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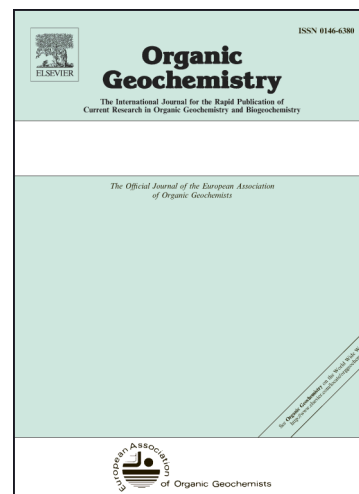
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Hydrogen isotope fractionation of leaf wax *n*-alkanes in southern African soils

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ABSTRACT

The hydrogen isotope composition of plant leaf wax (δD_{wax}) has been found to record the isotope composition of precipitation (δD_{p}). Hence, δD_{wax} is increasingly used for palaeohydrological reconstruction. δD_{wax} is, however, also affected by secondary factors, such as vegetation type, evapotranspiration and environmental conditions, complicating its direct application as a quantitative palaeohydrological proxy. Here, we present δD_{wax} data from soils along vegetation gradients and climatic transects in southern Africa to

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