E&B Seminar Series





Variable plastic responses in thermal tolerance driven by habitat and microhabitat associations in African *Bicyclus* butterfly species

Date

9th Apr (Fri.)

Time

16:00 (UTC+8)

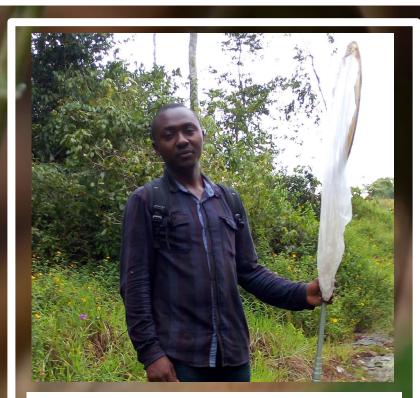
Venue

Zoom



You can also email us to require the Zoom link (check SBS website→NEWS & EVENTS)

Thermal tolerance is an important physiological trait driving species distribution on earth. Many studies have shown that it varies with latitude However. few studies altitude. investigated the potential role of habitat and microhabitat in structuring thermal responses of insects, especially in the context of global warming. In tropical Africa, there is an important diversity of habitat that might be a key factor driving thermal tolerance and therefore also species persistence. I used two well-known thermal tolerance traits, critical minimum (CTmin) and maximum (CTmax), to assess tolerance of the fifth instar larvae and adults of four *Bicyclus* species from two distinct habitats in Cameroon: forest versus ecotone. I evaluated micro-habitat association preferences of *Bicyclus* species in these habitats with respect to seasonality. In this talk, I will discuss the link between the thermal tolerance of butterflies microhabitat these and their preference. Understanding the linkages between habitat associations, plasticity, and thermal tolerance ectotherms essential in is biodiversity projections under anthropogenic change.



Dr. Michel DONGMO earned his BSc from the University of Dschang, Cameroon, and his MSc and PhD both from the of University Yaoundé Cameroon. He recently joined the Division of Ecology and Biodiversity of the School of Biological Sciences Postdoctoral fellow with Dr Tim Bonebrake. Michel Lepidopterist and uses butterflies from the genus Bicyclus as model species to the consequences assess of global warming on insect physiology and ecology with respect to their habitat or microhabitats.