



Phytoremediation of dredged sediments polluted with mineral oil, naphtalene and PAH

Managing Partners

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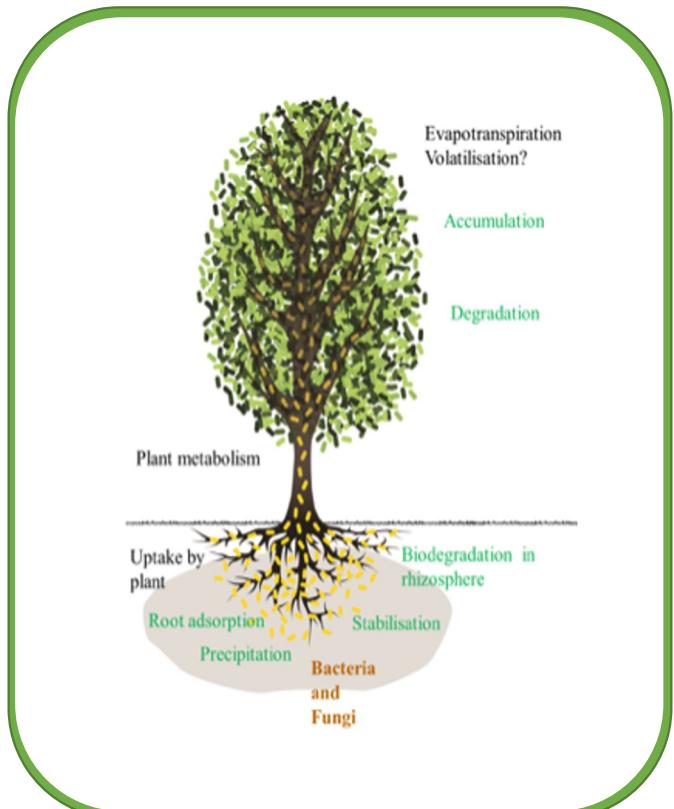
Phytoremediation

Definition

A remediation strategy that uses **plants** and **plant-associated micro-organisms** to remove contaminants from soil, water or sediment through degradation, extraction, transformation or volatilisation or to stabilise the contamination (immobilisation).

[*Code of Good Practice on Phytoremediation – january 2019*](#)

Phytoremediation



- **Phytovolatilisation** Hg, org
- **Phytoextraction** Metals
- **Phytodegradation** Org
- **Phytostabilisation**
- **Rhizodegradation** Org, CN
- **Phytohydraulics**

Phytoremediation

Different pollutants

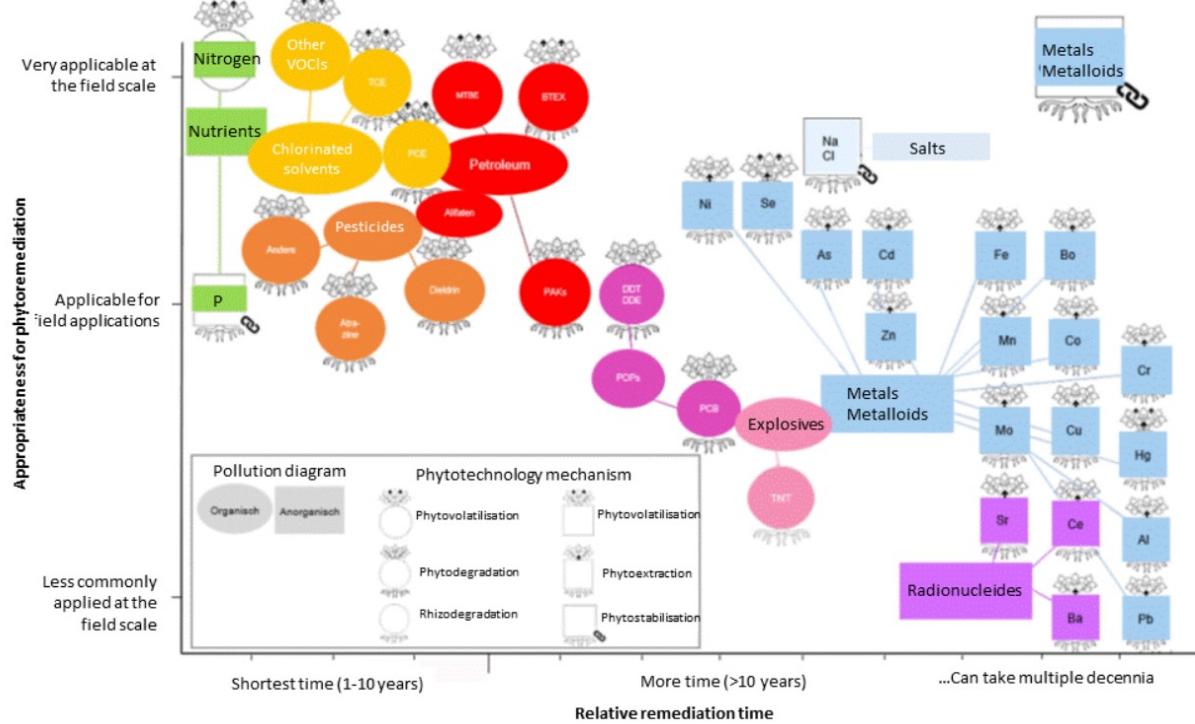
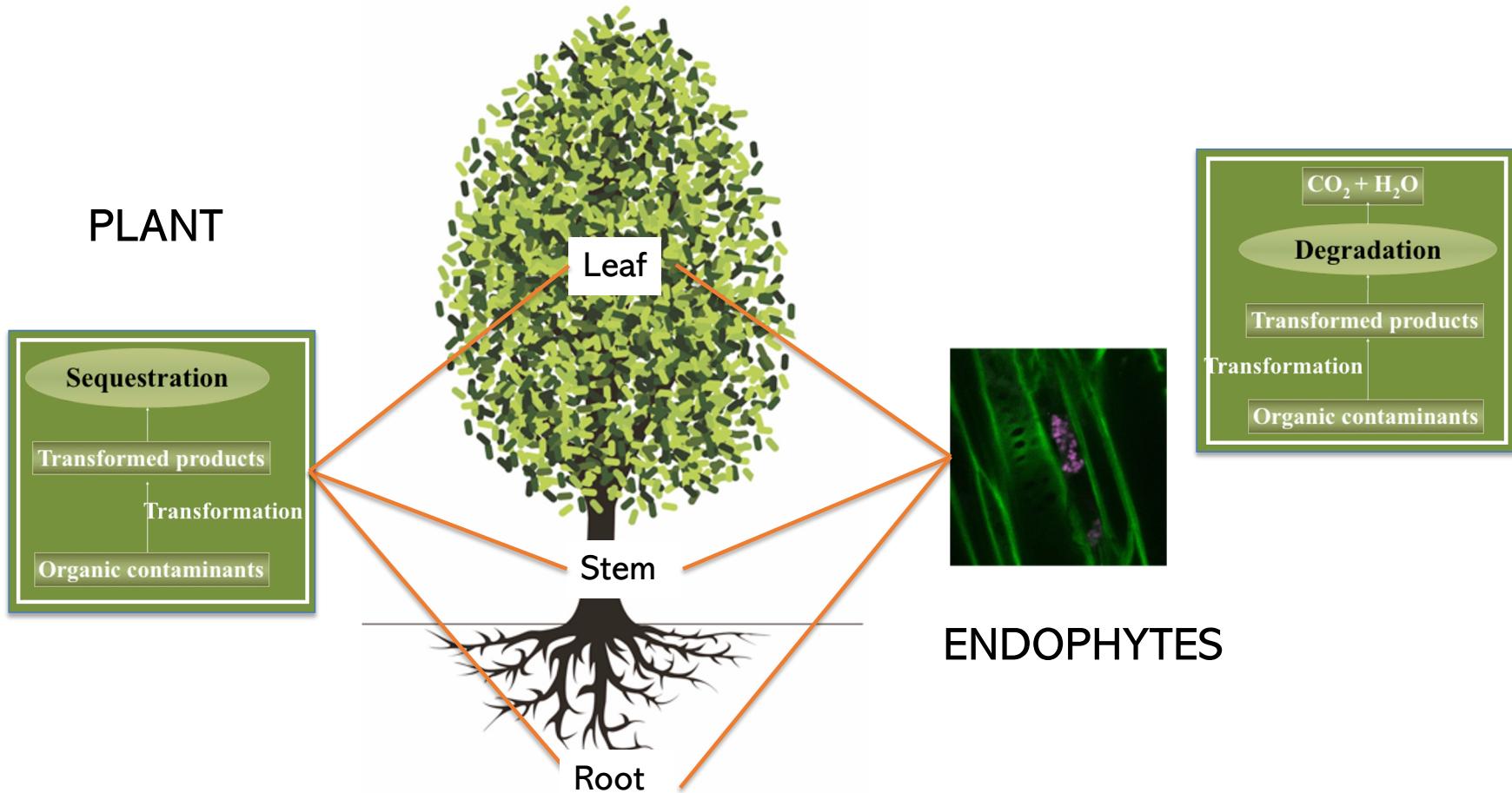


Figure 8: Overview of the phytoremediation potential of some contaminants and associated phytoremediation mechanism. Adapted from "PHYTO, Principles and resources for site remediation and landscape design," by Kate Kennen and Niall Kirkwood, 2015. Adjustments are based on information from field studies (up to 2019) and may change in subsequent editions as more remediation is performed.

Microorganism assisted phytoremediation



Microorganism assisted phytoremediation

Advantages

- No soil degradation
- Less percolation
- No phytovolatilisation
- Public acceptance
- Small ecological footprint
- Poplars
→ Depth +/- 10m
- Organics
→ Degradation to H₂O en CO₂



Microorganism assisted phytoremediation

Practices

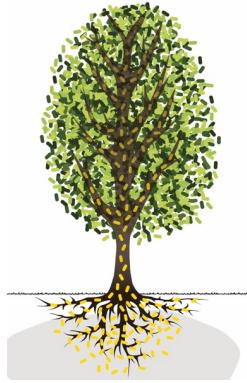


Microorganism assisted phytoremediation

More than remediation

SUSTAINABILITY

Less consumption of materials and energy
CO₂ sequestration
Energy from biomass
Storage of greenhouse gases
...



BIODIVERSITY

Soil restoration
Soil structure and fertility
Erosion control
Soil life and microbial diversity
Soil ecosystem services
Habitats for animals and plants
...

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Urban green
Noise reduction
Air quality
Climate regulation
Attractive multifunctional landscapes
...



Results from the field

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Pilots



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Feasibility study

1. Degrading micro-organisms are present

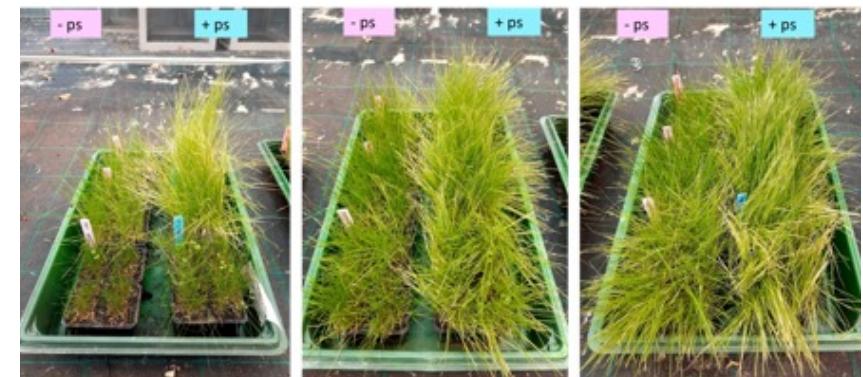
DNA-extraction – qPCR:

Pilot 1 (soil); degrading genes present for oil (\log_{10} AlkB) and naphtalene (\log_{10} NAH)

2. Degrading micro-organisms in soil and groundwater

3. Oil degradation test

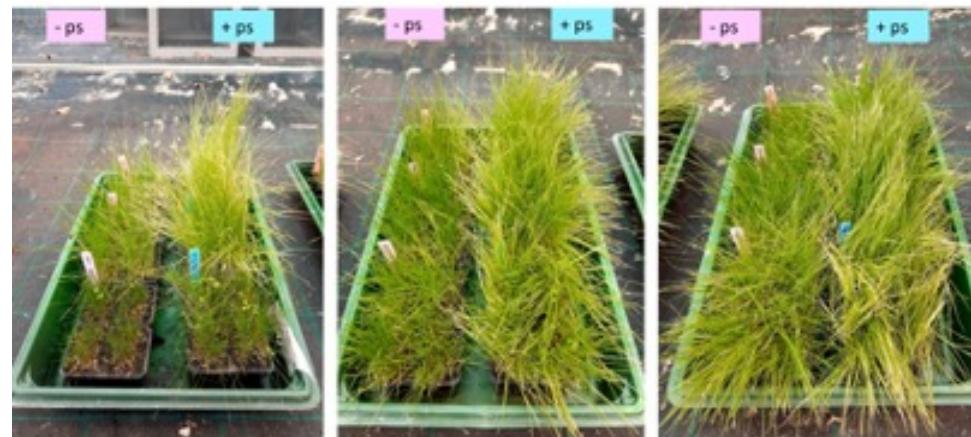
4. Pot experiments grasses (phytopiles)



Sample	Treatment	Root length	Shoot length	Ratio
		(cm) min-max	(cm) min-max	Root:Shoot
LP_Fastball	No potting soil	15.8 - 17.6	8.2 - 9.4	2.13
LP_Grandslam	No potting soil	18.7 - 19.6	9.5 - 7.6	2.11
LP_Greenplanet	No potting soil	18.0 - 19.5	11.0 - 12.5	1.73
FRT	Potting soil	18.2 - 21.5	20.6 - 18.6	1.00
LP_Fastball	Potting soil	14.2 - 15.6	10.5 - 13.4	1.50
Mistral	No potting soil	12.5 - 14.7	13.2 - 14.5	1.08
Mistral	Potting soil	14.5 - 15.8	14.6 - 16.7	1.07
FA	No potting soil	13.2 - 15.1	14. - 15.5	1.07
LP_Agreement	No potting soil	13.5 - 14.2	14.0 - 15.4	1.00
LP_Greenplanet	Potting soil	12.5 - 14.7	14.6 - 15.0	1.00
LP_Grandsam	Potting soil	12.1 - 13.6	14.6 - 16.1	0.93
FRT	No potting soil	4.7 - 5.1	6.5 - 7.2	0.77
AE	No potting soil	8.3 - 9.7	14.0 - 14.8	0.64
LP_Agreement	Potting soil	7.5 - 8.9	15.2 - 15.8	0.53
AE	Potting soil	8.4 - 9.3	20.5 - 22.8	0.45
FA	Potting soil	5.5 - 7.5	18.4 - 19.5	0.39

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Feasibility study



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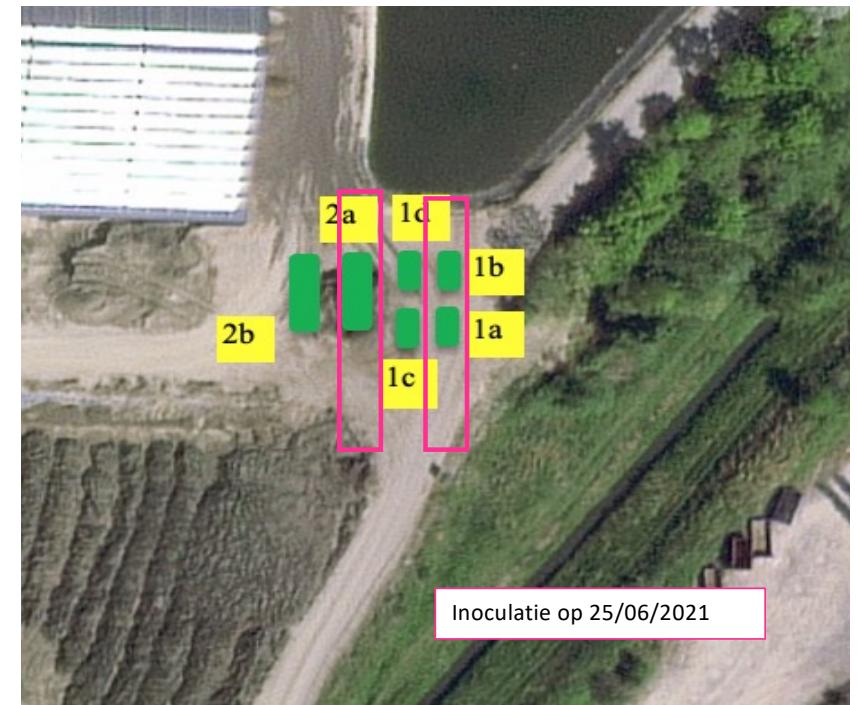
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Pilot 3: phytopiles

Creation of phytopiles 1/10/2020
Envisan, Ghent

- 2 larger phytopiles, 2 conditions:
 - inoculation
 - without inoculation / without aeration
- 4 smaller phytopiles:
 - inoculation
 - without inoculation
 - Seeds coated
 - Without aeration



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Pilot 3: phytopiles

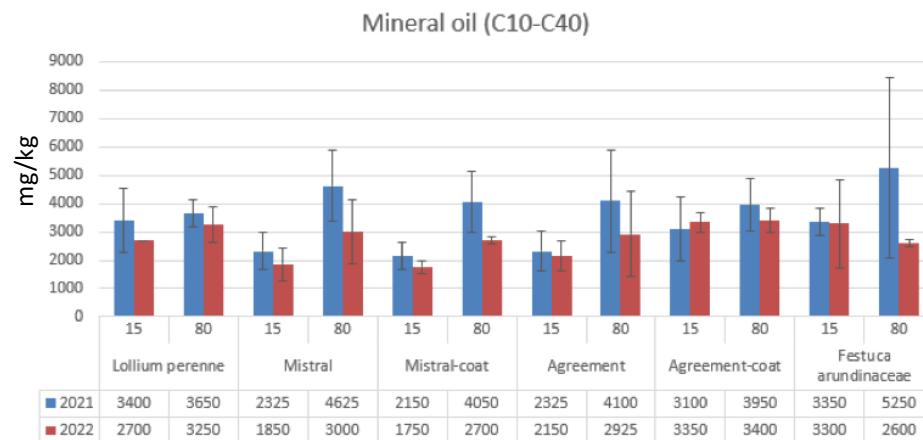
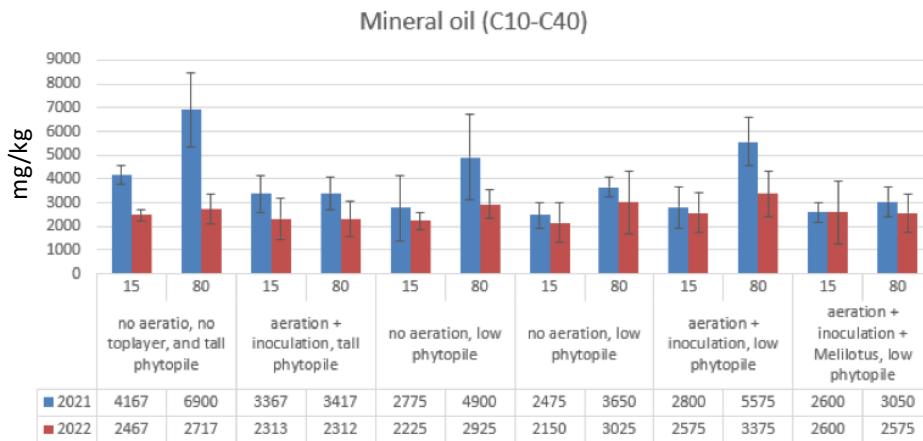
Inoculation and monitoring

- Visual inspection grasses
- Samples rhizosphere for qPCR (UHasselt)
- Almost all piles well rooted to +/- 35cm deep (at 6 months)
- Multi line of evidence



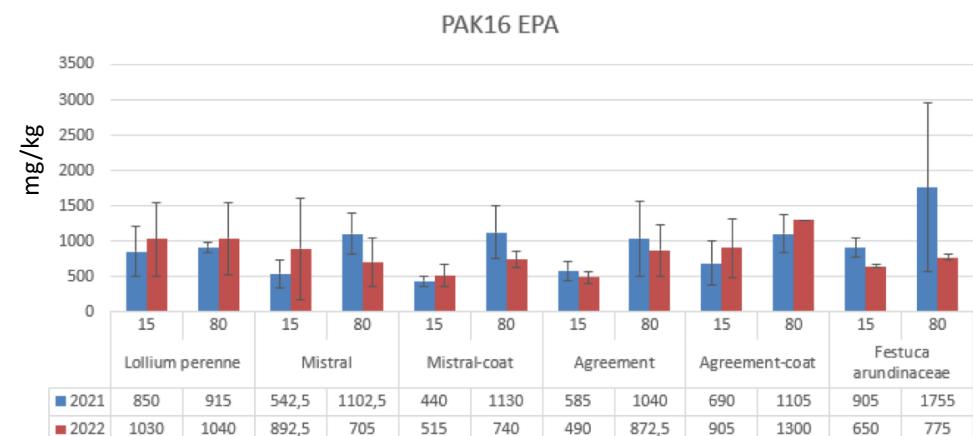
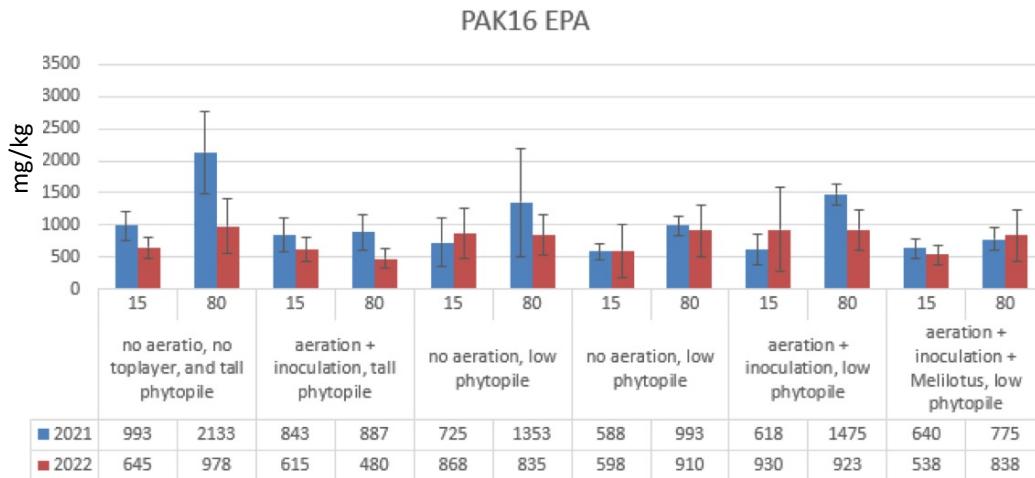
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Pilot 3: phytopiles



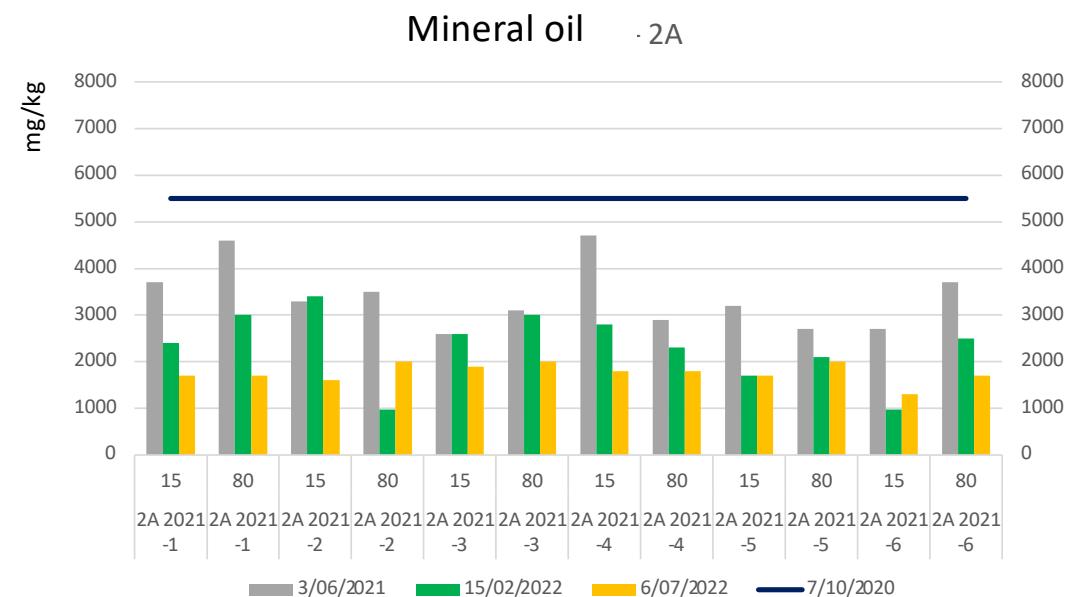
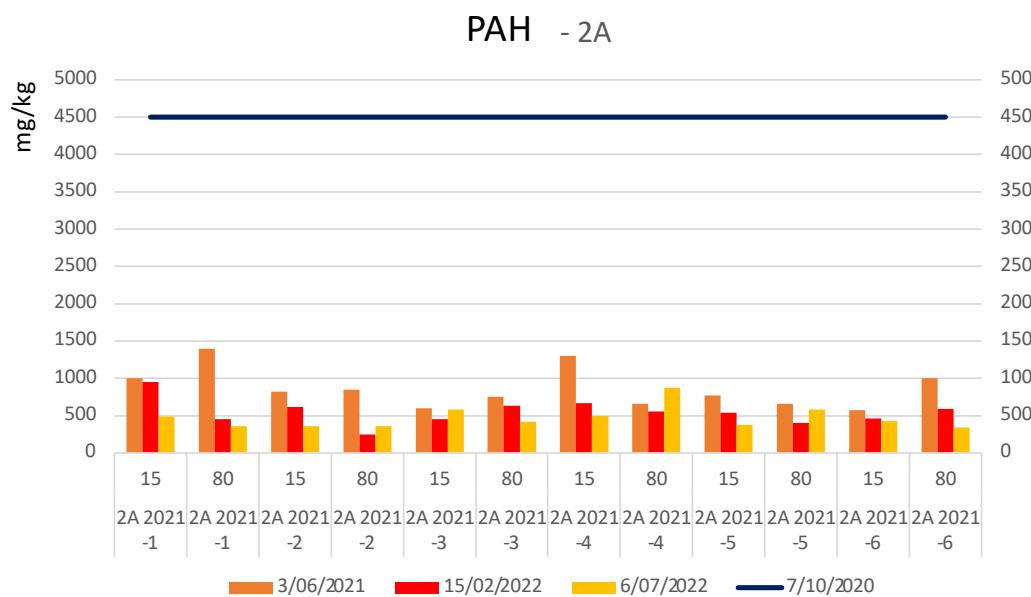
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Pilot 3: phytotopes



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Pilot 3: phytopiles



Reduction PAH:

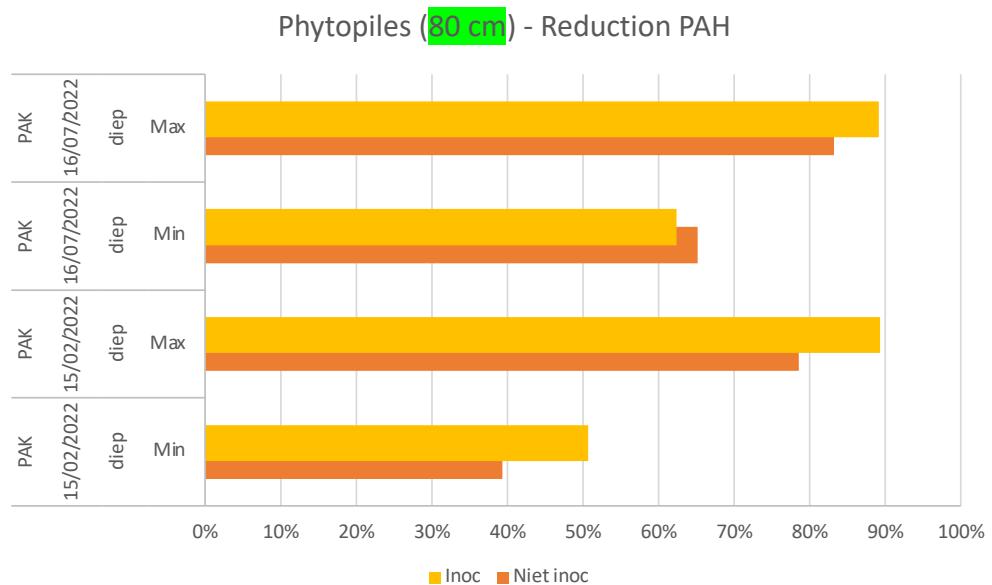
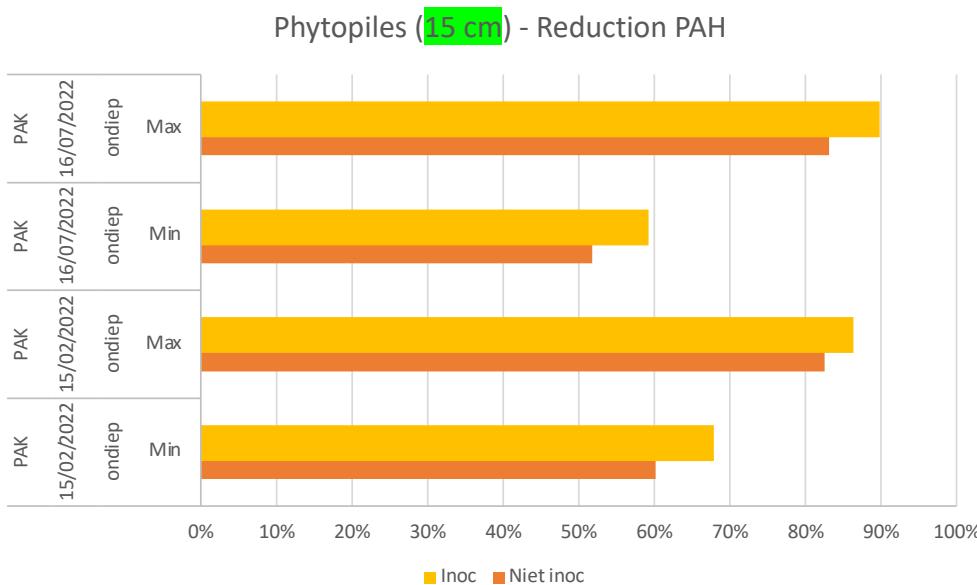
15 cm: 60 to 86% → 52 tot 90%
80 cm: 39 to 89% → 62 tot 89%

Reduction Mineral oil:

15 cm: 30 to 61% → 49 tot 70%
80 cm: 9 to 58% → 43 tot 68%

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Pilot 3: phytotiles



Life NARMENA

NAture-based Remediation of MEtal pollutants in Nature Areas to increase water storage capacity



01/07/19 - 31/08/25+ 3 years After-LIFE



Total: € 4.520.488

55 % EC Co-funding

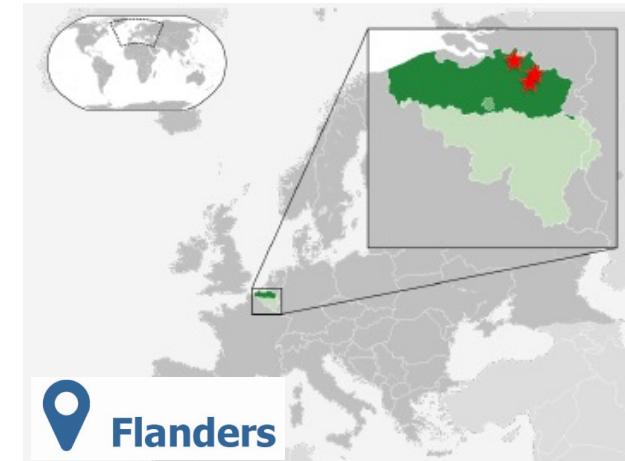


PROJECT PARTNERS

Coordination:



Associated
partners:

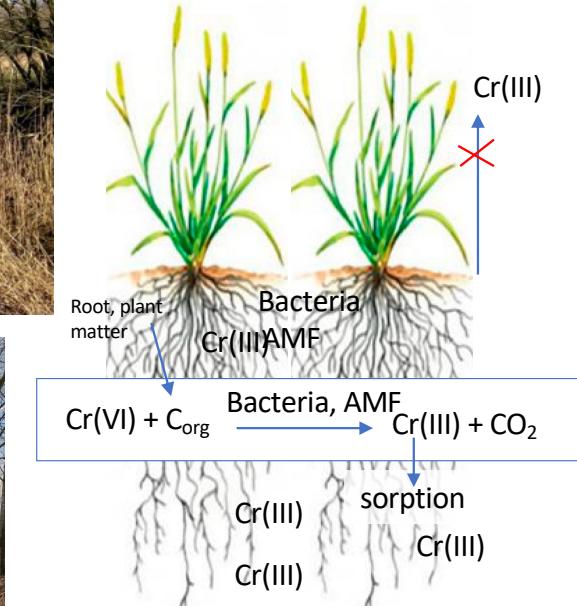


- Grote Calie (Turnhout)
- Winterbeek (Scherpenheuvel-Zichem)
- Grote Laak (Geel-Laakdal)

Life NARMENA



False oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*)
Hairy willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*)
Common reed (*Phragmites australis*)
White willow (*Salix alba*)
Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)
Male fern (*Dryopteris filix-mas*)
Broadleaf plantain (*Plantago major*)
Creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*)



<https://ovam-english.vlaanderen.be/web/narmena/home>



Thank You !

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Questions ?

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