

## SUMMARY

1. BESTEG Early Career Researcher Meeting 7-9 April 2010: 'Dealing with Diversity'
2. New BES journal: *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*
3. New Tropical Plant ID course 10-21 May 2010
4. Frugivore and Seed Dispersal workshop: Montpellier 13-18 June 2010
5. Field Skills
6. JOB: Director, Tropical Conservation & Development, University of Florida
7. New CTFS blog

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[www.britishecologicalsociety.org/tropical](http://www.britishecologicalsociety.org/tropical)

### 1. BESTEG Early Career Researcher Meeting 7-9 April 2010: 'Dealing with Diversity'

The 4<sup>th</sup> ECRM will take place at Nottingham University, with plenary lectures from Prof. Anne Chao, Prof. Alexandre Diniz-Filho, and Dr Francis Gilbert. Two days of presentations will be followed by two half-day workshops dealing with how to effectively sample and analyse data from hyper-diverse communities at local (Anne Chao) and regional (Alexandre Diniz-Filho) scales. Both workshops will introduce free bespoke software for the recommended analyses. All post-doc and PhDs are welcome to present their tropical-related research at the meeting with a talk or poster, and delegates will be able to register separately for the workshops if desired. Registration will open in the New Year, but please place the dates in your diary.

### 2. New BES journal: *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*

The BES' new journal was launched recently, and the first issue will be available in 2010: *Methods in Ecology and Evolution* publishes methods papers in all areas of ecology and evolutionary biology, including statistical, analytical, field and lab methods. The journal provides authors with a cutting edge means of dissemination and readers with easy access to methods via online supplements and support. *MEE* brings together papers from previously disparate sub-disciplines to provide a single forum for tracking methodological developments in all areas of ecology and evolution. See [www.methodsinecologyandevolution.org](http://www.methodsinecologyandevolution.org) for more info.

#### Why publish in *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*?

- **Rapid review:** papers are normally reviewed and decision made within 4 weeks of submission.
- **Rapid publication:** article by article 'Early View' publication ensures papers are published online in their finished format, without waiting for issue compilation.
- **High visibility:** online access to *MEE* will be free for all individuals in the first year of publication (2010). Librarians can also [register for free online access](#) in perpetuity for the first two years of publication (2010 and 2011).
- **BES member access:** members of the British Ecological Society will be able to access the journal.
- **Developing world access:** *MEE* will be made available to institutions in developing countries through the AGORA, OARE and INASP philanthropic initiatives.
- **Open Access:** *MEE* is part of Online Open, which allows authors to fund their article to be open access from publication.
- **Online submission:** efficient and author-friendly web-based system for submission and review.
- **No author fees:** no charge for additional online material or colour in main text.
- **LaTeX submission:** we accept submissions in LaTeX as well as Word.

### **3. Kew Tropical Plant ID course 10-21 May 2010**

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew is organizing a two-week Tropical Plant Identification Course from 10 to 21 May 2010. The course has been designed for conservation and environment professionals, and is also suitable for graduate students, ethnobotanists, ecologists and zoologists.

Taught by Kew's botanists, all with an in-depth knowledge of the plants and habitats of the tropics, the course will give participants an overview of 70 of the most commonly encountered tropical plant families, as well as an introduction to plant morphology and identification tools. Through short illustrated lectures, and extensive hands-on practical sessions, Kew's botanists will demonstrate the key characters for each family, sharing their expert tips for identification. Students will join identification sessions focused on different regions in the tropics; and a visit to the living collections will provide a chance to apply this knowledge 'in the field'.

The course fee for non-Kew staff is £700: this covers teaching costs and course materials; funds for travel to Kew and subsistence must be sought elsewhere. It is likely that the BES will provide some level of support.

See [www.britishecologicalsociety.org/tropical](http://www.britishecologicalsociety.org/tropical) for more information and booking form.

Contact: Tim Utteridge (t.utteridge@kew.org) or Gemma Bramley (g.bramley@kew.org).

### **4. Frugivore and Seed Dispersal workshop: Montpellier 13-18 June 2010**

Call for symposia proposals: deadline: January 14, 2010

Paper and poster topics reflecting the FSD2010 Symposium's main themes are particularly encouraged, including:

- (1) Organismal and natural history oriented research;
- (2) Movement ecology, dispersal kernels, and genetic effects;
- (3) Ecology and evolution of frugivory and seed dispersal; and
- (4) Impact of anthropogenic disturbance and climate change on seed dispersal systems.

Research on plant-animal interactions from all habitat types and global regions will be considered, and we encourage submission of original research from all scholars, including students, junior researchers, and senior scientists.

See [www.fsd2010.org](http://www.fsd2010.org) for further information

### **5. Field Skills**

FieldSkills Expedition Services and Logistics provide training and support for many activities:

[www.fieldskills.com](http://www.fieldskills.com)

### **6. JOB: Director, Tropical Conservation & Development, University of Florida**

Deadline: 30 November 2009-10-29

The Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Florida (UF) seeks to hire a Director for its Tropical Conservation and Development (TCD) Program. The Director will lead and advocate for an innovative, world-class research and training program with over 100 faculty affiliates; foster, maintain and strengthen partnerships with colleagues and institutions at UF and with partner organizations throughout the world; secure extra-mural funding; and help strengthen a dynamic research and training program with a long-range vision for the future. The Director of TCD reports to the Director of the Center for Latin American Studies and will hold a joint appointment at the rank of Professor or Associate Professor between the Center and a relevant disciplinary department.

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### **7. New CTFS blog**

<http://ctfsnews.blogspot.com/>