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Field application of passive SBSE for the monitoring of pesticides in surface waters

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8 Abstract

Spot sampling lacks representativeness for monitoring organic contaminants in most surface 9 waters. Passive sampling has emerged as a cost-effective complementary sampling technique. 10 We recently developed passive stir bar sorptive extraction (passive SBSE), with Twister from 11 Gerstel, for monitoring moderately hydrophilic to hydrophobic pesticides (2.18 < log K_{ow} < 12 5.11) in surface water. The aim of the present study was to assess this new passive sampler for 13 the determination of representative average concentrations and to evaluate the contamination 14 15 levels of two French rivers. Passive SBSE was evaluated for the monitoring of 16 pesticides in two rivers located in a small vineyard watershed during two one-month field campaigns in 16 spring 2010 and spring 2011. Passive SBSE was applied for periods of one or two weeks 17 during the field campaigns, and compared with spot sampling and weekly average automated 18 sampling. Results showed that passive SBSE could achieve better time-representativeness 19 than spot sampling, and lower limits of quantification than automated sampling coupled to 20 analytical SBSE for the pesticides studied. Finally, passive SBSE proved useful for revealing 21 spatial and temporal variations in pesticide contamination of both rivers, and the impact of 22 23 rainfall and runoff on the river water quality.

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27 Keywords: Freshwater monitoring, Passive sampling, Spot sampling, Pesticides

28 **1 Introduction**

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Monitoring organic contaminants in the aquatic environment is a critical issue, as many of 30 them can cause adverse effects. Currently, spot sampling is the most commonly used method 31 for monitoring water quality (Greenwood et al. 2007b; Madrid and Zayas 2007); 4-12 spot 32 33 samples per year are required to implement monitoring programs for the Water Framework Directive (European Commission, 2000). For most hydrosystems, frequent spot sampling is 34 necessary for good time-representativeness. However, the cost can be high because of the 35 36 labor and transport involved in sampling, and the need for a large number of analyses (Roig et 37 al. 2007). Automated sampling achieves better time-representativeness than spot sampling, with lower logistical cost, and also with lower analytical cost when composite samples are 38 39 collected and analyzed. However, this technique is costly for purchase and maintenance, cannot be used at all sites, and can only be used to monitor stable molecules (Morin et al. 40 2012). Alternative sampling methods, such as passive sampling, are being developed, and 41 may provide more representative data than spot sampling. However, the reliability, 42 reproducibility and sensitivity of these methods first need to be assessed in both laboratory 43 44 and field studies before they can be applied (Greenwood et al. 2007b).

45 Passive sampling is a recently developed sampling method for monitoring contaminants in surface waters (Namieśnik et al. 2005; Vrana et al. 2005; Greenwood et al. 2007a). This 46 technique allows smoothed integrative sampling over periods ranging from days to months, 47 and ultra-trace levels of detection for a broad range of organic contaminants (Huckins et al. 48 49 2006; Greenwood et al. 2007a). For determining time-weighted average (TWA) 50 concentrations, the passive sampler has to be calibrated prior to field exposure. In fact, the accumulation kinetics of the target organic contaminants are studied in controlled conditions 51 to determine the corresponding sampling rates (R_s) . The efficiency of passive samplers for the 52

determination of TWA concentrations in natural waters is generally assessed by comparison 53 54 with active sampling (Vrana et al. 2005; Greenwood et al. 2007a). In most cases, passive sampling has been compared with spot sampling with globally positive results. For instance, 55 Alvarez et al. (2004) obtained an agreement in the concentrations of diuron and isoproturon in 56 two rivers with a less than 1.7-fold difference between the POCIS and spot sampling. 57 Kaserzon et al. (2012) also observed a close agreement between perfluorinated chemicals 58 59 measured by repeated spot sampling and POCIS in Sidney Harbor water. However, fewer studies report comparisons with automated sampling, although this provides better time-60 representativeness (Hyne and Aistrope 2008; Mazzella et al. 2010; Morin et al. 2012; Bailly et 61 62 al. 2013).

63 Floods are a major pathway for the transport of pesticides into dynamic rivers located in small agricultural watersheds (Kreuger 1998; Taghavi et al. 2011; Petersen et al. 2012), when spot 64 sampling usually under-estimates the contamination levels (Rabiet et al. 2010; Dalton et al. 65 66 2014). Recently, we used Gerstel Twisters® (commercially available devices used for stir bar sorptive extraction (SBSE)) to develop passive SBSE as a simple passive sampling technique 67 for moderately hydrophilic to hydrophobic pesticides (2.18 < log K_{ow} < 5.11) (Assoumani et 68 al. 2013). Stir bar sorptive extraction is originally an analytical sample preparation technique 69 for liquid and gaseous samples (Baltussen et al. 1999). Vrana et al. (2001) also used 70 Twisters® and developed the membrane-enclosed sorptive coating (MESCO) for the passive 71 72 sampling of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) and polychlorobiphenyls (PCB) in water. Equipped with a membrane, the accumulation kinetics of organic contaminants in the 73 74 MESCO might not be fast enough to integrate transient variations of concentrations. In contrast, for membrane-free passive SBSE, we reported fast accumulation kinetics for the 18 75 target pesticides in laboratory conditions (Assoumani et al. 2014). This new passive sampler 76 77 needed to be assessed in field conditions and compared with conventional active sampling

techniques. Hence, the aim of the present work was, first, to evaluate passive SBSE for the 78 79 determination of representative pesticide concentrations and, second, to assess the contamination levels of two French rivers. We conducted two one-month monitoring 80 campaigns, in spring 2010 and spring 2011, to assess the time-representativeness and 81 sensitivity of passive SBSE for the monitoring of 16 pesticides in river waters. Firstly, we 82 compared the results of passive SBSE with those of spot sampling and weekly average 83 84 automated sampling. We focused on qualitative and quantitative results, and on the limits of quantification allowed by the three sampling techniques. Secondly, passive SBSE results were 85 used to assess the pesticide contamination of two river waters. Spatial and temporal variations 86 87 in the pesticide concentrations were assessed in the two rivers in relation to agrochemical and hydrological conditions. 88

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- 90 2 Experimental
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- 92 2.1 Chemicals and materials
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The 16 pesticides selected for this study were acetochlor (ATC), atrazine (ATZ), azoxystrobin 94 95 (AZS), chlorfenvinphos (CFV), chlorpyrifos-ethyl (CPE), diflufenican (DFF), dimethomorph (DMM), 3,4-dichloroaniline (DCA) (metabolite of diuron), fenitrothion (FNT), flufenoxuron 96 (FFX), isoproturon (IPU), metolachlor (MTC), norflurazon (NFZ), procymidon (PCM), 97 98 simazine (SMZ), and tebuconazole (TBZ) (purity \geq 92.5%) (Dr. Ehrenstorfer GmbH, Augsburg, Germany). They belong to different use classes (herbicides, insecticides and 99 fungicides) and chemical classes (triazines, substituted ureas, triazoles and organophosphate 100 101 compounds); their physical and chemical properties, including their octanol-water partitioning 102 coefficient (log K_{ow}), range widely (Table 1).

For chemical analyses, diuron-d6 (used as internal standard), linuron-d6 and chlorpyrifos-103 ethyl-d10 (used as surrogates), were provided by Dr. Ehrenstorfer (purity \geq 98.5%). Sodium 104 chloride NaCl (purity = 99.5%) was purchased from VWR (Strasbourg, France). 105 Dichloromethane for pesticide residue analysis, and liquid chromatography-mass 106 spectrometry (LC-MS) grade acetonitrile and methanol were purchased from VWR 107 (Strasbourg, France). Formic acid (purity = 98%) for LC-MS analysis was provided by 108 109 Sigma-Aldrich (Saint-Quentin-Fallavier, France). Ultrapure water was produced by a MilliQ water purification system equipped with an LC-Pak cartridge purchased from Millipore 110 (Billerica, MA, USA). For passive SBSE, we used Twisters® (20 mm × 1 mm thick 111 polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS) film) as passive sampling tools, hereafter named passive 112 Twisters, purchased from Gerstel (Mülheim a/d Ruhr, Germany). For the field application, the 113 passive Twisters were placed in deployment bags, made of two pieces of plastic mesh, in 114 order to expose the PDMS phase directly to the aquatic medium, and protect it from small 115 116 rocks, pieces of wood or coarse sand (Assoumani et al. 2013). The deployment bags with passive Twisters were placed in cases with holes (40 cm \times 30 cm \times 20 cm), which were 117 placed in the river. 118

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120 2.2 Field experiments

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Two monitoring campaigns took place along two rivers of a French vineyard watershed (220 km²) located about 70 km north of Lyon in the Beaujolais region, the Morcille River and the Ardières River (Figure 1). The Morcille River is a tributary of the Ardières River and is located in a subwatershed of 8 km². In spring, the typical flow of the Morcille River is 5 L s⁻¹ (Figure S1 in Supplementary data section), and the typical flow of the Ardières River is 350 L s⁻¹ (Figure S2). Typical flood events last 5 h for the Morcille River and 24 h for the Ardières River. The proportion of land devoted to vineyards increases along both rivers. This proportion increases up to 40% and to 70% for the Ardières and the Morcille watersheds, respectively (Rabiet et al. 2010). Six deployment sites, three per river, were selected for two one-month exposure campaigns, in spring 2010 and spring 2011.

For the performance evaluation of passive SBSE, the sampling strategy varied depending on 132 the campaign year and the deployment site (Figure 1). In spring 2010, triplicate passive 133 Twisters were deployed for two periods of two weeks at all the sites. Further triplicate passive 134 135 Twisters were deployed for four periods of one week at the intermediate site of the Morcille River. Simultaneously, to assess the time-representativeness of passive SBSE, spot sampling 136 and weekly average automated sampling were carried out every week. Spot samples were 137 collected in 1-L amber polyethylene bottles rinsed twice with the river water. The weekly 138 average samples were collected with a refrigerated automated sampler (Bühler 4010, Hach-139 Lange) in a single 5 L amber glass container (i.e. composite sample) every week at the 140 141 intermediate site of the Morcille River and at the downstream site of the Ardières River. The automated samplers were set to collect 100 mL of river water every 3.5 h. The time interval 142 was short enough to allow the integration of typical floods of the two rivers, and the water 143 volume collected at each time point was selected to allow the operation of the automated 144 samplers for 7 days (48 samples collected) while ensuring satisfactory repeatability. 145

In spring 2011, triplicate passive Twisters were deployed for four periods of one week at the intermediate site and the downstream site of the Morcille River, and at the upstream site and downstream site of the Ardières River. During the same period, spot samples and weekly average samples (via automated samplers) were collected every week at the intermediate site of the Morcille River and at the downstream site of the Ardières River (Figure 1).

Field blanks for passive Twisters were systematically used. All the passive Twisters were 151 placed individually in deployment bags, made of two pieces of plastic mesh, in order to 152 expose the PDMS phase directly to the aquatic medium, while protecting it from small rocks, 153 pieces of wood or coarse sand. The water samples and the passive Twisters were brought back 154 to the laboratory in a refrigerated case for subsequent pesticide assays. Hourly rainfall and 155 flow rate were measured at the intermediate site of the Morcille River in spring 2010, and at 156 the intermediate site of the Morcille River and at the downstream site of the Ardières River in 157 spring 2011. 158

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160 2.3 Chemical analysis of water samples and passive Twisters

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Before extraction and determination of pesticide concentrations, all the water samples were 162 filtered with 0.7 µm GF/F glass fiber membranes. In spring 2010, pesticide concentrations in 163 spot samples were determined by solid phase extraction (6 mL Oasis HLB cartridges, Waters) 164 followed by liquid chromatography coupled with tandem mass spectrometry (SPE-LC-165 166 MS/MS). The extraction was carried out with 250 mL of water sample, and the concentration factor was 1000. For the weekly average samples, pesticides were assayed in triplicate by 167 analytical SBSE followed by liquid desorption and liquid chromatography coupled with 168 tandem mass spectrometry (SBSE-LD-LC-MS/MS). In spring 2011, this analytical method 169 was applied for pesticide assay in the spot samples and in the weekly average samples, both in 170 171 triplicate. The development and validation of the SBSE-LD-LC-MS/MS analytical method have been described elsewhere (Margoum et al., 2013). Briefly, the extraction of 20 mL of 172 water samples was performed at 800 rpm for 3 h. The Twisters (hereafter named analytical 173 Twisters) were then placed in 200 µL of methanol/acetonitrile (50/50, v/v), and the pesticides 174 were desorbed under sonication for 15 min. Finally, 150 µL of ultrapure water and 10 µL of 175

176 diuron-d6 at 200 μ g L⁻¹ in acetone, were added to 40 μ L of the desorbate to constitute the 177 sample for LC-MS/MS analysis. The concentration factor was 20.

After exposure, the passive Twisters were taken out of their deployment bags, gently rinsed with ultrapure water and dried with lint-free tissue, and then left at least overnight at -18 °C. The pesticides sorbed in the passive Twisters were then extracted in the same way as for the analytical Twisters.

The chemical analyses were performed with an LC 1100 Series apparatus from Agilent (Massy, France) coupled with an MS triple quadrupole API 4000 from AB Sciex (Les Ulis, France), equipped with an electrospray ionization source (ESI) operated in the positive ionization mode. An Atlantis T3 (2.1 mm × 100 mm; $d_p = 3 \mu m$) purchased from Waters (Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, France) was used for the chromatographic separation of the analytes. Acetonitrile and ultrapure water both with formic acid (0.1%) were used in an analytical gradient of 15 min.

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190 **3 Theory**

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The theory of passive sampling is well established and documented (Vrana et al. 2005; Huckins et al. 2006; Greenwood et al. 2007a). For passive SBSE, assuming isotropic exchange, the uptake of a contaminant in a passive Twister over time with constant ambient water concentration obeys first-order kinetics (Assoumani et al. 2014). In the initial phase, the chemical uptake is linear and integrative, and defined as follows (Eq. 1):

$$M_{\rm s}(t) = C_{\rm w} R_{\rm s} t \,, \tag{1}$$

where M_s (ng) is the mass of contaminant accumulated in the receiving phase, C_w (ng mL⁻¹) the concentration of contaminant in the water phase, R_s the sampling rate (mL d⁻¹), and t (d) the exposure time.

200 When a passive Twister is deployed in the field and then retrieved within the linear 201 accumulation period, integrative TWA concentrations can be calculated by Eq. 2:

$$C_{\rm w} = \frac{M_{\rm s}}{R_{\rm s}t} = \frac{M_{\rm s}}{V_{\rm e}} \,. \tag{2}$$

202

The product $R_s t$ provides a link between batch extraction, such as SPE or analytical SBSE, and passive sampling, as it equals the extracted water volume V_e (Huckins et al. 2006; Lohmann et al. 2012). The limit of quantification (LQ) of the contaminant in the water for the passive SBSE (in ng.L⁻¹) can be calculated by dividing the corresponding LQ in the passive Twister (in ng) by V_e , and then compared with the LQ achieved by the batch extraction.

Eq. 1 is a special case of the general uptake (Eq. 3):

$$M_{\rm s}(t) = C_{\rm w} K_{\rm sw} V_{\rm s} (1 - \exp(-\frac{R_{\rm s} t}{K_{\rm sw} V_{\rm s}})), \qquad (3)$$

where V_s (L) is the volume of the receiving phase, K_{sw} (adimensional), described as the ratio of the concentration at equilibrium of contaminant in the passive Twister C_s (ng mL⁻¹) to the concentration at equilibrium of contaminant in the water phase C_w (ng mL⁻¹). When the passive Twister is deployed in the field for longer than the linear accumulation period, TWA concentrations can be calculated with Eq. 4, but they are considered non-integrative.

$$C_{\rm w} = \frac{M_{\rm s}}{K_{\rm sw}V_{\rm s}(1 - \exp(-\frac{R_{\rm s}t}{K_{\rm sw}V_{\rm s}}))} = \frac{M_{\rm s}}{V_{\rm e}}.$$
(4)

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With Eq. 4, $V_{\rm e}$, and therefore the LQ in water for the passive SBSE, can be estimated at any time of the deployment (Lohmann et al. 2012).

217

218 **4 Results and discussion**

219

4.1 Comparison of passive SBSE with spot sampling and weekly average automated sampling

4.1.1 Comparison of limits of quantification

Table 1 presents the LQ achieved by the SPE-LC-MS/MS analysis of the spot samples, the 223 224 SBSE-LD-LC-MS/MS analysis of the samples collected by the automated sampler, and the LD-LC-MS/MS analysis of the passive Twisters. The LQ values for water concentrations 225 using passive Twisters (ng L⁻¹) were calculated with Eq. 4 and the LQ in the sampler (ng), 226 227 determined with a signal-to-noise ratio of 10 in a previous study (Assoumani et al. 2014), and for a 7-day deployment of the passive Twisters. We first observed that passive SBSE allowed 228 achieving lower LQ than analytical SBSE for all the target pesticides (factor 1.2 to 167), 229 except for atrazine (11 ng L⁻¹) and 3,4-dichloroaniline (165 ng L⁻¹). Passive SBSE LQ values 230 for fenitrothion, chlorfenvinphos and diflufenican, which were among the most hydrophobic 231 target pesticides, were 45 to 167 times lower than analytical SBSE; large R_s , thus V_e 3 to 6 232 times greater than the batch extraction volume (20 mL) were obtained for these compounds 233 during the laboratory calibration (Assoumani et al. 2014). Nonetheless, SPE gave a value of 234 235 LQ 1.6 to 34 times lower than passive SBSE for the most hydrophilic pesticides (norflurazon, azoxystrobine, dimethomorph, 3,4-dichloroaniline, isoproturon, procymidon, tebuconazole) 236 and flufenoxuron, but required sample volumes 12 times larger. 237

238

4.1.2 Quantification frequencies of the target pesticides

240 Figure 2 and Figure 3 show the concentrations of the pesticides quantified at the intermediate site of the Morcille River in spring 2010 and at the downstream site of the Ardières River in 241 spring 2011, respectively. The pesticide concentrations were obtained from passive SBSE, 242 spot sampling and weekly average automated sampling. For passive SBSE, TWA 243 concentrations were calculated with Eq. 4, and the mass of the pesticides accumulated in the 244 245 passive Twisters retrieved after 7 or 14 days in the river waters. In Figure 2, out of the 10 pesticides quantified via at least one sampling technique, four were quantified through spot 246 sampling, 10 through passive SBSE, and six through automated sampling. In spring 2010, 247 248 3,4-dichloroaniline, isoproturon, fenitrothion and chlorfenvinphos were never quantified by any sampling technique. Over the whole spring 2010 campaign, for the eight pesticides 249 quantified at least once via the three sampling techniques, spot sampling gave a quantification 250 251 frequency of 35%, whereas passive SBSE and automated sampling gave 52% and 53%, respectively. 252

Likewise, out of the eight pesticides quantified via at least one sampling technique, two were 253 254 quantified through spot sampling, eight through passive SBSE, and two through automated sampling (Figure 3). In spring 2011, isoproturon, fenitrothion and flufenoxuron were never 255 256 quantified by any sampling technique. Over the whole spring 2011 campaign, for the 13 257 pesticides quantified at least once via the three sampling techniques, spot sampling gave a 258 quantification frequency of 5%, whereas passive SBSE and automated sampling gave 36% and 17%, respectively. Hence for both campaigns, passive SBSE and automated sampling 259 260 achieved better time-representativeness of the target pesticide concentrations than spot 261 sampling.

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263 4.1.3 Concentrations of the target pesticides

Concentrations of pesticides quantified from spot sampling were generally lower than those 264 obtained from passive SBSE and automated sampling. For instance, in spring 2010, 265 concentrations of norflurazon in the spot samples were five times lower than those calculated 266 from passive SBSE data (Figure 2). The same trend was observed for azoxystrobine and 267 procymidon in spring 2010, and for simazine and azoxystrobine in spring 2011 (Figure 3). 268 Also, several pesticides that were not quantified in the spot samples were quantified by 269 270 passive SBSE and automated sampling. Diflufenican and chlorpyrifos-ethyl in spring 2010, and dimethomorph, tebuconazole, chlorfenvinphos, acetochlor and diflufenican in spring 271 spring 2011 were not quantified in the spot samples, but were quantified through passive 272 273 SBSE. The same trend was observed for most results obtained in both campaigns, as shown in Table 2 and Table 3, which present all the concentrations of the target pesticides in the 274 Morcille River and Ardières River during spring 2010 and spring 2011, respectively. Spot 275 samples did not integrate variations of concentrations that probably occurred during the 276 campaigns. These results confirm the observations of Dalton et al. (2014). In that study, low 277 278 frequency spot sampling systematically gave lower atrazine concentrations than the POCIS deployed for 56 days in rivers located in an agricultural watershed. However, in rare cases, 279 280 concentrations obtained from spot samples were higher than those determined with passive 281 SBSE, or the number of quantified pesticides was higher for spot samples. This could be due 282 to lower LQ for SPE-LC-MS/MS analysis of the spot samples (e.g. norflurazon and dimethomorph concentrations at the upstream site of the Morcille River in spring 2010), or to 283 284 high pesticide concentrations in the river water at the precise time of the spot sampling (i.e.

dimethomorph at the downstream site of the Ardières River on Day 22 (June 15) of the spring
286 2010 campaign).

The concentrations of the target pesticides obtained from the passive SBSE matched those 287 obtained from automated sampling (e.g. dimethomorph, procymidon and tebuconazole in 288 spring 2010, Figure 2). No performance reference compound (PRC) (Booij et al. 1998; 289 290 Huckins et al. 2002; Smedes 2007) was used for the calculations of the TWA concentrations obtained from passive SBSE. During both field campaigns, TWA concentrations of the 291 pesticides with log K_{ow} values below 3.3 were similar to those determined via automated 292 sampling (i.e. from simazine to metolachlor, Table 1) (Figure 2 and Figure 3). Therefore, for 293 those pesticides, it seems that TWA concentrations calculated without using a PRC were 294 accurate. Recently, we investigated the influence of flow velocity (up to 2.5 cm s⁻¹) and 295 temperature (10 and 25 °C) on pesticide uptake in passive Twisters for the same pesticides as 296 in the present study (Assoumani et al. 2014). No significant effect of either parameter was 297 298 observed for the pesticides with $\log K_{ow}$ lower than 3.3; we therefore assumed membranecontrolled accumulation kinetics. This means that no PRC would be required for the 299 determination of accurate TWA concentrations of these pesticides. The results obtained in this 300 field study confirm the observations made in that previous laboratory study. Good agreement 301 between concentrations derived from passive sampling and active sampling were also 302 obtained in previous studies. Hyne and Aistrope (2008) observed concentrations of pesticides 303 304 in 24-hour composite water samples within two fold of the TWA concentrations derived for their cellulose sampling device. Also, although only spot sampling was used as a comparison, 305 306 Ibrahim et al. (2013) reported good representativeness for TWA concentrations of pesticides derived from POCIS. 307

308	Hence (i) spot sampling lacked temporal representativeness and tended to under-estimate
309	contaminant concentrations in rivers, and (ii) passive SBSE gave a representative insight into
310	pesticide contamination in both rivers, as shown by the close agreement of passive SBSE with
311	automated sampling results.

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- 4.2 Determination of pesticide contamination with passive SBSE
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315 4.2.1 Spatial variations in pesticide concentrations

In spring 2010, concentration gradients were observed from the upstream site to the 316 317 downstream site of both rivers (Table 2). During the first 14 days of the field campaign, the concentrations of all the quantified pesticides except diflufenican and acetochlor increased 318 along the Ardières River. Neither herbicide is used for wine-growing, and so is not expected 319 at increasing concentrations along a river of a vineyard watershed. The presence of 320 diflufenican in water might be due to residues from earlier use remaining in the soil, given its 321 relatively high log K_{ow} (4.20) and high K_{oc} values (3186 mL g⁻¹) (Petersen et al. 2012). A 322 dilution effect could then explain the decrease in the diflufenican concentration at the 323 downstream site. Also, there was a maize field near the upstream site, so applications of 324 herbicides might explain the presence of acetochlor in the river. In the Morcille River, the 325 concentrations of all the quantified pesticides, except norflurazon, atrazine, metolachlor and 326 diflufenican, increased from upstream to downstream. These four herbicides were not 327 expected to increase along the Morcille River, since norflurazon was banned in 2004 and 328 atrazine in 2003, and metolachlor and diflufenican are not used for wine-growing. The 329 observed pesticide concentration gradients can be explained by the strong increase in the 330 proportion of land devoted to vineyards along both rivers (Rabiet et al. 2010). 331

In spring 2011, similar concentration gradients were observed, although water sampling was carried out at only two sites per river (Table 3). The concentrations of all the quantified pesticides except chlorfenvinphos and diflufenican increased along the Ardières River for all the weeks of the campaign. Likewise, the concentrations of all quantified pesticides except dimethomorph increased along the Morcille River. Therefore, passive SBSE is sensitive enough to highlight concentration gradients of the target pesticides at ultra-trace levels.

338

4.2.2 Temporal variations in pesticide concentrations

Regarding temporal variations in TWA concentrations, decreases of 10-91% were observed 340 341 for all the quantified pesticides between the first period (Days 1-15) and the second period (Days 15-29) for the spring 2010 campaign at the upstream site and the downstream site of 342 the Ardières River (Table 2). The data at the intermediate site are missing because of onsite 343 vandalism during the second sampling period. These decreases can be linked to heavy rainfall 344 during the first half of the campaign, and especially on Day 13 (June 6) when precipitations 345 lasted 3 h with a peak at 46 mm h⁻¹ (Figure S1). Hence runoff from the vineyards to the rivers 346 was probably responsible for the high pesticide TWA concentrations measured during this 347 period. The same trend was observed in the Morcille River, presumably for the same reasons. 348 The concentrations of all quantified pesticides except procymidon decreased from the first to 349 the second period of the campaign at the upstream site and the downstream site (decreases of 350 351 11–91%, depending on the pesticide). At the intermediate site, all the quantified pesticides 352 except procymidon and tebuconazole were quantified at lower concentrations during the last 14 days of the campaign (decreases of 25–45%). Spring 2011 was drier than spring 2010 353 354 (Figure S2), and pesticide TWA concentrations were generally lower than in spring 2010. However, some rainfall caused increases in the river flows, which may be related to the 355

increases in some pesticide concentrations (Kreuger 1998; Louchart et al. 2001; Rabiet et al. 356 2010; Taghavi et al. 2011; Petersen et al. 2012). At the downstream site of the Ardières River, 357 the increases in the concentrations of simazine, dimethomorph, tebuconazole and diflufenican 358 from the first week to the second week of the campaign could be linked to rainfall that 359 occurred on Day 8 (May 31) (Table 3). Similarly, increases in the concentrations of simazine, 360 atrazine, dimethomorph, metolachlor, tebuconazole and diflufenican from the third week to 361 the fourth week, at the downstream site of the Ardières River, may have been caused by 362 rainfall that occurred on Day 24 (June 16). 363

A few events of severe spot contaminations were detected via passive SBSE during both 364 campaigns. In spring 2010, the rainfall on Day 13 (June 6) probably triggered a concentration 365 peak of chlorpyrifos-ethyl, quantified at 9011 ng L⁻¹, at the downstream site of the Morcille 366 River during the first week of the field campaign. Interestingly, this could also explain the 367 high chlorpyrifos-ethyl concentration (356 ng L⁻¹) obtained during the same period at the 368 369 downstream site of the Ardières River: this site is close (at about 800 m) to the downstream site of the Morcille River (Figure 1). Likewise, on Day 23 (June 16), rainfall caused an 370 increase in dimethomorph concentration at the downstream site of the Morcille River (up to 371 969 ng L^{-1}), and also an increase in the concentration of the same pesticide at the downstream 372 site of the Ardières River (up to 668 ng L^{-1}). Finally, as observed in spring 2010, an 373 acetochlor contamination at the upstream site of the Ardières River, linked to the maize field 374 upstream from this sampling site, was quantified in spring 2011 for 3 weeks (from 816 to 216 375 $ng L^{-1}$). 376

377

378 **5** Conclusion

The time-representativeness of this new passive sampling technique over periods of one or 380 381 two weeks was better than spot sampling. Moreover, while presenting results similar to those obtained from automated sampling at lower cost, the passive SBSE gave lower LQ for most 382 383 hydrophobic compounds, allowing the quantification of lower concentrations of the target pesticides in water. This simple, cost-effective and environmentally friendly sampling 384 technique is therefore well suited to determining average estimates of pesticides in dynamic 385 386 rivers. The small size of the passive Twisters allows extensive deployment in field studies, with simple handling and preparation before deployment, and *in situ* use. Lastly, passive 387 SBSE designed for the study of pesticide contamination can tell us not only the spatial and 388 389 temporal variations in pesticide concentrations, but also the impact of rainfall and runoff on the chemical quality of small rivers located in an agricultural watershed. 390

391

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393

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Figure 1. Locations of the deployment and sampling sites along the Morcille River and the
Ardières River, for the spring 2010 and spring 2011 field campaigns (Beaujolais region,
France).



Figure 2. Comparison of passive SBSE (n = 3), spot sampling (n = 1) and automated sampling (n = 3) for the determination of the concentrations of the target pesticides at the intermediate site of the Morcille River, during the first 2 weeks of the spring 2010 field campaign. Pesticides are sorted by increasing values of log K_{ow} . Error bars represent the standard deviation. Only the quantified pesticides are displayed.



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Figure 3. Comparison of passive SBSE (n = 3), spot sampling (n = 1) and automated sampling (n = 3) for the determination of the concentrations of the target pesticides at the downstream site of the Ardières River, during the third week of the spring 2011 field campaign. Pesticides are sorted by increasing values of log K_{ow} . Error bars represent the standard deviation. Only the quantified pesticides are displayed.

Table 1. Limits of quantification of the 16 studied pesticides obtained for passive SBSE
followed by LD-LC-MS/MS analysis, for analytical SBSE-LD-LC-MS/MS of water samples
and for SPE-LC-MS/MS analysis of water samples.

D (1	Abbraviation Us		log Kow	L	imits of quantification (ng	L ⁻¹)
Pesticide	Abbreviation	Use	$\log K_{ow}$	Passive SBSE	SBSE-LD-LC-MS/MS	SPE-LC-MS/MS
Simazine	SMZ	Η	2.18	2.5	10	nt
Norflurazon	NFZ	Η	2.30	171	200	5.0
Azoxystrobine	AZS	F	2.50	12	20	5.0
Atrazine	ATZ	Η	2.61	11	10	nt
Dimethomorph	DMM	F	2.68	33	100	10
3,4-dichloroaniline	DCA	М	2.69	165	50	10
Isoproturon	IPU	Н	2.87	86	100	5.0
Procymidon	PCM	F	3.08	37	200	20
Metolachlor	MTC	Н	3.13	0.4	10	nt
Fenitrothion	FNT	Ι	3.32	6.6	500	50
Tebuconazole	TBZ	F	3.70	8.1	100	5.0
Chlorfenvinphos	CFV	Ι	3.81	2.3	100	20
Acetochlor	ATC	Η	4.14	32	100	nt
Diflufenican	DFF	Η	4.20	1.2	200	20
Chlorpyrifos-ethyl	CPE	Ι	4.96	3.1	50	20
Flufenoxuron	FFX	Ι	5.11	25	200	20

H: herbicide; F: fungicide; M: metabolite; I: insecticide; nt: non targeted

	Site	Samples	Pesticide concentrations (ng L ⁻¹) Standard deviation (ng L ⁻¹)													
			SMZ	NFZ	AZS	ATZ	DMM	PCM	MTC	TBZ	ATC	DFF	CPE	FFX		
		Dessive SDSE days 1 15	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	8.7	22	36	26	20	< LQ		
		Passive SDSE days 1-15							2.8	5	10	15	5			
		Spot sampling day 1	nt	< LQ	< LQ	nt	< LQ	< LQ	nt	< LQ	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ		
	Upstream	Spot sampling day 15	nt	< LQ	< LQ	nt	215	< LQ	nt	< LQ	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ		
		Design CDCE days 15 20	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	4.8	< LQ						
		Passive SBSE days 15-29							1.4							
		Spot sampling day 29	nt	< LQ	< LQ	nt	< LQ	< LQ	nt	< LQ	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ		
		Dessive SDSE days 1 15	50	< LQ	34	< LQ	661	153	7.7	402	< LQ	79	45	< LQ		
	Fassive SBSE days 1-13 Spot sampling day 1 Intermediate Spot sampling day 15	Passive SDSE days 1-15	7		10		365	76	3.6	166		48	15			
ver		Spot sampling day 1	nt	21	< LQ	nt	15	< LQ	nt	< LQ	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ		
s Ri		Spot sampling day 15	nt	69	< LQ	nt	185	< LQ	nt	123	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ		
dière		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Are		Passive SBSE days 15-29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Spot sampling day 29	nt	28	< LQ	nt	55	< LQ	nt	< LQ	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ		
			89	< LQ	71	< LQ	1030	182	11	463	< LQ	50	356	< LQ		
		Passive SBSE days 1-15	9		14		199	86	2	97		30	87			
			< LQ	< LQ	27	< LQ	148	703	13	462	< LQ	266	74	< LQ		
	D	Automated sampling days 1-8			2		38	131	1	15		2	13			
	Downstream		69	290	365	< LQ	5087	513	< LQ	1626	< LQ	258	< LQ	< LQ		
		Automated sampling days 8-15	3	<u>98</u>	22		635	105		70		1				
		Spot sampling day 1	nt	28	< LQ	nt	19	< LQ	nt	< LQ	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ		
		Spot sampling day 1 Spot sampling day 8	nt	27	< LQ	nt	50	< LQ	nt	27	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ		

Table 2. Concentrations of pesticides in the Ardières River and the Morcille River obtained from passive SBSE (n = 3), spot sampling (n = 1) and automated sampling (n = 3) during the spring 2010 campaign. Only pesticides quantified at least once are displayed.

533 <u>Table 2. (continued)</u>

	Site	Samples	Pesticide concentrations (ng L^{-1}) Standard deviation (ng L^{-1})											
			SMZ	NFZ	AZS	ATZ	DMM	РСМ	MTC	TBZ	ATC	DFF	CPE	FFX
		Spot sampling day 15	nt	72.1	18.3	nt	23.5	< LQ	nt	97.0	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
		Passive SBSE days 15-29	42	< LQ	64	< LQ	668	157	7.1	303	< LQ	28	33	< LQ
H		Tassive SDSE days 13-27	5		57		243	75	2.2	67		16	19	
Rive		Automated campling days 15-22	66	< LQ	11	< LQ	592	< LQ	< LQ	180	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
ères	Downstream	Automated sampling days 13-22	33		-		111			49				
Ardiö		Automated sampling days 22-29	< LQ	< LQ	12	< LQ	881	< LQ	< LQ	130	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
ł					8		195			76				
		Spot sampling day 22	nt	105	88	nt	2113	28	nt	493	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
		Spot sampling day 29	nt	34	< LQ	nt	72	< LQ	nt	21	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
		Passive SBSE days 1-15	45	< LQ	4.9	33	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ				
			5						1.0	7				
		Spot sampling day 1	nt	12	< LQ	nt	11	< LQ	nt	< LQ	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
	Upstream	Spot sampling day 15	nt	19	< LQ	nt	11	< LQ	nt	< LQ	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
5		Dessive SBSE days 15 20	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	126	< LQ					
Rive		Tassive SDSE days 15-27						59						
cille]		Spot sampling day 29	nt	17	< LQ	nt	< LQ	< LQ	nt	< LQ	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
More		Dessive SBSE days 1.8	92	867	91	40	706	178	7.4	101	< LQ	39	< LQ	< LQ
		1 assive SDSE days 1-6	12	129	21	7	140	86	1.6	29		23		
	Intermediate	Dessive SPSE days & 15	589	956	210	< LQ	1120	435	6.8	268	< LQ	31	44	< LQ
	menate	1 assive SDSE days 0-15	140	187	69		286	292	1.4	73		18	18	
		Passive SBSE days 1-15	369	796	128	25	678	212	5.5	167	< LQ	39	43	< LQ
	1		81	127	35	6	196	99	1.2	45		24	10	

536 <u>Table 2. (continued)</u>

	Site	Samples					Pesticid Stan	e concen dard devi	trations ation (ng	$(\operatorname{ng} L^{-1})$ (L^{-1})				
			SMZ	NFZ	AZS	ATZ	DMM	PCM	MTC	TBZ	ATC	DFF	CPE	FFX
		Automated campling days 1-8	13	< LQ	66	< LQ	446	751	12	142	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
		Automateu sampning uays 1-6	1		10		128	196	-	15				
		Automated sampling days 8-15	28	< LQ	70	< LQ	792	531	< LQ	285	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
		Automated sampling days 6-15	2		21		180	108		112				
		Spot sampling day 1	nt	173	11	nt	23	< LQ	nt	< LQ	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
		Spot sampling day 8	nt	78	27	nt	718	< LQ	nt	30	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
	Intermediat e	Spot sampling day 15	nt	163	49	nt	176	44	nt	96	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
		Dessive SBSE days 15 22	213	< LQ	93	< LQ	360	257	4.2	225	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
ver		1 assive 50512 days 15-22	31		37		66	132	0.8	75				
		Passive SBSE days 22-29	132	869	85	< LQ	349	328	4.5	230	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
le Ri			43	130	51		64	194	1.0	107				
orcil		Passive SBSE days 15-29	198	< LQ	91	< LQ	< LQ	323	3.8	250	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
M			22		20			155	0.7	73				
		Automated sampling days 15-22	408	329	73	< LQ	459	< LQ	< LQ	116	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
		ratomated sampling days 15 22	72	59	6		43			8				
		Automated sampling days 22-29	106	487	72	< LQ	331	< LQ	< LQ	126	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
		ratomated sampling days 22 2)	20	238	10		26			13				
		Spot sampling day 22	nt	129	84	nt	167	24	nt	129	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
		Spot sampling day 29	nt	105	29	nt	56	26	nt	38	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
		Passive SBSE days 1-15	293	862	200	< LQ	1248	222	5.8	469	< LQ	35	9011	< LQ
	Downstream	r assive SDSL days 1-15	86	176	86		651	116	1.1	243		21	2227	
		Spot sampling day 1	nt	52	17	nt	36	< LQ	nt	20	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ

539 Table 2. (end)

Site	Samples	Pesticide concentrations (ng L ⁻¹) Standard deviation (ng L ⁻¹)													
		SMZ	NFZ	AZS	ATZ	DMM	PCM	MTC	TBZ	ATC	DFF	CPE	FFX		
	Spot sampling day 15	nt	148	75	nt	242	35	nt	102	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ		
Downstream	Dessive SDSE days 15 20	103	< LQ	72	< LQ	969	240	5.1	418	< LQ	33	783	596		
Downstream	Passive SDSE days 13-29	31		23		429	159	1.4	198		20	471	448		
	Spot sampling day 29	nt	116	29	nt	137	27	nt	57	nt	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ		

540 LQ: limit of quantification; nt: non targeted.

	Site	Samples	Pesticide concentrations (ng L ⁻¹) Standard deviation (ng L ⁻¹)													
			SMZ	NFZ	AZS	ATZ	DMM	DCA	РСМ	MTC	TBZ	CFV	ATC	DFF	CPE	
		Passive SBSE days 1-8	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	2.6	< LQ	
														1.5		
		Passive SBSE days 8-15	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	816	2.3	< LQ	
	Unstream												196	1.4		
	Opsiream	Passive SBSE days 15-22	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	8.6	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	0.4	< LQ	< LQ	429	1.7	12	
		1 ussive BBBE duys 15 22				2.2				0.2			115	1.1	3	
		Passive SRSE days 22-20	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	9.0	< LQ	4.1	216	3.1	< LQ					
		Tassive SDSE days 22-23				2.4						1.8	64	3.0		
			10	< LQ	70	< LQ	21	< LQ	< LQ	2.3	< LQ					
		Passive SBSE days 1-8	3		22						8			1.4		
River		Spot sampling day 8	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	
Ardières		Automated sampling days 1-8	< LQ	< LQ	61 6	< LQ										
			61	< LQ	18	< LQ	93	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	58	< LQ	< LQ	10	< LQ	
		Passive SBSE days 8-15	10		4		42				14			12		
	Downstream		108	< LQ	25	< LQ	< LQ	61	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	104	< LQ	< LQ	
		Automated sampling days 8-15	3		2			-					2			
			27	< LQ	80	< LQ	124	< LQ	< LQ	1.1	44	3.4	48	2.9	< LQ	
		Passive SBSE days 15-22	3		17		23			0.3	9	1.2	12	1.8		
		a	12	< LQ	41	< LQ										
		Spot sampling day 22	-		10											
			42	< LQ	67	< LQ										
		Automated sampling days 15-22	7		7											

Table 3. Concentrations of pesticides in the Ardières River and the Morcille River obtained from passive SBSE (n = 3), spot sampling (n = 3) and automated sampling (n = 3) during the spring 2011 campaign. Only pesticides quantified at least once are displayed.

544 Table 3. (continued)

	Site	Samples					Pesti Si	cide con tandard d	centration <i>leviation</i>	ons (ng I $(ng L^{-1})$	- ¹)				
			SMZ	NFZ	AZS	ATZ	DMM	DCA	РСМ	MTC	TBZ	CFV	ATC	DFF	CPE
		Passive SBSE days 22-29	111	< LQ	79	7.9	494	< LQ	< LQ	2.6	169	3.4	< LQ	11	< LQ
ч		1 ussi (° 51551 uujs 12 1)	29		30	1.4	91			0.6	51	1.2		8	
Rive	Downstream	Spot sampling day 29	31	< LQ	22	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
res]	Downstroum		6		-										
rdiè		Automated sampling days 22-29	31	294	38	< LQ	317	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	111	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
A		I Buly	5	115	2		29				3				
		Passive SBSE days 1-8	10	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	71	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	20	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
			1				13				5				
		Spot sampling day 8	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
		Automated sampling days 1-8	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
River		Passive SBSE days 8-15	11 4	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	393 149	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	44 21	<lq< td=""><td>< LQ</td><td>< LQ</td><td>< LQ</td></lq<>	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
Morcille	Intermediate	Automated sampling days 8-15	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	477 <i>43</i>	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
			13	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	181	< LQ	< LQ	0.5	60	4.2	< LQ	1.1	3.5
		Passive SBSE days 15-22	1				33			0.2	13	1.6		0.7	0.8
		Spot sampling day 22	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
		Automated sampling days 15-22	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	111 2	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ

546 Table 3. (continued)

Site	Samples	Pesticide concentrations (ng L^{-1}) Standard deviation (ng L^{-1})												
		SMZ	NFZ	AZS	ATZ	DMM	DCA	PCM	MTC	TBZ	CFV	ATC	DFF	CPE
	Dessive SPSE days 22.20	26	< LQ	43	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	48	0.9	249	< LQ	< LQ	2.5	< LQ
	Fassive SDSE days 22-29	2		12				23	0.3	59			1.6	
	Spot sampling day 29	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
	Automated sampling days 22-29	13	< LQ	22	< LQ	169 88	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	197 26	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ
		16	< LQ	77	< LQ	99	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	113	< LQ	< LQ	2.5	< LQ
Downstream	Passive SBSE days 1-8	2		23		19				38			2.1	
		12	< LQ	24	< LQ	82	< LQ	< LQ	< LQ	112	< LQ	< LQ	12	< LQ
	Passive SBSE days 8-15	3		20		60				41			7	

LQ: limit of quantification; nt: non targeted.





Figure S1. Hourly rainfall (in mm) and flow rate at the intermediate site of the Morcille River (in L s⁻¹) during the spring 2010 campaign.

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Figure S2. Hourly rainfall (in mm) and flow rate at the intermediate site of the Morcille River (in L s⁻¹) and at the downstream site of the Ardières River (in x10 L s⁻¹) during the spring 2011 campaign.

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