

We are excited to announce the launch of the
SISS International "Antonio Berlese"
Summer School (ABSS)

Soil Fauna Applied Ecology and Systematics
- First Edition -

Dates: **September 1st-5th 2025**

Location: **Fagna Experimental Farm, Scarperia (Florence, Italy)**

Coordinates: **43°59'00.4"N 11°20'48.6"E**

Duration: **5 days**

Lectures: **17 hours**

Practical Activities: **14 hours**

Guided Study: **17 hours**

Academic Credits: **3 European Credit in Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS =3 Italian CFU)**

Available Slots: **20 enrolments (free tent places available, 2 hotels within walking distance)**

Topics:

The transition from soil quality to soil health is vital for scientists, land managers, and policymakers. ABSS aims to bridge knowledge gaps and provide up-to-date, scientifically-backed support for governments and farmers.

Objectives:

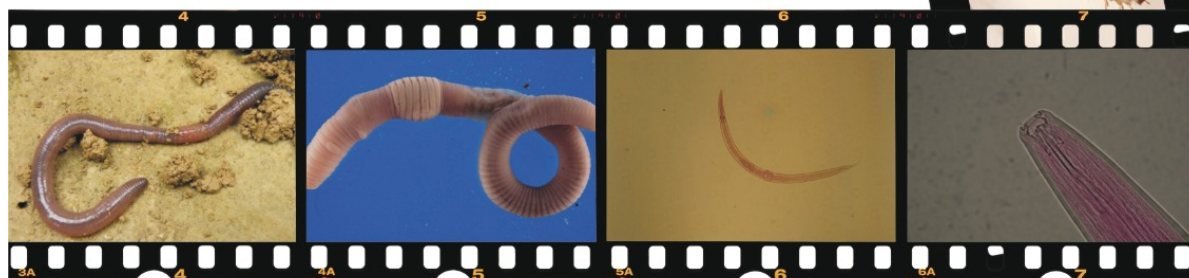
- Explore soil fauna biodiversity, ecology, and distribution
- Study taxonomy, ecological interactions, and conservation practices
- Gain hands-on experience in monitoring, sampling, identification, and analysis
- Participate in field and lab work alongside professionals
- Conduct research projects assessing farm practices and climate change adaptation

Participants will learn directly from experts involved in international networks such as JRC/CE, GSBI, GSP/NetSOB, and collaborate with universities, museums, and environmental protection agencies.

This course is designed for undergraduate, master's, PhD students, researchers, technicians, and professionals. Understanding soil fauna is key to assessing natural conditions and human impacts. It serves as a powerful tool for evaluating soil health and quality, with indicators that vary depending on study goals and expertise. Participants will join the ABSS Alumni group, where experiences and insights are shared and discussed.

Please contact your University's Administration to check specific internal rules regarding the acquisition of credits.

Looking forward to seeing you in Fagna!



**Soil taxonomy, Soil ecology, Experimental design,
Microfauna, Mesofauna, Macrofauna and Megafauna,
Identification practice**



- 5 days from 9 AM to 19 PM
- Front lessons: 17 hours
- Practical activities: 14 hours
- Final exam to obtain 3 CFU

Preregistration before June 15th 11:59 PM |

<https://forms.office.com/e/eDvTeL8CKh>

Prestigious international scientific committee: Zoe Lindo (Canada), George Brown (Brazil), Maria Viketoft (Sweden), Tancredi Caruso (Ireland), to be completed

PLACES AVAILABLE FOR 24 ATTENDEES

Early registration before April 15th 11:59 PM April 30th 11:59 PM |

Students: 340 € | Professionals: 450 €

Late registration before June 15th 11:59 PM |

Students: 450 € | Professionals: 550 €

CONTACTS

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Patronage:



Organizing Committee: Lorenzo D'Avino (Secretary), Carlo Jacomini (Proposer), Giuseppe Corti (Chair) Filiberto Altobelli, Claudia Becagli, Gaia Bigiotti, Miguel Angel Gambelli, Fabio Gatti, Federico Gavinelli, Maria Grazia Piazza, Malayka Samantha Picchi, Elena Tondini
Graphic: Francesco Ambrosini