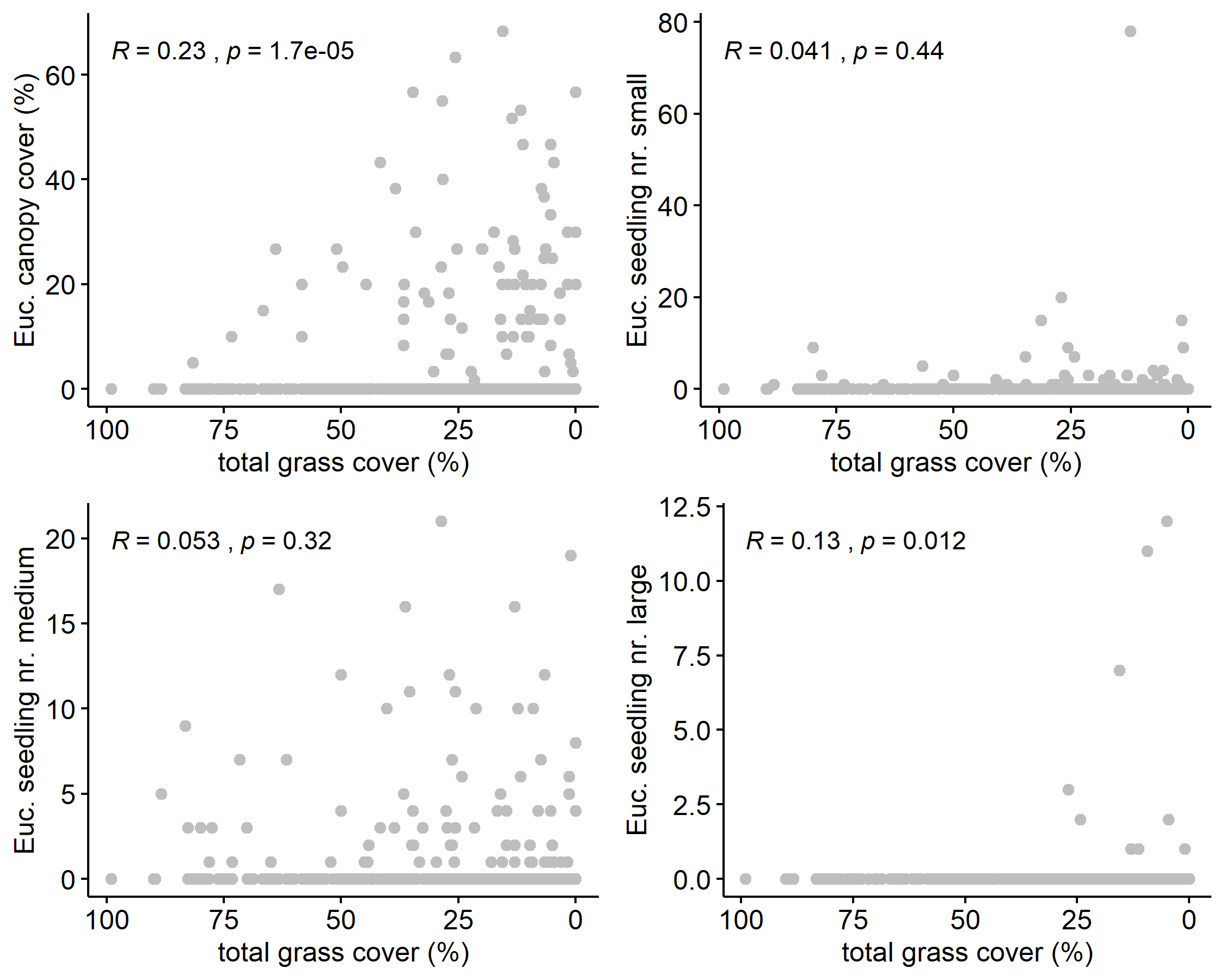
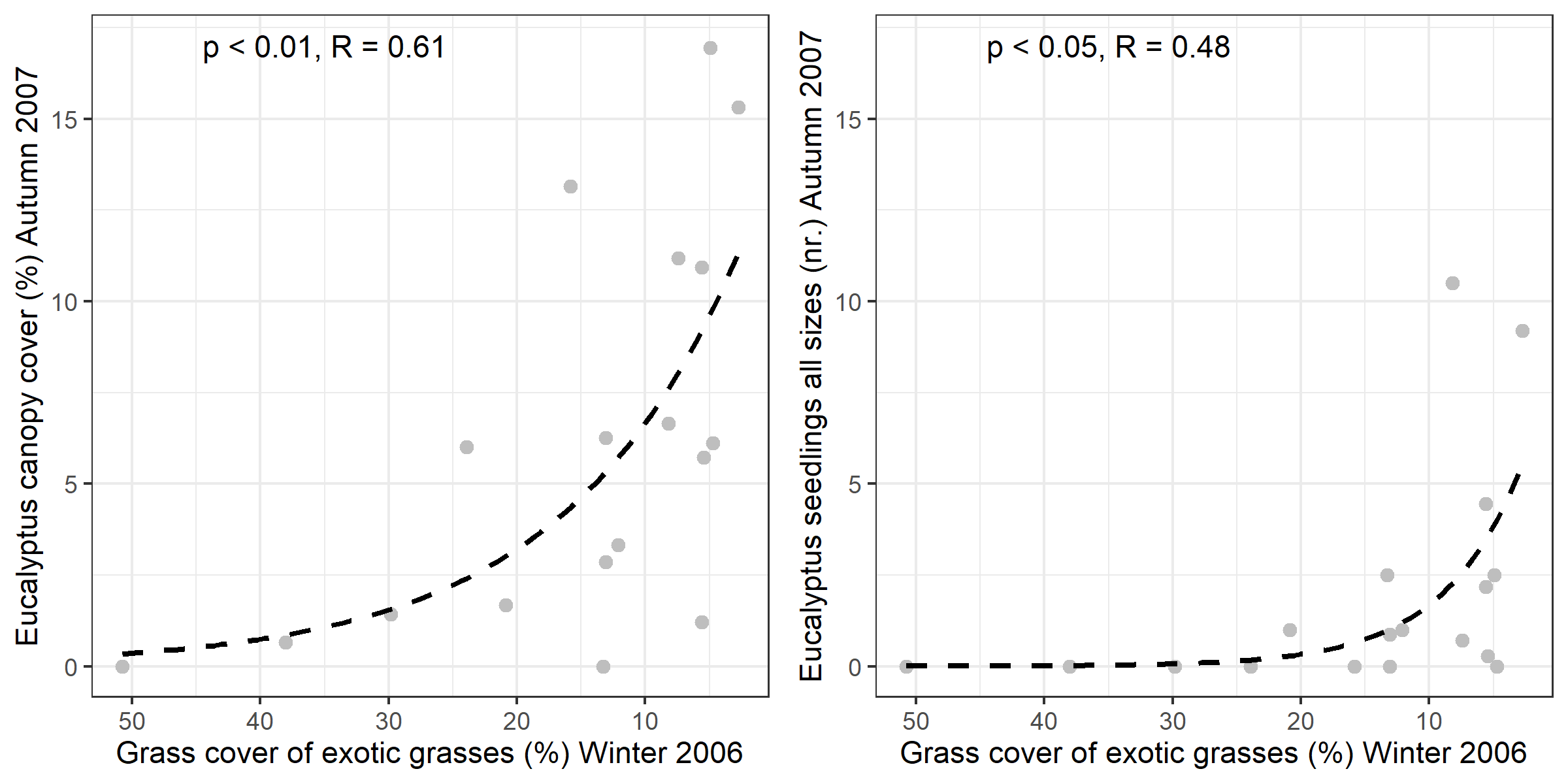
**Results**

*Effect of grass cover on Eucalyptus growth*

We found an overall negative influence of total grass cover on Eucalyptus growth, which, on plot-level was blanketed by many plots with no Eucalyptus present (Fig. 1). Clearer trends were observed on property level. While total grass cover and native grass cover hat no consistent effect on Eucalyptus growth, exotic grass cover in the Winter of 2006 srongly reduced both Eucalyptus canopy cover and Eucaylptus seedling number of all sizes (Fig. 2 *p* < 0.05).



**Figure 1** Plot-level relationships of Eucalyptus canopy cover (upper left) as well as different seedling sizes of Eucalyptus with total grass cover. R and *p* were determined using Spearman correlations.



**Figure 2** Property-level relationships of Eucalyptus canopy cover (left) and combined seedlings (right) in Autumn 2007 with grass cover of exotic grasses in the Winter of 2006. The dashed line represents the best fit with a reversed exponential-decay function. R and *p* were determined through Pearson correlation of observed vs. fitted values. Fitted equations were y = 13.85 ± 4.01 \* *e*(-0.07 ± 0.04 \* x) (left) and y =8.71 ± 5.48 \* *e*(-0.16 ± 0.11 \* x) (right).

*Influence of site parameters on Eucalyptus growth*

[Bernd]