

Review Form 1.7

Journal Name:	International Journal of Pathogen Research
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJPR_111917
Title of the Manuscript:	Evaluation of Sweet Potato (<i>Ipomoea batatas</i>) for early blast disease (<i>Alternaria solani</i>).
Type of the 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>Compulsory REVISION comments</p> <p>1. Is the manuscript important for scientific community? (Please write few sentences on this manuscript)</p> <p>2. Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</p> <p>3. Is the abstract of the article comprehensive?</p> <p>4. Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</p> <p>5. Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct?</p> <p>6. Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form.</p> <p>(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)</p>	<p>1. Yes, early blight is devastating crop disease affecting sweet potato & other crops in the family such as potato, Tomato etc. so its control is vital for farming viability.</p> <p>2. Yes, but the word "accessions" may be added as suffix to "potato" word & place/ country name may be added at the end.</p> <p>3. Yes, the abstract is comprehensive.</p> <p>4. Manuscript subsections & structure is fine.</p> <p>5. The manuscript is scientifically correct but for few gaps that can improved/ commented as listed below In the revised & final version to publish.</p> <p>6. Yes, the references are OK but for 4 additions suggested below.</p>	
<p>Minor REVISION comments</p> <p>1. Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>The language is good except few places like "<u>Soil sampling and analysis</u>- 12 soil samples"- plz. Prefiz "in all" before '12" as no sentence is usually started with a number generally.</p>	
<p>Optional/General comments- majority of these may be addressed in the revised & final version of the manuscript to make it a quality one.</p>	<p>1) Crop/ farm "hygiene" is most important to control blight- crop residue is to be removed, farm cleaned (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alternaria_solani) but its not mentioned if this is done. It could affect the impact level</p> <p>2) Soil moisture & wet weather is most crucial promoters of blight and both are not mentioned. Kindly add it in the revised version so the reader can understand the microclimate.</p> <p>3) Is any soil work done- hoeing etc. as soil aeration can reduce the blight. No cultural operations are mentioned, a clean farm & a littered farm pathologies differ.</p> <p>4) No irrigation is mentioned except water use to inoculate the fungi. Plz. add it.</p> <p>5) Inputs provided are not mentioned- manure, organic inputs/ chemical fertilizers, urea, drainage, residue, weeding. It is basic in any agri-research so kindly add it.</p> <p>6) Multi-year/ season comparison e.g. Ethiopia- https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9582706/-</p> <p>7) Comparison to other country studies e.g. Uganda who found resistant cultivars. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/227902261_Stability_of_Sweet_Potato_Cultivars_to_Alternaria_Leaf_and_Stem_Blight_Disease- why the difference, plz. comment.</p> <p>8) Biocontrol may be mentioned e.g. <i>Trichoderma/ Bacillus</i> spp. https://www.mdpi.com/2079-7737/12/6/856 as potential control measure, not only genetic/ varietal diversity.</p> <p>9) Organic inputs are useful organic control of fungal diseases & may be mentioned too- e.g. Neem tree leaf/ seed cake- http://www.ijpab.com/form/2021%20Volume%209,%20Issue%201/IJPAB-2021-9-1-542-545.pdf.</p> <p>10) Cultivars origin may be local & more resistant than say exotic e.g. South east Asia, plz. comment on it- https://tspace.library.utoronto.ca/html/1807/23886/cs01059.html.</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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