



# **EVALUATION OF THE MONTADO IN THE REGION OF ALENTEJO IN SOUTHERN PORTUGAL BY USERS OF NON-PRODUCTION FUNCTIONS**

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# Study area



Source: [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com)

- Mediterranean
- 24 hab/km<sup>2</sup>
- Private properties >200ha



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# The Montado



- ❑ Agro-silvo pastoral system
- ❑ cork oak (*Quercus suber*, L.) and/or holm oak (*Quercus ilex*, spp. *Rotundifolia*, L.)
- ❑ human management but still a semi-natural appearance
- ❑ high natural and cultural values
- ❑ trends of transformation – extensification / intensification

How to maintain this 'authentic' landscape in the future?  
searching for the alternative use



???recreation???

# Objective and Methods



## Objective

- ❑ current situation of the recreation in the Montado: preferences, experiences, and expectations of users

## Methods

- ❑ Qualitative approach (Patton, 2002)
- ❑ Open and closed questions, photographs
- ❑ Purposeful sampling – farmers and users
- ❑ Descriptive statistics and content analyses

# Users



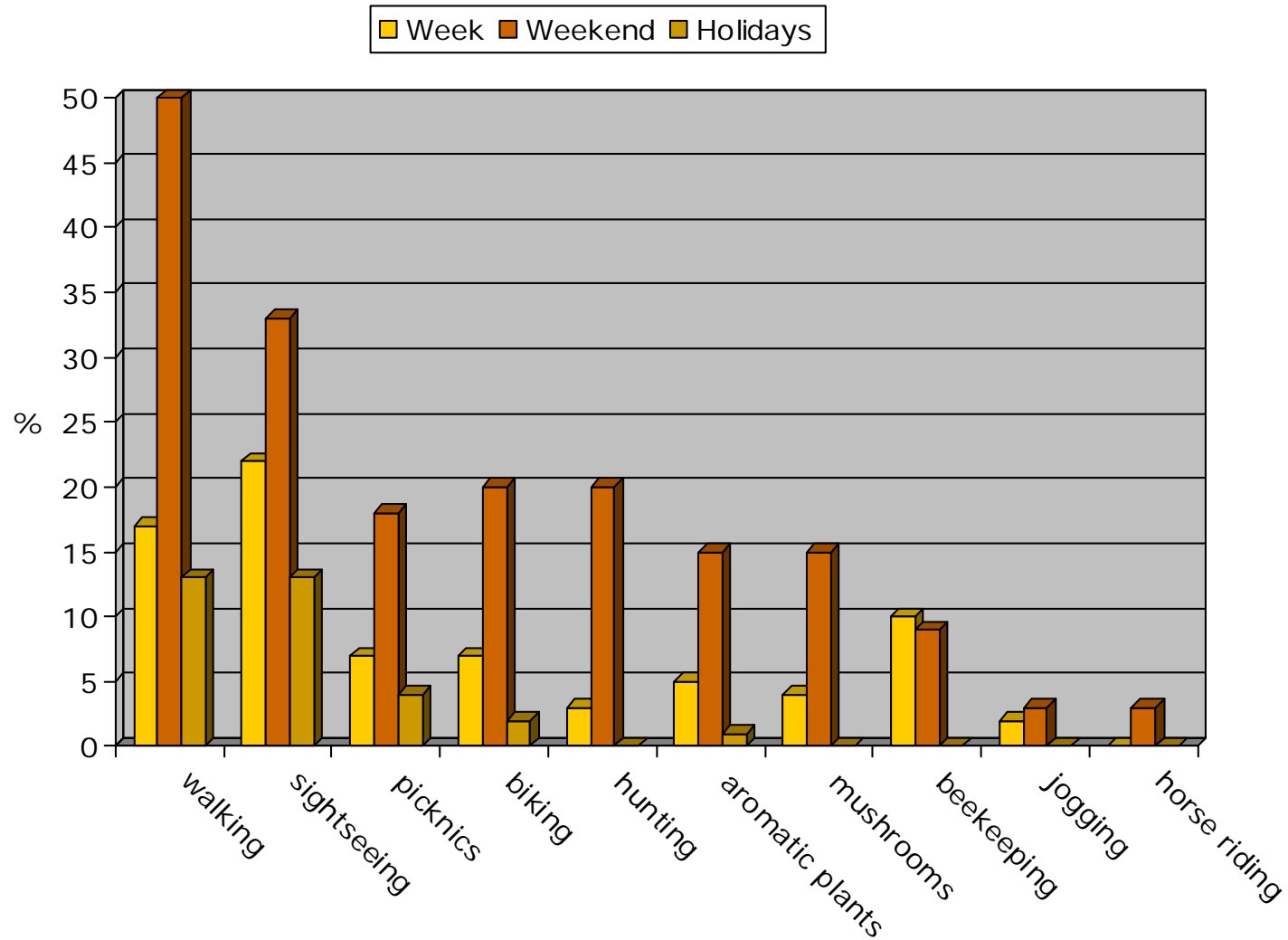
- ▣ Observation + interviews with Farmers (n=28)

Users of non-production functions

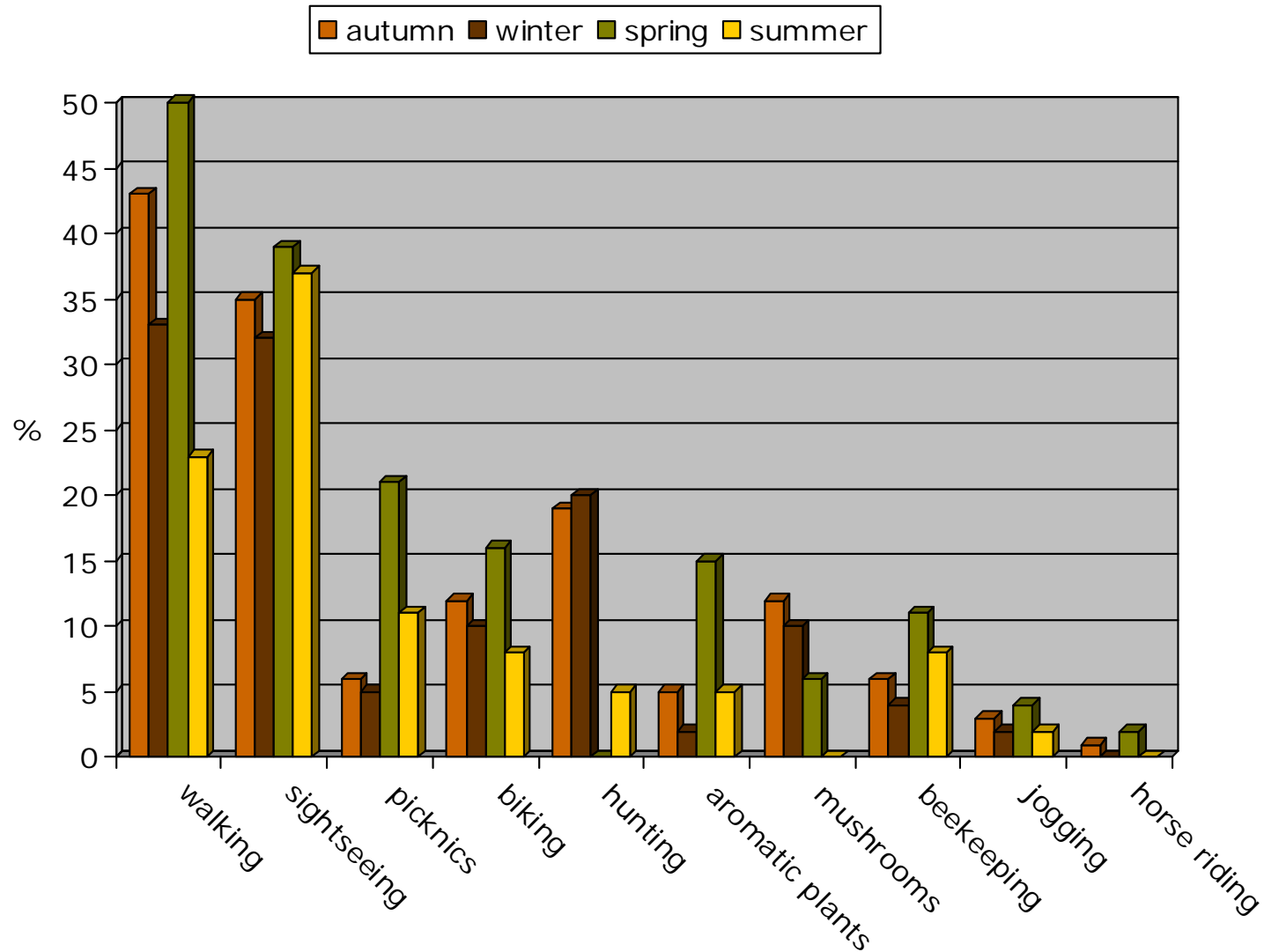
- ▣ Rural dwellers
- ▣ Neo-rurals
- ▣ Urban dwellers
- ▣ Tourists
- ▣ Beekeepers
- ▣ Hunters

face-to-face interviews (n=204)

# Recreation activities in the Montado

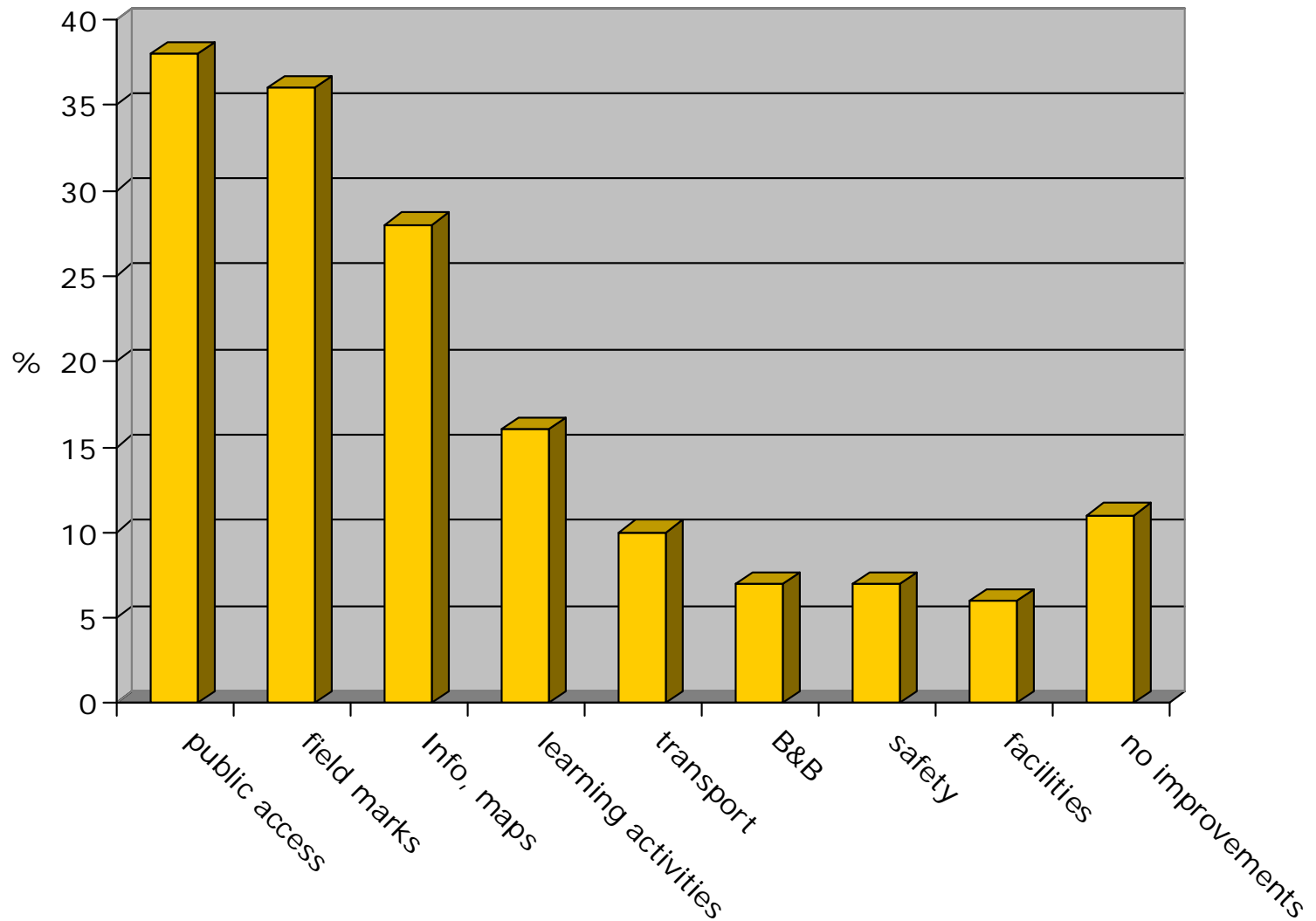


# Recreation activities in the Montado



## What should be improved?

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# Landscape preferences

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Montado  
61%



Intensive culture  
5%



Olive grove  
9%



Maritime pine  
2%



Vineyard  
4%



Eucalyptus  
6%



Stone pine  
14%

# Why is the Montado preferred?

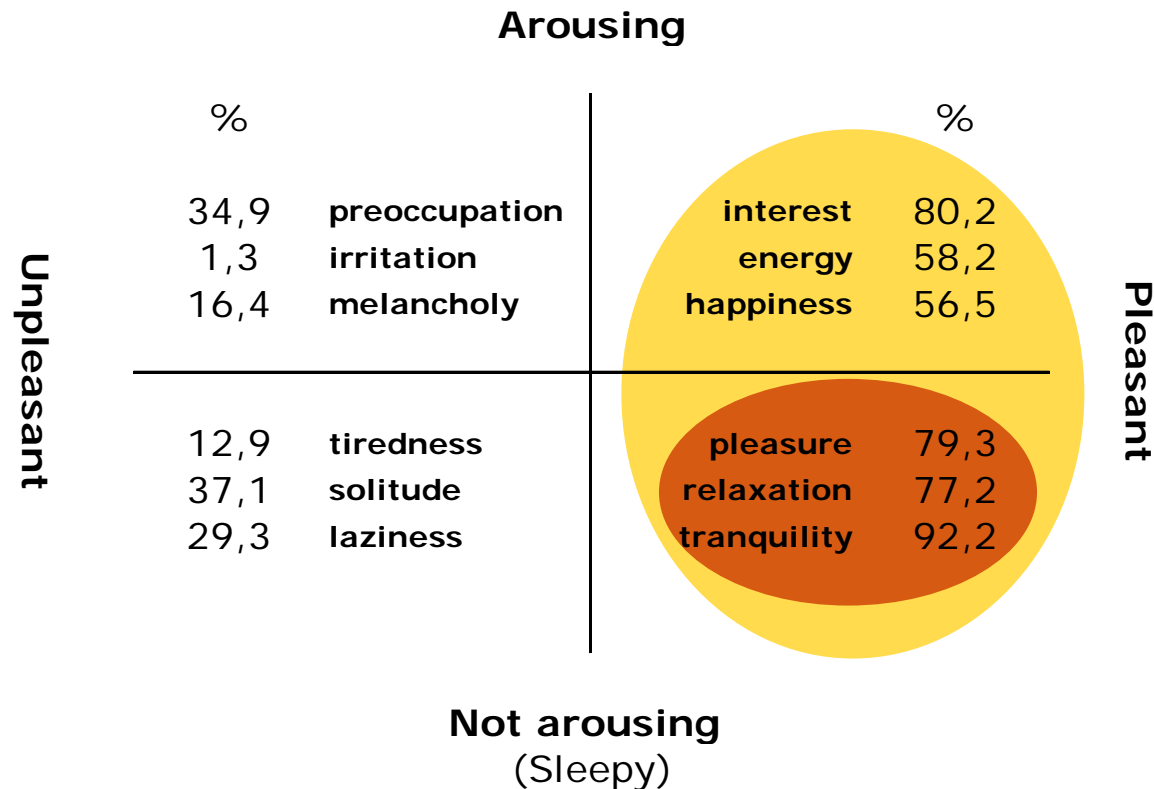
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- ❑ Ecological values 44%  
adaptation to specific conditions, biodiversity
- ❑ Restorative experiences 35%  
contact with nature, calm, comfort, refreshing shadow
- ❑ Aesthetic value 30%  
scenic attractiveness, complexity, trees' morphology, light and shadow contrast
- ❑ Tradition and identity 28%
- ❑ Economic value 25%  
cork production and multiple exploitation

# Affective quality of the Montado

Russell and Lanius (1984) model of the affective quality of places



# Conclusions

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