

# Mast-Trait

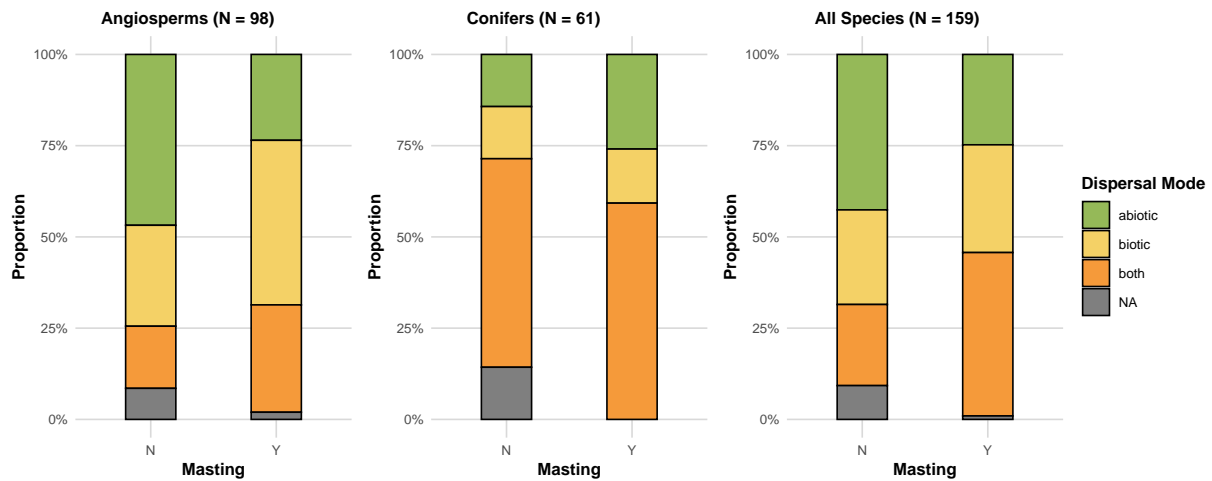
Xiaomao Wang

December 19, 2025

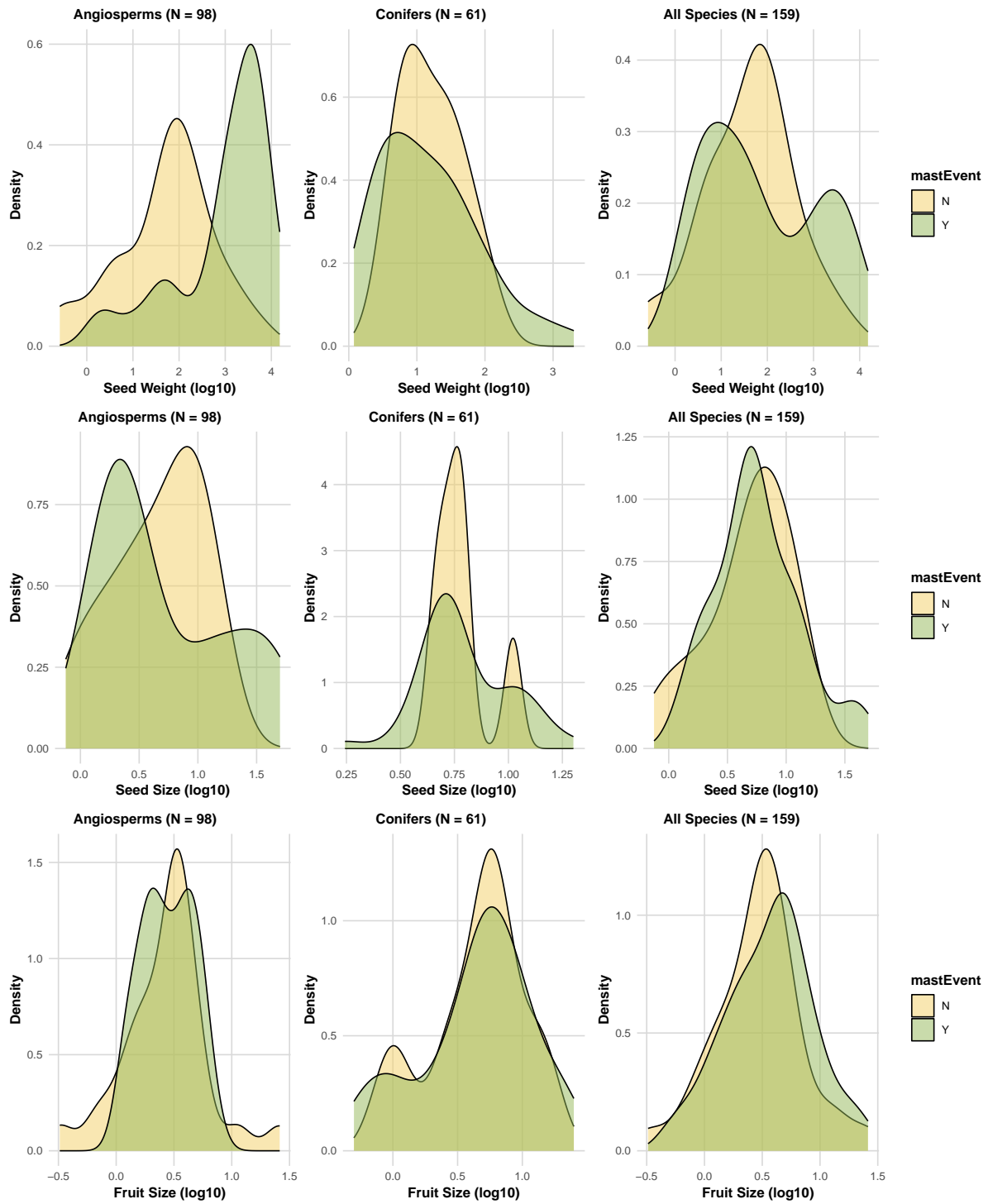
## Hypotheses

### Predator Satiation

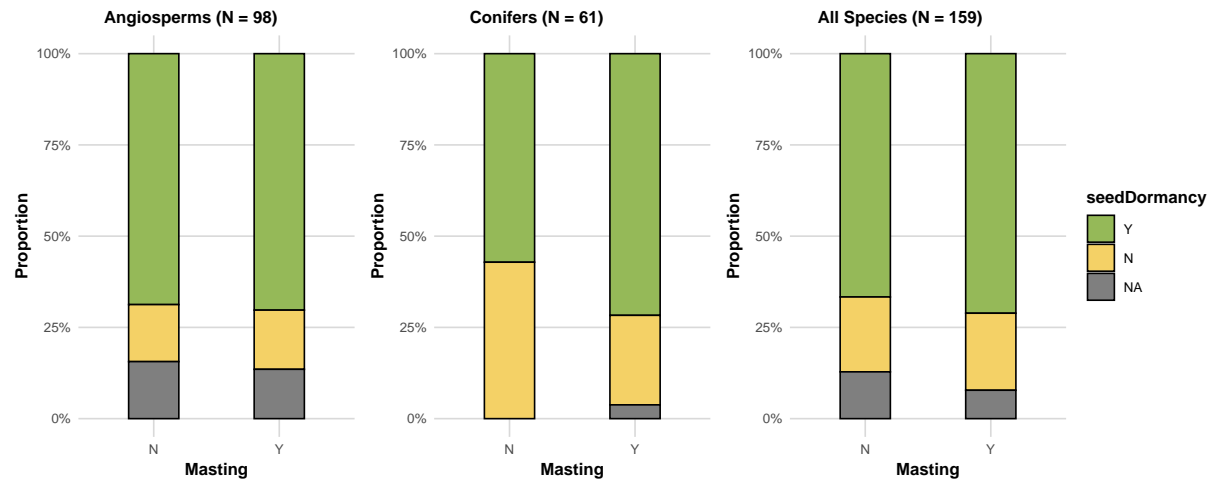
- Dispersal mode: Animal-dispersed species may be more likely to mast, or the mechanisms behind masting could differ depending on dispersal mode.



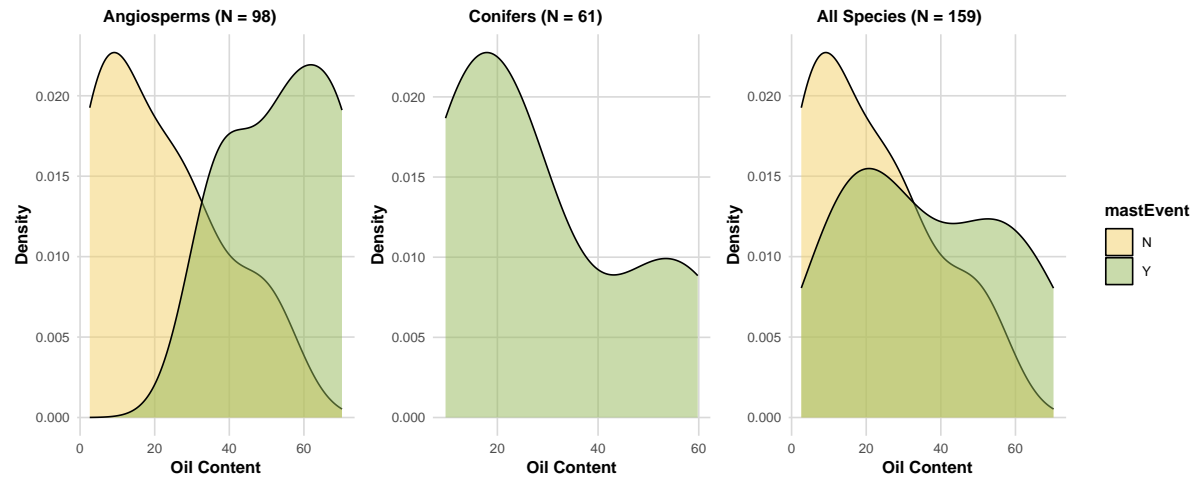
- **Seed size:** Among animal-dispersed species, larger-seeded species might be more prone to masting.



- **Seed dormancy:** Species with dormant seeds are expected to be more likely to mast.

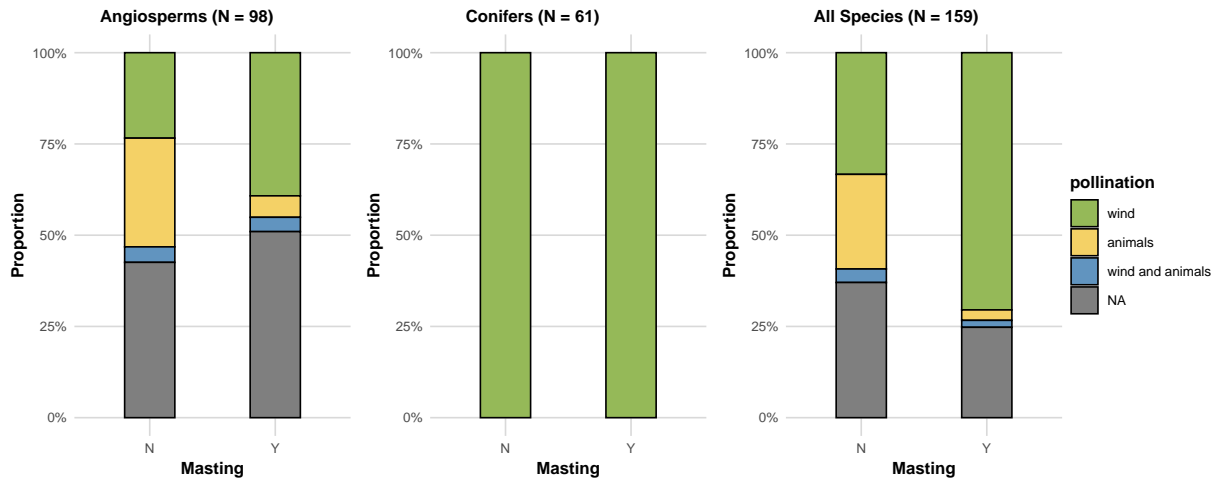


- **Nutrient content:** Species with more nutritious seeds may be more likely to mast.

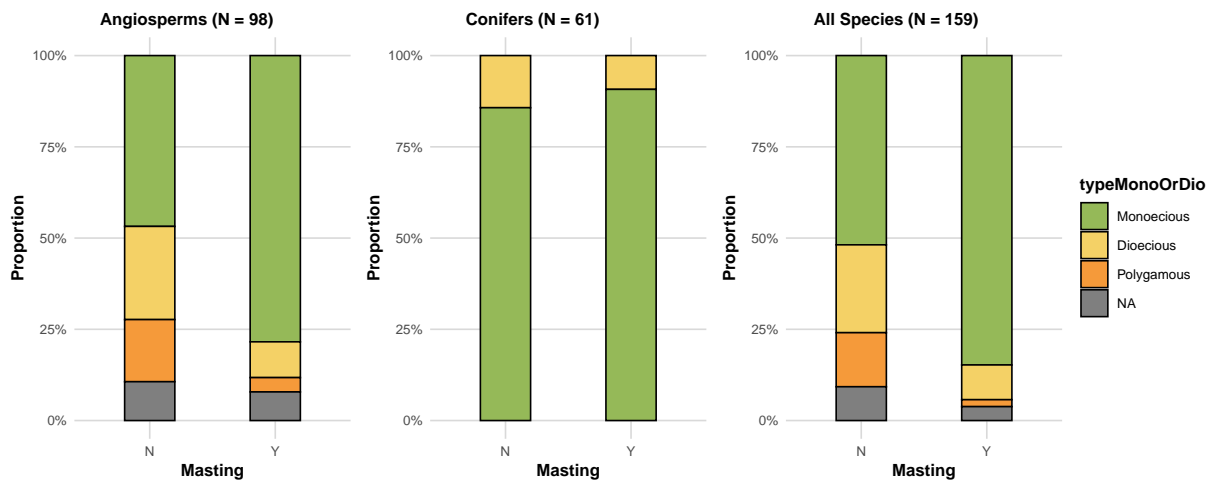


## Pollination Coupling

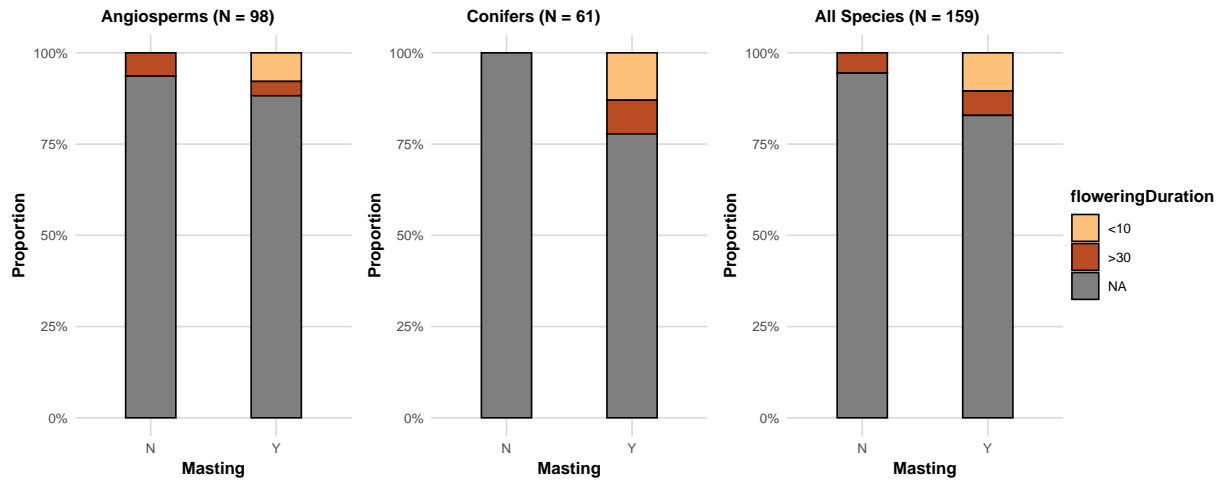
- Wind-pollinated species are expected to mast more frequently.



- Monoecious species may be more likely to mast.

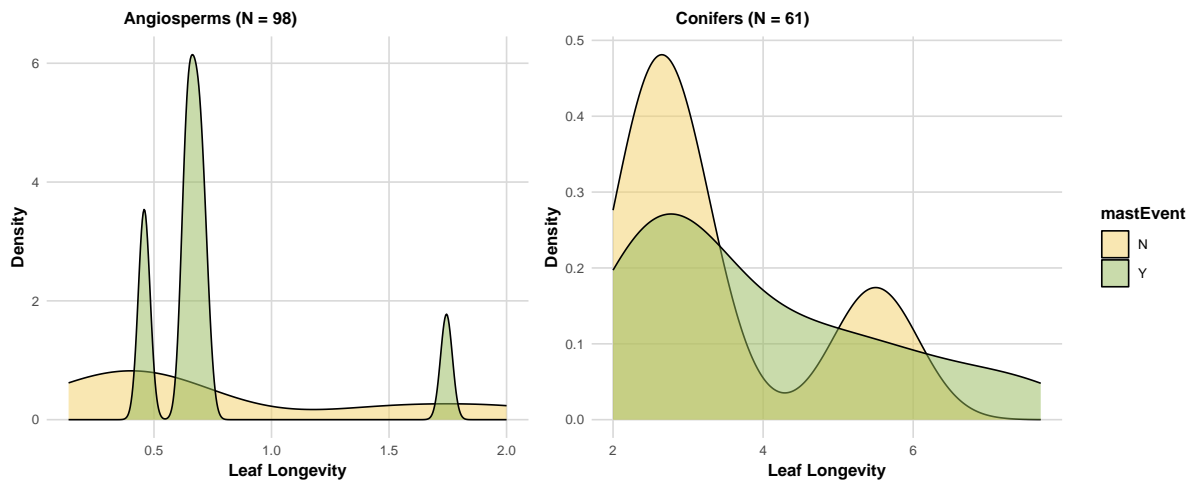


- Species with longer flowering periods may be more likely to mast.

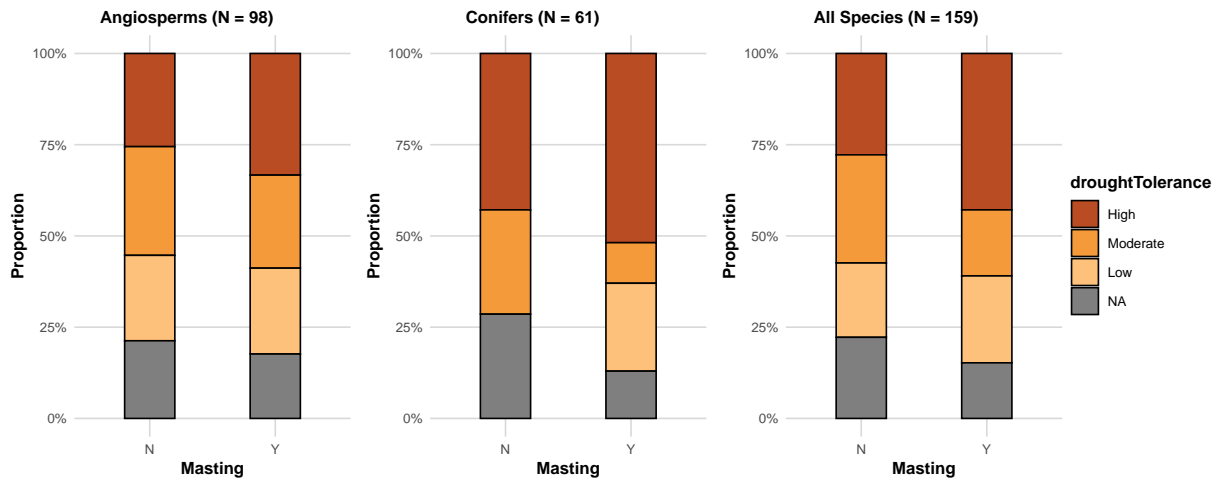


## Resource Matching

- Leaf longevity: Species with long-lived leaves are expected to mast more frequently.

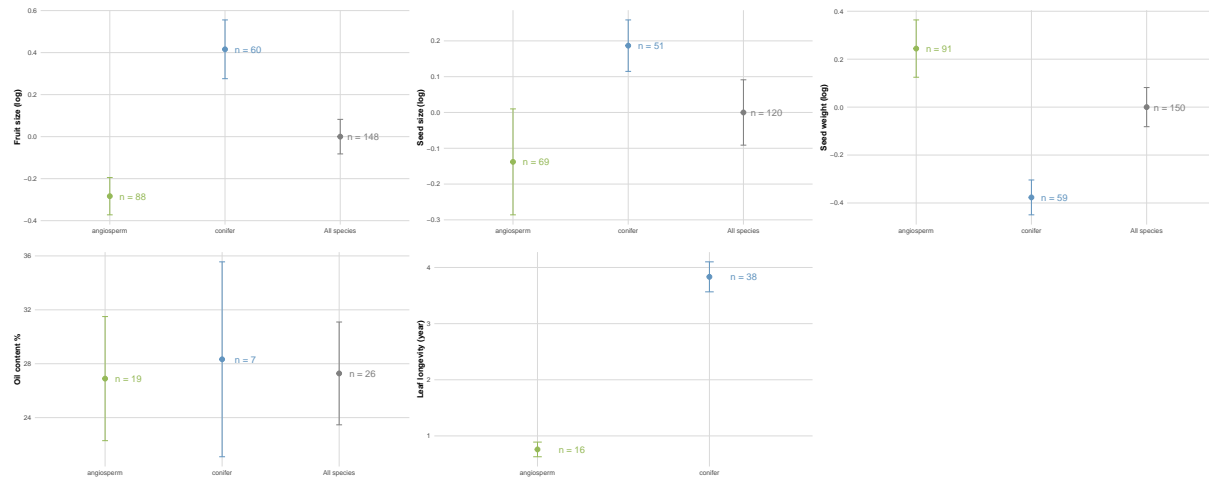


- Drought tolerance: May go either way — tolerant species can accumulate resources; intolerant species respond to resource fluctuations.

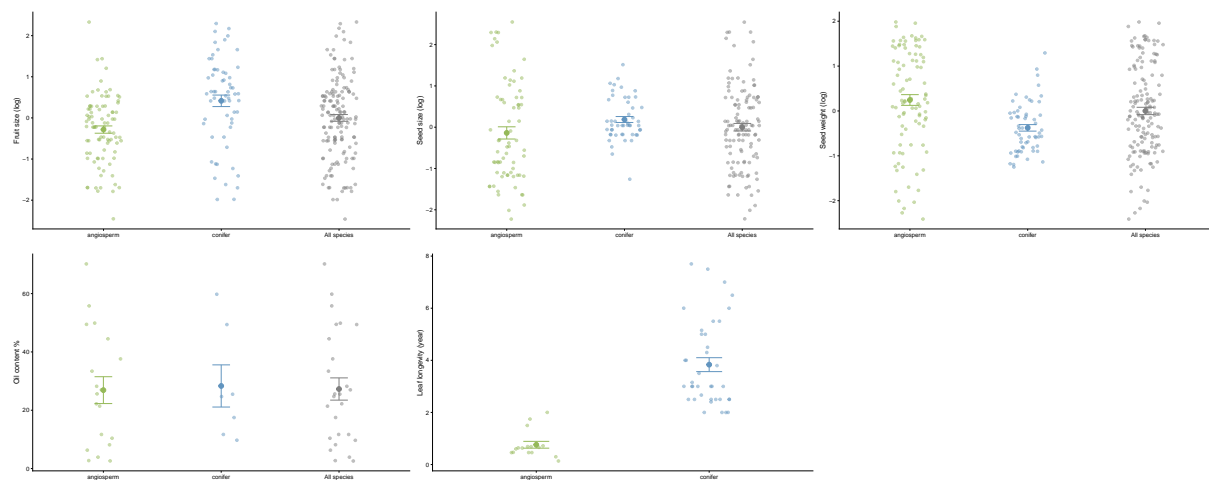


## Data visualization

I calculated the mean and standard errors for the continuous traits in the raw dataset, with number of the data.



Here's the version of raw data scattering on the plot



## Results

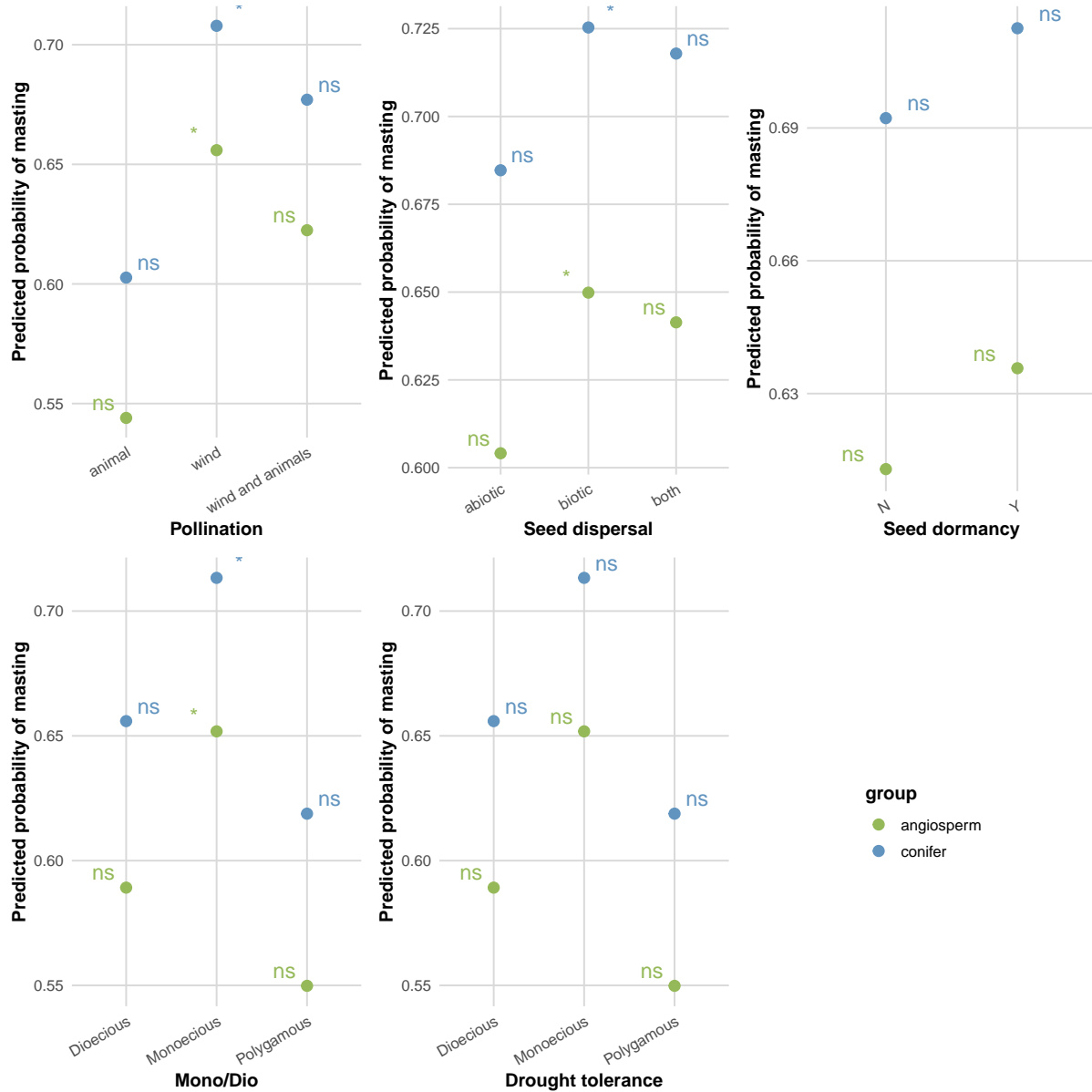
I ran the phyloglm, including the phylogeny variation. Here I reproted the direct model results in a table:

| Trait (group)            | Predictor   | Estimate | SE    | Z     | P      | Sig. | Phylo a |
|--------------------------|---|----------|-------|-------|--------|------|---------|
| Seed dispersal (conifer) | Biotic dispersed (compared to Abiotic)                          | -0.830   | 0.807 | -1.03 | 0.3040 |      | 0.015   |
| Seed dispersal (conifer) | Abiotic and Biotic dispersed (compared to Abiotic)              | -1.106   | 0.666 | -1.66 | 0.0968 | .    | 0.015   |
| Seed dispersal (angio)   | Biotic dispersed (compared to Abiotic)                          | 0.549    | 0.533 | 1.03  | 0.3030 |      | 0.059   |
| Seed dispersal (angio)   | Abiotic and Biotic dispersed (compared to Abiotic)              | 0.552    | 0.567 | 0.97  | 0.3300 |      | 0.059   |
| Pollination (angio)      | Wind pollinated (compared to Animal pollinated)                 | 1.719    | 0.723 | 2.38  | 0.0174 | *    | 0.346   |
| Pollination (angio)      | Wind pollinated (compared to Animal pollinated) and animals     | 1.225    | 1.148 | 1.07  | 0.2860 |      | 0.346   |
| Seed dormancy (conifer)  | Dormant   | 0.706    | 0.703 | 1.00  | 0.3150 |      | 0.411   |
| Seed dormancy (angio)    | Dormant   | 0.034    | 0.497 | 0.07  | 0.9460 |      | 0.096   |
| Mono/Dio (conifer)       | Monoecious (compared to Dioecious)                              | -1.135   | 1.017 | -1.12 | 0.2640 |      | 0.007   |
| Mono/Dio (angio)         | Monoecious (compared to Dioecious)                              | 0.904    | 0.680 | 1.33  | 0.1840 |      | 0.110   |
| Mono/Dio (angio)         | Polygamous (compared to Dioecious)                              | -0.129   | 0.956 | -0.14 | 0.8920 |      | 0.110   |
| Seed weight (conifer)    | Seed weight (log, std)  | -0.047   | 0.403 | -0.12 | 0.9080 |      | 0.427   |
| Seed weight (angio)      | Seed weight (log, std)  | 0.707    | 0.306 | 2.31  | 0.0210 | *    | 0.063   |
| Fruit size (conifer)     | Fruit size (log, std)   | 0.021    | 0.345 | 0.06  | 0.9520 |      | 0.428   |
| Fruit size (angio)       | Fruit size (log, std)   | 0.058    | 0.232 | 0.25  | 0.8020 |      | 0.171   |
| Seed size (conifer)      | Seed size (log, std)  | -0.108   | 0.418 | -0.26 | 0.7960 |      | 0.413   |
| Seed size (angio)        | Seed size (log, std)  | 0.269    | 0.330 | 0.82  | 0.4150 |      | 0.081   |
| Oil content (angio)      | Oil content   | 0.036    | 0.028 | 1.29  | 0.1980 |      | 0.141   |
| Leaf longevity (conifer) | Leaf longevity  | 0.147    | 0.345 | 0.43  | 0.6700 |      | 0.430   |
| Leaf longevity (angio)   | Leaf longevity  | 0.262    | 0.948 | 0.28  | 0.7820 |      | 0.007   |
| Drought tol (conifer)    | Low drought tolerated (compared to High drought tolerated)      | 0.908    | 1.645 | 0.55  | 0.5810 |      | 0.429   |
| Drought tol (conifer)    | Moderate drought tolerated (compared to High drought tolerated) | -1.565   | 1.065 | -1.47 | 0.1420 |      | 0.429   |
| Drought tol (angio)      | Low drought tolerated (compared to High drought tolerated)      | 0.045    | 0.476 | 0.09  | 0.9250 |      | 0.110   |
| Drought tol (angio)      | Moderate drought tolerated (compared to High drought tolerated) | -0.126   | 0.465 | -0.27 | 0.7870 |      | 0.110   |



I also ran the common glm, using conifer and angiosperm as a fixed effect in the model, and I modified the results for better visualization:

For the categorical traits, I calculated the probability (of being a strong masting species) for each level:



For the continuous traits, I just presented the effect sizes, with the star indicating a p-value smaller than 0.05:

