

Review Form 1.7

Journal Name:	Journal of Experimental Agriculture International
Manuscript Number:	Ms_JEAI_106868
Title of the Manuscript:	Evaluation of cocoa full-sib progenies for yield and resistance to black pod disease in Cameroon
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

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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><u>Compulsory</u> 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>I have carefully reviewed the manuscript titled "Evaluation of Cocoa Full-Sib Progenies for Yield and Resistance to Black Pod Disease in Cameroon" as an ad hoc reviewer. The study demonstrates significant merit due to its continuous eight-year evaluation. However, to enhance its relevance within the academic community, certain improvements are crucial.</p> <p>Abstract and Introduction:</p> <p>The abstract lacks emphasis on the study's importance. It would benefit from a clearer statement of the significance of the research in addressing current gaps in knowledge or practical applications.</p> <p>The introduction predominantly focuses on the historical context of cocoa, which might be better suited for a literature review. Instead, I recommend shifting the emphasis towards justifying the need for this specific study.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>The objectives should be refined to clearly delineate the specific goals of the project, both in the broader context and within the scope of the work undertaken in Cameroon.</p> <p>Materials and Methods:</p> <p>The section requires clarification, particularly regarding the year of planting and the rationale behind the implantation of 1500 seedlings despite working with 26 progenies and 50 seedlings. The decision to apply insecticide midway through the study should be justified. It is essential to explain how this intervention aligns with the study's objectives.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to conducting controlled inoculations in a laboratory setting prior to field implementation to enhance the selection process.</p> <p>Data Presentation:</p> <p>With data collected bi-weekly over eight years, there is a rich dataset that could be better utilized. I recommend incorporating graphical representations to illustrate trends in survival rates and productivity over time.</p> <p>Genetic Selection:</p> <p>The methodology for genetic selection is not clearly articulated. A more detailed explanation of the selection criteria and process is needed to enhance transparency and reproducibility.</p> <p>Results and Discussion:</p> <p>While results are presented, a comprehensive discussion is conspicuously absent. It is crucial to analyse the findings, compare them with existing literature, and draw meaningful conclusions.</p>	
<p><u>Minor</u> REVISION comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? 		
<p><u>Optional/General</u> comments</p>	<p>Given the meticulous nature of this study, I am eager to see the detailed results.</p>	

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PART 2:

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

Reviewer Details:

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