

EVOLUTION MEGALAB NEWSLETTER: ISSUE 1 JUNE 2008

This will be the first of what is planned to be a monthly newsletter informing you of the latest developments on the Evolution MegaLab.



If you have any news or information on how the Evolution MegaLab is developing in your country please send to j.p.worthington@open.ac.uk by the 20th of each month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

WORKSHOP: 28TH MAY 2008

Thank you to all those attended the workshop held in London in May. We hoped you all enjoyed the day and found it useful.

The power point slides and a summary of the outcomes of the meeting are available at:

<http://groups.google.co.uk/group/evolution-megalab/web/evolution-megalab-workshop---28th-may-2008>

SNAIL ID GUIDES

Thank you to all who have submitted the list of snail species which are similar to *Cepaea* in your country.

We would be grateful if those with lists outstanding could submit them. We can then customise the snail ID guide for you.

Please send your list to:
j.p.worthington@open.ac.uk

FEEDBACK

Over the coming months we are gathering feedback from users on what they think of the website and what improvements they would like made to it.

To provide this feedback you can either complete the online survey:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=g8x8HIL0VyPhbdhJ5VxZ7g_3d_3d

Or email your comments to:
j.p.worthington@open.ac.uk

PDF UPDATES

The PDF's on snail ID and the snail recording sheet have been updated. These can be accessed at:

<http://groups.google.co.uk/group/evolution-megalab>

To translate the PDF's either use a PDF editor or contact us and we will send you word versions of the documents.

To overcome the collecting issues in each country, please alter the information on the recording sheet to suit your country. For example, in the UK we have referred to the Country Code but this would not be applicable for other countries.

Once the translated documents are received the appropriate picture of snails that could get confused with *Cepaea* will be added.

Based on information supplied by Robert Cameron, a more advanced identification guide has been developed. This can be accessed at:

<http://groups.google.co.uk/group/evolution-megalab/web/how-to-hunt-banded-snails>

This is still a draft but it is hoped to go under the 'for experts' section on the Evolution MegaLab website.

SCHOOL MATERIALS

The primary UPD8 materials are being developed by ASE and should be available towards the end of the year. These activities are aimed at school children aged 5 to 11.

With regards to the secondary materials we are awaiting news on funding outcomes. We will keep you informed of any developments.

On the teachers resources section of the Google groups you will find further school materials. This includes the link to a video clip of Steve Jones talking to a class of school children about snails.

This is available at:

<http://groups.google.co.uk/group/evolution-megalab/web/teachers-resources>



VISIT THE GOOGLE GROUP!

As you are no doubt aware a Google Group has been set up to help support collaborators.

The Group provides a place where you can:

- Access up to date materials relating to the Evolution MegaLab
- Discuss and share ideas with other collaborators on any issues relating to the Evolution MegaLab.
- Access resources ranging from the genetics of *Cepaea* to suggestions on how Evolution MegaLab could be used with schools.

If you have not yet signed up and would like to, please go to:

<http://groups.google.co.uk/group/evolution-megalab>