

## Response to final editor comments on manuscript bg-2017-99:

## **“Bryophyte-dominated biological soil crusts mitigate soil erosion in an early successional Chinese subtropical forest”**

4

## 5 Dear Associate Editor,

6 Thank you for your final comments and for accepting our paper for publication in BGS.

7 We agree with your comments, modified the introduction and removed the closing sentences starting  
8 with "We assume..." (lines 78-81, 89-94, 102-104). Additionally, we rephrased the "personal  
9 observation" in lines 353-354 as indicated, but also in lines 333-335 talking about *Polygonatum* and  
10 *Atrichum*.

11 Furthermore, we added a very recent publication about the methodology of the BEF China experiment  
12 (Trogisch et al. 2017).

13 Thank you again and best regards,

14 Steffen Seitz