

Erratum

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P7-9: A study of variation in high sensitivity hormone measurement

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State-of-the-art analytical technique (liquid chromatography and electrospray tandem mass spectrometry) now provides simultaneous identification and quantification of numerous phytohormone compounds in a plant extract with high sensitivity (picomol/g FW). The precision of such measurements, however, relies on the reproducibility of the sampling and extraction methods. The biological relevance of the result furthermore depends on how representative the sample is for type of tissues and particular condition or life stage under study. During our study of tree architecture, spatially homologous growth

points within the crown are sampled over time and analyzed. Special challenges presented to us are the genetic variation in the plant material, the changing ambient conditions during and prior to sampling, the extended sampling time and the successive runs of extraction/analysis. Results are presented of two annual cycles with trees in two life stages, comparing the seasonal dynamics with the other sources of variation. The likely background for, and relative importance of, variation sources are discussed.