

Lymphatic function in amphibians: what goes down must come up!

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Anuran amphibians have the greatest capacity to rapidly compensate for changes in blood volume and survive levels of dehydration that would be lethal to other vertebrates. This occurs despite high rates of evaporative water loss and very leaky capillaries that allow high rates of lymph formation. The role of the lymphatic system in the flux of fluids back into the circulation varies inter-specifically in anurans and is an order of magnitude greater than in mammals. We have discovered a variety of unique mechanisms by which anurans are able to mobilize lymph and return it to the circulation including specialized skeletal muscles and lung ventilation. Anurans have a unique body plan that allows them to store and mobilize lymph and this has allowed the radiation of this group into virtually every habitat on earth. .



Tuesday May 21st at 10.15
Room 127 (zoofys kaffestue), building 1131

Activity: open field