

Review Form 1.7

Journal Name:	Asian Food Science Journal
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AFSJ_96250
Title of the Manuscript:	Quality of Saffron in Oman Markets
Type of the Article	Short 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>Compulsory REVISION comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the manuscript important for scientific community? (Please write few sentences on this manuscript) 2. Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title) 3. Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? 4. Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate? 5. Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct? 6. Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form. <p><u>(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ATTACHMENT</p> <p>This Original Short Research Article titled "Quality of Saffron in Oman Markets", is good in its information, evaluation but lacks in presentation. Any Research Article there are some requisites that the author has to follow in presenting the Article for publication.</p> <p>1. Abstract – The "Abstract" should be "Saffron is the most expensive spice in the world, it is highly valued as a culinary spice for its flavor and color properties. Since saffron is an expensive product, it is cheated by the dealers, therefore, quality control of saffron is important for the spice industries and also the consumers. This study aims to evaluate the saffron quality in Omani markets according to the ISO standards. A total of 21 saffron samples were examined; 2 in powder form and 19 in filaments. The samples of saffron were purchased from different hyper-markets and local markets in Muscat, Oman. Saffron's commercial value is determined according to the ISO standard which include moisture, ash, acid insoluble ash, extract %, sulfuric test, artificial colors, spectrum, Flavor, aroma and color. The saffron samples were in line with standard in terms of moisture, ash, acid insoluble ash and extract %. The two powder saffron samples failed in sulfuric, spectrum and flavor tests. From the 19 samples of saffron filament, three samples were failed to achieve the flavor and color limits required by the standards. This failure to standard quality could be due to poor processing condition such as drying and packaging or due to adulteration. The standard parameters could not distinguish between low quality and adulteration due to its limited and unspecific parameters. Therefore, we recommend improving the standards with parameters targeting adulteration in saffron."</p> <p>2. Introduction – No comments</p> <p>3. Aim – The Aim should be brought under Aim (separate paragraph) after Introduction. As mentioned below. <i>"Saffron is the most expensive spice in the world, it is highly valued as a culinary spice for its flavor and color properties. Since saffron is an expensive product, it is cheated by the dealers, therefore, quality control of saffron is important for the spice industries and also the consumers. This study aims to evaluate the saffron quality in Omani markets according to the ISO standards"</i>.</p> <p>4. Sample and Sampling – It is included in Material and Methods (In Page No. 3 Para No. 2) – It should be <i>"A total of 21 saffron samples were examined; 2 in powder form and 19 in filaments. The samples of saffron were purchased from different hyper-markets and local markets in Muscat, Oman. To keep the brand names anonymous, the saffron samples were given letter F for filaments and letter P for powder, labeled accurately, mentioning the name, location, collection time, date, and then stored in room temperature (25 °C) under dark conditions until the analysis completed."</i></p> <p>Exclusive Criteria – Not mentioned While taking Sample and Sampling the author should mention if some samples are excluded the reason for exclusion under the sub heading exclusion criteria after sampling.</p> <p>5. Methodology – The author mentioned Materials (Sample) methods together. This should be separated and material should go to the sample and from In Page No. 3 Para No. 2 under Materials and Methods under sub heading Moisture and content the author mentioned, "The moisture content include volatiles of saffron samples was determined according to the International Standards of ISO 3632-2 [28]". It will be better if the author should have mentioned the test methods as mentioned ISO 3632-2 amended in 2010 in brief for better understanding. In the same ISO standards Page No. 3 in Table No. 1 Saffron in Filaments and Cut filaments forms. They have clearly mentioned procedure, laboratory sample, test sample, comments, and corresponding clause. The author should have mentioned that information and the results that are being obtained from the research work and should have given his comments accordingly. This will gives an authentication whether the tests conducted are in line with the ISO methodology and the results that are obtained are very near if not equal to. Any standard</p>	

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	<p>deviations should be mentioned along with the reasons thereof. This will give more weightage to the research work that is being carried out. Moisture content to flavour, aroma and color using UV/VIs method (Page No. 3 Para No. 2 to Page No. 4 Para No. 1) 6. Literature Review – The author has not mentioned anything about review which is essential for a research article. It is my suggestion the author should include this paragraph after methodology, The literatures articles reviewed by the author and the findings and the relevance to the particular research should be mentioned (essential). 7. Limitations of the study – The author has not mentioned anything about the limitations of the research work which is essential, because every research work will have some kind of limitations behind which research work is cannot be carried out. Hence, the author is advised to mention the limitations of research work in a separate paragraph. 8. Conflict of Interest – The author has not mentioned anything about the conflict of interest in this research work and it is necessary to mention the same in a research work. 9. Disclaimer – The author should mention that he has not interest in this research work except Academic interest (No monetary gain) Suggestion – It is my suggestion to the author that the author should reorient the article in accordance with the suggestions made above for a clear and better appreciation of the article and is advised to make the changes in accordance with the comments and suggestions made have so that the article will have more impact on the readers.</p>	
<p>Minor REVISION comments 1. Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>		
<p>Optional/General comments</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>	

Reviewer Details:

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