

Functional diversity and potential of weeds as forage and floral resources: the case of Mediterranean vineyards and olive groves

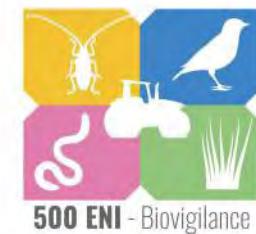
SEMINAIRE CBGP

Léa Genty

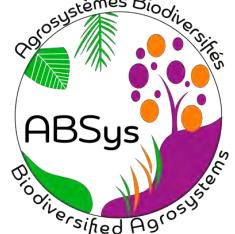
06/02/2024

Who am I ?

- Léa Genty – postdoc at ANSES with Guillaume Fried and Christine Meynard → « *Plants and Coleopteran diversity in agricultural field margins* », 2024-2025



- Phd Cirad 2020-2023 at UMR Absys with Aurélie Metay, Elena Kazakou and Karim Barkaoui on ecosystem services of weeds



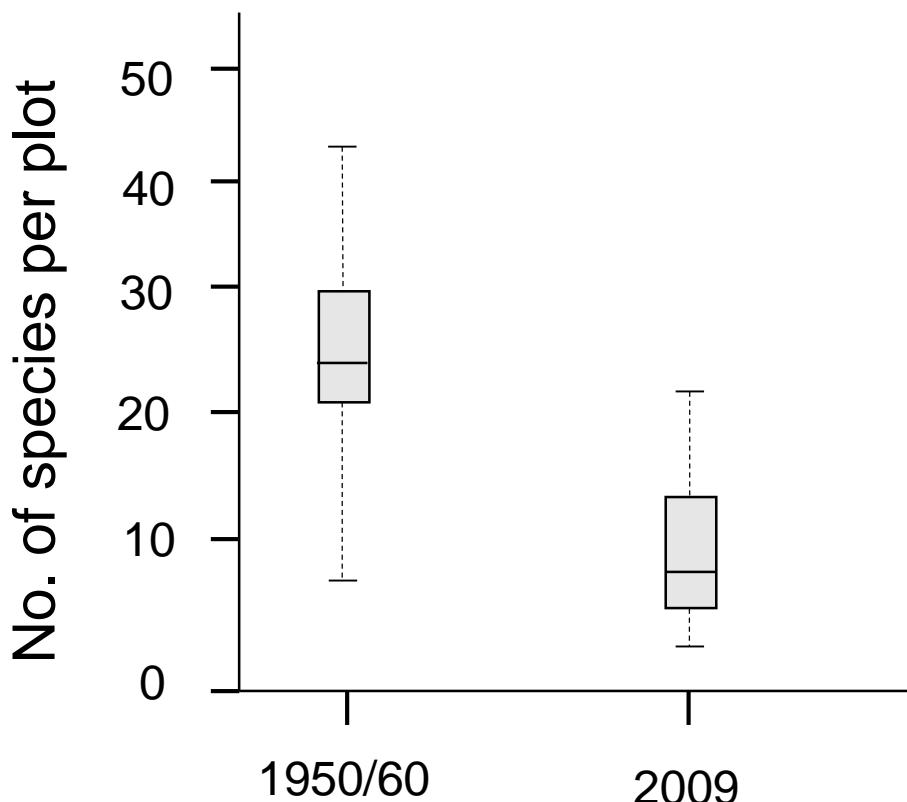
Introduction



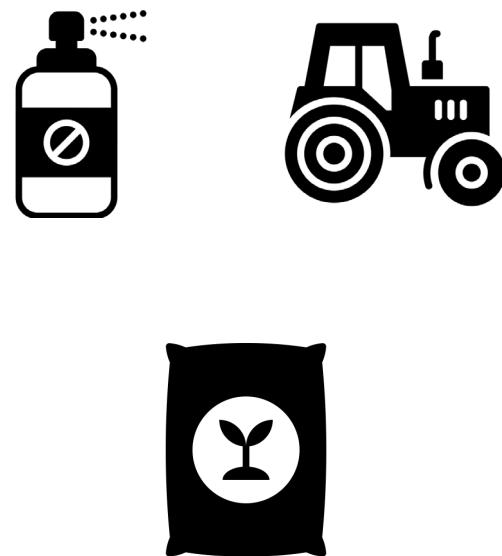
Plant biodiversity decline in agricultural environments

Since the 2nd half of XXth century

Reduction in the richness and abundance
of plants in agricultural environments



Direct links with
intensification due to the 2nd
agricultural revolution



Plant biodiversity in cultivated environments: weeds

Weeds: plant species that occur spontaneously in agricultural plots



1200 species in France

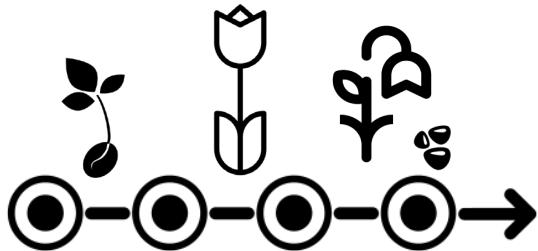
Adapted to a strong filter: agricultural practices



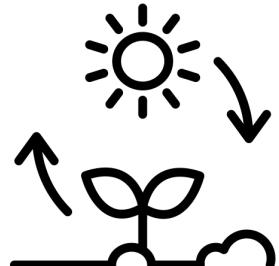
Weed biodiversity: adaption to disturbance and cultivated environments

Dominant common features:

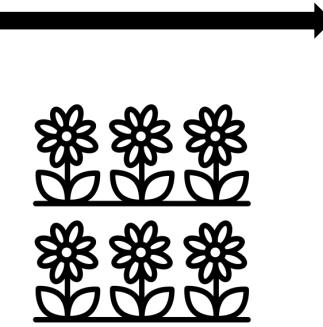
Annual life cycle



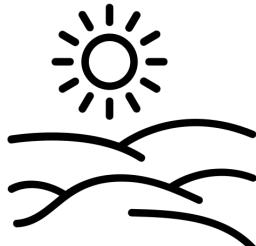
Fast resources
acquisition



Early and long flowering



Rich, sunny and dry
environments



These characteristics vary
according to the agroecosystem:



Bourgeois et al., 2019

Gaba et al., 2017 ; Hall et al., 2020 ; Fried et al., 2022

Perennial crops: high potential for weed biodiversity



Chemical weeding in
vineyard inter-row

ANSES, 2020

$\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$
of the
plot



Mowing and
plant cover

Bopp, 2023



Rare or threatened
species

Bruggiser et al., 2010 ; Cohen et al., 2015

Weeds deliver ecosystem services in perennial crops

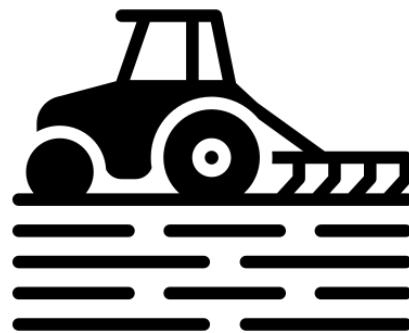
Ecosystem service: "the contribution of ecosystems to human well-being".

Supporting

Limit soil erosion



Increase bearing capacity of
the soil



Haines-Young & Potschin, 2010

Regulation

Favor pests natural enemies or
pollinators



Bethylidae



Proctotrupidae



Anthocoridae

Few studies on weeds potential to provide **supply services**

Few studies on the provision of food resources by weeds

- Sheep grazing in vineyards, orchards or olive groves increases
 - Socio-economic benefits
 - Beneficial effects on soil
 - Ecological benefits



Forage quality of weeds in perennial crops was not yet assessed

Niles et al., 2018 ; Ryschawy et al., 2021 ; Schoof et al., 2021

Few studies on the provision of food resources by weeds

- Flower strips: perennial agroecosystem species

Sonchus arvensis, *Papaver rhoeas*, *Calendula arvensis*, *Malva sylvestris*...



- Some common weed perennial agroecosystem species favored by bees

Picris hieracioides



Cirsium vulgare



Taraxacum sp



Echium vulgare



Floral resources in perennial crops was not yet assessed

Research question

What is the potential of **weeds** in Mediterranean vineyards and olive groves as **forage and floral resources** and how is it related to **weed communities functional structure?**

The functional approach to assess ecosystem services

Functional trait: "any morphological, physiological or phenological characteristic that can be measured at the individual level".

Violle et al., 2007

Taxonomic approach

Species



Medicago minima

Functional approach

Height

7 cm

From species to community via the community weighted mean (CWM)

Garnier et al., 2004

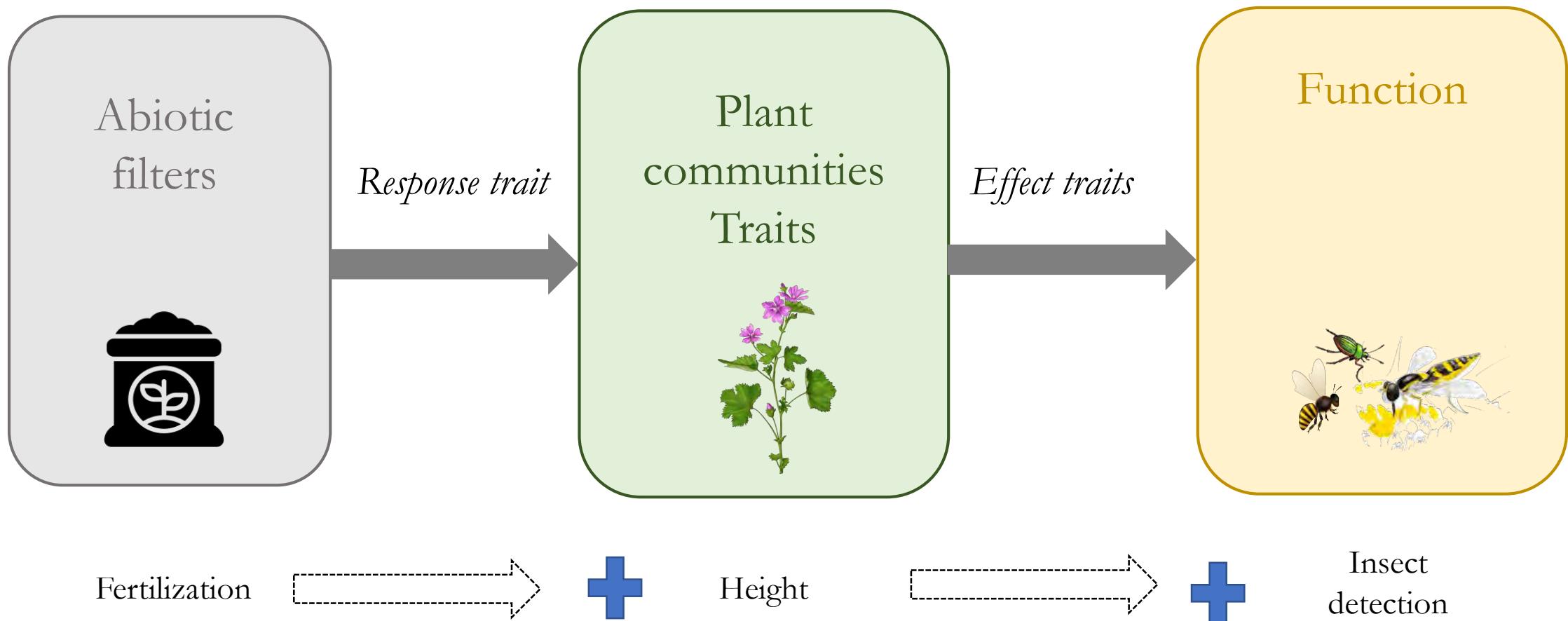


Diplotaxis erucoides

12 cm

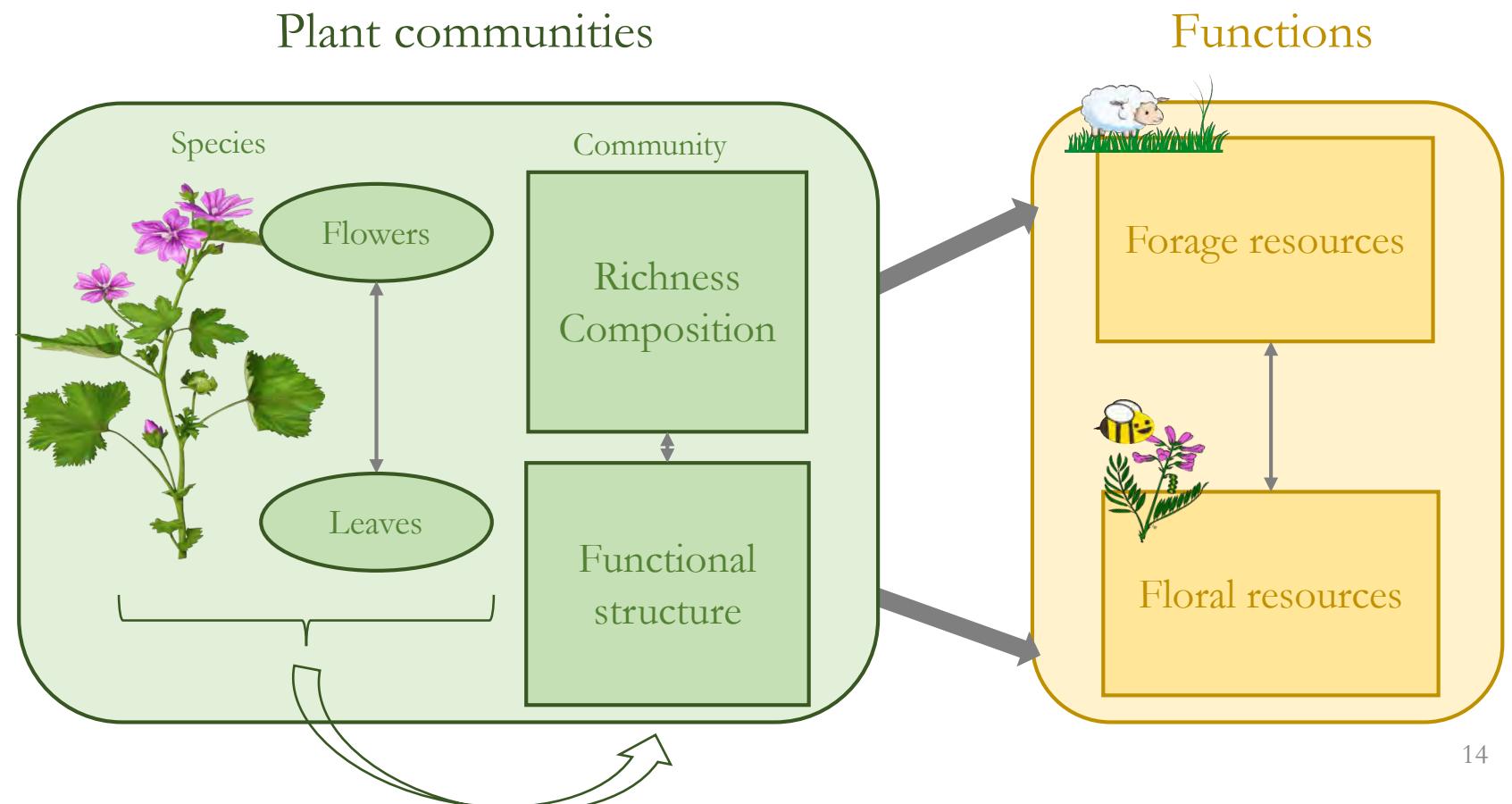


Trait-function-service framework in agricultural environments



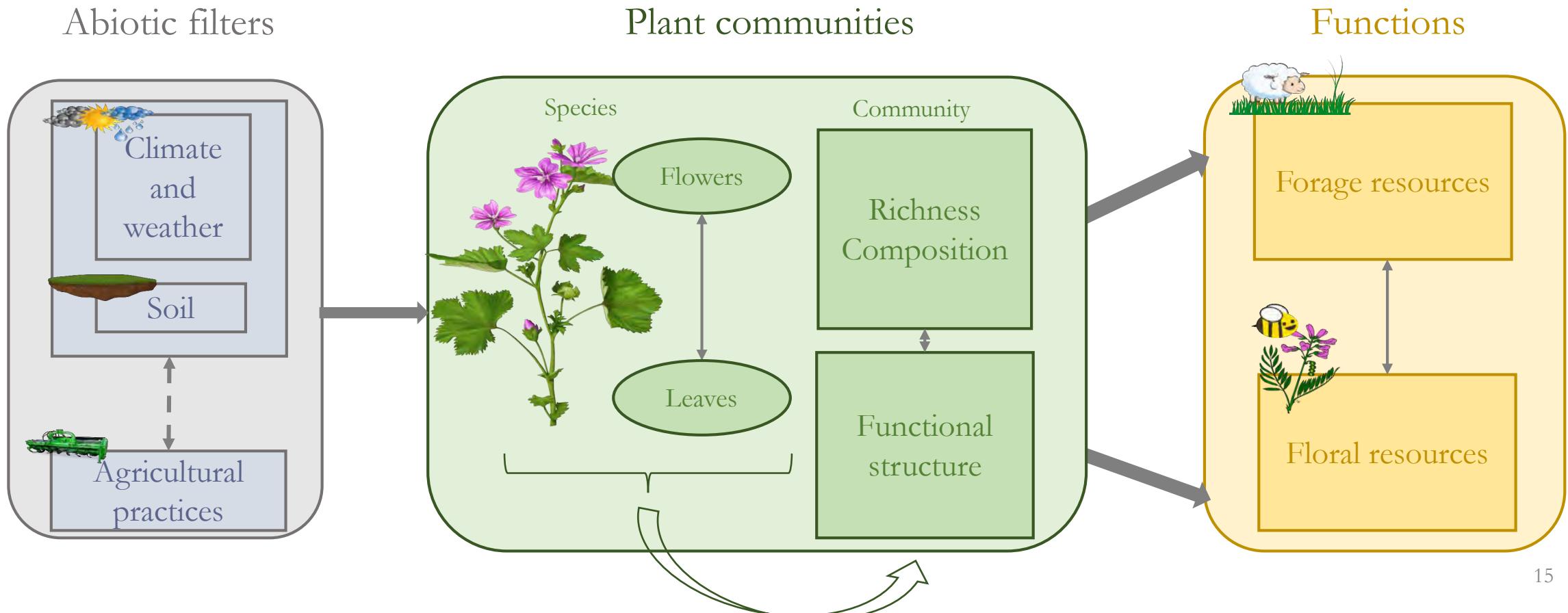
Hypotheses

- Resource potential is determined by the functional structure of weed communities



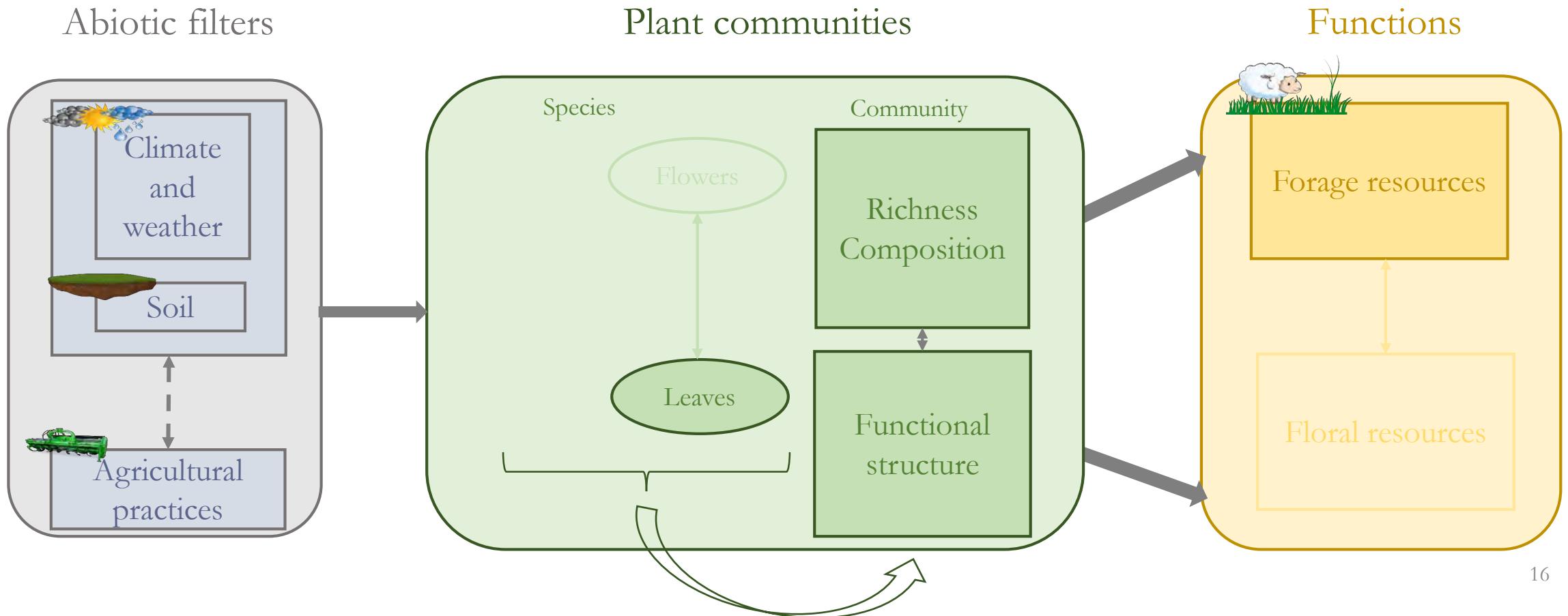
Hypotheses

- Resource potential is determined by the functional structure of weed communities
- Abiotic filters have an impact on forage and floral potential through their direct effect on the functional structure of weed communities.



Outline

I. Weeds as forage resources



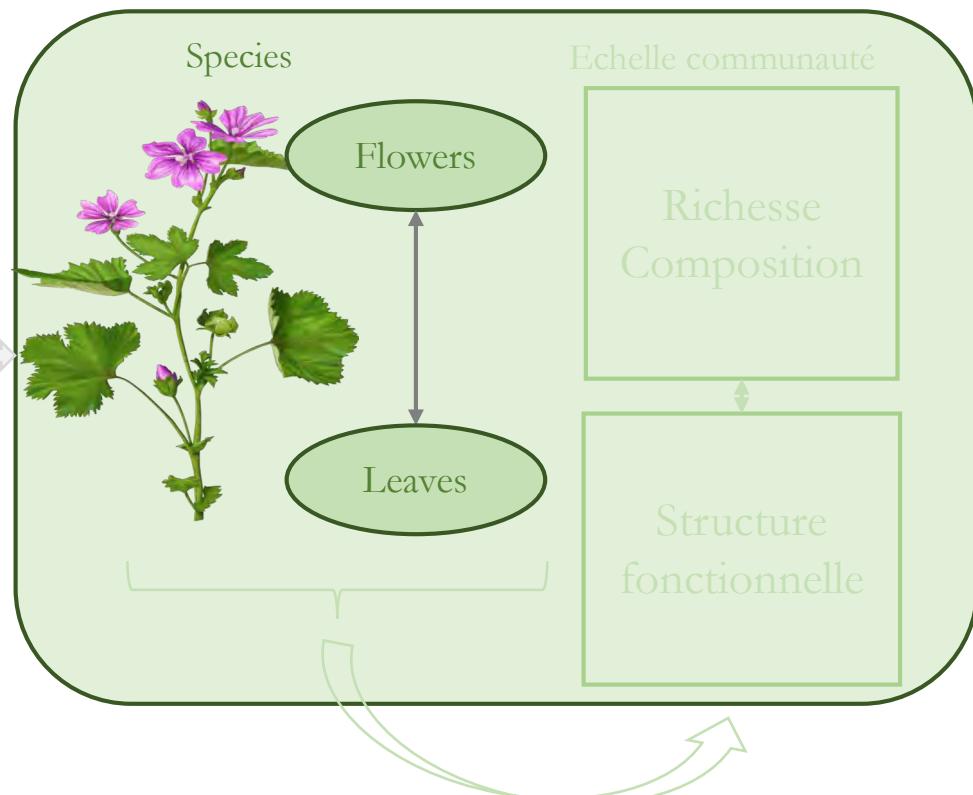
Outline

II. Functional characterization of weed flowers

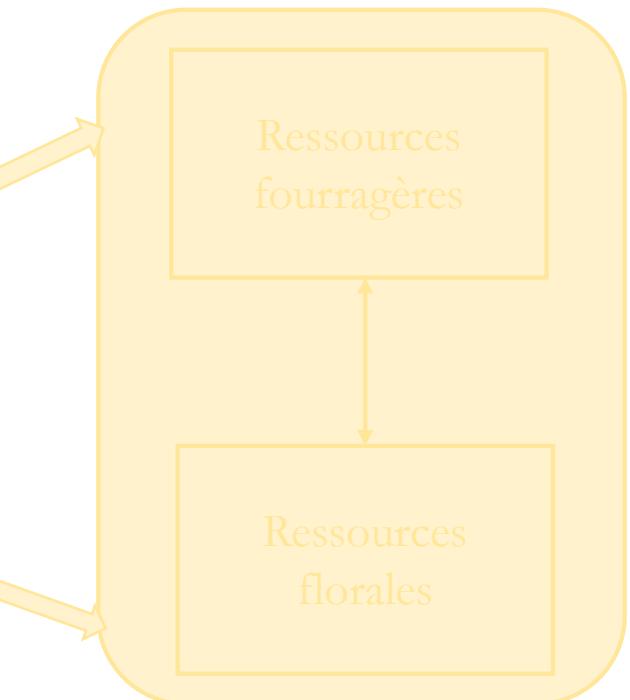
Abiotic filters



Plant communities

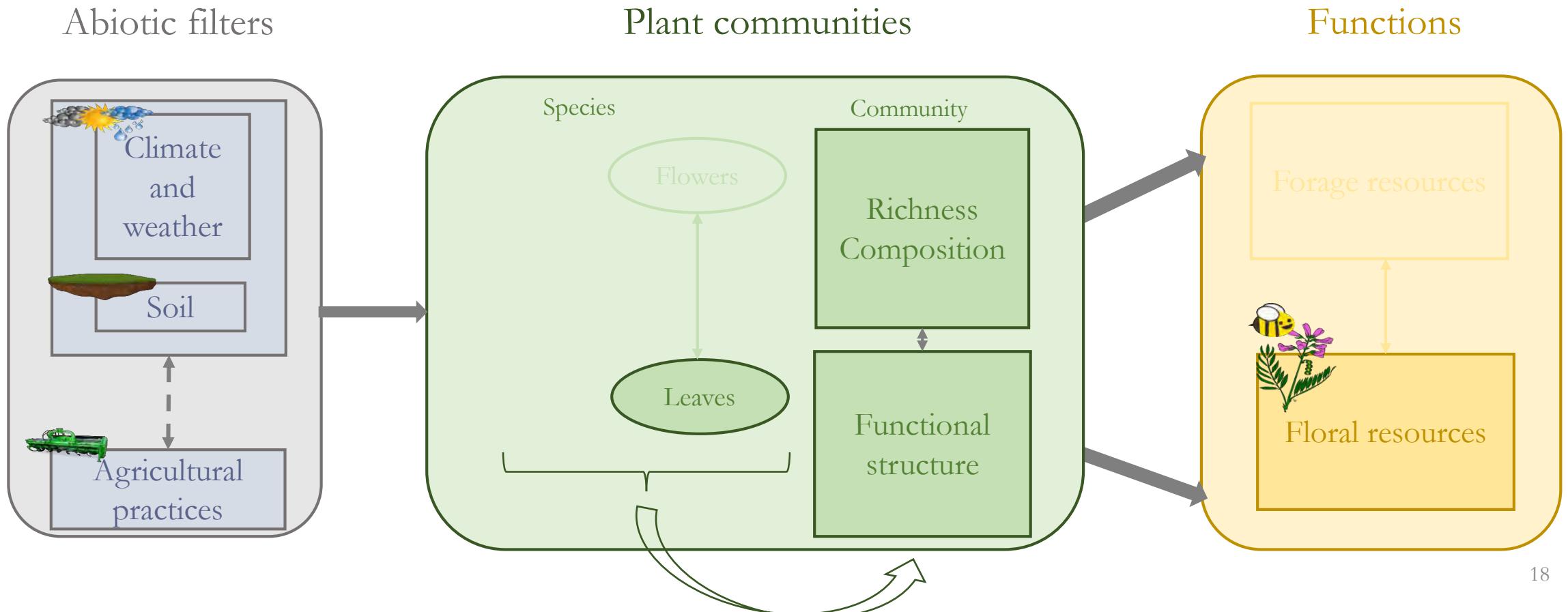


Functions



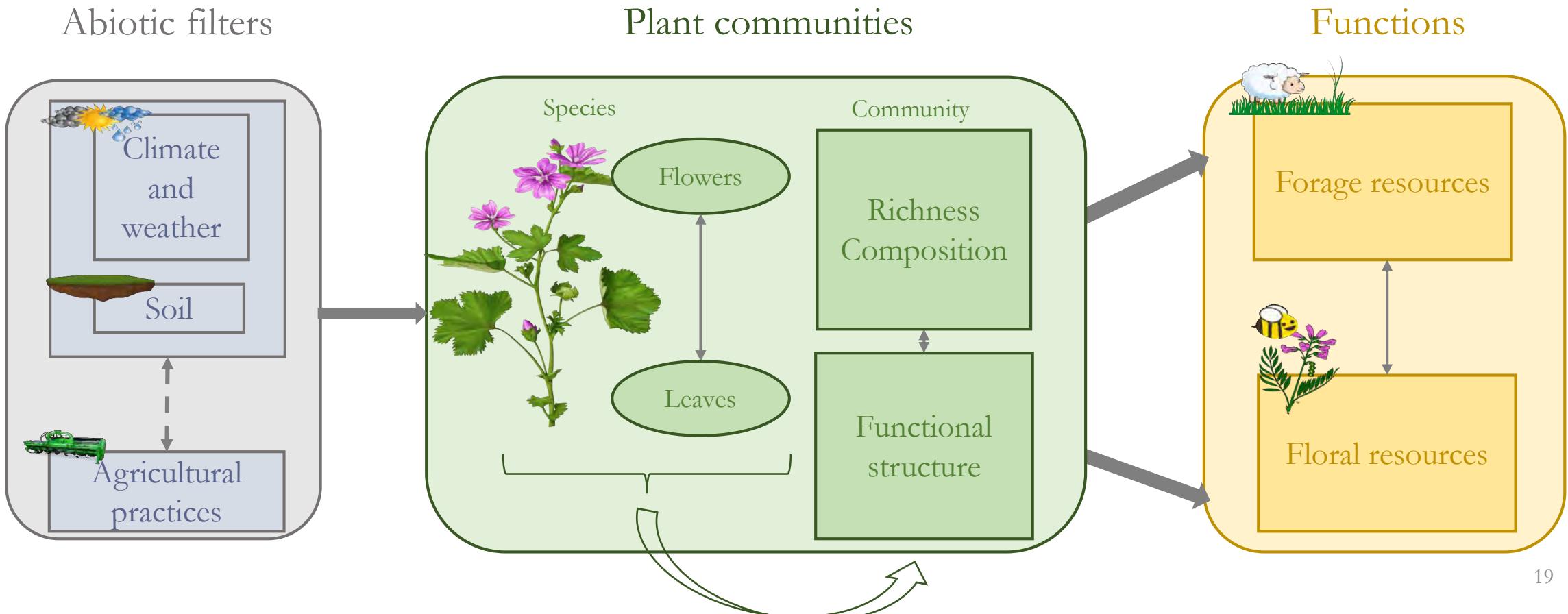
Outline

III. Weeds as floral resources



Outline

- I. Weeds as forage resources
- II. Functional characterization of weed flowers
- III. Weeds as floral resources



Material and methods

The thesis plot network

→ 16 vineyards }
 → 16 olive groves }
32 agricultural plots

- No use of herbicides in the inter-row area
- Plots in production



Mowing 11 plots : tillage

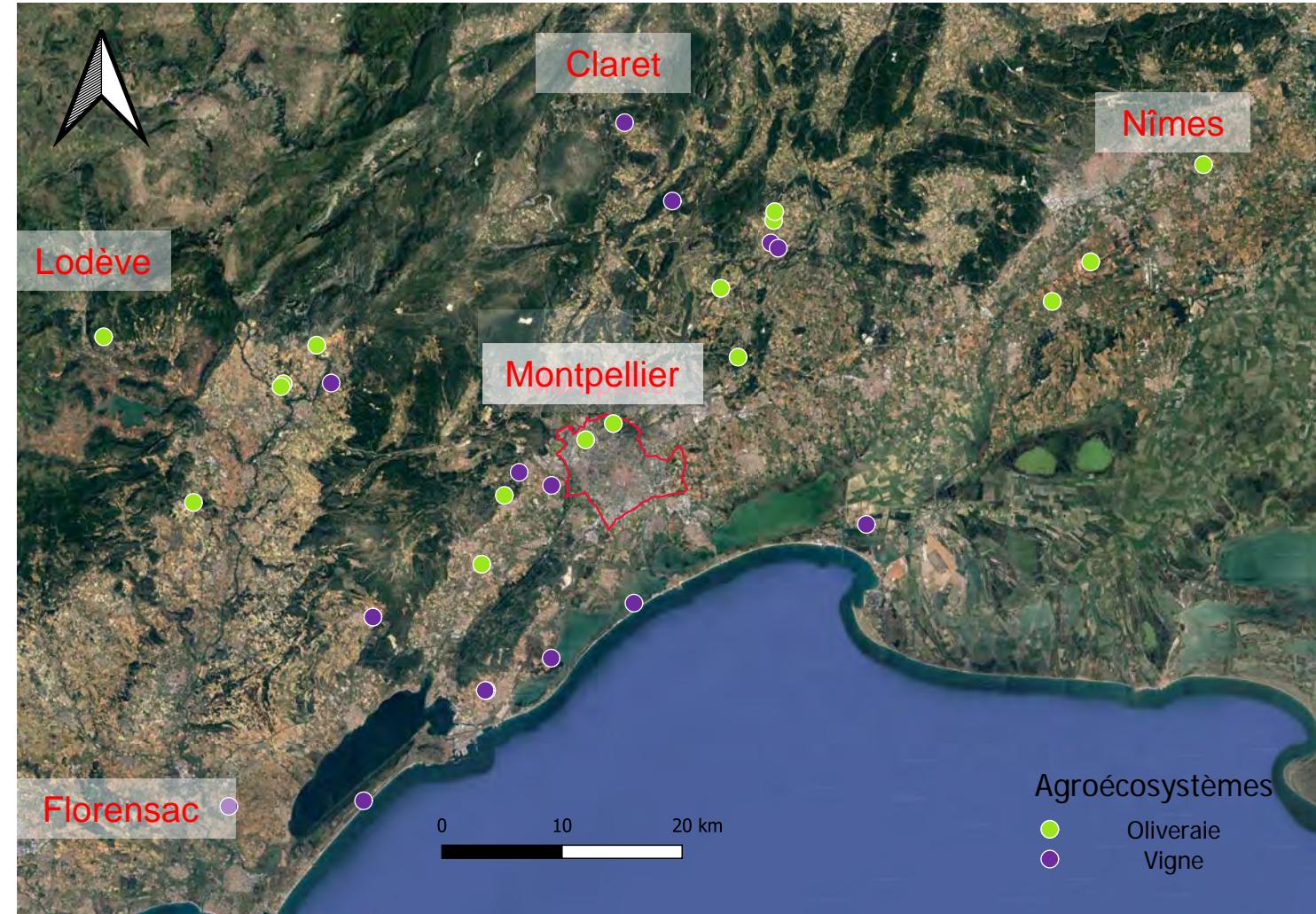
5 plots :
 $\frac{1}{2}$ mowing

1,9 t/ha

56 hL/ha

0,1 à 7 t/ha

20 à 115 bL/ha



Abiotic variables collected during the thesis

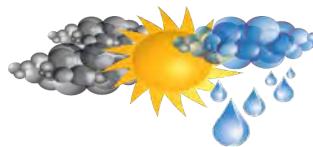


2-year survey of farmers' weed management practices

Number of mowing and tillage

Fertilization

Irrigation



Climatic data

Long-term climate trends: average temperatures and precipitation since 1980

Temperature and precipitation in sampling year



Soil variables

Soil organic matter content

Texture

Total soil nitrogen content

pH

Cation exchange capacity

Weed sampling



2021 sampling:
« forage »



5 quadrats per plot
Spring - Fall

Identification and abundance of all species in the community

n = 320



2022 sampling:
« flowers »



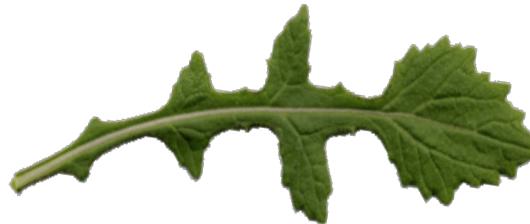
5 quadrats per plots
7 dates : september,
october, january, march,
april, may, june

Identification and abundance of all species at the flowering stage in the community

n = 560

Weed trait measurement

Leaf traits



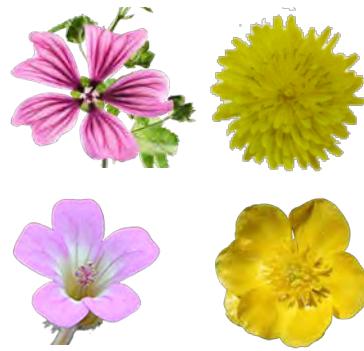
In situ, in each
agroecosystem

Species making up at least 80% of each community

$$\text{CWM}_{\text{trait}} = \sum_i p_i \times \text{trait}_i$$



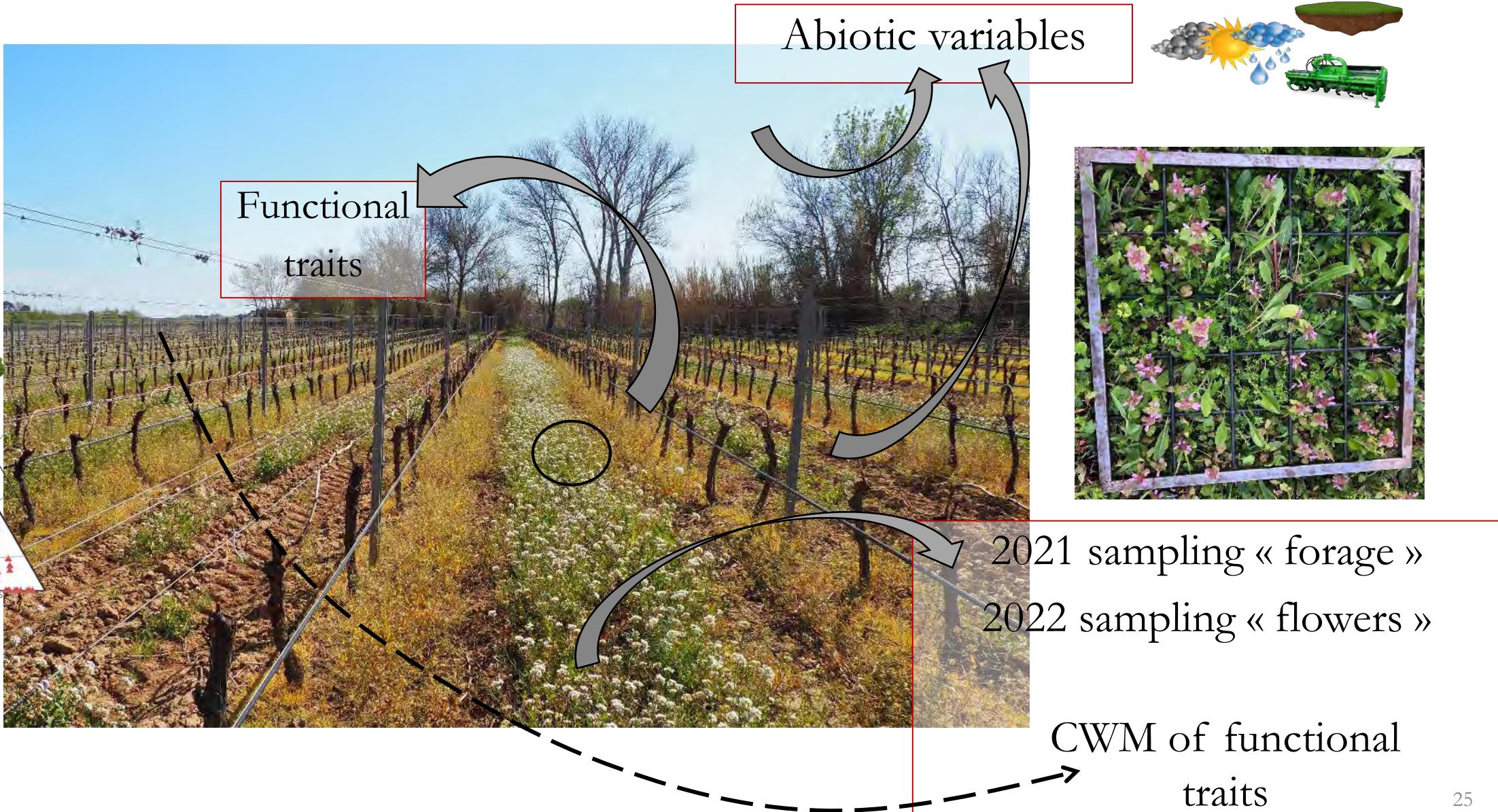
Floral traits



Under controlled
conditions

For each sampled community
* each trait

Summary of data collected in my thesis

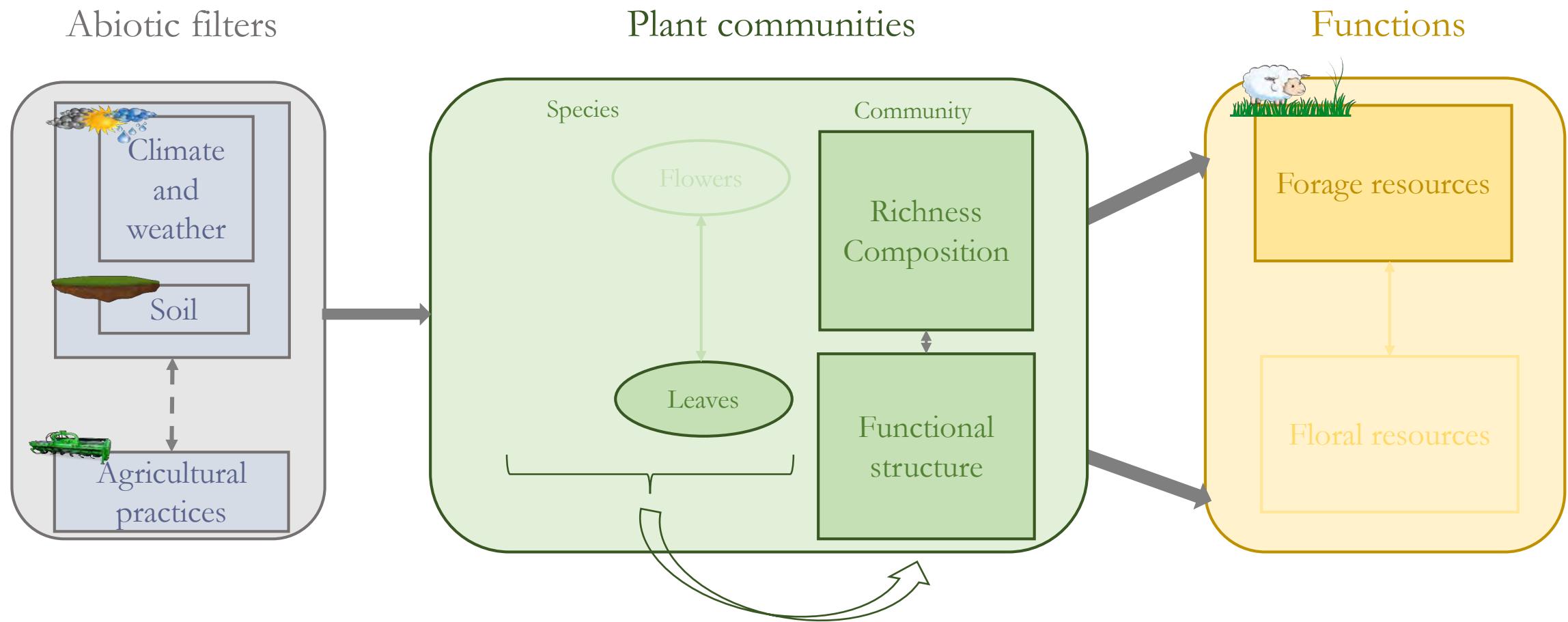


I. Weeds as forage resources



Weeds as forage resources

- What is the potential of weed communities in Mediterranean vineyards and olive groves as a forage resource, and how do **agricultural practices** and pedoclimate modify forage quality and associated traits?



Digestibility: an indicator of forage quality

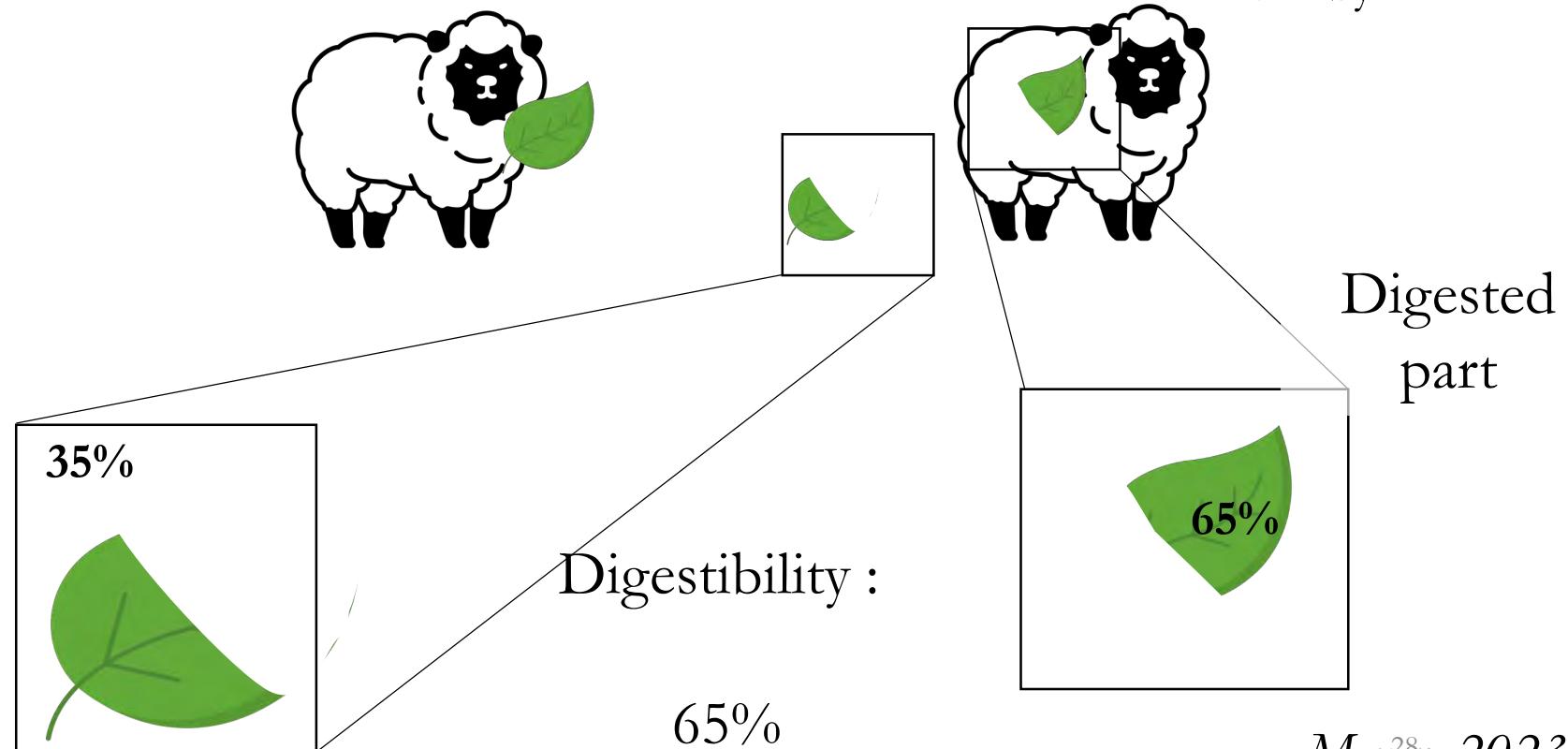


Here, digestibility is predicted using **near infrared spectrometry**

$n = 88$ sp et 302
communities



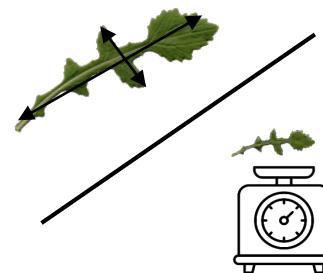
Undigested part



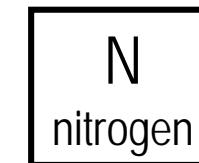
In situ measurement of weed leaf traits related to forage resources



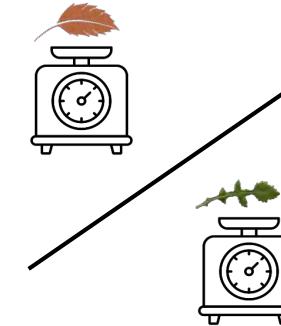
Specific leaf
area 'SLA'



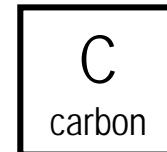
Leaf nitrogen
content 'LNC'



Leaf dry matter
content 'LDMC'

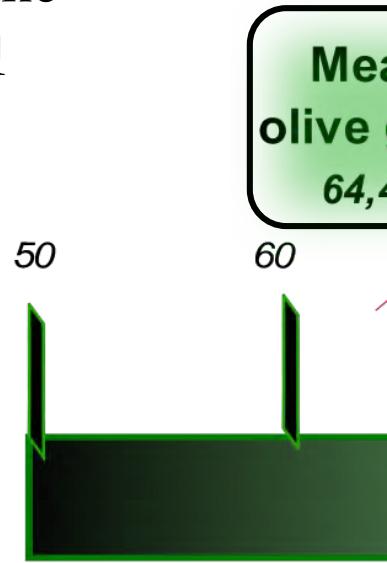


C/N leaf ratio



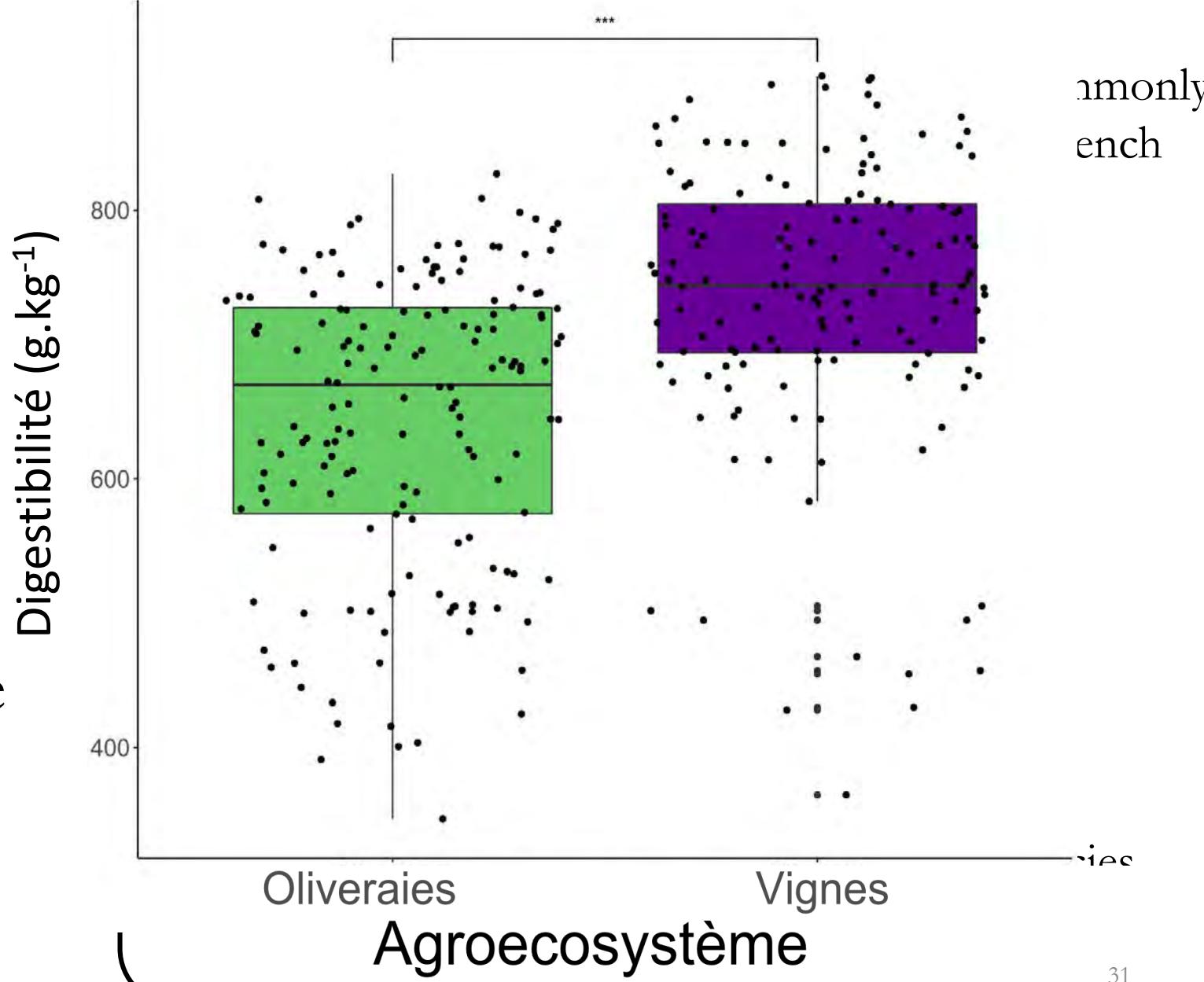
n = 105

Mean of each agroecosystem at the community level



Are these differences due to agricultural practices?

Digestibilité of wood communities

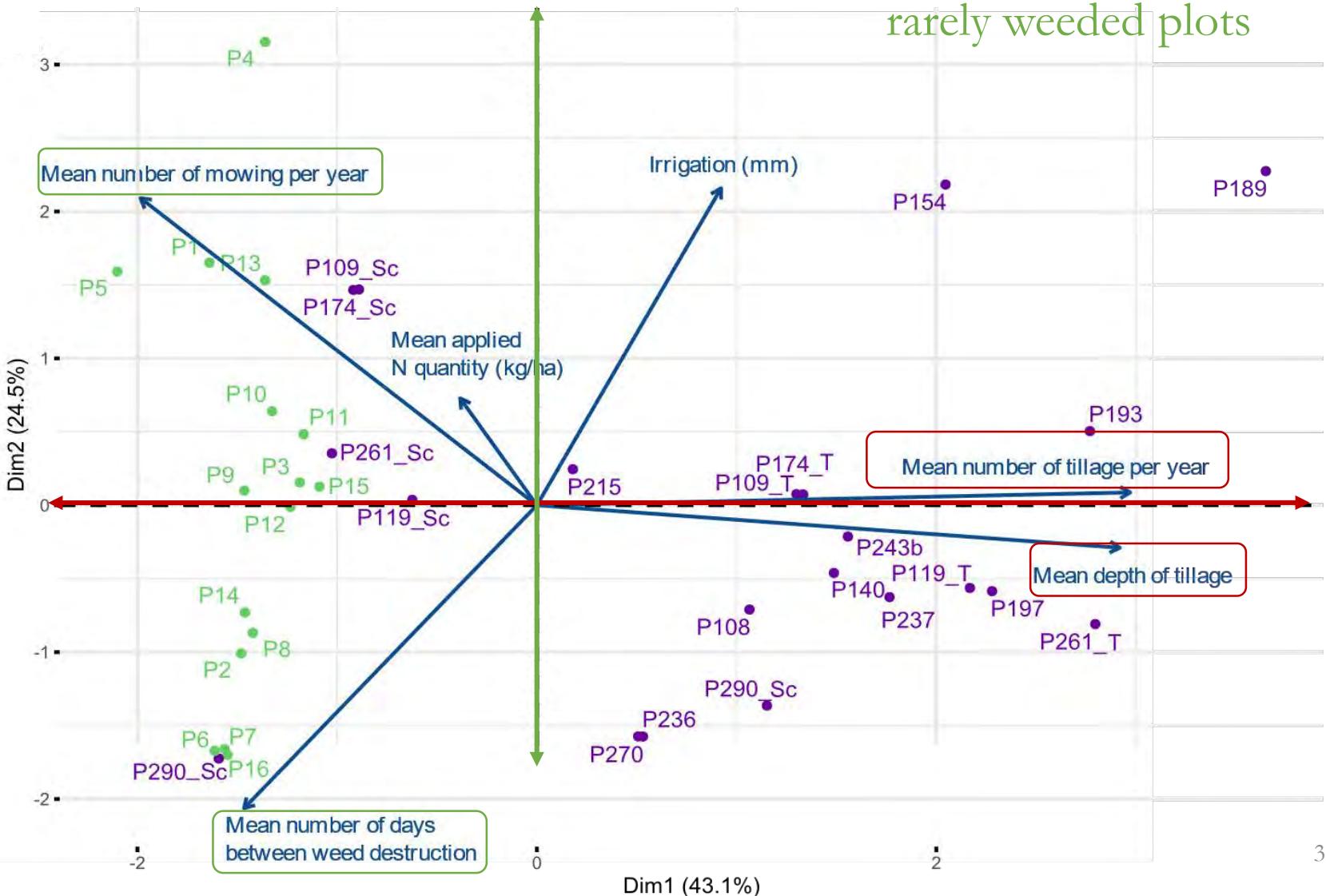


Characterization of agricultural practices

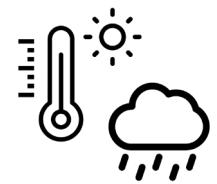
- Principal component analysis on agricultural practices

PC1^{agri} : tilled *vs* not-tilled plots

PC2^{agri} : regularly *vs* rarely weeded plots



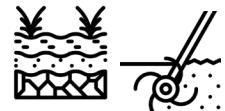
Relationships between abiotic variables, functional structure and digestibility



Weather

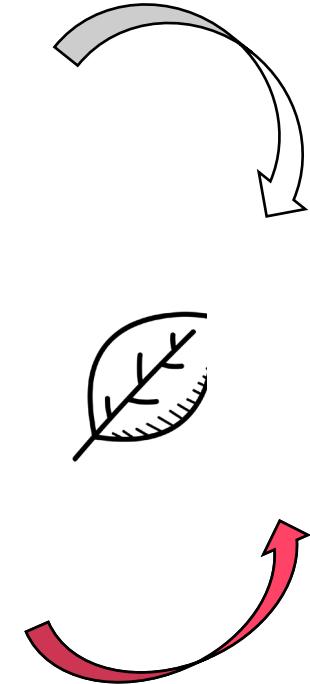
Annual rainfalls

Annual T°



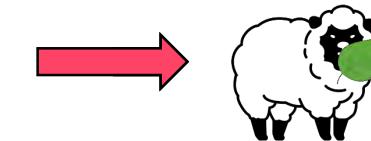
Practices
variables

$PC1^{pedoclim}$ et $PC2^{pedoclim}$
 $PC1^{agri}$ et $PC2^{agri}$



Functional
structure

Traits CWM

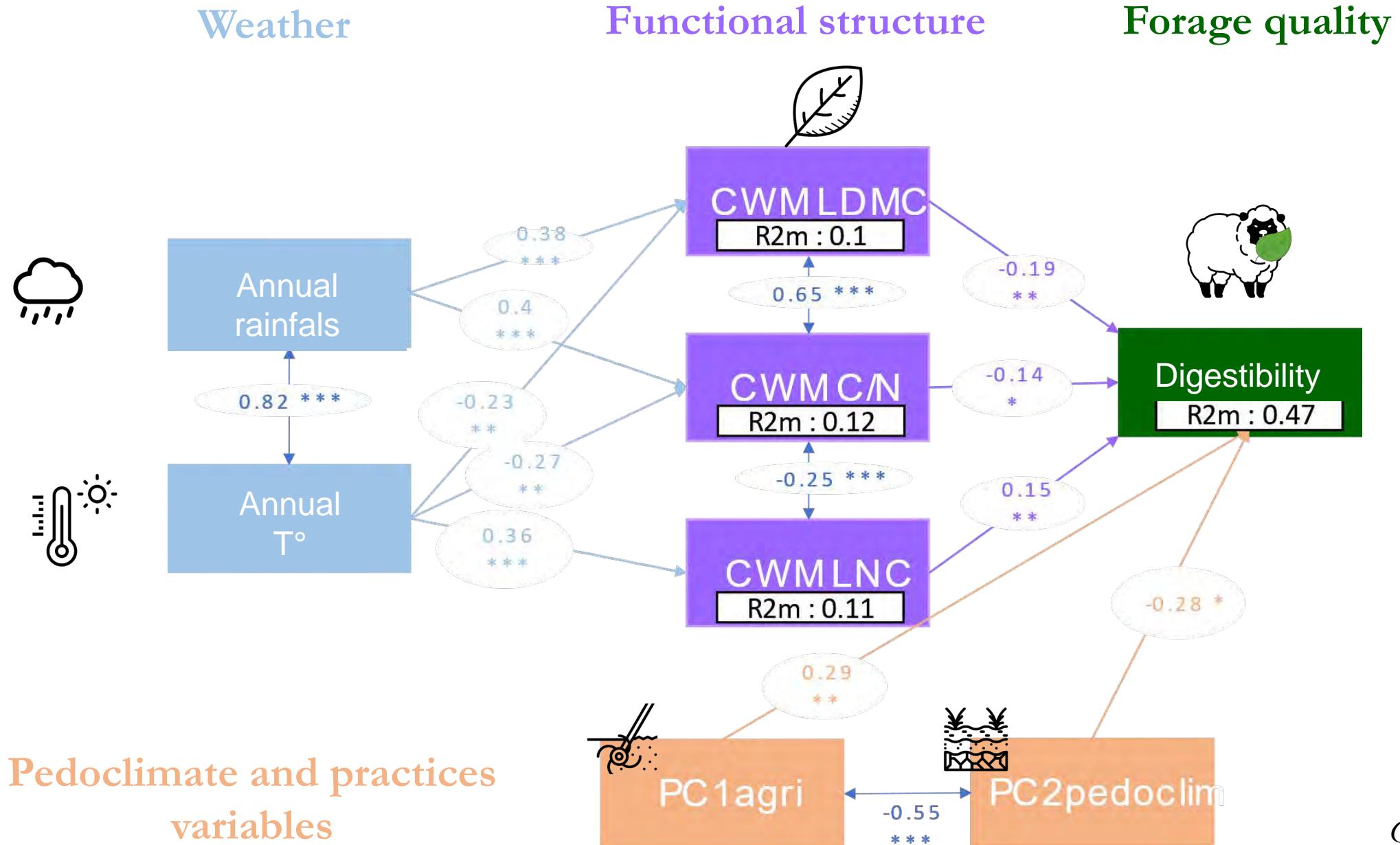


Digestibility

Structural equation
modelling

I. Forage resources

Relationships between abiotic variables, functional structure and digestibility



Pedoclimate and practices
variables

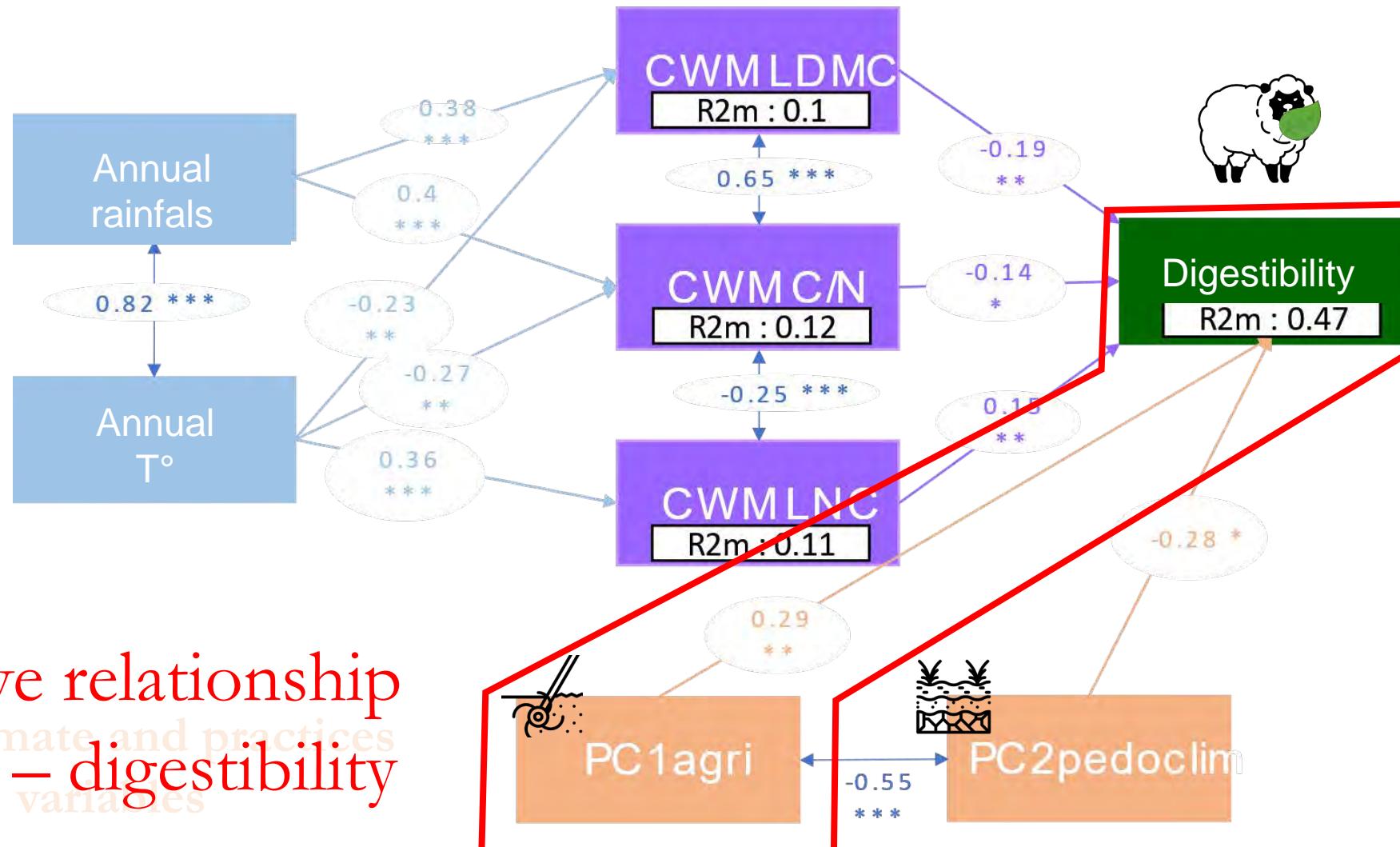
Genty et al.,³⁵ 2023a

Links abiotic variables and digestibility

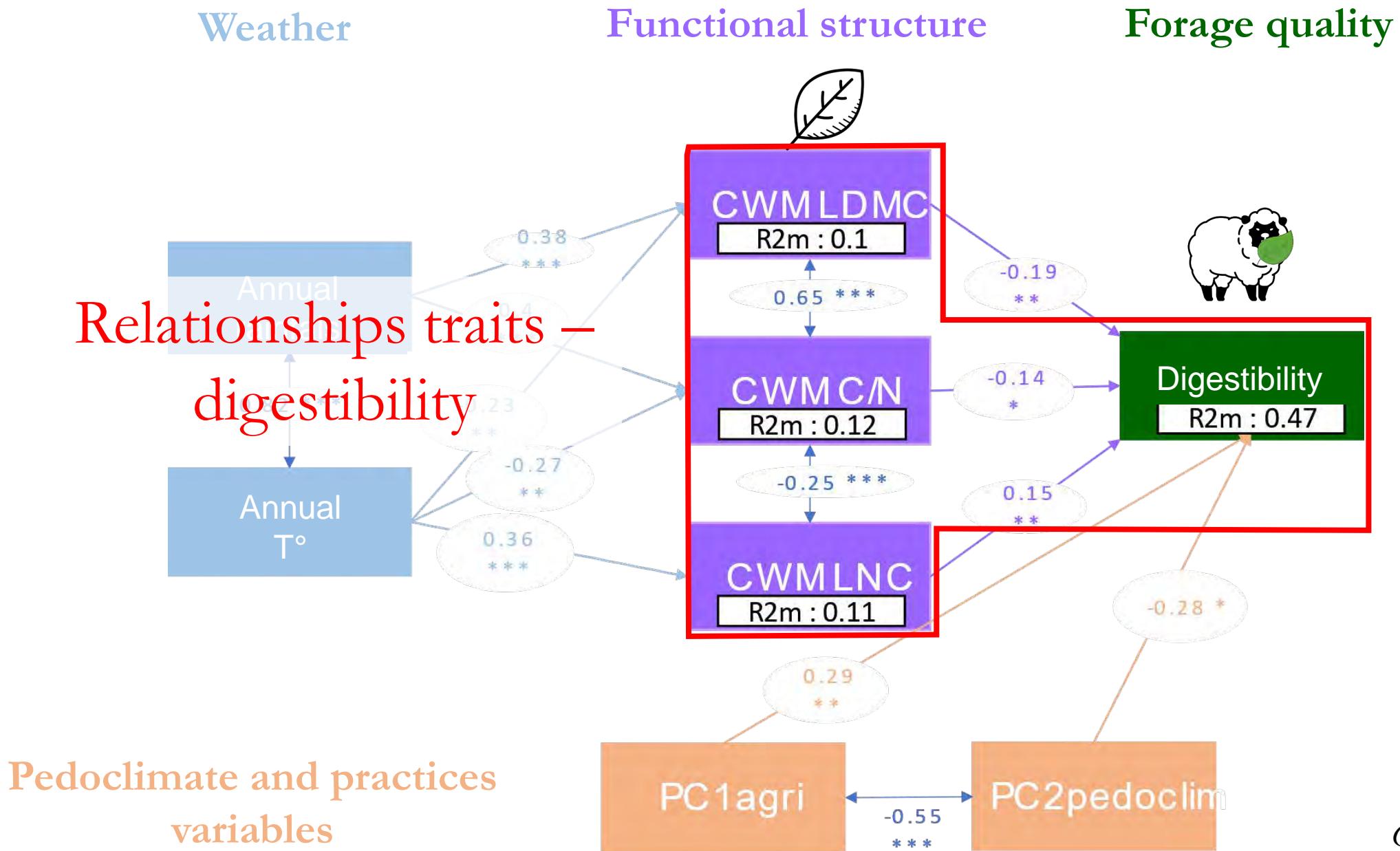
Weather

Functional structure

Forage quality



Links functional structure - digestibility



I. Forage resources

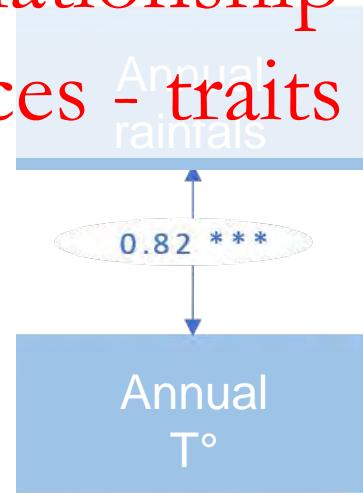
No link pedoclimate-practices and functional structure

Weather

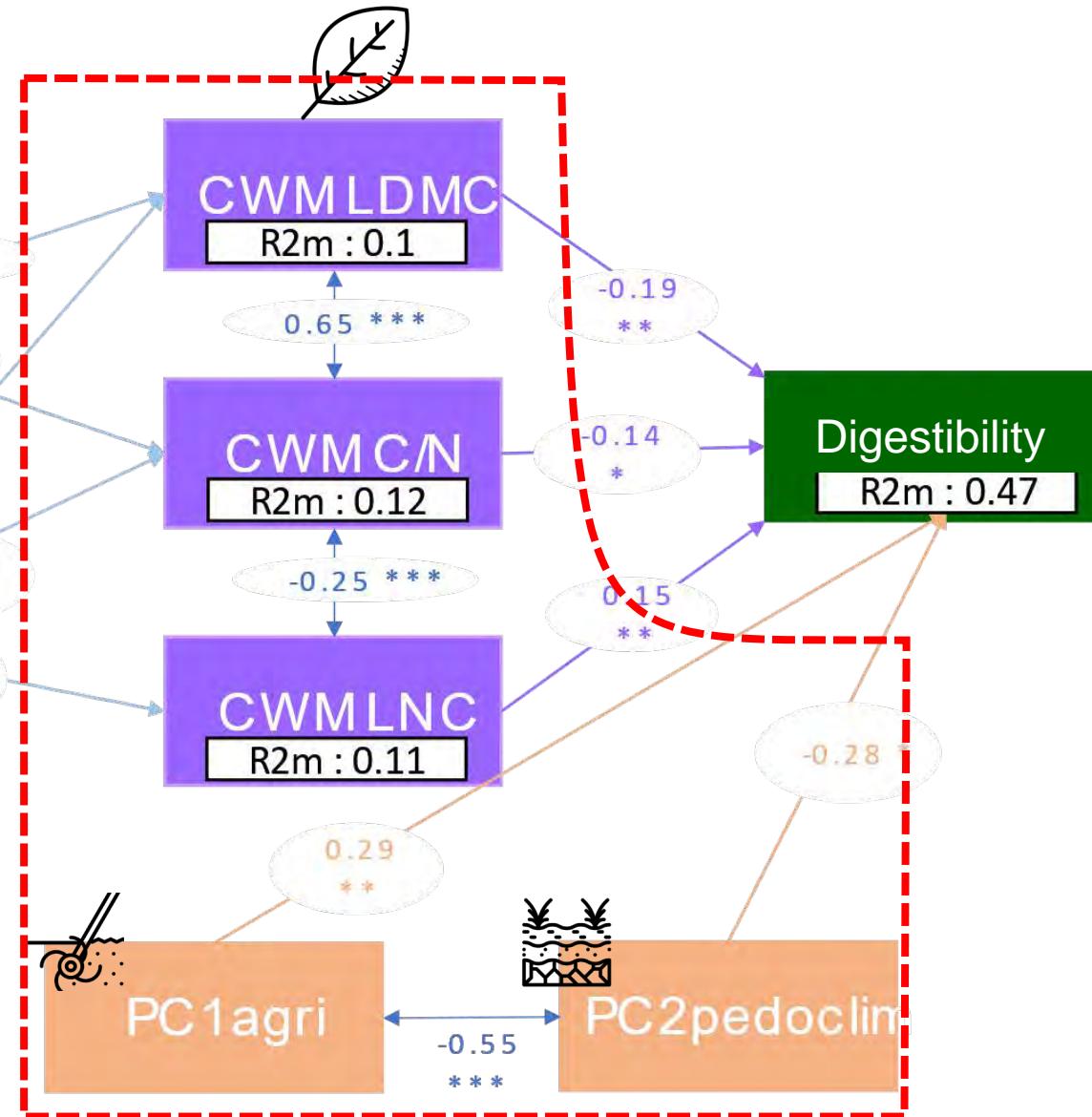
Functional structure

Forage quality

No relationship
practices - traits



Pedoclimate and practices
variables



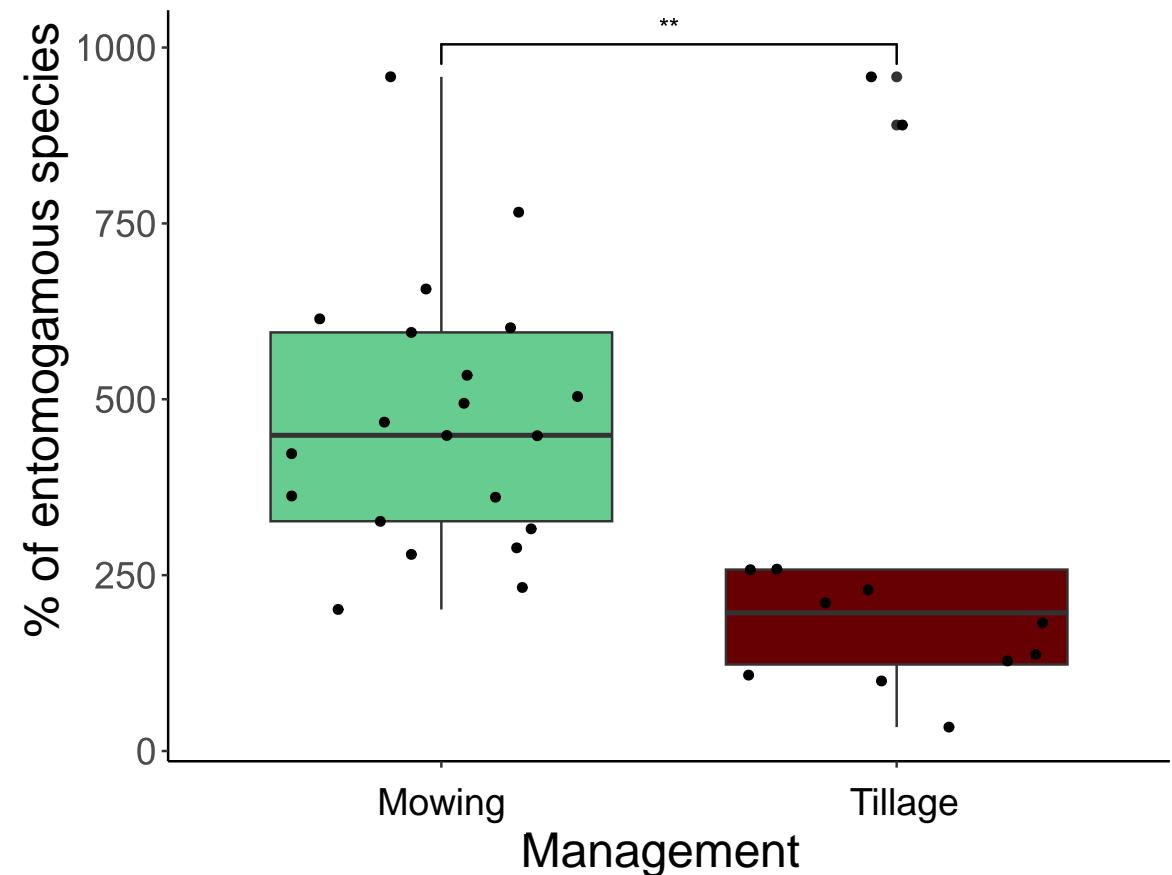
Summary of part I

- Weeds → qualitative forage resources
 - Forage quality higher in 
 - Tillage ↗ forage quality because of disturbance
 - Traits determine forage quality

Discussion: the effects of practices on digestibility

- Confirmation of known disturbance/digestibility relationships in grasslands but in a different range of disturbances

- Tillage promotes digestibility but not other services or biodiversity



II. Functional characterization of weed flowers

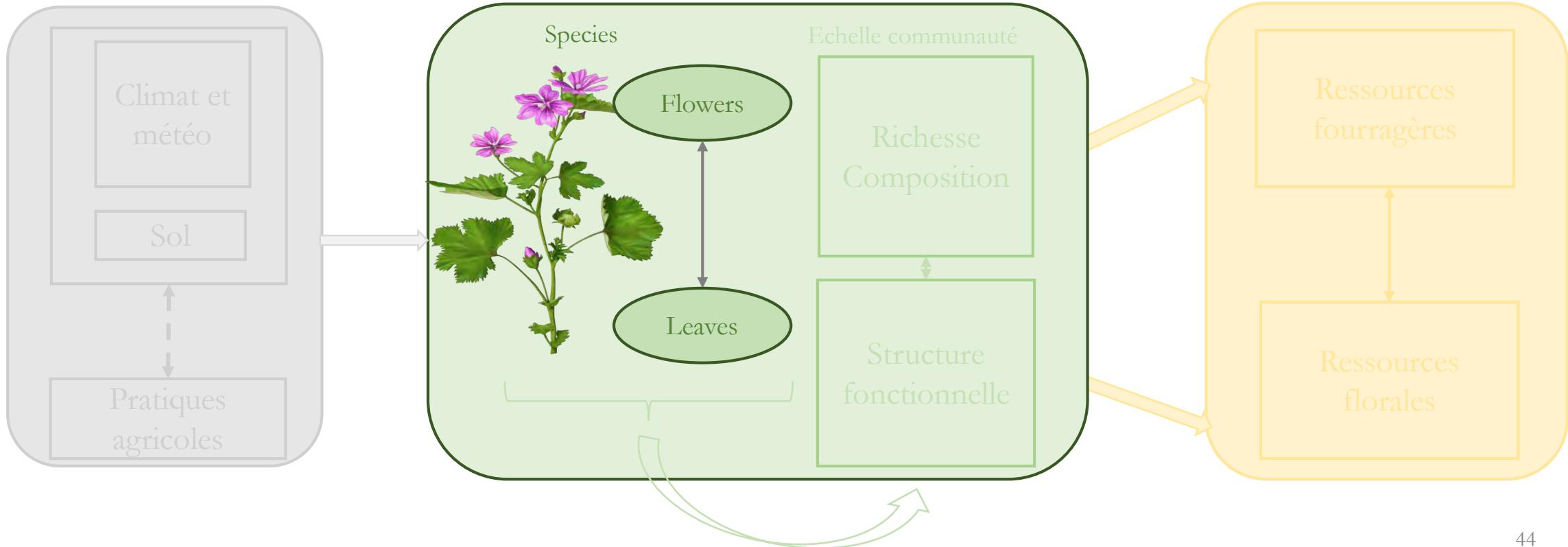
Functional characterization of weed flowers

- What are the characteristics of vineyards and olive groves weed flowers?
 - Do weed ecological strategies incorporate floral traits?

Abiotic filters

Plant communities

Functions



Floral traits linked to insect visits

- Floral morphology

Area, height, flower numbers



- Rewards

Nectar, pollen



- Availability

Flowering onset and duration

Measurement of weed floral traits under controlled conditions

19 of the most abundant species in bloom in spring 2021

Arenaria serpyllifolia



Carduus pycnocephalus



Cerastium glomeratum



Diplotaxis erucoides



Geranium dissectum



Geranium rotundifolium



Malva sylvestris



Medicago arabica



Medicago minima



Picris hieracioides



Plantago lanceolata



Ranunculus bulbosus



Poterium sanguisorba



Senecio vulgaris



Sherardia arvensis



Torilis arvensis



Torilis nodosa



Trifolium campestre

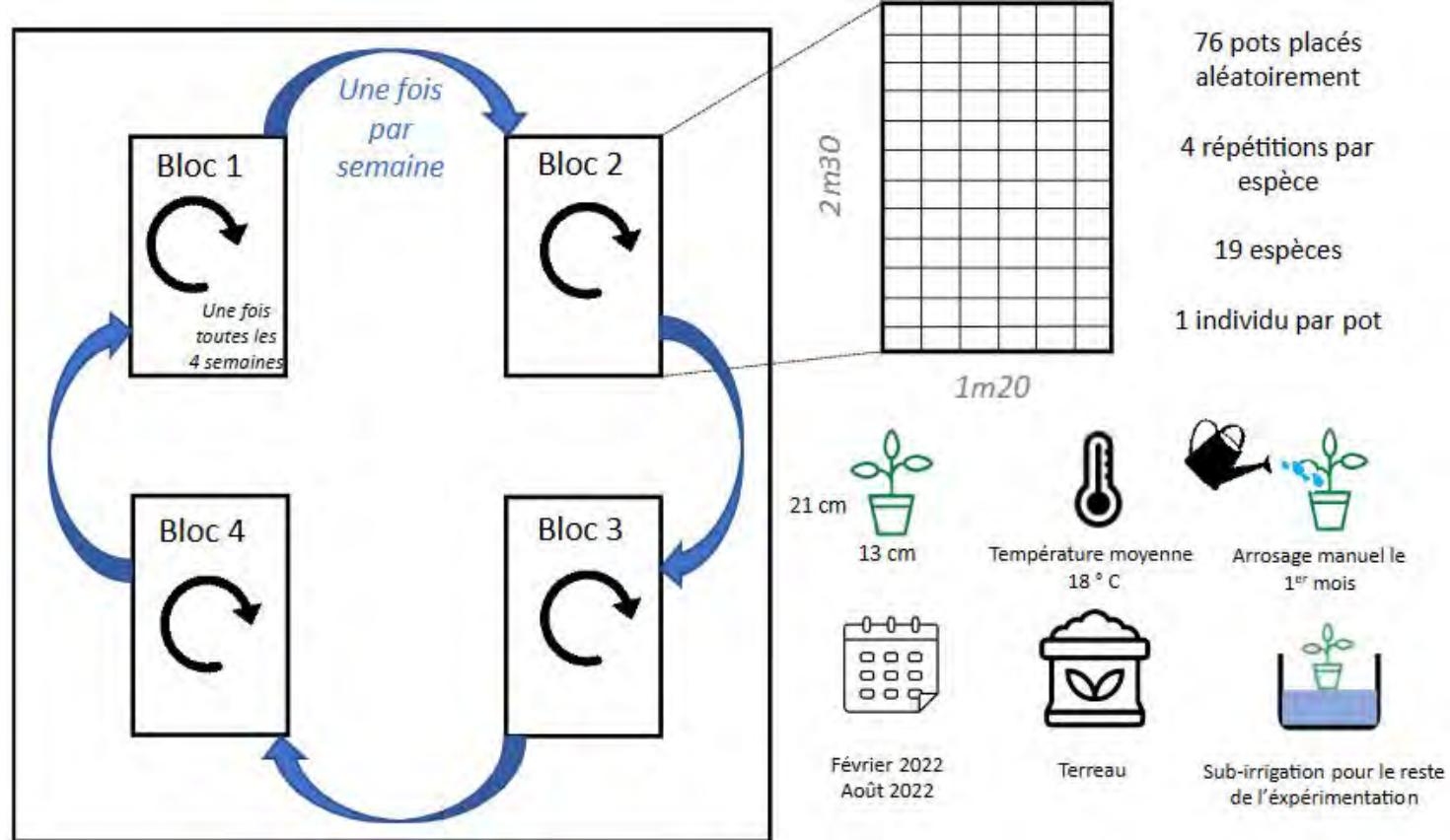


Veronica persica



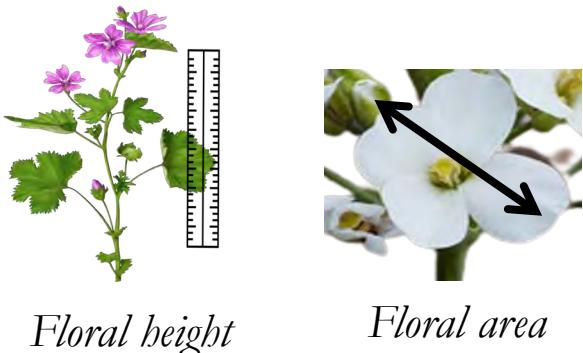
Measurement of weed floral traits under controlled conditions

16 repetitions per species
304 plants

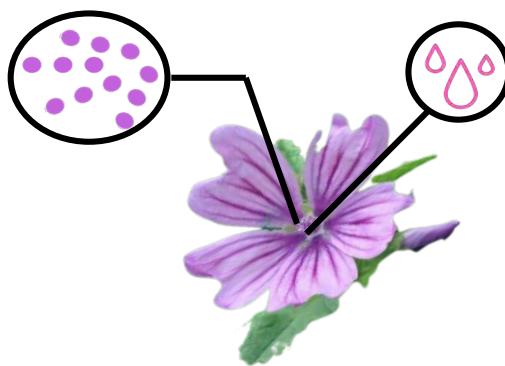


Measurement of weed floral traits under controlled conditions

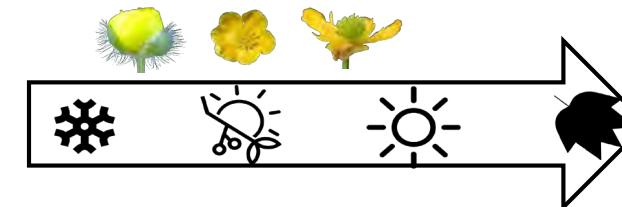
Morphological traits



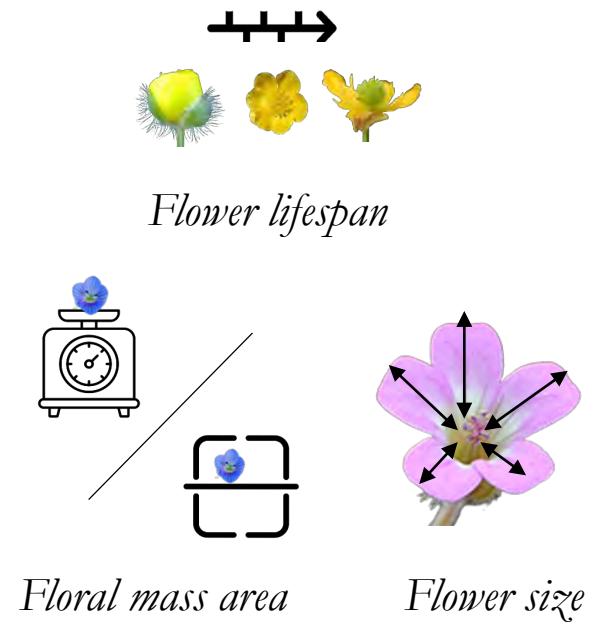
Resources traits



Phenological traits



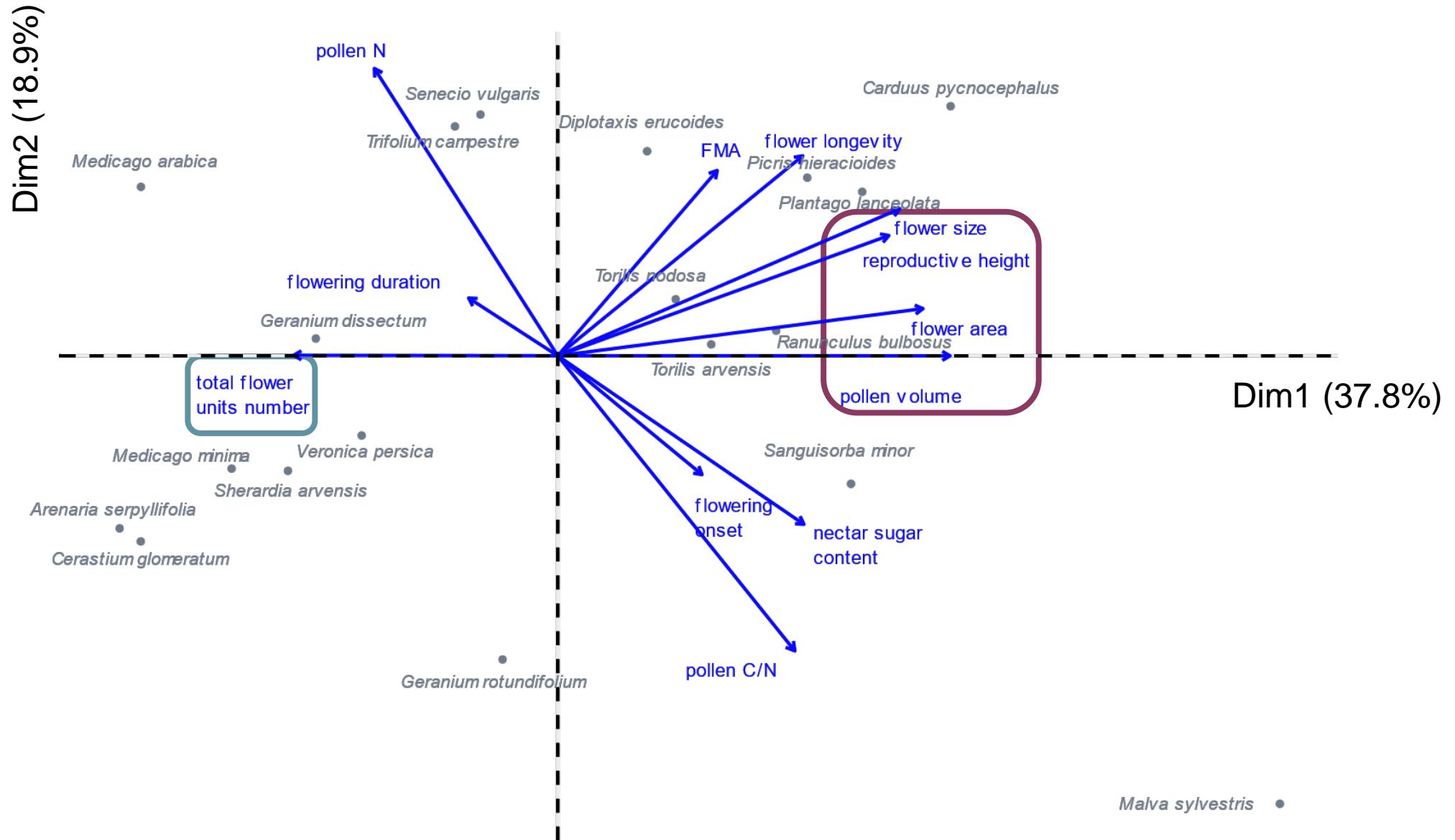
Traits related to manufacturing and maintenance costs



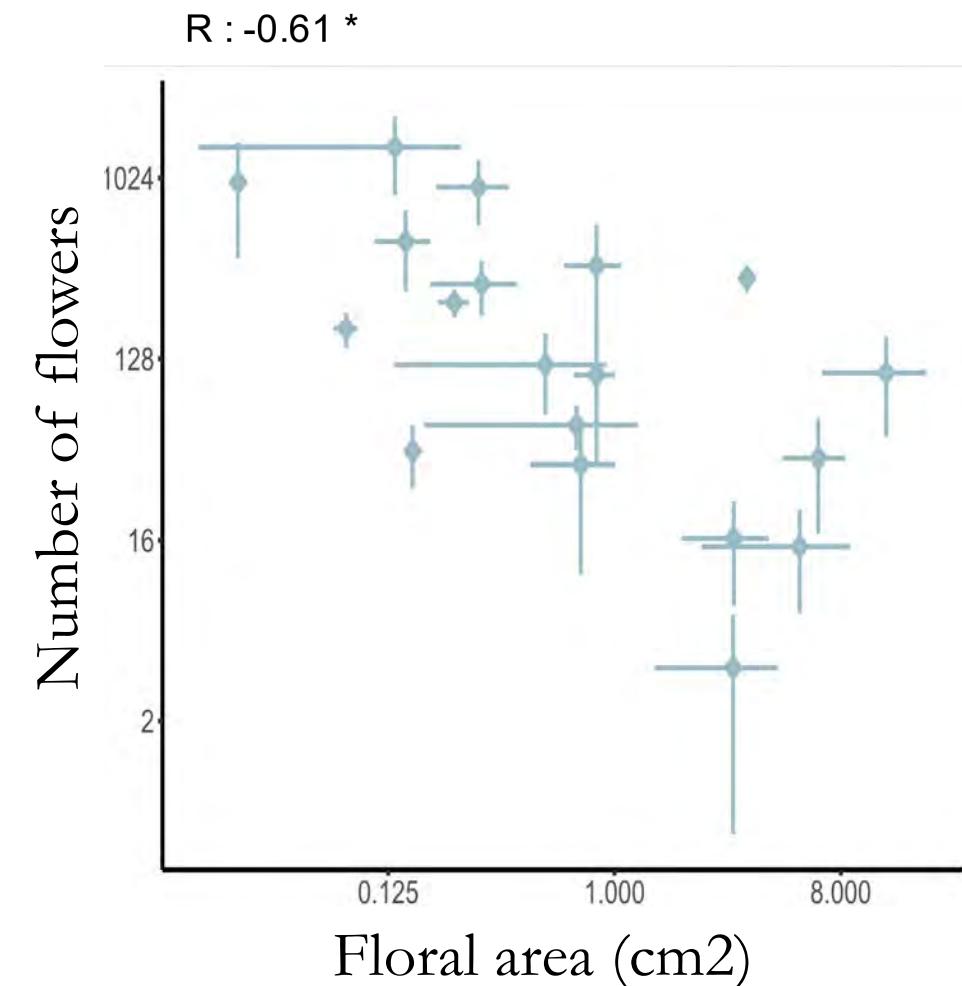
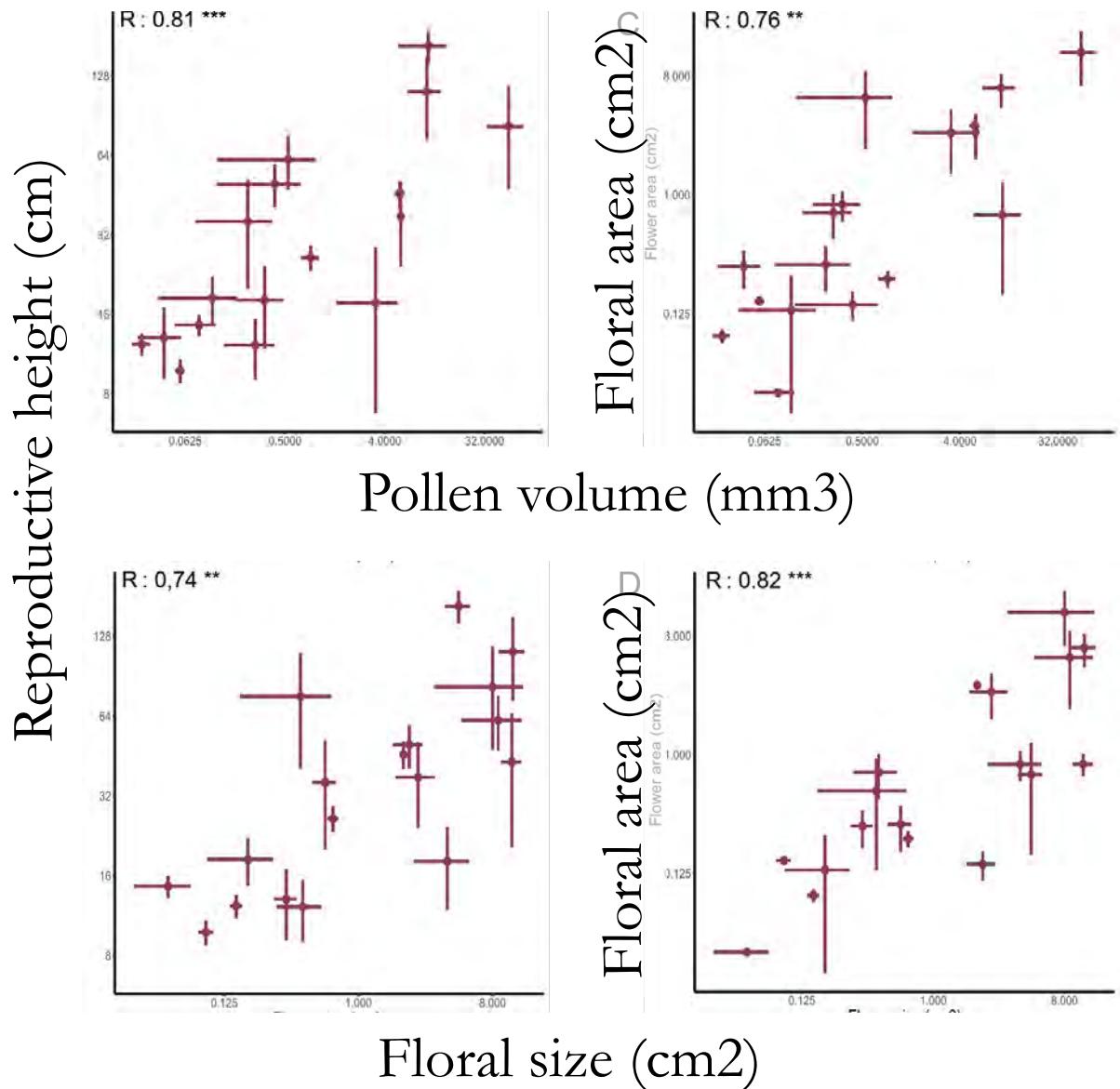
Number of flowers per individual

Nectar sugar content

Weed floral phenotype: flower quality *vs.* quantity

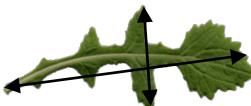


Weed floral phenotype: flower quality *vs.* quantity

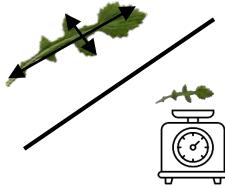


CSR strategies

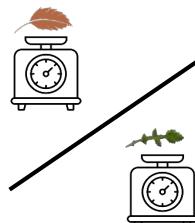
Leaf area



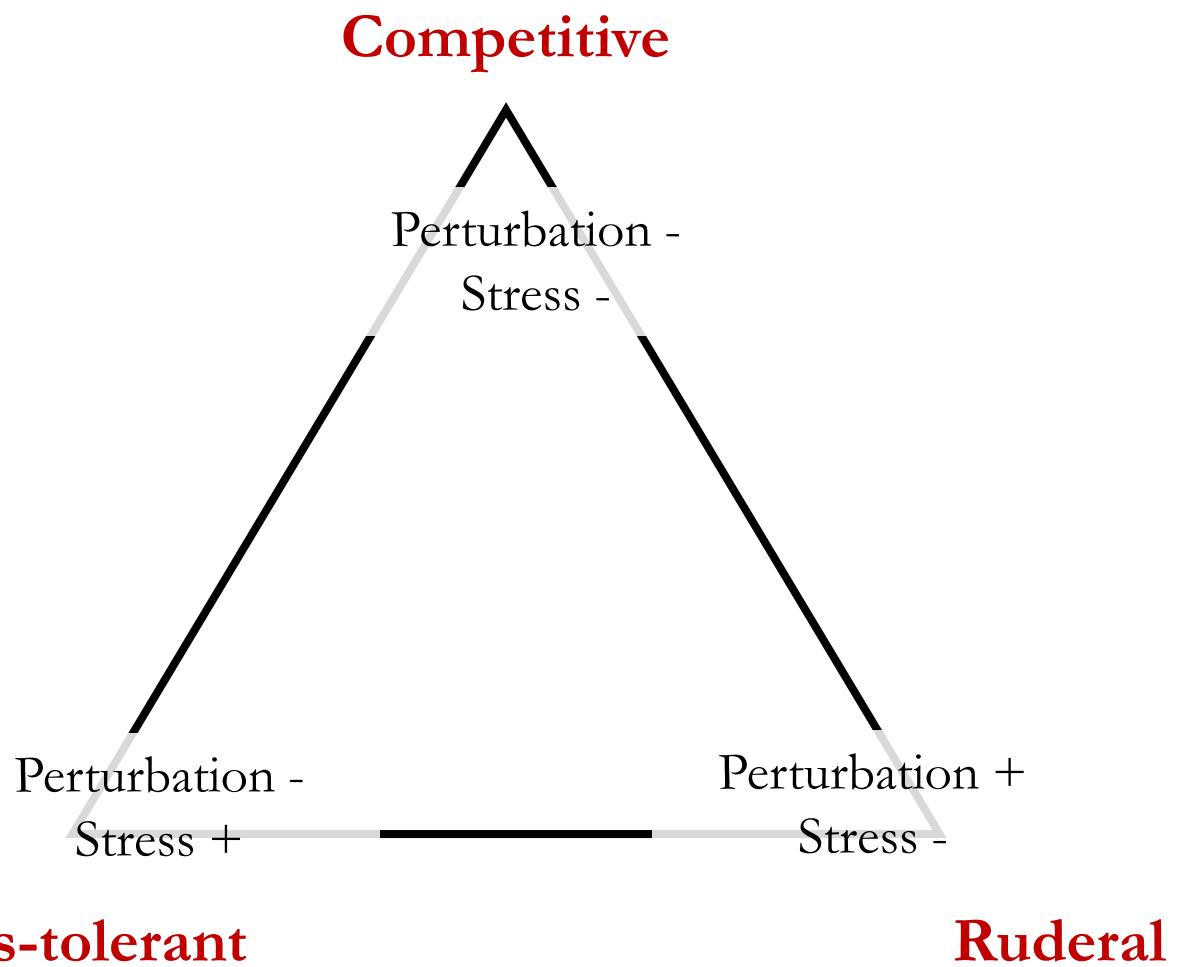
SLA



LDMC

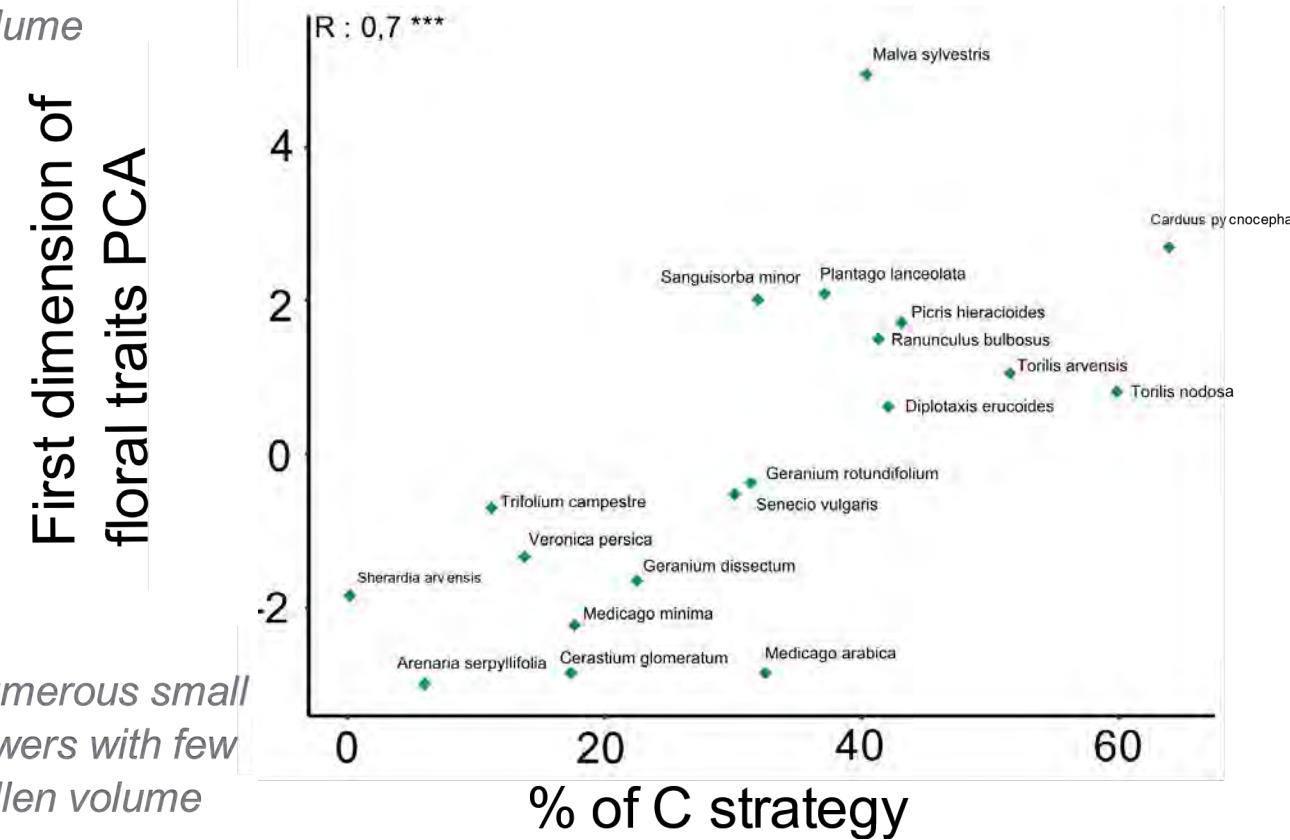
 $n = 19$

Stress-tolerant

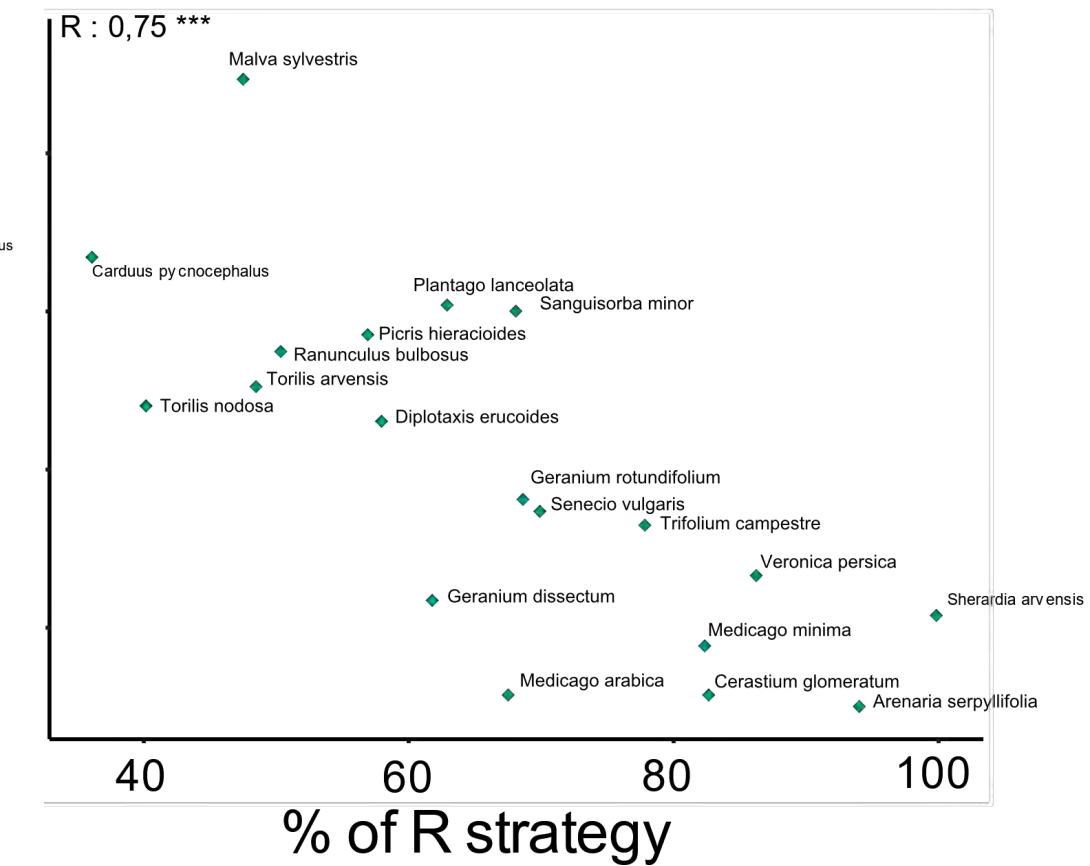


Floral and leaf traits covary in weeds: integrated ecological strategies

Few big flowers
with high pollen
volume

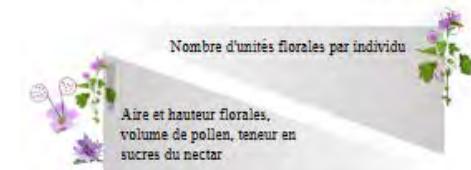
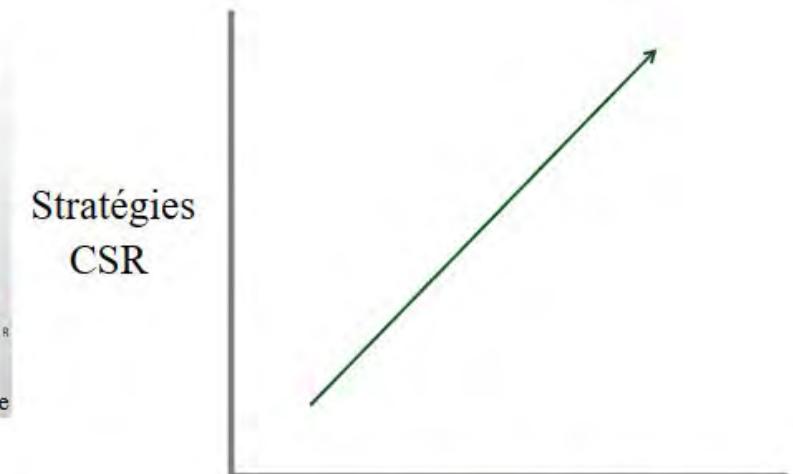
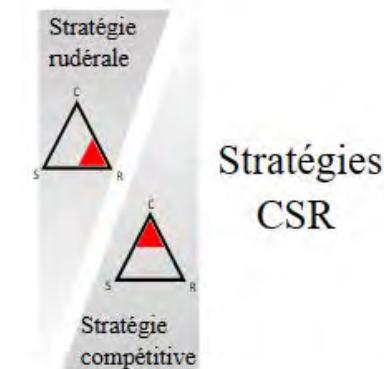
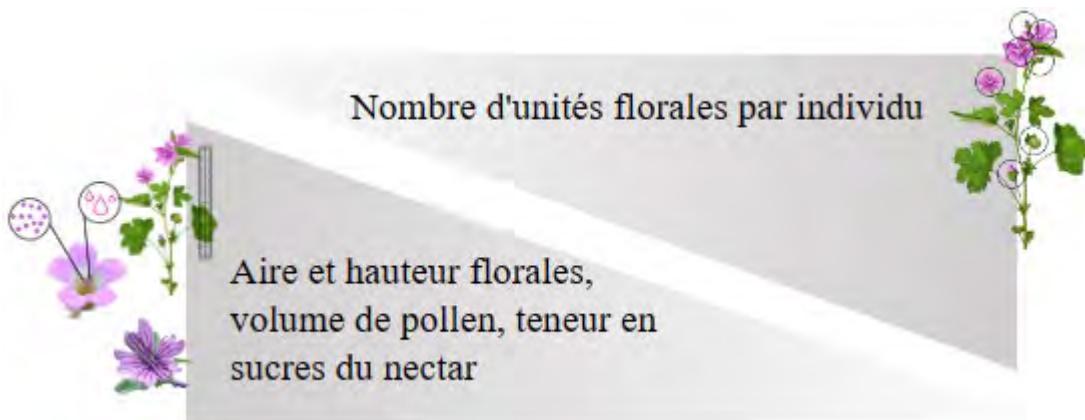


Numerous small
flowers with few
pollen volume



Summary of part II

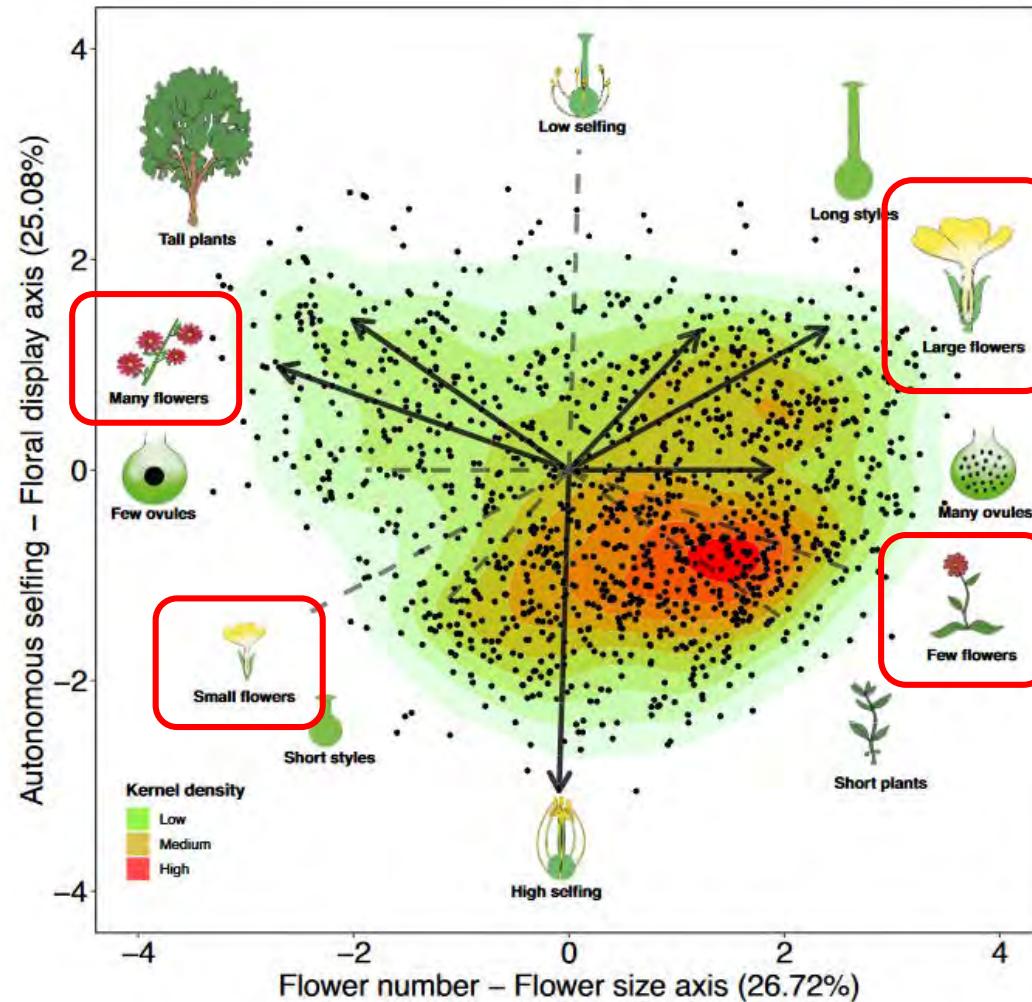
- Two floral strategies identified
- Linked to CSR strategies



Discussion

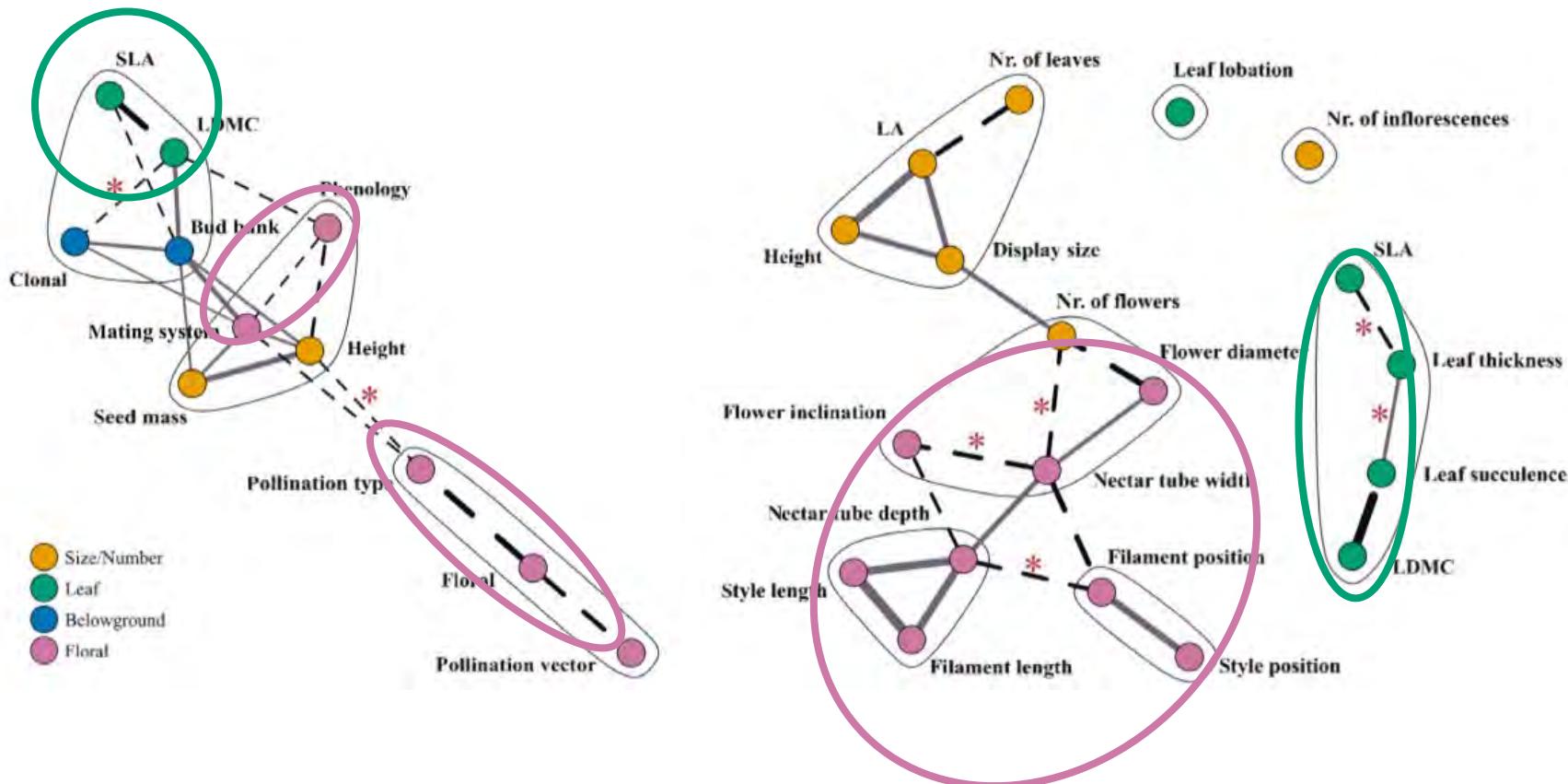
- The floral strategies described are in line with recent larger-scale results

B-Lanuza et al., 2023



Discussion

- Relationships between floral and leaf traits, not in line with recent results



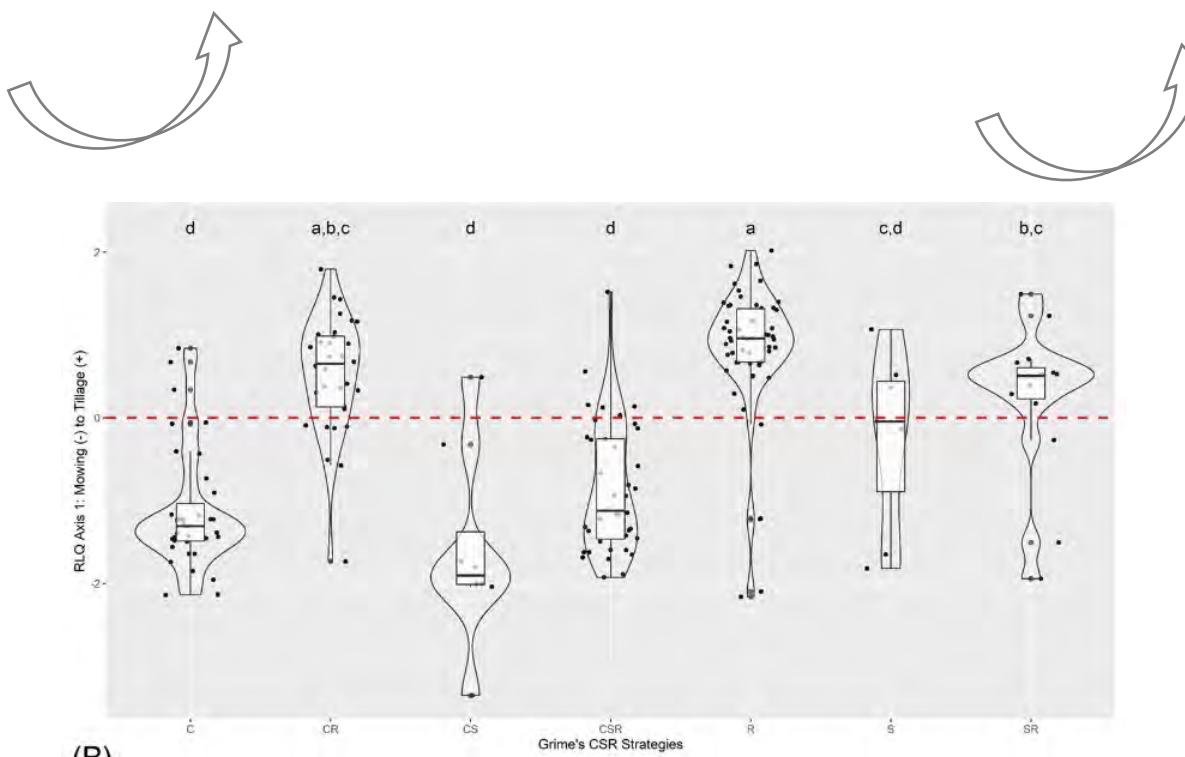
Discussion

Floral and CSR
strategies covary

Which results *in situ* ?

CSR strategies respond
to agricultural practices

Do the floral traits of
weed communities
respond to agricultural
practices?



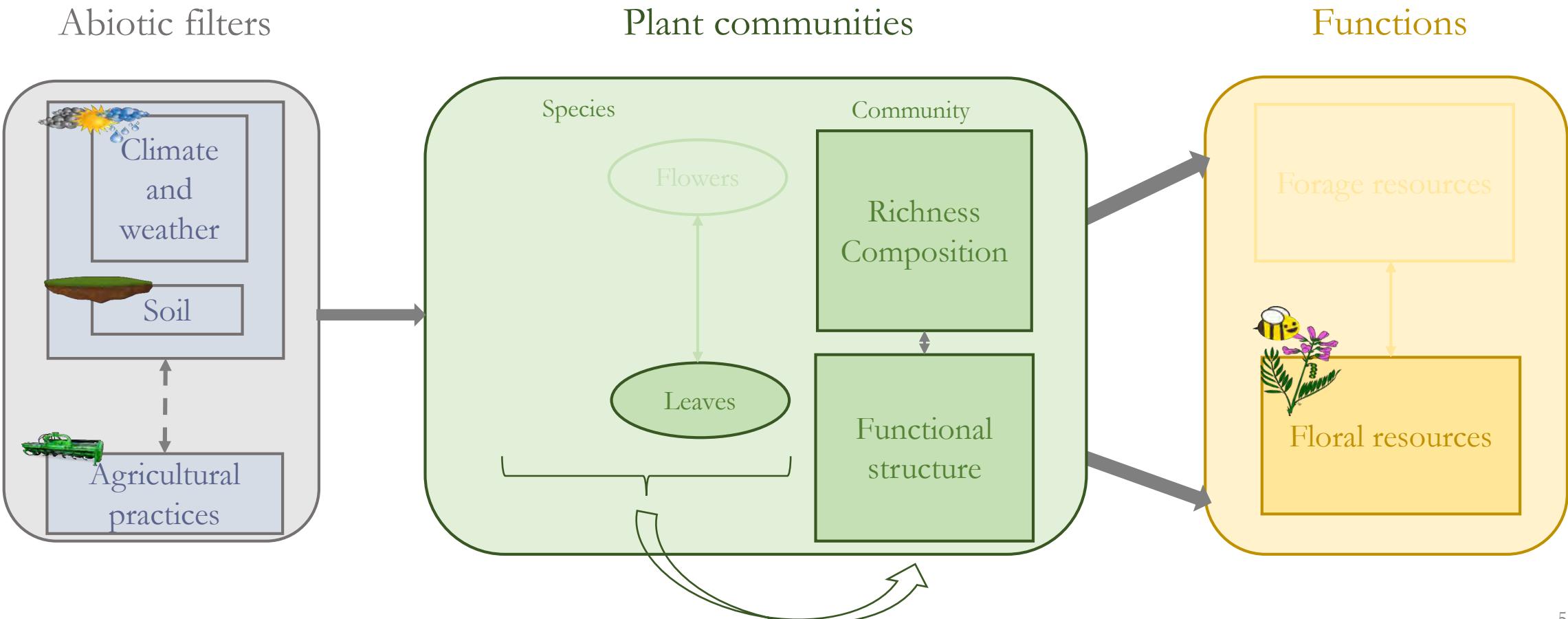
Fried et al., 2022 ; Vojtko et al., 2020

III. Weeds as floral resources



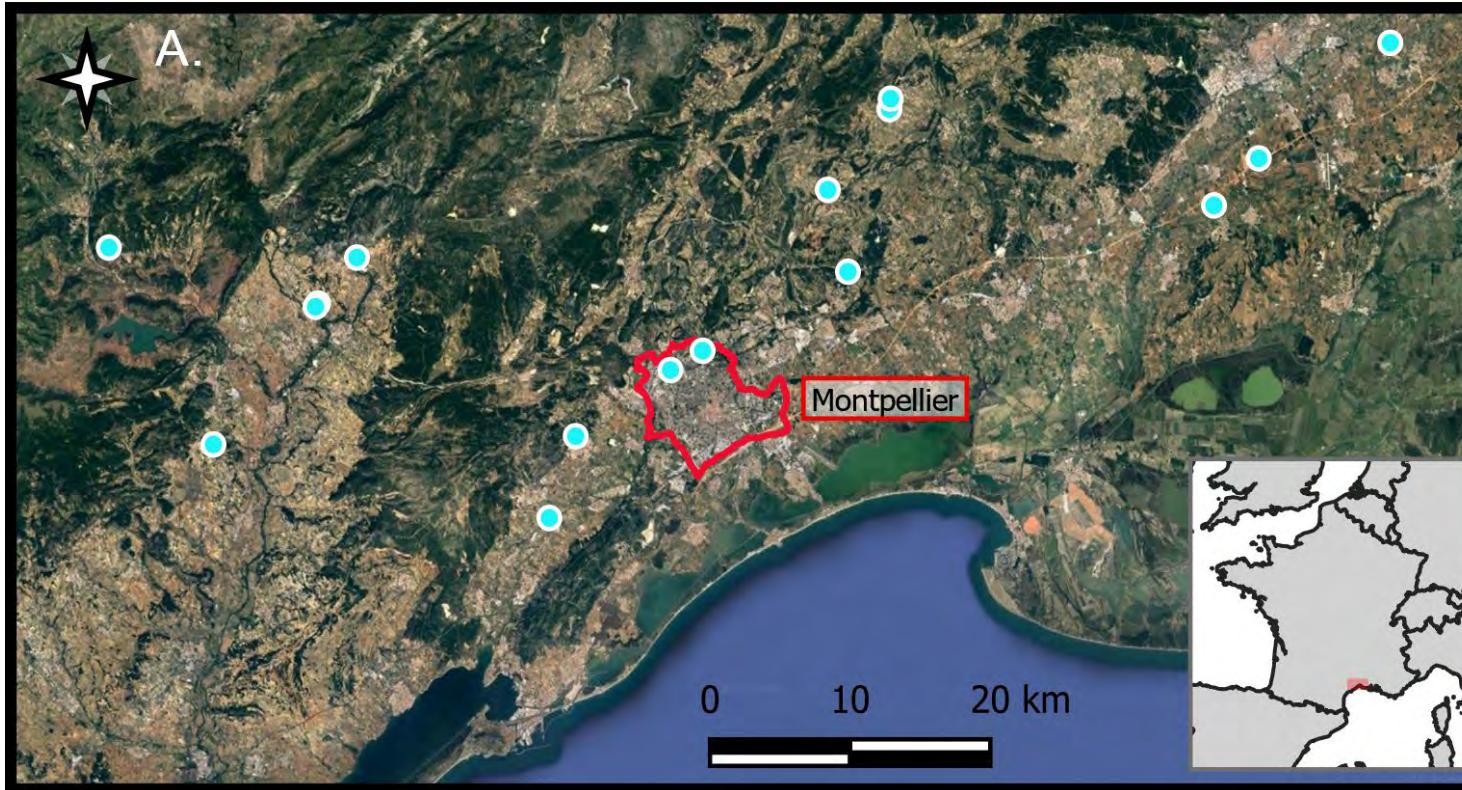
Weeds as floral resources

- What is the potential of Mediterranean vineyards and olive groves weed communities as floral resources, and how do agricultural practices and pedoclimate modify the floral resources and associated traits?

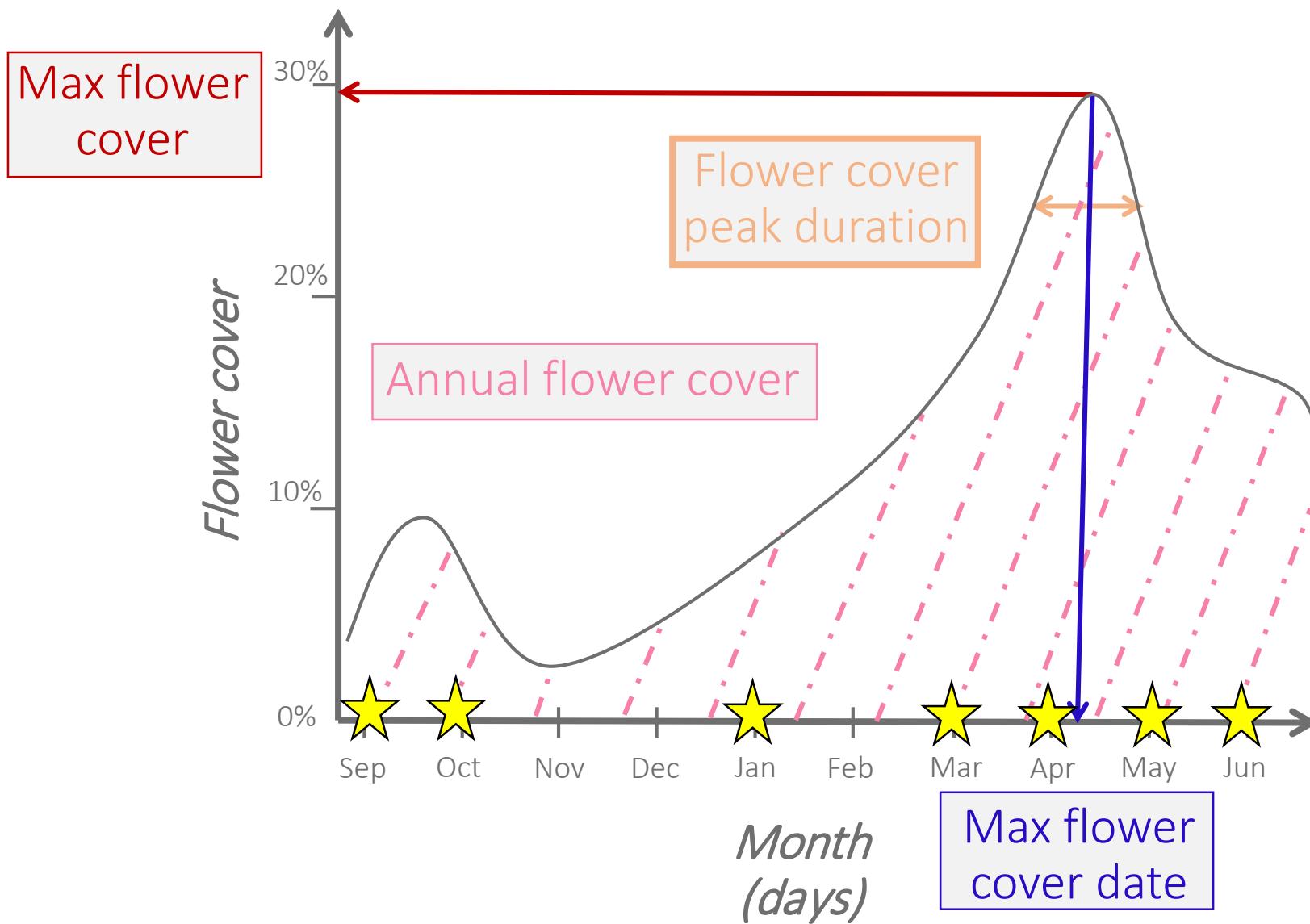


Olive grove network to assess floral resources

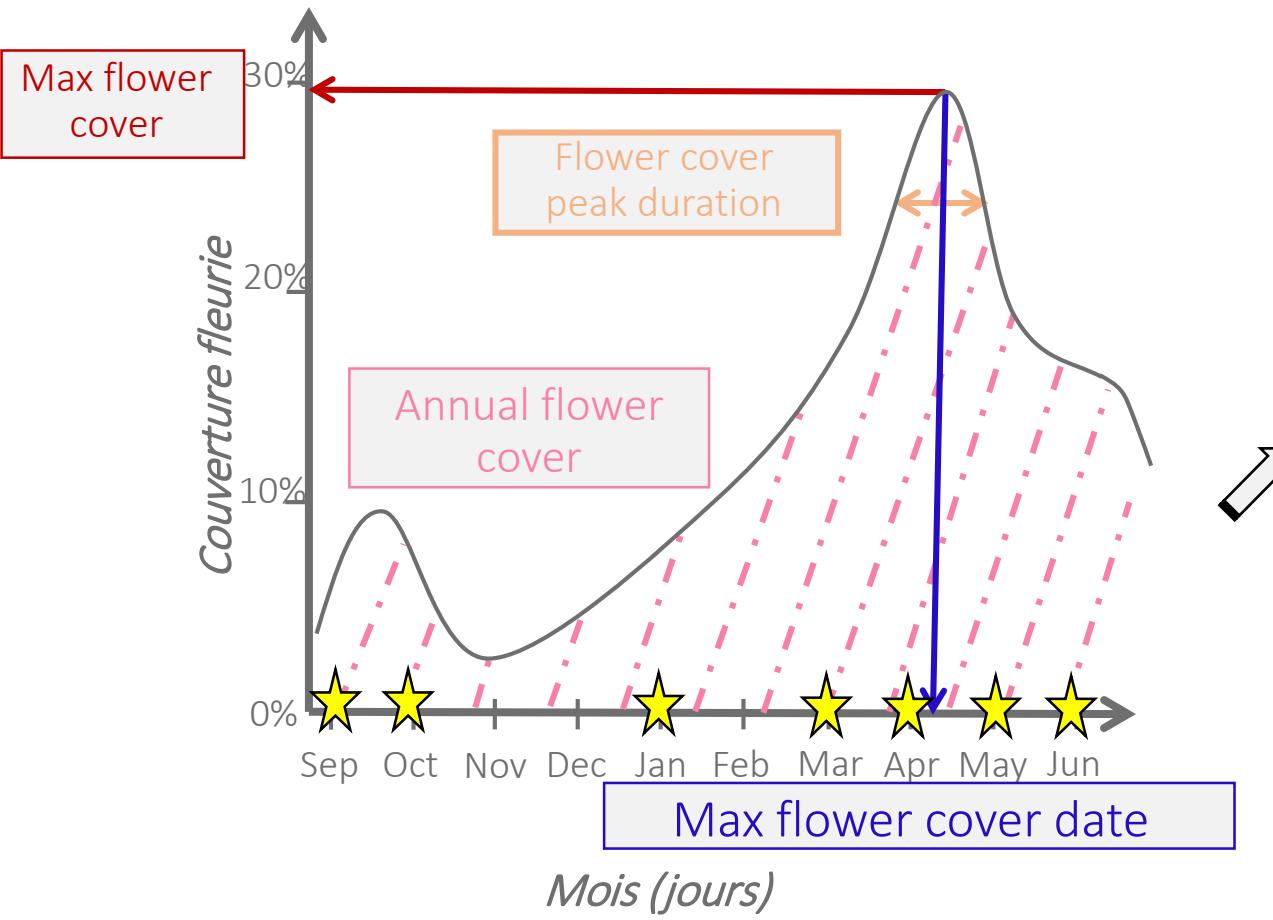
- Gradient 0 to 6 mowings per year
- Floral cover measured at 7 dates



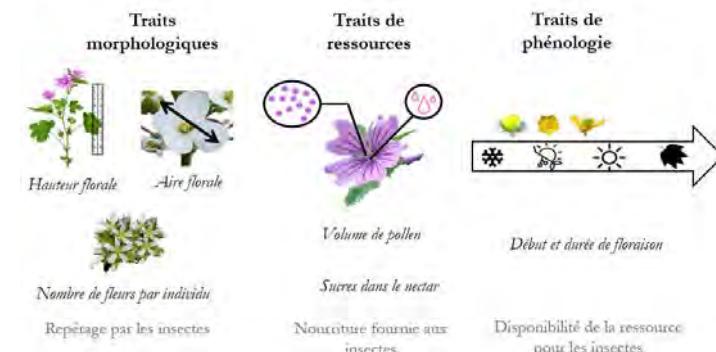
Floral resources indicators



Floral resources indicators

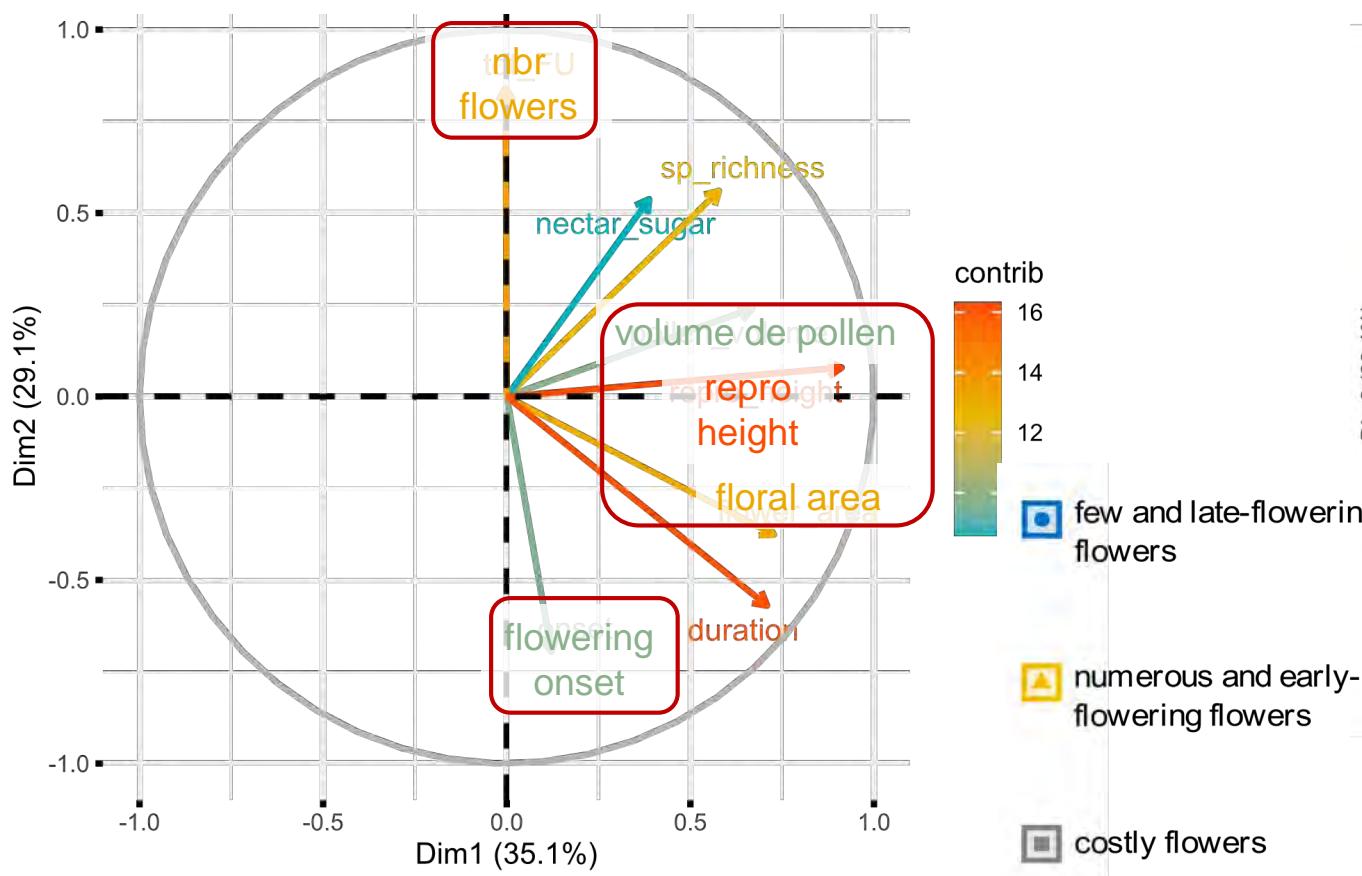


CWM of each trait at the year scale

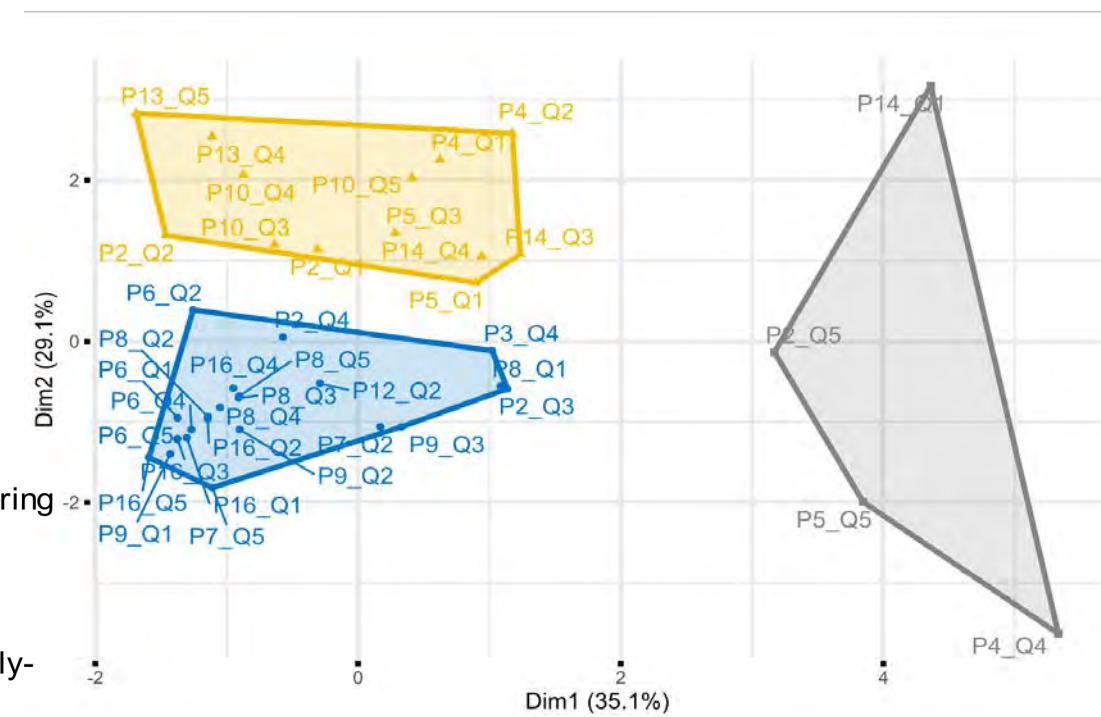


Links between the functional structure of floral communities and floral resources

Principal component analysis on CWMs of floral traits and floral species richness

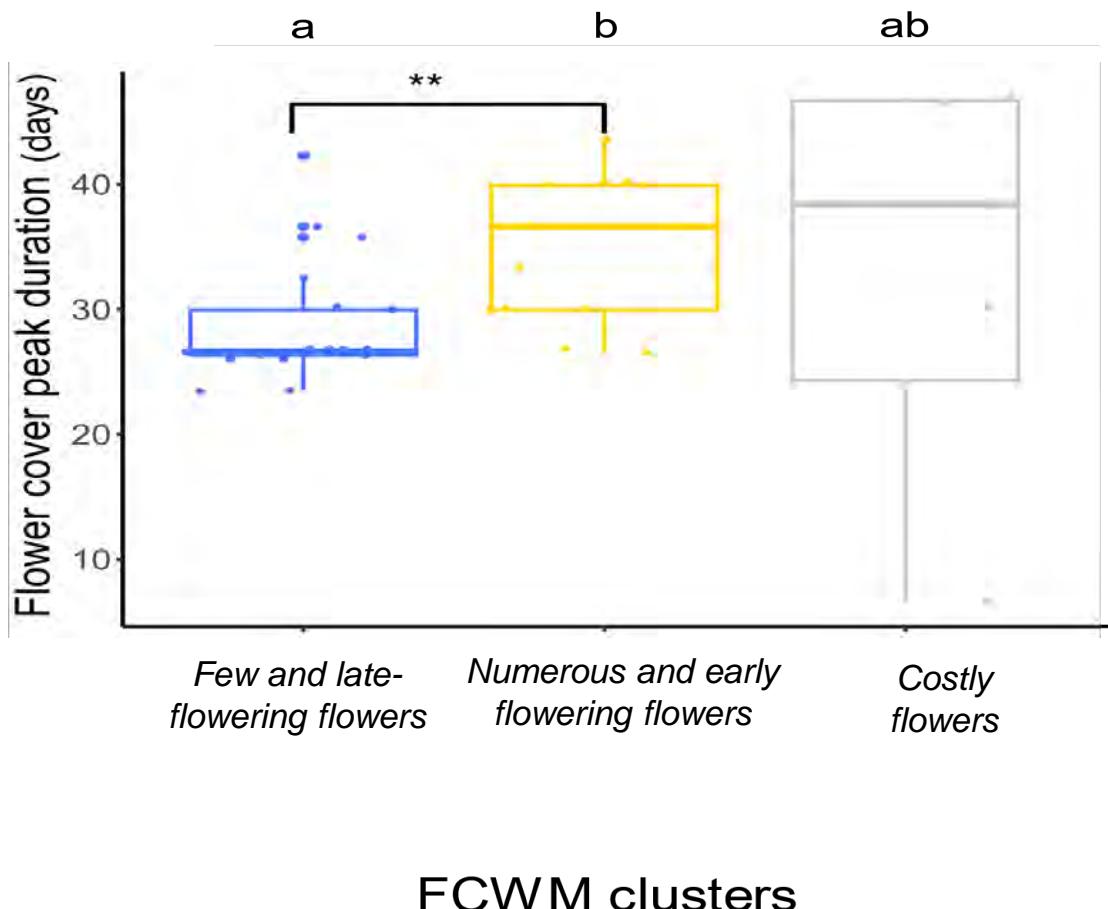


- Hierarchical ascending classification to classify communities



Links between floral traits and floral resources

- Flower cover peak duration varies between groups



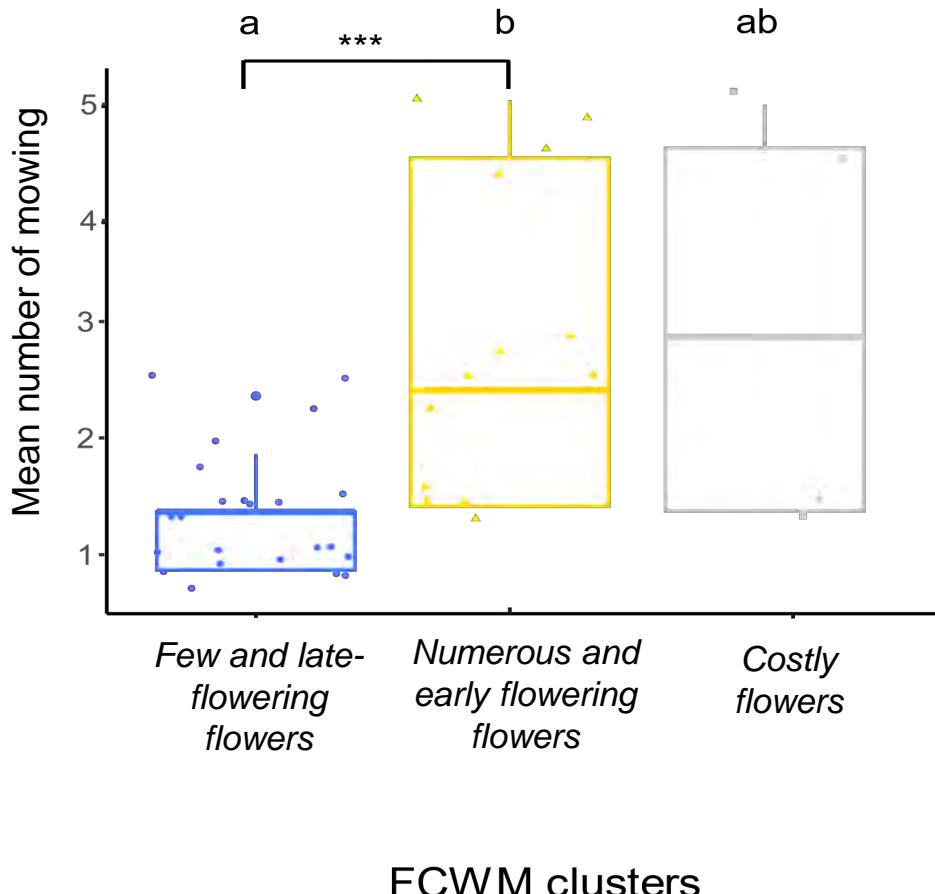
Communities composed of species flowering earlier and with more flowers per individual have a longer flowering peak.



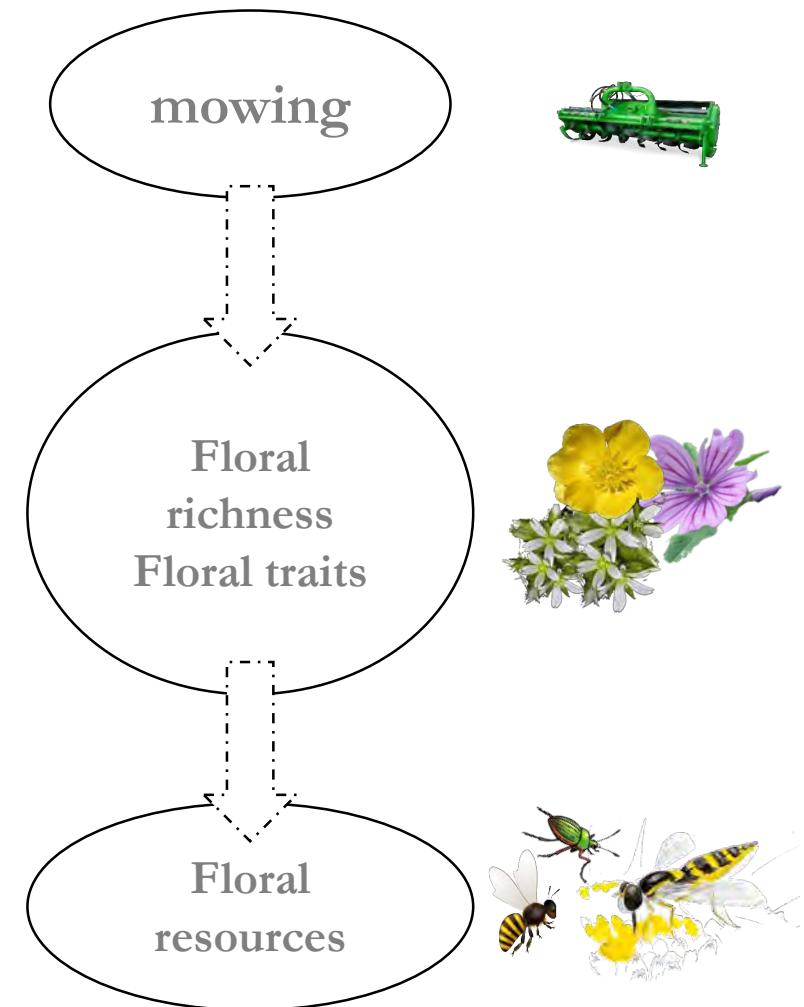
Is it linked to agricultural practices ?

Links between floral traits, resources and agricultural practices

- Mean number of mowing varies between groups

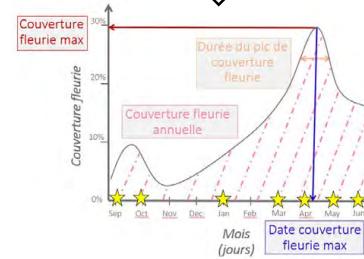
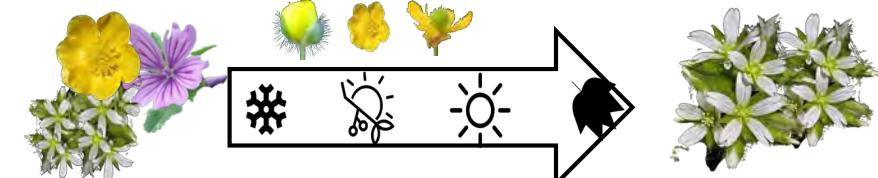
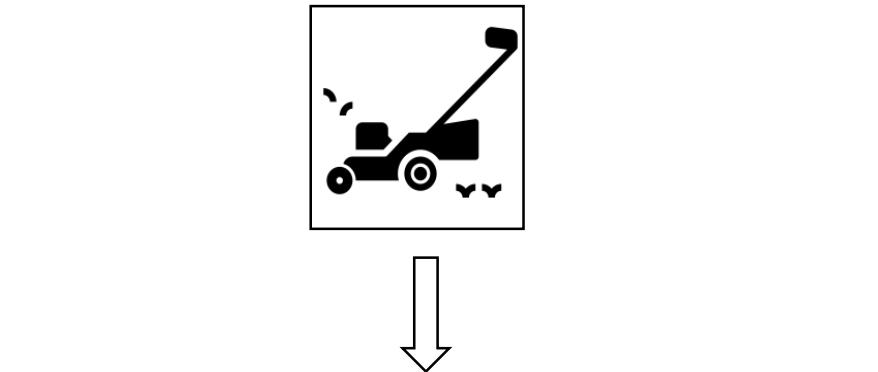
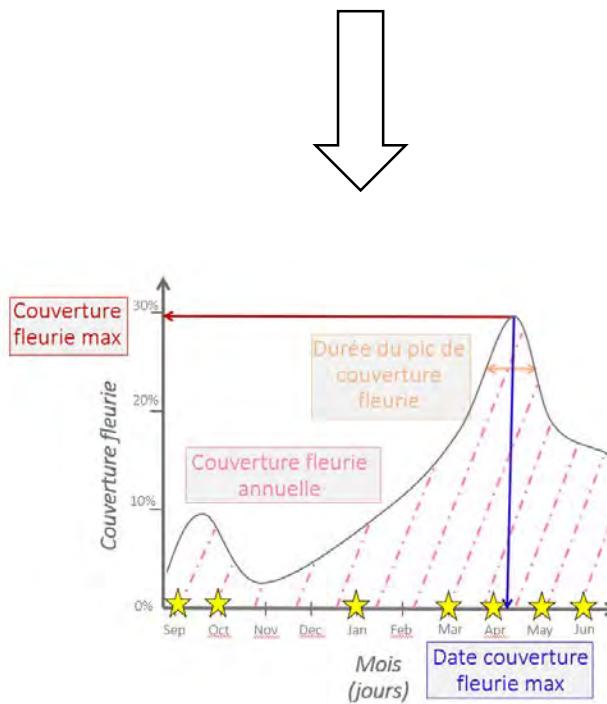
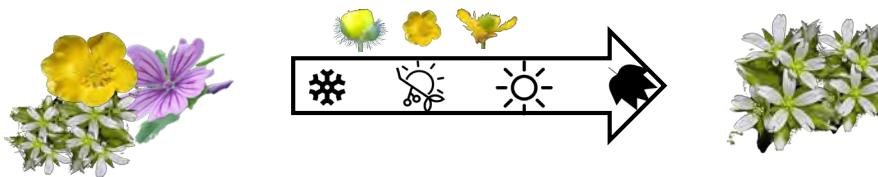


Communities composed of species flowering earlier and with more flowers per individual are more regularly mown



Summary of part III

- Floral richness and traits determine floral resources
- Which are impacted by practices, indirectly determining floral resources



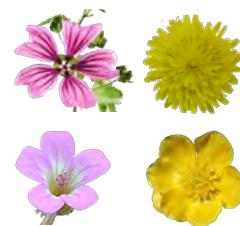
Discussion

- Mowing already known for promoting services in vineyards and olive groves



Biodiversity
Soil water storage
Microbial activity
Decomposition
Soil erosion

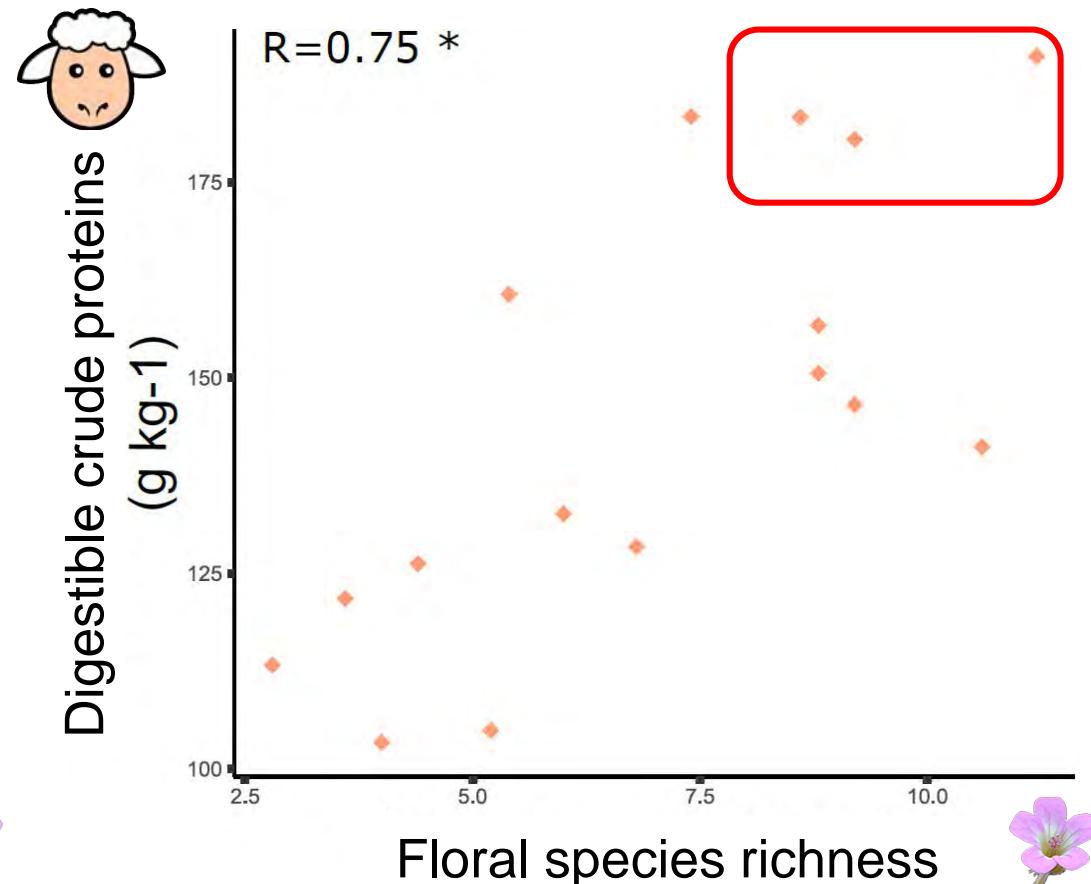
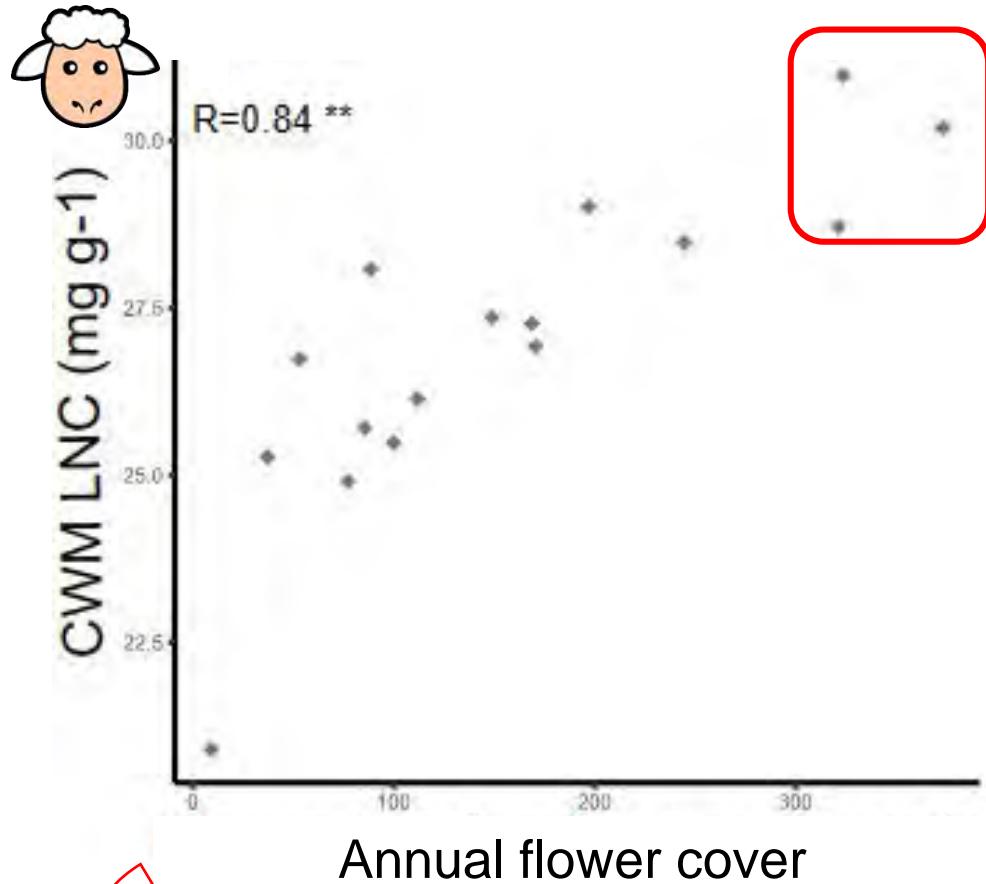
Also favorable to **floral resources**



General discussion

Two irreconcilable resources?

Communities *theoretically* capable of providing both resources



*Common
features*

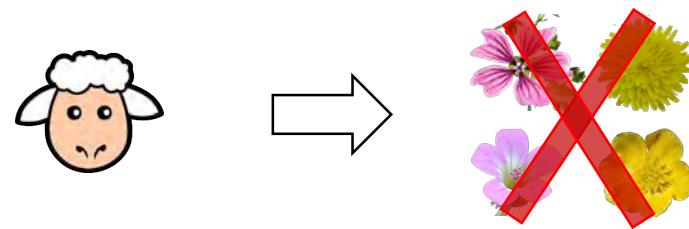
- High richness and soil cover

- Dicotyledonous dominance

Two complex resources to reconcile?

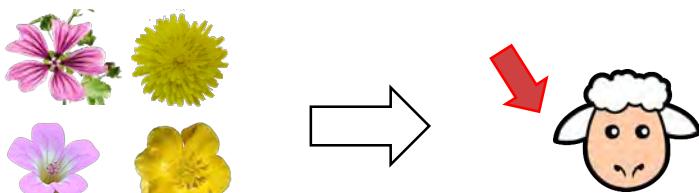
A complex temporality
to manage...

*Delayed flowering, consumption of
floral parts*



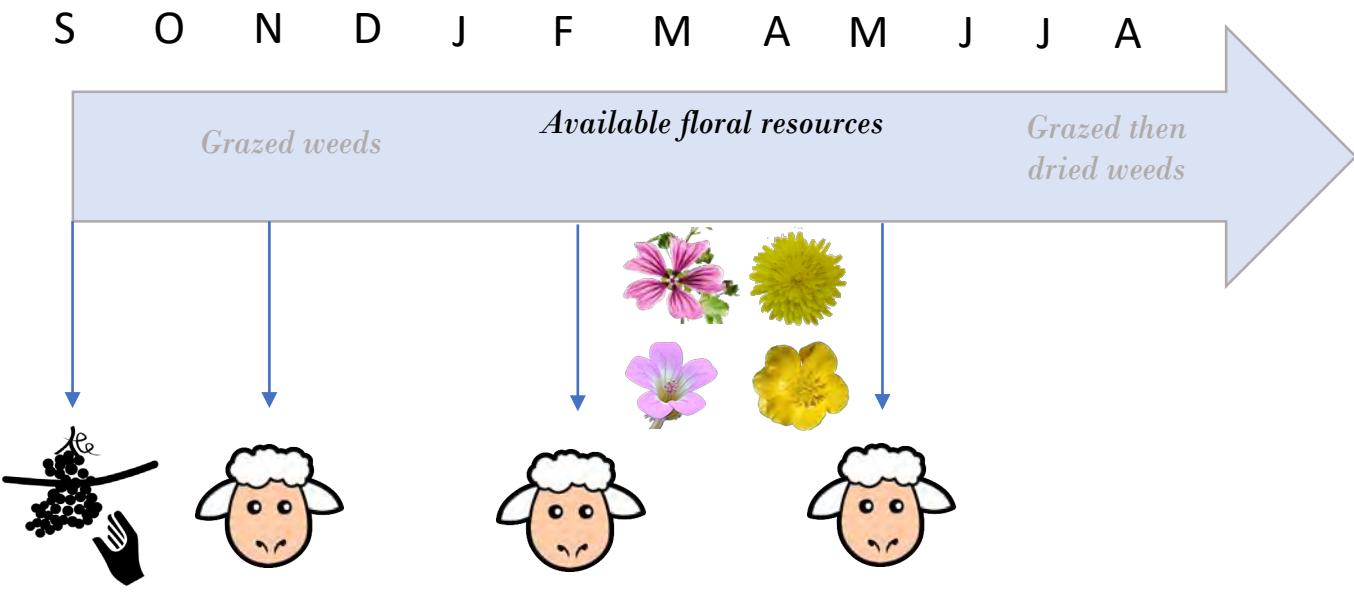
Garcia & Eubanks, 2018

Digestibility decrease



Bumb et al., 2018

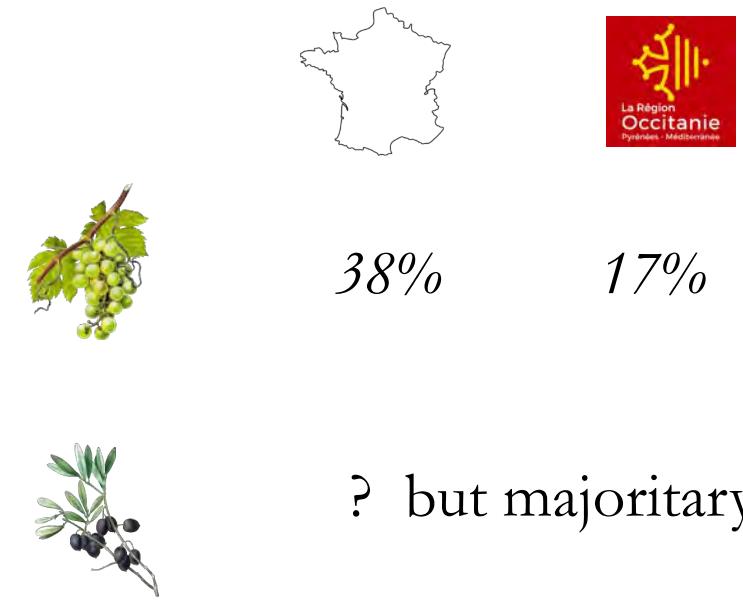
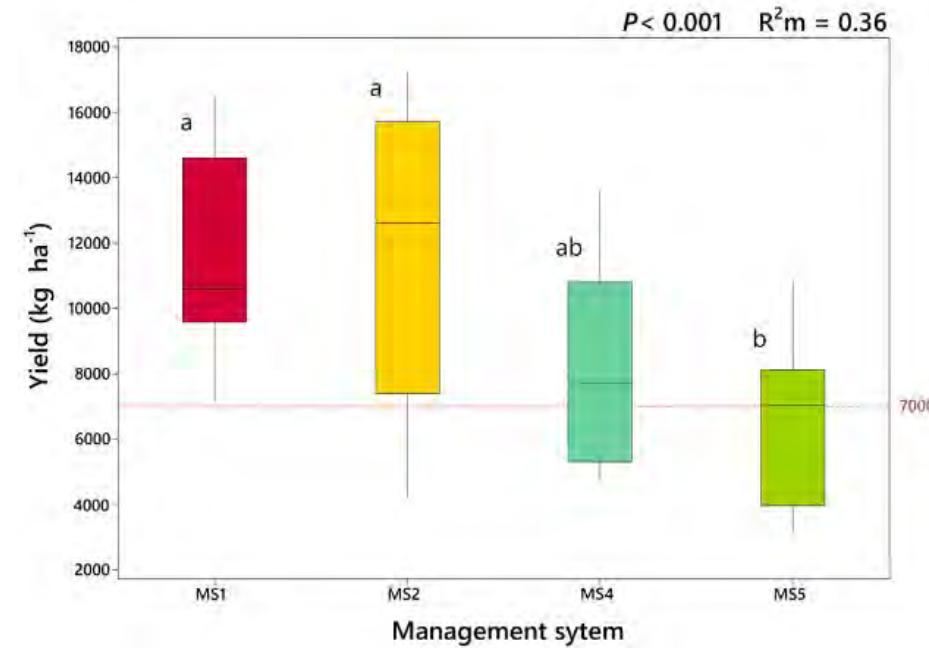
Conciliation options?



- Adapt to the resources
- Rangeland grazing in agreement with a shepherd

Is agricultural production compatible with the supply of floral and forage resources?

- Proven competition impacting harvest and quality
- But it's a documented practice!



38% 17%

? but majority

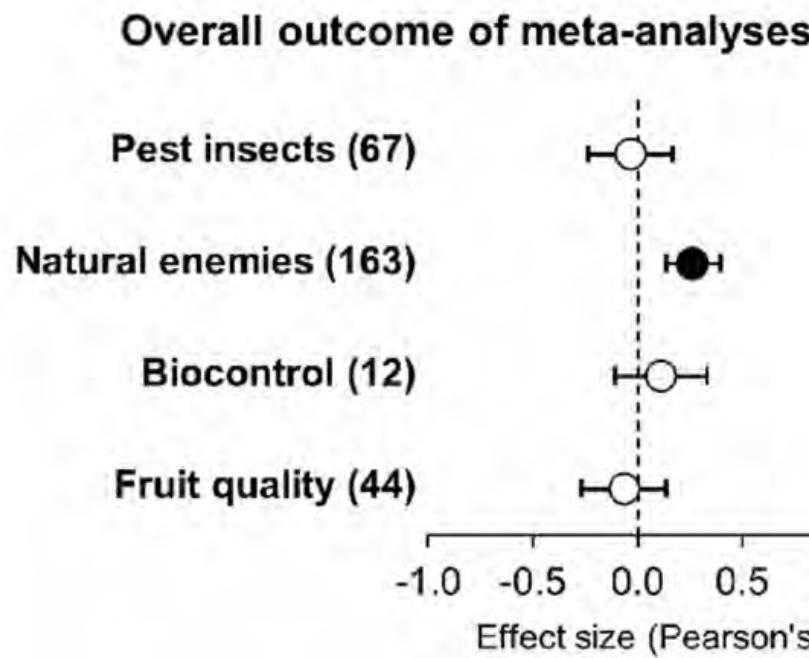
88% of orchards

Agreste, 2019

These impacts vary according to the weather, management and weed community composition! (Adeux et al., 2019 ; Daane et al., 2018 ; Morugán-Coronado et al., 2020 ; Petit et al., 2021)

Weeds: associated biodiversity that provides services

- More services than dis-services
- Intrinsic value of weed biodiversity :



Conclusion : contributions of the thesis

- Knowledge of weed strategies at the species and community levels, integrating floral traits
- Assessment of forage and floral resources in relation to practices



Perspectives

- Study the impact of grazing practices in perennial crops on both resources and services
- Study the upper trophic level: which insects and how do they interact with weeds?



© Cathala



Thank you !

Any questions ?

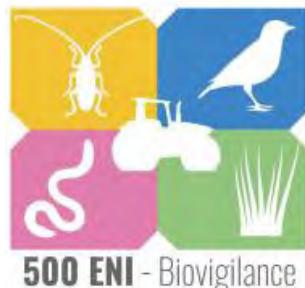
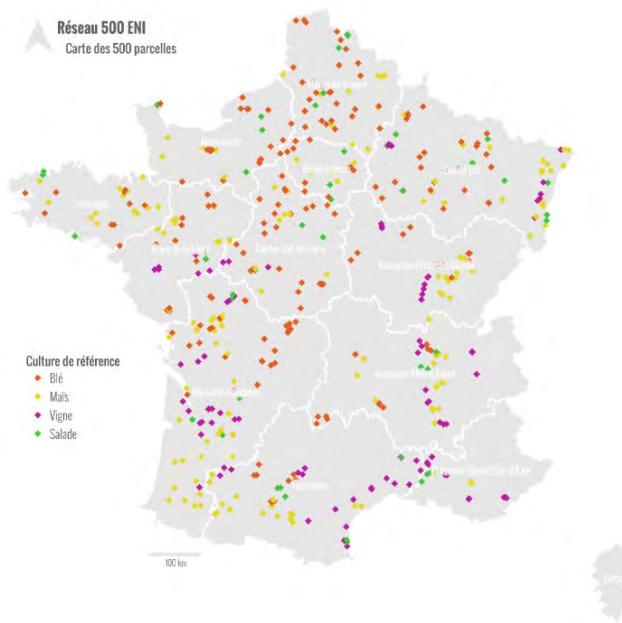


My post-doc work

Research question :

How agricultural practices impact flora field margins as floral resources for insects ?

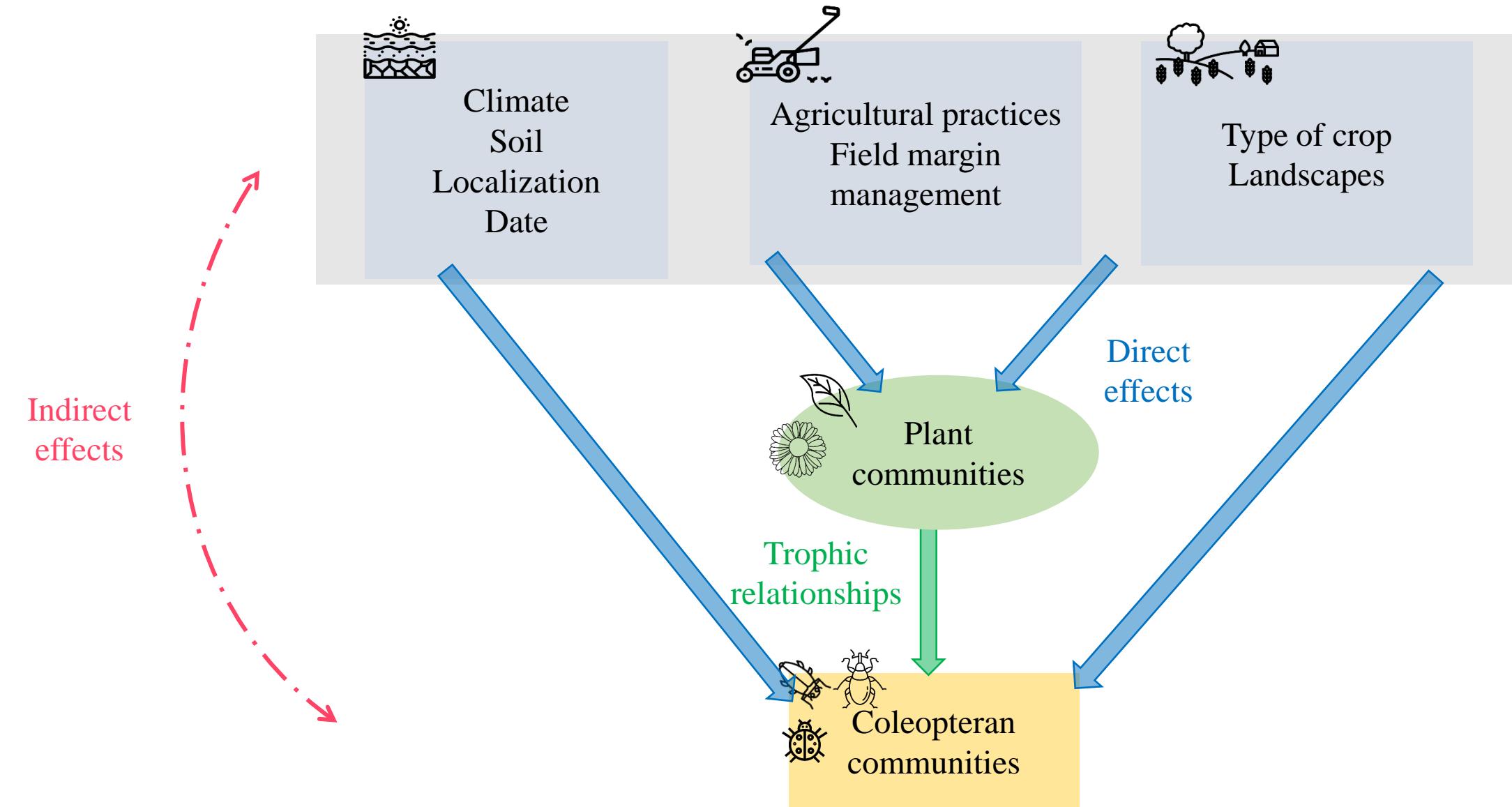
How agricultural practices directly and indirectly impact Coleopteran diversity in field margins?



- Since 2013
- All France
- 550 fields representing 4 major crops

High precision on both agricultural practices and plant and Coleopteran diversity

My post-doc work





MERCI !!!

+ Cécile Combes et les agriculteur.ice.s du réseau



MES AMI.E.S !!!



MON INCROYABLE EQUIPE D'ENCADREMENT !!!!!!



ELENA



AURELIE



KARIM 82



Biodiversité
Agriculture
Alimentation
Environnement
Terre
Eau

Diversité fonctionnelle et potentiels des adventices comme ressources fourragères et florales : cas des vignobles et oliveraies méditerranéennes

Présentée par **Léa Genty**

23 novembre 2023

Sous la direction de

Aurélie Metay, Elena Kazakou et Karim Barkaoui



The PRIMA programme is supported under Horizon 2020 the European Union's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.



Caractéristiques pédoclimatiques des parcelles du réseau

- Pluviométrie annuelle :

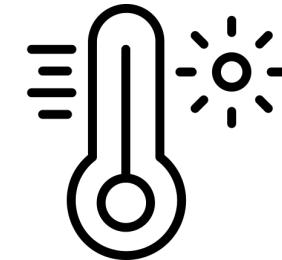


Moy : 660 ± 129 mm

Min : 515 mm

Max : 952 mm

- Température moyenne annuelle :



Moy : 15.2 ± 0.6 °C

Min : 13.7 °C

Max : 15.9 °C

Traits foliaires des espèces les plus abondantes en vignes

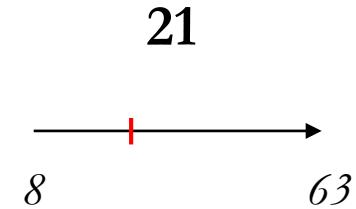


Diplotaxis erucoides

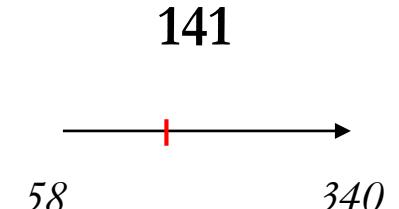
4,45%

CR

SLA ($\text{m}^2.\text{kg}^{-1}$)
Moy : 27 ± 10



LDMC (mg.g^{-1})
Moy : 188 ± 27



n = 118 espèces

Sol nu : 53%

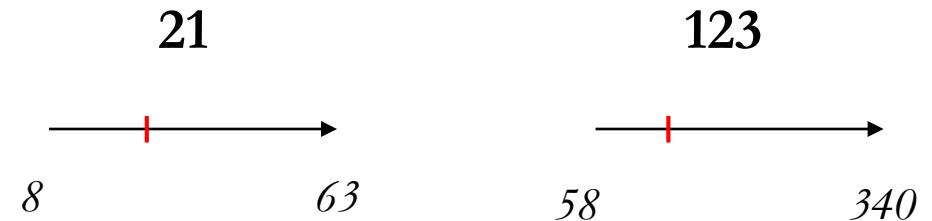
n = 105



Helminthotheca echinoides

3,29%

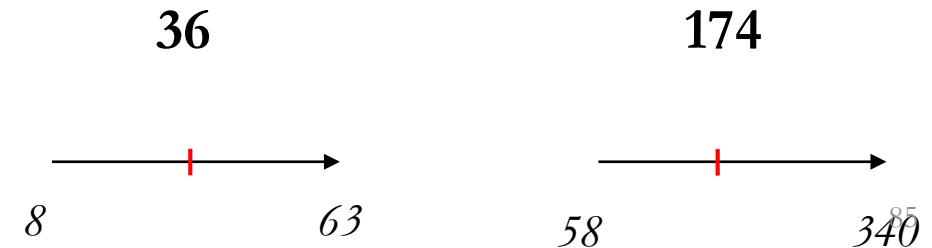
CR



Veronica persica

3,05%

R



Traits foliaires des espèces les plus abondantes en oliveraies



n = 148 espèces
Sol nu : 34%



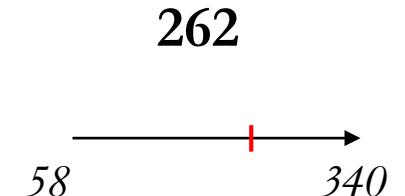
Medicago minima

7,98%

SR

SLA ($\text{m}^2.\text{kg}^{-1}$)
Moy : 27 ± 10

LDMC (mg.g^{-1})
Moy : 188 ± 27



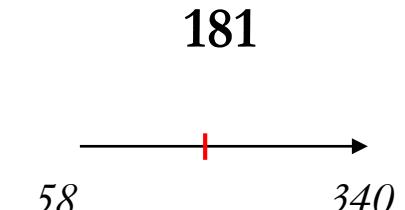
n = 105



Bromus spp.
hordeaceus, madritensis, sterilis

7,4%

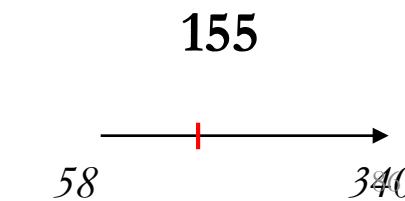
R



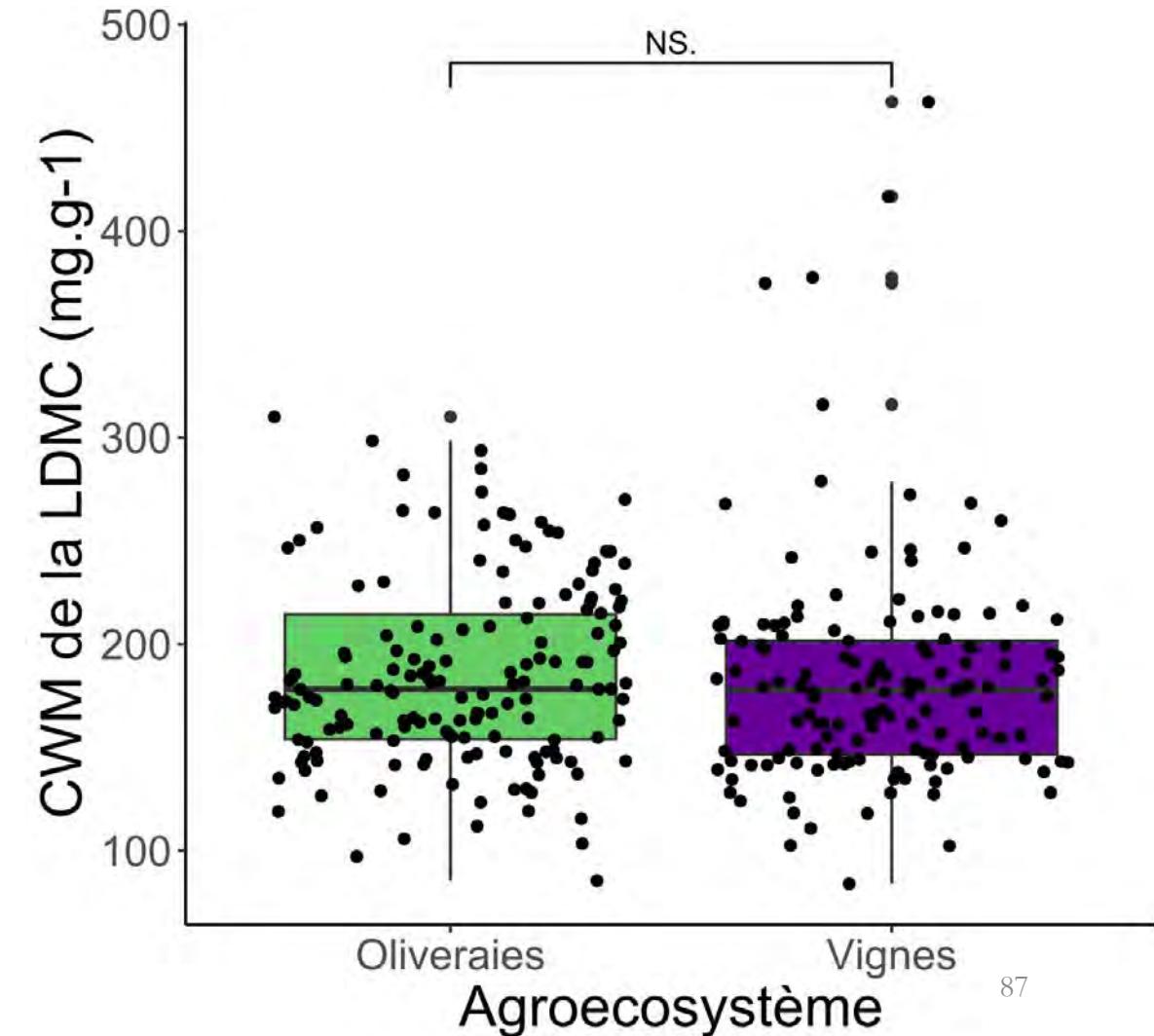
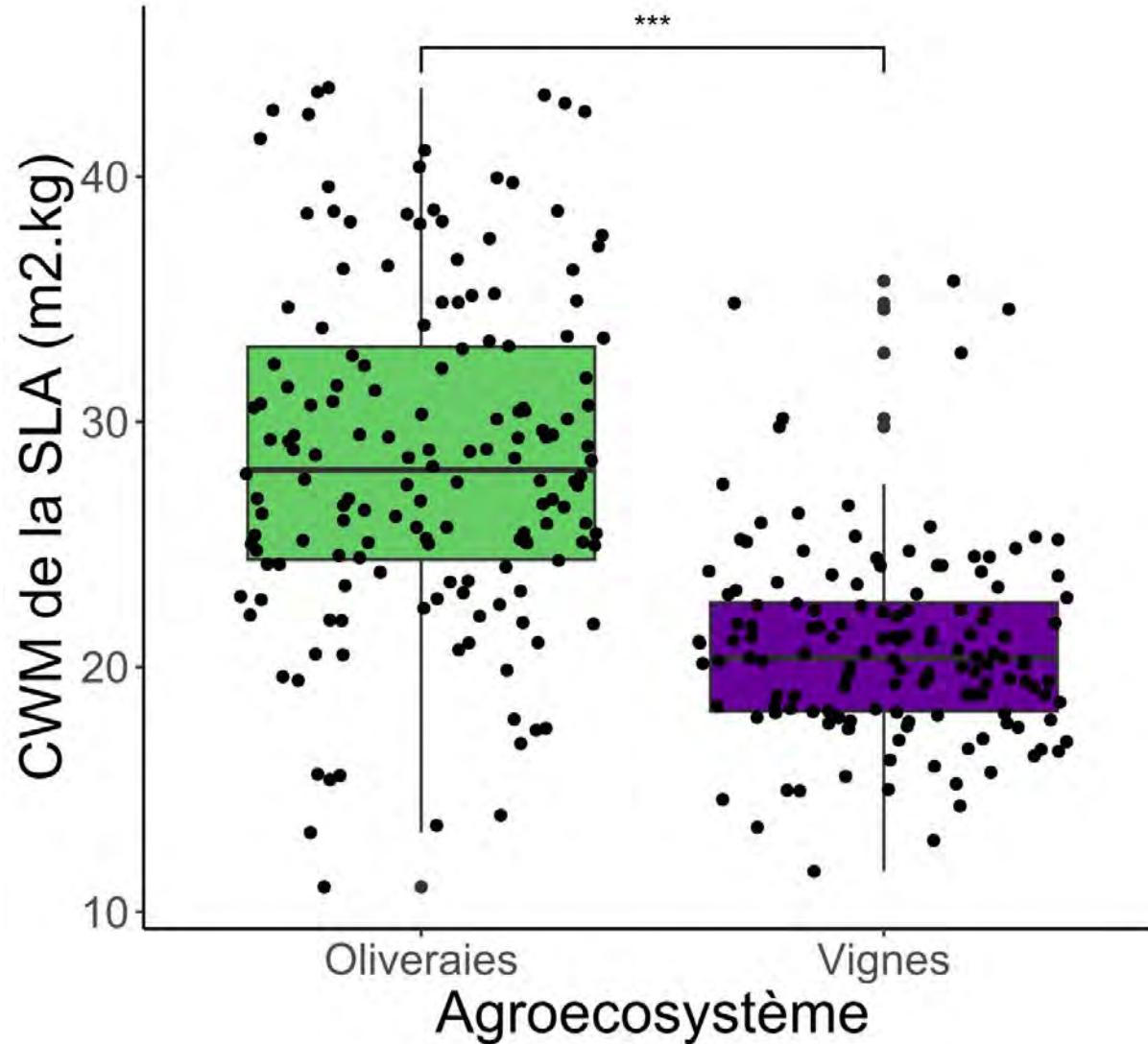
Plantago lanceolata

4,01%

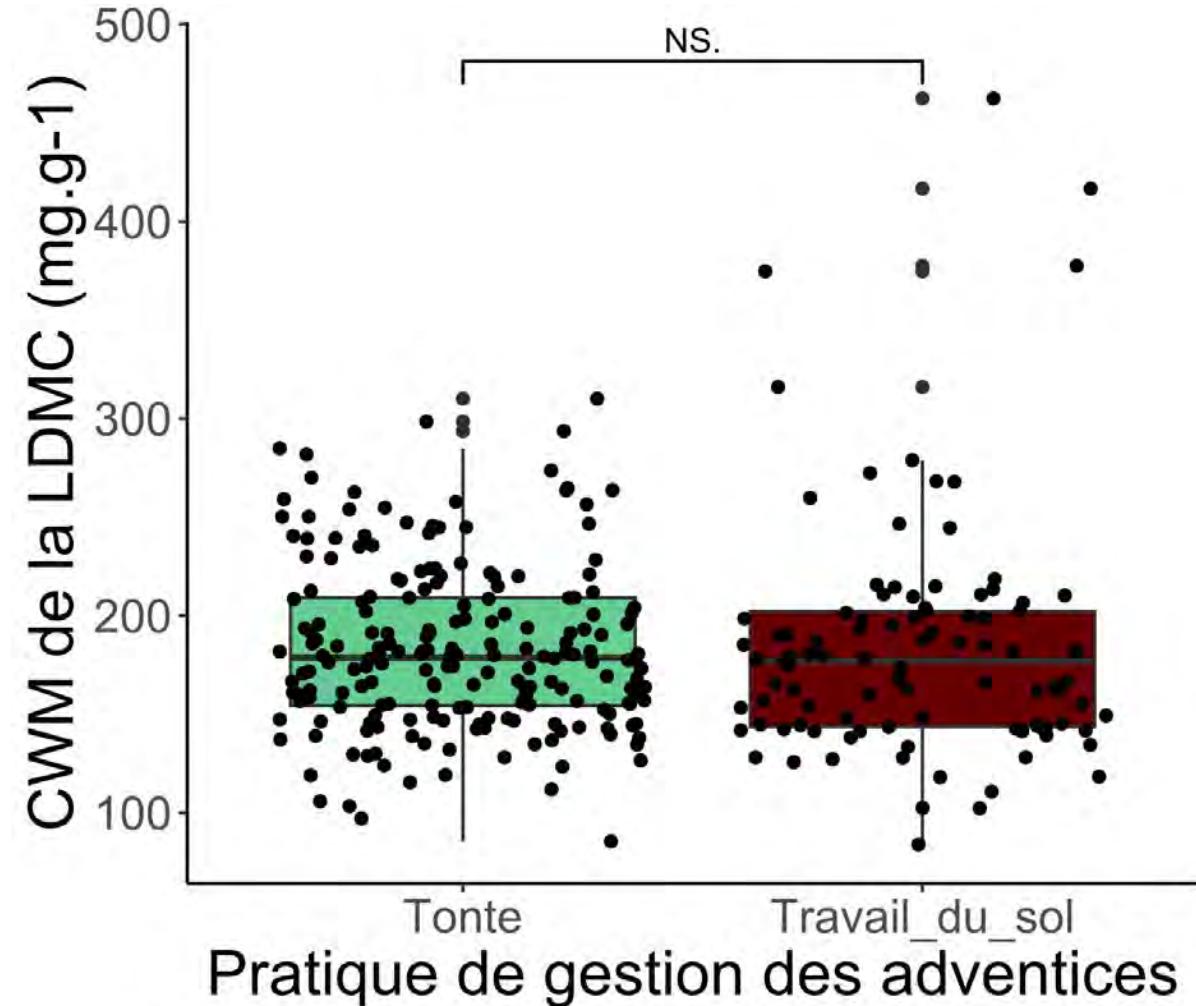
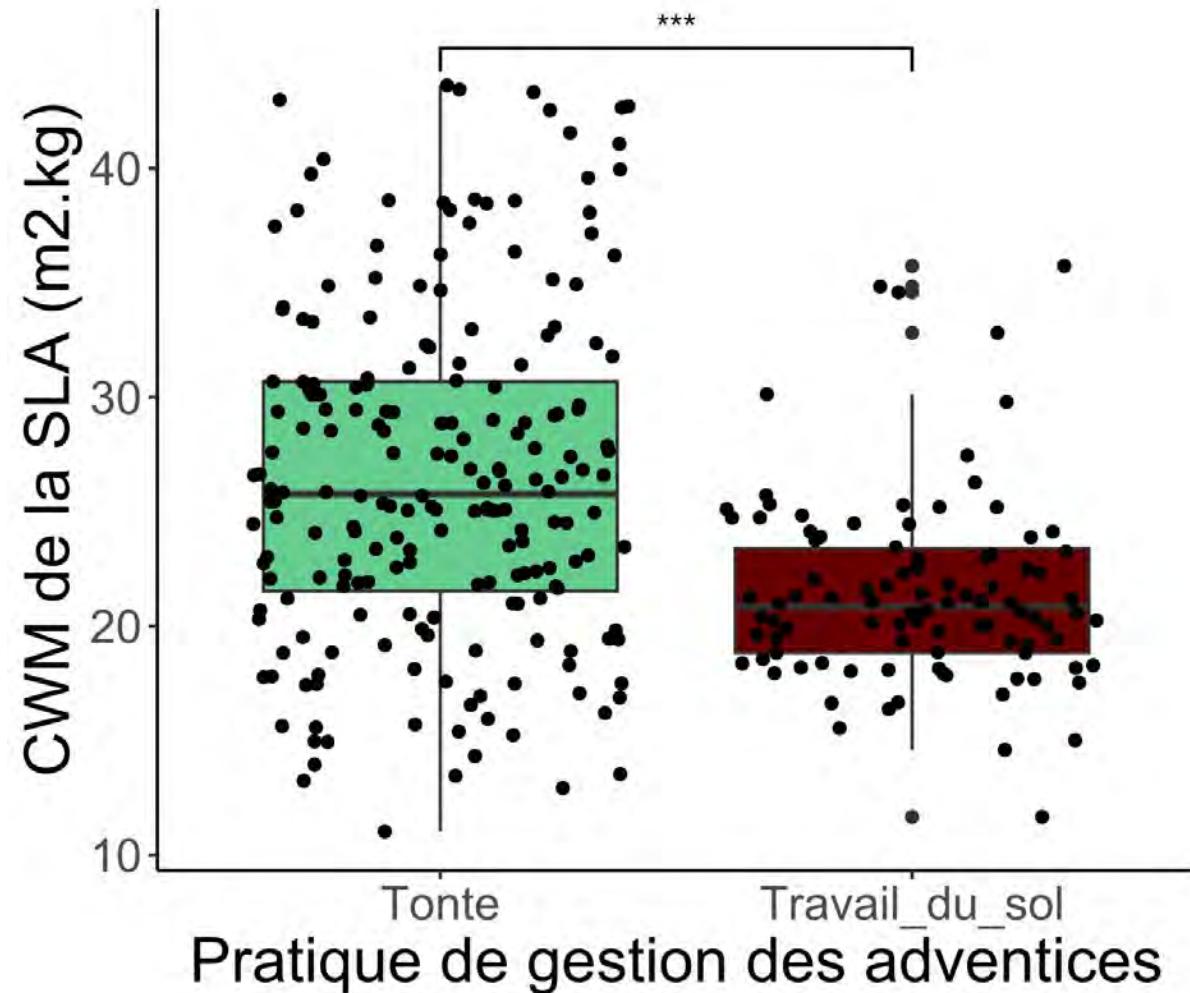
CR



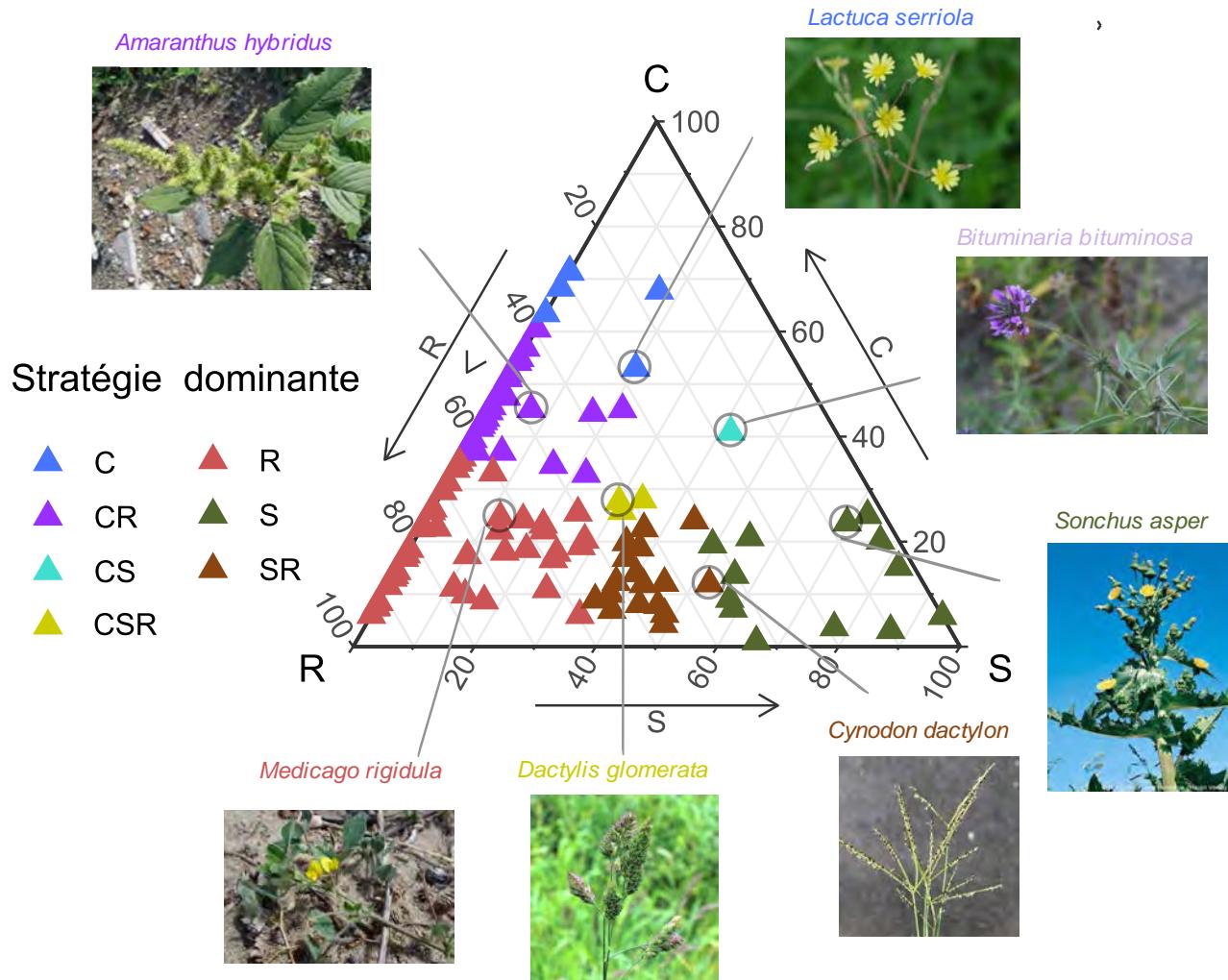
A l'échelle de la communauté : seule la SLA diffère entre les agroécosystèmes



A l'échelle de la communauté : la SLA diffère entre méthode de gestion du sol



Stratégies CSR des adventices des vignes et oliveraies



C : 6 espèces
S : 11 espèces
R : 38 espèces

CR : 25 espèces
SR : 18 espèces
CS : 1 espèce

CSR : 2 espèces

Traits floraux des espèces les plus abondantes en vignes

Teneur en sucres du
nectar ($\mu\text{g } \mu\text{l}^{-1}$)
Moy : 100 ± 362



Diploptaxis erucoides

4,45%

Aire florale (cm^2)
Moy : 1.8 ± 3

3,4

507



n = 118 espèces

Sol nu : 53%

n = 19



Helminthotheca echiooides

3,29%

NS

NS

0,03 — 12

0 — 1646

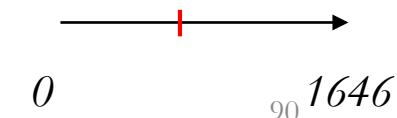
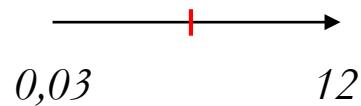


Veronica persica

3,05%

0,7

1,66



Traits floraux des espèces les plus abondantes en oliveraies



n = 148 espèces
Sol nu : 34%



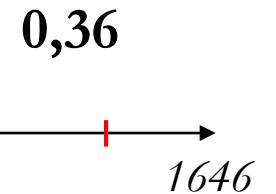
Medicago minima

7,98%

Aire florale (cm^2)
Moy : 1.8 ± 3



Teneur en sucres du
nectar ($\mu\text{g } \mu\text{l}^{-1}$)
Moy : 100 ± 362



n = 19



Bromus spp
hordeaceus, madritensis, sterilis

7,4%

NS

NS

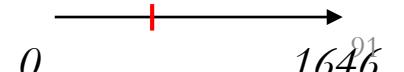
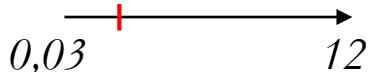


Plantago lanceolata

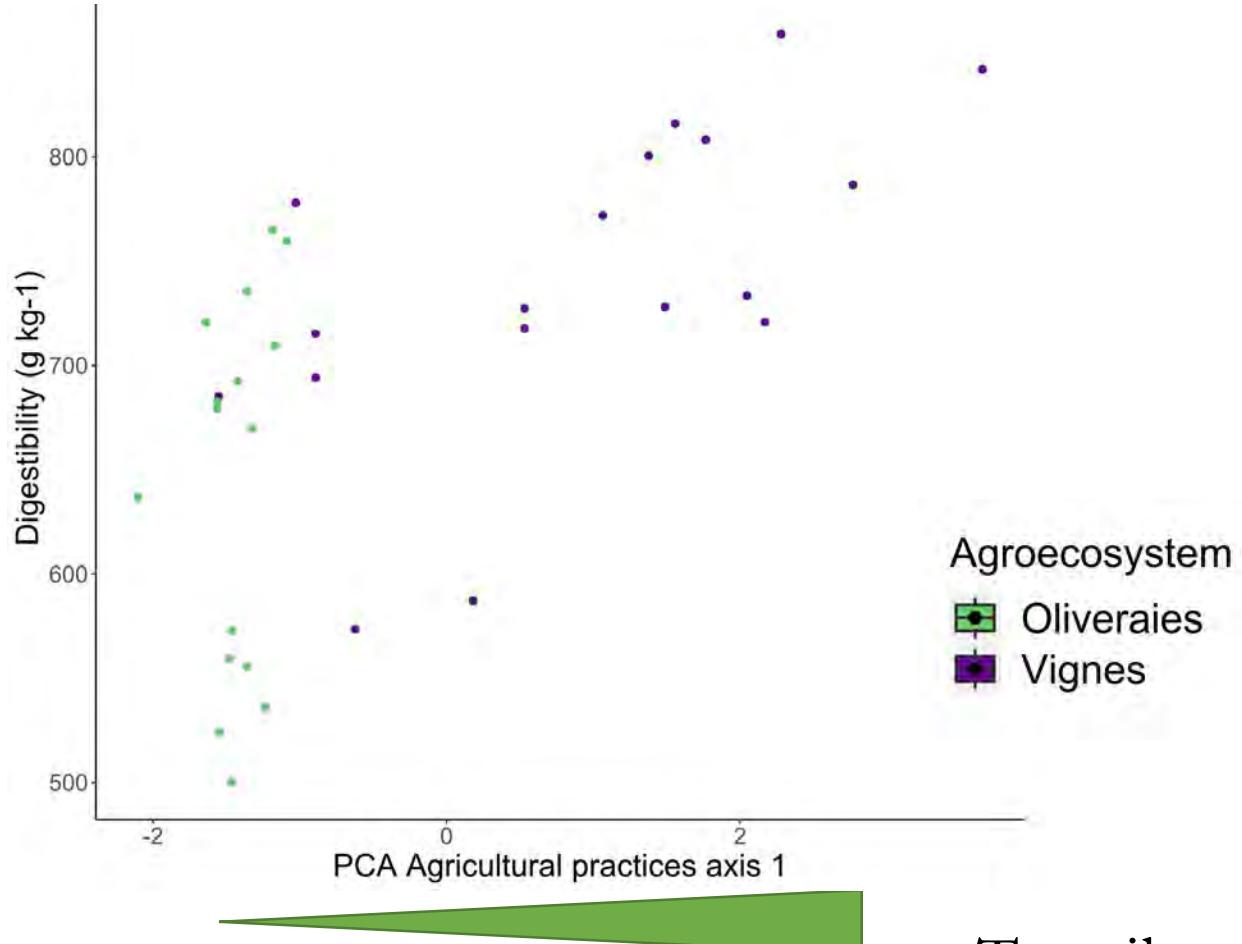
4,01%

5,5

0



Liens directs entre intensité des pratiques et digestibilité



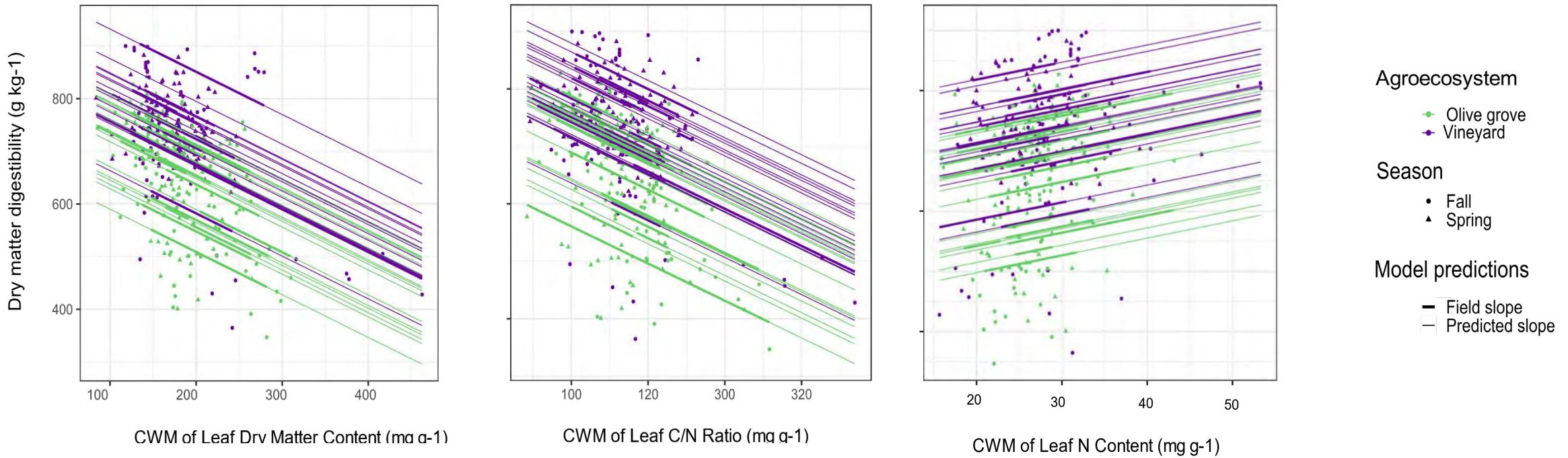
Tonte

Intensité de la perturbation

Travail
du sol

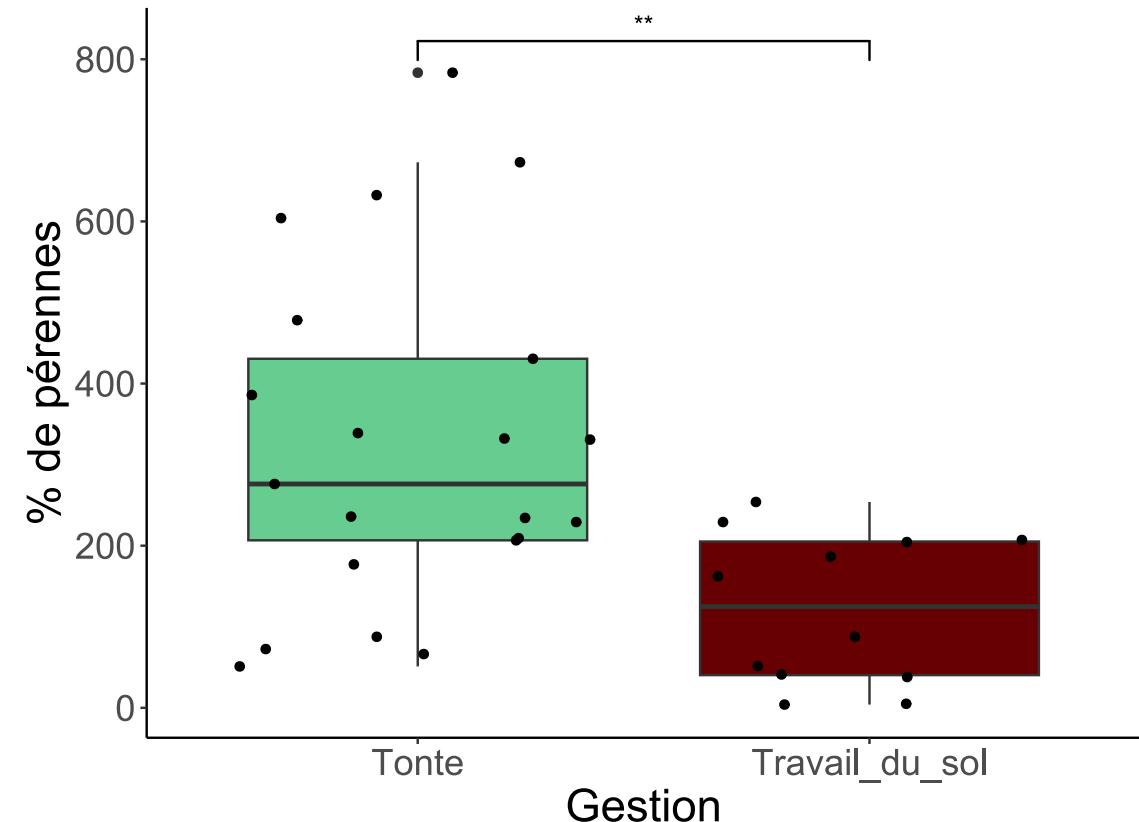
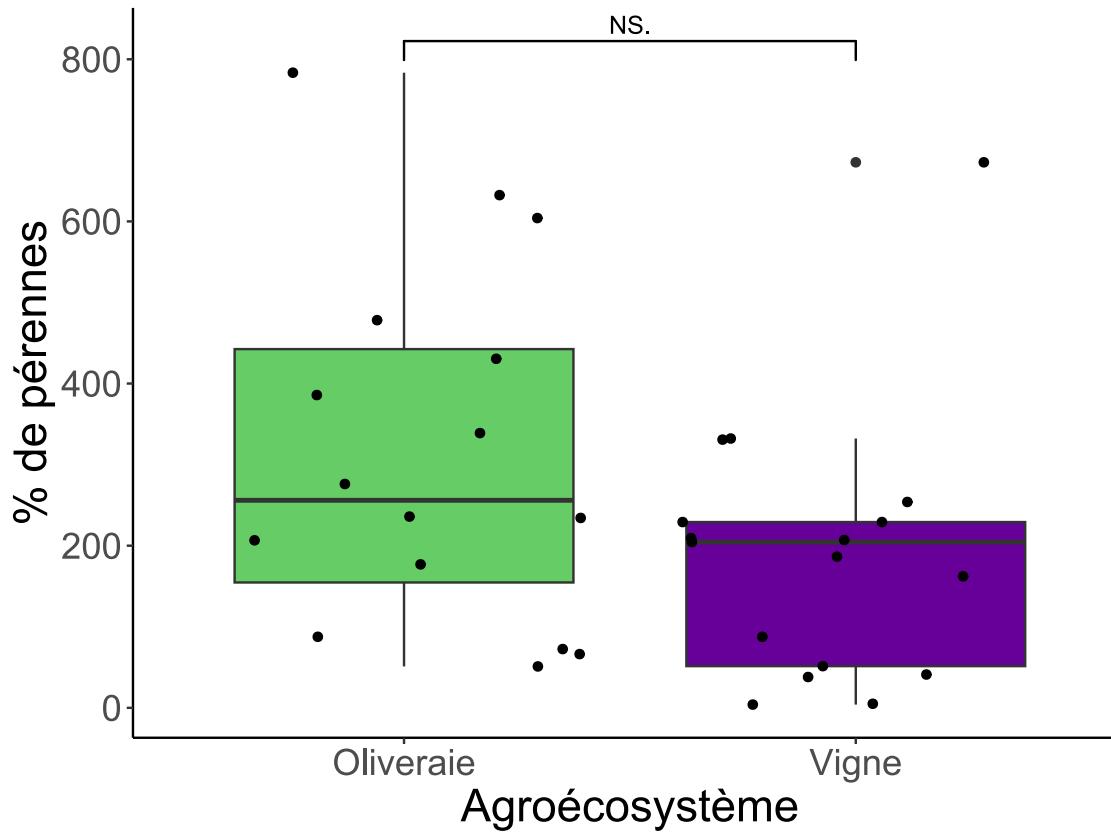
	Dry matter digestibility g kg^{-1}	R^2m	p
	Estimate (SE)		
PC1_{agri}	23 (± 13.4)	0.35	0.011
$\text{PC1}_{\text{pedoclim}}$	-	-	ns
$\text{PC2}_{\text{pedoclim}}$	-21 (± 8.1)	0.35	0.003
R_{growth}	-0.17 (± 0.03)	0.35	< 0.001
MT_{growth}	-	-	ns

Liens directs entre traits foliaires et digestibilité

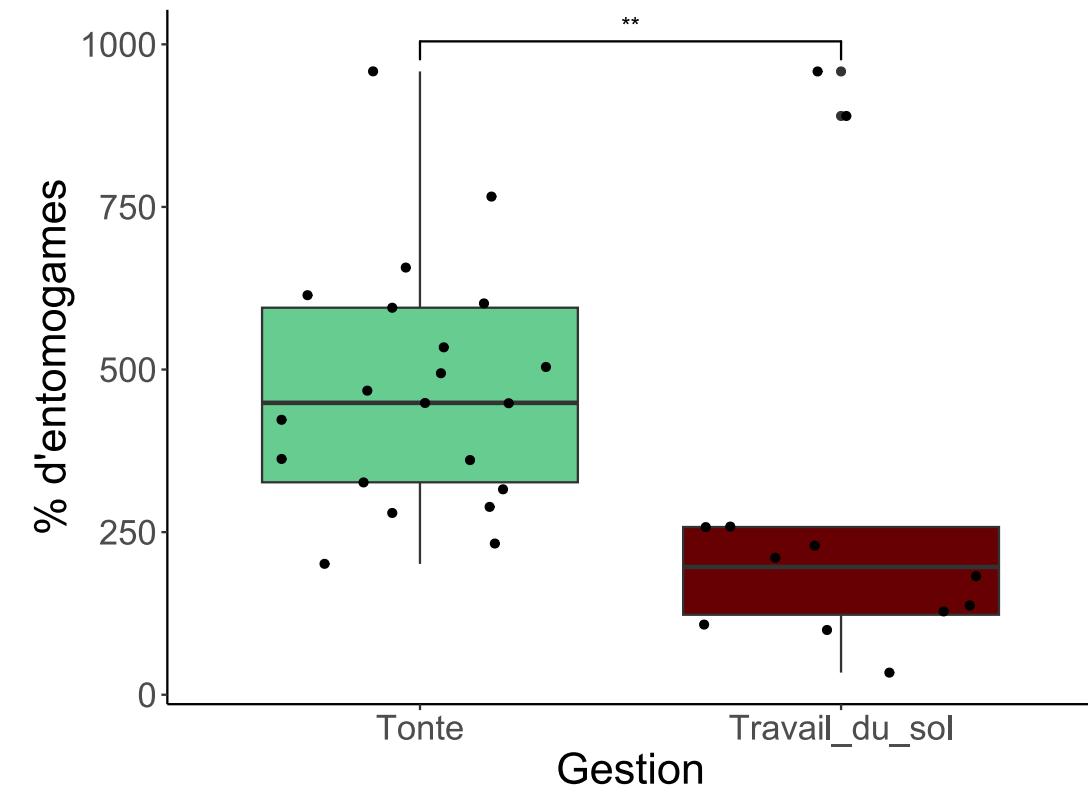
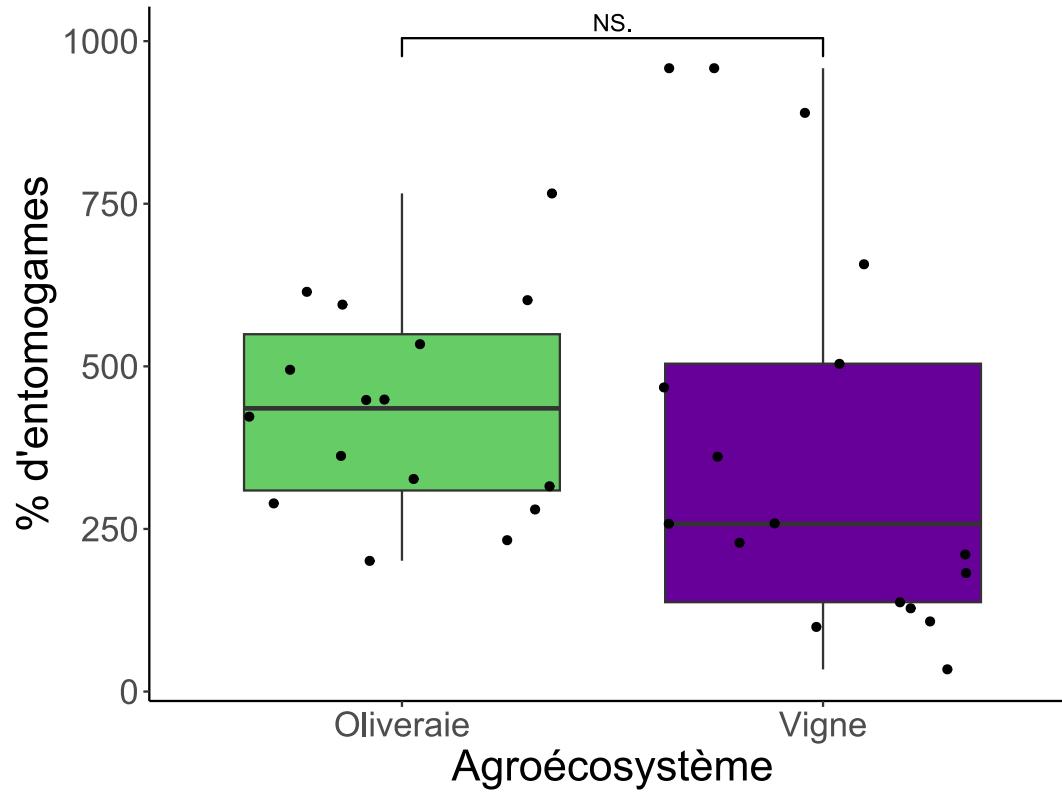


La LDMC, le ratio C/N et la LNC sont liés
à la digestibilité

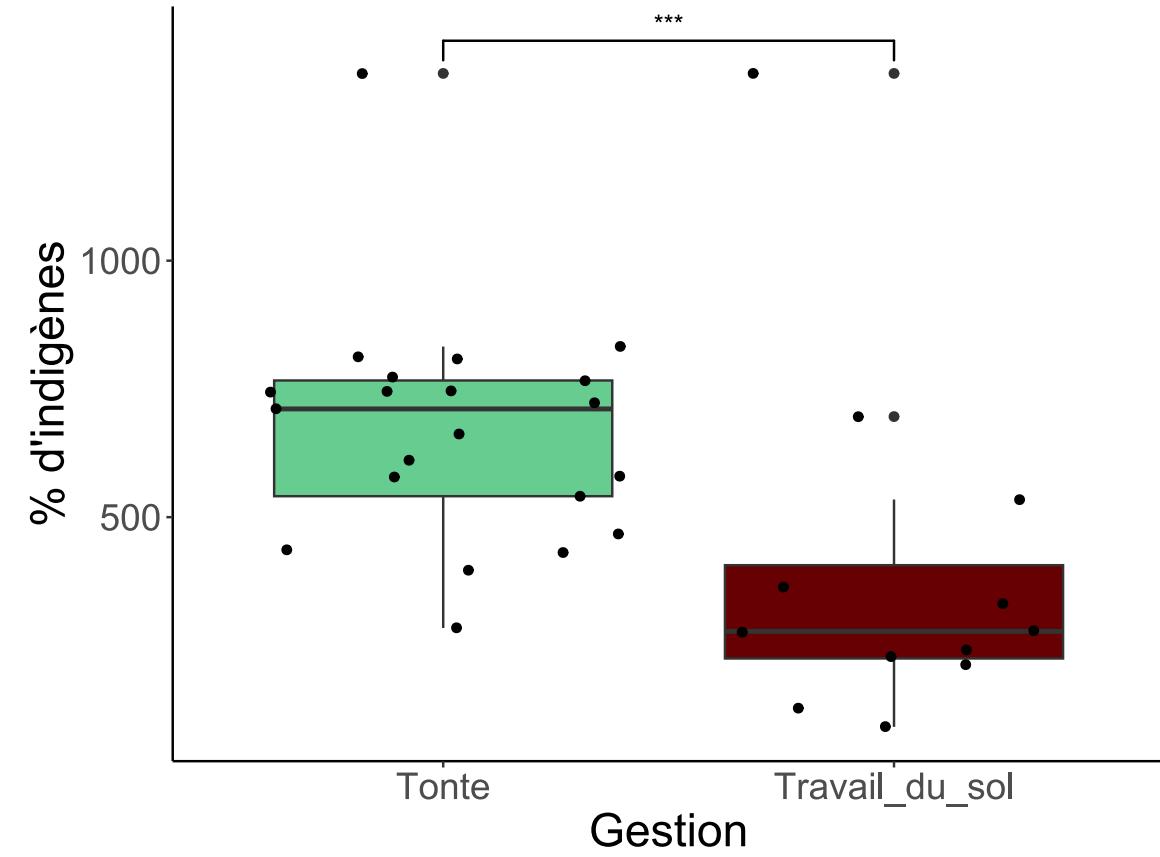
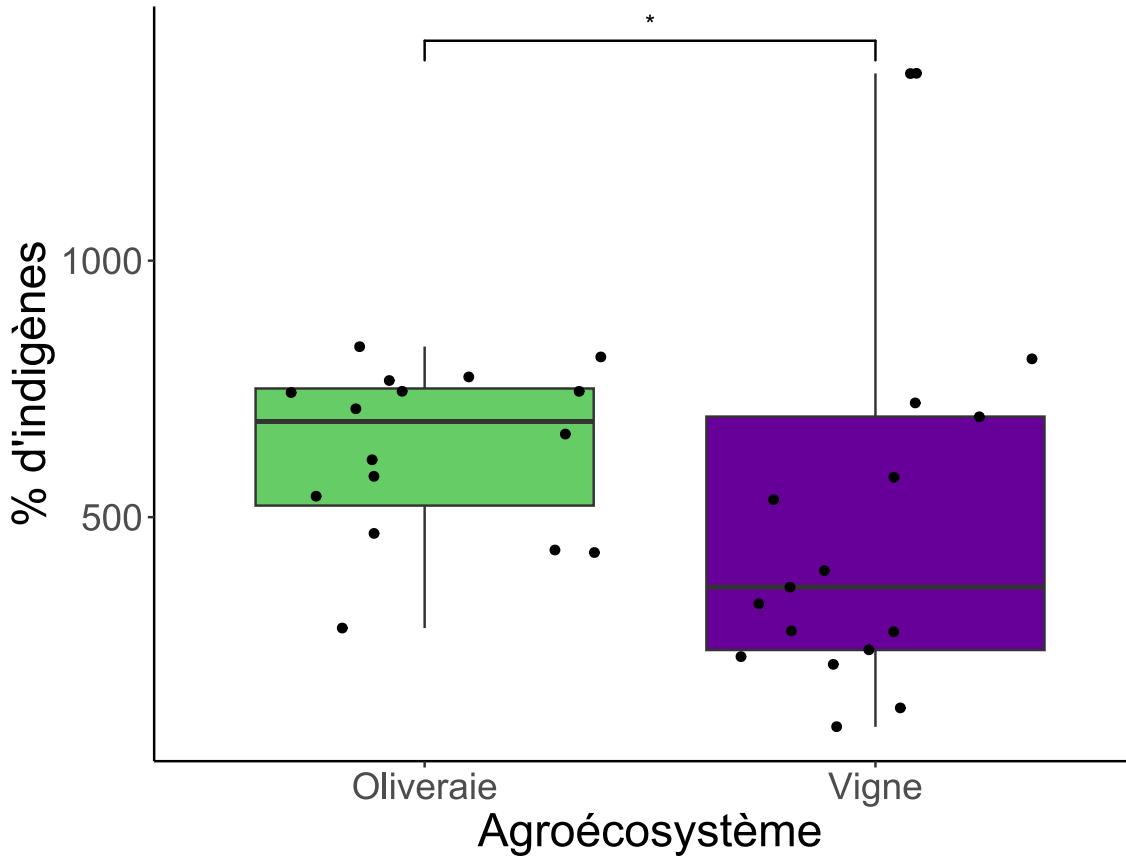
% de plantes pérennes selon l'agroécosystème vs le mode de gestion



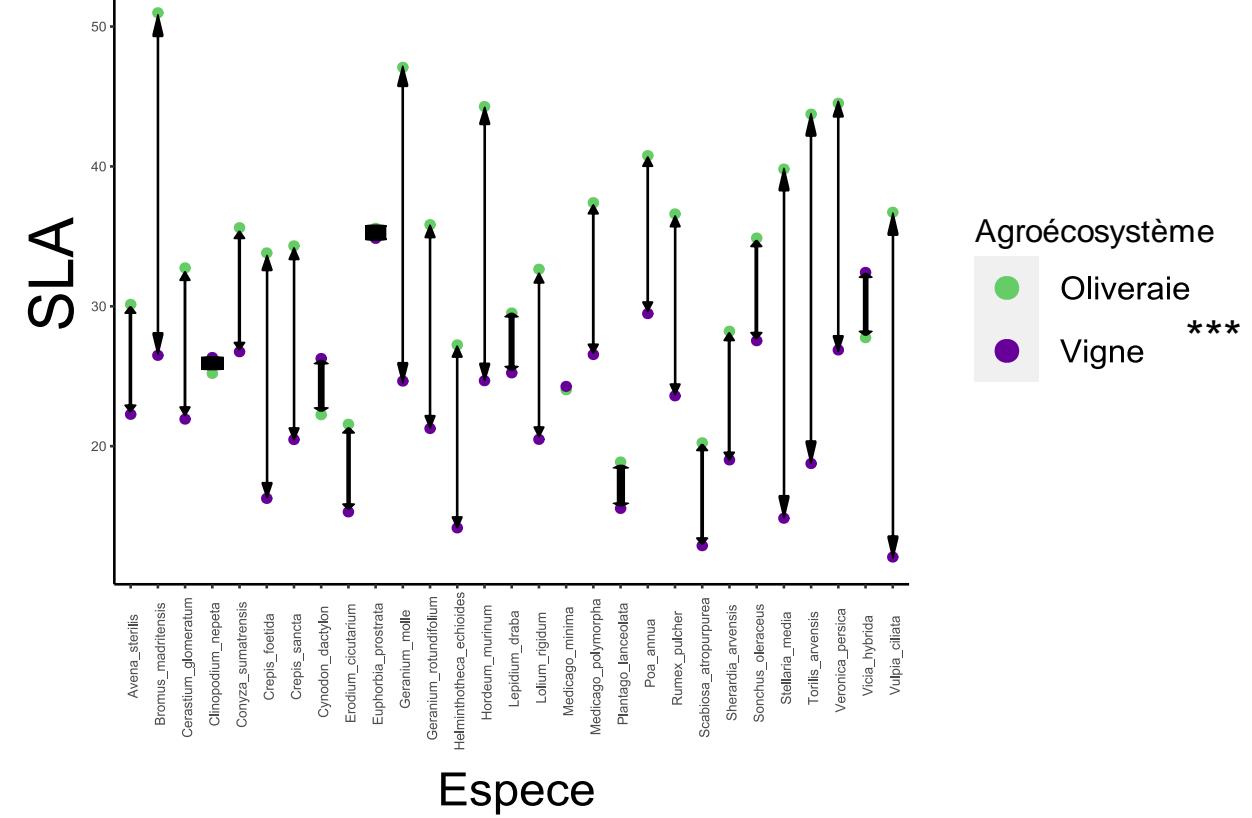
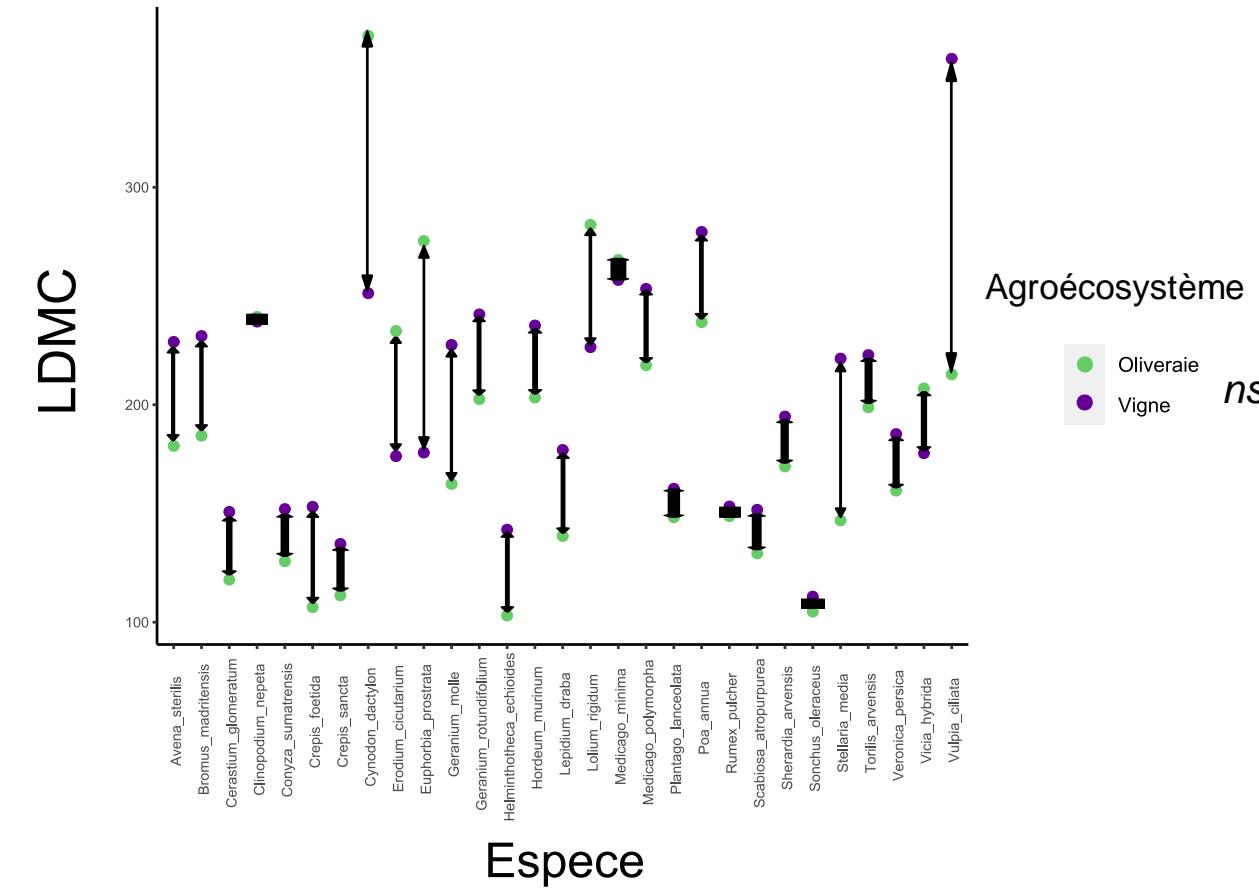
% de plantes entomogames selon l'agroécosystème *vs* le mode de gestion



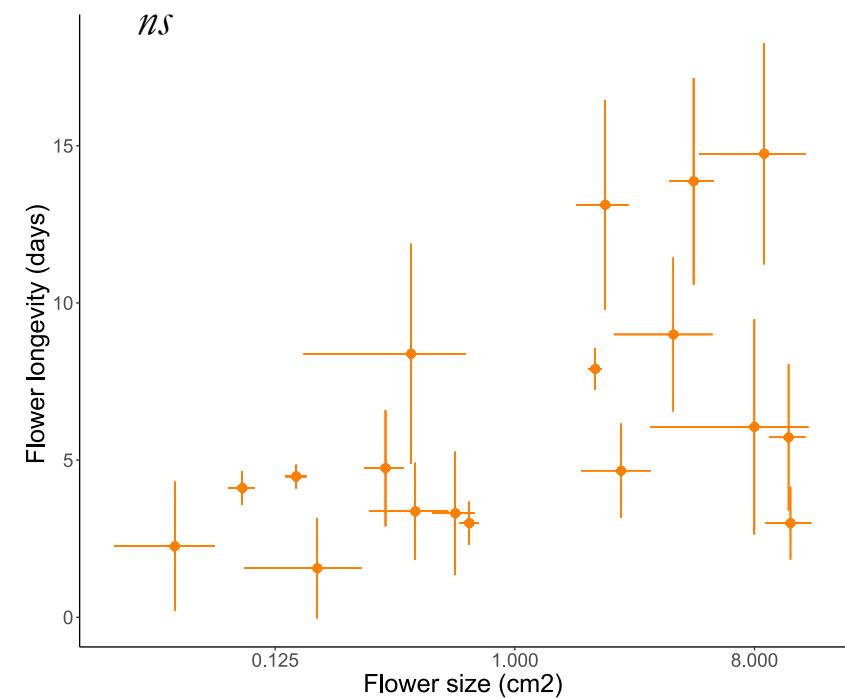
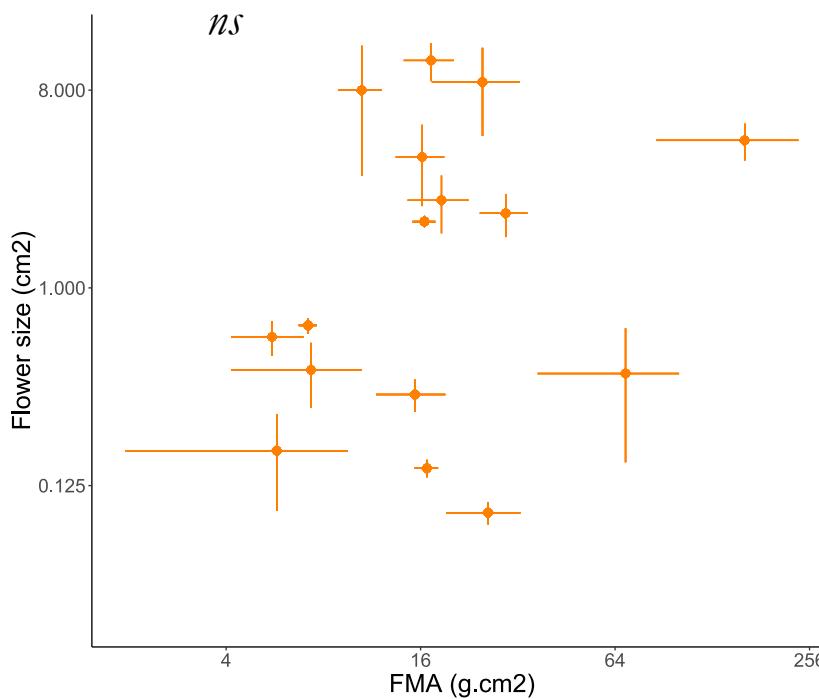
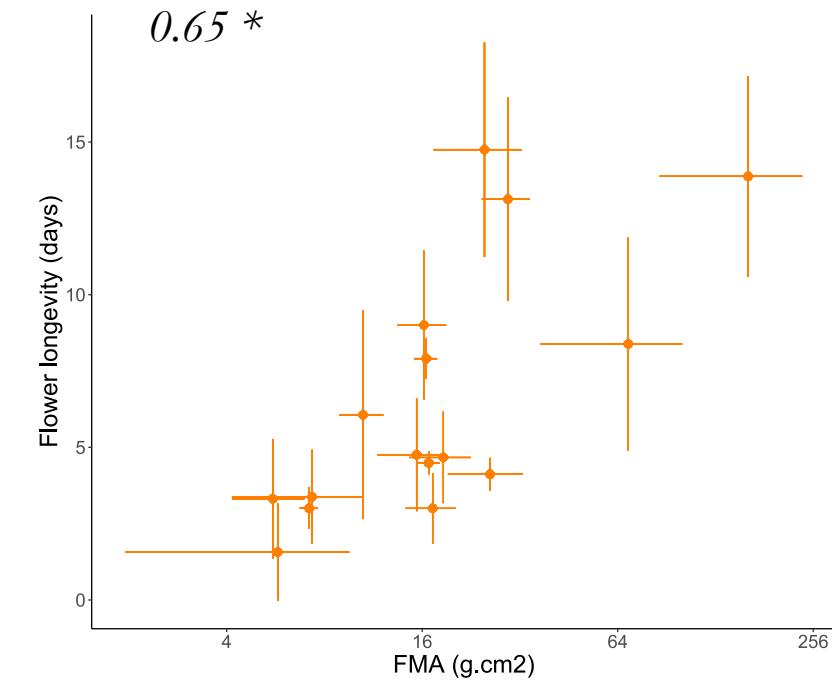
% de plantes indigènes selon l'agroécosystème vs le mode de gestion



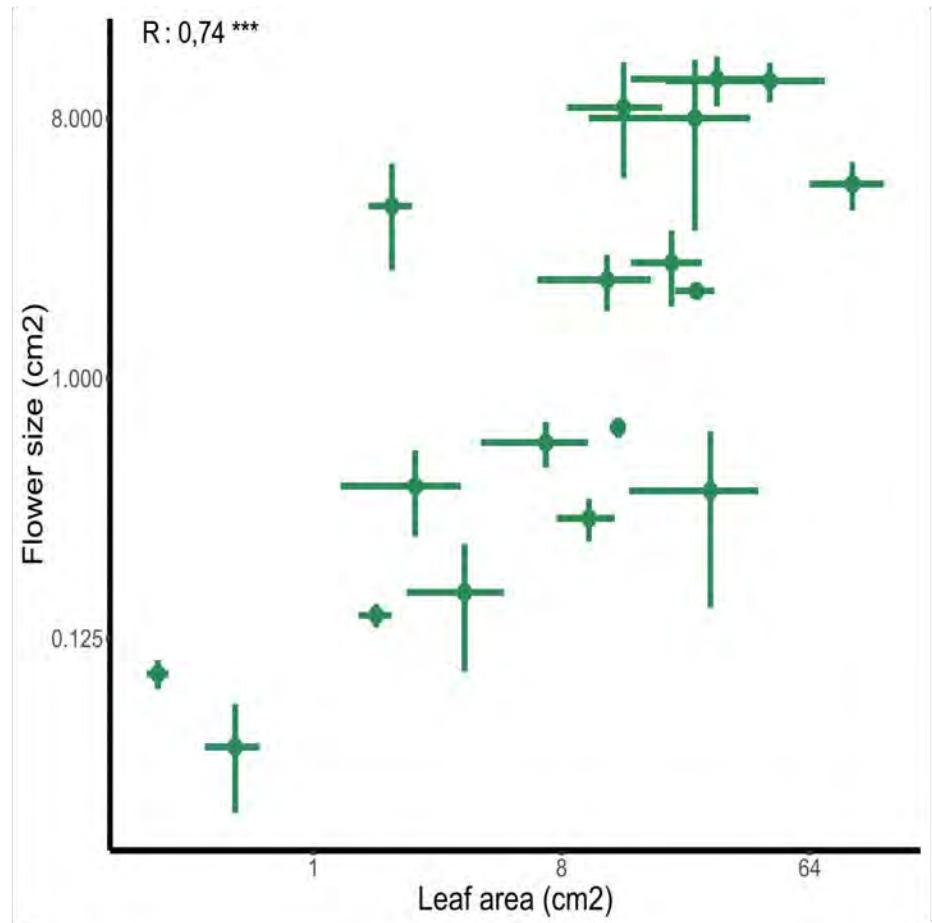
Variation intraspécifique de la SLA et de la LDMC entre agroécosystèmes



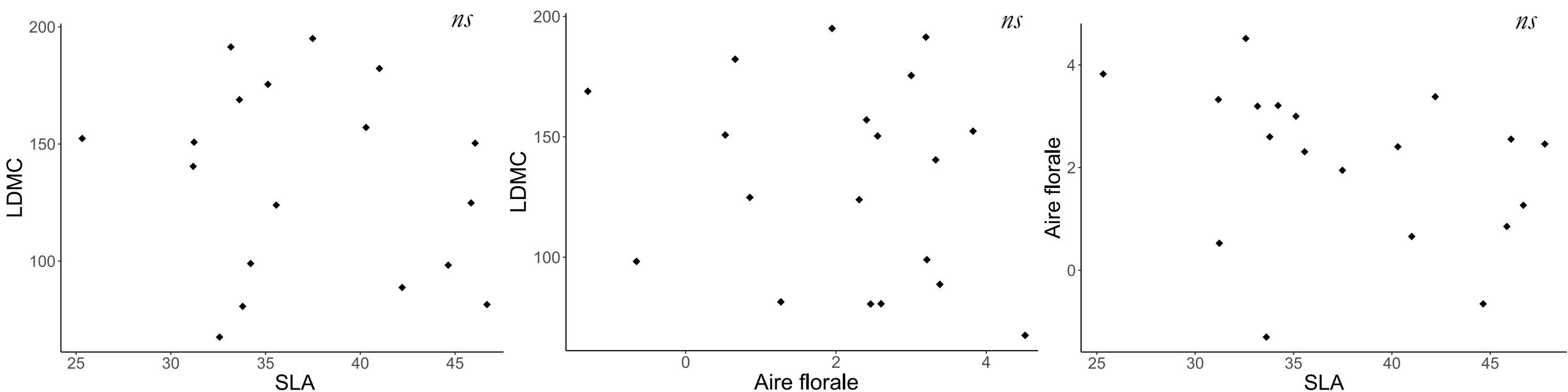
Relations entre longévité de la fleur, taille et FMA



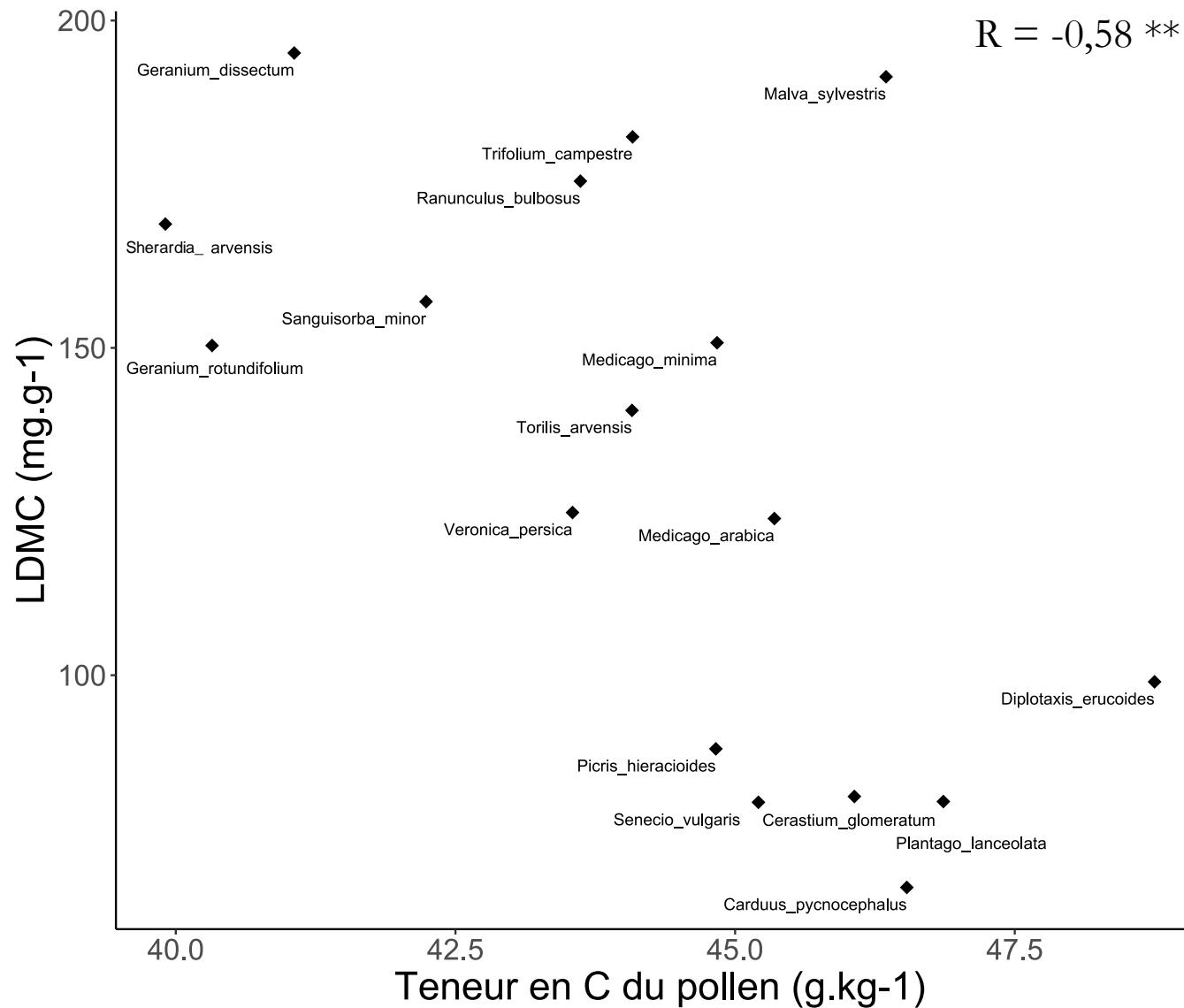
Relations taille fleur et surface foliaire



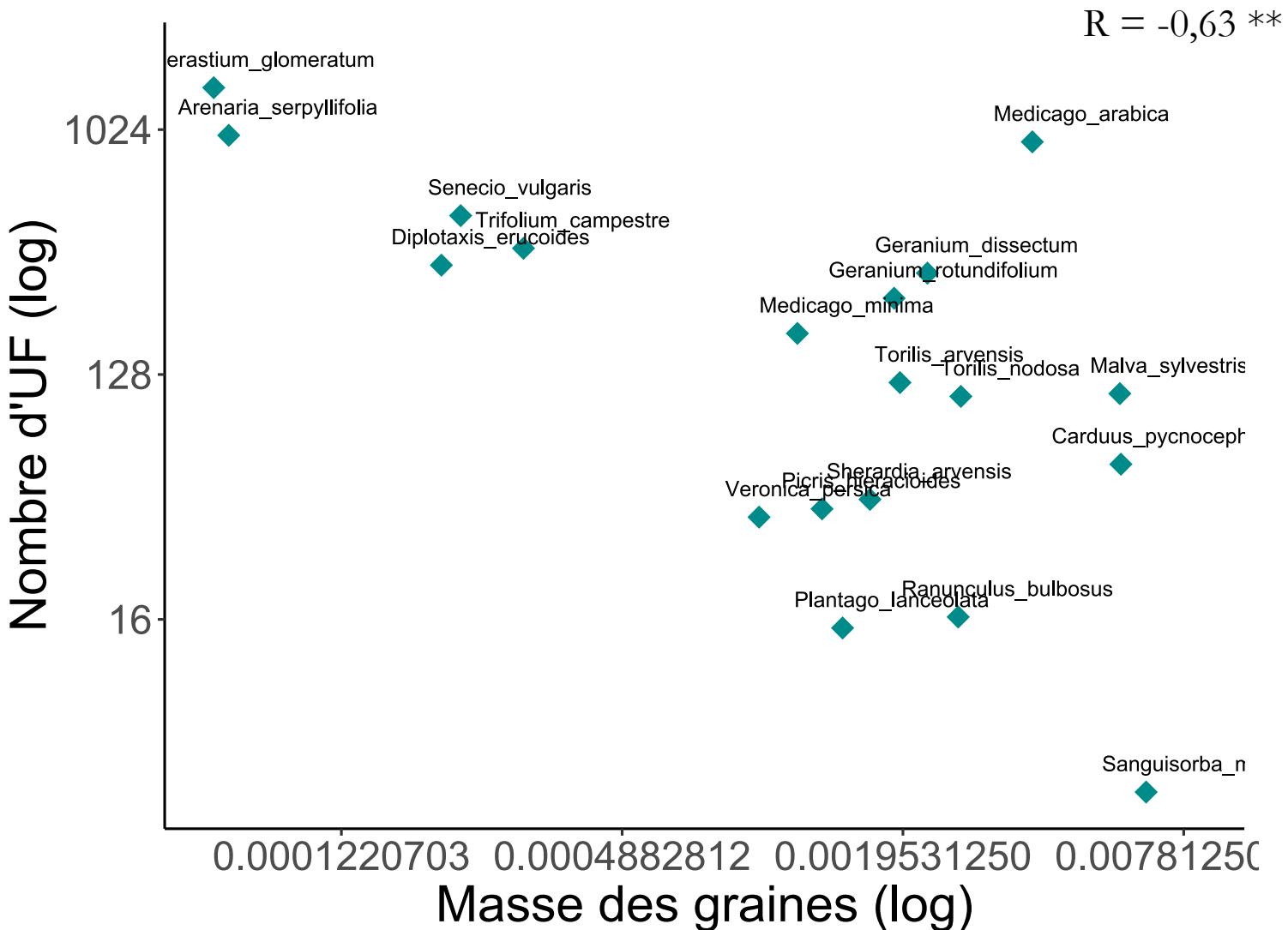
Relations SLA / LDMC / surface foliaire à l'échelle espèce (FLORES)



Relations entre la LDMC et le carbone du pollen : trade-off reproduction-structures végétatives ?



Relations entre le nombre de fleurs et la masse de graines : lien avec les stratégies r et K



Modèles mixtes effet variables abiotiques sur les indicateurs de ressource florale

Temporal scale	Response variable	Explanatory variable	Estimate	R2m	R2c
Month	Flower cover	last mowing	0.005*	0.01	0.37
Month	Floral richness	R_{sAMPL}	-0.005*	0.04	0.49
Year	Floral richness	pedoclim2 mowing	0.730* 1.021*	0.23	0.56
Year	Annual flower cover	ns	-	-	-
Year	Max flower cover	ns	-	-	-
Year	Max flower cover date	pedoclim2 N_dose	-3.754* 0.009-	0.13	0.2
Year	Flower cover peak duration	ns	-	-	-

Modèles mixtes effet CWM floraux sur les indicateurs de ressources florales

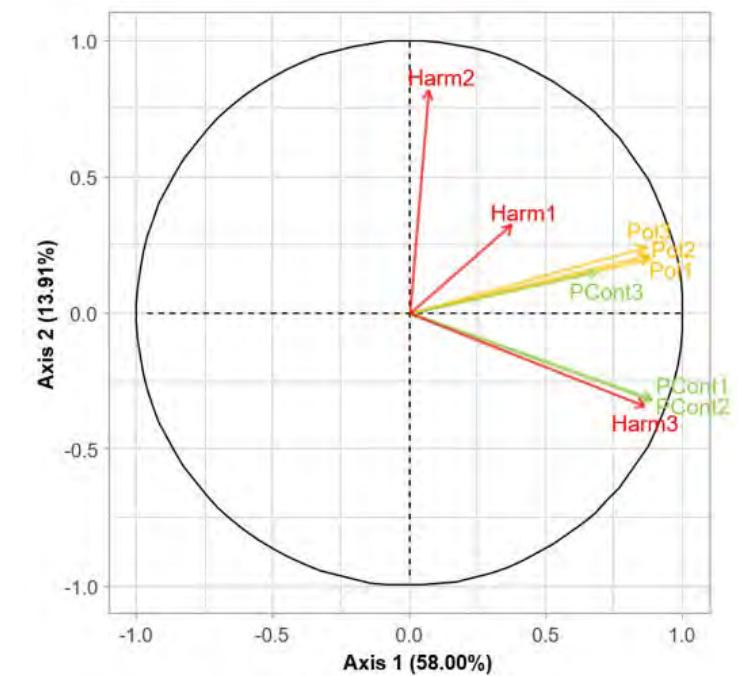
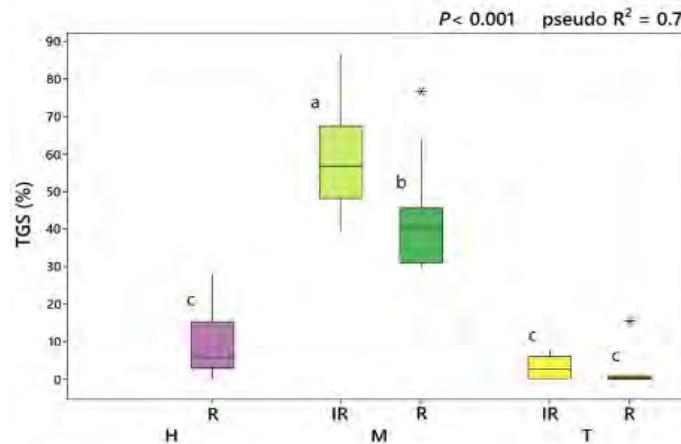
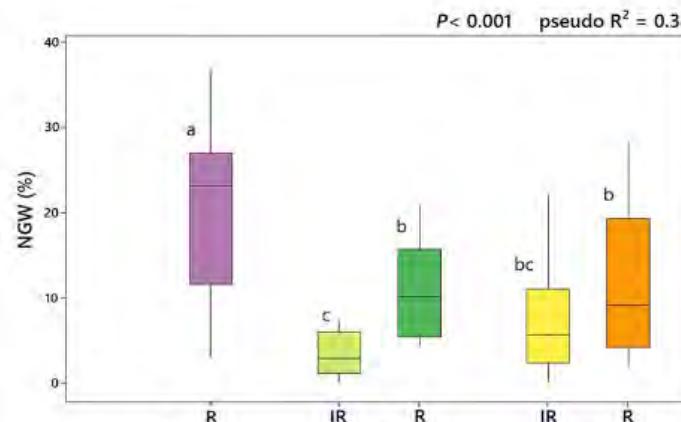
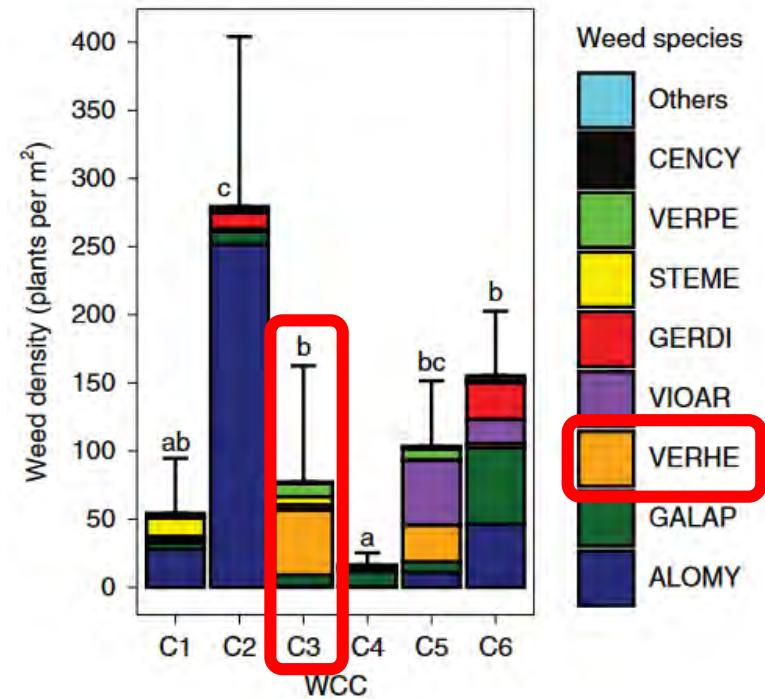
Functional indicator	Trait (response variable)	Explanatory variable	Estimate	R2m	R2c
FCWM	Area	mowing	0.306***	0.27	0.27
FCWM	Pollen	pedoclim2	0.106*	0.12	0.14
FCWM	Nectar	irrig	0.014**	0.32	0.64
FCWM	Height	mowing	3.117*	0.12	0.17
		N_dose	0.884***		
FCWM	FU number	irrig	2.064**	0.6	0.6
		T_min	91.06**		
FCWM	Duration	N_dose	-0.28**	0.27	0.27
		irrig	0.794*		
		N_dose	-0.648***		
FCWM	Onset	irrig	1.483***	0.66	0.68
		T_min	-49.7**		
		mowing	-44.29**		

Indicateurs de ressources florales

Indicator	Unit	Mean (sd)	Range	n
Floral richness	number of species	7 (± 3)	1 - 13	80
Annual flower cover	unitless : integral of the curve of flower cover	157 (± 145)	2.2 - 762	80
Max flower cover	% of flower cover	7.7 (± 6.4)	0.1 - 33	80
Max flower cover date	date	16/04 (± 50 days)	02/03 - 08/06	80
Flower cover peak duration	days	31 (± 11)	3 - 57	71

Deux enherbements ne sont pas forcément similaires...

- Certaines communautés adventices, à richesse spécifique et densité égales, causent moins de pertes de rendements
- Les pratiques pour favoriser espèces favorables
- Synergie entre services et dysservices des adventices



Adeux et al., 2019 ; Guerra et al., 2022 ;
Yovez et al., 2021

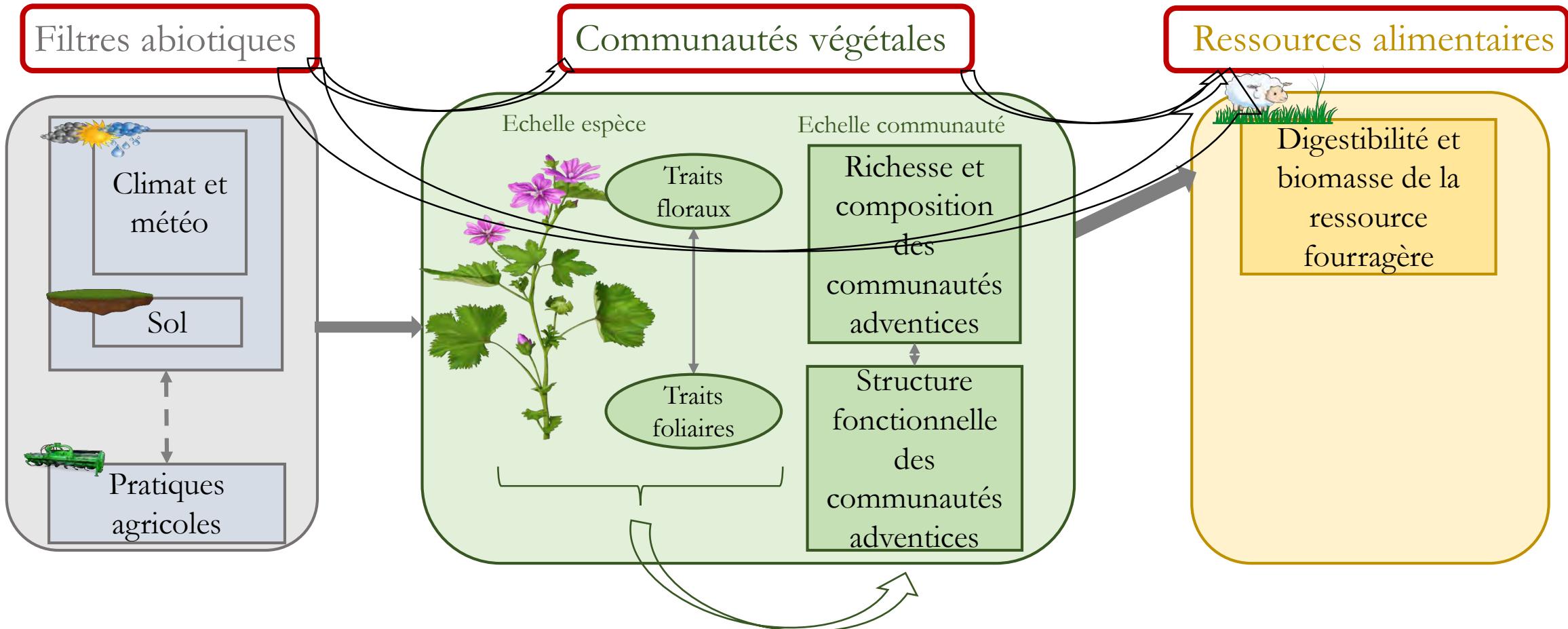
Retour sur le schéma de thèse

Pluviométrie et températures annuelle

Travail du sol

Fertilité du sol

I. Ressource fourragère

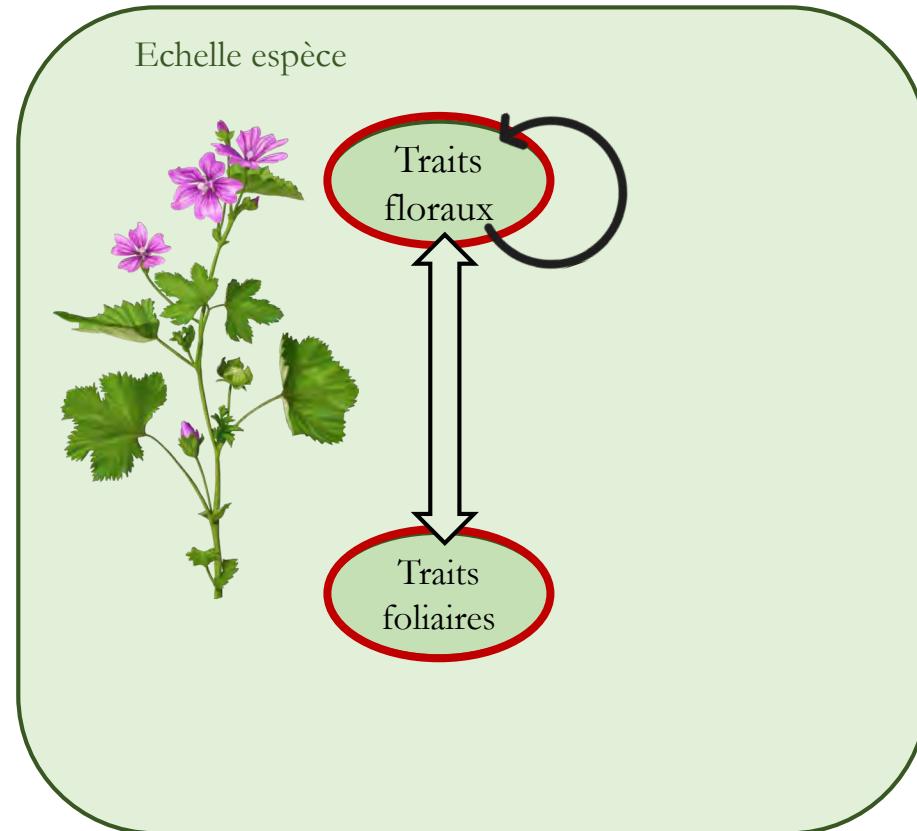


Retour sur le schéma de thèse

II. Fleurs adventices

*Trade-off taille et
nombre de fleurs*

*Relations traits
floraux – stratégies
CSR*



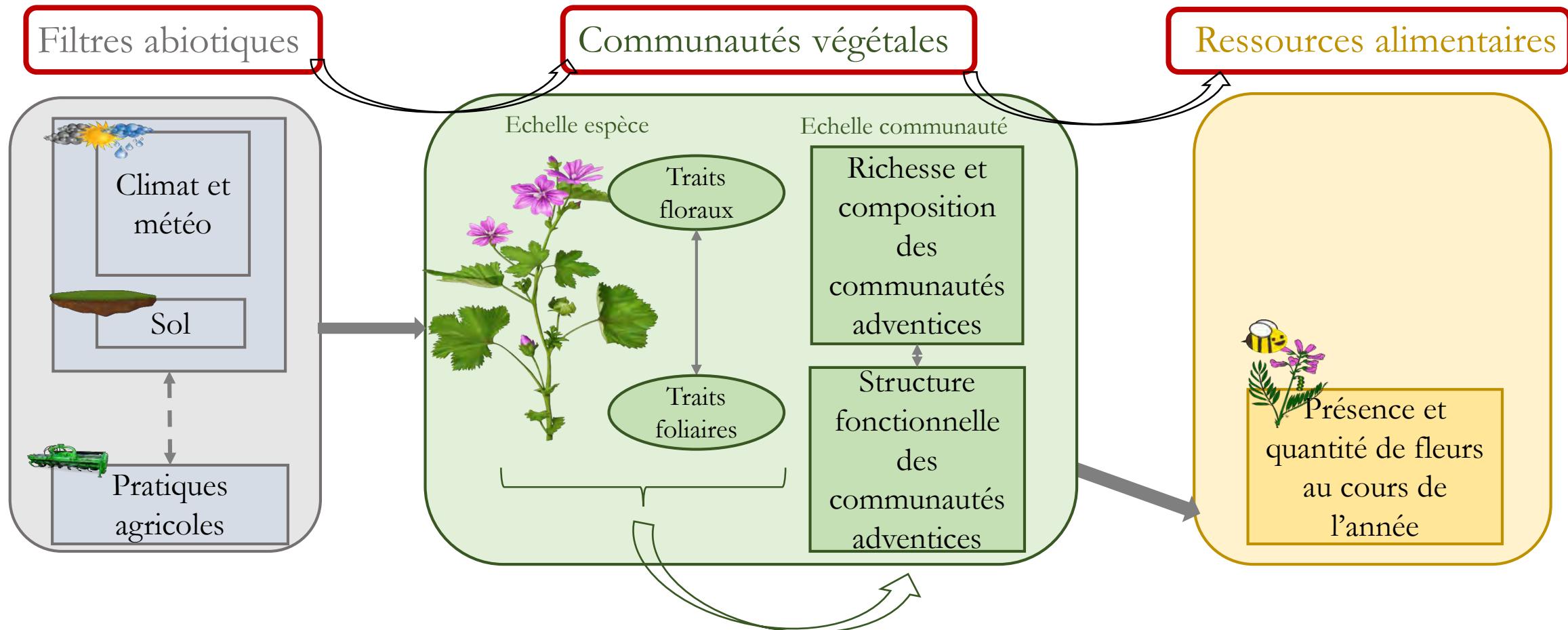
Tonte, fertilisation, irrigation

Températures annuelles

Climat

Retour sur le schéma de thèse

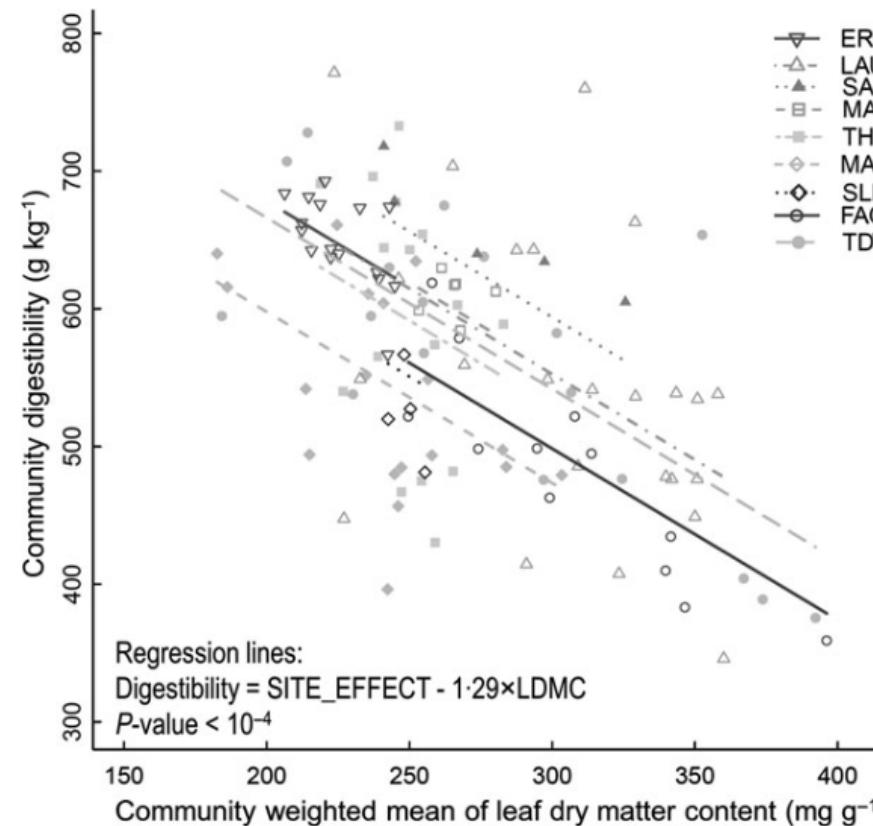
III. Ressource florale



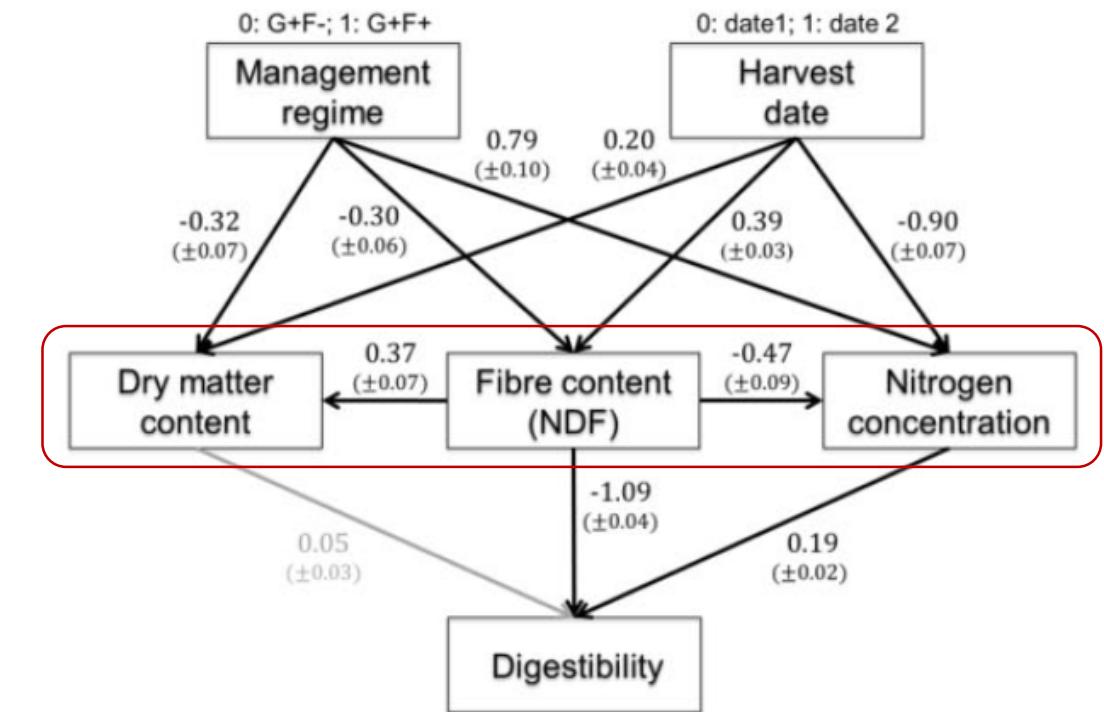
Les traits fonctionnels liés aux ressources

- Traits foliaires liés à la qualité fourragère

Teneur en matière sèche des feuilles (LDMC)

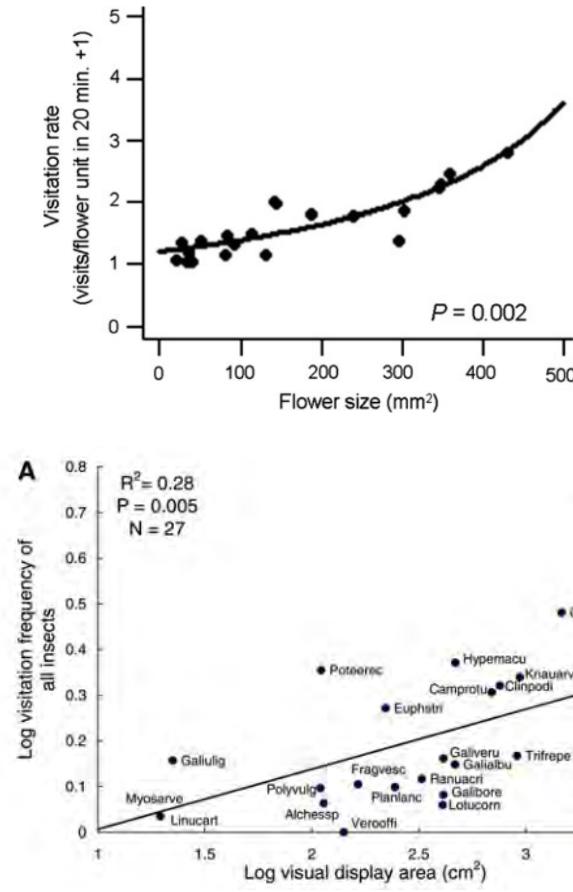
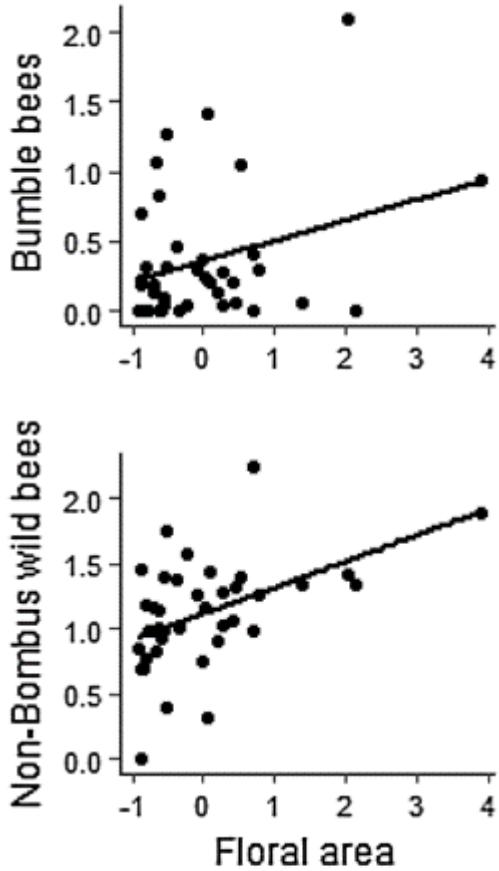


LDMC, teneur en fibres et en azote

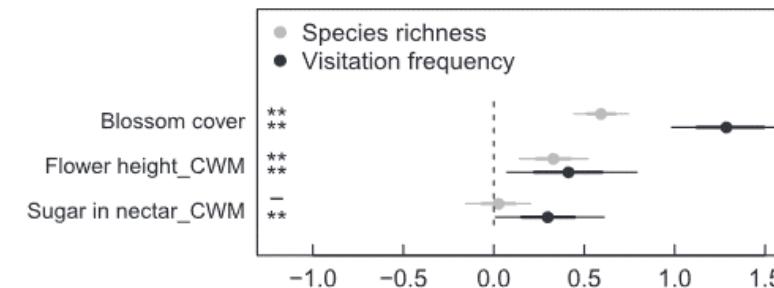


Les traits floraux liés à la visite des insectes

Surface florale



Couverture fleurie, hauteur et sucres dans le nectar



Phénologie

