

Dear editor and authors,

I have carefully read the revised manuscript (egusphere-2023-2302) and the author's responses to the editor and reviewers, and it is clear that this manuscript is worthy of publication in journal SOIL.

Thanks to the authors for improving measurements of microbial growth, death, and turnover by accounting for eDNA in soils. I believe that this new approach determining microbial death rates and dynamics of intracellular and eDNA will help to improve concepts and models of carbon dynamics in soils in the future.

In addition, in order for the reader to see the data clearly, I strongly recommend that the authors make the figures (1-3) in the manuscript clearer and more beautiful.

>> Thank you very much for your review and your suggestion to improve the figures. We have no removed the boxplots and dotplots from figure 2 and figure 3 and have also included a description of the X-axis labels (A20, F20, A30, ... ) in the figure caption. We have also increased the resolution of the figures.