

LIFE + BIODIVINE – Plant protocol 2013

In order to highlight a possible effect of the intra-plot ground cover on arthropods indexes, the 2013 plant protocol will focus on the evaluation of grass cover surface into vine plot monitored for the arthropods survey.

1. Sampling conditions

- All 25 monitored plots for the arthropods survey will be evaluated.
- The estimates are done every day of arthropods sampling (one day per week during 10 weeks between April and July)

Please, fill in the excel file “Plant protocol 2013 - Table” according to the information below.

2. Grass cover estimates at the plot scale:

- 100% : Grass cover in rows and inter-rows
- 30% : Grass cover in rows only (no grass cover in rows)
- 70% : Grass cover in inter-rows only (no grass cover in rows) +_adjustment of the estimated percentage according to the length of the grassy inter-row:
 - o 70%: Grass on all inter-row length
 - o 35%: grass on 3/4 of the inter-row length
 - o 18% : grass on half of the inter-row length
- 35% : Grass cover in 1 inter-row out of 2 (no grass cover in rows) +_adjustment of the estimated percentage according to the length of the grassy inter-row:
 - o 35%: Grass on all inter-row length
 - o 18%: grass on 3/4 of the inter-row length
 - o 9% : grass on half of the inter-row length
- 18% : Grass cover in 1 inter-row out of 4 (no grass cover in rows) +_adjustment of the estimated percentage according to the length of the grassy inter-row:
 - o 18%: Grass on all inter-row length
 - o 9%: grass on 3/4 of the inter-row length
 - o 5% : grass on half of the inter-row length

Please, refer to the pdf file “Plant protocol 2013 – Cover estimates” to get standard values to the ground cover estimates of each plot.

3. For all categories: adjust the estimated percentage according to the density of the cover:

- dense: 100% of the chosen percentage (no adjustment)
- half dense: 50% of the chosen percentage
- low dense: 25% of the chosen percentage

NB: decimals are rounded up to next unit (ex: 4,5 = 5%)

To fill in the second excel sheet, you just have to enter the value in the first excel sheet. Automatic calculations will be done by excel to give you the final percentage of herbaceous cover for the entire plot.