We measured root biomass (Data Table 1) in the top 30 cm of peat in 2014. On 31 May 2014, we collected two cores (7.6 cm diam., 30 cm deep) from each plot using a PVC pipe with a sharpened metal cylindrical tip. We manually extracted roots from cores and dried them at 55 C for four days prior to weighing.

We quantified root production Data Table 2) using the ingrowth bag approach. On 1 June 2014, we inserted two tulle bags (7.6 cm diam.; 30 cm tall) filled with root-free Premier organic peatmoss (Premier Tech, Riviere-du-Loup, Québec, Canada) vertically into the peat in each plot. To calculate 1- and 2-year root production, we removed one bag on 5 October 2014 and the other on 23 September 2015. We cut the peat in each of the retrieved bags in half (2 15-cm sections) prior to freezing. Due to the high density of fine roots throughout the cores, we quantified ingrown root biomass in 6.5-8.5 cm and 16.5-18.5 subsamples of each core, manually separating roots from the peat, and drying the roots for 4 days at 55 C prior to weighing them.