



Effects of wet N deposition on *Sphagnum capillifolium* in peatland

Sue Owen

Lucy Sheppard
Raul Ochoa-Hueso

Nitrogen deposition – effects on Sphagnum

Isoprene emissions

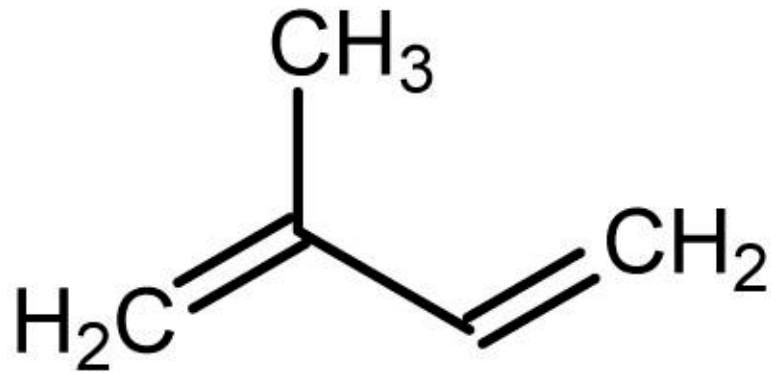
Pigments

Photosynthesis

(why are we interested?)



Isoprene chemical structure- it's reactive!



Isoprene C₅H₈

Monoterpenes C₁₀H₁₆ and
sesquiterpenes C₁₅H₂₄

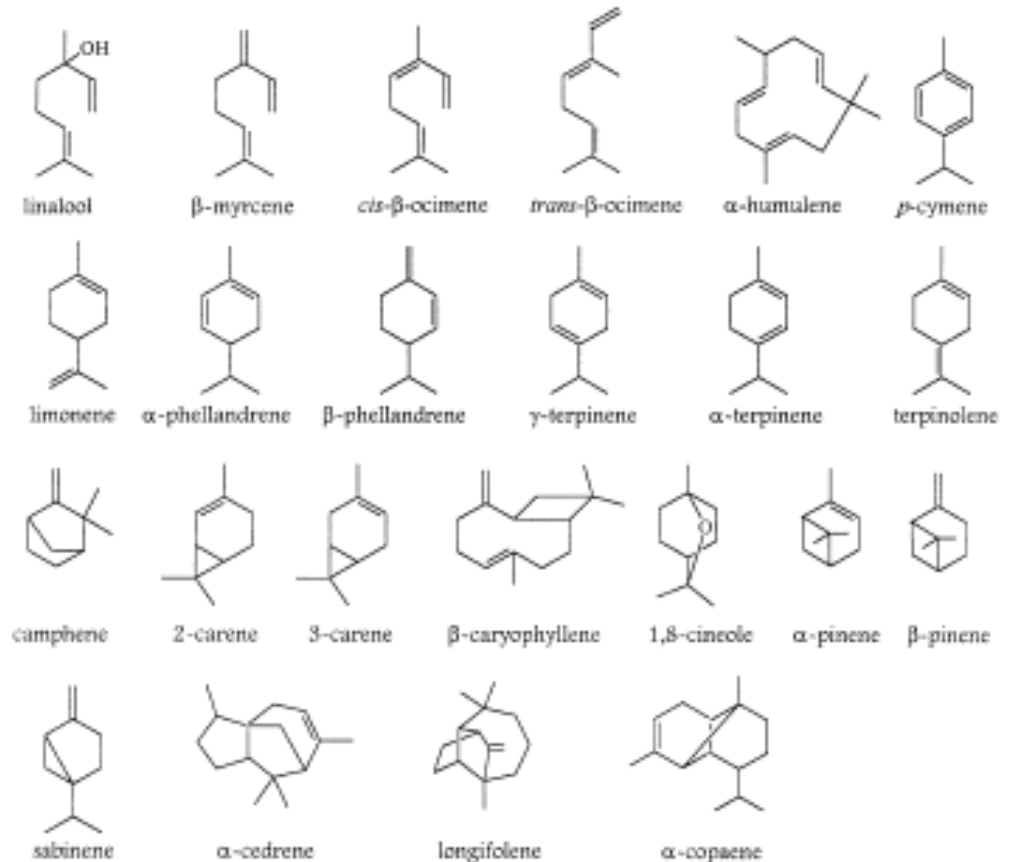
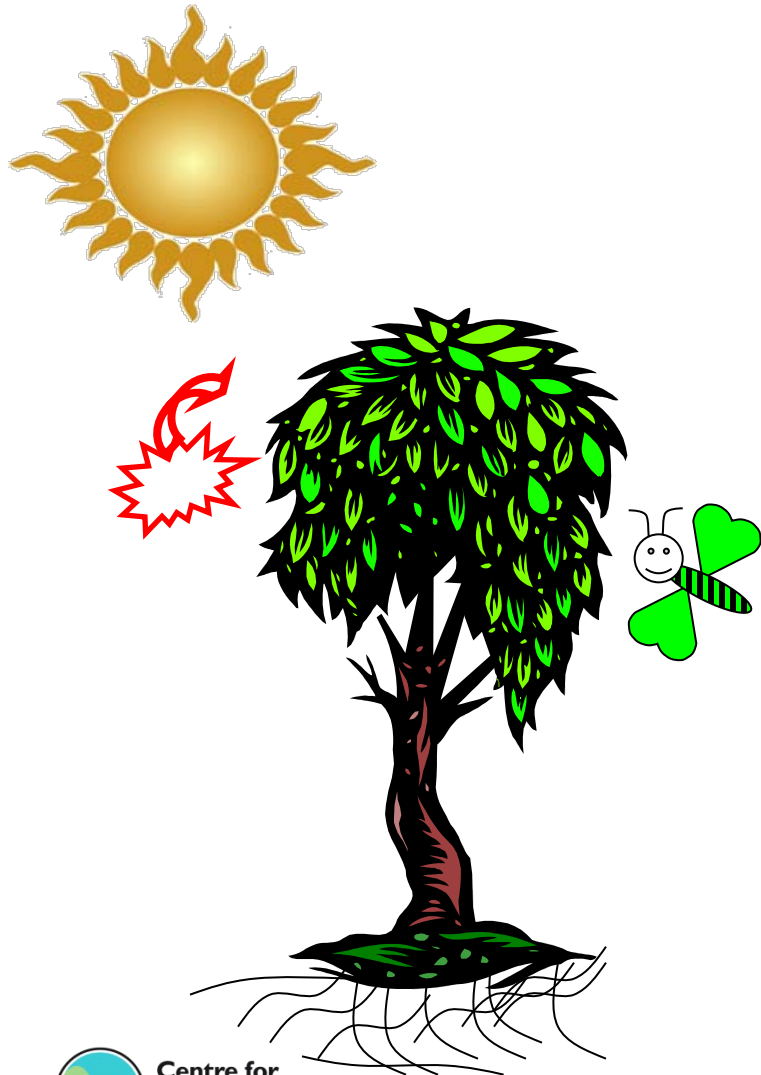


Fig. 1. The chemical structures and names of the terpenes treated in the present review.

Role of isoprene (and other bVOCs) in plants**



Thermoprotection

Photoprotection

Oxidative damage protection

Photorespiration role at high temp/low O₂

Antiherbivory

Antimicrobial

Pollinator Attractant

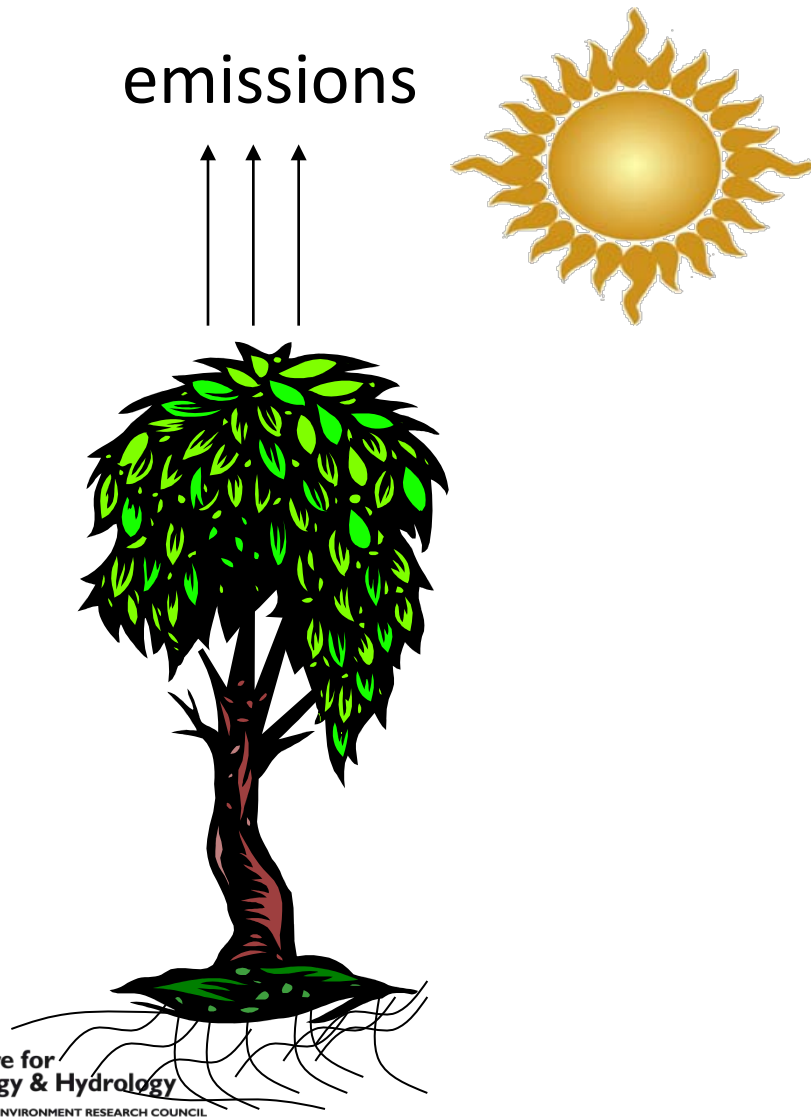
Flowering signal

Metabolic safety valve

Allelopathy

AND ... can account for up to 5% photosynthetically fixed C

Role of isoprene and other bVOCs in the troposphere



Reactive with OH, O₃, NO₃

Take part in O₃ chemistry

Can produce particles

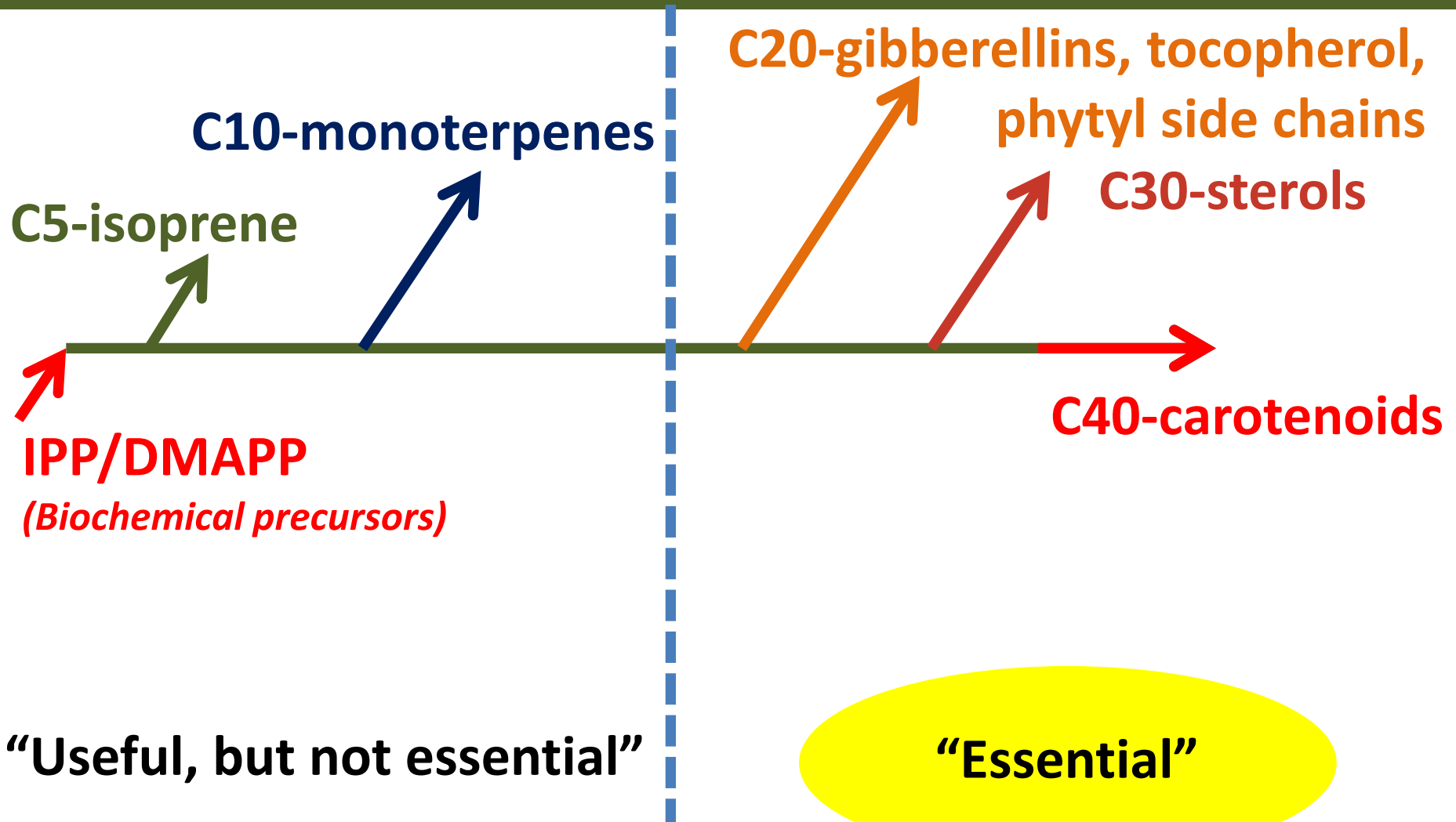
(climate change chemistry)



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Isoprene emissions: link with pigments



Research questions (many unknowns)

- Are isoprene emissions and pigment content in *S. capillifolium* affected by N deposition?
- Is there any difference in the response of two pigment types of *S. capillifolium* to N deposition ?
- Is there any relationship between carotenoid content and isoprene emission, as suggested by the “opportunistic hypothesis”?
- Is there a relationship between photosynthesis and carotenoid concentrations/isoprene emissions?

Study site: Whim Bog



Globally peat land occupies $\sim 400 \times 10^6$ ha (3% Earth's land surface)
Northern hemisphere $\sim 360 \times 10^6$ ha
(*cf* ~ 1000 million ha forest in Europe and Russia)

- 9 miles south of CEH, Edinburgh
- Transition between upland blanket bog and lowland raised bog.
- *Sphagnum* sp. and *Eriophorum* sp. are the main peat-forming species
- Treatment + met data since 2002



Study species: *Sphagnum capillifolium*

- Red type: open spaces, tops of tussocks
- Green type: shade provided by heather (*Calluna vulgaris*)



Whim Bog Nitrogen deposition treatments

Automated treatments, linked to rainfall and windspeed

4 treatment blocks of wet deposition

NH_4Cl

NaNO_3

at **0** (control) and 8, 24, **56** $\text{kg N ha}^{-1} \text{y}^{-1}$ above ambient
($\sim 8 - 11 \text{ kg N ha}^{-1} \text{y}^{-1}$)

Sampling and laboratory analyses in August 2012

Sphagnum capillifolium samples



High NO3, green



High NO3, red



control, green



control, red

Sampling and measurements from *Sphagnum capillifolium*



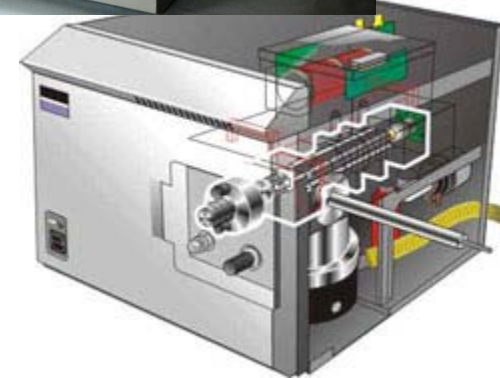
- FvFm (Handy PEA, Hansatech)
- Photosynthesis (LICOR LI-6400)
- Isoprene emissions (LICOR LI-6400 and GC-MS)
- Pigment content (HPLC, Waters)

Isoprene emissions and photosynthesis *Sphagnum capillifolium*



Moss in small chamber

Pump



Analysis by GC-MS with automatic thermal desorption

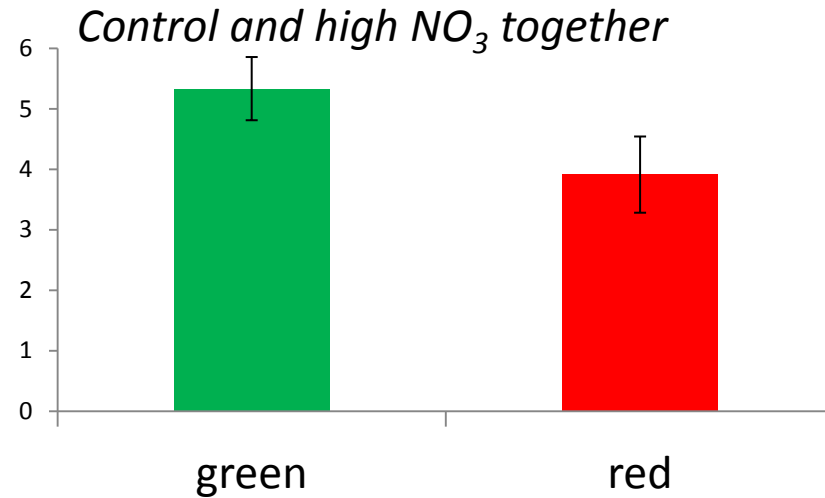
5 replicates x 2 moss colours x 2 "treatments"

Quantitative
dynamic system, environmental control

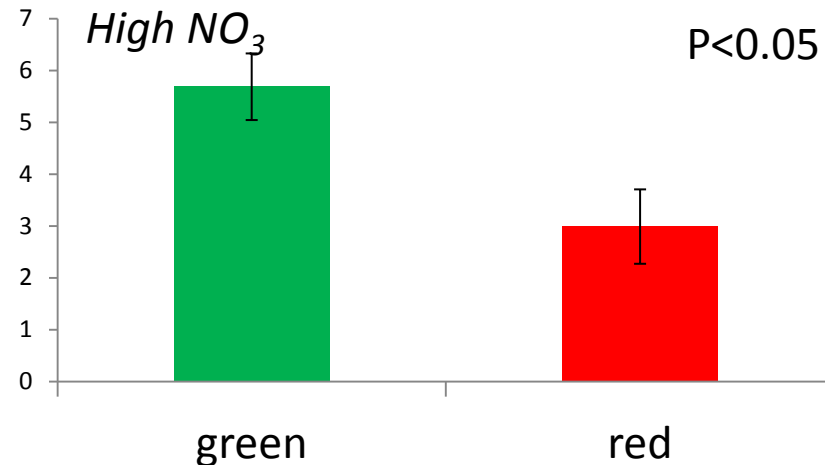


Sphagnum capillifolium – photosynthesis rates in red and green types

Rate of photosynthesis ($\mu\text{mol CO}_2 \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$)



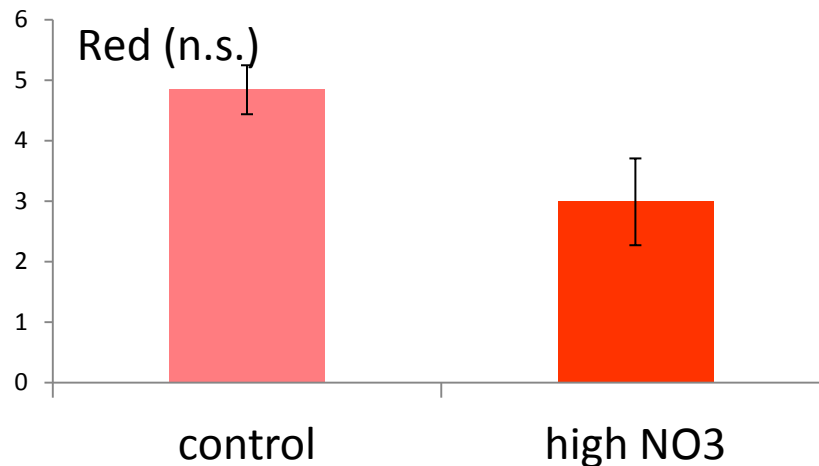
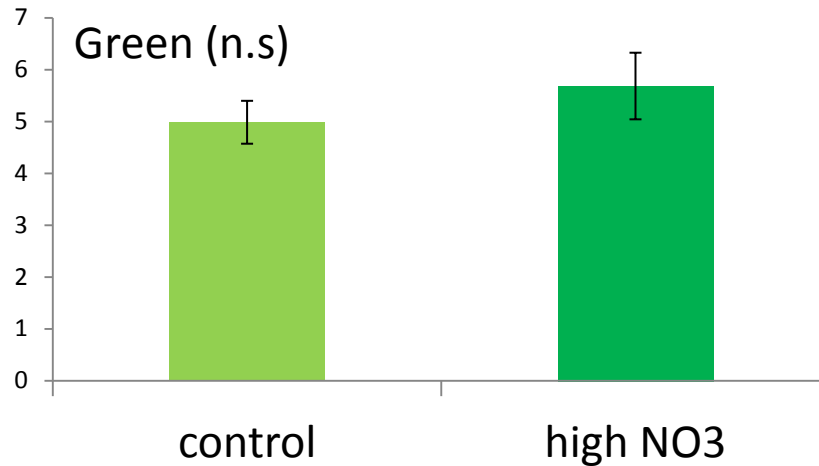
Control alone: no significant difference between green and red types



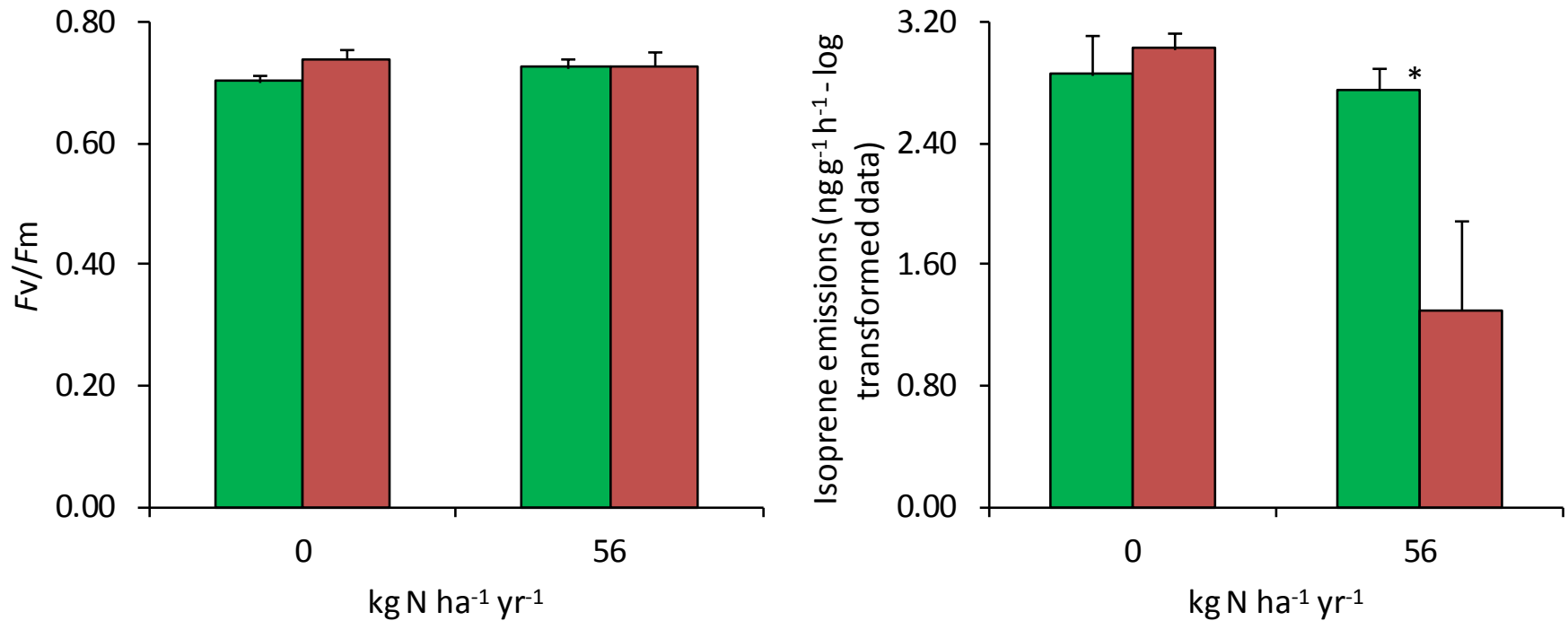
Sphagnum capillifolium – effect of high NO₃ on photosynthesis rates

Red and Green together:
no significant difference between
control and high NO₃

Rate of photosynthesis ($\mu\text{mol CO}_2 \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$)



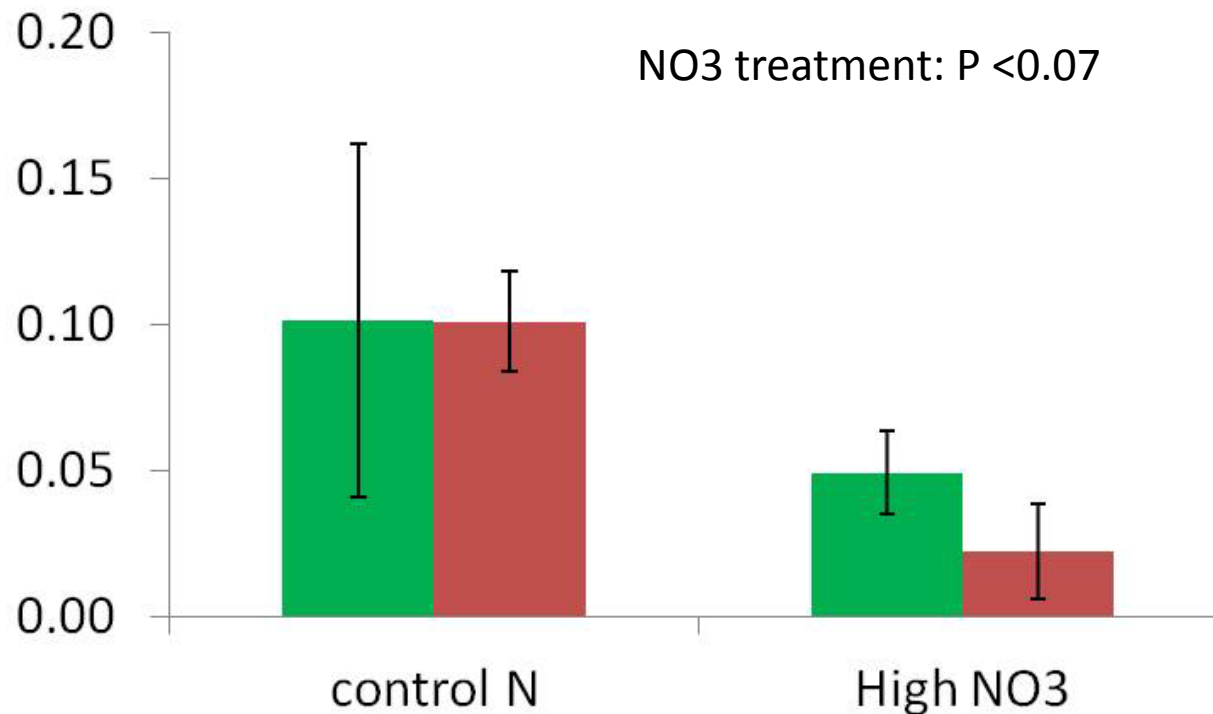
Sphagnum capillifolium – Fv/Fm and isoprene



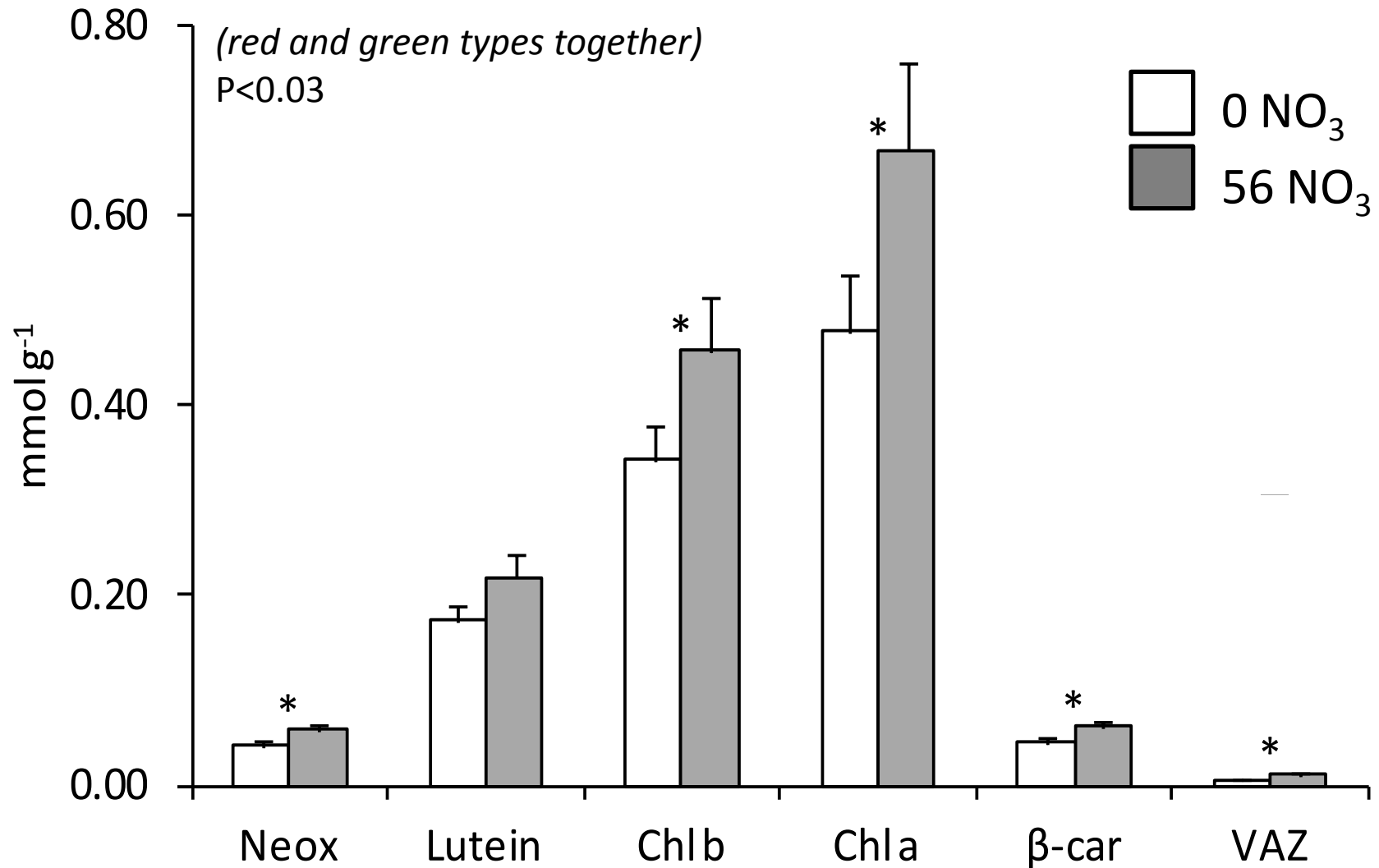
	<i>F</i> v <i>F</i> m			Isoprene emissions		
	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>
Nitrogen	1,16	0.10	0.75	1,16	9.09	<0.01
Colour	1,16	1.53	0.23	1,16	4.48	0.05
Nitrogen x colour	1,16	1.29	0.27	1,16	7.52	0.02

Sphagnum capillifolium – isoprene emissions as a percent of fixed photosynthetic carbon

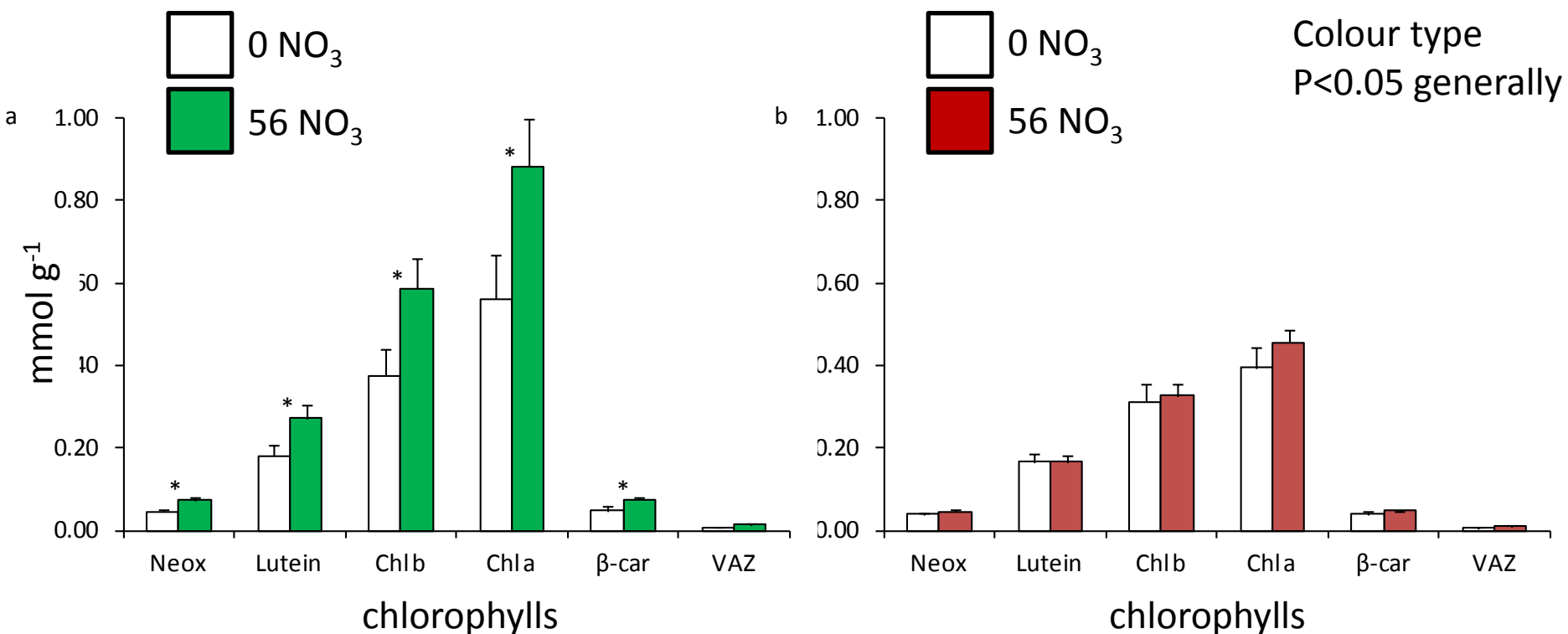
Isoprene as %fixed C
(max ~0.34%)



Sphagnum capillifolium – pigment content



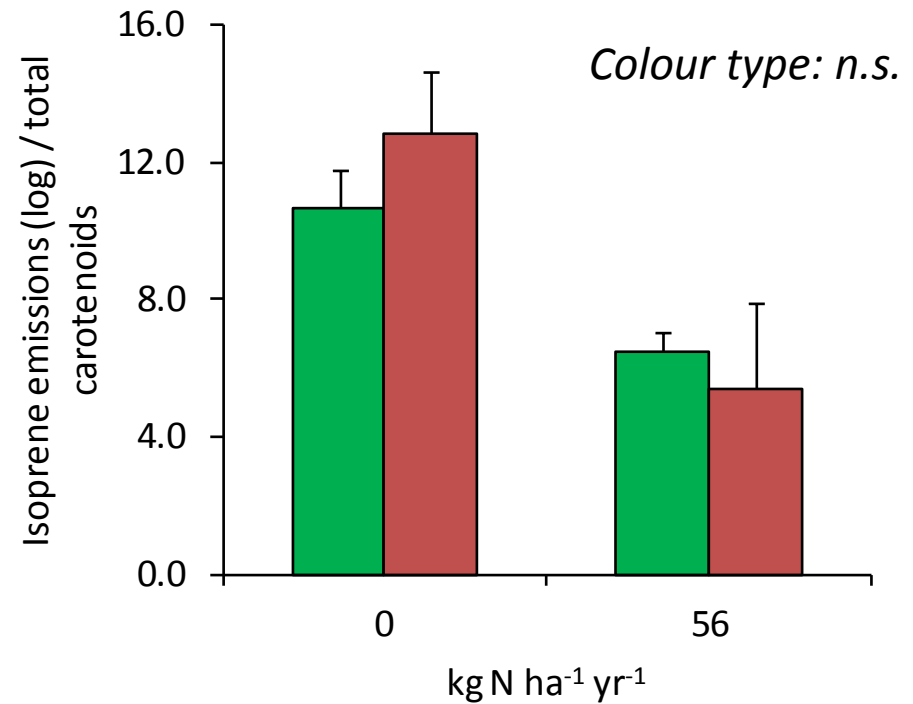
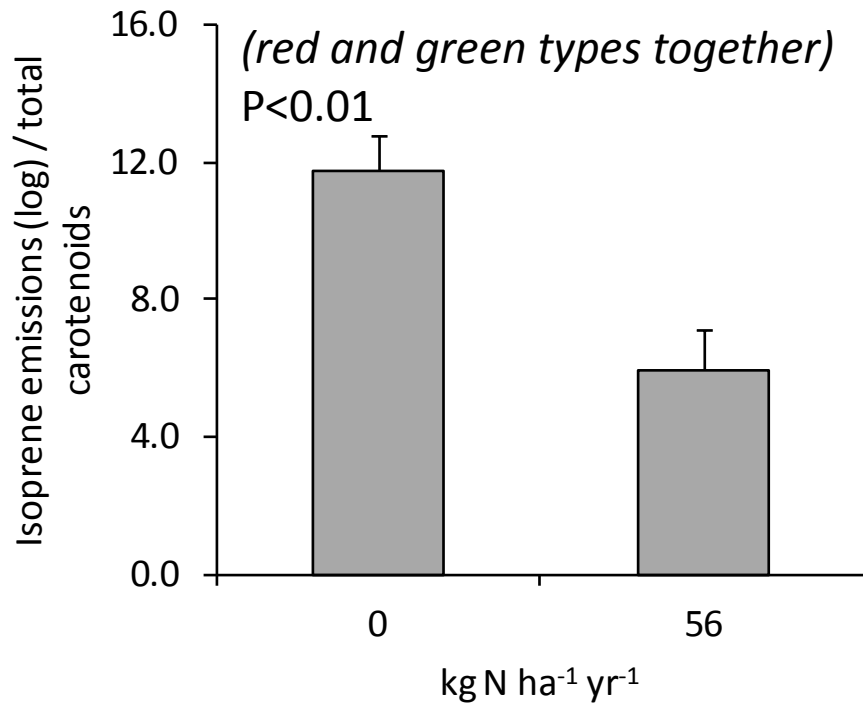
Sphagnum capillifolium – pigment content



	Neoxanthin			Lutein			Chlorophyll <i>b</i>			Chlorophyll <i>a</i>			β-carotene			VAZ		
	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>
Nitrogen	1,16	7.20	0.02	1,16	4.18	0.06	1,16	5.36	0.03	1,16	6.48	0.02	1,16	7.57	0.01	1,16	5.53	0.03
Colour	1,16	6.54	0.02	1,16	6.97	0.02	1,16	10.84	<0.01	1,16	15.71	<0.01	1,16	8.17	0.01	1,16	1.17	0.30
Nitrogen x colour	1,16	2.56	0.13	1,16	3.86	0.07	1,16	3.98	0.06	1,16	3.03	0.10	1,16	2.78	0.12	1,16	0.34	0.57

	Chlorophyll <i>a/b</i>			Neox/Chl <i>a+b</i>			Lutein/Chl <i>a+b</i>			β-carot/Chl <i>a+b</i>			VAZ/Chl <i>a+b</i>		
	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>
Nitrogen	1,16	3.94	0.07	1,16	0.53	0.48	1,16	4.56	0.05	1,16	0.58	0.46	1,16	2.16	0.16
Colour	1,16	20.75	<0.01	1,16	8.43	0.01	1,16	18.02	<0.01	1,16	2.48	0.13	1,16	2.10	0.17
Nitrogen x colour	1,16	2.33	0.15	1,16	0.24	0.63	1,16	0.29	0.60	1,16	0.15	0.71	1,16	1.23	0.28

Sphagnum capillifolium – isoprene / Σ carotenoids



	Isoprene emissions			Isopre-log/carot		
	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>	df	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>
Nitrogen	1,16	9.09	<0.01	1,16	15.08	<0.01
Colour	1,16	4.48	0.05	1,16	0.13	0.72
Nitrogen x colour	1,16	7.52	0.02	1,16	1.20	0.29

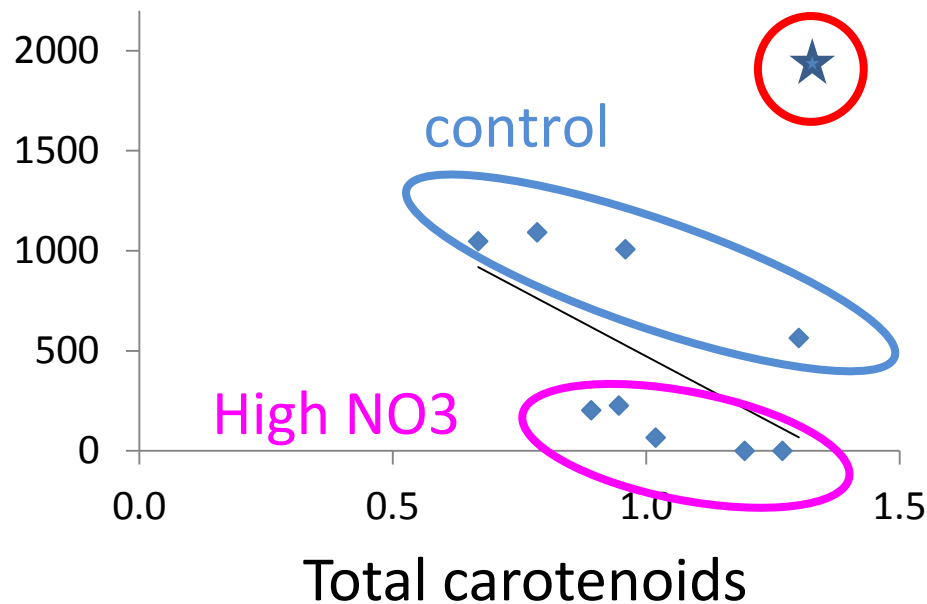
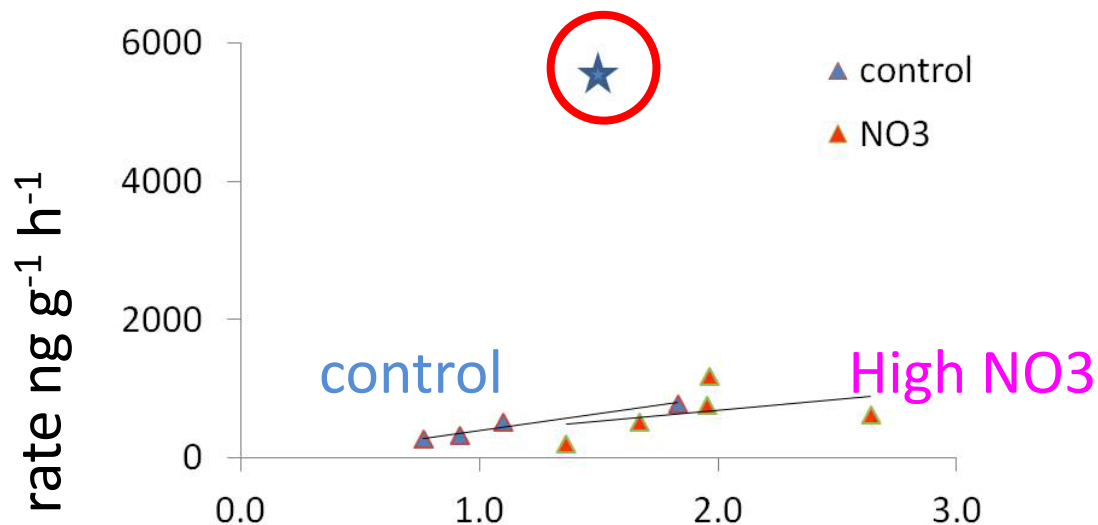
Sphagnum capillifolium – isoprene & total carotenoids

Green *Sphagnum*

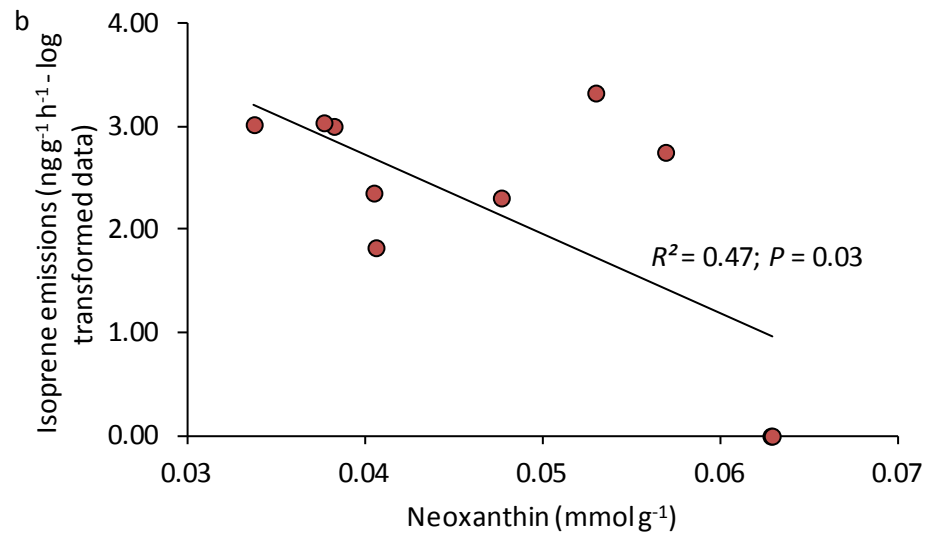
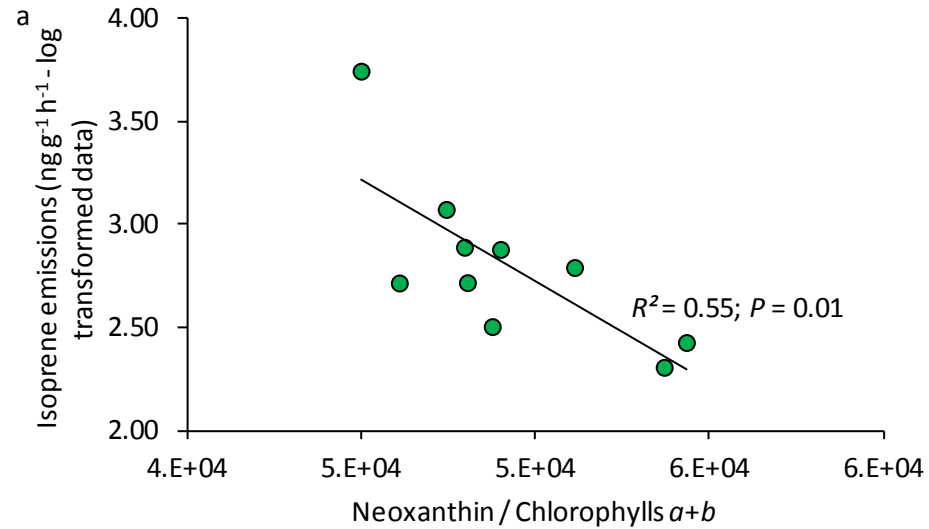
P=0.07

Red *Sphagnum*

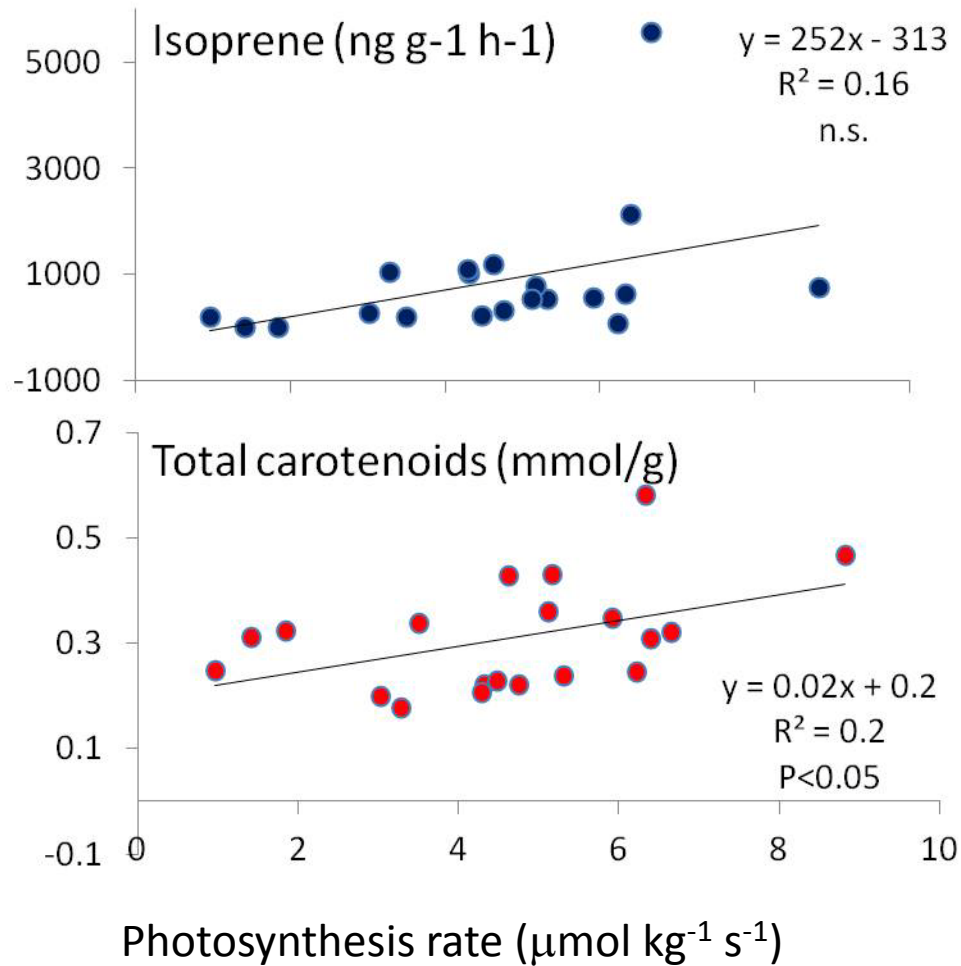
P=0.07



Sphagnum capillifolium – isoprene & carotenoids



Sphagnum capillifolium – isoprene, carotenoids & photosynthesis



Summary – colour effects on *S. capillofolium*

Photo-synthesis	Isoprene emissions	Pigments	Isoprene/ Σ carotenoids	Isoprene vs Σ carotenoids
Control: RED=GREEN	Control : RED=GREEN	Control: RED<GREEN P<0.05	Control: RED=GREEN	Control: RED -ve GREEN +ve, (P=0.07)*
NO3: RED<GREEN P<0.05	NO3: RED<GREEN P<0.05	NO3: RED<GREEN P<0.05	NO3: RED<GREEN n.s.	NO3: RED -ve GREEN +ve (P=0.07)

Summary – NO₃ effects on *S. capillofolium*

Photo-synthesis	Isoprene emissions	pigments	Isoprene/ Σ carotenoids	Isoprene vs Σ carotenoids
RED: ↓ n.s.	RED: ↓ P<0.02	RED: ↑ n.s.	RED: ↓ P<0.05	RED: –ve curves (P=0.07)*
GREEN: no effect	GREEN: no effect	GREEN:↑ P<0.05	GREEN: ↓ P<0.05	GREEN: +ve curves (P=0.07)*

Research questions

- Are isoprene emissions and pigment content in *S. capillifolium* affected by N deposition? **YES**
- Is there any difference in the response of two pigment types of *S. capillifolium* to N deposition ? **YES**
- Is there any relationship between carotenoid content and isoprene emission, as suggested by the “opportunistic hypothesis”? **YES**
- Is there a relationship between photosynthesis, carotenoids and isoprene emissions? **YES**

Acknowledgements



Thank you!
any questions?

(and any job vacancies for Raúl?)



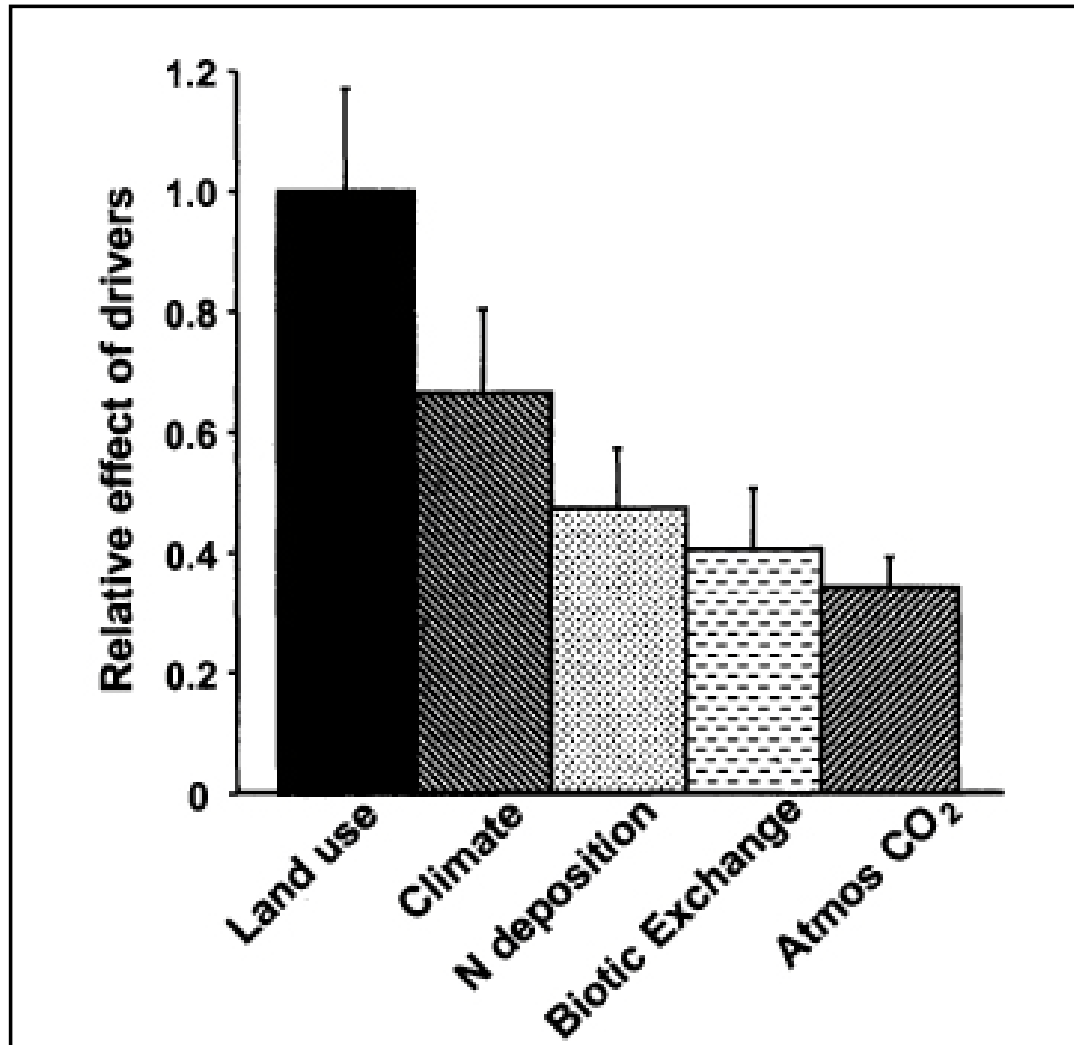
Summary

- N deposition \uparrow pigment content in *S. capillifolium* (P<0.05 green; n.s. red)
 - increased demand for carotenoid photoprotection? (successful because Fv/Fm not sig diff)
 - need more chlorophyll to sustain level of p/s?
- N deposition \downarrow isoprene emission and photosynthesis in red *S. capillifolium* (P < 0.05)
 - reduced substrate availability for all products of isoprenoid pathway (IPP, DMAPP), carotenoids more important so resources diverted there?
- Some degree of support for the “Opportunistic hypothesis” in *S. capillifolium*

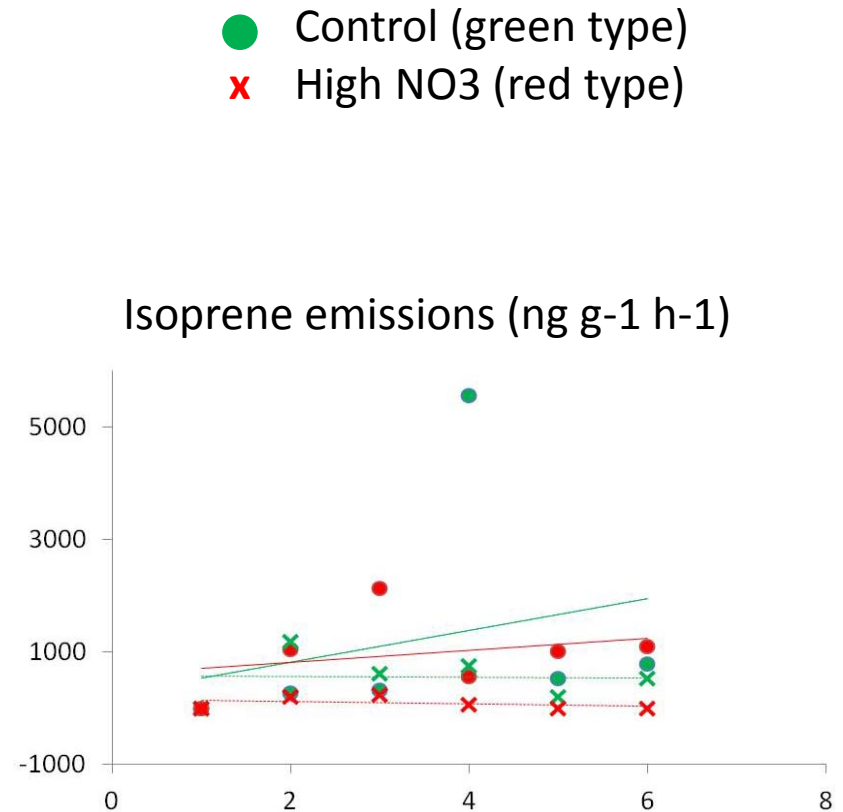
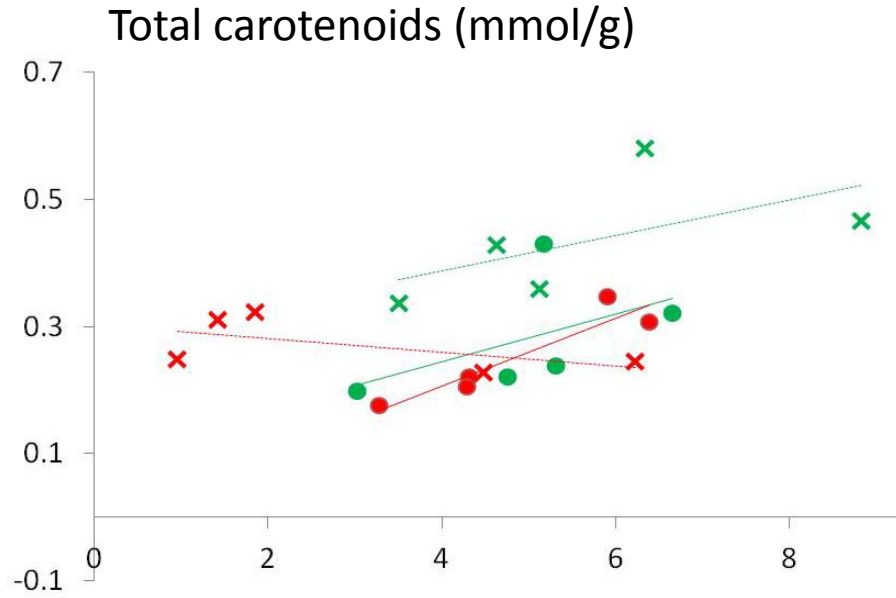
Thank you – any questions?



Nitrogen deposition – biodiversity loss



Sphagnum capillifolium – isoprene, carotenoids & photosynthesis



Nitrogen deposition – biodiversity loss

Source	Ecosystem	Isoprene emission rate $\mu\text{g m}^{-2} \text{h}^{-1}$	Chamber T $^{\circ}\text{C}$	Chamber PAR $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$
Tiiva et al 2007	Subarctic peatland	71	26	628
Janson et al 1999	Sphagnum fen June	62	15 – 18	cloudy
Janson et al 1999	Sphagnum fen August	459	26	sunny
Holst et al 2010	high latitude wetland site	373	20	1000
Faubert et al 2010	Subarctic peatland growing season mean emission	8		
Tiiva et al 2008	Subarctic heath growing season 1 mean emission	58		
	Subarctic heath growing season 2 mean emission	36		
Ekberg et al 2011	Northern Swedish mire: Average peak growing season wet	120	20	1000
Ekberg et al 2011	Northern Swedish mire: Average peak growing season dry	84	20	1000
THIS STUDY	Ombrotrophic bog, Scotland	0.1- 518	12-14	300 – 2300(?)
Laffineur et al 2011	Mixed forest Europe	3276	30	1000
Owen 1998	Mediterranean forest	~800		
Stewart et al 2003	South Edinburgh “hot spot”	20-80	Cool-hot	Cloudy-sunny

Nitrogen deposition

- annually:
anthropogenic fixed N \approx naturally fixed N (~ 120 Tg N)
- predicted to increase
- associated with uncontrolled human activities
(e.g., energy use and food production)

IPP/DMAPP – precursors of all isoprenoids

2 isoprenoid biosynthesis pathways:

(1) Mevalonate pathway (cytosol)

begins with 2 molecules of acetyl coenzyme A (acetyl coA)

(2) MEP pathway (chloroplast)

begins with 1 molecule each of pyruvate and glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate (G-3-P)

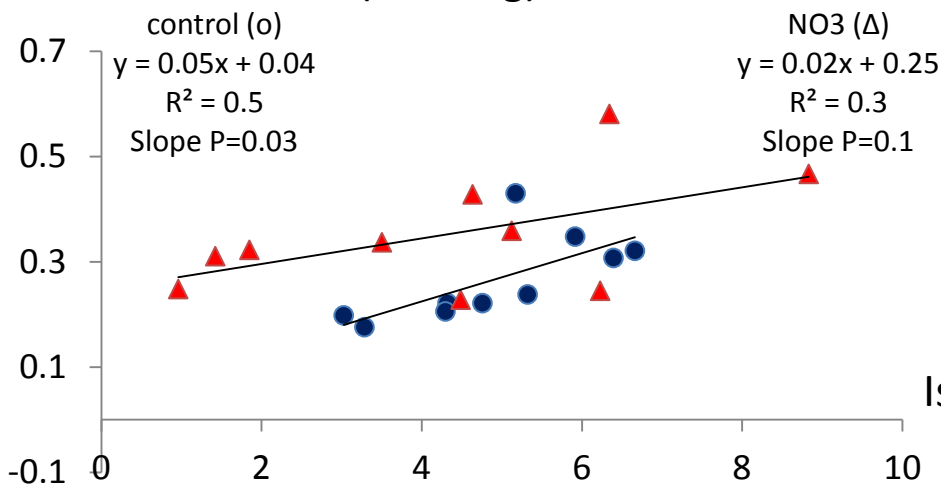
These compounds are derived from products of respiration and photosynthesis biochemistry

Effect of N-deposition and pigmentation on
isoprene emissions from *Sphagnum*
capillifolium – a laboratory study
(with Lucy Sheppard and Raul Ochoa-Hueso)

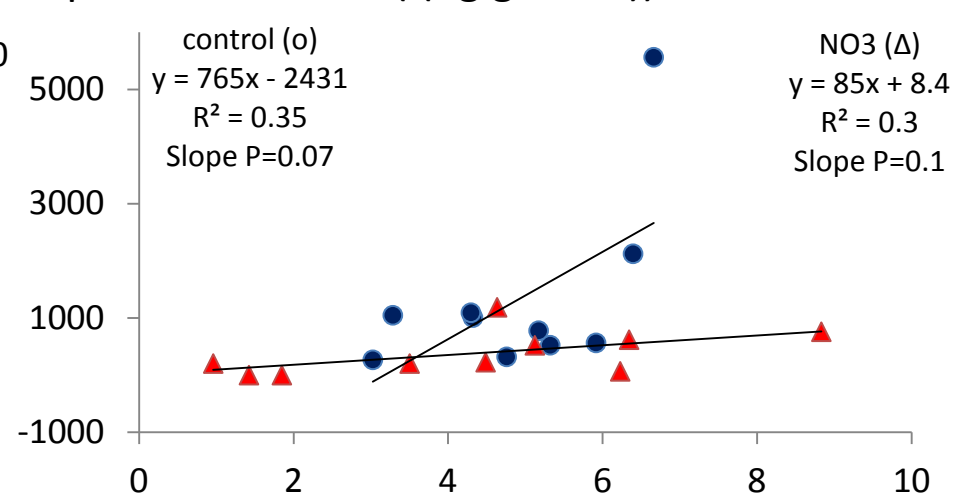


Sphagnum capillifolium – isoprene, carotenoids & photosynthesis

Total carotenoids (mmol/g)

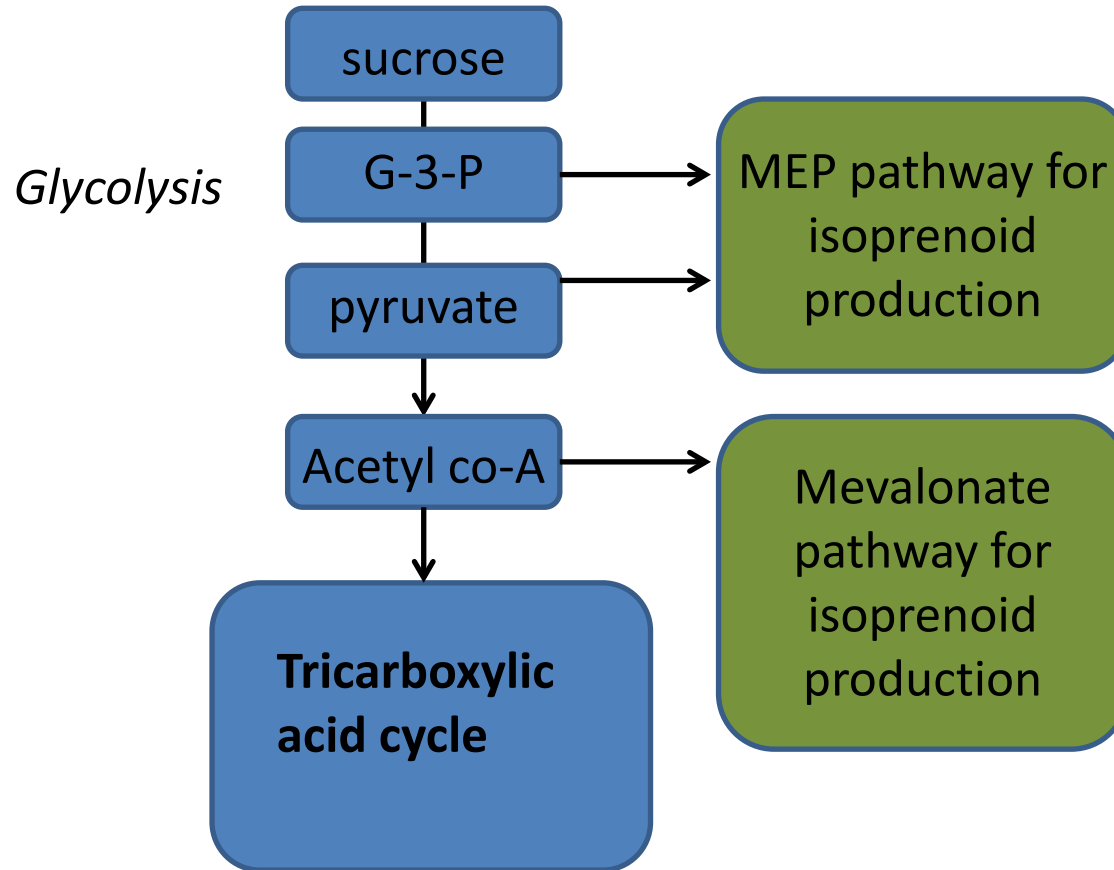


Isoprene emissions (ng g⁻¹ h⁻¹)

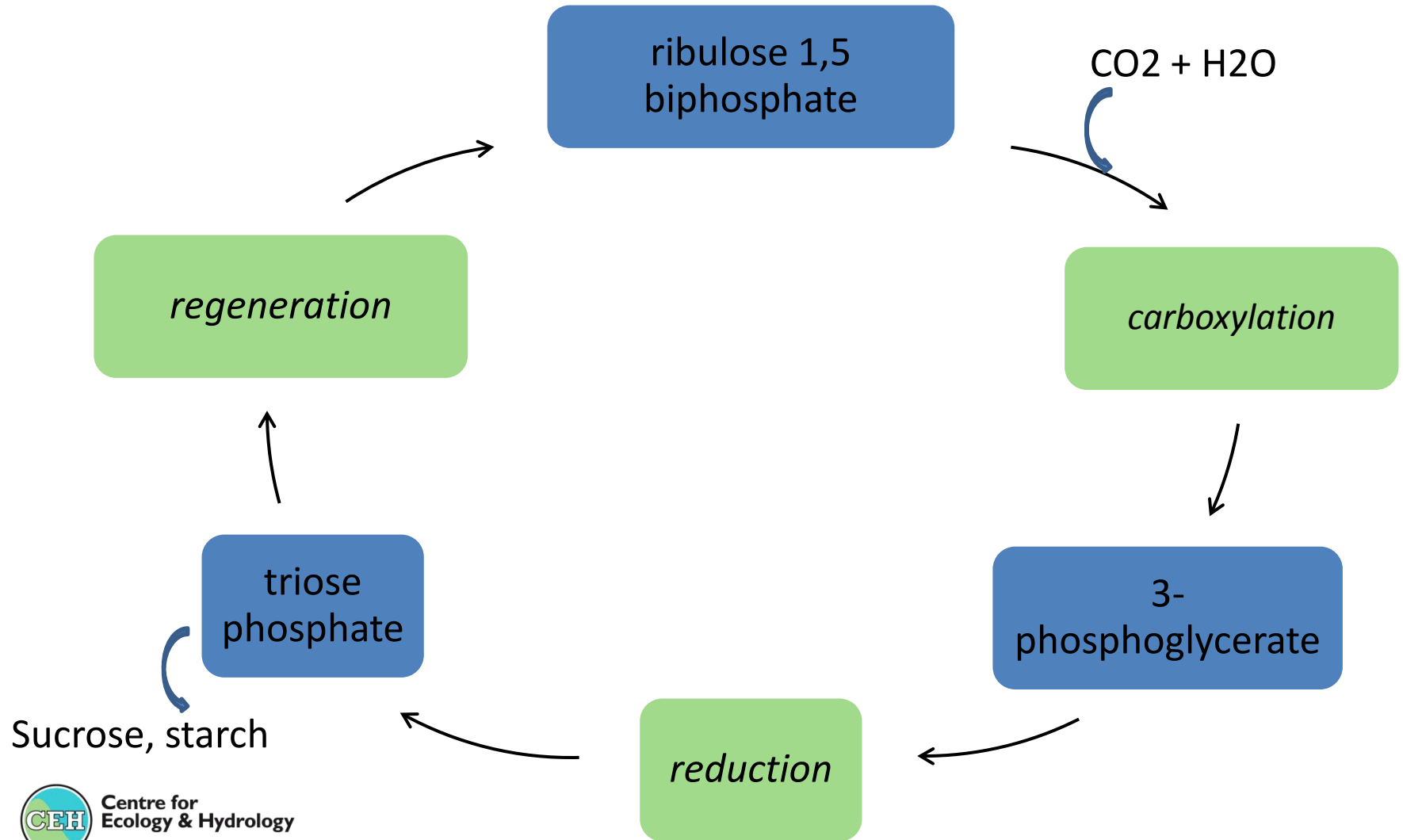


Photosynthesis rate (umol kg⁻¹ s⁻¹)

Isoprenoid precursors: link with respiration



Isoprenoid precursors: link with photosynthesis:



Controls on isoprene emissions

(Many)

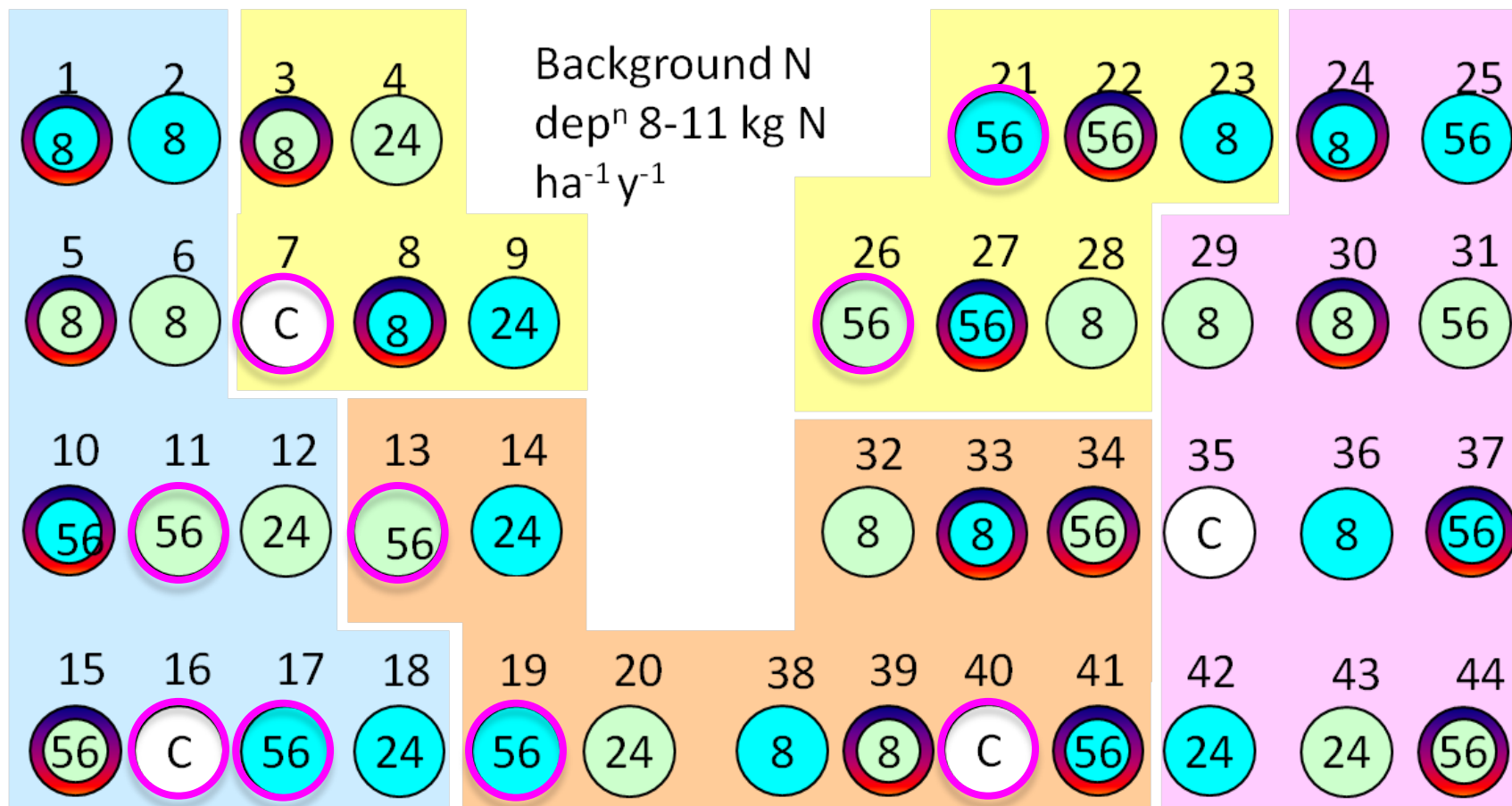
Temperature

PAR (photosynthetic active radiation)

Plant species-specific

Important to know if/how N deposition
affects emissions

Whim Bog Treatments automated, linked to rainfall and windspeed



Plot number 1 - 44

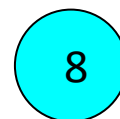
Block 1 2 3 4



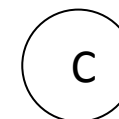
NH₄ Cl
56 kg N ha⁻¹ y⁻¹
+ PK (K₂HPO₄)



Na NO₃
24 kg N ha⁻¹ y⁻¹



NH₄ Cl
8 kg N ha⁻¹ y⁻¹



Lucy Sheppard

What does isoprene do?

- it confers protection to the producing plant against oxidative/thermal stress
 - monoterpenes can attract pollinators/repel herbivores
 - it can be important in O₃ and aerosol chemistry
 - it can account for up to 5% photosynthetically fixed C
- Large literature in general (*~1800 "isoprene and (emissions or flux)" titles*)
- Paucity of work in peatlands (*~33 relevant to peatland/bog*)

Existing work on isoprene from peatlands

Web of Science search	# hits
Topic : (isoprene AND (emission* or flux*))	1649
(isoprene AND (peat* or bog*))	22 relevant ⁺
Title : (isoprene or VOC* or bVOC* or volatile) and (peat* or bog* or mire* or wetland*)	12

⁺*Tiva et al (Finland)*

Faubert et al (Finland)

Ekberg et al (Sweden)

Backstrand et al (Sweden)