



Interactive  
Comment

## ***Interactive comment on “The regulation of the air: a hypothesis” by E. G. Nisbet et al.***

**E. G. Nisbet et al.**

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Received and published: 2 December 2011

We thank Dr. Andre for his extremely supportive remarks.

In particular, we thank him for the discussion of the oxygen compensation point and for his definition of plant specificity. His discussion of the controls on C3 vs C4 competition, and the fitness of a biosystem based on C4 plants is enlightening. We also thank him for the very helpful diagram in the supplement to the comment: <http://www.solid-earth-discuss.net/3/C474/2011/sed-3-C474-2011-supplement.pdf>

Dr. Andre comments "The puzzling fact is that the O<sub>2</sub> concentration at this crossing point (O<sub>x</sub>) happens to be the composition of the pre-industrial atmosphere." As he points out, a concrete explanation of this phenomenon demands further work: our purpose is simply to state a hypothesis.

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