

In situ conservation of a rare plant (*Dictamnus albus* L.) and its pollinator community

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in situ conservation Integrated approach

Habitat requirements

Interaction with pollinators



PP-ICON - Plant-Pollinator Integrated CONservation approach: a demonstrative proposal

LIFE09 NAT/IT/000212

<http://www.pp-icon.eu>



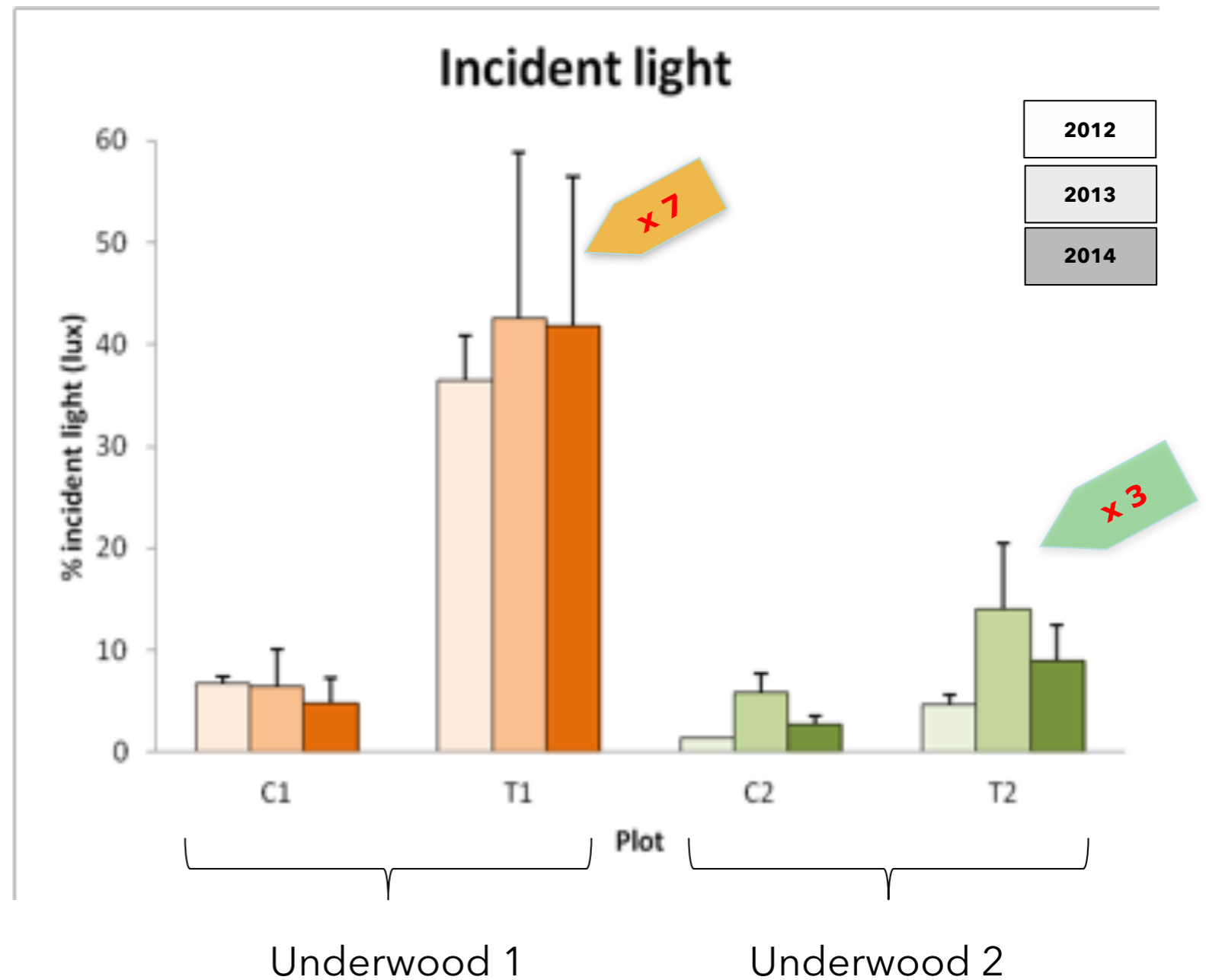
Habitat restoration



Selective cut



Optimal condition

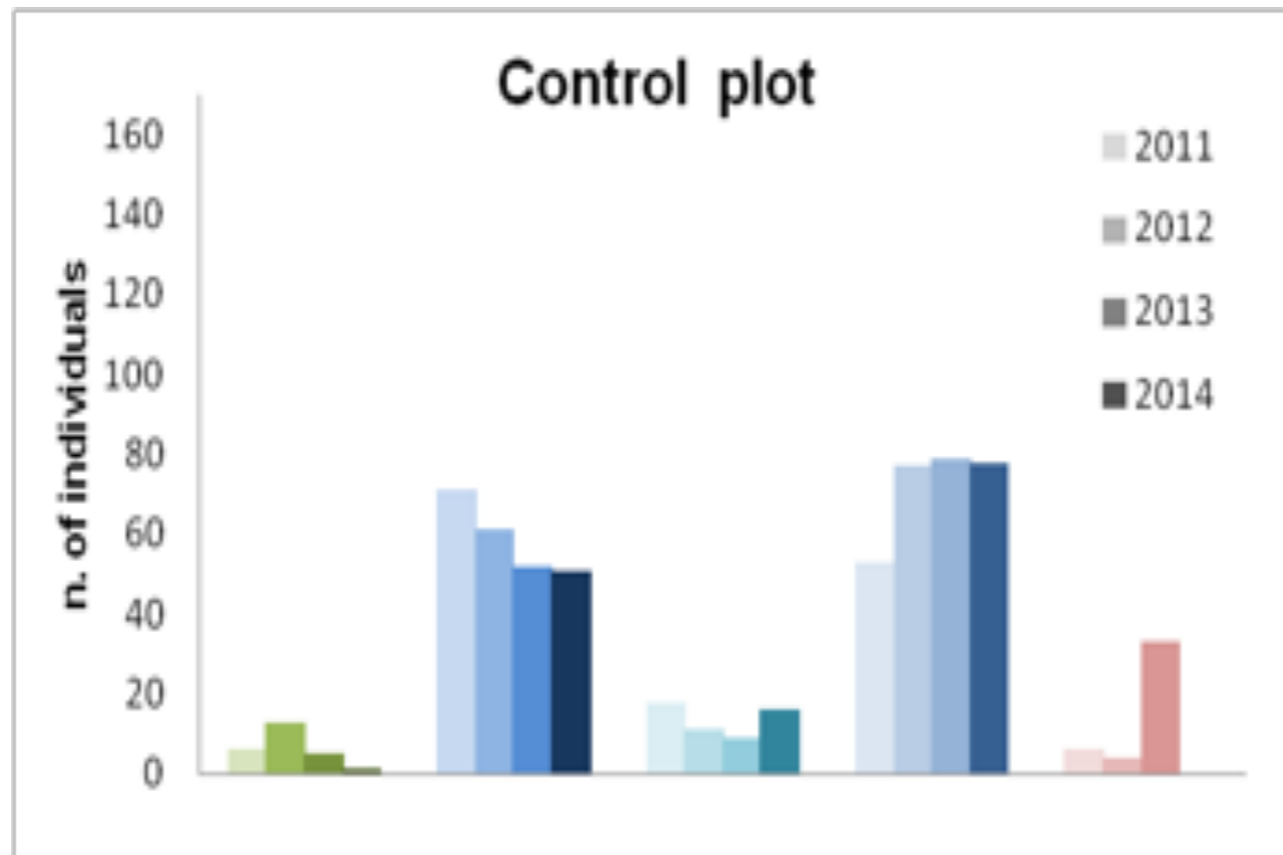


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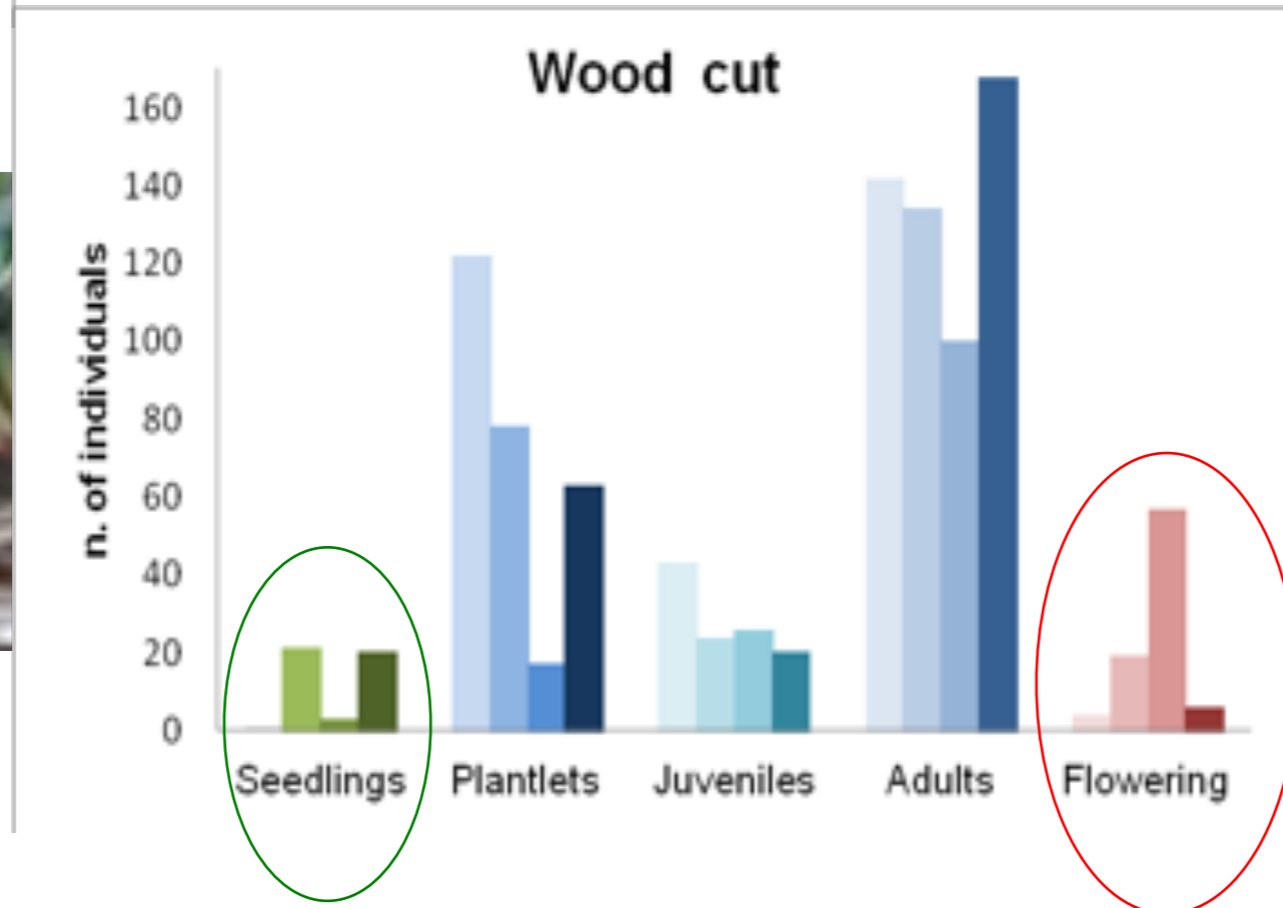
"Conservation of Mediterranean Plant Diversity: Complementary Approaches and New Perspectives"



Fisogni et al., ...



> Seedlings



> Flowering



Actions for pollinators

1. Artificial nests for wild bees
2. Bumble bee colonies reinforcement
3. Bee plants reinforcement

Fisogni et al., 2016 *PLANT BIOLOGY* 18: 445-454

Bortolotti et al. *Conservation Evidence* 13: 51-56 2016



B. terrestris



B. pascuorum



Habropoda tarsata



Xylocopa violacea



Megachile sp.

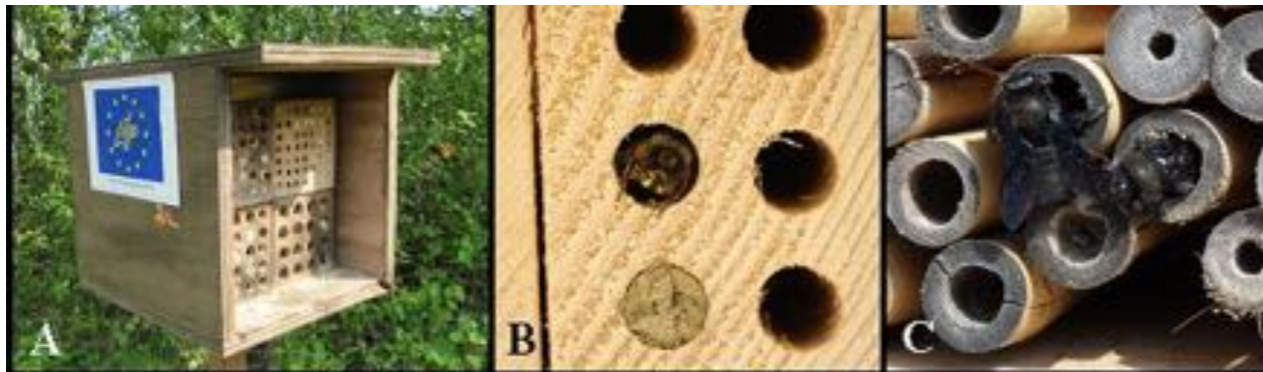
1. Artificial nests for wild bees



for solitary bees



for bumble bees



NO nesting
bumble bees

HIGH OCCUPATION by
mason bees, leafcutter bees, carpenter bees

2. Bumble bee colonies reinforcement

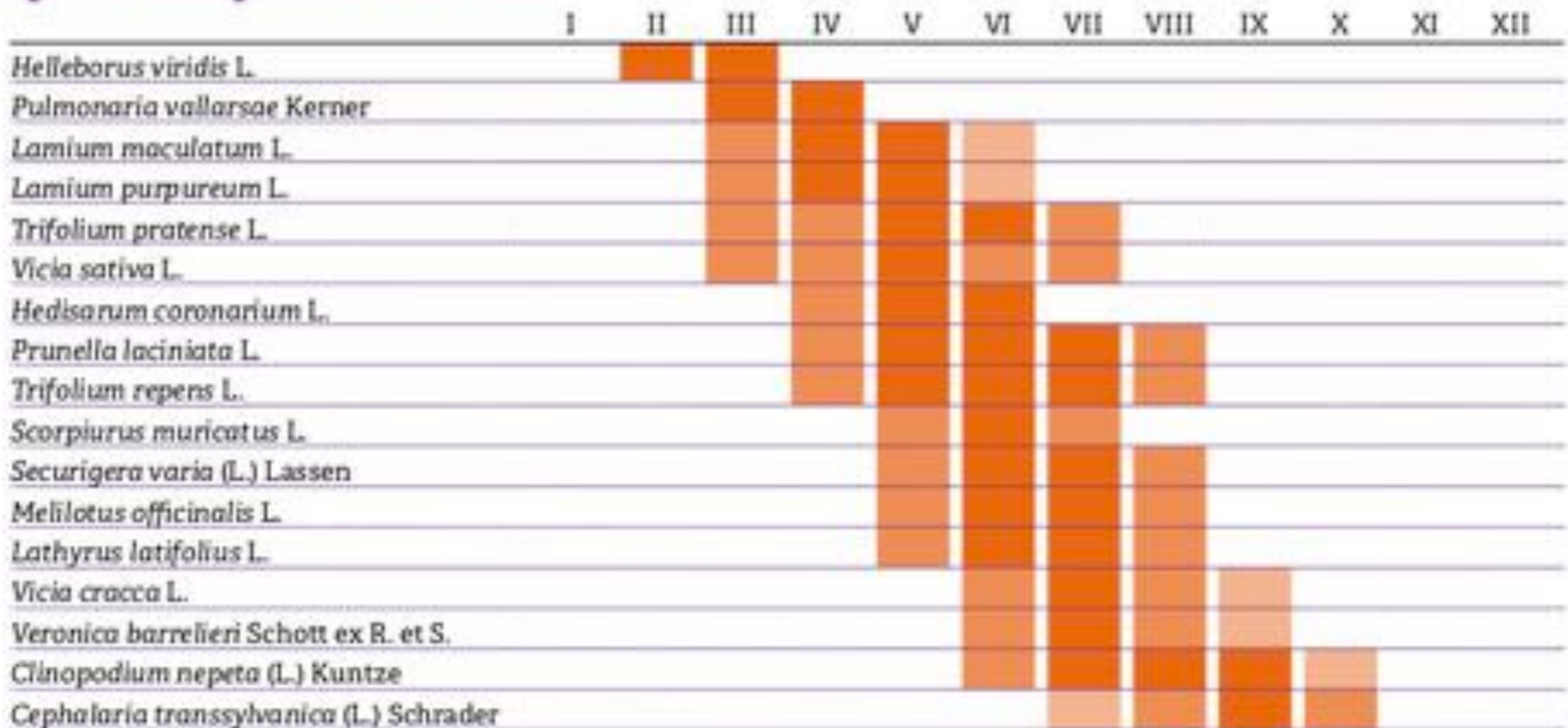


Bumblebee rearing progress	2012	2013	2014	2015
Collected queens	9	10	32	26
Egg laying queens	5	7	18	15
Colonies released in the target area	0	5	9	7
Colonies survived in the field	0	1	6	7



3. Bee plants reinforcement

flowering period of the nectariferous species transplanted in the area



3. Bee plants reinforcement

Species	Flowering period	Sampling ¹	Provenance ²	Year	Total number of seeds and planted individuals	Number of established plants
<i>Helleborus viridis</i>	Feb, Mar	Adult	Wild	2011-2012	30 plants	30
<i>Pulmonaria vallisarsae</i>	Mar, Apr	Adult	BG, Wild	2012	>25 plants	8
<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	Mar, Apr	Adult	BG	2012	>25 plants	> 20
<i>Lamium maculatum</i>	Mar, Apr	Adult	BG	2012	>25 plants	> 20
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	May-Jul	Seeds	Wild	2012	≈ 70 seeds, 5 plants	5
<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>	May-Aug	Seeds	Wild	2012-2013	≈ 60 seeds, 5 plants	5
<i>Securigera varia</i>	May-Aug	Seeds, adult	Wild	2012-2013	> 300 seeds	> 10
<i>Hedysarum coronarium</i>	Jun, Jul	Seeds, adult	Wild	2011	15 plants	2
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Jun, Jul	Adult	BG, Wild	2012	≈250 seeds, >25 plants	> 25
<i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i>	Jun, Jul	Seeds	Wild	2012-2013	> 60 seeds, 5 plants	5
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	Jun-Aug	Seeds	Wild	2012-2013	> 300 seeds	> 25
<i>Prunella laciniata</i>	Jun-Aug	Seeds	Wild	2012	> 60 seeds, 5 plants	> 25
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	Jun-Sept	Adult	Wild	2012-2013	> 200 seeds, 5 plants	5
<i>Veronica spicata</i> subsp. <i>barrelieri</i>	Jun-Sept	Seeds, adult	Wild	2011	15 plants	15
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Jun-Sept	Seeds, adult	Wild	2013	> 60 seeds, 10 plants	> 10
<i>Cephalaria transsylvanica</i>	Jul-Sept	Seeds	Wild	2012-2013	10 plants, ≈ 30 seeds	> 10
<i>Clinopodium nepeta</i>	Jul-Sept	Adult	Wild	2012	5 plants	> 5

¹Adult = vegetative adult plants; ²Wild = local populations; BG = Botanic Garden

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3. Bee plants reinforcement



Which effects of conservation actions on plant-pollinators system?



Monitoring+
Samplings



permanent transect

april to october
4-years

Network analysis
before and after
interventions

Pollination Network

after conservation measures:

higher species **generalisation**

interactions more evenly distributed

higher species diversity

→ network resilience

positive effect of flowering abundance
on pollinator visits:

*habitat amelioration through bee plants
reinforcement resulted in increased bee
visitation, highlighting the importance
of plant abundance for pollination
service*

Conservation measures
positively affected:

- *D. albus* reproductive fitness

- *D. albus* bee pollinators

Increased generalisation of mutualistic
interactions → higher resilience



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