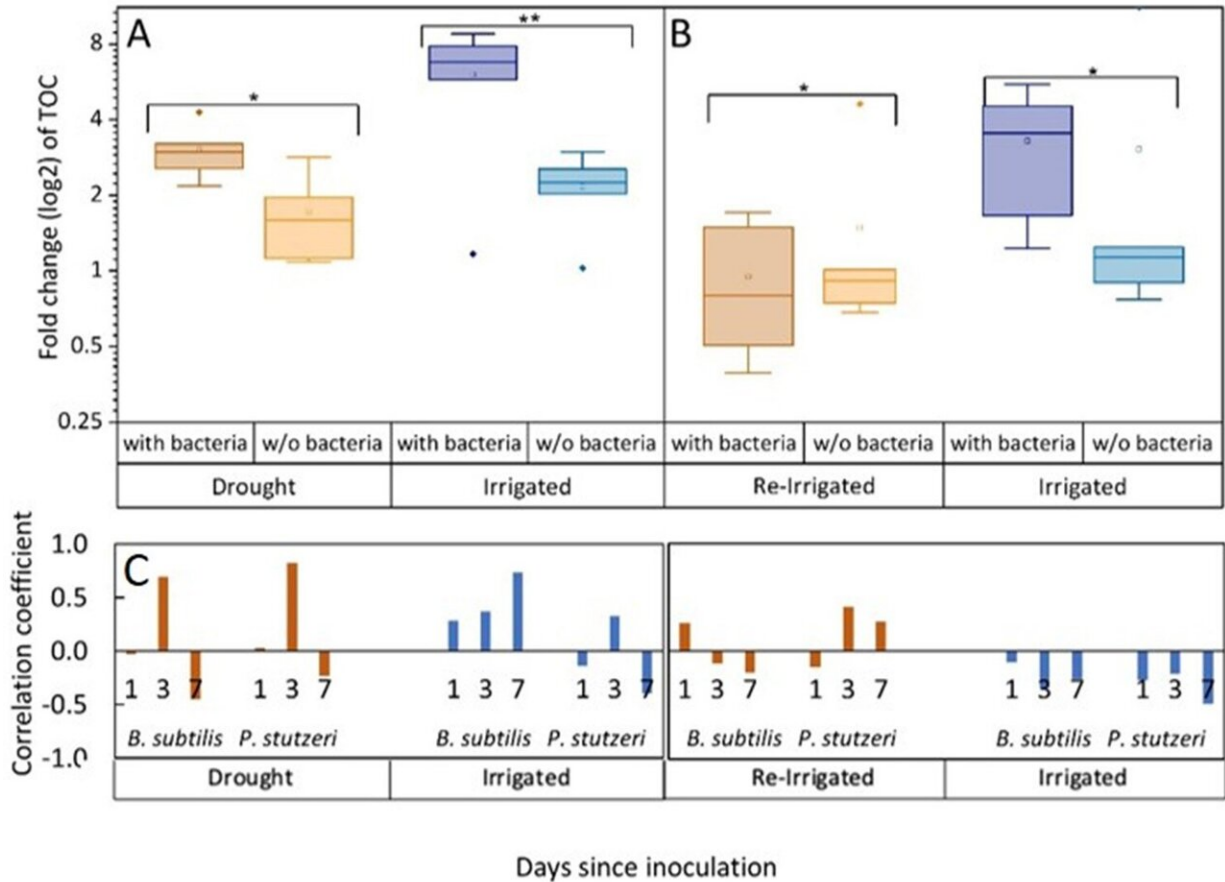


Underground symbiosis counters drought

July 13 2023



Tree root exudates increase with bacterial inoculation for both the drought and irrigation treatments (A) and decrease with bacterial inoculation after rewetting the droughted trees (B). Total organic carbon (TOC) in exudate solutions from roots of irrigated and drought-exposed *Cupressus sempervirens* saplings, with and without bacterial inoculations. Intact roots were incubated for 48 hr to collect exudates during periods of drought (A) and re-irrigation (B). Boxplots show the log 2 of fold change from baseline exudation rate (at the beginning of the experiment) in $\mu\text{g C mg root}^{-1} \text{ day}^{-1}$. Asterisks indicate significant differences

based on two-way ANOVA performed with Tukey's HSD test ($n=6$, p

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