



## Learning Area

# CAUSSES & CEVENNES (FR)

Coordinator: Conservatoire d'espaces naturels (CEN L-R), in partnership with  
 Regional chamber of agriculture and Interdepartemental alliance for C&C

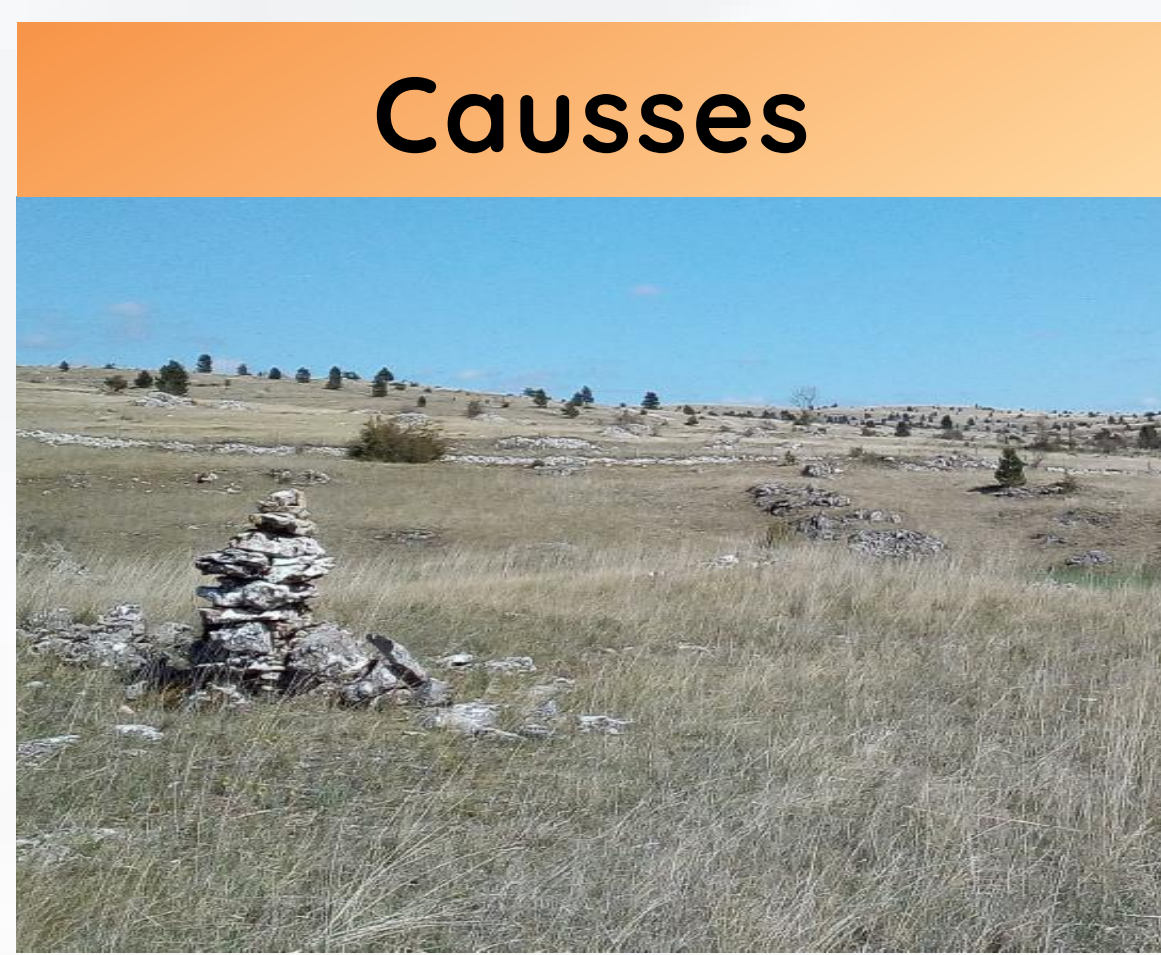
## Behind the scene of a cultural landscape

### # 3 territorials units 1 culture : pastoralism

The Causses & Cévennes are located in the South-East of Massif Central, Southern France. The area includes almost every type of pastoralism known in the Mediterranean, like agro-pastoralism, silvo-pastoralism and transhumance. Due to the outstanding example of the Mediterranean pastoralism activities, the area was added to the World Heritage List of UNESCO in 2011.

### # Key figures

<b>22 000</b> inhabitants	<b>3000 km<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>140 000</b> sheeps	<b>1500 km<sup>2</sup></b> farmlands
<b>8 500</b> goats	<b>63 %</b> rangelands
<b>8 500</b> cows	<b>30 %</b> grasslands



**Causses**



**Upper Cévennes**



**Lower Cévennes**

Landscape

Larges limestone plateaus  
 Steppe-like in appearance

Granite massifs with treeless summits  
 culminating at 1600m

Narrow schist ridges and profound valleys  
 mainly forest

Farming

Sheeps for cheese and lamb production

Transhumant sheep flocks in summer  
 and cows for meat

Goats for cheese and sheeps for lamb  
 combined with other activities

### # Treats

### # Open habitat

Semi-natural grasslands and scrublands



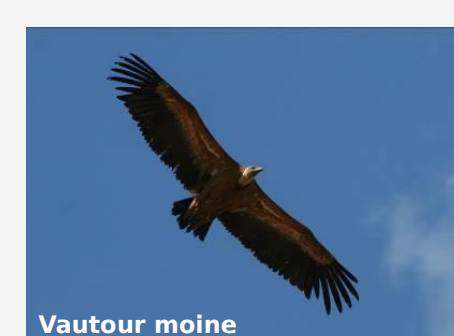
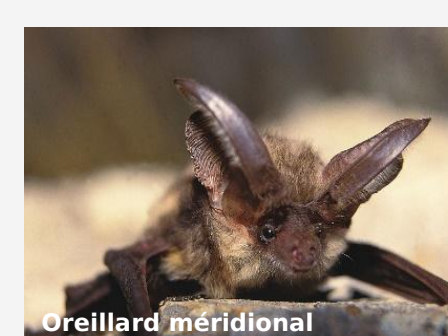
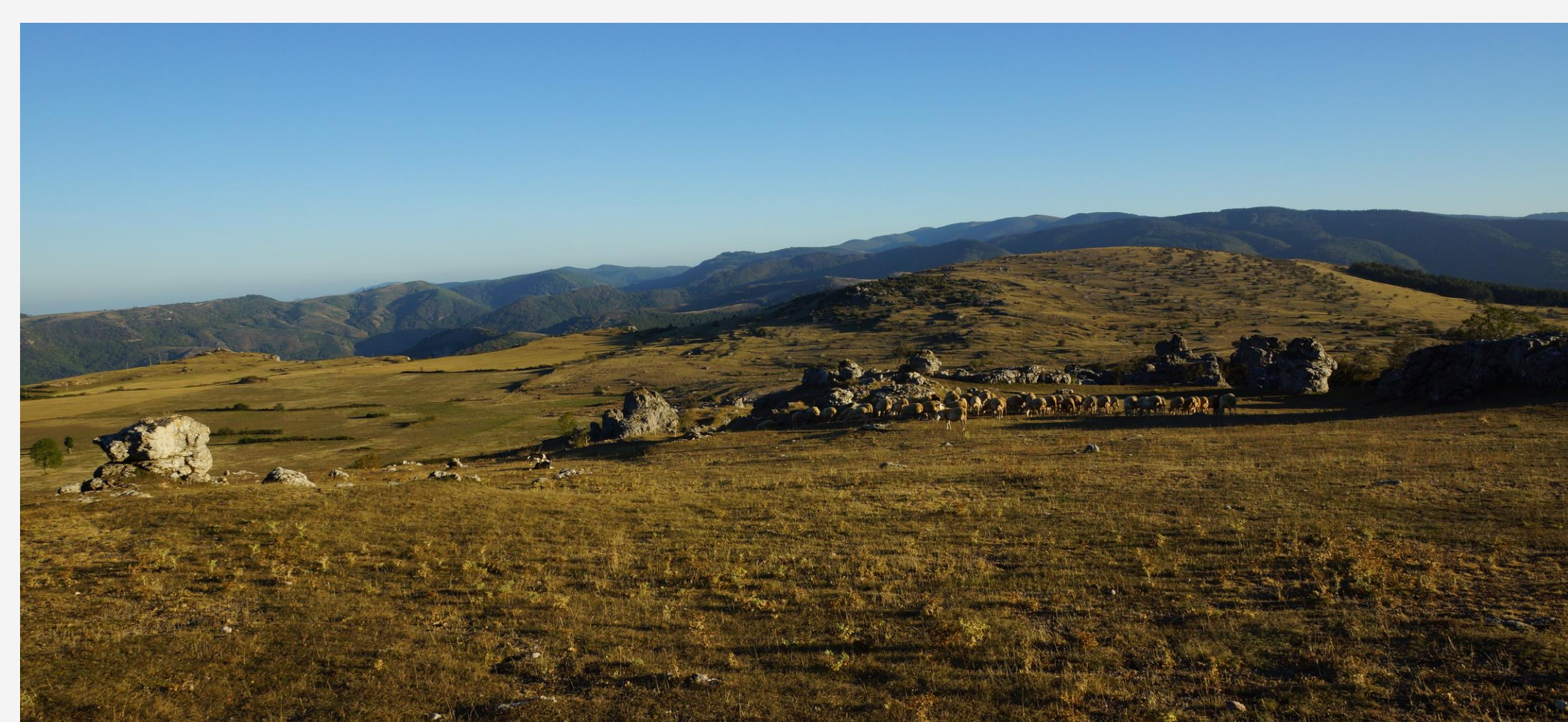
**Rangelands conversion**



**Invasion by scrubs**



**Wolves depredation**



### # Innovations

- **Collectives approach** (local slaughterhouses, pasture groups, farm shop)
- **Recognition of quality of products**
- **Eligibility of oak wood and chestnut pasture for CAP subsidies**
- **Governance of the UNESCO site**



### # World heritage

#### Drystone buildings



**Herding**



**Herds path**



**Watering management**



**Lands optimization**

#### Cultural practices



**Transhumance**



**Natural sites**

#### Emblematic landscape



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More about pastoralism within Causses & Cévennes:

- [www.causses-et-cevennes.fr](http://www.causses-et-cevennes.fr)
- [ww.cenlr.org](http://ww.cenlr.org)
- [occitanie.chambre-agriculture.fr](http://occitanie.chambre-agriculture.fr)

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