

# From Litterfall to Respiration: Investigating Soil Processes in Differing Irish Forests

Ms. Blair Ruffing, BSc, MSc



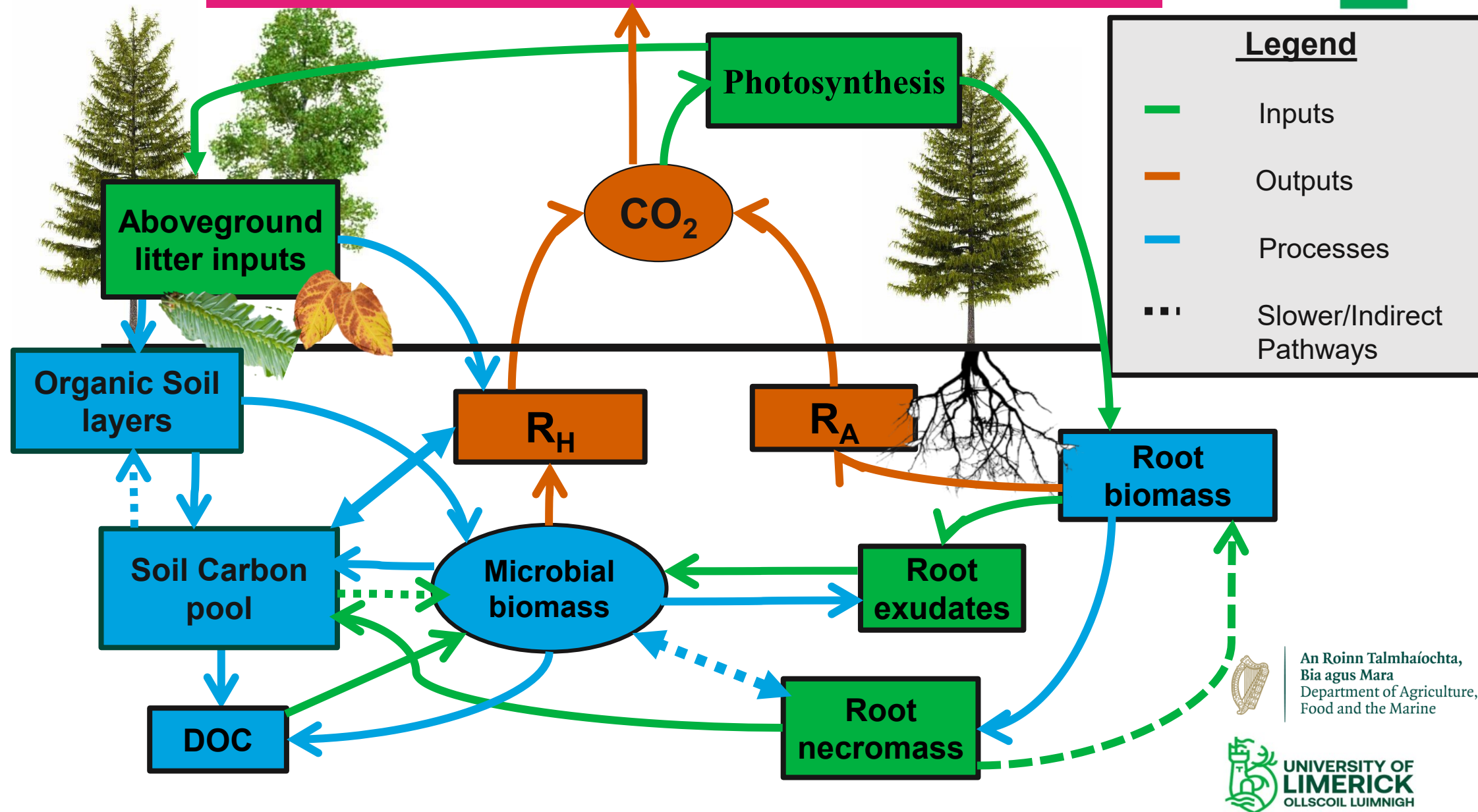
An Roinn Talmhaíochta,  
Bia agus Mara  
Department of Agriculture,  
Food and the Marine



UNIVERSITY OF  
**LIMERICK**  
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

# Introduction

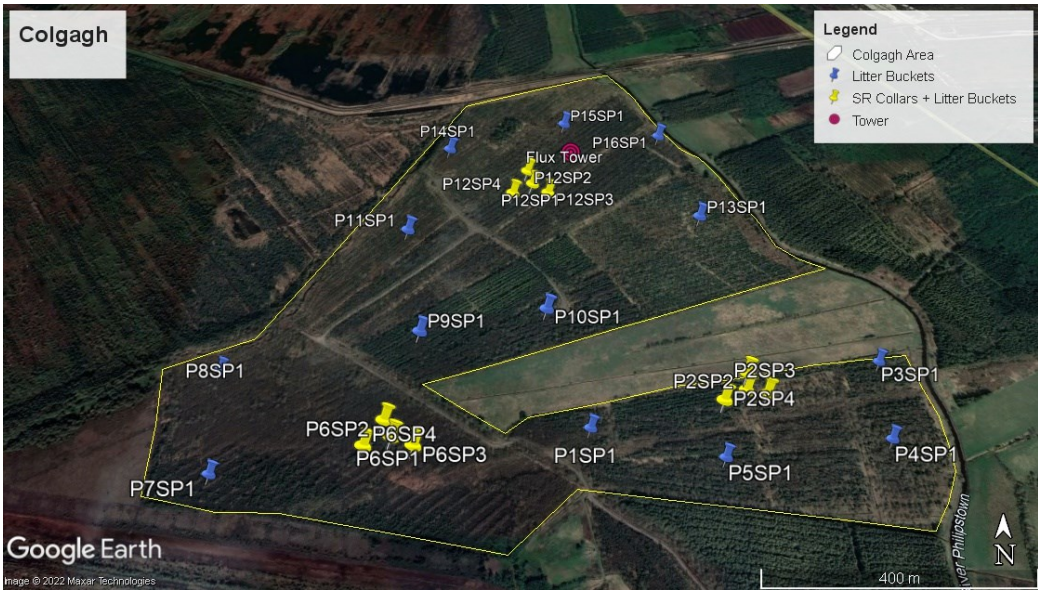
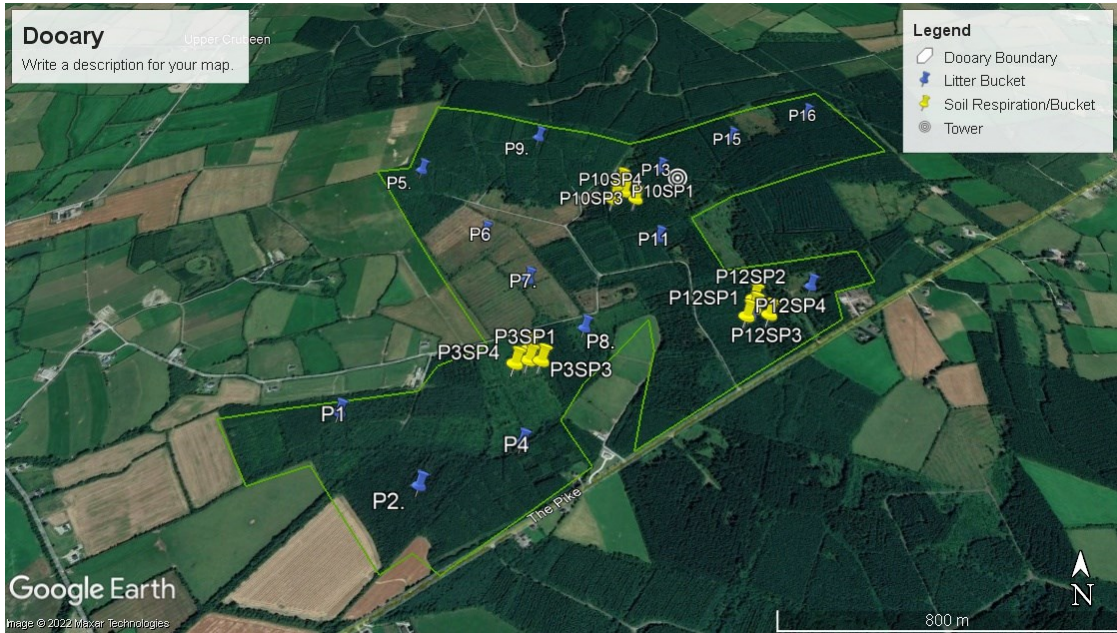
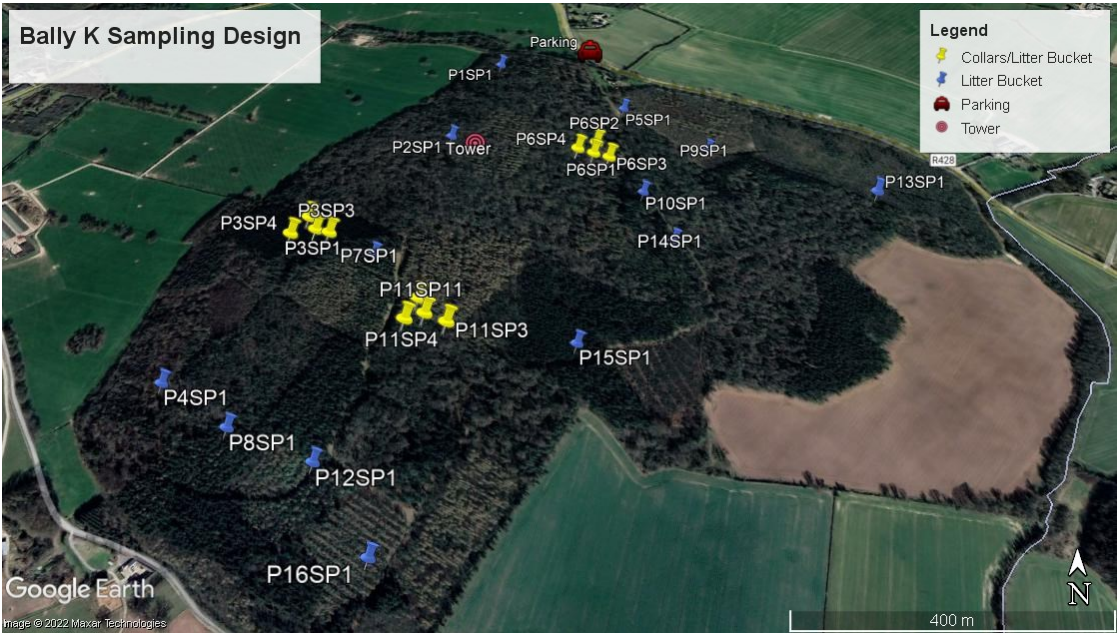
~45-95% of total ecosystem respiration



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,  
Bia agus Mara  
Department of Agriculture,  
Food and the Marine

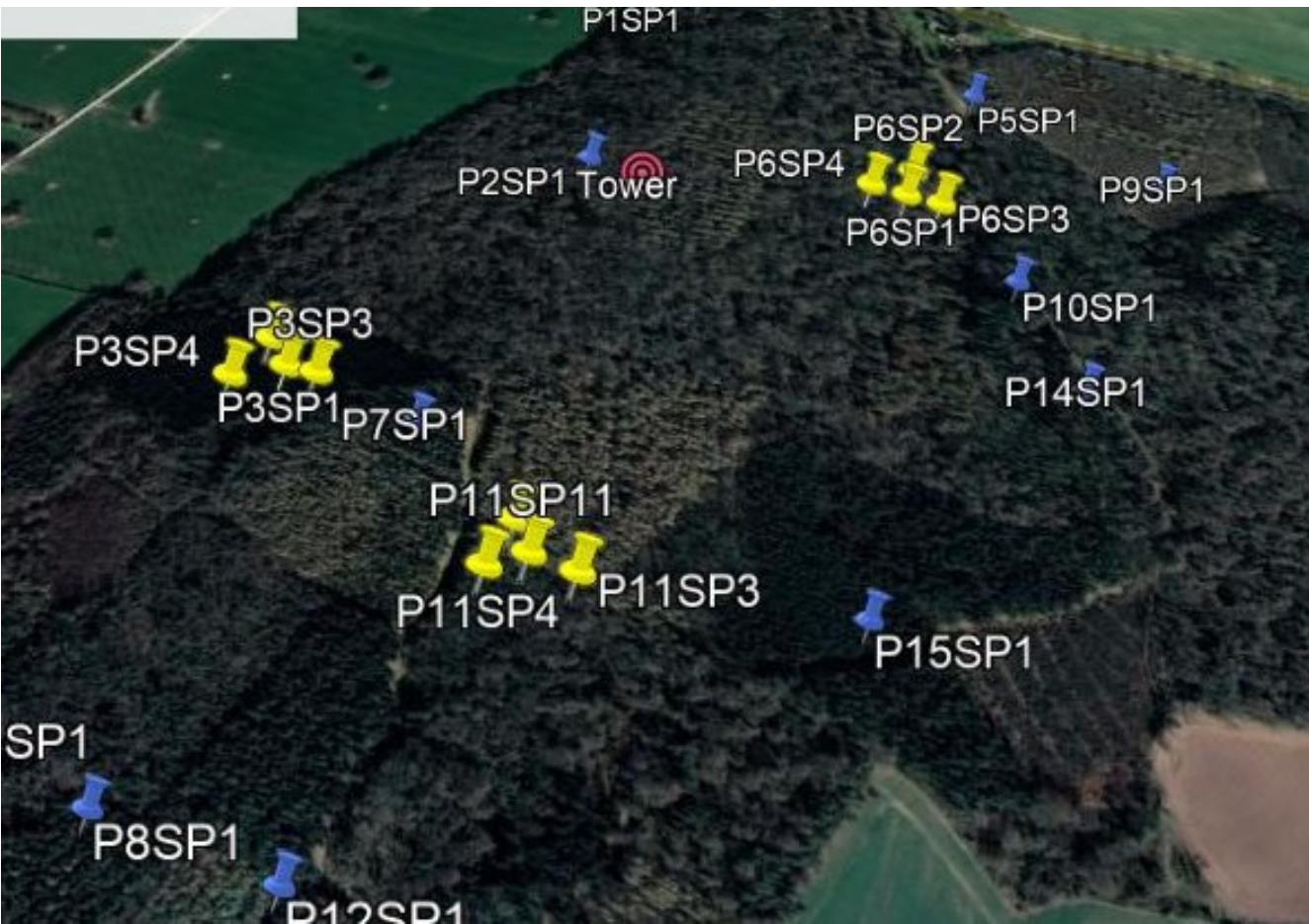


# Field Research Design

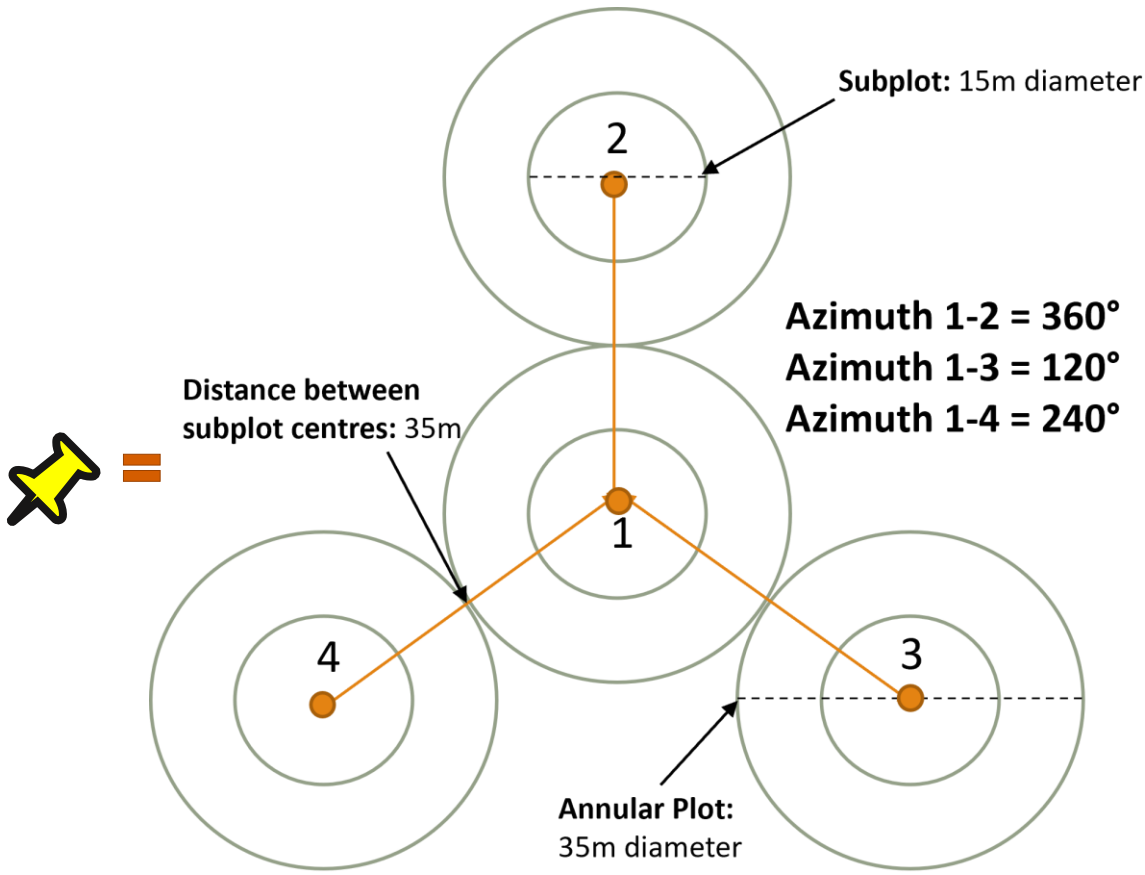
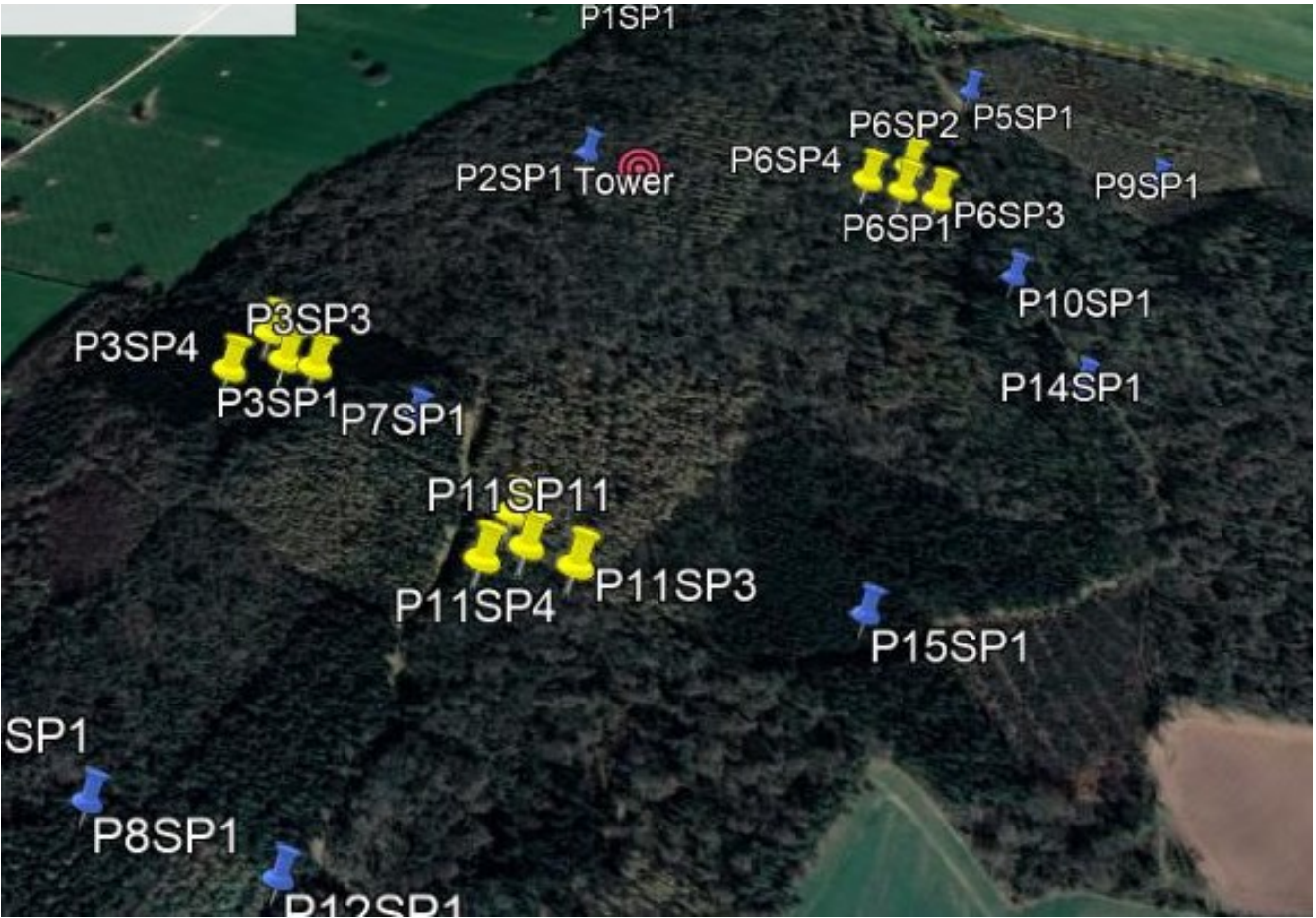




# Field Research Design



# Field Research Design

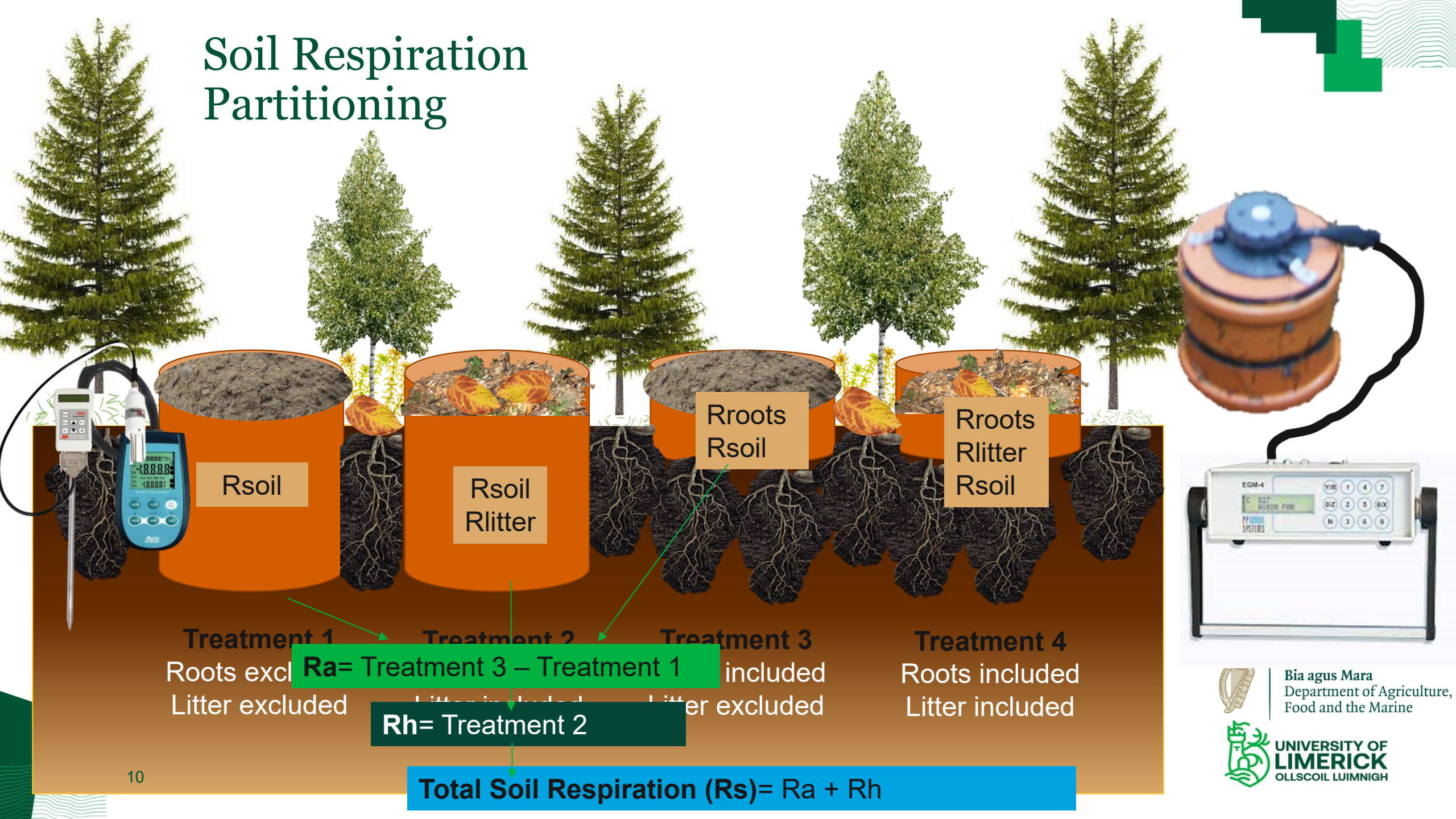


USDA Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis plot as in Hoover, 2008





# Soil Respiration Partitioning





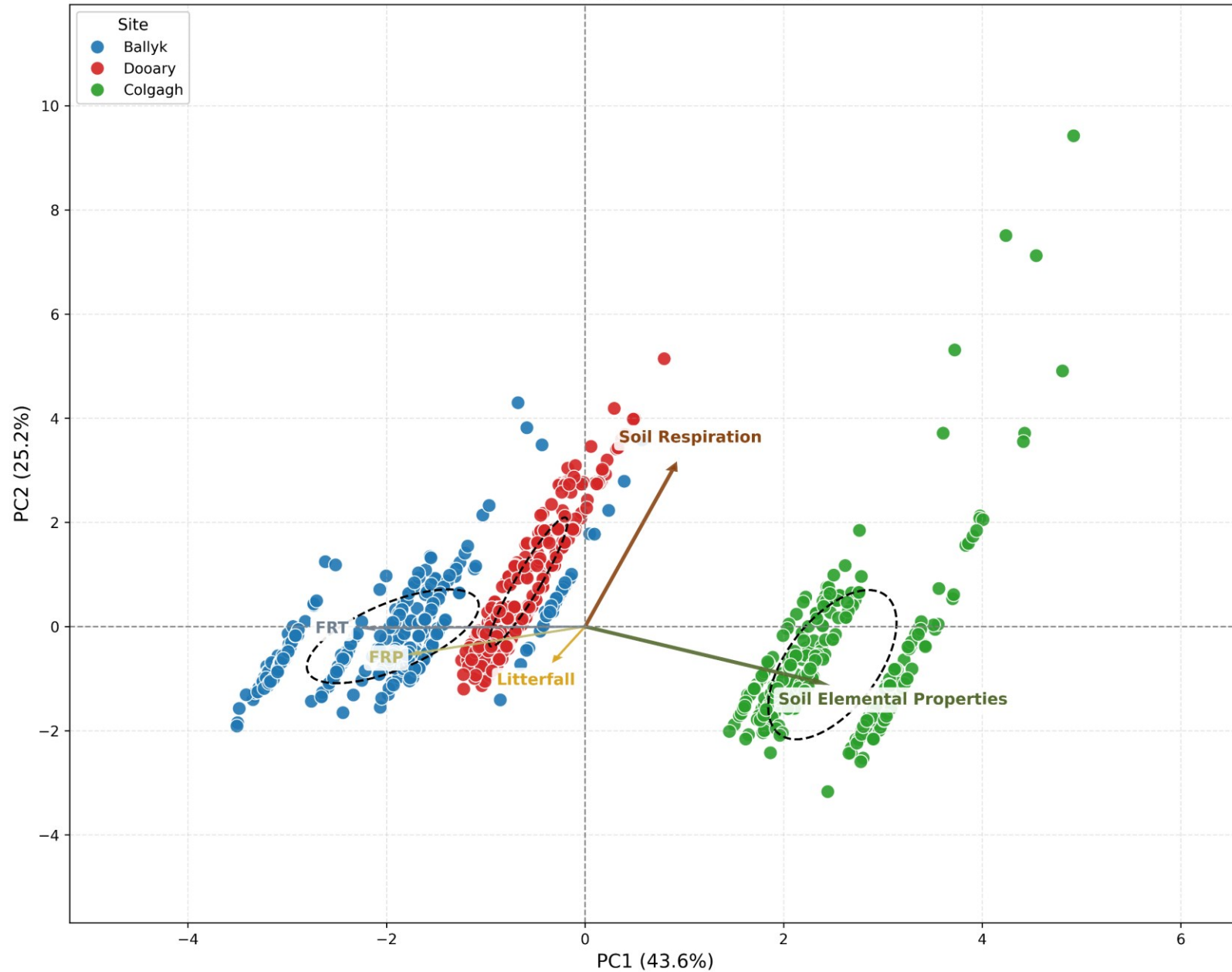






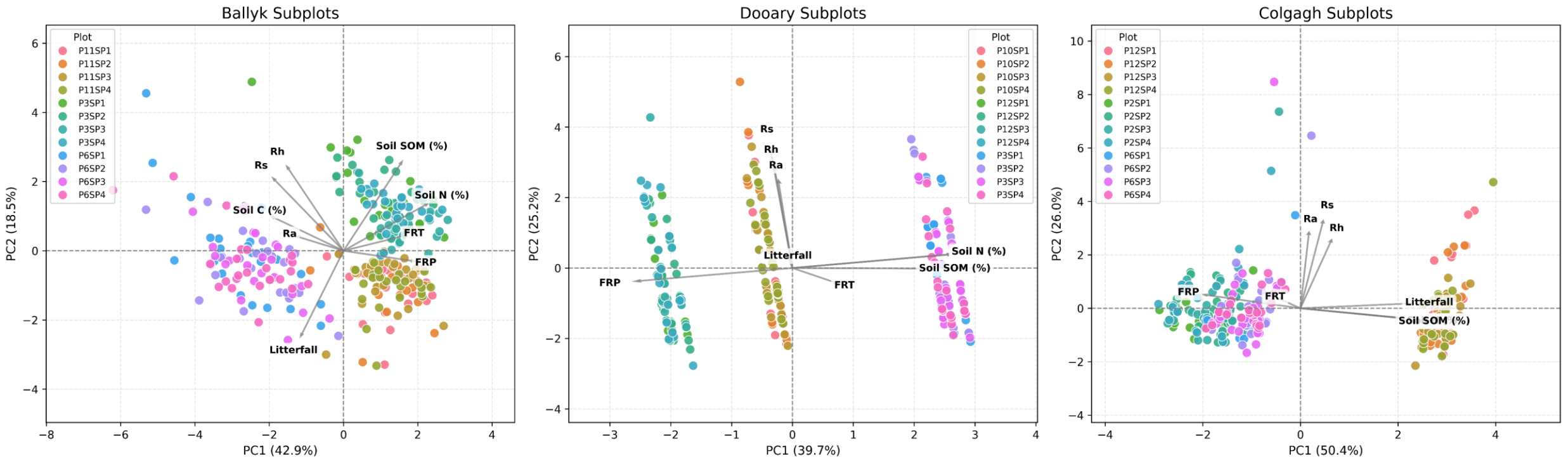


PCA of Site-Level Soil Processes  
(PC1 = 43.6%, PC2 = 25.2%)



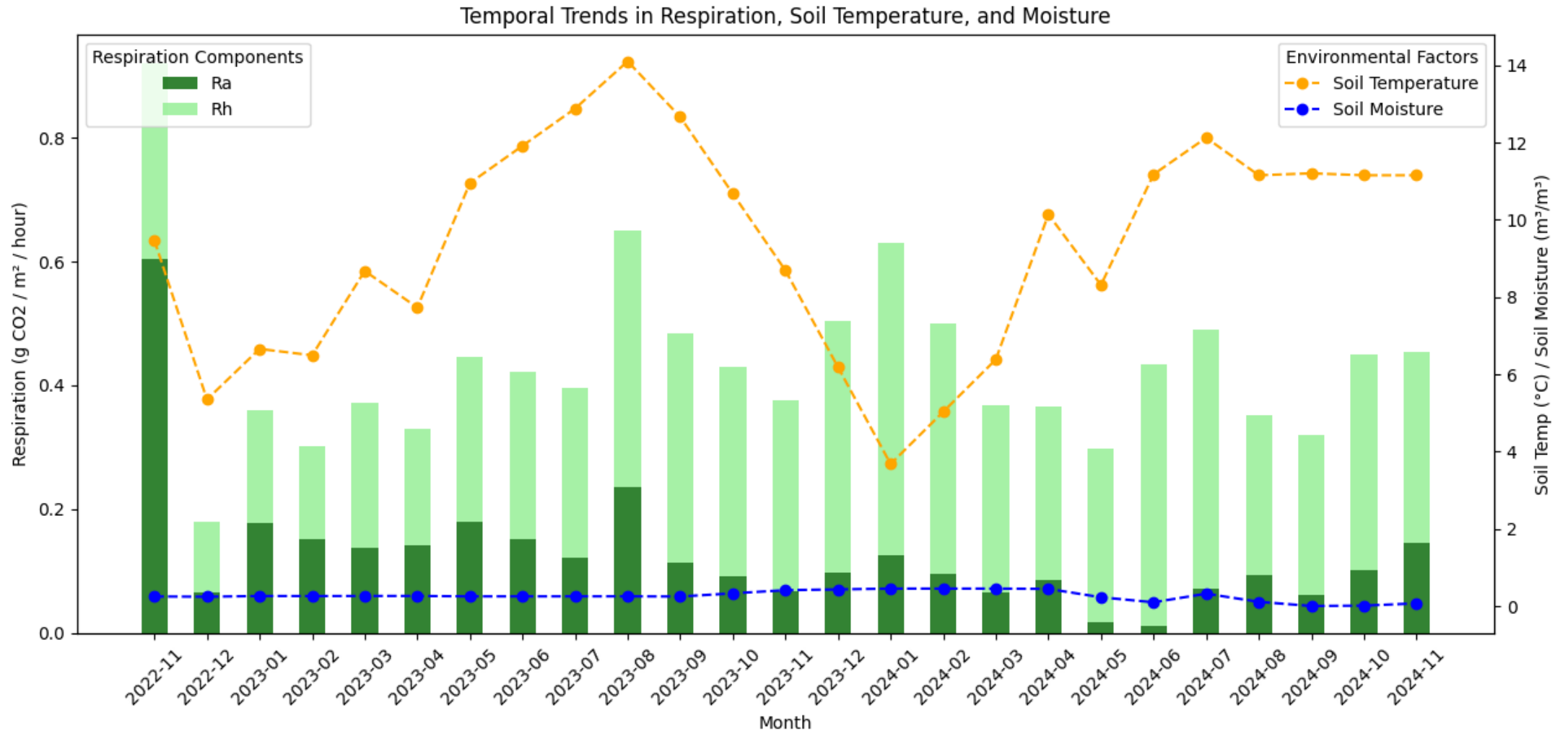


# Intra-site variations with PCA



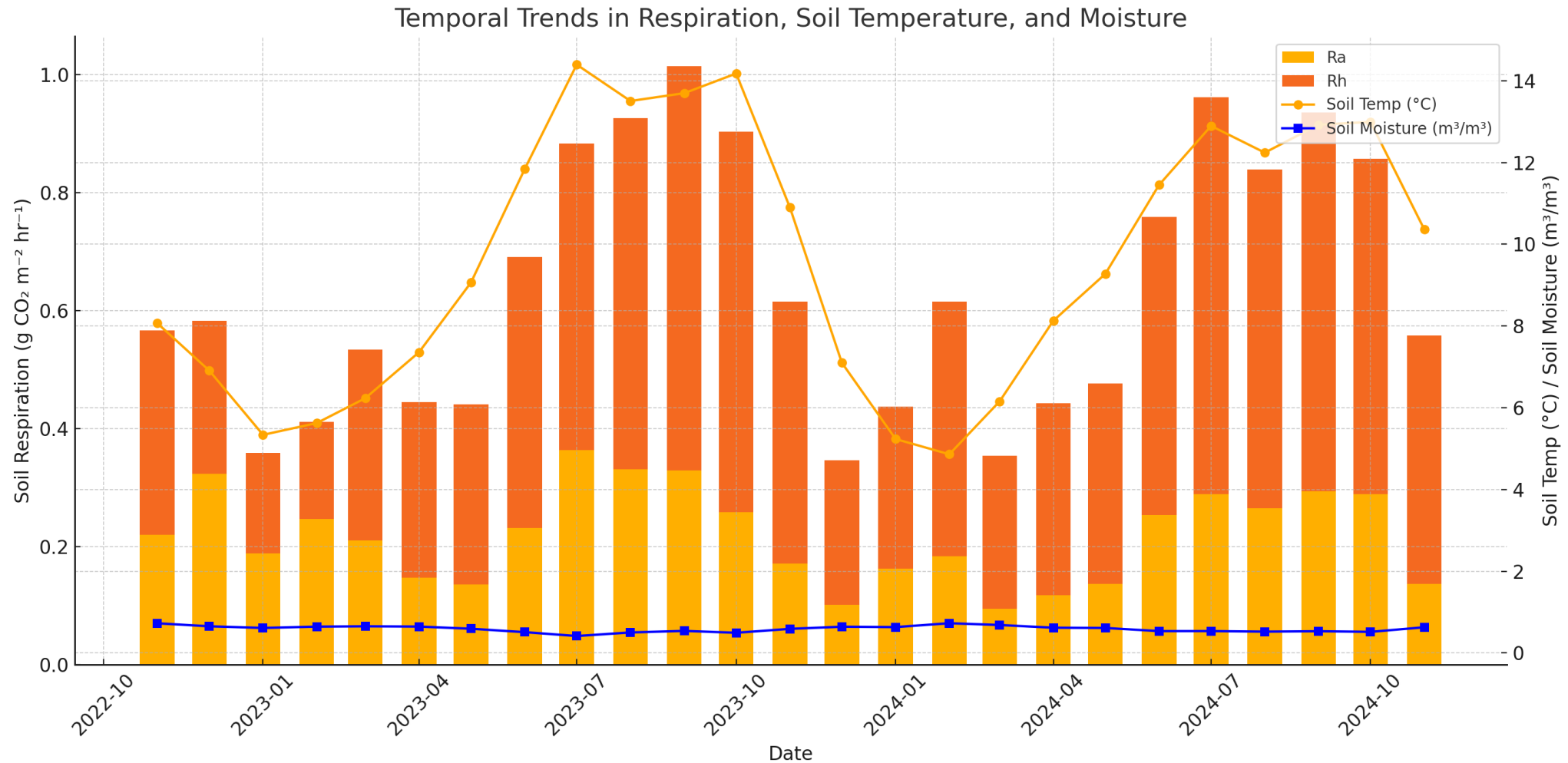


# Ballykilcavan 2 Year Data Snapshot





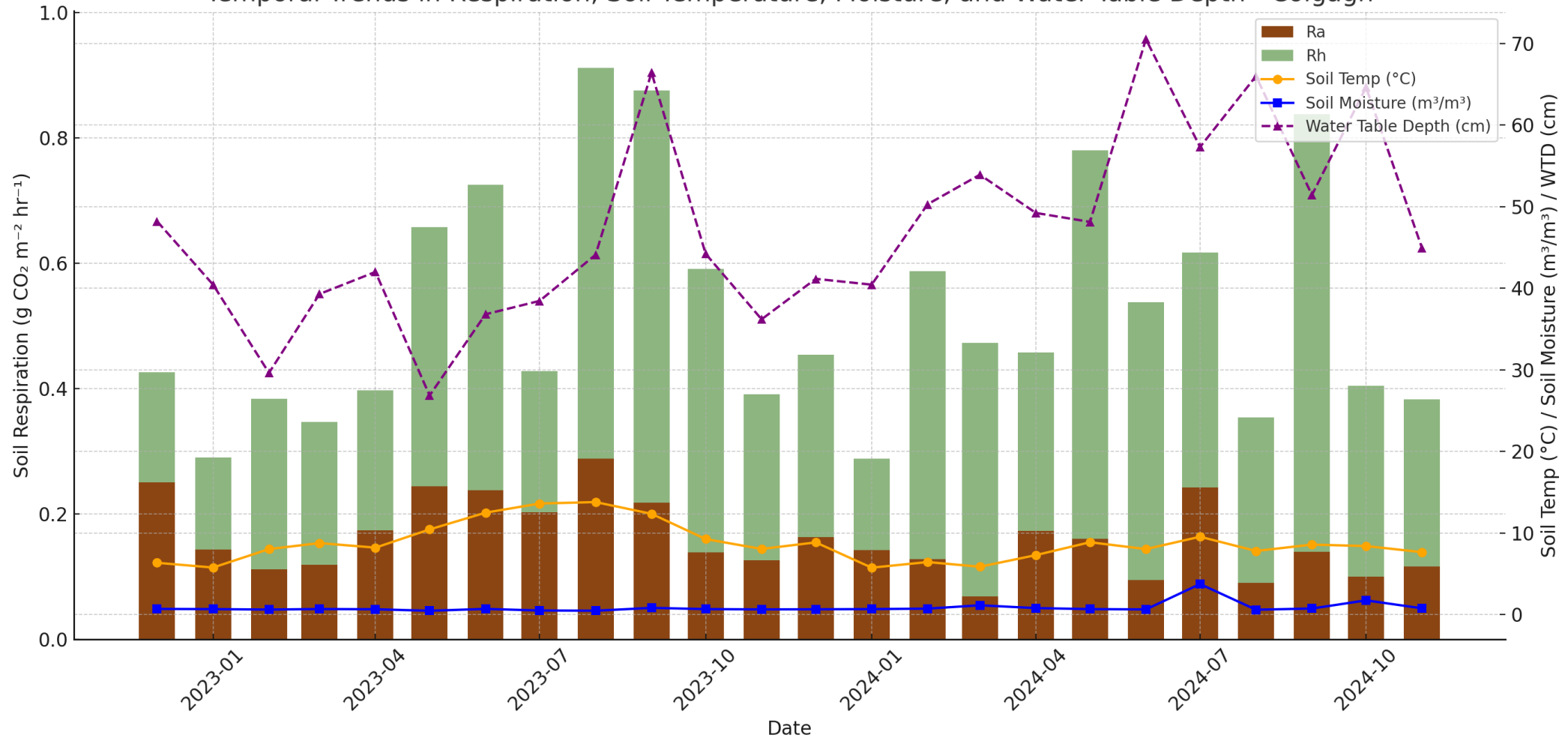
# Dooary 2 Year Data Snapshot



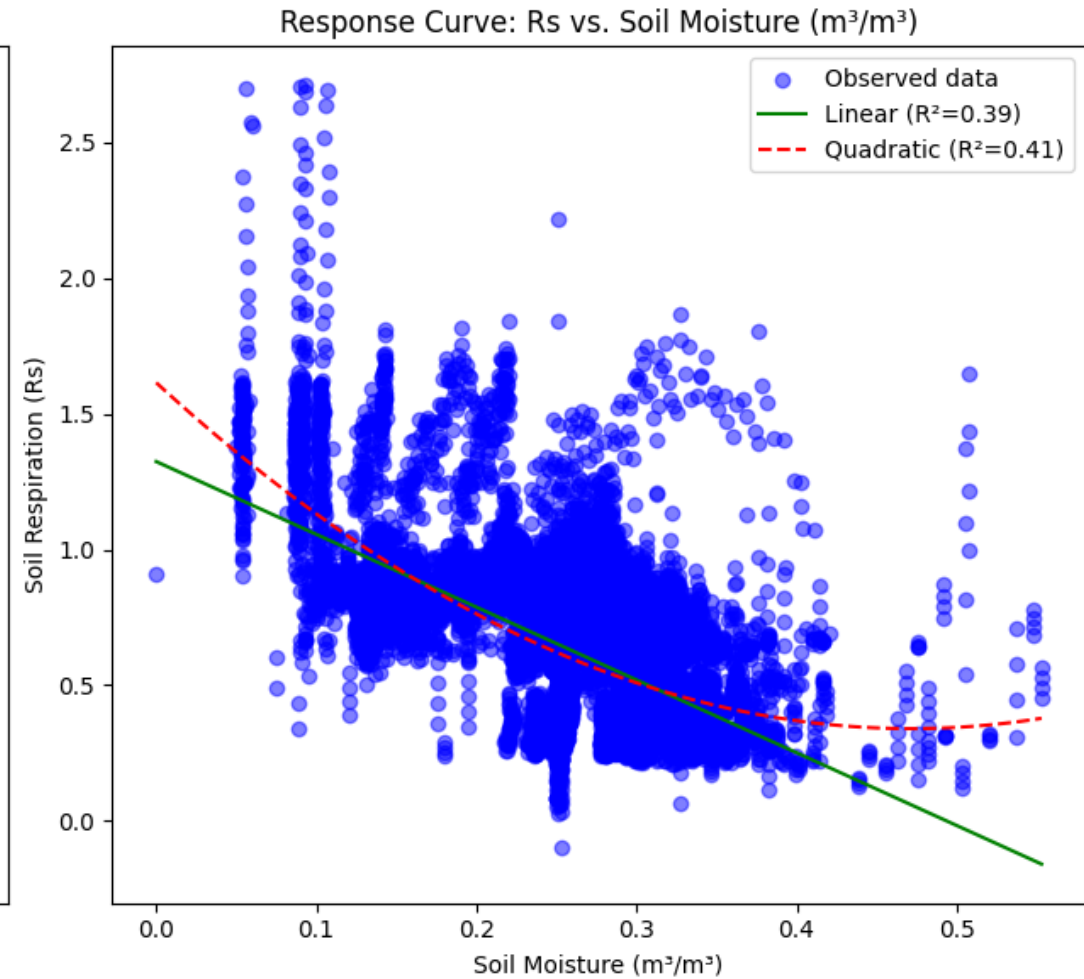
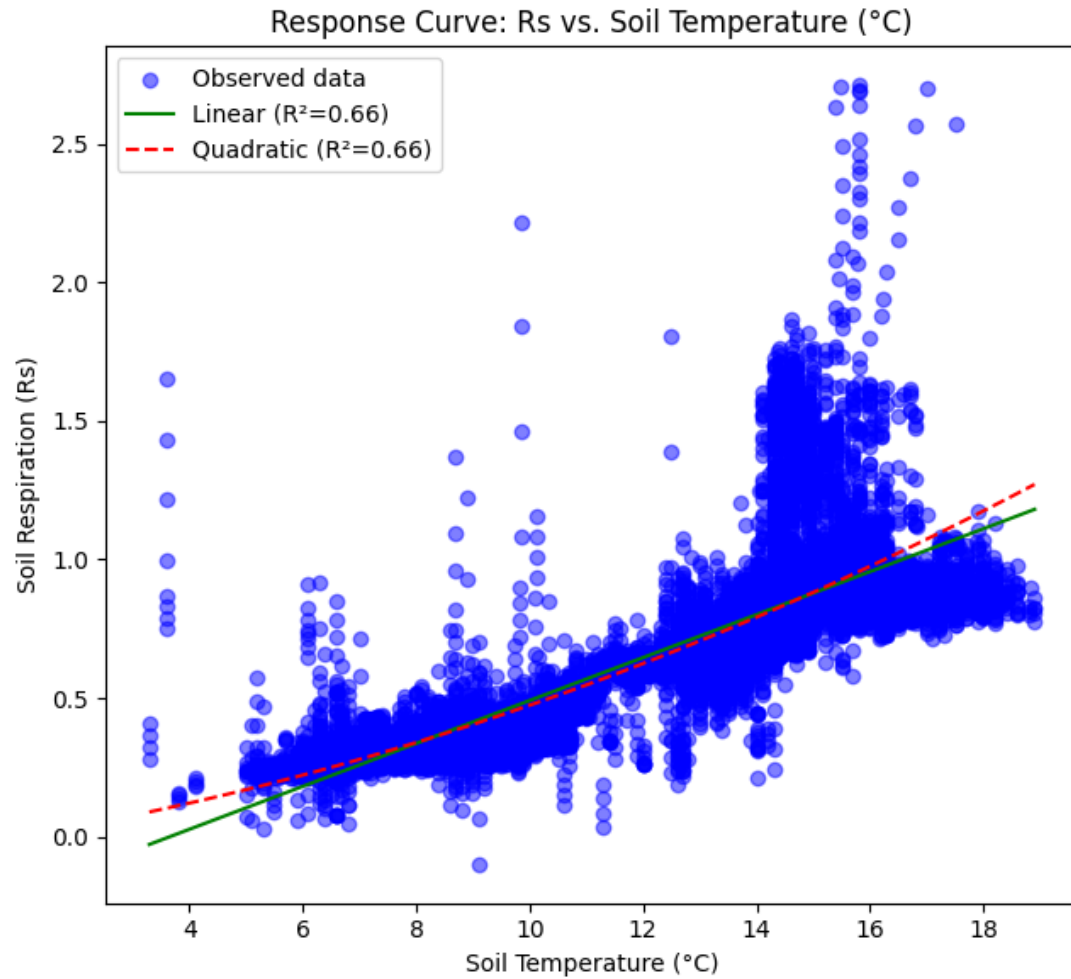


# Colgagh 2 Year Data Snapshot

Temporal Trends in Respiration, Soil Temperature, Moisture, and Water Table Depth - Colgagh



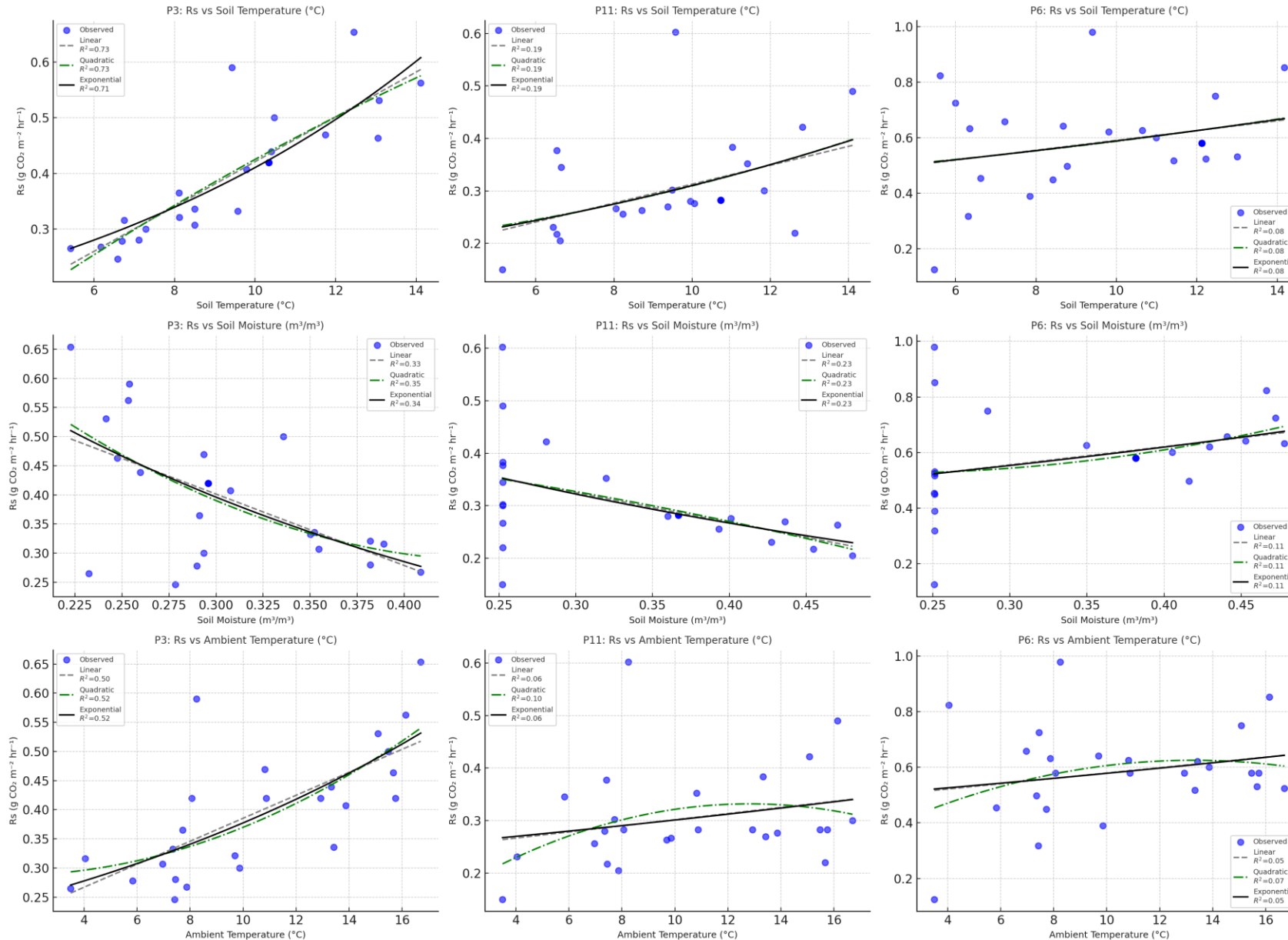
# Ballykilcavan Response Curves





# Ballykilcavan Intra-site Variability

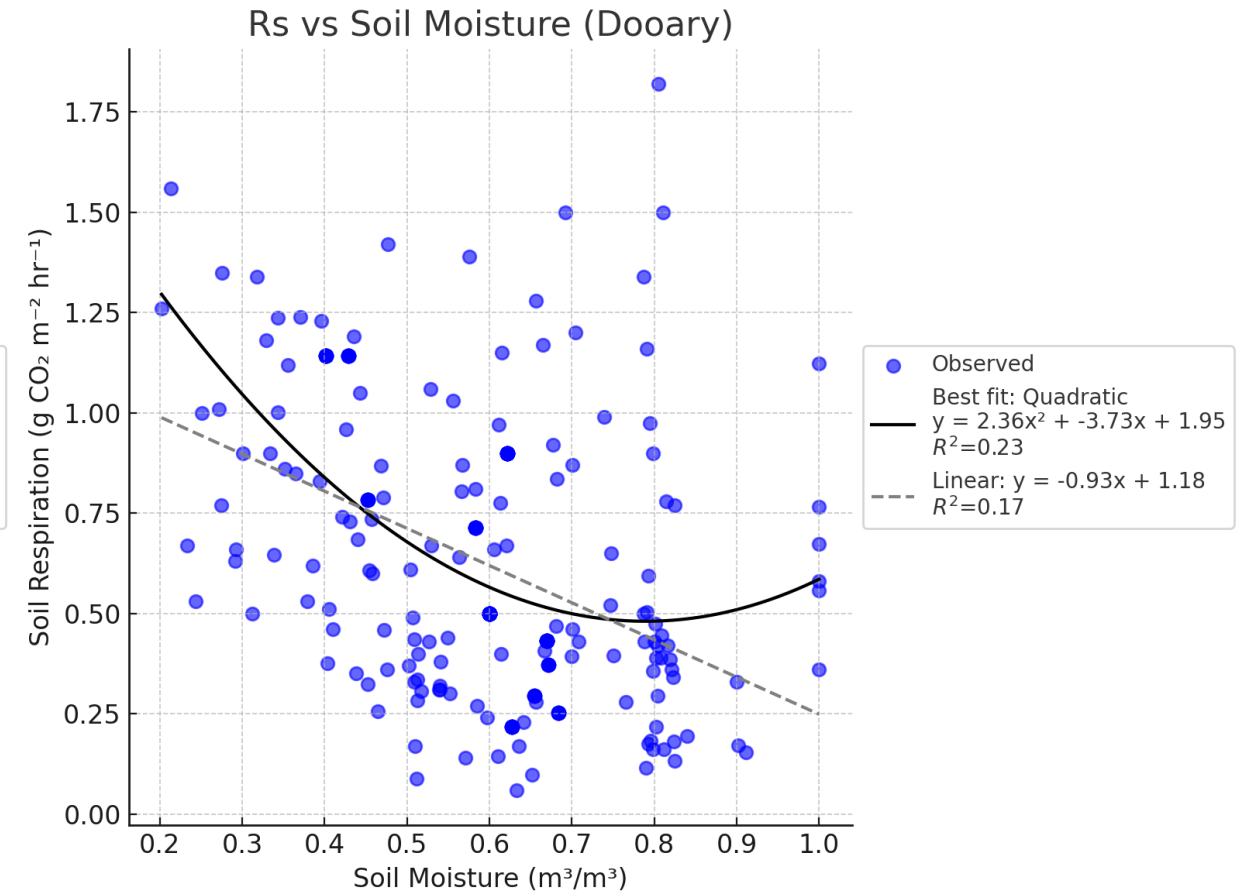
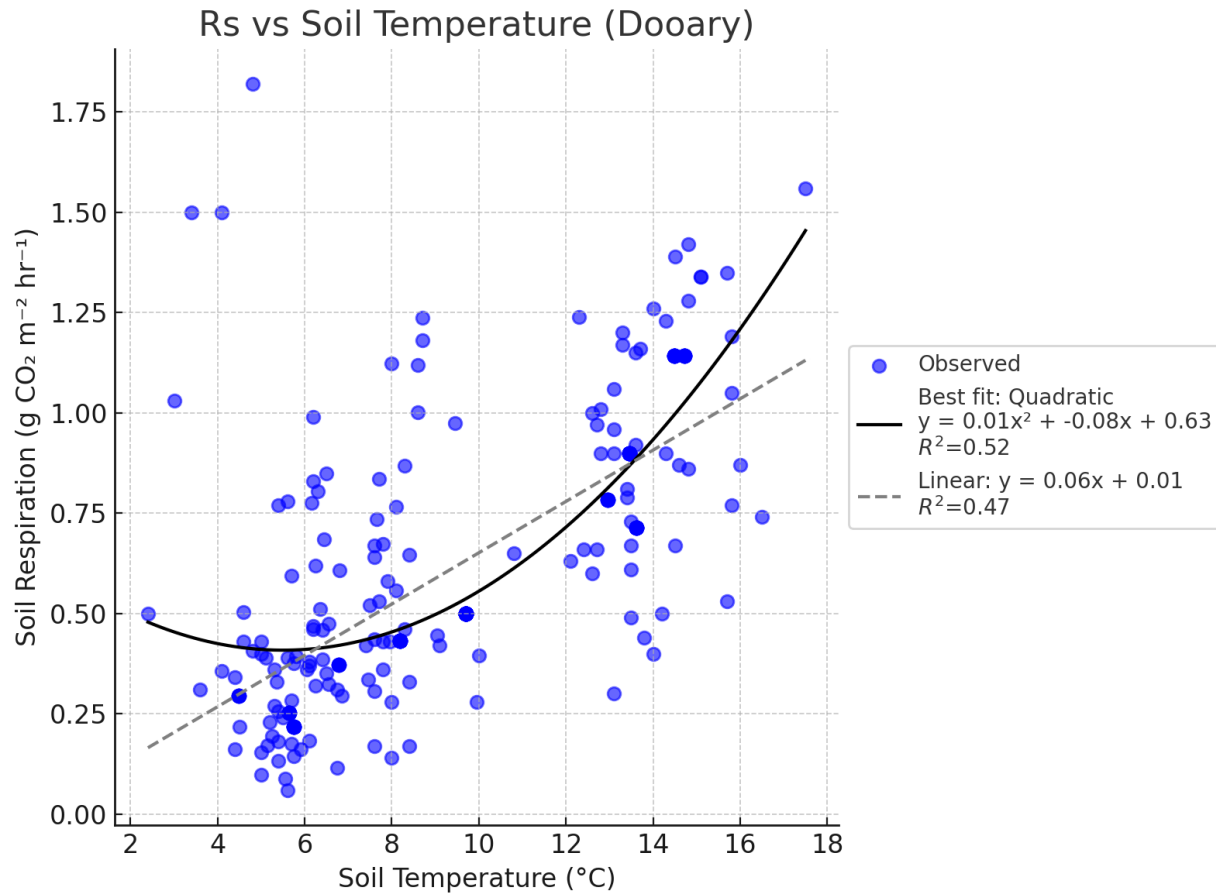
Ballyk Subplots (P3, P11, P6) - Rs vs Soil Temperature, Soil Moisture, Ambient Temperature



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,  
Bia agus Mara  
Department of Agriculture,  
Food and the Marine



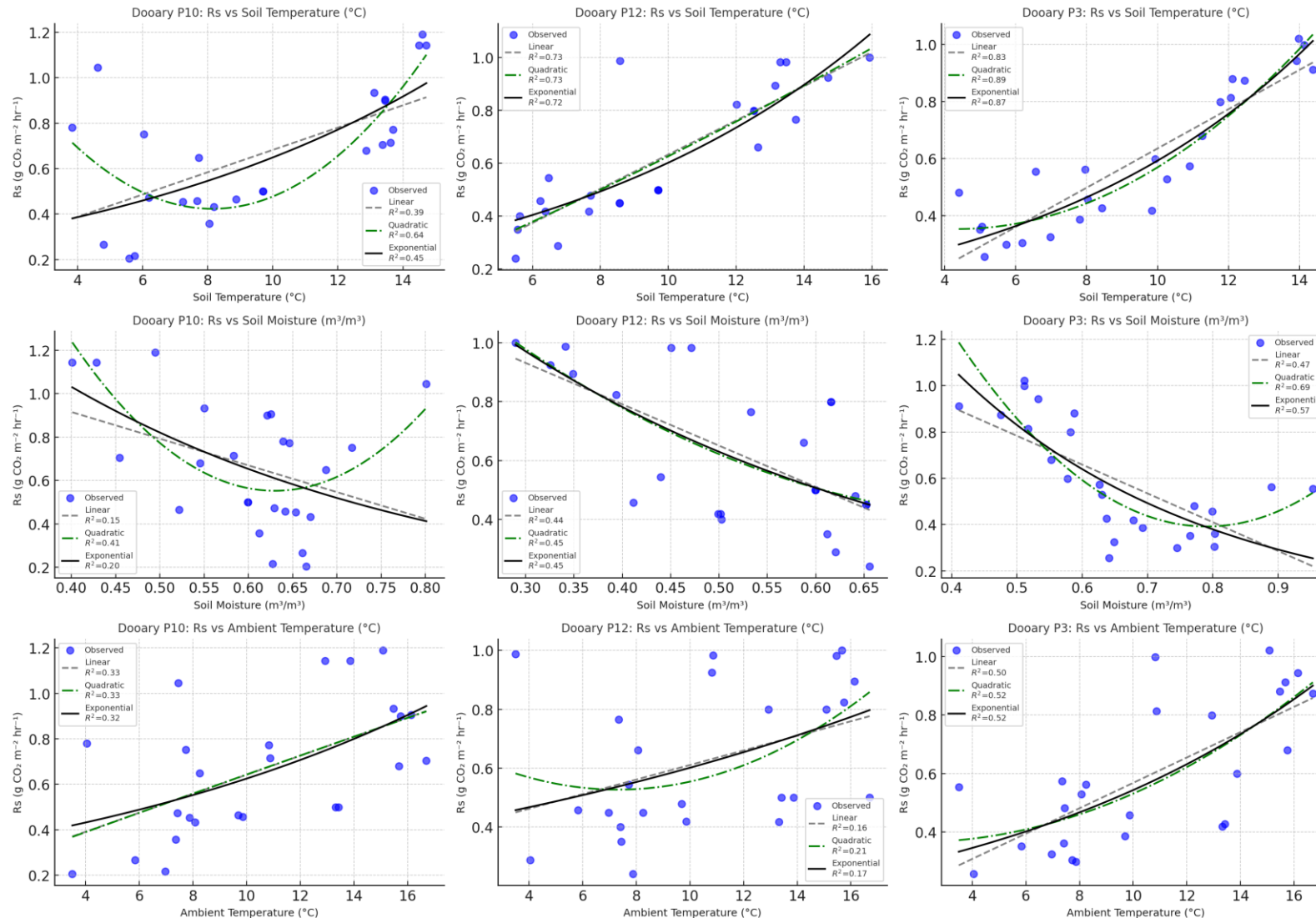
# Dooary Response Curves





# Dooary Intra-site Variability

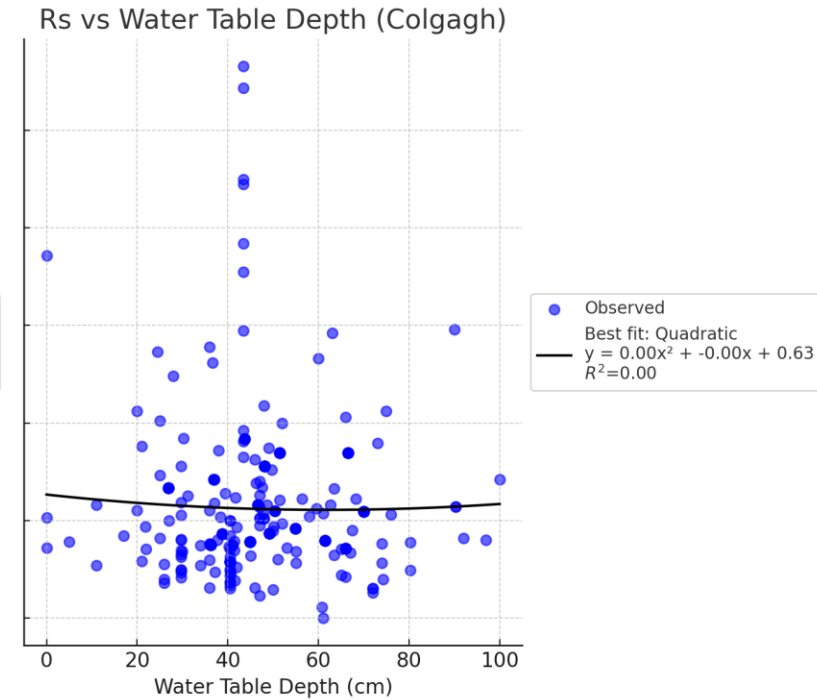
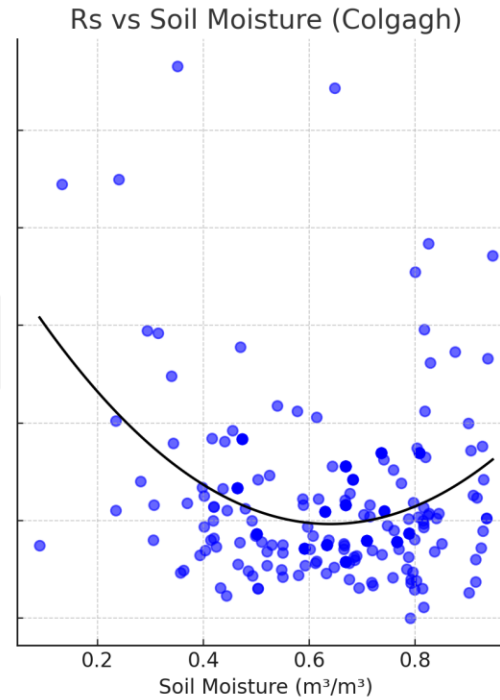
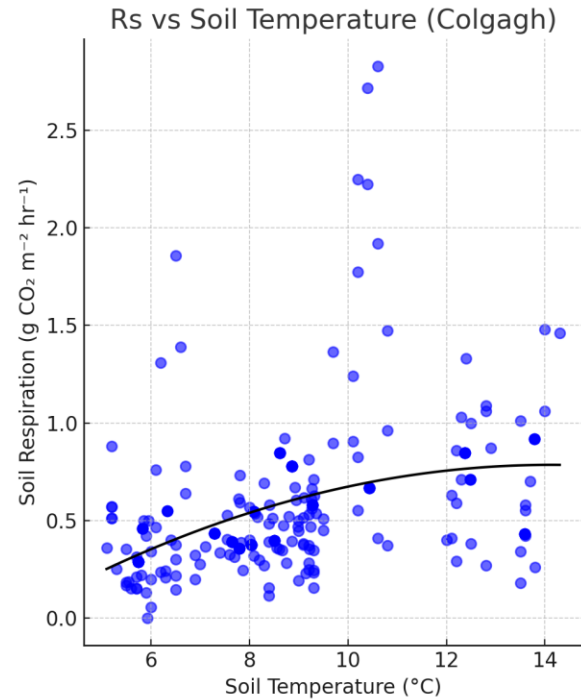
Dooary Subplots (P10, P12, P3) - Rs vs Soil Temperature, Soil Moisture, Ambient Temperature



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,  
Bia agus Mara  
Department of Agriculture,  
Food and the Marine



# Colgagh Response Curves





# Colgagh Intra-site Variability

Colgagh Subplots (P2, P6, P12) - Rs vs Soil Temp, Soil Moisture ( $\leq 1.0$ ), Ambient Temp, Water Table Depth

