

Romania: Case study no. 8 - Draganesti- Vlasca

WP5: Monitoring of SICS

Experimental design of the trials

There are 4 experimental variants to be tested in a 3 years crop rotation:

- narrow rotation + legumes; balanced mineral fertilization; deep ploughing; weeds and pests control
- narrow rotation + legumes; balanced mineral fertilization; subsoiling; weeds and pests control
- narrow rotation + legumes; balanced mineral fertilization; chisel; weeds and pests control
- narrow rotation + legumes; balanced mineral fertilization; disk; weeds and pests control

The crop rotation is: winter wheat – mustard - sunflower

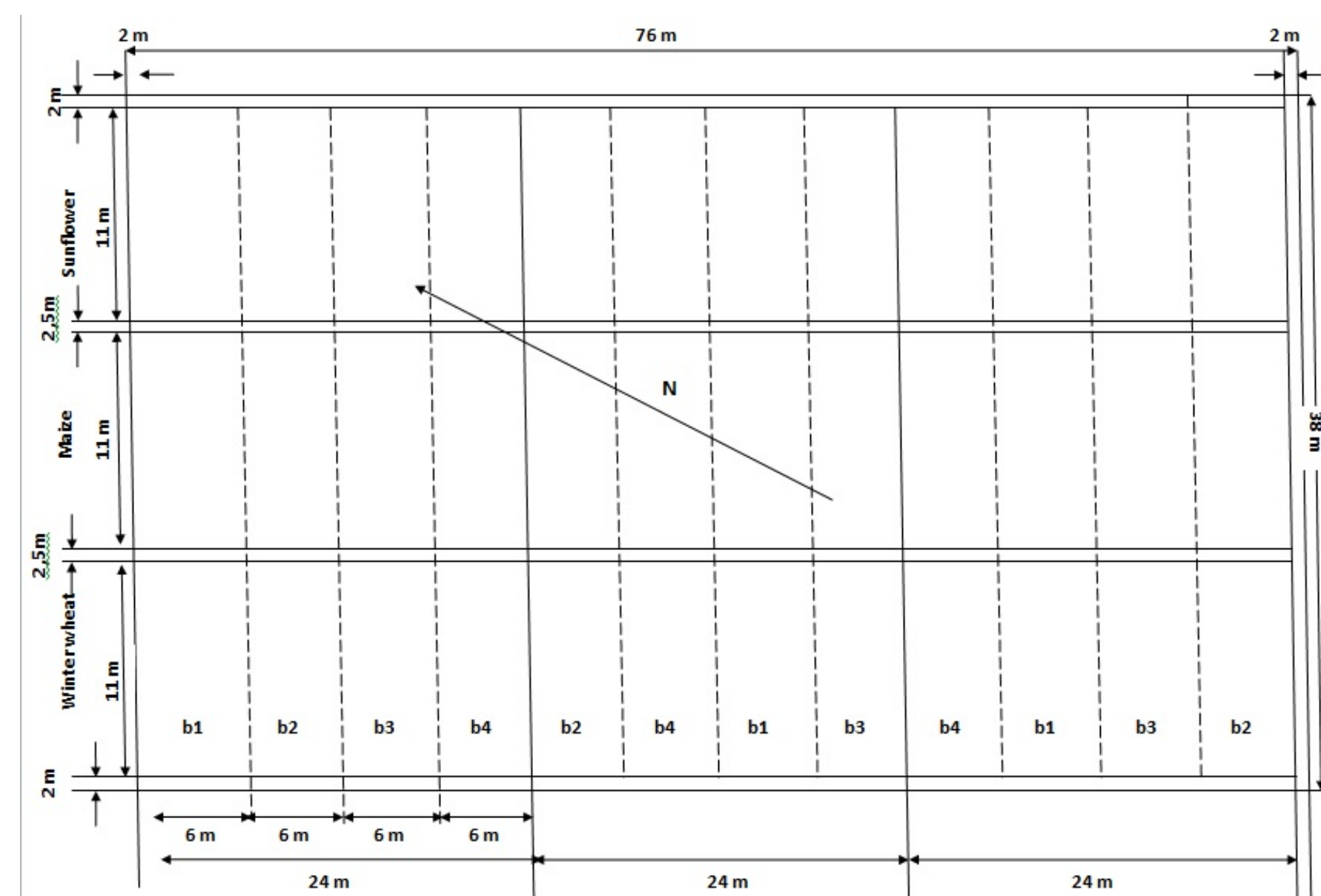
The indicators which are evaluated within the trials of the experiment are:

Physical indicators:

- Max. rooting depth (control physical limitation) – measured twice (start and end of experiment);
- Water holding capacity – once;
- Soil aggregate stability - 2/y (start of cropping season, before harvest);
- Bulk density / total porosity - 2/y (start of cropping season, before harvest);
- Penetration resistance - measured twice (start and end of experiment);
- Texture – measured once;

Chemical indicators:

- Nmineral, P total, Extractable P, K, Ca, Mg, Organic carbon, pH, EC - 2/y (start of cropping season, before harvest);
- Pesticides, heavy metals - 1 / cropping season



WP8: Dissemination

SoilCare project was presented by the research team at the annual meeting with the stakeholders which was organized at the study site field.

During the meeting the research team presented the design of the experimental variants which are tested in the experimental field within Soilcare project, and the stakeholders were encouraged to present their suggestions for improving the experimental variants.

The dry weather condition of the first year of experiment led to unexpected low yields. At the stakeholder's suggestion, it was decided by the project research team to change the crops in the rotation. Therefore, the new rotation will be: winter wheat (instead of spring barley), sunflower (instead of soybean) and mustard.

The **SOILCARE** project is a 5 year project aimed at identifying and evaluating promising soil improving cropping systems and agronomic techniques increasing profitability and sustainability across scales in Europe.

The SOILCARE project consortium consist of 28 partner institutes from 10 European countries. The SOILCARE project is coordinated by ALTERRA, Wageningen UR, The Netherlands.

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