

## *Curriculum vitae*

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Name: Maria Helena Ericsson von Post  
Date of Birth: 24<sup>th</sup> of April 1979  
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Nationality: Sweden  
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## *Education*

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**2000-2004**                      **Masters degree in biology, alignment ecology  
Göteborg University**

*20 p Honour Thesis in Zoological ecology:*

Investigated blood plasma in the passerine, great tit, *Parus major*, with the purpose of comparing carotenoid levels between urban and rural environments and between breeding and nonbreeding seasons. The work was both field and lab based and written in English.

*10 p project report in conservation biology:*

Investigated the need for buffer zones surrounding the nature reserve and Nature 2000 (according to the bird conservation jurisdiction) area of Sandsjöbackas northern parts. During the project I had a lot of contact with the Länsstyrelse of Västra Götaland, municipalities in Göteborg and Mölndal and also with Väst kuststiftelsen which are the reserve trustee.

## *Work experience*

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**2004/12/01– 2006/10/31**    **Göteborg University  
Dept. of Ecological Zoology  
Research assistant  
Project advisors: Professor Staffan Andersson and  
PhD: Caroline Isaksson and Maria Prager**

- **TITTOX**  
In this project the connections between colour expression, immuno competence (oxidative stress) and pollution was investigated in the great tit, *Parus major*.  
During the field seasons I collected different kinds of samples (eggs, feathers, blood sample assistance, larvae, ringing) and performed nesting inventories and feeding frequency studies. Apart from that I worked in the lab with HPLC (High Performance Liquid Chromatography) –analysis on carotenoids in different tissues.
- **ECCO- Evolution of Colour Communication**  
In the ECCO-project the research is focusing on evolution of colour communication and phylogeny in the African weaver bird family, *Euplectes*.  
My work was mostly based on laboratory analysis of carotenoids with HPLC. I also made some method developments, data analysis, animal care and summaries of data and results for manuscripts.
- **Teaching**  
During my time as an employee at Göteborg University I have participated in teaching, in field as well as in lab and held lectures in HPLC methods. I also co-supervised students in their honour thesis projects.

2007/02/07 –2007/08/15

**Lund University**

**Dept. of Zoological Ecology-**

**Research assistant, also participating in labmeetings**

**Project advisor: Professor Erik Svensson**

**PhD: Thomas Godsen, Fabrice Eroukhanoff, and Kristina Karsson**

- **Ischnura-project, polymorphism and mating frequencies**  
This project is investigating female polymorphism in the damselfly, *Ischnura elegans*. Research is also aimed at understanding the difference in mating frequencies and male harassment. My work has involved collecting samples in the field, measuring and performing colour dusting on the insects for harassment assessment.
- **Asellus-project, parallel evolution and sexual conflict**  
The project has two main purposes, both working with the same study species, *Asellus aquaticus*. One part is investigating phenotypic and genetic variances and covariances on different morphological characters. The other part is investigating sexual conflict through behavioural

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**Maria von Post 1979-04-24**

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**Dept. of Plant Ecology-**  
**Research assistant**  
**Project advisor: Dr. Åsa Lankinen**  
**PhD: Josefine Madjidian**

- **Sexual conflict in *Collinsia heterophylla***  
The aim of the project is to investigate a possible sexual conflict in the annual hermaphrodite plant, *Collinsia heterophylla*.  
The work I performed involved cross pollination in green house environment and following seed counting studies on female resistance. I have worked with sample collecting and mating experiments in lab.

**2007/09/03-2007/11/30**      **University of Groningen – Research assistant**  
**Project advisor: Dr. Caroline Isaksson**

- **The role of maternal testosterone in sexual differentiation**  
The aim of the project is to investigate to what extent maternal androgens affect the differentiation of male and female phenotypes in the brown songlark, *Cinchorhamphus cruralis*. During this volunteer work, conducted in the south west of Australia, I will participate in locating birds and their nests, assist the researchers in experimental procedures, record begging behaviour, and possibly, hand-raise chicks.

**2008/03/15-**      **Lund University- PhD studies**  
**Supervisor: Prof. Henrik Smith**

- **Is the population decline of the *Passer domesticus*, caused by loss of heterogeneity in the agricultural landscape?**

By establishing and monitor house sparrow colonies in landscapes of different heterogeneity values I hope to be able to clarify the complexity behind the population decline. During my time as a PhD student I will also participate in conference meetings and workshops, take part in teaching, perform literature studies.