Evolutionary Ecology of Marsupials

Lee and Cockburn have produced in Evolutionary Ecology of Marsupials the first broad-scale treatment of marsupial life histories and evolution since Tyndale-Biscoe's Life of Marsupials over a decade ago. More important, theirs is the first attempt to place marsupial reproductive ecology explicitly in an evolutionary framework. The organization of the book, which highlights evolutionary considerations, allows the authors scope to raise and treat fascinating issues like sex allocation theory that, as they point out, have been ignored by most workers on marsupial biology.

The authors tackle a diverse set of problems, structuring their approach around six major themes. The book is best viewed as a collection of essays, though with more coherence than most collections. Lee and Cockburn argue first that food quality and dispersion influence life histories and social behavior....

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monotremes and marsupials. It explains the evolutionary origins of the three major living mammalian clades from within the ancient amniote lineage of synapsids, summarises their most obvious biological differences, and briefly outlines the difference between the. The morphological and ecological diversity of marsupials makes them ideal for comparative study of mammalian ecology and adaptation. This diversity is distributed across seven marsupial orders: three South American and four Australian. How these orders and the families they include are related is shown in Figure 2. The following will provide a brief characterisation in order of presumed evolutionary divergence (which may change with future phylogenetic analyses). The Evolution of Marsupials From Sinodelphys to the Giant Wombat. Share. Flipboard. By the time the evolutionary dust had cleared, by the end of the Eocene epoch, marsupials had
disappeared from North America and Eurasia but prospered in South America and Australia. The Marsupials of South America. For most of the Cenozoic Era, South America was a gigantic island continent, completely separated from North America until the emergence of the Central American isthmus about three million years ago. *marsupial* märsoŏ péal [key], member of the order Marsupialia, or pouch mammals. With the exception of the New World opossums and an obscure S American family (Caenolestidae), marsupials are now found only in Australia, Tasmania, New Guinea, and a few adjacent islands. They are generally distinguished from placental mammals by the absence of a placenta connecting the embryo with its mother, although in a few forms the female has a rudimentary placenta that functions for a short time. See H. Tyndale-Biscoe, *Life of Marsupials* (1973); A. K. Lee and A. Cockburn, *Evolutionary Ecology of Marsupials* (1985). *Evolutionary Ecology of Marsupials* Anthony K. Lee Cambridge Academ 9780521054126 : The ecological literature on marsupials is dominated by descriptive natural history, and there has hitherto been... It documents the excellent potential the study of marsupials provides for resolution of theoretical questions of general importance in biology. It does this in three ways. First, by describing the impressive diversity of marsupial life history strategies and trophic roles. Second, by careful comparison with the eutherians, the scope of the marsupial radiation is used to analyse the role of developmental constraints and adaptive radiation in determining the diversification of higher taxa. *Evolutionary Ecology of Marsupials* book. Read reviews from world's largest community for readers. The ecological literature on marsupials is dominated by... We'd love your help. Let us know what's wrong with this preview of *Evolutionary Ecology of Marsupials* by Anthony K. Lee. Problem: It's the wrong book It's the wrong edition Other.