

Supporting Information

Long-term livestock grazing increases the recruitment success of epigeal termites: insights from a 75 year grazing experiment in the Karoo, South Africa

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Table S1: Examples of the different mound states using a similar classification scheme to that of Smith and Yeaton (1998) and of the observed damage by aardvarks. Scale is a 1 m ruler

State	Photograph
1 = young, active mounds	 
2 = old, active mounds	 
3 = partially abandoned	 
4 = abandoned mounds and example of aardvark damage	 
5 = eroded mounds	 

Table S2: Total mound number, mean mound size, nearest neighbour distances (NDD) and Pearson's correlation coefficients (r) for *T. trinervoides* from the five different condition indices (CI) for all mounds in the exclosure and grazing plots. SE = standard error. For mound volume (m^3) and nearest neighbour distance (m) the result of Student's or Welch's t -test between the exclosure and grazing plots are shown, whereas for Pearson's correlation the result of a Student's t -test within the exclosure and grazing plots are shown

	CI	Exclosure plot	<i>t</i>	df	<i>P</i>	Grazing plot	<i>t</i>	df	<i>P</i>
Total number of mounds	1	39				119			
	2	24				21			
	3	3				6			
	4	1				2			
	5	29				52			
Mean \pm SE mound volume (m^3)	1	0.021 \pm 0.004				0.017 \pm 0.003	0.85	92.6	0.40
	2	0.16 \pm 0.015				0.23 \pm 0.044	1.34	24.9	0.19
	3	0.079 \pm 0.034				0.0326 \pm 0.018	1.36	7	0.216
	4	0.166				0.0904 \pm 0.074			
	5	0.0515 \pm 0.0096				0.0239 \pm 0.0052	2.53	44.5	0.015
Mean \pm SE nearest neighbour distance (m)	1	4.41 \pm 0.62				2.63 \pm 0.18	2.73	45.1	0.008
	2	7.73 \pm 0.85				3.95 \pm 0.62	3.14	43	0.003
	3	5.10 \pm 0.96				3.92 \pm 0.69	0.98	7	0.36
	4	6.12				3.47 \pm 1.62			<i>Insufficient data</i>
	5	4.07 \pm 0.53				2.89 \pm 0.27	2.04	43.4	0.048
Pearson correlation coefficient (r) between NDD (m) and mound volume (m^3)	1	-0.14	0.84	37	0.41	-0.03	0.33	117	0.75
	2	0.24	1.15	22	0.36	-0.1	0.47	19	0.65
	3		<i>Insufficient data</i>				<i>Insufficient data</i>		
	4		<i>Insufficient data</i>				<i>Insufficient data</i>		
	5	0.073	0.38	27	0.71	0.22	1.59	50	0.12

Table S3: Full species name, growth form and life history of all species from the vegetation surveys conducted in 1960, 2011 and 2015

Abbreviation	Species	Growth form	Life history	Abbreviation	Species	Growth form	Life history
Amp tri	<i>Amphiglossa triflora</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial	Hel rut	<i>Helichrysum rutilans</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial
Apt pro	<i>Aptosimum procumbens</i>	Forb	Perennial	Hel zey	<i>Helichrysum zeyheri</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial
Ari ads	<i>Aristida adscensionis</i>	Graminoid	Annual	Het con	<i>Heteropogon contortus</i>	Graminoid	Perennial
Ari con	<i>Aristida congesta</i>	Graminoid	Annual	Lyc spp	<i>Lycium spp</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial
Ari dif	<i>Aristida diffusa</i>	Graminoid	Perennial	Nen mic	<i>Nenax microphylla</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial
Ble mit	<i>Blepharis mitrata</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial	Oro cap	<i>Oropetium capense</i>	Graminoid	Perennial
Bul hum	<i>Bulbostylis humilis</i>	Graminoid	Annual	Ost lep	<i>Osteospermum leptolobum</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial
Chr cil	<i>Chrysocoma ciliata</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial	Pen glo	<i>Pentzia globosa</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial
Dig arg	<i>Digitaria argyrograpta</i>	Graminoid	Perennial	Pen inc	<i>Pentzia incana</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial
Dig eri	<i>Digitaria eriantha</i>	Graminoid	Perennial	Phy par	<i>Phymaspermum parvifolium</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial
Enn sco	<i>Enneapogon scoparius</i>	Graminoid	Perennial	Pte gla	<i>Pteronia glauca</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial
Era ber	<i>Eragrostis bergiana</i>	Graminoid	Perennial	Pte sor	<i>Pteronia sordida</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial
Era cur	<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>	Graminoid	Perennial	Ros hum	<i>Rosenia humilis</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial
Era leh	<i>Eragrostis lehmanniana</i>	Graminoid	Perennial	Rus spi	<i>Ruschia spinosa</i>	Succulent shrub	Perennial
Era obt	<i>Eragrostis obtusa</i>	Graminoid	Perennial	Sch bar	<i>Schismus barbatus</i>	Graminoid	Annual
Eri eri	<i>Erioccephalus ericoides</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial	Sel sax	<i>Selago saxatilis</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial
Eri spi	<i>Erioccephalus spinescens</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial	Spo fim	<i>Sporobolus fimbriatus</i>	Graminoid	Perennial
Fel fil	<i>Felicia filifolia</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial	Sta aur	<i>Stachys aurea</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial
Fel mur	<i>Felicia muricata</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial	The hys	<i>Thesium hystrix</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial
Hel dre	<i>Helichrysum dregeanum</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial	Tra koe	<i>Tragus koelerioides</i>	Graminoid	Perennial
Hel luc	<i>Helichrysum lucilioides</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial	Wah ten	<i>Wahlenbergia tenella</i>	Woody shrub	Perennial

