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**CONTAMINATED SITES**  
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# CONTAMINATED SITES 2022

SENEC, SLOVAK REPUBLIC, 12 – 14 OCTOBER 2022

*The activity has been implemented within the framework of national project  
**Information and providing advice on improving the quality of environment in Slovakia.**  
The project is cofinanced by Cohesion Fund of the EU under Operational programme Quality of Environment.*

# Remediation of a former mine technosol highly contaminated with As and Pb using (in)organic amendments combined with *Salix* species: a 5-year field study

Manhattan Lebrun

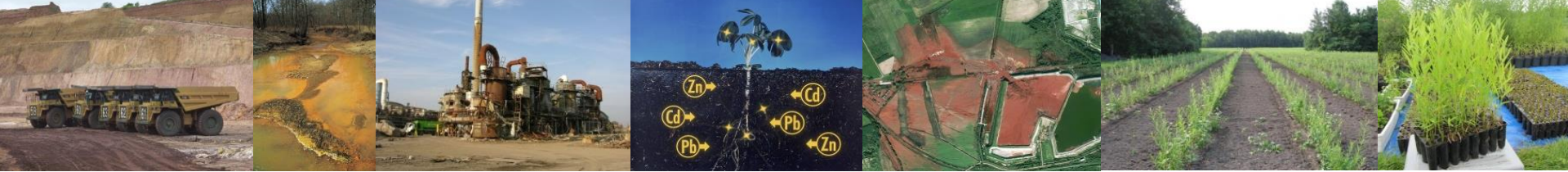
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# LBLGC

Laboratoire de Biologie des Ligneux  
et des Grandes Cultures  
UPRES EA 1207



# INRAE

## Remediation of a former mine technosol highly contaminated with As and Pb using (in)organic amendments combined with *Salix* species: a 5-year field study

Romain Nandillon<sup>a</sup>, Manhattan Lebrun<sup>ab</sup>, Yassine Chafik<sup>a</sup>, Florie Miard<sup>a</sup>, Sylvain Bourgerie<sup>a</sup>, Domenico Morabito<sup>a</sup>

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## The contaminated site of Pontgibaud

- ✓ Pontgibaud district (Auvergne-Rhône Alpes, France)
- ✓ Former Pb-Ag extraction mine
- ✓ Exploitation until end of XIX<sup>th</sup> century
- ✓ Study site: deposit for crushing of ore (GPS: 45°47'27"N; 2°49'38"E)





## The contaminated site of Pontgibaud

**Physico-chemical properties of Pontgibaud technosol (n = 3 ± SE)**

	Value	Unit
pH	4.60 ± 0.02	
Organic matter	2.60 ± 0.7	%
Organic Phosphorus	465 ± 17	mg.kg <sup>-1</sup>
Available Phosphorus	6 ± 1	mg.kg <sup>-1</sup>
Total Nitrogen	75 ± 3	mg.kg <sup>-1</sup>
Total Carbonates	0.7 ± 0.4	% CaCO <sub>3</sub>
Cation Exchange Capacity	2.3 ± 0.1	cmol.kg <sup>-1</sup>

- **Acidic**
- **Low fertility**

**Metal(loid) content (mg.kg<sup>-1</sup>) of Pontgibaud technosol (n = 3 ± SE)**

	Value	Limits*
[Al]	2010 ± 187	NA
[As]	<b>1501 ± 326</b>	<b>20</b>
[Cd]	0.26 ± 0.00	3
[Cr]	5 ± 0	150
[Cu]	52 ± 5	140
[Fe]	6518 ± 1639	50000
[Mn]	7 ± 0	80
[Ni]	<DL	50
[Pb]	<b>19228 ± 1531</b>	<b>300</b>
[Zn]	284 ± 20	300

\*Maximum permissible limit in soil (from Ashraf et al. 2019)

< DL = below detection limit (10 mg.kg<sup>-1</sup> Ni)

Data from Lebrun et al. 2020 (LDD)

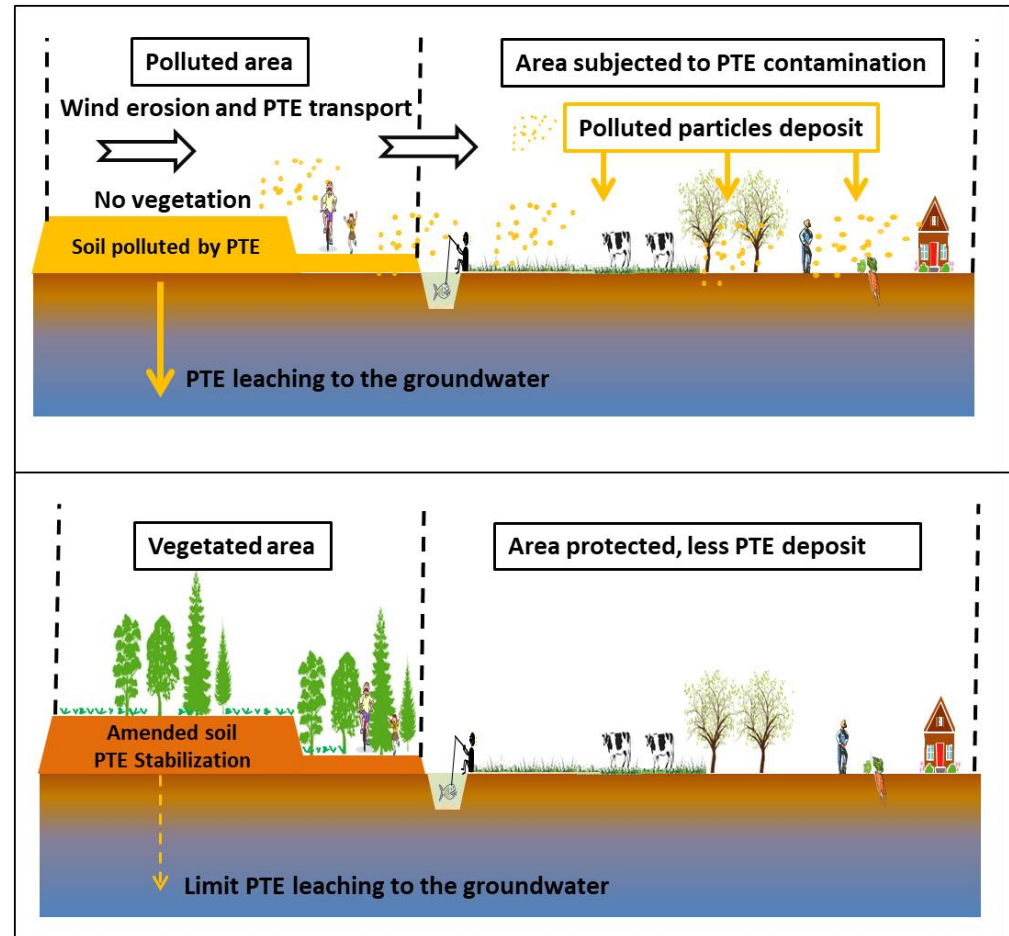




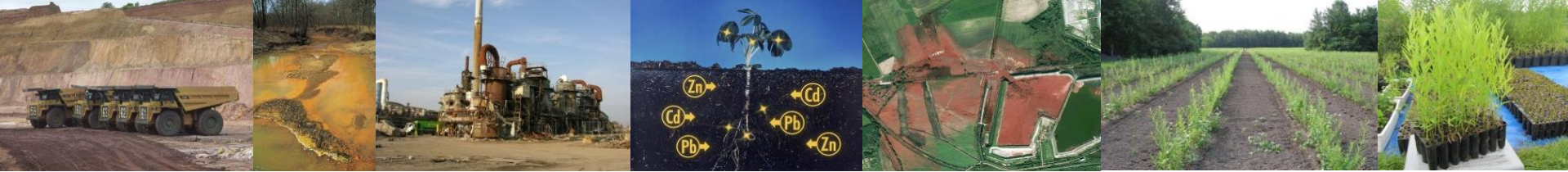
## The contaminated site of Pontgibaud

Need to reduce erosion and leaching risks  
= Protect the surrounding area

- Implementation of a vegetation cover
- Requires amendments



*Lebrun et al. 2022, Assisted phytoremediation (pp. 101-130)*



## The use of amendments to ameliorate the soil

### Biochar



- ❖ Source of stable carbon
- ❖ Shelter for microorganisms
- ❖ Cation immobilization

#### Biochar used:

- ✓ Hardwood biomass
- ✓ 500 °C



### Compost



- ❖ Source of nutrients
- ❖ Source of microorganisms
- ❖ Cation immobilization

#### Compost used:

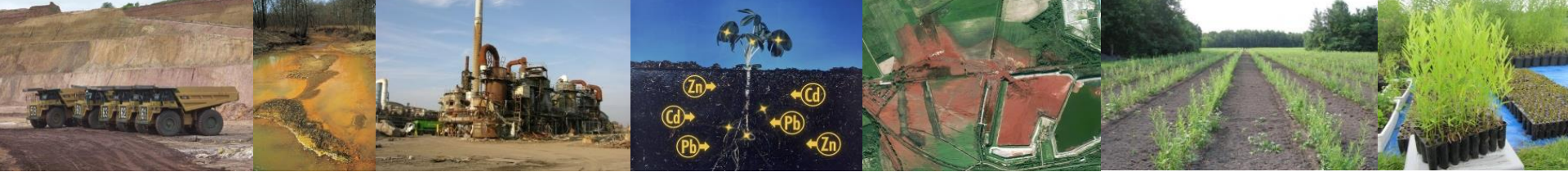
- ✓ Commercial product
- ✓ Peat moss, softwood bark, green compost, seaweed

### Iron sulfate

- ❖ Source of iron
- ❖ Arsenic immobilization

#### Iron sulfate used:

- ✓ Commercial product



## The use of amendments to ameliorate the soil

### Biochar



### Compost

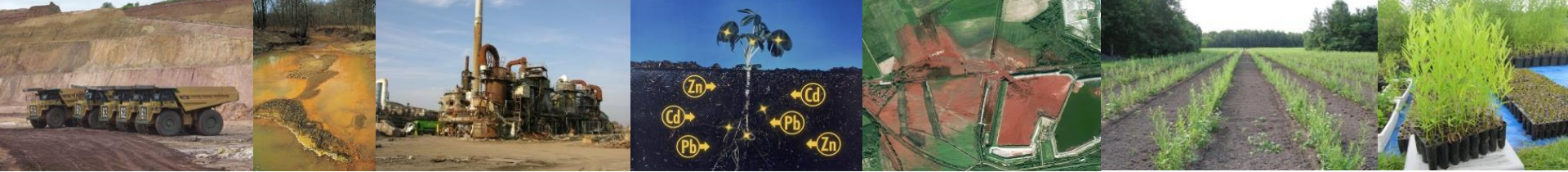


### Iron sulfate

pH	8.46 ± 0.01	7.40 ± 0.02	2.58 ± 0.00
Electrical Conductivity ( $\mu\text{S}\cdot\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	302 ± 1	801 ± 24	ND
Water Holding Capacity (%)	212 ± 4	312 ± 9	ND
$\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$ [As] ( $\text{mg}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$ )	0.9 ± 0.1	0.7 ± 0.3	16.5 ± 0.5
$\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$ [Pb] ( $\text{mg}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$ )	1.6 ± 0.1	0.4 ± 0.0	22.2 ± 0.9
$\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$ [Fe] ( $\text{mg}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$ )	18 ± 5	1 ± 0	23265 ± 299

→ Selection based on previous lab experiments





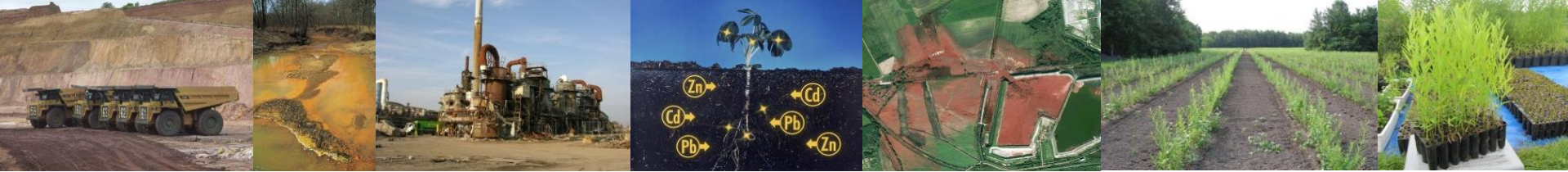
## The field experiment

### *Objectives*

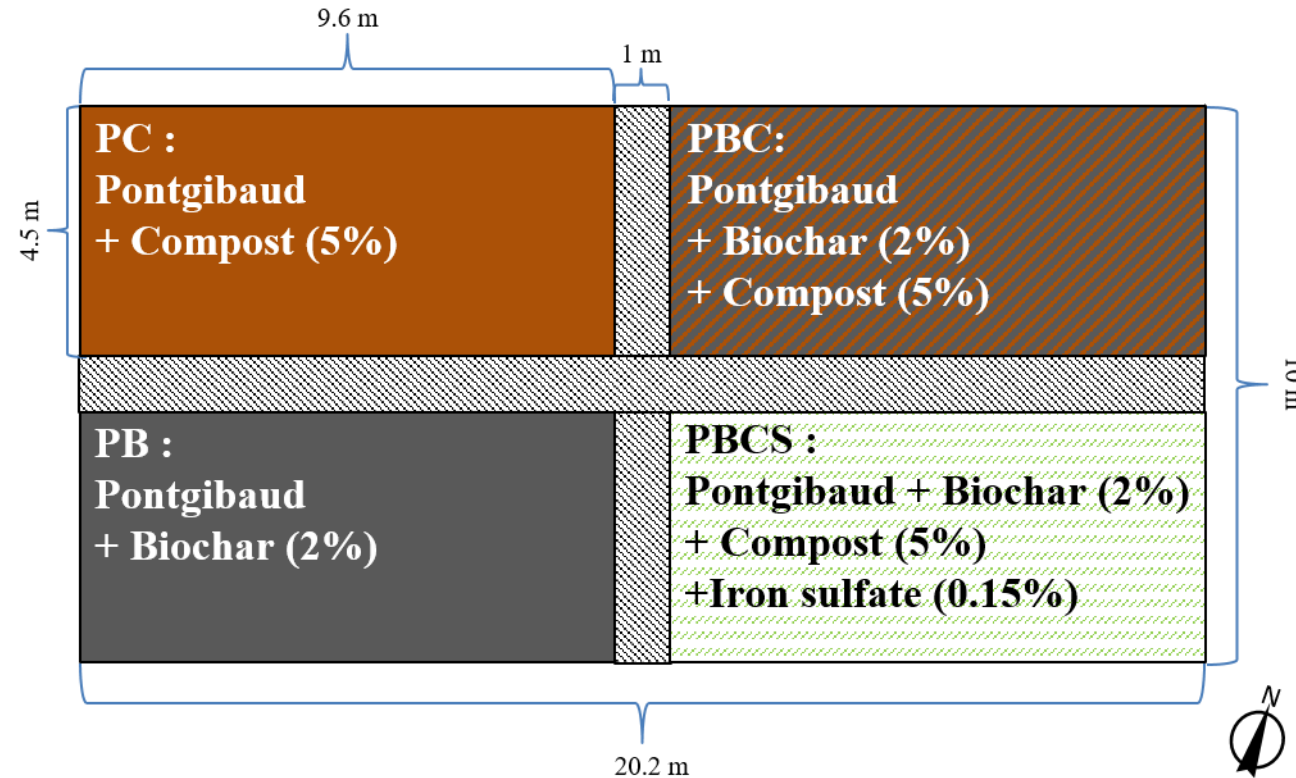
- Evaluate the effect of three amendments, alone or combined, to ameliorate soil fertility, lower metal(loid) toxicity, and improve willow growth.
- Determine which combination of amendment-willow species allows the valorization of the produced biomass for industrial purposes, based on the regulations.

Field established by **Romain Nandillon** during his PhD

Monitoring took over by M. Lebrun, S. Bourgerie, D. Morabito, F. Miard and Y. Chafik



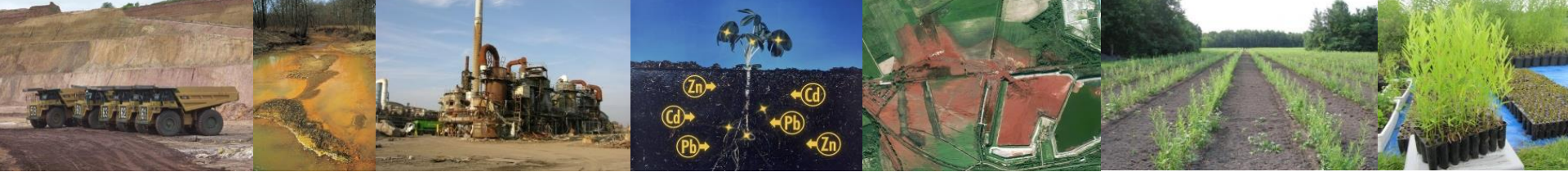
## The field experiment



4 willow species:

- ✓ *Salix purpurea*,
- ✓ *Salix alba*,
- ✓ *Salix triandra*, and
- ✓ *Salix viminalis*.

**5-year monitoring**



## The soil 6 months after amendment application

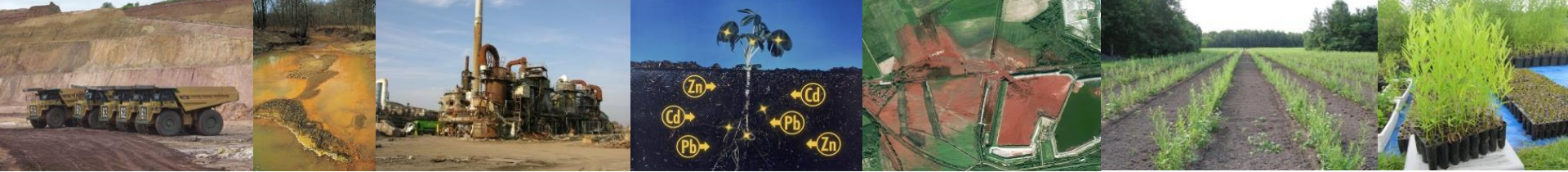
Treatments	pH	CEC (cmol.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	C <sub>org</sub> (%)	OM (%)	N <sub>tot</sub> (%)	C <sub>org</sub> /N <sub>tot</sub>	[P] (mg.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	[K] (mg.kg <sup>-1</sup> )
Pg (initial)	4.8 ± 0.0	0.7 ± 0.0	0.3 ± 0.0	0.5	< QL	-	1.1 ± 0.1	15.8 ± 0.2
	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕			⊕	⊕
PB T6	5.7 ± 0.2 B	0.9 ± 0.0 B	2.8 ± 0.0 C	4.8	< QL C	-	1.7 ± 0.1 C	41.4 ± 0.3 C
PC T6	5.6 ± 0.1 B	1.6 ± 0.0 A	2.9 ± 0.0 C	5.0	0.1 ± 0.0 B	21	3.3 ± 0.1 B	59.4 ± 1.0 B
PBC T6	7.1 ± 0.2 A	1.6 ± 0.1 A	6.5 ± 0.1 A	11.2	0.2 ± 0.0 A	39	5.4 ± 0.6 A	98.1 ± 3.2 A
PBCS T6	5.1 ± 0.4 B	1.5 ± 0.0 A	4.8 ± 0.1 B	8.3	0.1 ± 0.0 B	36	2.3 ± 0.1 B	51.6 ± 4.0 C

❖ All the parameters were increased by the amendments

❖ pH

- ✓ Biochar and/or compost increased pH → liming effect due to high pH of biochar and compost
- ✓ Best increase with combined BC → higher total amendment
- ✓ S reduced pH (until P level) → acidic pH of the iron sulfate





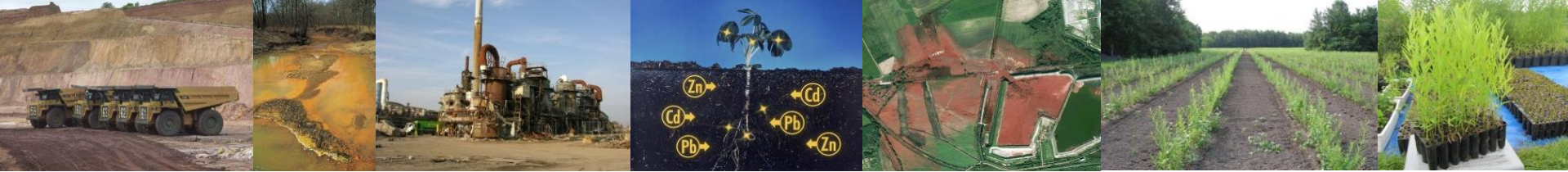
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❖ All the parameters were increased by the amendments

❖ CEC

- ✓ Biochar and/or compost increased CEC → high CEC of the amendments (especially compost)
- ✓ Best increase with compost → low CEC of biochar compared to compost



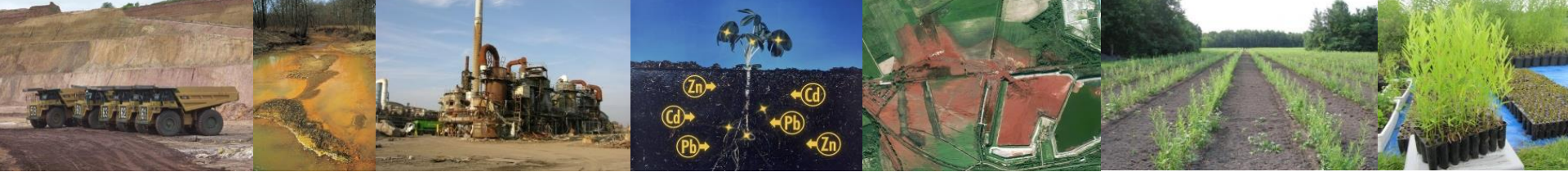
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❖ All the parameters were increased by the amendments

❖ C<sub>org</sub> / OM

- ✓ All treatments increased C<sub>org</sub> & OM → both compost and biochar are a source of C and OM + improvement of microbial activity
- ✓ Best increase with combined BC → higher total amendment
- ✓ S reduced C<sub>org</sub> & OM → acidic pH reduced microbial activity



## The soil 6 months after amendment application

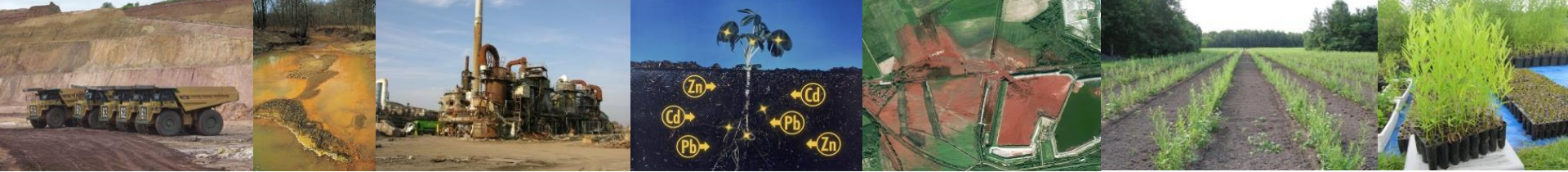
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❖ All the parameters were increased by the amendments

### ❖ Phosphorus and Potassium

- ✓ All treatments increased P & K contents → both compost and biochar are a source of nutrients + improvement of microbial activity (nutrient cycling)
- ✓ Highest increase with C (± B) → compost contains more nutrients than biochar
- ✓ S reduced P & K → acidic pH reduced microbial activity

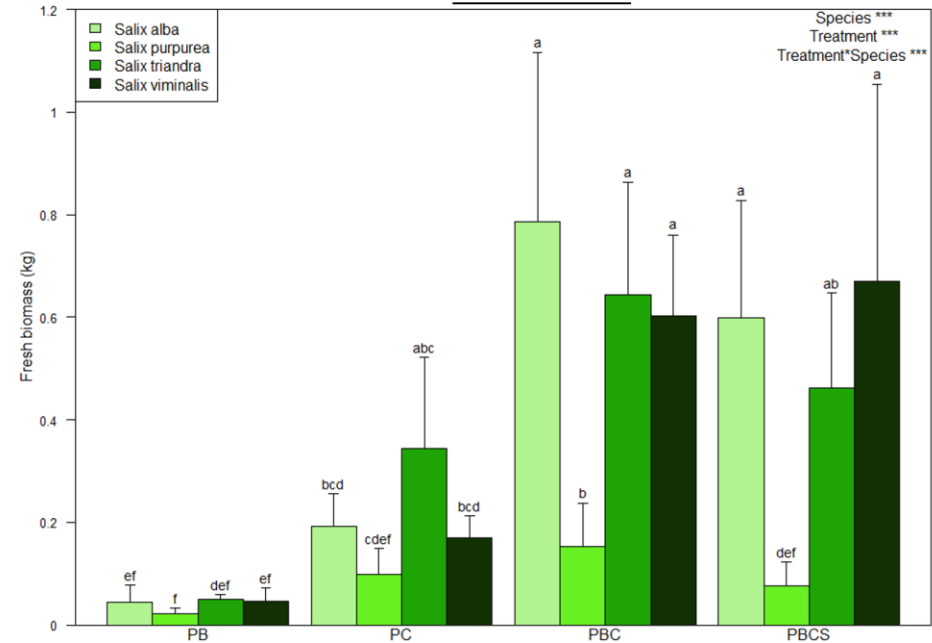
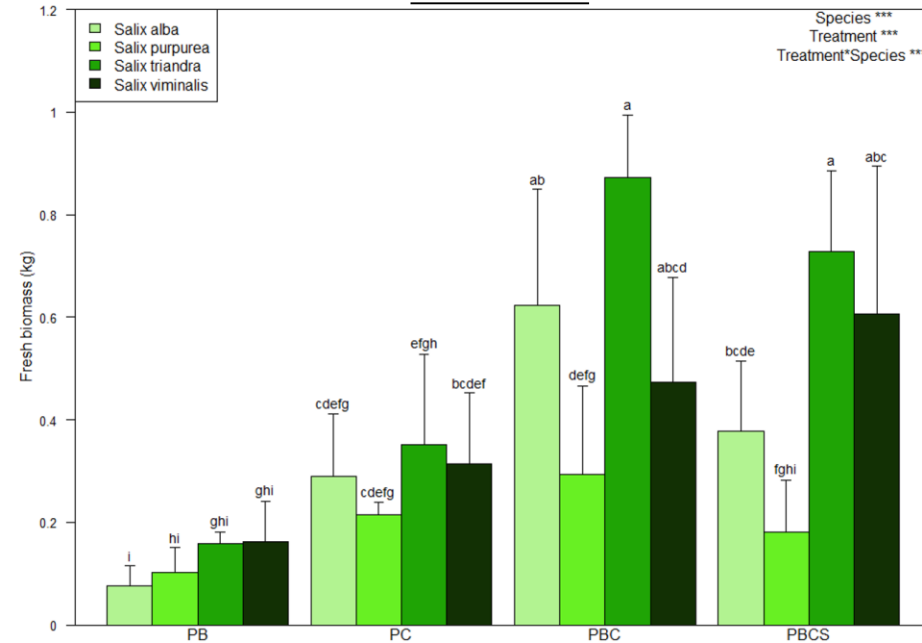




# The plant biomass production

22 months

55 months



## ❖ Treatment effect

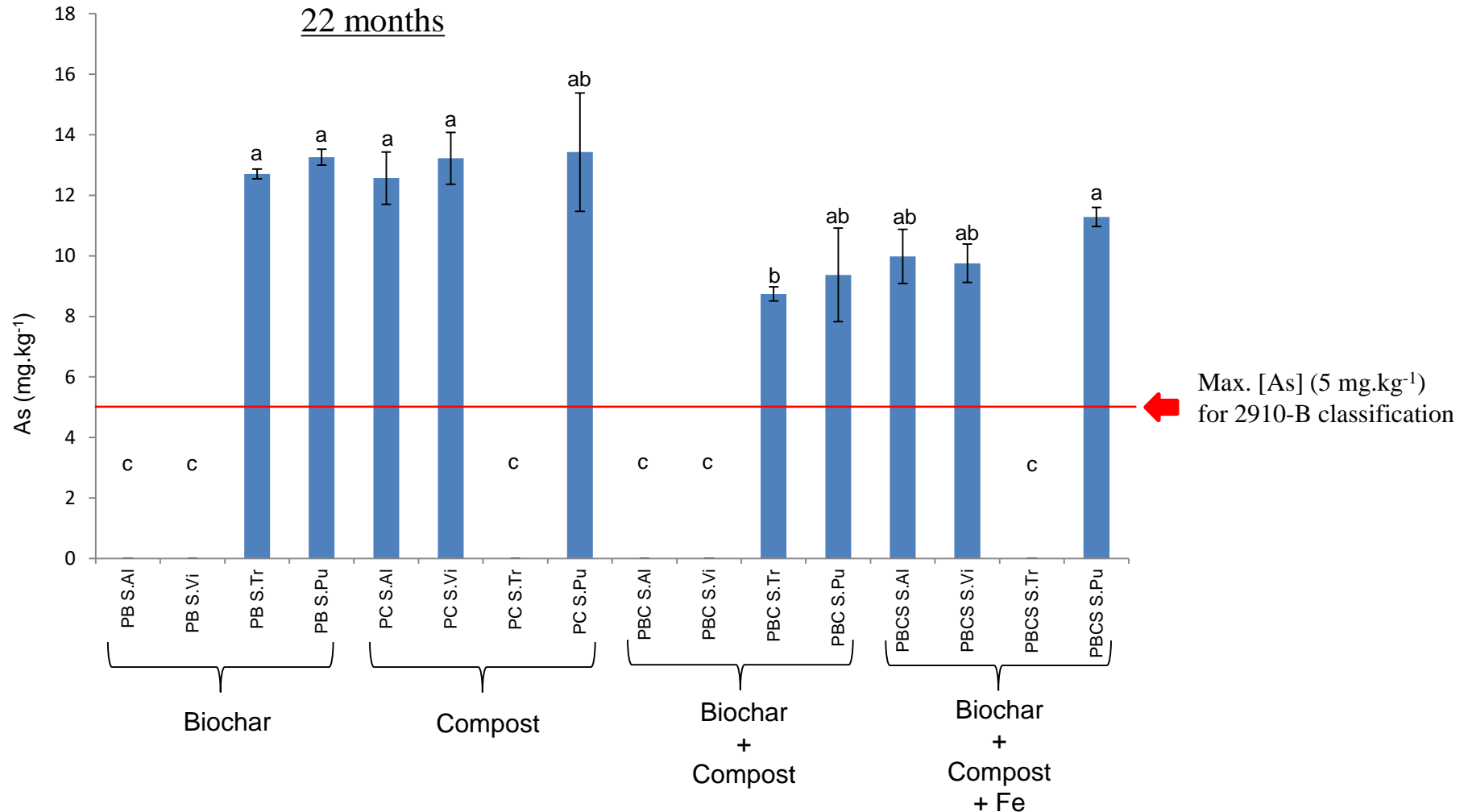
- ✓ Highest biomass on PBC → amelioration of soil conditions best with biochar + compost

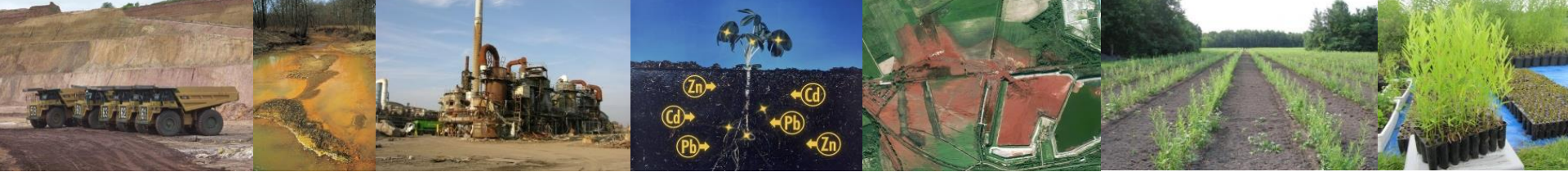
## ❖ Species effect

- ✓ 22 months: *Salix triandra* best
- ✓ 55 months: *Salix alba* – *Salix triandra* – *Salix viminalis* > *Salix purpurea*



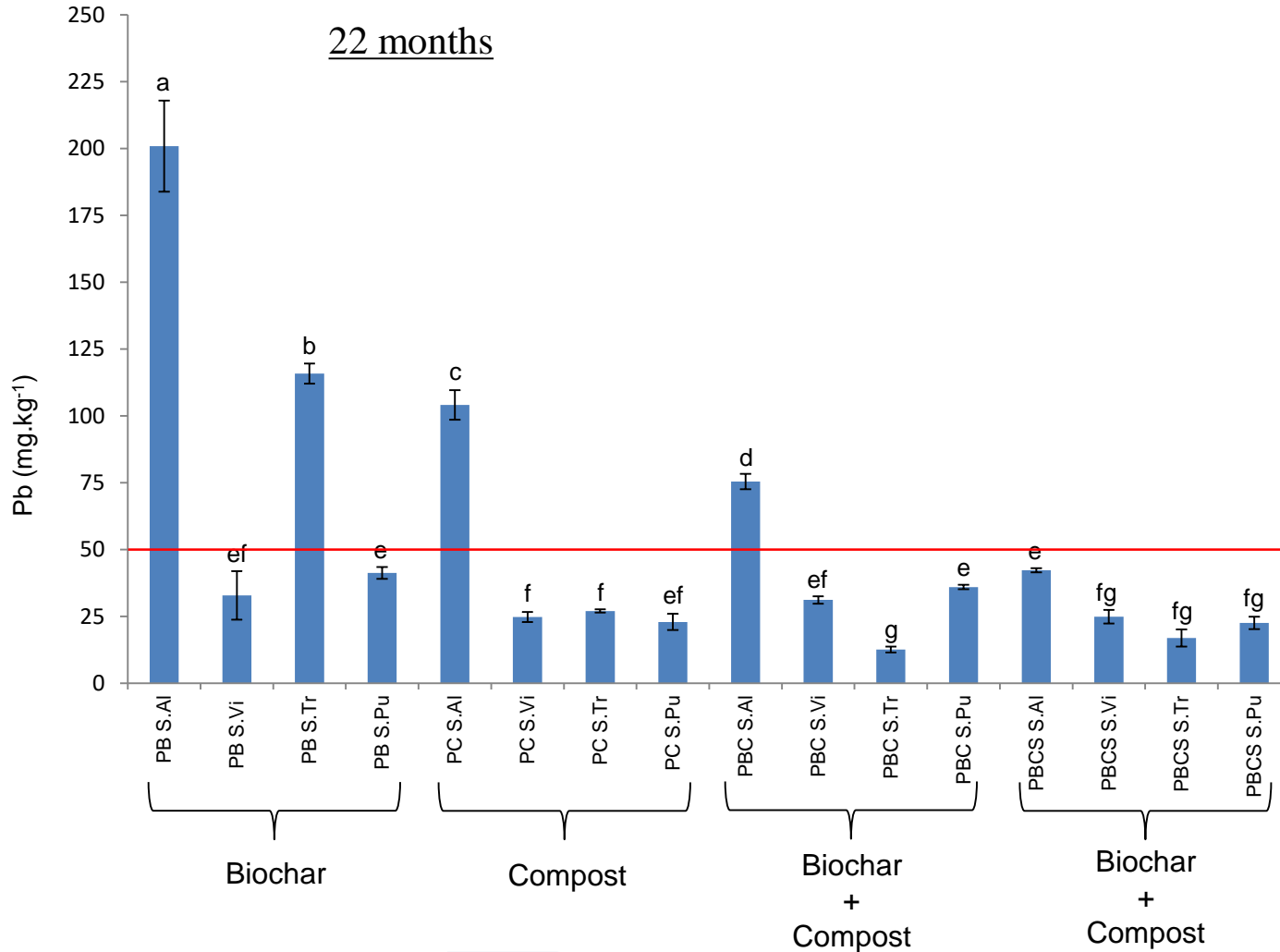
## The As accumulation in the plants





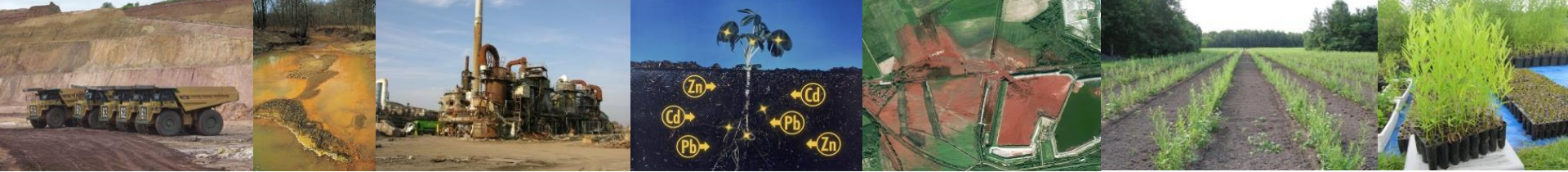
## The Pb accumulation in the plants

22 months



Max. [Pb] (50 mg.kg<sup>-1</sup>) for 2910-B classification





## Take home message

### ❖ Soil

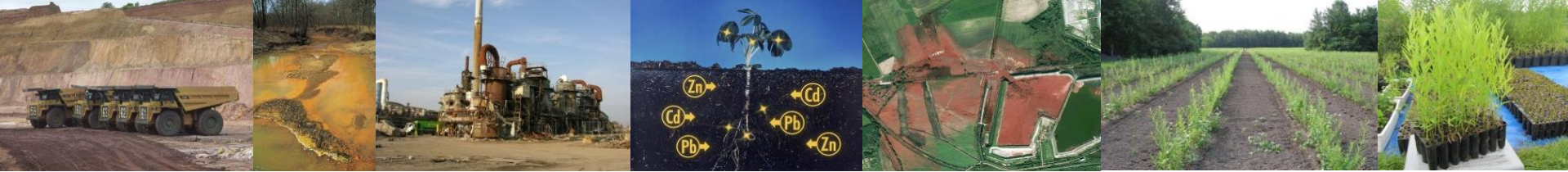
- ✓ Amelioration of fertility: pH, nutrients, OM
- ✓ As and Pb immobilization  
BEST: PBC

### ❖ Plants

- ✓ Success to implement a vegetation cover (+ natural revegetation on the amended plots)
- ✓ Accumulation of As and Pb in stems makes it possible to use this biomass for industrial purposes  
BEST: *Salix purpurea*

### **Associations biochar + compost with *Salix purpurea* BEST**

Recommendations: use multiple species (those useable for industrial purposes)



**Thank you for your attention**

June 2017



October 2017



PBC October 2018



1 year old *Salix triandra* tree



July 2022

