

**Supplementary Fig. 1**. Parasite species accumulation curves for the 12 stickleback population sampled. Curves were generated using abundance data on the nine macroparasite species recorded, from a sample size of approximately 40 fish per loch. Each curve gives the mean estimate of 100 curves based on adding the samples in a random order.

**Supplementary Table 1**. Percentage of parasite species found in a random sample of 20 fish per population, relative to the total species richness for that loch. Percentages were calculated using the population-specific parasite species accumulation curves.

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| Population | Percentage of parasite species  |
| Bharpa | 86.0 |
| Buaile | 95.8 |
| Daimh | 86.0 |
| Dubhasaraidh | 100.0 |
| Hosta | 89.0 |
| Magarlan | 84.1 |
| Maighdein | 90.2 |
| Mhic A Roin | 89.3 |
| Mhic Gille Bhride | 90.3 |
| Moracha | 88.1 |
| Scadavay | 76.2 |
| Tormasad | 82.1 |