

**Table S1**

a) Results of negative binomial glmm to test the effect of annual rainfall on number of new recruits observed per year. Species is a random factor in the model.

	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>T value</b>	<b>P value</b>
Intercept	0.44	0.92	0.48	0.63
Rainfall	0.02	0.01	1.96	0.05

b) Results of binomial glmm to test the effect of annual rainfall on survival of naturally recruited individuals. Seedling height (log, cm) is a covariable and species is a random factor in the model.

	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>T value</b>	<b>P value</b>
Intercept	1.33	0.81	1.65	0.1
Height	0.05	0.01	4.01	<0.001
Rainfall	-0.01	0.01	-1.79	0.07
Height*Rainfall	-0.0004	0.0001	-3.07	0.002

c) Results of glm to test the effect of annual rainfall on height (log, cm) of naturally recruited individuals. Initial height (at t-1 year) (log) is a covariable and individual/species is a random factor in the model.

	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>T value</b>	<b>P value</b>
Intercept	1.37	0.19	7.22	<0.001
Height	0.7	0.03	23.9	<0.001
Rainfall	-0.004	0.002	2.66	0.007

**Figure S1.** Annual survival of naturally recruited individuals, by species. Only species for which there were >10 individuals at each census are included.

