

Review Form 1.7

Journal Name:	International Journal of Plant & Soil Science
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJPSS_98796
Title of the Manuscript:	Detection of "Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus" using conventional PCR and nested-PCR and identification of primer sensitivity through Q-PCR in HLB infected mandarin orange and acid lime plants in Tamil Nadu.
Type of the Article	Original research paper

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<p>Compulsory REVISION comments</p> <p>1. Is the manuscript important for scientific community? (Please write few sentences on this manuscript)</p> <p>2. Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</p> <p>3. Is the abstract of the article comprehensive?</p> <p>4. Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</p> <p>5. Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct?</p> <p>6. Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form.</p> <p>(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)</p>	<p>The identification and diagnostics of "Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus" is important; and a comparative approach PCR-nested PCR seems a relevant application subject. The manuscript is full of mistakes and is not a guarantee of quality. Some of its conclusions contain results contradictory with some of the implications offered by the abstract (eg HLB positive/negative detection rates by district). The text does not place Tables & figures should be placed inside the text.</p> <p>May be. No. May be.</p> <p>No. The last two sentences in the Introduction may be part of Results; the Figures suggested (Fig. 2A, 2B, 2C and 2D) do not all refer to F1/B1 and F3/B3 results.</p> <p>It is not clear where in [2] it is said that 'OMPs ... were not appropriate for identifying Las' (as indicated 'according to earlier literature [2].'). Reference for the sentence "The technique significantly increased the sensitivity in the detection of Las by up to 10 times when compared to qPCR and 100 times when compared to conventional PCR." should be cited. It is not clear where in [41] (https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/hlb/database/pdf/00000572.pdf) it is showed that 'two different sized amplicons' result from 'The primer pair combinations of F1/B1 and the nested F3/B3'.</p> <p>Reference for the sentence "The technique significantly increased the sensitivity in the detection of Las by up to 10 times when compared to qPCR and 100 times when compared to conventional PCR." should be cited.</p> <p>Reference number 15 has been listed before the one under number 6; similar mistakes are on multiple pages. In stating of references in text of the manuscript, references must be numbered in the order that they appear in the text; and so listed at the end of the manuscript.</p>	
<p>Minor REVISION comments</p> <p>1. Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>In abstract: it should be written "... single-plex polymerase chain reaction (PCR), nested PCR and ..."; Sankarankoil (Thirunelveli district) and Kanalkadu (Dindigul district). In 'Introduction', prepare better the first sentence. In 'Materials and methods': prepare better the first sentence; in the second sentence "One gram of mandarin orange midribs were" should be written in singular form. As a reference referred in the text '(2),' must be between brackets [2].</p> <p>The terms 'kanlakaadu', 'dindigul' and 'thirunelveli' should be capitalized. At first mention, "Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus" should be written in full text with abbreviation in brackets (CLas) bacterium. Prepare better Figures C and E, as they show 1318 bp amplification; and not 1438 bp as indicated in the text.</p> <p>Prepare better Figures H and I - it must be 'through' instead of 'though', at "Ct Values of Q-PCR formed though second set". It should be written 'DNA serially diluted in a range of 1/10, 102, 103, ...'; remove dot at the end of this sentence ('... served as the template (Fig E, F, G, H and I).'). 'So that' should be 'so that', as it follows a comma. "qPCR syber green(Takara)" should be written "qPCR Sybr Green (Takara)". In text 'and and exported into a MS Excel workbook', remove second 'and'. Prepare better the first sentence of the last paragraph (do not forget to write down 'Rutledge et al., 2003'). 'occured' should be written 'occurred'; and 'Identifying', "Identifying". 'The Ct value' should be 'the Ct value', as it follows a comma. At first mention, "cycle threshold value" should be written in full text with abbreviation in brackets (CT). Always uppercase the first letter of 'Nanodrop'.</p>	
<p>Optional/General comments</p>	<p>Plates A, B, C, D, E and F are barely used and explained.</p>	

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<p>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</p>	<p><i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i></p>	

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