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**N. Fonseka, J. Goddard, Q. Morris, R. Shivaji and B. Son\*** (byungjaeson@wayne.edu),  
2111 S Lovington Dr. Apt 205, Troy, MI 48083. *On the effects of the exterior matrix hostility and a U-shaped density dependent dispersal on a diffusive logistic growth model.*

We study positive solutions to a steady state reaction diffusion equation arising in population dynamics, namely,

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u = \lambda u(1 - u); & \Omega \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta} + \gamma \sqrt{\lambda} [(A - u)^2 + \epsilon] u = 0; & \partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

where  $\Omega$  is a bounded domain in  $\mathbb{R}^N$ ;  $N > 1$  with smooth boundary  $\partial\Omega$  or  $\Omega = (0, 1)$ ,  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta}$  is the outward normal derivative of  $u$  on  $\partial\Omega$ ,  $\lambda$  is a domain scaling parameter,  $\gamma$  is a measure of the exterior matrix ( $\Omega^c$ ) hostility, and  $A \in (0, 1)$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  are constants. The boundary condition here represents a case when the dispersal at the boundary is U-shaped, that is decreasing for lower densities and increasing for higher densities. We will establish non-existence, existence, multiplicity and uniqueness results. In particular, we will discuss the occurrence of an Allee effect for certain range of  $\lambda$ . When  $\Omega = (0, 1)$  we will provide more detailed bifurcation diagrams for positive solutions and their evolution as the hostility parameter  $\gamma$  varies. (Received January 23, 2019)