



# IntenSusVITI Operational Group

## Viticulture Sustainable Intensification through Mechanical Pruning



UNIÃO EUROPEIA

Fundo Europeu Agrícola  
de Desenvolvimento Rural

A Europa Investe nas Zonas Rurais



INSTITUTO  
SUPERIOR DE  
AGRONOMIA  
*Universidade de Lisboa*

# IntenSusVITI Operational Group

Funding:

**PDR2020 (Medida 1.0.1/2016, parceria nº82, iniciativa 164)**



Coordination:



UNIVERSIDADE  
DE LISBOA



INSTITUTO  
SUPERIOR D  
AGRONOMIA

Partners:



QUINTA DE  
LOUROSA

Quinta  
da  
Ároeira

Jorge  
Graça



ATEVA

# Motivation

## Hand Labour

- Availability
- Cost



# Motivation

Low Yields



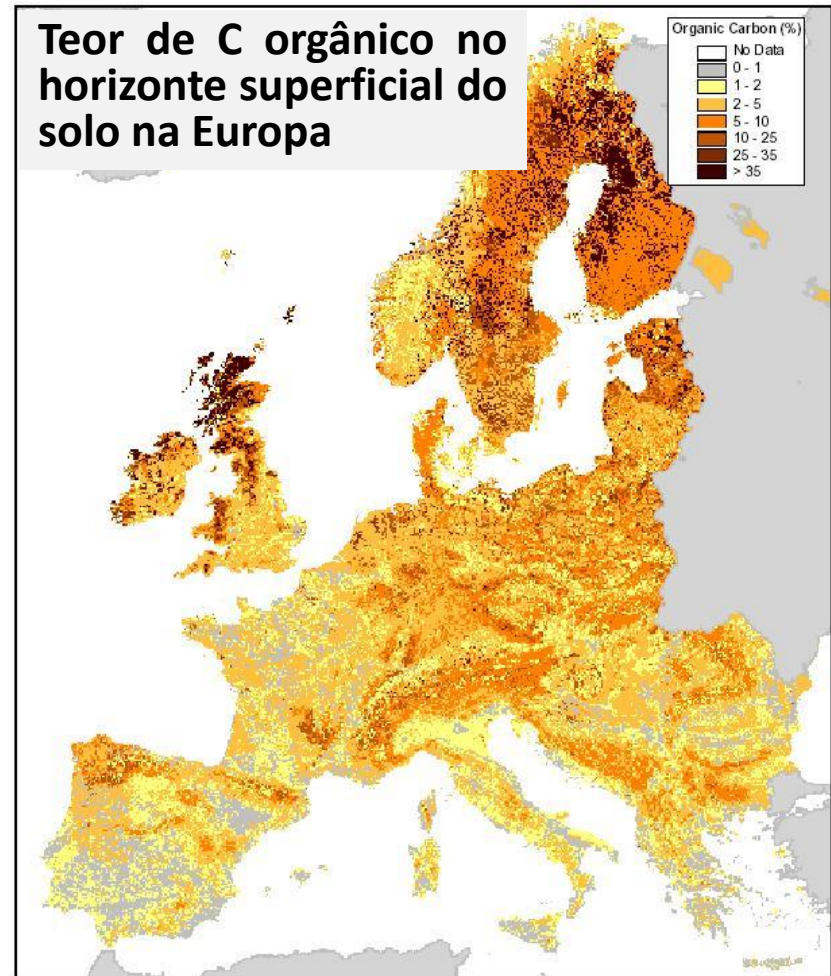
**4,68 t/ha**

# Motivation

## Low soil fertility

Portugal is one of the European Union countries that has a **higher percentage of low quality soils**.

One of the major reasons for this situation is the low organic matter content of portuguese soils.  
(Quelhas dos Santos, 2012)



(European Commission - Joint Research Centre  
Institute for Environment and Sustainability)

# Motivation

## New organic amendments

New organic amendments, coming in from human settlements and not from the agricultural and forestry sector, are increasingly available :

- Municipal Solid Waste Composts
- Sewage Sludge Composts

# Motivation

Increasing importance  
of some pests

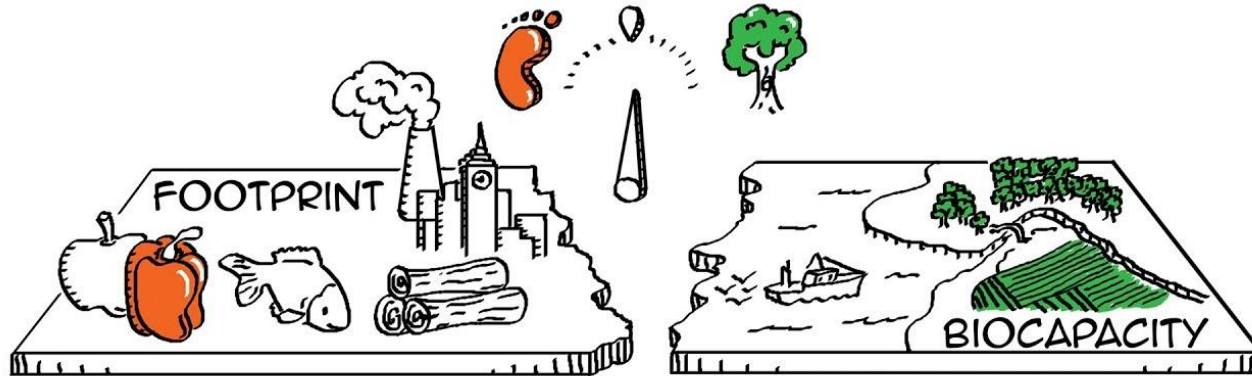


**Mealybugs**



***Empoasca vitis***

# Goals



## ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

“Biocapacity represents the biosphere’s ability to meet human demand for material consumption and waste disposal.”

*(Global Footprint Network, 2010)*



# Goals

**Increase Biocapacity  
Improve Ecological Footprint**

Increase soil organic matter content



Reduction of vineyard carbon footprint



Increase Yield



Reduction of carbon and ecological footprints per kg of grape

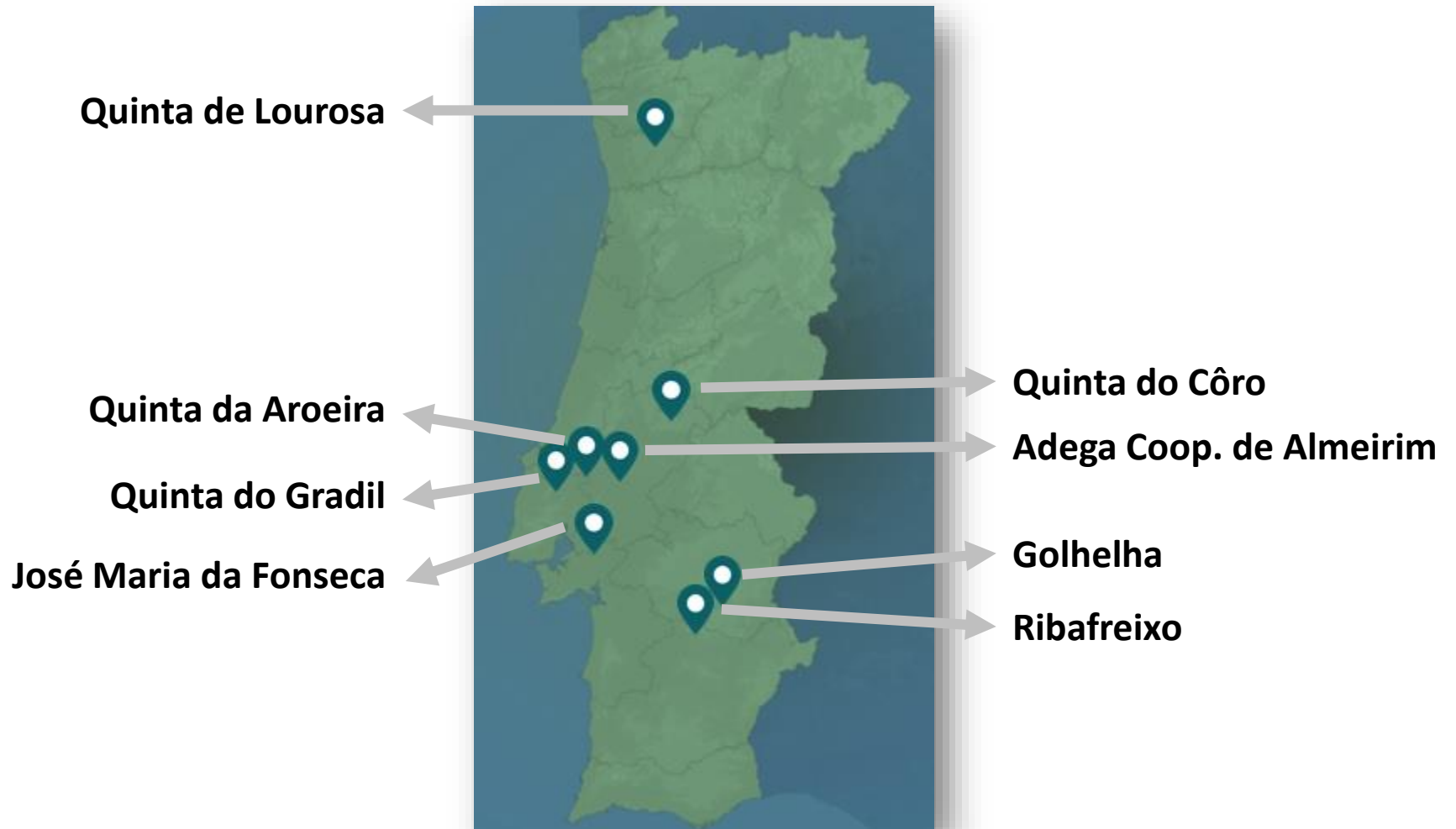
# Goals

**Increase Biocapacity  
Improve Ecological Footprint**

Reduction of sprayings for diseases control – *Botrytis cinerea* and  
pests

Reduction of support materials – stakes and wires

# Trial Fields



# Variables

## Hand Pruning



≈ 60.000 buds/ha

## Box Pruning



≈ 200.000 buds/ha

# Variables

## New Organic Amendments



# Variables

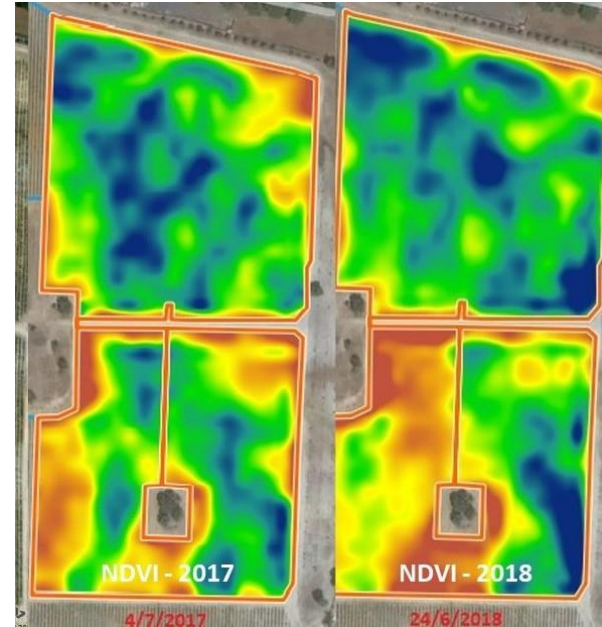
## Soil Tillage



# Variables



**Sexual Confusion  
(mealybugs)**



**Precision Viticulture  
(*Empoasca vitis* detection)**

# Assessments

**Soil analysis**



**Gas exchanges**



**Predawn leaf  
water potential**



**Petiole analysis**



**Canopy structure**



**Pests  
monitorization**



**Productivity**



**Vigour and  
vegetative growth**



**Grape composition**

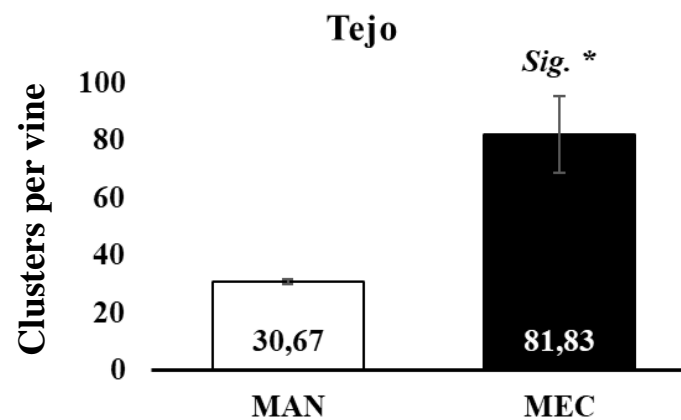
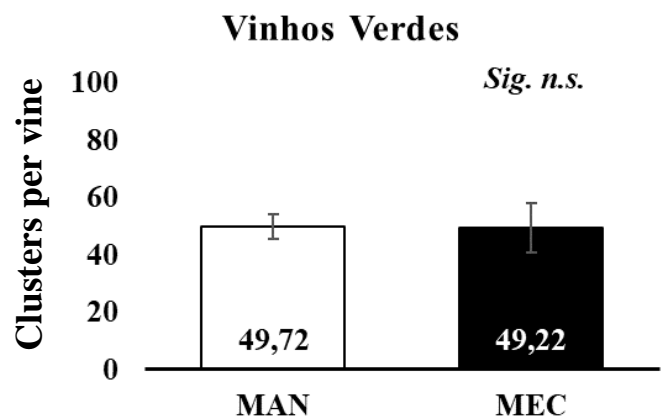
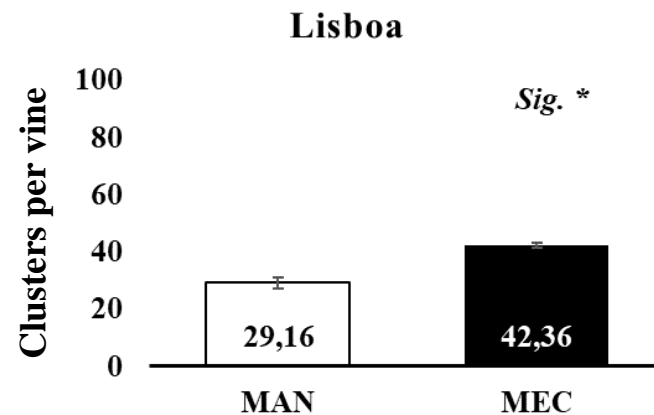
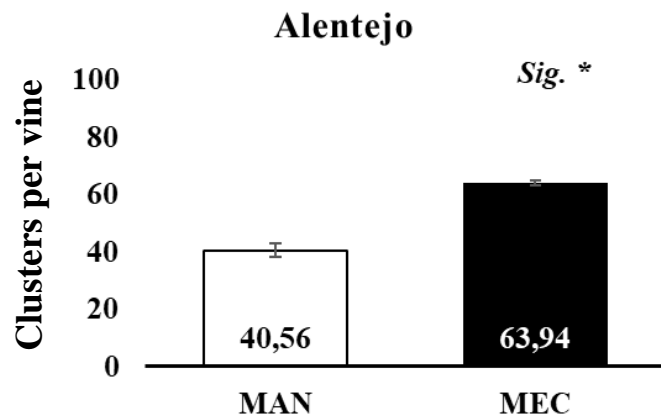


**Wine quality**

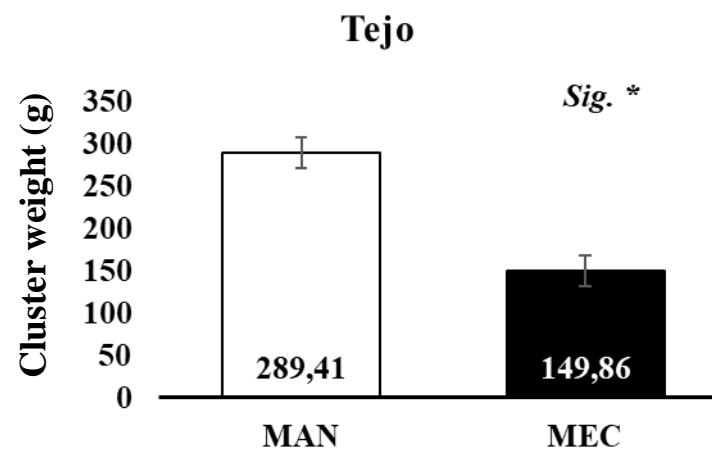
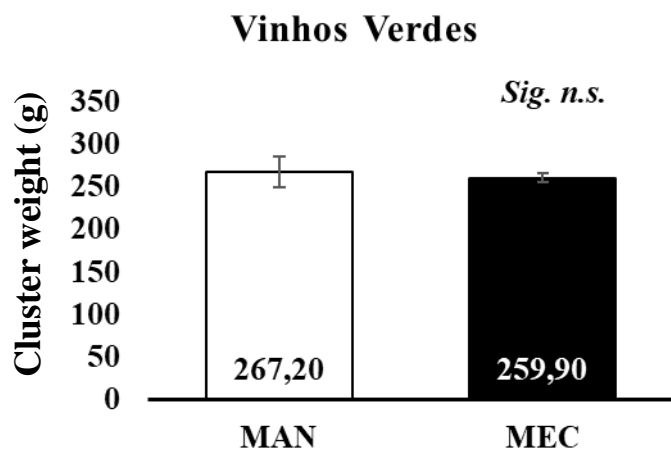
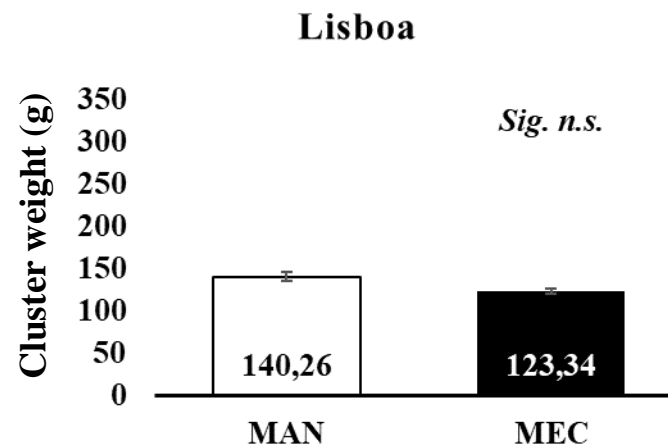
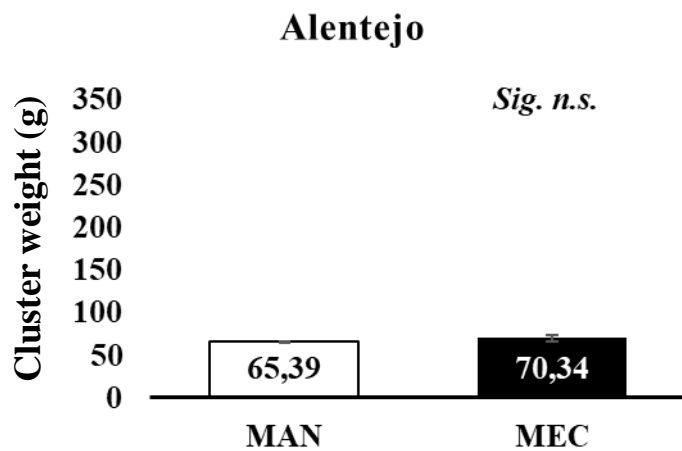




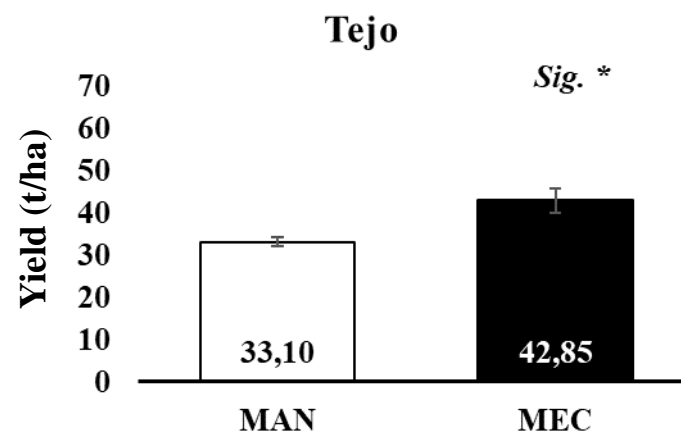
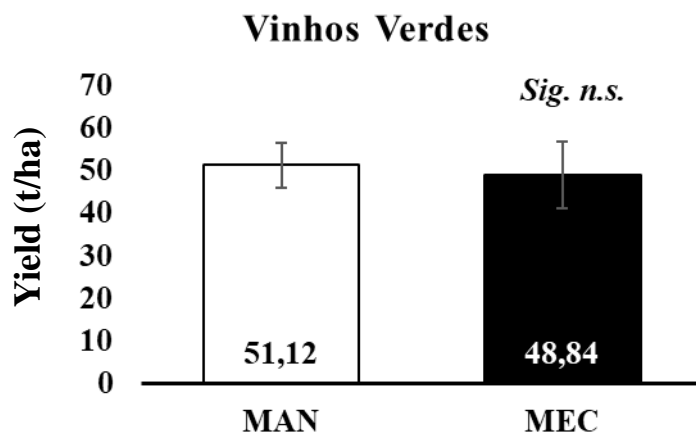
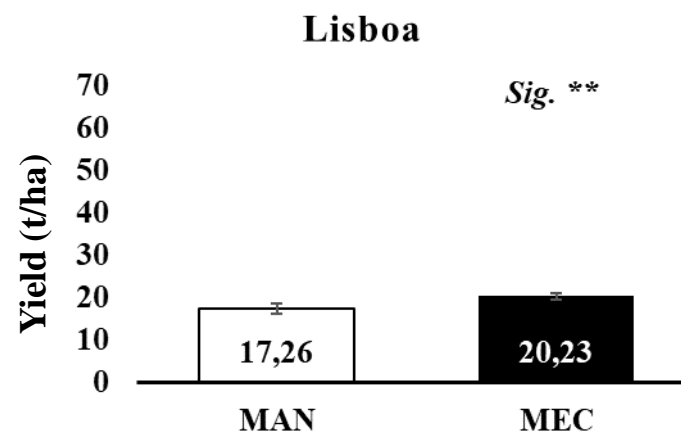
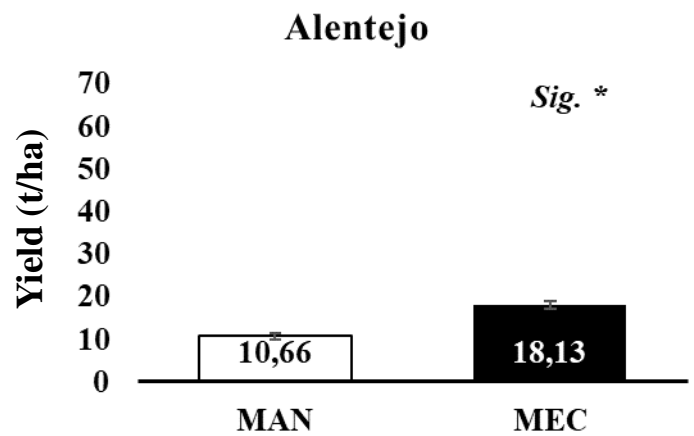
# Results



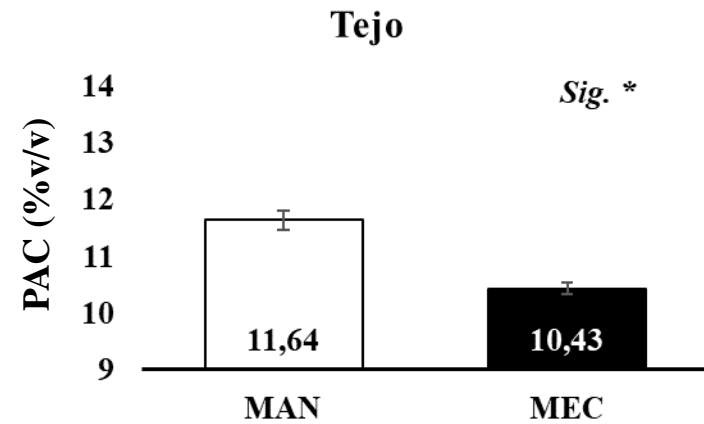
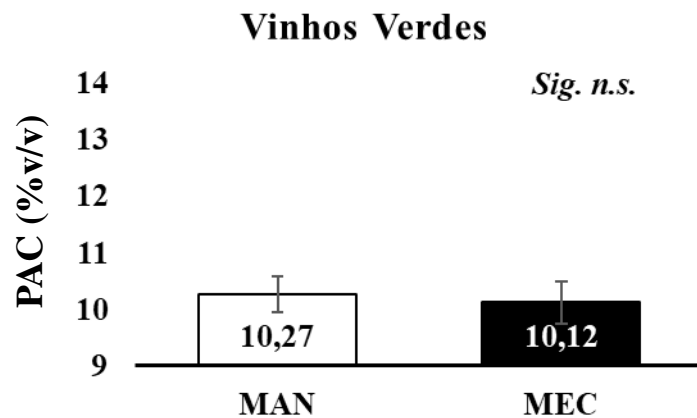
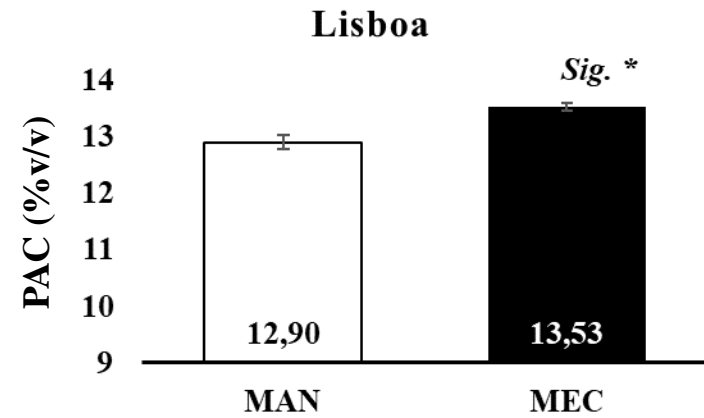
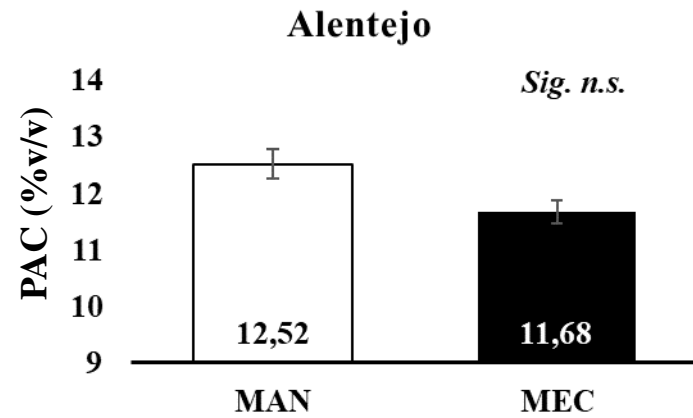
# Results



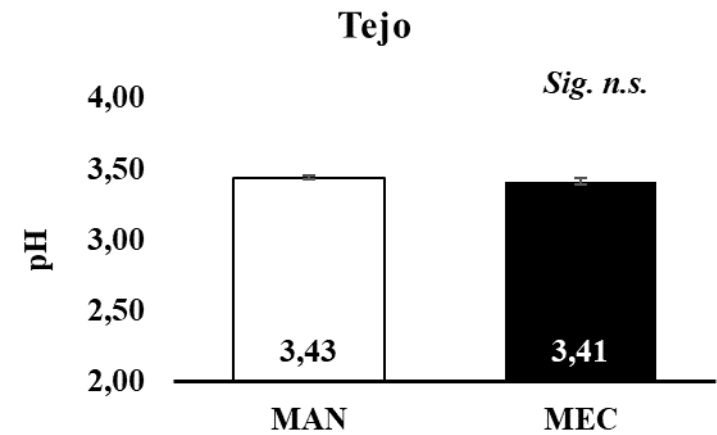
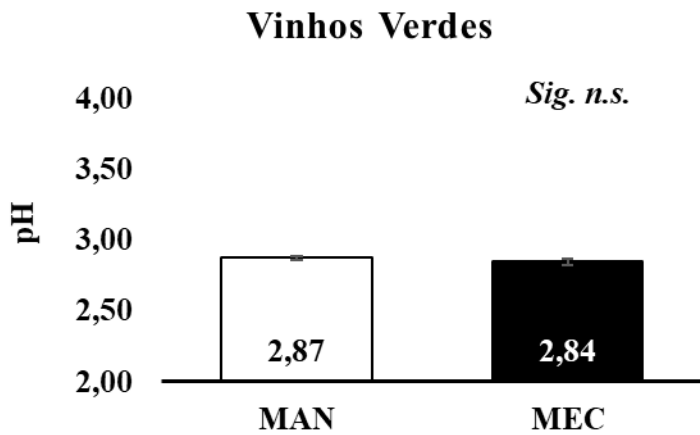
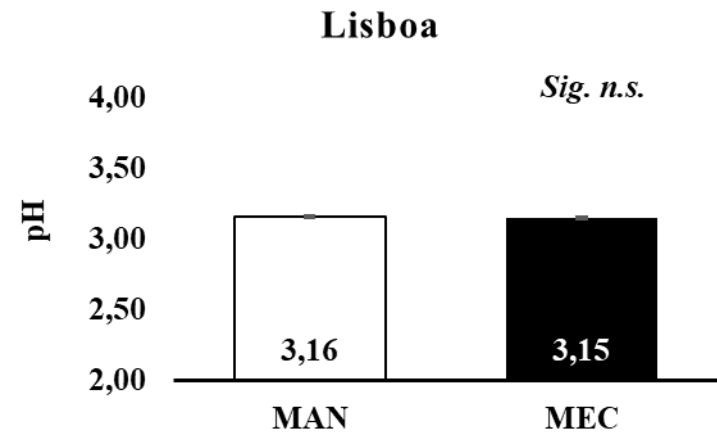
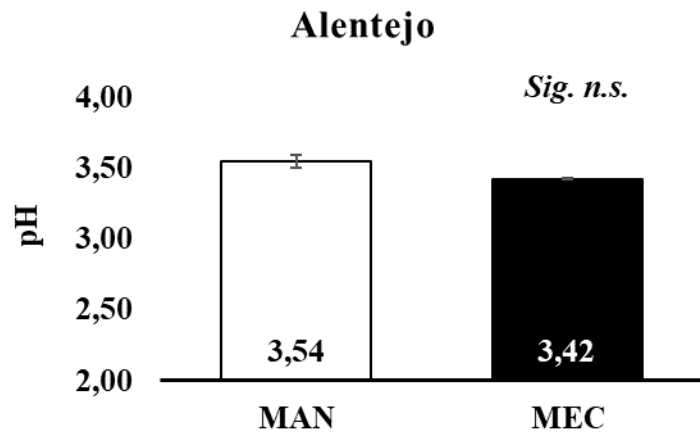
# Results



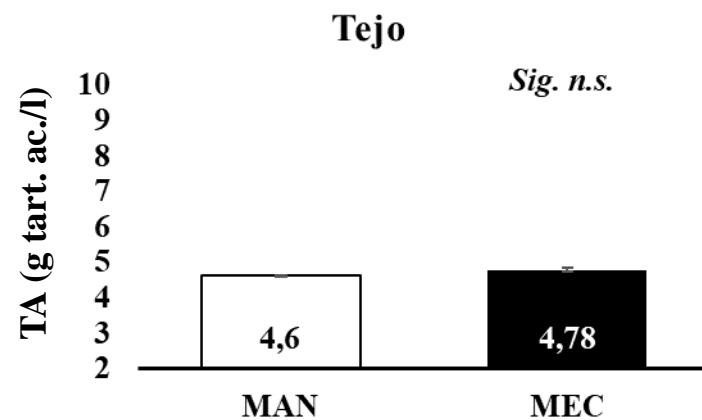
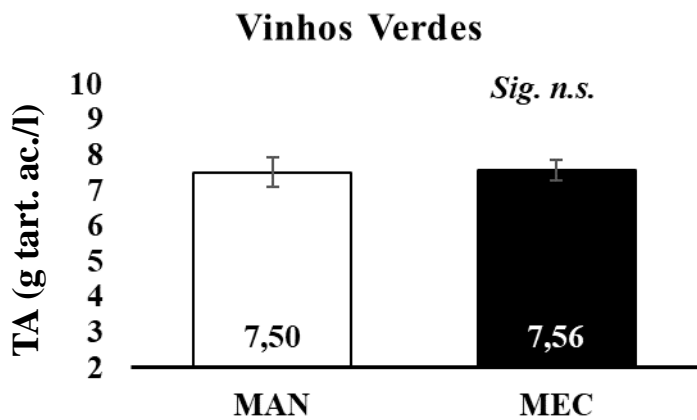
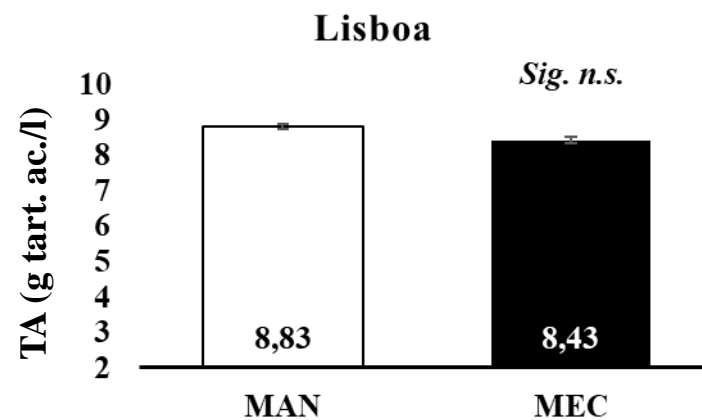
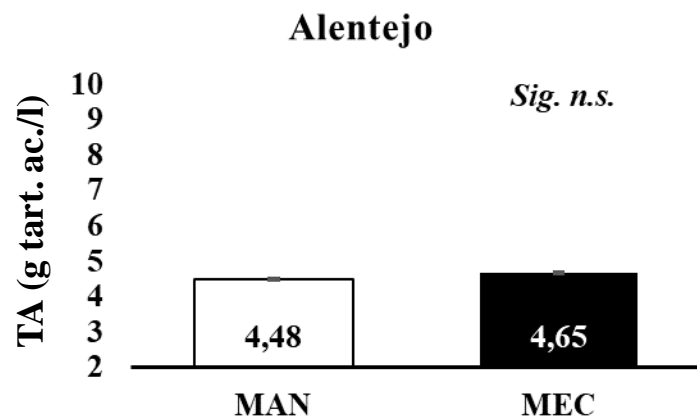
# Results



# Results



# Results



# Conclusions

1. Box pruning allows a reduction in **hand labour** and no increase in **productivity**.
- 2.1 When the increase in yield is not high there is no delay in ripening.
- 2.2 When the yield increase is high, a delay in the sugar accumulation occurs.
- 2.3 Total acidity and pH were not significantly affected by box pruning.
3. It is fundamental to adjust pruning (systems and bud load) to the objectives of the production.



# Thank you for your attention

**Grupo Operacional IntenSusVITI PDR2020 (Medida 1.0.1/2016, parceria nº82, iniciativa 164)**

**Co-financiado:**



**Parceiros:**



QUINTA DE LOUROSA

Quinta da Aroeira



ATEVA

Jorge Graça