Luigimaria Borruso

Free University of Bozen-Bolzano



Next generation biomonitoring to assess key species and soil parameters determining the biodiversity in agricultural soils

Borruso L, Genova G, Bani A, Signorini M, Schuler H, Brusetti L, Hilpold A, Dumbrellm AJ, Cesco S and Mimmo T



Soil biodiversity: a valuable tool for sustainable agricultural practices

Chemical contaminants

Local environmental conditions

Soil biodiversity Land-use practices

Physicochemical characteristics

Interactions with other organisms



Methods of studying soil biodiversity: eDNA metabarcoding approach

Selection of a target region of DNA (16S rRNA gene, ITS region, 18S rRNA).





at ctttcccgtttaaactttgatttgcccta

ctaggttaaagtaaacttggcctaaatttg

tttgatttgccctactaggttaaagtaaac

aaacttggcctaaagtaaacttggccggc

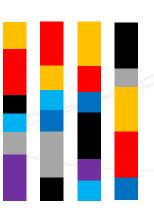
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acttggcctaaatttgctactaggttaccta

gtatttgatttgccctactttgatttgcccta

cctaaagtaaacttgatttgccgccgtattt



DNA extraction

PCR on taxonomically informative marker genes

High-Throughput Sequencing

Databases for taxonomic assignation



eDNA metabarcoding as tool for agro-ecosystems survey

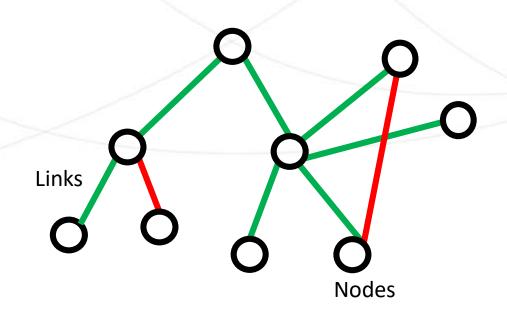
- > Target more than one species at the same time
- > Tested for a wide range of environments
- ➤ Low sampling disturbance
- Less time-consuming than the classical survey
- Detecting of rare species





Agroecological networks of soil biodiversity

Agroecological networks is composed of the coexisting organisms, individuals that group together more frequently than with the rest, and the keystone species that are in the center of the network.

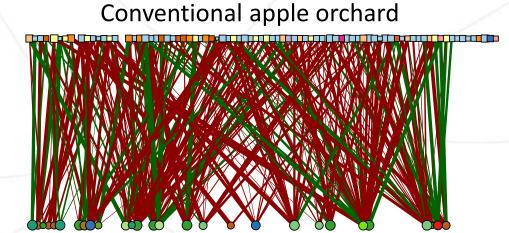




Agroecological networks of soil biodiversity



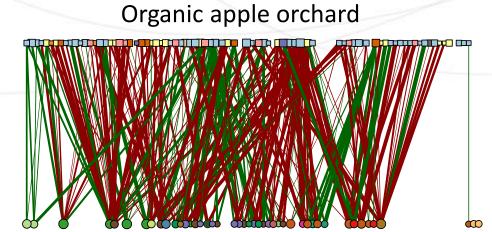
Bacteria



Fungi



Bacteria



Fungi



Take home message

- > To unravel the species-species and species-soil interaction of the soil diversity
- > To identify the key drivers and keystone species influencing the soil biodiversity
- > To exploit better biodiversity already present in soil and to reduce the use of external inputs



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eurac research

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