

Table 2. Soil and plant characteristics

	Brandbjerg, DK	Porto Conte, IT	Clocaenog, UK	Kiskunság, HU	Mols, DK	Oldebroek, NL
Soil characteristics						
Soil type (FAO standard)	Sandy podzol	Luvi and Leptosols	Peaty podzol	Calcaric arenosols	Sandy podzol	Haplic arenosol
Top soil						
Depth (cm)	0-5	0-20	0-6	0-10	0-3	0-4
pH	3.3	7.7	3.9	7.9	3.7	3.7
C/N	21	34	37.4	14.3	18.5	22.5
SOM (%)	45	7.8	89	0.74	41	65
Bulk density (g/cm ³)	0.08	1.14	0.09	1.4	0.21	0.11
Deeper soil						
Depth (cm)	3-20	20-40	6-17	10-20	3-20	4-16
pH	4.6	7.8	4.0	8.1	4.1	3.8
C/N	16	52		6.7		
SOM (%)	2	4.7	37	0.32	1.8	3.3
Bulk density (g/cm ³)	1.46	1.30	0.41	1.45	1.39	1.41
Plant characteristics						
Dominant Plant species	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> <i>Desch. flexuosa</i>	<i>Helichrysum italicum</i> <i>Cistus monspeliensis</i> <i>Dorycnium pentaphyllum</i> <i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> <i>Desch. flexuosa</i> <i>Vacc. myrtillus</i> <i>Empetrum nigrum</i>	<i>Populus alba</i> <i>Festuca vaginata</i> <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> <i>Stipa borysthena</i>	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> <i>Desch. flexuosa</i>	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> <i>Desch. flexuosa</i> <i>Mollinia caerulea</i>
Plant cover (%)	100	82	100	35	100	95
No. of plant species		11.6	7.4	9.6	8.7	5.5
Main rooting depth	0-10	0-10	0-10	0-10	0-10	0-10
NDVI – green biomass index		0.60	0.77	0.30	0.66	0.71
Mean Max height (cm)	30	80	50	50	30	50
Foliage N in new leaves (%) – dominant plant species	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.8	1.6	1.4