



## Session E : treatment

**DéPLAssMétaux**  
**ExPELMetals project: using a  
polluted soil to produce  
essential oils**



## PLAN OF PRESENTATION



- Origin of the project
- The research project
  - Presentation of the site
  - The soil
  - Pollutants
- Research works
  - Lab's
  - Greenhouse
  - On field
- Results
- Conclusion



## PRELUDE

- The concept of remediation by phytoextraction comes from 2 facts
  - The existence of hyperaccumulative plants
  - Phytomining possibilities
- There, we can see 2 limitations:
  - Very accumulative plants produce a poor biomass
  - After mining the terrain isn't clean
- Thus, we have to explore a 3rd path



## The plant: odorant pelargonium sp.



- A rustic plant able to grow upon heavy metals contaminated soil
- Producing enough biomass
- Non-edible for humans and animals
- Enhances bioavailability of metals through acidification by root system



*Pelargonium attar of rose*



*Pelargonium Atomic Snowflake*



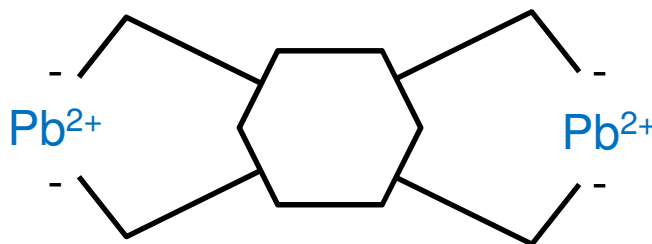
*Pelargonium Lady Plymouth*



## PRELIMINARY WORKS



- With ENSAT's students, upon soils from METALEUROP
- Hypothesis : phytoextraction is limited by the low availability of metals
- → addition of a chelating agent
- But, to prevent chelatant' and metals' spreading in the environment, it's necessary to collect the leachates at the bottom, upon a watertight complex





- Extracted metals were measured in plants and collected water
- analyses showed that most of the metals were found in leachates
- Example: extrapolation of the leaching rate of lead shows that we'll meet aims after 6 years of cultivation





## Projet DéPLAssMétaux ExPELmetals PROJECT



Démonstrateur de PhytoLixiviation Assistée des métaux  
Experimental PhytoEnhanced Lixiviation of Metals



- A raw budget of:
  - 570 221 € for the 5 partners during 4 years+ 1 prolongation



- granting:
  - Through the project call EcoIndustries,
  - 400 000 € are granted by ADEME





## PROJECT PARTNERS

Site Remediation company



Public entity  
Provide an urban site



Public Lab studying  
soils/plants/microbes  
relationship



Studies Office  
At pilot & industrial scales



Chemistry lab  
- EO Extraction  
- LCA

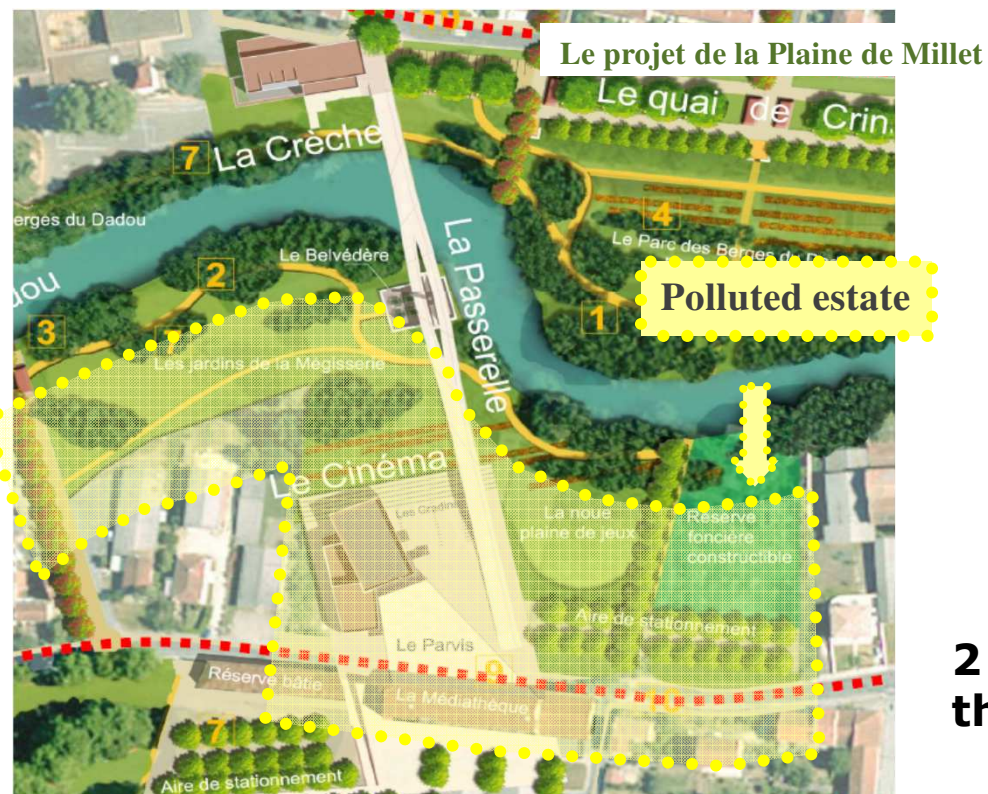




## SITE IN GRAULHET



Due to an heavy industrial past, the City of Graulhet started in 2008 an active remediation approach of industrial sites. 167 brownfields are identified; 2 are used in the Plaine de Millet rehabilitation project:



**2 persons involved in the project**



# THE PROJECT IN THE HEART OF WORKS



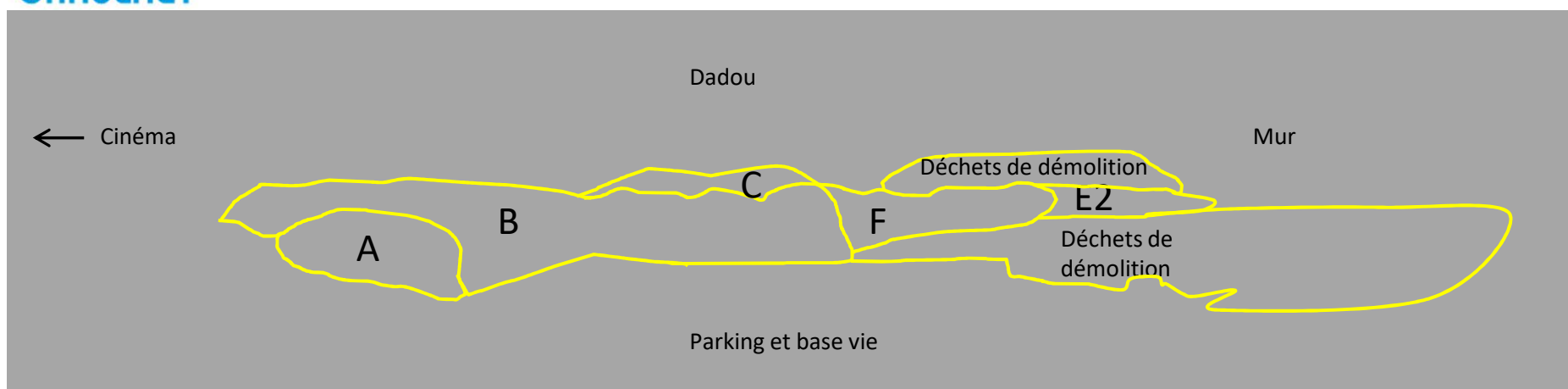


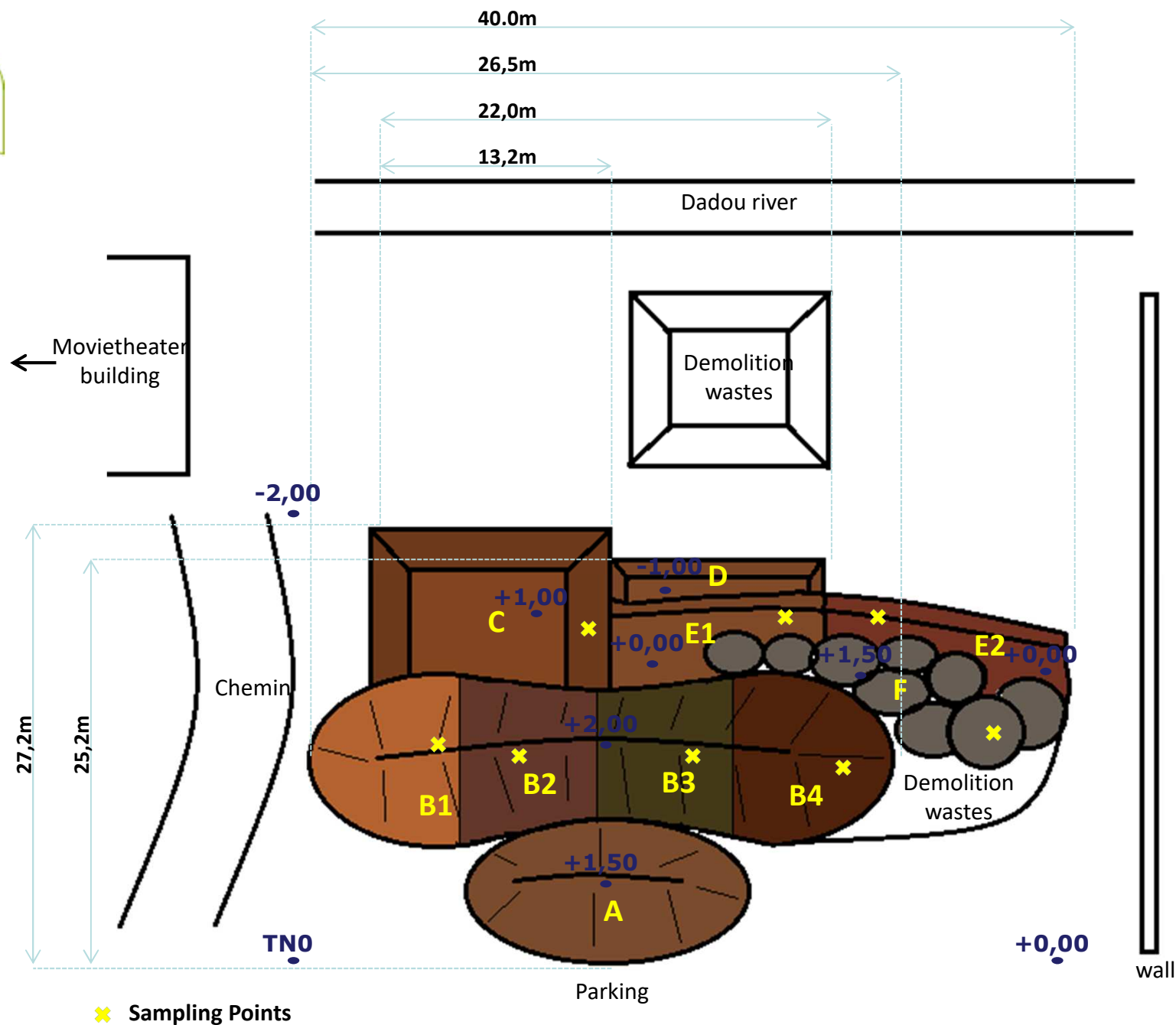


# POLLUTED SOILS



GRAULHET







# POLLUTED SOILS



METAUX		A	B1	B2	B3	B4	C	E1	E2	F	Bruit de fond ordinaire
arsenic	mg/kg MS	49	11	22	41	20	23	38	41	16	25
cadmium	mg/kg MS	0,27	0,2	1,2	0,4	0,39	2,4	0,42	0,29	0,34	0,45
chrome	mg/kg MS	14	22	28	36	64	31	64	140	48	90
cuivre	mg/kg MS	17	16	19	28	32	18	37	28	30	20
mercure	mg/kg MS	0,12	0,04	0,09	0,12	0,13	0,09	0,09	0,06	0,08	0,2
plomb	mg/kg MS	190	19	120	84	93	180	420	240	78	50
nickel	mg/kg MS	13	12	9,3	13	14	11	13	18	13	60
zinc	mg/kg MS	61	61	530	120	110	160	120	88	97	100

Légende :

- < bruit de fond
- > bruit de fond
- > 2×bruit de fond



## POLLUTED SOILS



Mixing C+E2 : silty soil, low permeability, water retention = 31,7%



Eléments trace métalliques	Concentration (mg/kg de MS)	Bruit de fond géochimique (mg/kg de MS)
Arsenic	21	25
Cadmium	0.47	0.45
Chrome	38	90
Cuivre	31	20
Plomb	98	50
Zinc	140	100

Légende

< bruit de fond

> bruit de fond

> 2×bruit de fond





# PREPARATION TESTS



## 1- IN THE LAB

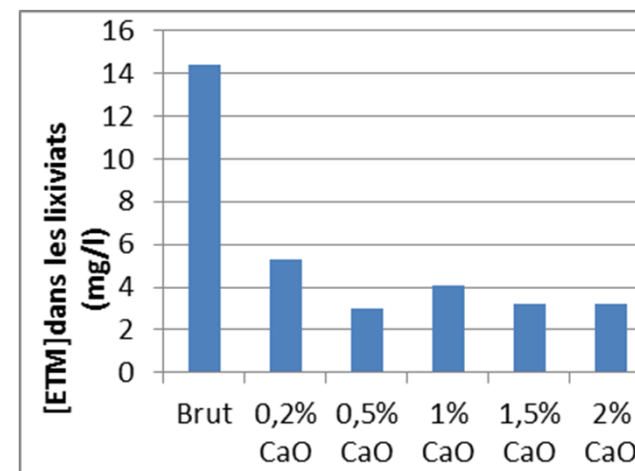
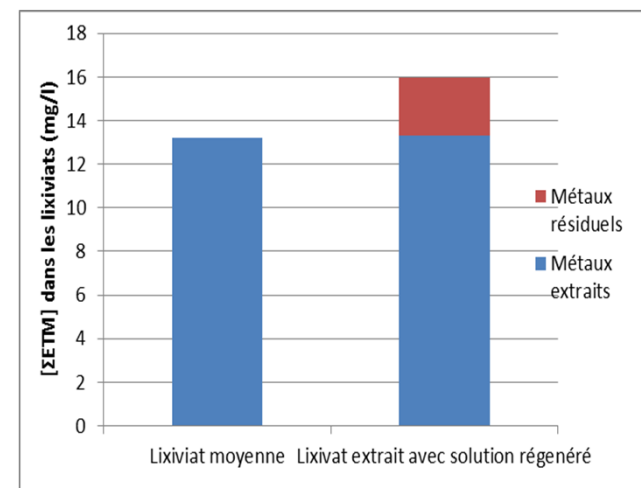
### ● Chelatant

- selection
- Dose
- Mode of addition
- Secondary effects
- Regeneration



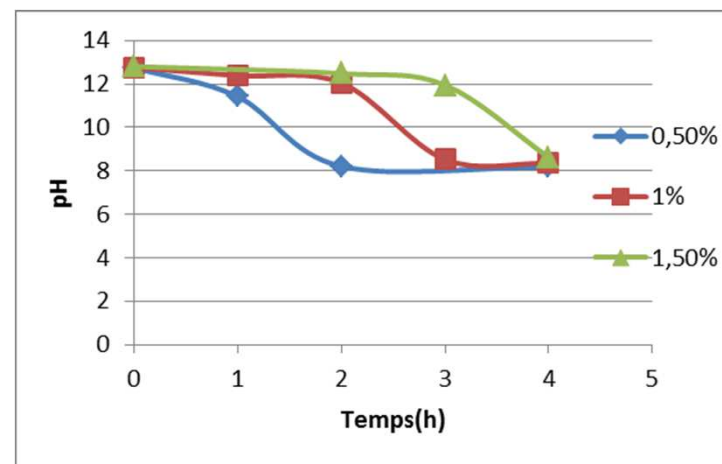
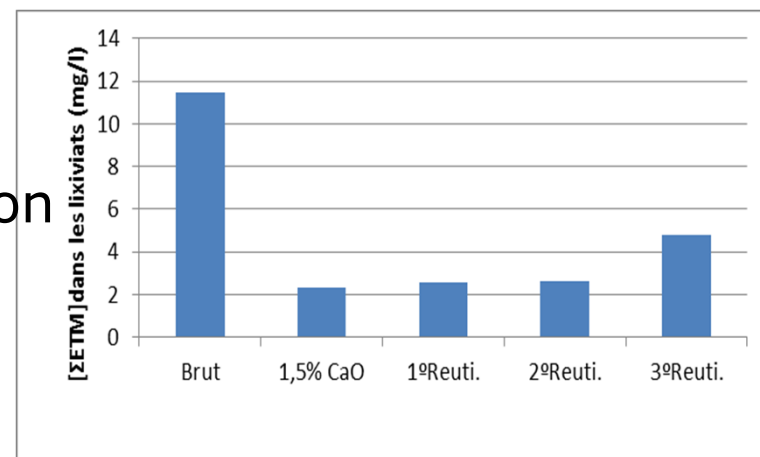
### ● Metals

- Extraction rate
- "harvesting" method
- Sampling rate



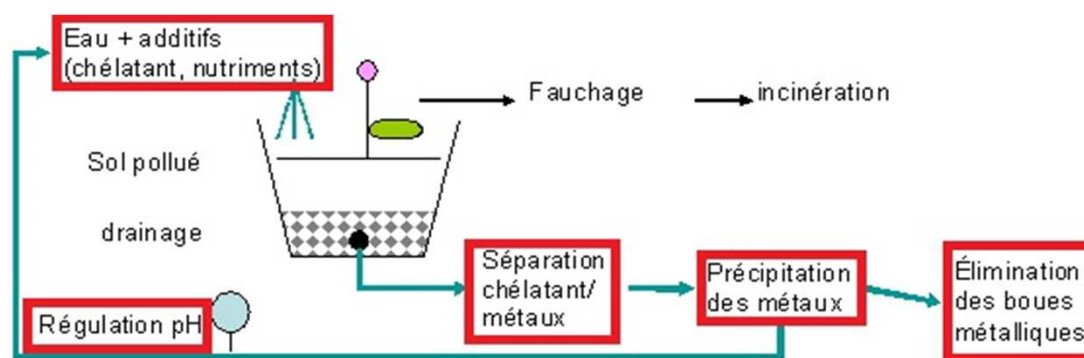
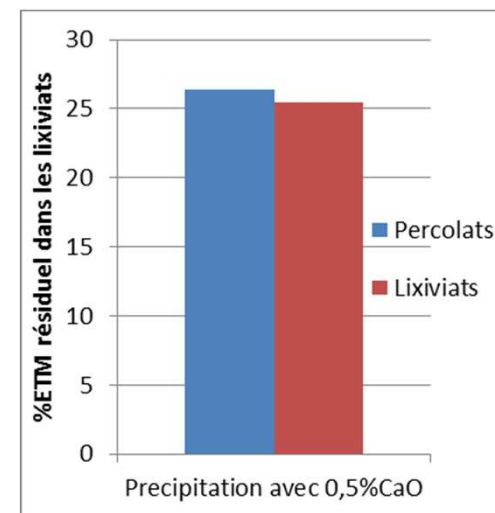
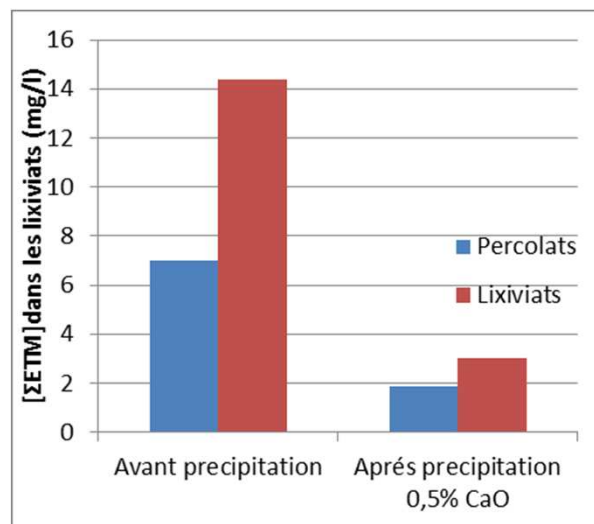
## 1- in the lab

- Precipitation with lime
  - Selection – mode of action
  - Dose, kinetics
  - implementation
  - Volume of sludges
- Neutralisation
  - HCl
  - carbonatation
  - duration
  - Buffer role of the soil





# PREPARATION TESTS

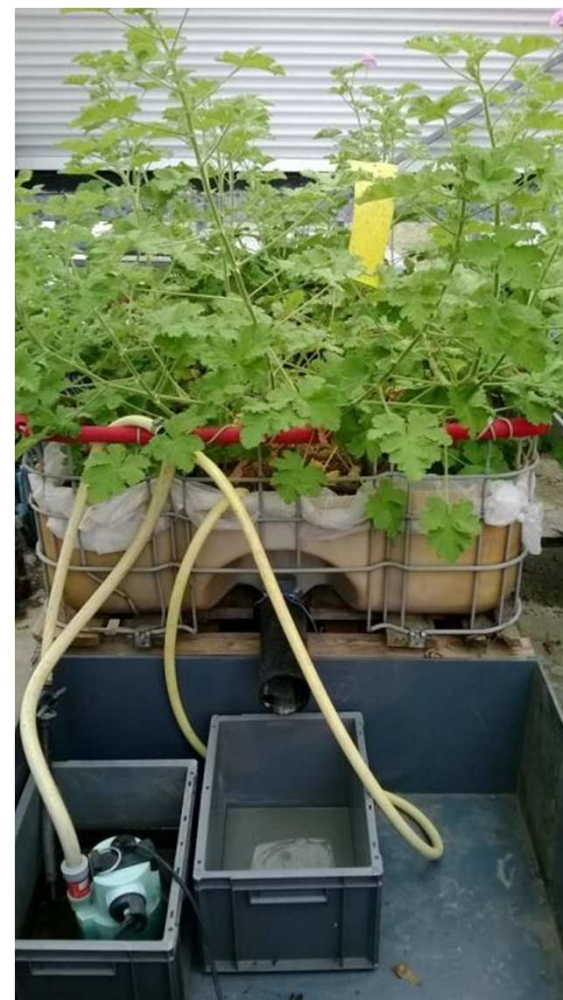




## PREPARATION TESTS



- 2- in greenhouse



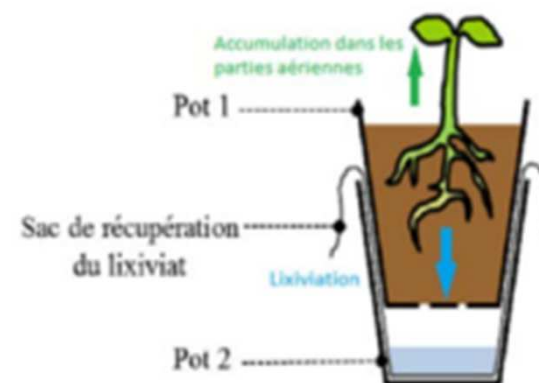




# PREPARATION TESTS



- 2 –in greenhouse

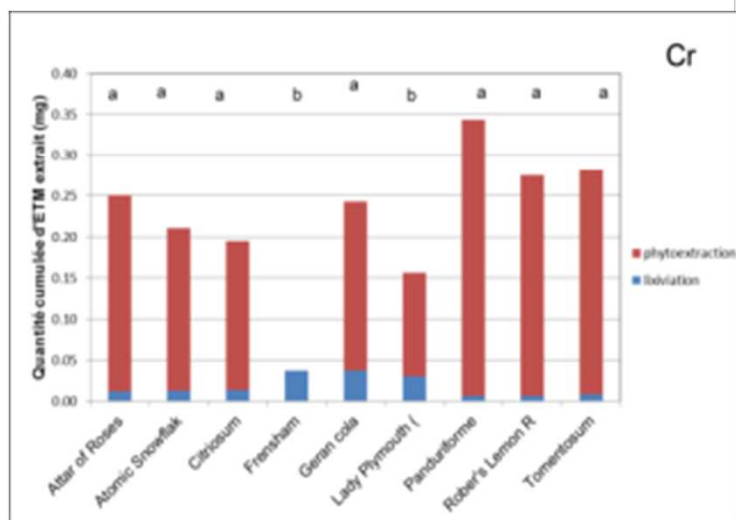
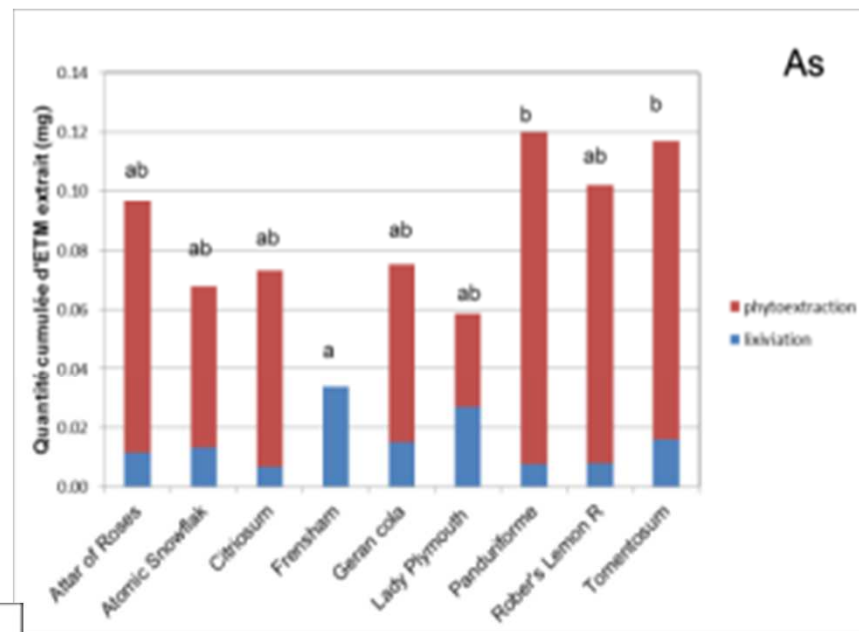




## PREPARATION TESTS



- 2 –in greenhouse
  - Phytoextraction / lixiviation



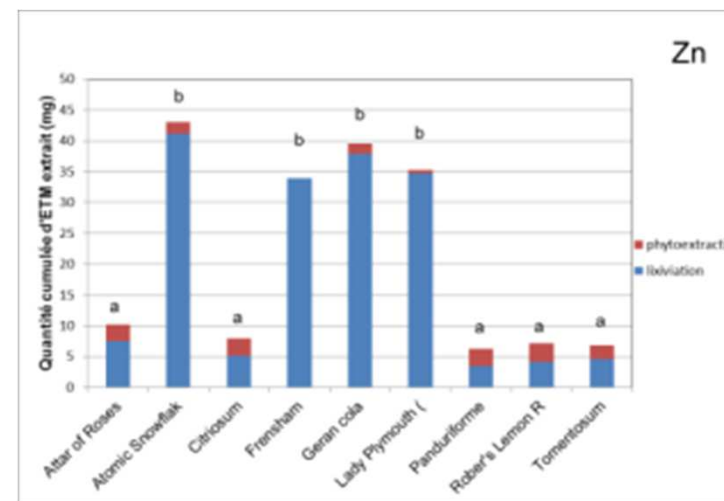
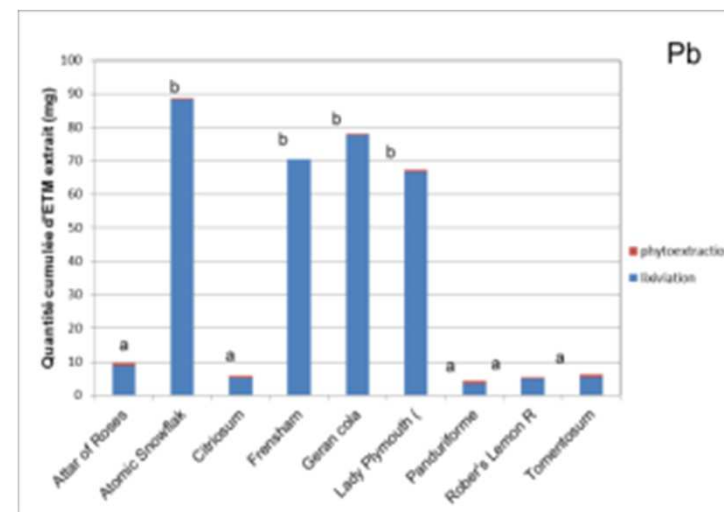
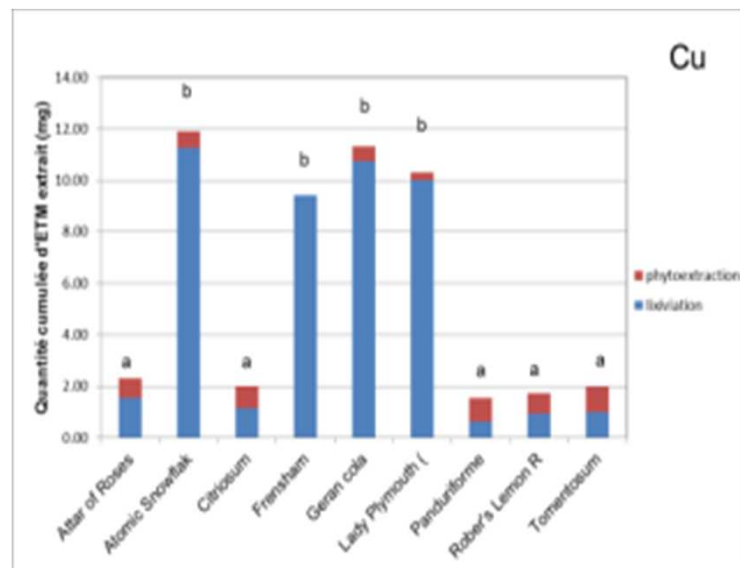




## PREPARATION TESTS



- 2 –in greenhouse
  - Phytoextraction / lixiviation

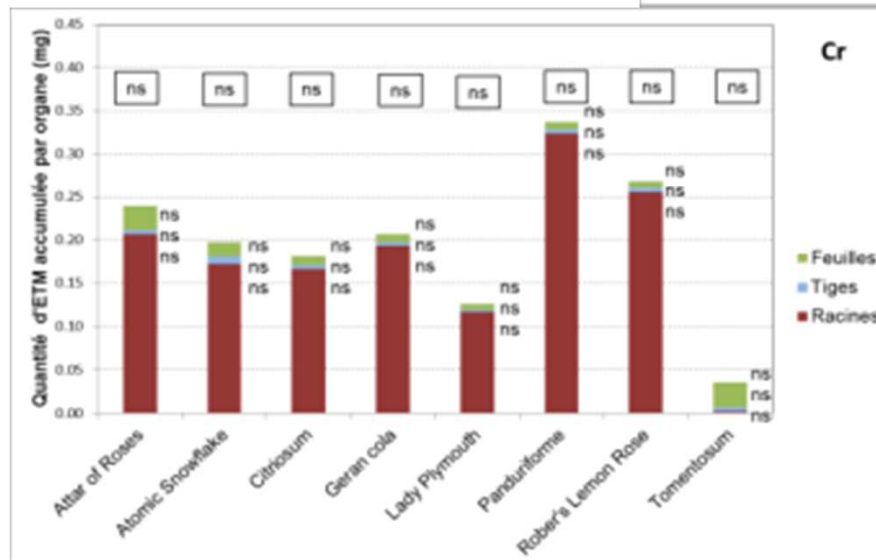
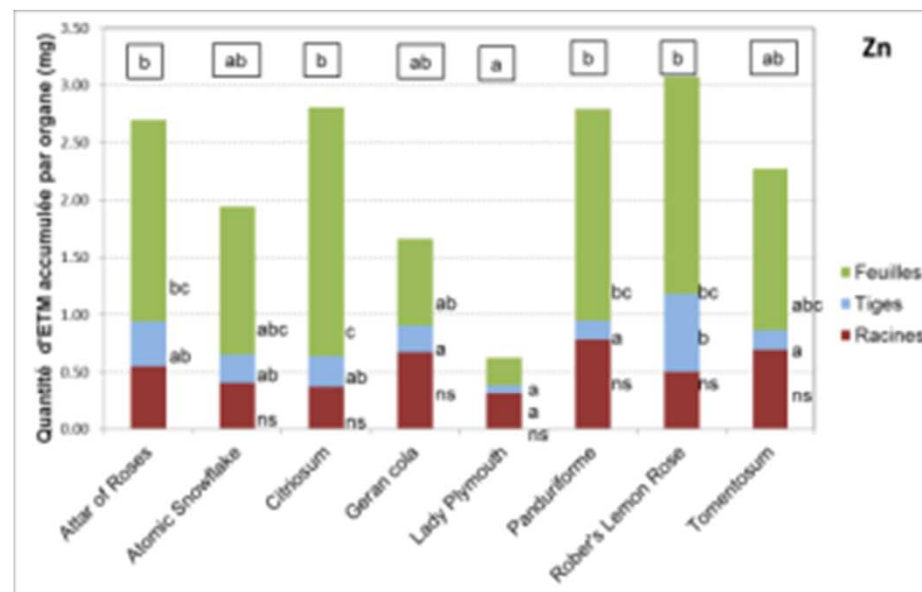




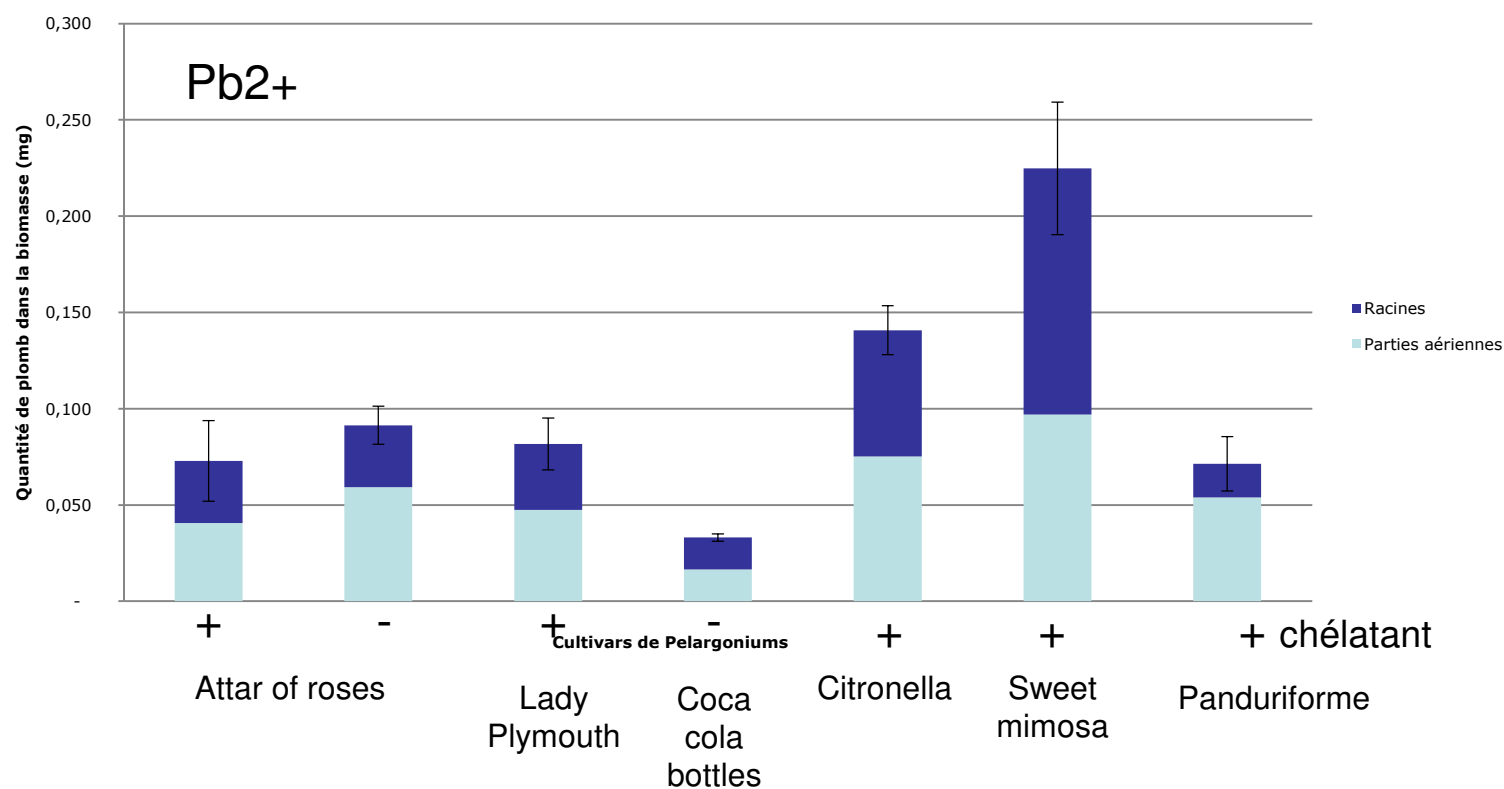
## PREPARATION TESTS



- 2 –in greenhouse
  - Sorting inside the plants



- 2 -in greenhouse
  - Accumulation in plants





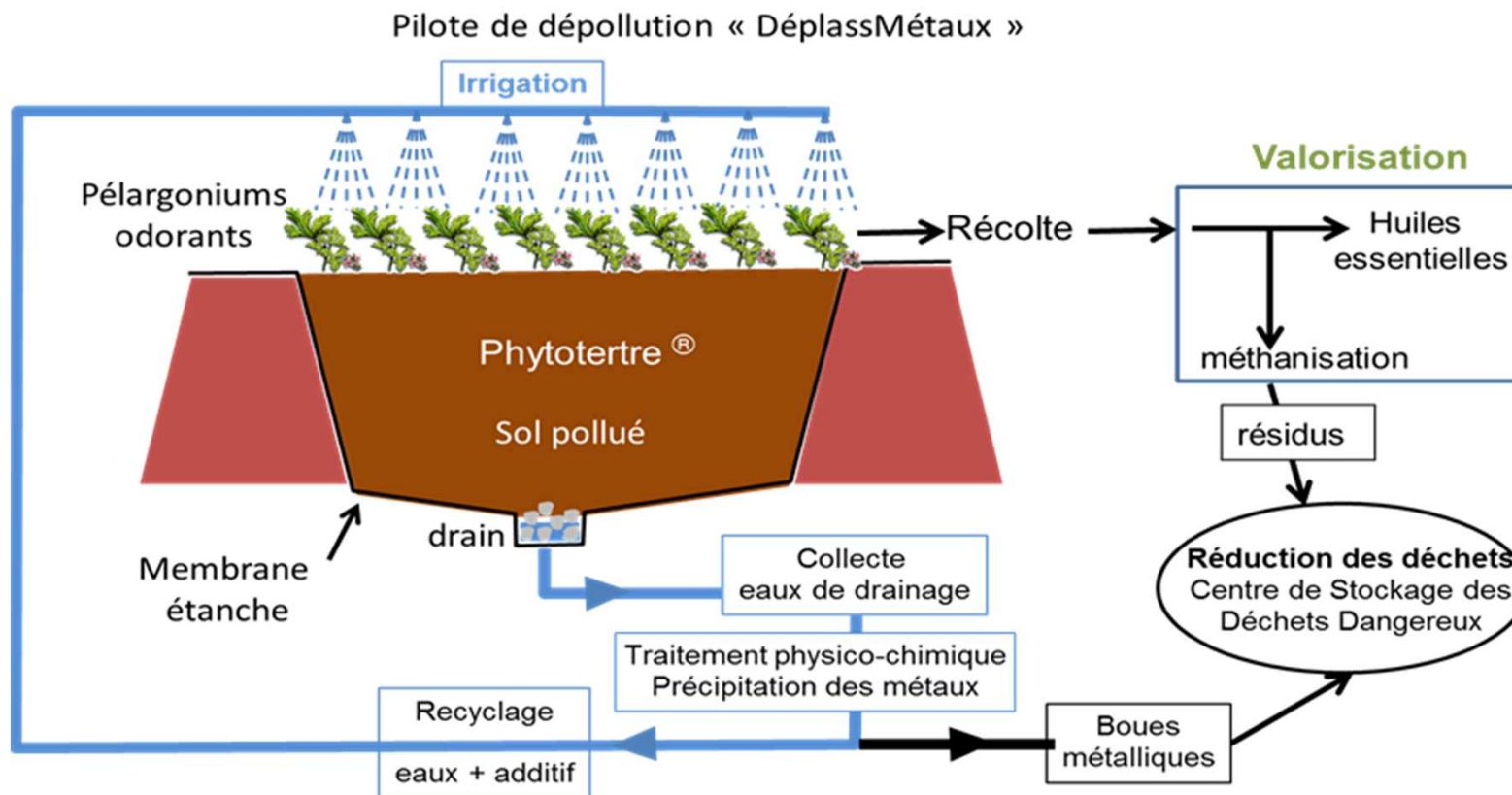
## PREPARATION TESTS



- 2 –in greenhouse, conclusion
  - Kinetic studies showed an elimination of lead in 18 months of cultivation
  - On field, due to season's cultivation periods, it makes 3 years



## BUILDING THE RESEARCH TOOL - principle







## BUILDING THE RESEARCH TOOL - culture







## BUILDING THE RESEARCH TOOL - culture





## BUILDING THE RESEARCH TOOL - culture



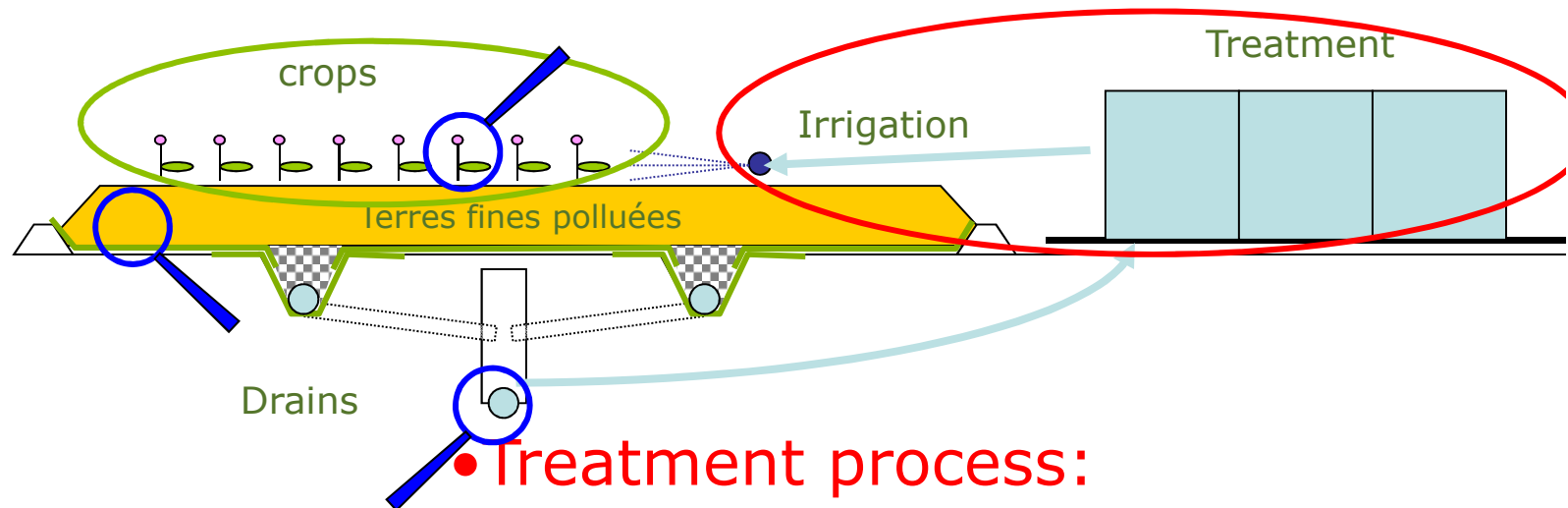




## SURVEY & MAINTENANCE



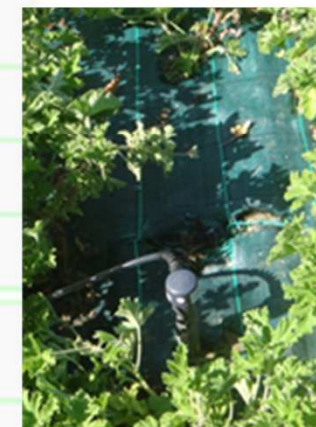
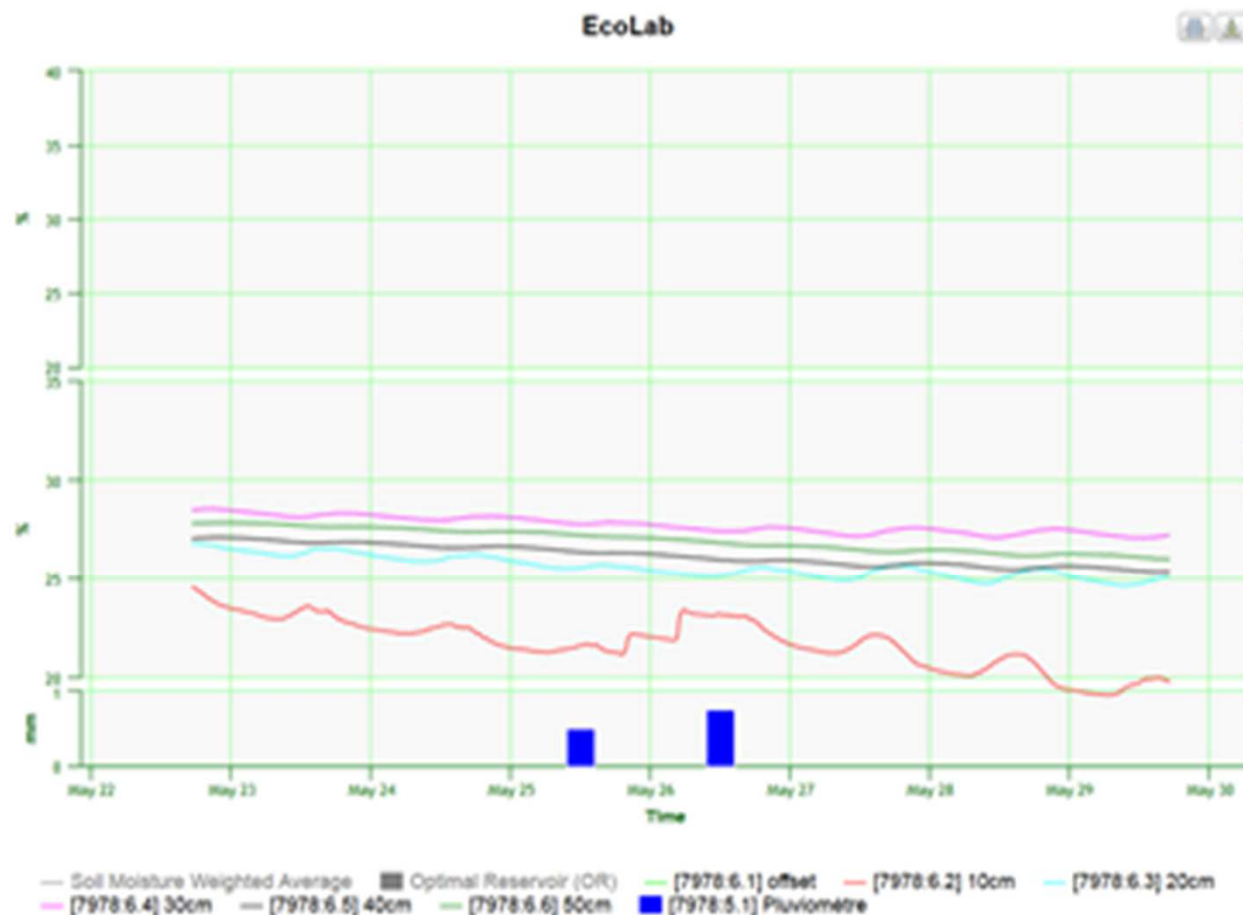
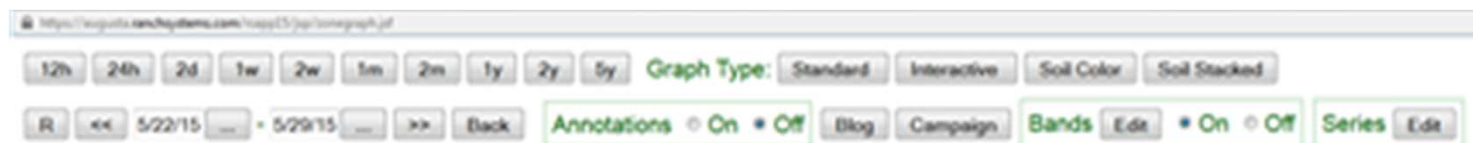
- Several levels of intervention:



- **Treatment process:**
  - weekly survey
  - monthly maintenance
  - managing wastes (metallic sludges)
- **Cultures :**
  - Survey of vegetation phases
  - annual harvest; valorization assays
  - managing plant wastes
- **Analysis of soils and water**



# SURVEY & MAINTENANCE





## CHANGES DURING THE PROJECT



- Treatment loop
- Add a greenhouse







## SUIVI – ANALYSES - EAUX



µg/L	pit		tank	Irrigation	
year	2015	16	2015	15	16
Arsenic	-	16	-	-	8,1
Cadmium	19	88	19	6,7	46
Copper	480	2400	430	230	210
lead	1500	10000	2200	130	590
iron	890		17000		
Zinc	1700	12000	1900	260	1100

The iron comes from the tank; no effect upon other metals



## SUIVI - ANALYSES



mg/kg	carbonat ation	Limed sludges		Initial soil
		15	16	
Arsenic	-	-	5,9	32
Cadmium	0,34	2,4	4,4	1,34
cupper	11	61	250	23
lead	53	320	850	210
iron	15000	15000		
Zinc	64	480	730	124

CONCENTRATION RATE: 1,5 to 4 in 2015  
3 to 11 in 2016



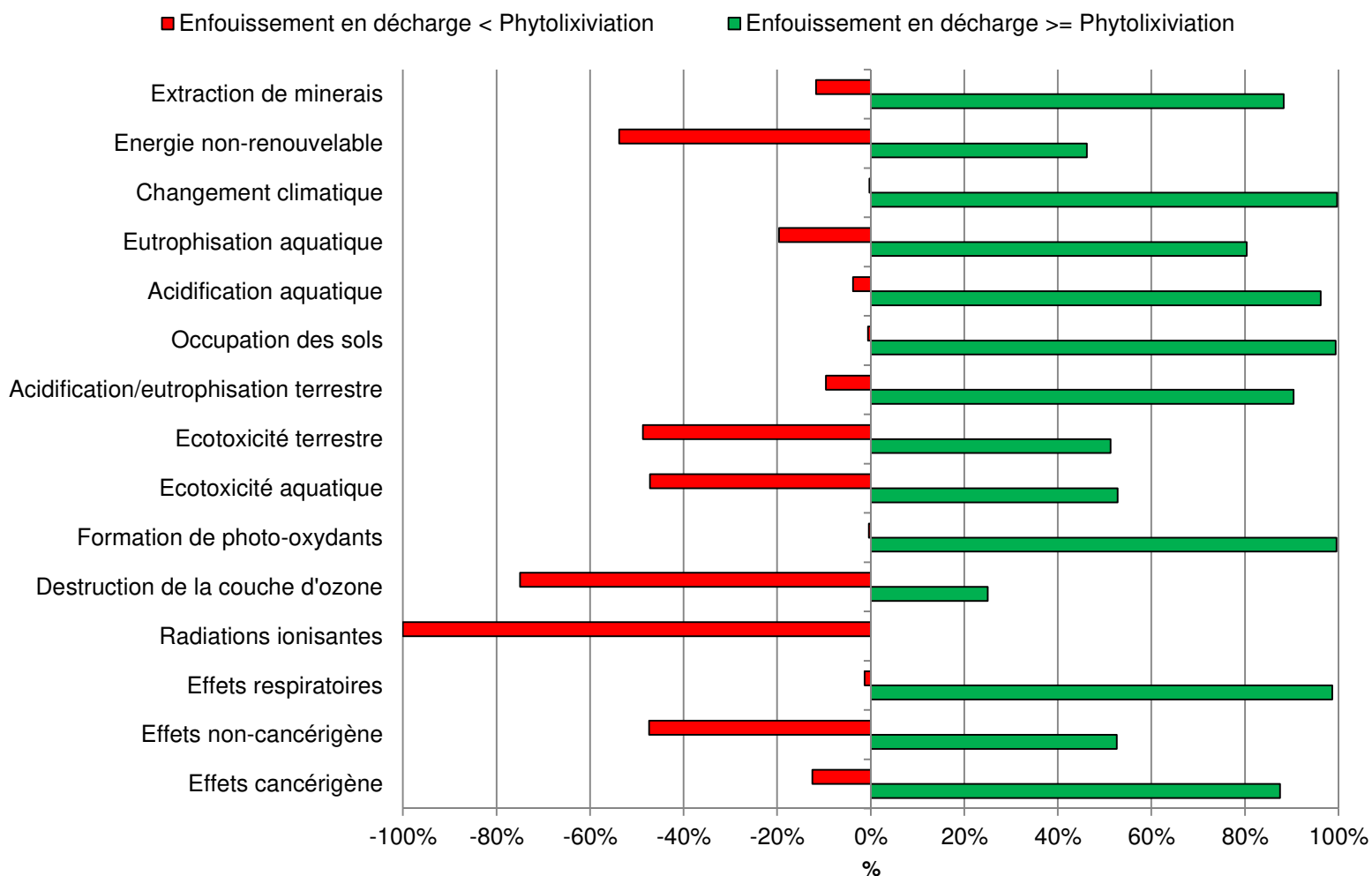
## QUESTION

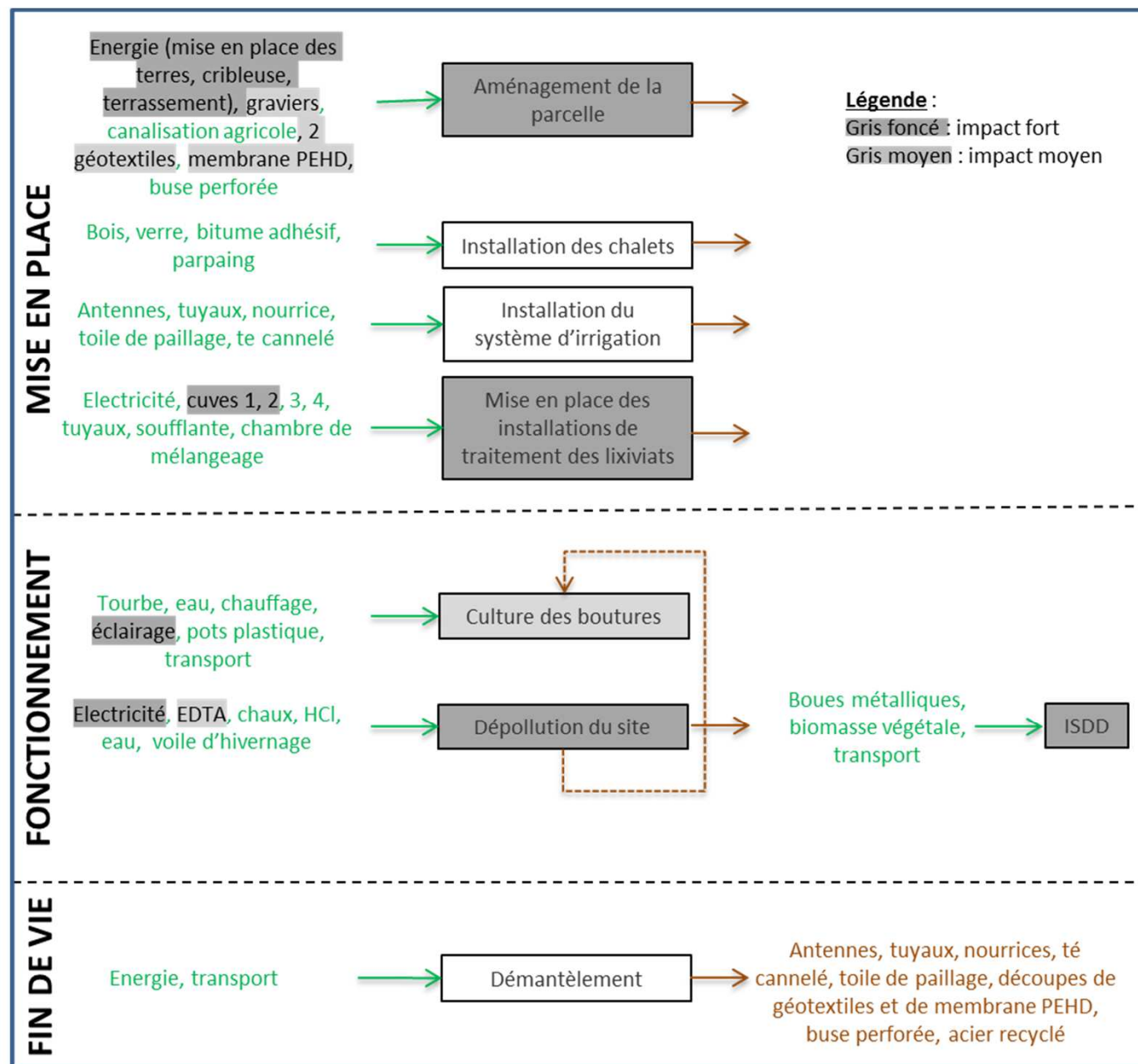


- **Why a such difference concerning kinetics between greenhouse and on-site?**
- Main factor for metal removal= leaching, thus directly related to the irrigation with chelating solution
- In 1 L flowerpots, weekly watering was 0,5 L
- Upon the Phytotertre® (50 m<sup>3</sup>) weekly watering is about 1 m<sup>3</sup>, during the whole growing period
- Reason : packing down, loss of permeability



# LIFE Cycle ANALYSIS









# HARVESTING



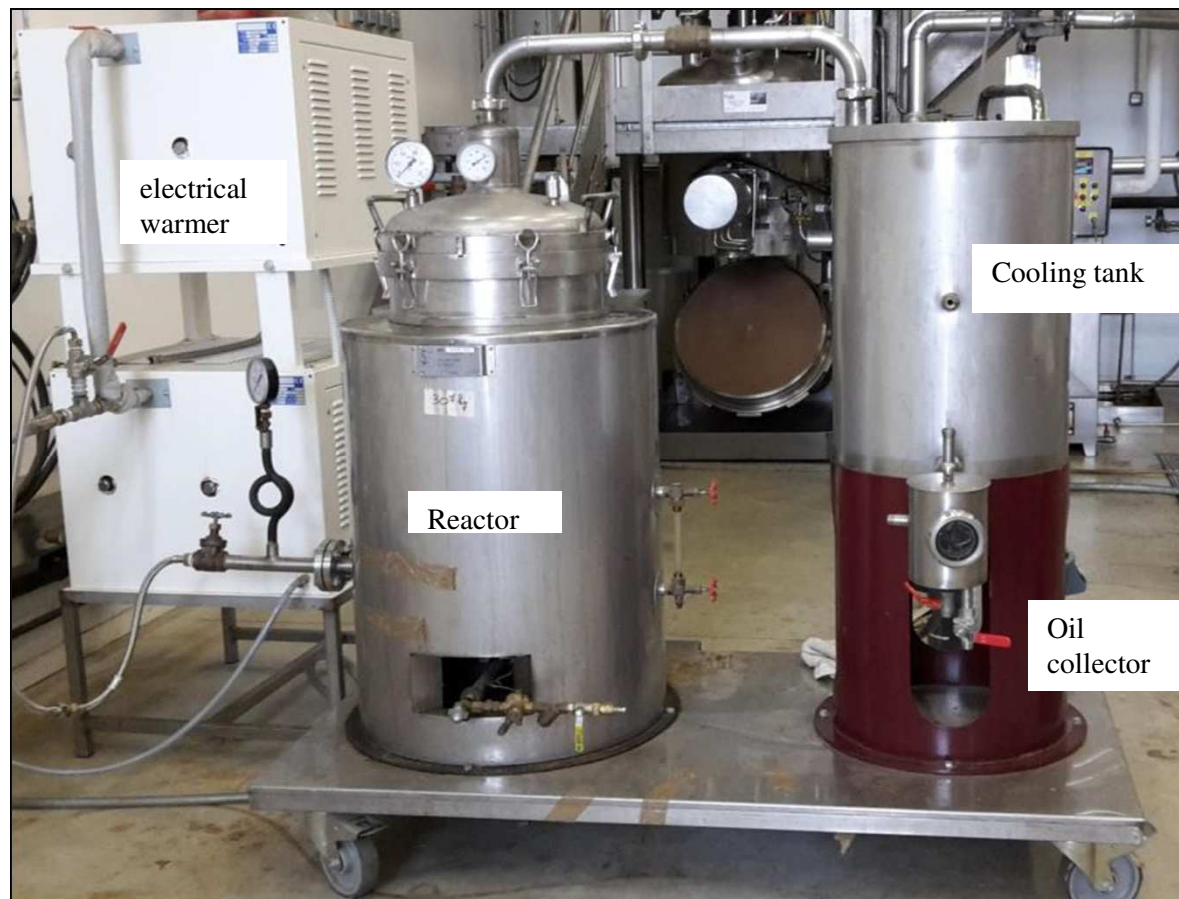
2014 : 350 kg fw  
2015 : 730 kg  
2016 : 453 kg



Rendement des extractions d'huiles essentielles du <i>Pelargonium</i> « attar of roses »						
	Masse pélagonium (en kg)	Masse sèche (en kg)	Masse huile essentielle (en g)	Rendement (en %/MS)	Moyenne	Ecart- type
Hydrodistillation 1	12,7	1,73	0,74	0,04	0,05	0,01
Hydrodistillation 2	12,7	1,73	0,78	0,05		
Hydrodistillation 3	12,7	1,73	0,99	0,06		
Hydrodistillation 4	12,7	1,73	0,94	0,05		
Hydrodistillation 5	12,7	1,73	0,88	0,05		

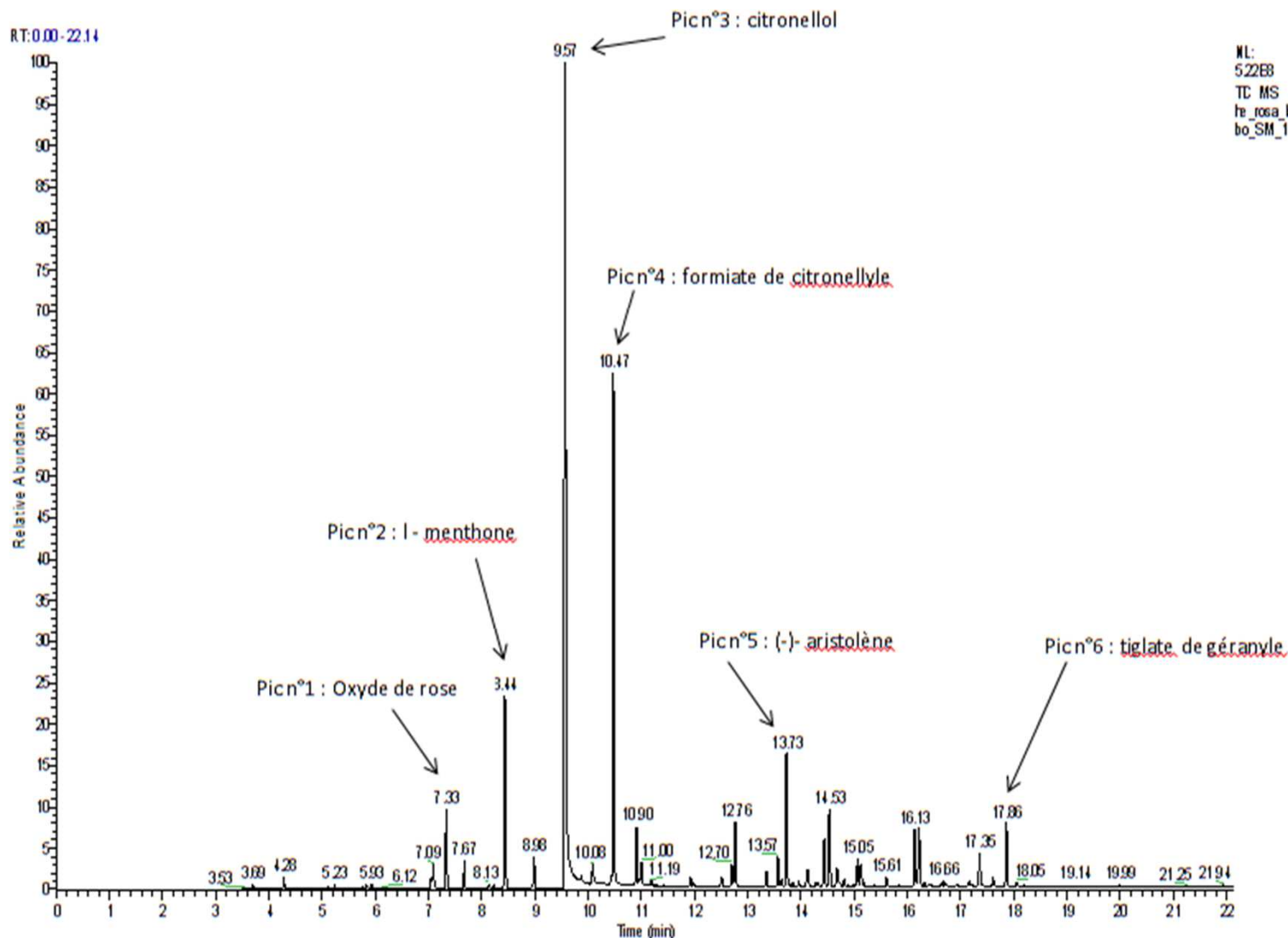


## PRODUCTION of E.O.





# PRODUCTION of E.O.





## TEACHINGS FROM THE PROJECT



- **INNOVATIVE POINTS**

- phytoextraction is said to be slow.
- Our process combines chemistry and biology in synergy to enhance availability of metals and reduce the duration of recovery
- The Phytotertre® process is **safe**, because all risks are assessed: watertight complex, geotextile or greenhouse to prevent dust
- The Phytotertre® process allows to free rapidly the **space** for building, because soils are treated beside the works
- The planted pile is well integrated in urban landcraft, like other flowerbeds.





## CONCLUSIONS and FURTHER...



- Under on-site conditions, the treatment remains too slow, even if ameliorations are expected to approach the optimums obtained in greenhouse
- A technico-economical study is to date in progress, to validate financial balance of E.O. production
- Doing this, we are creating a new usage for the soil, compatible with high amounts of heavy metals
- It's a change of paradigm which is interesting to be studied a little ahead





# MERCI DE VOTRE ATTENTION



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