

1 | Drought stress enhances folivory rates by shifting
2 | foliar metabolomes.

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5 |

6 | **Abstract.**

7 | Plants respond to external environment such as drought or marked year seasons by
8 | shifting the foliar C:N:P:K stoichiometry and metabolome. Folivory rates have usually
9 | associated with the water status of plants and/or foliar nutrient concentrations,
10 | especially N, but all present studies focused mainly in foliar nutrient concentrations or
11 | in foliar specific metabolic families. The new emerging ecometabolomic techniques
12 | allow studying the metabolomes, the total set of metabolites present in an organism in a
13 | specific moment. This study tries to integrate both stoichiometric and metabolomic
14 | techniques to understand the responses of *Quercus ilex* throughout year seasons and
15 | under moderated drought experimental conditions and the further relationship with
16 | folivory rates. As expected, foliar K concentrations increased in summer, the driest
17 | Mediterranean season, since K acts as osmoprotector front water stress and
18 | consequently presented higher foliar K/P and lower C/K and N/K ratios. Moreover,
19 | trees exposed to a field moderated drought showed higher foliar concentrations of total
20 | sugars and polyphenolic compounds (flavonoids) than controls. These compounds were
21 | mainly associated to water-stress avoidance by the osmotic protection of sugars and the
22 | antioxidant function of most of the assigned flavonoids. The results of the present study
23 | suggest that the increase of sugar and flavonoids in *Q. ilex* leaves in droughted trees
24 | lead to an increase in the herbivore attack. These results suggest the evidence of the

25 indirect relationship between the drought increases and the folivory rates by the
26 produced shifts in metabolomes. The present study represents a step in understanding
27 potential cascade effects of drought at different trophic levels and the possible further
28 implications in the ecosystem structure, function and evolution.

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30

31 **Introduction**

32 Drought, one of the most important factors promoting climate change, which is
33 predicted to increase in the following decades in several regions of the world such as in
34 the Mediterranean basin (IPCC, 2007), is a potential driver of changes in the elemental
35 C:N:P:K stoichiometries of different plant organs and ecosystems (Sardans et al., 2012
36 PEES, Rivas-Ubach et al., 2012 PNAS, Sardans et al., 2012 Functional Ecology) and
37 this way end up affecting ecological processes and finally the ecosystem structure and
38 function (Elser et al., 1996 BioScience; Sterner and Elser 2002; Sardans et al., 2011
39 Biogeochemistry). Even though N and P have been the most studied elements in the
40 ecological stoichiometry context (Sterner and Elser 2002), several studies have
41 demonstrated the central role that foliar K concentrations plays under drought
42 conditions (Ingram and Bartels 1996 annual review of plant physiology and plant
43 molecular biology; Sardans et al., 2012 Functional Ecology; Wang et al., 2013
44 International Journal of Molecular Sciences). For example, seasonal studies in plants in
45 Mediterranean climate showed that foliar K concentrations tend to increase in both
46 summer, the driest season, and also under experimental drought conditions (Sardans et
47 al., 2013 Acta Oecologica; Rivas-Ubach et al., 2012 PNAS) being these changes more
48 intense even than changes in foliar N and P concentrations (Sardans et al., 2012 PEES).
49 Even so, the study of foliar K concentrations in the ecological stoichiometry context in

50 both seasonal and under drought conditions is still scarce and warrants more attention
51 (Sardans et al., 2012 Functional Ecology).

52 The relationships between water status in plants and herbivore activity have been
53 already reviewed showing the importance of soil water status in tree resistance against
54 herbivore attack (Rouault et al., 2006 Annals of Forest Science). Also, some studies
55 observed that herbivores enhanced their activity in response to the increase in
56 concentration of soluble nitrogen in foliage (Larsson et al., 1989 and 1993; Rouault et
57 al., 2006 Annals of forest Science). Others observed that the nutritional foliar quality is
58 affected by drought and indirectly it stimulates the insect foliar feeding (White et al.,
59 1984 Oecologia; Rouault et al., 2006 Annals of forest Science). The great variation in
60 C:N:P biomass stoichiometries in plants, both in time and space may be thus a
61 significant factor, among others, of host selection for herbivores trying to choose foliage
62 with high nutritional contents (Gusewell and Koerselman, 2002; Oleksyn et al., 2002;
63 Lindroth et al., 2002; Raubenheimer and Simpson 2003 The Journal of Experimental
64 Botany; Sardans et al., 2012 Biogeochemistry). Additionally, it has seen that folivory
65 rates are more directly related to the proportion of foliar structural compounds than
66 foliar N concentrations, usually avoiding high proportions of these compounds (Choong
67 et al., 1992; Williams et al., 1998). Even so, these plant-herbivore relationships remain
68 unclear and need further study (Raubenheimer and Simpson 2003 The Journal of
69 Experimental Botany).

70 Most elements such as C, N and P do not actuate as themselves but mainly as
71 molecular compounds (Peñuelas and Sardans 2009 Nature) such as lignine and cellulose
72 in lignified structures or other different defensive compounds against herbivore attack
73 (Bennett & Wallsgrove 1994 New Phytologist; Kelser and Baldwin 2001 Science).
74 Furthermore, the plant stoichiometric changes may thus influence the coevolution of

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75 insects with the defensive chemical compounds of plants (Raubenheimer and Simpson
76 2003 The Journal of Experimental Botany) but the relationship between overall plant
77 stoichiometry and metabolism with herbivore attack is still unclear and warrants study.

78 The effects of drought on foliar stoichiometry and metabolism have been reported
79 in several studies (Sardans et al., 2011 Chemoecology, Sardans et al., 2012 PEES,
80 Rivas-Ubach et al., 2012 PNAS) where others have reported the plant molecular
81 responses to herbivores (Ali and Agrawal 2012, references there in). Plants are capable
82 to respond to herbivory producing chemical defenses such as alkaloids, terpenes and
83 phenolics (Bennett & Wallsgrave 1994 New Phytologist; Kelsner and Baldwin 2001
84 Science) or even changing the concentrations of compounds from the primary
85 metabolism as a result of tissue predation or infection (Widarto et al., 2006, Lafa &
86 Fungate 2011, Ehness et al., 1997, Sardans et al., 2013 Plant Biology). Generally, the
87 study of plant responses to herbivore predation has been focused to the identification of
88 single compounds of families of metabolites (Sardans et al., 2013 Plant Biology) but the
89 use of the new emerging metabolomic techniques to apply in the field of ecology and
90 plant physiology (ecometabolomics) aim to study the entire metabolomes of organisms,
91 the total set of metabolites present in an organism in a specific moment (Fiehn 2002)
92 and their changes with abiotic and biotic environmental changes (Peñuelas and Sardans
93 2009 Chemical Ecology; Sardans et al., 2011 Chemoecology; Sardans and Peñuelas
94 2012 Plant Physiology; Peñuelas et al., 2013 Global Change Biology; Rivas-Ubach et
95 al., 2013 MEE). Some recent plant ecometabolomic studies have allowed showing
96 which metabolites change their concentrations in a plants throughout year
97 Mediterranean seasons (Rivas-Ubach et al., 2012 PNAS), in plants submitted to a biotic
98 stress such as herbivore predation (Leiss et al., 2009; Jansen et al., 2009) or a non-biotic
99 stress such as drought (Charlton et al., 2008 Metabolomics; Lukan et al., 2009 Plant

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100 Cell Environment; Rivas-Ubach et al., 2012 PNAS) from the total set of plant
101 metabolism, even though the number of studies is still scarce to understand the general
102 trends of the shift in metabolism of plants in front of stresses. The link between the shifts
103 of foliar stoichiometries and the shifts of foliar metabolome throughout year seasons and
104 under field drought experiments has been recently demonstrated (Rivas-Ubach et al.,
105 2012 PNAS), so that nutritional quality of the food for herbivores may shift too.

106 The folivory rates can thus be influenced directly by food-quality and indirectly
107 by plant water status, we hypothesize that shifts on both foliar elemental stoichiometry
108 and metabolomics of plants produced by drought have an effect on the herbivore
109 activity. The shifts of foliar composition induced by drought could thus induce a long
110 term cascade effect producing trophic web changes due the shifts in the food
111 composition for herbivores.

112 We sampled once per season leaves of *Quercus ilex* trees from a mature forest in
113 Catalonia (North-East Iberian Peninsula) exposed to field conditions of moderate
114 experimental drought as those projected for the immediate decades. All the samples
115 were used for metabolomic and elemental analyses. Also, the folivory rates were
116 calculated for each sampled individual. The present study tries to understand together

117 the stoichiometric and metabolomic responses of *Q. ilex*, the most dominant tree
118 forming the Mediterranean basin forests, across the marked year seasons and under
119 drought experimental conditions and the further relationships with herbivore attack

120 trying thus to comprehend at the same time how the elemental and metabolic
121 concentrations of plants may affect the food selection by herbivores. We used *Q. ilex*
122 forest to test our hypothesis that drought conditions, produced by drought experimental
123 plots, may shift the folivory activity due the shift on the foliar metabolism. It could thus
124 indicate a hint of a near future change in trophic webs of Mediterranean forests.

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126 **Material & Methods**

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128 **Study site**

129 This study was carried out in a natural *Quercus ilex* forest in the Prades mountains in
130 southern Catalonia (41°13' N, 0°55'E). All sampled plots were in south-southeast face
131 and with a 25% of slope at 930m altitude above sea level. Climate is mesic-
132 Mediterranean with a marked summer drought for 3 months. Vegetation consists of a
133 forest dominated by *Quercus ilex* (20.8 m²ha⁻¹ of trunk basal area at 50 cm), followed
134 by *Phillyrea latyfolia* (7.7 m²ha⁻¹ of trunk basal area at 50 cm) and *Arbutus unedo*.

135 There are also several species adapted to drought conditions such as *Juniperus*
136 *oxycedruys*, *Erica arborea* and *Cistus albidus*, and sporadic individuals of deciduous
137 species such as *Acer monspesulanum* and *Sorbus torminalis*.

138 Environmental conditions such as soil moisture, air humidity, air and soil temperatures
139 and precipitation were monitored each half-hour in all plots (see Ogaya & Peñuelas
140 2007 for details).

141

142 **Experimental design**

143 Four plots in mature *Q.ilex* forest (15 x 10 m.) were established in March 1999 with a
144 15m of distance between them (Ogaya et al. 2003). Two plots received drought
145 treatment and the other two were left as control plots. Drought treatments were assigned
146 randomly to different plots and not contiguously. Drought treatment consists to cover
147 approximately a 30% of soil surface with a 14m long and 1 m wide PVC strips placed
148 from top-edge to bottom-edge at 0.5-0.8 m above the soil excluding a representing
149 rainfall fraction and a 0.8-1 m deep ditch was dug along the entire top edge of the

150 treatment plots to intercept runoff water. All intercepted water by the strips was
151 channeled to the bottom edge of drought plots. Drought treatment results on average
152 reduction of 18% in the relative soil moisture (Barbeta et al., 2013 GCB).

153

154 Sampling of leaves.

155 Five individuals of *Q. ilex* were randomly selected from each plot as study cases ($n = 5$
156 $\times 4 = 20$). Leaves were sampled once for each year season; February in winter, May in
157 spring, August in summer and November in autumn. A little branch exposed to sun was
158 removed of each tree with a pole and a fraction of the youngest leaves was frozen into
159 liquid nitrogen for the stoichiometric and metabolomic analyses. The rest of the leaves
160 were kept in bags at 6-8 °C in order to determine water content and to take pictures for
161 the analyses of the herbivore consumption rates.

162 Herbivore consumption rate calculation.

163 Five-ten randomly selected among the youngest leaves of each tree were placed on a flat
164 white surface and were photographed with a Nikon D80 and Nikkor AF-S 18-135/3.5-
165 5.6 G DX objective in order to calculate the percentage of folivory. The predated area of
166 leaves was calculated with Adobe Photoshop CS2 (Adobe Systems Incorporated, San
167 Jose, California, USA). The assigned consumed area value to each individual tree was
168 the mean of its 15 leaves analyzed. After that, the predation values for each tree were
169 standardized by the total foliar biomass of *Q. ilex* of its plot. All values were thereafter
170 transformed for normality ($\arcsin(\text{square root}(\text{percentage}))$).

171

172 Foliar processing for elemental and metabolomic analyses.

173

174 The processing of the leaves is explained in detail in Rivas-Ubach et al., 2013 MEE.

175 Briefly, frozen leaves in liquid nitrogen were lyophilized, kept into plastic cans and

176 maintained at -20°C. Samples were ground with a ball mill at 1600 rpm for 6 min.
177 (Mikrodismembrator-U, B. Braun Biotech International), obtaining a fine sample
178 powder that was thereafter kept at -80°C until metabolite extract preparation.

179 Elemental analysis

180 For the C and N analyses; for each sample, 1.4 mg of powder were weighted and
181 introduced into a tin microcapsule. C and N concentrations were determined by
182 elemental analysis using combustion coupled to gas chromatography with a CHNS-O
183 Elemental Analyser (EuroVector, Milan, Italy).

184 The macroelements (P, K) determination was performed using acid digestion into
185 microwave with high pressure and temperature control. A widely used acid digestion
186 method was performed (Sardans et al. 2010); 250 mg of leaf powder were weighted into
187 a Teflon tubes and 5mL of Nitric acid and 2mL of H₂O₂ were added. A *MARSXpress*
188 microwave (CEM, Mattheus, USA) was used to perform the acid digestions (Chemical
189 analyses details are explained in Supporting information). All the digested
190 concentrations were added into 50 ml flasks and dissolved with Milli-Q water until
191 50mL. After digestions, the P and K concentrations were determined by ICP-OES
192 (Optic Emission Spectrometry with Inductively Coupled Plasma) (The Perkin-Elmer
193 Corporation, Norwalk, USA).

194 195 196 Metabolite extraction for NMR analyses.

197 The extraction of foliar metabolites for the NMR analyses is described in detail in
198 Rivas-Ubach et al., 2013 MEE. First, two centrifuge tube sets of 50 mL were labeled,
199 set A was used for metabolite extraction and set B was used for lyophilization.
200 Additionally, a set of crystals jars was also labeled to keep the organic fraction. After
201 that, 200 mg of powdered leaf material of each sample was introduced into the
202

203 corresponding tube of set A. Six mL of water–methanol (1:1) and 6 mL of chloroform
204 were added to each tube. Samples were vortexed for 15 s and then sonicated for 2 min at
205 room temperature. All tubes were centrifuged at $1\ 100 \times g$ for 15 min. Four mL of each
206 fraction (aqueous and organic) were collected independently; aqueous fractions were
207 collected into the centrifuge tubes set B and organic fractions were collected into crystal
208 jars. This procedure was repeated twice to perform two extractions on the same sample.
209 Aqueous samples, previously redissolved in water (<15% methanol), were lyophilized.
210 Once lyophilized, 4 mL of water were added to each tube, vortexed and centrifuged at
211 $23\ 000 \times g$ for 3 minutes. Samples were frozen at -80°C and lyophilized again. Organic
212 fractions were placed in a round-bottomed evaporation flask and dried in a rotary
213 vacuum evaporator. Finally, 1 mL of KH_2PO_4 -NaOD–buffered D_2O (pH 6.0) was added
214 to the dried aqueous fractions, and 1 mL of chloroform-D was added to the dried
215 organic fractions. All concentrations were resuspended with micropipette and
216 transferred into 2 mL centrifuge tubes and centrifuged at $23\ 000 \times g$ for 3 minutes. The
217 supernatants were transferred into NMR sample tubes.

218

219 Metabolite extraction for LC-MS.

220 The metabolite extraction was done by following t'Kind et al., 2008 Journal of
221 **Chromatography B** with little modifications. Two sets of Eppendorf tubes were labeled
222 (set A and set B). The set A was to perform the extractions and the set B to keep the
223 extracts.

224 One hundred mg of sample powder of each sample was weighted into the
225 corresponding Eppendorf tube of set A. One mL of MeOH/ H_2O (80:20) was added to
226 each tube. Tubes were vortexed for 15 minutes and 5 minutes sonicated at room
227 temperature. After that, tubes were centrifuged at $23\ 000 \times g$ for 5 minutes. 0.6 mL of

228 supernatant was collected for each tube and introduced into the corresponding
229 Eppendorf set B. This procedure was repeated to perform two extractions of the same
230 initial sample. Once the two extractions were performed, the set B of tubes were
231 centrifuged at 23,000 x g rpm for 5 minutes. The supernatants were collected by crystal
232 syringes, filtered with microfilters and introduced into a labeled set of HPLC vials. The
233 vials were kept frozen at -80°C until LC-MS analysis.

234

235

236 LC-MS analyses.

237 LC-MS chromatograms were obtained using a Dionex Ultimate 3000 HPLC system
238 (ThermoFisher Scientific, USA/Dionex RSLC, Dionex, USA) coupled to a LTQ
239 Orbitrap XL high resolution mass spectrometer (ThermoFisher Scientific, USA)
240 equipped with a HESI II (Heated electrospray ionization) source. Chromatographic
241 method was performed on a Hypersil gold column (150 × 2.1 mm, 3 μ particle size;
242 Thermo Scientific). Column temperature was set up at 30°C. Acetonitrile (A) and water
243 (0.1% acetic acid) (B) were used as the mobile phase. Both mobile phases (A) and (B)
244 were filtrated and degassed for 10 min in an ultrasonic bath prior to use. With 0.3mL
245 flow rate, the gradient elution started at 10% A (90%) in 5 min stable, next 20min a
246 gradient to 10% B (90% A) started, next 5 minutes were to recover the initial
247 proportions gradually (10% A; 90% B) and 5 additional minutes were to wash and
248 stabilize the column to inject next sample. 5 μl was the injection volume of samples. The
249 heated electrospray ionization (HESI) was used for MS detection. All samples were
250 injected twice, once with ESI operating in negative ionization mode (-H) and once in
251 positive ionization mode (+H). The Orbitrap mass spectrometer was operated in FTMS
252 (Fourier Transform Mass Spectrometry) in full scan mode with a 50-1000 m/z mass

253 range and high mass resolution (60 000). The resolution and sensitivity of the Orbitrap
254 were controlled by injection of mixed standard after analyzing of each 10 samples and
255 resolution was also checked by the help of lock masses (phthalates). Blanks were also
256 analyzed during sequence.

257

258 NMR analyses.

259
260 ¹H NMR, 2D 1H–1H-correlated spectroscopy (COSY), heteronuclear multiple bonds
261 coherence (HMBC), heteronuclear single quantum coherence (HSQC) experiments
262 were recorded at 298.0 K on a Bruker AVANCE 600 spectrometer equipped with an
263 automatic sample changer and a multinuclear triple resonance TBI probe
264 (BrukerBiospin, Rheinstetten, Germany) at a field strength of 14.1 T (600.13 MHz ¹H
265 frequency). Following the introduction to the probe, samples were allowed to
266 equilibrate (2 min) prior to the shimming process to ensure good magnetic field
267 homogeneity. All liquid sample handling, automation and acquisition were controlled
268 using TopSpin 3.1 software (BrukerBiospin, Rheinstetten, Germany).

269 For the water/methanol extract samples, one-dimensional (1D) ¹H NMR spectra were
270 acquired with suppression of the residual water resonance. A presaturation sequence
271 was used to suppress the residual H₂O signal with low power selective irradiation (55
272 dB) at the H₂O frequency during the recycle delay (2s). Each ¹H NMR spectra consisted
273 of 128 scans requiring 8 min acquisition time with the following parameters: 0.29

274 Hz/point, pulse width (PW) = 90° (12.7 s), and relaxation delay (RD) = 2.0 s. FIDs

275 were Fourier transformed with LB = 0.2 Hz. For the chloroform extract samples,
276 standard pulse-acquisition 1D ¹H-NMR spectra were acquired. The acquisition
277 parameters were also set at 32 k data points, 16 ppm of spectral width and 128
278 transients, resulting in a total acquisition time of ~8 min per sample. The COSY spectra

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279 were acquired with 2.0 s relaxation delay, 7211 Hz spectra width in both dimensions.
280 The window function for COSY spectra was sine-bell (SSB = 0). The HMBC spectra
281 were obtained with 1 s relaxation delay, using 5411 Hz spectral width in F2 and 33,202
282 Hz in F1. For HSQC spectra, the 1 s relaxation delay was used, 9615 Hz spectral width
283 in F2 and 15,091 Hz in F1. All 2D spectra were calibrated at 0.00 ppm to TSP and were
284 acquired using standard Bruker pulse sequences and routine conditions (Kim *et al.*
285 2010; Rivas-Ubach *et al.* 2012).

286

287 NMR metabolite elucidation.

288 The NMR spectrometer described for the fingerprinting was used for the acquisition of
289 the 2D NMR experiments on random selected samples of the water-methanol and of the
290 chloroform extracts. The probe temperature was set to 298.0 K and the software utilized
291 to acquire and process the experiments was also TopSpin3.1 (BrukerBiospin). For the
292 water–methanol extract samples, 2D experiments were carried out with standard
293 presaturation of the residual water peak during the relaxation delay. Spectra were
294 referenced to TSP (^1H and ^{13}C at δ 0.00 ppm) in the case of polar samples and to the
295 residual CHCl_3 (δ_{H} 7.260 ppm and δ_{C} 77.00 ppm for ^1H and ^{13}C , respectively) in the
296 case of nonpolar samples.

297 The representative both polar and non-polar ^1H NMR spectra of *Q. ilex* is shown
298 in Figure S1 and S2. The 1D ^1H selective total correlation spectroscopy (TOCSY)
299 experiments, as well as 2D experiments, such as, 1H-1H TOCSY, 1H-1H–correlated
300 spectroscopy 1H- ^{13}C heteronuclear single-quantum correlation, and 1H- ^{13}C
301 heteronuclear multiple-bond correlation, allowed the identification of the metabolites.
302 All elucidated metabolites were further confirmed by reported literature data (Fan &
303 Lane 2008; Fan 1996; Walker *et al.* 1982; Breitmaier *et al.* 1979; Iles *et al.* 1985;

304 Bolinger *et al.* 1984; Brown 1989; Corse & Lundin 1970; Ulrich *et al.* 2007; Sacchi *et al.*
305 1997; Jie & Lam 1995; Llusia *et al.* 2008; Gunstone *et al.* 1995; The AOCS Lipid Library
306 2012). Table S1 and S2 summarize the chemical shifts and coupling constants of all the
307 identified metabolites present in *Q. ilex*, including amino/organic acids, carbohydrates,
308 phenolic compounds and non-polar metabolites.

309

310 LC-MS chromatograms processing

311 The raw data files from the Orbitrap were processed by MzMine 2.10 (Pluskal *et al.*,
312 2010 BMC Bioinformatics). Chromatograms were base line corrected, deconvoluted,
313 aligned and filtered before exporting the numerical database to CSV. (see Table S3 for
314 details). Metabolite assignment was done by the exact mass and retention time from
315 measurement of standards in MS and MSⁿ modes of Orbitrap (see Table S4 for details).
316 The different assigned variables corresponding to the same molecular compounds were
317 added up.

318

319 NMR bucketing

320 The processing of ¹H-NMR spectra is detailed in Rivas-Ubach *et al.*, 2013MEE. Briefly,
321 before the extraction of ¹H NMR numerical databases, all spectra were phased, base line
322 corrected and referenced to the internal standard (TSP for polar and TMS for nonpolar
323 samples) resonance at δ 0.00 ppm with TOPSPIN 3.1. A variable-size bucketing was
324 thus applied to all ¹H-NMR spectra with AMIX software (Bruker Biospin, Rheinstetten,
325 Germany), scaling the buckets relative to the internal standard (TMS or TSP). The
326 output was a data set containing the integral values for each ¹H-NMR spectral peak
327 accounted for in the described pattern. The buckets corresponding to the same
328 molecular compound were added up.

329

330 Statistical analyses

331 To test the differences between seasons and climatic treatments in foliar elemental
332 stoichiometry and metabolome, the *Q.ilex* foliar LC-MS and NMR metabolomic
333 fingerprints were subjected to PERMANOVA analysis (Anderson et al., 2008) using the
334 Euclidean distance, with season (spring, summer, autumn and winter) and climatic
335 treatment (control and drought) as fixed factors and folivory as a covariable. The
336 number of permutations was set up at 999. The PERMANOVA analysis was conducted
337 with PERMANOVA+ for PRIMER v.6 software (Anderson et al., 2008).

338 Additionally, to understand how the foliar stoichiometry and metabolome of *Q.ilex*
339 shift among the studied factors (seasons, climatic treatment), the foliar stoichiometric
340 and metabolomic fingerprint were also subjected to principal component analysis
341 (PCA). The seasonal PCA included the fingerprints of all seasons together (Figure 1).
342 Spring and summer seasons were additionally submitted to another PCA analysis
343 separately (Figure 2) since these are the seasons presenting higher foliar herbivore
344 activity in the Mediterranean basin. The PCA analyses were performed by the “pca”
345 function of “mixOmics” package of R (R Development Core Team 2008). Scores
346 coordinates of variables were subjected to One-way ANOVAs to find statistical
347 differences among groups (See Supporting Information of Rivas-Ubach et al., 213).
348 Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was performed to each variable to test variable normality, all
349 assigned and elucidated metabolites presented normal distribution, and any not
350 identified metabolomic that did not present normality was removed from the dataset.

351 An additional PCA conducted with summer data and excluding the herbivore
352 consumption rates were also performed (Figure S3). The PC1 scores of this PCA
353 including the whole elemental, stoichiometric and metabolomic variation of summer

354 cases were plotted versus the herbivore consumption rates (Figure.4). GLM analysis
355 were used to explain the folivory as a function of the climatic treatment and the
356 metabolome variation (PC1 scores); folivory (continuous) was set up as dependent
357 variable while climatic treatment (categorical) and PC1 scores of the PCA (continuous)
358 were set up as independent variables. Statistica v8.0 (Statsoft) was used to perform one-
359 way ANOVAs, post hoc test of scores coordinates of the PCAs and general lineal model
360 (GLM) analysis.

361
362

363 **Results**

364 Elemental, stoichiometric and metabolism shifts across year seasons and drought
365 experiment.

366 PERMANOVA analysis performed with all elemental, stoichiometric and metabolomic
367 data (assigned and not assigned metabolites) showed that the different year seasons,
368 drought treatments and the folivory rates presented different foliar chemistry and
369 metabolism (Folivory: Pseudo-F = 2.4832, $p < 0.001$; Season: Pseudo-F = 2.4749,
370 $p < 0.001$ and Treatment: Pseudo-F = 3.1031, $p < 0.001$).

371 The seasonal PCA analysis analyzed with all elemental, stoichiometric and
372 metabolomic data plotted by PC1 and PC2 (Figure.1) showed more than 50% of
373 variance among the four first PC axis (PC1= 15.2%, PC2= 14.7%, PC3= 14.1% and
374 PC4= 12.7%). Different seasons were markedly explained by PC1 ($p < 0.001$), PC3
375 ($p < 0.05$) and PC4 ($p < 0.001$). Droughted trees differed from control trees in PC1
376 ($p < 0.001$), PC2 ($p < 0.05$) and PC4 ($p < 0.001$). Post-hoc analysis of the score coordinates
377 of the different cases showed that summer leaves stoichiometries and metabolomes
378 differed significantly from the other seasons in the PC1 axis.

379 The C, N, P, K foliar concentrations and their respective ratios (C/N, C/P, C/K,
380 N/K and K/P) except N/P changed with the seasons (Figure.1). The highest K/P and
381 K/N concentration ratios were found in summer, coinciding with the highest K foliar
382 concentrations. N and P foliar concentrations were highest in autumn, presenting thus
383 the lowest C:N and C:P ratios (See Table S5 and Sardans et al., 2013 Acta Oecologica
384 for more details). Mainly all assigned and elucidated metabolites in leaves of *Q. ilex*
385 shifted across different seasons (Table S5).. The main changes were between summer
386 and spring, two critical seasons in the Mediterranean basin. Generally, summer leaves
387 presented higher concentrations of polyphenolics and sucrose whereas spring leaves
388 presented higher concentrations of amino acids, some related compounds of amino acid
389 and sugar metabolism (RCAAS) and some sugars such as pentoses and disaccharides,
390 products directly related to growth. The effects of experimental drought were also
391 detected at seasonal PCA plot (Figure.1; Table S6). In the cases plot of the PCA
392 analysis, droughted trees tended to be distributed to the same direction than the summer
393 ones; summer is the driest season in Mediterranean climates.

394

395 Total concentrations of amino acids, sugars and polyphenolics.

396 The assigned and elucidated variables of the different metabolite families (amino acids,
397 sugars and phenolics) were added up. Factorial ANOVAs showed that in spring and in
398 winter trees presented higher concentrations of foliar amino acids (Figure.3a). Drought
399 treatment affected trees in all seasons increasing the concentrations of total sugars, even
400 though there were not significant differences in summer (Figure.3b). Winter showed
401 higher concentrations of sugars than the rest of the seasons due the increases in
402 droughted trees (Figure.3b). Summer trees showed higher concentrations of total

403 phenolics and drought treatments increased the phenolic concentrations significantly in
404 summer and winter trees (Figure.3c).

405

406 Folivory and drought.

407 The PCAs conducted to investigate the relationships of drought on folivory in spring
408 and summer cases showed also separation between control and droughted trees in the
409 multidimensional space (Figure 2). In the case of spring, the first four PCs explained the
410 51% of the total variability. PC1 and PC2 explained the difference between control and
411 droughted trees with a 18.5% and 16.6% respectively of the total variance (Figure.2a),
412 one-way ANOVAs on the PC score coordinates showed values of $p < 0.05$ in both axis
413 (Figure.2b). PC3 (16%) and PC4 (14.7%) did not explain variation between control and
414 droughted trees ($p > 0.05$). In the PCA plotted with summer cases, the four first PCs
415 explained more than 66% of the total variability (Figure.2c) but only PC1 (18.7%)
416 explained significant difference between control and droughted trees ($p < 0.001$)
417 (Figure.2d).

418 The whole GLM conducted with summer data and with folivory as dependent
419 variable and climatic treatment and PC1 scores of the PCA as independent variables
420 showed statistical significance ($p < 0.001$; $R^2 = 0.60$) with not significant *PCI scores*
421 ($p = 0.53$) and significant *treatment* ($p < 0.05$) effects. It implies that the existence of a
422 significant relationship between folivory and the PC1 scores coordinates of the PCA is
423 mainly due the fixed effect of drought.

424

425

426 Discussion

427 Seasonality and drought

428 As expected, the foliar metabolomes of *Q. ilex* showed differences across the year
429 seasons (PERMANOVA $p < 0.001$; **Figure. 1**). PC1 of the seasonal PCA could detect
430 significant stoichiometric and metabolomic shifts between summer and the rest of the
431 seasons although the differences between seasons were not as marked as found in past
432 studies with the Mediterranean shrub *Erica multiflora* (Rivas-Ubach et al., 2012 PNAs).
433 Trees in spring season, the Mediterranean growing season, showed high concentrations
434 of amino acids, some RCAAS and some sugars such as pentoses and disaccharides in
435 accordance with past studies (Rivas-Ubach et al., 2012 PNAs), even though the total
436 concentration of amino acids did not differ from winter (**Figure.3a**), the coldest season
437 of the Mediterranean basin, and foliar N:P ratios did not show the lowest values as
438 expected in the frame of the growth rate hypothesis (Rivas Ubach et al., 2012 PNAs)
439 which proposes that organisms with high rates of growth need high contest of P (low
440 N:P ratios) to meet the demand for protein sythesis (Elser et al., 2003; Zhang and Han
441 2010). Even so, our results are in accordance with other studies in plants. The high
442 foliar concentrations of amino acids in winter trees could be explained by the
443 accumulation under cold-stress. Some amino acids such as proline and glycine are able
444 to buffer the NADP⁺/NADPH ratio in plants (Xu et al., 2013 Plant Biology (15:2, 292-
445 303)) consequently to the low photosynthetic activity in winter and provide reducing
446 agents to support generation of ATP in mitochondria, consequently helping growth
447 recovery (Hare & Cress 1997; Xu et al., 2013 Plant Biology (15:2, 292-303)). On the
448 other hand, Matzek and Vitousek 2009 did not find significant relationships between
449 N:P with increasing growth in 14 different species of pines, and concluded that
450 terrestrial plants need to invest in other fundamental functions besides growth such as
451 storage and defense which often require high investments in N and P.

452 The concentrations of the different detected sugars were distributed differently
453 among seasons (Figure.1) but winter droughted plants showed the highest concentration
454 of total concentrations of sugars (Figure.3b) that may be also related to the sugar
455 synthesis in response to cold-stress, the allocation from other organs (wood,
456 lignotubers) to leaves or the further preparation for the growth season (Xu et al., 2013
457 Plant Biology (15:2, 292-303); Grimaud et al., 2013 Journal of Proteomics). *Q. ilex* is an
458 evergreen tree of slow growth; they present large lignotubers, swollen woody structures
459 at the stem base (James 1984) that are capable to store essential nutrients and
460 metabolites such as carbohydrates to ensure rapid regrowth after severe stresses
461 (Canadell and Zedler 1995). Our stoichiometric and metabolomic results suggest that
462 terrestrial trees, with big woody structures such as trunks and/or lignotubers, are able to
463 store large amounts of different nutrients allowing to resist severe environmental
464 disturbances by supplying essential resources to photosynthetic organs (Canadell and
465 Zedler 1995, Galiano et al., 2012 Tree physiology) and as a consequence it seems to be
466 able buffering the metabolomic changes on foliar ontogeny throughout the different
467 marked seasons.

468 The largest stoichiometric shift between seasons seemed to be related to drought
469 stress (Figure.1). Potassium concentrations were higher in summer trees, the driest
470 season, presenting thus higher foliar K:P and lower N:K and C:K concentration ratios
471 (Sardans et al., 2013 Acta Oecologica) thus coinciding with other studies in
472 Mediterranean seasons (Sardans et al., 2011 Forest Ecology and Management; Sardans
473 et al., 2012 Functional Ecology). K has demonstrated to be involved in the plant–water
474 relationship (Babita et al., 2010) through plant osmotic control (Babita et al., 2010; Laus
475 et al., 2011) and improving the foliar stomata function (Khosravifar et al., 2008). These
476 results demonstrated the importance of the role of K in ecological stoichiometric studies

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477 in terrestrial plants (Sardans & Peñuelas 2007 Functional Ecology; Sardans et al., 2012
478 Functional Ecology; Rivas-Ubach et al., 2012 PNAs; Sardans et al., 2013 Acta
479 Oecologica). Moreover, these shifts in K concentrations in summer leaves were
480 accompanied by higher concentrations of sucrose that could also actuate as osmolyte,
481 together with K, avoiding water losses through osmotic control (Ingram and Bartels
482 1996 annual review of plant physiology and plant molecular biology).

483 Interestingly enough, PC1 and PC2 of the seasonal PCA also showed differences
484 between the induced experimental droughts with respect to control trees (Figure.1;
485 PERMANOVA $p < 0.001$). Droughted trees tended to follow the same direction than
486 summer trees on the layout plotted by PC1 vs. PC2 in accordance with the past studies
487 (Rivas-Ubach et al., 2012 PNAs) showing thus a certain foliar elemental-metabolomic
488 response to drought independently of plant ontogeny. Summer and droughted trees of
489 all seasons tended to present higher concentrations of flavonoids (Figure.3c), the largest
490 group of naturally occurring polyphenols (Strack and Wray 1994 The Flavonoids:
491 Advances in Research Since 1986 (libre)), but the flavonoid composition differed
492 between summer season and drought treatment. Summer trees presented higher
493 concentrations of quinic acid, catechin, luteolin among other polyphenolics while
494 droughted trees had higher concentrations of catechin, quercitol, homoorientin and
495 quercitin (Figure.1; Table S6). These differences should be related to the different effect
496 of drought treatment at the different seasons (Figure.3c). A great number of biological
497 activities have been described for flavonoids, especially their role as antioxidants
498 (Bruda and Oleszek 2001 J Agric Food Chem; Kwang-Geun 2003 J Agric Food Chem).
499 The antioxidant activity results mainly as they actuate as electron donors (RiceEvans et
500 al., 1997) and the role altering the kinetics of peroxidation (Arora et al., 2000).
501 Quercitol has been related to osmotic stress avoidance under drought stress in *Quercus*

502 species (Passarinho et al., 2006; Spiess et al., 2012). Our study did not show significant
503 differences ($p = 0.12$) of choline in droughted trees but it showed a tendency of
504 increasing concentrations in stressed plants. Choline is also involved in osmotic
505 protection (McNeil et al., 2001 PNAS). As expected in a water-limited Mediterranean
506 ecosystem, the oxidative stress on plants tends to increase under drought conditions
507 (Prince et al., 1989 Free Rad Res Commun; Dat et al., 2000 Cell Mol Lif Science;
508 Peñuelas et al., 2004 New Phytologist; Munné-Bosch and Peñuelas 2004 Plant Science)
509 and seems that it will have a significant impact on Mediterranean plant metabolomes
510 since drought periods will become more frequent and intense in the following decades
511 as predicted by climate change projections (IPCC 2007).

512 Furthermore, droughted trees presented also higher concentrations of total sugars
513 concentrations (Figure. 3c), supporting the idea of sugars acting as osmolytes to prevent
514 water losses (Ingram and Bartels 1996 annual review of plant physiology and plant
515 molecular biology). Control trees in summer did not show significant lower foliar
516 concentrations of sugars with respect to the droughted ones (Figure.3b), even though
517 droughted trees showed a tendency to present higher concentrations. Summer is a water
518 limited season in the Mediterranean basin, and the small shift of sugar foliar
519 concentrations between control and droughted shifts could be explained mainly by the
520 natural drought-stress of this season by increasing the foliar sugar concentrations of
521 control trees.

522

523 Folivory

524 In the Mediterranean basin, spring and early summer are the main year periods
525 presenting the highest herbivore activity by insects (Powell and Logan 2005; Bonal et
526 al., 2010 Ecological Entomology) and leaves of trees present the accumulated folivory

527 of the year in the middle of summer. Interestingly, the herbivore activity was higher in
528 droughted trees in both spring and summer seasons (Figure.2 and 4). GLM analyses of
529 summer season showed that the relationship between folivory and PC1 scores
530 coordinates of the additional PCA (foliar stoichiometric and metabolomic shifts
531 between control and droughted trees) (Figure S3) is mainly due the fixed effect of
532 drought since there is not any relationship inside groups (control, drought) ($p > 0.05$)
533 (Figure.4). Our results suggest thus that the stoichiometric and metabolomic shifts are
534 mainly caused by the experimental drought and it produced later an indirect effect
535 increasing the folivory rates. Our stoichiometric results did not show significant
536 relationships between foliar N concentrations and folivory rates as reported in other
537 studies (Larsson et al., 1989 and 1993; Rouault et al., 2006 *Annals of forest Science*)
538 showing that folivory is not only related to foliar N concentrations (Choong et al., 1992;
539 Williams et al., 1998). As discussed above, droughted trees tended to present significant
540 higher concentrations of sugars and polyphenols (flavonoids) than controls (Figure.3). It
541 has been demonstrated that flavonoids such as quercetin act as phagoestimulants for
542 insect herbivores (Diaz Napal et al., 2010 *Journal of Chemical Ecology*; Kosonen et al.,
543 2012 *Journal of Chemical Ecology*). The higher concentrations of sugars and some
544 flavonoids found in foliar droughted *Q. ilex* trees seem to increase the herbivore activity
545 (Figure.4), even though the number of studies is still scarce, our results also showed a
546 higher folivory activity in droughted trees supporting the idea of high palatability of
547 some flavonoids not directly related to folivory defense but as antioxidant function
548 (Diaz Napal et al., 2010 *Journal of Chemical Ecology*; Kosonen et al., 2012 *Journal of*
549 *Chemical Ecology*). Also, droughted leaves presented higher concentrations of sugars
550 (Figure.4), contributing thus with higher concentrations of rapid energy for herbivores.
551 Even so, not all the assigned polyphenols are only related to antioxidant protection in

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552 plants. Several studies discussed the effect of polyphenolics as a plant chemical defense
553 against herbivore predation (Berg 2002 *Oecologia*; Lokvam and Kursar 2005 *Journal of*
554 *Chemical Ecology*; Kosonen et al., 2012 *Journal of Chemical Ecology*; Rani and
555 Pratyusha 2013 *Jornal of Asia-Pacific Entomology*). Kosonen et al., 2012 discussed that
556 the effects of some polyphenolics could be toxic for specialist herbivores but increases
557 the palatability of plants for generalist herbivores and suggests that climate change is
558 able to decrease the herbivore damage caused by specialists and increases that caused
559 by generalists. Adding to it, studies suggest the use of phenolic acids as pest
560 management (Rani and Pratyusha 2013). Moreover, the effects of polyphenols in plants
561 have been shown also in mammals, p.eg, Berg 2003 showed that elevated
562 concentrations of catechin had negative effects on the consumption rates of plants by
563 collared lemmings. In our study, mainly all the assigned polyphenols has been
564 associated to drought-stress since mostly assigned flavonoids presented antioxidant
565 functions but droughted trees also presented higher significant foliar concentration of
566 catechin (Figure.2a,c) supporting thus the idea of also plant-induced defenses which are
567 not only produced by drought but also by higher herbivore attack rates.

568 It has been thus demonstrated that seasonal drought affected plant stoichiometry
569 and metabolism, and the indirect effect of experimental drought in folivory activity by
570 also shifting the metabolism (Figure.4). The further predicted severe and more repeated
571 droughts in the Mediterranean basin (IPCC 2007) may have thus an indirect impact on
572 trophic webs by shifting the consumption rates of herbivores due the foliar
573 stoichiometric and metabolomic shifts (Figure.4) conducting to more intensive and
574 extensive pest outbreaks and possible changes in the food distribution between
575 specialists and generalists herbivores (Kosonen et al., 2012)

576

577 **Conclusions.**

578 · Foliar N and P did not show significant shifts between year seasons; K did, and thus
579 showed its importance in naturally summer drought-stress. The insignificant variation of
580 N and P in *Q. ilex* may be explained by the buffering effect of lignotubers.

581 · Drought stress produced increases the concentrations of sugars and polyphenolic
582 compounds with antioxidant function in leaves of *Q. ilex*. Our results suggest that these
583 shifts turn stimulating the herbivore foliar consumption making thus that plants respond
584 also to herbivore attack by increasing polyphenolic compounds with defensive
585 functions.

586 · Coupling stoichiometric with metabolomic techniques have been proved to be useful
587 to show the molecular responses of plants to stresses such as drought and even more to
588 understand which mechanisms and functions underlay the plant responses and finally
589 allow to interpret further implications throughout trophic webs.

590

591 **Aknowledgments. (POSAR ELS PROJECTES QUE CONVINGUI)**

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593 laboratory support. Rivas-Ubach thanks the financial support from the research
594 fellowship (JAE) from the CSIC.

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676 **Figures**

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679 **Figure.1** PCA conducted with the elemental, stoichiometric and metabolomic variables
680 in *Q. ilex* leaves using PC1 versus PC2. (A). Panel of stoichiometric and metabolomic
681 variables. C/N/P/K ratios and Folivory are shown in red. Colors indicate different
682 metabolomic families: blue, sugars; green, amino acids; orange, RCAAS; cyan,
683 nucleotides; violet, phenolics; lightorange, non-polar metabolites; darkblue, NMR
684 overlapped signals; brown, terpenes. A number has been assigned to each metabolite
685 forming part of the NMR overlapped signals: Sucrose (Suc; 1), α -Glucose (α G; 2), β -
686 Glucose (β G; 3), Deoxy-Hexose (Deoxy-Hex), Hexose (Hex), Pentose (Pent),
687 Disaccharide (Disach), Aspartic acid (Asp.ac), Lactic acid (Lac.ac; 11), Succinic acid
688 (Succ.ac), Citric acid (Cit.ac; 4), Piruvate (Pir), Malic acid (Mal.ac), Gallic acid
689 (Gall.ac), Alanine (Ala; 5), Isoleucine (Ile; 6), Threonine (Thr), Valine (Val; 7), Leucine
690 (Leu), Phenilalanine (Phen), Proline (Pro), Arginine (Arg), Tryptophan (Trp), Tyrosine
691 (Tyr), Quercitol (Q.OH; 8), Quinic acid (Q.ac; 9), Choline (Chol; 10), Catechin (Cate),
692 Epicatechin (Epica), Epicallocatechin (Epiga), Homoorientin (Hom), Quercitin (Quer),
693 Rhamnetin (Rham), Kampferol (Kamp), Luteolin (Lut), Chlorogenic acid (Chlo.ac), N-
694 acetyl group (12), Polyphenol (Poly; 13), Phenolic group (Phe.gr), Pyridoxine (Pyri),
695 Caryophyllene (Caryo), α -Humulene (α Hum), Fatty acids (FA), Unsaturated fatty acids
696 (UFA), Polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA), Diacylglycerids (DGA), Triacylglycerid 1
697 (TGA1), Triacylglycerid 2 (TGA2) Aldehyd group (Ald), Acetyl group (Acetyl),
698 Linoleyl Fatty acid (Linoleyl FA), Polyphenol derived 1 (P.1), O1 – O10: NMR
699 overlapped signals: O1, 5+10+2+1; O2, 10+2+1; O3, 10+3+1; O4, 4+13; O5, 6+7; O6,
700 11+Unknown; O7, 11+12; O8, 8+9; O9, 8+9+2+3+1; and O10, 8+1, not assigned
701 metabolites are represented by small grey points. (B) Panel of samples categorized by
702 season and drought treatment. Seasons are indicated by different colors (green, spring;
703 red, summer; yellow, autumn; and blue, winter). Climatic treatment is indicated by
704 geometric figures: circles, controls; triangles, drought. The different black geometric
705 figures indicate the mean of PC1 vs. PC2 scores for treatments (control trees, circle and
706 droughted trees, cross). Arrows outside plots indicate the mean PC for each season
707 (color arrows) or treatment (black arrows). The statistically significant differences
708 between seasons were detected by Bonferroni post hoc tests and are indicated by letters
709 ($p < 0.05$).

710

711 **Figure.2** Plots of the PCAs conducted with the metabolomic and stoichiometric
712 variables of spring and summer seasons, (A) variables plot of spring season, (B) cases
713 plot of spring season, (C) variables plot of summer season and (D) cases plot of summer
714 season. C/N/P/K ratios and herbivorism are shown in red. Colors indicate different
715 metabolomic families: blue, sugars; green, amino acids; orange, RCAAS; cyan,
716 nucleotides; violet, phenolics; lightorange, non-polar metabolites; darkblue, NMR
717 overlapped signals; brown, terpenes; not assigned metabolites are represented by small
718 grey points. Variable labels are described in Figure.1. Control trees are indicated by
719 blue color and circles, and droughted trees are indicated by orange color and crosses.
720 Arrows outside plots indicate the mean PC for each treatment. The statistically
721 significant differences between seasons were detected by Bonferroni post hoc tests and
722 are indicated by letters ($p < 0.05$).

723

724 **Figure.3** Histograms of the total foliar concentration of amino acids (A), sugars (B) and
725 polyphenolics (C). Empty columns represent control plots and black columns represent

726 droughted plots. The statistically significant differences between seasons and treatments
727 were detected by Bonferroni post hoc tests ($p < 0.05$). Seasonal statistical differences
728 are indicated by different letters and climatic treatment statistical differences are
729 indicated by asterisks.

730

731 **Figure.4** PC1 scores of a PCA analysis excluding the folivory rates conducted with
732 summer metabolomic and stoichiometric data (Fig. S1) versus the foliar consumption
733 rates. Grey circles represent control trees and grey crosses represent droughted trees.
734 Black circle represents the mean of control trees \pm SE and black cross represents the
735 mean of droughted trees \pm SE.

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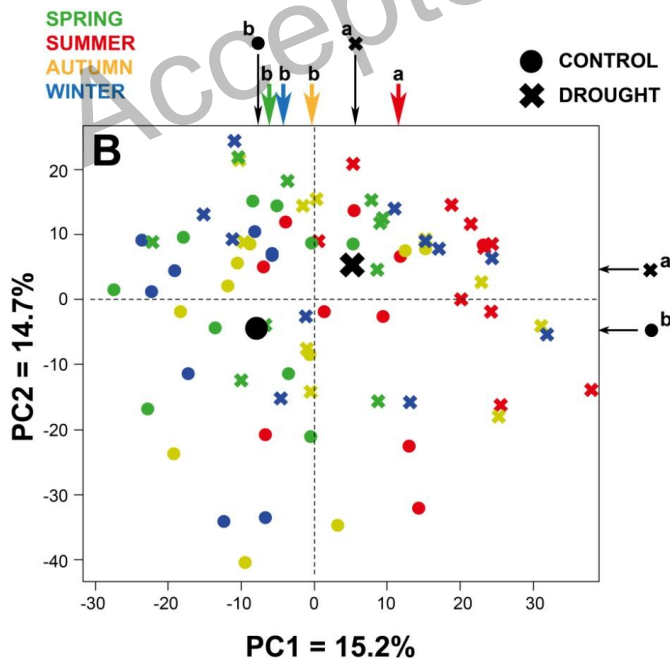
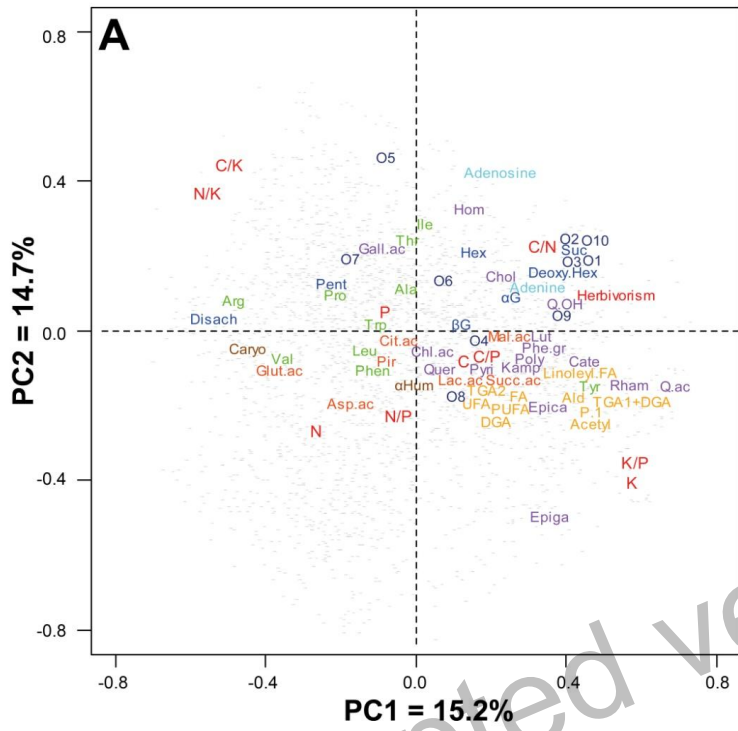
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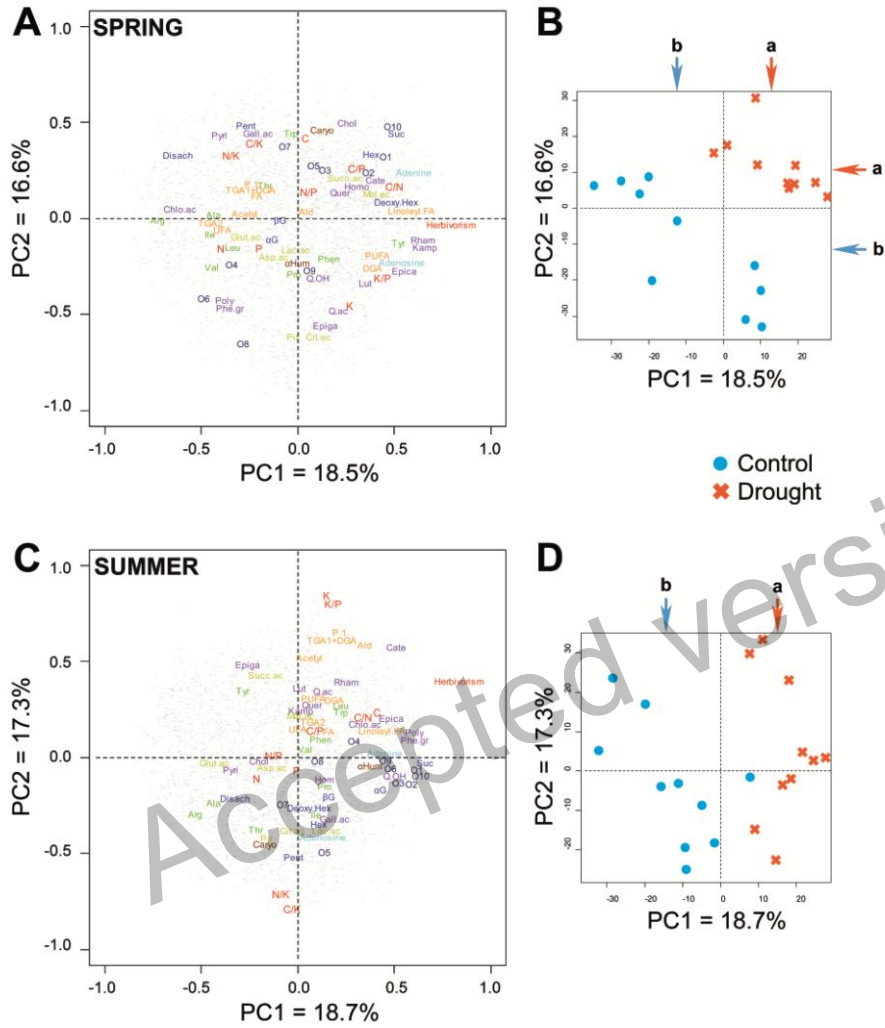
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Fig.1 (COLOR FIGURE)



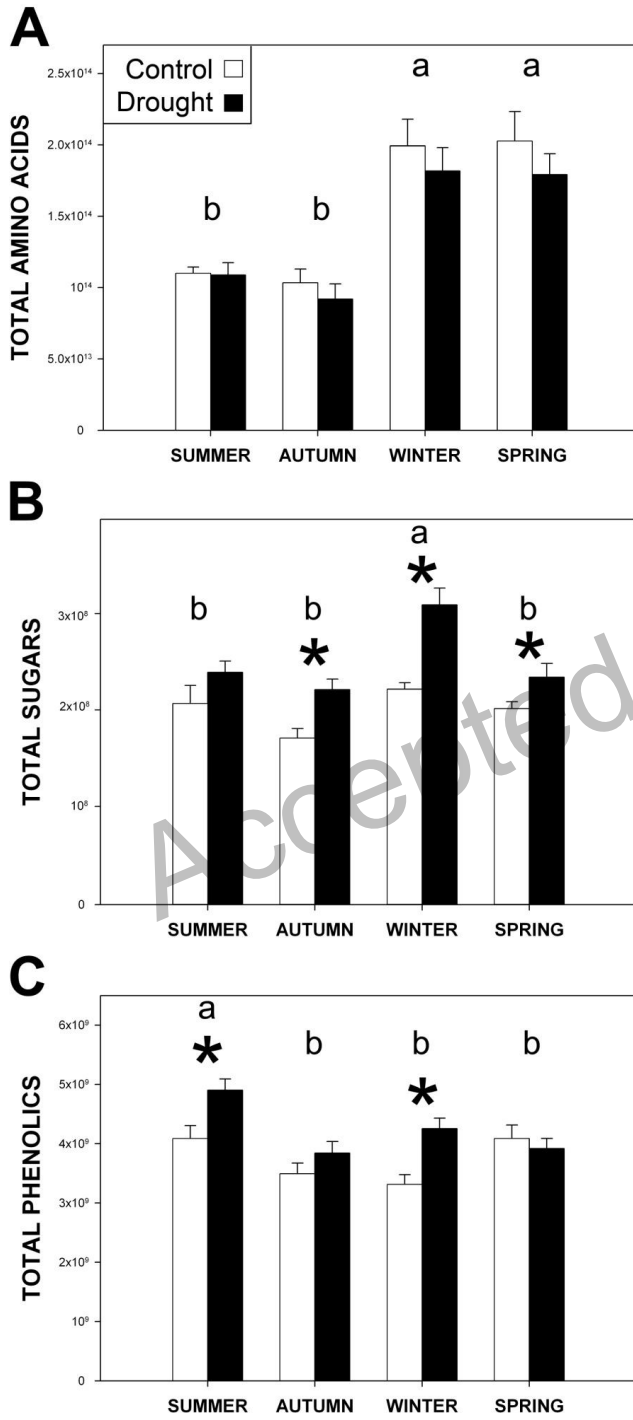
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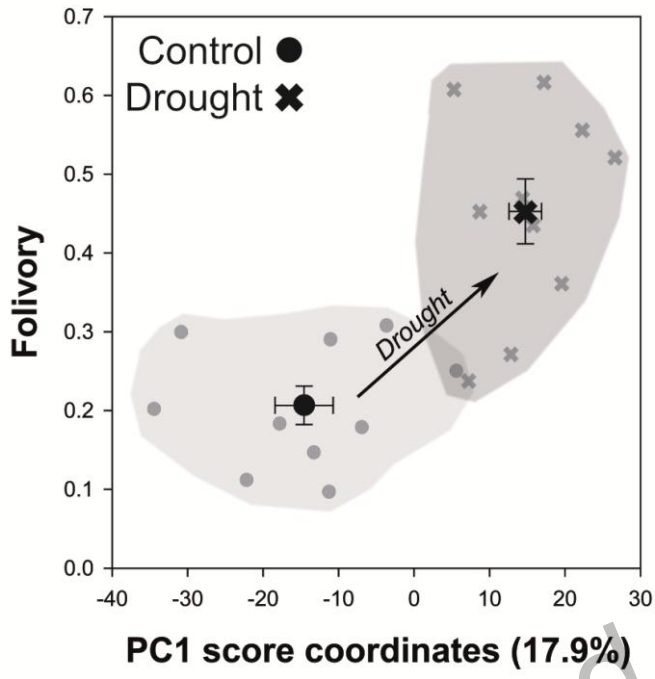
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794 Fig.3 (BLACK & WHITE FIGURE)
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797 Fig.4 (BLACK & WHITE FIGURE)
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814 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

815 RIVAS-UBACH et al., 2013 Global Change Biology

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839 **Chemical analyses**

840 *C and N analyses:* For each sample, 1.4 g of powder were weighted and introduced into
841 a tin microcapsule. C and N concentrations were determined by elemental analysis
842 using combustion coupled to gas chromatography with a CHNS-O Elemental Analyser
843 (EuroVector, Milan, Italy).

844 *P and K analyses:* The P and K analyses determination were performed using acid
845 digestion into microwave with high pressure and temperature control. Briefly, 250 mg
846 of leaf powder were weighted into a Teflon tube and 5mL of Nitric acid and 2mL of
847 H₂O₂ were added (7). A **MARSXpress** microwave (CEM, Mattheus, USA) was used to
848 perform the acid digestions; temperature was increased until 130° with a 10min ramp,
849 samples were maintained at this temperature for 5min, then a 10min ramp increases
850 temperature to 200°C and samples were maintained during 20min. To finish digestions
851 temperature was increased to 220°C with a 5min ramp and maintained for 20min more.

852 All the digested contents were put into 50 mL flasks and dissolved with Milli-Q
853 water until 50mL. After digestions, the P and K were determined by *Optima 2300RL*
854 ICP-OES (Optic Emission Spectrometry with Inductively Coupled Plasma) (The
855 Perkin-Elmer Corporation, Norwalk, USA).

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869 **NMR Elucidation.**

870 The polar and nonpolar metabolic profiles of *Quercus ilex* leaf are shown in Figure S1a
871 and S1B respectively and in Tables S1 and S2 of the supporting information. The
872 detailed ¹H NMR metabolic profile of the polar extract is shown in Figure S2. The
873 signals in the region between 3.2 and 5.9 ppm correspond mainly to sugars. Among
874 them, α-glucose and β-glucose, with anomeric proton resonances at 5.29 ppm (d, *J* = 3.8
875 Hz) and at 4.70 ppm (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz) respectively, were identified. The disaccharide
876 sucrose was also observed, with its characteristic anomeric proton doublet of the
877 glucose unit at 5.45 ppm (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz). The singlet at 3.19 ppm which correlates to
878 multiplets at 3.99 and 3.51 ppm via COSY (bonded respectively to carbon atoms at
879 53.8, 69.6 and 58.0 ppm correlates via HSQC) corresponds to choline, which is an
880 important osmolyte. In the aliphatic region between 2.2 and 1.7 ppm, the secondary
881 metabolites quinic acid and quercitol were identified, showing very intense signals.
882 Among amino acids, asparagine was identified, by the doublet corresponding to its H_α
883 carboxylic at 4.06 ppm (bonded to a carbon atom with 51.0 ppm chemical shift) and
884 which correlates via COSY two doublet of doublets signals, corresponding to the
885 protons of the methylene group at 2.93 and 2.99 ppm (bonded to a carbon atom at 34.5
886 ppm correlates via HSQC). Also glutamate, valine, alanine, isoleucine, and leucine were
887 identified. Some organic acids such as formic acid (sharp singlet at 8.50 ppm), malic
888 acid, citric acid, acetic acid and lactic acid were identified as well. The triplet at 1.33
889 ppm (t, *J* = 7.17 Hz), which correlates via COSY to a quartet at 4.36 ppm (t, *J* = 7.17
890 Hz), typically corresponds to N-acetyl group. Finally, signals at the 6.5 - 7.4 ppm
891 region, area mainly of aromatic compounds, were also observed. All the identifications
892 were based on the ¹H and ¹³C NMR complete or partial assignment of the molecules
893 based on 1D and 2D NMR experiments and on the comparison with reported data. For
894 the complete description see Table S1 of the Supporting Information.
895 Figure S1B shows the ¹H NMR metabolic profile of the nonpolar extracts. Saturated
896 and unsaturated fatty acid chains were identified, which come from free fatty acids,
897 fatty alcohols, diacylglycerols and triacylglycerols. Also, *p*-coumaric acid derivatives
898 were observed in the aromatic region. The complete description for nonpolar
899 metabolites is shown in Table S2 of the Supporting Information.

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902 **Table S1.** NMR assignments of the major metabolites in samples of H₂O/MeOH (1:1)
 903 extracts. Samples dissolved in D₂O (pH 6.0) and ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shifts
 904 referenced to TSP.

Metabolite				NMR chemical shift (d)			Assignment a, b, c
Id.	Name	Atom id.		¹ H		¹³ C	
		spect.	molec.	(ppm)	m, ^d J (Hz) ^e	(ppm)	
1	a-glucose ^{1,2,3}	1.1	1	5.292	d; 3,81	92.62	a [COSY, TOCSY, HSQC, HMBC], b, c
		1.2	2	-	-	-	
		1.3	3	3.68	m*	73.04	
		1.4	4	3.445	m*	70.45	
		1.5	5	3.879	m*	72.78	
		1.6	6	3.945	m*	61.2	
2	b-glucose ^{1,2,3}	2.1	1	4.699	d; 8,16	96.35	a [COSY, TOCSY, HSQC, HMBC], b, c
		2.2	2	3.294	dd; 9,3; 8,3	73.91	
		2.3	3	3.591	m*	77.04	
		2.4	4	*	*	*	
		2.5	5	3.529	m*	76.23	
		2.6	6	3.806	m*	61.5	
3	sucrose ^{1,2,4}	3.1	1	3.728	s	61.6	a [COSY, TOCSY, HSQC, HMBC], b, c
		3.2	2	*	*	*	
		3.3	3	4.256	d; 8,82	76.8	
		3.4	4	4.084	t; 8,69	74.42	
		3.5	5	3.941	m	81.76	
		3.6	6	3.865	d, 3,4	62.9	
		3.1'	1'	5.45	d; 3,78	92.66	
		3.2'	2'	3.613	m	71.48	
		3.3'	3'	3.816	t; 9,5	72.82	
		3.4'	4'	3.514	t; 9,4	72.78	
		3.5'	5'	3.881	m	69.68	
		3.6'	6'	3.858	d; 3,4	60.54	
4	alanine ^{1,2,4,6}	4.1	1	-	-	177.97	a [COSY, HSQC, HMBC], b, c
		4.2	2	3.842	*	52.51	
		4.3	3	1.525	d; 7,3	16.54	
5	isoleucine ^{1,2,4,5}	5.1	1	-	-	*/**	a [COSY, HSQC], b, c
		5.2	2	3.61	d*/**	*/**	
		5.3	3	1.998	m*/**	*/**	
		5.4	4	1.252	m	23.85	
		5.5	5	0.9348	t; 7,3	**	
		5.6	6	1.019	d*/**	*/**	
6	threonine ^{1,2,4,7}	6.1	1	-	-		a [COSY, HSQC], b, c
		6.2	2	3.58	*	*/**	
		6.3	3	4.25	m	66.32	
		6.4	4	1.3201	d; 6,40	20.61	
7	citrate ^{1,2,5}	7.1	1	-	*	*	a [COSY, HSQC], b, c
		7.2	2a	2.58	d*	45.6	

		7.3	2b	2.551	d*	45.6	
		7.4	3	-		*	
8	N-acetyl group	8.1	1	-	*	*	a [COSY]
		8.2	2	4.378	q; 7,12	*	
		8.3	3	1.352	t; 7,12	*	
9	quinic acid ^{10,11}	9.1	1	-	-	*	a [COSY, TOCSY, HSQC, HMBC], b, c
		9.2	2	-	-	77.49	
		9.3a	3a	1.996	dt; **	37.3	
		9.3b	3b	2.073	dd; **	37.3	
		9.4	4	4.182	dt; **	70.4	
		9.5	5	3.584	dd; **	63.9	
		9.6	6	4.042	m	63.1	
		9.7a	7a	1.898	dd; **	41.0	
		9.7b	7b	2.096	ddd; ***	41.0	
10	choline ^{1,14}	10.1	1	3.947	m	65	a [COSY, HSQC, HMBC], b, c
		10.2	2	3.514	m	64.7	
		10.3	3	3.214	s	65.6	
11	lactate ^{1,2,5}	11.1	1	-	*	*	a [COSY], b, c
		11.2	2	4.145	q*	69.1	
		11.3	3	1.341	d*	20.6	
12	Quercitol ¹⁷	12.1	1	3.774		68.75	a [COSY, TOCSY, HSQC, HMBC], b, c
		12.2	2	3.572	t;9,5	74.33	
		12.3	3	3.736		70.79	
		12.4	4	3.956		72.15	
		12.5	5	4.039		68.34	
		12.6a	6a	2.004	dt;13,9;3,36	33.2	
		12.6b	6b	1.819	td;13,9;3,36	33.2	
13	Lysine ^{1,2,3,19,21}	13.1		-	-	*	a [COSY, TOCSY, HSQC, HMBC], b, c
		13.2		*	*	*	
		13.3a		1.869	m	32.15	
		13.3b		*	*	32.15	
		13.4a		*	*	*	
		13.4b		*	*	*	
		13.5a		1.747	m	29.11	
		13.5b		*	*	29.11	
		13.6		3.0423	t;7,5	41.78	
14	Dimethylamine (DMA) ^{1,2}	14.1	1	2.7353	s	35.97	a [HSQC], b, c
		14.2	2	2.7353	s	35.97	
15	valine ^{1,2}	15.1	1	-	-	*	a [COSY], b, c
		15.2	2	3.61	d*	*	
		15.3	3	2.282	m	33.37	
		15.4a	4a	1.006	d*	17.62	
		15.4b	4b	1.054	d*	*	
16	acetic acid ¹⁸	16.1	1	1.9539	s	20.26	a, b, c
17	ethanol ^{19,21}	17.1	1	1.1957	t;7,0	19.40	a [COSY]
		17.2	2	3.6689	q;*	59.90	

	5'-AMP		H8	8.6038	s		
	methanol	15.1	1	3.3693	s	51.5	
	5'-ADP		H8	8.5527	s		
	NAD		A8/A2	8.472	s		
	formate ^{1, 2, 8, 16}	24.1	1	8.487	s	*	a,b,c

* Overlapped signal.

** Not enough signal.

^a From 1D ¹H NMR chemical shift and 2D ¹H-¹H and ¹H-¹³C NMR couplings.

^b Comparison with ¹H and ¹³C NMR data from references indicated.

^c Comparison with ¹H and ¹³C NMR data from the *Biological Magnetic Resonance Data Bank*.

(<http://www.bmrb.wisc.edu/>).¹⁷

^d Multiplicity: singlet (s), doublet (d), t (triplet), q (quartet), dd (doublet of doublets), dt (doublet of triplets), ddd (doublet of doublet of doublets), m (multiplet).

^e ¹H-¹H coupling constant.

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Accepted version

923 **Table S2.** NMR assignments of the major metabolites in samples of chloroform
 924 extracts. Samples dissolved in CDCl₃ and ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shifts referenced
 925 to the residual solvent peak.

NMR Peak/Spectral Region			Assignment ¹⁸⁻²⁴	
d ¹ H (ppm)	m, J (Hz)	d ¹³ C (ppm)	id. spect.	metabolite (atom id.)/group
0,864-0,899	t	14.11	A	-CH ₃ ; FA ^a chains
0,934-0,963	t	14.38	B	-CH ₃ ; Linoleyl FA chains
1,235-1,272	br	29,05-29,90	C	-CH ₂ ; FA chains
1.371	t; 7,2	13.84		CH ₃ -CH ₂ -OR; acetyl group
1.569	m	33.52		HO-CH ₂ -CH ₂ - ; FAI
1,582-1,638	m	24.98	D	-CO-CH ₂ -CH ₂ - ; FA chains
2,018-2,099	m	26.95	E	=CH-CH ₂ - ; UFA ^b chains
2,242-2,365	t	34.28	F	-CO-CH ₂ - ; FA chains
2,330-2,364	t	33.92	G	-CO-CH ₂ - ; FFA ^f
2.76	*	25.6		=CH-CH ₂ -CH=; linoeoyl and linolenyl chain
2,784-2,826	m	25.67	H	=CH-CH ₂ -CH= ; PUFA ^g chains
3.630	t	63.12		HO-CH ₂ - ; FAI
4.371	q; 7,2	61.65		CH ₃ -CH ₂ -OR; acetyl group
3.746	dd	68.38	I	-CH ₂ OH; 1,2-DGA ^d
3.889	dd	68.38	I	-CH ₂ OH; 1,2-DGA
4.153	dd	62.07	I	-CH ₂ O-; TGA-1 ^e
4.210	dd	62.7	I	-CH ₂ O-; 1,2-DGA
4.290	dd	62.07	I	-CH ₂ O-; TGA-1
4.389	dd	62.7	I	-CH ₂ O-; 1,2-DGA
4.493	dd	61.58	I	-CH ₂ O-; TGA-2 ^f
5.114	*	72.08	J	-CHO-; TGA-2
5.264	*	68.85	K	-CHO-; TGA-1
5,294-5,417	m	127,70-132,00	L	-CH= ; UFA chains
5.310	*	70.18	M	-CHO-; 1,2-DAG
6.293	d; 16,0	116.28	N	PCAD-2 ¹ (2)
6.833	d; 8,5	115.8	N	PCAD-2 (6/8)
7.431	d; 8,5	129.91	N	PCAD-2 (5/9)
7.598	d; 16,0	143.85	N	PCAD-2 (3)
-		166.86		PCAD-2 (1)
-		127.05		PCAD-2 (4)
-		157.4		PCAD-2 (7)

a.Unknown 1; b.FA: Fatty Acid; c.Unknown 2; d.FAI: Fatty Alcohol; e.UFA: Unsaturated Fatty Acid; f.FFA: Free Fatty Acid; g.PUFA: Polyunsaturated Fatty Acid; h.1,2-DGA: 1,2-Diacylglycerol; i.TGA-1: Triacylglycerol 1; j.TGA-2: Triacylglycerol 2; k.PCAD-1: *p*-Coumaric Acid Derivative 1; l.PCAD-2: *p*-Coumaric Acid Derivative 2.
 * Overlapped signal.

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927 **Table S3.** LC-MS Chromatogram Processing. Chromatograms obtained by LC-MS
 928 Orbitrap were processed by MzMine 2.0 (Pluskal et al., 2010). The following table
 929 resumes the different process and parameters applied to foliar *Q. ilex* chromatograms.

	(+H) Chromatograms	(-H) Chromatograms
1 BaseLine correction	Chromatogram Type	TIC
	MS Level	1
	Smoothing	10E7
	Asymetry	0.001
2 Mass detection (Exact Mass)	Noise Level	5×10^5
		4×10^5
3 Chromatogram builder	Min time span	0.05
	Min Height	25000
	m/z tolerance	0.002
4 Smoothing	Filter width	5
5 Chromatogram deconvolution (Local minimum Search)	Chromatographic threshold	65%
	Search minimum in RT range (min)	0.1
	Minimum relative height	5.0%
	Minimum absolute height	30000
	Min ratio of peak top/edge	2
	Peak duration range	0.0 – 2.0
		0.0 – 2.0
6 Chromatogram alignment (join alignment)	m/z tolerance	0.001
	weight for m/z	80
	RT tolerance	0.15
	Weight for RT	20
7 Gap Filling (Peak Finder)	Intensity Tolerance	20%
	m/z tolerance	0.001
	Retention time tolerance	0.1
	RT correction	marked
8 Filtering	Minimum peaks in a Row	8
Ions Excluded from Database	< 75	<85
	83.05	119.035
	102.05	223.082
	114.09	391.196
	227.17	159.25
	607.29	186.186
	Between 0.0 and 1 minute	Between 0.0 and 1,1 minute
	Between 28.5 and 30 minutes	Between 27.0 and 30 minutes

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934 **Table S4.** Metabolite assignation by LC-MS. The assignation of metabolites was done
 935 by standards. The following table resume the retention time (RT) and mass (m/z) of the
 936 assigned metabolites in both ionization modes positive and negative.

Mode	Compound	RT (min)	m/z
Negative	Catechin	3.44	289.0718
Negative	Chlorogenic acid	3.11	353.0873
Negative	Citric acid	1.77	191.0196
Negative	Deoxy-Hexose	1.42	163.0618
Negative	Disacharide	1.43	341.108
Negative	Epicatechin	4.93 - 5.2	289.0713
Negative	Epigallocatechin	1.54 - 2.64	305.0667
Negative	Gallic acid	1.55 - 1.83	169.0147
Negative	Hexose	1.44	179.056
Negative	Homoorientin	9.45	447.0923
Negative	Kampferol	14.82	285.0404
Negative	Lactic acid	1.52; 1.75	89.0245
Negative	Malic acid	1.51; 1.78	133.0143
Negative	Pentose	1.43	149.0456
Negative	Piruvate	1.65	87.0089
Negative	Quercitin	13.72	301.0355
Negative	Quinic acid	1.47	191.056
Negative	Rhamnetin	15.98	315.0509
Negative	Sodium Salicylate	10.51	137.0245
Negative	Succinic acid	1.74; 1.78	117.0194
Positive	Adenine	1.42; 1.77	136.0614
Positive	Adenosine	1.49; 1.75	268.1038
Positive	a-Humulene	20.27	205.1949
Positive	Alanine	1.43	90.054
Positive	Arginine	1.34	175.119
Positive	Aspartic acid	1.5	134.044
Positive	Caryophyllene	21.46	221.1899
Positive	Catechin	3.44	291.0863
Positive	Chlorogenic acid	3.11	355.084
Positive	Epigallocatechin	1.54 - 2.64	307.0812
Positive	Glutamic acid	1.41	148.0604
Positive	Glutamine	1.46	147.076
Positive	Kaempferol	14.82	287.0552
Positive	Leucine	1.76	132.101
Positive	Luteolin	13.68	287.0551
Positive	Phenilalanine	1.91	166.086
Positive	Proline	1.49	116.07
Positive	Pyridoxine	1.38	170.0812
Positive	Quercitin	13.72	303.0498
Positive	Rhamnetin	15.95	317.0653
Positive	Tryptofan	2.49	205.097
Positive	Tyrosine	1.54 - 1.77	182.081
Positive	Valine	1.53	118.086

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942 **Table S5.** One-way ANOVAs of all stoichiometry and assigned metabolites extracted
943 from *Q. ilex* leaves for seasons (Spring, Autumn, Winter, Spring). For the RMN
944 variables, marked by asterisks (*), integral mean value (mM respect initial TSP or TMS
945 concentration (0.01%). For the LC-MS variables, marked by crosses (†), integral mean
946 value of deconvoluted total intensities.

Variable	SEASON				F	p_value
	SUMMER	AUTUMN	WINTER	SPRING		
C/N (mg/gr)	42.29829 ^a	39.16987 ^b	42.18622 ^a	43.55859 ^a	3.58477	0.017607
N/P (mg/gr)	13.62614	12.90552	13.58659	12.65678	1.11242	0.349497
C/P (mg/gr)	571.9214 ^a	502.6113 ^b	570.9746 ^a	550.5556 ^{ab}	2.84708	0.043165
C/K (mg/gr)	77.1155 ^b	84.7965 ^b	116.2141 ^a	109.6029 ^a	9.68552	0.000018
K/P (mg/gr)	7.869561 ^a	6.490965 ^b	5.374841 ^b	5.393000 ^b	6.07256	0.000932
N/K (mg/gr)	1.856670 ^d	2.202410 ^{cd}	2.785448 ^{ab}	2.533329 ^{bc}	6.69686	0.000458
N (mg/gr)	11.88250 ^b	12.97053 ^a	11.96500 ^b	11.59750 ^b	4.61285	0.005130
P (mg/gr)	0.885445 ^b	1.033817 ^a	0.892095 ^b	0.930850 ^b	4.13922	0.009028
K (mg/gr)	6.862471 ^a	6.437835 ^a	4.656478 ^b	4.922463 ^b	8.64768	0.000053
C (mg/gr)	496.7660 ^b	501.5189 ^a	501.2745 ^a	501.2185 ^a	2.54490	0.062412
aG *	6.017010	5.627649	5.823781	6.496155	1.04830	0.376300
BG *	4.150334 ^b	4.488954 ^{ab}	4.179343 ^b	5.279338 ^a	3.53452	0.018712
Suc *	8.975502 ^a	5.342097 ^b	7.530463 ^a	4.695855 ^b	10.77758	0.000006
Deoxy-Hex †	11312267 ^a	10177827 ^{ab}	9503434 ^{bc}	8283399 ^c	5.24351	0.002438
Hex †	83095558 ^b	67722637 ^b	122136094 ^a	79844162 ^b	8.52596	0.000061
Pent †	6887232 ^b	7031891 ^b	8693196 ^a	6937933 ^b	3.27374	0.025675
Disach †	14132326 ^c	22054521 ^b	26564959 ^a	30164246 ^a	26.29805	0.000000
Ile *	0.800511 ^{ab}	0.606389 ^b	0.931038 ^a	0.727391 ^b	3.71506	0.015041
Thr *	0.437575 ^{ab}	0.325627 ^b	0.441336 ^a	0.376471 ^{ab}	4.00130	0.010654
Ala †	3567865 ^a	2011520 ^d	2927839 ^{ab}	2775083 ^b	6.76460	0.000424
Val †	7.486852E+13 ^b	7.411317E+13 ^b	1.522798E+14 ^a	1.600834E+14 ^a	23.08100	0.000000
Leu †	10421698 ^b	8477753 ^b	23590504 ^a	11044350 ^b	36.63706	0.000000
Phen †	9931861 ^b	16308864 ^b	30909308 ^a	26103989 ^a	16.71035	0.000000
Pro †	3865724 ^c	5529905 ^c	10163191 ^b	14756314 ^a	13.30101	0.000000
Arg †	1761996	2530282	3002304	2594525	1.27475	0.289214
Trp †	7733855 ^b	1136389 ^b	94926108 ^a	11048345 ^b	63.73468	0.000000
Tyr †	2071404 ^a	1457088 ^b	2042432 ^a	628666 ^c	12.04537	0.000002
Adenine †	5498695 ^b	4228099 ^b	9963002 ^a	4429600 ^b	3.56145	0.018111
Adenosine †	18420795 ^a	10891533 ^b	10847325 ^b	11418633 ^b	2.98152	0.036640
Choline †	1.540490 ^a	1.043819 ^b	1.295577 ^{ab}	1.471539 ^{ab}	1.64612	0.185925
Quercitol *	27.25285	24.22621	24.74710	25.69583	0.78888	0.503864
Polyphenol *	15.39138 ^a	11.97778 ^b	15.74066 ^a	14.14173 ^{ab}	2.95328	0.037923
Phenolyc group *	21.28824 ^a	16.30085 ^b	22.17597 ^a	19.24353 ^{ab}	3.08414	0.032335
Quinic acid †	1.531992E+09 ^a	1.290526E+09 ^b	1.113824E+09 ^c	1.116493E+09 ^c	10.83631	0.000005
Catechin †	1.953379E+09 ^a	1.541045E+09 ^b	1.696778E+09 ^b	1.957675E+09 ^a	5.56307	0.001679
Chlorogenic acid †	86723.69	82417.51	93842.30	88329.01	0.05330	0.983657
Epicatechin †	3887947	2982179	2703103	2438935	1.03349	0.382744
Epigallocatechin †	42592593	47130408	36217531	35222684	1.53078	0.213484
Gallic acid †	3790056	3212265	3511846	3789569	0.81244	0.490959
Homoorientin †	63611951	55919822	55675633	57063388	0.82253	0.485512
Kampferol †	25974094	22547824	22040560	26668875	1.05755	0.372323
Luteolin †	140290.3 ^a	47045.9 ^b	73569.5 ^b	112639.2 ^a	4.36493	0.006892
Pyridoxine †	697662.3 ^a	172048.3 ^b	343072.7 ^b	206236.2 ^b	5.93158	0.001096
Quercetin †	8599422	8508000	9478483	8926141	0.30910	0.818735
Rhamnetin †	5939953	4893556	5395996	4495051	0.56062	0.642668
Asp.ac †	5210008 ^c	7241072 ^b	7503356 ^b	9116571 ^a	12.35343	0.000001
Lac.ac †	6369585	6621801	6110383	6424977	0.45129	0.717134
Succ.ac †	16570697 ^a	12678641 ^b	15682285 ^a	17165800 ^a	3.85842	0.012653
Cit.ac †	158063505 ^b	223779176 ^a	135408263 ^b	147593431 ^b	14.86171	0.000000
Glut.ac †	30798422 ^b	41275713 ^{ab}	33262197 ^b	50578093 ^a	5.15844	0.002694
Pir †	10597297 ^b	14067267 ^a	11211737 ^b	9607654 ^b	6.99700	0.000326
Mal.ac †	288704758 ^{ab}	266570535 ^b	228916618 ^c	301694902 ^a	7.49909	0.000186

a-Humulene	1506341	b	2605868	b	9315889	a	2894857	b	5.20789	0.002542
Caryophyllene	31458.1	b	262900.0	ab	385043.0	a	304277.0	a	2.96437	0.037414
Overlapping1 *	43.43188	a	31.36382	b	38.04842	a	30.10467	b	5.55420	0.001683
Overlapping2 *	11.12391		9.68886		10.23706		9.25318		1.47215	0.228837
Overlapping3 *	12.12945	a	9.24635	d	11.22037	abc	10.07431	cd	3.73908	0.014556
Overlapping4 *	3.051565	a	2.270426	c	3.490667	b	2.933038	a	7.78369	0.000134
Overlapping5 *	0.432328	ab	0.314493	b	0.485281	a	0.424704	ab	2.35644	0.078432
Overlapping6 *	2.263595	ab	1.949481	b	2.497122	a	2.061469	ab	2.08579	0.109099
Overlapping7 *	0.406019	b	0.400394	b	0.555244	a	0.502439	ab	3.21761	0.027410
Overlapping8 *	15.11812		13.89496		13.14657		15.23863		1.00354	0.395996
Overlapping9 *	19.20380		16.80289		17.58093		18.05957		0.95513	0.418413
Overlapping10 *	12.41667	a	8.81738	bc	11.00373	abc	8.87950	bc	5.00243	0.003215
UFA *	22.74433	b	27.29784	a	17.95084	c	23.60898	b	6.57121	0.000522
TGA2 *	5.447353	bc	6.747529	a	4.312369	c	5.568492	b	5.83152	0.001219
TGA1+DGA *	2.546622	a	1.237474	b	1.187863	b	1.532120	b	13.31292	0.000000
PUFA *	8.631549	a	9.566383	a	5.288433	b	9.476447	a	18.50884	0.000000
P *	3.755380	a	2.835052	b	1.839125	c	2.868086	b	8.76008	0.000046
Linoleyl FA *	7.683955	a	7.735614	a	5.941504	b	7.695507	a	4.10045	0.009415
FA *	116.2851	ab	129.7729	a	106.1379	b	107.6017	b	3.21462	0.027510
DGA *	13.18280	a	14.18169	a	8.40722	b	14.29089	a	15.86459	0.000000
Ald *	0.432162	a	0.399634	a	0.268933	b	0.318003	b	6.75223	0.000425
Acetyl *	6.316552	a	4.948125	b	4.383811	b	5.384305	ab	4.51887	0.005705
Herbivorism	0.329726	a	0.265019	a	0.368654	a	0.284742	a	1.89654	0.137305

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963 **Table S6.** One-way ANOVAs of all stoichiometry and assigned metabolites extracted
 964 from *Q. ilex* leaves for treatments (Control, Drought) with data from all seasons. For the
 965 RMN variables, marked by asterisks (*), integral mean value (mM respect initial TSP or
 966 TMS concentration (0.01%). For the LC-MS variables, marked by crosses (†), integral
 967 mean value of deconvoluted total intensities.
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	(ALL YEAR) TREATMENT				F	p
	CONTROL		DROUGHT			
C/N	40.84257	b	42.85607	a	4.04553	0.047788
N/P	13.48905		12.89829		1.62914	0.205659
C/P	548.2077		551.0343		0.02034	0.886955
C/K	98.65126		95.48032		0.20098	0.655192
K/P	6.124151		6.438726		0.35378	0.553726
N/K	2.429144		2.261255		0.94057	0.335168
N	12.32400		11.85590		2.58445	0.112011
P	0.927450		0.941341		0.15366	0.696148
K	5.549705		5.875869		0.58808	0.445507
C	498.1220	b	502.2862	a	8.66700	0.004282
aG	5.437045	b	6.568781	a	10.93840	0.001433
BG	4.295323		4.760449		2.53508	0.115439
Suc	4.840646	b	8.510523	a	40.47144	0.000000
Deoxy-Hex	9279617	b	10363487	a	3.35992	0.070667
Hex	77861033	b	99328335	a	5.82383	0.018188
Pent	7345000		7440337		0.03515	0.851776
Disach	23872520		22599121		0.44361	0.507375
Ile	0.699775	b	0.838697	a	3.67636	0.058898
Thr	0.408277		0.383679		0.72229	0.398030
Ala	3017774		2639069		1.99605	0.161739
Val	1.229186E+14		1.086165E+14		1.14476	0.287990
Leu	12616352		14296263		0.91341	0.342202
Phen	18206920	b	23602431	a	3.46258	0.066590
Pro	8482520		8755692		0.02748	0.868762
Arg	3120388	a	1806060	b	8.83947	0.003934
Trp	23320247		34947376		1.28109	0.261209
Tyr	1329974	b	1777840	a	3.79370	0.055091
Adenine	3237191	b	8940312	a	17.73076	0.000068
Adenosine	13303293		12526731		0.12016	0.729804
Choline	1.209234		1.477316		2.43858	0.122484
Quercitol	22.91172	b	28.14730	a	14.51730	0.000278
Polyphenol	13.49634	b	15.21025	a	2.91242	0.091930
Phenolyc group	18.03568	b	21.60112	a	5.76095	0.018802
Quinic acid	1.237052E+09		1.289336E+09		0.54184	0.463907
Catechin	1.640474E+09	b	1.944040E+09	a	12.05120	0.000852
Chlorogenic acid	88017.60		87772.54		0.00015	0.990310
Epicatechin	2765944		3246753		0.58999	0.444773
Epigallocatechin	43916566	a	36396699	b	2.79446	0.098650
Gallic acid	3728851		3428421		0.98913	0.323070
Homoorientin	53809793	b	62489855	a	4.62151	0.034713
Kampferol	23043107		25650127		1.29770	0.258166
Luteolin	90516.89		97517.36		0.11088	0.740054
Pyridoxine	447097.6	a	264729.2	b	2.93551	0.090675
Quercitin	7963006	b	9825966	a	6.09596	0.015765
Rhamnetin	4830741		5547896		0.73926	0.392566
Asp.ac	7682559		6842992		2.36981	0.127801
Lac.ac	6184678		6577590		1.63022	0.205510
Succ.ac	14838437		16300829		1.93747	0.167951
Cit.ac	175769858	a	154931129	b	2.83074	0.096527

Glut.ac	41941804		35880529		2.05088	0.156165
Pir	11980111		10677113		2.74878	0.101398
Mal.ac	267766088		275398005		0.33713	0.563188
a-Humulene	3037257		5188794		1.65242	0.202483
Caryophyllene	321757.2	a	167701.9	b	2.87427	0.094046
Overlapping1	27.50030	b	43.97410	a	57.15315	0.000000
Overlapping2	8.06413	b	12.08737	a	65.29019	0.000000
Overlapping3	8.94536	b	12.38988	a	36.19355	0.000000
Overlapping4	2.811879		3.060969		1.51780	0.221654
Overlapping5	0.374319	b	0.454084	a	2.83613	0.096164
Overlapping6	2.071991		2.313843		2.04606	0.156595
Overlapping7	0.460949		0.471099		0.05271	0.819017
Overlapping8	15.03701		13.66212		1.89619	0.172445
Overlapping9	16.00664	b	19.81695	a	16.43988	0.000118
Overlapping10	7.74314	b	12.81551	a	66.89548	0.000000
UFA	23.52921		22.27179		0.57681	0.449854
TGA2	5.721362		5.316509		0.81310	0.369983
TGA1+DGA	1.601675		1.650365		0.05315	0.818272
PUFA	8.245113		8.236293		0.00021	0.988454
P	2.757615		2.891207		0.19493	0.660067
Linoleyl FA	7.024638		7.503652		1.08310	0.301221
FA	115.5635		114.3353		0.03754	0.846876
DGA	12.46900		12.56230		0.01125	0.915819
Ald	0.336018		0.373348		1.39237	0.241591
Acetyl	5.241531		5.274866		0.00657	0.935597
Herbivorism	0.239194	b	0.384876	a	23.07889	0.000007

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984 **Table S7.** One-way ANOVAs of all stoichiometry and assigned metabolites extracted
 985 from *Q. ilex* leaves for treatments (Control, Drought) for spring season. For the RMN
 986 variables, marked by asterisks (*), integral mean value (mM respect initial TSP or TMS
 987 concentration (0.01%). For the LC-MS variables, marked by crosses (†), integral mean
 988 value of deconvoluted total intensities.
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	(SPRING) TREATMENT		F	p
	CONTROL	DROUGHT		
C/N	42.13999	44.97719	2.88940	0.106379
N/P	12.51845	12.79511	0.12874	0.723914
C/P	524.2908	576.8204	2.08225	0.166197
C/K	106.8274	112.3785	0.15283	0.700433
K/P	5.310746	5.475253	0.05085	0.824125
N/K	2.555357	2.511301	0.01736	0.896624
N	11.97600	11.21900	2.69176	0.118226
P	0.961484	0.900215	0.89784	0.355911
K	5.061831	4.783095	0.20510	0.656050
C	499.6720	502.7650	1.12580	0.302704
aG	6.663098	6.329213	0.28998	0.596831
BG	5.244602	5.314074	0.01207	0.913728
Suc	4.204184 b	5.187526 a	4.55348	0.046864
Deoxy-Hex	7904360	8662437	0.57054	0.459815
Hex	65242324 b	94446000 a	3.81013	0.066679
Pent	6536739	7339127	1.02193	0.325459
Disach	31365468	28963024	0.58868	0.452878
Ile	0.778965	0.675817	1.10134	0.307858
Thr	0.383486	0.369456	0.11490	0.738561
Ala	3080988	2469177	1.74753	0.202742
Val	1.701922E+14	1.499746E+14	0.67852	0.420878
Leu	11827592	10261108	1.13914	0.299941
Phen	24766576	27441401	0.24506	0.626562
Pro	17157745	12354883	1.15379	0.296946
Arg	3105428	2083622	1.32647	0.264502
Trp	8570908	13525781	1.52197	0.233188
Tyr	523316.7	734016.0	1.77800	0.199026
Adenine	2350238 b	6508963 a	6.36123	0.021303
Adenosine	12515700	10321567	0.27156	0.608637
Choline	1.030264 b	1.912814 a	5.05701	0.037287
Quercitol	27.24363	24.14804	2.07703	0.166702
Polyphenol	17.10965 a	11.17381 b	16.25200	0.000783
Phenolyc group	23.47285 a	15.01421 b	19.26894	0.000353
Quinic acid	1.224914E+09 a	1.008072E+09 b	4.64068	0.045019
Catechin	1.820540E+09	2.094809E+09	1.79155	0.197399
Chlorogenic acid	121371.1 b	55286.9 a	5.67969	0.028387
Epicatechin	2443714	2434155	0.00014	0.990802
Epigallocatechin	39292016	31153353	1.42901	0.247438
Gallic acid	3975557	3603580	0.43490	0.517944
Homoorientin	53188447	60938330	0.82319	0.376236
Kampferol	24826282	28511468	0.60366	0.447276
Luteolin	135093.3	90185.1	0.78247	0.388052
Pyridoxine	203383.2	209089.2	0.00725	0.933090
Quercitin	7591675	10260606	2.85583	0.108288
Rhamnetin	4580448	4409654	0.02095	0.886514
Asp.ac	10336980 a	7896162 b	4.87660	0.040434
Lac.ac	6650317	6199636	0.49327	0.491455
Succ.ac	15443406	18888193	2.20263	0.155076
Cit.ac	164267024	130919838	2.97362	0.101762

Glut.ac	53688341		47467846		0.67814	0.421006
Pir	10730868		8484440		1.60898	0.220795
Mal.ac	294997176		308392627		0.77799	0.389382
a-Humulene	3430045		2359669		0.64010	0.434108
Caryophyllene	222886.7		385667.2		0.95832	0.340584
Overlapping1	27.88787	b	32.32146	a	3.09087	0.095724
Overlapping2	8.745718		9.760637		2.17383	0.157652
Overlapping3	9.72601		10.42262		0.56357	0.462529
Overlapping4	3.390062	a	2.476015	b	5.72069	0.027892
Overlapping5	0.391762		0.457645		0.93632	0.346048
Overlapping6	2.629504	a	1.493434	b	13.83636	0.001568
Overlapping7	0.451908		0.552970		0.88695	0.358773
Overlapping8	19.63276	a	10.84450	b	33.38865	0.000018
Overlapping9	19.25143		16.86770		2.15477	0.159385
Overlapping10	7.60305	b	10.15596	a	8.37474	0.009672
UFA	24.29475		22.92321		0.60755	0.445839
TGA2	5.768940		5.368044		0.56792	0.460830
TGA1+DGA	1.606155		1.458085		0.71968	0.407388
PUFA	9.361127		9.591766		0.17339	0.682036
P	2.949732		2.786440		0.25368	0.620603
Linoleyl FA	7.394525		7.996490		1.32084	0.265484
FA	107.4735		107.7300		0.00156	0.968890
DGA	14.14589		14.43590		0.13253	0.720067
Ald	0.325804		0.310202		0.16006	0.693811
Acetyl	5.571168		5.197442		1.14426	0.298889
Herbivorism	0.231760		0.337723		2.83447	0.109524

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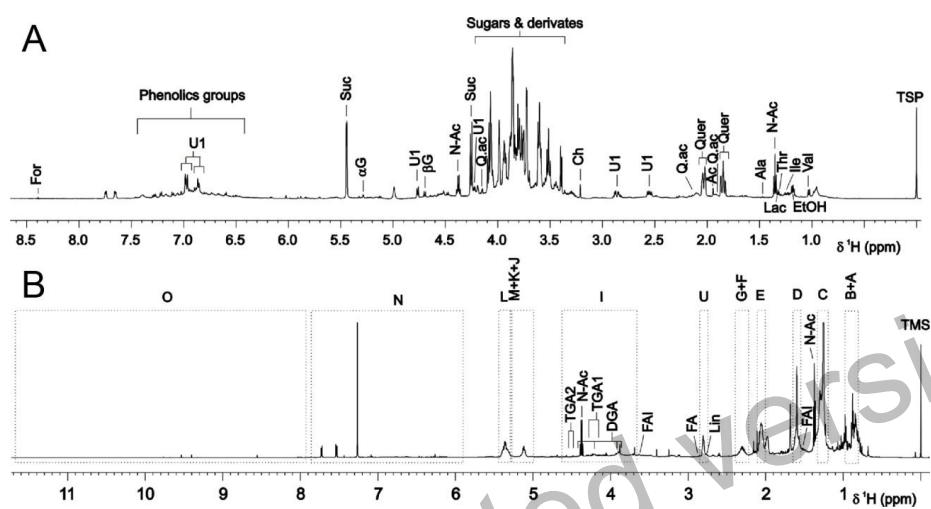
1006 **Table S8.** One-way ANOVAs of all stoichiometry and assigned metabolites extracted
 1007 from *Q. ilex* leaves for treatments (Control, Drought) for summer season. For the RMN
 1008 variables, marked by asterisks (*), integral mean value (mM respect initial TSP or TMS
 1009 concentration (0.01%). For the LC-MS variables, marked by crosses (†), integral mean
 1010 value of deconvoluted total intensities.
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	(SUMMER) TREATMENT			
	CONTROL	DROUGHT	F	p
C/N	41.66038	42.93619	0.34966	0.561660
N/P	13.77995	13.47232	0.09652	0.759615
C/P	569.3676	574.4752	0.01958	0.890258
C/K	81.59398	72.63693	1.07595	0.313341
K/P	7.235808	8.503313	1.55022	0.229069
N/K	1.969276	1.744063	0.86426	0.364851
N	11.97600	11.78900	0.09529	0.761102
P	0.880722	0.890169	0.02510	0.875882
K	6.317420	7.407521	1.84736	0.190877
C	494.0180 b	499.5140 a	3.65572	0.071929
aG	5.233182 b	6.800838 a	4.70655	0.043682
BG	4.007798	4.292870	0.33796	0.568219
Suc	6.52583 b	11.42518 a	21.92706	0.000185
Deoxy-Hex	11665376	10959158	0.42219	0.524053
Hex	84067267	82123850	0.01415	0.906632
Pent	7127894	6646569	0.32928	0.573187
Disach	15342556	12922096	2.77051	0.113326
Ile	0.744576	0.856447	0.37981	0.545423
Thr	0.500795	0.374355	2.99581	0.100586
Ala	4158994 a	2976737 b	5.07479	0.036992
Val	7.523658E+13	7.450046E+13	0.00411	0.949575
Leu	8918857	11924538	1.70889	0.207583
Phen	8742734	11120989	0.71659	0.408379
Pro	3580016	4151432	0.53599	0.473527
Arg	2477675 a	1046317 b	7.68947	0.012541
Trp	5981268	9486441	1.55074	0.228994
Tyr	2093373	2049436	0.00983	0.922129
Adenine	2826604 a	8170786 b	4.40172	0.050284
Adenosine	21049369	15792222	1.09683	0.308822
Choline	1.764591	1.316388	1.54677	0.229567
Quercitol	23.21481 b	31.29090 a	6.48586	0.020237
Polyphenol	12.98213 b	17.80063 a	6.58725	0.019415
Phenolyc group	17.21579 b	25.36068 a	10.23488	0.004971
Quinic acid	1.484741E+09	1.579244E+09	0.52287	0.478912
Catechin	1.734808E+09 b	2.171950E+09 a	7.92429	0.011462
Chlorogenic acid	43031.3 b	130416.1 a	3.01184	0.099746
Epicatechin	2170140 b	5605754 a	3.28101	0.086807
Epigallocatechin	47459630	37725555	1.47933	0.239589
Gallic acid	3909556	3670557	0.11656	0.736744
Homoorientin	61644091	65579812	0.28566	0.599558
Kampferol	25383765	26564422	0.06162	0.806765
Luteolin	136963.8	143616.8	0.01792	0.894986
Pyridoxine	1005105 a	390220 b	3.44019	0.080084
Quercitin	7823142	9375702	0.77178	0.391244
Rhamnetin	5209374	6670531	0.47712	0.498542
Asp.ac	5597393	4822622	1.13350	0.301104
Lac.ac	6191870	6547300	0.27299	0.607707
Succ.ac	17165656	15975739	0.42050	0.524873
Cit.ac	157678450	158448559	0.00167	0.967844

Glut.ac	37458234		24138609		2.05407	0.168942
Pir	10913495		10281099		0.16723	0.687411
Mal.ac	277676155		299733361		1.19513	0.288713
a-Humulene	1184114		1828568		0.53673	0.473225
Caryophyllene	48176.16		14740.12		1.92285	0.182478
Overlapping1	33.00544	b	53.85831	a	17.70423	0.000529
Overlapping2	8.73067	b	13.51716	a	13.77425	0.001598
Overlapping3	10.08155	b	14.17735	a	9.24243	0.007042
Overlapping4	2.816203		3.286928		1.31184	0.267062
Overlapping5	0.430013		0.434643		0.00171	0.967429
Overlapping6	1.862727	b	2.664463	a	5.94843	0.025315
Overlapping7	0.438479		0.373560		0.59953	0.448808
Overlapping8	14.62969		15.60654		0.22186	0.643287
Overlapping9	16.48671	b	21.92088	a	6.17741	0.022993
Overlapping10	9.64605	b	15.18729	a	15.26398	0.001033
UFA	23.61925		21.86941		0.45029	0.510719
TGA2	5.571362		5.323343		0.12293	0.729944
TGA1+DGA	2.507704		2.585541		0.01841	0.893590
PUFA	8.687640		8.575459		0.01487	0.904284
P	3.484175		4.026586		0.55731	0.464985
Linoleyl FA	7.363597		8.004314		0.68387	0.419085
FA	114.9628		117.6074		0.03839	0.846865
DGA	12.99469		13.37092		0.08809	0.770019
Ald	0.371887	b	0.492436	a	3.42695	0.080620
Acetyl	6.428194		6.204910		0.04476	0.834815
Herbivorism	0.206635	b	0.452817	a	26.35006	0.000070

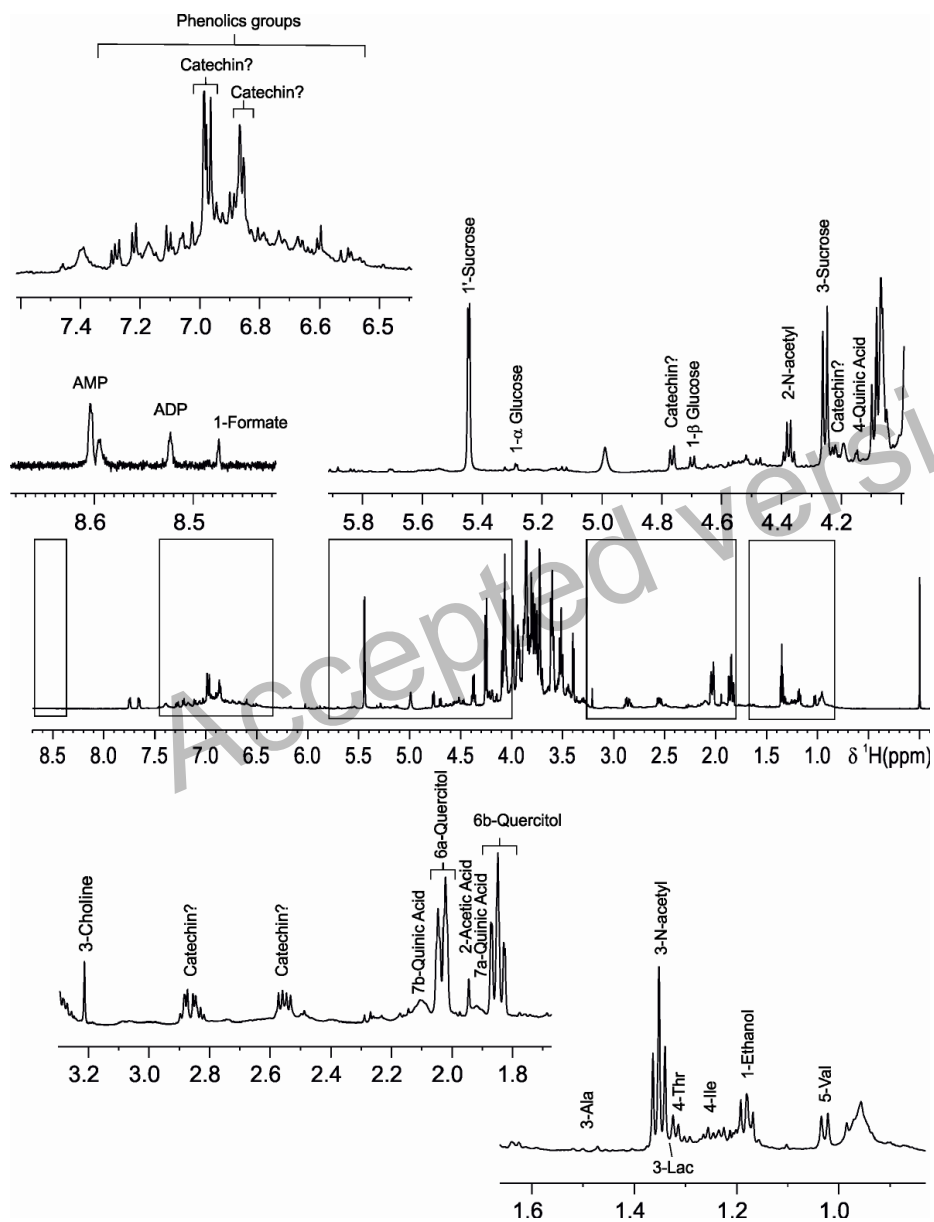
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1034 **Figure S1.** Examples of a 1D ^1H NMR spectra of both $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{MeOH}$ (1:1) and
 1035 chloroform extracts of *Quercus ilex* leaves. Assignments of the main peaks are
 1036 indicated. Samples dissolved in D_2O (pH 6.0) and referenced to TSP and samples
 1037 dissolved in CDCl_3 and referenced to the residual solvent peak (CHCl_3). Spectrum
 1038 acquired at 600 MHz magnetic field and at 298.0 K.
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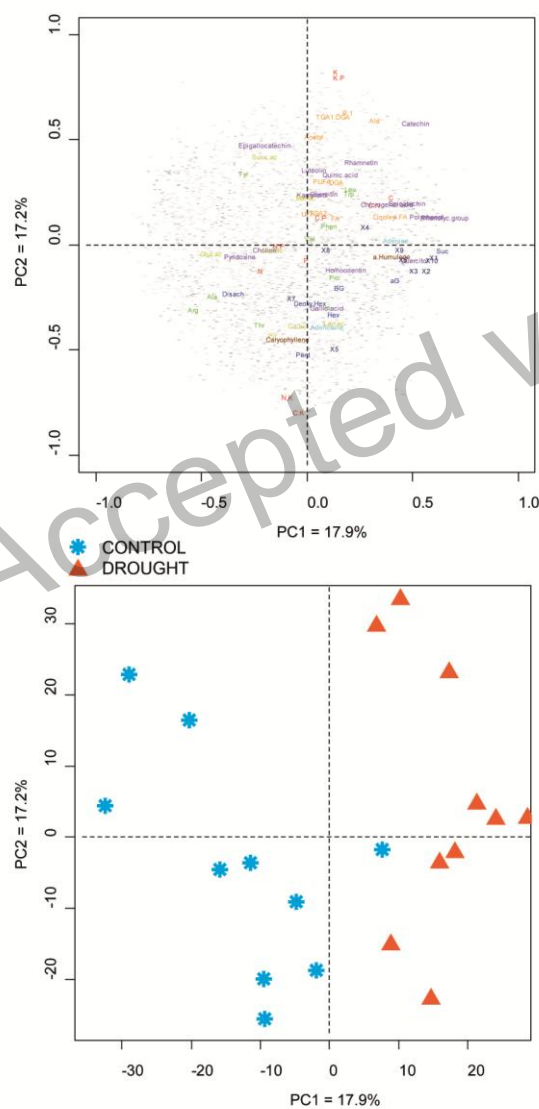
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1059 **Figure S2.** Detailed example of a 1D ^1H NMR spectrum of the $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{MeOH}$ (1:1)
 1060 extract of *Quercus ilex* leaves with the assignment of the main peaks. Sample dissolved
 1061 in D_2O (pH 6.0) and referenced to TSP. Spectrum acquired at 600 MHz magnetic field
 1062 and at 298.0 K.
 1063



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1066 **Figure S3.** Plots of the PCAs conducted with the metabolomic and stoichiometric
 1067 variables of all seasons excluding folivory as variable. Colors indicate different
 1068 metabolomic families: blue, sugars; green, amino acids; orange, RCAAS; cyan,
 1069 nucleotides; violet, phenolics; lightorange, non-polar metabolites; darkblue, NMR
 1070 overlapped signals; brown, terpenes; not assigned metabolites are represented by small
 1071 grey points. Variable labels are described in Figure.1 of the main text. Control trees are
 1072 indicated by blue color and asterisks, and droughted trees are indicated by orange color
 1073 and triangles.



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