2. The contribution that it makes to knowledge in light of previously published related reports, including other meta-analyses

The effects of plastic film mulch and biochar on crop yield, ET, and WUE in rain-fed agriculture in China is a growing area of research. We therefore comprehensively reviewed relevant and current literature on how co-application of plastic film mulching with biochar influence crop yield, WUE and ET. This serves as useful resource for study on impact of co-application of plastic mulch and biochar on crop yield, WUE and ET particularly in rain-fed agriculture in northern China. The PRISMA guideline for meta-analysis was followed in selecting articles for the analysis (Moher et al., 2009).