Abiotic Stress Response in Ryegrasses: Old Problems and New Opportunities

LITHUANIAN RESEARCH CENTRE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

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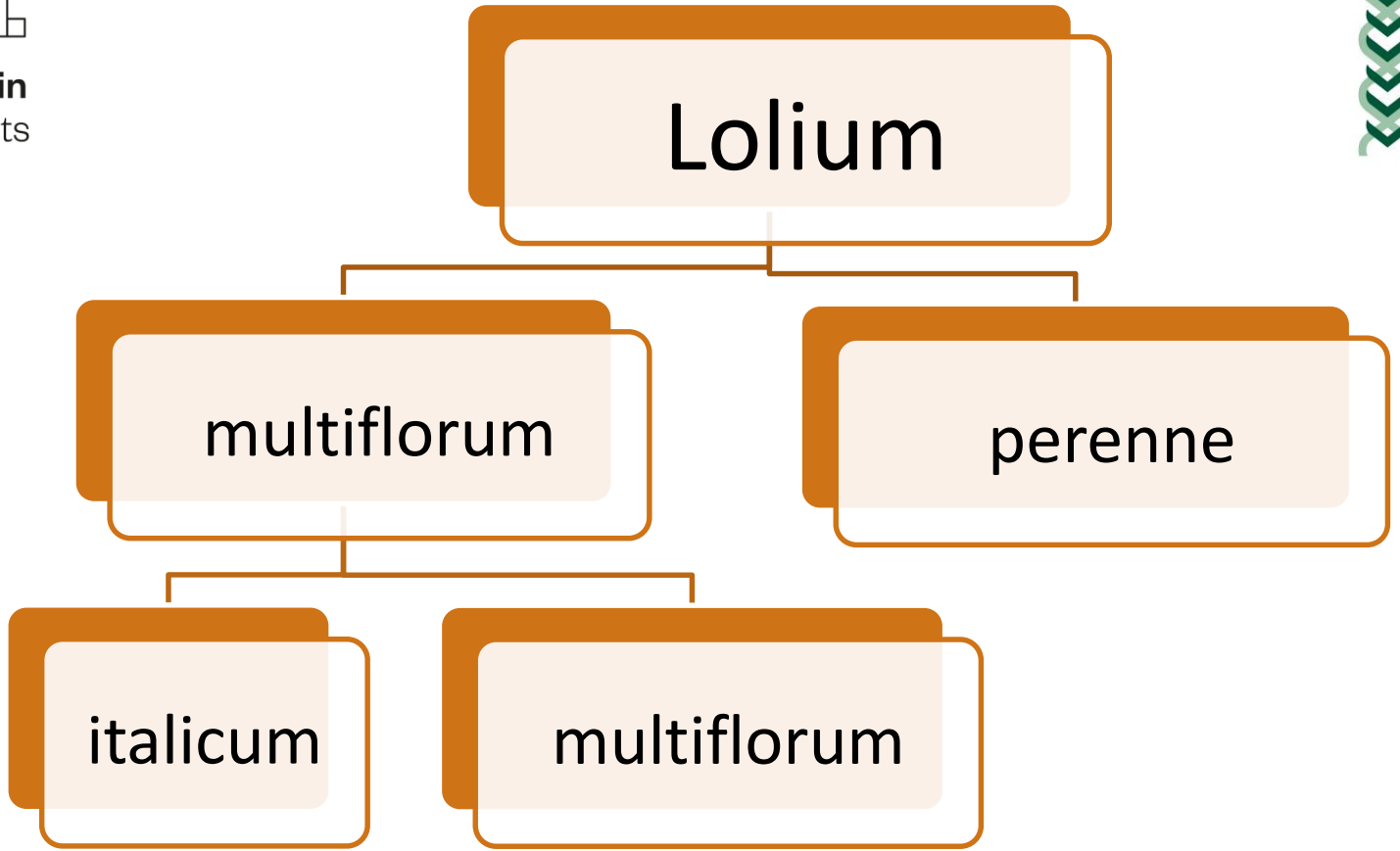
“EditGrass4Food»

is financially supported by European Economic Area (EEA) grants

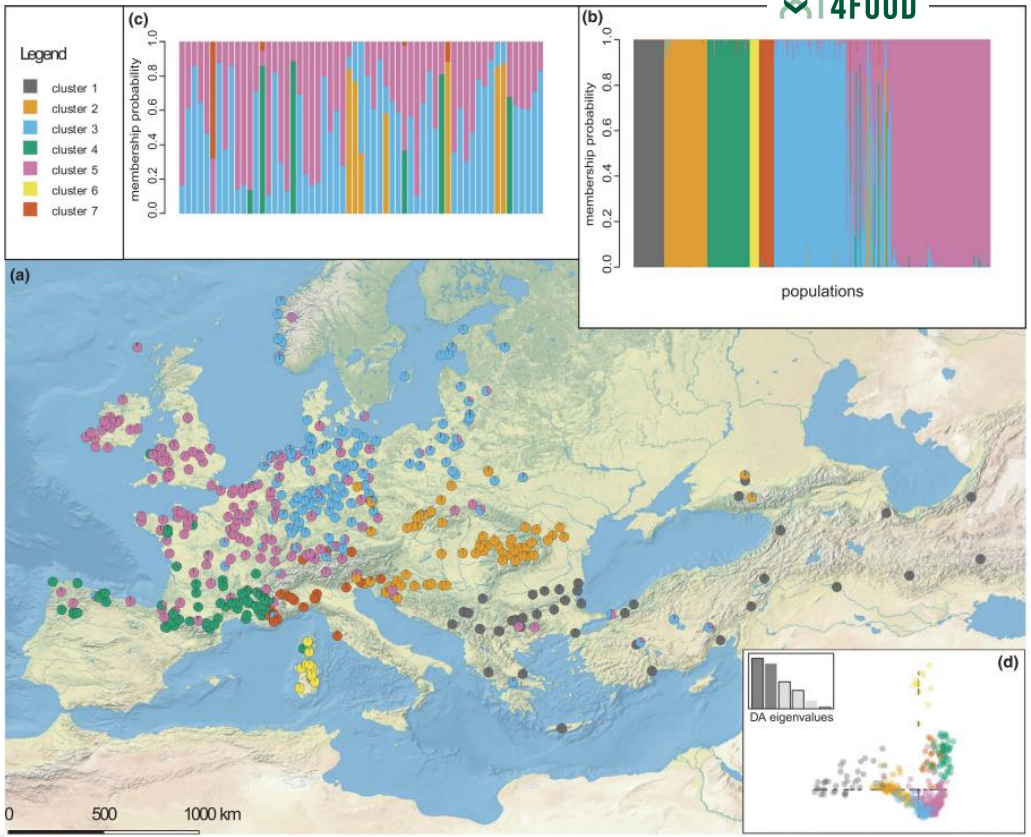

Lolium
multiflorum
perenne
italicum
multiflorum

Lolium perenne origin and diversity

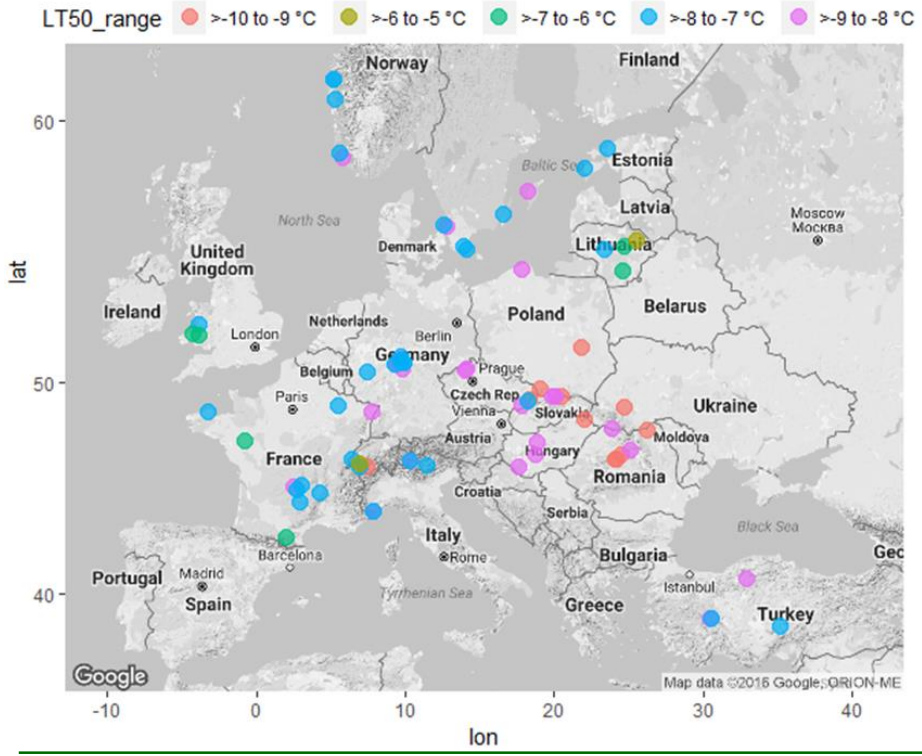
476 natural populations from genebanks

Natural populations maintain a wide genomic variability at continental scale that has been minimally exploited by modern plant breeding activities. This variability constitutes valuable standing genetic variation for future adaptation of grasslands to climate change, safeguarding the agricultural services they provide.

Blanco-Pastor et al. *J Biogeogr.* 2019



Abiotic stresses: freezing resistance



The locations of origin and the distribution of freezing tolerance among wild-growing perennial ryegrass populations

A. Aleliūnas, PhD thesis 2017

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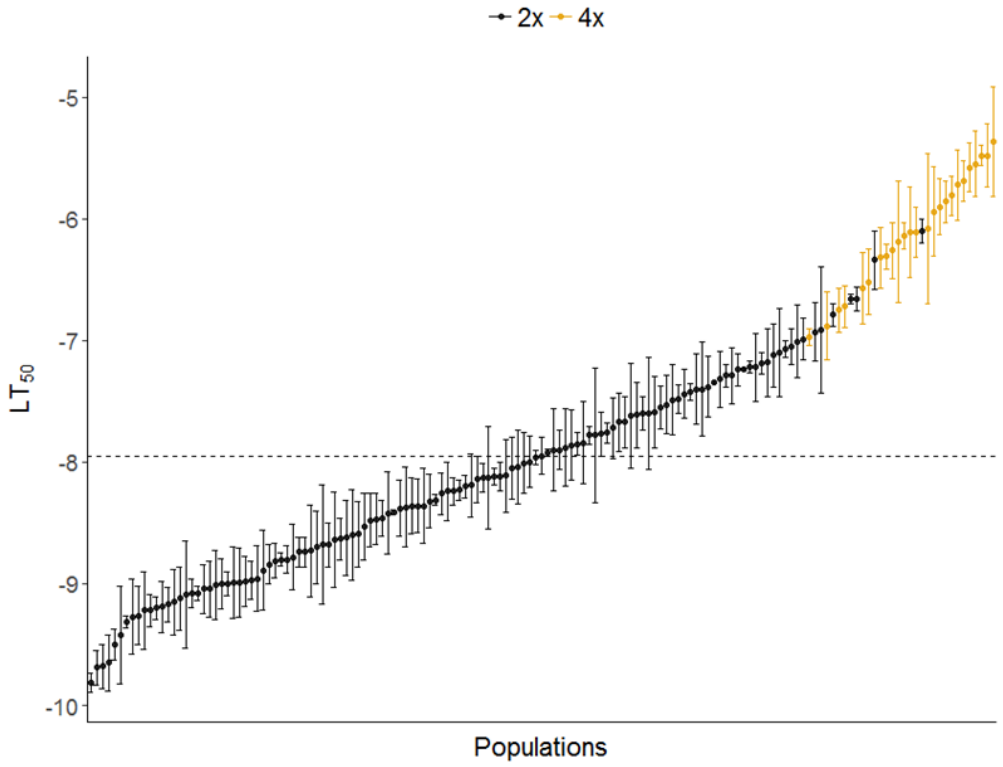
Diploid vs Tetraploid



Variation of the freezing tolerance within the perennial ryegrass population panel. The dashed line represents median LT_{50} value.

A. Aleliūnas, 2017 PhD thesis

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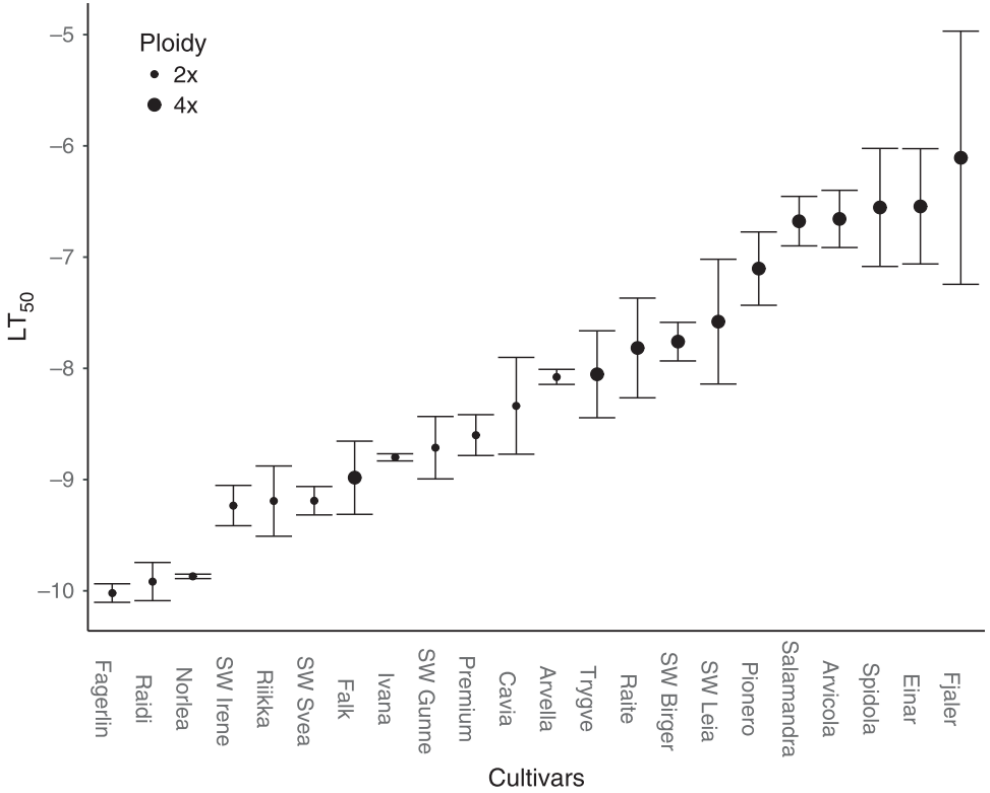


Freezing tolerance of the 22 tested perennial ryegrass cultivars

A. Helgadottir et al, J Agro Crop Sci. 2018;204:493–504.

Spearman rank correlation between electrolyte leakage (EL), percentage of tiller survival (PTS), cold-acclimated plant proline content (PC) and field winter survival (FWS)

Trait	EL -8 °C	EL -12 °C	PTS -8 °C	PTS -12 °C	PC
EL -8 °C (%)	-				
EL -12 °C (%)	0.49***	-			
PTS -8 °C (%)	-0.39***	-0.15 NS	-		
PTS -12 °C (%)	-0.17 NS	-0.47***	0.41***	-	
PC (µg g^{-1})	-0.15 NS	-0.03 NS	-0.12 NS	0.05 NS	-
FWS (score)	-0.20 NS	-0.47***	-0.06 NS	-0.003 NS	0.02 NS

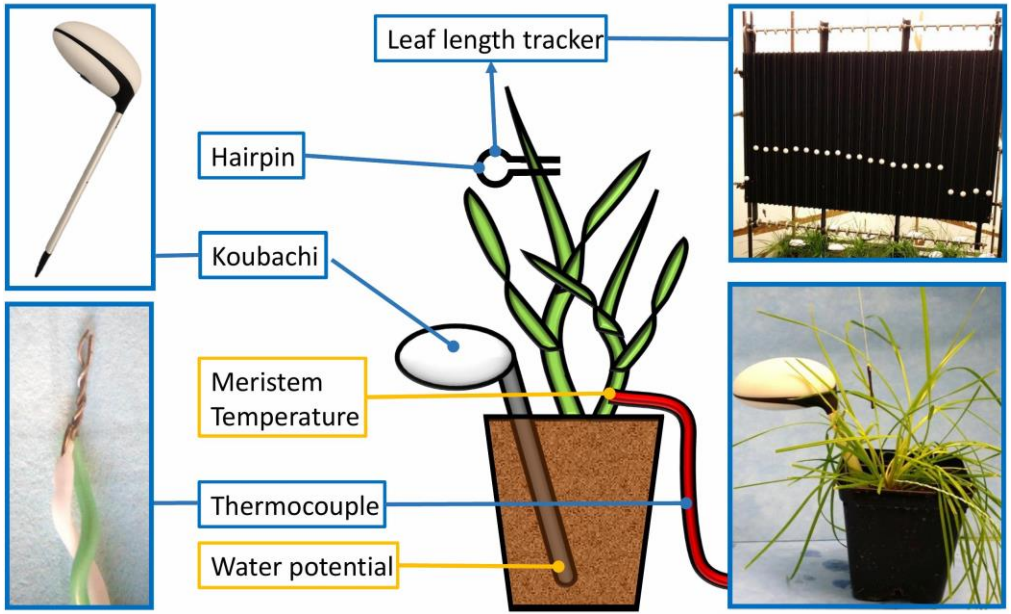
A. Aleliūnas, *Euphytica* 2015

Winterkill and drought damage of perennial ryegrass, 2015–2016

Trait	Ploidy group	Winter kill 2015	Winter kill 2016	Drought damage 2015
Mean	diploid	1.12	3.19	4.87
	tetraploid	1.09	2.90	4.05
Min	diploid	1.00	2.00	2.00
	tetraploid	1.00	2.00	2.00
Max	diploid	5.00	8.50	8.50
	tetraploid	2.50	6.00	8.50

Kemesyte et al Crop Sci. 57:1–6 (2017)

Abiotic stresses: drought resistance



Phenotyping platform for chronological profiling of the leaf elongation rate (LER), the soil water potential and micrometeorological variables.

Yates et al Front. Plant Sci., 2019

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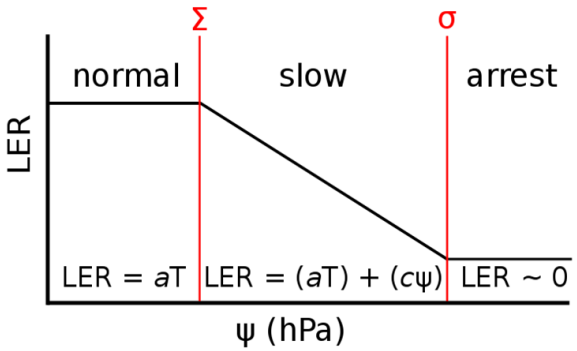
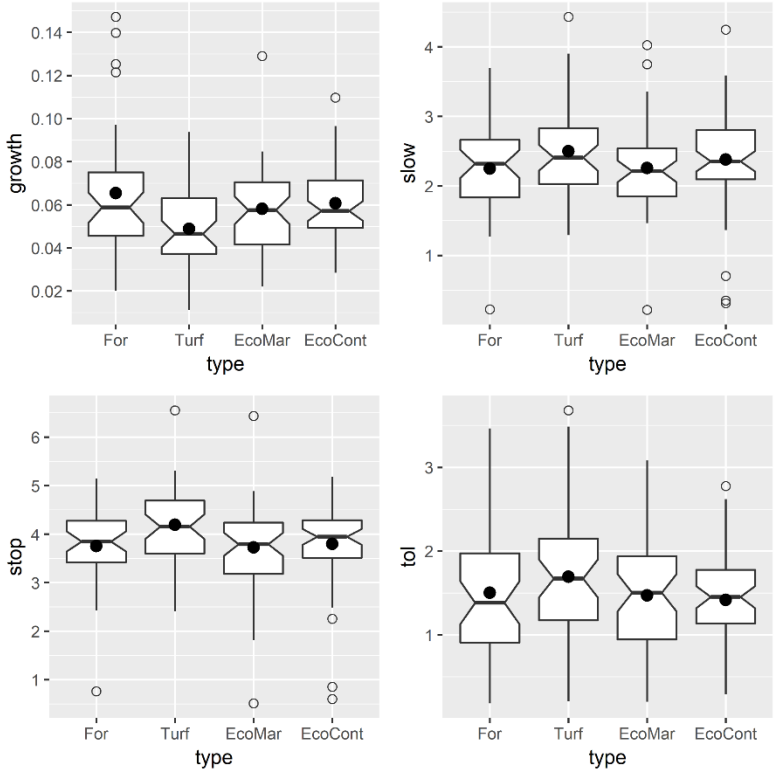
Leaf elongation rate in response to mild drought





Jaškūnė et al. Front. Plant Sci.2020

Significant marker trait associations for the grow decrease trait on genomic scaffolds

Scaffold	Position	Gene prediction (blastn)	Location	Scaffold position in barley genome	GWAS method	SNP effect	MAF	*P*-value	*P*-values FDR	*P*-values (Bonferron correction
scaffold_20866| ref0045961	1878	Transcription factor MYB41 (XM_003573090.4)	Outside gene (708 bp)	Hv_chr6H	FarmCPU	−0.548	0.091	4.19E-07	0.009	0.009
					BLINK	NA	0.091	4.15E-07	0.009	NA
					MLMM	NA	0.091	8.16E-07	0.009	0.018
scaffold_4484| ref0039062	32616	Phytochrome B (XM_020328926.1)	Intron	Hv_chr4H	FarmCPU	0.739	0.054	1.79E-07	0.019	0.039

Jaškūnė et al. Front. Plant Sci.2020

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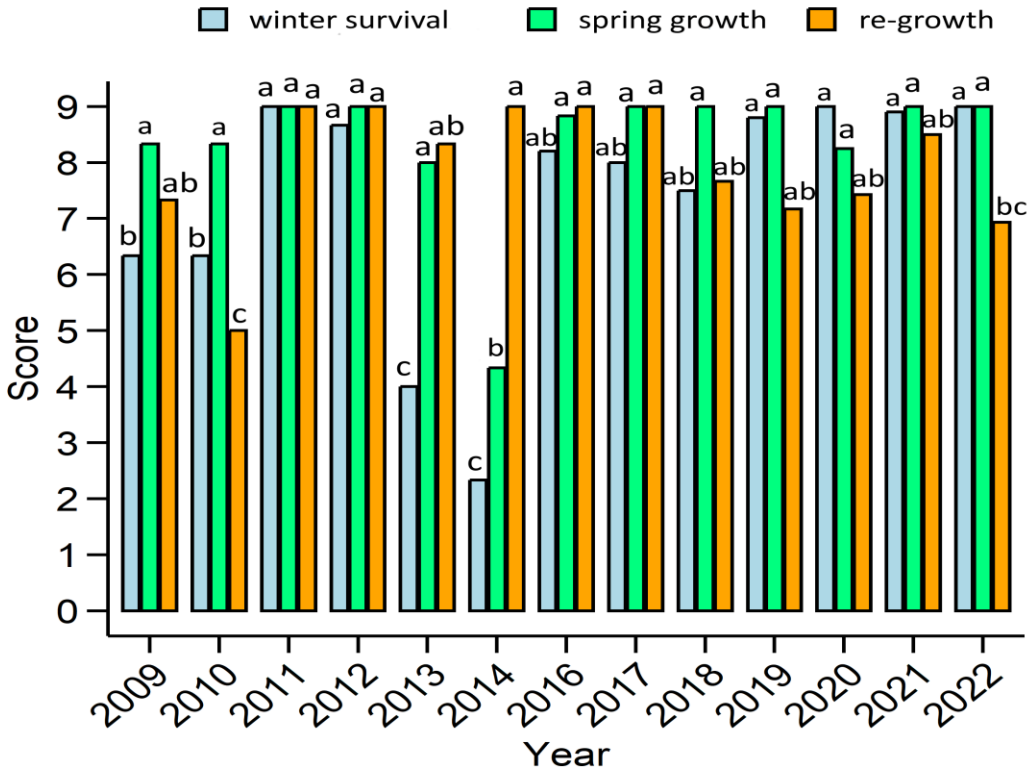
L. multiflorum ssp. Italicum
Italian ryegrass



Winter survival, spring growth and re-growth after cuts

Kemešytė et al 2023

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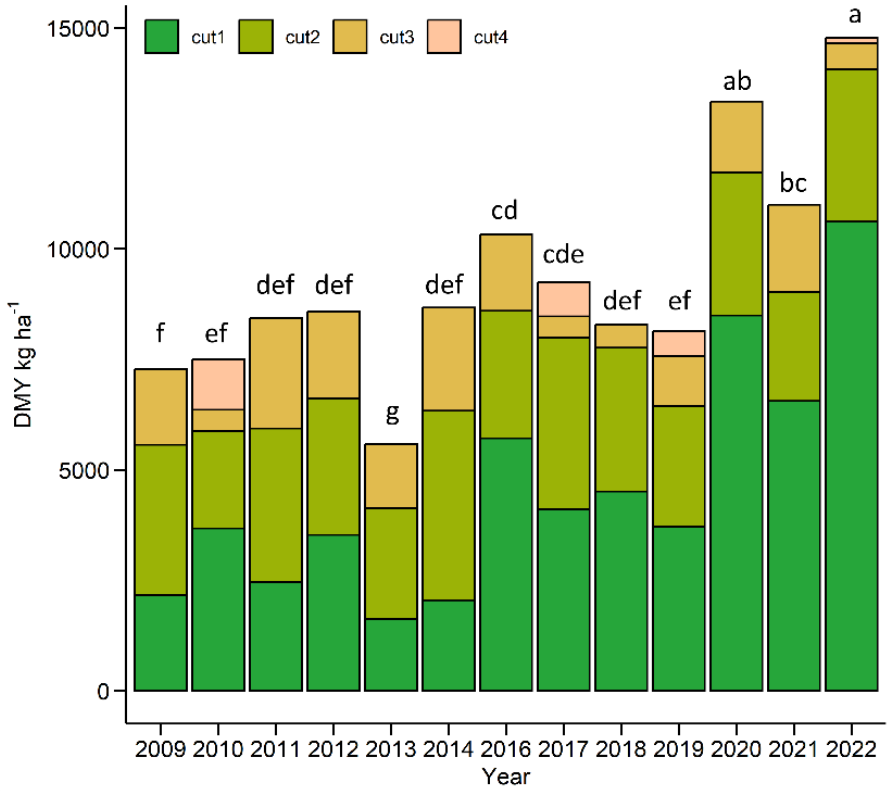
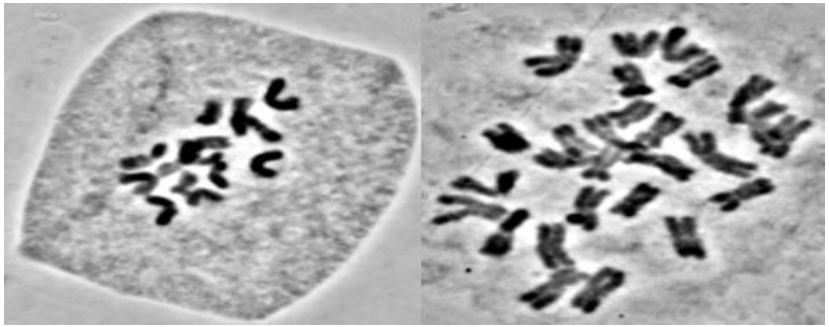
The total dry matter yield over the period of 2009 – 2022



Winter period average temperature and total precipitation during 1st cut growth period had a significant effect on the 1st cut DMY ($R^2 = 0.51$)

L. multiflorum ssp. multiflorum
Westerwold ryegrass



O. K. Akinroluyo PhD thesis, 2019

Iceland Liechtenstein Norway grants

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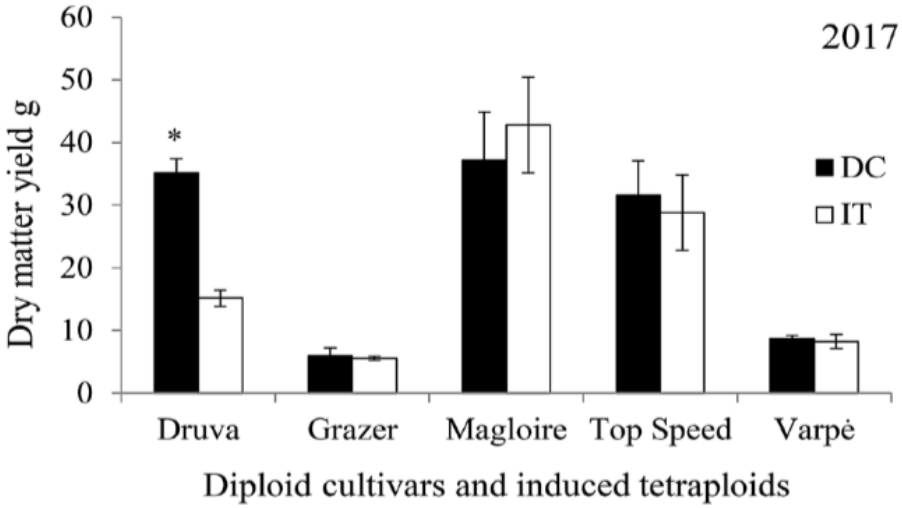
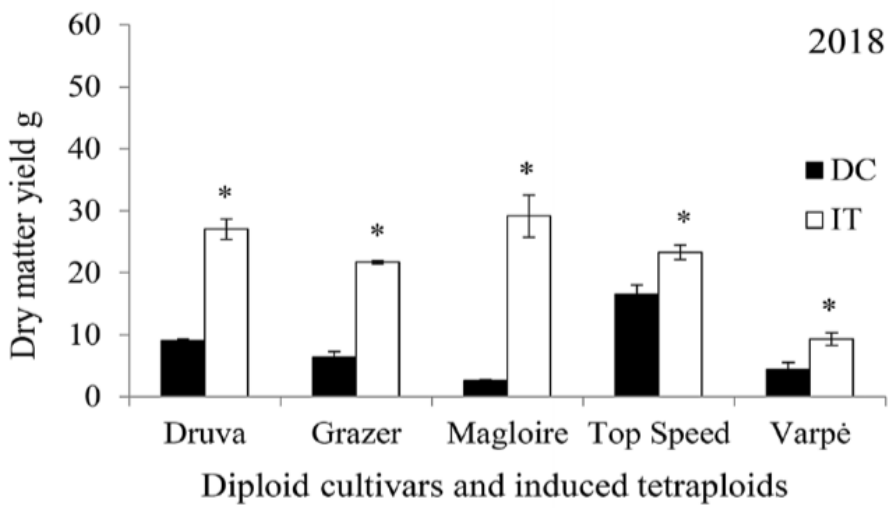
Dry matter yield between diploid cultivars (DC) and induced tetraploids (IT) after 5 days of mild drought

The total phenolic content (A) and antioxidant activity (B) of tetraploid cultivars (DC) and induced tetraploids (IT) after 5 days of mild drought





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Akinroluyo et al Zemdirbyste-Agriculture, 2020

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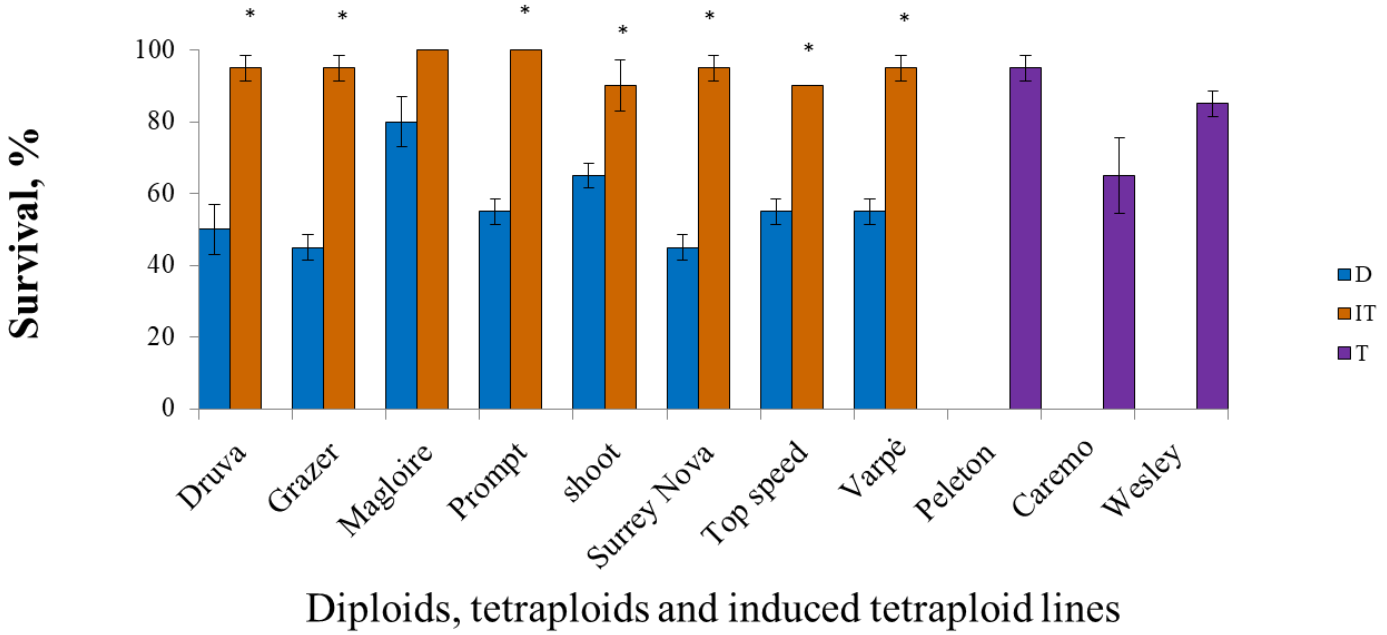
Regrowth after severe drought



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So... do we still care about freezing?

Drought?

Water logging?

Heat?

Thank you