**Table S3.** Selection of best-fit explanatory models of the influence of abiotic (altitude) and biotic (plots and height of central plant) factors in (a) juvenile and (b) adult trees for Hancornia, Himatanthus and Control plots through the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) and its correction for finite samples (ΔAICc), including the maximum likelihood estimator (MLE) and the standard error (Std. Err.), by degree of freedom (D.F.) and corrected Akaike weight (wAICc: the most suitable models are in bold).

|  |
| --- |
| **Juveniles** |
| **Model** | **Fixed Factors** | **AIC** | **ΔAICc** | **MLE** | **Std. Err.** | **D.F.** | **wAICc** |
| **Number of Individuals** |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| *m1* | Altitude | 727.7 | **0.0** | 3.034 | 0.505 | 3 | **0.8474** |
| *m2* | Altitude + Plots  | 727.7 | 3.8 | 3.069 | 0.511 | 5 | 0.1265 |
| *Null* |   | 735.7 | 7.7 | 2.689 | 0.435 | 2 | 0.0178 |
| *m6* | Height of Central Plant | 735.7 | 9.9 | 2.691 | 0.436 | 3 | 0.0060 |
| *m7* | Plots | 735.7 | 11.8 | 2.705 | 0.439 | 4 | 0.0023 |
| *m3* | Altitude + Height of Central Plant | 727.7 | 75.5 | 4.161 | 0.737 | 26 | <0.001 |
| *m4* | Altitude + Plots + Height of Central Plant | 727.7 | 84.5 | 4.698 | 0.853 | 28 | <0.001 |
| *m5* | Plots + Height of Central Plant | 735.7 | 91.4 | 3.782 | 0.652 | 27 | <0.001 |
| **Number of Species** |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| *m1* | Altitude | 512.5 | **0.0** | 15.16 | 5.94 | 3 | **0.6525** |
| *m3* | Altitude + Height of Central Plant | 512.5 | 2.3 | 15.19 | 5.96 | 4 | 0.2063 |
| *m2* | Altitude + Plots | 512.5 | 3.9 | 15.54 | 6.18 | 5 | 0.0944 |
| *m4* | Altitude + Plots + Height of Central Plant | 512.5 | 6.4 | 15.56 | 6.19 | 6 | 0.0266 |
| *Null* |   | 520.7 | 7.9 | 11.38 | 3.76 | 2 | 0.0125 |
| *m6* | Height of Central Plant | 520.7 | 9.6 | 11.56 | 3.85 | 3 | 0.0054 |
| *m7* | Plots | 520.7 | 12.0 | 11.53 | 3.84 | 4 | 0.0016 |
| *m5* | Plots + Height of Central Plant | 520.7 | 13.9 | 11.72 | 3.94 | 5 | <0.001 |
| **Relative Abundance** |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| *m1* | Altitude | 513.1 | **0.0** | 15.02 | 5.85 | 3 | **0.6481** |
| *m3* | Altitude + Height of Central Plant | 513.1 | 2.3 | 15.07 | 5.88 | 4 | 0.2087 |
| *m2* | Altitude + Plots | 513.1 | 3.8 | 15.43 | 6.10 | 5 | 0.0969 |
| *m4* | Altitude + Plots + Height of Central Plant | 513.1 | 6.3 | 15.46 | 6.12 | 6 | 0.0276 |
| *Null* |   | 521.4 | 8.1 | 11.24 | 3.69 | 2 | 0.0114 |
| *m6* | Height of Central Plant | 521.4 | 9.7 | 11.45 | 3.80 | 3 | 0.0052 |
| *m7* | Plots | 521.4 | 12.1 | 11.41 | 3.77 | 4 | 0.0015 |
| *m5* | Plots + Height of Central Plant | 521.4 | 13.9 | 11.63 | 3.89 | 5 | <0.001 |
| **Adults** |
| **Model** | **Fixed Factors** | **AIC** | **ΔAICc** | **MLE** | **Std. Err.** | **D.F** | **wAICc** |
| **Number of Individuals** |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| *m5* | Plots + Height of Central Plant | 787.8 | **0.0** | 2.063 | 0.316 | 5 | **0.4952** |
| *m4* | Altitude + Plots + Height of Central Plant | 787.8 | **1.1** | 2.096 | 0.321 | 6 | **0.2861** |
| *m7* | Plots | 791.2 | 3.0 | 1.944 | 0.294 | 4 | 0.1115 |
| *m2* | Altitude + Plots | 791.2 | 4.9 | 1.954 | 0.296 | 5 | 0.0424 |
| *m6* | Height of Central Plant | 797 | 8.4 | 1.791 | 0.268 | 3 | 0.0078 |
| *m3* | Altitude + Height of Central Plant | 797 | 10.0 | 1.806 | 0.270 | 4 | 0.0034 |
| *Null* |   | 801.2 | 12.3 | 1.679 | 0.248  | 2 | 0.0010 |
| *m1* | Altitude | 801.2 | 14.5 | 1.680 | 0.248 | 3 | <0.001 |
| **Number of Species** |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| *m2* | Plots + Altitude | 609.6 | **0.0** | 4.434 | 0.908 | 5 | **0.273** |
| *m1* | Altitude | 610.8 | **0.4** | 4.104 | 0.820 | 3 | **0.221** |
| *Null* |   | 612.4 | **1.7** | 3.887 | 0.762 | 2 | **0.115** |
| *m7* | Plots | 611.8 | **1.8** | 4.163 | 0.835 | 4 | **0.112** |
| *m4* | Altitude + Plots + Height of Central Plant | 609.6 | 2.0 | 4.476 | 0.920 | 6 | 0.102 |
| *m3* | Altitude + Height of Central Plant | 610.8 | 2.0 | 4.152 | 0.833 | 4 | 0.100 |
| *m6* | Height of Central Plant | 612.4 | 3.7 | 3.901 | 0.766 | 3 | 0.042 |
| *m5* | Plots + Height of Central Plant | 611.8 | 4.1 | 4.171 | 0.837 | 5 | 0.035 |
| **Relative Abundance** |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| *m7* | Plots | 607.3 | **0.0** | 4.686 | 0.974 | 4 | **0.535** |
| *m2* | Altitude + Plots  | 607.3 | 2.4 | 4.687 | 0.974 | 5 | 0.159 |
| *m5* | Plots + Height of Central Plant | 607.3 | 2.4 | 4.687 | 0.974 | 5 | 0.158 |
| *Null* |   | 611.7 | 3.8 | 4.109 | 0.815 | 2 | 0.081 |
| *m4* | Altitude + Plots + Height of Central Plant | 607.3 | 5.0 | 4.688 | 0.974 | 6 | 0.044 |
| *m1* | Altitude | 611.7 | 6.0 | 4.110 | 0.815 | 3 | 0.025 |
| *m3* | Altitude + Height of Central Plant | 611.7 | 8.1 | 4.127 | 0.820 | 4 | 0.009 |
| *m6* | Height of Central Plant | 611.7 | 8.1 | 4.123 | 0.819 | 4 | 0.009 |