

From: Jan Hrcek
Subject: PhD in Experimental Community Ecology

A four year **PhD Studentship** is available for a highly motivated candidate to explore how the environment and biotic factors structure host-parasitoid food webs. This collaborative project utilizes a novel food web model system of wild *Drosophila* species and their parasitoids from tropical Australia. The student will be involved in obtaining live *Drosophila* and parasitoid lines from the field and will use laboratory microcosm experiments to study how food web structure responds to changes in temperature and species composition. The experimental food webs will be surveyed using rearing and DNA metabarcoding. There will also be opportunities to develop the project in a direction of the student's own choosing.

The successful applicant will join the Laboratory of Experimental Ecology [<http://lab.hrcek.net>] at the Institute of Entomology, Biology Centre, Czech Academy of Sciences, Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic, under the supervision of Dr Jan Hrcek. The laboratory is part of the Department of Ecology, a dynamic multinational centre for interaction network research with regular publications in leading journals [<http://www.plantanimalinteractions.com>]. The student will be co-supervised by Prof. Owen Lewis (University of Oxford) and will be in regular contact with the Community Ecology group at Oxford [<https://communityecology.zoo.ox.ac.uk>].

The deadline for applications is **January 16th 2017**, with possible start date from mid February 2017 onwards. The student will receive a salary which comfortably covers living expenses in the Czech Republic. The salary will be composed of stipend from the University of South Bohemia and part time employment at Biology Centre CAS. The working language is English and applicants from all countries are eligible.

Required

- A master's degree (non-negotiable requirement for PhD study in the Czech Republic)
- A strong educational track record in biological sciences
- Very good written and spoken English
- Interest in community ecology

Desirable

- Research experience with laboratory experiments, insect ecology or molecular ecology
- Driving licence and fieldwork experience
- Experience in ecological statistics or bioinformatics
- Experience with molecular laboratory work

To apply please send one document with your CV, contact details for two references, and cover letter stating qualifications, previous work and motivation to Jan Hrcek [janhrcek@gmail.com].