FIGURE 20.32. (A) Male great tits (*Parus major*) have a dark breast stripe that is attractive to females: Males with larger stripes are more likely to gain mates. In a cross-fostering experiment, clutches were swapped between nests. Thus, correlations with the biological parent could be compared with correlations with the randomly chosen foster parent as a control. There is substantial genetic variation in stripe size: The stripes of sons are strongly correlated with their biological father (B, top), but there is no significant correlation with the foster parent (B, bottom). Offspring whose biological fathers have larger stripes survive significantly better over winter (C, top), whereas there is no correlation with the foster father’s stripe size (C, bottom).


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