

## ***Interactive comment on “Western equatorial African forest-savanna mosaics: a legacy of late Holocene climatic change?” by A. Ngomanda et al.***

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The paper concerns exciting new data about the late Holocene development of the tropical African rain forest. This is important, because it gives information about the natural variability and resilience of the forests in west equatorial Africa. The authors could stress the point that knowledge about their long-term development is essential to understand these multi-threatened forests.

### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS**

Please, state in the affiliations of the authors when Dominique Jolly died.

Please, specify very shortly the preparation techniques used, as in Faegri & Iversen several options are discussed.

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Please, specify the calibration curve used.

The references to Maley (1999) and Maley & Chepstow-Lusty (2001) concerning the rise of *Elaeis* pollen in combination with agricultural activities is misleading. These authors always strongly argued against human influence on the distribution of the oil palm. Cite instead: Sowunmi MA, 1999, The significance of the oil palm (*Elaeis guineensis* Jacq.) in the late Holocene environments of west and west central Africa: a further consideration, *Vegetation History and Archaeobotany* 8, 199.

#### TECHNICAL COMMENTS

page 346, line 24: matter (instead of matters)

page 347, line 7: does not appear (instead of not appears)

page 349, line 23: Caesalpiniaceae (instead of Caesalpinaiceae)

page 350, line 4: delete "yet"

page 350, line 9: truly a lake (instead of a truly lake)

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Interactive comment on *Clim. Past Discuss.*, 5, 341, 2009.

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