

Interactive comment on “Agricultural uses reshape soil C, N, and P stoichiometry in subtropical ecosystems” by H. Y. Liu et al.

S. Rolinski (Referee)

rolinski@pik-potsdam.de

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The manuscript aims at deciphering the impact of agricultural landuse and orography on the stoichiometric ratios between C, N and P. The study presents an impressive dataset of soil samples in a catchment in a subtropical hilly region in China. Although the methods are valid and statistical analysis sound, the conclusions are not convincing because of the distribution of woodland and agricultural areas. Surely, the long-term application of fertilizers is expected to have an impact on soil nutrient status but on the other hand, plantations for tea and rice were established primarily in the lowlands exactly because of more fertile soils. Apart from this dilemma, the presentation lacks clarity especially in the description of the methods.

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