



Erfahrungsbericht

From 26th September 2022 to 16th December 2022, I had the privilege of participating in an Erasmus+ funded internship at the Department of Plant Sciences (University of Cambridge) in the Plant Metabolism group, where I was under the guidance of Alison Smith. This internship provided me with a valuable opportunity to gain practical experience in the field of plant sciences and expand my knowledge of the latest techniques and technologies employed in the field.

Throughout the internship, I aimed to achieve three primary objectives: to gain hands-on experience in conducting research in plant metabolism, to learn about the latest techniques and technologies used in the field, and to gain insight into the workings of a research group in one of the world's leading universities. To achieve these objectives, I participated in various activities related to plant metabolism.

Firstly, I was involved in multiple experiments related to plant metabolism, including measuring photosynthesis rates, analyzing abiotic and biotic factors at the Algal Innovation Centre (AIC), and determining diterpenoid levels. Additionally, I gained practical experience in data analysis through analyzing data collected from experiments using software such as Excel.

Furthermore, I conducted a literature review on the current state of research in algal metabolism, which helped me understand the context and significance of the experiments we conducted. Moreover, I learned about laboratory safety, organization, and maintenance, along with the importance of keeping detailed records of experimental procedures.

Presenting my findings to the group was an excellent opportunity to gain experience in scientific communication. It was an invaluable experience that prepared me well for future work in the field of plant sciences.

In addition to the academic experience, I had the opportunity to make friends from different parts of the world. We explored Cambridge, went on bike tours, and enjoyed each other's company during our free time. Although Cambridge's rent was quite high, Erasmus+ funding allowed me to take this opportunity fully.

In summary, the Erasmus+ funded internship at the Department of Plant Sciences in the Plant Metabolism group, under the guidance of Alison Smith, was a life-changing experience. I gained practical experience, learned new perspectives, made new friends connecting me wherever I go, and gained insight into the workings of a research group. This experience has equipped me with the skills and knowledge necessary for future work in the field of biological sciences, thus I am grateful for the opportunity.



