



Operational Group:

The decline of cork oak forest (montado) in Alentejo.

Declínio do Montado no Alentejo.



Supported by:



Start: November/ 2017
End: December/ 2020

Budget: 232.319 €

Practical problem

The mortality of oak trees is a serious threat to the preservation of the Montado system. *Phytophthora cinnamomi* is considered the main reason for the weakening and death of cork and holm oaks, and may be present in 30-80% of the decline areas, both in Portugal and in the south of Spain.

Partners

Type:

Agri association
Agri enterprise
Farmer
Research/ Teaching

Name:

ACPA - Associação dos Criadores do Porco Alentejano; ANCPA - Associação Nacional dos Criadores do Porco Alentejano
Montaraz - Transformação Artesanal de Porco Alentejano Lda.; Barrancarnes, Transformação Artesanal, SA
Manuel Anemécio Lourenço; Duarte Nuno Salvador Simões
INIAV - Instituto Nacional de Investigação Agrária e Veterinária, IP.; ICNF - Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e das Florestas, IP

Project

Objectives:

To evaluate the potential of main herbaceous crops used as pastures in Montados, to biologically control *P. cinnamomi*. The aim is to obtain plant mixtures with allelopathic effect to reduce *P. cinnamomi* population. We intend also to find cost effective measures that can be applied on a wide scale.

Expected results:

List of plants host/no host to *Phytophthora* and list of plants with potential allelopathic effect to the pathogen; introduction of enriched pastures with allelopathic activity to reduce the pathogen. We aim benefit the entire soil-tree-environment system and reduce *P. cinnamomi* population and consequently the infection.

Results so far/first lessons:

The selection of allelopathic plants began in 2014. We have already some relevant species with suppressive effect on *P. cinnamomi* which will serve as the starting point for implementing the proposal. The knowledge of herbaceous species resistance to the pathogen, both from natural vegetation and used as pastures must also be assessed for their ability to reduce soil inoculum.

Who will benefit:

The main beneficiaries are forest technicians, agricultural and producers associations, landowners and industry.

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