

Feedback comments on Ecofinders course

1. I really enjoyed and gained a lot from the practical experience both in the lab and out in the field taking samples. There was a perfect balance between theory in the classroom and the hands-on experience.
2. Though it was hard work, the exercise of making a presentation as groups was good. We all got a good introductory taste of an array of different biological indicators.
3. Well organised course – perfect timetabling and management logistics
4. Stimulating exercises with a good amount of practical lab work (more lab work if time had allowed)
5. Good/suitable number of participants
6. Getting to experience and learn about an area outside one's own field – was excellent
7. Going out into the field
8. The knowledge and lessons learned – both detailed and big picture
9. Integration of different disciplines in a non-formal environment.
10. Good introduction to microbiology, makes me want to go and learn more
11. Had the opportunity to discuss project proposal on plant and soil interactions with a number of participants and course organisers.
12. Mixing up participants with different backgrounds, initially this was unnerving, but actually gave much more of a broader picture of monitoring techniques
13. Challenge of group project – helped to focus the mind and was an incentive to pay attention through the week.
14. Learning new research methods and organisms in soil science that are both related and unrelated to my area of work
15. Meeting people who are working on similar topics to me.
16. To see what other work is going on, in terms of the molecular work, which was foreign to me, but great to learn.
17. Well organised – full schedule
18. Providing examples from the ecofinders project was very useful and informative.
19. It was quite relevant (as I am working on ecosystem services)
20. Quite practical (we learned a lot of practical stuff)
21. Very well organised

22. Excellent workshop, congratulations
23. Great discussions, (and challenging ones)
24. Great connections with new people and labs
25. Experience of an area of soil biota I had never dealt with before
26. An appreciation of trophic levels within soils that impact on microbial communities that I should consider in my research
27. Presentations on Ecofinders and valuing ecosystem services
28. Presentation on work and ideas by Rob Griffiths
29. The assignment
30. Field sampling of soil fauna with experts and highlights of method determination in lab
31. Broadening my knowledge
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