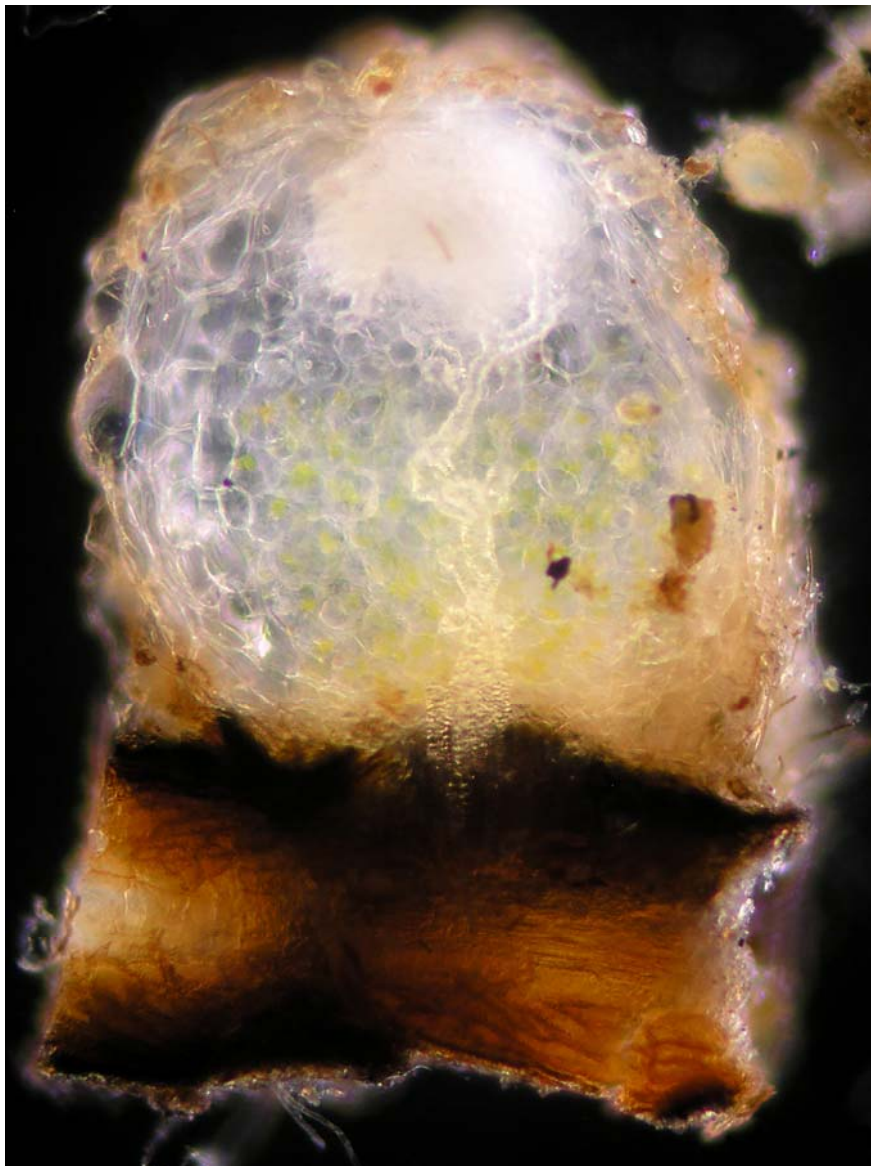


2nd Symposium on Biology of Non-Weedy Hemiparasitic Orobanchaceae

České Budějovice, August 27-30 2008



Book of Abstracts

The abstracts are arranged according to the alphabetic order of the names of the first authors of presentations

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Pollinator behaviour, pollen transfer and hybrid formation between *Rhinanthus minor* and *R. angustifolius*

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Rhinanthus minor L. and *R. angustifolius* Gmelin are annual hemi-parasitic Orobanchaceae growing in very similar ecological niches and both bumblebee-pollinated. The flowering periods and geographical ranges of these species largely overlap in Europe, and in certain localities hybridation and introgression occur. In our lab and in the field we try to understand how this natural hybridation works by exploring the ecological, ethological and physiological borders between these two closely related species.

We have measured pollen tube growth rates in con-specific and hetero-specific styles and performed observations in the field on bumblebee species richness, visitation rates, and behaviour. The data are still being analysed and only some preliminary results will be presented. Other experiments such as pollen competitive ability in mixed pollinations (hybrid detection via molecular tools), and quantifying bumblebee pollen uptake and deposition according to transition behaviour are also envisaged in the project.

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