

Kateřina Biřovs group

Title of the project: Do algae grow in heavy water?

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For how many student/s: 1

Description of the project:

In this project we will observe a growth of green algae in deuterium oxide, commonly known as heavy water. Although its name sounds quite ordinary, the differences between normal water and heavy water are enormous. This makes the growth in heavy water a challenging task. Do algae face this challenge and manage to grow? Do cultivation conditions influence their ability to do so? Do different algal species cope with heavy water differently? Why do we even want them to grow in heavy water?

During your summer school stay we will try to answer these questions. While working on this project you will practice: methods of algal cultivation; light and fluorescent microscopy including some staining procedures; microplate assays to describe algal growth and metabolism; quantifying cells using cell counter etc. Moreover, you will have a chance to take a peek into scientific work, learn new things and meet new people along the way.

Requirements:

- Interest in the topic
- English (sufficient to give a short presentation)