



BSc or MSc Thesis: Hot summers, wet winters: Effects of experimental climate change on grassland ecosystems

Description: Extensively managed grasslands are among the most biodiverse agro-ecosystems in central Europe, but also deliver important ecosystem services such as forage provision. Due to multiple feedback processes, we still do not fully understand how climate change will affect the functioning of these important ecosystems. The Global Change Experimental Facility (GCEF) situated close to Halle/Saale is a large-scale climate change experiment set up to assess effects of climate change on five land-use types, including meadows and pastures. We offer a Master's Thesis in Functional Plant Ecology based on ecological collected in the extensively managed meadows of the GCEF. To assess how future climate will affect the forage production, plant phenology and biodiversity of grasslands, you can join our team to collect your own ecological field data, and to use our existing long-term data set as well.

Collaboration:

Global Change
Experimental Facility,
Halle/Saale ([link here](#))

Requirements:

- Master or bachelor studies in ecology (MEEC, botany, or similar)
- Knowledge of grassland plant species is an advantage

Tasks:

- 1 week of fieldwork (May 2022)*
- Laboratory work
- Statistical analysis

* It is also possible to do a thesis solely based on the existing data if you are interested.

What we can offer:

- Financial coverage of fieldwork
- Participation in a unique large scale experiment
- Work in an international research group focusing on global change ecology

You are interested or have questions? Contact:

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