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Interactive comment on "Eddy covariance for quantifying trace gas fluxes from soils" *by* W. Eugster and L. Merbold

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Summarizing the comments of both reviewers they conclude that the manuscript is a nicely written paper, giving a comprehensive introduction into eddy flux measurements and their use in soils science and therefore it is surely interesting for many soil scientists not familiar with this technique. However, both reviewers also conclude that the paper is not presenting new insights for a micrometeorologist and it is overall more written like a textbook chapter.

As the paper was invited and is a somewhat specific case there was some discussion among all executive editors and the handling topical editor how to proceed with the paper. We concluded that it still would be nice having an 'Eddy Flux Paper' in the first

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volume of SOIL but this needs to include a critical look forward or an exploration of research at the cutting edge, identifying exciting developments in the field of EC and its meaning for soil science.

The paper as it is does not meet the requirements of the journal but the topic has the potential to be very interesting to be included. Hence, we encourage the authors to reorganize their manuscript including more new opportunities and challenges from EC and its meaning for future soil research.

Interactive comment on SOIL Discuss., 1, 541, 2014.

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Interactive Comment