

## Erratum

Richardson, A. D. and zu Dohna, H. 2003. Predicting root biomass from branching patterns of Douglas-fir root systems. – *Oikos* 100: 96–104.

We have become aware of several algebraic errors in Richardson and zu Dohna (2003). The definition of  $\alpha$  in the 3rd paragraph of the Model development section should be as in Eq. (c-1), rather than the reciprocal of this, as originally published:

$$\alpha = \frac{d_1^2 + d_2^2}{d_p^2} \quad (\text{c-1})$$

The original Eq. 2, in which  $\alpha$  is expressed in terms of  $\beta$  and  $\Delta$ , is correct.

In the subsequent derivation, a sign was reversed: in brackets it should read  $\tau + (\dots)$ , rather than  $\tau - (\dots)$ . The correct formula for the volume (original Eq. 3) is thus as in Eq. (c-2):

$$V = d_0^2 \frac{\pi \times \eta}{4} \left( \tau + \frac{(1 - \tau)^2}{3} \right) \quad (\text{c-2})$$

The correct formula for  $K$  (original Eq. 5) should therefore be as in Eq. c-3:

$$K = \frac{\pi \times \eta}{4} \left( \tau + \frac{(1 - \tau)^2}{3} \right) = \frac{\pi}{12} \eta (\tau^2 + \tau + 1) \quad (\text{c-3})$$

The effect on the calculated value of  $K$  is modest. Since  $\tau = 0.91$ ,  $(1 - \tau)^2 = 0.0081$ . In the correct formula for  $K$  we subtract, rather than add,  $\frac{(1 - \tau)^2}{3}$ . The relative error,  $\frac{2(1 - \tau)^2}{3\tau}$ , is therefore roughly equal to 0.6%.