

1 **Supplementary Information**

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3 **Excess radiation exacerbates drought stress impacts on**
4 **stomatal conductance along aridity gradients**

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40 **Table S1** Results of standardized major axis (SMA) line-fitting for the relationship between stomatal
 41 conductance (using $1/\Delta^{18}\text{O}$ as proxy) and aridity.

| | | Intercept | slope | r^2 | P |
|------------------------|----------|-------------------|---------------------|-------|-------|
| | Estimate | 2.21 ^c | -45.07 ^a | | |
| Loess Plateau | Lower | 1.52 | -70.21 | 0.68 | 0.003 |
| | Upper | 2.90 | -28.93 | | |
| | Estimate | 2.45 ^b | -57.18 ^a | | |
| Inner Mongolia Plateau | Lower | 1.72 | -87.05 | 0.72 | 0.002 |
| | Upper | 3.17 | -37.56 | | |
| | Estimate | 3.01 ^a | -83.37 ^a | | |
| Tibet Plateau | Lower | 1.82 | -136.72 | 0.60 | 0.008 |
| | Upper | 4.19 | -50.84 | | |

42 Different letters indicate significant differences ($P < 0.001$) among transects in intercepts and slopes.

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Table S2 Pearson coefficients for correlations among stomatal conductance (gs) and environmental factors and plant properties.

| Transect | Variables | gs | Aridity | MAP | SM | VPD | SR | MAT | MATMAX | LA | SLA |
|------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|-----|
| Loess Plateau | gs | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Aridity | -.848** | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| | Precipitation | .856** | -.997** | 1 | | | | | | | |
| | SM | .719* | -.781** | .795** | 1 | | | | | | |
| | VPD | -0.554 | 0.616 | -0.563 | -0.251 | 1 | | | | | |
| | SR | -.639* | .810** | -.827** | -.851** | 0.217 | 1 | | | | |
| | Temp _{mean} | .641* | -.665* | .710* | .766** | 0.074 | -.849** | 1 | | | |
| | Temp _{max} | .678* | -.698* | .737* | .751* | -0.026 | -.795** | .980** | 1 | | |
| | LA | .757* | -.881** | .863** | 0.567 | -.751* | -.637* | 0.425 | 0.481 | 1 | |
| | SLA | -0.519 | 0.460 | -0.454 | -0.499 | 0.356 | 0.422 | -0.433 | -0.483 | -0.533 | 1 |
| Inner Mongolia Plateau | gs | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Aridity | -.843** | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| | Precipitation | .919** | -.945** | 1 | | | | | | | |
| | SM | .707* | -.941** | .877** | 1 | | | | | | |
| | VPD | -0.384 | .736* | -0.490 | -.741* | 1 | | | | | |
| | SR | -.728* | .725* | -.846** | -.751* | 0.196 | 1 | | | | |
| | Temp _{mean} | 0.303 | -0.002 | 0.298 | -0.009 | .647* | -0.615 | 1 | | | |
| | Temp _{max} | 0.038 | 0.270 | 0.018 | -0.235 | .814** | -0.386 | .943** | 1 | | |
| | LA | .913** | -.721* | .875** | 0.625 | -0.218 | -.731* | 0.434 | 0.189 | 1 | |
| | SLA | -0.576 | .803** | -0.627 | -.681* | .849** | 0.310 | 0.397 | 0.628 | -0.410 | 1 |
| Tibetan Plateau | gs | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Aridity | -.773** | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| | Precipitation | .675* | -.978** | 1 | | | | | | | |

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|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---|
| SM | .659* | -.787** | .795** | 1 | | | | | | |
| VPD | -.912** | .931** | -.868** | -.820** | 1 | | | | | |
| SR | -.850** | .963** | -.936** | -.801** | .943** | 1 | | | | |
| Temp _{mean} | -.670* | 0.325 | -0.189 | -0.454 | 0.622 | 0.393 | 1 | | | |
| Temp _{max} | -.852** | .795** | -.740* | -.795** | .935** | .832** | .760* | 1 | | |
| LA | 0.610 | -0.620 | 0.504 | 0.219 | -0.624 | -.658* | -0.401 | -0.536 | 1 | |
| SLA | -.648* | 0.558 | -0.486 | -.779** | .715* | 0.516 | .724* | .729* | -0.078 | 1 |

51 **, P<0.01; *, P<0.05. gs, stomatal conductance; SM, soil moisture; VPD, vapor pressure deficit; SR, total solar radiation; Temp_{mean}, mean temperature; Temp_{max}, maximum

52 temperature; LA, leaf area; SLA, specific leaf area.