

FIGURE 20.25. Sexual selection in a monogamous bird, the arctic skua (Stercorarius parasiticus). This is found in three forms—dark, intermediate, and pale—determined by two alleles at a single locus. The dark form (A, top) breeds earlier than the intermediate, which in turn breeds earlier than the pale (A, bottom). (B) Because earlier breeders have higher net fitness than late breeders, this gives the dark form a selective advantage—even though all birds pair up and mate. As a result, the dark form is spreading.

20.25B, redrawn from O'Donald P. et al., Heredity 33: 1-16, © 1974 Macmillan, www.nature.com

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