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	<p><b>Netherlands Ecological Research Network</b></p> <p><b>NERN Messages</b></p> <p>February 2015</p>
	<p><b>Contents</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Workshops / Meetings / Symposia</li><li>2. Courses</li><li>3. Position Announcements</li><li>4. Other News</li></ol>

## Highlights

### Postgraduate course “Microbial Ecology” (15-20 March 2015)

*This course will provide an overview of the scientific developments in functioning of microbial communities, and focuses on two main topics: 1) enhancing the profit of beneficial microbes in microbial communities / complex environments, and 2) insights in functioning of beneficial microbes in microbial communities / complex environments. For more information and to register, please click [here](#).*

### Postgraduate course “Spatial Sampling for Mapping” (22-24 April 2015)

*This course will introduce concepts that underlie the optimization of spatial sampling. These include methods to ensure good spatial coverage by a sample, methods to select an optimal grid spacing for geostatistical mapping and complex methods of combinatorial optimization to minimize the expected prediction error variance under certain assumptions about the underlying model. For more information and to register, please click [here](#).*

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## 1. Workshops / Meetings / Symposia

- **Future for Nature Awards Ceremony (27 February 2015)** @ Burgers' Zoo, Arnhem, The Netherlands. For more information, please click [here](#).
- **Annual Conference of the Society for Tropical Ecology (7-10 April 2015)** @ ETH Zurich, Switzerland. For more information, please click [here](#).
- **Eco Intensive Agriculture Conference (21 April 2015)** @ Amsterdam, The Netherlands. For more information, please click [here](#).
- **Symposium Methods in Ecology and Evolution – 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary (22 April 2015)** @ London, UK. For more information, please click [here](#).
- **Living Soils Conference (28-30 April 2015)** @ Wageningen University, The Netherlands. For more information, please click [here](#).
- **Conference Rhizosphere 4: "Stretching the Interface of Life" (21-25 June 2015)** @ Maastricht, The Netherlands. For more information, please click [here](#).
- **Conference on Spatial Ecology & Conservation** @ University of Bristol, UK (13-15 July 2015). For more information, please click [here](#).
- **27th International Congress for Conservation Biology (2-6 August 2015)** @ Montpellier, France. For more information, please click [here](#).
- **Wageningen Soil Conference (23-27 August 2015)** @ Wageningen University, The Netherlands. For more information, please click [here](#).
- **Conference: Adaptations Futures - Practices and Solutions (10-13 May 2016)** @ Rotterdam, The Netherlands. For more information, please click [here](#).

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## 2. Courses

- **COST-Action - Models in Invasion Ecology: Challenges and Applications (2-4 March 2015)**. For more information, please click [here](#).
- **Grasping Sustainability (10-13 March 2015)**. For more information and registration, please click [here](#).
- **Microbial Ecology (15-20 March 2015)**. For more information and registration, please click [here](#).
- **Principles of Ecological Genomics (8-10 April 2015)**. For more information and registration, please click [here](#).
- **Spatial Sampling for Mapping (22-24 April 2015)**. For more information and registration, please click [here](#).
- **International On-Site Course: Land Dynamics - Getting to the Bottom of Mount Kenya (26 April - 9 May 2015)**. For more information and registration, please click [here](#).

- **Root-soil-microbe interactions (4–8 May 2015)**. For more information and registration, please click [here](#).
- **The Art of Modelling (18-29 May 2015)**. For more information and registration, please click [here](#).
- **Digital Soil Mapping, Soil Assessment and Classification (18-22 May 2015)**. For more information and registration, please click [here](#).
- **Statistical Uncertainty Analysis of Dynamic Models (27 May – 2 June 2015)**. For more information and registration, please click [here](#).

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### 3. Position Announcements

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

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### 4. Other News

- **Call for Academy Colloquia, KNAW (Deadline: 1 March 2015)**. For more information, please click [here](#).
- **Grants available for Food Systems Innovation (Deadline: 16 March 2015)**. For more information click [here](#).
- **Call for Abstracts for the Wageningen Soil Conference (Deadline 23 March) (23-27 August 2015)** @ Wageningen, The Netherlands. For more information, please click [here](#).
- **Call for Abstracts for the Conference on Spatial Ecology & Conservation (Deadline: 31 March 2015) (13-15 July 2015)** @ University of Bristol, UK. For more information, please click [here](#).
- **NWO Visitor's Travel Grants**. 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. For more information and application click [here](#).

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***If you have information that you would like to have included in the NERN messages, please send this information to [Claudius.vandeVijver@wur.nl](mailto:Claudius.vandeVijver@wur.nl).***