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Local root growth and death are mediated by contrasts in nutrient availability and root quantity between soil patches

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Supplementary material

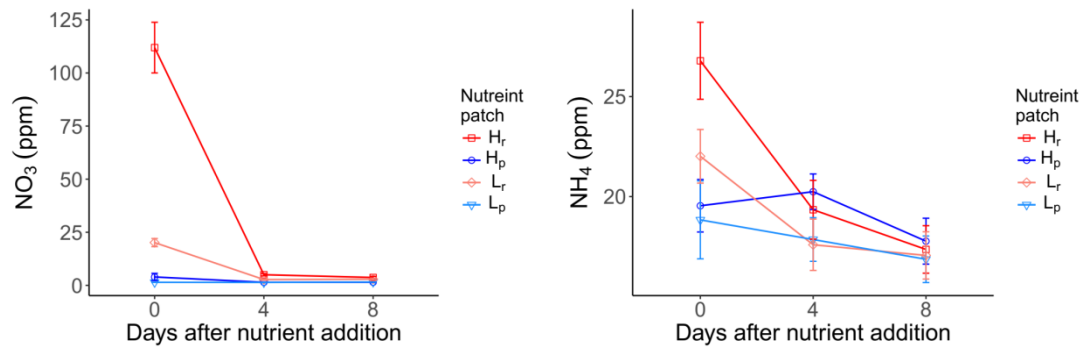


Fig. S1 Changes in nitrate and ammonium concentrations of different patches right after nutrient addition and 4, 8 days after nutrient addition. Error bars represent \pm SE.

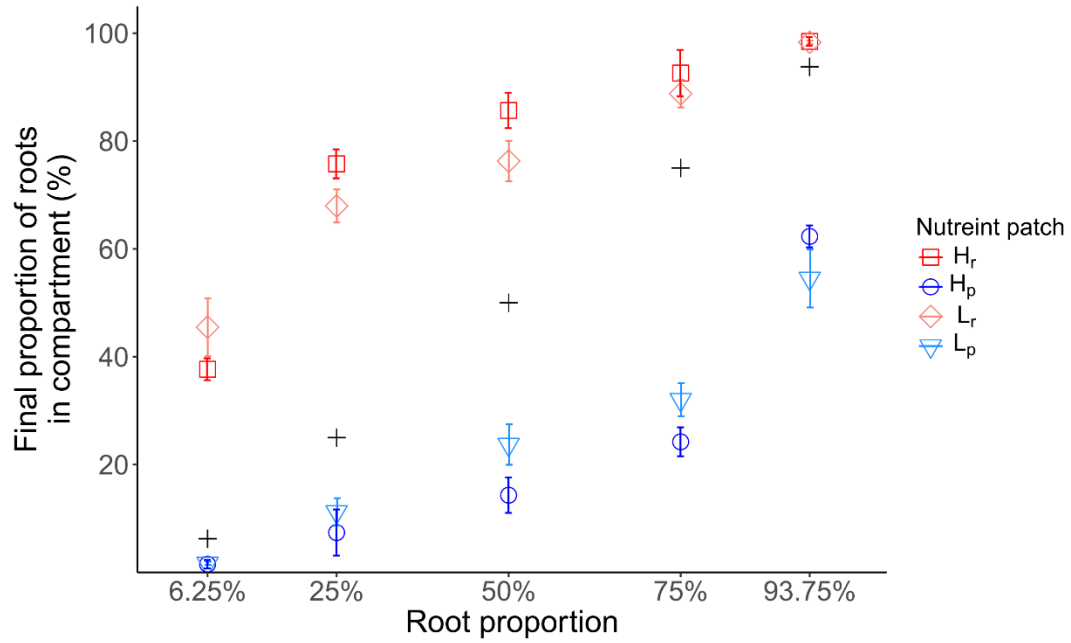


Fig. S2 The proportion of roots in each compartment relative to total root biomass in the container at the end of the experiment. Red squares denote plants in high-contrast nutrient-rich patches; blue circles denote plants in high-contrast nutrient-poor patches; light red rhombuses denote plants low-contrast nutrient-rich patches; light blue inverted triangles denote plants in low-contrast nutrient-poor patches. Plus signs denote initial root proportions at the beginning of the experiment. Error bars represent \pm SE.

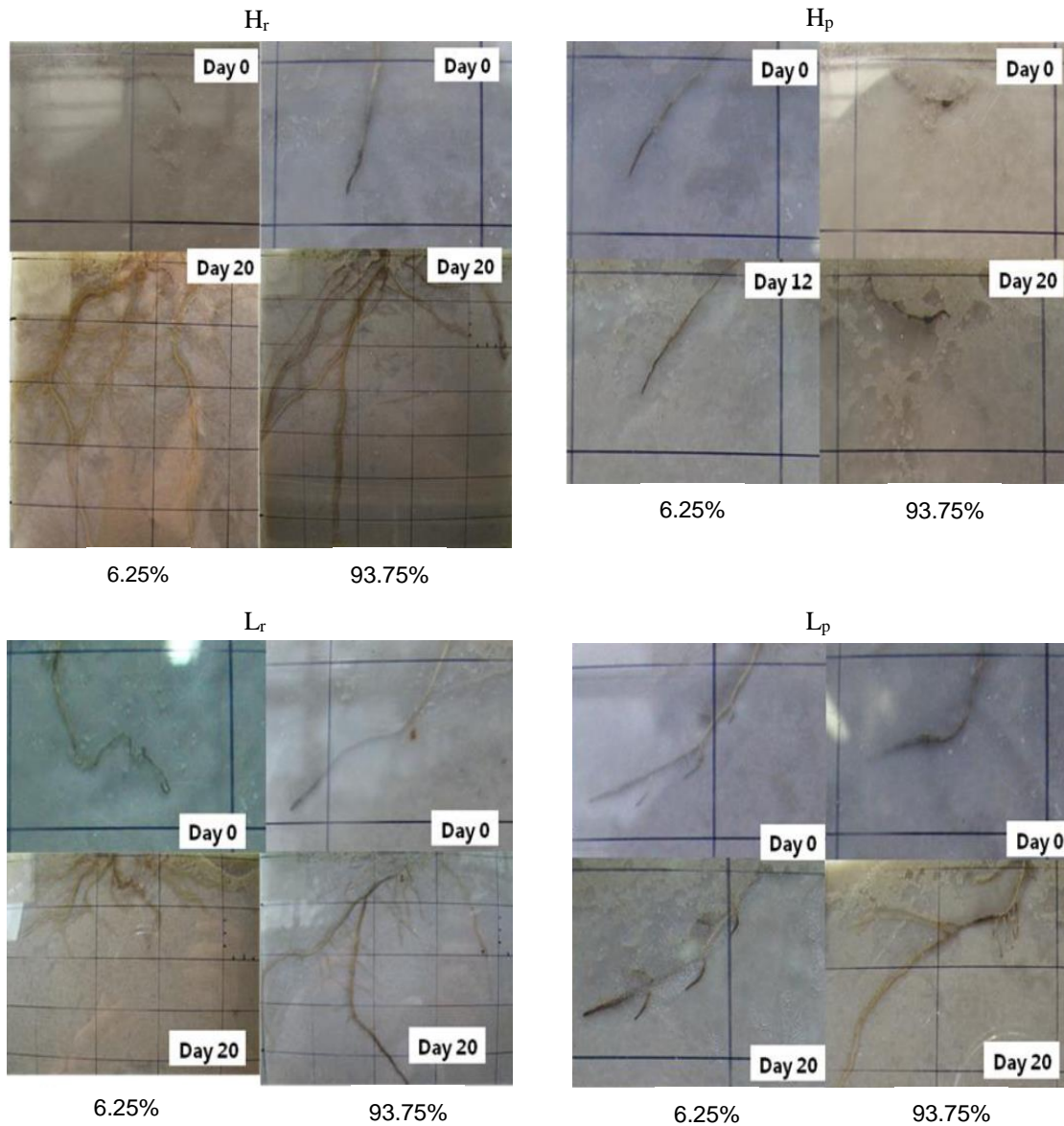


Fig. S3 Pictures showing the variation in root proliferation observed in different treatments. nutrient-rich patch, H_r , nutrient-rich patch with high nutrient contrast; H_p , nutrient-poor patch with high nutrient contrast; L_r , nutrient-rich patch with low nutrient contrast; L_p , nutrient-poor patch with low nutrient contrast. Number below each pair of pictures denote the initial proportion of roots in the patch.