



Stefan is currently The Mellon Distinguished Professor in Plant community ecology and tropical forest ecology at the University of Pittsburgh, PA, USA. Working on understanding the forces that structure plant communities, maintain species diversity, control species distributions and allow species to coexist, his lab is implementing a combination of observational and experimental studies designed to determine the mechanistic basis for plant species distributions, as well as how plant community diversity is maintained and how plant communities regenerate, compete, and interact. The majority of his work is in tropical forests, but he also works in temperate forests and grasslands.

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6 JUIN 2019
11h00 – 11h50

Salle 201, Bâtiment PS2, CIRAD-UMR AMAP, Boulevard de la Lironde

The Ecology of Lianas

presented by

Professor Stefan Schnitzer

University of Pittsburgh, PA, USA

ABSTRACT: One of the central questions in ecology is to explain the mechanisms that control the distribution of species across broad environmental gradients. We have been investigating this question using lianas, a taxonomically diverse group of woody plants that, like trees, provide a model for testing large conceptual questions in ecology. In this seminar, I will present our latest findings on the mechanisms that appear to control the global distribution of lianas. The study of ecology, however, is more than the response of organisms to their environment (*sensu* Grinnell 1917), but also includes the effects of those organisms on their environment (*sensu* Elton 1927). Studying the ecology of organisms using this latter approach provides important information on the organism's resource requirements, as well as their negative and positive effects on co-occurring species. Therefore, I will also present recent findings on the effects of lianas on their environment from an ongoing large-scale, long-term liana removal study in central Peninsula.

KEY WORDS: Lianas - Ecology - Co-occurring Species - Long-Term Removal Study

Invited and animated by:

Nick ROWE (UMR AMAP)

Type:

Keynote Lecture – for Liana Mini Symposium (BIOMIME – GROWBOT)

Oral language and PPT:

English