

Climate change and belowground processes in forests

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For vegetation, climate change is a complex interaction of physical and chemical changes in the environment, such as changes temperature and precipitation, increased inputs of nitrogen and increased concentrations of ozone and carbon dioxide. Many of these effects of these factors on roots are mediated by changes in rates of photosynthesis and carbon allocation. The effects of these factors, with emphasis on elevated carbon dioxide, on roots and mycorrhizas and below ground carbon inputs will be reviewed.

Key words: elevated carbon dioxide, root turnover, trees