



PLANT FUNCTIONAL DIVERSITY AND ITS ROLE ON PEATLAND FUNCTIONING

BJORN.ROBROEK@RU.NL

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Since 2009, I am running a plant removal experiment in the Store Mosse National Park, the largest peatland area south of Lapland. I selectively removed graminoids, ericoids, and both (incl. a control), and have been following gas fluxes and microbial community composition.

The aim of the project is to get more grip on the role of plant types and functional diversity on ecosystem processes, including microbial ecophysiology.

I am looking for an enthusiastic student who is not afraid to stick their hands in the peat, and is able to spend a longer time in the South of Sweden (free accommodation in Kittlakull).

Work involves vegetation surveys, measurement of gas fluxes, sample collection, lab analyses (when back home), plant trait measurements.

This project is in collaboration with the University of Toulouse and the University of Gothenburg. Your own ideas are much welcomed.

Interested? Get in touch with me: bjorn.robroek@ru.nl