

Interactive comment on “Comment on: “Possible source of ancient carbon in phytolith concentrates from harvested grasses” by G. M. Santos et al. (2012)” by L. A. Sullivan and J. F. Parr

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In their comment, Sullivan and Parr questioned justification for the incomplete use of their data by Santos et al. Both reviewers see it as a valid criticism, but at the same time they agree that it was useful to point out the hypotheses on the possible mechanisms of too old ^{14}C ages of phytoliths that are extracted from modern plants. A further analysis of these mechanisms would be beyond the format of a brief commentary in Biogeosciences. Presumably, with newly accumulated data and improved measuring protocols, the plausibility of the hypotheses outlined by Santos et al. will be addressed in more detail in the follow-up manuscripts.

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Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 9, 13773, 2012.

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