

Interactive comment on “Study on the drought risk of maize in the farming-pastoral ecotone in Northern China based on physical vulnerability assessment” by Z. Wang et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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In this manuscript, the risk assessment of agricultural drought was conducted and investigated using the drought hazard intensity index and physical vulnerability curves. The manuscript is overall well-written. However, I believe the manuscript cannot be accepted for publication until the following concerns are properly resolved: 1. In case study, the EPIC model was used to predict daily water stress. However, the EPIC model was not seriously introduced at all. An independent section and the corresponding literature reviews should be added to provide sufficient information of EPIC. 2. Most figures (Figures 1, 5-12) are in poor resolution. Please enhance the quality of figures. 3. I believe most people know the location of China but I suggest adding a map of China along with the studies area in Figure 1. 4. How do you define “Northern China”? As

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far as I know, some parts of “Northern China” were not included in this study. Proper justifications should be addressed in the next revision. 5. In conclusion, what will be message to the general public by the proposed work? What could be the limitation(s) of the proposed work? What might be improved in the future based on the proposed work? The conclusion should be substantially revised accordingly.

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