

NAME _____

Other Mechanisms for Evolution

Directions: Evolution by natural selection is just one mechanism that evolution may occur by. Read each scenario describing what is happening. Then attempt to match the name of the mechanism with those at the bottom of the page.

1. The males of a certain bird population have either blue, red or green feather variations. The females seem to prefer males who have red or blue feathers. In observing the population, it is found that green-feathered birds are becoming less and less common.

Summary (describe this mechanism of change) _____

Scenario 1 _____

2. There is a population of dairy cows being bred by humans. The humans choose only the cows that produce over 10 gallons of milk per day to breed.

Summary _____

Scenario 2 _____

3. In a population of ladybugs, a mutation in the offspring of one bug produces entirely black bugs. These bugs are more successful in escaping predators. Overtime, this gene becomes more popular in the population and the ladybug population loses its red color.

Summary _____

Scenario 3 _____

4. There is a population of squirrels who have bushy or hairless tails. 75% of the hairless tailed squirrels randomly leave the area and migrate to Branchburg. Meanwhile, 5 new squirrels enter the area and have straight haired tails.

Summary _____

Scenario 4 _____

5. Ten years ago, in a small population of ducks, two sizes of eyes were observed, large and small. Three ducks have large eyes and 7 have small. 2 of the large-eyed ducks are *randomly* hit by cars and killed. Today, no large-eyed ducks are present in the population.

Summary _____

Scenario 5 _____

Mechanism Name Choices:

Mutation Artificial Selection Gene Flow Genetic Drift Nonrandom Mating