



Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet  
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

### **Carnivore genetic scat analyses (30-60 credits)**

Surveying carnivore communities can be difficult and time consuming. However, carnivores mark their territories with scats, often in open areas, making them easily found. But identifying the correct species based on visual examination of the scat is fraught with uncertainty. Genetic analyses provide more accurate results.

In this project you will visit zoological gardens to collect a reference material from all meso-carnivores occurring in Sweden (e.g. lynx, wolverine, badger, fox, arctic fox, raccoon dog, marten, mink, weasel, cat, dog). A diagnostic kit has already been developed for tissue, but further optimization is needed to ensure reliable results from fecal DNA. This project will give you experience of genetic sampling, DNA extraction, PCR and fragment analyses. Once all practical work is completed you will compile a written report of your work and present it at a seminar. This project, depending on your choice, can range between 30-60 credits. The research is done together with the Swedish raccoon dog project (Fredrik Dahl).

**For more information please contact Göran Spong (email below).**

### **Molecular Ecology Research Group**

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