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Impacts of infection avoidance for populations affected by sexually transmitted infections

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Highlights

- Infection avoidance via preferential mating significantly alters population dynamics.
- Bistability, reduction in population size or disease-induced extinction may occur.
- The best strategy is either no or complete avoidance of infected conspecifics.
- Sterilization alleviates the effect of avoidance but leads to lower population sizes.
- Polyandry more often results in disease-free state while polygyny in endemic one.

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