

Interactive comment on “Downscaling climate change scenarios for apple pest and disease modeling in Switzerland” by M. Hirschi et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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General Comments

It would have been a better approach to run all the RCM simulation through the downscaling processing and then through the impacts models rather than a mean and a high and low example as undertaken in the paper.

The outcomes and impacts suggested here are pushing beyond the limits ‘predictability’ even at seasonal scales and therefore of course with such projections at climate change time scales. I think it is not realistic to expect a regional climate model to produce a sequence of events such as those required for these impacts models. It would have been useful to look at the raw RCM output in terms of timing and sequencing of events before downscaling was applied.

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Specific Comments

More discussion is need on the downscaling undertaken for the future projections from the RCMs. Exactly how was this carried out for the future runs for example was it assumed that the biases seen in the current climate runs would be seen in the future climate model runs too?. Some honest discuss of the assumptions being made here needs to be discussed.

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Dynam. Discuss., 2, 493, 2011.