

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	Journal of Advances in Biology & Biotechnology
Manuscript Number:	Ms_JABB_128045
Title of the Manuscript:	Effect of different substrates and time of application of nutrient at different concentration on growth parameters of lettuce (<i>Lactuca sativa</i> L.)
Type of the Article	Research

General guidelines for the 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 guidelines for the Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	This manuscript provides valuable insights into optimizing lettuce production through the use of different substrates and nutrient application strategies. Such research is important for the scientific community as it bridges the gap between sustainable agriculture practices and high-yield crop production, particularly in controlled environments. I appreciate the detailed analysis of nutrient concentrations and application intervals, which is crucial for practitioners aiming to improve crop growth parameters effectively. However, the study could be more impactful if supplemented with additional trials to validate its findings further.	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	The current title, " <i>Effect of different substrates and time of application of nutrient at different concentration on growth parameters of lettuce (Lactuca sativa L.)</i> ," is clear but somewhat lengthy. A more concise alternative could be: " <i>Impact of Substrates and Nutrient Application Timing on Lettuce Growth Parameters.</i> "	
Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.	The abstract is comprehensive, but it could benefit from a clearer emphasis on the practical applications of the findings. For instance, highlighting how the optimal combination of cocopeat and perlite contributes to sustainable practices would enhance its appeal. Additionally, minor rephrasing for clarity, such as explicitly stating the key growth parameters measured, would improve readability.	
Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.	This manuscript is scientifically sound, with a robust experimental design and thorough data analysis. The factorial design ensures that interactions between variables are well-documented, and statistical tools are appropriately used to validate the results. The findings align well with existing literature, making the conclusions credible. The only recommendation is to expand on the practical implications of the findings to ensure broader applicability.	
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.	The references are sufficient and relevant. However, a few recent studies on substrate and nutrient application in controlled environments could be included to strengthen the discussion further. For instance, recent advancements in hydroponics and soilless agriculture could provide valuable context.	

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<p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>The manuscript is written in clear English suitable for scholarly communication. However, minor grammatical corrections and rephrasing could enhance readability. For example, simplifying long sentences in the introduction would make the content more accessible.</p>	
<p>Optional/General comments</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rephrase the title for conciseness while retaining its clarity. 2. Emphasize the practical implications of findings in the abstract. 3. Provide more details on why cocopeat-perlite combinations perform better. 4. Use graphical illustrations for better data visualization. 5. Ensure smoother transitions between results and discussions. 6. Include more recent references on hydroponics and soilless cultivation. 7. Clarify the choice of intervals for nutrient application in the methodology. 8. Discuss limitations and areas for future research in more detail. 9. Simplify complex sentences in the introduction. 10. Provide more information on how the findings can be applied practically in farming. 11. Add a brief explanation about why pooled mean data was emphasized. 12. Ensure uniformity in how treatment names (e.g., T1, S1F111) are presented. 13. Include environmental factors like temperature or humidity in the discussion if they influenced results. 14. Verify all data labels in tables and figures for accuracy. 15. Ensure consistency in the formatting of references. 16. Specify the brand or source of substrates like cocopeat and perlite. 17. Add brief economic insights on the cost-effectiveness of the recommended treatments. 18. Include data from similar studies to strengthen the interpretation of results. 19. Mention potential scalability issues for large-scale applications. 20. Provide a summary of key recommendations in the conclusion. 	

PART 2:

	<p>Reviewer's comment</p>	<p>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>
<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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<p>Department, University & Country</p>	<p>HICAST (Himalayan College of Agricultural Sciences & Technology), Nepal</p>