



**University of
Zurich^{UZH}**

Department of Evolutionary Biology
and Environmental Studies

Animal Behavior: Verhaltensbiologisches Seminar

Direct Fitness Options for "Sterile" Workers in the Primitively Eusocial Wasp Ropalidia marginata

special seminar Attention: new room!

Speaker: Prof. Raghavendra Gadagkar
Centre for Ecological Sciences and Centre for Contemporary Studies

Date/Time: Wednesday, 2018-05-16
16:15 to 18:15

Place: Y24-G-55/UZH Irchel
Winterthurerstr. 190; 8057 Zürich

Access: only intern

Host: Prof. Barbara König

Abstract:

Inclusive fitness theory is a widely invoked mechanism for explaining the evolution of altruistic workers in insect societies. In testing this theory the indirect component of inclusive fitness has received much attention while the direct component has been all but neglected. For this reason, our current research is focused on direct fitness options for workers in the primitively eusocial wasp *Ropalidia marginata*. Our research reveals an important and fascinating role for direct fitness in promoting the evolution of social behavior.

last update: 2021-05-21