



Avery Laing

Year: Senior

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Temperature affects male sexual harassment rates in two populations of Western mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*)

Over the past year I have been participating in research on western mosquitofish reproductive behavior with my graduate student mentor Doriane Weiler. Our study explores the short-term as well as long-term evolutionary effects of temperature on mating behavior using two different populations of the male Western mosquitofish, *Gambusia affinis*, as our study system. We compare male harassment rates, defined as male copulation attempts, between two populations with different average local temperatures (18.8°C and 33.3°C) across five different test temperatures. Conducting this research was the highlight of my academic undergraduate experience and I could not be more grateful for everyone that gave me this opportunity.