Biogeosciences Discuss., 10, C2722–C2723, 2013
www.biogeosciences-discuss.net/10/C2722/2013/

Biogeosciences Discussions
Open Access

Interactive comment on "Erosion control blankets, organic amendments and site variability influenced the initial plant community at a limestone quarry in the Canadian Rocky Mountains" *by* A. C. Cohen-Fernández and M. A. Naeth

A. C. Cohen-Fernández and M. A. Naeth

anayansi.cohenfernandez@ales.ualberta.ca

Received and published: 13 June 2013

The paper is dealing with a comparison of different soil treatments in site revegetation of a Limestone Quarry. The focus indicator of the success of the revegetation was the plant cover only. Only one mixture of native grasses was used. The authors did not explain something on the natural vegetation of the area, of the targeted vegetation type they wanted to achieve etc. They didn't study the changes in vegetation development

Full Screen / Esc
Printer-friendly Version
Interactive Discussion
Discussion Paper

except the cover only. A species list is totally absent. That means in general the data availability is very poor. That's the main reason to reject the manuscript.

Response of Authors Although the reviewer considered that our study only presents plant cover as a measure of success, in fact our study presents the results of changes in soil chemical parameters, plant density, plant cover and species composition resulting from different soil treatments and research locations. Contrary to the reviewer's perception, we did present a list of the plant species. The species included in the seed mix were listed in the Methods, Section 2.4 Plant Species. The dominant non-seeded species established in the experimental plots are listed in Section 3.3 of the results. We would like to clarify that the target of the study was to evaluate changes in vegetation establishment due to soil treatments, not to evaluate seed mixes. By using a single seed mix, the study focused on answering the target question without increasing the number of variables, which otherwise might have resulted in an experiment of an unmanageable size.

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 10, 3009, 2013.