

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

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Received and published: 24 June 2013

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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Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 10, 7999, 2013.

HESSD

10, C2756–C2757, 2013

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