Comment on essd-2021-88
Anonymous Referee #1

Referee comment on "High-resolution map of sugarcane cultivation in Brazil using a phenology-based method" by Yi Zheng et al., Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2021-88-RC1, 2021

The paper aims to map the sugarcane in several Brazilian states based on time series and phenological conditions. The manuscript is well written, and the methodology is clearly presented. I have minor recommendations to improve the manuscript:

L37-40. Yes, it can influence these aspects. But how? The phrase is a bit vague. The consequences of a non-sustainable sugarcane production must be briefly described to show the importance of sugarcane mapping.

L59-67. Only the positive aspects of those methods were reported. The authors should point out why they are still not enough to perform an ideal mapping.

L169-190. A flowchart summarizing this process would be good.

L193-194. What percentage of samples used for training and validation? Did the authors perform k-fold?

Methodology – Any post-processing was used to avoid salt-and-pepper effect?

Results – I recommend the inclusion of a new figure, where some example areas are shown from a finer scale (zoom in). In this case, readers will be able to see the visual mapping quality in terms of delineation, presence/absence of salt-and-pepper effect, etc.