

P13 Agrobiodiversity and plant genetic resources in the Tropics

Module	Agrobiodiversity and plant genetic resources in the Tropics							
Code	P13							
Coordinator	Prof. Dr. A. Bürkert							
Language	English							
Stud. Workload	180h (60h contact time)							
Credits	6 ECTS							
Frequency (WS/SS)	SS							
Instructors	Prof. Dr. A. Bürkert, Prof. Dr. M. Finckh							
Contents	Case-study based analysis of the role of biodiversity for selected crops in different agro-ecosystems from the arid to the humid climate zones; importance of biodiversity for the stability / sustainability of smallholder (subsistence) versus commodity-oriented commercial agriculture in the Tropics, assessment and utilization of diversity, principles and practices in conservation of genetic resources, role of homegardens and indigenous wild fruit trees for in situ conservation of biodiversity, causes and consequences of genetic erosion, approaches of germplasm collection.							
Objectives	Students are able to understand the role of agrobiodiversity in tropical agro-ecosystems, to present approaches of functional biodiversity analysis and to discuss the needs and strategies of on-farm (in situ) and off-farm conservation of plant genetic resources.							
Literature	Altieri, M. 1987: Agroecology: the scientific basis of alternative agriculture. Westview Press, Boulder, Colorado, USA; Eyzaguirre, P.B., Linares, O.F. 2004: Home gardens and agrobiodiversity. Smithsonian Books, Washington, USA; Wood, D., Lenne, J.M. 1999: Agrobiodiversity: Characterization, utilization and management. CABI Publishing, Wallingford, UK.							
Study system usability	Economy		Organic		Tropical			
	-		M		M			
Entrance requirements	Basic knowledge in plant and soil sciences							
Instruction type	Lecture		Seminar		Excursion	Practice	Tutorial	Project
Duration [contact h]	50		10					
Examination type	Oral test	Written test	Homework	Sem. speech	Protocol	Work report	Proj. report	Proj. pres.
	x			x				
Grade composition	60% oral test, 40% seminar speech							