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Eco-evolutionary dynamics in the Baltic Sea

Yanos, Casey

DOI:
[10.33612/diss.192995846](https://doi.org/10.33612/diss.192995846)

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Document Version
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Publication date:
2021

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

Yanos, C. (2021). *Eco-evolutionary dynamics in the Baltic Sea: Distribution and impact of threespine stickleback phenotypes in a changing environment*. [Thesis fully internal (DIV), University of Groningen]. University of Groningen. <https://doi.org/10.33612/diss.192995846>

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Propositions relating to the PhD thesis

Eco-Evolutionary Dynamics in the Baltic Sea

Distribution and impact of threespine stickleback phenotypes in a changing
environment

By

Casey L. Yanos

1. Different phenotypes within a population can exhibit divergence in many characteristics and behaviors but searching for why these patterns emerge often leads to more questions than answers.
2. Stickleback phenotypes exhibit spatial separation depending on the composition of the predator community.
3. Intraspecific niche differentiation may contribute to the continued success of stickleback in coastal Baltic Sea habitats.
4. Climate change can modify the effects of mesopredators on lower trophic levels.
5. Behavior of phenotypes can shift when multiple phenotypes occupy the same habitat.
6. Generalizing a pattern of divergence across multiple populations can overshadow the diverse array of mechanisms able to contribute to adaptation.
7. “Two’s company and three’s a crowd.”
- PhD students with three supervisors
8. “People want a simple answer . . . and it’s always wrong.”
- Susan Greenfield
9. “While there is acknowledgement that the lack of diversity in field sciences is a serious issue, there is also a lack of desire to remedy the problem in a sincere and meaningful way.”
- Wendy Smythe