

A functional ecology approach to co-design crop mixtures

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European Scientific Conference

June 02 and 03, 2022 – Towards Pesticide Free Agriculture

A functional ecology approach to co-design crop mixtures Malick OUATTARA, Raphaël PAUT, Muriel VALANTIN-

MORISON, Safia MEDIENE



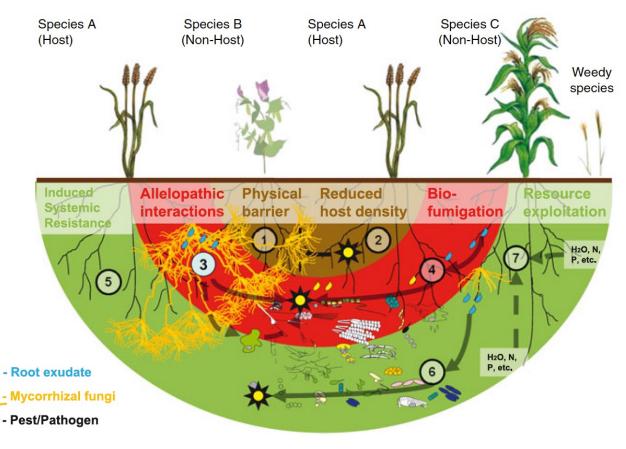








Why to promote a biodiversity-based agriculture ?



To increase ecological, biochemical and physical processus involved in plants natural defence mechanisms

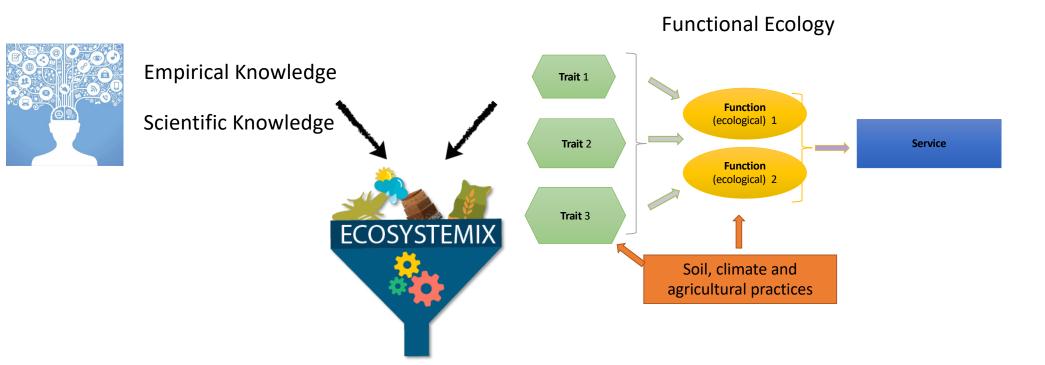
 But, many combinations between species are possible (Verret et al., 2020)

And little is known about how to mix species (and varieties) to provide ecosystem services

Ehrmann and Ritz, 2014



Need to produce knowledge and tools to help design crop mixtures



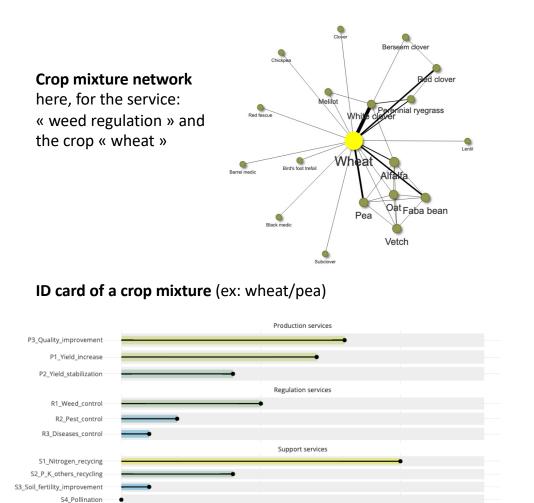
Classification of species mixtures according to their capacity to provide the expected services in the local production context





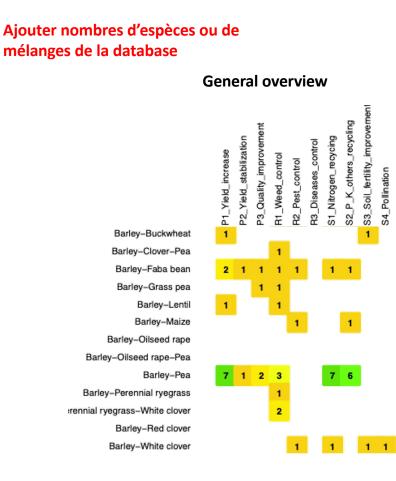
First outputs of the EcosysteMIX prototype

Online interactive database on crop mixtures: https://umr-agronomie.shinyapps.io/EcoSystemix/



5 Number of occurences

10



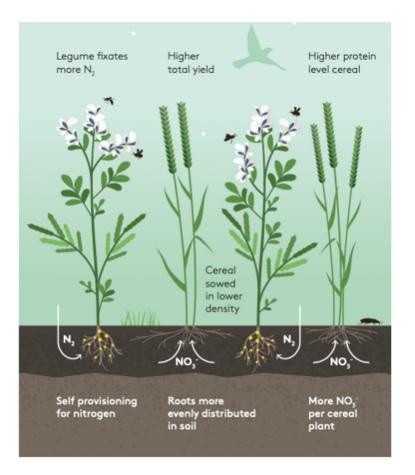
Pault et al., 2021

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Generic and functional representation of crop mixtures

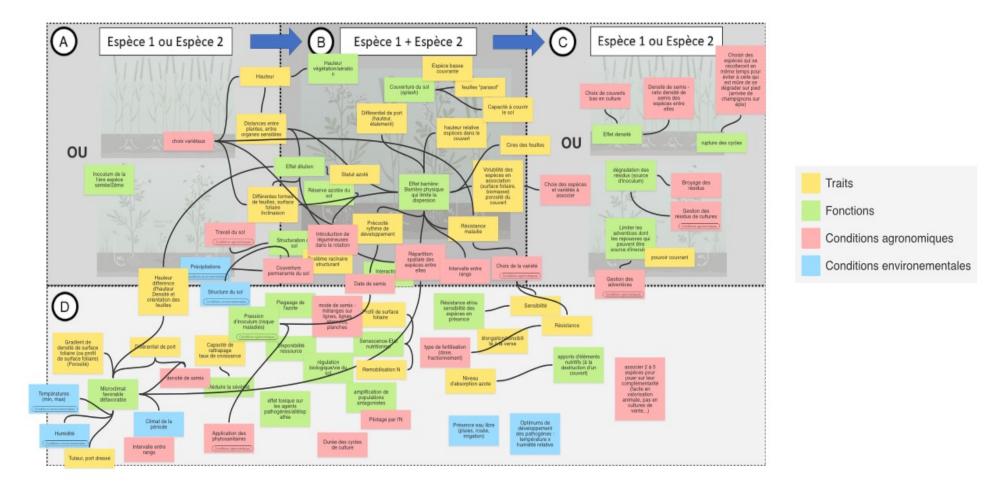


- Workshops with practitioners and scientists to share knowledge on plant mixtures
- >/5 ecosystem services:
 - >/Nitrogen recycling
 - Weed regulation
 - Pest regulation
 - >/Disease regulation
 - Production provisioning

Simultaneous cultivation of 2 or more species in the same plot during a significant period of their cycle (Willey, 1979)



Output of a workshop



Generic and functional representation of crop mixtures

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FRANCE22

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COMTE

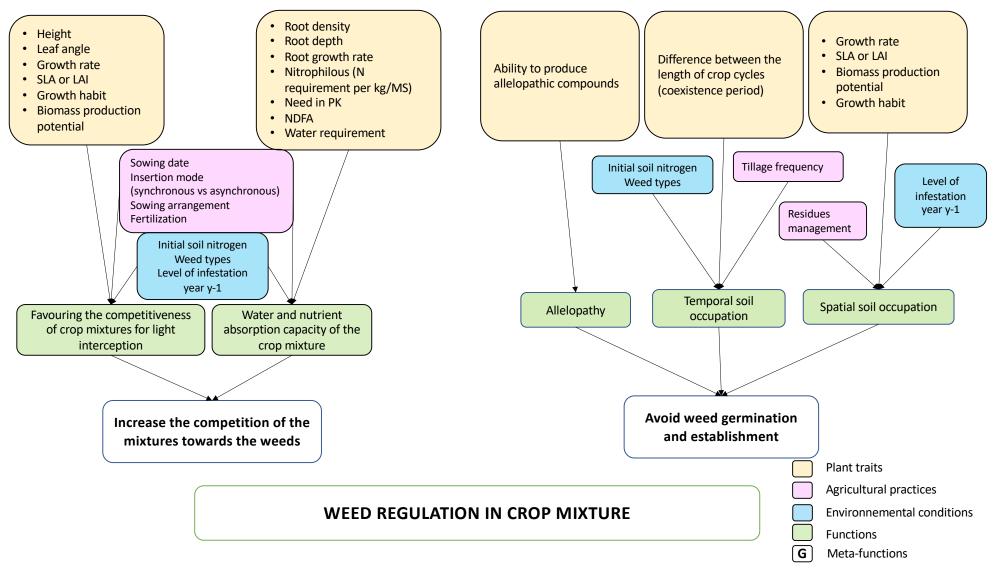
European Research Alliance

G R O W I N G PROTECTING

differently

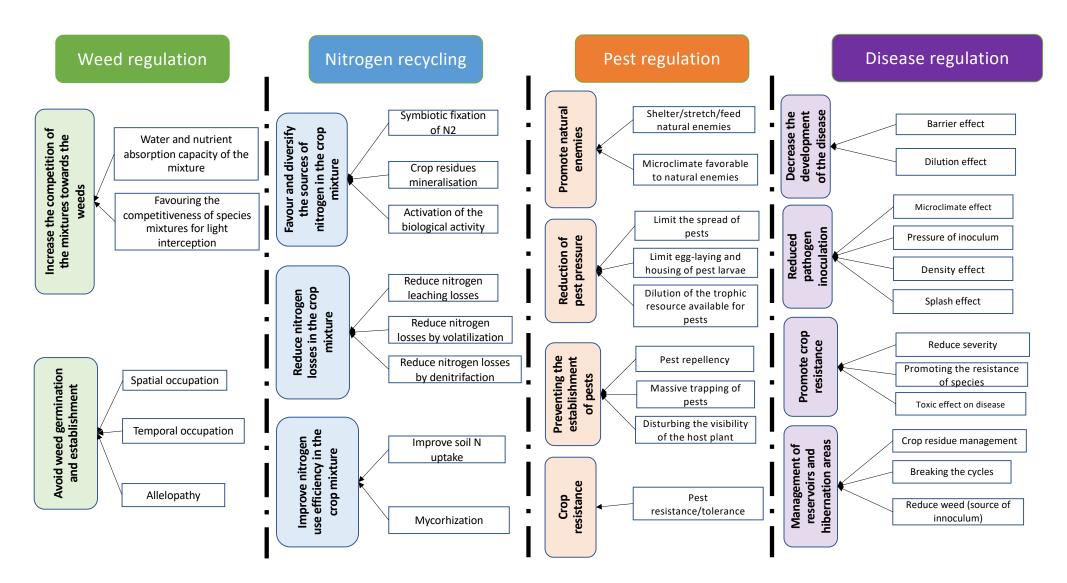
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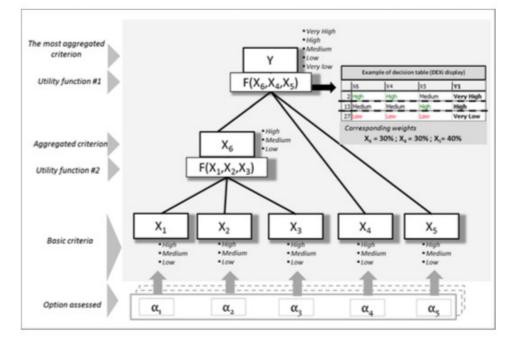
Main functions involved in 4 ecosystem services





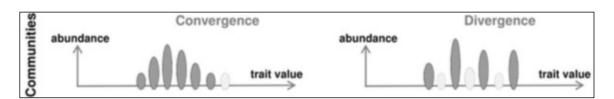
Next steps

- Validate and quantify the functional relationships Traits/Functions/Service
 - Qualitative hierarchical multiattribute model (ex. Dexi)
 - Knowledge elicitation (workshops, interviews, surveys)
 - Litterature / Database/experiment



Craheix et al., 2015

Assembly rules of traits in crop mixtures



in Loranger 2015, from de Bello et al., 2013



Thank you for your attention!

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