

Interactive comment on “A reconstruction of Atlantic Central African biomes and forest succession stages derived from modern pollen data and plant functional types” by J. Lebamba et al.

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GENERAL COMMENTS

This is a well written paper with a wealth of important information for anyone working on vegetation and palaeovegetation of Africa. I have only a few suggestions for improvement. The main point being that you could stronger underline the importance of your study for palaeovegetation and palaeoclimate studies, in particular its importance for data-model comparisons.

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS

Dominique Jolly died more than a year ago. He, therefore, cannot have been an active co-author. If you nevertheless want to include him, you should not conceal this sad fact.

On page 156 lines 21-24, the statement is not completely clear. Give reason why the description of the modern phytogeography should be doubted.

Page 158 line 1: 'Where they occur, the climax formation is a forest one.' The sentence is puzzling and in contrast with the next sentence. Edaphic grasslands cannot turn into forest without changing the soil. The savannah here is a climax vegetation, although not for climatic but for edaphic reasons.

On Figure 1, make the symbols bigger.

Use the same region names in Figures 2, and 3.

TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS

Page 159, add '(see 4.1)' on line 12 and '(see 4.2)' on line 13.

Page 161 line 26, 'soft' instead of 'softly'.

Page 167 line 13, 'while' instead of 'if'.

Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., 5, 153, 2009.

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