Review Form 1.7

Journal Name:	**International Journal of Plant & Soil Science**
Manuscript Number:	**Ms_IJPSS_119504**
Title of the Manuscript:	**Effectiveness of Seed Priming and Fertilizer Levels on nutrient available and uptake in Rabi Maize**
Type of the 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)*
Compulsory REVISION comments **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.** **(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)**	**1. Yes** **2. Yes** **3. Yes** **4. Yes** **5. Yes** **6. The references are sufficient but could be updated. The last update is 2020.** **The following part could be added to the end of Results and Discussion:** Maize yield largely depends on the optimum conditions of vigorous seedlings, which in turn depends on the adequate supply of essential plant nutrients. Nutrient seed priming technology can boost crop yields in soils of low fertility. Essentially, Nutrient seed priming is a technique, in which, seeds are soaked in nutrient solution containing essential micronutrients such as zinc, boron, molybdenum and macronutrients such as phosphorous (Adornis et al. 2020). This process increases seed nutrient contents along with the priming effect to improve seed quality for better crop yield. The benefits of nutrient seed priming are more pronounced during the early growth stages, and it is a widely accepted technology for improving yield. Nutrient seed priming is widely used in parts of Asia: Bangladesh, Nepal, India and Pakistan, and studies showing that seed priming can increase maize yields by up to 70% (Adornis et al. 2020). However, establish a proper priming protocol, mineral concentration, and the priming duration should be considered to prevent possible nutrient toxicity that can hinder germination. **Add the following reference:** Adornis D. Nciizah, Mokgatla C. Rapetsoa, Isaiah IC. Wakindiki, Mussie G. Zerizghy. 2021. Micronutrient seed priming improves maize (Zea mays) early seedling growth in a micronutrient deficient soil. Heliyon, 6, 1-10 (e04766).	
Minor REVISION comments **1. Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?**	**Yes, to some extent.** **The article is good.**	
Optional/General comments	----------	

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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)*
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	*(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)*	

Reviewer Details:

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