

Interactive comment on “Bryophyte-dominated biological soil crusts mitigate soil erosion in an early successional Chinese subtropical forest” by Steffen Seitz et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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Compared with lots of reports regarding biocrusts from drylands, little topics were discussed in humid region. This paper selected a novel issue and conducted a scientific experiment, and whereby some clear but not unexpected results were concluded. My suggestions are as follows to improve the manuscript:

- 1.while authors analyzed the influence of vegetation, soil, and terrain on biocrusts cover, they should emphasized the interactive impact of different factors, but not only single factor's influence;
- 2.the authors must qualitatively describe the effects of biocrusts on sediment and runoff, and also in the discussion section, they should compared their results with other researchers' conclusions;

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3.generally, this manuscript present too much emphasis on qualitative description instead of quantitative analysis;

4.the experiment was conducted in PR China, however, there is none of authors or affiliation from Chinese territory, which is not logical or even not permitted by China goverment;

I suggest that authors improve the paper according to the comments above at least.

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