

**Review Form 1.7**

Journal Name:	<b>International Journal of Plant &amp; Soil Science</b>
Manuscript Number:	<b>Ms_IJPSS_114662</b>
Title of the Manuscript:	<b>Evaluation of the effects of nutrient omissions on the growth and seed yield of two castor plant varieties in southwest Nigeria</b>
Type of the Article	<b>Original Research Article</b>

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**PART 1: Review Comments**

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's comment</b> (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>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This manuscript is important for the scientific community as it addresses the crucial issue of identifying critical nutrient elements for improving the performance of castor varieties in a specific geographic area, which can potentially contribute to enhancing agricultural productivity. By conducting a pot experiment and assessing various nutrient omissions, the study provides valuable insights into optimizing fertilizer applications for castor cultivation, particularly in regions like southwestern Nigeria where this crop is gaining popularity.</li> <li>The title of the article, "Determining Critical Nutrient Elements for Improved Performance of Castor Varieties in Southwest Nigeria: A Pot Experiment," is suitable as it accurately reflects the content and focus of the study. It clearly indicates the objective of the research and the geographic scope of the investigation.</li> <li>The abstract of the article is comprehensive as it succinctly summarizes the purpose, methods, results, and conclusions of the study.</li> <li>The subsections and structure of the manuscript appear appropriate, with clear delineation of sections such as Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, and Conclusions. This organization facilitates readability and comprehension, guiding readers through the research process from background information to outcomes and recommendations.</li> <li>The manuscript appears scientifically correct based on the provided information. The methods are described in sufficient detail to allow for replication, and the results are presented logically with appropriate statistical analyses. The conclusions drawn from the findings are supported by the data presented, and the implications for agricultural practice in the study area are clearly articulated.</li> <li>The references provided appear to cover relevant literature on castor cultivation, soil fertility, and nutrient management. However, it would be beneficial to ensure that the references are up-to-date and encompass recent developments in the field. Additionally, including references that specifically relate to castor cultivation in Nigeria, as well as studies on nutrient requirements of other oilseed crops, could further enrich the literature review section.</li> </ol>	
<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>The language and English quality of the article seem generally suitable for scholarly communication. The text is coherent and understandable, with clear descriptions of the research methodology, results, and conclusions. However, there are some minor grammatical errors and awkward phrasings that could be refined to improve clarity and readability. Additionally, ensuring consistency in terminology and adhering to academic writing conventions would enhance the overall quality of the manuscript. Overall, while the language quality is acceptable, some revisions for grammatical correctness and stylistic consistency may be beneficial to elevate it to a higher standard suitable for scholarly communication.</p>	
<p><b>Optional/General</b> comments</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>	

**Reviewer Details:**

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