

## ***Interactive comment on “Soil-air exchange controls on background atmospheric concentrations of organochlorine pesticides” by A. Cabrerizo et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #1**

Received and published: 25 November 2011

This manuscript discusses the variability of soil-air partitioning of OCPs in Europe. Its technical quality is good with detailed data analysis and presentation of the data. It has been discussed, suggested and proven by many researchers that soils might act as secondary source of OCPs to the atmosphere, especially the ones were subject to heavy application of OCPs, however previous studies were done mostly at single location. So what is unique with current manuscript is conducting multiple-site experiments at different seasons of the year. I suggest this manuscript for publication after minor corrections listed below

General comments: I recommend authors to re-consider the number of figures to be

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represented in this manuscript, 7 figures seem a lot and some might be removed.

I suggest authors to compare and add comments whether isomer ratios of DDTs and HCHs between air and soils changes during volatilization process?

There are some specific examples of literature could be mentioned in this manuscript as the scope of the manuscript is to discuss whether soils act as a secondary source to the air. For example, studies conducted by Kurt-Karakus on real-time measurement of DDTs fluxes from soil to air as well as chiral fractions of certain chiral compounds in air and soils can be added in discussion parts.

Specific comments: In the manuscript, "ten" sites are mentioned but in Table S1, there is only nine sites reported, please remove the conflict p. 7 line 16. Růžicková p. 7 line 22. NOAA should read NOAA pp. 8, line 9. use the same notation throughout the paper, n/m3 or ng m-3 p. 9, line 4. Remove bracket before "Najera" Figure 1. the R2 and p-value both equals to 0.59. Can it be a typo? Please check references, some are reported with issue numbers but some not, please keep consistency on reference reporting

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Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 11, 25937, 2011.

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