



Encontros Scientia

The Island Lab: roadmap for its implementation

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videoconference

The Azorean Biodiversity Group from CE3C will create an Island Ecology Laboratory in the period 2015-2020. This new infrastructure will serve to investigate the importance of historical and ecological factors *sensu lato* - including the evolutionary dynamics of colonist lineages in the buildup of island ecological communities - by focusing on a wide array of organisms and archipelagoes. Island Lab will also serve to formulate a new general unifying theory of island biogeography, closer to empirical observations, and allowing a better appreciation of heritage value of biodiversity in oceanic islands. An integrative approach will be followed, combining α and β diversity analyses of taxon diversity, phylogenetic diversity and functional diversity. The Island Lab will profit from resources and facilities already available, including: ecological, molecular and taxonomical labs; permanent data-collecting plots representing several land-use types in seven of the nine Azorean Islands; standardized databases on the richness and abundance of bryophytes, vascular plants and arthropods; spatially-explicit databases on species distribution; and an established network of collaborations with researchers working in similar questions in Madeira, the Canary Islands and Hawaii. We are open to cooperate with projects pursuing questions related with island ecosystem processes.

4ª feira, 19 de Novembro de 2014
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