

Review Form 1.7

Journal Name:	International Journal of Plant & Soil Science
Manuscript Number:	Original Manuscript_IJPSS_117777
Title of the Manuscript:	Vegetation dynamics and chemical properties of soils in relationship with the edaphic environment of tropical deciduous forests, Eastern India.
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:

(<https://www.journalijpss.com/index.php/IJPSS/editorial-policy>)

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PART 1: Review Comments

	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>
<p><u>Compulsory</u> 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><u>(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)</u></p>	<p>The manuscript provides valuable insights into the biodiversity, soil properties, and conservation needs of the Saranda Sal Forest. It highlights the dominance of Fabaceae and the high density of tree species, offering crucial baseline information for forest management and conservation strategies. This is significant for ecologists, conservationists, and forest managers working in tropical deciduous forests.</p> <p>The current title appears suitable; however, a more descriptive title could be: "Biodiversity and Soil Properties of Saranda Sal Forest: Implications for Conservation and Management"</p> <p>The abstract is generally comprehensive but could benefit from a clearer summary of key findings and implications. A revised version should highlight the main results on tree density, biodiversity indices, and soil properties more explicitly. Sub headings in the abstract should be removed and written on different paragraphs on the abstract.</p> <p>The subsections and structure are generally appropriate, but the discussion could be more clearly divided into themes such as biodiversity, soil properties, and conservation implications. This would help in better understanding and readability.</p> <p>The manuscript appears scientifically sound, with appropriate methodologies and analyses. However, some data interpretations and comparisons with other studies need clarification and better contextualization.</p> <p>The references are adequate and cover a broad range of relevant literature. However, ensuring that the most recent studies are included would strengthen the manuscript. Adding more recent references from the past five years would be beneficial.</p>	
<p><u>Minor</u> REVISION comments</p> <p>1. Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>The language is generally suitable, but there are areas where the clarity and flow could be improved. For instance, some sentences are long and complex, making them harder to follow. Proofreading for grammar, punctuation, and style consistency is recommended.</p>	

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Optional/General comments	Consider providing more detailed recommendations for conservation and management practices based on the study findings. Including visual aids such as tables, figures, or graphs to illustrate key points would enhance comprehension and engagement. The figures in the list of figures placed below the reference should be placed in the appropriate part inside the work. The study area sentence was too small the author should try and add more information about the study area and its significance.	
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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?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

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