

# PE&RC Messages

April 2019

## HIGHLIGHTS

### PHD COURSES

#### Crop Physiology and Climate Change: Understanding fundamental processes to counter the challenge

(5 - 10 May 2019)

*Crop yields are expected to decline due to the consequences of climate change. This course will explore the effects of elevated CO<sub>2</sub>, temperature and drought on crop physiology. Crop traits that can mitigate or even enhance yield under the stress will be explored via a toolbox of options where we will integrate different physiological processes using a systems approach. Modelling will be a central tool in the course.*

## PE&RC WEEKENDS COMING UP!

### First years weekend

(21 – 23 June 2019)

*The idea of this weekend is to make PhD candidates more familiar with what to expect during the PhD track and how to avoid major catastrophes and disappointments. Focus will be on the PhD process and pitfalls you can encounter along the way as well as the criteria for a successful PhD within 4 years. Furthermore you will be informed about the PhD Programme itself and the role that the Graduate School plays as a process facilitator.*

[More information and registration](#)

### Midterm weekend

(22 – 23 June 2019)

*Whereas the idea of the first years weekend was to make you more familiar with what to expect during the PhD track and how to avoid major catastrophes and disappointments, this will be the time to reflect and see if nevertheless such catastrophes and disappointments have surfaced, and how to deal with them. An essential part of the weekend is also reflecting on the question "Am I on Schedule?" We will also discuss people's personal plan of action for the second part of the PhD. Apart from this, the importance of networking and peer-coaching are highlighted. Finally, this weekend is meant to get back in touch with your fellow PhDs and learn from them how to tackle specific issues.*

[More information and registration](#)

### Last years weekend

(22 – 23 June 2019)

*In this weekend, PhD candidates in the last years of their track are prepared for the specific challenges that await them. Among these challenges are the preparation of a thesis, meeting the deadlines associated with thesis defence and the choice of a further career inside or outside science. Next to this attention to the challenges, participants are offered the opportunity to reflect on the years spent obtaining a PhD: what have they learned, what have they not learned, what do they want to pursue in the future.*

[More information and registration](#)

## MEETINGS/SYMPOSIA

## **Plant Breeding and Biotechnology symposium**

*(extended deadline for registration: 31 May 2019!)*

**(11 - 13 June 2019)**

*During the symposium we will get inspired by four invited speakers within the following four themes: plant breeding for a circular bio-economy, improving plants for sustainable intensification of agriculture under a changing climate, from field phenotyping to phenomics and speed breeding, and knowledge-intensive breeding in the omics era.*

## **International Conference:**

### **Innovative strategies for vector control**

### **Progress in the Global Vector Control Response**

**(11 - 13 June 2019)**

*Triggered by the unprecedented global spread of dengue and chikungunya viruses and outbreaks of Zika virus disease and yellow fever in 2015-2016, the World Health Organization developed the Global Vector Control Response (GVCR) as a strategic guidance to countries and development agencies for the strengthening of vector control as a fundamental approach to preventing disease and responding to outbreaks. This conference has been set up to evaluate the GVCR progress, and discuss further strengthening*

## PE&RC Postgraduate courses

- **[Basic Statistics](#)** (13 – 14 May 2019)  
*This refresher course will focus on basic knowledge of Probability, Statistical Inference (Estimation and Testing), t-tests, simple cases of Regression and ANOVA, Experimental Design, Nonparametric Tests, and Chi-square Tests. Some time is reserved to discuss statistical problems of the participants.*
- **[Introduction to R for Statistical Analysis](#)** (13 – 14 May 2019)  
*This course provides an introduction to R, a language and environment for statistical computing and graphics. Focus of the course will be on getting familiar with the R environment, to use R for manipulation and exploration of data, and to perform simple statistical analyses. Hands-on exercises will form a large part of the workshop.*
- **[Laboratory Skills Course in Soil Biology and Biochemistry](#)** @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (13-17 May 2019)
- **[ISRIC - Spring school on mapping and assessment of soils](#)** (20 - 24 May 2019)  
*This course focusses on digital soil mapping, classification and assessment for soil and environmental scientists and professionals in natural resources management.*
- **[ISRIC - Hands-on Digital Soil Mapping](#)** (20 - 24 May 2019)  
*This course introduces methods and software for management, analysis and mapping of soil type and soil properties within the R environment for statistical computing. After this course participants will be able to apply the methods learnt to their own datasets.*
- **[Design of Experiments](#)** (21 - 23 May 2019)  
*The design and analysis of experiments, using plants, animals, or humans, are an important part of the scientific process. Proper design of an experiment, apart from its proper analysis and interpretation, is important to convince a researcher that your results are valid and that your conclusions are meaningful.*
- **[Machine learning for spatial data](#)** (3 - 7 June 2019)  
*In this course participants will learn how to model patterns and structures contained in data. The course will be focused on statistical and machine learning approaches, where the relationships between the observed data and the phenomenon under study are learned directly from observations. Through a series of lectures and practical exercises (in Matlab), the participants will learn about different strategies and their pertinence for specific problems in environmental sciences. Most applications considered in the course will be remote sensing-based, but the course will remain general for a broader audience.*
- **[Linear Models](#)** (12 - 14 June 2019)  
*In this statistical module we study regression, ANOVA, and ANCOVA, set in the general framework of Linear Models. We look at topics like parameter estimation and interpretation, checking model assumptions, regression diagnostics, analysis of unbalanced designs and multiple comparisons.*
- **[Generalized Linear Models](#)** (20 - 21 June 2019)  
*In this statistical module we study how to analyse data that are not normally distributed. We look at fractions (logistic regression), counts (Poisson regression, log-linear models), ordinal data (threshold models), and overdispersion. We discuss (quasi-) maximum likelihood estimation and the deviance.*
- **[Mixed Linear Models](#)** (27 - 28 June 2019)  
*In this statistical module we discuss how to analyse data for which the assumption of independence is violated. So: Do you have a nested experimental set-up? Or repeated measurements? Or weight of the same animal over time? Or pseudo-replication? Then, you are likely to need Mixed Models. In this course, you will learn all about it!*
- **[Animal Movement Analysis](#)** (30 June – 5 July 2019)  
*This course provides participants with skills to work with animal movement data including data management and organization, working with large tracking datasets, data exploration, visualization and analysis of movement data. The course combines several guest lectures from international experts in the field of animal movement research.*
- **[Geocomputation using free and open source software](#)** (8 - 12 July 2019)  
*This course using free and open source software is an immersive 5-day experience opening new horizons in the use of the outstanding power of Linux and the command line approach for processing geospatial data. Jumpstart with R, Grass, Python, Gdal/Ogr library and linux operating system.*
- **[The ALTER-Net Summer School](#)** (21 - 31 August 2019)  
*Open to graduate and post-graduate scientists, as well as professionals in related fields, the ALTER-Net Summer School provides an innovative atmosphere for thinking about and resolving the sustainability challenges that society is currently facing. The Summer School aims at contributing to the integration and spread of scientific excellence within and beyond our network--with a special emphasis on promoting interdisciplinary approaches*
- **[Agent-based modelling with NetLogo](#)** (26 - 30 August 2019)  
*Comprehensive knowledge of agent-based modelling for beginners*
- **[Summer School 2019: Transformative Human-Environment Research & Participatory Methods: From Co-production to Co-producing](#)** (16 – 21 September 2019)  
*Human-environment research is the interdisciplinary study of how humans live in, affect, govern, reflect upon and perceive their natural environment, and how, in turn, that environment supports or constrains human life and culture. Researchers are increasingly mandated to engage more actively with politics and the plurality of epistemologies and perspectives on these challenges that exist in society. So, how may human-environment research take an active role in transformative research for and with society? This is the overall question for this summer school*

## Career development, skills and competences

- For a complete overview of this type of courses offered by **Wageningen University & Research**, please click [here](#).
- For a complete overview of this type of courses offered by the **Graduate School of Life Sciences at Utrecht University**, please click [here](#).
- For a complete overview of this type of courses offered by **Leiden University**, please click [here](#).
- For a complete overview of this type of courses offered by **The Graduate School of Science at the University of Amsterdam**, please click [here](#).

Note that when you would want to have a course like this organised at your own institute, please contact [Claudius van de Vijver](#)

## Symposia, Lectures, Workshops, Seminars and other activities

- [Mini-symposium: Seed dispersal by vertebrates in forests and wetlands: unifying concepts in tropical and temperate systems](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (17 April 2019)
- [Future For Nature Academy Day 2019](#) @ Nijmegen, the Netherlands (4 May 2019)
- [China Business Culture Training](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (8 May 2019)
- [BCF Career Event 2019 \(The Career Event for Bio/Life Sciences, Chemistry, Food & Pharma\)](#) @ Utrecht, the Netherlands (23 May 2019)
- [WGS PhD Workshop Carousel](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (24 May 2019)
- [SETAC Europe 29th Annual Meeting](#) @ Helsinki, Finland (26 - 30 May 2019)
- [Dutch Life Sciences Congress 2019 - 'Communication in Life'](#) @ Bunnik, the Netherlands (28- 29 May 2019)
- [WFA \(Wilderness First Aid\) Course](#) @ Soest (1 - 2 June 2019)
- [60th Annual Meeting - Society For Economic Botany](#) @ Cincinnati, Ohio (2-6 June, 2019)
- [Plant Breeding and Biotechnology symposium \(extended deadline for registration: 31 March 2019!\)](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (11 - 13 June 2019)
- [International Conference: Innovative strategies for vector control – Progress in the Global Vector Control Response](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (11-13 June 2019)
- [16<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Soil and Plant Analysis \(ISSPA 2019\)](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (17 - 20 June 2019)
- [NWO Talent Scheme Information Meeting \(Veni, Vidi, Vici\)](#) @ The Hague (20 June 2019)
- [9<sup>th</sup> International Granulation Workshop](#) @ Lausanne, Switzerland (26 - 28 June 2019)
- [International Master Class on Healthy and sustainable diets: synergies and trade-offs](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (8 - 10 July 2019)
- [Meeting of the Association of Tropical Biology and Conservation \(ATBC\) 2019](#) @ Antananarivo, Madagascar (30 July - 3 August 2019)
- [Wageningen Soil Conference \(submission abstracts: deadline 15 April 2019\)](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (27 - 30 August 2019)
- [49<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of Germany, Austria and Switzerland](#) @ Münster, Germany (9 - 13 September 2019)
- [VertiFarm2019 - International workshop on vertical farming](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (13 - 15 October 2019)
- [10th World Conference Ecosystem Services Partnership \(ESP\)](#) @ Hannover, Germany (21 - 25 October 2019)
- [Biodiversity next](#) @ Leiden, the Netherlands (22 - 25 October 2019)
- [SETAC Europe 14th Special Science Symposium - Soil Biodiversity: What do we know and how to protect](#) @ Brussels, Belgium (19-20 November 2019)

## PE&RC Discussion group meetings

- [WEES Workshop and Seminar: Elisabeth Bolund](#) (21 March 2019 -16:00h)  
*In this month's WEES (Wageningen Evolution & Ecology Seminar), Elisabeth Bolund (Uppsala University, Sweden), will give a lecture called 'The evolution of sexually dimorphic life histories'.*

For a complete overview of all PE&RC discussion groups, please click [here](#).

## Position Announcements

- For job vacancies, check [our website](#).

## Calls and other information

### CALLS

- **[Dutch National Research Agenda - Research along routes by Consortia 2019 \(NWA-ORC 2019\)](#)** (deadline: 9 May 2019)  
*The aim of the NWA-ORC 2019 call for proposals is to fund research and innovation focused on the NWA routes, designed and implemented by interdisciplinary consortia spanning the entire knowledge chain, in which relevant social partners are also represented*
- **[WGS Sandwich PhD programme 2019](#)** (deadline: 20 May 2019)  
*This year Wageningen Graduate Schools has about six positions available for sandwich PhD candidates. The budget of around € 60.000 covers eighteen months of stay in Wageningen and reimbursements for travel costs of student and supervisors.*
- **[Wageningen Graduate Schools \(WGS\) Postdoc Talent Programme - Call for proposals 2019](#)** (Deadline: 1 June 2019)  
*The Postdoc Talent Programme offers talented researchers from abroad the opportunity to start a career at Wageningen University & Research. Applications should demonstrate the added value of the grant for the applicant's career and the value of the applicant's expertise for Wageningen UR.*
- **[PE&RC Graduate Programme 2019 call](#)** (deadline: 4 July 2019)  
*to stimulate talented MSc students of Wageningen University groups to do a PhD within one of the WU-PE&RC groups.*
- **[NWO Graduate School Green Top Sectors](#)** (deadline: 4 July 2019)  
*This programme offers talented MSc students the opportunity to write, in collaboration with knowledge institutions and private parties, their own proposal for a PhD project within the area of the top sector Agri&Food and Horticulture & Starting Materials*
- **[Funds to publish in an Open Access journal \(only applicable to employees of Wageningen University\) \(deadline: continuous application\)](#)** (deadline: Continuous application)  
*Open Access to research results means that this material is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions. The Library supports you in Open Access publishing*
- **[NWO Visitor's Travel Grants](#)** (deadline: Continuous application)  
*Researchers in the Netherlands can apply for a visitor's grant for highly qualified senior researchers from abroad who hold a PhD. With this grant these researchers can stay in the Netherlands for a maximum of four months)*
- **[NWO Open competition - Science KLEIN](#)** (deadline: continuous application)  
*In the NWO Open Competition Domain Science - KLEIN researchers can apply individually or in collaboration for curiosity-driven, fundamental research in the research fields of the NWO Domain Science.*

### OTHER INFORMATION

- **[Lourens Poorter wins ERC grant for research in Tropical forests](#)**  
*Lourens Poorter has won an Advanced Grant of the European Research Council (ERC). This grant, 2.5 million euros, enables him to explore new ideas in the research area of tropical forests.*

If you have information that you would like to have included in the PE&RC messages, please send this information to [Claudius.vandeVijver@wur.nl](mailto:Claudius.vandeVijver@wur.nl)

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