



Effect of light pollution on spider biomass and herbivory in subtropical forest



Artificial light at night (ALAN) is a growing threat to biodiversity globally. However, very few studies have focused on the effect of ALAN in the tropics or subtropics, and ALAN's impact on species interactions and ecological processes is particularly understudied. We introduced ALAN into light-naïve forest plots to examine whether ALAN affects herbivory rate and the growth of a common orb-weaver spider. We detected the potential resilience of spiders and the sensitivity of herbivory rates. We highlight the importance of a more mechanistic understanding of the sensitivities of species interactions to ALAN and the possible complications caused by environmental variation.

Date: Friday March 7th

Time: 16:00 (UTC+8)

Venue: 3N01 + Zoom



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Chester is a year 3 undergraduate researcher in the Global Change and Tropical Conservation Laboratory, supervised by Prof. Timothy Bonebrake. His work mainly focuses on how global change stressors such as light pollution, climate change, and urbanization affect arthropod diversity and species interaction.

