



Student assistants, MSc and BSc Thesis opportunities

Forest disturbances under climate change in Lower Saxony – Dynamics of moth diversity and ecosystem functioning

During the drought period from 2018 to 2022, the vulnerability of Lower Saxony's forests to the escalating impacts of climate change became increasingly evident. In the DIVERSA project, we aim to deepen our understanding of the causes and consequences of forest disturbances, as well as their implications for forest adaptability. As part of this project, we are investigating the effects of disturbances on moth diversity and broader ecosystem functioning.

Project details: We will conduct field work from April to August/September 2025 across Lower-Saxony.

Processing of samples will continue into winter-term. Potential work will be:

- Setting up light traps and collecting samples the next day
- Processing of moth samples (sorting, pinning, identification)
- Conducting predation experiments with dummy caterpillars
- Evaluating herbivory levels

We are seeking students with a keen interest in moth diversity, ecology and identification and ideally related experience. Depending on the focus/task you would be interested in, experience in (moth)/insect pinning and/or a driver's license combined with the willingness to drive are assets. For student assistants amount of hours are negotiable (up to 86 h/month).

If you are interested and/or have any questions, please get in touch with

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at the Forest Nature Conservation group (<https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/588022.html>)

We are looking forward to hearing from you!