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	<p>Netherlands Ecological Research Network</p> <p>NERN Messages</p> <p>May 2018</p>

HIGHLIGHTS

Fundamentals in crop physiology in a changing world

3 - 8 June 2018

The course focusses on the fundamental knowledge and insight one must have about crops to be able to adapt agronomic practices to the changing world. Here the changing world refers to the environment, increased demands on sustainable production and food quality.

International PhD Course | Conflicting demands in European Forests: a wicked problem?

24 June – 2 July 2018

More and more, we are confronted with conflicting demands when trying to develop sustainable land-use strategies, resulting in so-called wicked problems. Scientists working on such wicked problems need to be trained to work in trans-, multi- and interdisciplinary teams of experts with various scientific backgrounds, such as ecologists, economists, political, and social scientists. This course aims to teach them the skills they need for working in such diverse teams, by means of a real-life case. The course is focused around Gällivare, a small town in the north of Sweden, where one can find the "last wilderness of Boreal Europe", part of an UNESCO World Heritage Site with large nature reserves and national parks. At the same time, it has an active mining industry, forestry, reindeer herding and tourism. It is a perfect place for land use and land use change discussions. A travel subsidy is available for PE&RC PhD candidates. For more information click [here](#).

1. Workshops / Meetings / Symposia

- **Symposium - Migratory birds in a rapidly warming Arctic** (17 May 2018) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands
- **Latsis Symposium 2018 – Scaling-Up Forest Restoration** (6 – 7 June 2018) @ Zürich, Switzerland
- **ECSA 57: Changing estuaries, coasts and shelf systems – diverse threats and opportunities** (3-6 September 2018) @ Perth, Australia
- **Sfecologie 2018 – International Conference on Ecological Sciences** (22-25 October 2018) @ Rennes, France

2. Courses

- **Hands on Digital Soil Mapping** (28 May – 1 June 2018)
This course introduces methods and software for management, analysis and mapping of soil variables within the R environment for statistical computing. The course alternates between lectures and computer practicals and covers a variety of subjects, such as geostatistics, linear regression and machine learning for soil mapping, quantification of uncertainty and soil map validation.
- **World Soils and their Assessment** (28 May – 1 June 2018)
This is a course on international standards for soils classification and assessment. It will provide an introduction to the soils of the world and their diversity, their main forming factors, classification (according to the World Reference Base for Soil Resources 2014), and management. The course will include lectures and hands-on exercises. PE&RC PhD candidates are entitled to the reduced fee.

3. Position Announcements

- **For job openings, check [our website](#).**

4. Other News

- **Collaboration Nature4Life and Brazilian BIOTA program**
The collaboration has been sought with the BIOTA program that has been supported by São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) since 1999. The program is a Virtual Biodiversity Institute bringing together more than 1200 scientists from leading universities, research institutes and non-governmental organizations in the state of São to participate in joint research projects.
- **NWO Visitor's Travel Grants** (Continuous application)
Researchers in the Netherlands can apply for a visitor's grant for highly qualified senior researchers from abroad who hold a PhD. With this grant these researchers can stay in the Netherlands for a maximum of four months.

If you have information that you would like to have included in the NERN messages or on the NERN website, please send this information to Claudius.vandeVijver@wur.nl.