Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 13, C26–C27, 2013
www.atmos-chem-phys-discuss.net/13/C26/2013/

Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics Discussions

Interactive comment on "High concentrations of biological aerosol particles and ice nuclei during and after rain" *by* J. A. Huffman et al.

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Received and published: 16 January 2013

Congratulation for this very comprehensive work. It shows that the study of atmospheric biological particles is gaining speed. And it shows, how much needed such studies are. And it shows, how incomplete our present picture about the atmospheric aerosol is.

I'm not doing a review, but I would like making a few comments.

1769,16: Your DNA analysis points to biological particles sized smaller then 1 μm. So the wording in this line should be careful. "Micrometer particles" might forster the thinking that biological particles are mainly larger then 1 μm.

1772,20: The Andersen impactor I know is a very specific device, not designed for

atmospheric aerosols with a continuous size distribution. The multiple jets in each plate are operating under very different hydrodynamical conditions, so sorting the particles not in a well defined manner.

1773,23: Many of the authors of this study have also authored Despres et al 2012. They know how selective culturing and incubation is. Be very careful what to conclude from such data.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 13, 1767, 2013.