



beetles (*X. saxesenii* & *X. germanus*). With these findings several questions regarding their function in the beetle-fungus symbiosis are searching for answers.

The aim of this project is to study the role and the influence of such bacteria within the beetle-fungus symbiosis focussing on:

- Fieldwork
- Isolation and identification of bacteria and fungi from natural and artificial breeding systems and beetles
- Behavioural assays with beetles and bacteria/fungi
- Bioassays with antagonistic/competitive fungi
- Nutritional analyses of involved microbes focussing on isolated bacteria
- Isotope ($^{15}\text{N}_2$) measurements

The student will first be employed as a HiWi-student for around 2 months (10 hours/week) in aim to get to know each other and to introduce him/her to this exciting project.

If you are generally interested in microbiology, mycology and ecology, and want to find out more about this project (e.g. details, start date), don't hesitate to get in contact with us.

Dr. Maximilian Lehenberger

mlehenberger@ice.mpg.de

