

**Table S2.** Results of fertilization experiments with conifer vegetation, showing green-leaf N:P ratios and nutrient status of the vegetation.

N:P	Limitation	Vegetation	Fertilization	Location
7.54	N	<i>Picea abies</i> stand	N & P	Sweden
8	N	Douglas fir forest	N & P	The Netherlands
8.96	N	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i> stand	N & P	Sweden
7.0-14.5	Not N	Coniferous forest	N	Europe
9.8	N & P	<i>Picea abies</i> plantation	N & P	Sweden
10.42	N & P	Loblolly pine plantation	N & P	North Carolina

Re-organized according to Tessier & Raynal (2003) [22].