

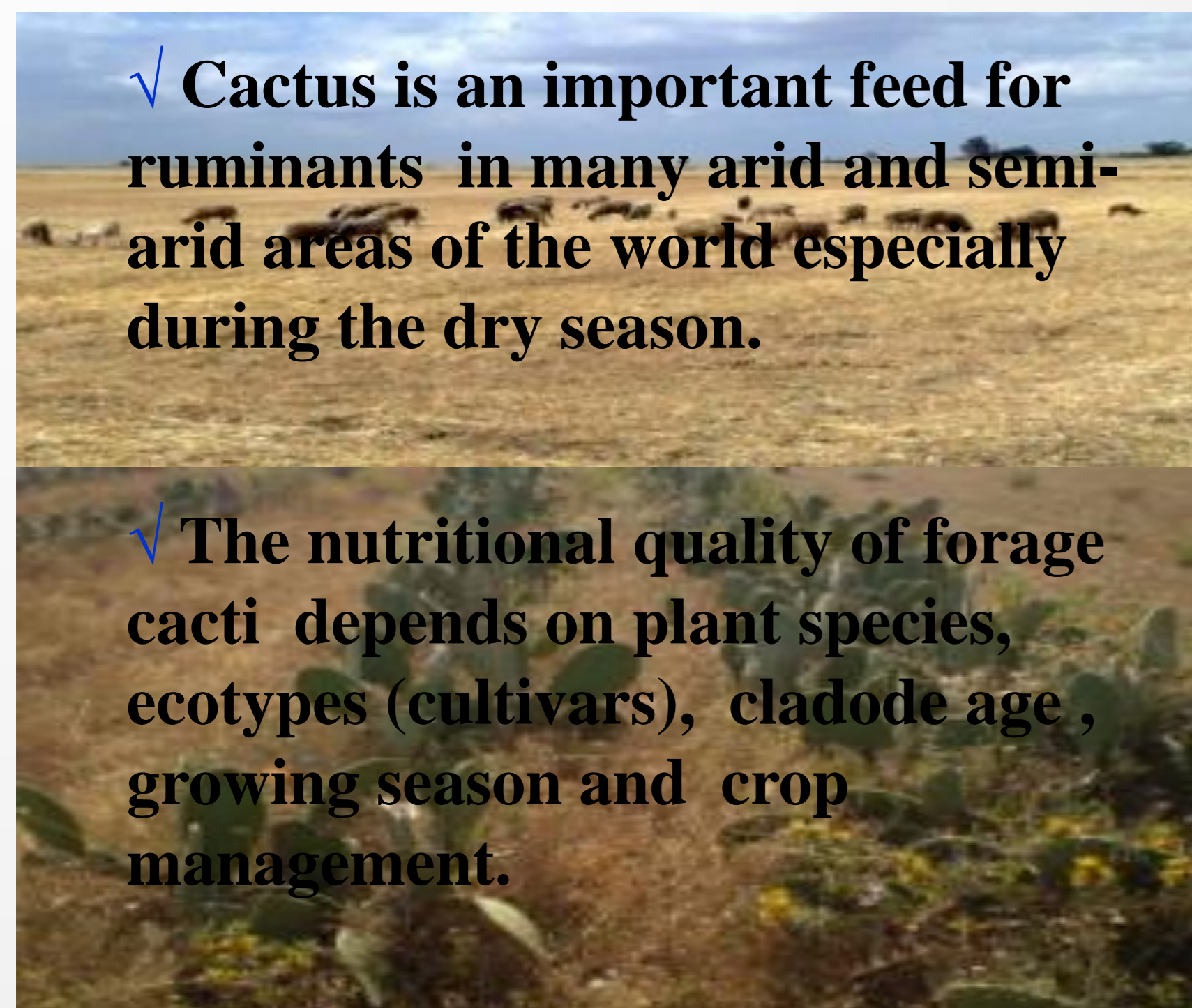
Evaluation of the nutritive value of some Moroccan *Opuntia ficus indica* ecotypes as a feed for ruminants

Sibaoueih Mounia¹ and Boujghagh Mohamed²

¹ INRA, Regional Center, Settat P.O Box 589, Morocco

² INRA, Regional Center, Agadir P.O Box 124 Inezgane Agadir, Morocco

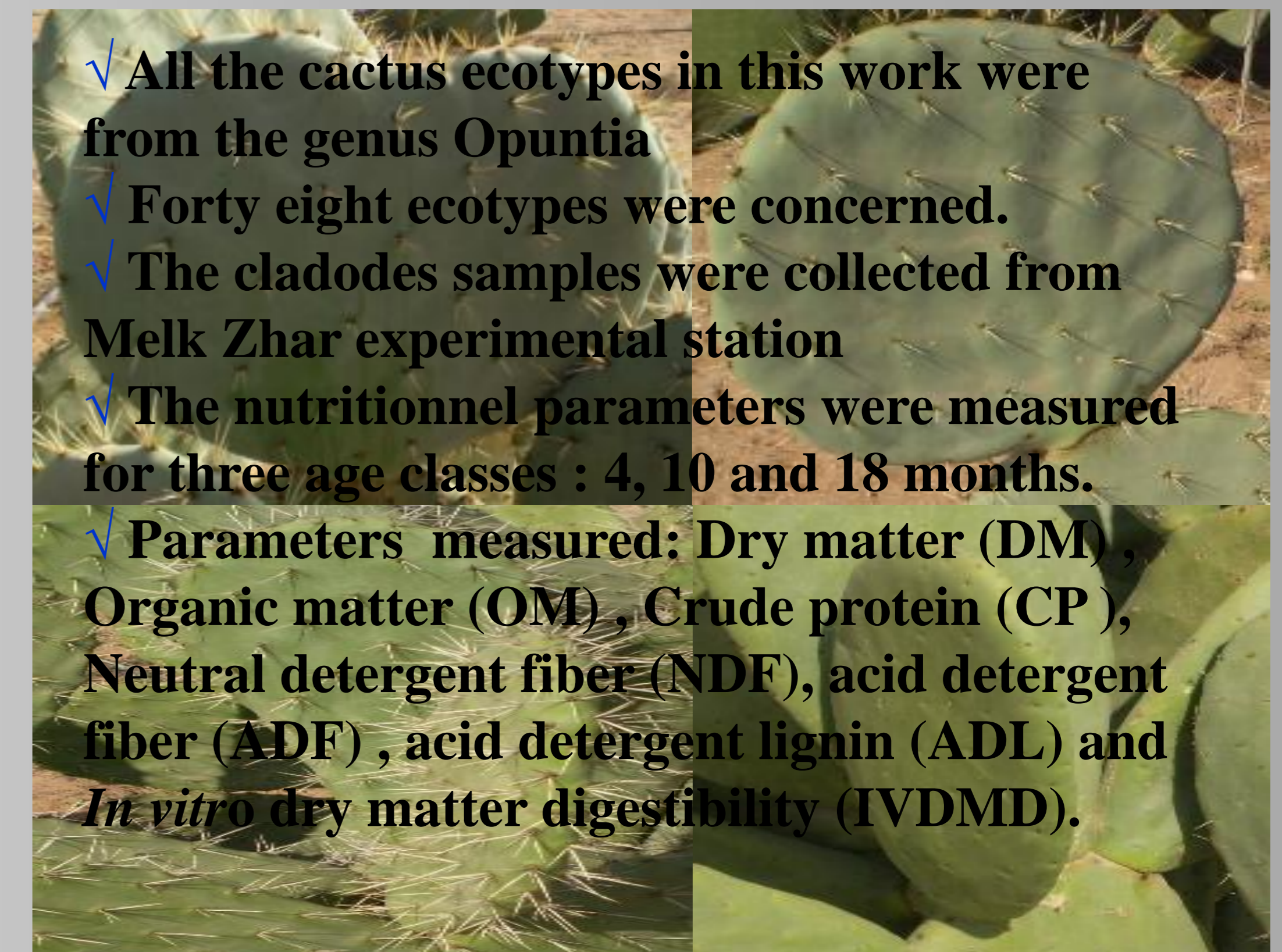
Justification



Objectives



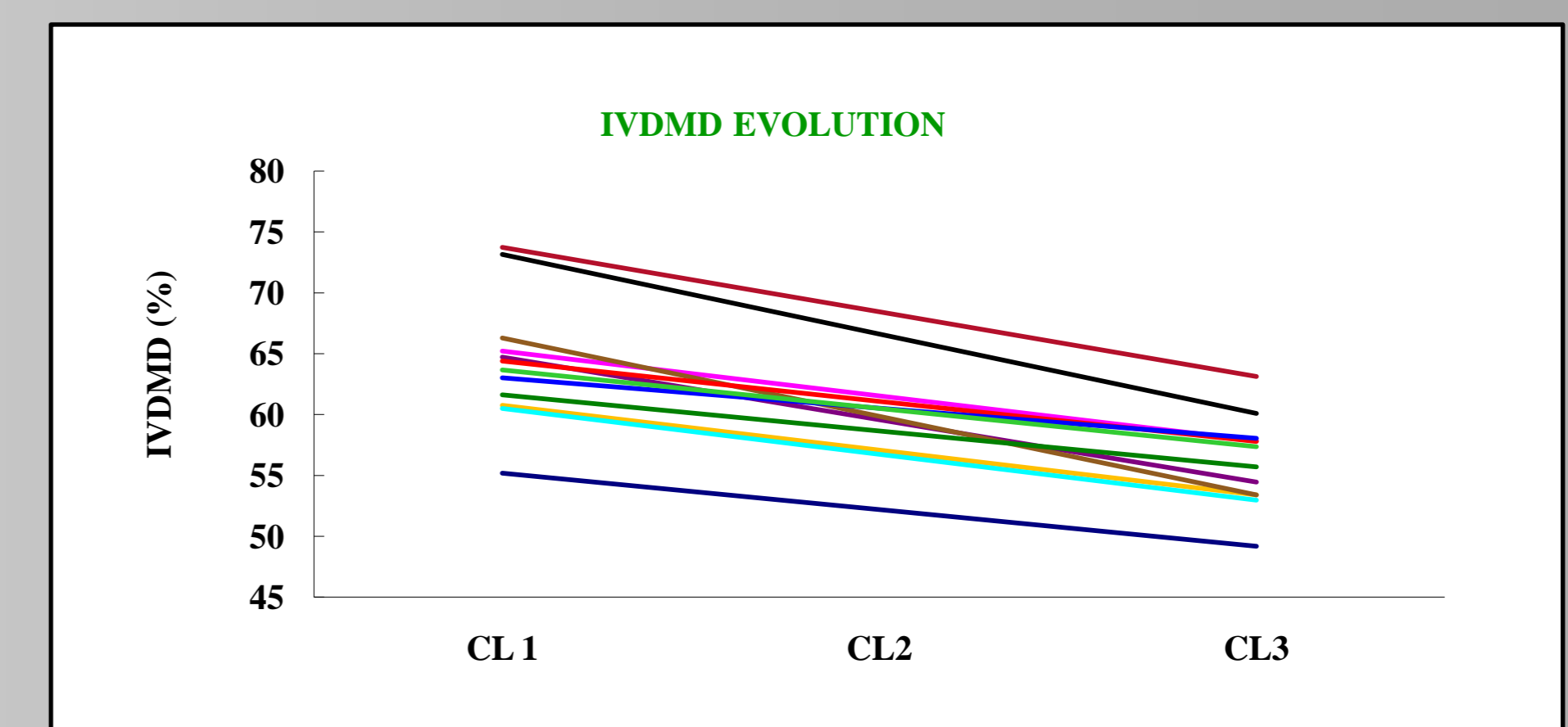
Material and Methods



Results & Discussion

Some morphological data on studied ecotypes

	Number of new cladodes	Number of new fruits	Length cladode at 4 months	Length cladode at 10 months	Length cladode at 18 months	Width cladode at 4 months	Width cladode at 10 months	Width cladode at 18 months
Mean	20	82	25	37	40	15	18	19
Minimum	3	6	30	57	49	20	23	24
Maximum	54	257	22	28	36	14	13	16

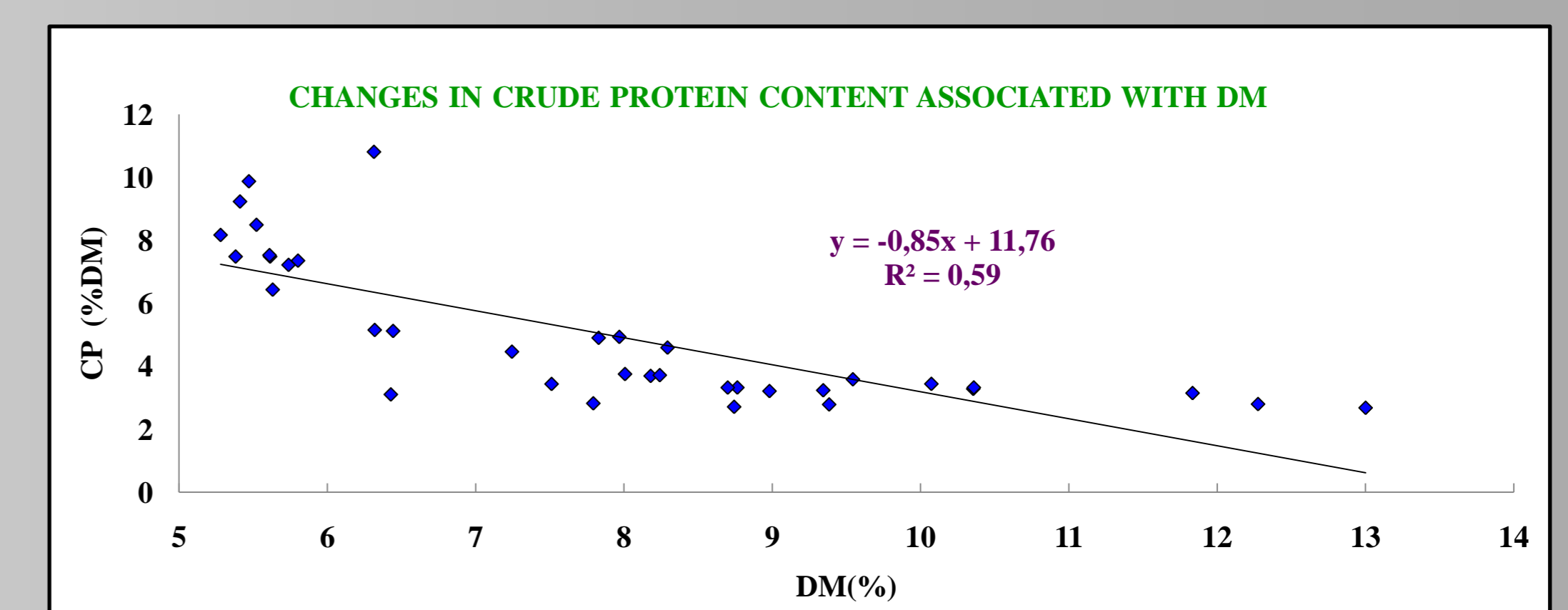


Potential nutritive value of 58 ecotypes at young age

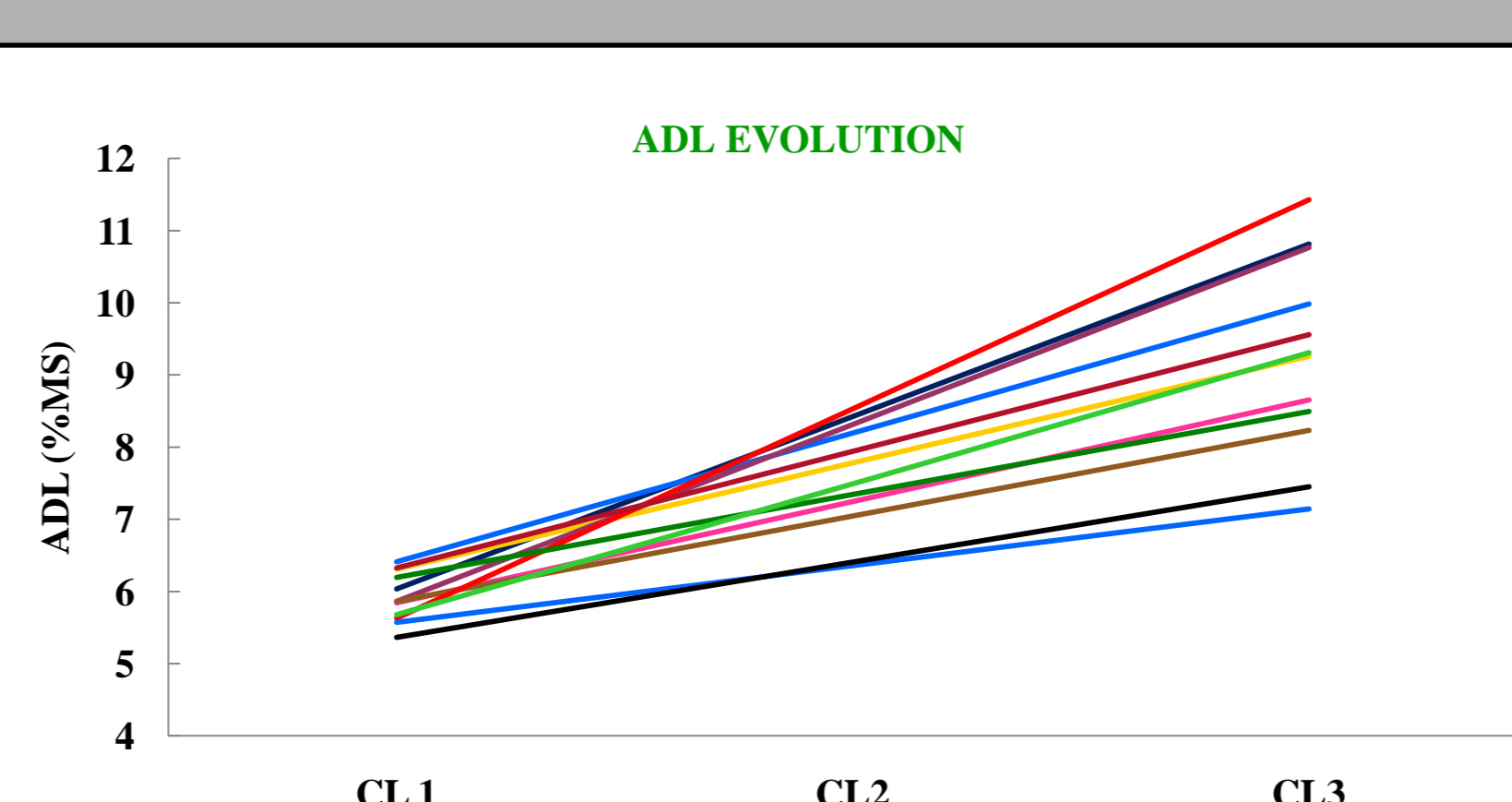
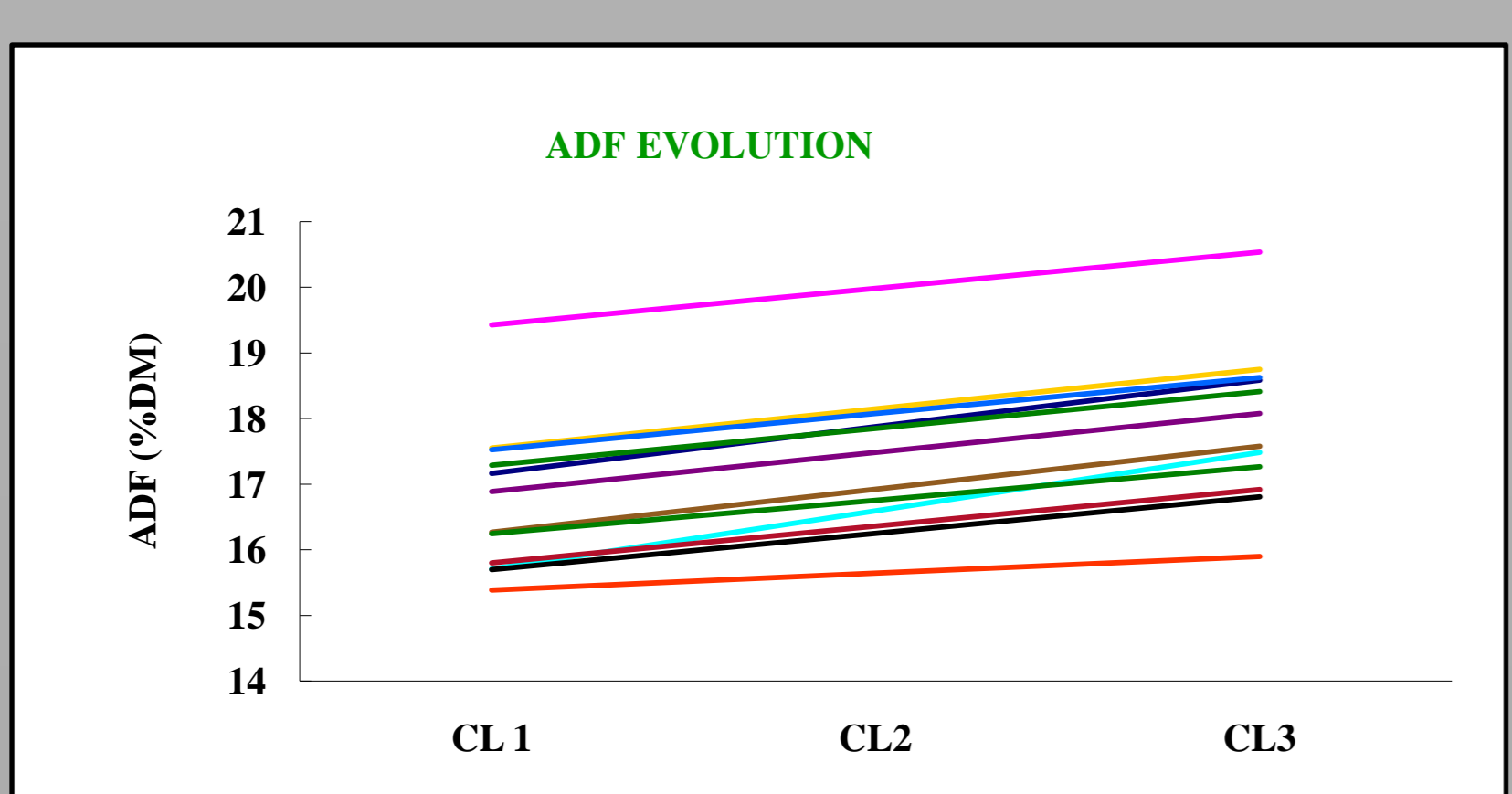
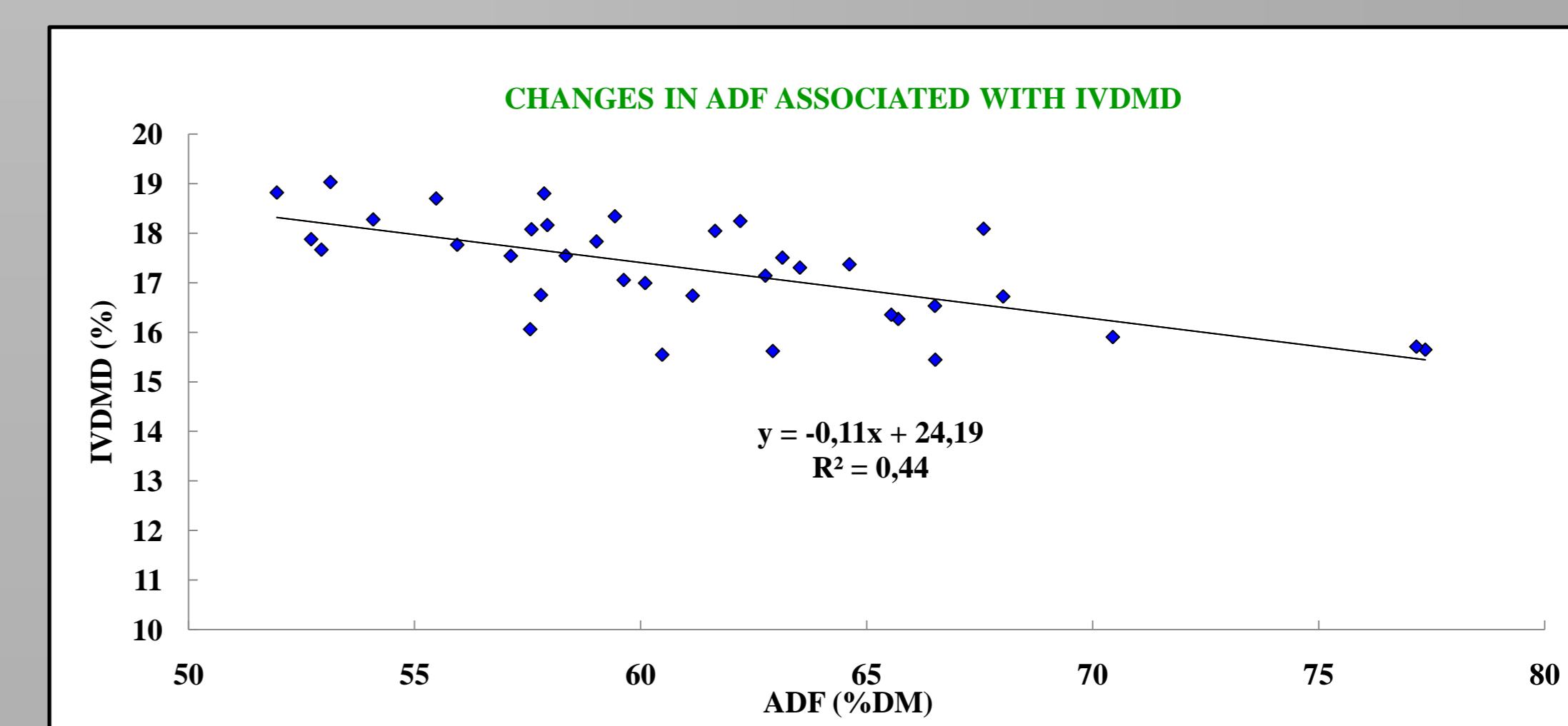
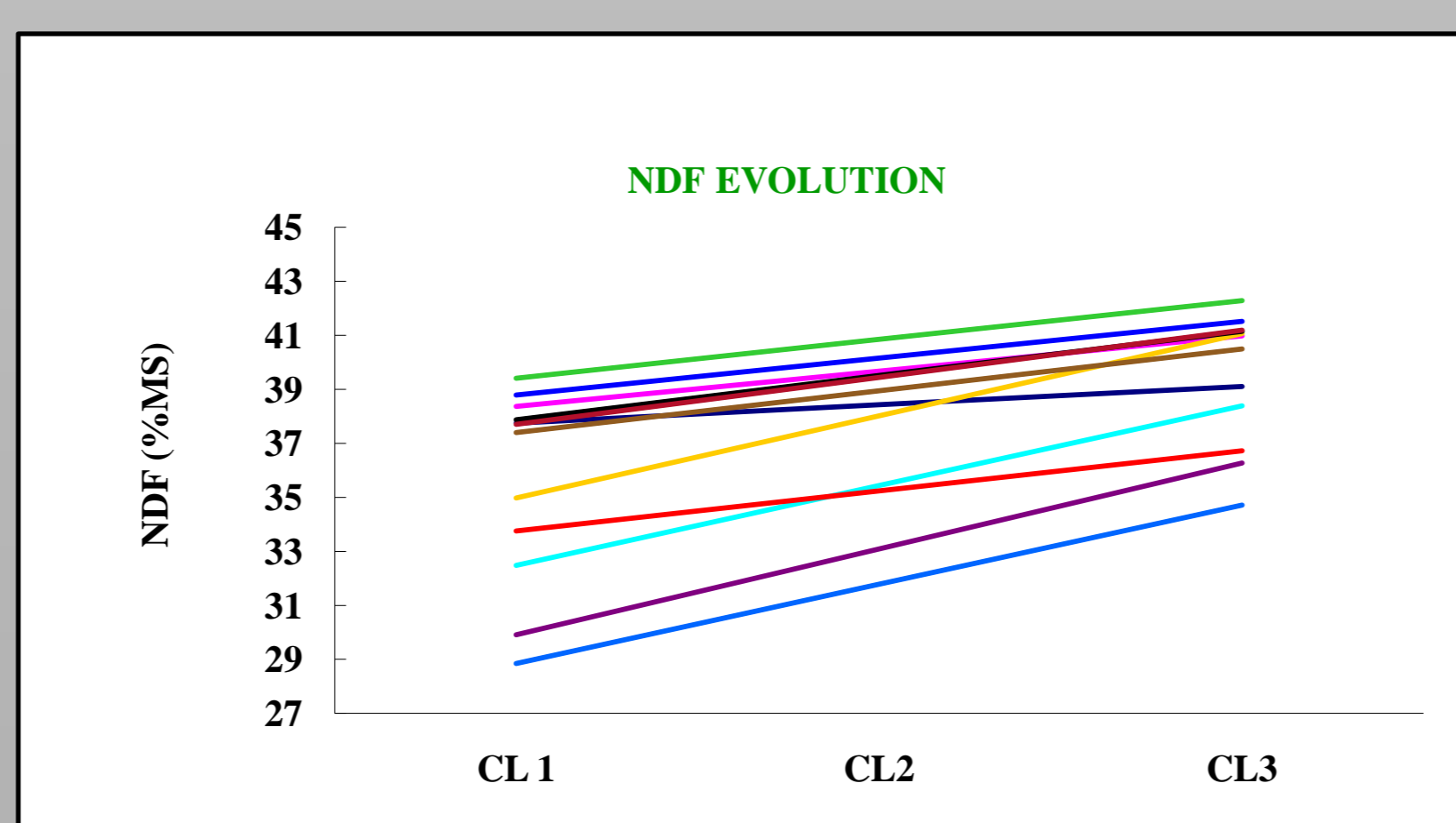
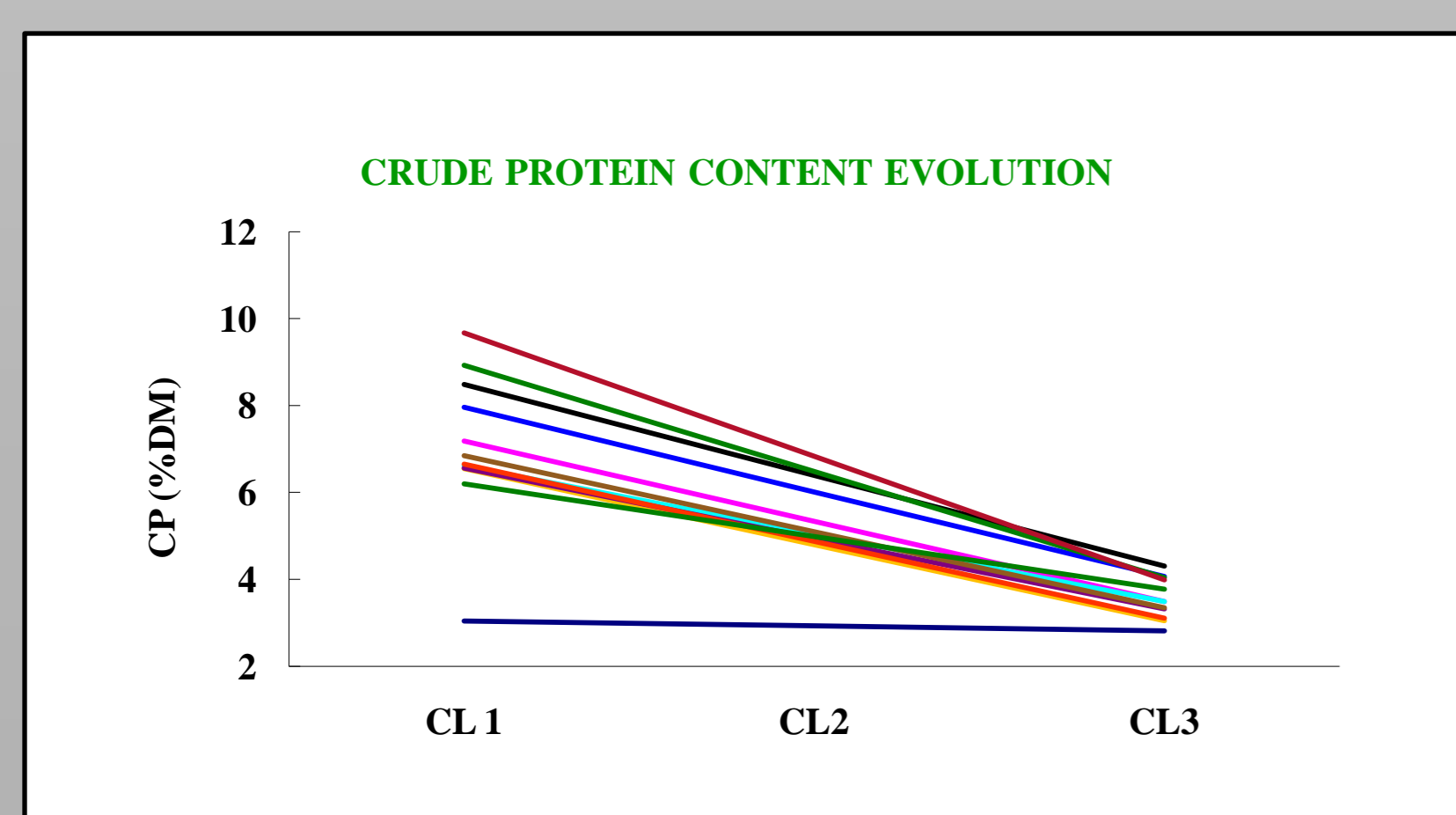
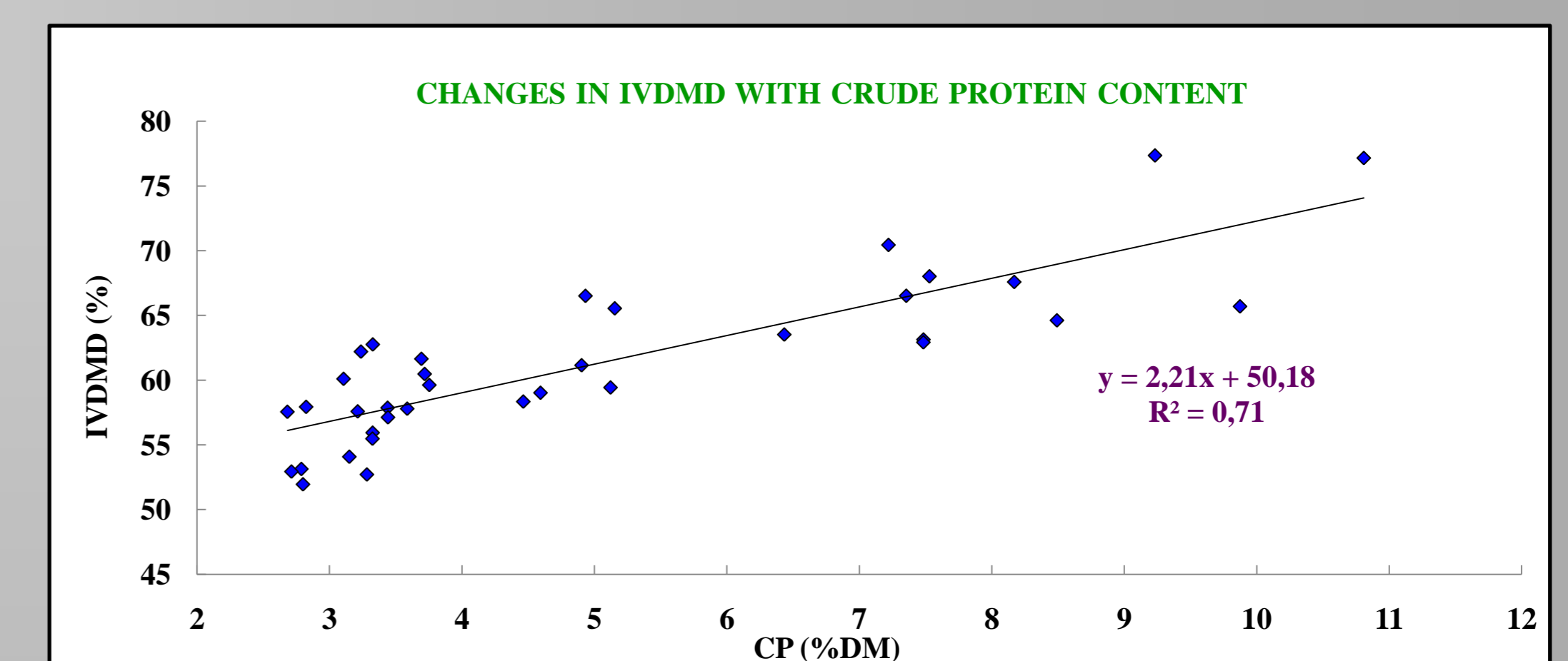
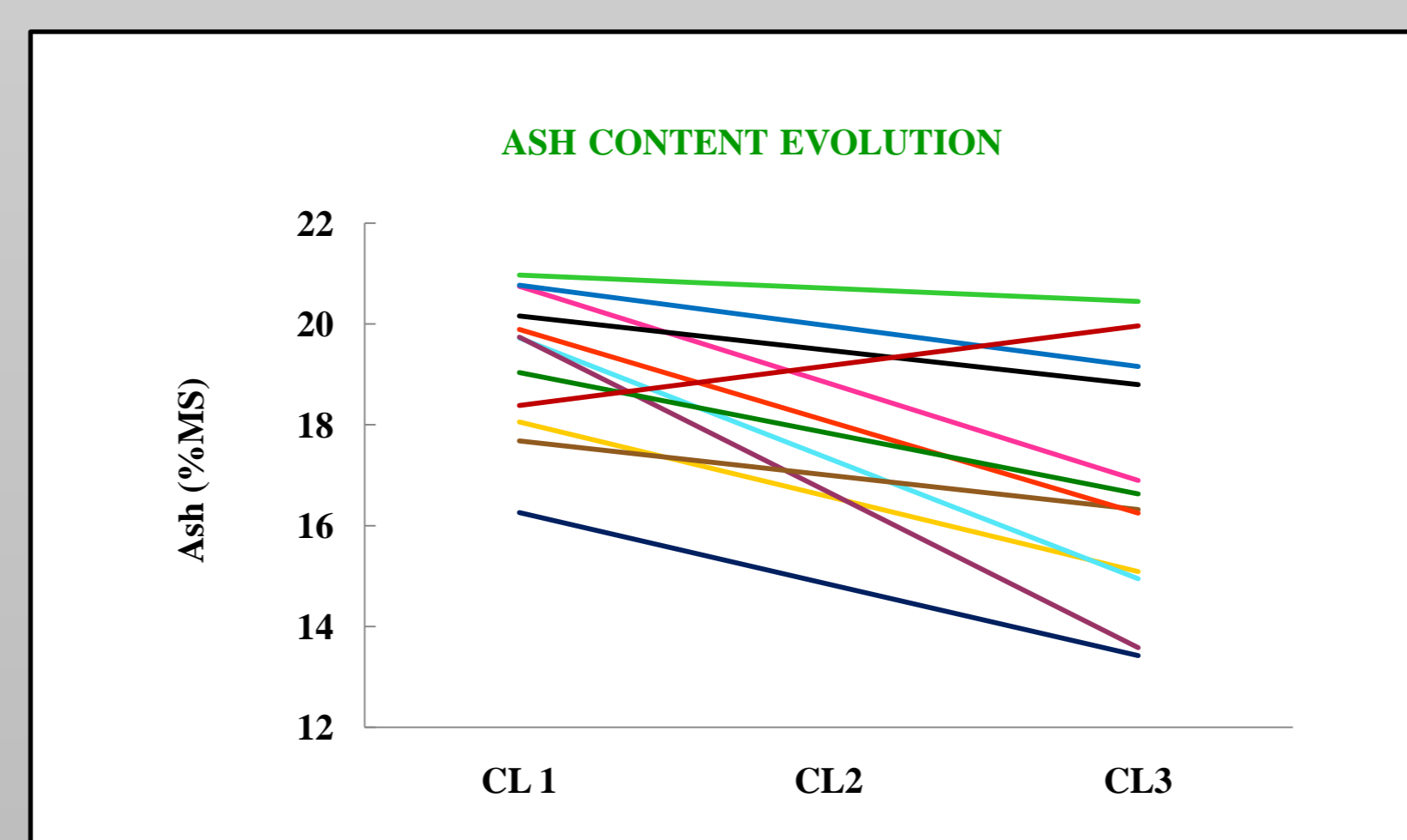
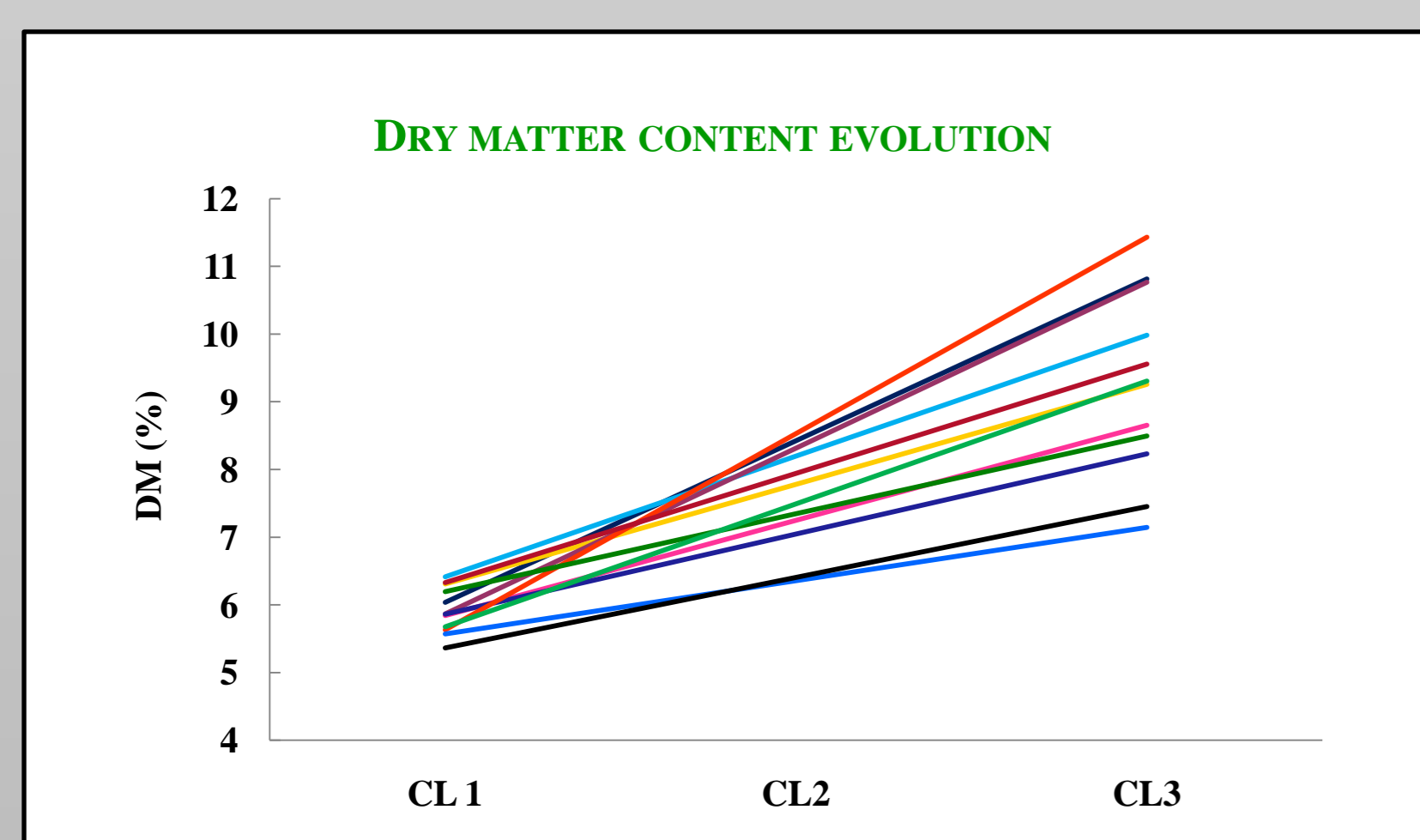
	DM (%)	Ash (%DM)	CP (%DM)	NDF (%DM)	ADF (%DM)	ADL (%DM)	IVDMD (%)
Mean	7.56	18.18	5.46	45.04	16.10	2.11	66.18
Minimum	5.28	11.20	3.1	37.98	10.91	0.38	53.26
Maximum	11.88	22.96	11.00	47.71	19.94	4.75	78.4

Crude protein content for ten ecotypes ranged between 7 and 11%DM

Linear relationship between some parameters



Linear Regression Equations of nutritional parameters on cladode age classes for ten ecotypes and two controls



Conclusion

- ✓ Within the fifty eight ecotypes investigated, ten of them showed an interesting crude protein level that exceeded 7% DM at a young age.
- ✓ Variations in nutritional parameters with cladode age are similar to other fodder sources.
- ✓ The interesting crude protein level of the ten ecotypes could not be maintained with advancing age.
- ✓ This work is in progress to investigate the protocol reproductibility.

AGRD-2-00 (Control)	MLKZR-1-01	ZTCHK-1-01	Ola-2-01
TLBGD-1-01	TLUN-1-01	OLDYC-1-01	ATK-1-01
SBGDR-1-01	SKRA-1-01	OZGHT-2-01 (Control)	Olc-1-01