



Seminar(i)

Ecology of subindividual variability in plants

Carlos M. Herrera

Estación Biológica de Doñana, CSIC, 41092 Sevilla, Spain

Diversification of Ecology into subdisciplines, running from Macroecology to Community and Population Ecology, largely reflects specialization on different segments along the spatial gradient over which ecological patterns and processes are recognizable. In all cases the elemental units that build up the patterns, and participate in the processes of interest to ecologists, are individuals from the same or different species. No distinct flavor of Ecology has so far emerged that focuses on patterns and processes around the lowermost end of the spatial gradient, which in the case of plants corresponds to the within-individual domain. Intraindividual heterogeneity in organ traits, however, may have multiple consequences for individuals, populations and communities. I will first provide an overview of current knowledge on plant traits that vary subindividually, the magnitude of subindividual variation, and its spatial patterning. Examples will then be presented on the consequences of subindividual variation for plants and animal consumers at individual, population and community levels. Finally, the recently emerging links between transgenerational epigenetics, subindividual variation and population ecology will be illustrated.

WHERE? Seminar room - SS6
(Institutes building floor -1)

WHEN? Thursday 29/11/2018 – 12:00 h