = (L-A)/2S$

which is similar to LEWONTIN (1965, eq. 4) with $A = T$.

For the *cos/cos*, *+/cos* and *+/+* genotypes, respectively, we list estimates of the total numbers of offspring, S : 3.97, 54.32 and 46.53; and the intrinsic rates of increase, r : 0.18, 0.70, 0.63. The values for the *+/cos* genotype have only a conceptual interpretation, since a pure culture of heterozygotes can not be maintained. Differences in the values of r are due almost entirely to the areas under the $V_i(x)$ curves, *i.e.*, to the genotypic $l_i(x)$ functions.

Estimates of fitness values, based on the total lifetime offspring production of females, of the *+/+* and *cos/cos* homozygotes relative to the heterozygote fitness of 1 were 0.86 and 0.07, respectively. The predicted stable equilibrium frequency of the sensitive allele for the case of discrete generations (CROW and KIMURA 1970) was $P^* = 0.13$. This estimate agrees reasonably well with that of 0.09 given by SCULLY and COSTANTINO (1975), based solely on larval viability.

CHARLESWORTH (1972) demonstrated that a polymorphic genetic equilibrium cannot occur before the population has attained a stable age structure, except when the genotypic differences are such that $V_i(x) = a_i V(x)$, where $V(x)$ is a common reproductive function. As an approximation (Figure 1), for genotype i , we allowed $V_i(x) = 2S_i(L-x)/(L-A)^2$. The observed reproductive functions appear to satisfy the above criterion (eq. 2.11 or eq. 2.20 in CHARLESWORTH 1972) with $a_1 = 0.08$, $a_2 = 1$, $a_3 = 0.88$ for the *cos/cos*, *+/cos*, and *+/+* genotypes, respectively, where the common reproductive function is that of the *+/cos* genotype. Consequently, it is possible that the polymorphic genetic equilibrium may be reached *before* the stable age structure is attained. We shall discuss some other details of the CHARLESWORTH formulation and the Tribolium model in a later section.

Genetic polymorphism

At weeks 52 and 68 of the "68-week" study, the *cos* allele frequency was estimated in those cultures with an initial allele frequency of 0.9, 0.7, 0.5, 0.3, and 0.1. Of the 10 cultures examined, the estimated mean allele frequency was 0.25 ± 0.03 and the genotypic array composed of approximately equal numbers of *+/+* and *+/cos* individuals. No *cos/cos* individuals were observed. With this information, we established the working hypothesis that *cultures initially segregating for the cos allele (or cos chromosome region) have converged to a stable polymorphic genetic equilibrium.*

To evaluate this hypothesis, allele frequencies and the genotypic arrays were estimated in a separate experiment at 2, 6, 12 and 16 weeks for cultures with initial *cos* allele frequencies of 0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 0.7 and 0.9. The results (Table 3) support the hypothesis of a stable polymorphic genetic equilibrium. Of the 60 cultures examined, only one culture, where $P = 0.1$, lacked traces of the *cos* allele. The largest magnitude of change in the allele frequencies and the genotypic arrays occurred in the first two weeks. This is consistent with the life history observation that differences among genotypes for total number of offspring were due primarily to larval viability. The genotypic arrays showed an immediate reduction in the frequency of the *cos/cos* genotype and an increase in the frequency of *+/cos* individuals. At week 16 the *+/+* and *+/cos* genotypes

TABLE 3
Estimated cos allele frequencies and the genotypic arrays at weeks 2, 6, 12, and 16

Initial		Week 2		Week 6		Week 12		Week 16	
Allele frequency	Genotypic array	Allele frequency	Genotypic array	Allele frequency	Genotypic array	Allele frequency	Genotypic array	Allele frequency	Genotypic array
0.9	0.9 <i>cos/cos</i> 0.0 <i>+/cos</i> 0.1 <i>+/+</i>	0.46 ± 0.05 0.15 ± 0.08 0.62 ± 0.08 0.27 ± 0.04	0.09 ± 0.03 0.53 ± 0.08 0.41 ± 0.10	0.30 ± 0.02 0.53 ± 0.06 0.44 ± 0.04	0.04 ± 0.02 0.53 ± 0.06 0.44 ± 0.02	0.33 ± 0.02	0.12 ± 0.05 0.44 ± 0.07 0.44 ± 0.02	0.29 ± 0.02	0.05 ± 0.03 0.49 ± 0.05 0.46 ± 0.04
0.7	0.7 <i>cos/cos</i> 0.0 <i>+/cos</i> 0.3 <i>+/+</i>	0.37 ± 0.04 0.09 ± 0.03 0.53 ± 0.08 0.41 ± 0.10	0.29 ± 0.02 0.04 ± 0.01 0.48 ± 0.04 0.47 ± 0.05	0.29 ± 0.02 0.04 ± 0.01 0.48 ± 0.04 0.47 ± 0.05	0.04 ± 0.01 0.48 ± 0.04 0.47 ± 0.05	0.29 ± 0.01	0.05 ± 0.01 0.53 ± 0.07 0.42 ± 0.06	0.29 ± 0.03	0.05 ± 0.06 0.47 ± 0.08 0.47 ± 0.05
0.5	0.5 <i>cos/cos</i> 0.0 <i>+/cos</i> 0.5 <i>+/+</i>	0.28 ± 0.03 0.06 ± 0.06 0.43 ± 0.07 0.52 ± 0.06	0.30 ± 0.02 0.03 ± 0.01 0.51 ± 0.03 0.46 ± 0.02	0.30 ± 0.02 0.03 ± 0.01 0.51 ± 0.03 0.46 ± 0.02	0.03 ± 0.01 0.51 ± 0.03 0.46 ± 0.02	0.24 ± 0.01	0.03 ± 0.03 0.44 ± 0.08 0.53 ± 0.06	0.28 ± 0.03	0.02 ± 0.02 0.57 ± 0.01 0.47 ± 0.03
0.3	0.3 <i>cos/cos</i> 0.0 <i>+/cos</i> 0.7 <i>+/+</i>	0.26 ± 0.01 0.07 ± 0.03 0.37 ± 0.05 0.56 ± 0.03	0.28 ± 0.05 0.05 ± 0.05 0.45 ± 0.00 0.50 ± 0.05	0.28 ± 0.05 0.05 ± 0.05 0.45 ± 0.00 0.50 ± 0.05	0.05 ± 0.05 0.45 ± 0.00 0.50 ± 0.05	0.27 ± 0.01	0.03 ± 0.02 0.47 ± 0.04 0.49 ± 0.03	0.21 ± 0.05	0.02 ± 0.02 0.42 ± 0.03 0.56 ± 0.02
0.1	0.1 <i>cos/cos</i> 0.0 <i>+/cos</i> 0.9 <i>+/+</i>	0.20 ± 0.03 0.07 ± 0.04 0.24 ± 0.08 0.70 ± 0.07	0.13 ± 0.06 0.00 ± 0.00 0.27 ± 0.06 0.73 ± 0.06	0.13 ± 0.06 0.00 ± 0.00 0.27 ± 0.06 0.73 ± 0.06	0.00 ± 0.00 0.27 ± 0.06 0.73 ± 0.06	0.19 ± 0.02	0.04 ± 0.01 0.28 ± 0.00 0.67 ± 0.01	0.19 ± 0.01	0.01 ± 0.01 0.36 ± 0.01 0.63 ± 0.02

were nearly equivalent with only a small fraction of *cos/cos* individuals. The *cos* allele frequency declined in the test populations started above the projected P^* value of 0.13 and increased in the population with an initial frequency of 0.1, which suggested that the equilibrium was globally stable. At week 16 the allele frequencies ranged from 0.29 to 0.19, which is higher than the projected P^* value. We shall comment later on this discrepancy.

The 68-week study

The population size data in this experiment consist of the numbers of small and large larvae, pupae and adults recorded at bi-weekly intervals for 68 weeks. Our objective now is to associate these data with the empirical observation of a stable genetic polymorphism at the *cos* locus.

For a moment let us consider the classical population genetic model for a single autosomal locus with the usual assumptions of panmixia, nonoverlapping generations and constant fitnesses for all genotypes. The last assumption narrows our comments to the interval of population sizes where density dependent factors are minimal, *i.e.*, weeks 2, 4 and 6. In the context of this model, our data support the existence of a unique equilibrium allele frequency, P^* . A population at P^* with an initial size $N(0)$ will grow exponentially according to $N(t) = N(0) \exp(W^*t)$, where W^* is the equilibrium Malthusian parameter of population growth. A non-equilibrium population P with the same initial number will tend to P^* , and the value W will tend to W^* . Non-equilibrium populations should have smaller numbers of animals based on the inequality $W(P) \leq W^*$. In particular, the initial growth of the test populations based on the genotypic fitness value estimates of 0.86, 1.0 and 0.07 should be *reflected* in the quadratic function

$$W(P) = 0.86 + 0.28 P - 1.07 P^2 .$$

The least squares quadratic equation for the number of small larvae at week 2 is

$$\hat{S}L_2 = 559.6 - 161.0 P - 278.4 P^2;$$

for the number of large larvae at week 4 is

$$\hat{L}L_4 = 160.5 + 56.2 P - 188.6 P^2;$$

and for the number of adults at week 6 is

$$\hat{A}_6 = 252.3 + 294.7 P - 485.9 P^2 .$$

The regression equations (Figure 2A) had coefficients of determination of 0.92 for small larvae, 0.91 for the large larvae and 0.86 for the adults; the overall fit of the data was significant at the 0.01 level of probability in all cases. The sizes of the test populations are indeed functions of the initial frequency of the *cos* allele. Furthermore, the fitted curves for large larvae at week 4 and adult numbers at week 6 are maximum at about the equilibrium allele frequency obtained empirically.

Since all cultures initiated with $0 < P < 1$ apparently converged to $P^* = 0.25$,

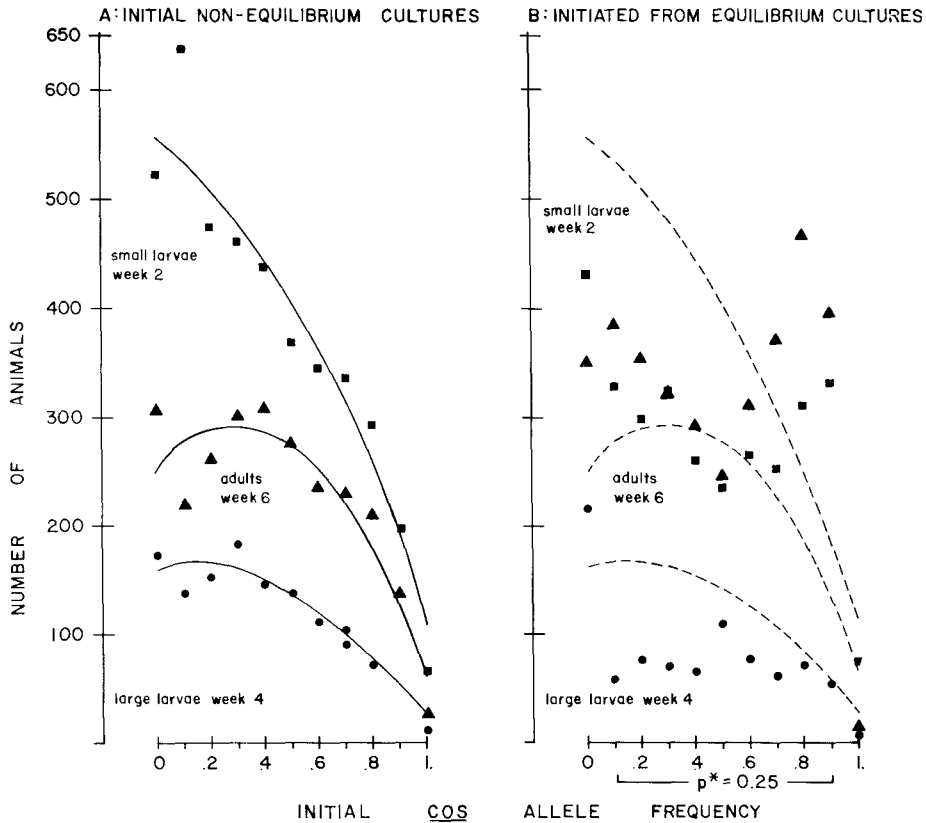


FIGURE 2A,B.—Number of small larvae (■) at week 2, large larvae (●) at week 4, and adults (▲) at week 6. (A) Observations of the initial cultures not at genetic equilibrium together with the least squares quadratic equations. (B) Observations of the cultures at genetic equilibrium.

new cultures started with 20 randomly chosen sexed adults from the week 68 cultures should now have initial demographic patterns *unlike* those observed at the beginning of this experiment (see Figure 2A) but similar to one another. This hypothesis was tested. The mean number of small larvae at week 2, and the mean number of large larvae at week 4 and the mean number of adults at week 6 are given in Figure 2B. The initial age structure patterns of these cultures are different from those noted at the beginning of the "68-week" study. However, the control cultures of $P = 0.0$ and 1.0 displayed demographic patterns similar to those observed at the outset of this study, which was expected because no change in *cos* allele frequency had occurred in these populations. These data then, reinforce the idea that the genetically segregating cultures have indeed converged to an equilibrium allele frequency and an equilibrium genotypic array.

The demographic pattern of the first 6 weeks, as discussed above, was dependent on the initial frequency of the *cos* allele. We now direct our attention to the

overall demographic pattern and begin by considering the observed mean number of adults (Table 4). As a general observation five reasonably distinct phases of adult numbers can be identified: phase A from week 2 through week 6 is a growth interval; the decline initiated at week 8 marks phase B, which continues through week 24; another small growth interval from week 26 through week 38 is labelled phase C; phase D from week 40 through 48 is characterized by a reduction in adults to numbers quite comparable to those of week 24; the number of adults at week 50 was, on the average, twice the number of adults at week

TABLE 4
Mean number of adults

Phase	Weeks	Initial <i>cos</i> allele frequency										
		1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0
A	2	19.0	19.6	18.4	19.0	18.8	18.8	18.0	18.3	17.7	17.6	19.3
	4	19.8	64.4	93.6	84.6	98.8	85.6	111.3	93.3	82.3	89.7	98.3
	6	29.8	138.8	211.4	231.0	237.8	278.2	310.7	303.7	264.7	222.3	308.0
B	8	32.0	114.3	164.0	191.0	229.0	253.2	293.0	302.0	257.3	237.0	269.0
	10	37.4	119.5	156.0	191.6	201.0	199.4	307.3	271.3	244.7	203.3	237.7
	12	44.6	100.5	142.3	175.6	177.6	166.8	286.3	244.0	224.3	178.3	221.7
	14	37.0	76.3	118.3	153.8	155.2	134.8	260.0	189.0	196.7	147.0	216.7
	16	28.6	66.0	92.7	123.0	119.6	98.8	211.7	147.0	155.7	113.7	184.0
	18	22.4	51.7	66.3	100.8	83.2	68.0	155.3	103.3	117.0	89.7	157.7
	20	14.8	38.0	43.0	70.0	47.2	52.6	91.7	67.7	92.0	63.3	61.5
	22	12.4	34.0	38.6	52.4	30.8	46.8	51.3	41.7	67.7	45.7	111.0
	24	20.0	36.5	27.5	25.8	28.0	31.4	39.3	30.0	56.0	35.0	93.7
C	26	21.2	37.0	33.2	34.4	24.0	41.4	37.3	38.3	43.3	39.0	69.3
	28	23.0	44.6	41.8	35.8	28.8	55.0	32.0	36.3	26.7	33.7	68.0
	30	45.2	36.7	31.3	35.8	27.4	46.4	46.7	39.0	23.3	52.7	74.7
	32	35.8	38.3	36.7	41.8	27.0	51.6	62.3	42.7	31.3	34.3	74.0
	34	28.4	37.3	35.3	34.8	31.2	50.6	68.7	41.0	24.7	43.0	64.7
	36	32.2	43.3	51.7	46.2	40.2	65.5	58.7	65.0	41.7	65.7	63.7
	38	46.4	56.7	60.7	48.0	42.2	71.6	64.3	72.3	78.7	69.3	74.7
D	40	44.4	54.3	73.0	36.8	47.8	63.0	68.0	76.3	63.3	63.0	67.3
	42	47.4	39.0	67.0	31.0	41.2	51.6	61.0	54.0	49.7	52.7	57.3
	44	36.8	35.3	59.3	34.2	30.2	41.4	50.0	41.0	35.0	51.0	46.7
	46	28.8	30.3	57.7	31.4	25.0	36.5	48.0	31.7	37.7	39.0	39.3
	48	25.0	29.0	48.0	25.0	20.4	30.4	58.7	27.3	23.3	35.0	36.3
E	50	49.6	48.3	59.7	55.4	51.2	68.2	70.0	46.3	70.0	86.0	74.0
	52	48.4	55.3	58.0	54.0	47.8	67.0	68.7	61.3	69.3	72.3	82.3
	54	38.4	54.0	66.7	48.2	45.4	60.4	60.3	56.7	65.7	68.7	78.7
	56	36.8	33.7	72.7	52.0	43.8	64.6	58.7	55.7	59.3	70.3	68.0
	58	37.8	43.0	66.7	44.0	46.2	66.6	65.0	57.7	71.3	62.7	64.0
	60	42.6	38.7	55.0	47.0	49.2	67.2	64.0	50.7	75.7	61.7	76.3
	62	49.6	48.7	79.0	51.2	58.8	75.6	73.0	61.0	83.0	68.7	80.0
	64	48.6	45.7	71.0	55.8	57.2	71.8	77.7	58.3	82.0	63.3	75.0
	66	43.6	56.3	63.7	53.4	50.6	71.2	75.7	71.7	81.7	59.7	66.7
	68	42.0	57.7	64.7	57.8	56.8	80.0	83.7	73.0	74.3	71.7	64.7

48, *i.e.*, $A_{50} = (2.0 \pm 0.55) A_{48}$ and phase E through week 68 is an interval of apparent stability.

Another perspective on the overall adult demographic pattern is obtained by plotting the change in the number of adults (ΔA) against the number of adults (A). This graph for the culture homozygous for the + allele (Figure 3) assumes a "circle-like" configuration with the diameter tending to decrease as the culture matured. The magnitude of the oscillations was smaller with time, and the population appears to be approaching an equilibrium in the neighborhood of 73 ± 6 adults. One informative exception to the regular pattern occurred in phase D, and it is noted in Figure 3 as a large swing to the left followed by a return to the former pattern. The departure and return to an apparent equilibrium state suggested that the observed demographic equilibrium was stable.

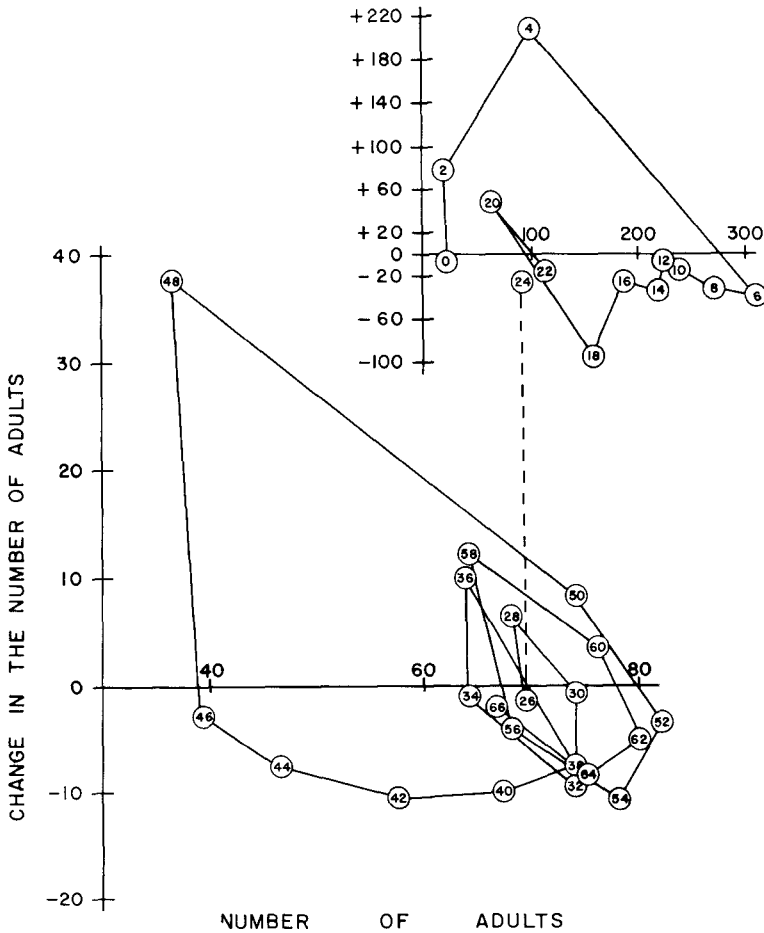


FIGURE 3.—Change in the number of adults versus number of adults for the culture homozygous for the + allele. The small circled number indicates the week.

Similar graphs were observed for the other cultures and can be constructed from the data in Table 4.

To consider age structure we need to evaluate all life stages. The sum of the mean number of large larvae and pupae is thus presented in Table 5, and the mean number of small larvae is given in Table 6. In particular, are the numbers of animals in the different life stages associated? To probe this question we sketched the number of large larvae and pupae against the number of adults for the +/+ culture (Figure 4). (Again, interested readers can construct these

TABLE 5

Sum of the mean number of large larvae and the mean number of pupae

Phase	Weeks	Initial <i>cos</i> allele frequency										
		1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0
A	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	20.6	155.8	202.2	248.1	272.0	225.6	400.0	411.3	351.0	324.0	457.7
	6	14.6	15.0	25.6	22.8	33.2	37.8	35.3	22.4	22.0	23.3	21.6
B	8	22.2	55.8	31.6	16.7	22.4	19.4	9.0	12.3	19.7	15.3	16.8
	10	51.2	29.2	29.3	15.6	6.6	17.0	8.0	5.4	25.3	25.4	16.9
	12	15.2	61.2	63.4	76.8	55.4	27.8	23.0	50.3	30.0	23.0	25.0
	14	15.6	42.0	24.5	36.0	26.4	39.6	10.4	23.3	46.4	34.3	42.7
	16	23.8	40.2	41.0	47.8	43.4	10.6	26.7	12.7	35.4	39.0	71.0
	18	7.8	21.8	29.1	33.2	9.0	12.4	16.0	18.7	33.7	27.3	22.7
	20	7.4	26.1	26.7	20.2	9.0	44.4	9.7	29.0	40.4	22.6	48.3
	22	22.0	20.0	33.0	27.0	17.2	6.2	7.3	12.0	25.6	21.7	31.0
	24	23.2	33.2	31.2	28.6	13.4	39.8	20.4	30.3	21.3	37.0	22.6
C	26	24.2	42.5	31.0	29.2	26.6	37.6	16.0	30.0	21.3	18.7	21.7
	28	39.4	27.2	17.6	29.2	17.0	28.5	31.0	23.3	11.6	37.7	56.3
	30	23.4	46.1	36.1	37.2	29.6	46.6	41.3	26.0	33.0	40.0	33.3
	32	16.8	24.3	19.0	20.4	24.4	18.6	39.4	19.7	12.0	11.7	27.0
	34	25.4	41.7	45.0	48.8	27.6	53.0	27.0	68.0	25.0	70.4	47.0
	36	39.4	60.0	47.6	36.0	33.6	36.2	32.3	56.3	83.7	38.7	53.3
	38	21.8	43.0	48.4	15.8	31.2	44.6	43.6	27.4	37.0	31.6	42.0
D	40	43.0	39.0	48.3	28.8	21.0	44.4	26.3	11.3	23.0	32.0	26.3
	42	15.2	30.0	19.7	16.4	17.0	17.2	21.4	18.3	21.3	13.4	14.7
	44	19.6	49.3	79.4	50.6	43.8	53.0	59.7	33.6	84.0	51.0	71.0
	46	6.4	26.7	13.6	8.6	7.6	7.4	7.4	8.7	5.4	5.6	10.0
	48	68.0	43.0	38.0	71.2	60.4	76.2	71.0	33.4	73.3	78.4	97.7
E	50	19.8	47.0	21.6	21.2	17.4	29.0	32.0	39.7	26.0	25.7	47.3
	52	7.2	14.7	13.0	10.0	8.2	9.0	15.0	11.6	13.3	10.3	5.4
	54	14.0	13.3	46.3	33.2	22.2	37.8	26.7	22.3	22.0	30.0	22.4
	56	20.8	34.6	17.7	13.8	22.4	20.0	29.7	17.3	25.3	21.4	24.0
	58	19.3	16.0	16.7	23.6	19.0	19.8	18.0	11.0	31.0	29.3	21.7
	60	30.0	24.0	27.0	18.4	17.0	24.2	24.3	24.7	14.0	33.6	38.6
	62	38.4	27.7	32.6	45.8	28.6	45.8	32.0	26.0	35.4	39.4	38.3
	64	8.2	28.0	19.4	16.4	10.2	26.4	24.4	14.7	20.3	17.3	15.0
	66	9.8	33.0	26.4	21.4	23.0	24.0	23.0	18.6	17.0	19.7	21.0
	68	28.2	10.0	10.0	14.6	13.6	24.0	12.4	15.7	12.3	22.0	39.0

graphs for the other cultures from the data in Tables 4 and 5). A general pattern does emerge. When the number of adults is high, the life stages that are the immediate new recruits (large larvae and pupae) are low and vice versa. The perturbation noted in the graph of ΔA versus A (Figure 3) is also observed in these data. At week 48 the number of adults is 36, which is the smallest recorded number except for week 2. The number of large larvae and pupae is 98, which is the highest number in this age class except for the initial burst of week 4. The direction of population change, at successive times from the same combina-

TABLE 6
Mean number of small larvae

Phase	Weeks	Initial <i>cos</i> allele frequency										
		1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0
A	2	68.0	197.0	296.0	337.4	348.4	370.2	440.3	463.0	477.5	640.5	524.0
	4	67.0	17.2	12.6	8.4	10.8	8.4	4.3	7.3	10.3	4.7	13.3
	6	41.6	80.0	46.6	64.0	49.8	43.4	45.7	32.7	61.7	24.7	42.7
B	8	71.4	76.4	50.2	64.8	35.2	56.0	15.7	11.3	21.0	15.0	66.0
	10	25.8	56.2	50.7	69.8	73.2	107.4	42.0	40.0	54.7	46.3	71.0
	12	69.0	106.6	57.8	45.0	102.8	70.6	57.0	85.0	42.0	93.0	72.3
	14	71.4	93.0	103.7	95.2	139.8	201.0	83.0	112.0	71.6	136.7	101.3
	16	64.6	86.5	77.0	121.0	132.0	132.0	158.7	92.0	75.0	105.0	112.7
	18	56.0	96.2	73.3	113.0	176.6	313.2	256.3	211.3	177.7	212.0	258.7
	20	59.0	47.3	55.3	65.4	54.0	22.0	66.0	43.0	50.7	50.0	56.3
	22	54.0	54.7	75.0	77.8	58.8	61.8	81.7	89.0	123.3	123.0	84.7
	24	52.2	88.6	76.8	82.4	54.8	89.0	33.3	109.7	78.7	70.7	60.7
C	26	140.8	167.0	58.0	147.4	100.0	55.0	76.0	105.3	124.3	77.0	102.3
	28	71.2	80.6	131.8	81.0	84.4	141.6	125.0	90.3	144.0	181.3	68.7
	30	56.8	101.0	110.0	99.0	143.4	66.6	87.3	57.0	69.7	61.3	93.0
	32	61.4	103.7	85.7	85.6	79.5	114.8	114.3	42.7	49.0	170.0	140.3
	34	67.4	84.3	99.3	78.2	66.8	75.0	105.7	126.3	119.0	85.3	98.3
	36	56.0	71.3	93.0	130.0	99.0	138.0	133.7	81.0	65.7	73.3	109.3
	38	216.8	152.7	158.0	151.2	142.8	159.2	90.3	222.0	96.3	293.0	103.7
D	40	109.8	173.7	186.3	183.0	191.8	166.8	208.0	174.3	203.3	93.0	158.3
	42	228.4	130.7	112.3	154.4	165.2	186.0	112.3	260.3	161.0	227.3	171.3
	44	132.0	98.0	147.3	158.2	148.4	108.6	124.3	125.0	118.3	109.7	126.3
	46	165.0	82.7	107.3	104.4	116.6	96.2	105.7	66.3	121.3	121.7	114.3
	48	62.2	46.0	96.0	104.6	76.6	67.2	75.0	63.0	93.0	40.3	81.3
E	50	123.8	124.7	71.3	74.4	81.6	101.2	99.0	87.3	79.7	92.7	80.7
	52	167.6	78.3	145.3	210.6	193.2	158.8	193.0	153.0	205.7	174.3	131.3
	54	198.8	166.3	51.0	109.5	90.6	115.2	165.0	95.0	69.3	134.3	159.0
	56	157.5	131.7	187.7	119.6	126.4	132.6	158.3	150.7	191.0	153.7	106.3
	58	191.8	137.0	78.0	142.2	87.6	124.8	102.3	106.3	45.3	167.7	146.3
	60	133.2	150.3	189.3	133.0	159.2	157.8	187.7	147.0	255.3	112.0	108.7
	62	181.4	56.7	23.3	76.2	50.4	79.0	78.3	68.3	36.3	101.0	136.0
	64	169.8	174.3	249.7	168.6	197.6	200.6	209.3	250.3	245.0	137.7	124.7
	66	227.0	107.7	93.7	109.0	71.4	128.0	126.7	42.7	58.0	136.0	155.0
	68	120.2	151.3	172.7	211.4	251.8	213.2	139.3	188.3	256.7	80.3	66.0

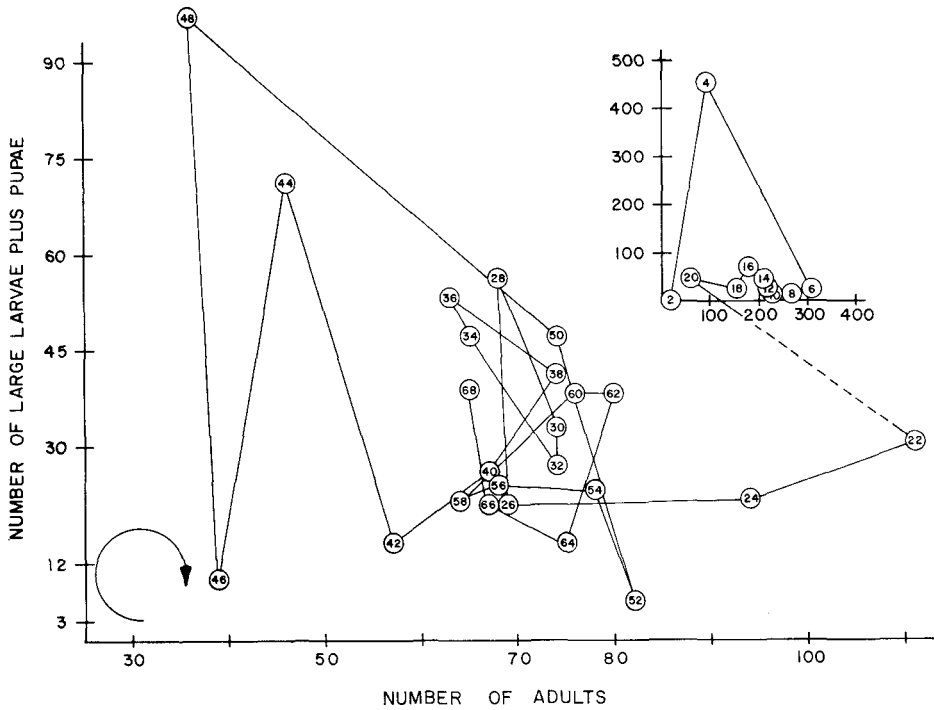


FIGURE 4.—Sketch of the number of large larvae pupae against the number of adults for the +/+ culture. The small circled number indicates the week.

tion of these two age classes, is remarkably similar. Indeed, a rectangle constructed around the majority of these age structure changes has a width from 64 to 82 adults and a height from 15 to 56 large larvae and pupae.

The mean number of small larvae and the mean number of adults for the +/+ culture are presented in Figure 5. The direction of age structure change was clockwise for large larvae and adults; however, for small larvae and adults the direction of change is counter-clockwise. The pattern in phase D is again obvious as a large swing to the left with both the number of small larvae and adults decreasing. There is a two-fold increase in the number of adults at week 50 and then the numbers return to changes within a rectangle of width 64 to 82 adults and a height from 66 to 159 small larvae. In other words, for every unit change in the number of adults there is a corresponding five-fold change in the number of small larvae.

A third graph of the number of small larvae and number of large larvae plus pupae can also be sketched from these data. When the small larvae are numerous the number of large larvae plus pupae are few and *vice versa*.

We now focus attention on the change in age structure during the 68 weeks of this experiment. The age structure of any population with frequencies of small larvae (L), large larvae plus pupae (P), and adults (A) may be represented by a point in an equilateral triangle with unit altitude (Figure 6). A

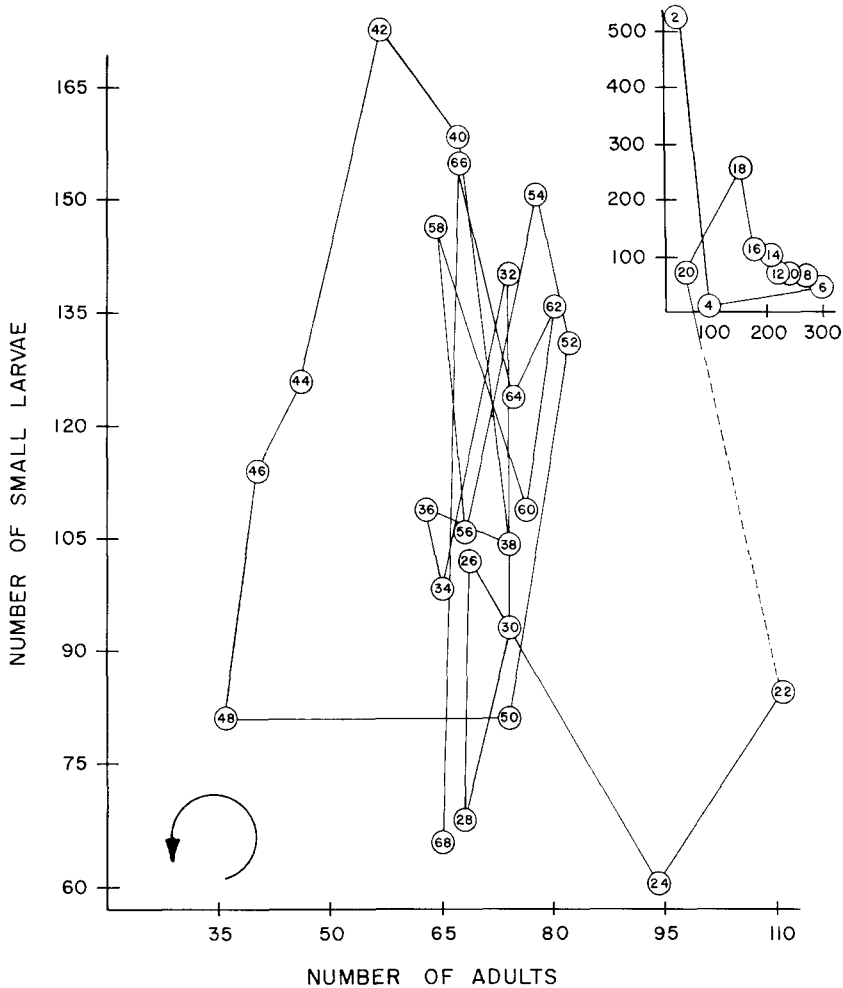


FIGURE 5.—Graph of the number of small larvae and the number of adults for the +/+ culture. The small circled number indicates the week.

population may then be represented by a point T inside the triangle such that the perpendiculars from the point T to the three sides are equal to (L, P, A) . (This technique is often used by population geneticists to display a genotypic array.) In Figure 6, the point sixteen represents the population ($L = 0.31$, $P = 0.19$, $A = 0.50$) at week 16 for the culture homozygous for the + allele. Examination of this figure reveals an interesting pattern: initially the population was 100% adults, at week 2 was 96% small larvae, at week 4 was 80% large larvae plus pupae and then at week 6 was 83% adults completing one cycle, or what we called phase A earlier. The pattern of change can be traced on the figure as a movement from the vertex A toward the vertex L then toward the vertex P and then toward the vertex A . For convenience we shall call this the

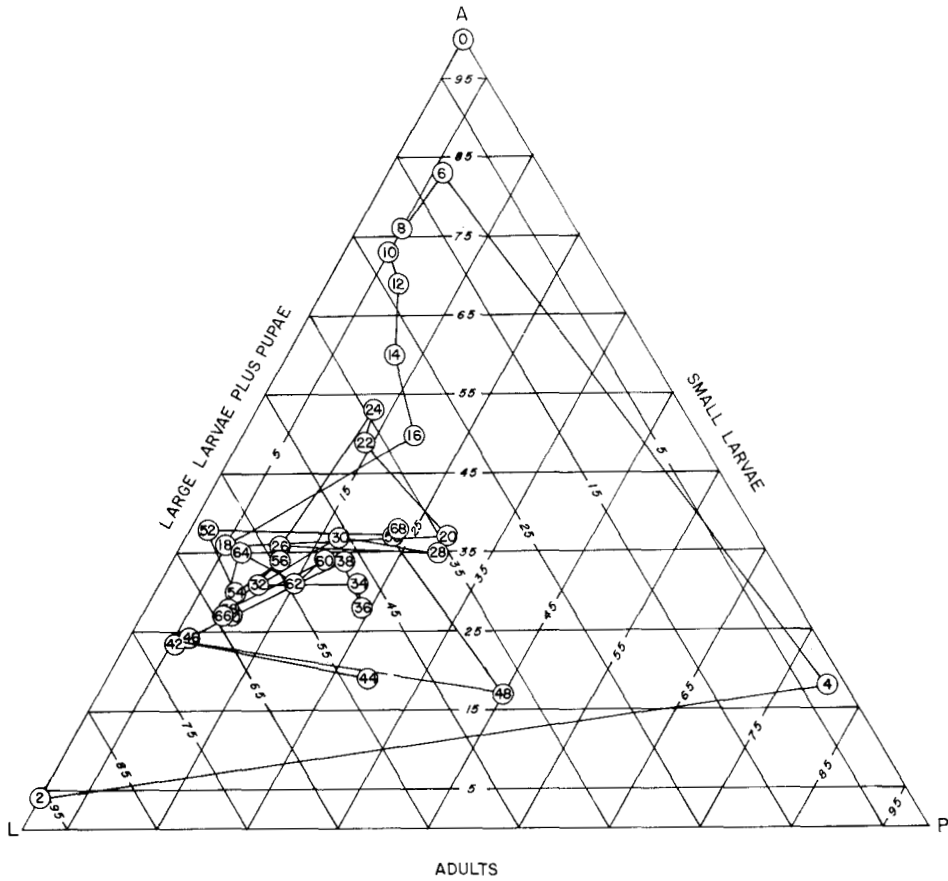


FIGURE 6.—Triangular coordinate representation of the frequencies of small larvae, large larvae plus pupae and adults for the $+/+$ culture. The small circled number indicates the week.

A-LPA pattern. From week 6 to 16, the adult component decreased 33% with a corresponding increase in large larvae plus pupae and small larvae. At week 16 another *A-LPA* cycle, of smaller magnitude than the first, was initiated and terminated at week 24. During phase C, two small *A-LPA* patterns can be traced. Numerically, these were most obvious in the change in the mean number of small larvae (see Table 6) from week 24 to 26 and from week 30 to 32. The reduction in adult number in phase D from week 40 through 48 noted in Figures 3, 4 and 5 is displayed as another *A-LPA* pattern. Phase E through week 68 was an interval of apparent stability and only small changes in age structure were noted.

Due to the apparent perturbation at week 48, we chose to evaluate the mean number of animals during the final 20 weeks (50–68) for demographic equilibrium (Table 7). Statistical analyses of these data indicate that the mean total number of animals among cultures was similar; however, the distribution of the beetles in the 4 age classes differed for the numbers of adults, large larvae and

TABLE 7
Mean numbers of small larvae, large larvae, pupae, adults, and total number of animals from week 50 to week 68

Life stage	Initial eos allele frequency										
	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0
Small larvae	167 ± 12*	128 ± 23	126 ± 29	135 ± 8	131 ± 11	141 ± 9	144 ± 4	129 ± 9	145 ± 10	129 ± 7	125 ± 6
Large larvae	14 ± 2	20 ± 2	16 ± 2	14 ± 2	12 ± 1	19 ± 2	14 ± 1	13 ± 1	12 ± 1	18 ± 1	18 ± 1
Pupae	6 ± 1	7 ± 1	8 ± 1	7 ± 1	7 ± 1	7 ± 1	8 ± 1	7 ± 1	10 ± 1	6 ± 1	10 ± 1
Adults	44 ± 13	49 ± 9	66 ± 19	52 ± 7	51 ± 13	69 ± 17	68 ± 6	59 ± 12	73 ± 8	69 ± 7	73 ± 6
Total animals	231 ± 16	204 ± 30	215 ± 20	209 ± 15	200 ± 9	236 ± 11	231 ± 11	208 ± 24	240 ± 13	222 ± 15	225 ± 7

* Mean ± s.e.

small larvae. The individual treatment comparison of the $P = 1$, *cos/cos* and $P = 0$, $+/+$ lines indicated the same total number of animals but the *cos/cos* line had fewer adults and pupae, an equivalent number of large larvae and more small larvae. This age structure comparison is consistent with the phenotypic effect of the *cos/cos* genotype (Table 1). Among the lines that apparently converged to $P^* = 0.25$, the numbers of adults and pupae were the same, but differences in the numbers of large and small larvae existed.

DISCUSSION

Two kinds of equilibria were observed in these data: one genetic and the other demographic. The polymorphic genetic equilibrium at the unsaturated fatty acid-sensitive locus (or region) was stable with an equilibrium allele frequency of approximately 0.25 and a genotypic array composed of nearly equal numbers of $+/+$ and $+/cos$ individuals. The deviation from the predicted value of $P^* = 0.13$ can be interpreted in several ways: (1) Allele frequency was still changing but at a much reduced rate so that many more generations would be needed to obtain equilibrium values in the vicinity of 0.13. (2) The heterozygous genotype had a greater relative fitness value in continuously growing cultures than that estimated in pure culture. Cannibalism of larvae and adults on eggs, pupae and callows has been well documented. During the A phase of population growth, *cos/cos* individuals did not appear to survive in detectable numbers, leaving the $+/+$ and $+/cos$ genotypes. Because of differences in developmental time, $+/cos$ individuals pupated at a time when individuals of the $+/+$ genotype were quiescent as large larvae; however, $+/+$ individuals would still be in the pupal stage when $+/cos$ individuals eclosed and became predatory adults. The rapidly developing heterozygous class would then have a distinct advantage in continuous culture where population interactions must be considered. (3) Genotypic fitness is dependent on the rate of population growth of the equilibrium population in the definition $w_i = \Sigma \exp(-rx)V_i(x)$ (after CHARLESWORTH 1970 and CHARLESWORTH and GIESEL 1972). If $r = 0$, the fitness values are equal to the S -values given earlier and the equilibrium *cos* allele frequency is 0.13. When the equilibrium population growth rate is 0.67, for example, the equilibrium allele frequency is 0.21. An explanation of the shifts of allele frequency in terms of the equation for w_i is presented in CHARLESWORTH and GIESEL (1972). It is important for us to note that in these data as the equilibrium population growth rate increases so also does the expected equilibrium frequency of the *cos* allele.

Genetic equilibrium was approximated at week 6. On the other hand, the corresponding stable age structure was not realized until week 50. A stable age structure was therefore not a prerequisite for the existence of the genetic polymorphism. This result is consistent with the CHARLESWORTH (1972) model since the experimental data satisfied the condition that $V_i(x) = a_i V(x)$; however, there are differences between the CHARLESWORTH formulation and the Tribolium model. CHARLESWORTH assumes that mating is random between ages and geno-

types. We have no experimental data on this point. The initial sizes of our populations were small (20 adults) and we have no measure of the effect of genetic drift in age-structured populations. These two factors suggest the need for both caution and additional study.

During weeks 2–6, two characteristics of *T. castaneum* cultures started with young adults only were observed: First, the age structure change was like a wave moving from small larvae to large larvae to pupae and then to adults. Secondly, the number of adults “overshot” (except for the *cos/cos* culture) the equilibrium number. What is unique in these data is that these two properties were functions of the initial frequency of the *cos* allele. PARK, LESLIE and MERTZ (1964) have shown demographic differences among genetic strains initiated with young adults. Similar patterns were reported by LLOYD (1968) and MERTZ (1969) by varying the initial density of adults. KING and ANDERSON (1971), using mathematical models of Mendelian populations with discrete breeding intervals and overlapping generations, provided a numerical example of the effect of initial allele frequency on population growth.

In a recent paper, GINZBURG (1977) proposed an equation relating selective delay (an entity directly measurable from the week 2, 4 and 6 population size data in Table 4), the average fitness of the population at equilibrium and the entropy distance between the initial and equilibrium states of the population. The results of the experimental evaluation reported by COSTANTINO, GINZBURG and MOFFA (1977) showed a good correspondence to the theory.

At week 6, the 10 cultures that possessed the + allele had an average of 76% adults and 24% larvae. These proportions are nearly exactly *opposite* to the 29% adults and 68% larvae noted for the stable age structure from week 50 to week 68. Consequently, the different initial *cos* allele frequencies resulted in an age structure far from equilibrium. Recall, however, that the genetic equilibrium was approximated at week 6, so that subsequently there was no marked change in either allele frequency nor the genotypic array. Therefore, from a demographic perspective the cultures at week 6 were homogeneous and with identical sequences of fertility and mortality, eventually, the same age composition was expected (NORTON 1926; COALE 1957; LOPEZ 1967). At equilibrium, the cultures were similar and had between 24–31% adults, 3–4% pupae, 5–10% large larvae, and 58–66% small larvae.

The *cos/cos* culture converged most rapidly to the stable age distribution. The percentage of adults never exceeded the percentage of larvae and throughout the 68 week experiment varied only slightly from its mean demographic array of 19% adults, 3% pupae, 6% large larvae and 72% small larvae.

What mechanism(s) control population size at equilibrium? *Tribolium* cultures are complex genetic-ecological systems; nevertheless, cannibalism of larvae and adults on eggs, pupae, and callows has been studied extensively and proposed as a means of population control by CHAPMAN and WHANG (1934); LLOYD (1968); PARK, MERTZ and NATHANSON (1968); SOKAL and SONLEITNER (1968); MERTZ and DAVIES (1968) and MERTZ (1969) to mention a few. A model for

the equilibrium number of adults in a *Tribolium* population dominated by cannibalism of adults on pupae was introduced by LLOYD (1968) as

$$A^* D = R(1-C)^{A^*}$$

where A^* is the equilibrium number of adults, D is the death rate of adults, R is the rate at which recruits (large larvae and pupae) are produced, and C is the probability of cannibalism. The point emphasized by LLOYD is that of the three parameters in the model, it is C that has the most profound effect on A^* .

In the context of our experiment, the genetic equilibria $P^* = 0, 0.25$ and 1 yielded mean A^* values of 73, 62 and 44, respectively. As the equilibrium *cos* allele frequency increased, it was the rate at which new recruits were produced that decreased as a result of the reduced larval viability and extended developmental time of the *cos/cos* genotype.

Another aspect of these data for which this simple model is instructive was the two-fold increase in number of adults that occurred at week 48. We interpret this "outbreak" as a reduction in C caused by the age distribution of adults. LLOYD (1968) and MERTZ (1969) both suggested this as a way of generating cycles in adult numbers. In a stochastic model for cannibalism, MERTZ and DAVIES (1968) list high variability in pupal production and adult "satiation" as conditions for an outbreak. Although the satiation model appears appropriate for their data, our experimental populations did not show high variability in pupal numbers and the insatiable predator model of LLOYD seems more reasonable. Our continuing efforts to understand the dynamics of these cultures will more directly address the question of equilibrium.

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