

SOCIAL SELECTION AND BAT MATING SYSTEMS

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Papers in this special feature were presented at a symposium on social structure and mating systems in bats, convened at the 15th International Bat Research Conference in August 2007, in Mérida, Yucatán, México. The objective of this symposium was to bring together knowledge from different perspectives in behavioral ecology, to obtain new insights about social selection, sexual selection, and mating systems of bats. The 8 papers in this special feature cover a variety of types of biological information, including behaviors performed by males in harem colonies of *Artibeus jamaicensis*; review of the variation in mating systems of

harem-forming bats; description of the mating system of the tent-making bat *Artibeus watsoni*; the relationship between roost-making behavior, social system, and mating strategy in white-throated round-eared bats (*Lophostoma silvicolum*); explanation of the lek-like mating system of the buffy flower bat (*Erophylla sezekorni*); review of the sociality of bats from the perspective of males; use of songs, scents, and senses during mate choice and competition for mates in greater sac-eared bats (*Saccopteryx bilineata*); and description of patterns of female dispersal and genetic structure in big brown bats (*Eptesicus fuscus*).

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