

Interactive comment on “CellTracker Green labelling vs. Rose Bengal staining: CTG wins by points in distinguishing living from dead anoxia-impacted copepods and nematodes” by M. Grego et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This is a very well written manuscript in terms of structure, extent and clearness. Its findings are relevant to all meio/micro-benthologists who consider experimental work in the future. I read it with great interest. The introduction is concise and relevant. The experimental setup and execution is clearly described and adequate for the study. It meets a standard that is impeccable. The laboratory analyses and statistics are well described and performed and support the author's conclusions. The claims the authors make are adequately discussed. In general, the methodology is clear and reproducible and the literature is treated in adequate and comprehensive way. I recommend

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the manuscript for publication in Biogeosciences after following minor considerations:

- 2859 L6: Add the reference Diaz and Rosenberg, 2008 to your reference list - 2860 L11-13: Rephrase the sentence to: "... alternative to RB, since for short-term disturbance studies such as hypoxia/anoxia experiments a more accurate method is needed to solely label the surviving cells/organisms ...". - 2860 L16: Avoid confusion on CTG being cell-impermeable or cell-permeable, clarify your sentence by rephrasing it as: "Once in the cell, the CTG probe is converted to cell-impermeant reaction products..." - 2860 L19-20: Delete the "in" as for "in parasitology", "in phytoplankton ecology". - 2860 L24: Correct to "deep-sea" - 2860 L27: Delete "also" - 2861 L6: Replace "treats" with "describes" - 2861 L12: Consider that in Veit-Köhler et al. (2009) nematodes were found in HIGHER densities in OMZ compared to surrounding well-oxygenated sediments. - 2861 L17: Delete "toxic" from the first sentence to avoid a repetition in the next sentence. - 2863 L20: What is the reason why 6 of the 8 replicates were processed and not all 8? - 2863 L24: CTG is a fluorescent probe, right? - 2870 L14: Correct "microbes"

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