

# Strategies for reducing vector populations and transmission of *Xylella fastidiosa* in olive groves



Crescenza Dongiovanni,  
Giulio Fumarola, Michele Di  
Carolo, Daniele Tauro,  
Vincenzo Cavalieri



# VECTOR CONTROL

- Control vector is the election method to achieve immediate and effective results in order to mitigate the spread of vector-borne pathogens and the diseases.

## GOAL:

- Reduce populations of spittlebugs

Juveniles

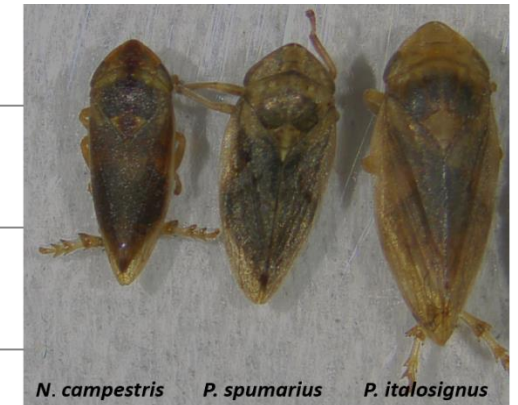
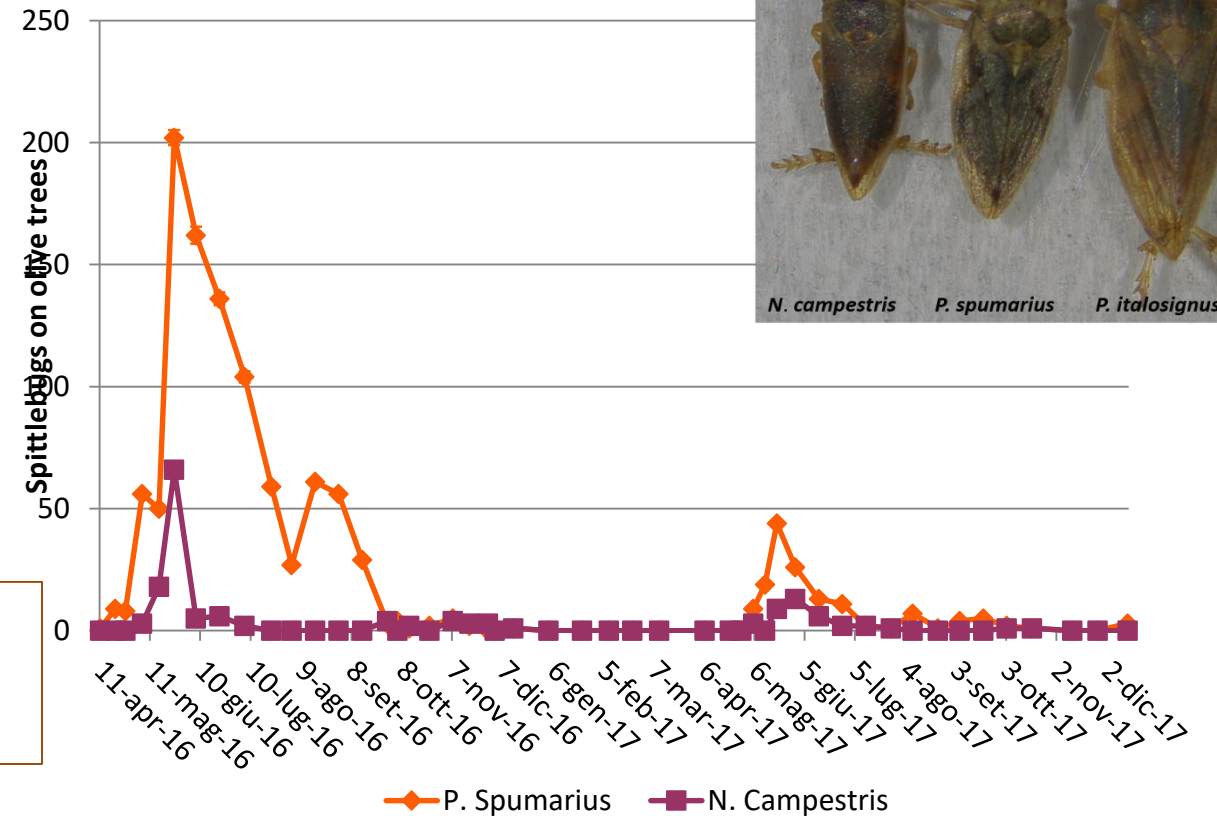


Adults



## GOAL:

- reduce number of visits





# Effectiveness of different management approaches in order to reduce juveniles of Ph and NC

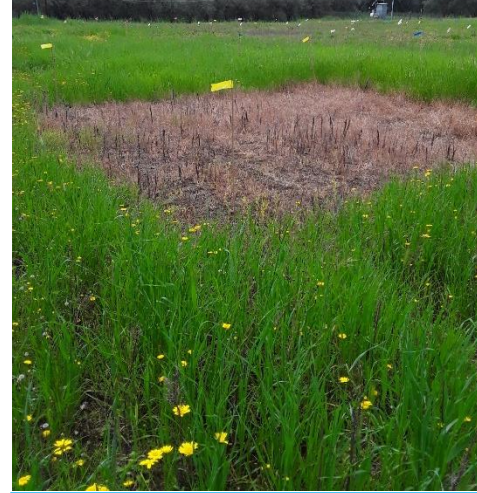
undisturbed ground  
vegetation



Soil tillage: N4



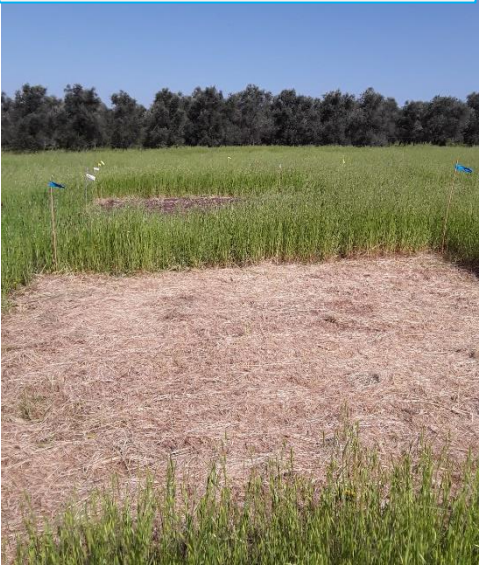
Herbicides: end of  
winther



Pyroweeding: stage N4



mulching: stage N4



Mineral oil: end of  
February



Herbicides: stage N4

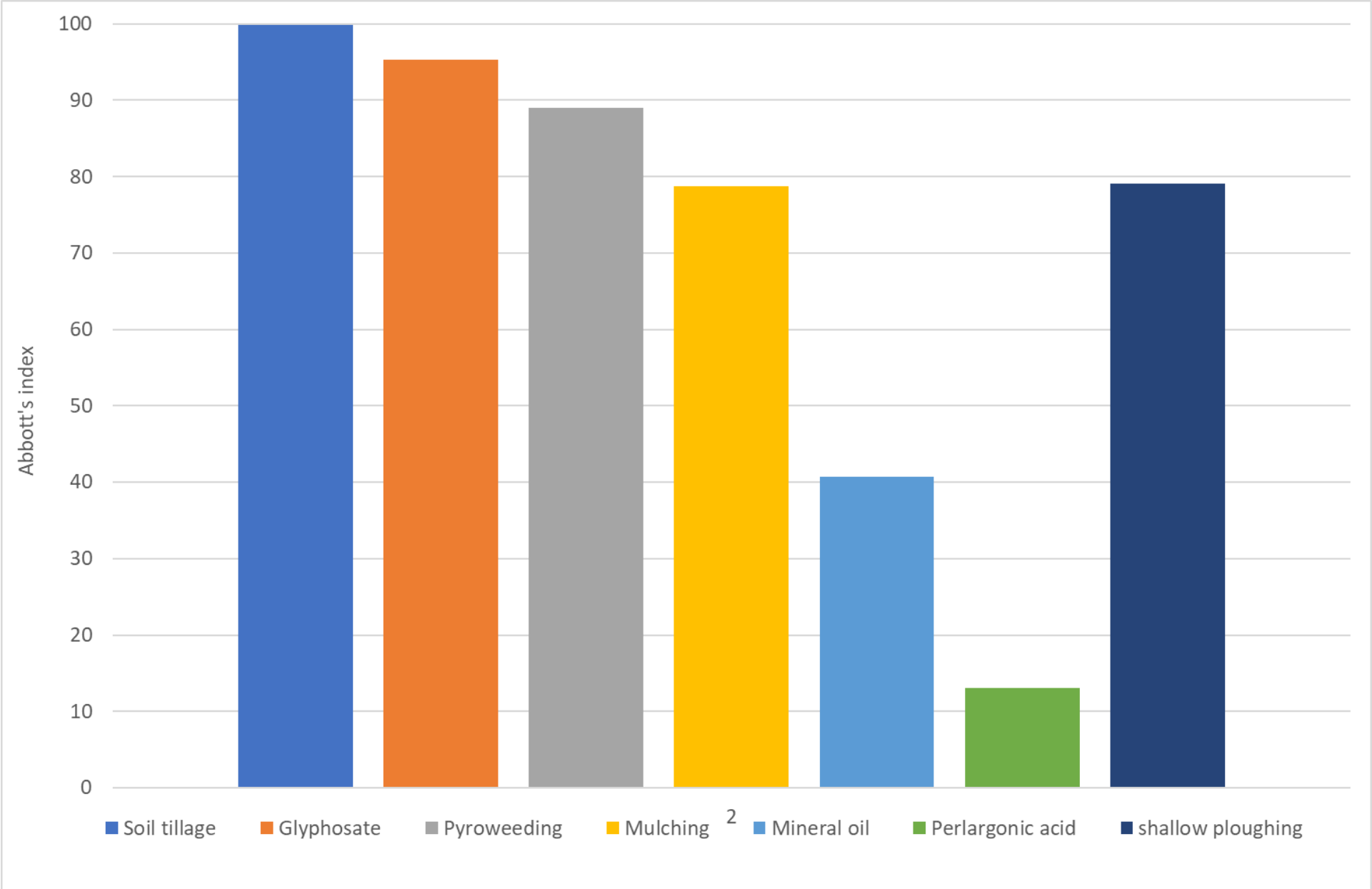


Shallow ploughing:  
stage N4



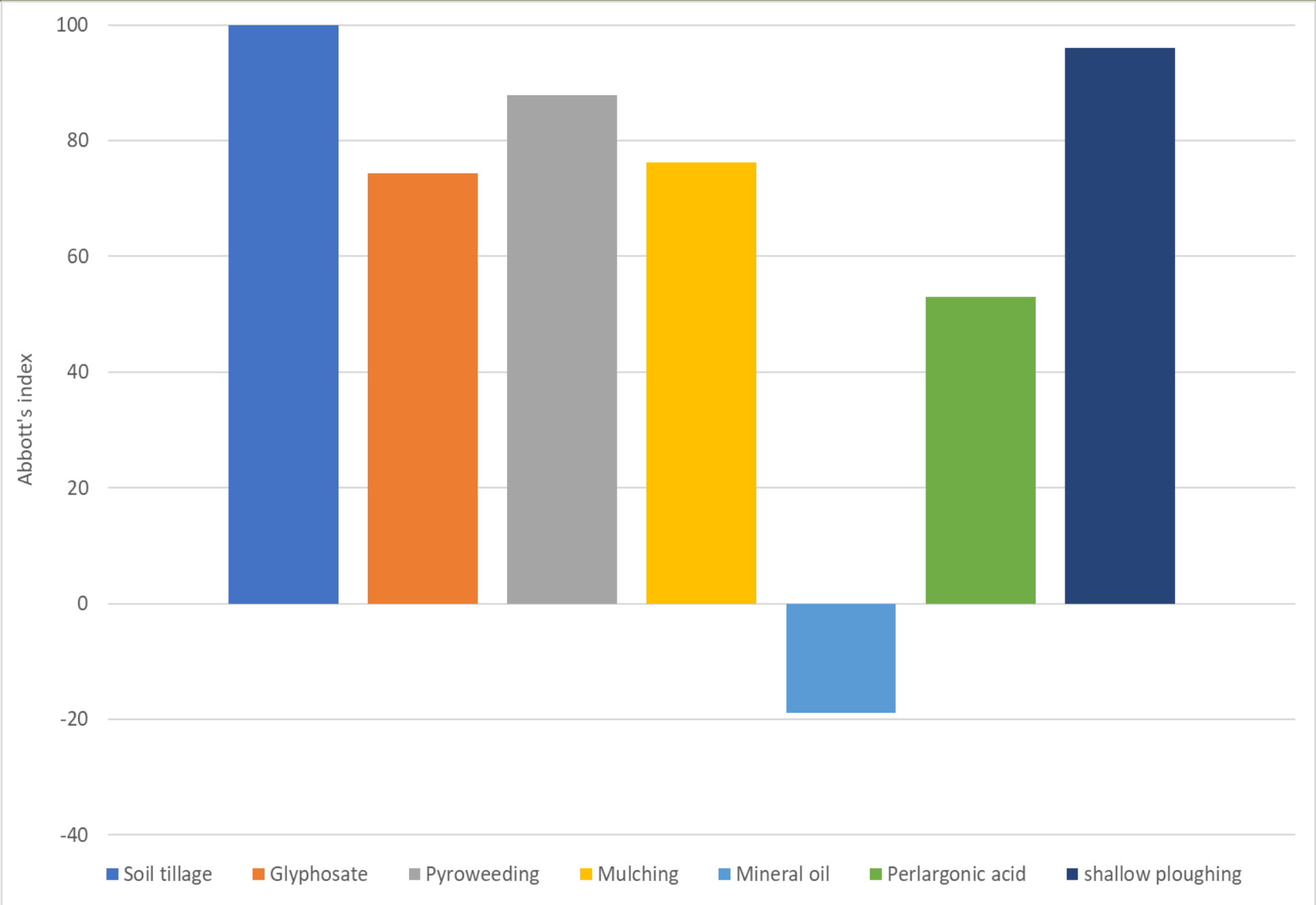


# RESULTS: Effectiveness against juveniles of *P. spumarius*



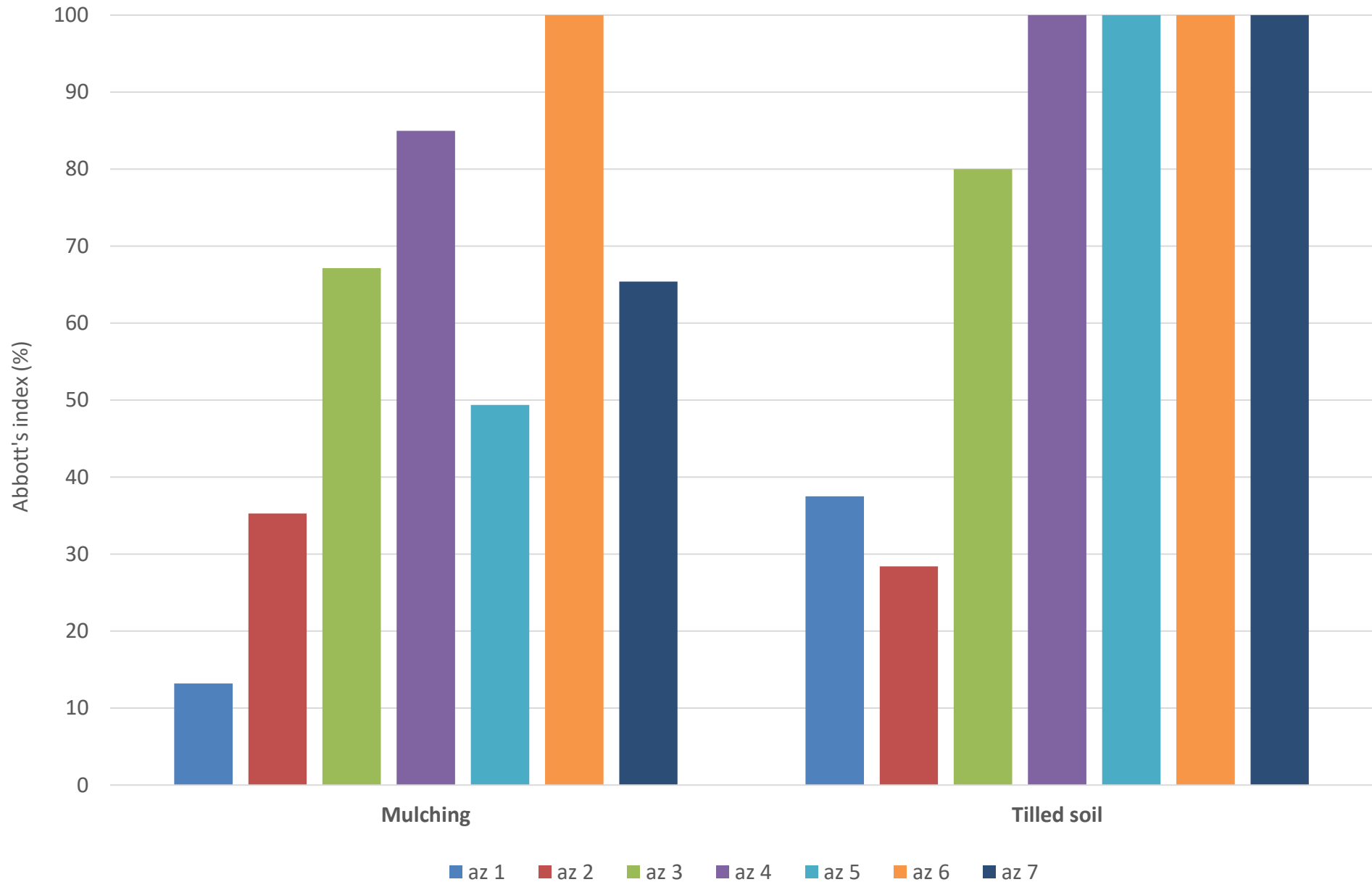


# RESULTS: Effectiveness against juveniles of *N. campestris*





# Mulching versus soil tillage: effectiveness against juveniles of *P. spumarius*





# Soil tillage: accurate operations are necessary to ensure high efficiency

Az 1: Abbott index (37,5%)

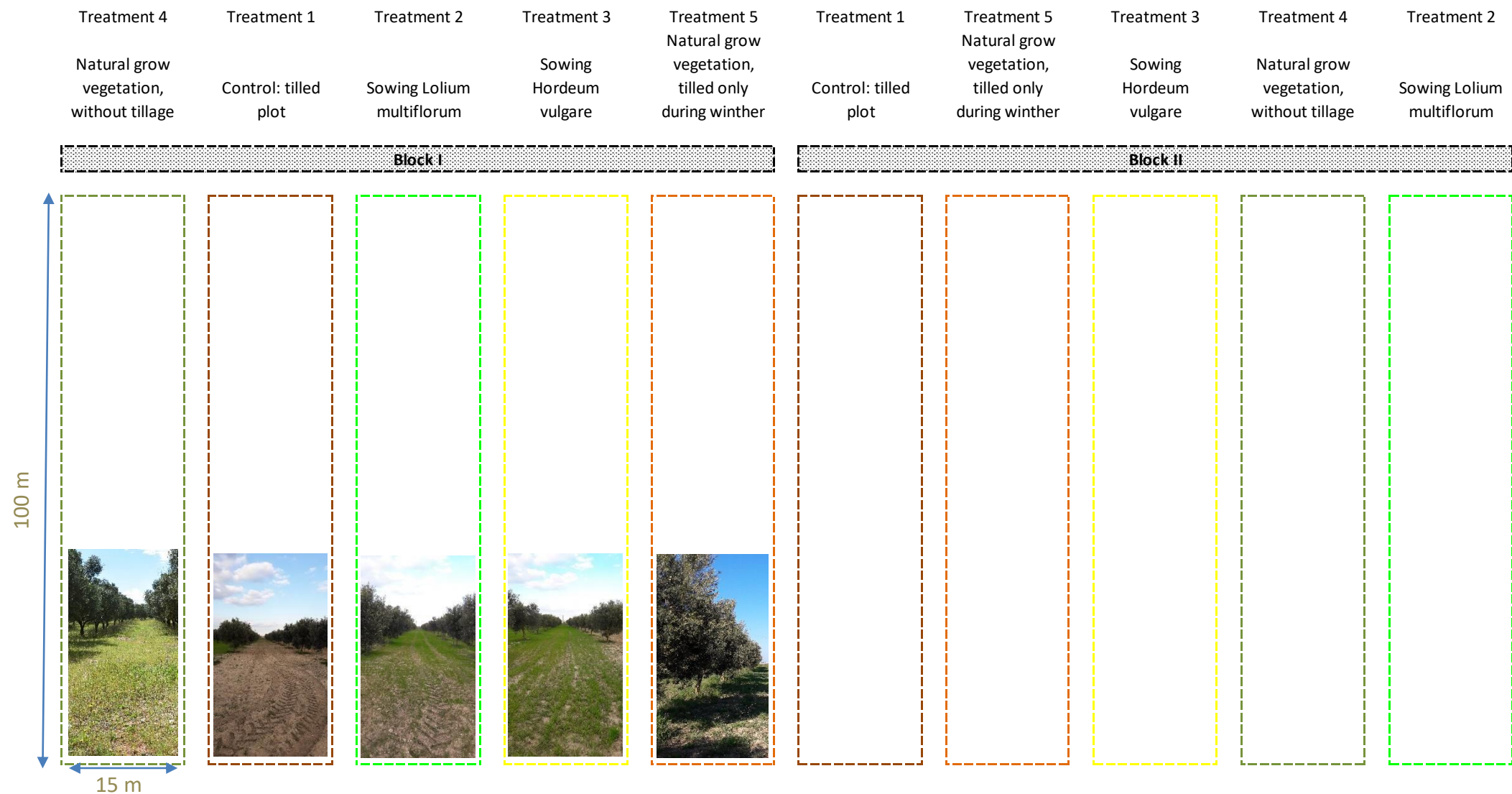
Az 2: Abbott index (28,4%)



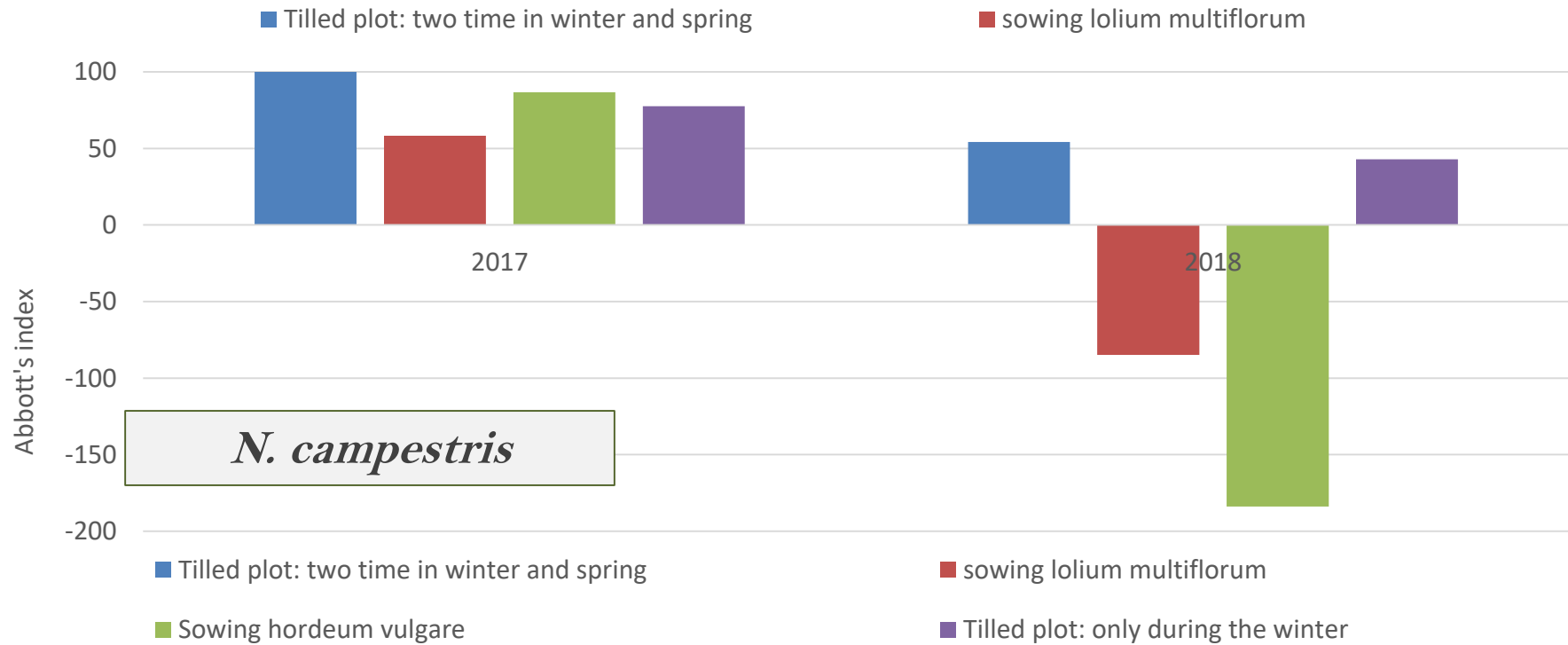
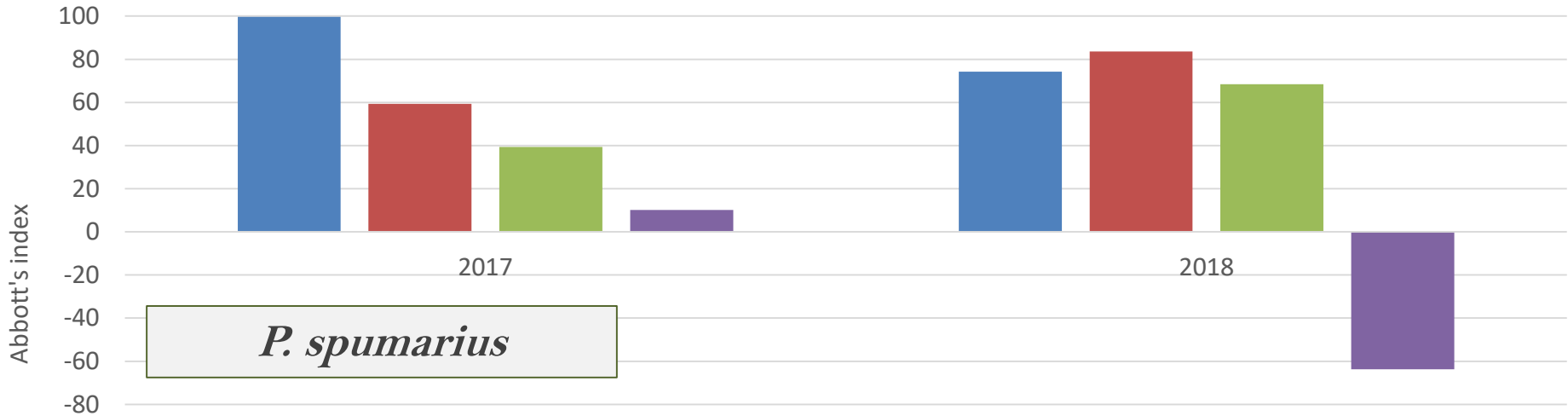


*EXPERIMENTAL TRIALS: sowing poaceae*

*Survey in the olive orchards for three consecutive years (2017-2018-2019)*

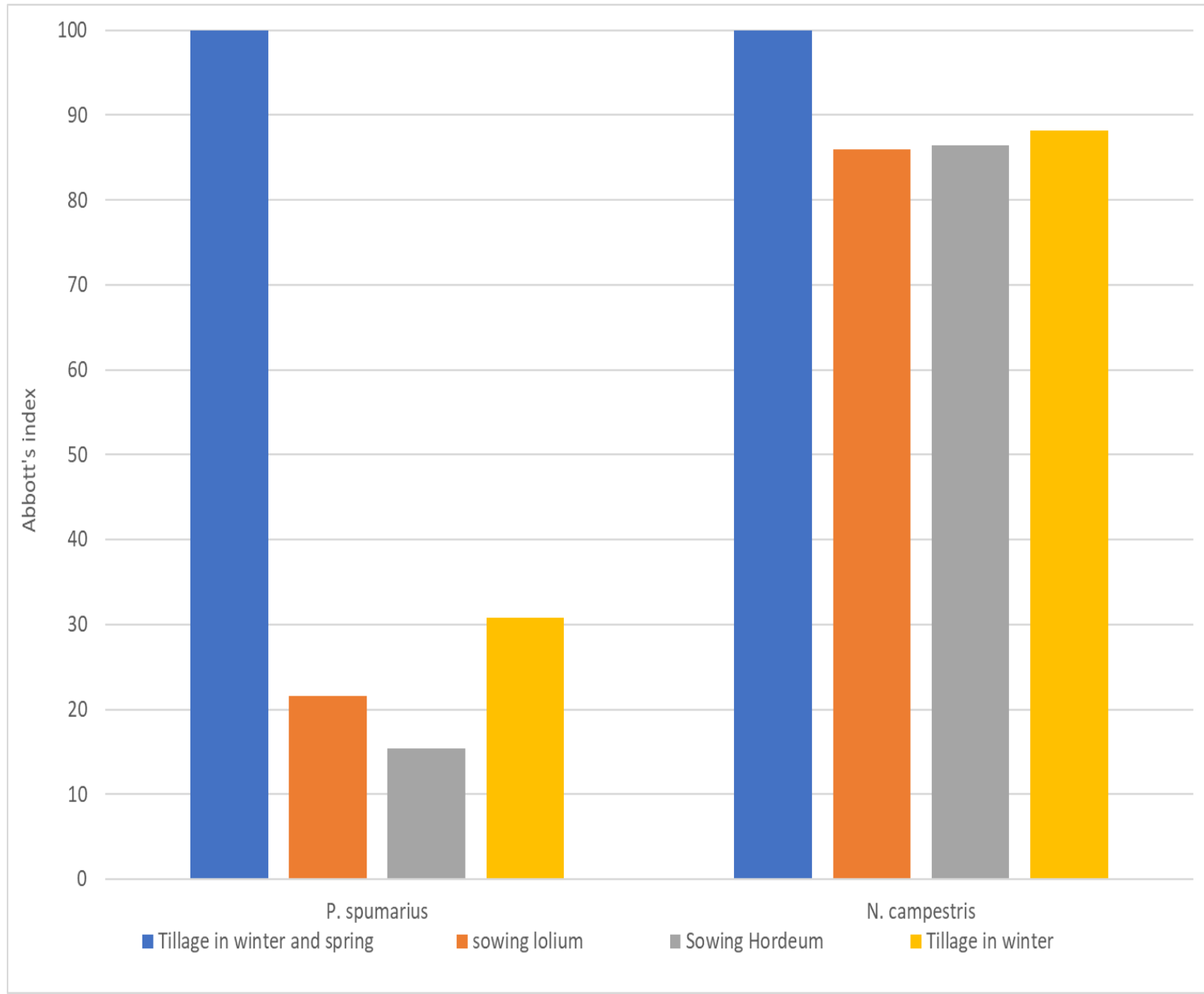


*EXPERIMENTAL TRIALS: sowing poaceae*

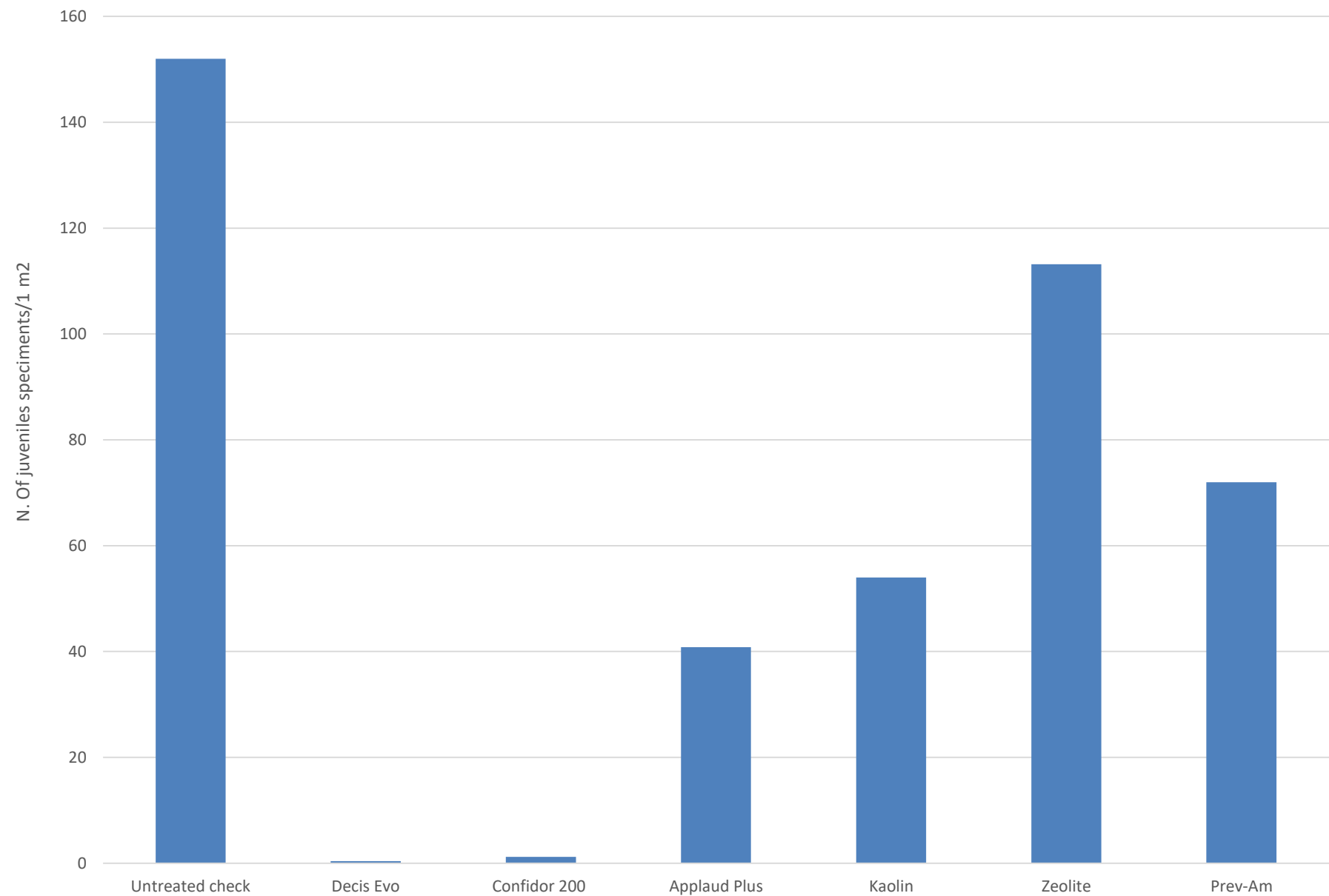




# *EXPERIMENTAL TRIALS: sowing poaceae*



# Evaluation of the efficacy of different compounds to suppress juveniles of *P. spumarius*





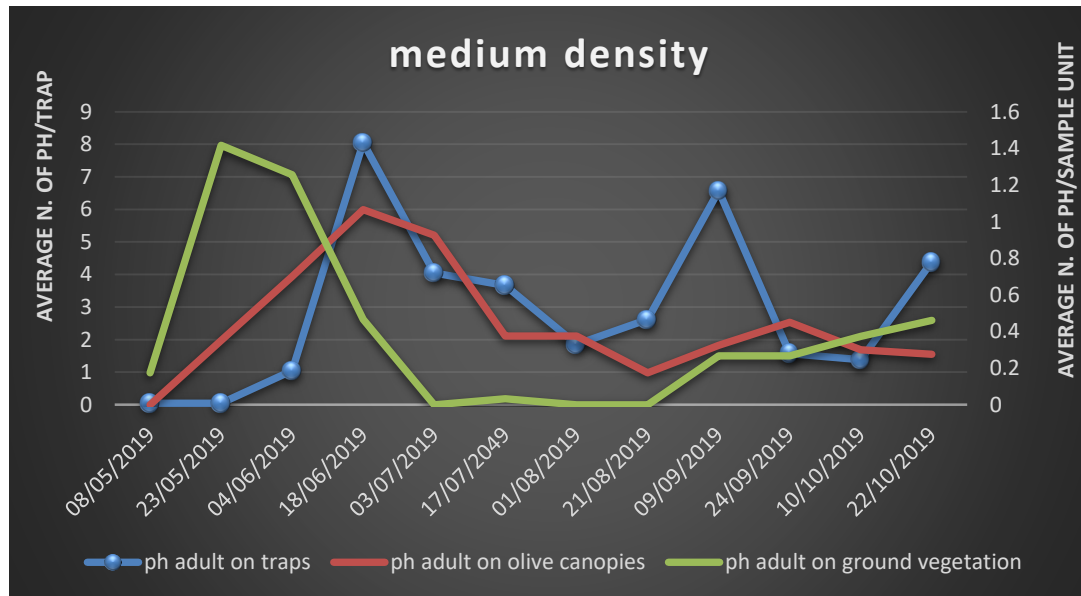
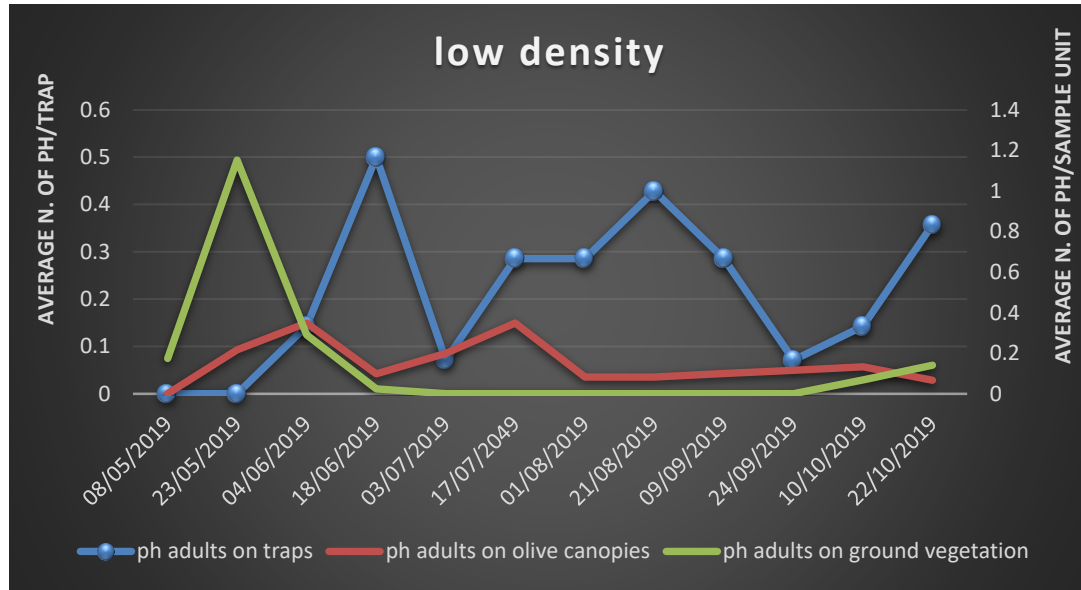
# TESTING TRAPS FOR MONITORING ADULTS

## Sweep net compared with coloured traps



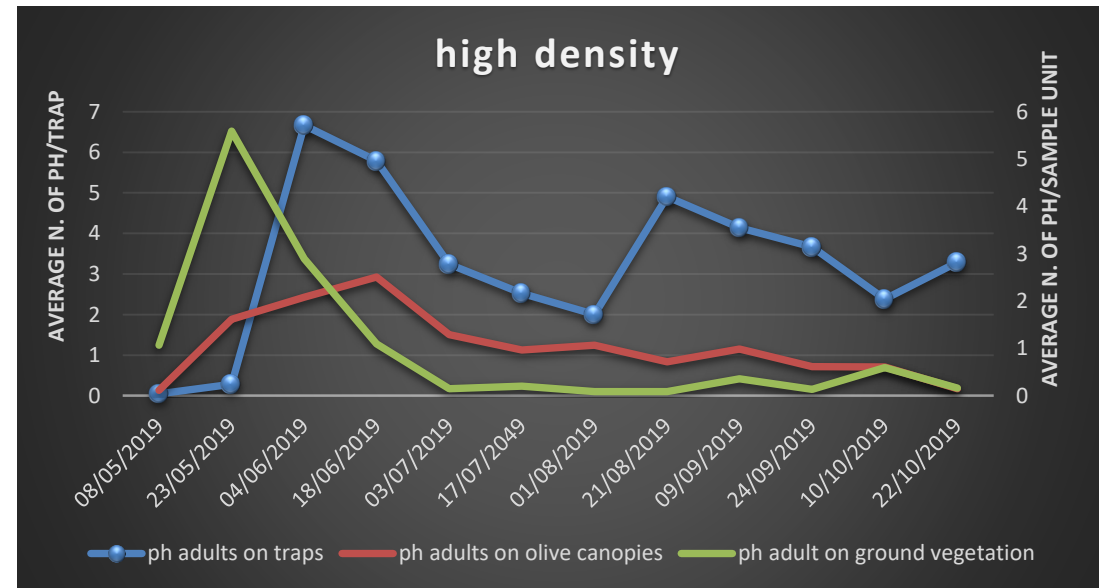


# Seasonal FLUCTUATION USING yellow sticky trap



- 9 field trials were monitored:
  - 3 field with **low density** population;
  - 3 field with **medium density** population;
  - 3 field with **high density** population;

In each field, **21 traps** were positioned at **150 cm** above the ground vegetation, replaced every two weeks

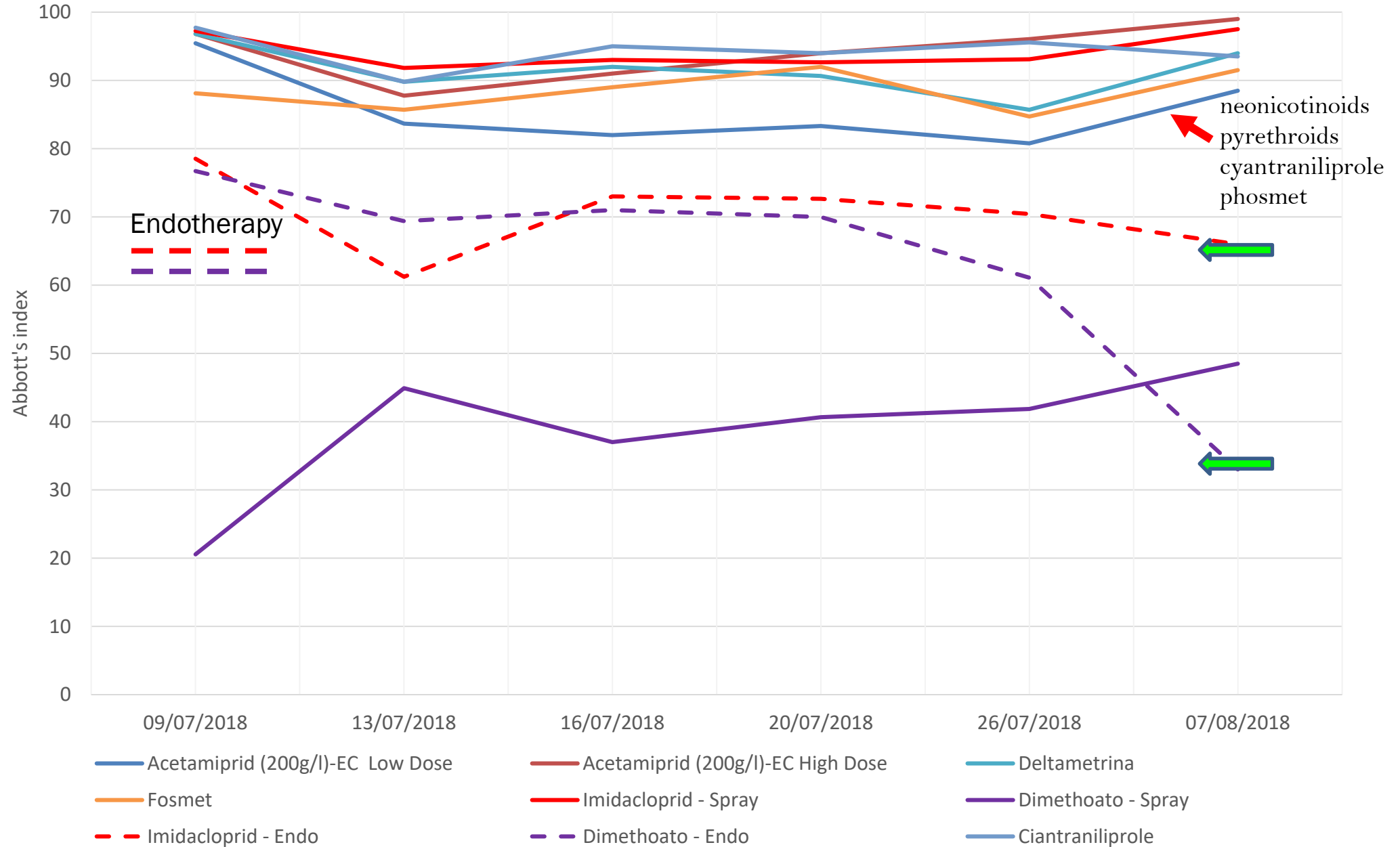


- Adults on traps captured later than sweep net;

- Consistent results were obtained using both approaches



# Application of synthesis insecticides





## Use of kaolin (repellent)

- New plantation in the infected area. Starting trial: 2016, young olive trees 3-years old; tested Xf-free;
- 3 replication;
- 24 plants/treatments;
- Applied volume: 1000 L/ha;
- Time applications: May to October;
- Application: 12 to 15 days;
- Plants left to natural vector infection;



Product name or code	Active substance (a.s.)	Content a.s. (% or g/L) and formulation	Formulate rate (kg/ha)	Mode of application
Untreated control				
Confidor 200 O-Teq	Imidacloprid	(200 g/L) OD	1.125	Spray
--	Kaolin	(80%) WG	40	Spray



# Use of kaolin (repellent)



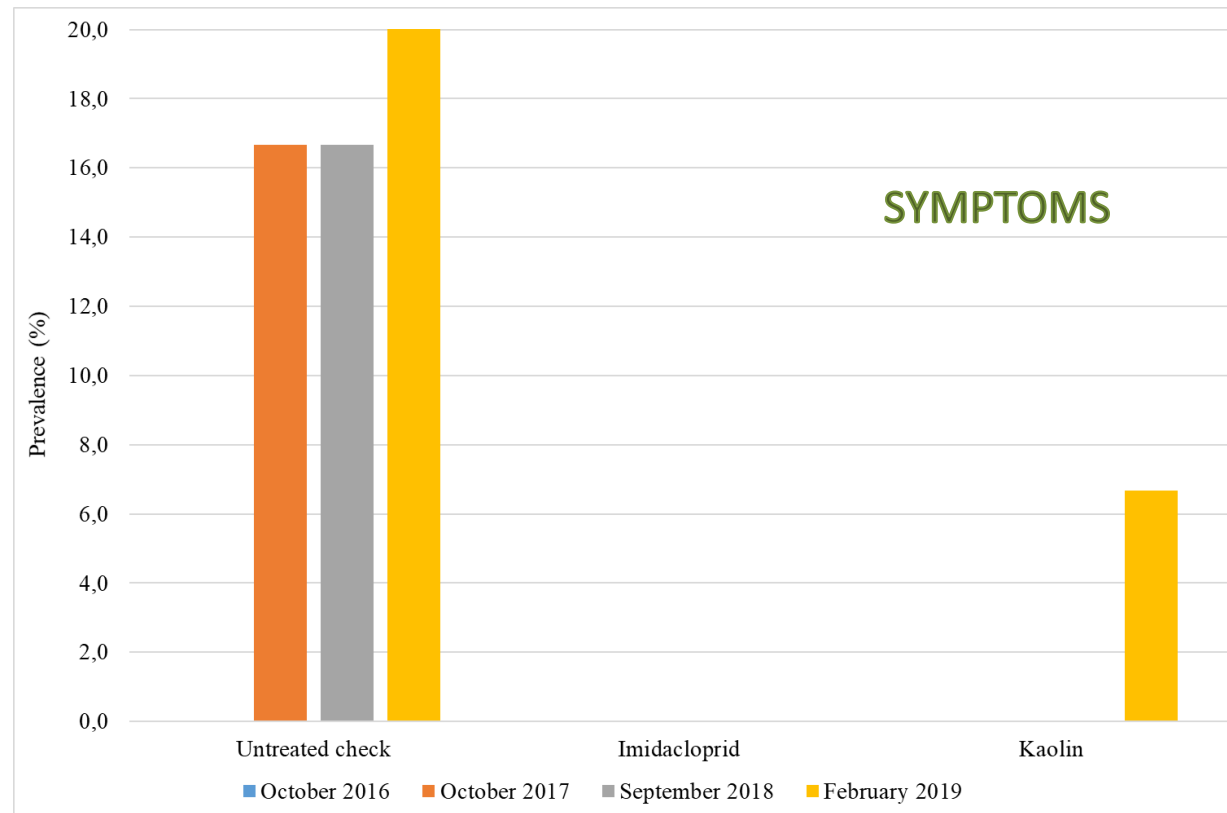
Untreated control



Imidacloprid

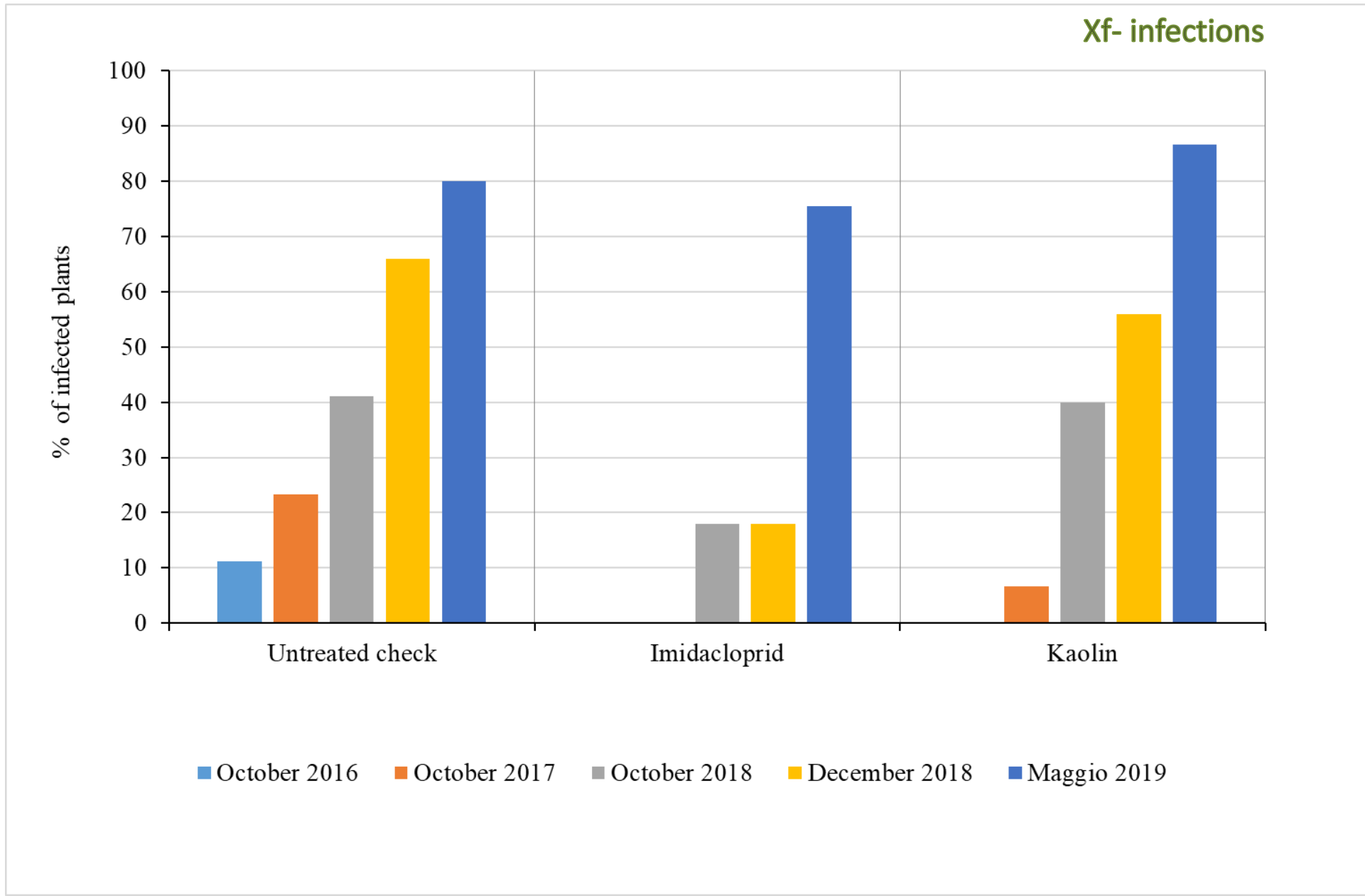


Kaolin





# Use of kaolin (repellent)



# CONCLUSIONS

- An integrated pest management strategy based on control of nymphs and adults is needed to suppress populations of *P. spumarius*.
- **Soil tillage** performed at the right time of the development of the nymphs remains the most effective strategy to suppress immature and prevent the emergence of adults;
- Alternative others methods can be used (herbicides, insecticides, pyroweeding and mulching).
- **Disrupting egg masses** using soil tillage in late winter proved to be effective against *N. campestris* but not against *P. Spumarius*;
- Sowing **Poaceae species** to replace the ground vegetation was not very effective against both spittlebugs, several factors can influence positively or negatively the results.

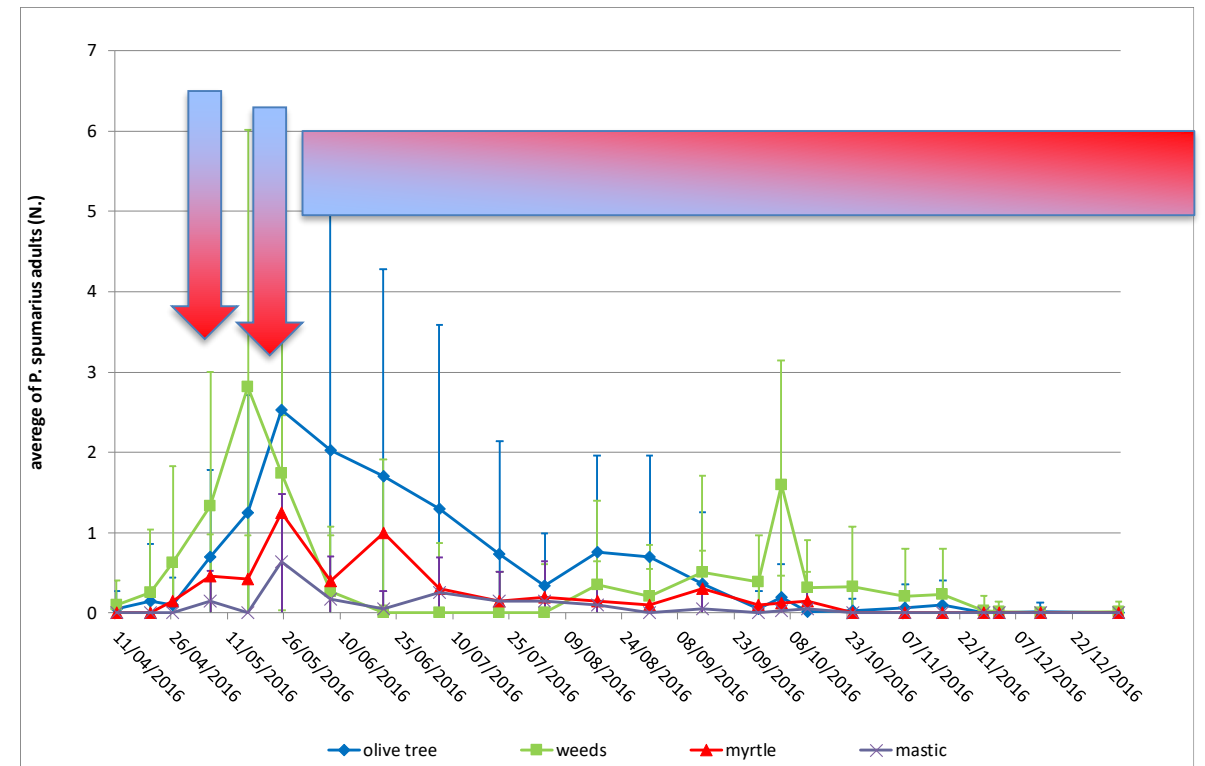




# CONCLUSIONS

- Use of inert compound (as repellent) against adults did not reduce the spread of the infection in the long term period;
- Similar results were obtained with **chemical applications**, confirming that short inoculation periods results in successfull transmission events;

These evidences further supports the need to focus on the control of the juvenile populations





# CONCLUSIONS

The data indicate that **yellow traps** in orchards with **high/medium density population of adults of *P. spumarius*** are generally more efficient than sweep net.

With **low population density**, traps were less efficient but still provided useful information on the presence of spittlebugs.

Thus, **yellow sticky trap**:

- can be combined with sweep net for a better evaluation of the population dynamics;
- could be used for monitoring the presence of spittlebugs and give indication for the application of insecticides;
- evaluate the efficacy of insecticides applications;







THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!!!





THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!!!







THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!!!

