

PhD THESIS OFFER

Offer characteristics

Associate Professors Juan Traba and Manuel Morales from the Terrestrial Ecology Group (TEG) of the Department of Ecology of the Autónoma University of Madrid offer the possibility of developing a PhD Thesis work in the framework of projects currently carried out in the TEG on the ecology and conservation of Dupont's Lark (*Chersophilus duponti*) and funded by EU's LIFE program and the BBVA foundation. More precisely, the thesis proposed would regard the study of the species' detailed diet composition using massive sequencing techniques (DNA meta-barcoding) of DNA remains in feces, as well as the diet overlap with sympatric ecologically similar species using the same techniques. The work would also consider the study of the degree of genetic connection between populations with different levels of isolation using traditional genetic markers (microsatellites), but eventually also genomic techniques based on massive sequencing to detect potential processes of divergent adaptation among populations.

Candidate's profile

The candidate selected will apply to the up-coming calls for FPU PhD contracts of the Spanish Ministry of Education and the Autónoma University of Madrid, as well as any similar call that might come along in the next months. The application will be endorsed by the scientific curriculum of the research group and the candidate's work will be supported by the mentioned funding projects. Therefore, candidates must combine an excellent academic performance with interest for both field (bird counts and captures, habitat measurements) and laboratory (taxonomic identification of arthropods and plants, molecular techniques) work. We encourage potentially interested candidates to contact with

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