

***Interactive comment on* “Evaluation of drought regimes and impacts in the Limpopo basin” by B. F. Alemaw and J.-M. Kileshye-Onema**

Anonymous Referee #1

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The manuscript presents an evaluation of drought regimes and impact in the Limpopo basin. I had initially prepared a more detailed evaluation of the manuscript, that I found interesting, scientifically sound and with interest to the community. The work not only focus on the meteorological/hydrological deficits but also considers crop production. My initial assessment was to suggest the manuscript to be accepted with minor revisions. However, while checking the manuscript for text improvements and references I came across two references of the lead author: Alemaw et al (2013) and Alemaw 2012. Once I checked these two references, I found that the results presented in this manuscript are very similar to the results already published in the mentioned papers. Not only parts of the text are direct copy/past, which could be acceptable since the lead author is the same, the main results are the same:

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Figure 1 is the same . as in Alemaw et al. 2013

Figure 2 in this manuscript is for the SPI-3, while in Alemaw et al 2013 is for the SPI-3 (see Figure 3)

Figure 3 in this manuscript is a copy of Figure 4 of Alemaw et al 2013. Pag 209: Line 21 to Pag 210 L2 “As illustrated,... Limpopo River basin” These two sentences are a direct copy of the text in Alemaw et al. 2013.

The results in Figure 4 left panel are the same as in Alemaw 2012 (see Figure 4 left pannel)

This seems a clear repetition of previously published works by the authors. Therefore, I recommend the paper to be rejected on the basis of Plagiarism, unless the authors can show a clear difference between this manuscript and their previously published works.

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