



Figure 4. Tracking can be conceptualized as changes in priority effects or changes in storage effects. In a priority effect model (A,B), the coexistence mechanism is a within-year tradeoff between an early-germinating species that pre-empt resources (sp 1) and late-germinating species that is a superior resource competitor (sp 2) (A, where green arrow indicates the start of season); no between-year variation is required to maintain coexistence. In a storage effect model (C,D), variation in the timing of the start of season (indicated by the distribution in green, top of C) results in differential species-response to the environment (illustrated by species-specific germination curves, bottom of C); this interannual variation in species-response to the environment (D) – along with a seedbank or other interannual storage