

ROBERT TROPEK – CV

* 28th January 1984 in Kadan, Czechoslovakia

<http://www.insect-communities.cz/>

CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS

Plant-pollinator interactions

Geographical patterns of biodiversity

Ecology and diversity of Afrotropical butterflies and moths

Biodiversity and restoration of anthropogenic sites

Conservation of Central European and Afrotropical arthropods

EDUCATION

Faculty of Science, University of South Bohemia, České Budějovice, Czechia

BSc. – 2006; **MSc.** – 2008; **RNDr.** – 2008; **Ph.D.** – 2013

EMPLOYMENT

since 2014: Department of Ecology, **Faculty of Science, Charles University**, Prague, Czechia (assistant professor, junior group leader)

since 2008: Institute of Entomology, **Biology Centre, Czech Academy of Sciences**, České Budějovice, Czechia (2008-2013: Ph.D. student; 2013-2014: postdoc; since 2015: researcher and lab head)

2013–2014: Institute of Biogeography, **University of Basel, Switzerland** (postdoc)

2010, 2013: Department of Zoology, **Faculty of Science, University of South Bohemia**, České Budějovice, Czechia (technician)

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND STUDY STAYS

since 2014: Nature Education Centre of the **Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland**, repeated short visits, altogether 8 weeks

2016–2019: **ISA Lille, France**, 1 week yearly, altogether 1 month

2013: **British Natural History Museum, London, UK**, 1 week

2013: **African Butterfly Research Institute, Nairobi, Kenya**, 2 weeks

2006: **Binatang Research Center, Papua New Guinea** – attendant of the field course of Tropical Ecology, 3 weeks

MAIN FIELD RESEARCH ABROAD

since 2007: **Cameroon** – research on ecology of Lepidoptera and pollination biology (leader of several projects), 14 expeditions, 27 months together.

since 2018: **Republic of South Africa, Kruger NP** – research on dynamics of biodiversity in African savannah (responsibility for entomological parts), 3 expeditions, 2 months together.

2020: **Norway** – sampling of pollination networks in subarctic open habitats, 4 weeks

2016, 2017: **southern Africa (Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe)** – research on biodiversity along an environmental productivity gradient (responsibility for entomological parts), 2 expeditions, 2 months together.

2012: **Liberia** – environmental impact assessment of iron ore mining on biodiversity of butterflies (field assistant), 7 weeks.

PUBLICATIONS

(Co)author of 69 papers in SCI journals, editor of two Czech monographs, (co)author of 3 chapters in English and 11 chapters in Czech books, 13 papers in non-SCI peer-reviewed journals, and several popular papers.

Citations: WoS: 1363, h-index 19; Google Scholar: 2425, h-index 23

COMMENTARIES ON MY RESEARCH

Memmott J. (2010) Editor's choice - The efficacy of ecological restoration. *Journal of Applied Ecology* (published on-line)

Chin G. & Yeston J. (2010) Editor's choice - Best feed forward. *Science* 330: 152.

European Commission (2010) Disused quarries could provide valuable habitat if restored naturally. *Science for Environment Policy* 189: 1.

RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Principal Investigator / Co-Investigator:

2021–2025 - Latitudinal patterns in specialisation of interspecific interactions: Cross-continental geographical patterns in plant-pollinator networks, Czech Science Foundation (ca. 950,000 EUR)

2020–2023 – Latitudinal patterns in specialisation of plant-pollinator interactions: comparison of tropical and temperate montane grasslands, Czech Science Foundation (ca. 300,000 EUR)

2018–2020 – Crucial drivers for pollination networks organisation: Effects of altitude, latitude and habitat fragmentation, PRIMUS project from the Charles University (ca. 230,000 EUR)

2018–2020 – Overlooked man-made habitats: understanding the drivers and patterns of freshwater biota in polluted standing waters, Czech Science Foundation (co-PI, ca. 180,000 EUR; PI: Dr. David Boukal)

2016–2018 – Structure and specialization of pollination networks along a tropical altitudinal gradient: a path to understanding biodiversity evolution, Czech Science Foundation (ca. 293,000 EUR)

2013–2014 – The history and future of Afrotropical biodiversity reconstructed from the phylogeography and biogeography of its butterflies, Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship (42,000 CHF ~ ca. 35,000 EUR)

2012–2016 – Arthropods of anthropogenic fine-substrated habitats: community structure, conservation potential and species functional traits, Czech Science Foundation (ca. 199,000 EUR)

2012 – Phylogeography of West-African mountains using butterflies as a model group, University of South Bohemia Grant Agency (ca. 8,000 EUR)

2011–2012 – History and future of mysterious Afrotropical butterflies, National Geographic Society, Waitt Grant – principal investigator (13,900 USD ~ 10,000 EUR)

2010 – The next challenge for restoration ecology: Importance of fly ash deposits for conservation of arthropods biodiversity, University of South Bohemia Grant Agency (ca. 4,300 EUR)

2007, 2008, 2011 – Small student projects of the University of South Bohemia (SGA, UFB) (together ca. 4,000 EUR)

Collaborating Researcher:

2018–2020 – Biodiversity maintenance in African savanna: How to deal with severe top-down and bottom-up effects? Czech Science Foundation (PI: prof. Petr Pyšek)

2016–2018 – Understanding impacts of landscape fragmentation on pollination services. Are pollination systems more generalized with increasing fragmentation?, Czech Science Foundation (PI: Dr. Michael Bartoš)

2017–2019 – The importance of seasonality in shaping plant-pollinator networks in tropical montane forest, Grant Agency of the Charles University (PI: Yannick Klomberg)

2016–2018 – Pollination networks along altitudinal gradients – the pollinators' point of view, Grant Agency of the Charles University (PI: Jan Mertens)

2016–2017 – Elephants as a keystone in forming and maintaining of tropical biodiversity – a study of moths in Mt. Cameroon, University of South Bohemia Grant Agency (PI: Vincent Maicher)

2014–2018 – Centre for Tropical Ecology, Czech Science Foundation (PI: prof. Vojtech Novotný)

TEACHING AND SUPERVISING OF STUDENTS

- (co)supervising of 4 defended and 9 ongoing PhD. theses, 14 defended and 4 ongoing MSc. theses, and 10 defended and 1 ongoing BSc. theses; supervising of 9 Erasmus+ Practical Traineeships of international students working on my projects
- lectures on **Insect Ecology and Conservation**, Charles University (since 2014)
- lectures on **Biodiversity of Heavily Disturbed Sites**, Charles University (since 2017)
- lectures on **Biodiversity of Post-Industrial Sites**, ISA Lille, France (since 2016–2019)
- lectures on **Arachnology**, University of South Bohemia (2011–2015)
- collaboration on several practical field courses

AWARDS

2019, Purkyně Award for the best popularising paper in the *Živa* journal in 2018
2017, Award of the Dean of Faculty of Science for young researchers under 35 years, Charles University
2015, Award of the *Živa* journal for the best popularising paper by authors under 30 years
2013, Award of the Dean of Faculty of Science for an outstanding PhD Thesis, University of South Bohemia
2012, Quarry Life Award, a team member of the project winning both national and international contests
2012, 3rd best student presentation, Zoological days 2012, Brno, Czechia
2010, Runner up for the *Southwood Prize*, award of British Ecological Society for early career researchers
2007-2008 – premium scholarship for students with outstanding results, University of South Bohemia

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:

since 2022 – subject editor of *Biodiversity Data Journal*
since 2021 – associate editor of *Journal of Tropical Ecology*
since 2020 – member of the scientific board for the *Ecology PhD program*, Charles University
since 2020 – member of the scientific board for the *Entomology PhD program*, University of South Bohemia
since 2019 – **elected president of the Czech Society for Ecology**
since 2019 – council member of the *European Ecological Federation*
since 2015 – head of the Laboratory of Community Ecology, Institute of Entomology, Biology Centre, CAS
since 2015 – elected council member of the Czech Society for Ecology
since 2016 – member of the Biology panel of the Grant Agency of Charles University
since 2014 – departmental coordinator of ERASMUS+, Charles University
2009-2011 – member of the Academic Senate, Faculty of Science, University of South Bohemia

INVITED TALKS AND SEMINARS

2021, September – Society for Tropical Ecology, a talk in an online series Tropical Ecology Online
2020, January – Department of Animal Ecology and Tropical Biology, University of Wurzburg, Germany
2019, September – 49th Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of Germany, Austria and Switzerland, Munster, Germany
2019, December – ‘Biology Thursdays’, Faculty of Science, Charles University, Prague, Czechia
2019, December – Department of Zoology, Faculty of Science, University of South Bohemia, České Budějovice, Czechia
2019, April – Unifying Tropical Ecology: Strengthening collaborative science, European Conference of Tropical Ecology, Edinburgh, UK
2019, March – Seminar on modern approaches in biodiversity conservation for the Czech Government Council for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment
2018, October – Institute of Zoology, University of Bonn, Germany
2018, September – 5th Global Biodiversity Conservation Conference, Prague, Czechia
2018, August – Chemical Ecology Workshop, České Budějovice, Czechia
2018, January – Centre for Theoretical Studies, Prague, Czechia
2017, September – National Meeting of Speleologists 2017, Stará Oleška, Czechia

2017, March – Tropical elevational gradients: concepts and perspectives, international workshop, Dresden-Radebeul, Germany

2016, September – Institute of Systematics and Evolution of Animals, Polish Academy of Sciences, Krakow, Poland

2016, April – Institute of Botany, Czech Academy of Science, Třeboň, Czechia

2015, December – Department of Land Use, Faculty of Environmental Science, Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague, Czechia

2015, October – Department of Zoology and Animal Physiology, Faculty of Science, University of Buea, Cameroon

2015, September – Ekologie 2015 – Biannual Conference of the Czech Society for Ecology, České Budějovice, Czechia

2014, October – Department of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Faculty of Science, Palacký University Olomouc, Czechia

2013, October – Institute for Environmental Studies, Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague, Czechia

2012, April – Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Science, University of Ostrava, Czechia

2012, April – Department of Botany and Zoology, Faculty of Science, Masaryk University, Brno, Czechia

2012, March – Department of Zoology, Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague, Czechia

2012, January – Terrestrial animals in sand mines: workshop for miners, Calla NGO, České Budějovice, Czechia

2008, November – Kostelecké inspirování (student conference of the Czech University of Life Sciences), Kostelec nad Černými lesy, Czechia

ORGANISATION OF CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

2019 – German-Czech Summer School on Pollination Ecology, White Carpathians, Czechia (*local co-organiser*)

2019 – Ekologie 2019 – Biennial Conference of the Czech Society for Ecology, Olomouc, Czechia (*main organiser of the conference*)

2018 – 9th International Conference on Biology of Butterflies, Bengaluru, India (*organiser of the symposium “Interacting butterflies: From genes to communities”*)

2018 – Global Biodiversity Conservation Conference, Prague, Czechia (*member of organising and scientific committees*)

2018 – Nature Conservation in Practice, Central European meeting of conservation biologists and practitioners, Nitra, Slovakia (*member of scientific committee*)

2017 – Ekologie 2017 – Biennial Conference of the Czech Society for Ecology, Prague, Czechia (*main organiser of the conference*)

2016 – 10th European Conference on Ecological Restoration, Freising, Germany (*organiser of the session “Conservation importance of early successional stages in restoration of human-made sites”*)

2015 – Ekologie 2015 – Biennial Conference of the Czech Society for Ecology, České Budějovice, Czechia (*chairman of the session “Organisms in changing environment”*)

2014 – Zoologické dny (annual national meeting of zoologists), University of Ostrava, Czechia (*chairman of the session “Animals of man-made habitats”*)

2011 – Zoologické dny (annual national meeting of zoologists), Masaryk University, Brno, Czechia (*chairman of the session “Entomology 3”*)

DEDICATED NEWLY DESCRIBED TAXA

Alucita tropeki Ustjuzhanin & Kovtunovich, 2020 (Lepidoptera: Alucitidae)

Scopulifera sagamase tropeki Libert, 2014 (Lepidoptera: HesperIIDae)

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- popularisation of ecology and conservation biology in various media, including national TVs and radios (overview here: <http://www.insect-communities.cz/media/on-our-research/>), lectures and presentations in various secondary and high schools, and for several NGOs and governmental and regional institutions
- author of numerous management and restoration plans for (semi)natural, as well as post-industrial sites
- lepidopterological guide for a specialised agency Naturetrek, UK (Slovakia 2008)
- travelling: Australia (Queensland), Belize, Botswana, Brunei, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada (Alberta), Costa Rica, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Liberia, Malaysia, Mexico, Namibia, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Republic of South Africa, Singapore, Thailand, Turkey, USA (California, Florida), Zimbabwe, Europe

23. 8. 2022 in Prague

RNDr. Robert Tropek, Ph.D.