

Citizen Science: Trick or Treat?

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Members of the public have been producing data for scientific analysis for decades. Citizen science is used in a wide range of different areas, including mapping the surface of Mars, recording the incidence and abundance of wild animals, and identifying animals that have triggered cameras in Africa. In this talk the focus will be on ecological applications, where different data sets are often collected at different scales. We shall consider whether and how citizen science data, potentially varying in quality, might be combined with information from more stringently designed surveys. As can be seen from the references below, this is a research area of current interest. Illustrations will be provided from studies of British wildlife, in particular British butterfly surveys. This is joint work with Emily Dennis, and colleagues from Butterfly Conservation, Dorset, UK, and the Centre for Ecology and Evolution, Wallingford, UK.

References

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