

Comments to the Author

Referee #2 points out the first sentence of the discussion: 'The taxon-specific analysis of *F. kerguelensis* cell spectra revealed that stations with lower Fe availability demonstrated higher levels of intraspecific variability (Figure 5e)'. I am not convinced by your answer. We only have Fe data for E5 and E4-W (check on the database from the web site). Are you referring to those stations (so you should clearly specify it)? Would-you please comment on it?

Author's response

Agreed. The following text has been substituted for the original first sentence.

"The taxon-specific analysis of *F. kerguelensis* cell spectra revealed that stations E-1 and E-5 demonstrated higher levels of intraspecific variability than stations E-4W and TEW-8 (Figure 5e)."

Comments to the Author

In the same vein, Table 1 must be modified for Fe levels at stations E1 and TEW-8: no iron data are available from these stations. So modify Table 1 accordingly, mentioning 'not determined' in your 'Dissolved Fe' column instead of 'Moderate' and 'Higher', respectively for stations E1 and TEW-8.

Author's response

Table 1 has been modified to say "not determined" for stations E1 and TEW-8.

Comments to the Author

For consistency of station nomenclature in the Special Issue, replace 'E4-W' by 'E-4W':

- page 4, line 15
- page 5, line 6
- page 8, lines 1 and 2
- page 9, line 3, 5 and 23
- page 10, lines 12, 13, 20, 22 and 29
- page 11, line 7, 11 and 13
- Table 1
- page 24, line 5 (also inside Figure 2)
- page 29, line 5 (also inside Figure 6)

Inside Table 3, replace 'E1-1' by 'E-1', 'E1-4-W' by 'E-4W', and 'E1-5-W' by 'E-5'

Author's response

All changes have been made as requested. Additionally, references to "E4-W" have been modified to read "E-4W" throughout the document including Figure 5.