



Michał Gładalski

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Currently held positions

Department of Experimental Zoology and Evolutionary Biology, Faculty of Biology and Environmental Protection

University of Lodz

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Scientific profile and collaborations

My current scientific interests focus on the ecology of secondary cavity-nesting birds inhabiting contrasting environments. My research activity involves the analysis of various aspects of the breeding biology of cavity nesters (blue tits *Cyanistes caeruleus*, great tits *Parus major*, and pied flycatchers *Ficedula hypoleuca*), including the phenology of breeding onset, variation in clutch size, egg and nest characteristics, hatching and fledging success, as well as issues related to food quality and availability. Another important aspect of my research includes the analysis of physiological indicators, particularly hemoglobin and glucose levels in the blood of nestlings and adult individuals. My research integrates several scientific disciplines, including behavioural ecology, evolutionary biology, conservation biology, physiological ecology, and molecular techniques. By combining experimental fieldwork with modern methods such as DNA metabarcoding, I aim to explore how environmental variation—both natural and anthropogenic—influences the breeding biology, diet composition, and physiological condition of secondary cavity-nesting birds. This interdisciplinary approach allows me to address complex ecological questions related to habitat quality, climate change, urbanization, and biodiversity loss, while also contributing valuable data for long-term monitoring of wild bird populations in the future also across different European regions. As part of my research, I collaborate closely with Dr. Ana Cláudia Norte from the University of Coimbra, an expert in avian eco-immunology and physiological indicators, and with Dr. Mark Mainwaring, formerly of Lancaster University and now at Bangor University, who specializes in the nesting ecology and life-history strategies of birds.

Selected publications

- 2025 ***Effects of experimental nest treatment with herbs on ectoparasites and body condition of nestlings*** [\[link\]](#)
- 2020 ***Consequences of experimental addition of fresh, aromatic plants into nests of blue tits (*Cyanistes caeruleus*) on the physiological condition of nestlings*** [\[link\]](#)
- 2014 ***Extreme weather event in spring 2013 delayed breeding time of Great Tit and Blue Tit*** [\[link\]](#)

Research grants

Principal Investigator and Project Manager: 1 grant: NCN

Co-Investigator: 1 grant: NCN

International research stays

England, Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University, Lancaster

Portugal, Department of Life Sciences, Marine and Environmental Sciences Centre, University of Coimbra, Coimbra