

**Review Form 3**

Journal Name:	<a href="#">Journal of Experimental Agriculture International</a>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_JEAI_126398
Title of the Manuscript:	Calcium silicate application as a salt stress mitigation strategy for vegetables in the salt-affected soils of sandy plains of Kerala, India
Type of the Article	

**Review Form 3**

**PART 1: Review Comments**

<b>Compulsory</b> REVISION comments	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's Feedback</b> (Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<b>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.</b>	This manuscript holds importance for the scientific community as it explores the potential of calcium silicate to mitigate salt stress in vegetables, a crucial need for regions like the salt-affected sandy plains of Kerala, India. By addressing the challenges posed by saline soils, it offers a sustainable approach to improving crop resilience and productivity in these areas.  <b>PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENT</b>	
<b>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</b>	<b>Yes, suitable</b>	
<b>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.</b>	<b>Yes, very well written and belongs to the complete manuscript</b>	
<b>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</b>	<b>Yes, appropriate</b>	
<b>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.</b>	The manuscript demonstrates scientific rigor by using well-established experimental designs, including a completely randomized design for both germination and pot culture experiments, ensuring that results are statistically valid and reproducible. The methods align with standard practices for studying salinity effects, utilizing controlled NaCl treatments to simulate salt stress and monitoring critical physiological responses in tomato plants, such as Na <sup>+</sup> /K <sup>+</sup> ratios, dry weight, and relative water content. The application of calcium silicate and nutrient solutions follows soil test-based recommendations, enhancing the study's practical relevance for real-world agricultural applications.	
<b>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Minor</b> REVISION comments  <b>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</b>	The language and English quality of the article are generally suitable for scholarly communication, as it effectively conveys the research objectives, methodology, and findings. However, there are some areas where clarity and grammatical accuracy could be improved	
<b>Optional/General</b> comments		

**PART 2:**

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's comment</b> (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)
<b>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</b>	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	No

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**Reviewer Details:**

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