



COLLEMBOLA COLLECTION AND IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP



Instructor: Dr Charlene Janion-Scheepers

Date: 6-10 November 2017

Venue: Dept. of Conservation Ecology and Entomology, Stellenbosch University

Despite their global importance, Collembola (springtails) have been poorly studied compared to other invertebrates in South Africa. This is mainly due to the lack of taxonomic knowledge and the undersampling of this group. However, a growing number of studies are now using Collembola as model organisms for soil health and climate change. For the first time in South Africa, this five-day, hands-on Collembola workshop will cover a broad range of topics, including basic Collembola knowledge (anatomy, ecology, physiology), collecting and extracting Collembola in ecological and other studies, identifying Collembola using morphological characters and the use of barcoding in species identification. This workshop will include two half days of field sampling in the nearby Jonkershoek Nature Reserve, where participants will practice different sampling techniques for collecting Collembola. In addition, laboratory based training will be done where participants will acquire the skills needed to extract Collembola from samples, prepare slides, and identify Collembola using available keys.

Topics covered:

Day 1: Introduction to Collembola, diversity in South Africa

Day 2: Collecting Collembola: in field using collection methods, extraction methods in laboratory

Day 3: Collecting Collembola: in field using collection methods, extraction methods in laboratory

Day 4: Identification techniques

Day 5: Barcoding, physiology, function

Registration fee R6000

Includes provision of light refreshments at a morning tea break and lunch

Registration deadline: 6 October 2017

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