

Interactive comment on “Generating a global gridded tillage dataset” by Vera Porwollik et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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General comments The paper is well constructed, thought out, written and presented. Only minor revisions are need.

Specific comments The paper would be improved if the "bigger picture" was considered. In the discussion the authors discuss the impact of the work and the use the dataset could be put to but it would be an improvement to see this in the abstract and introduction. If you want the readers to use the data then you need to promote its uses as early as possible.

Section 5 "Data Availability" needs expanding. Although you provide links to the data repository it would be an improvement to give some details of the structure of the data files. You seem to be using netCDF but it is worthwhile telling the reader the "flavour" of the format: are you using netCDF3, netCDF4 netCDF4 - classic for example. The other point is are these file CF compliant and if so which standard you are working to.

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It is always useful to the potential user to know what meta data (global attributes) are in the files and if the file naming structure has any useful information embedded in it. It's also useful to provide the reader with an indication of what variables are in the files etc. The final point is about the user licence and if the data set has a DOI.

Technical corrections Table 1: increase column width to allow "Conservation" to appear on one line Table 5: Increase column width to make "Logit-ref\and k-50%" to appear as "Logit-ref and\k-50%" - make the column title structure consistent between columns Tables general: consider using central justification as it will improve the appearance.

Line 221: Sentence "We developed several rules have been in order.." does not make sense. Suggest removing "have been" Line 225: Replace "to" with "of" Line 262: Change "most efficient and homogeous" to "more efficiently and homogeneously" Line 297: Change "few" to "low" Line 454: Change "It is" to "It has" Line 455: Change to "South of the Sahal region"

Figure 1: The diagram is ok as it stands but would be much improved is standard flow chart practices were followed and the "yes\no" decisions were added to the relevant lines.

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2018-152, 2018.

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