

# **Inra's input to the *Xylella* crisis**

**Research and possible solutions**

# Research at INRA on *Xylella* and its vectors

Characterization  
Genomic, Traits,  
Pathogenicity

**IRHS** Angers  
Institut de Recherche en  
Horticulture et Semences

- 6 researchers
- 2 PHDs
- 2 post doc
- 4 Research officers
- 7 technicians

Modelling  
Epidemiology

**390/Π**  
Biostatistique  
& Processus Spatiaux  
Avignon

**agap**

**CBGP**  
Montpellier

Vectors  
Characterization  
Ecology Modelling

## Funding

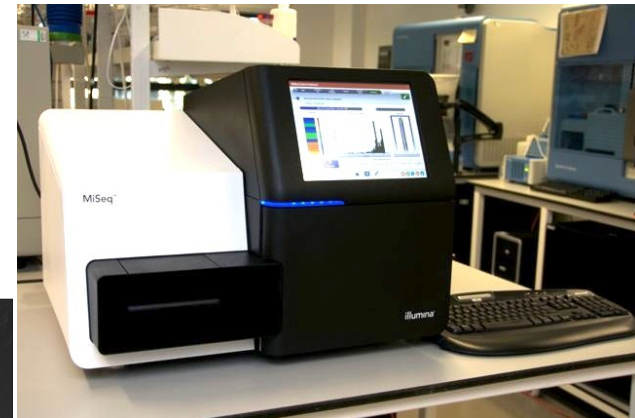
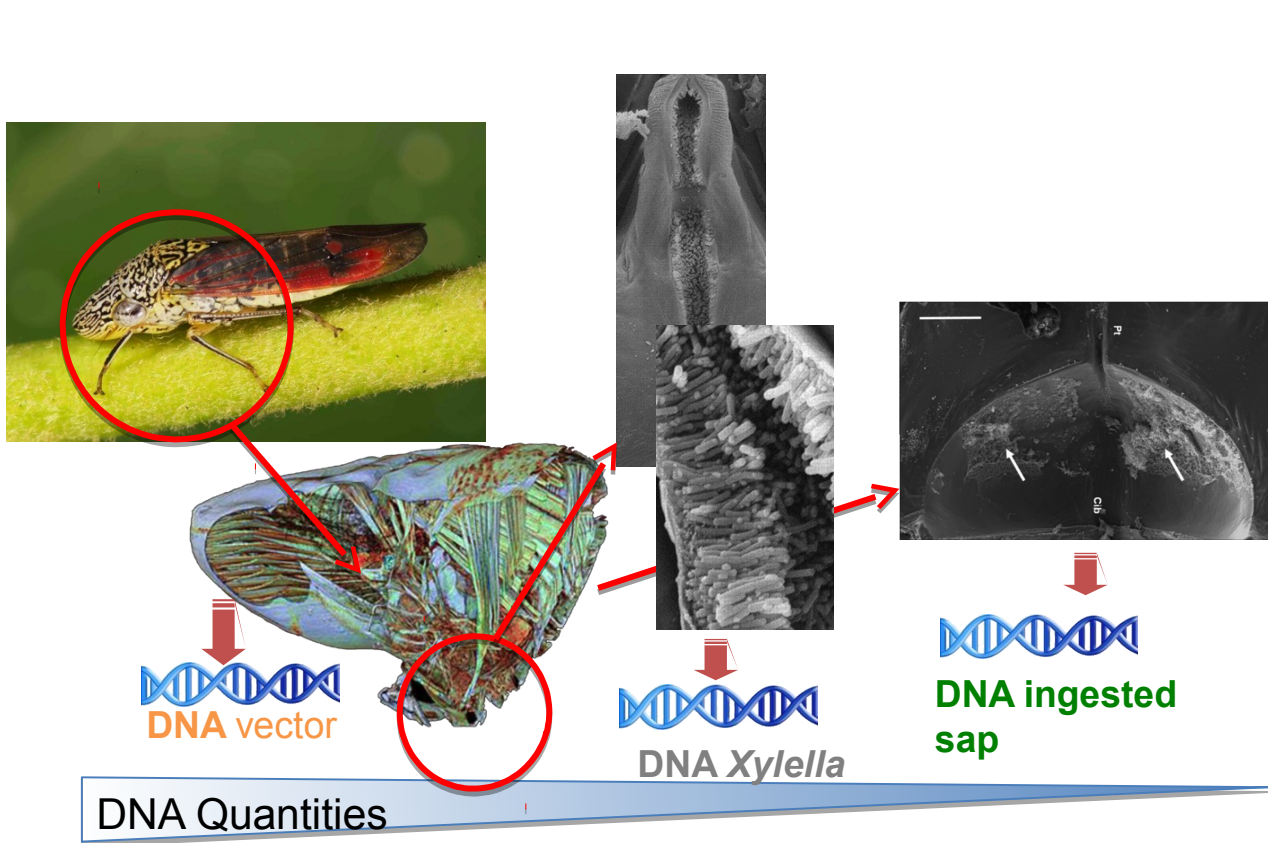


Xylella Fastidiosa Active Containment Through a multidisciplinary-Oriented Research Strategy



# New detection tools

High performance molecular tools to simultaneously sequence markers for the identification of vectors + plants they fed on + Xf strains



# Host range of *X. fastidiosa* strains present in France

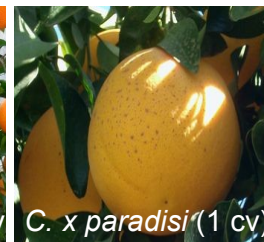
## Indicator species (Cv.) used as positive controls



## Plants of interest for the Loire Valley



## for the Mediterranean area



- **Confined S3 chambers**
- **Duration: 8 to 18 months**
- **7 strains** from the 4 major subsp: *fastidiosa*, *multiplex*, *pauca*, *sandyi*



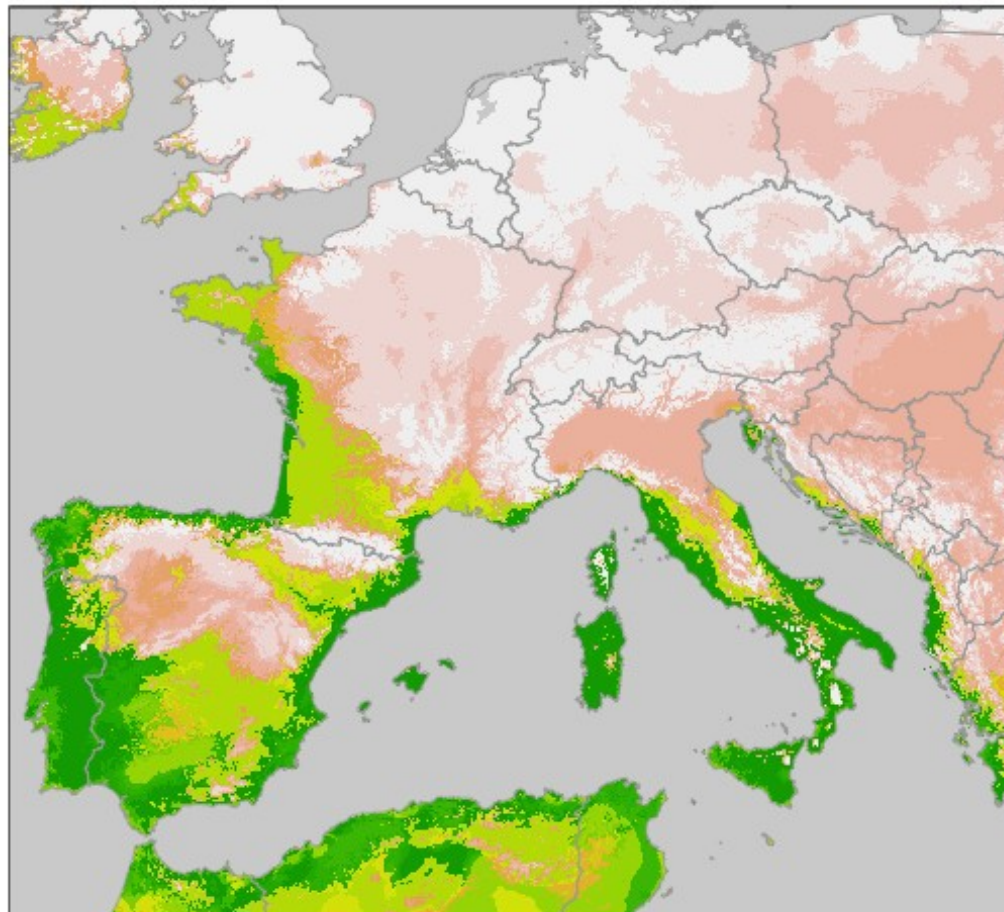
# Risk assessment : species distribution models

## Today

potential distribution of the bacterium and its vectors here based on *Xf multiplex* data

- risk assessment
- sampling schemes
- zones at risk

simultaneous analysis of the outputs of **21 models**

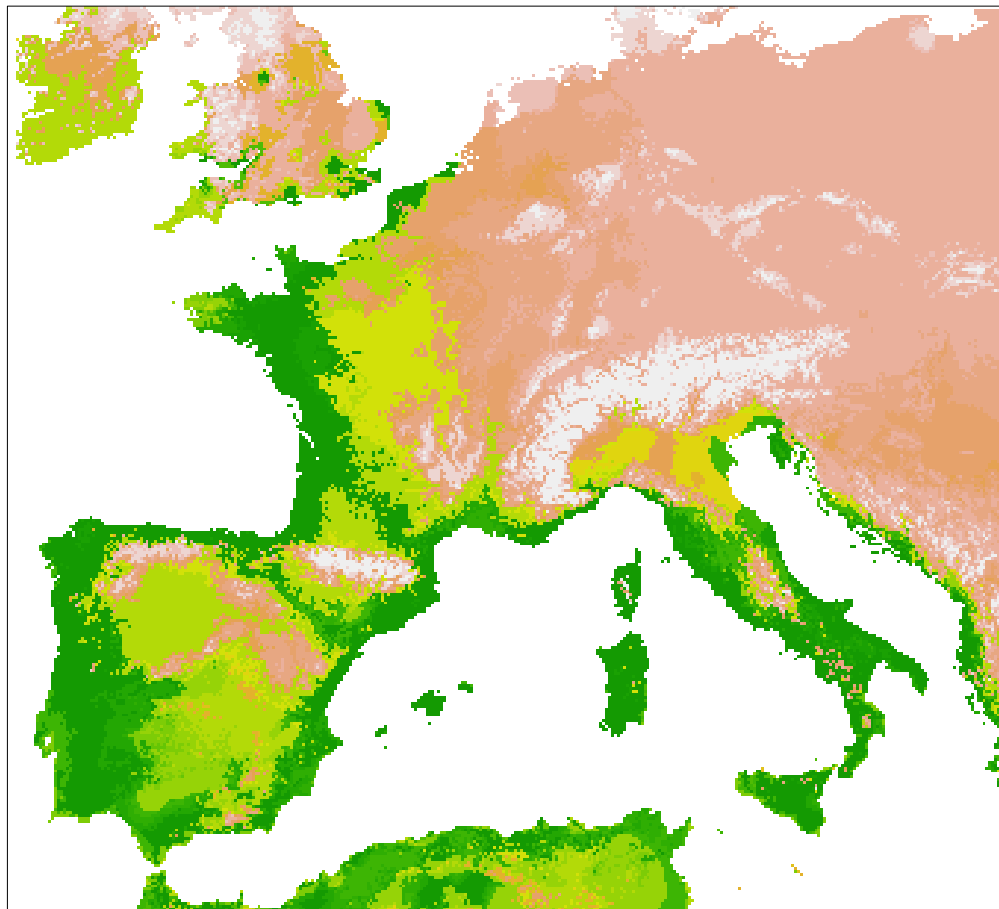


*Xylella fastidiosa subsp. multiplex*

# Risk assessment : species distribution models

2050

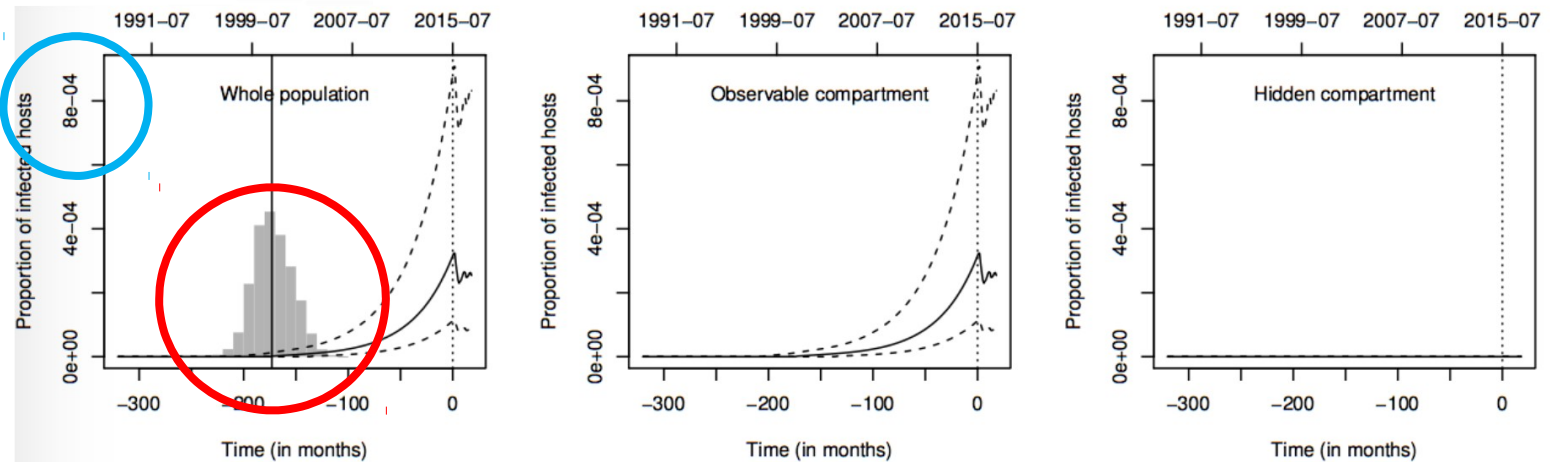
same map coupled  
with climate change  
model (Model MIROC5  
scenario 4.5 = moderate future  
greenhouse gas emissions)



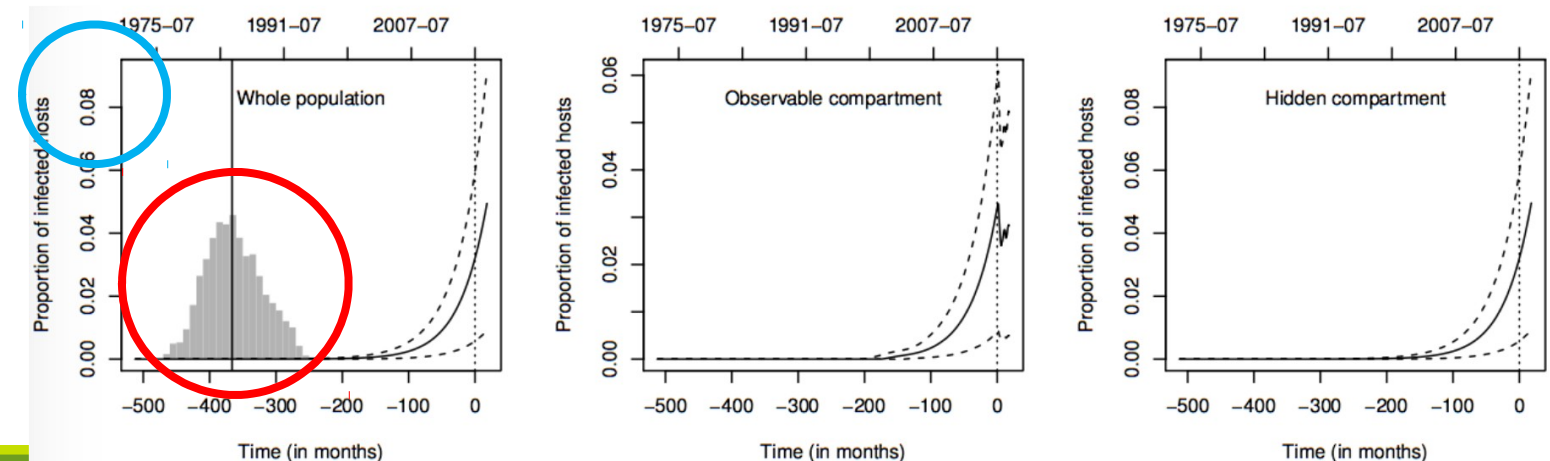
*Xylella fastidiosa subsp. multiplex*

# Epidemic models : suggest a hidden compartment

1- **without hidden compartment** : introduction **2001** (1985-2005) + low prevalence



2- **with hidden compartment** : introduction **1985** (1978-1993) + high prevalence



- hidden compartment hypothesis
- large potential habitat

eradication is not possible in the presence of an already established reservoir



we need to develop :

- local prophylactic practices
- large-scale risk assessment



# Eco-epidemiology of Xf in Corsica

**Coordinator :** Office de l'Environnement de la Corse

**Lead scientist** J.-Y. Rasplus

**Scientific committee :** University Corsica, INRA, Corsica Botanical conservatory

## Task 1. vectors of Xf in Corsica



Coord.  
J.C. Streito  
INRA Montpellier

### **Participants**

JY Rasplus INRA  
E. Pierre INRA  
M. Chartois INRA CDD  
MC. Ruiz OCIC Corte

### **Deliverables :**

- 1) Web interfaced database
- 2) Distribution of vectors
- 3) Phenology
- 4) Molecular identification
- 5) Endemism

## Task 2. feeding plants



Coord.  
L. Hugot  
CNBC Corte

### **Participants**

C. Panaiotis CBNC  
P. Spinosi CBNC  
I. Quiquerez CBNC CDD

### **Deliverables :**

- 1) Web interfaced database
- 2) Tools for the identification of sap ingested by insectes
- 3) Endemism, corsican heritage
- 4) Distribution of plants

## Task 3. Interactions plants – Xf -vectors



Coord.  
M. Gibernau  
Univ. Corse

### **Participants**

A. Cruaud INRA  
S. Santoni INRA  
PostDoc. J. Albre Uni Corte  
CDD DGAL. A.A. Gonzalez

### **Deliverables :**

- 1) Description of the networks of interactions
- 2) Behavioral ecology of insects through chemical ecology
- 3) Identification of chemicals emitted by plants (control the spread of Xf)

## Task 4. Risk assesment



Coord.  
JP Rossi  
INRA Montpellier

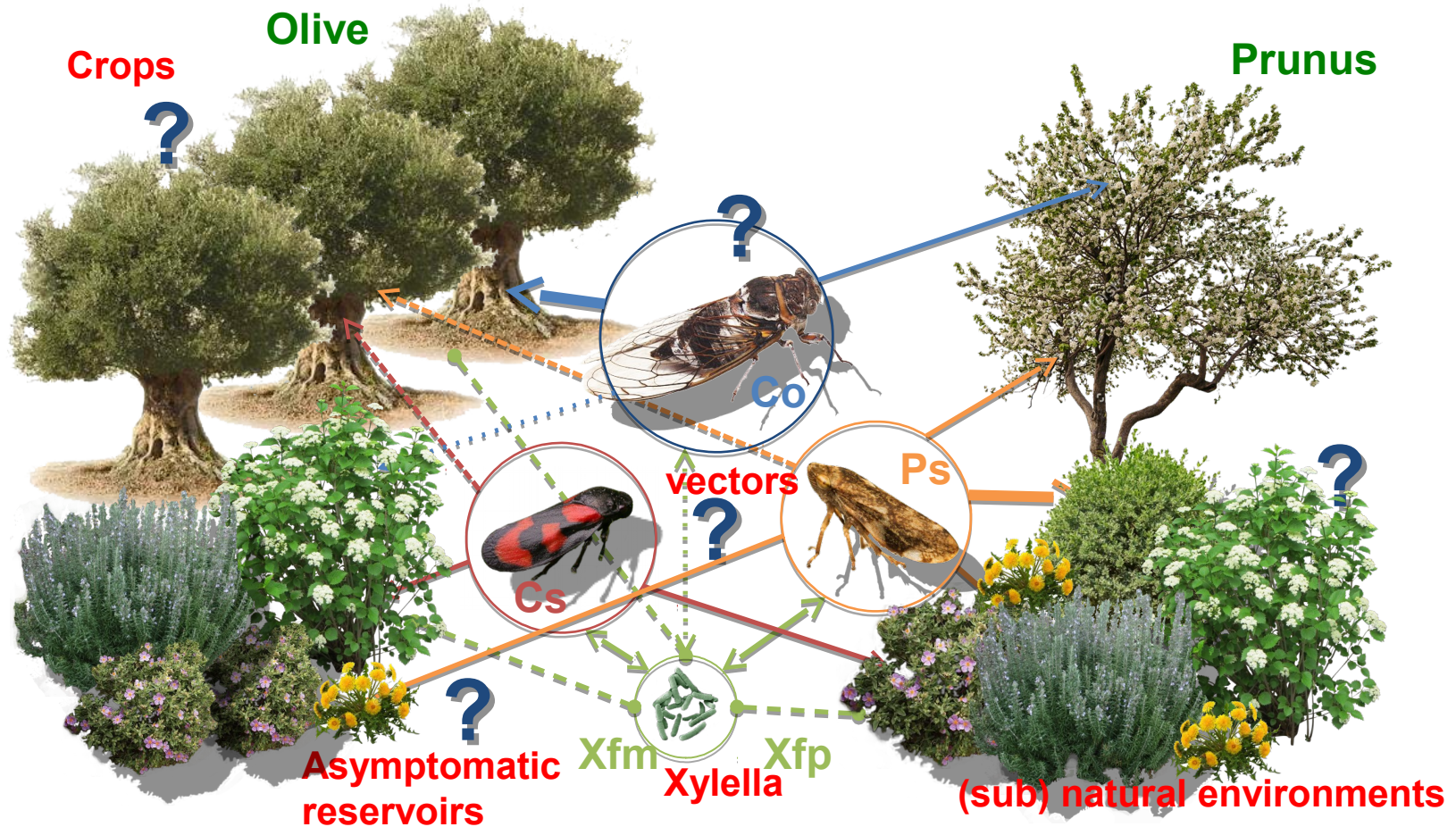
### **Participants**

M. Chartois INRA CDD  
CDD DGAL. M. Godefroid

### **Deliverables :**

- 1) Occurrence of the disease in Corsica
- 2) Prediction in a context of global change

# Ecological network : plants - vectors - bacteria

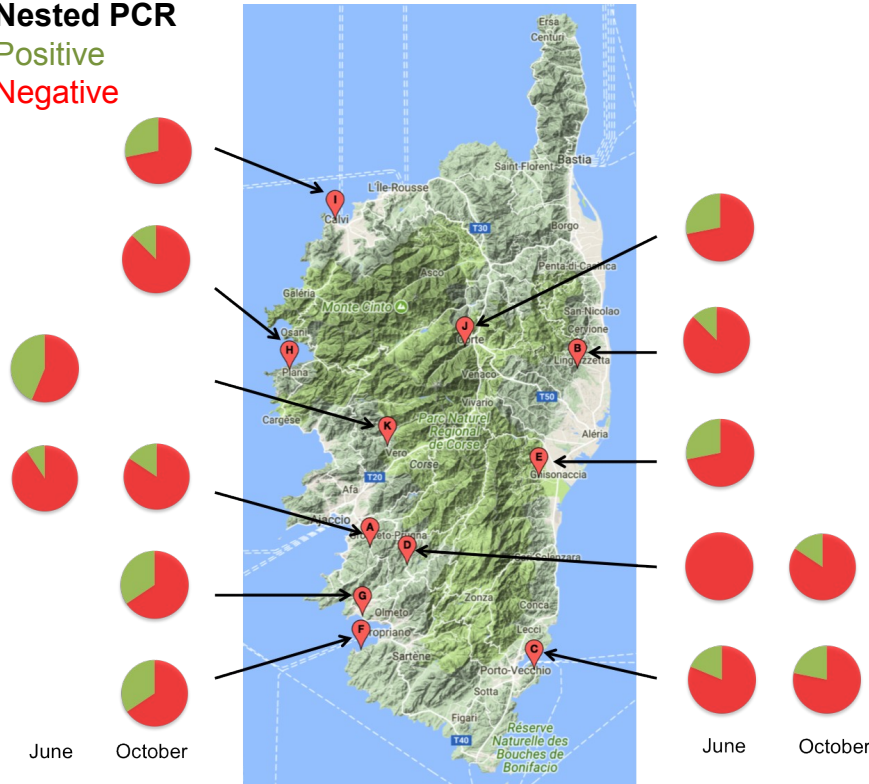


Deciphering ecological interactions using high-throughput molecular tools to develop strategies for disease management (→ **prophylactic practices**).

# "Spy insects" approach in Corsica

## Nested PCR

Positive  
Negative



insects used as sentinels to monitor Xf populations

→ general overview of Xf population

→ potential risk for plants

faster and easier than plant sampling and testing

Sampling without *a priori* using the most abundant vector *Philaenus spumarius*



# “Spy insects” approach - generalization

- use of insects as "sentinels" for Xf local prevalence
- need of collaborative European network using spy insects to assess Xf diversity and distribution in Europe



Geographical distribution of *Philaenus spumarius*

