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### Title

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### Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/5985k8kb>

### Journal

Oikos, 124(1)

### ISSN

0030-1299

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### Publication Date

2015

### DOI

10.1111/oik.01433

Peer reviewed

Title: Priority effects vary with species identity and origin in an experiment varying the timing of seed arrival

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1 Abstract

2

3 Exotic species are sometimes phenologically distinct from native species in the invaded  
4 community, allowing them to be active when there may be reduced competition for resources. In  
5 Southern California, annual species are particularly problematic invaders, and prior work has  
6 shown that these species germinate earlier in the growing season, giving them a competitive  
7 advantage over later-germinating native species. This result begs the question, if being active  
8 earlier is advantageous, why haven't native species adapted earlier cues for germination? We  
9 hypothesized native species would benefit less from earlier germination than exotic species  
10 (potentially due to slower growth following germination), thus negating potential selection for  
11 early germination. Here we manipulated planting time for common native and exotic species,  
12 growing them in all possible species pairs, to evaluate how competitive outcomes were altered  
13 by the time of arrival and the origin of competing species. In contrast to our hypotheses, the  
14 exotic species often had lower biomass when planted first, potentially due to disturbance when  
15 the second species was planted,. In contrast, 3 out of our 4 native species benefited from earlier  
16 planting (a priority effect). Unlike the potential benefit of arriving early, we found no evidence  
17 that being planted one week later resulted in a competitive disadvantage, when compared to  
18 being planted simultaneously with a competitor. Further, we found that the magnitude and even  
19 direction of priority effects varied depending on the identity of the interacting species. Together  
20 these results suggest that a lack of directional selection may prevent adaptation towards earlier  
21 germination times of native species. Although this experiment was conducted with a limited suite  
22 of species, the results show that the role of seasonal priority effects varies among species, and

- 23 that native species could benefit from seasonal priority effects in restoration efforts even when in
- 24 competition with fast-growing exotic annual species.

25 Introduction

26

27         Invasions by exotic species have long fascinated ecologists as natural experiments in  
28 community assembly (i.e. Elton 1958), and the widespread ecological and economic impacts of  
29 species invasions (Pimentel et al. 2005) make it critical to develop restoration and prevention  
30 strategies based on mechanistic understandings of the factors underlying invasions. For plant  
31 invasions, major progress has been made in quantifying niche-based mechanisms enabling  
32 invasion such as enemy release (Keane & Crawley 2002), plant strategies (i.e. trait syndromes)  
33 that vary between native and invasive species (van Kleunen et al. 2010, Leishman et al. 2007),  
34 and the role of native community structure in invasion resistance (Hooper and Dukes 2010, Funk  
35 et al. 2008). In addition to these more established hypotheses, exotic species may be successful  
36 because they exploit a vacant temporal niche (Godoy et al. 2009, Wolkovich and Cleland 2011).  
37 For instance in grasslands exotic species sometimes display earlier flowering phenology (e.g.  
38 Cleland et al. 2013, Wolkovich et al. 2013) and earlier or faster germination (e.g. Marushia et al.  
39 2010, Wilsey et al. 2011, Chrobock et al. 2011, Wainwright & Cleland 2013, Wainwright et al.  
40 2012) than native species.

41         Southern California is a region where early-germinating exotic annual species have  
42 become increasingly abundant, often lowering native species diversity over time (Gilbert and  
43 Levine 2013) and altering ecosystem functioning in invaded areas (Wolkovich et al. 2010).  
44 Restoration of the native community is difficult, if not impossible, to achieve once exotic annual  
45 species are dominant (Cox and Allen 2008), suggesting that native re-establishment may be  
46 hindered by exotic species priority effects (Grman and Suding 2010, Seabloom et al. 2003).  
47 Priority effects, whereby the relative abundance of species is influenced by the order of their

48 arrival into a system, have long been a focus of theoretical and empirical study in ecology (e.g.  
49 Belyea and Lancaster 1999, Kokko et al. 2006) and can have strong influences on plant  
50 community composition (e.g. Kardol et al. 2013, Collinge and Ray 2009, Körner et al. 2008,  
51 Fukami et al. 2005). Exotic species germinating earlier in the growing season could pre-empt  
52 resources and subsequently suppress growth by later-active native species (Marushia et al. 2010,  
53 Wainwright et al. 2012), a type of priority effect acting on a seasonal timescale. Flexibility in  
54 germination cues has been suggested to be a key advantage for species establishing outside of  
55 their native range (Hierro et al. 2009), and even small differences in germination time have been  
56 shown to confer higher fitness on earlier active species (Ross & Harper 1972, Verdu & Traveset  
57 2005). This suggests that while earlier phenology may be contributing to exotic species success,  
58 restoration efforts could also employ priority effects to facilitate native re-establishment  
59 (Marushia et al. 2010, Wainwright et al. 2012, Abraham et al. 2009, Young et al. 2005).

60 In addition to the ecological significance of earlier activity for community assembly,  
61 several studies have found evidence of recent evolutionary selection for earlier flowering  
62 phenology to keep pace with climate change (Munguía-Rosas et al. 2011, Anderson et al. 2012),  
63 and that exotic species have advanced their seasonal development more than native species over  
64 the same time period (Willis et al. 2010, Wolkovich et al. 2013). Together, these patterns beg the  
65 question: if being active earlier is so advantageous, why don't native species also become active  
66 earlier? One possibility is that exotic species benefit more from priority effects than native  
67 species, potentially because of other traits such as fast growth rates (van Kleunen et al. 2010,  
68 Leishman et al. 2007) Experiments manipulating seed arrival time of native versus exotic  
69 competitors have sometimes (Dickson et al. 2012, Stevens & Fehmi 2011) but not always  
70 (Grman & Suding 2010) found that exotic species benefit more than native species from arriving

71 earlier, and the magnitude of the effects vary widely. It is possible that the strength of priority  
72 effects may vary depending on the identities of the earlier and later arriving species, resulting in  
73 weak selection for earlier activity. These prior experiments, however, have been limited in their  
74 ability to quantify variation in the strength of priority effects among multiple competitors and  
75 multiple focal species, because priority effects are often investigated in a limiting number of  
76 species pairs.

77 Here, we present an experiment designed to test the hypothesis that 1) the strength of  
78 priority effects vary depending on the identity of competing species, and 2) exotic species benefit  
79 more from priority effects as compared with native species, by factorially manipulating species  
80 origin, species identity and arrival order. Later-activity in native species could also be  
81 maintained if there is less of a disadvantage to native species of later activity as compared with  
82 exotic species, thus maintaining later-active individuals in the population. The symmetry of  
83 priority effects from early arrival versus the disadvantage of secondary arrival have been  
84 surprisingly untested. Hence, we additionally tested 3) the hypothesis that the priority advantage  
85 of early arrival is proportionally greater than the disadvantage of arriving later, as compared with  
86 individuals planted at the same time.

87

## 88 Methods

89

### *Experimental design*

90

91 This experiment was conducted at the UC San Diego Biology Field Station. We planted 8  
92 focal species which are common in Southern California (4 each of species native and exotic to  
93 California, see Table 1) in all possible 2 species combinations (28), and orders (first, second, or

94 simultaneously so  $28 \times 3 = 84$ ), with 8 replicates of every combination (total  $N = 672$ )  
95 comparing the biomass of each species in the competing pairs. One exotic species (*Lactuca*  
96 *serriola*) did not germinate under field conditions, hence species pairs involving this species  
97 were omitted from the analyses of priority effects; instead these pots were used to evaluate  
98 whether planting time influenced species biomass in the absence of competition.

99 Germination screens were performed for all species one month prior to the experiment by  
100 sowing 50 seeds into well watered potting soils and counting the resulting germinates after 3  
101 weeks. The number of seeds planted was scaled by germination rate to achieve a target of 15  
102 germinated individuals of each focal species per pot. On April 9<sup>th</sup> 2013, seeds of the first focal  
103 species (for priority treatments) or both focal species (for the same-time planted treatments) were  
104 sown in 21 x 3.8 cm cylindrical cone-tainer pots (Stuewe & Sons SC10). This experiment  
105 utilized sieved topsoil from a local site dominated by native coastal sage scrub vegetation. After  
106 seeds were planted each pot received 50 mL water, and pots subsequently received ambient  
107 rainfall, supplemented by daily misting with an automated watering system (approximately 8 mL  
108 per pot per day).

109 Seeds for the later-planted focal species (in the priority treatments) were sown one week  
110 later, on April 15<sup>th</sup>. This time between planting was chosen because it corresponded to the  
111 average difference in germination time between native and exotic species observed in a prior  
112 local experiment following the first large winter rain signaling the onset of the growing season  
113 (Wainwright et al. 2012). Seeds were mixed into the top 1 cm of soil regardless of planting time,  
114 so it should be noted that later-planting seeds in the priority treatments resulted in a potential  
115 disturbance to early-planted germinated seeds.



116 Pots were arrayed by block on a raised outdoor platform that prevented mammalian  
117 grazing, but plants were otherwise exposed to herbivores (although qualitative observations  
118 suggest there was little herbivory). All above-ground biomass (including senesced tissue) was  
119 harvested on June 4<sup>th</sup>, corresponding to 8 or 7 weeks following planting, for the same time- and  
120 early-planted versus later-planted species respectively. By this time mosts plants had reached  
121 maximum vegetative biomass prior to flowering, and some had begun to senesce. Biomass was  
122 dried for 72 hours at 40 °C before weighing.

123

#### 124 *Statistical analysis*

125

126 All data analysis was performed in the R v. 3.0.2 statistical platform (R Core  
127 Development Team 2013). First, before evaluating our hypotheses, we evaluated whether there  
128 was an impact of planting time on species performance in the *absence of competition*. Biomass  
129 was fitted to a linear model where planting order (early or later), origin of each species (native or  
130 exotic), and species identity nested within origin were included individually and in all possible  
131 interactions (with the exception of interactions involving origin x species terms). Subsequent  
132 planned comparisons between early and later planting treatments were conducted as t-tests.

133 To evaluate our first hypothesis that priority effects would vary with the identity of  
134 interacting species, we fitted biomass for each focal species in a linear model where planting  
135 order, focal species identity and the identity of the competing species were included as crossed  
136 fixed factors. To evaluate our second hypothesis that exotic species could benefit more from  
137 earlier planting as compared with native species when grown in competition, biomass of each  
138 focal species was fitted to a linear mixed model where planting order, origin of the focal species,

139 and origin of the competing species were included as factorial fixed factors. Species identity in  
140 this model is thus nested in two different factors (origin of the focal species and origin of the  
141 competitor), hence species identities in this model are accounted for by including each unique  
142 species pair as a random factor. Individual analyses were also performed for each focal species  
143 where its biomass was fitted to a model including the time of planting and origin of the  
144 competition species, where the competing species identity was included as a random factor.

145 To evaluate whether there was symmetry in competitive interactions by planting time  
146 (hypothesis 3), we calculated both a priority effect (biomass of a focal species when planted first  
147 minus its average biomass when planted at the same time in a given species pair) and a  
148 secondary effect (calculated similarly but using the biomass of the focal species when planted  
149 second in a given species pair, again compared to when the focal species was planted at the same  
150 time). In two species pairs there was zero germination of one species in one treatment, , and  
151 hence those pairs were omitted from this analysis. The priority effects and secondary effects  
152 were predicted with linear mixed models where Order (priority versus secondary), Origin of the  
153 focal species and Origin of the competing species were included as factorial fixed effects, and  
154 the identifier for the specific species pair was included as a random effect.

155 Marginal (type II) tests were used throughout. For linear models F test statistics are  
156 presented. For linear mixed model analyses X<sup>2</sup> test statistics are presented.

157

## 158 Results

159

160 In the absence of competition (Table 2, Figure1), species displayed significant variation  
161 in their performance depending on whether they were planted early or one-week later (Order

162  $F_{1,98} = 7.2$ ,  $p=0.008$ , Species  $F_{5, 98} = 26.4$ ,  $p<<0.001$ , Order x Species  $F_{5,98} = 19.4$ ,  $p<<0.001$ ),  
163 which was not predictable on the basis of species origin ( $F_{1,98} = 2.78$ ,  $p=0.10$ ). Two exotic  
164 species achieved higher biomass when planted earlier (*B. hordeaceus* and *L. multiflorum*, both  
165 annual grasses), while one exotic species (*T. hirtum*, a legume) and one native species (*L.*  
166 *platygosa*, an annual forb) achieved higher biomass when planted a week later. There were no  
167 differences in ending biomass for the remaining three native species.

168         When planted in competition, both the identity of the focal species and the identity of the  
169 competition species interacted with planting order to influence the biomass of the focal species  
170 (Order x Origin x Competitor origin  $\chi^2=2.3$ ,  $p<<0.001$ , Table 3), in support of our first  
171 hypothesis that the strength of priority effects would vary with the identity of interacting species.  
172 The analysis that included origin of the focal and competing species as model terms found that  
173 while exotic species had higher ending biomass than native species ( $\chi^2=25.9$ ,  $p<<0.001$ ), there  
174 was no consistent effect of planting order or origin of the competing species (Table 4). When  
175 species were analyzed individually (following on the significant interactions between species and  
176 planting order in Table 3), there was substantial variation among focal species in the influence of  
177 planting order, and the identity of the competing species on their ending biomass (statistics in  
178 Table 5, Figure 2). *B. hordeaceus* achieved higher biomass when competing with native species  
179 than when competing with exotic species (Competitor origin  $\chi^2=8.46$ ,  $p=0.0036$ ), and *L.*  
180 *multiflorum* achieved higher biomass when planted first in competition with other exotic species,  
181 but higher biomass when planted second in competition with native species (Order x Competitor  
182 origin  $\chi^2=7.43$ ,  $p=0.006$ ). While planting order did not otherwise influence final biomass of any  
183 exotic species, *L. platygosa* (native annual forb) tended to achieve higher biomass when planted

184 later, and the 3 other native species (*E. californica*, *L. purshianus*, and *S. pulchra*) all had  
185 significantly higher biomass when planted early (Table 5).

186 Consistent with the species-level analysis of planting order, the analysis of priority  
187 effects revealed that native species in our experiment had a larger benefit than exotic species  
188 when planted early as opposed to the same time as competitors, and in fact exotic species often  
189 achieved lower biomass when planted first (Order x Origin  $\chi^2=5.5$ ,  $p=0.018$ , Order x Comp.  
190 Origin  $\chi^2=6.9$ ,  $p=0.008$ , Figure 3A, Table 6). In contrast, there was little effect of being planted  
191 second as compared to being planted at the same time as competitors (Figure 3B).

192

## 193 Discussion

194

195 The earlier seasonal phenology of problematic exotic annual invaders relative to  
196 herbaceous native species has been documented in multiple locations across California, and has  
197 often been hypothesized to enable invaders to establish during a time in the growing season  
198 when there is less competition from established native species (Cleland et al. 2013, Wainwright  
199 & Cleland 2013, Wainwright et al. 2012, Marushia et al. 2010, Abraham et al. 2009). Hence, we  
200 expected to find that exotic species would benefit more from seasonal priority effects than native  
201 species. Instead we found that when planted only one week earlier, native species had a  
202 proportionally greater advantage than exotic species, compared to when they were planted at the  
203 same time as a competitor. Across all species combinations, exotic species had lower final  
204 biomass when planted one week earlier than when planted at the same time as competitors,  
205 potentially due to a detrimental effect of disturbance on newly germinated seedlings. In contrast,  
206 there was little disadvantage to being planted one week later compared with being planted at the

207 same time as a competitor for any species. This suggests that the role of phenology in  
208 competitive interactions may be asymmetrical, and that while arriving early can be a benefit,  
209 once competition is established there may be relatively little disadvantage to arriving a short time  
210 later. This may explain how later germinating individuals can be maintained in populations, even  
211 if earlier germinating individuals have higher fitness. For instance, in an old-field community  
212 Miller (1987) found greater growth of earlier emerging individuals across multiple species (but  
213 no impact on survival), and hypothesized that earlier emergence time was not correlated with  
214 selection pressure due to low trait heritability, insufficient time to observe evolution from  
215 selection, or selection on uncorrelated traits. Significant ramifications of later arrival could  
216 emerge later in the growing season with respect to reproduction and seed viability, via  
217 interactions with pollinators, late-season herbivores or seed predators (Brody 1997), but since we  
218 ended the experiment before flowering we could not evaluate these potential effects.

219         When planted in the absence of competition, two fast-growing exotic annual grasses  
220 species achieved higher biomass when planted earlier; in contrast, the exotic legume and a native  
221 annual forb achieved higher biomass when planted later. These species subsequently showed  
222 variation in whether they achieved greater biomass when planted earlier versus later in  
223 competition (compare Figures 1 and 2). Studies in animal systems have shown that competition  
224 can alter the optimal timing of species introductions, for instance Alford and Wilbur (1985)  
225 found tadpoles gained an advantage from arriving earlier if in competition, but fared better if  
226 arriving later without competition. They hypothesized this was caused by a greater accumulation  
227 of food reserves in ponds without anurans early in the growing season. In our experiment, plants  
228 may have experienced greater low temperature stress (Inouye 2008) or exposure to herbivory  
229 (Hanley 1998) when planted earlier, and both of these factors have been hypothesized to

230 potentially play a role in stabilizing selection, preventing strong selection for earlier phenology  
231 (Anderson et al. 2012).

232         As with any experiment, the generality of these findings are limited by the focal species,  
233 abiotic context, and length of the experiment, all of which may alter the importance of priority  
234 effects for community assembly. For instance, in a similar experiment manipulating planting  
235 order, Kardol et al. (2013) found that priority effects exerted greater control over species  
236 composition at high soil resource availability, because early-establishing species grew and pre-  
237 empted light more quickly (but see Abraham 2009, where soil N did not alter the strength of  
238 priority effects). Abiotic context (water depth) also influenced the relative strength of priority  
239 effects among vernal pool plant communities in California (Collinge and Ray 2009), with the  
240 importance of priority effects for community assembly fading over time (potentially  
241 extinguished after 10 years). In contrast, Corbin and D'Antonio (2004) found that the strength of  
242 priority effect gained by already established perennial native bunchgrasses over annual exotic  
243 grasses increased in strength over time, highlighting how the growth strategies of interacting  
244 species can alter the temporal dynamics of priority effects. In Southern California annual species  
245 are often problematic invaders in perennial-dominated native communities; in our experiment all  
246 of our exotic species are annual while two of our native species are perennial. Thus live-history  
247 and origin are confounded in our experiment, introducing important caveats to our findings.

248         Variation in the length of time between earlier and later introductions may explain  
249 divergent results among prior experimental studies investigating the relative strength of priority  
250 effects for native versus exotic species. For instance, both Stevens and Fehmi (2011) and  
251 Dickson et al. (2012) found that exotic species achieved significantly greater biomass gains than  
252 native species when planted three weeks earlier, and they hypothesized this difference was

253 caused by the faster growth rates of exotic species. In contrast, Grman and Suding (2010) found  
254 large priority effects of similar magnitude when either native or exotic species were established  
255 five weeks earlier, by which time the earlier established species exerted substantial size-  
256 asymmetric competitive suppression (Weiner 1990). This suggests that even slow-growing  
257 native species can gain a priority advantage if given sufficient time to establish dominance.

258         In this study, we used a much smaller difference between earlier and later plantings (one  
259 week) corresponding to the observed difference in timing of emergence between focal native and  
260 exotic species observed in the field following the onset of germinating rains (Wainwright et al.  
261 2012), although we did not quantify how this translated into differences in emergence time due  
262 to difficulties in discerning the identification of seedlings. Still, even given this small advance in  
263 planting time we found a proportionally greater advantage for earlier arriving native species than  
264 exotic species when compared to individuals planted at the same time. While this allowed us to  
265 measure the realistic magnitude of seasonal priority effects in our system under controlled  
266 experimental conditions, overall biomass of exotic species was significantly higher than native  
267 species throughout our experiment. Restoration of native plant communities in Southern  
268 California can be difficult, due to large exotic seed banks and potential for re-invasion from  
269 surrounding areas (Cox and Allen 2008). Hence, while optimizing seasonal timing for plantings  
270 is only one among many strategies that could increase native species establishment during  
271 restoration, comparison between our results and other studies suggests that restoration efforts  
272 should aim to give native species a long “head start” over their exotic competitors in order to  
273 maximize a potential native priority effect (e.g. Martin & Wilsey 2012, Abraham et al. 2009,  
274 Stevens & Fehmi 2011).

275           One of the main conclusions to be drawn from this experiment is that there is significant  
276 variation among species in the strength of potential priority effects, which depends on the  
277 identity both of the earlier and later arriving species. Similar studies manipulating the emergence  
278 time of native versus exotic species have not systematically varied the identities of competing  
279 pairs of species, as done in this study, but similar aquatic mesocosm studies have documented  
280 complex impacts of priority effects on community assembly (Drake 1991) and resulting  
281 ecosystem functioning (Chase 2010) depending on the dual identities of early and later arriving  
282 species. Variation in species composition among sites has often been thought of as the result of  
283 stochastic, historical contingencies in the order of species arrival, in contrast to the deterministic,  
284 niche-based processes that result in predictable community assembly processes (Belyea and  
285 Lancaster 1999). Vanette and Fukami (2014) argue that this variation in the strength of priority  
286 effects may be predictable on the basis of niche overlap between earlier and later arriving  
287 species; greater priority effects are likely to be exerted when species overlap in their resource  
288 requirements or diverge in their impacts on ecosystem function. The variation in priority effects  
289 we observed in this study could have been due to variation among species in susceptibility to  
290 herbivory, climatic stressors or disturbance, or due to variation in rates of growth and resource  
291 pre-emption. Given our very limited species pool, we could not tease apart these potential drivers  
292 of variation in priority effects, and future work should build on these hypotheses to measure  
293 species traits and patterns of species resource uptake concurrent with the temporal trajectory of  
294 species interactions.

295

296 Acknowledgments: We are grateful to the Spring 2013 undergraduate Ecology Lab (BIEB 121)  
297 students at UCSD who participated in planting and harvesting this experiment.



298

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398

399 Table 1: Focal species utilized in the experiment, including the abbreviation used in figures, their  
 400 origin relative to California, functional group, and the quantity of seeds planted per pot.

401	<u>Scientific name</u>	<u>Abbreviation</u>	<u>Origin</u>	<u>Functional group</u>	<u># seeds</u>
402	<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>	BRHO	Exotic	annual grass	20
403	<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	LASE	Exotic	annual forb	20
404	<i>Lolium multiflorum</i>	LOMU	Exotic	annual grass	15
405	<i>Trifolium hirtum</i>	TRHI	Exotic	annual legume	20
406	<i>Escholzia californica</i>	ESCA	Native	perennial forb	25
407	<i>Layia playgosa</i>	LAPL	Native	annual forb	50
408	<i>Lotus purshianus</i>	LOPL	Native	annual legume	25
409	<i>Stipa pulchra</i>	STPA	Native	perennial grass	30

410

411 Table 2. Linear model analysis of species performance when planted early or later in the absence  
 412 of competitors. Species identity is a fixed factor nested within Origin.

413	<u>Model term:</u>	<u>Num df</u>	<u>F-value</u>	<u>p-value</u>
414	<b>Order</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7.26</b>	<b>0.008</b>
415	Origin	1	2.78	0.10
416	<b>Species(Origin)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>&lt;&lt;0.001</b>
417	Order x Origin	1	1.23	0.27
418	<b>Order x Species(Origin)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>&lt;&lt;0.001</b>

419

420 Table 3. Linear model analysis of species biomass when planted in competition early versus later  
421 (Order), where the identity of the focal species (Species) and the Competing species are included  
422 as factorial fixed effects.

423

424	<u>Model term</u>	<u>F value</u>	<u>(df)</u>	<u>p-value</u>
425	Order	0.03	(1,560)	0.8651772
426	<b>Species</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>(6,560)</b>	<b>&lt; &lt;0.0001</b>
427	<b>Competing species</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>(6,560)</b>	<b>&lt; &lt;0.0001</b>
428	<b>Order x Species</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>(6,560)</b>	<b>0.0004</b>
429	<b>Order x Comp. species</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>(6,560)</b>	<b>&lt; &lt;0.0001</b>
430	<b>Species x Comp. species</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>(27,560)</b>	<b>&lt; &lt;0.0001</b>
431	<b>Order x Species x Comp. species</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>(27,560)</b>	<b>&lt; &lt;0.0001</b>

432

433

434 Table 4. Overall linear mixed-model analysis of species biomass when planted in competition  
 435 early versus later, across all focal species. Here the Origin of the focal species (Origin) as well  
 436 as the Competitor origin are crossed factors. Species identity nested with each origin included by  
 437 treating each unique species combination as a random effect. Significant effect in bold.

438	<u>Model term:</u>	<u><math>\chi^2</math></u>	<u>p-value</u>
439	Order	0.018	0.89
440	<b>Origin</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>&lt;&lt;0.001</b>
441	Competitor origin	0.055	0.81
442	Order x Origin	1.21	0.27
443	Order x Competitor origin	1.86	0.17
444	Origin x Competitor origin	0.31	0.57
445	Order x Origin x Comp. origin	2.04	0.15



446 Table 5. Analyses of focal species biomass when planted in competition, significant terms are in  
 447 bold. A separate analysis was performed for each focal species, with the identity of the  
 448 competing species included as a random effect. Model terms are indicated with the double  
 449 underline.

<u>Focal exotic species</u>	<u>Order</u>	<u>Competitor origin</u>	<u>Order x Comp.origin</u>
<i>B. hordeaceus</i>	$\chi^2= 0.31, p=0.58$	$\chi^2=8.46, p=0.0036$	$\chi^2=0.07, p=0.78$
<i>L. multiflorum</i>	$\chi^2= 1.3, p=0.25$	$\chi^2=0.00, p=0.96$	<b><math>\chi^2=7.43, p=0.006</math></b>
<i>T. hirtum</i>	$\chi^2=1.9, p=0.16$	$\chi^2=0.01, p=0.91$	$\chi^2=0.50, p=0.47$
<u>Focal native species</u>			
<i>E. californica</i>	<b><math>\chi^2=3.9, p=0.048</math></b>	$\chi^2=1.62, p=0.20$	$\chi^2=0.50, p=0.48$
<i>L. platygosa</i>	<b><math>\chi^2=4.61, p=0.031</math></b>	$\chi^2=0.00, p=0.97$	$\chi^2=0.11, p=0.73$
<i>L. purshianus</i>	<b><math>\chi^2=6.47, p=0.011</math></b>	$\chi^2=0.01, p=0.94$	$\chi^2=3.01, p=0.083$
<i>S. pulchra</i>	<b><math>\chi^2=25.7, p&lt;&lt;0.001</math></b>	$\chi^2=0.65, p=0.41$	<b><math>\chi^2=17.9, p&lt;&lt;0.001</math></b>

450

451

452 Table 6. Analysis of differences in biomass for focal species planted earlier than a competitor  
 453 versus at the same time (priority effect), and proportional difference in biomass when planted  
 454 later than a competitor versus at the same time (secondary effect). In the model, Order represents  
 455 the priority effect versus secondary effect for each unique species combination. Origin indicates  
 456 the focal species biomass difference, and Competitor Origin represents the origin of the  
 457 competing species. In this model species pair is included as a random effect. Model terms are  
 458 indicated with the double underline, significant effect in bold.

459

460	<u>Model term:</u>	<u><math>\chi^2</math></u>	<u>p-value</u>
461	Order	0.017	0.89
462	<b>Origin</b>	<b>4.24</b>	<b>0.039</b>
463	Competitor Origin	1.14	0.28
464	<b>Order x Origin</b>	<b>5.53</b>	<b>0.019</b>
465	<b>Order x Comp. Origin</b>	<b>6.88</b>	<b>0.009</b>
466	Origin x Comp. Origin	1.08	0.29
467	Order x Origin x Comp. Origin	2.30	0.13

468 Figure Legends:

469

470 Figure 1. The biomass of exotic focal species (A) and native focal species (B) when planted early  
471 or one week late in the absence of competition. Species names are abbreviated as in Table 1. (\*)  
472 indicates that the mean biomass for a focal species was significantly different when planted early  
473 versus later. Error bars indicate  $\pm 1$  SE of the mean.

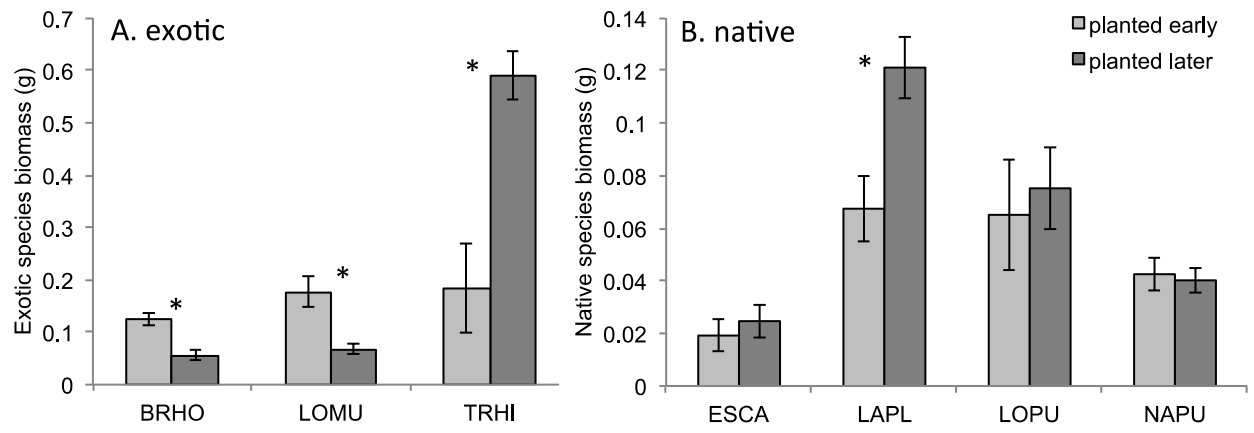
474

475 Figure 2. The biomass of each exotic (A-C) or native (D-G) focal species when planted early or  
476 one week later. The identity of the competing species is labeled on the horizontal axis of each  
477 panel; exotic species are underlined. Species names are abbreviated as in Table 1.

478

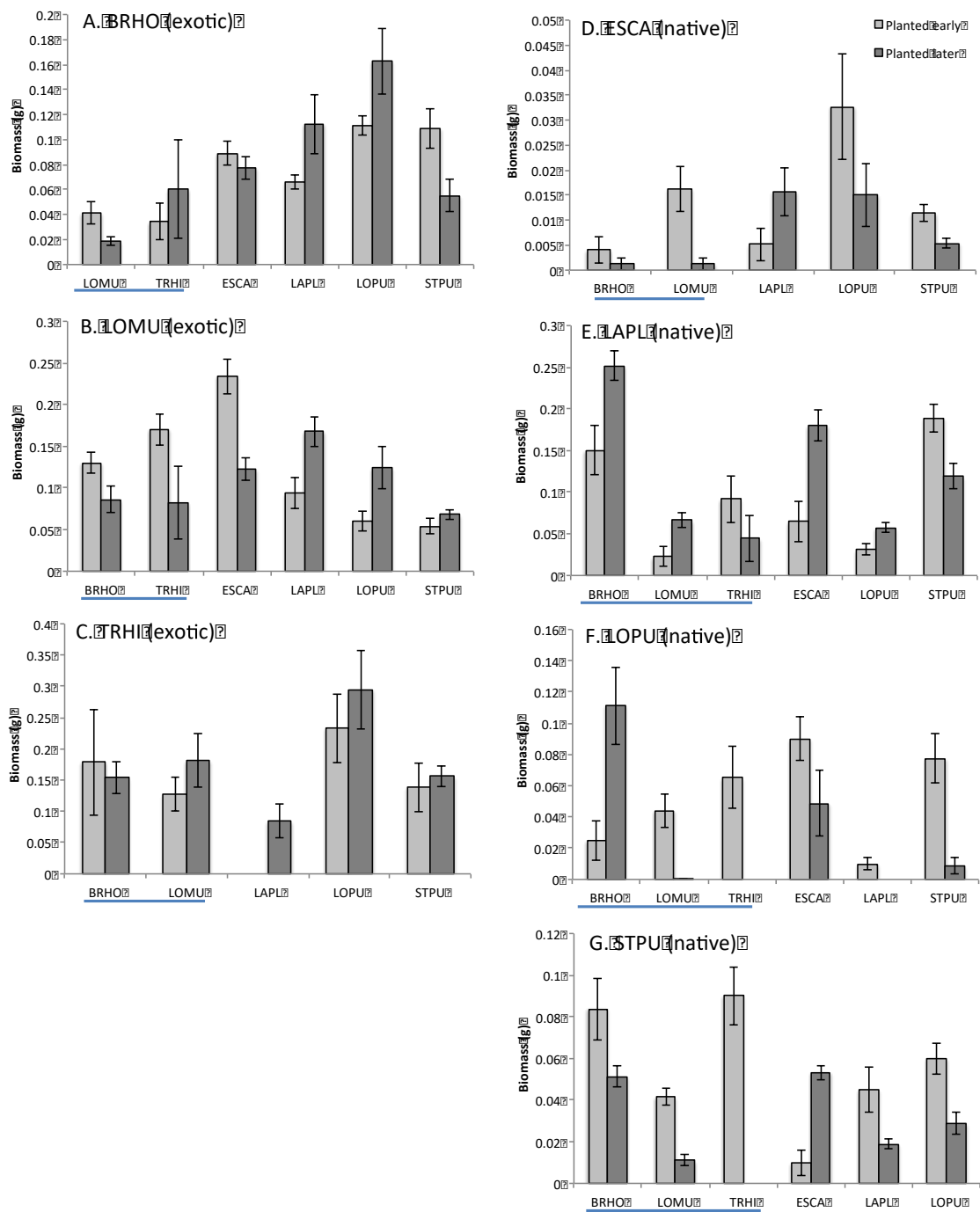
479 Figure 3. Mean priority effects (A) and secondary effects (B) for exotic (white) and native (grey)  
480 focal species when grown with exotic versus native competitors, averaged across all species.  
481 Units are in grams biomass per pot. Priority effect is calculated as the difference in biomass of  
482 the focal species when planted one week earlier than the competitor versus at the same time.  
483 Secondary effect is calculated as the difference in biomass of the focal species when planted one  
484 week later than the competitor versus at the same time.

485 Figure 1.



486

487



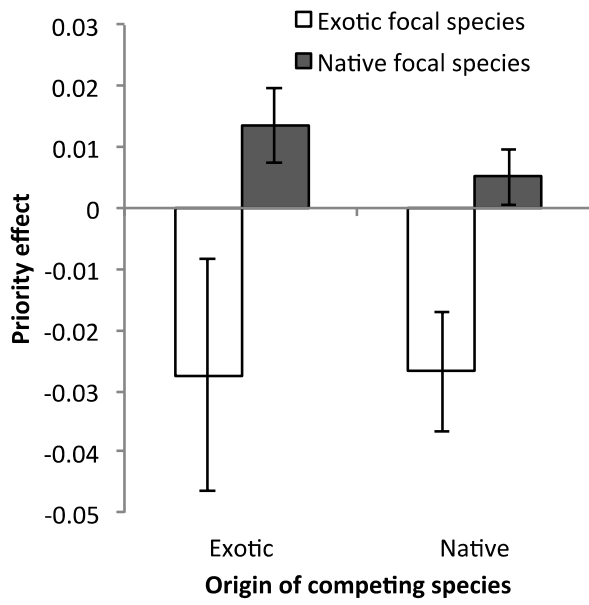
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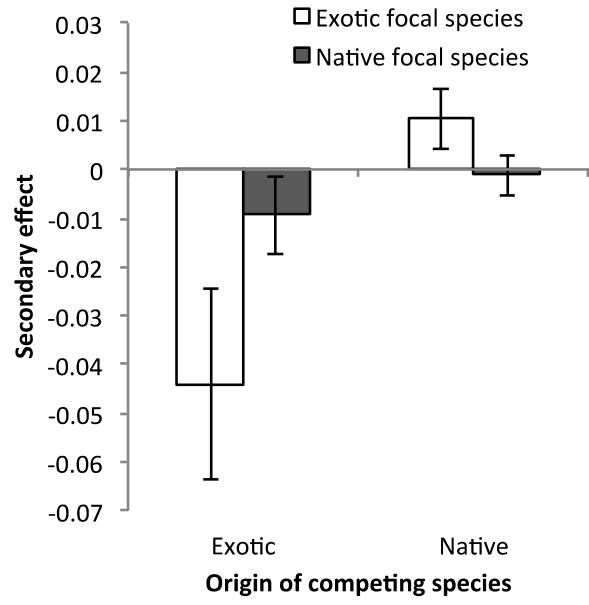
491

492 **Figure 3.**

493 **A**



**B**



494