

# Validation of the zebra mussel as a relevant tool for active biomonitoring approach (BIOESSAI & BIOMOSE Programs)



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LABORATOIRE  
INTERDISCIPLINAIRE  
DES ENVIRONNEMENTS  
CONTINENTAUX



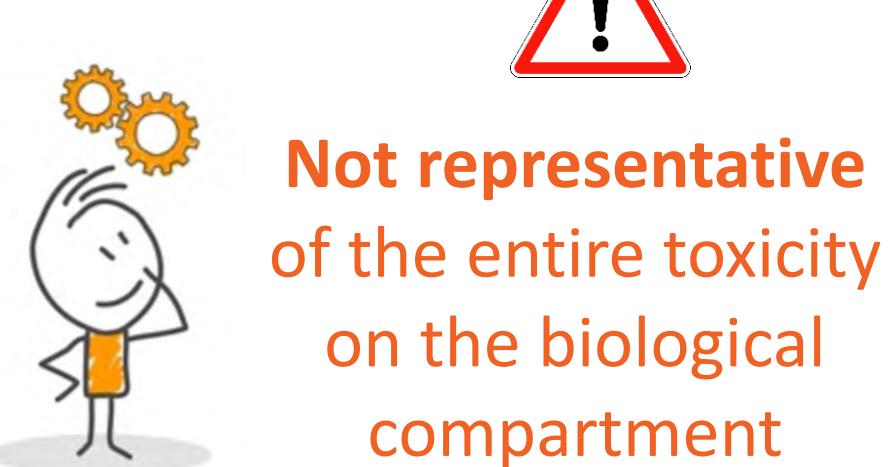
## REGULATORY CONTEXT

### Chemical contamination of water bodies

European legislation :  
**Water Framework Directive (WFD)**



Chemical analysis (NQE)  
(Water, sediment and biota)



Ecological analysis  
(populations, communities)



New Tools are needed to meet the WFD regulations on bioaccumulation and to extend ecotoxicological impact diagnosis

**Main objective : Validate the use of the zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) in active biomonitoring strategies based on the methodology developed within the framework of BIOESSAI and BIOMOSE programs**

## PROPOSED TOOL

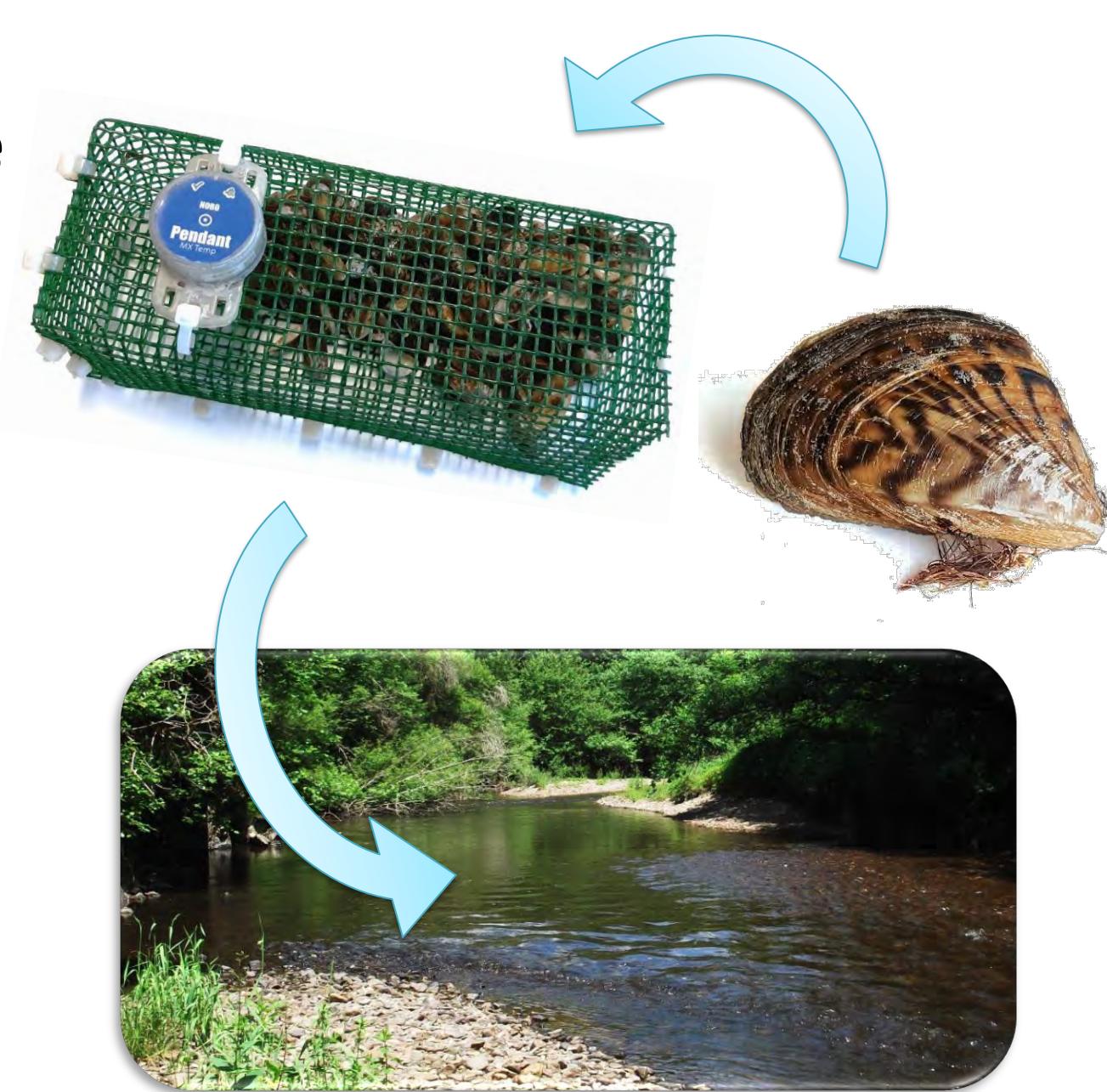
### Biomonitoring

Methods for detecting pollutants in the biological compartments of environments and evaluating their effects on organisms (Forbes and Forbes, 1997)

### Active biomonitoring : Caging organisms from a reference site

- ✓ Possibility to assess a site where the sentinel species is difficult to access
- ✓ Calibration of individuals used (sex, age, size)
- ✓ Controlled exposure conditions (location, time)

(Catteau et al. 2022)



**Zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*)**

Freshwater mussel

Adult : from 2cm to 3cm

Sessile filter feeder

Bioaccumulate pollutants in tissues

Ecotoxicological sentinel species

## METHODOLOGY

4 campaigns between 2021 and 2023 at different seasons



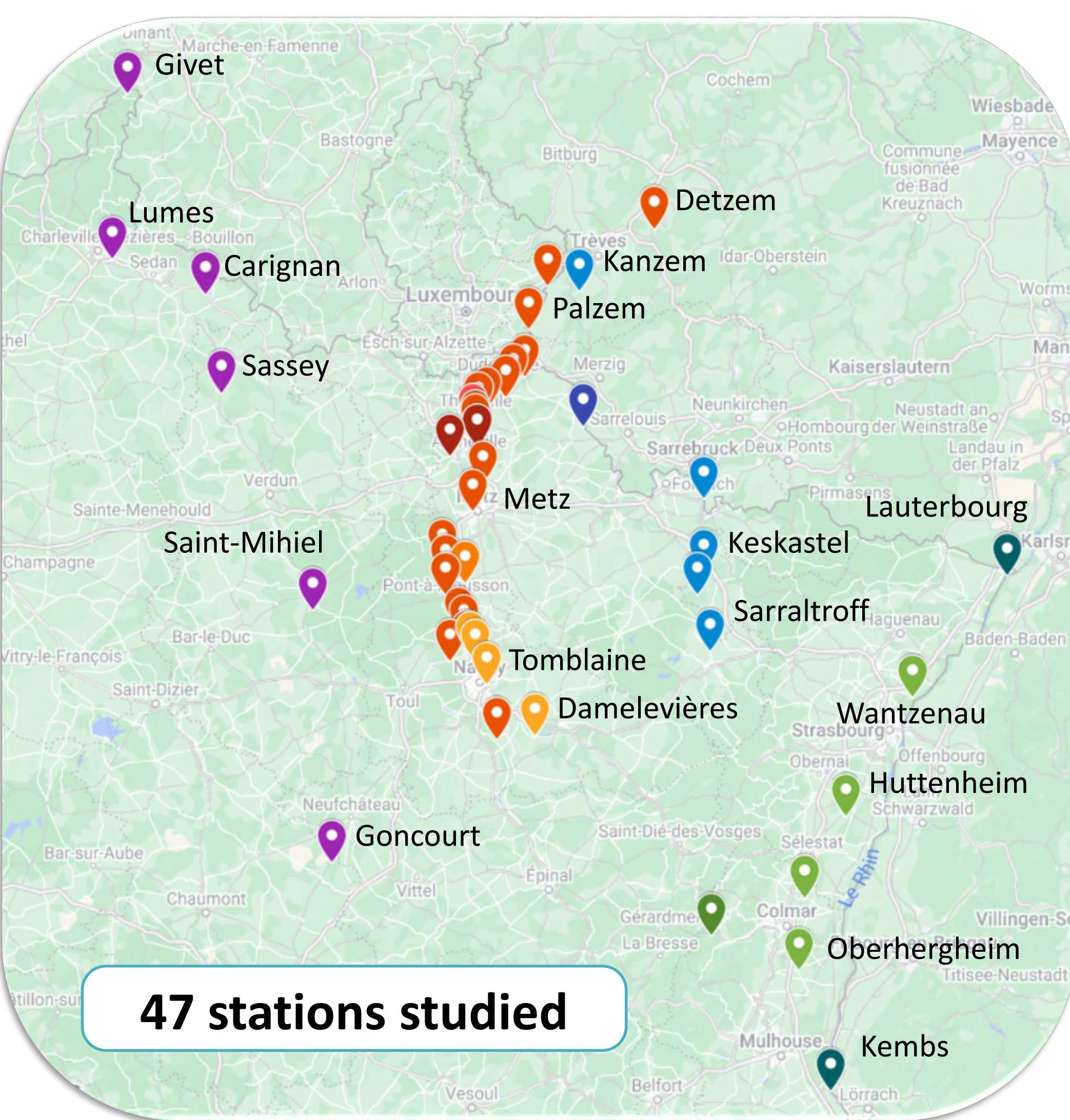
Mussels from Lac du Der maintained several weeks in the laboratory

3 weeks of caging

Laboratory analyses

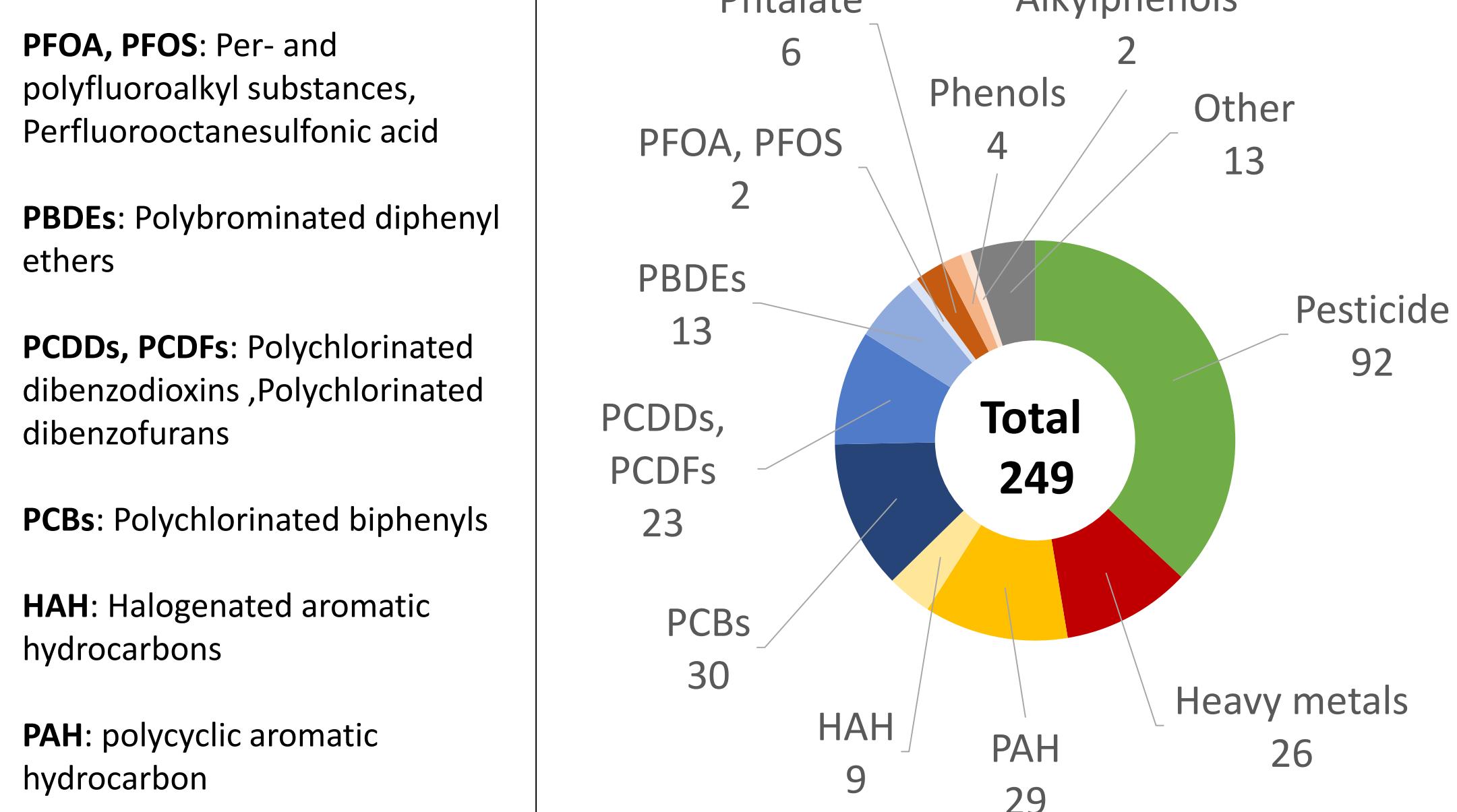


- Moselle River (and tributaries)
- Meuse River
- Sarre River (and tributaries)
- Rhin River (and tributaries)



### CHEMICALS BIOACCUMULATION

249 chemicals assessed in the mussel tissues



### BIOMARKER RESPONSES

**Biomarker** : A biochemical, cellular, physiological, or behavioral variation that can be measured in a tissue, or entire organism, highlighting the exposure or effects of a stressor (Depledge, 1994)

#### Energy ACQUISITION

Amylase, Lipase, ALAT, ASAT, LDH, PAC

#### Energy USING

Energy reserves, ETS, CEA

#### METABOLIC DETOXICATION

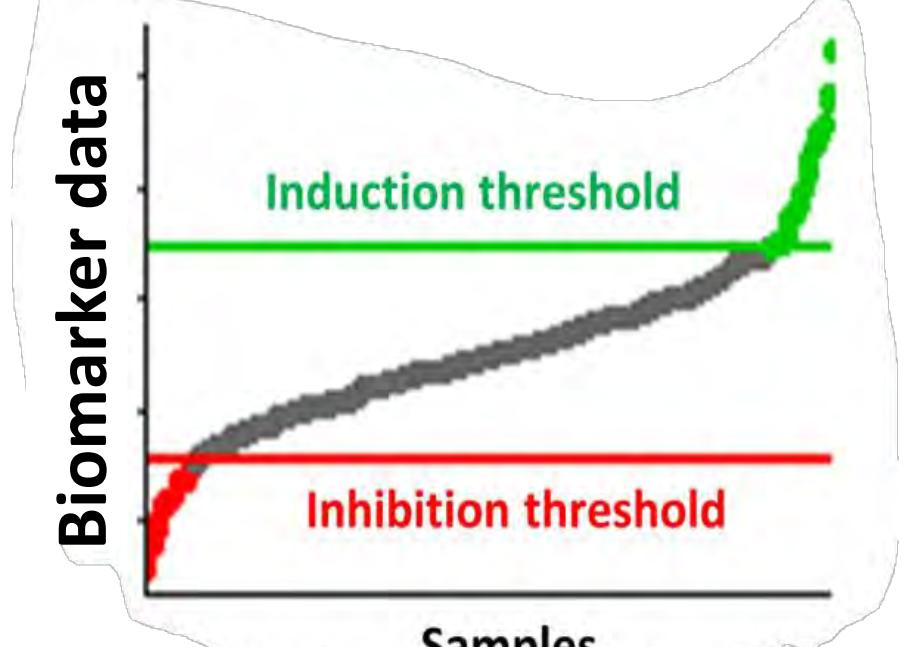
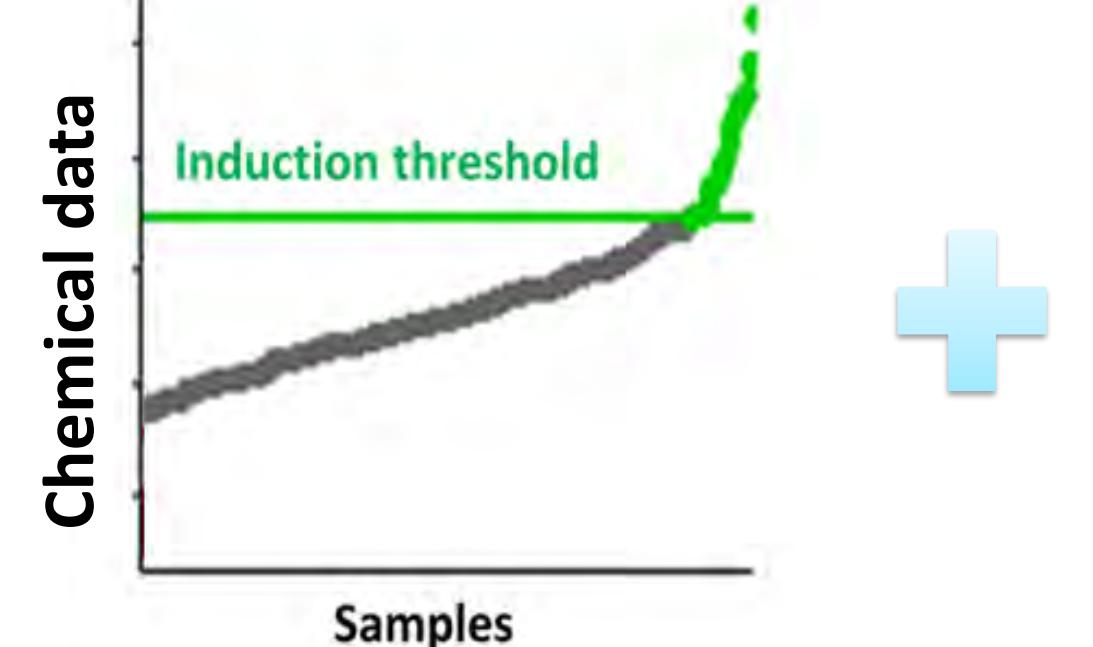
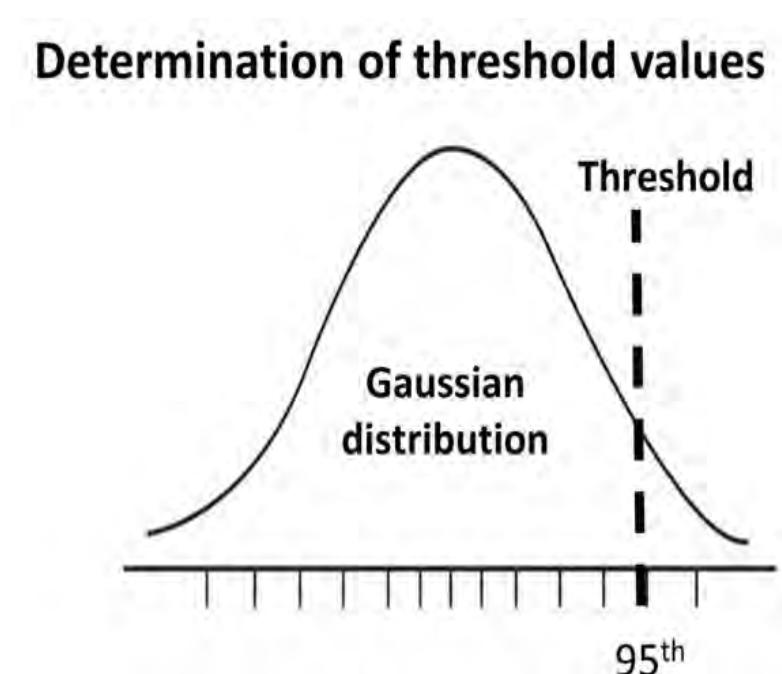
CE, GST

#### OXYDATIVE STRESS

SOD, GPx, TAC, LOOH

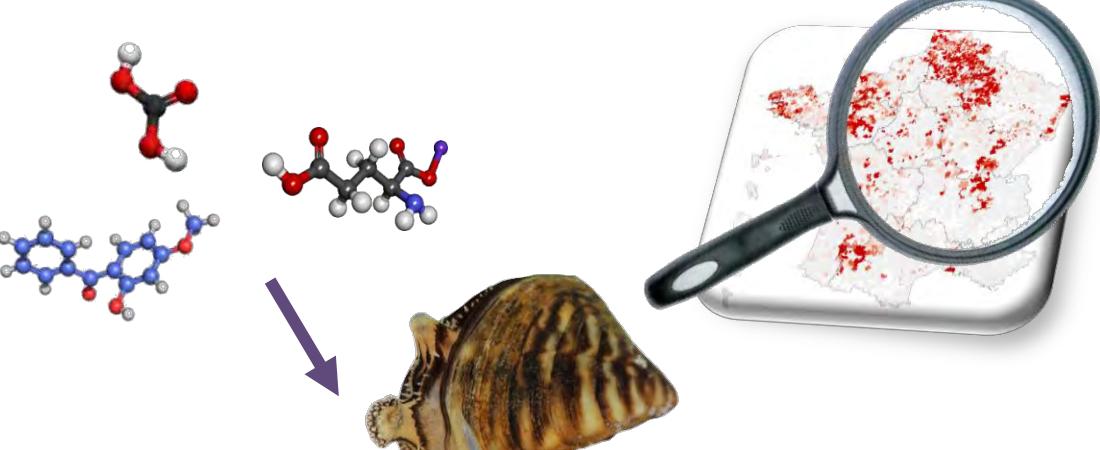
### DEFINITION OF THRESHOLD VALUES

Following the method described in Leprêtre et al. 2022



### Measurement of chemicals bioaccumulation in mussels tissues

Chemicals contaminants

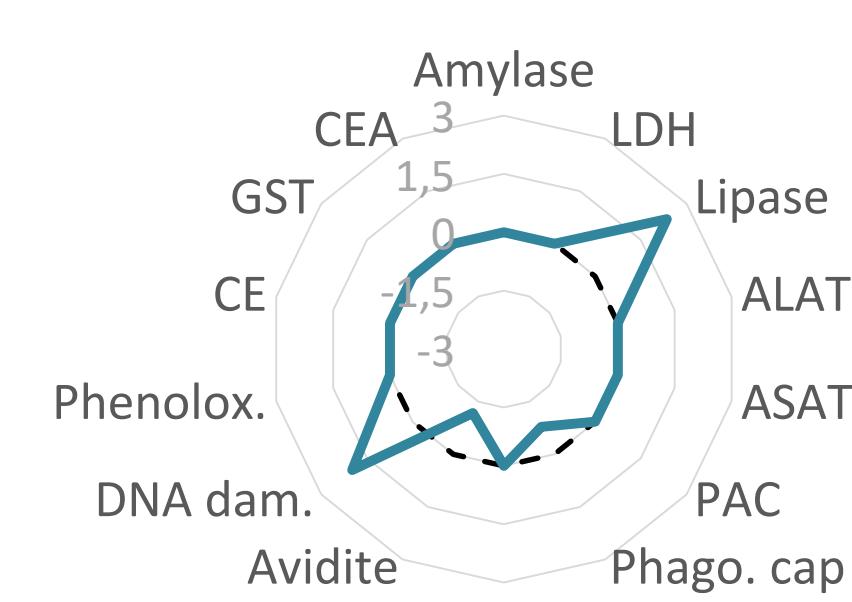


### Cartography of chemicals bioaccumulation and toxicity

### Calculation of an Integrated Biomarker Index - Threshold (IBR-T) for each station

IBR-T = 1,53

(Catteau and Le Guernic et al. In press.)



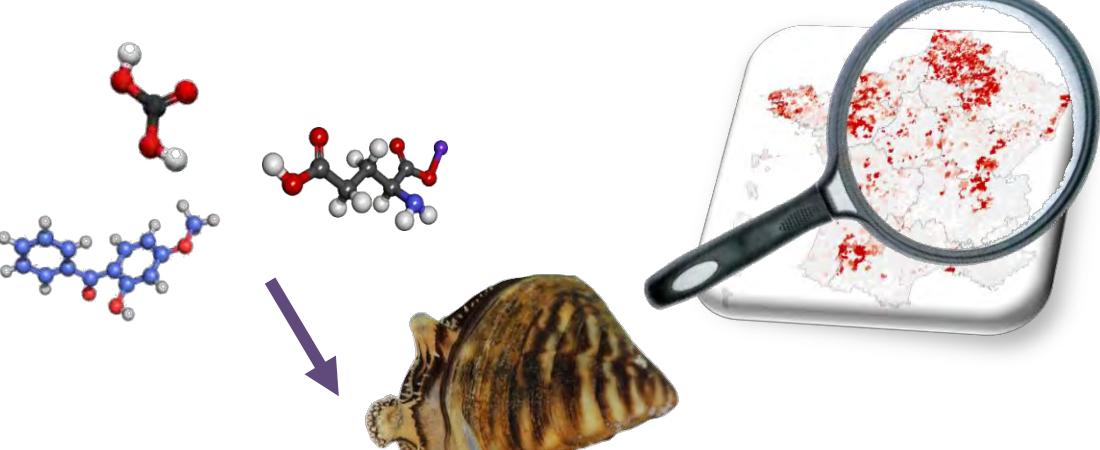
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## PERSPECTIVES

### Measurement of chemicals bioaccumulation in mussels tissues

Chemicals contaminants



### Cartography of chemicals bioaccumulation and toxicity

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