

NMBAQC Scheme Experts' taxonomic workshop 2010

Each year, the NMBAQC Scheme supports a benthos identification workshop; these alternate between beginners' workshops to provide basic skills for the major groups and experts' workshops, designed to resolve identification and taxonomic issues for particular taxa.

An experts' taxonomic workshop is planned for winter 2010, probably in November at the Dove Laboratory, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (for further details see: <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/marine/about/facilities/dove/>). The workshop is designed to be self funding based upon 30-40 delegates.

Call for demonstrators

Biologists with expertise in the identification of particular families are invited to propose presentations at the workshop. Typically, this should be a day's (possibly ½ day or 2 days) workshop attendance with a ca. 1 hour presentation, followed by helping participants with specimens for the remainder of the session. Participants and Unicomarine will bring specimens but additional material from you would also be welcome. A final output would also be required, in the form of an identification guide or key to the group in the British Isles, with references to recent literature, that can be published on the Scheme's website and/or elsewhere. Examples from previous workshops can be found on the Scheme's website (<http://www.nmbaqcs.org/scheme-components/invertebrates/literature-and-taxonomic-keys.aspx>).

Interested experts should contact David Hall (davidhall@unicomarine.com) or Tim Worsfold at Unicomarine, state the taxonomic group that they wish to demonstrate and summarise their expertise. Typically, a family of ca. 10-20 British species should be covered, with identifications provided to species level (or with suggested taxonomic levels for recording purposes) in a document that provides a significant advance on currently available literature. Please also provide your cost estimates for attendance at the workshop and an estimate of your travel costs, along with your estimated preparation time and costs/day rate. Also please indicate if you have any availability issues.