

Energy plantations technology on contaminated land

2008-2011



Project CZ0092 supported by the Financial
Mechanism of Norway

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graph TD; A([Institute of Botany ASCR  
Promoter]) --- B([Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague  
Partner no. 1]); A --- C([Bioforsk, Norwegian Institute for Agricultural and Environmental Research  
Partner no. 2]); B --- C;
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**Institute of Botany
ASCR**

Promoter

**Czech University of
Life Sciences in
Prague**

Partner no. 1

**Bioforsk, Norwegian
Institute for Agri-
cultural and Environ-
mental Research**

Partner no. 2

IBOT 73%

EUR 720K



CULS 15%

Bioforsk 12%

Project background

Mining and metallurgical activities



Main pollution source in the region
(hundreds of tons of Pb per year till 1982...)



Strong contamination of soils by risk elements (As, Cd, Pb, Zn)

**Negative consequences on quantity
and quality of agricultural production**



Project aims...

- 1) to explore potential of **alternative use** of contaminated land for **biomass production** by means of short rotation coppice plantations (SRC)
- 2) to **reduce risks** of further spread of pollutants by **phytoremediation**

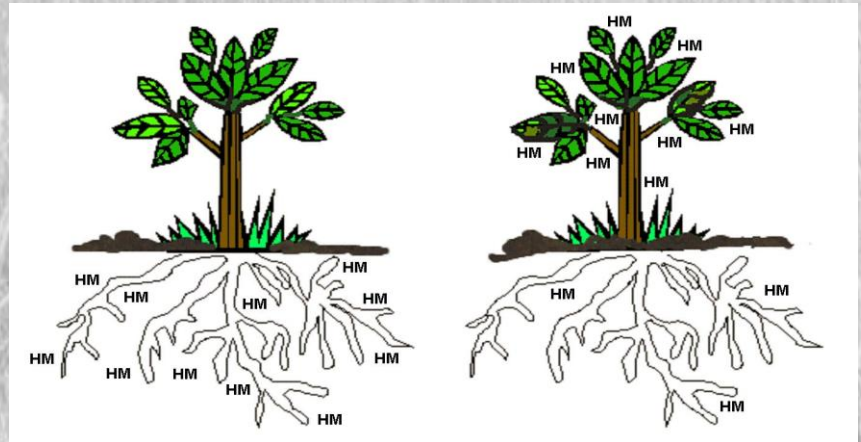


Biomass production

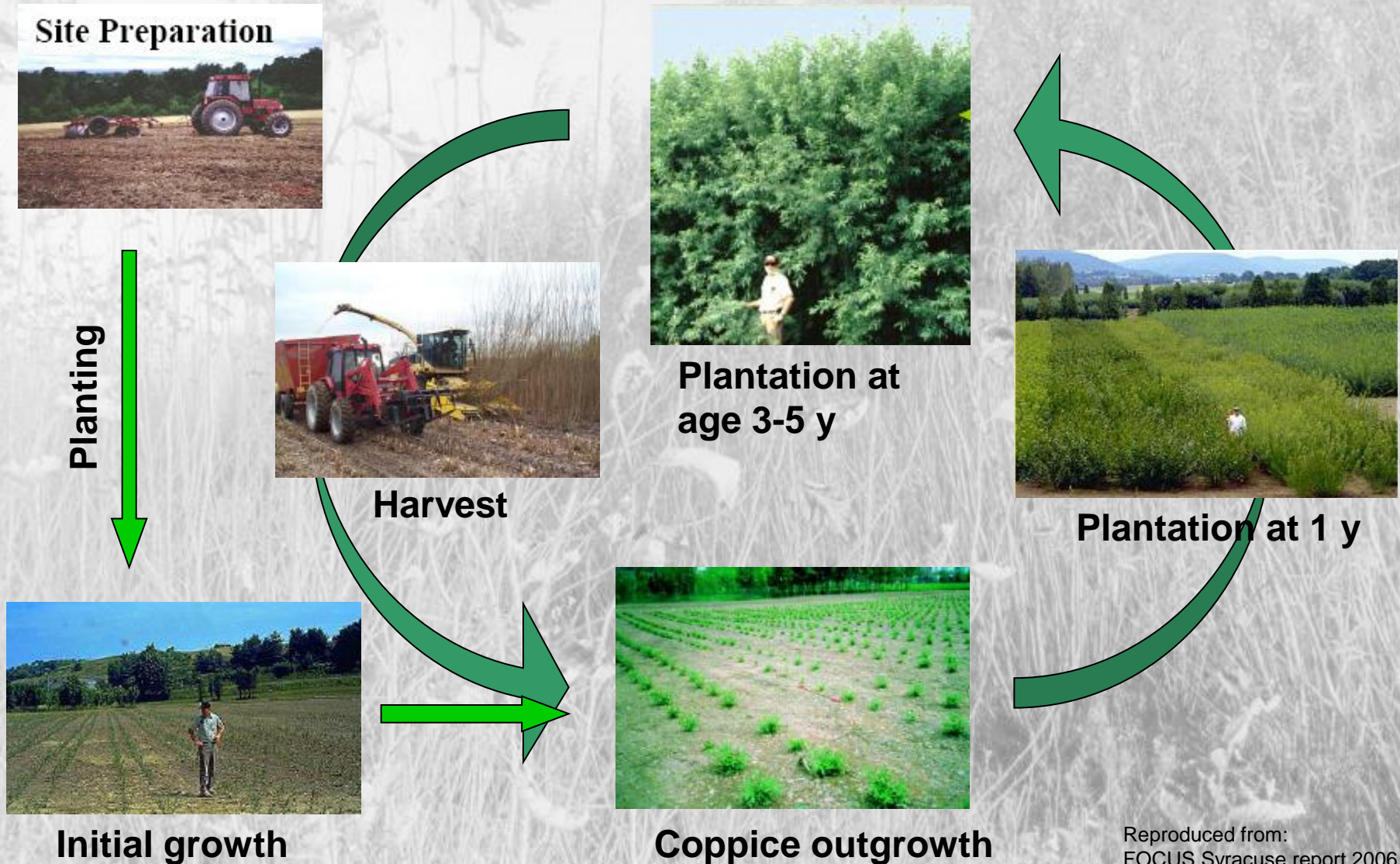
phytoremediation

phytostabilization

phytoextraction



Short rotation coppice plantation

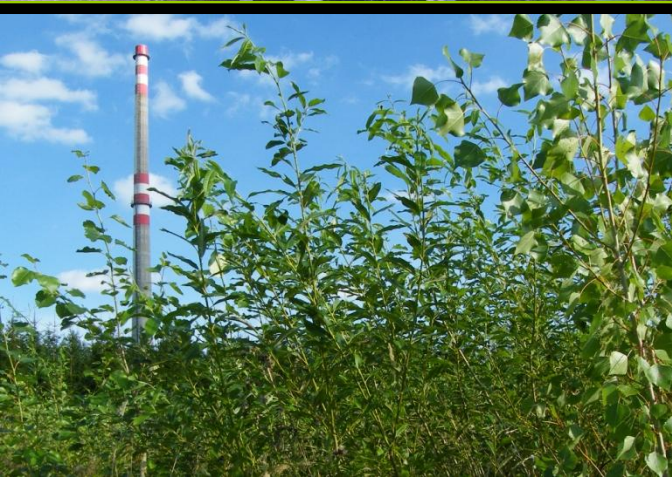


Project levels

In vitro exp.

Pot exp.

Field

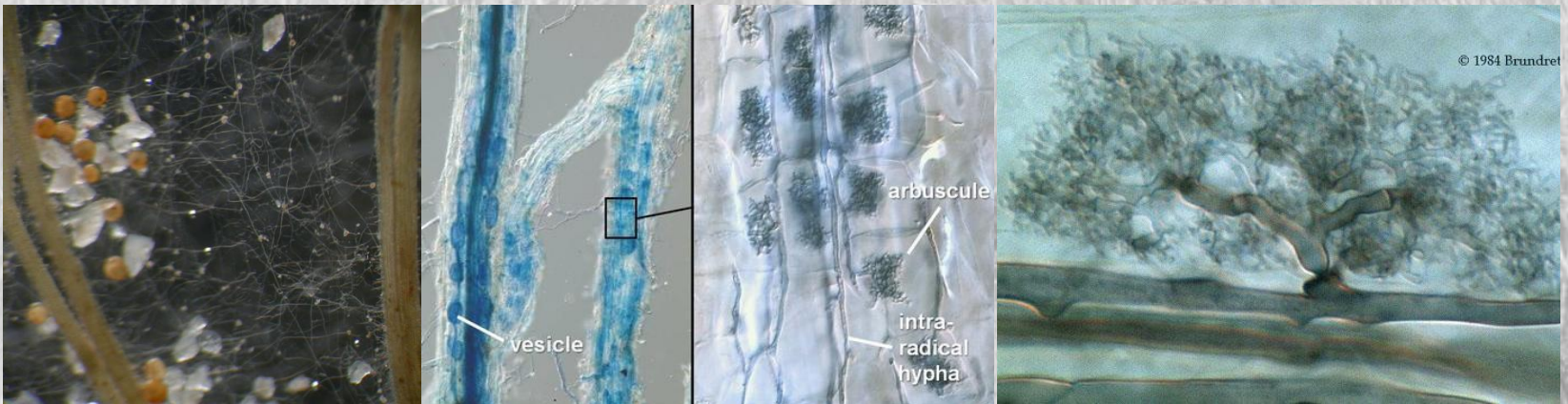


Mycorrhizal symbioses

Ectomycorrhizae (ECM)

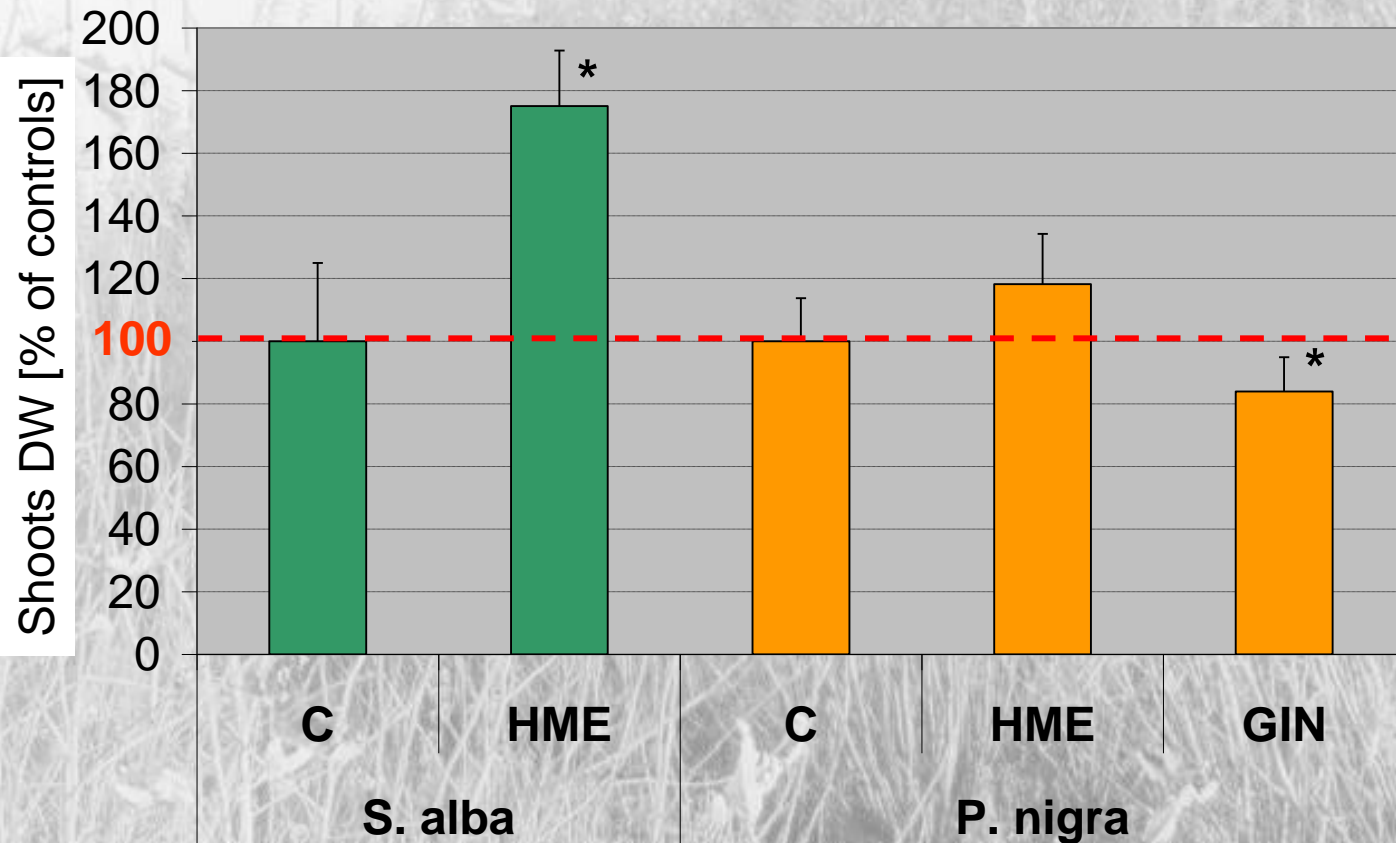


Arbuscular mycorrhizae (AM)

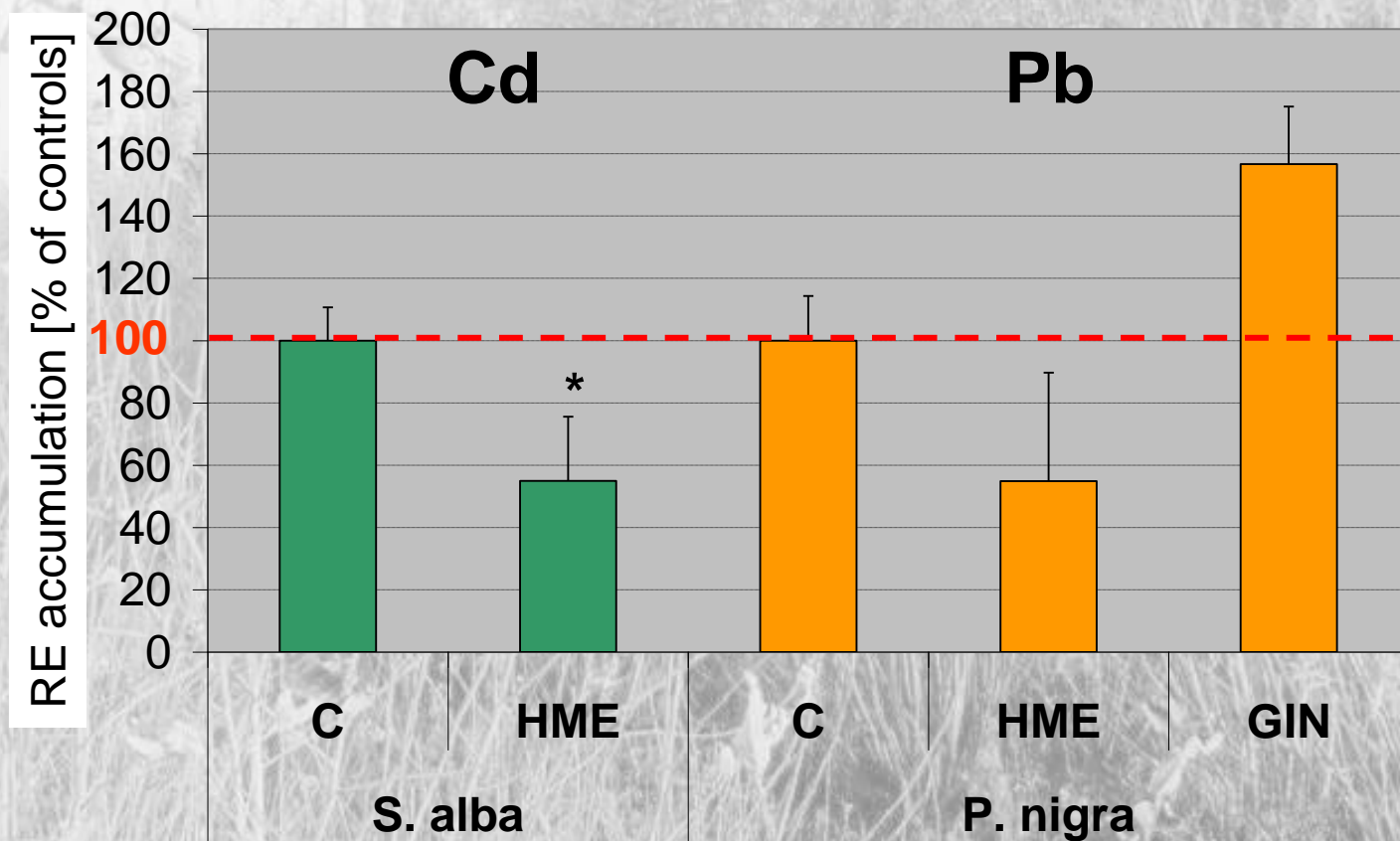


Fungal effect on growth of *Salix alba* and *Populus nigra*

HME = low accumulating, tolerant ECM fungus
GIN = tolerant AM fungus



Fungal effect on risk elements accumulation in *Salix alba* and *Populus nigra*



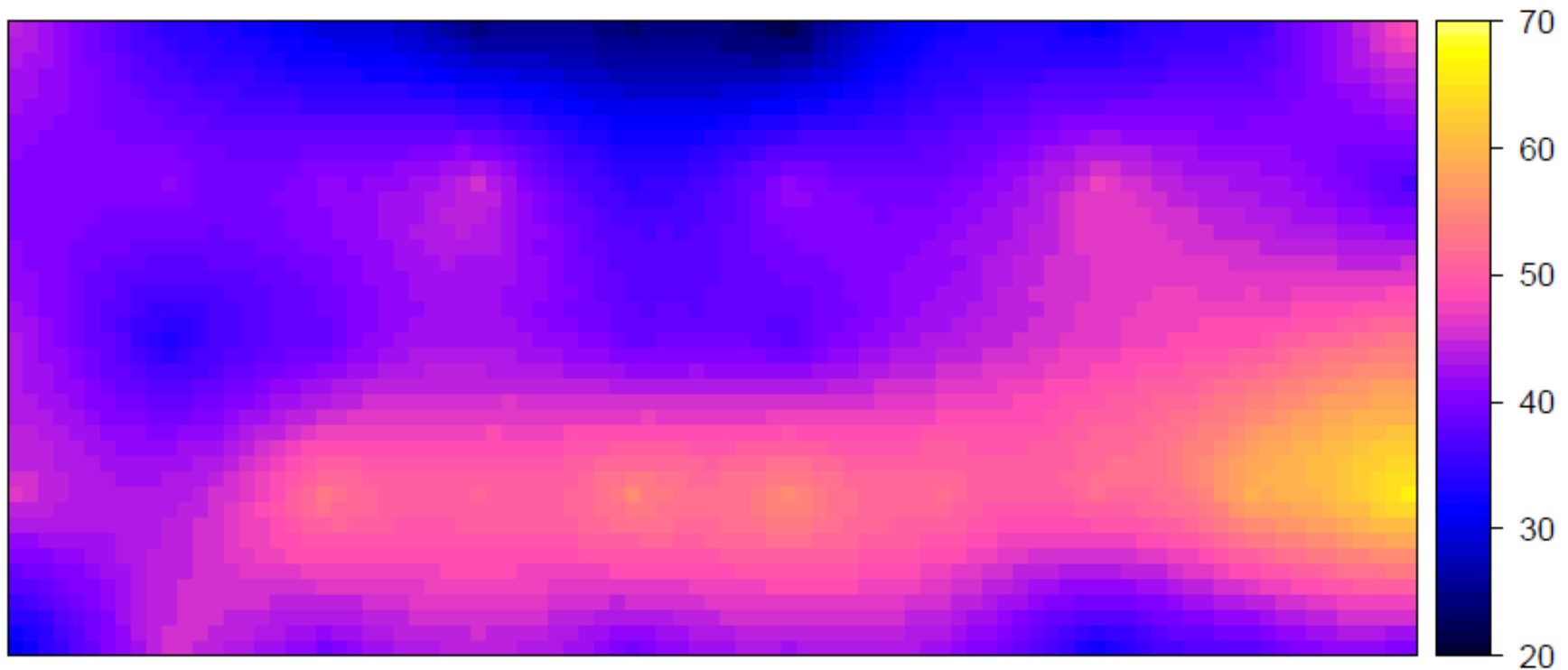
Model plantations in Příbramsko region

2 localities

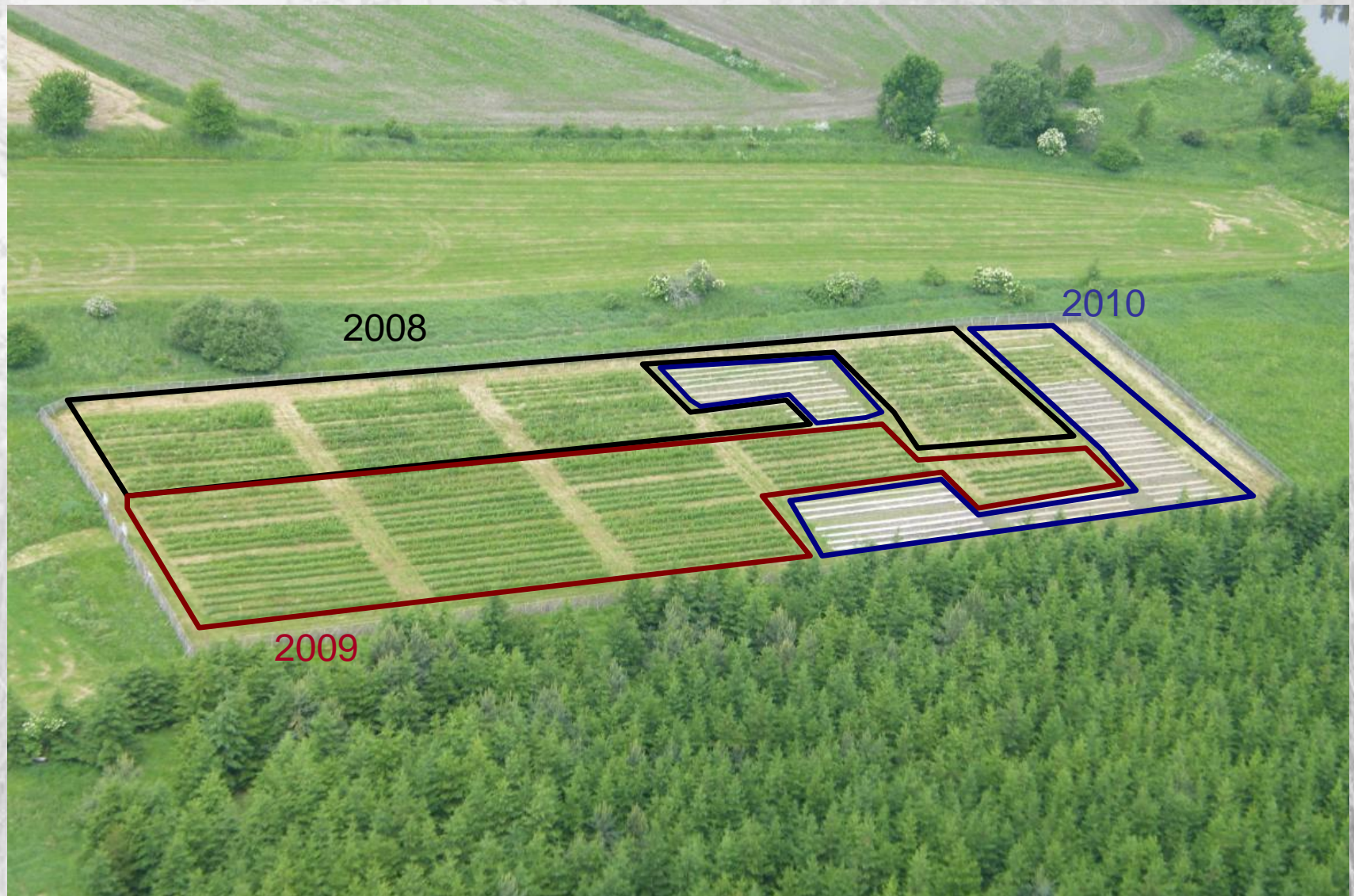
- „Komín“ MEDIUM level of contamination
- „Litávka“ HIGH level of contamination

Heterogeneous spatial distribution of RE pollution

Komin | Pb | element concentration (mg/kg) | 0–20 cm



Plantation „Komin“ - stages



Planting 2008 at Komin plantation (medium pollution)

Experimental treatments:

Control (K) – no treatment

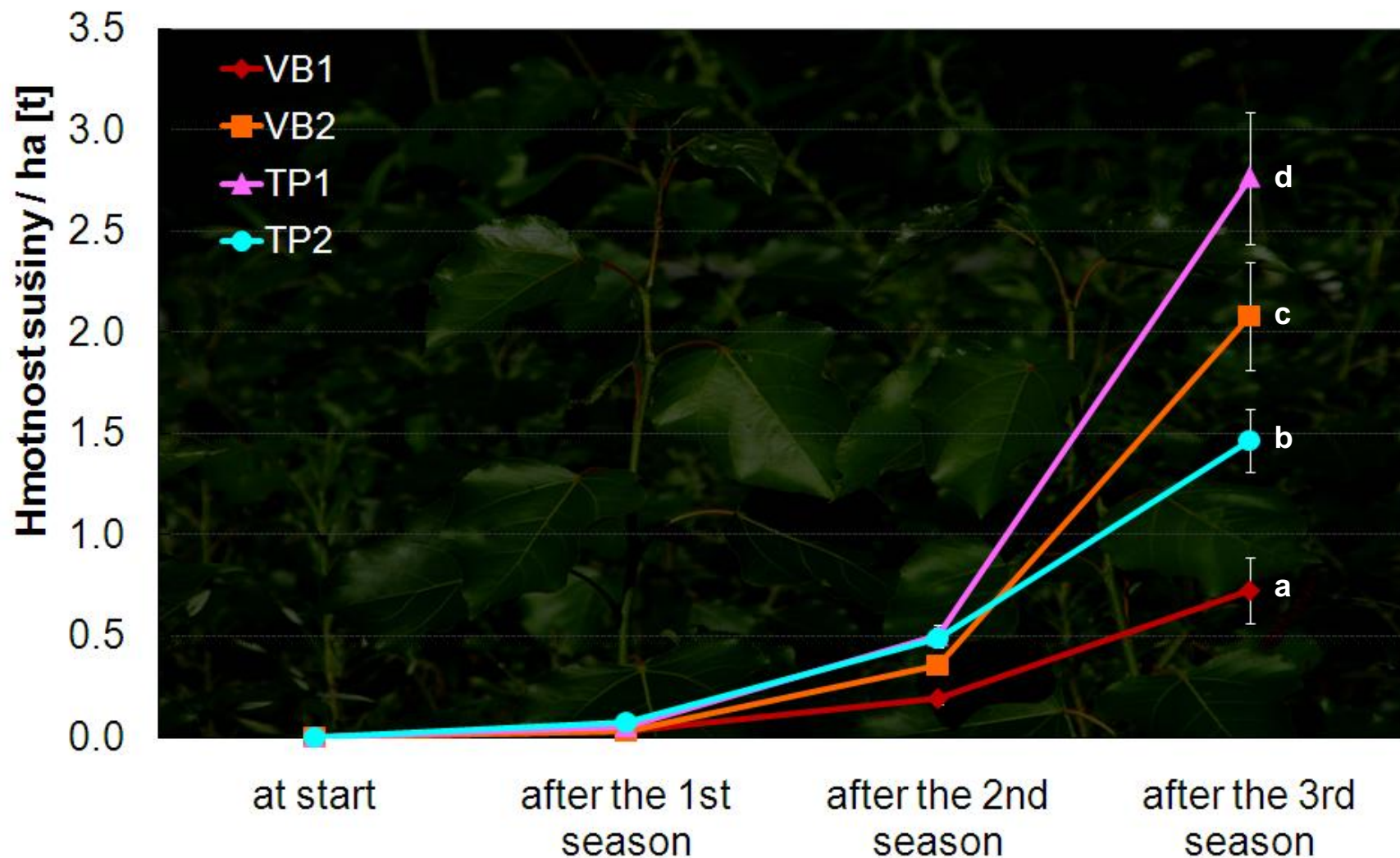
Fertilized (H) – 75t/ha sewage sludge (~ cca 400kg N/ha a 60kg P/ha)

Inoculated (M) – fungal mixture (4EcM,3AM), some native

Inoculated and fertilized (MH) – both M and H

<u>Code</u>	<u>Clone</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Origin</u>
VB1	(<i>Salix viminalis</i> x <i>S. schwerinii</i>) x <i>S. viminalis</i> Tordis	female	Sweeden
VB2	<i>S. x smithiana</i> Willd. S-218	female	CR
TP1	<i>Populus nigra</i> L. × <i>P. maximowiczii</i> Max 4	female	Japan
TP2	<i>P. nigra</i> L. Woltersen	female	Netherland

Biomass production: „komín“ 2008-2010

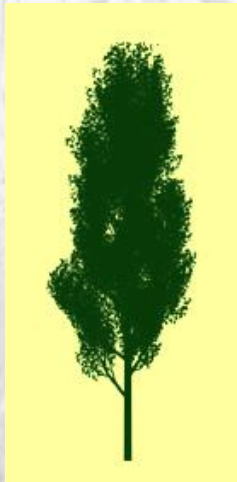


Plantation „Litavka“



Phytoremediation efficacy

RE quantity removed by
biomass [g/ha*rok]



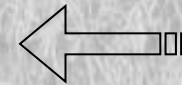
control



Cd 70
Pb 50
Zn 270



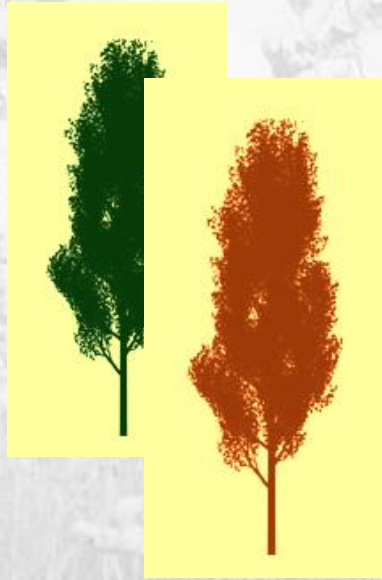
Cd 130
Pb 120
Zn 580



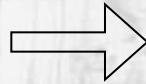
**Fertilization
+inoculation**

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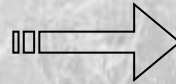
Phytoremediation balance



**Plantation
establishment**



**Fertilization
+inoculation**



**Biomass
harvest +
incineration**

After 25y:

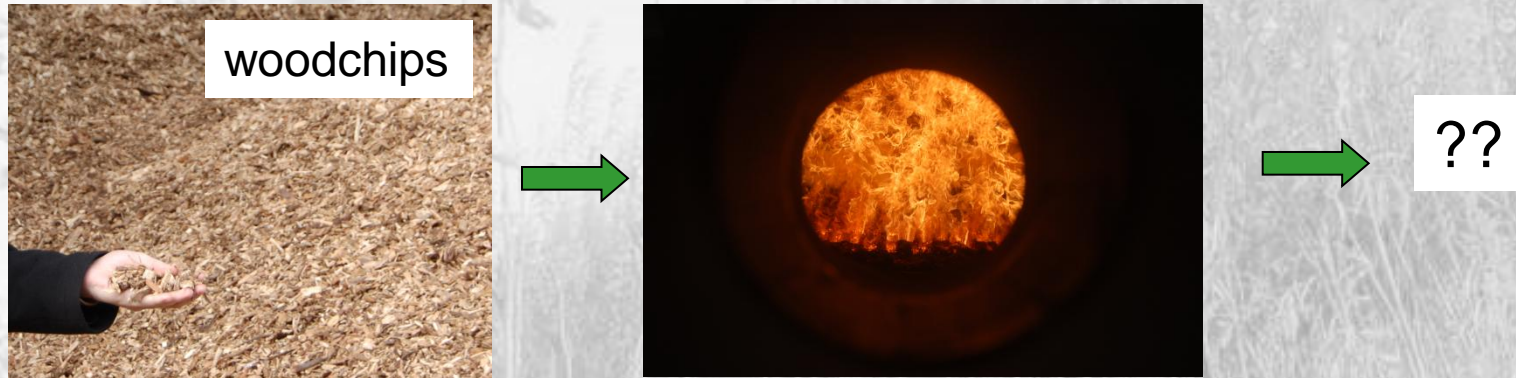


Cd 4kg/ha
Zn 20kg/ha
Pb 4kg/ha

Share of total soil RE pool

Cd ~15%
Zn ~2%
Pb ~0.1%

Incineration of contaminated biomass



- by filtering of flue gas **most risk elements may be removed**
- filtering by cyclone filters may not be sufficient and in moderate to high contamination levels the sleeve filters are required

Conclusions

- symbiotic fungi may modulate flow of risk elements from soil to plants
- selection of tree clones is most influential factor on biomass yield in field
- sewage sludge is convenient energy plantations fertilizer
- incineration of contaminated biomass is safe provided the efficient filtering of flue gas
- growing energy plantations on contaminated land represents feasible use of such land; however, the soil remediation is slow and inefficient

Thank you for your attention!

