

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910919812403321
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Titolo	The Development of Evolutionary Genetics : From Early Ideas on Evolution to the Modern Synthesis // by Prakash Gorroochurn
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer Nature Switzerland : , : Imprint : Springer, , 2024
ISBN	9783031693748 3031693744
Edizione	[1st ed. 2024.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (808 pages)
Disciplina	576.8
Soggetti	Evolution (Biology) Evolutionary genetics Human evolution Anthropology Evolutionary Biology Evolutionary Theory Evolutionary Genetics Evolutionary Anthropology
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Before Darwin's Origin of Species -- Darwin and the Origin of Species -- Hybridization from the Earliest Times Till Darwin -- Galton's Theory of Heredity -- The Theories of Heredity of Nägeli, Weismann, and de Vries -- Mendel's Theory of Heredity -- Introduction to the Biometry-Saltationism Debate -- Biometry-Saltationism Controversies During the Pre-Mendelian Period -- Biometry-Saltationism Controversies in the Immediate Post-Mendelian Period -- Round 6: Attempted Reconciliation Between Mendel's and Ancestral Laws: The Birth of the (Hardy-Weinberg) Equilibrium Law (Yule 1902, Castle 1903, Pearson 1904, Hardy 1908, Weinberg 1908) -- Round 7: The Darbishire Affair (1902-1905) -- Round 8: The Johannsen Breakthrough - Pure-Line Theory (1903), Gene and Genotype-Phenotype Distinction (1909) -- Stages Leading to The Modern Synthesis -- Modern Synthesis (1): The Contributions of Fisher -- Modern Synthesis (2): The Contributions of Wright -- Modern Synthesis (3): The Contributions of Haldane.

Sommario/riassunto

The book describes the historical development of evolutionary genetics, starting from early ideas on evolution and ending with the modern synthesis. It provides an extensive coverage of the history of both evolution and heredity, and gives detailed descriptions of the works of Lamarck, Darwin, Mendel, Nägeli, Weismann, de Vries, Galton, Pearson, Bateson, Johannsen, Morgan, Fisher, Wright and Haldane, amongst many others. The book does not deal only with a description of historical work: it also analyses and critiques existing theories and evolutionary beliefs throughout history, and discusses several controversies between biologists. "My overall view is that the level of detail is wonderful and makes for a highly informative read. But what is also very interesting is...focus on some work that is typically not discussed in the histories of the Modern Synthesis (including my own!). I think this is a tremendous contribution and will help to broaden scholarship here..." Tom Dickins, Middlesex University.
