

Supplementary Information

Table S1 Detailed site information across Chinese grasslands. TTS = temperate typical steppe, TMS = temperate meadow steppe, TDS = temperate desert steppe, ALG = alpine grassland, WTG = warm-tropical grassland. MAT = mean annual temperature, MAP = mean annual precipitation, SOC = soil organic carbon, STN = soil total nitrogen, MBC = microbial biomass carbon, AGB = aboveground biomass, BGB = belowground biomass; DCC = dynamic closed chamber, SCC = static closed chamber, AA = alkali absorption. Rs = soil respiration, Ra= autotrophic respiration, Rh = heterotrophic respiration, GS = growing season, NGS = non-growing season. Method represents soil respiration measurement method.

No.	Reference source	Grassland type	Longitude (°)	Latitude (°)	Altitude (m)	MAT (°C)	MAP (mm)	Soil pH	SOC (g/kg)	STN (g/kg)	MBC (mg/kg)	AGB (g m ⁻²)	BGB (g m ⁻²)	Method	Annual Rs (g C m ⁻² yr ⁻¹)	GS Rs (g C m ⁻² yr ⁻¹)	NGS Rs (g C m ⁻² yr ⁻¹)	GS Rs (%)	NGS Rs (%)	Ra (%)	Rh (%)	Q ₁₀	Depth (cm)	R ²
1	Zhang et al., 2014b	TDS	111.89	41.78	1456	2.4	360					44	436	DCC								1.52	10	0.434
2	Yang et al., 2016	ALG	102.55	32.80	3600	1.4	749		52.9			597		DCC	1042	915	127	87.8	12.2			5.46	5	0.869
3	Yang et al., 2016	ALG	102.55	32.80	3600	1.4	749		61.7			759		DCC	1070	981	89	91.7	8.3			8.13	5	0.935
4	Hu et al., 2012	ALG	102.97	30.88	3600	8.4	927							DCC								3.42	5	0.660
5	Wang et al., 2014e	TMS	120.05	49.32	628	-2.8	300		43.8	1.46		177		DCC								2.36	5	0.437
6	Zhu et al., 2015a	TTS	112.32	40.00	1348	4.0	450	9.2				389	3702	SCC								2.36	10	0.913
7	Hu et al., 2011	WTG	114.89	25.82	389	19.4	1461							AA								2.26	5	0.810
8	Tian et al., 2013	ALG	101.27	37.61	3240	-1.7	560							DCC								2.39	5	0.710
9	Zhou et al., 2013	WTG	107.68	35.23	1220	9.4	584	8.3	5.9	0.86				DCC	517	345	172	66.8	33.2			1.74	5	0.790
10	Wang et al., 2013b	TMS	120.05	49.32	628	-2.8	300							DCC								2.49	10	0.586
11	Chen et al., 2011	TMS	122.27	43.28	203	6.2	379							DCC								2.88	5	0.787
12	Yu et al., 2016	TMS	123.76	46.00	142	4.2	392							DCC	219	203	15	92.9	7.1			1.49	5	0.470
13	Yu et al., 2016	TMS	123.76	46.00	142	4.2	392							DCC								1.35	0	0.540
14	Chen et al., 2014	ALG	100.85	36.95	3140	0.8	398	7.7						DCC	490	376	114	76.7	23.3			3.39	10	
15	Chen et al., 2014	ALG	100.85	36.95	3140	0.8	398	7.7						DCC	434	333	101	76.8	23.2			3.47	10	
16	Wang et al., 2014a	TMS	133.67	47.82	60	1.9	575							DCC								2.93	5	0.690
17	Wen et al., 2014	ALG	98.08	34.87	4217	-4.0	306					86		DCC								1.90	5	0.565
18	Wen et al., 2014	ALG	98.32	34.83	4227	-4.0	306					92		DCC								1.61	5	0.636
19	Wen et al., 2014	ALG	98.28	34.85	4225	-4.0	306					118		DCC								1.64	5	0.256
20	Zhao et al., 2014	TDS	111.22	41.30	1602	2.5	284		13.3	1.85		168	2266	DCC								1.88	5	0.408
21	Chen et al., 2003	TTS	116.32	43.92	1200	-0.1	217							AA								1.52	5	0.407
22	Chen et al., 2003	TTS	116.32	43.92	1200	-0.1	217							AA								1.70	10	0.474
23	Chen et al., 2003	TTS	116.32	43.92	1200	-0.1	217							AA								1.90	15	0.463
24	Chen et al., 2003	TTS	116.32	43.92	1200	-0.1	217							AA								1.97	20	0.426
25	Chen et al., 2003	TTS	116.32	43.92	1200	-0.1	217							AA								1.47	0	0.556
26	Wang et al., 2014b	TMS	123.85	45.60	140	4.3	410	10.2	11.5	0.70		307		DCC								1.73	0	0.500
27	Wang et al., 2014b	TMS	123.85	45.60	140	4.3	410	10.3	7.4	0.60		191		DCC								2.46	0	0.540
28	Wang et al., 2014b	TMS	123.85	45.60	140	4.3	410	8.2	15.8	1.00		549		DCC								1.49	0	0.750
29	Wang et al., 2014b	TMS	123.85	45.60	140	4.3	410	9.4	12.8	0.50		419		DCC								1.63	0	0.700
30	Wang, 2014	TMS	123.85	45.60	140	4.3	410	10.2	8.7	0.70		419		DCC								2.72	20	0.260
31	Wang, 2014	TMS	123.85	45.60	140	4.3	410	9.7	11.9	0.70		307		DCC								5.47	20	0.740
32	Wang, 2014	TMS	123.85	45.60	140	4.3	410	9.9	10.2	0.62		191		DCC								2.16	20	0.520

117	Jia et al., 2014	TTS	110.38	38.82	1235	8.4	400				278	DCC										1.99	10	0.600			
118	Jia et al., 2014	TTS	110.38	38.82	1235	8.4	400				307	DCC											2.07	10	0.630		
119	Fang et al., 2012	ALG	101.32	37.62	3220	-1.7	580				581	SCC											4.48	5	0.881		
120	Jia et al., 2012	TTS	110.38	38.82	1235	8.4	405				141	476	DCC											1.92	5	0.683	
121	Wang et al., 2013a	TMS	117.35	42.50	1400	-1.4	450	6.3	8.0	0.74			DCC	450	387	63	86.0	14.0	4.7	95.3			2.80	5	0.850		
122	Wang et al., 2015a	TMS	123.85	45.60	140	4.0	414	10.2	8.7	0.70	76		DCC											3.46	10	0.730	
123	Wang et al., 2015a	TMS	123.85	45.60	140	4.0	414	9.7	11.9	0.70	307		DCC											6.69	10	0.820	
124	Wang et al., 2015a	TMS	123.85	45.60	140	4.0	414	9.9	10.2	0.61	191		DCC											2.01	10	0.540	
125	Wang et al., 2015a	TMS	123.85	45.60	140	4.0	414	9.4	15.2	0.69	419		DCC											2.01	10	0.600	
126	Wang et al., 2015a	TMS	123.85	45.60	140	4.0	414	8.4	18.9	1.01	549		DCC											2.23	10	0.530	
127	Qi et al., 2010	TMS	116.83	43.51	1343	-1.4	347		24.3	2.20			SCC	254	197	57	77.4	22.6						1.98	5	0.577	
128	Qi et al., 2010	TMS	116.83	43.51	1343	-1.4	347		24.3	2.20			SCC											2.16	10	0.635	
129	Qi et al., 2010	TMS	116.83	43.51	1343	-1.4	347		24.3	2.20			SCC											1.71	0	0.445	
130	Qi et al., 2010	TTS	116.55	43.54	1130	-0.1	339		20.3	2.00			SCC	185	166	19	89.6	10.4						2.98	5	0.730	
131	Qi et al., 2010	TTS	116.55	43.54	1130	-0.1	339		20.3	2.00			SCC											3.14	10	0.670	
132	Qi et al., 2010	TTS	116.55	43.54	1130	-0.1	339		20.3	2.00			SCC											2.53	0	0.611	
133	Qi et al., 2010	TTS	115.90	44.09	970	-0.5	288		11.3	1.25			SCC	123	97	26	78.9	21.1						2.09	5	0.622	
134	Qi et al., 2010	TTS	115.90	44.09	970	-0.5	288		11.3	1.25			SCC											2.40	10	0.732	
135	Qi et al., 2010	TTS	115.90	44.09	970	-0.5	288		11.3	1.25			SCC											1.79	0	0.490	
136	Wang et al., 2010	TMS	117.35	42.50	1400	-1.4	450						DCC	425	367	58	86.3	13.7						3.10	5	0.910	
137	Wang et al., 2010	TMS	117.35	42.50	1400	-1.4	450						DCC	785	717	68	91.3	8.7						4.69	5	0.910	
138	Wang et al., 2007	TTS	123.75	44.75	160	4.9	470	9.6	31.1		203		AA											2.16	10	0.690	
139	Wang et al., 2007	TTS	123.75	44.75	160	4.9	470	10.4	22.2		131		AA											2.36	10	0.830	
140	Chang et al., 2009	ALG	100.00	38.24	2500	0.8	435		41.2				DCC	476	288	188	60.5	39.5									
141	Chang et al., 2009	ALG	100.01	38.24	2600	0.8	435		43.3				DCC	452	291	161	64.4	35.6									
142	Chang et al., 2009	ALG	100.01	38.23	2700	0.5	435		43.7				DCC	423	272	151	64.3	35.7									
143	Chang et al., 2009	ALG	100.02	38.23	2800	0.3	435		44.8				DCC	384	246	137	64.2	35.8									
144	Chang et al., 2009	ALG	100.03	38.23	2900	-0.2	435		45.4				DCC	365	236	130	64.5	35.5						3.44	10	0.808	
145	Chang et al., 2009	ALG	100.03	38.22	3000	-0.4	435		45.4				DCC	310	202	108	65.1	34.9									
146	Peng et al., 2015b	ALG	92.93	34.82	4635	-3.8	291	8.3	9.0	0.51	246	3372	DCC														
147	Peng et al., 2011	TTS	116.67	43.55	1265	-0.4	400		20.0	1.88			SCC	127	98	29	77.4	22.6						1.70	10	0.501	
148	Yan et al., 2013	WTG	112.37	37.73	1350	10.0	320		3.1				DCC											2.75	5	0.710	
149	Yan et al., 2013	WTG	112.37	37.73	1350	10.0	371		3.1				DCC											2.96	10	0.670	
150	Yan et al., 2013	WTG	112.37	37.73	1350	10.0	509		3.1				DCC											3.07	15	0.680	
151	Wei et al., 2016b	TTS	106.43	36.27	1974	6.9	425		32.5	3.43	488		DCC	581	507	73	87.3	12.7						1.92	10	0.586	
152	Zhang et al., 2016	WTG	118.05	32.00	6	25.0	980						SCC	870	708	162	81.4	18.6									
153	Zhang et al., 2016	WTG	118.05	32.00	6	25.0	980						SCC	1435	1235	200	86.0	14.0						1.22	15	0.084	
154	Zhang et al., 2016	WTG	118.05	32.00	6	25.0	980						SCC	1180	965	215	81.8	18.2						1.49	15	0.325	
155	Wang et al., 2015b	TMS	120.05	49.32	628	-2.8	300		43.8	1.46	177		DCC	519										3.64	5	0.911	
156	Qi et al., 2006	TTS	116.68	43.57	1225	-0.1	339		22.2	1.73			SCC	375	266	109	71.1	28.9									
157	Qi et al., 2006	TTS	116.91	44.09	923	-0.4	250		12.0	1.03			SCC	128	85	43	66.3	33.7									
158	Dong et al., 2006	TTS	116.55	43.54	1130	-0.1	339	7.9	17.8	1.80			SCC	136													

Table S2 The abiotic and biotic factors among different grassland types.

Factors	TTS	TMS	TDS	ALG	WTG
MAT (°C)	2.9 ±0.4	1.9 ±0.5	6.3 ±0.6	-0.7 ±0.3	13.4 ±1.2
MAP (mm)	361 ±9	397 ±9	298 ±15	461 ±20	913 ±99
SOC (g kg ⁻¹)	17.7 ±1.8	17.7 ±2.3	4.3 ±0.9	46.7 ±6.2	36.9 ±9.9
STN (g kg ⁻¹)	1.5 ±0.2	1.0 ±0.1	0.7 ±0.1	2.6 ±0.8	3.9 ±1.6
Soil pH	8.2 ±0.2	9.2 ±0.3	8.6 ±0.1	7.8 ±0.2	6.8 ±0.6
MBC (mg kg ⁻¹)	226 ±82	NA	NA	277 ±NA	2519 ±951
AGB (g m ⁻²)	278 ±28	355 ±42	175 ±13	386 ±56	NA
BGB (g m ⁻²)	1185 ±408	1340 ±NA	4409 ±478	4913 ±1643	372 ±NA

Values are mean ±SE (standard error). MAT = mean annual temperature, MAP = mean annual precipitation, SOC = soil organic carbon, STN = soil total nitrogen, MBC = microbial biomass carbon, AGB= aboveground biomass, BGB = belowground biomass. NA means no data. TTS = temperate typical steppe, TMS = temperate meadow steppe, TDS = temperate desert steppe, ALG = alpine grassland, WTG = warm-tropical grassland. NA = no data.

Table S3 Pearson correlation (*r*) among abiotic and biotic factors.

	Latitude	Altitude	MAT	MAP	SOC	STN	Soil pH	MBC	AGB	BGB
Latitude	1									
Altitude	-0.548**	1								
MAT	-0.424**	-0.482**	1							
MAP	-0.593**	-0.039	0.602**	1						
SOC	-0.360**	0.362**	-0.065	0.597**	1					
STN	-0.395**	0.247*	0.154	0.713**	0.954**	1				
Soil pH	0.600**	-0.340**	-0.220	-0.659**	-0.662**	-0.723**	1			
MBC	-0.749**	0.420	0.746**	0.899**	0.994**	0.996**	-0.878**	1		
AGB	-0.031	0.069	-0.085	0.517**	0.642**	0.485**	-0.175	-0.020	1	
BGB	-0.404*	0.425*	-0.223	-0.400*	-0.302	-0.323	0.405	0.878	0.116	1

MAT = mean annual temperature, MAP = mean annual precipitation, SOC = soil organic carbon, STN = soil total nitrogen, MBC = microbial biomass carbon, AGB= aboveground biomass, BGB = belowground biomass. * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$

Table S4 Stepwise linear regression of Q_{10} derived by soil temperature at the depth of 5 cm with environmental factors, including altitude, mean annual temperature (MAT), and mean annual precipitation (MAP).

Equation	N	R^2	P -value
$Q_{10} = 0.00033 \times \text{Altitude} + 2.1$	73	0.148	< 0.001
$Q_{10} = 0.00037 \times \text{Altitude} + 0.00099 \times \text{MAP} + 1.5$	73	0.211	< 0.001
$Q_{10} = 0.00022 \times \text{Altitude} + 0.0019 \times \text{MAP} - 0.079 \times \text{MAT} + 1.5$	73	0.260	< 0.001

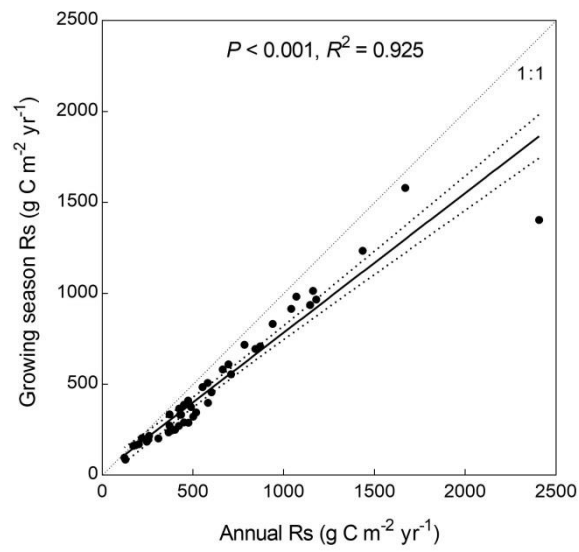


Figure S1. The linear relationship between growing season soil respiration (Rs) and annual Rs. The dash lines represent the 95% confidence intervals.

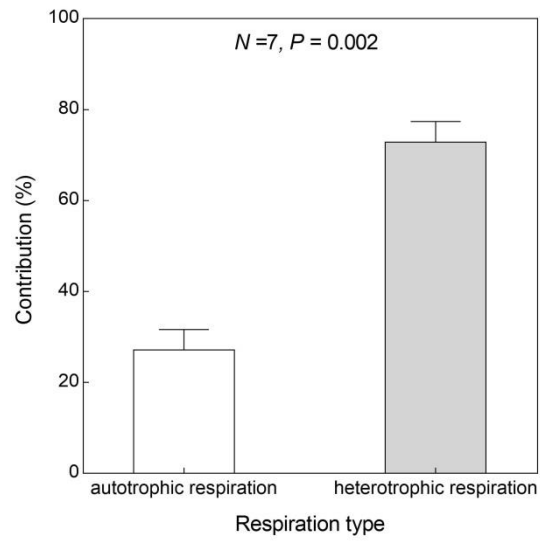


Figure S2. The mean contribution (mean \pm SE) of autotrophic and heterotrophic respiration to annual soil carbon emission.

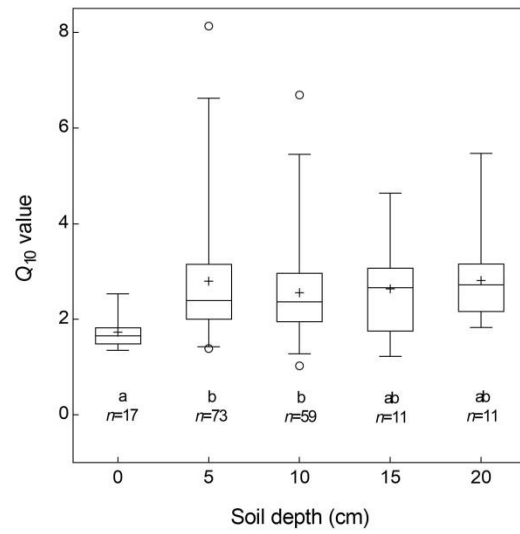


Figure S3. Comparisons Q_{10} values among soil temperature at the depths of 0, 5, 10, 15, and 20 cm, respectively. In the box plot, the “+” represent mean values, horizontal lines inside box represent medians, box ends represent the 25th and the 75th quartiles, vertical lines represent 2.5th and 97.5th percentiles, hollow circles represent outliers, and n represents the number of samples. The different lowercase letters indicate the significant difference among soil depths at $P = 0.05$.

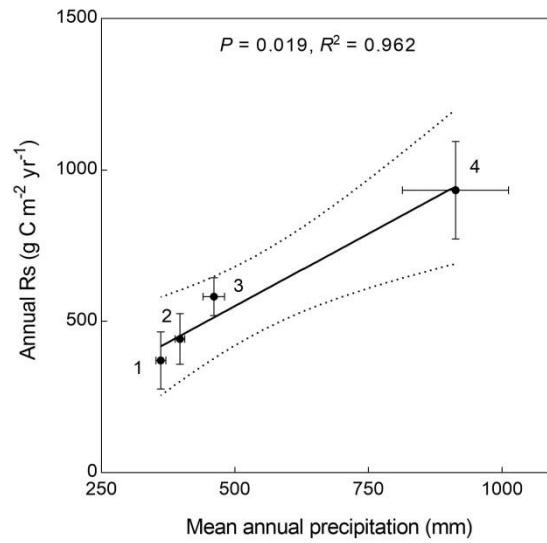


Figure S4. The linear relationship between annual soil respiration (Rs) and mean annual precipitation. The dash lines represent the 95% confidence intervals. 1 = temperate typical steppe, 2 = temperate meadow steppe, 3 = alpine grassland, 4 = warm-tropical grassland. Data are means with standard errors.

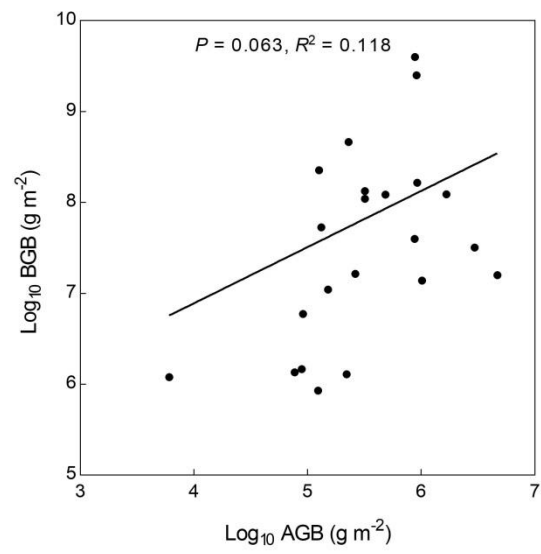


Figure S5. The relationships between aboveground biomass (AGB) and belowground biomass (BGB). The equation used is $Y = a \times X + b$.

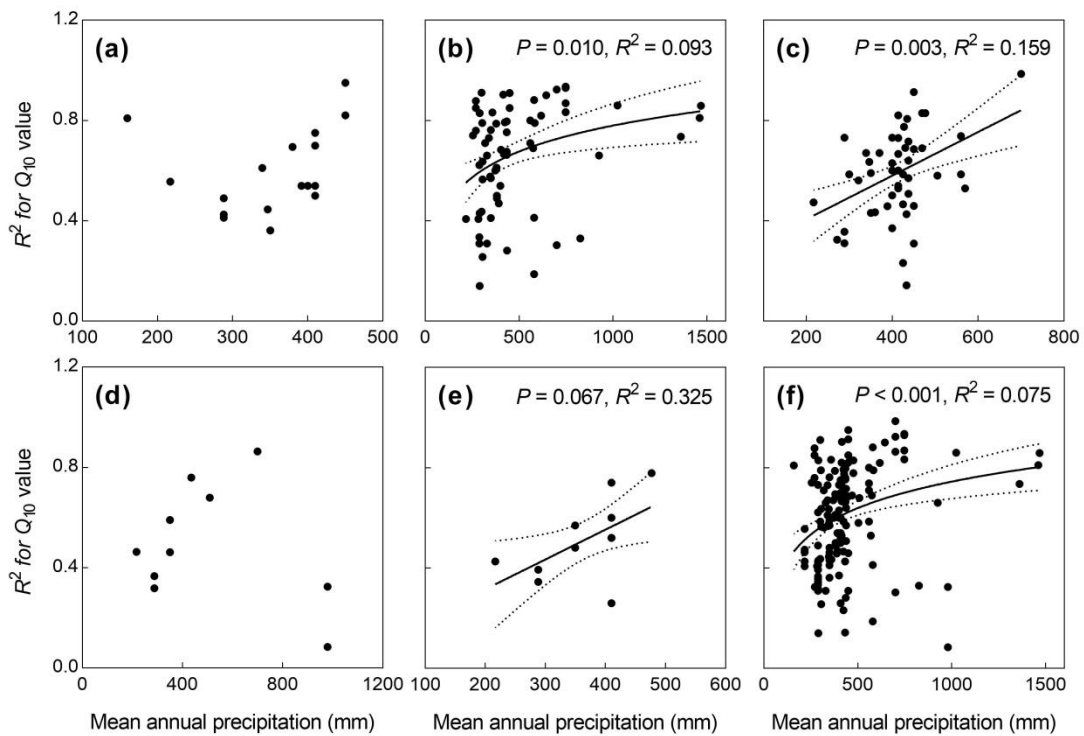


Figure S6. The relationships between coefficient of determination (R^2) for temperature sensitivity of soil respiration (Q_{10}) and mean annual precipitation. (a) Q_{10} derived by soil surface temperature, (b) Q_{10} derived by soil temperature at the depth of 5 cm, (c) Q_{10} derived by soil temperature at the depth of 10 cm, (d) Q_{10} derived by soil temperature at the depth of 15 cm, (e) Q_{10} derived by soil temperature at the depth of 20 cm, (f) Q_{10} derived by all soil temperatures. The equation used in (b) and (f) is $Y = a \times \ln(X) + b$, and in (e) and (c) is $Y = a \times X + b$

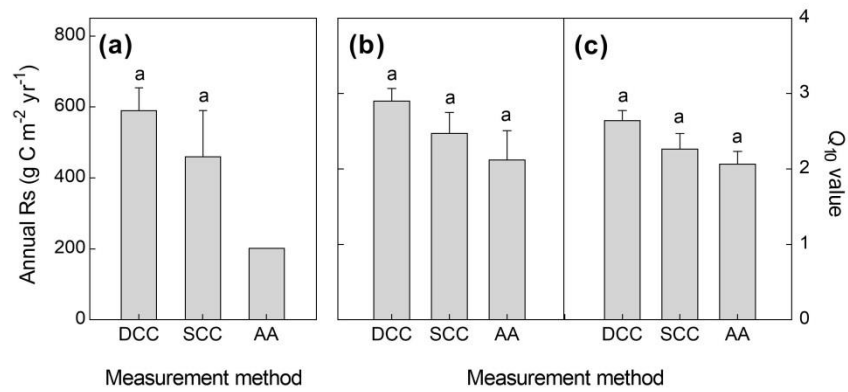


Figure S7. Comparisons of annual soil respiration (Rs) and temperature sensitivity (Q_{10}) among measurement methods. (a) annual soil respiration, (b) Q_{10} derived by soil temperature at the depth of 5 cm, (c) Q_{10} derived by soil temperature at the depth of 10 cm. DCC = dynamic closed chamber, SCC = static closed chamber, and AA = alkali absorption. The same lowercase letters indicate no significant difference at $P = 0.05$. For annual Rs measured by AA, there was only one sample, so there was no error bar. Including the data measured by the AA method in our synthesis does not meaningfully change the results of Rs and Q_{10} .

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There were 108 publications from which we obtained the database.

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