

„Crossing boundaries: Propagation of in-stream environmental alterations to adjacent terrestrial ecosystems“

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL SYSTEMLINK INVITES TO LECTURE SERIES

Date and location: 29.01.2020, Campus Landau, Building CIV, Room 266

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Title: Conservation biological control using spiders

Abstract:

Conservation biological control is a modern pest-control strategy based on the promotion of natural enemies. The role of generalist predators in the pest control has been often neglected because generalists are not able to track pest populations and instead prey on beneficial species. In this talk I will show a system, commercial pear orchards, in which generalist predators are essentially important to control pests. This happens particularly during winter, when the majority of arthropod pests and their enemies are dormant. I will show to what extent generalist predators suppress the pear psylla population and how their pest-control efficiency can be improved by a management practice based on increased habitat complexity.

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