

Supervisor :

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Topic of the internship:

Chemical Ecology of decapod crustaceans

Key-words :

Chemical communication, animal contest, crayfish, stress, animal personality

Summary (no more than 150 words) :

In my laboratory, the student will be exposed to a variety of topics including behavioural analysis of crayfish aggressive contests, conducting bioassays to analyse the role of chemical signals, study of animal personality, behavioural and physiological consequences of stress in invertebrates. The student will work alongside other postgraduate students in one or several projects that will allow him to obtain new skills in the fields of behavioural ecology and chemical ecology. I can confirm that the general time for the internship between March and June 2015 would be suitable, the exact dates need to be confirmed.

Two bibliographic references:

Breithaupt T. (2011) Chemical communication in crayfish. In: Chemical Communication in Crustacean (eds. Breithaupt T. and Thiel M.). p257-276 Springer, USA

Berry F., Breithaupt T. (2010) To signal or not to signal? Chemical communication by urine-borne signals mirrors sexual conflict in crayfish. BMC Biology 8:25

Likely to be operated technical methods:

Conducting behavioural experiments, quantitative analysis of behavioural data, extraction of chemical signals, bioassays for identification of chemical signals

Specific skills required:

Safe work in the laboratory, basic knowledge of statistics including use of statistical software packages, handling and maintaining of aquatic animals