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Interpopulation variation in female remating is attributable to female and male effects in Callosobruchus chinensis

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Abstract

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The evolution of female multiple mating is best understood from a consideration of male and female reproductive perspectives. Generally, females should be selected to remate at their optimal frequencies, whereas males should be selected to manipulate female remating to their advantage. Therefore, female remating behavior may be changed by variation in male as well as female traits. In this study, our aim was to separate the effects of female and male strains on female remating in the adzuki bean beetle, Callosobruchus chinensis, which have the interstrain variation in the female remating frequency. We found that the interstrain variation in female remating is primarily attributable to female traits, suggesting genetic variation in female receptivity to remating in C. chinensis. However, some interstrain variation in female remating propensity was attributable to an interaction between female and male strains, with the males of some strains being good at inducing nonreceptivity in females from one high-remating strain, whereas others were good at inducing copulation in nonvirgin females from the high-remating strain. Thus, there is interstrain variation in male ability to deter females from remating and in male ability to mate successfully with nonvirgin females. These results suggest that mating traits have evolved along different trajectories within different strains of C. chinensis.

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- **Key words** polyandry · multiple mating · sexual conflict · sexual selection · genetic
- 39 variation · Callosobruchus chinensis

Introduction

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For females of most animal species, a single mating is indispensable to reproduction, but the fitness advantages of multiple mating are not easily understood. This is because the classic model of sexual selection predicts that, unlike that of males, female reproductive success does not increase monotonically with the number of mates (Bateman 1948). Moreover, superfluous mating may decrease female fitness because mating involves various costs to females (Thornhill and Alcock 1983; Arnqvist and Nilsson 2000). However, females of the majority of animal species do mate multiply (Thornhill and Alcock 1983; Ridley 1988; Birkhead and Møller 1998; Birkhead 2000). Thus, a variety of the benefits to females of remating have been proposed to account for the evolution of female multiple mating (Thornhill and Alcock 1983; Yasui 1998; Arnqvist and Nilsson 2000; Jennions and Petrie 2000; Zeh and Zeh 2003). Many studies have shown that female fitness increases with mating frequency to some extent (Ridley 1988; Arnqvist and Nilsson 2000). Therefore, the relationship between female mating frequency and fitness is often more complex than that predicted in the classic model, and females should be selected to remate at their optimal frequencies (Arnqvist and Nilsson 2000; Arnqvist et al. 2005).

The evolution of female remating behavior cannot be understood only from the perspective of

female benefits because males may manipulate female remating in favor of them (Parker 1979; Holland and Rice 1998; Arnqvist and Rowe 2002, 2005; Chapman et al. 2003; Pizzari and Snook 2003). Under conditions of polyandry, males should benefit through increased fertilization success by inducing nonreceptivity in females after mating, and they also benefit from mating with nonvirgin females via sperm mixing in the spermatheca or displacement of sperm from previous mates. The male manipulation of female remating may coincide with the interests of females. In this case, coevolution of male traits and female traits may be driven by selection on males to manipulate female mating behavior and on females to acquire direct or indirect benefits from preferring the males with manipulative traits (Andersson 1994; Eberhard 1996; Jennions and Petrie 2000; Cordero and Eberhard 2003; Kokko et al. 2003). In contrast, the male manipulation of female remating may conflict with the interests of females. Thus, males may induce females to remate less frequently than the optima of females (Pitnick et al. 2001; Montrose et al. 2004), or they may seduce or coerce females to remate more frequently than the optima of females (Clutton-Block and Parker 1995; Arnqvist 1997; Holland and Rice 1998). It has been suggested that the conflict of interests of a female, her previous mate and her potential future mates results in the evolution of male manipulation of female remating and the evolution of female counteradaptation to prevent the manipulation (Holland and Rice 1998; Rice 1998; Arnqvist and Nilsson 2000; Gavrilets et al. 2001; Arnqvist and Rowe 2002, 2005;

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Chapman et al. 2003; Pizzari and Snook 2003; Härdling and Kaitala 2005). Both type of male-female coevolution will affect the evolution of female remating behavior.

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In the adzuki bean beetle, Callosobruchus chinensis (Coleoptera: Bruchidae), remating reduces female fecundity, suggesting that there is sexual conflict between reluctant females and persistent males over female remating (Harano et al. 2006). This leads us to the prediction that female remating behavior has been subjected to the selection that stems from sexual conflict in C. chinensis. Marked variation in female remating frequency has been found between different strains of C. chinensis (Miyatake and Matsumura 2004; Harano and Miyatake 2005). This implies that there is genetic variation in female remating, as has been shown by using artificial selection in a related species, C. maculatus (Eady et al. 2004). The variation in female remating might be attributable to female genetic traits and/or male genetic traits affecting female remating. The inheritance of female and male traits related to female remating behavior has been studied extensively in Drosophila melanogaster. In this species, artificial selection showed genetic variation in the female traits that control female remating speed (Gromko and Newport 1988; Sgró et al. 1998). Moreover, there is evidence for genetic variation in the ability of first males to deter females from remating (Service and Vossbrink 1996; Sgró et al. 1998). Under the removal of sexual selection through experimentally forced monogamy in D. melanogaster, a naturally promiscuous species, males evolved to have

reduced deterrence of female remating (Pitnick et al. 2001). When females were prevented from evolving and males were allowed to adapt to the female phenotype in an experimental population, the ability of males to increase the rate of female remating evolved within the population (Rice 1996). These findings suggest that genetic variation in female and/or male traits potentially causes the difference in female remating behavior.

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The interstrain variation for female remating frequency in C. chinensis may be a result of the difference in (1) female traits, (2) the ability of the first males to inhibit female remating through their ejaculates and/or the physical effects of copulation or (3) the ability of the second males to promote female remating through their courtship behavior, or (4) a combination of the above. To distinguish these different scenarios, we first determined whether the interstrain variation in female remating behavior is attributable to genetic traits of females, males or both in C. chinensis. Here, we predict that, if the interstrain variation for female remating depends entirely on female traits, then female remating behavior should not be influenced by a difference in the strain of origin of the males that mate with the females, whereas if there is variation in male traits affecting female remating between strains, then female remating behavior should be influenced by the strain of origin of the males. Second, we compared the ability of first males to deter females from remating after copulation and the ability of second males to mate successfully with already mated females between strains of this species.

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Materials and Methods

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Insects and culture

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We used four strains of C. chinensis (see Table 1 for detailed information). We classified the isC and yoC02 as high female remating strains and the jC-S and rdaCmrkt as low female remating strains. The classification was done with the help of existing data on the frequency of female remating of the strains (Harano and Miyatake 2005, T. Harano unpublished). According to the classification, we refer to the isC, yoC02, jC-S and rdaCmrkt as the High-1, High-2, Low-1 and Low-2 strains, respectively. Stock cultures of these strains had been maintained as mass cultures. All beetles used for this study were reared from eggs laid by parents collected randomly from stock cultures of each strain. The parent beetles were allowed to lay up to five eggs per adzuki bean, Vigna angularis in any strain. Virgin adults emerging from these beans were kept in separate-sex groups of up to 10 adults in plastic cups (2.8 cm high, 7 cm in diameter) and given water and adult food (1:2 yeast extract:sugar). At the age of 2-5 days, female and male adults were used for the following experiments. Umeya and Shimizu (1968) have reported that mean longevity of female adults equals to 58 days under the rearing condition, which is similar to this study. Thus, adults were used early in their life for the experiments in this study. All rearing and subsequent experiments were conducted in a chamber maintained at 25°C and 50% relative humidity under a photoperiod cycle of 14:10 light: dark.

Experiment 1: effects of female and male strains on female remating

female and male strains separately on female remating, we created four treatments of mating pairs (High-1 female × High-1 male, High-1 female × Low-1 male, Low-1 female × High-1 male and Low-1 female × Low-1 male).

To confirm female first mating, we placed one virgin female and one virgin male in a glass vial (4.4 cm high, 1.7 cm in diameter), and observed their mating for 1 h. After copulation, the male was removed, and the female was maintained in groups of up to 10 beetles in plastic cups and given water and adult food. Female remating was observed on days 1, 3 and 5 after the first mating. To determine whether the female remates, we placed the female and another virgin male from the same strain as the first mate in a glass vial, and observed them each day either until females had remated once or 1 h had passed. Remated females were not observed

In this experiment, we used the High-1 and Low-1 strains (Table 1). To examine the effects of

further. For each female, we recorded 'remated on day 1', 'remated on day 3', 'remated on day

5' or 'not remated at all' as the score of the tendency of females to remate.

We compared the frequency of female first mating, calculated as the percentage of virgin

females mated with males presented to them, between the treatments. The score of the

tendency of females to remate was ranked in the descending order of 'remated on day 1',

'remated on day 3', 'remated on day 5' and 'not remated at all'. We assessed the level of

female remating as the ranked score, and compared the level of female remating between the

treatments of mating pairs.

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Experiment 2: comparison of the effects of first and second males on female remating between

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We examined variation in the ability of first males to deter females from remating and the

ability of second males to promote female remating in the females from the High-1 strain,

remating of which was influenced by the strains of origin of their mates in the experiment 1

(see Results). The abilities of first and second males were separately compared between four

strains: High-1, High-2, Low-1 and Low-2 (Table 1).

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Effects of first male

A virgin female from the High-1 strain was mated first with a virgin male from any one of four strains; then she was given opportunities to remate with a virgin male from the High-1 strain, and the remating was observed in the same way as the experiment 1. To examine first male deterrence of female remating, we compared the level of female remating between the strains of origin of the males that females mated with first.

Effects of second male

A virgin female from the High-1 strain was mated first with a virgin male from the High-1 strain; then she was given opportunities to remate with a virgin male from any one of four strains, and the remating was observed as described above. To examine the ability of second males to mate successfully with mated females, we compared the level of female remating between the strains of origin of the males that the females were paired with at remating.

Statistical analyses

To compare the frequency of female first mating between the treatments of mating pairs in experiment 1, we applied the G test using Williams's correction (Sokal and Rohlf 1995) and corrected the significance level (α =0.05) by the sequential Bonferroni method (Rice 1989). To test for the effects of female strain and male strain on the level of female remating in the experiment 1, we used a non-parametric two-way ANOVA according to Scheirer-Ray Hare extension of the Kruskal-Wallis test (Sokal and Rohlf 1995). To compare the level of female remating between male strains in experiment 2, one-way Kruskal-Wallis test was carried out using SPSS version 11.0 (SPSS Institute 2001). Pairwise comparisons between the treatments of mating pairs in the experiment 1 and between male strains in the experiment 2 were performed using the non-parametric multiple comparison, Steel-Dwass method (Dwass 1960; Steel 1960) if the non-parametric two-way ANOVA showed a significant interaction between female strain and male strain in the experiment 1 or the Kruskal-Wallis test showed a significant difference in the experiment 2.

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Results

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Experiment 1: effects of female and male strains on female remating

Approximately 70% of virgin females from the High-1 strain and more than 80% of virgin females from the Low-1 strain mated, regardless of the strains of origin of the males that the females were paired with (Table 2). There were no significant differences between male strains in the first mating frequency of the High-1 females (G_{adj} =0.16, P>0.05; Table 2) and in that of the Low-1 females (G_{adj} =5.64, P>0.05; Table 2). The first mating frequency was significantly higher in the Low-1 females than in the High-1 females when the females were paired with the High-1 males (G_{adi} =18.88, P<0.05; Table 2), but it did not differ significantly between female strains when the females were paired with the Low-1 males (G_{adi} =6.05, P>0.05; Table 2). Overall the level of female remating was significantly affected by female strain (df=1, SS=673450.40, H=80.37, P<0.001) and male strain (df=1, SS=110776.27, H=13.22, P<0.001), and there was a significant interaction between female strain and male strain (df=1, SS=103297.40, H=12.33, P<0.001). Therefore, we performed pairwise comparison between the treatments of mating pairs. The High-1 females had significantly higher levels of remating than the Low-1 females when paired with the High-1 males (test statistic=7.78, P<0.01; Table 2), and they also did so when paired with the Low-1 males (test statistic=4.55, P<0.01; Table 2). The effects of male strain on the level of female remating depended on the female strain. Almost none of the Low-1 females remated either when paired with the High-1 males or when paired with the Low-1 males, and the remating level of the Low-1 females did not differ

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significantly between the male strains (test statistic=0.00, P>0.05; Table 2). On the other hand, the remating level of the High-1 females paired with the High-1 males was significantly higher than those paired with the Low-1 males (test statistic=4.60, P<0.01; Table 2).

Experiment 2: comparison of the effects of first and second males on female remating between

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Effects of first male

The cumulative remating frequency of the High-1 females ranged from 42.5 to 61.5% during the 5 days after the first mating among the strains of origin of first males (Table 3). There was a significant difference in the level of the female remating between the strains of first males (H_3 =11.17, P=0.011). The remating level of the females mated first with the Low-1 males was significantly lower than that of females mated first with the High-2 males (test statistic=3.06, P<0.05; Table 3), and it was marginally but not significantly lower than that of females mated first with the High-1 males (test statistics=2.56, critical value at significance level set to 0.05 =2.57; Table 3).

Effects of second male

The cumulative remating frequency of the High-1 females varied more among the strains of origin of second males, ranging from 22.4 to 59.2% during the 5 days after the first mating (Table 4), than among the strains of origin the first males (Table 3). There was a significant difference in the level of the female remating between the strains of second males (H_3 =32.84, P<0.001). The remating level of females given opportunities to remate with the High-1 males was significantly higher than that of females given opportunities to remate with the High-2 (test statistic=2.97, P<0.05; Table 4), Low-1 (test statistic=5.79, P<0.01; Table 4) and Low-2 (test statistic=2.92, P<0.05; Table 4) males, and the remating level was significantly higher in females given opportunities to remate with the High-2 and Low-2 males than in females given opportunities to remate with the Low-1 males (test statistic=2.86, P<0.05 and test statistic=2.81, P<0.05, respectively; Table 4).

Discussion

The difference in the level of female remating between females derived from strains with high and low frequencies of female remating, the High-1 and Low-1 strains, was consistently

significant across the strains of origin of the males that females paired with (Table 2). This indicates that the genetic variation in female remating between strains of *C. chinensis* is primarily attributable to the differences in female receptivity to remating (see also Miyatake and Matsumura 2004; Harano and Miyatake 2005).

The effects of male strain on the level of female remating depended on female strain. Most of

the Low-1 females mated indiscriminately with the first male they encountered and then became nonreceptive, regardless of the male strain (Table 2). On the other hand, the High-1 females showed some receptivity after their first mating (Table 2). The remating levels of the High-1 females were influenced by the strain of origin of the first male (Table 3), suggesting genetic variation in male ability to inhibit female remating through ejaculate or the physical effects of copulation in *C. chinensis*. The remating levels of the High-1 females were also influenced by the strain of origin of the second male (Table 4), suggesting genetic variation in male ability to mate successfully with mated females through courtship behavior in *C. chinensis*.

Studies with population crosses have shown the effects of interaction between male and female genotypes on male induction of female nonreceptivity to remating in some insect species (Andrés and Arnqvist 2001; Brown and Eady 2001; Nilsson et al. 2003). These suggest that female traits may shape the pattern of sexual selection on acting males (Nilsson et al.

2003). The present study also showed significant male-female interaction effects on female remating behavior in C. chinensis, such that the effects of male strain on female remating differed between the strains of origin of females. In the C. chinensis populations with high levels of female remating, the variation in male traits influences the level of female remating, in other words, whether a female remates (Table 2). Therefore, males that have superior ability to deter females from remating after copulation or to mate successfully with already mated females can achieve higher reproductive success in the high-remating populations. In the populations with low levels of female remating, in contrast, male traits do not influence whether a female remate (Table 2). Therefore, sexual selection on the male traits affecting female remating may be strong in the high-remating populations, whereas such selection may be weak or absent in the low-remating populations. The remating level of females derived from the High-1 strain mated first with males from one low-remating population, the Low-1 strain, was lower than that of females mated first with males from two high-remating populations, the High-2 and High-1 strains, although the difference with the latter strain was statistically marginal (Table 3). However, the remating level of females mated first with males from the other low-remating population, the Low-2 strain, do not differ from that of females mated first with males from the High-1 and High-2 strains (Table 3). This result indicates that the males only from the Low-1 strain exert superior

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ability to deter females from remating than the males from the High-1 and High-2 strains do. This is not consistent with the hypothesis that differences in sexual selection generate the variation in the ability of first males to inhibit female remating between populations. On the other hand, the level of female remating was highest when females were given opportunities to remate with the males from the High-1 strain, intermediate when offered the opportunity to remate with the males from the High-2 and Low-2 strains and lowest with males from the Low-1 strain (Table 4). This result indicates that the ability of second males to mate successfully with mated females is most superior in males from one high-remating population and worst in males from one low-remating population, although this pattern was not entirely consistent across high- and low-remating populations. Further study using more numerous populations is needed to confirm the hypothesis that differences in sexual selection generate the variation in the male ability between populations because we used a small number of populations in the present study. Another possible explanation for the interstrain variation in male traits affecting female remating behavior is differences between strains in rearing periods in the laboratory, Rearing condition may generate selection on some traits of beetles. If the male traits affecting female remating are genetically correlated with any other traits, then they may have changed as a result of inadvertent selection acting on the correlated traits, such as body size or courtship

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activity, under the rearing for successive generations (Miyatake 1998). Among strains of C. chinensis used for the present study, males of the Low-1 strain, which has been maintained in the laboratory for more than 60 years (Table 1), have a larger body size and a lower courtship activity (unpublished). In a seed beetle, Stator limbatus, the body size of the first male influences female remating, such that females mated first with larger males were less likely to remate (Savalli and Fox 1998). In C. chinensis, larger body size in males from the Low-1 strain may account for the males being good at inducing nonreceptivity in females (Table 3). Male body size may also influence mating success with reluctant females (Day and Gilburn 1997; Crean and Gilburn 1998; Ortigosa and Rowe 2002; Shuker and Day 2002; Maklakov et al. 2003). In Drosophila melanogaster, larger males court more often than smaller males, and females remate more rapidly when courted by larger males (Pitnick 1991; Friberg and Arnqvist 2003). The interstrain variation in the male traits affecting female remating might be generated as a result of selection acting on male body size and/or courtship activity in C. chinensis. Moreover, it is also possible that a random genetic drift occurs under the rearing condition. The genetic drift might have influenced male traits affecting female remating in C. chinensis. Males and females typically maximize their reproductive success in different ways (Arnqvist and Rowe 2005). Females should generally be selected to remate at their optimal frequencies (Arnqvist and Nilsson 2000; Arnqvist et al. 2005), whereas males should generally be selected

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to manipulate female remating to their advantage (Parker 1979; Holland and Rice 1998; Arnqvist and Rowe 2002, 2005; Chapman et al. 2003; Pizzari and Snook 2003). As an evolutionary consequence of this, female remating behavior may be affected not only by female traits but also by male traits: male abilities to inhibit female remating and to mate successfully with females already mated to other males. The strains of C. chinensis used in this study have diverged in female receptivity to remating and the male abilities to manipulate female remating behavior. This suggests that the female and male traits have evolved along different evolutionary trajectories between strains of C. chinensis. Coevolution of female traits and male traits affecting female remating would either be driven by selection on individuals of both sexes to acquire benefits from an interaction with each other (Andersson 1994; Eberhard 1996; Jennions and Petrie 2000; Cordero and Eberhard 2003; Kokko et al. 2003) or by sexually antagonistic selection that stems from conflict between the interests of the two sexes (Holland and Rice 1998; Arnqvist and Nilsson 2000; Gavrilets et al. 2001; Arnqvist and Rowe 2002, 2005; Chapman et al. 2003; Pizzari and Snook 2003). The latter selection mechanism is more likely in the evolution of female traits of resistance to remating and male traits of persistence in mating in C. chinensis because remating reduces female fecundity, suggesting that there is sexual conflict over female remating in this species (Harano et al. 2006).

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Table 1. The rearing history and female remating frequency of each strain of *Callosobruchus* chinensis used in this study.

	Collection		Number of	% Female
Strain	year	Locality of population	founder adults	remating *
High-1 (isC)	1997	Ishigaki, Okinawa, Japan	More than 200	38.4 **
High-2 (yoC02)	2002	Yoshii, Okayama, Japan	26	32.7 **
Low-1 (jC-S)	1936	Kyoto, Kyoto, Japan	No information	8.8 **
Low-2 (rdaCmrkt)	1998	Rajshahi, Bangladesh	More than 50	7.5 ***

Reference to each strain: isC to Yanagi and Miyatake (2003); yoC02 to Harano and Miyatake (2005); jC-S to Utida (1941a, b); rdaCmrkt to Toquenaga Y. (personal communication).

*The data represents the cumulative frequency of female remating for 5 day after first mating.

The data from Harano and Miyatake (2005). * The data from T. Harano (Unpublished); it was examined followed by the method of Harano and Miyatake (2005).

Table 2. Frequency of female first mating, cumulative frequency of female remating after first mating and the level of female remating in each mating pair.

				Remating				
					% Fema	le remat	ing	Rank of the level of
Mating pair		First	mating		Days aft	ter first i	nating	female remating
φ	3	n	%	n	1	3	5	Mean ± SE
High-1	High-1	149	70.5 ^a	103	31.1	49.5	56.3	284.3 ± 10.69 ^a
High-1	Low-1	187	68.4 ^a	125	12.8	20.0	27.2	220.5 ± 8.46 ^b
Low-1	High-1	109	91.7 ^b	100	4.0	4.0	4.0	172.9 ± 4.64 °
Low-1	Low-1	121	81.0 ab	98	2.0	2.0	4.1	171.8 ± 4.14 °

The frequency of female first mating was compared by the G-test using Williams's correction (Sokal and Rohlf 1995); the significance level was corrected by the sequential Bonferroni method (Rice 1989). The level of female remating (see Materials and Methods) was compared by Steel-Dwass method (Dwass 1960; Steel 1960). The different letters indicate significant difference between mating pairs at P<0.05.

Table 3. Cumulative remating frequency of the High-1 females after the first mating and the level of female remating in females that were mated first with males from each strain. Females received opportunities to remate with the High-1 males.

		% Female remating			Rank of the level of female
Strain of		Days after first mating			remating
first males	n	1	3	5	Mean ± SE
High-1	125	32.0	49.6	59.2	257.3 ± 11.64 ab*
High-2	109	38.5	53.2	61.5	268.6 ± 12.79 ^a
Low-1	146	24.0	35.6	42.5	217.2 ± 10.64 b*
Low-2	113	33.6	47.8	54.9	251.3 ± 12.64 ab

The different letters indicate significant difference in the level of female remating (see Materials and Methods) between male strains at P<0.05 by Steel-Dwass method (Dwass 1960; Steel 1960). *The difference in the remating level between the females mated first with the Low-1 males and with the High-1 males was statistically marginal (test statistics=2.56, critical value at significance level set to 0.05 = 2.57).

Table 4. Cumulative remating frequency of the High-1 females after the first mating and the level of female remating in females that were paired with males from each strain at remating. The females were mated first with the High-1 males.

		% Female	remating		Rank of the level of
Strain of		Days after	first matin	g	female remating
second males	n	1	3	5	Mean ± SE
High-1	125	32.0	49.6	59.2	326.9 ± 12.33 ^a
High-2	133	24.8	30.8	38.3	273.2 ± 11.96 ^b
Low-1	107	15.9	18.7	22.4	229.3 ± 9.99 °
Low-2	153	27.5	32.0	37.3	273.9 ± 11.41 ^b

The same letters indicate no significant difference in the level of female remating (see Materials and Methods) between male strains at P<0.05 by Steel-Dwass method (Dwass 1960; Steel 1960).