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Interactive comment on “Influence of long-term mineral fertilization on metal contents and properties of soil samples taken from different locations in Hesse, Germany” by S. Czarnecki and R.-A. Düring

Anonymous Referee #2

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The paper dealing with "Influence of long-term mineral fertilization on metal contents and properties of soil samples taken from different locations in Hesse, Germany" lacks in many parts. First the experimental design is not clear and not properly presented. Below some of the major points I wanted to comment on.

Introduction “Moreover, pseudo and mobile metal”: what does’t means “pseudo”? Is a term without scientific sense. This term has been used in many part of the ms.

Introduction “Metals required by plants include Mn, Fe, Cu, Zn, Mo, and, possibly, Ni”.

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Ni is not a metal required by plants. Ni is only the metal required by urease. Cu and Zn are micronutrients, the others (i.e., As, Cd, Hg, Ni, Pb) are not.

Materials and Methods “This study was carried out at four different locations 210, 260, 360, and 620 m, respectively. . . .”. Which kind of soil/s? A soil without its Soil Classification (Soil Taxonomy, or WRB) is like a man without born date, gender, nationality, etc.

3. Results and Discussion “The results show that long-term N, P, and K fertilizer treatments have considerable effects on soil properties”: what does’t means “considerable”?

For these reasons we suggest the authors to rewrite the paper.

Interactive comment on SOIL Discuss., 1, 239, 2014.

SOIL

1, C91–C92, 2014

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