

Environmental Prediction in Canadian Cities - EPiCC
EPiCC Technical Report No. 3

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Vegetation Characteristics at the Vancouver EPiCC Experimental Sites



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Environmental Prediction in Canadian Cities

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Cover Photo: Street Trees along W 45th Avenue near Oakridge Tower, Photo by A. Christen

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Environmental Prediction in Canadian Cities

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Version 1.2

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Introduction

This report includes summary statistics and descriptions of the vegetation in the three EpiCC Vancouver experimental neighbourhoods, where flux towers were operated, namely the residential neighbourhoods ‘Vancouver-Oakridge’, ‘Vancouver-Sunset’ and the rural reference site Westham Island.

As part of the Environmental Prediction in Canadian Cities Network (EpiCC), the University of British Columbia / Department of Geography monitored energy, water and carbon balances in two suburban neighborhoods in Vancouver, BC, Canada in 2008-2009. Two flux towers, “Vancouver-Sunset” in South-East Vancouver, and ‘Vancouver-Oakridge’ in South Vancouver, were operated in extensive residential areas composed of single-family homes. In the neighborhood of the two suburban flux towers, a total of eight lawns (OR1-4, SS1-4) were equipped with automatic monitoring systems for soil hydrology parameters (see also Technical Report #2) and carbon dioxide exchange. The lots have been chosen to represent a variety of lawn irrigation regimes and different building volumes, materials and ages. Further, a rural reference site at ‘Westham Island’ has been operated. Details on the vegetation of the rural reference site are included in this report.

Part 1 of this report lists the two-dimensional plan area fraction and distribution of vegetation in the two urban neighborhoods, Part 2 summarizes the three-dimensional structure of the vegetation at the rural reference site and the urban sites (composition, Leaf Area Index, height) and Part 3 describes the light-response curves for various vegetation components found in the two urban neighborhoods. Appendix 1 lists hemispherical photos of the vegetation state at all EpiCC urban measurement sites. Appendix 2 documents the vegetation state at the urban sites. Appendix 3 documents the vegetation state at the rural reference site. Appendix 4 lists the samples where photosynthesis measurements were carried out.

Part 1 – Vegetation plan area fraction at the urban sites

The plan area fraction of vegetated surfaces λ_v was extracted at a resolution of 2.4m from Quickbird satellite images according to Tooke et al. (2009). The Quickbird data at Vancouver-Sunset was further fused with a LIDAR scan at 1x1 m resolution to separate between the plan area of tree crowns $\lambda_{v,T}$ and the plan area fraction of ground vegetation $\lambda_{v,G}$ (not obscured by trees, < 2m height). Table 1 summarizes the integral vegetation fraction, λ_v for the area around the towers and weighed by the long-term source area of the flux measurements. Table 2 lists the vegetation fractions for Vancouver-Sunset separately for $\lambda_{v,T}$ and $\lambda_{v,G}$.

Table 1 – Integral vegetation plan area fraction ($\lambda_v = \lambda_{v,G} + \lambda_{v,T}$) at the EPICC residential sites for radii of various distances from the tower base. Longitude and Latitude refer to tower base.

| | Lon (WGS-84) | Lat (WGS-84) | λ_v 250m radius | λ_v 500m radius | λ_v 1000m radius |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Vancouver-Oakridge | -123.132894 | 49.230564 | 61% | 55% | 56% |
| Vancouver-Sunset | -123.078436 | 49.226125 | 31% | 33% | 39% ^(a) |

^(a) 900 m radius instead of 1000m

Table 2 – Vegetation plan area fractions at Vancouver-Sunset separately for non-obscured ground vegetation $\lambda_{v,G}$ and above-ground vegetation $\lambda_{v,T}$ for radii of various distances from the tower base.

| Vancouver-Sunset | Plan area fraction | 250m radius | 500m radius | 900m radius | Long-term source area |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| $\lambda_{v,G}$ | Ground vegetation | 20.1% | 21.6% | 26.3% | 20.1% |
| $\lambda_{v,T}$ | Above-ground vegetation | 12.2% | 11.9% | 12.0% | 12.2% |
| $\lambda_v = \lambda_{v,G} + \lambda_{v,T}$ | Total vegetation | 31.4% | 33.4% | 38.3% | 32.3% |

All trees within a specific 10^o segment of radius 1000m at the two urban towers were mapped. The segment selected was the segment where the remote sensing data indicated that vegetation cover fraction corresponds to the median value of all 36 sectors with a 1000m radius around the tower.

Table 3 – Tree density in stems/ha for Vancouver-Sunset and Vancouver-Oakridge for the 10^o sector with median tree density.

| | Trees/ha |
|--------------------|----------|
| Vancouver-Oakridge | 35.3 |
| Vancouver-Sunset | 17.1 |

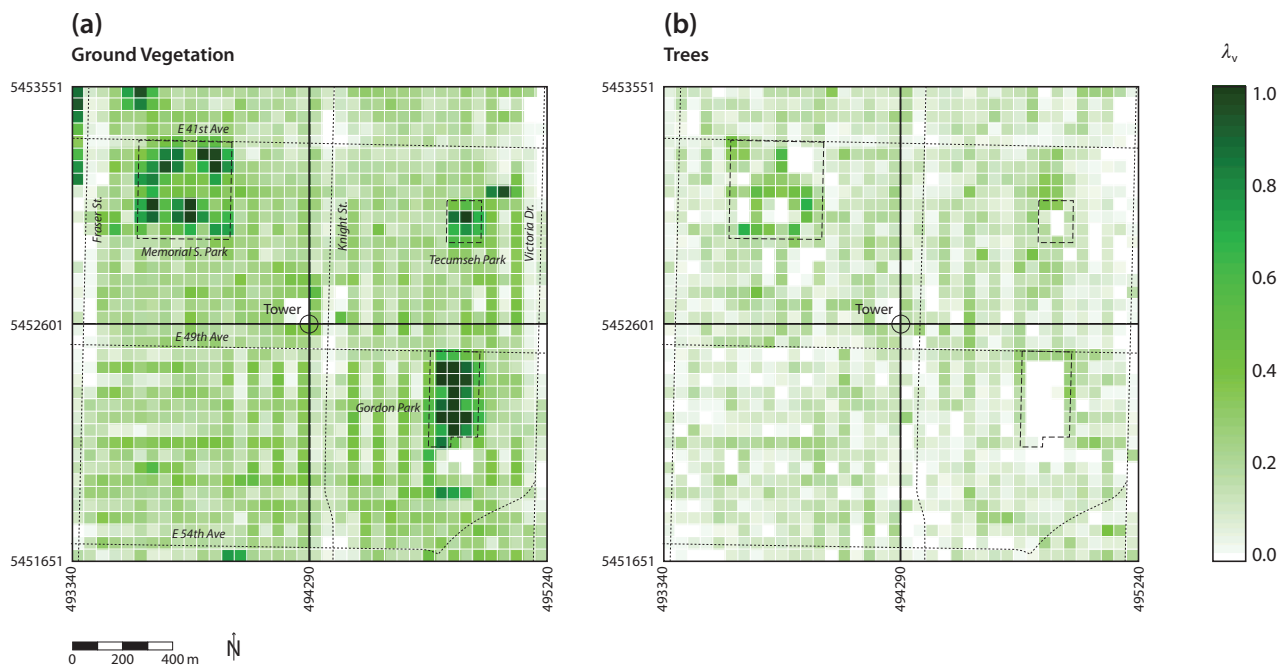


Figure 1 – Maps of plan area covered by ground (left) and tree vegetation (right) in the Vancouver-Sunset area within 50 x 50 m raster elements.

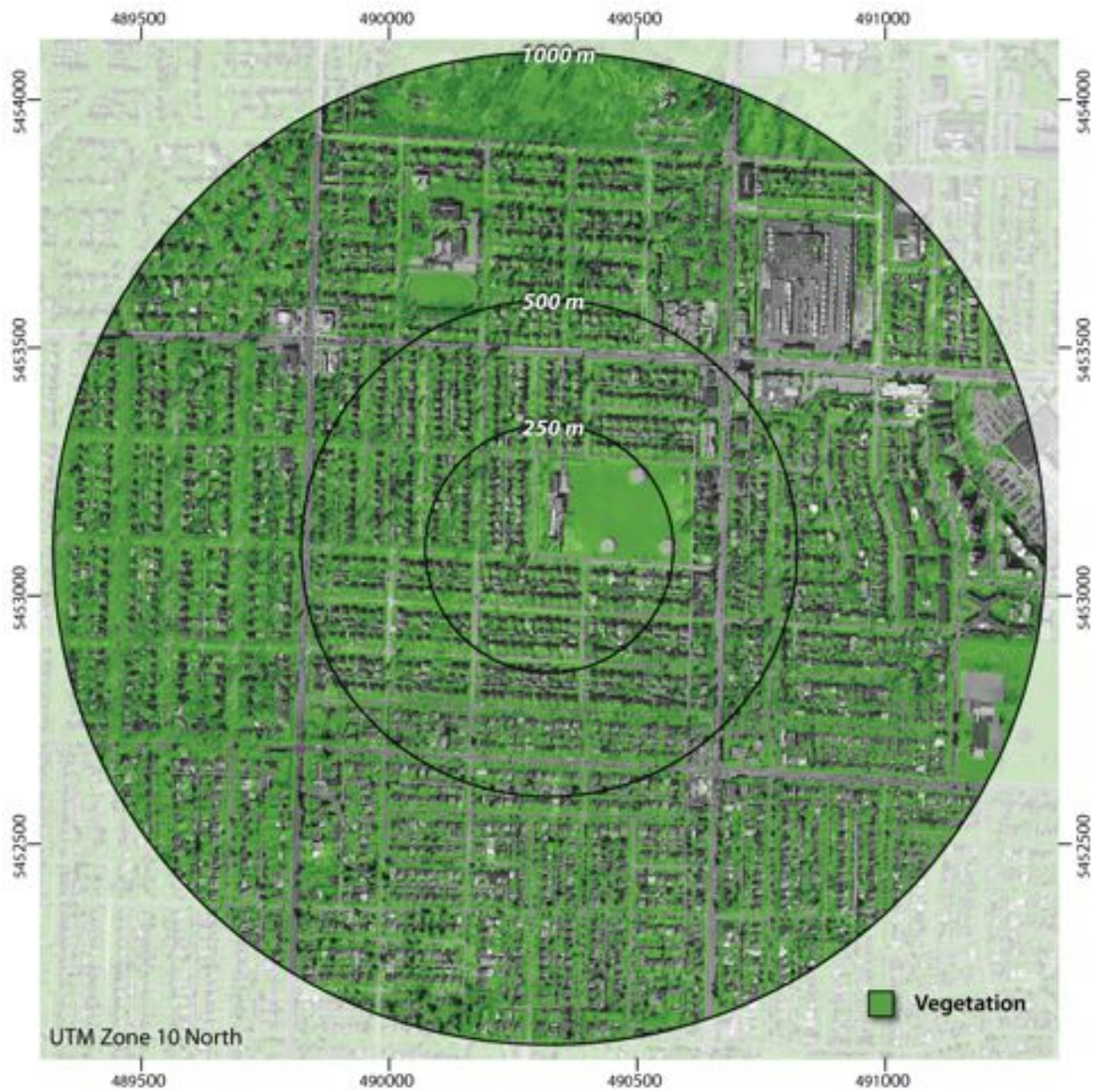


Figure 2 – Visualization of vegetation fraction in the Vancouver-Oakridge neighborhood based on Quickbird data with 2.4 x 2.4 m resolution.

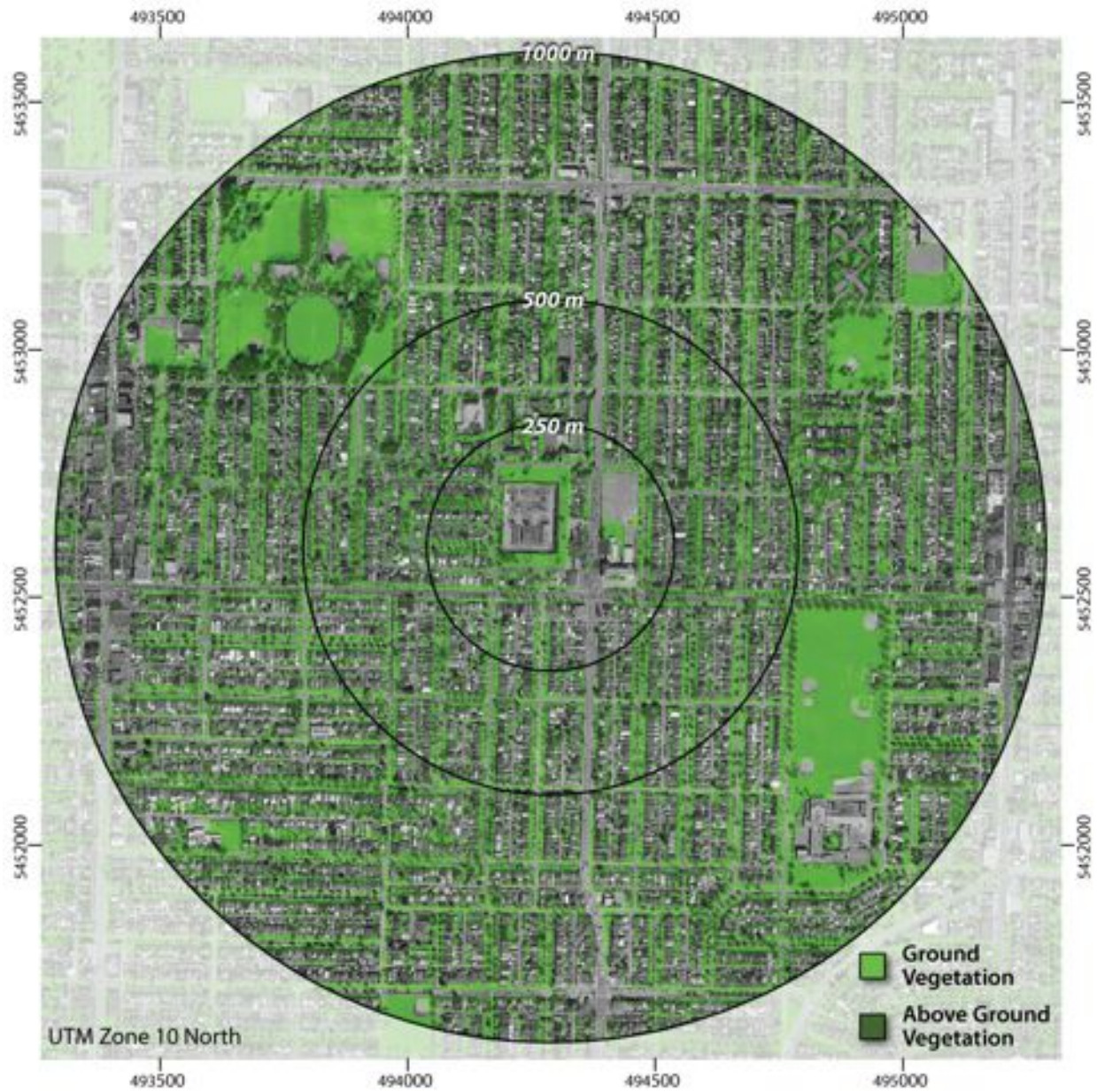


Figure 3 – Visualization of vegetation fraction in the Vancouver-Sunset neighborhood based on Quickbird data fused with LiDAR data at 1 x 1 m resolution.

Part 2 –Leaf area index, height and composition

This section describes the three-dimensional structure of the vegetation at the measurement sites, including leaf area index (LAI) estimates, height measurements of trees and grass and composition of the vegetation.

Composition

Trees

For 400m around the tower Vancouver-Sunset, all trees were manually classified based on air photos into either “deciduous” or “evergreen” (Table 4). The Photo in Figure 4 illustrates tree growth in the last 30 years at the site.

Table 4 – Tree composition for Vancouver-Sunset based on manually sampled trees for 400m circle around the tower.

| | Density (stems / ha) |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| All trees (n = 965) | 19.20 |
| Evergreen [Coniferous] (n = 223) | 4.44 |
| Deciduous (n = 742) | 14.76 |

Grassland and Lawns

Species identification of the residential lawns was based on the Turfgrass Identification Tool¹ designed by the Purdue University Turfgrass Science Group in the Department of Agronomy. Up to three dominant species in the grass mixture at each residential lawn site were identified (Table 5). Photos illustrating the state of the residential lawns can be found in Appendix 2. At the rural reference site ‘Westham Island’, grass species were not identified, but the site was colonized by a diverse set of tall grasses and low shrubs grown to serve as a habitat for small rodents (that in turn were important in the food chain of migrating birds).

Table 5 – Grass identification at the EpiCC sites.

| Site | Components of Mixture |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| OR1 | Creeping Bentgrass, Fine Fescue, Annual Bluegrass |
| OR2 | Tall Fescue |
| OR3 | Rough Bluegrass ^(a) , Fine Fescue |
| OR4 | Rough Bluegrass ^(a) , Tall Fescue, Fine Fescue |
| SS1 | Perennial Ryegrass, Creeping Bentgrass |
| SS2 | Kentucky Bluegrass, Fine Fescue |
| SS3 | Perennial Ryegrass ^(a) , Fine Fescue |
| SS4 | Rough Bluegrass, Creeping Bentgrass |
| WI | Unidentified tall grasses and low shrubs |

^(a) Identified with less confidence

¹ <http://www.agry.purdue.edu/turf/tool/index.html>

Leaf Area Index

The LAI is defined as the one-sided leaf area for grasses and broadleaf trees per unit ground area. It is given in $m^2 m^{-2}$.

Trees

The Leaf Area Index for tall trees was modeled based on urban-specific allometric relationships (tree height and tree crown) developed for urban trees in the US (Nowak, 1996, deciduous species) and for forest trees in the case of coniferous trees. Model results are summarized in Table 6.

Modeling procedure: For a total of 120 trees, crown diameter was manually extracted from air photos (this was done for a particular 10° segment, with 1000m radius around the tower, that showed the median vegetation cover in Vancouver-Sunset). Maximum height for all of the trees was extracted from the LIDAR. Figure 5 illustrates the relationships between LiDAR-derived maximum tree height and crown diameter. The relationships show that deciduous trees grow approx. spherical and coniferous trees are approx. 2 times taller than they are wide in this urban environment. A threshold input height was applied when calculating diameters to trees at $h = 10.7$ m (i.e. crown diameter stays constant at 10.8 m for trees taller than 10.7 m). This relationship was then applied to all trees within a 400m radius around the tower where tree location and height information from the LiDAR is available. Bushes (< 2 m) are not considered in this calculation.

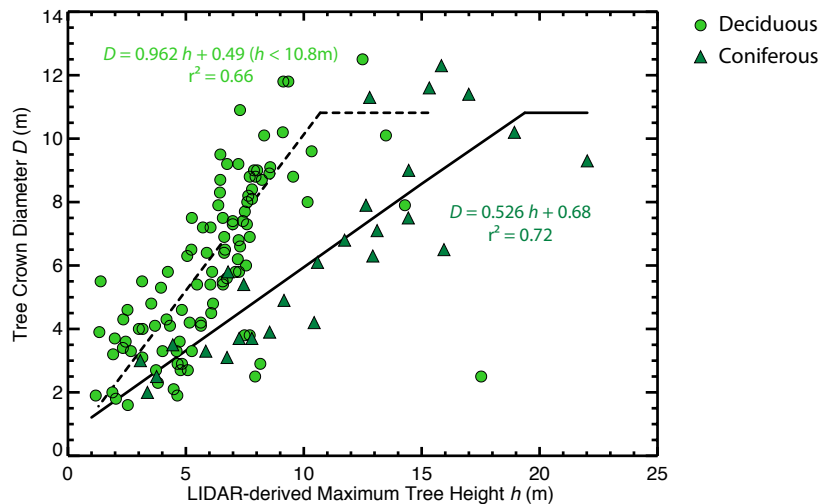


Figure 5 –The measured relationship between tree height and crown diameter in the Vancouver-Sunset neighborhood ($n = 120$) for deciduous and coniferous trees separately. Note that for the regressions an upper limit for crown diameter applies (see text).

The equation of Nowak (1996) was used for all deciduous trees with the following standard model settings: Crown height $H =$ tree height $h - 2.5m$, $S_h = 0.83$ and $S_a = \pi D(H+D)/2$

$$LA_{Dec} = \exp (-4.3309 + 0.2942 H + 0.7312 D + 5.7217 S_h - 0.0148 S_a)$$

A separate equation was derived for coniferous trees using on height and diameter and input and based on data published in Teske and Thistle (2004):

$$LA_{Con} = 1.8081 \ln(h) \pi (D/2)^2$$

Table 6 – Modeled LA (pre tree) and LAI_{trees} for coniferous, deciduous and the sum of all trees (>2 m) within a 400m radius around the ‘Vancouver-Sunset’ site.

| | LA per tree (m ² / tree) | LAI_{trees} per urban area (m ² / m ²) |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Deciduous (n = 742) | 231 | 0.34 |
| Evergreen [Coniferous] (n = 223) | 108 | 0.05 |
| All trees (n = 965) | 206 | 0.39 |

Grassland and Lawns

The Leaf Area Index of ground vegetation (LAI_{grass}) at the lawn and grass plots and the rural reference site was calculated based on a one-time summertime destructive collection of total aboveground leaf tissue over a 10 cm x 10 cm ground area in summer 2008 (for 3 plots at the rural reference site). Sampling locations were selected to be representative of lawn / grass characteristics at each site. Geometrically scaled scans of a subsample of the grass were analyzed in a quantifying medical / biological imaging software (ImageJ², NIH) to determine subsample leaf area, and upscaled by weight to the leaf area of the total sample. The sample at SS3 included a significant moss component at the soil surface. LAI estimated contained grass leaves that were brown or decaying. Values for LAI with the inclusion and exclusion of the moss area are both listed in Table 7.

Table 7 – Destructive leaf area index of ground vegetation at the EPICC lawn and grassland sites per square meter lawn.

| Site | LAI_{grass} (m ² m ⁻²) |
|------|----------------------------------------------------|
| OR1 | 6.19 |
| OR2 | 3.75 |
| OR3 | 5.00 |
| OR4 | 4.68 |
| SS1 | 5.90 |
| SS2 | 4.64 |
| SS3 | 15.41 ^(b) , 10.45 ^(c) |
| SS4 | 6.57 |
| WI | 14.06 |

^(a) Identified with less confidence

² <http://rsbweb.nih.gov/ij/>

Please note that LAI_{grass} reported in Table 7 for the urban sites refers to a square meter of lawn, not urban surface, i.e. LAI_{grass} does not represent the neighborhood-wide ecosystem LAI of ground vegetation (that is $LAI_{ground} = LAI_{grass} \cdot \lambda_{V,G}$, where $\lambda_{V,G}$ is the plan area fraction of the urban surface occupied by ground (lawn) vegetation, see Table 2 and 8). The neighborhood-wide LAI is estimated based on $\lambda_{V,G}$ and a map for the Sunset Neighborhood is displayed in Figure 6 (left).

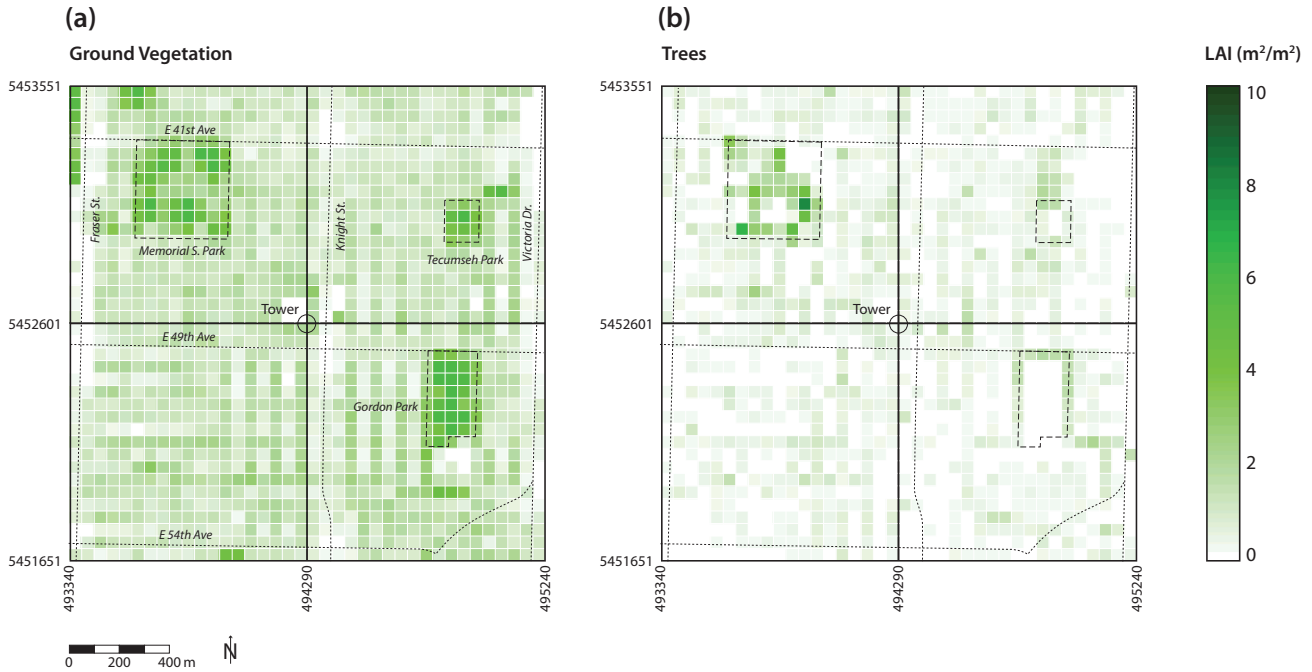


Figure 6 - Maps of leaf area index of ground (left) and tree vegetation (right) in the Vancouver-Sunset area within 50 x 50 m raster elements for the whole urban surface. The areas with increased LAI are on the maps are parks (South Memorial Park, Gordon Park).

Table 8 – Neighborhood-wide statistics for LAI_{ground} of lawn surfaces at urban sites (Vancouver-Oakridge, Vancouver-Sunset) compared to the total LAI_{ground} at rural sites (Westham Island, UBC Farm).

| Site | Average LAI_{grass} ($m^2 m^{-2}$) | Minimum LAI_{grass} ($m^2 m^{-2}$) | Maximum LAI_{grass} ($m^2 m^{-2}$) | Ground vegetation fraction $\lambda_{v,G}^{(a)}$ | Average ecosystem ^(b) LAI_{ground} |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Vancouver-Oakridge (OR1-4, N=4) | 4.90 | 3.75 | 6.19 | 0.56 ^(e) | 2.74 |
| Vancouver-Sunset (SS1-4, N=4) | 5.90 | 4.64 | 10.45 | 0.22 | 1.27 |
| Westham Island (N=3) | 2.99 ^(c) + 11.07 ^(d) | 1.65 ^(c) + 7.19 ^(d) | 5.41 ^(c) + 15.00 ^(d) | 1.00 | 14.06 |
| UBC Farm (N=3) | 5.92 | 4.17 | 9.35 | 1.00 | 5.92 |

^(a) for 950 m x 950 m box radius around the towers; ^(b) Does not include tall vegetation (trees, bushes) at the urban sites. No trees / bushes were present at the rural sites; ^(c) Ground vegetation; ^(d) Tall grass, includes stems and dead components; ^(e) Includes tree coverage - for a circle of 1000m around site

Table 9 – Summary of Leaf Area Index estimates for Vancouver-Sunset. LAI_{ground} , LAI_{trees} and LAI_{total} ($=LAI_{ground}+LAI_{trees}$) for circles of various radii around the Flux Tower and weighted for the long-term source area of the turbulent fluxes (May 2008 – Apr 2010):

| | LAI_{grass} per urban area (m^2 / m^2) | LAI_{trees} per urban area (m^2 / m^2) | LAI_{total} per urban area (m^2 / m^2) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 250m around tower | 1.19 | 0.36 | 1.55 |
| 500m around tower | 1.27 | 0.37 | 1.64 |
| 900m around tower | 1.55 | 0.39 | 1.97 |
| Weighted by long-term source area | 1.18 | 0.37 | 1.56 |

Vegetation heights and maintenance

Trees

Tree heights for Vancouver-Sunset were extracted from first-return LiDAR data based on tree locations that were manually digitized. Tree heights for Vancouver-Sunset are summarized in Table 10. No data exists for Vancouver-Oakridge.

Table 10 – Average tree height (m) at Vancouver Sunset for all trees 400m around the tower.

| | Average tree height (m) | Median tree height (m) |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| All trees (n = 965) | 9.0 | |
| Coniferous (n = 223) | 11.1 | 10.6 |
| Broadleaf (n = 742) | 8.4 | 6.5 |

Grass

Grass heights were estimated at each of the nine urban lawn sites (OR1-4, SS1-4) and at Westham Island (WI) during every maintenance visit (Tables 11-13). All residential lawns were maintained and regular mowing occurred. The rural site ‘Westham Island’ was previously agricultural land (2006 and before) but not agriculturally managed (abandoned, not irrigated, fertilized or harvested). The only exception was that unexpectedly, the grass at the Westham Island plot was harvested once on August 4, 2007 (down to 10 cm). This was not done in 2008 or 2009 after discussing the associated problems for this research with the farmer.

Table 11 – Measured grass height (in cm) during the operation period of the Westham Island site. Grass heights were measured during each site maintenance visit.

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|-------------|-------------------|-----|-------------------|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|-----|-----|-------------------|-----|
| 2007 | | | | | | | 100 | 15 ^(a) | 25 | 30 | 20 | 10 |
| 2008 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 90 | 135 | 160 | 160 | 160 | 155 | 70 ^(b) | 50 |
| 2009 | 50 ^(b) | 50 | 50 ^(b) | 55 ^(c) | 80 | 155 | 170 | 175 | 150 | | | |

^(a) Grass cut on August 4, 2007 (down to 10 cm); ^(b) No measurements available for given month – value estimated; ^(c) Measurements rejected (observer error) – value estimated

Table 12 – Summary statistics: grass height (in cm) at the residential sites based on site maintenance records

| | OR1 | OR2 | OR3 | OR4 | SS1 | SS2 | SS3 | SS4 |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Yearly Average | 3.81 | 3.34 | 3.32 | 5.31 | 5.70 | 4.71 | 5.25 | 4.77 |
| January | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.67 | 4.00 | 4.00 | 4.00 | 6.00 |
| February | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.50 | 3.00 | - | - |
| March | - | - | - | 2.00 | 1.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| April | 3.00 | 2.33 | 3.33 | 2.33 | 2.00 | - | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| May | 0.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 3.50 | 4.00 | 2.50 | 3.00 | 3.33 |
| June | 3.60 | 3.25 | 2.50 | 8.80 | 6.25 | 4.50 | 5.75 | 3.67 |
| July | 5.00 | 4.00 | 3.20 | 6.83 | 7.00 | 5.40 | 5.00 | 5.00 |
| August | 3.50 | 3.14 | 3.50 | 5.50 | 7.00 | 5.00 | 5.33 | 6.33 |
| September | 3.25 | 3.33 | 3.60 | 4.40 | 4.25 | 4.00 | 5.00 | 3.75 |
| October | 4.25 | 4.00 | 3.67 | 5.33 | 8.00 | 5.50 | 7.00 | 4.50 |
| November | 4.00 | 3.50 | 3.00 | 5.00 | 4.00 | 5.00 | 4.00 | 5.00 |
| December | 3.50 | 2.50 | 1.00 | 2.00 | - | - | - | - |

The maximum height of the grass was also measured at each soil CO₂ flux sampling location (5 per site) during the CO₂ chamber measurement (a total of >400 measurements). However, chamber measurements were concentrated primarily in the summer and spring.

Table 13 – Summary statistics: grass height (in cm) at the residential sites based on chamber measurement records (summer only, larger sample)

| | OR1 | OR2 | OR3 | OR4 | SS1 | SS2 | SS3 | SS4 |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Average | 3.51 | 3.65 | 4.45 | 5.28 | 5.09 | 3.90 | 3.94 | 4.03 |
| Maximum | 5.6 | 7.6 | 7.6 | 8.2 | 9.0 | 6.2 | 6.5 | 8.0 |
| Minimum | 1.0 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 3.2 | 3.3 | 2.6 | 1.0 | 2.6 |
| Standard deviation | 1.16 | 1.20 | 1.54 | 1.38 | 1.30 | 0.86 | 1.47 | 1.25 |

Part 3 – Photosynthesis measurements

Using a LI-6400 Portable Photosynthesis system, photosynthetic response and light response curves were measured for (a) tall vegetation (conifers and broadleaf) and (b) turfgrass in summer 2009.

Tall vegetation

From July to September 2009, 91 survey measurements of photosynthetic response were measured under controlled conditions at 22 representative trees and shrubs in the Sunset and Oakridge neighbourhoods of Vancouver (Table 14). The target conditions in the measurement cuvette were as follows: RH = 60%, $T_{\text{leaf}} = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$, CO_2 Concentration = 380 ppm, Photosynthetically Active Radiation (PAR) = $1000 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$.

Table 14 – Sample documentation of tall vegetation sampled using the LI-6400.

| Sample | Species | DBH ^(a) (m) | Circumf. ^(a) (m) | Height ^(b) (m) | Location | Irrigation type |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Sugar Maple <i>Acer saccharum</i> | 0.13 | 0.8 | - | OR4 | auto |
| 2 | [Unidentified shrub species] | - | - | 1.25 | OR4 | auto |
| 3 | Purple Leaf Flowering Plum <i>Prunus cerasifera</i> | - | 0.15 | - | street tree (OR) | - |
| 9 | Whitcomb Cherry <i>Blossumus cherrius equistitas</i> | 0.12 | 0.75 | - | OR1 | manual |
| 10 | White Ash <i>Fraxinus americana</i> | 0.11 | 0.67 | - | OR1 | manual |
| 12 | Western redcedar excelsa <i>Thuja plicata excelsa</i> | _(c) | _(c) | - | OR1 | manual |
| 13 | Dwarf rhododendron <i>Rhododendron minus</i> | - | - | 1 | OR1 | manual |
| 16 | Douglas-fir <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> | 0.34 | 2.15 | - | street tree (OR) | - |
| 18 | Rosebay rhododendron <i>Rhododendron catawbiense</i> | - | - | 2 | OR3 | auto |
| 19 | [Unidentified shrub species] | - | - | 0.5 | OR3 | auto |
| 22 | Deodar cedar <i>Cedrus deodara</i> | 0.14 | 0.85 | - | street tree (OR) | - |

| Sample | Species | DBH ^(a) (m) | Circumf. ^(a) (m) | Height ^(b) (m) | Location | Irrigation type |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 23 | Yellow-Wood <i>Cladrastis lutea</i> | 0.11 | 0.67 | - | SS3 | none |
| 26 | Mugho Pine <i>Pinus mugo</i> | - | - | 2 | SS3 | none |
| 29 | Cherry laurel <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> | - | - | 2.2 | SS2 | manual |
| 32 | American Chestnut <i>Castanea dentata</i> | 0.10 | 0.65 | - | street tree (SS) | - |
| 33 | Oregon Ash <i>Fraxinus latifolia</i> | 0.12 | 0.76 | - | SS4 | none |
| 34 | European Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> | 0.09 | 0.55 | - | SS4 | none |
| 35 | Engelmann Spruce <i>Picea engelmannii</i> | 0.04 | 0.28 | - | street tree (SS) | - |
| 42 | American Elder <i>Sambucus canadensis</i> | 0.03 | 0.16 | - | street tree (SS) | - |
| 55 | Easter White Cedar cultivar <i>Thuja occidentalis</i> | - | - | 3 | OR4 | auto |
| 56 | <i>Cedrus libani</i> | - | Multiple Stems > .7 | - | street tree (OR) | - |
| 60 | Silver Maple <i>Acer saccharinum</i> | 0.14 | 0.86 | - | OR1 | manual |

^(a) Tall trees only. ^(b) Shrubs only ^(c) Stem not accessible

Table 15 – Average measured photosynthesis of tall vegetation sampled using the LI-6400 system from July - August 2009 under controlled conditions (see text).

| Sample | Ps ($\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$) | # of measurements |
|--------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | 8.77 | 4 |
| 2 | 8.89 | 4 |
| 3 | 7.22 | 4 |
| 9 | 11.25 | 4 |
| 10 | 9.46 | 4 |
| 12 | 5.87 ^(a) | 5 |
| 13 | 10.84 | 4 |
| 16 | 4.80 ^(a) | 2 |
| 18 | 7.74 | 4 |
| 19 | 9.31 | 4 |
| 22 | 7.28 ^(a) | 5 |
| 23 | 8.32 | 4 |
| 26 | 5.57 ^(a) | 4 |
| 29 | 9.99 | 4 |
| 32 | 7.55 | 4 |
| 33 | 6.72 | 4 |
| 34 | 5.76 | 4 |
| 35 | 8.29 ^(a) | 4 |
| 42 | 1.67 | 4 |
| 55 | 5.23 ^(a) | 5 |
| 56 | 5.06 ^(a) | 2 |
| 60 | 6.24 | 3 |

^(a) Coniferous samples were measured under ambient light conditions. Incident PAR was commonly lower than the target condition of $1000 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$

One light response curve was measured for each sample between July 31st and August 4th, 2009. Consistent weather conditions were maintained throughout this measurement campaign, with no measured precipitation. The target conditions in the cuvette were as follows: RH(%) = 60; T_{leaf} (°C) = 25; sample CO₂ (ppm) = 380; sample PAR was varied as follows ($\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$) – 1400 / 1200 / 1000 / 800 / 600 / 400 / 200 / 100 / 50 / 0 .

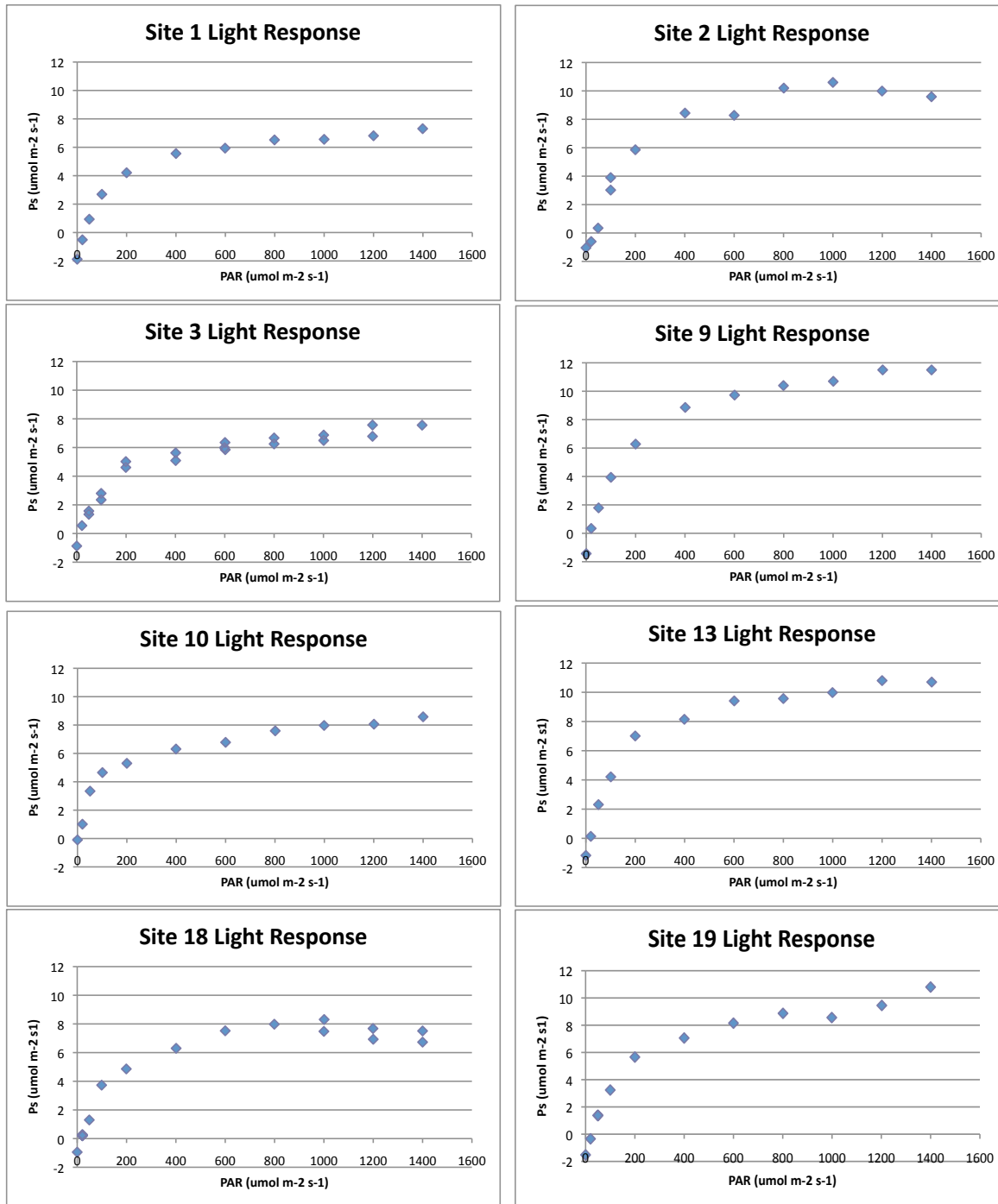


Figure 7 – Light response curves for tall vegetation (samples 1-19).

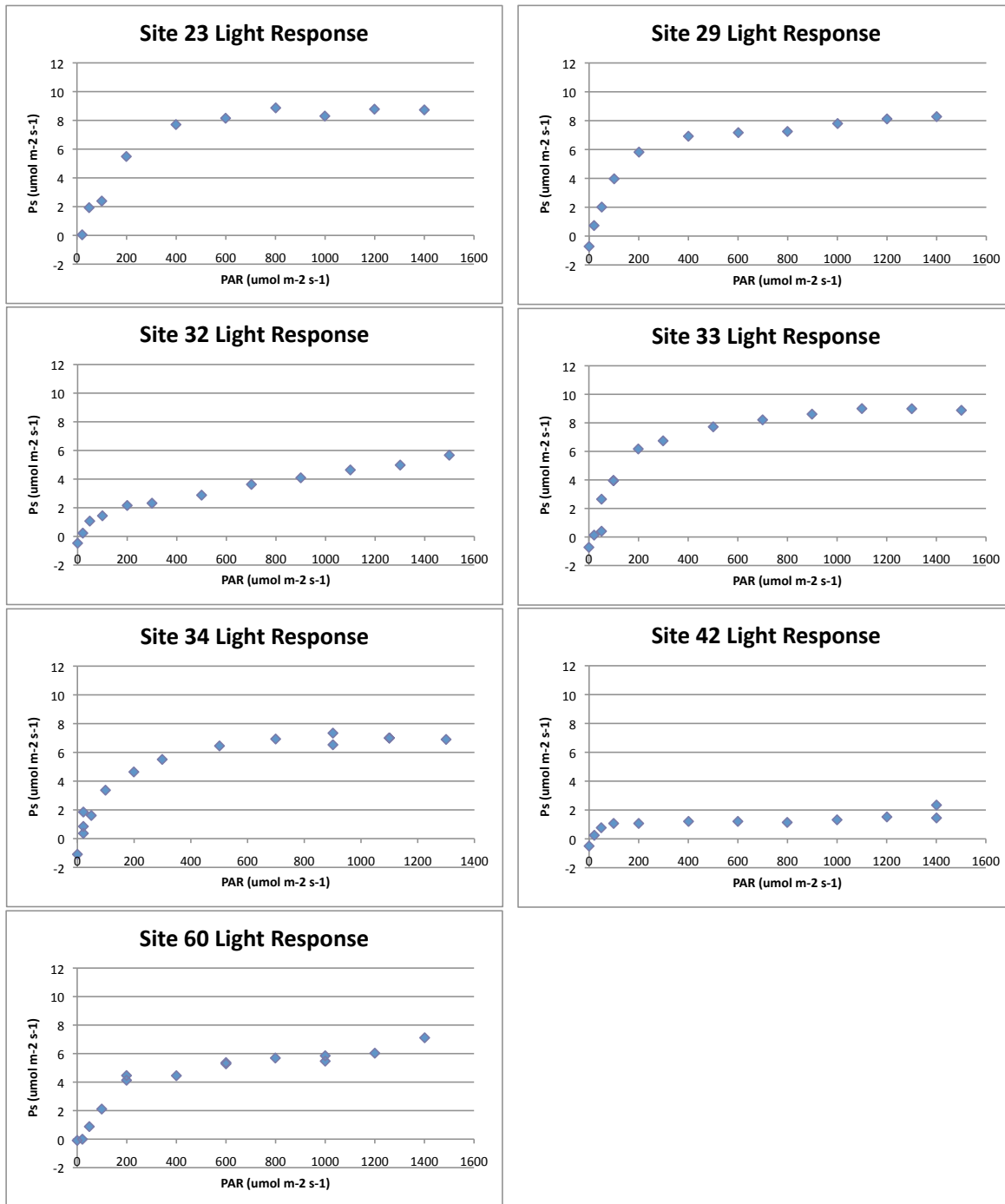


Figure 8 – Light response curves for tall vegetation (samples 23-60).

Table 16 - Measurement conditions in the Li-6400 chamber and soil conditions for the tall vegetation light response curves.

| | Date | Time (PST) | T_{air} min (° C) | T_{air} max (° C) | [CO₂] min (ppm) | [CO₂] max (ppm) | RH min (%) | RH max (%) | θ_w (m ³ m ⁻³) |
|----|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2009/08/03 | 06:35 | 24.8 | 25.2 | 378.8 | 381.3 | 60.0 | 64.2 | 0.31 |
| 2 | 2009/08/03 | 05:35 | 24.5 | 25.1 | 373.2 | 383.4 | 58.4 | 69.2 | 0.36 |
| 3 | 2009/08/04 | 07:10 | 24.9 | 25.1 | 373.6 | 384.7 | 59.5 | 60.4 | 0.15 |
| 9 | 2009/08/03 | 07:35 | 25.9 | 26.1 | 379.3 | 380.8 | 65.6 | 65.7 | 0.05 |
| 10 | 2009/08/03 | 07:05 | 24.9 | 25.1 | 278.4 | 381.3 | 60.1 | 60.2 | 0.05 |
| 13 | 2009/08/02 | 07:25 | 25.9 | 26.1 | 378.5 | 380.4 | 55.0 | 65.4 | 0.14 |
| 18 | 2009/08/02 | 06:00 | 25.0 | 25.1 | 375.5 | 381.7 | 60.0 | 60.4 | 0.11 |
| 19 | 2009/08/02 | 06:45 | 25.0 | 25.2 | 378.9 | 381.3 | 71.2 | 75.5 | 0.14 |
| 23 | 2009/08/04 | 05:30 | 24.4 | 24.5 | 372.0 | 384.0 | 58.4 | 60.2 | 0.06 |
| 29 | 2009/07/31 | 10:40 | 24.9 | 25.1 | 377.7 | 383.4 | 65.0 | 67.1 | 0.09 |
| 32 | 2009/07/31 | 07:10 | 24.6 | 25.1 | 377.1 | 386.5 | 52.49 | 60.1 | 0.04 |
| 33 | 2009/07/31 | 07:55 | 24.2 | 25.1 | 374.6 | 384.1 | 58.8 | 60.1 | 0.07 |
| 34 | 2009/07/31 | 08:35 | 24.9 | 25.1 | 374.4 | 386.1 | 59.9 | 60.2 | 0.05 |
| 42 | 2009/07/31 | 09:45 | 23.1 | 24.6 | 378.8 | 381.9 | 57.7 | 61.9 | 0.05 |
| 60 | 2009/07/31 | 06:30 | 24.34 | 25.11 | 371.6 | 384.7 | 57.4 | 60.3 | 0.05 |

Turfgrass

At a representative location on each monitored turfgrass lawn (OR1-4, SS1-4), light response curves for a subsample was measured once in summer 2009 and scaled based on the leaf area of the sample. Measurement conditions for the light response curves of the turfgrass are summarized in Table 5.



Figure 9 – Li6400 system during measurement of light response curves (left) and subsamples conserved after measurement to estimate leaf area in cuvette (right).

Table 17 - Measurement conditions in the Li-6400 chamber and soil conditions for the turfgrass light response curves.

| Site | Date | Time (PST) | T _{air} min (°C) | T _{air} max (°C) | [CO ₂] min (ppm) | [CO ₂] max (ppm) | RH min (%) | RH max (%) | Sampled Leaf Area (cm ²) | θ _w (m ³ m ⁻³) | T _{soil} (°C) |
|------|------------|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| OR1 | 2009/08/05 | 12:35 | 25.4 | 25.6 | 378.4 | 381.2 | 59.2 | 60.6 | 1.75 | 0.15 | 21.8 |
| OR2 | 2009/08/05 | 10:41 | 22.9 | 23.5 | 378.5 | 380.3 | 60.0 | 61.8 | 2.26 | 0.19 | 23.2 |
| OR3 | 2009/08/05 | 09:58 | 20.9 | 21.1 | 378.5 | 381.1 | 59.9 | 60.2 | 3.21 | 0.42 | 23.2 |
| OR4 | 2009/08/05 | 09:07 | 20.9 | 21.1 | 378.7 | 380.8 | 60.0 | 60.7 | 4.67 | 0.32 | 24.6 |
| SS1 | 2009/08/05 | 13:43 | 23.2 | 24.3 | 377.9 | 381.9 | 58.3 | 62.7 | 1.16 | 0.24 | 22.0 |
| SS2 | 2009/08/06 | 09:08 | 20.9 | 21.1 | 378.9 | 381.1 | 59.2 | 60.4 | 2.64 | 0.15 | 22.8 |
| SS3 | 2009/08/06 | 11:17 | 25.9 | 28.6 | 378.7 | 381.1 | 59.0 | 61.0 | 3.19 | 0.09 | 25.0 |
| SS4 | 2009/08/06 | 10:13 | 23.4 | 24.1 | 378.7 | 381.5 | 59.9 | 61.0 | 3.37 | 0.09 | 23.6 |

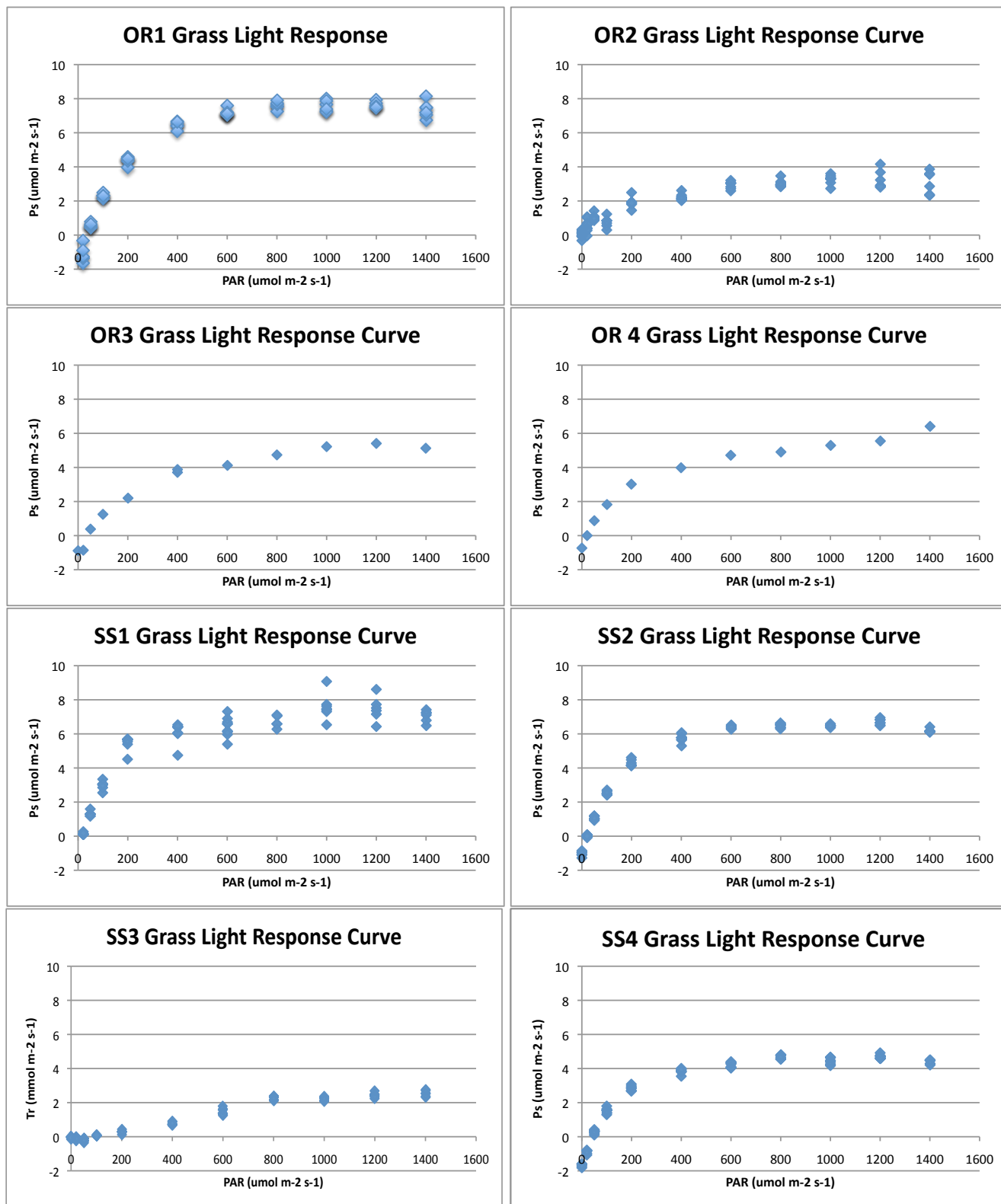


Figure 10 – Light response curves measured for representative turfgrass samples at each monitoring site, using the Li-6400 system.

References

Nowak, DJ (1996): 'Estimating Leaf Area and Leaf Biomass of Open-Grown Deciduous Trees', *Forest Science* 42 (4), 1996, p 504 – 507.

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Appendix 1 – Hemispherical photos at the EPiCC measurement sites

The following figures show hemispherical fish-eye photos of vegetation state at OR1-4 and SS1-4, all taken at ground level where the long-term soil climate measurements are located. Photos are shown separately for Summer (left) and winter (right). High-resolution images are available upon request.



Fig A1.1 – OR 1 Summer



Fig A1.2 – OR 1 Winter



Fig A1.3 – OR 2 Summer



Fig A1.4 – OR 2 Winter



Fig A1.5 – OR 3 Summer



Fig A1.6 – OR 3 Winter



Fig A1.7 – OR 4 Summer



Fig A1.8 – OR 4 Winter



Fig A1.9 – SS 1 Summer



Fig A1.10 – SS 1 Winter



Fig A1.11 – SS 2 Summer



Fig A1.12 – SS 2 Winter



Fig A1.13 – SS 3 Summer



Fig A1.14 – SS 3 Winter



Fig A1.15 – SS 4 Summer

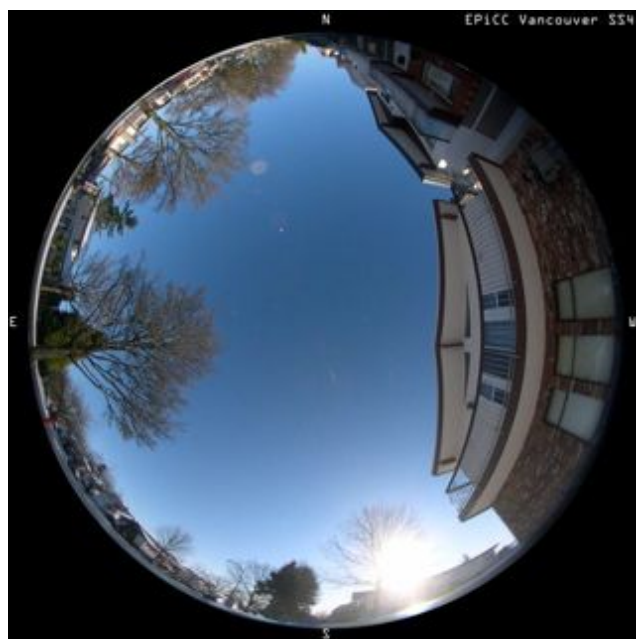


Fig A1.16 – SS 4 Winter

Appendix 2 – Lawn, yard and street vegetation at the EPiCC measurement sites

This set of figures shows horizontal photos of vegetation, lawn and ground state at OR1-4 and SS1-4, all taken at approx. 1.5 m height at the location where the long-term soil climate measurements are located. High-resolution images, and images pointing in all four cardinal directions are available upon request.

Winter: January 9, 2009



Spring: April 20, 2009



Summer: July 22, 2008



Fall: October 28, 2008



Fig A2.1 – Representative photos of the monitored lawn at OR1 for each season with view towards East.

Winter: February 21, 2008



Spring: April 20, 2009



Summer: July 29, 2009



Fall: October 28, 2008



Fig A2.2 – Representative photos of the monitored lawn at OR2 for each season with view towards West.

Winter: January 17, 2009



Spring: April 20, 2009



Summer: July 6, 2008



Fall: September 24, 2009



Fig A2.3 – Representative photos of the monitored lawn at OR3 for each season with view towards West.

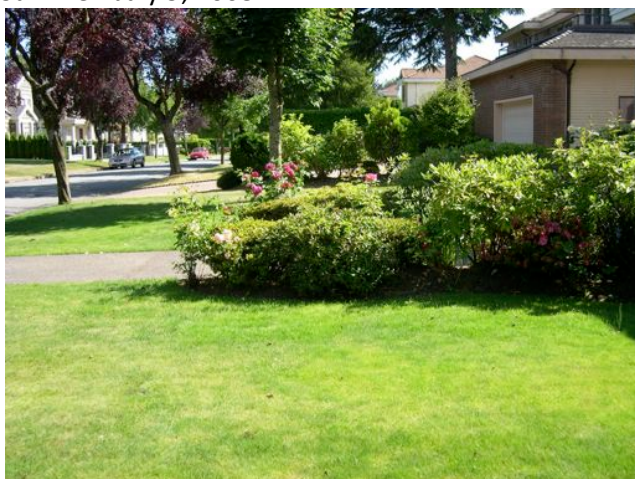
Winter: January 12, 2009



Spring: April 20, 2009



Summer: July 9, 2008



Fall: October 20, 2008



Fig A2.4 – Representative photos of the monitored lawn at OR4 for each season with view towards South.

Winter: January 16, 2009



Spring: April 20, 2009



Summer: July 9, 2009



Fall: November 5, 2008



Fig A2.5 – Representative photos of the monitored lawn at SS1 for each season with view towards East.

Winter: December 15, 2008



Spring: April 23, 2008



Summer: July 23, 2008



Fall: October 17, 2008



Fig A2.6 – Representative photos of the monitored lawn at SS2 for each season with view towards South.

Winter: December 15, 2008

Spring: March 27, 2008



Summer: August 6, 2008



Fall: November 5, 2008



Fig A2.7 – Representative photos of the monitored lawn at SS3 for each season with view towards East.

Winter: January 17, 2009



Spring: April 23, 2008



Summer: July 29, 2008



Fall: October 17, 2008



Fig A2.8 – Representative photos of the monitored lawn at SS4 for each season with view towards South.

Appendix 3 – Vegetation at the rural EPICC measurement site



January 8, 2008



February 8, 2008



March 27, 2008



April 15, 2008



May 5, 2008



May 28, 2008



June 18, 2008



July 9, 2008



August 21, 2008



September 22, 2008



October 10, 2008



December 12, 2008

Fig A3.1 - These photos show the vegetation and ground state (view towards West from the tripod) at the rural site 'Westham Island' over the course of the year 2008.

Appendix 4 – Vegetation Samples (Li6400 Measurements)

Sample 1



Sample 2



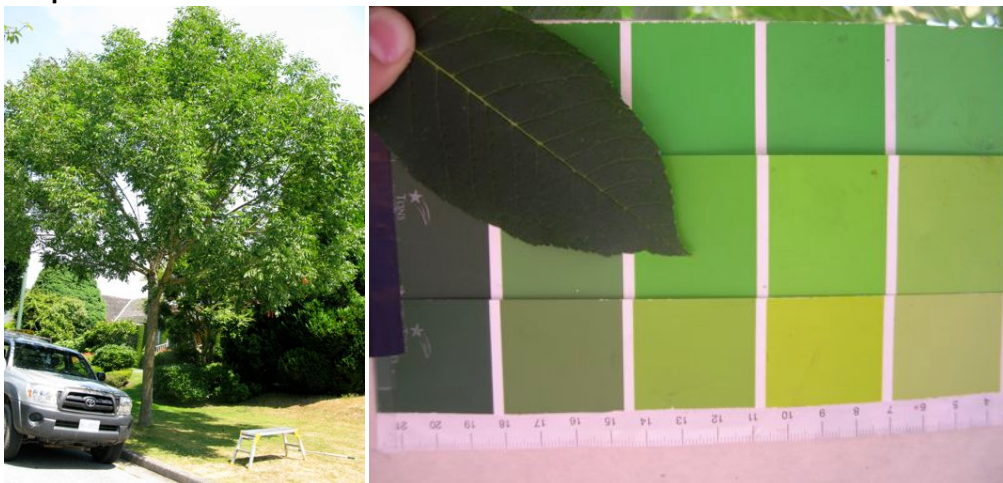
Sample 3



Sample 9



Sample 10



Sample 12



Sample 13



Sample 16



Sample 18



Sample 19



Sample 22



Sample 23



Sample 26



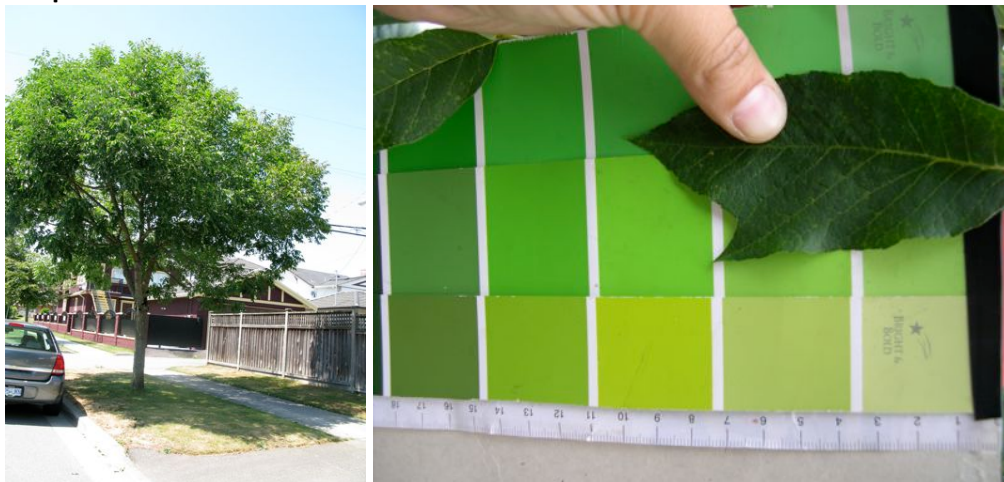
Sample 29



Sample 32



Sample 33



Sample 34



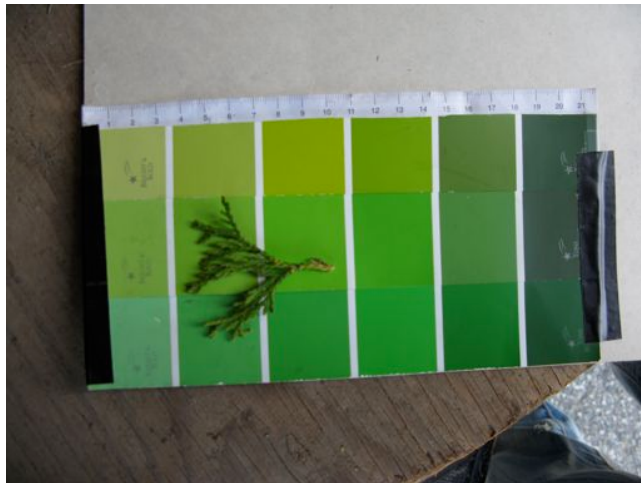
Sample 35



Sample 42



Sample 55



Sample 56



Sample 60

