



Source de l'image: Adobe Stock

Taxonomy of Roadside Maintenance Practices

MAINTENANCE OF HERBACEOUS VEGETATION

PRACTICE 1 – Mechanical maintenance technique for herbaceous vegetation

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D
Vegetation is shredded.	Vegetation is mowed.	Vegetation is shredded and collected then exported	Vegetation is mowed and collected then exported

PRACTICE 2 – Maintenance height of herbaceous vegetation

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D	Alternative E
The height is less than 6 cm	The height is between 6 cm (included) and 9 cm	The height is between 9 cm (included) and 12 cm	The height is between 12 cm (included) and 15 cm	The height is greater than 15 cm (included)

PRACTICE 3 – Maintenance frequency of herbaceous vegetation

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D	Alternative E
Three interventions per year beyond the security strip (spring, summer, autumn-winter).	Two interventions per year beyond the safety strip (summer, autumn-winter).	One intervention per year beyond the security strip (autumn-winter).	Checkerboard mowing is carried out in suitable areas (one intervention every two years).	The area beyond the safety strip is maintained once every two years.



Source : Image de wirestock sur Freepik

MAINTENANCE OF HERBACEOUS VEGETATION



Source : Image de wirestock sur Freepik

PRACTICE 4 – Timing of brush clearing (or full-width mowing)

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D
Begins in August and ends in February/March.	Begins in September/October and ends in February/March.	Begins in August and ends in November/December.	Begins in September/October and ends in November/December.

PRACTICE 5 – Frequency of herbaceous vegetation export

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D
Mown or shredded vegetation is left on site after maintenance.	Mown or shredded vegetation is collected only during the first intervention of the year.	Mown or shredded vegetation is collected during several interventions (2 to 3) per year but limited to the shoulder.	Mown or shredded vegetation is collected during several interventions (2 to 3) per year over the entire roadside.

MAINTENANCE OF WOODY VEGETATION



Source : Image de wirestock sur Freepik

PRACTICE 6 – Maintenance technique and frequency of hedges and edges

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C
Woody vegetation is maintained by shredding and without any specific tools (the same tool as for shredding herbaceous vegetation), every one or two years.	Woody vegetation is maintained with a hedge trimmer approximately every 2 to 3 years.	Woody vegetation is maintained with a specific pruning tool (chainsaw or pruning shears), carried out between 3 and 5 years.

PRACTICE 7 – Technique and frequency of maintenance for tree avenues and isolated trees

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C
Trees are maintained with a hedge trimmer head every 2 or 3 years.	Trees are maintained maintained with pruning shears every 3 to 5 years.	Trees are maintained manually with a chainsaw if necessary.

PRACTICE 8 – Timing of woody vegetation maintenance

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D
Woody vegetation is maintained at the same time as herbaceous vegetation, outside of legally fixed dates.	Woody vegetation is maintained in compliance with legal dates (between August 16 and March 15).	Woody vegetation is maintained between early November and late January.	Woody vegetation is maintained according to a strategic management plan that considers woody species characteristics.

DITCH MAINTENANCE



PRACTICE 9 – Ditch Maintenance Technique

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D
The ditch is maintained in the standard way with no specific practice across the entire network.	Only the lower third of the ditch is dredged, preserving vegetation on the ditch banks.	Alternative B + Dredging is stopped about 15 meters before the junction with a watercourse.	Alternative C + Dredging is performed in discontinuous sections in steep ditches (slope > 3%), creating steps

PRACTICE 10 – Timing of ditch maintenance

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D
Ditch maintenance is carried out in spring.	Ditch maintenance is carried out in summer.	Ditch maintenance is carried out in winter.	Ditch maintenance is carried out in autumn.

PRACTICE 11 – Frequency of ditch maintenance

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D
Ditch maintenance is systematically carried out every 5 to 10 years.	Ditch maintenance is systematically carried out every 10 to 15 years.	Ditch maintenance is systematically carried out every 15 to 20 years.	Ditch maintenance is systematically carried out every 20 years or more.

MANAGEMENT OF SPECIFIC PLANT SPECIES



Source : Dauphiné Libéré

PRACTICE 12 – Management of invasive alien plant species (IAPS)

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D
No strategy is implemented for the management of IAPS, which are treated identically to the rest of the network.	Problematic IAPS are identified, their functioning is understood, and agents are made aware of their presence. The maintenance practices are adapted when these species are present.	Alternative B + There is a cartography of areas with the presence of IAPS, and a specific management plan is defined in order to limit the spread of these species.	Alternative C + Coordination exists between local actors (associations, farmers, communities) with the definition of a territorial strategy.

PRACTICE 13 – Management of plant species with conservation interest

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D
No strategy is implemented for managing plant species of conservation interest.	Species of conservation interest in the area are identified, their functioning is understood, and agents are made aware of their presence. The maintenance practices are adapted when these species are present.	Alternative B + The identified species are mapped, and a specific management plan is defined to promote their development.	Alternative C+ Actions for active restoration are put in place (e.g. seeding or creation of ecological corridors).

ROADSIDE WASTE MANAGEMENT



PRACTICE 14 – Roadside Waste Management

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D
No roadside waste collection is carried out	The most problematic sectors are identified, and interventions are systematically planned there before the first herbaceous vegetation maintenance each year	Alternative B + Waste collection campaigns are organized before herbaceous vegetation management across the entire network	Alternative C + The territory is implementing awareness-raising campaigns on roadside waste prevention.