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Open Access Earth System Science Data Discussions

Interactive comment on "Post Chernobyl surveys of radiocaesium in soil, vegetation, wildlife and fungi in Great Britain" *by* J. S. Chaplow et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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General comments

It is of great value to make the compiled dataset Post Chernobyl surveys of radiocaesium in soil, vegetation, wildlife and fungi in Great Britain freely available. The compiled dataset have not been published or made openly available earlier although parts of the data have been used for a number of purposes. The data gives a nice overview of the contamination situation in Great Britain after the Chernobyl accident and it can be used later on for testing radioecological models, for example. The paper is a short description of the data and methods used to obtained it with no or very limited discussion of the results. The sampling and sample treatment are well documented. However, there is no detailed information on error estimations, detection limits or calibration methods in the article. The lack of these details doesn't prevent from using the datasets. Adding

them would enhance the quality of the datasets.

The data was accessible after registration as described in the paper. There were no problems with the access and the datasets were delivered right after sending the demand. The datasets were also in useable form (comma delimited Excel file). In the data sheets there were no information on estimated errors, confidence limits or detection limits. Short descriptions have been included in the article. It would helpful for the user if the estimated errors are shown also in the datasets.

Specific comments Figure 2. Which samples are used to produce this figure? The information should be included in the figure caption to make the figure more understandable on its own.

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., 7, 693, 2014.