

## ***Interactive comment on “Estimating spatial mean root-zone soil moisture from point-scale observations” by A. J. Teuling et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #2**

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The manuscript reports a data analysis on 3 soil moisture datasets from different regions. Different strategies to select observation sites are tested and they present methods to quantify the uncertainty associated.

General: The manuscript is well written and reports new knowledge that is a significant contribution to scientific community. On this basis I can recommend the manuscript for publication.

Title: The title covers the content and objectives.

Abstract: Good abstract but the rationale is a little long and not much text on the different strategies.

Introduction: Good introduction, with a good and up to date use of references.

Objectives: The objectives are clear, but a little odd to discuss the criteria for dataset selection here.

Materials and methods: The choice of datasets is good.

I find your argument for choice of root zone depth weak. At least for the Tarrawarra site you have data in depth actually to determine the efficient root depth.

I will encourage you to have a table that summarize the different strategies

Results Results are well-presented

Discussion There is a short but good discussion.

Conclusions Conclusions are well supported by the data analysis.

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Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 3, 1447, 2006.

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Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper