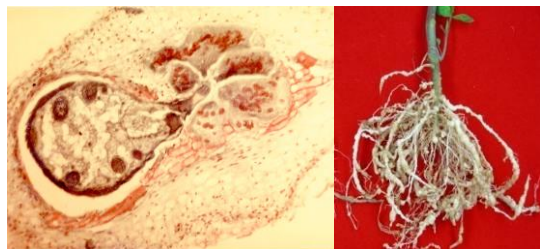




# New resistance-genes deployment strategies as non chemical alternatives for the durable management of root-knot nematodes in vegetable crops rotation



Susceptible plant

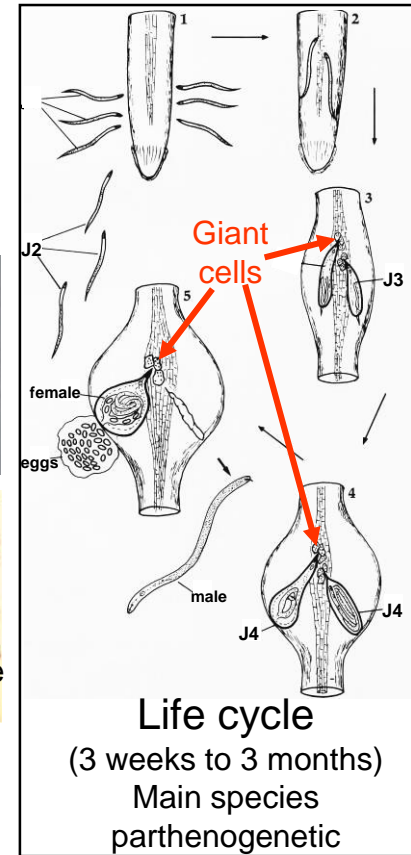
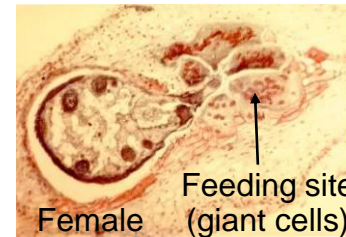
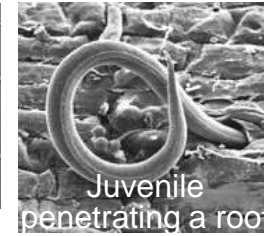
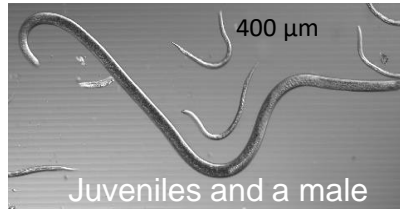


Resistant plant



# Root-knot nematodes *Meloidogyne* spp.

Microscopic soil borne roundworms (0,2 to 2 mm), obligate sedentary endoparasites



Symptoms : galls on roots (thus, sharp decrease in the aerial part ----> death)



Extremely polyphagous (> 5,500 host plants)

~10% of crop losses worldwide *Trudgill & Blok, Annual Review of Phytopathology, 2001*  
(Some species subjected to quarantine regulations in the EU)

Chemical nematicides **prohibited or restricted** (*Plan Ecophyto 2018*)

Fumigants : methyl bromide, dichloropropene  
Systemics : e.g. aldicarbe  $LD_{50}=1ppm$



# Root-knot nematodes *Meloidogyne* spp.

An increasing problem on vegetable crops in Europe\* and all Mediterranean regions



-  A survey conducted from 2007 to 2010\*\* : a big threat for > 40% of farms producing vegetables in SE France
-  Crop rotations with resistant plants : economically efficient and environmentally safe, but resistance can be overcome

\*Wesemael et al., *Nematology* 2011

\*\*Djian-Caporalino, *Phytoma* November 2010 & *EPPO Bulletin* April 2012

# Limitation of the RKN-resistance

**Few R-genes identified and breeding for R is long** (7-10 years)

**In controlled conditions with high pressure of RKN**

- *Mi-1* in tomato and *Me3* in pepper are overcome

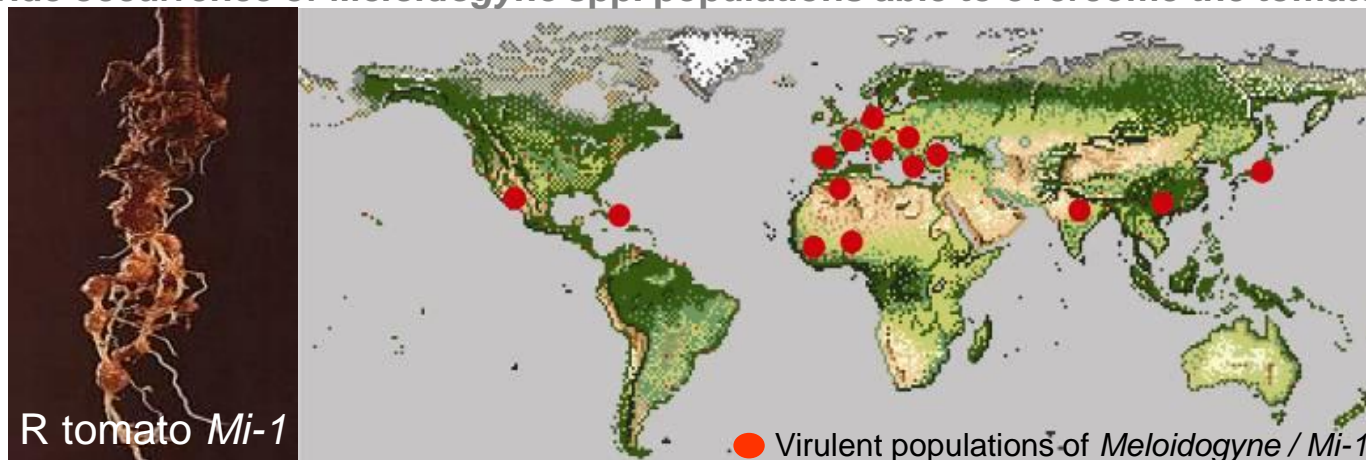
e.g. Jarquin-Barberena et al. 1991; Castagnone-Sereno et al. 1994, 1996, 2001; Meher et al. 2009; Djan-Caporalino et al., 2011

**In natural conditions**

- *Mi-1* in tomato and *N* in pepper cultivars, 60 years of use, are overcome

e.g., Tzortzakakis et al. 2005, 2008; Verdejo-Lucas et al. 2009; Devran and Sögüt 2010 ; Thies 2012

Worldwide occurrence of *Meloidogyne* spp. populations able to overcome the tomato *Mi-1* R-gene



**Development of new « robust » R-lines**



**Management of R-genes to increase their durability**

# Model to study the durability of resistance to RKN



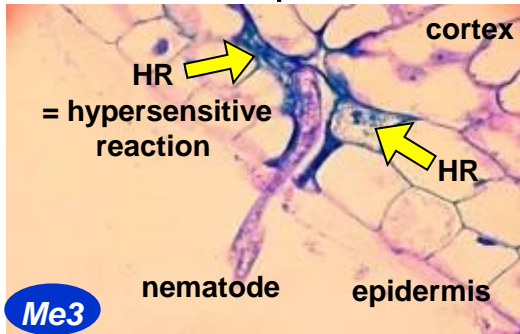
**Capsicum annuum**

Me1 to Me7, Mech1, Mech2, N



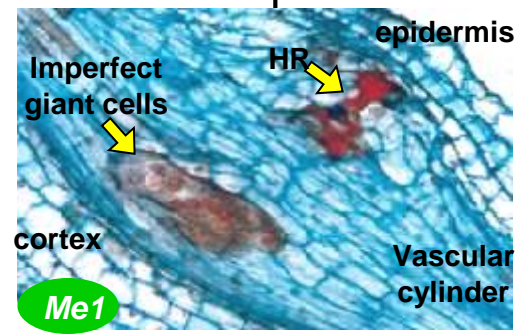
*M. incognita*  
*M. arenaria*  
*M. javanica*  
 R stable at high T°

Hendy et al, *Nematologica* 1985 ; Hare, *Phytopathology* 1956 ;  
 Thies & Fery, *J Amer Soc Hort Sci* 1998 & 2000 ; Thies & Ariss, *EJPP* 2009 ;  
 Djian-Caporalino et al., *Theor Appl Genet* 1999, 2001, 2007



Early necrosis

**Gene overcome**  
 Selection of virulent nematodes



Later necrosis

**Difficult to overcome**  
 the **Me1** gene

Castagnone et al, *Plant Breeding* 2001 ; Djian-Caporalino et al., *EJPP* 2011

# Results in controlled conditions



French agriculture ministry and Permanent Technical Committee of the Selection of the crop plants, 2007-2010



European network for durable exploitation of crop protection strategies, 2008-2009

- . **Choice of the genes** (mode of action)
- . **Varietal effect** (genetic background)
- . **Combination of genes** (pyramiding)

strongly affected:

- ➔ the efficiency of the **R** in reducing the reproductive potential of RKNs (total or partial R)
- ➔ the **durability of R** in preventing the selection of virulent nematodes or lowering the frequency of resistance breakdown



# Experimental approach in natural conditions



INRA PICLeg network, Integrated production of vegetable crops 2008-2012



French National Research Agency, project on Ecosystems, living resources, landscapes and agriculture 2009-2013



EU Interreg Alcotra project, 2010-2012

## 3-years greenhouse and field experiments *(in experimental stations and farms)*

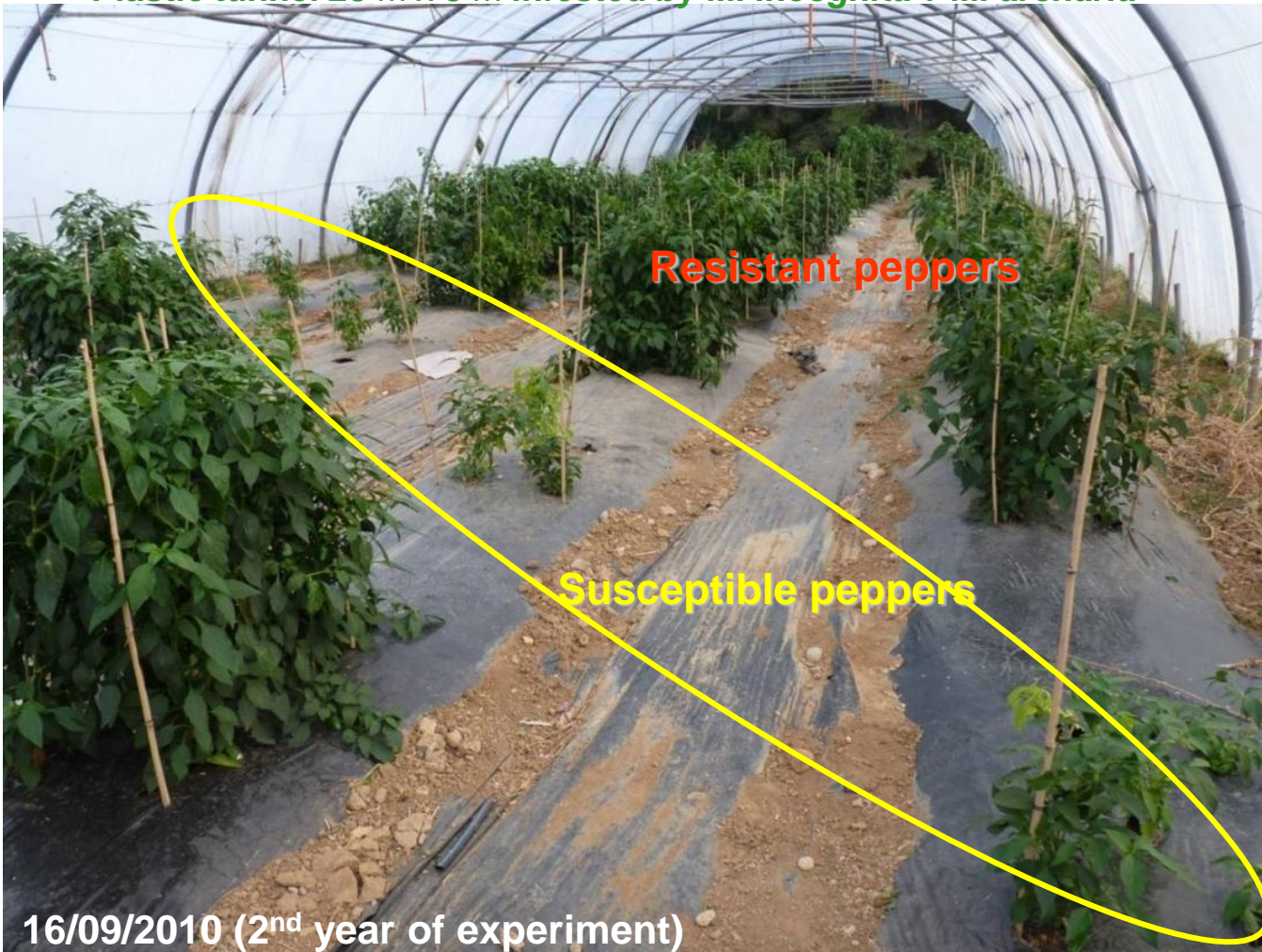
- ➔ **Validation** with natural nematode populations in protected crop systems
- ➔ **Development of *R*-plants management strategies lowering the risk of emergence of virulent nematodes :**
  - i) alternance of *R*-genes in rotation,
  - ii) mixture of different *R*-genotypes in the same plot
  - iii) pyramiding of 2 *R*-genes in one genotype.



# Experimental approach in natural conditions

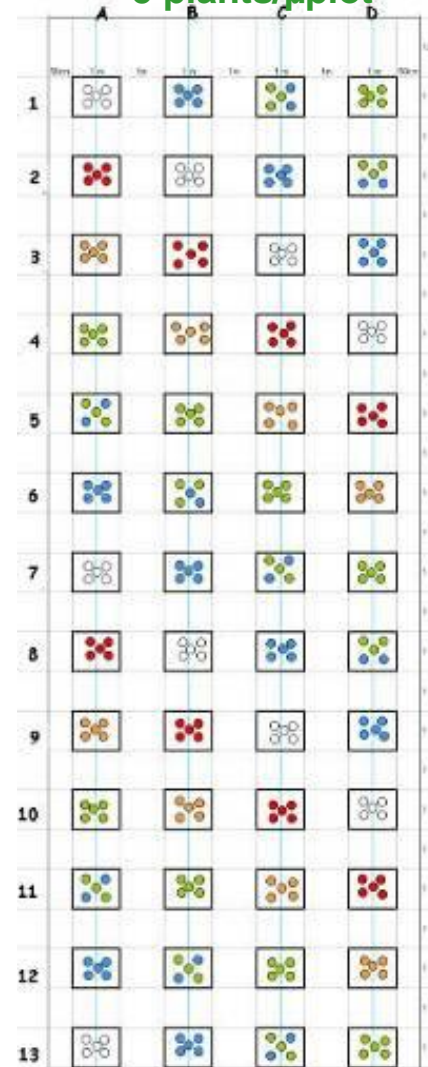
Exemple of an experiment in a farm belonging to the Chamber of Agriculture of Alpes-Maritimes (technical institute) in Nice (SE France)

Plastic tunnel 28 m x 8 m infested by *M. incognita* + *M. arenaria*



16/09/2010 (2<sup>nd</sup> year of experiment)

224 m<sup>2</sup>, 52  $\mu$ plots,  
5 plants/ $\mu$ plot





# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Material and methods

6 MODALITIES  
8 to 9  $\mu$ plots/modality  
x 5 plants/ $\mu$ plot  
= 40 to 45 plants/modality

### Schedule and Infestation parameters

Susceptible cultivar DLL (control)

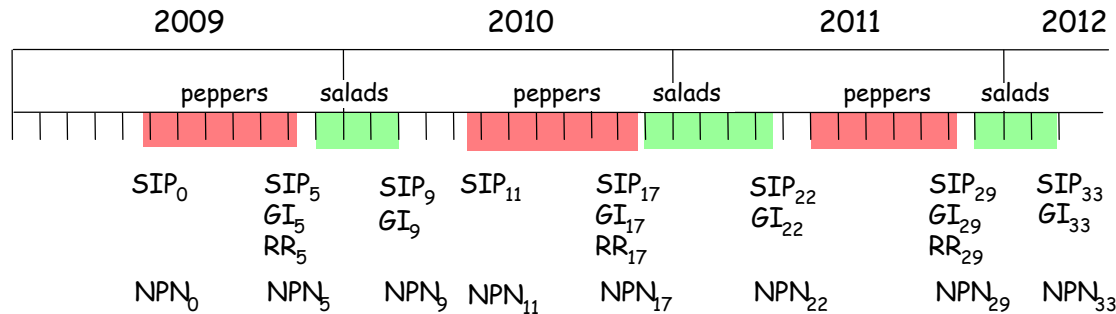
R inbred line Me1

R hybrid [DLL x Me1]

Alternation Me3 then Me1

Mixture Me3 and Me1

Pyramiding Me3 Me1



**SIP = soil infection potential** (number of *Meloidogyne J2* /kg of soil)

**GI = gall index** (on peppers and salads)

**RR = reproduction rate of virulent nematodes**  
if egg masses detected on R-peppers

(number of eggs produced /J2 inoculated on R-peppers in controlled conditions)

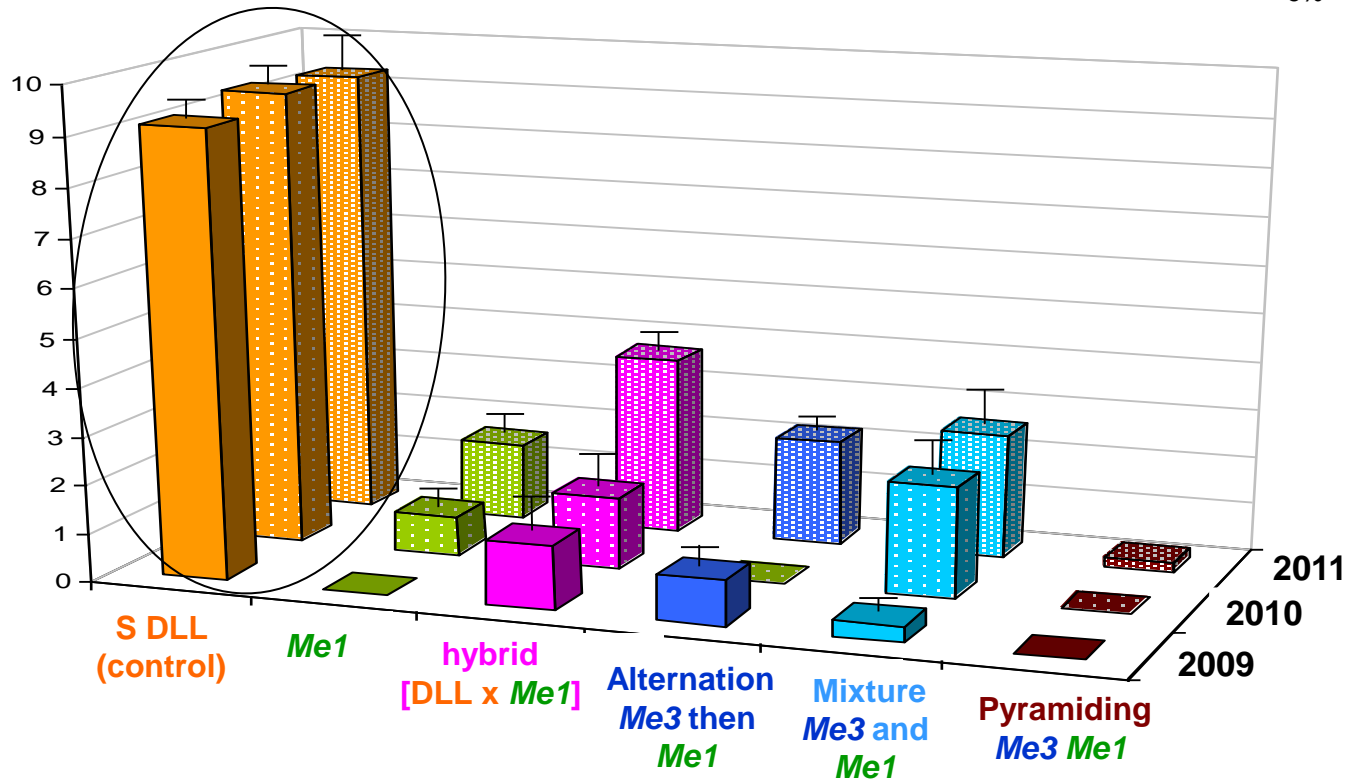
**NPN = soil content with non parasitic nematodes**

(identification of species and number of nematodes/dm<sup>3</sup> of soil)

# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Results on strength and durability of resistances

Mean GI (gall index) on 40 to 45 peppers after 5 months of culture in summer ( $IC_{5\%}$ )

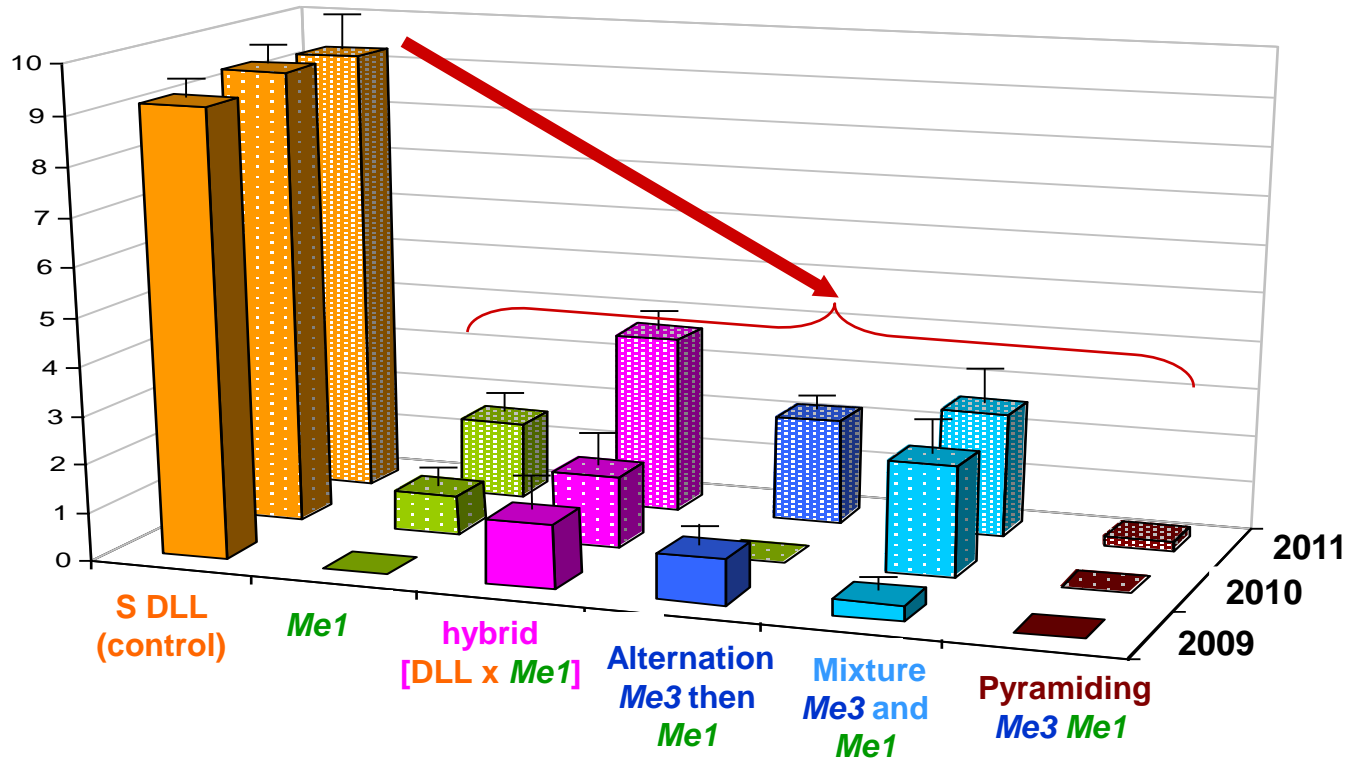


 GI on S-peppers nearly maximum

# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Results on strength and durability of resistances

Mean GI (gall index) on 40 to 45 peppers after 5 months of culture in summer ( $IC_{5\%}$ )

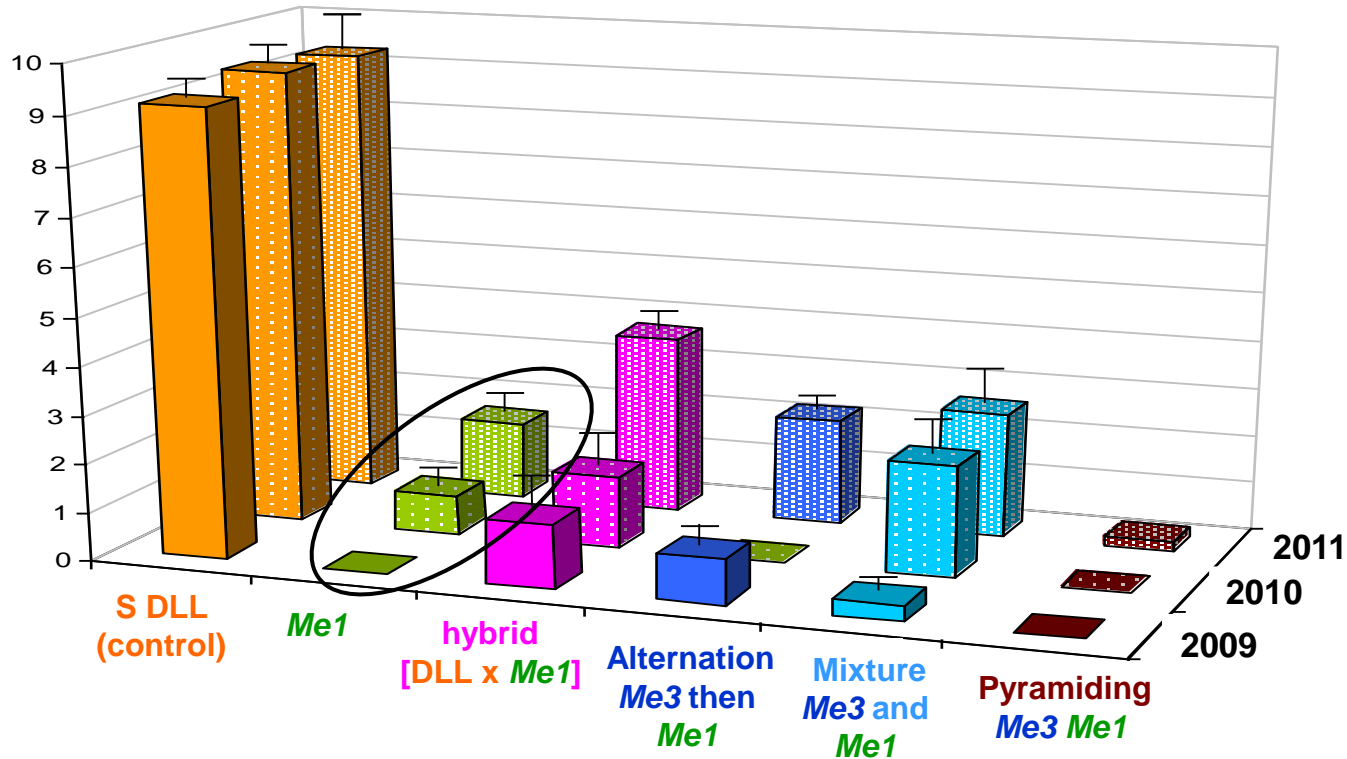


 GI on S-peppers nearly maximum and very high compared to the R-peppers

# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Results on strength and durability of resistances

Mean GI (gall index) on 40 to 45 peppers after 5 months of culture in summer (IC<sub>5%</sub>)

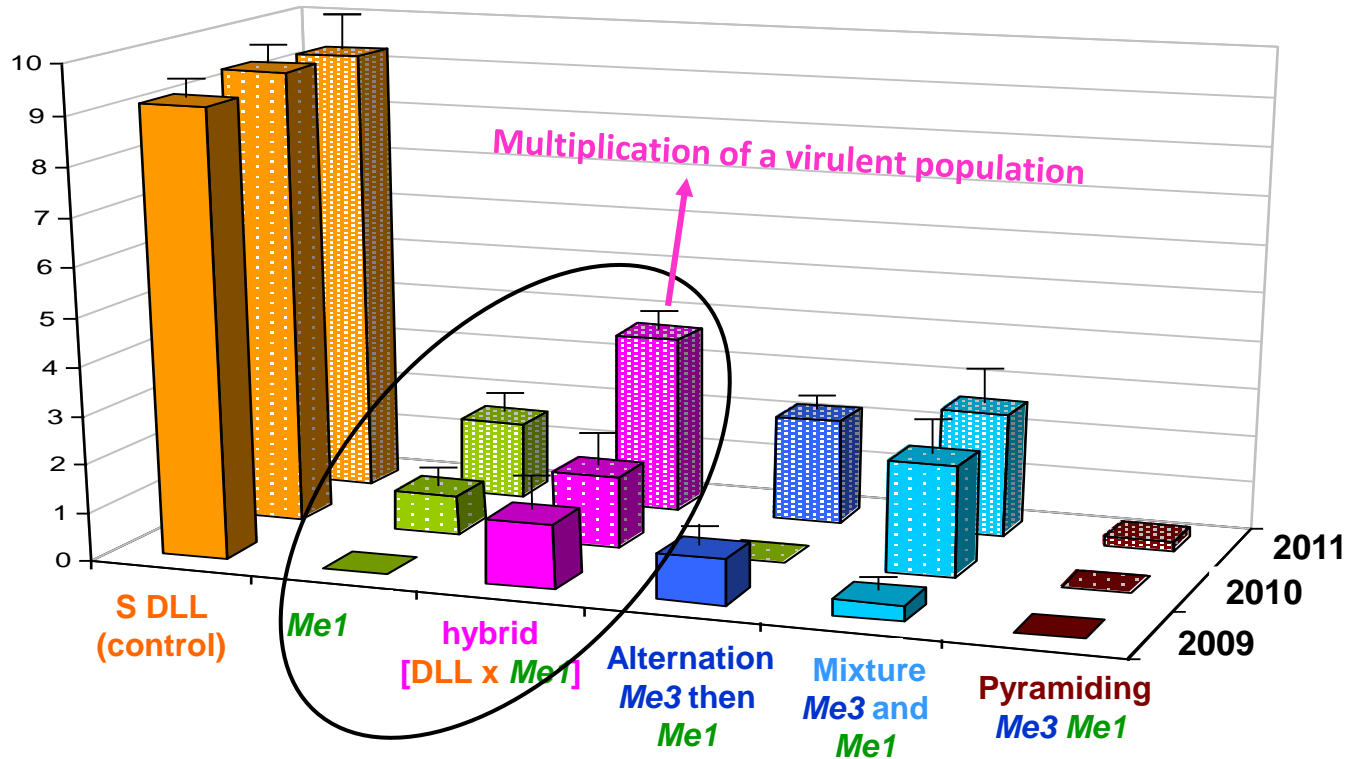


 **Me1 robust : difficult to overcome even in natural conditions**

# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Results on strength and durability of resistances

Mean GI (gall index) on 40 to 45 peppers after 5 months of culture in summer ( $IC_{5\%}$ )

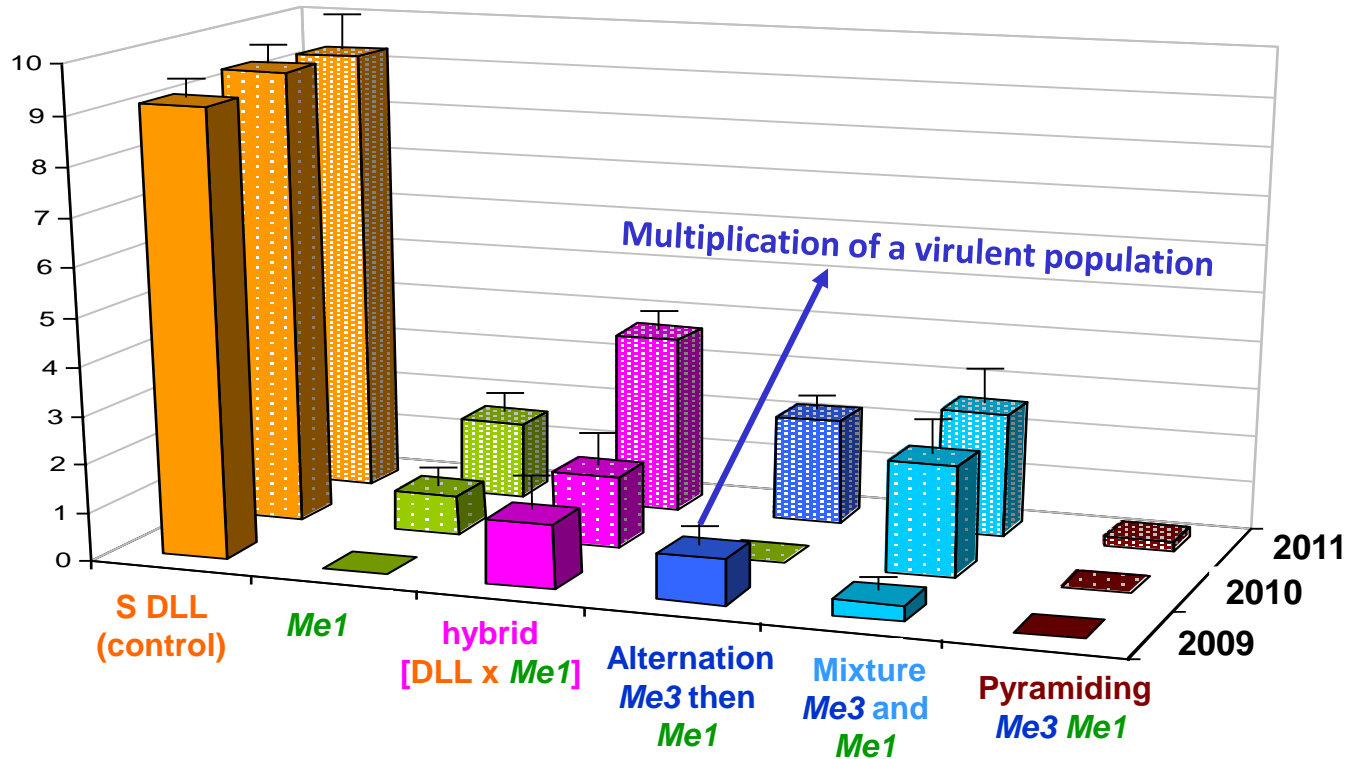


🌶️ F1 hybrid (*Me1* in *S* background) less R than *Me1* R-parent

# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Results on strength and durability of resistances

Mean GI (gall index) on 40 to 45 peppers after 5 months of culture in summer ( $IC_{5\%}$ )

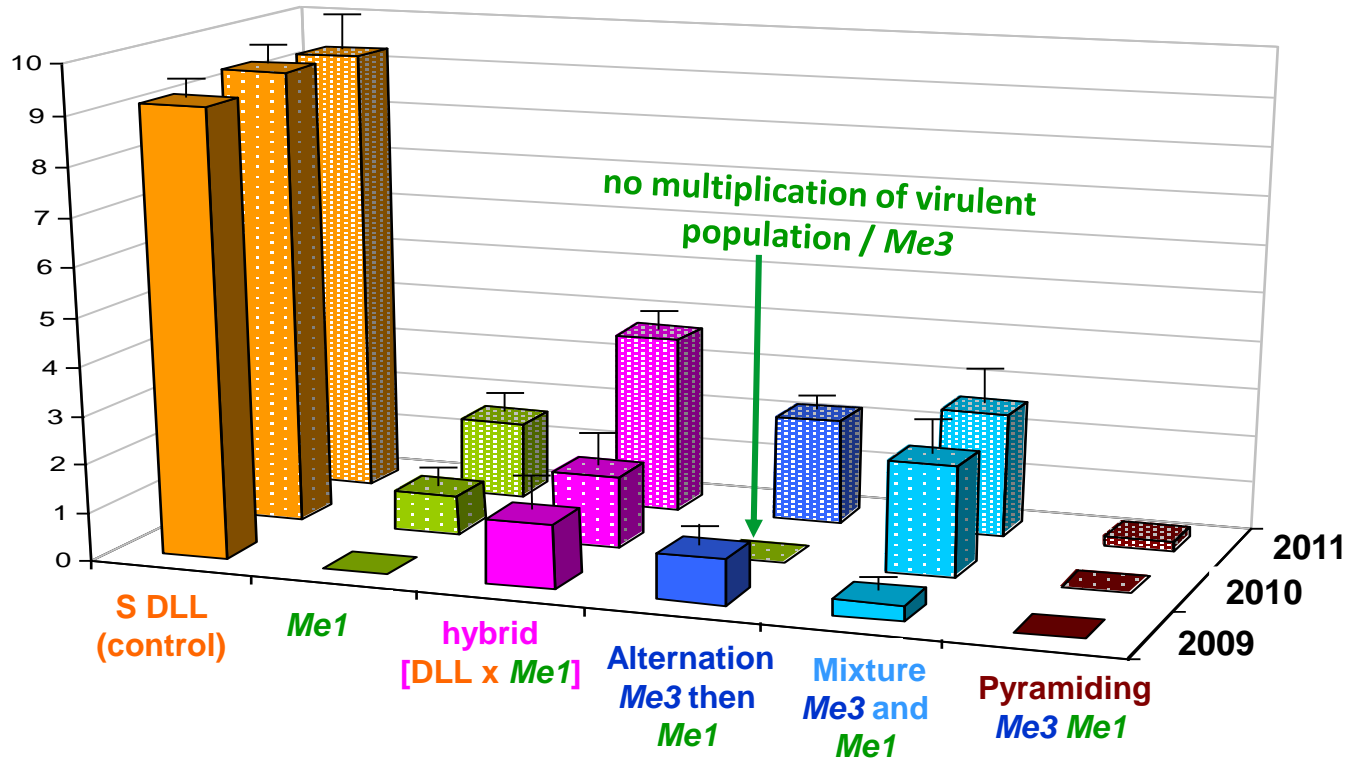


**Me3 overcome the first year**

# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Results on strength and durability of resistances

Mean GI (gall index) on 40 to 45 peppers after 5 months of culture in summer (IC<sub>5%</sub>)

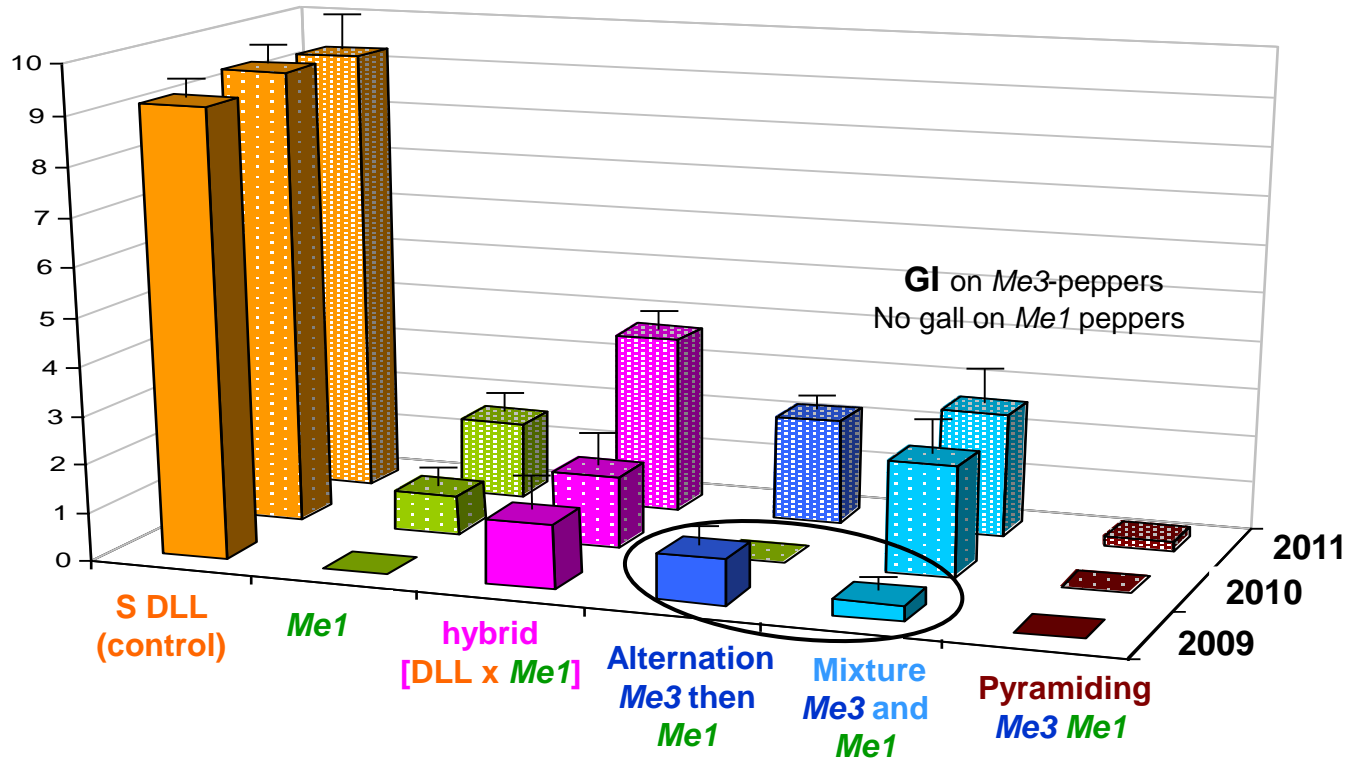


**Me3 overcome the first year but specificity of virulence confirmed**  
Djian-Caporalino et al., EJPP 2011 => alternation Me3 with Me1 interesting to stop Me3 virulent population (recycling an ineffective R-gene)

# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Results on strength and durability of resistances

Mean GI (gall index) on 40 to 45 peppers after 5 months of culture in summer ( $IC_{5\%}$ )



**Me3 R-peppers seem protected by Me1 R-peppers**

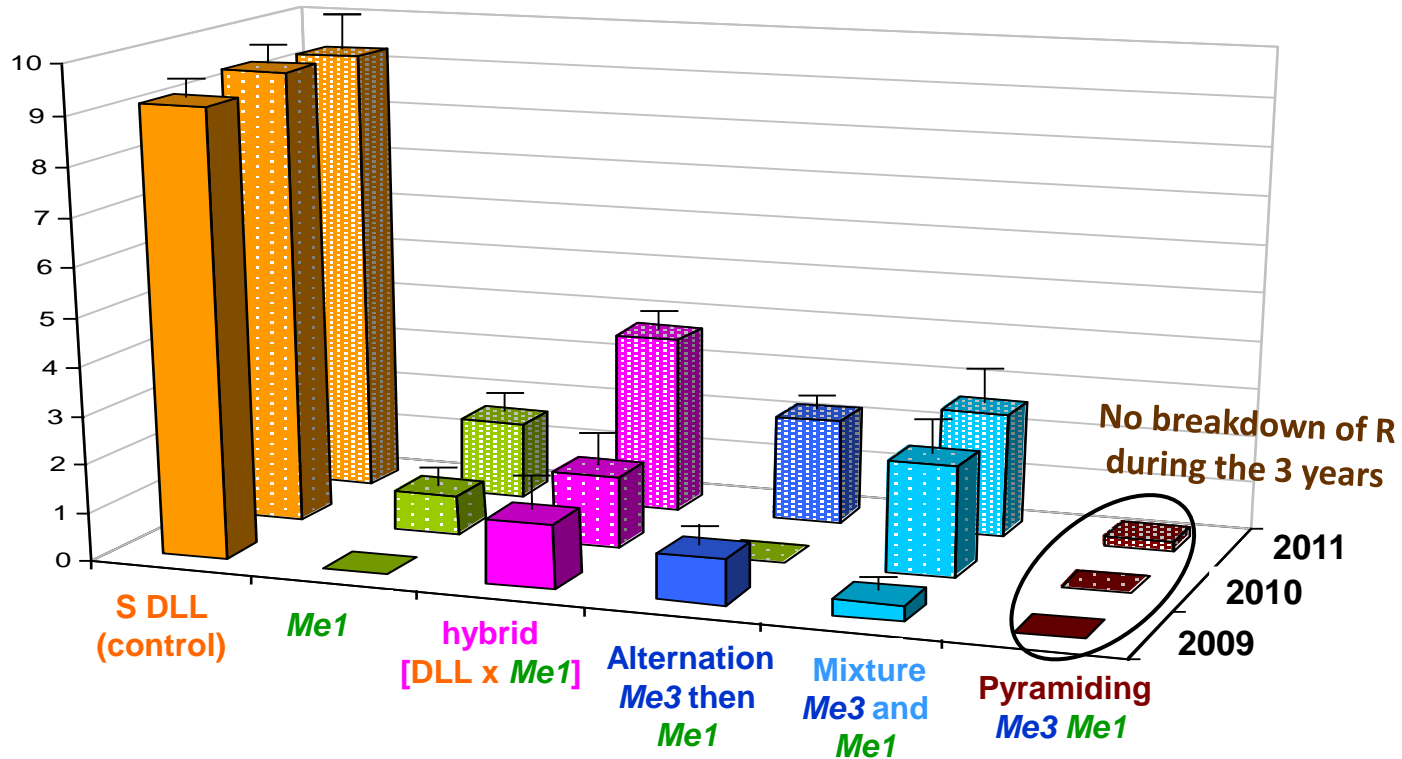
Organic amendment the first year => the roots were well developed and intercrossed between Me1 and Me3 peppers the first year



# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Results on strength and durability of resistances

Mean GI (gall index) on 40 to 45 peppers after 5 months of culture in summer ( $IC_{5\%}$ )

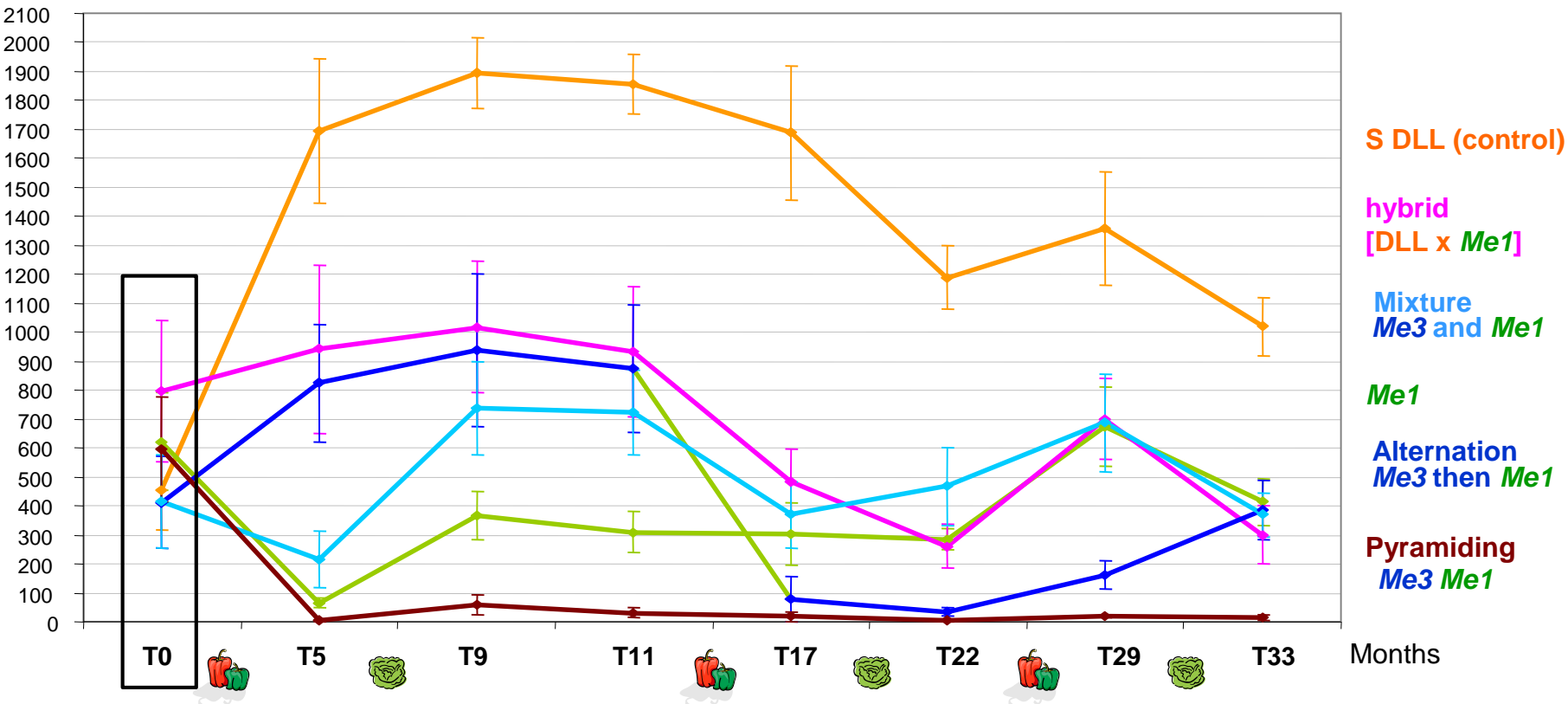


 **Me3Me1 R-peppers never infested : the best modality of deploying the R-genes**

# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Results on reduction of the soil infection potential (“trap” effect)

Egg-masses on S-tomatoes inoculated with 1kg of soil from each  $\mu$ plot (IC<sub>5%</sub> on 8 to 9 replicates)

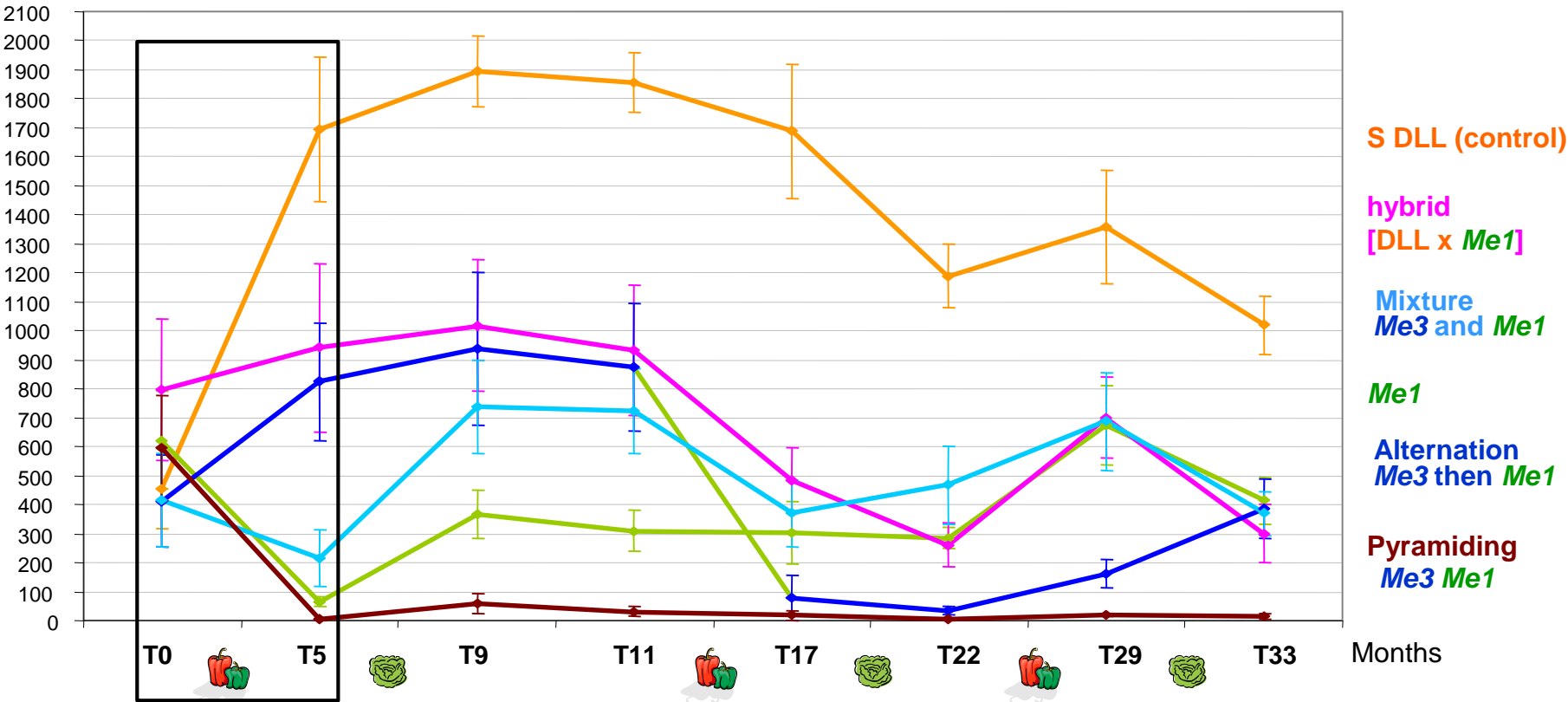


 Before peppers : SIP was high and homogenous in each microplot (GI > 5)

# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Results on reduction of the soil infection potential (“trap” effect)

Egg-masses on S-tomatoes inoculated with 1kg of soil from each  $\mu$ plot (IC<sub>5%</sub> on 8 to 9 replicates)



 S DLL strongly increased the SIP ; no significant for hybrid [DLL x Me1] and Me3

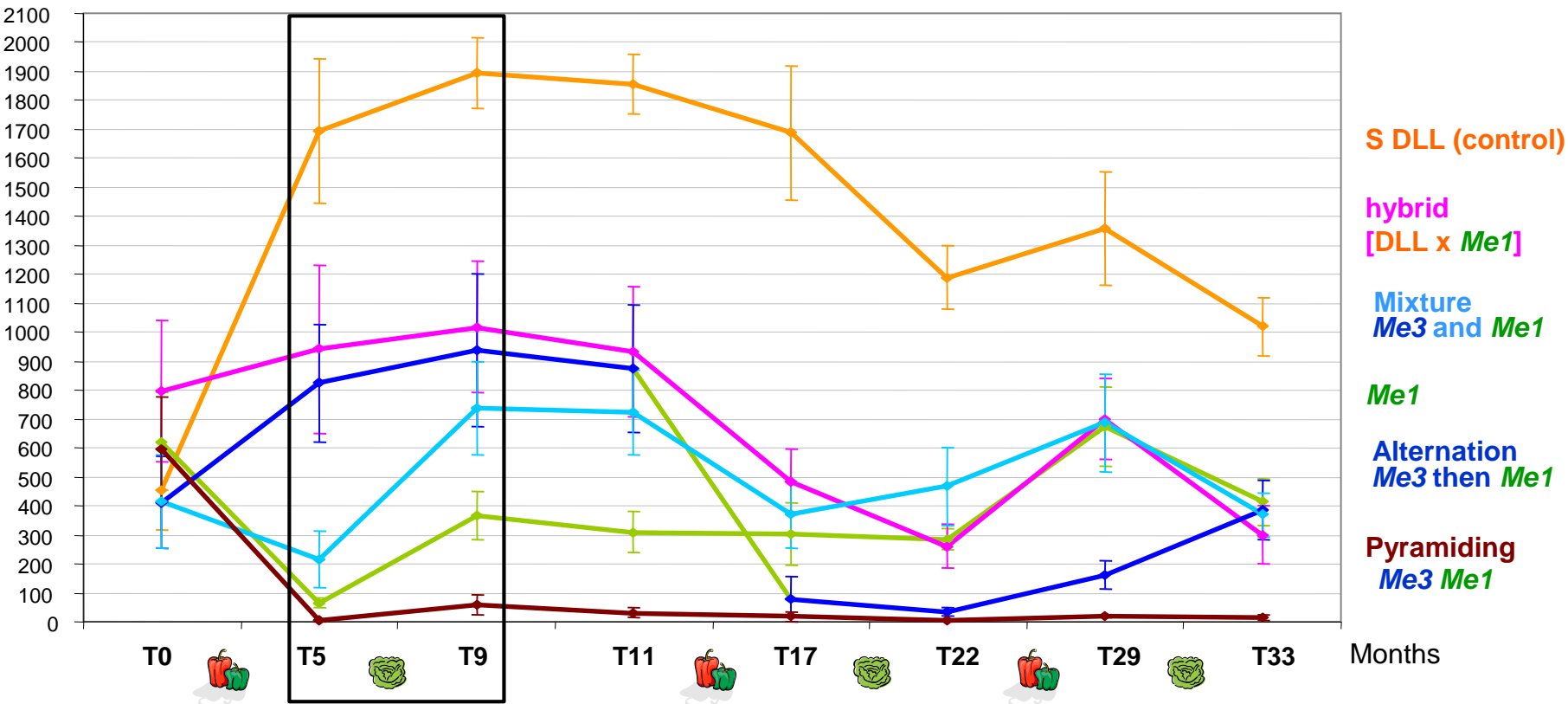
 Mixture Me3 and Me1 reduced the SIP

 Me1 and particularly the pyramided Me3Me1 peppers strongly reduced the SIP: >90% !

# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Results on reduction of the soil infection potential (“trap” effect)

Egg-masses on S-tomatoes inoculated with 1kg of soil from each  $\mu$ plot (IC<sub>5%</sub> on 8 to 9 replicates)

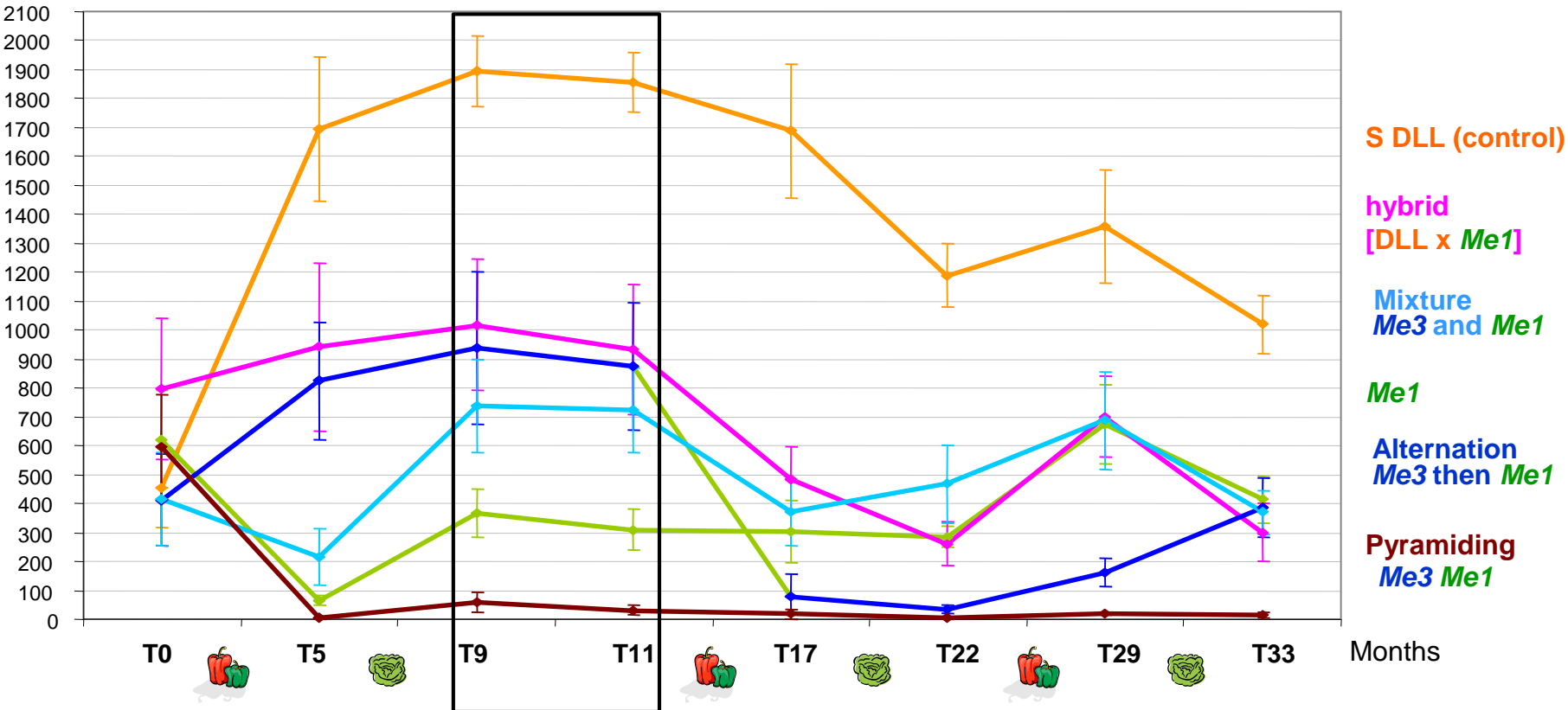


**S-salads allowed the multiplication of nematodes in each microplot**

# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Results on reduction of the soil infection potential (“trap” effect)

Egg-masses on S-tomatoes inoculated with 1kg of soil from each  $\mu$ plot (IC<sub>5%</sub> on 8 to 9 replicates)

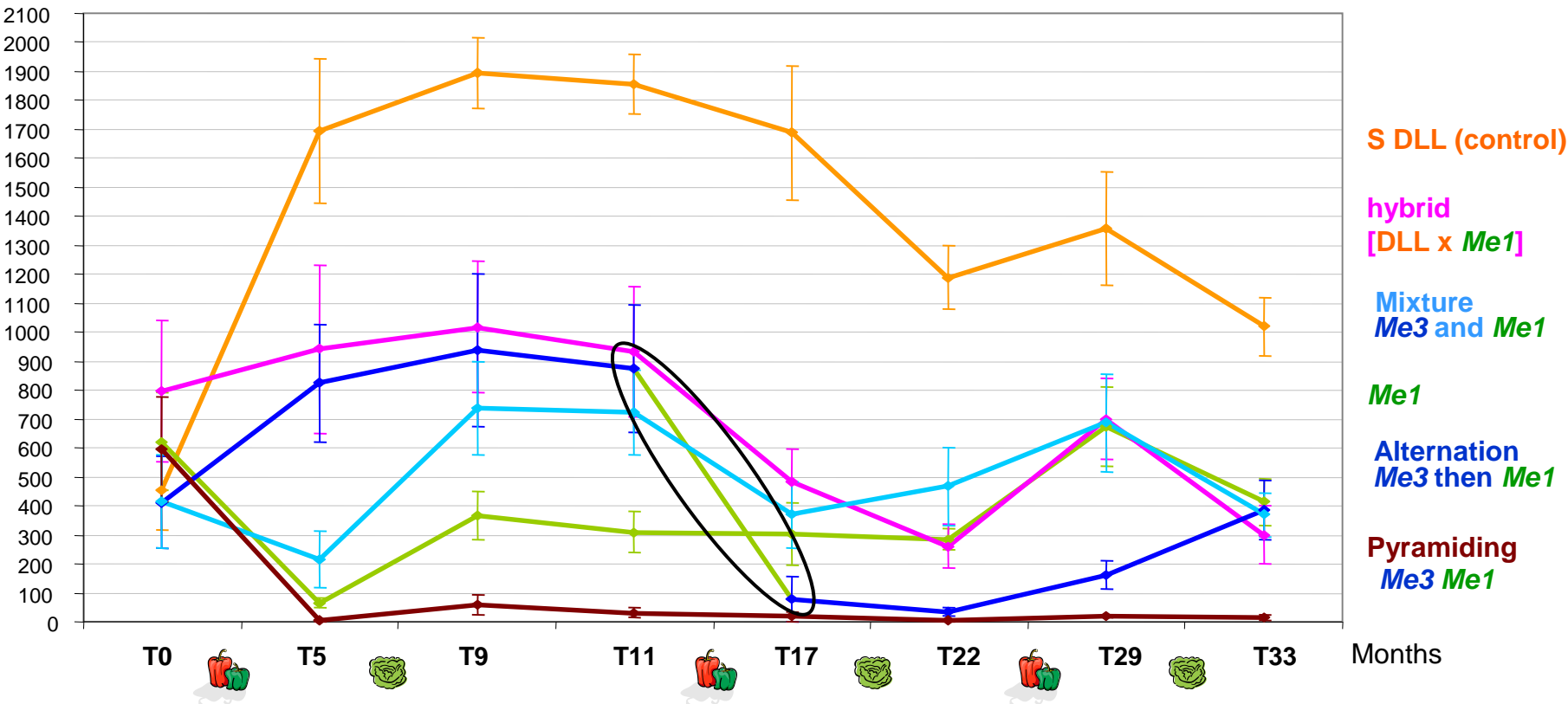


After 2 months without any culture, no significant evolution of SIP

# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Results on reduction of the soil infection potential (“trap” effect)

Egg-masses on S-tomatoes inoculated with 1kg of soil from each  $\mu$ plot (IC<sub>5%</sub> on 8 to 9 replicates)

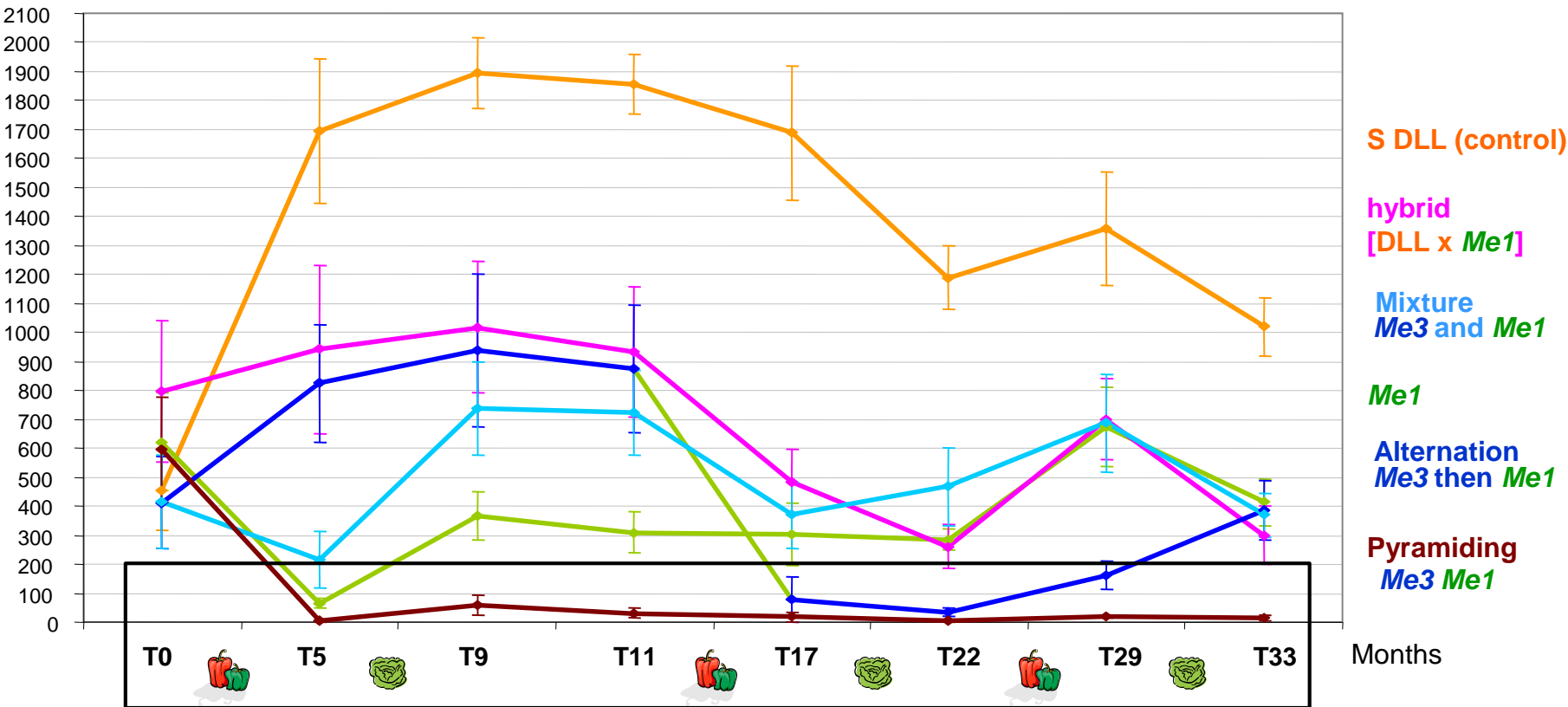


**Alternating R-genes in rotation efficient to decrease virulent populations in the field (specificity of virulence)**

# Experimental approach in natural conditions

## Results on reduction of the soil infection potential (“trap” effect)

Egg-masses on S-tomatoes inoculated with 1kg of soil from each  $\mu$ plot (IC<sub>5%</sub> on 8 to 9 replicates)



 **Pyramiding *R*-genes in one pepper genotype : best modality as trap crop and to suppress the emergence of virulent isolates**

# Strategies to strengthen and increase the R durability and to limit the use of chemicals

## At the plant level (*plant breeders*)

 **Choice of the *R*-genes** (the more robust, linked to the *R*-mechanism)

 **Choice of the genetic background** (in which the *R*-gene is introgressed)

 **Combination of *R*-genes** (pyramiding)

⇒ To prevent the probability of mutation of pathogens, thus the selection of virulents

## At the field and rotation level (*farmers*)

 **Diversification of *R*-plants** (alternating *R*-genes) ⇒ To reduce the selection pressure of *R*-genes on the pathogens : allows to recycle ineffective *R*-genes in successive cycles of selection

 **Use *R*-genes pyramiding with a good organic amendment**  
(increasing their "trap" effect)


⇒ To decrease the amount of pathogens in the soil

 in good agreement with concepts recently developed for  
pepper-virus, rapeseed-fungus, rice-bacteria

Palloix *et al.*, *New Phytol* 2009, Brun *et al.*, *New Phytol* 2010 Yoshimura *et al.* *Mol Breeding* 1995 ; Hittalmani *et al.* *Theor Appl Genet* 2000; Singh *et al.*, *Theor Appl Genet* 2001



# Perspectives

 **The GEDUNEM project** : Varietal and technical innovations for the sustainable and integrated management of RKN in protected vegetable cropping systems.

 **INRA metaprogramme SMaCH (Sustainable Management of Crop Health)**  
Action PRESUME (Plant REsistance SUstainable ManagEment) 02/2012 – 02/2016

Gedunem labelled by

   
PÔLE EUROPEEN D'INNOVATION FRUITS ET LÉGUMES  
07/2011 09/2012

**Combination of R-plants and cropping techniques** : intercultural management (green manure, prophylactic treatments), biological control, multicrop rotations with bad host plants, and R-plants (alternance *Mi*-tomatoes, *Me3*-peppers)



Alenya, Fr



Nîmes, Fr



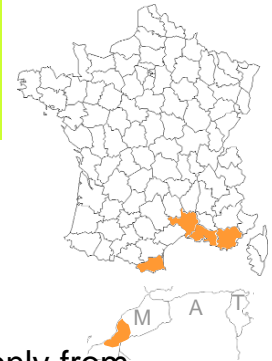
Lambesc, Fr



Six Fours, Fr



Agadir, Morocco



1 experimental station and 4 farms to evaluate consequences of such systems at farm level not only from agronomical and pathological points of view, but also as regards to ecologic and socioeconomic consequences (impact on soil health and soil microbial communities, land occupation, labour organisation, economic and commercial consequences...)

 **Analysis of partial resistance factors (QTL, quantitative trait locus)** that could explain the effect of the genetic background on major *R*-genes

  
ANRT PhD

**PhD Arnaud Barbary 01/04/2011-2014**

  
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CLAUSE  
VEGETABLE SEEDS

  
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# Collaborative network

## INRA

- **Centre PACA** { UMR ISA, équipe IPN **Sophia Antipolis**  
UR GAFL, UR EcoDev, UR PaVe **Avignon**
- **Centre Montpellier** UE DEAR **Alénya Roussillon**
- **Centre Dijon** UMR MSE
- **Centre Rennes** UMR Bio3P



## IRD Montpellier UMR CBGP



## Farmers associations and technical institutes

- **APREL** (Association for vegetable research and experimentation) **St Rémy de Provence**
- **GRAB** (Research Group in Organic Farming) **Avignon**
- **Chambres d'agriculture** CA 06 & CA83
- **Society Azura, Group Maraissa** **Maroc**
- **CTIFL** (Interprofessional technical center for fruits and vegetables) **Balandran**



## Private breeding companies



## Farmers La Baronne-Nice (06), Six-Fours (83), Lambesc (13), Marguerittes (30)

# Thank you for your attention



## Financial support

