

Interactive comment on “Development of a composite soil degradation assessment index for cocoa agroforests under tropical conditions of southwest Nigeria” by Sunday Adenrele Adeniyi et al.

Anonymous Referee #3

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I consider the title of the paper adequate except the use of agroforests. I suggest the word "ecosystems" instead.

The abstract is well written.

The introduction of the paper is comprehensive highlighting the major aspects of soil degradation such as processes, factors and consequences. Furthermore, it shows the familiarity of the authors to the issues of soil degradation under tree crops in the tropical areas with up-to-date literature.

The study area is clearly indicated while the methodology, in terms of sampling, data
C1

collection, data analytical procedures and statistical analyses, is quite adequate.

The presentation of results and discussion is academic and of value and relevance to future management of cocoa ecosystems and similar plant systems especially in the tropical areas.

General Line 67: *Theobroma cacao* should be in italics.

Line 143: *Phytophthora* Sp. should be in italics.

Line 150: YCP, MCP and SCP to be defined.

Lines 159, 160 and 161: The word quadrant should be quadrat.

Line 180: fig.2 should be Fig.2

Line 369: Result...indicate to be Result...indicates.

Interactive comment on Solid Earth Discuss., doi:10.5194/se-2016-175, 2017.