In Hoofdstuk 5, verken ik de evolutionaire effecten van kleine herbivoren op dominante klonale planten populaties. Ik heb het hazen en ganzen exclosure experiment gebruikt in twee op opeenvolgende stadia (stadium 10 en 40) in zoutmoerassen. Ik heb individuen van *Elytrigia atherica* op plaatsen van 1 m × 1m binnen en buiten de exclosures verzameld. Tevens heb ik het genotype van deze individuen bepaald met behulp van moleculaire markers.

In fase 10, waar herbivoren in overvloed waren, heb ik kunnen vaststellen dat de populatie van *E. atherica* in de *DQEHJUDDVGHEHKDQGHOLQJJHQHWLVFKDDQ\]LHQOLMNYHUVFKLOWWHQRS\]LFKWWHYDQGH\]EHJUDDVGHEHKDQGHOLQJRUKHWWRHZLM\]HQYDQGHJHQRW\]SHVKHELNNXQQHQ\]distributie* gekenmerkt en vergeleken. In fase 10, waar herbivoren in overvloed waren, heb ik kunnen vaststellen dat de populatie van *E. atherica* in de *RQEHJUDDVGHEHKDQGHOLQJ* vaststellen dat beide populaties verschillende dominante genotypes bevatten. Een aanvullend broeikassen onderzoek heeft aangetoond dat het dominante genotype in de begraasde behandeling geassocieerd kon worden met het *µJXHUULOOD¶JURHLVWUDWHJLHGDWZLO\]HJJHQPHHUHQODQJHUHUKL\]RPD\]DWWHUZLMO* genotype in de onbegraasde behandeling. Dit kon worden vastgesteld doordat het genetische verschil *WXVVHQEHLGHORFDWLHVSRVLWLHIJHFRUUHOHHUGZDVPHWKXQJHRJUD¿VFKHDIVWDQG* in de onbegraasde behandeling.

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Qingqing Chen
Time flies! I feel just all of sudden, I am four years older than before. Sometimes, if I don’t think about it, I don’t even realize this. And this, getting older and older without realizing it scares me. After calm myself down, and think hard. I realize that I did learn much for the last four years. First of all, I adapt to this new environment pretty well. In Ron’s word “growing like a weed”. Second of all, I see it much clearer, what I want, what I can do in the future. Third of all, I am much better equipped to do what I want to do.

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two hours, and the exclosures were inundated by the high tide, therefore we
had to sleep two hours until the tide went down. It was not the best nap I had, however, the
most unforgettable one.