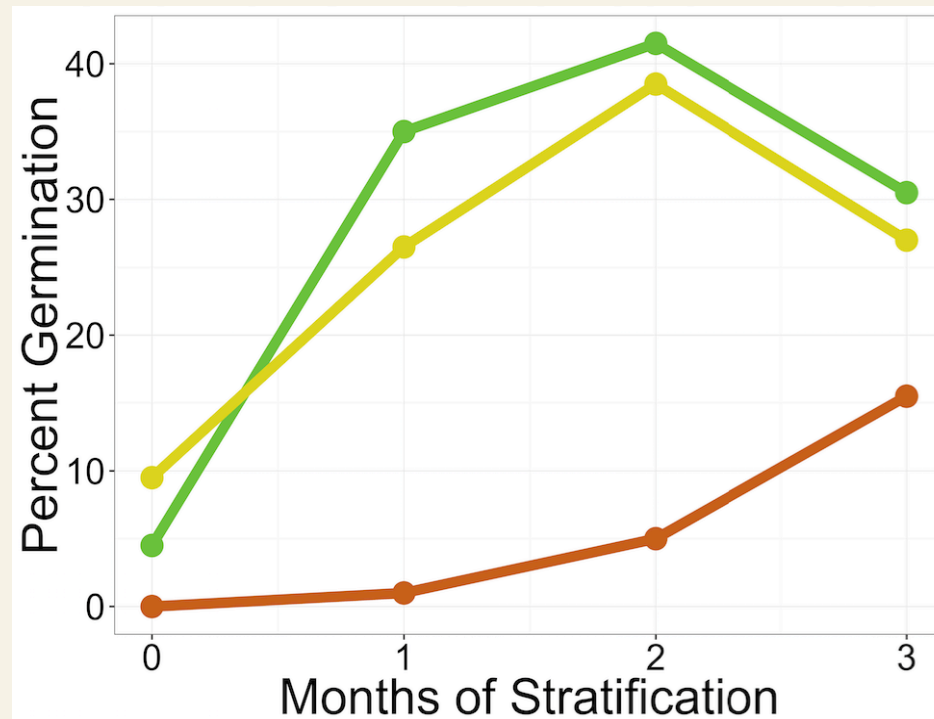


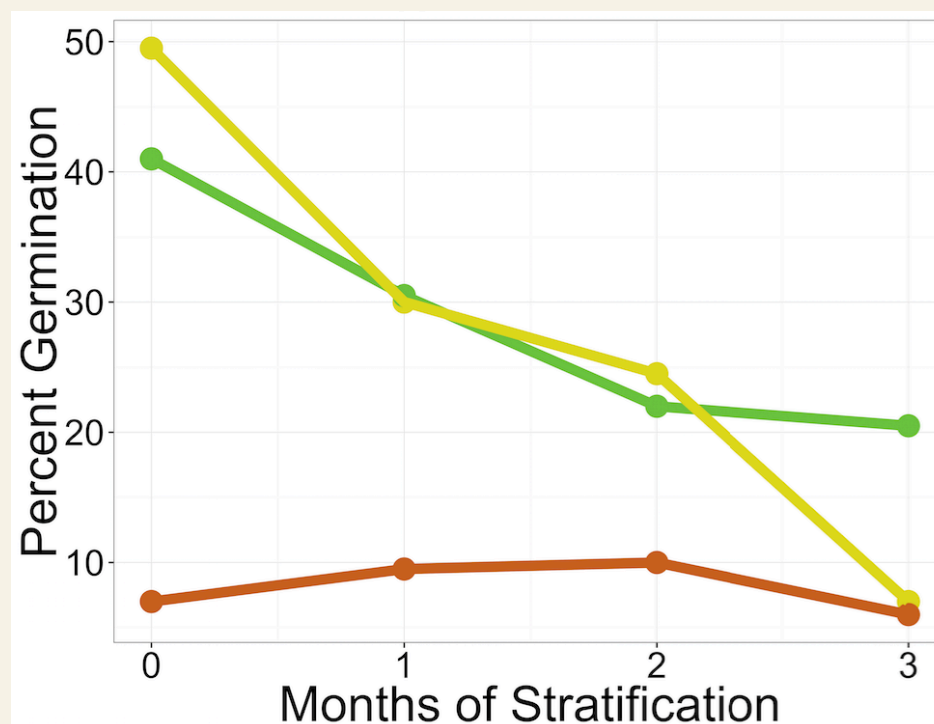
Restoration of Native Sedges in Western Washington Prairies

Kelly Broadlick

Carex inops ssp. *inops* and *Carex tumulicola* are important to restoration efforts in Western Washington prairies, but are challenging to grow from seed. **What conditions break seed dormancy and enhance germination?** I am exploring this question, and focusing on methods which can be applied at a large scale by conservation nurseries.



Key: Spring Warm Spring Summer



Methods

Seeds were treated with between 0 and 3 months of winter exposure in a climate-controlled chamber, and then moved into spring, warm spring, or summer growth chambers for 3 months.

Results

Although these species are from the same genus and grow in similar prairies they responded differently to seasonal patterns.

The combination of winter exposure and spring conditions increased germination for *Carex tumulicola*. I recommend spring sowing after 2 months of cold treatment for this species.

In contrast, winter exposure decreased germination for *Carex inops*, which also responded positively to spring temperatures, suggesting it naturally germinates in the fall. Fall sowing may be best for this species.

Questions? Email me
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