

**ESI 1** Chemical and mineralogical properties of the soils prior to the  $\gamma$ -irradiation and the growth experiment.

**ESI 2** Mean concentrations of water-soluble major elements (standard deviation in parentheses) in soils A and F before and after the growth experiment for the intact (IN) and sterilized-reinoculated (SR) materials, of the bulk (Bk) and the rhizosphere (Rz) components. The Wilcoxon test indicates the significance of the differences between the Bk and the Rz soils for a given soil and treatment (ns and \* represent a  $p > 0.10$  and  $p \leq 0.10$  respectively).

**ESI 3** Mean concentrations of water-soluble Al, Cu and Zn species (standard deviation in parentheses) in soils A and F before and after the growth experiment for the intact (IN) and sterilized-reinoculated (SR) materials of the bulk (Bk) and the rhizosphere (Rz) components. The Wilcoxon test indicates the significance of the differences between the Bk and the Rz soils for a given soil and treatment (ns and \* represent a  $p > 0.10$  and  $p \leq 0.10$  respectively).

**ESI 4** Mean concentrations of water-soluble trace elements (standard deviation in parentheses) in soils A and F before and after the growth experiment for the intact (IN) and sterilized-reinoculated (SR) materials, of the bulk (Bk) and the rhizosphere (Rz) components. The Wilcoxon test indicates the significance of the differences between the Bk and the Rz soils for a given soil and treatment (ns and \* represent a  $p > 0.10$  and  $p \leq 0.10$  respectively).

**ESI 5** Mean concentration of NH4-EDTA soluble trace elements (standard deviation in parentheses) in soils A and F for the intact (IN) and sterilized-reinoculated (SR) materials, of the bulk (Bk) and the rhizosphere (Rz) components. The Wilcoxon test indicates the significance of the differences between the Bk and the Rz soils for a given soil and treatment (ns and \* represent a  $p > 0.10$  and  $p \leq 0.10$  respectively).

## ESI 1

Soil	CEC <sup>a</sup> cmol(+)/kg	BS <sup>b</sup> %	Zn <sub>ex</sub> /CEC <sup>c</sup> %	Pyro <sup>d</sup>			Oxa <sup>d</sup>			DC <sup>d</sup>			Mineralogy of the clay fraction $\leq 2 \mu\text{m}^e$					
													Chl-	K-Feld	Plag	Mica	Amphi	Vermi
				Fe	Al	Fe	Al	Fe	Al	Qtz	Chl	Chl-Vermi	Chl-Vermi	Chl-Vermi	Chl-Vermi	Chl-Vermi	Chl-Vermi	
A	4.3	53	23	2.6	2.4	6.9	4.6	9.8	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	---	
F	17.9	92	7	4.6	2.1	4.6	2.2	16.7	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	

<sup>a</sup> CEC = cation-exchange capacity as the sum of BaCl<sub>2</sub>-exchangeable cations

<sup>b</sup> BS = base saturation

<sup>c</sup> Zn<sub>ex</sub>/CEC = exchangeable zinc saturation computed as exchangeable Zn (Zn<sub>ex</sub>) divided by CEC

<sup>d</sup> Pyro = sodium pyrophosphate; Oxa = acid ammonium oxalate; DC = dithionite-citrate extractions

<sup>e</sup> Qtz = quartz; Chl = chlorite; Chl-Vermi = chlorite-vermiculite interstratified; K-Feld = K-feldspar; Plag = plagioclase;  
 Amphi = amphibole; Vermi = vermiculite;  
<sup>f</sup> 4 = dominant; 3 = major; 2 = minor and 1 = trace

## ESI 2

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Soil	Treatment <sup>a</sup>	Component	n <sup>b</sup>	EC <sup>c</sup> µS/cm	H <sup>+</sup> µM	Ca	Mg	Na	NH <sub>4</sub>	K	Cl	NO <sub>3</sub> µmol/kg soil	SO <sub>4</sub>	Tot N <sup>c</sup>	DON <sup>c</sup>	DOC <sup>c</sup>
<b>A Before growth experiment</b>																
	<b>Initial</b>		1	77	6.2	998	148	252	2677	807	274	220	446	120	79	532
Sterilized			1	85	(4)	(105)	(5)	(10)	(297)	(20)	(6)	(10)	(24)	(1)	(4)	(28)
				15.6	2160	274	195	485	943	157	402	298	50	38	38	547
			(8)	(1.2)	(72)	(29)	(7)	(42)	(73)	(4)	(51)	(22)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(69)
<b>After growth experiment</b>																
	<b>IN Bk</b>		4	90ns	12ns	2071ns	248ns	185ns	163ns	848ns	102ns	7367ns	248ns	8234ns	259ns	9093ns
			(10)	(2)	(200)	(34)	(24)	(24)	(41)	(23)	(23)	(1287)	(12)	(1880)	(3)	(1166)
Sterilized	Rz		3	107	13	2203	315	368	259	1360	142	8354	137	9265	652	7835
			(2)	(1)	(1174)	(7)	(6)	(11)	(26)	(3)	(41)	(15)	(76)	(50)	(50)	(178)
	<b>SR Bk</b>		4	132ns	15ns	2839ns	354ns	235ns	287ns	1266ns	100ns	10407ns	222ns	11439ns	745ns	7892ns
			(12)	(1)	(156)	(24)	(26)	(41)	(145)	(11)	(790)	(13)	(945)	(465)	(465)	(334)
Sterilized	Rz		3	147	18	3318	408	326	305	1188	207	12043	139	12545	197	9190
			(1)	(0.2)	(318)	(15)	(5)	(4)	(8)	(4)	(90)	(5)	(110)	(89)	(89)	(1472)
<b>F Before growth experiment</b>																
	<b>Initial</b>		1	102	1.1	2809	821	368	2245	987	216	603	273	157	117	924
Sterilized			1	117	(1)	(0.1)	(108)	(13)	(5)	(28)	(3)	(21)	(7)	(7)	(6)	(52)
				2.1	1679	1729	271	50	1144	154	622	204	114	104	957	
			(3)	(0.2)	(179)	(88)	(10)	(41)	(16)	(19)	(84)	(6)	(8)	(7)	(7)	(86)
<b>After growth experiment</b>																
	<b>IN Bk</b>		4	98*	1.8*	818*	1197*	78*	101ns	860*	64*	6130*	627*	10285ns	4056*	24429*
			(12)	(0.1)	(73)	(181)	(14)	(54)	(29)	(38)	(38)	(934)	(66)	(1204)	(1602)	(286)
Sterilized	Rz		4	168	1.0	1226	2422	772	71	272	138	10090	1886	12209	2049	27480
			(19)	(0.2)	(103)	(267)	(108)	(23)	(77)	(65)	(1660)	(244)	(2317)	(643)	(643)	(1490)
	<b>SR Bk</b>		4	147*	2.1*	1214ns	1876*	111*	130*	859*	81ns	11004ns	595*	12267ns	1493ns	24462*
			(12)	(0.2)	(80)	(19)	(20)	(24)	(50)	(9)	(1130)	(78)	(1245)	(510)	(510)	(515)
Sterilized	Rz		4	172	1.5	1270	2486	648	146	72	51	10064	2582	11457	1248	34282
			(9)	(0.1)	(50)	(164)	(101)	(20)	(27)	(33)	(938)	(596)	(1216)	(355)	(355)	(2188)
	<b>dIm<sup>d</sup></b>			1.0	0.01	1.0	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	15	25	20

<sup>a</sup> Initial = initial soil; Sterilized = 100% sterilized soil; IN = intact non sterilized soil; SR = sterilized-reinoculated soil

<sup>b</sup> For n = 1, the standard deviations are estimated from analytical replication

<sup>c</sup> EC = electrical conductivity; Tot N = total soluble nitrogen; DON = dissolved organic nitrogen; DOC = dissolved organic carbon

<sup>d</sup> dIm = detection limit of the method

### ESI 3

Soil	Treatment <sup>a</sup>	Component	n <sup>b</sup>	Al	Al tm <sup>c</sup>	Al om <sup>c</sup>	Al im <sup>c</sup>	Cu	Cu <sup>2+</sup>	Zn	ZnL <sup>c</sup>
<b>A</b>											
	<i>Before growth experiment</i>		1	186 (6.2)	---	---	---	1.25 (0.03)	---	38.6 (0.8)	---
	Initial		1	268 (36.2)	---	---	---	0.94 (0.16)	---	75.9 (10.1)	---
	Sterilized										
	<i>After growth experiment</i>		4	152	ns	92.8	ns	57.5	ns	106	ns
IN	Bk			(3.2)	(6.0)	(0.2)	(6.3)	(0.03)	(0.03)	(10.3)	(8.2)
Rz			3	119	109.5	35.6	73.6	0.47	0.31	127	99
				(8.3)	(0.9)	(0.1)	(2.5)	(0.01)	(0.03)	(3.3)	(3.2)
SR	Bk		4	170	ns	126.7	ns	91.5	ns	160	ns
				(11.0)	(111.3)	(1.3)	(11.9)	(0.02)	(0.03)	(16.1)	(11.6)
Rz			3	152	149.9	35.6	114.3	0.48	0.44	189	139
				(1.9)	(1.4)	(1.8)	(3.0)	(0.01)	(0.02)	(3.2)	(4.4)
<b>F</b>											
	<i>Before growth experiment</i>		1	154 (3.8)	---	---	---	2.09 (0.01)	---	169 (3.8)	---
	Initial		1	189 (6.5)	---	---	---	1.85 (0.03)	---	313 (28.6)	---
	Sterilized										
	<i>After growth experiment</i>		4	118	*	38.5	*	8.4	ns	202	ns
IN	Bk			(9.7)	(0.8)	(2.0)	(1.4)	(0.04)	(0.02)	(14.9)	(17.1)
Rz			4	70	32.2	24.3	7.9	1.31	0.07	190	122
				(8.1)	(4.6)	(2.5)	(2.4)	(0.06)	(0.01)	(38.8)	(32.2)
SR	Bk		4	100	*	36.9	*	7.9	*	223	*
				(6.7)	(0.9)	(2.3)	(1.7)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(11.5)	(5.4)
Rz			4	92	47.8	35.7	12.2	1.42	0.08	256	176
				(1.9)	(6.1)	(3.1)	(3.1)	(0.02)	(0.01)	(11.0)	(12.0)
<b>dlm<sup>d</sup></b>				0.12	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.02

<sup>a</sup> Initial = initial soil; Sterilized = 100% sterilized soil; IN = intact non sterilized soil; SR = sterilized-reinoculated soil

<sup>b</sup> For n = 1, the standard deviations are estimated from analytical replication

<sup>c</sup> Al tm, Al om, Al im: total monomeric, organic and inorganic monomeric aluminum; ZnL : labile Zn

<sup>d</sup> dlm = detection limit of the method

**ESI 4**

Soil	Treatment <sup>a</sup>	Component	n <sup>b</sup>	As	Cd	Ce	Cr	Fe	Pb	Ni
<b>A Before growth experiment</b>										
	<b>Initial</b>		1	0.135 (0.001)	0.12 (0.01)	0.114 (0.004)	0.23 (0.01)	24.8 (4.3)	0.038 (0.022)	0.002 (0.002)
Sterilized			1	0.100 (0.009)	0.28 (0.04)	0.107 (0.019)	0.25 (0.04)	21.9 (2.7)	0.078 (0.012)	0.003 (0.002)
<i>After growth experiment</i>										
	<b>IN</b>	<b>Bk</b>	4	0.095 (0.004)	ns	0.27 (0.04)	ns	0.16 (0.02)	ns	0.028 (0.004)
		<b>Rz</b>	3	0.076 (0.003)	0.30 (0.01)	0.058 (0.003)	0.14 (0.01)	18.7 (1.8)	ns	0.0026 (0.0007)
SR		<b>Bk</b>	4	0.092 (0.006)	ns	0.43 (0.04)	ns	0.13 (0.02)	ns	0.033 (0.0002)
		<b>Rz</b>	3	0.073 (0.004)	0.47 (0.01)	0.059 (0.001)	0.11 (0.01)	16.7 (1.1)	ns	0.0033 (0.0002)
<b>F Before growth experiment</b>										
	<b>Initial</b>		1	0.457 (0.005)	0.41 (0.05)	0.092 (0.007)	0.23 (0.01)	56.1 (3.2)	0.035 (0.002)	0.004 (0.001)
Sterilized			1	0.384 (0.032)	0.55 (0.06)	0.085 (0.005)	0.23 (0.03)	48.3 (0.4)	0.042 (0.001)	0.004 (0.001)
<i>After growth experiment</i>										
	<b>IN</b>	<b>Bk</b>	4	0.327 (0.001)	*	0.33 (0.03)	ns	0.11 (0.01)	*	0.027 (0.006)
		<b>Rz</b>	4	0.231 (0.016)	0.35 (0.05)	0.052 (0.003)	0.09 (0.01)	19.9 (1.4)	*	0.0025 (0.0001)
SR		<b>Bk</b>	4	0.320 (0.011)	*	0.43 (0.04)	ns	0.11 (0.01)	ns	0.025 (0.003)
		<b>Rz</b>	4	0.245 (0.011)	0.47 (0.03)	0.065 (0.005)	0.11 (0.01)	20.3 (3.1)	ns	0.0027 (0.0003)
	<b>dlm<sup>c</sup></b>			0.032	0.005	0.004	0.020	0.306	0.007	0.001

<sup>a</sup> Initial = initial soil; Sterilized = 100% sterilized soil; IN = intact non sterilized soil; SR = sterilized-reinoculated soil

<sup>b</sup> For n = 1, the standard deviations are estimated from analytical replication

<sup>c</sup> dlm = detection limit of the method

**ESI 5**

Soil	Treatment <sup>a</sup>	Component	n	Al	As	Cd	Ce	Cr	Cu	Pb	Zn
A	IN	Bk	4	18310 (152)	ns < dlm	4.49 (0.12)	ns (0.4)	14.1 (0.21)	ns (0.31)	29.3 (0.7)	ns (0.7)
	Rz	3	18580 (56)	< dlm	4.56 (0.04)	14.2 (0.1)	1.25 (0.02)	31.9 (0.79)	58.8 (0.5)	873	
	SR	Bk	4	18162 (252)	ns < dlm	4.54 (0.12)	ns (0.4)	1.12 (0.10)	ns (1.01)	25.6 (0.6)	ns (0.6)
	Rz	3	18736 (111)	< dlm	4.65 (0.05)	14.6 (0.1)	1.23 (0.08)	31.6 (0.31)	31.6 (0.4)	28.7 (0.4)	876
F	IN	Bk	4	10192 (289)	*	1.73 (0.13)	*	52.9 (1.4)	27.3 (1.4)	*	914 (0.4)
	Rz	4	10741 (374)	2.00 (0.13)		55.0 (3.3)		28.5 (1.2)	4.23 (0.38)	*	ns (4.6)
	SR	Bk	4	10492 (419)	*	1.87 (0.13)	ns	52.9 (1.9)	38.6 (0.9)	3.46 (0.38)	*
	Rz	4	18868 (336)	1.60 (0.13)		53.6 (1.7)		29.3 (0.7)	4.42 (0.58)	114.1 (3.1)	*
<b>dlm<sup>b</sup></b>											
7.41											
0.53											
0.02											
0.14											
0.38											
3.1											
0.05											
1.53											

<sup>a</sup> Initial = initial soil; Sterilized = 100% sterilized soil; IN = intact non sterilized soil; SR = sterilized-reinoculated soil

<sup>b</sup> dlm = detection limit of the method