

**Table S1:** Model parameters. The default values are obtained from a variety of sources (Gwadz and Collins, 1996; Smith and McKenzie, 2004; Tuno et al., 2005; Afrane et al., 2005; Chen et al., 2006); where no estimates were available values were varied within what we believe are plausible limits.

| Parameter   | Symbol       | Default value   |
|---|--------------|---|
| <b>Parameters used in non-spatial models</b>  |              |   |
| Egg laying rate   | $\nu$        | 0.12 (day <sup>-1</sup> C <sub>O</sub> <sup>-1</sup> )*               |
| Feeding rate  | $\gamma_H$   | 0.015 (day <sup>-1</sup> C <sub>H</sub> <sup>-1</sup> )**             |
| Egg load after feeding  | $\kappa$     | 120   |
| Rate of mortality from competition  | $\alpha$     | 0.05 (day <sup>-1</sup> n <sub>J</sub> <sup>-1</sup> )†               |
| Background mortality from stage $X \in \{J, U, M, H, O\}$   | $\mu_X$      | 0.1 (∀X, day <sup>-1</sup> )  |
| Rate of juvenile maturation   | $\gamma_J$   | 0.1 (day <sup>-1</sup> )  |
| Mating rate   | $m^\ddagger$ | 0.01 (day <sup>-1</sup> C <sup>-1</sup> )‡                            |
| Rate of HEG cleavage (X-shredder) or homing (classical HEG)   | $e$          | 0.6 (generation <sup>-1</sup> )                                       |
| <b>Demographic parameters exclusive to spatial models</b>   |              |   |
| Mean number of eggs laid per oviposition  | $\omega$     | 40  |
| Maximum mating distance   | $s_M$        | 0.3 (km)  |
| Feeding site detection distance   | $s_H$        | 0.5 (km)  |
| Breeding site detection distance  | $s_O$        | 0.15 (km)   |
| Basic jump rate   | $r$          | 10 (day <sup>-1</sup> )   |
| Maximum jump distance   | $s_G$        | 0.3 (km)  |
| Strength of the reduction in movement near the object of search   | $\beta$      | 10  |
| <b>Environmental parameters</b>   |              |   |
| Mean density of feeding sites   | $\theta_A$   | (2 <sup>1.5</sup> , 2 <sup>3.5</sup> ) (km <sup>-2</sup> ; pt.A,pt.B) |
| Mean density of breeding sites  | $\theta_B$   | (64, 2 <sup>6.5</sup> ) (km <sup>-2</sup> ; pt.A,pt.B)                |
| Breeding site turnover rate   | $\sigma$     | 0.05 (day <sup>-1</sup> )   |
| Covariance between feeding and breeding sites   | $\rho$       | 0   |
| Covariance length scale   | $s_\rho$     | 0.5 (km)  |
| Mean density of sample points   | $\theta_C$   | 100 (km <sup>-2</sup> )   |
| Sample point turnover rate  | $\sigma_C$   | 0.1 (day <sup>-1</sup> )  |
| * In spatial models, local density of breeding sites $C_O(x)$ at a location $x$ is the number of breeding sites within distance $s_O$ of $x$ .<br>In non-spatial models, $C_O$ is defined $\theta_B \pi s_O^2 \omega / \kappa$ .      |              |   |
| ** In spatial models, local density of feeding sites $C_H(x)$ at a location $x$ is the number of feeding sites within distance $s_H$ of $x$ .<br>In non-spatial models, $C_H$ is defined $\theta_A \pi s_H^2$ .                       |              |   |
| † In spatial models, $n_J = n_{J_i}$ is the number of juveniles at a breeding site $i$ .<br>In non-spatial models, $n_J$ is set to $n'_J / \theta_B$ where $n'_J$ is density of juveniles.  |              |   |
| ‡ In spatial models, local density of mates $C_M(x)$ at a location $x$ is the number of mates within mating distance $s_M$ of $x$ .<br>In non-spatial models, $C_M$ is defined $C'_M \pi s_M^2$ where $C'_M$ is the density of mates. |              |   |

## References

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