

Interactive comment on “Towards quantifying the increase of rainfall interception during secondary forest succession” by B. Zimmermann et al.

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This article represents an interesting perspective in helping bridge the gap in understanding the land cover dynamics and its relation between forest succession and canopy interception. The results highlight that: canopy interception changes rapidly during forest succession; a parsimonious (simple linear regression) model based on the ratio of the basal area of small stems to the total basal area outperformed more complex multivariate models (BMA approach); the influence of young secondary forests on interception in real-world fragmented landscapes might be detectable only in regions with a substantial fraction of very young forests (Zimmermann et al., 2013).

Because of the importance of rainfall interception on streamflow estimations, (Crock-

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ford & Richardson, 2000; Huang, Chen, & Lin, 2005) reliable predictions of this component is important for water resources management. However, characteristics of forests (and secondary succession forests) are usually difficult to quantify. In particular, there is a general difficulty in the estimation of throughfall. The authors' have used a method which is novel in the estimation of throughfall in succession forests. This method and work is important in advancing our understanding in throughfall estimation.

References:

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