Looking for an internship in Agroecology?

Join our team to study

Biological control of Insect pests

Insect pests can cause severe crop yield loss. Natural enemies reduce insect pest pressure on crops. However, natural enemy communities are variable in their species composition, making it difficult to predict the natural pest control service provided by a particular community. Community traits such as body size structure will play an important role in understanding which community can provide what level of natural pest control service. We will use experiments to gain mechanistic insights into natural pest regulation as a basis for harnessing natural pest control. We offer the following internship topics:

Topic 1: Investigating the relationship between natural regulation of aphids on the ground and on cereal plants and predator community traits

Topic 2: Determining the climbing behaviour of ground-active predatory arthropods

Topic 3: Quantification of insect pest control by ground-active predator communities with different body size structure

Methods: experiments and observations in the field, lab work, analysis

Estimated starting date: April 2024

Are you interested? Contact us!

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