

Interactive comment on “Estimation of Evapotranspiration and Other Soil Water Budget Components in an Irrigated Agricultural Field of a Desert Oasis, Using Soil Moisture Measurements” by Zhongkai Li et al.

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Received and published: 6 June 2019

Response to Anonymous Referee #2 (RC2)

We thank the anonymous Referee #2 for taking the time to review our manuscript and for their generally positive feedback on our study. Please find below your reproduced comments, followed by our point-by-point responses.

Specific comments 1) Lines 14, 61 and etc.: drainage is not, and has been never considered as a "driver" of hydrological cycle. Irrigation is taken as a factor that interferes

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hydrological cycle, and seldomly taken as a "driver". You may call evapotranspiration a driver of the hydrological cycle. It is a component of the hydrological cycle as a matter of fact. Usually, the drivers of the hydrological cycle refer to the climatic factors.

RESPONSE: Thanks for the nice suggestion, we have changed "driven" as "dominated", and changed "driver" as "components". Please see Line 15 (Page 1) and Line 62 (Page 2) in the revision.

2) Lines 314, 315. "Because the inverse method proposed by Zuo et al. (2002) and Guderle and Hildebrandt (2015) had never been applied throughout an entire growing season for farmland...", this is hard to say.

RESPONSE: We have removed this sentence in the revision. Please see Line 315 (Page 10) in the revision.

3) As indicated in the last paragraph of the introduction section, this work aims to investigate performance of the inverse method to the coarse-textured soils. Thus, "coarse-textured soils" should be focused and highlighted in the discussion. This might have been something new in this paper.

RESPONSE: Nice suggestion. Some related discussion will be added in the Section 4.2 and 4.5 in the coming revision to highlight the "coarse-textured soils".

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-2019-89>, 2019.

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