

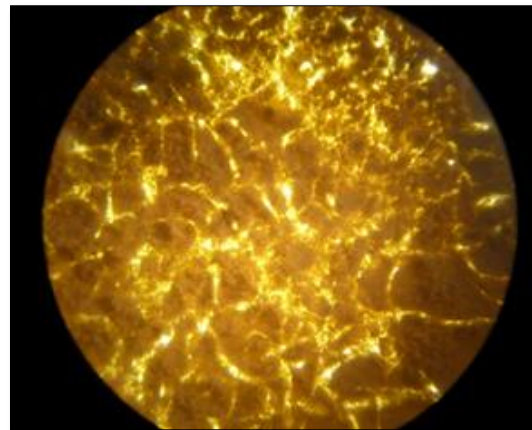
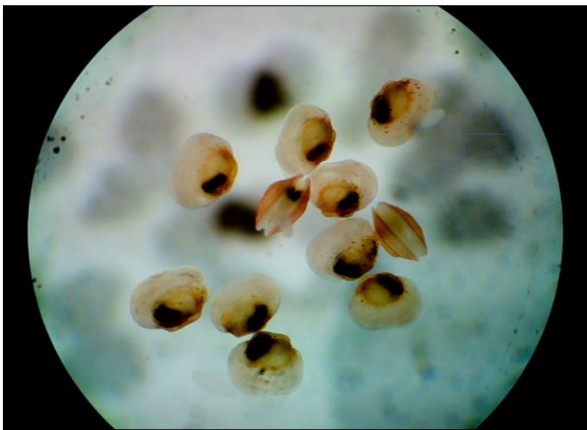
INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Conservation strategies for freshwater mussels:
From analyzing habitat and food preferences to restocking and
establishment of conservation programs

Tuesday 09th March - Wednesday 10th March 2021

Dresden, Germany

1st announcement



Post-parasitic captive-bred freshwater pearl mussels (left). Feeding traces of
post-parasitic freshwater pearl mussels: in an experimental box with
detritus as food supply on the bottom (right).

Jointly funded by BMBF and BMU/BFN (Funding Codes: 01LC1313A-D and 3514685E13-I13) and Bayerischer Naturschutzfonds

Dear colleagues,

It is a great pleasure to announce our 2nd international workshop about conservation strategies for freshwater mussels: from analyzing habitat and food preferences to restocking and establishment of conservation programs with focus on breeding programs and habitat models.

Freshwater bivalves have been abundant species in the waters of Germany previously. The actually few left, available populations suffer from low recruitment rates and are subject to habitat fragmentation, pollution, siltation, decline or loss of host fish populations, and climate change. Successful conservation strategies for freshwater bivalves need a holistic understanding of their ecological requirements, life history, population dynamics, and habitat prerequisites.

The workshop is organized within the joint project ‚ArKoNaVera‘: Implementation of regional protective measures and development of a new national conservation program for priority species: Freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*) and Painter`s mussel (*Unio pictorum*) → further information: www.flussmuscheln.de/en/ – funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety.

With focus on Margaritiferidae and Unionidae, this workshop will present valuable insights into the nutritional requirements of freshwater mussels and will discuss effects of climate change for conservation of freshwater mussels. Furthermore, it will work out the current status of decision-support tools and conservation programs, which is of special interest for concerned stakeholders and administrations. With respect to these issues, the ArKoNaVera project will put its results obtained in a 6 years period to discussion. In addition, experiences from other freshwater mussel conservation projects will be presented and set these topics in a wider context.

The workshop of freshwater mussels (main point of attention: Margaritiferidae and Unionidae) focuses on following issues:

- Habitat needs and current main threats
- Food resources and food requirements
- Reproduction and population ecology in relation to conservation strategies
- Experience from captive-breeding programs
- Climate change and its consequences
- Biomonitoring as a suitable tool to select habitats for restocking
- Development of decision-support tools and their future application to identify suitable habitats for restocking
- Conservation genetics of mussels and their host fish
- New strategies in catchment management approaches for conservation and restoration
- Examples of successful restoration measures resulting in functional mussel populations
- Freshwater bivalves – prospects for the future

This workshop will hopefully bring scientists from different fields together and give rise to a discussion about management and optimal handling of conservation strategies for freshwater mussels.

The local organization team is looking forward to welcome all of you in March 2021 in the south east of Germany.



Mussels help our water.
We help mussels.

The lively old town...



On the bank of river Elbe Dresden`s historical centre is located with well-known buildings from Renaissance, Baroque and the 19th century. The most well-known symbol of rebuilding of the old town is the Frauenkirche, the magnificent domed Baroque church which again dominates the Dresden skyline (in the middle).

Recovery in the surrounding area...



Vineyards in Dresden-Pillnitz (left) and built as a hunting lodge, the Moritzburg Castle that became a royal pleasure palace under Augustus the Strong (right).

The river Elbe and inviting shores...




Close to city center there are beautiful riverbanks (left) and castles over the former vineyards on the Elbe valley slopes (right).

The Freshwater mussels...



Juvenile captive-bred freshwater pearl mussels in a cage (left).
Freshwater pearl mussels in a stream (Vogtland, Germany - right).

Important workshop information

Date	Tuesday 09th March – Wednesday 10th March 2021
Venue	<p>Penck Hotel Dresden Ostra-Allee 33 01067 Dresden Germany www.penckhoteldresden.de/</p> 
How to get there?	www.penckhoteldresden.de/en/location-directions-parking/
Registration	The registration fee is 140 € (incl. social evening with sightseeing and dinner).
Accommodation	<p>We recommend the venue of the workshop – Penck Hotel Dresden - for your accommodation.</p> <p>When registration is open, you can book a reasonably priced room together with your workshop registration!</p>
Abstract Submission	<p>We welcome your abstracts for oral presentations and posters until November 30th, 2020.</p> <p>They should comprise 500 words maximum and may include one figure or chart (maximum file size: 2 GB). Abstracts should be sent to Jana Schneider: jana.schneider2@tu-dresden.de</p>
Oral Communication and Posters	<p>Each oral presentation should take 20 minutes maximum (15 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for discussion) in Microsoft Power Point format. For other equipment, please contact the organization team.</p> <p>Posters will be presented during the whole workshop. Poster dimension: A0 84.1 x 118.9 cm.</p>
Social Evening (Sightseeing and Dinner)	<p>Historical city tour with Dinner and Wine</p> <p>After an exciting excursion into the history of Dresden, enjoy a glass of the best Saxon court wine in one of the numerous wine boutiques around Dresden's Neumarkt. During the wine tasting, you will learn the history and stories of one of the smallest wine regions, the Saxon Wine Route. Then you will be guided through Dresden's city history. Our tour ends in the Sophienkeller in the Taschenbergpalais. Here you will now be spoiled by court chefs and maids with hearty Saxon cuisine.</p>

Local Organization Team	<p>Jana Schneider (Technische Universität Dresden, Germany) Franziska Jecke (Sächsische Landesstiftung Natur und Umwelt / Naturschutzfonds) Stefanie Bracklow (Technische Universität Dresden, Germany)</p>
Scientific Committee	<p>Thomas Berendonk (Technische Universität Dresden, Germany) Marco Denic (Landkreis Passau, Germany) Jürgen Geist (Technische Universität München, Germany) Clemens Gumpinger (Consultants in aquatic ecology and engineering (blattfisch), Austria) Frankie Thielen (natur & emwelt / Fondation Hëllef fir d'Natur, Luxembourg) Annekatriin Wagner (Technische Universität Dresden, Germany) Markus Weitere (Helmholtz-Zentrum für Umweltforschung, Germany)</p>
Contact	<p>Technische Universität Dresden Institut für Hydrobiologie Zellescher Weg 40 01127 Dresden GERMANY</p> <p>E-Mail: jana.schneider2@tu-dresden.de</p> <p>Tel. +49 351 463 32329 Fax. +49 351 463 37108</p>

Please feel free to forward this document to anyone who could be interested in this workshop. Thank you!

Dresden, March 2021, see you!