

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	Annual Research & Review in Biology
Manuscript Number:	Ms_ARRB_124140
Title of the Manuscript:	Gene action and variance of lines and testers for different seedling traits in mulberry (<i>Morus</i> spp.)
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 (Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<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 provides valuable insights into the gene action and variance in mulberry seedlings, which are essential for breeding programs aimed at improving yield and seedling traits. The detailed analysis of the influence of both lines and testers on various seedling traits can help in selecting superior parents for hybridization. The focus on non-additive genetic variance as the major contributor to traits like seedling height, germination percentage, and leaf area, highlights the potential for heterosis breeding in mulberry. The study's findings are relevant to sericulture, where improving mulberry leaf yield can significantly enhance silk production.</p> <p>I appreciate this manuscript because it adds to the growing body of research on mulberry genetics and provides actionable data for breeders. However, further exploration of environmental interactions with genetic traits could enhance its impact on real-world applications.</p>	
<p>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</p>	<p>The title of the article, "Gene Action and Variability in Mulberry Seedlings for Seedling Traits", is suitable and aligns with the core subject matter of the research. It clearly reflects the focus on gene action and variability in mulberry seedlings, which is essential for the scientific community to understand the scope of the study.</p> <p>If a more specific title is desired, you might consider: "Analysis of Gene Action and Genetic Variability in Mulberry Seedlings for Enhanced Seedling Traits". This version emphasizes the analytical aspect of gene action and the goal of improving traits.</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 of the article provides a general overview of the research, touching on key aspects such as gene action, variability, and the importance of mulberry seedlings for seedling traits.</p>	
<p>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</p>	<p>The manuscript structure follows a standard format for scientific papers, which is appropriate for presenting original research.</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>The manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound because it follows a clear experimental design, using a well-established line x tester mating design to assess the genetic variability in mulberry for important seedling traits. The statistical analysis, including ANOVA and combining ability analysis, is performed rigorously, ensuring the reliability of the results. The authors provide a detailed interpretation of both general and specific combining abilities, highlighting the significance of non-additive genetic variance, which aligns with previous findings in mulberry breeding studies. The inclusion of comprehensive data and clear methodology strengthens the scientific validity of the research, making it a valuable contribution to mulberry genetics and breeding.</p>	
<p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</p>	<p>The references provided in the manuscript are relevant to the study, but many of them are relatively older, with several from the 1990s and early 2000s. While these are foundational studies, adding more recent references would help to ensure that the manuscript reflects the latest developments in mulberry genetics and breeding.</p>	

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<u>Minor REVISION</u> comments Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?	The language of the article is generally clear and understandable, but it could benefit from some revision to improve readability and ensure it meets the standards for scholarly communication. A few areas where improvements can be made include: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sentence Structure: Some sentences are long and may confuse readers. Breaking them into shorter, clearer sentences will improve flow.2. Grammar and Punctuation: There are minor grammatical errors, such as missing commas and articles, which can be easily corrected. For example, phrases like "variance due to lines significant for" should be rephrased to "the variance due to lines was significant for."3. Technical Terminology: The use of technical terms is appropriate, but ensuring consistency in their use throughout the manuscript will enhance clarity for the reader.	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	This article is scientifically sound and offers useful insights for researchers and breeders working with mulberry. With some improvements in language and more recent references, it has strong potential for publication in a scholarly journal.	

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>	

Reviewer Details:

Name:	Vikas Sharma
Department, University & Country	Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University, India