

Montana Rivers and Invasions by Russian Olive and Tamarisk

















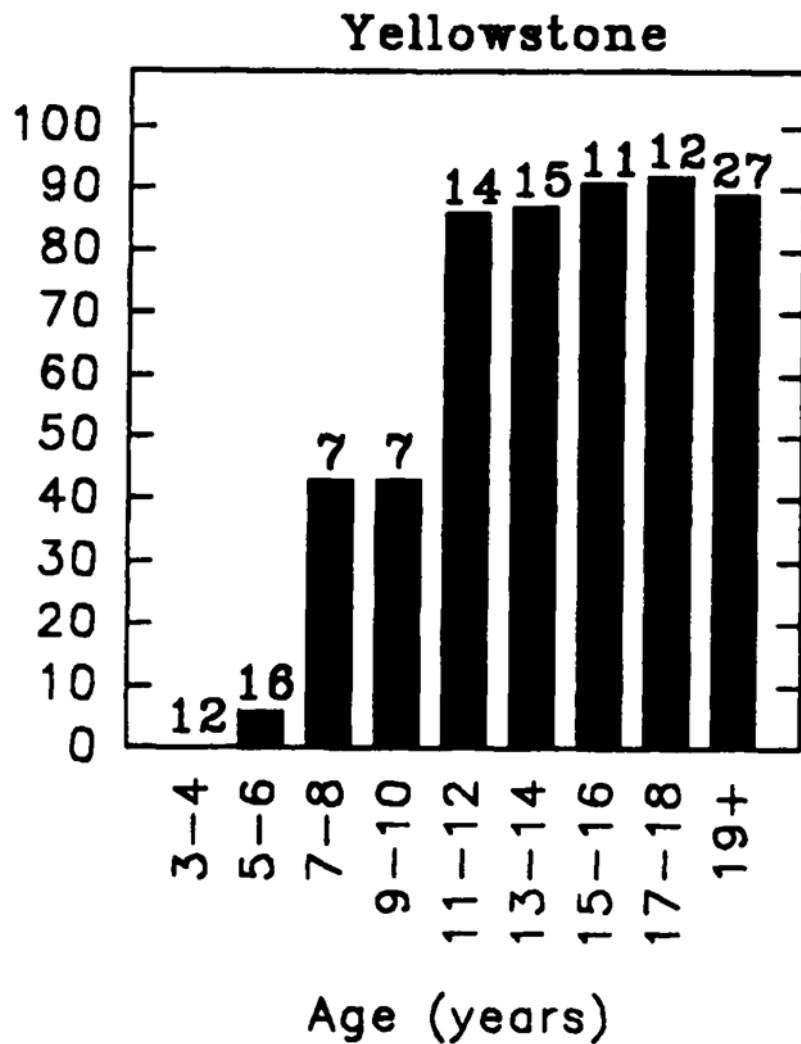
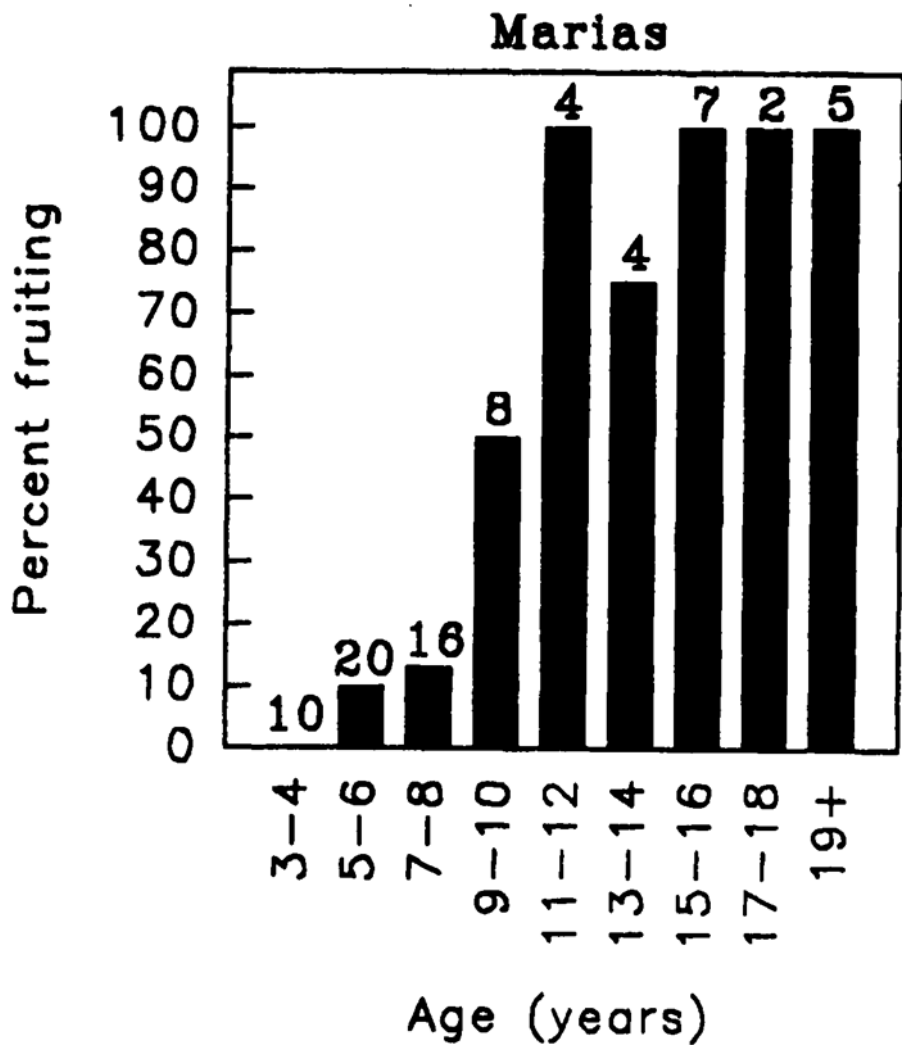






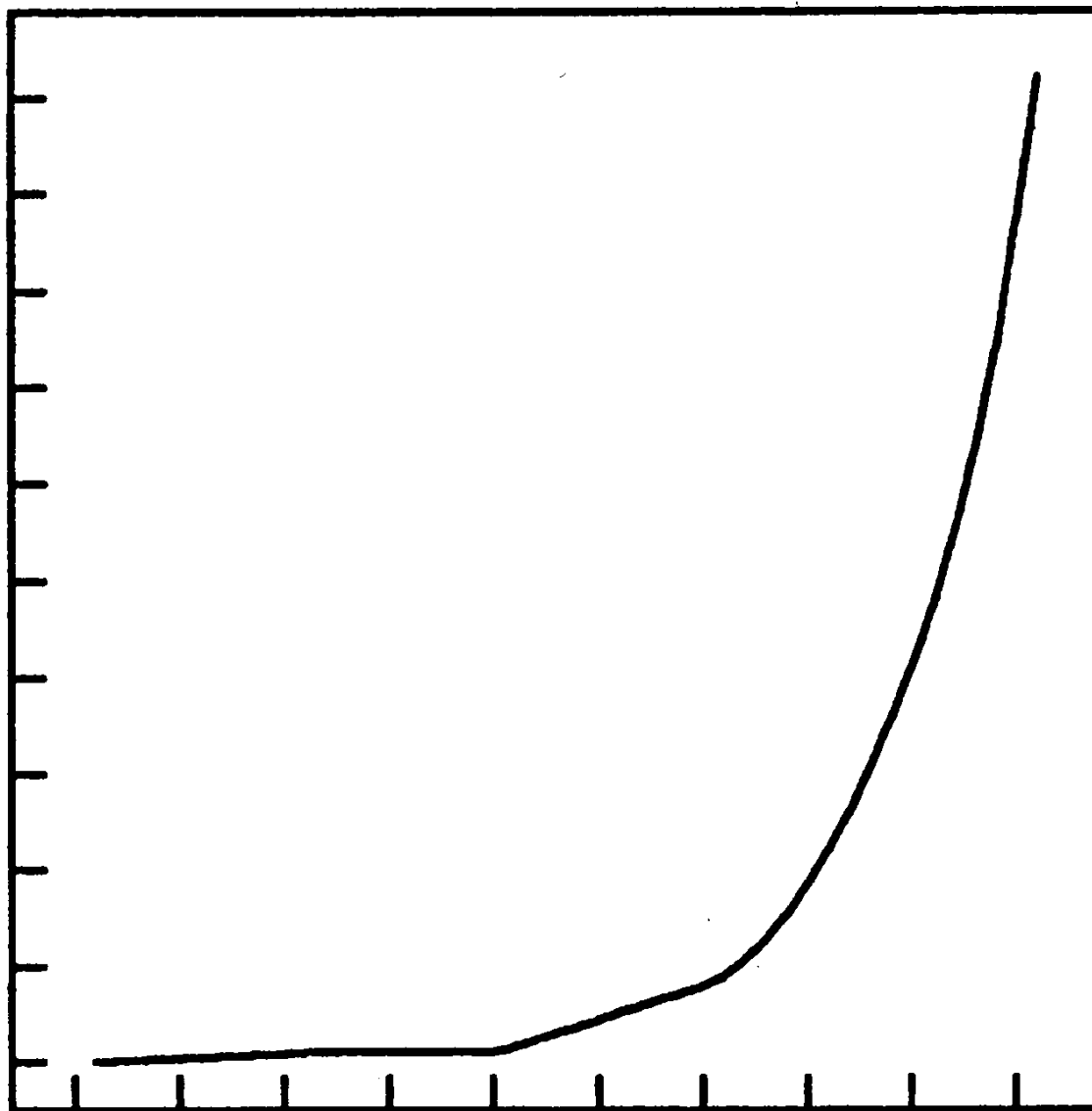






Mature plants/stand

100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0



0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45

Year since first immigration

Tamarisk

- Will not replace cottonwood on free-flowing rivers because it's too small, not shade-tolerant, doesn't cast enough shade
- Could replace willow in the understory
- Can replace cottonwood on regulated rivers. Flowers and fruits throughout year. Beaver don't use it. Browsed less than willow or cottonwood

Russian olive

- Can replace cottonwood along banks and along overflow, backwater channels. Will replace cottonwood and tamarisk along regulated rivers
- Can preclude cottonwood establishment following overbank flows
- Acts as a climax tree in eastern Montana riparian successional sequence. Russian olive grows faster and could replace green ash as dominant climax species

Questions?

