

PhD position (UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG)

Bewerbungsfrist: k.A.

Assessing insect biodiversity and functional connectivity

We invite applications from highly motivated candidates for project B4 in the *ConFoBi Research Training Group* at University Freiburg. We here specifically assess insect biodiversity through metabarcoding approaches. In addition genetic structure of key beetle species is analysed by RAD sequencing. Within this ongoing project we will continue to genetically screen further beetle species on all ConFoBi plots. Comparisons between different species will enable us to compare plots and infer necessary thresholds across the landscape level. We additionally will assess insect communities both by means of trapping and metabarcoding along the gradients of forest structure at plot and landscape-scale. In addition to previously sampled flight interception traps we will focus on ground dwelling invertebrate communities. This will be done in cooperation with ConFoBi projects B2, B3, and B5, B6. Invertebrate abundances will generate a proxy biodiversity estimate, which can be linked to structural parameters at plot and landscape scales.

Candidates should have a strong interest in interdisciplinary research and willingness to engage in scientific exchange with other disciplines. Successful applicants will:

- Hold a M.Sc. degree (or equivalent) in a relevant discipline
- Have very good statistical and analytical skills
- Be fluent in spoken and written English
- Actively contribute to a transdisciplinary research training environment
- Insect identification skills and trapping experience are of advantage.
- Knowledge in analysing large genetic datasets and bioinformatics skills
- Laboratory experience in DNA extraction, genotyping and sequencing.

Positions are available from 1.7.2019 for three years, for more details see <https://confobi.uni-freiburg.de/projects>. Please send your application as single pdf document to confobi@uni-freiburg.de (max. size 5mb). For further information please contact confobi@uni-freiburg.de.