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**Pure species in a continuum of genetic and morphological
variation: sympatric oaks at the edge of their range**

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Running title: Genetic and morphological variation in oaks

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- 1 • *Background and aims* Studies on oaks (*Quercus* spp.) have often been hampered by
2 taxonomic confusion, a situation further compounded by the occurrence of extensive
3 interspecific hybridization. In the present study, we used a combination of genetic
4 and morphological analyses to examine sympatric populations of *Q. petraea* and *Q.*
5 *robur* at the northwestern edge of their ranges in Northern Ireland, since it had
6 previously been suggested that hybridization could facilitate the apparent rapid, long-
7 distance dispersal of oaks following the glaciations.
- 8 • *Methods* Samples were collected from 24 sites across Northern Ireland that had been
9 previously designated as ancient or semi-natural woodland. Genotypes were
10 obtained from a total of 950 trees using twelve nuclear microsatellite loci, and
11 admixture coefficients calculated based on a Bayesian clustering approach.
12 Individuals were also classified as *Q. petraea*, *Q. robur* or hybrids based on two
13 objective morphometric characters shown previously to effectively delineate pure
14 individuals. Genetically “pure” individuals of both species, as defined by the
15 Bayesian clustering, were also genotyped for five chloroplast microsatellites.
- 16 • *Key results* Genetic and morphological analyses both indicated the presence of pure
17 individuals of both species, as well as a continuum of intermediates. There was a
18 good agreement between the molecular and morphological classification, with a
19 generally clear separation between pure individuals.
- 20 • *Main conclusions* Despite millennia of hybridization and introgression, genetically
21 and morphologically pure individuals of both *Q. petraea* and *Q. robur* can be found
22 at the edge of their range, where both species occur sympatrically. The high
23 proportion of individuals exhibiting introgression compared with previous studies
24 may reflect the historical role of hybridization in facilitating dispersal following the

- 1 glaciations. This is further supported by the significantly higher chloroplast diversity
- 2 in *Q. robur* compared to *Q. petraea*.
- 3 **Key words:** Hybridization, introgression, microsatellites, morphological analysis, oak,
- 4 *Quercus petraea*, *Quercus robur*, species delineation.

INTRODUCTION

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The taxonomy of oaks (*Quercus* spp.) has intrigued and perplexed many eminent scientists since Linnaeus described twelve species in 1753 (Linnaeus 1753). Darwin (1859) highlighted the difficulty in delimiting oak species across Europe in his *On the Origin of Species*, while more regional taxonomic difficulties within the British Isles were addressed by C. C. Babington (1862). These taxonomic struggles have resulted in the number of recognised oak species varying over time, culminating in Schwarz's (1964) *Flora Europaea* entry, which distinguished 320 separate species. The challenge of separating various species complexes into taxonomic units across their geographical ranges remains an area of intensive research and debate, to the extent of proposals conflicting with the conventional Biological Species Concept *sensu* Mayr (1942; van Valen 1976; Kremer & Petit 1993; Manos *et al.* 1999).

One consequence of the sympatric occurrence of many closely related *Quercus* species, and one of the causes of taxonomic confusion is extensive hybridization (Whittemore & Schaal 1991; Rushton 1993). Within the European white oak (Section *Quercus*) complex, *Q. petraea* (Matt.) Liebl. (Sessile oak) and *Q. robur* L. (Pedunculate oak) are the two most widespread and economically important species. They occur sympatrically across temperate Europe, with the range of *Q. petraea* being largely coincident with that of *Q. robur* as far as the eastern borders of Poland and Romania, beyond which *Q. robur* extends to the Urals. Hybrids between the two have been reported throughout their distribution (reviewed in Gardiner 1970; Ortiz-Barrientos & Baack 2014), despite the demonstration of both pre- and postzygotic reproductive barriers (Steinhoff 1993; Bacilieri *et al.* 1996; Streiff *et al.* 1999; Abadie *et al.* 2011).

Q. robur is an early-successional tree that is associated with base rich, clay soils, often

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1 poorly drained sites and tolerant of waterlogging, whilst *Q. petraea* prefers upland peaty
2 soils and grows in mature forests. Under a model of density-dependent hybridization
3 (“Hubbs’ Principle”; Hubbs 1955), patterns of hybridization between *Q. petraea* and *Q.*
4 *robur* might be expected to reflect the species’ ecological preferences (Lagache *et al.*
5 2013).

6 *Quercus petraea*, *Q. robur* and their hybrid *Q. x rosacea* (Bechst.) are the only forms
7 within the European white oak complex that occur in Ireland, which represents the
8 extreme northwestern limit of the species’ ranges. This species complex recolonized
9 Ireland around 9500 BP from refugia located on the Iberian peninsula (Dumolin-
10 Lapègue *et al.* 1997; Petit *et al.* 2002; Mitchell 2003; Kelleher *et al.* 2004a; Muir *et al.*
11 2004; Lowe *et al.* 2005). Discriminating between the two species by pollen
12 morphology is not possible, and, thus, it is not possible to determine which species
13 arrived in Ireland first and the lag time, if any, until the subsequent species’ arrival.
14 However, due to the recognised status of *Q. robur* as a colonising species, it may be
15 postulated that this species was the first to arrive. Oak woodlands subsequently
16 dominated Ireland until the Neolithic, when use of the trees for building instigated a
17 steep decline, and by the 1600s only 2-3% of Ireland’s forest cover remained (Mitchell
18 1995; Rackham 1995), making Ireland the least wooded region in Europe with the
19 exception of Iceland.

20 The occurrence of oak at high latitudes soon after the retreat of the ice formed the
21 basis of a long-standing debate in biogeography (“Reid’s Paradox”), since the apparent
22 speed of recolonization was believed to vastly exceed the species’ dispersal capacities
23 (Reid 1899; Provan & Bennett 2008). It has been suggested, however, that
24 hybridization between *Q. petraea* and *Q. robur* could facilitate rapid colonization
25 through a process of differential dispersal and asymmetric pollen-mediated

1 introgression (Petit *et al.* 2003). Ireland, being located on the northwestern edge of the
2 species' distribution, would have to have been recolonized particularly quickly due to
3 the increase in sea levels following the glaciations, the aim of the present study was to
4 determine the genetic composition of oaks in Northern Ireland. Here, we investigate
5 genetic and morphological variation in Irish oak to examine how *Q. petraea* and *Q.*
6 *robur* maintain genetic and phenotypic integrity whilst indulging in promiscuity during
7 alternative periods of extreme environmental change and stasis. We sampled “blind”
8 (*sensu* Lepais *et al.* 2009), rather than *a priori* identifying individuals as either *Q.*
9 *petraea* or *Q. robur*, in order to give a true representation of both species and the entire
10 spectrum of genetic intermediates resulting from nearly 10,000 years of hybridization
11 and backcrossing. We also analysed levels and patterns of nuclear and chloroplast
12 genetic diversity in genetically “pure” individuals of both species to determine if there
13 was any bias in levels of chloroplast diversity. Under the scenario outlined by Petit *et*
14 *al.* (2003), we would expect to see similar levels of nuclear diversity, but far higher
15 levels of chloroplast diversity in *Q. robur*, since acorns from this species would be
16 responsible for the majority of colonization events.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sampling and DNA extraction

Samples were collected from 24 sites across Northern Ireland that had been previously designated as ancient or semi-natural woodland based on data collected for the Woodland Trust Inventory of ancient and long-established woodland in Northern Ireland (www.backonthemap.org.uk; Fig. 1 and Table 1). For genetic analyses, a single leaf was collected from up to 48 trees per site and stored in silica gel, and GPS coordinates recorded for every tree. DNA was extracted using the CTAB method of Doyle and Doyle (1987). Nuclear genotypes were obtained for between 17 and 47 individuals per population (Table 1; total = 950; mean = 39.583). For morphometric analyses, three leaves were taken from the same 48 trees per population, with the exception of Banagher Glen (23) and Correl Glen (47; total = 1126; mean 46.875). Fully expanded, open canopy leaves were collected to minimize any effects of environmental factors such as exposure / shade.

Genotyping

All trees were genotyped for twelve nuclear microsatellite loci: MsQ13, QpZAG15, QpZAG110, QrZAG7, QrZAG20, QrZAG96, QrZAG112, PIE020, PIE102, PIE223, PIE239 and PIE271 (Guichoux *et al.* 2011). Forward primers included a 19 bp M13 tail (CACGACGTTGTAAAACGAC) and reverse primers included a 7 bp tail (GTGTCTT). PCR was carried out in a total volume of 10 µl containing 100 ng genomic DNA, 5 pmol of 6-FAM-, HEX- or PET-labelled M13 primer, 0.05 pmol of each M13-tailed forward primer, 5 pmol each reverse primer, 1x PCR reaction buffer, 200 µM each dNTP, 2.5 mM MgCl₂ and 0.25 U GoTaq Flexi DNA polymerase

1 (Promega, Sunnyvale, CA, USA). PCR was carried out on a MWG Primus thermal
2 cycler (Ebersberg, Germany) using the following conditions: initial denaturation at 94
3 °C for 3 min followed by 40 cycles of denaturation at 94 °C for 30 s, annealing at 56 °C
4 for 30 s, extension at 72 °C for 30 s and a final extension at 72 °C for 5 min. Genotyping
5 was carried out on an AB3730xl capillary genotyping system (Applied Biosystems,
6 Foster City, CA, USA). Allele sizes were scored using the GENEMAPPER software
7 package (v4.1; Applied Biosystems) using LIZ-500 size standards, and were checked by
8 comparison with previously sized control samples. Chromatograms were all inspected
9 visually.

10 All trees were also genotyped for five chloroplast microsatellite loci: μ dt1, μ dt3,
11 μ dt4, μ cd5 and μ kk4 (Deguilloux *et al.* 2003). PCR and genotyping were carried out as
12 described above, except that an annealing temperature of 44 °C was used over 30 cycles.

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14 *Genetic data analysis*

15 GENEPOP (V3.4; Raymond and Rousset, 1995) was used to test for linkage
16 disequilibrium between nuclear microsatellite loci. To assess the levels of admixture
17 within individuals, Bayesian model-based clustering based on nuclear microsatellites
18 was carried out using STRUCTURE (V 2.2; Pritchard *et al.* 2000). The number of clusters
19 was set to $K = 2$ to represent the two putative parental species, *Quercus petraea* and *Q.*
20 *robur*. The program was run using 50,000 burn-in iterations followed by 500,000
21 Markov Chain Monte Carlo iterations. The analysis was carried out ten times and mean
22 values of the admixture coefficient, Q , were calculated for each individual.

23 Levels and patterns of genetic diversity were calculated for populations containing at
24 least ten “pure” individuals of either species, based on the Q values ($Q \leq 0.1$ for *Q.*
25 *petraea* and $Q \geq 0.9$ for *Q. robur*; Table 2). Levels of observed (H_O) and expected (H_E)

1 heterozygosity and levels of allelic richness (A_R) were calculated using the FSTAT
2 software package (V2.9.3.2; Goudet 2001). Chloroplast microsatellite allele sizes were
3 combined into haplotypes, and levels of genetic diversity (H) based on haplotype
4 frequencies were calculated using the ARLEQUIN software package (V3.5.1.2; Excoffier
5 & Lischer 2010). To account for differences in sample sizes, levels of haplotype
6 richness (R_h) were also calculated using HAPLOTYPE ANALYSIS (V1.05; Eliades and
7 Eliades 2009).

8

9 *Morphometric analysis*

10 Morphometric analysis employed two objective characters shown previously to
11 effectively delineate pure individuals of *Q. petraea* and *Q. robur*, namely the presence
12 (*Q. petraea*) or absence (*Q. robur*) of stellate hairs (Aas 1995), and the ratio of petiole
13 length to lamina length (Cousens 1963; Kelleher *et al.* 2004b; *Q. petraea* ≥ 0.1 , *Q.*
14 *robur* < 0.1). Individuals exhibiting both species-specific characters (petiole/lamina
15 ratio averaged across the three leaves examined) were assigned to that species, with the
16 remainder being classed as hybrids. Although our approach is not directly comparable
17 with most previous morphological studies, which use multiple characters and
18 multivariate analysis to classify individuals, it is categorical, which makes delineation
19 simpler.

RESULTS

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3 *Genetic analysis*

4 No significant evidence of consistent linkage disequilibrium (i.e. involving the same
5 loci) was detected between any of the twelve nuclear microsatellites analysed (58 out of
6 1586 tests). The STRUCTURE analysis indicated a range of admixture (Q) values.

7 Comparison with the morphometric analysis indicated that $Q = 0.00$ corresponded to $Q.$
8 *petraea* and $Q = 1.00$ to $Q. robur$. The overall spectrum of Q values is shown in Figure
9 2. Spectra for individual populations are shown in Figure 3.

10 For genetically “pure” individuals, levels of allelic richness (A_R) ranged from 4.788
11 (Castle Archdale) to 5.600 (Roe Valley; mean = 5.152) in $Q. petraea$, and from 4.556
12 (Gosford Park) to 5.163 (Fardross Forest; mean = 4.807) in $Q. robur$ (Table 2). Levels
13 of observed (H_O) and expected (H_E) heterozygosity ranged from 0.619 (Castle
14 Archdale) to 0.714 (Hollymount; mean = 0.653) and from 0.677 (Errigal Glen) to 0.766
15 (Roe Valley; mean = 0.714) respectively in $Q. petraea$, and from 0.575 (Gosford Park)
16 to 0.781 (Belle Isle; mean = 0.663) and from 0.676 (Gortin Glen) to 0.760 (Belle Isle;
17 mean = 0.720) respectively for $Q. robur$ (Table 2).

18 A total of 14 chloroplast haplotypes were detected, six of which were found in a
19 single individual (Table 2). Only the two most common haplotypes (H1 and H2) were
20 found in $Q. petraea$, and nine of the ten populations were fixed for a single haplotype,
21 the exception being Glenarm, which exhibited a haplotype diversity (H) of 0.282 and a
22 haplotype richness (R_h) of 0.923. $Q. robur$ populations exhibited far higher chloroplast
23 genetic diversity, with levels of H and R_h ranging from 0.167 (Barnett’s Demesne) to
24 0.723 (Gortin Glen; mean = 0.464), and from 0.750 (Barnett’s Demesne) to 2.743
25 (Fardross Forest; mean = 1.955) respectively. Levels of A_R were significantly lower in

1 *Q. robur* than in *Q. petraea* (Wilcoxon Test: $W = 67$; $P = 0.01554$), whilst there was no
2 significant difference in H_E (Wilcoxon Test: $W = 33$; $P = 0.56340$; Figure 4). Levels of
3 both H and R_h were significantly lower in *Q. petraea* than in *Q. robur* (Wilcoxon Test:
4 $W = 3$; $P = 0.00053$ and $W = 2$; $P = 0.00037$ respectively).

5

6 *Morphometric analysis*

7 Morphometric analysis based on two discriminatory characters classified 345
8 individuals (30.67% of individuals studied) as *Q. petraea* and 251 individuals (22.31%)
9 as *Q. robur*. The remaining 529 (47.02%) were classified as hybrids. The geographical
10 distribution of the three classes by population is shown in Figure 5. Based on
11 morphology, only two of the 24 populations studied (Ness Wood and Correl Glen) had
12 pure individuals of only one species (*Q. petraea*) along with putative hybrid individuals.
13 Q values for trees morphometrically assigned to *Q. petraea* (mean = 0.212; median =
14 0.125) were significantly different from those for trees assigned to *Q. robur* (mean =
15 0.821; median = 0.906; Figure 6). Boxplots showing distributions of Q values by
16 population are given in Figure S1, Supporting Information. In 15 out of 18 populations
17 where more than one individual of each species was analyzed, Q values for *Q. petraea*
18 and *Q. robur* were significantly different (Mann-Whitney U test).

DISCUSSION

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The results of the present study indicate that oak woodlands in Northern Ireland, which represents the northwestern edge of their distribution range, comprise both a morphological and genetic continuum of individuals that range from pure *Q. petraea* to pure *Q. robur*, with varying degrees of hybridization and introgression in intermediate individuals. Using the genetic criteria for “pure” individuals as defined by Lepais *et al.* (2009; admixture coefficient $Q < 0.1$ for *Q. petraea* or > 0.9 for *Q. robur*), *ca.* 23% of trees were classified as pure *Q. petraea*, whilst *ca.* 22% were classified as pure *Q. robur*. There was good agreement between the molecular and morphological classification, with a generally clear separation between pure individuals. This was particularly apparent in the two populations from which no individuals were identified morphologically as *Q. robur*, Ness Wood and Correl Glen, with no *Q* scores of greater than 0.6 in the former or greater than 0.7 in the latter. Previous morphological studies in Ireland had suggested that the two form distinct species, but also that some hybrids occur (Carlisle & Brown 1965; Minihan & Rushton 1984; Rushton 1983, 1993; Kelleher *et al.* 2004b). In their *Flora of County Fermanagh*, Forbes and Northridge (2012) stated that due to difficulty in species identification as a result of introgression, they had amalgamated their accounts of both oak species under *Q. petraea*. Their reasoning was that *Q. petraea* was “... generally regarded as a good, homogenous species ...”, but a comparison of our morphological and genetic data indicate that both species are represented by genetically and morphologically distinct individuals. A previous study on 24 populations across Ireland using AFLPs found little separation of the two species, despite morphological distinctiveness (Kelleher *et al.* 2005). This contrast to the findings of the present study could be due to the use of dominant markers

1 and the low number of samples (five) analyzed from each population, although an
2 earlier AFLP study on Flemish populations using larger sample sizes (mean = 18.8 per
3 population) showed clear molecular and morphological discrimination (Coart *et al.*
4 2002).

5 The use in the present study of twelve microsatellite markers that share many alleles
6 between the two species means that it is not possible to assign individuals to various
7 hybrid and backcross classes with any degree of certainty (Vaha & Primmer 2006).
8 Nevertheless, based on the distribution of admixture coefficients, it would seem that
9 relatively few first generation (F_1) hybrids are represented in the samples, and that
10 backcrossing to either putative parental species predominates in individuals exhibiting
11 evidence of introgression. A similar scenario was described previously by Lepais *et al.*
12 (2009), and thought to originate through a combination of pre-reproductive barriers
13 such as density-dependent pollination and intrinsic pollen discrimination favouring
14 intraspecific crosses and backcrosses over interspecific mating (Lepais & Gerber 2011).
15 Both the genetic and the morphological data indicate that the majority of the woodlands
16 examined in the present study tend to be comprised of one or other of the two parental
17 species, plus hybrids. Again, this is most likely a result of relative abundance of
18 parental species and pollen discrimination (Lepais *et al.* 2009; Lepais & Gerber 2011;
19 Legache *et al.* 2014), but it has also been shown that other environmental factors
20 including fine-scale spatial organization and selection can control hybridization
21 (Gugerli *et al.* 2007; Lagache *et al.* 2013). This complex interplay of factors may
22 explain not only the regular occurrence of single species / hybrid dominated woodlands,
23 but also the occasional sites where all three classes are found, such as Hillsborough.

24 Although 45% of the individuals analyzed genetically were assigned to pure *Q.*
25 *petraea* or *Q. robur*, the remaining 55% exhibiting evidence of introgression is far

1 higher than the levels reported in a previous “blind” study by Lepais *et al.* (2009),
2 which also analyzed two other white oak species, *Q. pubescens* and *Q. pyrenaica*. In it,
3 they assigned 48.9% and 32.1% of individuals to *Q. robur* and *Q. petraea* respectively
4 from an exhaustively sampled stand containing only the two species, with 5.7% of
5 individuals classed as hybrids between the two, the remaining 14.7% exhibiting
6 introgression from either *Q. pubescens* or *Q. pyrenaica* as a result of pollen
7 immigration. The high values observed in the present study could reflect the historical
8 importance of hybridization in facilitating the long-distance recolonization of Ireland
9 from Iberia after the last glacial period, which ended approximately 11.5 kya. Although
10 most palynological analyses do not discriminate between the two species, the pioneer
11 nature of *Q. robur*, with its acorns more likely to be dispersed over long distances than
12 those of *Q. petraea* (Jones 1959; Petit *et al.* 2003), suggests that it colonized first.
13 Subsequent pollen flow from *Q. petraea*, followed by hybridization, would facilitate the
14 dispersal of the later successional species into the area colonized by the pioneer, and
15 rapid unidirectional backcrossing could restore both species over time (Petit *et al.*
16 2003). The levels and patterns of genetic diversity observed at nuclear and chloroplast
17 loci in genetically “pure” individuals are completely consistent with this scenario.
18 Previous studies have demonstrated that chloroplast haplotypes are shared between the
19 two species (Dumolin-Lapègue *et al.* 1997; Petit *et al.* 2002; Cottrell *et al.* 2002) but,
20 despite this, chloroplast genetic diversity is significantly higher in *Q. robur*, suggesting
21 a great predominance of *Q. robur* acorns during the recolonization process. Generations
22 of assortative mating, as a result of environmental and intrinsic barriers would facilitate
23 adaptation to prevailing climatic and edaphic conditions, and ultimately lead to the
24 present day observed distributions of the species and their hybrids at the limit of their
25 distribution ranges.

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TABLE 1 Details of populations studied. *N* – number of individuals analysed.

<i>No</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Lat (N)</i>	<i>Long (W)</i>	<i>N</i>
1	Portaferry	54.391	5.565	34
2	Hollymount	54.322	5.751	41
3	Glenarm	54.964	5.955	37
4	Barnett's Demesne	54.552	5.960	46
5	Hillsborough	54.459	6.083	41
6	Rostrevor	54.093	6.190	44
7	Rea's Wood	54.705	6.229	47
8	Breen Wood	55.138	6.238	32
9	Portglenone	54.863	6.472	41
10	Gosford Park	54.304	6.523	34
11	Peatlands Park	54.483	6.612	35
12	Errigal Glen	54.971	6.733	40
13	Drum Manor	54.639	6.815	43
14	Roe Valley	55.025	6.939	38
15	Banagher Glen	54.884	6.954	17
16	Ness Wood	54.947	7.181	42
17	Gortin Glen	54.667	7.233	41
18	Fardross Forest	54.374	7.268	45
19	Crom	54.170	7.451	43
20	Belle Isle	54.245	7.564	46
21	Sloughan Glen	54.622	7.564	34
22	Castle Archdale	54.484	7.722	46
23	Marble Arch	54.264	7.812	43
24	Correl Glen	54.439	7.885	40

TABLE 2 Diversity statistics by population for “pure” individuals (see text for details). N – number of individuals analysed; A_R – allelic richness; H_O – observed heterozygosity; H_E – expected heterozygosity; H1-H8 – frequency of chloroplast haplotypes; Un – unique haplotype; H – gene diversity; R_h – haplotype richness.

Species	No	Name	Nuclear				Chloroplast												
			N	A_R	H_O	H_E	N	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	H7	H8	Un	H	R_h	
<i>Q. petraea</i>	2	Hollymount	14	5.256	0.714	0.693	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	3	Glenarm	13	4.914	0.642	0.711	13	2	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.282	0.923	
	6	Rostrevor	23	5.472	0.680	0.725	23	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	8	Breen Wood	17	5.045	0.641	0.731	17	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	12	Errigal Glen	12	4.858	0.699	0.677	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	14	Roe Valley	10	5.600	0.697	0.766	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	16	Ness Wood	24	5.197	0.557	0.721	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	21	Sloughan Glen	14	4.995	0.634	0.706	14	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	22	Castle Archdale	20	4.788	0.619	0.692	20	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	24	Correll Glen	22	5.391	0.642	0.721	22	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Q. robur</i>	1	Portaferry	12	5.007	0.588	0.740	12	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.204	1.705	
	4	Barnett’s Demesne	12	4.703	0.729	0.732	12	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.167	0.750	
	9	Portglenone	18	4.728	0.705	0.720	18	16	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.209	0.765	
	10	Gosford Park	16	4.556	0.575	0.679	15	2	10	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	0.562	2.657	
	13	Drum Manor	13	4.727	0.668	0.713	11	-	6	-	4	-	-	-	-	1	0.618	1.818	
	17	Gortin Glen	25	4.564	0.579	0.676	24	-	1	16	-	3	-	1	2	1	0.723	2.520	
	18	Fardross Forest	31	5.163	0.680	0.741	31	9	13	1	6	-	1	-	-	1	0.551	2.743	
	20	Belle Isle	18	5.011	0.781	0.760	16	5	8	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	0.683	2.683	

FIGURE LEGENDS

FIG. 1. Locations of sites sampled in this study. Numbers correspond to those in Table 1.

FIG. 2. Distribution spectrum of admixture coefficient (Q) values across all samples ($N = 955$).

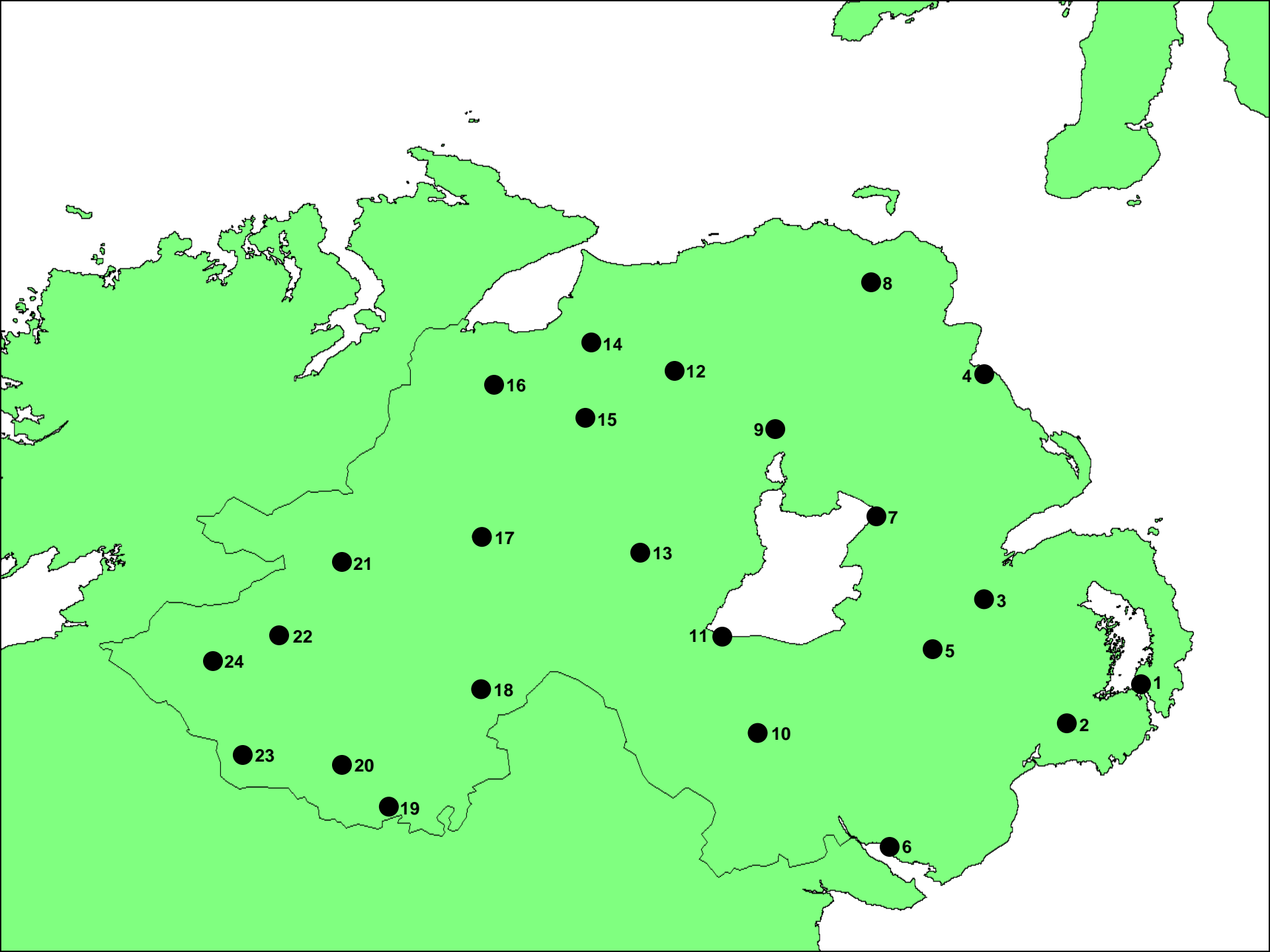
FIG. 3. Distribution spectra of admixture coefficient (Q) values by population. Q value classes are given on the x-axis, whilst numbers of individuals are given on the y-axis. Note that values on the y-axis vary from site to site.

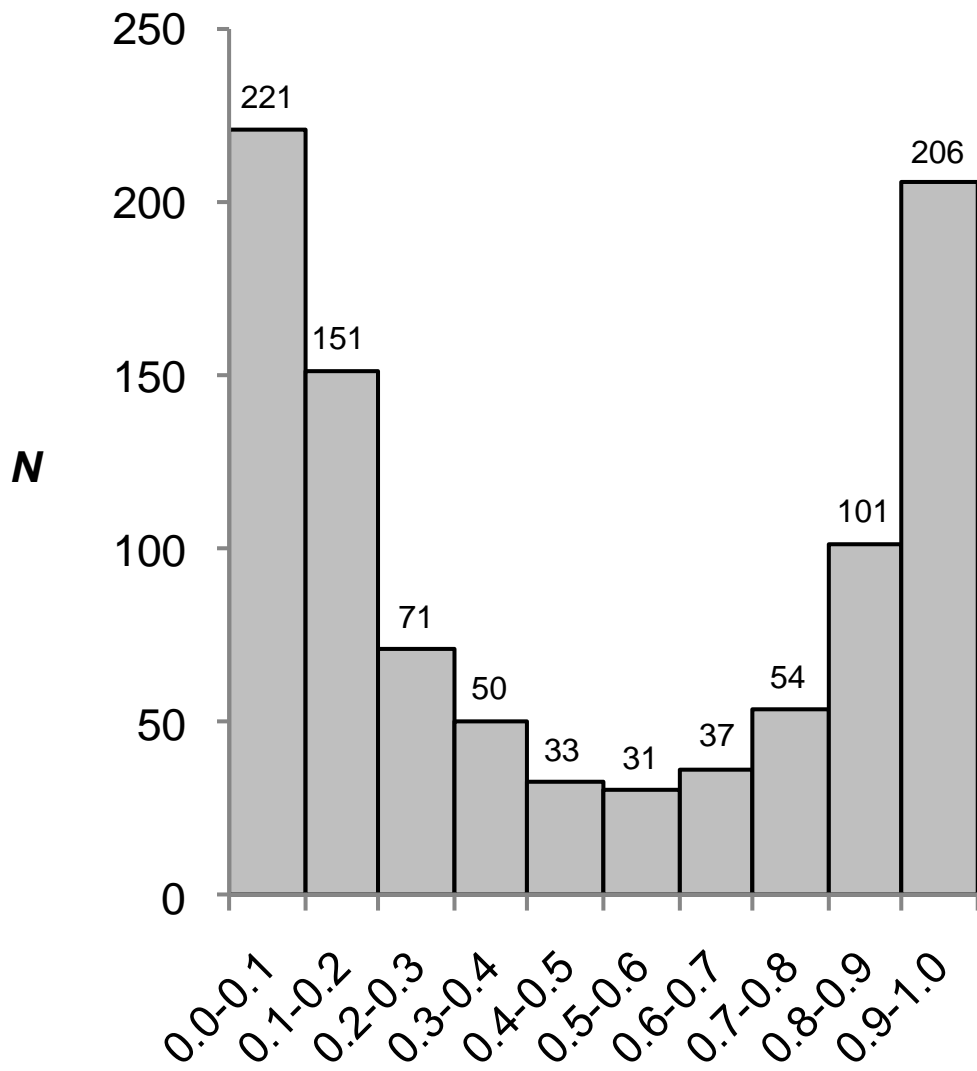
FIG 4. Boxplots showing comparisons of levels of nuclear (A_R and H_E) and chloroplast (H and R_H) genetic diversity between "pure" *Q. petraea* and *Q. robur*.

FIG. 5. Geographical distribution of *Quercus petraea* (black), *Q. robur* (white) and hybrids (grey) by population based on morphological analyses.

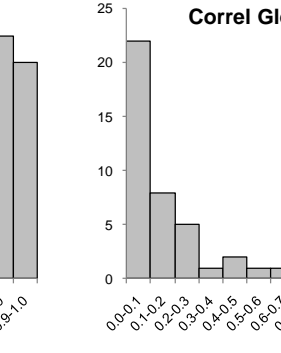
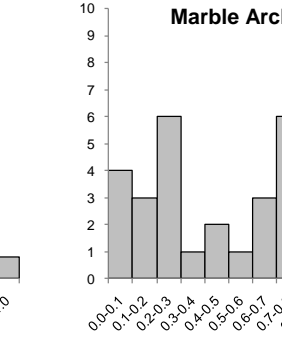
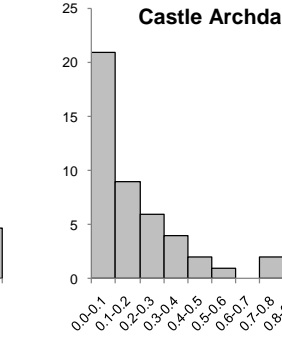
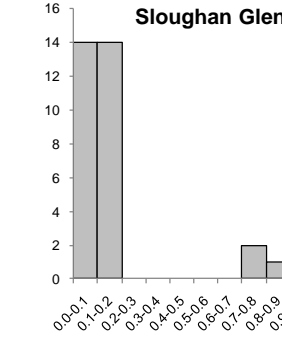
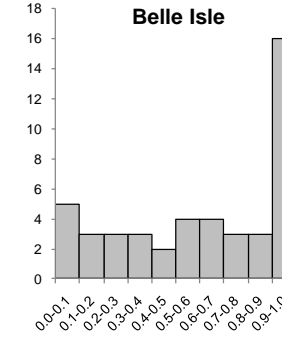
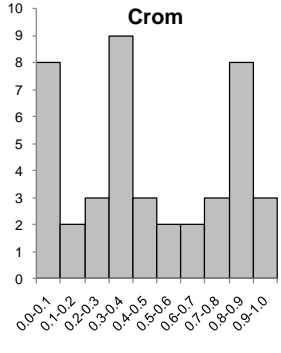
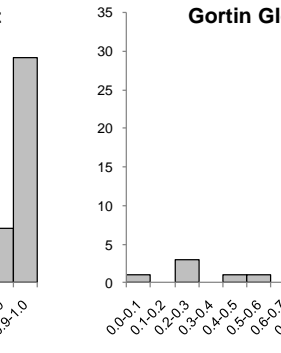
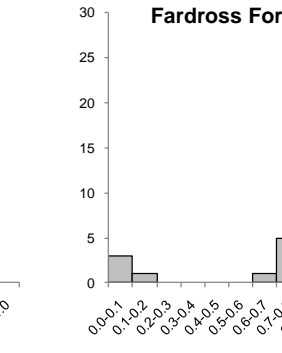
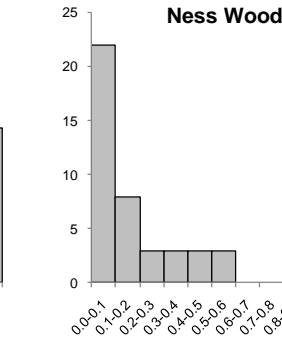
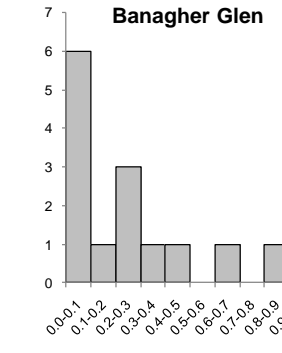
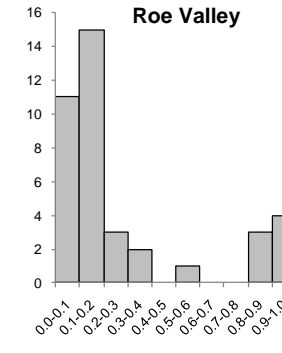
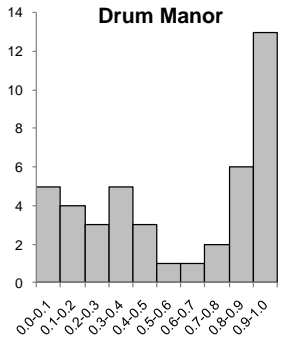
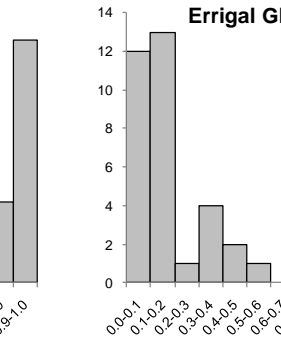
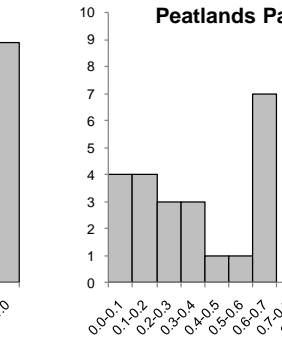
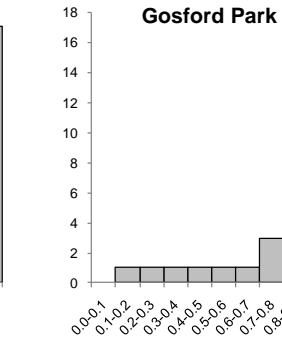
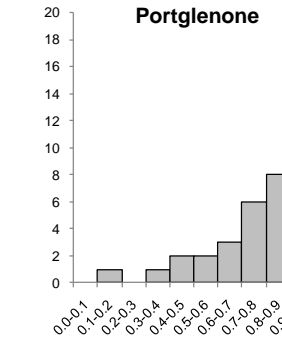
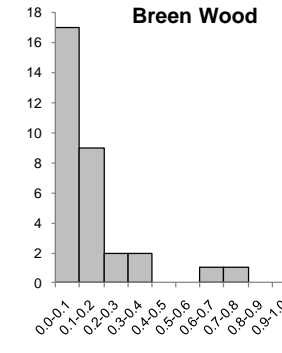
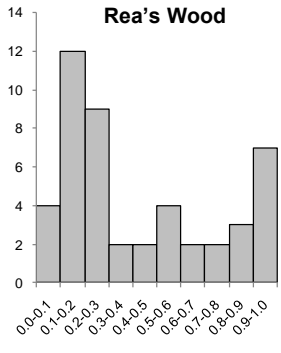
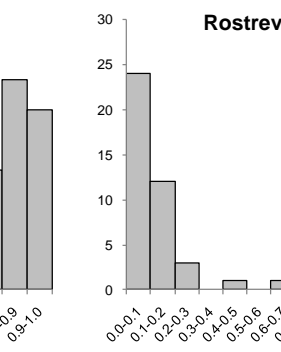
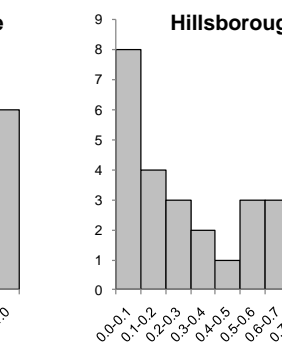
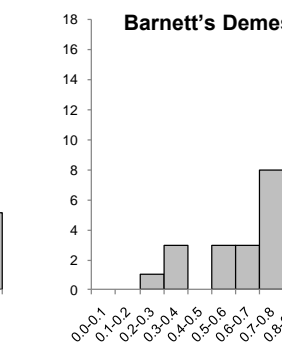
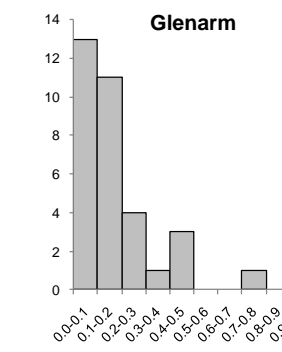
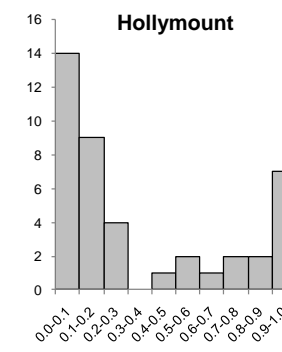
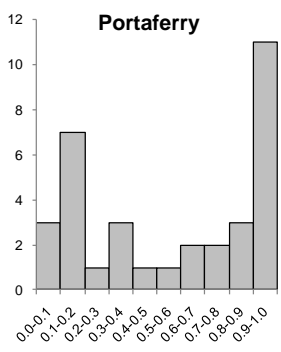
FIG 6. Boxplot showing admixture coefficient (Q) values for *Quercus petraea*, *Q. robur* and hybrids. Solid bar represents the median.

FIG S1. Boxplots showing admixture coefficient (Q) values for *Quercus petraea*, *Q. robur* and hybrids by population. Asterisks indicate significant differences (Mann-Whitney test).



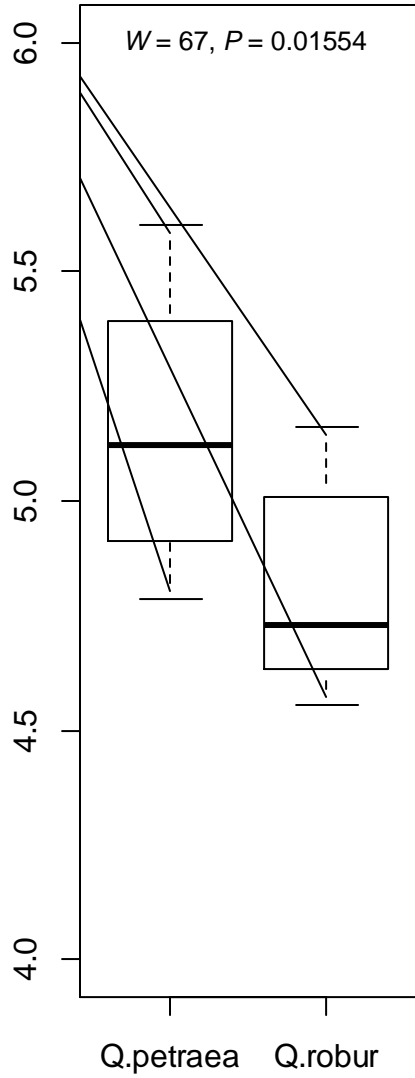


Q. petraea ← ————— → *Q. robur*

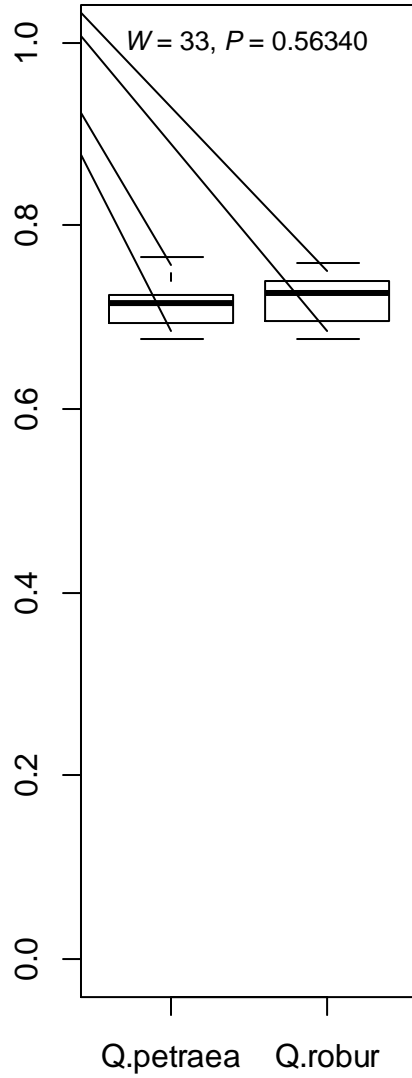


Nuclear

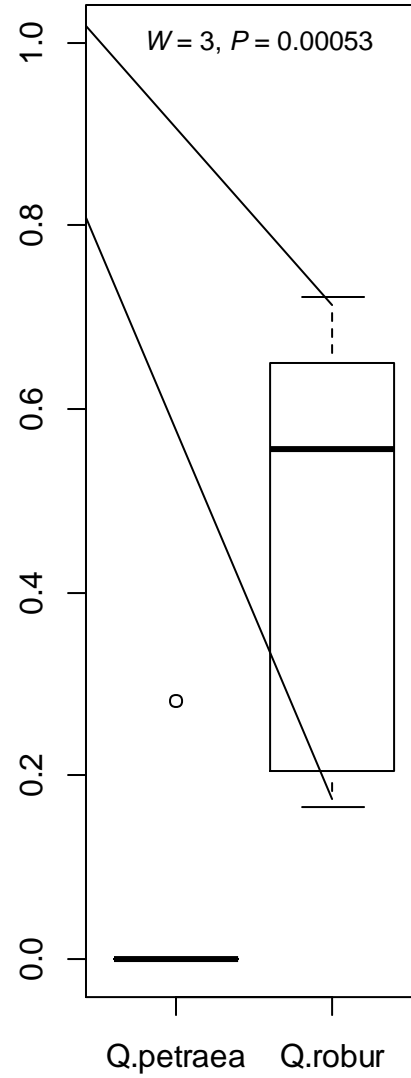
A_R



H_E



H



Chloroplast

R_H

