

Interactive comment on “Future supply and demand of net primary production in the Sahel” by Florian Sallaba et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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Dear Editor,

This manuscript does NOT satisfies your editorial criteria as described at http://www.earth-system-dynamics.net/peer_review/review_criteria.html

This manuscript perhaps intends to make contributions to regional studies of the socio-economic implications of global change, particularly about the Sahel and its delicate balance between supply and demand of natural resources, with a focus on its implications for food production; however some of its methods are flawed and the use of information weak.

This paper deals with very delicate topics that deserve honour and credit, but using the wrong tools to address them, for which the authors deserve no mercy.

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Therefore I recommend the rejection of this manuscript.

FURTHER COMMENTS

LPJ and the like models are normally very rough on their predictions, if you simplify them more, then your results might be useless.

Pg. 4 line 25, you evaluate the performance of your model against another model (LPJ)? Why this is good science deserving publication? This is bad science. Have you thought about doing it against data?

You do a regional level study using GCM data? Not good practice. See what other Swedish colleagues do with regional data there: <http://www.smhi.se/en/research/research-departments/climate-research-rossby-centre2-552/an-ensemble-of-cordex-africa-climate-projections-simulated-by-rca4-1.25312>

What you intend to argue, deriving insights from NPP into food production related arguments, is very weak in methodological terms, and although your rationale and arguments are sensible, the methods you use disqualify the support you use for the argumentation.

Then you use a convenient “technology improvement factor”? and close the yield gap with it? I am sorry, again, this is bad science, and it should not be published.

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Dynam. Discuss., doi:10.5194/esd-2016-58, 2016.

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