Topical Editors comment:

Dear Authors,

Your revised manuscript and responses to the reviewers are satisfactory to GMD's requirement. However, I have one minor suggestion that in your last sentence in the conclusion: "Even at this stage, an agent-based process model offers a great variability in model design for future research questions."

Can you be more specific on what kind of future research? Let me know if you have any questions.

Best, Topical Editor, Min-Hui Lo

Authors response:

Dear Mr. Min-Hui Lo,

Thank you for your suggestion. We extended the sentence by examples and hopefully we made it clearer! Our future research on this topic is focused on model with highly dynamic internal structures, like nutrient transport and irrigation modelling. Therefore, we think that ABMs are suitable tools as the internal connections are less restricted than in "classical" numerical models.

On behalf of the authors,

Benjamin Mewes