



### **Vacancy for a Master thesis: Effects of agri-environmental schemes on moths**

Agricultural intensification has caused a decline in structural elements in European farmland, where natural habitats are increasingly fragmented and the area of monocultures is increasing. The loss of habitat structures has a detrimental effect on biodiversity and affects night active insects (moths) and bats as their predators. Moths depend on the food plants of their larvae and on nectar for their nutrition. Wildflower strips are promoted to increase biodiversity in agricultural landscapes, but are they also promoting moths and their counterparts, bats? Which species are foraging in agricultural landscapes?

In the surrounding of Göttingen you will conduct light trapping, to collect night active insects. You will conduct the fieldwork, collect insects, measure them and determine them. You will evaluate the effect of wildflower areas and hedges on the abundance and species richness of moths. And you will be part of a bigger project where we are collecting data on other groups like bats, birds and pollinators.

You need to have a drivers license!

Students in agriculture, biology or biodiversity are welcome and may contact:

[yvonne.fabian@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:yvonne.fabian@uni-goettingen.de)

Agroecology, Dept. of Crop Sciences, University of Göttingen [www.agroecology.uni-goettingen.de](http://www.agroecology.uni-goettingen.de)