

***Interactive comment on* “Chemical composition of volatile and extractive compounds of pine and spruce leaf litter in the initial stages of decomposition” by V. A. Isidorov et al.**

Anonymous Referee #2

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The paper reports an exhaustive analysis of litter volatile, especially terpenes and sesquiterpenes, and non-volatile components. The non-volatile components are included, because the author believes they may be precursors to VOC emissions. No discussion or references to this hypothesis are included. The manuscript may be improved by the inclusion of some discussion of the metabolic products or pathways of further degradation of litter.

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 7, 1727, 2010.