



# Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences

- Carole Paleco

## DITOs Final Event 2019

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 709443



## Science cafés

7 cafés organised & surveyed  
between 15 Dec 2017 and 20 Apr 2018

5 - 20 participants

42W / 18M

Mostly over 60 yo





Small touring  
exhibitions  
going to  
schools in  
Brussels Capital  
Region



# BIODIVERS'IDEA

UITNODIGING - INVITATION



Biodivers'idea workshop  
January 31, 2018







# PHASMA MEETING

SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST, 2019

For the 4th time the PHASMA MEETING will take place at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences in Brussels with the support of the European citizen science project DITOS. It is a unique opportunity to learn more about stick insects through a series of activities: seminars, a game on stick insects, activities for kids, the exchange of breeding stocks, and to meet other phasmid enthusiasts from many countries. It is open to anyone interested in stick insects: breeders, scientists, amateurs, beginners, families...

THIS EVENT IS FREE BUT...

- REGISTRATION IS OBLIGATORY  
BY SENDING AN EMAIL TO KRISTIEN RABAAY  
(KRISTIEN.RABAAY@SKYNET.BE)  
- PLEASE INDICATE THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

#### CONTACTS

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Joachim Bresseel (joachimbresseel@gmail.com)



# PHASMA MEETING

APRIL 29TH, 2018

BREEDERS, TAXONOMISTS,  
AMATEURS AND PROFESSIONALS

WHAT?  
EXCHANGE OF  
BREEDING STOCKS



**VENUE :** Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences,  
Vautier street 29, 1000 Brussels

**ACCESS infos :** <https://www.naturalsciences.be/en/museum/practical-information>

*For special requests, please contact us.*

## PROGRAM

10h30 Registration & coffee

11h00 Seminar (large auditorium): *Bokor Mountain, the stick insects Nirvana in Cambodia* by Jérôme Constant (Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences)

12h00 Lunch: Food (sandwiches etc.) and drinks offered

13h30 Seminar (large auditorium): *The Dataminae of continental Southeast Asia* by Joachim Bresseel (collaborator, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences)

14h30 Seminar (large auditorium): *Phyllidae: History, Etymology, and Taxonomy* by Royce T. Cumming (San Diego Natural History Museum, USA & Montreal Insectarium, Canada)

15h30 Stick insects breeding stocks exchange

Kid's corner with specific activities  
for the youngest participants

Graphism by Mado Berthele REINS



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## REPORT - PHASMA MEETING @ RBINS 29 04 2018



Number of surveys filled: 35

### Language

- NL 15/35 (42,8%)  
FR 8/35 (22,9%)  
EN 12/35 (34,3%)

### Age

Min 7,5  
Max 73  
Mean 31,5  
Median 32

### Gender

- F 8/35 (22,9%)  
M 27/35 (77,1%)  
Other 0/35 (0%)

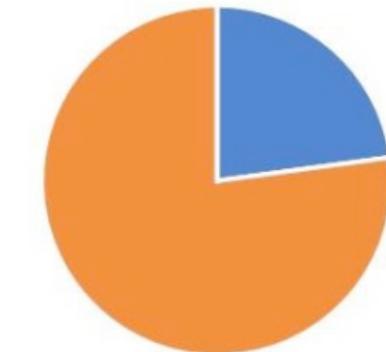
### Country of origin of the participants

- Belgium 20/35 (57,1%)  
The Netherlands 5/35 (14,3%)  
Germany 5/35 (14,3%)  
Italy 2/35 (5,7%)  
United Kingdom 2/35 (5,7%)  
Switzerland 1/35 (2,9%)

### Did you attend the Phasma Meeting before?

- Yes 26/35 (74,3%)  
No 8/35 (22,9%)  
Didn't reply 1 :35 (2,8%)

### Genre



■ Féminin ■ Masculin ■ Autre



# BioBlitz

## June 02, 2018



### MAIN STATISTICS ABOUT THE PARTICIPANTS

The number of participants was limited to 20 for the afternoon and the evening sessions respectively.

22 persons attended the afternoon session focused on diurnal insects and freshwater invertebrates. Among them, 5 persons stayed for the evening session, and 13 other joined only for the evening session, focused on nocturnal insects.

One third of all participants were children, and the average age was 34.

43% of all participants were female.



# Citizen Science Day December 1st 2018

## CITIZEN SCIENCES (CS) AT THE RBINS : RECENT AND RECURRENT COLLABORATIONS

The Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS) has an extensive and well established collaboration with volunteers in almost all its directorates (Taxonomy & Phylogeny, Public Services, Natural Environment, Scientific Heritage Service, Earth and History of Life). The nature of the activities of the «Citizen Scientists» (CSts) is really varied. With their help, the RBINS complements the lack of expertise in some research fields. They also valorize the scientific collections by studying them, as a result improving collection management and accessibility of the collections. This poster shows some of the most recent projects where the CSts are active and how important their role is to the RBINS.

### MALACOLOGY - INVERTEBRATES



**Contribution to Taxonomy: Neotropical landmolluscs, especially the re-evaluation of the Orthalicoidea**  
CSts contribute to the research of **landmolluscs**, and collection management (types, biohistory, Dautzenberg collections).



**Fraud and Fakes with specimen shells, shell related objects and artefacts**  
Study and analysis of shells and shell related objects **fraud and fakes** in not herbarium collections, natural history and ethnographic collections worldwide, improving and valorising conservation and management of collections.



**Contribution to taxonomy & population distribution**  
Identification of **European marine Mollusca** (Gastropoda, Opistobranchia, Nudibranchia) from NE Atlantic & Mediterranean Seas with occasional support in identifications for stakeholders.



**Slak-in-du (Slakken Inventarisatie in de Duinen ) project**  
CSts make an inventory of the **terrestrial and freshwater molluscs** from the Belgian coastal regions with attention for vulnerable and Red List species and exotic/invasive species.



**Contribution to SPEEDY (2014-2017) by a collaborative project funded by the IAP program of Ierap**  
CSts and researchers **sample landmollusks** for DNA research and morphometrics to study the responses of populations and communities to urbanization.



**“Overarching project” improving our knowledge and expertise of species : invertebrates**  
CSts and professionals describe new species of **invertebrates** (Mollusca, Crustacea, Hydrzoa, Porifera, Echinodermata, Oryzozoa,...), study collections, data, archives, etc.

### ENTOMOLOGY



**Contributions to Taxonomy**  
CSts study and describe specimens of **insects and spiders** (specific groups: Families, genera,...) from the collections at home (loan) and are valorizing unidentified specimens/collections.



**Contributions to Collection Management**  
CSts are involved in sorting, mounting and **labelling** specimens of insects and spiders, re-organizing collections and making them available for study.



**Contributions to field sampling and international scientific missions/ expeditions**  
CSts are involved in **sampling** specimens in Belgium or foreign countries. Citizens and professionals with an interest in nature, insects, spiders, mites, centipedes,...



**Contributions to digitisation of type specimens (pictures) by crowd sourcing**  
CSts make high resolution stacked pictures from type specimens and put them on **«Virtualcollections»** (RBINS database) using an on line crowd sourcing tool. After validation, the pictures are put online.



**Contribution to entomological databases and websites by crowd sourcing**  
CSts compile Excel lists of observations (**Coleoptera**). Screened and validated data are added to a database, and can be used by both researchers and CSts for their own projects, publications etc.



**Education & sensitization on insects for a broad audience**  
CSts help organizing **educational activities** on insects for a broad audience. One of the top activities is the “Week of the insects” organised by RBINS and Belgian entomological associations. During this week, all over Belgium CSts are informed on the magic world of insects.

### GEOLOGY & PALAEONTOLOGY



**Contribution to paleontology and geology**  
CSts are: collecting **fossil specimens**, studying them and analyzing the results; studying specimens from the RBINS palaeontology collection, either on their own or in collaboration with RBINS scientists.



**Collecting geological data and samples from temporary outcrops**  
CSts provide information about temporary outcrops such as excavation for goldmining. CSts make a description of the outcrop to be included in the **GeoDoc database**, and supply useful samples for the collection.



**Contribution to fossil preparation**  
CSts participate in the preparation and **restoration of fossil vertebrate remains**, both recently collected specimens as well as specimens from the RBINS collection. Part of the prepared/restored specimens are studied at RBINS or by the CSts at home (loan).



**Enlargement of the RBINS reference collection of dry fish skeletons**  
CSts collect and deliver **sharks/ rays** or carcasses of rare fishes, that are prepared for their skeletons at RBINS and deposited in the collection. They serve for comparative purposes to identify fish remains from archaeological or palaeontological sites.

### BELGIAN BIRD RINGING CENTER



**BeBirds (Belgian Ringing Scheme)**  
BeBirds (about 350 ringers) aims to organize the collection of quality data through a network of **certified volunteer ringers**; make the data available to scientists, CSts, policy makers,...; participate in training students; and develop research programs focused on the conservation of Nature.  
<https://odnature.naturalsciences.be/bebirds/en/index>

### PUBLIC AWARENESS



**Doing it Together Science (DIToS) : 2016 – 2019**  
European projects supporting RBINS CSts activities through the DIToS project focusing on **Biodesign** and **Environmental Sustainability**.



**XperiBird.be**  
XperiBird.be is an educational project that aims to distribute nest boxes equipped with a camera and a name computer to schools and educational partners around Belgium. School kids enter their **observations** on the website <http://www.xperibird.be/>.

For any questions, please write us at  
[citizenscience@naturalsciences.be](mailto:citizenscience@naturalsciences.be)



RBINS  
Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences  
The project has received funding from the European Union  
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The pictures are used by kind permission of the RBINS and its collaborators.





# XperiLAB – The Science Truck touring all over Belgian schools

XperiLAB @ Tour & Taxis (Brussels) 28-29/04/2018

**Did you know the XperiLAB already?**

Yes 5/26 (19,2%)

No 20/26 (76,9%)

Didn't reply 1/26 (3,8%)

**Would you like the XperiLAB to come at your school or town?**

Yes 22/26 (84,6%)

No 2/26 (7,7%)

Didn't reply 2/26 (7,7%)

**Which experiment did you prefer in the XperiLAB?**

Toothpaste 14

Daphnia 10

Hydrodynamics 8

Structure 6

Windmill 5

Insulation 4

Colors 4

Fibers 4

Solar energy 3

**Have you conducted similar scientific experiments at school?**

Yes 12/26 (46,15%)

No 12/26 (46,15%)

Didn't reply 2/26 (7,7%)





# XperiBIRD.be





**doing it  
together  
science**

# Thank you !

