



Master thesis 2021

Drivers of bee and wasp population growth across Germany

Start: as soon as possible

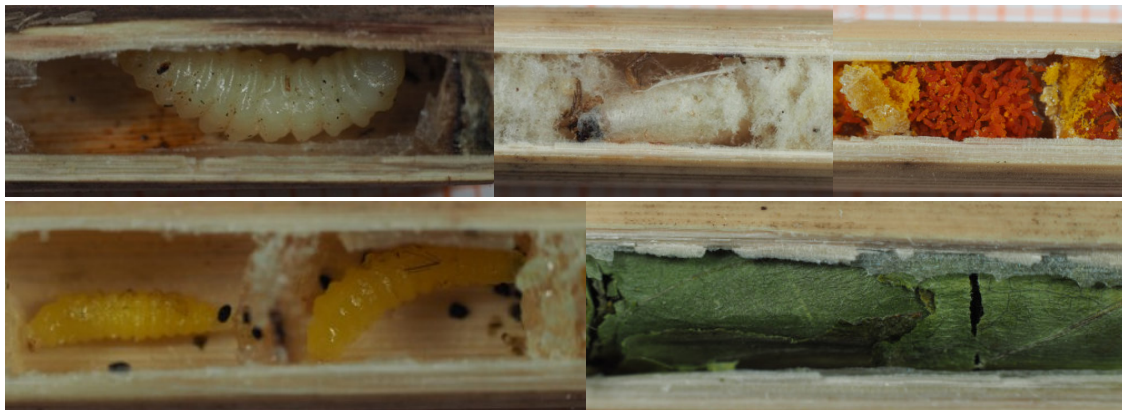
Background:

Solitary bees and wasps show constancy for their nest site selection. Therefore, local populations grow until limitations in available nesting sites or other environmental drivers are reached. In the second year of a Germany wide monitoring of cavity nesting bees and wasps we will test which drivers are responsible for population growth including dominant species, top down control by parasitoids and land use gradients.

Methods:

- Bee, wasp and parasitoid abundances will be determined from trap-nests collected across Germany (project [Schulinsektenhaus](#))
- Individual nests will be opened, identified to genus level and stored for rearing
- Statistical analysis of the collected data and in reference to the first year of the monitoring
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Requirements: I look for a motivated and reliable student who is interested in drivers of bee and wasp populations in the urban environment and eager to get hands on experience with a large data set and living insects, even off-season. You can work independently at the lab at Herderbau and will get insight into scientific work of the Nature group and the larger scope of the project.



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