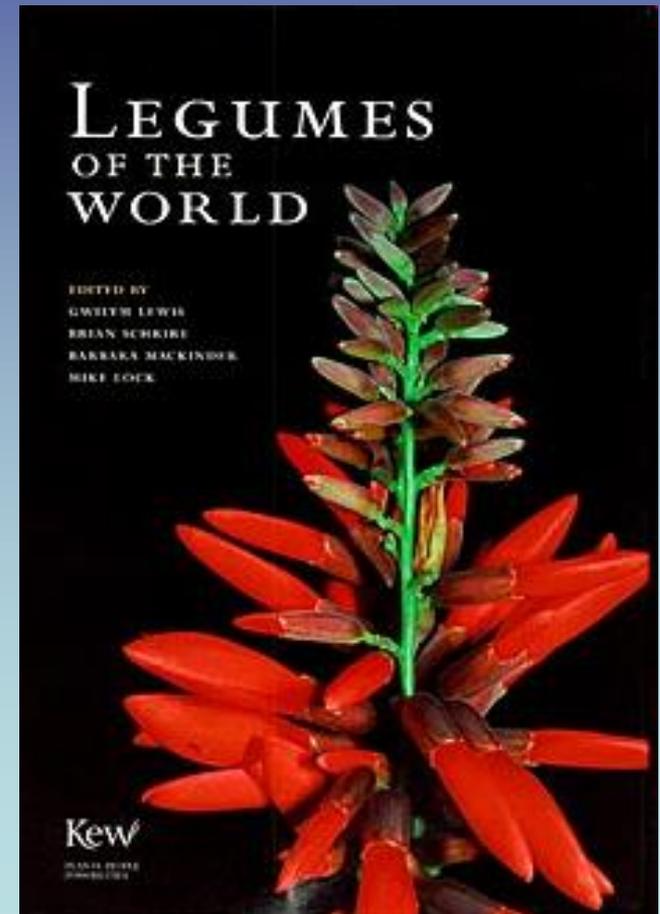
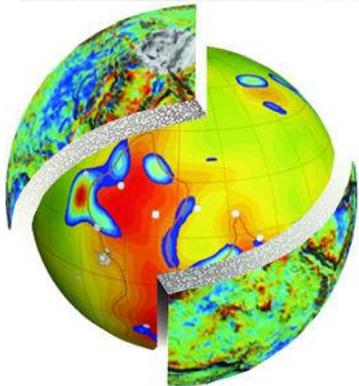


***Alle radici della nutrizione,
l'azotofissazione simbiotica delle leguminose
come paradigma di sostenibilità del nostro ecosistema***

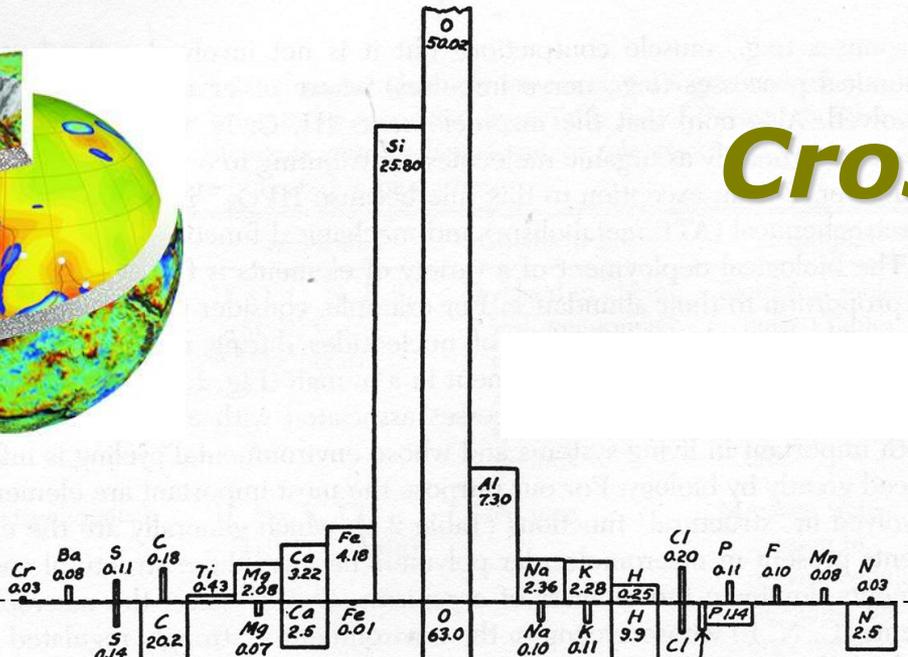


Le Leguminose rappresentano una delle più vaste famiglie di piante vascolari, con oltre 18,000 specie. Pari a circa un dodicesimo del totale delle specie di piante terrestri.





Crosta terrestre



S

P

N

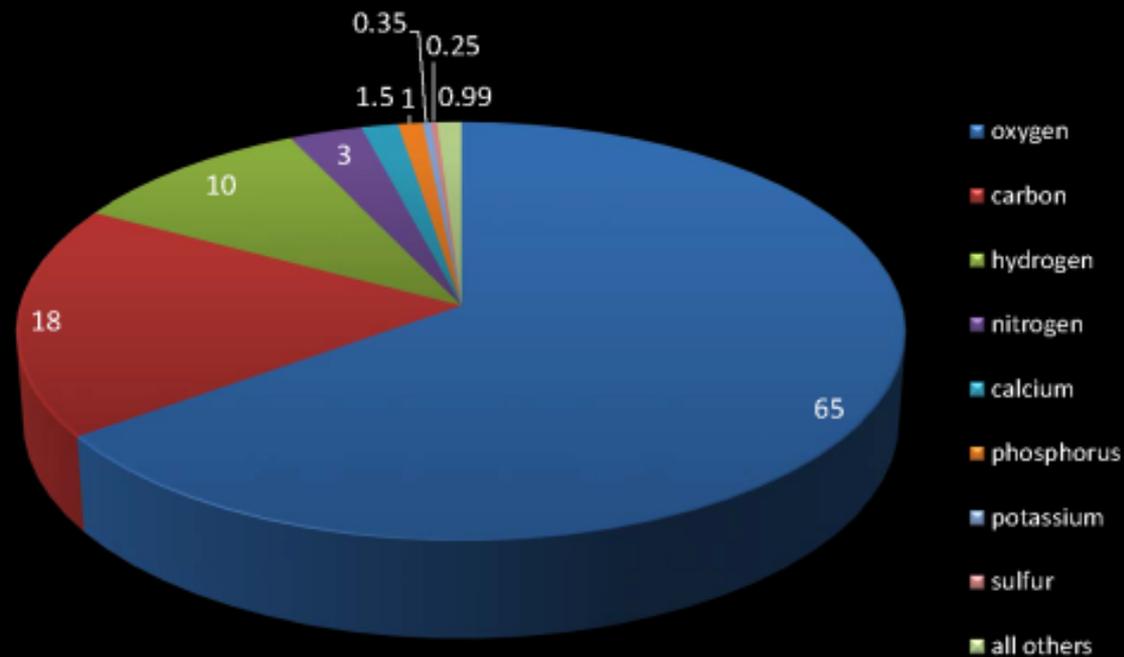
H

C

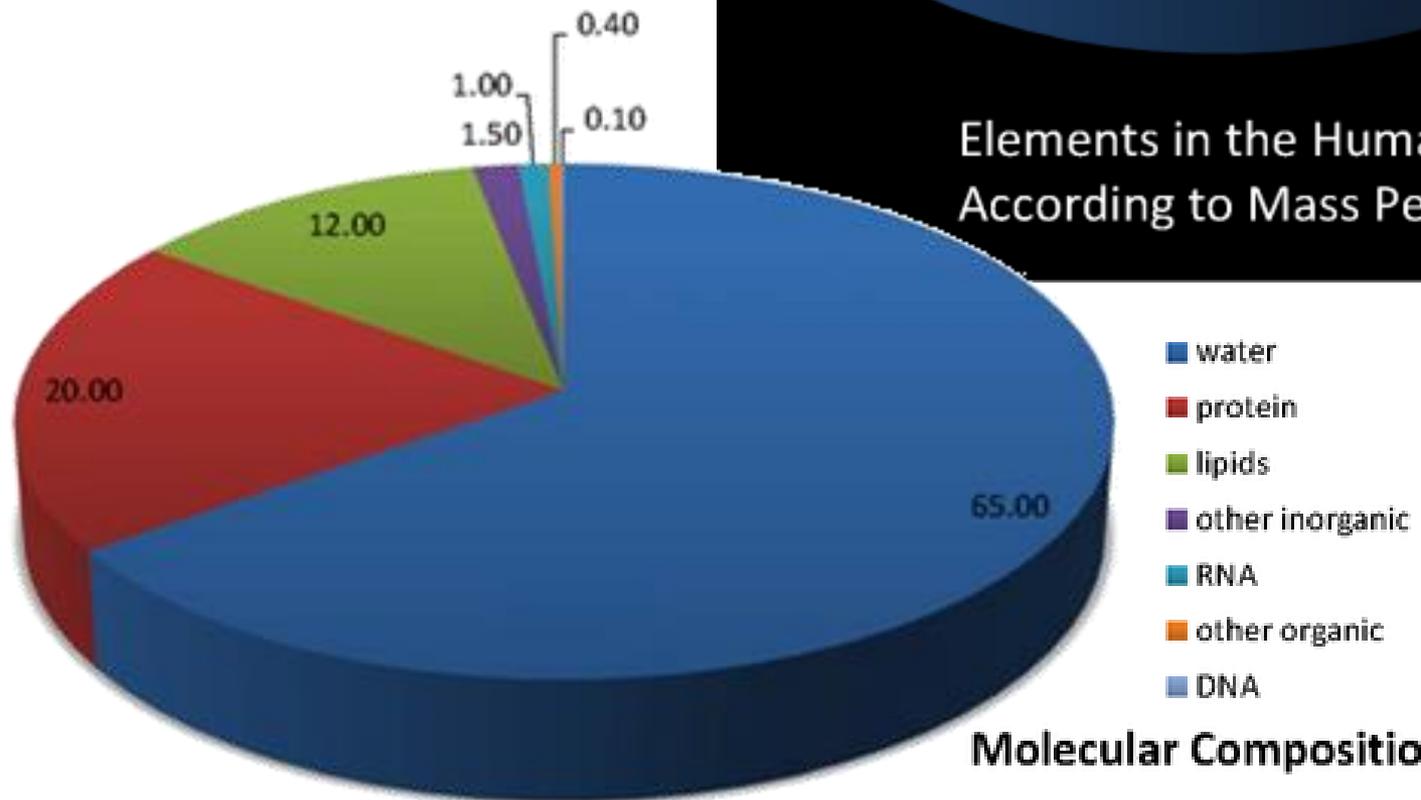
Corpo umano



O



Elements in the Human Body According to Mass Percent



Molecular Composition of a Human Cell

Element	Mass of element in a 70-kg person
oxygen	43 kg
carbon	16 kg
hydrogen	7 kg
nitrogen	1.8 kg
calcium	1.0 kg
phosphorus	780 g
potassium	140 g
sulfur	140 g
sodium	100 g
chlorine	95 g
magnesium	19 g
iron	4.2 g
fluorine	2.6 g
zinc	2.3 g



Element

**Mass of element
in a 70-kg person**

oxygen

43 kg

carbon

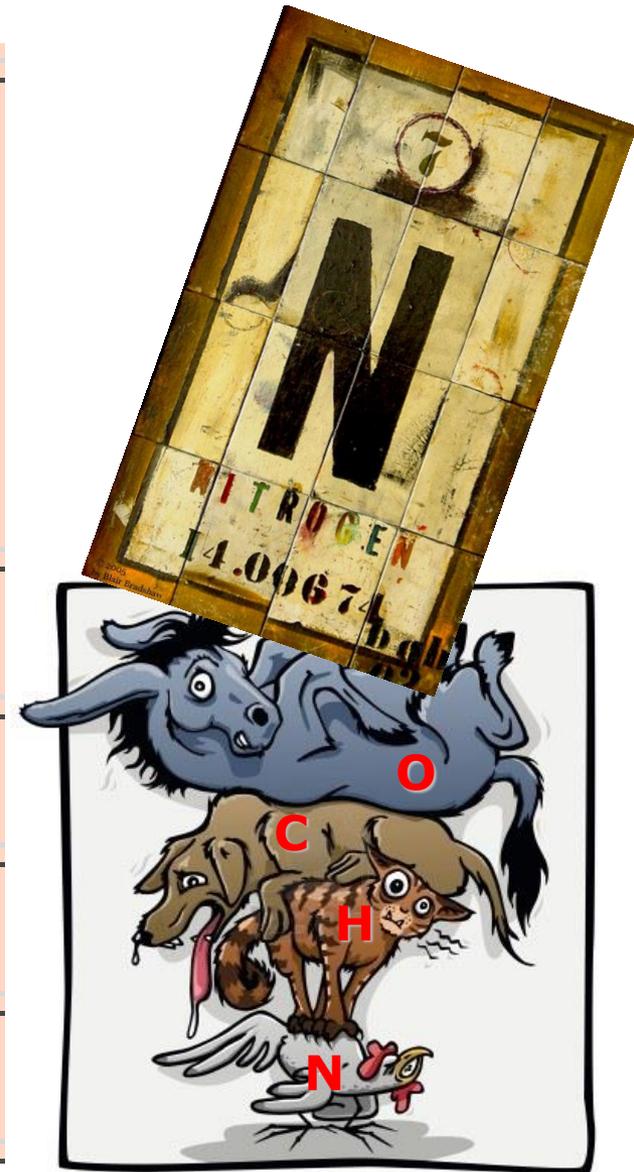
16 kg

hydrogen

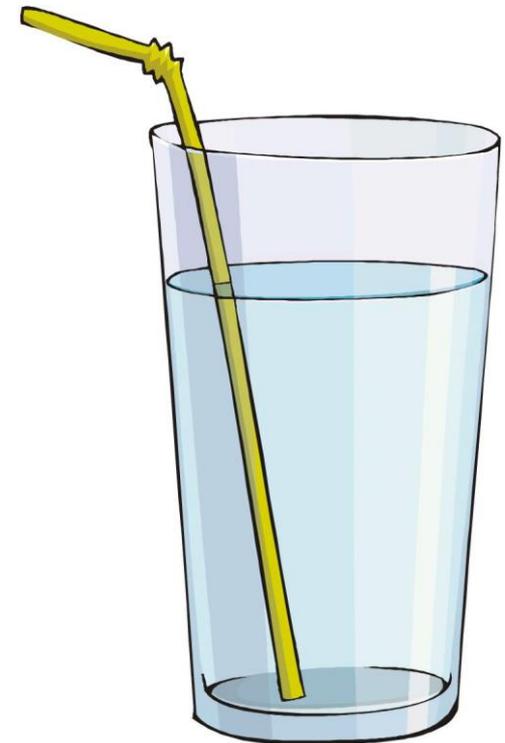
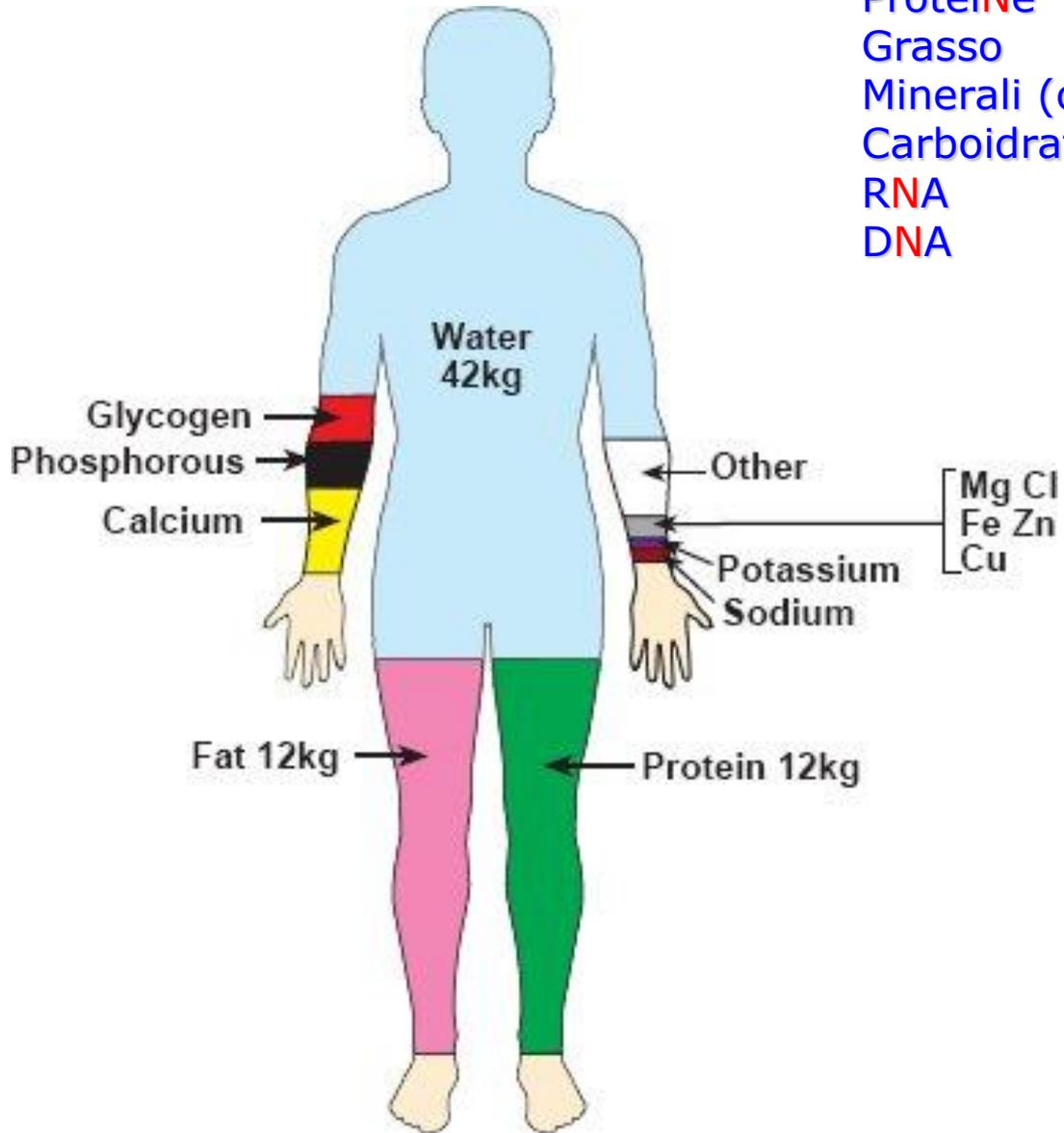
7 kg

nitrogen

1.8 kg



Acqua	42 kg
Proteine	12 kg
Grasso	12 kg
Minerali (ossei e non)	3,5 kg
Carboidrati	0,5 kg
RNA	0,9 kg
DNA	0,2 kg



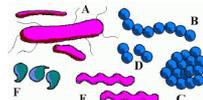
rappporto Carbonio / Azoto



($>$)
25/1



15/1



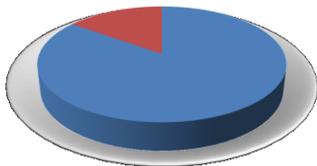
($<$)
10/1



($<$)
10/1

Grammi di proteina su 100 g di alimento peso fresco

15



Bistecca di bovino



1,3



Lattuga



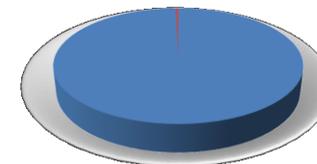
1,2



Carote



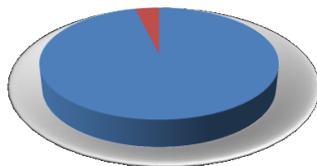
0,4



Mela



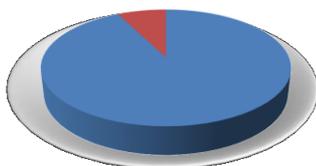
3,8



Erba medica



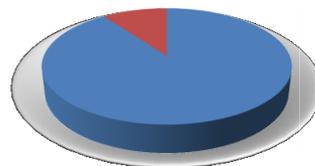
7,5



Ceci



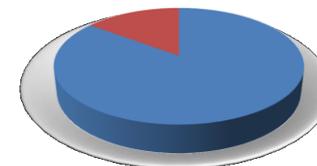
10



Lenticchie



14,76

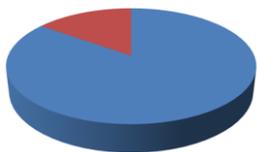


Lupini





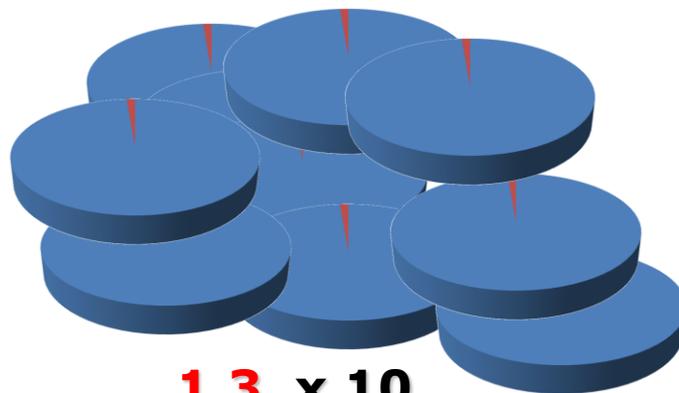
Bistecca di bovino



15



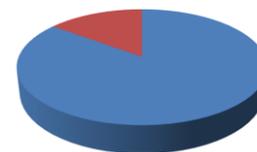
Lattuga



1,3 x 10



Lupini



14,76



xylem sap (0.0002-0.1% N w/v)



.....17 years





WHY DOES THE WORLD STAY GREEN?

Nutrition and survival of plant-eaters

TCR White



N

N

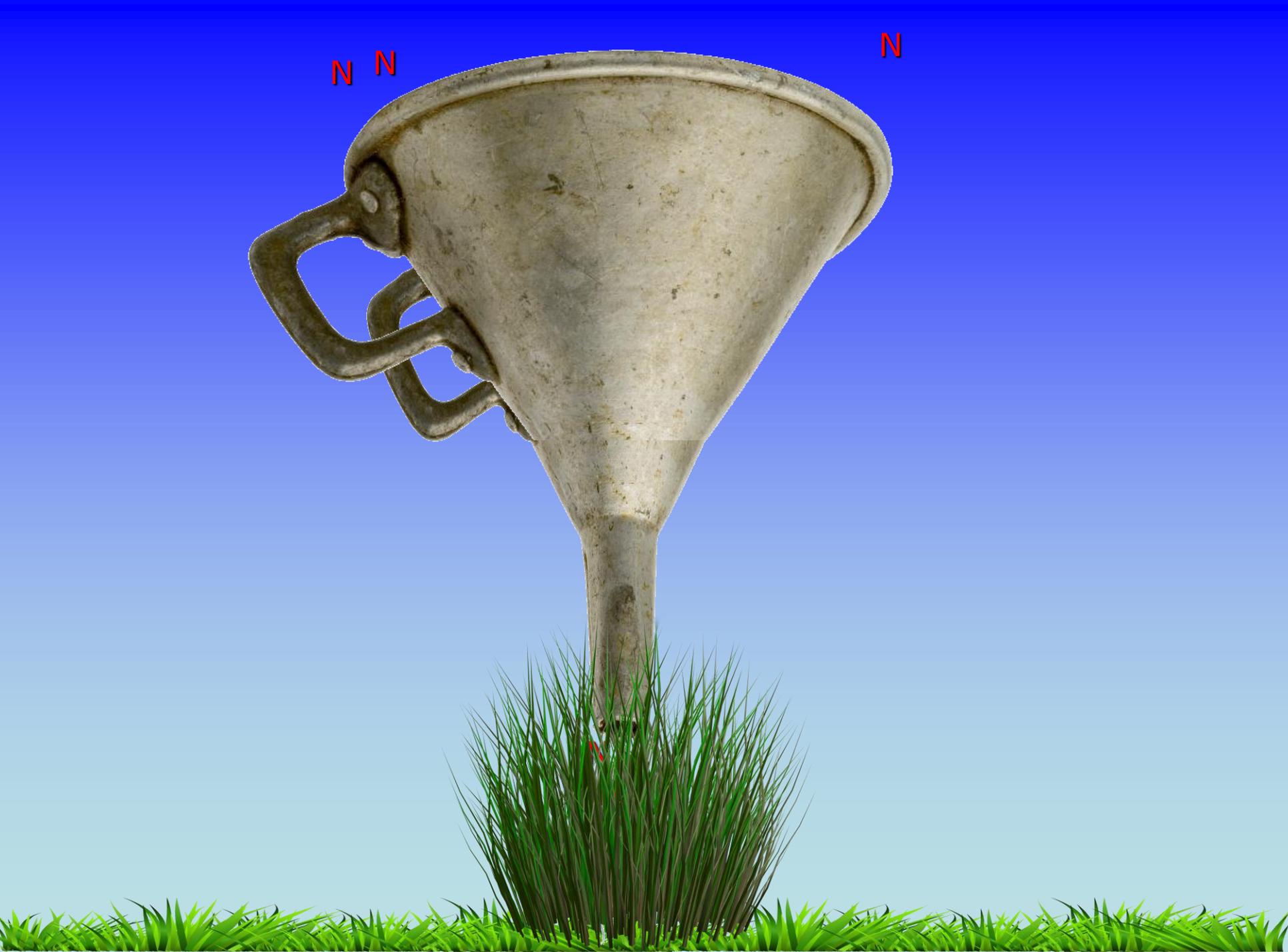
N

N

N

N

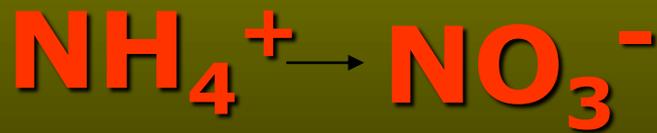
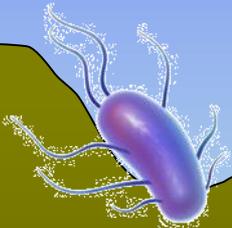




N N

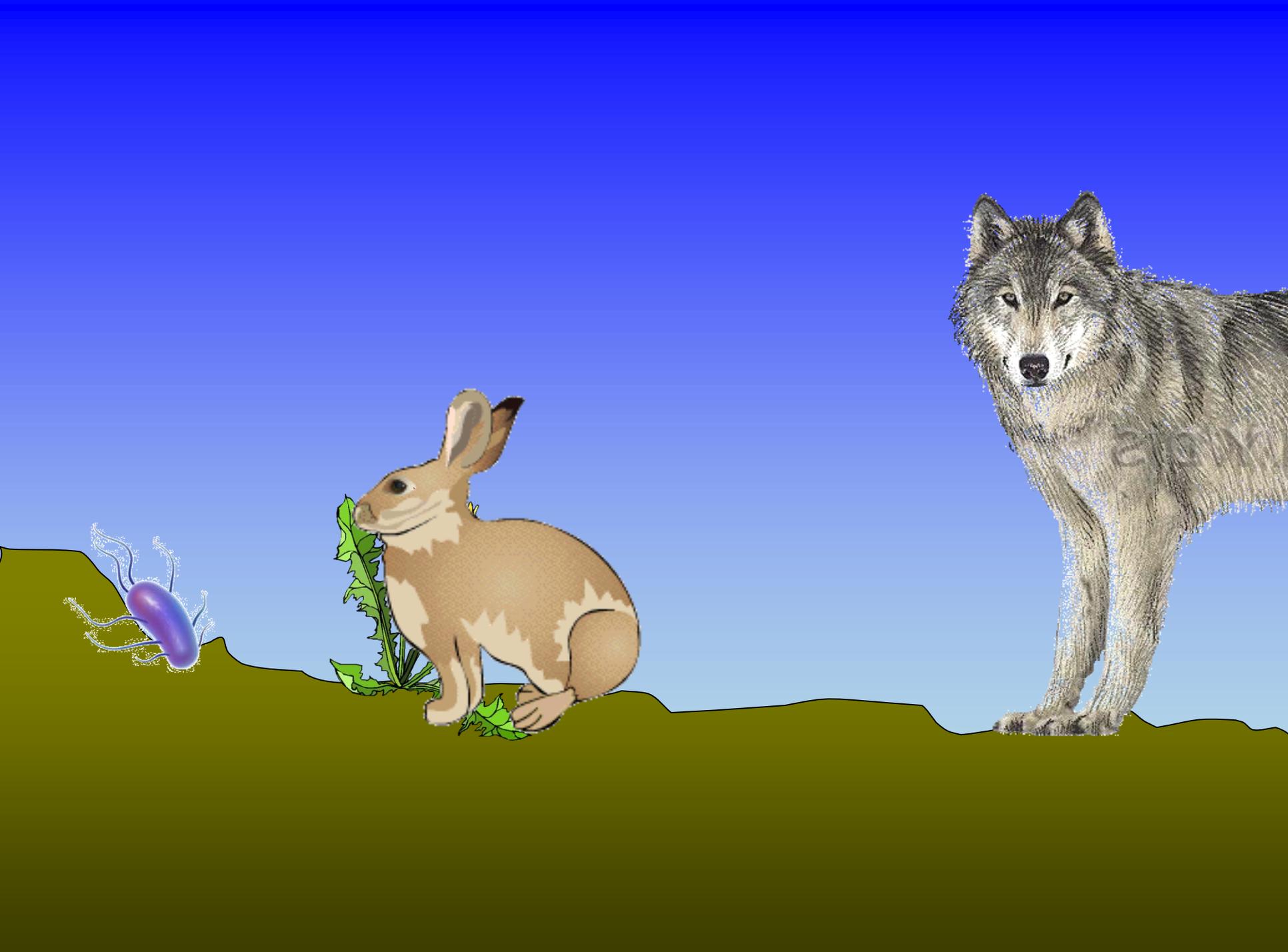
N

N₂ 78 %



Azoto proteico





Hedysarum naudinianum







Hedysarum coronarium
(sulla)





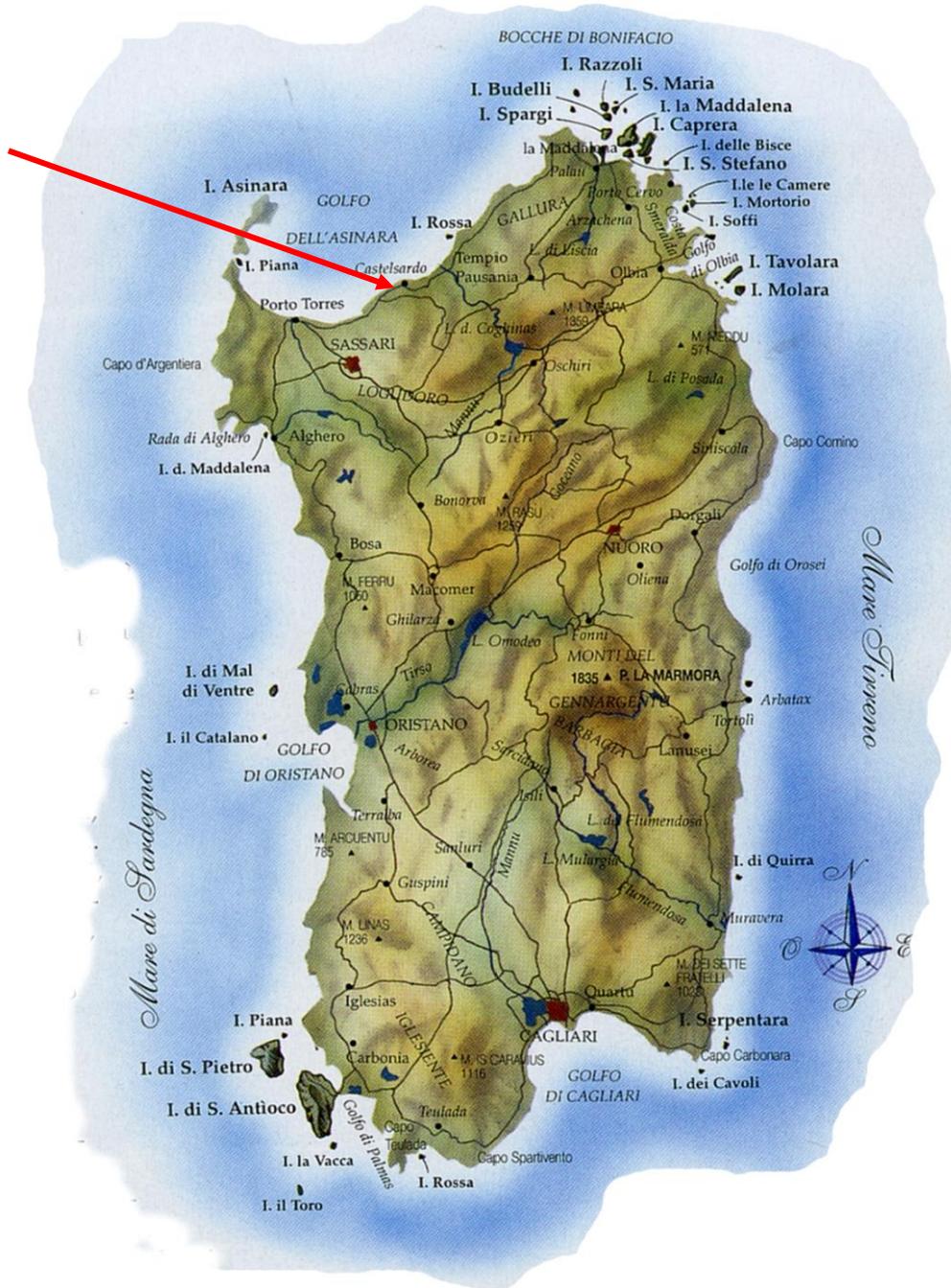
Scorpiurus muricatus



Hedysarum spinosissimum



Castelsardo





-The 191 legume species growing in the island of Sardinia -

A close-up photograph of the plant Hedysarum glomeratum. The image shows several bright purple flowers with white markings on their petals, clustered together. The foliage consists of numerous small, green, pinnate leaves. The background is a soft-focus field of similar plants.

Hedysarum glomeratum



Ornithopus compressus



Ornithopus pinnatus

*Tetragonolobus
purpureus*



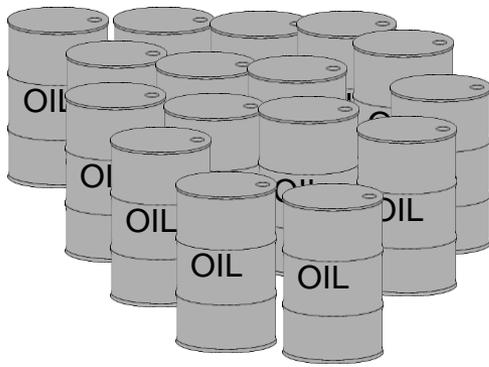
Azotofissazione Biologica



(~~350°C 100 Mpa~~)

Temperatura ambiente
Pressione atmosferica





Fissazione Industriale dell'AZOTO



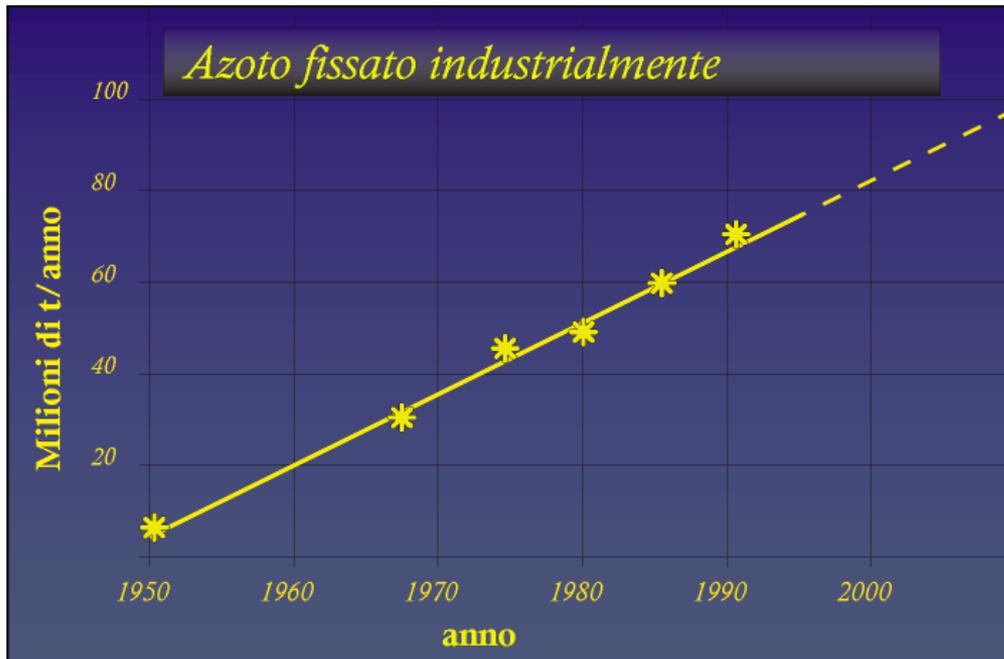
17 quintali → **1 quintale**



Processo Haber-Bosch

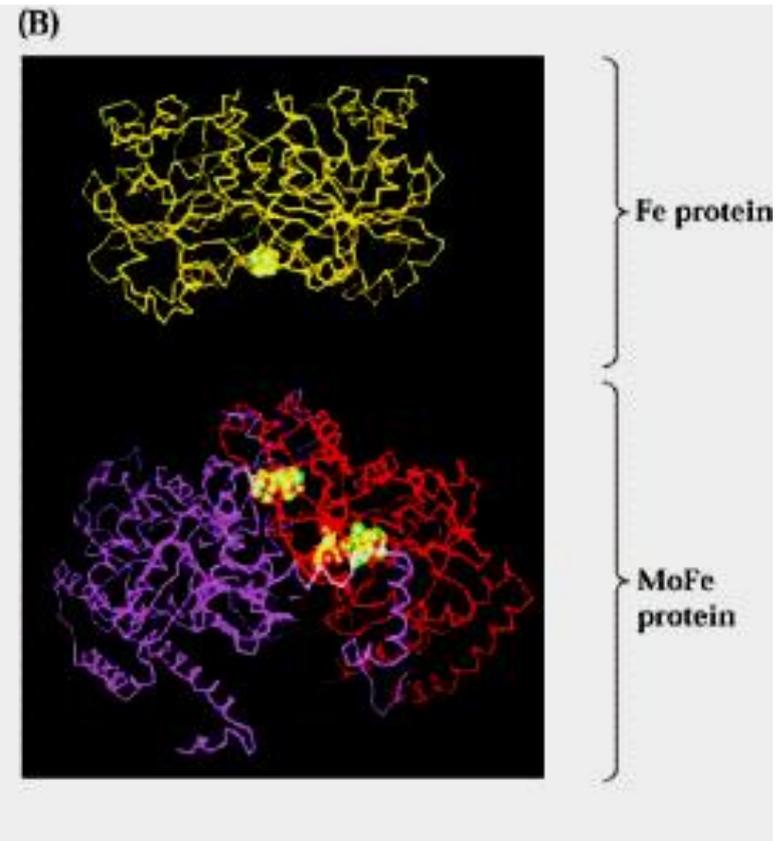
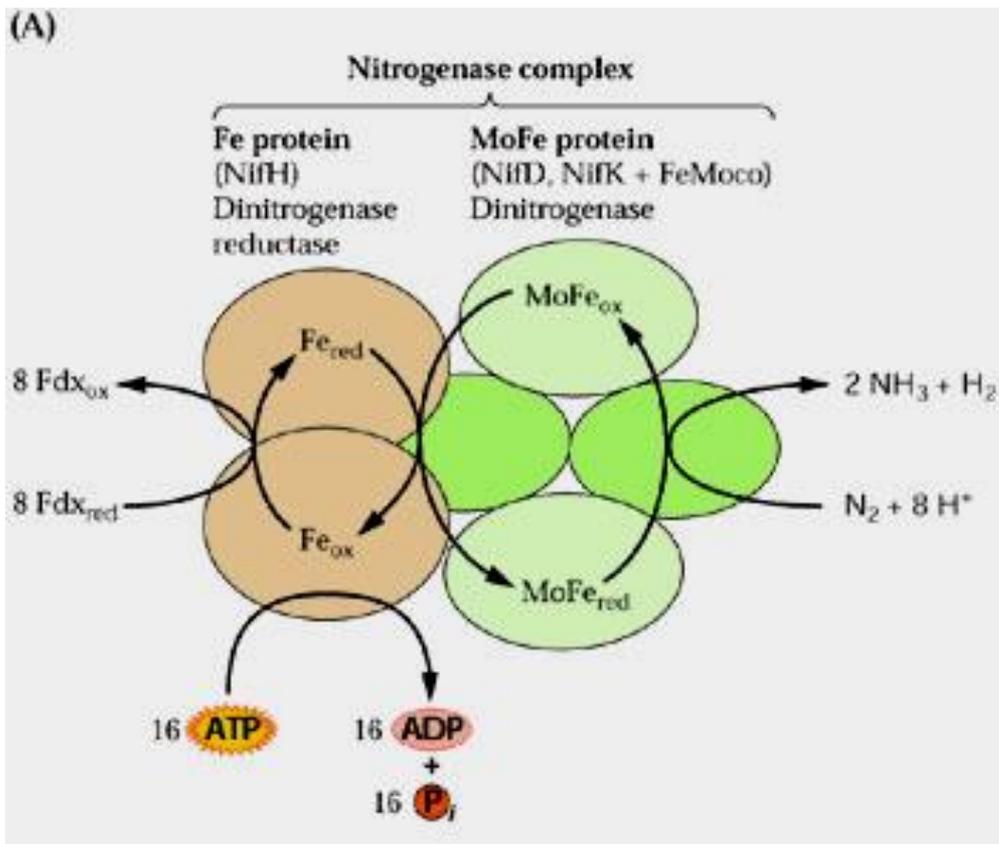
Per ottenere **100 Kg NH₃** occorrono

- 1700 Kg** di petrolio-equivalenti (nafta, olio combustibile, metano)
- Produzione **idrogeno gassoso**
- Pressioni elevate (**350-1000 ATM**)
- Temperature elevate (**300-500 °C**)
- Catalizzatori** chimici



Mentre i **microrganismi azotofissatori** producono da pochi Kg fino a **700-1000 Kg di N fissato/anno/ettaro**

- a temperatura ambiente
- a pressione atmosferica



NITROGENASI *complesso enzimatico*



- una mole di H_2 si forma per ogni mole di N_2 ridotto
- almeno 4 molecole di ATP vengono consumate per ogni coppia di e^- trasferiti
per ridurre N_2 ad NH_3
o per formare H_2 in assenza di N_2
- la ferridossina ridotta serve come riducente nella reazione

Azotofissatori liberi

Eterotrofi (organotrofi) pochi Kg N fissato/ettaro

substrati organici come fonte di Energia

Azotobacter ***aerobio, suoli neutri o alcalini***

Beijerinckia
Derxia ***aerobi, più spesso in suoli acidi (tropici)***

Klebsiella ***anaerobio facoltativo, ambienti umidi,
suolo, radice, superficie foliare***

Clostridium ***anaerobio, substrati organici come donatori
di elettroni***

Desulfovibrio
Desulfotomaculum ***anaerobi, substrati organici come
donatori di elettroni, S riduttori***

Azotofissatori liberi

Autotrofi (fototrofi) 1-10 Kg N fissato/ettaro

luce come fonte di Energia

Anabaena

Cianobatteri

Nostoc

Cianobatteri

Calothrix

Cianobatteri

Rhodospirillum

solfo batteri fotosintetici

Chlorobium

solfo batteri fotosintetici

Chromatium

solfo batteri fotosintetici

Azotofissatori simbiotici

**Eterotrofi (organotrofi) 5-140 Kg N fissato/Ha
fotosintati della pianta come fonte di energia**

Azotobacter / Paspalum (Graminaceae)

Azospirillum / Digitaria (Graminaceae)

anche canna da zucchero e sorgo, anche ormoni



Rhizobium / Leguminose

alcuni beta-proteobatteri / Leguminose

Bradyrhizobium / Leguminose



Bradyrhizobium / Parasponia, Trema (Ulmaceae)



**Frankia (Actinomiceti) / 137 specie di angiosperme arboree
(Alnaceae, Betulaceae, Rosaceae, Coriariaceae, Rhamnaceae,
Eleagnaceae, Myricaceae etc.)**



Azotofissatori simbiotici

Autotrofi (Fototrofi) 5-30 Kg N fissato/Ha

luce come prevalente fonte di energia



Nostoc / Cycas (Gimnosperme)



Nostoc / Peltigera (Licheni)



Halosiphon / Sphagnum (Muschi)

Anabaena / Azolla (Felci)



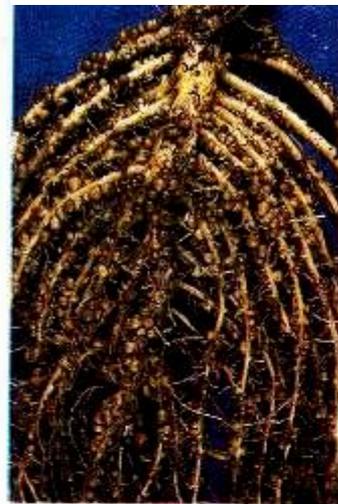
Noduli di leguminose da granella



Glycine max (soja)



Cicer arietinum (cece)



Arachis hypogaea (arachide)



Noduli di leguminose da foraggio



**Lotus corniculatus
(ginestrino)**



**Trifolium repens
(trifoglio)**



**Onobrychis viciaefolia
(lupinella)**



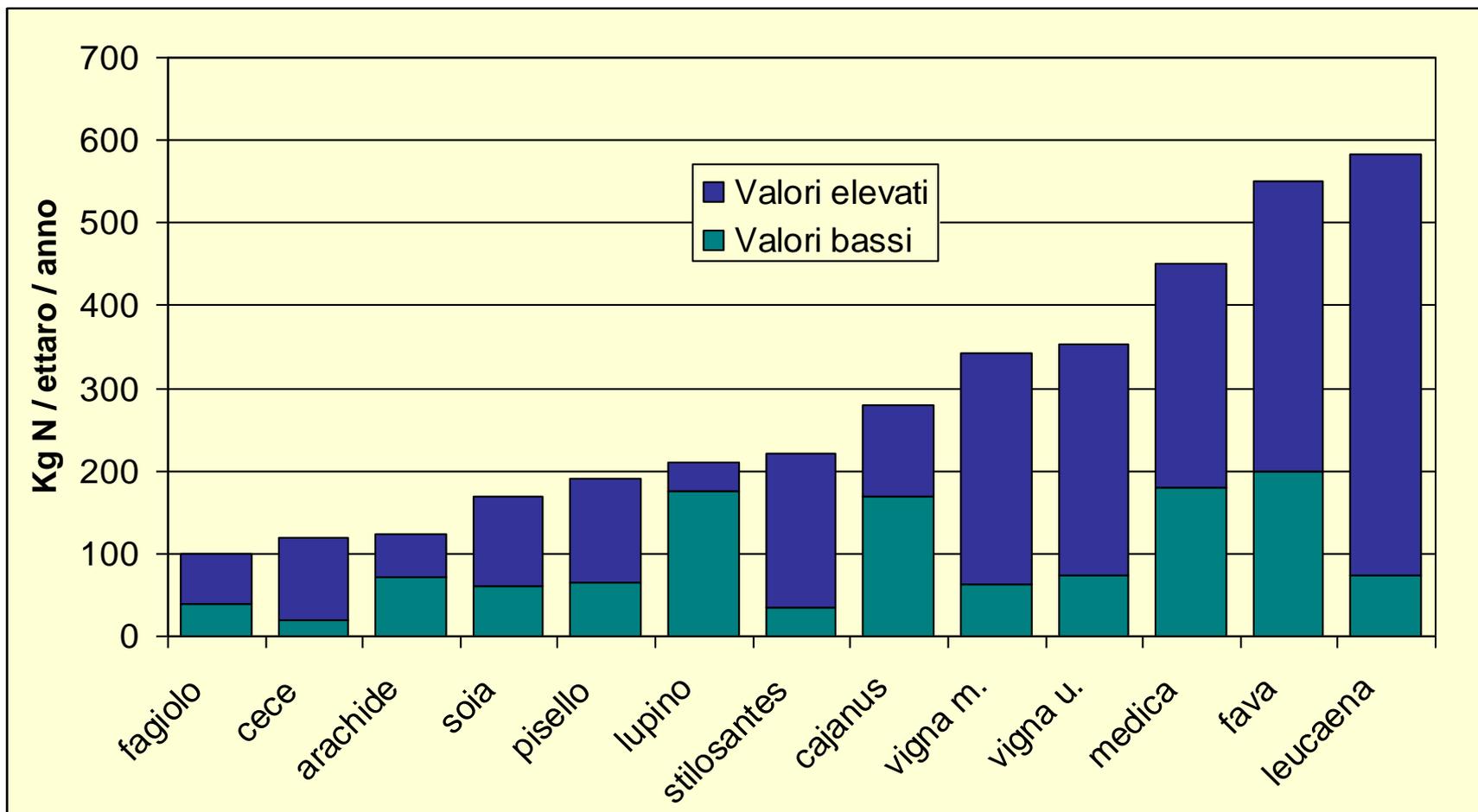
**Cyanopsis tetragonoloba
(guar)**



***Azoto totale
fissato nella
biosfera***

	Area (ha · 10 ⁶)	Kg N ₂ fissato /anno /ha	Input totale /anno (t · 10 ⁶)
FISSAZIONE BIOLOGICA			122
Piante leguminose	250	80	20
Piante non leguminose	1015	8	8
Praterie	6000	5	30
Risaie	135	30	4
Foreste	4000	3	12
Terre non coltivabili	2000	6	12
Corpi idrici	36000	1	36
FISSAZIONE ATMOSFERICA			7
FISSAZIONE INDUSTRIALE			25

Stime relative alle quantità di azoto fissato da alcune leguminose

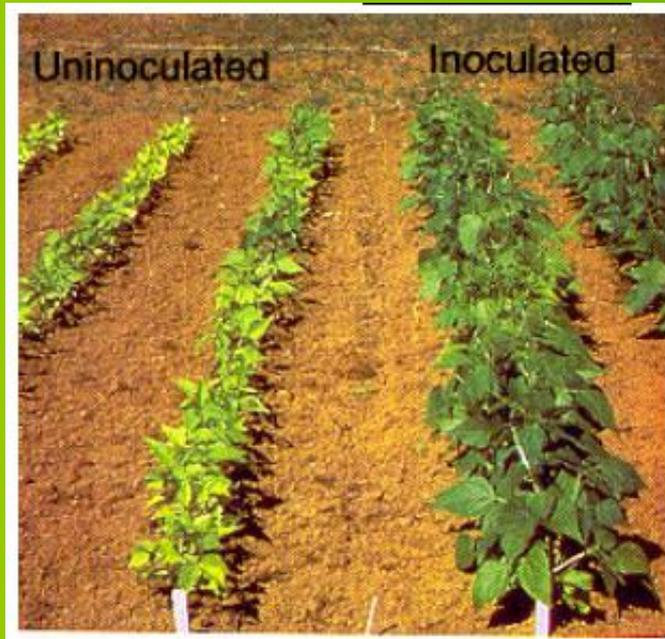


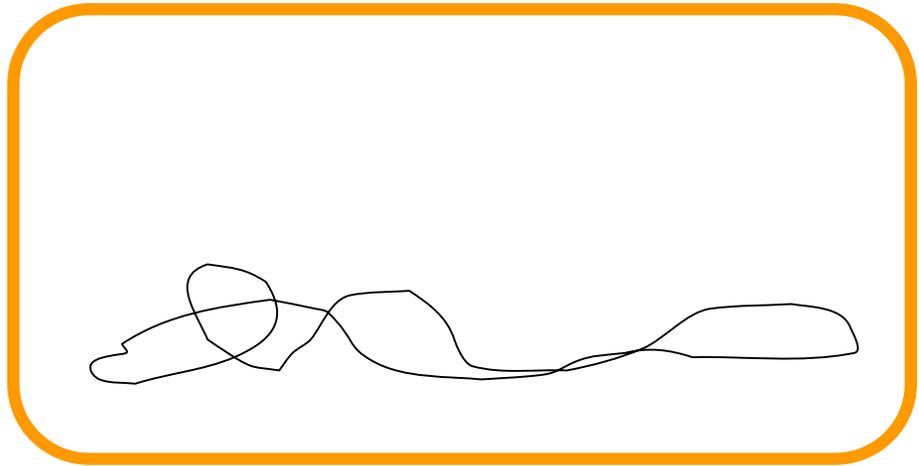
L'azotofissazione simbiotica **costa** comunque alla pianta, in termini di **C** fotosintato, dal **15 al 30%** per fissazione di N_2 e assimilazione di NH_4^+



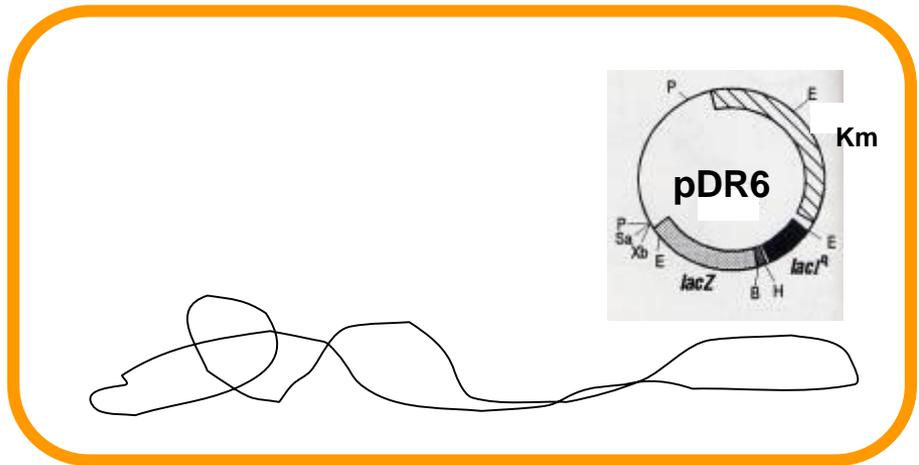
Non-inoculation

Inoculation with Y629



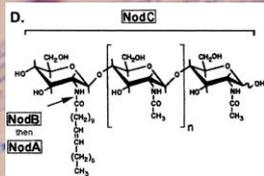
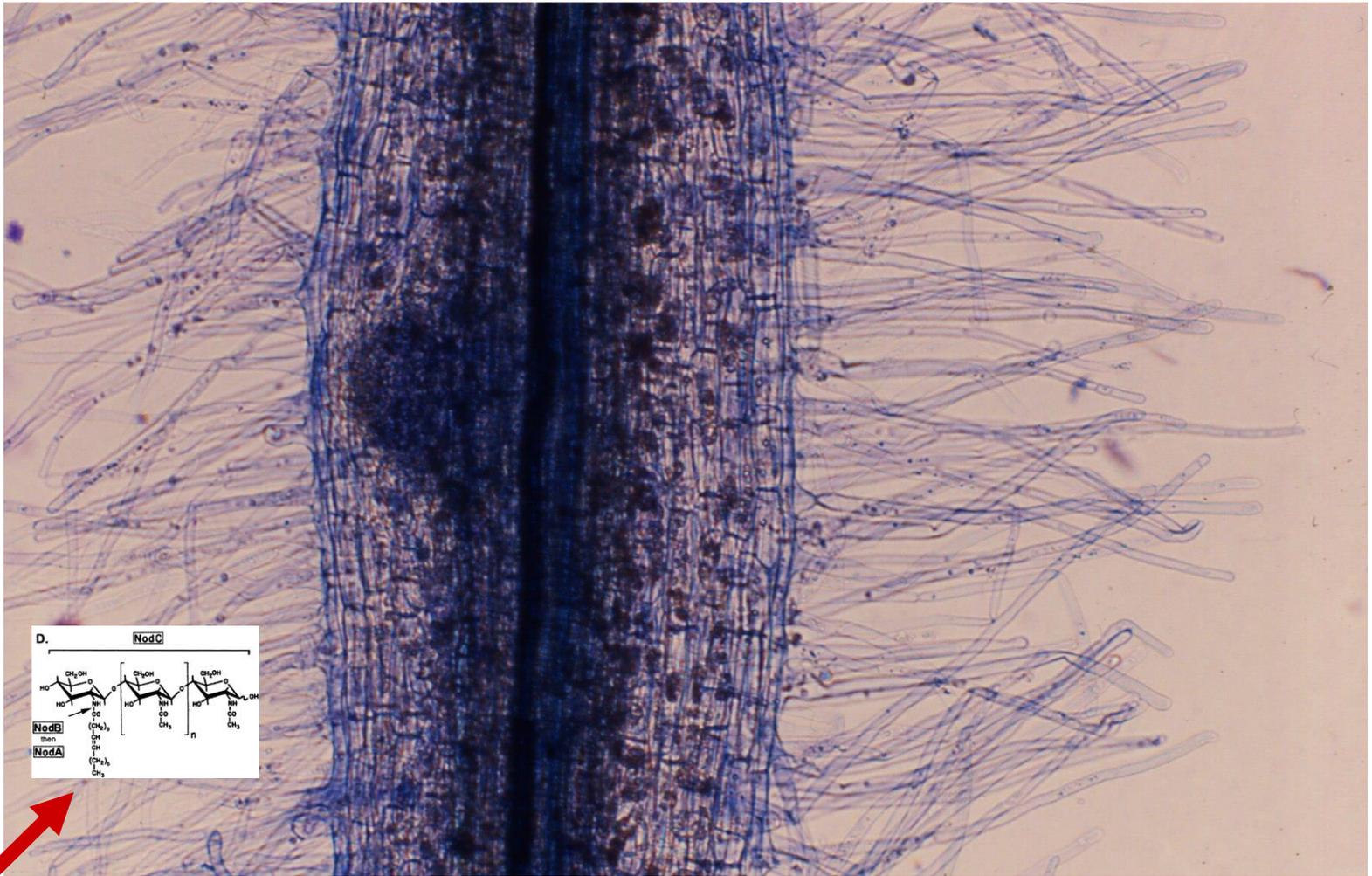


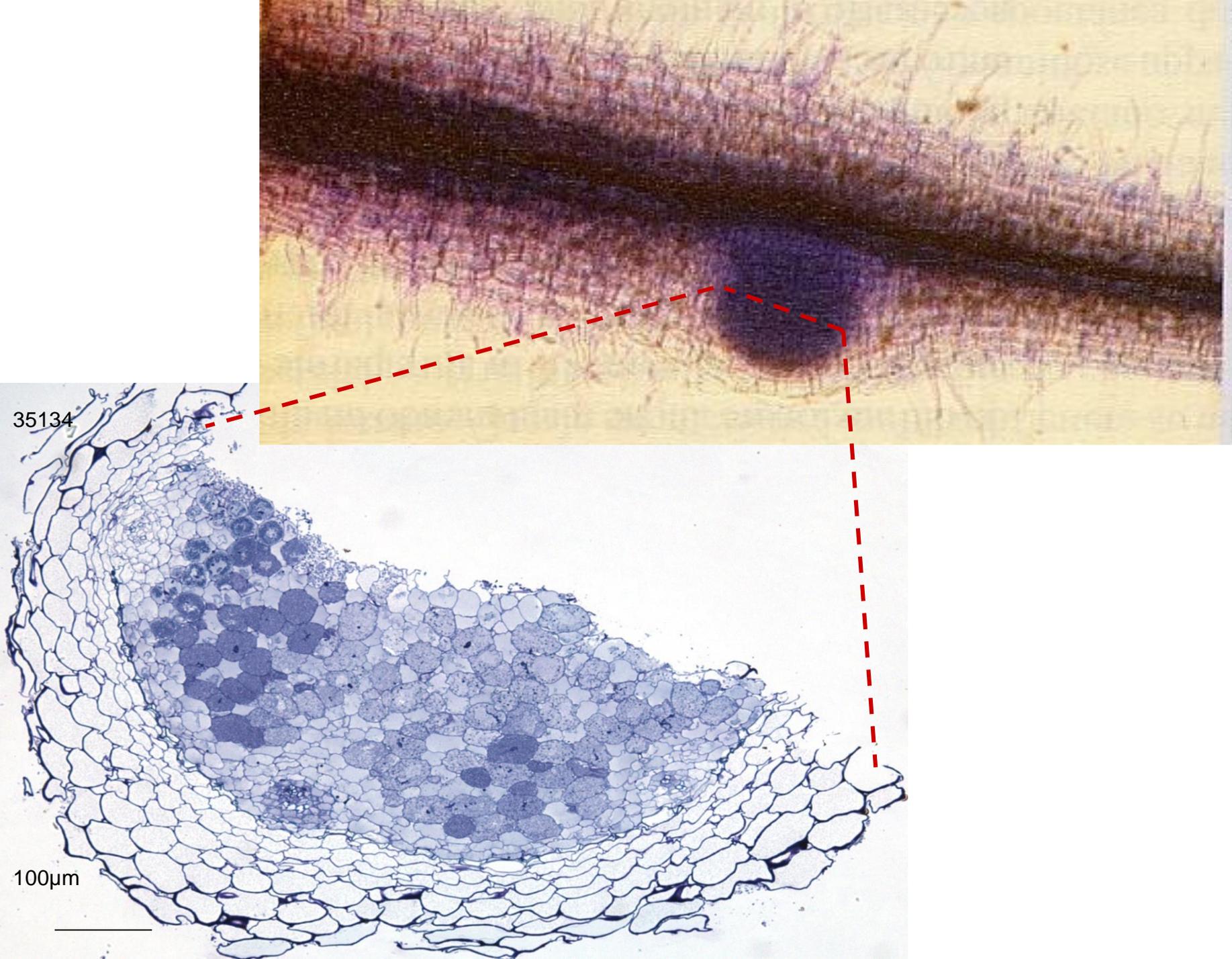
R. l. bv. trifolii

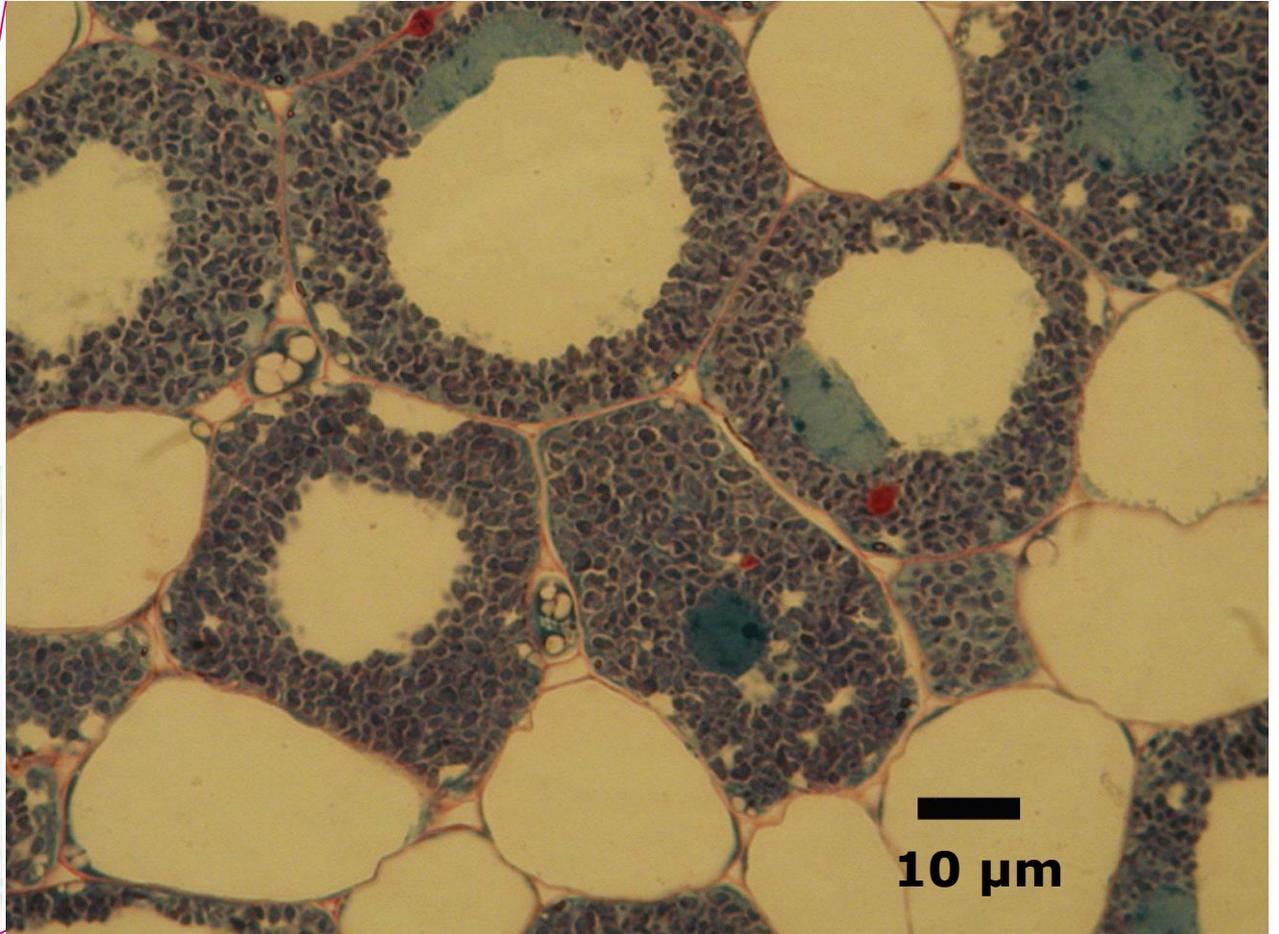
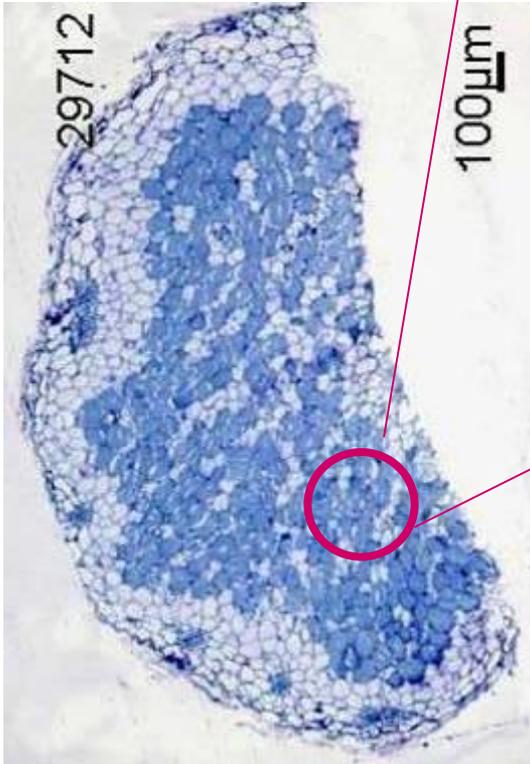


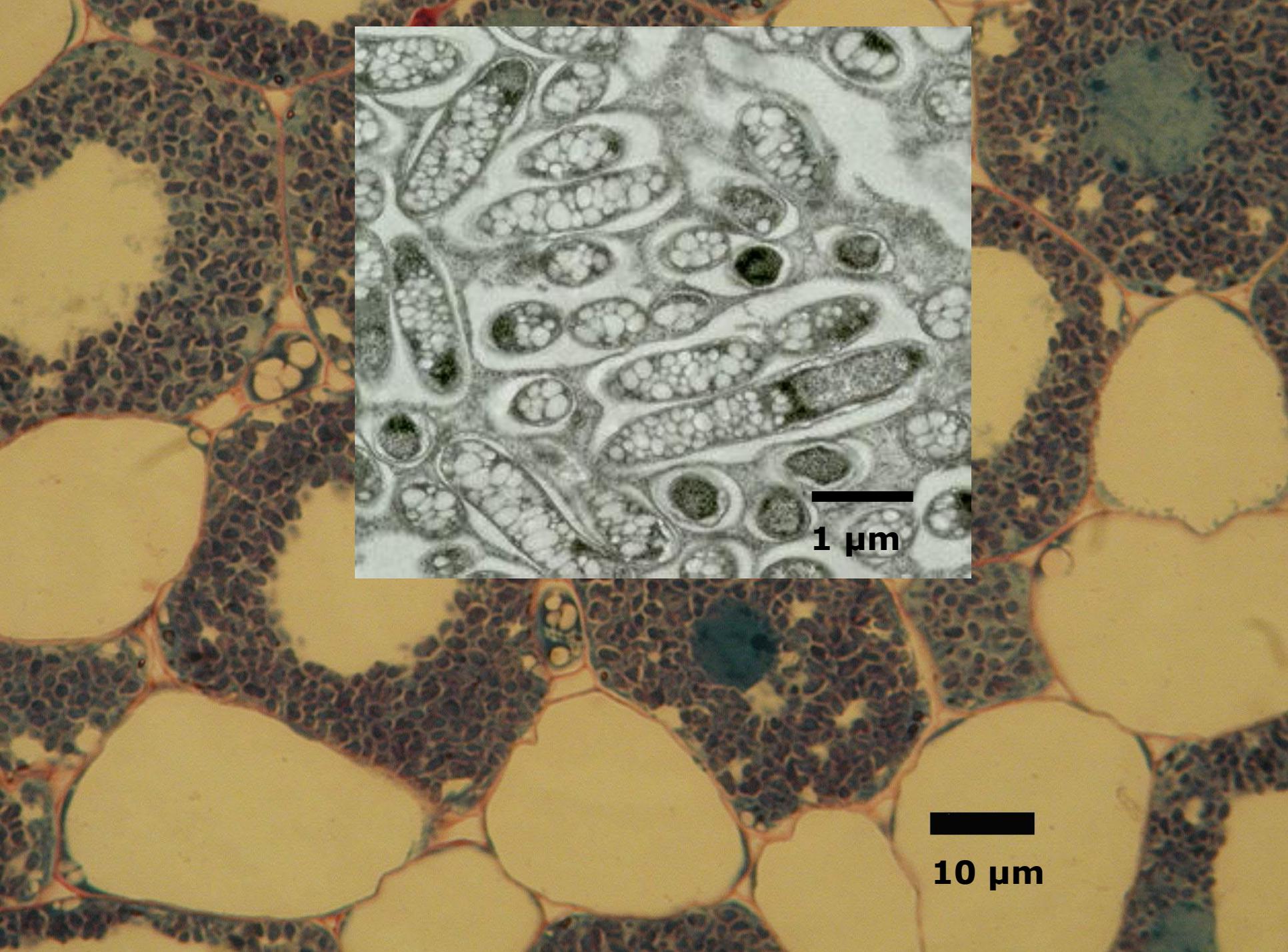
R. l. bv. trifolii pDR6





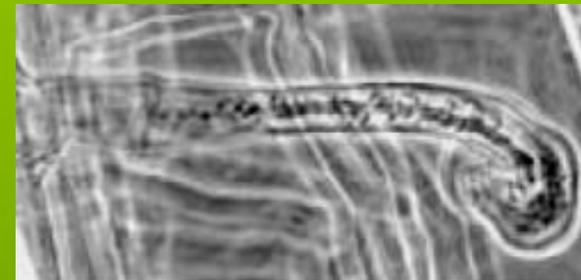
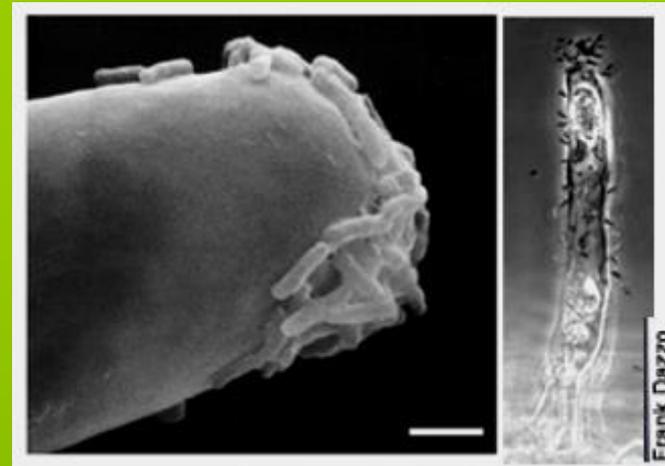
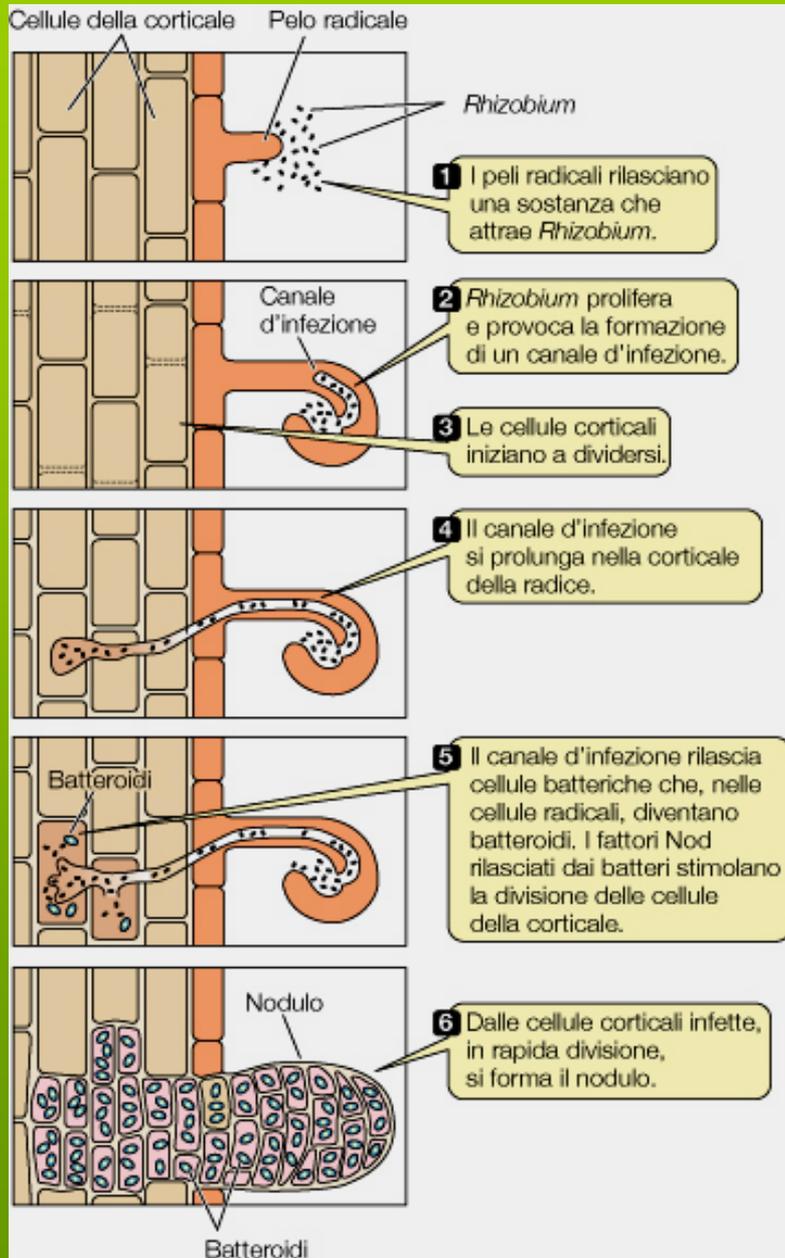




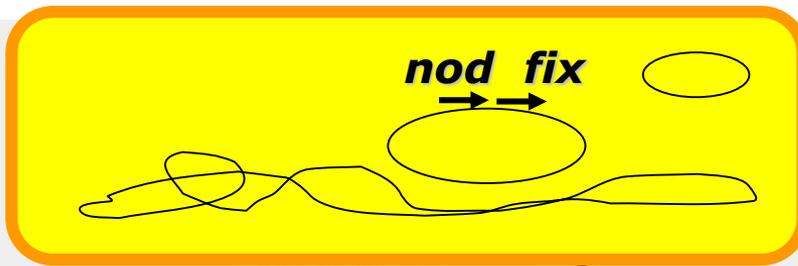


1 μm

10 μm



Geni simbiotici
su plasmidi

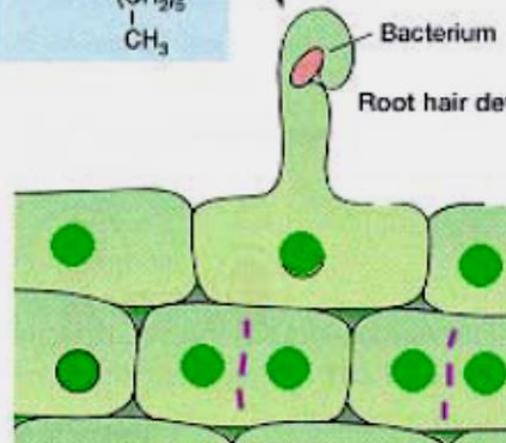
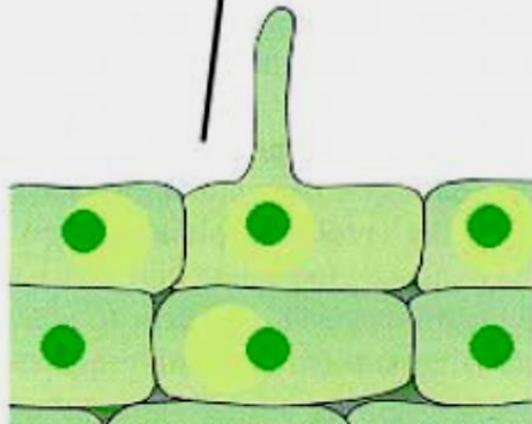
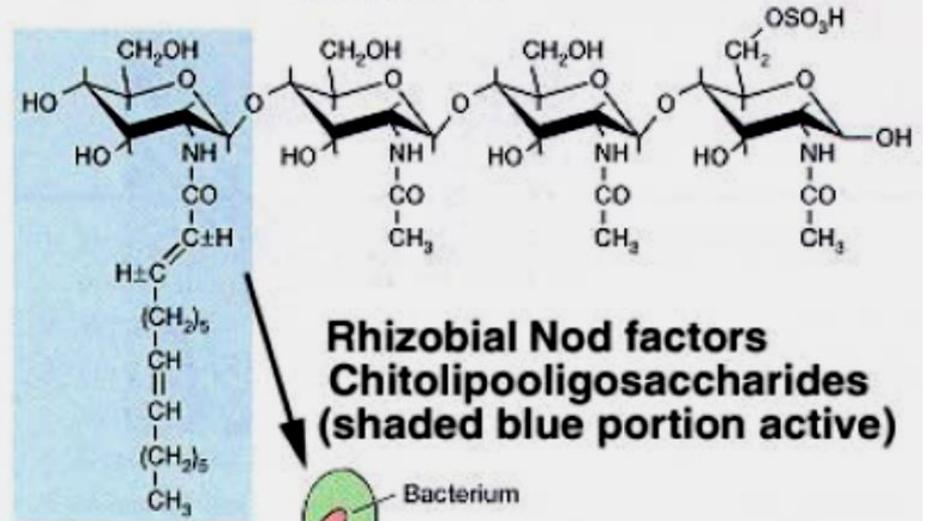


Rhizobia → Plant

Plant → Rhizobia



Rhizobial
nod genes induced

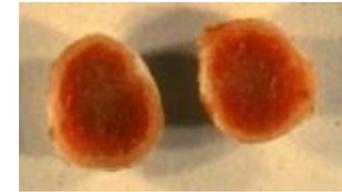


Activate
cortical cell
divisions

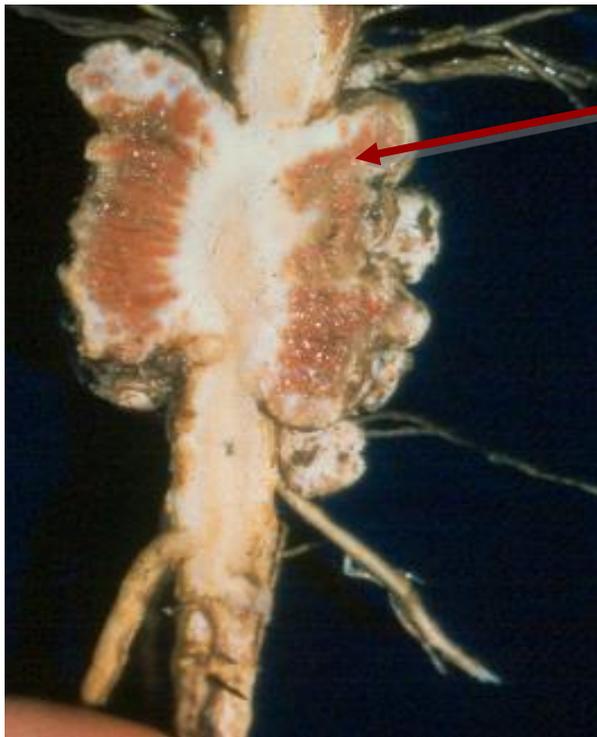


La **NITROGENASI**

è sensibile all'ossigeno molecolare

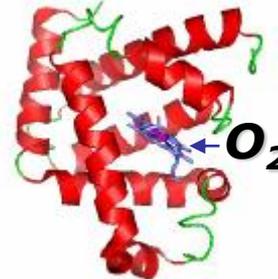


Rizobi → aerobi, simbionti (*Leguminosae*)
compartmentalizzazione → **noduli (tubercoli) radicali**

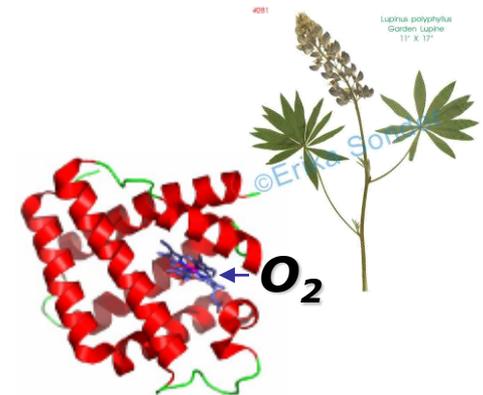


Leg-emoglobina

Proteina con eme e ferro con funzione di legare ossigeno, in analogia con emoglobine e mioglobine animali



Mioglobina di capodoglio



Leg-emoglobina di lupino



***Più di 140 Kg di azoto atmosferico fissato per ettaro e per anno,
Grazie alla simbiosi tra batteri e leguminose.***

Rizobi nelle gran

Plant and Soil 194: 99–114, 1997.
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Natural endophytic association between *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* and rice roots and assessment of its potential to promote rice growth

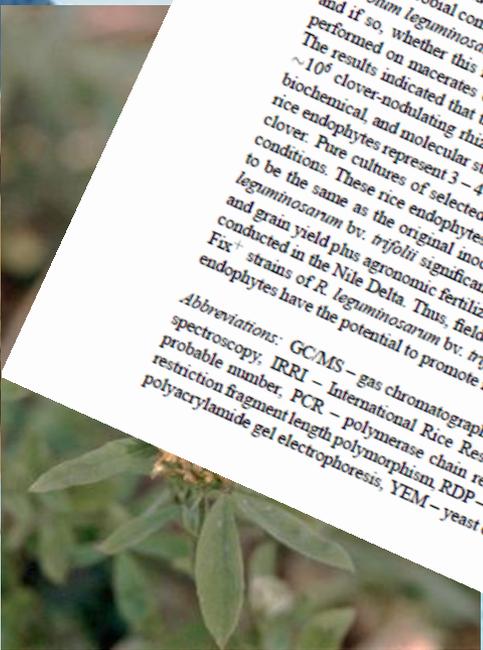
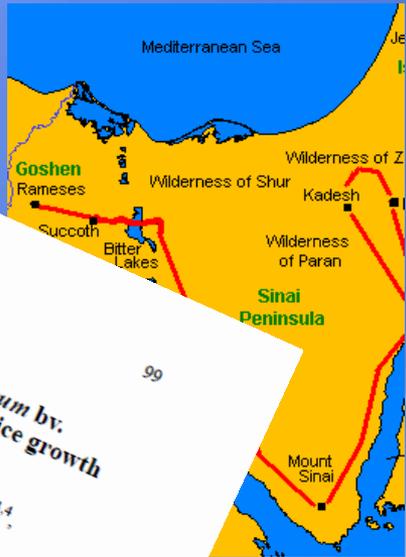
Youssef G. Yanni¹, R. Y. Rizk¹, V. Corich², A. Squartini², K. Ninke^{3,4},
S. Philip-Hollingsworth³, G. Orgambide³, F. de Bruijn^{3,4,5}, J. Stoltzfus⁵, D. Buckley^{3,4},
T.M. Schmidt^{3,4}, P.F. Mateos⁶, J.K. Ladha⁷ and Frank B. Dazzo^{3,4,8}
¹Sakha Agricultural Research Station, Kafri-El-Sheikh, 33717 A. R. Egypt; ²Dipt. de Biotechnologie Agrarie, Universita Degli Studi di Padova, Padova, Italy; ³Dept. of Microbiology, East Lansing, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824, U.S.A.; ⁴Center for Microbial Ecology and Plant Research Laboratory, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824, U.S.A.; ⁵Dept. de Microbiologia y Genetica, Universidad de Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain and ⁷International Rice Research Institute, P.O. Box 933, 1099 Manila, Philippines; ⁸Address all correspondence to Dr. Frank B. Dazzo, Dept. of Microbiology, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824, USA

Key words: association, clover, endophyte, PGPR, *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii*, rice, root, symbiosis

Abstract

For over 7 centuries, production of rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) in Egypt has benefited from rotation with Egyptian berseem clover (*Trifolium alexandrinum*). The nitrogen supplied by this rotation replaces 25–33% of the recommended rate of fertilizer-N application for rice production. This benefit to the rice cannot be explained solely by an increased availability of fixed N through mineralization of N-rich clover crop residues. Since rice normally supports a diverse microbial community of internal root colonists, we have examined the possibility that the clover symbiont, *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* colonizes rice roots endophytically in fields where these crops are rotated, and if so, whether this novel plant-microbe association benefits rice growth. MPN plant infection studies were performed on macerates of rice roots inoculated on *T. alexandrinum* as the legume trap host. The results indicated that the root interior of rice grown in fields rotated with clover in the Nile Delta contained $\sim 10^5$ clover-nodulating endophytes g⁻¹ fresh weight of root. Plant tests plus microscopical, cultural, biochemical, and molecular structure studies indicated that the numerically dominant isolates of clover-nodulating rice endophytes represent 3–4 authentic strains of *R. leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* that were Nod⁺ Fix⁺ on berseem clover. Pure cultures of selected strains were able to colonize the interior of rice roots grown under gnotobiotic conditions. These rice endophytes were reisolated from surface-sterilized roots and shown by molecular methods to be the same as the original inoculant strains, thus verifying Koch's postulates. Two endophytic strains of *R. leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* significantly increased shoot and root growth of rice in a field inoculation experiment and grain yield plus agronomic fertilizer-N-use efficiency of Giza-175 hybrid rice in a field since antiquity contain Fix⁺ strains of *R. leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* that naturally colonize the rice root interior, and these true rhizobial endophytes have the potential to promote rice growth and productivity under laboratory and field conditions.

Abbreviations: GCMS – gas chromatography-mass spectrometry; ¹H-NMR – proton nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy; IRRI – International Rice Research Institute; LSD – least significant difference; MPN – most probable number; IRR – International Rice Research Institute; LSD – least significant difference; MPN – most probable number; PCR – polymerase chain reaction; PGPR – plant growth promoting rhizobacteria; RFLP – restriction fragment length polymorphism; RDP – ribosomal database project; SDS-PAGE – sodium dodecylsulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis; YEM – yeast extract mannitol



Trifolium alexandrinum

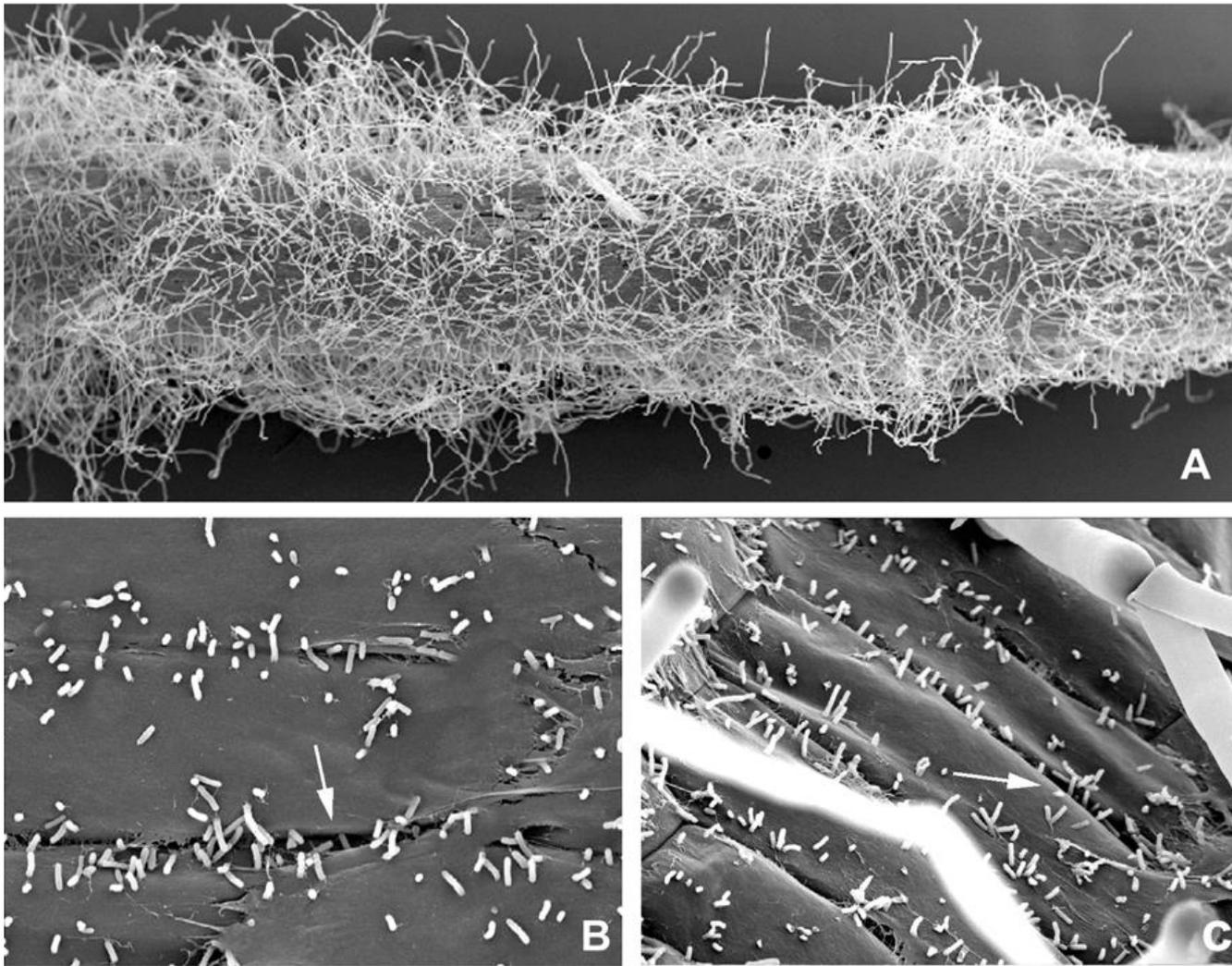


Fig. 12. Scanning electron microscopy of Sakha 102 rice roots colonized by *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* strain E11. (A) Low-magnification micrograph showing a 4-mm rootlet segment with numerous root hairs and 'windows' between them providing opportunity to view the rhizoplane surface. (B, C) Higher-magnification micrographs showing the colonization of the epidermal surface by the bacteria. Arrows point to localized sites where the bacteria have entered small crevices at junctions between epidermal cells.

Original Article

Legumes: the most important dietary predictor of survival in older people of different ethnicities

Irene Darmadi-Blackberry MB, PhD¹, Mark L Wahlqvist AO, MD²,
Antigone Kouris-Blazos PhD², Bertil Steen MD, PhD³, Widjaja Lukito MD, PhD⁴,
Yoshimitsu Horie PhD⁵ and Kazuyo Horie BSc⁶

¹Public Health Division, National Ageing Research Institute, Melbourne, Australia

²Asia Pacific Health & Nutrition Centre, Monash Asia Institute, Monash University, Australia

³Department of Geriatric Medicine, Goteborg University, Goteborg, Sweden

⁴SEAMEO TROPMED, University of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia

⁵School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nagoya City University, Nagoya, Japan

⁶Faculty of Home Economics, Aichi Gakusen, Okazaki, Japan

To identify protective dietary predictors amongst long-lived elderly people ($N=785$), the "Food Habits in Later Life" (FHILL) study was undertaken among five cohorts in Japan, Sweden, Greece and Australia. Between 1988 and 1991, baseline data on food intakes were collected. There were 785 participants aged 70 and over that were followed up to seven years. Based on an alternative Cox Proportional Hazard model adjusted to age at enrolment (in 5-year intervals), gender and smoking, the legume food group showed 7-8% reduction in mortality hazard ratio for every 20g increase in daily intake with or without controlling for ethnicity (RR 0.92; 95% CI 0.85-0.99 and RR 0.93; 95% CI 0.87-0.99, respectively). Other food groups were not found to be consistently significant in predicting survival amongst the FHILL cohorts.

Key words: legumes, diet, survival, FHILL, mortality, food intake, elderly, Australia, Greece, Japan, Sweden, fish, fat ra

Introduction

It is becoming apparent that people of various nations with different food cultures can have comparable life expectancy and morbidity rates.¹ The 'Food Habits in Later Life' (FHILL)² is a cross-cultural study conducted under the auspices of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences (IUNS) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The FHILL studies have concentrated on food intake and food intake patterns as differentiators and common denominators in health susceptibility and for sur-

We have previously demonstrated that a plant based (similar to the traditional mediterranean diet) includes fish is the most important predictor of survival amongst FHILL cohorts (*in press*). This result was significant after accounting for other non-nutritional variables such as smoking status, gender, exercise status, social activity, activities of daily living and memory status in one Cox Proportional Hazard model. Details of this analysis are discussed elsewhere (*in press*).







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