

Interactive comment on “Predicting parameters of degradation succession processes of Tibetan *Kobresia* grasslands” by L. Li et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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The degradation of alpine grassland in Tibetan becomes a serious problem in recent years due to the overgrazing in the region. As the “roof” of the world, the Tibetan Plateau plays important role in global ecosystem. It is important to quantify the degradation process of grassland in the Tibetan Plateau. This paper had tried to find the parameters to predict the degradation of the grassland in the Tibetan. Therefore, the research has a good scientific significance. To improve the paper further, I suggest authors considering the following comments or suggestions.

1. The introduction needs further reorganized. The first two paragraphs are very general knowledge. I suggest to delete or combine them. Perhaps, it's better to start the introduction by mentioning the Tibetan Plateau, and its role in global ecosystem, etc; then the problems of grassland degradation. I also suggest authors to review the

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progress in predicting parameters of degradation of grassland in the Tibetan. If the data of livestock density during the past decades in the region could be provided, it could help readers to know the problem of overgrazing.

2. The study region covered 32 counties in three districts. If authors could add a map to show the different sites, it would be more clear. Although this study chose the sites with similar annual precipitation, and temperature, there are perhaps some differences among different sites, for example, types of livestock and their density. It could affect results of different sites.

3. specific comments (1) Different abbreviation were used to represent the different degradation of grassland. To be more clear, it's better to use the Stage I, Stage II, etc. (2) page 8, line 26: I suggest to add the equation to calculate the plant community importance values. (3) page 12, line 22: “requires soil volume to hold roots”? please check it.

Interactive comment on Solid Earth Discuss., 7, 2185, 2015.

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