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Biogeosciences Discussions

Interactive comment on "Variations in leaf physiological properties within Amazon forest canopies" *by* J. Lloyd et al.

J. Lloyd et al.

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We thank Prof. Grace for his comments. In what follows we specifically address his two main points:

EDITOR: My main problem with the work is that I would like to see how the N:P ratio of leaves in the rain forest compares with other leaves in other biomes. This would help togive context. There is an excellent review paper on the topic: Gusewell, S. 2004. N: P ratios in terrestrial plants: variation and functional significance. New Phytologist164:243-266. It would be useful to see where the present data fall in relation to thedata points of Fig 7 of that paper.

RESPONSE: This issue is dealt with in some detail an accompanying paper in the same special issue (Fyllas et al.)

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EDITOR: I have another, smaller, issue. The title of the paper is not entirely appropriate. The term ’physiological properties’ suggests such processes as photosynthesis and respiration, whilst the paper mostly presents elemental analysis (albeit with an ecophysiological interpretation). The title could be improved upon.

RESPONSE: We would like to suggest

The optimisation of canopy carbon gain as related to gradients in nutrients and associated leaf traits within Amazon rain forest canopies.

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 6, 4639, 2009.

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Interactive Comment