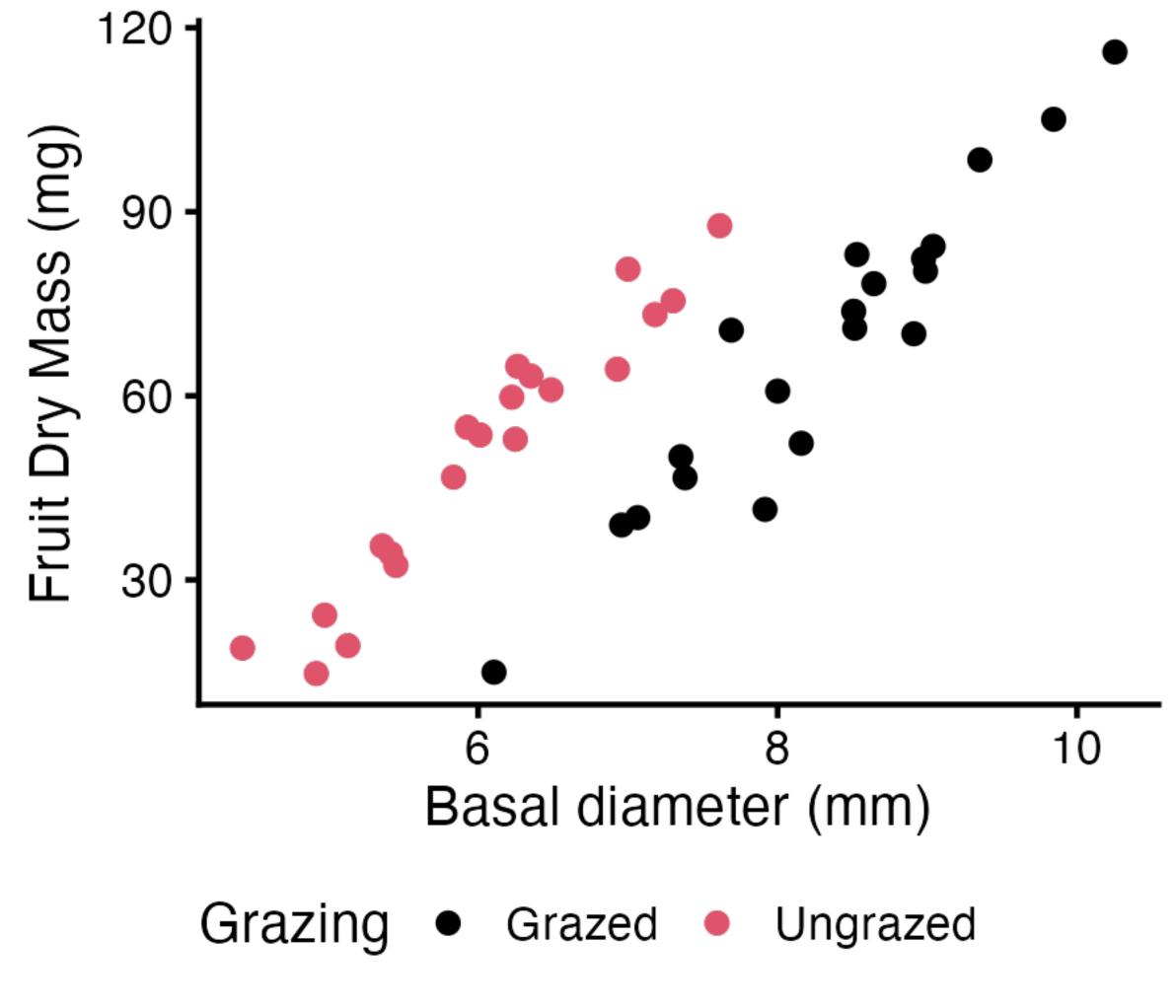
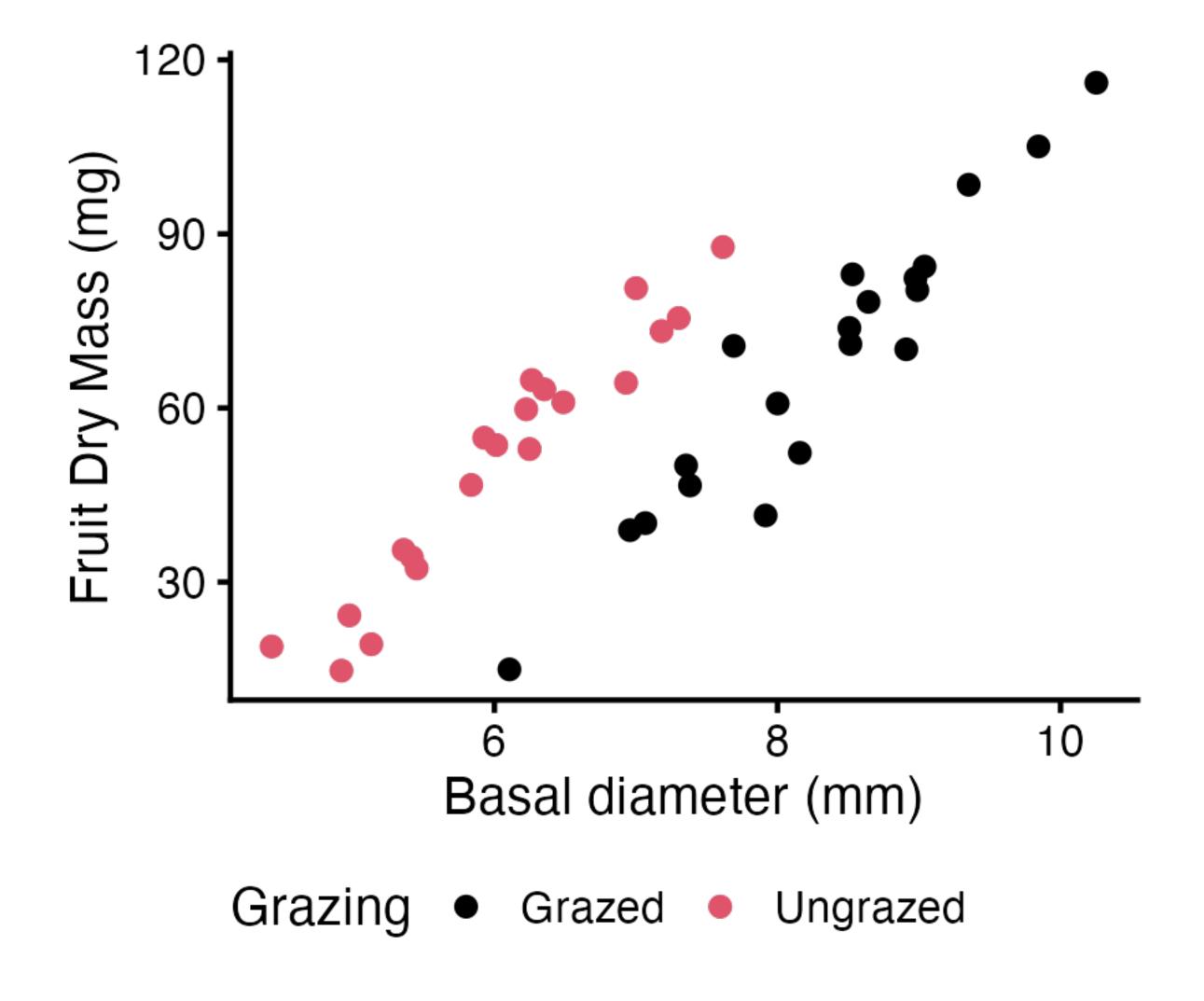
Example with more predictors

- Question: what's the impact of herbivory on plant fitness?
- **Field experiment**: 40 plants of *Ipomopsis* agreggata assigned at random to two treatments: unprotected from grazing by rabbits and protect from grazing by fenced cages.
- Response variable: fruit yield of each plant (mg dry mass)
- Predictor variables:
 - Treatment: fenced or non-fenced
 - Basal diameter of each plant (mm), measured before the treatment



Scale variables



• It's good practice to scale variables by their standard deviation and subtract the mean:

$$\tilde{y}_i = \frac{y_i - \overline{y}}{sd(y)}$$

- The z-score of a continuous variable is a measure of how many standard deviations a data point is from the mean of the dataset
- Using z-scores makes coefficients easier to interpret and comparable across variables with different scales
- The transformation is linear, and we can always recover parameter values on their original scale by multiplying by the standard deviation