

# Biomolecules from olive pruning waste in Sierra Mágina. Engaging the energy transition by multi-actor and multidisciplinary analyses

Marianne Cohen, Gilles Lepesant, Farida Darkrim Lamari, Clélia Bilodeau, Petra Benyei, Stéphane Anglès, Julien Bouillon, Kevin Bourrand, Ramla Landoulsi, Delphine Jaboeuf, et al.

# ▶ To cite this version:

Marianne Cohen, Gilles Lepesant, Farida Darkrim Lamari, Clélia Bilodeau, Petra Benyei, et al.. Biomolecules from olive pruning waste in Sierra Mágina. Engaging the energy transition by multiactor and multidisciplinary analyses. Journal of Environmental Management, 2018, 216, pp.204-213. 10.1016/j.jenvman.2017.03.067. hal-01512268

# HAL Id: hal-01512268 https://hal.science/hal-01512268v1

Submitted on 27 Nov 2024

**HAL** is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers. L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.



Distributed under a Creative Commons Attribution - NonCommercial - NoDerivatives 4.0 International License





This is the **accepted version** of the journal article:

Cohen, Marianne; Lepesant, Gilles; Lamari, Farida; [et al.]. «Biomolecules from olive pruning waste in Sierra Mágina - Engaging the energy transition by multiactor and multidisciplinary analyses». Journal of Environmental Management, Vol. 216 (June 2018), p. 204-213. DOI 10.1016/j.jenvman.2017.03.067

This version is available at https://ddd.uab.cat/record/269772

under the terms of the **BY-NC-ND** license

1 2	The Version of Record of this manuscript has been published in the <i>Journal of Environmental</i> <i>Management</i> and available here :
3	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvman.2017.03.067
4	
5	Biomolecules from olive pruning waste in Sierra Mágina
6	Engaging the energy transition by multi-actor and multidisciplinary analyses
7 8 9	Marianne Cohen <sup>1</sup> , Gilles Lepesant <sup>2</sup> , Farida Lamari <sup>3</sup> , Clelia Bilodeau <sup>4</sup> , Petra Benyei <sup>5</sup> , Stéphane Angles <sup>4</sup> , Julien Bouillon <sup>6</sup> , Kevin Bourrand <sup>6</sup> , Ramla Landoulsi <sup>1,6</sup> , Delphine Jaboeuf <sup>1,6</sup> , Maria Alonso-Roldan <sup>7</sup> , Isidro Espadas <sup>7</sup> , Véronica Belandria <sup>8,9</sup> , Philippe Silar <sup>6</sup> , Moussa Dicko <sup>3,*</sup>
10	<sup>1</sup> Univ Paris Sorbonne, Sorbonne Universités, UMR 8185 ENeC, 75005 Paris, France
11	<sup>2</sup> CNRS, Géographie-Cités, Paris, 75005, France
12	<sup>3</sup> Univ Paris 13, Sorbonne Paris Cité, CNRS LSPM UPR 3407, 93430 Villetaneuse, France
13	<sup>4</sup> Univ Paris Diderot, Sorbonne Paris Cité, LADYSS, 75205 Paris CEDEX 13, France
14 15	⁵Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Institut de Ciència i Tecnología Ambientals (ICTA), Laboratori d'Anàlisi de Sistemes Socioecològics en la Globalització, 08193 Barcelona, Spain
16	<sup>6</sup> Univ Paris Diderot, Sorbonne Paris Cité, LIED, 75205 Paris CEDEX 13, France
17	<sup>7</sup> Non governemental organization PASOS (Participación y Sostenabilidad), Granada, Spain
18 19	<sup>8</sup> Institut de Combustion, Aérothermique, Réactivité, et Environnement (ICARE)-CNRS UPR3021, 1C avenue de la recherche scientifique 45071 Orléans Cedex 2, France
20 21	<sup>9</sup> Université d'Orléans, Institut Universitaire de Technologie, 16 rue d'Issoudun BP16724 45067 Orléans Cedex 2, France
22	
23	* corresponding author
24	Moussa Dicko
25	E-mail: moussa.dicko@univ-paris13.fr, Tel: +33149403441, Fax: +33149403414
26 27	<b>Keywords</b> : Biorefinery, Pyrolysis-GCMS, Waste reduction, Low-carbon olive-growing systems, Pathogenic strain, EU policy.
28	

### 30 Abstract

- 31 The volatility of fossil resources' prices, the uncertainty of their long-term availability and the 32 environmental, climatic and societal problems posed by their operation, lead to the imperative of an 33 energy transition enabling the development and utilization of other alternative and sustainable resources. Acknowledging that indirect land-use change can increase greenhouse gas emission, the 34 35 European Union (EU) has reshaped its biofuel policy. It has set criteria for sustainability to ensure 36 that the use of biofuels guarantees real carbon savings and protects biodiversity. From a 37 sustainability perspective, biofuels and bioliquids offer indeed both advantages (e.g., more secure 38 energy supply, emissions reductions, reduced air pollution and production of high added-value 39 molecules) as well as risks (monocultures, reduced biodiversity and even higher emissions through 40 land use change). Approaching economic, environmental and social sustainability at the local level 41 and in an integrated way should help to maximize benefits and minimize risks. This approach has 42 been adopted and is described in the present work that combines chemical, biological, social and 43 territorial studies for the management of pruning waste residues from olive trees in the Sierra 44 Mágina olive-growing area in Spain. Biological and social analysis helped to orientate the research 45 towards an attractive chemical process based on extraction and pyrolysis in which high added value 46 molecules are recovered in the extracts and the residual biochar may be used as pathogen-free 47 fertilizer. In this region where farmers face declining margins, the new intended method may both 48 solve greenhouse gas emission problems and provide farmers with additional revenues and 49 convenient fertilizer. Further research with a larger partnership will consolidate the results and tackle
- 50 issues such as the logistics one, which stemmed from geographic analysis.

## 52 1.Introduction

53

### 54 **1.1 General context and main issues**

55 In Mediterranean Europe, olive-growing systems play an important role to ensure cohesion of rural 56 areas and to prevent economic and social marginalisation, especially on sloping lands (Stroosnijder et 57 al., 2008). While European countries account for almost 70% of the global production of olive oil 58 (mean 2010-15, IOC, 2015), a production expected by the EU to continue growing significantly in the 59 future, the olive-growing regions are currently facing serious problems, especially those triggered by 60 the one crop systems. The fall of margins and operating incomes over the past fifteen years (EC, 61 2012b) is combined with increasing environmental threats (Beaufoy, 2001), such as water shortage 62 (Garrote et al., 2015), soil erosion (CHG, 2010), biodiversity loss (Camarsa et al., 2010) and demands 63 to lower air pollution as well as CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, both resulting in part from the burning of pruning 64 waste (AAE 2013).

This environmental impact concerns an increasing amount of agricultural land in EU Member states, about 5 million hectares in 2007 (Camarsa et al., 2010). The carbon balance of olive-growing systems could be greatly improved by the valorisation of pruning wastes that amount to several tens of kilos per tree (La Cal Herrera, 2013; AAE, 2013). In Southern Spain, this waste is currently partly burnt on agricultural plots with significant greenhouse gases (GHGs) emissions, partly chipped and used for mulch (Calatrava and Franco, 2011). New income opportunities should be searched to face such challenges, for example a better valorization of agricultural residues. Moreover, the identified

- solutions should contribute to the mitigation of the carbon balance of rural Mediterranean regions,
- 73 which are vulnerable to climate change (Gualdi et al., 2013), with important consequences on the
- 74 decreased yields of olive trees (Tunalioglu et al., 2012).

75 The human factor plays a crucial role in the success and failure of sustainable energy policies. Land-76 use change towards energy-oriented crops (e.g. Miscanthus) and associated large industrial plants 77 face serious societal challenges (e.g. low social acceptation of rural landscape change, considered as 78 a cultural heritage). However, the objectives of food and energy production, often considered as 79 conflicting, may be conciliated through the valorization of agricultural biomass from existing agro-80 systems that are otherwise neglected (Söderberg and Eckerberg, 2013). Our project aims to develop innovative and locally-based initiatives, engaging farms and other types of micro-enterprises such as 81 82 olive mills in research and demonstration activities. Enhancing the range of biomasses used in second 83 generation small bio-refineries, integrated with olive mills, will help avoid food/fuel conflicts and 84 support economic development of rural areas in the Mediterranean Europe (Gómez-Vázquez et al., 85 2009). Through a multi-actor approach, in partnership with local actors and responding to a social 86 demand to improve the environmental impact of their agro-systems, we designed a biorefinery 87 concept, which embraces the diagnosis of the local context, its congruence with emerging European 88 policies, the evaluation of the risk due to the innovation, and finally its feasibility. The attention 89 focused on the local level through this three-step method (diagnosis-risk-solution), has strengthened 90 the collaboration between the disciplines involved in the project.

91

#### 92 1.2 Case study at the local level

93 Sierra Mágina is a rural county, located in Jaén Province, Western Andalusia (Southern Spain). It is 94 highly specialized in olive-growing, with 80% of arable lands occupied by olive groves, totalizing an 95 area of 50,617ha (40 % of the total area of 15 municipalities, around 1390 km<sup>2</sup>, geographical data basis SIGPAC, MAGRAMA 2006). Olive groves are located mainly on sloping lands from 294 meters up 96 97 to 1466 meters altitude, surrounding a Natural Park and its highest peak (19,794 ha, 2167 m, average 98 slope 23°), and along the course of important rivers, like Guadalquivir or Guadalbullón, which are 99 used for irrigation for half of the olive-groves surface area (Sánchez-Martínez and Gallego-Simón, 100 2009). An important concern for local actors is the economic valorization of the olive oil, a great 101 challenge in the context of decreasing prices on international markets. According to Sanz Cañada et 102 al. (2013), only 20% of the production of olive oil is sold as protected designation of origin (PDO), 103 while the majority is sold in bulk.

- 104 Sierra Mágina benefits from a Mediterranean climate, with rainfall varying from 350 mm to 800 mm.
- 105 As for many other Mediterranean regions, the climate is expected to change in the future, with a
- decrease of 9% in rainfall by 2050 and consequently of olive yields (7% in rain-fed and 3.5% in
- 107 irrigated olive groves, Ronchail et al., 2014). Adaptation to these changes is a priority issue, but it
- 108 must be addressed taking into consideration the concerns about the carbon balance of the olive-
- 109 growing system and the mitigation of climate change. The carbon footprint of olive grove
- 110 monoculture is currently unsatisfactory for two reasons: the importance of hydric erosion despite a
- dedicated policy (Ballais et al., 2013), and the low valorization of the pruning residues (Benyei, 2015).
- 112 Olive yields are stimulated by pruning practices, with annual frequency in young groves and biennial
- in older ones. Due to the important areas covered with olive groves in the region, the growth habit of
- the ultra-predominant variety (*Picual*), the width (up to 45m<sup>2</sup>) and height (up to 3m) of the trees, and
- the local practices of drastic pruning, this agriculture produces a high quantity of ligneous pruning
- 116 waste. Until a few years ago, pruning waste was fully burnt in the agricultural plots, contributing to
- 117 greenhouse gas emissions. Olive mill managers were concerned about this matter, because of the
- 118 negative regional image it was giving to final consumers, contributing in their rationale to the low
- valorization of olive oil. In the same way than in other Southern Spain regions, chopping and
- 120 spreading the residue on the ground, partly replaces the traditional waste management.
- 121

### 122 **1.3 OLIZERO Biorefinery concept**

123 The proposed OLIZERO biorefinery concept is part of an interdisciplinary thinking that aims to

- 124 optimize the use of pruning waste available in a specific territory. It defines local and integrated
- 125 production of intermediate and/or finished products generated by wastes, including high-added-
- value molecules (from solvents to aroma, or flavors and products of medical interest) and
- 127 biofertilizer. The final objective is thus to develop innovative methods for recovering valuable
- 128 chemicals and products from the most difficult fractions produced by olive trees, the lignocellulosic
- 129 ones. It proposes to recover first high value molecules with chemical extraction, followed by
- 130 pyrolysis. The final residue, the biochar is then reintroduced in soils as fertilizer. Within this
- biorefinery concept, we also assessed the potentialities and constraints due to the endophytic fungi
- 132 contained in the pruning residues. A pre-fungal attack may lower the cost of the biorefinery process,
- 133 as long as these fungi do not constitute a disease risk for olive-trees.
- 134 Pyrolysis is an advanced technology able to produce biofuels and biomolecules from biomass

(Czernik and Bridgwater, 2004). Pyrolysis is an attractive alternative to a simple combustion which 135 136 would cause GHG emissions and low performance of the process due to high ash contents (Garcia et 137 al., 2012). Different extraction methods have previously been performed on olive tree cuttings. However, most published studies focused on phenolic compounds in olive leaves (Altiok et al., 2004; 138 139 Le Floch et al., 1998; Talhaoui et al., 2014). Indeed, these polyphenols have been demonstrated to 140 exhibit anti-carcinogenic, anti-inflammatory and antimicrobial proprieties (El and Karakaya, 2009; 141 Talhaoui et al. 2014). In the present biorefinery investigation, Soxhlet extraction and pyrolysis coupled with Gas Chromatography Mass Spectroscopy (Py-GCMS) were performed on olive leaves 142 from pruning waste. This second technique is a powerful tool to determine the composition of 143 144 evolved gases from biomass (Akalina and Karagöz, 2014). It provides a picture of what kind of 145 chemicals may be obtained using a pyrolysis process. The pyrolysis of agricultural residues, including 146 olive mill wastes, has been widely reported in the literature (Zanzi et al., 2002; Encinar et al., 1998; 147 Oasmaa et al., 2010). However, pruning waste has received less attention than olive mill waste and 148 has been essentially dealt with by the Biomass group of Pr. Zabaniotou (Pütün et al., 2005; 149 Zabaniotou et al. 2000, 2015a, 2015b; Valenzuela Calahorro et al., 1992). Importantly, their work is 150 systematically focused on the energetic valorization of the residues. Overall, a different model of 151 waste management in agricultural territories is proposed in the present work. It explores the 152 opportunity to produce simultaneously biomolecules of interest (specialty chemicals, with cosmetic

- applications...), along with biofuels and fertilizers.
- 154
- 155 **2. Materials and methods**
- 156

### 157 2.1. General methodological framework

- 158 Our research had two objectives:
- 159 1) Assessing the capability of olive-growing territories to move towards a low energy model. Our
- 160 integrated method combines remote sensing and GIS with social and economic inquiries and the
- analysis of the congruence of Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and energy European policies.
- 162 2) Demonstrating and developing a technology able to generate new bio-energy and bio-chemicals,
- 163 thanks to collaborations with chemical engineers and biologists. This biorefinery concept could then
- be implemented on test-territories with private partners (small enterprises, olive-mills, cooperativesand an engineering company).
- We present our methodology through a three steps process: diagnosis, risk analysis and proposedsolution to generate innovative bio-energy and further bio-chemicals.
- 168

### 169 **2.2 Inquiries at the European and local levels**

- 170 We analyzed the socio-political feasibility of our project at both the European and local levels, using
- 171 different methods.
- 172 **2.2.1.** European Union's policy:

- 173 The analysis of the EU's role in setting an overall framework for biofuels development across Europe
- 174 is based on a review of the literature produced by the EU institutions, mainly the European
- 175 Commission and the European Parliament. Additional details and up-dated information have been
- 176 collected thanks to interviews carried-out at DG ENER, DG REGIO, DG AGRI, DG GROW, DG ENV,
- 177 which are in charge of Energy, Regional policy, Agriculture, Internal market and Environment,
- 178 respectively, in 2015 and 2016.

## 179 **2.2.2.** Social perception of the OLIZERO biorefinery project at the local level

- 180 The social perception of the OLIZERO project has been evaluated along with the changes in pruning
- 181 practices by a sociological survey. The evaluation relied on field enquiries, with 20 in-depth
- interviews, 40 questionnaires randomly sampled in 8 municipalities and 2 participatory workshops
   (Reputer 2015)
- 183 (Benyei, 2015).
- 184 **2.3.** Diagnosis of the situation of pruning residues
- 185 We determined the tonnage of pruning waste by means of a crossed analysis between field data,
- 186 remote sensing and Geographical Information System (GIS) analysis of the olive tree cover all over 187 the Sierra Mágina region
- 187 the Sierra Mágina region.

## 188 **2.3.1.** Relation between tree crown size and pruning residue weight

- 189 We weighted the pruning residue of georeferenced trees on field and tested the correlation with tree 190 crown sizes digitized on aerial photography using GIS. We obtained a highly significant correlation (r 191 = 0,985, p=0.02) despite the small size of our tree sample (5 trees).
- -0,985, p-0.02) despite the small size of our tree sample (5 trees)

# 192 **2.3.2.** Assessment of olive tree acreage and pruning residues

193 We determine the olive tree acreage in the whole region and converted the estimated number into 194 pruning waste weight using the relation tree crownsize/waste weight. For this, we updated the GIS of 195 land use of the property plots, established by the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment for the 196 application of the Common Agricultural Policy (SIGPAC, MAGRAMA, 2006) using aerial photography 197 of 2010 and 2011 (Source: Junta de Andalucía, Jaboeuf 2015, unpublished), that were automatically 198 downloaded with the MEMOTF program from Bourrand et al. (2015). Between 2006 and 2010-2011, 199 1485 ha of new olive groves have been gained mainly upon grain lands, as observed in prior inquiries 200 (Alonso, 2010, Cohen et al., 2014). We applied an iso-cluster analysis on a spatial selection of the 201 aerial photography occupied by olive groves, after enhancing the contrast of the 3 colored bands. 202 This automatic procedure was the most efficient, showing the lowest difference with manual 203 digitalization of 11,177 trees. Despite this, a visual assessment carried on a sample of 522 parcels 204 showed that the olive tree acreage was correctly handled only in 193 plots. To improve this result, 205 we computed the NDVI index (Normalized Vegetation Index), from Landsat Images from the same 206 dates. There was a significant correlation between NDVI and the olive trees acreage in the 193 plots 207 (r=0.7, p<0.0001), as shown by Peña-Barragán et al. (2004). The NDVI improved significantly the 208 calculation of the density of olive-trees (Mann Whitney test, p<0.0001). The whole process was 209 performed using GIS (Arcgis10.2<sup>®</sup> software), in a simpler way than by remote sensing analysis (tree 210 counting analysis: Masson et al., 2004, Ke and Quackenbush, 2011; Mulla, 2013; CLUAS software: 211 García Torres et al., 2008).

## 212 **2.3.3.** Determining the potential of processed pruning waste

- 213 To determine the proportion of pruning waste easily removable by truck for processing, we used GIS
- analysis crossing georeferenced survey responses, road network and the map of pruning residues.
- From the 40 survey responses randomly performed in 8 municipalities (§ 2.2.2), the 55 plots that
- farmers had drawn on a topographical map were georeferenced using GIS and crossed with the
- 217 digitized plots (source: SIGPAC, 2006; Landoulsi, 2015, unpublished). We estimated the spatial
- criteria of pruning waste management (burning, chipping or combined management) and considered
- 219 that the type of waste management done by the farmers is a good proxy of the feasibility of our
- biorefinery concept. Both are relying on the accessibility of the parcel by chipping engines or by
- trucks for the removal of the pruning waste. We selected in the subsequent steps the roads allowing
- traffic (2239 km out of 5585 km). We computed the geographical features of the 55 olive groves with
- 223 GIS: slope, altitude, surface area and distance to roads. We performed statistical tests and a
- 224 classification tree to determine the driving factors of pruning waste management.
- 225

# 226 **2.4 Olive tree fungal endophyte sampling and identification.**

## 227 2.4.1 Sampling procedure

- 228 57 samples of olive branches were collected in 19 plots (3 trees per plot), selected to represent the
- 229 different altitudes (from 534 to 1057 meters) and exposure of olive groves. They were scattered in a
- large area within a buffer of 250 meters along roads passable to traffic in order to accelerate the
- 231 sample collection. Samples were kept cool from the field collection until the laboratory. Among these
- 232 19 plots, 14, well-conserved, were selected to be processed in the laboratory, representing a range
- of altitude from 573 to 1057 meters. We tested the influence of sampling parameters, *i.e.*, altitude
- and exposure on the genus of fungi with a Chi square analysis. We also mapped the proportion of
- potential pathogenic fungal in the samples, using their geographic coordinates (in UTM ED50).

# 236 2.4.2 Identification

- 237 Samples of olive pruning wastes were surface sterilized by incubating one minute in ethanol 96%,
- two minutes in NaOCl 10%, then 30 seconds in ethanol 96% and finally rinsed in sterile water.
- 239 Sterilized leaves and small twigs were deposited onto potato dextrose agar (PDA) Petri plates and
- 240 incubated for five days at 27°C. Fungal mycelia originating from the samples were collected and
- inoculated onto fresh PDA plates. Any one sample yielded from one up to six different fungal strains.
- 242 DNA from the samples was then extracted using the protocol of Lecellier and Silar (1994). The ITS
- regions were amplified using the ITS1 and ITS4 primers (White et al. 1990) and send for sequencing.
- 244 Identification was made by comparing the sequences with the GenBank
- 245 (http://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi) and UNITE (https://unite.ut.ee/) databases.
- 246

# 247 **2.5. Chemical analysis**

- 248 **2.5.1. Samples:** Leaves for Soxhlet extraction were obtained from branches brought after the field
- survey. For Py-GCMS, leaves sampled in different olive groves were used. Finally, a single location has
- 250 been selected to assess the effect of temperature since location had no impact on the results.
- 251 2.5.2. Reagents: Acetone and diethyl ether were purchased from Sigma Aldrich with 99% and 99.5%
   252 purity respectively.

253 **2.5.3.Soxhlet extraction** : The samples (3 g) were extracted with 250 ml of each solvent (acetone and

- diethyl ether) during 16 and 22 h (96 and 132 cycles respectively), refluxing in a Soxhlet apparatus.
- 255 The extract was then concentrated and chemically analyzed by GCMS analysis device. The solvents
- 256 were totally evaporated under reduced pressure in a rotary evaporator. The mass of extractives was
- then measured. The GC methods were as follows. For acetone, it began at 303.15K (for 1 min)
- followed by a heating rate of 5K/min during 12 minutes up to 363.15 K then a heating rate of 8K/min
- during 23,7 minutes up to 553.15 K and stayed at 553.15K for 1 min. For diethyl ether, the method
- began at 323.15K (for 1 min) followed by a heating rate of 10K/min during 5 minutes up to 373.15 K
- then a heating rate of 8K/min during 22,5 minutes up to 553.15 K and stayed at 553.15K for 1 min.
- 262 2.5.4. Py-GCMS method: Samples of olive pruning waste (leaves), prepared with reproducible
   263 weights of 0.5 +/- 0.1 mg, were analyzed using analytical pyrolysis with a Pyrolyzer PY3030 (Frontier
- Lab) coupled to a gas chromatograph and mass spectrometer (GCMS-QP2010Ultra SHIMADZU) under
- continuous Helium flow (1.24 ml/min). The gas chromatograph (GC) was equipped with a polar
- capillary column ZB-1701 (30mx0.25μmx0.25μm) with a (14 %-cyanopropyl-phenyl-86 %-
- 267 dimethylpolysiloxane) phase. As a preliminary step, 2 samples were analyzed for 3 different locations
- at 773.15K. Then, two pyrograms were produced from the same sample location at four different
- temperatures (673.15K, 773.15, 873.15K, and 973.15K). In order to provide selective compound
- 270 separation, the GC heating method began at 303.15K (for 1 min) followed by a heating rate of 3K/min
- during 13,3 minutes up to 343.15 K then a heating rate of 8K/min during 26,2 minutes up to 553.15K
- and stayed at 553.15K for 1 min. For Py-GCMS and GCMS analysis, the temperatures of the injector
- and detector were set at553.15K and 473.15K respectively. The ionization mode on the MS was
- electron impact. The mass range from m/z equal to 25 up to 600 was scanned and the identification
- of the compounds relied on NIST Mass Spectral Library 2011. The results were relative and
- 276 qualitative. They were expressed in area percentages of the Total Ion Chromatogram (TIC).

277 2.5.5. Thermogravimetric Analysis (TGA): The TGA of the samples was performed with a NETZSCH 278 STA 449 thermogravimetric analyzer under dynamic nitrogen atmosphere (30 mL/min). The olive 279 pruning residue was analyzed without treatment. A weighted sample of approximately 35 mg was 280 placed on an alumina crucible inside the furnace and vacuum was applied to create a minimum 281 oxygen environment. The sample was heated up to 1173.15K with a heating rate of 10K/min. The 282 sample temperature was measured with a type S (Pt-Rh10/Pt) thermocouple which was placed 283 under the sample holder and mass changes were recorded as a function of temperature. The overall 284 mass loss measurement uncertainty is expected to be within  $\pm 0.5$  %.

285

# 286 **3. Results**

- -- •
- 287

# **3.1.** From UE policies to local level: socio-political feasibility of the biorefinery project

# 289 **3.1.1. Congruence between OLIZERO biorefinery project and EU policy**

- 290 The OLIZERO project takes place against a background characterized both by an increasing share of
- 291 renewable energies in the European energy mix and by controversies related mainly to social
- acceptance of these energies (especially in the case of wind energy) and to the carbon footprint of
- bioenergy. Against this background, a better mobilization of cellulosic wastes and residues in EU

- countries, estimated by Searle and Malins (2013) as the quantity of each feedstock left over after
- 295 environmental concerns and existing uses are taken into account, would be relevant. The amount of
- 296 material left on site under sustainable harvesting practices to protect against soil erosion and soil
- 297 carbon loss varies among EU Member States but is significant in some areas (Searle and Malins
- 2013). Bio-refineries supplied from lignocellulosic biomass and implementing emerging technologies
- such as pyrolysis process in an olive-growing area would in this context be relevant as it would
- 300 address at the same time sustainability issues linked to bioenergy and uncertainties of the olive oil
- 301 sector in Europe.
- 302 The EU accounts for almost three quarters of the global production of olive oil, the bulk of which
- being concentrated in four countries (Spain, Italy, Greece and Portugal). Spain, and especially
- 304 Andalusia, depends heavily on big holdings, whereas the sector is more fragmented in other
- 305 producing countries (EC, 2012a). The European Commission expects the production to grow
- 306 significantly in the years to come and the area of irrigated olive grove could expand accordingly
- between 2011 (681,000 ha) and 2020 (771,000 ha). Olive oil production could reach 1.68 million tons
- by 2020, the exact figure being influenced by climatic conditions. This trend is however disconnected
   from margins and income indicators that have shown a clear downward trend since 2000. From 2000
- from margins and income indicators that have shown a clear downward trend since 2000. From 2000
   to 2009, income in Spanish olive farms has experienced a one-third drop in nominal terms (-38% in
- family income per work unit) in a context of lower market prices (EC, 2012b). Thus, harnessing the
- full value of their production through additional by-products makes sense for farmers, especially in
- 313 areas such as Andalusia where additional income sources are scarce.
- In its Action Plan adopted in 2012 (EC, 2012c) to support the olive oil sector, the European
- Commission did acknowledge the overproduction crisis of the sector in Spain but didn't mention the
- role the sector could play in energy supply. The stress was instead put on improving quality standards
- and on better structuration of the supply chain in order to strengthen the bargaining power of
- 318 producers. Agri-environmental measures have also been advocated in the framework of the second
- pillar of Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The CAP has indeed been reshaped for the 2014-2020
- 320 programming period and substantial changes have been introduced concerning environmental
- 321 protection. 30% of direct payments to farmers are now asked to comply with environmental
- 322 "greening" measures. Furthermore, environmental protection, including climate change aspects and
- 323 the production of renewable energy has been strengthened in the Rural Development Policy. In each
- 324 Member State, 30% of rural development funds have to be spent on measures linked to the
- 325 environment policy or to climate change mitigation. Hence, funding for innovative solutions aimed at
- optimizing the use of available residues might be found in the Cohesion and in the Rural
- 327 Development policies rather than in the framework of the Energy policy.

# 328 **3.1.2. Socio-economic feasibility of OLIZERO biorefinery project at the local level**

- According to our inquiries, part of the farmers, incentivized by olive mills and local authorities, has
- recently changed practices. The burning of pruning waste is currently being replaced in part by
- chipping and composting the chips on the soils, a practice with less emission of GHG, but which
- 332 generates a potential risk of pest contamination (Koski and Jacobi, 2004), mostly unknown by
- 333 farmers.
- A sociological analysis has shown that this change was not only triggered by economic or ecological reasons, but by a complex farmers' rationale. Chipping and composting pruning waste is easier and

- less dangerous than burning it in dense olive orchards, the more modern and intensive ones.
- 337 Moreover, it does not need a prior authorization, nowadays mandatory for burning pruning residue
- due to the forest fire prevention policy. Another advantage of chipping and composting, according to
- the farmers, is an expected improvement of the chemical and physical properties of the soil, the
- latter being currently degraded (Ballais et al, 2013). Finally, the small number of chipping machines is
- not an obstacle, due to lending practices between farmers and to the existence of pruning service
- 342 providers. According to a limited number of survey responses, one third of the farmers is currently
- 343 chipping, one third is burning, and the last third mix both practices (Benyei, 2015).
- 344 Our purpose of implementing a new process of valorization of pruning waste has been largely 345 debated in participatory workshops with farmers and institutional actors, leading us to improve our 346 proposals, as exposed in the discussion section. Local stakeholders showed their interest for the 347 OLIZERO concept, but made suggestions that the team took into consideration in a multi-actor 348 approach. The first suggestion was to fully integrate the carbon balance of the innovation (for 349 example the cost of transporting the pruning waste), the second concern was the economic viability of the innovation, and the possible return for the farmers who already invested in machines and 350 351 energy for pruning waste chipping. Moreover, according to farmers, chipping pruning waste and 352 composting on the ground bring benefits for the soil, avoiding erosion and fertilizing it. This is one of 353 the reasons, why the process includes the return of biochar to compensate the "loss" of the compost 354 due to the project (chips will be used in the pyrolysis process), as this residue is a recognized fertilizer
- 355

356

### 357 **3.2.** The situation of pruning residue

(Steiner et al., 2007).

The map of biennal pruning waste, in tons per hectare, shows a wide range of values, from nearly 5 tons/hectare to almost 20 tons/hectare. The biennal pruning waste weight per surface is significantly and negatively correlated with the distance to the Nature Park (r=-0.313, p<0.0001) and more weakly with the size of the plots (r=-0.278, p<0.0001); the altitude and the slope of the plots are very weakly but significantly correlated with the waste weight (r=-0.023, p<0.0001; r=0.178 p<0.0001; respectively). Large plots are generally newly planted olive groves, with smaller trees, although with a higher density than traditional groves, and located in lands previously occupied by

365 crops, at the periphery of the Sierra Mágina district.

Among the geographical features computed in the 55 selected surveyed olive-groves: altitude, slope, surface of plots and minimum distance to wide asphalt roads, the last one is significantly linked with

368 the type of waste management (Kruskal-Wallis test, p=0,017). The average distance to roads is higher

- in plots where pruning waste is burnt (343 m), than in parcels with mixed (213 m) or chipping
- practices (106 m). The threshold of 256 meters has been found using a classification tree. Above this
- distance, 17 out of 19 olive groves are totally or partially burnt, and only 2 are not burnt. We further
- built a buffer area of 512 meters along the road network.
- 373 In Figure 1, the quantity of biennal waste is colored in different tons of red, when they are located
- 374 less than 256 meter from a road and in different shades of green when they are located further. We
- observe that most removable pruning waste is located less than 10 kilometers from an olive mill,
- 376 except at the extreme east of the county. These industrial scale olive mills could be used to shelter
- 377 and process the pruning residue. This moderate distance is important to reduce the cost of

- transportation, an important issue notified by farmers during the engaging workshops. In conclusion,
- 379 41% of biennal pruning waste is removable by trucks, representing an amount of 340,734 tons. Every
- 380 year, around 170,367 tons are thus potentially available for biomass processing.
- 381

# 382 3.3. Endophytic fungi analysis

383 Because unattended pruning residues may nurture parasites, we analysed the fungi they may 384 contain, as fungi usually represent 85% of the diseases of plants. To this end, fresh leaves and twigs 385 sampled from several pruned trees were surface-sterilized and endophytic fungi were isolated on 386 PDA. Identification was made by sequencing the barcode, *i.e.*, the Intergenic Transcribed Spacers 387 (ITS) of the rRDNA cluster. Seventy five strains were successfully cultivated and analysed for their 388 barcode (Table 1). Analysis showed that the most frequent species (24 out of 75) belonged to the 389 genus Alternaria and its relative Pleospora, as previously found in Olive trees from the Baleares 390 (Fisher et al., 1992). Many strains belonging to both genus are plant pathogens, including some 391 pathogenic to Spanish olive trees (Moral et al., 2008). Other frequent endophytes belonged to genus 392 Biscogniauxia and Preussia. The Biscogniauxia species were related to Biscogniauxia mediterranea, a 393 pathogen of oaks (Henriques et al., 2014). Additional species were found to belong to Pezizomycetes, 394 Dothideomycetes and Sordariomycetes, some of which were related to strains potentially pathogenic 395 to the olive trees, such as Cladosporium sp. and Aureobasidium pullulans (Chliveh et al., 2014). Olive 396 tree pruning residues of the Sierra Mágina harbour thus fungi frequently recovered in surveys of 397 endophytes, but also that are potential plant pathogens, including some known to attack olive trees.

- 398 The type of fungi (potentially pathogenic or not) was significantly linked with the altitude category,
- according to the chi square analysis (observed value 14.36, critical value 5.99, p=0.0008). Potentially
- 400 pathogenic fungi are significantly over-represented in a range of altitude from 573 to 736 meters and
- 401 under-represented in a range of altitude from 797 to 944 meters of altitude. At an altitude of over
- 402 1000 meters, pathogenic fungi are under-represented, without this being significant. The type of
- 403 fungal genus is not significantly linked with sun exposure. The map of the proportion of pathogenic
- fungal varies does not show a clear spatial pattern (Figure 2). This suggests that pruning residues are
- 405 much more expected to host fungal parasites in olive-groves located at lower altitude.

406 Overall, the data suggest that unattended pruning residues may indeed host and nurture fungal
407 parasites. It would therefore be recommended to dispose of the waste in a way that limit potential
408 threat from fungi, *i.e.*, that would sterilize the pruning residues. Biochar is well-suited for such

- 409 purpose.
- 410

# 411 **3.4.** Biomolecules production

412 Olive leaf extracts have already gained particular attention for their healing properties (El and

- 413 Karakaya, 2009). These properties are attributed to polyphenols, such as oleuropein and tyrosol,
- because of their antioxidant activity. Numerous publications are dedicated to the extraction and the
- 415 analysis of these compounds. HPLC is the preferred technique for such analysis since the polyphenols
- 416 are mostly non-volatile (Herrero et al., 2011; Pereira et al., 2011; Abaza et al., 2015). In this work,
- 417 extractives were recovered with acetone or diethyl ether and analyzed by GCMS. Despite the
- 418 medium quality of the obtained chromatograms, it was sufficient to observe various families of
- 419 molecules, such as acids, fatty acids / alcohols, condensed polyphenols. Some may also be found by

- 420 Py-GCMS analysis (see below). Precise identification of all the molecules would require the injection
- in the GC of standard compounds. Indeed, the similarity level with NIST database varied from high
- 422 values (97% for acetic acid, dodecene, phenol, 2.4-bis (1.1-dimethylethyl)-) to intermediate (88% for
- 423 eicosanol) and low (75% for benzoin). From a quantitative perspective, extractives are often present
- in small amounts (approximately 5% wt in lignocellulosic materials). Here, 10% wt extractives were
- 425 recovered using acetone as extraction solvent and 3.3% wt with diethyl ether. More products were
- 426 detected in acetone extracts than in diethyl ether. If future work confirms the presence in sufficient
- amount of extractives then useful applications in various fields such as lubricants, solvents, plastics,
   surface agents, cosmetics, polymers, resins, soap, detergents and fragrance could be considered.
- +20 surface agents, cosmetics, polymens, resins, soup, actergents and magrance could be considered.
- 429 Py-GCMS experimental device enabled to identify the decomposition products of the three major
- 430 polymers in lignocelluloses, lignin, cellulose and hemicelluloses (Chen, 2014). Additional Py-GCMS
- data of olive leaves have not been found in the literature. The effect of the localization of the trees
- has been assessed by testing different samples (E1=Pt=45<sup>2</sup>, E2=Pt=25<sup>2</sup>, E3=Pt=24<sup>1</sup>) at the same
   temperature (773.15K). As can be seen in Figure 3, no effect was observed on the pyrograms.
- 455 temperature (775.15K). As can be seen in righte 5, no enect was observed on the pyrograms.
- In order to have an overview of the main biomolecules that could be produced via pyrolysis, the
- 435 samples have been injected in a preheated oven at four different temperatures (673.15, 773.15,
- 436 873.15 and 973.15 K). Results are presented in Table 2 and a typical pyrogram in Figure 4. As
- 437 expected from the thermogravimetric (TGA) experiment (Figure 5), a broad range of pyrolysis
- temperature can be selected to favor the emission of volatiles. Indeed, most of the compounds are
- 439 volatilized over the 585-949K range (e.g. ~69% mass change). Therefore, pyrolysis temperature has
- been set 20 degrees after the second peak at 673.15K where the majority of the volatiles were
- emitted and subsequently at three higher temperatures. The results evidenced the molecules
- 442 expected from lignocelluloses degradation with high intensity peaks. Indeed, typical phenolics,
- aldehydes, ketone and acetic acid were recovered. The applications of these molecules are well
- 444 known in fields such as resins, solvents, chemicals, aroma, *etc.* (de Wild, 2011). It is noticeable that
- several compounds seemed to originate from the extractive part (musk ambrette, linoleic acid,
- tetramethyl-2-hexadecen-1-ol...). The increase in temperature favored the formation of low
  molecular weight molecules and less-functionalized molecules (toluene, xylene). The proportion of
- 448 linear fractionation products increased while the one-cyclized compounds decreased. The
- 449 complementary analysis of TGA and pyrolysis extractions, coupled with GCMS analysis, helped to
- 450 identify the biomolecules production potential. These molecules of interest have various possible
- 450 Identity the bomolecules production potential. These molecules of interest have validus possible
- 451 applications ranging from cosmetics, chemicals, materials to antioxidant precursors synthesis.
- 452

# 453 **4. Discussion**

Our interdisciplinary approach highlighted the challenges that are faced while implementing the new
process. The technical and economic feasibility must be demonstrated in accordance with the
collection of resources and plants positioning issues. Involvement of local stakeholders is crucial in
order to understand their awareness about the risk of trees infection, their positions towards rural
development policies and their opinion about different technologies such as pyrolysis. The following
discussion encompasses the main steps of our analysis. First we question the congruence between
the EU policy and the local situation. Secondly, we discuss about the feasibility of the innovation

461 according to our geographical and socio-economical diagnosis. Thirdly we assessed the risks linked to462 the current practices, and finally the feasibility of the OLIZERO concept.

### 463 **4.1. Discussion from the European policy analysis**

464 Solid and gaseous biomass is by far the biggest source of renewable energy in the EU and is expected 465 to make a key contribution to the 20% EU renewable energy target by 2020. Back to 2003, the EU 466 adopted a biofuels support policy aiming at lowering CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the transport sector. In order to comply with this policy, Member States introduced market support price mechanisms and excise 467 468 duty exemptions. This policy has however triggered critic as it might have an adverse impact on food 469 prices, which levels may increase due to induced indirect land use change (ILUC). Although estimates 470 vary regarding the exact impact of biofuels production on global grain prices, a related concern has 471 emerged on the carbon footprint of biofuels. Agricultural land expansion induces ILUC at the expense 472 of forests and of grassland and cultivation increases CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Again, studies vary on this 473 specific issue but the European Commission acknowledged as soon as in 2010 that ILUC can increase 474 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and supported a precautionary approach (European Parliament, 2015).

- 475 In this context, the Commission decided in 2015 to amend its biofuels quality Directive and its
- 476 renewable energy directive (EP, 2015/1513, Council 9/9/2015) and proposed a 5% threshold for first
- 477 generation biofuels in the energy mix of transport by 2020. Finally, a compromise was found with the
- 478 European Parliament and the Council on a 7% cap on conventional biofuels, including biofuels
- 479 produced from energy crops. Furthermore, transition towards advanced biofuels (defined as biofuels
- 480 produced from feedstock that do not compete directly with food and feed crops, such as wastes and
- 481 agricultural residues as listed in the Annex IX of the 2015 Directive) is to be encouraged. The
- 482 compromise found at the EU level stated that Member states will be required to adopt a target
- 483 above a reference of 0.5 percentage points of the 10% target for renewable energy in transport. This
- 484 renewed EU framework opens opportunities to local actors that are willing to engage in energy
- 485 production without being exposed to the risk of increasing ILUC and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- 486 However, one of our findings is that implementing a cross-cutting approach to foster sustainable
- 487 bottom-up energy policies is very much required from local and regional actors. EU territorial
- 488 development policies are indeed part of the toolbox to address opportunities and challenges related
- to biomass. In this respect, the Cohesion policy as well as the Rural Development Policy, also known
- as the second pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy, offer both funding and instruments to
- 491 implement innovative policies, linking agricultural development, energy production and reduction of
- 492 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Beneficiary countries have introduced into their programming documents for the
- 493 2014-2020 period specific actions in this respect, but local and regional actors may find it difficult to
- 494 make full use of all the possibilities available across different EU policies.

### 495 **4.2. Discussion from pruning waste and socio-economic diagnosis**

- 496 The quantity of pruning waste is higher and more variable than assessed in previous studies (15,400
- 497 m<sup>3</sup>/ha/yr in irrigated olive-orchard, with 100 trees/ha, La Cal Herrera, 2013, 3 ton/ha, AAE 2013). This
- 498 quantity is potentially available for biomass process. But potential is not real. We have to consider
- 499 several obstacles. First of all, the pruning waste is currently processed by farmers in their private
- 500 lands. They consider the chipping cost affordable because of the advantages of composting residue
- 501 on soils, including increasing organic matter content and avoiding erosion and excessive evaporation.
- 502 Yet, chipping is more expensive (70 €) than burning (53 €, La Cal Herrera, 2013). Chipping is less

- widespread than in other regions (amounting to half the groves in the whole Jaén Province, La Cal
  Herrera, 2013; and in the Granada Province, Calatrava and Franco, 2011). Except the role of social
  interactions between farmers and of the low quality of soils, the drivers of chipping diffusion are
- 506 different from those observed in 2005 by Calatrava and Franco (2011).
- Farmers are unwilling to give up the supposed benefit for soils without compensation. As the
  economic balance of our biorefinery concept is still under study, it is risky to include a payment for
- 509 pruning residue. This is one of the reasons why we redesigned the project by integrating a return as
- 510 fertilizer of biochar, the ultimate residue of the pyrolysis (Steiner et al., 2007; Zabaniotou et al.,
- 511 2015a). Note that farmers expressed certain unwillingness regarding one of our initial proposals to
- 512 perform a fungal attack on waste residues before pyrolysis, as they feared the spreading diseases.
- 513 This fungal pretreatment was aimed at improving yield of recovery of high-value molecules. It is thus
- 514 for now absent from the process. However, we will further discuss this point in section 4.2, in the
- 515 light of the results obtained on fungal endophytes. Another obstacle is the economic feasibility of our
- 516 biorefinery concept. To evaluate it, we should consider the costs including transport by trucks in
- 517 sloping land of voluminous pruning waste (modelling is in process) and quantities of available
- 518 biochar, as well as the benefits such as the concentration of high-value molecules, biofuel
- 519 production, soil improvement by biochar, reduction of greenhouse emission and a better image of
- 520 the region leading to better valorization of olive oil.

### 521 **4.3. Discussion from risk analysis**

- 522 The potential risk due to the presence of endophytic fungi, potentially pathogen, is serious in a mono 523 crop agricultural system and in the context of climatic change. This result leads us to the revision of 524 our initial work hypothesis of using fungal attack in the OLIZERO concept. Moreover, the new 525 practices of chipping and composting pruning waste may represent a danger for insect pests and 526 fungal pathogen propagation (Koski and Jacobi, 2004). The recommended precautions about waste 527 management are particularly addressed to olive-groves located at lower altitude, which are expected 528 to host pathogenic fungi. In these olive-groves, the biorefinery concept that we propose should limit 529 the potential threat from fungi and is feasible when the distance between olive-groves and roads 530 remains below 256 meters. In olive-groves located at higher altitude, the risk due to potentially 531 pathogenic fungi is not important. Nearly half of the pruning waste obtained in olive groves near the
- roads is located at an altitude higher than 797 meters, in the southern part of the district (161,439
- 533 out of 340,734 tons per hectare). Another part is located further away from the main roads, and for
- this reason pruning waste is not easily removable by trucks (Figure 1). Harmless endophytic fungi
- already present in the pruning residues may thus be used for a first attack of ligneous waste in these remote olive groves. The fungal attack should be an interesting alternative to reduce the volume of
- 537 pruning waste in order to bring it to the road network for further processing (instead of burning it).
- 538 In the context of climatic change, the threat of pathogenic fungal should increase. In low altitude
- olive-groves, generally located near rivers, drip irrigation is largely used (Cohen et al., 2014). The
- 540 future increase in maximum temperature (from 1 to 3°C, in 2030-2050, Ronchail et al., 2014), jointly
- 541 with the moisture maintained by drip irrigation on the root system, should enable potential
- 542 pathogenic fungi to turn into pathogenic fungi, increasing the vulnerability of olive-growing. These
- 543 low altitude olive-groves are generally composed with younger trees which means that they
- represent the future of olive-growing in the region. For this reason, our prospect of a more

- sustainable waste management is part of the solution for the adaptation to climate change, and it is
  also a way to mitigate the ecological footprint of olive-growing and thus to contribute to the
  reduction of climate change itself.
- 548

### 549 **4.4. Discussion from chemical analysis**

550 Zabaniotou et al. (2015a) demonstrated that a pyrolysis process combined with olive mills and 551 receiving pruning waste, kernels and pomace as feedstock can create a complete stand-alone 552 decentralized bio-energy system. In their study, bio-oil is used for electricity generation. Not only it 553 covers the energy requirements of the olive mill but also it produces a surplus. Pyrolysis is mainly 554 developed for energetic purpose but it is also a way to produce chemicals (Scott et al., 1997; Czernik 555 and Bridgwater, 2004; Yaman, 2004; de Wild, 2011; Zhang et al., 2013). The production of chemicals 556 would require higher investments but could result in a more profitable plant if high value products 557 are obtained. The previous results and the data published about extractions of olive leaves suggest 558 the possibility to develop a two-step process. The first step would be an extraction process of high 559 added-value molecules selected upon evaluation of the quantity and quality of the recovered 560 extractives. Secondly, the residual lignocellulosic biomass could be dried and pyrolyzed in order to 561 produce new molecules of interest, energy and finally biochar. The process temperature might be set 562 at a lower level than usual (673K instead of 773K for wood) as suggested by TGA. Globally, this 563 biorefinery would be able to produce at the same time olive oil, energy, high added-value molecules, 564 biofuels and biochar for the soils. Sterile biochar would solve the issue of the potential risk of 565 pathogens diffusion while improving soil fertility. The geographic analysis showed strong spatial heterogeneities emphasizing the importance of logistics and the need for an optimization of the 566 567 waste collection. Different scenarios for a biorefinery implantation could be considered such as a mobile pyrolysis devices or a plant next to existing olive mills. Size, number and positioning of such 568 569 devices must also be optimized. Further work will be necessary to produce actual bio-oil from 570 pyrolysis gases, then to target specific molecules and optimize their recovery in extractives and 571 condensed bio-oil.

572

## 573 **5. Conclusion**

574 In this work, we proposed a strategy for pruning waste valorization involving local stakeholders. The 575 field study indicated that a favorable solution should emerge from a multi-actor approach integrating 576 the concerns and perceptions of local actors. Farmers' belief that chipping pruning waste and 577 composting on the ground would bring benefits for the soil has been seriously questioned by 578 endophytic fungi analysis. These practices seemed to be risky since the detected strains might induce 579 trees infection. In coordination with local stakeholders, our group performed preliminary studies, which indicate the path of an innovative biorefinery solution circumventing this problem, while 580 581 coping with the need to maintain soil fertility. 582 The collaboration between social, biological and chemical engineering sciences brought many

advantages: first, we chose a territory with a social demand to improve the waste management,
along with a capacity of innovation and a high waste production. This encouraged us to improve the

agronomical and economic benefits of the proposed innovation. Secondly, the analysis of endophytic

- 586 fungi showed the potential risks of the changing practices along with the potential benefit of our
- 587 innovation. Finally, the chemical and Py-GCMS analyses highlighted the opportunity of a two-step
- 588 process making possible to extract high added-value molecules, produce energy and fertilizers.
- 589 Further investigations, such as on-going laboratory and pilot scale pyrolysis, are needed to address
- 590 the technical challenges in the production processes and in the design of appropriate separation
- 591 technologies. However, knowing that potential molecules of interest can be recovered is encouraging
- 592 for the future developments of the proposed OLIZERO concept. It will be necessary to refine the
- 593 geographic data (workflow, localization, mapping, etc.) to assess the availability of the biomass
- according to harvest periods as well as the physicochemical characteristics of the residues to assess
- the nature of bio-molecules that can be extracted (volumes and material flow). In the prospect of this
- 596 global study that involved several partners with complementary tools and skills, both Spanish and
- 597 French, future work will be dedicated to the consolidation of this innovative methodology at UE level
- 598 by enlarging the partnership to other academics and private companies interested in waste
- 599 management through alternative biomolecules and fuels production.

#### 601 Acknowledgments

- 602 IdEx Sorbonne Paris Cité is acknowledged for the financial support for grant « Olizero » included in
- 603 project "Energies, territoire, société: enjeux et approches croisées" Programmes InterDisclipinaires
- of COMUE Sorbonne Paris Cité. Philippe Silar and Moussa Dicko are grateful to Région Ile-de-France
- 605 (R2DS) for Grants P3AMB and 'Valorisation de la biomasse lignocellulosique sur le territoire de la
- 606 RdBF'.
- 607 Pôle image and Coumba Doucouré (Université Paris 13) are acknowledged for their technical support,
- 608 Miguel Yanes and the locals of Sierra Mágina for their time and support during fieldwork and
- 609 Marianne Cohen for the scientific coordination of Olizero.
- 610

### 611 List of figures

- 612 Figure 1: Pruning waste biennal production in Sierra Mágina district
- 613 Figure 2: Geographic localization of samples and proportion of potential pathogenic fungal
- 614 Figure 3: Pyrograms obtained from flash pyrolysis-GCMS at 773.15 K for different locations
- Figure 4: Pyrograms obtained from flash pyrolysis-GCMS at 773.15 K for one location
- 616 Figure 5: Thermogravimetric (TG) and derivative thermogravimetric (DTG) curves for olive leaves, at
- 617 the range of 300–1173 K and at a constant heating rate of 10K/min in a flow of nitrogen.
- 618

#### 619 List of tables

- 620 Table 1: Summary of endophyte analysis
- 621 Table 2: Major products obtained by Pyrolysis-GCMS analysis of olive tree leaves from cuttings at
- 622 four temperatures
- 623
- 624
- 625
- 626
- 627
- 628
- 629
- 630
- 631
- 632



### 633 Figure 1 : Pruning waste biennal production in Sierra Mágina district







640 Figure 3: Pyrograms obtained from flash pyrolysis-GCMS at 773.15 K for different tree



641 locations (different colors for each analyzed tree).

642

**Figure 4**: Pyrograms obtained from flash pyrolysis-GCMS at 773.15 K for one location and

645 two different samples (in red and black).



- Figure 5: Thermogravimetric (TG) and derivative thermogravimetric (DTG) curves for olive
  leaves, at the range of 300–1173 K and at a constant heating rate of 10K/min in a flow of
- 651 nitrogen.



- 652 Tables

# 655 Table 1: Summary of endophyte analysis

Class	Genus	Number of isolated strains
	Alternaria-Pleospora	24
	Preussia	10
Dathidaamusatas	Aureobasidium	2
Dothideomycetes	Peyronellaea glomerata	1
	Cladosporium sp.	1
	Phaeosphaeria sp.	1
	Biscogniauxia	10
	Chaetomium	5
	Coniocheta	5
Sordariomycetes	Nigrospora	4
	Sordaria	2
	Sordariales sp.	1
	Thielavia sp.	1
	Ascorhizoctonia	5
Pezizomycetes	Pseudotrichina	2
	Pezizomycetes sp.	1

Table 2: Major products obtained by Pyrolysis-GCMS analysis of olive tree leaves from cuttings at

660 four temperatures

673,15 К	773,15 K	873,15 K	973,15 K
Formic acid	Acetic acid, oxo-	Butanal, 3-hydroxy-	Butanal, 3-hydroxy-
			Acetic formic
Acetaldehyde	Acetic formic anhydride	Acetic formic anhydride	anhydride
Methyl Alcohol	Methyl Alcohol	Methyl Alcohol	1-Pentanol
2,3-Butanedione	1,3-Butadiene, 2-methyl-	Cyclopropane, ethylidene-	1,3-Butadiene, 2- methyl-
2-Butenal	2-Propenal	2-Propenal	1,4-Pentadien-3-ol
Acetic acid	Acetone	1-Hexene	1-Hexene
Glycidol	2,3-Butanedione	Propanal, 2-methyl-	2-Pentene, 4-methyl-
Propanoic acid, 2-oxo-, methyl ester	2-Butenal	Furan, 2-methyl-	2-Hexen-1-ol, acetate, (Z)-
Eurfural	Acotic acid	.alpha	125 Hovatriana (7)
	Acetic acid	Acetobatyrolactone	1,3,3-Hexathene, $(2)$ -
2-Propanone, 1- (acetyloxy)-	methyl ester	2,4-Hexadien-1-ol	acetate
Renzaldebyde	2-Propanone, 1-	2 Rutonal	2.4-Hevadion-1-ol
2 Guelenenten 1 eng 2		2-Dutenai	2,4-112,801611-1-01
hydroxy-3-methyl-	Benzaldehyde	Toluene	1,5-Hexadien-3-yne
Phenol	2-Cyclopenten-1-one, 2- hydroxy-3-methyl-	Propanoic acid, 2-oxo-, methyl ester	2-Butenal
		2-Propanone, 1-	
p-Cresol	Phenol	(acetyloxy)-	(*)3-Undecene, (E)-
Cyclopropyl carbinol	p-Cresol	Benzaldehyde	Toluene
Isosorbide	Cyclopropyl carbinol	2-Cyclopenten-1-one, 2- hydroxy-3-methyl-	Ethylbenzene
Benzofuran, 2,3-dihydro-	Isosorbide	Phenol	p-Xylene
(*)Tetramethyl-2- hexadecen-1-ol	Benzofuran, 2,3-dihydro-	p-Cresol	Benzaldehyde
(*)Oxacycloheptadec-8- en-2-one, (8Z)	(*)Tetramethyl-2- hexadecen-1-ol	Isosorbide	Benzofuran, 2,3- dihydro-

661 \*: accurate identifications of molecules with large carbon numbers are difficult via MS

#### 662 References

- Abaza, L., Taamalli, A., Nsir, H. and Zarrouk, M., 2015. Olive Tree (*Olea europeae* L.) Leaves:
- 664 Importance and Advances in the Analysis of Phenolic Compounds. *Antioxidants,* 4, 682-698.
- Agencia andaluza de energía, 2013. *La biomasa en Andalucía*, Consejería de Economía, Innovación,
  Ciencia y empleo, Sevilla, Junta de Andalucía, 38p.
- Akalına, M. K. and Karagöz, S., 2014. Analytical pyrolysis of biomass using gas chromatography
  coupled to mass spectrometry. *Trends in Analytical Chemistry*, 61, 11–16.
- Altıok, E., Bayçın, D., Bayraktar, O. and Ülkü, S., 2008. Isolation of polyphenols from the extracts of
- olive leaves (Olea europaea L.) by adsorption on silk fibroin. *Separation and Purification Technology*,
  62, 342–348.
- 672 Ballais, J-L., Cohen, M., Bonté, Ph. and coll., 2013. Hydric erosion in Sierra Magina olive groves
- 673 (Andalusia, Spain). Prospects for sustainable development. *Zeitschrift fur geomorphologie*, 57 (1), 1674 23.
- Beaufoy, G. The environmental impact of olive oil production in the European Union: practical option
  for improving the environmental impact. s.l.: CE, 2001, 74 p.
- <sup>677</sup> Benyei, P., 2015. *Climate change mitigation strategies and factors for innovation diffusion: The case*
- 678 of biomass valorization in the mountainous olive groves of Sierra Mágina (Jaén). Master thesis. Ghent
   679 University Catalogue.
- 680 Bourrand, K., Dhiediou, I., Courault, R. and Bilodeau, C., 2015. MeMoTF (Merge and Mosaic Through
- 681 Folders), une boîte à outils de prétraitements automatiques de grandes bases de données
- 682 géoréférencées : 2 exemples de coopération ingénierie géomatique et recherche en géographie, SIG
- 683 *2015, Conférence Francophone ESRI*, 7-8 octobre 2015, Ecole d'Architecture de Versailles.
- Calatrava, J. and Franco, J.A., 2011. Using pruning residues as mulch: Analysis of its adoption and
  process of diffusion in Southern Spain olive orchards, *Journal of Environmental Management*, 92,
  620-629.
- 687 Camarsa, G., Gardner, S., Jones, W., Eldridge, J., Hudson, T., Thorpe, E. and O'Hara, E. 2010.*LIFE*
- 688 among the olives Good practice in improving environmental performance in the olive oil sector.
- 689 European Commission, Environment Directorate-General. European Union, Belgium. DOI:
- 690 10.2779/8360
- 691 Chen, H., 2014. *Biotechnology of lignocellulose: theory and practice*. Chemical Industry Press, Beijing.
- 692 CHG, 2010. Plano hidrológico, Memoria (www.chguadalquivir.es).
- 693 Chliyeh, M., Touati, J., Selmaoui, K., Ouazzani Touhami, A., Filali-Maltouf, A., El Modafar, C., Moukhli,
- A., Benkirane, R. and Douira, A., 2014. Bibliographic Inventory of the Olive Tree (*Olea europaea* L.)
- Fungal Diseases in the World. *Int. J. Pure App. Biosci.*, 2 (3), 46-79.
- 696 Cohen, M., Ronchail, J., Alonso-Roldan, M., Morcel, C., Angles, S., Araque-Jimenez, E. and Labat, D.,
- 697 2014. Adaptability of Mediterranean agricultural systems to climate change. The example of the
- 698 Sierra Mágina olive-growing region (Andalusia, Spain). I. Past and present, *Weather, Climate and*
- 699 Society, 6(3), 380-398.

- Czernik, S. and Bridgwater, A. V., 2004. Overview of Applications of Biomass Fast Pyrolysis Oil. *Energy & Fuels*, 18, 590-598.
- de Wild, P., 2011. *Biomass Pyrolysis for chemicals*. Doctoral Dissertation. University of Groningen,
   Netherlands.
- El, S. N. and Karakaya, S., 2009. Olive tree (*Olea europaea*) leaves: Potential beneficial effects on
- human health. *Nutrition Reviews*, 67(11), 632-638.
- 706 Encinar, J.M., Beltrán, F.J., Ramiro, A. and González, J.F., 1998. Pyrolysis/gasification of agricultural
- residues by carbon dioxide in the presence of different additives: influence of variables. *Fuel Processing Technology*, 55(3), 219-233.
- 709 European Biomass Association, AEBIOM Statistical Report, Brussels (2015).
- 710 European Commission, 2012 (a). *Economic analysis of the olive sector*, Directorate-General for
- 711 Agriculture and Rural Development, July, European Commission, Brussels.
- European Commission, 2012 (b) *Prospects for the olive oil sector in Spain, Italy, Greece* 2012-2020,
- 713 Agricultural Markets Briefs, Brief N° 2 –July, European Commission, Brussels.
- European Commission, 2012 (c) *Action Plan for the Olive oil sector*, DG Agri Working Paper, European
  Commission, Brussels.
- Final Function Field States Fie
- 717 Council, the European economic and social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, A policy
- framework for climate and energy in the period from 2020 to 2030, COM/2014/015 final, European
- 719 Commission, Brussels.
- 720 European Commission, 2015. *Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the*
- 721 Council, the European economic and social Committee, the Committee of the Regions and the
- 722 European Investment Bank, A Framework Strategy for a Resilient Energy Union with a Forward-
- 723 Looking Climate Change Policy, COM/2015/080 final, European Commission, Brussels.
- European Parliament, 2015. *EU biofuels policy.Dealing with indirect land use change*, briefing, May2015, Brussels.
- Fisher, P.J., Petrini, O., Petrini, L.E. and Descals, E., 1992. A preliminary study of fungi inhabiting
  xylem and whole stems of *Olea europaea*. *Sydowia*, 44: 117-121
- 728 García-Torres L., Peña-Barragán, J.M., López-Granados, F., Jurado-Expósito, M. and Fernández-
- 729 Escobar, R., 2008. Automatic assessment of agro-environmental indicators from remotely sensed
- images of tree orchards and its evaluation using olive plantations, *Computers and Electronics in*
- 731 *Agriculture*, 61(2), 179–191.
- García, R., Pizarro, C., Lavin, A.G. and Bueno, J.L., 2012. Characterization of Spanish biomass wastes
   for energy use. *Bioresource Technology*, 103, 249-258.
- Garrote, L., Iglesias, A., Granados, A., Mediero, L. and Martin-Carrasco, F., 2015. Quantitative
- assessment of climate change vulnerability of irrigation demands in Mediterranean Europe. Water
   *Resources Management*, 29(2), 325-338.
- 737 Gualdi, S., Somot, S., Li, L., Artale, V., Adani, M., Bellucci, A., Braun, A., Calmanti, S., Carillo, A.,
- 738 Dell'Aquila, A., Déqué, M., Dubois, C., Elizalde, A., Harzallah, A., Jacob, D., L'Hévéder, B., May, W.,

- 739 Oddo, P., Ruti, P., Sanna, A., Sannino, G., Scoccimarro, E., Sevault, F. and Navarra, A., 2013. The
- 740 CIRCE simulations: Regional climate change projections with realistic representation of the
- 741 Mediterranean Sea. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society, 94(1), 65-81.
- 742 Gómez-Vázquez, I., Álvarez-Álvarez, P. and Marey-Pérez, M.F., 2009.Conflicts as enhancers or
- 743 barriers to the management of privately owned common land: A method to analyze the role of
- conflicts on a regional basis. *Forest Policy and Economics*, 11: 617–27.
- Henriques, J., Nóbrega, F., Sousa, E. and Lima, A., 2014. Diversity of *Biscogniauxia mediterranea*within Single Stromata on Cork Oak, *Journal of Mycology*, vol. 2014, Article ID 324349, 5 p.
- Herrero, M., Temirzoda, T.N., Segura-Carretero, A., Quirantes, R., Plaza, M. and Ibánez, E., 2011. New
  possibilities for the valorization of olive oil by-products. *Journal of Chromatography* A, 1218, 7511–
- 749 7520.
- 750 IOC, 2015:http://www.internationaloliveoil.org/
- 751 Ke,Y. and Quackenbush, L.J., 2011, A review of methods for automatic individual tree-crown
- detection and delineation from passive remote sensing, *International Journal of Remote Sensing*, Vol.
- 753 32, No. 17, 10 September 2011, 4725–4747.
- 754 Koski, R. D. and Jacobi, W. R., 2004. Tree pathogen survival in wood chip mulch. *Journal of*
- 755 Arboriculture, 30(3), 165–171.
- La Cal Herrera, J.A., 2013. *Viabilidad de la integración de una planta de gasificación de biomasa*, PhD
  Tesis, University of Jaén.
- Le Floch, F., Tena, M.T., Ríos, A. and Valcárcel, M., 1998. Supercritical fluid extraction of phenol
  compounds from olive leaves. *Talanta*, 46, 1123–1130.
- Lecellier, G. and Silar, P., 1994. Rapid methods for nucleic acids extraction from Petri dish grown
   mycelia. *Curr Genet.*, 25:122-123.
- 762 MAGRAMA, cited 2006: Visor del SIGPAC nacional. [Available online at
- http://www.magrama.gob.es/es/agricultura/temas/sistema-de-informacion-geografica-de-parcelas agricolas-sigpac-/visor-sigpac.aspx.]
- 765 Masson, J., Soille, P. and Mueller, R., 2004. Tests with VHR images for the identification of olive trees
- and other fruit trees in the European Union, *Proc. SPIE 5568, Remote Sensing for Agriculture,*
- 767 Ecosystems, and Hydrology VI, 23 (October 26, 2004).
- Moral, J., De la Rosa, R., León, L., Barranco, D. and Michailides, T.J., 2008. A. High Susceptibility of
  Olive Cultivar FS-17 to *Alternaria alternata* in Southern Spain. *Plant Disease*, 92:1252.
- 770 Mulla, D.J., 2013. Twenty five years of remote sensing in precision agriculture: Key advances and
- remaining knowledge gaps, *Biosystems Engineering*, 114 (4), 358–371, Special Issue: Sensing
- 772 Technologies for Sustainable Agriculture.
- 773 Oasmaa, A., Solantausta, Y., Arpiainen, V., Kuoppala, E. and Sipilä K., 2010. Fast Pyrolysis Bio-Oils
- from Wood and Agricultural Residues. *Energy Fuels*, 24 (2), 1380–1388.
- Peña-Barragán, J.M., Jurado-Expósito, M., López-Granados, F., Atenciano, S., Sánchez-de la Orden,
- 776 M., García-Ferrer, A. and García-Torres, L., 2004. Assessing land-use in olive groves from aerial
- photographs, *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment,* 103, 117–122.

- 778 Pereira, A.P., Ferreira, I.C.F.R., Marcelino, F., Valentão, P., Andrade, P.B., Seabra, R., Estevinho, L.,
- 779 Bento, A. and Pereira, J.A., 2011. Phenolic Compounds and Antimicrobial Activity of Olive (Olea
- 780 europaea L. Cv. Cobrançosa) Leaves. Molecules, 12, 1153-1162.
- 781 Pütün, A.E., Uzum, B.B., Apaydin, E. and Pütün, E., 2005. Bio-oil from olive oil industry wastes:
- 782 Pyrolysis of olive residue under different conditions. *Fuel Process. Technol.*, 87(1), 25-32.
- Ronchail, J., Cohen, M., Alonso-Roldán, M., Garcin, H., Sultan, B. and Angles, S., 2014. Adaptability of
- 784 Mediterranean Agricultural Systems to Climate Change: The Example of the Sierra Mágina Olive-
- <sup>785</sup> Growing Region (Andalusia, Spain). Part II: The Future. *Weather, Climate, and Society*, 6(4), 451–467.
- 786 Sanchez-Martínez, J. D., and V. J. Gallego-Simón, 2009: La olivicultura ecológica en Sierra Mágina:
- 787 Una aproximación inicial. *El olivar: Paisaje, patrimonio y desarrollo sostenible*, E. Araque-Jiménez, Ed.,
  788 Universidad de Jaén-ADR, 141–162.
- 789 Sanz Cañada, J., García Brenes, M. D. and Barneo Alcántara, M., 2013. *El aceite de oliva de montaña*
- 790 *en Jaén : cadena de valor y bienes públicos*. Tender Final Report. The Institute for Prospective
- 791 Technological Studies, European Union.
- Scott, D.S., Legge, R.L., Piskorz, J., Majerski, P. and Radlein, D., 1997. Fast Pyrolysis of Biomass for
- 793 Recovery of Specialty Chemicals Specialized chemicals by fast pyrolysis. Chapter in Developments in
- 794 Thermochemical Biomass Conversion. Springer Netherlands, 523-535
- Searle, S. and Malins, C. 2013. *Availability of Cellulosic Residues and Wastes in the EU*. Washington,
   DC, International Council on Clean Transportation.
- Söderberg, C., and Eckerberg K., 2013: Rising policy conflicts in Europe over bioenergy and forestry.
   *Forest Policy and Economics*, 33: 112–19.
- 799 Steiner, C., Teixeira, W.G., Lehmann, J., Nehls, T., Vasconcelos de Macêdo, J.L., Blum, W.E.H. and
- 800 Zech, W. 2007. Long term effects of manure, charcoal and mineral fertilization on crop production
- and fertility on a highly weathered Central Amazonian upland soil. *Plant and Soil,* 291, 275-290.
- 802 Stroosnijder, L., M. I. Mansinho, and A. M. Palese, 2008. OLIVERO: The project analysing the future of 803 olive production systems on sloping land in the Mediterranean basin. *J. Environ. Manage.*, 89,75–85.
- Talhaoui, N., Gómez-Caravaca, A.M., León, L., De la Rosa, R., Segura-Carretero, A. and Fernández-
- 805 Gutiérrez, A., 2014. Determination of phenolic compounds of 'sikitita' olive leaves by HPLC-DAD-TOF-
- 806 MS. Comparison with its parents 'arbequina' and 'picual' olive leaves. LWT. *Food Science and*
- 807 Technology, 58, 28–34.
- Tunalioglu, R., and Ö. F. Durdu, 2012: Assessment of future olive crop yield by a comparative
  evaluation of drought indices: A case study in western Turkey. *Theor. Appl. Climatol.*, 108, 397–410.
- 810 Valenzuela Calahorro, C., Gomez Serrano, V., Hernandez Alvaro, J. and Bernalte García, A., 1992. The
- 811 use of waste matter after olive grove pruning for the preparation of charcoal. The influence of the
- 812 type of matter, particle size and pyrolysis temperature. *Bioresource Technology*, 40, 17-22.
- 813 White, T.J., Bruns, T., Lee, S. and Taylor, J., 1990. Amplification and direct sequencing of fungal
- ribosomal RNA genes for phylogenetics. In: Innis MA, Gelfand DH, Sninsky JJ, White TJ (eds) PCR
- 815 *Protocols: a Guide to Methods and Applications,* pp. 315-322. Academic Press, New York.

- Yaman, S., 2004. Pyrolysis of biomass to produce fuels and chemical feedstocks. *Energy Conversion and Management*, 45 (5), 651-671.
- Zabaniotou, A., Kalogiannis, G., Kappas, E. and Karabelas, A.J., 2000. Olive residues (cuttings and
- 819 kernels) rapid pyrolysis product yields and kinetics. *Biomass and Bioenergy*, 18, 411–420.
- 820 Zabaniotou, A., Rovas, D., Libutti, A. and Monteleone, M., 2015a. Boosting circular economy and
- 821 closing the loop in agriculture: Case study of a small-scale pyrolysis–biochar based system integrated
- in an olive farm in symbiosis with an olive mill. *Environmental Development* 14, 22-36.
- Zabaniotou, A., Rovas, D. and Monteleone, M., 2015b. *Waste and Biomass Valorization* 6, 831-843.
- 824 Zanzi, R., Sjöström, K. and Björnbom, E., 2002. Rapid pyrolysis of agricultural residues at high
- temperature. *Biomass and Bioenergy* 23(5), 357-366.
- Zhang, X.-S., Yang, G.-X., Jiang, H., Liu, W.-J. and Ding, H.-S., 2013. Mass production of chemicals from
- 827 *biomass-derived oil by directly atmospheric distillation coupled with co-pyrolysis*. Scientific Reports 3,
- 828 1120.