

Interactive comment on “Land cover changes and forest landscape evolution (1985–2009) in a typical Mediterranean agroforestry system (High Agri Valley)” by T. Simoniello et al.

Anonymous Referee #3

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I appreciate the work done by the authors, but a number of shortcomings have to be dealt with.

1. The remote sensing classification is not well described. The authors should explain at least why they chose the K-means technique and the accuracy achieved at the end of the classification process.
2. The analyses are mainly descriptive. The authors should add some analysis to describe the relation between land cover changes and environmental and socioeconomic factors. Some drivers are mentioned, but they are not systematically analysed with

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specific changes.

3. The results of private vs. public forest tenure regimes are not clear. The authors should better explain the differences of the land cover changes between the two management.
4. The conclusion is also very under-developed. I think that the authors need to spend a bit more time in the discussion of the results. The paper doesn't deal with innovative methods and the results are not exactly something new in the Mediterranean context. So, what does the paper actually achieve? What's the specific contribution? what do we have to learn from these changes? For example, the exploitation of on-shore oil reservoir is presented in the introduction, but at the end of the paper the authors don't explain if there's some relation with the changes occurred or not.

Conclusively, I would encourage the authors either to re-think the scope and re-write the discussion with the addition of more quantitative and qualitative data.

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