



**FIGURE 21.21.** Figs and fig wasps are closely interdependent: Figs are pollinated by fig wasps, and wasps grow up and mate within the enclosed inflorescence of the fig. The wasp life cycle begins when a fertilized female wasp (*B*, top) enters through a narrow tunnel; this closes after one or a few foundress females have entered. The female wasps pollinate the female flowers of the fig, but also lay eggs in some fig ovaries (blue). The wasp larvae induce specialized galls (black). Wingless male wasps (*B*, bottom) emerge first and extend their genitalia to fertilize females while they are still inside their galls. The male wasps then bite holes in the fig that allow the winged females to disperse, taking with them both sperm from the wasp males and pollen from the male flowers of the fig (blue). The figs themselves are eaten by birds, which disperse the seeds (yellow).

21.21A,B, redrawn from Cook J.M. et al., *Trends Ecol. Evol.* **18**: 243, © 2003 Elsevier