WHAT WE DO

- Internationally visible **basic and applied research** on biodiversity, integrative taxonomy, nature conservation, and biodiversity monitoring
- Create innovative **educational formats** for Bachelor's, Master's, and doctoral degree programs
- Involvement in national and international research activities, and support the **development of citizen science projects**
- **Knowledge transfer** through dialog between science and society
- **Connecting experts** in research and professional fields with the public

OUR TARGET AUDIENCE

Everyone who is passionate about species knowledge and promoting biodiversity.

- **Researchers** – from doctoral candidates to university lecturers – who are seeking new insights into the ecosystems in Baden-Württemberg, to understand how they work and evolve over time, and who would like to pass on this knowledge.
- **Freelance lecturers** in various areas of species knowledge, who want to support the next generation of species experts.
- **Policymakers** looking for scientifically sound advice on questions requiring species knowledge, to find solutions to the biodiversity and environmental crisis.
- **School students** with a particular interest in our subject area.
- **Students** who would like to develop their knowledge and skills in the KomBioTa network.
- **Members of the public and professionals** who want to get involved in species conservation either privately or professionally and are looking for practicable solutions.
- **Media creators** who are looking for experts for their journalistic content.

WHO WE ARE

KomBioTa Board of Directors



Prof. Dr. Johannes Steidle
University of Hohenheim
Department of Chemical Ecology



Prof. Dr. Lars Krogmann
Natural History Museum Stuttgart



Prof. Dr. Martin Hasselmann
University of Hohenheim
Department of Livestock Population Genomics

Photos: Astrid Untermann.

KomBioTa Management



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Cooperation partners

Akademie für Naturschutz und Umweltschutz

Eine Institution von Baden-Württemberg Ministerium für Umwelt, Klima und Energiewirtschaft

Baden-Württemberg

Funded by the state of Baden-Württemberg as part of the integrative taxonomy initiative.

UNIVERSITY OF HOHENHEIM

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM STUTTGART



EDUCATE. EMPOWER. PROTECT.

Center for Biodiversity and Integrative Taxonomy (KomBioTa)

Species knowledge for more biodiversity



Photo: Astrid Untermann.

About KomBioTa

FOCUS: SPECIES KNOWLEDGE AND BIODIVERSITY

The Center for Biodiversity and Integrative Taxonomy (KomBioTa) is a network of more than 180 university lecturers, researchers, students, employees, and other people interested in species knowledge. Their vision is to preserve and pass on species knowledge, and to facilitate sustainable decisions on this basis to strengthen biodiversity.

State Initiative »Integrative Taxonomy Baden-Württemberg«

Founded as part of the Baden-Württemberg state initiative for integrative taxonomy, the center officially began its work in 2021 as a scientific institution of the University of Hohenheim together with the Natural History Museum Stuttgart.

In close cooperation with the Academy for Nature and Environmental Protection, and various ministries in Baden-Württemberg, the aim is to pass on species knowledge to the next generation.

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SPECIES KNOWLEDGE FOR INFORMED DECISION-MAKING

Germany has a shortage of experts in the education sector and in professional fields who have in-depth species knowledge for the specialized and comprehensive identification of plant and animal species.

Species knowledge is an essential core competence both for biodiversity research and for the work of nature conservation agencies, associations, and consultants, as well as farmers, landscape planners, and horticulturalists. It is vital for sustainable thinking and action by everyone.

It is therefore immensely important to make species knowledge easily accessible. This will benefit all stakeholders in their efforts to promote biodiversity and sustainability, while enabling people to consciously manage their environmental footprint.

Without basic, up-to-date knowledge about our natural world and everything living in it, we are unable to provide appropriate protection.

Biodiversity is just as important for the survival of animals and plants as it is for us humans. It is the basis for maintaining ecological balance.

All of this is essential to trigger positive developments – on both personal and political levels. We want species knowledge to flow throughout society!

WHAT WE OFFER



1 Strengthening biodiversity and taxonomy research

- Advice and support for researchers
- Interdisciplinary networking through network meetings and academic events

2 Supporting early career researchers

- Summer schools for doctoral and Master's students with guided field trips and identification and mapping exercises
- Organization and supervision of the "Biodiversity through time" research training group

3 Continuing education and quality assurance

- Seminars on selected species (hoverflies, garden dormouse, European dormouse, plants)
- BANU Field Botany and Field Ornithology certification

4 Public relations and knowledge transfer

- Lectures and guided tours for associations, professionals and members of the public
- Workshops for school children
- Engage with the public at promotional and information stands at events
- Citizen science projects

5 Scientific advice for policymakers

- Policy consulting
- Studies, recommendations for action, and project presentations