

10.1071/RJ16073_AC

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Supplementary Material: *The Rangeland Journal*, 2018, **40**, 91–100.

**Influence of climatic factors on variation in the Normalised Difference
Vegetation Index in Mongolian Plateau grasslands**

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Supplementary material:

In order to check the resampling of CRU-TS3.21 Data set, we selected 4 non-international meteorological stations (New Barag Right Banner, Baotou, Jining and Manzhouli) randomly in Inner Mongolia which were different to international stations in the interpolation of CRU-TS3.21 Data. We compared annual total precipitation from CRU-TS3.21 data set and the site data particularly (Fig. S1). The result showed that the inter-annual fluctuations were similar during 1981-2013 (Fig. S2). Annual total precipitation from CRU-TS3.21 data set was significantly correlated ($P < 0.001$) to that from the site data (Fig. S3). This led us to conclude that, overall, precipitation from CRU-TS3.21 Data set is credible on a regional scale.

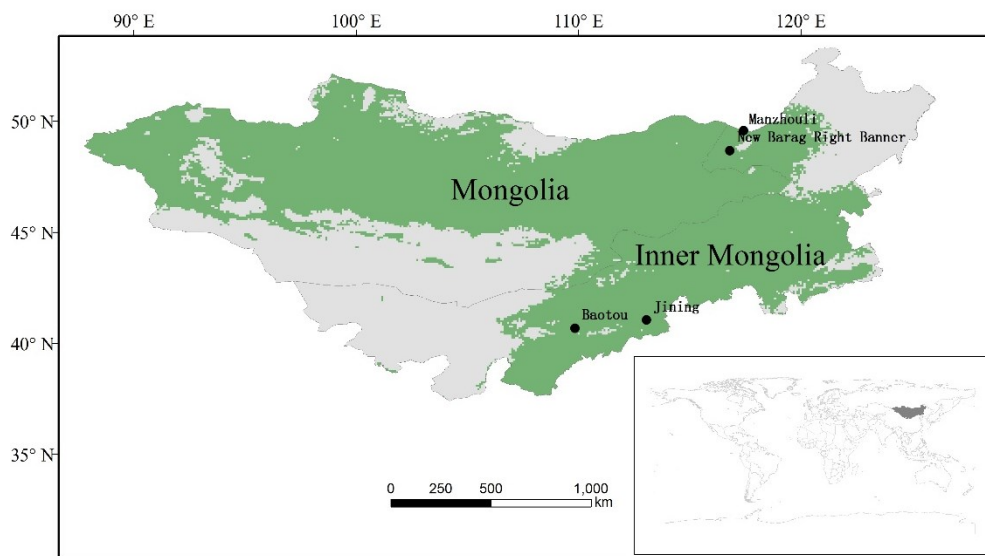


Fig. S1. Distribution of meteorological stations selected to check CRU-TS3.21 data set.

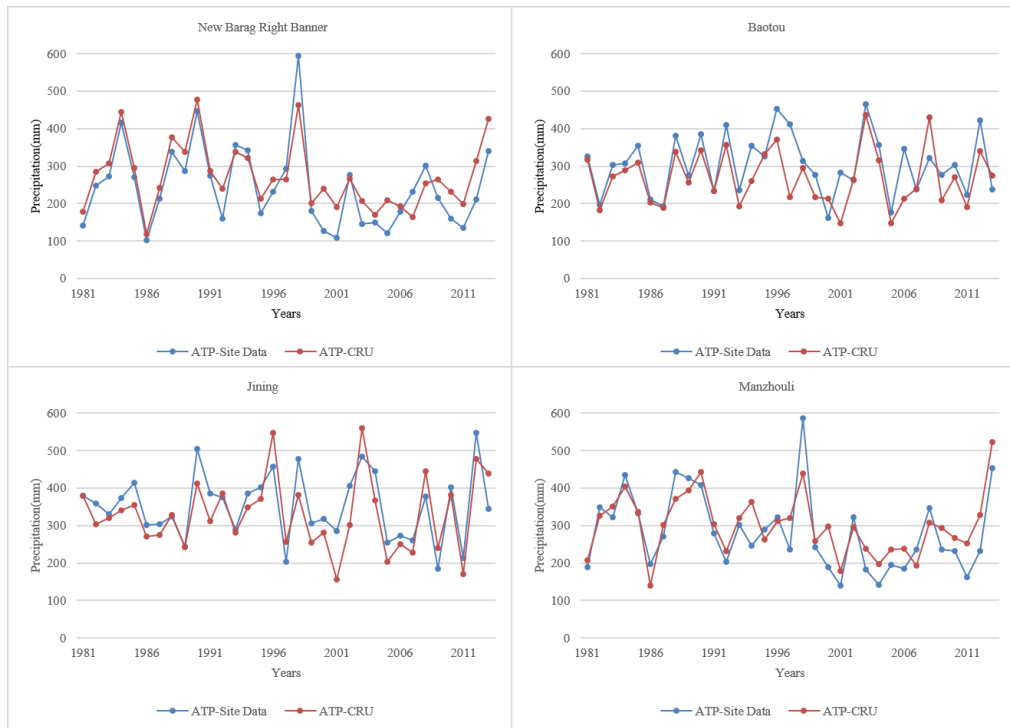


Fig. S2. The inter-annual fluctuations of annual total precipitation from CRU-TS3.21 data set and the site data of 4 meteorological stations during 1981-2013.

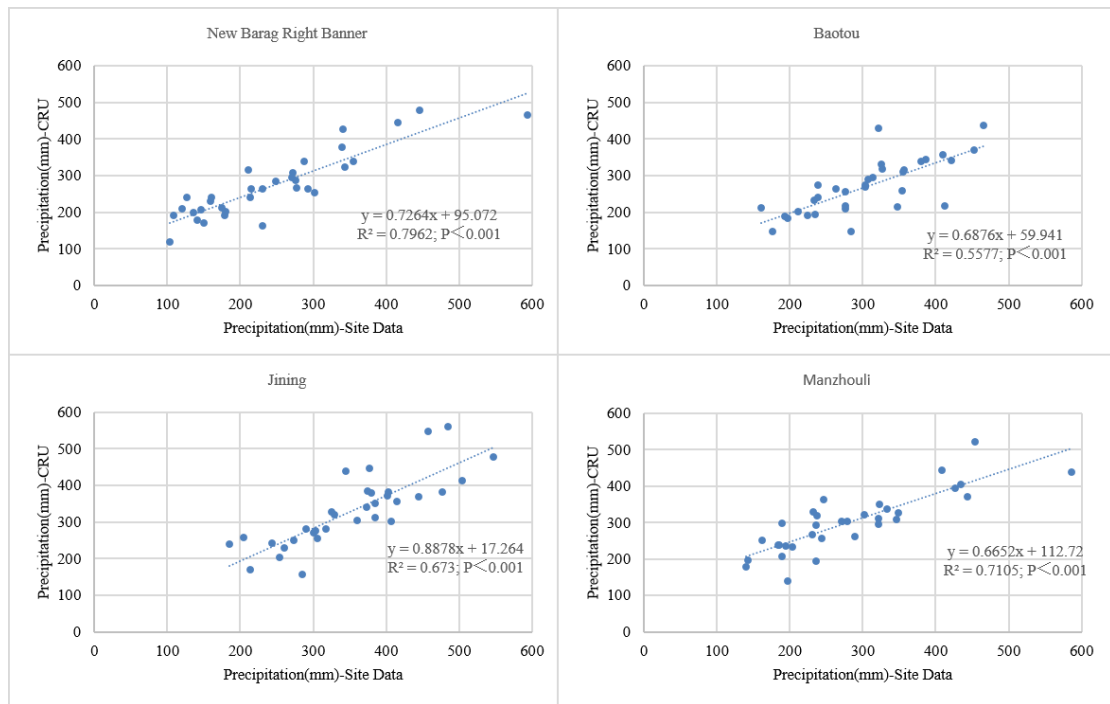


Fig. S3. The correlations between annual total precipitation from CRU-TS3.21 Data Set and Site Data of 4 meteorological stations.