

## ***Interactive comment on “Integrating a mini catchment with mulching for soil water management in a sloping jujube orchard on the semiarid Loess Plateau of China” by H. C. Li et al.***

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1. P3200, L5: ABSTRACT: I do not understand the term 'soil water'. Do you mean the water within the soil pores? The water that have infiltrated?

» I'm sorry, it's a mistake. The correct statement is “increase water infiltration”. But, we have cut out this sentence.

2. P3200, L12: SWS is not defined in the text.

» We agree. SWS is the abbreviation of “soil water storage”, and has been defined it at P2, L10.

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3. P3200, L12: CK is not defined in the text.

» We agree. CK is the abbreviation of “bare land treatment”, and has been defined it at P2, L7.

4. The abstract is not concise. It should have information on why and how the methodology was used. As it is now, I cannot understand how you did it.

» We agree. We have rewritten the ABSTRACT section. (P2, L1-P3, L16)

5. P3200, L22: Do not use 'abundant sunshine', please use scientific terms such as 'hours of light' and give a concise number. P3200, L20-25: This information should be in the material and methods section, not here.

» We agree. The material and methods section have armed with this information. So we have deleted this sentence. (P6, L21)

6. P3201, L8: Please check the order of the names when typing them.

» I'm sorry, it's a mistake. We have reversed the order of the names. (P4, L9)

7. P3201, L23-29: This paragraph does not show any relationship with the above paragraph. You were talking about fish-scale pits and suddenly change to the mulch application.

» We agree. We have divided it into two paragraphs. (P5, L4)

8. The aim and objectives of the work are not well defined and explained in the text.

» We agree. We have rewritten this section. (P5, L21-P6, L4)

9. Study site: Please revise the English as it is very hard to follow your work.

» We agree. We have rewritten the first two sentences of study site section. (P6, L16-18)

10. P3203, L12: Why in a south-ward direction? What do you mean?

» The orientation of slope affects water consumption which results from different temperatures and radiation. (P7, L3)

11. P3203, L15: In agronomy you do not need to write that but  $2 \times 3$  m.

» We agree. It has been deleted except the gradient and the planting spacing. In addition, the water and nutrient management pattern have been added. (P7, L3-14)

12. P3204, L5-10: This is already known. I would delete the sentence.

» We agree. We have deleted these sentences. (P8, L4-9)

13. P3204, L17, Equation1: This is not the way of writing equation for scientific purposes.

» We agree. We have reedited Equation 1. (P8, L15)

14. P3204, L20-28: Please revise the English as it is very hard to follow your work.

» We agree. We have rewritten these sentences. (P9, L3-9)

15. P3205, L4: How do you know that? Again, not the way of typing equations.

» The groundwater table in the Loess Plateau is usually deeper than 50 m (Gao et al., 2011). And we have also reedited these equations. (P9, L14-17; Eq. 2 and 4)

16. RESULTS: Far for being understandable.

» We agree. The RESULTS section has been rewritten.

17. DISCUSSION: I cannot see a discussion but a list of other works citation. Please try to rewrite it.

» We agree. The DISCUSSION section has been rewritten.

18. TABLES 1-2: 1) The units must be in brackets 2) Values must be centered 3) Are there differences? Show them in case of yes.

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» We agree. 1) We have added the brackets, and 2) centered the values. 3) The values were averaged by depth and time, and it was thought to affect the statistical significance between the different treatments. (Table 1 and 2)

19. Figure 1: This picture is not scientific at all. Please delete it or change it. Figure 2, 3: This figure is hard to read. Please enlarge it and put it in good quality.

» We agree. We have reedited these figures. Please see Figure 1, 2 and 3.

Thank you very much for the positive and constructive comments.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<http://www.solid-earth-discuss.net/7/C1785/2016/sed-7-C1785-2016-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Solid Earth Discuss., 7, 3199, 2015.

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