

Field assistant position for arthropod sampling and identification (May-June 2018)

We seek **2 field assistants** in entomology and/or urban ecology to work in the Wild Urban Evolution & Ecology Lab (<http://leem.cent.uw.edu.pl>) at the Center of New Technologies (CeNT), University of Warsaw (Poland) for a period of 2 months from May to June 2018.

Background – Current anthropogenic activities are responsible for considerable modifications of the natural environment. Those include arthropod community composition (Christie et al. 2009 Urban Ecosystems). For great tits (*Parus major*) and blue tits (*Cyanistes caeruleus*), modifications of arthropod richness and abundance might have the most dramatic effects on their reproductive success. Indeed, both species mostly feed their chicks with caterpillars and in a few extend with other arthropods such as *Diptera* and *Aranea*. Because of potential prey differing in their nutritive content, their respective availability in the environment determines the quality of the diet the parents can provide to their chicks and, as a consequence, influences offspring survival and growth. For instance, phenological mismatch between caterpillar peak and nestling rearing period leads to a shift in nestling diet (i.e. higher proportion of flying insects) and negatively affects offspring mass in pied flycatchers (Samplonius et al. 2016 J. Anim. Ecol.). Therefore, investigating how urbanization affects arthropod community composition and dynamic over the reproductive season is essential to better understand the impact of humans on wild bird population in cities.

Job description – The field assistants will take care of arthropod sampling (i.e. using a tree beating method), counting and identification to the family or the order in 9 sites across Warsaw (see map). Most sites can be reached by public transports. Both assistants will work together, mostly in autonomy.

Job requirements – We seek motivated candidates with a strong interest in field work and entomology. A previous experience in arthropod identification would be appreciated. Preferentially, the candidate should have a theoretical background in ecology. Operational Polish language is essential, but because English is the working language in the group, the candidate should be able to understand and speak English. Driving licence is a plus.



Employment – Part-time position. Field work: 4 to 5 hours per day and 5 days per week.

Salary – 2 700 PLN/month (gross salary).

How to apply – Your application should include in PDF format: a cover letter and C.V. in English (including your research experience, formation and contact information). Please send your application to marion.chatelain@cent.uw.edu.pl as early as possible and no later than the 28th of February 2018 with the term “Field assistant position” as e-mail subject line. Selected candidates will be invited for live interview.