

Supporting Information

Russell and Raich 10.1073/pnas.1204157109

Table S1. Nitrogen stocks in biomass and detritus ($\text{kg}\cdot\text{ha}^{-1}$) in plantations of four experimental tree species in lowland Costa Rica

Component	Species				Mean
	<i>Hieronyma</i>	<i>Pentaclethra</i>	<i>Virola</i>	<i>Vochysia</i>	
Aboveground, nonwoody*					
Overstory	69 ± 6	123 ± 29	72 ± 14	64 ± 6	82 ± 27
Understory	31 ± 2	34 ± 11	50 ± 5	62 ± 16	44 ± 14
Branches [†]					
Overstory	121 ± 10 ^{AB}	207 ± 44 ^A	87 ± 19 ^B	148 ± 15 ^{AB}	141 ± 51
Understory	42 ± 9	42 ± 26	79 ± 17	99 ± 19	66 ± 28
Boles					
Overstory	206 ± 22	283 ± 93	290 ± 63	450 ± 43	307 ± 102
Understory	12 ± 1	16 ± 12	17 ± 4	19 ± 7	16 ± 3
Aboveground biomass					
Overstory	397 ± 38	613 ± 165	449 ± 95	661 ± 64	530 ± 127
Understory	86 ± 11	93 ± 48	145 ± 24	179 ± 38	126 ± 45
Total aboveground	482 ± 45	706 ± 138	594 ± 109	841 ± 64	656 ± 154
Belowground biomass N					
Fine roots, aboveground [‡]	12 ± 5	1 ± 0	1 ± 1	1 ± 1	4 ± 3
Fine roots, 0–15 cm	59 ± 1	64 ± 7	61 ± 6	64 ± 9	62 ± 1
Fine roots, 15–100 cm	36 ± 6	41 ± 9	35 ± 9	29 ± 3	35 ± 3
Medium roots	24 ± 1	37 ± 6	40 ± 11	33 ± 11	33 ± 7
Large roots, stumps	73 ± 12	121 ± 26	61 ± 13	99 ± 17	88 ± 27
Total belowground	192 ± 9	261 ± 29	196 ± 29	224 ± 34	218 ± 32
Total biomass N	674 ± 53	967 ± 152	790 ± 127	1,065 ± 81	874 ± 176
Detritus					
Surface litter [§]	101 ± 8 ^{AB}	79 ± 7 ^{AB}	59 ± 5 ^B	109 ± 15 ^A	87 ± 23
Coarse woody debris	16 ± 4	21 ± 5	9 ± 2	20 ± 2	16 ± 5
Dead roots, all sizes	25 ± 2 ^{BC}	47 ± 8 ^A	45 ± 2 ^{AB}	15 ± 2 ^C	33 ± 16
Total detritus	142 ± 4	147 ± 15	114 ± 8	144 ± 14	137 ± 15
Total biomass and detritus	816 ± 54	1,114 ± 158	903 ± 120	1,209 ± 94	1,011 ± 182

Means ($\pm\text{SEM}$) are based on $n = 4$. Tree species are *Hieronyma alchorneoides*, *Pentaclethra macroloba*, *Virola koschnyi*, and *Vochysia guatemalensis*. Means within a row followed by the same superscript letter do not differ significantly among species [Tukey's honestly significant difference (HSD), $P = 0.05$].

*Nonwoody includes leaves, flowers, and fruits, and is equivalent to canopy. Overstory (planted) trees are ≥ 10 cm in diameter at breast height; understory includes trees and saplings ≥ 2.5 cm in diameter and understory herbs and shrubs.

[†]Branches are ≤ 10 cm in diameter; boles are >10 cm in diameter.

[‡]Fine roots are unshrubized and generally ≤ 2 mm, medium roots are >0.2 –1 cm, and large roots are >1 cm in diameter and include stumps and stump roots, with all root categories measured to 1-m depth.

[§]"Surface litter" includes the O horizon of the soil; coarse woody debris does not include standing dead, which was negligible in these aggrading systems.

Table S2. Soil N stocks ($\text{kg}\cdot\text{ha}^{-1}$) and C:N in plantations and reference sites in lowland Costa Rica

Soil property	Depth (cm)	Vegetation					Forest*
		<i>Hieronyma</i>	<i>Pentaclethra</i>	<i>Virola</i>	<i>Vochysia</i>	Pasture*	
Total N	0–15	3,564 ± 208 ^{BC}	3,424 ± 134 ^C	3,460 ± 23 ^C	3,909 ± 149 ^{AB}	3,645 ± 89 ^{BC}	4,200 ± 217 ^A
	15–30	3,264 ± 86 ^B	3,227 ± 195 ^B	2,974 ± 90 ^B	3,474 ± 113 ^{AB}	3,736 ± 85 ^A	3,826 ± 212 ^A
	30–50	2,685 ± 72 ^{BC}	2,152 ± 176 ^C	2,528 ± 172 ^{BC}	2,961 ± 111 ^{AB}	3,432 ± 426 ^A	2,942 ± 266 ^{AB}
	50–75	2,575 ± 136 ^{AB}	2,162 ± 279 ^B	2,697 ± 159 ^{AB}	2,981 ± 42 ^A	3,081 ± 349 ^A	2,750 ± 84 ^A
	75–100	2,410 ± 43 ^A	1,812 ± 262 ^B	2,516 ± 111 ^A	2,589 ± 40 ^A	2,504 ± 243 ^A	2,552 ± 54 ^A
	0–100	14,498 ± 481 ^{AB}	12,777 ± 915 ^B	14,175 ± 498 ^B	15,914 ± 146 ^A	16,365 ± 767 ^A	16,131 ± 669 ^A
C:N	0–100	12.37 ± 0.28 ^A	11.76 ± 0.44 ^{AB}	11.64 ± 0.24 ^{AB}	11.70 ± 0.14 ^{AB}	11.25 ± 0.05 ^B	11.01 ± 0.42 ^B

Means ($\pm\text{SEM}$) are based on $n = 4$ blocks in plantations, three or four replicates in other vegetation. Tree species are as in Table S1. Means within a row followed by the same superscript letter do not differ significantly among species (Tukey's HSD, $P = 0.05$).

*Pasture refers to abandoned pasture, and forest refers to mature forest; both sets of reference sites are situated within 500 m of experimental plots, on the same soil type.

Table S3. Nitrogen uptake ($\text{kg}\cdot\text{ha}^{-1}\cdot\text{y}^{-1}$) in plantations of four experimental tree species in lowland Costa Rica

Component	Species				Mean
	<i>Hieronyma</i>	<i>Pentaclethra</i>	<i>Virola</i>	<i>Vochysia</i>	
Fine litterfall	157 ± 11 ^B	199 ± 15 ^A	115 ± 8 ^C	155 ± 5 ^{BC}	157 ± 34
Branchfall	9 ± 2	22 ± 9	4 ± 1	12 ± 3	12 ± 4
Overstory N uptake*					
Nonwoody [†]	106 ± 9	147 ± 31	75 ± 8	108 ± 3	109 ± 30
Branches	15 ± 3	34 ± 11	9 ± 2	20 ± 3	20 ± 11
Bolewood	12 ± 2	27 ± 8	17 ± 4	24 ± 1	20 ± 7
Total overstory	133 ± 12	209 ± 48	101 ± 14	152 ± 3	149 ± 45
Understory N uptake					
Nonwoody	54 ± 7	59 ± 21	60 ± 4	57 ± 12	57 ± 3
Branches	19 ± 4	21 ± 4	21 ± 1	32 ± 2	23 ± 6
Bolewood	2 ± 1	3 ± 2	4 ± 1	3 ± 1	3 ± 1
Total understory	75 ± 10	83 ± 27	85 ± 4	92 ± 11	84 ± 7
ΔBiomass [‡]					
Canopy	5 ± 1	9 ± 1	8 ± 1	8 ± 1	8 ± 2
Woody tissues	30 ± 3	66 ± 10	42 ± 8	49 ± 2	47 ± 15
Total	35 ± 4 ^B	75 ± 11 ^A	51 ± 9 ^{AB}	57 ± 1 ^{AB}	54 ± 17
ΔBiomass, years 0–17	41 ± 4	60 ± 10	49 ± 8	67 ± 5	55 ± 11
Total aboveground	209 ± 14 ^{AB}	292 ± 33 ^A	186 ± 11 ^B	244 ± 8 ^{AB}	233 ± 46
Fine root ingrowth [§]	127 ± 9 ^A	94 ± 10 ^{AB}	75 ± 9 ^B	122 ± 22 ^{AB}	105 ± 24
Medium root growth	2 ± 0	3 ± 1	3 ± 1	2 ± 1	2 ± 1
Large root growth	4 ± 1 ^B	20 ± 8 ^A	1 ± 0 ^B	3 ± 1 ^B	7 ± 9
Total belowground	133 ± 9	117 ± 14	79 ± 9	127 ± 23	114 ± 24
Total N uptake	341 ± 11 ^{AB}	409 ± 35 ^A	265 ± 18 ^B	371 ± 21 ^A	347 ± 61

Means ($\pm\text{SEM}$) are based on $n = 4$. Tree species are as in Table S1. Means within a row followed by the same superscript letter do not differ significantly among species (Tukey's HSD, $P = 0.05$). Due to rounding, not all totals are consistent.

*N uptake values include ΔBiomass.

[†]Nonwoody (=canopy) includes leaves, flowers, and fruits. Branches are ≤ 10 cm in diameter; boles are > 10 cm in diameter.

[‡]ΔBiomass was determined as the sum of growth increments of each tree within each plot; values reported are the means of years 15–17 and include nonwoody and woody tissues (branches, bolewood, and roots > 2 mm). Long-term rates were determined by dividing total biomass N by age (16 y).

[§]Fine roots are unshrubized roots, generally ≤ 2 mm; medium roots are > 0.2 –1 cm; large roots are > 1 cm in diameter and include stumps and stump roots. Fine-root ingrowth is for the 0–15 cm depth only; larger root growth extends to 1.0-m depth. Fine-root ΔBiomass was zero.

Table S4. Statistical results regarding nitrogen cycling in plantations of four experimental tree species in lowland Costa Rica

Category	Variable	F value	P > F	MSD	Source
Biomass	Aboveground, overstory	1.60	0.256	444 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S1
	Aboveground, understory	1.56	0.265	157 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S1
	Overstory branches	4.21	0.041	110 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S1
	Overstory, % of total aboveground	0.50	0.689	28%	Table S1
	Aboveground, total	2.58	0.118	422 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S1
	Fine roots, 0–100 cm	0.41	0.748	36 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S1
	Medium roots, 0–100 cm	0.86	0.495	33 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S1
	Large roots, 0–100 cm	2.25	0.152	79 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S1
	Belowground total	1.20	0.365	130 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S1
	Total biomass	2.51	0.125	490 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Fig. 1 and Table S1
	N concentration, overstory leaves	20.18	<0.0001	3.13 g·kg ⁻¹	
	N concentration, twigs	8.87	0.0004	1.98 g·kg ⁻¹	
	N concentration, branches	23.18	<0.0001	1.73 g·kg ⁻¹	
	N concentration, wood	8.82	0.0004	1.47 g·kg ⁻¹	
	N concentration, coarse roots	33.33	<0.0001	2.16 g·kg ⁻¹	
	N concentration, fine roots	30.02	<0.0001	2.41 g·kg ⁻¹	
	Foliar δ ¹⁵ N	1.04	0.392	1.51	
	Surface litter	4.77	0.030	46 kg N·ha ⁻¹	
	Aboveground coarse woody	1.60	0.256	18 kg N·ha ⁻¹	
Detritus	Roots, all sizes	5.77	0.010	21 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S1
	Total	1.57	0.264	54 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S1
	Fine litterfall	13.97	0.001	41 kg N·ha ⁻¹ ·y ⁻¹	Table S3
	Branchfall	2.62	0.115	20 kg N·ha ⁻¹ ·y ⁻¹	Table S3
N uptake	Aboveground overstory total	3.00	0.088	115 kg N·ha ⁻¹ ·y ⁻¹	Table S3
	Aboveground understory total	0.19	0.902	69 kg N·ha ⁻¹ ·y ⁻¹	Table S3
	Overstory, % of total aboveground	1.02	0.429	30%	Table S3
	Aboveground total	5.89	0.017	84 kg N·ha ⁻¹ ·y ⁻¹	Table S3
	Fine roots, 0–15 cm	4.43	0.038	51 kg N·ha ⁻¹ ·y ⁻¹	Table S3
	Medium roots, 0–100 cm	1.06	0.413	3 kg N·ha ⁻¹ ·y ⁻¹	Table S3
	Large roots, 0–100 cm	5.24	0.023	17 kg N·ha ⁻¹ ·y ⁻¹	Table S3
	Belowground total	3.37	0.069	58 kg N·ha ⁻¹ ·y ⁻¹	Table S3
	Detrital production: canopy	6.94	0.010	48 kg N·ha ⁻¹ ·y ⁻¹	Table 1
	Detrital production: woody	9.74	0.004	19 kg N·ha ⁻¹ ·y ⁻¹	Table 1
	ΔBiomass, years 15–17	3.71	0.055	38 kg N·ha ⁻¹ ·y ⁻¹	Table 1 and Table S3
	ΔBiomass, years 0–17	2.61	0.116	31 kg N·ha ⁻¹ ·y ⁻¹	
	Total N uptake	6.69	0.011	104 kg N·ha ⁻¹ ·y ⁻¹	
Partitioning of N uptake	Fine root/total N uptake	4.69	0.031	0.120	Main text
	Grams dry weight produced per g N taken up	7.64	0.008	17 g DW·g ⁻¹ N	Table 1
Soil N	Mineral soil, 0–15 cm	2.00	0.185	695 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S2
	Mineral soil, 15–30 cm	2.49	0.127	574 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S2
	Mineral soil, 30–50 cm	9.19	0.004	492 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S2
	Mineral soil, 50–75 cm	3.92	0.048	759 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S2
	Mineral soil, 75–100 cm	5.31	0.022	678 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Table S2
	Mineral soil, 0–100 cm	4.49	0.034	2,683 kg N·ha ⁻¹	Fig. 2 and Table S2
	Mineral soil, 0–100 cm	1.30	0.347	1.26	
Soil C:N	Mineral soil, 0–10 cm	26.61	0.0001	N/A	Fig. 2 and Table S5
Soil δ ¹³ C	Mineral soil, 0–15 cm	3.18	0.113	N/A	
Soil δ ¹⁵ N	Mineral soil, 0–15 cm	4.49	0.035	2,684 kg·ha ⁻¹ ·16 y	Table 1
ΔSoil N stocks	Mineral soil, 0–100 cm	4.26	0.039	2,855 kg·ha ⁻¹ ·16 y	Table 1
ΔN in plantations	Biomass, detritus, and soil to 1 m	4.93	0.027	18 y	Table 1
Soil N mean residence time	Soil N mass (0–100 cm)/total N uptake				

MSD, minimum significant difference; N/A, not available.

Table S5. Stable isotope concentrations (in ‰) in four experimental 16-y-old plantations in lowland Costa Rica

Species	Foliar δ ¹³ C	Fine-root δ ¹³ C	Soil δ ¹³ C*	Foliar δ ¹⁵ N	Soil δ ¹⁵ N
<i>Hieronyma</i>	-30.31 ± 0.33	-29.18 ± 0.20	-24.96 ± 0.15	2.21 ± 0.59	5.61 ± 0.29
<i>Pentaclethra</i>	-30.33 ± 0.78	-28.43 ± 0.23	-24.87 ± 0.23	1.37 ± 0.37	5.13 ± 0.28
<i>Virola</i>	-31.44 ± 0.30	-29.46 ± 0.20	-25.31 ± 0.05	2.01 ± 0.23	6.82 ± 0.51
<i>Vochysia</i>	-29.82 ± 0.14	-29.46 ± 0.11	-25.12 ± 0.05	1.51 ± 0.23	5.69 ± 0.26
Abandoned pasture [†]	-12.93 ± 0.14	-13.57 ± 0.21	-22.66 ± 0.60	2.81 ± 0.45	6.29 ± 0.19
Mature forest [‡]			-27.10 ± 0.13		5.62 ± 0.43

Data are site means (±SEM), based on $n = 8$ trees sampled for foliar nitrogen and $n = 4$ for other variables. Tree species are as in Table S1. Statistical results are presented in Table S4.

*Soil depth interval = 0–15 cm.

[†]*Panicum maximum*, the dominant species, was sampled in the adjacent abandoned pasture reference site; "foliar" tissue consisted of blades plus stems.

[‡]Mature forest contains all of the planted (native) species.

Table S6. Plant tissue N concentrations (g·kg⁻¹) in four experimental 16-y-old plantations in lowland Costa Rica

Species	Leaves	Twigs*	Branches	Wood	Coarse roots	Fine roots
<i>Hieronyma</i>	21.0 ± 1.0 ^B	8.3 ± 0.6 ^B	3.4 ± 0.3 ^B	2.2 ± 0.2 ^C	6.8 ± 0.5 ^B	13.9 ± 0.8 ^B
<i>Pentaclethra</i>	26.8 ± 0.7 ^A	11.4 ± 0.4 ^A	6.2 ± 0.3 ^A	4.3 ± 0.4 ^A	12.5 ± 0.3 ^A	20.9 ± 0.9 ^A
<i>Virola</i>	18.2 ± 0.6 ^B	8.7 ± 0.6 ^B	4.1 ± 0.3 ^B	3.9 ± 0.3 ^{AB}	10.8 ± 0.7 ^A	15.8 ± 0.4 ^B
<i>Vochysia</i>	21.0 ± 1.1 ^B	10.7 ± 0.5 ^A	5.8 ± 0.3 ^A	2.8 ± 0.3 ^{BC}	7.0 ± 0.4 ^B	15.9 ± 0.4 ^B
<i>P > F</i>	<0.0001	0.0004	0.0001	0.0003	<0.0001	<0.0001

Data are site means (±SEM), based on $n = 8$ trees sampled for aboveground components and $n = 4$ for roots. Tree species are as in Table S1. Statistical results are presented in Table S4. Means within a row followed by the same superscript letter do not differ significantly among species (Tukey's HSD, $P = 0.05$).

*Diameter defines the size classes: twigs, <1 cm; branches, ≥1 cm and <10 cm; wood, >10 cm; coarse roots, >2 and ≤10 mm; fine roots, ≤2 mm.