

Memorandum

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Subject: Lemming Population Study

The study of the Netherlands Lemmings has provided some key information about the population fluctuations indicated in previous studies. It has been suggested that the population controls itself by committing mass suicide, leaping to their deaths by jumping off a cliff and drowning in the North Sea. However, this suggestion has not been observed by any scientific body. The table below represents data collected during a one-year period as to the causes of death in lemmings.

Cause of Death	Percentage of Population
Natural Causes	12%
Natural Predication	8%
Accidental Drowning	2%
Human Predication	1%

The population adjustment can be explained by the following equation:

$$P = \frac{N_c N_p N_a N_h}{\sqrt{t^{t-x}}}$$

where the occurrences of N are the various causes of death, t is the length of the observation and x is the universal predator constant.

Most research indicates that the leading cause of death to lemmings is due to natural causes, mainly stress induced by the confrontation with rabbits, who share the grazing area. More study must be done to confirm this, but if proven correct, rabbits would assume a dominant position over the lemmings in the food chain, thus controlling the lemming population in an effective method. More advanced studies will have to be made to decide whether the rabbit population truly is the controlling factor of the lemming population.

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