

## Review Form 1.7

Journal Name:	<a href="#">Asian Journal of Research in Agriculture and Forestry</a>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJRAF_103144
Title of the Manuscript:	Aspects of Tree Species Phenology and Diversity for Conservation in the Chimpanzee Forest Habitat Kwano, GashakaGumti National Park, Nigeria
Type of the Article	Research Article

### **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><b>Compulsory</b> REVISION comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Is the manuscript important for scientific community?</b> (Please write few sentences on this manuscript)</li> <li><b>Is the title of the article suitable?</b> (If not please suggest an alternative title)</li> <li><b>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive?</b></li> <li><b>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</b></li> <li><b>Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct?</b></li> <li><b>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form.</b></li> </ol> <p><u>(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)</u></p>	<p>The presented <b>research has significant relevance for the scientific community</b>, as it addresses the phenological study of tree species in the forest habitat of Kwano chimpanzees, located in the Gashaka Gumti National Park (PNGG) in Nigeria. <b>The theme itself is important, as understanding the life cycles of trees and the interaction of these species with primates is fundamental for the conservation of biodiversity and the proper management of these protected areas.</b> The <b>summary</b> presents a clear and concise overview of the main results of the phenological study, as well as the tree species found in the study area. It provides a summary of key findings, such as leafing, flowering and fruiting patterns observed in June, July and August, and highlights the diversity of tree species present in the habitat of Kwano chimpanzees. The summary is adequate and succinctly conveys the main points addressed throughout the research. The <b>introduction</b> is well written, providing an overview of the context of the study, providing information on the importance of Gashaka Gumti National Park as a habitat for chimpanzees and the characteristics of forest habitat.</p> <p><b>The methodology is presented in a clear and detailed way</b>, describing the phenological transects used to collect the data and the procedures for recording the observations. Statistical methods used in the analysis of phenological data are mentioned, such as the <b>Shannon-Wiener Diversity Index</b> and <b>Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)</b>. The description of the <b>methods</b> is enough for other researchers to replicate the study, particularly as a scientist I found it very relevant. The objectives of the study are clearly explained and are in line with the theme addressed. The study sought to analyze the phenology of tree species, the diversity of these species and their importance to chimpanzees, as well as providing recommendations for forest habitat conservation. The <b>objectives</b> were achieved through the collection and analysis of phenological data. The <b>discussions</b> present an in-depth analysis of the results, relating them to previous studies and highlighting the importance of phenological patterns for food availability and chimpanzee reproduction. The <b>conclusions</b> are well founded on the results and point to the importance of conservation of the habitat of the Kwano chimpanzees, highlighting the diversity of tree species and their importance for the local fauna. Therefore, the <b>recommendations</b> provided are relevant and aimed at improving the management and conservation of the Gashaka Gumti National Park. <b>They cover aspects such as encouraging and sponsoring more phenological research, increasing the number of forest guards, carrying out awareness programs and articulating with local leaders. The recommendations reflect the concern to promote biodiversity conservation, involve local communities and ensure the effective protection of chimpanzee habitat.</b> In short, the research presented is relevant to the scientific community, addressing an important topic for biodiversity conservation and understanding the life cycles of tree species. <b>The abstract, introduction, methodology, objectives, discussions, conclusion and recommendations are well structured</b> and provide a comprehensive and grounded overview of the results and implications of the phenological study in the forest habitat of Kwano chimpanzees.</p> <p>A <b>small correction is to add some more current references in the text</b>, i.e. most references provided are outside the <b>2019-2020 period</b>. It is important to check if there are more recent studies that may provide up-to-date and relevant information for your research.</p>	
<p><b>Minor</b> REVISION comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</b></li> </ol>	<p>-----</p>	
<p><b>Optional/General</b> comments</p>	<p>-----</p>	

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**PART 2:**

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's comment</b> <i>(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)</i>
<b>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</b>	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

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