



HAL
open science

A trait-based approach to understand and predict the performance of arable annual mixed crops

Rémi Mahmoud, Noemie Gaudio, Pierre Casadebaig, Xavier Gendre, Laurent Bedoussac, Guenaelle Hellou, Florian Fort, Etienne-Pascal Journet, Isabelle Litrico, Christophe Naudin, et al.

► **To cite this version:**

Rémi Mahmoud, Noemie Gaudio, Pierre Casadebaig, Xavier Gendre, Laurent Bedoussac, et al.. A trait-based approach to understand and predict the performance of arable annual mixed crops. International Conference on Ecological Sciences (Sféologie 2018), Oct 2018, Rennes, France. 825 p. hal-02738363

HAL Id: hal-02738363

<https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-02738363v1>

Submitted on 2 Jun 2020

HAL is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.

A trait-based approach to understand and predict the performance of arable annual mixed crops.

Rémi Mahmoud (1), Noémie Gaudio (1), Pierre Casadebaig (1), Xavier Gendre (2), Laurent Bedoussac (1)(3), Guénaëlle Corre-Hellou (4), Florian Fort (5), Etienne-Pascal Journet (1)(6), Isabelle Litrico (7), Christophe Naudin (4), Cyrille Violle (5)

(1) AGIR, Université de Toulouse, INRA, Castanet-Tolosan, France

(2) UMR 5219, Institut de Mathématiques de Toulouse, Toulouse, France

(3) ENSFEA, Castanet Tolosan, France

(4) LEVA, INRA, Ecole Supérieure d'Agricultures, Université Bretagne Loire, Angers, France

(5) CEFÉ, CNRS, Université de Montpellier, Montpellier, France

(6) LIPM, Université de Toulouse, INRA, CNRS, Castanet-Tolosan, France

(7) P3F, INRA, Lusignan, France

One of the challenges in low-input annual arable mixed crops (i.e. species and variety mixtures) is to determine which species / varieties go well together to improve overall system performance.

Theories coming from community ecology suggest that two ecological processes are particularly involved in mixed crops performance by improving resource use efficiency [1]. Niche complementarity can be quantified by the distance between target functional traits between two plants. Phenotypic plasticity can be quantified by the variance of target functional traits between cropping environments (including crop management). We aim to apply this ecological theory in an agronomical context by calculating these complementarity and plasticity metrics to predict crop yield of various mixed crops in different environments.

A plant trait database on wheat and pea mixtures was built, gathering ten experiments with various management practices over six years, localized in two French sites (Angers, Toulouse). Plant traits were measured dynamically (crop height, aerial biomass, nitrogen content) to quantify crop growth and development over key phenological stages and at harvest (yield, grain quality) to quantify crop performance.

Together with environmental (climate and soil) indicators we considered both trait by trait and multi-traits methods to analyze performance variability.

[1] Litrico and Violle (2015). Trends Plant Sci. 20, 604-613.