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Interactive comment on “Microbiology and atmospheric processes: chemical interactions of Primary Biological Aerosols” by L. Deguillaume et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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The manuscript discusses the impact of bioaerosols on air chemistry and the influence of chemical processes on bioaerosol properties. The authors present a thorough review of current literature and open up new research perspectives by combining microbiology with air chemistry. The number of references is impressive (> 120) and a large number of processes and possible interactions is addressed. However, the non-specialist is often left clueless in view of the abundance of information. It would help the reader if the authors more clearly structured the processes and ranked them according to their significance. The discussion is largely limited to a subset of bioaerosol, namely to fungal spores and bacteria, a limitation which should be mentioned in the Abstract.

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The suggestions for future research include recommendations for the use of regional and global models of the atmosphere. I think, at this stage of research it might be more urgent to compile measurements and to achieve comparability with the different measurement techniques applied by different communities. This might accelerate progress in this new field more rapidly than application of coarse resolving numerical models.

Minor comments: P 843 ln 11: "outlines" is misspelled

Phrases like "have a strong influence" (p846ln12) or "play a major role" (p850ln9) without explaining which influence or which role is meant, are not very informative.

Please, replace in Figure 1vthe French "particules" by "particles".

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 5, 841, 2008.

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