

Resilience for Dairy (R4D) has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101000770



Réseau Mixte Technologique

**RMT**  
AGROFORESTERIE<sup>S</sup>

## *Agroforestry in dairy farming : how trees contribute to more resilient systems ? Results from the French R&D*

Brendan Godoc (Idele – RMT AgroforesterieS)  
Yasmine Kadiri (INRAE – UE FERLUS)



**INRAE**

Webinar

06/06/2024

# Agroforestry in dairy farming : how trees contribute to more resilient systems ? Results from the French R&D

1. Large overview and research results on how trees provide services in a dairy farm  
Brendan Godoc (Idele – French Livestock Institute )



2. Using trees as a source of fodder - OasYs experimental farm  
Yasmine Kadiri (INRAE)



Part of the French R&D network on agroforestry



applied and fundamental research institutes, chambers of agriculture, farm advisors, schools, etc..

# Agroforestry: a new word for an old practice



**ALLEY CROPPING** in grassland in a dairy farm © A. Deltour / CA Nord Pas-de-Calais



**HEDGEROWS – “BOCAGE”** France © DRAAF Bretagne



**“CUT AND CARRY” FODDER TREES** Brazil : dairy cattle eating *Opuntia ficus-indica* cactus © J.C.Dubeux / UFRPE



**SYLVOPASTORALISM** France : dairy heifers in a forest © CA Lozère



**GRAZED ORCHARDS** France : dairy cattle in a “pré-verger” © E. Préro



**POLLARDED TREES** – France: “Ragosses” in a grassland in Bretagne © B. Godoc / Idele

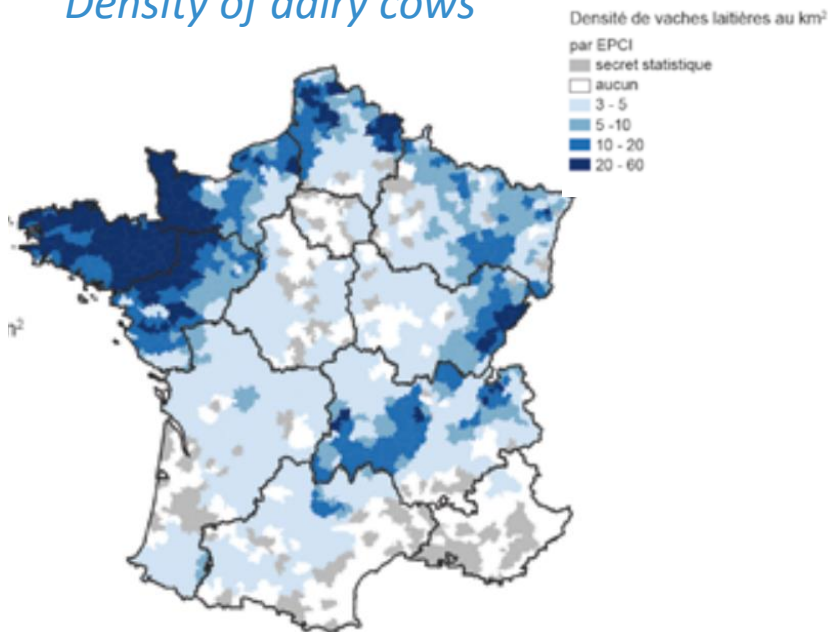
# How many agroforestry dairy systems in France ?

From the 2020 agricultural census, out of 50 000 dairy farms:

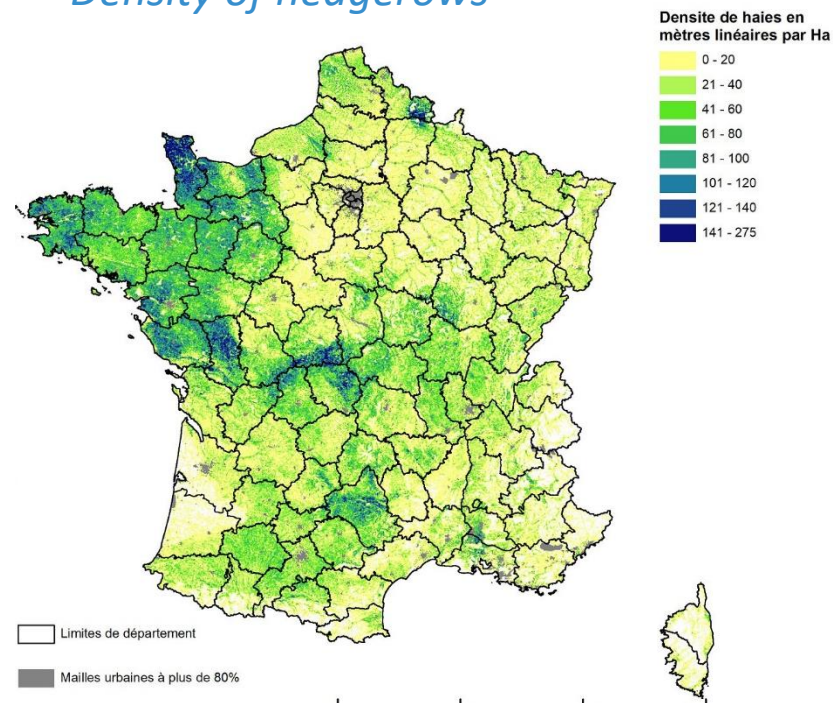
- 700 farms declare performing « *agroforestry* » on average on 4,7 ha (in alley cropping ?)
  - 3500 farms perform *sylvopastoralism* according on the crop codes\* they declare for CAP payments
- + thousands of agroforestry dairy farms “by nature” ?

(Source: RA2020, RPG2020, treatment: Idele, (\*codes: BOP, CEE, CAE and SPL))

## Density of dairy cows

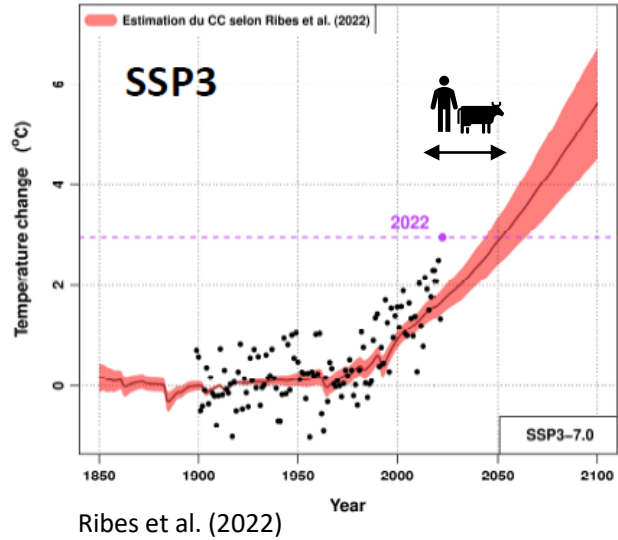


## Density of hedgerows



# The challenge of climate change

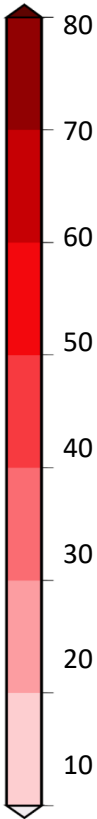
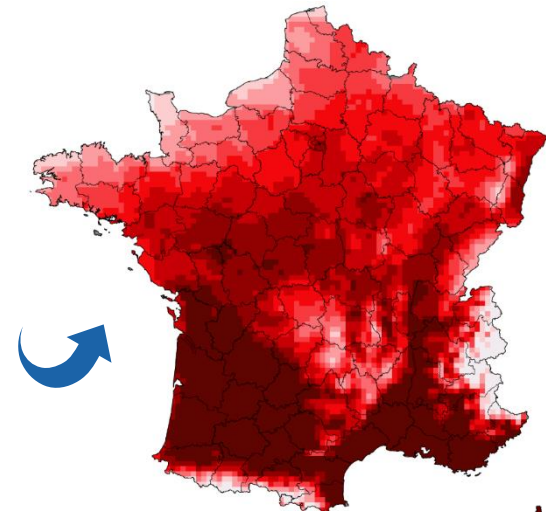
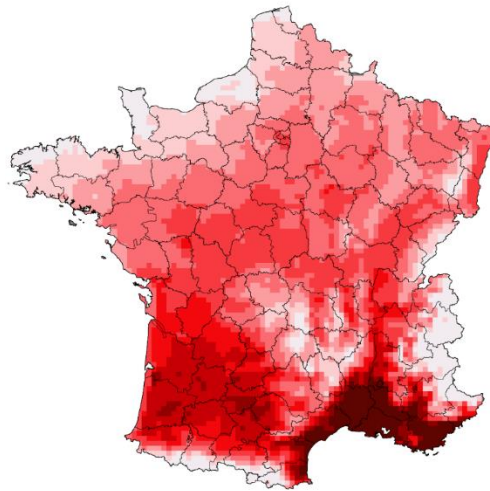
Predicted and observed mean temperature change in France



## Number of hot days per year ( $T_{max} > 25^{\circ}\text{C}$ )

1976 - 2005

2041 - 2070



Annual mean - Référence passé et scénario RCP8.5 (Produit multi-modèles de DRIAS 2020 (médiane de l'ensemble))

# Why are trees useful for dairy farmers ?

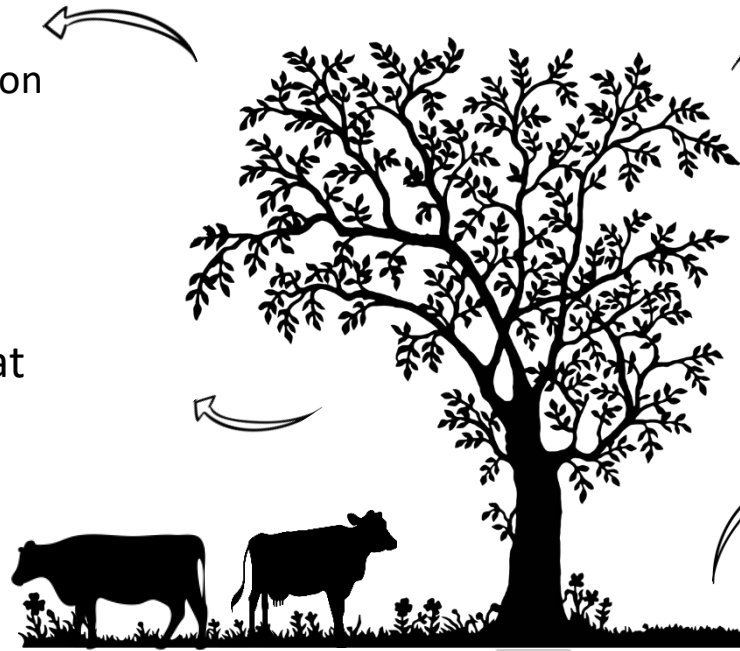
Other types of production  
(wood, fruits)

Source of fodder  
→ Yasmine

Animal heat  
comfort

Agronomic services

Environmental  
services and other  
externalities



# Why are trees useful for dairy farmers ?

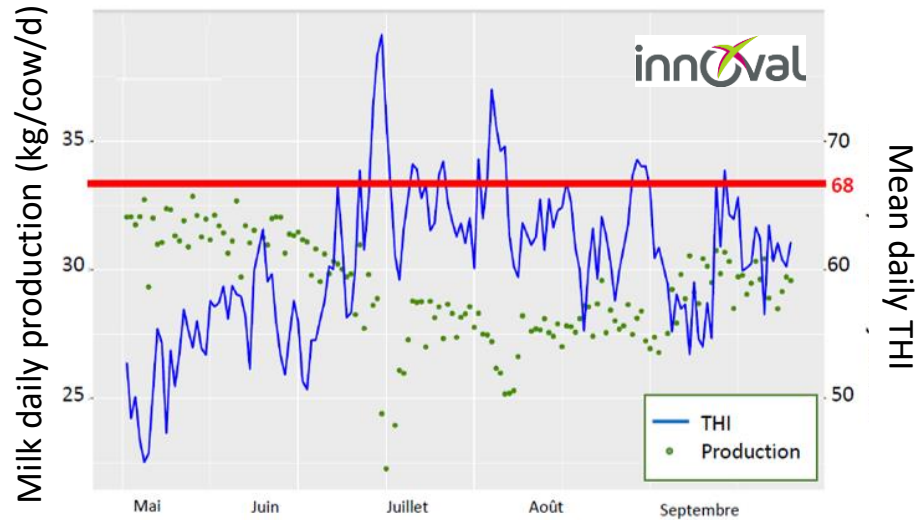


# Heat stress for a dairy cow

Combined to calculate the THI :  
« Temperature Humidity Index »



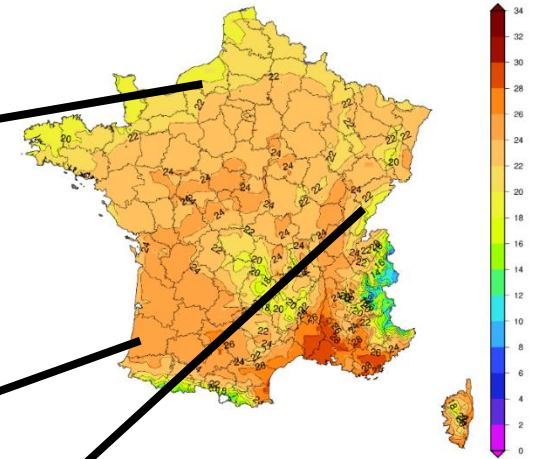
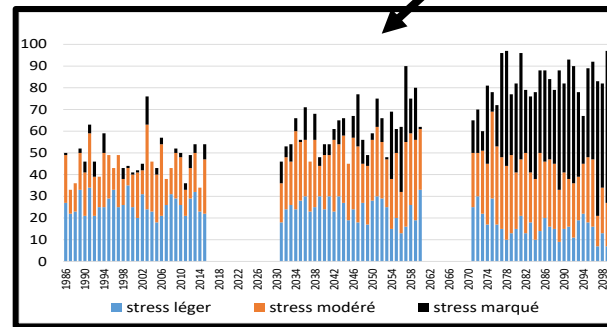
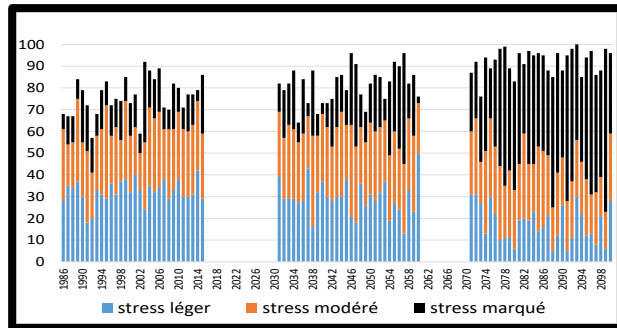
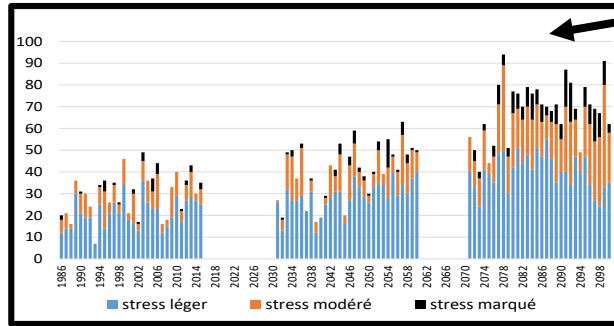
Dairy herd in Britany (west of France) in 2019



+ other consequences...



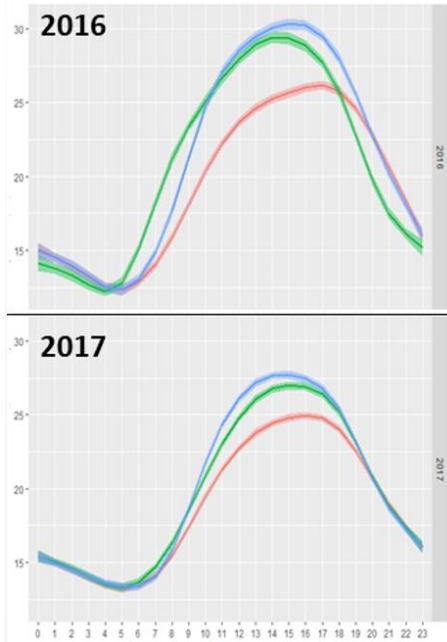
# THI evolution in the future (RCP 8.5)



Mean of tMax over July (Drias 1976-2005)

Traitements  
J-C Moreau  
(Idele)

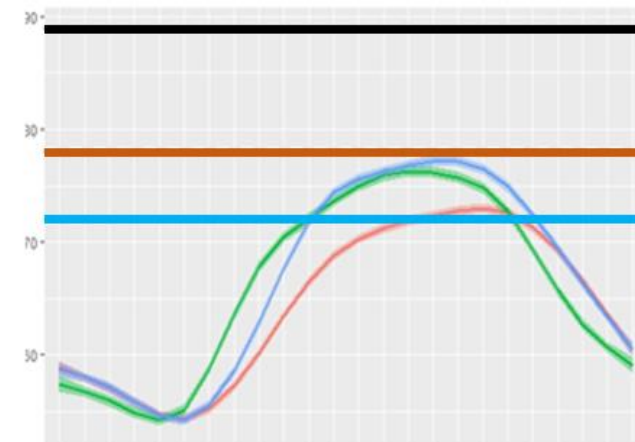
# A weather buffer



In the grazed orchard at 1 m  
 Between rows  
 On the control grassland with no trees

Mean temperature throughout the day

2°C on average over the month below the trees, up to - 6°C during a hot day



THI = 88  
 Heavy heat stress  
 THI = 78  
 Moderate heat stress  
 THI = 72  
 Light heat stress

THI evolution throughout the day

C Beral et J-C Moreau (2018)



# The air-conditioned room ?

In July 2022 – North of France

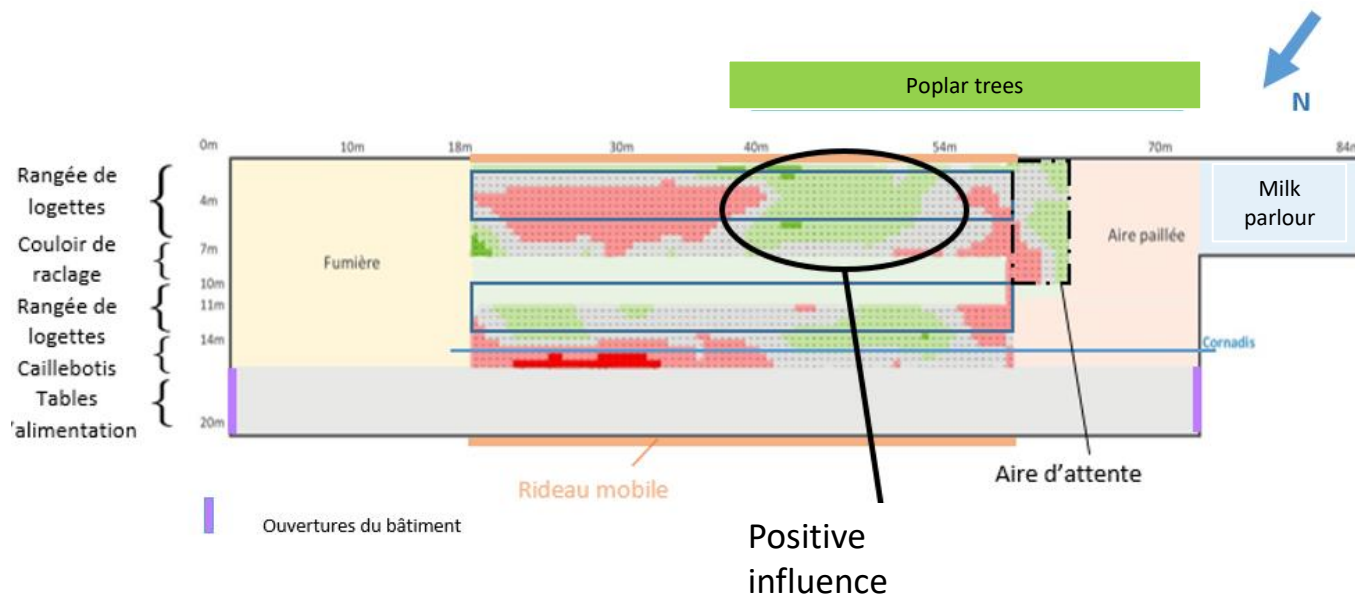
43,1°C  33,3°C



Source: A. Deltour (CA N-PdC)







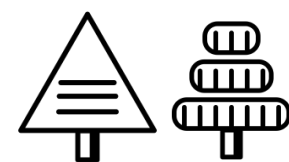

# Trees by a cowshed ?



*D'après J Capdeville et Morgane Lambert*

# Agronomic services



<p>yields</p> 	<p>↘ By the tree – competition for light and water At the plot scale : no impact – wind belt effect ?</p>	 <p>density</p>
<p>phenology</p> 	<p>Production curve that is lagged → Function of species and density of shade</p>	<p>→ Stay below 50 trees/ha</p>
<p>Feed value</p> 	<p>↗ Better feed value</p>	
<p>botany</p> 	<p>Less legumes Other species</p>	<p>Architecture and management</p>

# Agronomic services

Over the 21<sup>st</sup> century climate models indicate for France :

↗ rainfall in winter and ↘ rainfall in summer

↗ heavy rainfalls

*A buffer for excess of water*

See: Carnet (1978) Ghazavi (2008)

*Better soil bearing capacity ?*



*Nutrient circle*

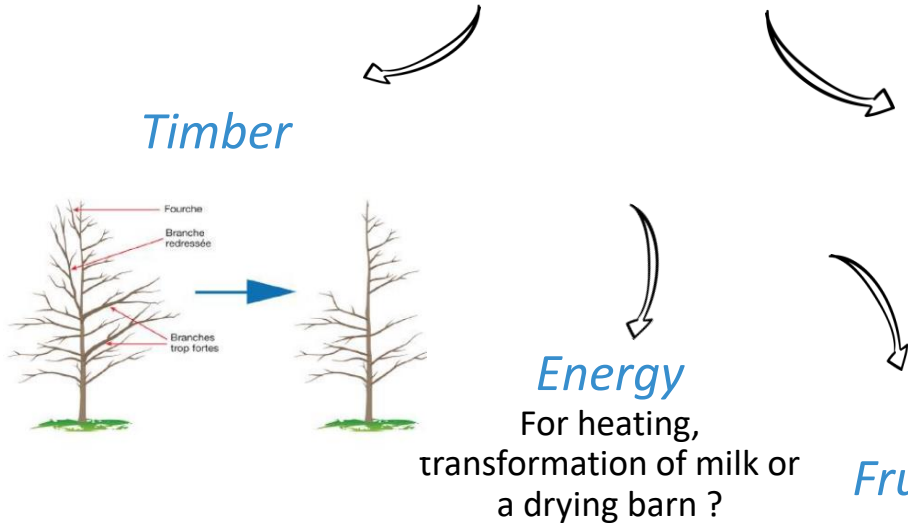
*+ 1-2°C in temperature in winter*

*→ better grass growth ?*



*→ To be further developed in research  
Careful : water competition in summer !*

# Other valorisation



## Wood chips for energy or litter



42,5 €/ton in autoproduction



Source: ferme expérimentale Blanche Maison

# Other services :

See: Boinot (2019)  
Leroux et al. (2008) PIRAT Project, INRA (2012)  
Manneville et al. (2014)

## BIODIVERSITY

See: Pellerin et al. (2020)  
Cardinael et al (2105)

## LANDSCAPE

See: Carnet (1978)  
Thomas (2018)  
Viel et al (2014)

REGULATION OF  
WATER AND  
EROSION FLUXES

WATER  
QUALITY

CARBON  
SEQUESTRATION

See: Carluer et al (2017) Thomas (2018)

genially

See: Pellerin et al. (2020)  
Cardinael (2015)  
CARBOCAGE project (2018)



# *Thank you for your attention*

Please visit : <https://rmt-agroforesteries.fr/groupe-de-travail/elevage/>



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Resilience  
4 for  
Dairy

INRAE

FONDATION  
DE  
FRANCE

Oasys

Yasmine Kadiri

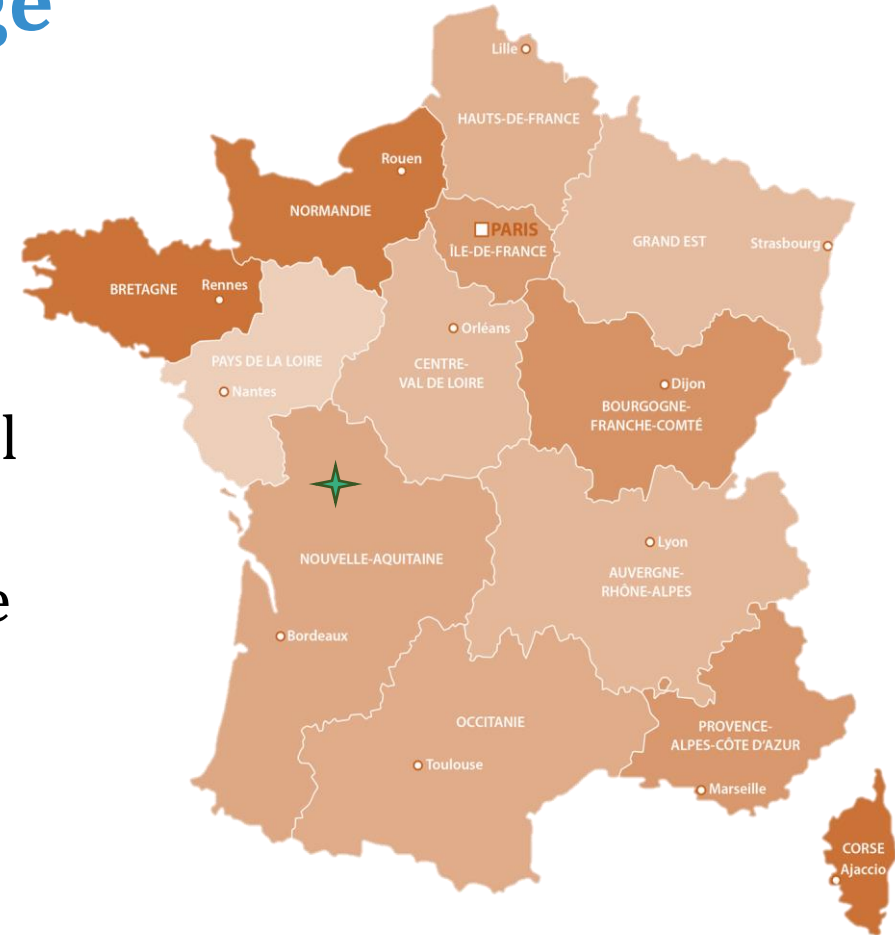
INRAE UE Forage Environment Ruminant

Lusignan - France

06/06/2024

# OasYs: an agroecological dairy system adapted to climate change

- To permit farmers to live from their dairy system
- In a context of climate change
- While saving water and fossil fuel resources
- And contributing to a sustainable agriculture



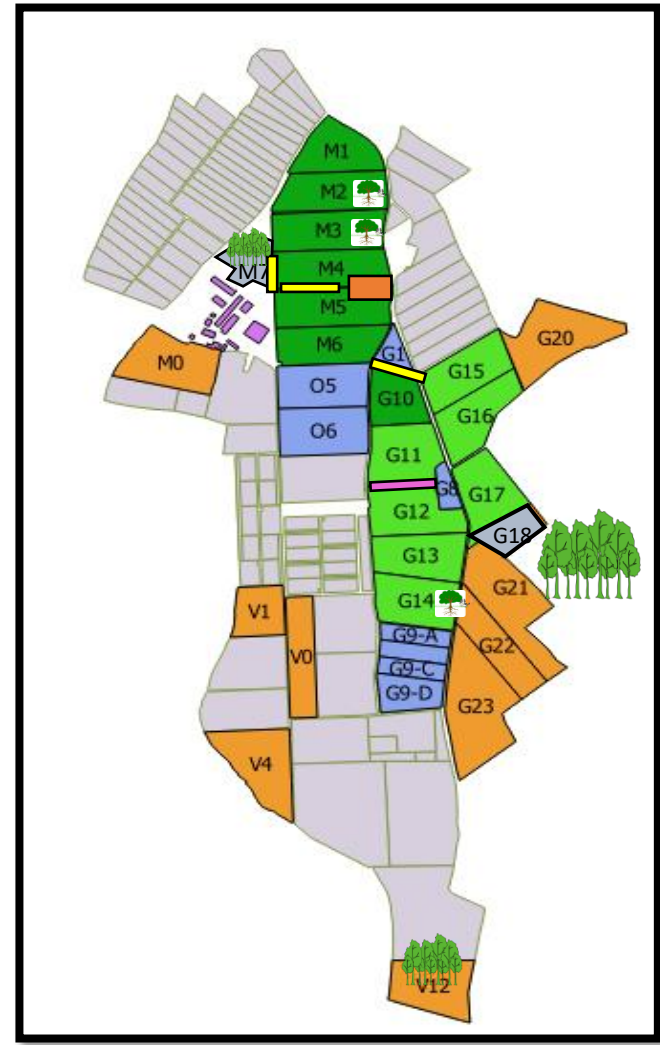
# OasYs: the farm

- Experimental Unit FERLUS
- Project start : 2013
- Project manager : Sandra Novak
- 72 3-breed crossbred dairy cows:
  - Holstein
  - Jersey
  - Viking red



# OasYs: the farm

- 91 hectares of rotational meadows and crops
- 4 agroforestry plantations
- 3 arboretum
- 1 grove
- 1 wood

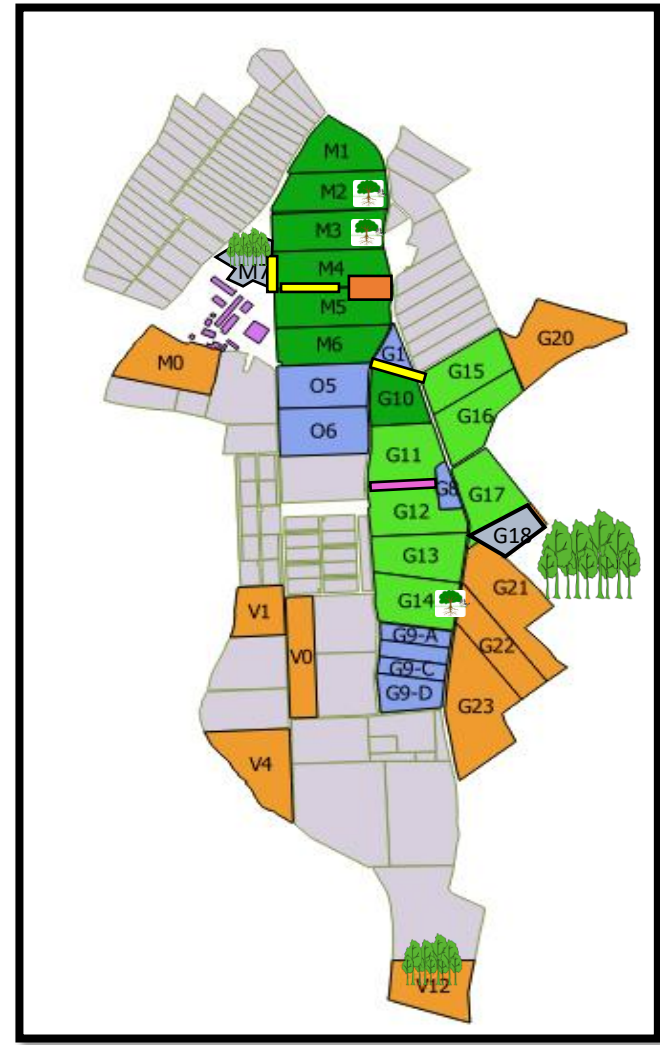


# OasYs: the farm

- 91 hectares of rotational meadows and crops
- 4 agroforestry plantations
- 3 arboretum
- 1 grove
- 1 wood

## Goal

Maximizing forage diversity  
to offset the effects of  
climate change



# OasYs: agroforestry plots



Intra-parcel fodder pollards  
= forage



Intra-parcel fodder liana  
= forage



Intra-parcel multipurpose  
trees  
= shade / forage

# OasYs: agroforestry plots



Intra-parcel high stem trees  
= wood



Arboretum  
= species and pruning  
collection



Little wood  
= shadow / wood



# OasYs: three research topics

Facilitation/competition relationships in multi-stage cover

Water competition

Light competition

Microclimate

...

Ecosystem services provided by agroforestry in a mixed crop-livestock farming

Carbon storage

Biodiversity

Fodder

...

Tree/animal interface:  
In particular, the use of ligneous plants as fodder

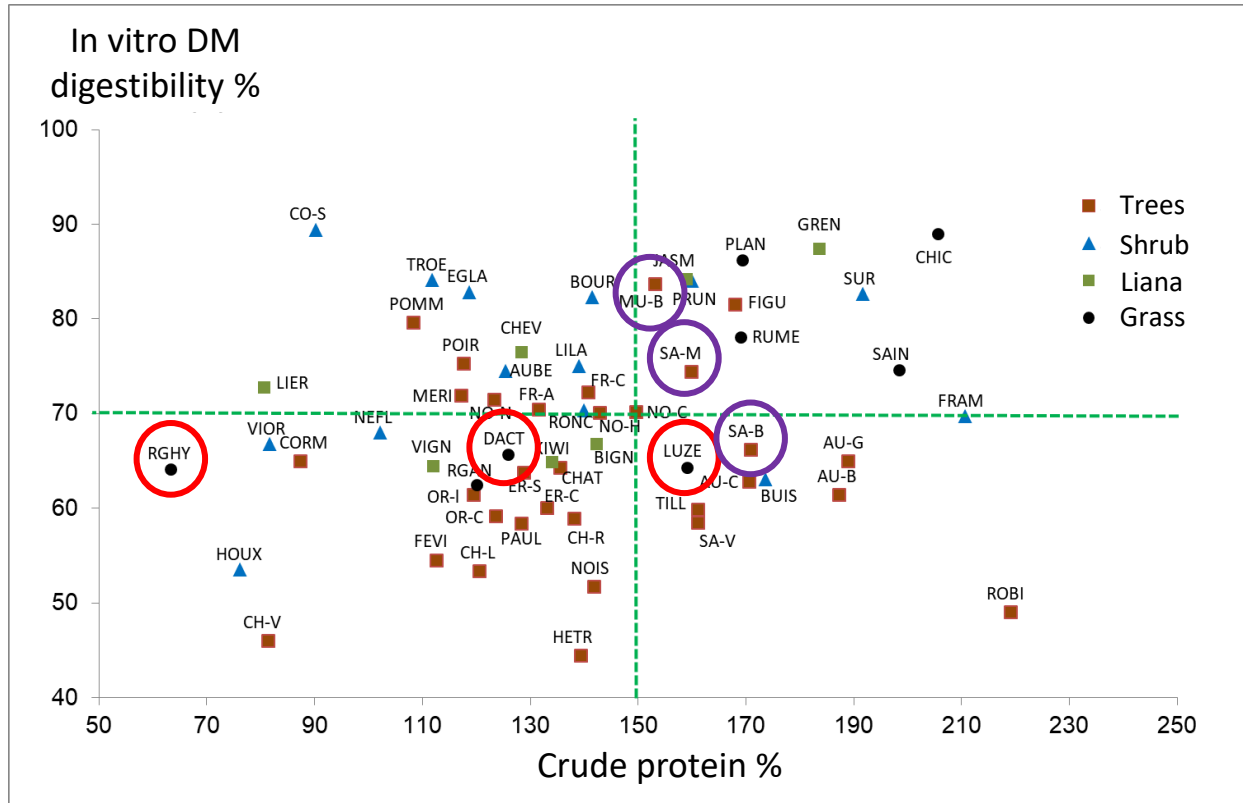
Palatability

Tree resilience

Nutritive value

...

# OasYs: chemical compounds



MU-B= White mulberry  
 SA-M= Goat Willow  
 SA-B= White Willow

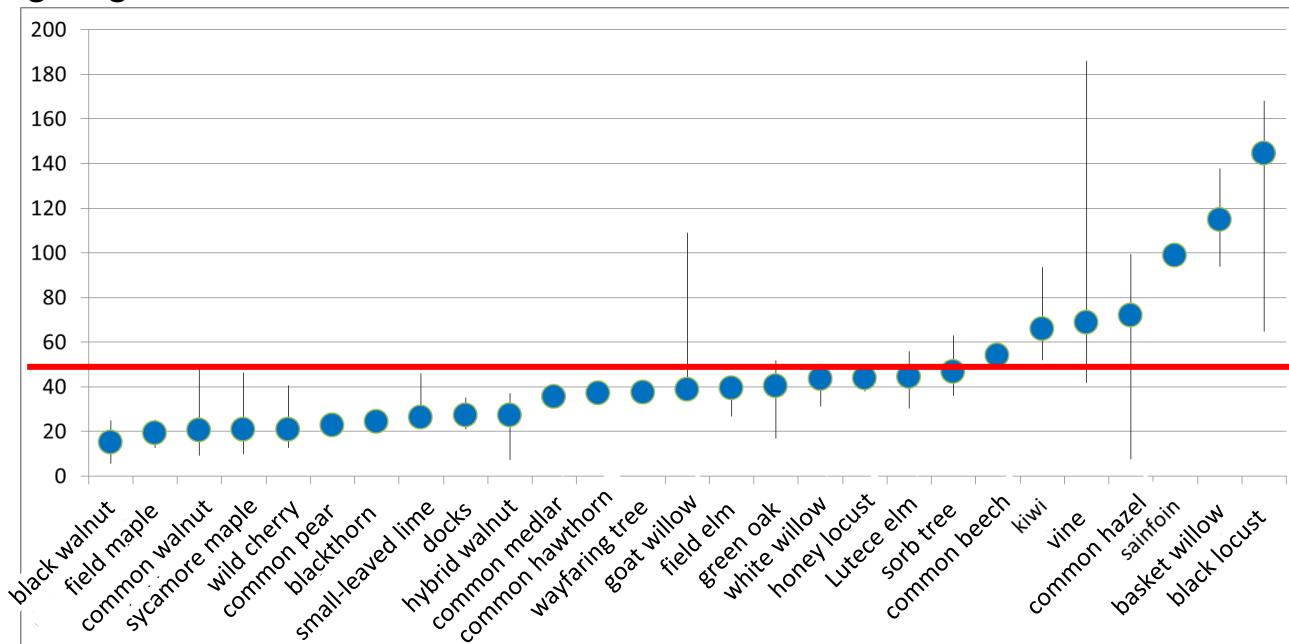
LUZE= Lucerne  
 DACT= Dactyl  
 RGHY= Hybrid ryegrass

Crude protein:  
 MU-B and SA-M =  
 LUZE

IVDMD:  
 MU-B and SA-M >  
 LUZE

# OasYs: chemical compounds

Tannins  
g / kg



Anti-nutritional threshold

But tannins can be anti-metanogenic and anti-parasitic  
→ Proportion in the ration

# OasYs: chemical compounds

## Phosphorus

*corn (1,8 g/kg MS) et natural meadows (3 g/kg MS)*

**> 4 g/kg MS** : black walnut, common medlar, wayfaring tree

## Calcium

*corn (2 g/kg MS) et leguminous fodder crops (14 g/kg MS)*

**> 30 g/kg MS** : fig tree, white mulberry, small-leaved lime

## Magnesium

*corn (1,2 g/kg MS) et leguminous fodder crops (2,6 g/kg MS)*

**> 6 g/kg MS** : fig tree, elder tree

## Manganese

*corn (24 mg/kg MS) et natural meadows (113 mg/kg MS)*

**> 350 mg/kg MS** : fig tree, elder tree

## Zinc

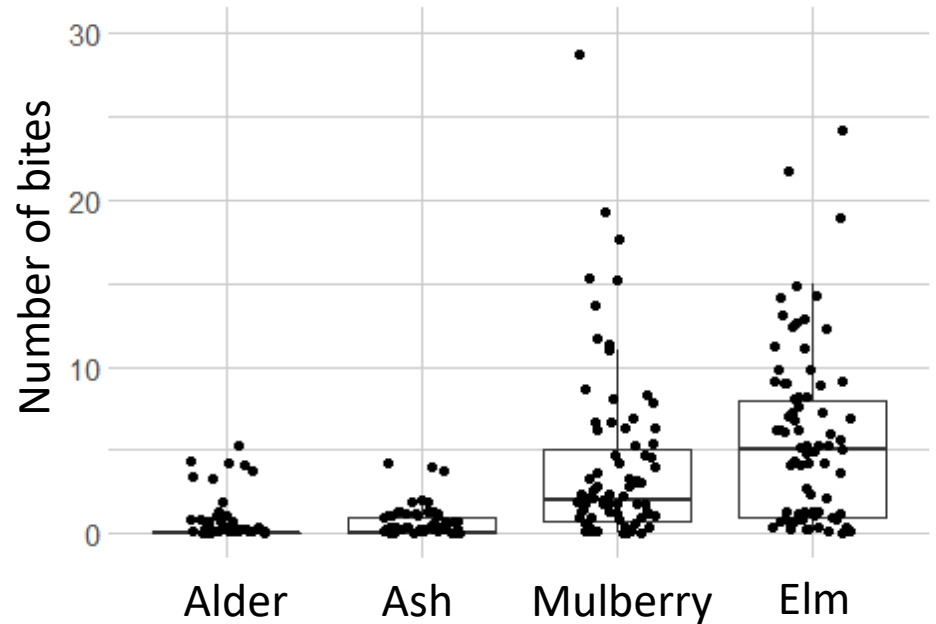
*corn (20 mg/kg MS) et natural meadows (40 mg/kg MS)*

**> 50 mg/kg MS** : white alder, field maple, basket willow, white willow

# OasYs: feeding behavior

4 tree species tested:

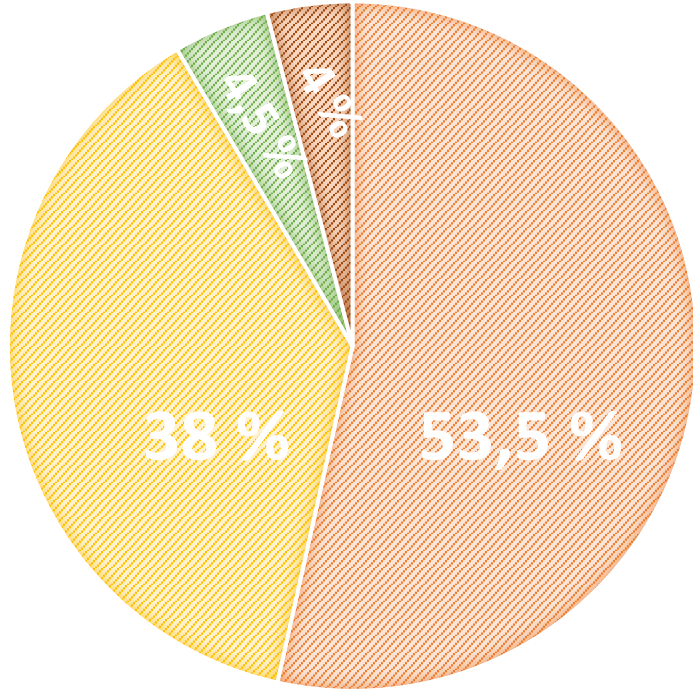
- Corsican alder
- Common ash
- White mulberry
- Lutece elm



Elm > Mulberry > Ash > Alder

# OasYs: feeding behavior

■ Elm ■ Mulberry ■ Ash ■ Alder



## Trees

839 bites:

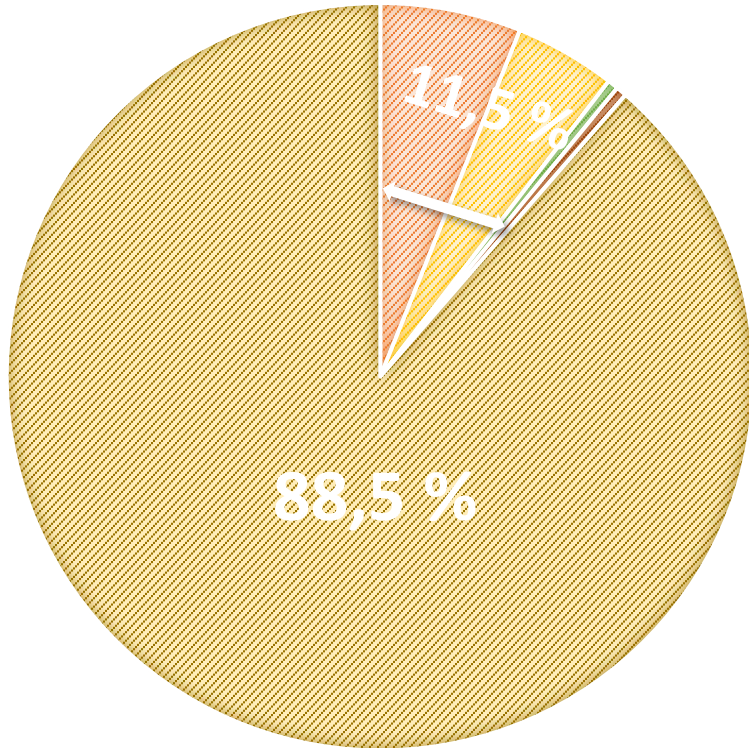
2021 : 467

2022 : 372



# OasYs: feeding behavior

■ Elm ■ Mulberry ■ Ash ■ Alder ■ Meadow

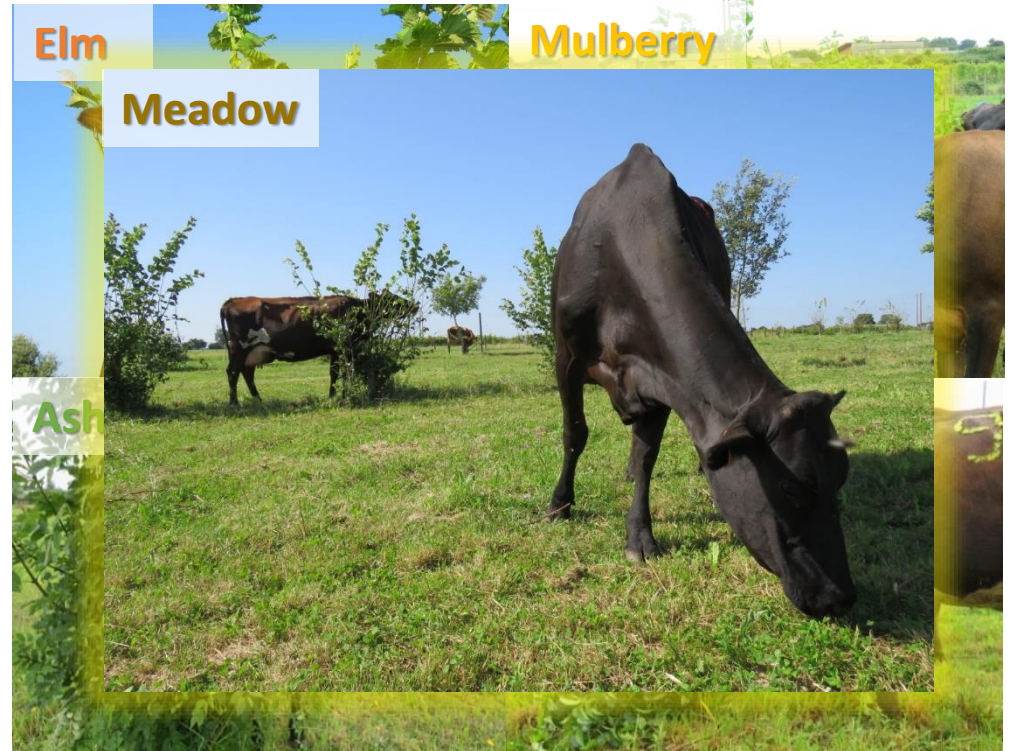


Trees

839 bites

Meadow

6500 bites



# OasYs: conclusion

- Interesting values in chemical compounds
- Certain species seem to be more appreciated
- It was the beginning of the experiment. We need :
  - To replicate the feeding experiment
  - To test the resilience of the trees
  - To know the proportion in the ration
  - To find the quantity of other chemical compounds and their health value





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