



FIGURE 21.34. The yucca (Yucca filamentosa) is pollinated solely by the moth Tegeticula yuccasella (A). Moth larvae grow inside the inflorescence and eat some of the seeds. Host plants limit seed loss by aborting flowers in which too many eggs are laid (B): This imposes selection on the moths to limit the egg load. In addition, plants are less likely to abort flowers that receive more pollen from the moths.

21.34B, redrawn from Pellmyr O. et al., Nature 372: 257–260, © 1994 Macmillan, www.nature.com

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