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# Small-Scale Fungicide Spray Heterogeneity and the Coexistence of Resistant and Sensitive Pathogen Strains

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## ABSTRACT

Parnell, S., Gilligan, C. A., and van den Bosch, F. 2005. Small-scale fungicide spray heterogeneity and the coexistence of resistant and sensitive pathogen strains. *Phytopathology* 95:632-639.

Empirical evidence indicates that fungicide-resistant and sensitive strains can coexist for prolonged periods. Coexistence has important practical implications, for example, for the posttreatment recovery of sensitivity and consequently the life expectancy of fungicide products. Despite this, the factors influencing coexistence remain relatively unexplored. Ecological studies have shown that environmental heterogeneity can facilitate the coexistence of different species and subspecific groups. Here we use a simple differential equation model and show that fungicide spray heterogeneity per se is not sufficient for coexistence but

that the outcome depends crucially on the competitive relationship between resistant and sensitive strains. The model incorporates the competition between resistant and sensitive pathogen strains for a limited supply of susceptible host tissue on a crop which has received an incomplete coverage of fungicide. We use a combination of invasibility analysis and model simulations to explore the conditions under which coexistence can occur. We further show that the maximum density of healthy host tissue is realized when resistant and sensitive pathogen strains coexist. A set of key influencing parameters are identified and analyzed, and the consequences of the results for disease and resistance management are discussed.

*Additional keywords:* fitness cost, fungicide effectiveness, linear stability theory.

Empirical studies have indicated that invasion of fungicide-resistant pathogen strains does not necessarily lead to the extinction of sensitive strains and that coexistence of both is possible over prolonged periods (3–5,8,13,28). Although it is difficult to distinguish coexistence from observations of intermediate frequencies in the field, Bierman et al. (5) showed the stable coexistence of carbendazim resistant and sensitive strains on carbendazim-treated plots between 1987 and 2000. However, other studies have shown that coexistence of resistant and sensitive strains does not occur and that either resistance fails to invade (15) or invades to the subsequent exclusion of the sensitive population (2). To develop effective resistance management strategies it is imperative to understand the processes that influence which of these outcomes occurs in practice.

Models for the evolution of fungicide resistance either assume invasion is inevitable (7,20) or focus on the factors that influence the invasion of resistance (14,24). For example, Gubbins and Gilligan (14) found that if the sum of the net fitness costs associated with resistance are less than the effect of the fungicide on the sensitive population, resistant strains invade. If the converse is true, resistant strains do not invade. Assuming the invasion of resistant strains does occur, each of these models (7,14,20,24) predicts the complete exclusion of sensitive strains with time. The processes that enable coexistence are relatively unexplored and to our knowledge no model of fungicide resistance has practically demonstrated a mechanism by which sensitive and resistant pathogen strains coexist. Criteria for coexistence have been derived in some studies (7,14), but these criteria are unrealistically narrow occurring only for parameter values exactly on the threshold separating resistance invasion and noninvasion.

However, coexistence has important practical implications; for example, the survival of even a small sensitive population during treatment will enhance the posttreatment recovery of sensitivity.

Environmental heterogeneity has been shown to promote the coexistence of different species and subspecific groups in ecological systems (16,22). In the context of chemical control, heterogeneity in spray coverage corresponds to environmental heterogeneity. A fungicide applied to a host crop is a component of the environment of a plant pathogen and all presently applied spray technologies result in an incomplete coverage of fungicide on the targeted host (9). In this paper we consider the role of this type of spatial heterogeneity on the invasion and persistence of resistant and sensitive pathogen strains. Specifically we address the following: does incomplete spray coverage facilitate the coexistence of resistant and sensitive strains and are there thresholds for invasion, exclusion, and coexistence?

We consider a system where sensitive and resistant strains indirectly compete for a limited supply of treated and untreated host tissue. Empirical evidence suggests that in the absence of fungicide treatment the sensitive strain is at a fitness advantage due to the inherent fitness cost carried by the resistant strain (19,21). In the presence of fungicide treatment the sensitive strain is limited by the effect of the fungicide and so this advantage is reduced or lost. In this paper we show that spatial heterogeneity per se is not sufficient to allow for coexistence but that the outcome depends on the competitive relationship between strains.

## THEORY AND APPROACHES

**The model.** The full model describes the dynamics of a fungicide-treated host-parasite system at field scale. We extend the model of Gubbins and Gilligan (14) to incorporate an untreated host region to account for incomplete spray coverage and we explicitly describe the movement of spores between treated and untreated regions. All model variables and parameters are provided in Table 1.

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**Host dynamics.** Treated and untreated healthy host densities are denoted by  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ , respectively. Many resistance responses to fungicides are monogenic (34); thus, we classify the pathogen into a fungicide-sensitive and resistant strain. Healthy host density increases due to crop growth and decreases due to infection by resistant and sensitive pathogens. This leads to the following differential equations:

$$\frac{dH_1}{dt} = [\text{host growth}]_{H_1} - \left[ \begin{array}{l} H_1 \text{ infection due} \\ \text{to resistant strain} \end{array} \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{l} H_1 \text{ infection due} \\ \text{to sensitive strain} \end{array} \right] \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{dH_2}{dt} = [\text{host growth}]_{H_2} - \left[ \begin{array}{l} H_2 \text{ infection due} \\ \text{to resistant strain} \end{array} \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{l} H_2 \text{ infection due} \\ \text{to sensitive strain} \end{array} \right]$$

In the absence of disease, healthy host growth is logistic with growth rate,  $r$ , and carrying capacity,  $K$ . The total density of healthy host is the sum of  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  with the proportion of treated and untreated areas determined by  $\theta$  and  $1 - \theta$ , respectively. We thus have

$$[\text{host growth}]_{H_1} = \theta r(H_1 + H_2) \left( 1 - \frac{H_1 + H_2}{K} \right) \quad (2)$$

$$[\text{host growth}]_{H_2} = (1 - \theta)r(H_1 + H_2) \left( 1 - \frac{H_1 + H_2}{K} \right)$$

Spore density is denoted by  $U_{ij}$ , where  $i$  represents host region (treated; subscript 1, or untreated; subscript 2) and  $j$  denotes resistant status (resistant; subscript 1, or sensitive; subscript 2) (explanation of the spore dynamics described below). The basic host infection rate is denoted by  $b$ . The infection rate of the resistant pathogen spores is reduced by a cost to resistance,  $\rho_b$ , on both the treated and untreated host regions, and the infection of the sensitive pathogen spores is reduced by the effect of the fungicide,  $\varepsilon_b$ , on the treated region only. We thus have

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} H_1 \text{ infection due} \\ \text{to resistant strain} \end{array} \right] = b(1 - \rho_b)U_{12}H_1 \left[ \begin{array}{l} H_1 \text{ infection due} \\ \text{to sensitive strain} \end{array} \right] = b(1 - \varepsilon_b)U_{11}H_1 \quad (3)$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} H_2 \text{ infection due} \\ \text{to resistant strain} \end{array} \right] = b(1 - \rho_b)U_{22}H_2 \left[ \begin{array}{l} H_2 \text{ infection due} \\ \text{to sensitive strain} \end{array} \right] = bU_{21}H_2$$

**Pathogen dynamics.** We characterize the pathogen by its location on either the treated host region or the untreated host region. Pathogens,  $P_{ij}$ , are described by

$$\frac{dP_{ij}}{dt} = [\text{spore density}] \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{Infection and} \\ \text{establishment} \end{array} \right] - [\text{death}] \quad (4)$$

where as with the variable  $U_{ij}$ , host region is  $i$  (resistant; subscript 1, or sensitive; subscript 2) and fungicide resistance status is  $j$  (treated; subscript 1, or untreated; subscript 2). Infections become established at rate  $g$  and have an average infectious period of  $\mu^{-1}$ . The fitness cost to resistance and fungicide effectiveness proportionally reduce these parameters by  $\rho_g$  and  $\rho_\mu$ , and  $\varepsilon_g$  and  $\varepsilon_\mu$ , respectively. This gives the dynamics of the resistant and sensitive pathogens:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dP_{11}}{dt} &= b(1 - \varepsilon_b)g(1 - \varepsilon_g)U_{11}H_1 - \frac{\mu}{(1 - \varepsilon_\mu)}P_{11} \\ \frac{dP_{21}}{dt} &= bgU_{21}H_2 - \mu P_{21} \\ \frac{dP_{12}}{dt} &= b(1 - \rho_b)g(1 - \rho_g)U_{12}H_1 - \frac{\mu}{(1 - \rho_\mu)}P_{12} \\ \frac{dP_{22}}{dt} &= b(1 - \rho_b)g(1 - \rho_g)U_{22}H_2 - \frac{\mu}{(1 - \rho_\mu)}P_{22} \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

**Spore dynamics.** Pathogens of resistance status  $j$ , located around either the treated or untreated host region, produce spores. Spores can migrate to an area of different treatment status or migrate out of the pathosystem altogether, for example, due to deposition on the ground or leaving the canopy layer and being blown out of the field. The average densities of spores,  $U_{ij}$ , are described by the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned} U_{11} &= \gamma(1 - \varepsilon_\gamma)WP_{11} + \gamma XP_{21} \\ U_{21} &= \gamma ZP_{21} + \gamma(1 - \varepsilon_\gamma)YP_{11} \\ U_{12} &= \gamma(1 - \rho_\gamma)WP_{12} + \gamma(1 - \rho_\gamma)XP_{22} \\ U_{22} &= \gamma(1 - \rho_\gamma)ZP_{22} + \gamma(1 - \rho_\gamma)YP_{12} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

The basic spore production rate is given by  $\gamma$ . For sensitive infections in the treated region, spore production is reduced by fungicide effectiveness,  $\varepsilon_\gamma$ , and for resistant infections, spore production is reduced by the fitness cost to resistance,  $\rho_\gamma$ , regardless of host location. Of the spores produced in the treated region,  $W$  indicates the fraction of spores that are deposited within the treated region and  $Y$  indicates the fraction deposited within the untreated region. Similarly, of the spores produced in the untreated region,  $Z$  indicates the fraction deposited in the untreated region and  $X$  indicates the fraction deposited in the treated region (Appendix I provides the full derivation of the spore dynamics).

The full model system now reads

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dH_1}{dt} &= r(H_1 + H_2) \left( 1 - \frac{H_1 + H_2}{K} \right) \theta - b(1 - \varepsilon_b) [\gamma(1 - \varepsilon_\gamma)WP_{11} + \gamma XP_{21}] H_1 - \\ &\quad b(1 - \rho_b) [\gamma(1 - \rho_\gamma)WP_{12} + \gamma(1 - \rho_\gamma)XP_{22}] H_1 \\ \frac{dH_2}{dt} &= r(H_1 + H_2) \left( 1 - \frac{H_1 + H_2}{K} \right) (1 - \theta) - b [\gamma(1 - \varepsilon_\gamma)ZP_{11} + \gamma YP_{21}] H_2 - \\ &\quad b(1 - \rho_b) [\gamma(1 - \rho_\gamma)ZP_{12} + \gamma(1 - \rho_\gamma)YP_{22}] H_2 \\ \frac{dP_{11}}{dt} &= b(1 - \varepsilon_b)g(1 - \varepsilon_g) [\gamma(1 - \varepsilon_\gamma)WP_{11} + \gamma XP_{21}] H_1 - \frac{\mu}{(1 - \varepsilon_\mu)} P_{11} \\ \frac{dP_{21}}{dt} &= bg [\gamma(1 - \varepsilon_\gamma)ZP_{11} + \gamma YP_{21}] H_2 - \mu P_{21} \\ \frac{dP_{12}}{dt} &= b(1 - \rho_b)g(1 - \rho_g) [\gamma(1 - \rho_\gamma)WP_{12} + \gamma(1 - \rho_\gamma)XP_{22}] H_1 - \frac{\mu}{(1 - \rho_\mu)} P_{12} \\ \frac{dP_{22}}{dt} &= b(1 - \rho_b)g(1 - \rho_g) [\gamma(1 - \rho_\gamma)ZP_{12} + \gamma(1 - \rho_\gamma)YP_{22}] H_2 - \frac{\mu}{(1 - \rho_\mu)} P_{22} \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

## RESULTS

**Invasibility and coexistence. The invasion criteria.** We first calculate invasion criteria. The analysis proceeds in the following way. Assume that only one strain is present. Then introduce an infinitesimally small amount of the other strain (by mutation or migration) and calculate for which parameter values it can invade the system. When both strains can invade the system with only the other strain present, both strains coexist. To achieve this we apply linear stability theory, as described by Edelstein-Keshet (11), to analyze the stability properties of the model system. This analysis is used to show the effect of parameter values on the thresholds for the invasion of resistant and sensitive strains and on coexistence, and is complimented by simulations to analyze the effect of parameter values on the density of the different pathogen strains. The equations and simulations were solved using Maple 7 (27). (Appendix II provides the full derivation of the invasion criteria [equations 8 and 9]).

The results from the linear stability analysis show that when the criteria in equation 8 are met, the steady-state system containing

only the host and the sensitive strain is unstable and the resistant strain can invade. When the criteria in equation 9 are met, the steady-state system containing only the host and the resistant strain is unstable and the sensitive strain can invade. If the criteria in both equations 8 and 9 are met, then the resistant and sensitive strain can coexist.

$$a \prod_k (1 - \rho_k)^2 - b \prod_k (1 - \rho_k) + 1 < 0, \quad k = g, b, \gamma, \mu \quad (8)$$

$$c \prod_k (1 - \rho_k)^2 - d \prod_k (1 - \rho_k) + e < 0 \quad (9)$$

where

$$a = \frac{W\theta Y(1-\theta) - X\theta Z(1-\theta)}{\left[ \prod_k (1 - \varepsilon_k) W\theta + X(1-\theta)(1 - \varepsilon_b) \right] \left[ \prod_l (1 - \varepsilon_l) Z\theta + Y(1-\theta) \right]}, \quad l = g, \gamma, \mu$$

$$b = \frac{Y(1-\theta)}{\prod_l (1 - \varepsilon_l) Z\theta + Y(1-\theta)} + \frac{W\theta}{\prod_k (1 - \varepsilon_k) W\theta + X(1-\theta)(1 - \varepsilon_b)}$$

$$c = \frac{1}{(1 - \varepsilon_\mu)} \quad (10)$$

$$d = \frac{Y(1-\theta)}{(1 - \varepsilon_\mu)[Y(1-\theta) + Z\theta]} + \frac{\left[ \prod_m (1 - \varepsilon_m) \right] W\theta}{X(1-\theta) + W\theta}, \quad m = b, g, \gamma$$

$$e = \frac{\prod (1 - \varepsilon_m) W\theta Y(1-\theta) - (1 - \varepsilon_b)(1 - \varepsilon_g) X\theta Z(1-\theta)}{[Y(1-\theta) + Z\theta][X(1-\theta) + W\theta]}$$

These expressions show that the fitness costs ( $\rho_i$ 's), effectiveness of the fungicide ( $\varepsilon_i$ 's), the proportion of spray coverage ( $\theta$ ), and the dispersal rates ( $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $\mu'$ ) determine whether or not a strain

can invade. Importantly, the analysis shows that the pathogen life history traits ( $\gamma$ ,  $b$ ,  $g$ , and  $\mu^{-1}$ ) and the host rate of increase ( $r$ ) and the carrying capacity ( $K$ ) have no effect on invasibility. The fitness cost parameters,  $\rho_i$ 's, affect the invasion criteria and simulations in an identical way to each other; therefore, for the remainder of the analysis, all fitness cost parameters are equated to a single parameter  $\rho$ . Likewise, the fungicide effectiveness parameters,  $\varepsilon_i$ 's, are equated to  $\varepsilon$  because only small quantitative differences on the model dynamics were detected between them.

**Thresholds for invasion and coexistence.** If we assume complete spray coverage ( $\theta = 1$ ), the model is equivalent to the deterministic model presented by Gubbins and Gilligan (14) (Fig. 1A). Coexistence of resistant and sensitive strains is not possible for any combination of parameter values. The invasion of either strain is a trade-off between the cost to resistance,  $\rho$ , and the fungicide effectiveness,  $\varepsilon$ , and is determined by the threshold  $\rho = \varepsilon$  (Fig. 1A).

Under incomplete spray coverage ( $\theta < 1$ ) we identify three regions of parameter space: sensitive strain only, resistant strain only, and coexistence (Fig. 1B to D). There is a critical value of fitness cost and of fungicide effectiveness above which coexistence is possible (Fig. 1B). These thresholds are identified as  $a$  (fitness cost threshold) and  $b$  (fungicide effectiveness threshold) in Figure 1B with the coexistence region depicted by  $c$  (Fig. 1B). Importantly, the coexistence region is bounded above by  $\rho = \varepsilon$  (Fig. 1B). There is also a critical value of fitness cost, depicted as threshold  $d$  (Fig. 1B), whereby the resistant strain cannot invade the system regardless of the fungicide effectiveness.

**The effect of spray coverage on invasion and coexistence.** The effects of spray coverage on the thresholds for invasion and the coexistence of both strains are shown in Figure 1 with corresponding trajectories on Figure 2. As the level of spray coverage decreases, there is a nonlinear decrease in thresholds  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $d$  and an increase in the region of coexistence,  $c$  (Fig. 1B to D).

**The effect of spore dispersal rates on invasion and coexistence.** A decrease in the dispersal rates has a similar effect; the thresholds  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $d$  decrease and coexistence region  $c$  increases (Fig. 3A and B). This is a particularly important observation as plant pathogen species vary in their dispersal mechanisms and capabilities.

**Healthy host density and coexistence.** Figure 4 shows the steady-state densities of the pathogen strains and the total healthy host derived from numerical simulations. The simulations corroborate the results of the invasion analysis. For very low levels of spray coverage the resistant strain is excluded and only the sensitive strain is present (Fig. 4). For increasing spray coverage a point is reached whereby the resistant strain can invade (Fig. 4). The two strains coexist for intermediate levels of spray coverage but there is an upper value whereby the sensitive strain is excluded (Fig. 4).

The simulations show that the maximum density of healthy host is achieved when there is coexistence (Fig. 4). Healthy host density increases with increasing spray coverage until the resistant strain invades. A maximum, which is independent of spray coverage, is then attained where there is coexistence. Following the exclusion of the sensitive strain at high levels of spray coverage, healthy host density decreases with increasing spray coverage. An increase in fungicide effectiveness decreases maximum healthy host density as the resistant strain invades at lower values of spray coverage (Fig. 4B). Conversely, an increase in the fitness cost to resistance causes the resistant strain not to invade until a higher value of spray coverage and thus increases maximum healthy host density (Fig. 4C).

## DISCUSSION

Previous models of fungicide resistance have either ignored incomplete spray coverage (14) or included incomplete spray cover-

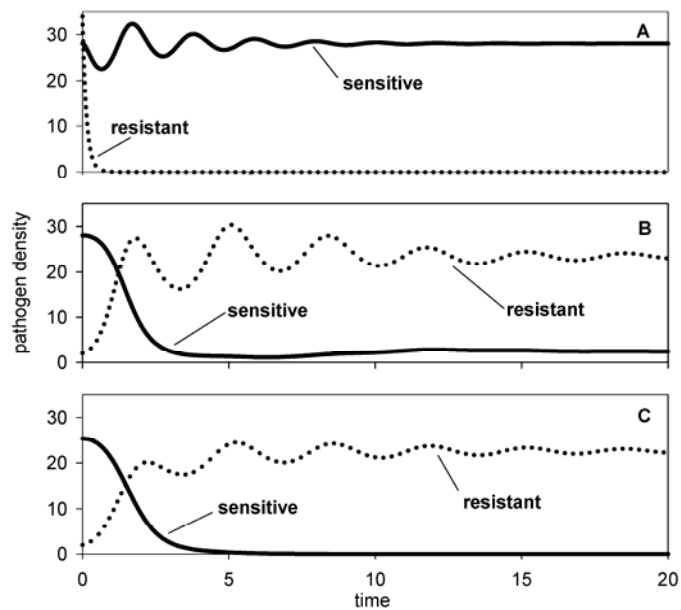
TABLE 1. Model variables and parameters

Symbol	Description	Value	Dimension
<b>Variable</b>			
$H_1$	Treated host density	...	$L^2 \cdot L^{-2}$
$H_2$	Untreated host density	...	$L^2 \cdot L^{-2}$
$P_{ij}$	Pathogen density on host region $i$ with sensitivity status $j$ ( $i = 1 =$ treated, $i = 2 =$ untreated; $j = 1 =$ sensitive, $j = 2 =$ resistant)	...	$L^2 \cdot L^{-2}$
<b>Parameter</b>			
$r$	Host growth rate	1 <sup>a</sup>	$t^{-1}$
$K$	Host carrying capacity	1,000 <sup>a</sup>	...
$\theta$	Fraction of spray coverage; 0 to 1	Varied	...
$U_{ij}$	Pathogen spores around host region $i$ with sensitivity status $j$	...	$\#L^{-3}$
$W, X, Y, Z$	Spore dispersal constants (see model description for full derivation and expressions)	Varied	...
$A$	Spore dispersal from treated host region to untreated host region	Varied	$t^{-1}$
$B$	Spore dispersal from untreated host region to treated host region	Varied	$t^{-1}$
$\mu'$	Spore loss from the system	Varied	$t^{-1}$
$b$	Pathogen infection rate	0.00006 <sup>a</sup>	$t^{-1}$
$\gamma$	Pathogen sporulation rate	400 <sup>a</sup>	$t^{-1}$
$g$	Number of pathogens produced per infection	0.9	...
$\mu$	Pathogen death rate	3 <sup>a</sup>	$t^{-1}$
$\rho_i$	Proportionate reduction in resistant pathogen parameter $i$ to account for the fitness cost to resistance; 0 to 1	[0, 1]	...
$\varepsilon_i$	Proportionate reduction in pathogen parameter $i$ to account for the fungicide effectiveness; 0 to 1	[0, 1]	...

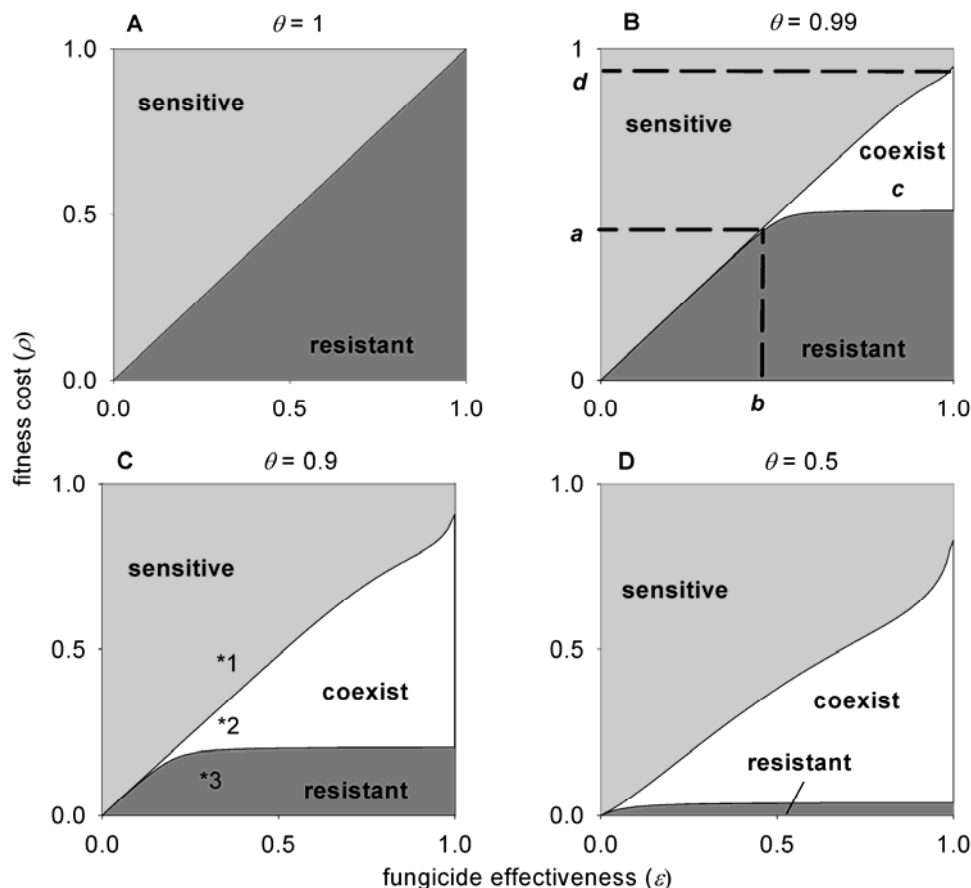
<sup>a</sup> Gubbins and Gilligan (14).

age but not accounted for the limited supply of susceptible host tissue and its effect on the competition between resistant and sensitive strains (7,20,32). Here, by accounting for both incomplete spray coverage and this ecological interaction, we have shown how heterogeneity in spray coverage can lead to the coexistence of resistant and sensitive strains. However, spatial heterogeneity per se does not allow coexistence; the outcome depends crucially on the competitive relationship between the strains. The model shows that there are three possible outcomes: (i) coexistence of both strains, (ii) only the resistant strain survives, and (iii) only the sensitive strain survives. We have identified three thresholds that determine these outcomes and in addition show that the maximum density of healthy host tissue occurs where there is coexistence.

**Invasibility and coexistence.** The three possible outcomes shown in this paper are supported by empirical evidence (2–5,8,13,15,28). Our model reveals that the thresholds for invasion and coexistence depend on three key components: (i) the competitive relationship between the resistant and sensitive strain, i.e., the trade-off between the inherent cost to resistance carried by the resistant strain and the effect of the fungicide on the sensitive strain, (ii) the level of spray coverage, and (iii) pathogen dispersal. The model suggests that the risk of resistance invading is not linked with the virulence of a pathogen species as the life history traits (infection, sporulation, and death rates) did not influence the thresholds. The present model focuses on the outcomes of invasion and coexistence and not on the subsequent rate of build up of resistant strains once invasion has occurred. In contrast, previous studies have assumed that the resistant strain does invade and have looked at the factors that influence the post-



**Fig. 2.** Simulated dynamics of the resistant and sensitive pathogen strains corresponding to the three regions on Figure 1C. Solid lines indicate the sensitive strain and dashed lines indicate the resistant strain. Values of the parameters  $\rho$  and  $\varepsilon$  correspond to the following marked asterisks on Figure 1C: **A**, \*1 ( $\rho = 0.5$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0.4$ ); **B**, \*2 ( $\rho = 0.3$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0.4$ ); and **C**, \*3 ( $\rho = 0.2$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0.4$ ). Default parameter values are  $\theta = 0.9$ ,  $\mu = 3$ ,  $b = 0.00006$ ,  $\gamma = 400$ ,  $g = 0.9$ ,  $r = 1$ ,  $K = 1,000$ ,  $A = 0.1$ ,  $B = 0.1$ , and  $\mu' = 0.25$ .



**Fig. 1.** Thresholds for the invasion of sensitive and resistant strains with dependence on fitness cost,  $\rho$ , and fungicide effectiveness,  $\varepsilon$ , with varying spray coverage,  $\theta$ . When  $\varepsilon$  or  $\rho = 0$  there is no effect, and when  $\varepsilon$  or  $\rho = 1$  there is full inhibition of the pathogen.  $A = B = 0.1$  and  $\mu' = 0.5$  in each plot. Key thresholds and the parameter region for coexistence area are marked as  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $d$ , and  $c$ , respectively. The asterisks on plot **C** indicate the parameter combinations used for the simulations in Figure 2.

invasion rate of increase of the resistant strain. These models have shown that the pathogen life history traits determine the post-invasion rate of increase (7,25) and a number of other factors including spatial and temporal heterogeneity in spray coverage (7,14,17,18,20,25,32), fungicide mixtures and alternations (10,17,18,20,23,30,31,33), polygenically controlled resistance (18,30,32), environmental conditions (25), and the initial frequency of resistance (25). These and a range of further theoretical issues regarding the rate of development of resistant strains are discussed by Milgroom et al. (26).

The current model reveals that coexistence is only possible where spray coverage is incomplete and where there is a cost to resistance (Fig. 1). Further, the cost to resistance must not exceed the effectiveness of the fungicide. Coexistence can therefore be understood as follows. The sensitive strain has a refuge on the untreated region of the host. That is, if the cost to resistance is less than the effectiveness of the fungicide, the sensitive strain is the inferior competitor on the treated region but the superior competitor on the untreated region. If the cost to resistance is greater than the effectiveness of the fungicide, the resistant strain is the inferior competitor on both treated and untreated regions. Empirical studies have indicated the presence of fitness costs in some cases but not in others. For example, fitness costs in isolates resistant to sterol biosynthesis-inhibiting fungicides were found in *Cercospora beticola* (21) but not in *Pyrenophora teres* (29). In the current model, the resistant strain will always invade when there is no fitness cost and exclude the sensitive strain provided the fungicide is present and effective to some degree.

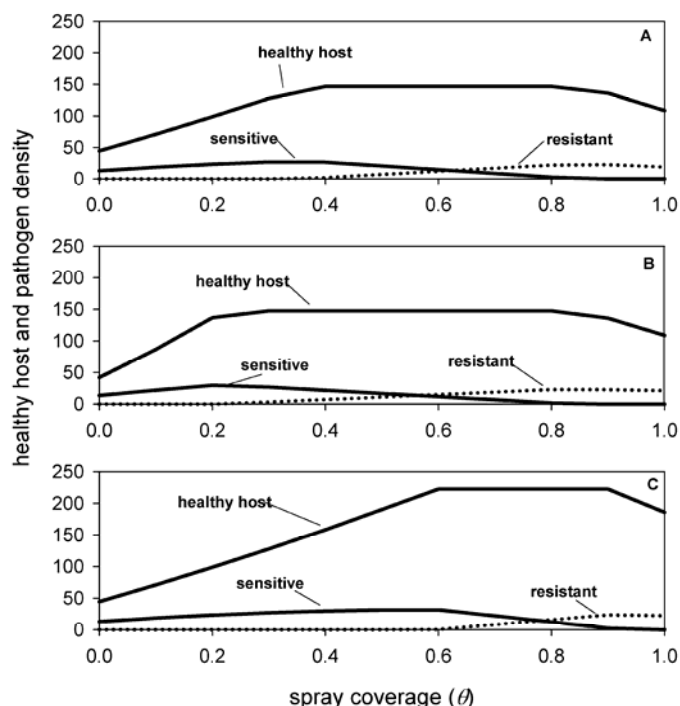
Work by Austin et al. (1) has demonstrated similar thresholds for coexistence or mutual exclusion of antibiotic resistant and sensitive strains to those found here. The authors described the carriage of resistant and sensitive bacterial strains through human communities. Although the biological problem and consequent model structure differed to that described here, similarly, thresholds for invasion and coexistence were related to the proportion of the community receiving treatment and the differential competitive abilities of strains.

**Healthy host density and coexistence.** The association between maximum healthy host density and coexistence is not intuitively obvious but can be understood in the following way. In the absence of the resistant strain, maximum healthy host density would correspond with complete spray coverage and maximal fungicide effectiveness. However, the resistant strain is able to invade once spray coverage exceeds a threshold and then limits the production of healthy tissue. As spray coverage increases further, the sensitive strain is eliminated and the resistant strain

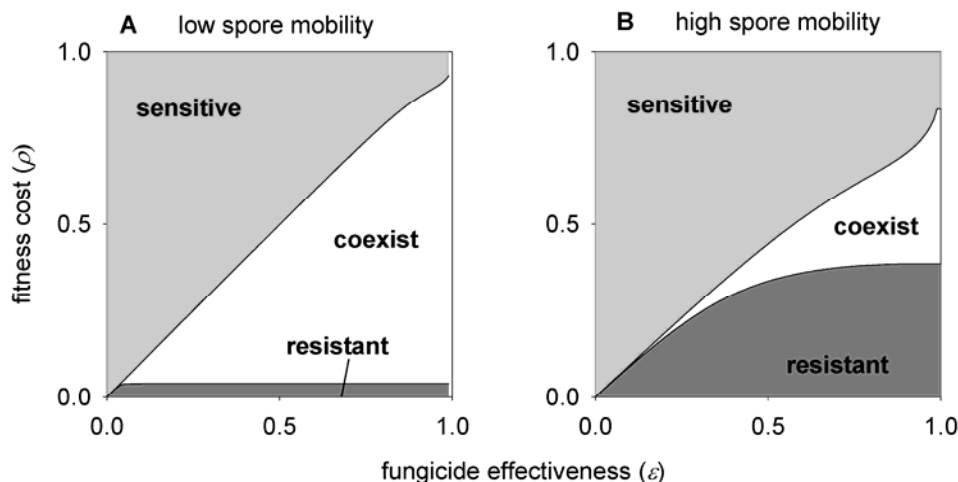
can grow unchecked thereby reducing healthy host tissue. It therefore follows that the maximal amount of healthy tissue occurs when there is coexistence. However, further research is required to establish the practical significance of this finding as it relates to equilibrium conditions which may not be achieved in practice.

**Concluding remarks.** The main message from this paper is that, where there is incomplete spray coverage and a cost to resistance, coexistence of fungicide-resistant and sensitive pathogen strains is possible. Moreover, we have shown that healthy host density is maximized when there is coexistence.

Whereas models have shown that incomplete spray coverage slows resistance development (7,20,32), this is in contradiction with prevailing resistance management advice (6). This contra-



**Fig. 4.** The change in the steady-state densities of total healthy host and sensitive and resistant pathogens with varying proportion of spray coverage,  $\theta$ . The equilibrium density refers to the resulting equilibrium after the resistant strain has invaded a system with only the sensitive strain present: **A**,  $\varepsilon = 0.4$ ,  $\rho = 0.2$ ; **B**, increased effect of fungicide:  $\varepsilon = 0.6$ ,  $\rho = 0.2$ ; and **C**, increased fitness cost:  $\varepsilon = 0.4$ ,  $\rho = 0.3$ . The default parameters are  $r = 1$ ,  $K = 1,000$ ,  $b = 0.0006$ ,  $g = 0.9$ ,  $\mu = 3$ ,  $\gamma = 400$ ,  $A = B = 0.1$ , and  $\mu' = 0.2$ .



**Fig. 3.** Thresholds for the invasion of sensitive and resistant strains with dependence on fitness cost and fungicide effectiveness for varying levels of dispersal (**A**, **B**, and  $\mu'$ ). **A**,  $A = B = 0.01$ ,  $\mu' = 0.25$ , and  $\theta = 0.9$ ; and **B**,  $A = B = 1$ ,  $\mu' = 0.25$ , and  $\theta = 0.9$ . When  $\varepsilon$  or  $\rho = 0$  there is no effect, and when  $\varepsilon$  or  $\rho = 1$  there is full inhibition of the pathogen.

diction is reaffirmed by the results presented here which highlight that the exclusion of the sensitive strain through high coverage sprays will impair the posttreatment recovery of sensitivity. Given the rapid increase in resistance in many plant pathogens and the excessive costs of producing new chemical products (up to \$100 million from discovery to development [12]), recovery is particularly important.

This paper provides a basis for future work to consider the role of spray heterogeneity on the management of fungicide resistance. The results are not directly applicable to insecticide systems due to differences in the mobility of insects and plant pathogens. That is, plant pathogens are sedentary, dispersing only through the movement of spores, whereas insects are mobile and disperse through the movement of the individual insect. The consequences of these differences under the type of spatial heterogeneity modeled here are unclear; however, this may form an interesting basis for future work. Further insight will be gained by looking at the role of temporal heterogeneity in fungicide spray applications and the influence of heterogeneity in fungicide coverage at a larger, regional scale.

## APPENDIX I

**A description of the dynamics of resistant and sensitive spores.** The dynamics of the resistant and sensitive spores are explicitly modeled within the system and then simplified, based on an assumption on time scales, to give average spore densities,  $U_{ij}$  (equation 6), and spore dispersal constants  $W$ ,  $X$ ,  $Y$ , and  $Z$ . In this appendix, the mathematical details behind this aspect of the paper are described.

Pathogens of resistance status  $j$ , located around either the treated or the untreated host region, produce spores. Spores can migrate to an area of different treatment status or migrate out of the pathosystem altogether, for example, due to deposition on the ground or leaving the canopy layer and being blown out of the field. Spore dynamics are therefore described by

$$\frac{dU_{1j}}{dt} = \left[ \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{sporulation} \\ \text{rate} \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{pathogen} \\ \text{density} \end{array} \right) \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{spore} \\ \text{loss} \end{array} \right] + \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{immigration from} \\ \text{untreated region} \end{array} \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{emmigration to} \\ \text{untreated region} \end{array} \right] \quad (\text{A1})$$

$$\frac{dU_{2j}}{dt} = \left[ \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{sporulation} \\ \text{rate} \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{pathogen} \\ \text{density} \end{array} \right) \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{spore} \\ \text{loss} \end{array} \right] + \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{immigration from} \\ \text{treated region} \end{array} \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{emmigration to} \\ \text{treated region} \end{array} \right] \quad (\text{A2})$$

The basic spore production rate is given by  $\gamma$ ; for sensitive infections in the treated region, spore production is reduced by fungicide effectiveness,  $\varepsilon_\gamma$ , and for resistant infections, spore production is reduced by the fitness cost to resistance,  $\rho_\gamma$ , regardless of host location. Spores from the treated region migrate to the untreated region at rate  $A$ , from the untreated region to the treated region at rate  $B$ , and are lost from the system at rate  $\mu'$ . For simplicity, spore loss is assumed to be independent of the density of the host crop. This yields the equations

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dU_{11}}{dt} &= \gamma(1-\varepsilon_\gamma)P_{11} - \mu'U_{11} - AU_{11} + BU_{21} \\ \frac{dU_{21}}{dt} &= \gamma P_{21} - \mu'U_{21} - AU_{11} + BU_{21} \\ \frac{dU_{12}}{dt} &= \gamma(1-\rho_\gamma)P_{12} - \mu'U_{12} - AU_{12} + BU_{22} \\ \frac{dU_{22}}{dt} &= \gamma(1-\rho_\gamma)P_{22} - \mu'U_{22} - AU_{12} + BU_{22} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A3})$$

**An assumption on time-scales.** Spore dispersal (parameters  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $\mu'$ ) occurs at a time-scale much shorter than that of the pathogen's infectious period,  $\mu^{-1}$ . We will thus assume that the dynamics of spore dispersal are very fast relative to the other life cycle processes. To this end, equations A3 are rescaled by dividing through by  $\mu'$ . Next assume that  $\mu'$  tends to infinity, while at the same time  $\gamma/\mu'$ ,  $A/\mu'$ , and  $B/\mu'$  approach a constant value. Solving the resulting equations we find

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\mu'} \frac{dU_{11}}{dt} &= \frac{\gamma(1-\varepsilon_\gamma)}{\mu'} P_{11} - U_{11} - \frac{AU_{11}}{\mu'} + \frac{BU_{21}}{\mu'} = 0 \\ \frac{1}{\mu'} \frac{dU_{21}}{dt} &= \frac{\gamma P_{21}}{\mu'} - U_{21} + \frac{AU_{11}}{\mu'} - \frac{BU_{21}}{\mu'} = 0 \\ \frac{1}{\mu'} \frac{dU_{12}}{dt} &= \frac{\gamma(1-\rho_\gamma)P_{12}}{\mu'} - U_{12} - \frac{AU_{12}}{\mu'} + \frac{BU_{22}}{\mu'} = 0 \\ \frac{1}{\mu'} \frac{dU_{22}}{dt} &= \frac{\gamma(1-\rho_\gamma)P_{22}}{\mu'} - U_{22} + \frac{AU_{12}}{\mu'} - \frac{BU_{22}}{\mu'} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A4})$$

and therefore equation 6, where  $W$ ,  $X$ ,  $Y$ , and  $Z$  represent dispersal constants given by

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \frac{\mu' + B}{\mu'(\mu' + A + B)} & X &= \frac{B}{\mu'(\mu' + A + B)} \\ Y &= \frac{\mu' + A}{\mu'(\mu' + A + B)} & Z &= \frac{A}{\mu'(\mu' + A + B)} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A5})$$

## APPENDIX II

**Calculation of the invasion criteria.** The criteria necessary for the invasion of either strain into a steady-state system containing only the healthy host and the other pathogen strain are calculated in this appendix.

The analysis of the stability of the steady state is described in detail by Edelstein-Keshet (11). Here we take a well-established short cut and use invasion analysis. We first calculate the criteria for the invasion of the resistant strain into a steady-state system where only the sensitive strain ( $P_{11}$  and  $P_{21}$ ) and healthy host ( $H_1$  and  $H_2$ ) are present. The stability of this system for which all variables are  $>0$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{H}_1 &= \frac{\mu\theta}{b(1-\varepsilon_b)g\gamma[X - X\theta + \theta(1-\varepsilon_g)(1-\varepsilon_\gamma)(1-\varepsilon_\mu)W]} \\ \bar{H}_2 &= \frac{\mu(1-\theta)}{bg\gamma[Y - Y\theta + \theta(1-\varepsilon_g)(1-\varepsilon_\gamma)(1-\varepsilon_\mu)Z]} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B1})$$

The values of  $\bar{P}_{11}$  and  $\bar{P}_{21}$  are not provided because they are not required to be used for the invasion analysis. For very small densities of  $P_{12}$  and  $P_{22}$ , the dynamics of the resistant strain can be described by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dP_{12}}{dt} &= \left[ b(1-\rho_b)g(1-\rho_g)\gamma(1-\rho_\gamma)W\bar{H}_1 - \frac{\mu}{1-\rho_\mu} \right] P_{12} + \left[ b(1-\rho_b)g(1-\rho_g)\gamma(1-\rho_\gamma)X\bar{H}_1 \right] P_{22} \\ \frac{dP_{22}}{dt} &= \left[ b(1-\rho_b)g(1-\rho_g)\gamma(1-\rho_\gamma)Z\bar{H}_2 \right] P_{12} + \left[ b(1-\rho_b)g(1-\rho_g)\gamma(1-\rho_\gamma)Y\bar{H}_2 - \frac{\mu}{1-\rho_\mu} \right] P_{22} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B2})$$

The stability of the steady-state  $\bar{P}_{12} = \bar{P}_{22} = 0$  can thus be determined from the eigenvalues of the Jacobian matrix,

$$J_R = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{B3})$$

where elements  $a_{ij}$  are

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11} &= bg\gamma(1-\varepsilon_b)(1-\varepsilon_g)(1-\varepsilon_\gamma)W\bar{H}_1 - \frac{\mu}{1-\varepsilon_\mu} \\ a_{12} &= bg\gamma X\bar{H}_1 \\ a_{21} &= bg\gamma(1-\varepsilon_\gamma)Z\bar{H}_2 \\ a_{22} &= bg\gamma Y\bar{H}_2 - \mu \end{aligned} \quad (B4)$$

The stability properties of the steady-state system can be determined from the determinant (det) and trace (tr) of the matrix (equation B3) and are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \det J_R &= a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21} \\ \text{tr } J_R &= a_{11} + a_{22} \end{aligned} \quad (B5)$$

The resistant strain invades where the steady-state system is unstable. This occurs where the determinant is negative or where the determinant is positive and the trace is positive. The criteria for the invasion of the resistant strain are therefore calculated to give equation 8.

To calculate the invasion criteria of the sensitive strain, the same process is repeated. The stability of a steady-state system where only the resistant strain ( $P_{12}$  and  $P_{22}$ ) and healthy host ( $H_1$  and  $H_2$ ) are present is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{H}_1 &= \frac{\mu\theta}{b(1-\rho_b)g(1-\rho_g)\gamma(1-\rho_\gamma)(1-\rho_\mu)(X-X\theta+W\theta)} \\ \bar{H}_2 &= \frac{\mu\theta}{b(1-\rho_b)g(1-\rho_g)\gamma(1-\rho_\gamma)(1-\rho_\mu)(Y-Y\theta+\theta Z)} \end{aligned} \quad (B6)$$

Where again the values of  $\bar{P}_{12}$  and  $\bar{P}_{22}$  are not provided because they are not required to be used for the invasion analysis. For very small densities of  $P_{11}$  and  $P_{21}$ , the dynamics of the sensitive strain can be described by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dP_{11}}{dt} &= \left[ b(1-\varepsilon_b)g(1-\varepsilon_g)\gamma(1-\varepsilon_\gamma)W\bar{H}_1 - \frac{\mu}{1-\varepsilon_\mu} \right] P_{11} + \\ &\quad \left[ b(1-\varepsilon_b)g(1-\varepsilon_g)\gamma(1-\varepsilon_\gamma)X\bar{H}_1 \right] P_{21} \\ \frac{dP_{21}}{dt} &= \left[ bg\gamma(1-\varepsilon_\gamma)Z\bar{H}_2 \right] P_{11} + \left[ bg\gamma Y\bar{H}_2 - \mu \right] P_{21} \end{aligned} \quad (B7)$$

The stability of the steady-state  $\bar{P}_{11} = \bar{P}_{21} = 0$  can thus be determined from the eigenvalues of the Jacobian matrix,

$$J_S = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} \quad (B8)$$

where elements  $a_{ij}$  are

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11} &= bg\gamma(1-\rho_b)(1-\rho_g)(1-\rho_\gamma)W\bar{H}_1 - \frac{\mu}{1-\rho_\mu} \\ a_{12} &= bg\gamma(1-\rho_b)(1-\rho_g)(1-\rho_\gamma)W\bar{H}_1 \\ a_{21} &= bg\gamma(1-\rho_b)(1-\rho_g)(1-\rho_\gamma)Z\bar{H}_2 \\ a_{22} &= bg\gamma(1-\rho_b)(1-\rho_g)(1-\rho_\gamma)Y\bar{H}_2 - \frac{\mu}{1-\rho_\mu} \end{aligned} \quad (B9)$$

The criteria for the invasion of the sensitive strain are calculated as for the resistant strain to give equation 9.

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