

Reply to Referee #2-Second Round

In blue we copied the comments of the referee, in black our reply.

As one of the original reviewers of this manuscript, I am very content with how the authors addressed my concerns. I believe the manuscript currently is in much better shape, and thus I do not have significant suggestions.

Minor issues:

- I suggest changing the information on page 3/lines 28-30 to "...were dripping from the canopy by short, low intensity rain events and condensation of occasional fog immersion during the dry season Liu 2010 + ANOTHER CITATION)" since fog dripping is mostly seen in higher elevations than your study site.

Reply:

Thanks for the suggestion. The authors decided to modify the sentence including the references of Obregon et al. (2011) who reported the occurrence of fog in tropical lowland forest in French Guiana and Fu et al. (2016) who also reported the importance of fog for tropical plants during dry season. The final sentence was changed as follows:

"... This because tree seedlings are prompted to use water dripping by short, low intensity rain events and condensation of occasional fog immersion during the dry season (Fu et al., 2016; Liu et al., 2010; Obregon et al., 2011). ..."

- I recommend adding the historical average monthly amount of precipitation during the dry season and wet season to the first paragraph of your Methods, so readers are aware of how much drier it is in comparison to months during the wet season.

Reply:

Thanks for the suggestion. We added this information as follows:

"...Monthly precipitation during the dry and wet season is 193.7 mm month⁻¹ and 419.2 mm month⁻¹, respectively."

- Please revise all the new sections added (your highlights in red). Most of them have typos and other minor grammatical issues that can be solved easily and quickly, but will improve the reading flow of some of them.

Reply:

Thanks. We checked all the additions for typos and grammatical issues.

References

- Fu, P.-L., Liu, W.-J., Fan, Z.-X., and Cao, K.-F.: Is fog an important water source for woody plants in an Asian tropical karst forest during the dry season?, *Ecohydrology*, 9, 964–972, <https://doi.org/10.1002/eco.1694>, 2016.
- Liu, W., Liu, W., Li, P., Duan, W., and Li, H.: Dry season water uptake by two dominant canopy tree species in a tropical seasonal rainforest of Xishuangbanna, SW China, *Agricultural and Forest Meteorology*, 150, 380–388, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.agrformet.2009.12.006>, 2010.
- Obregon, A., Gehrig-Downie, C., Gradstein, S. R., Rollenbeck, R., and Bendix, J.: Canopy level fog occurrence in a tropical low-land forest of French Guiana as a prerequisite for high epiphyte diversity, *Agricultural and Forest Meteorology*, 151, 290–300, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.agrformet.2010.11.003>, 2011.