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1 **Shifts in the elemental composition of plants during a very severe drought**

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11 **Highlights**

- 12 • -Each species had a particular elemental composition in all circumstances
- 13
- 14 • -Species had more plastic stoichiometry when growing in more diverse communities
- 15
- 16 • -The stoichiometric shifts due to drought were more community- than species-
17 dependent
- 18
- 19 • -Drought in all cases decreased K, N, P, Mg and S, and increased C and Fe
20 concentrations

21 **ABSTRACT**

22 Diverse plant functions (e.g. growth, storage, defense and anti-stress mechanisms) use
23 elements disproportionately. We hypothesized that plants growing under different

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