

1 **Parallel clines in native and introduced ragweed populations are**  
2 **likely due to adaptation**

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## 14 **Abstract**

15 As introduced species expand their ranges, they often encounter differences in climate which are  
16 often correlated with geography. For introduced species, encountering a geographically variable  
17 climate sometimes leads to the re-establishment of clines seen in the native range. However,  
18 clines can also be caused by neutral processes, and so it is important to gather additional  
19 evidence that population differentiation is the result of selection as opposed to non-adaptive  
20 processes. Here, we examine phenotypic and genetic differences in ragweed from the native  
21 (North America) and introduced (European) ranges. We used a common garden to assess  
22 phenotypic differentiation in size and flowering time in ragweed populations. We found  
23 significant parallel clines in flowering time in both North America and Europe. Height and  
24 branch number had significant clines in North America and, while not statistically significant,  
25 the patterns in Europe were the same. We used SNP data to assess population structure in both  
26 ranges and to compare phenotypic differentiation to neutral genetic variation. We failed to detect  
27 significant patterns of isolation by distance, geographic patterns in population structure, or  
28 correlations between the major axes of SNP variation and phenotypes or latitude of origin. We  
29 conclude that the clines seen for flowering time and size are most likely the result of adaptation.

## 30 **Introduction**

31 Invasive species are both biological disasters and curiosities. In addition to the dual economic  
32 and ecological damage introduced plants can cause when they proliferate, they also offer  
33 opportunities to study evolutionary ecology during colonization (Callaway & Maron 2006). For  
34 example, invasions provide ideal systems to study the effects of reproductive isolation, how  
35 dispersal affects species distributions and the effect of a new individual species on an ecosystem  
36 (Sax *et al.* 2007). Evolutionary biologists have garnered insights from introduced species for  
37 decades by studying patterns of variation, interactions with native species, and comparing native  
38 and introduced populations (Huey *et al.* 2005). Clines in introduced populations offer an  
39 opportunity to study parallel evolution, the rate and predictability of local adaptation, and  
40 whether phenotypic divergence is due to selection or stochastic, non-adaptive forces (Huey *et al.*  
41 2005; Samis *et al.* 2012; Colautti & Lau 2015). Here, we use a field common garden experiment  
42 and genotyping-by-sequencing (GBS) to investigate clines in introduced and native ragweed

43 populations with the goal of distinguishing between adaptive and non-adaptive mechanisms  
44 underlying clinal variation.

45 Incorporating an evolutionary perspective into invasion biology is critical to understanding the  
46 course an invasion has taken and how it might continue to unfold. For example, the capacity of  
47 an introduced population to adapt to its new climate is important for its capacity to persist and  
48 spread (Colautti & Barrett 2013). Adaptation to climate variables often lead to geographic  
49 differentiation, as climate and geography are strongly correlated (Endler 1977). The common  
50 pattern of a gradient in traits or alleles over a geographic range (Huxley 1938) is often  
51 interpreted as evidence of adaptive differentiation. Clines can be found in both Mendelian and  
52 quantitative traits and there are hundreds of examples across a wide variety of taxa (Campitelli  
53 2013). Clines in introduced species, especially those that mirror geographic variation in the  
54 native range, are often perceived as evidence that introduced populations have adapted to their  
55 new environments (Samis et al. 2012; Colautti and Barrett 2013). However, processes other than  
56 adaptation can also be responsible for both phenotypic and genetic clines, and need to be  
57 controlled for (Keller and Taylor 2008). For example, phenotypic clines observed *in situ* could  
58 be caused by plastic responses to environmental variables, especially in plant species (Huxley  
59 1938), and neutral processes present through colonization could also produce clines (Vasemägi  
60 2006; Keller *et al.* 2009; Santangelo *et al.* 2018).

61 Distinguishing between the possible forces underlying clines can be achieved in several ways.  
62 Plasticity can be excluded by using a common garden to ensure that any differences between  
63 populations have a genetic basis (Lucek *et al.* 2014). Linking clines with natural selection and  
64 demonstrating a correspondence between the direction of selection and variation in phenotypes  
65 can also strengthen the case that a cline is the result of adaptation (Etterson *et al.* 2008). Parallel  
66 clines can also be interpreted as evidence of adaptation (Samis et al. 2012). Neutral markers can  
67 be used to rule out drift and support hypotheses that differences are due to adaptation (Keller &  
68 Taylor 2008; Kooyers & Olsen 2012; Lima *et al.* 2012; Campitelli and Stinchcombe 2013; Le  
69 Gros *et al.* 2016). Likewise  $Q_{ST}$ - $F_{ST}$  comparisons can be used to compare molecular and  
70 quantitative genetic variation. Whereas  $F_{ST}$  examines differentiation at neutral markers,  $Q_{ST}$  is  
71 analogous but quantifies population divergence for quantitative traits (Spitze 1993). Meta-  
72 analyses have found that genetic differentiation among introduced populations are common and  
73 on average do not differ much in magnitude from divergence between native populations

74 (Colautti and Lau 2015). By using these methods, researchers have bolstered the argument that  
75 rapid adaptation occurs in non-native species from plants to fruit flies (Huey *et al.* 2000;  
76 Montague *et al.* 2008; Samis *et al.* 2012; Colautti & Lau 2015).

77 *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* (ragweed) is a globally invasive species with a wide range in its native  
78 continent of North America and a presence in Europe, Asia and Australia (Friedman & Barrett  
79 2008). Past work on *A. artemisiifolia* has demonstrated parallel clinal patterns in flowering time  
80 in the native and introduced ranges (Hodgins & Rieseberg 2011). In this experiment, we examine  
81 variation in several quantitative traits across geography. To determine how quantitative variation  
82 may have been impacted by neutral processes, we use single neutral polymorphism (SNP) data to  
83 assess neutral genetic variation. We ask the questions: **Are there clinal patterns in quantitative**  
84 **traits, in the introduced and native ranges? Are the patterns consistent with a history of**  
85 **selection in the introduced range, or non-adaptive processes?** Our results corroborate, using  
86 independent biological samples, experiments, and analytical approaches, past results (Hodgins  
87 and Rieseberg 2011; van Boheemen *et al.* 2018) of clinal variation in ragweed being likely due to  
88 adaptive differentiation rather than stochastic processes.

## 89 **Methods**

### 90 *Study species*

91 *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* (common ragweed) is an annual outcrosser in the Asteraceae family  
92 (Bassett & Crompton 1975; Friedman & Barrett 2008). Ragweed is thought to have originated in  
93 the plains of North America, and then spread eastward (Bassett and Crompton 1975). In the  
94 modern era, ragweed has been accidentally introduced to Europe, Asia and Australia (MacKay &  
95 Kotanen 2008). In Europe, ragweed has been present since at least the mid-1800s, but propagule  
96 pressure (composite measure of the individuals or seeds released in an introduction and the  
97 number of introductions (Lockwood *et al.* 2005)) increased dramatically in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century  
98 when ragweed seeds contaminated grains shipped from the Americas to Europe (Chauvel *et al.*  
99 2006). The geopolitical situation during that period meant that imports were coming from  
100 different areas into Western versus Eastern Europe. This resulted in two invasion centres, with  
101 distinct genetic origins (Gladieux *et al.* 2011). In France, the epicenter of the invasion is the  
102 Rhône valley, where ragweed grows in very large populations along riverbanks (Chauvel *et al.*

103 2006; Thibaudon *et al.* 2013). The most impacted nation is Hungary, and in Eastern Europe  
104 ragweed populations now extend north up into Poland and south into the Baltic states (Prank *et*  
105 *al.* 2013). Ragweed is considered one of the most problematic invaders in Europe: it causes  
106 allergies, and is a significant agricultural weed. In Hungary, it is the most widespread weed in  
107 surveys (Kiss & Béres 2006) and over 80% of arable land is affected (Buttenschön *et al.* 2010).

#### 108 *Seed collection and preparation*

109 In the autumns of 2012 and 2013, we collected seeds from a total of 20 native and 18 introduced  
110 populations (Figure 1; population coordinates in Appendix Tables A1 and A2). In both ranges  
111 the populations spanned ~7.5 degrees in latitude. These populations ranged from small (5  
112 individuals) up to tens of thousands of individuals. When populations had fewer than twenty  
113 individuals, we collected seeds from all the plants. For larger populations, we collected from a  
114 random subset. Using methods adapted from Willemsen (1975) and Jannice Friedman (Queen's  
115 University, pers. comm.), we stratified seeds at 4°C for six months in plastic bags filled with  
116 silica and distilled water.

117

#### 118 *Common garden*

119 For this experiment we randomly chose 10 maternal families per population, except in cases  
120 where there were fewer than 10 families, in which case we used all available. We chose three  
121 germinants from each family (one for each of three blocks) for a total of 1110 plants. Each  
122 individual was randomly assigned a position within a block. We planted germinants in seedling  
123 trays and kept in a greenhouse where we sprayed and bottom watered them for three weeks. At  
124 the end of June 2014, we planted seedlings into a plowed field at the Koffler Scientific Reserve  
125 ([www.ksr.utoronto.ca](http://www.ksr.utoronto.ca); 44.803°N, 79.829°W). Blocks were subdivided into plots, each containing  
126 64 plants in an 8x8 configuration, except for the final plot. We continued to remove interspecific  
127 vegetation and provide the seedlings with water for four weeks after transplantation to promote  
128 establishment.

#### 129 *Phenotypic traits*

130 We measured final height, final number of branches, and date of first flower. Since the vast  
131 majority of ragweed plants are monoecious (Bassett and Crompton 1975), we measured proxies

132 of both male and female fitness. Male reproductive effort was estimated as the total inflorescence  
133 length, which is correlated with pollen production (Fumanal *et al.* 2007). We estimated female  
134 reproductive output, using seed mass, which is highly correlated with seed number ( $r^2=0.96$ ,  
135  $p<0.001$ ) (MacDonald and Kotanen 2010). We ran initial models including latitude and block to  
136 assess if block had a significant effect on traits; block was not significant for any trait, and was  
137 thus dropped in subsequent models. To test for clines in phenotypic traits, we used linear  
138 regressions. For each continent, we conducted regressions for three phenotypic traits (height,  
139 flowering time and branch number) and the two fitness traits on latitude. Similar results were  
140 obtained using population means for traits and latitude. Unless otherwise specified below,  
141 statistical analyses were conducted in R (R Development Core Team 2016).

#### 142 *Neutral markers*

143 We collected leaf material from 180 ragweed plants from 26 populations (9 introduced, 17  
144 native) grown in seedling trays in growth chambers at the University of Toronto. These plants  
145 were from a subset of the populations used in the common garden, but were separate plants. GBS  
146 library prep was conducted by the Hodgins lab at Monash University Australia. In brief, DNA  
147 was digested from the dried leaves and adapters were ligated to the strands. A double enzyme  
148 digest with Pst1 and Msp1 was implementing using the same protocol as in van Boheemen *et al.*  
149 (2018). DNA libraries were sent to Genome Quebec for sequencing on an Illumina HiSeq 2500,  
150 using PE125 sequencing.

151 We used Stacks (Catchen *et al.* 2013) and Bowtie 2 (Langmead & Salzberg 2012) to  
152 demultiplex, align to a reference genome provided by the Hodgins lab and to calculate  
153 population genetic metrics. We checked the sequence quality using FastQC (Andrews 2010) and  
154 samtools (Li *et al.* 2009). We converted between multiple formats using PGD Spider (Lischer &  
155 Excoffier 2011), samtools (Li *et al.* 2009), Bowtie 2 (Langmead and Salzberg 2012), admixr  
156 (Petr n.d.) and custom python and bash scripts (see Github). To prepare for STRUCTURE and  
157 isolation by distance (IBD) analysis we filtered snps using vcf tools (Danecek *et al.* 2011). We  
158 excluded snps with a minor allele count lower than 4 (equivalent to 2.2%) or with data missing in  
159 greater than 20% of samples. These thresholds were average to conservative based on those used  
160 in previous studies (McGrath 2014; Huang *et al.* 2014; Taylor *et al.* 2014; Sawler *et al.* 2015;  
161 Beck & Semple 2015; Ilut *et al.* 2015; Martin *et al.* 2016; Mondon *et al.* 2017). We set the

162 significance threshold for Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium at  $1e-5$ , which was the midpoint used in  
163 a review of past studies (Anderson *et al.* 2010). Since very rare alleles could still be important  
164 for assessing population structure (Linck & Battey 2017), we evaluated whether inclusion of  
165 them altered the results, and found that they did not. We present results with the exclusion of  
166 SNPs with rare minor allele counts  $<2.2\%$ .

### 167 *Population Structure and Geography.*

168 To conduct a STRUCTURE analysis (Pritchard *et al.* 2000) while taking advantage of  
169 parallelization, we used StrAuto (Chhatre & Emerson 2017). We conducted separate analyses for  
170 the two continents, with five replicates at  $K=1-6$  for each. In addition, we ran a STRUCTURE  
171 analysis using data from all the populations together. To visualize the STRUCTURE output we  
172 used the default settings of the web-based program Cluster Markov Packager Across K  
173 (CLUMPAK) (Kopelman *et al.* 2015) and the R package *pophelper* (Francis 2017).

174 To examine isolation by distance (IBD), we used the R package *adegenet* to test for IBD in each  
175 continent separately (Jombart 2008). *Adegenet* uses a Mantel test between matrices of genetic  
176 and geographic distances to assess if more spatially disparate populations are also more  
177 genetically divergent.

178 In addition to STRUCTURE and IBD, patterns in genetic data can also be understood with  
179 principal component analysis (Cavalli-Sforza *et al.* 1994; Patterson *et al.* 2006; McVean 2009;  
180 Josephs *et al.* 2018). We performed PCA on SNP data from the native and introduced ranges to  
181 test for correlations between major axes of SNP variation and the phenotypic traits of interest,  
182 and latitude. To extract principal components from SNPs we used the R package LEA (Frichot &  
183 François 2015). The vcf files were converted to geno files using the *vcf2geno* function. We then  
184 ran PCAs of all available SNPs separately for the two continents. To determine which principal  
185 components should be retained in subsequent analyses, we used Tracy-Widom tests (Patterson *et al.*  
186 *et al.* 2006). For each population, we calculated a PC score along each significant axis of SNP  
187 variation, and then used these PC scores to test for associations with traits or geography.  
188 Specifically, to determine whether axes of neutral SNP variation were related to either geography  
189 or phenotype with linear regressions. For each continent, we regressed each significant principal  
190 component on latitude and the three phenotypic traits.

## 191 *Descriptive Population Genetic Statistics*

192 To explore population genetics of the native and introduced ragweed populations, we used the  
193 programs Genodive and Splitstree (Hudson 1998; Meirmans & Van Tienderen 2004). We  
194 converted vcf files for each continent, and for the entire dataset, to the genetix format and then  
195 imported them into Genodive. We then used Genodive to estimate  $F_{ST}$ , population genetic  
196 summary statistics (including observed and expected heterozygosity and fixation indices), and to  
197 run an AMOVA to partition genetic variation between the range, population and individual  
198 levels. We used Splitstree to construct a neighbornet for all the individuals (Hudson 1998).

199 *Data availability.* Upon acceptance, accession numbers for sequences deposited in the short read  
200 archive will be placed here (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra>). A summary of our  
201 bioinformatics pipeline, including code and the original fastq files is available here  
202 (<https://github.com/brechann-mcgoey/ragweedGBS>)

## 203 **Results**

### 204 *Phenotypic traits*

205 Plants from more southern latitudes flowered later and grew larger both in total height and  
206 branch number (see Figure 2). These clines were all significant for the North American  
207 populations, while only flowering time had a statistically significant association with latitude in  
208 Europe (see Table 1). There was only one significant cline for fitness traits, with more southern  
209 North American plants producing more fruits than those in more northern populations (Figure 3).  
210 Since more southern plants were also larger, this correlation may be driven by a relationship  
211 between size and latitude.

### 212 *Neutral markers*

213 The Illumina analysis resulted in 250 033 952 total sequences which all passed a FastQC quality  
214 check. We started with 258 540 SNPs across all the populations. After filtering, we had 20 843  
215 sites for Europe and 28 643 for North America. Our STRUCTURE analysis indicated that the  
216 European samples clustered in three groups, while the North American lines clustered in five  
217 groups. In Europe, there was no obvious geographic pattern to ancestry (see Figure 4A). In North  
218 America, two populations seem distinct, but otherwise there is not much geographic structure



219 (see Figure 4B). There was no significant isolation by distance in either continent (p-value of  
220 0.84 for Europe and 0.342 for North America). Our Splitstree analysis was consistent with the  
221 above results, showing populations were not clustered into distinct subgroups (Appendix Figure  
222 A1). The global STRUCTURE analysis for all populations found the most support for  $k=5$ . As  
223 with the by-continent analyses, little of the ancestry was geographically structured (see Appendix  
224 Figure A2).

225 Tracy-Widom tests indicated that there was one significant SNP principal component in Europe  
226 and seven for the North American dataset (North America: TW Statistic  $\geq 1.029$ ,  $P \leq 0.04671$  for  
227 PCs 1-7; Europe: TW Statistic = 6.255,  $P = 1.013E-06$  for PC1). The significant European  
228 principal component explained 4.5% of genetic variation. Altogether, the significant North  
229 America principal components explained 14.6% of genetic variation. There were no significant  
230 relationships between significant SNP principal component scores and either latitude or  
231 phenotype (all p values  $>0.05$ ). These results suggest that axes of (neutral) SNP variation are not  
232 related to either latitude, or the phenotypic traits, suggesting that latitudinal clines are unlikely to  
233 be generated by neutral or stochastic processes.

234 In keeping with the lack of geographic structure revealed by the Splitstree and Structure results,  
235  $F_{ST}$  values were universally low (mean of 0.0639 (range of 0.003 to 0.213) for North America  
236 and 0.0566 (range of 0.018 to 0.12) for Europe, see Appendix tables A13& A4 for population  
237 specific results). Other population level statistics were consistent with the conclusion that there is  
238 low population differentiation in both ranges (see Appendix tables A5 & A6). An AMOVA of  
239 the global dataset indicated that very little variance was at the between continent or between  
240 population levels (see Appendix table A7). Total heterozygosity was lower in native (0.150) as  
241 compared to the invasive range (0.202). The expected heterozygosity within populations was  
242 also higher in the invasive range (0.192 vs 0.141 for the native range).

## 243 **Discussion**

244 Introduced species offer a unique opportunity to address important questions in evolutionary  
245 biology (Sax et al. 2007; Yoshida et al. 2007). Adaptation is an important and sometimes  
246 overlooked aspect of invasions (Huey et al. 2005; Barrett 2015). New species introductions offer  
247 an excellent avenue to explore the rate and predictability of adaptation, a topic of great interest to

248 evolutionary biologists (Huey et al. 2005). The reemergence of genetic clines in introduced  
249 ranges represents evidence that adaptation may occur quickly and result in predictable  
250 phenotypic differentiation (Leger & Rice 2007). Adaptation to local habitats and population  
251 differentiation can be critical to the ability of an invasive species to expand its range (Colautti  
252 and Barrett 2013). Here we detected phenotypic differentiation among native and introduced  
253 populations of common ragweed, and evidence that these clines are the results of local  
254 adaptation as opposed to neutral processes. We also examined the population structure and  
255 genetic diversity of both native and invasive populations.

### 256 *Clines as evidence of local adaptation*

257 Past studies of ragweed have found geographic patterns in phenotype, including parallel clines in  
258 the native and introduced ranges (Hodgins and Rieseberg 2011, van Boheemen et al. 2019).  
259 With populations from different parts of both Europe and North America than those used in  
260 previous studies, we corroborated their conclusions that flowering time patterns have been  
261 reproduced in the introduced range. We present evidence that these patterns are almost certainly  
262 the results of selection as opposed to neutral processes. Unlike flowering time, patterns of SNP  
263 variation were not correlated with latitude, and principal components of genetic variation were  
264 not correlated with the phenotypic traits we examined, including flowering time. Overall there  
265 was little population structure and low  $F_{ST}$  values were identified in both ranges. Van Boheemen  
266 et al. (2019) detected repeated latitudinal divergence in a host of life history and size traits in  
267 Australian, North American, and European samples of ragweed, as well. In their case, they  
268 detected these clines when controlling for structure coefficients (so-called q-values) as a measure  
269 of neutral population genetic structure. Here we used independent biological samples,  
270 phenotyped plants in a field common garden in the native range (as opposed to growth chamber),  
271 and used alternative means of assessing neutral population genetic structure (PCA of the SNP  
272 matrix). That we found qualitatively similar results—clinal differentiation above and beyond  
273 what could be explained by neutral processes—all make it unlikely that the cline in flowering  
274 time is the results of drift.

275 One caveat of this study is that all plants were grown from seed and therefore subject to maternal  
276 effects. However, we think it unlikely that maternal effects could explain the phenotypic patterns  
277 presented here. The population level maternal effects would all need to be in a consistent

278 direction across latitude. Maternal effects are more pervasive in early-life history stages  
279 (Rossiter 1996; Montague *et al.* 2008), while here we focused on traits at the end of the annual  
280 life cycle. It is also unlikely that maternal effects would be responsible for differentiation at such  
281 large geographic scales (Montague *et al.* 2008). In addition, the clines found here were consistent  
282 with those of our previous work (McGoey and Stinchcombe 2018), which included fewer  
283 populations but did remove the impact of maternal effects.

284 Ragweed has been present in Europe for ~250 years (Chauvel *et al.* 2006). In as many  
285 generations, it has spread and proliferated, especially in France, Italy and the Pannonian Plain  
286 (Thibaudon *et al.* 2013). Our previous research demonstrated that invasive ragweed populations  
287 possess ample additive genetic variation, in spite of any bottlenecks and founder effects during  
288 the colonization process. Given the results shown here, it must also be concluded that this  
289 quantitative genetic variation has been preserved in the face of selection and adaptation as well.

290 Past studies of population differentiation, including one examining ragweed in its introduced  
291 range, have used  $Q_{ST}$ - $F_{ST}$  comparisons to assess geographic variation (Leinonen *et al.* 2008;  
292 Chun *et al.* 2009). As with our study, Chun and colleagues found the invasive ragweed  
293 populations had low  $F_{ST}$  values and geographic structure (Chun *et al.* 2009). Their  $Q_{ST}$ - $F_{ST}$   
294 analysis indicated there was significant diversifying selection acting on ragweed in its introduced  
295 range. The conclusions of Chun and colleagues align with our own, that population  
296 differentiation in the invasive range is the result of adaptive evolution as opposed to neutral  
297 processes.  $Q_{ST}$ - $F_{ST}$  comparisons are very interesting but fraught with technical challenges and  
298 statistical difficulties (Whitlock 2008). For example, true  $Q_{ST}$  comparisons must obtain estimates  
299 of additive genetic variance, which means controlled crosses of dozens of pairs from each  
300 population. Doing so for six populations for our previous work was challenging, doing so for  
301 more than thirty populations would be prohibitive. Given the caveats that would be necessary  
302 with this dataset (i.e. having to use  $P_{ST}$  instead of  $Q_{ST}$ ), we decided not to pursue this analysis  
303 here.

#### 304 *Population genetics*

305 Our population genetic results indicate that there is very little geographic population structure in  
306 both continents. Population differentiation in neutral markers as measured by  $F_{ST}$  was low for

307 both the native (0.0639) and invasive (0.0566) ranges. Past work on ragweed has found similarly  
308 low  $F_{ST}$  values (Genton *et al.* 2005; Chun *et al.* 2010; 2011; Martin 2011; Martin *et al.* 2016; van  
309 Boheemen *et al.* 2017). Martin and colleagues used SNPs to assess population differentiation of  
310 North American ragweed, and found that a solitary genetic cluster was the most likely population  
311 structure (Martin *et al.* 2016). Our STRUCTURE analyses showed the highest likelihoods for  
312 multiple clusters, but there was not a geographic pattern to the ancestral groupings, especially for  
313 the European populations. The consistent findings of low isolation by distance and population  
314 structure may not be surprising given that ragweed is a wind-pollinated outcrosser (Friedman and  
315 Barrett 2008).

316 The assumption that introduced species will always face significant deficits in genetic variation  
317 has been challenged by numerous counter-examples in the literature (Colautti & Lau 2015;  
318 Estoup *et al.* 2016). In some cases, due to multiple introductions and subsequent admixture,  
319 molecular diversity is actually higher in invasive populations when compared to their native  
320 counterparts (Novak & Mack 1993; Dlugosch & Parker 2008; Keller & Taylor 2008; 2010).  
321 Here, we estimated slightly higher metrics of genetic diversity (i.e., expected heterozygosity) in  
322 the invasive range for the represented populations. These findings corroborate a study in the  
323 French and North American ranges using microsatellite genetic variability where within  
324 population diversity was higher in the invasive range and overall genetic diversity was  
325 comparable between the two ranges (Genton *et al.* 2005). The high genetic diversity in the  
326 invasive range is likely the result of high propagule introduction from multiple sources in the  
327 native range (Genton *et al.* 2005a). The persistence of large, genetically diverse populations in  
328 the worst affected areas of Europe are dangerous sources for the spread of ragweed into currently  
329 unaffected areas. Roads and railway tracks are ideal corridors and habitats for ragweed and could  
330 facilitate multiple introductions and gene flow (Lavoie *et al.* 2007).

### 331 *Conclusions*

332 Adaptation in introduced environments is not just theoretically interesting, but also has  
333 extremely important ecological and economic implications. Gradients in abiotic variables can  
334 lead to divergent selection across an introduced range and, if populations have sufficient genetic  
335 variation, create clines in traits (Maron *et al.* 2004). This adaptation can exacerbate the negative  
336 impacts of introduced species (Maron *et al.* 2004; Huey *et al.* 2005)

337 Ragweed has already caused economic and health impacts in Europe (Buttenschøn et al. 2010).  
338 Climate change is expected to extend its growing season, and it continues to spread its  
339 geographic range (Ziska et al. 2011). Our research corroborates past findings that ragweed has  
340 been able to adapt to its invasive range (Chun et al. 2011; Hodgins and Rieseberg 2011). The  
341 genetic, phenotypic and ecological traits of introduced ragweed make it very likely that the  
342 invasion will worsen.

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553 **Table 1. Result of regressions of *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* traits on latitude** in the invasive  
554 (European) and native (North American) ranges. \*\*\* Indicates P<0.01.

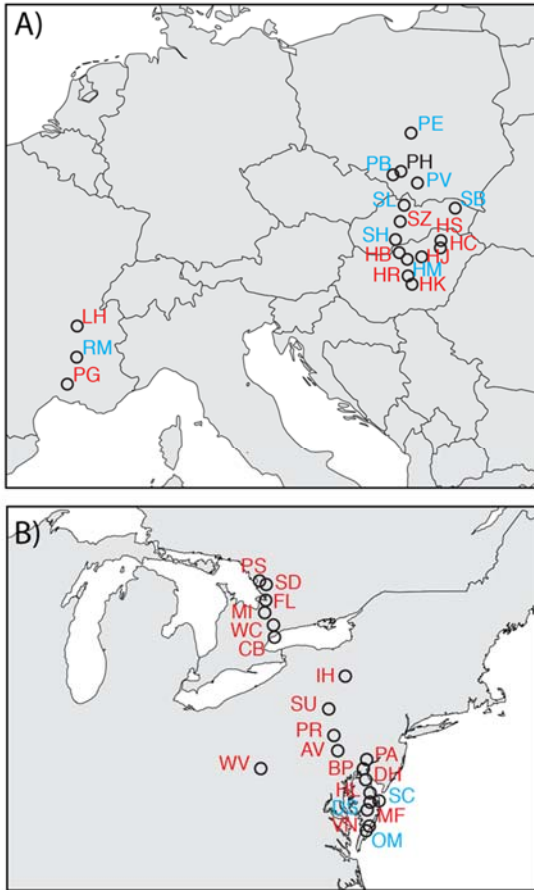
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	<b>Flowering time</b>	<b>Height</b>	<b>Total branches</b>	<b>Male fitness</b>	<b>Female fitness</b>
<b>EUROPE</b>					
<b>Estimate</b>	-1.545***	-0.672	-0.120	-9.523	-0.578
<b>Std. error</b>	(0.319)	(0.578)	(0.180)	(7.236)	(0.387)
<b>Degrees of freedom</b>	231	228	227	228	194
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>					
<b>Estimate</b>	-4.694***	-5.570***	-0.333***	-10.557	-2.243***
<b>Std. error</b>	(0.262)	(0.495)	(0.129)	(6.776)	(0.339)
<b>Degrees of freedom</b>	287	285	284	285	262

556

557 Figures.

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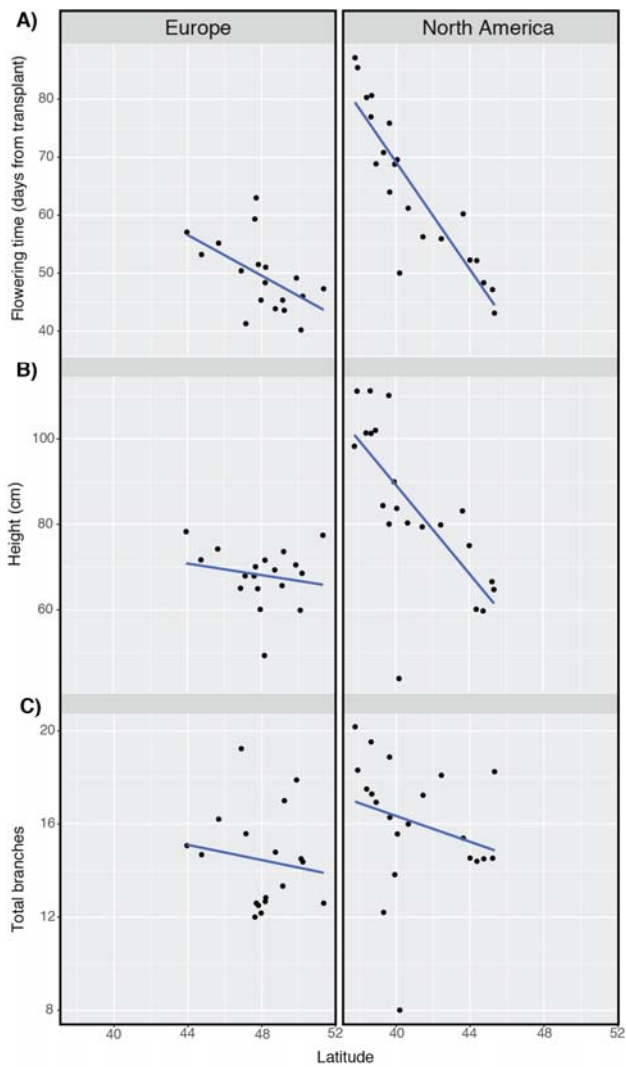
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561 **Figure 1. Map of population *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* collection sites from (A) Native North**  
562 **American range (B) Invasive European range. Collection sites used only for the common garden**  
563 **are shown in blue. Sites used for both the common garden and SNP study are shown in red.**

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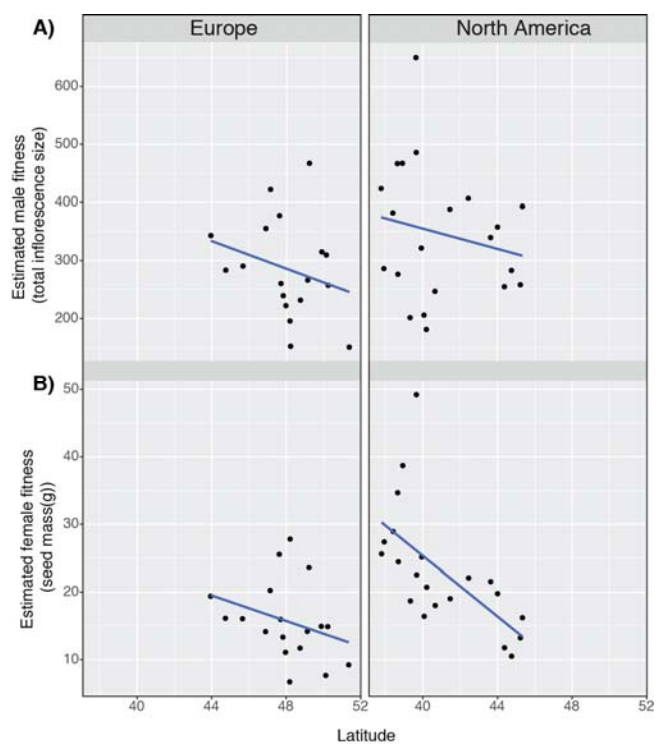


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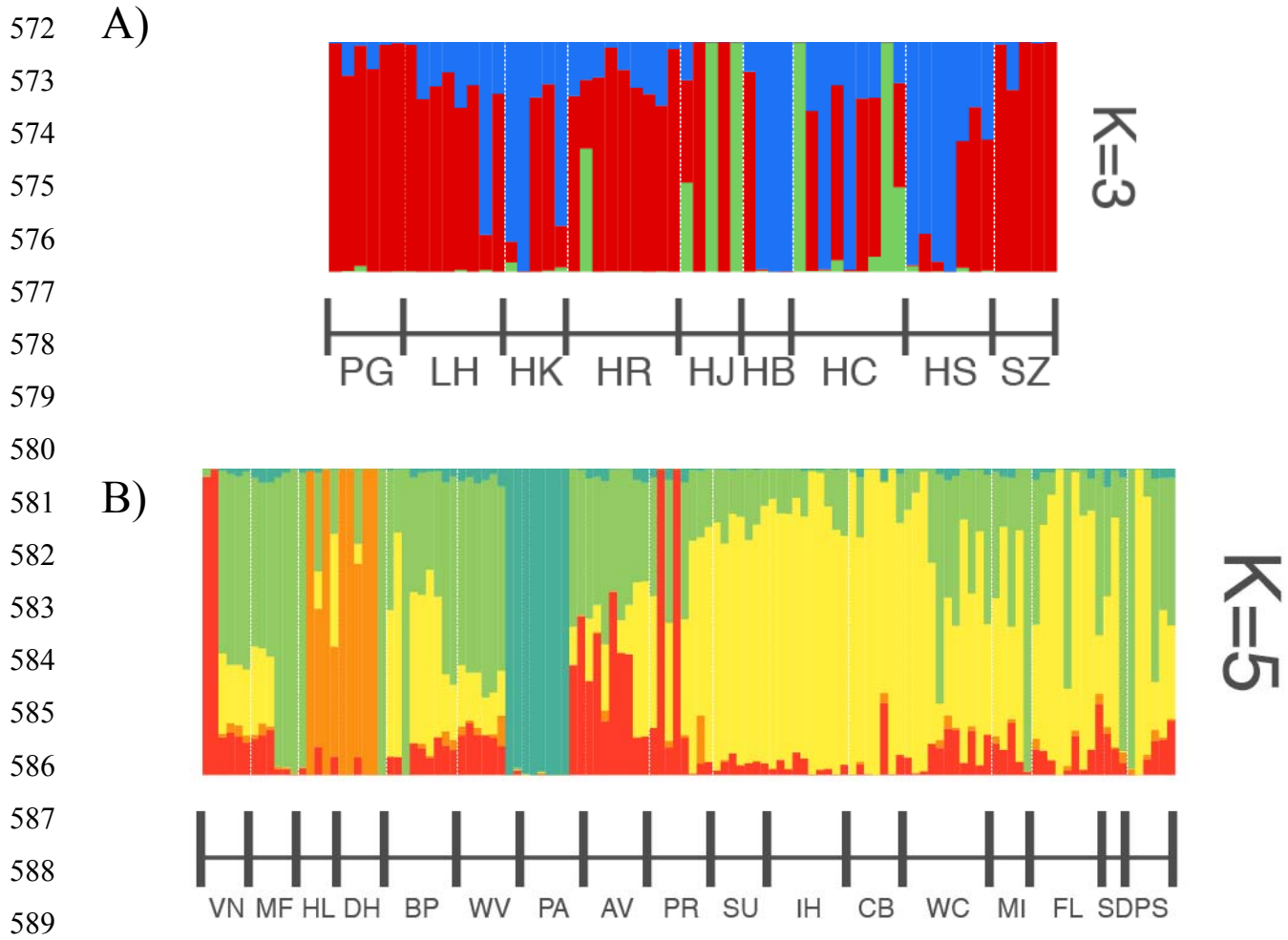
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**Figure 2. Phenotypic results for ragweed plants grown in common garden. (A) Flowering time (B) Height (C) Total branches on the y axes, the latitudes of origin on the x-axis.**



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**Figure 3. Female and male reproductive output results for ragweed plants grown in common garden. (A) Estimated male fitness (B) Estimated female fitness.**



590 **Figure 4. STRUCTURE results for ragweed populations (A) Europe (B) North America.**

591 Populations are ordered from lowest to highest latitudes (south to north).



592 **Appendices**

593 **Table A1.** Population coordinates for 18 European (invasive) ragweed populations.

594

<b>Population Abbreviation</b>	<b>Continent</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>
PG	Europe	43.9475	4.536631
RM	Europe	44.74194	4.940783
LH	Europe	45.66117	4.966539
HK	Europe	46.89164819	19.65085249
HR	Europe	47.13845	19.47464
HM	Europe	47.62666192	19.44151603
HJ	Europe	47.70273145	20.07493272
HB	Europe	47.8226962	19.089972
HC	Europe	47.962356	20.894481
HS	Europe	48.18515189	20.92252985
SH	Europe	48.21292953	18.93131109
SZ	Europe	48.74195476	19.13689272
SB	Europe	49.13566482	21.55096851
SL	Europe	49.222985	19.302752
PV	Europe	49.8798343	19.89245121
PB	Europe	50.12194	18.81494
PH	Europe	50.22392429	19.17026453
PE	Europe	51.35332297	19.60609006

595

596 **Table A2.** Population coordinates for 20 North American (native) ragweed populations.

597

<b>Population Abbreviation</b>	<b>Continent</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>
OM	North American	37.77932728	-75.61065442
VN	North American	37.92026101	-75.47660198
MF	North American	38.40708263	-75.56824697
DS	North American	38.64183334	-75.445
SC	North American	38.68109706	-75.07450333
HL	North American	38.92013797	-75.44832488
DH	North American	39.32390625	-75.62242479
BP	North American	39.64569554	-75.71813984
WV	North American	39.6584	-79.90525
PA	North American	39.930872	-75.583156
AV	North American	40.20018743	-76.76244026
PR	North American	40.65946579	-76.91820217
SU	North American	41.45751046	-77.13565654
IH	North American	42.44996	-76.46113
CB	North American	43.63519	-79.34576
WC	North American	44.003197	-79.393311
MI	North American	44.37683	-79.74113
FL	North American	44.750014	-79.704694
SD	North American	45.225364	-79.681836
PS	North American	45.3347	-79.956231

598 **Table A3.** Pairwise  $F_{st}$  values for North American ragweed populations

	VN	MF	HL	BP	WV	PA	AV	PR	SU	CB	MI	FL	SD	PS	DH	IH	WC
VN	--	0.061	0.101	0.18	0.078	0.082	0.18	0.089	0.093	0.075	0.073	0.061	0.13	0.085	0.086	0.066	0.06
MF	0.061	--	0.033	0.118	0.02	0.018	0.116	0.031	0.029	0.017	0.018	0.022	0.049	0.027	0.02	0.007	0.01
HL	0.101	0.033	--	0.154	0.051	0.052	0.149	0.059	0.061	0.049	0.05	0.054	0.092	0.057	0.053	0.04	0.0
BP	0.18	0.118	0.154	--	0.131	0.131	0.213	0.137	0.145	0.129	0.139	0.13	0.188	0.145	0.139	0.117	0.1
WV	0.078	0.02	0.051	0.131	--	0.034	0.125	0.044	0.038	0.024	0.019	0.026	0.049	0.03	0.043	0.02	0
PA	0.082	0.018	0.052	0.131	0.034	--	0.125	0.043	0.043	0.033	0.032	0.035	0.068	0.044	0.042	0.021	0.0
AV	0.18	0.116	0.149	0.213	0.125	0.125	--	0.133	0.135	0.124	0.129	0.121	0.171	0.137	0.136	0.112	0.1
PR	0.089	0.031	0.059	0.137	0.044	0.043	0.133	--	0.051	0.04	0.039	0.042	0.072	0.049	0.053	0.031	0.03
SU	0.093	0.029	0.061	0.145	0.038	0.043	0.135	0.051	--	0.035	0.036	0.036	0.079	0.044	0.05	0.025	0.03
CB	0.075	0.017	0.049	0.129	0.024	0.033	0.124	0.04	0.035	--	0.009	0.009	0.046	0.02	0.043	0.015	0.00
MI	0.073	0.018	0.05	0.139	0.019	0.032	0.129	0.039	0.036	0.009	--	0.01	0.041	0.011	0.042	0.016	0.00
FL	0.061	0.022	0.054	0.13	0.026	0.035	0.121	0.042	0.036	0.009	0.01	--	0.04	0.017	0.041	0.017	0.00

SD	0.13	0.049	0.092	0.188	0.049	0.068	0.171	0.072	0.079	0.046	0.041	0.04	--	0.054	0.071	0.047	0.03
PS	0.085	0.027	0.057	0.145	0.03	0.044	0.137	0.049	0.044	0.02	0.011	0.017	0.054	--	0.048	0.025	0.01
DH	0.086	0.02	0.053	0.139	0.043	0.042	0.136	0.053	0.05	0.043	0.042	0.041	0.071	0.048	--	0.031	0.03
IH	0.066	0.007	0.04	0.117	0.02	0.021	0.112	0.031	0.025	0.015	0.016	0.017	0.047	0.025	0.031	--	0.00
WC	0.063	0.015	0.047	0.122	0.02	0.029	0.114	0.036	0.031	0.007	0.003	0.006	0.036	0.012	0.037	0.009	--

599

600 **Table A4.** Pairwise  $F_{st}$  values for European ragweed populations

	PG	LH	HK	HR	HJ	HB	HC	HS	SZ
PG	--	0.021	0.050	0.026	0.091	0.051	0.043	0.038	0.054
LH	0.021	--	0.035	0.018	0.083	0.034	0.035	0.030	0.047
HK	0.050	0.035	--	0.036	0.105	0.063	0.056	0.050	0.07
HR	0.026	0.018	0.036	--	0.080	0.037	0.039	0.028	0.046
HJ	0.091	0.083	0.105	0.080	--	0.120	0.099	0.092	0.114
HB	0.051	0.034	0.063	0.037	0.120	--	0.061	0.051	0.071
HC	0.043	0.035	0.056	0.039	0.099	0.061	--	0.046	0.063
HS	0.038	0.030	0.050	0.028	0.092	0.051	0.046	--	0.058
SZ	0.054	0.047	0.070	0.046	0.114	0.071	0.063	0.058	--

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602 **Table A5.** Population genetic summary statistics for North American ragweed

Statistic	Value	Std.Dev.	c.i.2.5%	c.i.97.5%	Description
Num	2	0	2	2	Number of alleles
Eff_num	1.163	0.001	1.161	1.165	Effective number of alleles
Ho	0.108	0.001	0.107	0.11	Observed heterozygosity
Hs	0.141	0.001	0.14	0.142	Heterozygosity within populations
Ht	0.15	0.001	0.148	0.151	Total heterozygosity
H't	0.15	0.001	0.149	0.152	Corrected total heterozygosity
Gis	0.23	0.001	0.228	0.233	Inbreeding coefficient
Gst	0.061	0.001	0.06	0.062	Fixation index
G'st(Nei)	0.064	0.001	0.063	0.065	Nei, corrected fixation index
G'st(Hed)	0.071	0.001	0.07	0.072	Hedrick, standardised fixation index
G"st	0.075	0.001	0.073	0.076	Corrected standardised fixation index
D_est	0.011	0	0.011	0.011	Jost, differentiation

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604 **Table A6.** Population genetic summary statistics for European ragweed

Statistic	Value	Std.Dev.	c.i.2.5%	c.i.97.5%	Description
Num	2	0	2	2	Number of alleles
Eff_num	1.224	0.001	1.221	1.226	Effective number of alleles
Ho	0.137	0.001	0.136	0.138	Observed heterozygosity
Hs	0.192	0.001	0.19	0.193	Heterozygosity within populations
Ht	0.202	0.001	0.2	0.204	Total heterozygosity
H't	0.203	0.001	0.201	0.205	Corrected total heterozygosity
Gis	0.285	0.002	0.281	0.289	Inbreeding coefficient
Gst	0.051	0.001	0.05	0.052	Fixation index
G'st(Nei)	0.057	0.001	0.055	0.059	Nei, corrected fixation index
G'st(Hed)	0.065	0.001	0.063	0.066	Hedrick, standardised fixation index
G"st	0.071	0.001	0.069	0.073	Corrected standardised fixation index
D_est	0.014	0	0.014	0.015	Jost, differentiation

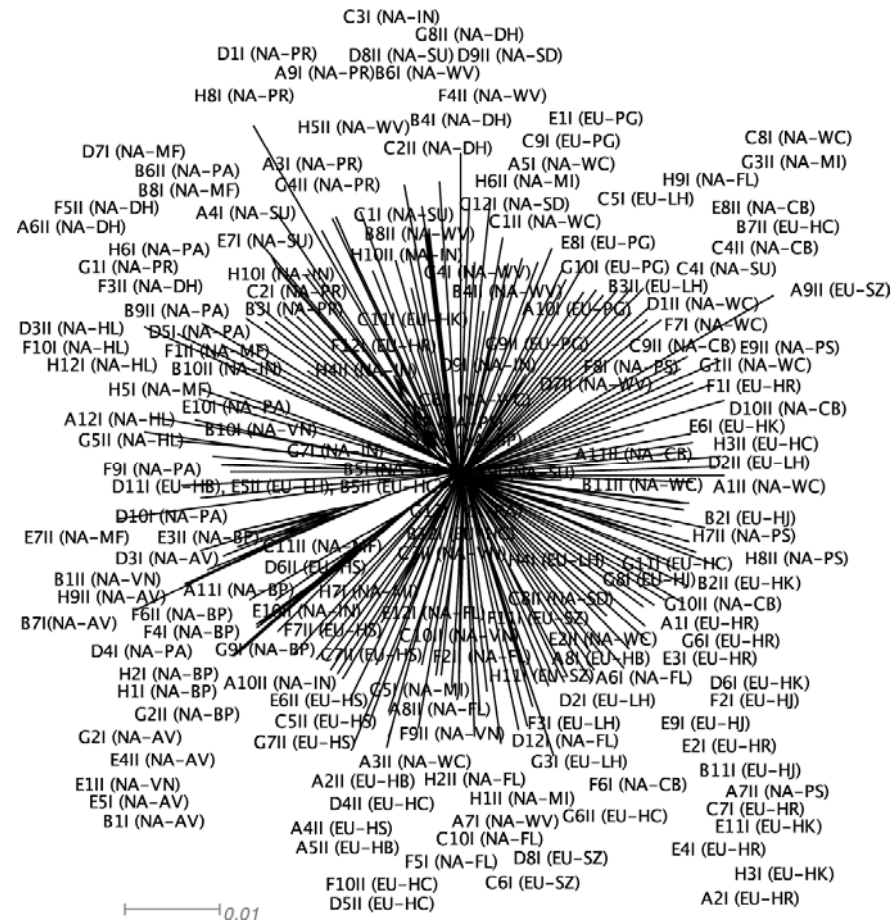
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606 **Table A7.** AMOVA output for North American and European ragweed

Source of Variation	Nested in	%var	F-stat	F-value	Std.Dev.	c.i.2.5%	c.i.97.5%	P-value	F'-value
Within Individual	--	0.795	F <sub>it</sub>	0.205	0.001	0.204	0.207	--	--
Among Individual	Population	0.162	F <sub>is</sub>	0.169	0.001	0.167	0.171	0.001	--
Among Population	Continent	0.042	F <sub>sc</sub>	0.042	0	0.041	0.043	0.001	0.048
Among Continents	--	0.002	F <sub>ct</sub>	0.002	0	0.001	0.002	0.017	0.002

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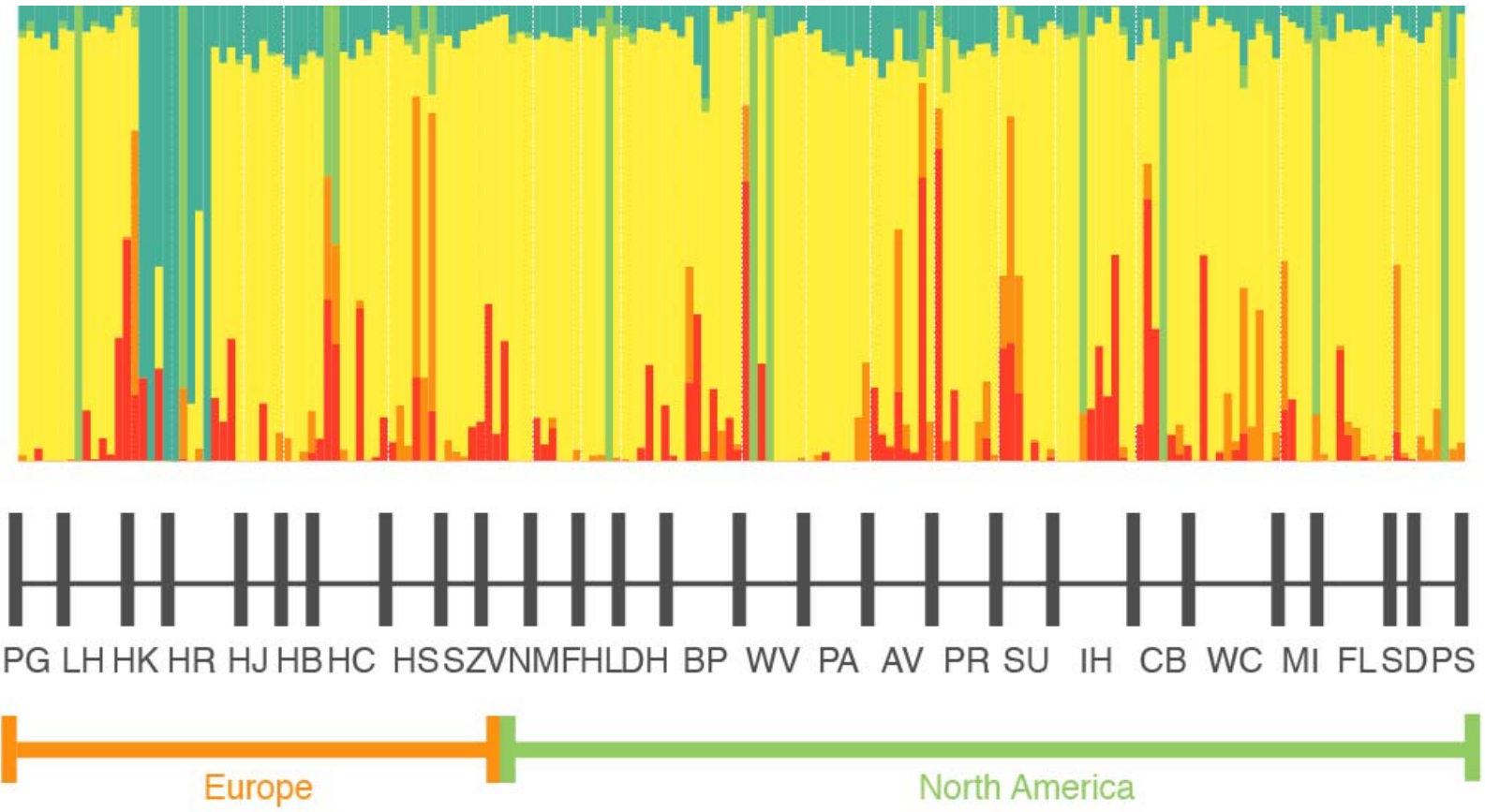




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610 **Figure A1. Splitstree results for invasive and native ragweed populations**



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**Figure A2. STRUCTURE results for all ragweed populations.** Populations are ordered first by continent and then from lowest to highest latitudes within continents.