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Comment

Interactive comment on “Effects of land use changes on the dynamics of selected soil properties in the Northeast Wollega, Ethiopia” by A. Adugna and A. Abegaz

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In the methods section 2.2 first paragraph, the authors base their identification of land use types from surveys from 2012-3 and the elderly households. The authors called these people of age 60 and older as "smart". This is not a clear statement and they assume the term "smart" means more to them than to me. They should explain how and why they used certain local people for information and their methodology in how they collected and evaluated this information. I don't disagree with using the local peoples information but in the way it was presented. Methods section 2.5 Statistical analysis, Needs to include the number of samples taken and used in their ANOVA to

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validate the test. The Results section 3.1 the authors make an unsupported statement about the clay fraction in the cultivated lands that is major to their paper. They state that the 15 cm of soil that was sampled in this region had changed from a sand and silt fractions to a clay fractions. If this were to be true then the soil fractions below the cultivation processes should still be sand and silt. This would be easily determined by sampling deeper and if cultivation was the cause of the clay formation then there would be a layer where the soil changed back to the forest or grazing land appearance. I found no argument with the authors results in other areas and they seem to supply needed information especially concerning pH reduction and aluminum and manganese toxicity.

Interactive comment on SOIL Discuss., 2, 1075, 2015.

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