



WEED IDENTIFICATION TRAINING COURSE

1st circular

Organized by EWRS Working Groups:
'Weed Vegetation and Biodiversity'
'Soil Seed Bank, Germination and Early Growth'

Prague, Czech Republic, 1st to 2nd June 2026



Dear Colleagues,

We invite you to the Weed Identification Training Course organized by EWRS Working Groups '[Weed Vegetation and Biodiversity](#)' and '[Soil Seed Bank, Germination and Early Growth](#)'. The course will be held from **1st to 2nd June 2026** at the [Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Czech Republic](#). The meeting is locally organized by the Department of Agroecology and Crop Production of the Faculty of Agrobiology, Food and Natural Resources.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

This course offers an excellent opportunity to sharpen your skills in recognising weed species at various growth stages, from seedlings to mature plants. Special attention will be given to rare and endangered weed species. Participants will benefit from practical exercises, expert guidance, and the combined expertise of two EWRS Working Groups.

What to expect:

- Field and laboratory identification sessions
- Special emphasis will be placed on rare and endangered weed species, while also considering common weeds
- Exchange with fellow researchers and practitioners from across Europe
- Networking opportunities within the EWRS community

Whether you are a student, early-career researcher, or experienced professional looking to refresh your identification skills, this course provides valuable training in a collegial atmosphere.

Students will receive **3 ECTS credits** upon completing the course.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

SUNDAY MAY 31, 2026

18.00 Registration and Welcome Reception at the Czech University of Life Sciences
Prague campus

DAY 1 – MONDAY JUNE 1, 2026

8.30–12.00	Lectures (rare and endangered species, seedlings + other growth stages)
12.00–13.30	Lunch (university canteen)
13.30–17.00	Laboratory identification session
19.00	Dinner in the city centre - traditional restaurant

DAY 2 – TUESDAY JUNE 2, 2026

8.30–12.00	Field identification session
12.00	Lunch (university canteen)
13.30–17.00	Lectures on seeds of rare species, seed identification, common weeds

VENUE

Prague is rightly considered one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Visitors from across the globe come here to admire not only its history and diverse architecture, but also to enjoy the friendly and romantic atmosphere. Prague is also a city dedicated to art, which you will encounter everywhere you go. It's a city of gardens and parks and, last but not least, a city with a great culinary scene and the best beer in the world.

The meeting will take place at the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (CULS) which is one of the leading European institutions in the field of life sciences. CULS celebrates its 120th anniversary in 2026. It is a place of innovative scientific research and discovery. The university is situated on a beautifully landscaped campus in the northwest part of Prague, with modern and spacious dormitories, canteen, several student clubs, central library, cutting edge IT technology and state of the art laboratories.



ORGANIZERS

Local Organizers:

Michaela Kolářová, Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (mkolarova@af.czu.cz)

Pavel Hamouz, Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (hamouzp@af.czu.cz)

Scientific Organizers and Leaders of the Working Groups:

Alexander Menegat (alexander.menegat@slu.se) – Leader of WG 'Weed Vegetation and Biodiversity'

Aritz Royo Esnal (aritz.royo@udl.cat) – Leader of WG 'Soil Seed Bank, Germination and Early Growth'

ACCOMMODATION

Low-budget accommodation will be available at **university dormitories** and can be booked by emailing mkolarova@af.czu.cz. Please note that availability is limited, as the course dates coincide with the final state exam period. Accommodation will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

Double rooms are priced at 20-25€ per night for one person if shared by two people, or 30-35€ per night for single occupancy. The **eight-bed women-only room** costs 15€ per person per night. The breakfast is not available in the dormitories; however, there are shops nearby.

There is another nice hotel, **Carl Inn**, in 5 min walking distance from the campus (with breakfast). <https://carlhotel.cz/en/>

Other options include hotels and hostels near the Dejvická metro station (about 10 minutes from the city center), which can be reached easily by bus from the venue in approximately 10 minutes. All of them can be booked via Booking.com:

Masarykova kolej (dormitory of the Czech Technical University in Prague)
<https://www.suz.cvut.cz/en/hotels-hostels/masaryk-dormitory-hotel>

DAP Hotel – Army House Prague
<https://www.volareza.cz/hotel-dap/en>

Hotel Meda – Art of Museum Kampa
<https://hotelmeda.cz/en.html>

Grand Hotel International
<https://www.hotelint.cz/en/>

Hostel Dakura
<https://hosteldakura.com/>

TRAVELLING TO PRAGUE

By plane

Participants will arrive to Terminal 1 or 2 of the Prague airport. You can use a taxi, which takes about 15 minutes to Suchdol. *Uber* or *Bolt* (necessary to have applications installed in mobile phones) are also an option here. Taxi costs about 500-600 CZK = 20-25€, in case of using Uber or Bolt is less. You can also use public transit to reach the campus.

By train

For those who will arrive by train, use the red line Metro C at the railway station, go one stop to *Muzeum* and change to Metro A, green line, continue to *Dejvická* station and use busses 107 or 147 as described above.

By car

Postal Address:

Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (Česká zemědělská univerzita v Praze)
Kamýcká 129
165 00 Praha 6 Suchdol
Czech Republic

Geographical Location:

50°7'49"N, 14°22'24"E

COSTS

	EWRS member	Non-member
Regular	180€	240€
Student (BSc/MSc/PhD)	130€	160€

* The difference in fees between members and non-members is the cost of a yearly membership to the EWRS.

The registration fee will cover the costs for the welcome reception, lunches, coffee breaks and dinner on Monday evening. The registration fee won't cover accommodation and travel expenses.

Travel grants for early career scientists

To encourage early career scientists to attend the course, subsidies are being made available through the EWRS. They can be applied for by sending an e-mail to alexander.menegat@slu.se. Early career scientists (i.e. BSc, MSc and PhD students, and scientists younger than 35 years of age) can receive a refund that will cover part of their accommodation and travel expenses. The maximum amount of the refund will be based on the number of applicants but cannot exceed €600. If the applicant is not an EWRS-member, an amount equal to the yearly EWRS fee (€30 for students and €60 for regular members) will be deducted from the subsidy, and the applicant will be enrolled in EWRS. The maximum number of subsidies to be awarded to one early career scientist is three in total. Applications will be evaluated by the Working Group Leaders (Alexander Menegat and Aritz Royo Esnal) and the Scientific Secretary of the EWRS (Lynn Tatnell).

Applications need to include:

- A short motivation letter
- A curriculum vitae
- An estimate of the costs for travel and accommodation
- A statement from the home institute that they will cover the remainder of the expenses for travel and accommodation, should the travel grant be awarded.

REGISTRATION AND DEADLINES

1 February, 2026

Registration is open via EWRS website

26 April, 2026

Deadline for registration and payment of registration fee. Participants can pay directly on the website or by bank transfer.

The second circular containing the provisional scientific programme and more detailed information on the organisation of the meeting will be issued.

If you run into any trouble, please do not hesitate to contact Scientific organizer and Leaders of the Working Groups or Local organizers.

We look forward to meeting you in Prague!

Warm regards

Alexander Menegat
Aritz Royo Esnal
Michaela Kolářová
Pavel Hamouz