

FRIDAY,
JANUARY 27, 2012

MYERS HALL 130
4PM

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Behavioral contexts of vocalizations by deer mice in the wild

Extensive work in the laboratory has made clear the importance of ultrasound production for muroid rodents that include lab rats (*Rattus*) and mice (*Mus*). What is less clear is the relevance of ultrasonic vocalizations for wild nocturnal rodents. Using an integrated remote-sensing method that records sounds produced by free-living marked individuals, we determined the context of ultrasound production from native North American deer mice (*Peromyscus*). The behavioral context of vocal production differs among species. In the monogamous California mouse (*P. californicus*) vocalizations appear to be important for both territoriality and pair-bond maintenance and do not differ between males and females. In the polygynous brush mouse (*P. californicus*) vocalizations appear to be important for mediating female interactions and mating and do differ between males and females. Ultrasonic vocalizations are an important component of multimodal communication in wild mice.

http://www.uncg.edu/~mckalcou/The_Kalcounis-Rueppell_Lab/Home.html

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