WORKING GROUPS

WG1
Population Structure, Inbreeding Management, and Genetic Diversity
Led by Christoph Sandrock (CH)

WG2
Mating Control
Led by Olga Ameixa (PT)

WG3
Interactions between Genetics, Environment and Community (GxExC)
Led by Gertje Petersen (DE)

WG4
Breeding Objectives
Led by David Deruytter (BE)

WG5
Phenotyping Systems
Led by Esther Ellen (NL)

WG6
Estimation of Breeding Values
Led by Sreten Andonov (MK)

WG7
Dissemination and Communication
Led by Jana Obšteter (SI)

WG8
Inclusion and Representation
Led by Mert Kükrer (TR)

Science Communication Officer
Georgia Baliota (GR)

Grand Awarding Officer
Alexandre Trindade (PT)

JOIN THE INSECT-IMP PROJECT!

Together, we will drive innovation and sustainability in the insect breeding and farming sector.

Website:
www.cost-insectimp.eu

Social media
Instagram: @insect_imp
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Contact Us:
info@cost-insectimp.eu

Authors:
Saša Krstović, Olga Ameixa, Rocsana Manea Tonis, COST Insect-IMP WG7

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COST is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Our Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career and innovation.

INSECT-IMP

BUGS WITH BENEFITS

cost
EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Funded by the European Union

INSECTS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

Insects are the most abundant group of animals, with around 1.5 million known species - and possibly many unknown! Over 97% of insect species are beneficial or harmless. Insects are consumed as food by approximately 2 billion people worldwide, representing about 25% of the global population, and also provide several essential ecosystem services such as pollination, bioconversion of waste and carrion, and humus formation.

The cultural role of insects

Certain insect species (e.g. cicadas, bees, scarabs) have enjoyed cultural and even religious significance for millennia. While modern humans mainly view insects as a nuisance, ancient Egyptian and Greek societies revered insects for their adaptability and resilience.

The potential of insects for the future

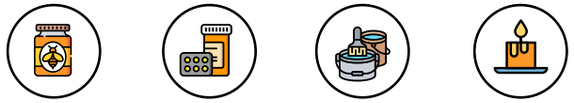
Some insect species are already farmed for the production of food, animal feed, and fibre. While some of them, such as the silk moth, require very specific feed and rearing conditions, others, such as black soldier flies or house flies, can be reared on varied substrates and are well-suited for more circular approaches to e.g. protein production, as they can use waste streams that would otherwise be lost.

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

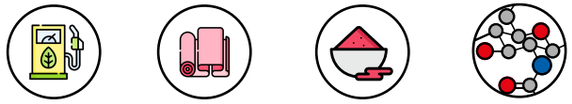
Nutrition (Food & Feed)

- Sustainability
- Circular economy - bioconversion
- Climate neutral - greenhouse gas emission
- Nutritional value
- Increasing European market potential for insect protein

Materials



Honey | Propolis | Shellac | Wax



Biofuels | Silk | Carminic Acid | Chitin

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Scientific models
- Indicators of environmental health
- Forensic science

Music | Religion | Science | Insect Wildlife Observation

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Pollinators

Cross-fertilisation of many crops, fruits, and wildflowers

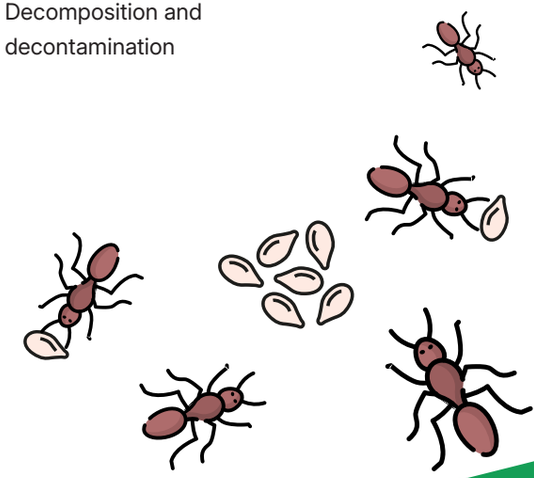
Biological control agents

Less pesticides, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem resilience

Remediation of wastes

Decomposition and decontamination

Seed dispersion



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