



Status of *V. v. sylvestris* in France

ECPRG *Vitis* Working group – 5 July 2016– Split, Croatia



Historical overview

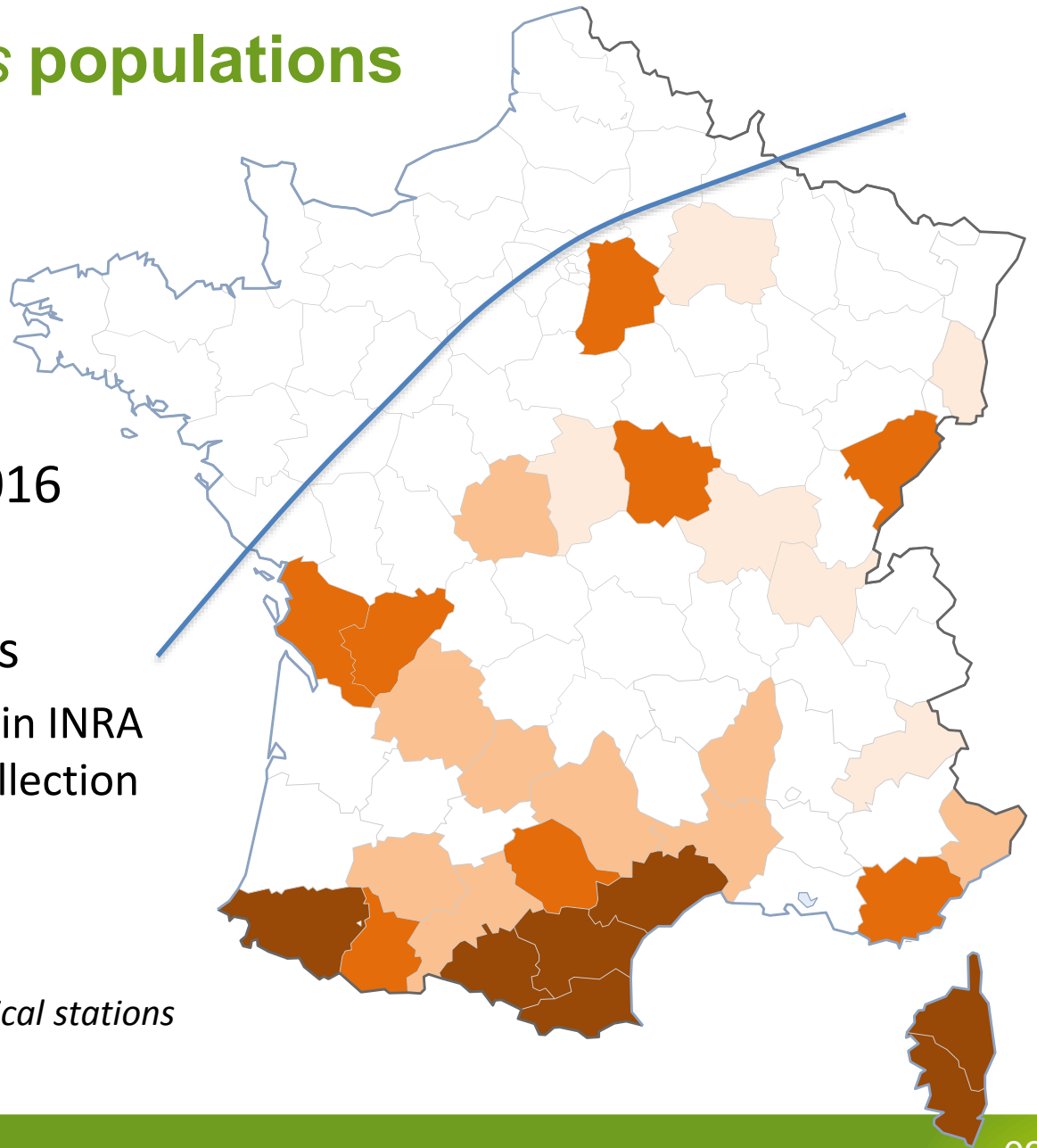
- 1970-80s: first prospecting in south-western France (Bordeaux)
- 1988: official protection in Champagne-Ardenne region
- 1993: official protection in Alsace region
- **1995: official protection on whole French territory**
- 1995-1998: PhD C. Cuisset (Montpellier)
- 1996-now: conservation *ex situ* in Vassal collection (Montpellier)
- **1999-2002: National inventory project** (Montpellier)
- **2002-2006: PhD M. Di Vecchi-Staraz** (Montpellier / Firenze)
- 2003-now: supplementary prospecting (Montpellier)
- 2009-2011: PhD S. Picq (Montpellier)

French *sylvestris* populations

- Explorations 1996–2016
- Total \approx 250 stations*
- Total \approx 850 individuals
 - 212 preserved *ex situ* in INRA Vassal-Montpellier collection



* 1 population = 1 or Σ botanical stations



Comments on current status

- Identity of grapevines in the wild
 - True pure *sylvestris* are rare
 - Majority of feral plants: rootstocks, hybrids, cépages
 - Presence of crossbreed x *sylvestris*
- Low level of pollen-mediated gene flow from cultivated to wild grapevines (Di Vecchi et al. 2009)
- Definition of a population? What to protect?
- Different types and levels of threat
- Very few actions of *in situ* protection today (ex. Grésigne, Bassée)
- Only one action of reintroduction, in Alsace: problematic (Arnold et al. 2005)



Current projects

- Publication of updated national survey
- Official collaboration for supplementary prospecting (2016 -)
 - ONF = National Forestry Agency
→ protection plan (only public forests)
 - ISEM = University/CNRS Montpellier
- ECPGR *Vitis* Working group: InWiGrape
 - Standards: indicators, descriptors, methods
 - Update the European *Vitis* Database

