

Interactive  
Comment

## ***Interactive comment on “Conventional tillage vs. organic farming in relation to soil organic carbon stock in olive groves in Mediterranean rangelands (Southern Spain)” by L. Parras-Alcántara and B. Lozano-García***

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This manuscript deals with the effects of organic farming on soil organic carbon stock in olive groves from a Mediterranean area. The research carried out falls within the scope of SE and is an interesting approach based on the use of the organic C and N stratification ratios (SR). Although no innovation in chemical or physical methods is presented, the use of SR is a tool for the assessment of soil degradation and impacts of soil management practices, especially in Mediterranean areas. This research comes to fill a gap due to the lack of data and the necessity of soil degradation indices for

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soil assessment. The experiment and research carried out are of good quality and I have not objections to methods or results. However, the manuscript needs some improvements before being ready for publication in SE. I suggest authors to read the text and check English grammar and style, as some mistakes exist. I also suggest simplifying the text, as some paragraphs are over-long or too wordy, and not abusing of abbreviations (although abbreviations help to read, some paragraphs include a high number of them, and reading becomes too heavy, going to and coming from the point where some of them were defined). In my opinion, some examples of excessive use are T-SOC-S, T-TN, or TN (which can be substituted simply by N, nitrogen).

I have uploaded a document with detailed comments that may be helpful for the authors.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<http://www.solid-earth-discuss.net/6/C30/2014/sed-6-C30-2014-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Solid Earth Discuss., 6, 35, 2014.

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