



Biodiversity Conservation Research Project: Movement of arthropods and flora through fragmented agricultural landscapes

An exciting collaboration between the ANU Fenner School of Environment and Society, ARC Centre of Excellence for Environmental Decisions & National Environment Research Program, & the NSW Central Tablelands Local Land Services.

Volunteer positions available!

- **Contribute to important conservation research**
- **Gain valuable field and species identification experience**
- **Learn about the agricultural mixed-cropping and natural landscapes in the Lachlan Catchment**
- **Opportunity to meet interesting fauna, flora and people**

Sustainable intensification of agriculture requires land management practices that improve production but reverse global declines in biodiversity. Plantings aim to restore fragmented habitats by improving connectivity and providing habitat and resources. However, little is known on the movement ecology of many invertebrate taxa, including predators of pest crops. This project will advance understanding on the role of restoration plantings and conservation strategies in influencing invertebrate movement and biodiversity.

Volunteers are needed to help with fieldwork to examine the movement of ground arthropods (both beneficial predators and pests) using transects extending from a remnant patch into contrasting paddock types, including plantings. Volunteers can experience the day-to-day activities of field surveys, from setting up arthropod pitfall traps, doing vegetation surveys, to identifying arthropod and plant species, with potential for some direct tracking work. Work will be physically demanding, but rewarding! It will involve long days, getting our hands dirty in pitfalls, with lots of hiking through dense woodlands and cropping/grazing fields across multiple working farms. There are also opportunities for volunteers experienced with field surveys to lead small teams.

Surveys planned for weekly sessions (5 days, 4 nights) from September to December 2014 and in January/February 2015 (specific dates TBC). Preference would be given for those that can commit to 2-3 weeks, with a minimum of one week commitment required.

Food, transport (from/to Canberra for full week) and shared accommodation costs covered in return for your dedicated support. Project sites are located around Grenfell and Barellan in NSW.

Please send your questions or register your interest (with the application form, along with a short CV no more than 2 pages) to:

Katherina Ng

katherina.ng@anu.edu.au

0402 138 896 / 02 6125 8148



Movement of fauna through fragmented agricultural landscapes Volunteer Application Form

Movement of arthropods and flora through fragmented agricultural landscapes

Please answer the questions below and email the form back to:

Katherina Ng (0402 138 896), Lead investigator – katherina.ng@anu.edu.au

We ask for this information to ensure that we can contact you, and to ensure your safety on field trips.

First Name	
Last Name	
Address	
Suburb	
Postcode	
Mobile Phone	
Home Phone	
Email	
Degree	
Previous relevant field/work experience, if applicable	
I can commit to the following field trips (indicate specific weeks available)	
September 2014 (includes pitfall digging & site setup)	
October 2014 (includes pitfall digging & site setup)	
November 2014	
December 2015	
January 2015	
February 2015	
Field Details	
I have a current first aid certificate	
4WD course or experience	
Navigation Skills	
Drivers Licence Number (you may need to drive)	
Drivers Licence Expiry Date	
Drivers Licence Class	
Medical conditions that may influence your ability in the field	
Dietary requirements?	