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Carbon dioxide exchange of a larch forest after a typhoon disturbance

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Abstract

A typhoon event catastrophically destroyed a 45-year-old Japanese larch plantation in southern Hokkaido, northern Japan in September 2004, and about 90% of trees were blown down. Vegetation was measured to investigate its regeneration process and CO₂ flux, or net ecosystem production (NEP), was measured in 2006–2008 using an automated chamber system to investigate the effects of typhoon disturbance on the ecosystem carbon balance. Annual maximum aboveground biomass (AGB) increased from 2.7 Mg ha⁻¹ in 2006 to 4.0 Mg ha⁻¹ in 2007, whereas no change occurred in annual maximum leaf area index (LAI), which was 3.7 m² m⁻² in 2006 and 3.9 m² m⁻² in 2007. Red raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*) had become dominant within 2 years after the typhoon disturbance, and came to account for about 60% and 50% of AGB and LAI, respectively. In comparison with CO₂ fluxes measured by the eddy covariance technique in 2001–2003, for 4.5 months during the growing season, the sum of gross primary production (GPP) decreased on average by 739 gC m⁻² (64%) after the disturbance, whereas ecosystem respiration (RE) decreased by 501 gC m⁻² (51%). As a result, NEP decreased from 159 ± 57 gC m⁻² to -80 ± 30 gC m⁻², which shows that the ecosystem shifted from a carbon sink to a source. Seasonal variation in RE was strongly correlated to soil temperature. The interannual variation in the seasonal trend of RE was small. Light-saturated GPP (P_{\max}) decreased from 30–45 μmol m⁻² s⁻¹ to 8–12 μmol m⁻² s⁻¹ during the summer season through the disturbance because of large reduction in LAI.

Keywords: automated chamber system, carbon dioxide, disturbance, larch forest, red raspberry, typhoon

1. Introduction

Severe disturbances by fire, insects, disease, windthrow and harvesting significantly

affect the carbon balance of forest ecosystems (Magnani et al., 2007; Baldocchi, 2008; Amiro et al., *in press*). Many studies have focused on the change of forest structure, vegetation composition, and regeneration processes by severe wind damage (Foster and Boose, 1992; Merrens and Peart, 1992; Toyooka et al., 1992; Yoshida and Noguchi, 2009; Takafumi and Hiura, 2009; Wang et al., 2010). However, few reports have described direct quantification of the change of carbon balance. In Western Europe, windthrow by storms is an important forest disturbance (Nilsson et al., 2004; Usbeck et al., 2010). Lindroth et al. (2009) reported that the annual net ecosystem production (NEP) of a Swedish forest in the first year after the Gudrun storm event was estimated to be from -897 to -1259 gC m⁻² year⁻¹, and it was much more carbon loss than that of clear-cut forest in Europe, which ranged between ca. -400 and -100 gC m⁻² year⁻¹ (Kowalski et al., 2004). Knohl et al. (2002) also reported that about 50 gC m⁻² was released in the western Russian taiga during the summer season (3 months) 2 years after a windthrow event. These changes to large carbon sources after windthrow can be mainly explained by decreased photosynthesis attributable to vegetation reduction and increased heterotrophic respiration from disturbed soil and produced wood and leaf debris.

Typhoon is an important disturbance agent in East Asia and has sometimes caused catastrophic wind damage to forest ecosystems there. Typhoon Toyamaru severely damaged 750,000 ha of forest area and blew down 27 million m³ of stem wood in Hokkaido, the northernmost island of Japan, in 1954 (Tamate, 1977). Typhoon Songda hit Hokkaido again in September 2004 and left 37,000 ha of devastated forest (Hokkaido Forestry Research Institute, 2004). Other forests in East Asia, such as those in southwestern Japan (Saito, 2002) and Taiwan (Mabry et al., 1998; Lee et al., 2008), have also been struck frequently by typhoons. It is important to clarify how typhoon disturbances affect carbon dynamics in forest ecosystems, because the number of intense tropical cyclones is expected to increase as a result of global warming (IPCC, 2007). Furthermore, the occurrence of wind damage will potentially increase

in Japanese forests, because mature forest increases owing to less cutting (Fujimori, 1995; Kuboyama et al., 2003). Yamanoi et al. (2009) reported that a deciduous broadleaf forest in Hokkaido changed from a carbon sink to a source after Typhoon Songda, which destroyed more than 50% of crown areas. Sanada et al. (1996) showed that the soil carbon content in A-horizon had increased or varied randomly in the forest of central Hokkaido by Typhoon Toyamaru. However, few reports have quantified the change of carbon balance after typhoon disturbance in East Asia.

Tomakomai Flux Research Site was a larch plantation, and NEP had been measured by the eddy covariance technique since 2000 (Hirano et al., 2003; Wang et al., 2004; Hirata et al., 2007). After removing trees blown down by Typhoon Songda in 2004, red raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*) grew rapidly and became dominant. After the typhoon disturbance, NEP has been measured using a multichannel automated chamber system (Liang et al., 2003, 2004). The aims of this study were: (1) to elucidate the initial change of vegetation and microclimate following typhoon damage, (2) to quantify ecosystem carbon fluxes of the disturbed ecosystem and (3) to investigate the disturbance effect on the carbon balance of the larch forest.

2. Materials and methods

2.1. Site description

The study was conducted at Tomakomai Flux Research Site (42°44'N, 141°31'E; 125 m above sea level) in the Tomakomai National Forest in southern Hokkaido, Japan. This site is one of the core sites of AsiaFlux network. The forest was a Japanese larch (*Larix kaempferi*) plantation that had been afforested in 1957–1959 after Typhoon Toyamaru in 1954. The area was about 100 ha, and its canopy height was about 15 m in 2004. The terrain is essentially flat with a slight slope of 1–2°. Some deciduous broadleaf trees such as birch

(*Betula ermanii*, *Betula platyphylla*) and Japanese elm (*Ulmus japonica*) had invaded into the larch plantation, and a few spruce trees (*Picea jezoensis*) were scattered. Basal area densities of trees with a stem diameter at breast height (DBH, 1.3 m) larger than 5 cm were 19.6 and 5.5 m² ha⁻¹ for larch and other trees, respectively, in 2004. The maximum leaf area index (LAI) of larch and other trees were, respectively, 3.3 and 2.5 m² m⁻² in 2003 (Takeda et al., 2008). Dominant understory species were *Dryopteris crassirhizoma*, *Dryopteris austriaca*, *Pachysandra terminalis* and *Hydrangea petiolaris*. The maximum aboveground biomass (AGB) and LAI of the understory species were 2.7 Mg ha⁻¹ (Yuzu et al., 2003) and 3.6 m² m⁻², respectively.

Mean annual temperature was 7.5°C, and monthly-mean temperature varied from -4.1°C in January to 20.3°C in August, during 1971–2000 at Tomakomai weather station, which was about 10 km apart from the study site. Annual precipitation was 1228 mm and high in the summer.

The soil was volcanogenous regosol with 1–2 cm thick fresh litter and a 5–10 cm-thick decomposed organic layer, which accounted for 95% of soil organic carbon within a depth of 1 m (Matsuura and Sasa, 2000).

Typhoon Songda hit the site and blew down more than 90% of trees on 8 September 2004. Most of the fallen trees were uprooted. The soil surface was roughly disturbed. Two observation towers were destroyed and all observations, such as tower based CO₂ flux and ground based chamber measurements, were forced to be ceased. After the typhoon, the tree stems were removed from the forest for timber and wood chip, whereas branches and uprooted stumps were left. A new plot of 1.4 ha (140 m × 100 m) was replaced in the study site in 2005.

2.2. Vegetation survey

We set 10 rectangular plots (1 m × 10 m). Each plot was divided into 10 subplots (1 m × 1 m). Aboveground vegetation was harvested from one subplot of each rectangular plot, which totalled to 10 subplots, every 1 or 2 months from May or June through December in 2006 and in 2007. The harvested vegetation was sorted by species, and divided into leaf, stem, and fruit parts. AGB was determined after drying each part at 80°C for 48 h in an oven. Some leaves of each species were used to determine specific leaf area (SLA), which was calculated as the ratio of leaf area to leaf dry weight. Leaf area was measured using an optical scanner and software (Lia for Win32, ver. 0.376β1; Yamamoto, available via <http://www.agr.nagoya-u.ac.jp/~shinkan/LIA32/index.html>). LAI was calculated by multiplying the leaf biomass by SLA.

Biomass of larch and other trees before the typhoon were calculated from DBH using allometric regression equations. The DBH values of all trees with DBH larger than 5 cm were measured within an area of 1 ha in 2004. The allometric regression equation of larch trees was derived from data of harvesting surveys conducted in 2000 and 2001. For broadleaf trees, the allometric equation was derived from harvest data (Takahashi et al., 1999) of the Tomakomai Experimental Forest of Hokkaido University, which located within 6 km of the study site. The seasonal change of overstory LAI was determined from the attenuation of short-wave radiation by Beer's law using an extinction coefficient of 0.58 and the wood area index of 1.4 m² m⁻² before the disturbance (Hirata et al., 2007). Understory vegetation was assessed monthly during June–November in 2001 (Yuze et al., 2003).

2.3. Microclimate measurements

Microclimate has been measured on a 3.5-m-tall mast since August 2005. Four components of radiation, downward and upward short-wave and long-wave radiations, were measured at 2.8 m height using a radiometer (CNR1; Kipp & Zonen, the Netherlands).

Photosynthetic photon flux density (PPFD) was measured at 2.8 m using a quantum sensor (LI-190; Li-Cor Inc., USA). Precipitation was measured at 1.5 m using tipping-bucket rain gauge (TE525MM; Campbell Scientific Inc., USA). Wind speed and direction were measured at 3.8 m using a wind vane anemometer (3002; R. M. Young Co., USA). Air temperature and relative humidity were measured at 2.6 and 1.2 m using platinum resistance thermometers and capacitive hygrometers (HMP45A; Vaisala, Finland) in radiation shields (DTR502B; Vaisala, Finland). Soil temperature and volumetric soil moisture were measured at four points around the mast. Soil temperature was measured at 0.01, 0.03, 0.06, 0.15, and 0.50 m depth with copper-constantan thermocouples. Soil moisture was measured at 0.01–0.05 m depth using TDR sensors (CS615; Campbell Scientific Inc., USA). Signals from the sensors were taken every 5 s; then their 5-min means were recorded using a datalogger (CR10X; Campbell Scientific Inc., USA).

Similar microclimate variables had been monitored on the tower (42 m height) and on the forest floor within 30 m from the tower since July 2000 until the typhoon disturbance. Four components of radiation, downward and upward short-wave and long-wave radiations, were measured at 41, 17 and 2 m height. PPFD was measured at 41, 17, 4 and 2 m. Precipitation was measured at 41 and 1.5 m. Wind speed and direction were measured at 42, 27, 22, 18, 14, 8, 5 and 1.5 m. Air temperature and relative humidity were measured at 41, 27, 22, 18, 14, 8, 5 and 1.5 m. Soil temperature was measured at 0.05, 0.10, 0.20 and 0.50 m depth. Soil moisture was measured at 0.05 and 0.10 m. Hirano et al. (2003) provides details of the microclimate measurements.

2.4. Measurement of CO₂ flux

NEP was measured using a multichannel automated closed chamber system (Liang et al, 2003, 2004) at 30-min intervals from May or June through November in 2006, 2007 and

2008 after the typhoon disturbance. The chamber system adopted a flow-through, non-steady-state design. The system comprised six automated chambers in 2006 or four in 2007 and 2008. The chambers were cubes (0.9 m × 0.9 m × 0.9 m) and covered a ground area of 4.9 in 2006 or 3.2 m² in 2007 and 2008 in total. The chambers were constructed of clear PVC (1 mm thick) glued to a frame made from plastic-coated steel pipe. Between measurements, the two sections of the chamber lid were raised vertically to allow precipitation and leaf litter to reach the enclosed soil surface, thus keeping the soil conditions as natural as possible. The chamber lids were raised and closed by two pneumatic cylinders at a pressure of about 0.2 MPa, which was generated by a micro-compressor. During the measurement, the chamber was closed and the chamber air was mixed by two micro-blowers. The chamber air was circulated through an infrared gas analyzer (LI-820; Li-Cor Inc., USA) by a micro-diaphragm pump (CM-50; Enomoto Ltd., Tokyo, Japan) at 5 L min⁻¹.

All chambers were installed on the ground with vegetation to measure NEP and randomly set around the mast within 40 m. Over the course of 30 min, all chambers were closed sequentially by a home-made relay board controlled by a datalogger (CR10X; Campbell Scientific Inc., USA). We set the sampling period for each chamber to 225 s. Therefore, the chambers were open for 87.5% of the time. Thus, the interior of each chamber had good exposure to the atmospheric.

A linear equation was fitted to the time series of CO₂ concentration using the least-square method, and the rate CO₂ change ($\Delta C/\Delta t$, $\mu\text{mol mol}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$) was determined. NEP ($\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$) of each chamber was calculated using the following equation.

$$\text{NEP} = -\frac{\Delta C}{\Delta t} \cdot \frac{V}{V_{\text{air}}(273.2+T_{\text{a}})/273.2} \cdot \frac{1}{A} \quad (1)$$

In that equation, V is chamber volume (0.729 m³), V_{air} is molar volume of air at 0°C (0.0224 m³ mol⁻¹), T_{a} is air temperature (°C) measured on the mast at 1.2 m height and A is ground area covered by the chamber (0.81 m²). The volume of plants in the chamber was negligible

(< 1% of V).

NEP data were excluded when the chamber malfunctioned because of problems such as gnawed air tube by animals or damage to the chamber by severe wind. Next, we calculated the mean and standard deviation (SD) values of half-hourly NEP for each chamber at a half-monthly or a monthly interval, and each half-hourly NEP was excluded when it was beyond the range of mean \pm 2 SD.

We used CO₂ flux data measured by the eddy covariance technique using a closed-path system at 27 m on a tower before the typhoon (Hirata et al., 2007). Wind speed and virtual temperature were measured with a three-dimensional sonic anemometer-thermometer (DA-600-3TV (Probe TR-61C); Kaijo Corp., Tokyo, Japan). CO₂ and water vapor fluctuations were measured using a closed-path CO₂/H₂O analyzers (LI6262; Li-Cor Inc., USA). Air was sampled near the anemometer and pumped into the gas analyzer through Dekoron tubes. Data were sampled at 10 Hz and logged using a datalogger (DR-M3; Teac Corp., Japan). Half-hourly NEP was calculated as the sum of the eddy CO₂ flux and the rate of change in CO₂ storage below the height of the eddy covariance system. Hirata et al. (2007) provides details of the measurement, calculation, quality control and gap filling of eddy flux data and the partition of eddy NEP into gross primary production or ecosystem photosynthesis (GPP) and ecosystem respiration (RE).

2.5. NEP partition and gap filling

Daytime NEP measured with the chamber system was partitioned into RE and GPP by the following empirical methods.

RE is CO₂ emission by autotrophic and heterotrophic respirations. Daytime RE was extrapolated from soil temperature using the relation between NEP at night (PPFD < 10 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$) and temperature shown below:

$$RE = RE_{10} \exp[\alpha(T_s - 10)] \quad (2)$$

In that equation, RE_{10} is a constant or RE at reference temperature of 10 °C, α is a constant and T_s is soil temperature (°C) at 0.06 m depth. Negative NEP at night was equivalent to RE ($RE = -NEP$) because of no CO₂ uptake through photosynthesis. Parameter values were obtained using the least-square method for each of two periods (June–September and October–November) in 2006 and 2008, or three periods (May–June, July–September and October–November) in 2007, considering vegetation phenology. RE value was set to zero if calculation was negative. The temperature sensitivity (Q_{10}) of RE was determined from the parameter α of Eq. (2).

GPP was calculated as the sum of RE and NEP ($GPP = NEP + RE$). GPP was set to zero if the sum was negative. Gaps of NEP data were filled with the sum of calculated RE using Eq. (2) and calculated GPP using a non-rectangular hyperbola equation (Thornley, 1976) shown below.

$$GPP = \frac{\varphi \cdot PPFD + P_{\max} - \sqrt{(\varphi \cdot PPFD + P_{\max})^2 - 4\varphi \cdot PPFD \cdot \theta \cdot P_{\max}}}{2\theta} \quad (3)$$

In that equation, φ [mol (mol photon)⁻¹] is the initial slope of the curve, P_{\max} (μmol m⁻² s⁻¹) is the maximum GPP at light saturation, θ is the convexity of the equation. This equation was obtained using the least-square method every week, 2 weeks or month considering vegetation phenology.

The value of NEP is positive or negative when the ecosystem functions as a net CO₂ sink ($GPP > RE$) or a source ($GPP < RE$).

3. Results

3.1. Vegetation change

The annual maximum AGB before the typhoon was estimated at 91.8 Mg ha⁻¹. However, it decreased drastically to 2.7 Mg ha⁻¹ in 2006, because most of the trees were

blown down by the typhoon wind. The annual maximum LAI was $9.4 \text{ m}^2 \text{ m}^{-2}$, which comprised $5.8 \text{ m}^2 \text{ m}^{-2}$ from tree species (Takeda et al., 2008) and $3.6 \text{ m}^2 \text{ m}^{-2}$ from understory species before the typhoon, and decreased to $3.7 \text{ m}^2 \text{ m}^{-2}$ in 2006. Consequently, LAI was decreased by 61%, whereas AGB was decreased by 97%. The AGB and LAI were equivalent to those of understory vegetation before the typhoon.

In the initial stage of succession following the disturbance, annual maximum AGB increased from 2.7 Mg ha^{-1} in 2006 to 4.0 Mg ha^{-1} in 2007, whereas the annual maximum LAI did not vary significantly, with $3.7 \text{ m}^2 \text{ m}^{-2}$ in 2006 and $3.9 \text{ m}^2 \text{ m}^{-2}$ in 2007 (Fig. 1). *R. idaeus* accounted for about 60% of total AGB in July 2006 and 2007, and *Dryopteris crassirhizoma*, *Pachysandra terminalis*, *Solidago gigantea* and grass plants each accounted for less than 10%. Similarly, regarding LAI, *R. idaeus*, grass plants and other each species accounted for about 50%, 20% and less than 10%, respectively. Seedlings of tree species, such as *Betula platyphylla*, *Betula maximowicziana*, *Larix kaempferi*, *Maackia amurensis*, *Magnolia hypoleuca* and *Acer pictum* were also found, whereas their AGB and LAI were very small. Seasonal variations of AGB and LAI differed between 2006 and 2007 (Fig. 1). AGB and LAI peaked later in 2006 than in 2007.

3.2. Microclimate change

Table 1 and Figure 2 show mean values of meteorological data for the 3 years before the typhoon (2001–2003) and the values of each year after that (2006–2008). We compared microclimate during the same period when CO_2 flux was measured from 28 June to 11 November. PPFD was lower before the typhoon than after the typhoon by 13% on an average. Precipitation was lower in 2007 and 2008 than before the typhoon. Particularly, precipitation in 2007 was about half that before the typhoon. Soil moisture decreased by 11% after the typhoon. We compared air temperatures at 14 m and 1.2 m, because each temperature was

measured around the canopy height. The air temperature was higher after the disturbance. Daytime VPD around the canopy was 50% higher after the typhoon partly because of higher air temperature. In addition, soil temperatures in the growing season during May–September were higher after the disturbance. However, the daily amplitude gradually decreased for the 3 years, mainly because of vegetation recovery.

3.3. Dependence of CO₂ fluxes on vegetation and microclimate

Table 2 shows the parameters of RE₁₀ and Q₁₀ determined from Eq. (2) during the same period (28 June–11 November). After the disturbance, RE₁₀ did not vary yearly, whereas Q₁₀ in 2006 was significantly smaller than those of other 2 years ($p < 0.001$). The mean RE₁₀ decreased from 3.7 to 1.3 before and after the disturbance, whereas there was no significant difference in Q₁₀.

Nighttime RE, which is equivalent to the opposite-sign value of nighttime NEP, was normalized using the following equation according to Law et al. (1999) to eliminate its temperature response:

$$RE_{T,10} = RE \exp[\alpha(10 - T_s)] \quad (4)$$

Therein, RE_{T,10} is normalized RE at 10°C, and α is a constant derived from Eq. (2). After the typhoon, normalized RE showed significant positive correlations with soil moisture during July–September, whereas there were poor correlations before the typhoon (Fig. 4). Liang et al. (2004) also observed that soil respiration poorly correlated with soil moisture at this site before the disturbance.

Figure 5 shows seasonal variations in P_{\max} derived from Eq. (3) after the disturbance. P_{\max} reached the annual maximum in July in 2006, whereas that in 2007 reached the maximum in June. In 2008, P_{\max} was the largest in early July when the measurement began. The maximum value of $14.8 \pm 0.9 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ in 2007 was higher than that of 10.8 ± 2.9

$\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ in 2006. However, P_{max} showed no significant difference from July through September among 2006, 2007 and 2008, and remained at 8–12 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$. Then, P_{max} decreased drastically in October through defoliation, whereas P_{max} decreased later in 2006 than other 2 years. Before the disturbance, P_{max} reached a plateau in June–September at 30–45 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ (Hirata et al., 2007), which was three to four times higher after the disturbance.

The ratios of P_{max} to total LAI including canopy and understory species were calculated every month or 2 months during July–September before and after the disturbance. The ratios little differed between 2006 and 2007, which were 2.9 and 3.2 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ on average, respectively. Such values were lower than 5.0 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ before the disturbance.

Daytime NEP at $\text{PPFD} > 1000 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ was plotted against VPD to eliminate the effect of PPFD (Fig. 6). Actually, NEP was light-saturated under such high PPFD. Significant negative correlation between light-saturated NEP and VPD was found during July–September both before and after the typhoon. The negative relationship of CO_2 uptake has been already reported at this site before the disturbance (Wang et al., 2004; Ide et al., 2010), whereas VPD was generally low.

3.4. Seasonal variations in CO_2 fluxes

Figure 7 shows seasonal variations in CO_2 fluxes after the typhoon. In 2006 NEP increased close to zero in July, and decreased to the minimum ($-2.4 \pm 1.2 \text{ gC m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$) in August. In contrast, NEP remained positive from May through mid-July in 2007. The value of NEP reached the maximum ($2.5 \pm 0.5 \text{ gC m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$) in June, and decreased to $-1.6 \pm 0.8 \text{ gC m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ in August. In 2008, NEP decreased to the minimum ($-1.6 \pm 1.2 \text{ gC m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$) in early August, although NEP was not measured before July. After August, seasonal variations in NEP were similar among the 3 years. The value of NEP increased to nearly zero in late September and decreased thereafter. Seasonal variations in RE was accompanied by the variation of soil

temperature and RE reached the maximum in August (Figs. 2d, 7c). Interannual variation in the seasonal trend of RE was small. The values of GPP reached the annual maximum values in August 2006 and in late June 2007, respectively. The maximum GPP was 1.3 times larger in 2007 than in 2006. In 2008, GPP was the largest in early July when the measurement began. However, GPP showed no significant difference in August among 2006, 2007 and 2008. From September to early October, GPP decreased gradually, and decreased drastically in late October through defoliation.

Seasonal sums of NEP, GPP and RE for the same period, from 28 June to 11 November, showed no significant difference among 2006, 2007 and 2008 (Table 1). The sums of GPP decreased on average by 739 gC m^{-2} (64%) after the disturbance, whereas RE decreased by 501 gC m^{-2} (51%). As a result, seasonal sums of NEP decreased from $159 \pm 57 \text{ gC m}^{-2}$ to $-80 \pm 30 \text{ gC m}^{-2}$. The NEP values show that this site changed from a carbon sink to a source after the disturbance for the period of 4.5 months. In 2007, however, CO_2 emission is mitigated, if May and June are included (Table 1, Fig. 7).

4. Discussion

4.1. Dependence of CO_2 fluxes on vegetation and microclimate

The lag of 2 months in the occurrence of maximum GPP and P_{max} between the second and third years, 2006 and 2007, after the disturbance would be due to the initial stage of vegetation succession and *R. idaeus* phenology (Figs. 5, 7b). Most stems of *R. idaeus* were composed of primocane (first-year stem) in 2006, whereas floricanes (second-year stem) were equally abundant as primocane in 2007. Although primocane grows and maintains leaves from spring through autumn, floricanes develop leaves in spring, and produce fruits and die in summer (Whitney, 1982). This early defoliation of floricanes inhibited total LAI from increasing during the summer in 2007 and resulted in almost identical P_{max} to that of 2006

(Figs. 1, 5). Seasonal variations of GPP and P_{\max} in May–June 2008 were considered similar to those in 2007 because *R. idaeus* was expected to be abundant for about 10 years after the stand-replacing disturbance (Toyooka et al., 1992; Archambault et al., 1998).

The values of P_{\max} in July–September after the disturbance were one-third to one-fourth of those before the disturbance. This reduction in P_{\max} would result from the reduction in LAI as well as leaf photosynthesis capacity, because the ratio of P_{\max} to LAI decreased from $5.0 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ to $2.9\text{--}3.2 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ by the disturbance.

VPD directly affected NEP, because higher VPD causes lower stomatal conductance and, consequently, decreases photosynthesis. Although the sensitivity of NEP to VPD was higher before the typhoon (Fig. 6), the daytime VPD was 1.5 times larger after that. Thus, VPD was an important meteorological factor to control CO_2 uptake even after the typhoon.

Seasonal variations in RE were mainly accompanied by variation of soil temperature (Figs. 2d, 7c), and there was little interannual variation in RE among the 3 years (Table 1). However, the temperature sensitivity (Q_{10}) of RE increased from 2006 to 2007 and 2008 (Table 2). It was reported that Q_{10} decreased with the decline of soil moisture (Reichstein et al., 2002). We found significant positive correlations between RE and soil moisture in July–September after the disturbance (Fig. 4). However, soil moisture cannot explain the interannual variation of Q_{10} , because soil moisture was not different among the 3 years (Table 1, Fig. 2e). The increase in Q_{10} may result from the increase in the contribution of root respiration to RE, because Q_{10} of root respiration would be higher than that of heterotrophic respiration (Boone et al., 1998). Toyooka and Sugawara (1980b) observed that both AGB and belowground biomass (BGB) of *R. idaeus* increased more than twice from second-year to third-year in a cultivation experiment. The BGB of *R. idaeus* probably increased from 2006 to 2007, because AGB increased by 49%. The increase in BGB led to increase root respiration and its contribution to RE, and consequently changed the temperature sensitivity of RE.

However, this interpretation disagree with the stability of heterotrophic respiration throughout the forest life cycle suggested by other studies (Law et al., 2003; Goulden et al., *in press*), because RE did not vary for 3 years after the disturbance. If autotrophic respiration increased, it must be compensated by a decrease in heterotrophic respiration. If autotrophic respiration did not vary, the contribution of growth respiration to autotrophic respiration might decrease following rapid regeneration of vegetation, because growth respiration is less sensitive to temperature, whereas maintenance respiration affected by temperature (Szaniawski and Kielkiewicz, 1982; van Iersel, 2003). The increase of vegetation might affect the temperature dependence of RE through litter supply. The floricanes of *R. idaeus* supplied fresh litter during the summer in 2007 and 2008, which would increase Q_{10} .

4.2. Effects of typhoon disturbance on CO₂ budget

The typhoon blew down most trees in the larch forest in September 2004, and a large amount of carbon (36 MgC ha⁻¹) was removed from the site for commercial use, whereas 11 MgC ha⁻¹ of coarse woody debris (CWD), such as uprooted stumps, was left. The structure of the forest changed microclimate (Table 1; Fig. 2). *R. idaeus* is a pioneer species in northern Japanese forests (Toyooka & Sugawara, 1980a,b). *R. idaeus* grew rapidly and extensively, and eventually became dominant (Hudson, 1959; Williams, 1959; Whitney, 1982). The seeds of *R. idaeus* were produced and buried in this region after the disturbance by Typhoon Toyamaru in 1954 (Tatewaki, 1961).

This site changed from a carbon sink to a source by the typhoon disturbance, because GPP was more decreased than RE (Table 1). However, NEP measured by the chamber technique can has some biases because of the difference in microclimate between inside and outside a chamber. Dore et al. (2003) reported that higher air temperature and VPD inside a chamber had a complex effect on NEP. The chamber technique overestimated NEP by 26% in

the morning and 8% in the mid-day and the afternoon in the comparison with the eddy covariance technique (Dore et al., 2003). In our study, it is difficult to accurately separate positive and negative chamber effects on CO₂ fluxes and evaluate net bias. We compared AGB in each chamber with that outside to verify whether chambers affected vegetation condition. The AGB in each chamber was determined in August 2007 from the plant lengths and stem number using an allometric equation. The AGB was not significantly different between inside and outside of the chambers ($p = 0.39$).

Higher soil temperature and lower soil moisture for the summer season adversely affected RE. The CWD left in the site functioned as a carbon source for heterotrophic respiration. However, heterotrophic respiration from uprooted stumps was very small during the growing season of 5 months in 2007 (15 gC m⁻²; Kito, *personal communication*).

The reduction in GPP after the typhoon mainly resulted from LAI reduction; the maximum LAI decreased to 39% and 42% in 2006 and 2007, respectively. The seasonal GPP variation in 2007 was similar to that before the typhoon (Hirata et al., 2007) and similar to that of the larch forests in East Asia (Saigusa et al., 2008). However, the peak time of GPP can be expected to change if species component changes, because the variation of GPP mainly depended on the *R. idaeus* phenology.

Many studies showed that a forest ecosystem changed from a carbon sink to a source after the stand-replacing disturbance. Kowalski et al. (2004) reported that GPP decreased larger than RE in mature conifer forests of Britain, Finland and France after clear-cut. Takagi et al. (2009) observed that harvesting decreased GPP and RE to one-third and two-third, respectively, in a conifer-broadleaf mixed forest in Hokkaido, and RE had been relatively stable for 3 years following harvest, whereas GPP increased. These results of reductions in GPP and RE were similar to our results. However, Amiro et al. (*in press*) reported that RE was relatively invariant through the disturbance by fire and harvest in North America,

whereas some reduction in RE during the early succession stage was observed at some sites. At our site, daily mean NEP during July–September was -0.8 , -0.3 and -0.8 $\text{gC m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$ in 2006, 2007 and 2008, respectively. Those CO_2 emissions were smaller than those in a Swedish forest a half year after the Gudrun storm hit (-3.8 $\text{gC m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$; Lindroth et al., 2009) and that in a Russian forest 2 years after windthrow (-2.0 $\text{gC m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$; Knohl et al., 2002). The smaller CO_2 emission at our site probably resulted from the rapid vegetation regeneration and the longer growing season. Rapid vegetation recovery and the consequent increase of GPP are important for mitigating carbon emissions after the disturbance.

Toyooka et al. (1992) reported that *R. idaeus* had been dominant for 6–8 years in disturbed forests in central Hokkaido after the catastrophic typhoon Toyamaru in 1954. Archambault et al. (1998) showed that *R. idaeus* had been abundant for 10 years after logging in Canadian forests, and that *R. idaeus* colonies were considered to prevent germination and growth of tree species. Toyooka et al. (1992) also reported that the number of surviving saplings throughout the typhoon was an important factor to determine whether major trees were able to grow well after the disturbance throughout the following 30 years. At this site, *R. idaeus* has the potential to dominate for at least a decade during the early succession stage. The domination of *R. idaeus* would prevent regeneration of major tree species and further increase in GPP. Drastic changes in the carbon balance would occur again when tree species have grown.

5. Conclusions

The larch plantation was transformed by the typhoon disturbance to a shrubland dominated by red raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*). As a result, the forest changed from a carbon sink to a source. Vegetation regeneration caused an increase of GPP and decreased net CO_2 emissions. However, this ecosystem will continue to be a weak CO_2 source or carbon neutral

for the following several years, because *R. idaeus* is expected to dominate and hampered the growth of major tree species.

It is important to mitigate carbon emissions following a typhoon disturbance from the perspective of global warming. In the near future, intense typhoon is expected to occur more frequently in East Asia, and consequently, forest ecosystems will be damaged more extensively and severely. Nevertheless, rapid reforestation is difficult because of shortages of funds and labor.

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Figure captions

Figure 1. Seasonal variations in (a) aboveground biomass (AGB) and (b) leaf area index (LAI) in 2006 and 2007. The vertical bars show standard deviation ($n = 10$).

Figure 2. Seasonal variations in (a) daily mean air temperature at 14 m during 2001–2003 and at 1.2 m during 2006–2008, (b) daily photosynthetic photon flux density (PPFD), (c) daytime vapor pressure deficit (VPD; 1000–1400) at 14 m during 2001–2003 and at 1.2 m during 2006–2008, (d) daily mean soil temperature at 0.05 m depth during 2001–2003 and at 0.06 m depth during 2006–2008, and (e) soil moisture at 0.05 m depth during 2001–2003 and at 0.01–0.05 m depth during 2006–2008. Data were averaged every 2 weeks. The vertical bars show the standard deviation of the mean for 3 years ($n = 3$).

Figure 3. Seasonal variations in daily maximum, mean and minimum soil temperature at 0.05 m depth before the typhoon disturbance during 2001–2003 and at 0.06 m depth after that during 2006–2008. Upper and lower solid lines respectively show maximum and minimum temperatures before the typhoon, and upper and lower broken lines respectively show maximum and minimum temperature after the typhoon. Open and gray circles respectively show daily mean soil temperature before and after the typhoon. Data were averaged every 2 weeks.

Figure 4. Relation between normalized RE at 10°C and soil moisture at 0.05 m or 0.01–0.05 m depth from July to September (a) before and (b) after the typhoon disturbance, respectively. Regression lines were drawn if significance was inferred ($p < 0.05$). Coefficients of determination (r^2) are also shown.

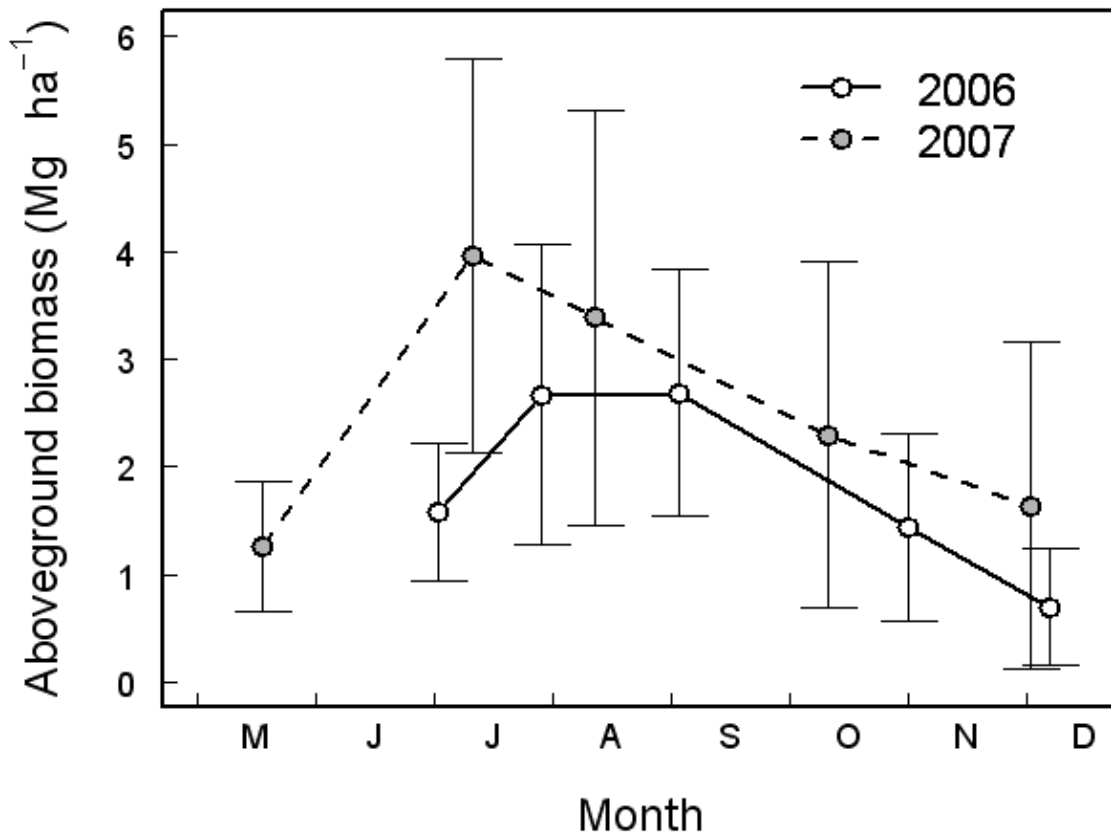
Figure 5. Seasonal variation in the maximum GPP at light saturation (P_{\max}) every 2 weeks during 2006–2008. The vertical bars show standard deviations within chambers.

Figure 6. Relation between NEP under $\text{PPFD} > 1000 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ and vapor pressure deficit (VPD) from July to September (a) before and (b) after the typhoon disturbance, respectively. The NEP became light-saturated at around PPFD of $1000 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$. Regression lines were drawn if significance was inferred ($p < 0.05$). Coefficients of determination (r^2) are also shown.

Figure 7. Seasonal variation in (a) net ecosystem production (NEP), (b) gross primary production (GPP), and (c) ecosystem respiration (RE) during 2006–2008. The positive (negative) NEP indicated CO_2 uptake (loss). Data were averaged every 2 weeks. The vertical bars show standard deviations ($n = 6$ in 2006 and $n = 4$ in 2007 and 2008).

Fig. 1

(a)



(b)

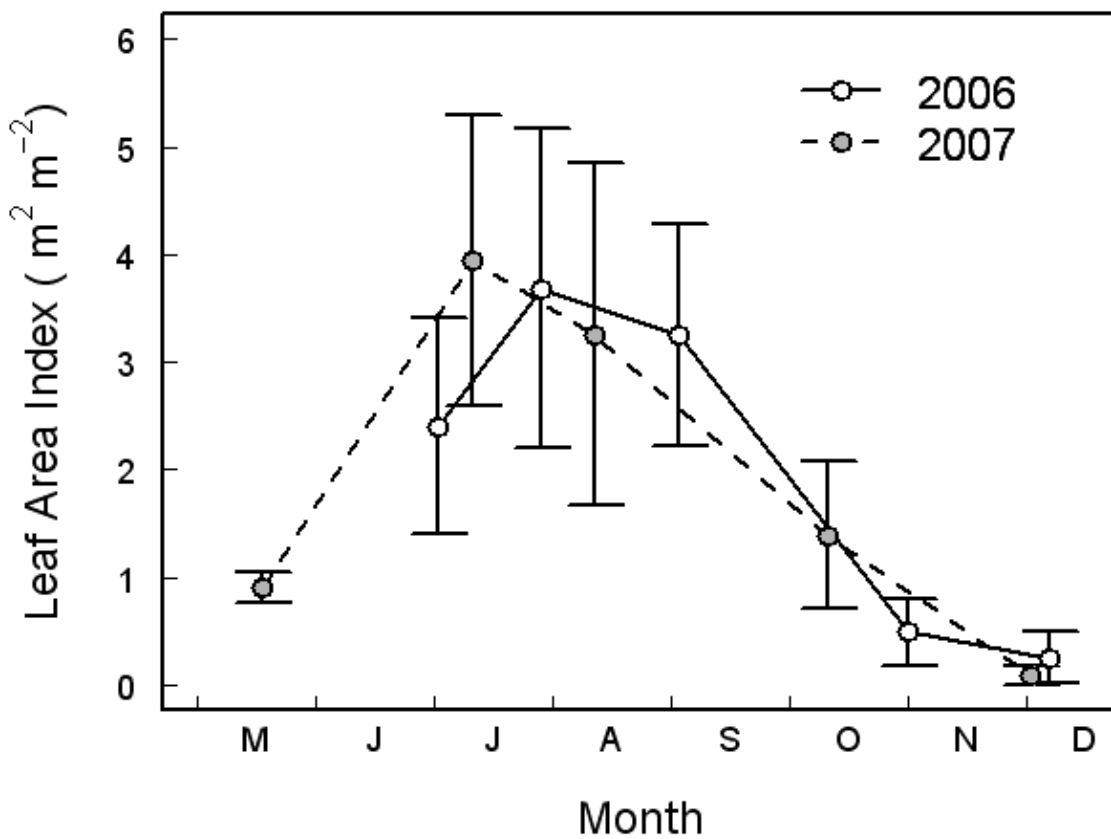
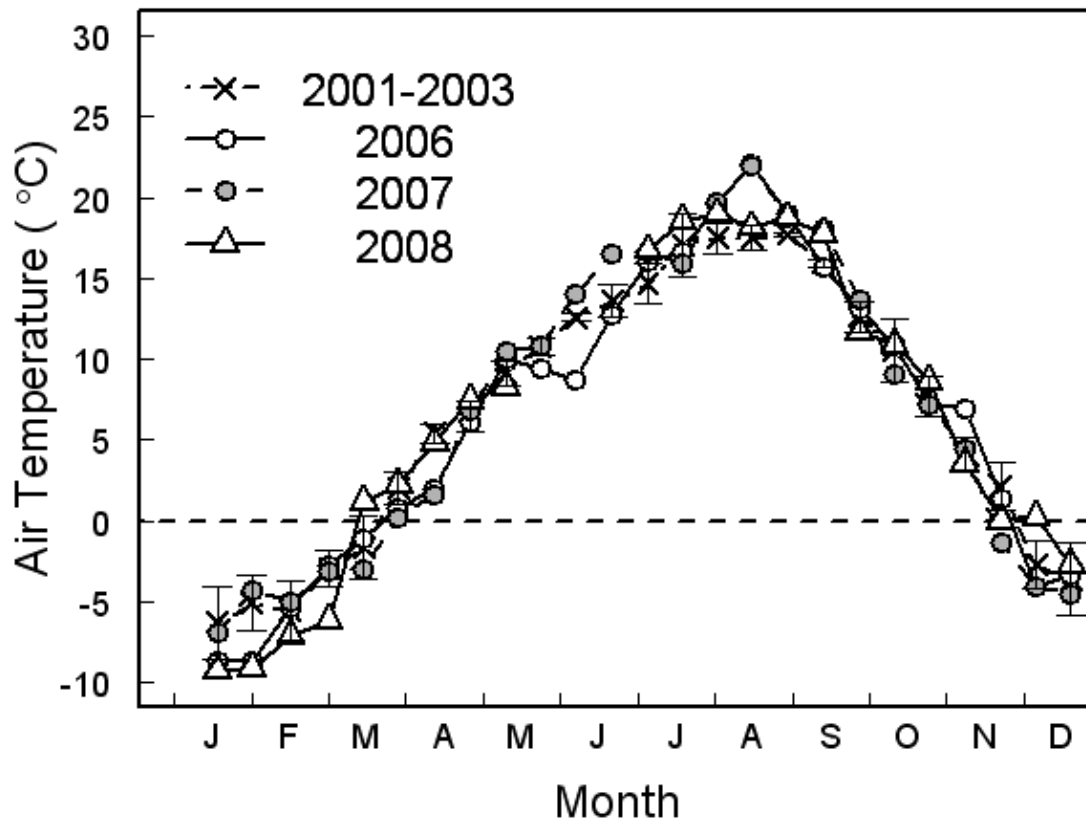
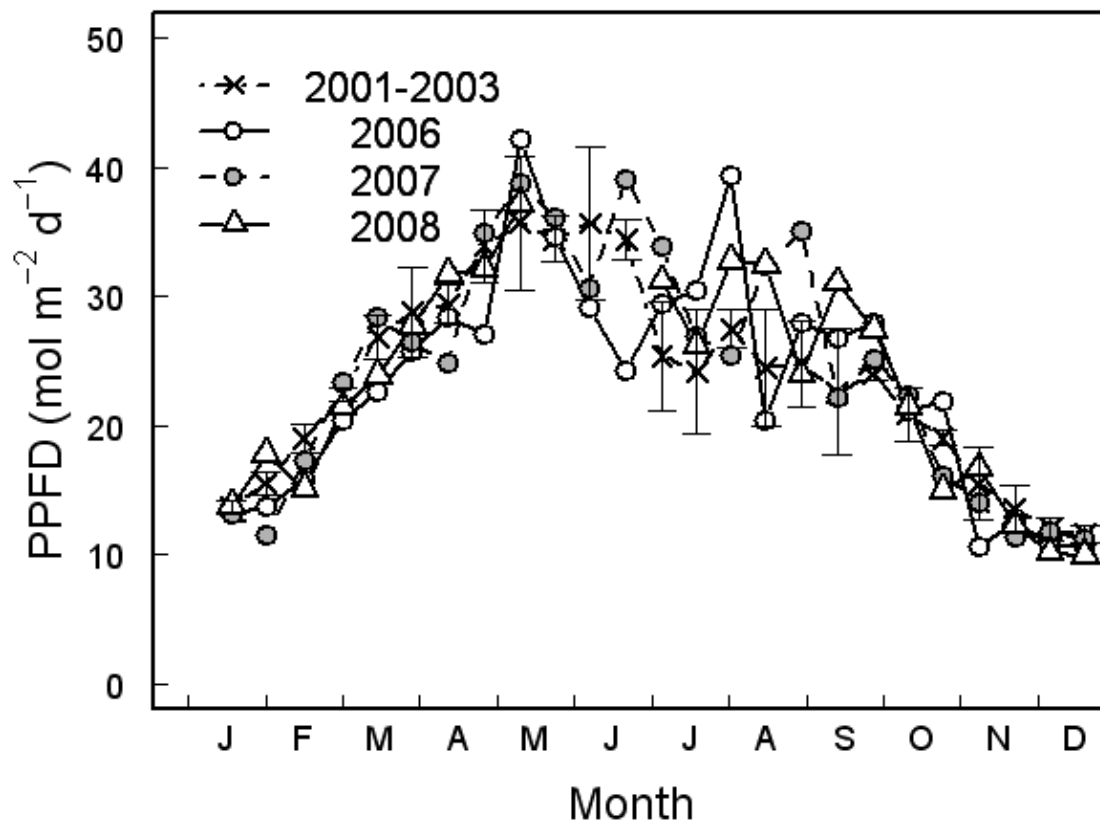


Fig. 2

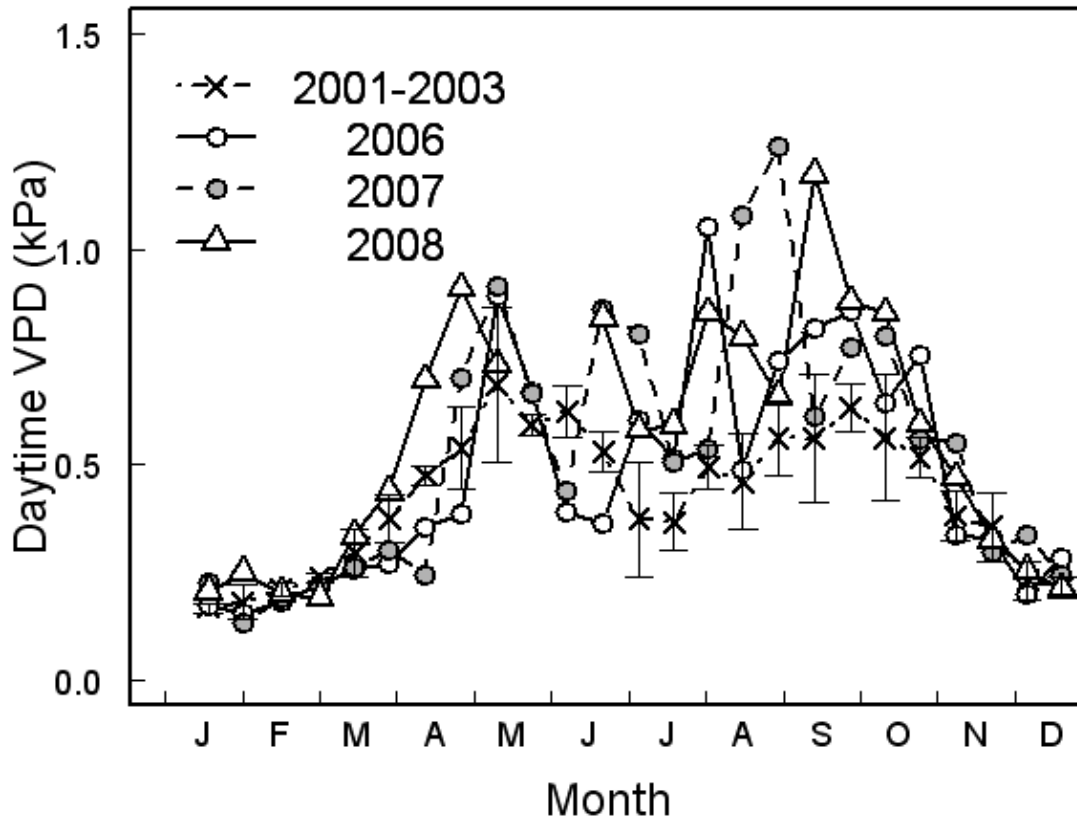
(a)



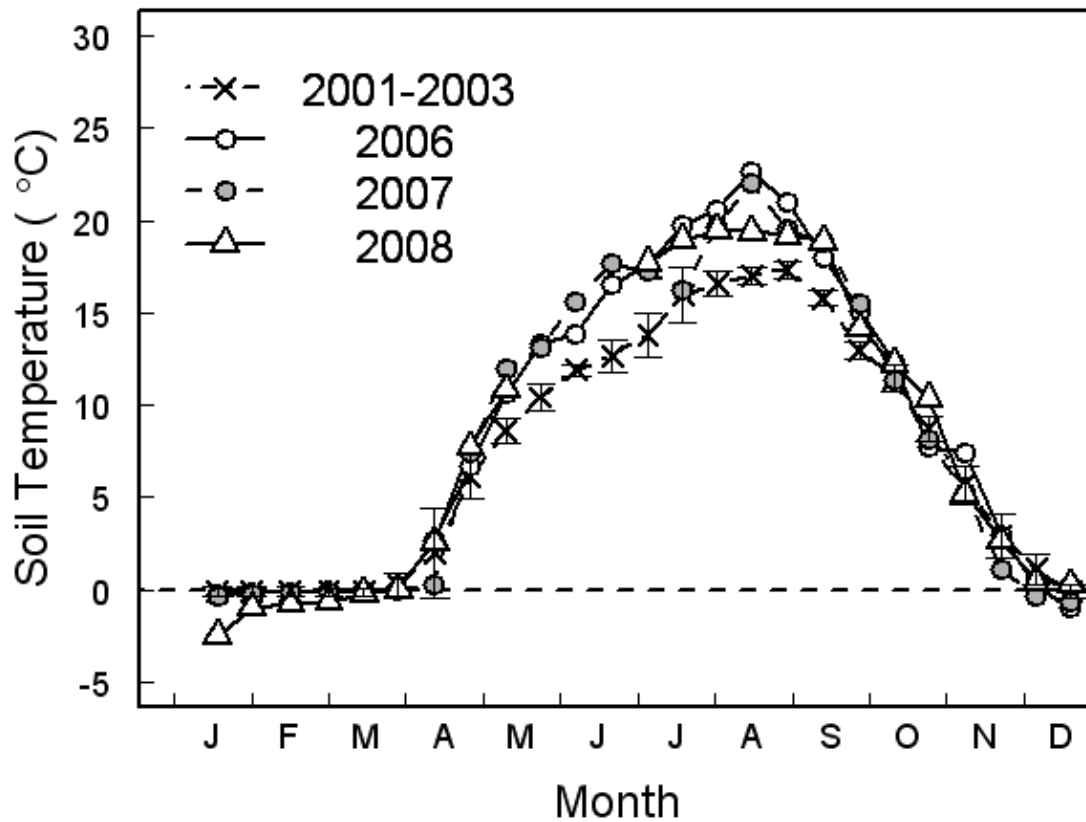
(b)



(c)



(d)



(e)

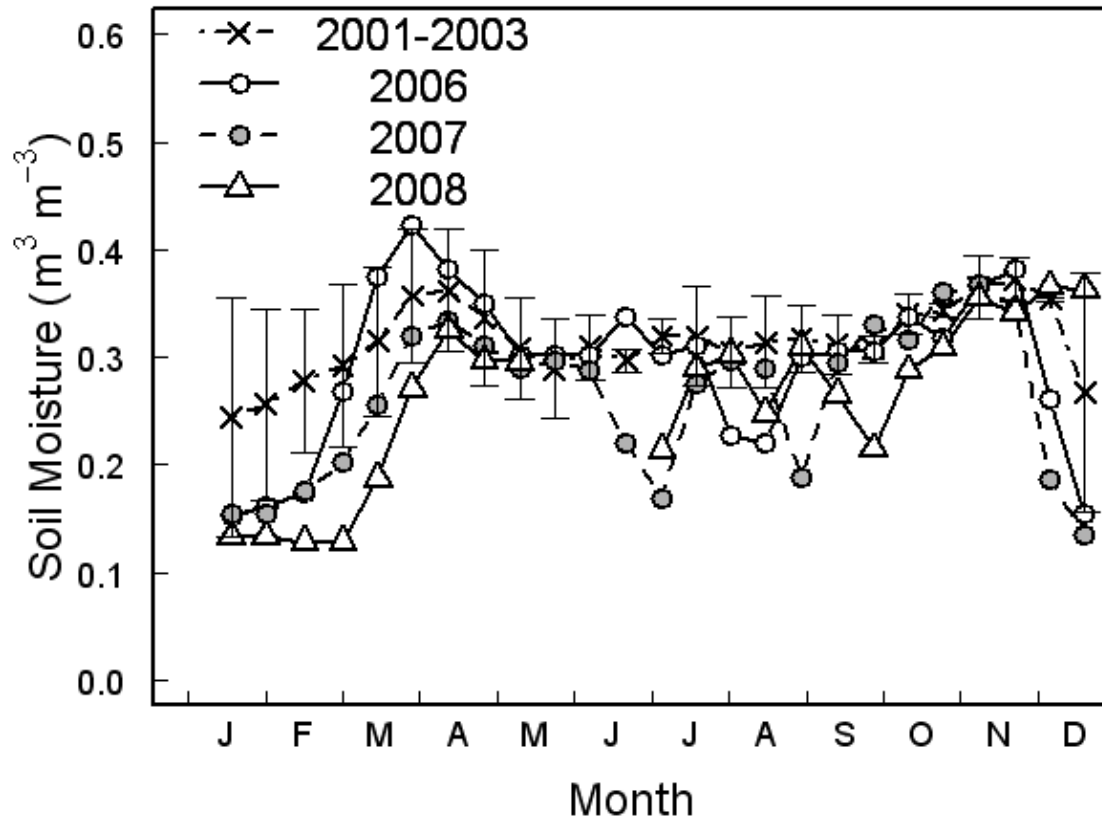


Fig. 3

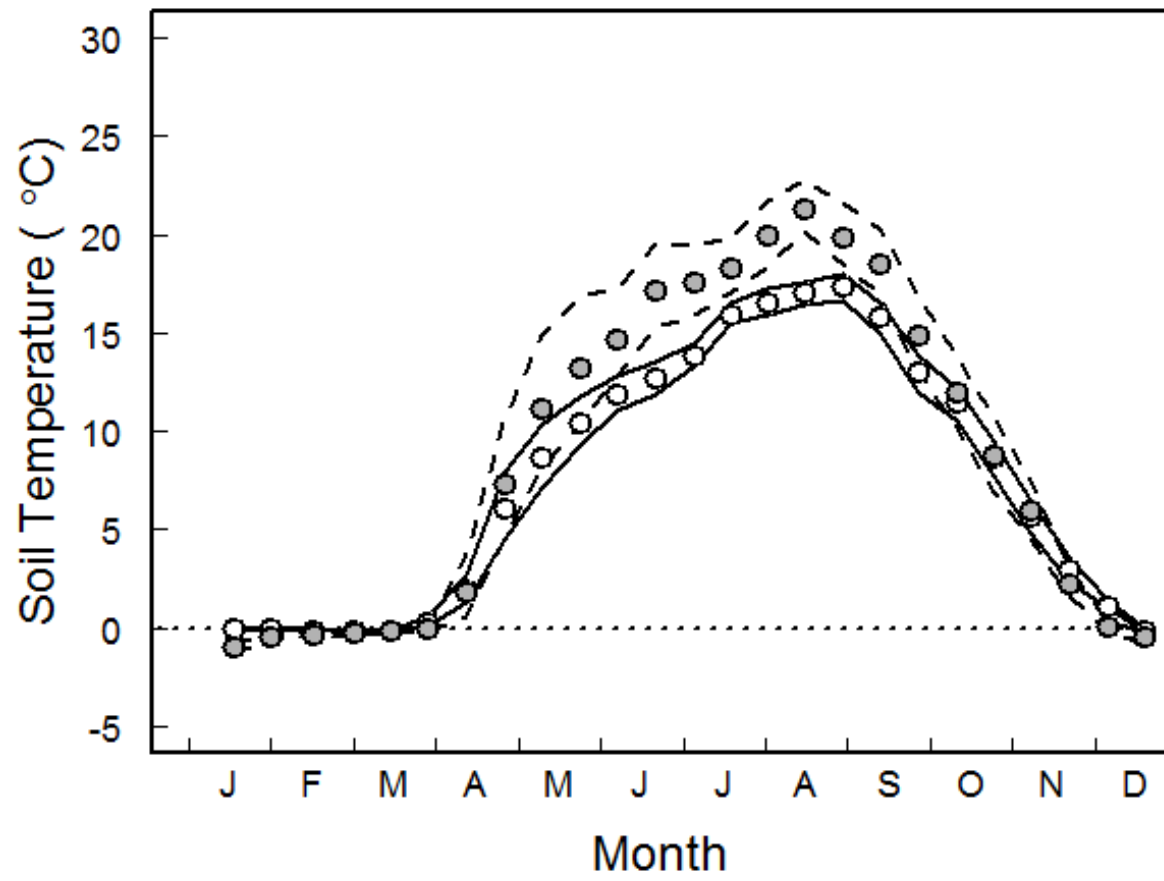


Fig. 4

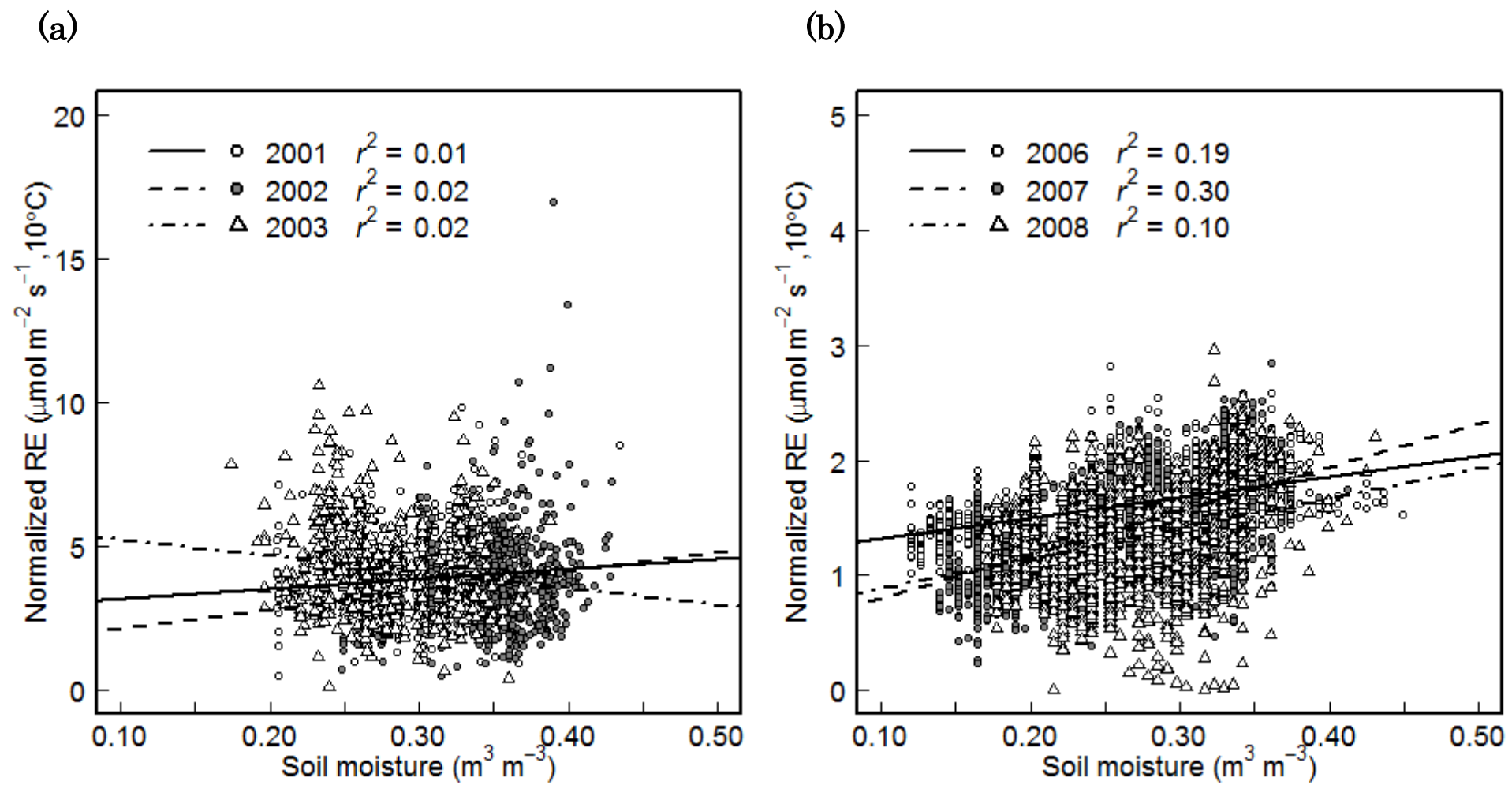


Fig. 5

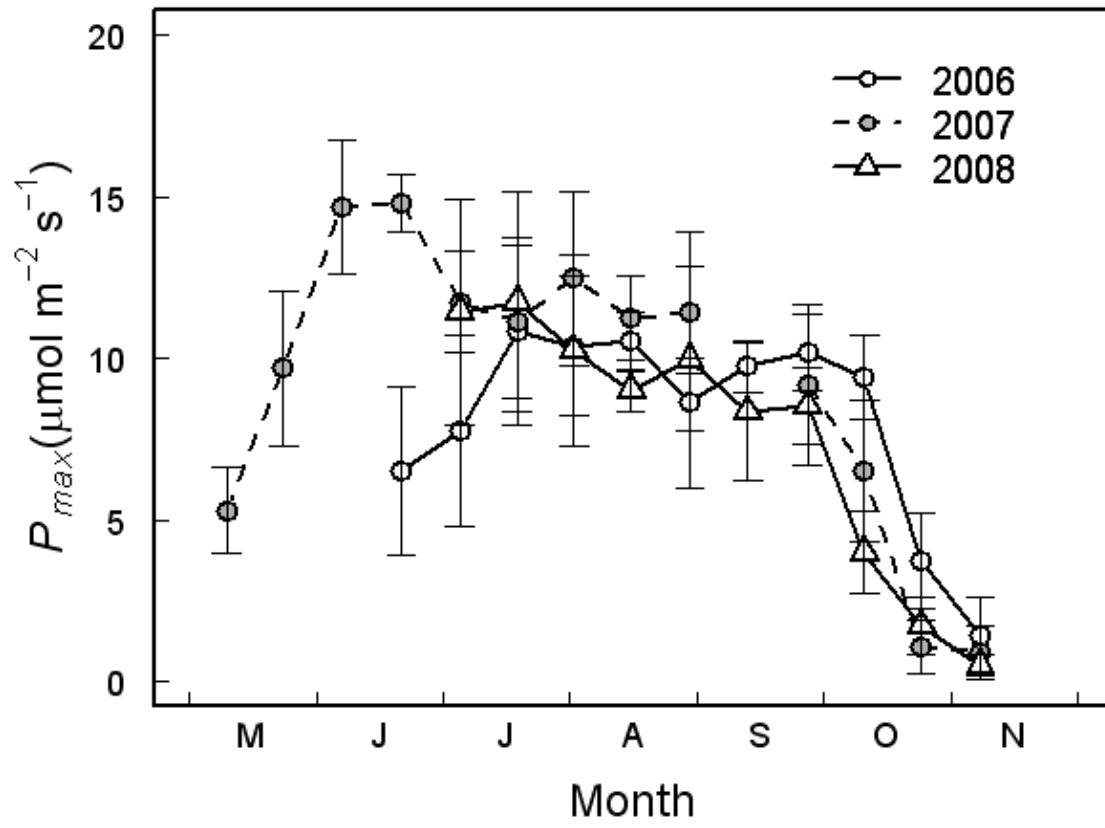


Fig. 6

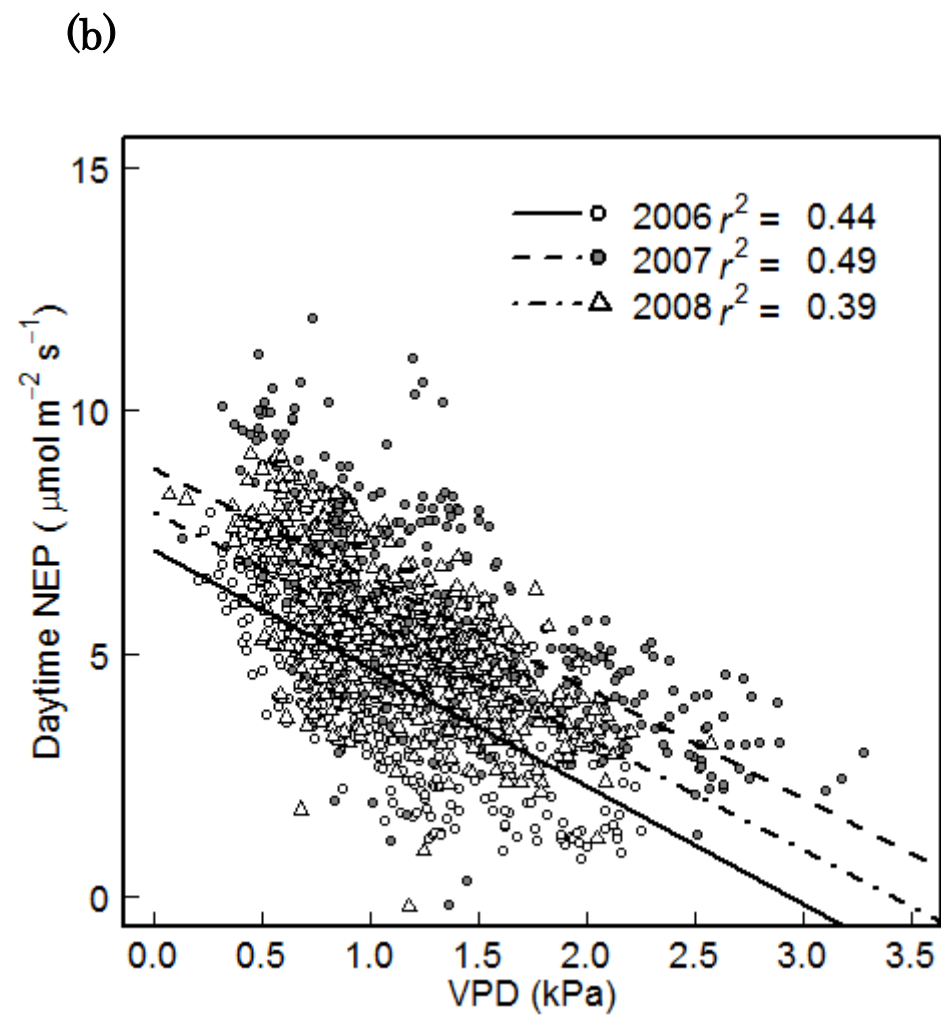
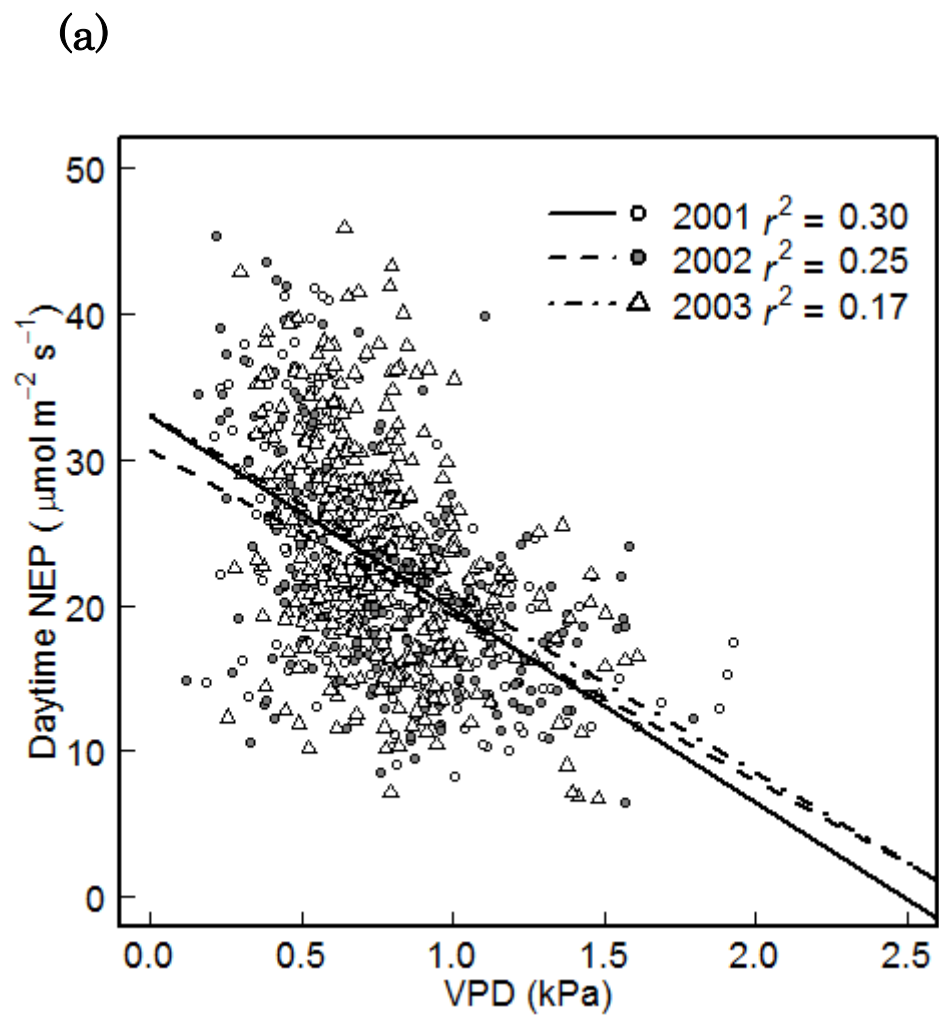
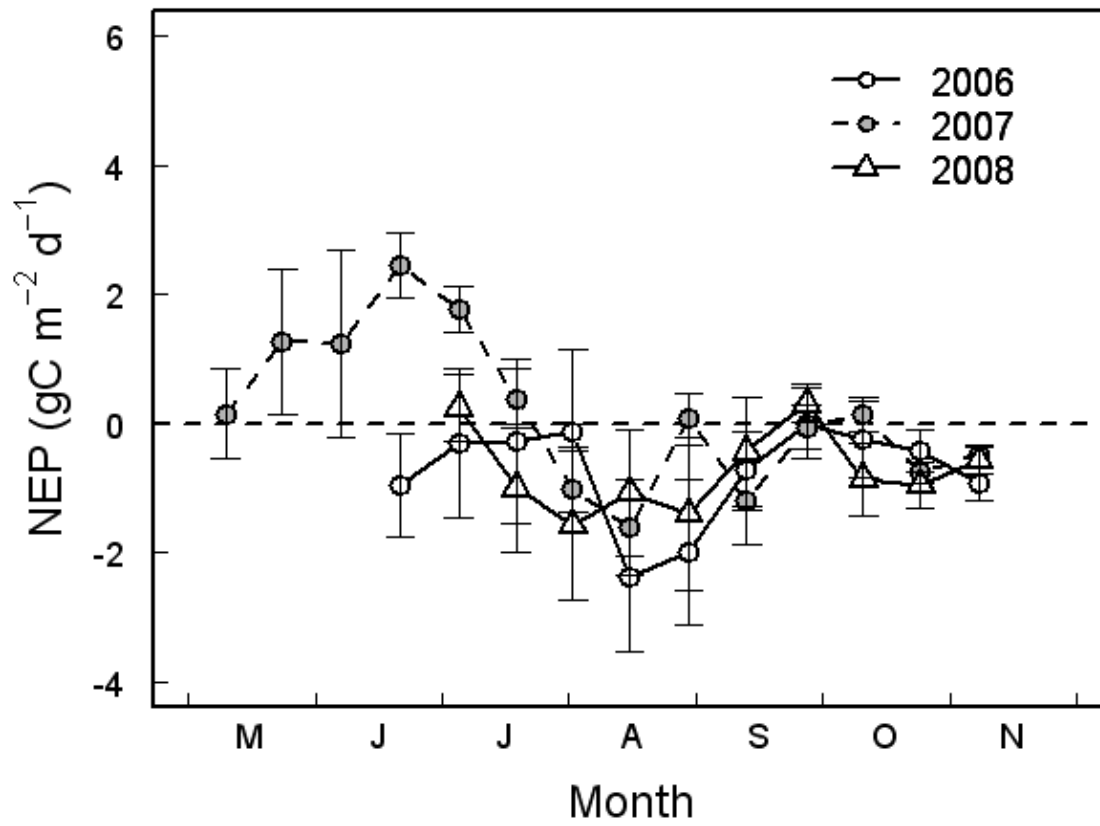
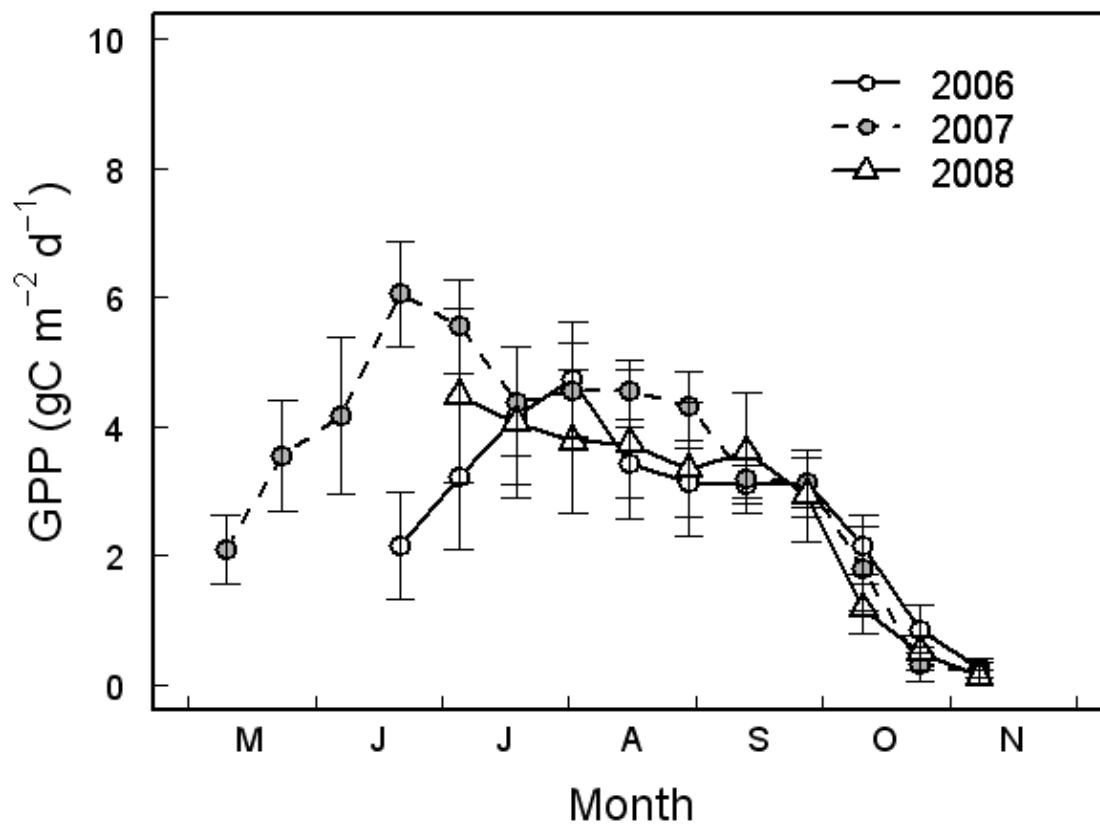


Fig. 7

(a)



(b)



(c)

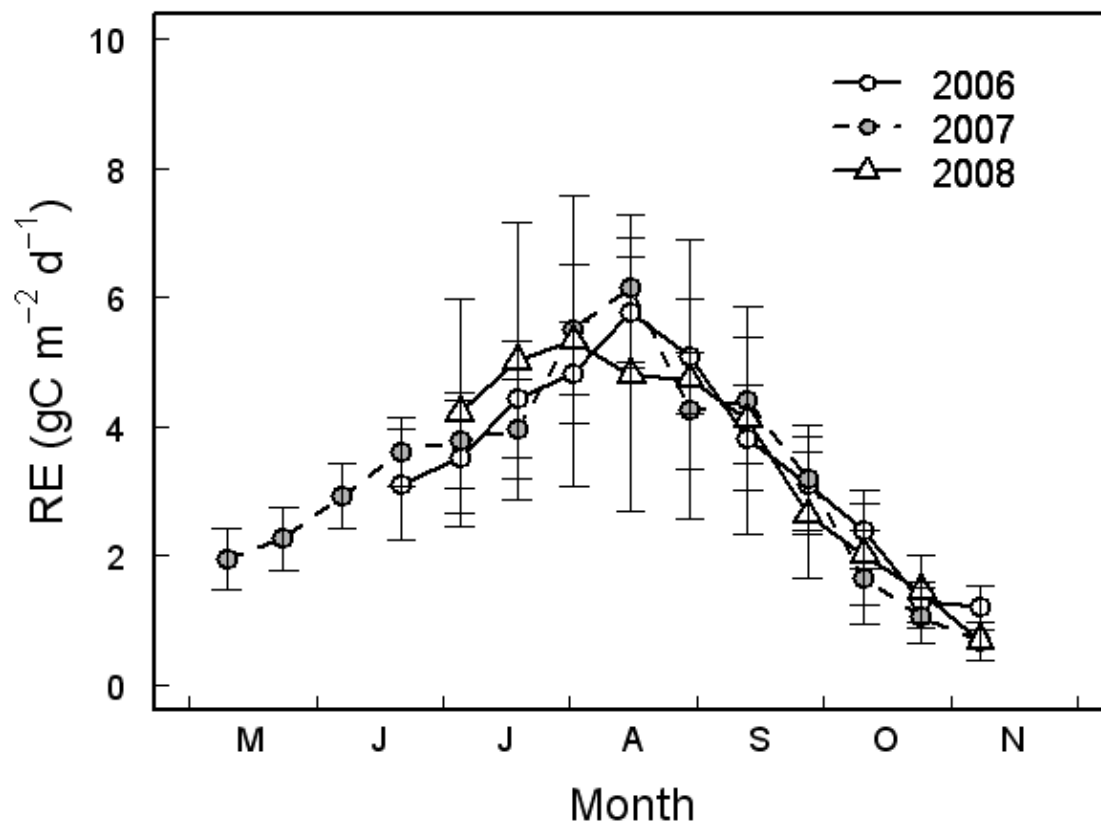


Table 1 Seasonal sums or means of CO₂ exchange and microclimate before (2001–2003) and after (2006–2008) the typhoon disturbance

Season	Year	NEP ^{a)}			GPP ^{a)}			RE ^{a)}			Air temperature ^{b)}		PPFD		Precipitation		Daytime VPD ^{c)}		Soil temperature ^{d)}		Soil moisture ^{e)}	
		(gC m ⁻²)			(gC m ⁻²)			(gC m ⁻²)			(°C)		(mol m ⁻²)	(mm)	(kPa)		(°C)		(m ³ m ⁻³)			
11 Jun. - 16 Nov.	2006	-119 ± 112			431 ± 71			549 ± 109		14.2		4028	805	0.64		16.0		0.30				
8 May - 11 Nov.	2007	34 ± 83			660 ± 66			624 ± 131		14.3		5342	531	0.74		15.4		0.28				
28 Jun. - 20 Nov.	2008	-105 ± 98			390 ± 113			494 ± 208		13.9		3699	563	0.73		15.1		0.28				
	2001-2003	159 ± 57			1149 ± 95			991 ± 38	14.0 ± 0.3		3150 ± 224	678 ± 74	0.49 ± 0.01		13.7 ± 0.3		0.32 ± 0.02					
28 Jun. - 11 Nov.	2006	-101 ± 100			395 ± 57			495 ± 95	15.0		3559	651	0.69		16.5		0.30					
	2007	-37 ± 44			449 ± 68			483 ± 108	14.7		3514	362	0.75		15.6		0.29					
	2008	-101 ± 96			388 ± 112			489 ± 206	14.6		3560	537	0.75		15.8		0.28					

NEP, net ecosystem production; GPP, gross primary production; RE, ecosystem respiration; PPFD, photosynthetic photon flux density; VPD, vapor pressure deficit a) Measured using the eddy covariance technique during 2001–2003 (Hirata et al., 2007) and using the automated chamber system during 2006–2008, b) Measured at 14 m during 2001–2003 and at 1.2 m during 2006–2008, c) Measured at 14 m during 2001–2003 and at 1.2 m during 2006–2008 around noon at 1000–1400, d) Measured at 0.05 m depth during 2001–2003 and at 0.06 m depth during 2006–2008, e) Measured at 0.05 m depth during 2001–2003 and at 0.01–0.05 m depth during 2006–2008. In 2001–2003, standard deviations for three years are also shown. In 2006–2008, standard deviations of NEP, GPP and RE within chambers are also shown.

Table 2 Parameters for the relationship between nighttime RE and soil temperature from 28 June to 11 November

Year	RE ₁₀	Q ₁₀	r ²
2001-2003	3.7 ± 1.2	3.5 ± 0.4	0.52 ± 0.09
2006	1.5 ± 0.4	3.0 ± 0.5	0.59 ± 0.18
2007	1.3 ± 0.5	4.2 ± 0.6	0.68 ± 0.11
2008	1.3 ± 0.5	4.1 ± 0.3	0.61 ± 0.11

RE₁₀ ($\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$) is the RE at the reference temperature of 10°C, Q₁₀ is the relative increase in RE for every 10°C rise, and r² is the determination coefficient for the eq. (2). In 2001–2003, means and standard deviations for three years are shown. In 2006–2008, means and standard deviations within chambers are shown.