

***Interactive comment on* “Soil moisture controls on patterns of grass green-up in Inner Mongolia: an index based approach” by H. Liu et al.**

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Influence factors of vegetation phenophases have been widely studied, and thermal and water conditions are considered as two most important influence factors. However, in previous remote sensing studies, the influence of water condition has not been properly treated under some conditions, e.g. vegetation study of semi-arid area. This paper has made an improvement of using soil moisture as an index of water conditions and discussed its effect on vegetation green-up in semi-arid area; especially, the authors also explored a clever way of soil moisture estimating. It is a really good publication for the relative researcher to read and cite.

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