Dear Dr. Bojan Radak

Thank you very much for your email. As you notice, we have revised the manuscript entitled ‘Effect of organic substances on iron-release kinetics in a calcareous soil after basil harvesting’. I did all changes based on reviewers comments. We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the reviewers who identified areas of our manuscript that needed corrections or modification. We would like also to thank you for allowing us to revise a manuscript. I hope that the revised manuscript is accepted for publication.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours

**Reviewer A:**

1-Key words changed.

2-Why vermicompost was the best solution?(add below sentence in the results of paper)

Fe extracted by DTPA was the highest for vermicompost amended samples compared to other organic materials (Fig. 2), this observation is attributed to higher Fe content of vermicompost (Table II).

**Reviewer B:**

1-page 4, line 102: “DTPA” was corrected.

2-page 5: this sentence was change to: Statistical analysis was performed using the SPSS 19.0 software and Microsoft Excel 2010 packages. The difference between means was compared by Duncan’s Multiple Range Test.

3-page 11: “release” was corrected.

**Reviewer C:**

1-According to reviewer comment calcareous soil and kinetics were added to key words.

2-New references were added to introduction and results.

3-Why you use basil?

Iron deficiency is a limiting factor of plant growth in calcareous soils. Iron is present at high quantities in soils, but its availability to plants is usually very low, and therefore iron deficiency is a common problem in plants. Basil is an annual herb that is commercially important and both fresh and dried leaves are used for culinary purposes (Chalchat and Ozcan, 2008). Basil is considered a medicinal herb (Ahmed et al., 2014) for its diuretic and stimulating properties and also used in perfume compositions (Nguyen et al., 2010). Therefore to understand and evaluating Fe desorption in soil solution and determine Fe availability in calcareous soils this plant selected.

4-Is the release Fe available for plants? Bioavailability of metals in soils can controlled by release of the metal from the soil particle to the soil solution (desorption). The uptake of elements by plants leads to depletion of soil solution elements and a consequent net release of elements from soil solid to liquid phase. Therefore, the amount of soluble elements at any time largely depends on the rate of release of elements from the soil particles in to the soil solution.

But with a greenhouse experiment alone we cannot recommend the amount of OM that should be given in hectar.

5-parabolic and power and… in the text corrected.