

# Effects of biochar, ochre and manure amendments associated with a metallicolous ecotype of Agrostis capillaris on As and Pb stabilization of a former mine technosol

Manhattan Lebrun, Romain Nandillon, Florie Miard, Lydie Le Forestier, Domenico Morabito, Sylvain Bourgerie

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Manhattan Lebrun, Romain Nandillon, Florie Miard, Lydie Le Forestier, Domenico Morabito, et al.. Effects of biochar, ochre and manure amendments associated with a metallicolous ecotype of Agrostis capillaris on As and Pb stabilization of a former mine technosol. Environmental Geochemistry and Health, 2021, 43 (4), pp.1491-1505. 10.1007/s10653-020-00592-5. insu-02863442

# HAL Id: insu-02863442 https://insu.hal.science/insu-02863442v1

Submitted on 3 Sep 2020

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# **Environmental Geochemistry and Health**

# Effects of biochar, ochre and manure amendments associated to a metallicolous ecotype of Agrostis capillaris on As and Pb stabilization of a former mine technosol --Manuscript Draft--

Manuscript Number:	EGAH-D-19-00722R3							
Full Title:	Effects of biochar, ochre and manure amen ecotype of Agrostis capillaris on As and Pb	dments associated to a metallicolous stabilization of a former mine technosol						
Article Type:	S.I. : Metallophytes for soil remediation							
Keywords:	Agrostis capillaris; amendment; metal(loid	)s; mine; stabilization						
Corresponding Author:	Sylvain Bourgerie, Ph.D University of Orleans Orleans, FRANCE							
Corresponding Author Secondary Information:								
Corresponding Author's Institution:	University of Orleans							
Corresponding Author's Secondary Institution:								
First Author:	Manhattan Lebrun							
First Author Secondary Information:								
Order of Authors:	Manhattan Lebrun							
	Romain Nandillon							
	Florie Miard							
	Lydie Le Forestier							
	Domenico Morabito							
	Sylvain Bourgerie, Ph.D							
Order of Authors Secondary Information:								
Funding Information:	Conseil Régional du Centre-Val de Loire (2016-00108485)	Dr Lydie Le Forestier						
Abstract:	Metal(loid)soil pollution is a major environm areas to be remediated, for example throug allow proper plant establishment and growt contaminated and poorly fertile soils. Amen shown the beneficial effects of biochar, man combined use are scarce. Moreover, no stu combined amendments on endemic plant g contaminated soils showed higher tolerance coming from unpolluted areas. Therefore, th both the effect of amendments (single or co properties of a former mining technosol, an ability of endemic Agrostis capillaris plants the soil physico-chemical properties followin combined amendments showing better rest of this, Agrostis plants performed better or ones receiving manure, due to its high nutri properties, plant growth and the metal(loid) combined with manure seems to be the mo treatment showed an improvement in both a Agrostis plants grown in these conditions v metal(loid) concentration associated to a lo	ental and health issue, requiring these th phytoremediation processes. In order to h, amendments must be applied to highly dments are diverse, but many studies have hure and ochre, although studies on their idies have evaluated the effect of these rowth. Endemic plants growing on the towards pollutants compared to plants the aim of the present study was to evaluate ombined) on the physico-chemical d the growth and metal(loid) accumulation s. This study revealed an improvement in the application of amendments, with ults than the application of just one. On top in the amended technosols, especially the ent content. Finally, based on soil accumulation profile, the use of biochar st appropriate treatment. Indeed, this soil fertility and plant growth. Moreover, were among those showing higher root wer translocation toward aerial parts.						
Response to Reviewers:	Dear Dr. Xunwen Chen (guest editor EGAH	1),						

We were pleased to learn your interest in the resubmission of our manuscript entitled "Effects of biochar, ochre and manure amendments associated to a metallicolous ecotype of Agrostis capillaris on As and Pb stabilization of a former mine technosol".

The reviewers suggested some revisions to be done to the manuscript. We thank them for their work and for helping us to improve the quality of our paper. In this amended version, we have addressed their comments and have rewritten the text accordingly. Below is our item-by-item reply to each of their observations.

Having addressed all the issues raised by both reviewers, we hope that our work will be now considered suitable for publication in the Environmental Geochemistry and Health.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Sylvain BOURGERIE

Reviewer #1: All suggestions have been considered

Minor errors can be corrected at proof stage (for instance L205) Following Reviewer #1 comment, the sentence was modified (line 217: "In addition, the supply of soluble organic matter and organic anions by the organic amendment...").

Reviewer #3: In the revised ms, author explain the explanation of plant choose and the inner mechanism of metal absorption. However, the role of P on As leaching has already been reported. the adsorption of metall ions on biochar also have been demonstrated eles where. The core problem is the scientific reason on the mixture of these materilas for phytoremediation. however, authors did not explain clearly. Is there any data related to phosphrous or any other own information could be supported? if yes, please add these data, if not, please explain the advantage of the mixture on phytoremediation.

As suggested by Reviewer #3, some explanations were provided (lines 87-103) in introduction part. A reference (Liang et al. 2017) was added.

1

2 capillaris on As and Pb stabilization of a former mine technosol 3 4 Manhattan Lebrun<sup>ab</sup>, Romain Nandillon<sup>acd</sup>, Florie Miard<sup>a</sup>, Lydie Le Forestier<sup>e</sup>, Domenico Morabito<sup>a</sup> 5 and Sylvain Bourgerie<sup>a</sup> 6 <sup>a</sup> Université d'Orléans, LBLGC INRA USC1328, rue de Chartres, BP 6759, 45067 Orléans Cedex 2, 7 8 France 9 <sup>b</sup> Università degli Studi del Molise, Dipartimento di Bioscienze e Territorio, 86090, Pesche, Italy 10 <sup>c</sup> IDDEA, Environmental consulting engineering, 45160 Olivet, France <sup>d</sup> BRGM, ISTO, UMR 7327, BP 36009, 45060 Orléans, France 11 12 <sup>e</sup> Université d'Orléans, CNRS, BRGM, ISTO, UMR 7327, 45071 Orléans, France 13 14 15 Abstract 16 Metal(loid)soil pollution is a major environmental and health issue, requiring these areas to be remediated, for example through phytoremediation processes. In order to allow proper plant 17 18 establishment and growth, amendments must be applied to highly contaminated and poorly fertile 19 soils. Amendments are diverse, but many studies have shown the beneficial effects of biochar, 20 manure and ochre, although studies on their combined use are scarce. Moreover, no studies have 21 evaluated the effect of these combined amendments on endemic plant growth. Endemic plants 22 growing on contaminated soils showed higher tolerance towards pollutants compared to plants 23 coming from unpolluted areas. Therefore, the aim of the present study was to evaluate both the 24 effect of amendments (single or combined) on the physico-chemical properties of a former mining 25 technosol, and the growth and metal(loid) accumulation ability of endemic Agrostis capillaris plants. 26 This study revealed an improvement in the soil physico-chemical properties following the application 27 of amendments, with combined amendments showing better results than the application of just one. 28 On top of this, Agrostis plants performed better on the amended technosols, especially the ones receiving manure, due to its high nutrient content. Finally, based on soil properties, plant growth and 29 30 the metal(loid) accumulation profile, the use of biochar combined with manure seems to be the most 31 appropriate treatment. Indeed, this treatment showed an improvement in both soil fertility and plant 32 growth. Moreover, Agrostis plants grown in these conditions were among those showing higher root 33 metal(loid) concentration associated to a lower translocation toward aerial parts. 34

Effects of biochar, ochre and manure amendments associated to a metallicolous ecotype of Agrostis

3637 Introduction

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38 Metals and metalloids are significant pollutants of soils. Indeed, there are more than three million potentially polluted sites in Europe, of which about 250 000 are contaminated by metal(loid)s (Khalid 39 40 et al. 2016). This pollution is a big issue, as metal(loid)s, contrary to organic pollutants, cannot be 41 degraded, and thus accumulate in the soil. Moreover, the negative effects of the metal(loid) soil 42 pollution on both the environment and human health mean that metal(loid) polluted soils must be 43 remediated (Ali et al. 2013). Indeed, polluted soils often present a low biodiversity and a loss of 44 ecosystemic functions, and the lack of vegetation induces the transportation of polluted soil particles 45 towards the unpolluted surrounding area. Furthermore, metal(loid)s have detrimental effects on 46 human health. For instance, lead (Pb) can affect and damage many organs and systems in the body 47 as well as altering enzyme activities (Sharma and Agrawal 2005, Su et al. 2014). Arsenic (As) can affect 48 the reproduction, neurological and respiratory systems, among others (Mandal and Suzuki 2002). 49 Moreover, both are considered carcinogenic elements (Ahmad et al. 2015, Jarup 2003, Sharma and 50 Agrawal 2005).

Keywords: Agrostis capillaris; amendment; metal(loid)s; mine; stabilization

51 Different remediation techniques, *i.e* physical, chemical and biological approaches, aiming to 52 diminish pollutant toxic effects can be employed. However, phytoremediation, defined as the use of 53 plants, and their associated microorganisms, to remediate and re-vegetate contaminated sites, is an 54 environment-friendly, energy efficient and cost-effective technique (Khalid et al. 2016). Several 55 processes of phytoremediation exist. Among them, phytostabilisation is more suitable for large and 56 highly contaminated areas. In this case, the pollutants are immobilized in the root area through (i) 57 absorption into the roots, (ii) adsorption onto the roots and/or (iii) precipitation in the rhizosphere 58 area (Cristaldi et al. 2017). This technique relies on the re-vegetation of the polluted area rather than the real depollution of the soil, which can be difficult and time consuming when large amounts of 59 60 soils are contaminated. The re-vegetation of the polluted areas in the phytostabilisation process is important because, in addition to the immobilization of the pollution to the rhizosphere, it will also 61 lessen the potential risk of contaminated soil spreading off-site by wind or water erosion (Gray et al. 62 63 2006). Such process has been studied for many years as the best option to reduce metal(loid) 64 spreading as well as minimize the entry of pollutants into the food chain (Wong 2003).

Moreover, in some cases, the extreme conditions (acidic pH, low nutrient content associated to high
 pollution concentrations) of the polluted soils imply the need of amendments to allow plant growth.
 Different amendments can be used, both organic and inorganic, although some have attracted more
 attention than others over the last few years.

For instance, manure is commonly used as a fertilizer in agriculture. It is rich in organic materials and essential nutrients (Kiran et al. 2017). Its application to soil, whether contaminated or not, allows an improvement to the fertility and thus promotes plant growth (Walker et al. 2004). Moreover, previous studies have demonstrated its ability to immobilize Pb (Tang et al. 2015), Cd, Cu, Zn (Huang et al. 2018, Kiran et al. 2017) and Al (Whalen et al. 2000). However, its positive effects are usually short-lasting and repeated application is necessary (Mosaddeghi et al. 2009).

Ochre, on the other hand, is not a typical agricultural amendment. Ochre is a by-product found in the outflows of some mining systems (Olimah et al. 2015). It is a brown or yellowish-brown product, and rich in Fe(III) oxyhydroxides (Abed et al. 2017, Olimah et al. 2015). For this reason, ochre is a very valuable product for the remediation of arsenic, known to have an affinity for iron (Doi et al. 2005, Olimah et al. 2015).

Finally, biochar is produced through the pyrolysis of biomass under conditions of limited oxygen (Anawar et al. 2015). It is characterized by an alkaline pH, a large surface area and the presence of functional groups on its surface, such as phenolic, carboxyl and hydroxyl (Cha et al. 2016, Lebrun et al. 2018c). Such properties induce an immobilization of metallic pollutants, such as Pb, when added to polluted soils (Lebrun et al. 2018a, b, Lomaglio et al. 2017). Moreover, biochar soil application improves soil fertility and plant growth and tends to reduce metallic cation concentrations in plant tissues (Chen et al. 2018).

87 Taken separately, all these amendments have benefits for contaminated soils but they also have 88 limits, especially for soils that have a poor fertility and contaminated by both metals and metalloids. 89 To overcome the first issue, the poor fertility, nutrient-rich organic amendments can be applied, such 90 as manure or compost. Biochar has a high capacity to immobilize cation metals and can be used to 91 overcome the second issue. Moreover, biochar and organic amendments can interact once applied 92 together in the soil (Liang et al. 2017): biochar increases the humification and properties of organic 93 amendments, whereas biochar properties are modified by the microorganisms present in the 94 manure. However, both amendments are not efficient regarding metalloids. Anions can even be 95 mobilized due to the organic matter and phosphates contained in manure, arsenic and P being 96 chemically similar and competing for the same sorption sites (Cao et al. 2003). Thus, it can be 97 necessary to add a third amendment, rich in iron, such as iron sulfate. The iron present will interact 98 with arsenic and immobilize it (Fresno et al. 2020). Such amendments demonstrated different effects 99 on soil properties, manure being mainly used for fertility improvement, biochar for metal 100 immobilization and ochre for metal(loid) immobilization. However, when soils are contaminated with 101 more than one element, especially a combination of metals and metalloids, it can be difficult to find 102 one amendment efficient for all the pollutants. Therefore, the complexity of multi-contaminated soils 103 can require it is necessary to apply the application of a combination of amendments. Several previous

studies showed that amendment combinations had better effects than the single application of the
 same amendments (Beesley et al. 2010, Fresno et al. 2016, Oustriere et al. 2016).

Plant selection is an important criterion for phytoremediation success, and the use of endemic species has shown better results in the past. For instance, *Agrostis capillaris* L., endemic species

found on a studied mine technosol, has been shown to be a good Pb phytostabilizer (Rodríguez-Seijo et al. 2016). Many studies aimed at comparing metal-tolerant and non-tolerant ecotypes. All research showed that the metal tolerant ecotype, collected on a polluted site, presented a higher metal(loid) tolerance with a lower metal(loid) uptake and root-to-shoot translocation (Doubkovà and Sudovà 2016, Sudovà et al. 2008). This higher metal(loid) tolerance of populations grown on polluted sites was associated to a long-term pollutant selection pressure (Sudovà et al. 2008).

Nevertheless, even though manure, ochre and biochar have been much studied in polluted soil remediation, combinations of the three have not yet been investigated. Moreover, to the best of our knowledge, this is the first study associating a combination of amendments and *Agrostis capillaris* from a metallicolous population. In this context, the aims of this study were to evaluate the effect of the application of manure, ochre and biochar, alone or combined, on: (i) the physico-chemical properties of a former mining site and (ii) *Agrostis capillaris* growth and metal(loid) stabilization performance.

122 Material and methods

123 1. Site description

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124 The mesocosm experiment was realized using soil collected from a former silver-lead extraction mine 125 site, located in Pontgibaud (Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, France) (GPS coordinates 45° 47' 27" North and 126 2°49'38" East). This site has been described in previous studies (Lebrun et al. 2018a, b) and is mainly 127 contaminated by lead (11 453 mg.kg<sup>-1</sup>) and arsenic (539 mg.kg<sup>-1</sup>) (Lebrun et al. 2017).

#### 129 2. Amendments

130 The commercial biochar was provided by La Carbonerie (Crissey, France). It was produced from the 131 slow pyrolysis at 500 °C of hardwood biomass (mixture of oak, beech and charm), followed by a 132 sieving to obtain a particle size between 0.5 and 1 mm.

133 The ochre amendment was collected at a former charcoal mine (Alès) in France, as described in 134 Thouin et al. (2019). Before its incorporation into the soil, it was dried and crushed to obtain a fine 135 powder.

Finally, cow manure was provided by a local farmer located in Pontgibaud (GPS coordinates 45° 47'
26" North and 2° 49' 44" East).

All three amendments were analyzed for pH, electrical conductivity (EC), redox potential and NH₄NO₃-extractable As, Fe, K, P and Pb concentrations. pH and EC as well as redox potential of the three amendments were determined using the same procedure as described in Lebrun et al. (2018a)

and measured using a multimeter (Metler-Toledo, Serveur excellence, Columbus, Ohio, USA).

142 Concentrations in NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable metal(loid)s were determined after shaking a mixture of soil

and 1 mol.L<sup>-1</sup> NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> solution (2:5 solid:liquid ratio) at room temperature for two hours (Pueyo et

al. 2004), followed by ICP-AES (Inductively Coupled Plasma- Atomic Emission Spectroscopy) (ULTIMA,

145 HORIBA, Labcompare, San Francisco, USA) analyses. Amendment characteristics are given in Table 1. 146

147 3. Plant

Agrostis capillaris was chosen as the phytoremediator plant. It is a *Poaceae* characterized as a facultative metallophyte. It has been found to grow spontaneously on contaminated soils (Austry et al. 2013, Rodriguez-Seijo et al. 2016). Studies also showed its potential for the phytostabilization of soils polluted by As (Austruy et al. 2013) and Pb (Rodriguez-Seijo et al. 2016) and as presenting an adaptive tolerance to contaminated sites (Austruy et al. 2013). Moreover, *Agrostis capillaris* was

chosen because such plants have been found on the Pontgibaud polluted site and the use of seeds

collected from the site showed a potential for the phytoremediation of PG soil (Nandillon et al. 2019).

Field Code Changed

155 Similarly here, seeds of the metallicolous ecotype found on the site were collected to be used in this 156 study.

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## 158 4. Experimental design

159 All three amendments were applied at 1 % (w/w), either alone or in combination, which gave eight 160 treatments in total: i) non-amended Pontgibaud technosol (P0%), ii) Pontgibaud + 1 % biochar (PB), ii) Pontgibaud + 1 % ochre (PI), iii) Pontgibaud + 1 % biochar + 1 % ochre (PBI), iv) Pontgibaud + 1 % 161 manure (PM), vi) Pontgibaud + 1 % biochar + 1 % manure (PBM), vii) Pontgibaud + 1 % ochre + 1 % 162 manure (PIM) and viii) Pontgibaud + 1 % biochar + 1 % ochre + 1 % manure (PBIM). Ten pots were 163 prepared per treatment. The different mixtures were placed in 2 L pots and half the pots were sown 164 with Agrostis capillaris seeds (quantity equivalent to 2000 seeds.m<sup>-2</sup>) collected at Pontgibaud site. 165 166 The experiment lasted for 26 days in a phytotron (16h-8h photoperiod, 800 µmol·m<sup>-2</sup>·s<sup>-1</sup> light 167 intensity, temperature 24 °C day and 21 °C night).

## 169 5. Soil analysis

170 The eight treatments were analyzed at the beginning of the experiment to determine soil NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-171 extractable As, Fe, K, P and Pb concentrations. The procedure was the same as the one used for the 172 amendment characterization.

# 174 6. Soil pore water (SPW) sampling and analysis

SPWs were sampled in all pots twice over the length of the experiment: at the beginning, before seed
sowing (T0) and at the end, before plant harvest (TF). Sampling was performed using a Rhizon®
(model MOM, Rhizosphere Research Products, Wageningen, The Netherlands), as described in
Lebrun et al. (2017). SPWs were used directly to measure pH, EC and redox potential, using a
multimeter (Metler-Toledo, Serveur excellence, <u>Columbus</u>, Ohio, USA). SPWs were then acidified and
As, Fe, K, P and Pb concentrations were determined by ICP-AES.

## 182 7. Plant analysis

At the end of the experiment, *Agrostis* plants were harvested in each pot. Aerial and root parts were separated, washed twice with tap water then distilled water, and dried (72 h at 60 °C) to determine dry weight production per pot. Aerial and root biomasses were then submitted to acid digestion (0.2 g of plant material + 6 mL HNO<sub>3</sub> 70 % + 3 mL HCl 35 %) in a microwave (15 min increase up to 180 °C, 15 min hold at 180 °C, cooling) (Multiwave 5000, Anton Paar, Courtaboeuf, France), and plant As, Fe and Pb concentrations were determined by ICP-AES, using standard solutions prepared from mother solutions of As and Pb provided by Alfa Aesar-Fisher (Karlsruhe, Germany).

## 191 8. Statistical analyses

192 All data was analyzed using R software version 3.1.2 (R Development Core Team, 2009). Firstly, the 193 homogeneity and homoscedasticity of the data was evaluated using Shapiro and Bartlett tests 194 respectively. Next, Anova or Kruskal tests were performed, followed by a post hoc test to assess two-195 by-two differences. In addition, for the SPW data, a "time effect" was assessed by comparing the 196 means at T0, TF-Agrostis and TF+Agrostis for each treatment: normality and homoscedasticity were 197 evaluated as previously described and mean comparison was realized using an Anova test for 198 parametric data or a Kruskal test for non-parametric data, followed by a post-hoc test, Tukey HSD or 199 Pairwise-Wilcox, respectively. Differences were considered significant at p < 0.05.

Finally, Pearson correlation coefficients were calculated between the different parameters measured. Correlation was considered significant at p < 0.05.

## 202

203 Results and Discussion

204 1. Soil NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable elements

Soil  $NH_4NO_3$ -extractable elements were analyzed at the beginning of the experiment in order to investigate the phytoavailable fraction of metal(loid) in the soil.  $NH_4NO_3$ -extractable As **Field Code Changed** 

207 concentration was 2.29  $\mu$ g.g<sup>-1</sup> on P0% and it only increased in two conditions (Table 2): the addition 208 of biochar and biochar + manure led to a 1.42 and 1.56-fold increases, respectively. In 2013, 209 Alvarenga et al. observed an increase in available As concentrations following compost amendment, 210 while Namgay et al. (2010) showed that biochar increased available As (from 12.7 to 14.9 mg.kg<sup>-1</sup>) 211 when applied at 1.5 % on a metal(loid) spiked soil. Both studies attributed this increase to a rise in 212 soil pH and organic matter, induced by amendment application. Moreover, Moreno-Jiménez et al. (2016) found that the rise in As solubility following biochar amendments was likely to be related to 213 214 changes in available P. The same explanation was found in this study: NH4NO3-extractable As 215 concentration was positively correlated with  $NH_4NO_3$ -extractable P concentration ( $R^2 = 0.51$ , p < 0.001) (Table S1). With increasing P concentrations, As is displaced from sorption sites and thus 216 217 becomes more available (Moreno-Jiménez et al. 2016). In addition, the addition-supply of soluble 218 organic matter and organic anions by the organic amendment can lead to the formation of soluble 219 As complexes (Namgay et al. 2010).

The NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable Fe concentration was low for P0% (0.02  $\mu$ g.g<sup>-1</sup>), and only increased following the ochre amendment (27-fold) (Table 2), and can be explained by the NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable Fe concentration of the ochre (1.04  $\mu$ g.g<sup>-1</sup>) (Table 1). Such elevated Fe content in the ochre has been previously observed by Abed et al. (2017), Doi et al. (2005) and Thouin et al. (2019). However, one surprising fact was that although NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable Fe concentration in manure was high (2.41  $\mu$ g.g<sup>-1</sup>), no increase was observed following its addition to the Pontgibaud technosol, maybe due to its low application rate.

NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable K concentration was 22.14 μg.g<sup>-1</sup> for P0%, and it increased with all treatments containing manure (Table 2). This improvement can be directly related to the amendment composition, as shown by the NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> extractable K concentrations of manure. Manure is a known fertilizer characterized by elevated K concentrations and other nutrients that can be released into the soil matrix, as shown in Celik et al. (2004), Mokolobate and Haynes (2002) and Materechera and Mkhabela (2002).

NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentration was low on P0% (1.11 µg.g<sup>-1</sup>) and increased with all treatments, except manure alone (Table 2). Increases went from 1.8-fold for biochar to 3.0-fold for biochar + manure. The amendments presented NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations of 0.63, 250.28 and 8.40 µg.g<sup>-1</sup> for ochre, manure and biochar, respectively (Table 1), which could explain the observed increase in NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentration following their addition to Pontgibaud. However, as for Fe, contrary to the high concentrations of P found in manure, NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentration did not increase when manure was added alone to Pontgibaud.

240  $NH_4NO_3$ -extractable Pb concentration was 4198.27  $\mu g.g^{-1}$  for P0% (Table 2) and was observed to 241 increase following PB, PI and PBM treatments, and at the same rate (1.34-fold on average). Only the 242 combination of the three amendments (PBIM) decreased NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable Pb concentration (by 243 30%). These results contradict previous studies, which showed that biochar, ochre and manure were 244 able to decrease the extractable fractions of cationic elements (Namgay et al. 2010, Walker et al. 2014). However, such an increase could be due to the increase in dissolved organic carbon following 245 246 these amendments, which mobilizes the Pb (Lee et al. 2009, Lebrun et al. 2019). Organic carbons can 247 decrease the sorption of Pb onto the soil surfaces, through competition with the free metal ions and 248 the formation of soluble complexes or by its preferential sorption on the soil surface over metallic 249 ions (Lee et al. 2009). 250

#### 2. Soil pore water physico-chemical properties

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SPW pH was determined at the beginning (T0) and at the end of the experiment, in both nonvegetated (TF-*Agrostis*) and vegetated (TF+*Agrostis*) pots. At T0, SPW pH of P0% was acidic (pH 4.3) (Table 3) and increased with all amendment treatments, from 1.0 (PB and PM) to 3.4 units (PBIM). The same trends were observed for TF-*Agrostis* and TF+*Agrostis*, with acidic pH on P0% (pH 3.8 and pH 3.9, respectively), which increased following treatments, between 0.8 (PB) and 3.2 units (PBIM) for TF-*Agrostis* and between 0.9 (PB) and 3.0 units (PBIM) for TF+*Agrostis*. It can be noted that all amendments, alone or combined, increased SPW pH compared to P0% at all sampling times, with 259 average rises between 1.1 (PB) and 3.2 units (PBIM). Finally, the results showed that SPW pH 260 increases were higher when amendments were combined than when they were applied alone, showing neutral values compared to the slightly acidic values still observed with single amendment 261 262 application. Such increases in SPW pH following biochar, ochre and/or manure amendments have 263 previously been observed and attributed to the alkalinity of the three amendments (Marques et al. 264 2008, Olimah et al. 2015, Van Poucke et al. 2018), which induces a liming effect. Indeed, biochar, ochre and manure presented alkaline pH values of 8.46, 8.29 and 9.52, respectively. However, 265 266 although manure presented the highest pH among the amendments, it did not induce the highest increase in SPW pH when applied alone. This low increase compared to the high amendment pH was 267 also observed by Walker et al. (2004) when a cow manure with a pH of 9.09 was added to a 268 269 contaminated soil at a rate of 29 g.kg<sup>-1</sup> (1.12 units after 31 days). Such an effect could be explained 270 by the presence of more carboxyl groups and on biochar and redmud surfaces than on the manure 271 surface. These carboxyl groups can consume H<sup>+</sup> (Lebrun et al. 2019).

The evolution of SPW pH with time was assessed, revealing that in almost all conditions (except PM and PBM), SPW pH decreased with time, between 0.6 and 0.8 units, and with no effect of plant growth. Such decreases with time have been observed previously (Hattab-Hambli et al. 2016, Marseille et al. 2000), and explained by the oxidation/acidification of the substrates due to watering.

277 Non-amended Pontgibaud technosol presented a low EC at TO (210 µS.cm<sup>-1</sup>), which increased 278 following amendment application, except for with biochar alone (Table 3). SPW EC increases were 279 between 9.6 (PI) and 26.5-fold (PBIM). SPW EC increased only with PIM and PBIM, at TF-Agrostis, 280 compared to P0%. At TF+Agrostis, there was no effect with biochar alone and an increase with all 281 other treatments, between 2.5 (PI) and 6.6-fold (PBIM) for TF+Agrostis. Except for with biochar alone, 282 all treatments increased SPW EC compared to P0%, at all sampling times, with average increases 283 ranging from 2.9 (PI) to 7.9-fold (PBIM). As for SPW pH, amendment combinations tended to lead to 284 a greater increase in SPW EC than when applied alone. Such improvements are related to the EC of 285 the amendments (Walker et al. 2004): biochar 302 µS.cm<sup>-1</sup>, ochre 7765 µS.cm<sup>-1</sup> and manure 9476 286 µS.cm<sup>-1</sup> (Table 1). Biochar alone did not have an effect on SPW EC. This could be related to biochar's 287 low EC compared to the two other amendments, and having similar EC values to that of the SPW P0% 288 at T0. It could also be related to the low application rate in this study. Indeed, in a previous study, 289 Lebrun et al. (2018a) used the same biochar and did not observe a SPW EC rise after biochar 290 application to a mine soil at TO compared to P0%, although SPW EC increased with time, and was 291 higher than P0% at the end of the experiment. However, biochar application rates were 2% and 5%, 292 compared to the 1% used here. Furthermore, as observed by Lebrun et al. (2018a), SPW EC increased 293 after 26 days for the PB treatment, by 2.5-fold on average, with no plant effect, which could be due 294 to the biochar ageing. An increase was also observed in the P0% treatment, with a 3.2-fold rise on 295 average. However, all the other treatments observed a decrease in SPW EC with time. For PBI and 296 PBM, the decrease was only significant in non-vegetated pots while for PM it was significant in both 297 conditions, with no difference between TF-Agrostis and TF+Agrostis. Finally, for PIM and PBIM, the 298 decrease was higher in non-vegetated pots than in Agrostis vegetated pots. Such decreases can be 299 explained by a leaching of salts and/or root exudation/collection.

300 P0% SPW redox potential was 427 mV at T0 (Table 3) and all amendments caused it to decrease 301 between 6 % (PB) and 43 % (PIM). At TF, SPW redox potential of P0% was 439 and 421 mV, for non-302 vegetated and vegetated conditions, respectively. Again, all amendments decreased SPW redox 303 potential between 10 % (PB) and 27 % (PIM and PBIM) for TF-Agrostis, and between 10 % (PB) and 304 23 % (PBI and PBIM) for TF+Agrostis. Contrary to pH and EC, all amendments decreased SPW redox 305 potential compared to P0% at all sampling times, and between 9 % (PB) and 31 % (PIM) on average. 306 Few changes in SPW redox potential were observed over time: SPW redox potential decreased by 4 307 % for TF-Agrostis compared to TO on PBM while on PI, PIM and PBIM, it increased with time, between 308 1.1 and 1.4-fold, with no plant effect, following a reverse trend compared to pH. Indeed, redox 309 potential is known to have the opposite behavior to pH (Rinklebe et al. 2015).

## 311 3. Soil pore water element concentrations

312 At T0, SPW of P0% substrate presented a low As concentration (0.05 mg.L<sup>-1</sup>) (Table 4), and there was 313 no immediate effect from amendment application, either alone or combined, which is consistent 314 with a previous study on biochar (Lebrun et al. 2018a). Similarly, amendment application had no 315 effect on SPW As concentrations, compared to P0%. However, for TF+Agrostis, SPW As concentration 316 increased by 2.3 times following the application of the three amendments together. The behavior of SPW As concentrations for TF+Agrostis was linked to the amendment induced pH increase ( $R^2 = 0.38$ , 317 318 p < 0.05) (Table S1). Additionally, the increase in SPW As concentration with the PBIM treatment could be related to the P concentration measured in the same treatment. Indeed, As and P are 319 320 chemically similar and thus compete for the same sorption site. Thus, with an increase in P concentration, As mobility also increases (Fitz and Wenzel 2002, Cao et al. 2003). Furthermore, it 321 322 should be noted that contrary to what previous studies showed, ochre did not decrease As solubility. 323 Indeed, several studies showed that ochre was able to reduce soluble metal concentrations, and 324 particularly As, through sorption by Fe oxides (Abed et al. 2017, Doi et al. 2005, Olimah et al. 2015). 325 However, due to the input of other elements such as P, K but also Pb, by the amendments, the Fe 326 oxides could have been occupied by these elements and thus not be available for As sorption. Finally, 327 increases in SPW As concentration were observed with time for PBI, PBM, PIM and PBIM, with no 328 plant effect, except for PBM where the increase was only significant in the vegetated conditions. 329 SPW Fe concentrations were below detection limit for all treatments and at all times (Table 4).

330 At T0, SPW K concentrations was 14.83 mg.L<sup>-1</sup> for P0% (Table 4) and increased with all amendments 331 (except for biochar and ochre alone), by between 1.1 (PBI) and 26.7-fold (PBIM). At TF, in the non-332 vegetated condition, SPW K concentrations increased only with PM, PBM and PBIM. Moreover, in 333 the vegetated conditions, only the manure treatments increased SPW K concentrations. Such 334 increases in K may be explained by a supply of potassium provided by the different amendments, 335 especially manure, which showed the highest NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable K concentrations among the three 336 tested amendments (Table 1). Finally, SPW K concentrations were found to decrease with time for 337 PI, PM and PBIM with no plant effect, while the decreases for PBM and PIM were higher in the non-338 vegetated pots. Such decreases can be attributed to both the leaching of K, and the effect of root 339 exudates in the case of PBM and PIM (Badri and Vivanco 2009, Erickson et al. 2005). Furthermore, 340 K's behavior can be related to the pH. Indeed, positive correlations were observed between the SPW 341 pH and SPW K concentrations at TO ( $R^2 = 0.35$ , p < 0.01), TF-Aqrostis ( $R^2 = 0.41$ , p < 0.01) and 342 TF+Agrostis (R<sup>2</sup> = 0.39, p < 0.05) (Table S1). This shows that SPW K concentrations tended to increase 343 with increasing SPW pH. This backs up observations made by Arienzo et al. (2009) who showed that 344 potassium availability is strongly related to pH, and is sustained for plants in neutral or slightly acidic 345 soils, which was the pH range observed after the incorporation of amendments into PG.

At T0, SPW P concentration was 0.14 mg.L $^{-1}$  for P0% (Table 4) and decreased following biochar + 346 347 manure and biochar + ochre amendments by 71 % and 36 %, respectively, which could be due to P 348 sorption onto the amendments, especially biochar, and/or onto the soil's surface. On the contrary, 349 when ochre and manure were applied alone, SPW P concentrations increased by 1.2 and 1.4-fold, 350 which can be explained by a supply of P from manure and ochre. Indeed, ochre and manure especially 351 showed high extractable concentrations in K. Moreover, they have no structure, compared to 352 biochar; therefore their nutrients are easily leachable. At TF, in non-vegetated and vegetated 353 conditions, SPW P increased after adding the different amendments, except for with biochar. This 354 could be attributed to a P supply from the amendments, especially manure, which showed the 355 highest NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations among the three amendments tested (Table 1). Finally, 356 SPW P concentrations decreased with time for P0%, PB and PI, without plant effect, which was 357 probably due to P leaching. On the contrary, SPW P concentration increased in PBI and in vegetated 358 PBM. This could have been due to leaching of the P from the amendments, as well as root exudates, 359 such as amino acids, carboxylic acids, sugars and flavonoids, which affect the behavior of nutrients 360 by modifying soil acidity, chelation, precipitation as well as altering the microbial activity and other 361 physical and chemical soil properties (Kidd et al. 2009).

362 P0% presented high SPW Pb concentrations at T0 (22.26 mg.L<sup>-1</sup>) (Table 4), and decreased with all 363 amendments except manure alone. Decreases in SPW Pb concentration ranged from 30 % (PB) to 95 364 % depending on the amendments used (PBI, PIM and PBIM). For TF-Agrostis, SPW Pb concentrations 365 decreased for all amendments, except biochar alone, with decreases observed between 20 % (PB) 366 and 80 % (PIM). All amendments decreased SPW Pb concentrations for TF+Agrostis, between 24 % 367 (PM) and 80 % (PIM) compared to P0%. Such results are consistent with the sorption capacity of the amendments. Indeed, Huang et al. (2018) showed that pig manure was able to reduce Cd, Cu, Pb and 368 369 Zn concentrations through precipitation onto phosphates and chelation with organic matter, while 370 Olimah et al. (2015) showed that ochre could adsorb As due to its high content of Fe(III) 371 oxyhydroxides. Moreover, Lebrun et al. (2018b) explained the reduction in SPW Pb concentrations following biochar amendment to be partly due to its functional groups. Drops in SPW Pb 372 373 concentration can also be attributed to the increase in SPW pH induced by the application of 374 amendments (Kiran et al. 2017), as shown by the negative correlation observed between SPW pH 375 and SPW Pb concentrations at T0 ( $R^2 = -0.91$ , p < 0.001), for TF-Agrostis ( $R^2 = -0.93$ , p < 0.001) and 376 TF+Aqrostis ( $R^2 = -0.90$ , p < 0.001) (Table S1). Regarding the evolution of SPW Pb with time, and 377 depending on the treatments tested, both increases and decreases were observed. For P0% and PB, 378 it decreased, with no plant effect, while for PM and PBM, the decrease was higher for plant growth, 379 which can be explained by both leaching, and ageing of the amendment, allowing higher sorption 380 and plant uptake. Finally, SPW Pb concentrations were observed to increase on PIM and PI, with and 381 without plants, respectively. On PBI and PBIM, SPW Pb concentrations increased in both conditions, 382 although it was higher without plants for PBI.

#### 4. Plant growth and metal(loid) accumulation

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385 Agrostis capillaris grown on P0% produced a low biomass: 0.48 g.pot<sup>1</sup> and 0.92 g.pot<sup>1</sup> for aerial and 386 root parts, respectively (Fig. 1). Regarding the aerial dry weight (DW), it only increased following the 387 manure amendments, with no difference between the four treatments containing manure. Root DW 388 increased for all amendments containing manure. This improvement in DW production was observed 389 previously, and can be explained by (1) a reduction in SPW As and Pb concentrations, (2) an 390 improvement in the soil physico-chemical properties (increases in pH and EC), and (3) the provision 391 of nutrients, especially K, by the amendments added, in particular manure (Jiang et al. 2014, Lebrun et al. 2017, Walker et al. 2004). Indeed, manure was the only amendment leading to an increase in 392 393 aerial and root DW production compared to P0%, and the application of additional amendments did 394 not increase it any further. Manure treatments were also the ones presenting the highest NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-395 extractable and SPW K and P concentrations. Moreover, K concentrations meet the concentrations 396 that are recommended for most of the plants to grow, *i.e.* 150-250 mg.kg<sup>-1</sup> (Rodriguez-Vila et al. 397 2017), only in the treatments containing manure. Therefore, the improvement of Agrostis growth in 398 this experiment was due to the fertilizing ability of manure, compared to biochar and redmud, which 399 are not fertilizers per se. These explanations were confirmed by the significant correlations found. 400 Aerial DW was positively correlated with NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable K concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.52$ , p < 0.001) and P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.73$ , p < 0.001), SPW K concentrations at TF-Agrostis ( $R^2 = 0.74$ , p < 0.001) 401 402 and TF+Agrostis (R<sup>2</sup> = 0.90, p < 0.001) and SPW P concentrations at TF-Agrostis (R<sup>2</sup> = 0.71, p < 0.001) 403 and TF+Agrostis ( $R^2 = 0.63$ , p < 0.001) (Table 5). Root DW correlated positively with NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-404 extractable K concentrations ( $R^2$  = 0.56, p < 0.001) and P concentrations ( $R^2$  = 0.73, p < 0.001), SPW K concentrations at TF-Agrostis ( $R^2 = 0.69$ , p < 0.001) and TF+Agrostis ( $R^2 = 0.76$ , p < 0.001) and SPW 405 406 P concentrations at TF-Agrostis ( $R^2 = 0.65$ , p < 0.001) and TF+Agrostis ( $R^2 = 0.56$ , p < 0.001) (Table S1).

408 Aerial As concentration was 19.70 mg.kg<sup>-1</sup> in plants grown on P0% substrates (Fig. 2A) and decreased 409 only following PBM amendment, by 64 %. Such decreases contradict the observed increases in 410  $NH_4NO_3$ -extractable As concentrations, but could be due to a dilution effect. This dilution effect was 411 consistent with the negative correlation between aerial DW and aerial As concentrations (R<sup>2</sup> = -0.63, 412 p < 0.01) (Table 5). When plants were grown on P0%, they accumulated 58.84 mg As kg<sup>-1</sup> in their 413 roots. Root As concentrations were found to increase with only with PBM. Such increment could be 414 explained by the affinity of As for organic matter, which can increase its availability to plants. 415 Moreover, a positive correlation was observed between root As concentrations and SPW P 416 concentrations for TF+Agrostis ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.55$ , p < 0.001) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable P 417 0.51, p < 0.001) (Table S1). It could be caused by the fact that the supply of P from the amendments 418 increased the availability of As. This relation was previously observed by Gunes et al. (2009), where 419 they observed an increasing concentration of As in chickpea shoots when increasing concentrations of As and P were applied to a clay loam soil. On the contrary, in the present case, the correlation 420 421 between aerial As concentrations and SPW P concentrations for TF+Agrostis was negative and lower 422  $(R^2 = -0.38, p < 0.05)$  (Table S1). However, a negative correlation between rice grain As concentration and available P was observed by Jiang et al. (2014). Similarly, this study showed a negative correlation 423 between aerial As concentration and  $NH_4NO_3$ -extractable P concentrations ( $R^2$  = - 0.62, p < 0.001) 424 425 (Table S1). It can be hypothesized that P SPW concentrations, and its availability, increased As uptake 426 by the roots, although the transport system from roots to shoots was reduced. This can be explained 427 by the fact that, in the plants, As and P compete for the same transporters, as shown by Cao et al. 428 (2003) in Pteris vittata L.

Aerial Fe concentration was 193.73 mg.kg<sup>-1</sup> on P0% (Fig. 2B), and decreased following the biochar+manure treatment, by 68 %. This could be due to a dilution effect, as plants grew better on manure-amended technosols, and was also corroborated by the negative correlation between aerial DW and aerial Fe concentrations (R<sup>2</sup> = - 0.63, p < 0.001) (Table S1). On the contrary, root Fe concentration, which was 515.11 mg.kg<sup>-1</sup> on P0%, increased with PBM, PIM and PBIM treatments.

- Aerial Pb concentration was 257.16 mg.kg<sup>-1</sup> on P0% and decreased with all the amendments. This decrease was contradictory to the increase in NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable Pb concentrations as well as the study of Norini et al. 2019, which observed a decrease in Pb plant availability following the biochar amendment. This could be due once again to a dilution effect. This was confirmed by the negative correlation between aerial DW and aerial Pb concentrations (R<sup>2</sup> = - 0.71, p < 0.001) (Table S1). Root Pb concentrations was decreased with PI and PBI, whereas it increased following PBM treatment.
- For all three metals and metalloids, As, Fe and Pb, the concentrations observed in *Agrostis* plants were at levels considered normally toxic for plants, although *Agrostis* has been shown to tolerate such high amounts (Rodríguez-Seijo et al. 2016). The concentrations were higher than the ones found in previous studies (Dahmani-Muller et al. 2000), but the soil studied here presented higher pollution concentrations.
- 445 In general, metal(loid) concentrations tended to decrease following amendment application, 446 especially in the aerial parts of plants grown on manure treated soils. This could have been the results 447 of the presence of higher contents in nutrients in these amendments. Abbas et al. (2018) showed 448 that a proper mineral nutrition of the plants could decrease plant Cd concentrations, due to the 449 competition between the essential elements and Cd. Since As and Pb are not essential nutrients, and 450 are even toxic to plants, plants tend to preferentially take up essential nutrients, especially when 451 they are in high concentrations. With more nutrients available in the soils amended with manure, 452 and other amendments to a lesser extent, they were preferentially taken up by Agrostis capillaris 453 compared to metal(loid)s.

Furthermore As, Fe and Pb concentrations in *Agrostis* plants were higher in the roots compared to the aerial parts, which could be a tolerance mechanism (Rodríguez-Seijo et al. 2016). Indeed, roots act as a trap organ for both metals and metalloids (Austruy et al. 2013), and the root cell wall, which is negatively charged, can bind to pollutants with positive charges (Gautam and Agrawal 2017).

- Finally, the metal(loid) concentrations showed a higher increase in the roots associated to a lower translocation toward aerial parts in the PBM treatment, followed by PM and PIM.
- 461 Conclusion

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In the present study, a phytoremediation mesocosm experiment was set up using a former mining technosol amended with three different amendments, biochar, ochre and manure, applied alone or combined. *Agrostis capillaris* plants were grown from seeds collected at the polluted site to test its

465 metal(loid) accumulation ability. The results showed that the different amendments, alone or

466 combined, improved soil conditions, which in turn allowed a better Agrostis plant growth, especially 467 with manure, due to its high nutrient supply. Based on this experiment, manure seems the best 468 amendment to ameliorate soil conditions and thus plant growth. However, it is a well-known fact 469 that the manure amendment has a short-term effect and would need to be re-applied regularly 470 (Mosaddeghi et al. 2009).. Therefore, when combined and added with ochre, and especially with 471 biochar, this will allow a longer term effect. Indeed, the SPW measurements showed that Pb concentrations continued to decrease with time in PBM, contrary to PIM and PBIM treatments, which 472 473 encountered an increase in SPW Pb concentration with time. Moreover, the biochar + manure treatment led to the lowest metal(loid) translocation to the aerial biomass. This study also showed 474 475 that Agrostis, metallicolous ecotype, seeds collected from the site could be used in a rehabilitation 476 process associated to the use of biochar and manure amendments. Indeed, the amendment 477 treatments will improve soil conditions (reduction of acidity and metal(loid) concentrations, supply 478 of nutrients) which will allow efficient Agrostis plant growth. Such treatments will reduce 479 contaminant spreading by soil erosion and water leaching.

However, the soil microbiota of the different substrates in particular, in both the bulk and the
rhizosphere, needs to be evaluated in order to assess the effect of amendments and *Agrostis* growth
on the soil microbial diversity and activity, as microorganisms are known to play an important role in
soil rehabilitation. Moreover, a test at the macrocosm level will be performed to confirm the present
results.

486 Funding

# This research work was performed within the framework of the Phytoselect project funded by the Région Centre - Val de Loire (contract N°2016-00108485).

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Fig 1: Dry weight (g.pot<sup>-1</sup>) of the aerial ( $\square$ ) and root ( $\square$ ) parts of *Agrostis capillaris* plants grown on Pontgibaud technosol unamended (P0%) or amended with biochar (B), ochre (I) and manure (M), alone or combined. Letters indicate significant difference between treatments (p < 0.05) (n= 5 ± SE).



Fig 2: (A) As, (B) Fe and (C) Pb concentrations (mg.kg<sup>-1</sup>) of the aerial ( $\square$ ) and root ( $\blacksquare$ ) parts of *Agrostis capillaris* plants grown on Pontgibaud technosol unamended (P0%) or amended with biochar (B), ochre (I) and manure (M), alone or combined. Letters indicate significant difference between treatments (p < 0.05) (n= 5 ± SE).

Table 1: Amendments (biochar, ochre and manure) physico-chemical properties (pH, EC = electrical conductivity ( $\mu$ S.cm<sup>-1</sup>) and redox potential (mV)) and NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable element (As, Fe, K, P, Pb) concentrations ( $\mu$ g.g<sup>-1</sup>).

	Biochar	Ochre	Manure
Physico-chemical properties			
рН	$8.46 \pm 0.01$	8.29 ± 0.03	9.52 ± 0.00
EC	302 ± 1	7765 ± 14	9476 ± 138
Redox potential	279.5 ± 6.5	217.4 ± 9.3	88.2 ± 0.9
NH <sub>4</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> extractable concentration	ons		
As	$0.90 \pm 0.10$	$0.24 \pm 0.09$	0.75 ± 0.25
Fe	$17.90 \pm 5.10$	$1.04 \pm 0.53$	$2.41 \pm 0.20$
К	752.30 ±27.90	355.50 ± 0.53	16096.56 ± 65.49
Р	8.40 ± 0.60	0.63 ± 0.07	250.28 ± 3.21
Pb	$1.60 \pm 5.10$	$0.31 \pm 0.05$	0.57 ± 0.06

Table 2: Soil NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable element (As, Fe, K, P, Pb) concentrations ( $\mu$ g.g<sup>-1</sup>) determined at the beginning of the experiment in Pontgibaud technosol unamended (P0%) or amended with biochar (B), ochre (I) and manure (M), alone or combined. Letters indicate significant difference between treatments (p < 0.05) (n = 5 ± SE). < DL = under detection limit (0.01 mg.L<sup>-1</sup>)

	As	Fe	К	Р	Pb
P0%	2.29 ± 0.25 <b>ab</b>	0.02 ± 0.02 <b>a</b>	22.14 ± 0.44 <b>a</b>	1.11 ± 0.14 <b>a</b>	4198.27 ± 138.94 <b>bc</b>
PB	3.25 ± 0.16 <b>c</b>	0.05 ± 0.04 <b>a</b>	25.76 ± 0.83 <b>a</b>	2.03 ± 0.11 <b>b</b>	5873.25 ± 288.53 <b>d</b>
PI	2.94 ± 0.21 <b>bc</b>	0.54 ± 0.09 <b>b</b>	24.56 ± 0.63 <b>a</b>	2.69 ± 0.12 <b>c</b>	5721.77 ± 123.12 <b>d</b>
PBI	3.23 ± 0.22 <b>bc</b>	0.13 ± 0.10 <b>a</b>	30.48 ± 0.63 <b>a</b>	3.24 ± 0.08 <b>e</b>	5215.40 ± 326.47 <b>cd</b>
PM	1.98 ± 0.19 <b>a</b>	< DL <b>a</b>	189.98 ± 8.85 <b>c</b>	1.42 ± 0.06 <b>a</b>	4005.37 ± 113.41 <b>b</b>
PBM	3.58 ± 0.35 <b>c</b>	< DL <b>a</b>	198.70 ± 9.85 <b>c</b>	3.35 ± 0.13 <b>e</b>	5706.37 ± 154.86 <b>d</b>
PIM	2.57 ± 0.26 <b>abc</b>	< DL <b>a</b>	165.12 ± 4.60 <b>b</b>	3.21 ± 0.09 <b>de</b>	3453.90 ± 397.50 <b>ab</b>
PBIM	2.30 ± 0.16 <b>ab</b>	< DL <b>a</b>	168.56 ± 6.58 <b>bc</b>	2.80 ± 0.10 <b>cd</b>	2962.18 ± 276.62 <b>a</b>

Table 3: Soil pore water physico-chemical properties (pH, electrical conductivity (EC) ( $\mu$ S.cm<sup>-1</sup>), redox potential (mV)) determined at the beginning (T0) and at the end of the experiment in both non-vegetated (TF-*Agrostis*) and vegetated (TF+*Agrostis*) pots in Pontgibaud technosol unamended (P0%) or amended with biochar (B), ochre (I) and manure (M), alone or combined. Capital letters indicate significant difference between treatments for each sampling time whereas minuscule letters indicate significant difference T0, TF-*Agrostis* and TF+*Agrostis* for each treatment (=Time effect) (p < 0.05) (n = 5-10 ± SE).

		рН		EC (µS.c	m-1)	Redox pote	Redox potential (mV)			
			Time effect		Time effect		Time effect			
	то	$4.3\pm0.1\text{A}$	b	210 ± 29 <b>A</b>	а	427 ± 7 <b>F</b>	а			
P0%	TF-Agrostis	$3.8\pm0.0~\text{A}$	а	733 ± 53 <b>A</b>	b	439 ± 8 <b>D</b>	а			
	TF+Agrostis	$3.9\pm0.0\text{A}$	а	596 ± 75 <b>A</b>	b	421 ± 9 <b>D</b>	а			
	то	5.3 ± 0.2 <b>B</b>	b	255 ± 66 <b>A</b>	а	403 ± 6 <b>E</b>	а			
PB	TF-Agrostis	$4.6 \pm 0.0$ <b>B</b>	а	617 ± 30 <b>A</b>	b	396 ± 11 <b>C</b>	а			
	TF+Agrostis	4.8 ± 0.2 <b>B</b>	ab	661 ± 108 <b>AB</b>	b	378 ± 13 <b>C</b>	а			
	то	7.1 ± 0.1 <b>D</b>	7.1±0.1 <b>D b</b>		с	318 ± 5 <b>BC</b>	а			
PI	TF-Agrostis	$6.3\pm0.0~\text{D}$	а	964 ± 77 <b>AB</b>	а	346 ± 7 <b>AB</b>	b			
	TF+Agrostis	6.3 ± 0.0 <b>DE</b>	а	1508 ± 196 <b>BC</b>	b	347 ± 4 <b>AB</b>	b			
PBI	то	7.2 ± 0.1 <b>D</b>	b	2137 ± 53 <b>B</b>	b	332 ± 2 <b>C</b>	а			
	TF-Agrostis	$6.6 \pm 0.1$ E	а	1417 ± 184 <b>AB</b>	а	324 ± 6 <b>A</b>	а			
	TF+Agrostis	$6.6 \pm 0.1$ E	а	1895 ± 149 <b>CD</b>	b	323 ± 6 <b>A</b>	а			
	то	5.3 ± 0.2 <b>B</b>	а	2959 ± 140 <b>C</b>	<b>b</b> 383 ± 5 <b>D</b>		а			
PM	TF-Agrostis	5.3 ± 0.1 <b>C</b>	а	1404 ± 211 <b>AB</b>	а	384 ± 5 <b>C</b>	а			
	TF+Agrostis	5.3 ± 0.1 <b>C</b>	а	1964 ± 82 <b>CD</b>	а	368 ± 6 <b>BC</b>	а			
	то	6.1 ± 0.1 <b>C</b>	а	2923 ± 188 <b>C</b>	b	367 ± 3 <b>D</b>	b			
PBM	TF-Agrostis	$6.3\pm0.1\text{D}$	а	1379 ± 161 <b>AB</b>	а	352 ± 5 <b>B</b>	а			
	TF+Agrostis	6.1 ± 0.1 <b>D</b>	а	2387 ± 190 <b>D</b>	b	368 ± 4 <b>BC</b>	b			
	то	7.5 ± 0.1 <b>E</b>	b	5451 ± 195 <b>D</b>	а	242 ± 5 <b>A</b>	а			
PIM	TF-Agrostis	$6.8\pm0.0~\text{E}$	а	1778 ± 316 <b>B</b>	b	321 ± 7 <b>A</b>	b			
	TF+Agrostis	$6.8\pm0.0~\text{E}$	а	3338 ± 352 <b>E</b>	c	330 ± 8 <b>A</b>	b			
	Т0	7.7 ± 0.0 <b>E</b>	b	5557 ± 130 <b>D</b>	c	307 ± 3 <b>B</b>	а			
PBIM	TF-Agrostis	$7.0\pm0.1~\text{E}$	а	2741 ± 453 <b>C</b>	а	321 ± 3 <b>A</b>	b			
	TF+Agrostis	6.9 ± 0.0 <b>E</b>	а	3927 ± 324 <b>E</b>	b	326 ± 2 <b>A</b>	b			

Table 4: Soil pore water elements (As, Fe, K, P, Pb) concentrations (mg.L<sup>-1</sup>) determined at the beginning (T0) and at the end of the experiment in both non-vegetated (TF-*Agrostis*) and vegetated (TF+*Agrostis*) pots in Pontgibaud technosol unamended (P0%) or amended with biochar (B), ochre (I) and manure (M), alone or combined. Capital letters indicate significant difference between treatments for each sampling time whereas minuscule letters indicate significant difference T0, TF-*Agrostis* and TF+*Agrostis* for each treatment (=Time effect) (p < 0.05) ( $n = 5-10 \pm SE$ ).

		[As] (m	g.L <sup>-1</sup> )	[Fe] (n	ng.L <sup>-1</sup> )	[K] (mg.	L-1)	[P] (mg	.L <sup>-1</sup> )	[Pb] (m	g.L <sup>-1</sup> )
			Time effect		Time effect		Time effect		Time effect		Time effect
	Т0	0.05 ± 0.02 <b>A</b>	а	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	14.83 ± 5.07 <b>A</b>	а	0.14 ± 0.00 <b>C</b>	b	22.26 ± 0.62 <b>E</b>	b
P0%	TF-Agrostis	0.07 ± 0.02 <b>AB</b>	а	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	9.93 ± 0.66 <b>A</b>	а	0.04 ± 0.01 <b>AB</b>	а	6.78 ± 0.71 <b>E</b>	а
	TF+Agrostis	0.04 ± 0.01 <b>A</b>	а	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	12.31 ± 1.27 <b>A</b>	а	0.03 ± 0.01 <b>A</b>	а	9.19 ± 0.86 <b>E</b>	а
	Т0	0.05 ± 0.01 <b>A</b>	а	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	17.37 ± 4.11 <b>AB</b>	а	0.14 ± 0.00 <b>C</b>	b	15.51 ± 0.40 <b>D</b>	b
PB	TF-Agrostis	0.03 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	15.22 ± 1.03 <b>A</b>	а	0.02 ± 0.01 <b>A</b>	а	5.40 ± 0.18 <b>D</b>	а
	TF+Agrostis	0.05 ± 0.01 <b>AB</b>	а	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	15.60 ± 0.38 <b>A</b>	а	0.02 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	5.62 ± 0.50 <b>CD</b>	а
	Т0	0.08 ± 0.03 <b>A</b>	а	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	11.90 ± 0.51 <b>A</b>	b	0.17 ± 0.01 <b>D</b>	b	1.91 ± 0.19 <b>B</b>	а
PI	TF-Agrostis	0.05 ± 0.01 <b>AB</b>	а	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	8.72 ± 0.42 <b>A</b>	а	0.06 ± 0.01 <b>BC</b>	а	3.42 ± 0.19 <b>BC</b>	b
	TF+Agrostis	0.03 ± 0.01 <b>A</b>	а	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	6.80 ± 0.57 <b>A</b>	а	0.04 ± 0.01 <b>A</b>	а	2.52 ± 0.19 <b>AB</b>	а
	то	0.02 ± 0.01 <b>A</b>	а	0.04 ± 0.05 <b>A</b>	а	16.73 ± 0.65 <b>B</b>	а	0.04 ± 0.01 <b>A</b>	а	1.01 ± 0.12 <b>A</b>	а
PBI	TF-Agrostis	0.07 ± 0.01 <b>AB</b>	b	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	15.45 ± 1.39 <b>A</b>	а	0.08 ± 0.01 <b>CD</b>	b	2.85 ± 0.14 <b>B</b>	С
	TF+Agrostis	0.04 ± 0.01 <b>AB</b>	b	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	15.01 ± 0.21 <b>A</b>	а	0.09 ± 0.01 <b>B</b>	b	2.10 ± 0.33 <b>A</b>	b
		0.07 . 0.01 .		0.04 + 0.04 •				0.40 + 0.00 5		24.00 · 2.02 F	
514		$0.07 \pm 0.01$ A	а	$0.01 \pm 0.01 \text{ A}$	а	305.15 ± 16.75 C	D	$0.19 \pm 0.00$ D	D	24.89 ± 2.92 E	C
PM	IF-Agrostis	0.03 ± 0.00 AB	а	$0.00 \pm 0.00$ A	а	145.50 ± 31.97 <b>BC</b>	а	$0.07 \pm 0.00$ BC	а	4.32 ± 0.18 CD	a
	TF+Agrostis	0.05 ± 0.01 <b>AB</b>	а	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	223.09 ± 7.99 <b>B</b>	а	0.07 ± 0.01 <b>AB</b>	а	6.96 ± 0.54 <b>D</b>	b
	то	0.03 + 0.00 <b>Δ</b>	а	0.00 + 0.00 <b>Δ</b>	а	311 97 + 19 04 <b>CD</b>	c	0 09 + 0 00 <b>B</b>	а	10 24 + 1 16 <b>C</b>	C
DBM	TE-Agrostis	0.05 ± 0.00 AB	ah	$0.00 \pm 0.00$ A	2	126 39 + 24 48 BC	2	$0.03 \pm 0.00 \text{ B}$ 0.11 ± 0.01 D	ah	2 07 + 0 19 AB	2
	TE+Aarostis	0.05 ± 0.00 AB	h	$0.00 \pm 0.00$ A	a	220.35 ± 24.48 <b>DC</b>	a h	$0.11 \pm 0.01$ BC	ab h	$4.26 \pm 0.13$ BC	h
	IT Agrostis	0.07 ± 0.01 AD	<b>U</b>	0.00 ± 0.00 A	a	232.00 ± 22.91 <b>D</b>	5	0.11 ± 0.01 <b>bc</b>	5	4.20 ± 0.45 <b>BC</b>	J
	то	0.04 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	382.59 ± 10.51 <b>DE</b>	С	0.13 ± 0.01 <b>C</b>	а	1.06 ± 0.08 <b>A</b>	а
PIM	TF-Agrostis	0.08 ± 0.01 <b>B</b>	b	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	94.71 ± 23.00 <b>AB</b>	а	0.11 ± 0.01 <b>D</b>	а	1.35 ± 0.15 <b>A</b>	а
	TF+Agrostis	0.06 ± 0.01 <b>AB</b>	b	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	185.81 ± 20.41 <b>B</b>	b	0.11 ± 0.01 <b>BC</b>	а	1.85 ± 0.15 <b>A</b>	b
	-										
	TO	0.03 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	395.96 ± 8.01 <b>E</b>	b	0.13 ± 0.01 <b>C</b>	а	1.05 ± 0.04 <b>A</b>	а
PBIM	TF-Agrostis	0.08 ± 0.01 <b>B</b>	b	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	191.11 ± 46.78 <b>C</b>	а	0.14 ± 0.01 <b>E</b>	а	1.46 ± 0.08 <b>A</b>	b
	TF+Agrostis	0.09 ± 0.02 <b>B</b>	b	0.00 ± 0.00 <b>A</b>	а	238.21 ± 22.59 <b>B</b>	а	0.15 ± 0.02 <b>C</b>	а	2.05 ± 0.28 <b>A</b>	b

Table S1: Pearson correlation coefficients between the soil physico-chemical characteristics (NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-extractable elements (As, Fe, K, P, Pb) contents), the soil pore water physico-chemical properties (pH, [As], [K] and [P], at T0, TF-Agrostis and TF+Agrostis) and Agrostis capillaris plant parameters (DW = dry wiehgt, As, Fe and Pb concentrations of the aerial and root parts). Signicant correlation are in bold, level of significance: \* (p < 0.05), \*\* (p < 0.01) and \*\*\* (p < 0.001)

				Soil		Soil pore water						Plants												
			NH4N	IO3-extra	actable																			
			CO	concentrations			то			TF-Agrostis			TF+Agrostis				Aerial part				Roots			
			[As]	[K]	[P]	рН	[K]	[Pb]	рН	[K]	[P]	[Pb]	рН	[As]	[K]	[Pb]	DW	[As]	[Fe]	[Pb]	DW	[As]	[Fe]	[Pb]
	NH4NO3-	[As]	1	-0.19	0.51***	-0.22	0.1	-0.29	-0.15	0.18	-0.11	0.10	-0.13	-0.01	0.24	0.18	0.15	-0.4*	-0.44**	-0.24	0.13	0.08	-0.16	0.1
Soil	extractable	[K]		1	0.25	0.69***	0.51***	-0.6***	0.74***	0.37*	0.73**	-0.78***	0.71***	0.42**	0.47**	-0.63***	0.52***	-0.41*	-0.27	-0.51**	0.56***	0.43**	0.54***	0.14
	concentrations	[P]			1	0.38*	0.76***	-0.09	0.52***	0.58***	0.52***	-0.58***	0.49**	0.31*	0.77***	-0.35*	0.73***	-0.62***	-0.58***	-0.65***	0.73***	0.51***	0.45**	0.16
	то	рН				1	0.35**	-0.91***	0.94***	0.27	0.68***	-0.87***	0.94***	0.33*	0.27	-0.91***	0.31	-0.22	-0.02	-0.37*	0.43**	0.23	0.66***	-0.22
		[K]					1	-0.11	0.52***	0.8***	0.75***	-0.64***	0.47**	0.50**	0.94***	-0.27	0.91***	-0.67***	-0.65***	-0.71***	0.84***	0.65***	0.54***	0.38*
		[Pb]						1	-0.78***	0.04	-0.46*	0.69***	-0.78***	-0.28	0.04	0.84***	-0.02	0.04	-0.16	0.14	-0.17	-0.02	-0.47**	0.28
	TF-Agrostis	рН							1	0.39*	0.76***	-0.90***	0.97***	0.38*	0.45**	-0.89***	0.49**	-0.37*	-0.17	-0.53***	0.57***	0.39*	0.73***	-0.13
Soil pore		[K]								1	0.64***	-0.47**	0.36*	0.44**	0.81***	-0.17	0.74***	-0.53***	-0.50**	-0.53***	0.69***	0.63***	0.51***	0.42**
water		[P]									1	-0.76***	0.74***	0.49**	0.73***	-0.56***	0.71***	-0.42**	-0.3	-0.54***	0.65***	0.55***	0.67***	0.17
		[Pb]										1	-0.93***	-0.42***	* -0.57***	-0.80***	-0.61***	0.47**	0.30	0.57***	-0.65***	-0.46**	-0.70***	-0.02
	TF+Agrostis	рН											1	0.38*	0.41**	-0.90***	0.42**	-0.32	-0.07	-0.47**	0.49**	0.32*	0.70***	-0.19
		[As]												1	0.54***	-0.32	0.37*	-0.42**	-0.32*	-0.43**	0.36*	0.47**	0.43**	0.36*
		[K]													1	-0.15	0.90***	-0.64***	-0.64***	-0.70***	0.76***	0.72***	0.54***	0.48**
		[Pb]														1	-0.19	0.27	0.02	0.39*	-0.37	-0.12	-0.55***	0.36*
	Aerial part	DW															1	-0.63***	-0.63***	-0.71***	0.87***	0.75***	0.59***	0.48***
		[As]																1	-0.92***	0.83***	-0.67***	-0.37*	-0.21	-0.19
		[Fe]																	1	0.78***	-0.60***	-0.37*	-0.09	-0.3
Dlants		[Pb]																		1	-0.71***	-0.52***	-0.46**	-0.23
FIGILS	Roots	DW																			1	0.72***	0.62***	0.39*
		[As]																				1	0.82***	0.78***
		[Fe]																					1	0.42**
		[Pb]																						1