

Are foxes legitimate and efficient seed dispersers? A field test

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Evaluated germination of *Cryptocarya alba* seeds dispersed by *Dusicyon culpaeus*. Defecated seeds are viable and germinate at higher proportion than controls. In the field, germination was greater for seeds located beneath shrub canopies whether or not seeds had passed through the digestive tract of a fox. Foxes deposited seeds more often in unprotected habitats than under shrubs. Therefore, foxes are legitimate but inefficient seed dispersers. -from Authors