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Ernst Mair is perhaps the most outstanding biologist of the twentieth century, and *Systematics and the origin of the species* may be one of his greatest and most influential books. This classic study, first published in 1942, helped revolutionize evolutionary biology by proposing a new approach to taxonomic principles and correlated the ideas and conclusions of modern systematics with those of other life sciences. This book is one of the fundamental documents of Evolutionary Synthesis. This is the book in which Mair for the first time his new concept of species based mainly on biological factors such as interbreeding and reproductive isolation, taking into account ecology, geography and life history. In his new introduction for This Edition, Mair reflects on the place of this enduring work in the subsequent history of his field. German-American evolutionary biologist For another man of the same name, see Ernst Mair (computer scientist). For people with similar names, see Ernst Mayer, Ernst Meyer, Ernest Mayer and Ernest May Ernst MayrForMemRSMayr in 1994BornErnst Walter Mayr(1904-07-05)July 5, 1904Kempten, Bavaria, GermanyDiedFebruary 3, 2005(2005-02-03) (aged 100)Bedford, Massachusetts, United StatesNationalityGerman/AmericanAlma materUniversity of GreifswaldHumboldt University of BerlinAwards Leidy Award (1946) Darwin-Wallace Medal (Silver, 1958) Daniel Giraud Elliot Medal (1967) National Medal of Science (1969) Linnean Medal (1977) Balzan Prize (1983) Darwin Medal (1984) ForMemRS (1988)[1] International Prize for Biology (1994) Crafoord Prize (1999) Scientific careerFieldsSystematics, evolutionary biology, ornithology, philosophy of biology Ernst Walter Mayr ForMemRS (/ˈmaɪr/; 5 July 1904 – 3 February 2005)[1][2] was one of the 20th century's leading evolutionary biologists. He was also a well-known taxonomist, tropical explorer, ornithologist, biology philosopher and science historian. His work contributed to the conceptual revolution that led to the modern evolutionary synthesis of Mendelian genetics, systematism and Darwinian evolution, as well as to the development of the concept of species. Although Charles Darwin and others have speculated that several species may evolve from one common ancestor, the mechanism by which this occurred was not understood, creating a problem of species. Ernst Mair approached the problem with the new definition of species. In his book *Systematics and the Origin of Species* (1942), he wrote that the species is not just a group of morphologically similar individuals, but a group that can only reproduce among themselves, excluding all others. When populations within a species become isolated by geography, feeding strategies, partner choice or other means, they may begin to differ from other populations by genetic drift and natural selection, and may evolve over time into new species. Most and rapid genetic reorganization occurs in extremely small populations that have been isolated (as on islands). His theory of peripatry species formation (a more accurate form of the allopatric species he put forward) based on his work on birds is still considered to be the leading method of species formation and is the theoretical basis of the punctual equilibrium theory proposed by Neil Eldredge and Stephen Jay Gould. Mair is sometimes credited with inventing the modern philosophy of biology, in particular the part related to evolutionary biology, which he distinguished from physics because of its introduction of (natural) history into science. The biography of *The Bust of Myra* at the Berlin Museum of Natural History, Mair, was the second son of Helen Puzinelli and Dr. Otto Mair. His father was a lawyer (the district attorney in Wurzburg), but became interested in natural history and took the children on excursions. All the local birds he learned in Wurzburg from his older brother Otto. He also had access to a natural history magazine for amateurs, *Cosmos*. His father died shortly before the age of thirteen. The family then moved to Dresden, where he studied at Staatsgymnasium (Royal Gymnasium until 1918) in Dresden-Neustadt and graduated there with his higher education. In April 1922, while still in high school, he joined the newly founded Association of Ornithologists of Saxony. Here he met Rudolf Zimmermann, who became his ornithological mentor. In February 1923, Mair passed the exam in high school (Abitur), and his mother awarded him binoculars. On March 23, 1923, on the lakes of Moritzburg, Fraunteich, he noticed what he identified as a red-hot pochard. The view has not been seen in Saxony since 1845 and the local club has been arguing about the identity. Raimund Shelcher (1891-1979) from the club invited Mair to visit his classmate Erwin Strezemanna on the way to Greifswald, where Mair was to begin his medical training. After a tough interrogation, Strezemann accepted and published the sight as genuine. Strezemann was very impressed and suggested that between semesters Mayr could work as a volunteer in the ornithological section of the museum. Mair wrote of the event: It's like someone gave me the key to heaven. He enrolled at Greifswald University in 1923 and, according to Mayr himself, took a medical program (to satisfy the family tradition), but a year later decided to leave medicine and entered the Faculty of Biological Sciences. Mayr was endlessly interested in ornithology and chose Greifswald in the Baltic to study for no other reason other than this... it was located in the ornithologically most interesting area. Although he allegedly planned to become a doctor, he was primarily an ornithologist. During the first semester, Strezemann gave him to identify treecreepers and Mair was able to identify most of the samples correctly. Strezemann said Mair was a natural-born systematist. In 1925, Strezemann suggested that he give up medical research, in fact he had to leave the Faculty of Medicine and enroll in the Faculty of Biology, and then join the Berlin Museum with the prospect of bird collecting trips to the tropics, provided that he completed his doctorate at 16 months. On June 24, 1926, at the age of 21, Mair received his doctorate in ornithology from the University of Berlin under the direction of Dr. Carl Tsimmer, who was a professor (Professor Oforentlicher). On July 1, he accepted his proposed position at the museum for a monthly salary of 330.54 Reichsmark. At the International zoological congress in Budapest in 1927, Mair was introduced to the Strange Banker and Naturalist Walter Rothschild, who asked him to make an expedition to New Guinea on behalf of himself and the American Museum of Natural History in New York. In New Guinea, Mair collected several thousand bird skins (he named 26 new bird species during his lifetime) and in the process also named 38 new species of orchids. During his stay in New Guinea, he was invited to accompany Whitney's expedition in the southern seas of the Solomon Islands. In addition, while in New Guinea, he visited Lutheran missionaries Otto Thiele and Christian Keiser in the Finshaven area; there, while in conversation with his masters, he discovered discrepancies in Herman Detzner's popular book *Four Years among the cannibals in German Guinea* from 1914 to the armistice, in which Detzner claimed to have seen the interior, discovered several species of flora and fauna, staying just one step ahead of the Australian patrols sent to capture it. He returned to Germany in 1930, and in 1931 he took a curatorial position at the American Museum of Natural History, where he was instrumental in mediating and acquiring Walter Rothschild's collection of bird skins, which was sold to pay off the blackmailer. During his work at the museum he produced numerous publications on the taxonom of birds, and in 1942 his first book *Systematics and the Origin of Species*, which completed the evolutionary synthesis begun by Darwin. After Mair was appointed to the American Museum of Natural History, he influenced American ornithological research by mentoring young ornithologists. Mayr was surprised by the differences between American and German poultry societies. He noted that German society is much more scientific, much more interested in the history of life and breeding of bird species, as well as in reports on recent literature. Mair organized a monthly seminar sponsored by the Linnaeus Society of New York. Influenced by J.A. Allen, Frank Chapman and Jonathan Dwight, the society focused on taxonom, focal point for bird bands and sight records. Mair encouraged the Linnaeus Society to take up their own research project. Influenced by Myra, one of them, Joseph Hickey, wrote *The BirdWatchman's Guide* (1943). Hickey recalled later: Mayr was our age and invited to all our excursions. Heckling this German alien was huge, but he gave a tit for a tooth, and any modern picture of Dr. E. Mair as a very formal person did not square with my memory of the 1930s. He held his own. A group of eight young ornithologists from the Bronx later became the Bronx County Bird Club, led by Ludlow Griscom. Everyone should have a problem was the way one Bronx County Bird Club member recalled Mair's refrain. Mair said of his involvement with local ornithologists: In those early years in New York, when I was a stranger in a big city, it was the communication and later friendship that I was offered in the Linnaeus Society, which was the most important thing in my life. Mayr also had a great influence on the American ornithologist Margaret Morse Nice. Mair encouraged her to

correspond with European ornithologists and helped her in her landmark study of song sparrows. Nice wrote to Joseph Grinnell in 1932, trying to obtain the foreign literature considered in the Condor: Too many American ornithologists despised the study of live birds; journals and books that deal with the subject are rife with reckless statements, anthropomorphic interpretations, repetition of ancient errors, and sweeping conclusions from a pathetic array of facts. ... in Europe, the study of live birds is taken seriously. We could learn a lot from their writing. Mair assured that Nice can publish his two-volume research into the history of sparrow life. He found it as a publisher, and her book was reviewed by Aldo Leopold, Joseph Grinnell and Gene Delacourt. Nice dedicated her book to my friend Ernst Mair. Mayr entered the Faculty of Harvard University in 1953, where he also served as Director of the Museum of Comparative zoology from 1961 to 1970. He retired in 1975 as an emeritus professor of zoology, showered with distinction. Since his retirement, he has published more than 200 articles in various journals - more than some reputable scholars have published in his entire career; Fourteen of his 25 books were published after he was 65. Even as a centenarian, he continued to write books. On his 100th birthday, he gave an interview to Scientific American magazine. Mair died on February 3, 2005, at his nursing home in Bedford, Massachusetts, after a short illness. His wife Margaret died in 1990. He is survived by two daughters, five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. The awards that Mair received include the National Medal of Science, the Balzan Prize, the Sarton Medal of History Society, the International Biology Prize, the Loye and Alden Miller Prize, and the Lewis Thomas Prize for Writing about Science. In 1939 he was elected a member of the Royal Union of Ornithologists of Australia. In 1946, he was awarded the Lady Award from the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences. In 1958 he was awarded the prestigious Lawnea Medal of the London Darwin-Wallace Society, and in 1983 he was awarded the first medal of the Linnaeus Society of New York. For his work Animal Species and Evolution in 1967, he was awarded the Daniel Giro Elliott Medal of the National Academy of Sciences. Mair was elected a foreign member of the Royal Society (ForMemRS) in 1988. In 1995, he received the Benjamin Franklin Medal for Excellence in The Sciences of the American Philosophical Society. Mair never won a Nobel Prize, but he noted that there was no prize for evolutionary biology and that Darwin would not have received it. (Actually, there is no Nobel Prize in Biology.) Mair won the 1999 Krafurd Prize. It honors fundamental research in areas that are not eligible for the Nobel Prize and is run by the same organization as the Nobel Prize. In 2001, Mair received the American Academy of Achievement's Golden Plate Award. Mair co-authored six global reviews of new bird species for science (listed below). Mair said he was an atheist about the idea of a personal God because there is nothing that supports ideas as a traditionally trained biologist, Mayr was often critical of early mathematical approaches to evolution, such as U.B.S. Haldane, and famously referred to such approaches as beanbag genetics in 1959. He believed that factors such as reproductive isolation should be taken into account. Similarly, Mair was also highly critical of molecular evolutionary studies, such as Carl Woese's research. Current molecular studies in the field of evolution and species formation show that while all-patriotic ingestion is the norm, there are numerous cases of sympatric species formation in groups with greater mobility, such as birds. The exact mechanisms of sympatric species, however, are usually a form of microallopatria, included by differences in niche occupancy among individuals in the population. In many of his writings, Mair has rejected demism in evolutionary biology, arguing that evolutionary pressure affects the entire body rather than individual genes, and that genes may have different effects depending on other genes present. He advocated the study of the entire genome, not just isolated genes. After formulating the concept of species in 1942, Mair played a central role in discussing the problem of species over what is the best concept of species. He strongly defended the concept of species from the many definitions of species that Mair was an outspoken advocate of the scientific method and is known to sharply criticize science on the edge. As a notable example, in 1995, he criticized the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) conducted by fellow Harvard professor Paul Horowitz as a waste of university and student resources for his inability to answer and answer a scientific question. More than 60 eminent scientists led by Carl Sagan have denied the criticism. Mair rejected the idea of a genetically oriented view of evolution and sharply but politely criticized Richard Dawkins's ideas: the funniest thing is if in England you ask a man on the street who is Darwin's greatest living, he will tell Richard Dawkins. Indeed, Dawkins did a wonderful job of popularizing Darwinism. But Dawkins' basic theory that the gene is the object of evolution is not Darwinian at all. I wouldn't call it the greatest Darwinian.- Ernst Mair, Edge, Mair insisted that the entire genome should be seen as a target of selection, not as separate genes: the idea that several people say that the gene is the object of selection is completely impractical; the gene is never visible to natural selection, and in the genotype it is always in context with other genes, and interaction with other genes makes a particular gene more favorable or less favorable. In fact, Dobzhansky, for example, worked very little on the so-called deadly chromosomes, which are very successful in one combination, and deadly in another. So people like Dawkins in England who still think the gene is the purpose of selection are obviously wrong. In the 30s and 40s it was widely accepted that genes were the purpose of selection because it was the only way to make them available to mathematics, but now we know that it is really the entire genotype of the individual, not the gene. With the exception of this small revision, Darwin's basic theory has not changed in the last 50 years.- Ernst Mair, The edge of the current-recognized d'Mail named in his honor Bismarck black myzomela (Myzomela psammelaena ernstmayri) Meise, 192920 - bird subspecies, honeyeater, Meliphagidae family, is limited to several small islands west of the Admiralty Islands, in the western ocean, north of New Guinea. The Mayr Forest Railway (Rallacula mayri) (Hartert, 1930) is a bird species inhabited in New Guinea. Mayr Honey (Ptilopora mayri) Hartert, 1930 - a bird species inhabited in New Guinea. Mayr in South Africa (Aerodramus orientalis) (Mayr, 1935) - a species of bird found in New Ireland and Guadalcanal. The water rat Ernstmayri Ryommler, 1932 is a species of rodents from the Murida family, from the Foja Mountains of Papua Province, Indonesia and Central Cordillera, the Adelbert Ridge and the Huon Peninsula of Papua New Guinea. roundworm - Poikilolamus Sudhaus and Koch, 2004 - a new species of nematode, the Rabbiditida family associated with the termites of the genus Reticulitermes, in Corsica. New Ireland Rail (Gallirallus ernstmayri) † (Kirchman and Steadman, 2006) - a relatively large, probably unsteady, extinct railway, the Rallidae family, known from subfossil remains found at prehistoric archaeological sites, in caves on New Ireland, in the Bismarck Archipelago, Western Oceania. Star Mountains, Toxicocalamus ernstmayri O'Shea, Parker and Kaiser, 2015 - 1.2m, a rare and secretive, venomous snake from the Elapida family, which is believed to be feeding exclusively on earthworms, especially the giant Megascocleidae earthworms. Etymology states: The name of the ernstmayri species is a patron in honor of the German-American ornithologist, systematicist and evolutionary thinker Ernst Mayr (1904-2005). There are several connections linking Ernst Myr with this new species of toxicocalamus that make him, and this snake, the perfect candidate for patronage. First, Mair himself visited New Guinea, and in the late 1920s he spent more than 2 years fielding in the area now part of PNG, as a member of the rothschild-AMNH joint expedition focusing on paradise birds (Aves, Passeriformes, Paradisaieidae), during which he collected many new species of birds and orchids. Secondly, the holotype T. ernstmayri was placed in the MC collection, incorrectly labeled as Micropechis ikaheka, after it arrived and was joining in June 1975, the month and year that Mair resigned. Thirdly, the true identity of this specimen was recognized by one of us (MOS) during a visit to the ICP in May 2014, undertaken with the financial support of Ernst Myra Travel Grant of Harvard University, awarded for examination of toxicocalamus holdings at the ICG and AMNH, two American institutions where Myr worked. Finally, 2015, the year this description was published, marks the anniversary of Myra's death at the age of 100, and the name of the Snake of New Guinea in his honor seems a fitting tribute. Killer Bug - Bagauda ernstmayri Kulkarni and Ghate, 2016 - is a kind of cavernicolous, filamentous bug killer, known only from Satara, in the Western Ghat state of Maharashtra, India. genus pseudoscorpions - Ernstmayria Curcic et al., 2006 species spider - Cebrennus mayri J'ger, 2000 species damselfly - Palaiargia ernstmayri Liefinck, 1972 Species of Avian Lice - Anaticola ernstmayri Eichler, 1954 Kind of Earwigs - Irdex ernstmayri Gunther, 1930 Summary of Darwin Darwin's theory of evolution is based on key facts and conclusions taken from them, which Mair summarized as follows: Every species is fertile enough that if all descendants survived to reproduce, the population will grow (fact). Despite periodic fluctuations, populations remain about the same size (fact), for example, food is limited and relatively stable over time (fact). The struggle for survival ensues (conclusion). Individuals in the population are significantly different from each other (fact). Most of the variation is at the ready (fact). People who are less environmentally friendly are less likely to survive and are less likely to reproduce; people who are more environmentally friendly are more likely to survive and are more likely to reproduce and leave their tax traits to future generations, leading to a natural selection process (fact). This slow-moving process causes populations to change to adapt to their environment, and ultimately these changes accumulate over time to form new species (withdrawal). In connection with the publication of the Origins of Species by Darwin, Mair defined the philosophical implications of evolution: The developing world, not the static world. The implausibility of creationism. Refuting that the universe has a purpose. Victory over excuses for a human-oriented world. Materialistic processes explain the impression of design. The population of thinking replaces substance. The bibliography of the Book of Myr, Ernst (1942). 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