

Mértola Evolution Conferences– 2025 edition: Speciation: from field studies to genomics



PROGRAM

DAY 1, 5th of April

Chair: Jeremy Searle

9:30-10:00 - Welcome Coffee and Cakes

10:00-10:30 - Opening Ceremony

10:30-11:45 - **Peter Grant:** "Ecology of speciation in the adaptive radiation of Darwin's Finches"

11:45-13:00 - **Rosemary Grant:** "Speciation and Hybridization in Darwin's Finches"

13:00-14:30 - Lunch

14:30-15:30 - **Leif Andersson:** "Atlantic herring - an adaptive radiation with incomplete reproductive isolation"

15:30-15:45 - José Cerca: "Consistent transposable element accumulation in the face of hybridization and rapid speciation in Galápagos giant daisies (*Scalesia*)"

15:45-16:00 - Martim Melo: "Signatures of selection despite ephemeral population dynamics in "Darwin's Sparrow" (*Passer iagoensis*, Cabo Verde endemic)"

16:00-16:30 - Coffee Break

16:30-16:45 - Borja Milá: "Diversification and local adaptation between and within oceanic islands: the Chaffinch radiation in Macaronesia"

16:45-17:00 – Jan T. Lifjeld: "Sperm and speciation in songbirds"

17:00-17:15 – Salomé Barreto: “Ecological differentiation influences the evolution of prezygotic isolation in spider-mite species”

17:15-17:30 – Marta Berluenga: “Host-parasite interactions drive speciation in crater lake cichlid fish”

17:30-17:45 - Ester Serrão: “Climate-driven evolution at range margins of marine forests”

17:45-18:00 - Kari Saikkonen: “Extreme polar light regimes promote hybrid zones at higher latitudes and biodiversity globally?”

18:00 – Cante Alentejano

19:00 – Dinner

DAY 2, 6th of April

Chair: Leif Andersson

09:30-10:30 - **Joana Meier:** “The roles of hybridisation and chromosomal rearrangements in rapid adaptive radiations”

10:30-11:00 - Coffee Break

11:00-12:00 - **Rui Faria:** “The role of chromosomal inversions in *Littorina* adaptation and speciation”

12:00-13:00 - **Roger Butlin:** “Hybrid zones and reproductive isolation”

13:00-14:30 - Lunch

14:30-15:00 - **Jeremy Searle:** “Despeciation”

15:00-15:30 - **Rikard Holmdahl:** “Why we became humans”

15:30-15:45 - Carl Vangestel: “How ancient chromosomal inversions shaped a parallel Galápagos beetle radiation.”

15:45-16:00 - Hannes Svandal: “Introgression dynamics of sex-linked chromosomal inversions shape the Malawi cichlid adaptive radiation”

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

16:30-16:45 - Alexandre Blanckaert: “Interactions between mechanisms of reproductive isolation”

16:45-17:00 - Silu Wang: “Mitonuclear divergence predicts gradual speciation in animal hybrid zones”

17:00-17:15 - Sofia L. Mendes: “Hybridization is prevalent but outcomes are distinct across highly differentiated Iberian chub species”

17:15-17:30 – Giovanni Forcina: “Neglected human-driven species diversification: the case of the Javan Red Junglefowl (*Gallus gallus bankiva*) “

17:30-19:00 – Close of Conference and Free time to visit Mértola

ORGANIZATION

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