

## Curriculum vitae of Kim van der Linde

I was born on April 19, 1966 in Meppel, a medium sized town in the northern part of the Netherlands. I do not have any memories of that place, nor do I have any memories of Staphorst, the town where I lived until I was three years old. My first memories are of Voorburg, a town bordering Den Haag, where I lived with my parents until I was 7 years old. By that time, we moved to Haaksbergen, which is in the east, very close to the border of Germany, where I have lived until I left home at the age of 21.

In Haaksbergen, I went to primary and secondary school. I spent my first 5 years in a general secondary school (HAVO), and added another two year in grammar school (Atheneum). It was during that time already that I took an interest in the nature surrounding me. Haaksbergen is surrounded by beautiful nature and especially some of the larger remaining stretches of raised peat bog had my interest. Besides this, parrots and parakeets became another expression of my interest in nature. I am still very thankful to my parents for accepting so much from me with those birds.

By the end of the high school, I had a bird-oriented mindset and I wanted to work with endangered species and to protect them from extinction by breeding them in captivity. With a bit of luck, I got a job working with birds in "Burgers dierenpark" in Arnhem, but I did not like the job and the atmosphere at the job so I quit. It was then that I decided to study biology.

So I moved to Leiden, where I started my University study in biology in 1986. After a trial at biochemistry, which I did not like, I chose to specialise in population biology and that I liked much better.

My first practical subject was at the evolutionary biology group, with Peter de Jong and Paul Brakefield as my supervisors. We did research on the effects of sunlight on the activity levels of different colour morphs of ladybirds. The underlying aim was to explain the frequency variation of these morphs across the Netherlands. There are two groups of colour morphs with the two-spot ladybirds, primary red and black individuals. The distribution of the two colour morphs is clearly correlated with the amount of sunshine during the year, with blacker ladybirds at places with less hours of sunshine. The idea is that the black ladybirds heat up faster in the sunlight than the red morph. Therefore, we tested under controlled conditions whether there were differences in activity between normal and melanic two-spot ladybirds (*Adalia bipunctata*) under artificial sunlight. We concluded that thermal melanism is indeed one of the keys behind the differences in distribution of the two colour morphs. These results were presented in an article (de Jong *et al.* 1996).

In the meantime, I had started a second study, cultural anthropology and sociology of non-western societies. This was an old interest, but was also inspired by my interest in environmental sciences, especially of the third world. I never finished my

bachelors of the cultural anthropology study, as I got the chance to go to the Philippines to work on biodiversity issues within the context of a larger environmental science program (van der Linde 1997, van der Linde & Sevenster 2002). This kind of research is what I liked and I found my niche within the community ecology and related genetics.

In 1994, I returned to the Philippines to collect fresh *Drosophila* flies for a follow up study, in which I tested whether populations of different habitats had differentiated from each other (van der Linde & Sevenster submitted, chapter 2). This proved a good choice and gave me plenty of ideas for a Ph.D. study. During that second stay, I was able to prove that the deforestation on the Philippines had resulted in a new breeding species for that country, the Pied Harrier (*Circus melanoleucos*) (van der Linde 1996a). Furthermore, I observed a presumed extinct species, the Isabela Oriole (*Oriolus isabellae*) (van der Linde 1996b). This latter species is now regularly observed as the preferred habitat was different from expected from the old literature.

After that, I took an involuntary break from science, as I was unable to find an interesting Ph.D.-position. In the meanwhile, I worked as a tour guide for SNP and as a programmer for S.W.I.F.T. c.s. and West Consulting. However, science remained my primary focus, and after 3 years, I decided to write my own PhD research proposal. Dr. Jan Sevenster and Prof. Paul Brakefield successfully submitted the proposal to WOTRO, a section of NWO (Dutch Science Foundation). This research proposal focussed on the effect of habitat change on life-history evolution, and the results are presented in this thesis.

My PhD research brought me to Panama twice, the first time for 6 months in which I collected the data which are presented in chapter 4. The second time I went for 6 weeks, to collect fresh stocks, as we did not trust the laboratory stocks anymore, which had been maintained for so long in the laboratory. Those stocks were used for the experiments described in chapter 5 of this thesis.

In April 2004, I accepted a post-doc position at Florida State University with Dr. David Houle and in June of 2004, I moved to Tallahassee, Florida. I still work with *Drosophila*, but no longer on life-history evolution or community ecology. I now work on the evolution of complex phenotypes and use *Drosophila* wings and their venation pattern as a model system to investigate how genetics and environment of those complex patterns interact and result in the variation among wings of *Drosophila* species.