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Lotte Joosten was born on May 26, 1978 in Boxtel, a village in a beautiful area in the South of the Netherlands. Her study career began at the secondary school named Brabant HAVO in Boxtel in 1990 and she finished secondary school at the Willem I college in s-Hertogenbosch. In 1998 she received her Propedeuse diploma in Nutrition & Dietician (Voeding & Diëtetiek) in Nijmegen. In 1999 she chose for the study Biology at the Wageningen University. After receiving the Propedeuse and Bachelor degree she started her Master at the department of Biosystematics. In this group she studied Succession of arthropod fauna on carrion: an evaluation of arthropod sampling methods using Wild Boar carrion. In Spring of 2003 she stayed for a few months at the research group of Richard Stouthamer at the Riverside University in California USA, to perform field-work on parasitoid wasps in the Mojave Desert California focussing on their sex-ratio distorters. During the spare time of her Master she finished several projects at the department Entomology namely on the imperfect vertical transmission of parthenogenesis-inducing Wolbachia in natural populations of a parasitoid wasp, the learning behaviour of malaria mosquitos and the identification of Wolbachia in sheep. In March 2005 she received her Master degree on Animal Biology and Behaviour.

For a few months she worked as guest worker at the department of Entomology to study relation between Wolbachia and *Borrelia burgdorferi* in sheep ticks. During the six months before she started her PhD, she performed a literature study on pest organisms and pathogens during plant production in horticulture for Hortimeea Group in Lent.

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At the beginning of 2010 she started a part-time job as technician at the department of Biosystematics at the Wageningen University. Here she serves the technical organisation and teaching, together with several colleges of the Biosystematic group, on the two most interesting and exciting courses in Life Science, namely Flora & Fauna in the Netherlands and the European Flora & Fauna in the Pyrenees. When insects hibernate, she participates as a team coach in the Master course Academic Consultancy Training for students who work on a cross-disciplinary assignment for an external client.

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