

Contents

1	Communication and the evolution of plant–animal interactions	1
1.1	Communication	1
1.2	Signals vs. cues	3
	Box 1.1 Deceptive communication	5
1.3	Plant–animal communication	6
1.4	The co-evolutionary framework of plant–animal interactions	8
1.5	Generalization vs. specialization	9
	Box 1.2 The diversification of angiosperms	11
1.6	Diffuse co-evolution	12
1.7	Correlated evolution	14
1.8	Evolutionary significance of complex interactions for communication	16
1.9	Constraints on communication	17
	1.9.1 Genetic architecture	17
	1.9.2 Architectural constraints	18
1.10	Perspective	18
2	Animal sensory ecology and plant biochemistry	21
2.1	Introduction	21
	Box 2.1 The nine stages of communication	22
2.2	Chromatic and achromatic vision	23
	Box 2.2 Memory functions	23
2.3	Visual detection	24
2.4	Ambient light	26
2.5	Visual sensitivities	27
2.6	Colour production	30
	2.6.1 Chlorophylls	30
	2.6.2 Carotenoids	31
	2.6.3 Anthocyanins and flavonoids	31
	2.6.4 Betalains	32
2.7	Olfaction	33
2.8	Olfactory detectability	35
2.9	Evolution of plant odours	36

2.10	Plant odours	38
2.10.1	Chemical classes	39
2.10.2	Volatiles from vegetative tissues	41
2.11	Taste	41
2.11.1	Nutrients	42
2.11.2	Secondary compounds	43
2.12	Acoustic communication	46
2.13	Summary and perspective	46
3	Animals as seed dispersers	48
3.1	Introduction: the advantages of seed dispersal	48
3.2	Dispersal by terrestrial vertebrate frugivores (endozoochory)	49
3.2.1	Endozoochorous seed dispersal by vertebrate herbivores	52
3.3	Dispersal by vertebrate seed predators	54
3.4	Inadvertent transport on the outside of mammals and birds (epizoochory)	56
3.5	Transport by invertebrates (myrmecochory)	58
3.6	Transport by fish (ichthochory)	61
3.7	Transport by reptiles	62
3.8	General trends in the use of animals as dispersers	62
3.9	The evolution of different forms of animal-based dispersal	63
3.10	Combination of different forms of dispersal (diplochory)	66
3.11	Conclusions	67
4	Visual communication in fleshy fruits	68
4.1	Introduction	68
4.2	Fruit ripening	69
4.2.1	Biochemistry of fruit colouration	70
Box 4.1	Colour patterns in fruit vs. flowers	70
4.3	Patterns of fruit colours	71
4.3.1	Bird-dispersed fruits	71
4.3.2	Association between visual fruit traits and disperser type	72
4.4	Selection by frugivores	75
4.4.1	Sensory biases	75
4.4.2	Effect of fruit colouration on ease of detection	77
Box 4.2	Fruit colours as drivers of primate colour vision	78
4.5	Fruit colour as signal	81
4.5.1	Signalling strategies	81
4.5.2	Signal honesty	82
4.5.3	Secondary compounds	83
4.6	The roles of fruit predators	84
4.7	Influence of abiotic factors on fruit colouration	85

4.8	Signalling role of secondary structures	87
4.9	Summary	90
5	Evolutionary ecology of non-visual fruit traits	92
5.1	Introduction	92
5.2	Fruit ripening	94
	Box 5.1 Hormones involved in fruit ripening	94
5.3	Fruit pulp biochemistry	95
	5.3.1 Changes during ripening	95
	5.3.2 Patterns in ripe fruits	96
5.4	Selection by fruit consumers	98
5.5	Fruit biochemistry mediates interactions	99
	5.5.1 Trade-off hypotheses	100
	5.5.2 Community patterns	102
	5.5.3 Competitive interactions	104
5.6	Fruit texture	105
5.7	Communication through fruit odour	107
	5.7.1 Ethylene as cue	108
	5.7.2 Ethanol as cue	108
5.8	Echolocation	110
5.9	Consumption of dry fruits	111
	5.9.1 Sensory mechanisms	111
	5.9.2 Mosaic co-evolution	112
5.10	The evolution of communication – unresolved research questions	113
5.11	Conclusions	114
6	Floral communication and pollination	116
6.1	Introduction	116
6.2	Relationship between signal and reward	117
	Box 6.1 Pollinators add scent to flowers: adaptive marking or unavoidable consequence?	119
6.3	Diversifying selection	120
6.4	Floral morphology	123
	6.4.1 Accessory structures	125
	6.4.2 Symmetry	126
	6.4.3 Floral integration	127
6.5	Visual traits associated with flowers	130
	6.5.1 Colour patterns and association to rewards	130
	6.5.2 Flower colour	133
6.6	Floral scent	135
	6.6.1 Comparison to vision	135

6.6.2 Additive effects of odours and colours	137
Box 6.2 Pre-existing biases can drive animal communication systems	138
6.6.3 Scent and pollinator attraction	139
6.7 Pleiotropy and floral traits	143
6.8 Perspective	146
7 The potential for leaf colouration to communicate to animals	147
7.1 Introduction	147
7.2 Characteristics of autumn leaf colouration	148
7.3 Mechanisms not involving communication with animals that might underlie autumn leaf colouration	149
7.3.1 Loss of chlorophyll and photosynthetic function	149
7.3.2 Physiological functioning of anthocyanins	150
7.3.3 Other colour-related physiological functions	151
7.3.4 Summary of non-communication functions	151
7.4 Autumn leaf colouration	152
7.4.1 A cue to nutrient movement out of the leaves	153
7.4.2 A cue of investment in defences by the plant	154
7.4.3 Signalling that leaves are about to be shed	155
7.4.4 Signalling investment in reproductive tissues	156
7.4.5 Signalling to frugivores	156
7.5 Signalling to herbivores about intrinsic plant quality	158
7.5.1 Assumptions of the theory	158
7.5.2 Predictions of the theory	161
7.5.3 A further theory	163
7.6 The functioning of non-green leaf colouration in non-autumnal contexts	163
7.7 Leaf variegation	164
7.8 Gaps in current understanding	167
7.9 Conclusion	168
8 Plant crypsis, aposematism, and mimicry	169
8.1 Introduction	169
8.2 Crypsis in plants	170
8.3 Aposematism in plants	172
8.4 Floral mimicry	174
8.4.1 Batesian floral mimicry and perceptual exploitation	175
8.4.2 Empirical evidence for floral mimicry	177
8.4.3 Pseudoflowers	178
8.4.4 Mimicry of carrion and dung	180

8.5	Non-floral mimicry in plants	180
8.5.1	Mistletoe host resemblance	181
8.5.2	Mimicry of crops by weeds	183
8.5.3	Can plants avoid grazing by mimicking defended plants?	184
8.6	Mimicry of plants by animals	184
8.7	Conclusions	185
9	Chemical communication by plants about herbivores	187
9.1	Introduction	187
9.2	Within-plant communication of attack risk	187
	Box 9.1 Detection of competition from other plants	190
9.3	Between-plant communication of attack threat	191
9.3.1	Signalling by undamaged plants	192
9.4	Signalling by infested plants to enemies of herbivores	194
9.4.1	The viewpoint of the plant	197
9.4.2	The viewpoint of antagonists	198
9.4.3	The viewpoint of herbivores	199
9.5	The complex environment in which indirect defences operate	201
9.6	Signalling in ant-plant mutualisms	202
9.7	Deception of herbivore antagonists by plants	204
9.8	Conclusions	204
10	Sensory aspects of carnivorous plants	206
10.1	Introduction	206
10.1.1	What are carnivorous plants?	206
10.1.2	Relationships between carnivorous plants and non-prey animals	206
10.1.3	Where are carnivorous plants found, and why are they uncommon?	208
10.1.4	Evolution of plant carnivory	208
10.1.5	Carnivorous plants as a model of co-evolutionary processes	209
10.1.6	Sensory aspects of plant carnivory	210
10.2	Attraction of victims	210
10.2.1	Does attraction of prey to pitchers involve duping them?	210
10.2.2	Other aspects of deception	213
10.3	Signalling mechanisms	214
10.3.1	Visual signals	214
10.3.2	Non-visual attractants	217
10.4	Pollination	220
10.5	Sensory aspects of interactions with animals other than prey or pollinators	221
10.6	Conclusions	222

11 Final thoughts	224
11.1 Introduction	224
11.2 Principles of communication	224
11.3 Communication among multiple species	226
11.3.1 Conceptual framework	226
11.3.2 Communication and information can arise as by-products	227
11.4 Scenarios for the evolution of communication	228
11.5 Integrating ecology into communication theory	229
11.6 Communication and sensory ecology	230
Box 11.1 Multimodal communication	231
Box 11.2 Perceptual exploitation	233
Glossary	234
References	236
Index	269