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Villeurbanne 10/09/2013

Dear Sir, Madam,

This letter of appreciation concerns Mr Hugues Mouret, president of the local nature conservation and study association “Arthropologia” and an expert in bee biology.

I am an associate professor at the Université Claude Bernard – Lyon 1. I have participated in research programs studying ant social organization as well as in population genetics of organisms ranging from freshwater crustacean to newts. I also work on ant integrative taxonomy from a molecular perspective, in association with classical taxonomists using morphological characters (for example Bernhard Seifert in Germany). I teach invertebrate zoology and ecology, and am responsible for a Bachelor’s degree in Sciences, specialized in Ecology and Evolution.

I have known Mr Mouret for five years now: first as the concerned and dedicated employer of many interns from the Bachelor and Master’s degrees of my University, second as an excellent teacher; as he has accepted to run a course on bee taxonomy and ecology for 3<sup>rd</sup> year BSc students; third as an author in a book I have co-refereed.

His skills in bee taxonomy and ecology are outstanding, as proven by his participation in a leading role to the Urbanbees LIFE project, a large scale operation funded by the European Union, with the objective to better understand wild bee populations in an urban and suburban setting.

Hugues Mouret, despite the absence of any university degree, is therefore highly qualified when it comes to anything related to bees. He is also an excellent botanist and an expert in landscape management practices.

Among his many personal qualities, he is a very dynamic and hard-working person, as well as a rigorous scientist. He also has a very sociable and easy going personality that will facilitate his integration into any team. I can therefore highly recommend Hugues, who is very strong asset in any project.

I remain at your disposal for any additional comments on Hugues Mouret if necessary.



B. Kaufmann  
Ph.D , associate professor