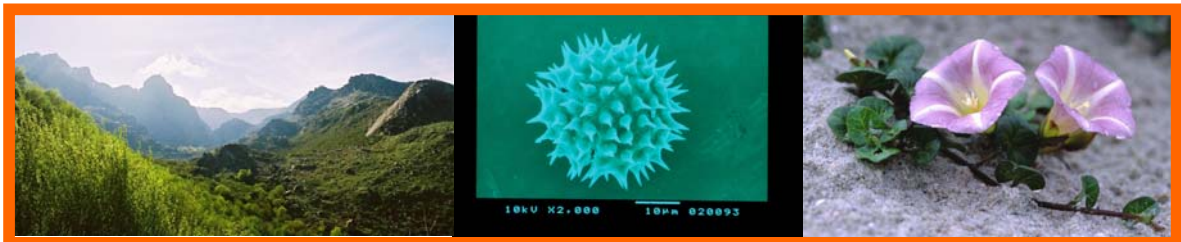




FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

Flora and vegetation studies: biodiversity, environmental impact assessment and ecotourism



Department of Biology, University of Aveiro, Aveiro, Portugal

21st June-2nd July 2010

This two-week post-graduate workshop will cover a number of fundamental topics on plant biodiversity:

Part I: Vascular plant identification within the most representative families occurring in the Portuguese flora. For this purpose, besides classical methodologies also pollen morphology and micro-characters will be used and observed using optical and scanning electron microscopy.

Part II: Practical applications based on vascular plant identification: elaboration of floristic lists using databases (BRAHMS), methodologies and legislation for environmental impact assessment and monitoring, strategies for the development of eco-tourism tools (e.g. booklets).

Part III: Field courses in areas with different kinds of vegetation (e.g. mountain and littoral).

Course Coordinator:

Helena Silva

Biology Department, Aveiro University, 3810-193 Aveiro, Portugal.
CESAM- Centre for Environmental and Marine Studies

Main Themes

- ◆ Vascular plant identification;
- ◆ Methods in palinotaxonomy;
- ◆ Data basing of floristic data using BRAHMS and the elaboration of outputs like floristic lists;
- ◆ Field trips to mountain and littoral areas representing the Portuguese flora;
- ◆ The Natura 2000 Network's habitat;
- ◆ Environmental Impact Assessment in Portugal.

This course will comprise a combination of lectures and practical work in which hands-on experience will be gained.

Lecturers:

António Pereira Coutinho

António Pereira Coutinho is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Life Sciences of the University of Coimbra (Portugal) and a full member of the Centre for Functional Ecology. His research interests are focused on plant systematics, specially palynotaxonomy of the Compositae and the exotic and native flora of Portugal. He has co-authored more than 15 scientific papers and 7 book chapters.

Dalila Espírito Santo

Dalila Espírito Santo is a Senior Researcher at the Technical University of Lisbon (Portugal). The research activity developed since 1979 focuses mainly on the fields of Plant Systematics and Phytoecology, including Phytosociology and Phytogeography. Since 1994 works on policy issues connected with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, with studies on habitats characterization and since 2002 is responsible for promoting projects to identify and protect Portuguese plant species in Portuguese botanical gardens. She is responsible for the Herbarium "João de Carvalho e Vasconcellos (LISI)" of the Superior Institute of Agronomy, Coordinator Professor of Botanical Garden of Ajuda and Green Spaces of Tapada da Ajuda, national delegate at the European Consortium of Botanical Gardens, Delegate at the General Assembly of Plant Europe for the Lusitanian Association of Phytosociology (ALFA) and President of the Ibero-Macaronesian Association of Herbaria.

Fernando Leão

Fernando Leão, with a degree in Biology from the University of Aveiro in 1997 and specialized in Biological Resource Management from the University of Évora, presently carries out tasks related with Environmental Impact Assessment consultancy and planning at the Institute of Environment and Development. Since 1996, he is part of the management board of the environmental organization Quercus - A.N.C.N., having, since then, delivered several technical opinions related to environmental impact assessment and resource conservation. He is interested in general nature conservation issues and is especially interested in ornithology, an area in which he has carried out research.

Helena Silva

Helena Silva, PhD in Biology, is Assistant Professor at Biology Department of Aveiro University (Portugal) and a full member of CESAM (Centre for Environmental and Marine Studies). She has worked since 1987 with vascular plants, within the main subjects of biodiversity and ecophysiology. Estuarine flora and vegetation, plant responses to various stress factors, are currently among her major research interests related with the supervision of pos-graduated thesis and the publication of international scientific papers. She has been involved in research projects not only as investigator as well as principal investigator. She was the principal investigator of the project "Contribution to flora resources management in East Timor" (Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, Portugal).

Miguel Coutinho

Miguel Coutinho is a PhD on Environmental Applied Sciences. He is responsible for the coordination of several studies on environmental impact assessment, strategic environmental assessment and environmental monitoring. His main field of expertise is centred on atmospheric pollution. From 2007 to 2009 he was the President of APAI-Associação Portuguesa de Avaliação de Impactes, the Portuguese affiliate of IAIA-International Association for Impact Assessment.

Paulo Silveira

Paulo Silveira is Assistant Professor at the Department of Biology of the University of Aveiro (Portugal) and a full member of CESAM (Centre for Environmental and Marine Studies). He has done his PhD on Biology, specialty of Ecology at the University of Coimbra. His research interests are plant systematics and ecology (flora of Portugal, Iberian Peninsula, Angola, Mozambique and East Timor), nature conservation, environmental impact evaluation and monitoring (flora and vegetation). He has co-authored 25 scientific papers, 14 in international SCI journals and participated in 9 projects and coordinated 3 services under contract for companies.

Rosa Pinho

Rosa Pinho, has a degree in Biology (University of Aveiro). She has been working at the Herbarium of the University of Aveiro since 1987 and she is the curator of the same herbarium since 1993. Since then

she has participated in more than forty-five projects concerning floristic diversity and environmental impact assessment, such as:

-Caracterização da componente florística do Plano de Requalificação da Mata Nacional do Buçaco (2006-2008).

-Caracterização morfológica, taxonómica e ecológica das árvores e arbustos do Jardim de Serralves e da flora vascular da área da mata de Serralves – Projecto. SIG Parque Serralves (Unave/Dep. de Biologia UA, 2002–2003).

Course Fees

Normal course fee- 350 Euros

Discount fee - 300 Euros (Ordem dos Biólogos, SPECO-Sociedade Portuguesa de Ecologia, ALFA-Associação Lusitana de Fitossociologia)

Travel to Aveiro

For those arriving at Porto Airport: Aveiro has an excellent railway service to Porto, situated 60 km to the North of Aveiro. Porto airport is directly connected to the major European and some North and South American cities. Travel by underground between Porto airport and the railway station of Porto-Campanhã is around 40 minutes. Depending on the type of train service used, travel between Porto-Campanhã and Aveiro railway takes from 30 to 50 minutes and costs between €2 and €13. On average, there are trains every 25 minutes between Porto and Aveiro. Aveiro University is 5 minutes taxi distance from the railway station, and the taxi fare is around €5 to €7.

For those arriving at Lisbon airport: Aveiro is also connected by train to Lisbon, situated 250 km to the South of Aveiro. From Lisbon airport you should go to the Oriente railway station, by taxi (fare between €10 to €15). On average, there are trains from Lisbon-Oriente to Aveiro every 90 minutes. Train will cost between €15 to €30, and the journey between Lisbon-Oriente and Aveiro railway station will be around 2,5 hours.

Accommodation

As soon as we have more information on the prices and availability of rooms we will inform you. We can easily pre-book a number of rooms, in a hotel within walking distance from the University with a convenient price.

For updated information on this course, please go to:

<http://www.bio.ua.pt>

<http://www.cesam-ua.pt>



REGISTRATION FORM

(send by fax (+351 234 426408) or e-mail (hsilva@ua.pt) to **Helena Silva** till the 31st of May)

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Address: _____

Country: _____

Course Fee:

Normal Fee: 350 €

Discount Fee: 300 €

(please provide confirmation of eligibility for the discount fee)

Accommodation:

I am interested in the pre-booked rooms

I will book my own room