

## Supplementary material of “Unearthing the soil-borne microbiome of land plants”

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**Table S1.** List of land plants sampled and their taxonomic categories. N = no; Y = yes.

Species	Division	Major_clade	Family	Vascular_pla	Seed_pla	Flowering_pla	Eudico	Microsi
<i>Calliergonella</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Amblystegiace	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Sanionia</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Amblystegiace	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Brachythecium</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Brachytheciace	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Eurhynchium</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Brachytheciace	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Eurhynchium</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Brachytheciace	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Eurhynchium</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Brachytheciace	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Homalothecium</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Brachytheciace	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Kindbergia</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Brachytheciace	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Myuroclada</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Brachytheciace	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Pseudoscleropodi</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Brachytheciace	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Rhynchostegium</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Brachytheciace	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Bryum argenteum</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Bryaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Bryum</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Bryaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Bryum</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Bryaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Ptychostomum</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Bryaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Rosulabryum</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Bryaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Rosulabryum</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Bryaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Rosulabryum</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Bryaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Campylopus</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Dicranaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Campylopus</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Dicranaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Campylopus</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Dicranaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Leucobryum</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Dicranaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Ceratodon</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Ditrichaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Fissidens</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Fissidentaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Funaria</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Funariaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Funaria</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Funariaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Hylocomium</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Hylocomiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Hylocomium</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Hylocomiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Rhytidium</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Hylocomiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Homomallium</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Hypnaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Hypnum</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Hypnaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Pylaisiella</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Hypnaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Antitrichia</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Leucodontaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Mnium hornum</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Mniaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Mnium</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Mniaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Moss</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	NA	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Octoblepharum</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Octoblepharaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Atrichum</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Polytrichaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Polytrichum</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Polytrichaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Polytrichum</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Polytrichaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Polytrichum</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Polytrichaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Aloina bifrons</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Pottiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Barbula</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Pottiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Barbula vinealis</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Pottiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Crossidium</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Pottiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Crossidium</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Pottiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Desmatodon</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Pottiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Didymodon</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Pottiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Didymodon</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Pottiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS

<i>Syntrichia</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Pottiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Tortula ruralis</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Pottiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Tortula</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Pottiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Trichostomum</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Pottiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Ptychomitrium</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Ptychomitriaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Sphagnum</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Sphagnaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Stereophyllum</i> sp	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Stereophyllaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Thuidium</i>	Bryophyta	Bryophytes	Thuidiaceae	N	N	N	N	MOSS
<i>Acer</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Aceraceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Acer</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Aceraceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Acer</i> sp	Magnolioph	Rosids	Aceraceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Acer spicatum</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Aceraceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Acer tegmentosum</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Aceraceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Acer triflorum</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Aceraceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Atriplex clivicola</i>	Magnolioph	Caryophylla	Amaranthaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Atriplex halimus</i>	Magnolioph	Caryophylla	Amaranthaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Atriplex</i>	Magnolioph	Caryophylla	Amaranthaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Chenopodium</i>	Magnolioph	Caryophylla	Amaranthaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Haloxylon</i>	Magnolioph	Caryophylla	Amaranthaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Noaea mucronata</i>	Magnolioph	Caryophylla	Amaranthaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Schinus latifolius</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Anacardiaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Elaeis guineensis</i>	Magnolioph	Monocots	Arecaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Betulaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Betula dahurica</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Betulaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Betulaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Rorippa</i> sp	Magnolioph	Rosids	Brassicaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Tillandsia</i>	Magnolioph	Monocots	Bromeliaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Buxus</i>	Magnolioph	CRPT+B	Buxaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Browningia</i>	Magnolioph	Caryophylla	Cactaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Celtis australis</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Cannabaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Cistus creticus</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Cistaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Cupressus</i>	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Cupressaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Juniperus</i> sp	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Cupressaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Ephedra</i>	Gnetophyta	Gymnosper	Ephedraceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Empetrum</i> sp	Magnolioph	Asterids	Ericaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Acacia caven</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Fabaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Adenanthera</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Fabaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Cassia tora</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Fabaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Senegalia caffra</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Fabaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Fagaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Quercus</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Fagaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Fagaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Quercus</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Fagaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Quercus</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Fagaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Fagaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Quercus</i> sp	Magnolioph	Rosids	Fagaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Quercus suber</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Fagaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Quercus</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Fagaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Quercus mongoli</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Fagaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Ginkgophyta	Gymnosper	Ginkgoaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Stachys</i> sp	Magnolioph	Asterids	Lamiaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Tilia amurensis</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Malvaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.

<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Malvaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Tilia europaea</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Malvaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Marantochloa</i>	Magnolioph	Monocots	Marantaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Ficus</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Moraceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Musa</i> sp	Magnolioph	Monocots	Musaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Angophora</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Myrtaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Eucalyptus</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Myrtaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Eucalyptus</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Myrtaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Eucalyptus</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Myrtaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	Magnolioph	Rosids	Myrtaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Fraxinus</i>	Magnolioph	Asterids	Oleaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Fraxinus</i> sp	Magnolioph	Asterids	Oleaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Ligustrum</i>	Magnolioph	Asterids	Oleaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Magnolioph	Asterids	Oleaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Abies religiosa</i>	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Pinaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Larix gmelinii</i>	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Pinaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Picea abies</i>	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Pinaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Picea mariana</i>	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Pinaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Picea</i>	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Pinaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Pinus elliotii</i>	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Pinaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Pinaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Pinus</i>	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Pinaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Pinus palustris</i>	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Pinaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Pinus pinaster</i>	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Pinaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Pinaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Pinaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Pinus</i> sp	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Pinaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Pinus thunbergii</i>	Pinophyta	Gymnosper	Pinaceae	Y	Y	N	N	V.
<i>Brachiaria</i>	Magnolioph	Monocots	Poaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Cynodon</i>	Magnolioph	Monocots	Poaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Cynodon</i> sp	Magnolioph	Monocots	Poaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Echinoalaena</i>	Magnolioph	Monocots	Poaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Eragrostis</i> sp	Magnolioph	Monocots	Poaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Festuca</i> sp	Magnolioph	Monocots	Poaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Merostachys</i> sp	Magnolioph	Monocots	Poaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Pennisetum</i>	Magnolioph	Monocots	Poaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Poa fendleriana</i>	Magnolioph	Monocots	Poaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Poa</i> sp	Magnolioph	Monocots	Poaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Stenotaphrum</i>	Magnolioph	Monocots	Poaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Triodia</i>	Magnolioph	Monocots	Poaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Zoysia japonica</i>	Magnolioph	Monocots	Poaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Rosaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Citrus</i> sp	Magnolioph	Rosids	Rutaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Populus</i> sp	Magnolioph	COM	Salicaceae	Y	Y	Y	N	V.
<i>Buddleja cordata</i>	Magnolioph	Asterids	Scrophulariaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Tamarix</i> sp	Magnolioph	Caryophylla	Tamaricaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Magnolioph	Rosids	Ulmaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.
<i>Ulmus</i> sp	Magnolioph	Rosids	Ulmaceae	Y	Y	Y	Y	V.

**Table S2.** List of locations, sampling date, ecosystem type, and management. [See attached TableS2.csv file].

**Table S3.** Sequences associated with indicator bacterial phylotypes. [See attached TableS3.csv file].

**Table S4.** Sequences associated with indicator protistan phylotypes. [See attached TableS4.csv file].

**Table S5.** Sequences associated with indicator fungal phylotypes. [See attached TableS5.csv file].

**Table S6.** Primer sequences used in real time PCR.

Target Gene	Primer name	Primer sequence (5'–3')	Reference
nifH	nifH-F	AAAGGYGGWATCGGYAARTCCACCAC	Rösch et al., 2002
	nifH-R	TTGTTSGCSGCRTACATSGCCATCAT	
chiA	chif2	GACGGCATCGACATCGATTGG	Xiao et al., 2005
	Chir	CSGTCCAGCCGCGSCCRTA	
amoA	Arch-amoAF	STAATGGTCTGGCTTAGACG	Francis et al., 2005
	Arch-amoAR	GCGGCCATCCATCTGTATGT	
nosZ	nosZ-F	CGY TGT TCM TCG ACA GCC AG	Throback et al., 2004
	nosZ-R	CGSACCTTSTTGCCSTYGCG	
phoC	phoc-A-F1	CGGCTCCTATCCGTCCGG	Fraser et al., 2017
	phoc-A-R1	CAACATCGCTTTGCCAGTG	

phoD	ALPS-F730	CAGTGGGACGACCACGAGGT	Sakurai et al., 2008
	ALPS-R1101	GAGGCCGATCGGCATGTTCG	
cbbL	K2F	ACCACCAAGCCGAAGCTCGGG-	Wu et al., 2015
	V2r	GCCTTCGAGCTTGCCGACCGC	
GH18	GH18F	ATHGGNGGNTGGGGGNGAY	Hannula and van Veen, 2016.
	GH18R	GAYNTNGAYTGGGARTAY	
ClassII peroxidases	F	GGIGGIGCIGAYGGITC	Hannula and van Veen, 2016.
	R	GGIGTIGARTCGAABGG	
pmoA	pmo189f	GGNGACTGGGACTTCTGG	Bourne and Murrell, 2001
	pmo650r	ACGTCCTTACCGAAGGT	
apsA	apsAF	TGGCAGATMATGATYMACGG	Friedrich, 2002
	apsAR	GGGCCGTAACCGTCCTTGAA	

**Table S7.** List of bacterial species that are indicative of land plant-associated microbiomes. [See attached TableS7.csv file].

**Table S8.** List of protistan species that are indicative of land plant-associated microbiomes. [See attached TableS8.csv file].

**Table S9.** List of bacterial species that are indicative of vascular plant-associated microbiomes. [See attached TableS9.csv file].

**Table S10.** List of protistan species that are indicative of vascular plant-associated microbiomes. [See attached TableS13.csv file].



**Table S11.** List of fungal species that are indicative of vascular plant-associated microbiomes. [See attached TableS14.csv file].

**Table S12.** List of bacterial species that are indicative of soil moss-associated microbiomes. [See attached TableS12.csv file].

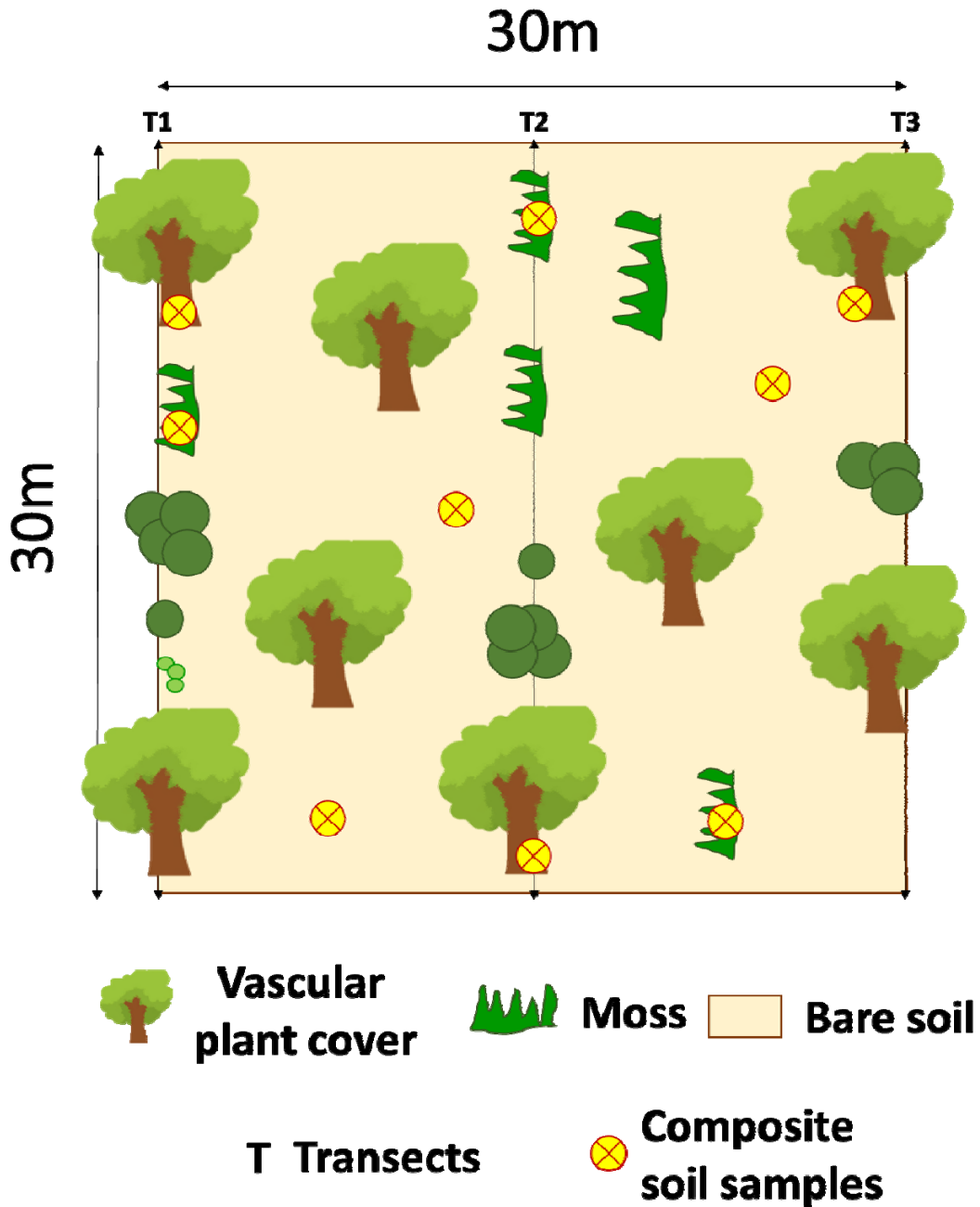
**Table S13.** List of protistan species that are indicative of soil moss microbiomes. [See attached TableS13.csv file].

**Table S14.** List of fungal species that are indicative of soil moss microbiomes. [See attached TableS11.csv file].

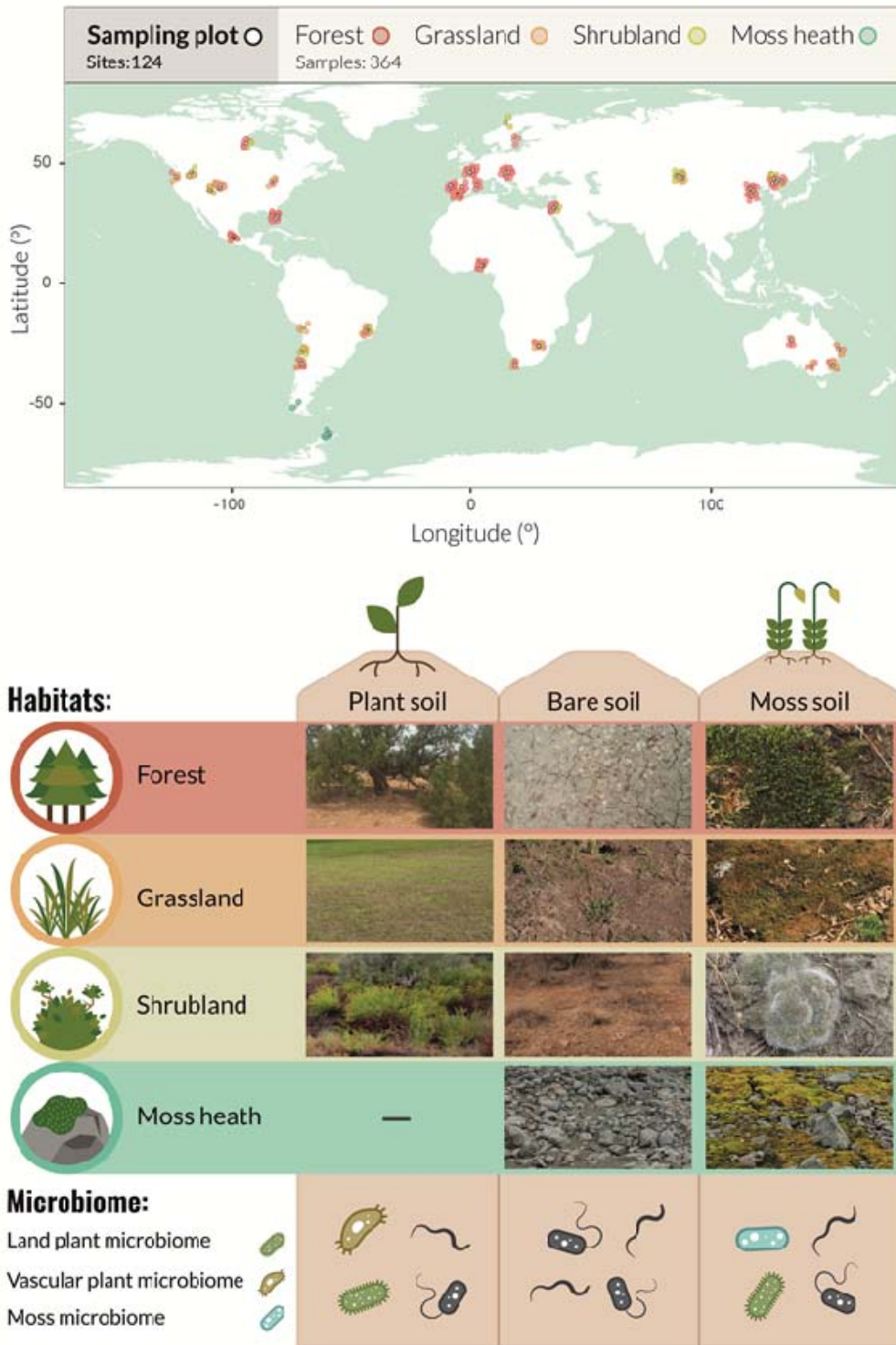
**Table S15.** Results of linear mixed models evaluating the effect of soil microhabitat on the relative abundance of microbial groups at different taxonomic levels. Post-hoc contrasts are based on Tukey tests. [See attached TableS15.csv file].

**Table S16.** Detection of thresholds in the relationship between the standardized abundance of the uniquely associated moss and plant microbiomes and environmental variables. [See attached TableS16.csv file].

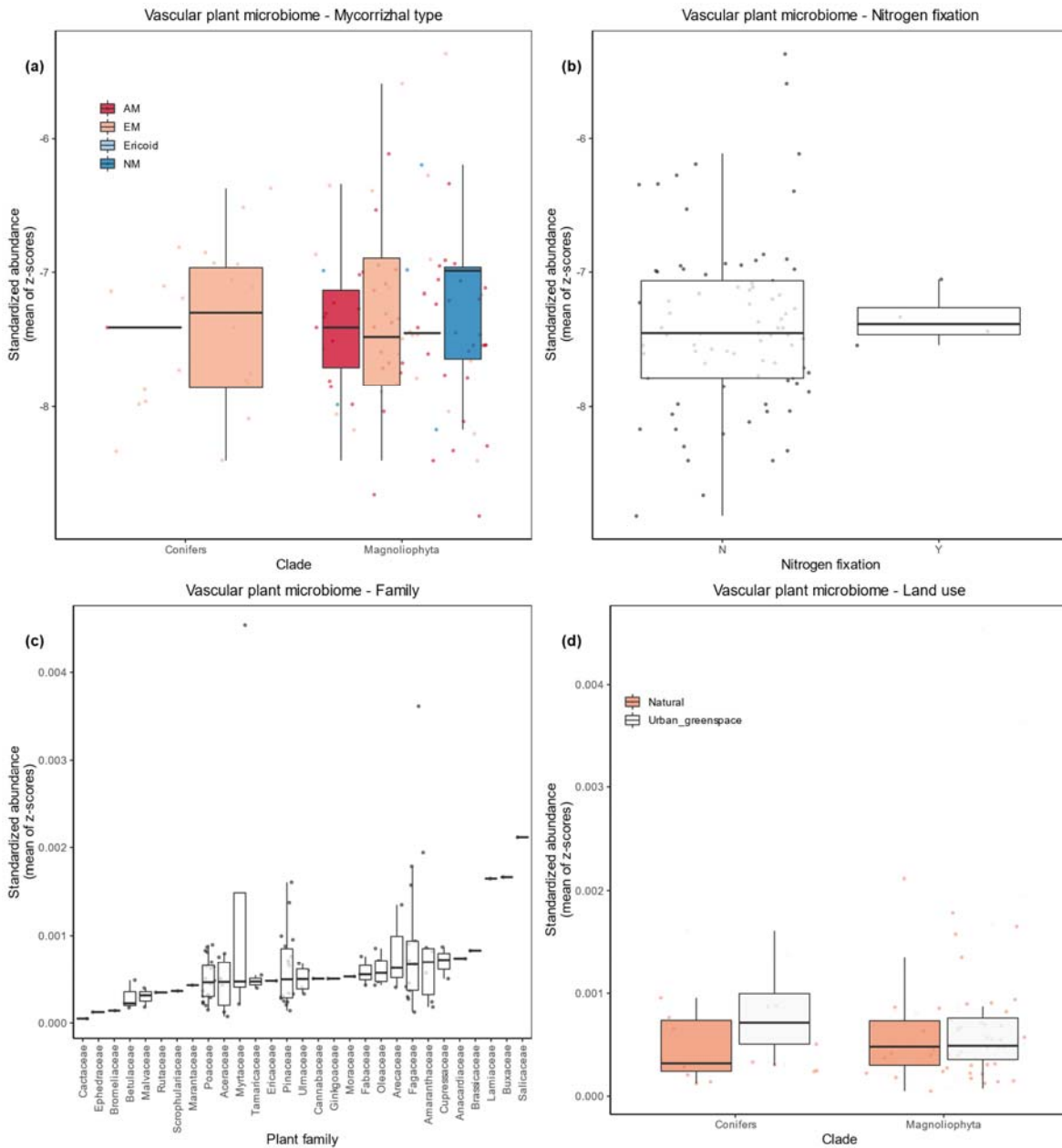
**Figure S1.** Schematic representation of sampling design. At each location, we established a 30 m × 30 m plot comprising three, equally spaced 30 m vegetation transects. Soil samples, depicted as yellow circle, were collected within three microsites: (1) underneath the most common perennial vegetation type at each location (generally tree, shrub, or grass), (2) underneath mosses and (3) in bare soil, defined as patches devoid of vegetation and not colonised by plant roots. Within each plot, only one species was sampled. Five composite soil cores were collected from each microsite, bulked and divided into two sub-samples; one that was immediately frozen (-20°C) for molecular analyses and the other air-dried for chemical analyses.



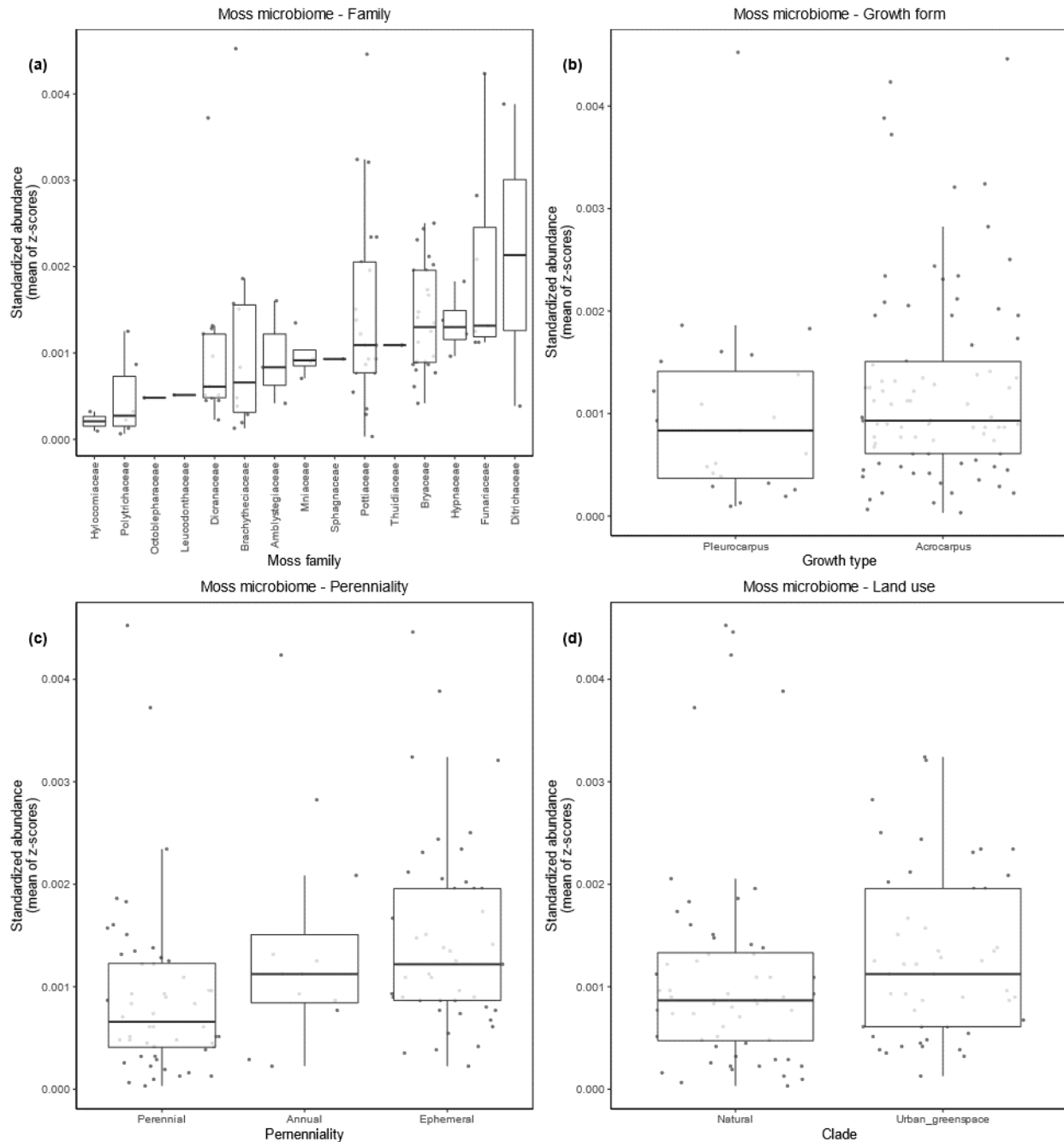
**Figure S2.** Map of locations and schematic representation of experimental design.



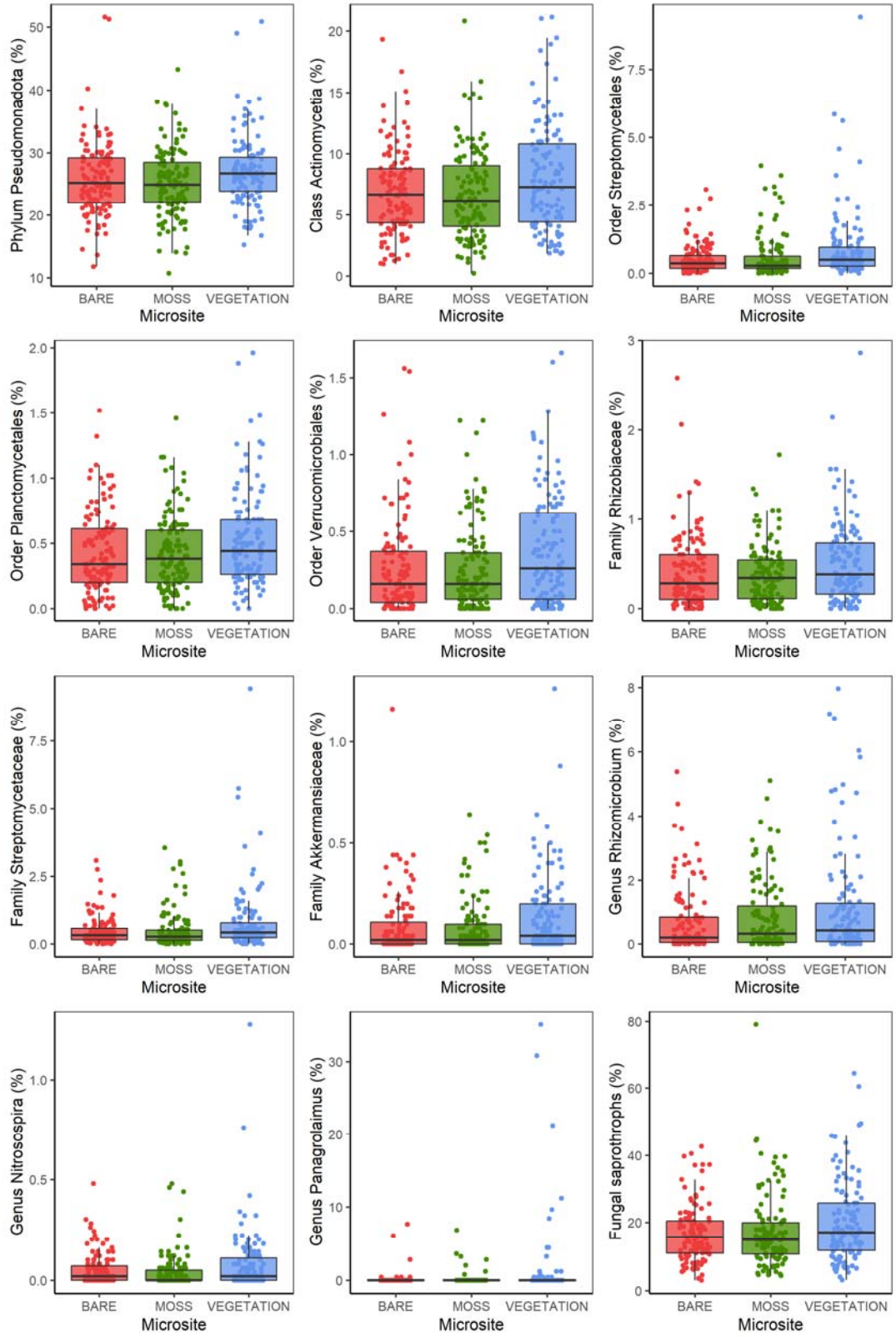
**Figure S3.** Standardised relative abundance of microbial taxa forming part of the soil-borne microbiome of vascular plants depending on functional traits (i.e., mycorrhizal type, and nitrogen fixing capacity), taxonomy (family), and land management (natural vs. urban environments). All contrasts showed no significant differences ( $P > 0.05$ ; see main text for exact values). AM = arbuscular mycorrhizal species. EM = ectomycorrhizal species. Ericoid = ericoid mycorrhizal species. NM = non-mycorrhizal species. N = no. Y = yes. Magnoliophyta refers to flowering plants (angiosperms). Conifers (Pinophyta) are shown as representative of gymnosperms.



**Figure S4.** Standardised relative abundance of microbial taxa forming part of the soil-borne microbiome of mosses depending on taxonomy (family), functional traits (growth type and perenniality), and land management (natural vs. urban environments). The abundance of soil-borne organisms uniquely linked with mosses was greater in acrocarpous and ephemeral mosses (see Results section). Pleurocarpous = prostate growth. Acrocarpous = erect growth.

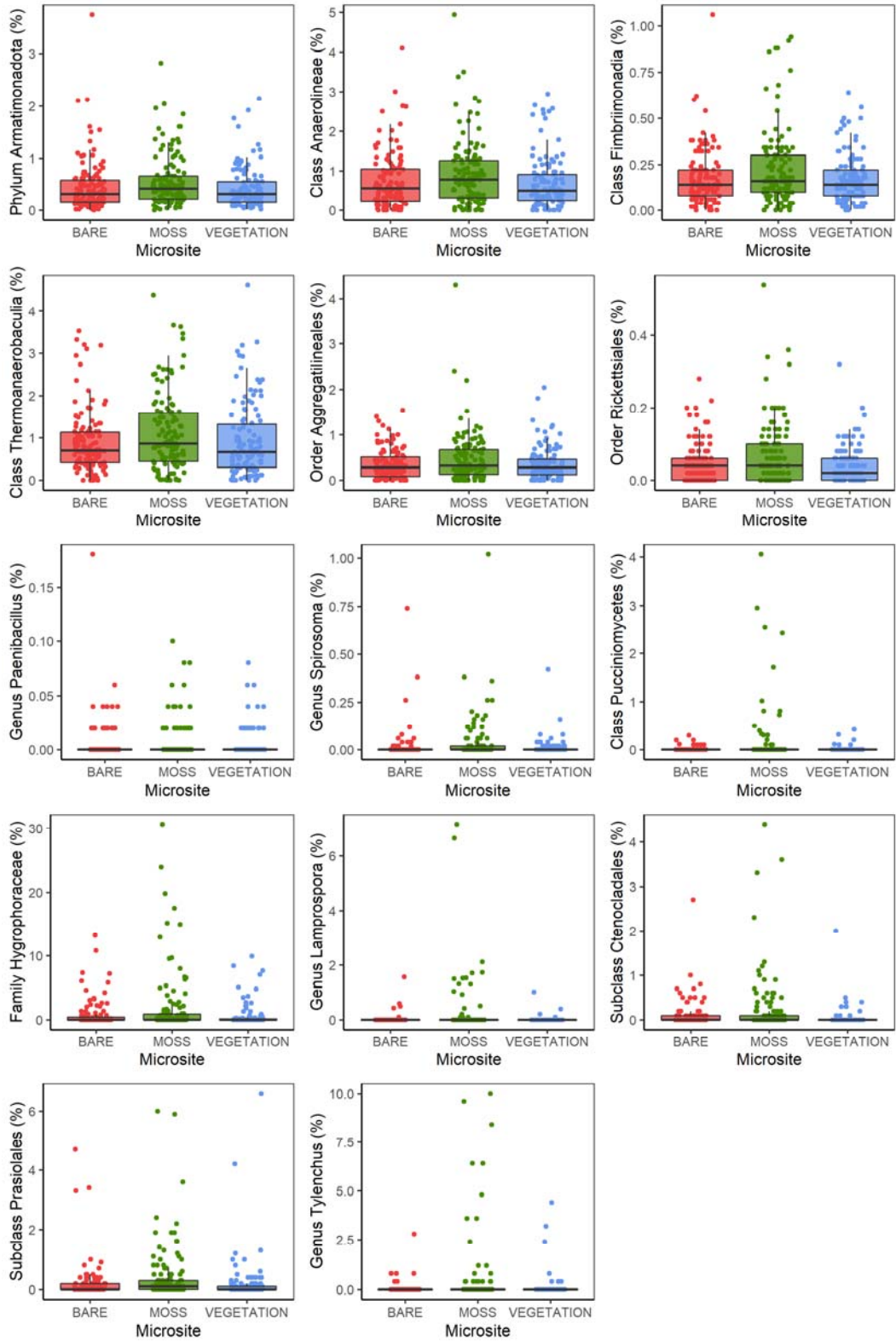


**Figure S5.** Selected examples of microbial taxa whose relative abundance was consistently higher in vascular plant-associated soils. For associated stats, see Table S15.





**Figure S6.** Selected examples of microbial taxa whose relative abundance was consistently higher in moss-associated soils. For associated stats, see Table S15.





## **Appendix 1. Extended methods**

### *Environmental thresholds*

The linear model is the null hypothesis and assumes a gradual response of a given ecosystem attribute in response to increases in the environmental factor of interest. Quadratic and GAM models indicate a nonlinear, but continuous, trend throughout the environmental gradient. We chose quadratic models to synthesize the simplest case of nonlinear trends, and GAMs to summarize more complex trends (through smoothing parameters). Therefore, we explored the presence of thresholds only when non-linear models were a better fit to the data. We did so because threshold models (e.g., segmented, step and segmented regressions) force the existence of at least one threshold, and therefore applying these methods to relationships that best fit linear regressions will lead to over-fitting and the detection of spurious thresholds.

We typified the responses of a non-linear trend by actively searching the two types of thresholds according to the definition in Groffman *et al.* (2006): continuous and discontinuous. Following this definition, we considered a threshold as the point in the environmental drivers at which a given variable either changes its value abruptly (discontinuous threshold, or breaking point) or its relationship with the environmental threshold (continuous threshold). Continuous thresholds may be well fitted to segmented regressions (i.e., a linear regression that modifies its slope at a certain value of the predictor, or threshold). Also, when fitting segmented regressions to models that are better fitted with smooth nonlinear continuous trends (such as models that best fit GAM regressions), segmented regressions indicate the point of maximum curvature of the fit. This point can be considered a threshold in the sense that it shows a peak of change in the response of the variable to the environmental driver, even if the fit of segmented regressions is poorer than that of GAM or other nonlinear models. Discontinuous thresholds involve an overall

change in the intercept, apart from the slope, and may be fitted to either step (linear regressions that change only the intercept at a given point or threshold) or a combination of step + segmented regressions (segmented; exhibits changes in both the intercept and slope at a given point or threshold).