

Title: Plant functional traits modulate the effects of soil acidification on above- and belowground biomass (bg-2023-179)

Dear Associate Editor,

Thank you for your feedback and for recognizing the improvements in the manuscript's language. We greatly appreciate your suggestions for the three minor edits, which will further enhance the clarity and accuracy of the paper.

-L37: "exceeds" should be "exceeding"

Response: Thank you for pointing out this. The sentence has been changed into "Atmospheric sulfur (S) deposition is one of the main causes of soil acidification, with its effects equal to or **exceeding** that of nitrogen (N) deposition in Asia (Duan et al., 2016; Zhang et al., 2022)." (Lines 36-38)

-L150: please change "'... (IUSS Working Group WRB, 2014). and composed of" to "... (IUSS Working Group WRB, 2014), and was composed of"

Response: Thank you. The sentence has been changed into "Soil at the experimental site is classified as a Haplic Chernozem according to the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations classification (IUSS Working Group WRB, 2014), **and was** composed of $37 \pm 0.9\%$ sand, $40 \pm 1.0\%$ silt and $24 \pm 0.8\%$ clay (Li et al., 2019)." (Lines 148-151)

-L320: please change "It is intriguing to note that " to "It is intriguing that" or "It is important to note that"

Response: Thank you. The sentence has been changed into "It is intriguing **that** increases in both leaf and root [Fe] in *L. chinensis* caused by S addition were not associated with soil available [Fe] (Figs. 3 and S3)." (Lines 320-321)

Thank you for taking the time to review our work.

On behalf of all co-authors,
Xue Feng