

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

**NMR observability.** Measures of NMR observability were calculated for the untreated and the hypobromite oxidised extracts of all soils. Measures of NMR observability refer to the percentage of total P detected using NMR compared to that by ICP-OES. For the untreated soil extracts, measures of NMR observability ranged from 52 % (Gleysol) to 89 % (Ferralsol), with an average NMR observability of 66 %. For the hypobromite oxidised extracts, measures of NMR observability ranged from 58 % (Ferralsol) to 94 % (Cambisol), with an average value of 83 %.

### Inositol hexakisphosphate concentrations before and after hypobromite oxidation.

**Table S11.** Concentrations of inositol hexakisphosphates in 0.25 M NaOH + 0.05 M EDTA soil extracts before and after hypobromite oxidation (HO). Quantification was based on spectral integration and deconvolution fitting of solution <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra. The proportion of P (%) detected in hypobromite oxidised extracts compared to that in untreated extracts is provided in brackets.

| Concentrations (mg P/kg <sub>soil</sub> ) |           | Ferralsol | Vertisol  | Cambisol  | Gleysol   |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <i>myo</i> -IP <sub>6</sub>               | before HO | 4.4       | 0.6       | 46.2      | 90.4      |
|   | after HO  | 1.1 (25)  | 0.6 (111) | 26.3 (57) | 85.0 (94) |
| <i>scyllo</i> -IP <sub>6</sub>            | before HO | 2.5       | 0.4       | 34.9      | 42.6      |
|   | after HO  | 0.4 (14)  | 0.3 (68)  | 15.6 (45) | 41.1 (97) |
| <i>neo</i> -IP <sub>6</sub> 4-eq/2-ax     | before HO | -         | -         | 4.2       | 7.0       |
|   | after HO  | -         | -         | 1.4 (33)  | 8.8 (126) |
| <i>chiro</i> -IP <sub>6</sub>             | before HO | -         | -         | 7.2       | 6.7       |
|   | after HO  | -         | -         | 9.4 (130) | 8.6 (128) |

### Solution $^{31}\text{P}$ NMR spectra of spiked hypobromite oxidised soil extracts

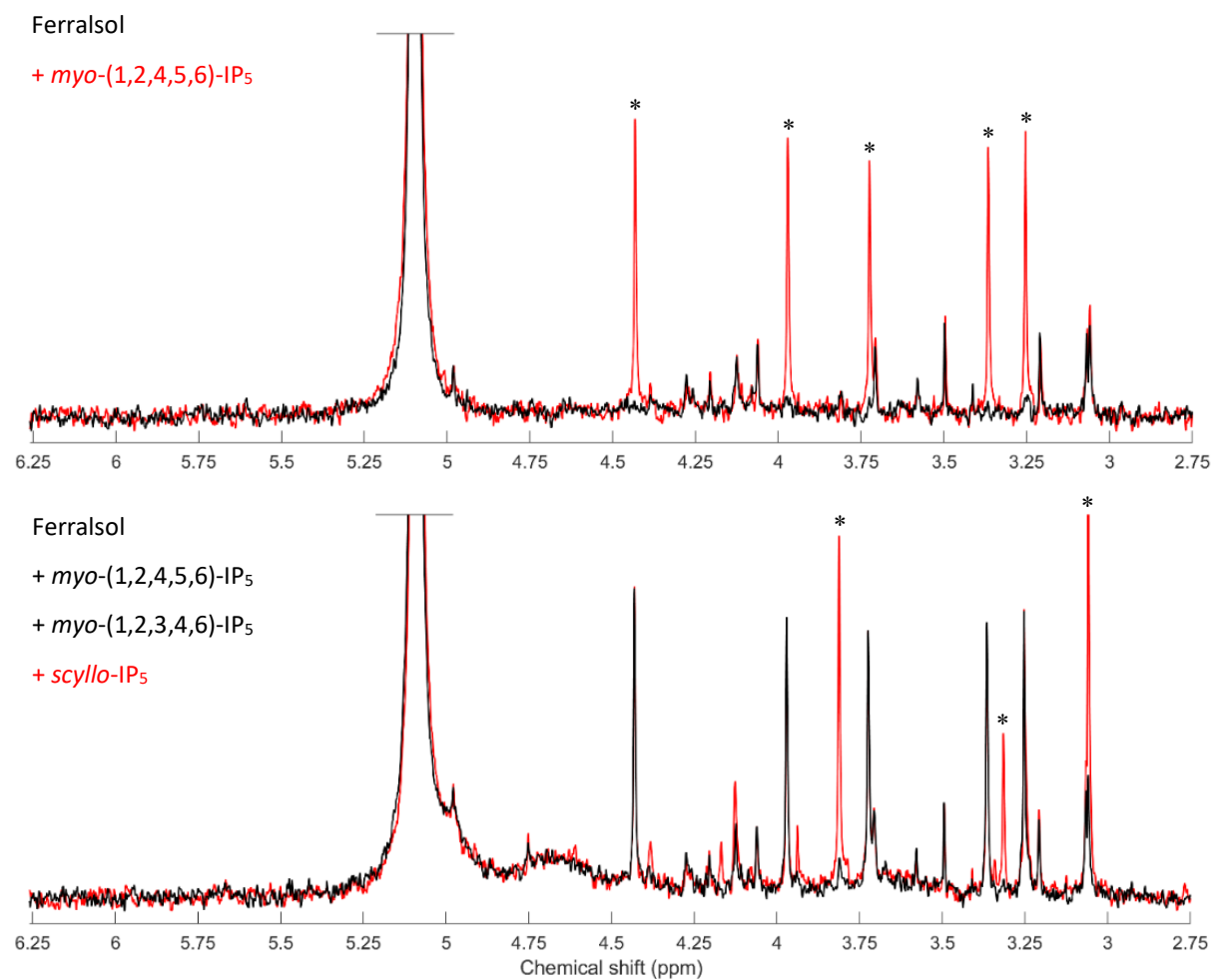
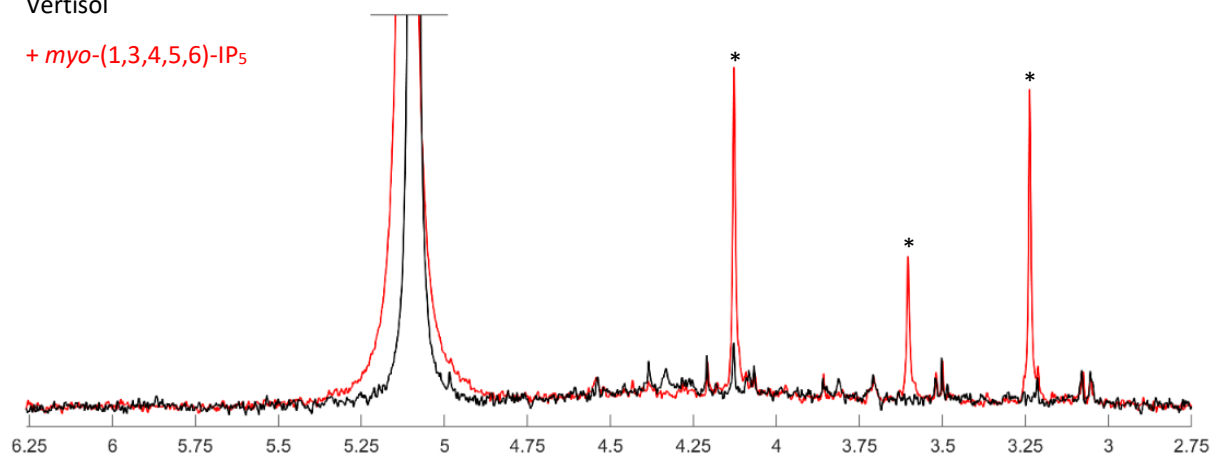


Figure S11. Solution  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra of the orthophosphate and phosphomonoester region on Ferralsol extract following hypobromite oxidation (black trace), and also that following a spike with an IP standard (red trace). Peaks assigned to the IP standard marked with \*.

Vertisol

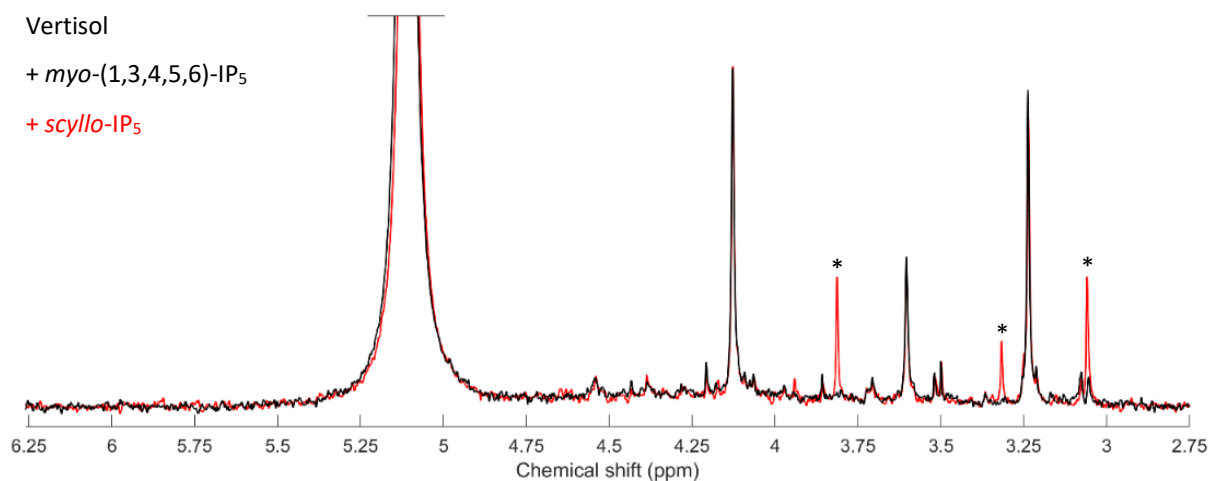
+ *myo*-(1,3,4,5,6)-IP<sub>5</sub>



Vertisol

+ *myo*-(1,3,4,5,6)-IP<sub>5</sub>

+ *scyllo*-IP<sub>5</sub>



**Figure S12.** Solution <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra of phosphomonoester region of hypobromite oxidised 0.25 M NaOH + 0.05 M EDTA Vertisol extract. Spiked spectrum with indicated standard in red. Peaks assigned to standard marked with \*.

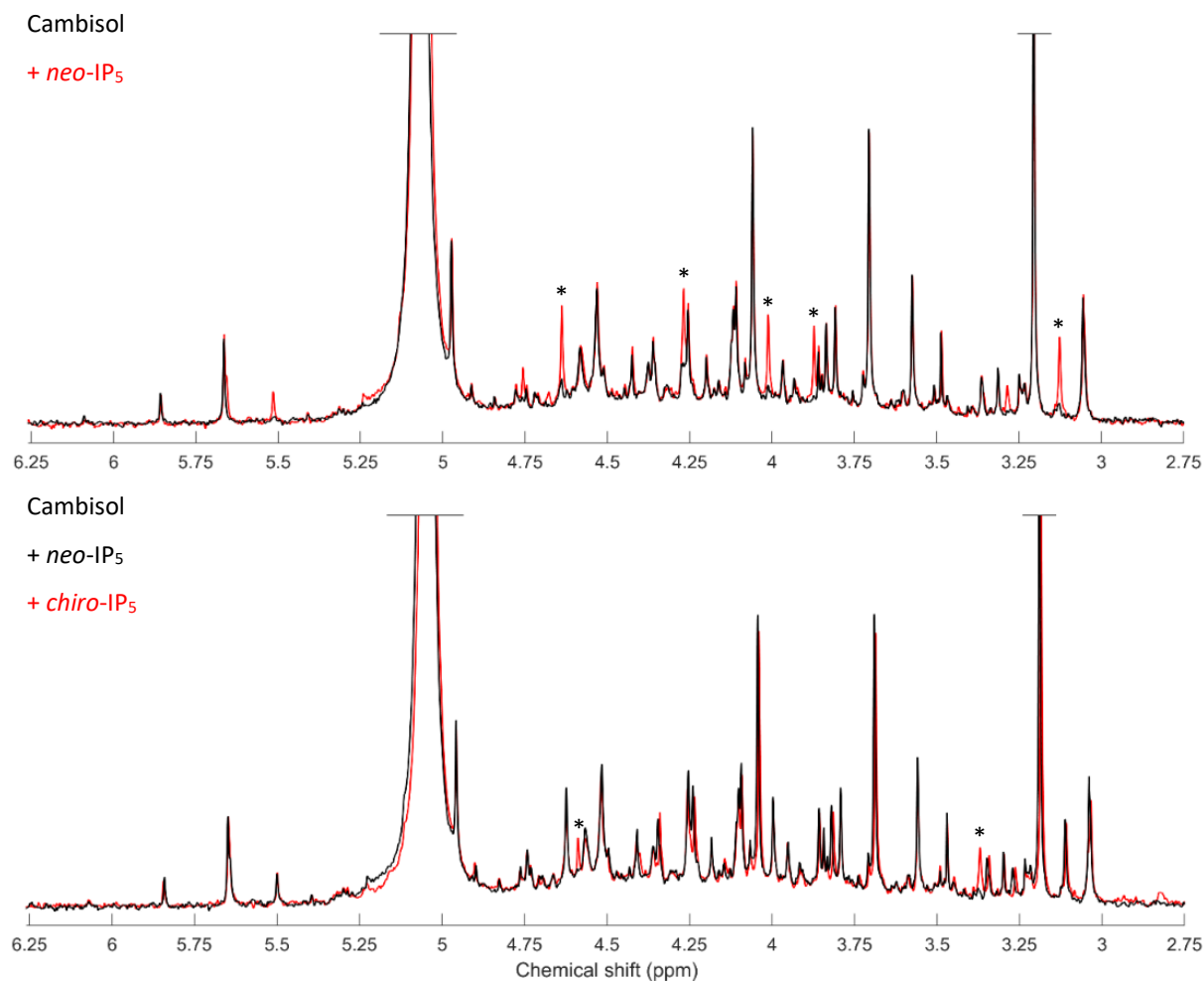
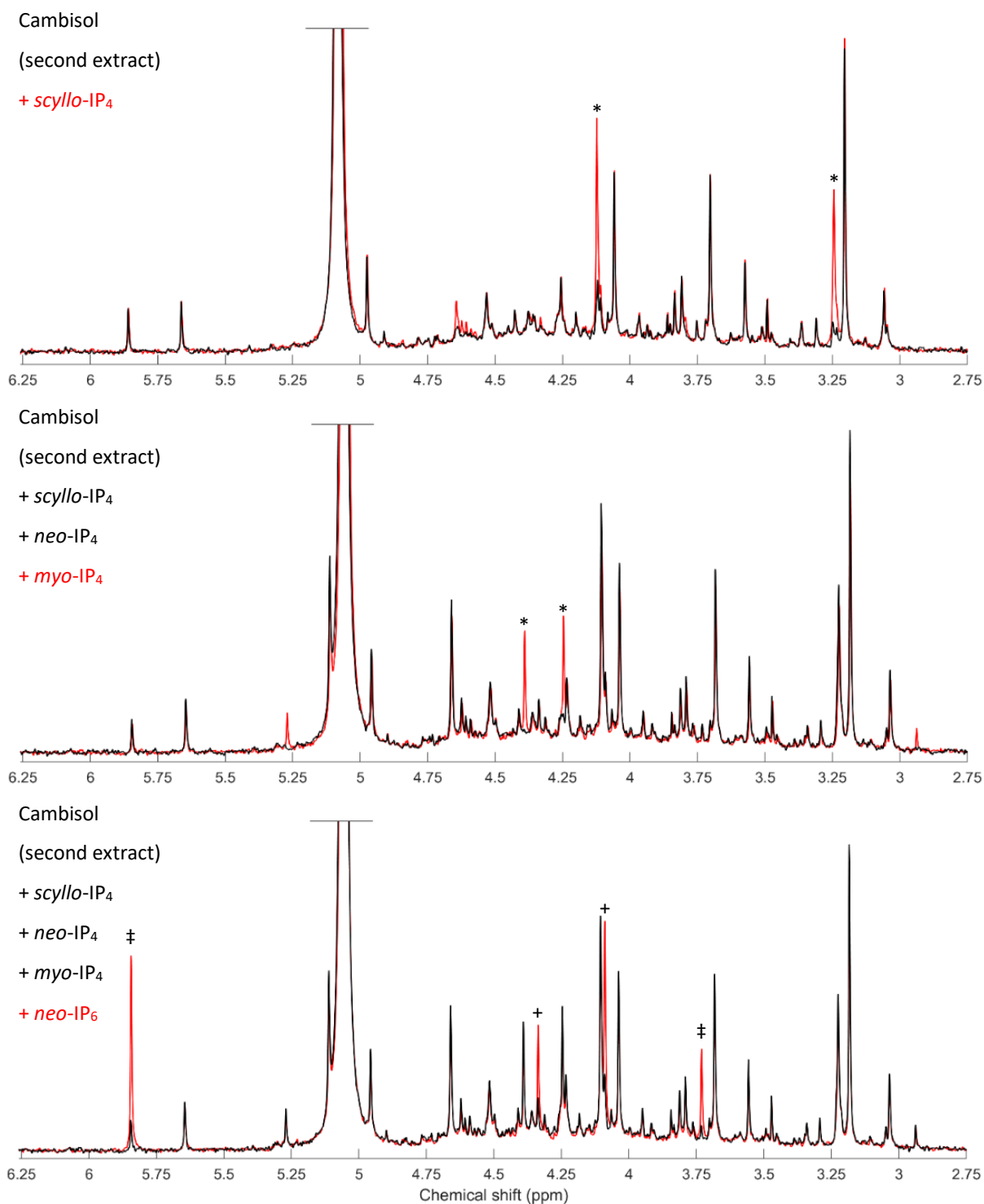
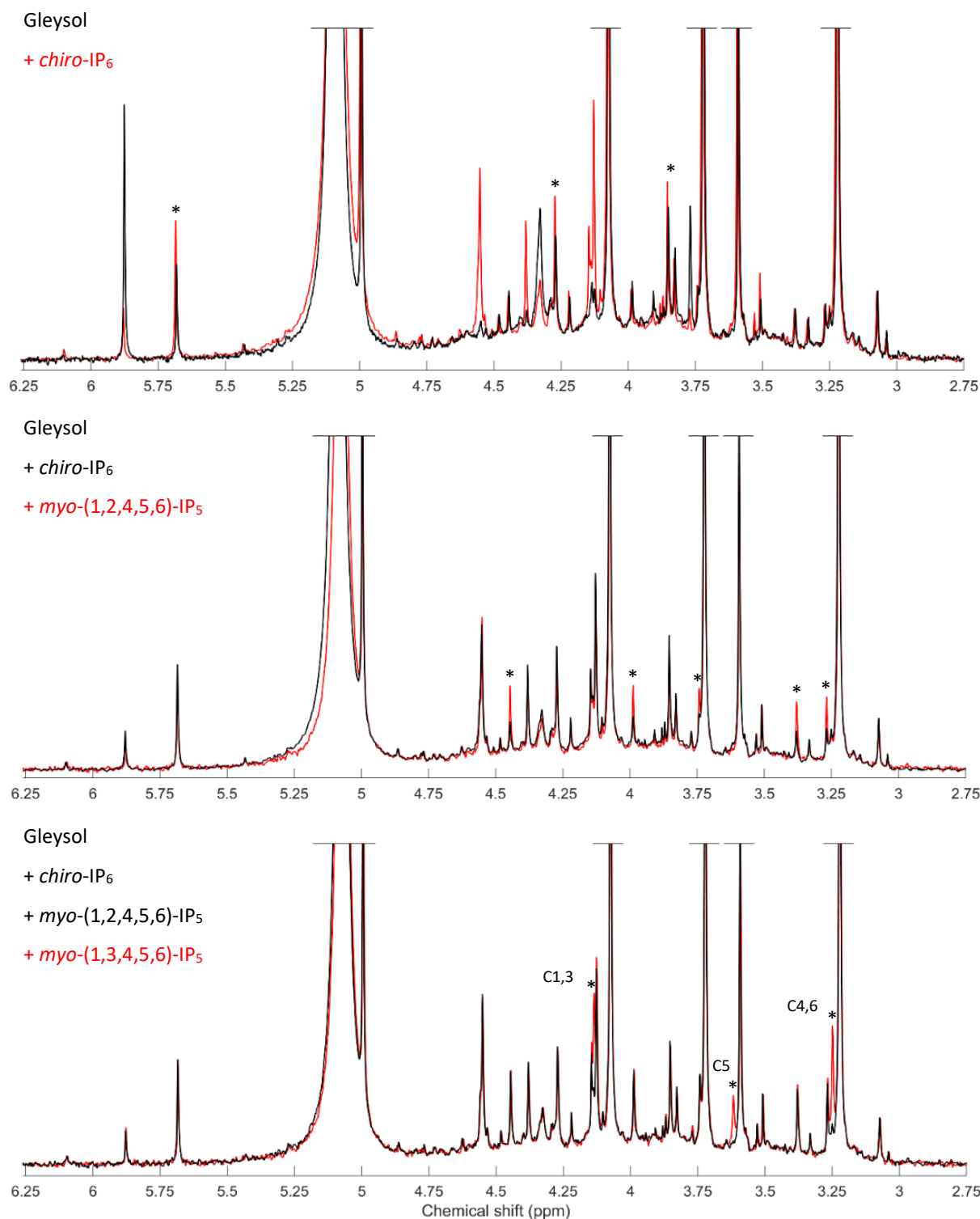


Figure S13. Solution <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra of phosphomonoester region of hypobromite oxidised 0.25 M NaOH + 0.05 M EDTA Cambisol extract. Spiked spectrum with indicated standard in red. Peaks assigned to standard marked with \*.

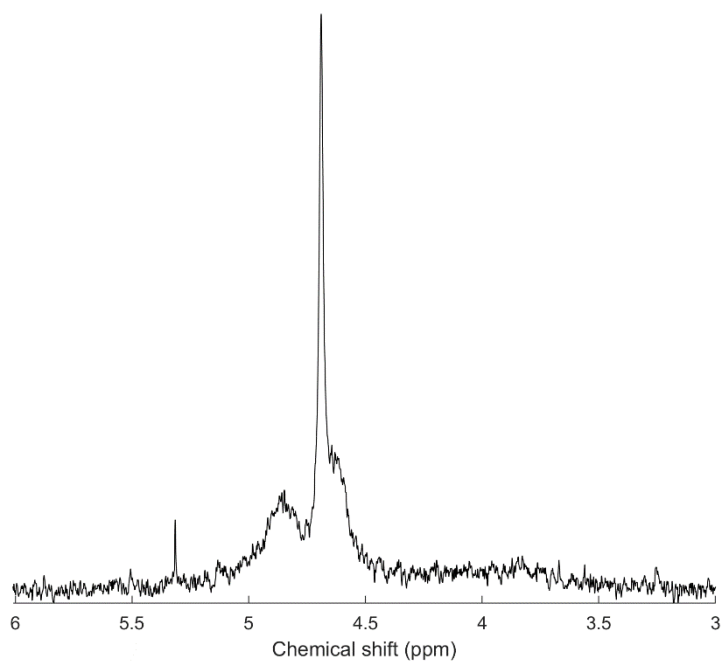


**Figure S14.** Solution <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra of phosphomonoester region of hypobromite oxidised 0.25 M NaOH + 0.05 M EDTA Cambisol extract. Spiked spectrum with indicated standard in red. Peaks assigned to 4-equatorial/2-axial conformation marked with ‡, peaks assigned to 2-equatorial/4-axial conformation marked with +.

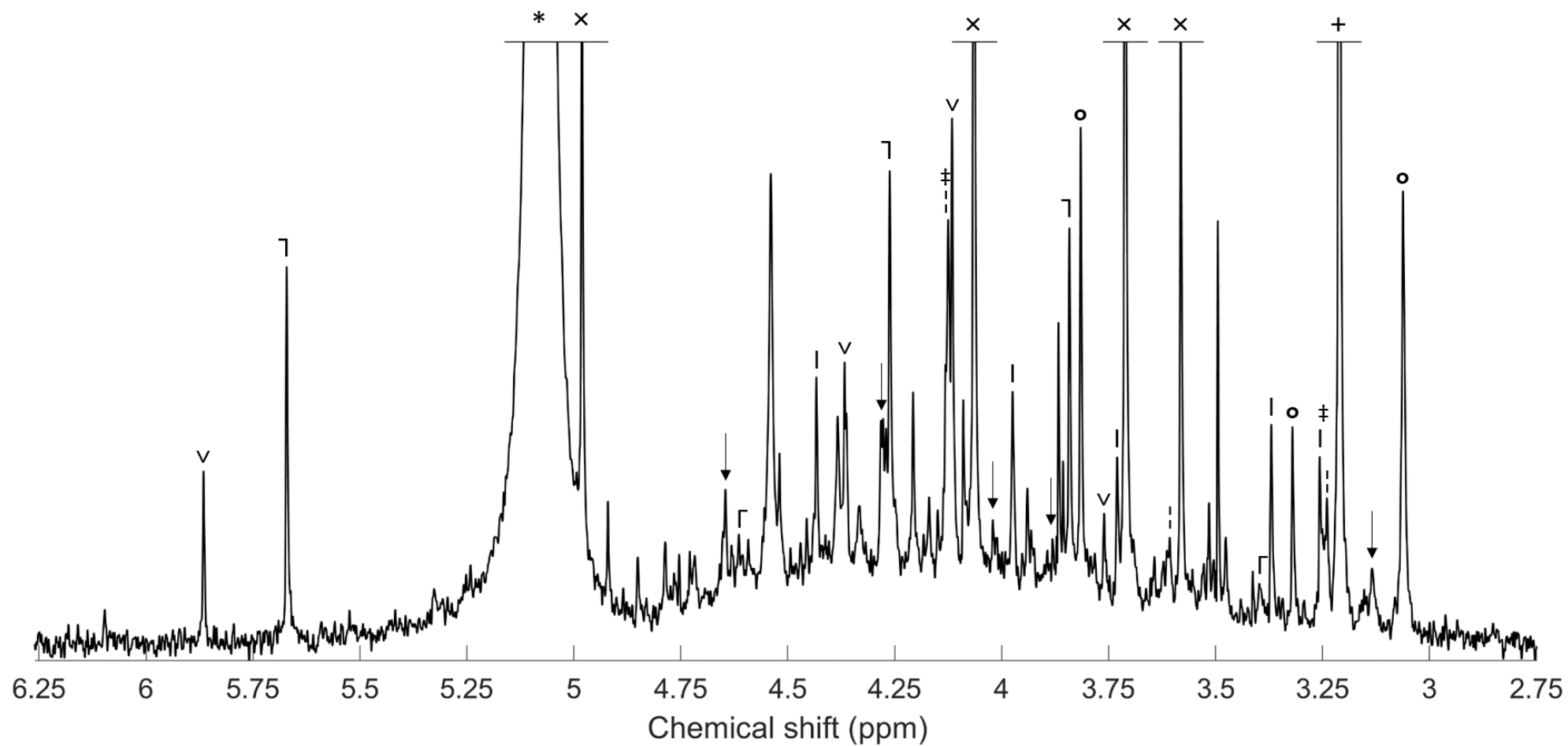


**Figure S15.** Solution <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra of phosphomonoester region of hypobromite oxidised 0.25 M NaOH + 0.05 M EDTA Gleysol extract. Spiked spectrum with indicated standard in red. Peaks assigned to standard marked with \*. For *myo*-(1,3,4,5,6)-IP<sub>5</sub>, the respective phosphorylated carbon nuclei of the inositol have been marked based on the <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum prediction of the program Mnova 11.0.4 (©Mestrelab Research).

**Transverse relaxation time of an orthophosphate solution.** The analysis of a 0.25 M NaOH + 0.05 M EDTA solution containing 910 mg  $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4/\text{L}$  resulted in a single orthophosphate peak in the NMR spectrum ( $\delta$  5.09 ppm) with a linewidth at peak half height of 0.56 Hz. Transverse relaxation experiments were carried out (similar to that previously described) on the solution, which resulted in a  $T_2$  time of 203 ms for orthophosphate.



**Figure SI7.** Solution  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of phosphomonoester region of purchased *myo*-(1,2,3,4,6)-IP<sub>5</sub> standard dissolved in 0.25 M NaOH + 0.05 M EDTA.



1 Figure S18. Solution  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra of phosphomonoester region of hypobromite oxidised 0.25 M NaOH + 0.05 M EDTA Cambisol extract. All identified peaks are marked: orthophosphate (\*), *myo*-IP<sub>6</sub> (x), *scyllo*-IP<sub>6</sub> (+), *neo*-IP<sub>6</sub> (v), *chiro*-IP<sub>6</sub> (γ), *myo*-(1,2,4,5,6)-IP<sub>5</sub> (l), *myo*-(1,3,4,5,6)-IP<sub>5</sub> (|), *scyllo*-IP<sub>5</sub> (°), *neo*-IP<sub>5</sub> (↓), *chiro*-IP<sub>5</sub> (Γ), *scyllo*-(1,2,3,4)-IP<sub>4</sub> (‡). The chemical shifts in ppm of all identified peaks are listed in Table 5.