Reply on RC1
Carrie L. Thomas et al.

Author comment on "Transformation of \(n\)-alkanes from plant to soil: a review" by Carrie L. Thomas et al., SOIL Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/soil-2020-107-AC1, 2021

We would first like to thank Anonymous Referee #1 for their critical review and helpful comments and suggestions for our manuscript.

Specific Comments

**Anonymous Referee #1: Write impersonal, mainly when this is a review paper**

Reply: Thank you for the suggestion. We will make adjustments in the revised version.

**Anonymous Referee #1: Check and Italicize the "n" for "normal" e.g. "n-alkanes" in the Abstract section**

Reply: Thank you for catching this mistake. We will correct this.

**Anonymous Referee #1: Paragraph 35. Apart from Kolattukudy et al., 1976, I think that the pioneering works of Eglinton et al., 1961a and b should be cited:**

Eglinton et al (1962a) Nature DOI: 10.1038/193739a0
Eglinton et al (1962b) Phytochemistry DOI: 10.1016/S0031-9422 (00) 88006-1

Reply: Thank you for the suggestion of these citations. We agree and will include them in the revised version.

**Anonymous Referee #1: Paragraphs 55-65. Please, check the formulas (CPI, OEP & ACL) and normalize notation i.e. all in summation using the appropriate indexes (n, m)**

Reply: Thank you for the suggestion. We will check the formulas and notation for the revised version.

**Anonymous Referee #1: Paragraphs 65-70. Here I missed some other relevant and general citations related to n-alkanes and other biomarkers diagenesis in soils and sediments.**

Meyers & Ishiwatari (1993). DOI: 10.1016/0146-6380 (93) 90100-P

Reply: Thank you for the suggestion of these citations. We will include them in the
revised version.

**Anonymous Referee #1:** In addition, although the following references are cited in other parts of the MS, I will also recommend its inclusion in this introductory paragraph. Bull et al (2000). DOI: 10.1016 / S0146-6380 (00) 00008-5 Otto & Simpson (2005). DOI: 10.1007 / s10533-004-5834-8

**Reply:** Thank you for this suggestion. We will also cite these in the introduction.


**Reply:** Thank you for the suggestion and the suggested citations. We agree that it is important to consider these other potential causes for changes in n-alkanes and will include this in the revised version.