Response:

Once again, we thank the you for your time and efforts on the manuscript.

As suggested, we have brifely described how we calculated significance of the coefficients for both LAI-SPEI and LAI-PRECIPITATION. We used the LinRegTTest.

Please see below for the text. This can alse be found in Lines 625-638, pg 25 of the manuscript.

In order to determine the significance of correlation coefficient, we performed the Linear Regression T-Test (i.e. LinRegTTest). This finds the best line of fit among a set of data points. It also checks the quality of the fit by carrying out a t-test on the slope, thus testing the null hypothesis that the best fitted line is 0, suggesting that there is no correlation between two variables, since an association with a slope of zero implies that one variable does not affect the other. Therefore, if the p-value is not sufficiently low, then we do not have sufficient data to accept relationship between the variables. For this study, we used a significance level of 5% i.e. $\alpha = 0.05$, which is the most commonly used value in life and biological sciences. We then tested the hypothesis on whether the p-value is less than the significance level ($\alpha = 0.05$), which is our null hypothesis. In cases where that is the case, we rejected the null hypothesis and concluded that there is adequate evidence that there is a significant linear relationship between the variables i.e. LAI-SPEI and LAI-Precipitation. In cases where p-value is greater, we do not reject null hypothesis since there is not enough evidence to conclude on the significance of correlation coefficients.