

1929

## The Sex Ratio in Guinea Pigs

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### Recommended Citation

Schott, R. G. (1929) "The Sex Ratio in Guinea Pigs," *Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science*, 36(1), 383-383.  
Available at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/pias/vol36/iss1/121>

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dams of which alone were the survivors the mortality was 61.4 per cent. The last two groups indicate that the male is as effective as the female in transmitting resistance to the progeny, as well as to show that a transfer of passive immunity is not responsible for the greater resistance of the chicks from the surviving parents. The speed of mortality in the different lots corresponded in general with total mortality, indicating that the chicks from parents that have survived an infection of fowl typhoid possess in general a higher potential of resistance than do chicks from parents that have not survived an epidemic of this disease.

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### THE SEX RATIO IN GUINEA PIGS

R. G. SCHOTT

The relative proportions of the sexes appearing in a total of 2,014 guinea pigs in the colony of the Department of Genetics, Iowa State College, over a six-year period have been studied. The ratio of males for the 2,014 animals was 49.4%. This is a close approach to the expected 50:50 relationship of the sexes as postulated by the sex-chromosome mechanism. Considerable seasonal fluctuation in the ratios were observed, but these are not consistent throughout the period. Age of parents, litter size, and litter sequence have no marked effect on the sex ratio.

The number of males dead at birth is greater than the number of females. Although this finding is consistent with previous observations among mammals, the difference here is not large enough to be considered significant. The death rate from birth to thirty days changes in favor of male viability, but the differences are not sufficiently great to be significant.

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AMES, IOWA.

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### THE INHERITANCE OF LEG-FEATHERING IN THE CHICKEN

W. V. LAMBERT AND C. W. KNOX

The inheritance of leg-feathering in crosses of the Black Langshan (feathered) with the White Plymouth Rock and Buff Or-