



Maternal Effects in Mammals

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Evolutionary maternal effects occur whenever a mother's phenotypic traits directly affect her offspring's phenotype, independent of the offspring's genotype. Some of the phenotypic traits that result in maternal effects have a genetic basis, whereas others are environmentally determined. For example, the size of a litter produced by a mammalian mother—a trait with a strong genetic basis—can affect the growth rate of her offspring, while a mother's dominance rank—an environmentally determined trait—can affect the dominance rank of her offspring.

The first volume published on the subject in more than a decade, *Maternal Effects in Mammals* reflects advances in genomic, ecological, and behavioral research, as well new understandings of the evolutionary interplay between mothers and their offspring. Dario Maestriperi and Jill M. Mateo bring together a learned group of contributors to synthesize the vast literature on a range of species, highlight evolutionary processes that were previously overlooked, and propose new avenues of research. *Maternal Effects in Mammals* will serve as the most comprehensive compendium on and stimulus for interdisciplinary treatments of mammalian maternal effects.

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