

***Interactive comment on* “Seasonal drought prediction for semiarid northeast Brazil: About the added value of a process-based hydrological model” by Tobias Pilz et al.**

Tobias Pilz et al.

tpilz@uni-potsdam.de

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Dear referee,

thank you very much for your feedback and constructive comments that will certainly help to improve the manuscript during the revision. As the issues raised are mainly addressing the provision of more information and clarification of unclear points, we shall deliver detailed answers within our Author’s Response along with the revision of the manuscript.

However, there is one point we would like to discuss before the actual revision:

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I would rethink the title which is potentially misleading. The “About the added value of a process-based hydrological model” might imply to some that the paper will illustrate the benefits of the process-based model. Also, being more specific that the focus is on reservoir levels rather than the broad statement of “seasonal drought” would be good.

We have considered your point and suggest the following alternative title: *Seasonal drought prediction for semiarid northeast Brazil: What is the added value of a process-based hydrological model?*

In our opinion this is a less judgmental title regarding the actual value of the process-based model and expresses the point of our manuscript. The first part of the title, however, we would rather leave as is, i.e. keeping the term "drought prediction". In our study, we explicitly defined "drought" as shortage in regional reservoir storage which, as being the actual variable of interest, has then been undergone further analyses. Consequently, we think the more general term "drought" in the title should not be misleading.

Kind regards,

Tobias Pilz (on behalf of all co-authors)

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