

Founder effects and geographical variation in the invading cladoceran *Bosmina (Eubosmina) coregoni* Baird 1857 in North America

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Invasions and subsequent range expansions by exotic species provide an excellent opportunity for the study of founder effects on the genetic structure of colonizing populations. Although the Great Lakes have served as the initial point of colonization for more than 100 species, few studies have examined the genetic structure of these invaders. This study shows that levels of genetic variability in North American populations of the cladoceran invader *Bosmina coregoni* are at least as high as those in European populations, suggesting that founding populations were large. As allelic diversity in North America is higher than in any single European population, the Great Lakes have probably been colonized repeatedly. In the past 30 years, *B. coregoni* has expanded its range into inland lakes within 100 km of the Great Lakes, through both long-distance dispersal and migration among neighbouring lakes. Although these secondary invasions have produced little reduction in genetic diversity, they have led to pronounced gene frequency divergence among populations from inland North American lakes.

Keywords: allozymes, *Bosminia coregoni*, genetic variation, species invasions.

Introduction

The potential importance of founder events in reducing heterozygosity and creating genetic divergence among populations has often been emphasized as a primary factor in evolutionary divergence and speciation (Mayr, 1963; Carson, 1967; Templeton, 1980). In practice, however, founder effects cannot be easily distinguished from the effects of selection (Coyne & Barton, 1988). Moreover, the impact of founder events need not be substantial. A loss of heterozygosity will not occur if population increase is rapid following colonization (Nei *et al.*, 1975). In addition, unless the number of founders is very small, only rare alleles, which contribute little to overall genetic variability, are lost (Lewontin, 1965). The invasion of exotic species into new habitats and their subsequent range expansion provides an excellent opportunity for the study of founder effects on the genetic structure of populations. Although several studies have examined founder effects in such settings, few have provided evidence of its importance (Parkin & Cole, 1985; Baker & Mooed, 1987).

Since the 1880s the Great Lakes have served as the initial point of colonization for at least 136 exotic species (Mills *et al.*, 1991). Most of these invaders have arrived within the last 30 years, associated with the opening of the Great Lakes to transoceanic freighters. In many cases, these invaders have subsequently extended their ranges into neighbouring lakes via secondary founder events. Few studies have so far examined the genetic structure of these invaders. Boileau & Hebert (1992) found no loss of genetic variation in Great Lakes populations of the zebra mussel *Dreissena polymorpha* compared with European populations and observed alleles in North America which were absent from reference populations in Europe. An examination of another invader in the Great Lakes, the cladoceran *Bythotrephes cederstroemi*, found low levels of polymorphism, but no European populations were analysed (Weider, 1991).

This study examines patterns of genetic diversity in the cladoceran *Bosmina (Eubosmina) coregoni* (Baird, 1857), a species endemic to Eurasia (Lieder, 1991), which apparently first invaded the Great Lakes in the mid-1960s via ship ballast water (Lieder, 1991; Mills *et al.*, 1991). It was initially detected in Lake Michigan in 1966 (Wells, 1970) and by 1971 had become one of

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the dominant cladocerans in the Great Lakes (Balcer *et al.*, 1984). By 1968 it dispersed to inland lakes (Deevey & Deevey, 1971), and by 1980 the species was known from lakes in both southern Ontario and northern New York State (Carter *et al.*, 1980).

There is no direct information on either the source(s) or the number of colonists responsible for the establishment of *B. coregoni* in North America. However, it is apparent that the invasion of this species into the Great Lakes corresponds to a primary founder event whereas its subsequent expansion into inland lakes represents secondary events. This study aimed particularly to compare the extent of genetic divergence and levels of genetic variability between European populations of *B. coregoni* and those from both the Great Lakes and the inland lakes. The study also aimed to ascertain if genetic differences between inland lake populations and those in the Great Lakes were related simply to distance or whether subsidiary factors such as interconnection were important.

Materials and methods

Collections

North American samples of *B. coregoni* were collected between May 1990 and August 1992 from 22 inland lakes in Ontario, New York State, Michigan, Wisconsin and Indiana, as well as from three sites in Lake Ontario and one site in Lake Erie (Table 1). The European samples were collected in November 1991 and July–September 1993 from 12 lakes in Germany, the Czech Republic and the Netherlands (Table 1). Individuals were either flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen or returned alive for electrophoretic analysis.

Electrophoresis

Individual allozyme phenotypes were assayed on cellulose acetate gels according to the methods of Hebert & Beaton (1989) but with modifications (DeMelo, 1993). Eight enzymes representing nine loci were screened for all populations. These loci were aspartate aminotransferase (*Aat*), arginine phosphokinase (*Apk*), fumarase (*Fum*), glucose phosphate isomerase (*Gpi*), lactate dehydrogenase (*Ldh*), malate dehydrogenase (*Mdh*), phenylalanylproline peptidase (*PepD*) – two loci– and phosphoglucomutase (*Pgm*). Bands were assumed to represent the products of alleles at a single locus, as heterozygous phenotypes conformed to those expected from the quaternary structure of the enzyme (Ward, 1977). Alleles were numbered according to increasing anodal mobility of their allozyme products (i.e. the allozyme corresponding to allele 1 exhibited the slowest

mobility). A χ^2 heterogeneity test (Workman & Niswander, 1970) was used to examine the significance of variation in genotypic frequencies among sites in Lake Ontario; homogeneous samples were pooled ($P < 0.05$).

Table 1 Sample sites in North America and Europe. ABR, sample abbreviation; IND, Indiana; MICH, Michigan; WIS, Wisconsin; NY, New York State; ONT, Ontario; GL, Great Lakes; GER, Germany; CZECH, Czech Republic; NETH, the Netherlands

Lake/reservoir	ABR
North America	
Waldron	IND-1
Wabec	IND-2
Tippecanoe	IND-3
James	IND-4
Webster	IND-5
Kuhn	IND-6
Winona	IND-7
Eagle	MICH-1
Wingra	WIS-1
Salmon River	NY-1
Oneida	NY-2
Gordon Pittock	ONT-1
Wildwood	ONT-2
Conestogo	ONT-3
Bellwood	ONT-4
Guelph	ONT-5
Eugenie	ONT-6
Simcoe	ONT-7
Sturgeon	ONT-8
Scugog	ONT-9
Stony	ONT-10
Rice	ONT-11
L. Erie – Rondeau	GL-1
L. Ontario – Hamilton Harbour	GL-2
L. Ontario Midlake	GL-3
L. Ontario – Bay of Quinte	GL-4
Europe	
Slapy	CZECH-1
Zevlika	CZECH-2
Diek See	GER-1
Garren See	GER-2
Kleiner Plöner See	GER-3
Pluß See	GER-4
Schaal See	GER-5
Schieren See	GER-6
Schöh See	GER-7
Stechline See	GER-8
Stock See	GER-9
Nieuwe Polderplas	NETH-1

Analyses

All analyses of the allozyme data were performed with BIOSYS-1 (Swofford & Selander, 1981). Allele frequencies at the nine presumptive loci were determined by direct count, genetic similarities between all 38 populations were estimated using Rogers' (1972) method and the data were used to construct an Unweighted-Pair-Group-Matrix Analysis (UPGMA) dendrogram.

The extent of genetic variation within populations was estimated using three variables: the percentage of polymorphic loci, the mean number of alleles per locus and observed heterozygosity. The extent to which founder events and genetic drift have altered levels of genetic variation in North American versus European populations was analysed by a two-sample *t*-test (Zar, 1984) on the means of the numbers of alleles per locus and the arcsine transformed means for the percentages of polymorphic loci. Observed heterozygosities across all polymorphic loci were compared using the arcsine transformed values with a pairwise *t*-test (Archie, 1985).

The extents of genetic differentiation and population structuring in Europe and North America were quantified using a modified formula for F_{ST} ($\Theta = F_{ST}$, Weir & Cockerham, 1984). A weighted average of F_{ST} values across alleles was calculated for each polymorphic locus and a mean value (\pm standard error) was then calculated across all polymorphic loci. A χ^2 heterogeneity test (Workman & Niswander, 1970) was used to determine if F_{ST} values deviated significantly from zero.

Geographical patterns of genetic variation in North American populations were examined using the general regression method developed by Mantel (in Sokal, 1979) and by multidimensional scaling (Lessa, 1990). Three models of population structure were examined.

1 An isolation-by-distance model, in which migration to new habitats occurred as an inverse function of distance.

2 A stepping-stone model, in which migrants were exchanged only between adjacent populations.

3 An island model, in which migration occurred at random among all populations.

The genetic consequences of each of these models are predictable. Model 1 results in an increase in genetic distance between populations as the distance between them increases whereas in model 2 adjacent populations are more genetically similar than nonadjacent populations. By contrast, in model 3, geographical distances among populations are not linked to geographic proximity or physical interconnectedness.

The genetic distance matrix (Rogers, 1972) was correlated to various matrices of physical proximity

using the Mantel method (in Sokal, 1979). A geographical distance matrix (GEO) was employed to test an isolation-by-distance model, in which populations in close proximity to each other would be more genetically similar than populations distant from each other. A second matrix (LAK) assumed that migration occurred among interconnected water bodies irrespective of their physical immediacy (DeMelo, 1993). A value of one was assigned to all populations within a lake system and a value of zero to populations from different systems. A third matrix (ADJ) was more restrictive, presuming that migration was restricted to adjacent lakes (DeMelo, 1993), as in a stepping-stone model. Only pairs of lakes that were physically connected were considered as adjacent, with a value of one assigned to such pairs of lakes, and a zero to other lakes. Multidimensional scaling (MDS) was used to test for the presence of nonhierarchical patterns of variation, such as reticulate or clinal patterns among the populations (Lessa, 1990).

Results

The electrophoretic analysis of 26 North American and 12 European populations of *B. coregoni* led to the detection of 19 alleles at the nine enzyme loci (Tables 2 and 3). Five of these nine loci (*Aat*, *Gpi*, *PepD-1*, *PepD-2*, and *Pgm*) were commonly polymorphic. The *Apk* locus varied in only one European and two North American populations whereas the *Ldh* locus was only variable in two European populations. The remaining two loci (*Fum* and *Mdh*) were identically monomorphic in all 38 populations. No fixed differences were observed between populations of *B. coregoni* from North America and those from Europe (Table 3) and the minimum genetic similarity between these populations was 0.81. A UPGMA of the genetic relatedness among the populations (Fig. 1) showed that European populations were scattered throughout the dendrogram.

Although two alleles (*Ldh*² and *Pgm*²) were unique to European populations (Table 3), five alleles were unique to North America. Surprisingly, two of these five North American alleles were not found in the Great Lakes but were unique to inland lakes. There was, however, no significant difference in the mean number of alleles per locus, the percentage of polymorphic loci or individual heterozygosity between European populations and either the Great Lakes or North American inland lakes (Table 4). Also, there was no significant difference between levels of genetic variability in the Great Lakes and inland lake populations (Table 4).

Significant differentiation of allele frequencies was detected for all loci among both the North American

Table 2 Allele frequencies at six polymorphic loci in North American populations of *Bosmina coregoni*. Three other loci (*Fum*, *Ldh*, *Mdh*) were monomorphic in North America. Population abbreviations are explained in Table 1

Population	Aat			Apk			Gpi			PepD-1			PepD-2			Pgm					
	N	1	2	N	1	2	N	1	2	N	1	2	N	1	2	N	1	2	3	4	
IND-1	68	0.01	0.78	37	—	1.00	68	—	1.00	8	—	1.00	9	—	0.78	75	—	0.22	—	0.95	0.05
IND-2	56	0.05	0.59	68	—	1.00	59	—	0.92	17	0.09	0.91	15	—	0.60	92	0.30	0.40	—	0.69	0.01
IND-3	42	—	0.10	29	—	1.00	41	—	1.00	36	—	0.96	35	—	0.59	84	—	0.41	—	0.93	0.07
IND-4	53	—	0.05	29	—	1.00	51	—	1.00	6	—	1.00	12	—	0.42	34	—	0.58	—	0.97	0.03
IND-5	223	—	0.04	58	—	1.00	87	—	1.00	12	0.04	0.96	34	—	0.65	115	—	0.35	—	0.87	0.13
IND-6	79	—	0.06	54	—	1.00	72	—	1.00	30	—	0.95	28	—	0.52	65	0.01	0.48	—	0.99	—
IND-7	18	—	0.03	13	—	1.00	33	—	1.00	22	—	0.82	14	—	0.57	26	—	0.43	—	0.85	0.15
MICH-1	26	—	0.13	10	—	1.00	44	—	1.00	15	—	1.00	15	—	0.87	42	0.40	0.10	0.03	0.60	—
WIS-1	29	—	1.00	48	0.11	0.89	27	—	1.00	19	—	1.00	19	—	0.68	31	—	0.32	—	0.98	0.02
NY-1	19	—	0.66	34	29	—	30	—	0.85	16	—	1.00	27	—	0.85	19	—	0.15	—	1.00	—
NY-2	20	—	0.37	63	19	—	19	—	0.97	0.03	11	—	11	—	1.00	20	—	—	—	0.97	0.03
ONT-1	28	—	1.00	26	—	1.00	44	—	1.00	22	—	1.00	22	—	1.00	41	—	—	—	1.00	—
ONT-2	42	0.06	0.94	22	—	1.00	33	—	1.00	22	—	1.00	29	—	0.84	32	—	0.16	—	1.00	—
ONT-3	21	—	0.09	91	21	—	21	—	1.00	—	—	1.00	33	—	1.00	22	—	—	—	1.00	—
ONT-4	58	—	0.97	0.03	26	—	46	—	1.00	—	—	0.92	25	—	0.78	50	—	0.22	—	1.00	—
ONT-5	63	—	0.99	0.01	20	—	17	—	1.00	—	—	0.97	39	—	0.73	61	—	0.27	—	0.98	0.02
ONT-6	33	—	0.89	0.11	22	—	22	—	1.00	—	—	1.00	31	—	1.00	22	—	—	—	1.00	—
ONT-7	70	—	0.44	0.56	33	—	43	—	1.00	—	—	1.00	62	—	0.72	54	0.01	0.28	—	0.99	—
ONT-8	22	—	0.77	0.23	22	—	33	—	1.00	—	—	1.00	22	—	0.77	33	—	0.23	—	1.00	—
ONT-9	17	—	0.71	0.29	10	—	17	—	1.00	—	—	1.00	19	—	0.82	15	0.50	0.18	—	0.50	—
ONT-10	20	—	0.92	0.08	11	—	22	—	0.97	0.02	18	0.03	20	—	0.82	20	—	0.18	—	1.00	—
ONT-11	67	—	0.87	0.13	21	—	27	—	1.00	—	—	1.00	35	—	0.83	41	—	0.17	—	1.00	—
GL-1	23	—	0.70	0.30	18	—	43	—	0.98	0.02	15	—	22	—	0.89	61	—	0.11	—	0.98	0.02
GL-2	27	—	0.93	0.07	20	—	27	—	1.00	—	—	1.00	19	—	0.87	36	0.19	0.13	—	0.81	—
GL-3	25	—	0.16	0.84	10	—	44	—	1.00	—	—	1.00	10	—	0.60	47	0.01	0.40	—	0.99	—
GL-4	108	0.01	0.69	0.30	54	—	185	0.02	0.92	0.06	49	0.01	55	0.03	0.68	19	0.01	0.29	—	0.99	—

Table 3 Allele frequencies at seven polymorphic loci in European populations of *Bosmina coregoni*. Two other loci (*Fum*, *Ldh*) were monomorphic in Europe. Mean frequencies for both European (EUR) and North American (NA) populations are shown at the bottom. Population abbreviations are explained in Table 1

Population	Aat			Apk			Cpi			Ldh			PepD-1			PepD-2			Pgn					
	N	1	2	N	1	2	N	1	2	N	1	2	N	1	2	N	1	2	N	1	2	3	4	
CZECH-1	40	—	0.34	0.66	23	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	26	1.00	—	1.00	—	33	—	0.85	0.15	—	42	0.02	—	0.98
CZECH-2	8	—	0.62	0.38	7	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	7	1.00	—	0.90	—	7	—	0.86	0.14	—	7	—	—	1.00
GER-1	5	—	—	1.00	7	—	1.00	—	0.93	0.04	12	1.00	—	1.00	—	10	—	0.90	0.10	—	12	—	—	1.00
GER-2	19	—	0.26	0.74	12	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	7	1.00	—	0.83	0.17	18	—	0.92	0.08	—	27	—	—	1.00
GER-3	45	—	0.20	0.80	18	—	1.00	—	0.78	0.22	50	0.91	0.09	1.00	—	29	—	0.88	0.12	—	42	—	—	1.00
GER-4	78	—	0.01	0.99	32	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	10	1.00	—	0.72	0.28	48	—	0.93	0.07	—	24	0.02	—	0.98
GER-5	40	—	0.06	0.94	18	—	1.00	—	0.51	0.49	22	1.00	—	1.00	—	33	—	0.74	0.26	—	54	—	—	0.97
GER-6	23	—	0.15	0.85	20	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	13	1.00	—	0.93	0.07	22	—	1.00	—	—	50	—	—	1.00
GER-7	72	—	0.04	0.96	36	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	25	1.00	—	1.00	—	66	—	0.86	0.14	—	55	—	—	1.00
GER-8	30	—	—	1.00	20	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	17	1.00	—	1.00	—	13	—	0.58	0.42	—	43	0.04	—	0.96
GER-9	10	—	0.20	0.80	8	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	10	1.00	—	0.88	0.09	13	—	1.00	—	—	22	—	—	1.00
NETH-1	15	—	0.30	0.70	6	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	8	1.00	—	1.00	—	5	—	1.00	—	—	24	—	—	0.56
EUR mean	—	—	0.229	0.818	—	—	0.935	0.065	0.989	0.011	—	0.080	0.883	0.037	—	0.877	0.123	—	0.007	0.001	—	0.953	0.037	—
NA mean	—	—	0.005	0.573	0.423	—	0.986	0.013	1.000	—	—	0.007	0.975	0.018	—	0.001	0.976	0.232	0.001	0.053	—	0.927	0.020	—

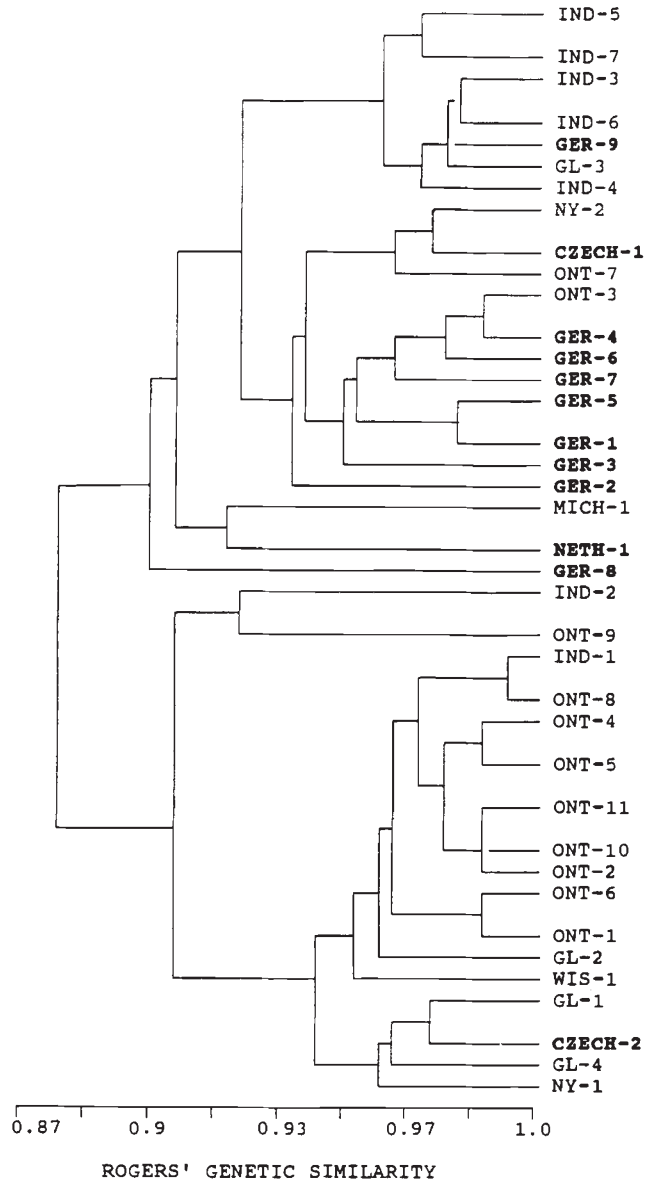


Fig. 1 UPGMA dendrogram of genetic distances among 38 populations of *Bosmina coregoni* from Europe and North America. Cophenetic correlation = 0.81. Sample abbreviations are given in Table 1.

and the European populations, except for *PepD-1* in the Great Lakes (Table 5). On average, approximately one-fifth of the total variance of allele frequencies in both the Great Lakes and Europe was due to genetic differences between populations (mean $F_{ST} = 0.16 \pm 0.04$ and 0.18 ± 0.02 for Great Lakes and Europe, respectively). More pronounced gene frequency divergence was observed for the inland lakes, where the average F_{ST} was 0.36 ± 0.09 . Gene frequency divergence was most pronounced at the *Aat* locus in North American inland lake populations. While two of the three *Aat* alleles were common in the

Table 4 Sample size and genetic characters in North American and European populations. N , mean sample size per locus; n_a , mean number of alleles per locus; p , mean percentage of polymorphic loci (0.95 criterion); H_o , mean observed heterozygosity. No significant difference was noted for any of the t -tests at the 0.05 significance level

	Europe	vs.	Great Lakes	t	Europe	vs.	Inland lakes	t	Great Lakes	vs.	Inland lakes	t
N	24.10		38.10		19.40		31.30		38.10		31.30	
n_a	1.31		1.55	1.43	1.31		1.31	0.13	1.55		1.31	1.35
p	25.90		33.30	1.52*	25.90		23.70	0.77*	24.40		23.70	2.13*
H_o	0.09		0.08	1.31†	0.09		0.08	2.25†	0.08		0.08	0.84†

*Means of the arcsine transformed values of $(p \times 100)$ used to obtain the t values.

† t values obtained from pairwise t -tests using mean heterozygosity across all polymorphic loci.

Table 5 F_{ST} values at allozyme loci polymorphic in North American and European populations of *Bosmina coregoni*. Mean F_{ST} values (\pm SE) were calculated across all polymorphic loci using weighted values. All values except those designated by an * were significantly different from 0.0 ($P < 0.05$)

Locus	Europe	Great Lakes	Inland lakes
<i>Apk</i>	0.04*	—	0.08
<i>Aat</i>	0.17	0.29	0.63
<i>Gpi</i>	0.36	0.03	0.09
<i>Ldh</i>	0.04*	—	—
<i>PepD-1</i>	0.15	0.01*	0.06
<i>PepD-2</i>	0.07	0.06	0.11
<i>Pgm</i>	0.31	0.16	0.21
Mean F_{ST}	0.18 (± 0.02)	0.16 (± 0.04)	0.36 (± 0.09)

Great Lakes, seven inland lake populations were fixed for Aat^2 and the Aat^3 allele was dominant in most Indiana lakes (Fig. 2). Variance in *Gpi* frequencies was apparently more pronounced in the European populations than in the North American but this was largely because of a major gene frequency shift in one German population. Within North America, inland lake populations showed consistently more gene frequency variation than was detected for populations in the Great Lakes.

The results of the Mantel tests (Table 6) showed no significant correlation between geographical and genetic distances (GEO versus ROG). However, a significant correlation was observed between genetic distances and both matrices linked to lake interconnection (LAK and ADJ). These results were similarly suggested by the UPGMA dendrogram (Fig. 1) in which populations from a common geographical area, such as a lake system, generally occurred within the same subcluster.

The MDS analysis (Fig. 3) was in general agreement with the UPGMA dendrogram, as it identified the same two major clusters and subclusters in the dendrogram. Approximately 95 per cent ($R^2 = 0.947$) of the variation was recovered by two dimensions of the MDS analysis. The majority of populations collected from Ontario were clearly segregated from all but two Indiana populations.

Discussion

In the 30 years since its introduction to North America, *B. coregoni* has only spread to inland lakes within approximately 100 km of the Great Lakes whereas other aquatic invaders have shown much more rapid rates of expansion (Woodruff *et al.*, 1985; Havel & Hebert, 1993). Its slow range expansion resembles that seen in the cladoceran *Bythotrephes cederstroemi*, which has also colonized only those inland lakes in proximity to the Great Lakes (Yan *et al.*, 1992). Carter *et al.* (1980) reported that *B. coregoni* occurs only in hard water lakes, which suggests that its spread may have been slowed by habitat requirements.

This study confirmed the close genetic similarity of European and North American populations of *B. coregoni* with an average genetic similarity of 0.87, a value typical of geographically separated populations of a species (Avice, 1975). Populations of *B. coregoni* from the Great Lakes were at least as genetically variable as their European counterparts, a result suggesting that large numbers of founders colonized the Great Lakes. This broad array of alleles may result from the continued influx of migrants into the Great Lakes system via ship ballast water (Lieder, 1991; Mills *et al.*, 1991) because a study of the ballast water biota of ships entering the Great Lakes confirmed that *Bosmina* were the most abundant cladocerans, occurring in densities up to four times that of Lake Ontario maxima (Balcer *et al.*, 1984; EPS, 1981).

The presence of various subsets of North American alleles in different European populations and of unique

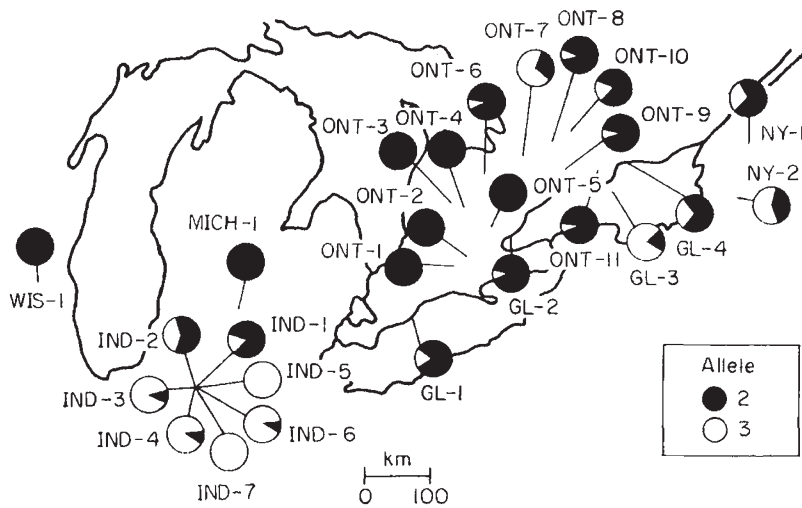


Fig. 2 Variation in allele frequencies of *Aat* in North American populations of *Bosmina coregoni*.

Table 6 Summary of the results of the Mantel tests. GEO, matrix of geographical distance; LAK, matrix of interconnecting lakes within a system; ADJ, matrix of interconnecting adjacent lakes; *N*, size of matrix. GEO, LAK and ADJ were tested with a matrix of Roger's genetic distance (ROG); *Z*, calculated Mantel statistic; *Z*_{exp}, expected values of Mantel statistic; σ^2 , variance of *Z*; *r*, Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient

	<i>N</i>	<i>Z</i>	<i>Z</i> _{exp}	σ^2	<i>r</i>	<i>P</i> value
GEO	26	15898.0	—	—	0.31	0.996
LAK	16	2.8	5.1	0.3	-0.45	0.004*
ADJ	14	0.9	1.4	0.1	-0.19	0.024*

*Indicates a significant association between the matrices ($\alpha = 0.05$).

alleles in North America strongly suggests the multiple origins of founders. Scattered placement of European populations among North American populations in the UPGMA dendrogram also supports the same conclusion. Although large numbers of individuals probably invaded the Great Lakes, fewer individuals might have invaded inland lakes. However, a decline in allelic diversity in inland lake populations was not observed, which suggests that most inland lake populations have also been established by large transfers of individuals. Surprisingly, five alleles present in North American populations were not detected in European populations. Four of these unique alleles might have been introduced into *B. coregoni* through hybridization and introgression with other North American bosminid taxa (DeMelo & Hebert, 1994), as has been reported for *Daphnia* (Taylor & Hebert, 1993). However, as no evidence of *F*₁ hybrids was obtained among bosminid taxa in North America (DeMelo & Hebert, 1994), it

seems probable that the alleles originated in other Eurasian populations of *B. coregoni*.

Founder effects may also be responsible for the pronounced gene frequency divergence observed among populations in North America, in particular, the inland lakes which possessed a mean *F*_{ST} twice that found in either the Great Lakes or European inland lakes. The relatively high *F*_{ST} values among North American inland populations of *B. coregoni* reflected differentiation among populations separated by only a few kilometers, similar to the results of other studies of freshwater invertebrates (Hebert, 1974; Hebert & Payne, 1985; Boileau & Hebert, 1991), which suggests limited dispersal between populations (Hebert, 1987; Weider, 1989). The nature of gene frequency variation among inland populations of *B. coregoni* may suggest a population structure that genetically approximates a stepping-stone model in which migration largely occurs between adjacent habitats. The MDS analysis suggests that migration into these lakes has proceeded from lakes in both the western and eastern regions of the Great Lakes watershed but a more extensive survey is required to decipher further migration paths.

The similarity in levels of genetic variation between European and North American populations of *B. coregoni* is concordant with the results of studies on other introduced species (Table 7). Only two of 12 studies reported a significant loss of genetic variation in introduced populations (Parkin & Cole, 1985; Baker & Mooed, 1987), whereas the remaining studies found less drastic alterations in the genetic variability of invaders, usually characterized by a loss of rare alleles (Taylor & Gorman, 1975; Bryant *et al.*, 1981; Ross, 1983; Janson, 1987; Johnson, 1988; Ross & Trager, 1990; Baker, 1992). In two cases there was evidence that invading populations were more genetically

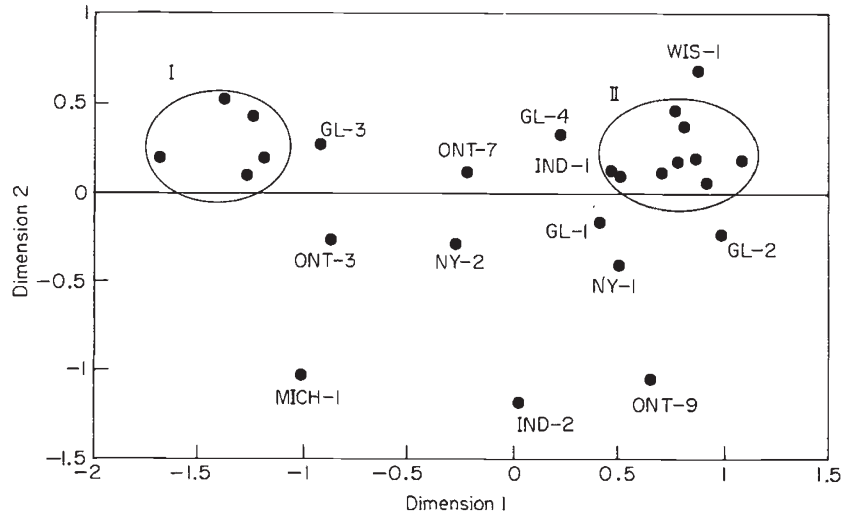


Fig. 3 MDS plot of genetic similarity among populations of *Bosmina coregoni* in North America. $R^2 = 0.947$ for two dimensions. Sample abbreviations are given in Table 1. Group I, IND-3 to IND-7; group II, ONT-1, ONT-2, ONT-4 to ONT-6, ONT-8, ONT-10, ONT-11.

Table 7 Summary of the results of some studies on founder effects in animals. *N*, number of colonists; *T*, number of years since first colonization event (known or estimated date); Site, location of populations; H_e , mean expected heterozygosity; n_a , mean number of alleles per locus

Species	<i>N</i>	<i>T</i>	Native			Introduced			Reference
			Site	H_e	n_a	Site	H_e	n_a	
Invertebrates									
<i>Theba pisana</i> (land snail)	?	90	Various	0.10	1.5	W. Aus.	0.05	1.2	Johnson, 1988
<i>Littorina saxatilis</i> (marine snail)	1 +	?	Mainland	0.16	1.5	Islands	0.14	1.5	Janson, 1987
<i>Dreissena polymorpha</i> (zebra mussel)	?	<10	Europe	0.46	2.6	Great Lakes	0.50	2.8	Boileau & Hebert, 1992
			Great Lakes	0.50	2.8	L. Oneida	0.36	2.7	
<i>Musca autumnalis</i> (face fly)	?	30	Europe	0.05	1.6	USA	0.04	1.5	Bryant <i>et al.</i> , 1981
<i>Solenopsis richteri</i> (fire ant)	?	<100	Argentina	0.03	1.6	USA	0.02	1.2	Ross & Trager, 1990
<i>S. invicta</i> (fire ant)	?	<100	Argentina	0.05	2.0	USA	0.04	1.4	Ross & Trager, 1990
<i>Bosmina coregoni</i> (cladoceran)	?	30	Europe	0.09	1.3	Great Lakes	0.10	1.6	This study
	?	<30	Great Lakes	0.10	1.6	Inland	0.08	1.3	
Vertebrates									
<i>Anolis grahami</i> (lizard)	71	72	Jamaica	0.08	1.8	Bermuda	0.06	1.5	Taylor & Gorman, 1975
<i>Passer domesticus</i> (house sparrow)	40 – 400	?	Europe	0.10	3.0	Aus./NZ	0.09	2.5	Parkin & Cole, 1985
<i>Acridotheres tristis</i> (common myna)	6 – >100	27 – 120	India	0.06	1.6	Various	0.05	1.2	Baker & Mooed, 1987
<i>Fringilla coelebs</i> (chaffinch)	100 – 400	120	Europe	0.05	1.3	NZ	0.07	1.4	Baker, 1992
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> (starling)	700	100 – 120	UK	0.03	1.8	NZ	0.03	1.5	Ross, 1983
<i>Peromyscus leucopus</i> (white-footed mouse)	?	?	Mainland	0.08	1.2	Island	0.07	1.2	Browne, 1977

W. Aus., Western Australia; NZ, New Zealand.

diverse than single reference populations (Browne, 1977; Boileau & Hebert, 1992). It seems probable that the total level of genetic variation is determined by processes operating after colonization rather than by the circumstances of the colonization event itself. For example, a rapid increase in population size following colonization will prevent any decrease in the level of heterozygosity (Nei *et al.*, 1975) and reduce the likelihood of 'genetic revolutions' such as those envisaged by Mayr (1963). A secondary influx of alleles into established colonies often further enriches the genetic diversity of introduced populations. This appears to be the case for Great Lakes invaders, where the continuous infusion of colonists from numerous Eurasian sources may have created a 'melting pot' of genetic variability.

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