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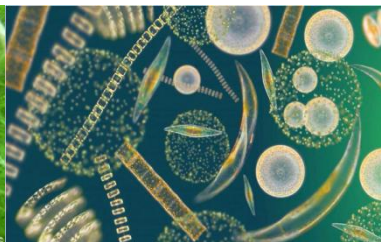
# The effects of population personality composition on ecosystem functioning

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*38<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of SQEBC  
November 9<sup>th</sup> 2013*

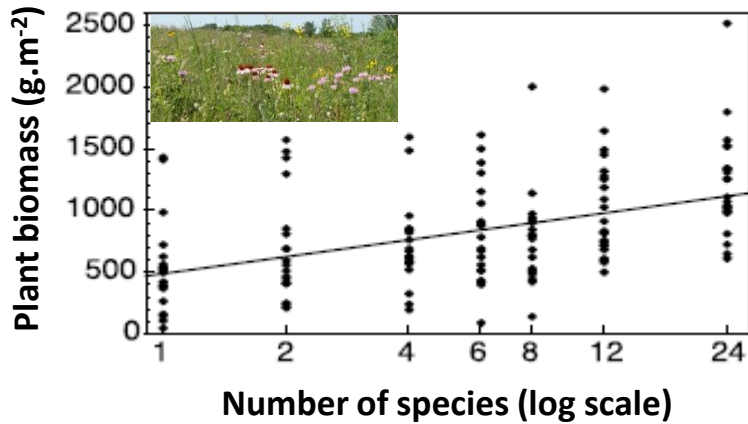
**T. Juette, Cote J., Blanchet S. & Cucherousset J.**

*tristanjuette@hotmail.com*



# INTRODUCTION: *biological diversity and ecosystem functioning*

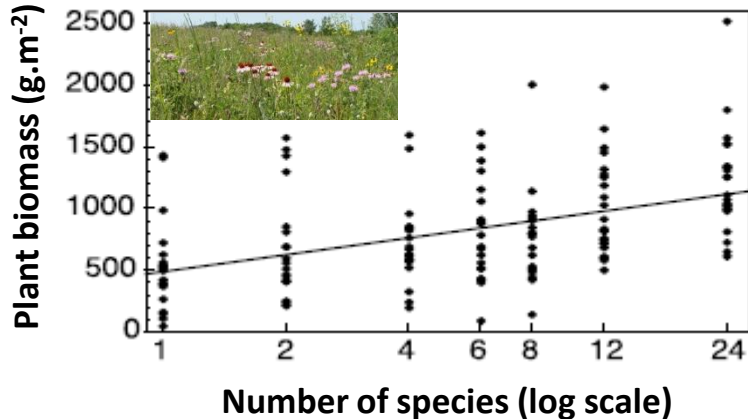
➔ **INTERSPECIFIC** variations can affect ecosystem functioning



- Diversity
- Abundance

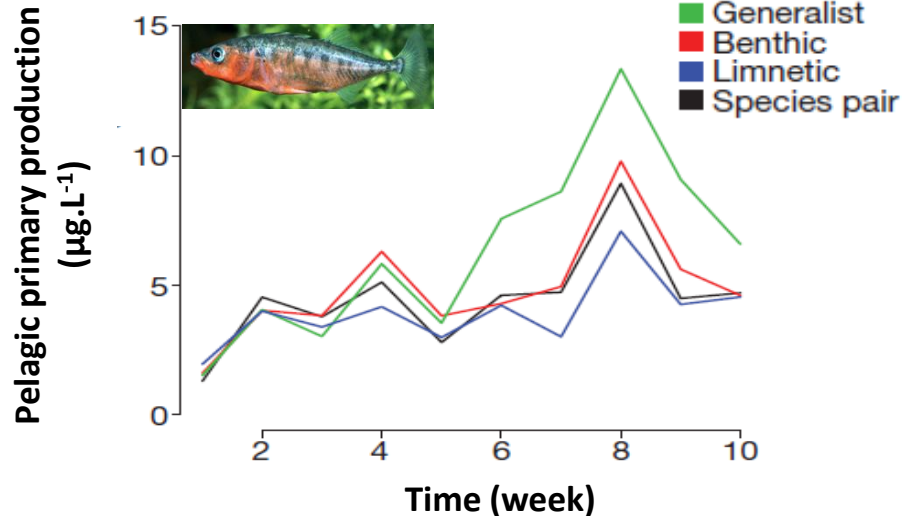
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➔ **INTERSPECIFIC** variations can affect ecosystem functioning



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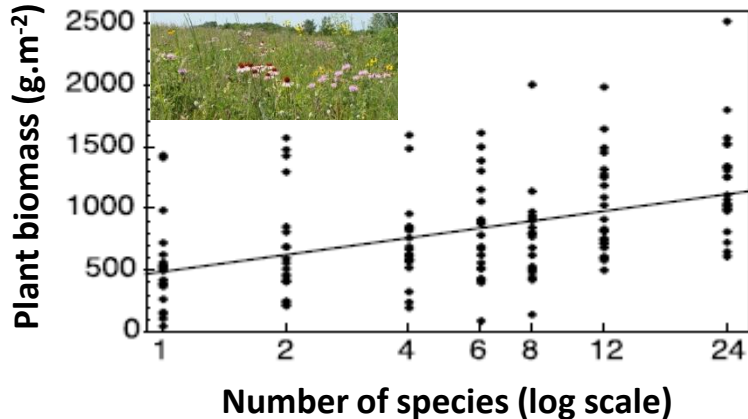
➔ **INTRASPECIFIC** variations can also affect ecosystem functioning



- Trophic specialization
- Morphological differences

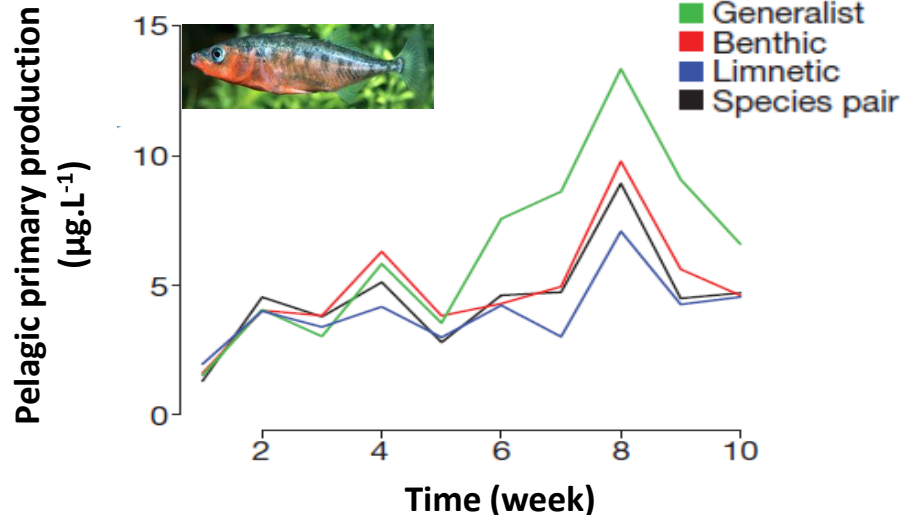
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➔ **INTERSPECIFIC** variations can affect ecosystem functioning



- Diversity
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➔ **INTRASPECIFIC** variations can also affect ecosystem functioning



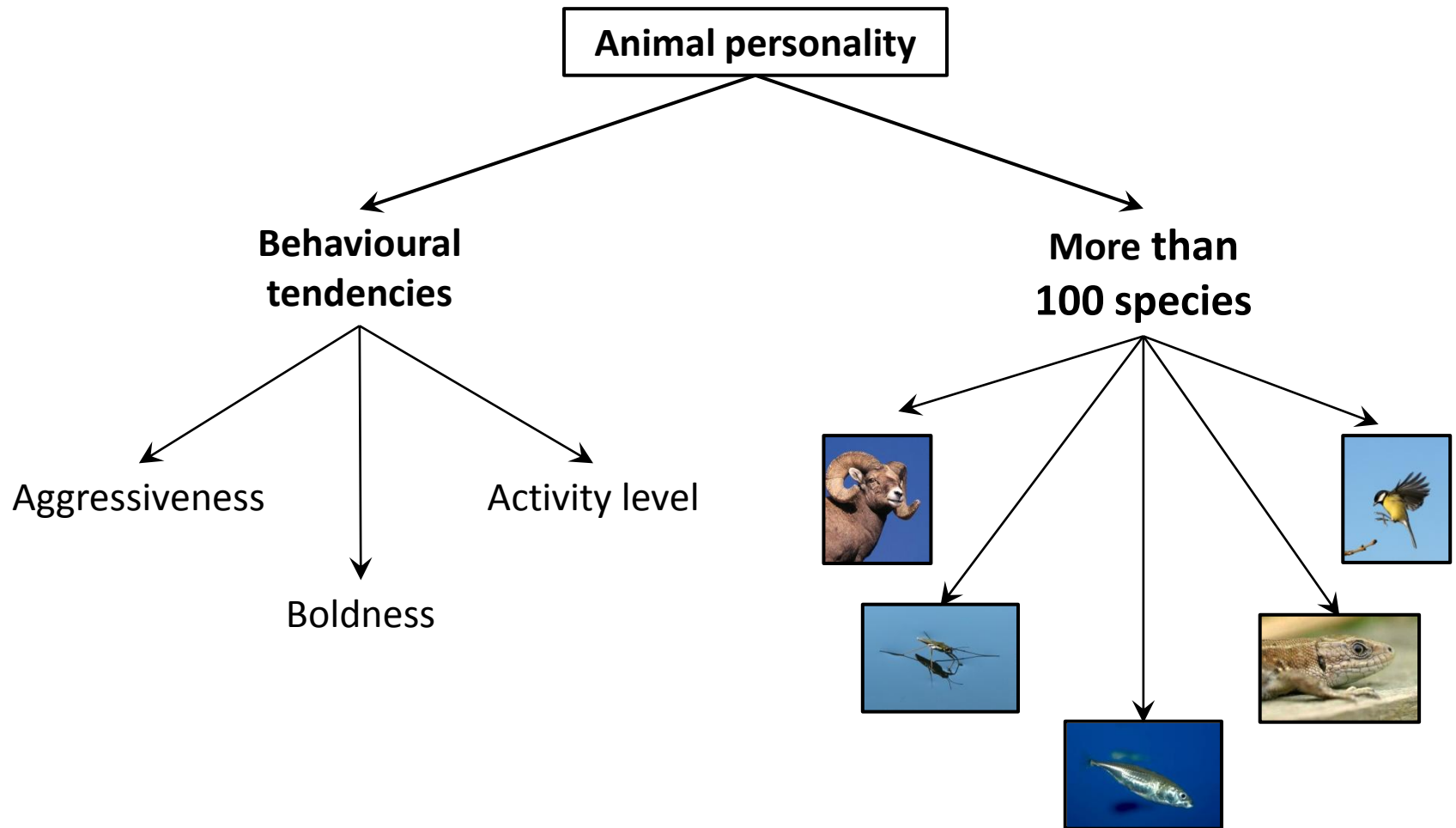
- Trophic specialization
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**- Behavioural variations ?**

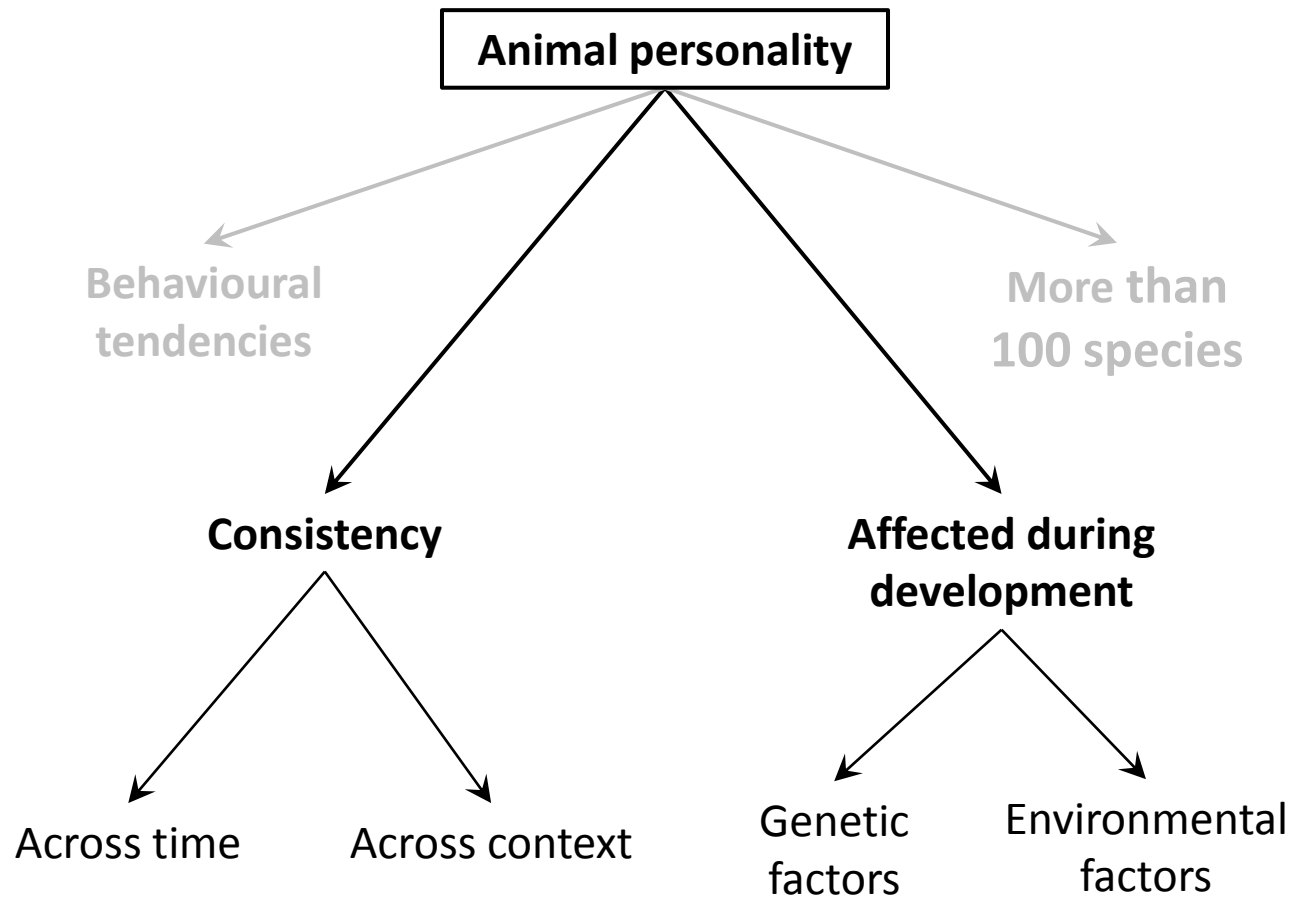
# INTRODUCTION: *animal personality concept: a behavioural variation source*

**Animal personality**

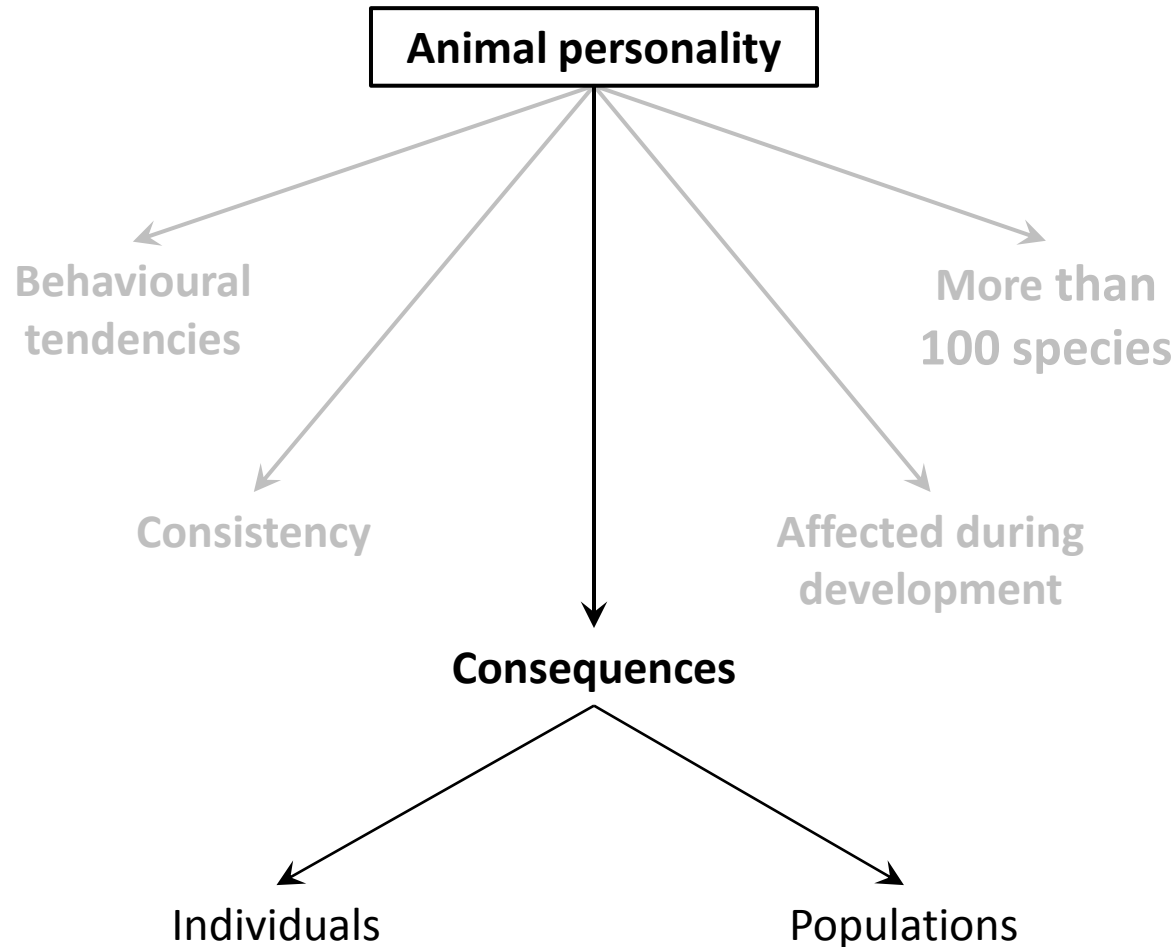
# INTRODUCTION: *animal personality concept: a behavioural variation source*



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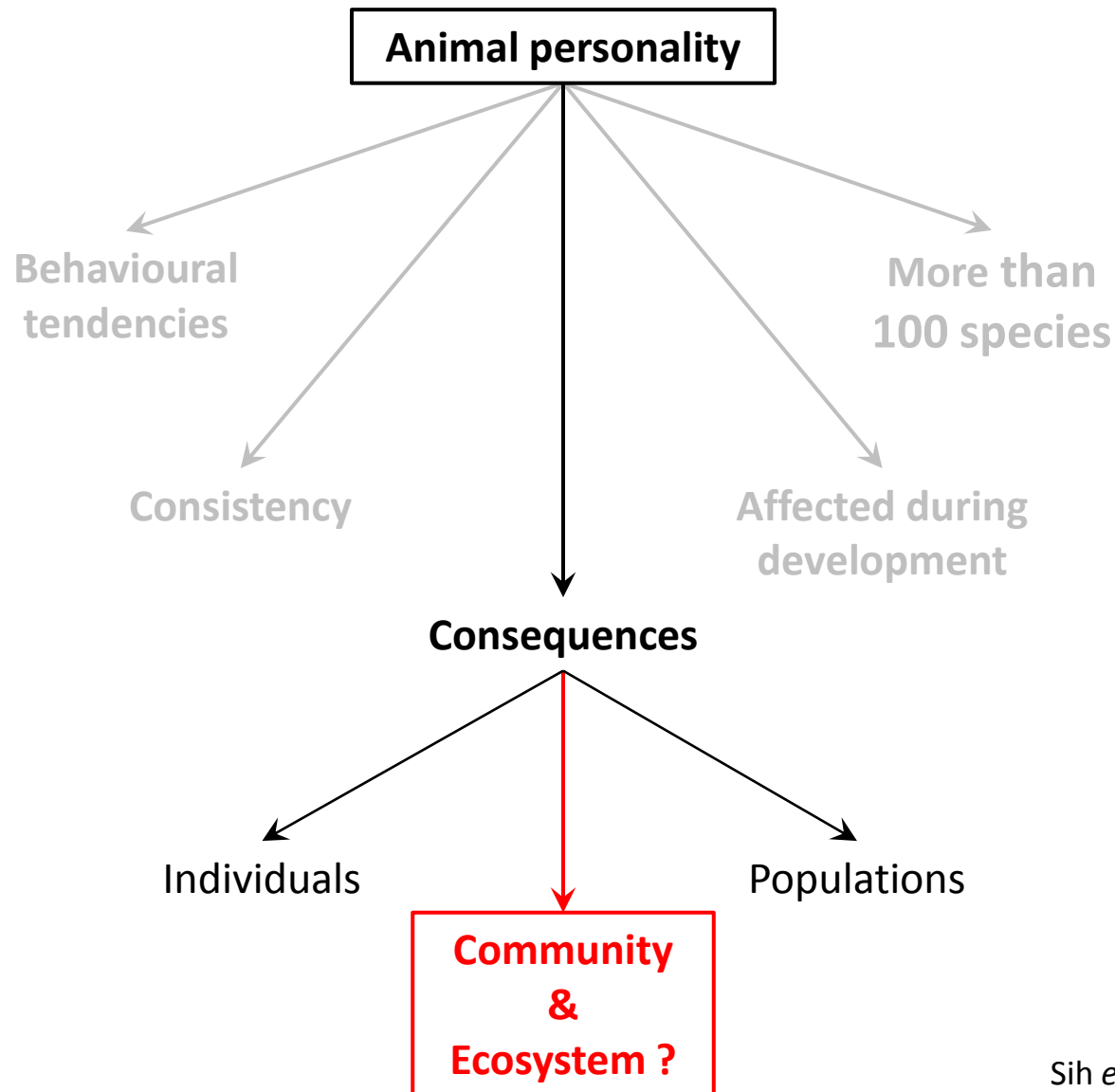


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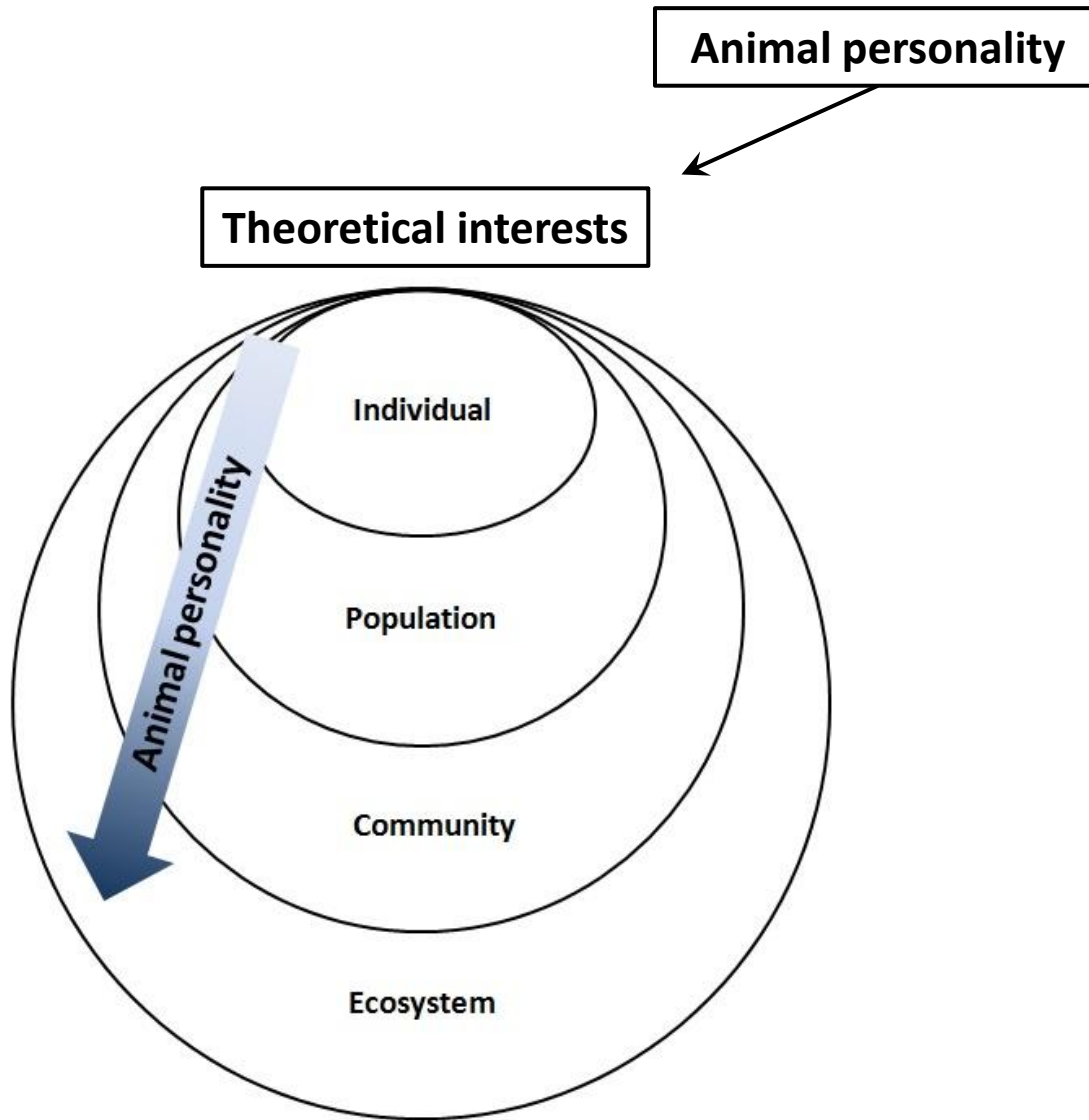




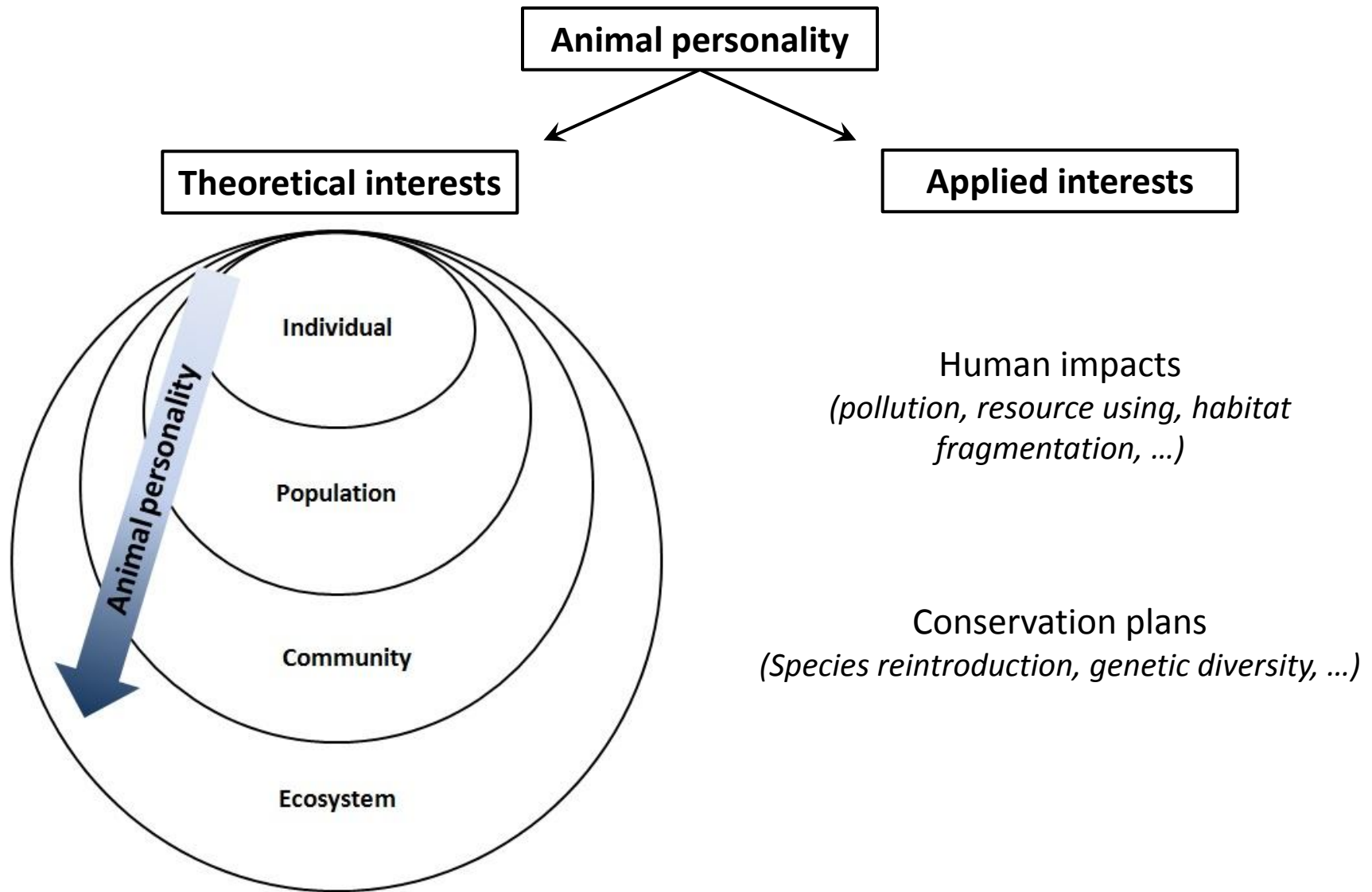
# INTRODUCTION: *animal personality concept: a behavioural variation source*



# INTRODUCTION: *animal personality concept: studies interests*



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# INTRODUCTION: *objective & hypotheses*

**To determine whether differences in animal personality could affect ecosystem functioning**

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Whether changes in personality composition of predator population, affects:

## Hypothesis 1

Individual **growth rate** and population **trophic niches**

**To determine whether differences in animal personality could affect ecosystem functioning**

Whether changes in personality composition of predator population, affects:

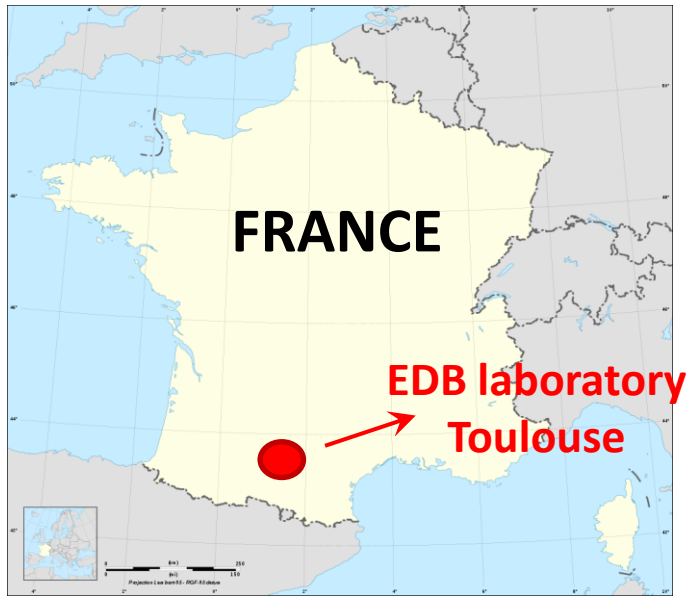
## Hypothesis 1

Individual **growth rate** and population **trophic niches**

## Hypothesis 2

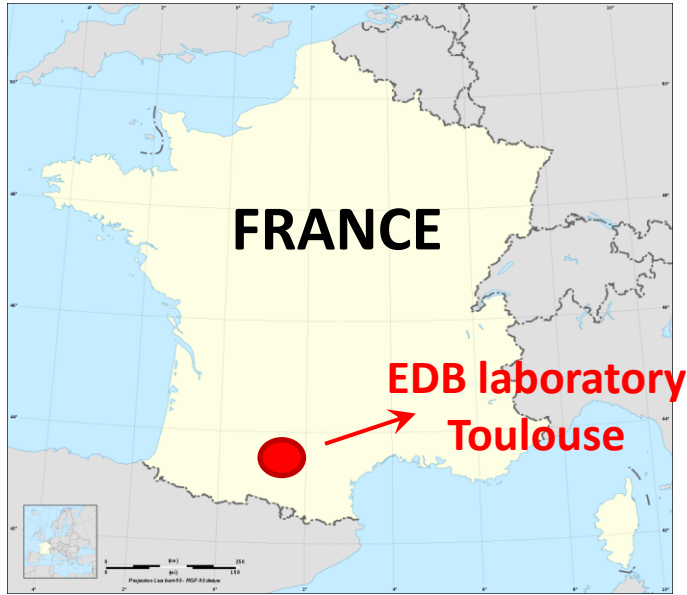
**Prey community** and **ecosystem functioning**

# MATERIAL & METHODS: *behavioural test and individual selection*

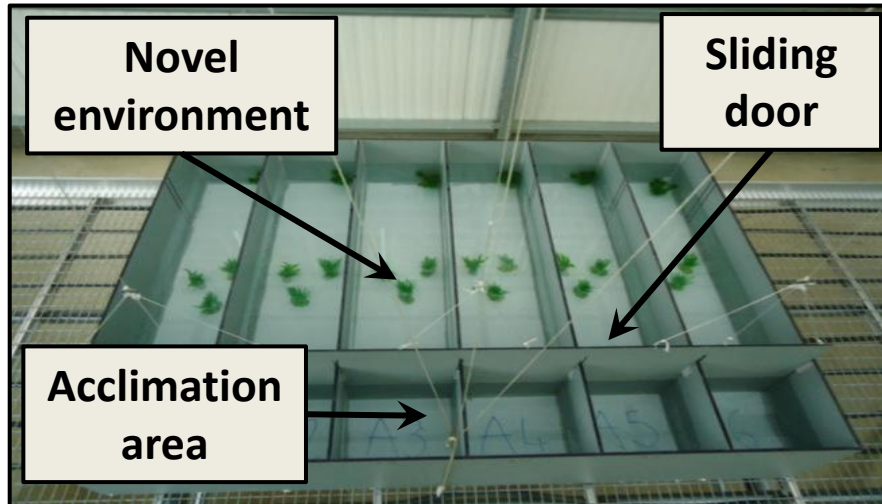


Largemouth bass  
(*Micropterus salmoides*) → Individually  
PIT tagged

# MATERIAL & METHODS: *behavioural test and individual selection*



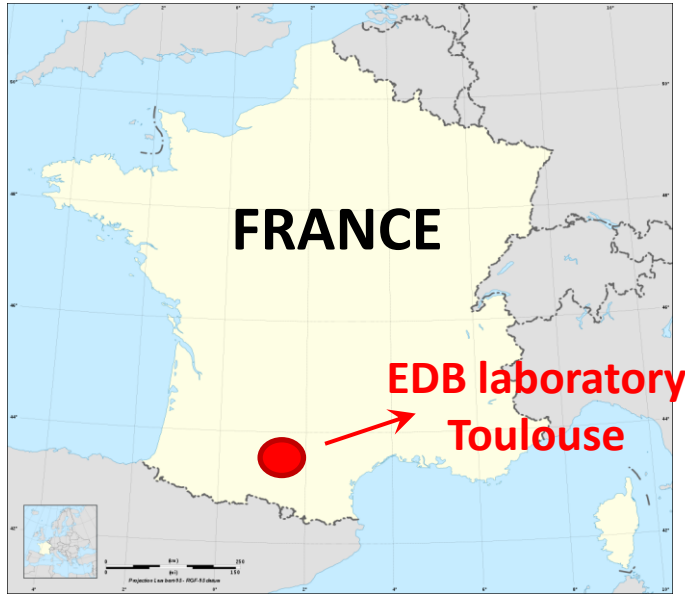
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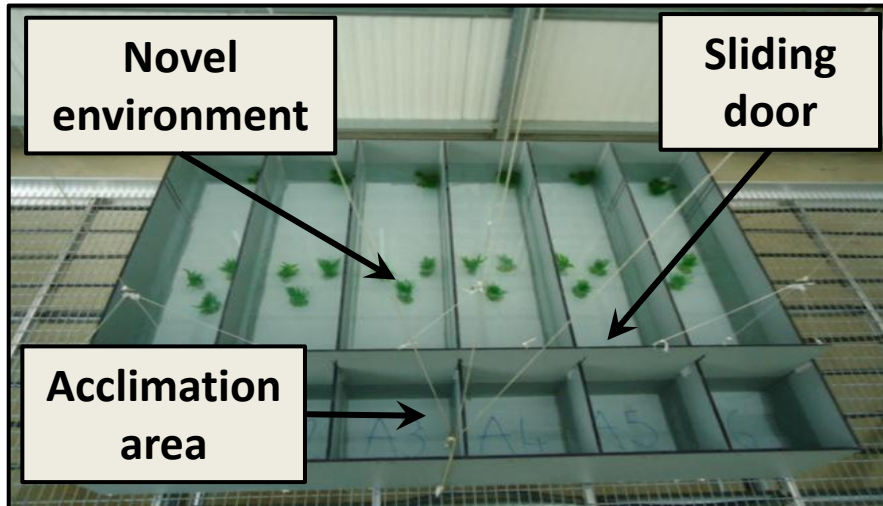
Personality test:  
Emergence time → boldness



# MATERIAL & METHODS: behavioural test and individual selection

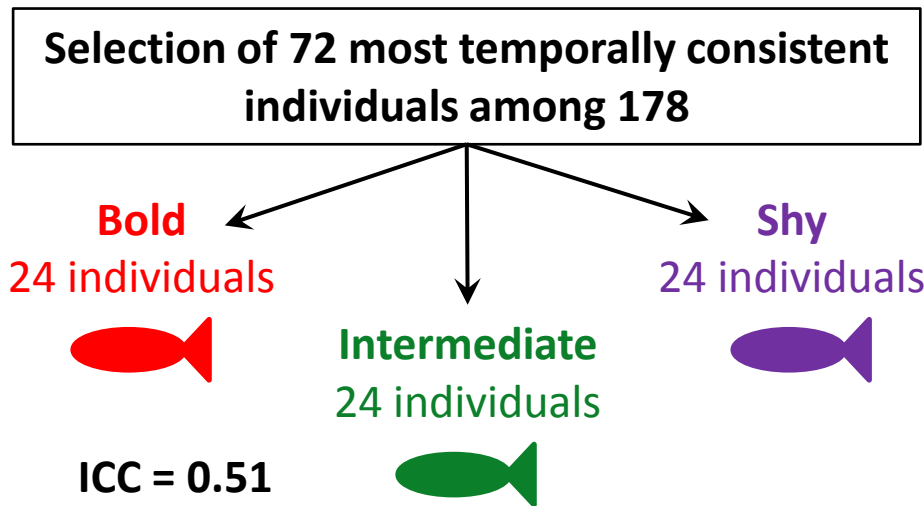


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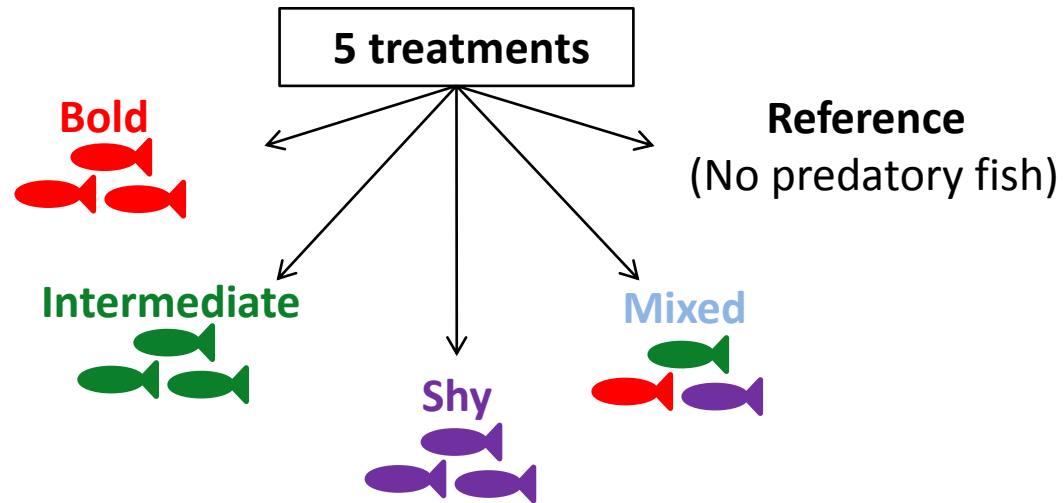
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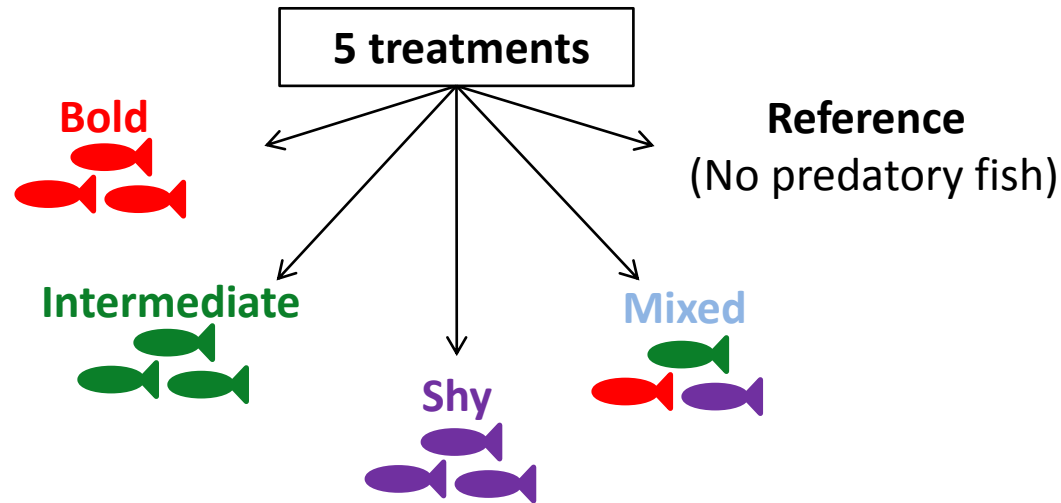
ICC = 0.51  
P < 0.001

# MATERIAL & METHODS: *behavioural test and individual selection*



24 populations composed of 3 individuals

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24 populations composed of 3 individuals

## Experimental design:

- 5 treatments X **6 replicates** = 30 mesocosms
- Inoculation of **primary producers** and **primary consumers** (3 weeks before the experiment)



**Lake ecosystem**



Moulis experimental station  
(Summer 2012: during 6.5 weeks)

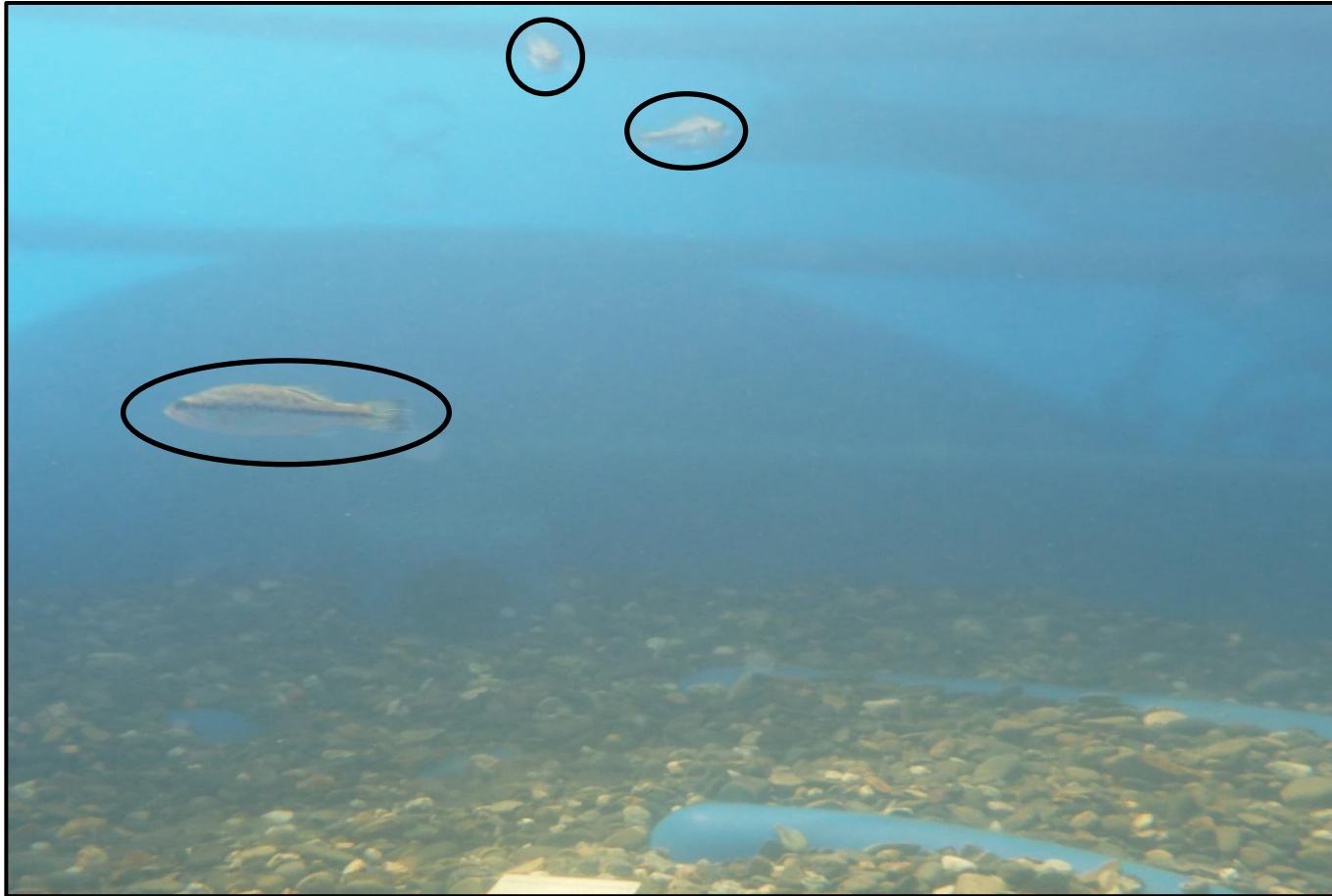
Internal view of a mesocosm



# MATERIAL & METHODS: *data acquisition*

- Individuals growth rate

} Predator population  
(*fish*)

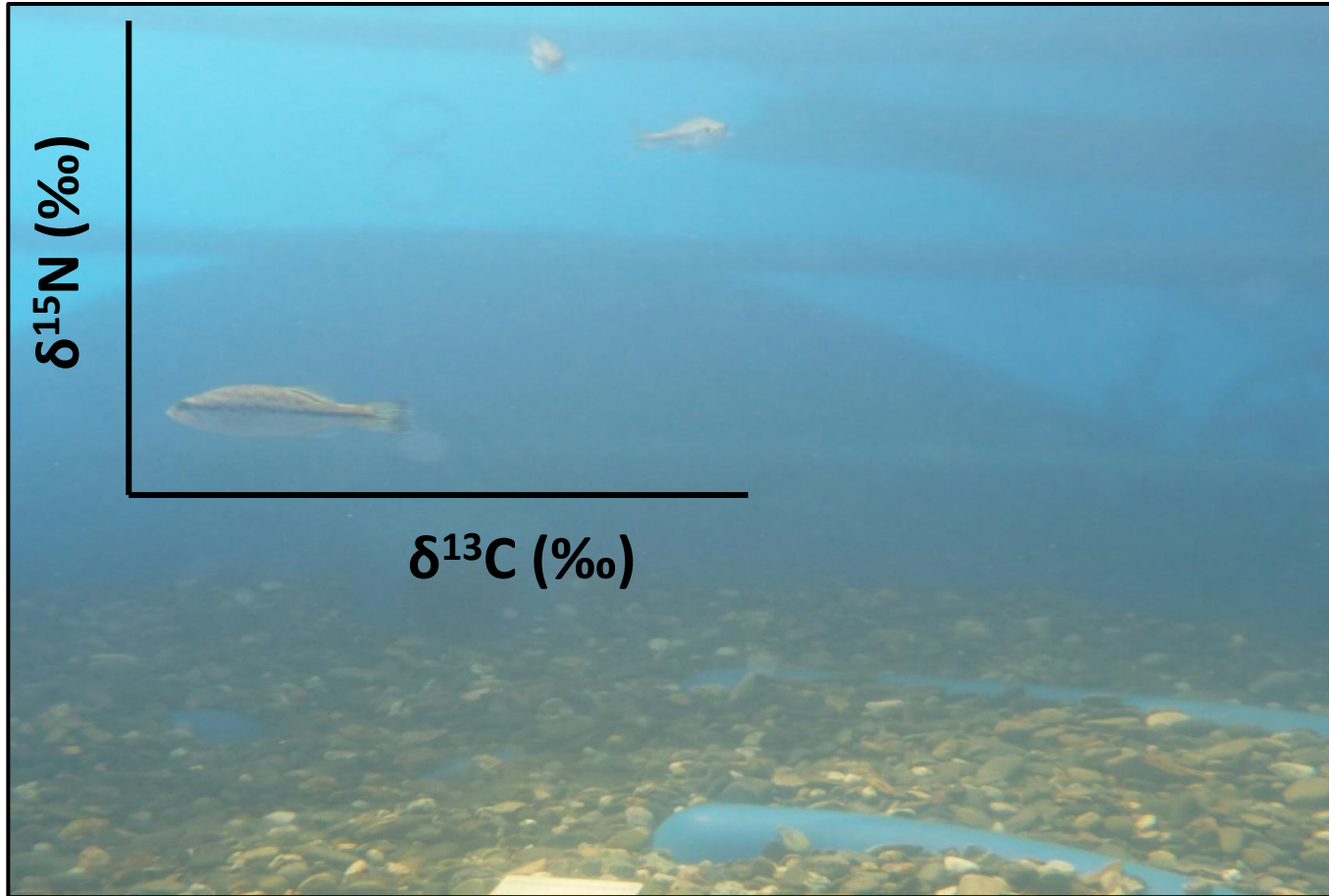




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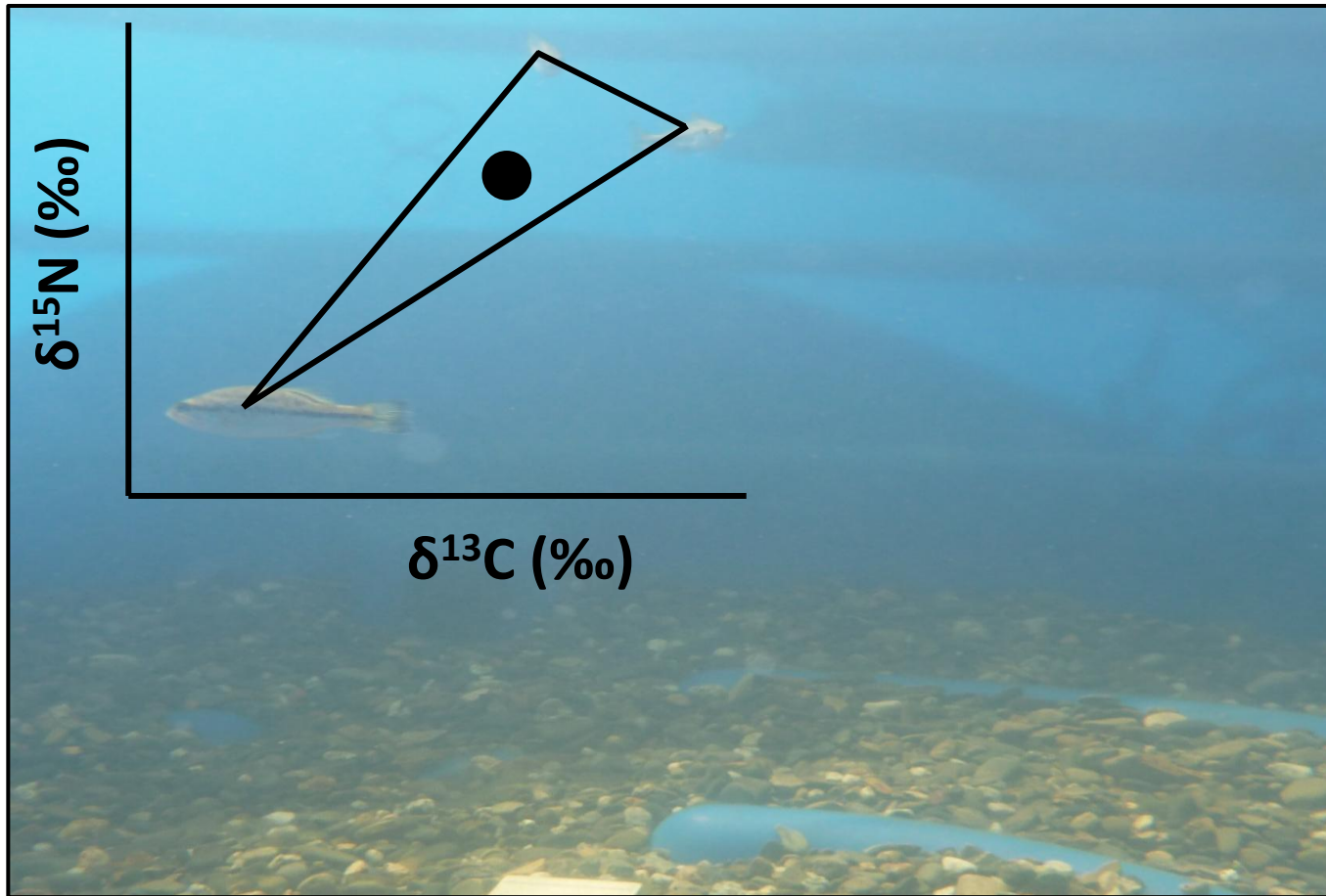
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# MATERIAL & METHODS: *data acquisition*

- Individuals growth rate
- Trophic niche position
- Trophic niche size

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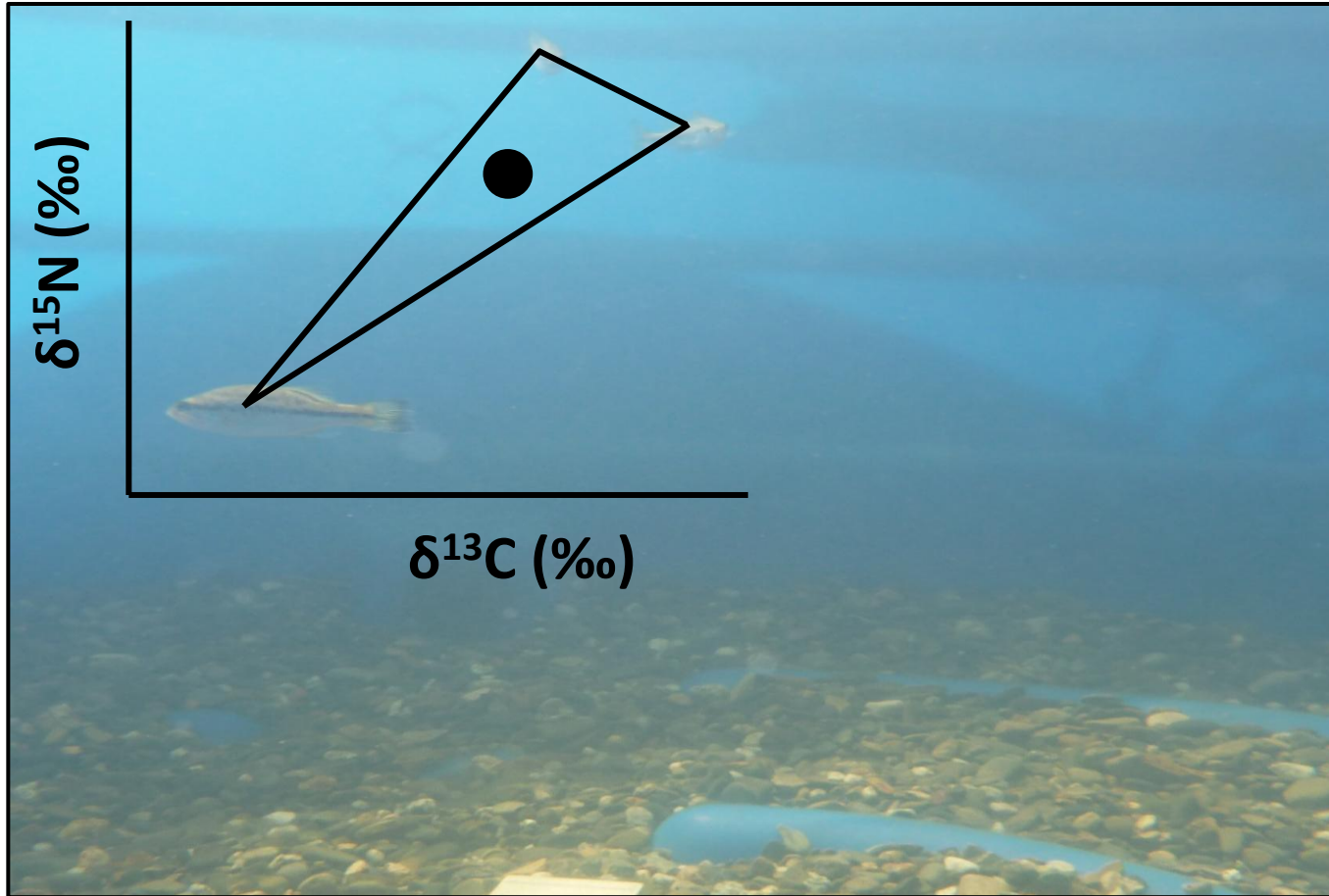


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**Stable isotope analysis**  
**- Explanations -**





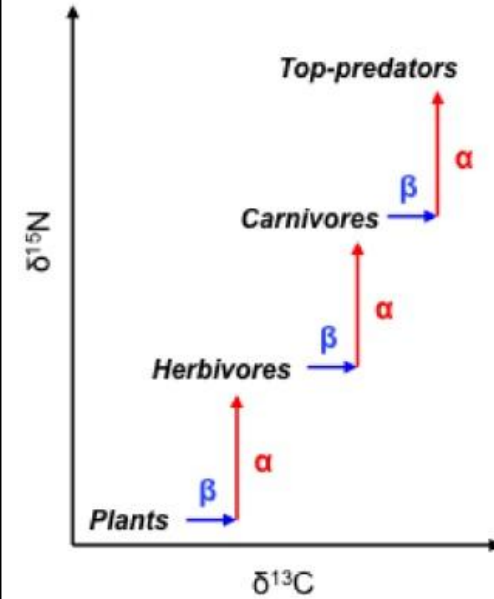
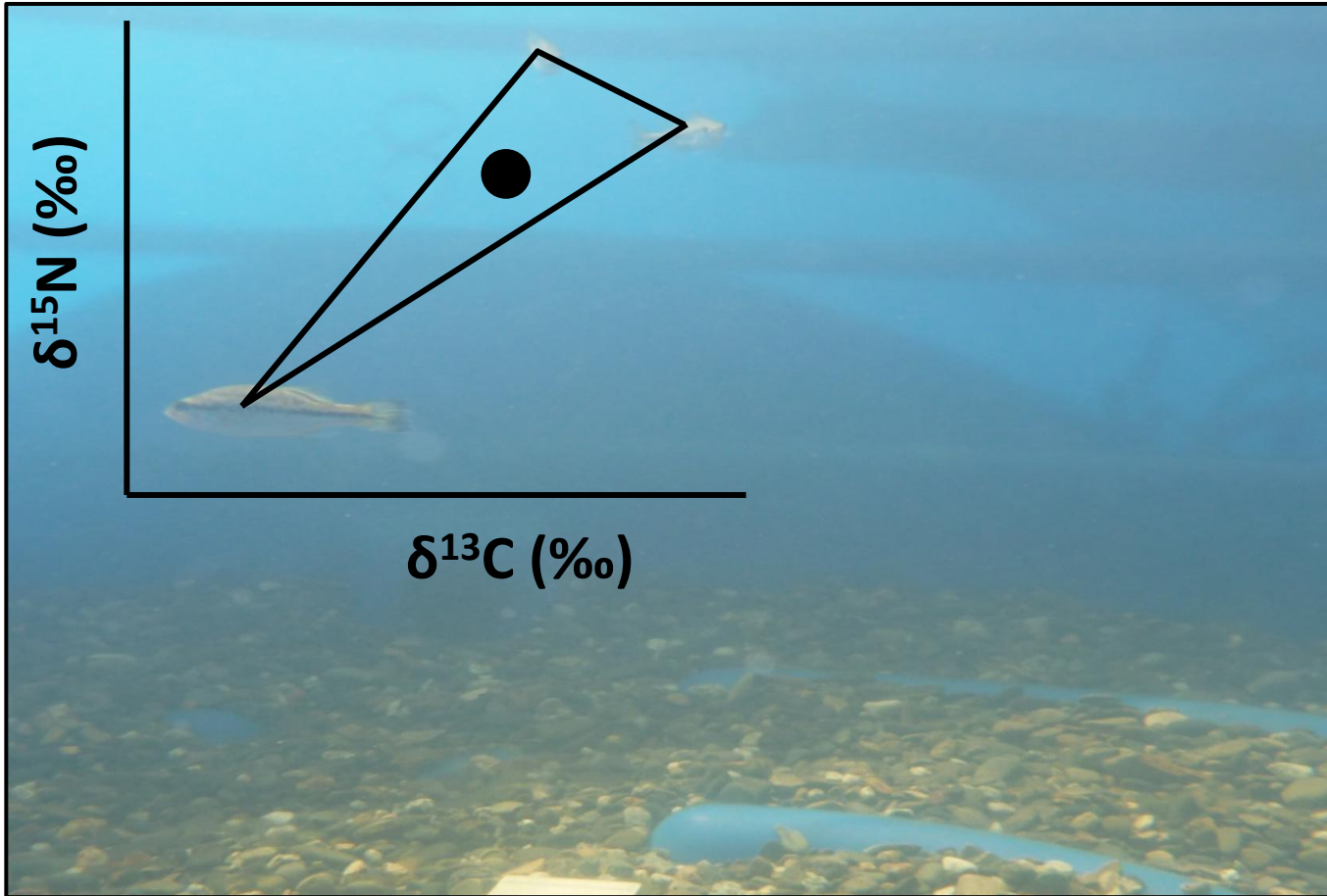
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**Stable isotope analysis**  
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→ Characterization of the origin of the organic matter absorbed by predators



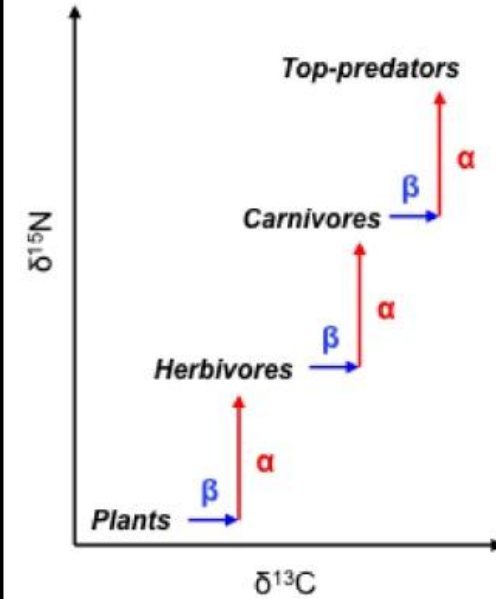
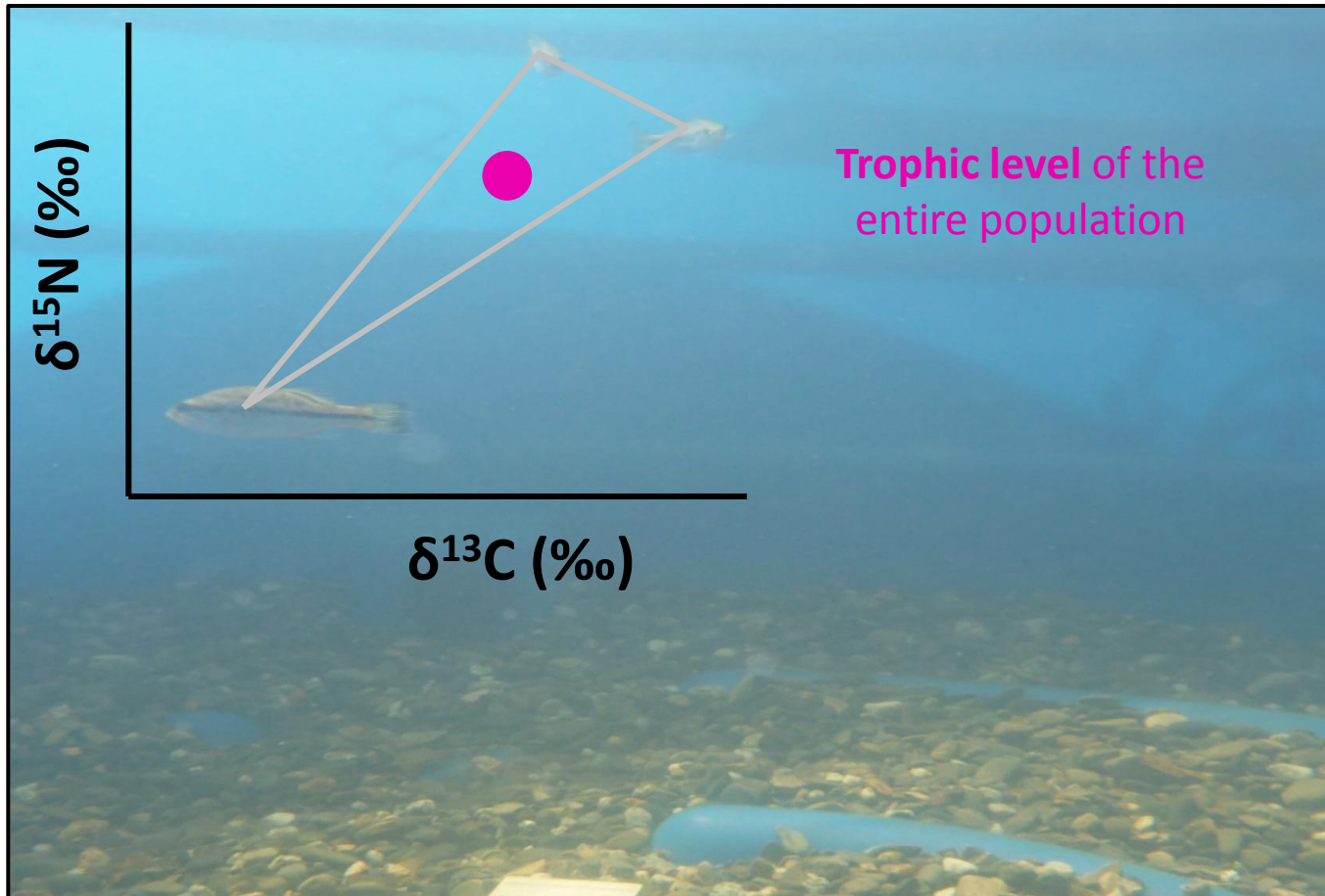
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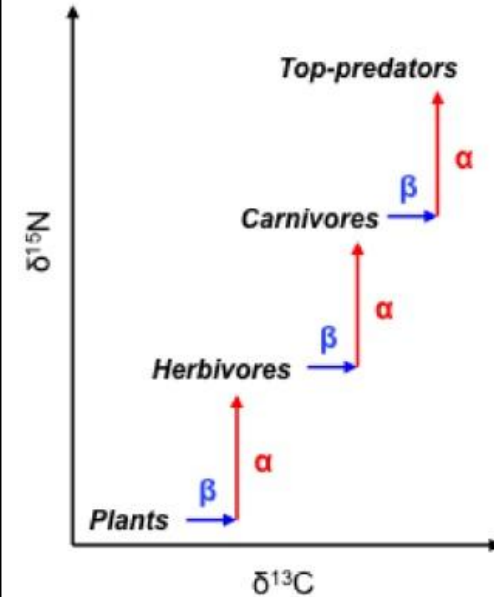
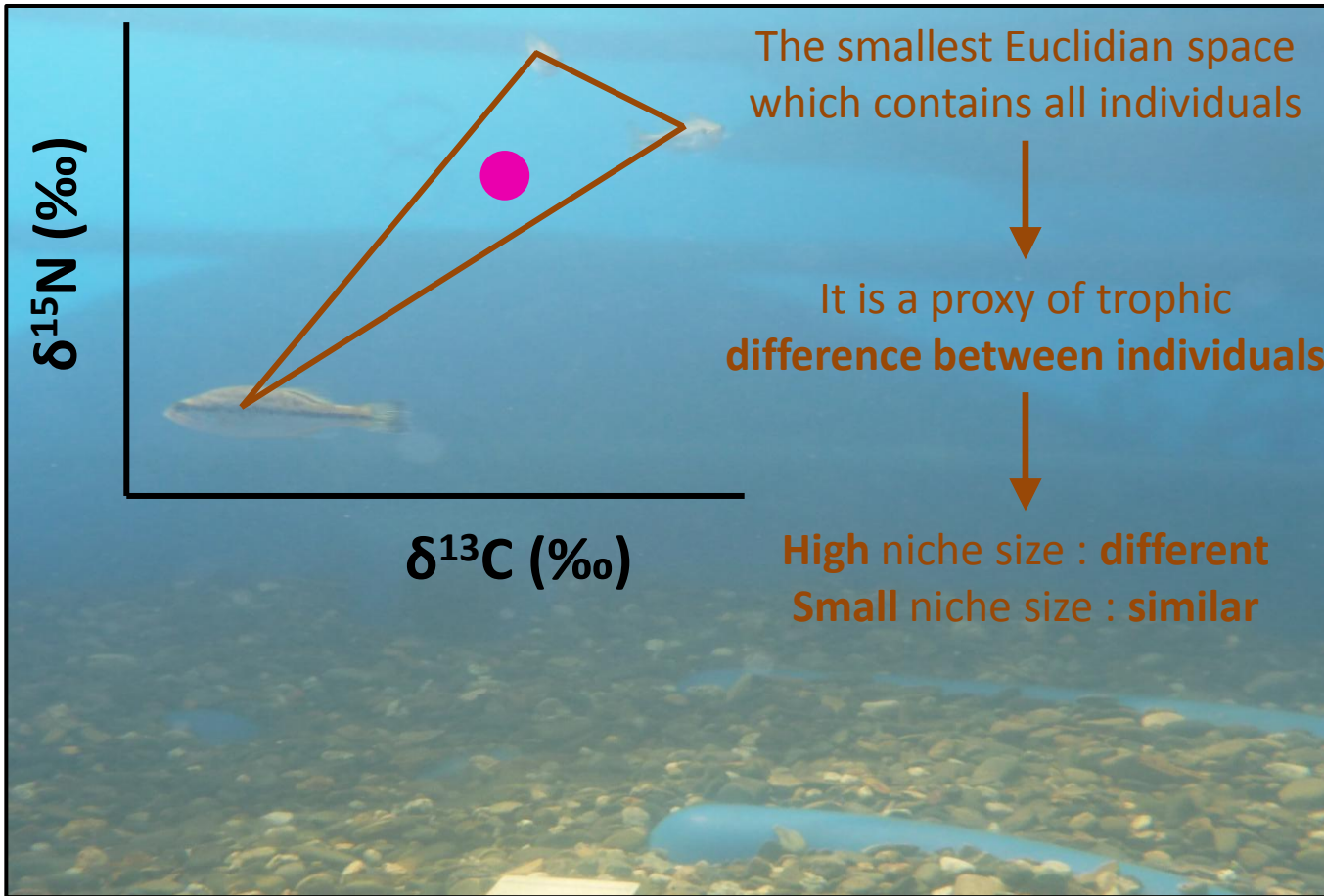
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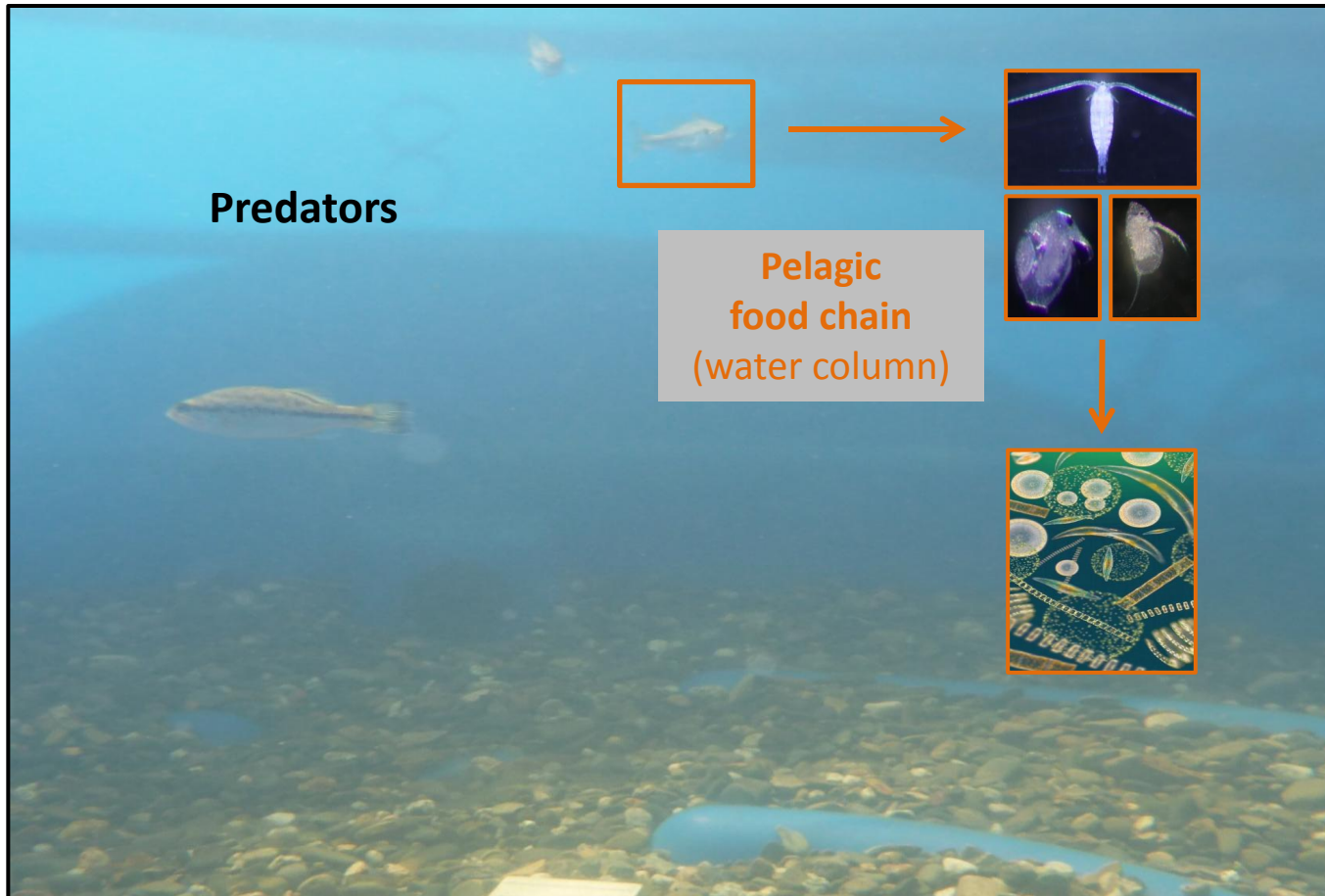
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Predator population  
(*fish*)



**Prey community**  
(zooplankton community structure)

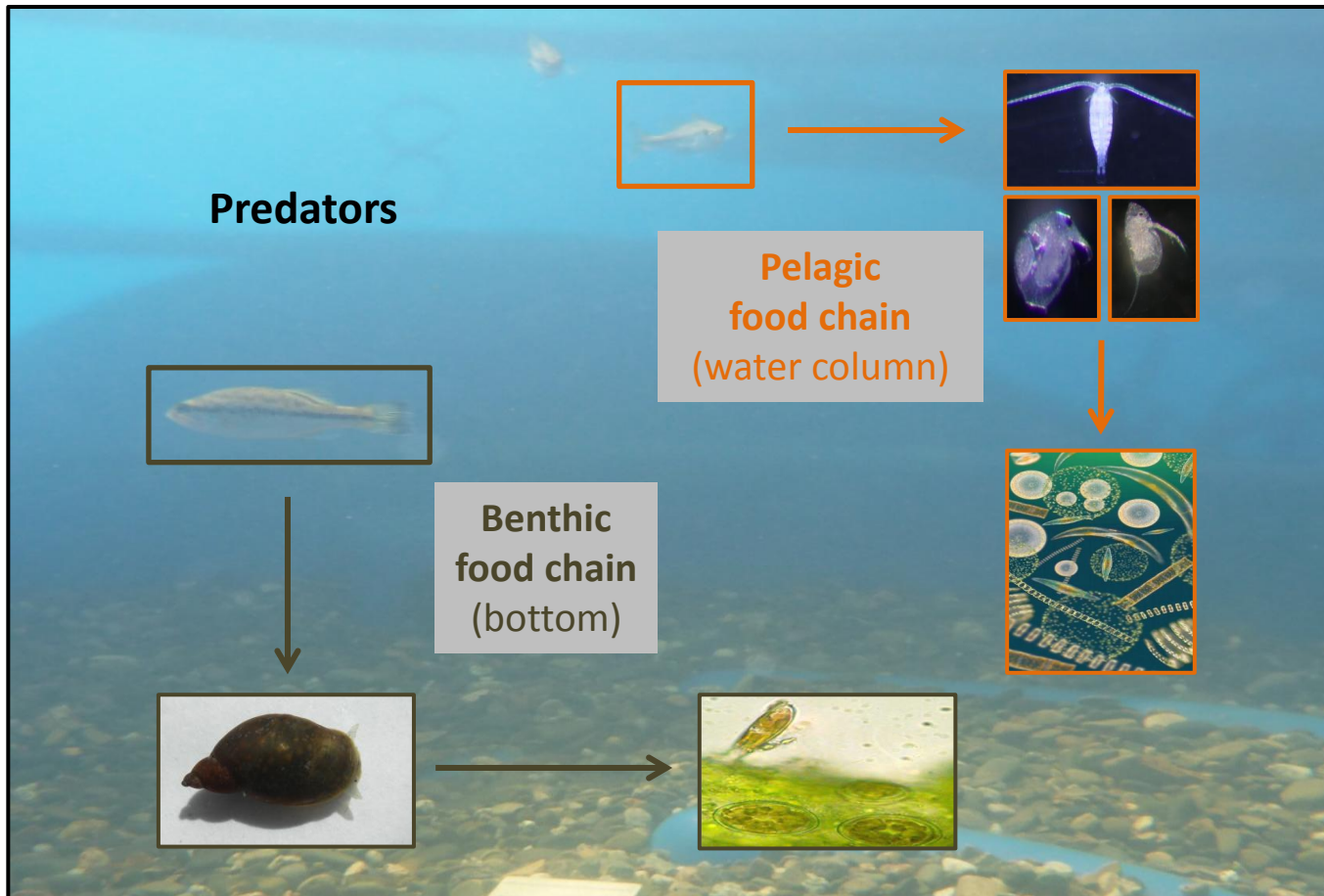
**Ecosystem functioning**  
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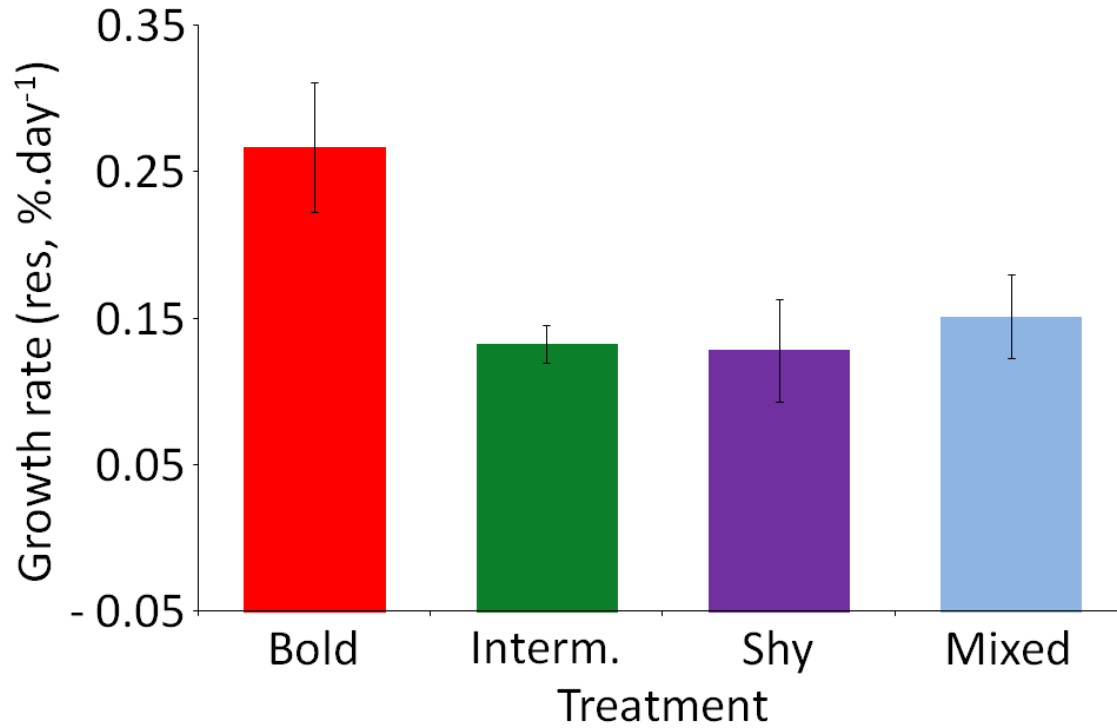
Ecosystem functioning  
(phytoplankton production)

Prey community  
(juvenile pond snail density)

Ecosystem functioning  
(periphyton production)

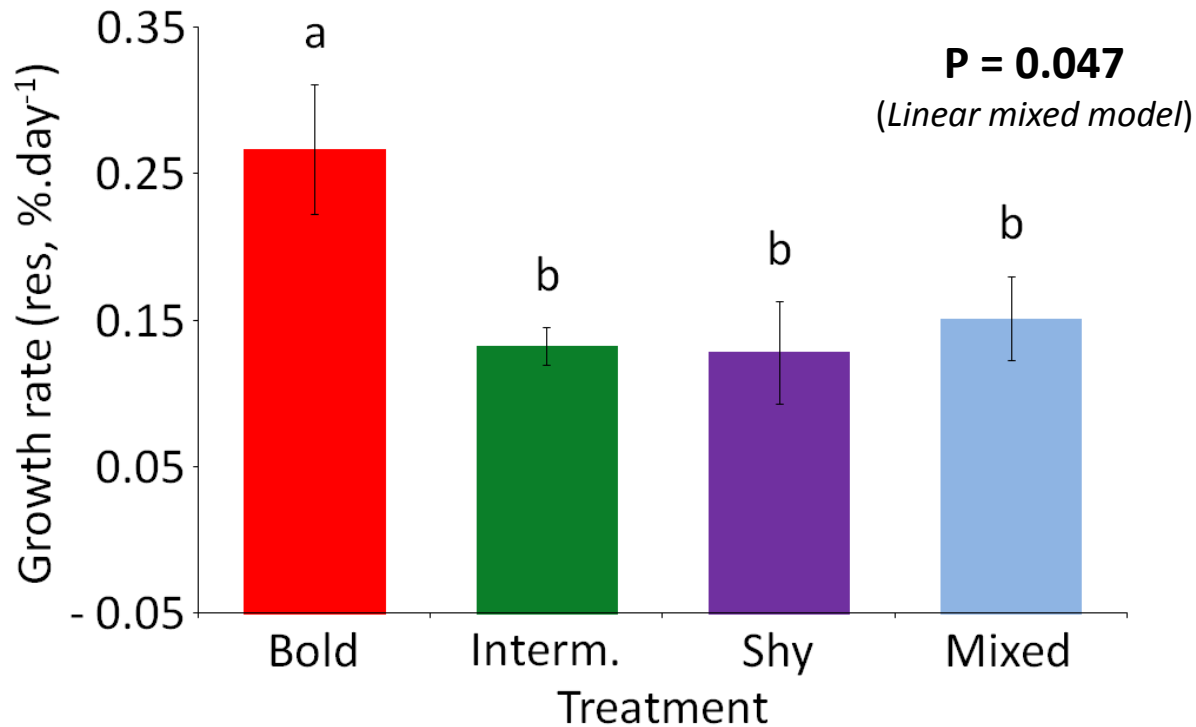
# RESULTS: H1 - *personality effects on growth rate*

Individual growth rate



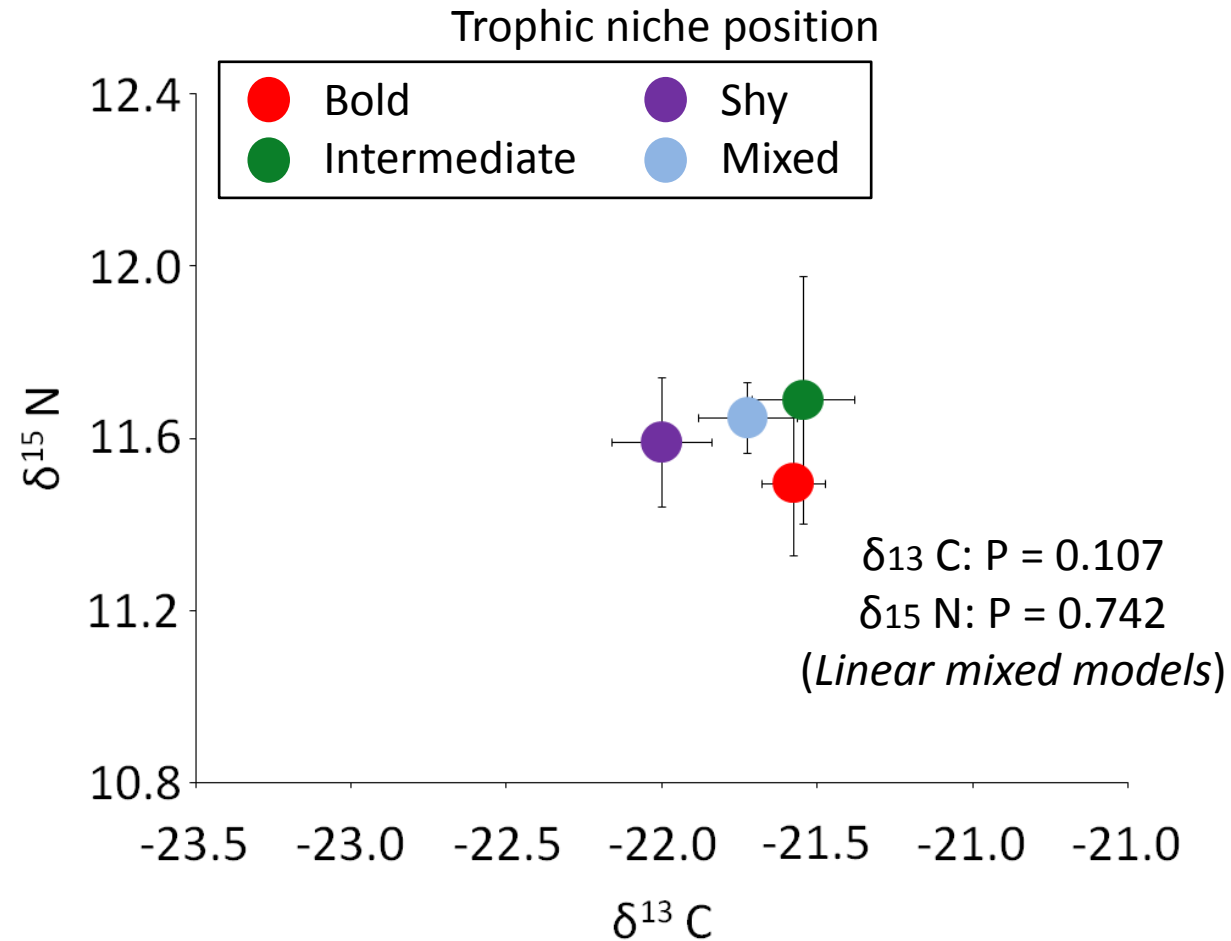
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Individual growth rate



**Significant effect on  
Population growth rate**

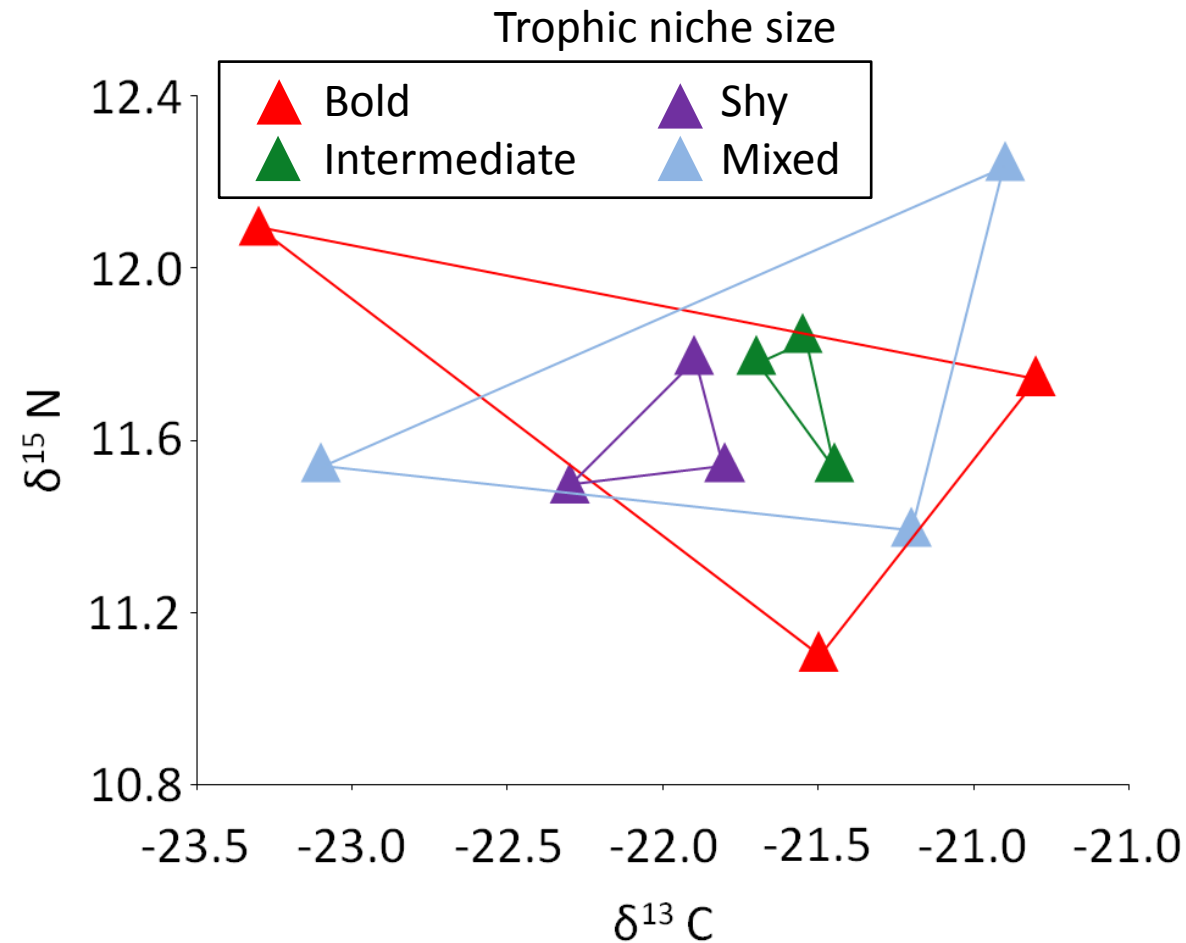
# RESULTS: H1 - *personality effects on trophic niche*



→ No difference of trophic niche position among treatments

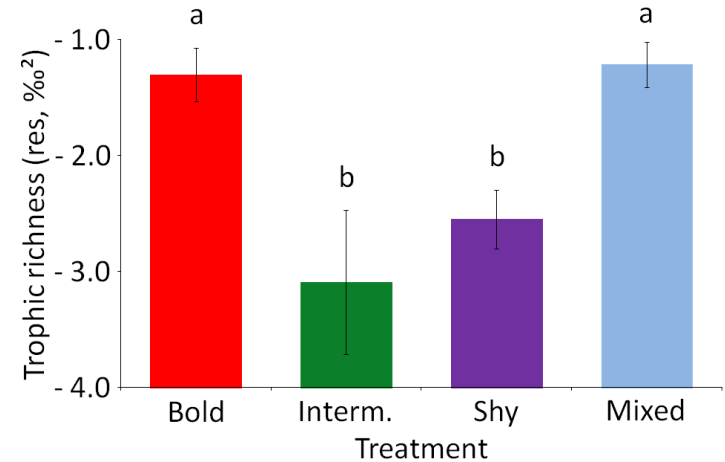
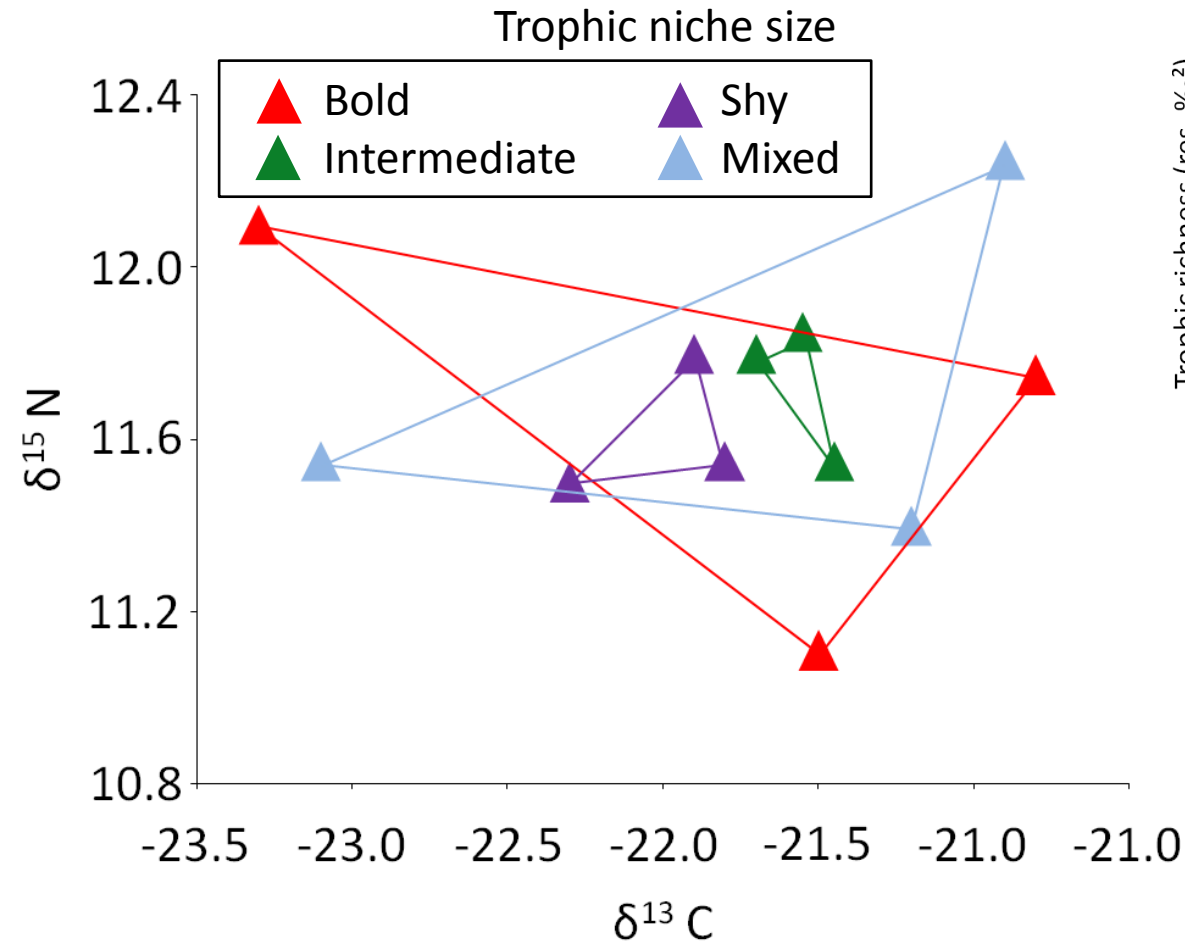


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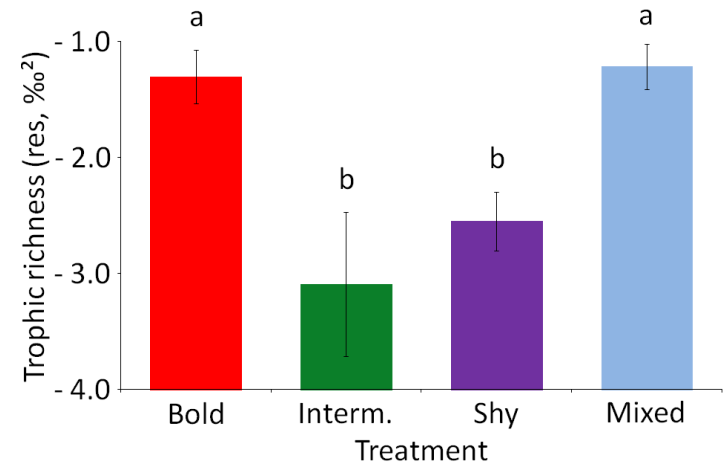
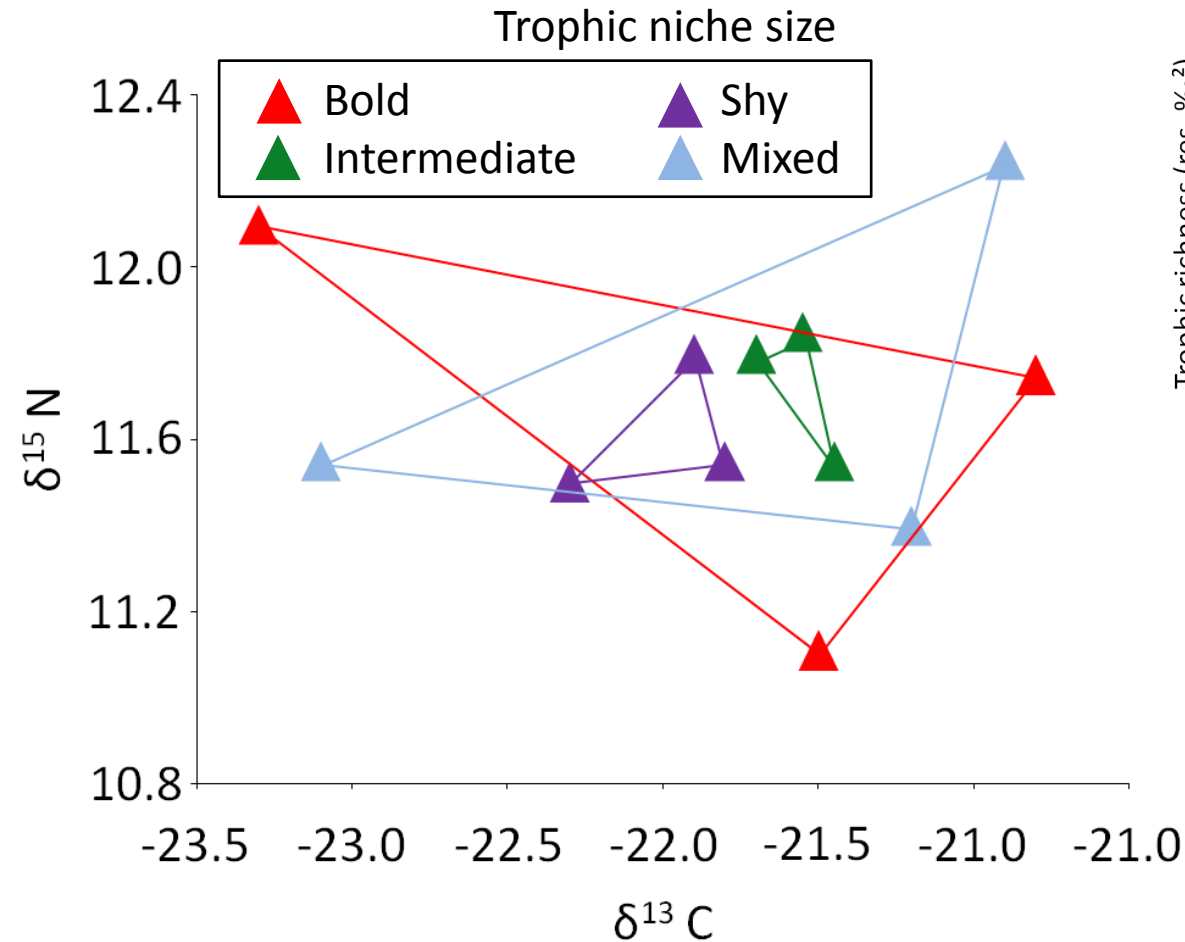


**P < 0.001**  
(Linear mixed model)

→ No difference of trophic niche position among treatments

→ Differences of trophic niche size among treatments

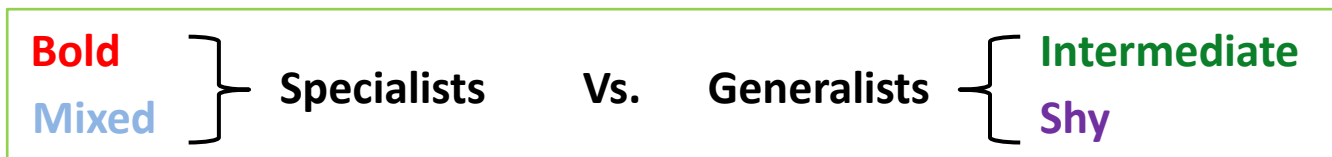
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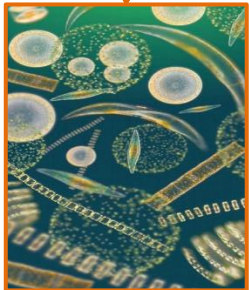


# RESULTS: H2 - *personality effects on community and ecosystem functioning*

**PELAGIC**

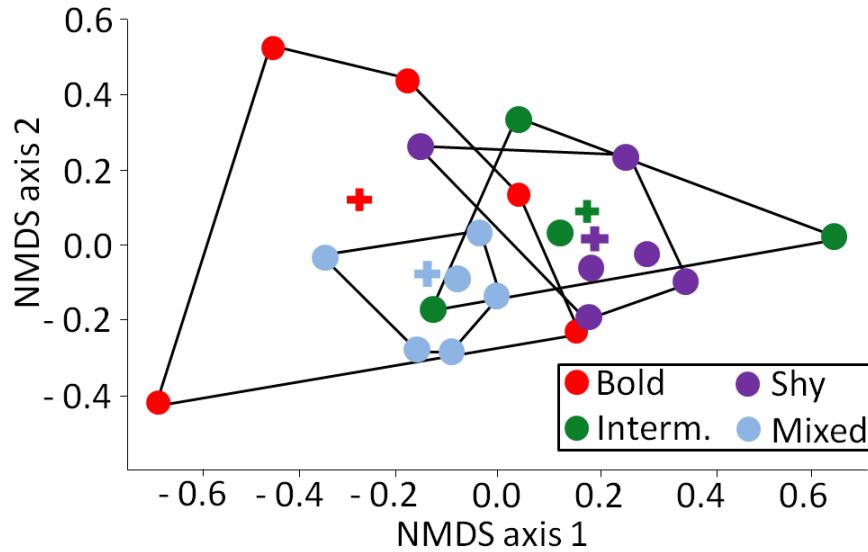
(water column)

**Community**



**Ecosystem**

Zooplankton community structure



# RESULTS: H2 - *personality effects on community and ecosystem functioning*

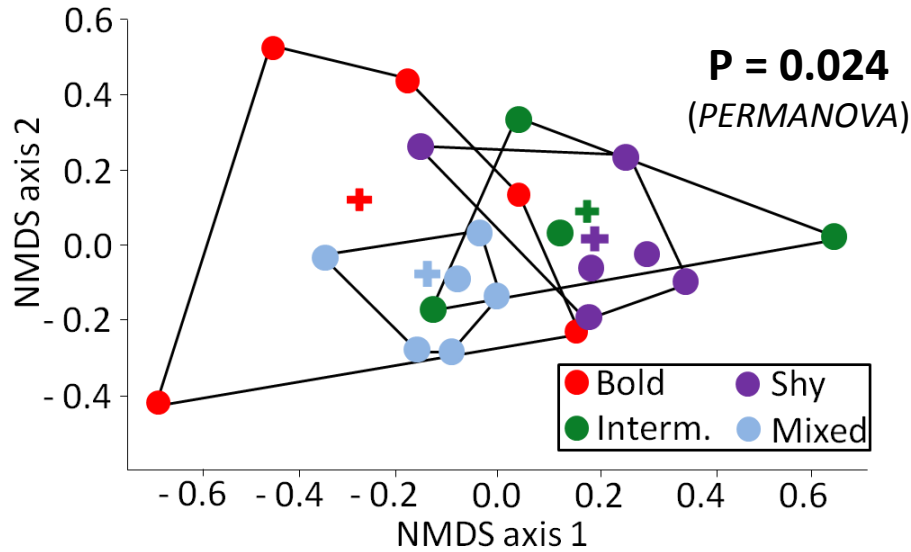
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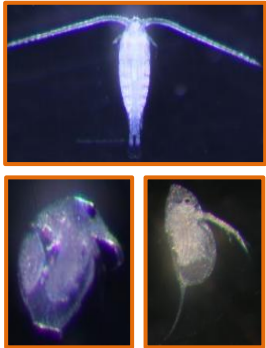


**Significant effect on  
zooplankton diversity**

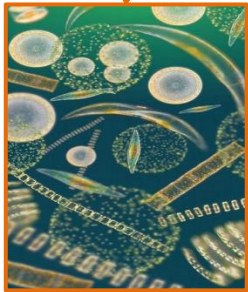
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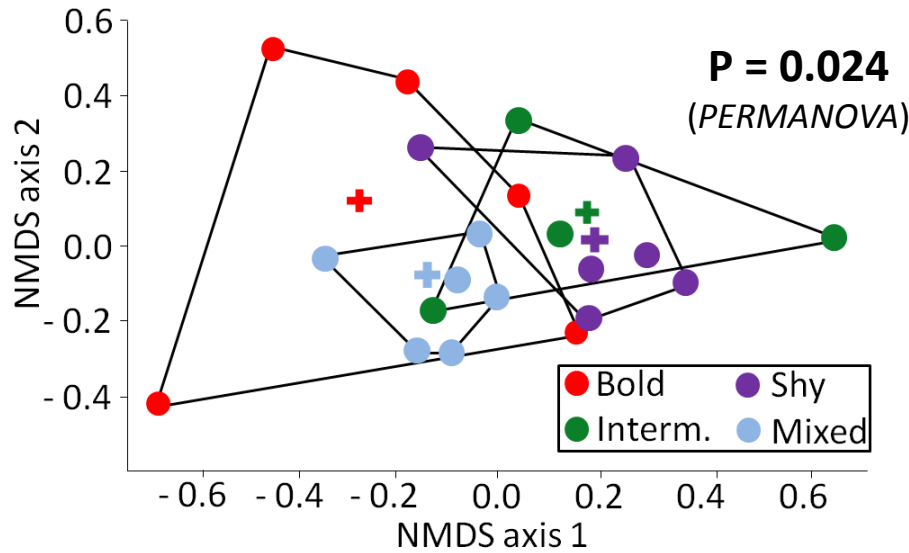
**Community**



**Ecosystem**

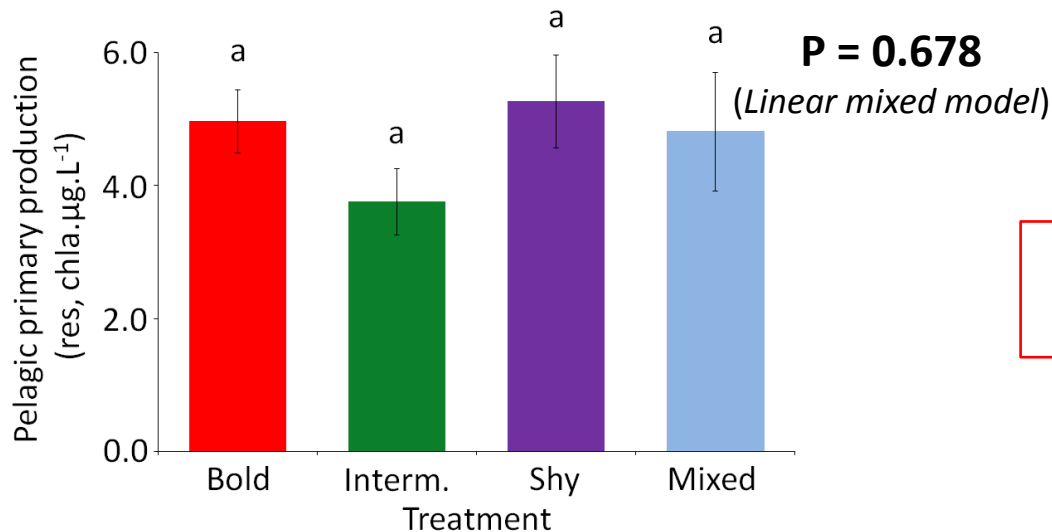


Zooplankton community structure



**Significant effect on  
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Pelagic primary production

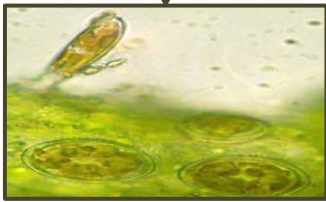


**No effect on pelagic  
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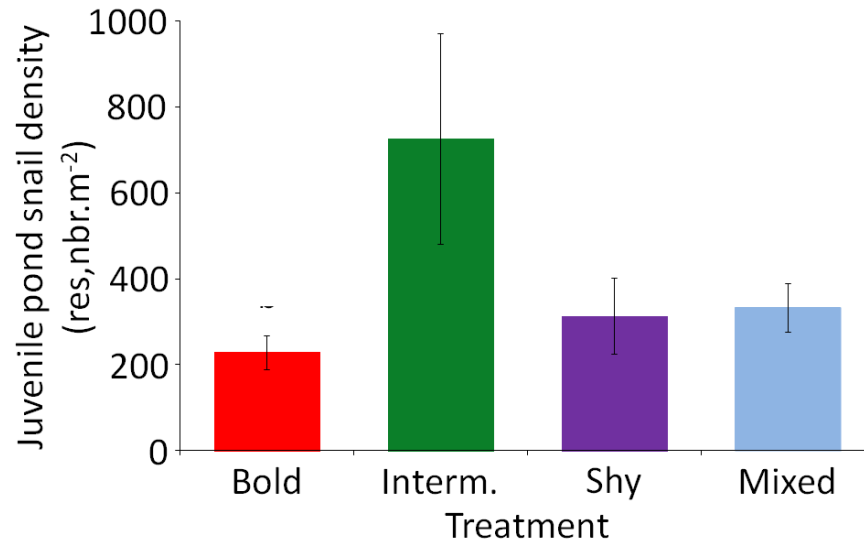
**BENTHIC**  
(bottom)

**Community**



**Ecosystem**

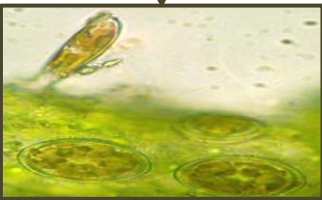
Juvenile pond snail density



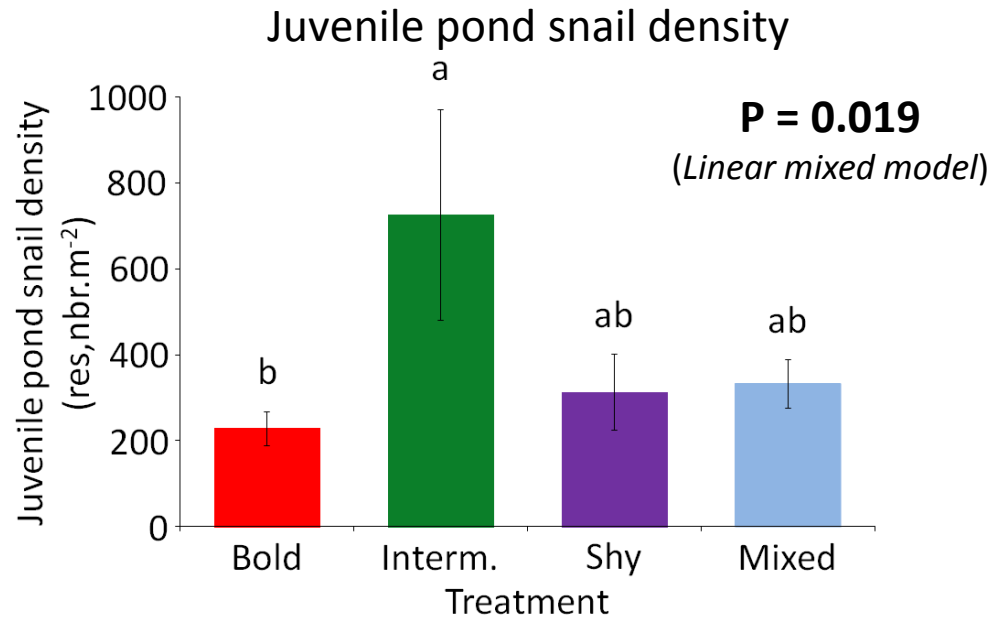
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**BENTHIC**  
(bottom)

**Community**



**Ecosystem**



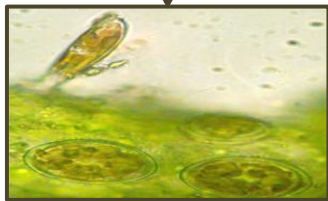
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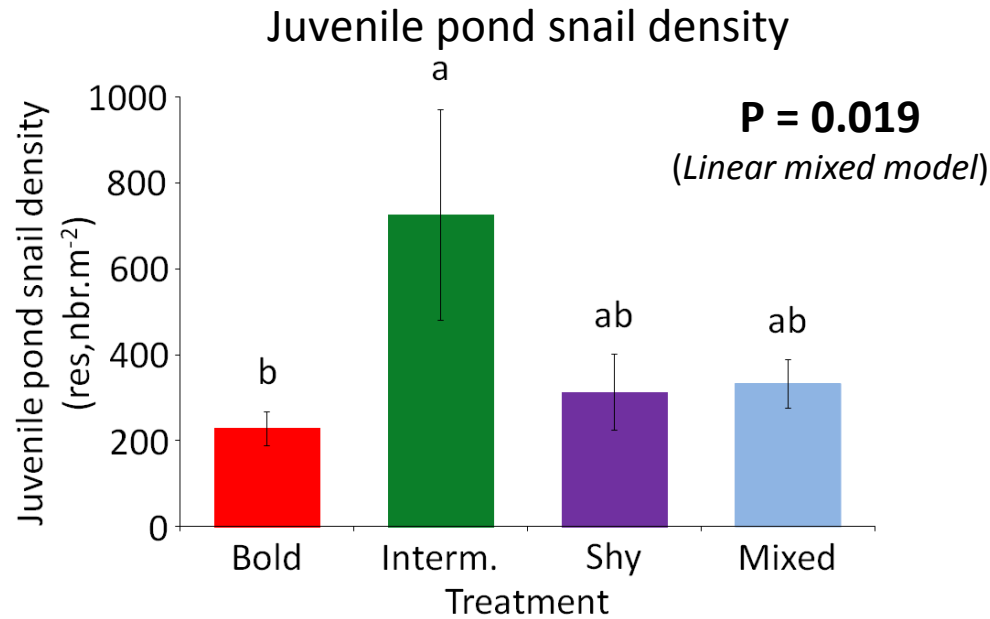
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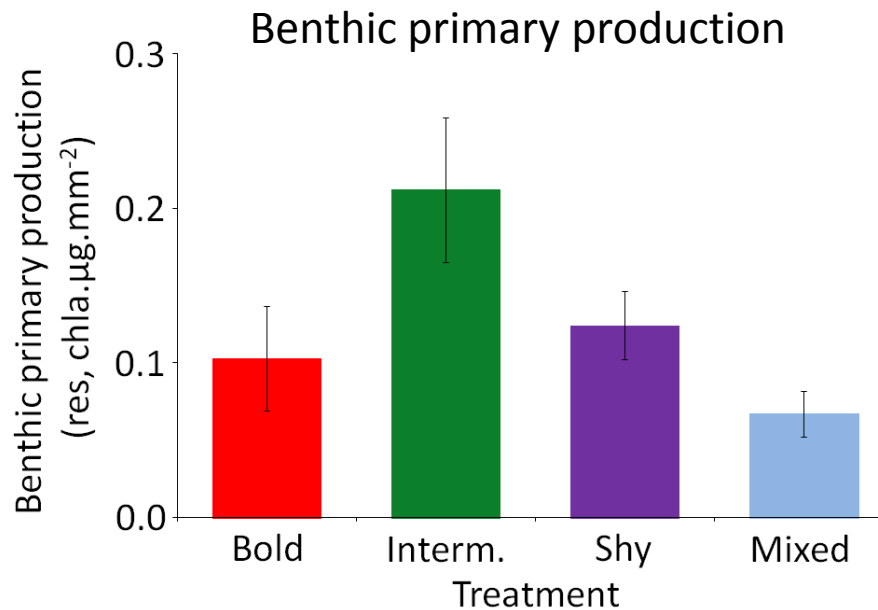
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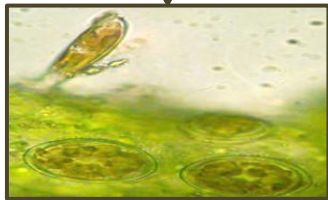
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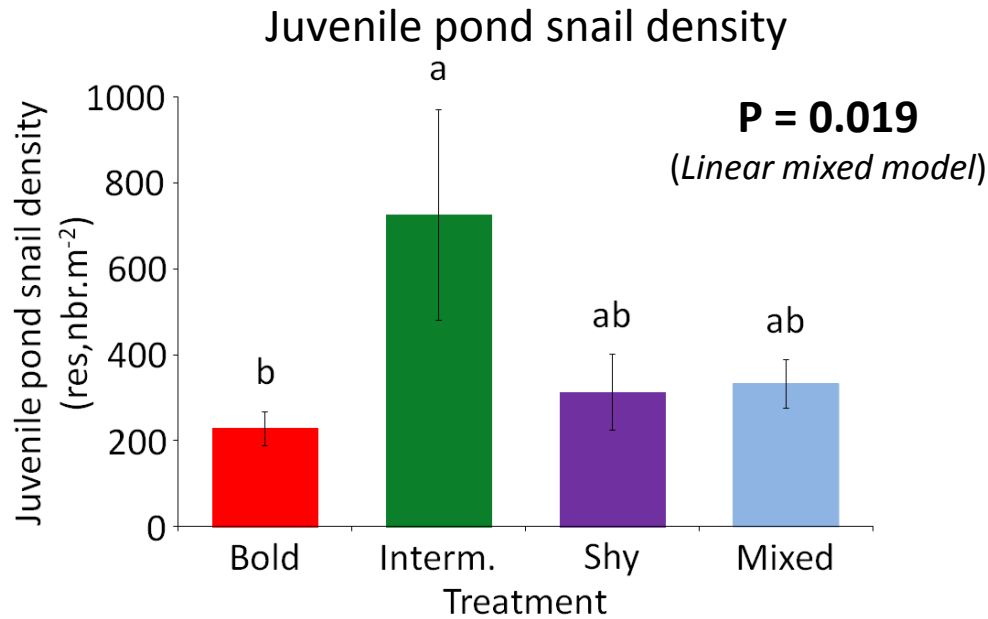
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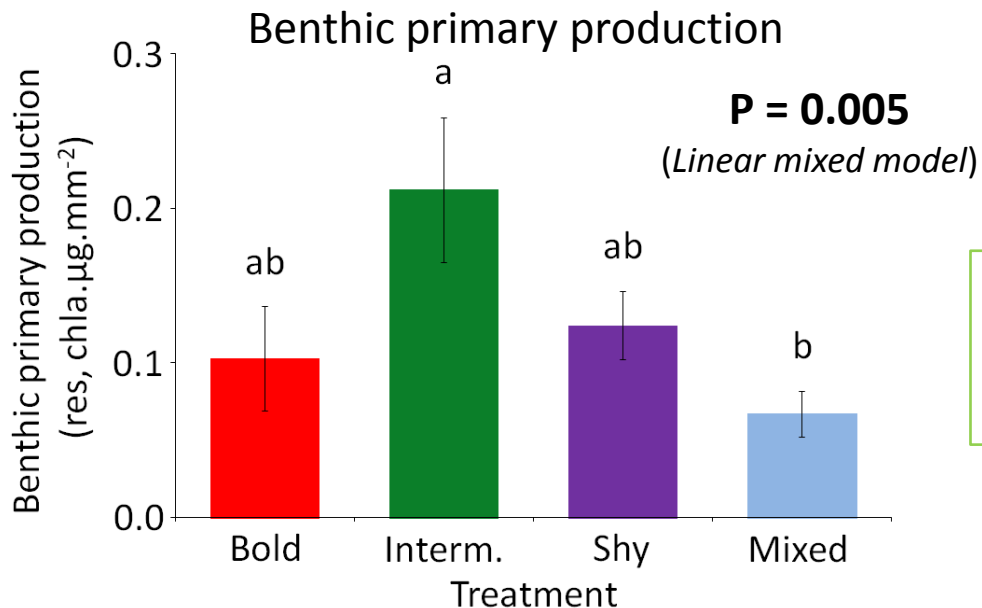
**Community**



**Ecosystem**



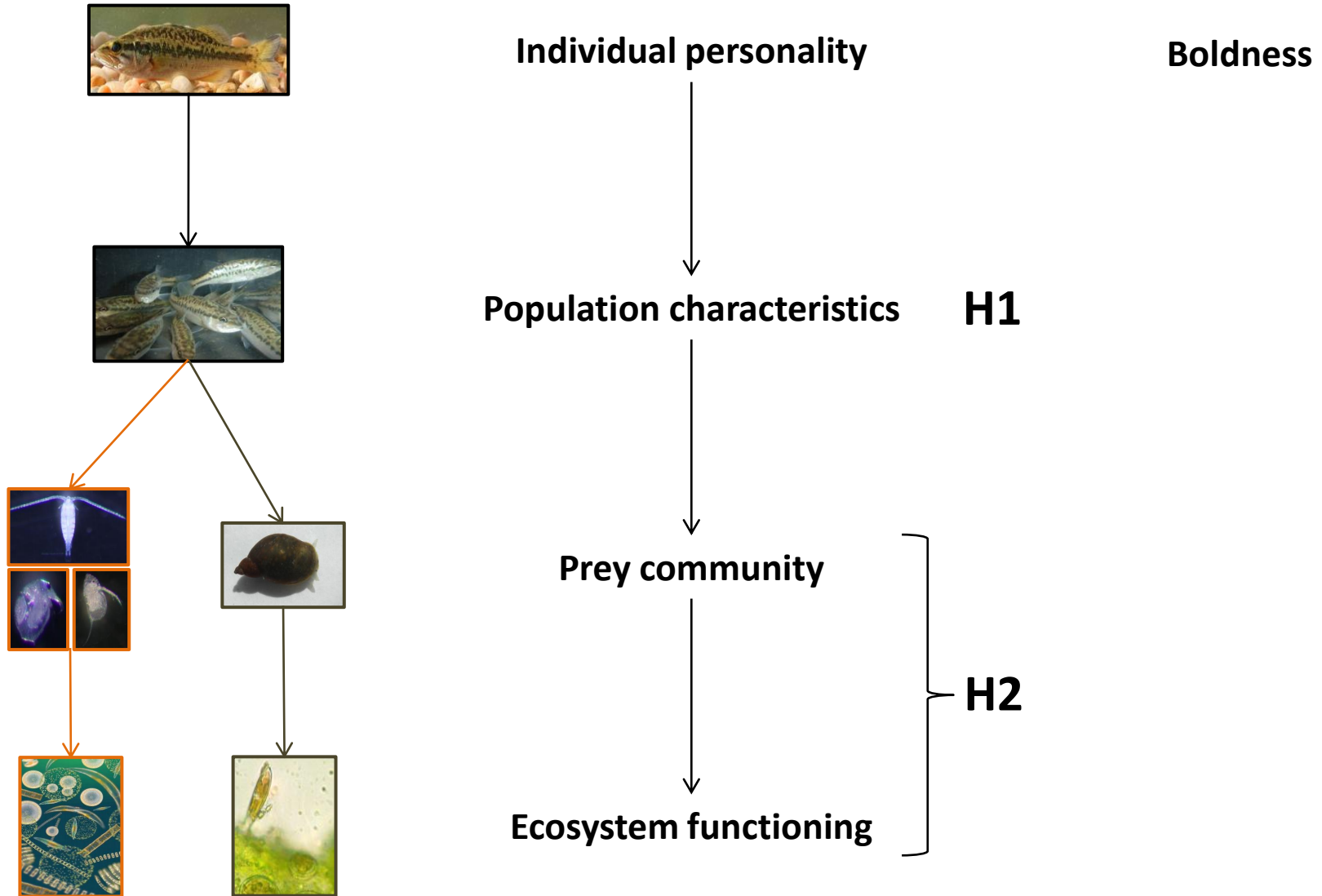
**Significant effect on juvenile pond snail density**



**Significant effect on benthic primary production**

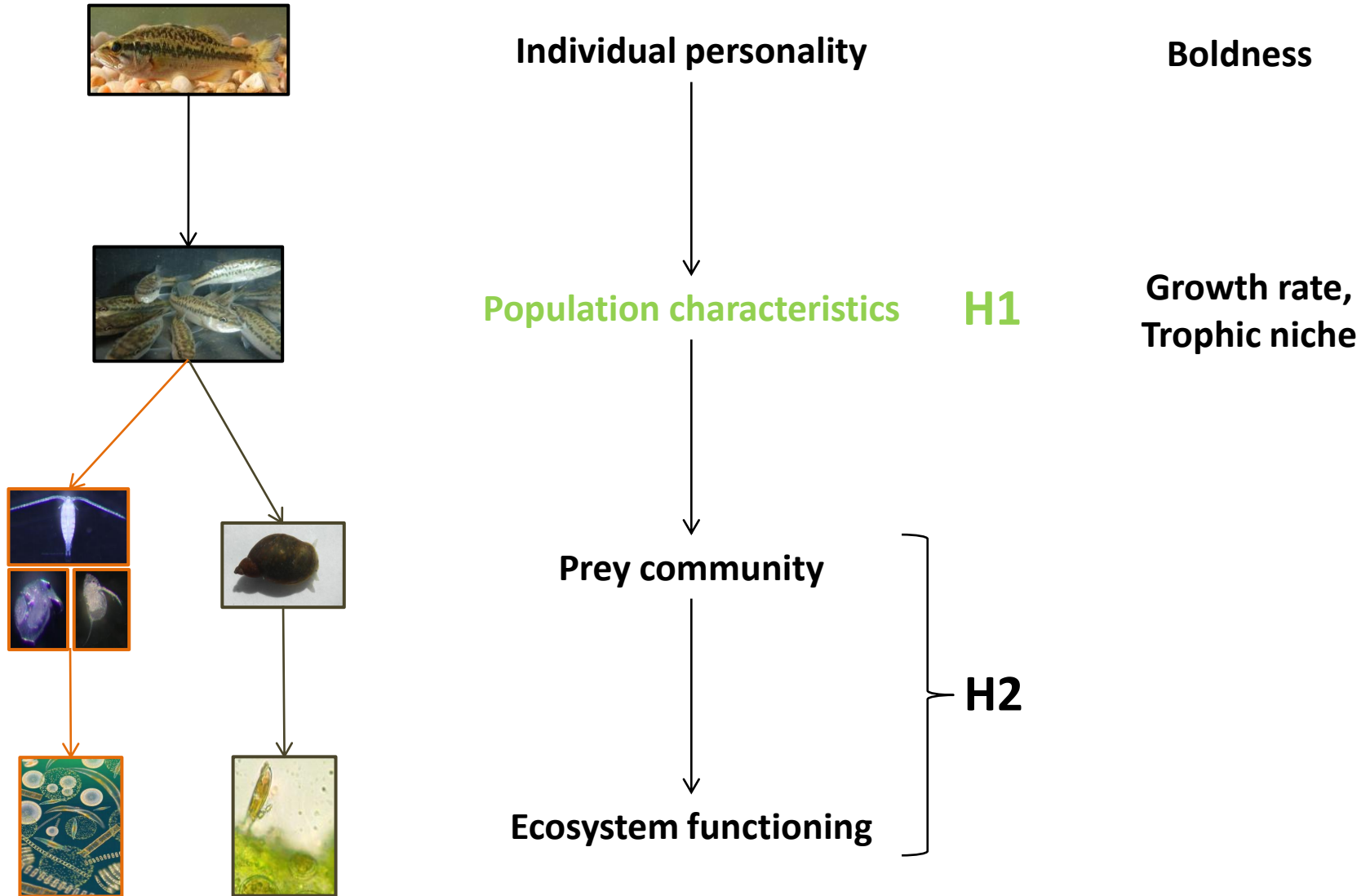
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To determine whether differences in animal personality could affect ecosystem functioning



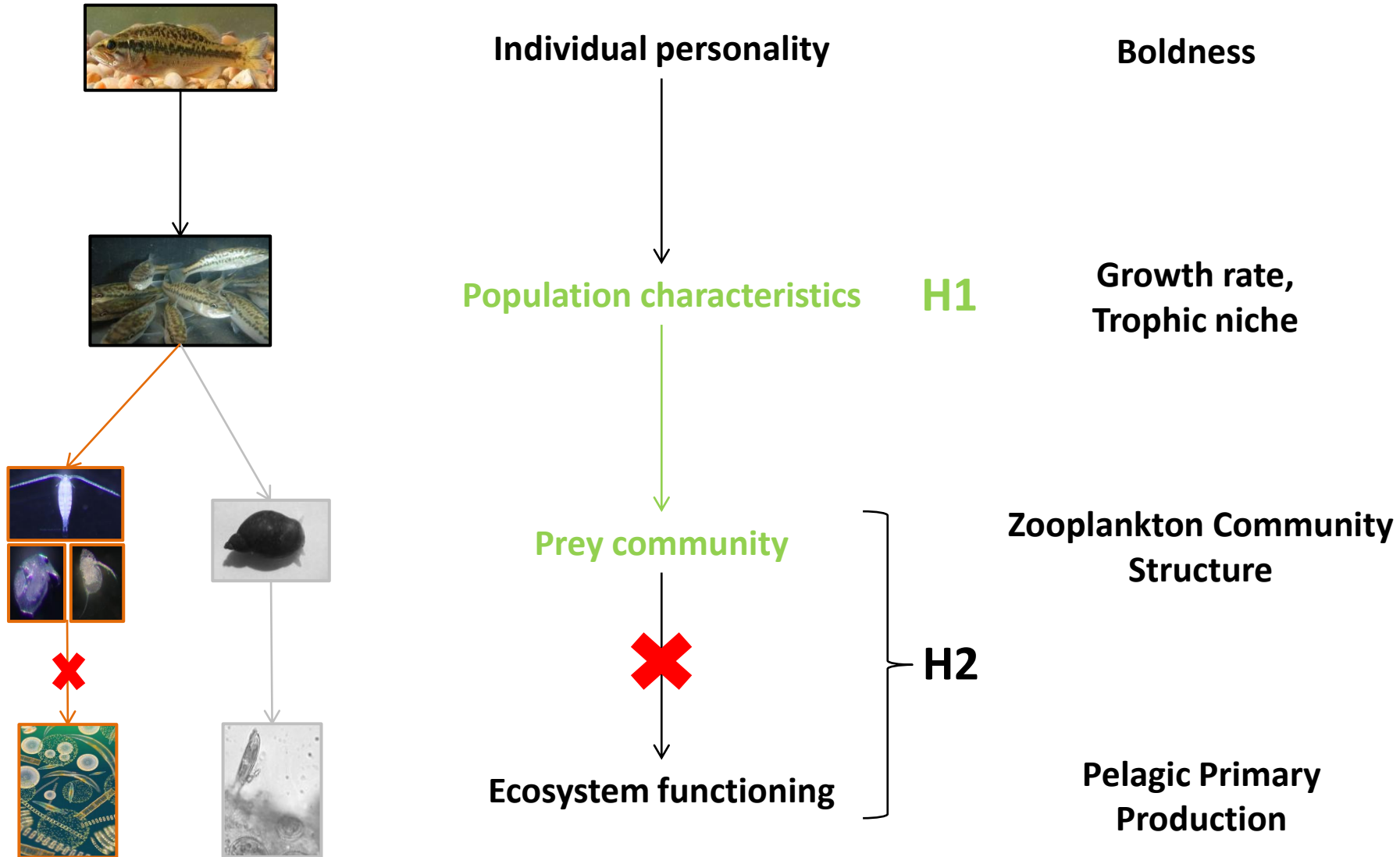
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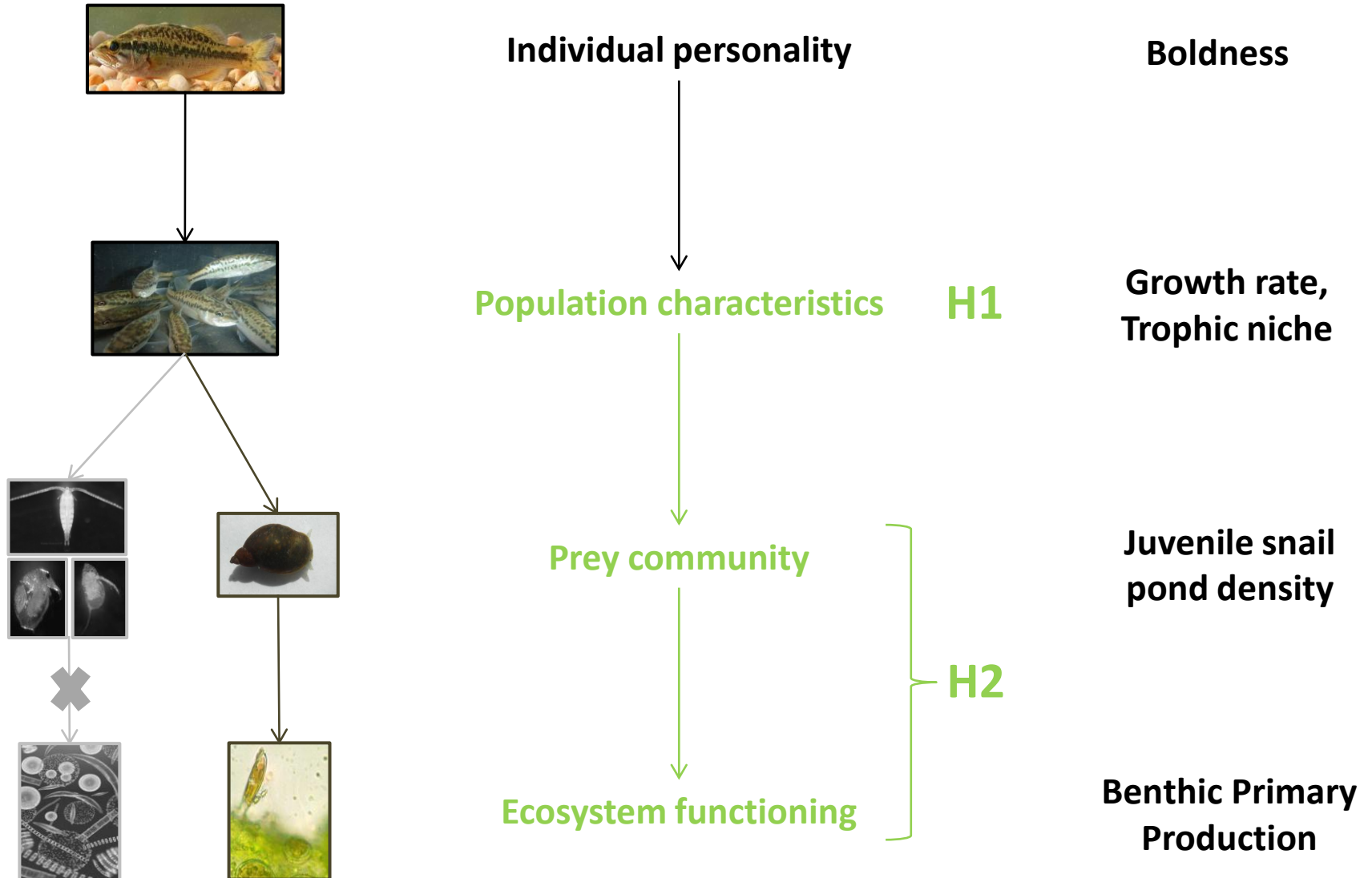
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Through **cascading effects**, individual personality may affected **ecosystem functioning** with a modification of the **intensity of top-down and bottom-up controls**

However, understanding the mechanisms leading to the observed changes in ecosystem functioning requires **further investigations**

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However, understanding the mechanisms leading to the observed changes in ecosystem functioning requires **further investigations**

## Perspectives

*Human activity can biased personality in populations and could have an effect on environment*

*Personality could induce an **eco-evolutionary feedback** ?*

# Thank for your attention

And thank to:



*Elsa Desêtres*  
*Martial Armand*  
*Elouana Gharnit*  
*Gaël Grenouillet*  
*Alban Sagouis*  
*Frédéric Azémar*  
*Charlotte Evangélista*  
*Zhao Tian*

FUNDING:



Fondation Fyssen



MARIE CURIE ACTIONS

InvaBioEcoF

*tristanjuette@hotmail.com*



Université  
Paul Sabatier  
TOULOUSE III

