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The role of dispersal constraints in the assembly of salt-marsh communities

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Curriculum vitae

Esther Ryumin Chang was born on the 2nd of March, 1972, in Taejun, South Korea. Her family immigrated to Canada when she was three years old. During her undergraduate studies, she served two summers as a field assistant at La Pérouse Bay Research Station in northern Manitoba, under the supervision of Dr. R.L. Jefferies. She completed her Honours B.Sc. at the University of Toronto in 1995 with a double major in English and Botany. After a year teaching English in Korea, she started her Master studies with Dr. Jefferies and completed her thesis in 1999 on the *Seed and vegetation dynamics in undamaged and degraded coastal habitats of the Hudson Bay lowlands*. Following completion of her M. Sc. degree, she lived for a year on various fishing vessels in Alaska, working as an Observer for the National Marine Fisheries Service. After winning a postgraduate scholarship from NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada) and an Ubbo Emmius scholarship from the University of Groningen, she moved to the Netherlands in 2001 to start her Ph.D. with Prof. dr. J.P. Bakker at the University of Groningen. In 2004, she won the prize for best oral presentation given by a student at the Seed Ecology meeting in Rhodes, Greece. She currently resides in Paterswolde with her husband, Peter Beek.

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