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Development of a new ecotoxicological assay using the testate amoeba *Euglypha rotunda* (Rhizaria; Euglyphida) and assessment of the impact of the herbicide S-metolachlor

Nathalie Amacker, Edward A.D. Mitchell, Benoît J.D. Ferrari, Nathalie Chèvre



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5 Nathalie Amacker<sup>a,d</sup>, Edward A.D. Mitchell<sup>a,b</sup>, Benoît J. D. Ferrari<sup>c</sup>, Nathalie Chèvre<sup>d</sup>

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7 <sup>a</sup> Laboratory of Soil Biodiversity, University of Neuchâtel, Rue Emile Argand 11, CH-2000  
8 Neuchâtel, Switzerland

9 <sup>b</sup> Jardin Botanique de Neuchâtel, Chemin du Perthuis-du-Sault 58, CH- 2000 Neuchâtel,  
10 Switzerland

11 <sup>c</sup> Swiss Centre for Applied Ecotoxicology Eawag-EPFL (Ecotox Centre), EPFL-ENAC-IIE-GE,  
12 Station 2, CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland

13 <sup>d</sup> Institut des dynamiques de la surface terrestre (IDYST), University of Lausanne, CH-1015  
14 Lausanne, Switzerland

15  
16 Corresponding author: Nathalie Chèvre

17 Address: Quartier UNIL-Mouline, Bâtiment Géopolis, 3630, CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland.

18 E-mail: [nathalie.chevre@unil.ch](mailto:nathalie.chevre@unil.ch)

19 Phone number: +41 21 692 35 57

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## 23 1. Introduction

24 Various chemical compounds have become part of our modern societies and are  
25 spread intentionally (e.g. in agriculture) or not (e.g. drugs, cosmetics, etc.) in the  
26 environment (Schwarzenbach *et al.*, 2006). Among these, pesticides are widely applied on  
27 crops with aim to protect them from pests and pathogens or to suppress competitive weeds.  
28 Pesticides are also used in public health program to control vectors of human diseases  
29 especially in the tropics (World Health Organization, 1990; Chen *et al.*, 2010). However, the

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