

## ***Interactive comment on “Modelling the effect of soil moisture and organic matter degradation on biogenic NO emissions from soils in Sahel rangeland (Mali)” by C. Delon et al.***

**Anonymous Referee #2**

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Review of Delon et al.

This is an interesting paper that should be significantly revised prior to publication.

1) It is difficult to separate the details from what is genuinely new in this paper. Is the only new thing a coupled model? Or are there insights into the behavior of the system that emerge from the coupled model that were not possible without the coupling? The authors should make a clearer statement in their introduction and conclusion about what the state of the art was prior to this work and what the state of the art is as a result of the paper.

2) The paper should be copy edited to improve the English. It is difficult to read in  
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places because of the awkward use of language.

3) Section 2. The paper should not be published without some form of access to the experimental data for other researchers.

4) Section 2. Additional details on the NO flux measurements should be presented. Were the chambers open during rain, the variability between nearby sites should be described.

5) Section 3. The description of the model should include enough numerical detail that another researcher could check code written independently. Perhaps a table of example input and output.

6) It would be useful to have a discussion of the appropriate horizontal spatial scale for use of this model.

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Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 11, 11785, 2014.