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Effects of elevated temperature and [CO₂] on photosynthesis, leaf respiration, and biomass accumulation of *Pinus taeda* seedlings at a cool and a warm site within the species' current range

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Abstract: We examined the influence of elevated temperature (ambient +2 °C) and atmospheric CO₂ concentration ([CO₂] (700 μmol·mol⁻¹), applied singly and in combination, on biomass accumulation and the temperature response of net photosynthesis (A_{net}) and leaf respiration (R_d) of loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda* L.) seedlings grown simultaneously at a northern and a southern site within the species' range. We used this experimental approach to determine if the response to future climate conditions would differ between a warm and cool location within a species' range. Seedling biomass accumulation and the temperature responses of A_{net} and R_d were measured throughout the growing season. Biomass accumulation was substantially greater at the warmer site compared with the cooler site regardless of treatment. At each site, biomass accumulation was greater in the elevated temperature treatment compared with the ambient treatment. There was substantial acclimation of R_d , but not A_{net} , to site and to temperature treatment at each site. Elevated [CO₂] increased biomass accumulation and A_{net} at both sites and in both temperature treatments. Our study provides an indication that future projected increases in [CO₂] and air temperature of 700 μmol·mol⁻¹ and +2 °C, respectively, are likely to increase loblolly pine growth in most, if not all, of its current range.

Résumé : Nous avons étudié l'influence, individuelle et combinée, d'une augmentation de la température (température ambiante +2 °C) et de la concentration de CO₂ atmosphérique (700 μmol·mol⁻¹) sur l'accumulation de biomasse et la réponse à la température de la photosynthèse nette (A_{nette}) et de la respiration foliaire (R_d) de semis de pin à encens (*Pinus taeda* L.) cultivés simultanément dans des stations méridionale et septentrionale à l'intérieur de l'aire de répartition de l'espèce. Nous avons utilisé cette approche expérimentale pour déterminer si la réaction aux conditions climatiques futures serait différente dans les zones plus chaudes et les zones plus froides à l'intérieur de l'aire de répartition d'une espèce. L'accumulation de biomasse par les semis et les réponses de A_{nette} et de R_d à la température ont été mesurées pendant toute la saison de croissance. L'accumulation de biomasse était nettement plus importante dans la station la plus chaude comparativement à la station la plus froide peu importe le traitement. Dans chaque station, l'accumulation de biomasse était plus importante à température élevée qu'à température ambiante. Il y avait une importante acclimation de R_d mais pas de A_{nette} à la station et à la température dans chaque station. Une concentration élevée de CO₂ a entraîné une augmentation de l'accumulation de biomasse et de A_{nette} dans les deux stations et les deux traitements de température. Notre étude fournit un indice que les augmentations anticipées de la concentration de CO₂ et de la température, de respectivement 700 μmol mol⁻¹ et +2 °C, vont probablement entraîner une augmentation de la croissance du pin à encens presque partout, sinon partout, dans son aire de répartition actuelle.

[Traduit par la Rédaction]

Introduction

Most studies investigating increases in air temperature and tree growth report that elevated temperature increases growth (Way and Oren 2010). The positive effect of an increase in air temperature on tree growth has been demonstrated in growth chambers where a set daytime and nighttime temper-

ature were used (Hoch and Korner 2009; Ghannoum et al. 2010) as well as in closed-top chambers (Peltola et al. 2002; Kuokkanen et al. 2004; Bronson et al. 2009), open-top chambers (Danby and Hik 2007; Yin et al. 2008), and infrared heater (Mäenpää et al. 2011) experiments where elevated air temperature tracked ambient air temperature. The response has been observed in seedlings and mature trees of conifers

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