

First circular

PLANT POPULATION BIOLOGY IN A CHANGING WORLD, BERN, 21–24 MAY 2009

22th Annual Conference of the Plant Population Biology Section of the Ecological Society of Germany, Switzerland and Austria (GfÖ).

Hosted by the Plant Ecology Group (<http://www.botany.unibe.ch/planteco/>), Institute of Plant Sciences and Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Bern

Invitation

We would like to invite you to the 22nd Annual Conference of the Plant Population Biology Section of the Ecological Society of Germany, Switzerland and Austria. The PopBio meeting is a medium-sized international meeting that has become the most exciting forum for scientific exchange among Central European plant population biologists. This year, it will take place in Bern, the beautiful capital of Switzerland. We will offer two and a half days of interesting talks and posters, great keynote speakers, a conference dinner, and a full-day excursion. We particularly encourage Masters and PhD students to attend the meeting, present their work, and become part of the PopBio community.

Scope of the Conference

The 22nd annual PopBio meeting will cover all aspects of plant population biology and related disciplines. In addition, there will be special emphasis on new methods and on implications of global change. Our keynote speakers will address how genetic, experimental, comparative, paleo-ecological and modelling techniques can be used to study plant populations in a changing world.

Organizing & Scientific Committee

Markus Fischer, Mark van Kleunen, Oliver Bossdorf, Patrick Kuss, Daniel Prati

Conference venue and preliminary program

The Popbio 2009 meeting will take place at the Institute of Plant Sciences (IPS), University of Bern, Altenbergrain 21, CH-3013 Bern. See <http://www.botany.unibe.ch/howtofind.php> for the directions. All talks will be held in the main lecture hall of the IPS.

- Conference begins on Thursday, 21 May, first talk at 9 am.
- Talks end on Saturday, 23 May, at 1 pm.
- Conference dinner on Friday, 22 May, in the evening (venue to be specified).
- Optional excursion to the Alps on Sunday, 24 May.

Important Dates

- 31 January 2009: Conference website online, and registration open.
- 31 March 2009: Deadline for abstract submission and early registration (reduced fee!).

- 1 May 2009: Announcement of full programme.

Conference Language

The conference language is English.

Call for Talks and Posters

We invite you to submit abstracts for oral and poster contributions. We especially encourage talks by Masters and PhD students. Talks will have slots of 15-20 min. The deadline for abstract submission is 31 March 2009. Abstracts for talks or posters can be submitted from 31 January 2009 via the conference website.

Registration & payment

Electronic registration, abstract submission and payment will be via the conference website. The website will be online on 31 January 2009.

Excursions and Guided Tours

On Sunday, 24 May, we will offer a full-day excursion to beautiful sites in the Swiss plateau and Jura mountains.

Conference contact:

If you have questions, please write an email to oliver.bossdorf@ips.unibe.ch.

Accommodation

There will be special contingents of reduced-rate hotel rooms at Hotel Kreuz and Hotel Metropol (detailed information will be given on the conference website).

The central website for other hotel bookings in Bern is <http://hotel.berninfo.com/English/>.

Further affordable accommodation:

- Backpackers Bern (dorm rooms from CHF 33)
<http://www.bernbackpackers.com/english.htm>
- Youth Hostel Bern
<http://www.youthhostel.ch/bern/>
- Landhaus Bern (dorm rooms from CHF 33 and double rooms from CHF 120)
http://www.landhausbern.ch/e/ef_hotel.htm
- Marthahaus (simple rooms from CHF 69; very close to conference venue)
<http://marthahaus.ch/e/index.html>

Second circular

The second circular with further information, especially with the link to the conference website, will be sent by email in January 2009.

Happy Christmas and New Year!