

EFFECTS OF VEGETATION AND SOIL ON BEHAVIOR OF WILD BOARS IN MT. KYUSHO, TOTTORI PREFECTURE

KEYWORDS : BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS, CAMERA TRAPS, FEEDING BEHAVIOR, ROOTING, SOIL ACIDITY, SOIL ANIMALS, SOIL HARDNESS, SOIL MOISTURE

TOTTORI PREFECTURAL TOTTORI NISHI HIGH SCHOOL

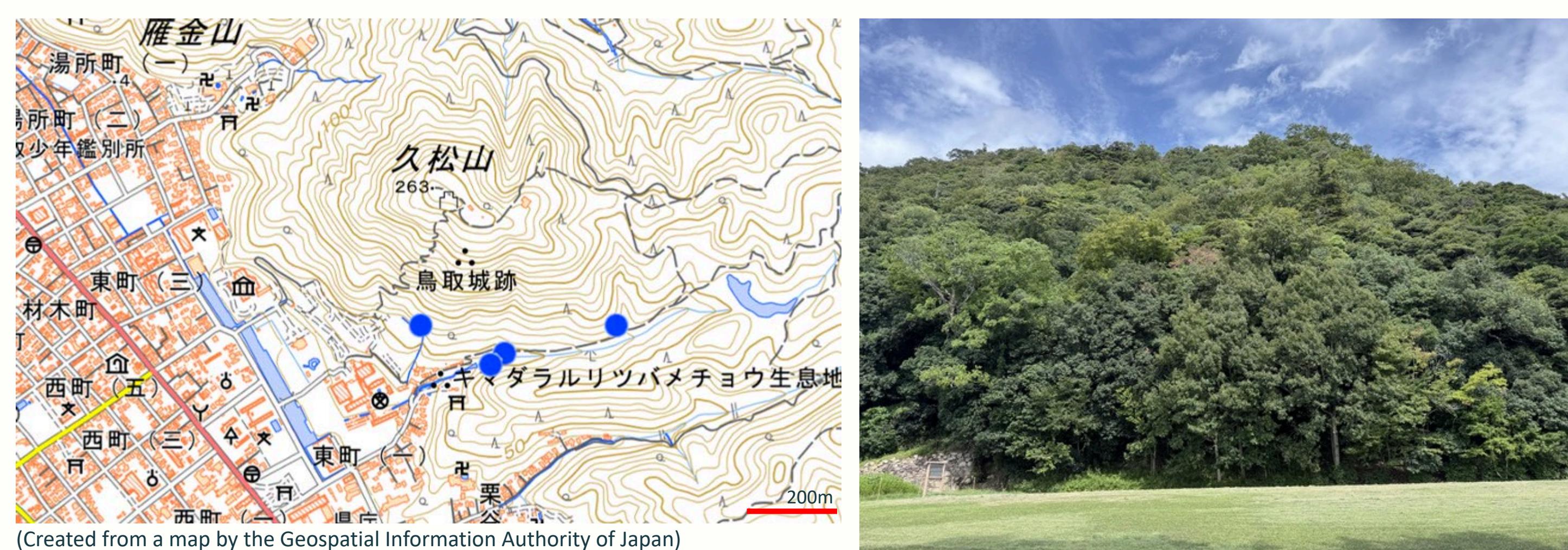
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Purpose

Wild boar's traces have been observed around Mt.Kyusho of Tottori Prefecture.

The objective of this study is to reveal the effects of vegetation and soil properties on the behavior of wild boars.

Methods



Four plots were selected, and trail cameras were set up in each plot. In each plot, items (i), (ii), and (iii) were investigated within a 100m² area in front of the camera.

(i) Vegetation

① divided into four layers ② decided the dominant species

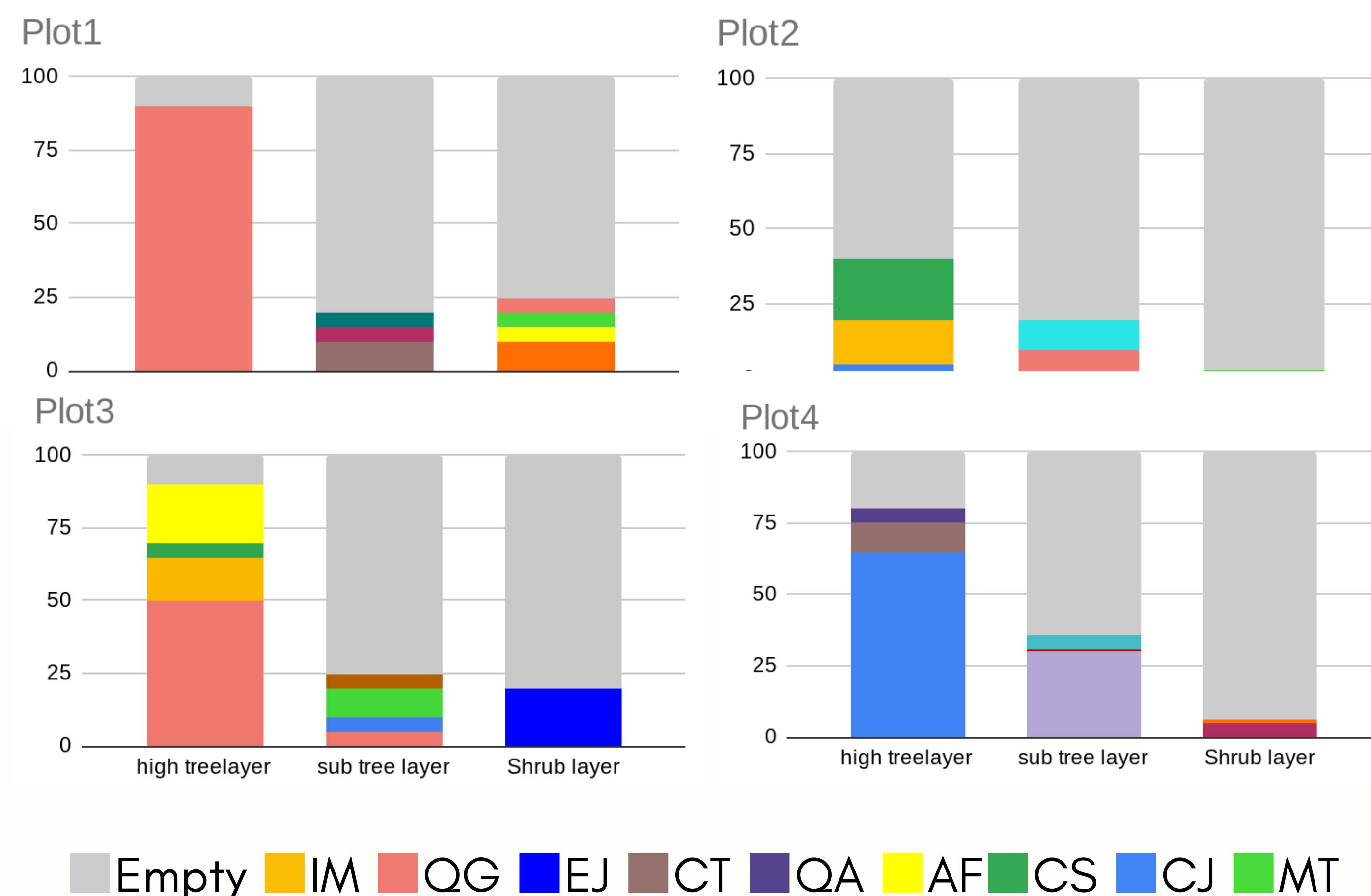
(ii) soil properties

① Soil acidity ② Soil moisture ③ Soil hardness

(iii) Soil was collected at five points in each plot, and soil animals visible to the naked eye were collected by hand sorting.

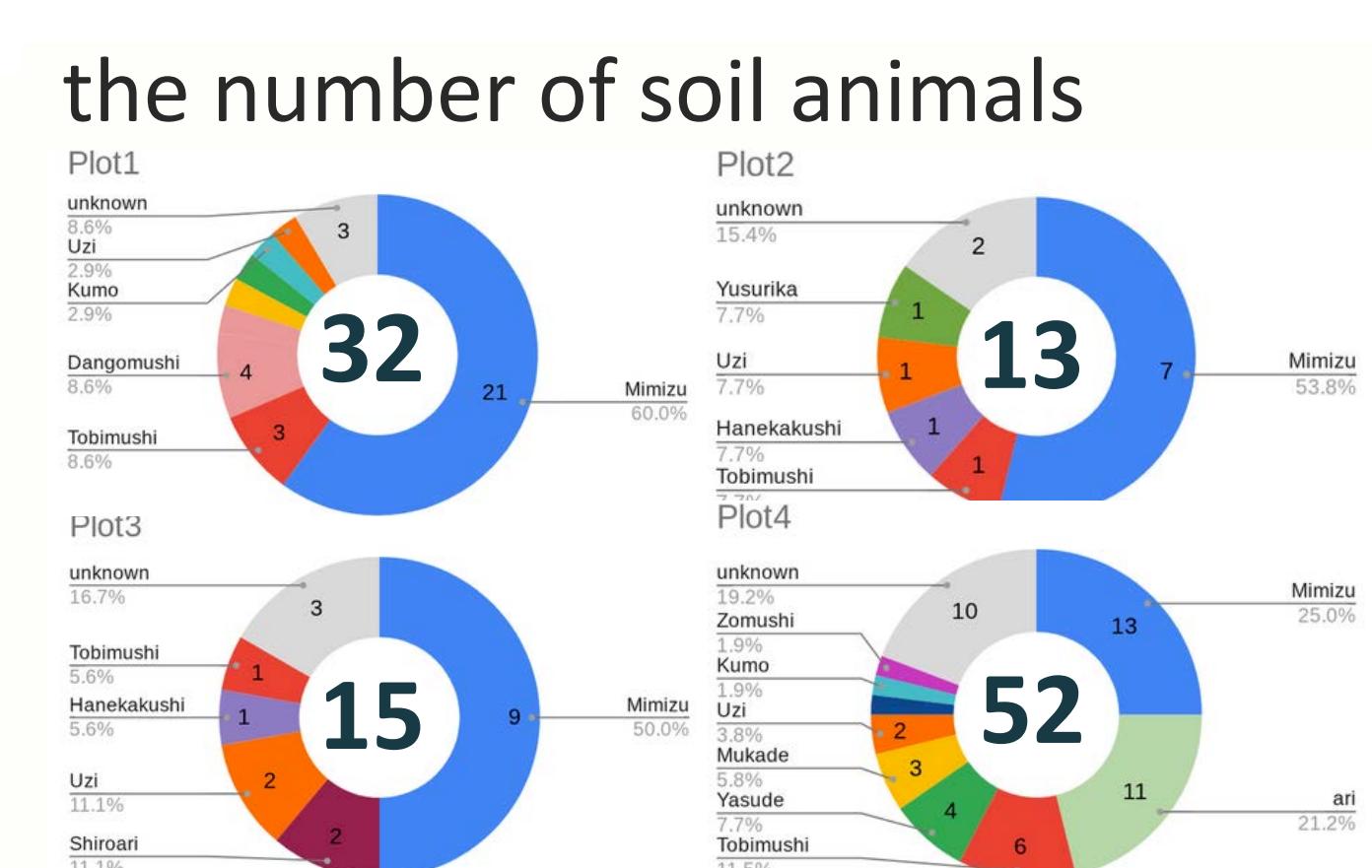
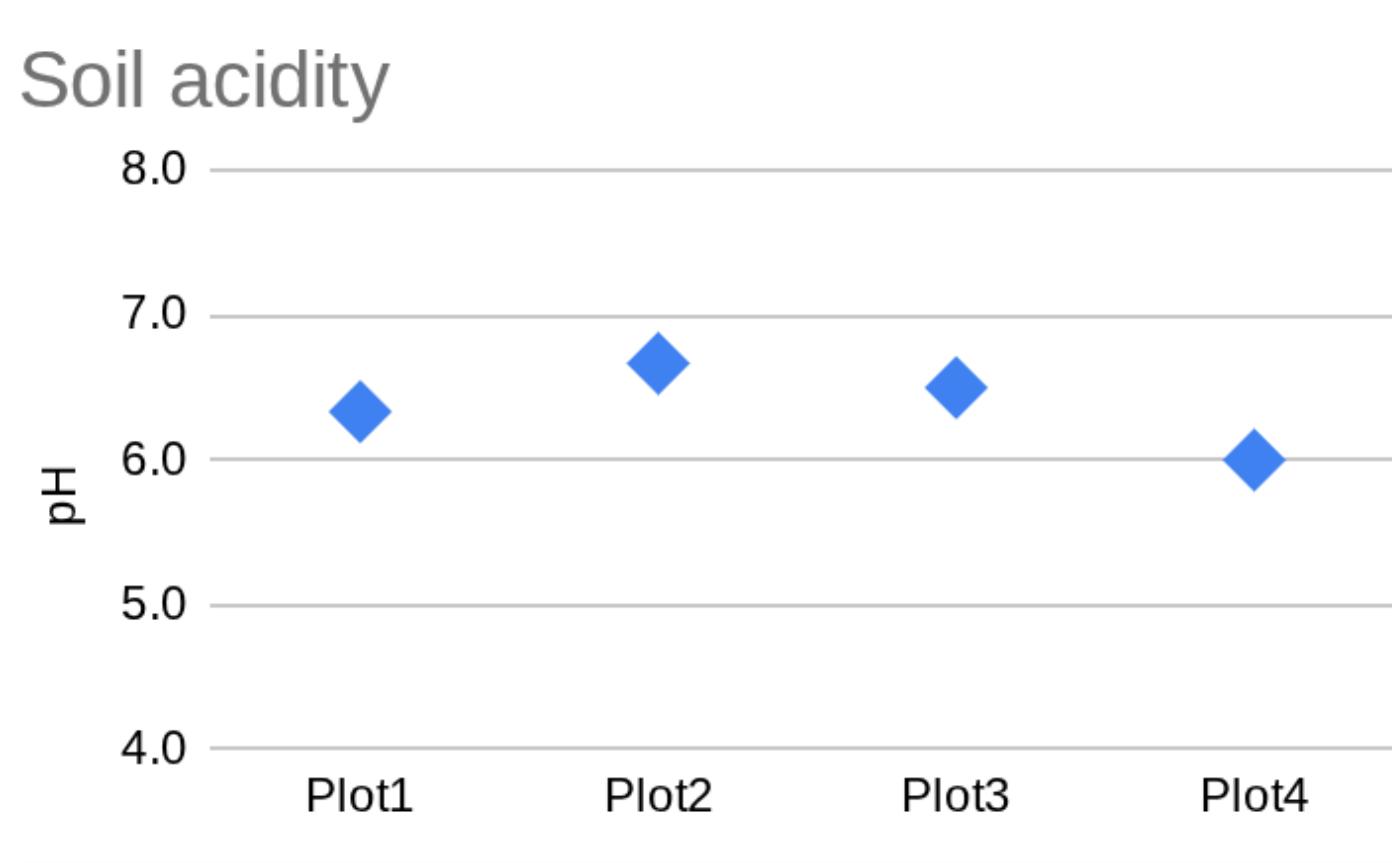
Results

vegetation cover in each layer

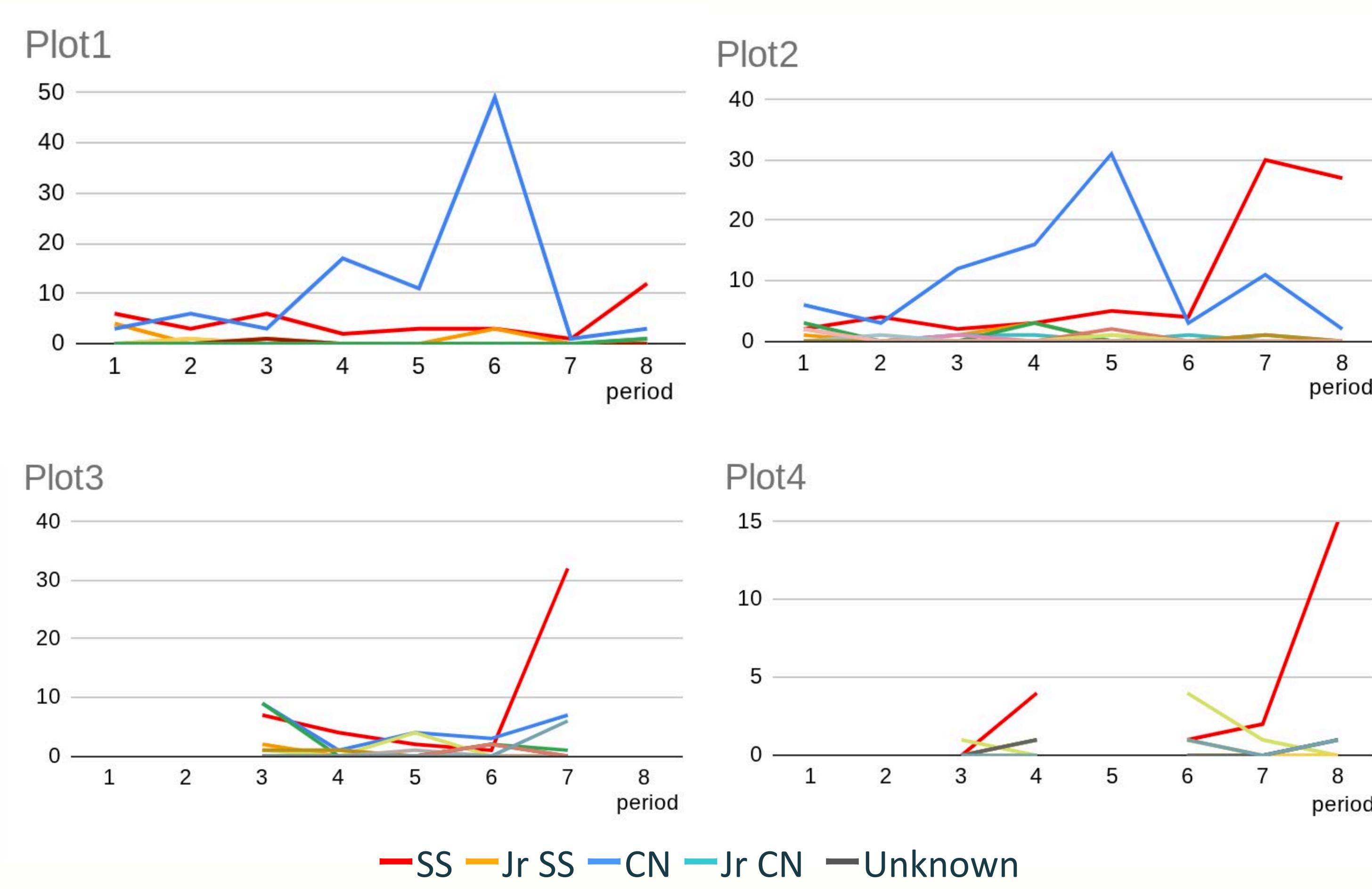


Soil properties

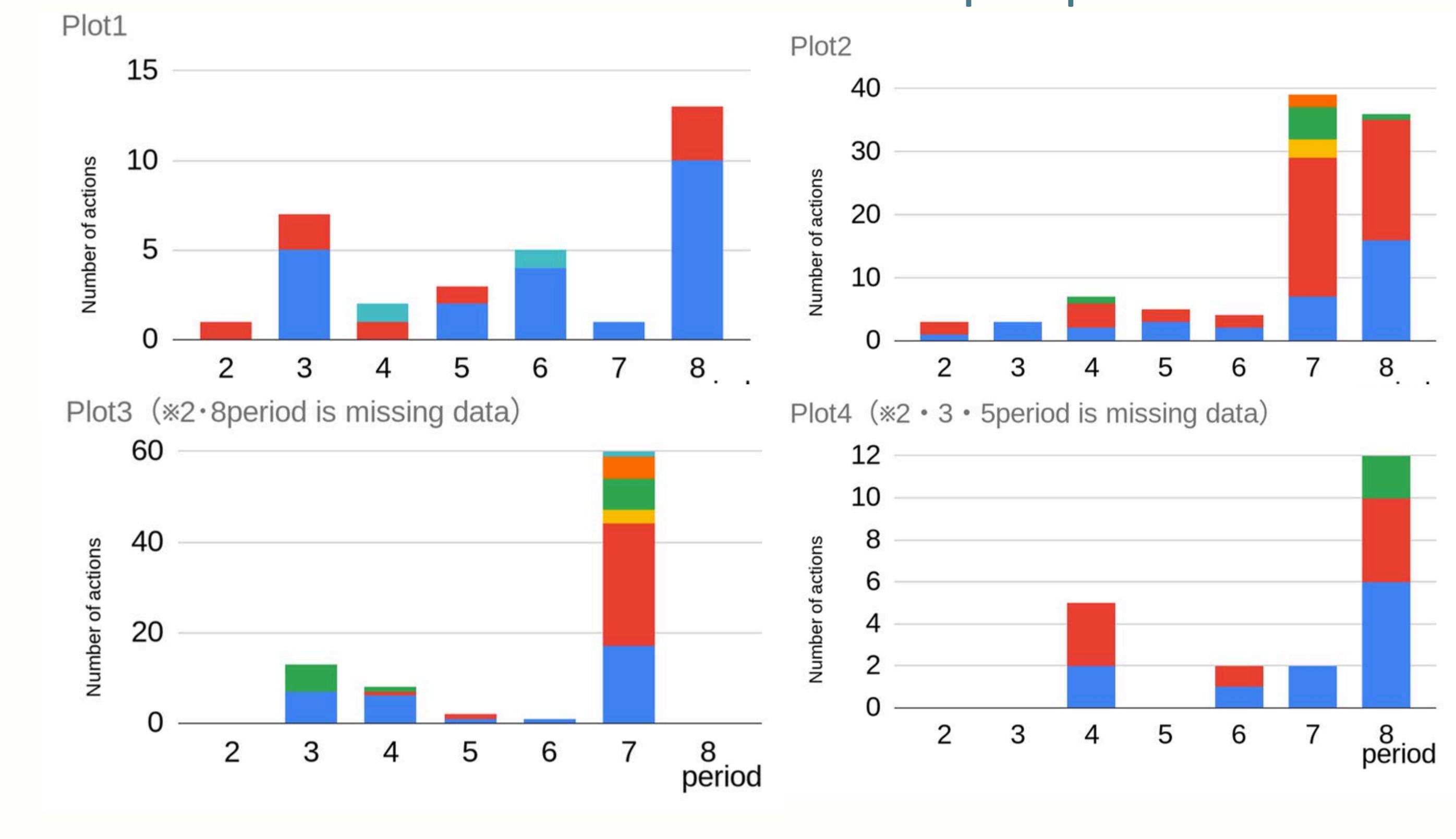
Soil hardness



The number of animals' appearances per period



The number of wild boar behaviors per period



Examples of wild boar's behaviors



Movement



Feed

Discussion and Conclusion

Wild boar occurrences increased, and feeding behavior was frequent in areas where nut trees distribute in the high and sub tree layers. The increase in wild boar numbers (September 3–November 5, 2025) overlapped with the fruiting of nuts (October–December).

- In Tottori, plentiful supply of nuts was reported this year.
- Previous studies (Kodera et al., 2013) reported that wild boars prefer nuts.

→ **The frequency of wild boar appearances is affected by seasonal changes of vegetation.**

References

Kodera Y, Kanzaki N, Ishikawa N, Minagawa A (2013) Food habits of wild boar (*Sus scrofa*) inhabiting Iwami District, Shimane Prefecture, western Japan, Mammal Study 53 (2): 279-287