

Review Form 3

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| Journal Name: | Asian Journal of Agricultural Extension, Economics & Sociology |
| Manuscript Number: | Ms_AJAEES_125563 |
| Title of the Manuscript: | Constraints Faced by the Tribal farmers in the Adoption of Ethno-Medical Practices in Idukki district of Kerala |
| Type of the Article | Original Research Article |

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: Review Comments

| Compulsory REVISION 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> |
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| <p>Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. Why do you like (or dislike) this manuscript? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p> | <p>This manuscript makes an important contribution to the scientific understanding of the constraints faced by tribal farmers in adopting ethno-medical practices. The in-depth analysis of 14 key constraints, ranked by severity, provides valuable insights that can inform efforts to support and preserve traditional medicinal knowledge within tribal communities. The study's focus on a specific region of Kerala with diverse tribal populations adds contextual richness and relevance to the findings. Overall, this work highlights critical barriers that must be addressed to enable the sustainable use of ethno-medical practices, which hold great potential for healthcare, biodiversity conservation, and cultural preservation.</p> <p>The comprehensive nature of the constraint analysis, drawing from a large sample of 452 tribal farmers, is a particular strength of this manuscript. The clear organization and detailed discussion of each constraint lend depth and credibility to the research. The findings have important implications for policymakers, healthcare providers, and researchers working to integrate traditional and modern medical systems. This study serves as an important foundation for future work to overcome the challenges faced by tribal communities in maintaining their ethno-medical practices.</p> | |
| <p>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</p> | <p>Yes.</p> <p>Navigating the Challenges: Constraints Faced by Tribal Farmers in Adopting Ethno-Medical Practices in Idukki, Kerala</p> <p>Barriers to Preserving Traditional Knowledge: Exploring the Constraints Encountered by Tribal Farmers in Adopting Ethno-Medical Practices</p> <p>Preserving the Past, Facing the Present: Uncovering the Constraints Limiting Tribal Farmers' Adoption of Ethno-Medical Practices in Idukki, Kerala</p> | |
| <p>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.</p> | <p>The abstract is comprehensive and covers the key aspects of the study:</p> <p>Aim/Objective: To identify constraints faced by tribal farmers in adopting ethno-medical practices.</p> <p>Methodology: Conducted in Idukki district of Kerala, involving 452 farmers from 9 tribal groups.</p> <p>Findings: Identified 14 major constraints, ranked by severity, such as time-consuming herb collection, depletion of medicinal plants, lack of standardization, etc.</p> <p>Conclusion: Highlights the need for government and agencies to help farmers overcome these constraints to encourage greater adoption of ethno-medical practices.</p> <p>The abstract provides a clear and concise overview of the study, touching on the background, objectives, methods, results, and implications. No major additions or deletions are necessary. The abstract effectively summarizes the key points of the manuscript.</p> <p>One minor suggestion could be to consider adding a sentence or two on the significance and potential impact of the study's findings for preserving traditional medicinal knowledge and integrating it with modern healthcare systems. But overall, the abstract is comprehensive and well-structured.</p> | |
| <p>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</p> | <p>Yes, the subsections and overall structure of the manuscript are appropriate and well-organized. The structure and subsections are appropriate and support the effective communication of the research and its implications. No major changes are needed to the organization of the manuscript.</p> | |
| <p>Please write a few sentences regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript. Why do you think that this manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p> | <p>This manuscript appears to be scientifically robust and technically sound in several ways:</p> <p>Firstly, the methodology is well-designed and rigorous. The study was conducted across a representative sample of 452 tribal farmers from 9 different tribal groups in the Idukki district of Kerala, ensuring a comprehensive and diverse dataset. The use of a proportionate random sampling technique and open-ended questionnaires to collect data on constraints adds credibility to the findings.</p> <p>The analysis of constraints using a three-point severity scale and ranking them based on the scores demonstrates a systematic and quantitative approach. This allows for a clear prioritization of the key challenges faced by the tribal farmers in adopting ethno-medical practices. The detailed discussion of each constraint, supported by relevant literature, further strengthens the scientific validity of the results.</p> <p>Additionally, the study's grounding in established theoretical frameworks, such as the importance of preserving traditional medicinal knowledge and the threats posed by biodiversity loss and climate change, enhances its conceptual rigor. The comprehensive list of references cited also indicates a thorough engagement with the existing body of research on this topic. Overall, the robust methodology, rigorous analysis, and strong theoretical foundation make this manuscript a scientifically sound contribution to the understanding of constraints in the adoption of ethno-medical practices among tribal communities.</p> | |

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| <p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</p> <p>-</p> | <p>The references span the years 2007 to 2023, with the majority being from the last 5 years. This indicates that the authors have made an effort to incorporate the latest research and developments in this field.</p> <p>While the reference list is sufficient for the purposes of this manuscript, a few additional references that could further strengthen the discussion include:</p> <p>A study on the impact of climate change on the availability and accessibility of medicinal plants for tribal communities.</p> <p>Research on initiatives or programs aimed at documenting and preserving traditional ethno-medical knowledge.</p> <p>A review article on the challenges and opportunities in integrating traditional and modern healthcare systems.</p> <p>These types of references could provide additional context and support for the findings presented in this manuscript. However, the current reference list is adequate and demonstrates a solid grasp of the relevant literature.</p> | |
| <p><u>Minor REVISION</u> comments</p> <p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p> | <p>Yes, the language and overall English quality of the manuscript is suitable for scholarly communication. While there may be a few minor areas that could be polished (e.g., occasional awkward phrasing or minor punctuation issues), the overall quality of the writing is strong and meets the standards expected for publication in a reputable scholarly journal.</p> <p>The language used effectively communicates the research methodology, findings, and conclusions in a manner suitable for the target academic audience. No major revisions to the language or English quality are necessary.</p> | |
| <p><u>Optional/General</u> comments</p> | | |

PART 2:

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| | <p>Reviewer's comment</p> | <p>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> |
| <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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