Phylogenetic patterns of reproductive isolation in *Eucalyptus*

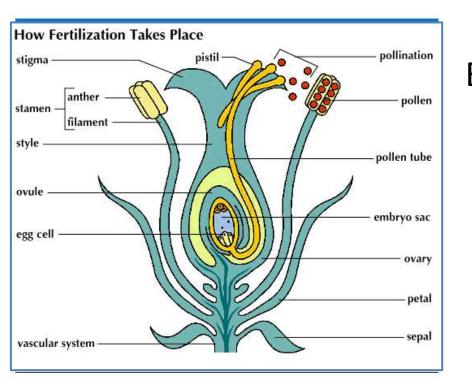
Matthew Larcombe, **Dorothy Steane**, Rebecca Jones, Dean Nicolle, Barbara Holland, René Vaillancourt, Brad Potts





Modes of Reproductive Isolation

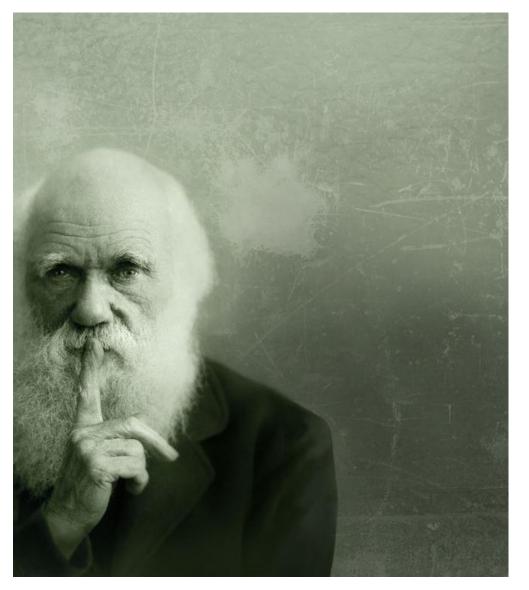
- 1. Pre-mating (e.g., species don't fancy each other to begin with; species are geographically isolated)
- 2. Post-mating
 - A. Pre-zygotic → Embryo does not form (e.g., pollen tube does not reach ovum)



B. Post-zygotic

i. Pre-dispersal
(e.g., embryo aborts; no seed forms)
ii. Post-dispersal (e.g., seedlings do not survive)

What causes speciation? Darwin sorted that out didn't he?



ON THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES BY MEANS OF NATURAL SELECTION,

OR THE

PRESERVATION OF FAVOURED RACES IN THE STRUGGLE FOR LIFE.

By CHARLES DARWIN, M.A.,

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL, GEOLOGICAL, LINNÆAN, ETC., SOCIETIES; AUTHOR OF 'JOURNAL OF RESEARCHES DURING H. M. S. BEAGLE'S VOYAGE ROUND THE WORLD.'

LONDON: JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET. 1859.

The right of Translation is reserved.

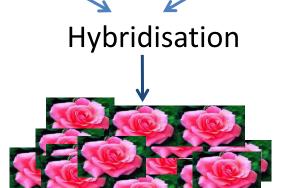
Incomplete speciation can result in hybridisation => homogenisation





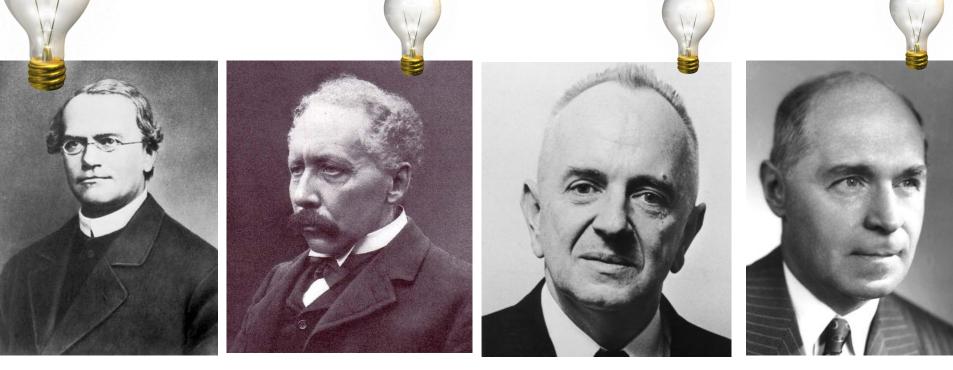


Divergence



So, how do species become reproductively isolated?

The missing piece of the puzzle was an understanding of genes and heritability



Dobzhansky 1937

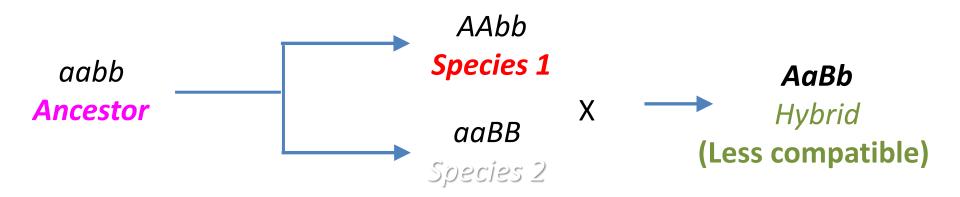
Muller 1942

Bateson 1909

Mendel 1865

Reproductive isolation is a by-product of genetic incompatibility that arises via selection and drift

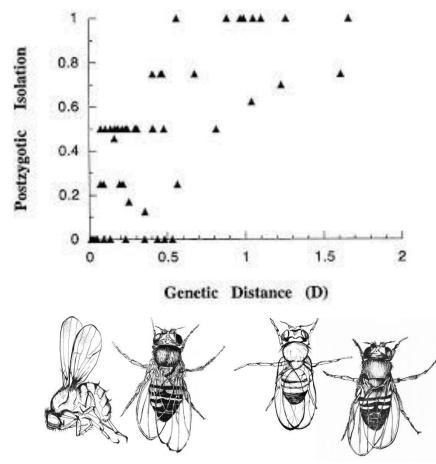
Bateson-Dobzhansky-Muller (BDM) model of incompatibility



- 1. Minor allelic differences accumulate via drift
- 2. New allele combinations cause incompatibilities in hybrids
- 3. These accumulate over time (since divergence)
- 4. Ultimately lead to complete reproductive isolation

In animals, reproductive isolation increases with genetic distance

- Lots of evidence for BDM incompatibilities
- Male sterility involves hundreds of genes ('prezygotic isolation')
- Post-zygotic barriers evolve more slowly than prezygotic barriers

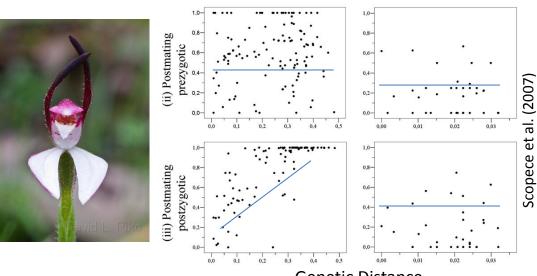


Drosophila spp.

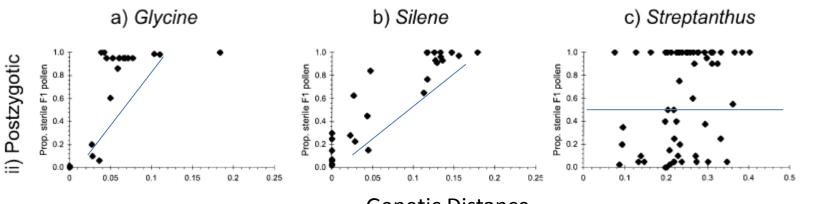
Coyne and Orr 1989, 1997, 2004

In plants, patterns of incompatibility are less clear

- Isolation sometimes increases with GD (but sometimes doesn't)
- No evidence that prezygotic barriers develop first



Genetic Distance



Genetic Distance

Moyle et al. (2004)

JOURNAL OF Evolutionary Biology



doi: 10.1111/j.1420-9101.2012.02599.x

TARGET REVIEW Hybridization and speciation*

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" the BDM model of hybrid incompatibilities requires a broader interpretation"



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Forest Ecology and Management

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/foreco

The potential for gene flow from exotic eucalypt plantations into Australia's rare native eucalypts

Robert C. Barbour^{a,b}, Sascha L. Wise^{a,b}, Gay E. McKinnon^a, René E. Vaillancourt^{a,b}, Grant J. Williamson^a, Brad M. Potts^{a,b,*}

If speciation is incomplete, then moving species around the landscape could result in:

- Interspecific gene flow
- Introgression
- Loss of genetic integrity
- Species replacement
- 'De-speciation'
- Maladaptation



Review



Compromising genetic diversity in the wild: unmonitored large-scale release of plants and animals

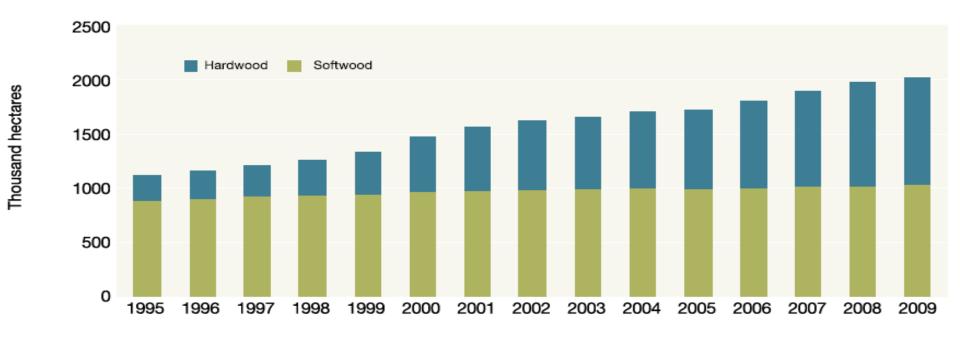
Forest Ecology and Management

Linda Laikre¹, Michael K. Schwartz², Robin S. Waples³, Nils Ryman¹ and The GeM Working Group⁴

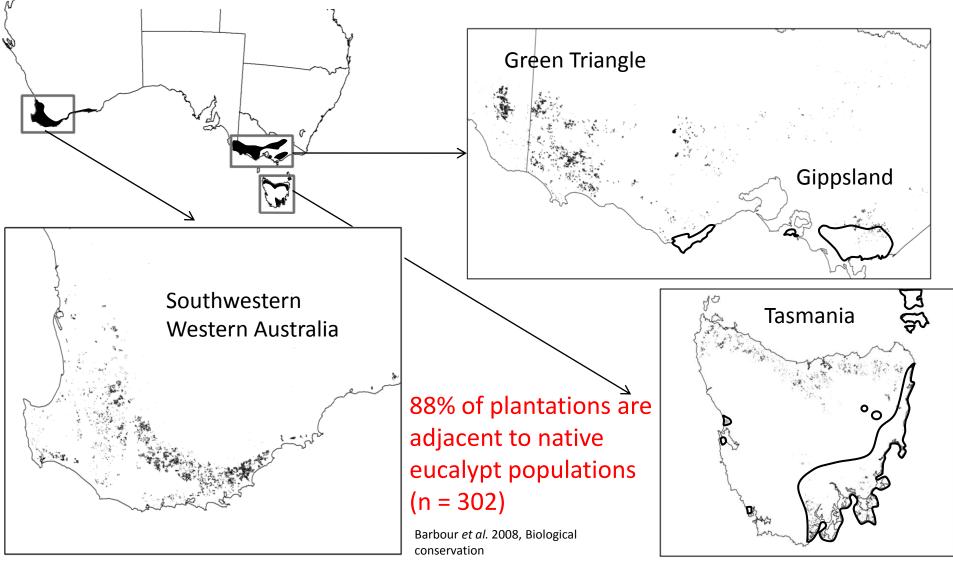
Department of Zoology, Division of Population Genetics, Stockholm University, S-10691 Stockholm, Sweden

Eucalypt plantations in Australia

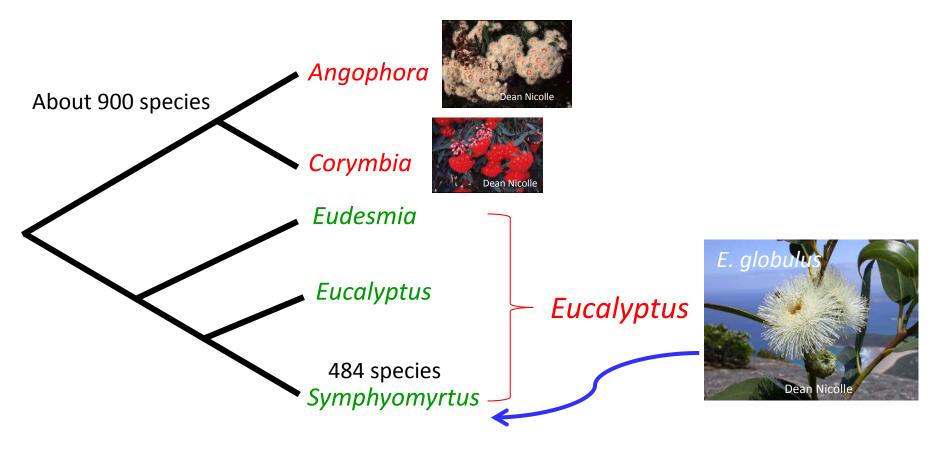
- The E. globulus estate reached 538, 000 ha in 2011
- total hardwood = 1,000,000 ha
- 150% increase since 2000



E. globulus is planted well outside its natural range



Hybridisation occurs within eucalypt subgenera



- Hybridisation does not occur between genera/subgenera
- In theory, based on our current understanding of species compatibility, 484 species could be at risk of exotic gene flow from *E. globulus* plantations

We assessed patterns of post-mating isolation by combining controlled crossing and phylogenetics

Crossing:

- Currency Creek Arboretum (>900 taxa)
- > 7000 flowers crossed with *E. globulus* pollen
- 100 species
- 13 taxonomic sections
- Subg. Symphyomyrtus (96 spp.)
- Subg. *Eucalyptus* (2 spp.)
- Subg. *Eudesmia* (1 sp.)
- Corymbia (1 sp.)

Dean Nicolle

Arboriculture - Botany - Ecology Eucalypt Survey & Research

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Phylogenetics:

Two datasets based on genomewide DArT markers:

- (1) 8350 markers covering all sections but not all species
- (2) 5050 markers covering ca. 200 spp. (Sections Maidenaria, Latoangulatae and Exertaria) including the 22 most closely related species in this study

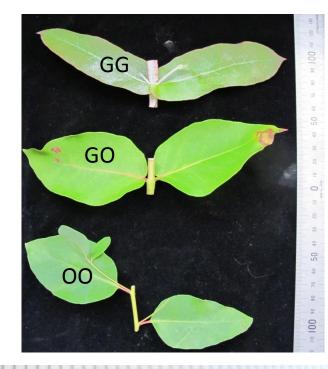


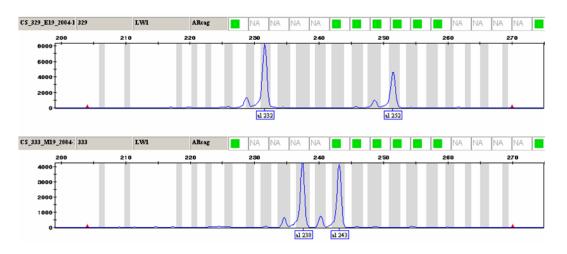
Two crossing approaches

- "Supplementary" pollination mimics natural pollination
- "Cut-style" pollination avoids (prezygotic) incompatibilities in the style and receptivity problems



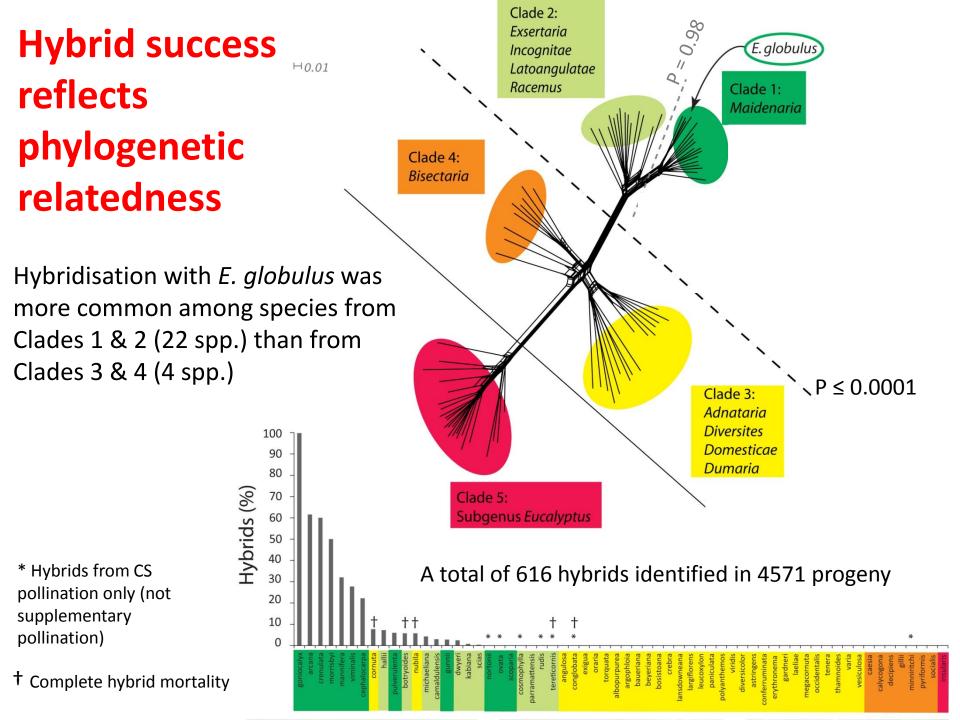
Hybrids identified with morphology and validated with molecular markers





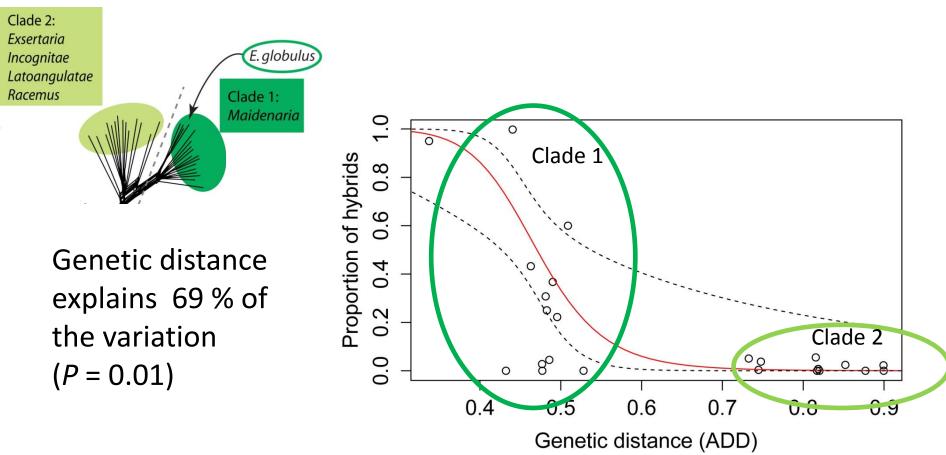


10 microsatellite loci were used to match alleles from each parent in hybrids



Hybrid success highest within Clade 1

- No difference between Clade 1 and Clade 2 in the *number of taxa* producing hybrids (*P* = 0.98)
- *Proportion* of hybrids produced (via supplementary pollination) is higher in Clade 1

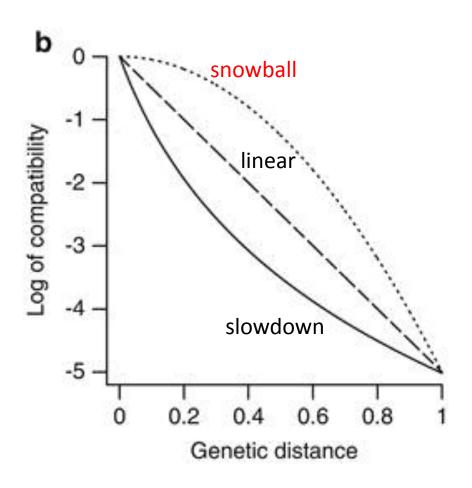


Do the results fit the Bateson-Dobzhansky-Muller (BDM) model?

BDM= "snowball model" – isolation accelerates with increasing divergence (DRIFT)

Genomic rearrangements = "linear model"

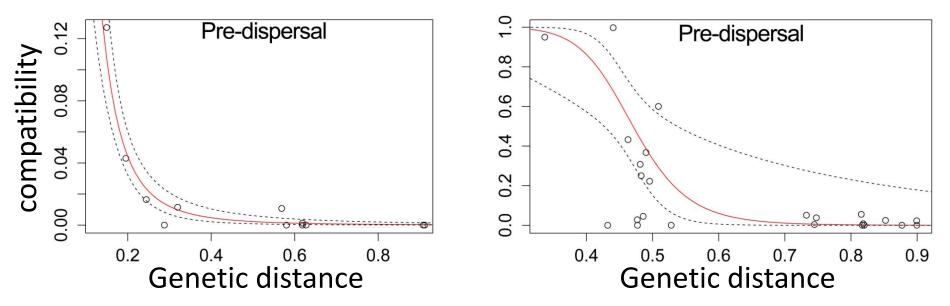
Reinforcement = "slowdown model" (SELECTION)



Pre-dispersal: Eucalypts do not conform to BDM model

- Opposite to what would be expected under BDM
- Consistent with a 'slowdown' model
- Selection acting to form pre-zygotic barriers
- Pollination and fertilisation may occur but seed is not formed
- Prevents formation of unfit hybrids

Clades 1 and 2

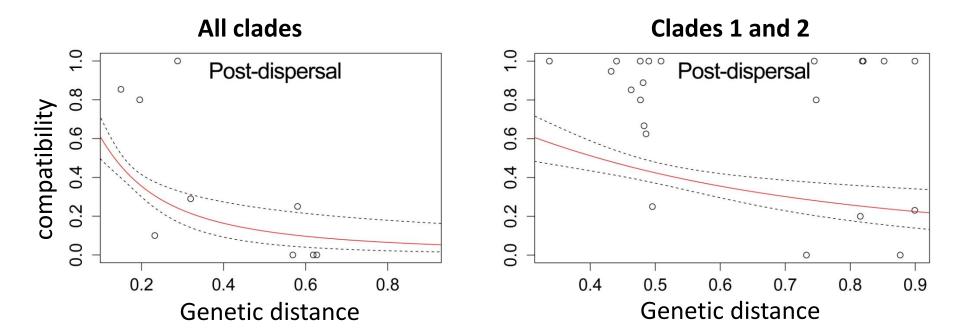


All clades



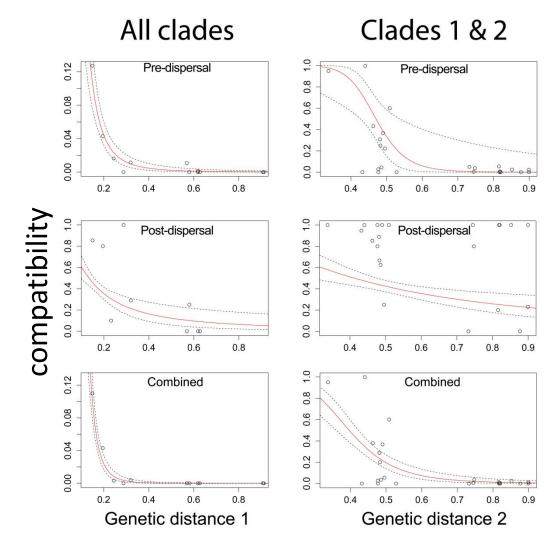
Post-dispersal: Eucalypts still don't conform to BDM model ...

- Measured as survival at one year.
- More linear (?) pattern of compatibility could suggest genomic rearrangement model ... ??? (more likely 'slowdown' model?)
- Few studies have found 'snowball' effect (BDM)
- BDM model may be too simplistic

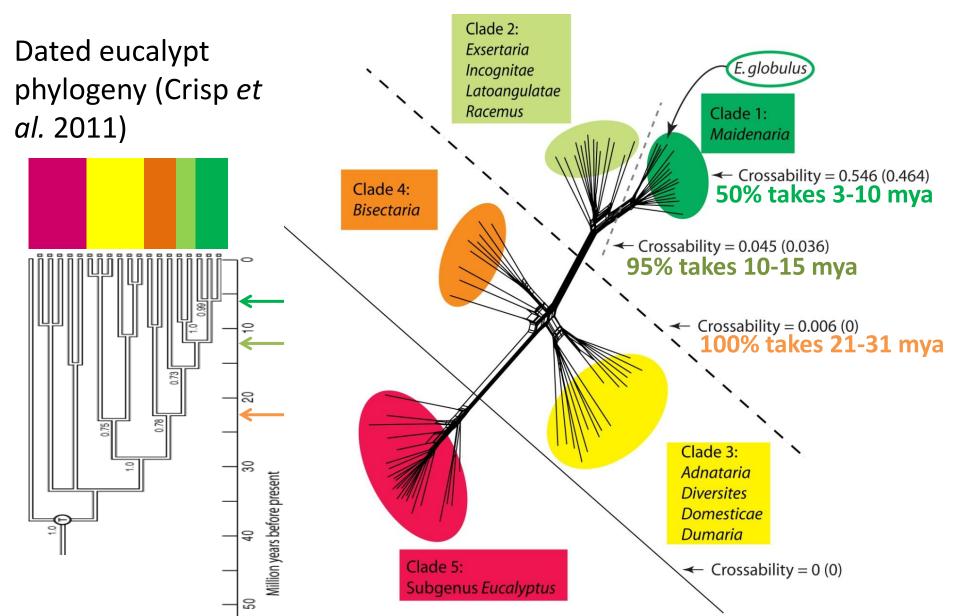


Overall, eucalypts display a 'slowdown' (reinforcement) model of hybrid compatibility

 Natural selection on traits that affect reproductive success should evolve faster than reproductive barriers developing via drift (BDM)

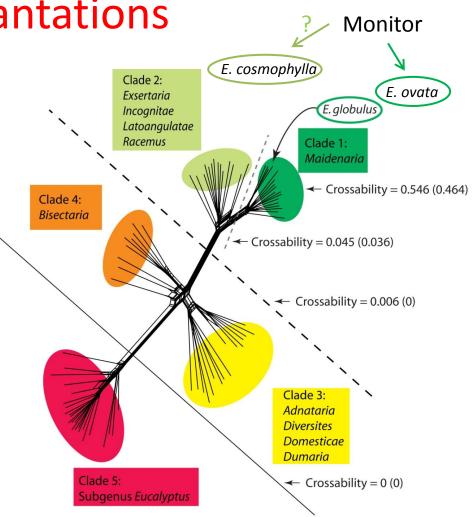


What is the timeframe for reproductive isolation in *Eucalyptus*?



The risk of exotic gene flow from *E. globulus* plantations

- Previously 484 'at risk' species (within Subg. Symphyomyrtus)
- Clades 3 & 4 are isolated, leaving 138 'at risk' species
- The 70 species in Clade 2 have a 45% lower risk than the 68 species in clade 1



Remnant of conservation significance

Acknowledgements

Forest and Wood Products Australia, Ltd. Cooperative Research Centre for Forestry Guy and Simone Roussel