Biogeosciences Discuss., 12, C1386–C1387, 2015
www.biogeosciences-discuss.net/12/C1386/2015/

Biogeosciences
Discussions
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Interactive comment on "Monitoring seasonal and diurnal changes in photosynthetic pigments with automated PRI and NDVI sensors" *by* J. A. Gamon et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 17 April 2015

The presented study aimed to evidence the relationship between foliar pigments and spectral indices (PRI and NDVI) while testing brand remote sensors for experimental studies. The study is clear, well conducted, scientifically sound and potentially of interest for the public of BG. The main value of the ms is the simultaneous analysis of pigments and spectral indices in one deciduous species and one conifer species and the thorough description of the onset of the growing season. I do not find any new information in this study but known elements already described together in the same place.

My main concern is that the study is in some point disappointing. The text starts trying to convince the reader on the importance of vegetation indices as indicators of pho-

tosynthetic activity and light use efficiency. However nor direct measurements neither analysis on Carbon exchange were presented. I expected that Carbon net exchange or other direct photosynthetic measurements, LUE or any other direct measurement on what the authors refers as "photosynthetic activity" would be presented. So, we have now clearer ideas on the relationships between PRI and pigments, but we are in the same point on the relationship between PRI and photosynthetic activity.

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 12, 2947, 2015.