

## Bait Lamina Stripes

### Additional material needed:

- Knife
- Measuring tape

### Which plots should be sampled?

Unless otherwise agreed, the following 5 treatments are included in the sampling:

- Control
- Control+fence
- N
- NPK
- NPK+fence

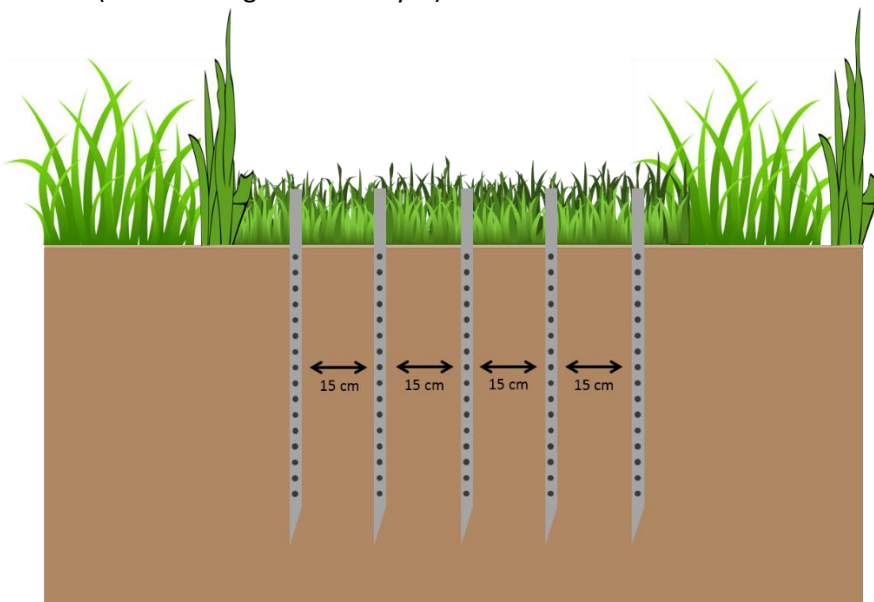
Place the Bait Lamina Stripes on the subplot where you originally took soil samples.

### How to insert the Bait Lamina Stripes

The Bait Lamina Stripes should be inserted 2-3 weeks prior to the 2<sup>nd</sup> field visit of the N-mineralization study (when the incubation cores are collected). Before you start, please check again if each hole of the stripe is still filled with the grey substrate and if the bait material has formed any cracks – if this is the case, don't use this Bait Lamina Stripe (we sent you 5-10 stripes extra).

You have to insert 5 Bait Lamina Stripes per plot on the subplot where you originally took soil samples.

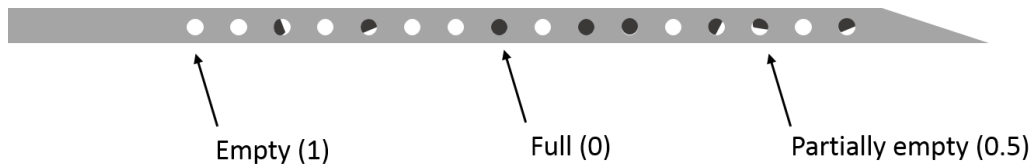
1. First, use a knife to make slits into the soil before you place the Bait Lamina Stripes there. Especially when it is dry and heavy compacted soil, you have to be careful that you don't damage the bait material during insertion.
2. By using the measuring tape you should then insert the 5 Bait Lamina Stripes in a row with 15 cm distance between them. The uppermost bait hole should be ~ 3 mm below the functional soil surface (i.e. including the litter layer).



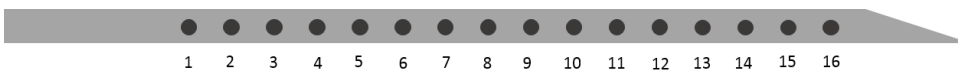
### Retrieval and evaluation of Bait Lamina Stripes

This should be done on the same day you also retrieve the incubation core from the N-mineralization study.

1. Please, retrieve the Bait Lamina Stripes carefully of one plot and clean it from remaining soil (until you can clearly see the bait holes).
2. To evaluate the Bait Lamina Stripes (i.e. soil animal activity), you should hold the stripe against the light, inspect each hole separately and rate it as “0” when the substrate was not perforated (full), as “0.5” when the substrate was perforated partially (partially empty), and as “1” when the substrate was removed completely (empty).



3. Please fill the data in the provided excel-sheet (sent by email) and add all the required information to the meta data section. Please note that the highest bait hole is defined as no. 1 and the deepest bait hole is defines as no. 16.



Then move to the next plot and repeat steps 1-3.

### After completing the field sampling

After you have entered all data to the excel sheet, please send the document back to us via email ([julia.siebert@idiv.de](mailto:julia.siebert@idiv.de)).

Furthermore, it would be great if you could wash the utilized Bait Lamina Stripes and send them back to Anita together with the incubation cores. We will reuse them next year.