

First of all, we would like to thank you for your comments on our manuscript. Please find our corresponding answers below.

Line 135, the authors should confirm that both “4.000 rpm” and “10.000 rpm” are corrected. Based on my experience, they should be “4000 rpm” and “10000 rpm” in this context.

You are right. We will correct this in our revised manuscript.

Line 144, “Soil samples were analysed on various physicochemical soil properties”. The second “soil” should be deleted.

Correct, we will delete “soil”

Figure 3, the numbered signatures were confused. Why the small numbers (i.e., 01-07) were shown in Figure 3b while the big numbers (i.e., 08-16) present in Figure 3a?

You are right, the most important signatures should be presented first. We will switch the figures.

Table 2. Is it more suitable to show the data as box chart rather than table?

Good point. We will try out a diagram for these data and choose the one (table or diagram), which is more intuitively accessible for the readers.

Table 3. The unit of RMSE should be corrected for *C. epigejos*, *P. australis*, and *P. australis* (litter incl. brown shoot). Specifically, “-2” should be labeled as superscript.

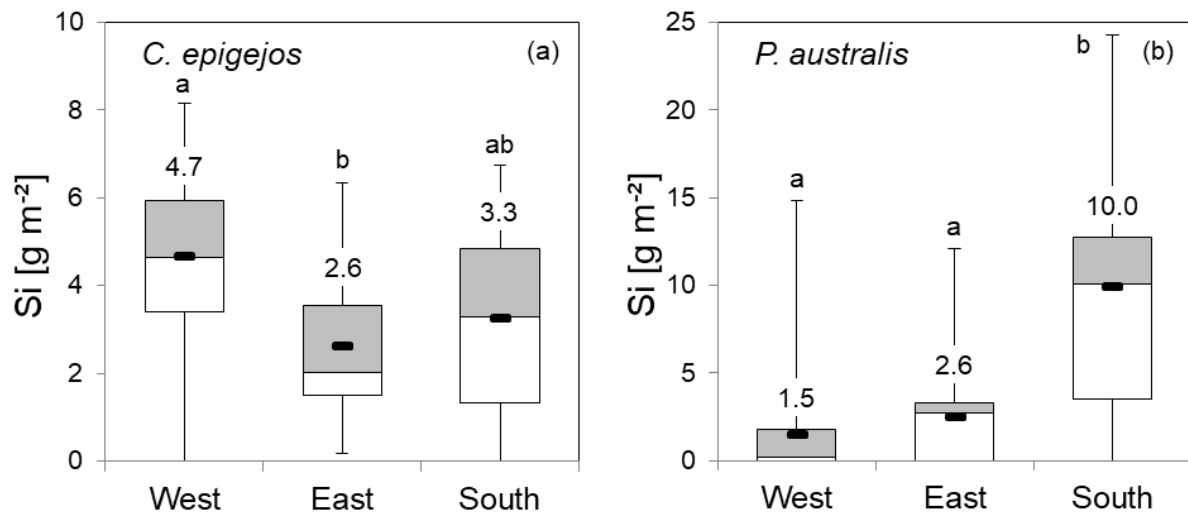
We overlooked that and will correct it

Figure 6. Why the R² is lost for *C. epigejos* in Figure 6b?

We will reinsert the R²

Figure 9. Are there any statistical differences among West, East, and South for both *C. epigejos* and *P. australis*?

According to Kruskal-Wallis ANOVA ($p < 0.05$) significant differences exist between the western and the eastern zone for *C. epigejos* and between the southern and the other two zones for *P. australis* indicated by different letters (a and b; see modified figures below).



We will amend the description of Figure 9 to explain added letters: “Distribution (mean, upper and lower quartile, minimum and maximum) of Si stocks of *C. epigejos* (a) and *P. australis* (b) at grid points in the western, eastern and southern zone. Numbers represent zonal means. Letters (a and b) indicate statistical significance of differences between zones according to Kruskal-Wallis ANOVA (p < 0.05). Note the different scaling of the y-axes.

We will add a sentence at the end of the paragraph (Line 387) “According to Kruskal-Wallis ANOVA (p < 0.05), differences in mean Si stocks are statistically significant between the western and eastern zone for *C. epigejos* and between the southern and the other two zones for *P. australis*.”