

Legend

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Table S1: Coordinates (WGS84) of the plots where soil, leaf, and litterfall samples were collected, and the locations where Hg passive samplers (MerPAS) were installed in tropical dry broadleaf forest (TDBFs) and tropical moist broadleaf forest (TMBFs). All elevations are given in meters above sea level (m.a.s.l.). Leaves were collected inside of the polygon.

Forest	Plot	Replicate	Latitude	Longitude	Height (m.a.s.l)
<u>Tropical dry broadleaf forest</u>					
	1	A	10.71252466	-85.59676739	169.15
		B	10.71248694	-85.59676161	173.12
		C	10.71240234	-85.59677649	159.21
		D	10.71243004	-85.59667107	156.22
	2	A	10.71258152	-85.59691769	163.64
		B	10.71251008	-85.596962	167.44
		C	10.71252354	-85.5970506	167.04
		D	10.71260875	-85.59701833	170.05
	3	A	10.71537324	-85.59570717	154.18
		B	10.71540624	-85.595777	151.14
		C	10.71533111	-85.5957835	152.11
		D	10.71531591	-85.59570468	156.17
	4	A	10.71521911	-85.59440229	168.02
		B	10.71524503	-85.59446358	164.96
		C	10.71516442	-85.59450698	166.13
		D	10.71511162	-85.59445211	163.57
	5	A	10.70522583	-85.5992388	166.92
		B	10.70509101	-85.59924083	163.13
		C	10.70508778	-85.59916288	171.13
		D	10.70515769	-85.5991376	144.69
	6	A	10.70521116	-85.59968079	164.13
		B	10.70515058	-85.59966208	167.09
		C	10.70511802	-85.59957973	159.15
		D	10.70521573	-85.599573	167.13
<u>Hg passive samplers</u>					
	MerPAS	A	10.714033	-85.595308	166.8
	MerPAS	B	10.712528	-85.596767	173
<u>Tropical Moist Broadleaf Forests</u>					
	1	A	8.70029258	-83.20334646	81.47
		B	8.70021935	-83.20338115	81.98
		C	8.70027682	-83.20331868	84.7
		D	8.70034893	-83.20330475	80.93
	2	A	8.70035703	-83.2029025	82.23
		B	8.70031297	-83.20297243	95.87
		C	8.70026078	-83.20297808	88.72
		D	8.70038554	-83.20282359	87.42
	3	A	8.69954729	-83.2026391	106.47

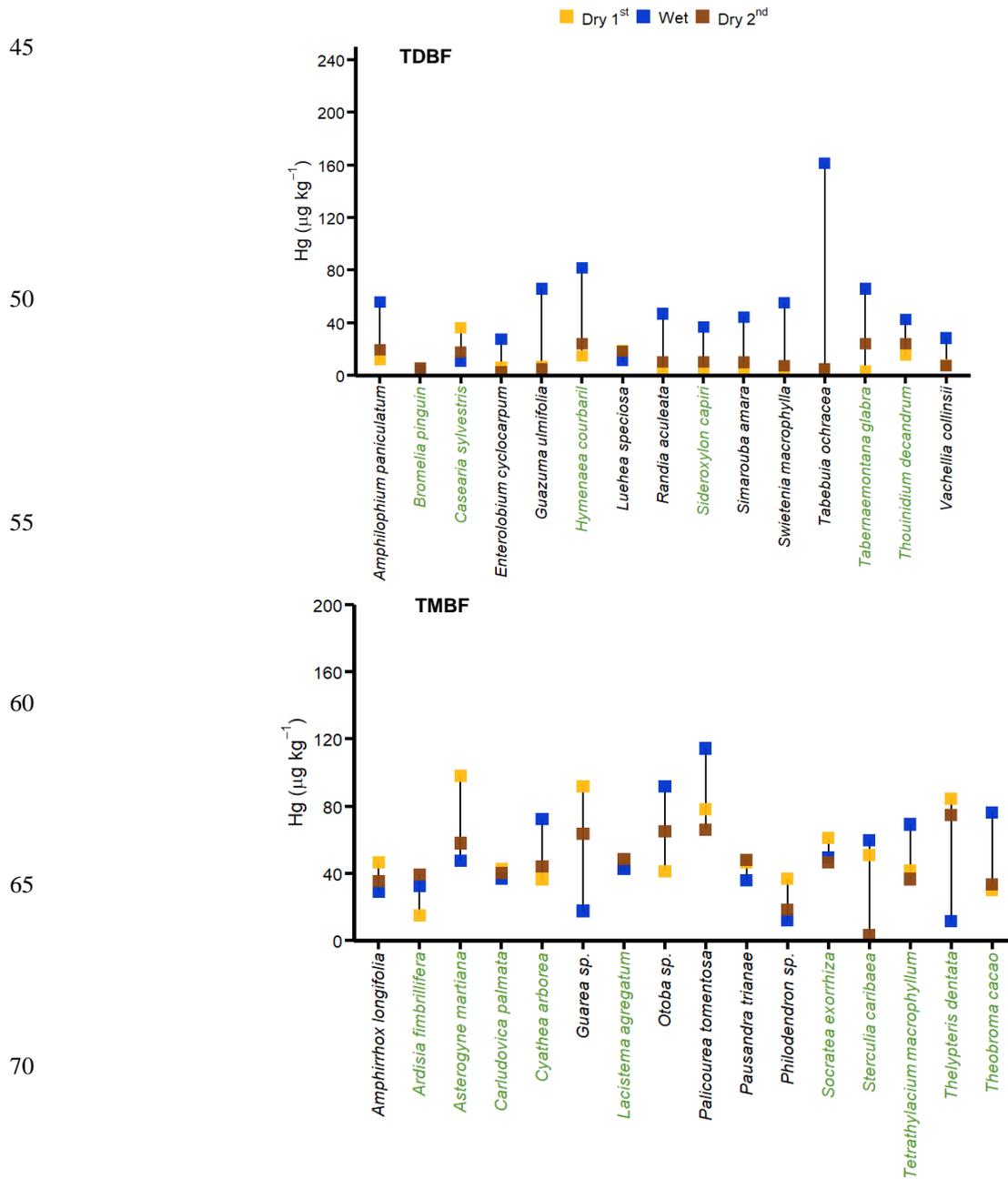
10		B	8.69952592	-83.20258296	101.73
		C	8.69961314	-83.20255888	109.77
		D	8.69963563	-83.2025973	110.71
	4	A	8.69946318	-83.2022143	112.08
		B	8.69945046	-83.20227631	93.22
		C	8.69938351	-83.2022725	107.83
		D	8.69939184	-83.20226475	108.57
	5	A	8.70373187	-83.20464727	125.92
15		B	8.70377677	-83.20467384	117.39
		C	8.7037756	-83.20462716	121.61
		D	8.70385008	-83.20478733	89.28
	6	A	8.70369893	-83.20491526	125.63
		B	8.70370299	-83.20483703	117.89
		C	8.70374703	-83.20489947	121.57
		D	8.70374769	-83.20497481	124.73
20	<u>Hg passive samplers</u>				
	MerPAS	A	8.701237	-83.202422	73.4
	MerPAS	B	8.700728	-83.20227	79.8

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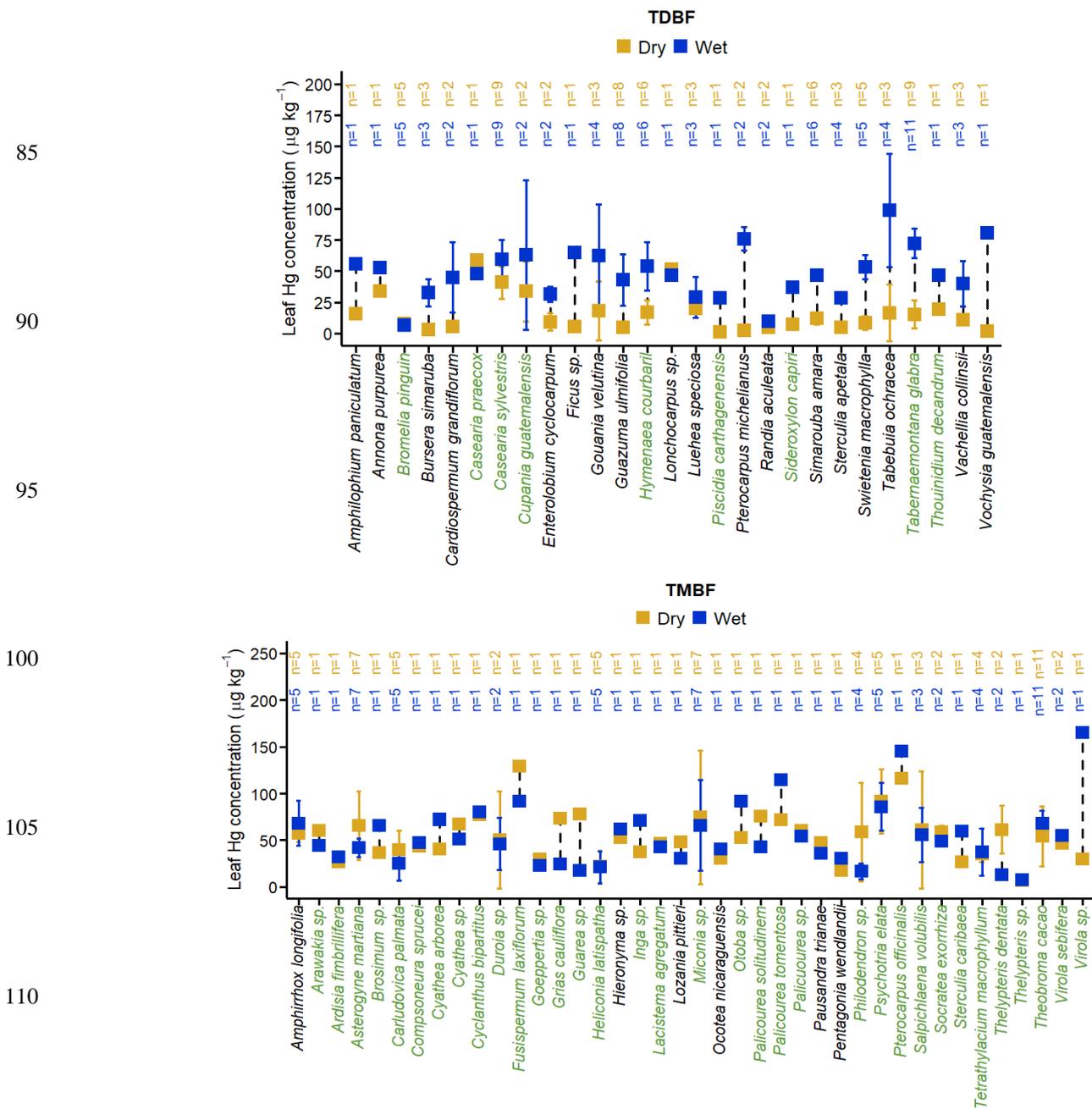
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75 **Figure S1: Variability of Hg concentration in leaves in individual measurements during different sampling campaigns in the dry and wet seasons in tropical dry broadleaf forest (TDBF) and tropical moist broadleaf forest (TMBF). Black connectors were used to connect the individual measurements. Evergreen species in both forests were colored green. Yellow, blue, and brown squares correspond to SC1, SC2 and SC3 (respectively).**

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115 **Figure S2: Mean values (\pm standard deviation) of Hg concentration in leaves from different species in the tropical dry broadleaf forest (TDBF) and the tropical moist broadleaf forest (TMBF) during dry and wet seasons. Species names written in green indicate evergreen species, while names in black indicate deciduous species. Plants identified only to the genus level, which could be either deciduous or evergreen, were considered evergreen in our study if developed green leaves were found during all three sampling seasons. Truncated black lines connect values between dry and wet seasons.**

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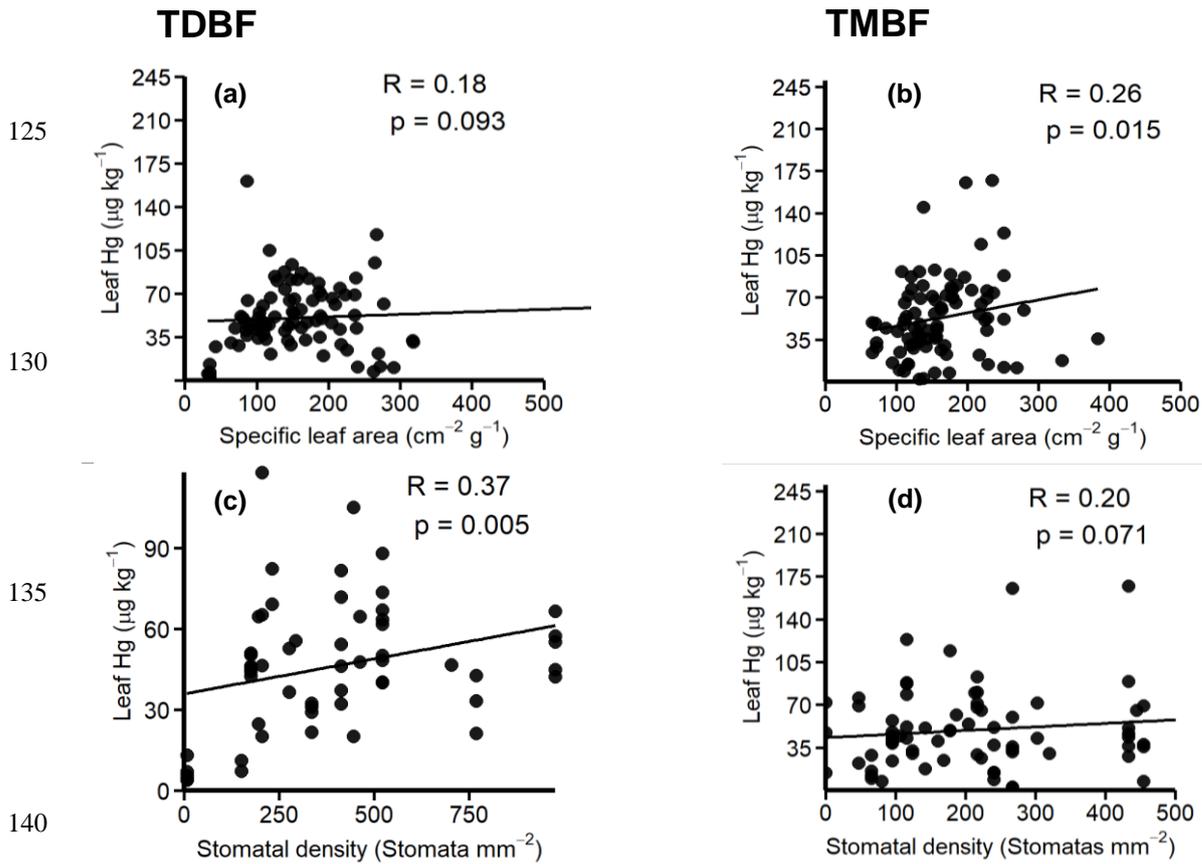
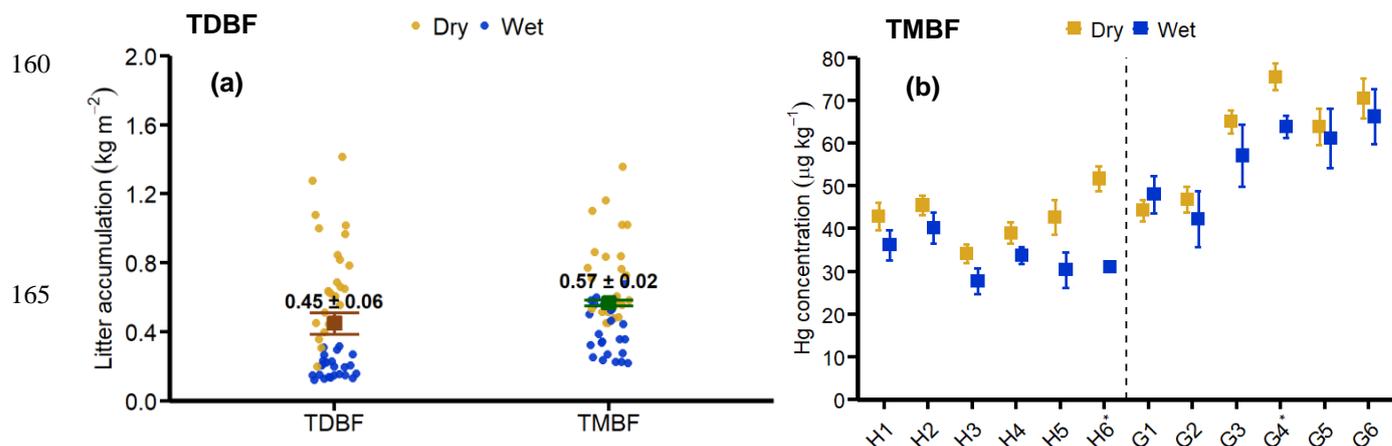


Figure S3: Spearman's rank correlations (R coefficients and p -values) between leaf traits and Hg concentrations in the tropical dry broadleaf forest (TDBF; panels a, c) and the tropical moist broadleaf forest (TMBF; panels b, d). Panels (a, b) show correlations between Hg and specific leaf area; and panels (c, d) show correlations between Hg and leaf stomatal density. Specific leaf area and stomatal density were measured during the wet season, when the leaves are fully developed, and correlated with Hg from the same season. Trend lines are included to visualise overall patterns.

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170 **Figure S4: (a) Mean (\pm standard error) values of litter accumulation in tropical dry broadleaf forest (TDBF) and tropical moist**
broadleaf forest (TMBF). The data were calculated based on the average of each plot's accumulation during the dry and wet seasons.
The standard error bar represents the difference between the sampled plots in each forest ($n=6$). The dots represent the raw data
from the non-grouped individual samples. (b). Mean (\pm standard error) of Hg concentration from different plots of TDBF (H1–H6),
and TMBF (G1–G6), during the dry and wet seasons. (*) on the x-axis indicates statistically significant differences between seasons
according to Welch t-test (two samples) ($p < 0.05$).

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