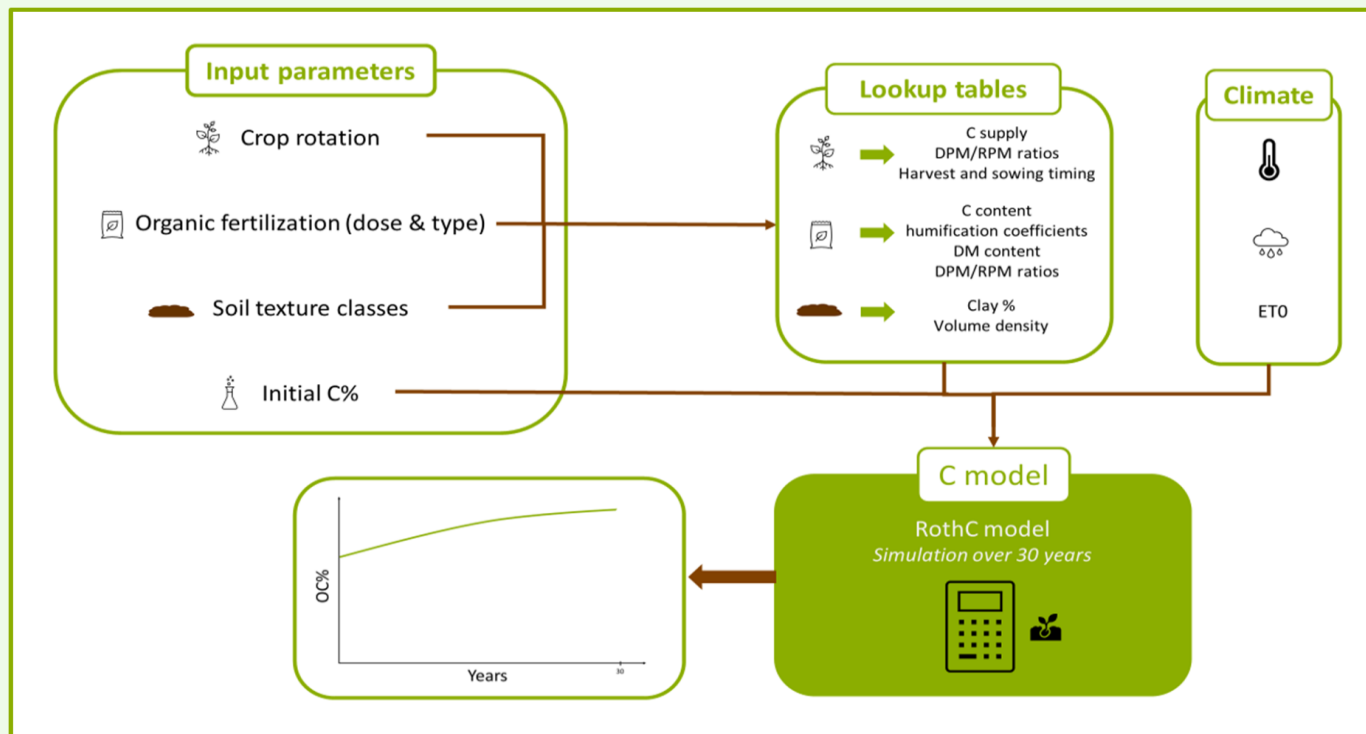


# Sensitivity analysis of a Roth-C based model

## BeSOCC model

- ❖ **Roth-C based** model to calculate the overturn of SOC in agricultural fields calibrated for Flanders



- ❖ **Sensitivity analysis:** How do the parameters impact the outcome of the model?
    - Updates BeSOCC model + high uncertainty input parameters used for simulation on Flanders' arable fields
- Need for sensitivity analysis

## Methodology

Selection of parameters

Selection of analysis methods

Global sensitivity analysis

Selection of scenarios



Annual Science Day, 10-14/06/2024 Vilnius (LT)

# Soil health challenges and farmers adaptation strategies: transition pathways in Türkiye and the European Union

*Francesco Galioto, Francesca Varia, Giovanni Dara Guccione, Sabina Asins, Javier Renovell, Akin Un, Tali Monis, Monika Vilkiene, Ieva Mockeviciene, Raimonds Kasparinskis, Baiba Dirnena, Alessandra Vaccaro, Laura Viganò*



**EJP SOIL**  
European Joint Programme

EJP SOIL has received  
funding from the European  
Union's Horizon 2020  
research and innovation  
programme: Grant  
agreement No 862695



## Key messages

A farmers' survey in 5 study regions involving 70 farmers, was conducted to investigate soil-related challenges addressing dominant agricultural systems (A).

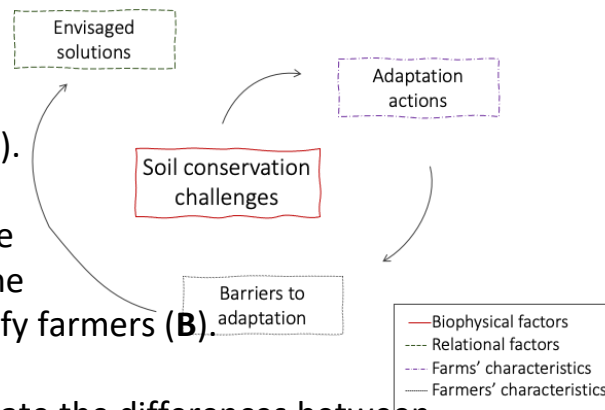
A DEA techniques was developed to assess the farm scale at which observed farms reveal the highest soil-health performances and to classify farmers (B).

A fisher exact test was conducted to investigate the differences between farms' size classess (C).

The results of this work reveal farms at the optimal scale for dealing with soil-related challenges are more sensitive to landscape and pollution issues than others.

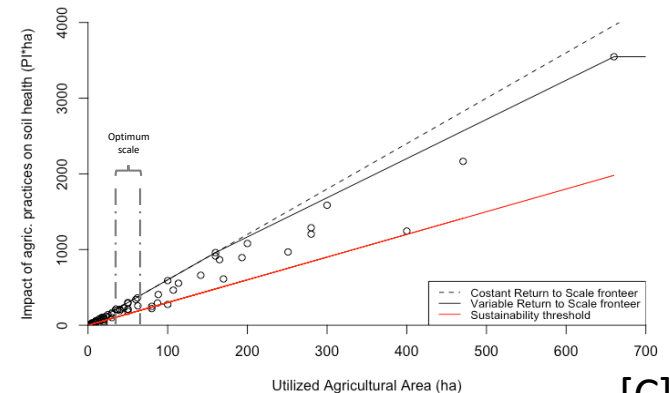
But optimal scale tends to prevail in an area like Türkiye, which lacks a system of rules and incentives to promote sustainable use of agricultural resources compared to the other study regions. **The why this happens will be explored during the poster session!**

## Methodology



[A]  
]

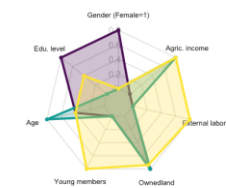
## Results



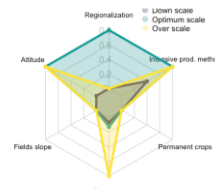
[B]

[C]

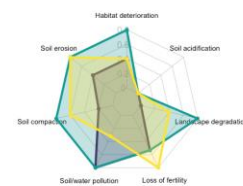
Farmers' characteristics



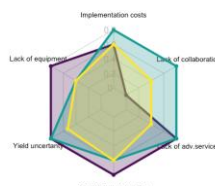
Farms' characteristics



Soil-health challenges



Existing barriers



# Long-term impact of anaerobic digestion of dairy cattle slurry on grass-clover yields and soil properties

Rittl Tatiana F., Pommeresche R., Johansen A., Steinshamn H., Riley H. and Løes A.K.

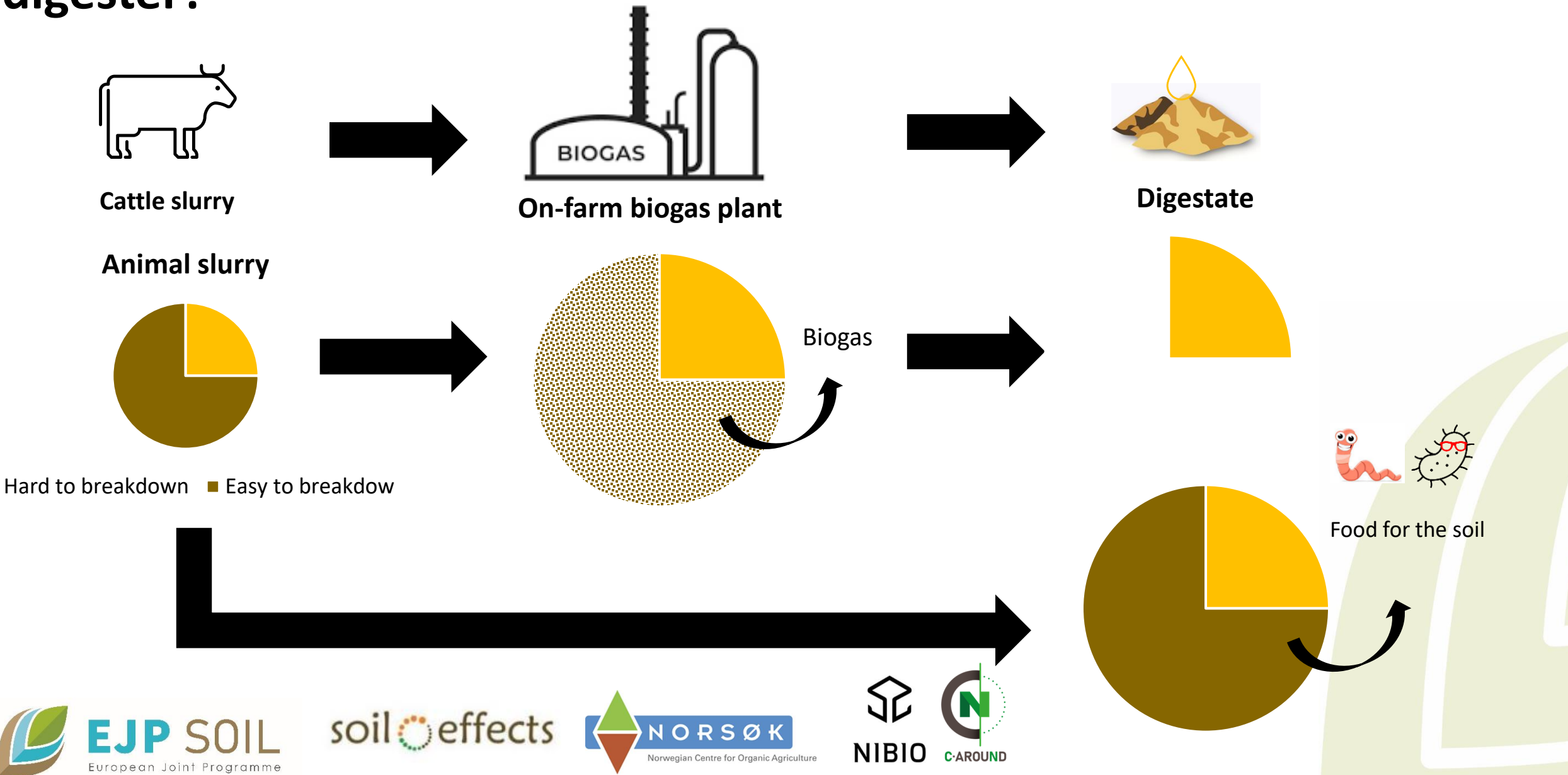


**EJP SOIL**  
European Joint Programme

EJP SOIL has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme: Grant agreement No 862695



# What happens to the soil if the farmer puts the manure in a biogas digester?



# SoilEffects experiment: 2011-



Anaerobically Digested  
Slurry (ADS)

Untreated Slurry (US)



## Anaerobic digestion of cow manure – long-term implications for soil fertility and crop yield



Rittl, T. F.<sup>1</sup>; Pommeresche, R.<sup>1</sup>; and Løes, A.-K.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Norwegian Centre for Organic Agriculture (NORSØK)

### Background

Anaerobic digestion of animal manure can help farmers to produce renewable energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Compared to non-digested slurry, digested slurry has a reduced content of organic matter, which may affect the soil fertility and crop productivity in the long-term. Hence, a field experiment with two slurry-application levels was established in 2011 to study how application of anaerobic digested slurry versus untreated dairy cattle slurry affects soil characteristics and crop yields. The field experiment was established in a grass-clover ley and comprised two fertilizer treatments applied at two rates of total N compared with a non-fertilised control.



Fig.1. Slurry application and harvest of the grass-clover ley.

### Results

Tab.1. Average values (2011-2021) of the chemical composition of non-digested slurry (US) and anaerobically digested slurry (ADS)

| Chemical composition                        | US   | ADS  |
|---|------|------|
| Dry matter (%)                              | 5.3  | 3.4  |
| Loss ignition (%)                           | 1.2  | 0.9  |
| Tot-N (g kg DM <sup>-1</sup> )              | 50.0 | 71.0 |
| NH <sub>4</sub> -N (g kg DM <sup>-1</sup> ) | 31.7 | 42.1 |
| NH <sub>4</sub> -N (% of total N)           | 60.6 | 65.2 |
| pH  | 7.4  | 7.7  |
| P (g kg DM <sup>-1</sup> )                  | 9.4  | 10.9 |
| Ca (g kg DM <sup>-1</sup> )                 | 30.6 | 35.5 |
| Mg (g kg DM <sup>-1</sup> )                 | 8.5  | 10.3 |
| S (g kg DM <sup>-1</sup> )                  | 5.1  | 5.5  |
| K (g kg DM <sup>-1</sup> )                  | 63.6 | 81.4 |

### Materials and Methods

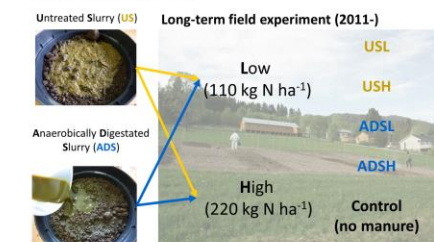


Fig.2. Treatments of the SoilEffects long-term field experiment.

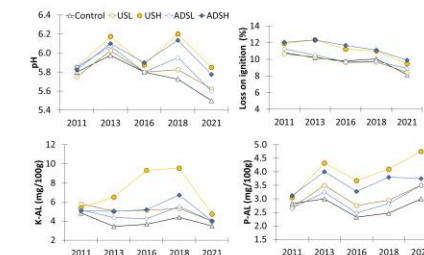


Fig.3 Changes in soil pH, organic matter (LOI) and P-AL and K-AL in the SoilEffects long-term field experiment, spring samples. Non-digested slurry (US) and anaerobically digested slurry (ADS).

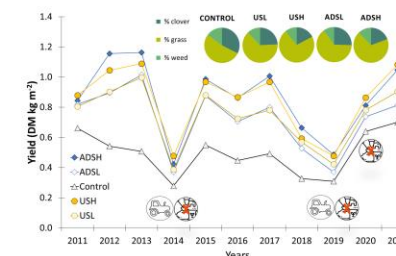


Fig.4 Summarized mean DM yields (sum of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> cuts) of grass-clover ley in a field experiment 2011-2021. Inserted graphic is the average in percentage of clover, grass and weed in each treatment over the years. (C) = re-establishment of the ley with green fodder; (M) = no manure application. Non-digested slurry (US) and anaerobically digested slurry (ADS).

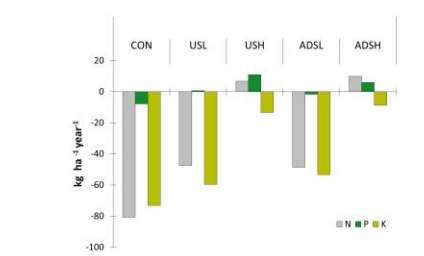


Fig.5 Nutrient (NPK) budgets (manure minus yields, kg ha<sup>-1</sup> year<sup>-1</sup>) in the SoilEffects long-term field experiment. Non-digested slurry (US) and anaerobically digested slurry (ADS).

### Conclusions

This study confirmed that anaerobically digested slurry has a low content of organic matter. The long-term effect of application of ADS vs. US to soil did not affect SOM, soil fertility or crop yields. Surprisingly, we found that the application of organic fertilizers did not increase SOM, and a decline in SOM was observed in all treatments. This may be due to the high initial content of SOM and soil drainage. As expected, higher rates of manure resulted in the proportion of clover. Higher manure application resulted in slight surpluses of N and P in nutrient budgets. Even in the treatments with low application rate, the total P deficit was minimal. For N and K, low rates of manure application led to significant deficit of these nutrients. Under the given conditions, we found that the benefits of extracting energy from the slurry by AD will not compromise grassland productivity or soil quality in the long run.

# Fertilizer quality of anaerobic digestate produced from marine residual resources (CIRCULIZER)

Rittl T. F.<sup>1</sup>, Lied J. G.<sup>2</sup>, Aker M.<sup>2</sup>, Kvande I.<sup>1</sup>, Brod E.<sup>3</sup>, Lyng K.-A.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Norwegian Centre for Organic Agriculture (NORSØK); <sup>2</sup>Norwegian Agricultural Extension Service (NLR);

<sup>3</sup>Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO); <sup>4</sup>Norwegian Institute for Sustainability Research (NORSUS)



EJP SOIL  
European Joint Programme

EJP SOIL has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme: Grant agreement No 862695



NORSUS



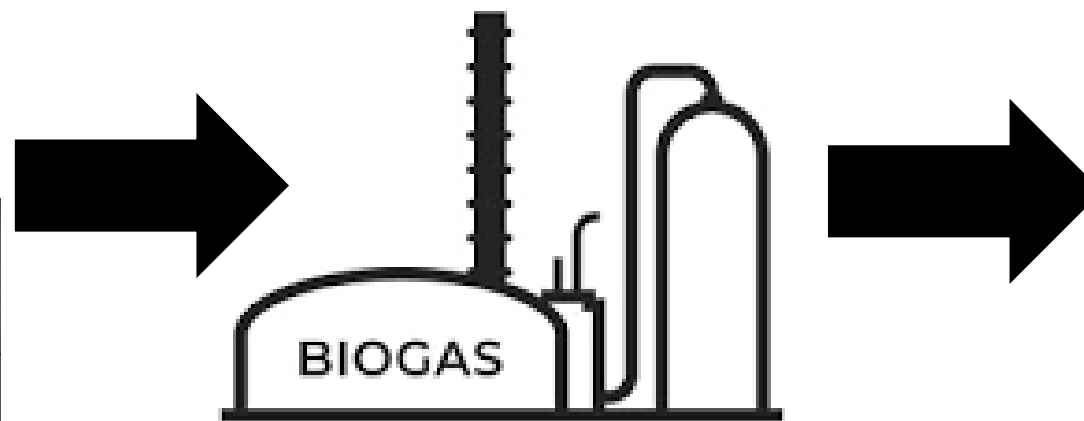
Cow/pig slurry



Fish sludge



## On-farm biogas plant



NIBIO

- What are the potential impacts on the quality of digestate when incorporating increasing proportions of new marine residual resources?
- How do these changes affect its suitability for agricultural use?

## Fertilizer quality of anaerobic digestate produced from marine residual resources (CIRCULIZER)



Rittl T. F.<sup>1</sup>, Lied J. G.<sup>2</sup>, Aker M.<sup>2</sup>, Kvande I.<sup>1</sup>, Brod E.<sup>3</sup>, Lyng K.-A.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Norwegian Centre for Organic Agriculture (NORSØK); <sup>2</sup>Norwegian Agricultural Extension Service (NLR); <sup>3</sup>Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO); <sup>4</sup>Norwegian Institute for Sustainability Research (NORSUS)

### Background

**Circulizer** project aims to improve the circularity between the blue and green sector, by increasing the knowledge of the use of marine residues (i.e. fish sludge and fish silage) for biogas production and its effects on the fertilizer quality (digestate) and environment.

While the quality of digestate from food waste and animal manure has been extensively studied, the impact of incorporating increasing proportions of new marine residual resources remains to be investigated. **Circulizer** will run lab and field scale experiments where the biogas process performance and digestate quality will be assessed.

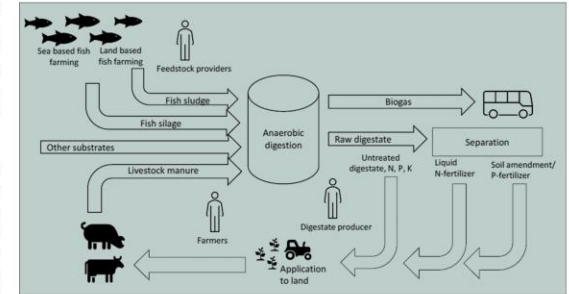


Fig.1. Value chain for digestate production, including relevant actors. Source: NORSUS

### On-farm biogas plant, fertilizer quality and newly started experiments

#### On-farm biogas production plant & digestate separator



Fig.2. On-farm biogas and separator. Source: Svanem biogas and J.G.Lied

#### Experiment I : Vestland



Fig.3. Field experiment established in 2024. Source: Aker M.

#### Fertilizer quality

| Parameters         | Units    | Animal + fish slurry |            |                         |
|--------------------|----------|----------------------|------------|-------------------------|
|                    |          | Undi-gestate         | Di-gestate | Liq. fraction digestate |
| Dry matter (DM)    | %        | 6,4                  | 5,0        | 3,7                     |
| Total nitrogen     | kg/ton   | 3,9                  | 3,8        | 3,6                     |
| NH <sub>4</sub> -N | kg/ton   | 1,9                  | 2,0        | 2,0                     |
| Phosphorous (P)    | kg/ton   | 0,7                  | 0,6        | 0,6                     |
| Potassium (K)      | kg/ton   | 3,5                  | 3,7        | 3,0                     |
| Cadmium (Cd)       | mg/kg DM | 0,2                  | 0,3        | 0,3                     |
| Zink (Zn)          | mg/kg DM | 190                  | 240        | 300                     |

#### Experiment II : Møre og Romsdal

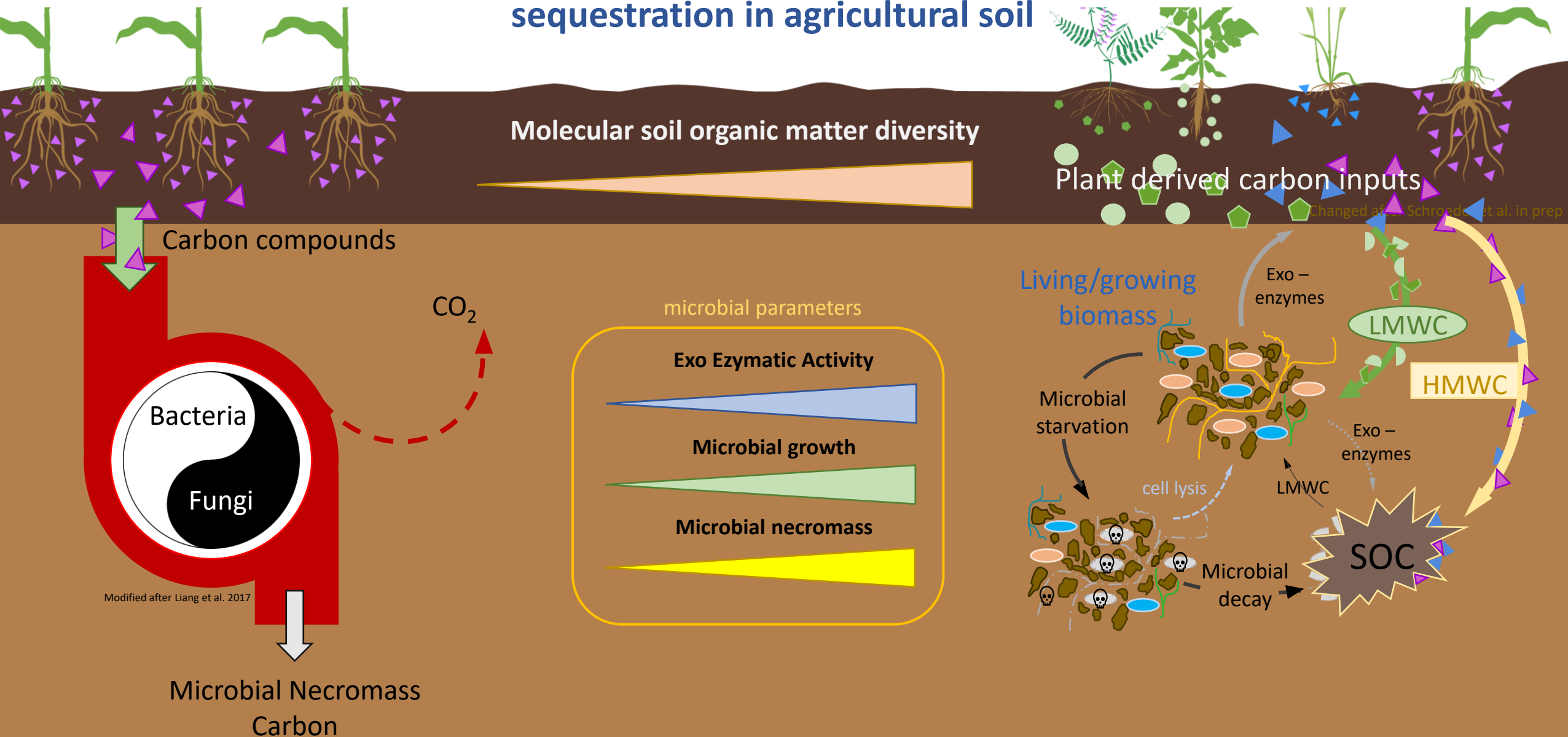


Fig.4. Field experiment established in 2024 Source: J.G.Lied

### Expected outcomes

(i) Enhancing the green transition and circularity of Norwegian food production by recycling valuable nutrients from fish production for agricultural use; (ii) Ensuring environmental safety by addressing concerns related to heavy metals and organic pollutants; (iii) Increasing the utilization of marine residual resources for biogas production; (iv) Supporting the growth of the fish farming industry in Norway by improving waste treatment and recycling options for unavoidable residual resources, thereby facilitating increased fish production and nutrient recycling.

# Cover crop diversification alters microbial life-death cycle and enhances microbial carbon sequestration in agricultural soil



# ASTAVIT :

A fast, easy and cost-effective new method for soil stability measurement

Wengler Julien, Cottenot Lionel, Saby Nicolas and Lacoste Marine — INRAE, France

AGGREGATE

STABILITY

ASSESSMENT THROUGH

VIDEO

TESTING

Current reference

« Le Bissonnais »  
ISO method

Time and  
labor intensive

48h drying  
delay

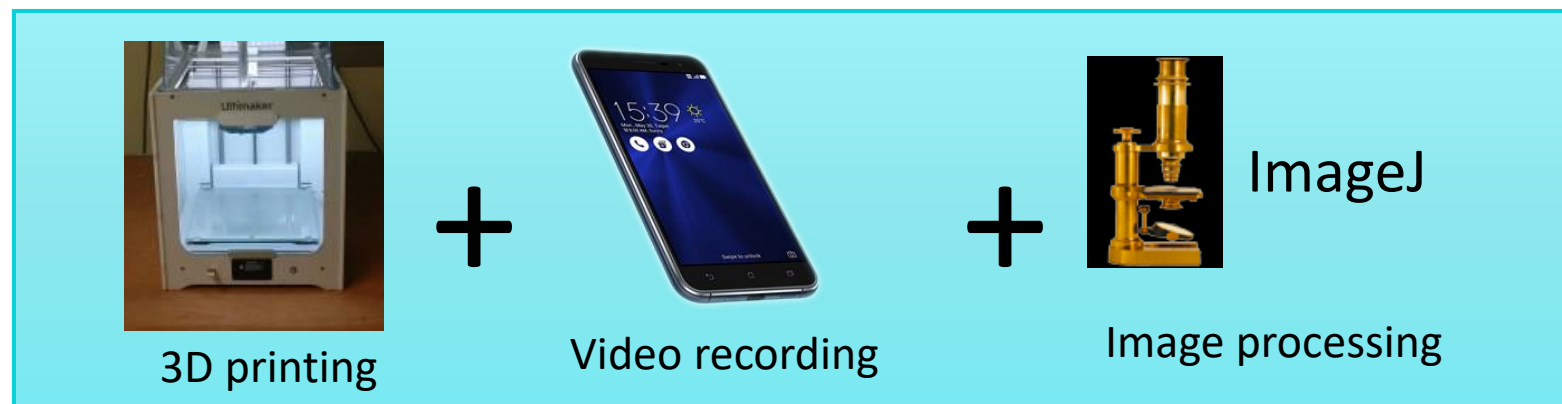
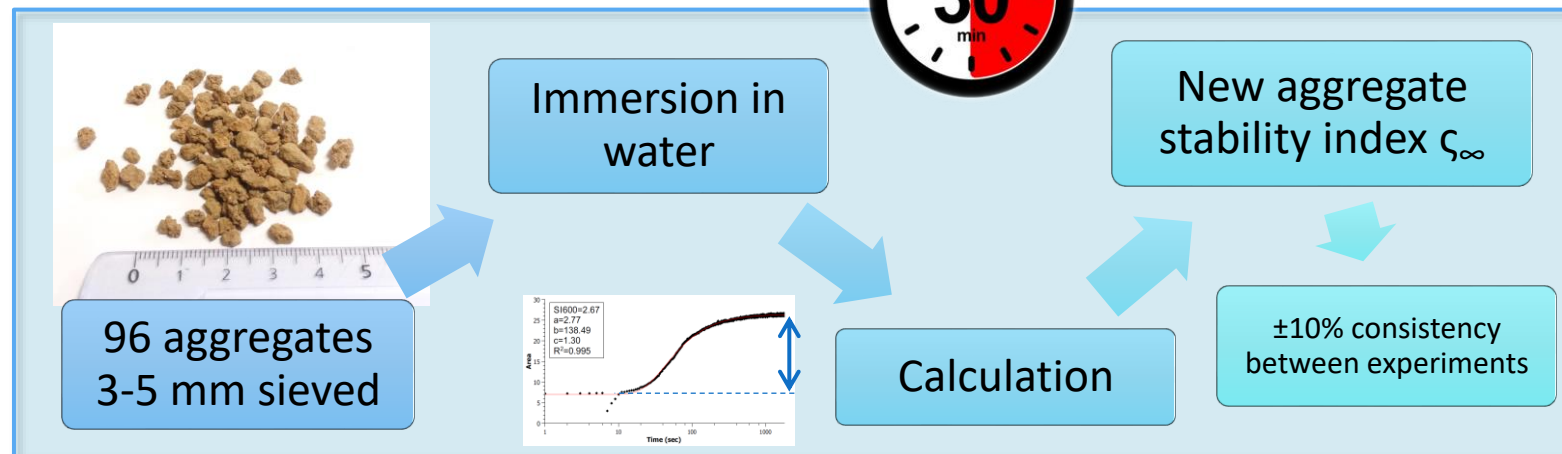
Uses ethanol  
(→ risk  
management)

Repeatability  
issues

WHAT ?

HOW ?

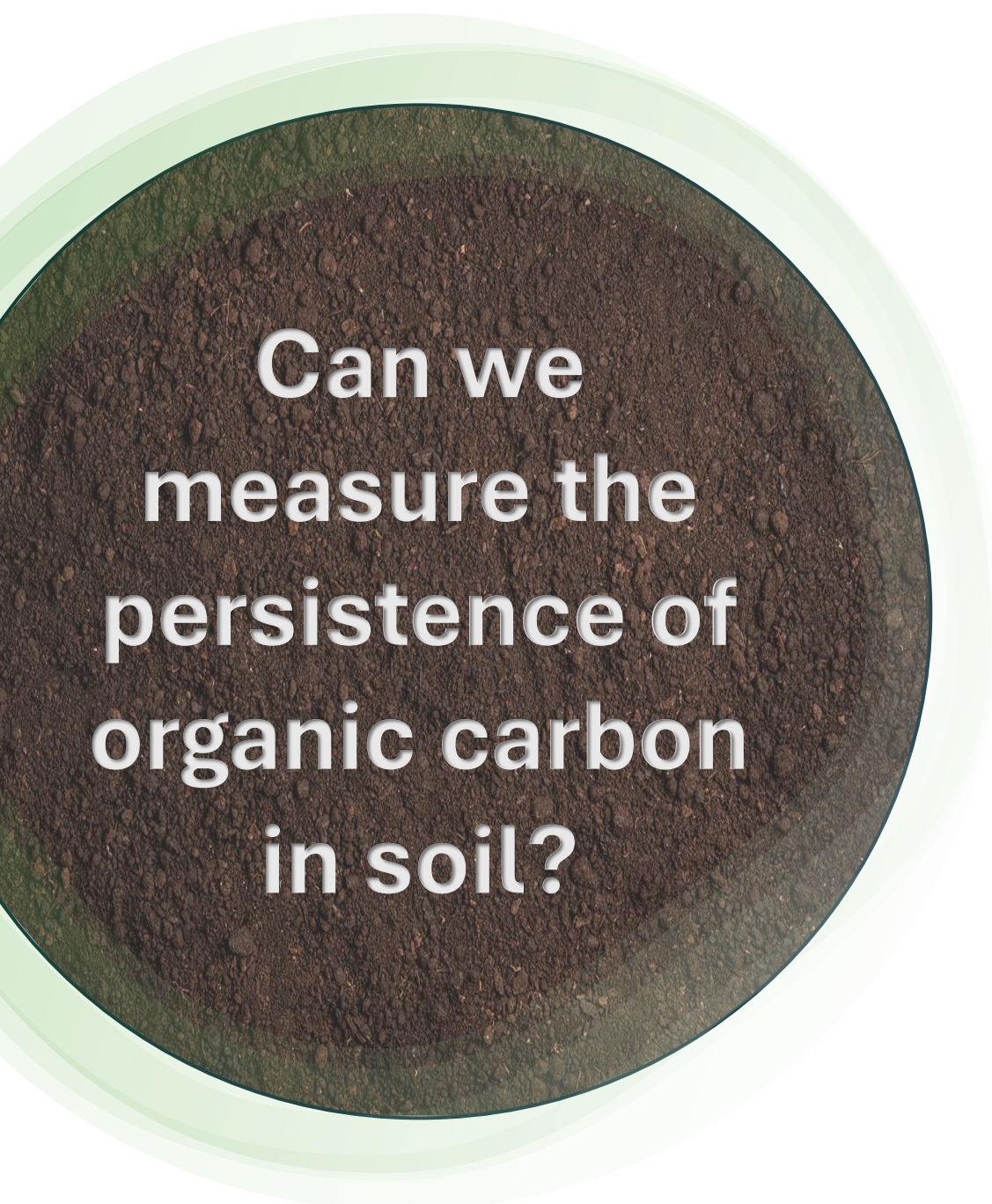
ONE SOIL ⇒ ASTAVIT



INRAE

Poster pitch

Julien Wengler – EJP Soil Science Days – June 2024



# Can we measure the persistence of organic carbon in soil?



**Johanna Maria Zenner<sup>1</sup>, Jeroen H.T. Zethof<sup>1</sup>,  
Tatiana F. Rittl<sup>2</sup>, Klaus Schützenmeister<sup>1</sup>,  
Hermann F. Jungkunst<sup>1</sup>**

- **1 iES - Institute of Environmental Sciences, RPTU  
Kaiserslautern-Landau, Landau, Germany**
- **2 Norwegian Center for Organic Agriculture (NORSØK),  
Tingvoll, Norway**

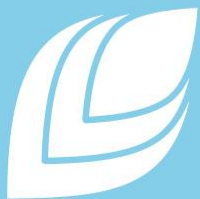
Contact: [johanna.zenner@rptu.de](mailto:johanna.zenner@rptu.de)

# The DeliSoil Project

- Delivering safe, sustainable, tailored & socially accepted soil improvers from circular food production processes for boosting soil health

Palojärvi Ansa<sup>1\*</sup>, Martínez-Avila Oscar Mauricio<sup>2</sup>, Bevivino Annamaria<sup>3</sup>, Hermann Ludwig<sup>4</sup>,  
Salo Tapio<sup>1</sup>, Smol Marzena<sup>5</sup>, Cardillo Pamela<sup>6</sup>, and the whole DeliSoil consortium

<sup>1</sup>Natural Resources Institute Finland (LUKE), Finland, <sup>2</sup>UVic-UCC, Spain; <sup>3</sup>ENEA, Italy; <sup>4</sup>PROMAN, Austria;  
<sup>5</sup>MEERI, Poland; <sup>6</sup>ERINN, Ireland



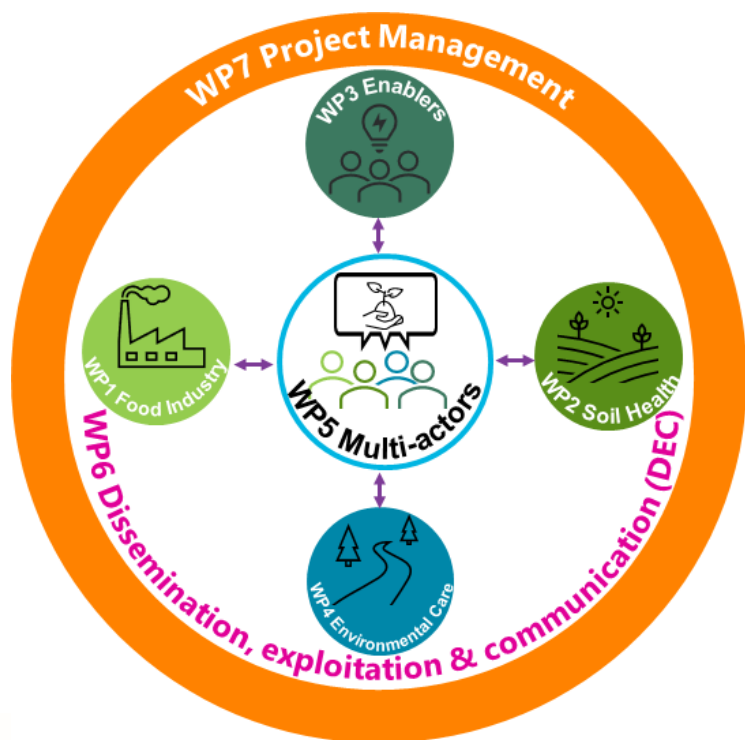
**EJP SOIL**  
European Joint Programme

EJP SOIL has received  
funding from the European  
Union's Horizon 2020  
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agreement No 862695



# DeliSoil project and WPs

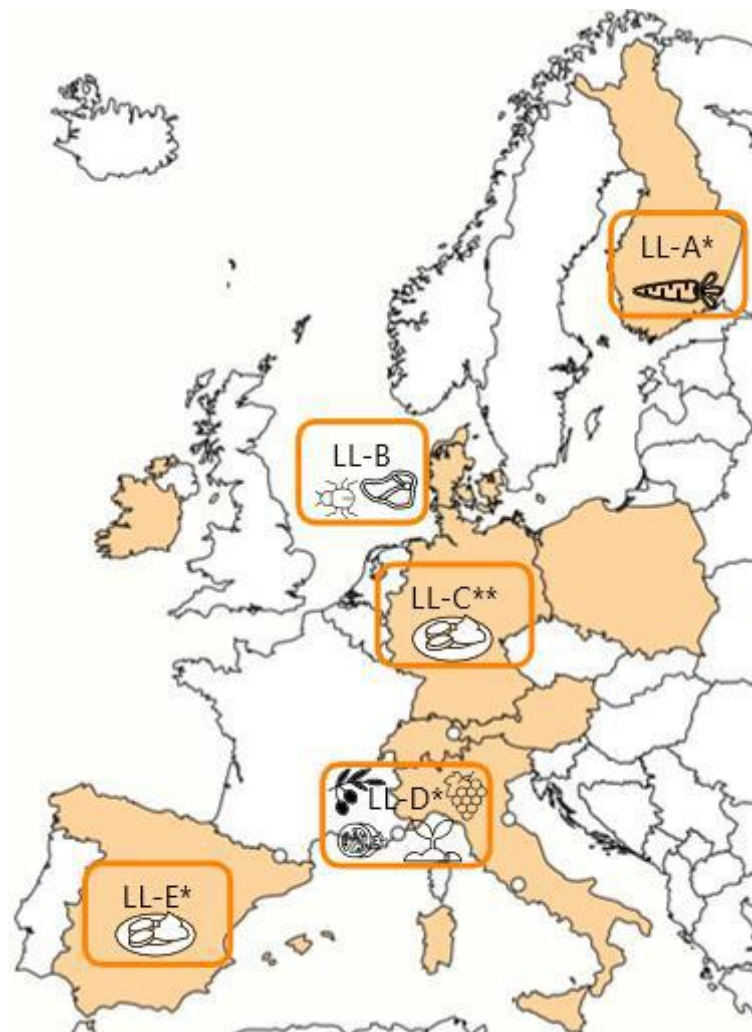
- The EU Mission Soil funded DeliSoil project (2023-2027, 7 milj. EUR).
- DeliSoil is supporting the EU Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe'.



# Project objectives

- **Valorise nutrients and organic matter in food processing side-streams** as tailored soil improvers, developing innovative solutions for regionally important food industries.
- **Establish five regional Living Labs and five Lighthouses** for food value chain actors to co-create innovations for healthy soils.
- **Identify technological, financial, legislative and social barriers and enablers** in support of these goals.
- **Establish an evaluation framework** of actions and strategies for improved soil health.
- **Raise public awareness of soil health** and, in particular, of the safety and potential of circular solutions.

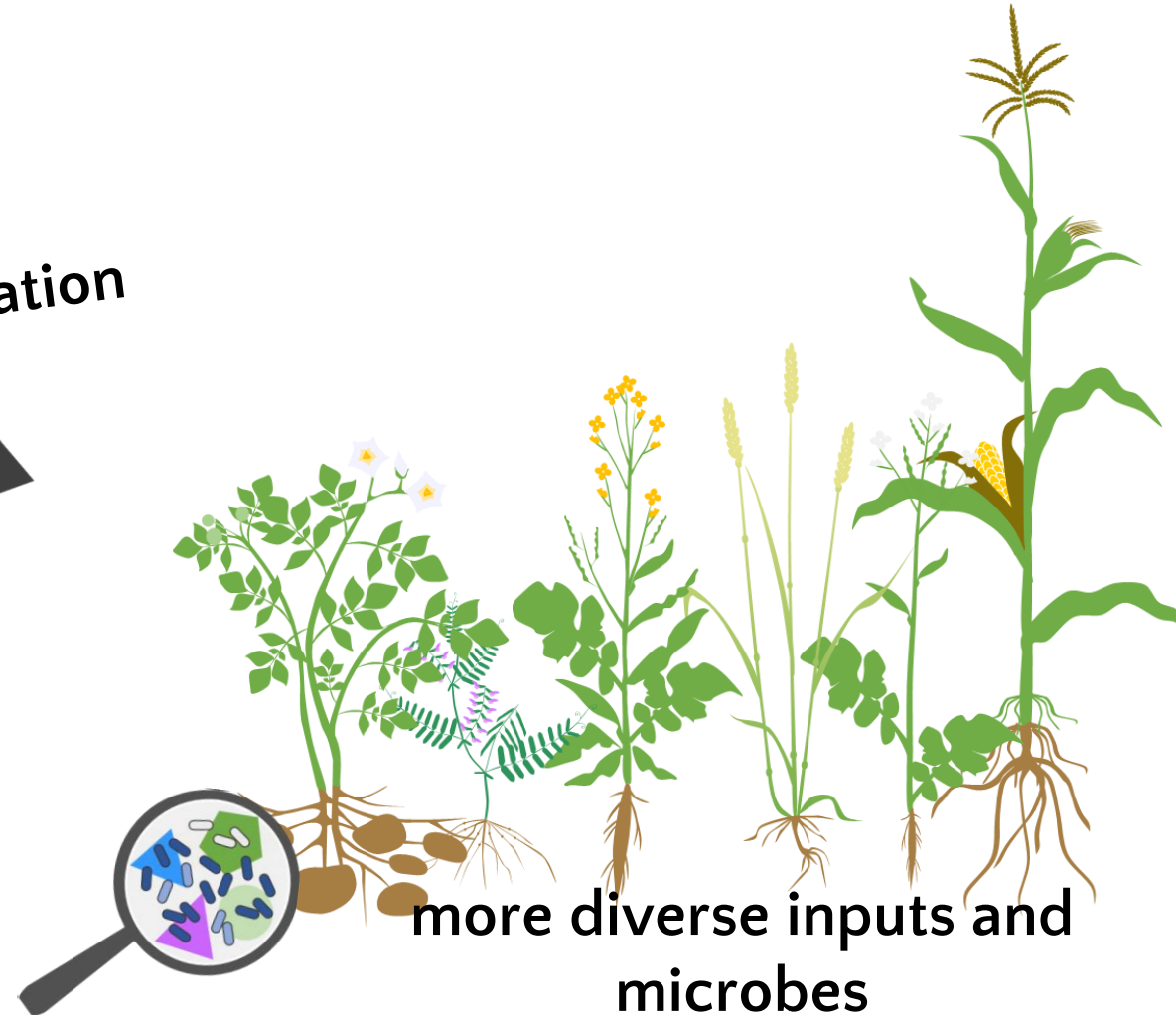
# Living Labs and Lighthouses of the whole Food Value Chain



- Food industry uses raw materials to produce products for consumers.
- The side streams are processed with different technologies and used as soil improvers or other fertilizer products without risks to environment in safe food production to boost soil health.



crop  
diversification



more diverse inputs and  
microbes

effect on microbial C  
transformation?

8 LTEs

$^{18}\text{O}$ -CUE  
method

meta-analysis  
ANOVA

# The effect of crop diversification and season on microbial carbon use efficiency across a European gradient

Schroeder Julia<sup>1\*</sup>, König Alexander<sup>2</sup>, Bölscher Tobias<sup>3</sup>, Poeplau Christopher<sup>1</sup>, Meurer Katharina H.E.<sup>4</sup>, Toleikienė Monika<sup>5</sup>, Hanegraaf Marjoleine<sup>6</sup>, Meisner Annelein<sup>6</sup>, Hakl Josef<sup>7</sup>, Keiblinger Katharina M.<sup>2</sup>, Chabbi Abad<sup>8</sup>, Suhadolc Marjetka<sup>9</sup>, Inselsbacher Erich<sup>2</sup>, Knicker Heike<sup>10</sup>, and Hermann Anke M.<sup>4</sup>

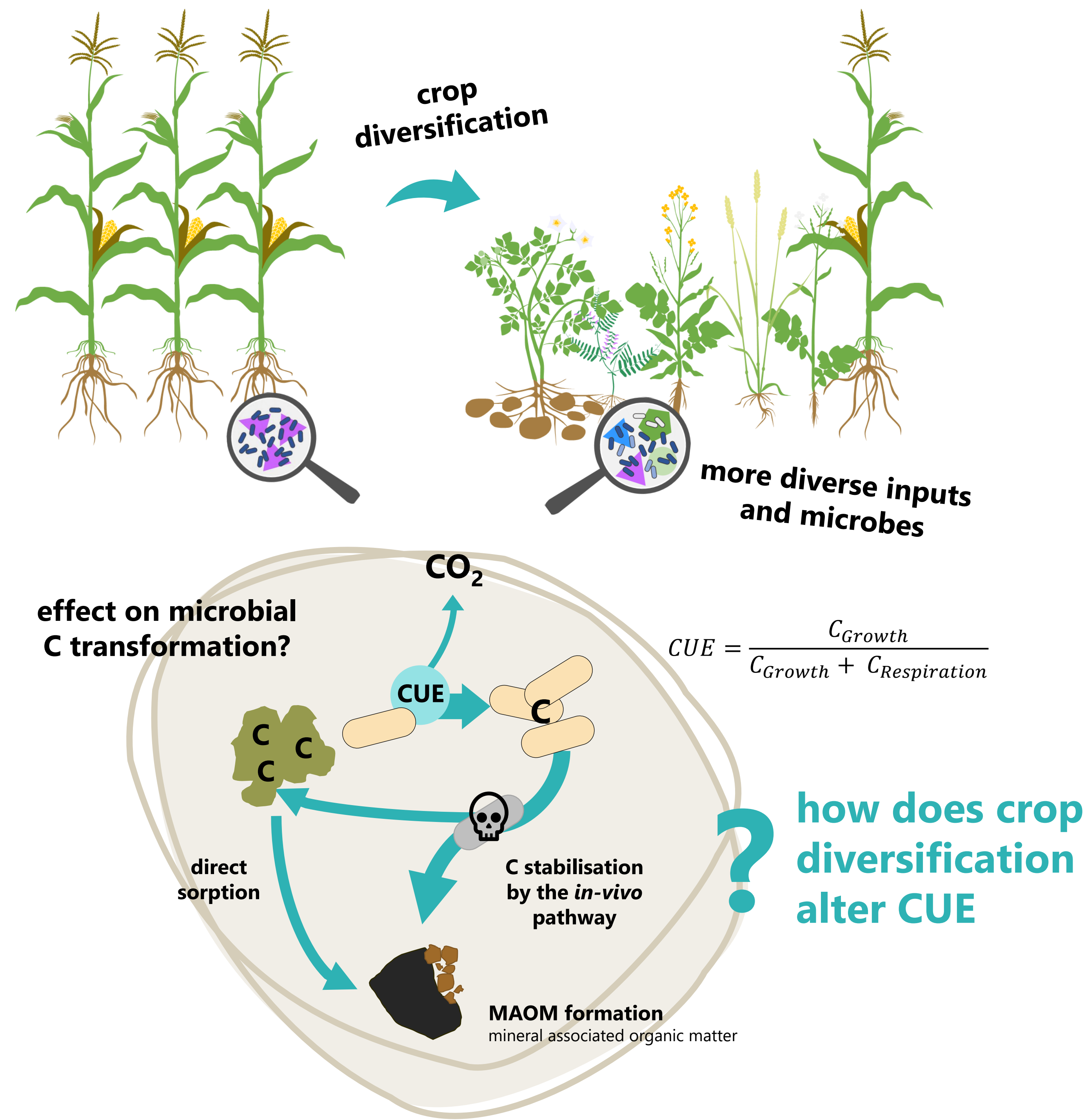
<sup>1</sup> Thünen Institute of Climate-Smart Agriculture, Braunschweig, Germany  
<sup>2</sup> University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Department of Forest and Soil Sciences, Institute of Soil Research, Vienna, Austria  
<sup>3</sup> Université Paris-Saclay, INRAE, AgroParisTech, UMR EcoSys, Palaiseau, France  
<sup>4</sup> Department of Soil & Environment, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences - SLU, Uppsala, Sweden  
<sup>5</sup> Lithuanian Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry, Akademija, Lithuania

<sup>6</sup> Wageningen University & Research, Wageningen Plant Research, Wageningen, Netherlands  
<sup>7</sup> Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Czech Republic  
<sup>8</sup> INRAE Centre de Recherche Nouvelle-Aquitaine-Poitiers, Unité de Recherche Pluridisciplinaire Prairies & Plantes Fourragères, Lusignan, France  
<sup>9</sup> University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Ljubljana, Slovenia  
<sup>10</sup> Instituto de la Grasa (IG-CSIC), Sevilla, Spain

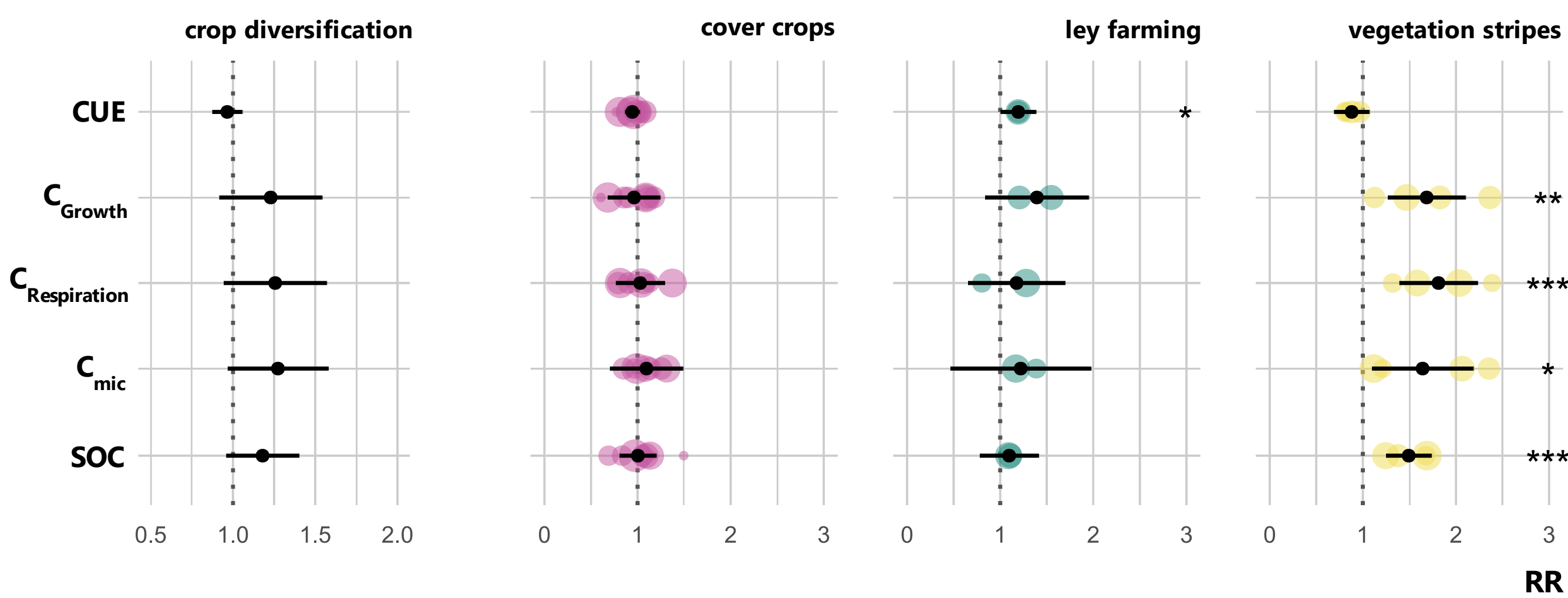


julia.schroeder@thuenen.de  
@jul\_schroeder

## background



## crop diversification



**! no general effect on microbial CUE**

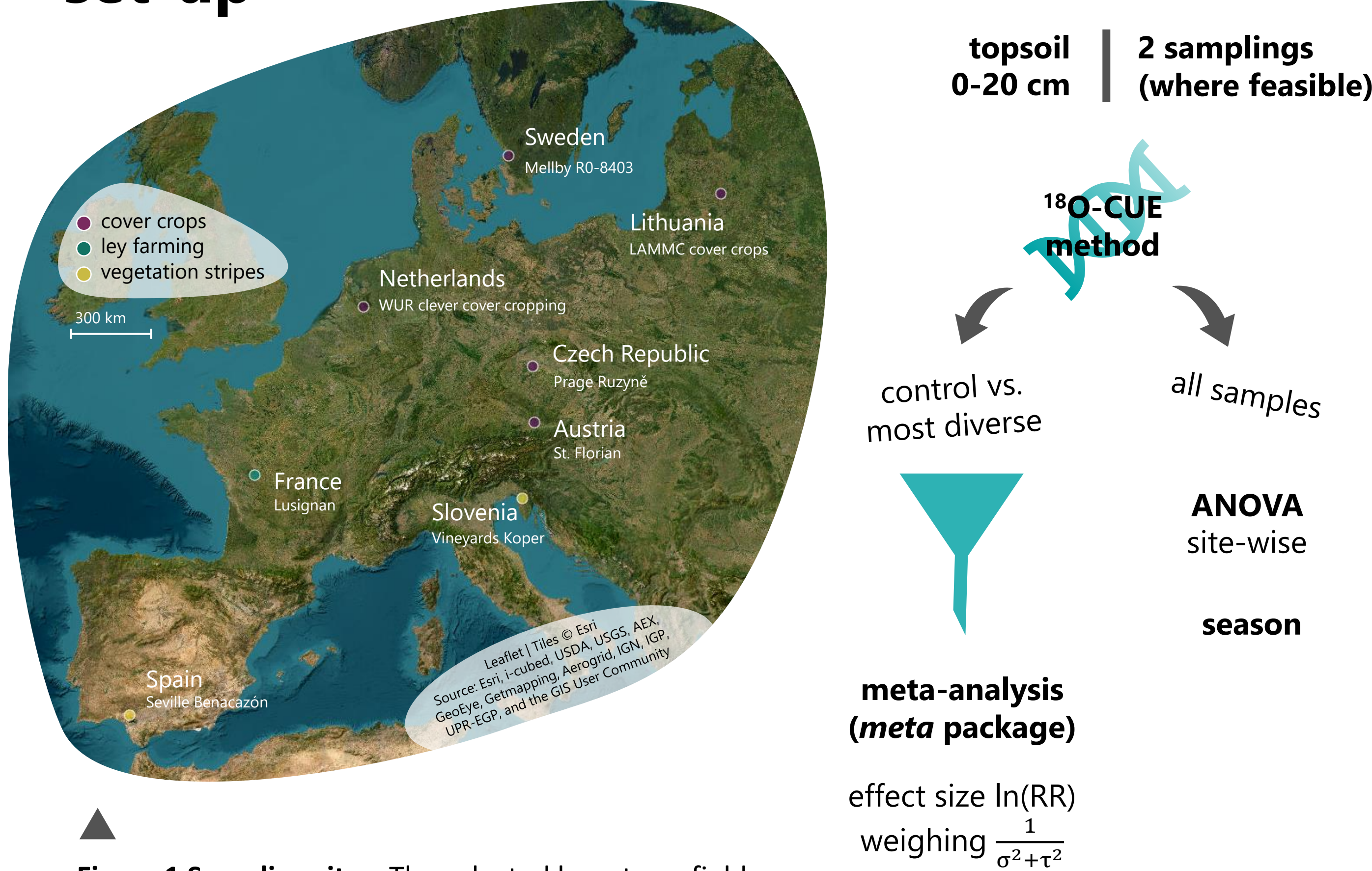
**Figure 2 Results of the meta-analysis.** Overall and measure-specific effect sizes of crop diversification on microbial carbon use efficiency (CUE), respiration ( $C_{Respiration}$ ), growth ( $C_{Growth}$ ), biomass C ( $C_{mic}$ ) as well as soil organic carbon (SOC). There was no significant general effect of crop diversification on microbial C transformation.

**Table 1 Test statistics of meta-analysis.** Overall high heterogeneity between observations. Only for CUE the effect sizes across studies are homogenous (i.e. no effect). Overall heterogeneity is partly explained by different effect sizes between diversification measures.

|                   | $\tau^2$ | $I^2$ | $P_Q$   | $P_{subgroup}$ |
|-------------------|----------|-------|---------|----------------|
| CUE               | 0.009    | 34 %  | 0.114   | 0.036          |
| $C_{Respiration}$ | 0.152    | 90 %  | < 0.001 | 0.008          |
| $C_{Growth}$      | 0.155    | 89 %  | < 0.001 | 0.015          |
| $C_{mic}$         | 0.154    | 88 %  | < 0.001 | 0.276          |
| SOC               | 0.07     | 83 %  | < 0.001 | 0.008          |

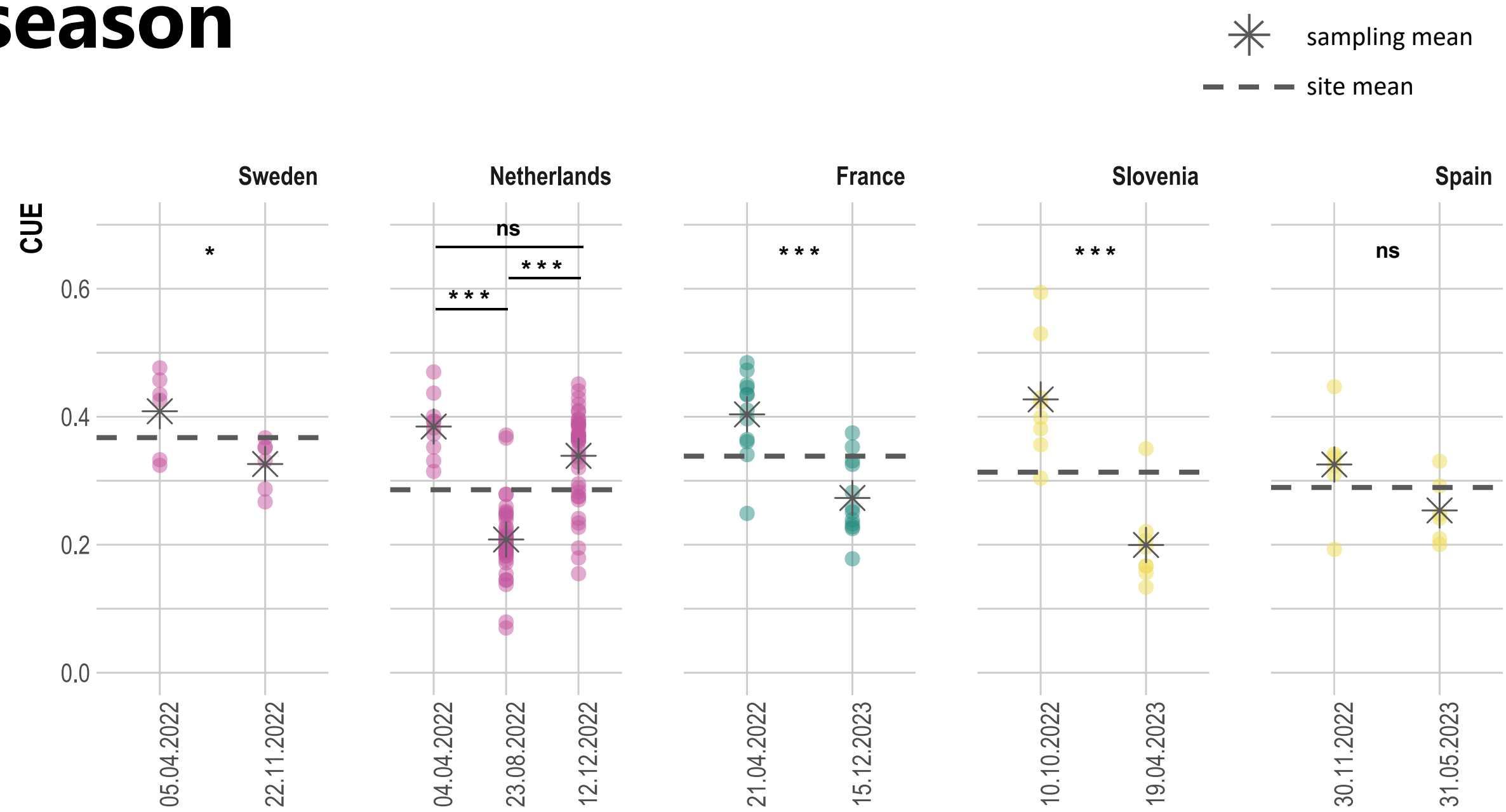
overall variability in the effect sizes  
p-value for subgroup differences  
variance between observations  
p-value for heterogeneity test

## set-up



**Figure 1 Sampling sites.** The selected long-term field experiments along the pan-European pedo-climatic gradient cover different measures, i.e. cover crops, ley farming, and vegetation stripes representative for crop diversification across Europe.

## season

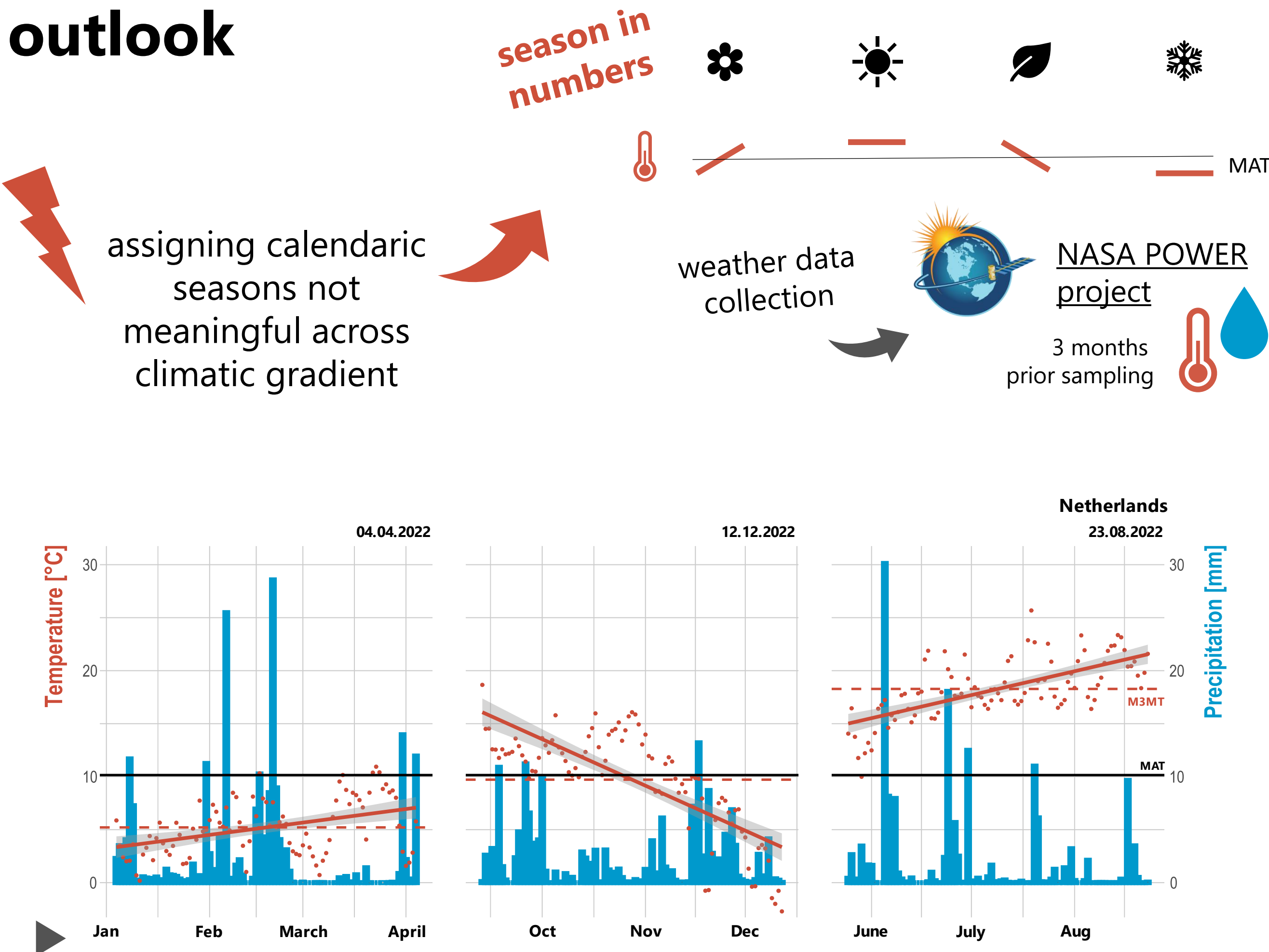


**! CUE varies with sampling**

**which samplings to compare?**

**? seasonality effect**

## outlook



**Figure 4 Season in numbers (example Netherlands).** Mean daily temperature was plotted over 3-months prior sampling. The fitted slope and the distance of the 3-months mean temperature (M3MT) to the mean annual temperature (MAT) were retrieved to serve as seasonal predictors of CUE. Water availability was expressed as cumulative precipitation over 3-months.

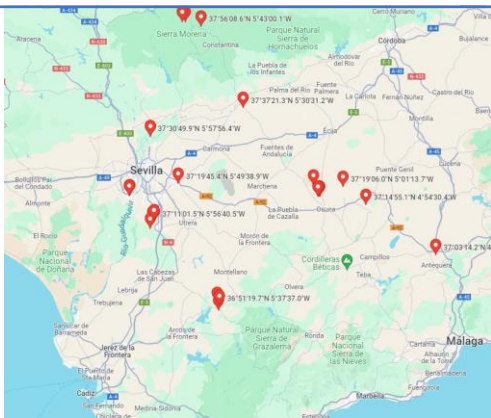
# UNVEILING SOIL PROPERTIES FROM FTIR SPECTRA

López-Núñez Rafael<sup>1</sup>, Cobos-Sabater Joaquín<sup>2</sup>, Cayuela-Sánchez José A.<sup>3</sup>,  
Almendros-Martin Gonzalo<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>INSTITUTO DE RECURSOS NATURALES Y AGROBIOLOGÍA DE SEVILLA (IRNAS-CSIC), <sup>2</sup>ESTACIÓN BIOLÓGICA DE DOÑANA (EBD-CSIC), <sup>3</sup>INSTITUTO DE LA GRASA (IG-CSIC),  
<sup>4</sup>MUSEO NACIONAL DE CIENCIAS NATURALES (MNHN-CSIC),  
rafael.lopez@csic.es

- The EJP Soil ProbeField project (A novel protocol for robust in-field monitoring of carbon stock and soil fertility based on proximal sensors and existing soil spectral libraries) proposes innovative techniques for determining SOC stocks and other relevant properties to the health of EU soils.
- This study aims to predict soil properties (calcium carbonate, sand, silt, clay, available-P, and available-K contents) using partial least squares regression (PLS) models and identify significant spectral bands for predicting soil physicochemical properties.

## 28 samples, 0-15 cm, of agricultural soils in southwestern Spain

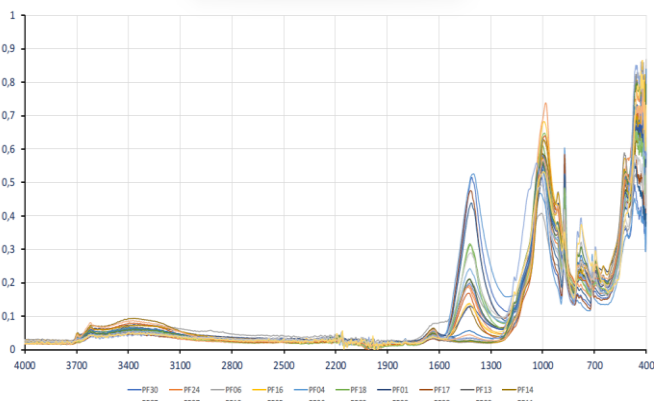


Soil properties determined using conventional laboratory techniques and Fourier transformed infrared (FTIR) spectrum were recorded (range of 4000–400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )

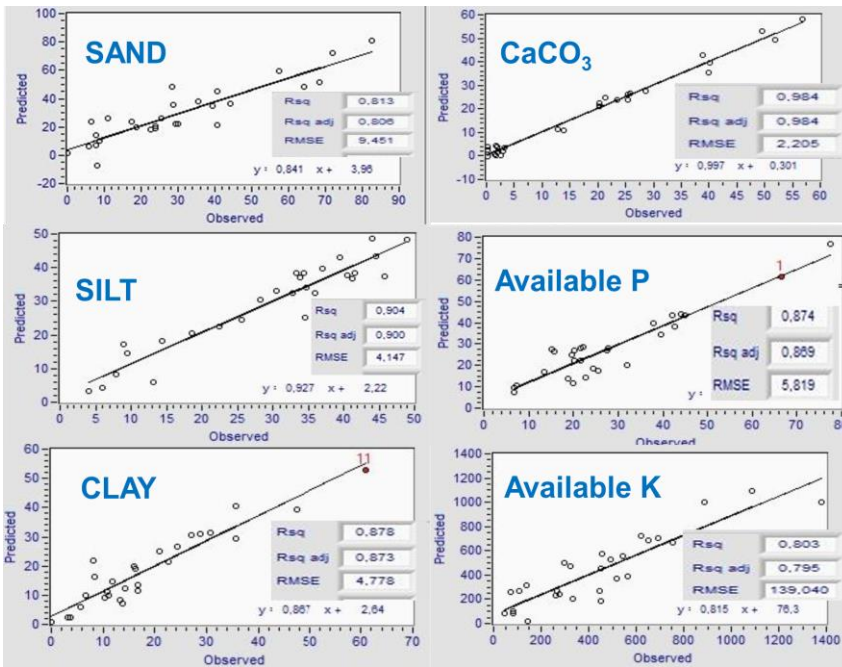
## Pretreatment of spectral data: mean centering and MSC (Multiplicative Scattering Correction)



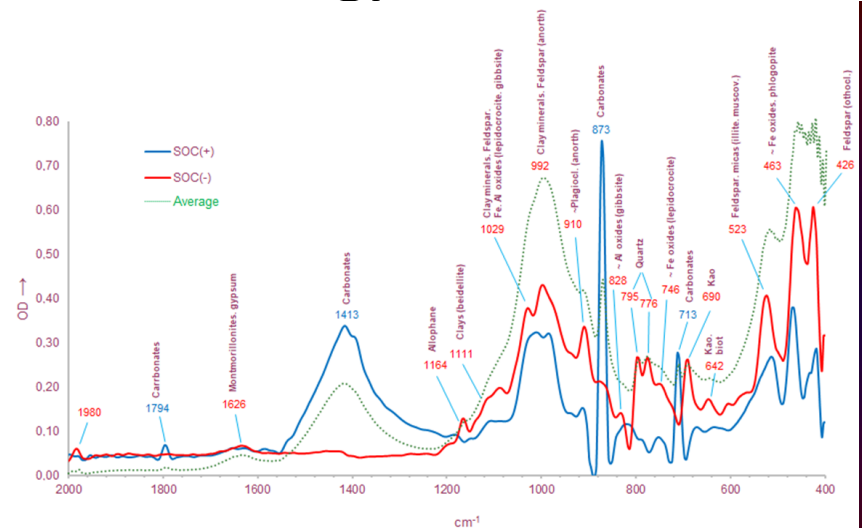
28 ProbeField spectra'23 (no C outliers)



- Partial least square regression (PLS) with spectral points as independent variables and soil properties values as dependent ones.
- Root mean square error (RMSE) and Akaike information criterion (AIC) to select the model with the minimum number of latent variables (LVs), avoiding overfitted spurious models



- **EXCELLENT predictions with 19 LV (without overfitting)**



Tentative assignments of the major soil minerals are shown above the main peaks of the scaled subtracted spectra. Dotted line: original (average) spectrum; Red numbers: bands attributed to minerals that predominate in the C-depleted soils; blue numbers: bands that predominate in soils with high C content.

The latent variables include information on the various components of the soil (calcite, silicates, clays, oxides), that is, we can assign the spectral bands to the various minerals

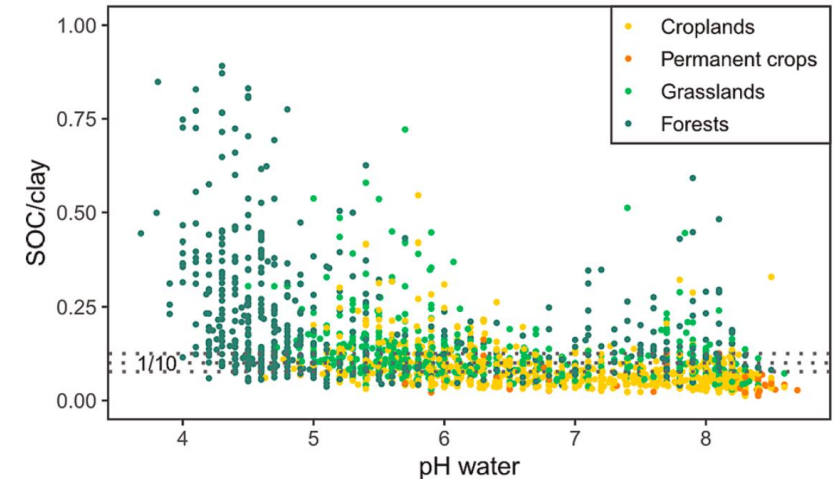
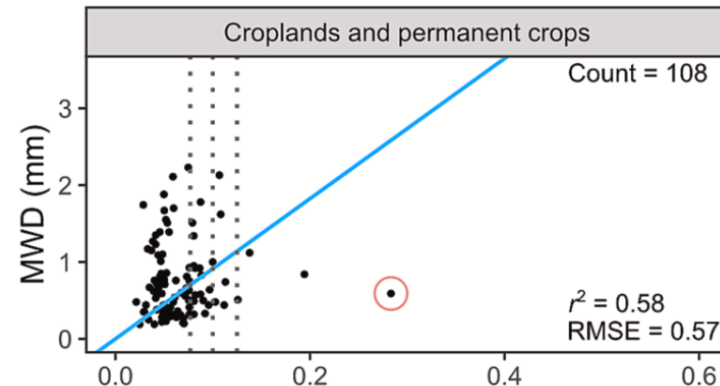
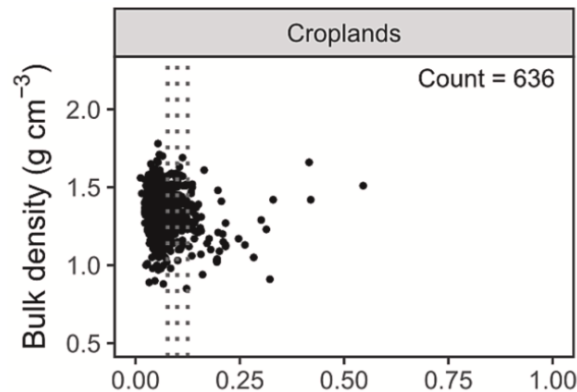
**Key message to stakeholders: Powerful, fast soil spectroscopy laboratories coming soon**

# Relevance of the organic carbon to clay ratio as a national soil health indicator

E. Rabot<sup>1</sup>, N.P.A. Saby<sup>1</sup>, M.P. Martin<sup>1</sup>, P. Barré<sup>2</sup>, C. Chenu<sup>3</sup>, I. Cousin<sup>1</sup>, D. Arrouays<sup>1</sup>, D. Angers<sup>4</sup>, A. Bispo<sup>1</sup>

1- INRAE Orléans, France, 2- CNRS Paris, France, 3- INRAE Palaiseau, France, 4-AAC Canada.

→ Evaluation at the national scale in diverse pedoclimatic contexts in France  
Dataset: the French Soil Quality Monitoring Network (RMQS)



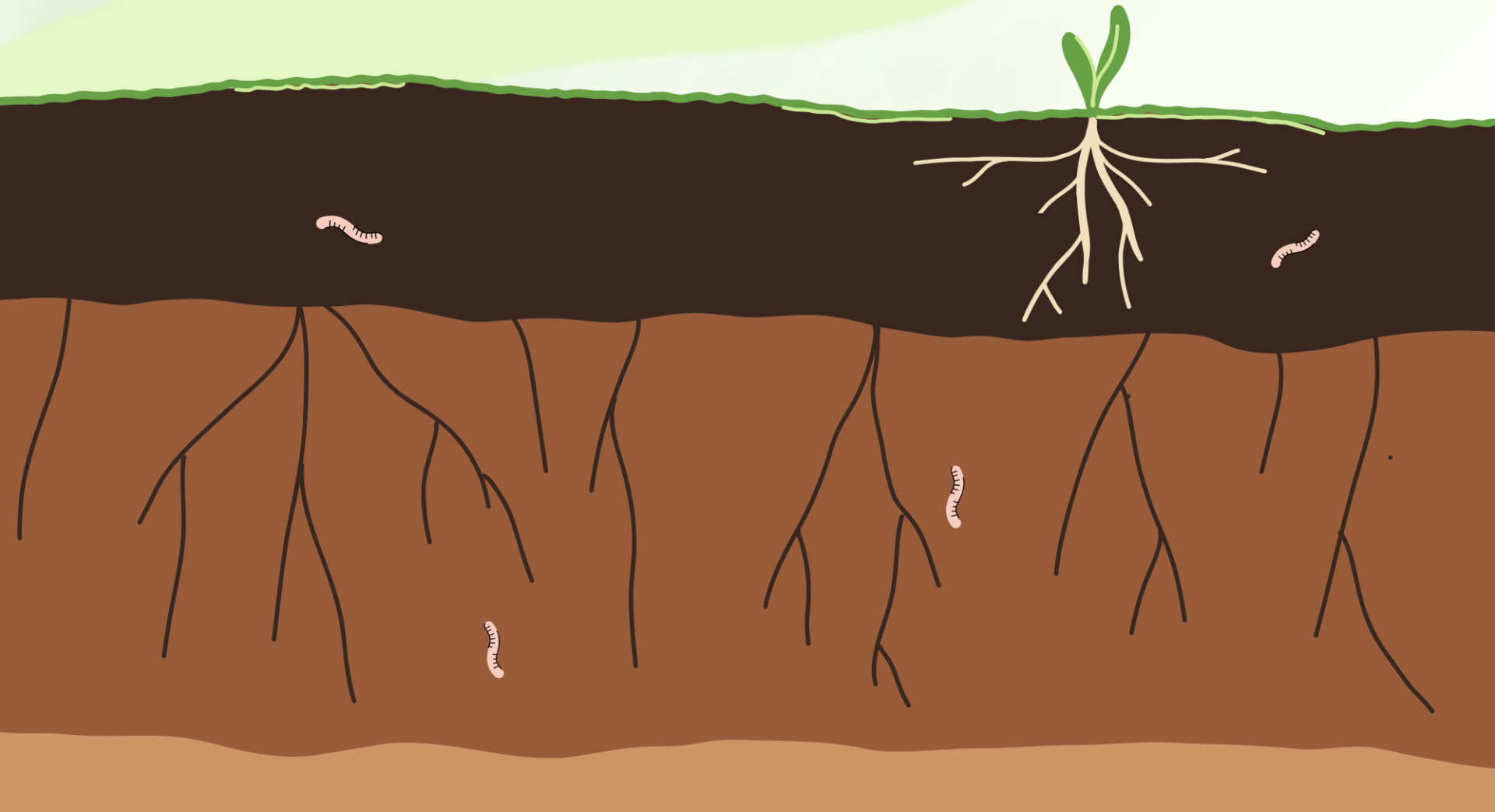
SOC/clay:

→ poorly correlated with soil structure attributes  
→ biased, as dependent on soil type

=> Limited relevance as a soil health indicator

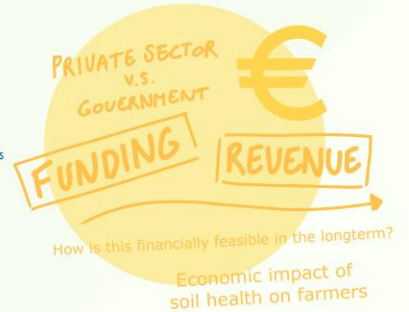
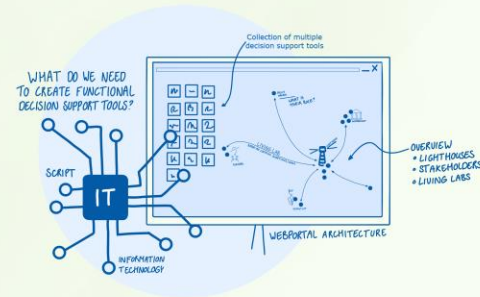
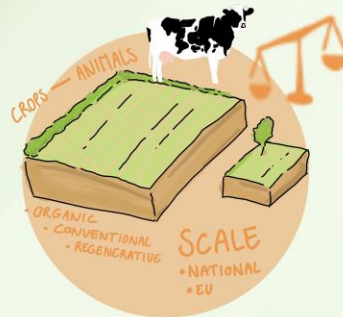
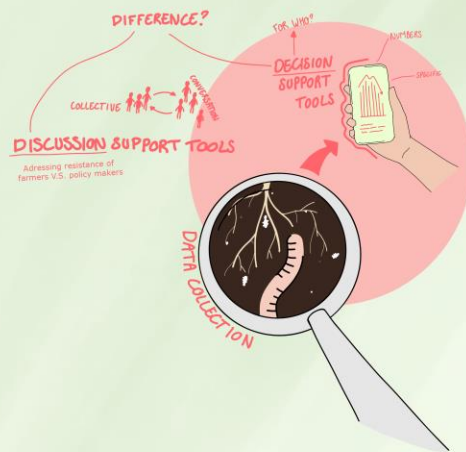
# inspiring discussion

Decision support tools for soil health in living labs



# inspiring discussion

## Decision support tools for soil health in living labs



# inspiring discussion

Decision support tools for soil health in living labs

## GREEN DEAL

Aims for 100 living labs and lighthouses  
by the year 2030 for soil health



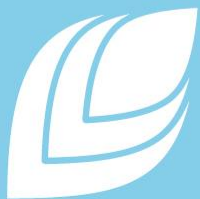
# Effects of Anaerobic Digestates and Biochar Amendments on Soil Health, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and Microbial Communities: A Mesocosm Study

Pastorelli Roberta<sup>1</sup>, Rocchi Filippo<sup>2</sup>, Tempio Elina<sup>2</sup>, Laaksonen Ilmari<sup>2</sup>,  
Becagli Claudia<sup>1</sup> and Lagomarsino Alessandra<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Research Centre for Agriculture and Environment, Consiglio per la Ricerca in Agricoltura e l'Analisi dell'Economia Agraria (CREA-AA), Firenze, Italy*

<sup>2</sup> *Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke), Production Systems, Finland*

*\* Presenting author: [alessandra.lagomarsino@crea.gov.it](mailto:alessandra.lagomarsino@crea.gov.it)*



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30 mesocosms (1000 cm<sup>3</sup> polyethylene jars equipped with a gas-tight cap with two in-out valves)

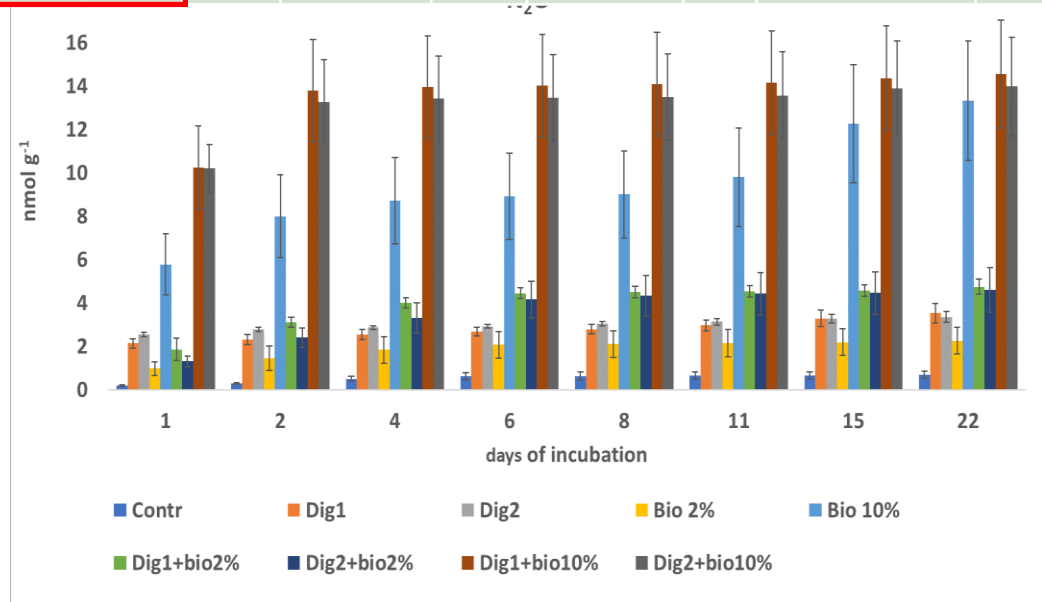
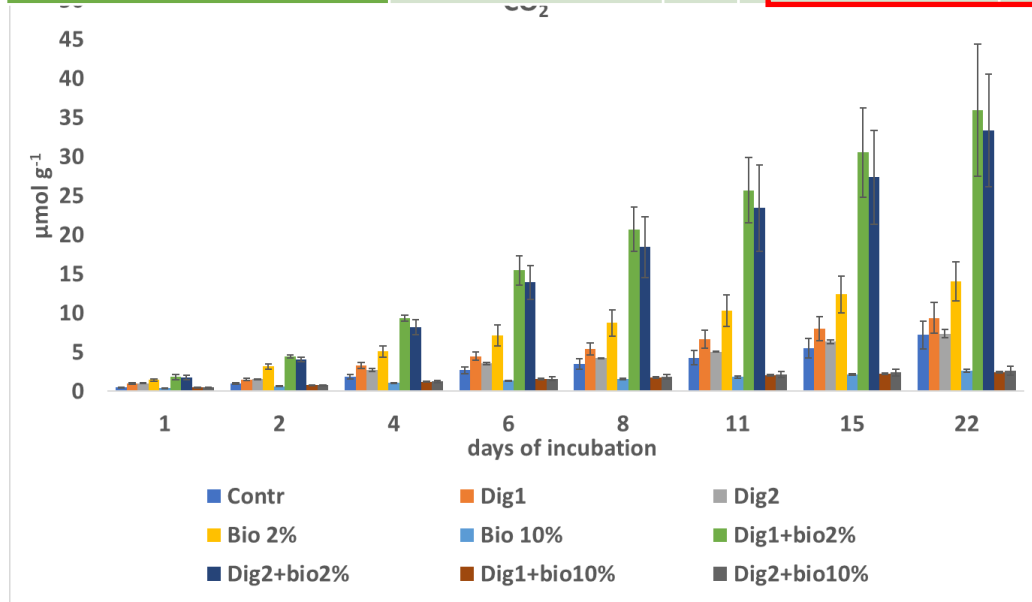
- 500 g soil (loam texture) with digestate and biochar combinations:
  - 2 manure-based digestates
  - Biochar (from digested sewage sludge and waste wood) at 2 and 10%:

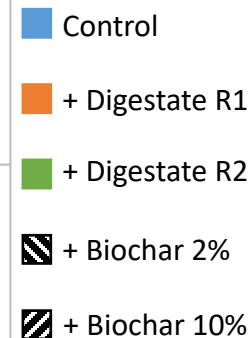
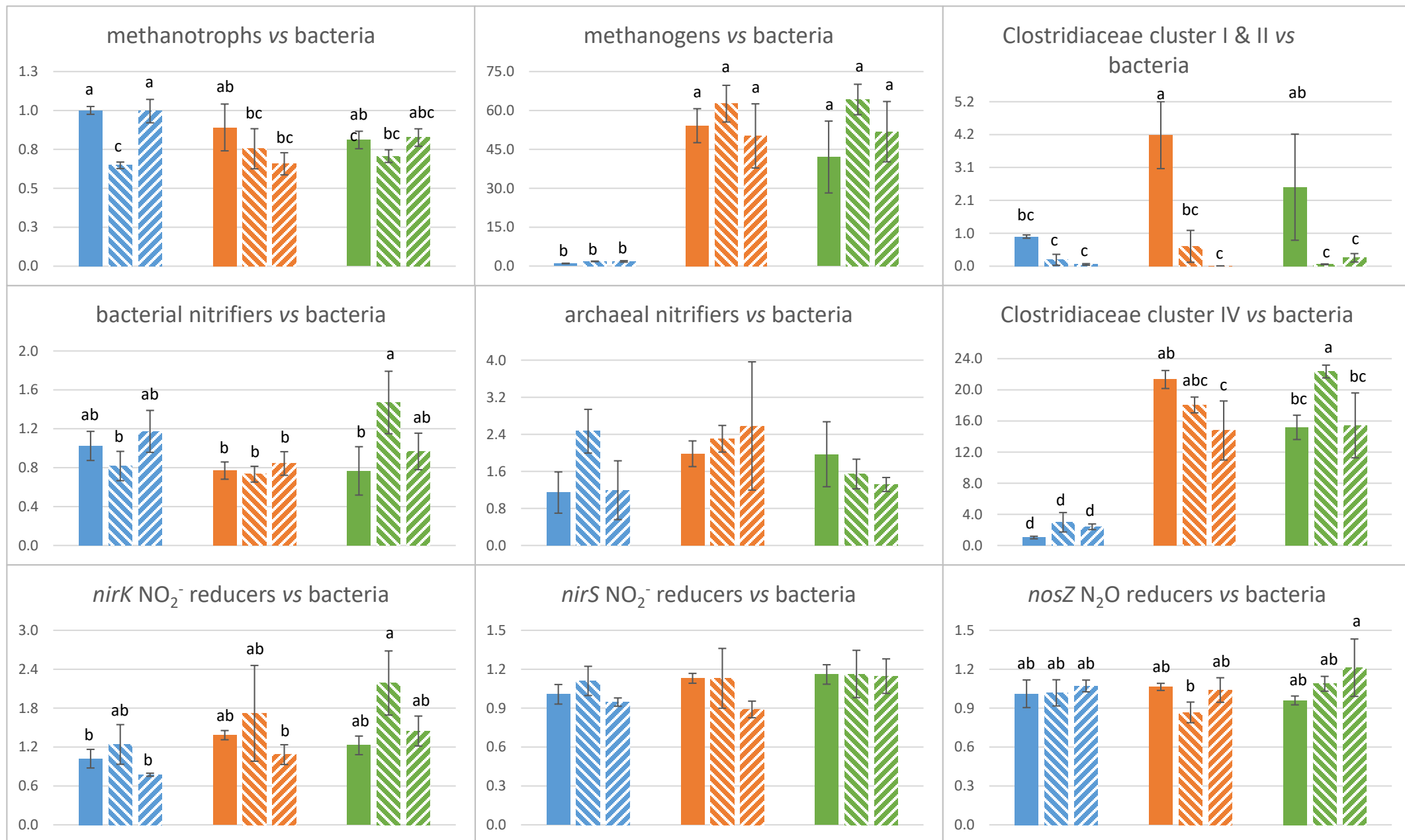
Contr – Dig1 – Dig2 – Bio2% - Bio10% - Dig1+bio2% - Dig2+bio2% - Dig1+bio10% - Dig2+bio10%

- Measurements of CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O at 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 11, 15, and 22 days of incubation (Gasmeter FTIR analyzer)
- Germination Index
- Microbial community structure



| Treatment   | TC (%) |   | TOC (%) |     | TN (%) |     | C/N  |     | pH    |    | EC (dS/m) |   |
|-------------|--------|---|---------|-----|--------|-----|------|-----|-------|----|-----------|---|
| Control     | 1.45   | b | 0.69    | d   | 0.11   | e   | 13.4 | a   | 7.91  | ab | 30.9      | c |
| Dig1        | 1.50   | b | 0.78    | d   | 0.13   | de  | 11.9 | bc  | 8.00  | a  | 28.5      | c |
| Dig2        | 1.59   | b | 0.79    | cd  | 0.14   | cde | 11.5 | c   | 7.93  | ab | 26.9      | c |
| Bio2%       | 1.90   | b | 1.31    | Bcd | 0.15   | bcd | 12.3 | abc | 7.87  | bc | 27.1      | d |
| Bio10%      | 4.89   | a | 4.24    | A   | 0.38   | a   | 12.9 | ab  | 7.81) | cd | 49.3      | a |
| Dig1+bio2%  | 2.15   | b | 1.47    | bc  | 0.17   | bc  | 12.4 | abc | 7.93  | ab | 29.6      | c |
| Dig2+bio2%  | 2.15   | b | 1.63    | b   | 0.18   | b   | 11.7 | c   | 7.94  | ab | 34.1      | c |
| Dig1+bio10% | 4.31   | a | 3.68    | a   | 0.34   | a   | 12.7 | abc | 7.78  | d  | 61.6      | b |
| Dig2+bio10% | 4.46   | a | 3.92    | a   | 0.34   | a   | 13.3 | a   | 7.82  | cd | 61.7      | b |





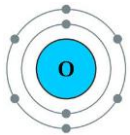
# A guideline for appropriate estimates of carbon use efficiency with the $^{18}\text{O}$ method

## POTENTIAL ISSUES

Impurities in DNA extractions



Not enough oxygen in the sample



Several equations in bibliography

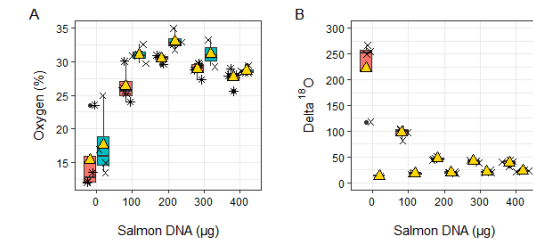
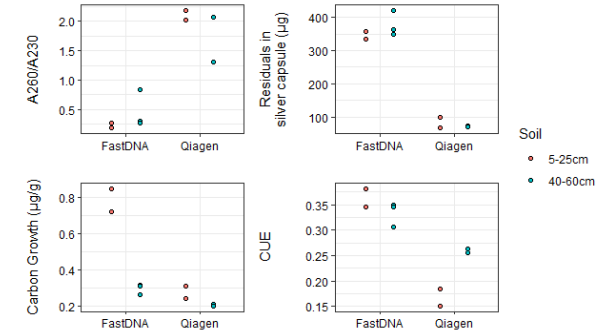


## EXPLORING SOLUTIONS

Find the ideal extraction kit

Oxygen Spyke test

Equation revision



$$A_{DNA}^{18} = \frac{(O_{salmon} + O_{DNA}) * A_{total}^{18} - O_{salmon} * A_{salmon}^{18}}{O_{DNA}}$$

$$\frac{DNA_{prod}}{DNA_T} = turnover$$

$$C_{growth} = Microbial\ C * turnover * t^{-1}$$

$$CUE = \frac{C_{growth}}{C_{growth} + C_{resp}}$$

# Soil carbon sequestration: insights from different farming practices

Kauer Karin, Astover Alar, Liina Talgre

## Aim:

Compare the impact of conventional (mineral N fertilization) and organic farming (cover crops with/without manure) on soil organic carbon (SOC) dynamics over ten years (2008–2018).

## MM:

- Long-term experiment (started in 2008, ongoing)
- Size-fractionation was used to separate soil into particulate organic matter (POM) and mineral-associated organic matter (MAOM)

## Results:

- Over 10 years, SOC concentration significantly increased only with cover crops and manure
- POM-C and MAOM-C concentrations increased in all treatments, but organic farming led to greater increases
- POM-C/MAOM-C ratio was highest in organic treatments, indicating organic farming promotes SOC accumulation
- SOC stock related to POM fraction was lower in conventional systems compared to organic systems



Experimental site

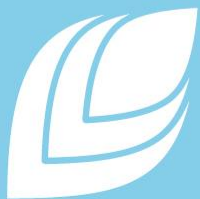
# Biological activation and N enrichment as tool to optimize biochar-based fertilizers

Vandecasteele Bart<sup>1</sup>, Castejón-del Pino Raúl<sup>2</sup>, Cayuela María L.<sup>2</sup>, Sánchez-Monedero Miguel A.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>ILVO, Belgium

<sup>2</sup>CEBAS-CSIC, Spain

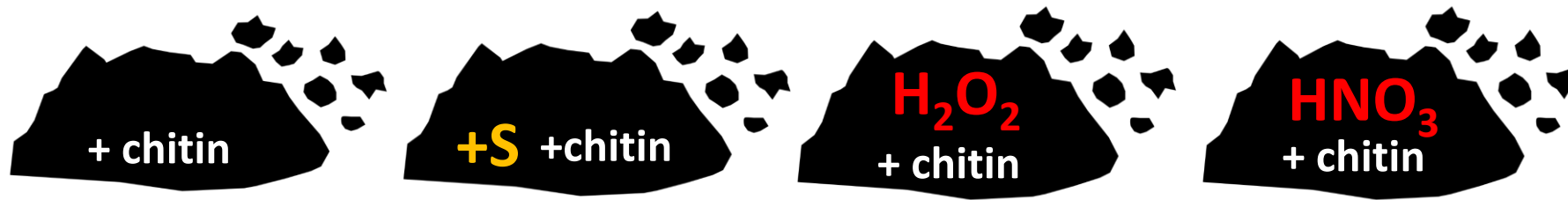
[bart.vandecasteele@ilvo.vlaanderen.be](mailto:bart.vandecasteele@ilvo.vlaanderen.be)



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## Chemical versus biological activation of biochars to produce biochar-based fertilizers (source of stable C and slow N release)

Mode of action: microbiological  
Effect: chemical

Mode of action: microbiological  
Effect: chemical



# Microbial activation of biochar?

## Microbial activity:

**Elemental S:** change in pH, EC and sulphates

**Chitin:** mineral N release (but mineral N can be immobilized again)

## Microbial interaction:

**Chitin:** only N mineralization in presence of S

**S:** faster pH decrease when chitin is present



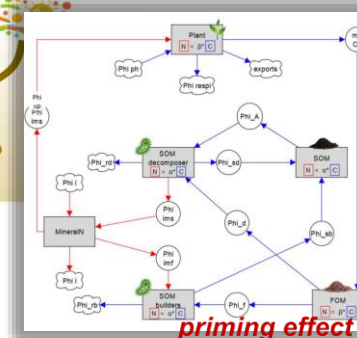
# Integrated modelling of microbial-plant interactions in multi-species agroecosystems: the

Interactions between plant and soil microbial diversity are essential for regulating C and N fluxes while synchronising ecosystem services. MODIMIV develops integrated, explicit and dynamic simulators of multi-species vegetation covers (e.g. grassland cycling in agroecosystems).

Thank You!

Fontaine et al., 2024, *Global Change Biology*

EJP SOIL  
AGROECOseqC



Perveen et al., 2014, *Global Change Biology*

P [gianni.bellocchi@inrae.fr](mailto:gianni.bellocchi@inrae.fr)

Varying C-N ratios  
Nutrient recycling  
Root growth and exudates, ...

$$\lambda_{w,s} = \frac{I}{1 + f_N / \sigma_c \cdot d\sigma_c / dF_N}$$

G. Bellocchi<sup>1</sup>, L. Adam<sup>1</sup>, G. Alvarez<sup>2</sup>, A. Bérard<sup>3</sup>, J. Bloor<sup>1</sup>, M. Carozzi<sup>4</sup>, D. Cavalli<sup>5</sup>, A. Cébron<sup>6</sup>, S. Fontaine<sup>1</sup>, R. Martin<sup>1</sup>, A. Rodriguez<sup>7</sup>, D. Warren Raffa<sup>8</sup>, A. Trinchera<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup>INRAE-UREP, <sup>2</sup>VetAgro Sup, <sup>3</sup>INRAE-EMMAH, <sup>4</sup>INRAE-SADAPT, <sup>5</sup>CREA-ZA, <sup>6</sup>CNRS-LIEC, <sup>7</sup>INRAE-UR

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# **A simple profile-scale model of soil organic matter turnover accounting for physical protection and priming: model description and sensitivity analysis**

*Elsa Coucheney, Anke Herrmann and Nicholas Jarvis*

*Department of Soil and Environment*

*Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences*

*750 07 Uppsala, Sweden*

## ***MaxRootC: WP6***

### **Task 6.2.3**

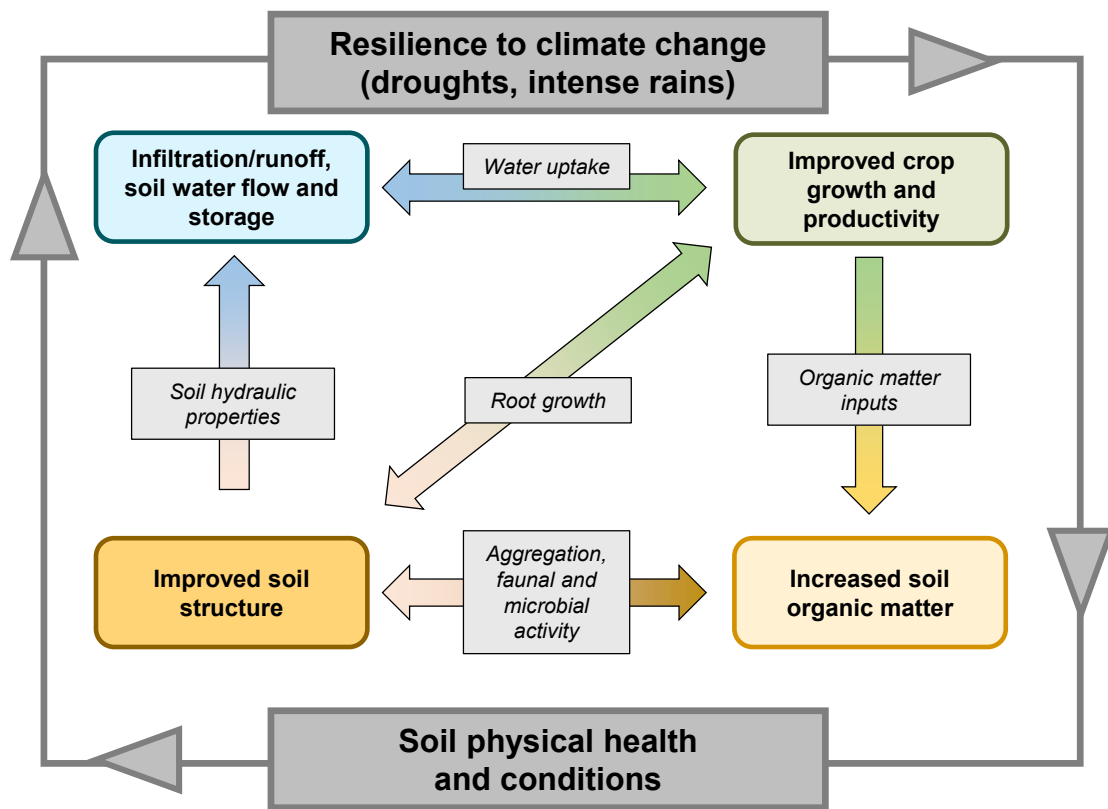
*A sensitivity analysis .... to explore which processes matter most for .... soil C dynamics in contrasting soil types (e.g. structured clays soils vs. sandy soils)*

#### ***What is most important?***

*..... OM inputs (total), partitioning between roots and shoots, microbial carbon use efficiency and priming, soil structure, tillage intensity, root depth and distribution?*



# USSF (*Uppsala model of Soil Structure and Function*)



Schematic: Tino Colombi, Nick Jarvis

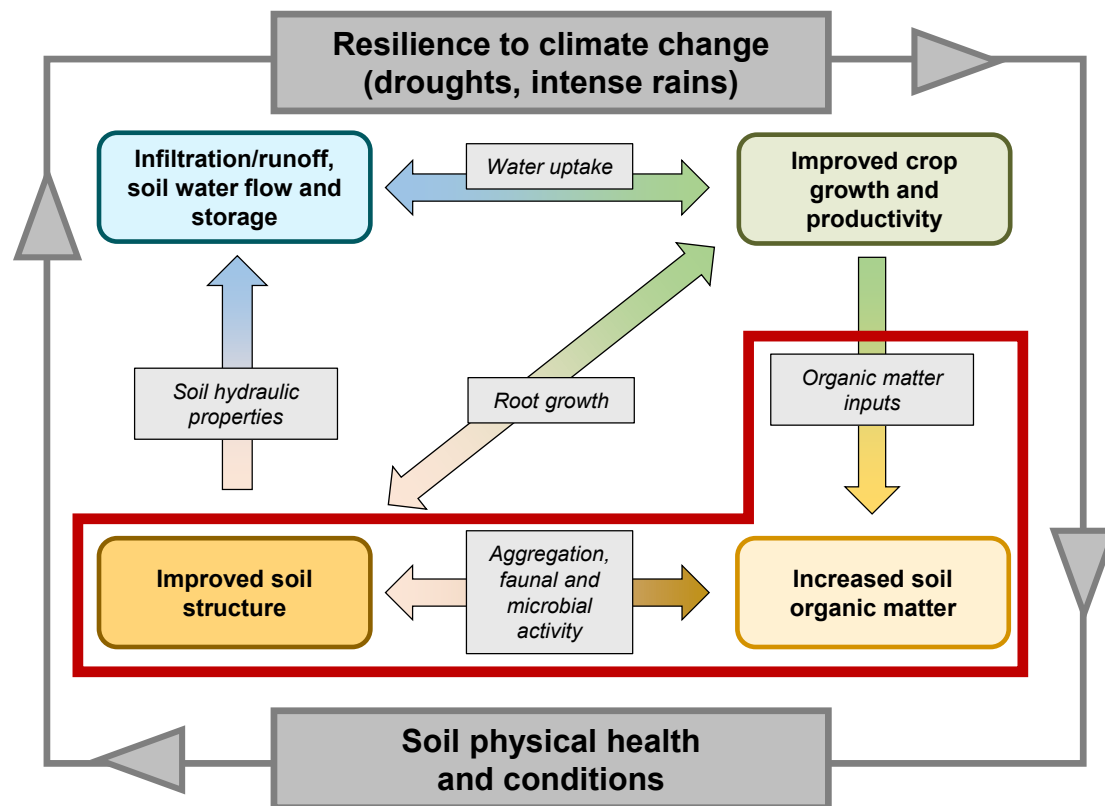
## Strengths

- ❖ Feedbacks between soil and crop properly represented, including the effects of soil structure dynamics

## Limitations

- ❖ Slow to run (5-10 minutes per year)
- ❖ Complex (100+ parameters)

## ICBM-P<sup>4</sup> (***P**hysical **P**rotection and **P**riming in a soil **P**rofile*)

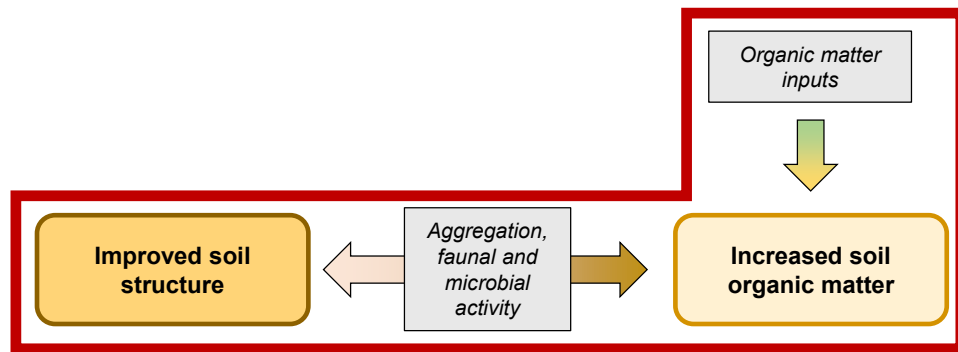


Schematic: Tino Colombi, Nick Jarvis

### Advantages

- ❖ Fast (seconds)
- ❖ Simple (15 parameters)
- ❖ Solved analytically for steady-state stocks

## ICBM-P<sup>4</sup> (***P**hysical **P**rotection and **P**riming in a soil **P**rofile*)



### Advantages

- ❖ Fast (seconds)
- ❖ Simple (15 parameters)
- ❖ Solved analytically for steady-state stocks

.... but soil-plant feedbacks mediated via soil hydrological processes are lost ...

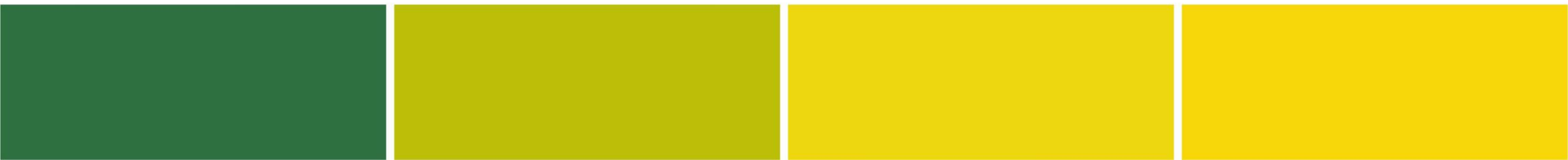
Please see our poster in session C1 for an overview of the ICBM-P<sup>4</sup> model and the results of a sensitivity analysis and "reality-check" ....



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL  
AND FOOD CENTRE

# **Dynamics of Soil Organic Carbon Stocks on Arable Land under Varied Soil Management and Climate Scenarios: Insights from Long-term Experiments in Eastern Slovak Lowland**

Barančíková Gabriela, Koco Štefan, Halas Ján, Takáč Jozef,  
Makovníková Jarmila and Šoltysová Božena

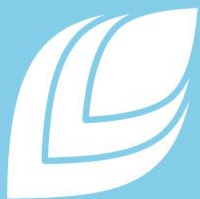


- Long-term experiments (LTE) – modelling of soil organic carbon (SOC) stock by RothC model
- Validation of the RothC model according data of LTE – good fit between modelled and measured data
- Tracking changes of SOC stock in long time period
- 2 Climate scenarios:
  - RCP 2.6 – prediction of lower temperature (T),
  - RCP 8.5 – prediction of higher temperature
- 4 Management scenarios – BAU, application of manure, changes in crop rotation, no post-harvested residues
- RothC model predicts:
  - Higher T - lower SOC stock
  - Crop rotation without leave of post-harvested residues – decrease of SOC stock
  - Application of manure and mainly incorporation of clover grass to crop rotation – increase of SOC stock

# Impacts of biochar on nitrous oxide emissions and ammonia volatilisation in wheat and maize cropping systems

Ferdinand Hartmann, Heide Spiegel, Barbara Kitzler,  
Eugenio Díaz-Pinés, Rebecca Hood-Nowotny\*

\*presenting author



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agreement No 862695



## Biochar as a soil amendment to reduce $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ and $\text{NH}_3$

- Fertilizer application in agricultural systems are responsible for the majority of anthropogenic  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  emissions.
- Severe negative impacts on the environment:
  - Greenhouse gas effect ( $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ )
  - Ozone depletion ( $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ )
  - Formation of fine particulate matter  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  ( $\text{NH}_3$ )
  - Eutrophication of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems ( $\text{NH}_3$ )
  - Soil acidification ( $\text{NH}_3$ )
- Biochar as a soil amendment to reduce  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  emissions

# Simple and efficient methods to measure $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ and $\text{NH}_3$ in the field

$\text{N}_2\text{O}$



## Closed static chamber

- Incubation for 20 min
- Sampling of 200 mL
- Analysis with laser technology

$\text{NH}_3$



0.5 L PET bottle

Filter paper stripe sealed with PTFE

20 mL vial filled with 2.5 M  $\text{KHSO}_4$   
+ 5% glycerol

## Semi-open static chamber

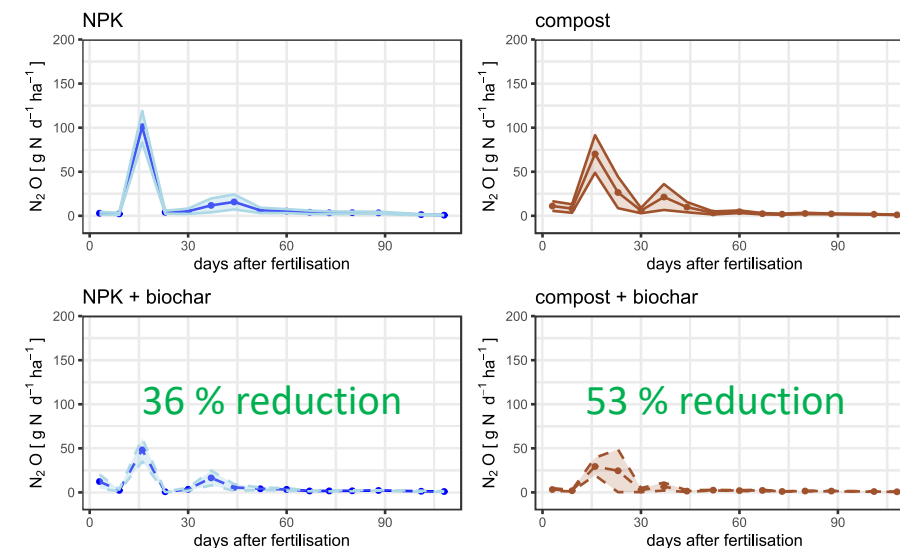
- Incubation for 7 days
- $\text{NH}_3$  is trapped with an acid-immersed filter paper stripe covered with PTFE

# Results from a Field Experiment

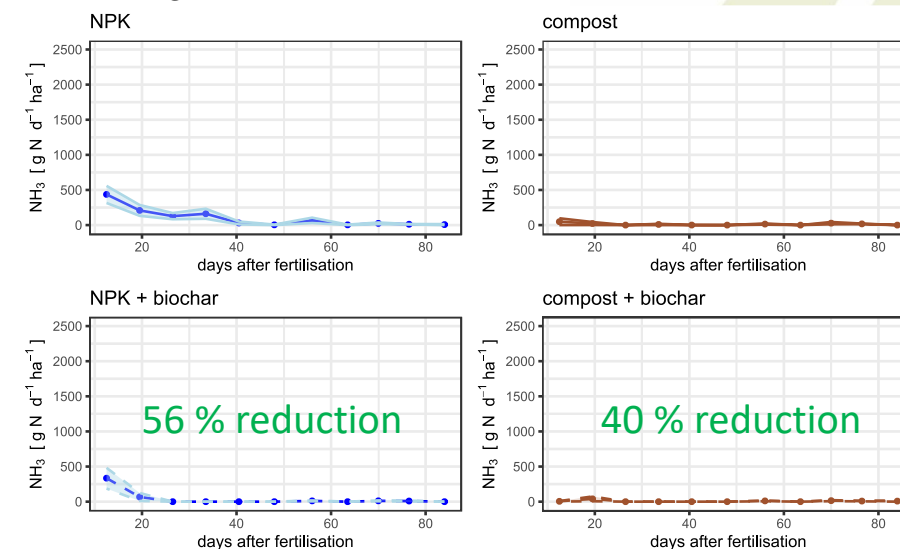


- Biochar substantially decreases  $N_2O$  emissions and  $NH_3$  volatilisation
- There are several mechanisms reported which can reduce  $N_2O$  emissions; in our case we pose, that the **immobilisation of  $NO_3^-/NH_4^+$**  and an **increased  $N_2O \rightarrow N_2$  rate** are responsible.
- **$NH_3$  volatilisation** was reduced by the N immobilisation effect of biochar, which outweighs an acceleration of  $NH_3$  volatilisation induced by a pH increase.
- Biochar as a **suitable soil amendment to reduce  $N_2O$  and  $NH_3$  emissions** in fertilised agricultural systems.

## $N_2O$

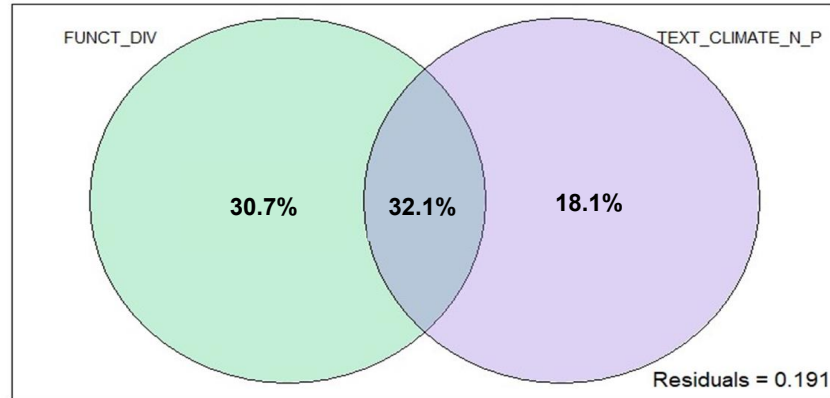


## $NH_3$

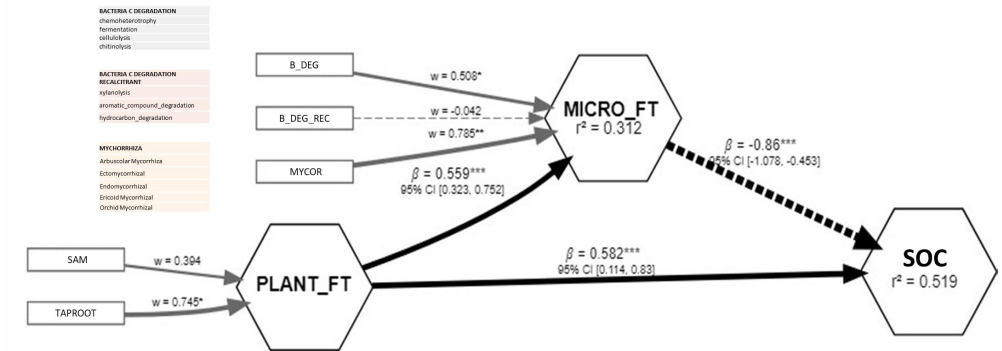


# Trying to answer burning questions on functional diversity and soil carbon that keep awake agroecologists overnight

1. Is functional diversity relevant in explaining the variation of soil carbon in agricultural fields?

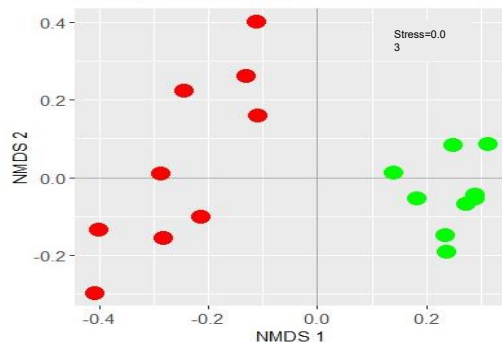


2. Given the complexity of the functional microbial groups and plants' traits, how do they interact in the context of SOC dynamics?

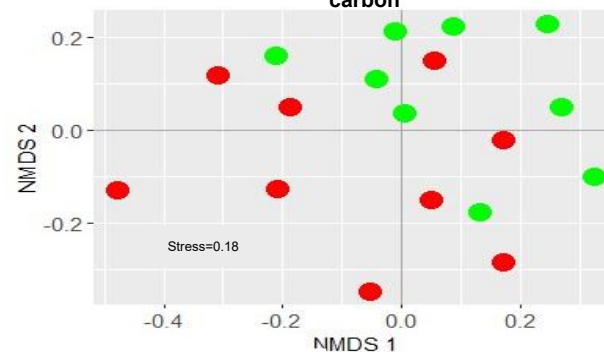


3. Do farming practices affects plants and microbial functional groups?

Non-metric multidimensional scaling on the effect of farm practice on plant functional traits

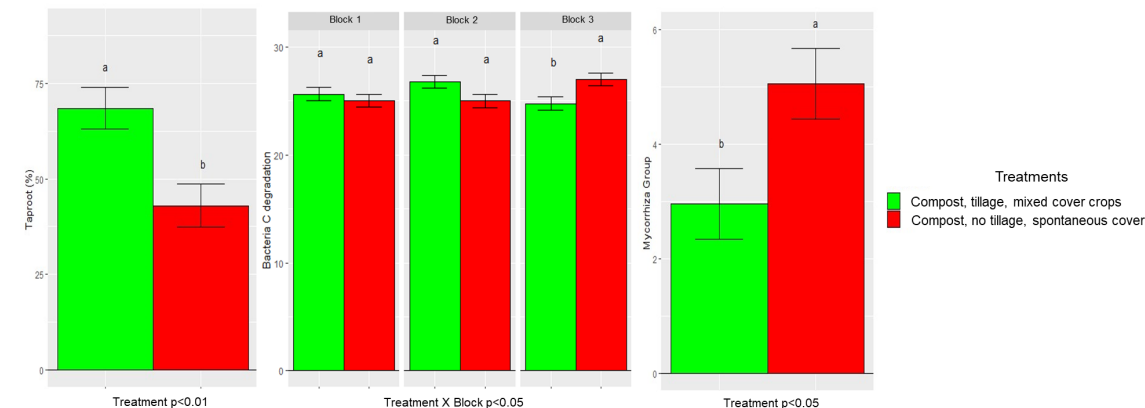


Non-metric multidimensional scaling on the effect of farm practices on microbial functional groups related to soil carbon

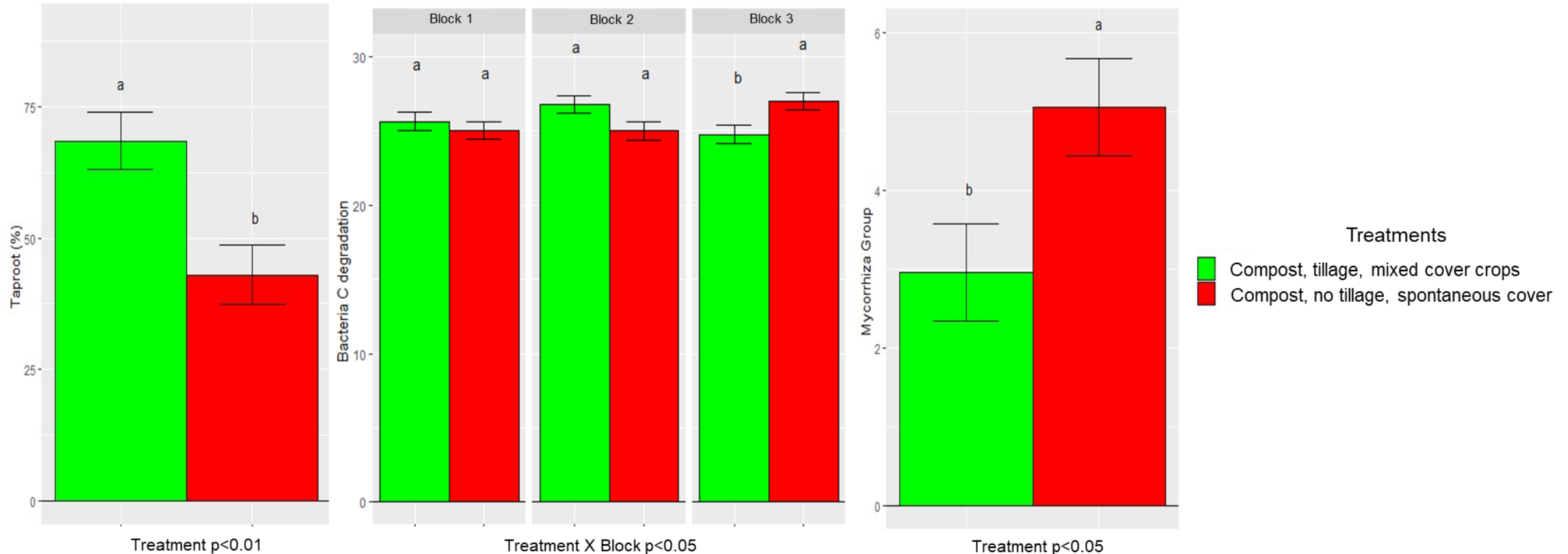


● Compost, tillage, mixed cover crops  
● Compost, no tillage, spontaneous cover

4. What impact does farm management have on plant and microbial functional groups relevant to soil organic carbon dynamics?



## 4. What impact does farm management have on plant and microbial functional groups relevant to soil organic carbon dynamics?



# Effects of different crop management options on SOC stocks and deriving emission factors- the CARBONSEQ approach based on European LTEs





**LITHUANIAN  
RESEARCH CENTRE  
FOR AGRICULTURE  
AND FORESTRY**

# The impact of cover crop roots in soil carbon input across a European gradient

Teleikienė Monika<sup>1\*</sup>, Hood-Nowotny Rebecca<sup>2</sup>, Spiegel Heide<sup>3</sup>, Rasmussen Jim<sup>4</sup>, Hakl Josef<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Lithuanian Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry, Akademija, Lithuania

<sup>2</sup> University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria

<sup>3</sup> Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety, Vienna, Austria

<sup>4</sup> Aarhus University, Tjele, Denmark

<sup>5</sup> Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic

## WHY COVER CROPS?

- ▶ Cover crops have been identified as a key component for achieving both soil health and carbon sequestration in EU Soil Mission goals.
- ▶ Currently they are cultivated on about 10% of the arable land area in Europe with large differences across regions, presenting ample opportunities for expansion.
- ▶ Increasing the mass and depth of cover crop roots could be a pioneering option for breeding for carbon inputs.
- ▶ Establishing an effective management for increasing below ground carbon inputs requires information on root quantities, location, and longevity as well as information on the impacts on following crops.
- ▶ Currently there is scant data on cover crop root carbon inputs across Europe and even less data on how inputs such as rhizodeposition and turnover contribute to increasing soil organic carbon stocks.

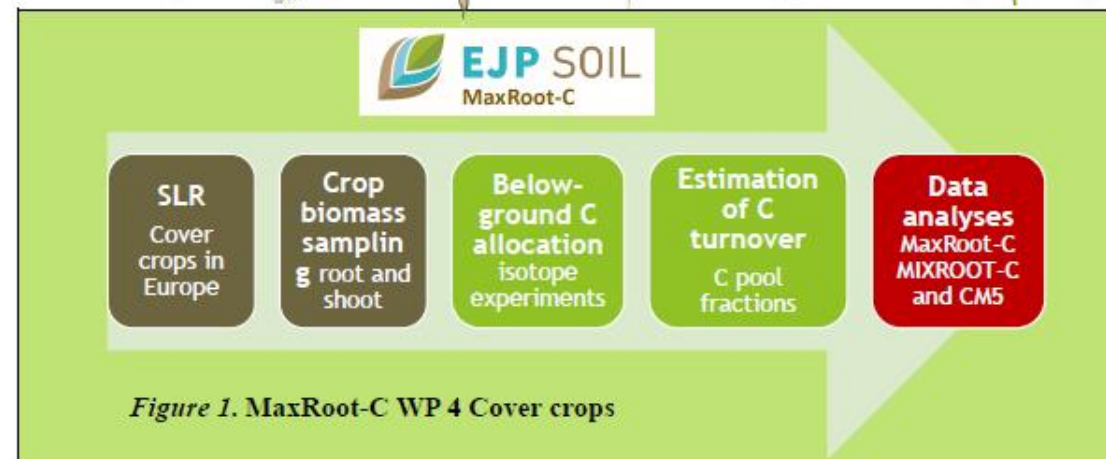
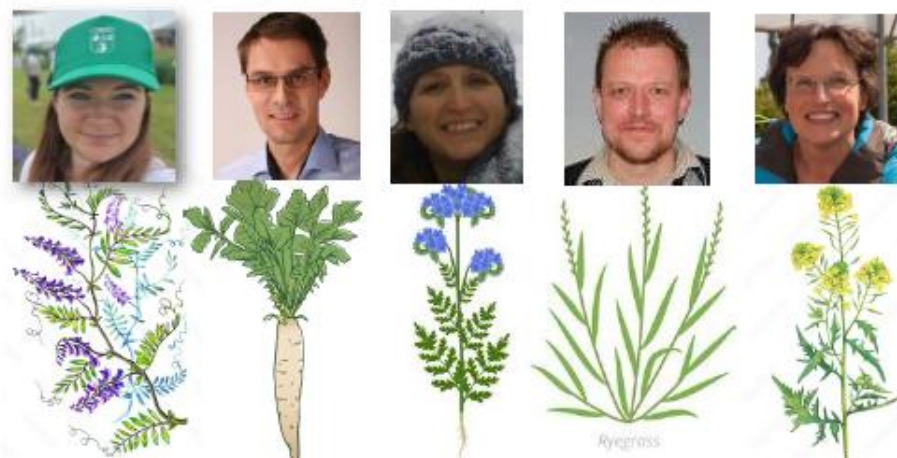


Figure 1. MaxRoot-C WP 4 Cover crops



# GRAY LITERATURE

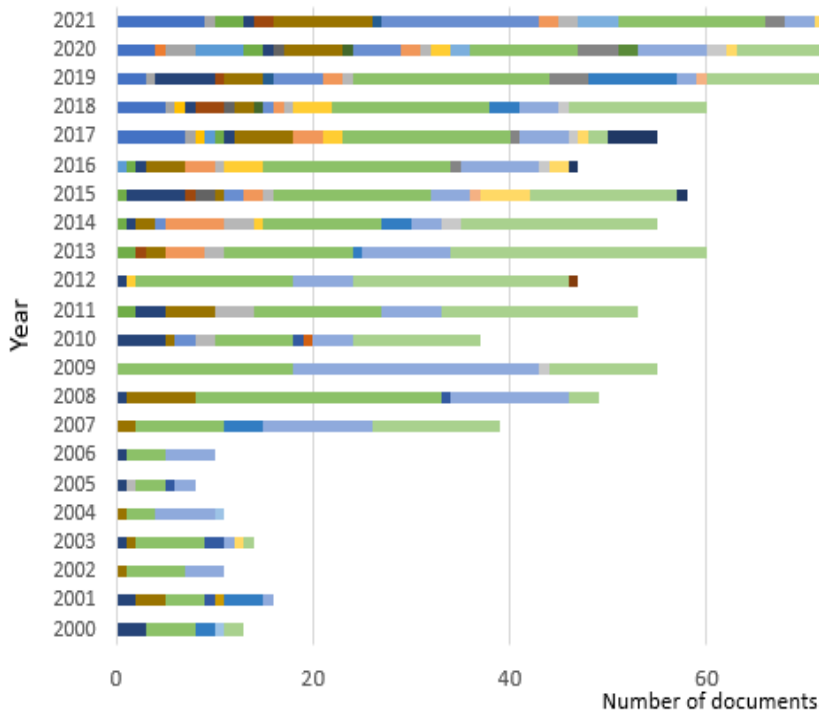


Fig. 1a: Number of selected documents per initiative between 2000 and 2021

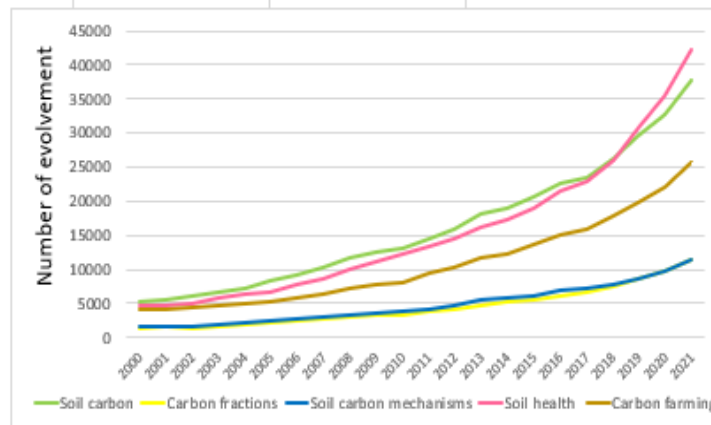
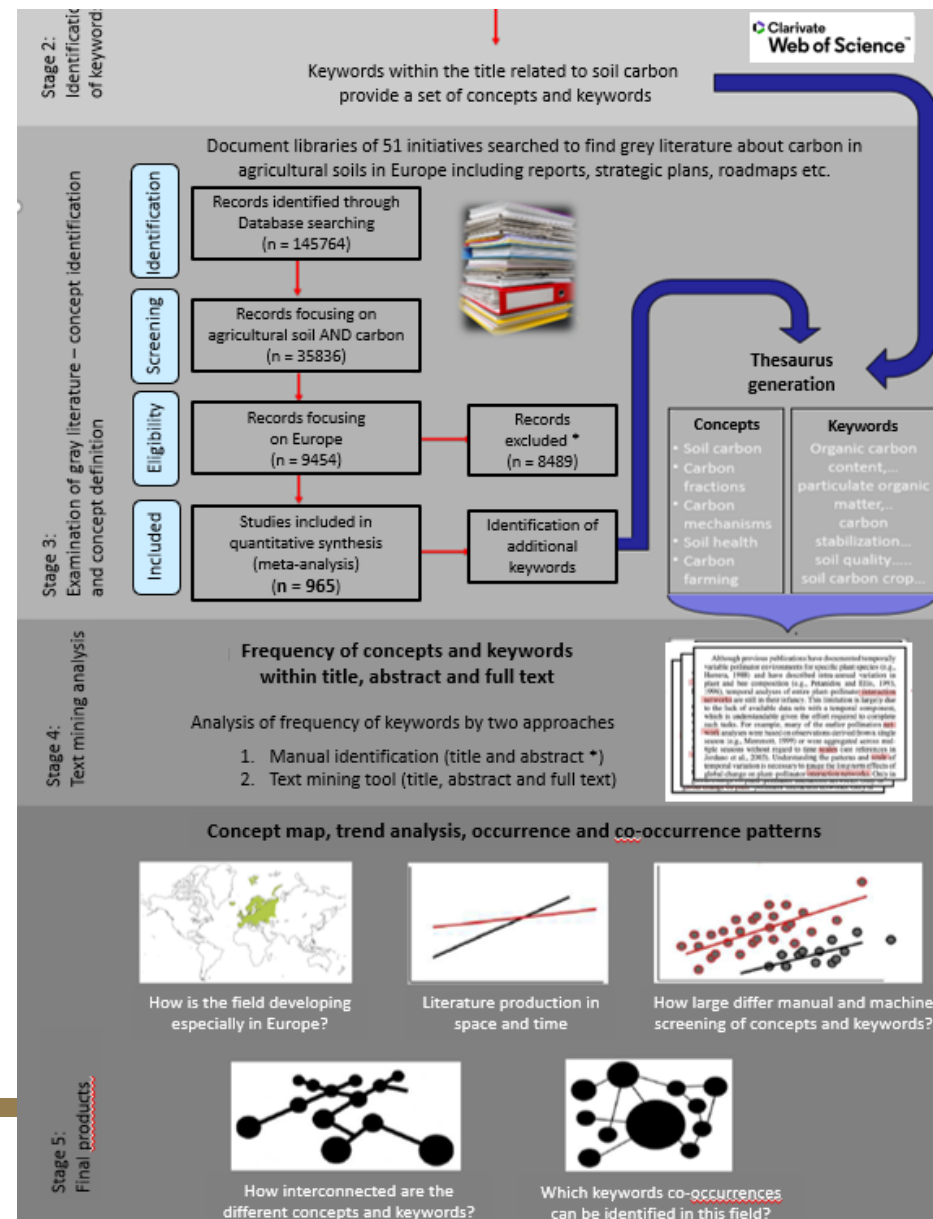
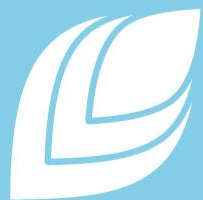


Fig. 1b: Evolution of the five concepts and their associated keywords (total numbers) in WoS from 2000-2021.



# Shrimp Shells Valorization for Chitosan and Chitosan Nanomaterial Synthesis & Their Applications as Antimicrobial Agents in Agriculture

Hosney Ahmed <sup>1\*</sup>, Urbonavičius Marius <sup>2</sup>, Varnagiris Šarūnas <sup>2</sup>, Kundrotaitė Algimanta <sup>1</sup>,  
Drapanauskaite Donata <sup>1</sup>, Barčauskaitė Karolina <sup>1</sup>



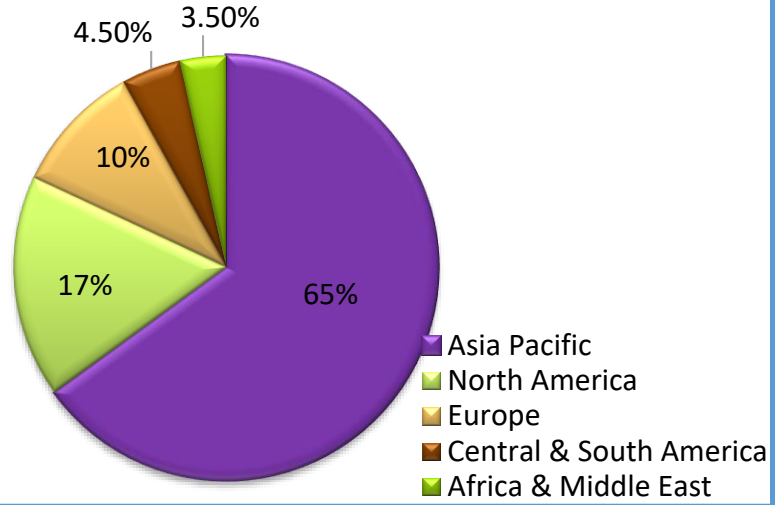
**EJP SOIL**  
European Joint Programme

EJP SOIL has received  
funding from the European  
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research and innovation  
programme: Grant  
agreement No 862695

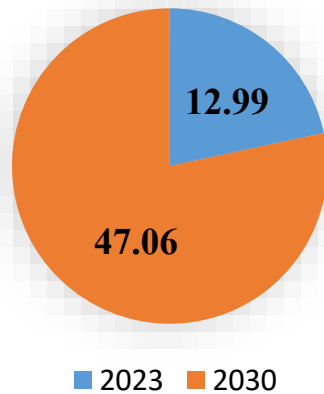


# INTRODUCTION

**Chitosan Market Share by Region**



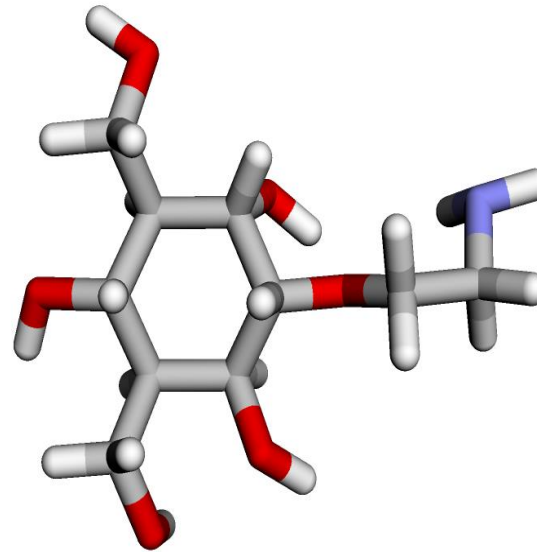
**Chitosan Market (Billion USD)**



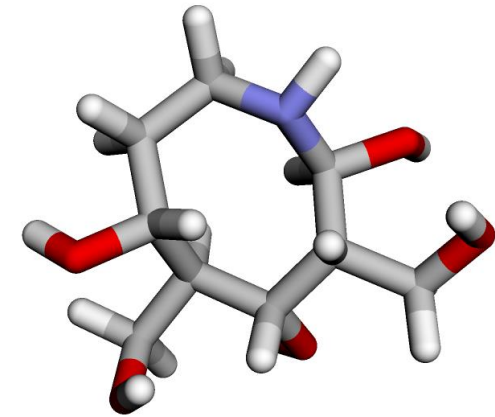
**Shrimp**



**Shrimp Shells**



**Chitosan**



**Chitin**

# Research Methodology

**Shrimp Tank**

**Shrimp Shells**

**Dried Shells**

**Pulverized Shells**

**1. DM of shrimp shells using 1%, 2%, 3%, 4%, 5 and 10% mineral and organic acids and stirring for 2hrs.**

**2. Filtration, neutralization to pH ~7 & drying**

**6. Filtration, neutralization to pH ~7 & drying**

**5. DA of shrimp shells using 50% NaOH and stirring for 2hrs., then soaking for 24 hrs. without stirring**

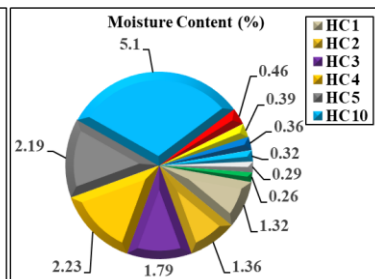
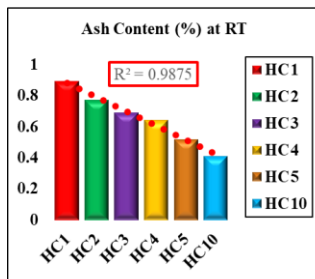
**4. Filtration, neutralization to pH ~7 & drying**

**3. DP of shrimp shells using 4% NaOH and stirring for 2hrs., then soaking for 24 hrs. without stirring**

**Chitosan Characterization**

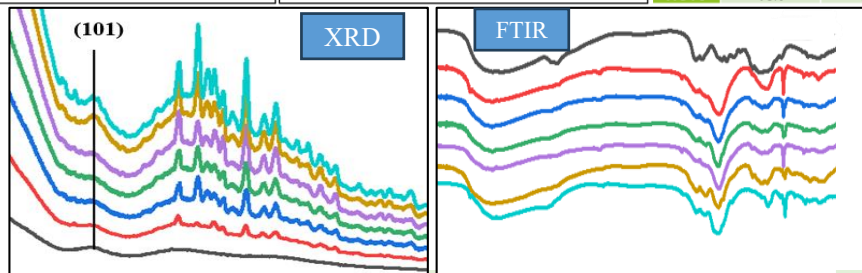
**Chitosan**

**Chitin**

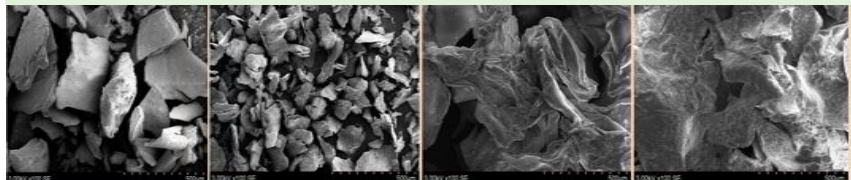


**Table 3. Chitosan yield (%) of isolated chitosan samples.**

| Sample | Hydrochloric Acid Conc. | Temperature (°C) | Chitosan Yield (%) |
|--------|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| HC1    | 1%                      | RT               | 51.30±0.02 *       |
| HC2    | 2%                      | RT               | 41.90±0.13 *       |
| HC3    | 3%                      | RT               | 23.20±0.14 *       |
| HC4    | 4%                      | RT               | 18.90±0.19 *       |
| HC5    | 5%                      | RT               | 17.50±0.16 *       |
| HC10   | 10%                     | RT               | 16.40±0.35 *       |



**SEM-EDS**





# Regional Assessment of Soil Organic Matter Stability under No-till and Diversified Agricultural Management Practices (WP6 T6.1)



S. Suproniene<sup>1\*</sup>, G. Kadziene<sup>1</sup>, S. Pranaitiene<sup>1</sup>, A. Slepetiene<sup>1</sup>, A. Skersiene<sup>1</sup>, O.M. Doyeni<sup>1</sup>, N. Matelioniene<sup>1</sup>, A. Shamshitov<sup>1</sup>, O. Auskalniene<sup>1</sup>, S. Sanchez-Moreno<sup>2</sup> and A. Trinchera<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Lithuanian Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry (LAMMC), Kedainiai distr., Lithuania

<sup>2</sup> National Institute of Agricultural and Food Research and Technology (INIA-CSIC), Madrid, Spain

<sup>3</sup> Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA), Rome, Italy

\* Presenting author: [skaidre.suproniene@lammc.lt](mailto:skaidre.suproniene@lammc.lt)

EJP SOIL has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme: Grant agreement No 862695



| Core-sites              | Codes | Treatments                              |
|-------------------------|-------|---|
| CS1 – Italy (CREA)      | T1    | No-till, Spontaneous cover              |
|                         | T2    | Tillage, Wheat + vetch cover crops (CC) |
| CS5 – Spain (CSIC-INIA) | T1    | No-till, monocrop                       |
|                         | T2    | No-till, wheat-vetch-barley rotation    |
| CS7 – Lithuania (LAMMC) | T1    | No-till, no CC                          |
|                         | T2    | No-till, Persian clover CC              |

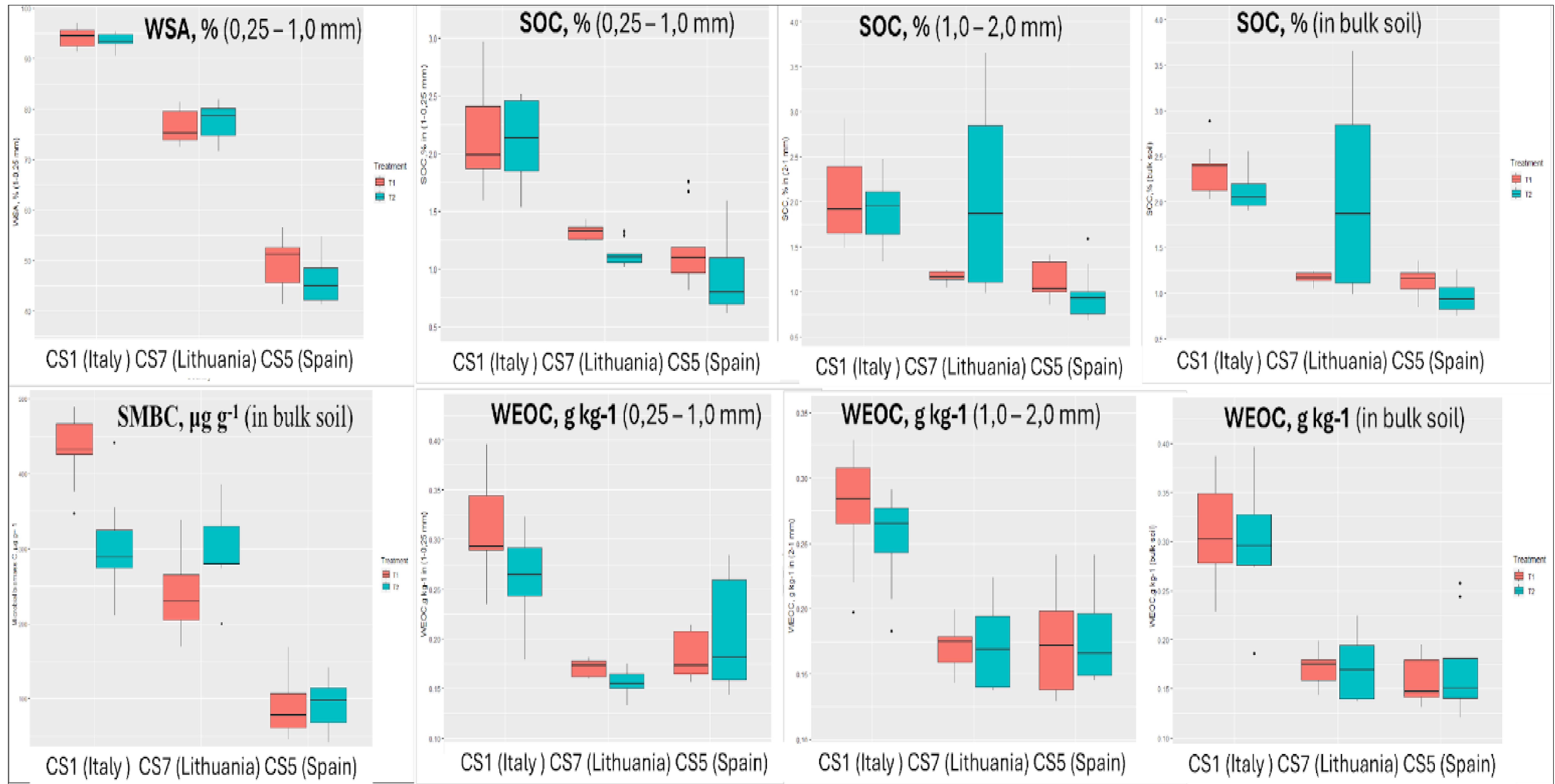
**Study aim** - to validate the established correlation between the water stable aggregates (**WSA**, %), soil organic carbon (**SOC**, %), water extractable carbon **WEOC** (g kg<sup>-1</sup>), and soil microbial biomass **SMBC** (µg g<sup>-1</sup>) in bulk soil, fine (0.25-1 mm), and coarse (>1mm) soil aggregates, under diversified agricultural practices across different environmental conditions at experimental sites.

## Results

| Indicators (soil fraction)            | SMBC, µg g <sup>-1</sup> (bulk soil) | SOC, % (1 – 2 mm) | WEOC, g kg <sup>-1</sup> (1 – 2 mm) | SOC, % (0,25 – 1 mm) | WEOC, g kg <sup>-1</sup> (0,25 – 1 mm) | SOC, % (bulk soil) | WEOC, g kg <sup>-1</sup> (bulk soil) |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| WSA, % (0,25 – 1 mm)                  | 0.87**l                              | 0.566**l          | 0.613**l                            | 0.733**l             | 0.495**l                               | 0.654**l           | 0.694**l                             |
| SMBC, µg g <sup>-1</sup> (bulk soil)  |                                      | 0.570**l          | 0.595**l                            | 0.638**l             | 0.508**l                               | 0.666**l           | 0.622**l                             |
| SOC, % (1 – 2 mm)                     |                                      |                   | 0.454**l                            | 0.556**l             | 0.318*l                                | 0.906**l           | 0.451**l                             |
| WEOC, g kg <sup>-1</sup> (1 – 2 mm)   |                                      |                   |                                     | 0.808**l             | 0.796**l                               | 0.545**l           | 0.806**l                             |
| SOC, % (0,25 – 1 mm)                  |                                      |                   |                                     |                      | 0.749**l                               | 0.555**l           | 0.831**l                             |
| WEOC, g kg <sup>-1</sup> (0,25 – 1mm) |                                      |                   |                                     |                      |  | 0.412**l           | 0.731**l                             |
| SOC, % (bulk soil)                    |                                      |                   |                                     |                      |  |                    | 0.596**l                             |

## Takehome message!

- The relationship between soil aggregate stability, microbial activity, and carbon cycling has been discovered across a variety of environmental conditions and agricultural practices.
- The strong correlations observed among WSA, SMBC, WEOC and SOC highlight the pivotal role of soil structure and microbial activity in regulating soil carbon processes.
- Integrated agricultural management strategies are essential for improving soil carbon dynamics in response to these findings.



# A stocktaking of European long-term field experiments dealing with the application of External Organic Matter (EOM)

EJPSOIL – EOM4SOIL project

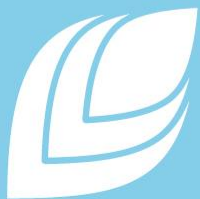
Simon Sail<sup>1\*</sup>, H       Van Der Smissen<sup>1\*\*</sup>, Brieuc Hardy<sup>1</sup>, Sabine Houot<sup>2</sup>, Bruno Huyghebaert<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Walloon Agricultural Research Centre (CRA-W), Department of sustainability, Systems & Prospective – Soil, Water & Integrated Crop Production, Gembloux, Belgium*

<sup>2</sup> *French National Institute for Agriculture, Food, and Environment (INRAE), Paris, France*

*\* Presenting author: [s.sail@cra.wallonie.be](mailto:s.sail@cra.wallonie.be)*

*\*\* Corresponding author: [h.vandersmissen@cra.wallonie.be](mailto:h.vandersmissen@cra.wallonie.be)*

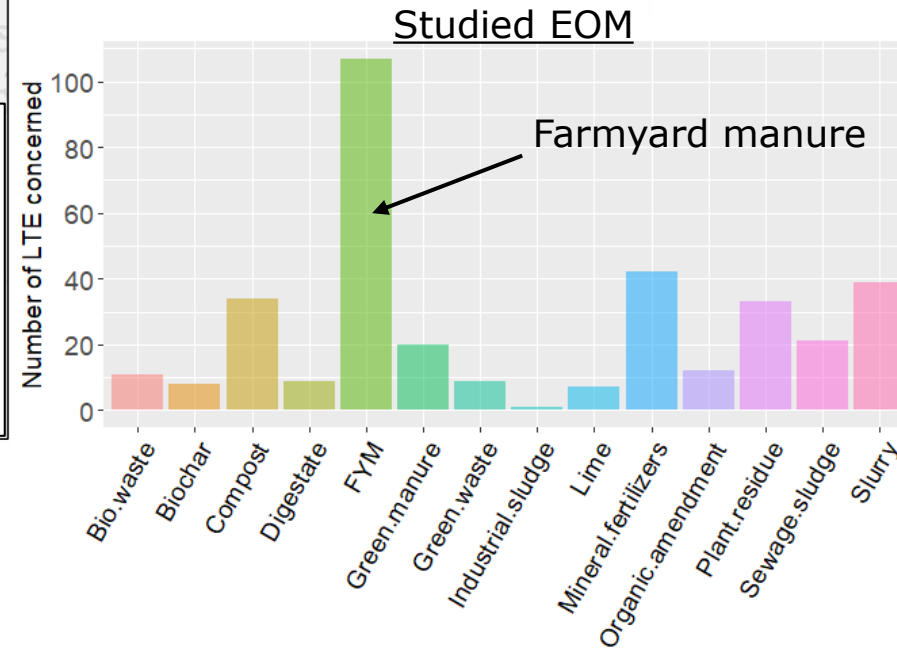
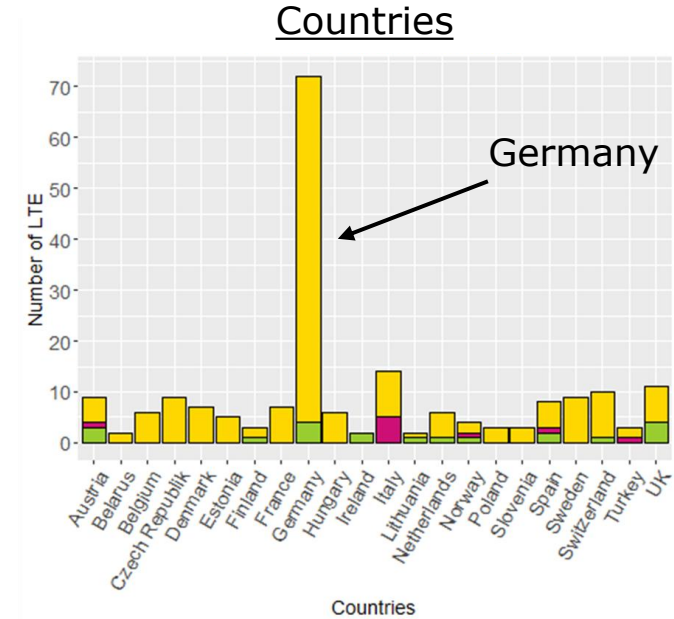
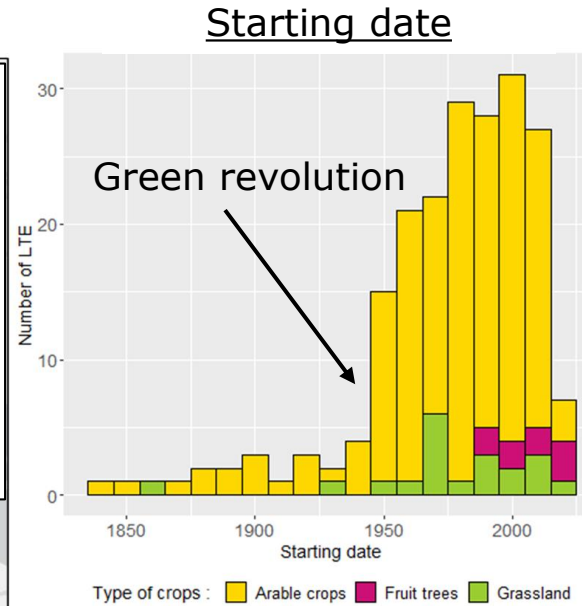
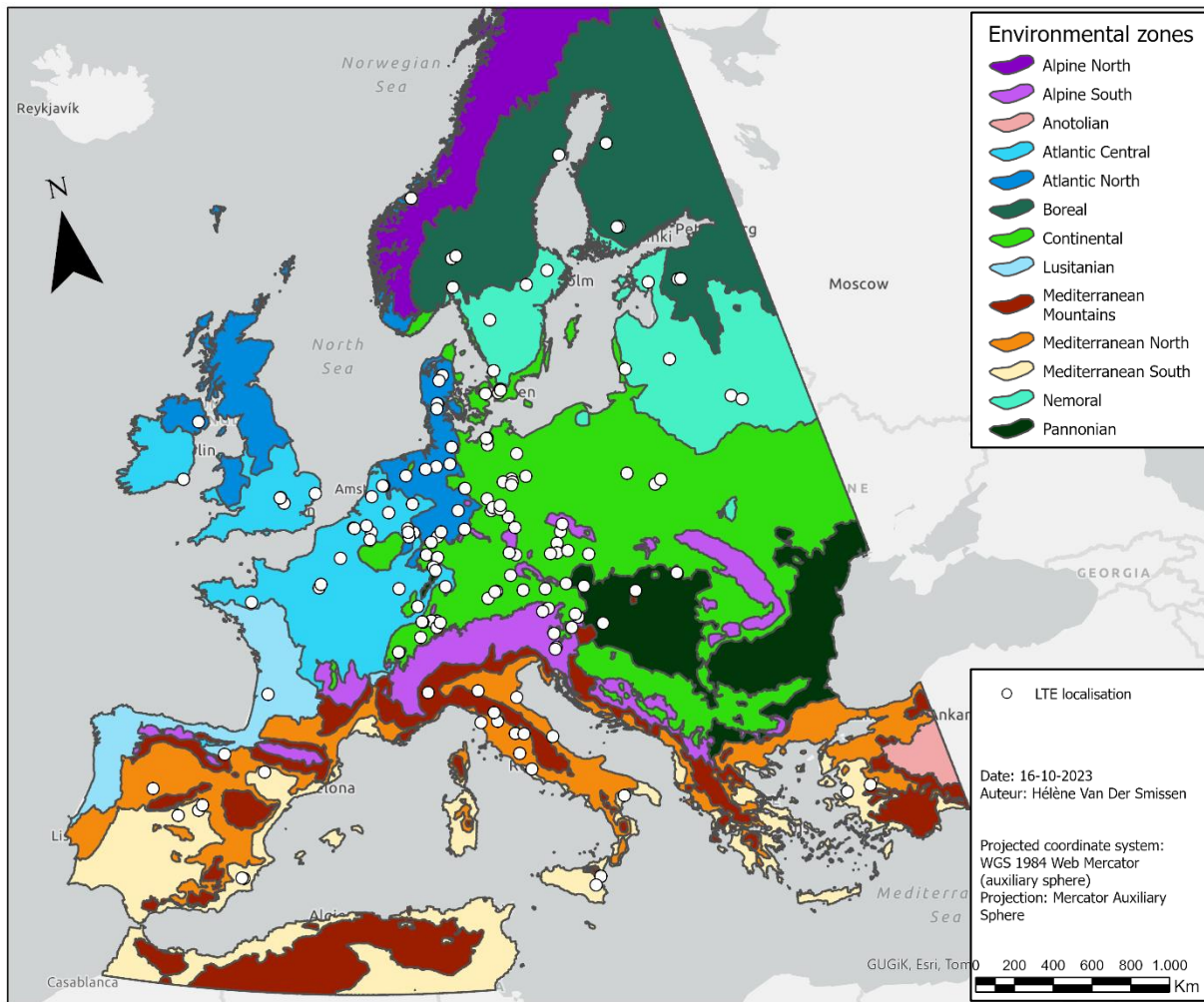


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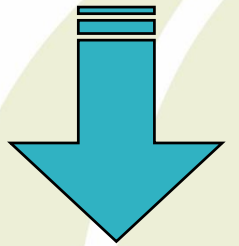
EJP SOIL has received  
funding from the European  
Union's Horizon 2020  
research and innovation  
programme: Grant  
agreement No 862695



# 201 European long-term field experiments dealing with organic fertilisation

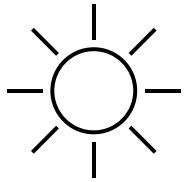


**Guidelines to improve the use and sharing of LTE data**



# Soil-, management-, and climate-related drivers of yield stability in organic and conventional farming systems

Klaus A. Jarosch et al.



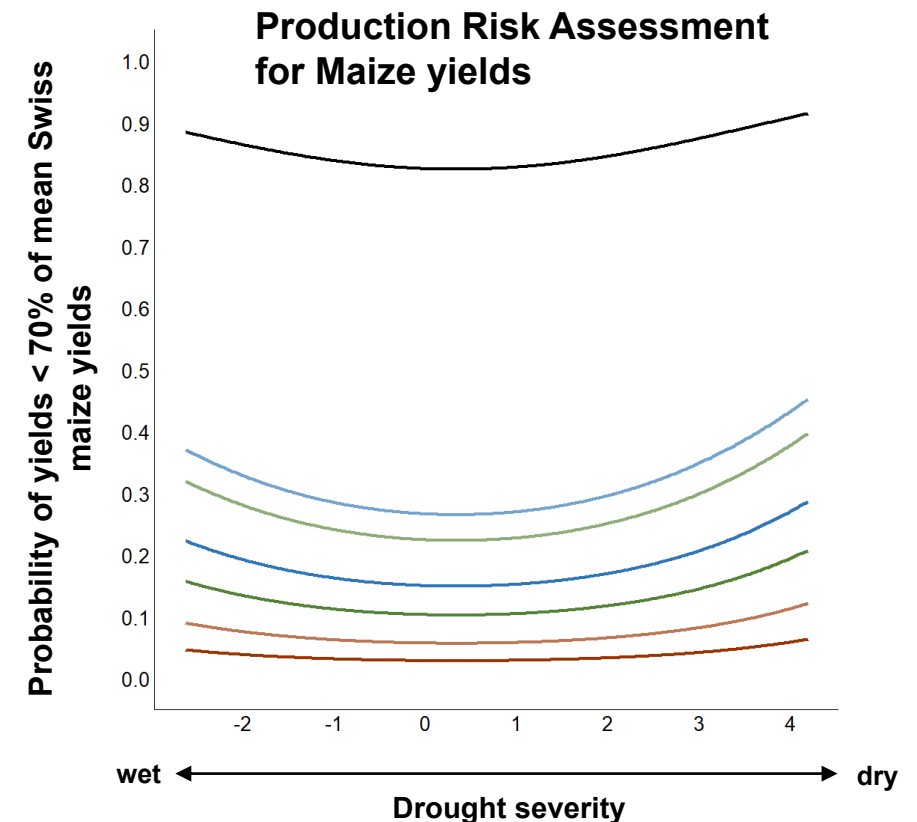
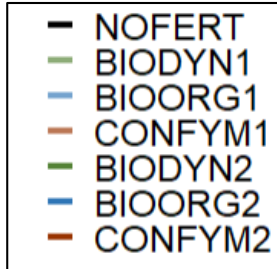
Which **farming systems** are more/less **resilient** against **climate extremes**?



The **DOK-experiment** (CH) compares conventional (CONFYM), organic (BIOORG) and bio-dynamic (BIODYN) farming systems since 45 years. We evaluated the effect of climate variations on yields of Maize, Winter Wheat, Potatoes and Soybean.



**Conventional farming systems** have **more stable yields** during **adverse climate conditions**.



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
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Eidgenössisches Departement für  
Wirtschaft, Bildung und Forschung WBF  
Agroscope



Simon Hofer, Juliane Hirte, Mayer Jochen, Klaus A. Jarosch

[klaus.jarosch@agroscope.admin.ch](mailto:klaus.jarosch@agroscope.admin.ch)



# **Effect of anthropogenic soil management for increasing soil organic carbon status in Lithuanian acid soil**

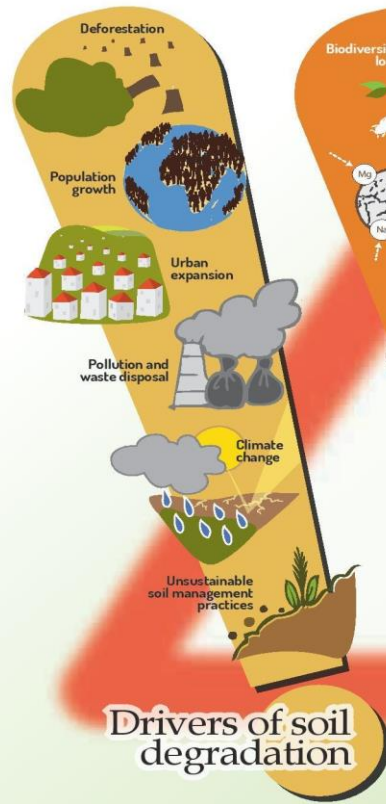


**LITHUANIAN  
RESEARCH CENTRE  
FOR AGRICULTURE  
AND FORESTRY**

**Ieva Mockevičienė, Monika Vilkienė, Kristina  
Amalevičiūtė - Volungė**

*Lithuanian Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry*

# our Soils under threat



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

with the support of



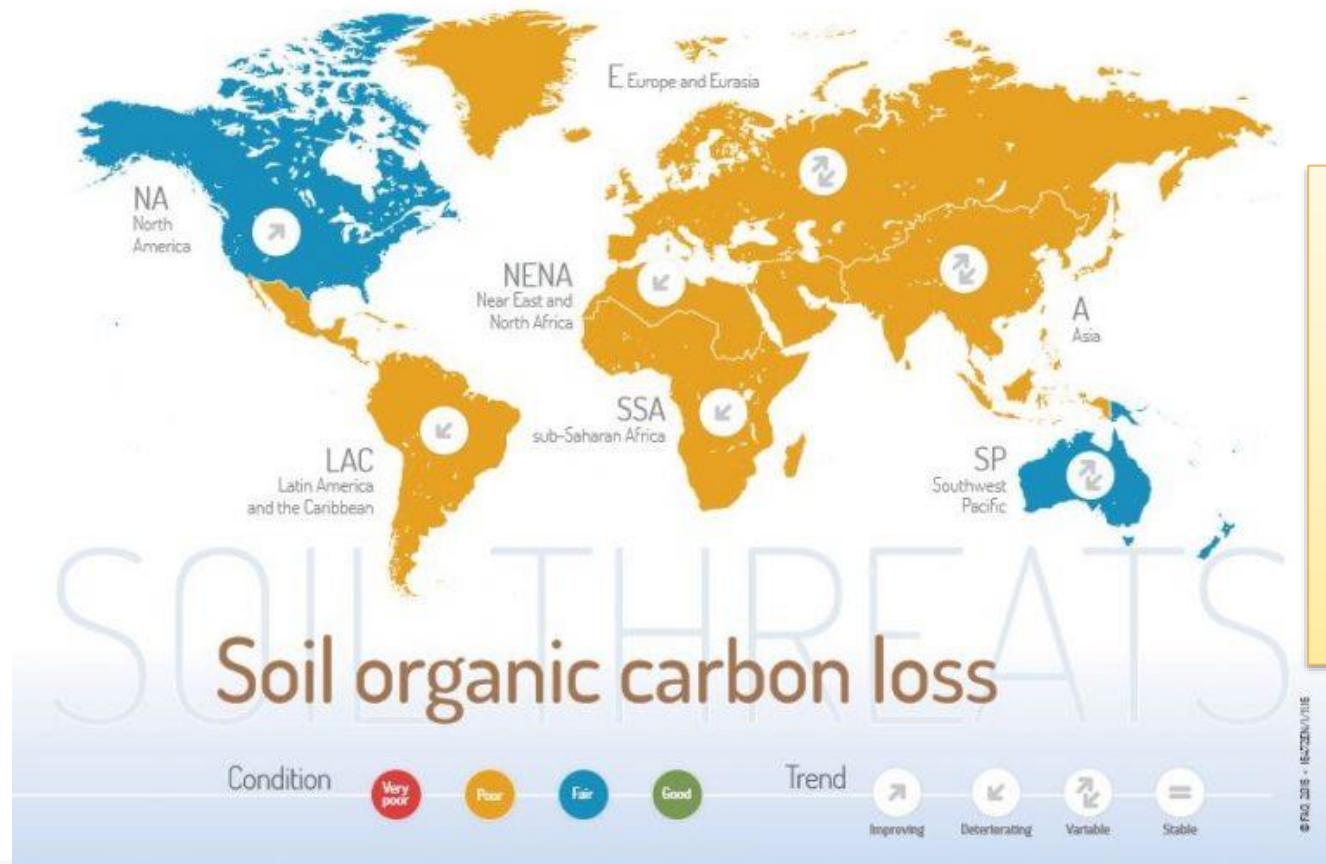
**Types of soil degradation**



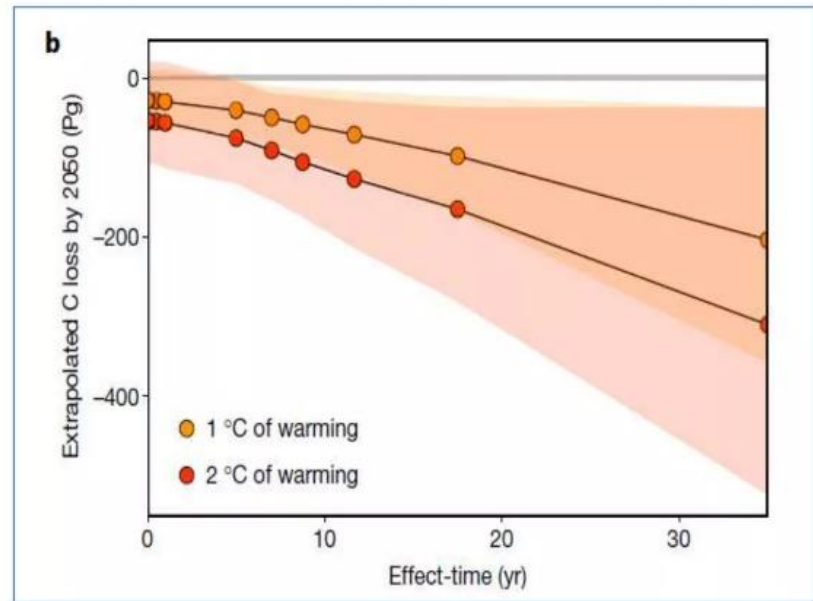
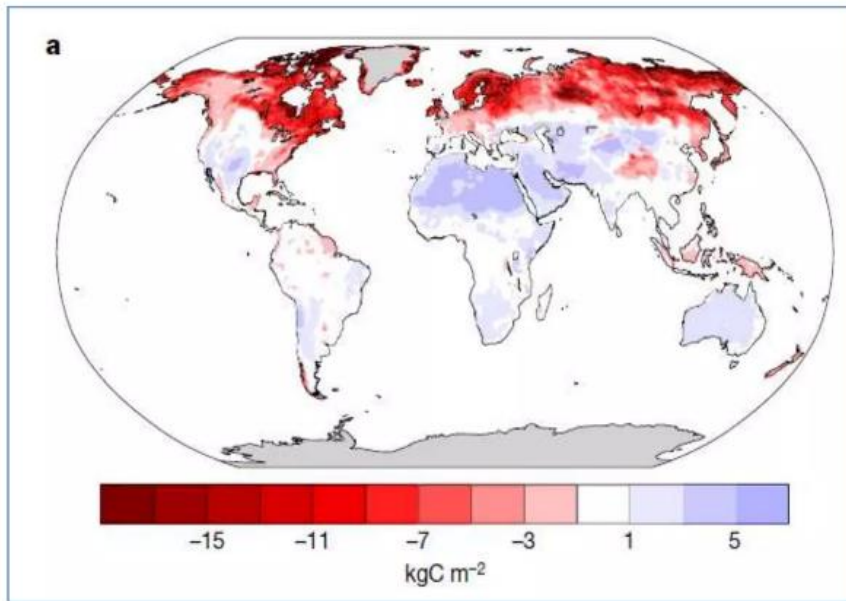
**Consequences of soil degradation**

## Solution: sustainable soil management





Decline of C stock affects soil fertility and climate change regulation capacity. The global loss of the SOC pool since 1850 is estimated at about 66 billion tones, mainly caused by land use change.



A) Projected changes in C stocks until 2050.

B) A global loss of C is projected for a 1° to 2°C rise in soil surface temperatures by 2050. (Crowther et al., 2017)

# sustainable soil management



58%

This study aimed to achieve following objectives: 1) analyse the alterations in SOC caused by the various management techniques in Lithuania's acid soil; (2) estimate and compare the effect size of different agro-techniques on SOC sequestration and other chemical parameters in acid soil; (3) determine an appropriate management practice benefiting for SOC sequestration and improving soil quality.

# Methodology

- Comparison of data from three long-term studies, carried out in the western region of Lithuania, on physicochemical indicators served as the basis for the study. Over the past 24 years (1999-2023), changes in the properties of the soil have been identified.
- The soil of the experimental site is *Bathyglyeic Dystric Glossic Retisol* (texture – moraine loam (clay 13–15%)).



# Methodology –selected measures

Soil liming



Soil manuring



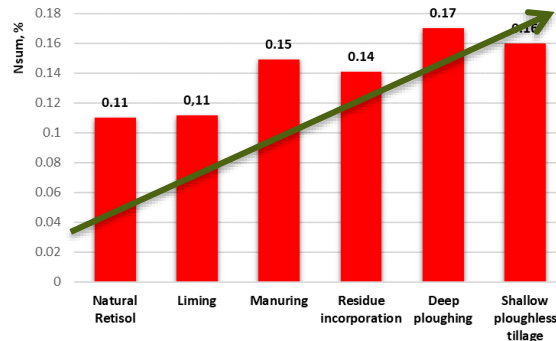
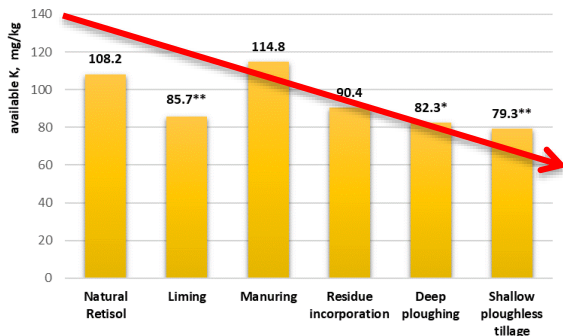
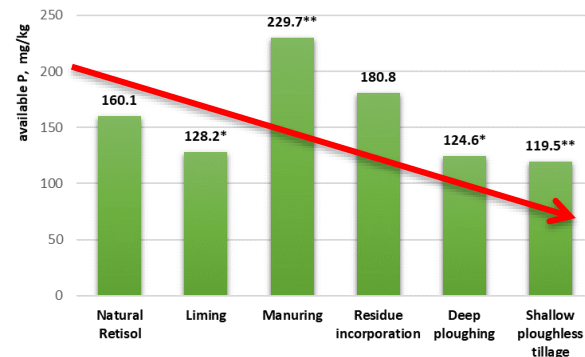
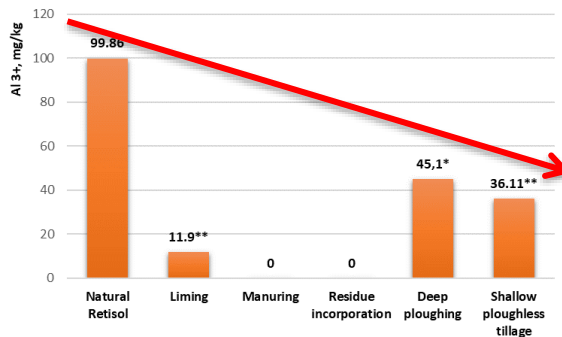
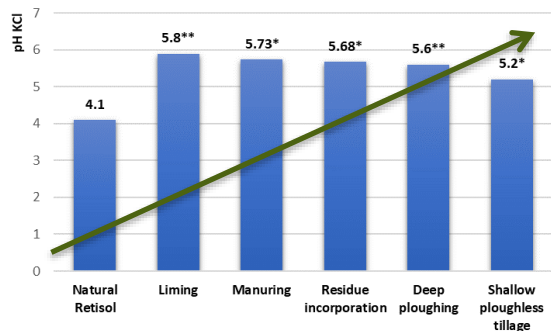
Residue maintenance



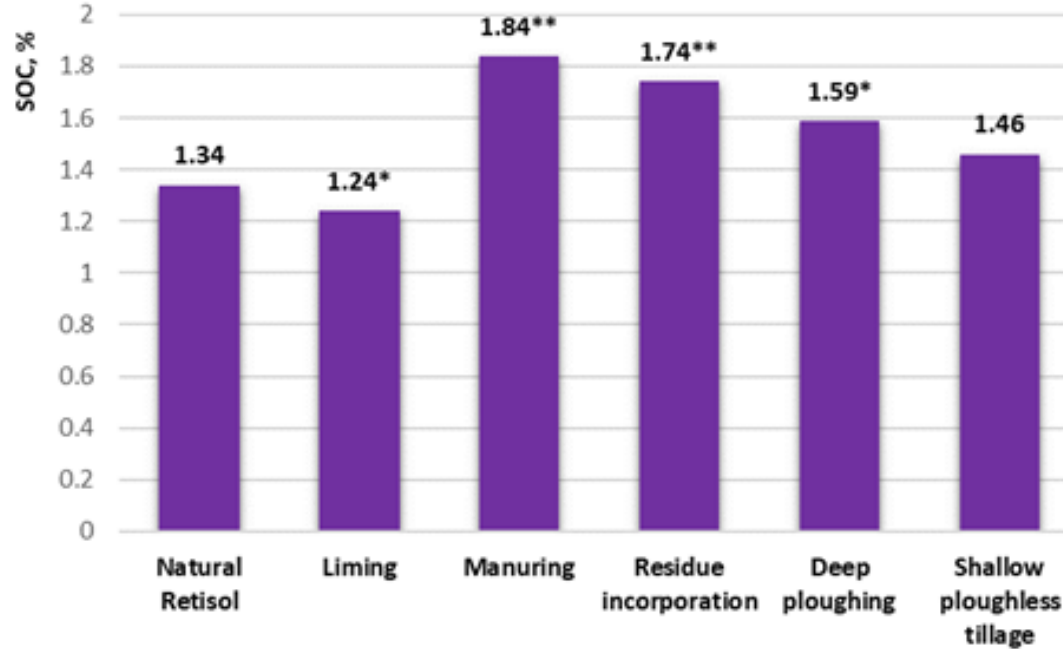
Soil tillage



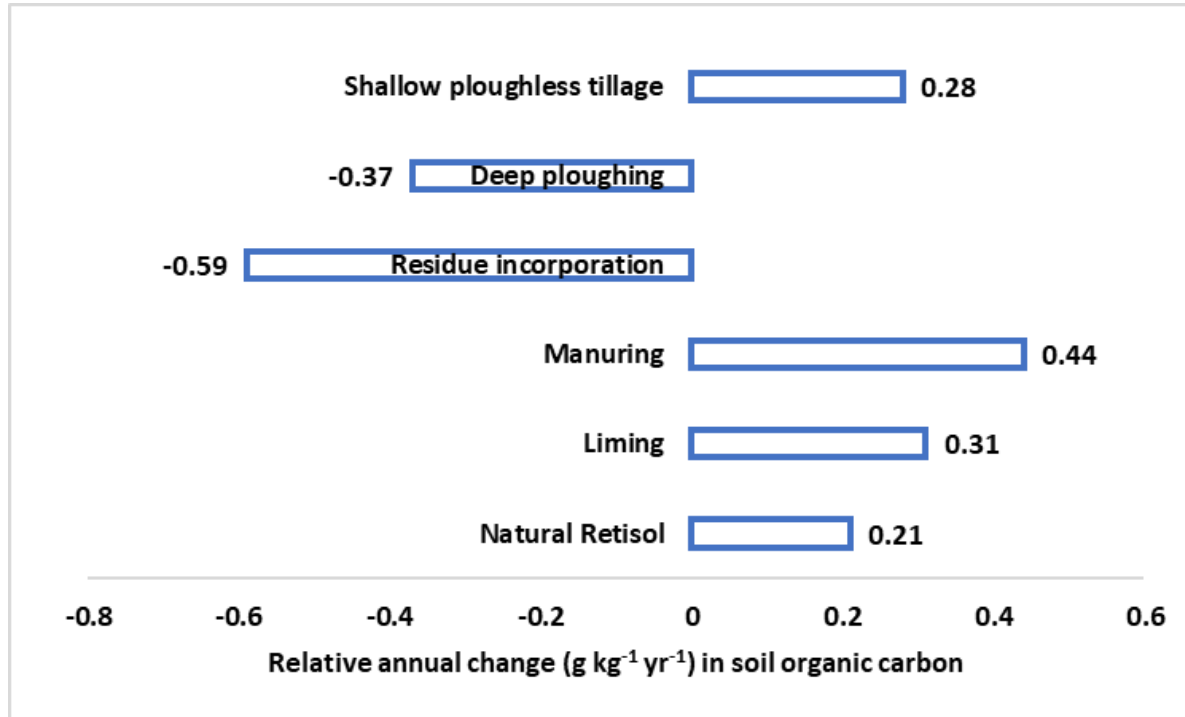
# Comparison of main soil properties under different land management

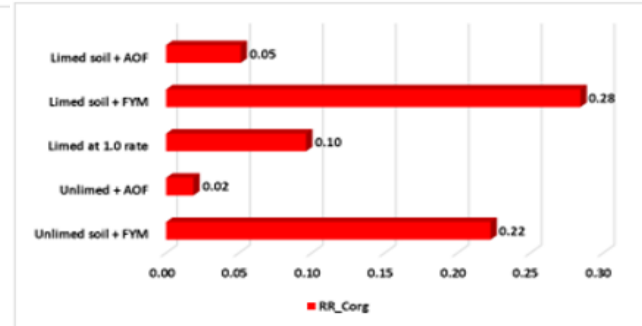
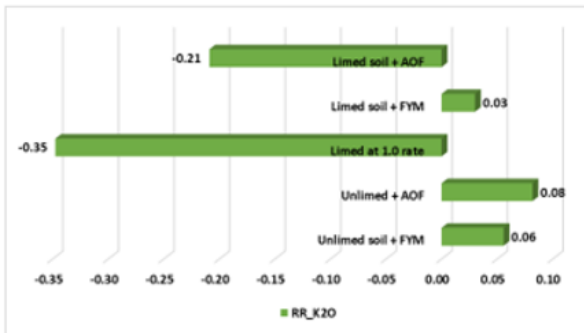
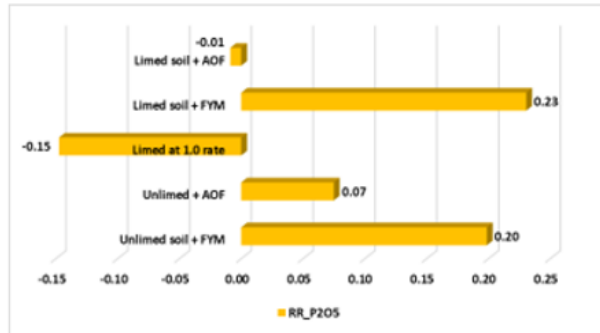
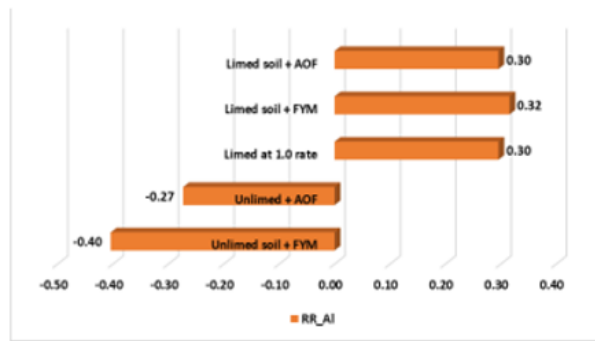
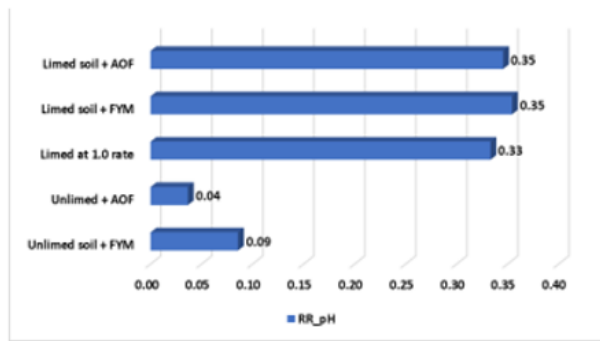


# Changes in SOC content under different land management



# Evaluation of carbon transformation processes as influenced by different land management





Response of acid soil properties to different fertilization types, where Al – mobile aluminum,  $P_2O_5$  – plant available phosphorus;  $K_2O$  – plant available potassium; FYM – farmyard manure; AOF – alternative organic fertilizers.  $RR > 0$  represents a positive effect, and  $RR < 0$  represents a negative effect of applied agro-technique.

## Effect of different fertilization on percent change of the mean effect size (RR) in acid soil

| Treatments                    | Unlimed soil + FYM | Unlimed + AOF | Limed at 1.0 rate | Limed soil + FYM | Limed soil + AOF |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| pH <sub>KCl</sub>             | 8.96               | 3.73          | 39.55             | 42.59            | 41.29            |
| Al <sup>3+</sup>              | -33.24             | -23.92        | -44.42            | -47.13           | -44.42           |
| P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> | 21.98              | 7.79          | -13.71            | 25.93            | -0.88            |
| K <sub>2</sub> O              | 5.75               | 8.53          | -29.35            | 3.05             | -18.85           |
| N <sub>total</sub>            | 17.05              | 9.30          | 6.20              | 15.50            | 9.30             |
| C <sub>org</sub>              | 24.94              | 1.89          | 10.09             | 32.89            | 5.26             |

# SUMMARIZING:

- The analysis of soil organic carbon sequestration indices of studied agricultural practices ranked as: **manuring > residue management > reduced tillage > liming (in the direction of carbon transformation and sequestration)**
- The combination of liming and organic fertilizers was a relatively effective measure to improve soil quality.
- In general, conducted analysis provide an in-depth quantitative assessment of the effects of management practices on SOC content and other parameters, which could assist in further understanding the feedback of SOC to agricultural management practices and offer evidence in support of the preservation of the acid soil.

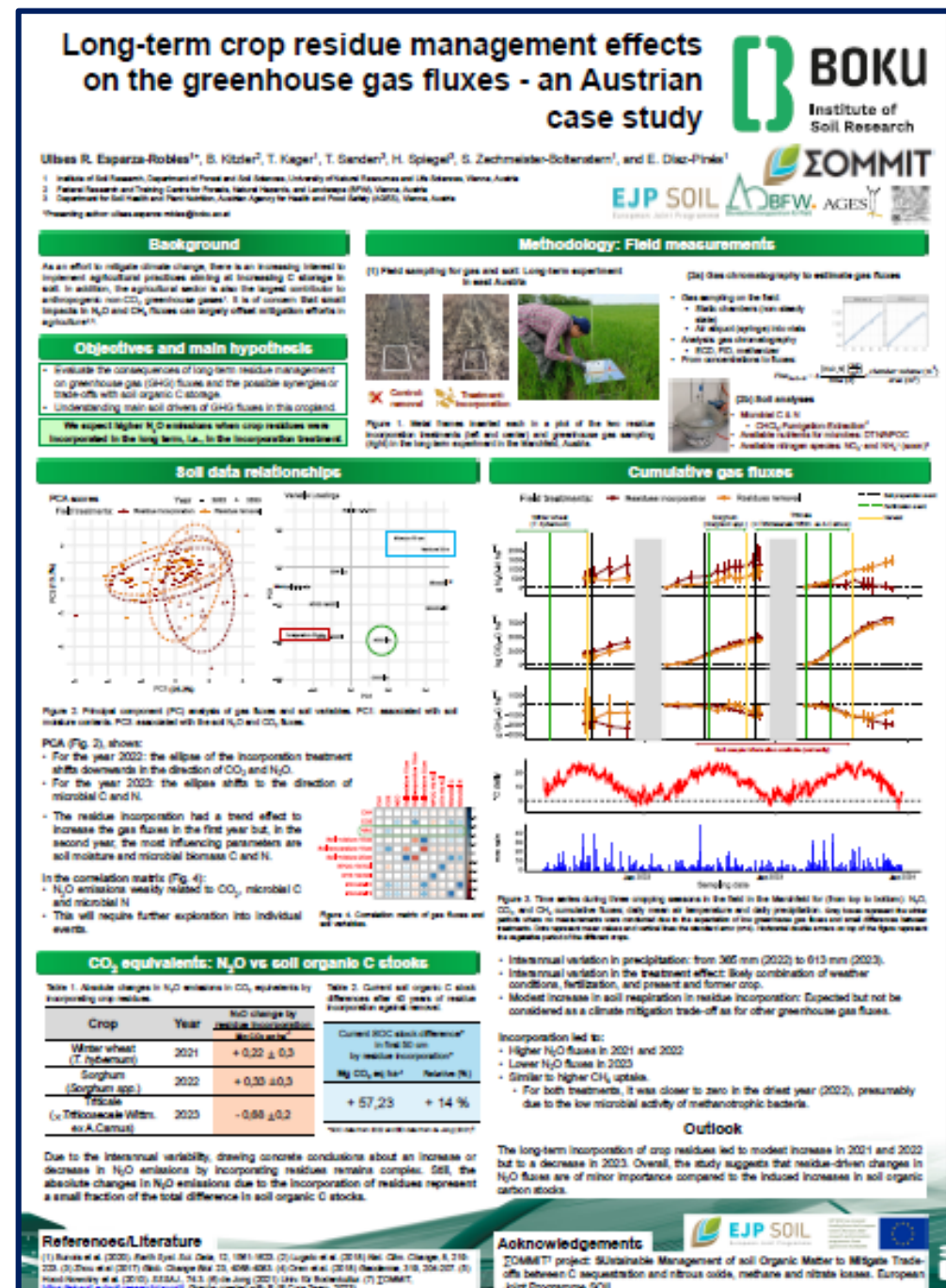
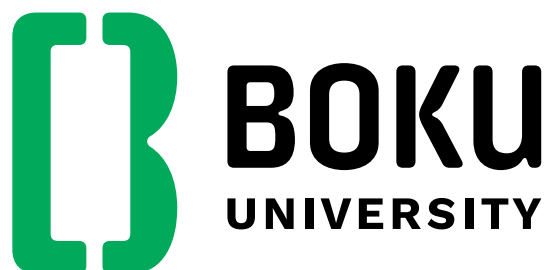


# Thank you for your attention...



# Long-term crop residue management effects on the greenhouse gas fluxes - an Austrian case study

Ulises Ramon Esparza-Robles  
et al.



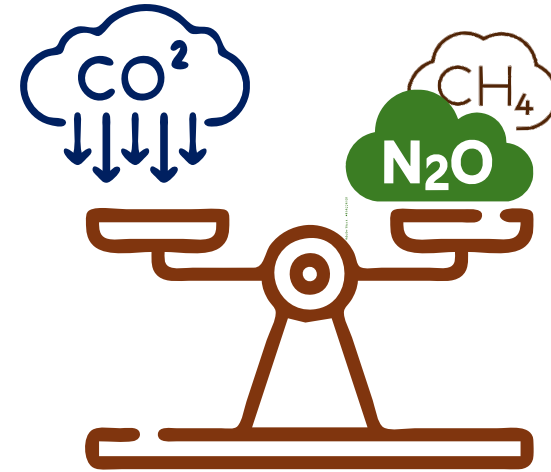
# Objectives

- To **quantify** the impact of **residue management** on current GHG\* fluxes after long-term management
- To **compare** the GHG fluxes with **SOC stocks**

# Hypothesis

- We expect **higher GHG emissions** from the long-term **crop residue incorporation**

\*GHG: Greenhouse gas



**Control:**  
**removal**



**Treatment:**  
**incorporation**

# Cumulative emissions

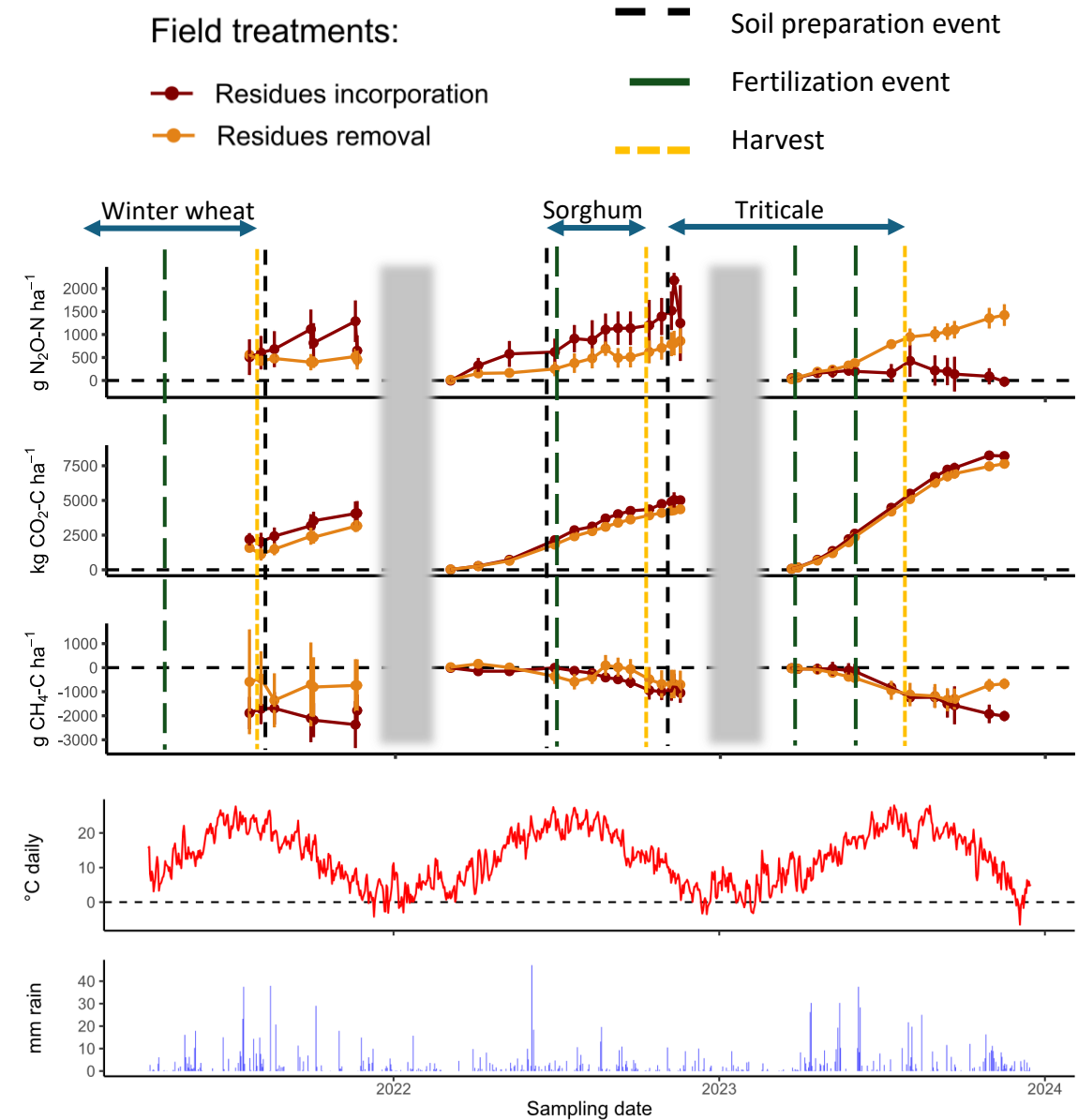
## Gas sampling in 39 events

- Gas chromatography
- Static chambers



## Soil sampling

- soil moisture, temperature,
- extractable C (NPOC) and N (DTN)
- microbial C and N



# N<sub>2</sub>O vs SOC stocks

Table 1. Absolute differences in N<sub>2</sub>O emissions in CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents **by incorporating crop residues.**

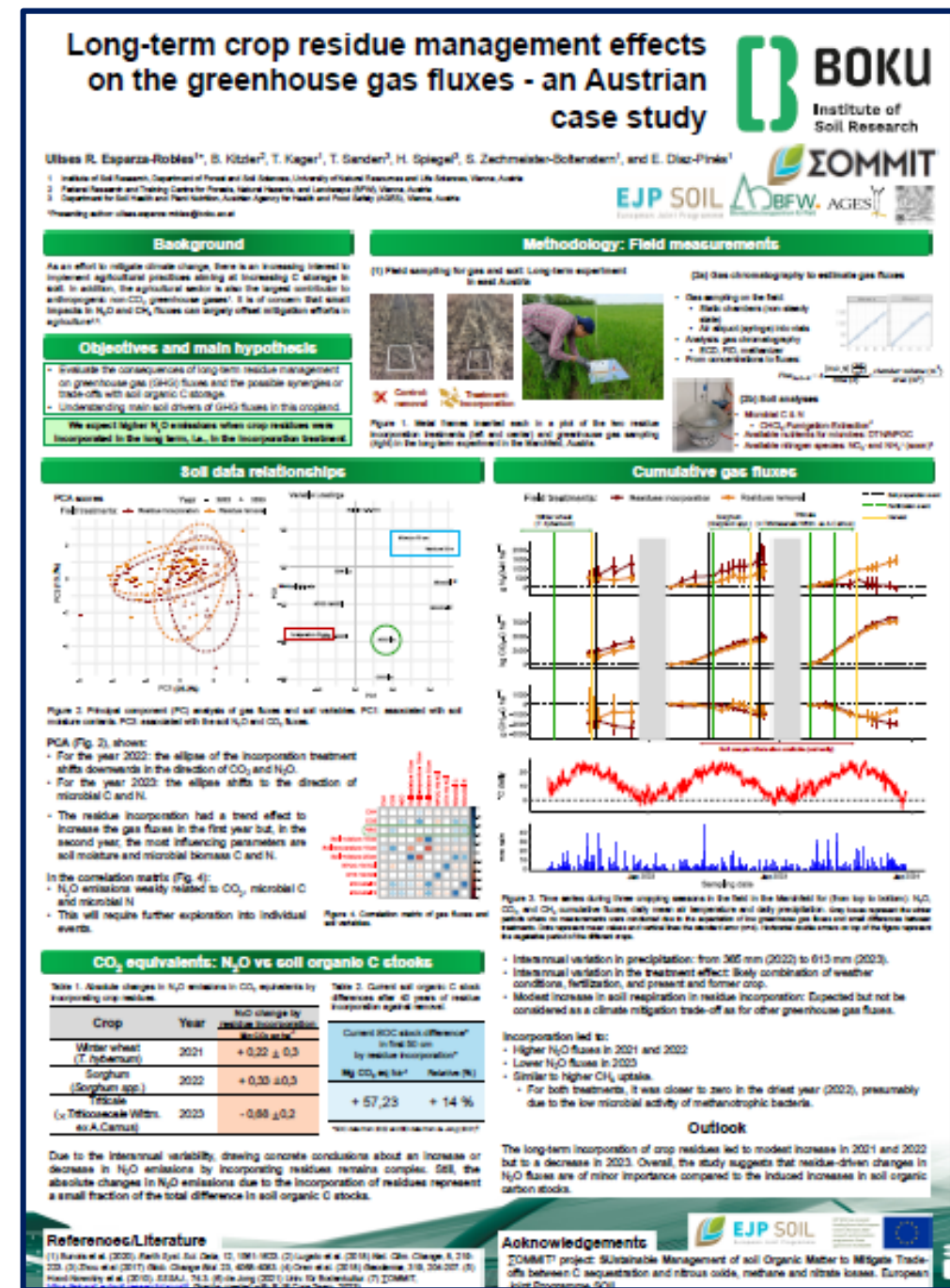
| Crop   | Year | N <sub>2</sub> O change by<br>residue incorporation |
|--|------|---|
|  |      | Mg CO <sub>2</sub> eq ha <sup>-1</sup>              |
| Winter wheat<br>( <i>T. hybernum</i> )                     | 2021 | ?   |
| Sorghum<br>( <i>Sorghum spp.</i> )                         | 2022 | ?   |
| Triticale<br>(× <i>Triticosecale</i> Wittm. ex<br>A.Camus) | 2023 | ?   |

Table 2. Current soil organic C stock differences **after 40 years of residue incorporation** against removal.

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Current SOC stock difference<br>in first 50 cm<br>by residue incorporation |              |
| Mg CO <sub>2</sub> eq ha <sup>-1</sup>                                     | Relative (%) |
| ?  | ?            |

# Thanks for your attention and...

# See you at the poster session!



## Annual Science days 2024

## Effects of different agriculture practices on ecosystem services in cereal fields worldwide

A meta-analysis to investigate the effects of conventional, organic and sustainable agriculture management in driving multiple ecosystem services from nutrient cycling to carbon stocks provides by cereals crop.

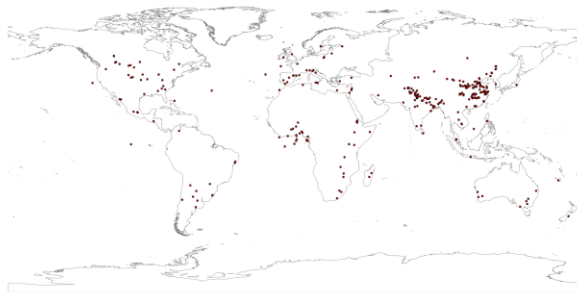


Fig. 1 Different experiments at global scale.

Revised 450 papers belong to SCI. Grouping of the different treatments assayed on the field experiments (Fig. 1). i) **Conventional**: traditional agriculture practice (tillage); ii) **Organic (O)**: organic management (no-tillage). iii) **Sustainable (S)**: optimized use of fertilizer (reduced-tillage)

Several parameter analyzed grouped in:

**Crop production**: yield

**Soil fertility**: organic+mineral+available nutrients

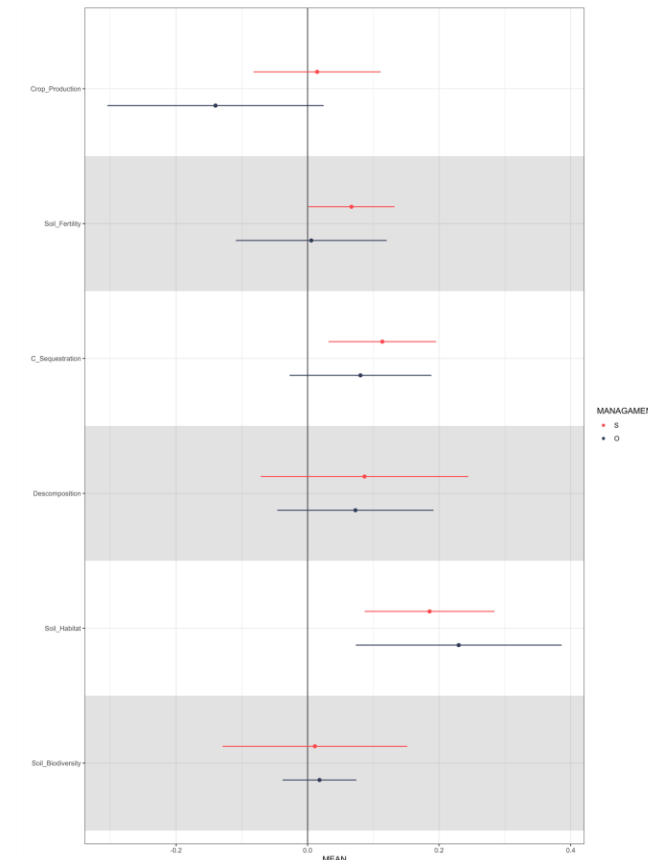
**C sequestration**: SOM+TOC+DOC+C seq rate.

**Decomposition**: mineralization+enzyme activities+ respiration + metabolic quotient+SeqRate.

**Soil habitat**: fungal and bacterial abundance+earthworms+microfauna+microbial biomass

**Soil biodiversity**: different biodiversity soil index

Fig. 2 Effect of different agricultural management on different ecosystem services



Sustainable agriculture has a significant positive effect on soil fertility, habitat and carbon sequestration, while organic agriculture only shows a significant positive effect on soil habitat compared to conservation agriculture (Fig. 2). In contrast, no significant effect of these practices on production is observed, indicating that both forms of cultivation maintain agricultural production while promoting key ecosystem services.

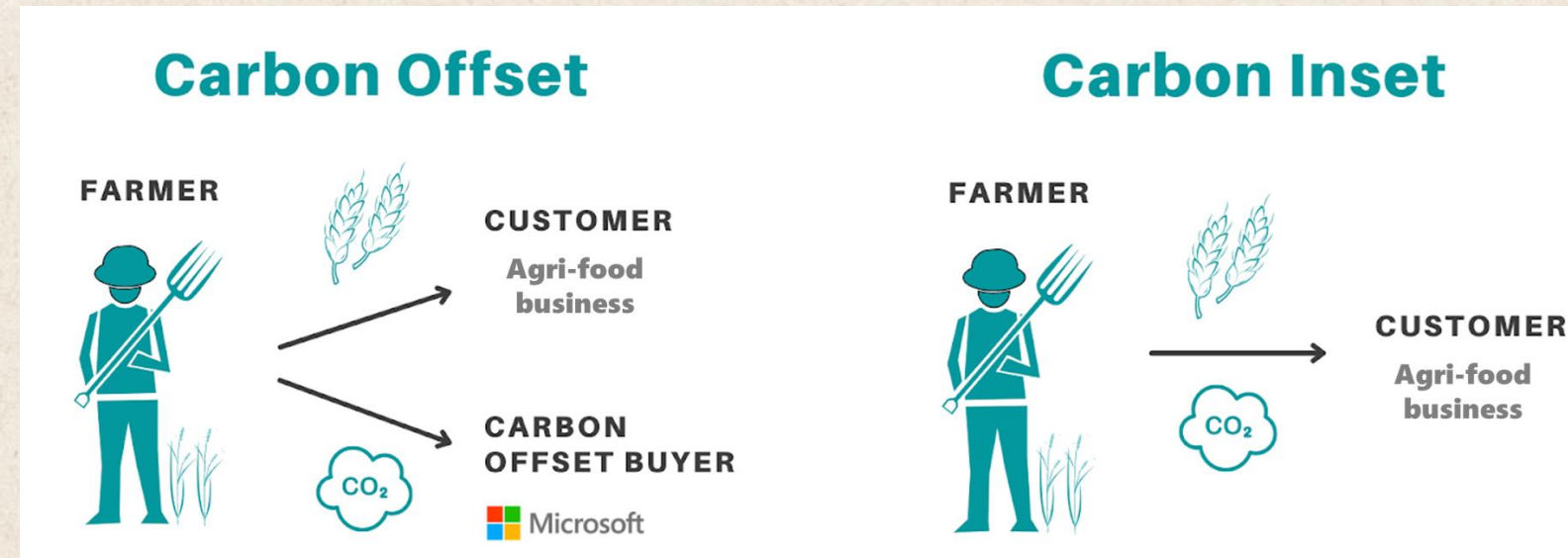
# Carbon Farming Incentive Mechanisms

Presented by: Nidhi Raina



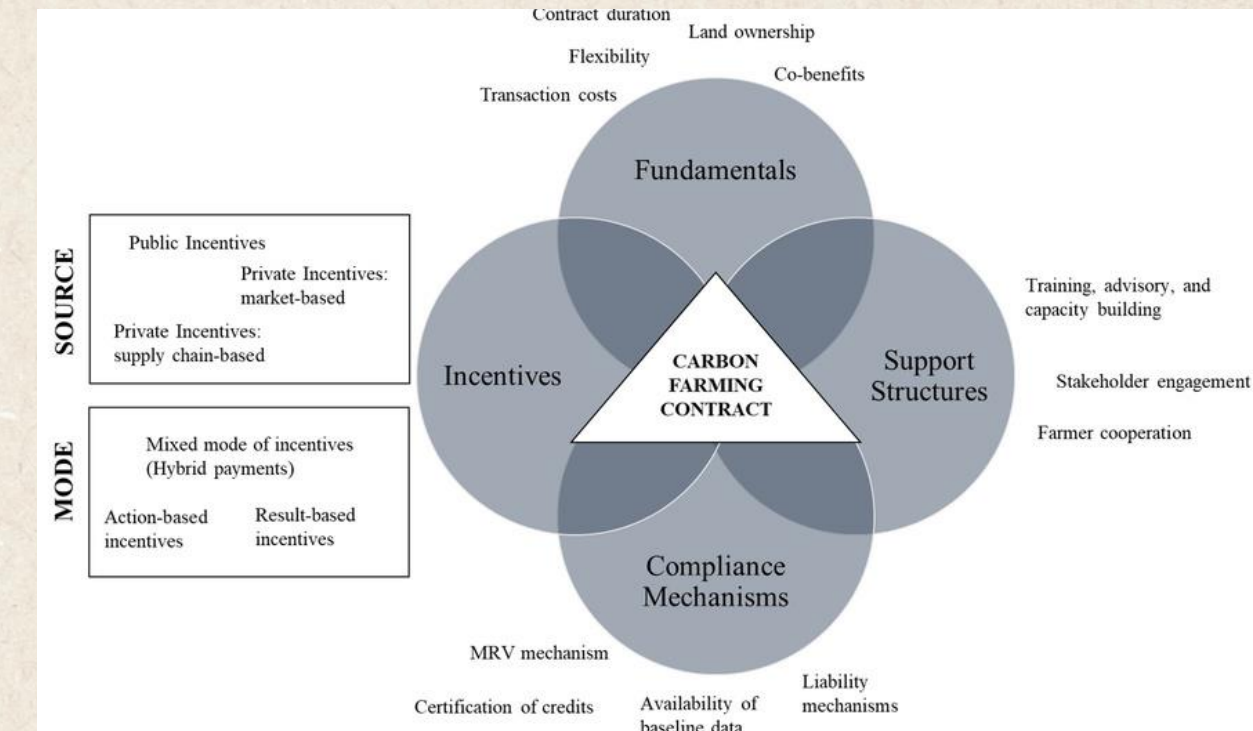
## WHY?

Increased interest in carbon farming has been catalyzed by the development of financial instruments that can incentivize carbon emission reductions.



## HOW?

Testing contracts and their design attributes against challenges to carbon farming schemes and understanding experts perspective of carbon farming current and future perspectives can not only incentivize farmers but also lead to maximum environmental benefits.

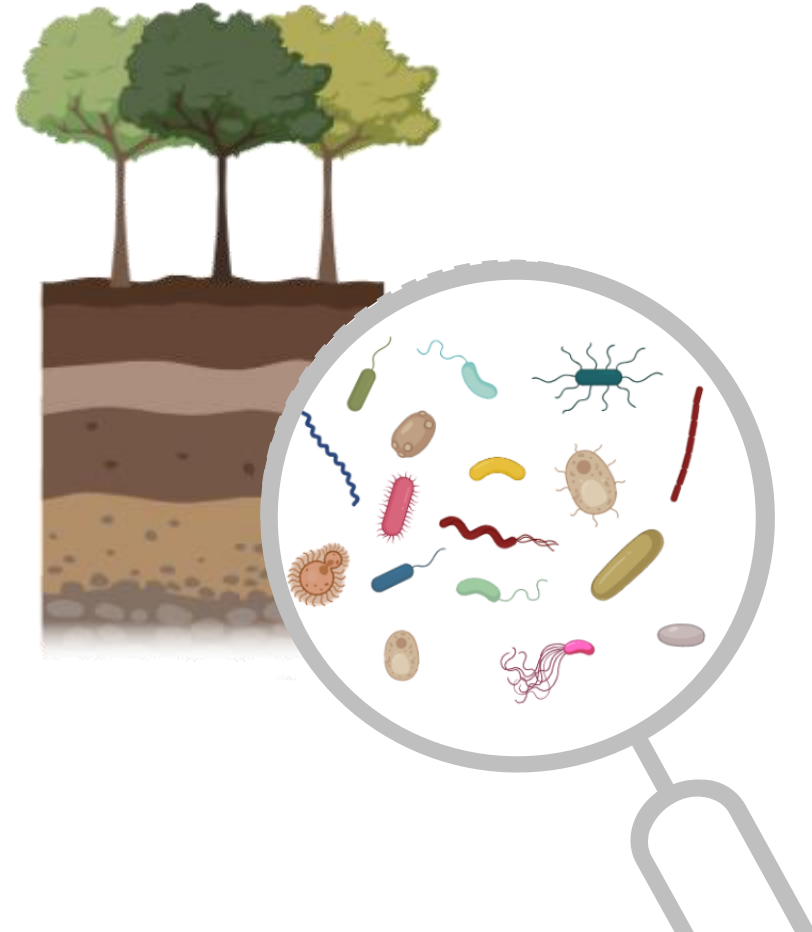


## EFFICIENT CONTRACT?

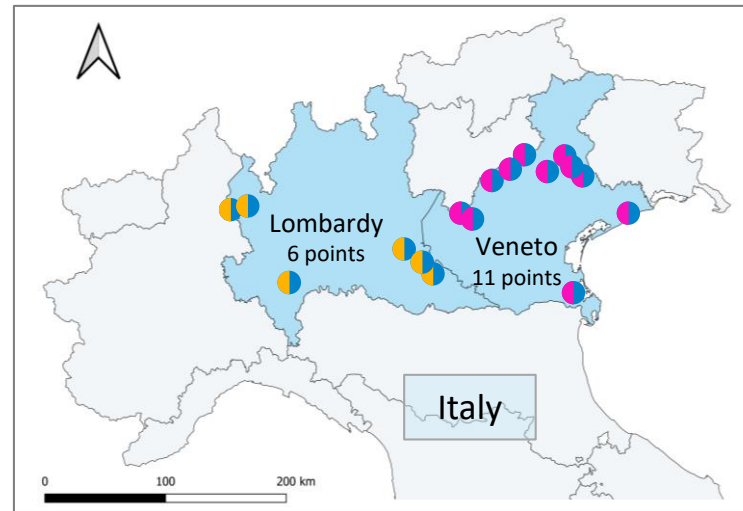
A **mix** of action-based and results-based payment mechanism that is funded by **private players, monitored stringently** for outcomes, supported through **training and advisory of farmers**, and focuses on **co-benefits** is a winner!

# Towards soil health assessment establishing a unified framework for monitoring soil microbial diversity across Europe

**Del Duca Sara**, Vitali Francesco, Tondini Elena, Lumini Erica, Garlato Adriano, Vinci Ialina, Brenna Stefano, Tagliaferri Elisa, Orgiazzi Alberto, Jones Arwyn, Fantappiè Maria, Mocali Stefano

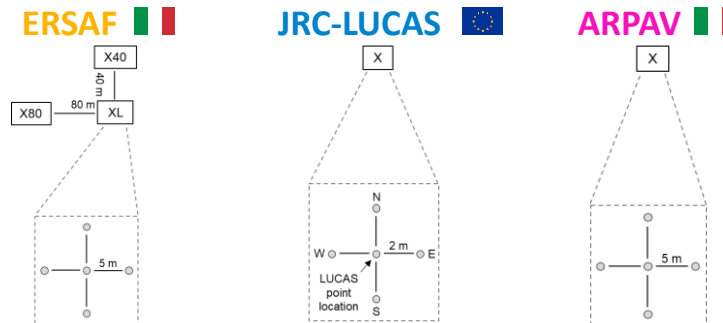


Soil sampling points



Analysis of  
**bacterial and  
fungal  
communities**

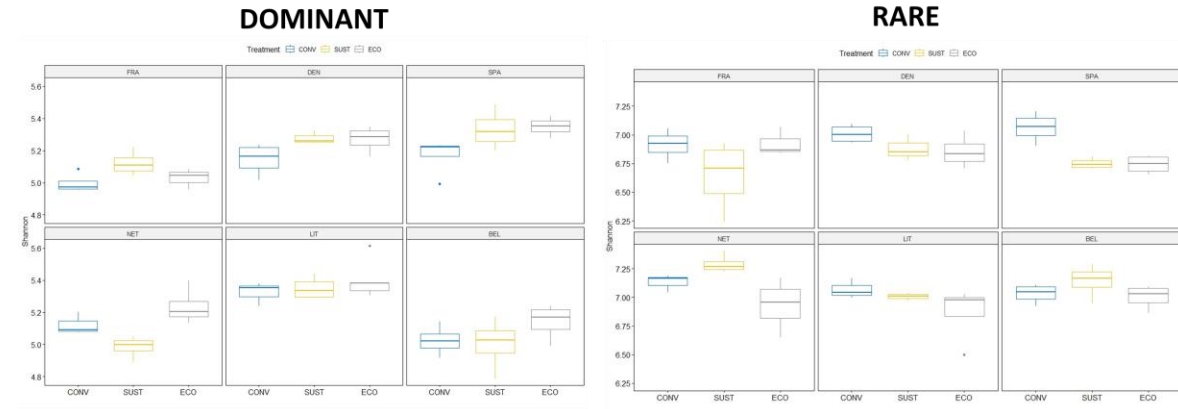
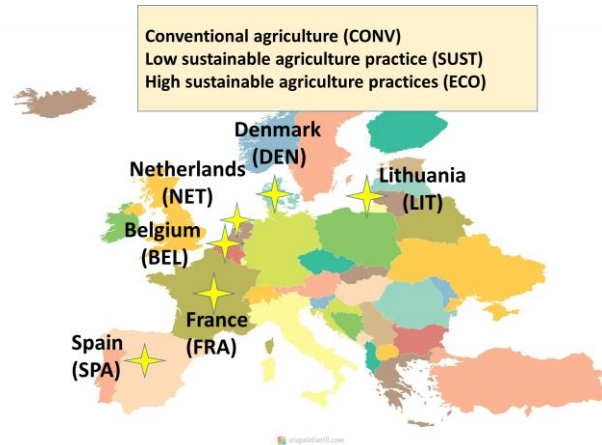
Soil sampling strategies



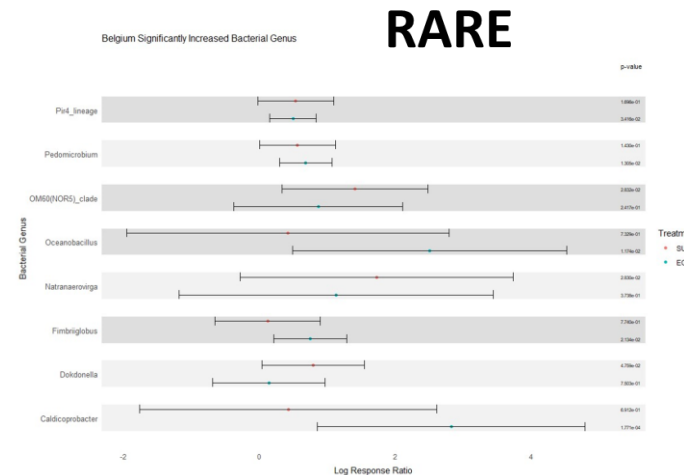
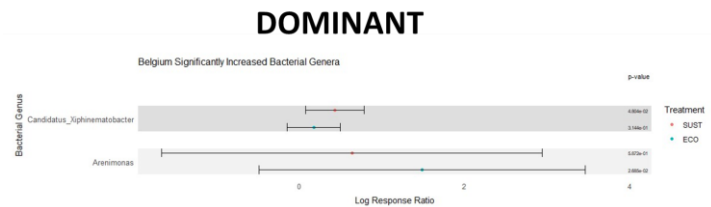
# Analysis of soil microbial community associated with cereal crop under sustainable managements in different European countries

## OBJECTIVE

Compare the dominant and rare soil bacteria across different regions of Europe under cereal crops, applying different ecological scales in terms of eco-efficiency.



Higher alpha diversities were observed in the relatively rare communities compared to majority communities. This is consistent with Jiao et al., 2017 where rare species contributed the greatest alpha diversity.



The increase of different genus in BEL by different sustainable agriculture management showed that the number of genus that increase is higher in the rare bacteria than in dominant, considering that although these genes are lower abundant they are more sensitive to changes than the majority.

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Introduction:

Endophytic bacteria, which live within plant tissues without causing harm, provide promising solutions for sustainable agriculture. These bacteria can inhibit plant diseases, increase nutrient availability, and improve overall plant health, making them beneficial in integrated pest management and organic agricultural systems. *Artemisia* species, which are known for their medicinal virtues and ability to withstand a wide range of environmental conditions, host a variety of endophytic bacteria with potential agricultural applications. The purpose of this work is to investigate the diversity, antagonistic characteristics, and phosphatase activity of endophytic bacteria isolated from four *Artemisia* spp. tissues, with the goal of contributing to our understanding of plant-microbe interactions and their implications for sustainable agriculture.

Materials and Methods:

Plant Sample Collection



Figure1. *Artemisia* spp. geographical collection place (Kaunas, Kėdainiai, Šiauliai), June 2021.

Isolation endophytic bacteria

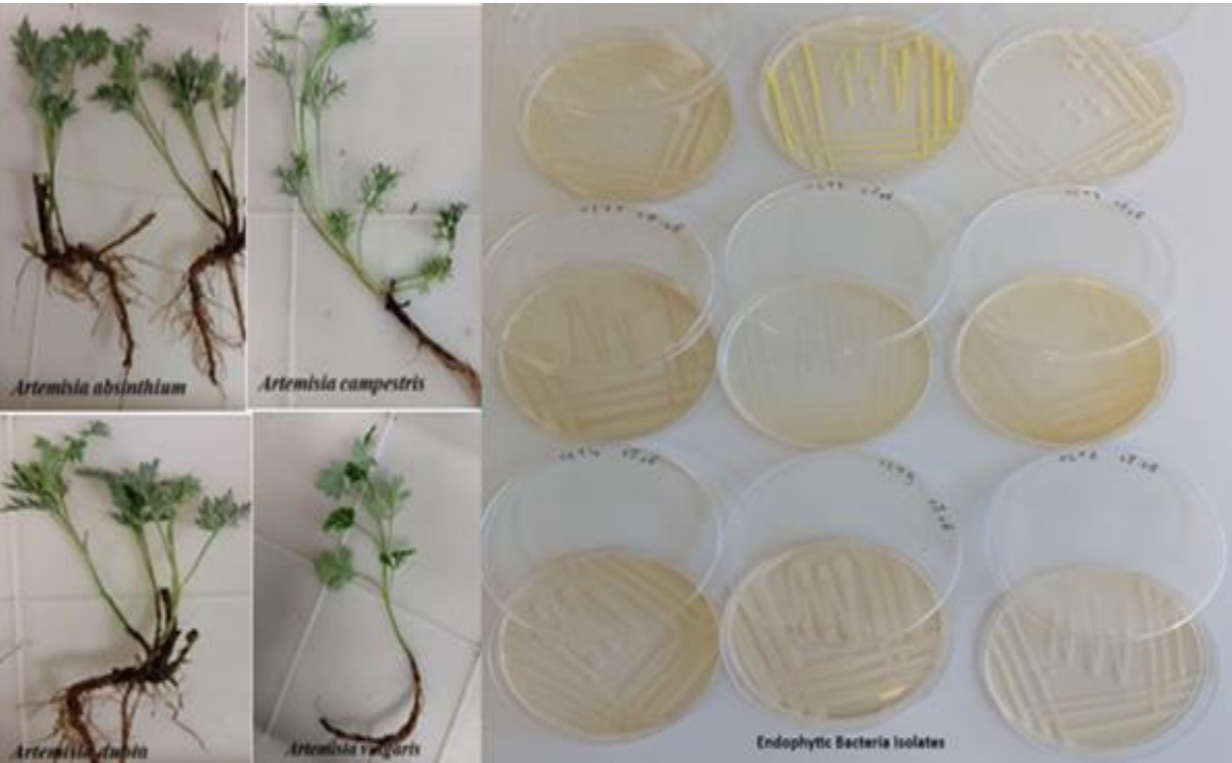


Figure 2. Four distinct species of *Artemisia* plants and an example of bacterial strains exhibiting different colony shapes, colors, and margins.

Molecular identification isolated endophytic bacteria by 16srDNA

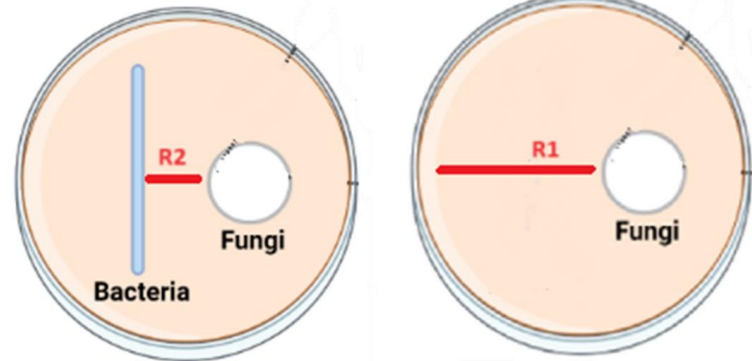
- DNA extraction from bacteria strains (CTAB DNA extraction protocol)
- Taxonomic identification (The bacterial 16S rDNA was amplified by PCR by universal primer pair 27F 5'-(AGAGTTTGATCMTGGCTCAG)-3', and 1387R 5'-(GGGCGGWTGTACAAG GC)-3'.

Pathogenic fungi isolation

Pathogenic fungi were obtained from diseased pea roots. Morphological characteristics and molecular identification of the ITS region by ITS3f (5'-GCATCGATGAAGAACGCAGC-3') and ITS4r (5'-TCCTCCGCTTATTGATATGC-3') primers were employed for pathogenic fungi.

Inhibition of fungal growth by isolated strains

Dual plate culture technique on Potato Dextrose Agar (PDA) medium was used.



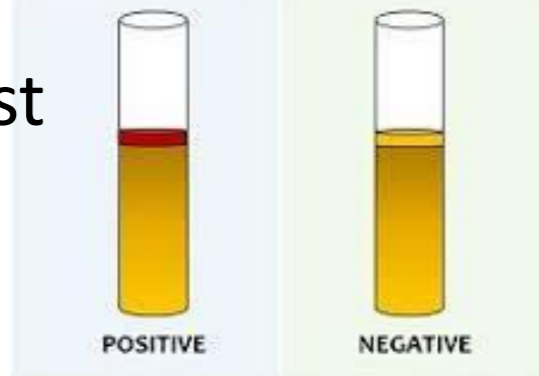
(R1-R2)/R1 × 100

R1: Radial growth pathogen in the absence bacteria

R2:Radial growth pathogen in the present bacteria

Evaluation of isolates for their plant growth promotion potential

- Indole production test



- Nitrogen fixation

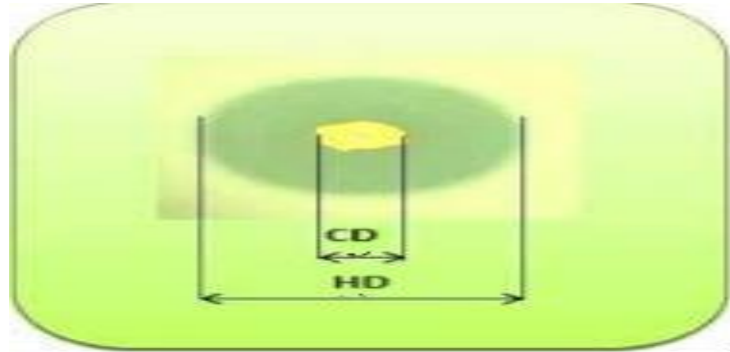
The assessment of nitrogen fixation utilizing Ashby's N-free medium (NFM).

- Phosphate Solubilization activity of endophytic bacteria Based on Pikovskaya methods

$$SI=(CD+HD)/CD$$

CD: colony diameter

HD: halo zone diameter.



Statistical analyses

Analysis of variance (ANOVA), R studio statistical software (4.2.3), Post hoc test (Tukey's HSD) (P < 0.05).

Results:

Isolation endophytic bacteria from *Artemisia* spp.

In total, 61 bacterial endophytes displaying distinct morphologies were isolated. Gram staining revealed that 83% of isolates were Gram-positive. Sixty-one percent of the isolates showed positive catalase activity. Based on 16S rDNA gene, most of strains belonged to the phylum *Proteobacteria* and *Firmicutes* (Figure 3).

Inhibitory effect of endophytic bacteria on the growth of *Fusarium* sp.

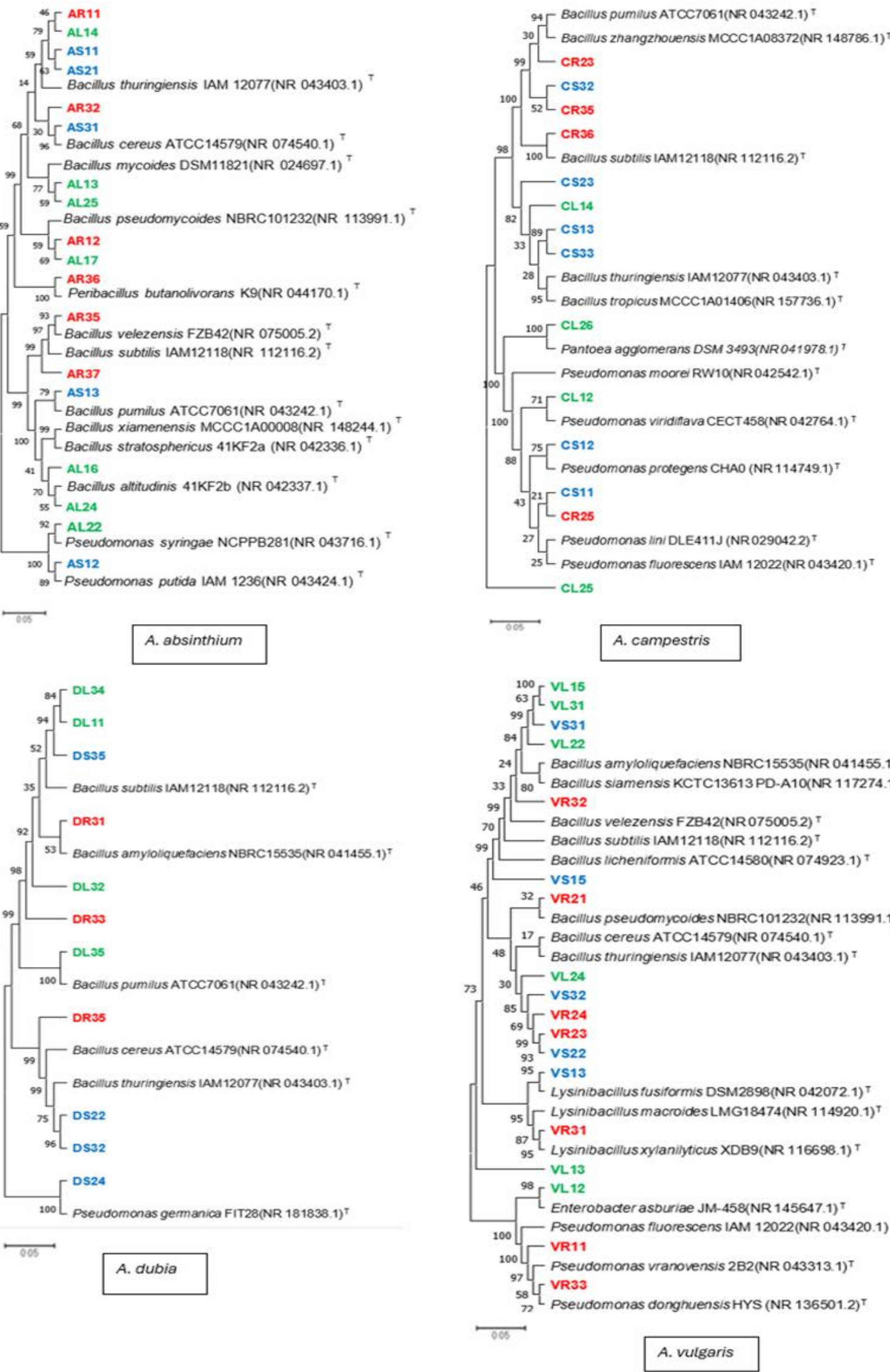
AR11 (90.83%) and VR24 (88%) strains isolated from the roots of *A. absinthium* and *A. vulgaris*, respectively, showed the highest inhibitory effect on *Fusarium* spp. growth.

Biochemical properties and Effects effect of the endophytic bacteria on pea plant growth

In this study, 20% of the isolated bacteria exhibited positive results in the indole production test, while 44% demonstrated nitrogen fixation potential. Based on these and other test results, 8 isolated strains were selected to study their effects on pea seed germination and growth promotion. The selected isolates are listed in Table 1.

Conclusions

This study underscored the significant pathogen inhibition and plant growth enhancement potential of endophytic bacteria isolated from different *Artemisia* species. The diversity of endophytic bacteria, including strains of *Bacillus* and *Pseudomonas*, highlights their functional importance in promoting plant health. The growth inhibition activity against *Fusarium* c.f. *oxysporum* by strains like *B. thuringiensis*, *B. cereus*, *B. velezensis*, *B. amyloliquefaciens*, and *Pseudomonas fluorescens* underscores their role as effective biocontrol agents. Furthermore, the biochemical properties, including phosphate solubilization, nitrogen fixation, and indole production, particularly by strain AR11, demonstrate their potential as plant growth-promoting agents. AR11 emerged as a promising candidate for further investigation as a microbial biofertilizer, potentially offering an environmentally friendly alternative to chemical pesticides for crop protection.





# Teaching agricultural soil biology to support sustainable crop production under pending climate change conditions by semi-saline irrigation

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1. School of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Lincoln, Lincoln LN6 7DL, UK

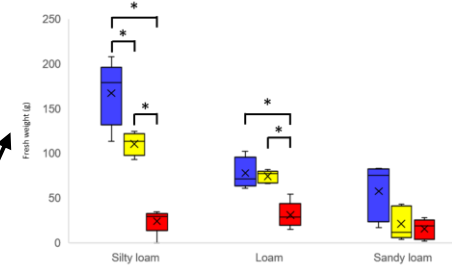
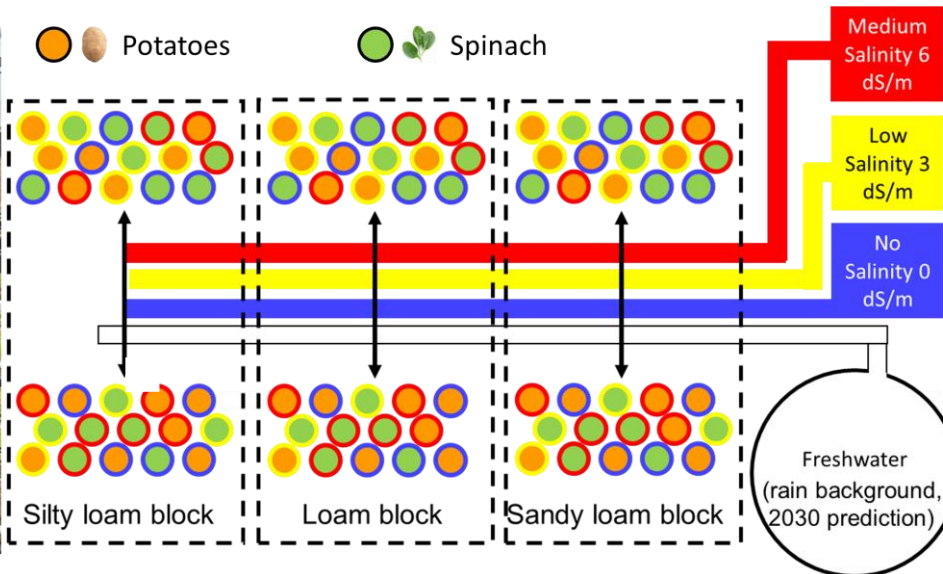
2. Lincoln Institute for Agri-Food Technology, University of Lincoln, Lincoln LN6 7DL, UK

3. Instituto Nacional de Investigação Agrária e Veterinária (INIAV)

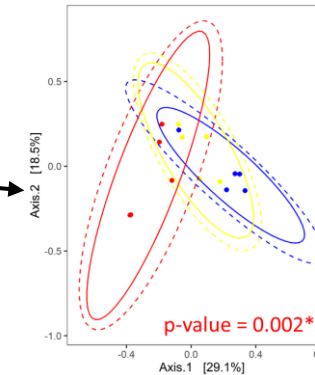
4. Norwegian University of Life Science, Faculty of Environmental Sciences and Natural Resource Management, Ås, 1432, Norway



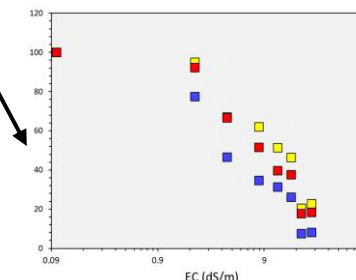
achanson@lincoln.ac.uk



Only higher salinity treatment had a negative impact on crop yield



Salinity treatment will have an impact on soil bacterial communities



Different salinity treatments resulted in different adaptive responses



**SOMPACS**

# THE IMPACT OF OVER A CENTURY OF DIFFERENT ORGANIC FERTILIZATION ON THE PROPERTIES OF SOIL ORGANIC MATTER AND WATER HOLDING CAPACITY

HEWELKE EDYTA<sup>1\*</sup>, WEBER JERZY<sup>2</sup>, LEINWEBER PETER<sup>3</sup>, MIELNIK LILLA<sup>4</sup>, KOCOWICZ ANDRZEJ<sup>2</sup>, JAMROZ ELŻBIETA<sup>2</sup>, STEPONAVIČIENĖ VAIDA<sup>5</sup>, BOGUZAS VACLOVAS<sup>5</sup>, PODLASIŃSKI MAREK<sup>4</sup>, GOZDOWSKI DARIUSZ<sup>1</sup>, PERZANOWSKA ANETA<sup>1</sup>, UZAROWICZ ŁUKASZ<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *WARSAW UNIVERSITY OF LIFE SCIENCES, WARSAW, POLAND*

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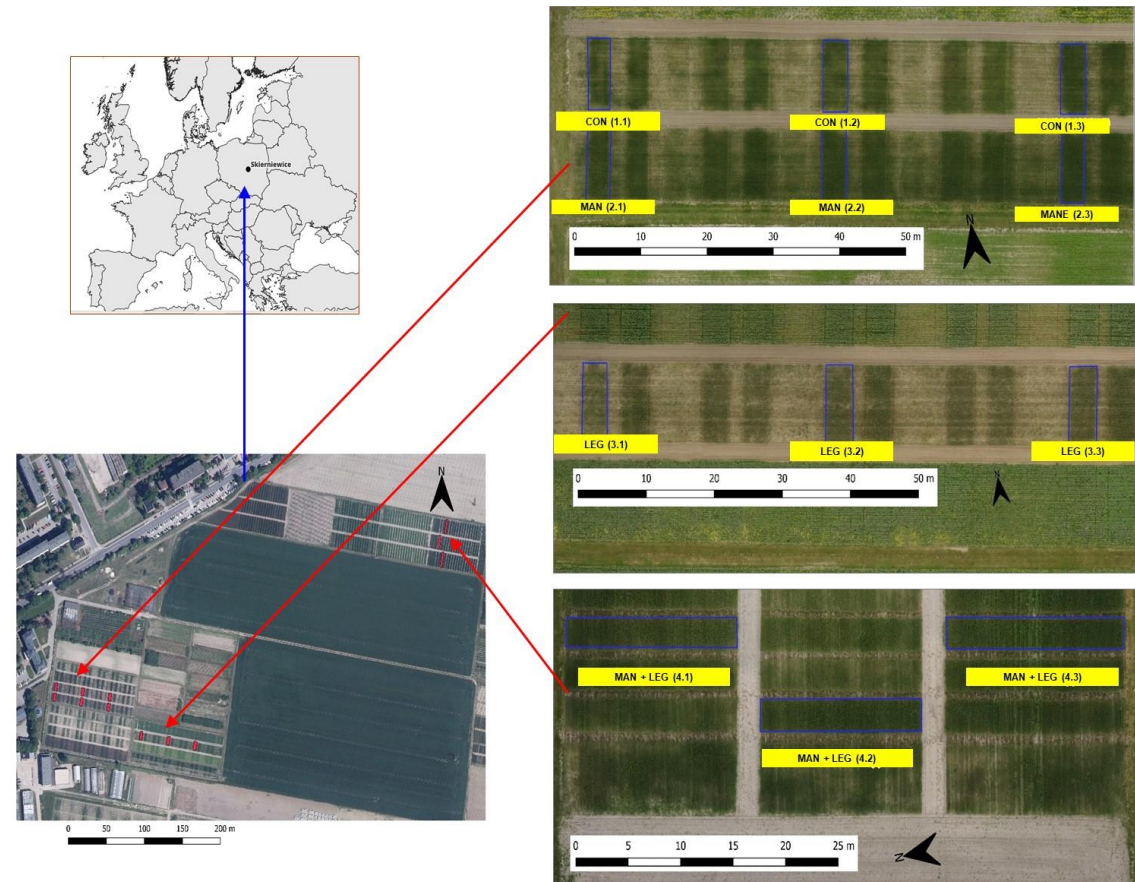
<sup>5</sup> *VYTAUTAS MAGNUS UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURE ACADEMY, KAUNAS, LITHUANIA*



MINISTRY  
OF AGRICULTURE  
OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF LITHUANIA

# Location of the long-term field experiment and methods

- ▶ The experiment was established at the Experimental Station of the Institute of Agriculture, Warsaw University of Life Sciences in Skierniewice (central Poland) on sandy loam Luvic Stagnosols, which received mineral fertilizers (Ca, N, P, K).
- ▶ The treatments included: control (CON); manure (MAN) applied every five years at a rate of  $30 \text{ t ha}^{-1}$ ; legumes (LEG); and manure with legumes (MAN+LEG).
- ▶ Soil samples (0-20 cm depth) were collected during the 2022 mid-growing season and analyzed for total organic carbon (TOC), plant available water, fractional composition of humic substances (HS), and spectroscopic properties of SOM and isolated humin fraction (HUM).
- ▶ Additionally, soil moisture, soil temperature, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions were measured in the field during 2022 and 2023 growing seasons from treatments CON and MAN only.



# Changes in TOC content and SOM fractions

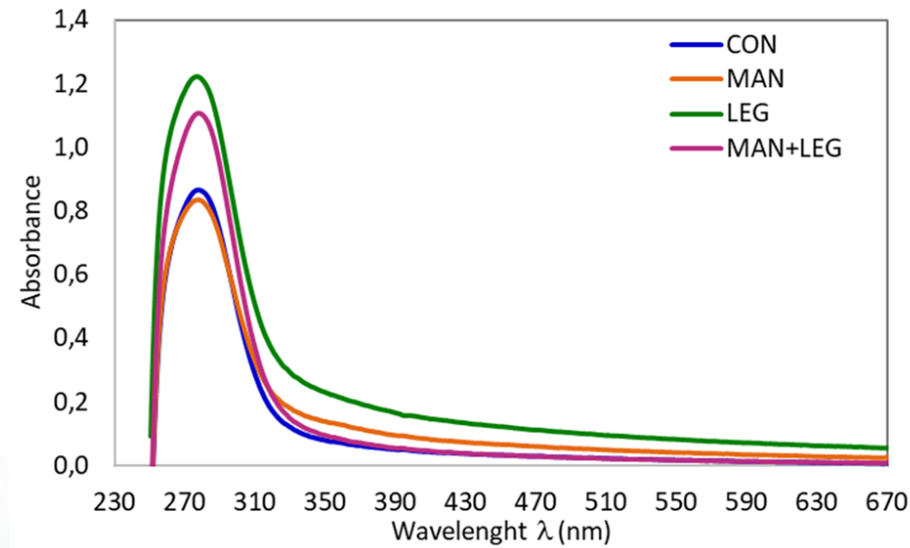
| Treatment | TOC                | TOC/TN       | FF            | HA           | FA            | HUM           | HA/FA        | HUM                |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------|
|           | g kg <sup>-1</sup> |              | C % in TOC    |              |               |               |              | g kg <sup>-1</sup> |
| CON       | 5.48 ± 1.0 a       | 12.1 ± 1.0 a | 15.3 ± 1.7 b  | 53.4 ± 5.1 b | 7.0 ± 1.8 a   | 24.3 ± 2.6 bc | 8.1 ± 2.5 b  | 1.32 ± 0.19 a      |
| MAN       | 8.12 ± 0.4 bc      | 10.5 ± 1.5 a | 12.6 ± 0.3 a  | 43.5 ± 2.2 a | 15.6 ± 2.9 b  | 28.2 ± 1.1 c  | 2.9 ± 0.6 a  | 2.30 ± 0.21 b      |
| LEG       | 7.24 ± 0.5 b       | 12.5 ± 3.8 a | 13.2 ± 0.2 ab | 56.6 ± 1.4 b | 10.1 ± 3.9 ab | 20.0 ± 2.6 ab | 6.1 ± 2.0 ab | 1.51 ± 0.25 a      |
| MAN + LEG | 9.21 ± 1.2 c       | 11.4 ± 0.8 a | 12.4 ± 1.7 a  | 60.1 ± 5.0 b | 11.3 ± 5.2 ab | 16.2 ± 3.0 a  | 6.4 ± 3.7 ab | 1.49 ± 0.30 a      |

- ▶ The greatest impact on SOM content was observed in plots where manure has been applied, which resulted in an increase in TOC by 48% and 68% in variants MAN and MAN+LEG, while in variant LEG by 32% (Table 1).
- ▶ The analysis of the fractional composition of humic substances revealed that transformation of SOM under fertilization with manure led to significant increases in the humic acids/fulvic acids ratio compared to CON, while LEG caused a decrease in HUM in relation to MAN.

# UV-Vis properties

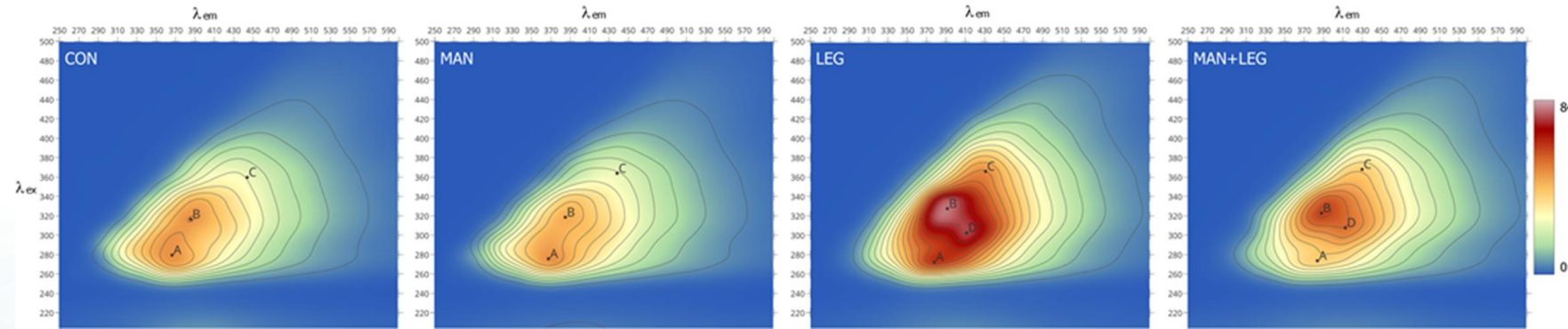


**SOMPACS**



- ▶ UV-Vis spectra provide information about the presence of characteristic chromophore groups in the structure of humic substances. They are related to the structure and size of the particles, indicating the progress/intensity of the humification process.
- ▶ The obtained HUM absorption spectra are distinguished by the presence of a specific band in the range of 245–310 nm with a maximum at a wavelength of 280 nm (Figure 2). The greatest impact had the use of legumes (LEG, MAN+LEG), causing a significant increase in absorbance.

# Fluorescent properties of HUM



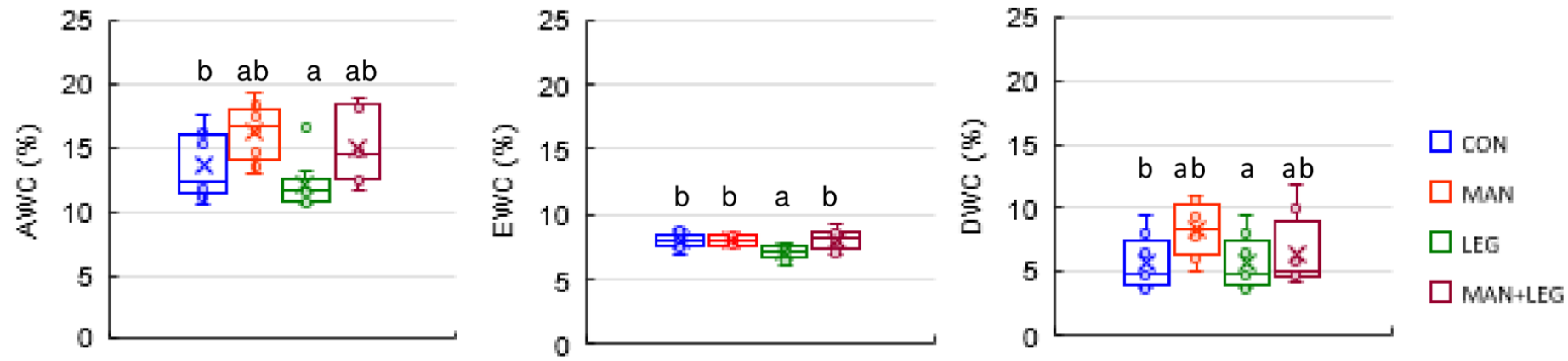
- ▶ The analysed three-dimensional fluorescence spectra (EEM) are similar and are characterized by the presence of a double broad maximum of fluorescence (CON and MAN).
- ▶ Its occurrence is attributed to the presence of simple structural components with high molecular heterogeneity and a low degree of aromatic polycondensation.
- ▶ In the case of LEG and MAN+LEG, a maximum of D stood out in this area, suggesting the presence of more complex structures, such as conjugated quinones and/or phenols with an increased degree of polycondensation.

# TC-GC/MS analysis of bulk soil and HUM

| Treatment | Bulk Soil     |        |        | HUM           |        |        |
|-----------|---------------|--------|--------|---------------|--------|--------|
|           | Carbohydrates | Lignin | Lipids | Carbohydrates | Lignin | Lipids |
| CON       | 27.8          | 16.6   | 39.9   | 35.8          | 15.2   | 43.2   |
| MAN       | 33.6          | 23.4   | 24.6   | 38.2          | 17.4   | 37.5   |
| LEG       | 33.0          | 19.9   | 30.5   | 37.3          | 26.5   | 24.5   |
| MAN + LEG | 34.0          | 19.0   | 38.7   | 46.3          | 14.4   | 32.5   |

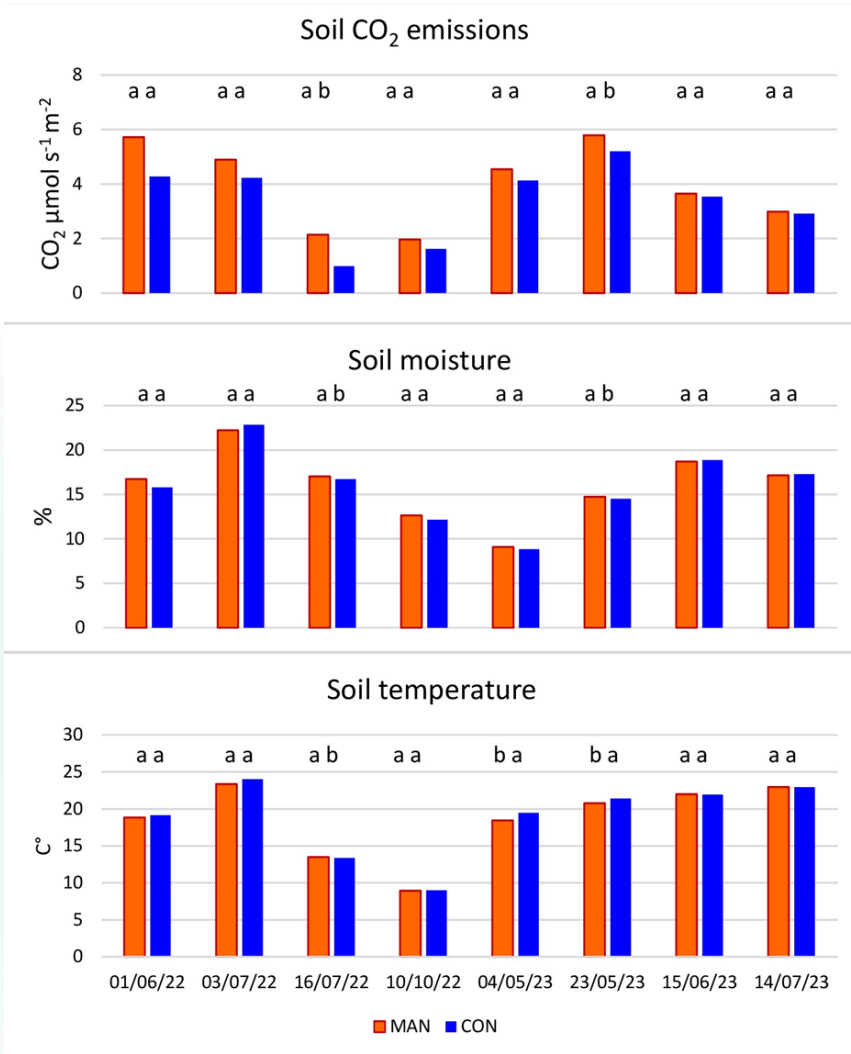
- ▶ Thermochemolysis and gas chromatography/mass spectrometry showed that HUM was enriched in carbohydrates in all pairs of soil and HUM (Table 2).
- ▶ For lignins and lipids there was no consistent trend in differences between bulk soil and HUM.
- ▶ The analyzed soil management methods (MAN, LEG and MAN+LEG) influenced the enrichment in carbohydrates and lignins both in bulk soil and HUM, with the exception of the lignins content in HUM for the MAN+LEG variant.

# Water holding capacity



- Changes in the amount and properties of SOM influenced the water holding capacity (Figure 4), although not all changes were statistically significant. Manure fertilization increased plant available water (AWC) by 20% and 10% in variants MAN and MAN+LEG, respectively. However, LEG treatment decreased AWC by 11%.

# CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



| 2022-2023        |      |         |
|------------------|------|---------|
|                  | F    | p       |
| Soil moisture    | 4.6  | 0.03446 |
| Soil temperature | 68.0 | 0.00000 |
| Treatment        | 19.4 | 0.00002 |

# Conclusions



- ▶ long-term different organic fertilization practices have changed the content and chemical and physical properties of SOM, as well as the chemical composition of the HUM fraction;
- ▶ compared to bulk soil, HUM indicated a relatively high proportion of carbohydrates, which is consistent with summarized evidence for carbohydrate enrichment in clay-sized fractions;
- ▶ the highest proportion of carbohydrates, especially in HUM fraction, occurs as a result of fertilization with manure together with legumes;
- ▶ the most visible changes in the UV-Vis and fluorescent properties of HUM resulted from the use of legumes (LEG and MAN+LEG). These properties indicate that legumes favor more advanced SOM humification processes, contributing to forming a HUM fraction with a more complex structure
- ▶ reduction in water holding capacity was observed resulting from LEG crop, however, legumes with manure additive improve soil water properties;
- ▶ MAN+LEG type of soil management enables effective use of sandy soil ecosystem services.

# SHORT-TERM STUDY ON THE FATE OF ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS IN SOIL AFTER THE APPLICATION OF BIOWASTE COMPOST OR BIOGAS DIGESTATE

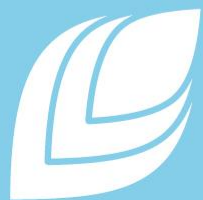
Beatriz Albero<sup>1</sup>, Rosa Ana Pérez<sup>1</sup>, Heide Spiegel<sup>2</sup>, Ferdinand Hartmann<sup>3</sup>,  
Rebecca Hood-Nowotny<sup>3</sup>, Antonio Martín-Esteban<sup>1</sup>

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**EJP SOIL**  
European Joint Programme

EJP SOIL has received  
funding from the European  
Union's Horizon 2020  
research and innovation  
programme: Grant  
agreement No 862695



Universität für Bodenkultur Wien

## OBJECTIVE

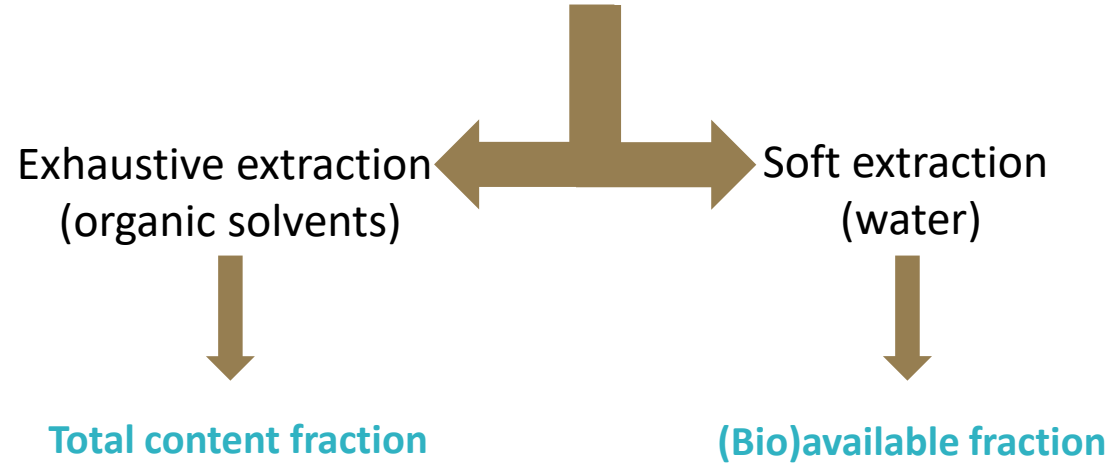
To evaluate the **fate of 32 organic contaminants in soil** under real environmental conditions in a short-term field experiment. The **effect of two organic amendments** (biowaste compost and biogas digestate) **on the fate of these contaminants** was assessed **analysing their content** (total and bioavailable) in soil **before and after** applying the treated wastes as amendments.

Soil samples were collected **at time 0, 3, 7 and 12 months** and stored dry until analysis.

### 32 Target analytes

- ☐ 18 Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)
- ☐ 7 Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)
- ☐ 2 Alkylphenols: Octylphenol and Nonylphenol
- ☐ 2 Personal care products: methylparaben and propylparaben
- ☐ 3 Organophosphates: tri-n-butyl phosphate (TBP), tris(2-chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP) and tris(2-chloroisopropyl) phosphate (TCPP).

## SAMPLE PREPARATION



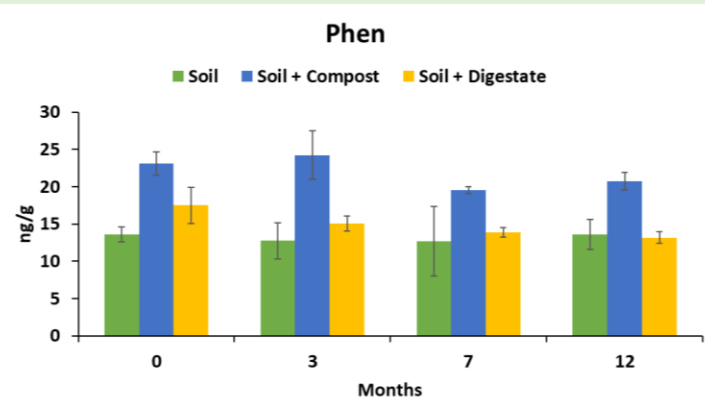
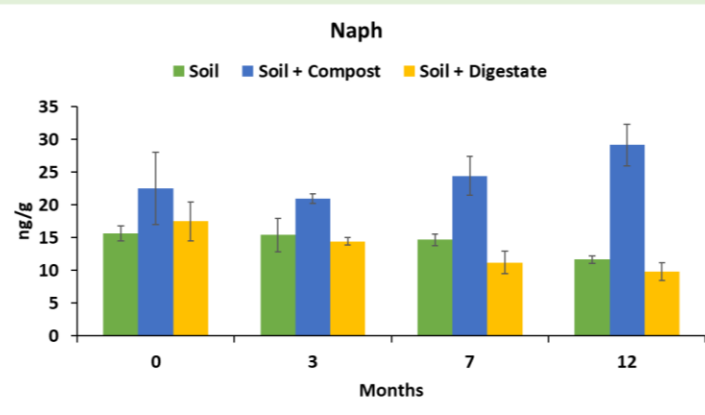
## ANALYSIS

Gas chromatography coupled to a triple quadrupole mass spectrometer (GC-MS/MS)

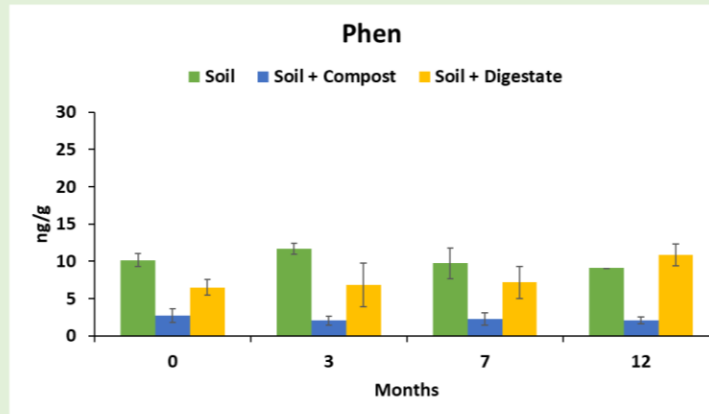
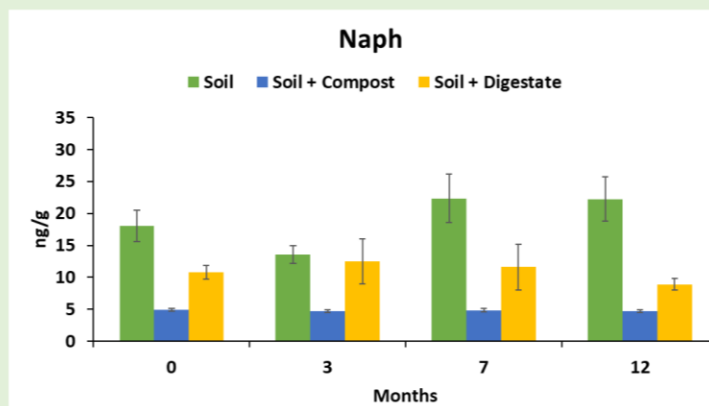


# SOME RESULTS

## TOTAL LOAD



## BIOAVAILABLE FRACTION



## CONCLUSIONS

- The analysis of the bioavailable fraction of the soil suggests that **the contaminants are more readily adsorbed in compost-treated soil**, resulting in lower availability of contaminants in the aqueous fraction.
- Although an increase in the concentration of some target contaminants was observed immediately after soil amendment, **the overall concentration remained constant for the 12 months following application.**
- The analysis of the soluble fraction shows that **the availability of the compounds remains throughout the 12-month period.**

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Universität für Bodenkultur Wien



EJP SOIL has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme: Grant agreement No 862695



# Mean annual water table underestimates CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from rewetting peatlands

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Department of Agroecology, Aarhus University, Viborg

## OBJECTIVE

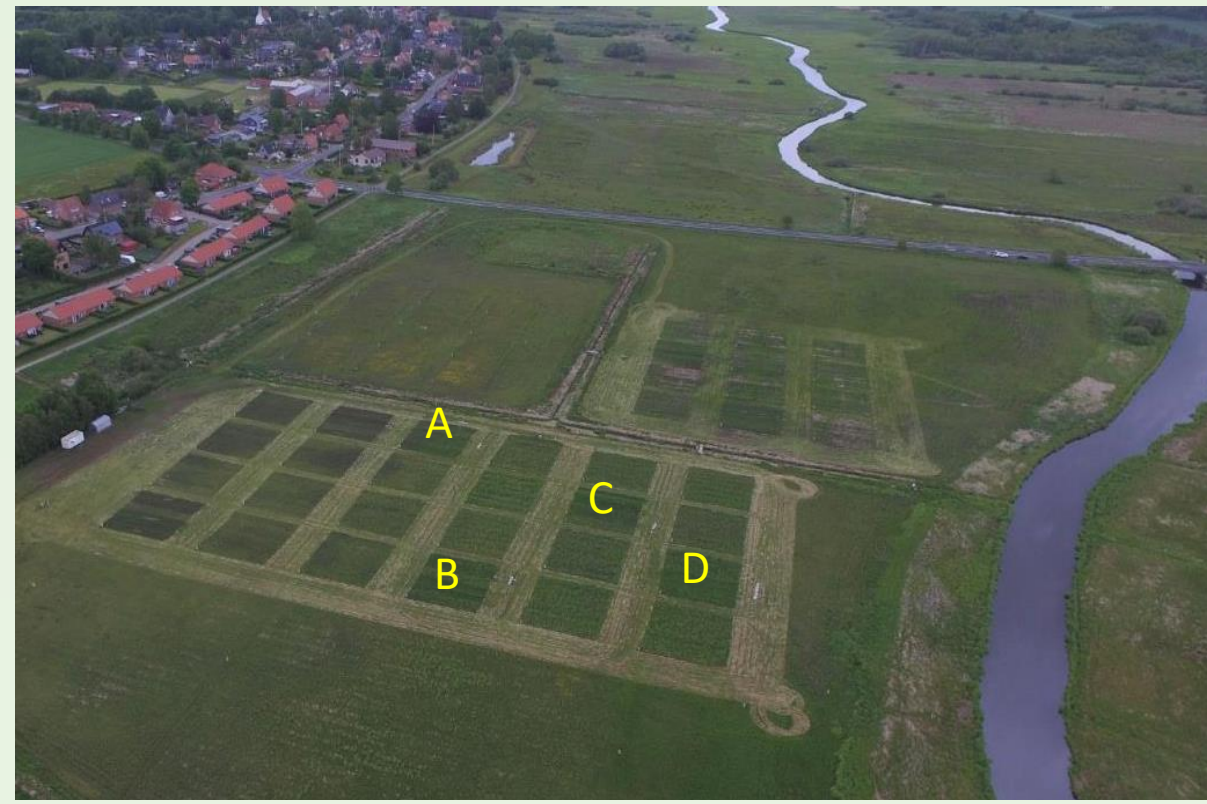
In this study, we use high temporal resolution water table data to estimate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of a managed rewetting peatland. Additionally, we evaluate how pore water nutrients relate to these emissions.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Peatland drainage is a significant agricultural greenhouse gases (GHG) source.
- Rewetting limits decomposition and reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- There are uncertainties on the influence of nutrients and vegetation on GHG emissions from rewetted peatlands.
- Current GHG emission estimations are based on mean annual water table depth (Tiemeyer et al., 2020; Evans et al., 2021).

## STUDY AREA

- Study was conducted between May 2021 and May 2022 in a fen peatland in central Denmark.
- Site was poorly drained and in transition to rewetting.
- Reed canary grass was sown in 2018 in the four studied plots.
- Three harvest treatments (zero cut, two cut, and five cut per year) in each plot.
- 200 kg N ha<sup>-1</sup> y<sup>-1</sup> applied equal in split doses to the two and five cut harvest treatments.



Study site, Nørrea valley, Vejrumbrø



## DATA COLLECTION

- Biweekly CO<sub>2</sub> measurements collected using a transparent manual chamber connected to an LGR-ICOS™ GLA131-GGA gas analyzer. Shroudings, including opaque condition, used to measure under four radiation levels.
- Nutrient concentrations: *NO<sub>3</sub>*, *NH<sub>4</sub>*, *total N (TN)*, *total dissolved N (TDN)*, *total P (TP)*, *total dissolved P (TDP)*, *total organic C (TOC)*, *dissolved organic C (DOC)*, and *Fe* measured in water samples collected biweekly from piezometers.

## DATA PROCESSING

Hourly water table depth (WTD), soil temperature (Ts), photosynthetic active radiation (PAR), and ratio vegetation index (RVI) were used to model and obtain annual ecosystem respiration (Reco), and gross primary productivity (GPP).

$$Reco = t1 + (a * RVI) * e^{b * \left( \frac{1}{T_{10} - T_0} - \frac{1}{T_S - T_0} \right)} + [(WTD - WTD_{max}) * C]^2$$

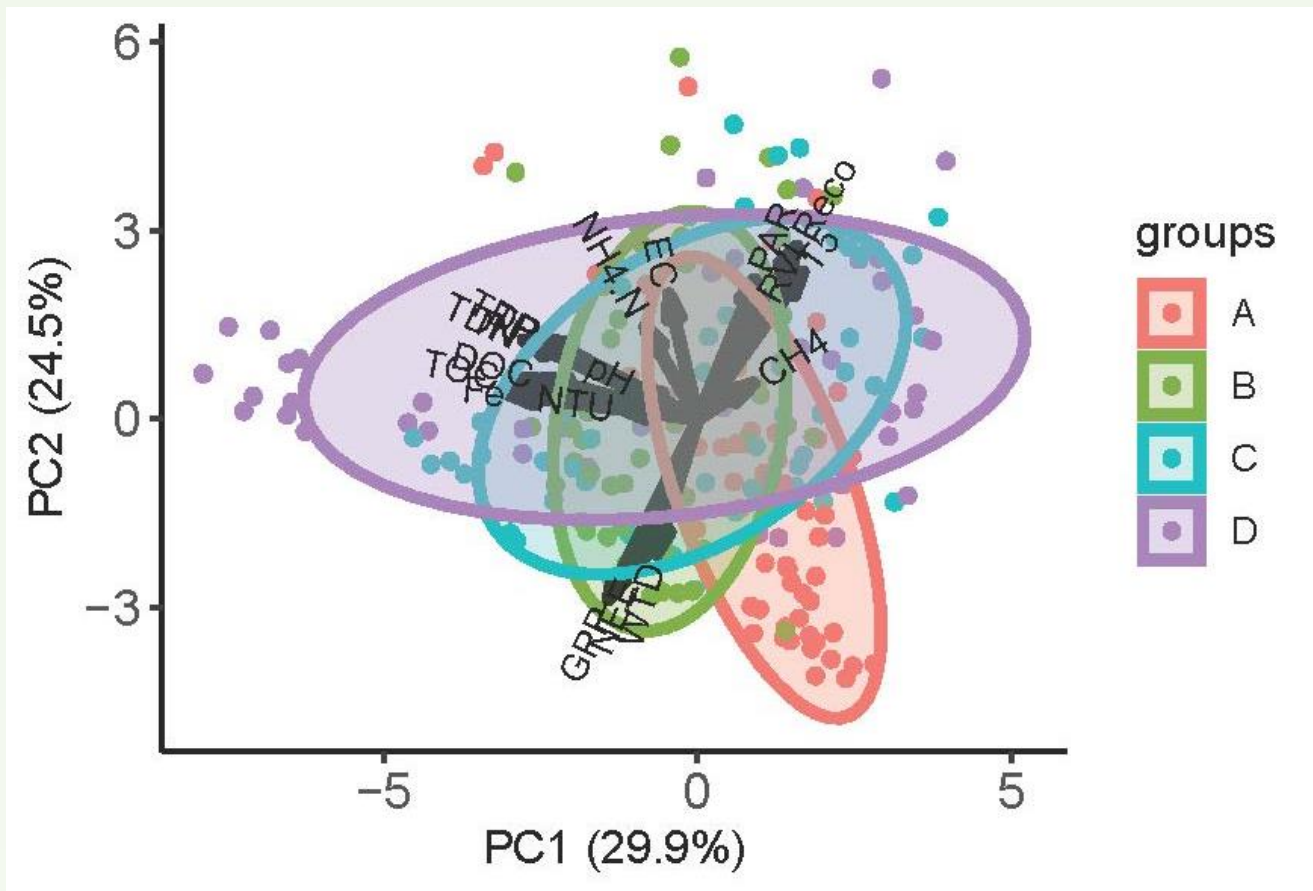
$$GPP = \frac{GPP_{max} * PAR}{k + PAR} * \left( \frac{RVI}{RVI + \alpha} \right) * FT$$

The net ecosystem exchange (*NEE*) was calculated as = *GPP* + *Reco*

The sensitivity of Reco to WTD and Ts data was tested by using mean annual data and comparing results to those of the hourly models.

## RESULTS

| Plot         | Harv. treatment | Reco<br>t CO <sub>2</sub> -C ha <sup>-1</sup> yr <sup>-1</sup> | GPP<br>t CO <sub>2</sub> -C ha <sup>-1</sup> yr <sup>-1</sup> | NEE<br>t CO <sub>2</sub> -C ha <sup>-1</sup> yr <sup>-1</sup> | Yield<br>t C ha <sup>-1</sup> yr <sup>-1</sup> | NECB<br>t C ha <sup>-1</sup> yr <sup>-1</sup> |
|--------------|-----------------|--|---|---|--|---|
| A            | 0               | 15.43  | -14.19  | 1.24  | NA   | 1.24  |
| B            |                 | 18.61  | -13.02  | 5.59  | NA   | 5.59  |
| C            |                 | 26.23  | -16   | 10.23   | NA   | 10.23   |
| D            |                 | 29.43  | -18.88  | 10.55   | NA   | 10.55   |
| Average ± SE |                 | 22.43 ± 3.25   | -15.52 ± 1.28   | 6.9 ± 2.2   | NA   | 6.9 ± 2.2                                     |
| A            | 2               | 14.9   | -15.29  | -0.39   | 1.92   | 1.53  |
| B            |                 | 23.57  | -20.82  | 2.75  | 4.52   | 7.27  |
| C            |                 | 26.36  | -22.04  | 4.32  | 4.63   | 8.95  |
| D            |                 | 23.7   | -20.59  | 3.11  | 5.03   | 8.14  |
| Average ± SE |                 | 22.13 ± 2.5  | -19.69 ± 1.5  | 2.45 ± 1  | 4.03 ± 0.71                                    | 6.47 ± 1.68                                   |
| A            | 5               | 20.6   | -18.45  | 2.15  | 3.48   | 5.63  |
| B            |                 | 21   | -20.17  | 0.83  | 3.88   | 4.71  |
| C            |                 | 23.66  | -20.39  | 3.27  | 3.53   | 6.8   |
| D            |                 | 24.26  | -21.88  | 2.38  | 4.5  | 6.88  |
| Average ± SE |                 | 22.38 ± 0.92   | -20.22 ± 0.7  | 2.16 ± 0.5  | 3.8 ± 0.23                                     | 6.0 ± 0.52                                    |



PCA plot showing variability on the data. PC1 shows the influence of nutrients, PC2 shows the influence of Reco and GPP the data.

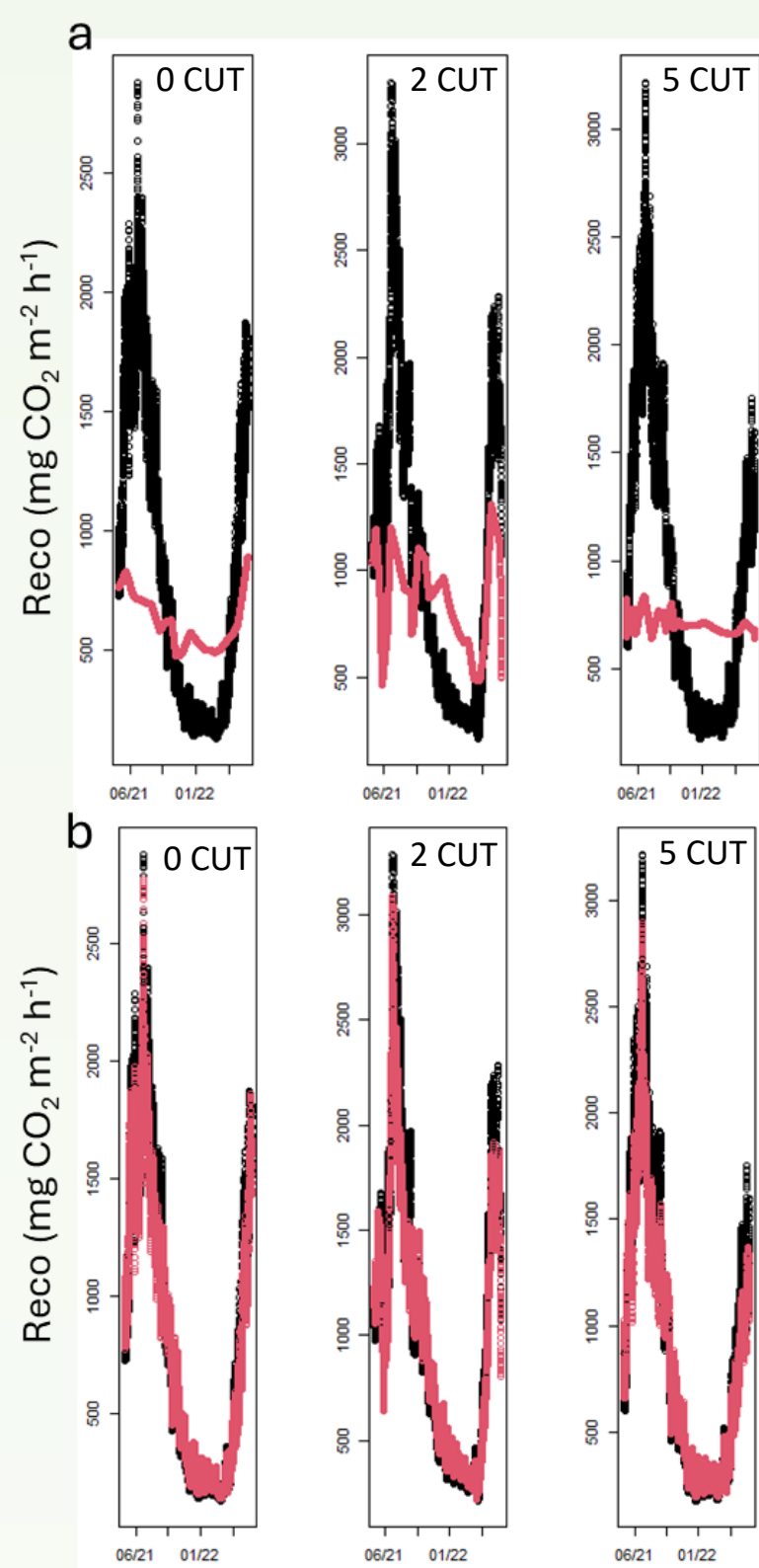
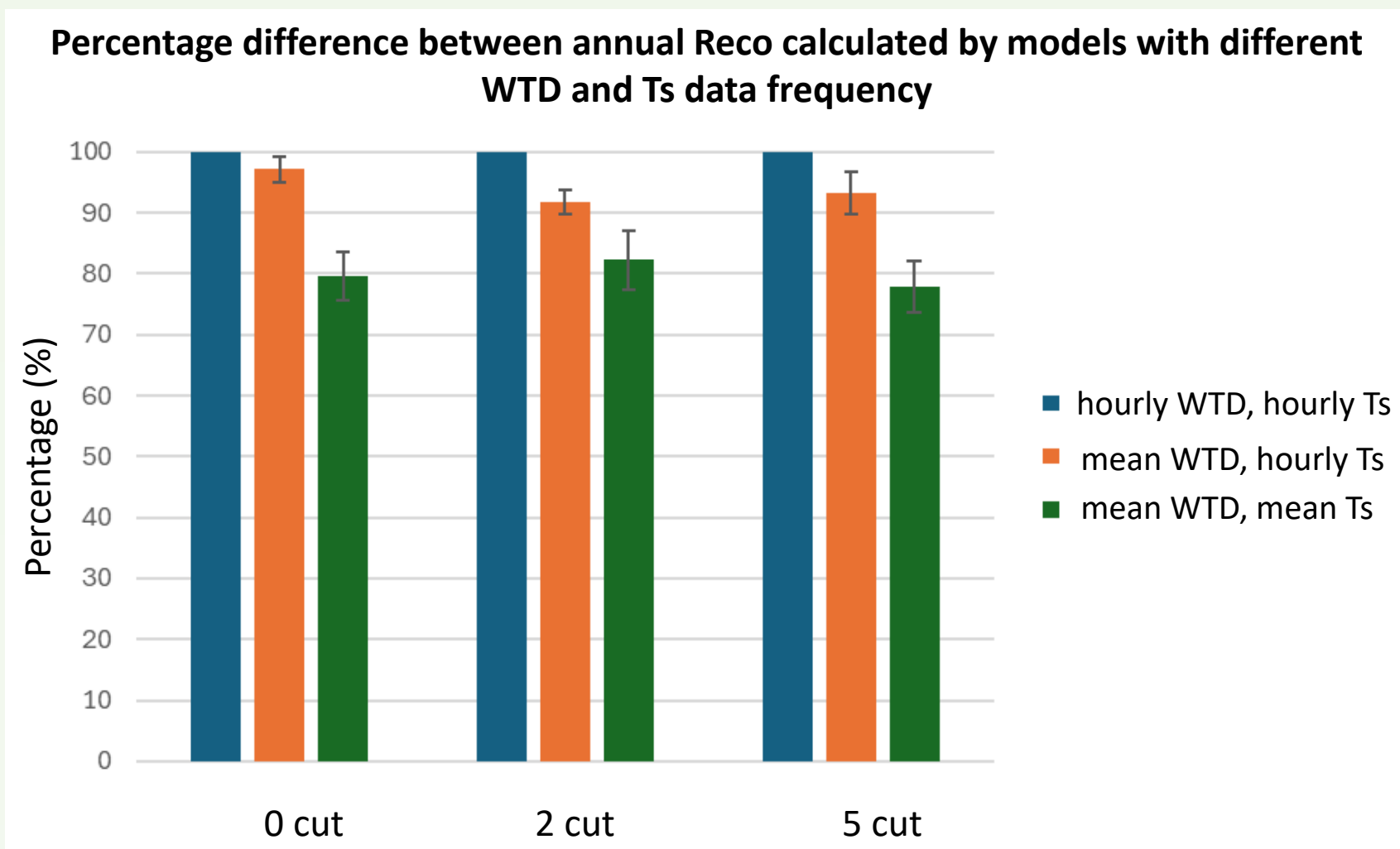
Table showing the effect of adding nutrients to linear mixed models of Reco, GPP, and NEE.

| Parameter       | Reco effect | GPP effect |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| TOC             | Sig         | N          |
| DOC             | Sig         | N          |
| TN              | Sig         | N          |
| TDN             | Sig         | N          |
| NH <sub>4</sub> | N           | N          |
| TP              | Sig*        | N          |
| TDP             | Sig*        | N          |
| Fe              | Sig*        | N          |
| pH              | Sig*        | Sig*       |
| Turbidity       | N           | N          |
| EC              | N           | Sig*       |

Sig\* indicates an improvement of linear model which varied between harvest treatments, N indicates no effect of improving linear model.

- Nutrients positively correlated to each other suggesting common drivers.
- Reco and Ts negatively correlated to GPP and WTD.
- Data clustering with plots A and D having the largest differences.
- Higher nutrient concentrations generally found in plots C and D (plots with highest CO<sub>2</sub> emissions), while lowest nutrient concentrations were found in plot A.
- Including nutrients to linear mixed models improved Reco models.

- GPP was different between harvest treatments. Biomass harvesting led to more photosynthesis.
- Marginally significant differences in Reco and net ecosystem C balance (NECB) between studied plot replicates.



- Using mean WTD and mean Ts, while keeping hourly RVI leads to an underestimation of annual Reco that ranged between 11 and 29%.
- Using mean WTD and hourly Ts and RVI leads to an Reco underestimation of 6% on average.

Comparison of Reco modelled by hourly WTD and Ts (black line) to Reco modelled with mean annual WTD (red line, top), and Reco modelled with mean annual WTD and hourly Ts (red line, bottom). Example for plot B.

## CONCLUSIONS

- Biomass harvesting did not increase GHG emissions during early rewetting.
- The use of high frequency WTD data can capture CO<sub>2</sub> dynamics throughout the year.
- Data on pore water nutrient concentrations can lead to an understanding of peatland heterogeneity and could potentially improve Reco estimations.

# ASSESSMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF MICROPLASTICS IN COMPOST SAMPLES

Paloma Sánchez-Argüello<sup>1</sup>, Gema Sáez-Salto<sup>1</sup>, Simon Weldon<sup>2</sup>, Pierre-Adrien Rivier<sup>2</sup>,  
Alice Budai<sup>2</sup> and Antonio Martín-Esteban<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>National Institute for Agricultural and Food Research and Technology (INIA),  
Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), Madrid, Spain

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# OBJECTIVE

To evaluate the **presence of microplastics** in two different **compost samples** and corresponding feedstocks

## SAMPLES

**Substrate:** mix of 55% household food waste and 45% animal manure

**Biochar:** mixed wood pyrolysed at 550°C HTT (Highest Treatment Temperature)

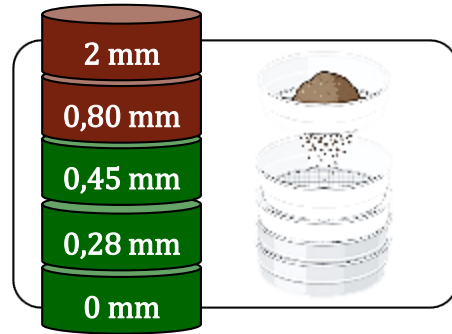
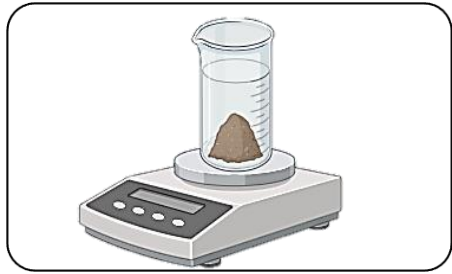
**Compost 1:** substrate (30 L) + wood shavings (68 L) + wood chips (20 L)

**Compost 2:** substrate (30 L) + wood shaving (65 L)+ wood chips (20 L) + **biochar** (3 L)

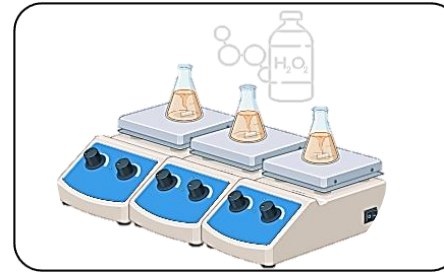
**Composting conditions:** Composts were turned daily during the thermophilic stage (3 weeks above 50°C with peaks above 65°C) and then turned every second week during the maturation phase (about 6 month).

# METHODS

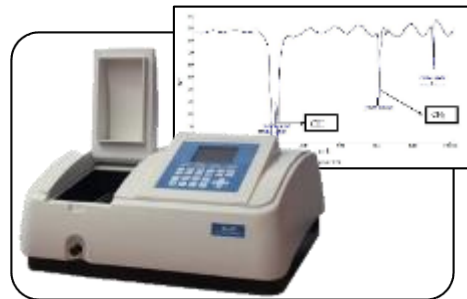
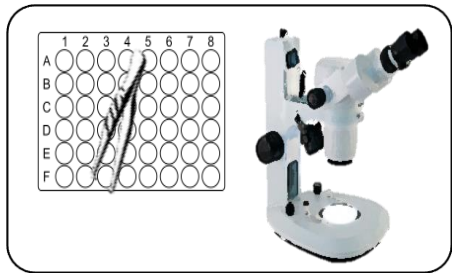
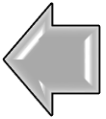
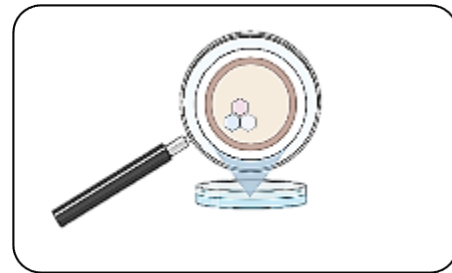
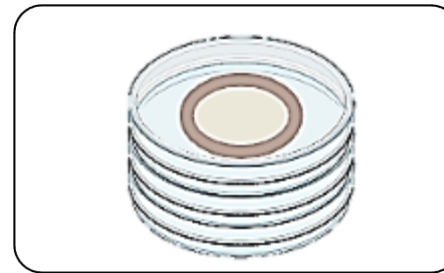
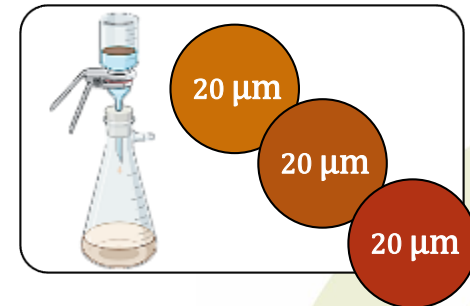
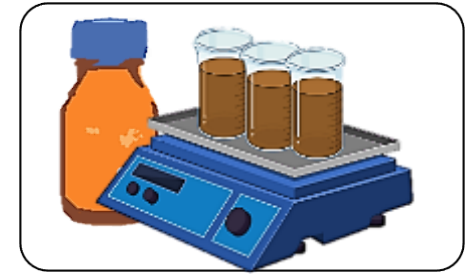
5 g of sample



10 ml  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ , 24 h  
under stirring




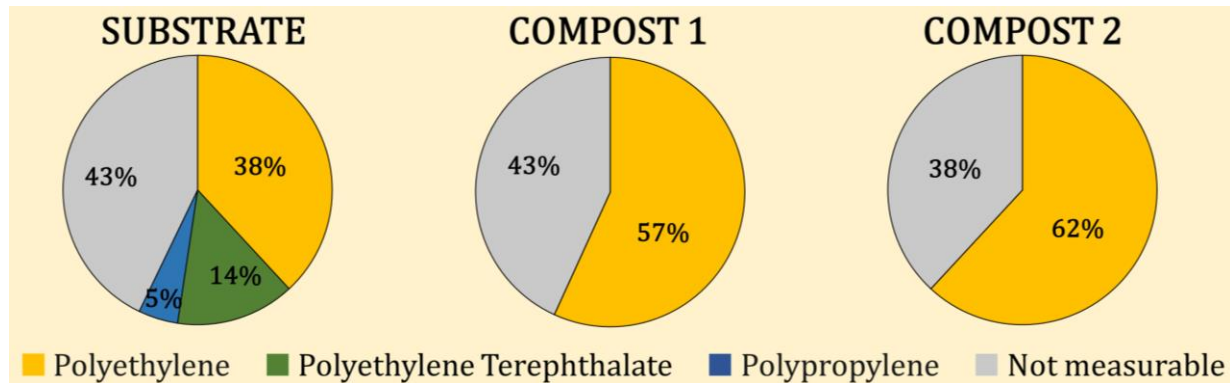
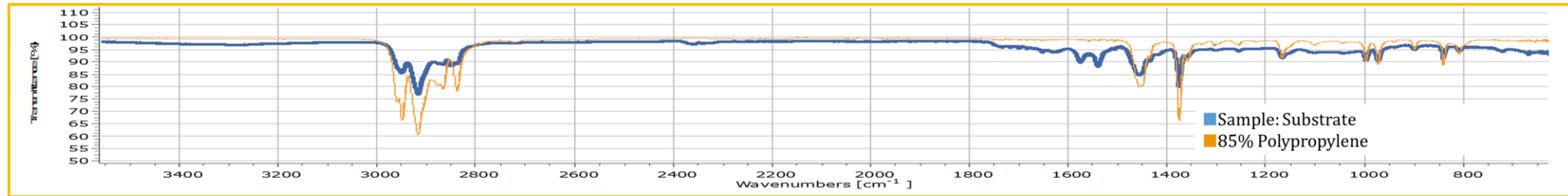
100 ml  $\text{ZnCl}_2$  ( $d = 1.6 \text{ mg/l}$ )  
1.5 h under stirring  
2 h sedimentation



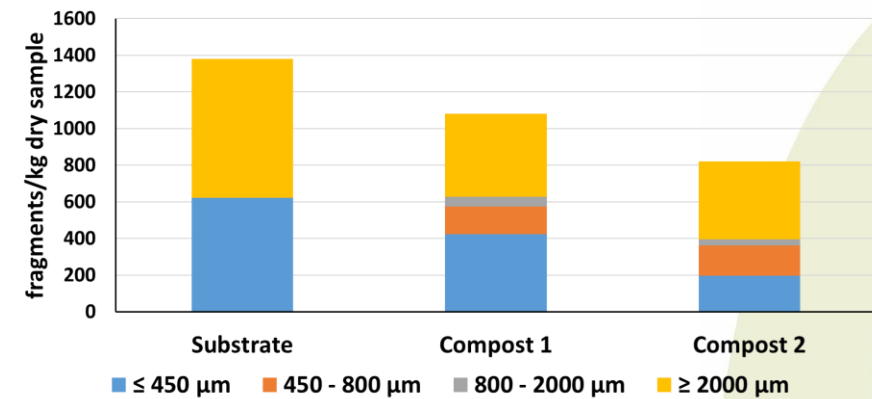
# RESULTS

## EXAMPLE

|           |             |                     |   |
|-----------|-------------|---------------------|---|
| SUBSTRATE | Texture     | Hard                |  |
|           | Colour      | Red                 |   |
|           | Size        | >2000 $\mu\text{m}$ |   |
|           | Composition | Polypropylene       |   |



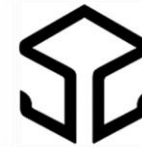
## Particle size distribution



# CONCLUSIONS

- The estimated **concentration of microplastics ranged from 820 to 1340 fragments/Kg** of dry sample range, depending upon the sample.
- Three polymers represented the totality of **identified plastic items: polyethylene** (including both low and high density), **polyethylene terephthalate** and **polypropylene** in order of abundance.
- Fragments presented different shape, size and colour.
- Although an effect due to 'dilution' with wood additives cannot be ruled out, **the results obtained suggest that microplastics are further fragmented during composting.**
- Finally, **further research is needed to determine whether biochar in compost enhances microplastic fragmentation**, as the lower levels of microplastic fragments observed in our study could be explained by an increase in fragments not measurable with our method (i.e. extremely small fragments and nanoplastics).

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



**NIBIO**  
NORSK INSTITUTT FOR  
BIOØKONOMI



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# Trade-off analysis of conventional and organic crop rotations under current and future climate scenarios in Finland

**Calone Roberta, Acutis Marco, Valkama Elena, Botta Marco, Perego Alessia, Di Bene Claudia, Bregaglio Simone**



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI MILANO





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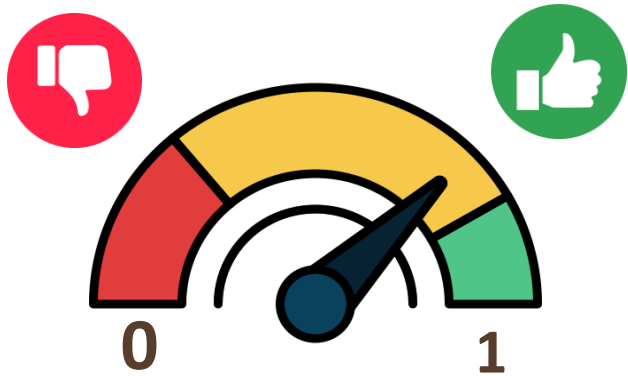
**EJP** SOIL  
ARTEMIS



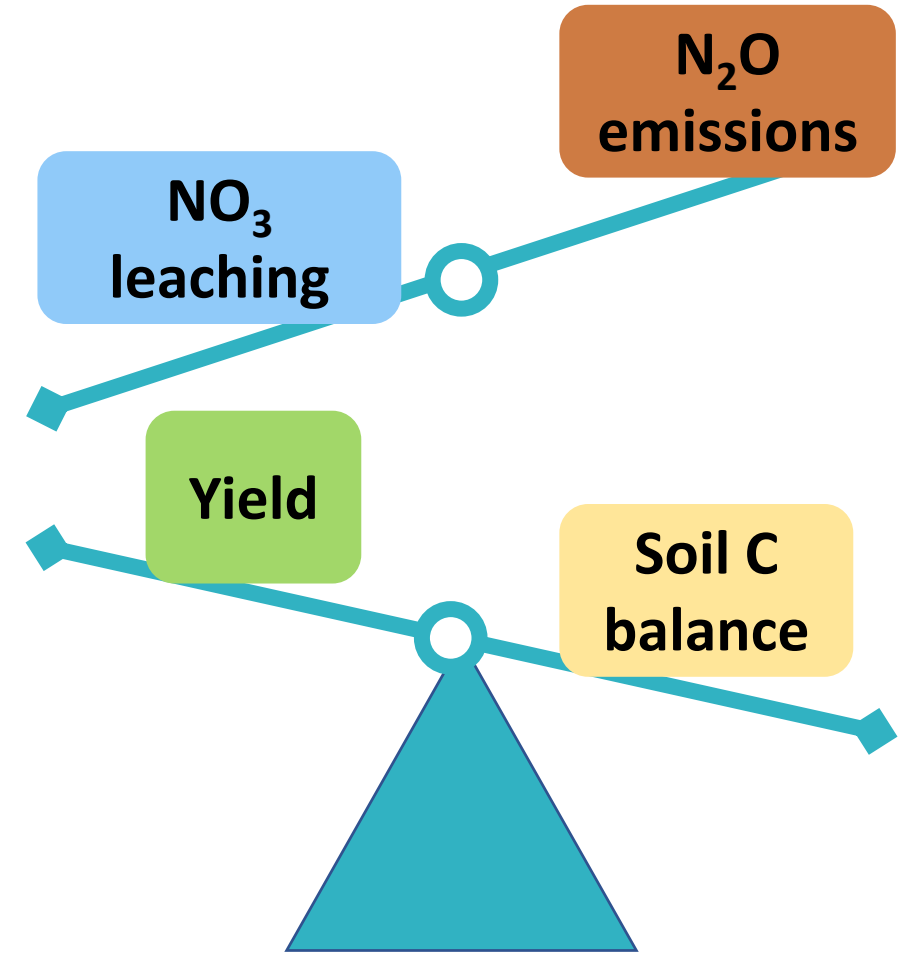


Identify the best crop rotation strategy

Trade-offs



Fuzzy logic based composite index

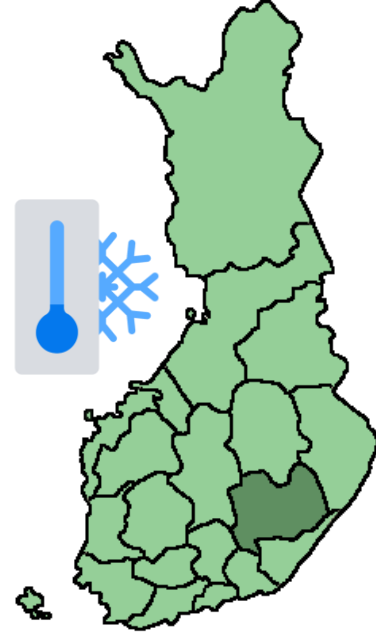




Finland, South Savo



9 rotation strategies



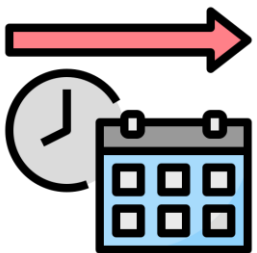
ARMOSA  
crop model

Yield

Soil C  
balance

N<sub>2</sub>O  
emissions

NO<sub>3</sub>  
leaching

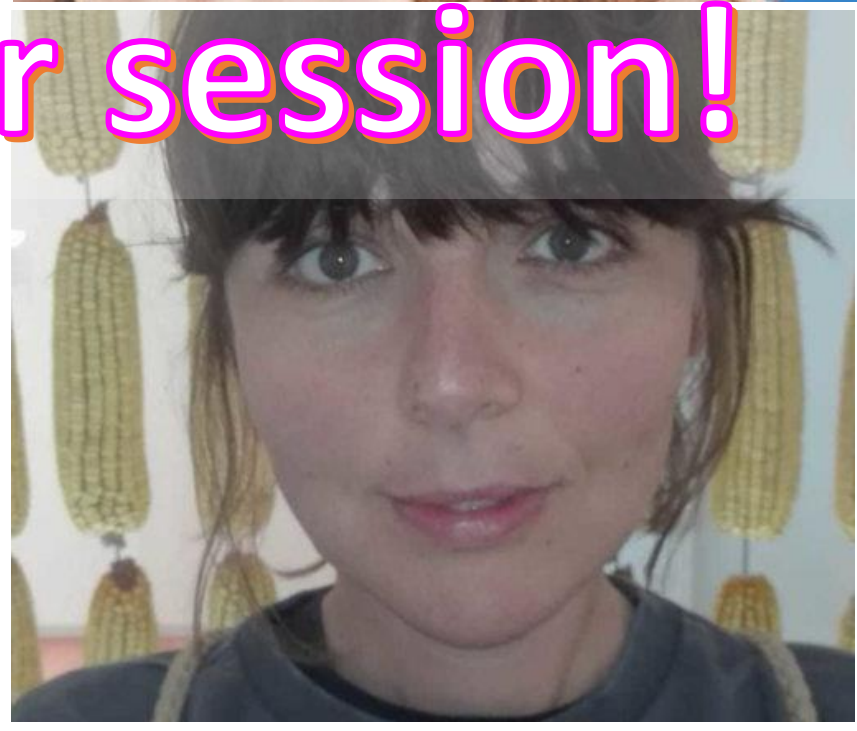
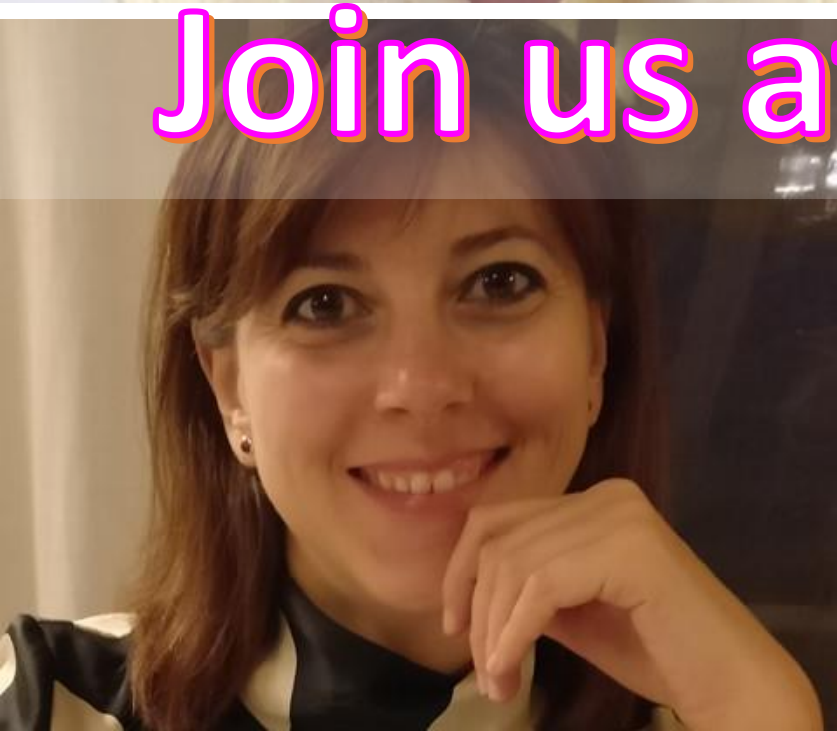


historical (1999-2022)

future (2040-2069 & 2070-2100)



Curious about the results? 😊



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# EJP SOIL

European Joint Programme



More than a Dialogue between actors, seeking the integration of soil-based principles in agroecological systems

## **KNOWING AND NEEDS ON SOIL QUALITY INDICATORS FOR AGROECOLOGICAL PRACTICES: RESULTS FROM A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF LONG-TERM EXPERIMENTS IN COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN “INTO DIALOGUE” EJP SOIL PROJECT**

A. Maienza, A. Un, J. Renovell, G. Biancofiore, G. Buttafuoco, O., Szabó, M. Pisarčík, P. Fuksa,  
J. Grabinski, E. Lumini, S. Di Lonardo, M. Kushnir, M. Kovandova,  
M. Vilkiene, I. Mockeviciene, B. Dirnena, S. Asins



## RATIONALE

Agroecological practices are **promoted** with the aim of soil conservation preserving soil quality, fertility, and health.

# WHAT IS **KNOWN** AND WHAT IS **NEEDED** ON INDICATORS OF SOIL HEALTH AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN AGROECOLOGICALLY MANAGED FIELDS?



A total of 366 papers on **LTE** were read.  
After the screening process,  
**166 publications** were included in the review,  
**published between 2018-2022**  
(SCOPUS and WOS)

# KNOWN

| SOIL COMPONENT         | SOIL HEALTH PARAMETER                  | INDICATOR                            | ECOSYSTEM SERVICES              |
|------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Physical               | Soil structure (macro and micro pores) | porosity                             | Soil Structure-SUPPORTING       |
| Physical               | Soil structure                         | penetration resistance               | Soil Structure-SUPPORTING       |
| Biochemical/Functional | Enzymes                                | Enzymes (uresase. B glucosidase etc) | Nutrient and Cycling-SUPPORTING |
| Chemical               | Available Nitrogen                     | Nav ;N                               | Nutrient and Cycling-SUPPORTING |
| Chemical               | Available Phosphorus                   | P; Pav; P olsen                      | Nutrient and Cycling-SUPPORTING |
| Chemical               | Exchangeable basese                    | K Ca Mg                              | Nutrient and Cycling-SUPPORTING |
| Chemical               | Soil exchangeable capacity             | CEC-CSC                              | Nutrient and Cycling-SUPPORTING |
| Chemical               | Soil exchangeable capacity             | pH                                   | Nutrient and Cycling-SUPPORTING |
| Chemical               | Soil organic carbon                    | SOC-SOM-TOC-C-OC                     | Soil organic Matter-REGULATING  |
| Biochemical/Functional | Carbon microbial biomass               | MBC                                  | Microbial biomass-SUPPORTING    |
| Biological             | Arbuscular mycorrizhe                  | AMF                                  | Microbial biomass-SUPPORTING    |
| Biological             | Fungi                                  | Fungi                                | Microbial biomass-SUPPORTING    |
| Biological             | Bacteria                               | Bacteria                             | Microbial biomass-SUPPORTING    |
| Biological             | Mesofauna                              | microatropods                        | Soil biota- SUPPORTING          |
| Biological             | Macrofauna                             | eatrworms                            | Soil biota- SUPPORTING          |
| Biological             | Mesofauna                              | mesofauna                            | Soil biota- SUPPORTING          |
|                        | Biomass                                | yield                                | Production-PROVISIONING         |



Considered in  
20% of the papers



Considered in  
51% of the papers



Considered in  
only 7% of the papers

The main Long-Term experiments are focused on cereals

# KNOWN

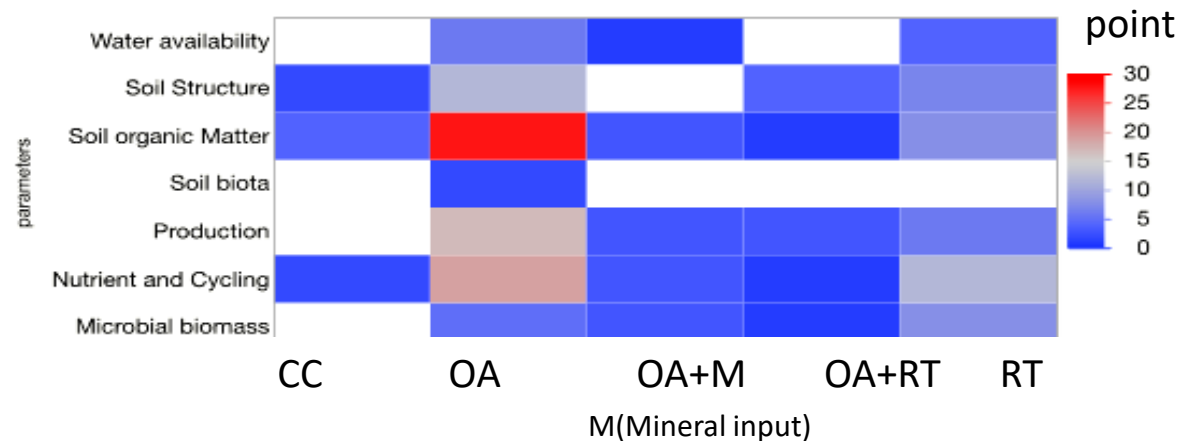
PAPERS DEALING WITH **AGRONOMIC PRACTICES** in relation to soil health in LTE were respectively:

**Organic amendment (OA) (n=70)**

**Cover crops (CC) (n=25)**

**Reduce Tillage (RT) (n=70)**

**Intercropping (IC) (n=52)**



# NEEDS.....?

You are invited to visit our  
Posters and Talks and  
DIALOGUE with us!



# Effects of Long-Term Soil Compaction on Physical Parameters and Carbon Stocks under Pannonian Conditions

Riedl Paul<sup>1\*</sup>, Moitzi Gerhard<sup>1</sup>, Wagentristl Helmut<sup>1</sup> and Weninger Thomas<sup>2</sup>

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### Introduction:

- Soil compaction is a major threat to soil productivity and ecological and hydrological soil functioning.
- The impact of soil compaction on SOC storage has been little studied and the results differ.
- Long-term experiments on soil compaction are rare.

### Research Objective:

Comparison of soil physical indicators and stocks of total carbon (TC), total organic carbon (TOC), and total nitrogen (TN) in a non-compacted area (in-field=IF) and a compacted area (headland=HL) in an arable field. Sampling conducted in the year 2023.



### Methods

- Soil penetration resistance (0-40 cm) with Eijkelkamp Penetrologger (1 cm<sup>2</sup>, 60° )
- 3 pits in-field (IF) and 3 pits headland (HL), each 1,2 m deep
- Sampling for bulk density, total soil N, and TOC in 6 layers (0-10, 10-20, 20-30, 30-40, 40-50, 50-70 and 70-100 cm), 3 cylindrical rings per layer.

### Study Site

- *Pedo-climatic-zone-name*: Pannonian.
- Soil region 153 (Calcic and Chernic Chernozems) Clayey Sand (T ~ 25%, S > 70% , Calcaric Chernozem of alluvial origin.
- *Location*: Raasdorf, Lower Austria, altitude 197 m.
- Mean precipitation (1980-2018): 546 mm, Mean annual temperature: 10.9° C.
- Management: ploughless, plant residues left on the field.
- Crops since 2016: yellow oat, winter wheat, spring durum wheat, winter wheat, winter durum wheat, winter barely, sugar beet, spring durum wheat.



### Result: Bulk Density

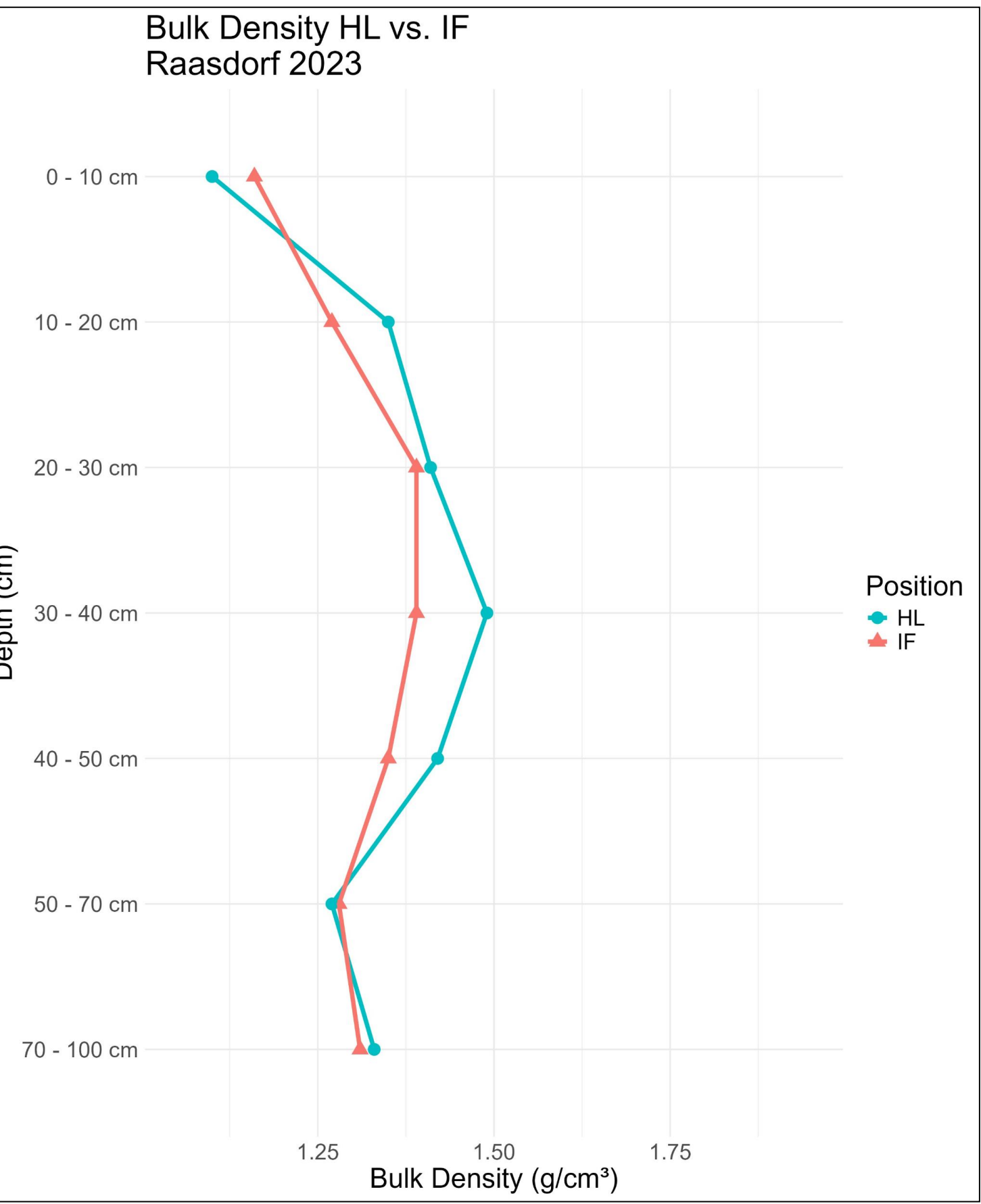


Figure 1: Bulk Density in g/cm<sup>3</sup>, taken in Raasdorf (Austria) from Headland (HL) and In-Field (IF) from different depths, sampling date: September 27, 2023, n=9.

### Result: Total carbon (TC) Stock



Figure 2: Total carbon (TC) in t ha<sup>-1</sup>, taken in Raasdorf (Austria) from Headland (HL) and In-Field (IF) from different depth layers, calculated for each layer, sampling date: September 27, 2023, n=9.

### Result: Crop yield 2023

#### Spring Durum Wheat

Variety: Floadur

Seeding date: 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2023

Manually harvested in 1 m<sup>2</sup> on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023 (n=3)

| Position | Grain yield (kg/ha)_14% | Straw yield (kg/ha)_14% | Harvest-index (%) | TKW (g)_14% |
|----------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Mean IF  | 3640                    | 6408                    | 36.3              | 32.0        |
| Mean HL  | 4193                    | 6870                    | 37.9              | 37.5        |

### Results: Soil penetration resistance

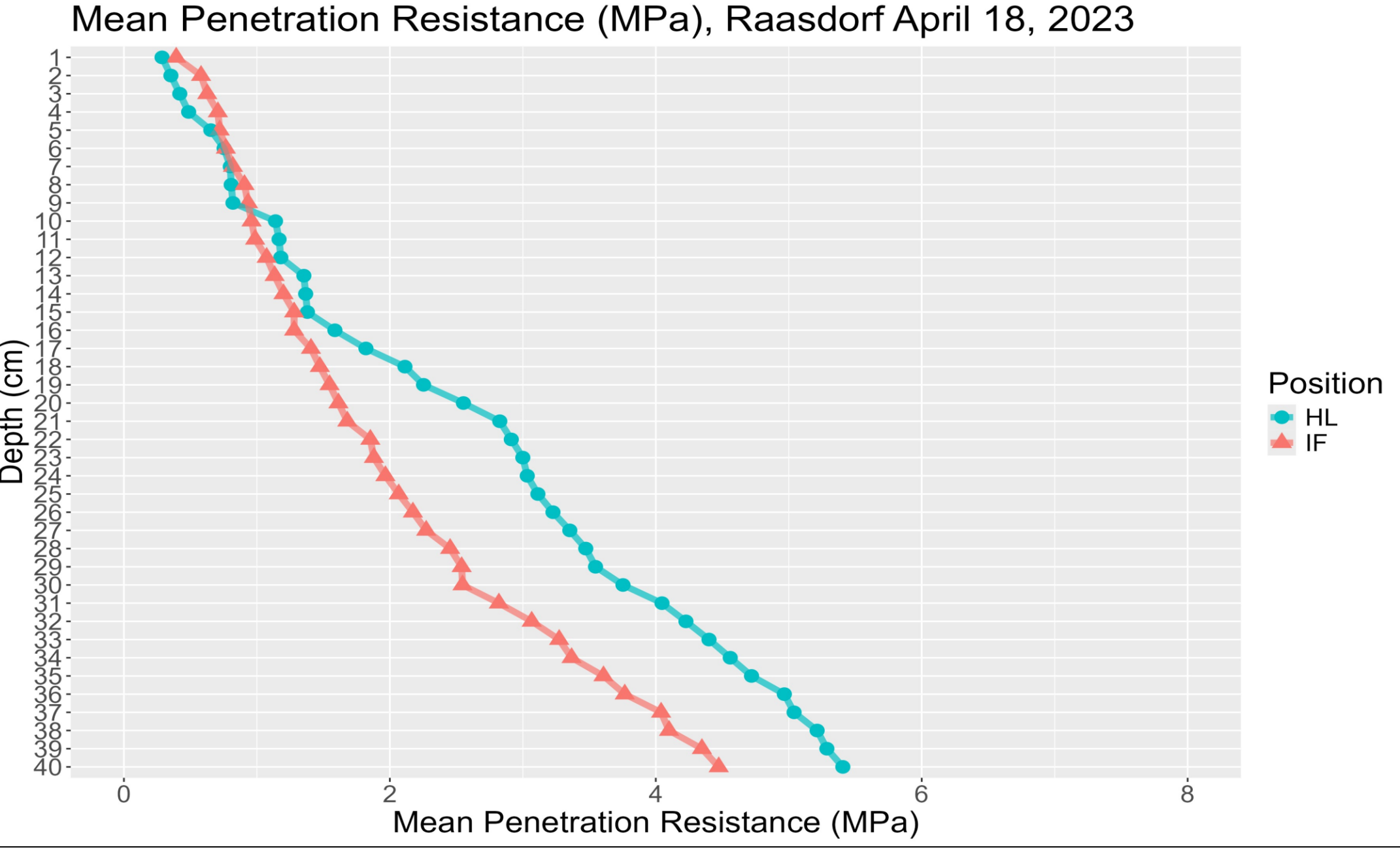


Figure 5: Mean soil penetration resistance, taken in Raasdorf (Austria) from Headland (HL) and In-Field (IF) to a depth of 40 cm, sampling date: April 18, 2023, cone penetrometer (Eijkelkamp, The Netherlands) (60° cone and 1 cm<sup>2</sup>), n=55, soil moisture: 0 - 10 cm: 22%; 10 - 20 cm: 25%; 20 - 30 cm: 28%; 30 - 40 cm: 28%.

Increases:  
20 cm: +58%  
30 cm: +47%  
40 cm: +21%  
10-20 cm: +26%  
20-40 cm: +42%

### Result: Total Organic carbon (TOC) stock

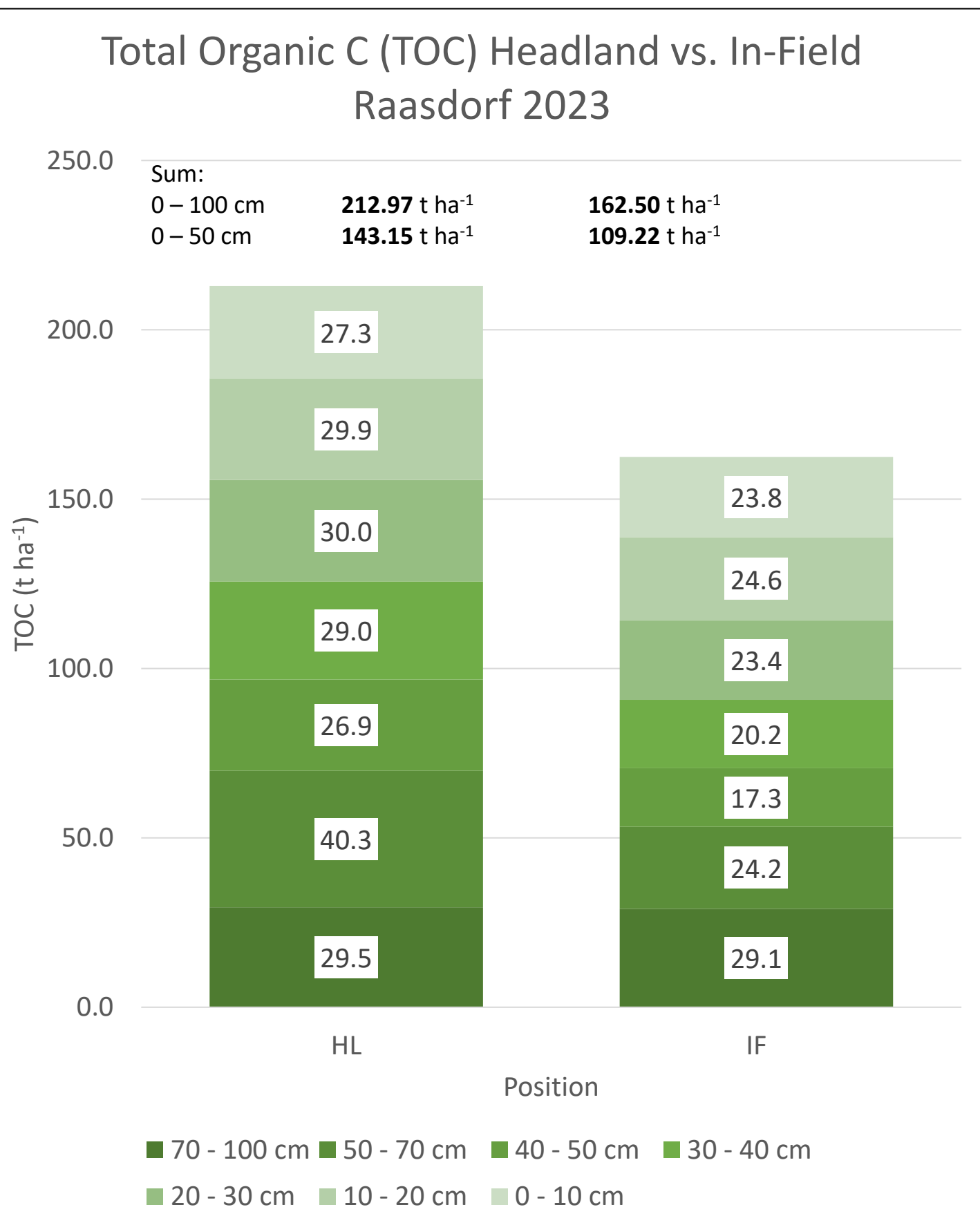


Figure 3: Total organic carbon (TOC) in t ha<sup>-1</sup>, taken in Raasdorf (Austria) from Headland (HL) and In-Field (IF) from different depth layers, calculated for each layer, sampling date: September 27, 2023, n=9.

### Result: Total Nitrogen (TN) stock

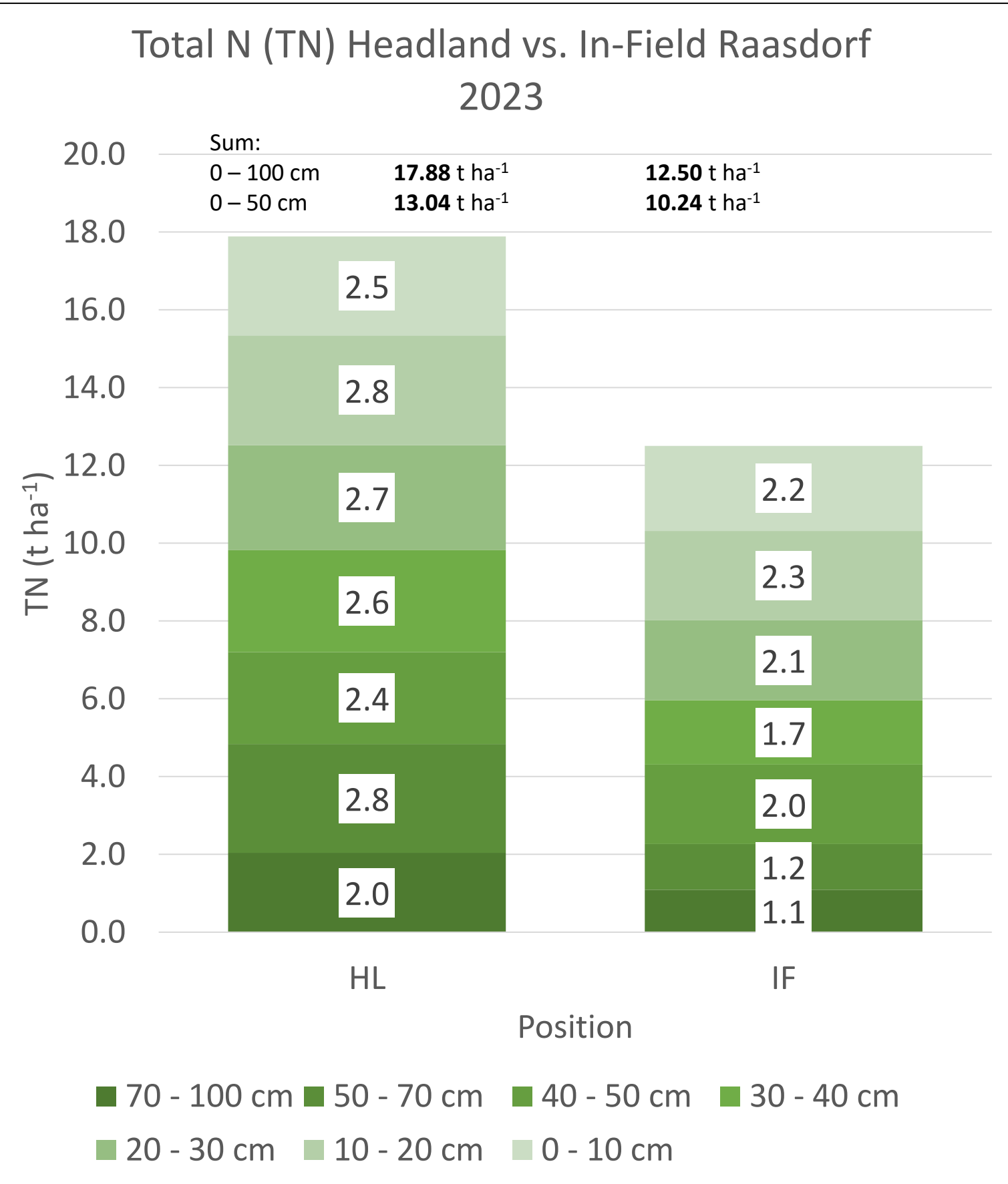
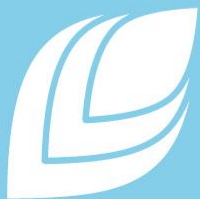


Figure 4: Total Nitrogen (TN) in t ha<sup>-1</sup>, taken in Raasdorf (Austria) from Headland (HL) and In-Field (IF) from different depth layers, calculated for each layer, sampling date: September 27, 2023, n=9.

### Summary

- Headlands of arable cropping fields are an evident site for soil compaction.
- The higher field traffic frequency with higher wheel load in the Headland resulted in higher soil penetration resistance in the subsoil.
- The bulk density differed between IF (=reference) and HL:  
0-10 cm: -4%, 10-20 cm: +1%, 20-30 cm: +1%, 30-40 cm: +7%, 40-50 cm: +5%, 50-70cm: 0%, 70-100 cm: +1%.
- HL (0 - 50 cm) had higher stocks of TC (+5.3 %), TOC (+31.1 %) and of TN (+27.3 %).
- This site-specific result indicates that the compacted soil accumulated organic carbon and nitrogen in the soil. This could be explained by a reduced decomposition of soil organic matter due to mitigated air permeability.

- 1. Effects of sheep wool pellets and black soldier fly (*Hermetia illucens*) frass on soil biota**
- 2. The impact of Black Soldier Fly (*Hermetia illucens*) larvae frass on the abundance and diversity of springtails (Collembola) and on cereal crop yield**
- 3. The impact of various organic materials in pot experiments on the survival of forest trees**



**EJP SOIL**  
European Joint Programme

EJP SOIL has received  
funding from the European  
Union's Horizon 2020  
research and innovation  
programme: Grant  
agreement No 862695



# Effects of sheep wool pellets and black soldier fly (*Hermetia illucens*) frass on soil biota

*Shanskiy Merrit*, Kuu Annely, Reissaar Rihard, Escuer-Gatius Jordi, Ivask Mari, Noormets Merilin, Konsap Kadri, Sutri Merit, [merrit.shanskiy@emu.ee](mailto:merrit.shanskiy@emu.ee)

## Introduction

*Sheep wool* valuable resource for slow release nutrients, organic origin.

*Hermetia illucens* larvae are highly efficient decomposers of various types of organic wastes, frass is valuable organic fertilizert.

## Materials and Methods

Field trial with five treatments:

- Control (unfertilized)
  - Sheep wool pellets were applied 40, 60, 80 kg N/ ha
  - *H. illucens* frass was applied 40, 60 kg N/ha
- Each treatment was replicated three times.

## Results

- There were 3 earthworm species in 2022 and 4 in 2023.
- Higher the frass norms had greater impact on earthworm abundance (2.2 kg: 96.0±14.1 vs 1.65 kg: 85.3±23.4 in 2022).
- Microbial respiration was reduced by higher rate of sheep wool pellets.
- The yields from experiment were 6.4 -7.9 t/ha



Photos Noormets, M., Ivask, M., Shanskiy, M.

# The impact of Black Soldier Fly (*Hermetia illucens*) larvae frass on the abundance and diversity of springtails (Collembola) and on cereal crop yield

Reissaar Rihard<sup>1\*</sup>, Kuu Annely<sup>1</sup>, Sutri Merit<sup>1</sup>, Talgre Liina<sup>2</sup> and Shanskiy Merrit<sup>1</sup>

In the field trial, there were six different treatments:

- control (unfertilized)
- mycorrhiza (unfertilized)
- mycorrhiza + frass (74 kg N/ha)
- small dosage of frass (74 kg N/ha)
- large dosage of frass (150 kg N/ha)
- full agrotechnology (fertilized with NPK mineral fertilizer, 150 kg N/ha).

Each treatment was replicated three times.

- highest average abundance = mycorrhiza + frass
- total of 42 species of springtails were identified

The most abundant species were:

- *Xenylla grisea*
- *Parisotoma notabilis*
- *Folsomia quadrioculata*.



\*Photo by Andy Murray

*Hermetia illucens* larvae are highly efficient decomposers of various types of organic waste, food waste, and agricultural by-products.



# The impact of various organic materials in pot experiments on the survival of forest trees

Kuu Annely and Shanskiy Merrit

The aim of this research project is to find techniques and materials that retain moisture for forest trees to assist in better rooting in mining areas

- The pot experiment
- Various organic materials (sheep wool pellets, sheep wool discs, biochar, sewage sludge etc.)

Results:

- Biochar and sheep wool discs had a positive impact
- The sheep wool pellets and mixture of materials (sheep wool pellets, biochar, sewage sludge on top) had a negative impact



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