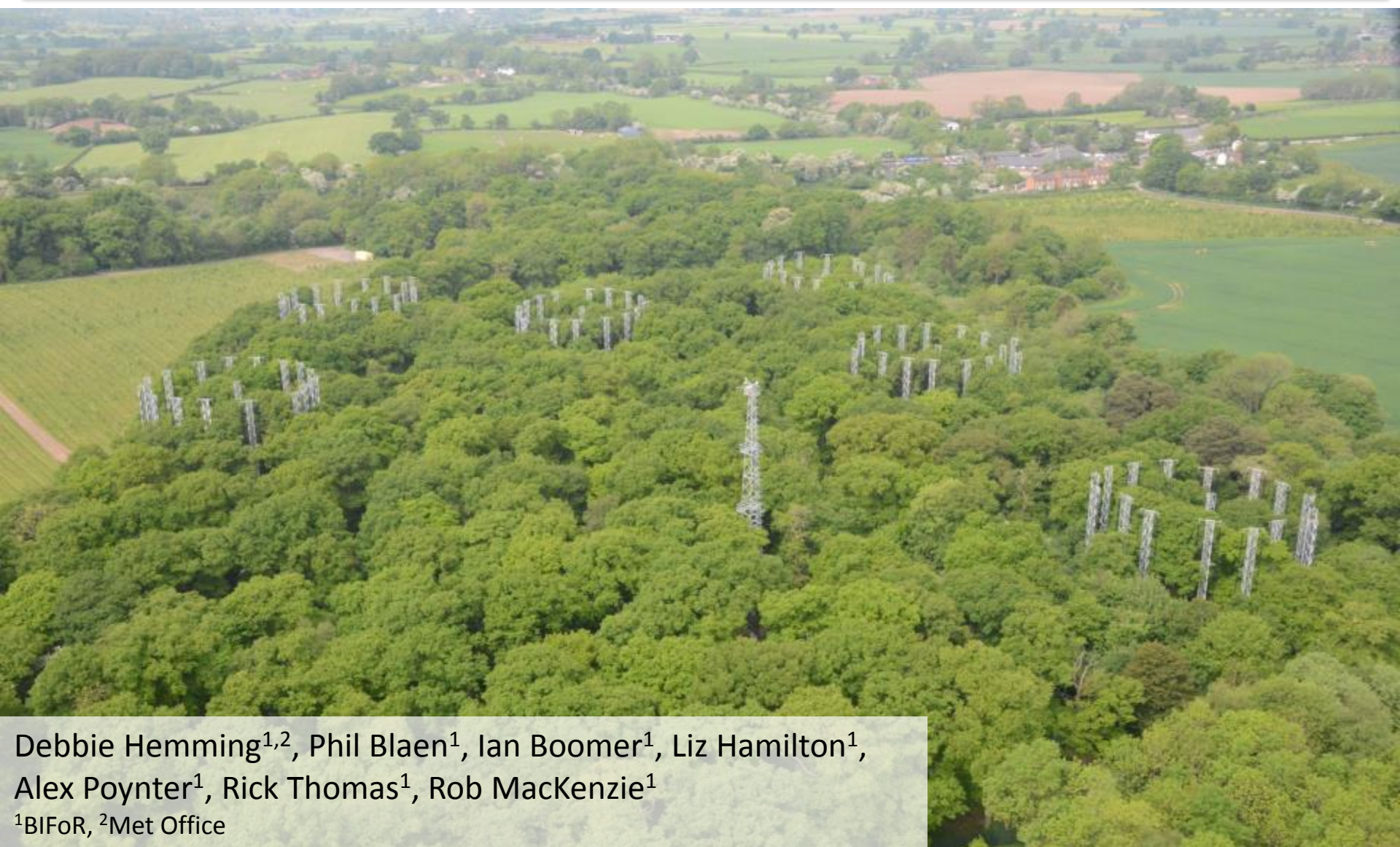


How does JULES compare against observed traits & ecosystem monitoring at Mill Haft?

UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

BIFoR
BIRMINGHAM INSTITUTE OF FOREST RESEARCH



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Alex Poynter¹, Rick Thomas¹, Rob MacKenzie¹

¹BIFoR, ²Met Office

First year's results from the BIFoR FACE facility at Mill Haft

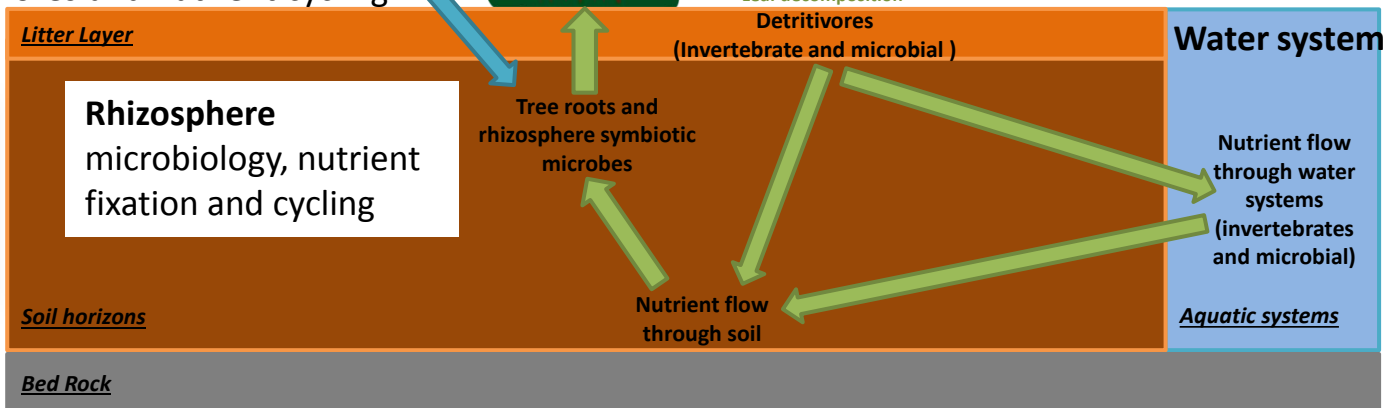
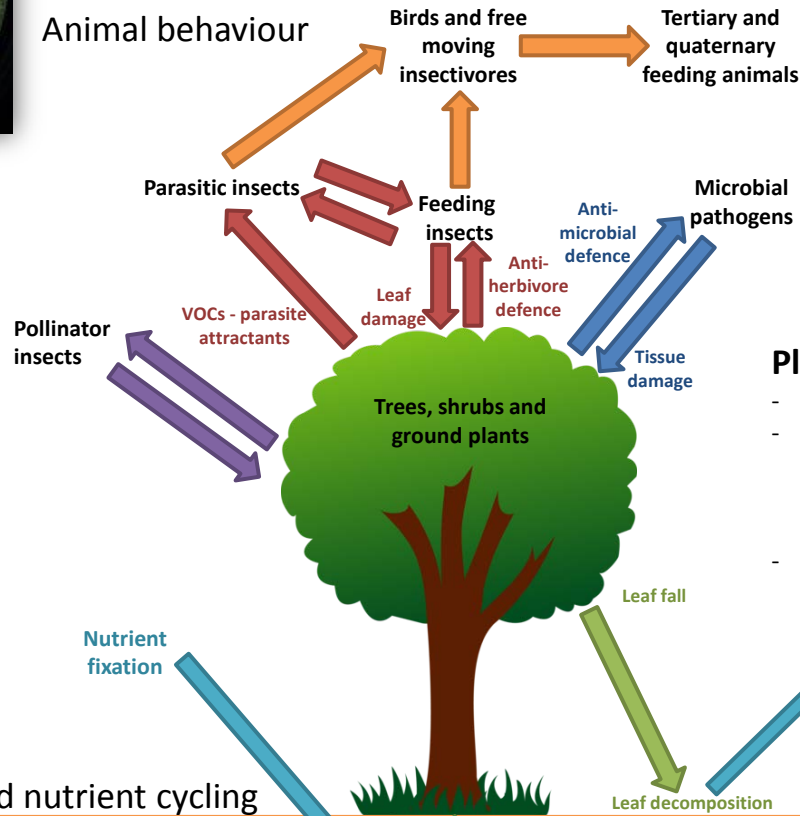


biosphere-atmosphere interactions



Litter layer:

Invertebrate detritivores and nutrient cycling





biosphere-atmosphere interactions



Litter layer: Invertebrate



Animal behaviour
Birds and free moving insectivores
Tertiary and quaternary feeding animals

Parasitic insects
Feeding insects
Anti-micro...
Anti-herb...

Pollinator insects
VOCs - parasite attractants

!!! See Poster 'BIFOR FACE update' by Rob MacKenzie et al...!!!



Physiology
- Free growth
- photosynthesis and respiration (Which trees will be the winners under increased CO₂?)
- Trees role in C and N cycles

Nutrient emissions in VOCs

Leaf fall

Leaf decomposition

Detritivores (Invertebrate and microbial)

Water system

Soil microbiology, nutrient fixation and cycling

Tree roots and rhizosphere symbiotic microbes

Nutrient flow through water systems (invertebrates and microbial)

Nutrient flow through soil

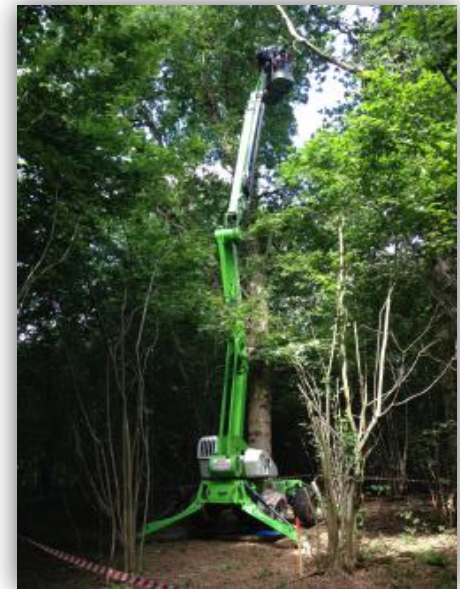
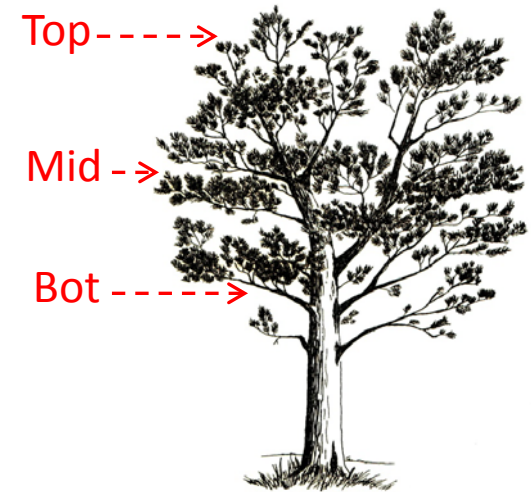
Aquatic systems

Soil horizons

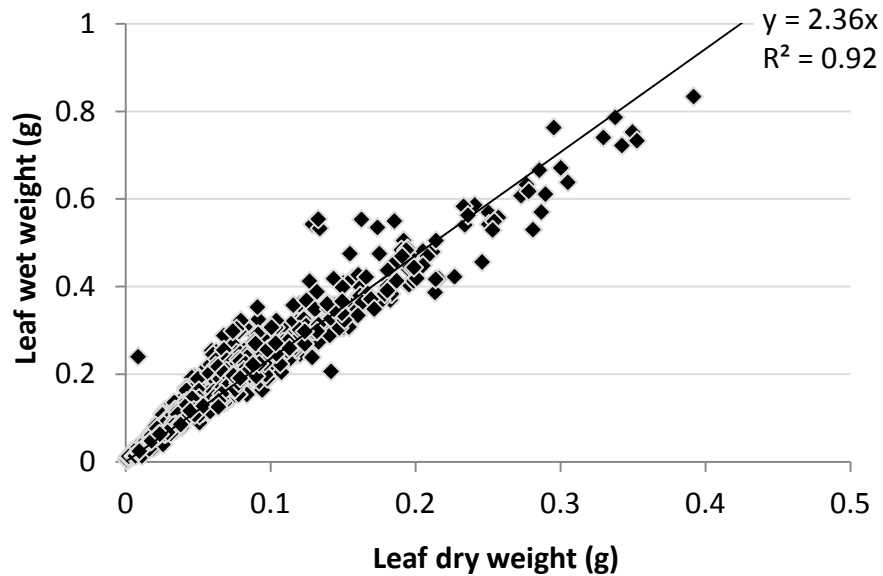
Bed Rock

Overview of presentation

- Leaf traits**
(*Q. robur*)
 - wet & dry weight
 - leaf area & Specific Leaf Area
 - %N in leaf, twig, bud
- Phenocam**
 - Greenness index
- JULES runs**
 - modelled vs observations



Leaf wet & dry weight

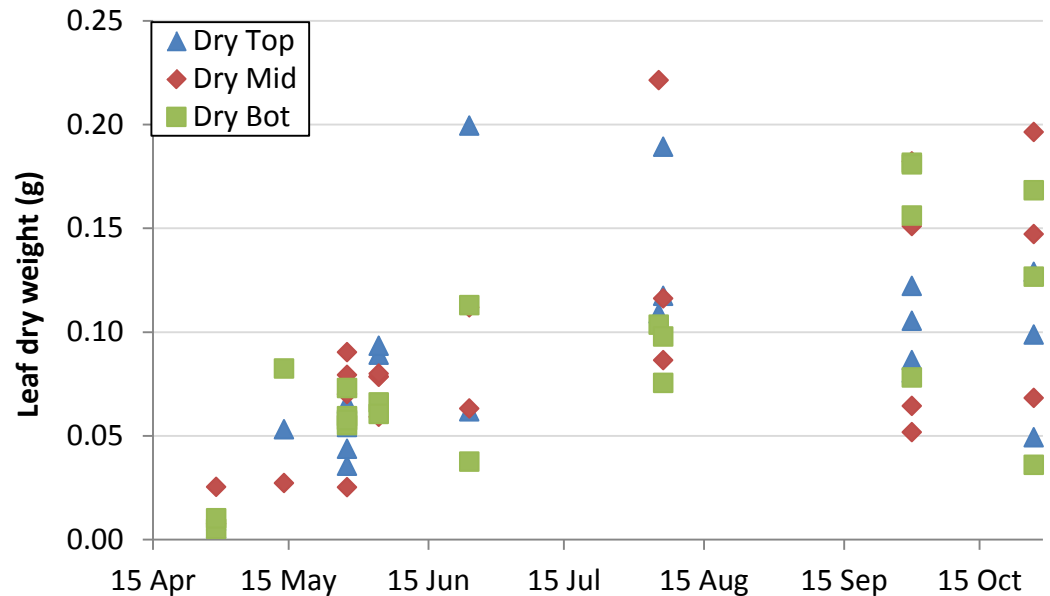


Leaf wet weight = 2.36 * Leaf dry weight

Leaf water content:

May ~80% → June ~60% → July-Oct ~50%

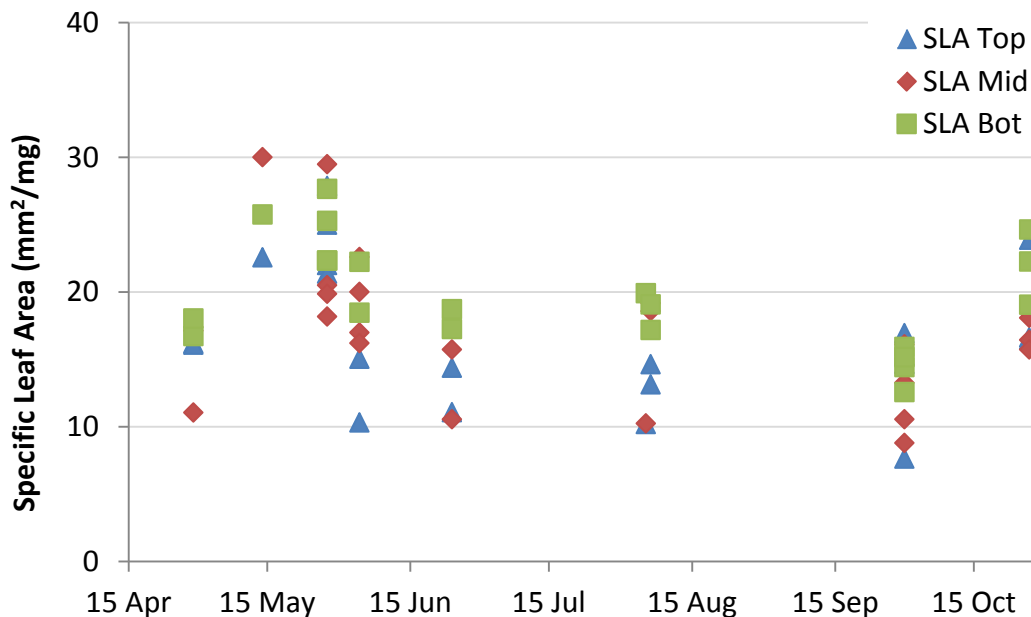
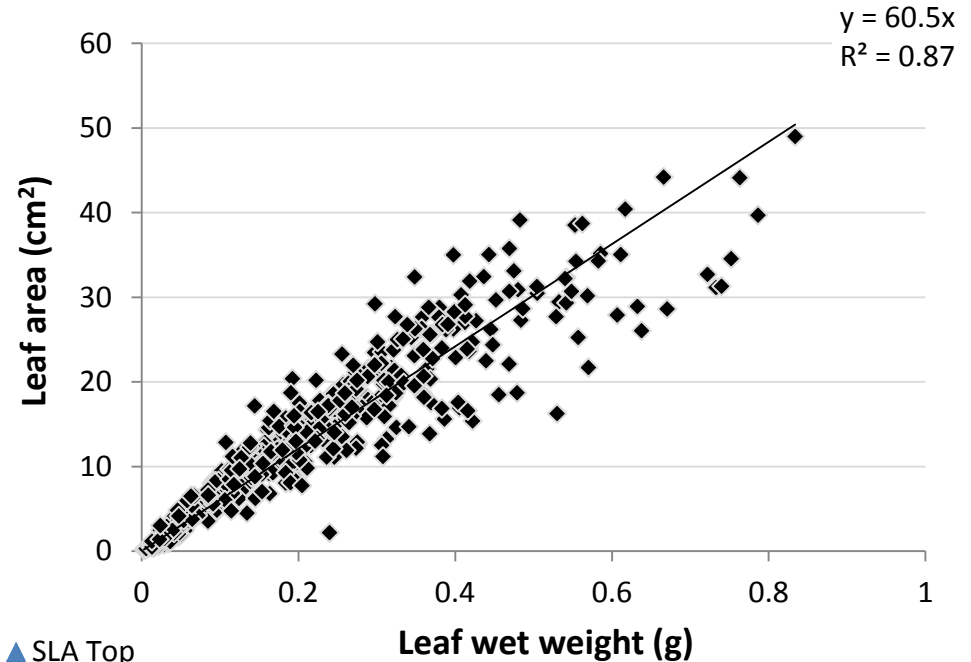
No clear relationship between leaf mass & canopy position



Leaf area & Specific Leaf Area

$$\text{Leaf area (cm}^2\text{)} = 60.5 * \text{Leaf wet weight (g)}$$

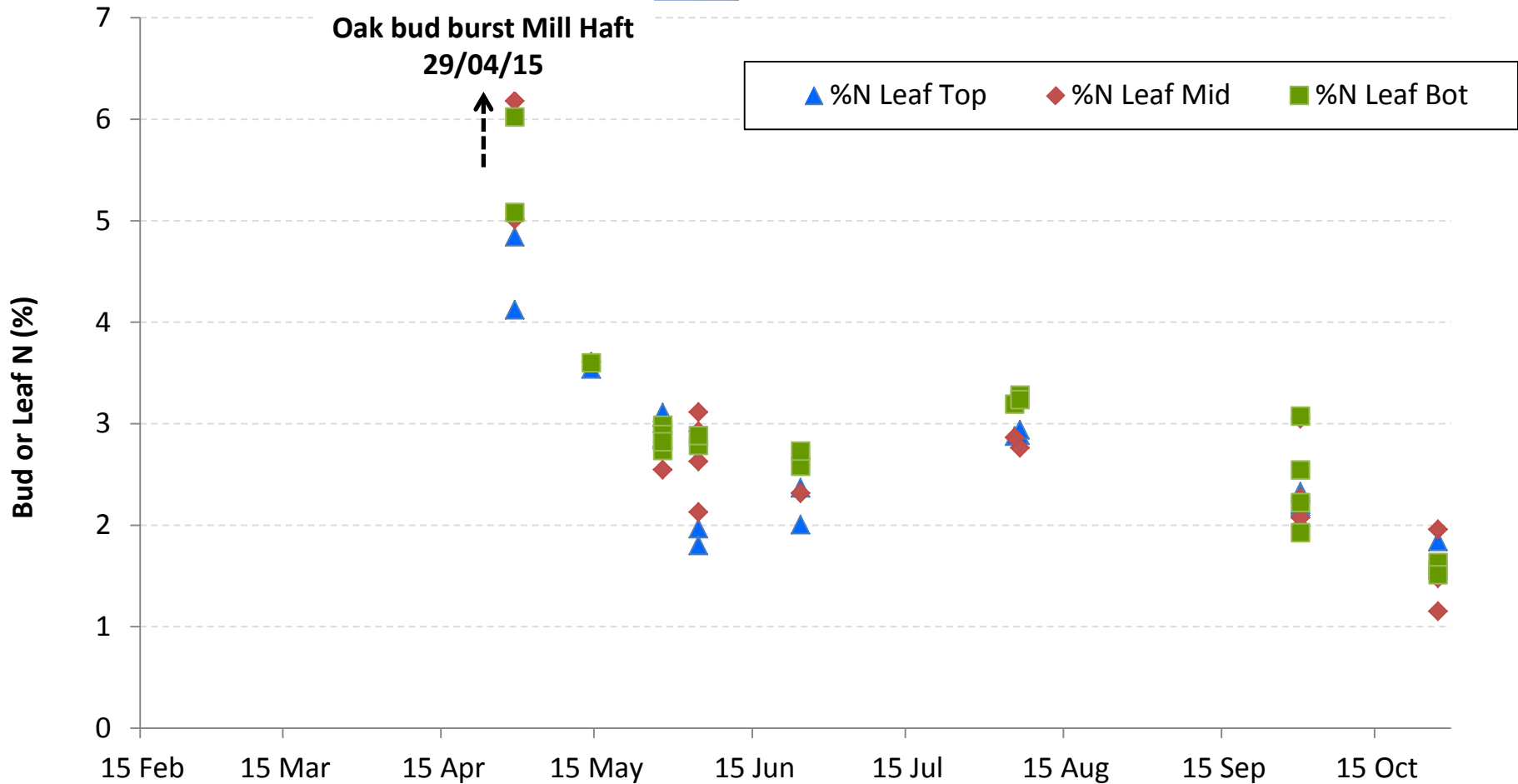
$$\text{SLA (mm}^2\text{mg}^{-1}\text{)} = \text{Leaf Area (mm}^2\text{)} / \text{Leaf mass (mg)}$$



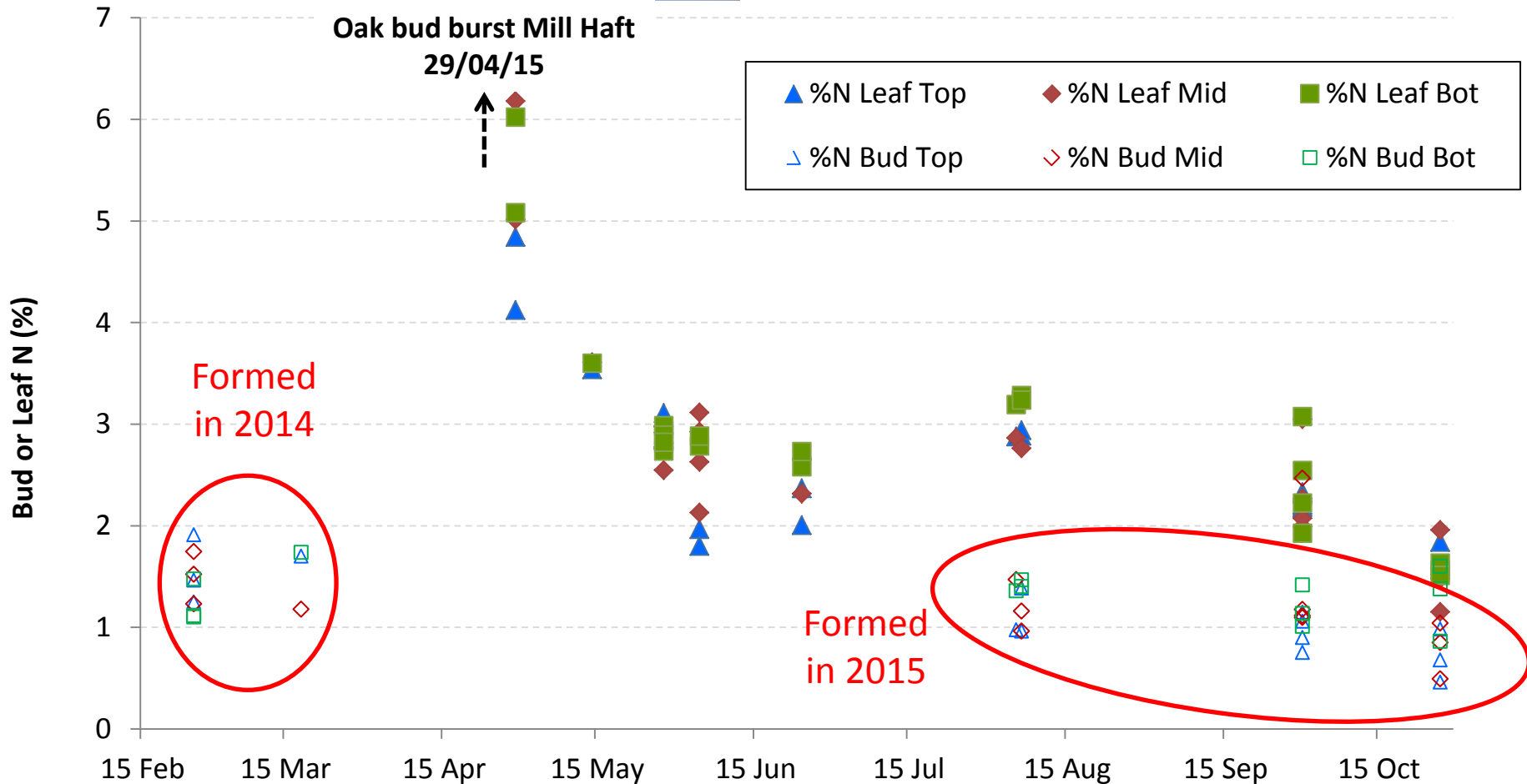
SLA increases with initial leaf growth then remains $\sim 10\text{-}20 \text{ mm}^2/\text{mg}$

No clear relationship in SLA with canopy position

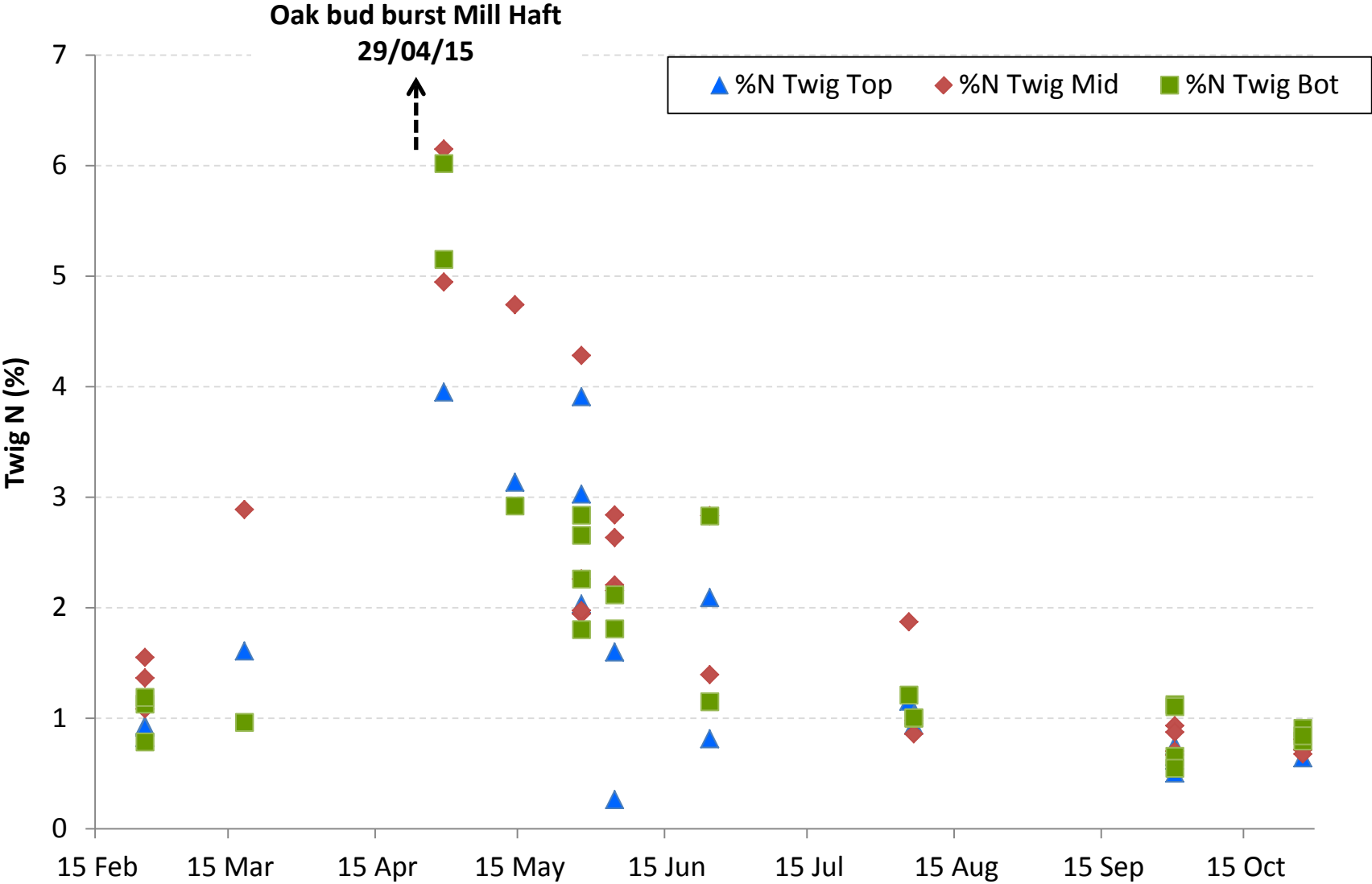
Average Leaf % Nitrogen by canopy position



Average Bud & Leaf % Nitrogen by canopy position



Average Twig % Nitrogen



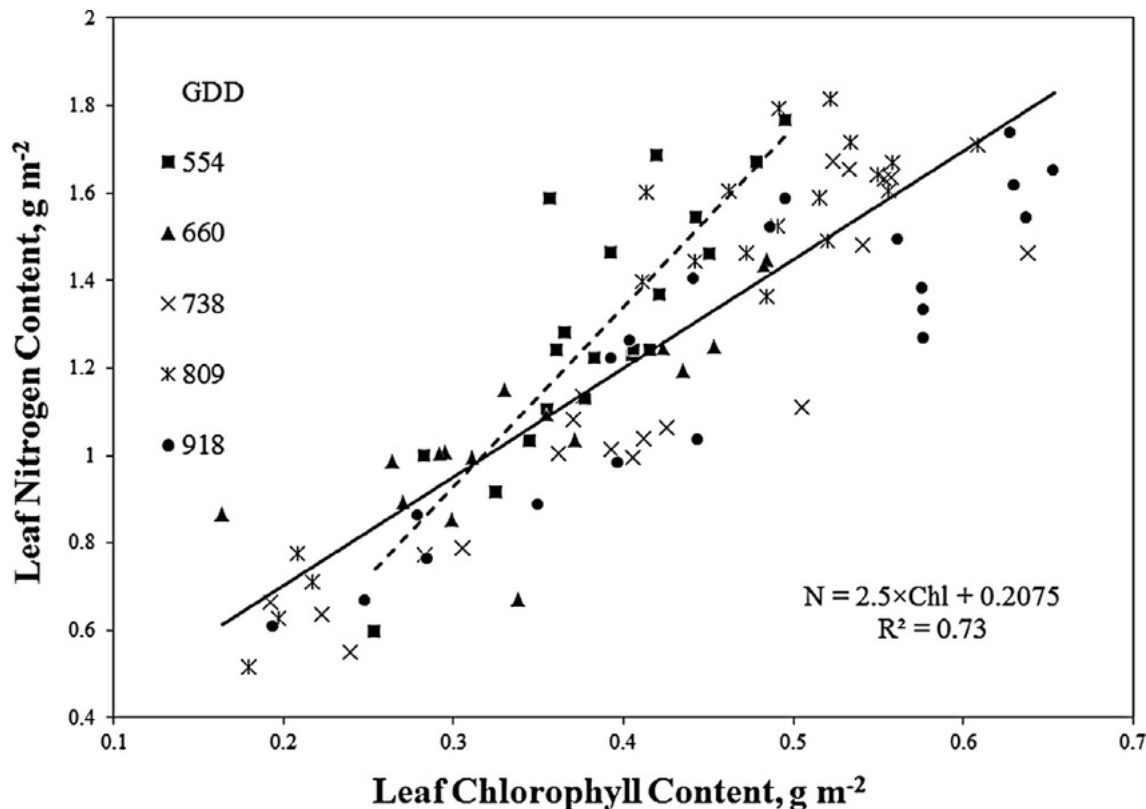
Influences on plant N content

Photosynthesis is known to be tightly correlated with leaf N

Main N containing molecules in plants:

- RUBISCO – rate limiting enzyme of photosynthesis
- Chlorophyll (~6.3% N) – light-harvesting pigment
- Nucleic acids & proteins involved in cell regulation & respiration

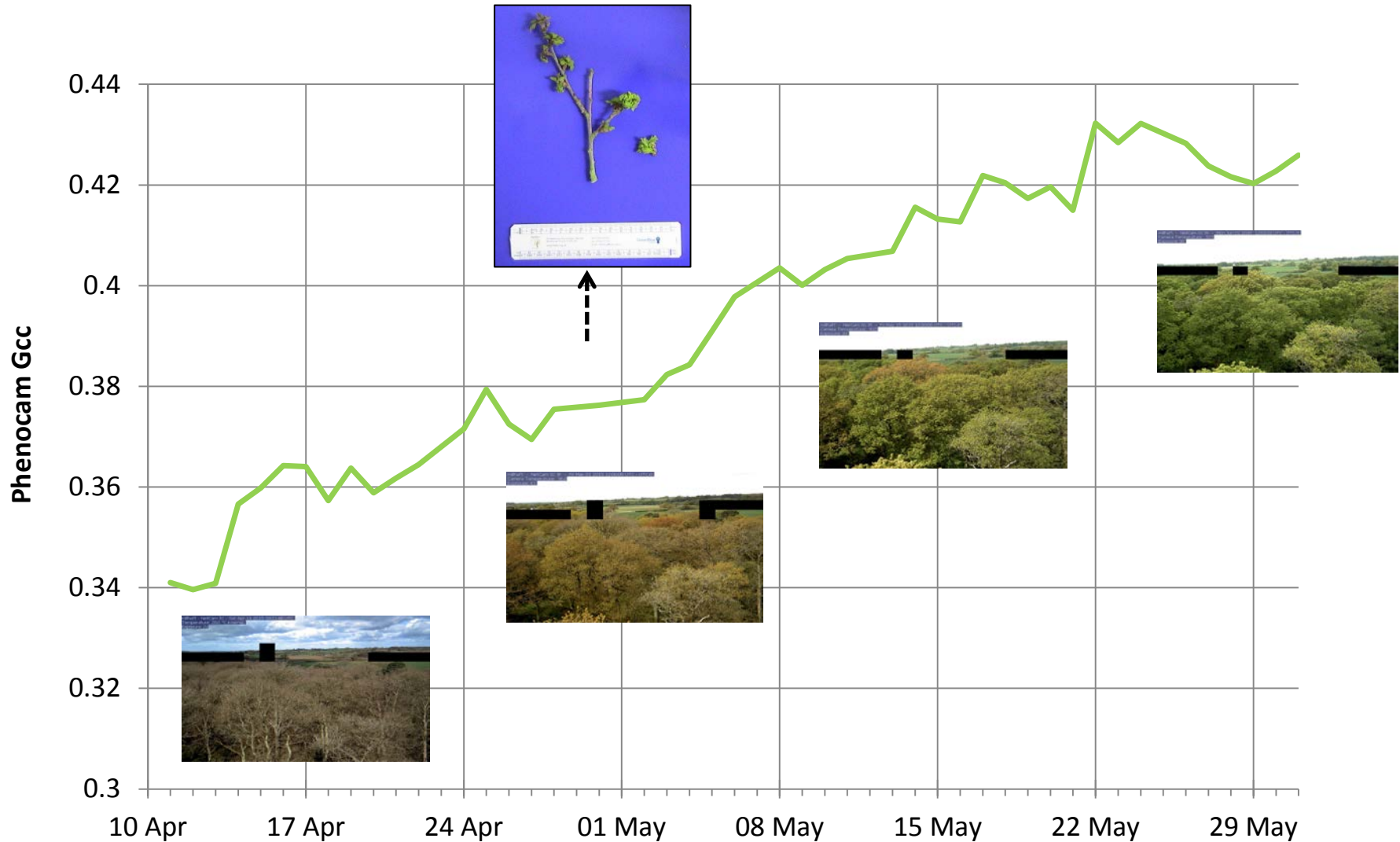
~75% of N in C3 plant leaves is in chloroplasts & involved in photosynthesis



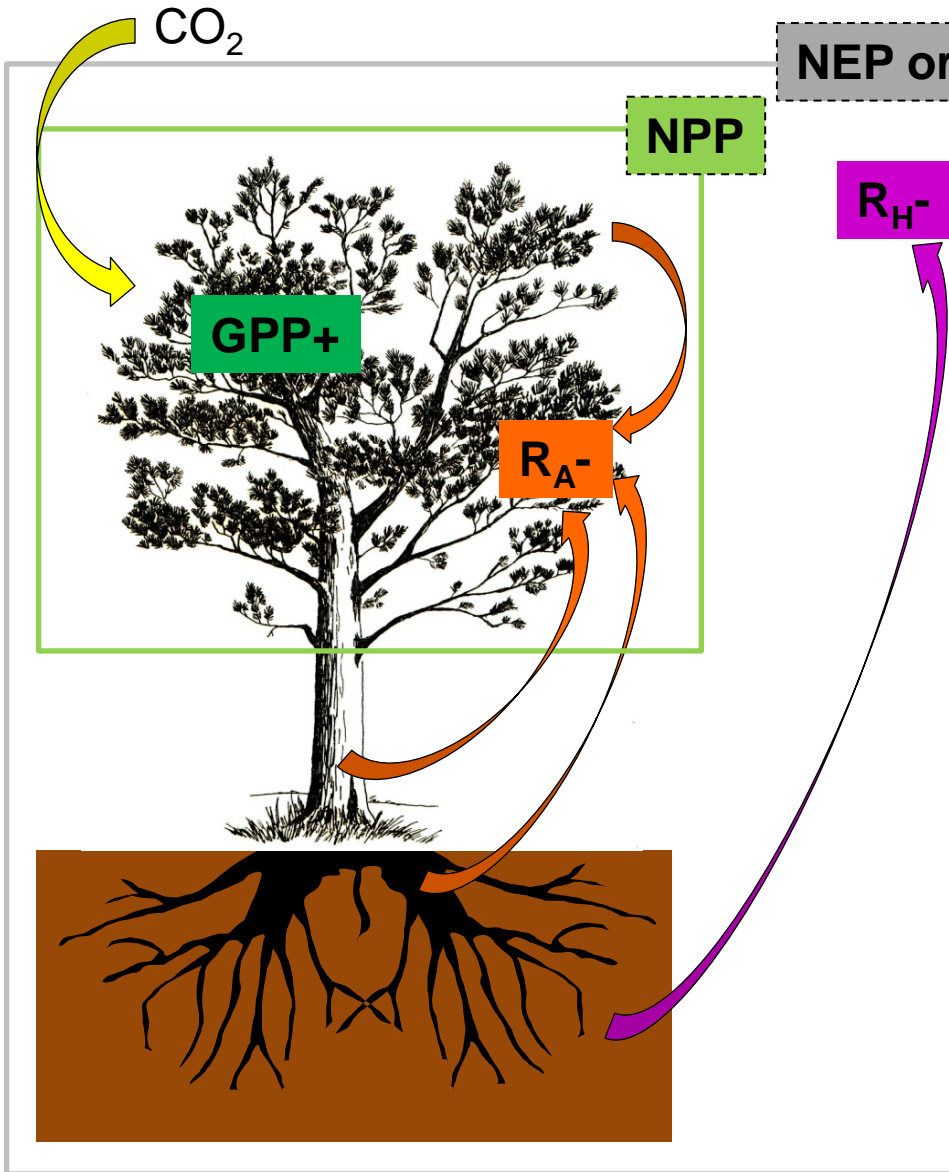
Relationship between leaf N and Chl content in maize leaves under different growing degree days (GDD) – Schlemmer et al 2013

Phenocam – Green chromatic coordinate (Gcc index)

Oak bud burst Mill Haft – 29/04/15



Schematic of plant/ecosystem CO₂ exchanges



GPP – Total CO₂ fixed per unit time

R_A – Rate of growth & maintenance respiration

NPP – Net rate of organic matter production

$$\text{NPP} = \text{GPP} - R_A$$

R_H – Rate of heterotrophic respiration

NEE – Net instantaneous measure of CO₂ influx/output within ecosystem

NEP – Net rate of organic matter accumulation in ecosystem (over time)

$$\text{NEE or NEP} = \text{GPP} - R_A - R_H$$

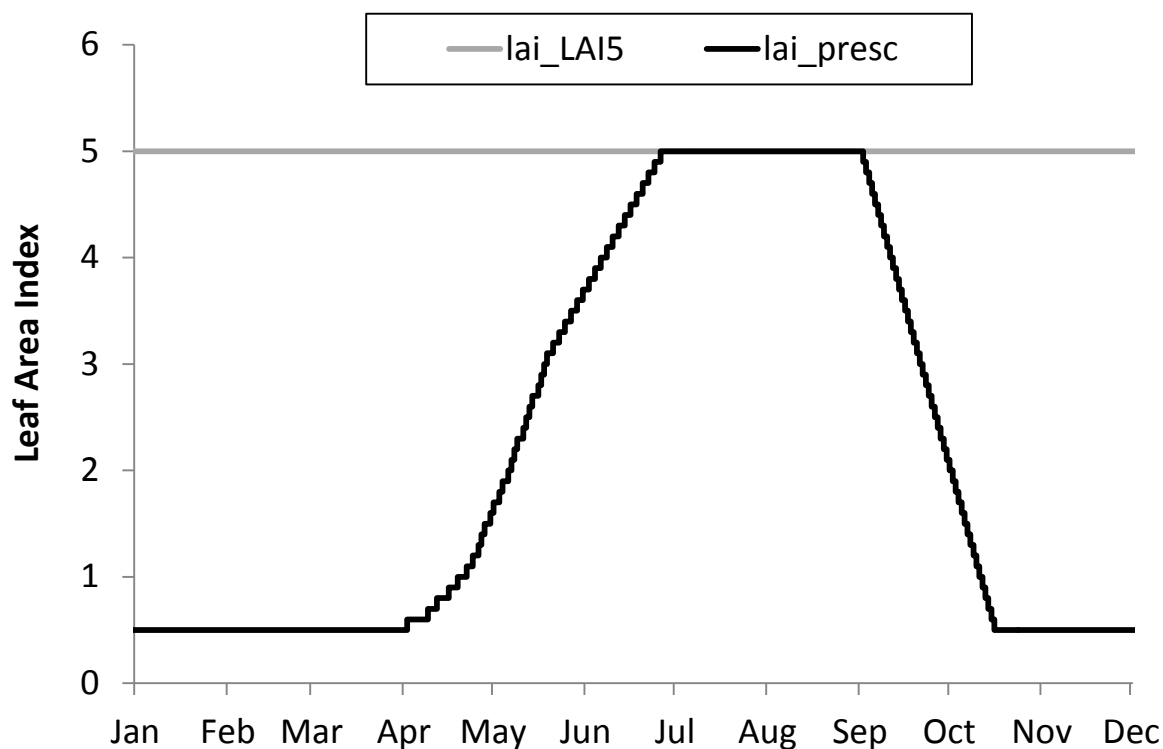
JULES runs

JULES vn4.2 point location forced with hourly Shawbury meteorological station data

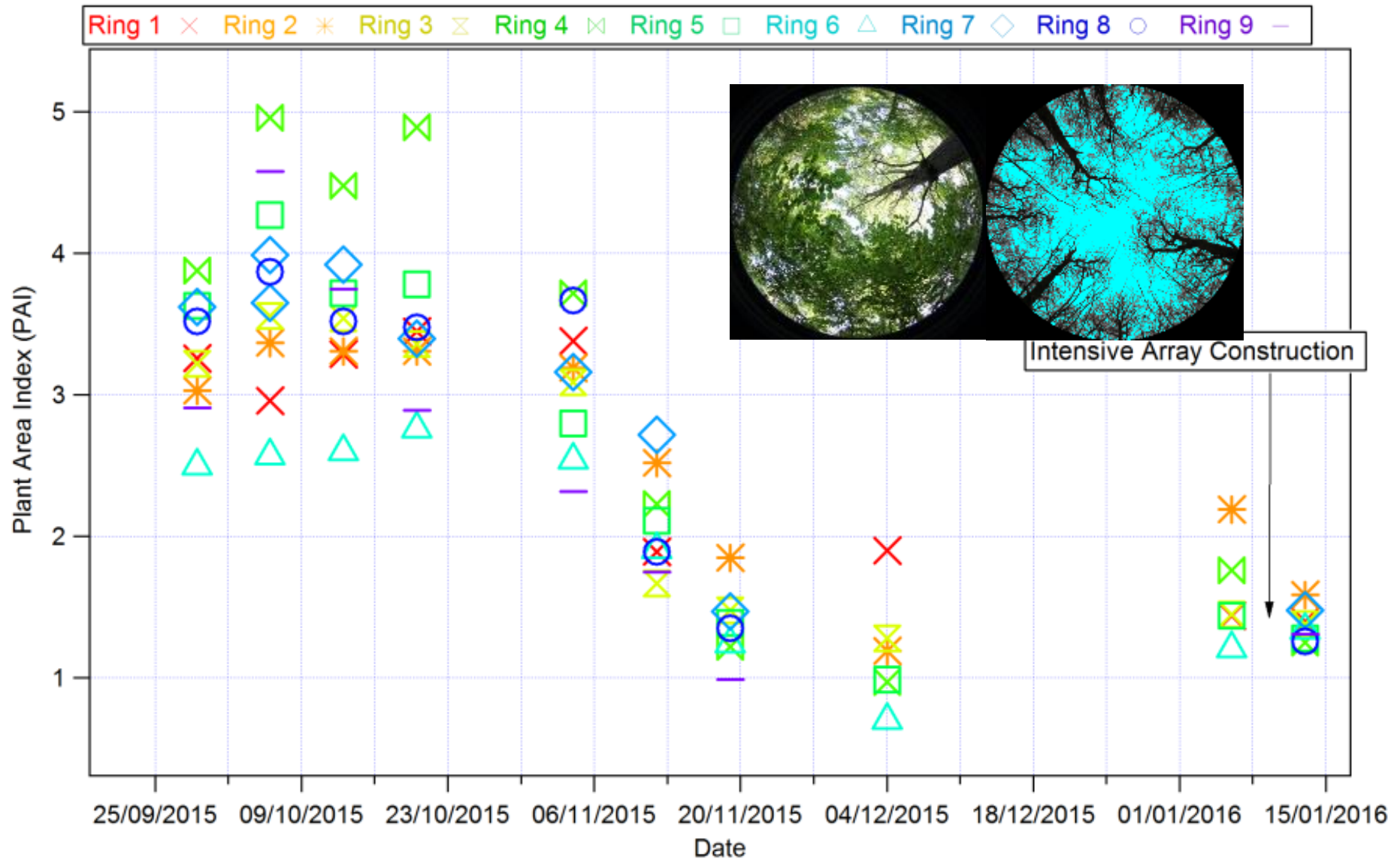
Fixed LAI = 5

Prescribed LAI = from obs at Mill Haft

Phenology OFF, CanRadMod 6

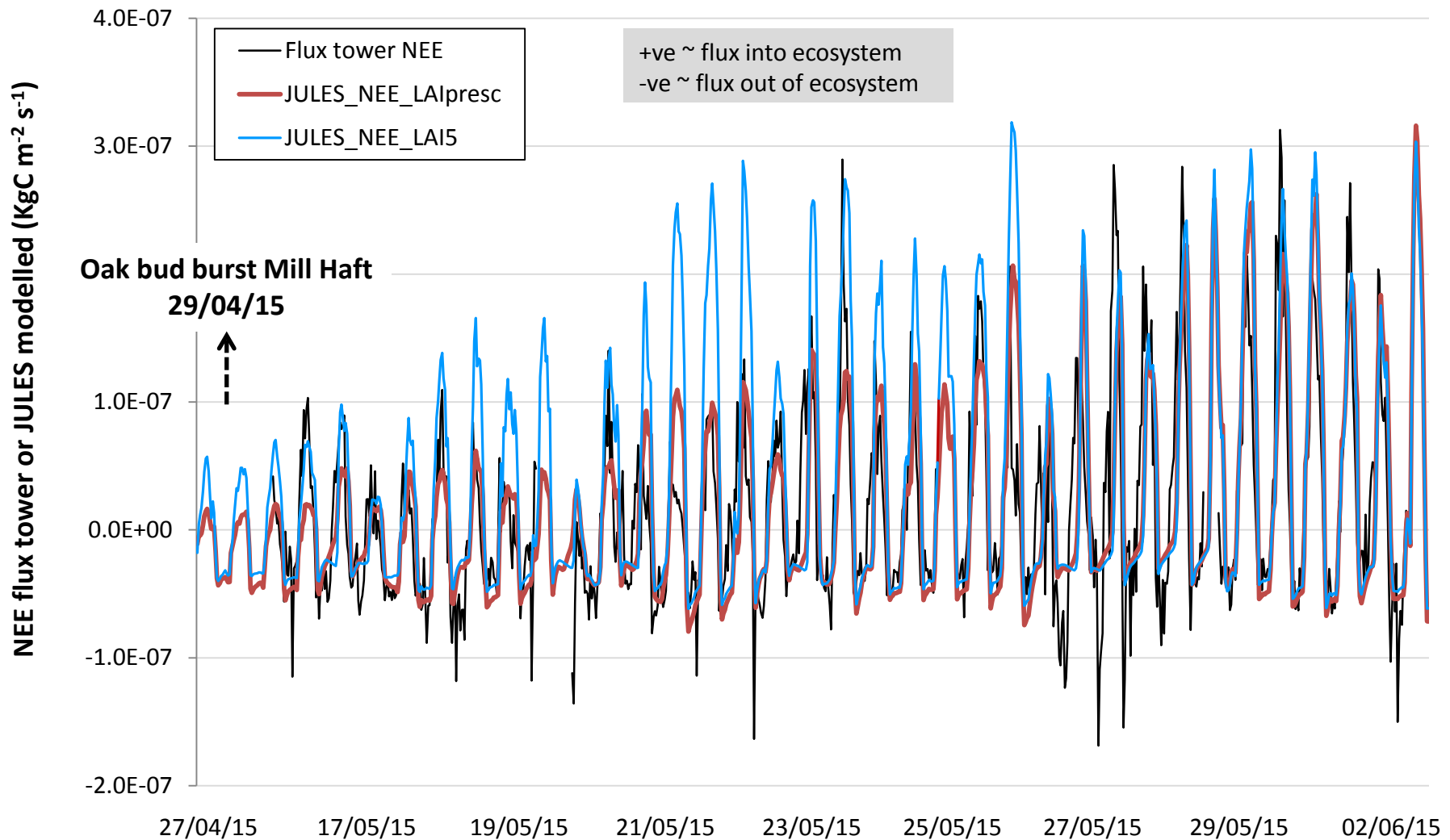


Observed Leaf/Plant Area Index (LAI/PAI)

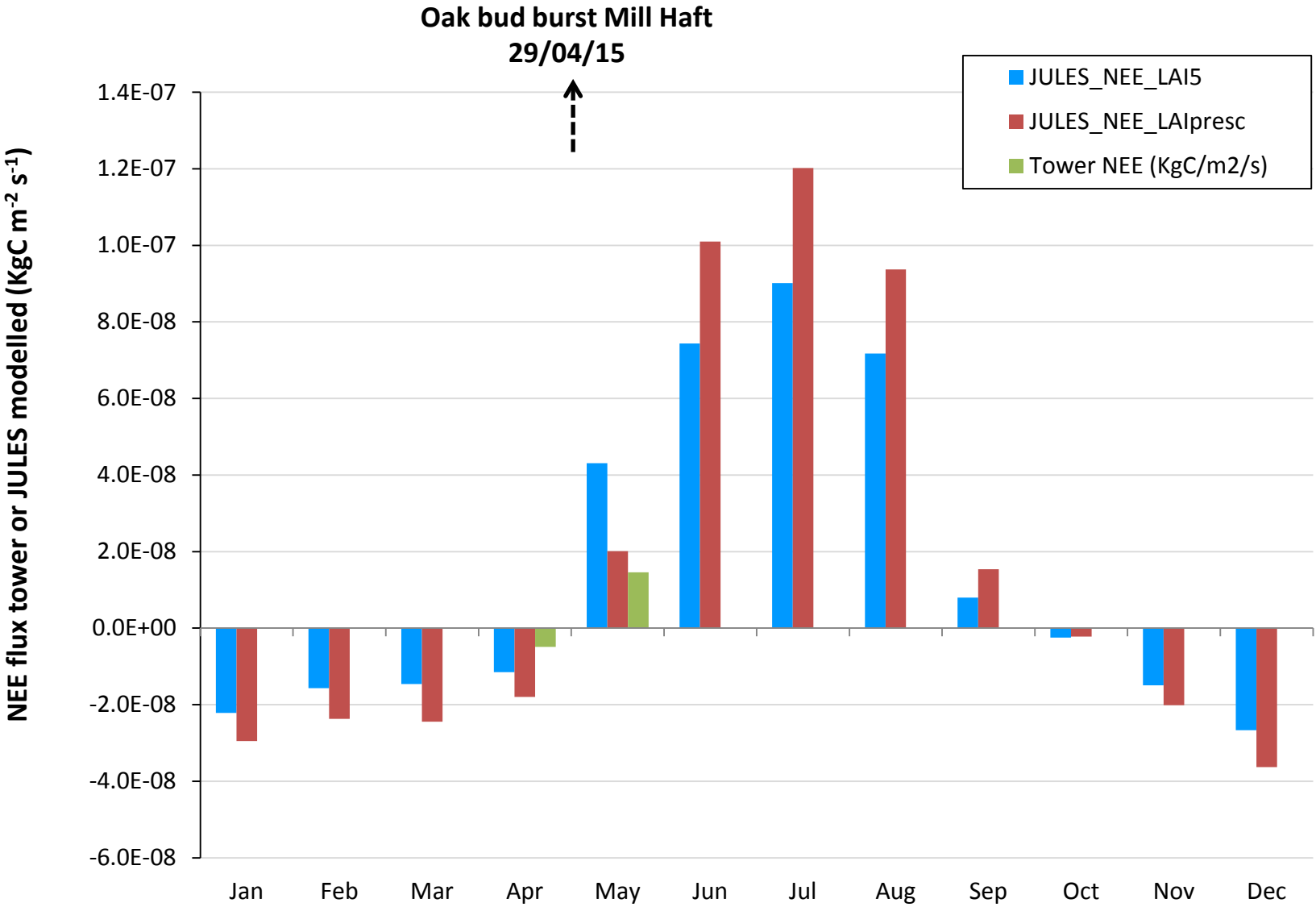


NEE from Mill Haft fluxes & JULES model (KgC m⁻² s⁻¹)

JULES vn4.2 point location forced with hourly Shawbury meteorological station data

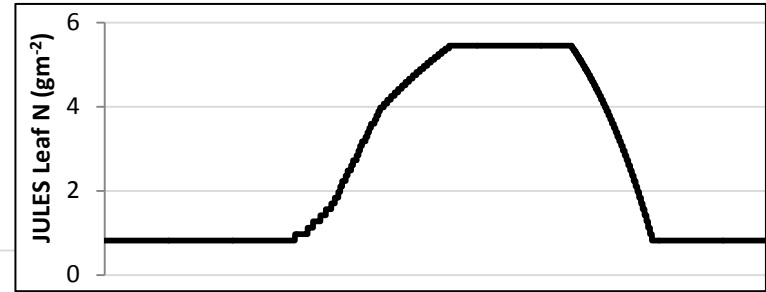
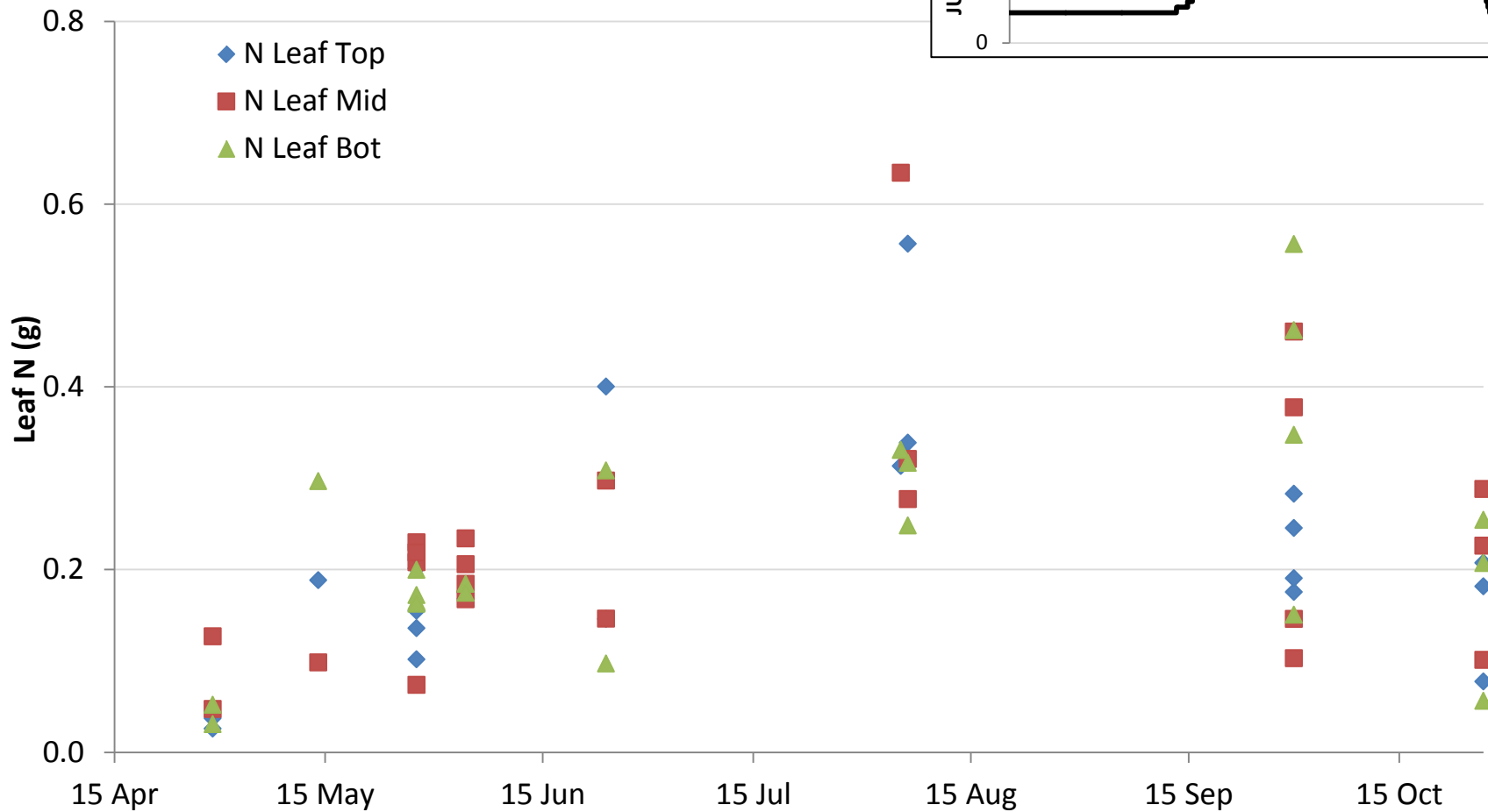


NEE monthly averages 2015



Average Leaf Nitrogen (g) by canopy position

$$\text{Leaf N (g)} = \text{Leaf N (\%)} * \text{Dry Leaf mass (g)}$$



Thanks, Questions ?



Measuring the response of leaf photosynthesis to CO₂

Characterize this response across the woodland under ambient conditions

Derive **two key photosynthetic parameters** (V_{cmax} and J_{max}) use to model photosynthesis

Hazel and Sycamore -understory



Measured a total of
31 Response curves

Oaks:

Top, mid and low canopy

