

Cover letter for Manuscript: jof-1829904

August 9, 2022

Ms. Silvia Alexandra Avram

Assistant Editor

Journal of fungi

Dear Ms. Silvia Alexandra Avram,

Thank you very much for your interest in our work and for invitation to resubmit a revised version of the manuscripts.

We thank the two reviewers for their valuable suggestions and constructive comments on our manuscript. We have revised our manuscript based on all these comments. For clarity, we have included point-to-point responses to questions raised by the reviewers. Words in red indicate new sentences or paragraphs that we rewrote in the revised manuscript.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Jianbo Xie

Dr. and Professor.

Beijing Forestry University

CC: Sijia Liu, Jiadong Wu, Haofei Wang, Anna Lukianova, Anna Tokmakova, Zhelun Jin, Shuxian Tan, Sisi Chen, Yue Wang, Yuxin Du, and Konstantin A. Miroshnikov

#Reviewer 1:

(1) My main concern relates to the definition of the objective. The authors should clearly state which is the objective. Stating a gap in knowledge "the microbiome composition and the interaction of litterfall and soil remain poor understand" is not the same as identifying the objective.

Author: Thanks for your suggestions. We rewrite the object of the study in the abstract.

Here, we used metabarcoding analysis to uncover the bacterial and fungal community composition of *Lithocarpus* across soil layer samples from sampling seasons.