**Re: PhD\_bee\_pathogen\_spillover Italy/Germany**

**3 year PhD on pathogen spillover among bee species (Deadline: 17 February 2023)**

An exciting PhD position is available in a newly funded project to document and model the spillover of pathogens between honey bees and wild bee species on the island of Sardinia (Italy). The project is co-supervised by Prof Alberto Satta and Dr Michela Pusceddu at the University of Sassari (Sardinia: https://en.uniss.it), where the incumbent will be enrolled, in collaboration with Prof Robert Paxton at the University of Halle (Germany: https://www.zoologie.uni-halle.de/allgemeine\_zoologie/?lang=en). The overarching goals of the project are to understand the magnitude and directionality of transmission of pathogens within and between bee species and model spillover in relation to local and landscape factors. Fieldwork will be on the beautiful island of Sardinia while molecular detection of pathogens will be in Halle.

We seek a highly motivated candidate with an interest in host-parasite relations and skills or a background in entomological field sampling and experimentation, or molecular techniques for screening pathogens. Two pre-requisites are a valid driving licence and the ability or willingness to work with bees. The position is expressly for non-Italians. The salary is on the standard Italian PhD scale.

Further details of the project and the application process can be obtained from Michela Pusceddu (mpusceddu@uniss.it) and Robert Paxton (robert.paxton@zoologie-uni-halle.de). Applications must be in English and should be made on-line at the University of Sassari (<https://www.uniss.it/bandi/bando-pnrr-xxxviii-ciclo>) by 17 February 2023. Interviews are planned for the 23 February 2023.