

Reply to the Referee 2

We would like to thank the second referee for the relevant comments made on the manuscript and we are glad that the referee finds that this work may show an interest for the hydrological community of subsurface drainage. We agree with most of the comments and we propose an answer.

1. Regarding the clarity of English, the article has already been reviewed to correct language issues by a native speaker, as mentioned on the certificate attached to this document. However, the article will be reviewed a second time before the final submission to carry out the language issues highlighted by the referee;
2. The referee also points out that the text is a bit too long and needs to be shortened for clarity. The authors will strongly consider this point as requested. Some sentences from the Results part will be deleted such as the one from “The initial results” to “three main soil textures” at the line 299;
3. Eventually, the referee mentions a lack of rigour in the distinction between the Results and Discussion sections of the article. The authors will carry out this point limiting the Results section to the observations made on the graphs and tables without interpreting them. This will allow the text to be reduced in line with comment 2. Furthermore, some sentences from the Results part will be transferred to the Discussion part such as the one from “This result seems to be normal” to “the KGE’ criterion” at the line 356.

The various specific comments will be addressed during the revision of the manuscript.

Robert Sachs
Translator / Copy-editor

March 3, 2021

To whom it may concern,

This certificate is intended to inform you that I, Robert Sachs, a professional French-English translator, proofreader and copy-editor with over 20 years experience working in close collaboration with the French research community, have reviewed and modified this article ("Robustness of a parsimonious subsurface drainage model at the French national scale"), on behalf of its lead author Alexis Jeantet. My assigned role was to correct the spelling / grammar / syntax of the manuscript in addition to improving its readability. I was naturally not involved in any of the strategic decisions regarding the article's outline, contents or dissemination of results. The scope of my function was primarily at the word / sentence level, in ensuring a quality of expression that would not detract from the authors' emphasis.

Furthermore, it is the role of the copy-editor to tighten the language, clean up syntax and avoid overt grammatical mistakes, in rendering a copy as cogent and efficient as possible for the reader, but not to realign sentences in a manner that would potentially subvert the authors' intended communication.

I remain at your entire disposal for any subsequent exchange you feel could be fruitful in the given context:
robert.sachs@wanadoo.fr

Many thanks for your attention and consideration.

Best regards,



Robert Sachs
French Business Registration (SIRET):
399 113 786 00012