

Interactive comment on “Revisiting chlorophyll extraction methods in biological soil crusts — methodology for determination of chlorophyll a and chlorophyll a + b as compared to previous methods” by Jennifer Caesar et al.

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Caesar et al. present the results of a study in which they assessed several methodologies to extract chlorophyll from biocrusts. In a well-organized experiment, they compared the effect of variations on the key steps throughout the extraction process: the solvent that was used (ethanol vs. dms), grinding vs. no grinding, and shaking vs. no shaking. The results are presented clearly, and the discussion is on point. I second the comments and suggestions by reviewer 1, and I only have a few additional minor comments and suggestions, all of which are easy to address:

C1

page 1, l30: please provide a reference to support this statement. page 2, l2: delete "as", i.e. "...conditions (e.g. disturbance)..". page 2, l4: delete "the" from "the desert ecosystems" page 10, l12-16: this sentence is grammatically incorrect. Please consider the following alternative: "A perfect extraction procedure should deliver rapid and reproducible results and has to be simple to execute. Furthermore, the used solvent should bring all pigments into solution, resolve pigments to extremely low levels of detection, be hazard-free, and cause no chemical changes to the pigments (Jeffrey, 1981)." page 11, l5: is "most types" really appropriate here? It seems like this is only true for 2 out of 4 biocrusts. page 11, l6: this sentence is grammatically incorrect. Please consider the following alternative: "Hisco page 11, l8: "fairly uncritical, as after.." should be "fairly uncritical; after.. ", or even better: "less critical; after.." page 11, l31: please provide a reference to support this statement page 12, l12: what do you mean by "turned out to be positive"? Improved extraction efficiency?

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