

Agroforestry: debating the future (and present!) of our farming



AGFORWARD
Agroforestry for Europe



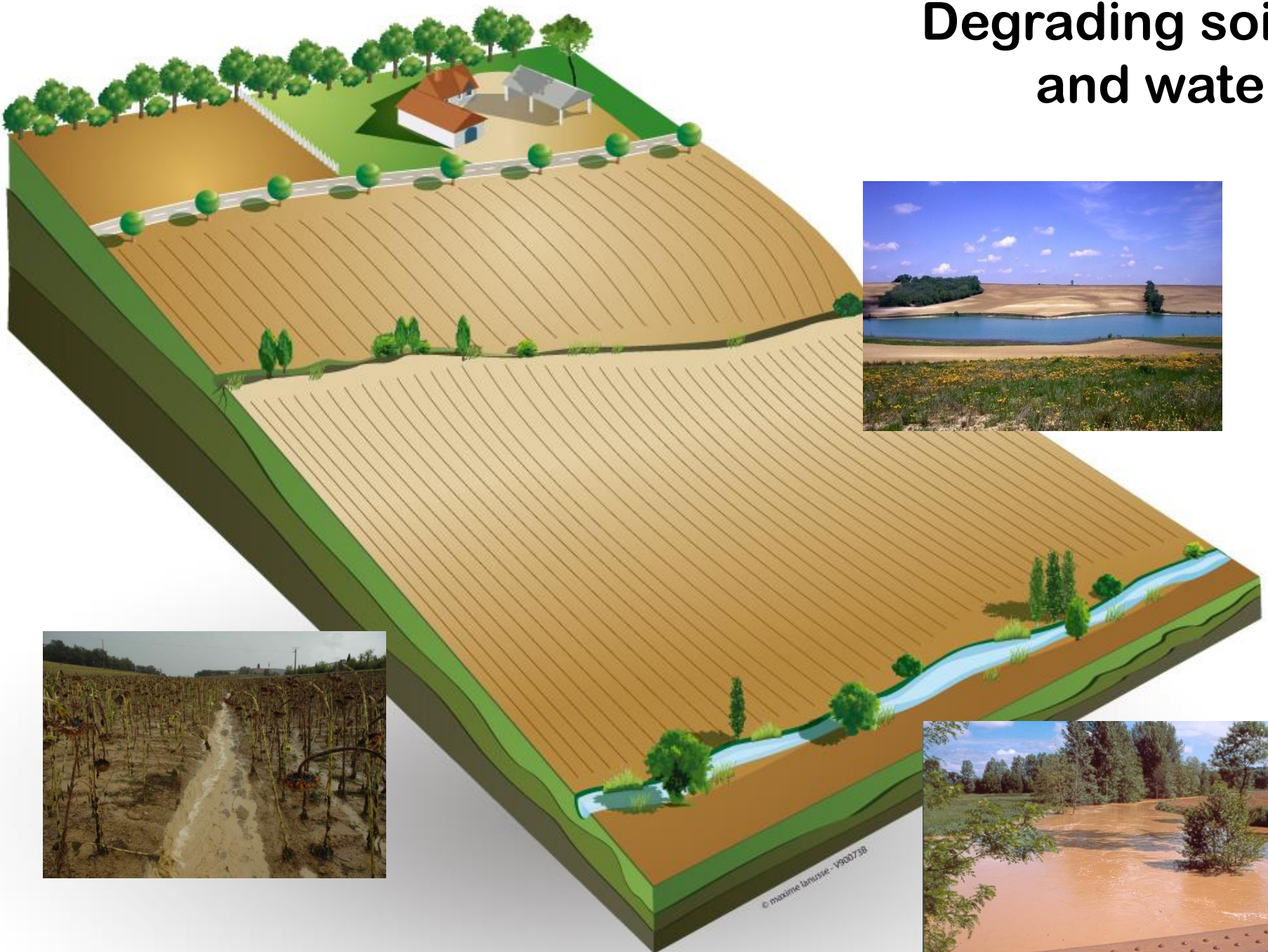
1 + 1 = 3

29th November 2017, European Parliament, Brussels
Fabien Balaguer, French Agroforestry Association (AFAF)

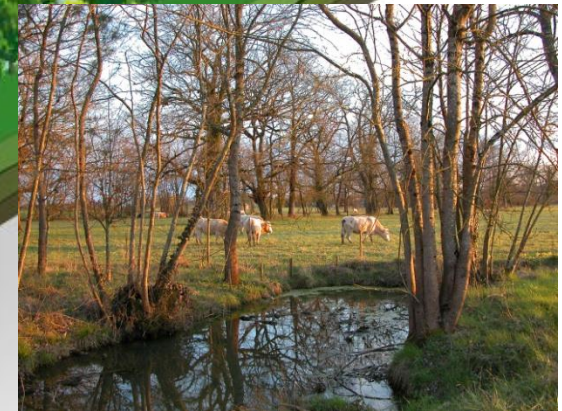
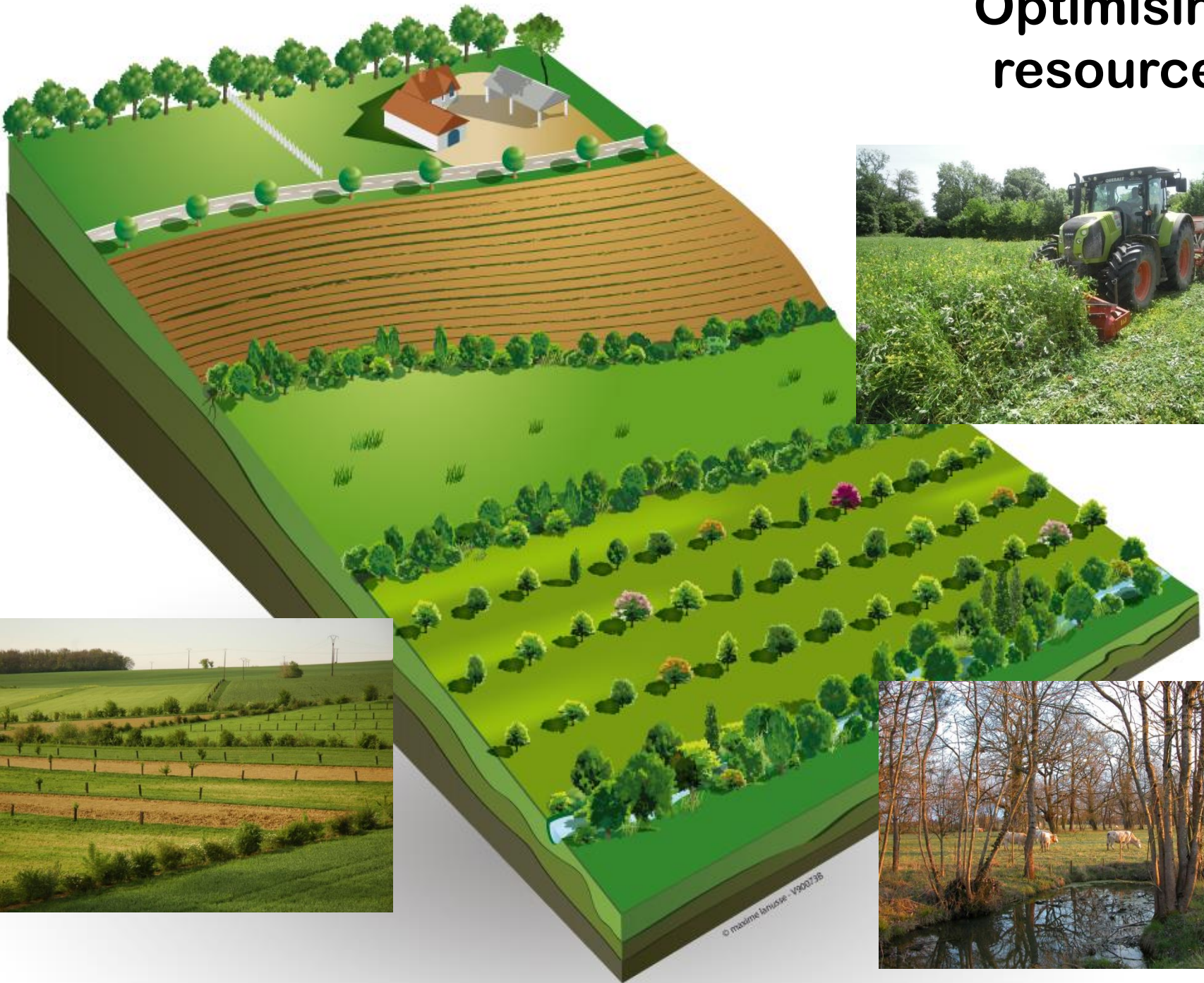
A landscape approach to agroforestry



Degrading soil and water



Optimising resources



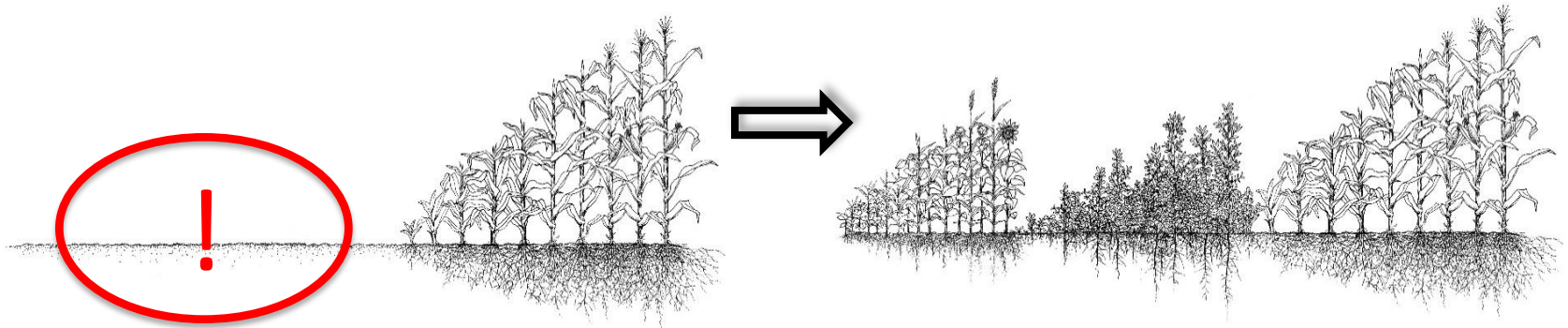
Crop succession (1 year)

October

October

October

October



BEFORE:

- 1 crop a year
- Soil left bare part of the year
- Low biomass production

Vicious circle

AFTER:

- Up to 3 crops a year
- Soil permanently covered with plants
- High biomass production

Virtuous circle

AGROforestry as a means to reach sustainable farming



Developing agroforestry: a collaborative work

Ag. extension
workers

River
conservationists

Farmers

Researchers

Foresters

Road
maintenance
officers

Bee-keepers

Hunting associations



Learning by doing... and by sharing...



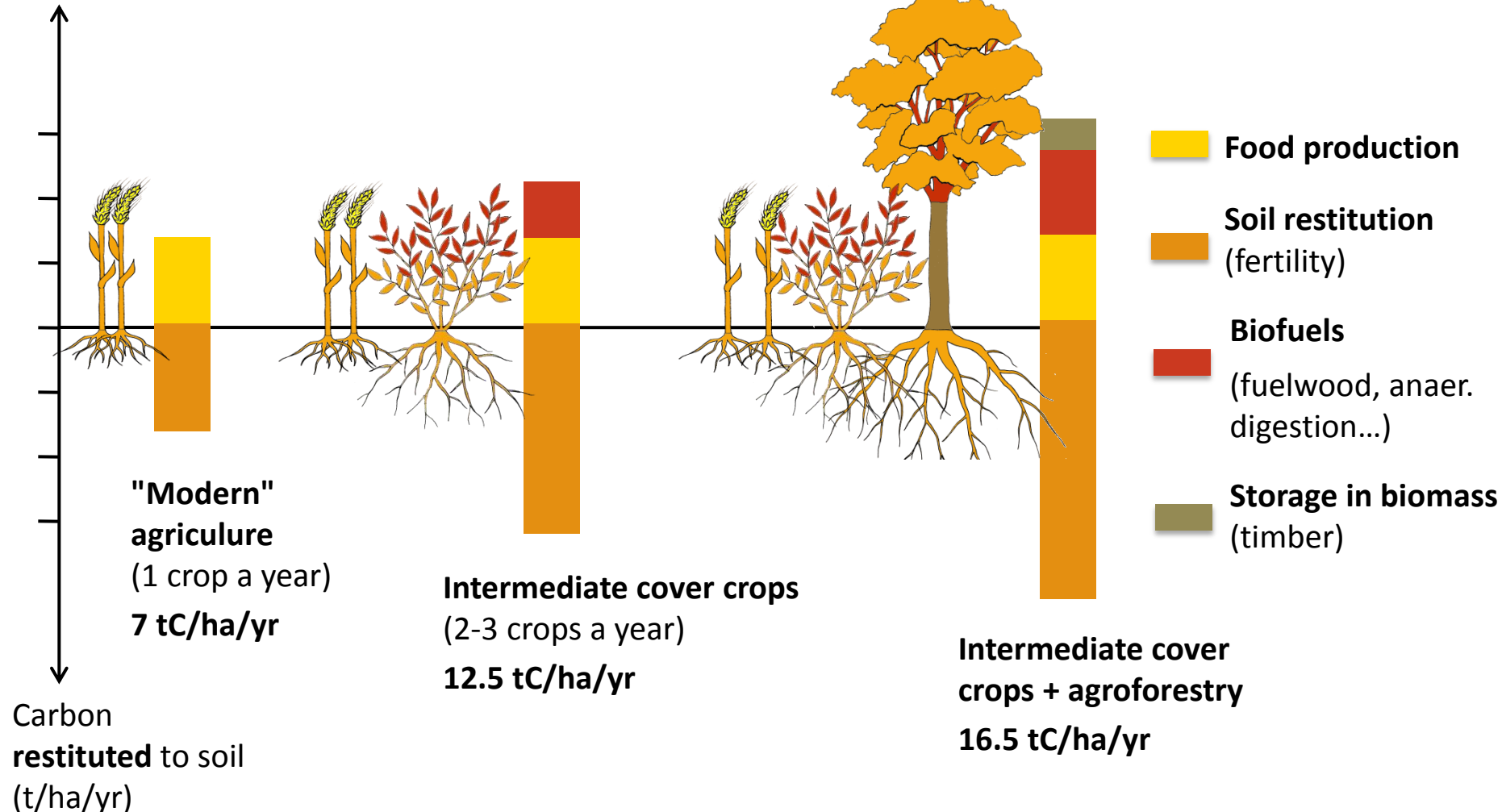
... the well-known "conversation agriculture"



Carbon, fertility... and climate

Europe could capture **twice as much** carbon!

Exported
carbon
(t/ha/yr)

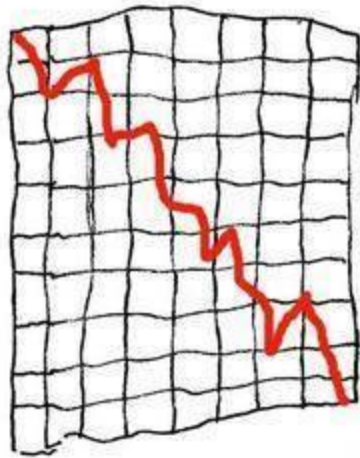




Maize on ploughed soil



Direct-drilled maize



Leunig

To plant ... or not to plant

(Assisted Natural Regeneration)



©D. Dellas — A&P32

The thorn (*Rubus* spp.) is the mother
of the oak



Tree growth without planting cost







©Association Française d'Agroforesterie

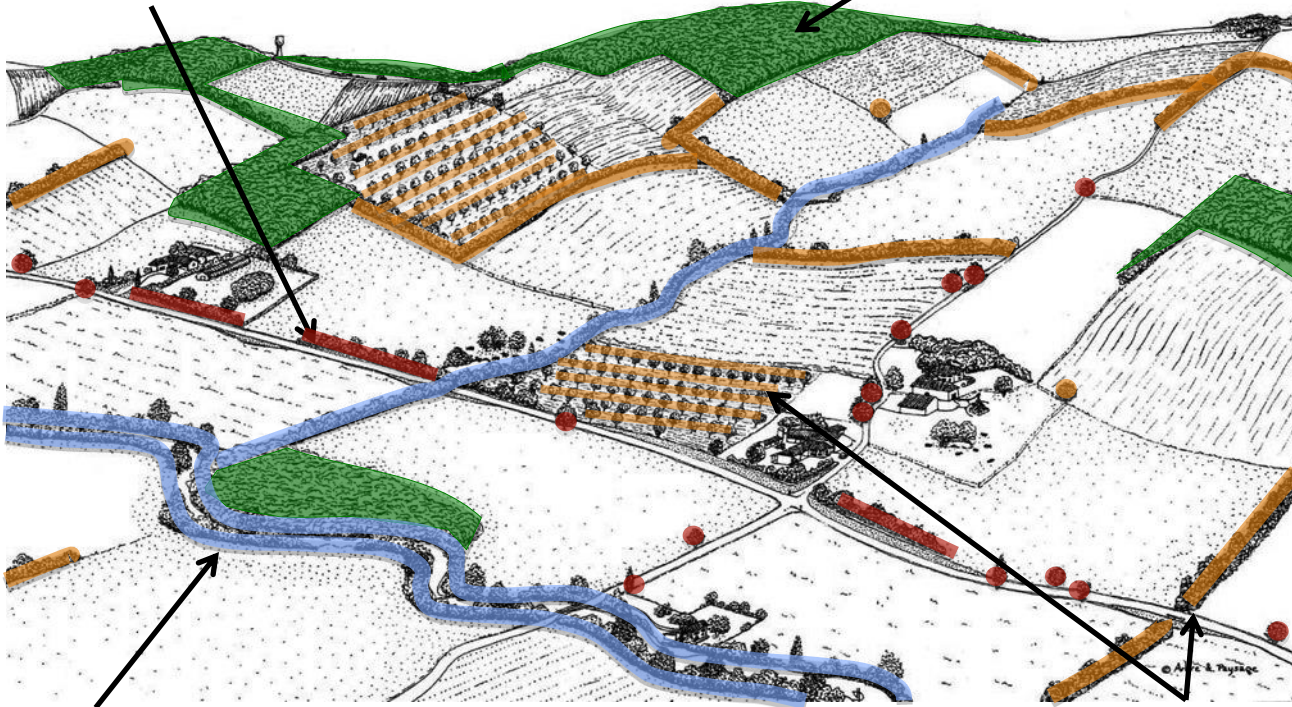
A diversified and productive landscape

Highway engineers

125 m³/yr of fuelwood
75 t of grass for each 25 km of road

Foresters

880 m³ of fuelwood for an
area of 800 ha



River conservationists

460 m³/yr of fuelwood for each
55 km of river

Farmers

30 m³ of fuelwood/yr/farm
(100 ha, of which 20ha are agroforestry
+ 5km of hedges)

Keeping feet on the ground...

MEPs

Farmer

AGROFORESTRY

CLIMATE
AGRONOMY
TREES
SIL
FOOD
BIO
DIVERSITY
WATER
FERTILITY
LAND
CAPES
POLLINATORS
HEDGES
ENERG



www.agforward.eu



fabien.balaguer@agroforesterie.fr