

Supplementary Material

Tab. S1 - Mean \pm SE, F and p values of total height, diameter and stem volume with fertilization in diploid and triploid one-year-old *Populus tomentosa* Carr. plants at the end of the growing season in the field (Fisher LSD test, $\alpha = 0.05$, $n = 4$).

| Stats | | Height (cm) | Diameter (mm) | Stem volume (cm ³) |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ploidy level | Diploid-0 | 290 \pm 2.33 ^d | 31.0 \pm 0.63 ^{ab} | 731 \pm 23.7 ^{bc} |
| | Diploid-9 | 315 \pm 5.69 ^c | 29.0 \pm 0.35 ^c | 695 \pm 25.6 ^c |
| | Triploid-0 | 338 \pm 4.02 ^b | 29.7 \pm 0.51 ^{bc} | 783 \pm 35.6 ^b |
| | Triploid-9 | 353 \pm 4.70 ^a | 32.0 \pm 0.43 ^a | 947 \pm 13.1 ^a |
| Two-way ANOVA | Ploidy levels (P) | F=90.7, $p<0.001$ | F=3.08, $p=0.11$ | F=32.4, $p<0.001$ |
| | Fertilization (F) | F=19.2, $p=0.001$ | F=0.10, $p=0.756$ | F=5.74, $p=0.038$ |
| | P \times F | F=1.29, $p=0.282$ | F=19.1, $p=0.001$ | F=14.0, $p=0.004$ |

Tab. S2 - F, p, and R² values of linear regression (y= ax+b) between field growth and nutrient resorption efficiency of one-year-old *Populus tomentosa* Carr. plants.

| Group | Variable | df | R² | F | p | a/slope |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------------|
| NRE | H | 13 | 0.0546 | 0.6937 | 0.4212 | -0.1246 |
| | D | 13 | 0.201 | 3.0189 | 0.1079 | 2.5458 |
| | SV | 13 | 0.0417 | 0.5218 | 0.4839 | 0.026 |
| PRE | H | 13 | 0.0014 | 0.0173 | 0.8975 | 0.0228 |
| | D | 13 | 0.0992 | 1.3219 | 0.2726 | 2.02 |
| | SV | 13 | 0.1629 | 2.3358 | 0.1524 | -0.058 |

Tab. S3 - F, p, and R² values of linear regression (y= ax+b) between field growth and leaf nutrient status of one-year-old *Populus tomentosa* Carr. plants.

| Group | Variable | df | R² | F | p | a/slope |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------------|
| H | [N]gre | 13 | 0.022 | 0.2697 | 0.613 | -0.0622 |
| | [N]sen | 13 | 0.0036 | 0.043 | 0.8391 | 0.0044 |
| | [P]gre | 13 | 0.0182 | 0.2222 | 0.6458 | -0.0023 |
| | [P]sen | 13 | 0.1228 | 1.6797 | 0.2193 | -0.002 |
| D | [N]gre | 13 | 0.4552 | 10.0263 | 0.0081 | 3.0172 |
| | [N]sen | 13 | 0.0002 | 0.0024 | 0.9617 | 0.0111 |
| | [P]gre | 13 | 0.2928 | 4.9695 | 0.0457 | 0.0978 |
| | [P]sen | 13 | 0.1068 | 1.4344 | 0.2542 | 0.0198 |
| SV | [N]gre | 13 | 0.1067 | 1.4339 | 0.2542 | 0.0327 |
| | [N]sen | 13 | 8.88E-06 | 0.0001 | 0.9919 | 5.22E-05 |
| | [P]gre | 13 | 0.0102 | 0.1242 | 0.7306 | -0.0004 |
| | [P]sen | 13 | 0.1656 | 2.3809 | 0.1488 | 0.0006 |