**Supplementary material**

**S1.** Working to support the formulation of the critical removal threshold ($r\_{crit}) $– the number of days required to reduce a population to less than two individuals.

Initial population size: $N\_{0}$

Population removal each night: $ p$

Number remaining at timestep t: $t = R\_{t}$

Removals each night can be calculated as: $R\_{1}=(1-p)N\_{0}$

$$R\_{2}=(1-p)^{2}N\_{0}$$

$$R\_{t}=(1-p)^{t}N\_{0}$$

As we want to know time, $t^{x}$ at which $R\_{t}=1$: $1=(1-p)^{t^{x}}N\_{o}$

 $log\frac{1}{N\_{0}}=t^{x}log⁡(1-p)$

 $α=\frac{ln⁡(^{1}/\_{N\_{0}})}{ln⁡(1-p)}$