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# Assessement of soil contamination by *Spongospora subterranea* using DAS-ELISA

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## Material and method

- Location: La Fretaz (Bullet, VD, Switzerland) 1'202m a.s.l.
- Years: 2008; 2009; 2010; 2011
- Cultivars: Agria; Estima; Gladiator; Kennebec; Markies
- Replications: 4
- Weekly samplings: 5 to 6 (50-60 until 80-90 DAP)
- Nb. of plants/sample: 4





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# Observations

- Galls on roots:
  - 0 = non galls
  - 1 = 1 or 2 galls
  - 2 = 3 10 galls
  - 3 = >10 galls
  - 4 = >many galls
- Lesions on each tuber (same scale)
- Soil sampling at planting and harvest → analysis by DAS-ELISA (Complete Kit Bioreba Sss – Ueli Merz procedure)
- Meteo datas: temperature and rainfall (more to come)





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# Data analysis

- Calculation of the roots and tubers infection index:
  *Tubers index* = ∑(score \* nb.tubers)
- Calculation of the rAUDPC for symptoms development on roots and tubers:

• 
$$AUDPC = \sum_{i=1}^{i=n-1} \left( \frac{y_i + y_{i+1}}{2} \right) (t_{i+1} - t_i)$$
  
•  $rAUDPC = \frac{AUDPC}{t_{n-1} - t_1}$ 

## **v** *rAUDPC* calculation



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# Results: cultivar effect



- Cv. Agria is highly susceptible to roots galls
- No lesions on tubers for cv. Gladiator but few root galls were observed

## Results: year effect



- Lot of roots gals in 2008;2009 and 2011 but low symptoms on tubers in 2008 and 2011
- Few root gals in 2010 and no lesions on tubers

### Results: year\*cultivar interaction for tuber lesions



Fig. 5: interaction between year and cultivar for tuber lesions

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# Results: weather conditions (1)



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Fig. 5: year effect tuber lesions



Fig. 9: evolution of infections in 2010

Fig. 10: evolution of infections in 2011

#### **Results: weather conditions (3)** U



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## Results: weather conditions (4)



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## Results: weather conditions (5)



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## Landmarks of potato physiology



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#### **Results: weather conditions (6)** U



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# ELISA soil samples analysis



- OD level very low
- Method has to be improved for better sensitivity

# Conclusions for discussion

- There is no strict relationship between roots gals and tuber symptoms.
- Weather conditions during initiation of tuberization could have a significant impact on tubers symptoms development.
- The DAS-ELISA method we used is not sensitive enough to forecast symptoms development.
- Need for many others field data with different agro-climatic conditions for a complete epidemiological study.

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# Thank you for your attention!

