

Wintersemester / Winter Term 2015/2016

BayCEER Kolloquium

Vortragsreihe Ökologie und Umweltforschung
*Lecture series in Ecology and Environmental Research***Donnerstag 10.12.2015, 12:00 Uhr, H6**

Anschließend Postkolloquium mit Mittagsimbiss im Foyer H6

Dr. Severin Irl

Biogeography, BayCEER, University of Bayreuth

Plant diversity on high- elevation islands – drivers of species richness and endemism

High-elevation islands, especially in the tropics and subtropics, are global hotspots of plant diversity. Owing to their isolation and strong environmental gradients their exceptional position in terms of diversity results in large parts from in-situ speciation, leading to the evolution of endemic species. Thus, understanding the underlying drivers of diversity and the disturbances that shape them may offer fundamental insights into general ecological processes. However, patterns and processes are often scale-dependent. Thus, the talk will aim at crossing scales from local to global, also bridging between disciplines such as island biogeography, island ecology, disturbance ecology and invasion ecology. On the global scale, the talk will attempt a tentative classification of high-elevation islands, and discuss possible drivers of island treeline formation using an innovative sampling approach (GoogleEarth). On the regional to local scale a focus will be put on the drivers of spatial patterns of species richness, endemism and range size, determine the temporal dynamics of plant succession on lava flows, and assess the impact of major human-mediated disturbances (introduced herbivores, fire, roads) on the endemic flora of our model island La Palma, Canary Islands. Due to the continental-scale environmental gradients on the landscape scale of a medium-sized oceanic island, it is justifiable to call La Palma a climatic mini-continent, highlighting that the Insights gained here might be relevant for other non-insular systems.

Do. / Thu. 12 st
Gebäude/Building
GEO
Hörsaal/Lecture hall
H6Die Vortragsreihe
ist eine
interdisziplinäre
Plattform zur
Information und
Diskussion für
Studierende,
Forschende und
LehrendeGäste
sind herzlich
willkommen*The lecture series
serves as an
inter-disciplinary
platform for
students, junior
and senior
scientists.**Guests
are cordially
invited!*