Colonization of Wetland Habitat: Plant Dispersal and Establishment

- *Gudrun Bornette* Propagule banks in aquatic wetland ecosystems: disturbances as a key process
- *David Gowing* The dynamics of species-rich meadows on UK floodplains
- *Norbert Hölzel* Colonization and succession in restored wet grasslands: Lessons from longterm experiments
- *Joseph Shisler* Saltmarsh ecosystem restoration on intertidal/submerged cap in an urban system
Why dispersal & colonization?

• Natural landscape dynamics
  + Habitat loss and fragmentation
  + Climate change
    → Plants need to disperse to survive

But... we have little quantitative information about dispersal and colonization

Essential for understanding and predicting current & future plant species dynamics and effective planning of conservation & restoration activities
Why dispersal & colonization?

• Current & future species dynamics
  - metapopulations
  - survival in fragmented landscapes
  - migration
  - invasive species

• Conservation & restoration activities
  → landscape planning
  - connections in the landscape
  - source populations
  - dispersal & colonization potential
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