



CESAB

CENTRE FOR THE SYNTHESIS AND ANALYSIS OF BIODIVERSITY

DIVERS

From reproductive strategies to species diversity: how evolution of breeding systems and associated traits shapes plant species diversity

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Angiosperms (flowering plants) present an exceptional diversity of breeding systems, with variation both in gender distribution within and among individuals (from hermaphroditism to separate sexes) and in mating patterns (from strict outcrossing to predominant selfing). Breeding systems have been shown to affect species diversification and to be associated with other life-history and ecological traits. Consequently breeding systems could be an important determinant of the observed species diversity in flowering plants.

The **Divers** project aims at exploring the hypothesis that the combination of traits associated with breeding systems could be an important key to understanding evolutionary success and plant species diversity. This project seeks to define integrated evolutionary strategies among these traits and to investigate how these strategies can shape the diversification process in flowering plants. This approach should help to identify key components that could explain why some groups of flowering plants flowering plant are more diverse than others, and how combination of traits could influence invasiveness and extinction risks.

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CESAB (CEntre for the Synthesis and Analysis of Biodiversity) is FRB's flagship program and an internationally renowned research center whose objective is to implement innovative work to synthesize and analyze existing data sets in biodiversity research.

