

Pro gradu/Masters projects in host-parasitoid interactions



Larval parasitoid *Hyposoter horticola*

Physiological manipulation of a host by its parasitoid

Parasitoid wasps are entirely dependent on the host that they are in for the resources they need for development from egg to adulthood. They can manipulate the host behavior or physiology to their advantage. I am looking for a student to study the manipulation of host physiology (allocation to fat and protein) by parasitoids of the glanville fritillary butterfly in Åland, Finland.

The project would be designed in spring of 2016 and the lab work would take place May to early July in Åland. A small stipend for two months work is available, as well as a place to stay in Åland.



The cost of inbreeding for parasitoids in the field

The sex of most parasitoid wasps and other Hymenoptera is determined at sex loci in the genome. Homozygotes are male and heterozygotes are female. For many species inbreeding leads to individuals that appear male but are sterile, which is costly to the mother, and the population. I am looking for a student to study the occurrence of sterile males in the natural population of the parasitoid *Cotesia melitaearum*. The host for this wasp is the glanville fritillary butterfly in Åland, Finland.

The project would be designed in spring of 2016. Field work would take place late April to late May in Åland. Lab work would happen after that in Vikki. A small stipend for two months work is available, as well as a place to stay in Åland.

For general information about the research group and research system see

<http://www.helsinki.fi/science/metapop/index.htm>

and

<http://www.eeb.cornell.edu/sdv2/www/people/>

If you are interested or have questions, contact Saskya at

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