

EDIT ATBI+M NEWSLETTER 01

July 2009

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The views expressed in the newsletter are those of its correspondents, and do not necessarily reflect the policy of EDIT. Please send us your contributions for the next edition of our newsletter (October 2009) the latest by October 5th, 2009.

WP7 Leader: Christoph L. Häuser (MfN Berlin)
Team Leader: Lars Krogmann (SMNS Stuttgart)
Coordinators: Anke Hoffmann and Alexander Kroupa (MfN Berlin),
Jutta Eymann and Juan Carlos Monje (SMNS Stuttgart)
Homepages: www.atbi.eu; www.e-taxonomy.eu



SIXTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME



NOTE FROM THE EDIT WP7 Leader

Welcome to our new EDIT ATBI+M newsletter which replaces the former email updates and offers a new, more reader-friendly layout. My thanks to all the contributors, and we hope you find this format both appealing and informative.

The EDIT WP7 coordination office has moved this year in part from Stuttgart to Berlin, and we welcome Lars Krogmann as the new EDIT team leader in Stuttgart, and Anke Hoffmann as new WP7 co-team leader and coordinator in Berlin.

Please feel free to approach the EDIT WP7 team with any suggestions concerning ATBI+M matters. Looking forward to a continuing fruitful collaboration and many new ATBI discoveries!

Christoph L. Häuser

EDIT WP7 WEBSITE UPDATE

The EDIT Work Package 7 website and ATBI+M data portal is regularly updated (<http://www.atbi.eu/wp7/>). In particular we would like to point out that the functionalities of the **species sheets** have been expanded. Please see our example (Figure 1).

ATBI: All Taxa Biodiversity Inventories
in the Mercantour/Alpi Marittime natural parks

Main menu
• News
• Park biodiversity
• Taxonomic details
• Contributing scientists
• Photo galleries
• Info for scientists
• Links
• Site map
• Contacts
• Press

News
• Wednesday May 27th
2009 04:04:57 PM
27.5.09 10:04am
• Monday April 20th 2009
12:26:36 PM
26.4.09 12:24pm
• First day in PNMAT
17.4.09 10:52am
• Image
9.4.09 14:22m
• Ristorante San Lorenzo
18.3.09 21:24pm

Admin log in

Biodiversity in the Mercantour and Alpi Marittime natural parks
back

Ocyptus italicus (Aragona, 1830)

Cuneo
Alpes-Maritimes
Imperia

© Karin Wolf-Schwenninger

Longitude	Latitude	Altitude	Date	Number	Collector (s)
0 7.49385	N 44.1946	1517m	28.06.2007 - 09.08.2007	23	Karin Wolf-Schwenninger; Hans Schwenninger
0 7.49385	N 44.1946	1517m	28.06.2007 - 09.08.2007	6	Karin Wolf-Schwenninger; Hans Schwenninger

Locality name Palanfré, Glas del Chiot (4a), 5,5 km SE Trinita
Macrobiodiversity notes beach forest
Collection method pitfall traps (n=6)
Determinator Wolf-Schwenninger
Deposit Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde Stuttgart

Administrators: Alexander Kroupa

Figure 1: Screenshot of the species sheet of *Ocyptus italicus* recorded in Mercantour and Alpi Marittime, with a picture of one recorded specimen (www.atbi.eu/mercantour-marittime/?q=node/13&tree_s=133).

Moreover the list of **recorded species** is continuously increasing. To date we can provide the following data for the ATBI-sites:

- Parc National du Mercantour: **1996** species (11519 data sets)
- Parco Naturale delle Alpi Marittime: **2455** species (8646 data sets)
- Muránska Planina & Slovenský Kras: **969** species (1601 data sets)

The lists including the names of all species recorded are available through the dedicated ATBI+M (EDIT WP7) websites:

www.atbi.eu/mercantour-marittime and
www.atbi.eu/gemer.

The data generated by EDIT's ATBI+Ms are also accessible world-wide through the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF). The data for Mercantour / Alpi Marittime are available at <http://data.gbif.org/datasets/resource/7949/>, and at <http://data.gbif.org/datasets/resource/7950/> for the Gemer region. Another possibility to search for observation and collecting data is the "EDIT Specimen and Observation Explorer for Taxonomists" (<http://search.biocase.org/edit>).

(Anke Hoffmann and Alexander Kroupa)

REPORTS FROM MEETINGS

Workshop 'Manual on field techniques and protocols for ATBI+M'

EDIT's Work Package 7 (Applying Taxonomy to Conservation) and former WP4 (Coordinating Research) organised an international workshop to produce a manual on field recording and collection techniques and protocols for ATBI+M sites. The intention is to further streamline field methods and to increase the efficiency for field methods, particularly in the context of ATBI+M's by producing a "manual for best practise".

The workshop was held in the Botanical Garden "Viera y Clavijo" near Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, from the 25th to 27th January 2009. Participants presented their possible contribution to the manual throughout these three days. In addition to establishing common standards, the integration among researchers was promoted.

Researchers were invited to present methodologies, technologies and case studies on various topics such as: Vertebrates; Bioacoustics; Collection of large biodiversity inventories; Electronic data recording in the field; Tissue collection & Preservation for DNA studies; GPS & Georeferencing; Light trapping; Malaise & flight interception; Limnology; Litter & soil sampling; Marine sampling; Photographic documentation in the field; Vegetation recording techniques.

Presentations and discussions were followed by a guided tour through the Botanical Garden, the largest of its kind in Spain. On the 28th, a guided excursion on the island of Gran Canaria led the participants from the sand dunes of Maspalomas up to the heights of the island.

EDIT WP4 and WP7 were very pleased to host this excellent (and nice) group of scientists. We believe participants enjoyed the experience and hope that the workshop will generate many positive interactions in addition to the manual for the ATBI+M sites. Further information such as a list of participants (see also Figure 2), the workshop program and a photo gallery can be found at:

<http://www.atbi.eu/forum/?q=node/1653>.

We thank Xavier Eekhout, David Bramwell and Juan Manuel López Ramírez from the Jardín Botánico Canario for their support in preparing this workshop, and the staff from the Gardens Restaurant for the excellent catering service.

Following the workshop, EDIT WP7 has created an electronic discussion forum to offer participants the opportunity to interact when preparing their manuscripts. The forum offers the possibility to exchange ideas, comments, and remarks to the various parts of the manual, and allows all authors/co-authors to be involved in the process of developing the chapters of the manual. Registration is required to post messages to the forum (www.atbi.eu/wp7/?q=forum_workshop09).

EDIT WP7 will support the production of this manual consisting of individual chapters on suitable fieldwork methods for all ATBI+M sites. This manual shall be a valuable source of information to various parties wishing to pursue research on ATBI+M sites, including field biologists, students, and people with basic knowledge on biodiversity.

Building on the outcomes of this workshop which brought together more than 35 potential authors and contributors, the drafting of individual chapters is under way, which all will be authored by teams representing several EDIT partner institutions.

The manual will be produced as a separate issue in the AbcTaxa series (www.abctaxa.be). As a general policy of AbcTaxa, the volume will be freely distributed to contacts particularly in developing countries. The edition will probably consist of both a printed, single volume book as well as a CD version, and the digital contents will also be made freely available in PDF from the AbcTaxa website.

(Jutta Eymann and Carlos Monje)

Figure 2 : Group photo of workshop' participants



NEWS FROM THE PARKS

Parc National du Mercantour and Parco Naturale delle Alpi Marittime

The Marittime-Mercantour territory welcomed the first researchers for the third year of ATBI+M at the beginning of May. Despite the snowy winter and the difficult access to most of the high altitude areas, more than 20 experts and students started the 2009 collecting campaign.

From this year onwards most of the research activities will be organised according to the Parks' priorities, because of the lack of knowledge regarding some taxa and land management problems that are recurrent and need a scientific analysis. Moreover, these groups will help optimising collecting efforts and communication among specialists. The teams that have so far become active are 'biospeleology', 'mycology', 'lichens', 'superficial hydrosystems', 'subterranean hydrosystems', 'soil fauna', 'flying invertebrates' for France, and 'malacofauna' and 'domestic animals pasture biocenosis' for Italy.

More groups are about to begin and the coordinators are currently working on gathering all experts within the groups in order to organise the lab and field work activities and allowing the Parks to acquire relevant information on management issues.

We expect a higher number of visiting experts (at least 60) compared to the two previous years (about 45 per year). They will be allowed to visit the whole area of the Alpi Marittime Natural Park and Mercantour National Park. This will guarantee the provision of an inventory as complete as possible that can be integrated with existing local databases and that can give a clear picture of the state of biodiversity in the two protected areas.

Communication and education initiatives are under construction in both Parks and will help involving the local population in the scientific activities and in the protection of the natural heritage.

In order to have a more concrete view of our biodiversity and to propose a reference to the scientists interested in some species living in our parks, we are planning to create a collection of specimens in the Muséum national d'Histoire

naturelle in Paris and in the Museo Regionale di Scienze Naturali in Turin.

Do not hesitate to contact Marta De Biaggi (edit@parcoalpimarittime.it) and Marie-France Leccia (marie-france.leccia@mercantour-parcnational.fr) for further information about the territory and the work group activities.

(Marta De Biaggi and Marie-France Leccia)

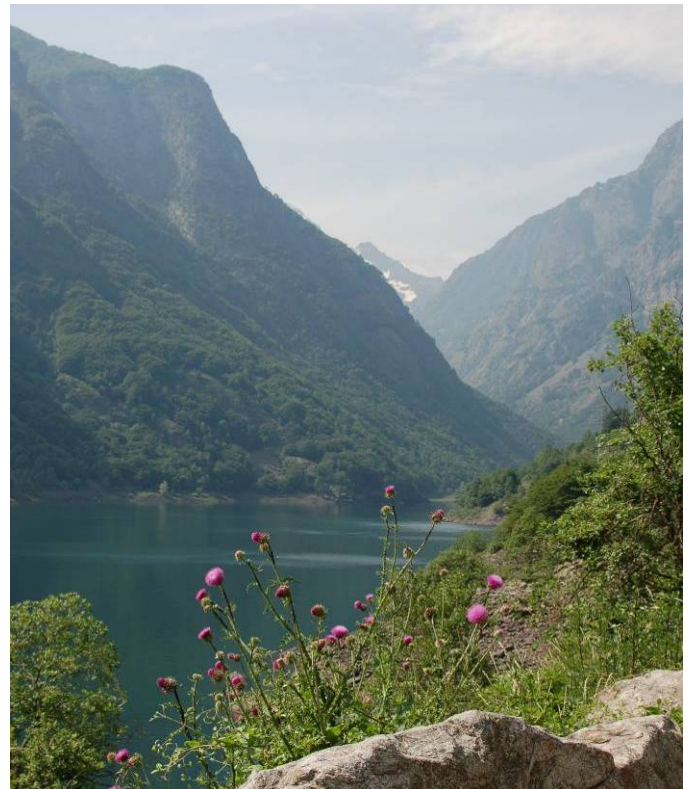


Figure 3: ATBI site Parco Naturale delle Alpi Marittime



Figure 4: ATBI site Parc National du Mercantour

Slovakian ATBI+M sites – Gemer area

Field activities at the Slovakian ATBI+M sites are constantly increasing. Since the setup of this ATBI+M in 2008 23 researchers have visited the three parks in the Gemer region and have delivered 1601 data sets (969 species) so far. More records are expected soon, because of the activities at present. Also the EDIT WP7 team has done some inventories in June 2009 on-site on Lepidoptera, Hymenoptera and small mammals. The main focus of research in 2008 was done in the National Park Muránska planina, whereas this year researchers may arbitrarily combine research in all three national parks. As in 2008 research was done on 14 different groups of animals and plants, this year already 13 researchers have been working on 10 different groups.

The Gemer region is composed of three national parks (see Figures 5-7) and detailed descriptions are given on their homepages:

Muránska Planina:

www.gemer.sk/ciele/mplanina/en.html

Slovenský Raj:

www.slovenskyraj.sk/en.html

Slovenský Kras:

www.gemer.sk/ciele/skras/en.html

If you are looking for summary information and individual data sets please view the Gemer website (under ‘park biodiversity’, ‘taxonomic details’) at: www.atbi.eu/gemer/. Please note, that the data sets are also accessible world-wide through the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF):

<http://data.gbif.org/datasets/resource/7950/>.

More general and additional information can be found on the special website <http://www.atbi.sk>, which is maintained by our partners at the Comenius University in Bratislava. Here, apart from logistic information, maps, literature, etc. you find links to relevant Slovakian databases for the national flora and fauna, which will also serve the ATBI+M data generated for the Gemer region.

A ‘base camp’ with some laboratory infrastructure has been established at the information centre of the Muránska Planina National Park at Murán village for ATBI+M participants, where convenient accommodation is also being available (see Figures 8-10).

Figure 5-7: Impressions of the three National Parks



Figures 8-10: Field station in Murán village for ATBI+M participants



We would like to invite you to participate in the inventory of the group you are interested in. Please do not hesitate to contact Anke Hoffmann (anke.hoffmann@mfn-berlin.de) or Katarína Necpálová (katarina.necpalova@test.fns.uniba.sk) for further information about the area, logistics, and planned or ongoing activities.

Moreover we would like to refer to the journal REUSSIA [ISSN 1336-345X] of the Muránska Planina National Park Administration Office, which includes comprehensive publications about flora and fauna of that park. Abstracts can be found on the website www.reussia.sk.

(Anke Hoffmann and Katarína Necpálová)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Systematics 2009 (10-14 Aug 2009)

The National Herbarium of the Netherlands and the National Museum of Natural History Naturalis are hosting the* Systematics 2009* conference.

This conference is not only the first meeting of the federation of European systematic societies BioSyst EU, but also the Seventh biennial meeting of the Systematics Association (United Kingdom) and the 11th annual meeting of the Gesellschaft für Biologische Systematik (GfBS, Germany).

You can register through the webpage <http://www.biosyst.eu>.

EDIT General Meeting (14-16 Dec 2009)

This meeting is currently under planning for the week of the 14th December 2009 in Carvoeiro, Portugal. A detailed programme will be available in our next newsletter.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Please send the WP7 office your new details if your address has changed:

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LATEST NEWS

MoU for ATBI+M site in southern Ecuador signed

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for establishing an ATBI+M pilot site at a biodiversity reserve managed by a local NGO in southern Ecuador (Reserva Biologica San Francisco; Loja) has just been signed between EDIT WP7 and a Research Unit ('Biodiversity and Sustainable Management of a Megadiverse Mountain Ecosystem in South Ecuador') funded by the German Science Foundation (DFG). Further information and a detailed presentation of the site will be included in the next ATBI+M Newsletter (October 2009).

The Team Members



Christoph Häuser, Marta De Biaggi, Marie-France Leccia, Anke Hoffmann and Alexander Kroupa



Lars Krogmann, Jutta Eymann, Carlos Monje, and Monika Pfeffer