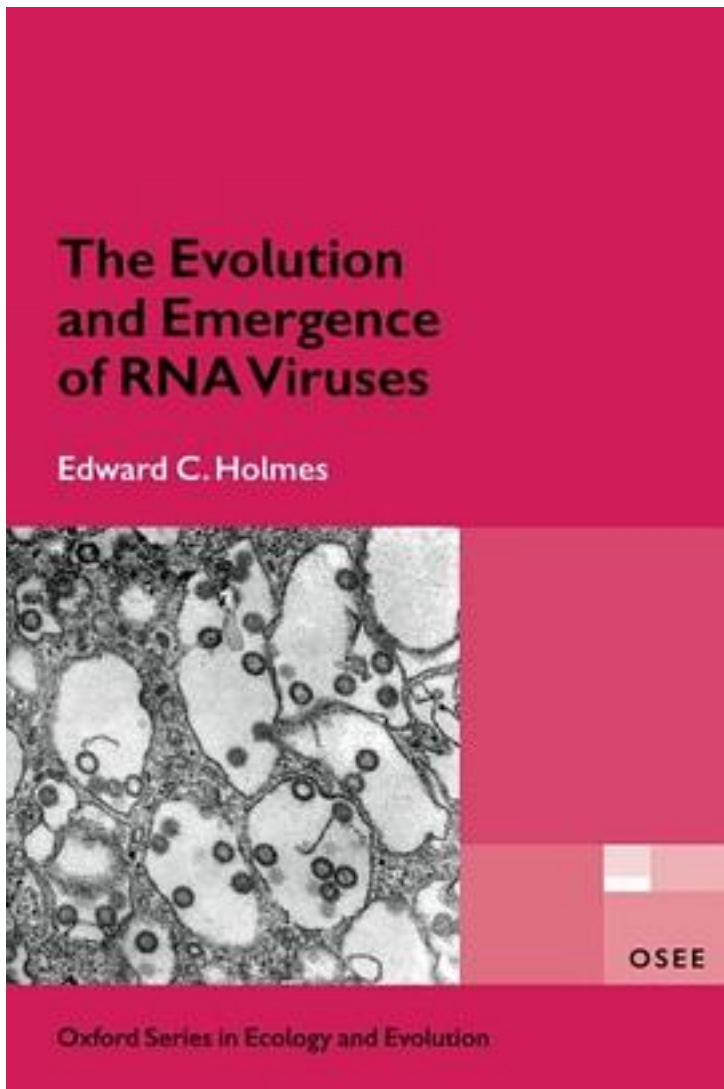


The Evolution and Emergence of RNA Viruses



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RNA viruses provide unique insights into the patterns and processes of evolutionary change in real time. The study of viral evolution is especially topical given the growing awareness that emerging and re-emerging diseases (most of which are caused by RNA viruses) represent a major threat to public health. However, while the study of viral evolution has developed rapidly in the last 30 years, relatively little attention has been directed toward linking work on the mechanisms of viral evolution within cells or individual hosts, to the epidemiological outcomes of these processes. This novel book fills this gap by considering the patterns and processes of viral evolution across their entire range of spatial and temporal scales.

The Evolution and Emergence of RNA Viruses provides a comprehensive overview of RNA virus evolution. This is the first book to link mechanisms of viral evolution to epidemiological outcomes, incorporating case studies in RNA virus emergence and evolution using topical examples such as influenza, HIV, dengue fever, and rabies. It reveals the underlying evolutionary processes by which emerging viruses cross species boundaries and spread in new hosts.

作者介绍:

Edward C. Holmes is Professor of Biology and Eberly College of Science Distinguished Senior Scholar at The Pennsylvania State University. He has authored over 200 scientific publications and in 2003 was awarded the Scientific Medal for 'Achievement in Research by a Zoologist Under the Age of 40' by the Zoological Society of London for his work on evolutionary biology and bioinformatics. He is also co-author of a highly regarded text book in molecular evolution and phylogenetics. His research sits at the interface of four disciplines - evolutionary biology, genomics, infectious disease and bioinformatics - and for the last 20 years he has been involved in the development and use of a variety of computational techniques to reveal the fundamental patterns and processes of evolutionary change in viruses.

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