Supplemental material

Table S1. Meteorological conditions

	Temperature (º C)			Precipitation (mm)		
	1971-2000	2004	2005	1971-2000	2004	2005
Autumn	13.5	12.6	12.0	249	331	277
Winter	10.7	10.0	7.1	187	198	51
Spring	16.6	18.3	18.5	98	51	78
Summer	22.6	24.1	23.9	45	26	4
Year	15.9	16.3	15.3	579	607	410

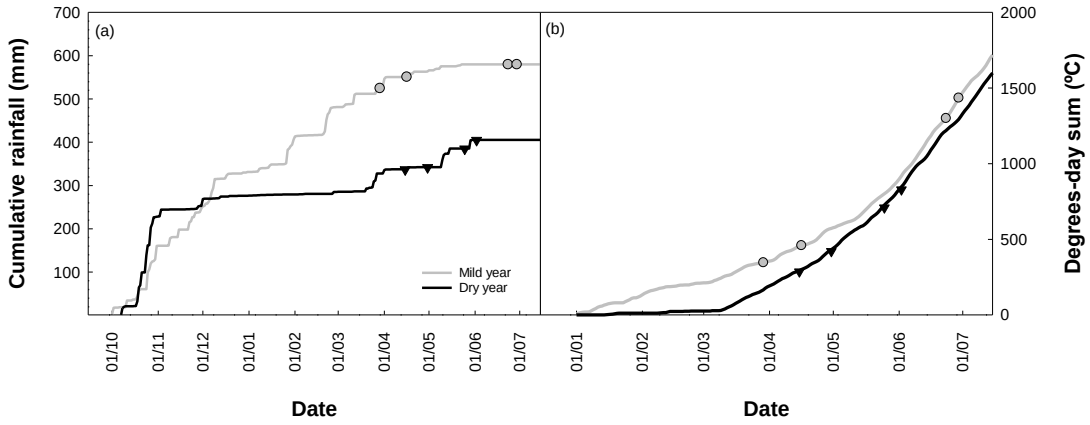

Figure S1. **(a)** Cumulative precipitation (mm) and **(b)** degrees-day sum (ºC) until the end of the growing season. Symbols represent sequentially the mean days of bud activation, bud burst, shoot cessation and trunk cessation.

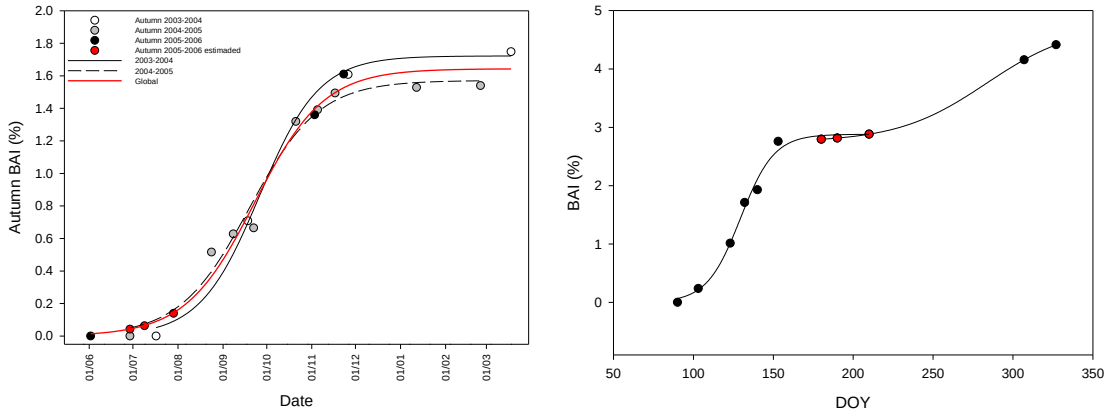

Figure S2. BAI estimation at the end of the growing season of the dry year. **(a)** Autumn BAI (%). **(b)** Overall pattern of BAI in the dry year. Autumn BAI was considered since dbh increments were lower than 0.05 ‰ day^{-1} until the next spring growth. BAI showed a sigmoidal pattern over time and significant regressions were obtained for each year ($p<0.0001$). Since the slopes were similar, data was pooled and a general curve (red line) was obtained ($f = a/(1+\exp(-(x-x0)/b))$, where a= 1.6434, b=23.7431 and x_0=262.9882; x_0 is DOY). Basal area increments were then estimated to confirm the end of spring trunk growing season. The overall pattern of BAI resulted clearly in the combination of two distinct growing periods, spring and autumn.

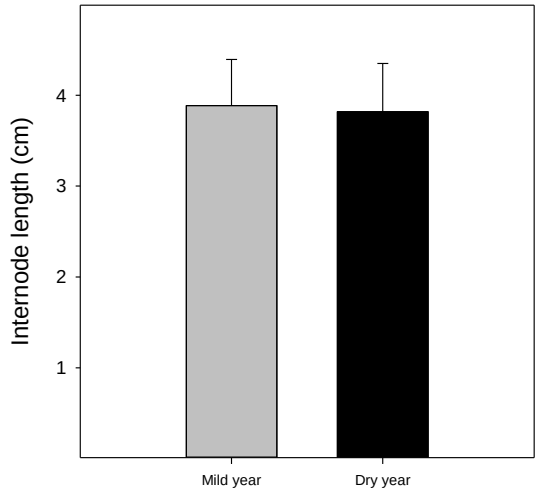

Figure S3. Internode length (cm) obtained as the ratio between shoot length and number of leaves in the two studied years**.**

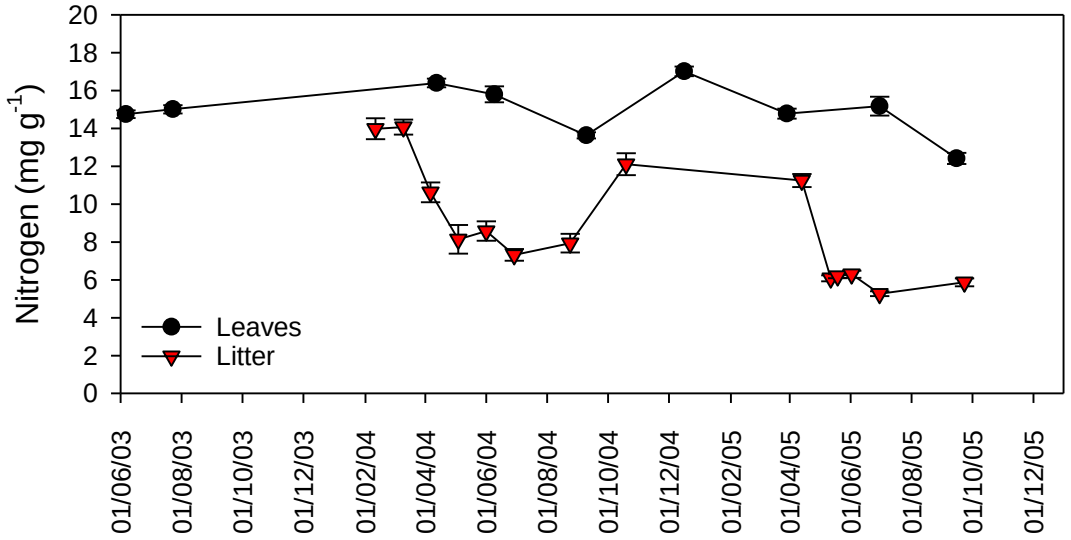

Figure S4. Nitrogen dynamics in green and senescent leaves (litter leaves) over the study period.

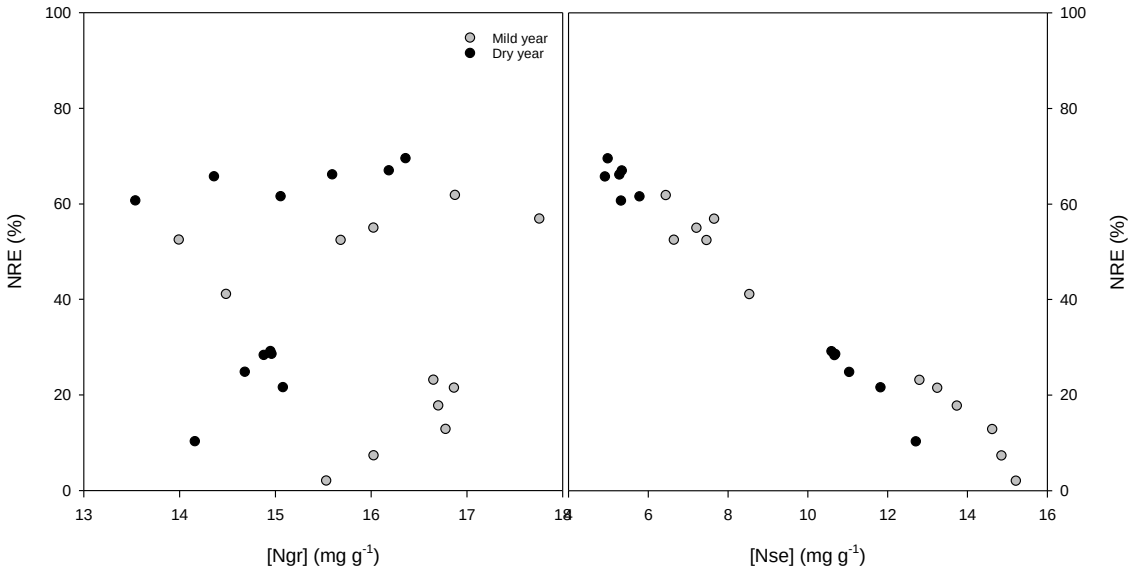

Figure S5. Relationships between Nitrogen resorption efficiency (NRE) and **(a)** N concentration in green [Ngr] and **(b)** senescent leaves [Nse].