

# POnTE

PEST ORGANISMS THREATENING EUROPE

## XF-ACTORS

XYLELLA FASTIDIOSA ACTIVE CONTAINMENT  
THROUGH A MULTIDISCIPLINARY-ORIENTED RESEARCH STRATEGY

## 2<sup>ND</sup> JOINT ANNUAL MEETING



Xylella Fastidiosa Active Containment Through a  
multidisciplinary-Oriented Research Strategy

## BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

### VALENCIA, 23–26 OCTOBER 2018

INSTITUTO VALENCIANO DE INVESTIGACIONES AGRARIAS (IVIA)  
46113 MONCADA (VALENCIA), SPAIN

## 2<sup>ND</sup> JOINT ANNUAL MEETING

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# APHROPHORIDAE DYNAMIC AND FEEDING PREFERENCE FOR PLANTS IN NATURAL GROUND COVER IN OLIVE GROVES FROM TRÁS-OS-MONTES

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*Xylella fastidiosa* was recently detected in several regions of Europe. This phytopathogenic bacterium infects multiple plants species, among them important crops such as the olive tree. Insects belonging to Aphrophoridae are the main potential vectors of *X. fastidiosa* in Europe. These insects are in general highly polyphagous, however they may prefer different plant species or families of plants. Currently *X. fastidiosa* has not been detected in Portugal but constitutes a serious risk since has been recently found in several regions from the Iberian Peninsula. Particularly, the olive orchard suffers important damages in other regions from Europe and the knowledge about potential vectors dynamics and feeding preferences is crucial for establishing prevention and control strategies. In this context, the preference for plants in natural ground cover and the dynamic of Aphrophoridae nymphs in olive orchards from Portugal was studied. The work was accomplished during springs 2017 and 2018 in two olive orchards. One of them was partially burned in 2016 and presented natural ground cover vegetation abnormally vigorous and the other was under integrated production. The number of plants with foams, the number of foams per plant, its position in the plant and the number of nymphs per foam were recorded. More than 90 plant species belonging to around 18 plant families were identified. One year after the fire, in 2017, more than 85% of the foams were observed in the post-fire orchard, with more ground cover by Fabaceae and less by Poaceae than the integrated orchard. In 2018 the Aphrophoridae abundance dramatically decreased. Foams were found mainly in plants belonging to Asteraceae and Fabaceae. Several plant families never presented foams. The obtained results will allow design a more efficient management of the vegetation ground cover with the goal of decrease the risk of infection with *X. fastidiosa* in Portuguese olive orchards.