



Interactive comment on "A simple parameterization of nitrogen limitation on primary productivity for global vegetation models" by G. Krinner et al.

P. Falkowski (Editor)

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Received and published: 25 November 2005

Dear Dr. Krinner and co-authors:

Your manuscript, "A simple parameterization of nitrogen limitation on primary productivity for global vegetation models", (bgd-2005-0053) has been examined by two reviewers.

After carefully reading your paper and the reviewers' comments, it is clear that there is a substantial assumption in your model regarding the parameterization of specifically N limitation based on NPP/Rh ratios. Clearly both reviewers are sympathetic to your research efforts, but both also point out the potential problems with your parameterization scheme, especially in the tropics, where N₂ fixation can exceed NPP demands,

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but yet the ecosystems as a whole are limited by other elements.

Given the depth of concerns raised by the reviewers, and also recognizing that you have probably thought about these potential issues while you were working on the parameterization scheme, I am asking that you to submit a letter to me explaining how, if you were given the opportunity, you could address the issues raised. PLEASE DO NOT revise the paper – I am merely asking if you believe you can accommodate the substantive issues.

Please submit your response to me within the next 2 weeks. If you wish to discuss any aspect of the reviewers' comments with me, feel free to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Paul G. Falkowski

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discussions, 2, 1243, 2005.

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