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食果动物与种子传播的生态学研究概述 *

刘 勇 陈 进

(中国科学院西双版纳热带植物园 云南勐腊 666303)

摘要 食果动物与种子传播是植物生殖生态学和动植关系的研究热点。本文介绍了食果动物与种子传播领域中的四个主要假说（逃避假说、占据假说、定向传播假说及捕食满足假说）、动物对种子传播各个阶段（食果动物对种子的选择、种子的搬运、动物的消化对种子萌发的影响、种子的二次传播、种子阴影及幼苗空间分布）的研究进展。并对未来研究提出展望。

关键词 食果动物 种子传播 植物生殖生态学

1 引言

50% – 90% 的热带植物果实适合作为动物的食物，通过动物的取食（或贮食）进行种子的传播^[1]。常见的种子传播者有鸟类^[2]、蝙蝠^[3]、啮齿类^[4]、灵长类^[5]、象^[6]、蚂蚁^[7]甚至食肉动物^[8]等等。鸟类和蝙蝠是热带森林中最重要的种子传播者^[1]。

关于食果动物对种子的传播早在达尔文（1859）的巨著《物种起源》中已有描述^[9]。20世纪70年代，随着食果动物与植物是协同进化关系的假说^[10,11]及 Janzen – Connell 假说^[12,13]的提出，引起了生物学家的关注，该领域渐渐成为生态学和进化学的研究热点^[14]。在国内，王巍等^[15,16]、黄双全等^[17]、张知彬^[18]、王直军等^[19]、陈进等^[20]对该领域作了一些研究。

2 一些重要假说

2. 1 逃避假说 (Escape hypothesis)

该假说首先由 Janzen (1970) 和 Connell (1971) 分别提出，又称 Janzen – Connell 假说^[21]。Janzen (1970) 发现幼苗在母树下的死亡率要比在距母树几米远的幼苗死亡率要高得多^[12]；Connell (1971) 发现 *Planchonella spp.* 幼苗在其它树种下比在同种树下的成活率要更高^[13]。Janzen – Connell 假说认为，幼苗或种子在母树附近的高死亡率是因为专性寄主如种子捕食者、草食动物及病虫害在母树下最多，随着距离的增加而减少或者随种子的密度的减少而减少；而后代的生存机会随母树距离的增加而增加；密度或距离依赖性天敌降低了物种的聚集程度，有利于生态系统的物种多样性^[12,13]。

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Janzen – Connell 假说已成为解释生态系统中物种多样性的重要假说^[14]。但 Janzen – Connell 假说由一系列的假设和前提构成，难以证明^[12, 22]。30年来，一直是研究的热点^[22–32]，结果也各异。直到 Harms 等（2000）发现种子密度与幼苗建成（Seedling Establishment）呈负相关，幼苗能够在其它母树附近出现，使得母树周围的多样性增加^[33]。才完全验证了 Janzen – Connell 假说^[14, 33]。

2. 2 占据假说 (Colonization hypothesis)

此假说首先由 Baker (1974) 提出^[34]。该假说认为，适合种子萌发及幼苗居群建立的生境是不断变化的，母树将种子广泛地传播至那些可能会遇到适合生长的场所，并在土壤种子库中或在林下幼苗库中“等候”，当遇到林窗形成、山体滑坡、火或者其它干扰因素出现后便迅速生长，使得植物能在适合于其生存的新生境中生长并建立新的居群^[30]。占据假说还可以用于解释群落的演替、成熟森林中不断变化的物种丰富度及物种分布以及入侵种的散布等^[21, 28]。

2. 3 定向传播假说 (Directed dispersal hypothesis)

此假说由 Davidson 和 Morton 提出。Davidson 和 Morton (1981) 发现，蚁传植物只有在有蚁堆的地方才会长得好。认为种子传播不是随机的，一些植物可以凭借传播者将种子定向传播到对种子萌发与生存更为适合的地方^[35, 36]。验证该假说最经典的例子来自 Wenny 和 Levey (1998) 对钟铃鸟对耐荫植物 *Ocotea endresian* 种子传播的研究^[37]。

2. 4 种子捕食者满足假说 (Predator satiation hypothesis)

果实大小年很是常见的现象，对此现象解释的假说主要有环境预测假说^[38]，资源竞争假说^[39]等，其中最有影响的是捕食者满足假说^[40]。捕食满足假说认为，植物个体在果实大年时可以较好地更新，而在其它年份则很难。种子捕食者取食了绝大多数的种子，而在大年时提供超出种子捕食者所需的果实力量，使得一部分种子得以逃避种子捕食者而成长为幼苗^[41, 42]。在种子大年时也可能提高种子传播者对母树的拜访及传播种子的可能^[5]。

3 种子传播中各个环节的研究

3. 1 动物对种子的选择

无论何种生境里，动物只选择一部分果实作为自己的食物。这依赖于动物的行为、形态特征和营养需要，可供选择果实的多寡，可获得的时间长短、难易，果实气味、味道、大小、色泽、可实率、营养成分组成等因素的影响^[43]。

果实大小和相应的取食动物大小呈一定的正相关^[44]。Willson 等（1989）认为大于 3cm 的果实适合哺乳动物的传播；小于 2cm 的果实适合鸟类或蝙蝠的传播^[45]。先锋树种的种子较小，适合鸟类的传播；而持久树种的种子较大，适合于哺乳动物的传播^[46]。

鸟类和果实大小的关系研究得很详细。只要果子没有大到一定程度时，鸟类更喜欢取食大果实，但大果实增加了鸟类对果实的处理时间和能量耗费^[47]。

鸟类对颜色敏感，达尔文（1859）发现鸟类取食的果子颜色较为鲜艳，最喜欢取食红色果实^[49]。Ridley（1930）认为鲜艳的颜色有三大作用：吸引种子传播者；显示果实的位置；标志果实的成熟程度^[48]。Willson 和 Melampy（1983）认为带有两种或两种以上的颜色的果实更能吸引传播者^[49]。

果实营养与食果动物的选择上，研究得较多的是果肉中蛋白质、脂肪、糖^[50,51]，果肉与种子重量比^[52]等。Herrera（1982）对地中海地区 62 种依赖鸟类传播植物的研究表明，夏季成熟的果实含水量大，冬季成熟的果实含类脂化合物多，这与鸟类的需要相一致；而鸟类需要较为恒定的蛋白质较均衡^[53]。而 Johnson 等（1985）在北美得出了不同结论：果肉重、水分和类脂化合物也无季节性变化^[50]。果实营养与食果动物的选择尚需进一步研究。

3. 2 动物对种子的搬运

动物对种子的搬运主要集中于种子传播距离的研究上。表 1 罗列了三十年来发表的有关食果动物对种子传播距离的数据。

表 1 常见食果动物对种子的搬运距离

Table 1 Seeds transport distance by frugivores

植物名称 Species	科名 Family	生活型 Growth form	传播者 Disperser	转移距离 (m)		资料出处 References
				Maximum	Mean	
<i>Casearia vorymbosa</i>	天料木科 Samydaceae	Tree	Birds	200		[2]
<i>Cornus controyersa</i>	山茱萸科 Cornaceae	Tree	Birds	42	15.3	[54]
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	壳斗科 Fagaceae	Tree	Birds	4, 000		[50]
<i>Pinus albicaulis</i>	松科 Pinaceae	Tree	Birds	3500	100	[55]
<i>Pinus edulis</i>	松科 Pinaceae	Tree	Birds	22000	14300	[56]
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	蔷薇科 Rosaceae	Tree	Birds	35	7.1	[57]
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	壳斗科 Fagaceae	Tree	Birds	1900	1100	[58]
<i>Viola surinamensis</i>	堇菜科 Violaceae	Tree	Birds	49		[28]
<i>Bursera graveolens</i>	海桐花科 Pittosporaceae	Shrub	Birds	35	7	[59]
<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>	漆树科 Anacardiaceae	Vine	Birds	33		[60]
<i>Vitis vulpine</i>	葡萄科 Vitaceae	Vine	Birds	24		[60]
<i>Piper amalgo</i>	胡椒科 Piperaceae	Shrub	Bats	700	37.8	[3]
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	壳斗科 Fagaceae	Tree	Rodents	13	4.1	[61]
<i>Pinus jeffreyi</i>	松科 Pinaceae	Tree	Rodents	69	20.6	[62]
<i>Acacia suaveolens</i>	豆科 Leguminosae	Tree	Ants	10.8	2.1	[8]
<i>Calathea ovandensis</i>	竹芋科 Marantaceae	Herb	Ants	3.3	1.1	[63]
<i>Viola blanda</i>	堇菜科 Violaceae	Herb	Ants	3.8	1.0	[64]

3. 3 动物的消化对种子萌发的影响

部分研究认为种子经过动物的消化道后有助于萌发。这主要有 3 个原因：1) 消化

起到了分离果肉的作用，而果肉里可能含有抑制萌发物质^[43]；2) 消化道中物理和化学作用对种皮有影响^[43]；3) 消化过程中将一些空瘪种子消化了，使得种子萌发率提高^[65]。也有研究证明消化不总是对种子萌发有利^[66]。还有研究表明，传播者对种子萌发没有太大的影响，动物传播种子的意义更多地在于将种子从母树上移开^[67]。

3. 4 动物对种子的二次传播

种子落到地表后，它可能保持在原地，也可能通过各种方式进入种子库中。很多因素会影响这一过程，如种子本身的大小及形状，非生物因子如坡度、风、降水及水流及土壤结构特点等；生物因子如动物对种子的捕食和种子的二次传播，其它掘土动物动物的间接影响等^[68]。

许多鸟类和啮齿类动物有贮藏种子的习性^[69]。动物对种子的埋藏和分散降低了种子被捕食的概率^[65, 68, 70]。动物对种子的埋藏有利于种子（特别是大种子）的存活与萌发^[65, 71]。尽管被埋藏的种子只有很少一部分能萌芽生长，但对植物来说，吸引贮食动物埋藏种子是一种有效的扩散机制^[68]。

3. 5 种子阴影及幼苗空间分布

来自于同一株母树的种子的空间分布格局称为种子阴影^[72]。种子阴影有以下特征：1) 种子分布密度随距种源距离增加而减少，种子主要集中分布于母树附近，多数呈负指数型分布；2) 由动物传播平均距离大于因重力直接落到地面的种子，常小于风传播的种子；3) 传播的种子密度大多呈点状变化而非连续性的^[72, 73]。有关种子阴影的主要模型有 Gaussian 模型和 Clark's 2Dt 模型等^[72, 74]。

McEvoy (1984) 对幼苗分布提出了四个模型^[75]。Howe (1989) 将幼苗类型划分为分散分布幼苗与聚集分布幼苗，它们的特征见表 2^[44]。

表 2 分散分布幼苗及聚集分布幼苗特征比较表^[44]

Table 2 Main differences between scatter-dispersal and clump-dispersal seedlings

	分散分布幼苗 scatter-dispersal seedlings	聚集分布幼苗 clump-dispersal seedlings
传播者	小或中型鸟，蝙蝠，体重小于 3Kg 的哺乳动物	大于 3Kg 的鸟或哺乳动物
每次传播的种子数量	一个或几个	有时成千上万个
幼苗特征	幼苗密度小，距离或密度反应性死亡，不能抵抗昆虫、草食动物、病菌及幼苗间的竞争，在母树下不能生存，通常在林窗中建群	幼苗密度大，再生能力强，对距离和密度不敏感，能抵抗昆虫、草食动物、病菌幼苗间的竞争，在母树或密林下可以建群
对传播者依赖程度	强	不强
主要树种	先锋树种	持久树种

4 展望

“动物—植物—种子传播”系统对物种的延续、群落的演替及生态系统的结构与功能有着重要影响，开展这方面的研究有其稳定的“生态位”^[76]。目前，该领域的研究主要有两个方向，一是动物与植物关系的进化学上的研究（已有专门论述^[77]）；另外一个方向是生态学的研究。

食果动物与植物种子的传播对植物群落更新^[78]和生物多样性保护等将是该研究领域的热点^[79]。植物 2/3 的基因流动是靠种子传播来完成，生境的片断化和隔离使得种子传播受阻而导致基因流动受阻，相邻种群的基因产生显著的差异^[80]。在食果动物日益减少甚至灭绝的情况下，可能会对植物种子（特别是大种子）的传播产生严重的影响^[44]。在恢复生态学中，人们已经在尝试在空地搭建鸟类的休息场所，用食物来引鸟类，以期恢复植被^[81]。

种子二次传播的研究长期未受到重视^[68]。而动物对种子的埋藏可以将地面上的种子进行再传播和重新分布，对种子阴影的影响很大^[82]。近年来，在热带地区也发现了啮齿类动物对种子的分散埋藏的现象^[83, 84]。

种子的远距离传播可能是另一研究重点。通常的种子传播距离都很短（远小于 100m），使得种子不能到达适合生存和生长的地方（如林窗等），种群增援受到限制（Population Recruitment Limitation）^[85]。

种子的远距离传播 (> 100m) 可以为种群的拓展与进化、侵入种传播、meta 种群动态、全球变化、环境异质性等的研究提供依据^[85]。

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REVIEW OF ECOLOGY STUDIES ON FRUGIVORES AND SEED DISPERSAL

Liu Yong Chen Jin

(Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, CAS, Mengla, Yunnan, 666303)

Abstract Frugivores and seed dispersal was a highlight of plant reproductive ecology and interactions of animal - plants. Four main hypotheses on frugivores and seed dispersal were introduced in this review, including escape hypothesis, colonization hypothesis, directed dispersal hypothesis and predator satiation hypothesis. Special attentions were given to the main achievements in stages of frugivores and seed dispersal, included seed selected and transported by frugivores, the gut and seed germination, secondary dispersal, seed shadow and seedling spatial distribution. The trends of the field were also discussed.

Keywords frugivores, seed dispersal, plant reproductive ecology