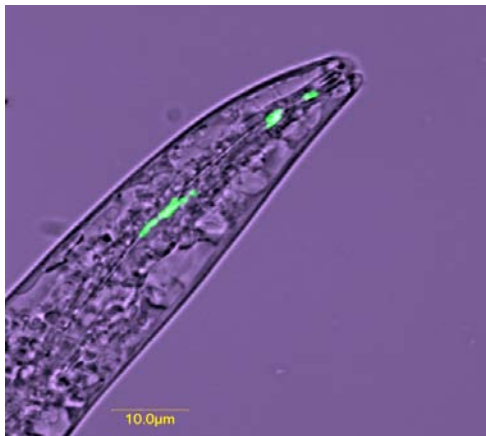


# Microbial-faunal interactions shaping soil processes



The nematode *Acrobelooides* feeding bacteria (Picture courtesy S. Sela)

## Workshop GfÖ Soil Ecology Group

5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2011  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Soils harbour an enormous diversity of organisms, ranging from bacteria, fungi and microalgae to soil animals. The interplay between microflora and fauna is central to ecosystem services, such as bottom up and top down regulation in food webs or mutualistic and antagonistic relationships.

Recent methodological advances allow for analysis of these interactions in unprecedented detail. This workshop brings together soil microbiologists and zoologists in order to discuss innovative concepts and methods on the microbial-faunal interface to prompt a better understanding of soil functioning.

### Specific topics addressed are:

- Experimental model systems
- Linking soil properties and biota
- Soil chemical ecology
- Energy channels and food webs

The Workshop will take place at the Humboldt-Universität, Unter den Linden, Berlin-Mitte.

Begin: October 5<sup>th</sup> 18:00h

End: October 7<sup>th</sup> 18:00h

Many sightseeing spots, such as the Reichstag, the Brandenburg Gate, the Museum Island and the Gendarm Market are within walking distance to the venue.



Humboldt-Universität, Unter den Linden  
(Picture courtesy H. Zappe)

**GfÖ**  
Gesellschaft für Ökologie



## Second Circular

### 5<sup>th</sup> of October – Evening Session

**Kick-off: Sébastien Barot (Paris, France)**

Finding the principles of soil ecology or bridging the gap between soil ecology and general ecology?

**Afterwards: Ice breaker**

### 6<sup>th</sup> of October - Morning Session “Model organisms in soil ecology”

**Lisa Bjørnlund (Copenhagen, Denmark)**

Impact of bacterial defense strategies on multitrophic interactions - from test tube to soil

**Kornelia Smalla (Braunschweig, Germany)**

Cultivation-independent methods to unravel complex interactions in the rhizosphere

### 6<sup>th</sup> of October - Afternoon Session “Linking soil properties and biota to functional networks”

**Marcus Horn (Bayreuth, Germany)**

Unravelling of earthworm-microbe interactions in soil

**Tim Urich (Vienna, Austria)**

Beech litter degrading microbial communities probed by metatranscriptomics

### 7<sup>th</sup> of October - Morning Session “Soil chemical ecology”

**Michael Bonkowski (Cologne, Germany)**

Microbial food web interactions mediated by signals and toxins in the plant rhizosphere

**Ivan Hiltbold (Neuchâtel, Switzerland)**

Manipulating belowground tritrophic interactions to enhance biological control of the western corn rootworm *Diabrotica v. virgifera*

### 7<sup>th</sup> of October - Afternoon Session “Energy channels and food webs”

**Gerlinde de Deyn (Wageningen, The Netherlands)**

Fuels and engines under our feet

**Katarina Hedlund (Lund, Sweden)**

Stable isotopes guide us towards the understanding of multiple interactions in soil food webs

#### For further information see:

[http://www.biologie.hu-berlin.de/forschung/gruppen\\_inst/oekologie/wgfoe](http://www.biologie.hu-berlin.de/forschung/gruppen_inst/oekologie/wgfoe)

The workshop structure includes the introduction of the focal topics by invited speakers. This will be followed by discussion in specific section groups and linked together in a joint plenum round.

#### Contributions to the workshop

Besides the key note talks the workshop is organised as discussion forum. **Poster contributions to the focal topics** by participants are very welcome.

#### Please register till 31. August 2011.

A **fee of 30 Euro** is charged covering the catering during the workshop. This includes the ice breaker.

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