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1 **Effects of hedgerows on the preservation of spontaneous biodiversity and**
2 **the promotion of biotic regulation services in agriculture: towards a more**
3 **constructive relationships between agriculture and biodiversity.**

4
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16 **Abstract**

17 Central to the agroecological transition is biodiversity, which, once restored in
18 agroecosystems, should provide multiple ecosystem services that result from the interactions
19 between different organisms. However, the diversity of expected services raises questions
20 about the capacity of agroecosystems to simultaneously provide many of them as well as the
21 possible existence of synergies and antagonisms. In particular, the relationships between crop-
22 associated biodiversity (i.e., biodiversity in action in crops) and spontaneous biodiversity (i.e.,
23 biodiversity not directly related to agriculture) remain unclear. In this article, we analyse the
24 impact of hedgerows on the preservation of spontaneous biodiversity, on the promotion of
25 biotic regulation services such as pollination and pest control in agriculture, and on the
26 interactions between spontaneous and associated biodiversity. Our analysis of the scientific
27 literature shows that hedgerows are unique assets for the preservation of spontaneous
28 biodiversity, while they also provide biotic regulation services to adjacent crops but only
29 under specific conditions, which need to be better understood. We propose a functional
30 conceptual model of the ecological effects of hedgerows on associated biodiversity and we
31 highlight the possible synergistic and antagonistic effects related to hedgerow characteristics
32 and the life-history traits of the organisms under consideration. Our analysis therefore seeks to
33 overcome the cleavage between associated biodiversity and spontaneous biodiversity. This
34 approach is in keeping with a more harmonious relationship between agriculture and
35 biodiversity.

36 **Keywords:** hedgerows; spontaneous biodiversity; associated biodiversity; biotic
37 regulation services in agriculture; biodiversity services; agroecosystem functioning

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63 1. Introduction

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65 Biodiversity loss due to ecosystem destruction, natural resource overexploitation, invasive
66 exotic species, climate change, and pollution is a major issue of the 21st century (IPBES
67 2018). Agriculture, which accounts for 40% of the world's non-frozen land surface, is an
68 important driver of biodiversity loss through deforestation and natural habitat destruction as
69 well as a major source of soil, water, and air pollution (MEA 2005). In particular, intensive
70 agriculture has led to a simplification of farming systems and landscapes, which has largely
71 contributed to the loss of farmland biodiversity (Donald et al. 2001; Green et al. 2005; Butler
72 et al. 2007). A new form of agriculture is thus needed (Mace et al. 2012), based on
73 agricultural practices that promote biodiversity in agricultural landscapes (Norris 2008;
74 Gonthier et al. 2014; Dudley and Alexander 2017). To date, two main contrasting land-use
75 strategies have been proposed (Fisher et al. 2008; Phalan et al. 2011; Folberth et al. 2020):
76 land-sparing (separating biodiversity protection areas from areas of intensive agriculture) and
77 land-sharing (promoting both in the same area through wildlife-friendly agricultural
78 practices). Beyond these strategies, recent studies have highlighted that promoting
79 biodiversity in agricultural landscapes require vast areas of land spared by human activities as
80 well as a favourable agricultural matrix (Kremen 2015; Grass et al. 2020; Torres et al. 2020).
81 This agricultural matrix includes an abundance and diversity of semi-natural habitats in good
82 conservation status (Griffiths et al. 2008; Poux et al. 2010; Dufplot et al. 2015; Dainese et al.
83 2017).

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85 Agriculture in the 21st century is also under pressure to abandon the use of synthetic inputs
86 while providing a number of different ecosystem services: supporting services, regulating
87 services, provisioning services, and cultural services (MEA 2005). From an agroecological
88 perspective, restored biodiversity in agroecosystems is expected to provide many of these
89 services (Tilman 1999; Altieri and Rogé 2010; Wezel et al. 2014). Regulating services
90 correspond to the processes that regulate the environment of the agroecosystem, for example
91 air and water purification, mitigation of floods and drought, crop pollination and the
92 regulation of pest outbreaks and diseases (Mengist et al. 2020). Regulating ecosystem services
93 depend on the ecological functions performed by a functional diversity of beneficial
94 organisms such as pollinators or natural enemies. The need to protect biodiversity in
95 agricultural landscapes is therefore twofold: ensuring the provision of ecosystem services and
96 protecting biodiversity *per se*. Although the relationship between biodiversity and ecosystem
97 services is complex and needs to be studied further (Mace et al. 2012), agroecosystem
98 diversification is usually regarded as a means to harness biodiversity to maximise ecosystem
99 services in agroecosystems. Many studies focus on the impact of crop and landscape
100 diversification as well as agroecological infrastructures on biotic regulation services (Benton
101 et al. 2003; Rusch et al. 2010; Fahrig et al. 2011; Vasseur et al. 2013; Holland et al. 2017;
102 Rega et al. 2018; Sirami et al. 2019; Raderschall et al. 2021). Diversification practices may
103 involve the crops themselves, their spatial and temporal organisation from the field to the
104 landscape scale, and the whole range of organisms purposefully introduced into the
105 agroecosystem by farmers. These organisms are referred to as “planned biodiversity”
106 (Perfecto and Vandermeer 2008; Brustel et al. 2018). For example, cultivar mixtures of
107 cereals can reduce fungal disease epidemics compared to equivalent monocultures (Mundt
108 2002; Vidal et al. 2020), or diverse soil microbial communities can impede the survival of soil
109 pathogens, forming pest-suppressive soils (Weller et al. 2002; Schlatter et al. 2017).
110 Diversification may also concern the communities living in the agroecosystem that either
111 originate from the agroecosystem itself or emigrate from nearby natural or semi-natural
112 habitats. These organisms, which interact with crops, are referred to as “associated

113 biodiversity” (Perfecto and Vandermeer 2008; Brustel et al. 2018). For example, field margins
114 can favour the presence of pollinators in crops (Garibaldi et al. 2014) or the presence of
115 natural enemies of crop pests (Albrecht et al. 2020). Field margins can be managed to benefit
116 key species for agricultural crops (Smith et al. 2008).

117
118 Diversification is therefore slowly becoming a new paradigm of 21st-century agriculture, with
119 the aim to both protect spontaneous biodiversity and foster regulation services rendered by
120 associated biodiversity. Yet until now, biotic regulation services [and the protection of](#)
121 [spontaneous biodiversity \(“biodiversity services”\)](#) have been studied separately in agricultural
122 contexts, sometimes even opposing scientific communities as to the respective importance of
123 one or the other. Going beyond this dichotomy is crucial to develop a systemic and multi-
124 functional vision of agroecosystems.

125
126 Semi-natural habitats are important levers to promote both associated and spontaneous
127 biodiversity in agricultural landscapes. For example, flower strips or grass field margins are
128 well known for providing several regulation services (Díaz et al. 2006), including pollination
129 and bioregulation of crop pests by natural enemies (Holland et al. 2016; Holland et al. 2017;
130 Rega et al. 2018; Martin et al. 2019) as well as spontaneous biodiversity (Duelli and Obrist
131 2003; Harlio et al. 2019). The establishment of semi-natural habitats has already been widely
132 recommended as part of many agri-environmental schemes in Europe (Kleijn et al. 2006;
133 Batáry et al. 2010; Whittingham 2011; Arponen et al. 2013; Scheper et al. 2013; Berg et al.
134 2019; Rotchés-Ribalta et al. 2021). However, despite their potential positive effect on
135 biodiversity and regulation services, vast surfaces of semi-natural habitats come at a cost of
136 cultivated surfaces as part of an agriculture-biodiversity trade-off (Kremen 2015; Macchi et
137 al. 2020).

138
139 [In this regard](#), hedgerows are particularly interesting [amongst semi-natural habitats](#).
140 Hedgerows are [perennial structures requiring little management](#) (Staley et al. 2012), that are
141 found in many agricultural environments across the world (Burel 1996; Baudry et al. 2000;
142 Dover 2019), [often](#) occupying the narrow strips between fields that are sometimes difficult to
143 cultivate. [In industrial countries, most hedgerows have been destroyed in the past 70 years, as](#)
144 [a consequence of the simplification of agricultural landscapes that came with the Green](#)
145 [Revolution. In France, since 1950, 70% of hedgerows have disappeared from the bocage](#)
146 [\(Baudry and Jouin 2003\). This amounts to the destruction of 750,000 km of hedgerows under](#)
147 [the combined effect of agricultural reparcelling and land-use changes. Although some regions](#)
148 [have retained high densities of hedgerows corresponding to earlier levels \(between 125 and](#)
149 [200 metres per hectare in the north-west\), on four-fifths of the national territory, the density of](#)
150 [hedgerows is now less than 75 m/ha, and even less than 20 m/ha on a quarter of the country](#)
151 [\(IFN 2007\). But hedgerows are nowadays receiving renewed interest. They have been the](#)
152 [subject of numerous studies, particularly recently in the context of the agroecological](#)
153 [transition regarding the provision of regulation services](#) (Holland et al. 2016; Albrecht et al.
154 2020) or biodiversity protection (Dover 2019).

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156 In this paper, we review the scientific literature with the aim to analyse the relationships
157 between hedgerows, the preservation of spontaneous biodiversity, and the provision of biotic
158 regulation services. [We focus on two biotic regulation services](#), namely pollination along with
159 pest and weed regulation in an agricultural context. [Other regulation services provided by](#)
160 [hedgerows, such as the reduction of soil erosion](#) (Wu et al. 2010; Fan et al. 2015) or the
161 [control of residues of plant protection products will not be addressed here](#) (van de Zande et al.
162 2004; Lemieux and Vézina 2011) We seek to gain some understanding of the multiple

163 ecological effects of hedgerows on biocontrol and pollination in agricultural landscapes and
164 identify possible antagonisms and synergisms between spontaneous and associated
165 biodiversity in hedgerows, adjacent or more distant fields in the landscape. We review the
166 scientific literature on the ecology of hedgerows to understand what makes them unique
167 among semi-natural habitats in their ability to protect and foster spontaneous biodiversity. We
168 also analyse the literature on the regulation services provided by the hedgerows in agriculture.
169 We eventually focus on the relations between hedgerows, spontaneous and associated
170 biodiversity, and the possible synergies or antagonisms between biotic regulation and
171 biodiversity. We propose a functional conceptual framework of the ecological effects of
172 hedgerows associated with biotic regulation and biodiversity services.

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175 **2. An ecological description of hedgerows as ecotones.**

176

177 In this paper, we follow the definition of hedgerows given by Dover (2019): a hedgerow is a
178 linear stripe of vegetation, including woody elements like trees and shrubs, and herbaceous
179 margins. This section aims at characterizing hedgerow habitats from an ecological point of
180 view.

181

182 **2.1 The structural heterogeneity of hedgerow vegetation provides a diversity of** 183 **microhabitats**

184

185 Hedgerows come under a great variety of forms. Trees may be more or less abundant in
186 hedgerows or may even be absent, but shrubs and herbaceous margins are always present.
187 Good-quality hedgerows include all three vegetation layers. The herbaceous margins are
188 known as fringes, saums, or hems, the shrub layer as thickets, and the tree layer, including
189 some shrubs, as the mantle or coat (Figure 1).

190

191 To emphasise the botanical diversity of hedgerows, it should be noted that although they are
192 considered full-fledged habitats in natural habitat classifications (McCollin et al. 2000)
193 (French and Cummins 2001), hedgerows do not correspond to any phytosociological
194 syntaxon. Indeed, the diversity of vegetation types within a hedgerow is such that the hem,
195 thicket, and mantle can each be linked to a different phytosociological syntaxon but not the
196 hedgerow as a whole. Thus, a hedgerow on calcareous soil in the Paris basin can bring
197 together species belonging to syntaxa as varied as *Geranion sanguinei* Tüxen in Müller 1962
198 or *Trifolion medii* Müller 1962 (hem), *Berberidion vulgaris* Br.-Bl. 1950 (thicket), and
199 *Quercion pubescentis - sessiliflorae* Br.-Bl. 1932 (mantle) (Bournérias et al. 2001; De
200 Foucault and Royer 2015). A hedgerow in a good state of conservation is botanically diverse
201 and is characterised by the structural complexity of the vegetation. This small-scale structural
202 heterogeneity of the vegetation will provide massive diversity in microhabitats for other
203 organisms such as arthropods. The presence of specific structures such as embankments,
204 ditches, or ponds within hedgerows also increases microhabitat diversity and therefore
205 biodiversity (Lawton et al. 2010; Lecq et al. 2018).

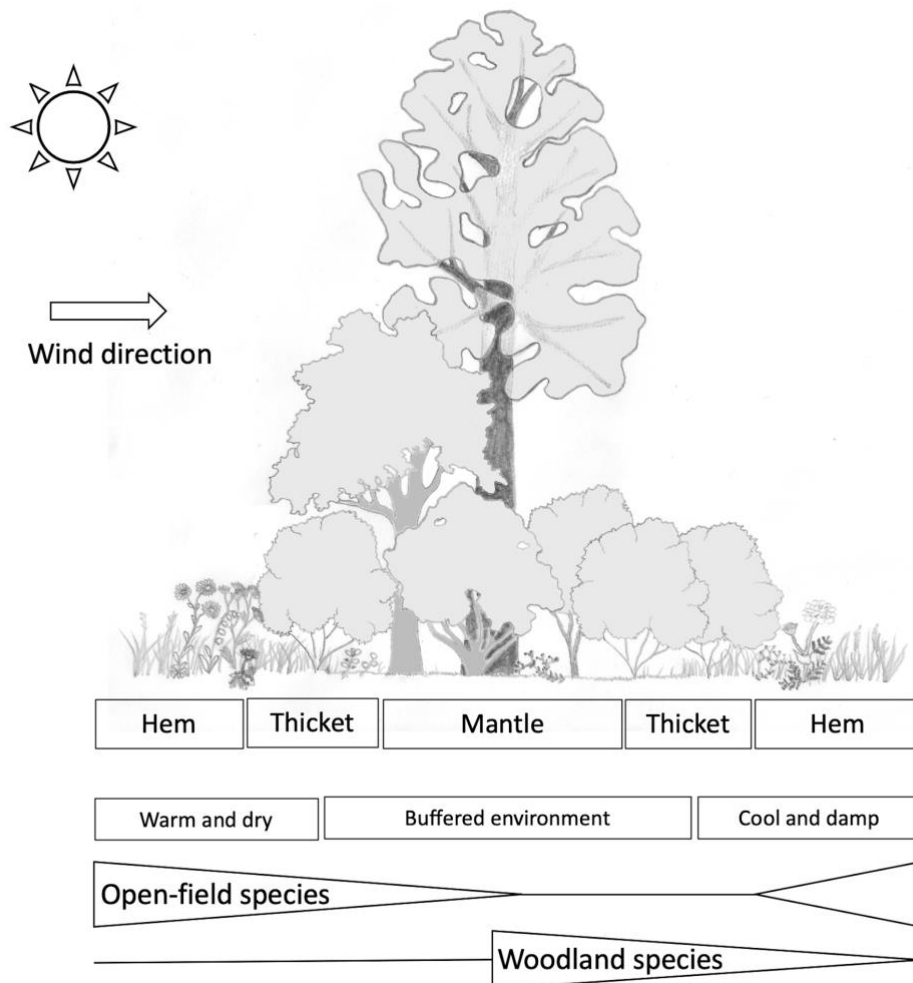
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207 **2.2 Hedgerows alter local microclimate**

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209 Hedgerows profoundly modify the microclimate in their vicinity. Their effect depends on
210 parameters such as the orientation of the hedgerow, the direction of prevailing winds, and the
211 height and width of the hedgerow (related to the presence and abundance of trees). The sunny
212 and upwind sides of the hedgerow will experience greater heat input, higher air and soil

213 temperatures during the day, dryer air, and increased temperature contrast. By contrast, the
 214 shady and leeward sides of the hedgerow will experience greater soil moisture and relative air
 215 humidity, cooler air and soil temperatures during the day, and colder air temperatures at night
 216 (Forman and Baudry 1984).
 217



218
 219 Figure 1: Schematic representation of a good-quality hedgerow with the three types of
 220 vegetation formations (herbaceous hem, shrubby thicket, and woody mantle) and the zonation
 221 pattern relating to the microclimatic alterations exerted by the hedgerow on its immediate
 222 environment.
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224
 225 These factors are locally modified, over twice the height of the hedgerow upwind and six to
 226 eight times its height leeward. Evaporation and windspeed are reduced on both sides of the
 227 hedgerow, but much of the effect takes place leeward, up to 16 and 28 times the height of the
 228 hedgerow for the two variables, respectively (Forman and Baudry 1984). Studies on
 229 windbreaks (hedgerows with high tree species designed to protect fields and orchards from
 230 wind) show that hedgerows of sufficient height can create a microclimate on the leeward side
 231 that is isolated from the atmosphere above, thus preventing wind damage to buds, flowers,
 232 and fruits, while reducing plant evapotranspiration and even protecting plants from frost
 233 (Norton 1988; Brandle et al. 2004; Smith et al. 2021). When trees are present, the centre of
 234 the hedgerow experiences the most buffered conditions, with high soil and air moisture along
 235 with cooler temperatures, very close to the conditions under a forest canopy (Vanneste,
 236 Govaert, Spicher, et al. 2020).

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2.3 Synergism between structural vegetation heterogeneity and microclimate enhances microhabitat diversity

The repartition of plant species follows the microclimatic heterogeneity. Of the 36 plant species recorded in a hedgerow in western France, Forman and Baudry (1984) found that only one-quarter grew on both sides of the hedge. Open field species are mostly found upwind on the sunny side of the hedgerow, while mosses and forest species mainly occur in the centre of wide hedgerows with tree cover as well as on the leeward side (Figure 1). The hem on the sunny side of the hedgerow usually displays a higher diversity of herbaceous species than the shady side (Forman and Baudry 1984). Local microclimatic heterogeneity structures hedgerow plant communities, resulting in a zonation pattern (Figure 1).

In turn, plant communities play a role in structuring soil microhabitats and controlling the variability of soil surface properties that influence water infiltration, storage, and drainage as well as mineralisation or nutrient availability (Sitzia et al. 2014). By slowing down soil erosion in agricultural landscapes (Kort et al. 1998; Salvador-Blanes et al. 2006; Cullum et al. 2007; Sitzia et al. 2014), hedgerows vegetation prevents the removal of the clay particles forming the topsoil. The abundance of clay particles beneath and near the hedgerows increases the water-holding capacity of the soil (Kort et al. 1998; Holden et al. 2019). Moreover, hedgerow trees increase the formation of litter and the levels of humification (Sitzia et al. 2014). Soils in hedgerows typically accumulate organic matter compared to field soils (Forman and Baudry 1984; Agus et al. 1997; Kort et al. 1998; Isaac et al. 2003; Lin et al. 2009; Sitzia et al. 2014; Holden et al. 2019), making them good candidates for stocking organic carbon in soils (Van Vooren et al. 2017; Holden et al. 2019). As a result of both processes, soils in hedgerows present more micropores in addition to lower density and lower surface compaction (Holden et al. 2019), properties that enhance soil biodiversity. They also display higher nutrient-holding capacity than soils in adjacent fields (Lin et al. 2009; Holden et al. 2019), thus increasing their fertility.

In hedgerows, the structural heterogeneity of the vegetation therefore interacts with the microclimatic heterogeneity. For hedgerows of sufficient age and complexity, a synergy can thus develop as a result of this interaction, resulting in an increase in microhabitat diversity.

2.4 Hedgerows as ecotones

Mature hedgerows are characterized by a high microhabitat diversity, resulting from the interaction between structural vegetation heterogeneity and microclimatic heterogeneity. As such, one can refer to them as ecotones. Ecotones, namely transition areas between two or more habitat types, are notorious for harbouring very diverse biological communities (Kark 2017). Hedgerows represent an ecotone between three of the main terrestrial habitats: the hem relates to open habitats such as grasslands, meadows, and open fields, the thicket to semi-open habitats such as shrublands, and the mantle to forest habitats. Hedgerows will thus bring together species associated with each of these habitats (typical grassland species such as *Galium verum* L., *Anthyllis vulneraria* L., *Knautia arvensis* (L.) Coult., or typical forest species such as *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* (L.) Rothm. or *Lamium galeobdolon* (L.) L.), species preferring complex habitats such as forest edge species (Forman and Baudry 1984), and species that thrive due to the unique mosaic of microhabitats created by the structural complexity of hedgerows (Reading and Jofré 2009; Wolton et al. 2013; Medlock et al. 2020). An example of this synergistic effect is given by two forest plant species, *Poa nemoralis* L.

287 and *Geum urbanum* L., which have better reproductive success in hedgerows than in their
 288 original forest habitat (Vanneste, Van Den Berge, et al. 2020).

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3. The positive effects of hedgerows on spontaneous biodiversity

292 Many studies have reported the positive effect of hedgerows on the diversity or abundance of
 293 various taxa (Table 1). Forman and Baudry (1984) note that a large proportion of the English
 294 countryside fauna can be observed in hedgerows at one time or another, while Pollard and
 295 Holland (2006) emphasise the status of hedgerows as one of the most important non-crop
 296 habitats for farmland arthropods. In this section, we aim at exploring the positive effects of
 297 hedgerows on spontaneous biodiversity at different spatial scales.

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Taxa	Studies	A/B/R	Taxa	Studies	A/B/R
Myriapods	Stašiov et al. 2017	R	Butterflies	Dainese et al. 2015	R
Harvestmen	Stašiov et al. 2020	R	Tachinid flies	Morandin and Kremen 2013	AR
Predatory mites	Tuovinen 1994	A		Dainese et al. 2015	R
Spiders	Duelli et al. 1990	R		Inclán et al. 2016	B
	Maudsley et al. 2002	B	Mirid bugs	Forman and Baudry 1984	R
	Garratt et al. 2017	A	Lacewings	Long et al. 1998	B
	Lefebvre et al. 2017	B	Wild bees and bumblebees	Hannon and Sisk 2009	R
	Peñalver-Cruz et al. 2020	B		Cranmer et al. 2012	A
Moths	Merckx et al. 2010	A		Garratt et al. 2017	A
	Merckx et al. 2012	R	Tenthredinid wasps	Sotherton et al. 1981	A
Psyllids	Sotherton et al. 1981	A	Parasitoid wasps	Maier 1981	A
Ladybirds	Long et al. 1998	B		Long et al. 1998	B
	Burgio et al. 2004	R		Langer 2001	B
	Puech et al. 2015	R		Bianchi and Van Der Werf 2003	B
Carabid beetles	Burel 1989	R		Gagic et al. 2011	B
	Duelli et al. 1990	R		Morandin et al. 2014	R
	Charrier et al. 1997	B		Dainese et al. 2015	R
	Long et al. 1998	B		Puech et al. 2015	R
	Maudsley et al. 2002	B	Inclán et al. 2016	B	
	Holland et al. 2009	B	Snails	Cameron et al. 1980	R
	Puech et al. 2015	R	Newts	Joly et al. 2001	A
	Lefebvre et al. 2017	B	Birds	Wegner and Merriam 1979	B
Staphylinid beetles	Maudsley et al. 2002	B		Hinsley and Bellamy 2000	R
	Griffiths et al. 2007	R		Batáry et al. 2010	R
	Holland et al. 2009	B	Rodents	Pollard and Relton 1970	B
Syrphid flies	Long et al. 1998	B		Eldridge 1971	B
	Alignier et al. 2014	A		Wegner and Merriam 1979	B
	Haenke et al. 2014	A	Bats	Entwistle 1996	B
	Inclán et al. 2016	B	Verboom and Huitema 1997	B	
	Garratt et al. 2017	A	Boughey et al. 2011	R	

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Table 1: List of taxa for which the beneficial effect of hedgerows has been reported in the literature. Column A/B/R indicates to whether the studies are concerned with the abundance (A) or the species richness (R) of taxonomic groups present in hedgerows, or both (B).

3.1 Microhabitat diversity in hedgerows leads to high local species richness

308 Faunal studies have demonstrated that the high species diversity in hedgerows is a direct
 309 consequence of their microhabitat heterogeneity (Silva and Prince 2008; Le Viol et al. 2008;
 310 Fischer et al. 2013). Small-scale heterogeneity is known to promote biodiversity (Lawton et
 311 al. 2010). Such levels of microheterogeneity explain why alpha-biodiversity (species richness
 312 in a given community) is usually high in hedgerows and also why hedgerow abundance at the
 313 landscape scale leads to high levels of beta-diversity (dissimilarity between communities) and

314 phenotypically diverse communities (Ponisio et al. 2016). High levels of beta-diversity
315 between hedgerow habitats also hint at how different hedgerows can be in terms of the
316 organisms that live in them (and thus in terms of interaction networks). It is therefore likely
317 that the positive effect of hedgerows on spontaneous biodiversity is strong at small spatial
318 scales (a few times the width of the hedgerow at most). This is corroborated by studies such
319 as Maudsley et al. (2002), who showed that abundance and diversity of overwintering
320 predatory arthropods in hedgerows was highly variable between micro-sites.

321

322 *3.2 Hedgerows can serve as ecological corridors.*

323

324 Hedgerows also influence spontaneous biodiversity at larger scales. For example, hedgerows
325 have long been thought to act as ecological corridors (Harris and Gallaher 1989; Dover and
326 Settele 2009) and enhance landscape connectivity between natural and semi-natural habitats
327 (Forman and Baudry 1984). The presence of physically connected and rich semi-natural
328 habitats such as hedgerows can indeed increase landscape permeability for many insect
329 species (Cranmer 2004). Although the concept of ecological corridors does not apply to all
330 species in the same way (Pe'er et al. 2005; Downs and Racey 2006), many studies have now
331 ascertained that hedgerows increase animal and plant movements at the landscape scale
332 (reviewed by Gilbert-Norton et al. 2010). In this respect, there is evidence for carabid beetles
333 (Burel 1989), butterflies, bumblebees and other pollinators (Cranmer et al. 2012), newts (Joly
334 et al. 2001), birds (Macclintock et al. 1977; Wegner and Merriam 1979), rodents (Pollard and
335 Relton 1970; Eldridge 1971), and bats (Entwistle 1996; Verboom and Huitema 1997;
336 Boughey et al. 2011). Nevertheless, dispersal may not always be continuous alongside
337 hedgerows, while hedgerows themselves may not always be continuous. In this case, they
338 may provide successive patches of favourable habitat that will act as a stepping stone and
339 nonetheless favour dispersal (Slade et al. 2013). Higher levels of landscape connectivity due
340 to hedgerows can increase wild flower pollination. Cranmer (2004) showed that the number
341 of pollinator visits and seeds yielded in patches of *Salvia pratensis* L. linked to hedgerows
342 was higher than in isolated patches.

343

344 *3.3 Hedgerows increase species persistence at the landscape scale*

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346 *3.3.1 Case study: hedgerows are crucial for the preservation of forest species in open field* 347 *landscapes*

348

349 Hedgerows are of particular importance as corridor and stepping-stone habitats for forest
350 species. Large hedgerows with well-developed mantles and dense herbaceous layers represent
351 favourable habitats for woodland species of insect, snails, birds, mammals, and plants
352 (Williamson 1969; Pollard et al. 1974; Cameron et al. 1980; Forman and Baudry 1984; Burel
353 and Baudry 1995; Charrier et al. 1997; McCollin et al. 2000; Sitzia 2007). Hedgerows house
354 many forest-core species of plants (Pollard et al. 1974), while forest-edge species thrive in
355 hedgerow thickets (Helliwell 1975). At the scale of Western Europe, Vanneste, Govaert, De
356 Kesel, et al. (2020) showed that 55% of forest flora was also found in hedgerow habitats.
357 Hedgerows had 11% less habitat-specialist species and 14% more habitat-generalist species
358 compared to forests, with high levels of species turnover. In fact, only the most sciaphilous
359 and dispersal-limited species from ancient forests are unable to grow in hedgerows due to
360 their narrow ecological niche (Bailey 2007; Vanneste, Govaert, De Kesel, et al. 2020).
361 Carabid beetle assemblages in hedgerows share many characteristics with those of woodland
362 assemblages, especially the abundance of nocturnal predators and ground-dwelling shade-
363 preferring species that prefer dense vegetation (Pollard 1971). Forman and Baudry (1984)

364 reported that four-fifths of English forest bird species also nested in hedgerows. Pollard and
365 Relton (1970) showed that hedgerows provided cover for woodland rodents. In agricultural
366 landscapes, where there are few forest habitats, hedgerows can therefore play a key role
367 regarding the persistence of forest species.

368

369 *3.3.2 From local increase in species richness to increased species persistence at the* 370 *landscape scale.*

371

372 The importance of hedgerows for the preservation of forest species in agricultural landscapes
373 illustrates well one of the impacts of hedgerows on spontaneous biodiversity. The diversity of
374 micro-habitats increases species richness locally (high alpha diversity), but the presence of
375 hedgerows is no guarantee that all micro-habitats are abundant at the landscape scale.
376 Therefore, hedgerows do not necessarily increase the abundance of all organisms at the
377 landscape scale. Indeed, among the publications listed in Table 1 that show the importance of
378 hedgerows for different groups of organisms, 41% of the publications report a positive effect
379 of hedgerows on the species richness within the groups considered. Only 24% of them
380 reported a positive effect on the abundance of these organisms. The remaining 36% did not
381 distinguish between the effects of hedgerows on abundance and diversity (the sum of the
382 percentages is greater than one because one of the studies showed a joint effect on the species
383 richness and abundance of tachinid flies).

384

385 It is therefore possible that the local increase in species richness due to micro-habitat diversity
386 translates at the landscape scale into an increase in the probability of persistence of species
387 that are specialists of these micro-habitats (such as forest species in the previous example). In
388 other words, the presence of sufficient hedgerows in the landscape could ensure that many
389 species will find some micro-habitat that suit them but not that these species will be much
390 more abundant.

391

392 *3.4 Does the positive impact of hedgerows on spontaneous biodiversity translate into a* 393 *positive impact on functional biodiversity?*

394

395 This section has demonstrated that hedgerows have undeniable positive impacts on
396 spontaneous biodiversity. But can we benefit from these impacts from an agroecological point
397 of view? Or more accurately, does the increase in species richness and species persistence
398 translate into an increase in functional biodiversity susceptible to foster regulation services
399 (pest control and pollination) in adjacent crops? Given that there is often a positive
400 relationship between species richness and functional diversity (Biswas and Mallik 2011; Song
401 et al. 2014), one could expect hedgerows to also increase functional biodiversity and
402 associated biodiversity (biodiversity in action in crops). In the next section, we endeavor to
403 elucidate the possible relations between hedgerow ecological functioning for agriculture and
404 associated biodiversity in terms of pest and weed control and pollination.

405

406 This relationship is however not necessarily straightforward. We already showed that
407 hedgerows increase the abundance of some taxa but not others. Hedgerows are likely to have
408 a strong functional impact if they increase the abundance of those few key species that play
409 major roles in the provision of ecosystem services (Mahaut et al. 2020). Moreover, the
410 functional traits that allow some species to thrive in hedgerows may be very different from
411 those that characterize species in crops, leading to different communities between fields and
412 hedgerows. The positive effect of hedges on the most functionally important species could
413 also be limited to periods when the regulating service cannot take place (outside of the

414 flowering period of the crop or too late for pest regulation to take place). It could be spatially
415 limited too, due to hedgerows heterogeneity or discontinuity. Finally, some characteristics of
416 the hedgerows (age, length, management practices...) could alter the relationship between
417 hedgerow spontaneous and associated biodiversity.

418
419

420 **4. Hedgerows have the potential to foster some biotic regulation services**

421

422 Here, we focus on two biotic regulation services, namely pollination along with pest and weed
423 regulation in an agricultural context. Other regulation services provided by hedgerows, such
424 as the reduction of soil erosion (Wu et al. 2010; Fan et al. 2015) or the control of residues of
425 plant protection products (van de Zande et al. 2004; Lemieux and Vézina 2011) will not be
426 addressed here.

427

428 *4.1 Hedgerows host crop pests, natural enemies and pollinators*

429

430 Hedgerows provide food resources and shelter to many animal taxa. Here we analyse how
431 some can pose threats to crops (pests and pathogens) while others can be considered natural
432 enemies (organisms that feed on pests, Wilby and Thomas 2002) or pollinators.

433

434 *4.1.1 Hedgerows increase pollinator diversity but not their abundance*

435

436 Hedgerows that offer both suitable nesting sites and large amounts of pollen and nectar
437 resources throughout the year represent favourable habitats for pollinators (Bugg et al. 1998)
438 (Simon et al. 2009; Carvell et al. 2011; Garibaldi et al. 2014; Schüepp et al. 2014; Kremen
439 and M’Gonigle 2015; Schellhorn et al. 2015; M’Gonigle et al. 2017). Such hedgerows play
440 host to a high diversity of pollinators, especially due to the presence of forest species
441 (Croxtton et al. 2005) and the role played by hedgerows as dispersal corridors and stepping
442 stones (Cranmer et al. 2012; Slade et al. 2013). The main groups of pollinators in hedgerows
443 include native bees (Corbit et al. 1999; Hannon and Sisk 2009), bumblebees (Garratt et al.
444 2017), syrphid flies (Long et al. 1998; Burgio et al. 2004), and many other Diptera families
445 (Staley et al. 2019).

446

447 According to Carvell et al. (2011), hedgerows increase pollinator diversity rather than
448 pollinator abundance, which rather depends on the abundance of floral resources. Several
449 studies, which report that hedgerow restoration in agricultural landscape leads to increased
450 levels of pollinator diversity, reach similar conclusions (Hannon and Sisk 2009; M’Gonigle et
451 al. 2015; Sardiñas and Kremen 2015). Hedgerows seem to be more beneficial to generalist
452 pollinators than to specialist species (Kleijn et al. 2015; Ponisio et al. 2017), although the
453 conservation of specific plant species or the protection of mature hedgerows can favour
454 specialist pollinator species (Kremen and M’Gonigle 2015; Ponisio et al. 2016; M’Gonigle et
455 al. 2017; Kremen et al. 2018).

456

457 *4.1.2 Natural enemies are diverse and possibly abundant in hedgerows*

458

459 Communities of natural enemies are usually rather diverse in hedgerows (Sotherton et al.
460 1981; Paoletti et al. 1997; Amy 2015). Depending on whether they forage on the ground or in
461 the vegetation canopy, they are split into three guilds. The guild of ground-active natural
462 enemies forages in the litter and topsoil and includes some carabid and staphylinid beetles,
463 lycosid spiders, ants, earwigs, and centipedes (Mathews et al. 2004). The guild of canopy-

464 active natural enemies also features some carabid and staphylinid beetles along with
465 coccinellid beetles, lacewings, earwigs, predatory bugs, hoverflies larvae, linyphiid spiders,
466 and predatory mites. The third guild corresponds to parasitoid insects such as tachinid flies
467 and parasitoid wasps and flies.

468
469 The diversity and abundance of natural enemies depends on hedgerow quality and complexity
470 (Puech et al. 2015; Stašiov et al. 2017). Diverse and complex herbaceous fringes are
471 necessary to host diverse communities of anthocorid bugs (Pollard 1968a), mirid bugs
472 (Forman and Baudry 1984), carabid beetles (Pollard 1968b; Maudsley et al. 2002) and syrphid
473 flies, for which the herbaceous flora of the hem provides 80% of the necessary food resources
474 (Garratt et al. 2017). The abundance of soil litter due to the presence of trees in the mantle
475 increases the abundance and diversity of staphylinid beetles and lycosid spiders (Garratt et al.
476 2017). Natural enemies can also benefit from nectar and pollen resources in hedgerows. Non-
477 crop floral resources increase the longevity and fecundity of many short-lived parasitoid
478 wasps (Winkler et al. 2006; Géneau et al. 2012; Morandin et al. 2014). Some predatory
479 arthropods such as ladybirds and lacewings also benefit from floral resources as alternative
480 sources of energy (Long et al. 1998; Bianchi et al. 2006), although they appear to be less
481 dependent on them than parasitoids (Morandin et al. 2014). Hedgerows also provide
482 overwintering sites for many natural enemies, regardless of whether they live in the hedgerow
483 itself or come from nearby fields and other habitats.

484
485 Hedgerows support diverse natural enemy communities and there seems to be a trend towards
486 a positive relationship between hedgerows and the relative abundance of natural enemies. For
487 example, Gareau et al. (2013) report a six times higher natural enemies to pest ratio near
488 hedgerows compared to other types of field edges. Morandin et al. (2011) found similar
489 results and emphasize the role of the shrub layer in increasing the abundance of natural
490 enemies. Note however that few studies deal with the abundance of natural enemies (as a
491 general functional group) in hedgerows.

492 493 *4.1.3 Hedgerows host few pests*

494
495 The high plant diversity in hedgerows supports a high diversity of phytophagous arthropods
496 that feed on leaves, nectar, pollen, or sap (Rieux et al. 1999; Debras et al. 2002). Young shrub
497 and tree shoots increase the abundance of herbivorous arthropods (Amy 2015). Old
498 hedgerows that include trees seem to host abundant populations of psyllids (Sotherton et al.
499 1981). Aphids can sometimes be abundant in grasses in hems (Al Hassan et al. 2013) or find
500 alternative hosts in hedgerow vegetation. For example, the cereal aphid *Sitobion avenae*
501 (Fabricius 1775) was found to feed on willow and alfalfa in hedgerows (Langer 2001), while
502 the black bean aphid (*Aphis fabae* Scopoli, 1763) overwinters on European spindle in
503 hedgerows (Cammel et al. 1989). But although the total number of herbivorous and
504 opophagous arthropods is high in hedgerows, the number of pest species that are actually of
505 concern for crops seems to be rather low, especially compared to the abundance of putative
506 natural enemies in hedgerows (Morandin et al. 2011; Gareau et al. 2013).

507
508 Regarding crop pathogens, hedgerows may also occasionally represent disease reservoirs.
509 Indeed, some pathogens or their vectors spend part of their lifecycles in hedgerow vegetation.
510 The most emblematic example involves wheat rust (*Puccinia graminis* Pers. 1794), a
511 pathogenic fungus reproducing sexually on barberry shrubs and responsible for costly
512 epidemics on winter wheat. Barberry shrubs used to be planted as enclosures around houses
513 and properties in Northern Europe and North America until it emerged that their presence

514 amplified rust epidemics. Their progressive removal during the 20th century allowed for a
515 substantial reduction in the intensity of rust epidemic (Zadoks 2008). Similarly, in some
516 regions, juniper shrubs, primary hosts to the fungal agent of pear rust (*Gymnosporangium*
517 *sabinae* (Dicks.) Oerst. 1863), have been eliminated to limit epidemics in orchards (Lace
518 2017). Till now, there is however a limited number of examples of diseases shared by crops
519 and hedgerows. [More studies are needed to understand the role of hedgerows as reservoirs of](#)
520 [crop diseases.](#)

521
522 Hedgerows may therefore house putative crop pests. Caution should therefore be exercised
523 when establishing hedgerows in the vicinity of crops. Nevertheless, hedgerows and
524 surrounding crops have few pests in common in most cases. Moreover, the number and
525 diversity of pests in hedgerows remains much lower than in other types of semi-natural
526 habitats (Paoletti et al. 1997). Morandin et al. (2011) and Morandin et al. (2014) found more
527 pests in common between grass field margins and crops than between hedgerows and crops.
528 However, with the diversification of crops linked to the agroecological transition, it seems
529 important to take into account this possible negative impact of hedgerows in these more
530 diversified systems.

531 532 ***4.2 Hedgerows pose little threat as a weed reservoir***

533
534 The major difference between weeds and hedgerow plants (mostly plants from the hem) is
535 that the latter has little impact on the flora of nearby fields. Indeed, weeds are generally
536 pioneer species or species from perturbed environments that are susceptible to competition.
537 They include many species of geophytes and therophytes. To the contrary, the vegetation of
538 the hem is composed of competitive grassland species, including many perennial or biennial
539 hemicryptophytic species (Jauzein 2011). Despite these differences, it is possible that a small
540 number of hedgerow species, especially nitrophilous species, disperse into adjacent fields. For
541 example, Boutin et al. (2001) showed that wet-habitat weed species found in the central
542 position of hedgerows (e.g., *Lythrum salicaria* L., *Equisetum arvense* L., *Cicuta maculata* L.)
543 can colonise nearby fields. Nevertheless, such examples remain relatively rare. However,
544 Dainese et al. (2017) showed no effect of hedgerow cover on weed richness or cover. The
545 relation between hedgerows and weeds thus remains uncertain.

546 547 ***4.3 Focus on some characteristics of hedgerows that foster functional diversity***

548
549 The previous section already hinted at the fact that certain functional characteristics of
550 hedgerows influence the presence of certain functional groups of pollinators, pests and natural
551 enemies. In this section we elaborate on several mechanisms that link the functional
552 ecological characteristics of hedgerows and the presence of these organisms.

553 554 ***4.3.1 Importance of the diversity of vegetation layers and spatial hedgerow characteristics***

555
556 The diversity of vegetation layers (Constant et al. 1976; Ricou and Lecomte 1976) and their
557 botanical complexity (Johnson and Beck 1988; Hinsley and Bellamy 2000) have been shown
558 to determine the diversity of many taxonomic groups in hedgerows. The destruction of
559 herbaceous vegetation in the hem and thicket due to overgrazing has proven detrimental for
560 arthropods that use it for shelter and foraging (Johnson and Beck 1988). The presence of a
561 tree layer plays a central role in the sheltering of diverse communities. Hedgerow trees
562 provide rare shelter for adult moths in agricultural landscapes, leading to a local increase in
563 their diversity (Merckx et al. 2010; Merckx et al. 2012). The shrub and tree layers create litter

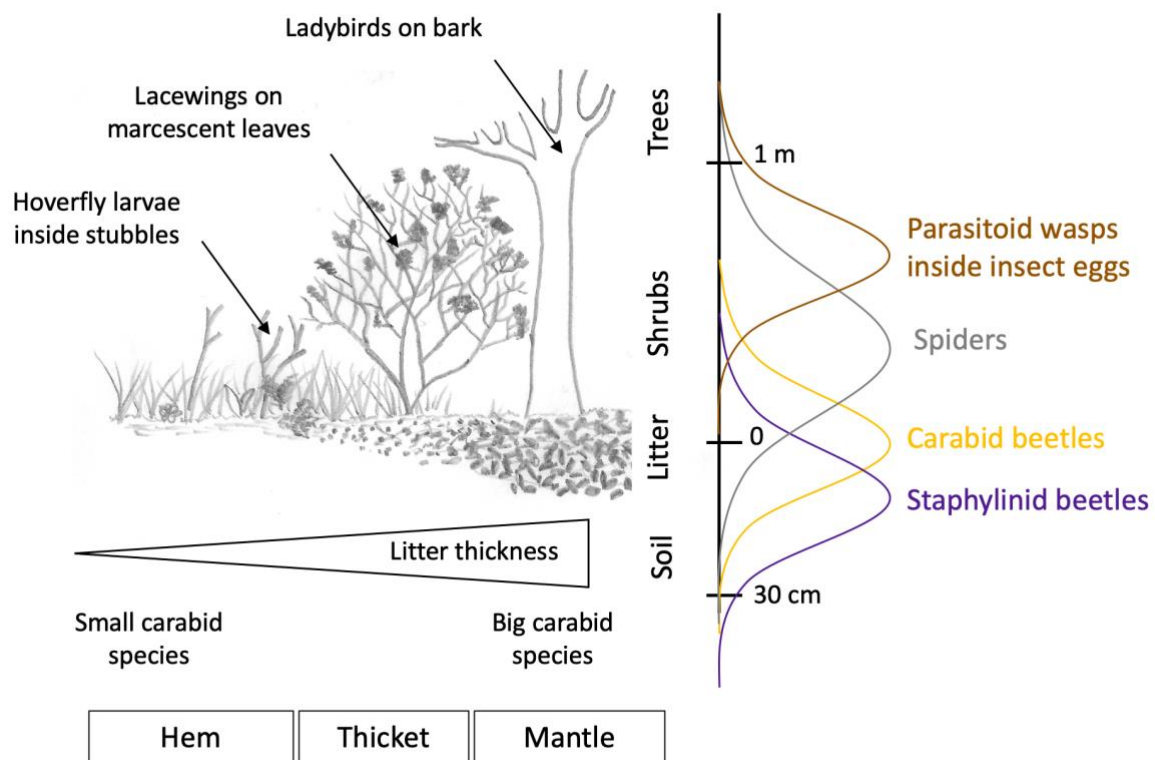
564 over the soil, leading to more fertile soils (Lin et al. 2009; Holden et al. 2019) and richer soil
565 communities than those in surrounding agricultural soils (Duran Zuazo and Rodriguez
566 Pleguezuelo 2008). Fungal biomass increases in hedgerow soils (Monokrousos et al. 2006),
567 which present very distinct fungal and mycorrhiza communities (Holden et al. 2019).
568 Earthworms are also more abundant in hedgerow soils than in field soils, although they are
569 still less abundant than in pasture soils (Hansen et al. 1989; Holden et al. 2019).

570
571 The spatial characteristics of hedgerows such as their length, width, height, and continuity in
572 relation to hedgerow management are also important factors impacting biodiversity. The
573 taxonomic diversity of harvestman (Stašiov et al. 2020), birds, and mammals (Johnson and
574 Beck 1988) increases with hedgerow length, while the diversity of nesting birds increases
575 with hedgerow height (Hinsley and Bellamy 2000). The abundance of herbivores and
576 predators was found to be determined by foliage density, while the abundance of detritivore
577 arthropods and linyphiid spiders was negatively affected by hedgerow discontinuity (Amy
578 2015).

579
580 *4.3.2 An example of spatial niche segregation: diversity of vegetation layers and arthropod*
581 *overwintering*

582
583 Niche segregation can explain the diversity of natural enemies at overwintering sites in
584 hedgerows (Figure 2). Canopy-active natural enemies display a rather horizontal segregation,
585 occupying different botanical formations (Figure 2) and overwintering at different stages of
586 their lifecycle. Adult ladybirds overwinter in the mantle in tree trunk crevasses, taking
587 advantage of the thermal capacity of the bark warming in sunlight (Burgio et al. 2004). Some
588 adult lacewings overwinter in the thicket underneath the marcescent leaves of some shrub
589 species such as hawthorn or hornbeam, while some species also overwinter in mistletoe
590 (Weihrauch 2008). Some syrphid flies overwinter in the hem as larvae in the stubbles and
591 hollow stems of desiccated plants (widespread in the Apiaceae family). Many parasitoid
592 wasps overwinter as eggs laid on the eggs of their hosts, which can be found on buds or
593 marcescent leaves in the shrub or tree layer (Pollard et al. 1974; Corbett and Rosenheim
594 1996). Linyphiid spiders make use of herbaceous vegetation and marcescent leaves as shelter
595 and hunting grounds for winter-active springtails (Sunderland et al. 1986; Vanin and
596 Turchetto 2007). On the contrary, most ground-active natural enemies overwinter as adults
597 and display a more vertical niche segregation. Lycosid spiders overwinter aboveground in
598 litter and herbaceous vegetation (Maudsley et al. 2002). Carabid beetles overwinter in litter
599 and topsoil, mostly between 0 and 10 cm belowground (Desender 1982; Maudsley et al.
600 2002). Moreover, the deeper the litter, the larger the carabid species encountered: there is also
601 horizontal niche segregation among carabid beetles, with small species being more abundant
602 in the hems and large species in the mantles (Figure 2; Desender 1982). Staphylinid beetles
603 overwinter deeper in the soil, mostly between 10 and 20 cm belowground (Maudsley et al.
604 2002).

605
606



607
 608 Figure 2: Niche segregation of natural enemies at overwintering sites in hedgerows. Inspired
 609 by Pollard et al. 1974; Desender et al. 1982; Sunderland et al. 1986; Corbett and Rosenheim
 610 1996; Maudsley et al. 2002; Burgio et al. 2004; Weihrauch 2008.

611
 612
 613 *4.3.3 Importance of the temporal complementarity of nectar resources in hedgerows*
 614 *throughout the year*
 615

616 Nectar resources particularly depend on the diversity of herbaceous species in the hem and the
 617 blooming period of different shrub and tree species (Bugg et al. 1998; Simon et al. 2009;
 618 Garibaldi et al. 2014; Haenke et al. 2014; Schüepp et al. 2014). Functional plant species
 619 diversity can support year-round pollination if the species have different flowering periods,
 620 thereby providing nectar resources to insects from diapause emergence in spring to pre-
 621 diapause resource gathering in autumn (Bugg et al. 1998; Simon et al. 2009). [Rebulard \(2018\)](#)
 622 [provides an example of such ecological complementarity in European hedgerows, considering](#)
 623 [only native tree and shrub species. Winter-flowering species such as *Salix caprea* L., *Hedera*](#)
 624 [helix L. and *Prunus spinosa* L. provide nectar and pollen early in the season. They are](#)
 625 [followed by spring-flowering species such as *Sambucus nigra* L., *Crataegus monogyna* Jacq.](#)
 626 [or *Prunus avium* L. In summer, resources are provided by *Tilia cordata* Mill. or *Rosa* spp. and](#)
 627 [in autumn by *Rubus* spp. L. or *Hedera helix* L. Other examples can be found in Bugg et al.](#)
 628 [\(1998\) and Simon et al. \(2009\).](#)

629
 630 Owing to the correspondence between the plant flowering time and the time of imago
 631 emergence, different groups of pollinators will feed on different plant species over time. Dung
 632 flies and syrphid flies that have overwintered as adults feed preferentially on blackthorn in
 633 spring; solitary bees, bumblebees, and syrphid flies feed on hawthorn in late spring and

634 brambles in summer; and muscid, tachinid, and calliphorid flies feed on ivy in autumn (Staley
635 et al. 2019).

636

637 *4.3.4 Importance of some particular species in hedgerow ecosystems*

638

639 The taxonomic composition of hedgerows may also be a key factor regarding the composition
640 of hedgerow communities. Some shrub and tree species are of particular interest regarding
641 hedgerow biodiversity. For example, Constant et al. (1976) noted that in England, oak-
642 dominated hedgerows house twice as many nesting bird species as coniferous hedgerows,
643 while Pollard et al. (1974) showed that oak and hawthorn hedges support the most diverse
644 insect fauna in England. Oaks and limes appear to host high densities of predatory mites
645 (Tuovinen 1994). Some tree (blackthorn, common spindle) and weed species (wild teasel, red-
646 root amaranth, wild carrot, ...) are important for providing food and shelter to coccinellid
647 beetles once crops are harvested (Burgio et al. 2004). Ivy is also an important source of nectar
648 for wasps in autumn (Jacobs et al. 2010) and an important overwintering habitat for lacewings
649 (Weihrauch 2008).

650

651 Pest exchange between hedgerows and crops becomes more likely when hedgerows play host
652 to wild plants of the same family as the crop. Examples can be found in orchards. Many trees
653 in the family Rosaceae are grown in orchards (e.g., pear tree, apple tree, cherry tree, plum
654 tree), while many hedgerow shrubs (e.g., blackthorn, hawthorn, brambles, dog roses) and trees
655 (e.g., wild cherry, bird cherry, medlar tree, European crab apple) belong to the same family.
656 Cultivated and wild woody species of this family share pests, which could accumulate in
657 hedgerows and spill over into the adjacent orchards (Peñalver-Cruz et al. 2020). Overall,
658 however, pest species found in hedgerows only rarely attack crops, unless pests find
659 secondary hosts among the hedgerow flora. Similar results have been found for other semi-
660 natural habitats, especially field margins (Denys and Tschardtke 2002; Marshall 2004).

661

662 *4.4 Anthropogenic disturbances impact hedgerow functional biodiversity*

663

664 Hedgerows can be planted, managed or cut by humans, and are part of a landscape matrix
665 dominated by human activities. While the effects of such transformations on hedgerow
666 biodiversity are partially known, little is known about their impact on functional hedgerow
667 biodiversity. In this section, we focus on two such transformations: hedgerow management
668 and adjacent crops and agricultural practices.

669

670 Since many hedgerow characteristics (length, height, density, age, species composition,
671 structural complexity...) can be altered by human management, hedgerow management often
672 has a strong impact on hedgerow communities. Hedgerow trimming promotes shoot growth
673 and thus the density of herbivorous insects in hedgerows (Sotherton et al. 1981). Moreover,
674 annual hedgerow cutting tends to reduce the number of flowers and the biomass of the fruits
675 produced, which is unfavourable for nectar-feeding arthropods and fruit-eating birds. In
676 comparison, hedgerow cutting every three years leads to increased flower and berry
677 production (Staley et al. 2012). Decreasing the frequency of hedgerow trimming also
678 improves the diversity of butterfly assemblages (Staley et al. 2016). The presence of trees of
679 different ages favours saproxylic insect communities (Clements and Alexander 2009) and
680 reduces the abundance of herbivorous insects, which are less abundant in mature trees
681 (Sotherton et al. 1981). Regular trimming of the thicket every few years and the presence of
682 trees of different ages thus appears favourable to functional biodiversity. Nevertheless, this
683 effect is likely to change with hedgerow age and species composition. Newly planted hedges

684 have functional characteristics that are close to the sum of those of the planted species. Over
685 time, the species composition of the hedgerow undergoes a natural evolution that transforms
686 its functional characteristics. Hedgerows are first colonised by species with high dispersal
687 capabilities (Closset-Kopp et al. 2016): epizoochorous dispersal and reproduction by seeds are
688 associated with rapid colonisation and are characteristic of many plant species found in young
689 hedgerows (Litza and Diekmann 2019). Species with low dispersal capabilities colonise
690 hedgerows over much longer periods, thus stressing the importance of protecting ancient
691 hedgerows (Closset-Kopp et al. 2017). Therefore, as in forest habitats, hedgerow age is
692 correlated with hedgerow diversity (Litza and Diekmann 2019). Older hedgerows are
693 therefore richer in biodiversity, but in terms of functional diversity, the species initially
694 planted may have disappeared due to competition and the functional properties of the
695 hedgerows will have likely changed. In addition, older hedgerows, potentially taller and
696 wider, are also more difficult to manage.

697
698 Adjacent crops and agricultural practices such as the use of fertilisers or pesticides can also
699 modify hedgerow animal and plant communities (Robinson and Sutherland 2002; Petit et al.
700 2003). Intensive management of adjacent land is particularly detrimental to forest species
701 living in hedgerows (Closset-Kopp et al. 2016; Closset-Kopp et al. 2017; Lenoir et al. 2019);
702 Although many human management practices appear hazardous for hedgerow biodiversity,
703 some data suggest that hedgerows are actually quite resilient to anthropogenic disturbances.
704 Staley et al. (2013) reported changes in hedgerow diversity over the past 70 years. They
705 identified a decrease in beta-diversity due to taxonomic homogenisation and a shift towards
706 more nitrophilous flora, two phenomena that are significant in all natural and semi-natural
707 habitats (Olden and Rooney 2006; Critchley et al. 2013). However, they also showed an
708 increase in alpha-diversity of English hedgerows over time, suggesting that the introduction of
709 exotic species and the development of higher soil fertility species did not result in the local
710 extinction of many of the original species. Furthermore, they highlighted that the changes in
711 hedgerow quality and plant diversity were not directly linked to the increase in land-use
712 intensification in the surrounding landscape, indicating some levels of resilience in hedgerow
713 plant communities to anthropogenic disturbances in terms of biodiversity.

714
715 To sum up section 4, hedgerows harbor diverse communities of pollinators and putative
716 natural enemies while hosting few potential pests. The boundaries between these broad
717 functional groups are not clear-cut. Some carabid beetles are predators at the larval stage but
718 grain eaters at the imaginal stage. They can thus change from natural enemies to pests if they
719 eat crop seeds, or remain beneficial organisms if they consume weed seeds and participate to
720 the regulation of weed seedbanks (Carbonne et al. 2020).

721
722 Hedgerows thus have thus the potential to promote pest regulation and pollination in
723 neighbouring fields. However, as pointed out by Karp et al. (2018) the presence of beneficial
724 organisms does not guarantee the provision of regulation and pollination services, which
725 involve complex ecological functions that occur at specific times and places. In the following
726 section we analyse whether the positive effects of hedgerows on pollinators and natural
727 enemies translates into actual biocontrol and pollination services.

728
729

730 **5. Hedgerows can provide pest regulation and pollination services in agriculture but** 731 **only in specific conditions**

732 733 *5.1. Pollinators and natural enemies, but also pests, spill over into neighbouring fields*

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A concern of farmers with the plantation of hedgerows is the spillover of crop pests from hedgerows into neighbouring fields (Brodt et al. 2009). However, the evidence for such dispersal is scarce. Aside from the examples of wheat rust and pear rust cited above (Zadoks 2008; Lace 2017), the main evidence concerns aphids. Some wild tree species host overwintering crop aphids, which can disperse back towards the crop in spring (Langer 2001). Alignier et al. (2014) found that the proximity of wood cover increased the risk of the early colonisation of cereals by aphids. Otherwise, the majority of examples from the literature concern tropical agroforestry, where the crops are often tree species that share pest species with the surrounding hedgerows (reviewed by Schroth et al. 2000). Therefore, it appears that in temperate agricultural landscapes, hedgerows may increase the pressure of pests in the surrounding fields but that this risk seems limited to certain pest taxa. More knowledge about this potentially negative effect of hedgerows is needed. The spillover of pests from other types of semi-natural habitats such as flower strips and weed field margins has also been documented (Al Hassan et al. 2013).

Contrary to pests, the spillover of natural enemies and pollinators from hedgerows has been widely documented (Bianchi et al. 2006; Griffiths et al. 2007; Dainese et al. 2017; Lefebvre et al. 2017; Albrecht et al. 2020), making hedgerows desirable semi-natural habitats in agri-environmental schemes (Kleijn et al. 2006) (Batáry et al. 2010). Among natural enemies and pollinators, spillover has been documented for many taxa (Table 2).

Natural enemies and pollinators leaving hedgerows for adjacent fields tend to stay within a few dozen meters from the hedgerows. Gareau et al. (2013) found a high natural enemy to pest ratio in hedgerows but showed that this beneficial ratio disappeared less than 50 m into the fields. Table 2 reports 11 studies illustrating that the diversity of beneficial organisms dispersing from hedgerows to adjacent crops decreases with the distance to the crop. Most studies report that hedgerows do not have impact on the communities of beneficial arthropods beyond 200 m into the fields. Notable exceptions are values extrapolated from Garratt et al. (2017) regarding linyphiid spiders, staphylinid beetles, and aphids, while parasitoid wasps appear to disperse to any distance from the hedgerows (Table 2). These results may be attributable to the dispersal modes and abilities of the different taxa under consideration. Aphids (in their alate stage) and parasitoid wasps are minute insects that are passively dispersed by the wind and eventually intercepted by hedgerows (Roschewitz et al. 2005a), while linyphiid spiders and flying staphylinid beetles are also windborne and can disperse further than lycosid spiders and carabid beetles, which are mainly ground-dwelling organisms. Nevertheless, pollinators, which are all flying insects, do not appear to disperse further than 200 meters into the fields (Garratt et al. 2017). Holland et al. (2009) showed that the effects of post-overwintering dispersal from hedgerows tend to disappear in summer, except in close proximity to hedgerows. Albrecht et al. (2020) demonstrated that both pollination and pest control imputed to the spillover of beneficial arthropods decreased exponentially from the centre of semi-natural habitats (hedgerows or flower strips). These results suggest that the spillover of beneficial arthropods from hedgerows to adjacent fields does occur but could remain limited to the proximity of the hedgerows. This highlights the importance of the spatial arrangement of hedgerows in the landscape in order to increase biotic regulation services in crops.

Study	Organisms	Results	Distance
Tuovinen (1994)	Predatory mites	Spillover from hedgerows into adjacent fields	No data
Varchola and Dunn (2001)	Carabid beetles		
Debras et al. (2007)	Earwings		
Haenke et al. (2014)	Syrphid flies		
Dainese et al. (2015)	Tachinid flies		
Puech et al. (2015)	Parasitoid wasps		
Dainese et al. (2017)	Parasitoid wasps		
	Native bees		
	Syrphid flies		
	Butterflies		
Langer (2001)	Parasitoid wasps	Spillover from short rotation coppice hedgerows into adjacent barley field	20 m
Földesi and Kovács-Hostyánszki (2014)	Syrphid flies	Spillover from hedgerows into adjacent fields	20 m
Pollard 1972	Syrphid flies	Woodland species living in hedgerows and laying eggs into adjacent crops	30 m
Inclán et al. (2016)	Tachinid flies	Spillover from hedgerows into adjacent fields	40 m
Long et al. (1998)	Ladybirds	Spillover from hedgerows into adjacent fields	80 m
	Lacewings		
	Syrphid flies		
	Parasitoid wasps		
Garratt et al. (2017)	Lycosid spiders	Spillover from hedgerows into adjacent fields	60 - 80 m
	Native bees		100 - 150 m
	Syrphid flies		150 - 200 m
Fournier and Loreau (1999)	Carabid beetles	Hedgerows favour the diversity of carabid beetles in adjacent fields	100 m
Morandin and Kremen (2013)	Native bees	Spillover from hedgerows into adjacent fields	100 m
Morandin et al. (2014)	Parasitoid wasps	Pest control	100 m
	Ladybirds		> 200 m
Alignier et al. (2014)	Parasitoid wasps	Higher aphid parasitism near hedgerows	500 m
Garratt et al. (2017)	Linyphiid spiders	Spillover from hedgerows into adjacent fields	400 - 500 m
	Staphylinid beetles		700 - 800 m
	Cereal aphids		800 - 900 m

784
785 Table 2: Studies demonstrating the spatial effect of hedgerows on the spillover of beneficial
786 arthropods into adjacent crops. Some of the studies listed here provide quantitative data
787 regarding the dispersal distance of natural enemies and pests from hedgerows.
788

789
790 **5.2. Hedgerows provide biocontrol and pollination services to neighbouring fields but only**
791 **in specific conditions**
792

793 According to the “exporter hypothesis” (Morandin and Kremen 2013; Kremen et al. 2019;
794 Albrecht et al. 2020), the spillover of beneficial arthropods from semi-natural habitats to
795 adjacent fields should enhance pollination and biocontrol in these fields (Rusch et al. 2010;
796 Pywell et al. 2015; Tschumi et al. 2015). Hedgerows should therefore contribute to providing
797 adjacent crops with increased regulation services (Garibaldi et al. 2014; Schüepp et al. 2014;
798 Dainese et al. 2015; Dainese et al. 2017; Garratt et al. 2017). However, many studies
799 revealing the spillover of beneficial arthropods do not evaluate the consequences in terms of
800 regulation services. Therefore, as pointed out by Griffiths et al. (2008), most studies
801 demonstrate the potential for regulation rather than the actual regulation itself. Here we
802 investigate the actual regulation services provided by hedgerows, focusing on pollination and
803 pest biocontrol. We found several examples demonstrating increased biocontrol due to
804 hedgerows. Many of them can be categorised into two groups: studies showing successful
805 aphid regulation by parasitoids in annual crops (Alignier et al. 2014; Morandin et al. 2014),
806 and studies demonstrating increased biocontrol in orchards surrounded by hedgerows (Debras
807 et al. 2008; Ricci et al. 2011; Maalouly et al. 2013).
808

809 **5.2.1. Successful aphid regulation by hedgerow parasitoid wasps in annual crops**
810

811 We found two studies confirming the increased biocontrol of aphids by parasitoid wasps in
812 the vicinity of hedgerows. Alignier et al. (2014) showed that aphid parasitism was higher
813 close to hedgerows and up to 500 m into the investigated wheat fields. Morandin et al. (2014)

814 demonstrated that the parasitism of tomato aphids was higher up to 100 m into the fields.
815 They reported that few of the fields surrounded by hedgerows reached the threshold of pests
816 required for pesticide application (but attacks by aphids were quite limited during their study).

817

818 *5.2.2. Successful cases of biocontrol in orchards surrounded by hedgerows*

819

820 We found three studies demonstrating successful hedgerow-related biocontrol in orchards.
821 Debras et al. (2008) highlighted that populations of psyllids attacking pear trees were reduced
822 near hedgerows, probably due to the favourable microclimatic effect of hedgerows on natural
823 enemies. Ricci et al. (2011) showed that the presence of hedgerows reduced the number of
824 codling moth larvae on apple trees. Maalouly et al. (2013) showed that increased rates of
825 parasitism of codling moth in organic orchards were correlated with the presence of
826 hedgerows.

827

828 The above examples demonstrate that under certain conditions, the presence of hedgerows
829 near the crops is associated with increased biocontrol. Nevertheless, the movement of
830 beneficial organisms from hedgerows to fields, and thus their action, often occurs within a
831 few dozens of metres from the hedgerow. Thus, landscapes composed of smaller fields with a
832 low ratio of field area to hedge length should favour biocontrol processes. This is in line with
833 Meehan et al. (2011) and Larsen and Noack (2020), who show that agricultural landscapes
834 with smaller fields require less pesticide to regulate pests and are less variable from year to
835 year than homogeneous landscapes with large fields. These results suggest that in small fields
836 surrounded by semi-natural elements, including hedgerows, effective pest control may
837 naturally occur.

838

839 *5.2.3. Cases where spillover does not translate into enhanced biotic regulation services*

840

841 In contrast to the successful examples listed above, we found other cases that failed to
842 demonstrate increased pollination or pest control associated with the spillover of beneficial
843 arthropods. In the cereal fields studied by Dainese et al. (2017), biocontrol by natural enemies
844 was high but unrelated to the presence or complexity of hedgerows near the fields. Regarding
845 pollinators, Sardiñas and Kremen (2015) found that neither the presence of hedgerows nor
846 their distance impacted the pollination of sunflower crops, even though hedgerows support
847 diverse pollinator communities. More recently, Albrecht et al. (2020) conducted a meta-
848 analysis of the effectiveness of hedgerows to control pests and foster pollination. They
849 revealed that interstudy variability is such that hedgerows cannot be considered to reliably
850 increase pollination and biocontrol services in adjacent crops. Increased biocontrol and
851 pollination due to hedgerows thus appears to be case-specific.

852

853 ***5.3. Regulation services supported by hedgerows depend on the characteristics of crops, 854 hedgerows and beneficial organisms***

855

856 Although hedgerows inconsistently provide regulation services to neighbouring fields, other
857 types of semi-natural habitats or agroecological infrastructures have been reported to be more
858 successful (Holland et al. 2017; Raderschall et al. 2021): for example, beetle banks (Collins et
859 al. 2002), grass field margins (Rusch et al. 2010), and flower strips (Scheper et al. 2015;
860 Tschumi et al. 2015; Kleijn et al. 2019; Albrecht et al. 2020). Moreover, exclusion
861 experiments in the field provide numerous successful examples of biocontrol in crops (e.g.,
862 Schmidt et al. 2003; Rusch et al. 2013; Tamburini et al. 2016; Dainese et al. 2017). Therefore,
863 how can we explain the difference between hedgerows and other semi-natural elements? For

864 Albrecht et al. (2020), hedgerows do not foster intensive regulation services because they are
865 not designed for that purpose. Indeed, hedgerows are most of the time long-standing elements
866 in agricultural landscapes and their composition is the result of the natural dispersion of
867 species present in the surrounding natural habitats. In the contrary, flower strips specifically
868 designed to foster the presence of a few natural enemies in order to keep a few target pests at
869 bay successfully increase biocontrol.

870
871 The benefits conferred by hedgerows in terms of biocontrol and pollination depend on
872 whether the high spontaneous biodiversity of hedgerows can boost associated biodiversity in
873 nearby crops. Regulation services in crops may be provided by different biotic communities
874 than those housed by hedgerows. Hedgerows could improve regulation services in crops only
875 if some organisms belong to both communities or if the hedgerow community has a strong
876 positive impact on the field community.

877 878 *5.3.1. Differences in arthropod communities between cultivated crop fields and hedgerows*

879
880 Arthropod communities in hedgerows and fields planted with annual crops seem to be rather
881 distinct. Indeed, Sardiñas and Kremen (2015) and Dainese et al. (2015, 2017) demonstrated
882 that, although pollination and pest control services are provided in crops flanked by
883 hedgerows, hedgerows themselves contribute little to these services despite their high
884 pollinator and natural enemy diversity. This points to differences in the communities that
885 perform the same task in the two habitats. Moreover, Debras et al. (2006) highlighted that the
886 presence of hedgerows explains only 2% of the variance in biocontrol measured in crops
887 compared to 12% for agricultural practices and 30% for environmental variables. Langer
888 (2001) showed that different species of parasitoid wasps attack aphids in different habitats.
889 Many species in hedgerow communities are habitat-specialists. Paoletti et al. (1997) observed
890 that 40-50% of arthropod species in hedgerows and grass field margins are specific to either
891 habitat, compared to 20-40% in nearby fields. Griffiths et al. (2007) found that arthropod
892 communities in hedgerows, field edges, and fence edges differed from one another, with fence
893 edge communities, which include generalist predators and species with high dispersal
894 capabilities, being closer to field communities. Communities in degraded hedgerows
895 supported more unique species, species more vulnerable to habitat fragmentation, and species
896 with low dispersal power. This evidence points to relatively separate communities in
897 hedgerows and annual crop fields (but see Rand et al. 2006), although the degree of
898 resemblance depends on both crop and hedgerow characteristics.

899
900 Crop and hedgerow communities may be characterised by different dispersal traits. Forman
901 and Baudry (1984) indicate that carabid beetle communities in hedgerows include many forest
902 species. The numerous nocturnal predators and ground-dwelling light-intolerant species
903 requiring high vegetation cover are likely to move only a short distance into fields, contrary to
904 open-country species found in grass field margins and beetle banks (Pollard 1971; Pollard et
905 al. 1974; Collins et al. 2002). A similar limited dispersal of forest species in fields was found
906 for syrphid flies (Forman and Baudry 1984). Duelli et al. (1990). Bugg et al. (1998) separate
907 arthropod species into “hard-edge” and “soft-edge” species: the dispersal of the former is
908 strongly impeded by changes in the type of vegetation in fields, field edges, and hedgerows,
909 while the dispersal of the latter is not impacted by such changes. Duelli et al. (1990) showed
910 that many hedgerow species are “hard-edge” species and thus unlikely to disperse into fields,
911 while many field species are “soft-edge” species with high dispersal capabilities.

912

913 Finally, some studies suggest that the local biotic dynamics in crop fields are only marginally
914 impacted by the immigration of organisms from outside the field. Vialatte et al. (2007) found
915 a marked genetic difference between local (field) aphid populations and migrants on wheat.
916 This suggest that immigration levels were of lower significance than local field dynamics
917 during the cropping season.

918

919 *5.3.2. Orchards and hedgerows have similar beneficial arthropod communities*

920

921 Orchards represent a special case of crops in terms of interaction with hedgerows. Depending
922 on the tree species planted, hedgerows and orchards may display rather similar communities
923 of beneficial arthropods (Rieux et al. 1999; Debras et al. 2002; Maudsley et al. 2002; Miñarro
924 and Dapena 2003; Debras et al. 2007; Boreau de Roince et al. 2012; Miñarro and Prida 2013).
925 Moreover, hedgerow and orchard vegetations have low levels of contrast. Both factors should
926 thus facilitate movements of beneficial arthropods between hedgerows and orchards (Duelli et
927 al. 1990; Rand et al. 2006; Schellhorn et al. 2014; Inclán et al. 2016). And indeed, high levels
928 of arthropod movements have been recorded between the two habitats, either for foraging
929 during the vegetation season (Debras et al. 2007; Moerkens et al. 2010; Lefebvre et al. 2017)
930 or for overwintering (Sorribas et al. 2016; Peñalver-Cruz et al. 2020). These movements
931 increase the abundance of beneficial arthropods and affect their distribution in orchards
932 (Debras et al. 2008; Ricci et al. 2011), especially compared to isolated trees (Schüepp et al.
933 2014). According to the “exporter hypothesis”, these movements should result in higher levels
934 of pest control (Debras et al. 2008; Ricci et al. 2011; Maalouly et al. 2013).

935

936 In this example, pollination and pest control are provided by mobile beneficial arthropods that
937 belong to both the spontaneous biodiversity of hedgerows and the associated biodiversity of
938 orchards.

939

940 *5,3,3 Hedgerows ensure temporal continuity of resource availability for some beneficial* 941 *arthropods*

942

943 Several studies have demonstrated the positive impact of hedgerows on the rate of pest
944 parasitism by parasitoid wasps in both orchards (Ricci et al. 2011; Maalouly et al. 2013) and
945 annual crops (Alignier et al. 2014; Morandin et al. 2014). At the landscape scale, parasitoids
946 usually form metapopulations driven by habitat fragmentation and dispersal (Rusch et al.
947 2010), which makes them highly sensitive to the proportion of suitable habitat and host
948 density in the landscape (Hirzel et al. 2007). Dispersal between favourable habitats is usually
949 not a limiting factor for parasitoid wasps. Given their small size, direct dispersal by these
950 insects is very limited (Weisser and Völkl 1997), although they can, like their aphid hosts,
951 disperse passively following wind gusts over several kilometres (Roschewitz et al. 2005a).
952 Habitat quality may, however, be more problematic. Parasitoid wasps are highly dependent on
953 flower nectar as an additional source of food (Maier 1981; Gagic et al. 2011; Puech et al.
954 2015). Indeed, nectar resources strongly increase the fitness of wasps in terms of survival
955 (Lavandero I et al. 2006), longevity (Wäckers 2001; Géneau et al. 2012), fecundity
956 (Tylianakis et al. 2004; Winkler et al. 2006), and parasitic efficacy (Baggen et al. 1999). The
957 rareness of flower resources in agricultural landscapes combined with the massive positive
958 effect of hedgerow flower resources on the fitness of parasitic wasps may explain why
959 hedgerows often increase their abundance and parasitic activity.

960

961 Another example of the high benefit of hedgerows for crop-associated biodiversity is the
962 presence of overwintering sites near crops. Many studies have demonstrated that the presence

963 of overwintering sites in close proximity to crops allows for the early colonisation of the crop
964 by natural enemies (Langer 2001; Varchola and Dunn 2001; Ponti et al. 2005; Alignier et al.
965 2014; Peñalver-Cruz et al. 2020). However, among these studies, only Alignier et al. (2014)
966 demonstrate the positive effect of hedgerows on aphid biocontrol in early spring (and not
967 afterwards). Here the positive impact of hedgerows is limited in time, and the local dynamics
968 of field populations later in the season conceal the effect of the post-overwintering
969 colonisation of the crop (Vialatte et al. 2007). Taking temporal aspects into account in
970 biocontrol dynamics is essential to ensure that biocontrol agents have sufficient resources
971 throughout the year (i.e., alternative prey and non-prey food resources, shelter,
972 overwintering and/or overwintering habitats) in order to be present at the right time with
973 respect to pest development (Le Gal et al. 2020; Iuliano and Gratton 2020).

974

975 ***5.4. Hedgerows contribute to landscape diversity, often enhancing regulation services***

976

977 So far, we have examined the effects of hedgerows on pollination and pest regulation at the
978 scale of the adjacent crop fields. However, just as hedgerows impact the movement of
979 spontaneous flora, insects, birds, or bats at the landscape scale, they also have a positive
980 impact on regulation services through increased landscape diversity or heterogeneity.

981

982 *5.4.1. Hedgerows provide pollination and biocontrol services through landscape* 983 *diversification*

984

985 Depending on the characteristics of the plants and beneficial organisms involved, hedgerows
986 promote pollination and biocontrol at the local scale (a few hundred metres at most).
987 However, the provision of such regulation services also depends on the landscape context,
988 broadly referred to as landscape complexity (Gurr et al. 2003; Tschardt et al. 2007; Rusch
989 et al. 2010). The complexity of agricultural landscapes is usually defined at the scale of a few
990 square kilometres (Cranmer 2004; Rusch et al. 2013) and includes, among other variables,
991 crop diversity, land-use heterogeneity, abundance of natural and semi-natural elements, field
992 size, and landscape organisation and connectivity.

993

994 The positive effect of landscape heterogeneity on pollination and biocontrol leads to a greater
995 abundance and diversity of resources and shelter for beneficial organisms. Pywell et al. (2006)
996 showed that the richness of bumblebees, insects that feed almost exclusively on flower nectar,
997 was positively correlated to the abundance and richness of eudicots and land-use
998 heterogeneity. Similarly, Nicholls and Altieri (2013) highlighted that the greater abundance
999 and diversity of weeds increased the abundance and diversity of bees in crop fields. Regarding
1000 biocontrol, Griffiths et al. (2008) showed that landscape heterogeneity contributed to greater
1001 invertebrate (prey) diversity, and therefore, the increased effectiveness of natural enemies.
1002 Östman et al. (2001) stressed that landscape complexity increased the presence of
1003 overwintering habitats for natural enemies, leading to a reduction in aphid populations by
1004 natural enemies early in the season during aphid establishment. Many other studies have
1005 successfully linked landscape complexity to regulation services (e.g., Roschewitz et al. 2005b;
1006 Rusch et al. 2010; Gagic et al. 2011; Chaplin-Kramer and Kremen 2012; Rusch et al. 2013;
1007 Dainese et al. 2017; Raderschall et al. 2021). Hedgerows play an important part in this
1008 landscape diversification. Bianchi et al. (2006) demonstrated that the effect of hedgerows on
1009 natural enemies and pollinators depends on the complexity of the landscape, revealing the
1010 beneficial or neutral effects of hedgerows on natural enemies and pest biocontrol in 85% of
1011 analysed studies. Schüepp et al. (2014) showed that pollinators visited flower crops more
1012 often in landscapes with high amounts of hedgerows and woody habitats. Finally, Dainese et

1013 al. (2017) found that high landscape-scale hedgerow cover increased aphid parasitism by 6%,
1014 increased pollinator visits to crops, and subsequently increased crop seed set by 70%.

1015

1016 *5.4.2. Provision of regulation services by hedgerows depends on the landscape context*

1017

1018 The examples presented in the previous sections show that hedgerows have a positive impact
1019 on regulation services when they provide ecological functions that are necessary for the
1020 beneficial organisms but not (or not enough) found in the surrounding fields. This is likely to
1021 occur in simplified landscapes with few resources and depleted beneficial populations. In
1022 complex landscapes, however, where resources are more abundant and accessible, hedgerows
1023 may have less of an effect on beneficial arthropods. Following Tscharrntke et al. (2005) and
1024 Kleijn et al. (2011), the maximum effect of hedgerows and other semi-natural habitats occurs
1025 in landscapes of intermediate complexity, where landscape simplification is not too
1026 detrimental to beneficial organisms but where resources are sufficiently rare to make a
1027 difference (Thies et al. 2005; Batáry et al. 2011; Scheper et al. 2013; Scheper et al. 2015;
1028 Raderschall et al. 2021).

1029

1030 To date, intensive agricultural landscapes have been increasingly simplified and pests are
1031 mostly controlled with pesticides. But, pesticides not only may prove to be increasingly
1032 ineffective and environmentally detrimental, but in addition they may also impact non-target
1033 organisms (Iyaniwura 1991; Pelosi et al. 2014; Zaller and Brühl 2019) and thus impede
1034 ecological functioning in such treated agroecosystems (Stanley et al. 2015; Prashar and Shah
1035 2016). [This raises several questions. What are the impacts of pesticides on hedgerow
1036 communities and associated biocontrol in landscapes where some fields are sprayed with
1037 pesticides and some are not? What roles do hedgerows play within an intensification gradient
1038 ranging from intensive agricultural landscapes to pesticide-free agroecological landscapes
1039 \(Bianchi et al. 2006; Chaplin-Kramer and Kremen 2012\)? How can we better understand and
1040 take into account the impacts of human management on hedgerow-related biocontrol \(Carvell
1041 et al. 2011; Dainese et al. 2017\)?](#)

1042

1043 Increasing functional biodiversity in complex agricultural landscapes can have synergistic
1044 effects with hedgerow-related regulation services. For example, more diverse communities of
1045 weeds and arthropods in crops may benefit more from the spillover of natural enemies from
1046 hedgerows (Roschewitz, Hücker, et al. 2005; (Gaba et al. 2010); Nicholls and Altieri 2013).
1047 Increased weed cover could increase the similarity between hedgerow and field communities,
1048 with the plant cover providing more shelter for woodland species (Forman and Baudry 1984).
1049 The combination of trees and annual crops may also enhance the abundance of natural
1050 enemies in annual crops by decreasing the contrast in vegetation structure between hedgerows
1051 and fields (Pumariño et al. 2015). Smaller fields and complex hedgerow networks may gain
1052 more from the spillover of beneficial organisms, especially if there are ways to make
1053 hedgerows more profitable for pollinators and natural enemies than for pests (Bhar and Fahrig
1054 1998; Le Gal et al. 2020). However, beyond the synergies highlighted above, pest regulation
1055 may be less effective in more diverse agroecosystems: some authors have shown that predator
1056 diversity sometimes leads to intraguild predation, which can result in less effective pest
1057 control (Finke and Denno 2004). Thus, more studies on pesticide-free cropping systems and
1058 diversified agricultural landscapes will be useful to better identify the impact and location of
1059 hedgerows in these more complex environments.

1060

1061

1062

1063 ***5.5. Hedgerows act as biotic barriers at the landscape scale***

1064
1065 Although we have seen in section 2.6 that hedgerows can act as corridors or stepping stones
1066 by contributing to the dispersal of certain organisms, they can also represent barriers for the
1067 dispersal of others. In this case, hedgerows will be detrimental for certain components of
1068 spontaneous biodiversity such as some butterfly species (Fry 1994). Regarding associated
1069 biodiversity, hedgerows can hamper the dispersal of pests and of beneficial organisms alike.
1070 Reduced movements of carabid beetles (Duelli et al. 1990; Mauremooto et al. 1995; García et
1071 al. 2000; Maudsley et al. 2002) and syrphid flies (Wratten et al. 2003) have been documented,
1072 and also aphids (Marrou et al. 1979), wind-dispersed pathogenic fungi (Norton 1988; Mossu
1073 1990; Yamoah and Burleigh 1990; Badly and Strigler 1993; Schroth et al. 1995), and bacteria
1074 (Schroth et al. 2000).

1075
1076 Whether hedgerows act as corridors or barriers to this dispersal strongly depends on the
1077 dispersal characteristics and abilities of the organisms under consideration. Carabid beetles,
1078 which are stopped by hedgerows, are mostly ground-dwelling species sensitive to changes in
1079 the vegetation structure (“hard-edge” species from Duelli et al. 1990), while syrphid flies
1080 usually fly low over the vegetation (Wratten et al. 2003).

1081
1082 The relation between hedgerows, airborne pests (aphids, thrips), and diseases is less clear.
1083 These organisms are passively transported by the air currents. Aylor (1990) showed that in the
1084 case of pathogenic fungi such as rust, sudden gusts and turbulent air currents were usually
1085 necessary to pull the spores off and carry them away. Hedgerow networks reduce the speed of
1086 wind (and thus the intensity of gusty winds), while they increase air turbulence between
1087 hedgerows (Forman and Baudry 1984). Although hedgerows intercept wind-blown particles,
1088 the drop in wind speed on both sides favours air sinking and possibly particle deposition
1089 around the hedgerow, especially on the leeward side where the microclimate is more humid
1090 and potentially more favourable to pathogens. The same holds true for insects, which, once
1091 intercepted by hedgerows, can disperse from hedgerows into adjacent fields, especially near
1092 the hedgerow where the wind speed is substantially reduced. Most of the successful examples
1093 in the literature (Mossu 1990; Yamoah and Burleigh 1990; Badly and Strigler 1993; Schroth
1094 et al. 1995; Schroth et al. 2000) relate to tropical agroforestry systems (alley cropping) where
1095 hedgerows are closely spaced (usually 5 metres apart). But more studies are needed to better
1096 understand the putative effect of hedgerows as barriers against air-blown pests and diseases
1097 for temperate annual crops, for which the effect of hedgerows on wind-blown pests remains
1098 unclear.

1099
1100 The negative effect of hedgerows on the dispersal of some beneficial arthropods also remains
1101 unclear. Although carabid beetles such as *Nebria brevicollis* (Fabricius, 1792) do not appear
1102 to cross hedgerows, they need them for both oversummering and overwintering, and
1103 thereafter spill over from hedgerows to adjacent fields (García et al. 2000). Regarding syrphid
1104 flies, Wratten et al. (2003) suggested that hedgerows provide them with areas of calm air that
1105 represent a favourable foraging habitat. Moreover, it appears that the barrier effect exerted by
1106 hedgerows on these organisms depends on their sex and physiology: the dispersal of gravid
1107 females and starved individuals is much less hampered by hedgerows (Mauremooto et al.
1108 1995; Wratten et al. 2003).

1109
1110 It appears that hedgerows could act as corridors for some spontaneous species and as barriers
1111 for others, including emblematic species such as butterflies. The same holds true for
1112 associated biodiversity, although these relations require further study. There might be a trade-

1113 off between trapping pests in small fields surrounded by hedgerows but at the risk of
1114 preventing natural enemies from reaching it and allowing both pests and natural enemies to
1115 spread throughout the landscape. Recognising this trade-off, Bhar and Fahrig (1998)
1116 suggested that small fields surrounded by hedgerows combined with pest-suppressive crop
1117 rotations may constitute effective pest-regulation strategies. Here again, the relative
1118 importance of the different processes will depend on many factors such as soil, climatic
1119 conditions, crops or the structure of the landscape.

1120

1121 *5.6. Conclusion on the importance of hedgerows in providing regulation services*

1122

1123 Although phytophagous arthropods are abundant in hedgerows, few of them are currently of
1124 concern to adjacent crops, with the exception of some orchard pests and the agents of crop
1125 diseases that have alternative hosts in hedgerows. On the contrary, natural enemies appear
1126 quite abundant in hedgerows where they find prey, alternative food resources (nectar and
1127 pollen), shelter, and overwintering sites. In many cases, their high diversity in hedgerows is
1128 due to partial niche segregation, which allows organisms of the same guild to share space and
1129 resources with limited intraguild competition. Pollinator diversity is also high in hedgerows,
1130 but hedgerows may be less supportive of pollinator populations than other natural and semi-
1131 natural habitats such as flower stripes and meadows.

1132

1133 Few studies report actual positive impacts of hedgerows on biocontrol and pollination
1134 services. First, if hedgerows increase the diversity of natural enemies and pollinators, they do
1135 not necessarily increase their abundance. Second, although hedgerow pollinators and natural
1136 enemies readily spill over into crops, their increased diversity in crops remain often limited to
1137 the proximity of the hedge. When important spillover occurs, the subsequent increase in
1138 biocontrol and pollination appears to be case-specific and localised. Successful examples have
1139 however been reported with aphid regulation by hedgerow parasitoid wasps in annual crops
1140 and biocontrol in orchards surrounded by hedgerows. In the former case, hedgerows have a
1141 positive impact on regulation services, because they provide ecological functions that are
1142 necessary for the beneficial organisms but are not found in the surrounding fields. In the latter
1143 case, pollination and pest control are provided by mobile beneficial arthropods that belong to
1144 both the spontaneous biodiversity in hedgerows and the associated biodiversity of orchards. It
1145 therefore appears that the biocontrol and pollination benefits conferred by hedgerows depend
1146 on whether the high spontaneous biodiversity in hedgerows is able to boost the associated
1147 biodiversity in nearby crops. This raises the issue of the quality and the quantity of hedgerows
1148 necessary to enhance biotic regulation services at the landscape scale and that of their spatial
1149 distribution in relation to crops. Several modelling studies point to a positive relationship
1150 between the proportion of semi-natural habitats such as hedgerows and their proximity to
1151 crops and biocontrol (Delattre et al. 2019; Le Gal et al. 2020) These studies also highlight
1152 significant interactions between biocontrol and the life history traits of biocontrol agents
1153 (especially their dispersal abilities).

1154

1155

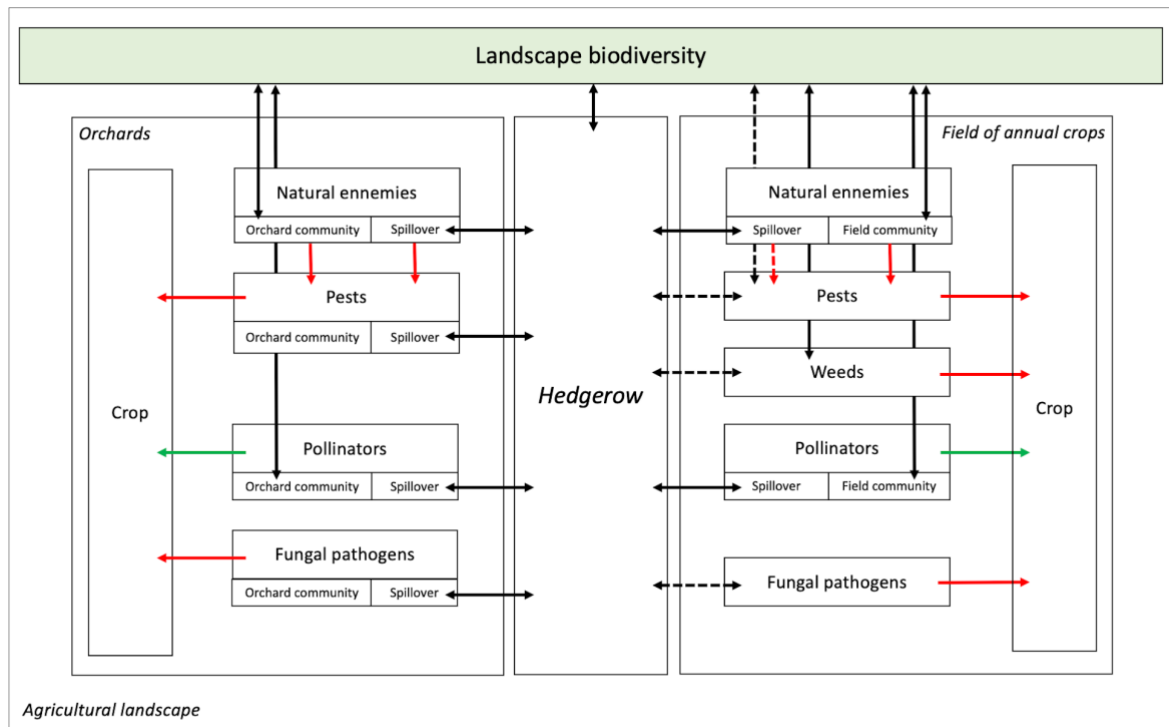
1156 **6. Conclusion and perspectives**

1157

1158 Hedgerows are uniquely diverse among semi-natural habitats, since they correspond to an
1159 ecotone between grasslands, shrublands, and woodlands. They can therefore play host to
1160 habitat-specialists from all three types of habitats as well as generalist species that can thrive
1161 from the diversity of their microhabitats. Wide and ancient hedgerows with diverse vegetation
1162 layers are particularly rich and are therefore key elements to promote spontaneous

1163 biodiversity. Such hedgerows are of particular importance for the protection of woodland
 1164 species in agricultural landscapes. Although the general decrease in biodiversity in
 1165 agricultural landscapes is well documented (Donald et al. 2001; Green et al. 2005; Butler et
 1166 al. 2007), few studies have attempted to quantify the impact of hedgerow destruction on this
 1167 decline (but see Staley et al. 2013).

1168
 1169



1170
 1171 Figure 3: Relations between associated biodiversity and biotic regulation services provided by
 1172 hedgerows in orchards and annual crop fields identified in our literature review. Black arrows
 1173 indicate the movement of organisms. Green and red arrows indicate positive and negative
 1174 relationships, respectively. Solid lines indicate robust relationships, and dotted lines indicate
 1175 putative relationships. This figure focusses on the effects of hedgerows on the biotic
 1176 regulation services that they provide in agriculture: interactions between the functional groups
 1177 of organisms represented here are purposefully not depicted in this figure.

1178
 1179
 1180 Hedgerows accommodate many taxa, some of which are crop pests, their natural enemies,
 1181 weeds, and pollinators. The movements of these organisms between hedgerows and adjacent
 1182 fields appear to be determined by the vegetation characteristics of both habitats such as plant
 1183 composition, vegetation structure, and presence of trees. Certain life-history traits of the
 1184 organisms are also determinant for these movements: for example, dispersal ability, need for
 1185 overwintering sites, or alternative food resources. Crop pests and weeds appear to gain little
 1186 from hedgerows, and the spillover of pests and weeds from hedgerows into adjacent fields
 1187 appears to be quite occasional (Figure 3). By contrast, the spillover of natural enemies and
 1188 pollinators is frequent but only associated with increased biotic regulation services under
 1189 specific conditions (Albrecht et al. 2020). The shared vegetation structure and mobile
 1190 arthropod communities between hedgerows and orchards lead to enhanced pollination and
 1191 pest control services in orchards (Debras et al. 2008; Ricci et al. 2011; Maalouly et al. 2013)
 1192 and, to a lesser extent, to increased spillover of pests (Figure 3). The strong positive impact of

1193 alternative floral resources of hedgerows on fragile metapopulations of short-lived parasitoid
1194 wasps also enhances pest control in adjacent crops (Alignier et al. 2014; Morandin et al.
1195 2014).

1196 In many situations, biotic regulation services are performed by different communities in fields
1197 and hedgerows, thus limiting their interactions (Figure 3). To understand the relationship
1198 between spontaneous and associated biodiversity in hedgerows and neighbouring fields, the
1199 specific ecological conditions and trophic networks of each system need to be studied. One
1200 robust conclusion, however, is that the plantation of hedgerows is not a solution to the
1201 enhancement of all pest regulation services in crops. **In some conditions**, it could even result
1202 in pest enhancement or **have** other antagonistic impacts. At the scale **of the agricultural**
1203 **landscape**, hedgerows can contribute to landscape diversification (Figure 3, Bianchi et al.
1204 2006; Dainese et al. 2017), in which the abundance of semi-natural habitats or the level of
1205 landscape heterogeneity is usually associated with the increased abundance of beneficial
1206 organisms (Pywell et al. 2006; Griffiths et al. 2008; Rusch et al. 2010; Dainese et al. 2017)
1207 and associated regulation services (Letourneau et al. 2011; Meehan et al. 2011; Chaplin-
1208 Kramer and Kremen 2012; Rusch et al. 2013; Larsen and Noack 2020). The fact that the same
1209 organisms may contribute to different ecological functions at different spatial scales blurs the
1210 contours of spontaneous and associated biodiversity. Though very useful, a classification of
1211 agroecosystem organisms into planned, associated, and spontaneous biodiversity could benefit
1212 from considering multiple ecological functions as well as multiple temporal and spatial scales.
1213 This raises the question of such a classification, **and** points to the **utility** for an integrated,
1214 functional, trait-related, spatially-structured, and systemic vision of agroecosystems.

1215
1216 We found that the majority of studies on hedgerows in agricultural contexts have been
1217 conducted in temperate regions of Western Europe and North America. Figure 3 should
1218 therefore be considered in that context (**intensive agriculture, simplified landscapes, broad use**
1219 **of pesticides**). **It is therefore important to question the results presented in this paper in the**
1220 **context of more diversified agroecological landscapes with less to no pesticide use. It is**
1221 **however interesting to note that** studies from tropical agroforestry focussing on alley cropping
1222 (at a distance of 5 metres between hedgerows of usually legume trees) yield similar results
1223 (reviewed by Schroth et al. 2000), suggesting that the ecological mechanisms identified in
1224 Figure 3 may occur in both temperate and tropical regions. A major difference, however, is
1225 that pest spillover from hedgerows is more frequent in alley cropping systems (Lal 1989;
1226 Grout and Richards 1990; Fernandes et al. 1993; Schroth et al. 1995), which **may be related to**
1227 **the proximity between hedgerows** and crops (small plots). This may **also** correspond to a
1228 general trend in agroforestry systems (Pumariño et al. 2015).

1229
1230 **Other types of semi-natural habitats than hedgerows (such as grass field margins or flower**
1231 **strips) seem to have a more widespread or more regular** effects on biotic regulation services.
1232 This difference may be due to the fact that hedgerows are rarely designed to provide such
1233 services (Albrecht et al. 2020); they rather correspond to pre-existing features in the landscape
1234 or are planted for other purposes (Dover 2019). Hedgerows have been shown to provide many
1235 other important ecosystem services (Dover 2019), not least of them, recreational, cultural, and
1236 educational resources. Some authors argue that hedgerows designed specifically to increase
1237 the abundance of beneficial organisms would be more successful for agricultural regulation
1238 services (Bugg et al. 1998; Simon et al. 2009; Holland et al. 2016; Holland et al. 2017).
1239 However, such managed hedgerows, **that will likely be less structurally complex and less**
1240 **diverse than old natural and unmanaged hedgerows**, may not be as effective for biodiversity
1241 **conservation**. Therefore, **some compromise might be necessary** between **preserving** ancient
1242 unmanaged hedgerows that are more favourable to spontaneous biodiversity on the one hand

1243 and [planting new](#) planned [and](#) managed hedgerows that are more favourable to associated
1244 biodiversity on the other. [Combining both types of hedgerows in the same landscape would](#)
1245 [probably help](#) boosting both aspects of biodiversity. Another approach could be to combine
1246 unmanaged hedgerows and other semi-natural habitats. Although hedgerows might be
1247 beneficial for different communities (Aviron et al. 2018), it has also been demonstrated that
1248 their positive effects depend on the landscape context (Bianchi et al. 2006; Garratt et al.
1249 2017). Synergies could be established between hedgerows and other agroecological
1250 infrastructures (Griffiths et al. 2008). For example, Hinsley and Bellamy (2000) found that
1251 hedgerows are more beneficial for birds when combined with landscape features such as
1252 headlands, verges, wildflower strips, well-vegetated banks, and ditches. Similarly, Paredes et
1253 al. (2013) observed synergistic effects between crop ground cover and adjacent vegetation on
1254 natural enemy abundance. However, the existence of such synergistic effects seems to be
1255 case-specific, since several authors failed to detect them between hedgerows and other types
1256 of field margins (Merckx et al. 2012; Dainese et al. 2015), or between hedgerows and organic
1257 farming (Batáry et al. 2010). More studies are therefore needed to identify the determinants of
1258 the hedgerow provision of biotic regulation services and their interactions with other semi-
1259 natural habitats and agroecological infrastructures. [Their impact in relation to adjacent](#)
1260 [farming systems should probably also be considered.](#)

1261
1262 [Our paper highlights the value of moving beyond the separation between the preservation of](#)
1263 [spontaneous biodiversity and the promotion of associated biodiversity for agricultural](#)
1264 [purposes. This separation is useful as a framework for disentangling ecological processes](#)
1265 [according to functional objectives. But the boundaries between the two types of biodiversity](#)
1266 [are in fact blurred and may vary depending on the conditions, systems, or scales being](#)
1267 [considered. Moreover, going beyond this framework could be useful from a philosophical](#)
1268 [point of view in order to rethink more constructive relationships between agriculture and](#)
1269 [biodiversity.](#)

1272 **7. Author contributions**

1273
1274 C.R. and P-A.P. designed the research. P-A.P. performed the research. C.R. and P-A.P. wrote
1275 the paper.

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1288 **9. Disclosure statement**

1289
1290 No potential competing interest was reported by the authors.

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1292

1293 **10. References**

1294

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