Horizon Europe

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Practice Abstract N° 6 How to select the best performing cover crops to inoculate with mycorrhizae

## **INTRODUCTION**

Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi (AMF) form symbiotic relationships with plant roots, enhancing nutrient and water uptake, especially phosphorus, and increasing plant resistance to disease and drought. In GOOD project, we identify and multiply native AMF from the soils of our Living Labs, prepare an inoculum and coat the seeds of cover crops.



**PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS** 

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No.	Steps
1	Get familiar with the <b>benefits</b> that mycorrhizal fungi bring
2	Prefer to use <b>native AMF</b> and cooperate with researchers/industry
3	Select carefully the crops and cover crops to inoculate with mycorrhizae (avoid
	allelopathic plants)
	Legumes fix nitrogen and are good AMF hosts ( <i>avoid lupin as a non-host</i> )
	Grasses (e.g., oat, rye) and other broadleaf species (e.g., flax) are among the best entions for AME inequlation
	Descriptions for AMI moculation
	Brassica species (e.g., mustard) are not AMF nost
4	Monitor and take into account local <b>climate and soil conditions</b> to ensure proper
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5	choose mixtures of species and apply diversification practices (e.g., intercropping, relay and strip cropping)
6	Balance the benefits and ecosystem services that the cover crops bring to the field.
	You will have to prioritize what is more necessary: biomass, weed suppression,
	nitrogen fixation, soil health etc.



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