

eDNA international workshop: Methods and applications in ecological studies

March 8-13, 2026

**Hula Research Center
Hula Valley, Israel**

Instructors:



Dr. Tali Berman (taliber@telhai.ac.il):
Head of the Berman Research Group in the Hula Research Center, Tel-Hai – MIGAL
Studies complex trophic interactions across multiple taxa, including vertebrates, arthropods, and microbes, using eDNA techniques.



Dr. Till-Hendrik Macher (macher@uni-trier.de):
Scientist at Trier University, Germany
Working on the development of eDNA metabarcoding as a tool for biodiversity assessments across the tree of life. Specializes in bioinformatic tools and programming.



Yuval Cohen (uvicohen@gmail.com):
Lab manager, Integrated Pest Management Center, Northern R&D, MIGAL
Investigates the trophic interactions of bats, exploring their role in food webs, pest suppression, and broader ecosystem services through eDNA.



Prof. Taal Levi (Taal.Levi@oregonstate.edu):
Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Sciences at Oregon State University, USA
Specializes in DNA metabarcoding for landscape-scale diet analysis and biodiversity surveys, environmental DNA, and non-invasive genetic sampling of wildlife for population density estimation.

About the Workshop

Environmental DNA (eDNA) is the genetic material shed by organisms into their environment. eDNA analysis is a reliable, non-invasive, and cost-effective method for studying invasive species, microbes, trophic interactions, and biodiversity. The workshop will focus on both single-species (qPCR) and multi-species (DNA metabarcoding) detection methods, emphasizing the importance of precise field and laboratory techniques. Participants will learn how to design eDNA experiments, interpret results, and navigate the entire process from field sample collection to sequencing and data analysis.

The workshop will feature lectures, field demonstrations, hands-on laboratory training, and daily seminars from experts in the field.

Designated audience: Master students, Ph.D. students, post-doctoral researchers, PIs and industry.

Prior knowledge required: Basic knowledge of R coding, as well as familiarity with pipetting (recommended).

Language of instruction: English.

Contact info: eDNA2026@m.telhai.ac.il | **For more information, visit our website**

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