



# Residue

Risk reduction of chemical residues in soils and crops:  
impact due to wastewater used for irrigation

## BIOAVAILABILITY OF ORGANIC CHEMICALS IN SOILS AND SEDIMENTS: POTENTIAL REGULATORY ASPECTS?

José Julio Ortega Calvo, IRNAS-CSIC, 26 April 2022

*[jjortega@irnase.csic.es](mailto:jjortega@irnase.csic.es)*

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Bioavailability  
Science to  
Regulation

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## From Bioavailability Science to Regulation of Organic Chemicals

Jose-J. Ortega-Calvo,<sup>\*,†</sup> Joop Harmsen,<sup>‡</sup> John R. Parsons,<sup>§</sup> Kirk T. Semple,<sup>||</sup> Michael D. Aitken,<sup>⊥</sup> Chamaine Ajao,<sup>#</sup> Charles Eadsforth,<sup>∇</sup> Malyka Galay-Burgos,<sup>○</sup> Ravi Naidu,<sup>◆</sup> Robin Oliver,<sup>‡</sup> Willie J. G. M. Peijnenburg,<sup>∞,\*</sup> Jörg Römbke,<sup>⊗</sup> Georg Streck,<sup>✦</sup> and Bram Versnoken<sup>#</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Instituto de Recursos Naturales y Agrobiología de Sevilla (IRNAS-CSIC), Apartado 1052, E-41080-Seville, Spain

<sup>‡</sup>Alterra-Wageningen UR, P.O. Box 47, 6700 AA Wageningen, The Netherlands

<sup>§</sup>Institute for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Dynamics (IBED), University of Amsterdam, P.O. Box 94240, 1092 GE Amsterdam, The Netherlands

<sup>||</sup>Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University, LA1 4YQ Lancaster, United Kingdom

<sup>⊥</sup>Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 27599-7431 North Carolina, United States

<sup>#</sup>European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), Annankatu 18, 00120 Helsinki, Finland

<sup>∇</sup>Shell Health, Brabazon House, Thrapwood Road, Concord Business Park, M22 9PS Manchester, United Kingdom

<sup>○</sup>European Centre for Ecotoxicology and Toxicology of Chemicals (ECETOC), 2 Avenue E. van Nieuwenhuysse (Bte 8), B-1160 Brussels, Belgium

<sup>◆</sup>University of Newcastle and CRC CARE, University Drive, NSW 2308 Callaghan, Australia

<sup>‡</sup>Syngenta, Jealott's Hill International Research Centre, Bracknell, Berkshire, United Kingdom

<sup>∞</sup>National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), Center for Safety of Substances and Products, 3720 BA Bilthoven, The Netherlands

<sup>\*</sup>Institute of Environmental Sciences (CML), Leiden University, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands

<sup>⊗</sup>ECT Oekotoxikologie GmbH, Böttgerstr. 2-14, D-65439 Flörsheim, Germany

<sup>✦</sup>European Commission, DG for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, REACH Unit, B-1049 Bruxelles, Belgium

ES&T (2015) 49, 10255-10264

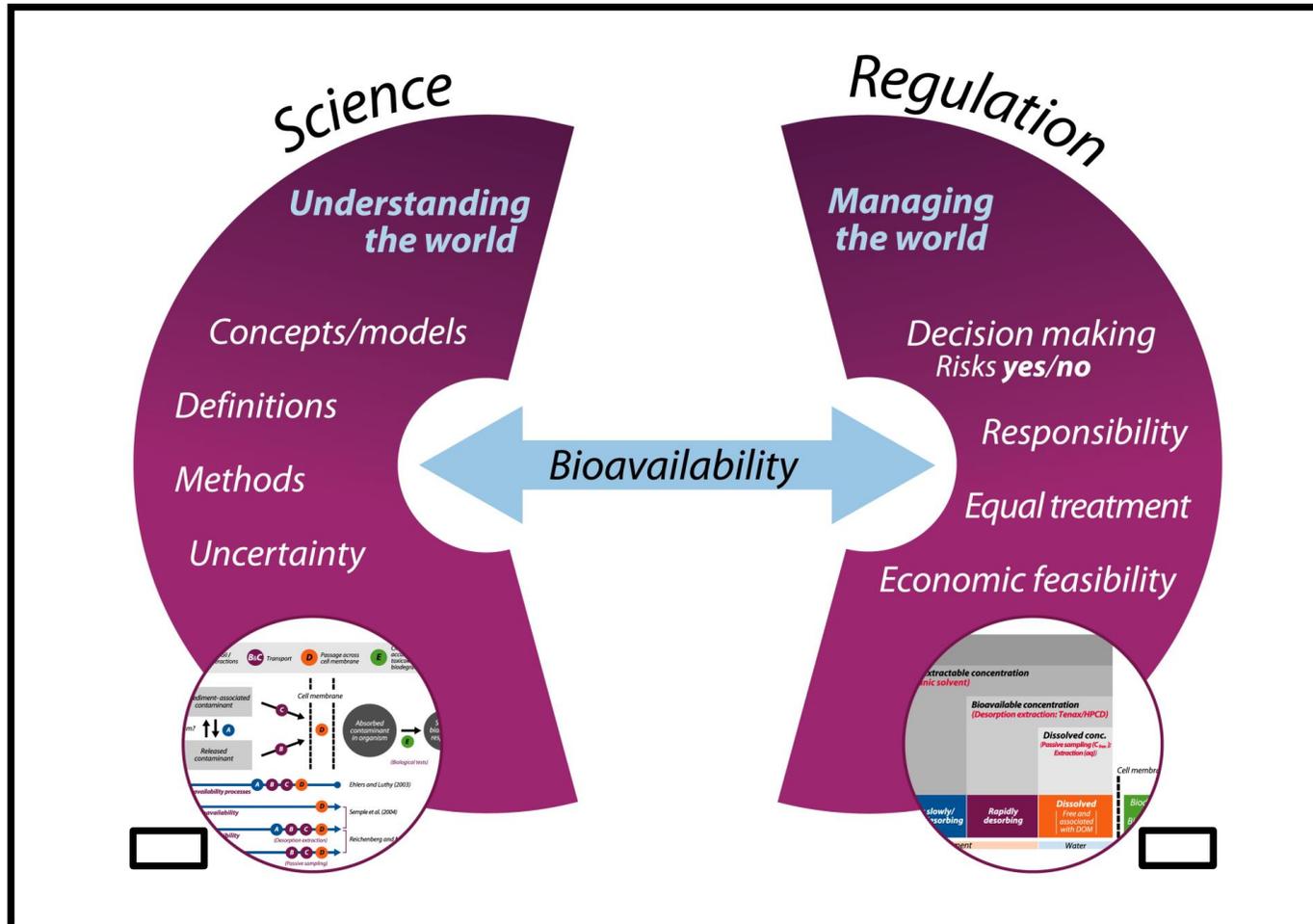


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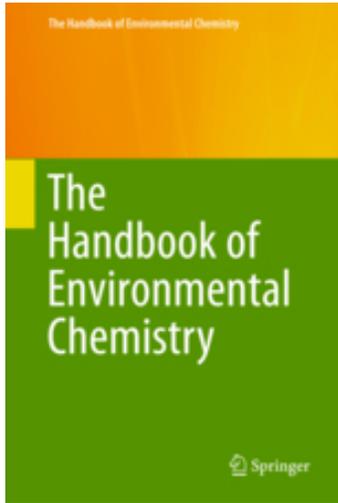
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# BRINGING DIFFERENT WORLDS TOGETHER



Ortega-Calvo et al. ES&T, 2015. 49, 10255-10264

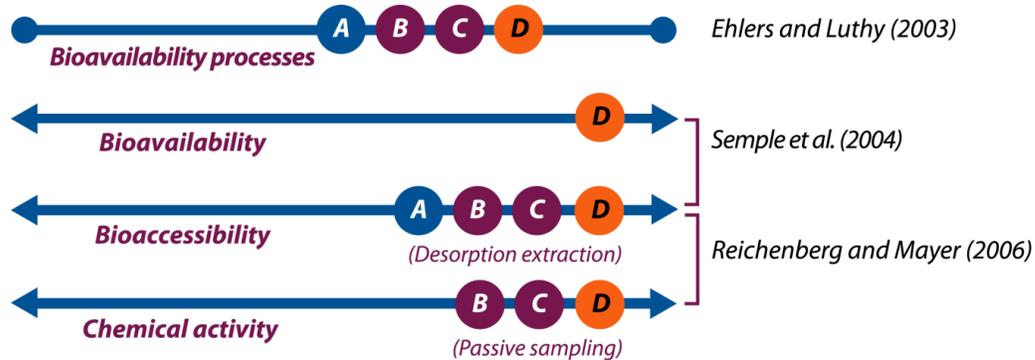
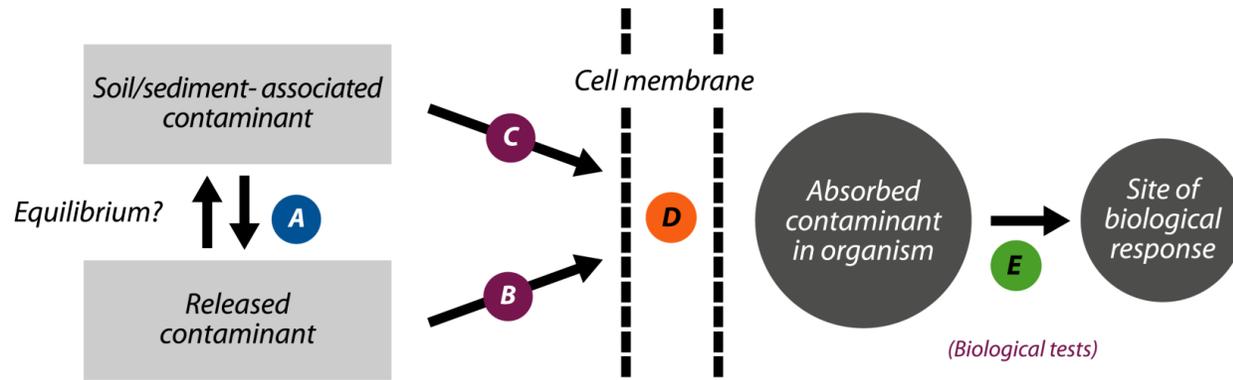
## BIOAVAILABILITY OF ORGANIC CHEMICALS IN SOIL AND SEDIMENT



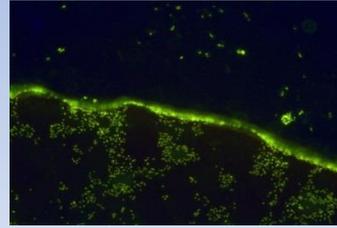
- **Editors:**  
J.J. Ortega-Calvo (CSIC) & J. R. Parsons (UvA)
- **16 chapters on:**
  - Chemical distribution in soil and sediment
  - Bioavailability and bioaccumulation
  - Impact of sorption processes on toxicity, persistence and remediation
  - Methods for measuring bioavailability
  - Bioavailability in chemical risk assessment
- **Publication: May 2020**

# BIOAVAILABILITY SCIENCE

- A** Contaminant soil / sediment interactions
- B&C** Transport
- D** Passage across cell membrane
- E** Circulation within organism, accumulation in target organ, toxicokinetics, toxic effects, biodegradation



## ADHESION

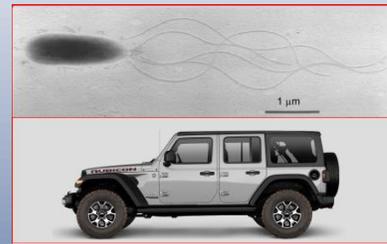
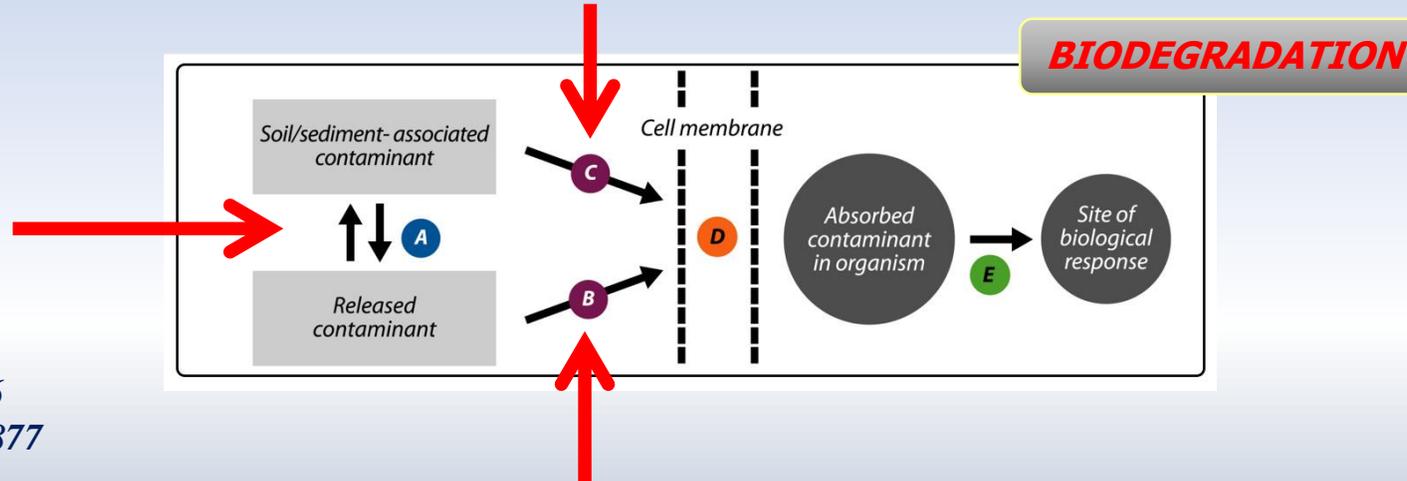


*ES&T 2011, 45:1074-1081*  
*ES&T 2017, 51:11935-11942*

## SOLUBILIZATION



*ES&T 2011, 45:3019-3026*  
*ES&T 2014, 48:10869-10877*



## MOBILIZATION

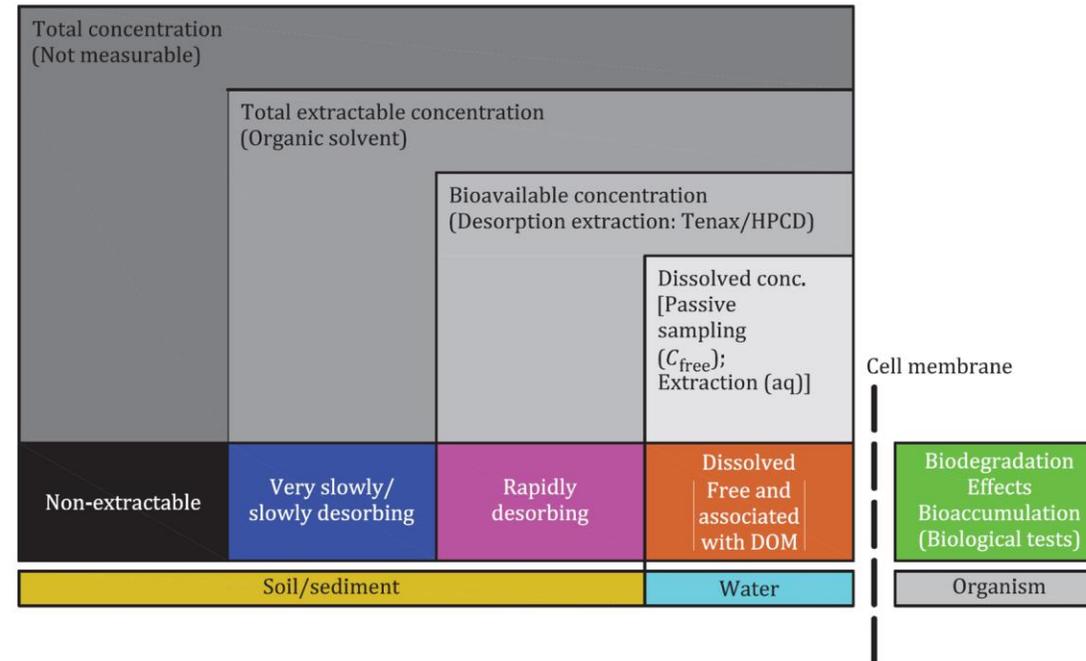
*ES&T 2008, 42:1131-1137*  
*ES&T 2015, 49:4498-4505*  
*ES&T 2016, 50:7633-7640*  
*ES&T 2018, 52:10673-10679*

**Soil quality — Environmental availability of non-polar organic compounds — Determination of the potentially bioavailable fraction and the non-bioavailable fraction using a strong adsorbent or complexing agent**

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO 16751

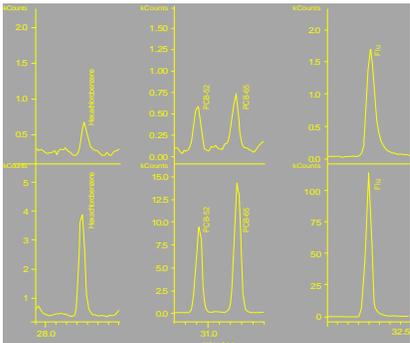
First edition  
2020-06



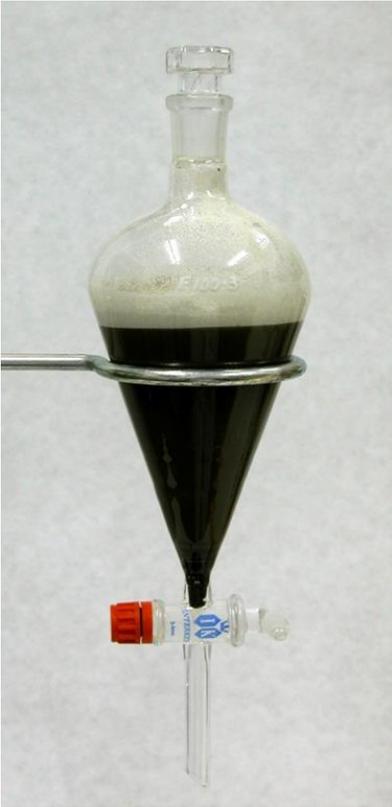
**Figure 2 — Measurement of bioavailability of organic chemicals: a simplified scheme for use in regulation** [Source: Ortega-Calvo et al. (2015)]

# PASSIVE SAMPLING UPDATE

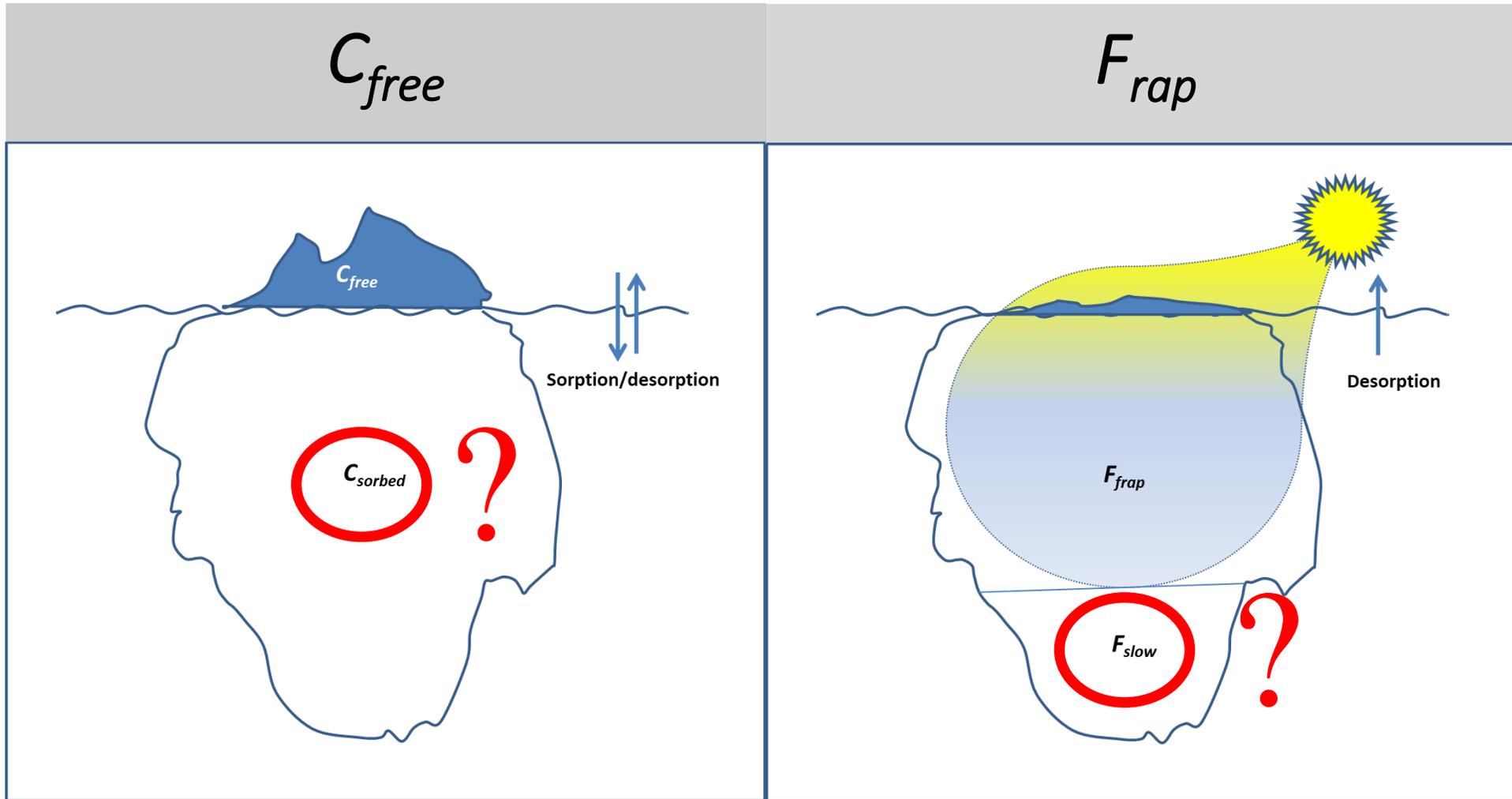
- Non-depletive, equilibrium based
- Solid polymers: polydimethylsiloxane, polyethylene, polyoxymethylene, polyacrylate, silicone rubber, as fibers or membranes
- In situ or ex situ
- Bioavailability defined as  $C_{free}$ , obtained at equilibrium (weeks), calculated from polymer-to-water partitioning coefficient
- Basis for bioaccumulation predictions based on EqP, for sediment toxicity/test exposures, and for sediment remediation goals (through  $K_{oc}$ )
- No standard method available



# DESORPTION EXTRACTION UPDATE



- ISO method (ISO/TS 16751) with Tenax and cyclodextrin available for non-polar OCs since 2018, soon as a full standard
- Bioavailable fraction as  $F_{rap}$ , obtained in a single step (20 h)
- Expressed in mass units: mg/kg d.m.
- Applicable to compounds with aqueous solubility  $<100$  mg/L ( $K_{ow} > 3$ ), theoretically applicable up to 1 000 mg/L
- Validated with PAHs and polychlorinated aromatics (PCBs, HCB, etc.)
- Better support from two-site model and perfect-sink assumption for Tenax, than for cyclodextrin



Ortega-Calvo, 2019. Environmental Toxicology, an open online textbook. Chapter 3.6.2. Assessing available concentrations of organic chemicals.  
[https://maken.wikiwijs.nl/147644/Environmental\\_Toxicology\\_\\_an\\_open\\_online\\_textbook#!page-5496229](https://maken.wikiwijs.nl/147644/Environmental_Toxicology__an_open_online_textbook#!page-5496229)

# ARE $C_{free}$ AND $F_{rap}$ METHODS COMPLEMENTARY?

	$C_{free}$	$F_{rap}$
Time for performance	weeks	hours
Preferable scenario	sediment	soil (?)
Applicability	in/ex-situ	ex-situ
Output	ng/L	mg/kg
Standard	No	Yes
Included in regulation	Yes	No

# BIOAVAILABILITY: REGULATION



RETROSPECTIVE  
RISK  
ASSESSMENT &  
MANAGEMENT

# DEVELOPING REMEDIATION TARGETS

- State-of-the-art bioavailability science of passive sampling in site-specific procedures
- Refinement of sediment OC-based  $C_{free}$  estimations (first tier) vs sediment toxicity testing:

$$C_{free} = (C_s / f_{oc}) / K_{oc} = C_{soc} / K_{oc}$$

- Second tier: determining actual  $C_{free}$  with PS to derive site-specific  $K_{oc}$  values
- Remediation targets for  $C_s$  based on desired  $C_{free}$  from toxicity criteria



EPA/600/R-15/289 | October 2017 | www.epa.gov/research

Developing Sediment Remediation Goals at Superfund Sites Based on Pore Water for the Protection of Benthic Organisms from Direct Toxicity to Non-ionic Organic Contaminants



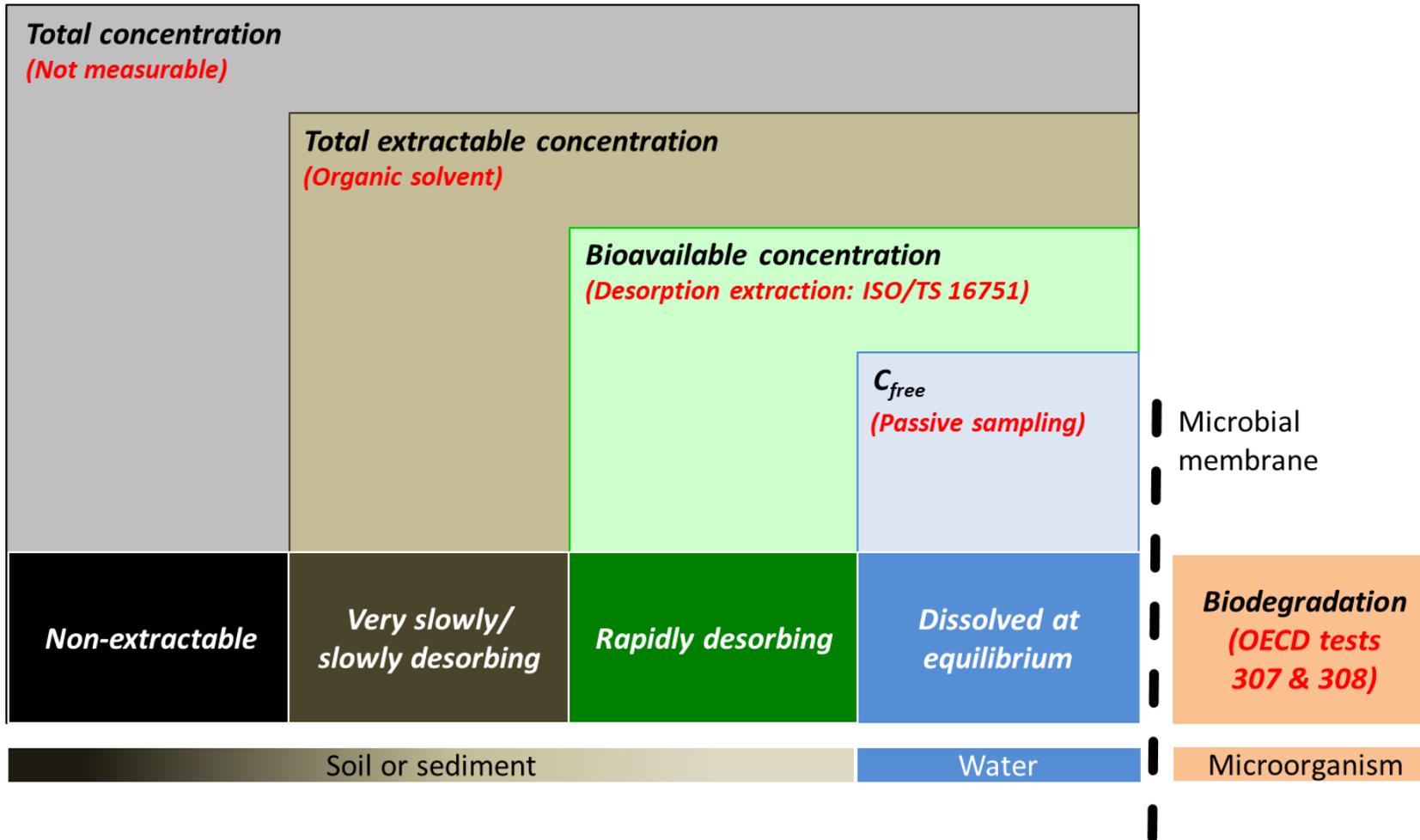
Office of Research and Development  
National Human and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory

# BIOAVAILABILITY: REGULATION



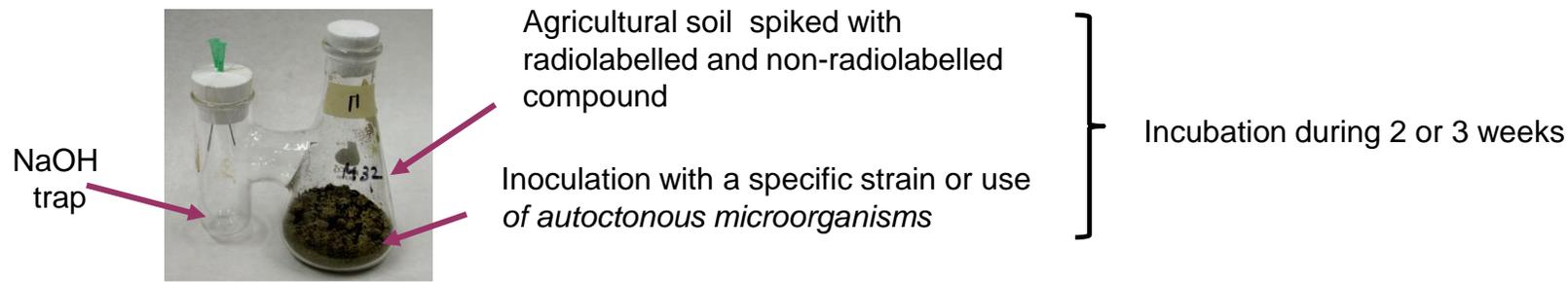
**PROSPECTIVE RISK ASSESSMENT**

# BIOAVAILABILITY-BASED IMPROVEMENTS ON pRA - PERSISTENCE



# Experiments in our laboratory to the integration of bioavailability assessments in standardized procedures for monitoring the biological transformation of organic chemicals in soil: PRIMA RESIDUE PROJECT

## 1. Approach to study mineralization and biodegradation by OECD 307 method

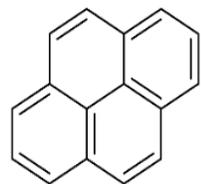


## 2. Bioavailability assessments at different stages of this incubation using a standardized method (ISO 16751:2020) or a adaptation of it depending on compound used in every case

### ISO METHOD 16751

COMPOUNDS WITH LOG KOW > 3 (pyrene)

- 2 g spiked soil
- 35 mL. of Mili-Q water
- Biocide (sodium azide)
- 0,7 gr. of Tenax® (60-80 mesh) by Buchem BV

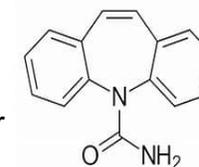


1<sup>o</sup> step: extraction at 20 h

### ADAPTED ISO METHOD 16751

CARBAMAZEPINE LOG K<sub>OW</sub> = 2,7

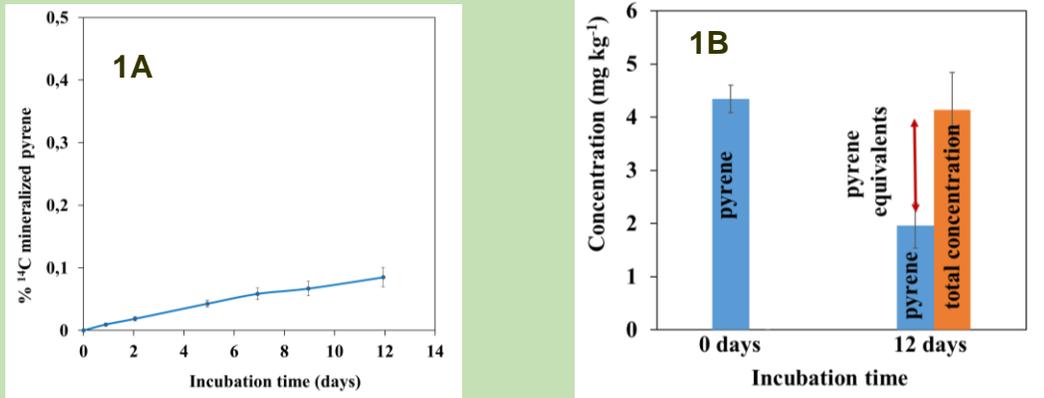
- 1 g spiked soil
- 35 mL. of Mili-Q water
- Biocide (sodium azide)
- 1,5 gr. of Tenax® (60-80 mesh) by Buchem BV



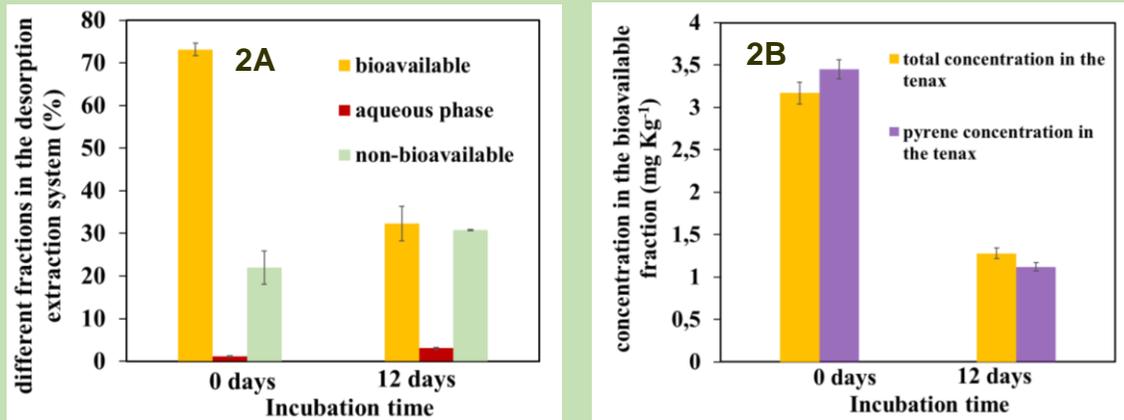
Acetone/ hexane (shaking during 24 h) ← 2<sup>o</sup> step: Extraction from receiver phase → methanol (several sonication and centrifugation) (tenax)

3<sup>o</sup> step: after the extraction with tenax the residual soil is analysed by combustion in an oxidizer

## PYRENE



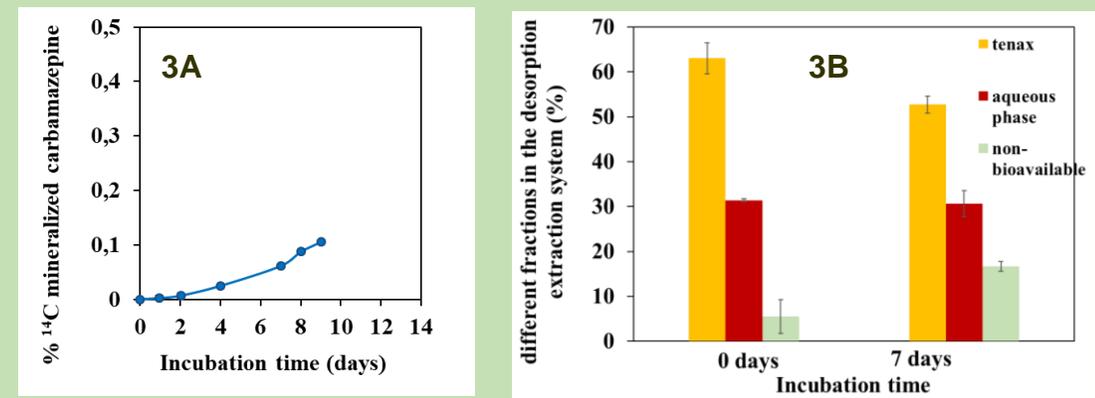
**Figure 1:** (A) Mineralization by *P. putida* G7 of <sup>14</sup>C-pyrene added to a sterilized agricultural soil. Mineralization was less than 0,2 %, indicating a cometabolic transformation. (B) Initial and final concentrations of pyrene and the pyrene equivalents (transformation products). The biodegradation in this experiment was 47,3 %. With the analysis of soil at final time by combustion in a oxidazer, we can assume that pyrene has been transformed to metabolites in a 52,65 %.



**Figure 2:** (A) Determination of the phase distribution in our system of the 14C-labelled parent compound and metabolites among soil, water and Tenax. In the case of pyrene, only 3 % were present as hydrophilic transformation products that were not trapped by Tenax but partitioned into the water. The rest remained as non-bioavailable residues. The bioavailable pyrene fraction in soil decreased as long as cometabolism proceeded, which can be also corroborated with the combined use of liquid scintillation and HPLC fractionation and we can assumed that only the pyrene is present in the tenax and not the metabolites formed in the process of cometabolism (B).

These results indicate that cometabolism decreased efficiently the risks from pyrene in the soil.

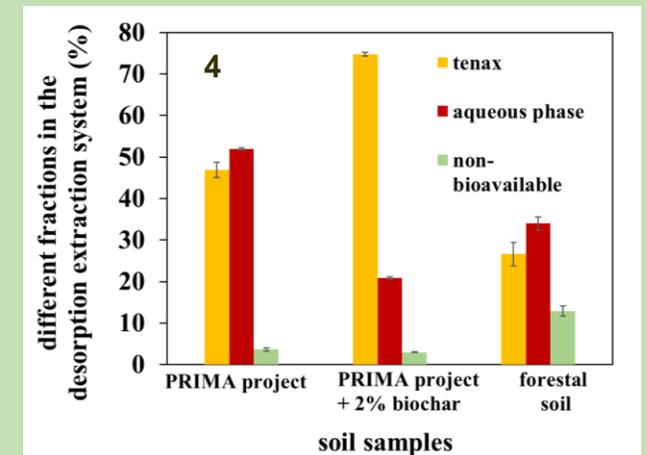
## CARBAMAZEPINE



**Figure 3:** (A) Mineralization of <sup>14</sup>C-carbamazepine added to a non-sterilized and non inoculated agricultural soil.

(B) Determination of the phase distribution in this system of the 14C-labelled compound among soil, water and Tenax. In the case of carbamazepine the bioavailable fraction will be the sum of water fraction and tenax fraction

**Figure 4:** Bioavailability assessments of carbamazepine in different soil samples using the adapted method (ISO 16751:2020)



## CONCLUSIONS

- Total pollutant concentrations lead to overestimation of risk, but more realistic assessments can be done by incorporating bioavailability
- Bioavailability science is ready for use in regulation of organic chemicals
- Bioavailability can be measured through  $C_{free}$  or  $F_{rap}$ , each with pros and cons
- Proposal for integrating in pRA (OECD 307 and 308)

# Many thanks for your attention

*[jjortega@irnase.csic.es](mailto:jjortega@irnase.csic.es)*

Instituto de Recursos Naturales y Agrobiología de Sevilla (IRNAS-CSIC)

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