

Wintersemester / Winter Term 2013/14

BayCEER Kolloquium

Vortragsreihe Ökologie und Umweltforschung
Lecture series in Ecology and Environmental Research

Donnerstag 28.11.2013, 17:00 Uhr, H6

Anschließend Postkolloquium mit Bier und Brezen im Foyer H6

Dr. Christian Rixen

Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape
Research WSL

Alpine plants in a world of change

Alpine plants fascinate us with their diversity and their interesting adaptations to, from a human perspective, extreme environmental conditions. It can be anticipated that those specialized species will respond sensitively to changes in the environment and climate.

In this presentation, I will report from several studies that have investigated how changes in snow cover, elevated atmospheric CO² levels, warmer temperatures and, last but not least, land-use can affect alpine plants and their diversity. For instance, I will demonstrate,

- how the plant diversity of mountain summits has increased in recent decades and centuries probably due to higher temperature and reduced snow cover,
- that elevated atmospheric CO² levels have the potential to enhance plant growth at tree line but that at the same time they can also increase the plants susceptibility to freezing events,
- that it is important to maintain high alpine plant diversity to provide key ecosystem services such as soil stability.

Do. / Thu. 17 st
Gebäude/Building
GEO
Hörsaal/Lecture hall
H6

Die Vortragsreihe
ist eine
interdisziplinäre
Plattform zur
Information und
Diskussion für
Studierende,
Forschende und
Lehrende

Gäste
sind herzlich
willkommen

*The lecture series
serves as an
inter-disciplinary
platform for
students, junior
and senior
scientists.*

*Guests
are cordially
invited!*