

Shaw Mountain Ice Storm Study 1998-2002

Tree diameter analysis, 1998-2002

RESULTS:

1. Change in stem diameter (based on surviving trees each year) exhibits plot specific and year-to-year variation.
2. Trees on Control plots exhibited no increase in diameters from 1998 to 1999, and relatively slow growth in 1999-2000 and 2001-2002.
3. While stem diameters in Control plots and Iced plot 1 declined slightly between 1998 and 1999, stem diameters declined 4% in Iced plot 2.
4. Declines in Iced plot 2 between 1998 and 1999 are accounted for by *Acer saccharum* (about 1%) and *Ostrya virginiana* (about 11%).
5. Stem diameters increased in both Iced and Control plots between 2000 and 2001.
6. From 2001 to 2002, growth slowed in all plots and almost all species, especially Control plot 4. *Acer saccharum* decreased more in Control plots.

DIAMETER AT BREAST HEIGHT: average by plot and year (cm)

Only individuals alive and >1.3m tall at the time of the ice storm, and alive at sampling time are included in this analysis.

Thus, the analysis takes into account diameter change of living trees as well as changes in average diameter due to mortality.

For example, if a large tree dies, average diameter declines.