

**Review Form 3**

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|--------------------------|--|
| Journal Name:            | <b>Microbiology Research Journal International</b>   |
| Manuscript Number:       | <b>Ms_MRJI_122287</b>  |
| Title of the Manuscript: | <b>Biocontrol of Avocado (<i>Persea americana</i> Mill) Spoilage Using <i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i> and <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> BT2</b> |
| Type of the Article      | <b>Research Article</b>  |

**Review Form 3**

**PART 1: Review Comments**

| <b>Compulsory</b> 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> |
|---|---|---|
| <p><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></p>                        | <p>This manuscript offers significant insights into the biocontrol of avocado spoilage, a major issue for fruit conservation in Côte d'Ivoire. The use of <i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i> and <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> BT2 as biological control agents is particularly noteworthy, as it demonstrates a practical approach to managing post-harvest fungal diseases. The study's findings could be valuable for developing sustainable pest management strategies in agriculture, making it a relevant contribution to the scientific community. I appreciate this manuscript for its practical application and potential impact on fruit preservation.</p>               |   |
| <p><b>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</b></p>  | <p><b>Yes, Title is suitable</b></p>  |   |
| <p><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></p>   | <p><b>Yes abstract is comprehensive.</b><br/> <b>Suggestions:</b><br/>           1. The word "sampled lawyers" is unclear try to use another word.<br/>           2. Make a connection in these sentences "The results obtained made it possible to identify six (6) fungal genera on spoiled avocados including <i>Colletotrichum</i>, <i>Botryodiplodia</i>, <i>Absidia</i>, <i>Rhizopus</i>, <i>Alternaria</i> and <i>Aspergillus</i>. The respective isolation frequencies were 42.03%, 22.70%, 15.46%, 8.21%, 5.8% and 5.8%." these lack coherence.<br/>           3. Use alternative term for "protection test" , for example: safety evaluation or safety test</p> |   |
| <p><b>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</b></p>  | <p><b>Yes appropriate</b></p>   |   |
| <p><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></p> | <p>The scientific correctness of this manuscript is underscored by its comprehensive approach to evaluating biocontrol agents for avocado spoilage. The use of <i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i> and <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> BT2 is supported by rigorous experimental methods, including the identification of fungal genera and assessment of antagonistic effects through various tests. The study provides quantitative data on fungal inhibition rates and demonstrates the practical efficacy of these biocontrol agents in preserving avocado fruits.</p>  |   |
| <p><b>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</b></p>   | <p><b>This portion needs more attention as most of the references are very old. Kindly change these references i.e. 1, 4, 7, 9, 15-26, 28-30, 34, 36-38. Add recent references</b></p>  |   |

### Review Form 3

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| Minor REVISION comments   |   |  |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | Yes,  |  |
| Optional/General comments   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In introduction correct this “ha” , or write its full form (<i>Avocado orchards occupy only 300 ha with production estimated at only 4.6% of African</i>)</li><li>• In section 2.2.2., use “fungal isolates” instead of microorganism for more clarity.</li><li>• It is recommended to add recent reference of this “<i>To carry out the microscopic examination, a drop of methylene blue was placed on a clean slide, a small fragment of the isolate was placed on the drop using forceps and covered with a coverslip then observed under an electron microscope with an objective x 40 and and the size of the conidiospores (short or long).</i>”</li><li>• In heading i.e. 2.2.7 Fruit protection test, use alternative word instead of protection, as recommended in abstract.</li><li>• In the same portion, correct this sign “(9 ‰ NaCl”</li><li>• In table 2, give space in all statistical values e.g. 52,50 ± 0.80</li><li>• In table 4 , re-phrase Fruits “Untreated with” instead of fruits not treated with”</li></ul> |  |

### PART 2:

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|--|--|---|
|  | 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:

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|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Name:                            | Shaista Urooj               |
| Department, University & Country | Bahria University, Pakistan |