Species differences in cue responses in woody plants of North America

Deirdre Loughnan[1] and E M Wolkovich[1]

March 27, 2023

[1] Department of Forest and Conservation, Faculty of Forestry, University of British Columbia, 2424 Main Mall Vancouver, BC, Canada, V6T 1Z4.

Corresponding Author: Deirdre Loughnan, deirdre.loughnan@ubc.ca

General thoughts

1. "Producing unique temporal niches" — cool, can you expand on this at all? Maybe finally make up some 'control' environmental conditions and plot the species via that (pt 1)
2. Control environment: average conditions perhaps - mean winter chilling, spring temps, 12/12 photoperiod
3. Group results: "cue interactions", "diff across sites", "spp differences"
4. Stronger photoperiod cues Eastern sites - defense agains false spring events?
5. Site by forcing: bc of chilling? Positive at SH - where there was more chilling therefore needing less forcing, but negative at other sites (MP and HF) - less clear
6. move interaction plots to supp
7. Figure changes:
8. fig:siteCues - plot on same fig so cue differences pop
9. muplot in supp
10. Spp plot add a line with the overall estimate mean to each and think of ways to group (along x axis)... maybe by clade and then color by east/west? Or order by pt 1 and color by clade (especially as you have a convincing east/west comparison plot already)?
11. Not sure you need Fig 7-8?
12. overall message: see a lot of spp differences, but not a lot of site level differences - even with the biases introucded by our differences in winter chilling and collection methods

Comments from Florum presentation

Research questions

1. Are species responses to chilling, forcing and photoperiod cues phylogenetically structured?
2. How do species in deciduous forests across North America to these varying cues?

Results + figures

1. Cue responses and interactions...
    (a) On average, species budburst on the 27.7 day after the start of forcing, but ranged from 13.6 for *Aronia melanocarpa* to 52.1 for *Quercus velutina*
    (b) Species budburst = strongly phylogenetically structured (λ of 0.8 (0.6, 1), root trait value of 12.2 (7.2, 17.4).
    (c) All cues did lead to an advance in budburst date, chilling being strongest and photoperiod weakest
    (d) But strong interactions between cues and between cues and sites.
    (e) Forcing by chilling = strong delaying effect = low chilling offset by high forcing (Fig. S2 a).
2. Populations differed in their their overall budburst dates, but interacted with cues — effects were clearly divided between eastern and western populations.
    (a) Eastern budburst dates were consistently earlier in response to each of our three cues (Fig. S2).
    (b) Low forcing resulted in later budburst dates than high forcing (Fig. S2b)
    (c) Our two eastern populations differ — forcing at lower latitude sites = slightly later bb than high latitude sites — but western sites were similar under high forcing and only slight diff low forcing (Fig. S2b)
    (d) Across all populations low chilling = later bb, but no differences with latitude within the western and eastern populations (Fig. S2c)
    (e) Within eastern populations, chilling responses were similar for both high and low chilling, but substantially different from field only chilling (no chilling) treatment (Fig. S2c)
    (f) Strong difference in bb western population between high and low chilling, but no difference with sites (Fig. S2c).
    (g) Budburst dates were earlier under longer photoperiods — difference = greatest in eastern populations and weak in western populations.
    (h) In eastern, low latitude site had slightly later bb, but this trend was neglibile in the western populations.
3. Individual species show distinct differences in their timing of bb and realtive importance of cues.
    (a) Both chilling and forcing varied with budburst, with later bbing species having stronger responses to each cue respectively (Fig. 5).
    (b) But gradients were not as strong as expected (Fig. 4 and Fig. 5)
    (c) Species level differences (intercept) explain considerable portion of bb (Fig. 4)
4. Species differences are not due to plant architecture — shrubs and trees = very similar responses overall (Fig. 2)

(a) While some understory species, e.g. *Cornus stolonifera* fit predicted profile — weak chilling and forcing cues—- others don't — e.g. *Menziesia ferruginea* = strong responses all 3 cues (Fig. 3.

(b) Tree species = no strong trends, but e.g. *Quercus velutina* = stronger chilling and photoperiod cues as predicted, and *Fagus grandifolia* = strongest photoperiod response but others like *Prunus pensylvanica*

(c) But some surprising spp responses, e.g. *Symphoricarpos alba* had the strongest chilling response have consistently weak cue responses (Fig. 3.

Discussion

1. Across all species, relative importance of cue = varied = unique temporal niches (Fig. 3)
2. Large portion of bb due to spp differences - need more research to understand this, if not cues what causes it? Could introduce traits and foreshadow the third chapter
3. The experimental design (which is impressive) combined with your models means that most other things some models would assign to the intercept are assigned to site, species, chill, force etc. here... and still the intercept is big. Wow!!

1 Tables and figures

Table 1: Summary output from a phylogenetic mixed-effect model in which species are partially pooled and phylogeny is included on the intercept. The model includes photoperiod, forcing, and site as dummy variables, while the chilling effect is included as continuous chill portions.

	mean	sd	2.5%	50%	97.5%	n_eff	Rhat
Root trait intercept	12.24	3.12	6.22	12.23	18.24	12238.58	1.00
Lambda	0.79	0.12	0.49	0.81	0.95	10387.34	1.00
Forcing	-8.79	0.73	-10.21	-8.80	-7.35	12616.03	1.00
Photoperiod	-3.45	0.42	-4.27	-3.45	-2.64	10309.11	1.00
Chilling	-15.14	1.27	-17.68	-15.13	-12.65	6496.74	1.00
Manning Park	1.90	0.35	1.21	1.90	2.58	16138.58	1.00
Harvard Forest	-4.18	1.05	-6.27	-4.17	-2.18	1641.45	1.00
St. Hippolyte	-7.16	0.99	-9.15	-7.15	-5.24	1632.10	1.00
Forcing x photoperiod	-0.19	0.66	-1.45	-0.19	1.12	13735.69	1.00
Forcing x chilling	8.64	0.87	6.97	8.63	10.39	8764.40	1.00
Photoperiod x chilling	-0.75	0.89	-2.54	-0.74	1.02	7283.02	1.00
Forcing x Manning Park	-1.79	0.77	-3.29	-1.79	-0.28	12317.18	1.00
Photoperiod x Manning Park	0.54	0.80	-1.02	0.55	2.10	10772.65	1.00
Chilling x Manning Park	-0.31	1.64	-3.64	-0.28	2.90	6942.19	1.00
Forcing x Harvard Forest	3.53	1.15	1.28	3.52	5.81	5324.15	1.00
Photoperiod x Harvard Forest	-2.24	0.88	-3.94	-2.24	-0.48	9744.45	1.00
Chilling x Harvard Forest	7.16	2.13	2.89	7.22	11.25	3869.17	1.00
Forcing x St. Hippolyte	4.86	1.15	2.62	4.86	7.11	4853.50	1.00
Photoperiod x St. Hippolyte	-2.36	0.87	-4.05	-2.37	-0.66	9547.88	1.00
Chilling x St. Hippolyte	6.21	1.71	2.77	6.22	9.52	4761.63	1.00

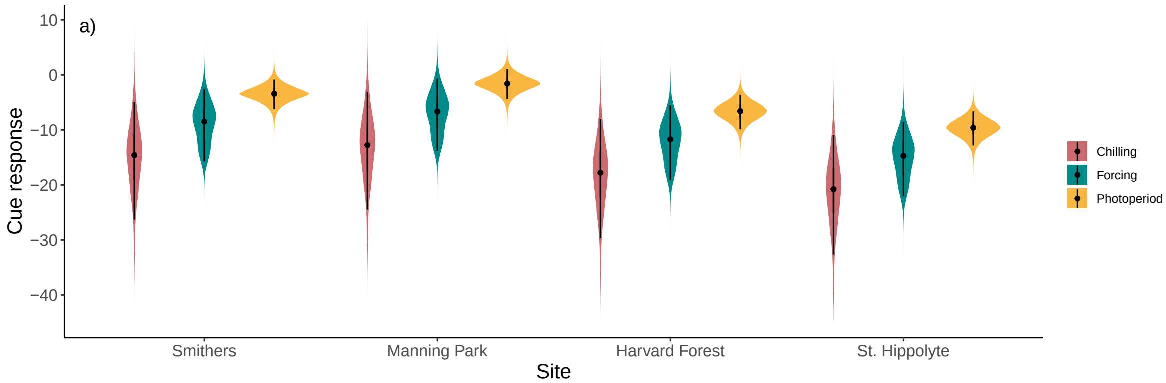

Figure 1: Posterior distributions of estimated cue responses with site level effects for individual sites, depicting a) chilling, b) forcing, and c) photoperiod cue responses. Black circles represent the median cue response, while the thinner black line the 90% quantile interval. The coloured distribution is the the posterior density of the posteriors of the cue responses and site level responses for all species at a given site. The y-axis spans the entire range of the data.

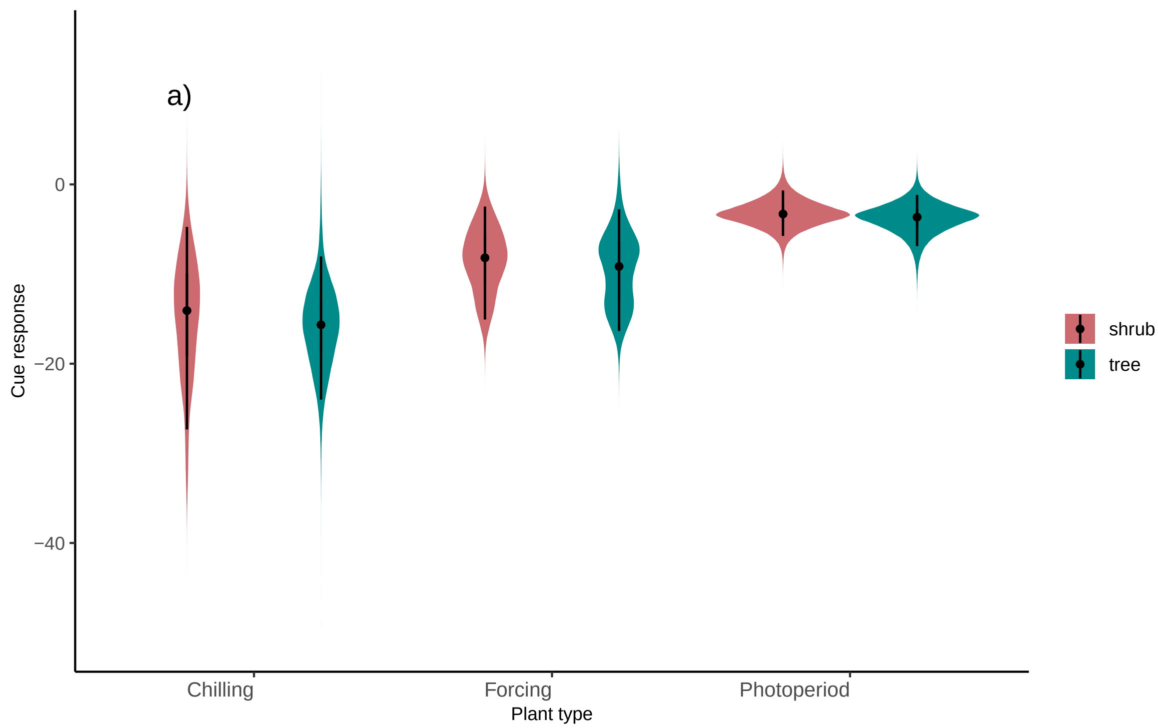

Figure 2: Comparisons of posterior distributions for cues estimates between shrub and tree species. Black circles represent the median cue response, while the thinner black line the 90% quantile interval. The coloured distribution is the the posterior density of the posteriors of the cue responses for all species within a given architectural type. The y-axis spans the entire range of the data.

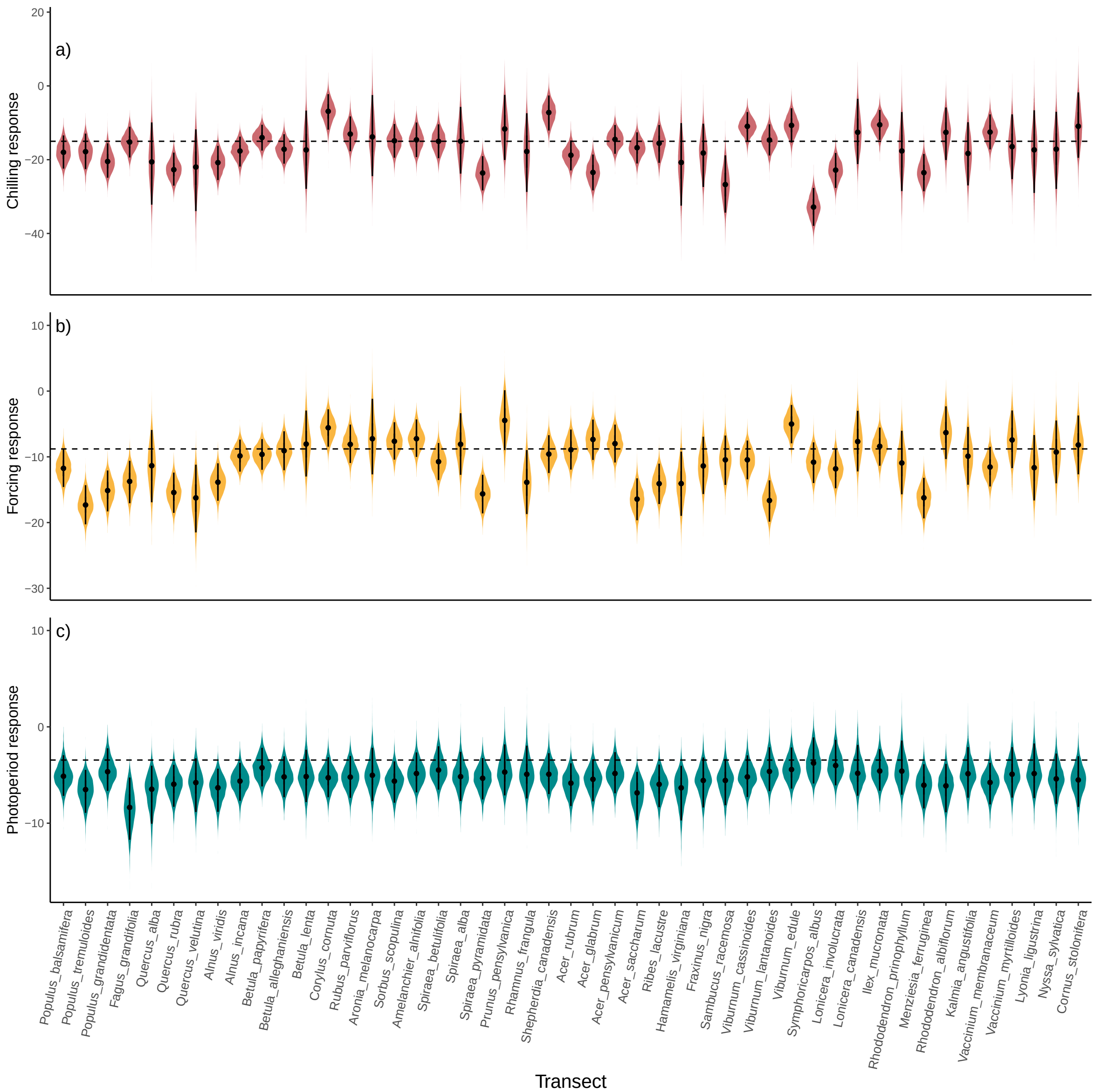

Figure 3: Species differences in cue estimate posterior distributions, comparing species differences across a) chilling, b) forcing, and c) photoperiod cues. The median cue response is illustrated by the black circle, while the 90% quantile interval is illustrated by the black line. The coloured distribution depicts the shape of the posterior density for all samples of a given species.

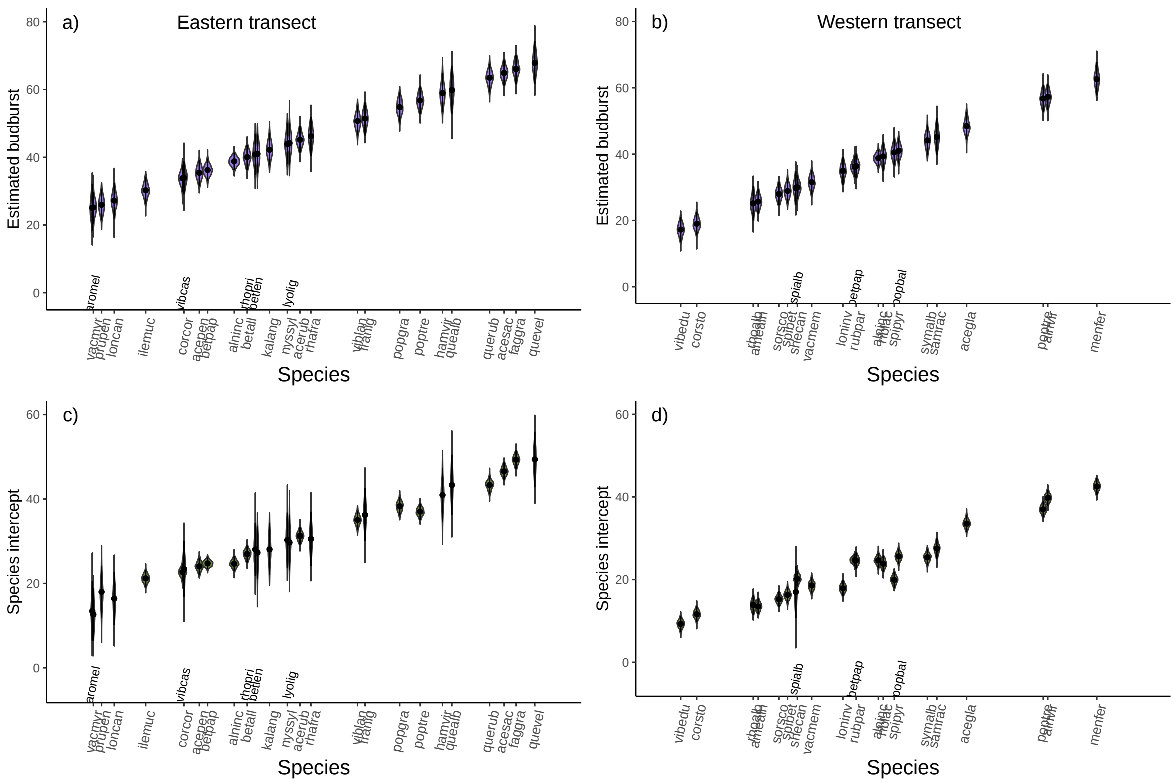

Figure 4: Estimated budburst (a, b) and species intercepts (c, d) ranked by budburst dates for both the eastern (a, c) and western (b, d) transects.

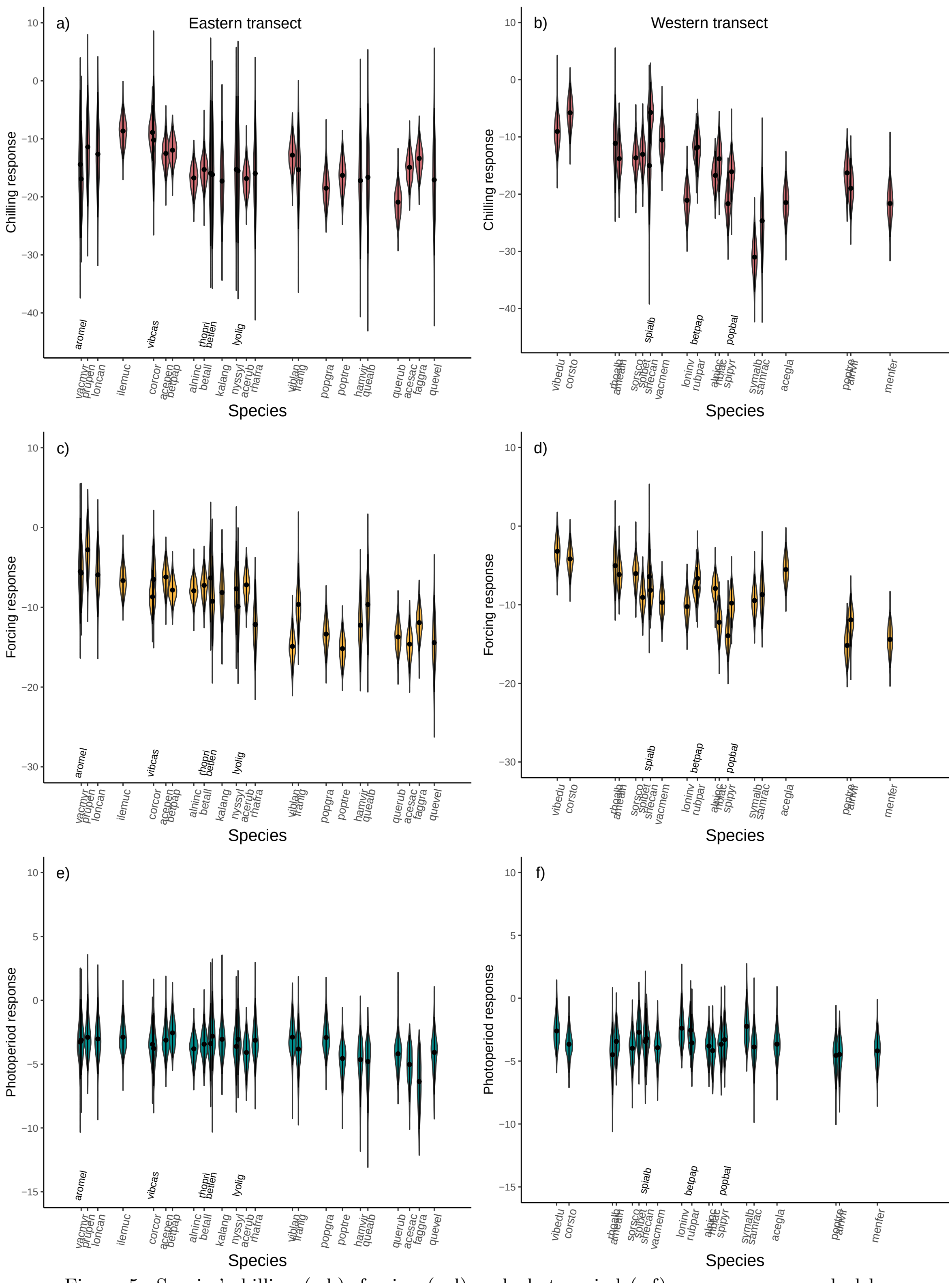

Figure 5: Species' chilling (a,b), forcing (c,d) and photoperiod (e,f) cue responses ranked by estimated budburst dates for both the eastern (a, c, e) and western (b, d, f) transects.