

The causal homogeneity of biological kinds

Esfeld, Michael (2005) The causal homogeneity of biological kinds.

Full text available as:

PDF - Requires a viewer, such as Adobe Acrobat Reader or other PDF viewer.

Abstract

The aim of this paper is to show that biological kinds can be causally homogeneous, although all biological causes are identical with configurations of physical causes. The paper considers two different strategies to establish that result: the first one relies on two different manners of classification (according to function and according to composition); the other one exploits the idea of biological classifications being rather coarsegrained, whereas physical classifications are fine-grained.

Keywords: biological kinds, causal homogeneity, functional properties, Kim

Specific Sciences: Biology: Systematics

Subjects: Specific Sciences: Biology: Molecular Biology/Genetics

General Issues: Causation

Specific Sciences: Biology: Function/Teleology

ID Code: 2522

Deposited By: Esfeld, Michael

Deposited On: 12 November 2005

Send feedback to: philsci-archive@library.pitt.edu