

## **MSCA-DN Natural Traces**

### **Workshop: Introduction to Forensic Acarology**

Dr M. Alejandra Perotti

Invited Lecturers, Dr Marta Saloña-Bordas (UPV Spain) and Dr Henk R. Braig (UNSJ Argentina).

School of Biological Sciences, University of Reading

#### **TENTATIVE PROGRAMME – TO BE CONFIRMED**

[LL Lectures, PP Practicals, SS Seminars]

#### **May 31 - Arrivals**

#### **June 1 – 5, 2026**

##### Day 1 Monday

09:00 – 12:00 (w/coffee break)

LL: Introduction to Acarology: Part 1

What mites are

Adaptations and environments

Life styles

14:00 – 17:00

PP: sampling, processing samples

##### Day 2 Tuesday

09:00 – 12:00 (w/coffee break)

LL: Introduction to Acarology: Part 2

Diversity of mites

Soil mites

Taxonomy, Orders. IDs of taxa of main forensically important species

Mites and humans

14:00 – 17:00

PP: preparing mites for IDs, if time allows: explain preparing tapes on noses for demodex next day

##### Day 3 Wednesday

09:00 – 12:00 (w/coffee break)

LL: Introduction to Forensic Acarology

Mites with or without corpses

Mites of stored products, as pests, ...

Forensic ticks

14:00 – 17:00

PP: microscopy, mites' identification, if time allows: your own demodex

Day 4 Thursday

09:00 – 12:00 (w/coffee break)

LL: Introduction to Acarology: Part 3  
Molecular acarology

14:00 – 17:00

PP: the mites from the socks: socks from a crime scene...

Day 5 Friday

09:00 – 12:00 (w/coffee break)

LL: Forensic acarology, case-work (cases and potential cases)

14:00 – 16:00

SS: Seminar, working in groups... to be organised

16:00 – 17:00

PP: surprise!

19:00 workshop dinner