

Masters Student Thesis Opportunity

Pollinator rapid assessment of restored habitats in agricultural landscapes

Background

Recently the European Union has passed a Nature Restoration Law requiring the reversal of pollinator declines by 2030 across member states. As part of the EU Horizon project RestPoll, we are developing rapid assessment methods that will be usable by stakeholders to assess their own properties and the effectiveness of restoration measures that they implement. Developing this will help ensure that the EU reaches its restoration targets.



Methods

An important aspect of rapid assessment is making sure that the methods used provide biologically meaningful results. We will test rapid assessment methods and compare them to standard assessment methods to ensure that these are compliant. We will conduct surveys on pollinator abundance and diversity, along with pollination.

The master's thesis would involve collecting data using rapid assessment methods and compare them to standard research protocols (biologically meaningful), and in comparison to rapid assessment collected by stakeholders (farmers). We will collect data simultaneously with stakeholders to determine that results between scientists and stakeholders are reproducible.

Thesis involves: Field work, lab work (possibly), and data analysis

Student can expect supervision and guidance during all aspects of thesis.

Start date: March 2025 with field work through the summer

If interested, contact Dr. Nick Rosenberger (nick.roseneberger@nature.uni-freiburg.de) with your CV and write shortly about your interest in the project.