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## Sexual isolation

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Jonathan B Weitzman

Email: jonathanweitzman@hotmail.com

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The genetic elements that control [sexual isolation](#) and subsequent speciation are not well characterised. In the June 5 [Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences](#), Doi *et al.* describe the identification of a *Drosophila* locus for female mate discrimination that causes reproductive isolation (*Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 2001, **98**:6714-6719). They studied *Drosophila ananassae* and *Drosophila pallidosa*, which are sexually isolated species. Courtship song generated by male wings influenced female choices of mating partners. Genetic analysis of F1 hybrid females allowed Doi *et al.* to map a female discrimination locus on chromosome 2, and chromosomal introgression analysis using extensive backcrosses refined the mapping to near the *Deltagene* locus.

## References

1. Genetics and speciation.
2. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, [<http://www.pnas.org>]