

e. Dissemination by Vectors

Dissemination of *Endothia parasitica*  
by Birds and Small Mammals

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Birds and mammals travel up and down trees in their search for food and shelter. Mammals also spend time in the soil and litter beneath trees. *Endothia parasitica* has been recovered from both birds and mammals from chestnut plots in Connecticut. While it is improbable that birds and mammals are major vectoring mechanisms, they do come in contact with the spores and may play a role in spore movement, especially within small areas.