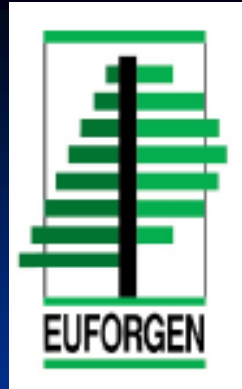
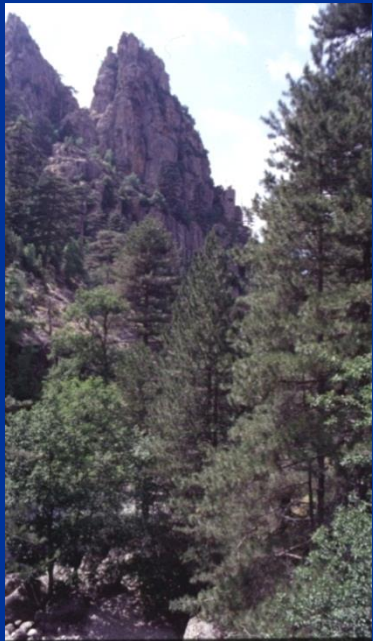




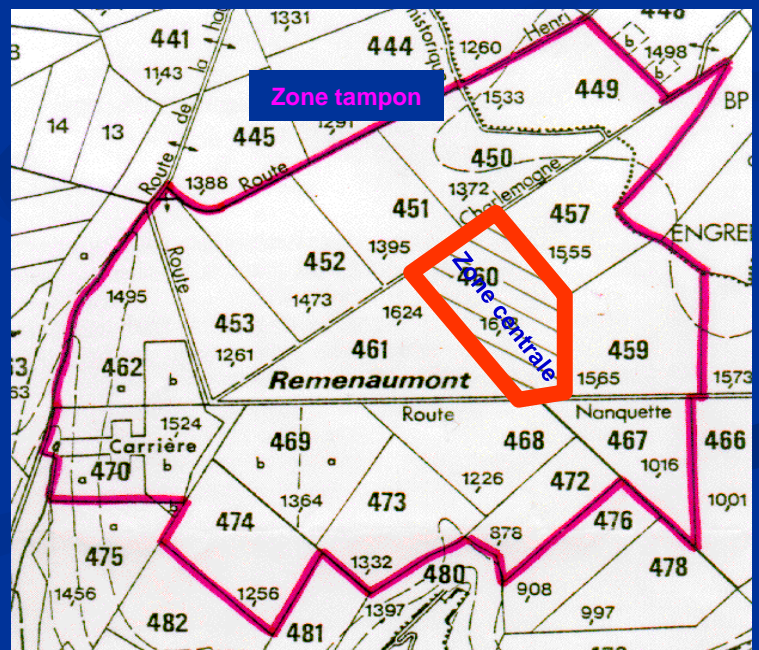
**Bruno Fady,**  
**INRA – URFM,**  
**Ecologie des Forêts Méditerranéennes**  
**Avignon, France**  
*bruno.fady@avignon.inra.fr*



# *Conservation of genetic resources: the European strategy and a case study*



**Genomics and the conservation of conifer genetic resources**



# *The goals of in situ conservation*

A strategy for safeguarding keystone or emblematic species against natural and made-made ecological catastrophies

=> Networks must contain all the genetic diversity of a species within its entire distribution range

=> Conservation units must be made to guarantee local adaptation under diverse selection pressures



# *How to correctly sample the genetic diversity of a species? Considering evolutionary history*

ESU : Evolutionary Significant Unit (Moritz 1994)

= group of populations deriving from a common ancestor (lineage) and significantly different from other lineages within the species

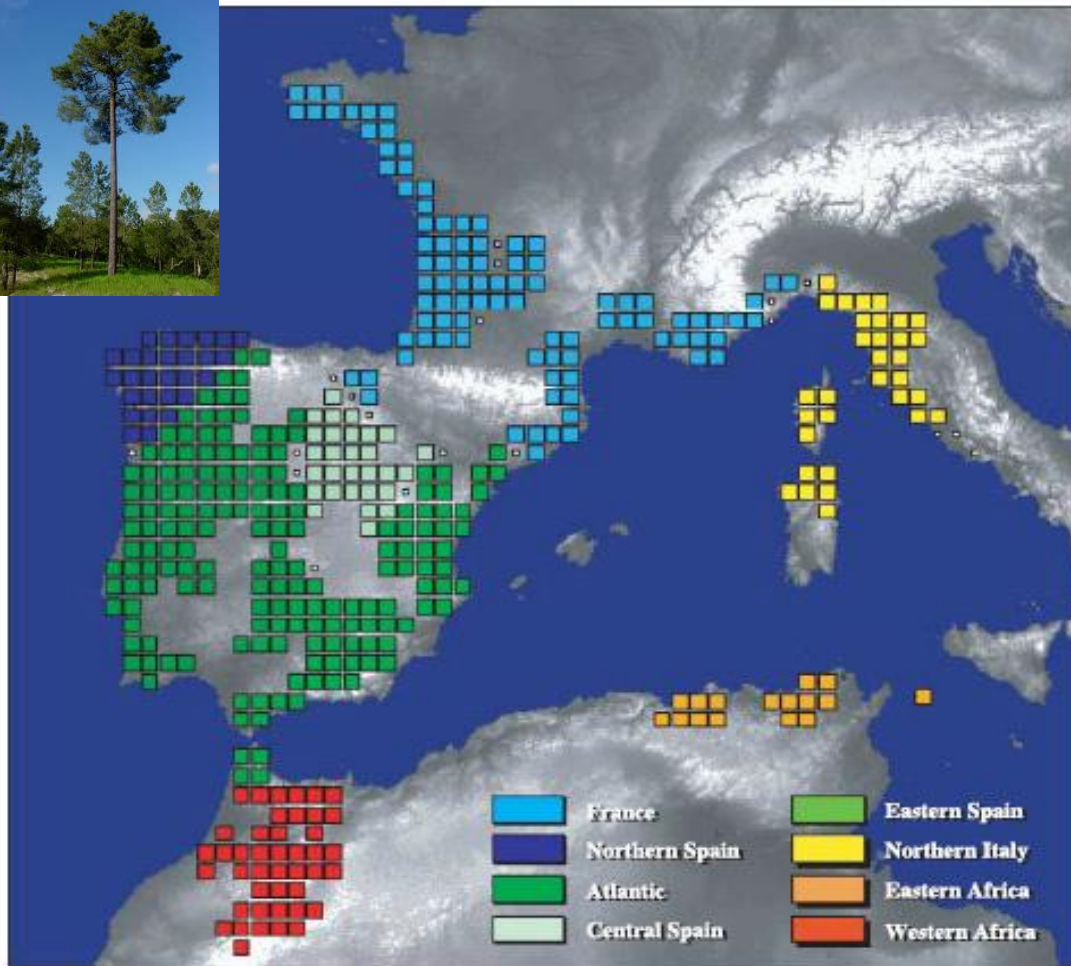
= signature of long term evolutionary history (mt/cpDNA).

MU : Management Unit (Palsbøll et al 2007)

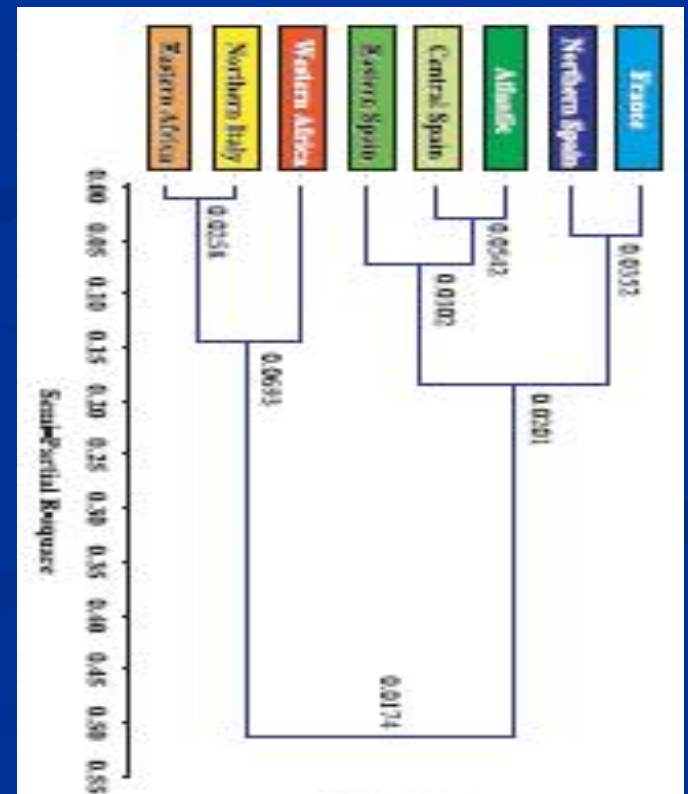
= group of populations that differs from another by significant differences in genetic markers (reduced gene flow)

= signature of short term evolutionary history (nDNA ou SSRs)

# Considering evolutionary history (demography): an example of data availability in *Pinus pinaster*

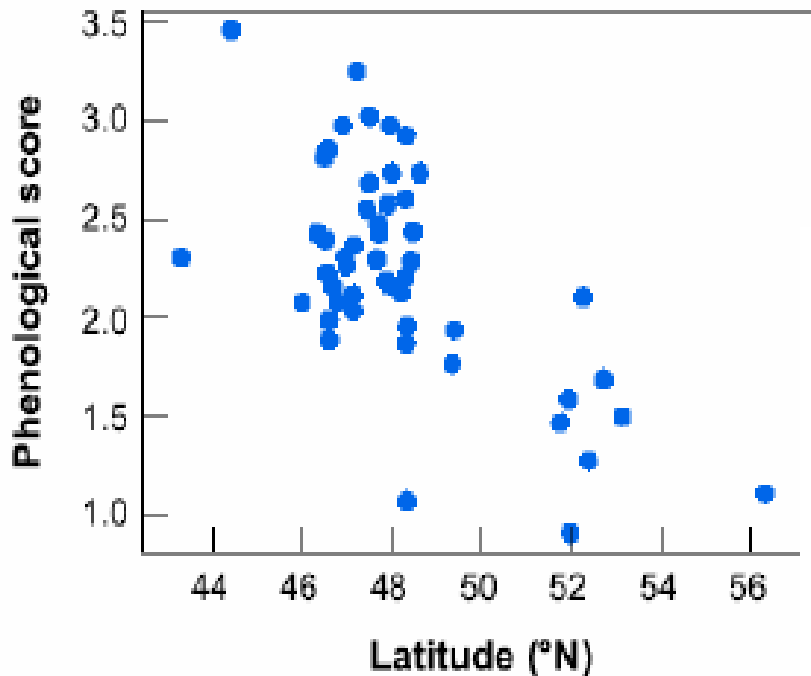


3 lineages and 8 genetic groups from 16 (most common) haplotypes at 5 cpSSR loci ( $h_e = 0.825$ ).

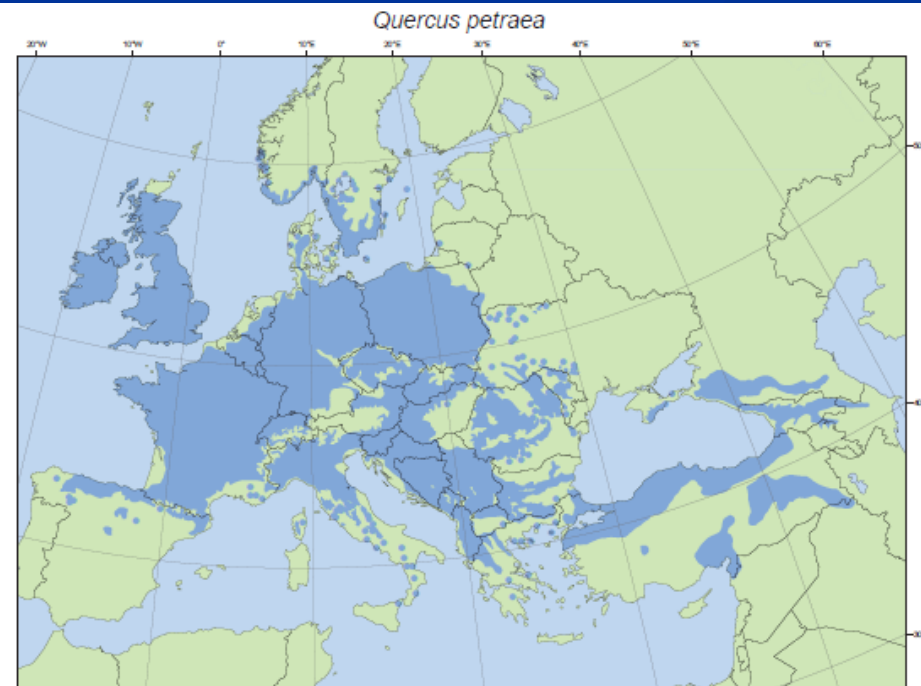


# Populations have different adaptive properties in addition to different evolutionary histories

Budburst, *Quercus petraea*



A strong link between geographic origin and bud break date in the European oak *Quercus petraea* (4 common garden experiments)



This distribution map, showing the natural distribution area of *Quercus petraea*, was compiled by members of the EUFORGEN Network

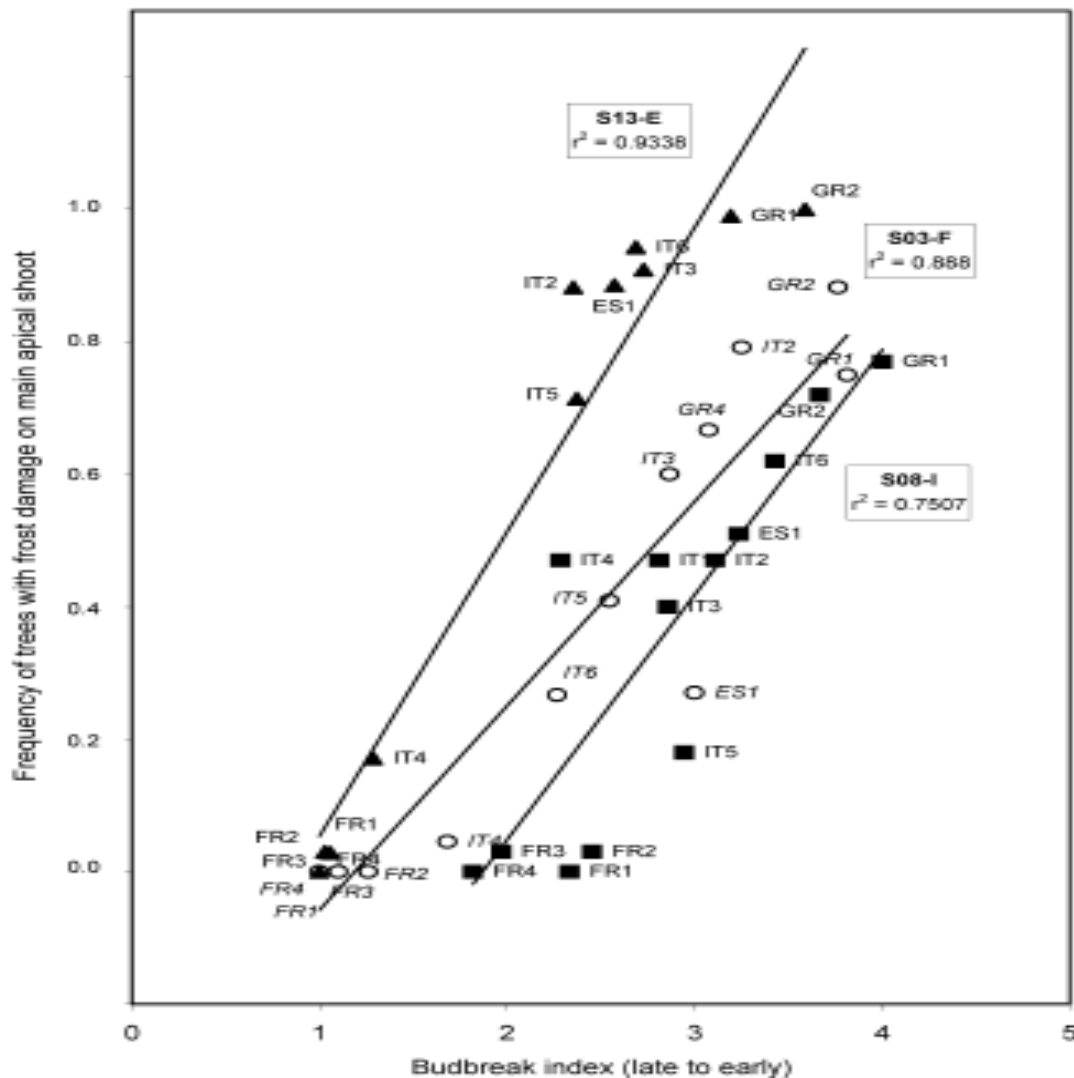
Citation: Distribution map of sessile oak (*Quercus petraea*) | EUFORGEN 2009, [www.euforgen.org](http://www.euforgen.org)

First published online on November 2004 - Updated on 24 July 2008



Ducousso et al. (AFS) 1996

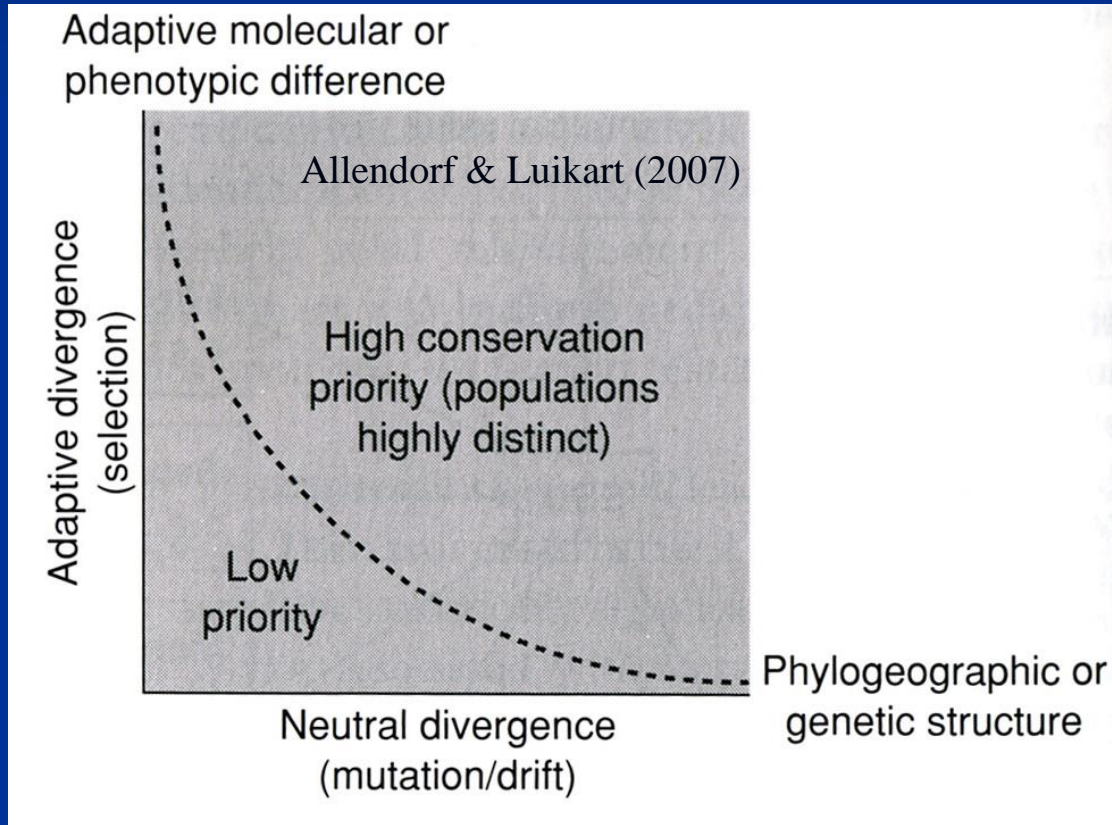
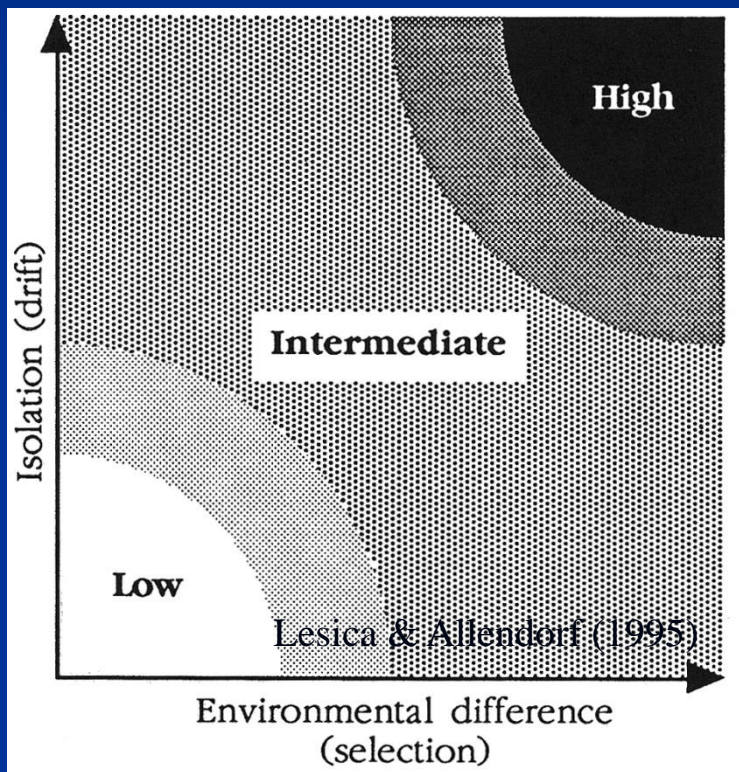
# Considering adaptive properties in the evolutionary history of populations and species



A strong link between geographic origin, bud break date and susceptibility to late frost damage in walnut (*Juglans regia*) in 3 common gardens

Fady et al. (NeFo) 2003

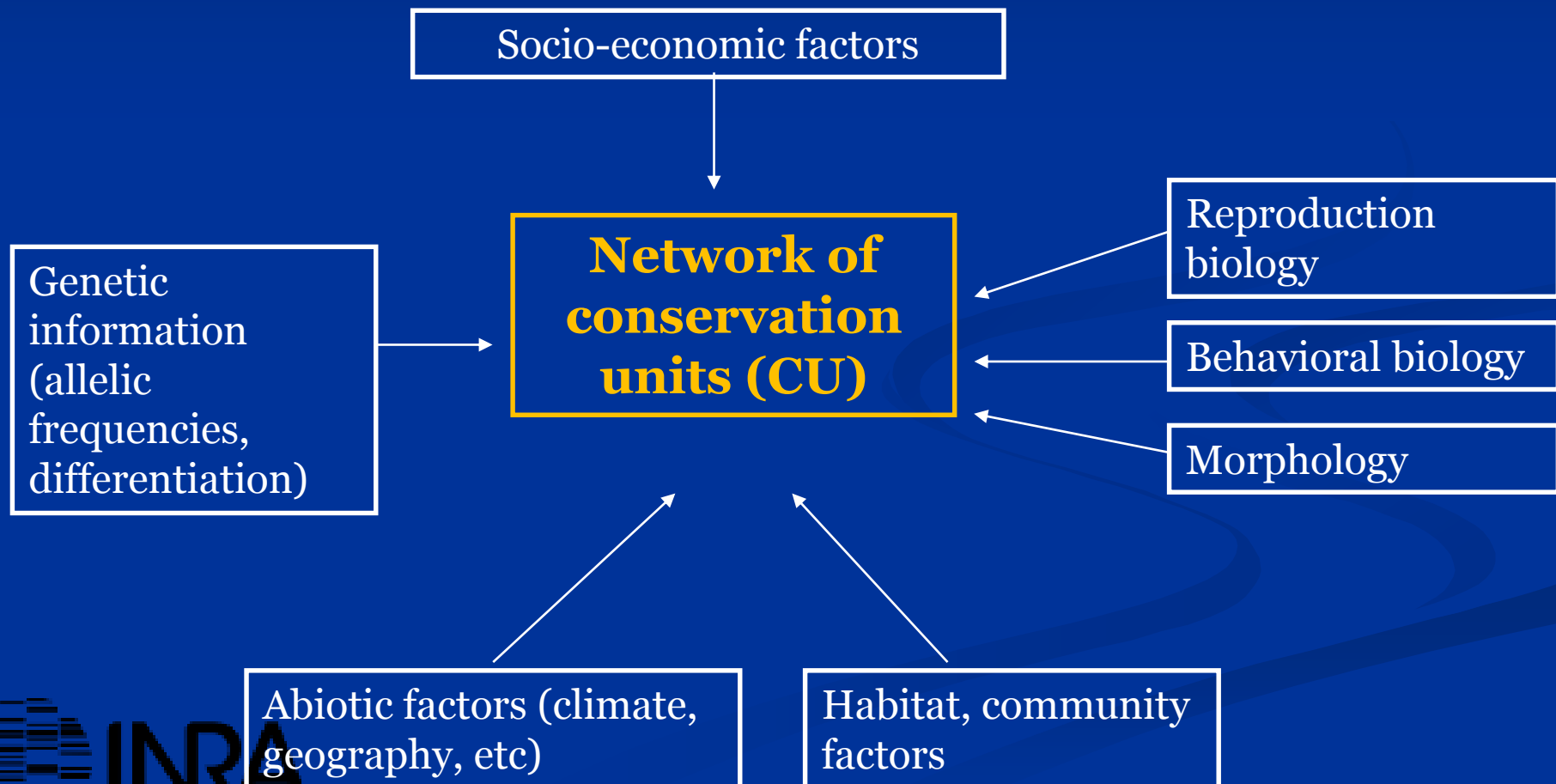
# How to correctly sample the genetic diversity of a species? Considering adaptation in addition to demography and evolutionary history



Looking for surrogates of adaptation: environmental gradients

Looking for surrogates of adaptation: phenotypic / genotypic trait variability

# *Integrating approaches for a science-based sustainable in situ conservation strategy*



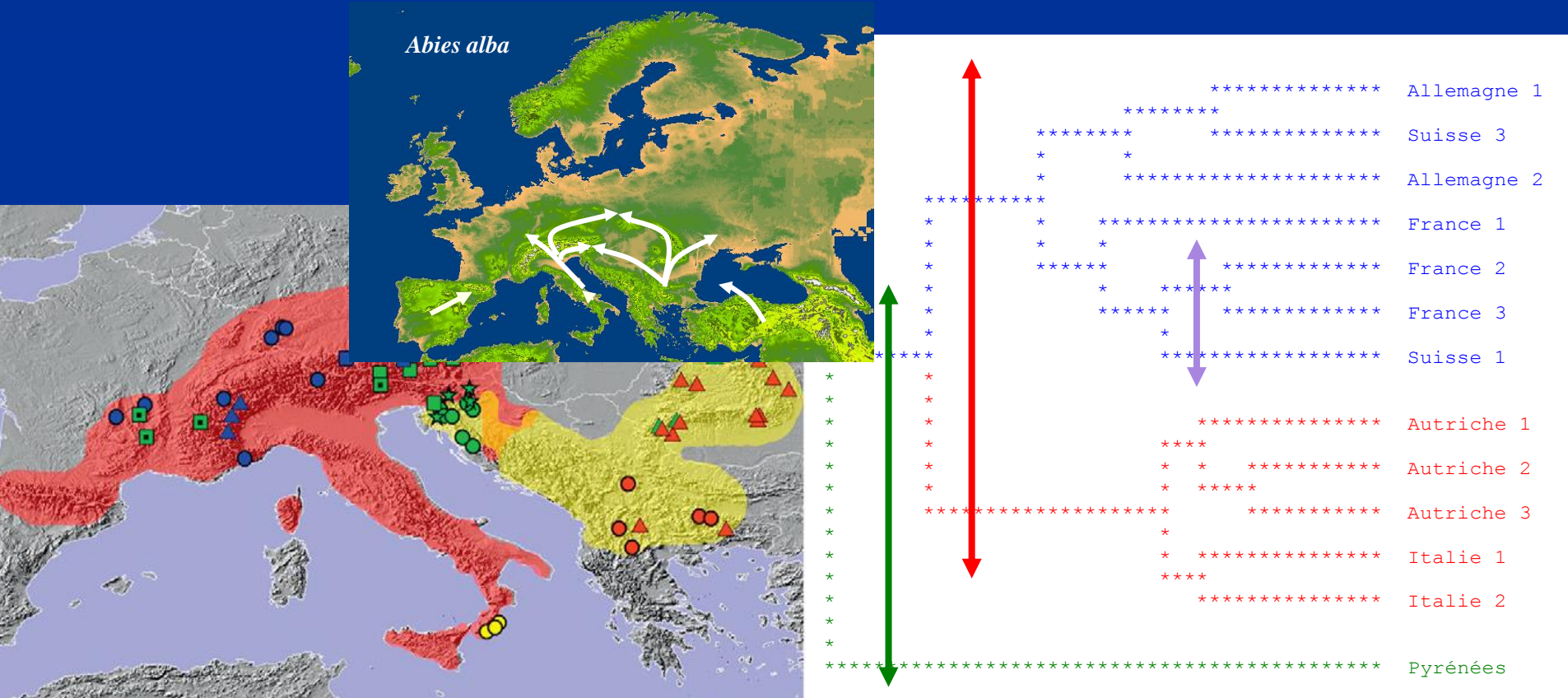


# One example of genetic resource conservation network in France: *Abies alba*

An ancient common origin for western lineages

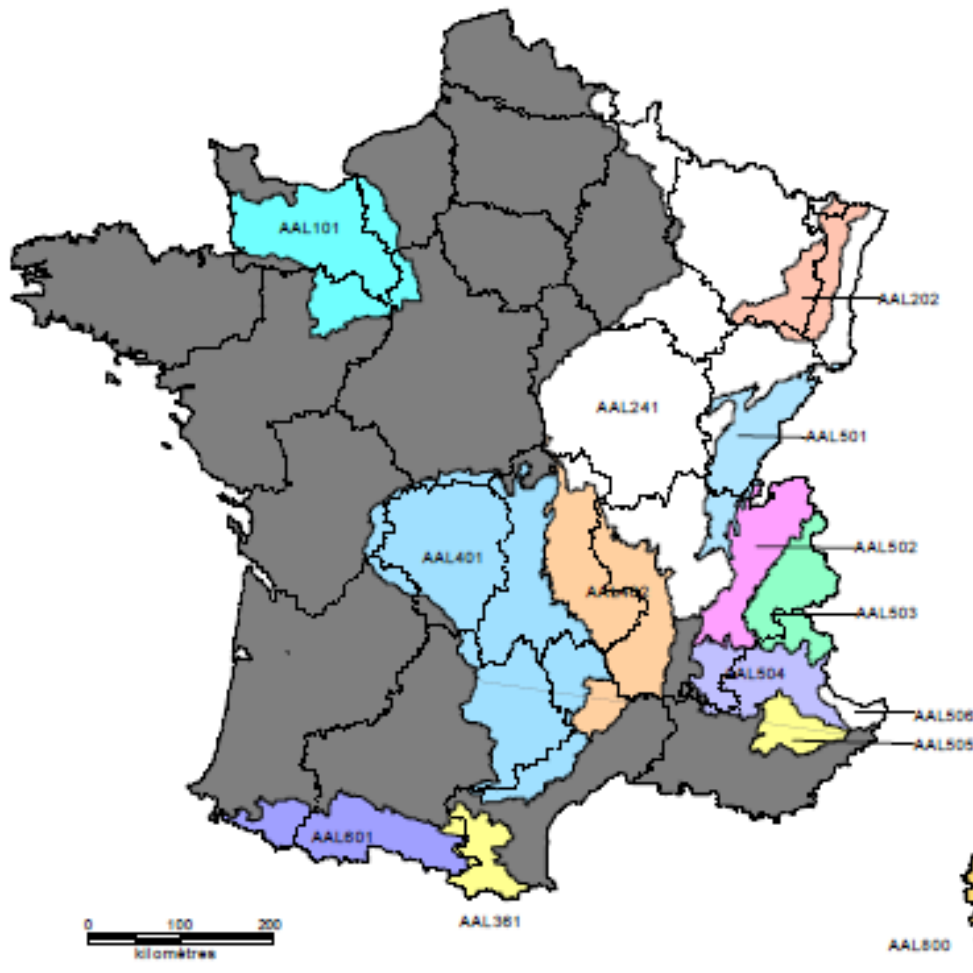
At least 2 Quaternary western lineages (Pyrenees + Alps) => 2 ESUs

At least 2 genetic clusters within the Alps => 2 MUs



# One example of genetic resource conservation network in France: *Abies alba*

Régions de provenance du Sapin pectiné



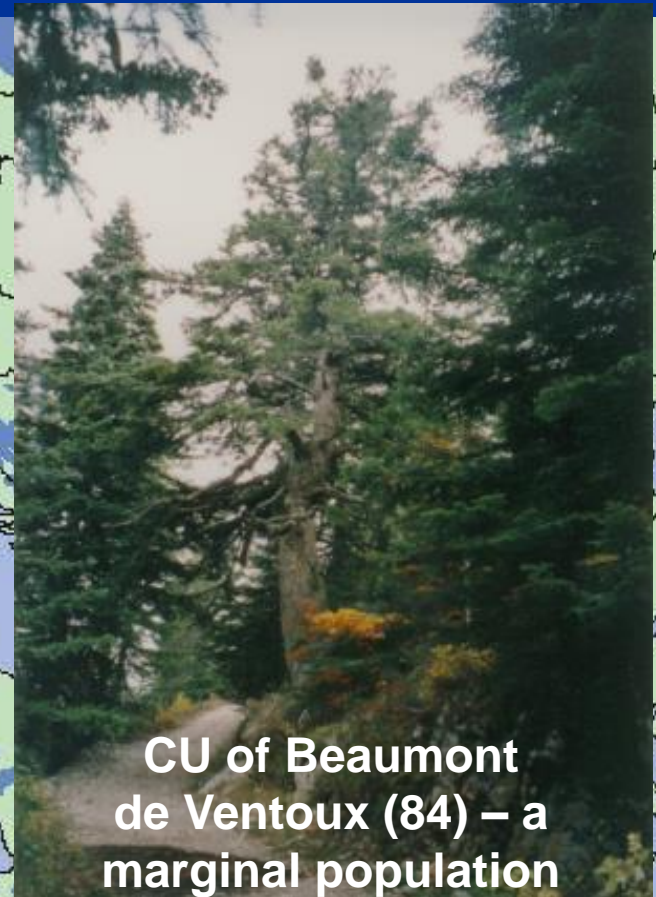
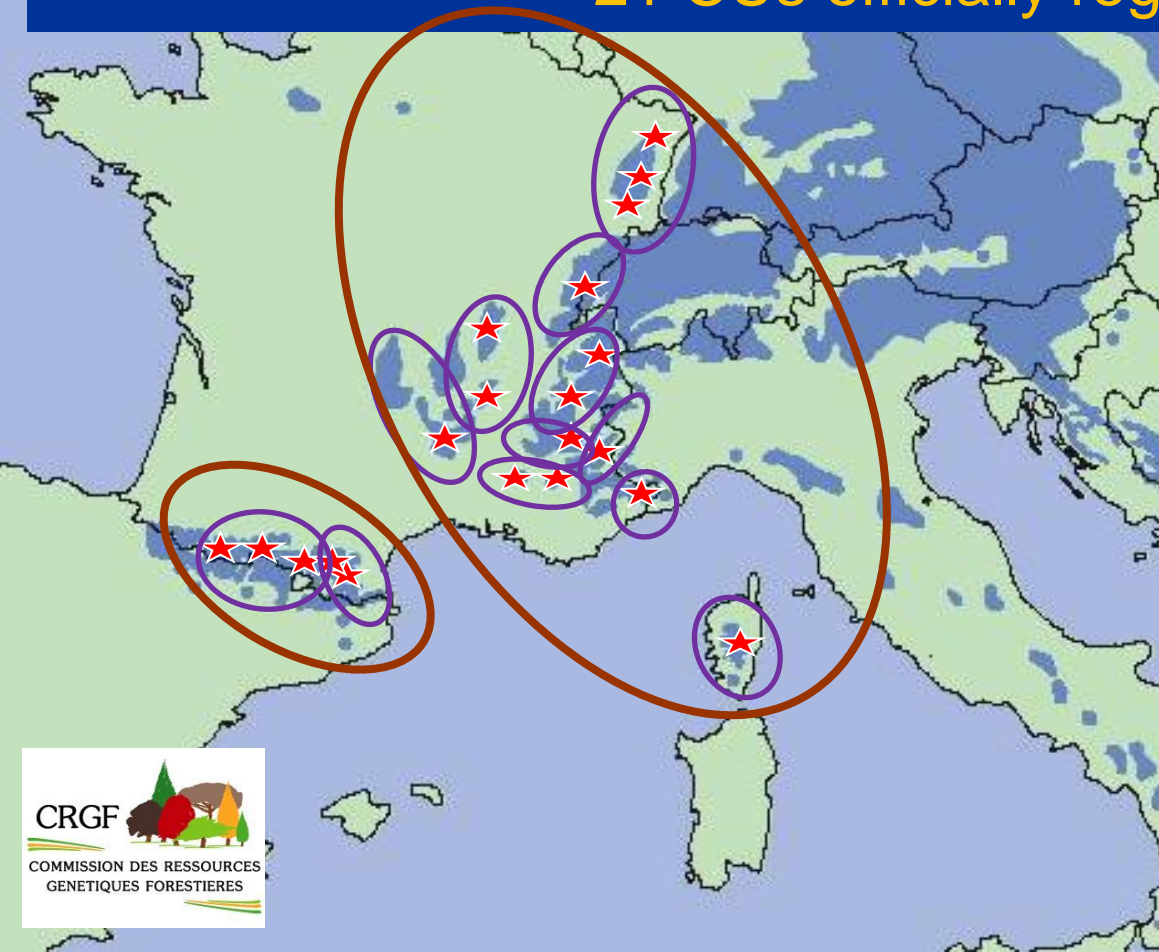
Little analytical work from provenance trials available / no data from genomic tools yet

14 regions of provenance : an estimator of ecological structuration in France

=> At least 14 CUs (emphasizing local adaptation) in France

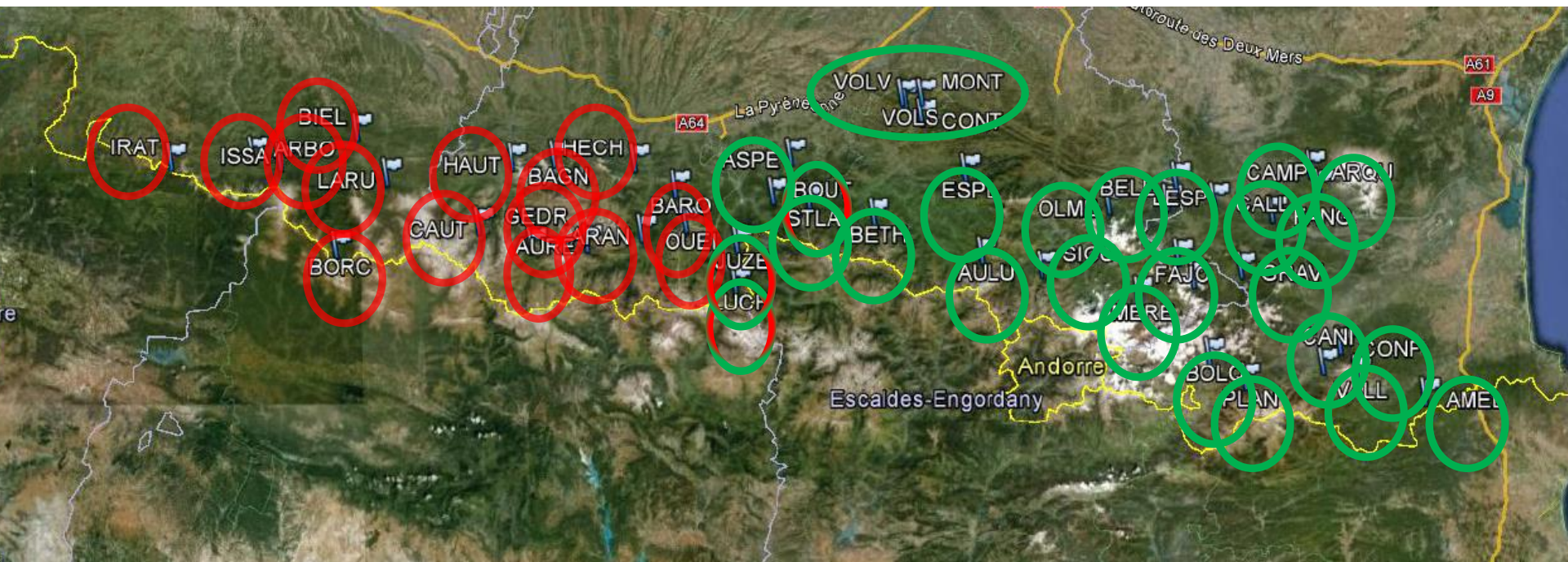
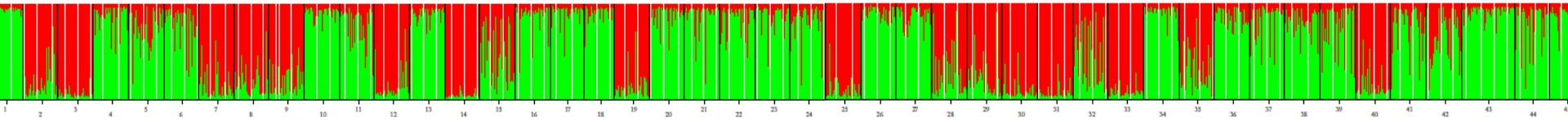
# *The actual and current network of FGR conservation of *Abies alba* in France*

In practice, a combined approach:  
ESU + MU + ecological structure + marginal populations =  
**21 CUs officially registered**



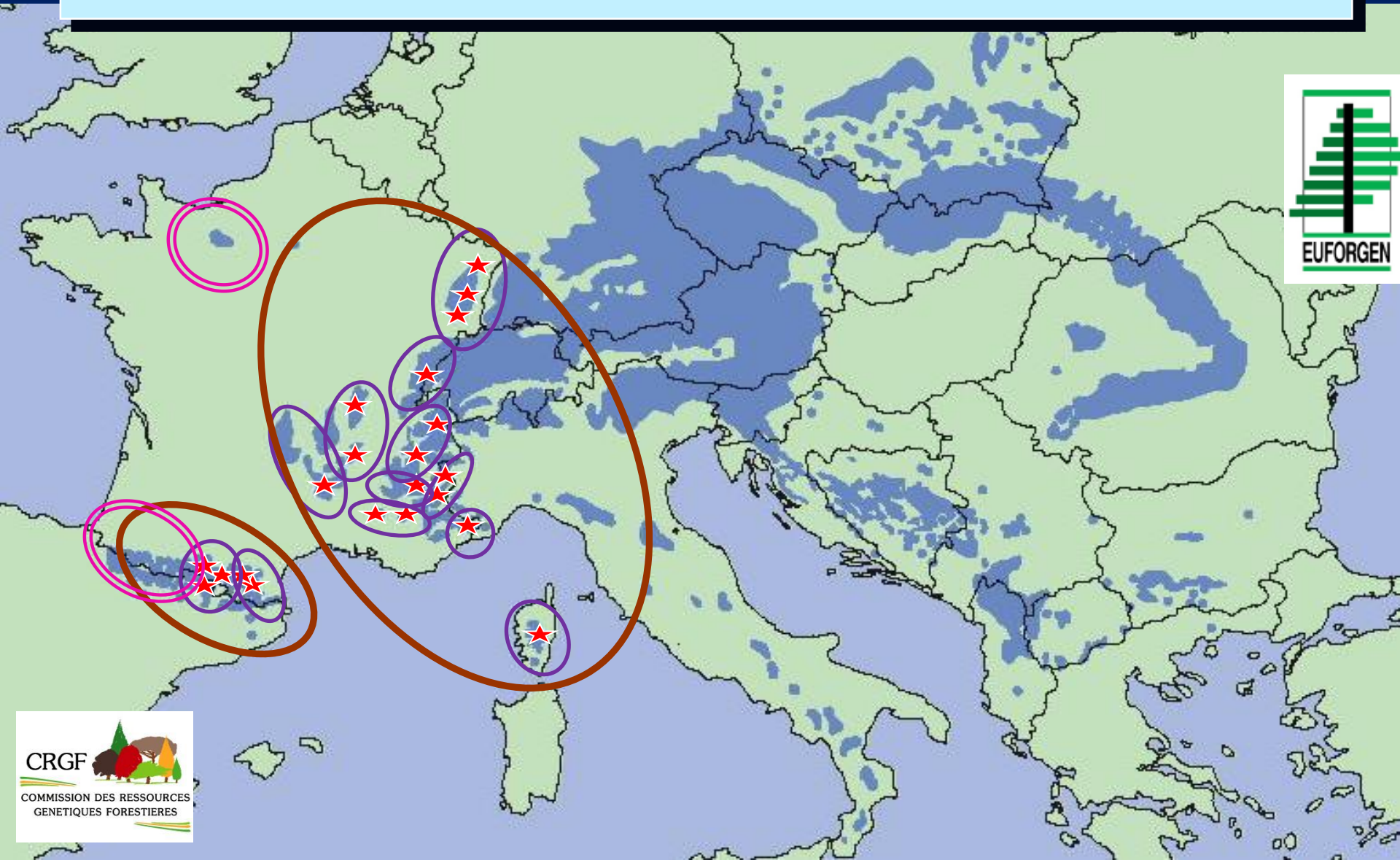
CU of Beaumont  
de Ventoux (84) – a  
marginal population

# *Is the spatial and ecological coverage of the *Abies alba* network sufficient in the Pyrenees*

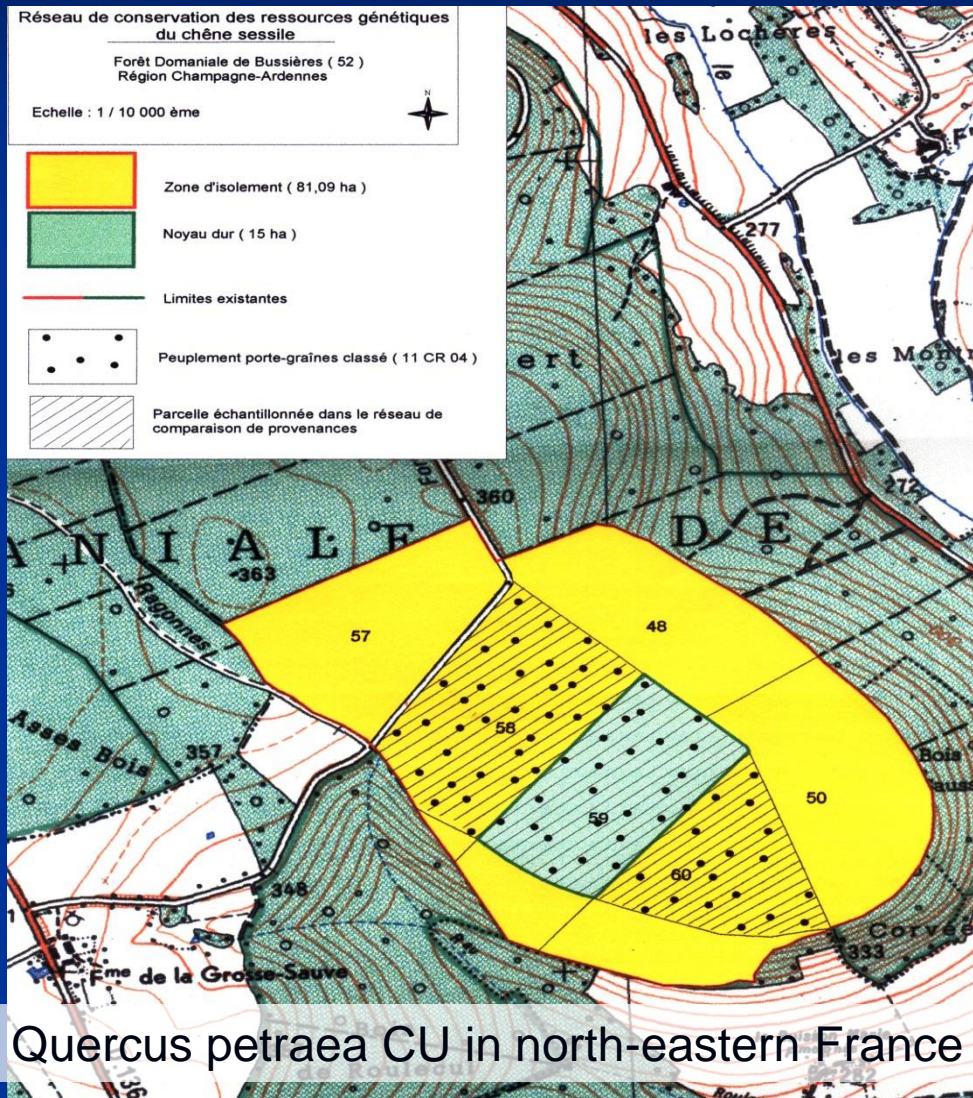


- A significant geographic structure, 2 evolutionary lineages (10 SSR loci), no effect of marginality (VOLV)
- A clear transition admixed zone at lineage boundary
- Detection of a planted population (ASPE)

# *The current network of FGR conservation of *Abies alba* in France: gaps to fill!*



# What must a Conservation Unit guarantee?



Ongoing local adaptation under natural selection must be maintained

Management must:

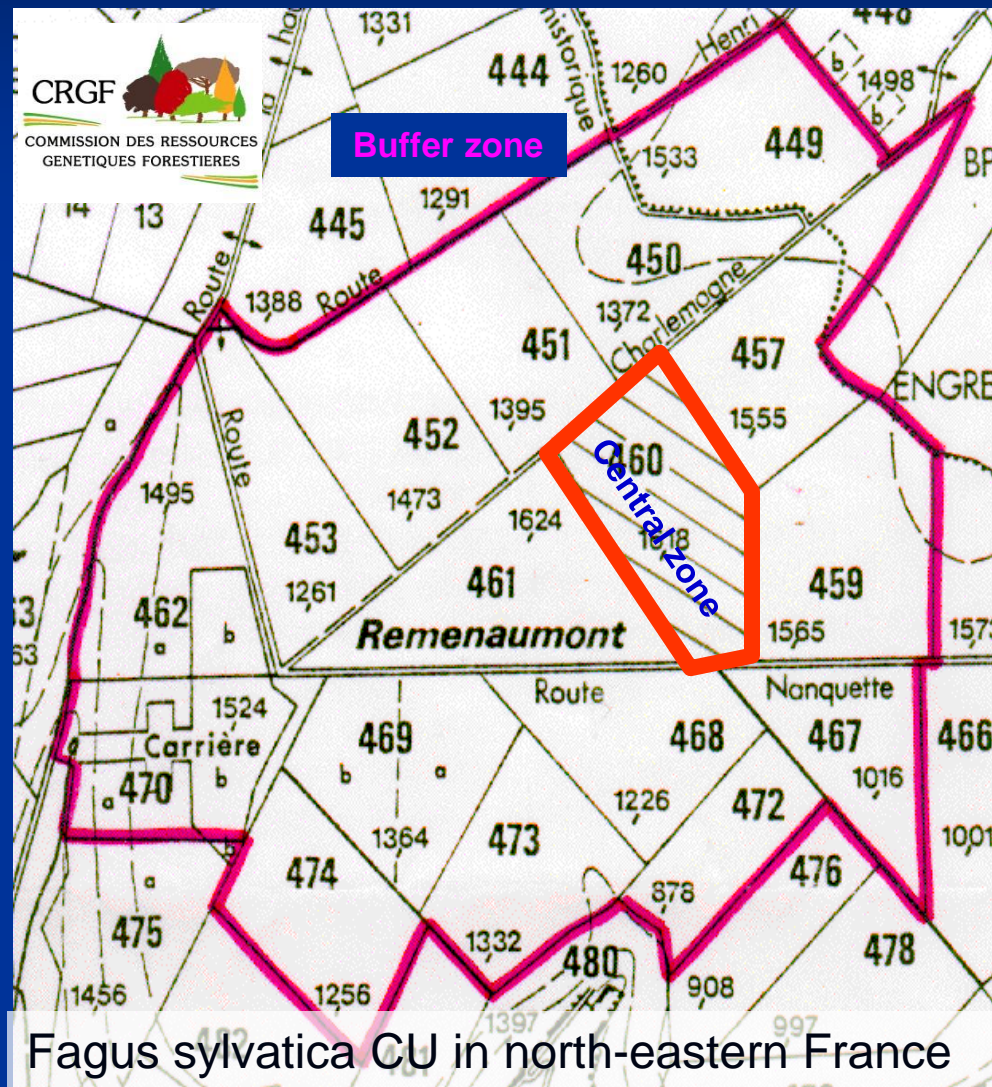
==> maintain reproduction and seedling recruitment;

==> maintain high adult density to avoid drift / inbreeding during reproduction;

==> prevent unwanted gene flow.

**A need for monitoring**

# How must a Conservation Unit be managed? A legally binding charter



## Central zone

- > Autochthonous forest
- > 500 seed trees minimum
- > 60 seed trees/ ha
- > Natural regeneration only (potentially assisted using local seeds)

## Buffer zone

- > No introduction of hybridogenous exotic species / populations
- > Regeneration after the central zone

Control of game species, wild fire protection, monitoring, etc.

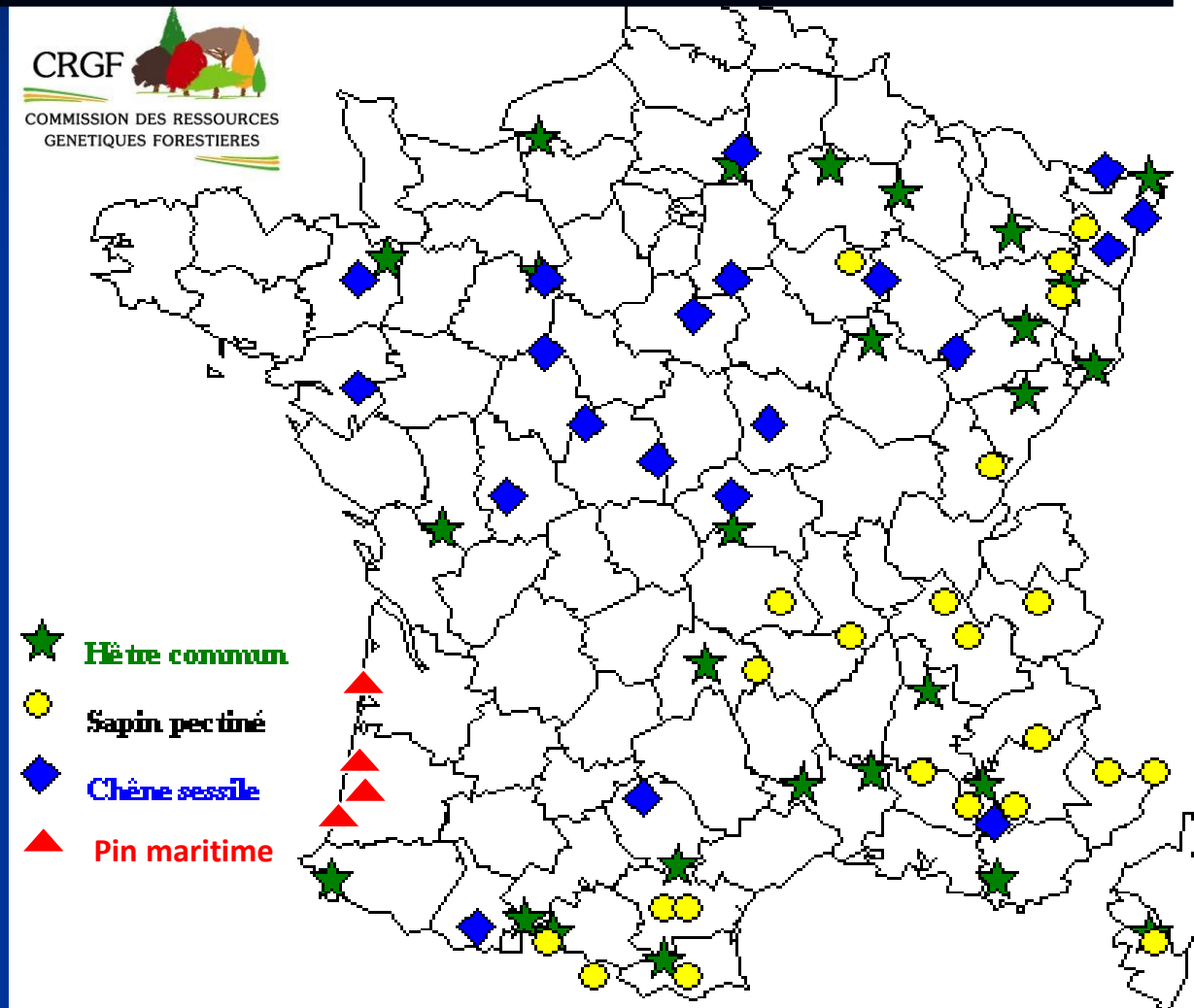
# The French register of conservation units for widely occurring species

**Abies alba:** 21 CUs  
~ 3500 ha  
(160 ha / CU)

**F. sylvatica:** 28 CUs  
~ 3950 ha  
(140 ha / CU)

**Pinus pinaster:** 4 CUs  
~ 900 ha  
(225 ha / CU)

**Q. petraea:** 20 CUs  
~ 2400 ha  
(120 ha / CU)





# *In situ conservation of forest genetic resources (FGR): the pan-European dimension*

## A major political player: Euforgen

- Created in 1994 under **Forest Europe**
- Secretariat in Rome at **Biodiversity International**
- Promote and streamline national FGR **conservation strategies** at European level (e.g. minimum requirements for CUs)
- **Raise awareness** on FGR conservation of forest habitat managers and policy makers

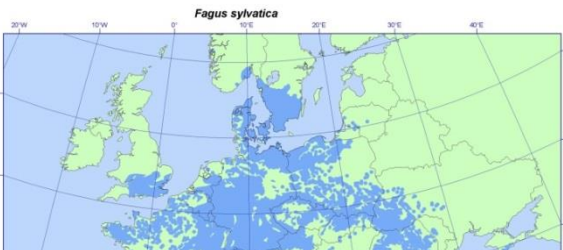


## *Euforgen Phase IV (2010-2014)*



**Scope:** facilitating implementation of practical gene conservation by developing pan-European gene conservation strategies for forest trees (under the umbrella of **Forest Europe**)

- Working group 1: a European gene conservation strategy
- Working group 2: genetic monitoring methods
- Working group 3: guidelines for transfer and use of FRM
- Working group 4: incorporation of FGR in national policies
- Working group 5: managing CUs under climate change



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 on behalf of the Euforgen Networks  
 02000 The European Commission  
 02000 The Italian Government  
 02000 The Austrian Government  
 02000 The Czech Government  
 02000 The French Government  
 02000 The German Government  
 02000 The Greek Government  
 02000 The Hungarian Government  
 02000 The Polish Government  
 02000 The Portuguese Government  
 02000 The Slovenian Government  
 02000 The Spanish Government  
 02000 The Swedish Government  
 02000 The Swiss Government  
 02000 The United Kingdom Government  
 www.euforgen.org

This distribution map, showing the natural distribution area of Fagus sylvatica, was compiled by members of the EUFORGEN Networks. It is published in the Euforgen Technical Guidelines for Genetic Conservation and Use of Fagus sylvatica, published by the Euforgen Secretariat, 2006. The map is available in digital format on the Euforgen website (www.euforgen.org).

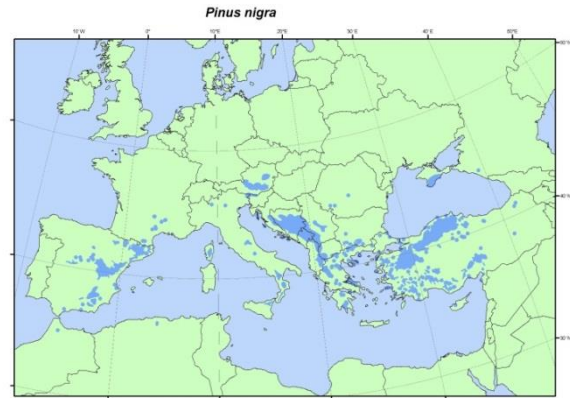
First published online on 30 August 2006 - Updated on 28 September 2006



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This distribution map, showing the natural distribution area of Abies alba, was compiled by members of the EUFORGEN Networks.

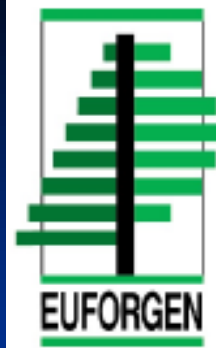
Citation: Distribution map of Silver fir (Abies alba) | EUFORGEN  
 First published online in 2003 - Updated on 26 July 2006



This distribution map, showing the natural distribution area of Pinus nigra, was compiled by members of the EUFORGEN Networks.

Citation: Distribution map of Black pine (Pinus nigra) | EUFORGEN 2009, www.euforgen.org

First published online on 26 March 2005 - Updated on 30 July 2006



Technical guidelines for genetic conservation and use

### Italian stone pine

*Pinus pinea*

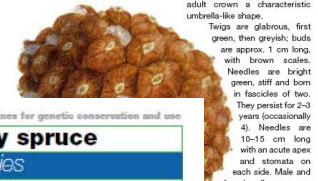
B. Fady, S. Fineschi and G.G. Vendramin  
 INRA, Mediterranean Forest Research Unit, Avignon, France  
 CNR, Plant Protection Institute, Florence, Italy  
 CNR, Plant Genetics Institute, Florence, Italy

These Technical Guidelines are intended to assist those who cherish the valuable Italian stone pine gene pool and its inheritance, through conserving valuable seed sources or use in practical forestry. The focus is on conserving the genetic diversity of the species at the European scale. The recommendations provided in this module should be regarded as a commonly agreed basis to be complemented and further developed in local, national or regional conditions. The Guidelines are based on the available knowledge of the species and on widely accepted methods for the conservation of forest genetic resources.

#### Biology and ecology

Italian stone pine (*Pinus pinea* L.) is the only representative of the Section *Pinus*, subgenus *Pinus*. A tree 10–25 m tall, it has long horizontally spreading or ascending branches that give its adult crown a characteristic umbrella-like shape.

Twigs are glabrous, first green, then greyish; buds are approx. 1 cm long, with brown scales. Needles are bright green, stiff and born in fascicles of two. They persist for 2–3 years (occasionally 4). Needles are 10–15 cm long with an acute apex and stomata on each side. Male and female flowers are located on the same tree monoxeously. Yellow pollen sacs are located in clusters at the base of the season's shoot; stamens are erect, approx. 1 cm long. Pollen is transported



Technical guidelines for genetic conservation and use

### Norway spruce

*Picea abies*

Tore Skjerve  
 Norwegian Forest Research Institute, Ås, Norway

These Technical Guidelines are intended to assist those who cherish the valuable Norway spruce gene pool and its inheritance, through conserving valuable seed sources or use in practical forestry. The focus is on conserving the genetic diversity of the species at the European scale. The recommendations provided in this module should be regarded as a commonly agreed basis to be complemented and further developed in local, national or regional conditions. The Guidelines are based on the available knowledge of the species and on widely accepted methods for the conservation of forest genetic resources.

#### Biology and ecology

Norway spruce (*Picea abies* L.)



Technical guidelines for genetic conservation and use

### European white elm

*Ulmus laevis*

Eric Collin  
 CEMAGREF, Nogent-sur-Vernisson, France

These Technical Guidelines are intended to assist those who cherish the valuable white elm gene pool and its inheritance, through conserving valuable seed sources or use in practical forestry. The focus is on conserving the genetic diversity of the species at the European scale. The recommendations provided in this module should be regarded as a commonly agreed basis to be complemented and further developed in local, national or regional conditions. The Guidelines are based on the available knowledge of the species and on widely accepted methods for the conservation of forest genetic resources.

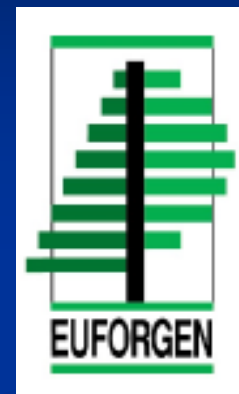
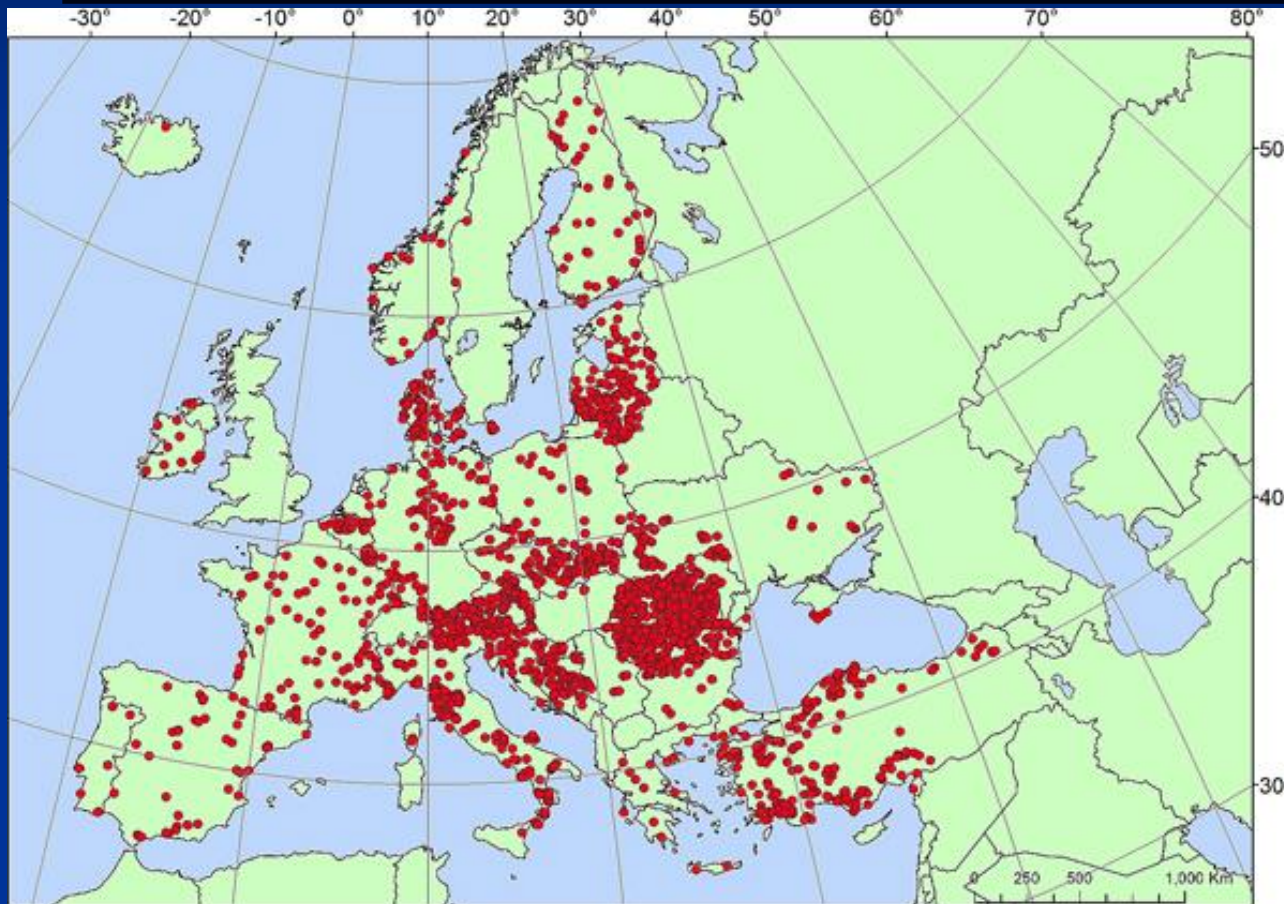
#### Biology and ecology

White elm (*Ulmus laevis* Pavi) is allogamous, and does not hybridize with the other European elm species which belong to a different section of the genus. Flowers are hermaphroditic and wind pollinated. Germination time is short and seed production is regular and prolific, with a high percentage of viable seed and high germination rates. Seeds dispersed by wind or carried downstream by rivers, ensure the colonisation of new sites. Root suckering may play a role in the regeneration of established stands whereas stool suckering is thought to be poor. The typical habitat of the white elm is riparian deciduous forest, where it can tolerate prolonged flooding for longer periods.



Euforgen : more than **technical guidelines** and **distribution maps** widely used by researchers and managers alike

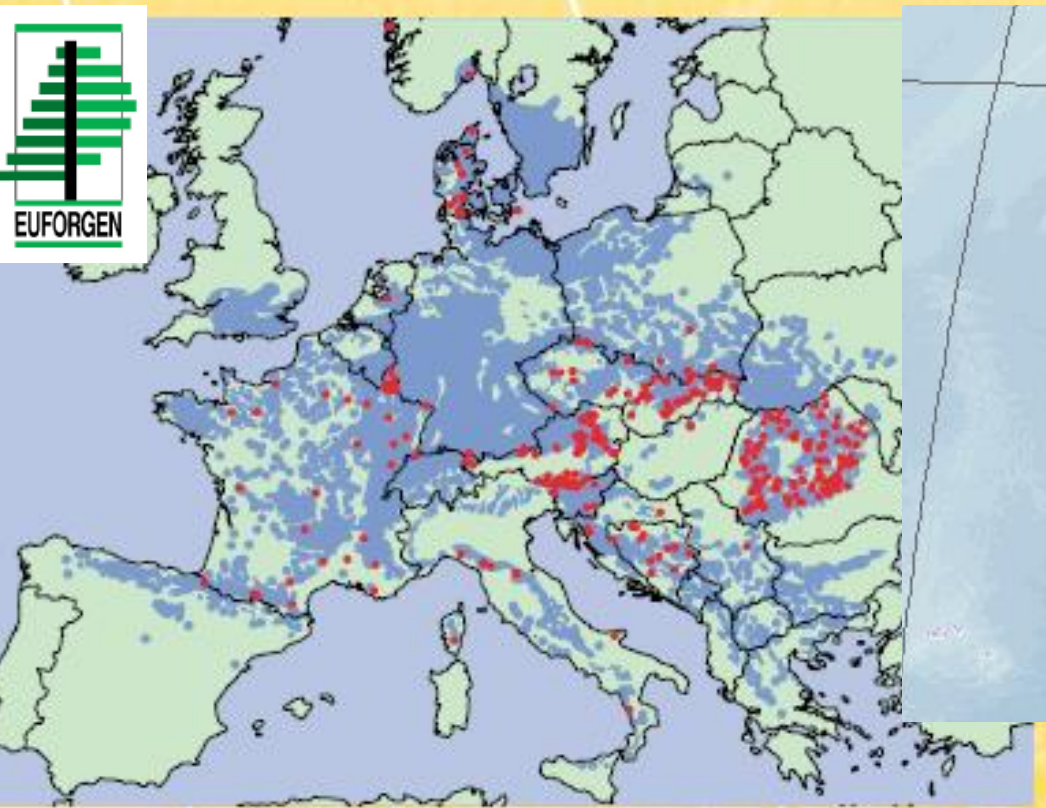
# *In situ conservation of forest genetic resources (FGR): the pan-European dimension*



Koskela et al. (Biol Cons) 2013  
Lefèvre et al. (Cons Biol) 2013

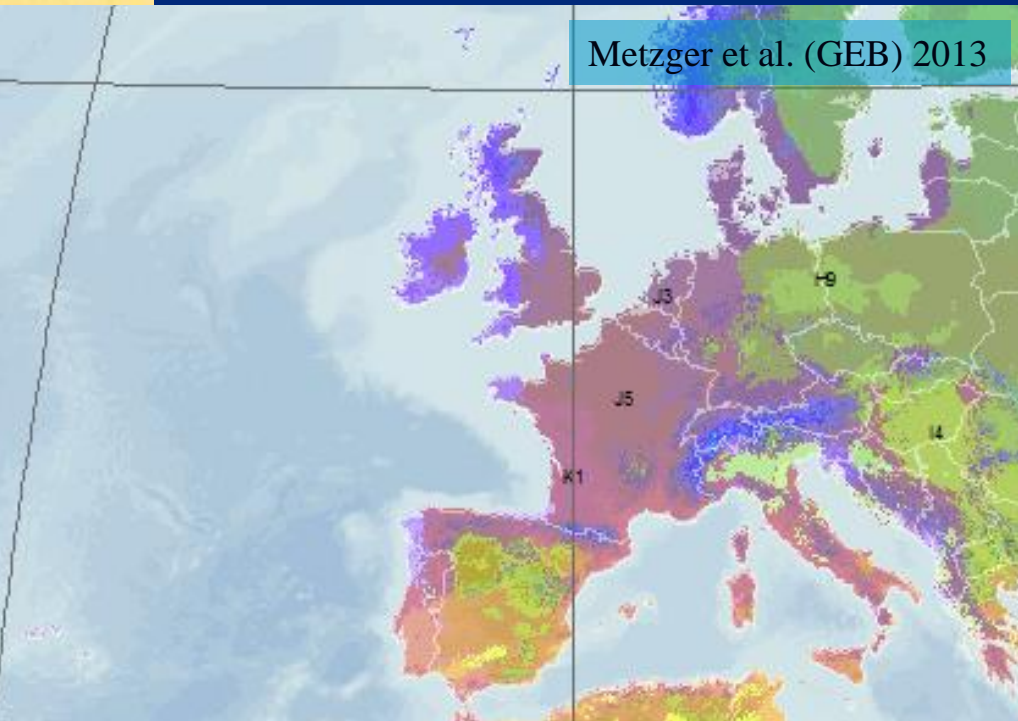
The EUFGIS database: **2774** CUs and **98** tree species in **31** countries. Each unit is managed for genetic conservation of one or more target tree species under a set of minimum requirements.

# *In situ conservation of forest genetic resources (FGR): the pan-European dimension*

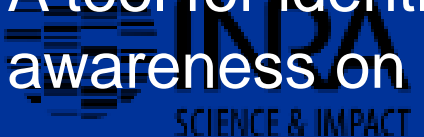


Distribution map of European beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and its gene conservation units (red dots).

Metzger et al. (GEB) 2013



A tool for identifying gaps in pan-European strategies, raising awareness on conservation needs, particularly at range margins



# *Why an ex situ approach ?*

A pragmatic approach:

- When in situ methods are not possible (extirpation)
- Create and reinforce collections of genetic material
- Methodological development (gene banks, cryo-conservation, etc)

Appropriate models:

- Pandemic risks (insects, pathogens)
- Habitat destruction (e.g. river banks, land use change)
- Disseminated «noble» species at risk from silviculture
- Genetic pollution

=> **Marginal populations**

# *An example of species under pandemic risk: Ulmus sp.*

Espèces menacées par une pandémie

orme champêtre, o. de montagne, o. lisse



20 ans de la CRGF, colloque 16 nov. 2011, Paris

*conservation  
dynamique*

*reconstitution  
de haies  
champêtres*



# ***An example of species where risks lie on habitat: field hedges***



Species in field hedges such as wild cherry (*Prunus avium*), service tree (*Sorbus domestica*) and English walnut (*Juglans regia*) need ex situ conservation



# ***An example of species where risks lie on habitat: English walnut***

A conservation site for remarkable genotypes in southern France



English walnut (*Juglans regia*) faces extirpation in many forests as it is over logged for its highly valuable cabinet-making wood

# ***Example of a species where risks lie on habitat degradation and genetic pollution***



CRGF



Black poplar (*Populus nigra*) in riparian communities in Europe

URCES  
RES

***Example of a species where risks lie on habitat degradation and genetic pollution***

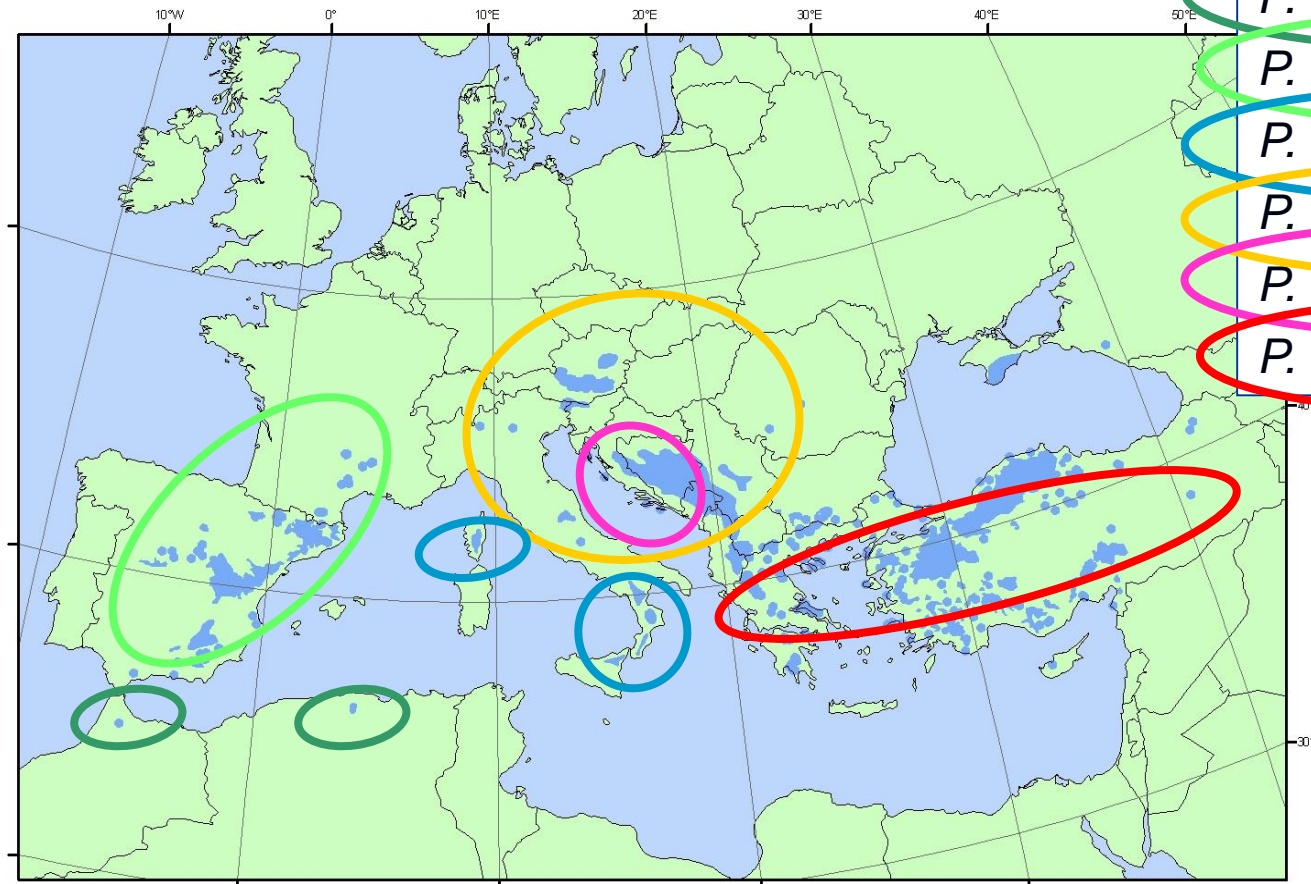
Salzmann pine (*P. nigra salzmanni*)

# *An integrated FGR conservation and sustainable use program for Salzmann pine in France*

**Funding : DRAAF LR 2007-2008 (38 kEuros HT excluding permanent staff)  
ONF LR 2009 – 2015 (500 kEuros HT excluding permanent staff)  
Partners : ONF LR - ONF CGAF Orléans – Pépinière des Milles**

# Geography and taxonomy of black pine

## *Pinus nigra*



*P. n. mauretunica*,

*P. n. salzmanni*,

*P. n. laricio*,

*P. n. nigra*,

*P. n. dalmatica*,

*P. n. pallasiana*



EUFORGEN Secretariat  
c/o Biodiversity International  
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00057 Maoccarese (Fiumicino)  
Rome, Italy  
Tel. (+39)066118251  
Fax (+39)0661979661  
euf\_secretariat@cgiar.org  
More information  
and other maps at:  
[www.euforgen.org](http://www.euforgen.org)

This distribution map, showing the natural distribution area of *Pinus nigra* was compiled by members of the EUFORGEN Networks and was published in: Isajev, V., B. Fady, H. Semerci and V. Andonovski. 2004. EUFORGEN Technical Guidelines for genetic conservation and use of European black pine (*Pinus nigra*). International Plant Genetic Resources Institute, Rome, Italy. 6 pages

First published online on 26 March 2005 - Updated on 30 July 2008

0 250 500 1,000 Km

# *Geography and taxonomy of black pine in France: marginal populations*



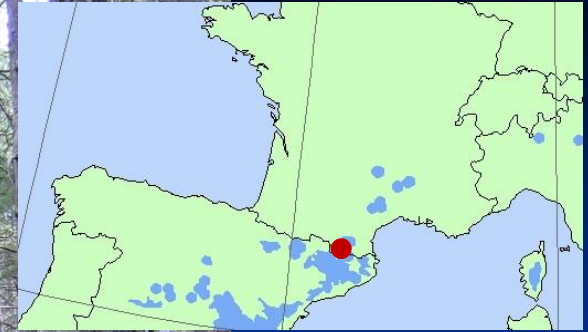
## *Uniqueness, risks and protection needs*

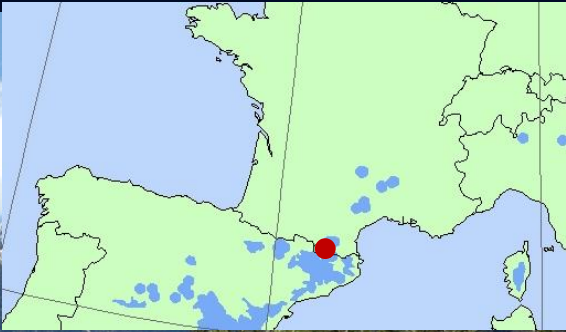
- Wild fires and climate change: risks on habitat (loss)
  - Hybridization: potential risk (benefit?) for genetic resources
- 
- Priority habitat under Habitats directive (D. 92/43 CEE of 21 May 1992) : « Endemic (sub-) Mediterranean black pine forests : Salzmann pine ».
  - European, national and regional issue: conservation and sustainable use within the national and regional biodiversity strategies.



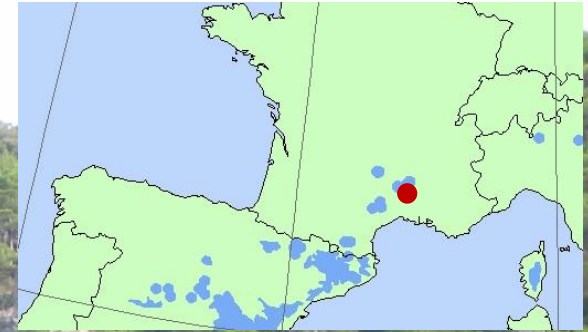








*A landmark Salzmann pine forest in France: St Guilhem le Désert*



*Salzmann pine on cliffs in the Tarn river canyon*



## ***The objectives of the « Salzman » project: ex situ collection of autochthonous pines***

Finding autochthonous Salzman pines in France.

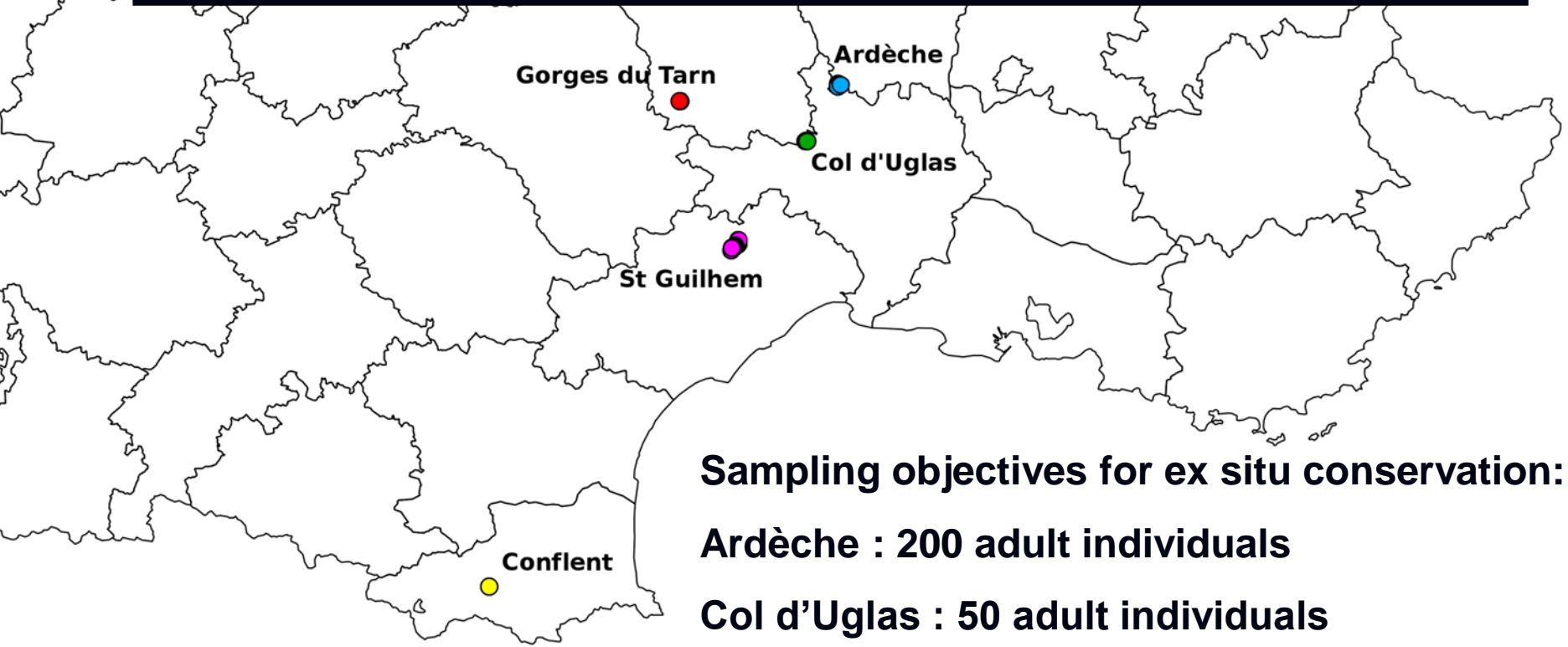
Sampling grafts for ex-situ conservation in clonal plantations.

Sampling (leaves and seeds) for the study of genetic diversity:

- Evolutionary history, uniqueness of populations for conservation
- Contemporary gene flow and mating system

Candidate genes of adaptive significance

# ***Finding autochthonous Salzmann pines in France***



**Sampling objectives for ex situ conservation:**

**Ardèche : 200 adult individuals**

**Col d'Uglas : 50 adult individuals**

**Gorges du Tarn : 50 adult individuals**

**Saint Guilhem le Désert : 300 adult individuals**

**Conflent : 200 adult individuals**



# ***Finding autochthonous Salzmann pines in France***

Wood cores from a candidate tree: age is only practical guaranty of autochthony





# ***Finding autochthonous Salzmann pines in France***



St Guilhem

Sentiers

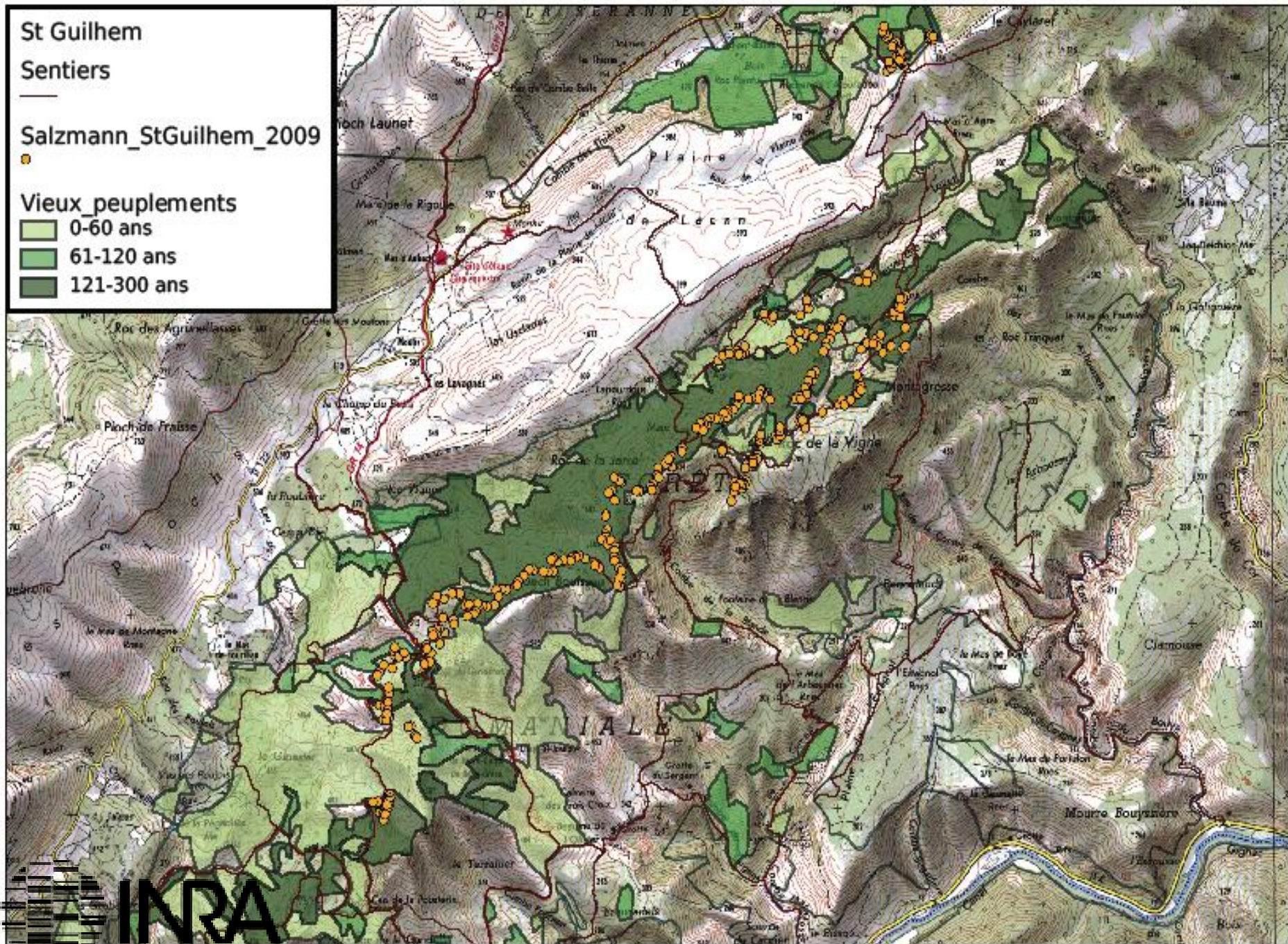
Salzmann\_StGuilhem\_2009

Vieux\_peuplements

0-60 ans

61-120 ans

121-300 ans

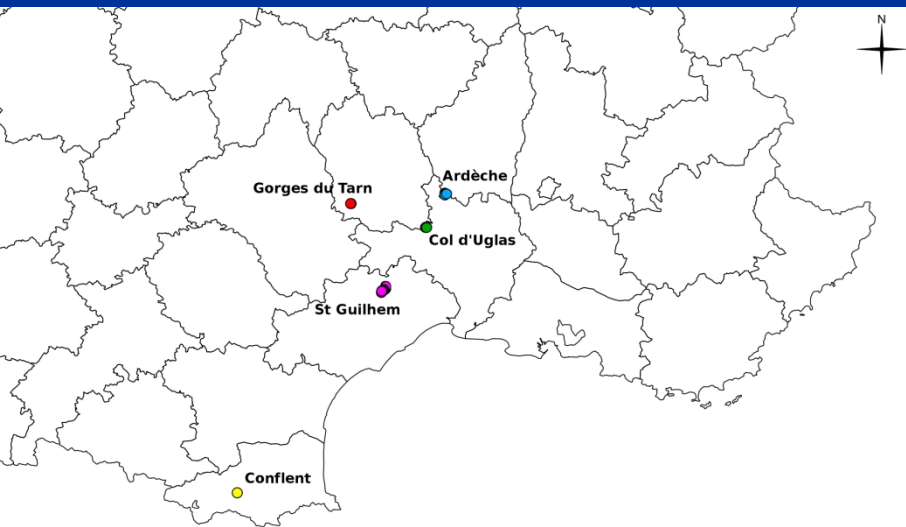


A photograph showing a person in a blue helmet and dark clothing climbing a tall, slender pine tree on a steep, rocky mountain slope. The person is positioned high up the trunk, likely to reach the upper canopy for sampling. The background features rugged, light-colored rock formations and other trees, some with autumn-colored foliage. The overall scene is a high-altitude, mountainous environment.

# ***Sampling for grafting and genetic monitoring***

# *Sampling for grafting and genetic monitoring*

Sampling requires strong field experience. It is time-consuming and expensive



Climbing an old autochthonous Salzmann pine



# *Plant material for grafting and conservation.*





## *Storing seeds*

- 
- Extracting seeds from cones
  - Weighing
  - X Rays for seed quality
  - Data base and meta-data

# Grafting (March – April)







# ***Grafting: a high performance cloning technique with uneven success rates for old material***

Success rate in 2008 :  
20 genotypes out of 244 (8%)

Success rate in 2009 :  
139 génotypes sur 260 (53%)

.....

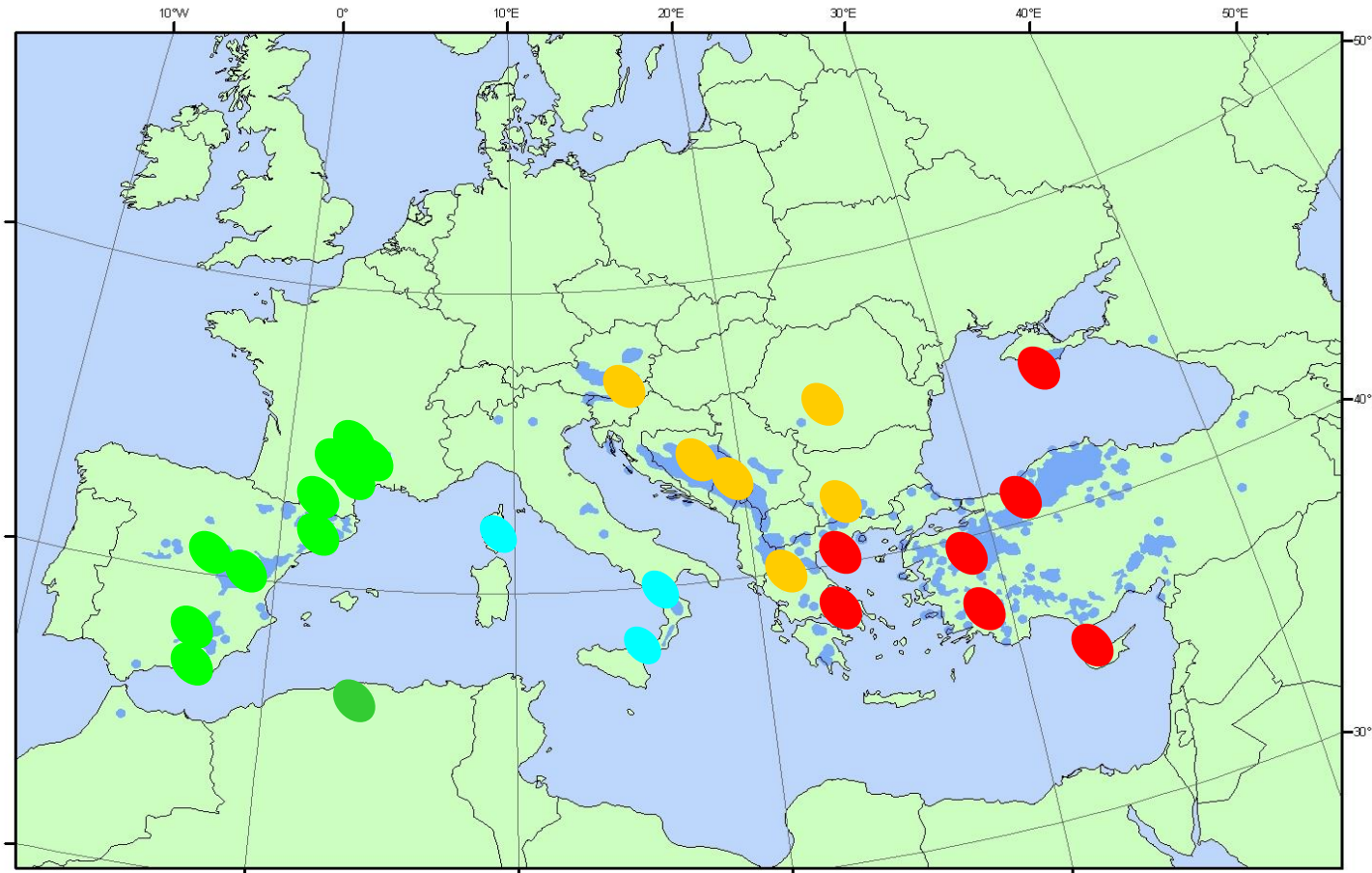
Success rate in 2012 :  
741 génotypes sur 800 (92%)

Objective: 800 genotypes



# Retracing the evolutionary history of Salzman pine and black pine

## *Pinus nigra*



*P. n. salzmanni*

*P. n. mauretunica*

*P. n. laricio*

*P. n. pallasiana*

*P. n. nigra*,  
*P. n. dalmatica*

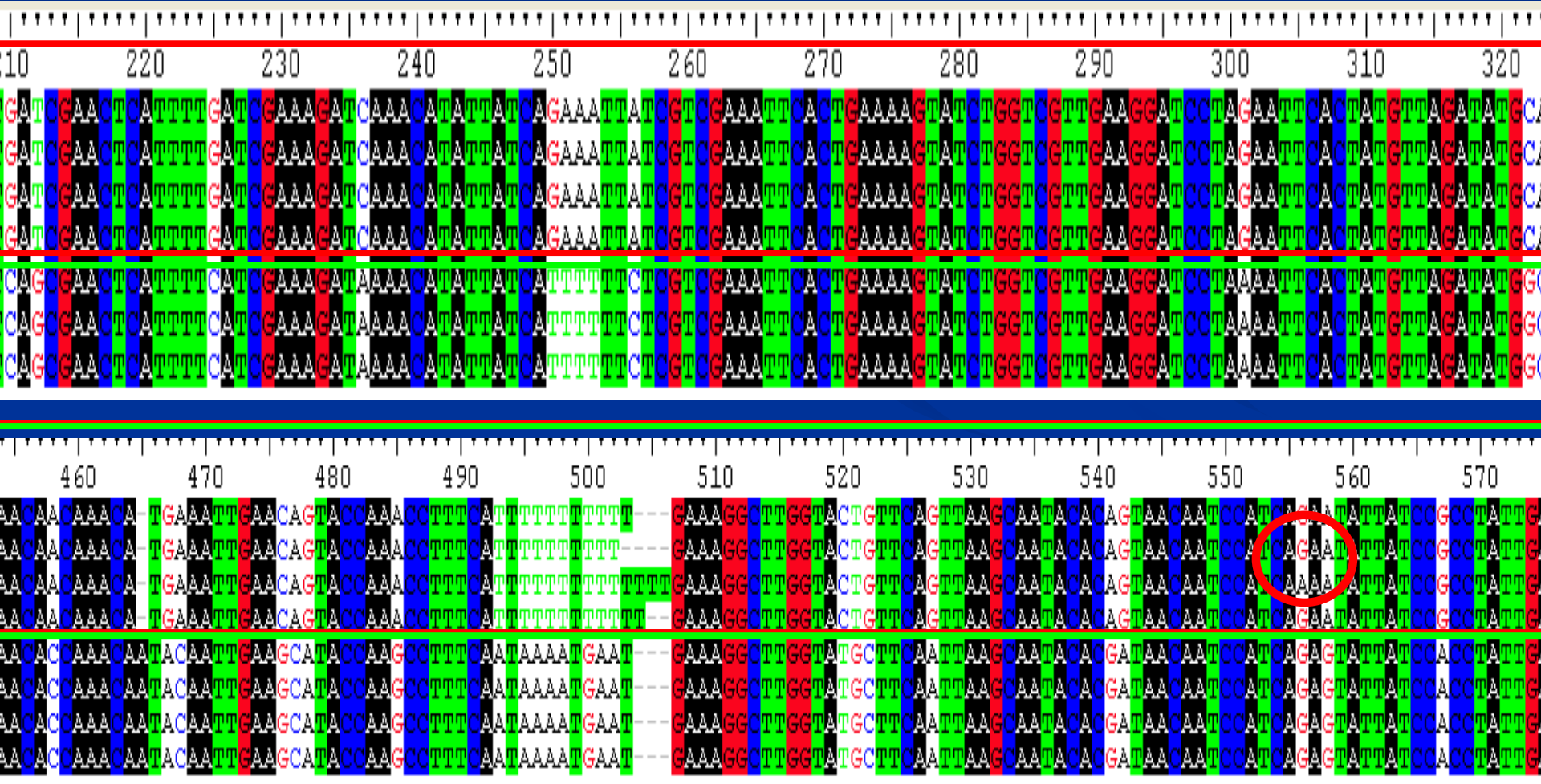
This distribution map, showing the natural distribution area of *Pinus nigra* was compiled by members of the EUFORGEN Networks and was published in Slavov, V. and Gady, I., Semerci and V. Andonovski. 2004. EUFORGEN Technical Guidelines for genetic conservation and use of European black pine (*Pinus nigra*). International Plant Genetic Resources Institute, Rome, Italy. 6 pages

First published online on 26 March 2005 - Updated on 30 July 2008

0 250 500 1,000 Km

# The DNA barcode approach: black pines are a homogeneous genetic group

Abies vs Pinus nigra : 10 genes, 6 amplify in conifers



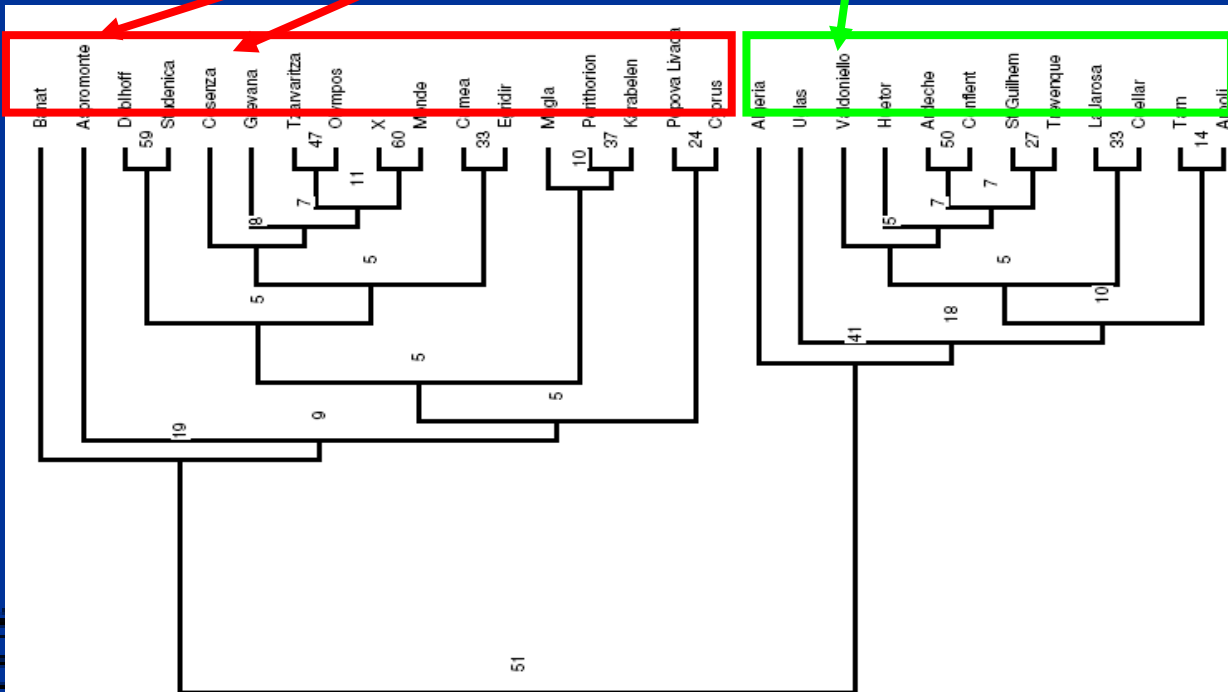
# The genetic structure of black pines: two main phylogenetic groups... and strong gene flow

*P. n. nigra*, *P. n. dalmatica*,  
*P. n. pallasiana*

*P. n. laricio*

*P. n. mauretanicus*, *P. n. salzmanni*

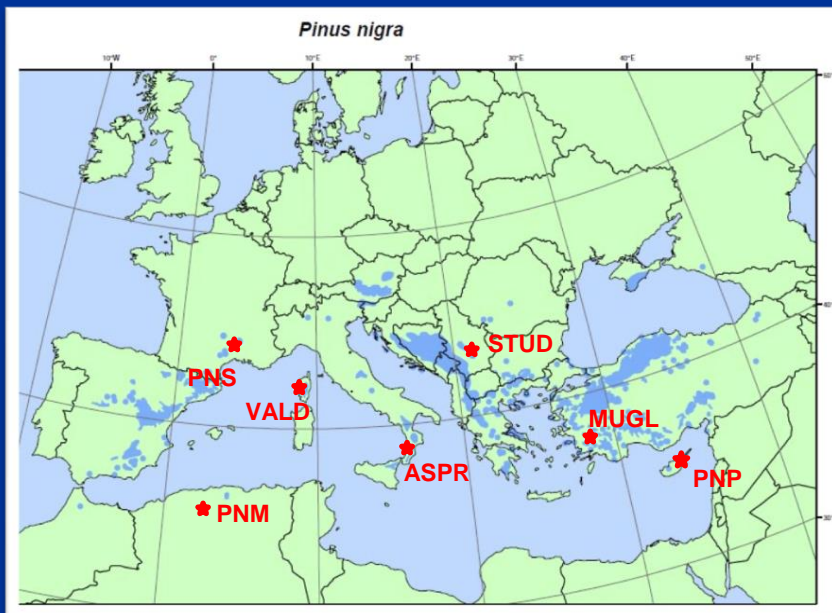
UPGMA  
4nSSR et 2cpSSR  
Distance Cavalli Sforza  
10000 bootstraps (locus)



Salzmann pine:  
a monophyletic  
group within the  
Western black  
pine lineage

# Focusing on 7 populations using *n*SSRs and SNPs at adaptive genes

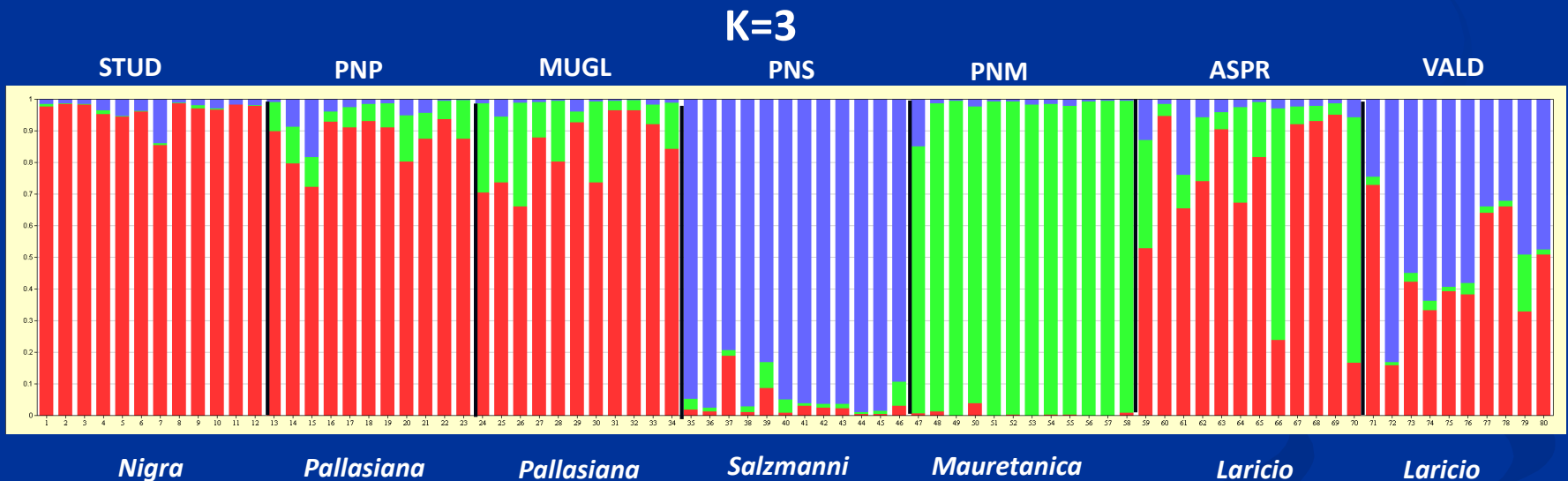
- Selected 12 genes (0\_10162\_01; 0\_10384\_02; 0\_10667\_02; 0\_12216\_02; 0\_14221\_01; 0\_16810\_02; 0\_18101\_02; 0\_2078\_01; 0\_6293\_01; 0\_7916\_01; 0\_8479\_01; 2\_1405\_01; CL4470Ct1\_01)
- Optimization of PCR condition on a subset of individuals
- Amplification of 86 individuals from 7 populations
- Editing of the sequences



- PNM\_ *P.nigra mauretanic* (Algeria, Djurdjura mountains)
- ASPR\_ *P.nigra laricio* (Italy, Calabria, Aspromonte)
- VALD\_ *P.nigra laricio* (France, Corsica, Valdoniello)
- PNS\_ *P.nigra salzmanni* (France, Saint Guilhem)
- STUD\_ *P.nigra nigra* (Serbia, Studenica)
- MUGL\_ *P.nigra pallasiana* (Turkey, Mugla)
- PNP\_ *P.nigra pallasiana* (Cyprus)

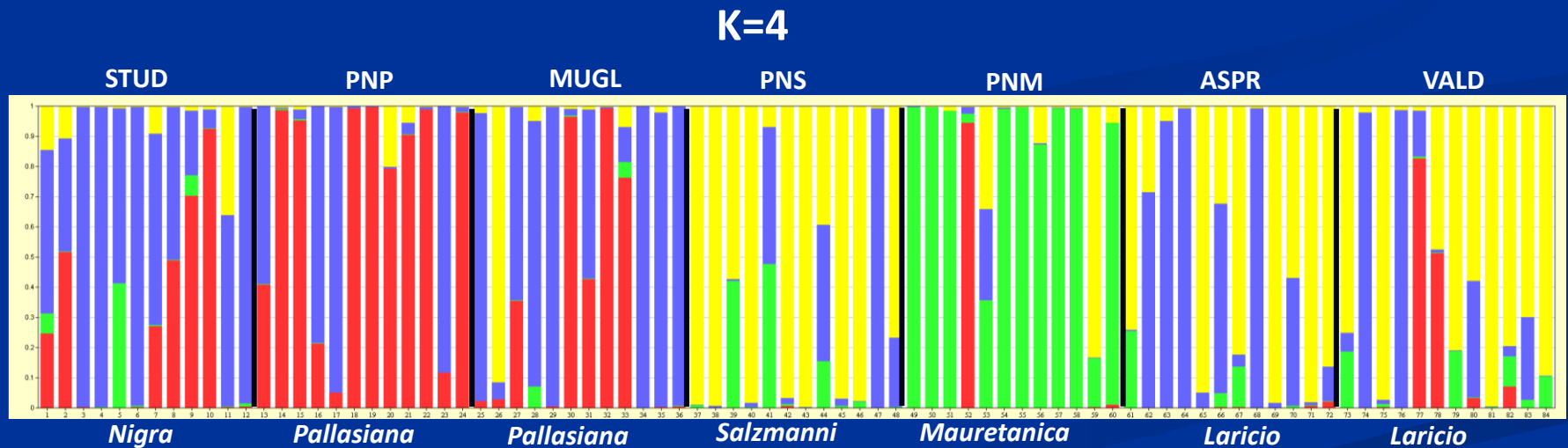
# *The genetic structure of black pines: two main phylogenetic groups... but strong gene flow*

TESS Bayesian clustering: Admix(BYM) model\_nuclear SSR\_nigra (4 nSSRs, 80 individuals); K from 2 to 10, 5 iterations (Durand et al. MBE 2009)



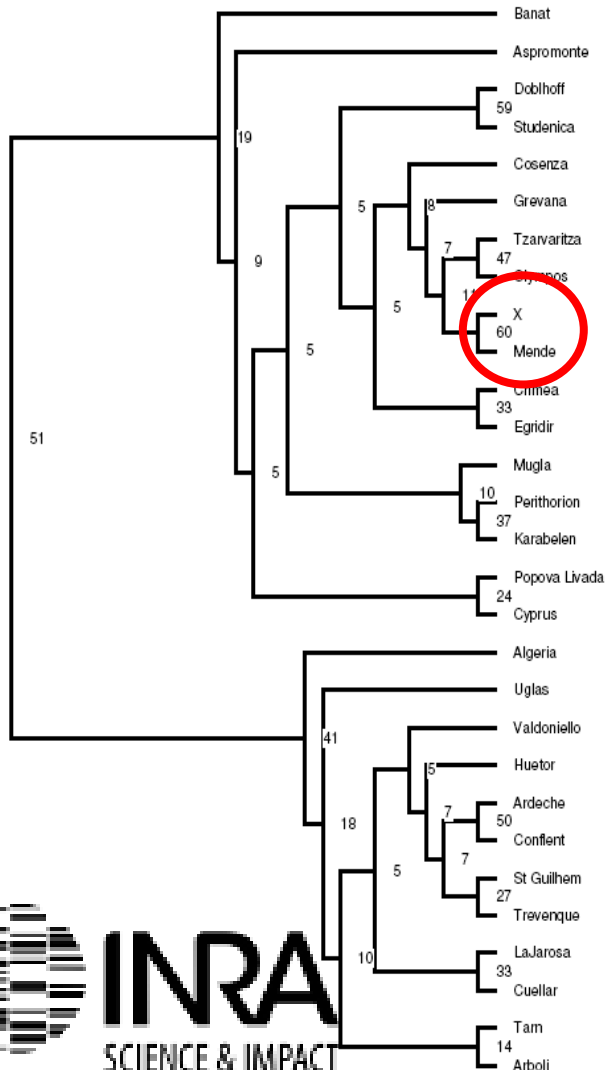
# *The genetic structure of black pines: two main phylogenetic groups... but strong gene flow*

TESS: Admix(BYM) model\_SNP\_nigra (265 loci, 84 individuals) 10000 burns 50000 sweep; K from 2 to 10, 5 iteration

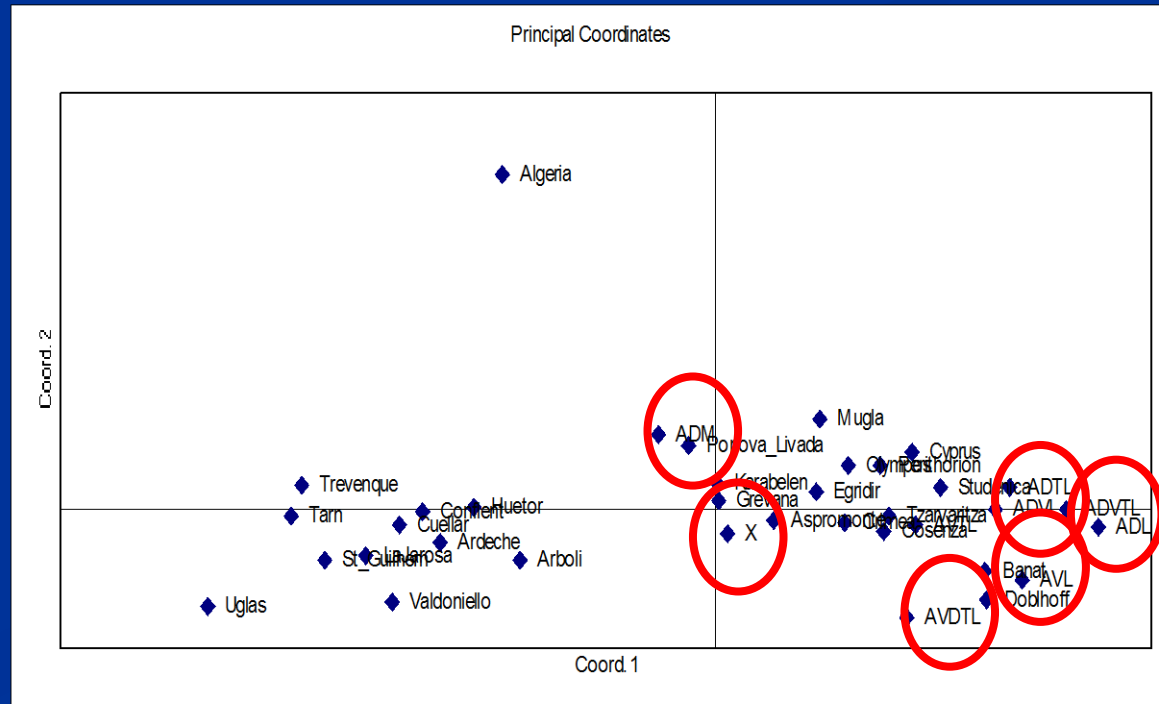




# Hybridization in France : fiction or reality?

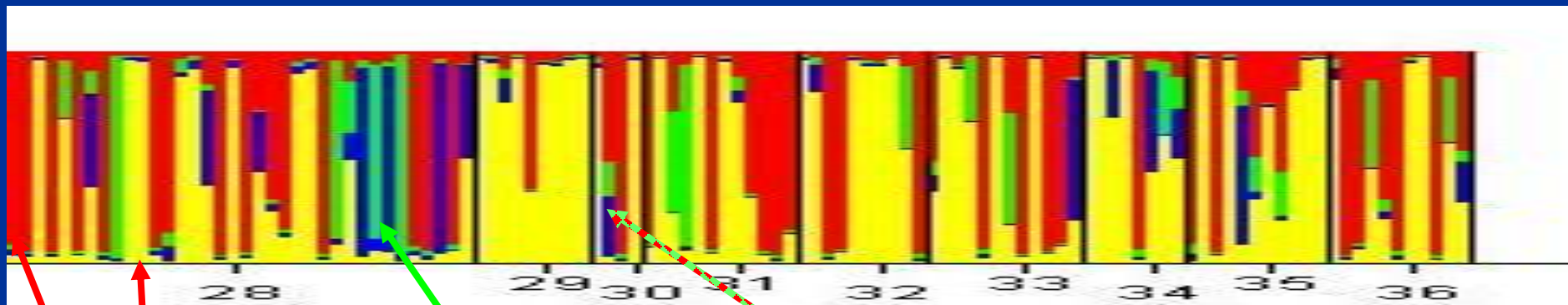


One phenotypically suspect population (Mende, 8 morphological types) et one potentially hybrid from gene flow (Parlatges = X)



# Hybridization in France : fiction or reality?

Detecting hybrids at  $K = 4$ . To be continued using more markers

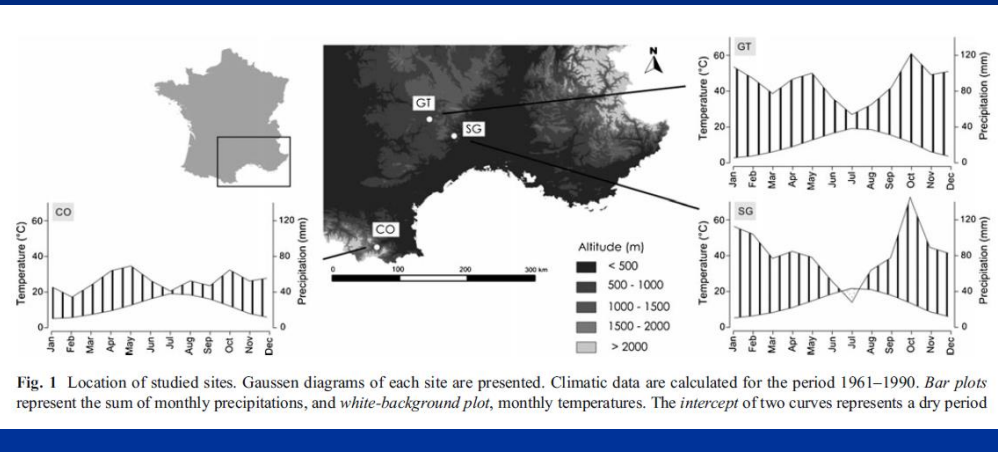


*P. n. nigra*,  
*P. n. dalmatica*,  
*P. n. pallasiana*

*P. n. salzmanni*

Hybrid black  
pines?

# Considering adaptation in addition to demography and evolutionary history. Drift or local adaptation?



• **Results** The Conflent population showed a strong sensitivity to spring precipitation deficits (March to June), while at Gorges du Tarn and Saint-Guilhem sites, autumn (October) of the previous year and winter (February) temperatures explained more variance than precipitations and were, respectively, negatively and positively correlated to radial growth.

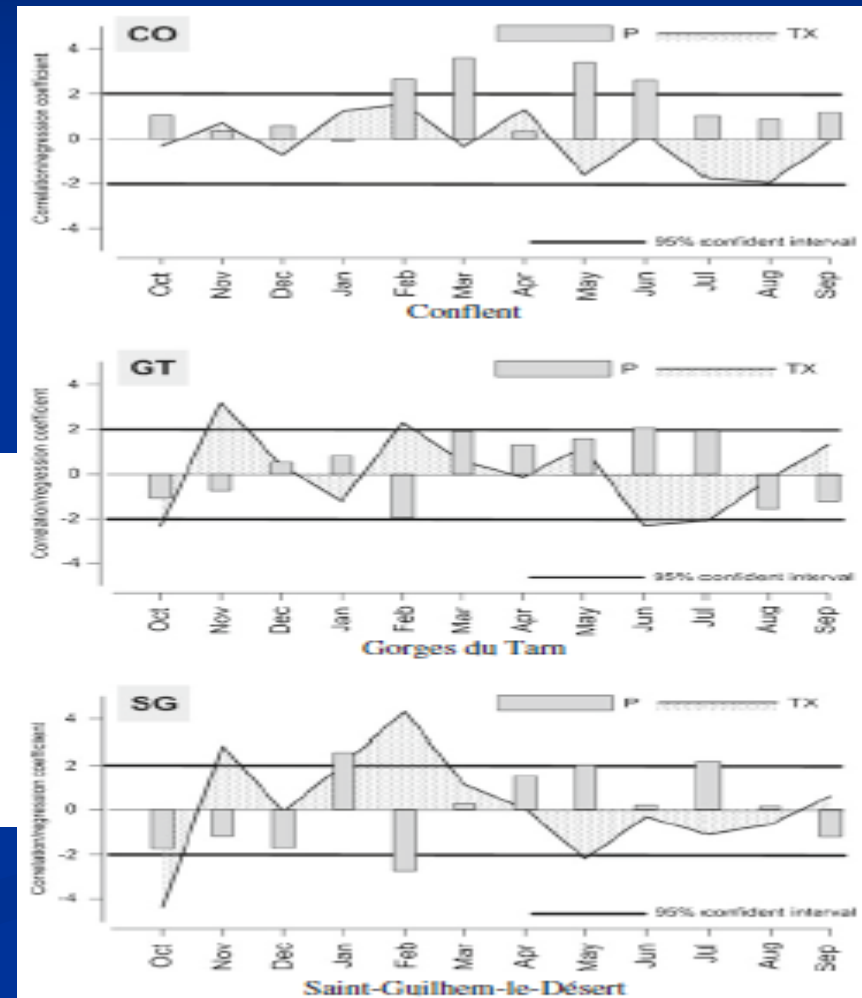


Fig. 2 Correlation/regression coefficients between monthly maximum temperatures (TX) and monthly precipitations (P) and standardized training chronologies at CO, GT, and SG. Above +2 fold line and

# HÉRAULT Une pouponnière pour les pins de Salzmann

Midi Libre  
FAITS DIVERS

RÉGION

Dimanche 16 août 2009 2

## Hérault L'ONF au chevet des derniers pins de Salzmann



**Montpellier Un forcené maîtrisé par le GIPN**  
Des hommes du Groupe d'intervention de la police nationale (GIPN) sont intervenus, hier en fin d'après-midi, dans le quartier de Port-Marianne à Montpellier. Ils ont maîtrisé un homme de 33 ans qui, depuis la fin de matinée, menaçait de se jeter de son appartement, au quatrième étage d'un immeuble. Souffrant de schizophrénie bipolaire, ce Montpellierain a été évacué vers le CHU.

**Frontignan Un forcené menace puis se rend**  
Hier vers 18 h, les policiers de Sète sont intervenus à la cité Calmette, à Frontignan. Dans un des appartements, un homme menaçait de mettre fin à ses jours et de faire sauter l'immeuble. Par mesure de sécurité, la cité a été évacuée mais finalement l'intéressé s'est dédit sans problème. L'homme, un Frontignanais de 51 ans, s'est rendu à la police dès son arrivée. Il a été conduit à l'hôpital de Sète.

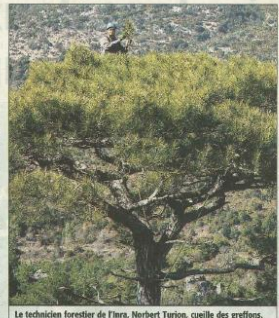
**Nîmes Deux gardiens agressés à la prison**  
Deux surveillants ont été agressés par un détenu le 13 août à la maison d'arrêt de Nîmes, lors d'une promenade. Un soufflet d'une fracture du nez et de dents cassées, le second serait légèrement touché. Les syndicats de surveillants mettent en cause la surpopulation carcérale, le cholest, et les sous-effectifs. Philippe Assenzo, délégué IC-pénitentiaire, rappelle « qu'il n'y a pas de douche dans les cellules où la température monte parfois jusqu'à 40°C ».

**Perpignan Un immeuble incendié**  
Le feu a pris hier matin, dans un immeuble de trois étages.

**ENVIRONNEMENT**  
→ L'Office national des forêts pilote un programme de conservation de l'espèce en voie d'extinction

**En cette belle journée**, des techniciens forestiers de l'Inra perchés sur les plus hautes branches des pins de Salzmann du massif de Saint-Guilhem-le-Désert (Hérault), sont en train de terminer la cueillette de greffons et des cônes. Quoique 4 000 greffons et 1 000 cônes ont été récupérés dans la région à des fins de recherche et de reproduction. Les greffons sont destinés à une pépinière d'Etat chargée de la multiplication végétative. Quant aux graines, elles intéressent les généticiens de l'Inra d'Avignon et ceux du conservatoire génétique des arbres forestiers d'Orléans.

Des opérations qui entrent dans le cadre d'un programme de conservation (2008-2012) des populations françaises de pin de Salzmann et doté d'un budget de 600 000 €. L'objectif est d'étudier cette espèce pour mieux la protéger, mais aussi pour son intérêt écologique. « Le pin de Salzmann qui n'était jusqu'à présent qu'une curiosité botanique est depuis quelques années porteur d'espoir », explique Daniel Cambon, responsable technique ONF du projet. Cette espèce autochtone a traversé les siècles. Autre qualité : elle fournit un excellent bois d'œuvre. Dans le massif de Saint-Guilhem, l'étude des charbons (\*) (résidus de feux) a montré que les moines de l'abbaye de Gellone, 800 ans après JC, exploitaient déjà cette essence. A l'heure du réchauffement climatique, les gestionnaires de la forêt se demandent si ce pin ne pourrait pas constituer une alternative à des espèces menacées par la



Le technicien forestier de l'Inra, Norbert Turion, cueille des greffons.

sécheresse comme le pin sylvestre. « La problématique n'est pas de sauver le pin géologique car une production seurs ont rebouillie à l'époque avec des sous-espèces voisines comme le pin noir d'Australie. Le pin de Salzmann a parfois été étudié comme arbre de Boulogne (Gard) pour roubloter avec du pin maritime employé alors comme bois de mines. L'intérêt patrimonial, mais aussi

la réglementation exigent que les graines destinées au reboisement soient issues de souches pures. Aussi afin d'éviter les sujets hybrides, le projet a débuté avec le recensement des vieux arbres ceux de plus de 140 ans, présents avant les reboisements. Ces ancêtres, baptisés à l'origine pins de Montpellier, ont été sondés, usqués, positionnés par GPS puis cartographiés. 280 arbres (dont 120 à Saint-Guilhem) ont été sélectionnés sur différents peuplements. Et ce n'est pas terminé. L'objectif est de 500 individus clonés, greffés ou mis en collocation. »

Texte et photos : Chloé GUBAUD

(\*) Etude de Jean-Louis Vermet (CNRS Montpellier)

**Patrimoine**  
Autrefois répandu jusqu'en plaine, le pin de Salzmann est une sous-espèce de pin noir découverte en 1810 par Salzmann, botaniste allemand, dans le massif de Saint-Guilhem (Hérault), et présente à l'état naturel dans le sud de la France et en Espagne. Elle a régressé jusqu'à devenir une des espèces les plus rares de France avec 3 000 hectares (100 fois moins qu'en Espagne) situés majoritairement dans les forêts publiques du Languedoc-Roussillon.



Franck, Olivier et Norbert.

« On est un peu comme les pins de Salzmann, une espèce en voie de disparition... »

**REPÈRES**

**Copier pour protéger**  
« 1 400 sujets vont être greffés », explique Patrice Bréchet, responsable de la Pépinière forestière d'Etat d'An-en-Provence. Les plants reboisés ont minimum 2 ans à la pépinière. On table sur 50 % de pertes en raison de la difficulté technique de l'opération et de 50 % de greffons par sujet, nous pourrions créer trois copies par pin sauvegardé. Récupérés par l'ONF, les pins sont destinés à la création d'un verger à graines dans le Sud-Ouest.



**Recherche par ADN**

« Nous avons d'abord travaillé à l'identification de la forêt de la forêt et à l'identification génétique, ensuite nous étudierons les graines. Il s'agit de connaître le niveau de pollution génétique de chaque peuplement afin d'établir une carte d'identité des populations françaises de ces pins et de sélectionner ceux qui seront les plus à même de produire de la graine pour le reboisement », explique Bruno Fady, directeur de recherches à l'unité Ecologie des forêts méditerranéennes d'Avignon. Les premiers résultats montrent que les forêts de Saint-Guilhem et de l'Écluse procurent sur le plan génétique, présentent également une grande diversité génétique et sont, de ce fait, intéressantes pour la conservation.

→ Une grande attention est portée à cette espèce menacée

→ 4 000 greffons ont été récupérés dans le massif de Saint-Guilhem

→ L'objectif : atteindre les 800 individus clonés ou greffés

« Cette espèce locale nous touche »

Lorsqu'ils sont arrivés à proximité des pins de Salzmann

approché cette centaine d'arbres reliques qu'il n'avait survécu que parce qu'ils étaient accrochés à la falaise et donc inaccessibles.

Le quotidien de ces trois techniciens forestiers, natchés à l'unité expérimentale forestière méditerranéenne de l'Inra d'Avignon, est particulièrement riche et varié. Norbert Turion, responsable de l'équipe, « Avec regard et le suivi de cette espèce en cours, on est au cœur de l'action, cela nous touche particulièrement... Et

à son expérience acquise sur le terrain, sa technicité, elle constitue le premier maillon de la chaîne des programmes de recherche. Les activités sont multiples et souvent pluri-actives sur plusieurs années. Le travail requiert d'excellentes conditions physiques, une grande disponibilité et

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**Le pin Salzmann menacée par le...**

Accéder au site | Toutes les vidéos



**Le pin Salzmann menacée par le réchauffement climatique**  
par j tf1 weekend



***The story continues...***  
***The evolutionary history and the genetic diversity of key functional traits in Pinus nigra: consequences for the conservation of Pinus nigra salzmannii***

- The PhD thesis of Guia Giovannelli
- New genomic resources from transcriptome sequencing: collaboration with CNR Florence
- Is there local adaptation for radial growth?
- A new niche model for Pinus nigra subspecies

## ***Conserving genetic resources of marginal populations: challenges that remain***

- A need for conservation strategies that include a consideration of genetic diversity
- A need to prove the « value » of marginal populations (demography and adaptation)
- A need to link with habitat conservation and adaptive management strategies under global change
- A need for both large scale political agreements and coordination and for locally sound implementation
- A need to convince society!

***A need to include marginal populations in genetic  
and habitat conservation networks***

**Thank you for your attention!**