

Abstract

Dispersal of animals is an important area of ecology, the study of which is crucial for understanding population composition and dynamics. The acquired knowledge has broad applications in various fields, whether in the efforts to introduce endangered species or, conversely, to suppress the spread of invasive ones. However, dispersal begins at the individual level, so it is first necessary to determine which traits dispersing individuals possess. One possible aspect in which dispersers may differ from residents is their personality. This bachelor thesis provides a summary of literature that focuses on personality predictors of dispersal, comparing personality traits among each other, both within and across three selected taxa: fish, birds, and representatives of mammals – rodents. The literature suggests that in the context of individual personality, besides others, three main types of dispersal exist. In the first type, primarily observed in early stages of life, dispersal of more submissive individuals of territorial fish and rodents is enforced due to aggression from more dominant individuals. However, in birds, it is necessary to secure suitable territory as quickly as possible, leading to the opposite dependence – earlier dispersal of dominant individuals. The second type involves voluntary dispersal of exploratory and locomotorly active and asocial individuals. Courage is an important trait in each case and is necessary for voluntary dispersal. The third type of dispersal is enforced by external biotic and abiotic factors, where personality differences between dispersers and residents disappear.

Key words: dispersal, personality, personality traits, fish, birds, mammals, invasive species