

# Ozone effects on vegetation and ecosystems

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Ecotoxicology of Air Pollution - CIEMAT



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Centro de Investigaciones  
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y Tecnológicas

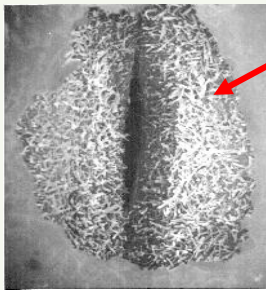
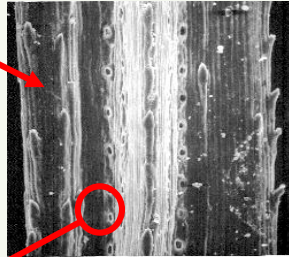


**Workshop on air quality policy implementation related to ozone**  
Madrid, 21-22 November 2018

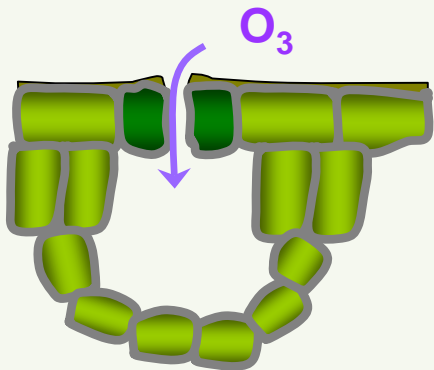
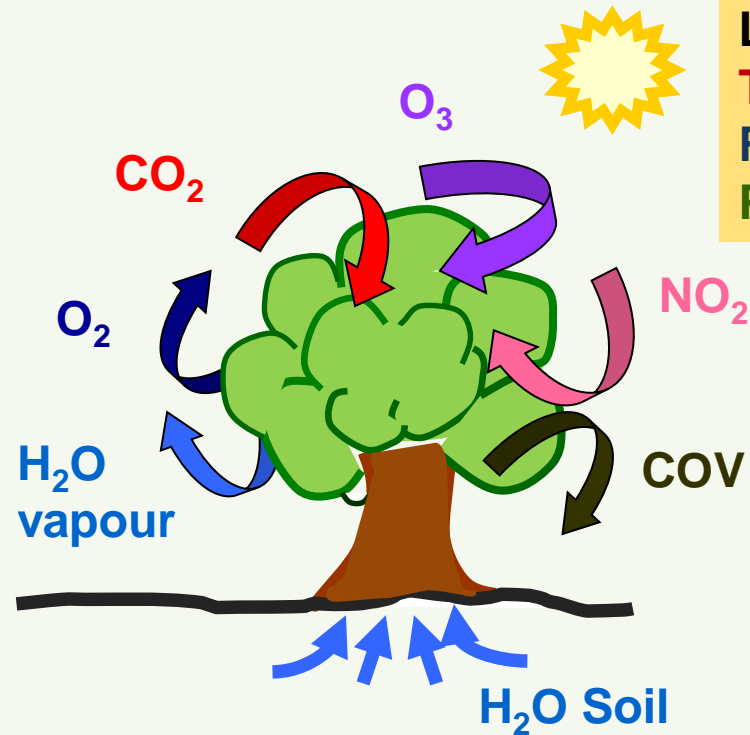
## Outline:

- Ozone effects on vegetation and ecosystems
- Ozone standards for the protection of vegetation
- Current challenges for improving O<sub>3</sub> risk assessments

# Effects of ozone on vegetation



Stomata



Formation of reactive oxygen species (ROS)

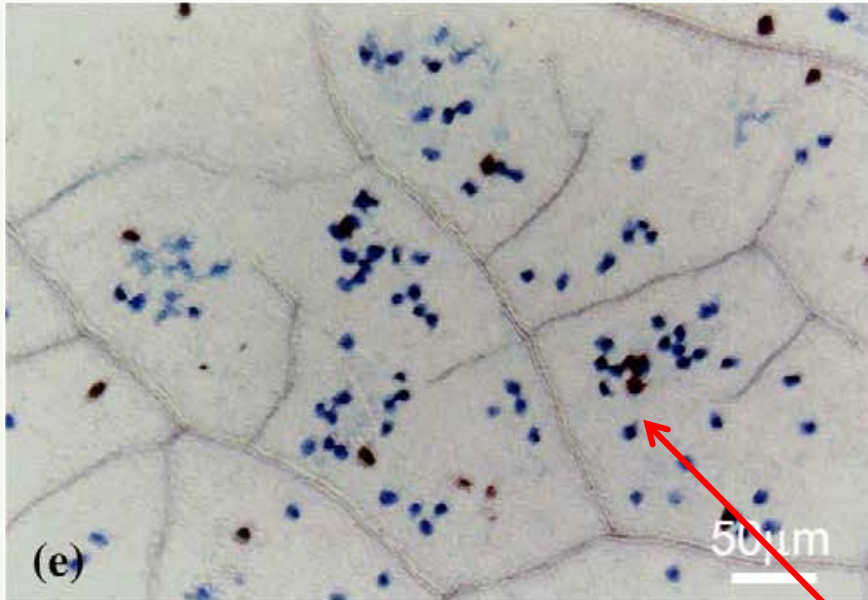


## Effects on cellular metabolism:

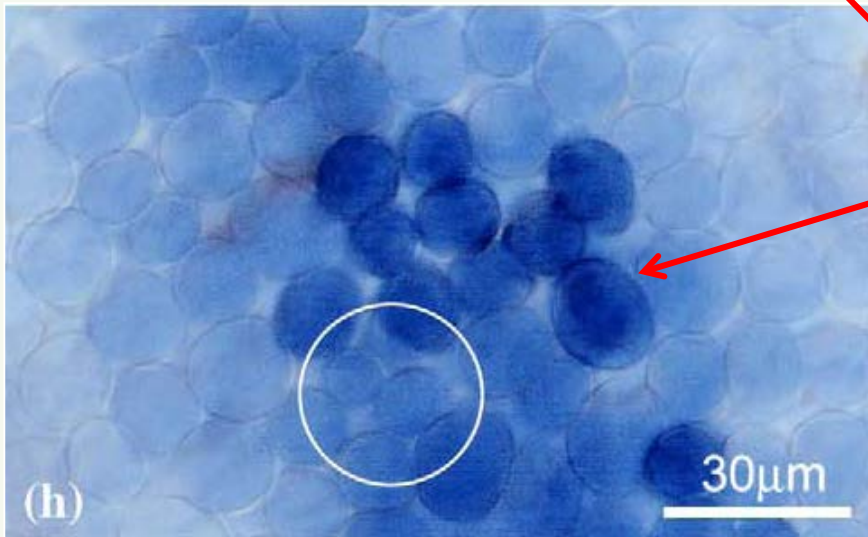
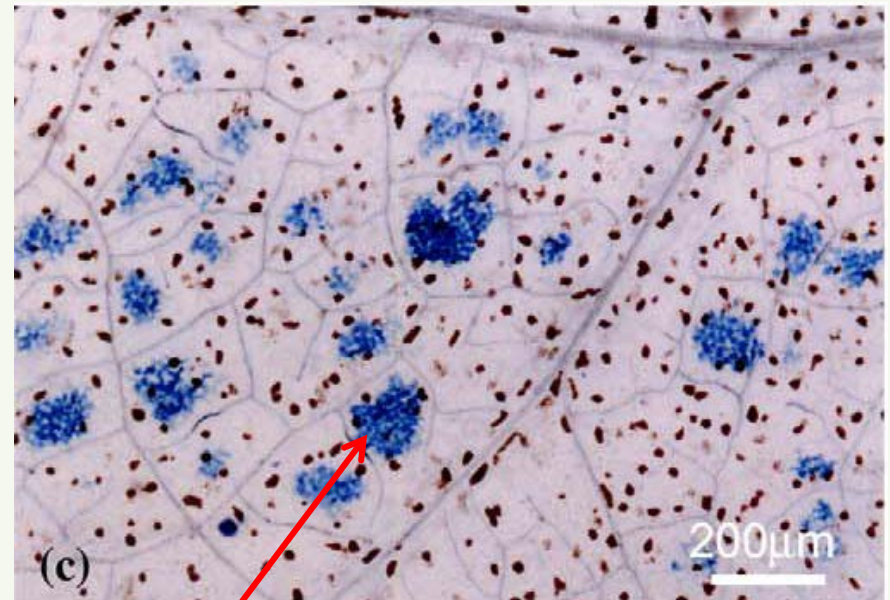
- Alteration of membrane functioning
- Cell oxidative stress
- Variation of stomata functioning
- Changes in C / N metabolism
- Tolerance / cell death

# Effects of ozone on vegetation

50 ppb O<sub>3</sub>



80 ppb O<sub>3</sub>



**Cell death**

*Lycopersicon pimpinellifolium*

Iriti et al., 2006, *Env. Pol.*

# Effects of ozone on vegetation

## Visible symptoms



Tobacco var. Well W3



Lettuce var. Romana



Bean var. Lit



Spinach



Aleppo pine

Clover



→ + Ozone

# Effects of ozone on vegetation

## Early senescence



Ambient  
+ 40 ppb O<sub>3</sub>

Ambient  
+ 20 ppb O<sub>3</sub>

Ambient  
Air

Filtered  
Air

+ Ozone

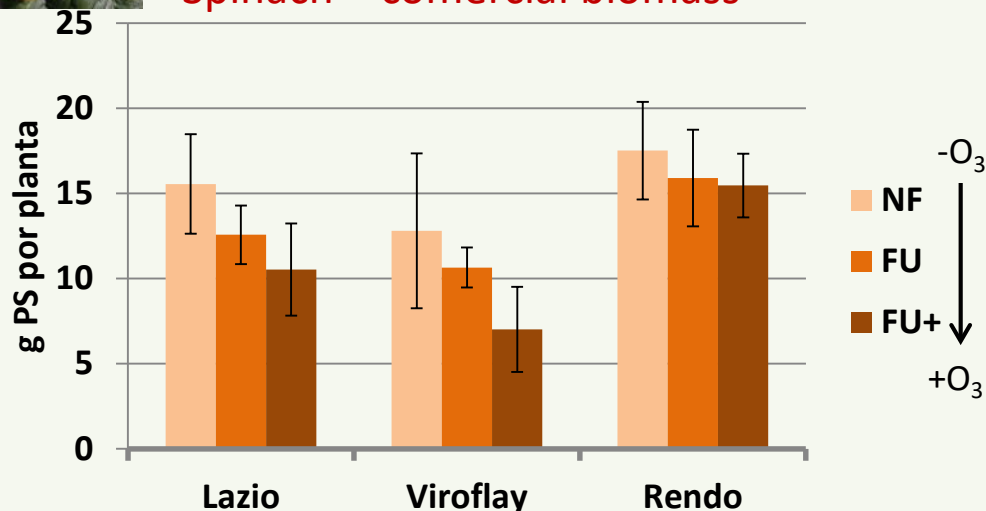


- Ozone

# Effects of ozone on vegetation

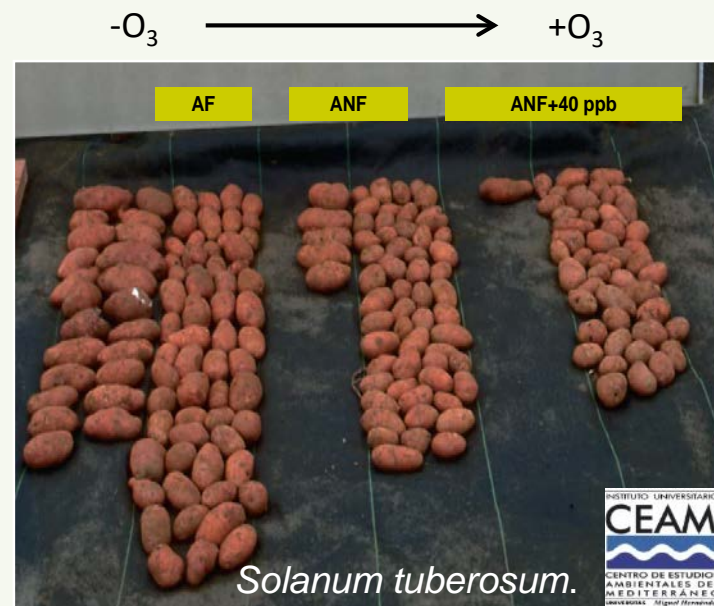
## Decrease in growth / production / quality

### Spinach – comercial biomass



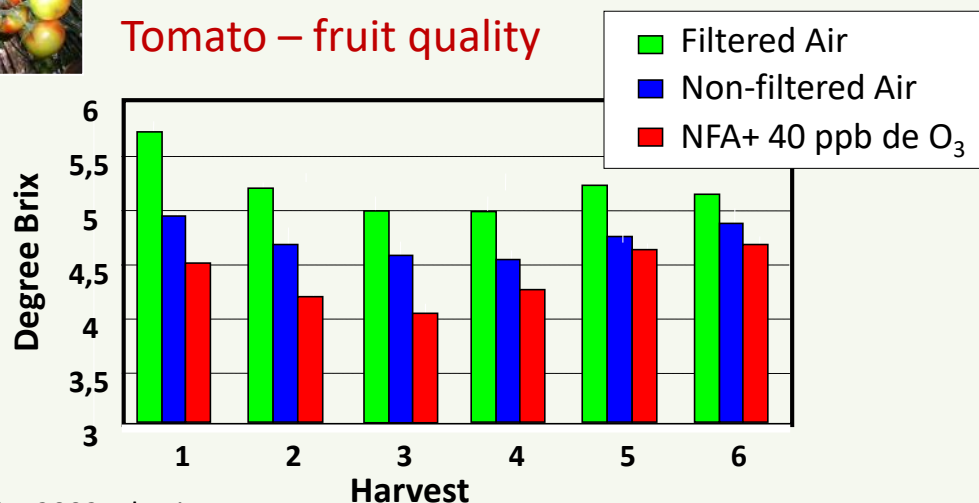
González-Fernández et al., 2016, *Agric. Eco. Env.*

### Potato - production



Calvo et al., 2009, *Agric. Eco. Env.*

### Tomato – fruit quality



Bermejo, 2002, Thesis

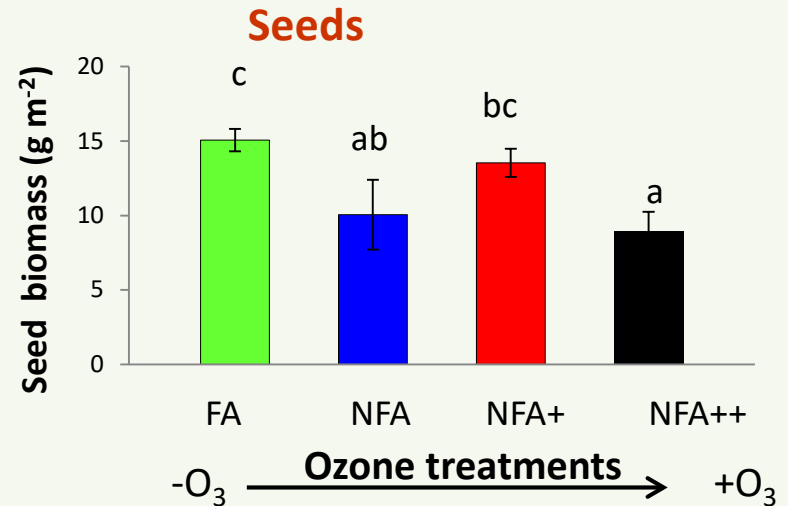
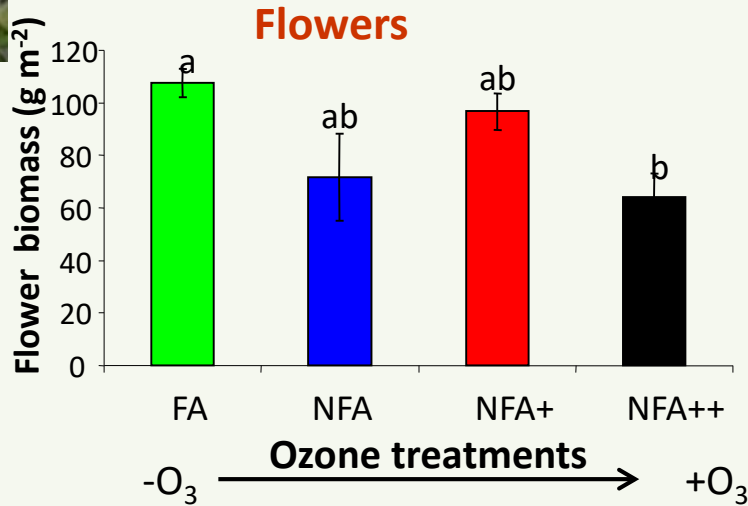
- |            |        |         |
|------------|--------|---------|
| watermelon | wheat  | vine    |
| bean       | corn   | rape    |
| tomato     | rice   | pea     |
| lettuce    | soja   | cabbage |
| spinach    | peanut | tobacco |
| artichoke  | melon  |         |

# Effects of ozone on vegetation

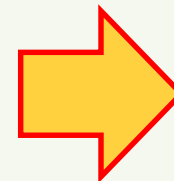
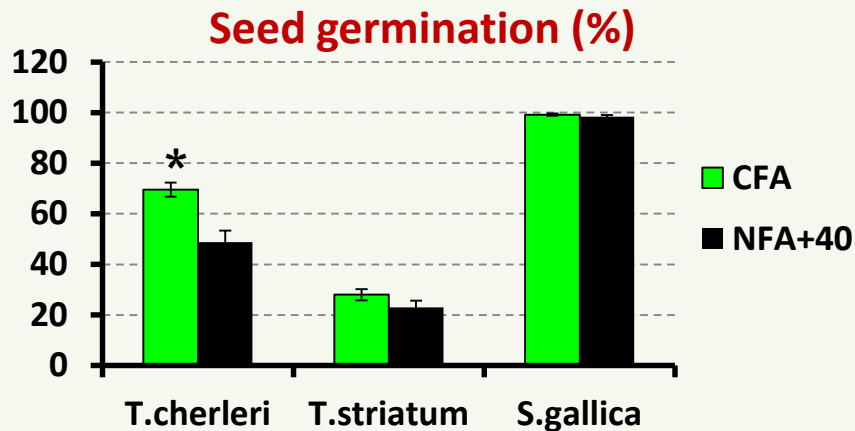
## Reduction in flower and seed production



*Trifolium striatum*



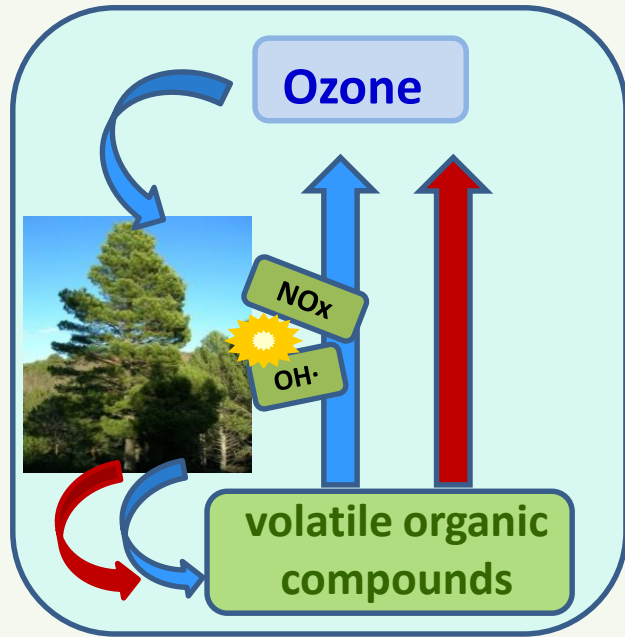
Calvete-Sogo, 2016, Thesis



**Changes in communities**



# Effects of ozone on ecosystems



- Changes in emissions of biogenic volatile organic compounds
- Degradation of floral scent and reduction of pollinator attraction to flowers

Farré-Armengol et al. (2015)

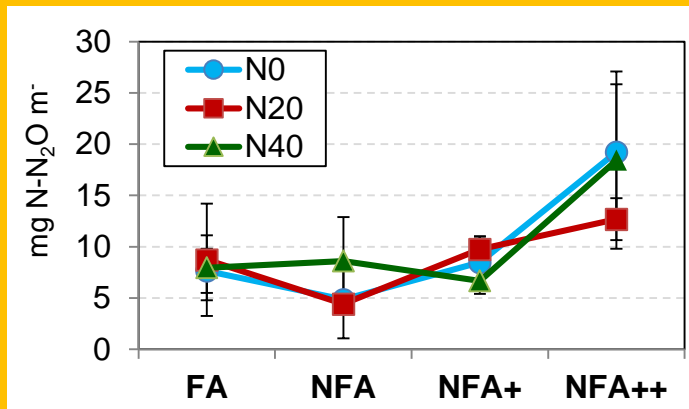


## Increase in soil $N_2O$ emissions



annual pastures

Sánchez-Martín et al. (2017)



$-O_3$  →  $+O_3$

GHG



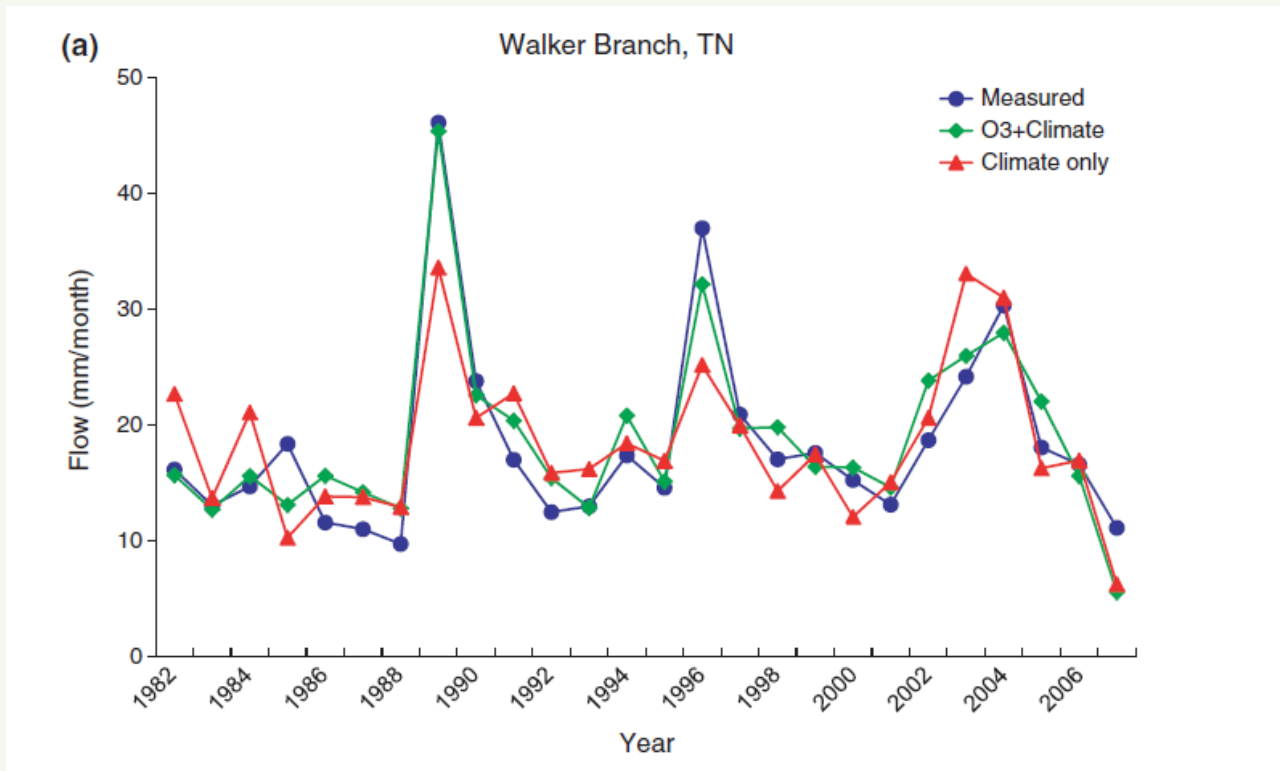
Climate change



Changes in soil communities and biogeochemistry

# Effects of ozone on ecosystems

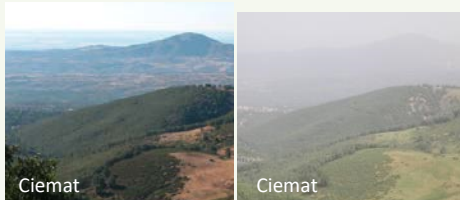
Predispose to drought stress /  
changes in ecosystem hydrological relationships



# Effects of ozone on vegetation and ecosystems



- Visible symptoms
- Early senescence
- Decrease in growth
- Decrease in production/quality
- Decrease in flowers/seeds
- Changes in communities
- Predispose plant to other stress: pests, drought
- Changes in atmospheric chemistry
- Changes in ecosystem hydrology
- Contributing to the smog



## Effects on ecosystem services

- ✓ Reducing **provisioning services**: crops, timber, genetic resources, **water**
- ✓ Affecting **regulating services**: **reducing C sequestration, climate regulation, water regulation, erosion, pollination, pest control**
- ✓ Changes in biodiversity: **supporting services**

# Control of tropospheric ozone



## European Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC)

### Target value for the protection of vegetation (2010)

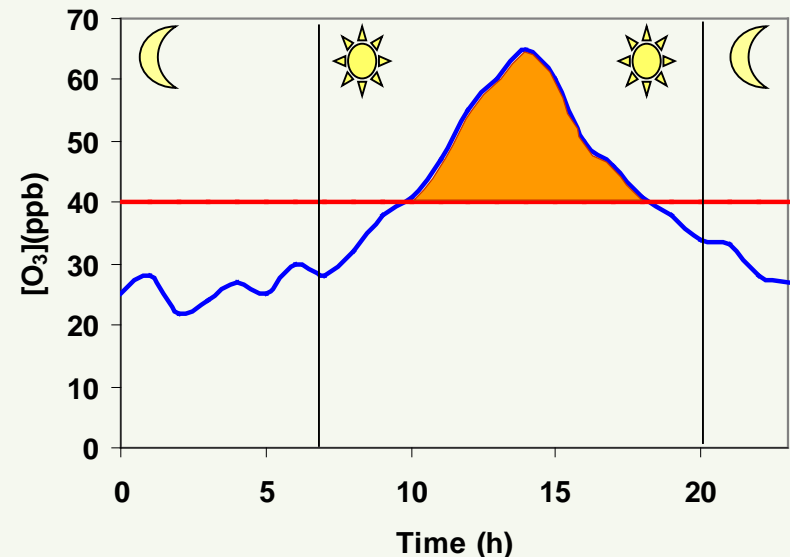
AOT40 **9000 ppb.h** accumulated over 3 months (May-July) averaged over 5 years

### Long-term objective for the protection of vegetation

AOT40 **3000 ppb.h** accumulated over 3 months (May-July)

### Accumulated exposure index AOT40:

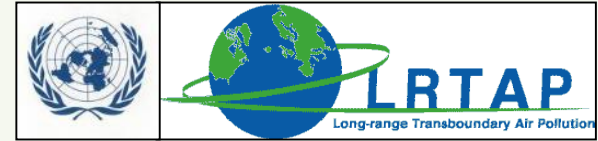
the sum of the difference between hourly concentrations greater than 40 ppb ( $80 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) and 40 ppb between 8:00h and 20:00h (CET) over a given period May-July



# Control of tropospheric ozone

## Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP, UNECE)

- Since 1979. Including 51 member States.
- Objective: gradually reduce and prevent air pollution in the region to improve air quality on the local, national and regional levels
- Effects oriented approach

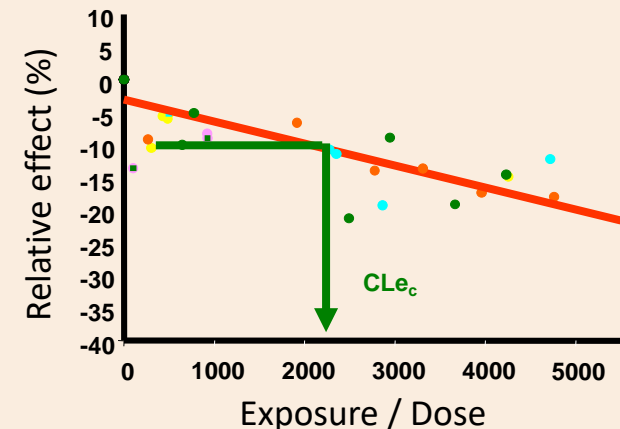


- International research programme investigating the impacts of air pollutants
- Establishing ozone critical levels

### Critical level:

concentration, cumulative exposure or cumulative stomatal flux of atmospheric pollutants above which direct adverse effects on sensitive vegetation may occur according to present knowledge

(1<sup>st</sup> definition CLRTAP 1996)



# Ozone critical levels



3 types of vegetation:

- Crops
- Semi-natural vegetation
- Forests

## Manual on Methodologies and Criteria for Modelling and Mapping Critical Loads and Levels and Air Pollution Effects, Risks and Trends

Vegetation	Critical Level	Time period	Effect
Crops	<i>Agricultural crops</i> AOT40 3000 ppb.h <i>Horticultural crops</i> AOT40 6000 ppb.h	3 months 3.5 months	Yield reduction (5%)
Semi-natural vegetation	<i>Perennial</i> AOT40 5000 ppb.h <i>Annual</i> AOT40 3000 ppb.h	6 months 3 months	Perennial: biomass reduction (10%) Annual: biomass or seed reduction (10%)
Forests	AOT40 5000 ppb.h	Growing season	Biomass reduction (5%)

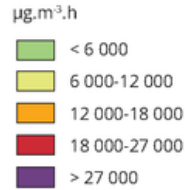


# Control of tropospheric ozone

## Rural [O<sub>3</sub>] AOT40 for crops

Rural concentration of the ozone indicator AOT40 for crops, 2015

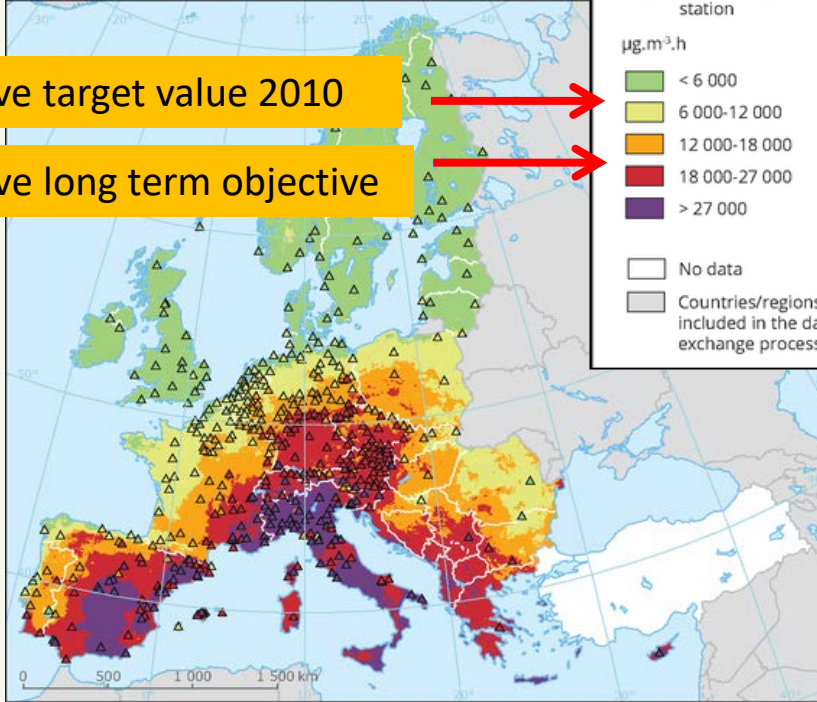
△ Rural background station



□ No data  
 □ Countries/regions not included in the data exchange process

Above target value 2010

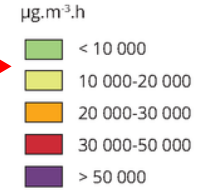
Above long term objective



## Rural [O<sub>3</sub>] AOT40 for forests

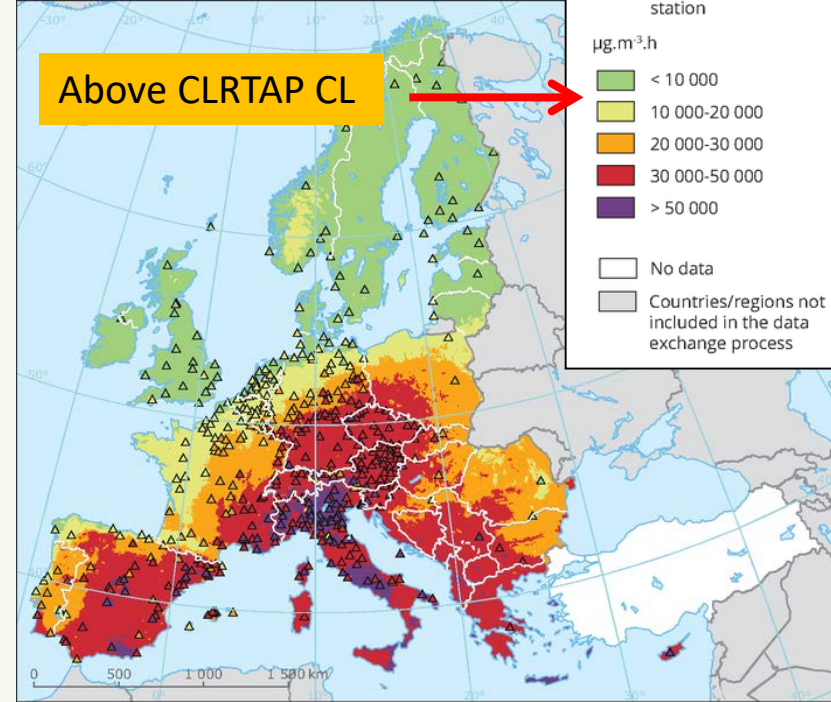
Rural concentration of the ozone indicator AOT40 for forest, 2015

△ Rural background station



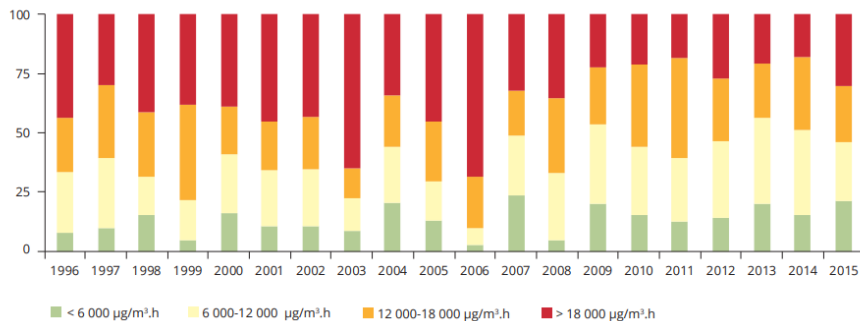
□ No data  
 □ Countries/regions not included in the data exchange process

Above CLRTAP CL



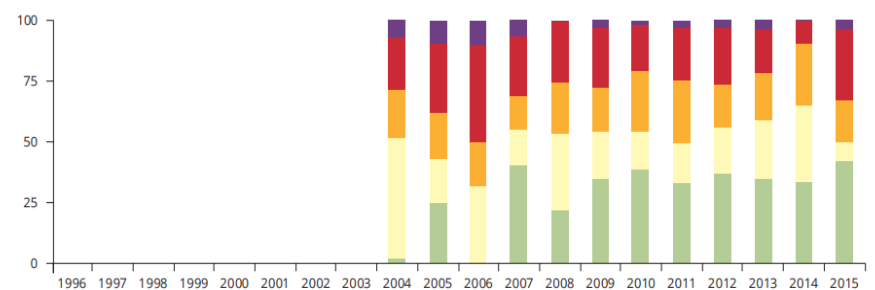
## Exposure of agricultural area to ozone in EEA member countries

Fraction of total arable land (%)



## Exposure of forest area to ozone in EEA member countries

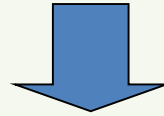
Fraction of total forested area (%)



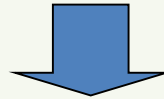
# Ozone critical levels

Ozone effects more related to the **dose absorbed** through stomata than to exposure

**Climate change**



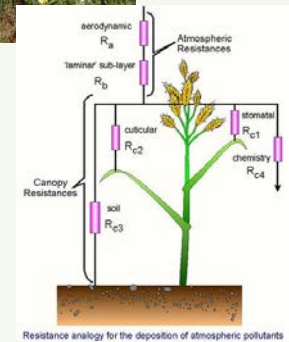
Consider the influence of meteorology



Estimate ozone absorbed fluxes  
**(POD) Phytotoxic Ozone Dose**



Combine measurements and modelling



Resistance analogy for the deposition of atmospheric pollutants

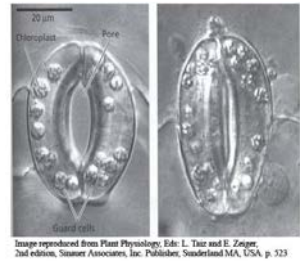
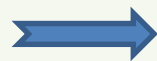
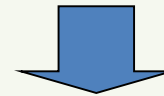


Image reproduced from Plant Physiology, Eds: L. Taiz and E. Zeiger, 2nd edition, Sinauer Associates, Inc. Publishers, Sunderland MA, USA, p. 523

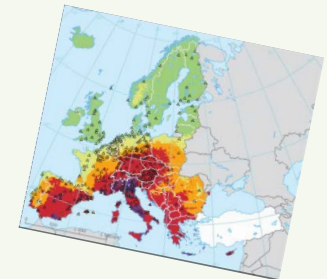
Experiments



Dose - response functions



**Flux-based O<sub>3</sub> critical levels and risk assessment**





# Estimating Phytotoxic Ozone Dose (POD)

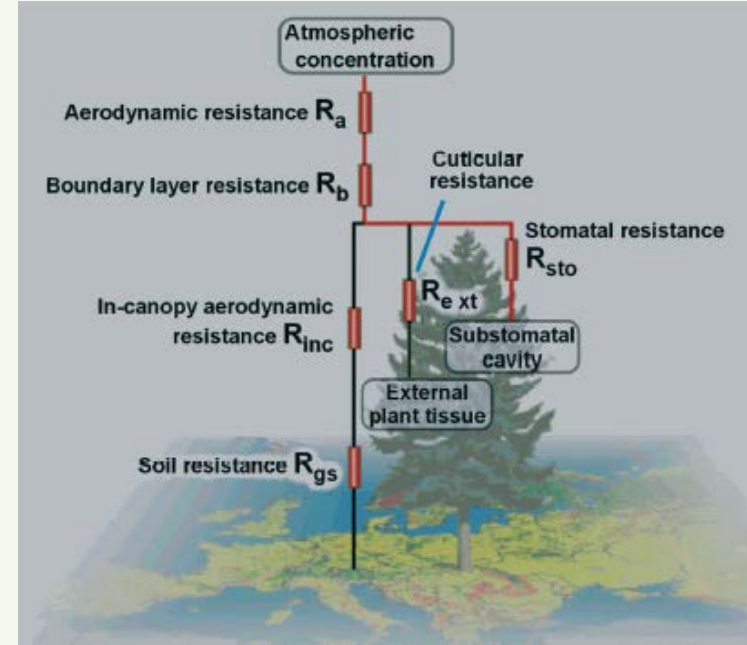
## Manual on Methodologies and Criteria for Modelling and Mapping Critical Loads and Levels and Air Pollution Effects, Risks and Trends (CLRTAP)

$$\text{POD} \longrightarrow F_{\text{st}} = [O_3] \times g_{\text{sto}} \times \frac{r_c}{r_b + r_c}$$

$$g_{\text{sto}} = g_{\text{max}} \times f_{\text{light}} \times f_{\text{phen}} \max \{ f_{\text{min}}, (f_{\text{temp}} \times f_{\text{VPD}} \times f_{\text{SWP}}) \}$$

### Stomatal conductance model

(Jarvis, 1976; Emberson et al., 2000; Model DO<sub>3</sub>SE - Deposition of Ozone and Stomatal Exchange in EMEP model)

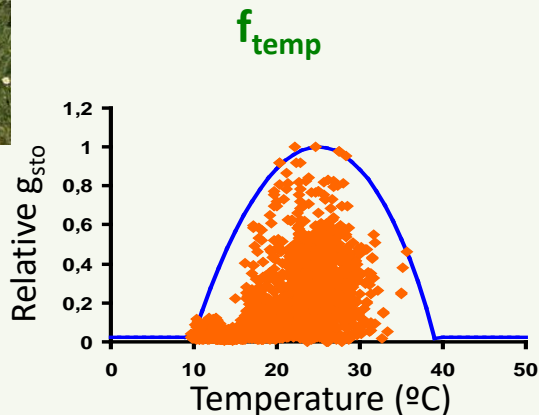


EMEP - European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme, CLRTAP

### Parameterizations of $g_{\text{sto}}$ model :

- Published in Mapping Manual (CLRTAP) or scientific papers
- Experimentally

([https://icpvegetation.ceh.ac.uk/sites/default/files/FinalnewChapter3v4Oct2017\\_000.pdf](https://icpvegetation.ceh.ac.uk/sites/default/files/FinalnewChapter3v4Oct2017_000.pdf))



O<sub>3</sub>

Table III.6: List of effects for which O<sub>3</sub> critical levels are available for vegetation.

Species or vegetation type	Effect parameter	Biogeographical region*	Ozone metric	Section	Flux model parameters, critical levels (Table - T), response functions (Figure - F)
Species-specific critical levels, using POD <sub>1</sub> SPEC (mmol m <sup>-2</sup> PLA)					
Crops					
Wheat	Grain yield, 1000-grain weight, protein yield	A,B,C,M (S,P)**	POD <sub>1</sub> SPEC	III.3.5.2	T III.9-10, F III.10
Potato	Tuber yield	A,B,C (M,S,P)	POD <sub>1</sub> SPEC	III.3.5.2	T III.9-10, F III.11
Tomato	Fruit yield, fruit quality	M (A,B,C,S,P)	POD <sub>1</sub> SPEC	III.3.5.2	T III.9-10, F III.11
Trees					

### Critical levels for forest tree species

Table III.12: POD<sub>1</sub>SPEC critical levels (CL) for forest tree species

Species	Effect parameter	Biogeographical	Potential effect	Critical level	Section	Response function
Beech and birch	Whole tree biomass					
Norway spruce	Whole tree biomass					
Med. deciduous oaks	Whole tree biomass					0.32
Med. deciduous oaks	Root biomass			10.3	1.4	0.45
Med. evergreen	Above-ground biomass	M	4%	47.3	3.5	0.09

**Critical levels available for different vegetation types and for different biogeographical zones**

Manual on Methods and Criteria for Modelling Mapping Loads and Air Pollution Risks and

April 2011

based levels (D)

based levels (10)



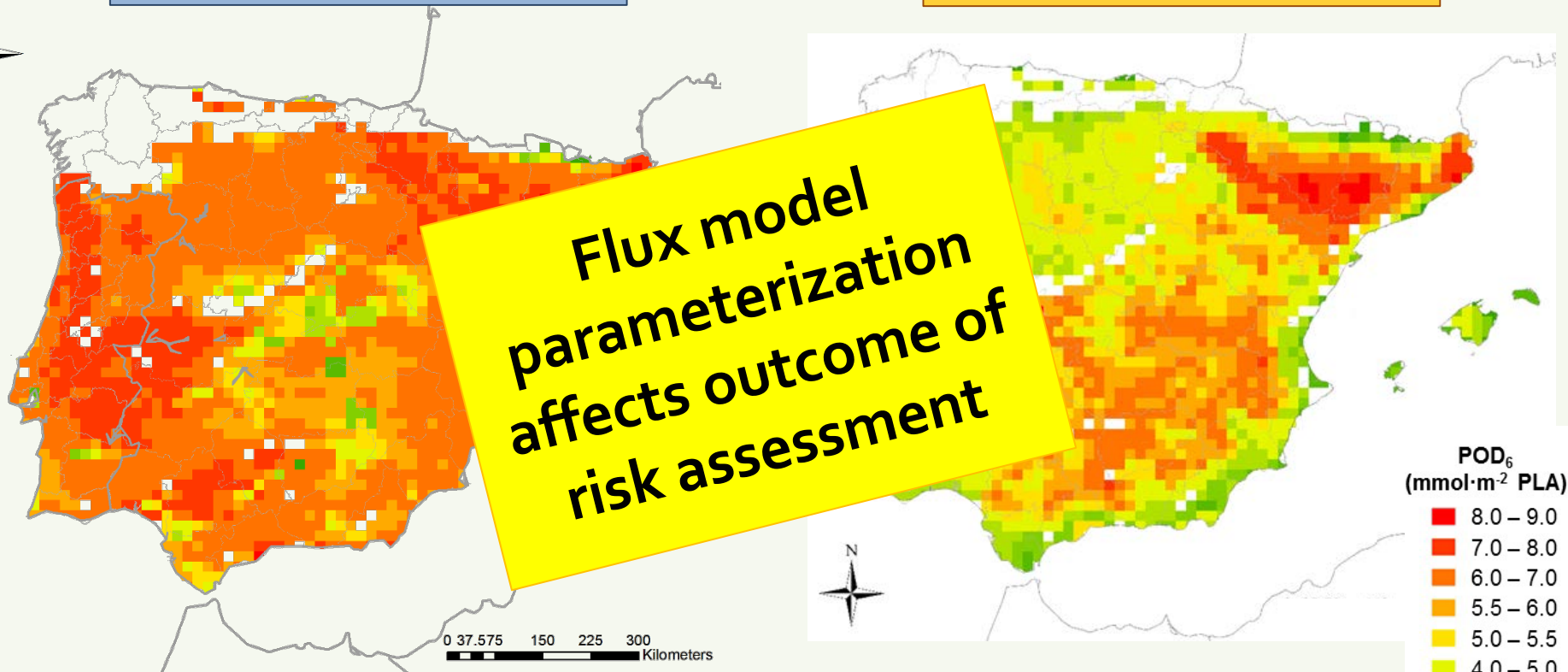
# Adequate ozone dose estimation

## Bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum*)

Central European  
parameterization

Mediterranean  
parameterization

**Flux model  
parameterization  
affects outcome of  
risk assessment**

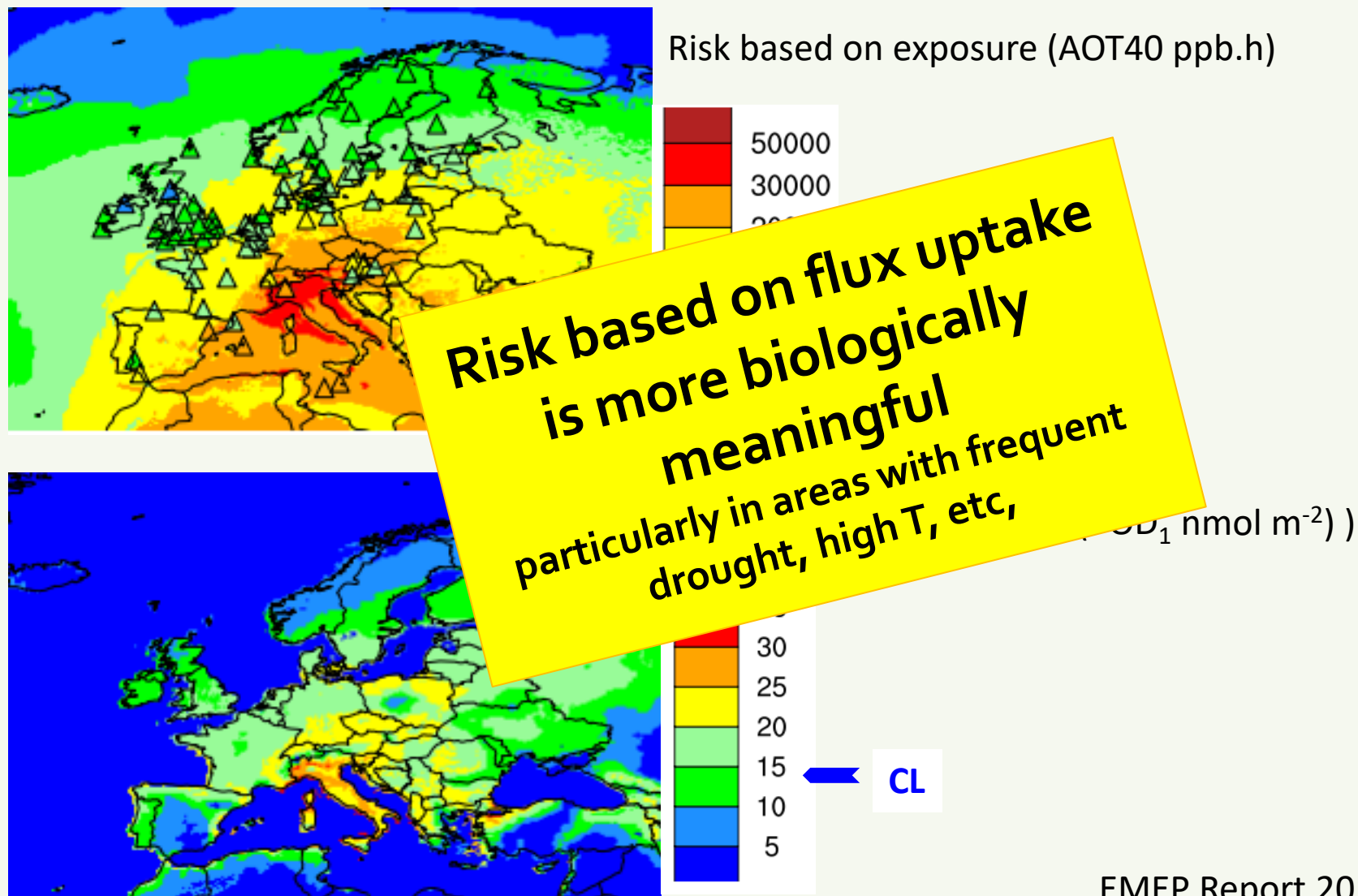


CMAQ v 4.6 model + gs (DO3SE model) + Soil  
Moisture content, data 2007)



# Ozone risk assessment

## Ozone risk assessment for forest in 2016



Pros for ozone risk assessment based on flux uptake (POD):

- Risk based on flux uptake (POD) is better related to effects than exposure (AOT40) and includes climate change
- Ozone risk assessment based on POD is available for different biogeographical zones and vegetation types: considering specific sensitivity and dose parameterizations
- POD already included in:
  - Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone revised in 2012 - CLRTAP
  - National Emissions Ceilings (NEC) Directive (2016/2284/EU): Annex V - Optional indicators for monitoring air pollution impacts referred to in Article 9
  - [Future revision of Air Quality Directive?](#)

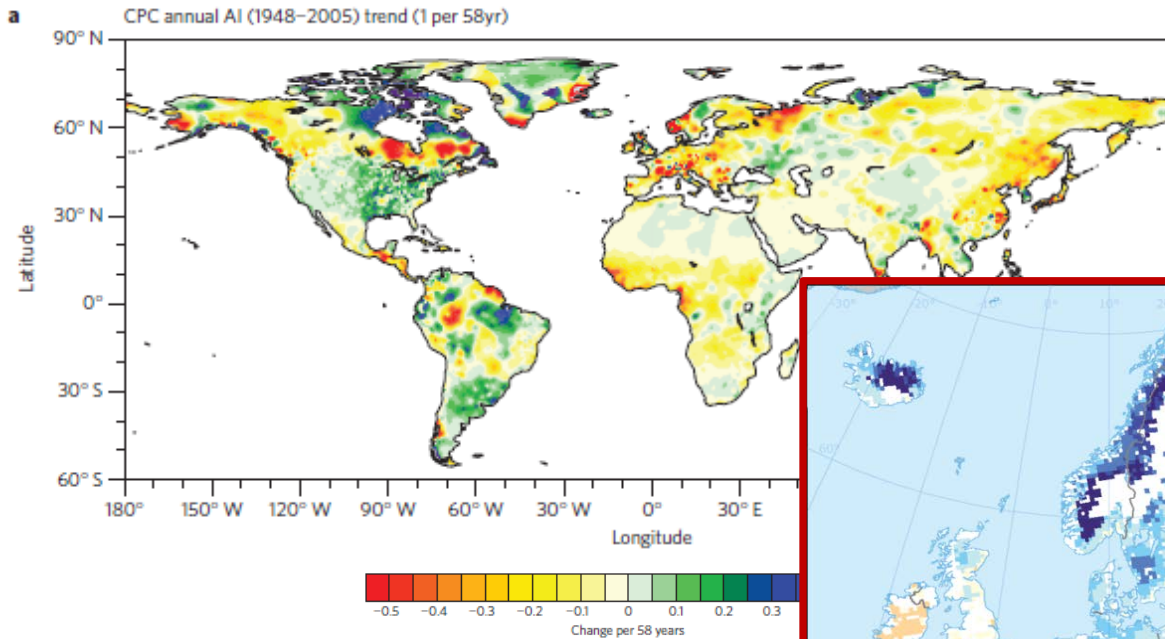
**Future challenges?**

Scientific ongoing work for:

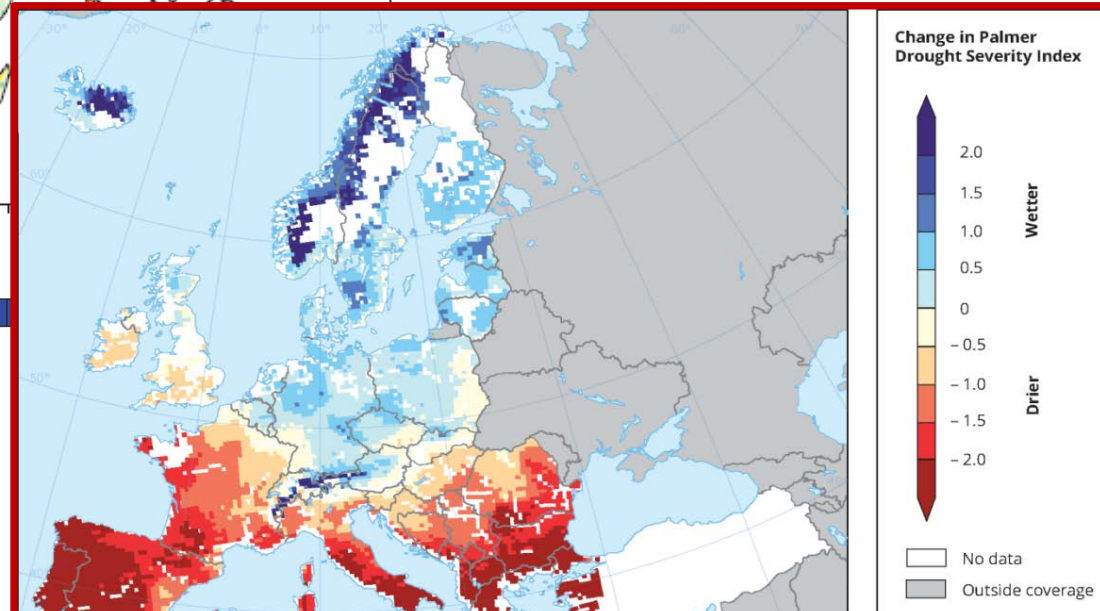
- Reducing uncertainties in modelling the influence of soil moisture and drought on fluxes and effects

# Towards a drier and warmer world

## Increase in aridity 1948-2005



Change summer drought severity  
1961-1990 vs 2020-2050



Huang et al., 2016, Nat. Clim. Change

Ongoing collaboration between EMEP, ICP-vegetation and ICP-Forest to improve risk assessment in soil moisture limited areas

# Future challenges for ozone risk assessment

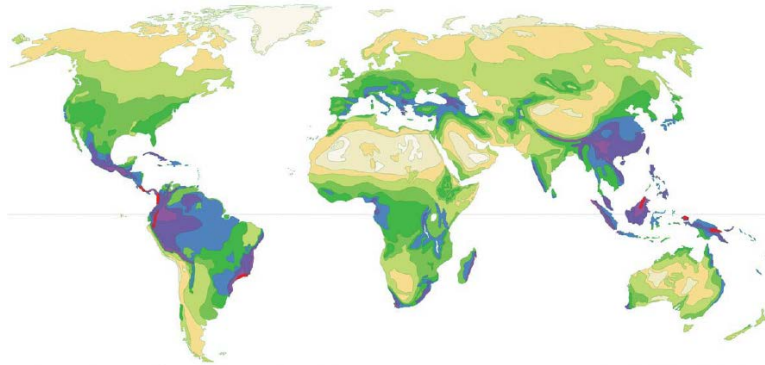
## Scientific ongoing work for:

- Reducing uncertainties in modelling the influence of soil moisture and drought on fluxes and physiology
- Including interactions with other global change factors: drought, nitrogen, pathogens
- Considering other response variables related to ecosystem services for defining critical levels and risk assessments
- Improving knowledge about effects on different vegetation types (for example risk assessment in high mountain areas with valuable biodiversity)



# Future challenges for ozone risk assessment

## Plant biodiversity hotspots

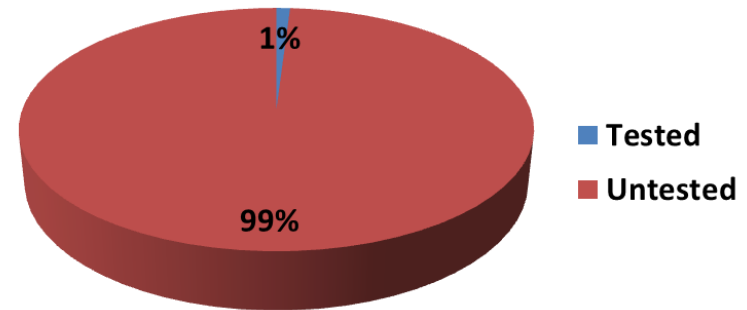


Diversity Zones (DZ): Number of species per 10,000 km<sup>2</sup>

DZ 1	<20 spp.	DZ 5	1000-1500 spp.	DZ 9	4000-5000 spp.
DZ 2	20-200 spp.	DZ 6	1500-2000 spp.	DZ 10	>6000 spp.
DZ 3	200-500 spp.	DZ 7	2000-3000 spp.		
DZ 4	500-1000 spp.	DZ 8	3000-4000 spp.		

W. Barthlott, G. Kier, H. Kraft, W. Küper, D. Rathjoser & J. Münch 2005  
Nees Institute for Biodiversity of Plants  
University of Bonn

## Species tested for ozone sensitivity



Most species/ecosystems remain untested for O<sub>3</sub> sensitivity



**Experimental data and long-term monitoring are crucial but facilities are closing across Europe...**

## Key messages:

- ✓ Ozone is affecting vegetation and ecosystems endangering some of the services they provide
- ✓ Ozone effects are better related with the dose of ozone absorbed by plants (POD) than to exposure (AOT40)
- ✓ Methodology based on fluxes is available for ozone risk assessment for different vegetation types and biogeographical areas (already included in NEC Directive)
- ✓ Some improvements of risk analysis are in progress
- ✓ Long-term monitoring and experimental data are crucial for assessing the current effects and the achievements of implemented policies
- ✓ Essential interaction between policy makers and scientific working groups

# Thank you!

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