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To the Executive Editor and Reviewers of Biogeosciences

05.09.25

Ref. No.: egusphere-2025-662- "*Automated mask generation in citizen science smartphone photos and their value for mapping plant species in drone imagery* "

Dear Dr. Feldman and Reviewers,

Thank you very much for your decision on our manuscript and for your comments. We agree with the reviewer's suggestion and have included the F1 score from the citizen science–based validation split. We have now added this information to the Results section, which reads as follows:

(Lines 325-330)

"The U-Net segmentation model was first trained using the automatically derived segmentation masks in 80 epochs. The best model across these epochs, as selected from a validation split of the citizen science data, resulted in an F1 of 0.89 across all tree species and the background class. This model was then applied to the UAV imagery and corresponding reference data. The evaluation on the UAV-based reference data yielded varying F1 scores for the different tree species (Fig. 5 and 6)."

Sincerely,

Salim Soltani

(on behalf of the Co-authors, Lauren E. Gillespie, Moises Exposito-Alonso, Olga Ferlian, Nico Eisenhauer, Hannes Feilhauer, and Teja Kattenborn)