

The paper identifies the major drought events that affected Liaoning province (China) and determines which are the best indices to monitor drought in that area, which cities are more vulnerable to droughts and which vulnerability factors exacerbate drought consequences. Various drought indices (SPI, SPEI, NDVI and soil moisture) were computed and the relationship between drought indices and drought impacts was investigated using Pearson correlation coefficient and random forest models. Drought impacts were retrieved from the State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters (SFDH) databases and were grouped in 8 categories. Drought vulnerability of the various cities of Liaoning province was derived based on the results of the correlation analysis and the random forest models. It was found that the most severe drought events in Liaoning province occurred in 2000-2001 and 2009. Among the considered indices, SPEI6 exhibited the strongest correlation with drought impacts. The cities located in the North Western part of Liaoning province are the most vulnerable to drought and, as it can be expected, the amount of crop cultivated area is a strong predictor of drought vulnerability.

The authors have addressed my previous comments, and the scientific quality of the paper has improved.

However, English language is still poor, the paper is not easy to read, and many sentences are not clear enough to the reader. Just to mention a few examples:

*Lines 27-29: The term drought is defined as meteorological, agricultural, hydrological, social and ecological drought. Meteorological drought is defined as a deficit of rainfall for a period in respect to the long term mean (Le Houérou, 1996). Then other types of drought can follow this definition.*

*Lines 46-47: In China, many indices were used for types of drought monitoring, such as Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI), SPEI, SPI, China Z index, relative soil moisture and remote sensing indices.*

*Lines 93-94: In Hao et al. (2011), drought impacts only measured by affected crop area in a 10 day time step in 93 county level.*

*Lines 301-303: Considering the various impacts, Chaoyang, Jinzhou, Tieling, Fuxin and Shenyang had the highest drought vulnerability, which are all located in the northwest part of Liaoning province.*

*Lines 373-374: The above results are also in general agreement with Hao et al. (2011), their study used 10 day affected crop area data as the drought impacts to assess drought risk in China in county unit.*

Therefore, an improvement in the English language is necessary to enable readers to fully understand the manuscript and appreciate the results reported.