

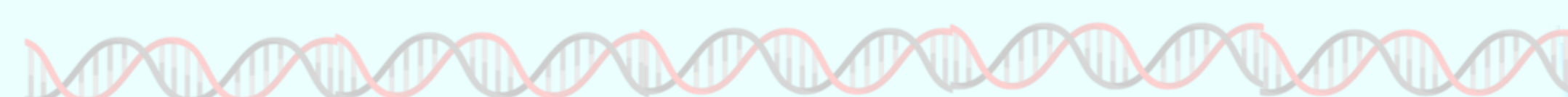


The role of trees and soils to help against heat stress

Institute of Biology Leiden, Above Belowground Interactions

Heat stress

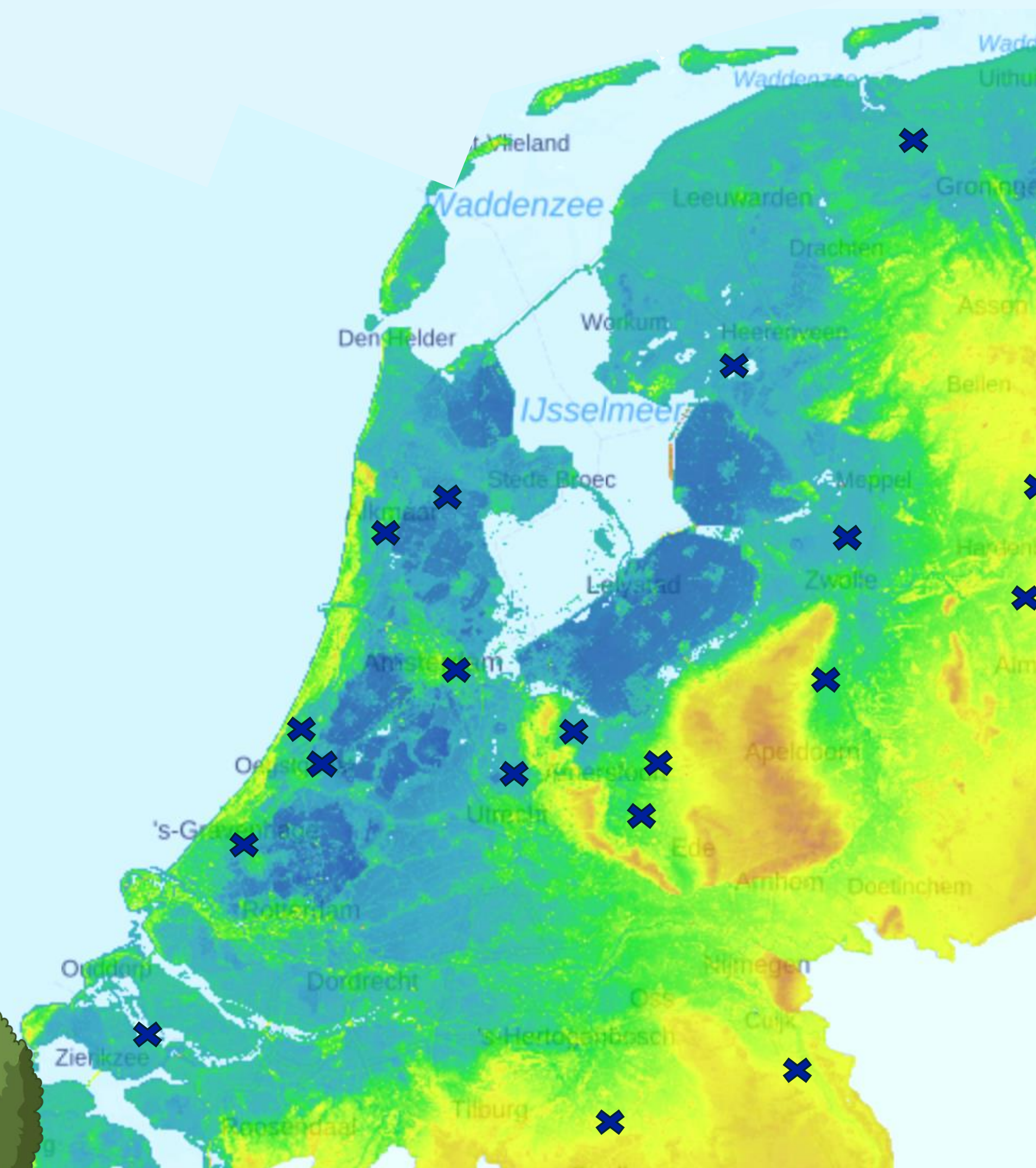
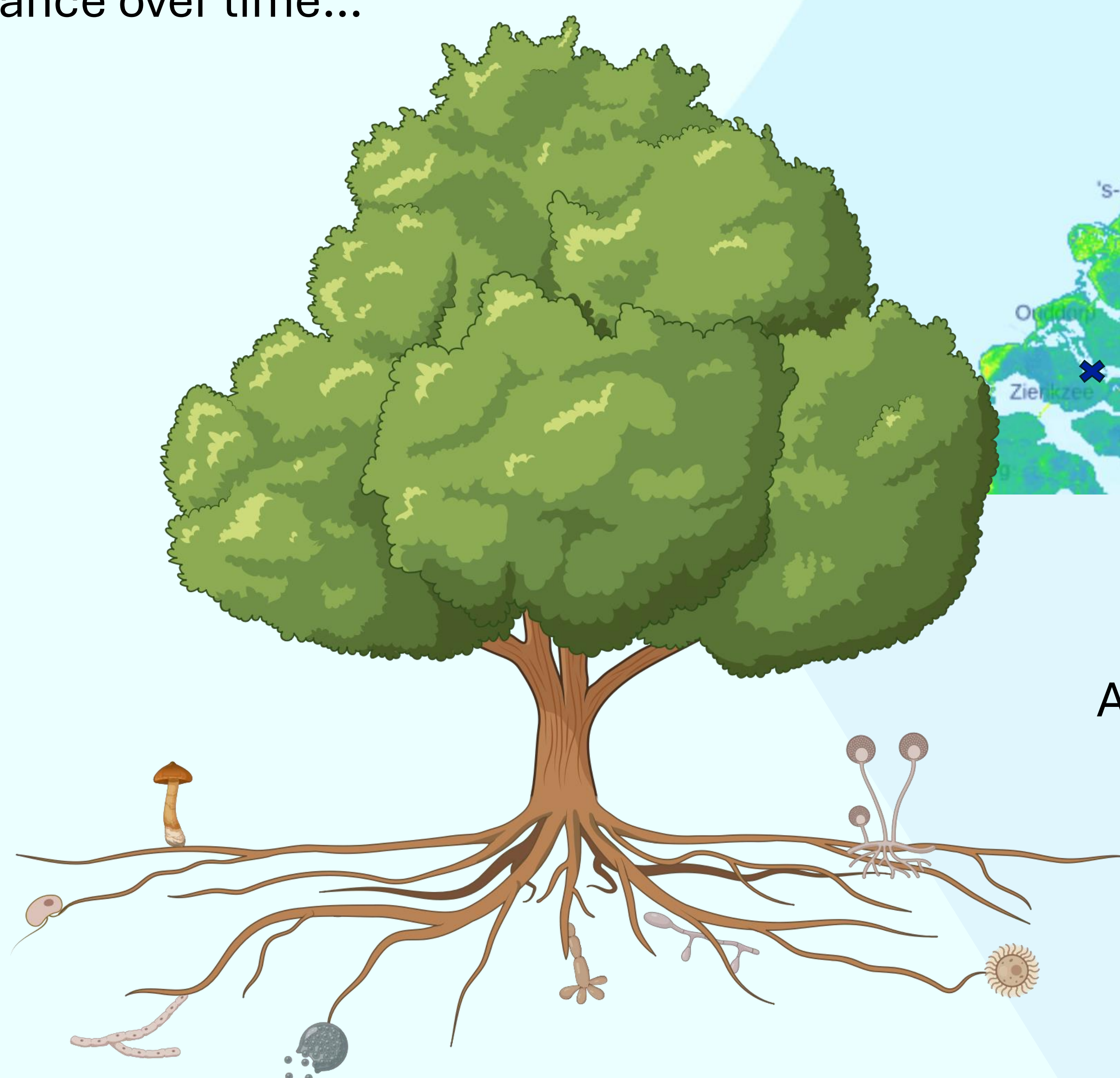
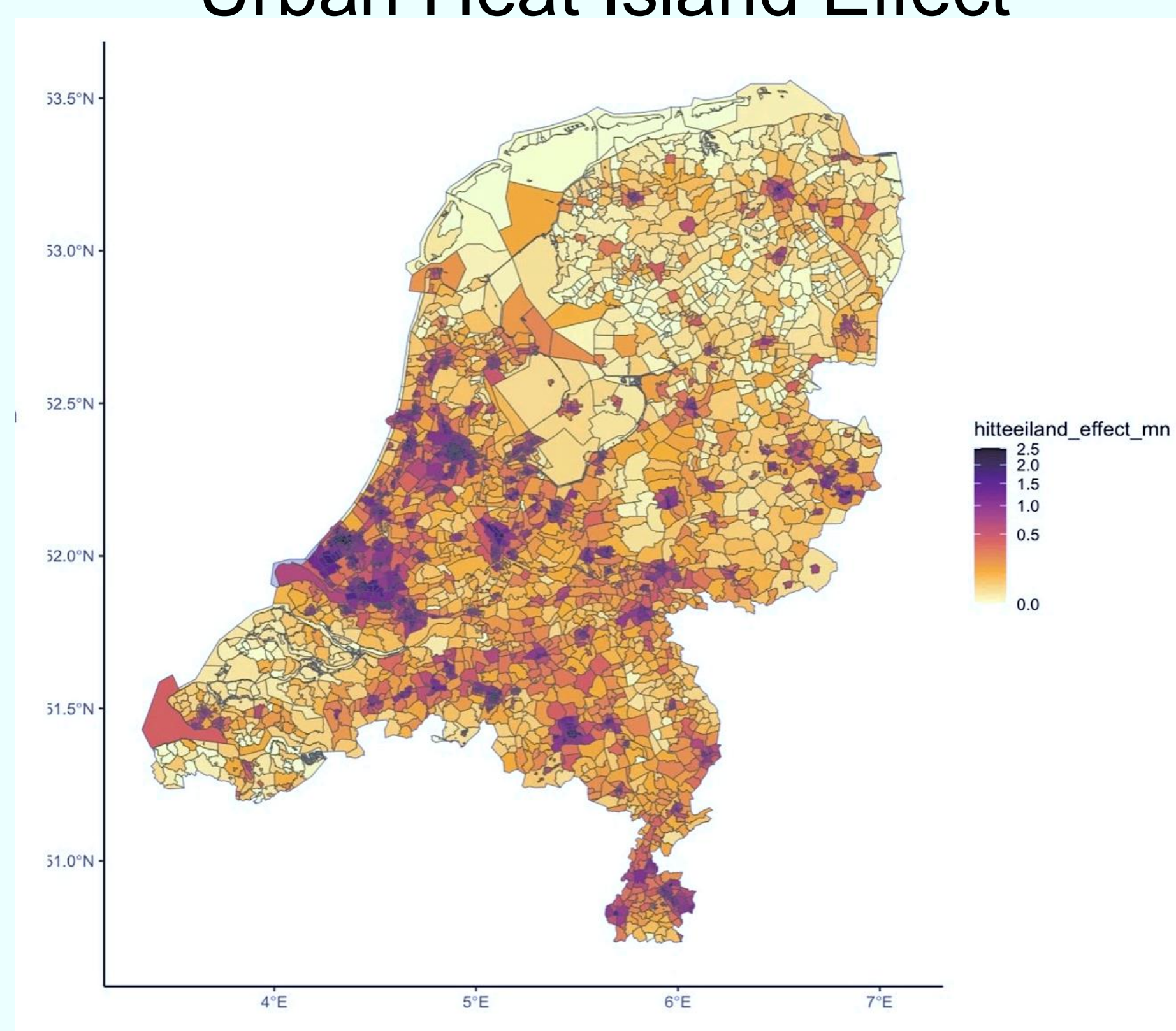
Urbanization puts a lot of pressure on nature, especially trees, by creating hotter environments causing heat stress. Yet, trees still manage to survive in these tough conditions. One key reason is their partnership with microbes in the soil, which play a big role in helping trees grow and stay resilient. But, we don't know to what extent the tree itself adapted over time. Are the trees themselves driving this adaptation, or do they rely on their soil microbial community?



Student projects

To address these questions, we're offering a variety of exciting internship projects for both BSc and MSc in 2026. The projects involve growing trees from seeds collected from heat-stressed environments, visiting sites to take measurements in the field, and monitoring tree performance over time...

Urban Heat Island Effect



Interested?

Are you inspired or do you have your own idea for a research question within this topic? Share your interest and we promise to develop the ideas into a cool project!



For questions and applications, contact Inge by:

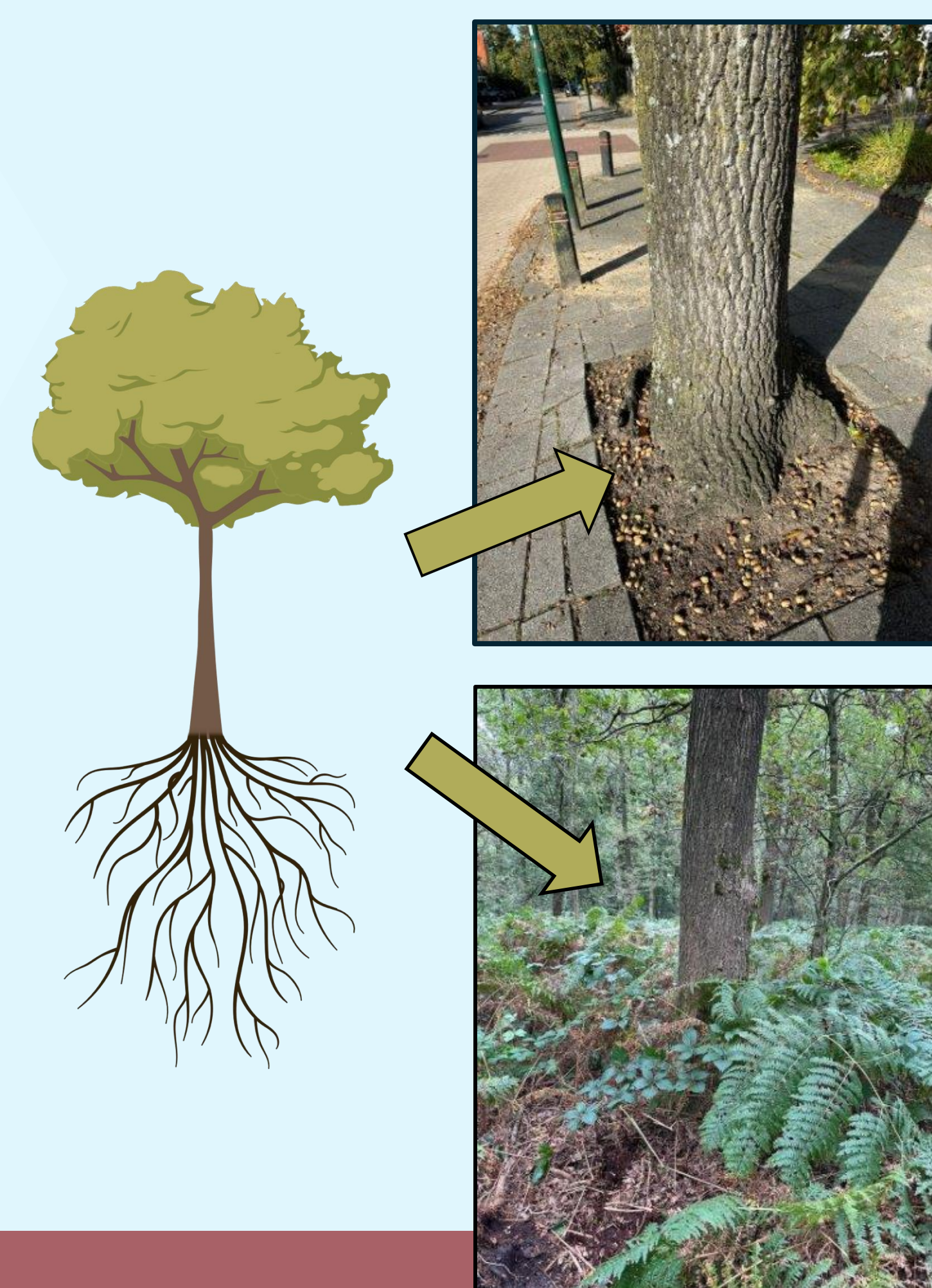
Supervisor: Inge van Frankenhuijzen

Contact: i.m.van.frankenhuijzen@biology.leidenuniv.nl

Level: Bachelor or Master of Biology, Ecology

When to start: Any month at beginning of 2026

Project: How do cities root?



Learn more or curious to watch video? Visit the website
<https://www.above-belowgroundinteractions.com>

