

Supporting Information to the article 'Microbial nitrogen transformations in tundra soil depend on interactive effects of seasonality and plant functional types'

Biogeochemistry (2024)

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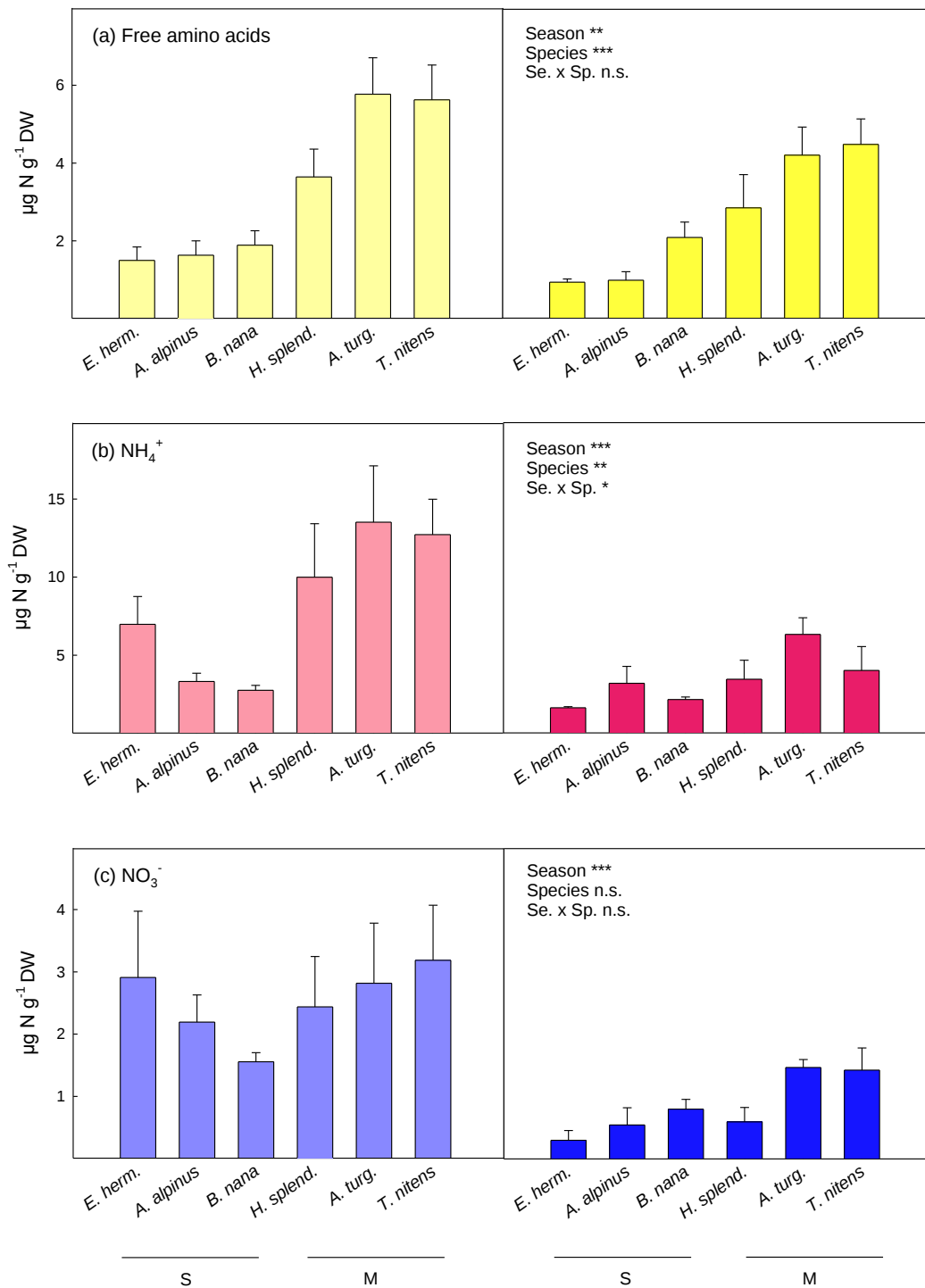


Fig. S1 Concentrations of free amino acids (a), ammonium (b) and nitrate (c) in soil grown by the dwarf shrub species (S) *Empetrum hermaphroditum*, *Arctostaphylos alpinus* and *Betula nana* and the moss species (M) *Hylocomium splendens*, *Aulacomnium turgidum* and *Tomentypnum nitens* in early growing season (left panels) and late growing season (right panels). Error bars indicate 1 SE. $n = 5$. Effects of season, plant species and their interaction determined by linear mixed effect models are indicated by *** ($p < 0.001$), ** ($p < 0.01$), * ($p < 0.05$) and 'n.s.' (not significant). Details on ANOVA models are presented in Table 2 and Table S1.

Table S1 Summary of mixed-effect model ANOVA describing effects of seasonality and plant functional type (PFT, i.e. shrubs versus mosses) on plant available soil N-pools and microbial N-cycling processes.

	Season (df = 1)	PFT (df = 1)	PFT x season (df = 1)	R ² _m	R ² _c
Plant available N-pools					
Free amino acids ^b	12.31 **	22.94 **	0.03	0.56	0.85
Ammonium ^b	31.96 ***	17.54 *	2.14	0.44	0.61
Nitrate ^a	45.85 ***	4.78 +	0.75	0.44	0.51
Microbial N-cycling processes					
Protein depolymerisation ^b	1.57	10.49 *	1.24	0.39	0.83
Gross N mineralisation ^a	50.73 ***	3.81	11.91 **	0.48	0.69
Net N mineralisation	19.33 ***	2.06	1.35	0.23	0.56
Gross NH ₄ ⁺ consumption ^a	42.08 ***	8.59 **	5.92 *	0.49	0.59
Gross nitrification ^a	0.05	3.76	0.00	0.16	0.62
Net nitrification	28.31 ***	6.22 *	0.08	0.30	0.61
Gross NO ₃ ⁻ consumption ^a	8.18 **	8.79 *	0.01	0.28	0.66

Given are F-values for main effects and interaction. Plant species is included as random effect in the models. Significance levels: *** (p<0.001), ** (p<0.01), * (p<0.05) and + (p<0.1). Explained variance by fixed effects (R²_m) and including random effects (R²_c). ^a Square-root transformed data. ^b Log-transformed data.

Table S2 (A) Plant available N-forms and (B) microbial N-transformation rates per area at sites grown by the dwarf shrub species *Empetrum hermaphroditum*, *Arctostaphylos alpinus* and *Betula nana* and the moss species *Hylocomium splendens*, *Aulacomnium turgidum* and *Tomentypnum nitens* in early growing season and late growing season.

(A)

(mg N m ⁻²)	Free amino acids		Ammonium		Nitrate	
	Early season	Late season	Early season	Late season	Early season	Late season
<i>E. hermaphr.</i>	12.7 (3.4)	7.8 (0.8) ^A	57.1 (12.5)	13.4 (0.6)	22.8 (6.7)	2.4 (1.2)
<i>A. alpinus</i>	16.6 (4.2)	10.0 (2.7) ^{AB}	32.9 (5.6)	32.0 (11.7)	21.6 (4.5)	5.8 (3.0)
<i>B. nana</i>	19.6 (5.7)	22.2 (7.4) ^{ABC}	24.8 (1.5)	21.1 (4.5)	14.4 (1.4)	8.4 (2.4)
<i>H. splendens</i>	32.0 (7.9)	25.6 (8.5) ^{BC}	95.2 (37.5)	29.4 (10.9)	23.0 (10.4)	5.4 (2.2)
<i>A. turgidum</i>	33.5 (7.1)	24.2 (5.0) ^{BC}	78.8 (21.9)	36.9 (7.7)	16.2 (5.9)	8.6 (1.4)
<i>T. nitens</i>	32.1 (2.8)	26.4 (2.8) ^C	75.6 (11.1)	23.6 (8.3)	18.7 (5.0)	8.7 (2.1)
Seasonal effect	$p < 0.01$		$p < 0.001$		$p < 0.001$	

Values are means (SE in parentheses), n = 5. Uppercase letters indicate significant differences between plant species over both seasons after Tukey's post-hoc test. Groups not sharing the same letter are significantly different ($p < 0.05$). Depth of organic horizon and bulk density for each plant species is given in Table 1.

(B)

(g N m ⁻² day ⁻¹)	Protein depolymerisation	
	Early season	Late season
<i>E. hermaphr.</i>	0.77 (0.03)	0.67 (0.08)
<i>A. alpinus</i>	0.68 (0.11)	0.68 (0.09)
<i>B. nana</i>	0.98 (0.22)	1.09 (0.19)
<i>H. splendens</i>	1.04 (0.06)	1.05 (0.16)
<i>A. turgidum</i>	1.02 (0.09)	0.86 (0.09)
<i>T. nitens</i>	0.91 (0.07)	0.82 (0.06)

Seasonal effect	<i>n.s.</i>
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(g N m ⁻² day ⁻¹)	Gross N mineralisation				Net N mineralisation				Gross NH ₄ ⁺ consumption			
	Early season		Late season		Early season		Late season		Early season		Late season	
<i>E. hermaphr.</i>	0.08	(0.01)	0.07	(0.01)	-0.03	(0.03)	0.02	(0.00) ^{AB}	0.11	(0.04)	0.05	(0.01)
<i>A. alpinus</i>	0.12	(0.01)	0.05	(0.02)	-0.12	(0.03)	-0.01	(0.02) ^A	0.23	(0.02)	0.07	(0.03)
<i>B. nana</i>	0.18	(0.04)	0.10	(0.01)	0.01	(0.04)	0.01	(0.02) ^B	0.18	(0.04)	0.09	(0.03)
<i>H. splendens</i>	0.19	(0.06)	0.06	(0.01)	-0.05	(0.02)	0.00	(0.02) ^{AB}	0.24	(0.08)	0.06	(0.01)
<i>A. turgidum</i>	0.19	(0.07)	0.05	(0.01)	-0.05	(0.04)	0.01	(0.01) ^{AB}	0.24	(0.09)	0.04	(0.01)
<i>T. nitens</i>	0.18	(0.03)	0.05	(0.01)	-0.06	(0.02)	0.00	(0.01) ^{AB}	0.24	(0.05)	0.05	(0.02)
Seasonal effect	<i>p</i> < 0.001				<i>p</i> < 0.001				<i>p</i> < 0.001			

(g N m ⁻² day ⁻¹)	Gross nitrification				Net nitrification				Gross NO ₃ ⁻ consumption			
	Early season		Late season		Early season		Late season		Early season		Late season	
<i>E. hermaphr.</i>	0.021	(0.002)	0.019	(0.003)	-0.017	(0.004)	-0.001	(0.004)	0.037	(0.004)	0.020	(0.005)
<i>A. alpinus</i>	0.032	(0.011)	0.030	(0.007)	-0.018	(0.005)	0.000	(0.007)	0.048	(0.016)	0.030	(0.010)
<i>B. nana</i>	0.042	(0.012)	0.046	(0.010)	-0.024	(0.008)	-0.001	(0.012)	0.065	(0.014)	0.048	(0.016)
<i>H. splendens</i>	0.031	(0.009)	0.048	(0.028)	-0.027	(0.008)	-0.016	(0.009)	0.056	(0.009)	0.063	(0.035)
<i>A. turgidum</i>	0.070	(0.013)	0.051	(0.013)	-0.021	(0.007)	-0.008	(0.007)	0.092	(0.015)	0.060	(0.017)
<i>T. nitens</i>	0.047	(0.021)	0.046	(0.009)	-0.022	(0.004)	-0.005	(0.006)	0.069	(0.025)	0.051	(0.012)
Seasonal effect	<i>n.s.</i>				<i>p</i> < 0.001				<i>p</i> < 0.01			

Values are means (SE in parentheses), n = 5, except for N mineralisation / NH₄⁺ consumption (*E.e.*, *A.a.*, *B.n.*, *H.s.*) where n = 4. Uppercase letters indicate significant differences between plant species over both seasons after Tukey's post-hoc test, groups not sharing the same letter are significantly different (*p* < 0.05). Depth of organic horizon and bulk density for each plant species is given in Table 1.