

The authors studied EM fungal communities associated with *B. Platyphylla* from 15 rhizosphere soil samples across five sites in Inner Mongolia. They observed significant differences in the composition of dominant genera of EM fungi across the five sites. The approach seems appropriate. This would add more solid data to the field research and help us understand main ecological processes shaping the EM community assemblage in forest ecosystem under future climate change scenarios. Overall, I would support the publication after revision although I had some comments which may help improve this manuscript.

First, from site description and sampling, I assume that the experiment had 4-7 replicates. I suggest the authors to highlight how many real replicates they had in the method.

Second, Although β MNTD was more widely used to differentiated four different ecological processes such homogenization selection, heterogeneity selection and so on, the estimation requires sufficient biological replicates (e.g., ≥ 6) to determine β MNTD. *Third*, some recent studies also showed that temporal variation was important in affecting soil community assembly. So, how can you confirm that your results will not depend on seasonal variation. This point also needs a short section in your discussion section. You may go through my recent publication “Climate warming promotes deterministic assembly of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungal communities”, although I studied on AMF.

Fourth, pls double check your refs list. I did not find some in the list, although the authors wrote in the Main text. For example, *Steidinger et al., 2019*.

Minor Comments:

Line 29: I prefer fungal not fungi's

Line 122-123: pls add latitude and longitude information of the study area.

Line 136: pls provided details how many days you stored your soil sample at 4 °C since it may affect your final results if samples were kept long at 4 °C.

Line 141-145: pls added detail on how measured these soil properties.

Line 149-166: Again, pls added detail on how you performed sequencing analysis.

Line 185: pls revise the sentence.

Line 194-195: I am confused with this sentence. Pls revise.

Line 198-200: I prefer to move this to the method.

Line 200-203: pls revise the sentence.

Line 204: indices mean?

Line 272-274: pls revise the sentence to be more concise.

Line 279-280: wrong sentence. Pls revise.

Line 282-283: Pls revise this sentence. Here its means?

Line 309-310: I am confused with the sentence.

Line 315: pls delete “on”.

Line 318-319: pls cite some other classical refs.