

## Supplementary Material

**Table S1.** Effects of water regime, inoculant type and their interaction on % AMF colonization. Analysis of Variance was applied on data from AMF inoculated and co-inoculated plants.

Variable	Water regime (1df)		Inoculant (1 df)		Water regime x Inoculant (1 df)	
	<i>F</i> value	<i>P</i> value	<i>F</i> value	<i>P</i> value	<i>F</i> value	<i>P</i> value
% AMF colonization	186.9	0.000	434	0.000	83.07	0.000

**Table S2.** Effects of water regime, inoculant type and their interaction on dry biomass per plant, as revealed by Two-way (n=4; C = Control, B = *B. subtilis*, M = AMF, MB = AMF and *B. subtilis*). Superscript letters correspond to significant differences between inoculant types as emerged from Fisher's test (a: denotes the highest value).

Variable	Water regime (1df)		Inoculant (3 df)			Water regime x Inoculant (3 df)	
	<i>F</i> value	<i>P</i> value	<i>LSD</i>	<i>F</i> value	<i>P</i> value	<i>F</i> value	<i>P</i> value
Dry biomass/plant (g)	36.83	0.000	C <sup>bc</sup> +B <sup>ab</sup> +M <sup>c</sup> +MB <sup>a</sup>	6.84	0.001	0.31	0.814

**Table S3.** Effects of water regime, inoculant type and their interaction on soil enzyme activity, as revealed by Two-way ANOVA (\* P <0.05, \*\* P <0.01, \*\*\* P <0.001, for all cases n = 4) (C = control, B = *B. subtilis*, M = AMF, MB = AMF and *B. subtilis*). Superscript letters correspond to significant differences between inoculant types as emerged from Fisher's test (a: denotes the highest value).

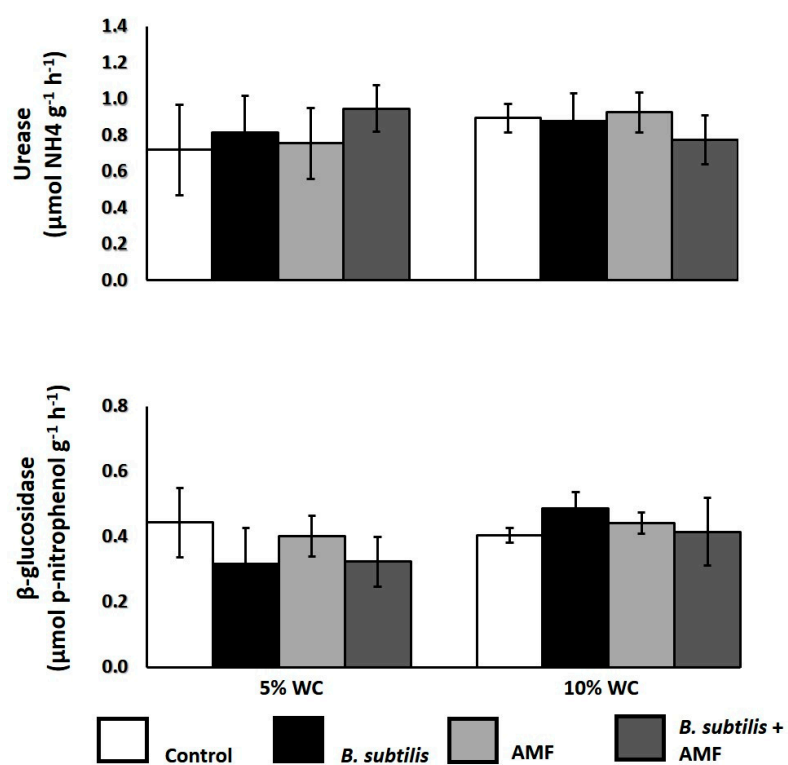
Enzymes	Water regime (1df)		Inoculant type (3 df)			Water regime x Inoculant type (3 df)		
	<i>F</i> value	<i>P</i> value	<i>LSD</i>	<i>F</i> value	<i>P</i> value	<i>F</i> value	<i>P</i> value	
Acid phosphatase	0.0293	0.8652	C <sup>b</sup> +B <sup>b</sup> +M <sup>b</sup> +MB <sup>a</sup>	3.086	0.0421	0.1603	0.9222	ns
Urease	0.2331	0.6327	-	0.0391	0.9895	0.4385	0.727	ns
β-glucosidase	1.4151	0.2435	-	0.2108	0.888	0.6576	0.5845	ns

**Table S4.** Bonferroni corrected p-values of ANOSIM analysis based on Bray-Curtis index. Values in bold denote statistically significant differences among treatments. (B: *Bacillus*, C: control, M: AMF, MB: dual inoculant; 5 corresponds to 5% WC and 10 to 10 % WC).

	C10	B5	B10	M5	M10	MB5	MB10
C5	<b>0.047</b>	1	<b>0.048</b>	0.512	<b>0.048</b>	<b>0.049</b>	0.162
C10		0.392	1	0.210	0.267	0.218	1
B5			0.238	1	1	0.212	1
B10				0.506	1	0.235	1
M5					0.235	1	1
M10						0.235	0.212
MB5							1

**Table S5.** Effects of water regime, inoculant type and their interaction on the multifunctionality index that derived from the z-scores of nine variables, as revealed by Two-way ANOVA (n = 4; C = control, B = *B. subtilis*, M = AMF, MB = AMF and *B. subtilis*). Superscript letters correspond to significant differences between inoculant types as emerged from Fisher's test (a: denotes the highest value).

	Water regime (1df)		Inoculant type (3 df)		Water regime x Inoculant type (3 df)	
	<i>F</i> value	<i>P</i> value	<i>LSD</i>	<i>F</i> value	<i>P</i> value	<i>F</i> value <i>P</i> value
<b>Multifunctionality index(z-score)</b>	8.488	0.006	C <sup>b</sup> +B <sup>bc</sup> +M <sup>c</sup> +MB <sup>a</sup>	10.802	0.000	1.699 0.188



**Figure S1.** Mean values ( $\pm$  SE) of urease and  $\beta$ -glucosidase activity in soil samples of *Lactuca sativa* under different water regimes.