Referee comment on "Climatic expression of rainfall on soil moisture dynamics in drylands" by Isaac Kipkemoi et al., Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-2021-48-RC2, 2021

This research is interesting, but at the same time this was a very mature research area. It does not make much sense to continue to use this HYDRUS model for research on HAD, for there are lots of related studies.

1 There are some errors in Figure 2, generally speaking, the roots can absorb water approximately below the root layer with a capillary water holding height depth, it seems that the authors do not understand the basic principles of ecological hydrology in arid areas.

2 The author did not consider the runoff confluence process during precipitation.

3 The results of using Penman’s formula to calculate ET have not been verified by measured plot data, which may lead to the converse results.