

Funded student assistant position for fieldwork in China

Moth community composition along a tree-diversity gradient



Moths are crucial to forest ecosystems, acting as herbivores, pollinators, and prey. They are also sensitive indicators of environmental changes, including shifts in plant communities. Despite this, the impact of tree richness on moth communities in forests remains largely unexplored.

This project will address this gap by studying moth communities in a tree diversity experiment in subtropical China. The candidate will assist with fieldwork for an ongoing PhD project within the international research training group [TreeDi](#). Bachelors or Masters thesis cannot be offered but an official working contract will be prepared with all travel costs covered.

Tasks:

Major tasks deal with rigorous field work but also includes lab work:

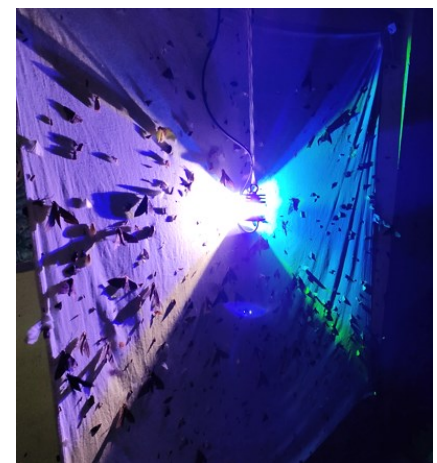
- Visit the [field site](#) to set up and empty the moth traps
- Assist in sorting and labelling of moth specimens
- Tissue collection for DNA barcoding

Opportunities and time period:

You will gain experience in field work techniques and also learn basics of specimen curation and identification of moths. Field stay is planned from 20 Aug to end of Sept 2025. A limited time working contract will be prepared (80hrs/month).

Your profile:

- Strong interest in field work (prior experience preferred)
- Basic knowledge of insects/ insect ecology (ideally also in moths)
- Good communication skills in English
- Motivation to work in an international working group with limited facilities
- Ability to work independently in the field



If you are interested to join the team or have any questions, feel free to contact us. We look forward to hearing from you!

Contact person:

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