

Supervision :

Surname: Heymann First name: Eckhard W., Prof. Dr.
e-mail : eheyman@gwdg.de Funding for student: CAUBET Marion
yes to be discussed no

Title of the research project:

Tamarins' efficiency as seed dispersal vectors of the understory tree species *Leonia cymosa* in the Peruvian Amazon rainforest

Key words:

Seed dispersal, primate-plant interaction, behavioural ecology

Brief description:

*Seed dispersal efficiency of tamarins will be studied using behavioural sampling when feeding on the fruits of *Leonia cymosa*, quantifying the rate of consumption and predation of fruits. This information will be complemented by quantifying the consumed and discarded ripe/unripe fruits underneath the fruiting trees, which will then also validate the indirect rapid assessment of frugivore activity proposed by Boissier et al. 2014 (Biotropica 46: 633-641). Work will be carried out at the «Estacion Biologica Quebrada Blanco» in Peruvian Amazonia.*

Literature (2 references):

Schupp, Eugene W (1993) Quantity, quality and the effectiveness of seed dispersal by animals. Vegetatio 107/108: 15-29
Schupp, Eugene W.; Jordano, Pedro; Gomez, Jose Maria (2010) Seed dispersal effectiveness revisited: a conceptual review. New Phytologist 188: 333-353

Technical aspects of the research project:

Primate behavioural sampling – focal and scan sampling during feeding bouts
Fruit sampling and analysis of state of consumption

Essential skills and abilities desired:

Technical: methods for behavioural and ecological observations
Personality: patience, acute sight and concentration abilities; capability to deal with harsh field conditions in the tropics (e.g. heat, rain, mosquitoes), team spirit

Return to Professor Frank Cézilly (frank.cezilly@u-bourgogne.fr)