

Comments to authors:

General comments

This article presents a study that emphasizes the impact of afforestation (natural and plantation) on hydrological properties of catchments in humid tropics. They showed that plantation increased streamflow while natural regeneration decreased streamflow. The results that are discussed here are novel and interesting for the scientific community as well as for managers. Besides the good quality of the analyses, the article is well written and results clearly presented.

I recommend this article to be published in HESS. Comments are given below.

Title

The title is good but quite long. It may be an advantage to shorten the title.

Introduction

After reading the introduction, it seems that you will use second approach described on page 3 line 32-33. However, you used a method that differs from this second approach, especially concerning the calibration method.

Could you clarify this in the introduction on page 4, line 13?

I was expected a calibration of the model before afforestation, while you used the 13 years for calibration.

Material and methods

Page 4, Line 26: Annual runoff amount was calculated before afforestation or after, or for the whole period?

Page 5, line 5: check the scientific name of Job's tears. "*Coix lacrima-jobi*"?

Page 5, line 28-33: description of land-use in Dong Cao needs to be clarified. Dates and surface cover of afforestation are missing here. This is needed for model calibration, right? (cf. my comment above in the introduction). It was well exposed for Laos line 18-19.

Figure 1: symbol of meteorological station and water level recorder are not easy to see on the map. Please make it more different.

Page 7: figure numbers do not appear in the right order in the text.

Page 8, Line 23: "simulated flow values" without "s" for flow?

Results and discussion

Page 10, Line 5-10: prefer the description of the most important results rather than repeating what is displayed on the figure 5. How was the variation?

Describe more precisely how (negative, positive) the correlation between the inter-annual variations of the curve and the variation in simulated season flows is.

Same comment for the description of results in Vietnam.

Page 11, line 17: "positively correlated", please indicate how the correlation is.