



OXFORD AVIAN BIOLOGY SERIES

• SERIES EDITOR: T.R. BIRKHEAD FRS •

In nature there exist three main types of biotic interactions between individuals of different species: competition, predation, and mutualism. All three exert powerful selection pressures, and all three shape communities. However, the question of how important interspecific competition in nature really is remains controversial and unresolved. This book provides a critical and exhaustive review of the topic. Although the examples are limited mostly to birds (interspecific competition and community structure have been exhaustively studied in this animal group, and a lot of experimental data are available), the conclusions reached have a far broader relevance to population ecologists in general. The book reasons that the coexistence of species is the result of both past and presently on-going interspecific competition. Furthermore, understanding the importance of interspecific competition in natural systems will be increasingly important when modelling the effects of climate change on populations.

This accessible text will be suitable for professional avian biologists and ornithologists as well as graduate students of avian ecology, evolution, and conservation.

Cover images © iStockphoto.com

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

www.oup.com

ISBN 978-0-19-958902-9



9 780199 589029