

Brasília, January 30th, 2025

Dear Editors,

We sincerely appreciate your thoughtful suggestions, which have enhanced the quality of our manuscript. We fully agree that the figures and tables should be self-explanatory. Below, we provide detailed responses to each point raised by you. All changes have been incorporated into the revised manuscript.

Comment 1: *Your figure captions and table headers are exceptionally short and should be made such that your figures and tables are self-standing.*

Response: Thank you for this suggestion. We have revised all figure captions and table headers to include more detailed descriptions, ensuring that each figure and table is self-standing and provides sufficient context for readers.

Comment 2: *The legend, labels, and grid in the map of Figure 1 are hardly readable.*

Response: We appreciate this observation. We have revised Figure 1 to improve readability by enlarging the font size of the legend and labels, and adjusting the grid layout for better clarity.

We addressed other textual comments as follows:

Original:

"we used a global rare dataset of continuously drought monitoring"

Revised:

"we used a globally rare dataset of continuous drought monitoring spanning over a decade"

- Changed "global rare dataset of continuously drought monitoring" to "globally rare dataset of continuous drought monitoring" for better grammar and flow.
- Added "encompassing 3.5 years (February 2019 to October 2022)" to highlight the significance and time of the dataset.

Final version: Conducting a case study in Ceará state, northeast Brazil, we used a globally rare dataset of continuous drought monitoring encompassing 3.5 years (February 2019 to October 2022), complemented by interviews with smallholder farmers and agricultural extension technicians.

Original:

"Most impacts are associated with hydrological impacts of drought"

Revised:

"Most reported impacts are associated with hydrological drought"

- Reworded to improve readability and remove redundancy ("impacts" repeated twice).

Final version: Most reported impacts are associated with hydrological drought, revealing unintended consequences of investments aimed at increasing water supply.

We have also performed a thorough final read-through of the manuscript to ensure consistency, clarity, and accuracy. Additionally, our native English-speaking co-author has carefully reviewed the text to enhance its readability and correctness. We are confident that the revisions address all the comments provided, and we look forward to your feedback on the updated manuscript.

Thank you again for your guidance and support during the review process.

Best regards,

Louise Cavalcante and co-authors