

### Review Form 3

Journal Name:	<a href="#">International Journal of Plant &amp; Soil Science</a>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJPSS_128226
Title of the Manuscript:	Status of Banded Leaf and Sheath Blight Disease of Maize in West Bengal
Type of the Article	This is a research article analyzing the prevalence, severity, and management of Banded Leaf and Sheath Blight (BLSB) in maize across various districts of West Bengal.

#### 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:

<https://r1.reviewerhub.org/general-editorial-policy/>

#### Important Policies Regarding Peer Review

Peer review Comments Approval Policy: <https://r1.reviewerhub.org/peer-review-comments-approval-policy/> Benefits for Reviewers: <https://r1.reviewerhub.org/benefits-for-reviewers>

#### PART 1: Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback (Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that
<b>Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</b>	This manuscript is significant for the scientific community as it provides valuable insights into the spatial and temporal distribution of Banded Leaf and Sheath Blight (BLSB) in maize, a major cereal crop with global importance. By highlighting the disease's prevalence across different districts and maize varieties in West Bengal, it contributes to understanding the factors influencing disease dynamics, including environmental conditions and varietal susceptibility. The findings emphasize the need for integrated disease management strategies, including the development and adoption of resistant maize varieties. Furthermore, it serves as a reference for future studies on BLSB epidemiology and offers practical implications for enhancing maize productivity in affected regions.	
<b>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</b>	I think little bit correction required. Studies on banded leaf and sheath blight disease of Maize ( <i>Zea mays</i> ) incited by <i>Rhizoctonia solani</i> f. sp. <i>Sasakii</i> in West Bengal .	
<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>	The abstract is well-structured and effectively summarizes the study's objectives, methodology, findings, and implications. Suggestions for addition: Quantitative Findings: Include specific data points, such as the highest and lowest Percent Disease Index (PDI) across districts and years, to provide a clearer snapshot of the results. Management Practices: Briefly mention the types of disease management strategies observed or recommended, as this is a critical aspect of the study. Research Implications: Highlight the potential applications of the findings, such as guiding breeding programs for resistant varieties or designing location-specific interventions. Suggestions for deletion: The phrase "localized disease persistence was observed in regions like Uttar Dinajpur and Paschim Medinipur" could be condensed or removed to save space, as similar details are included elsewhere.	

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<b>Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.</b>	<p>Based on the provided text, the manuscript appears scientifically sound. The study employs standard methods for assessing disease severity (e.g., Percent Disease Index and disease rating scale), which are commonly used in plant pathology research. It also incorporates data from surveys across different districts of West Bengal, accounting for spatial and temporal variations, which aligns with good epidemiological practices.</p> <p>However, some points should be clarified or verified for further accuracy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.Genetic Resistance:</li> <li>2.Disease Management</li> <li>3. Environmental Factors</li> </ol> <p>Overall, the manuscript is scientifically correct, but adding more detail in these areas would enhance its clarity and completeness.</p>	
<b>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</b>	<p>Absolutely yes</p> <p>These are sufficient I think so</p>	
<b>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</b>	<p>The language and English quality of the article are generally suitable for scholarly communication, with clear and formal expression of ideas. However, there are a few areas where the language could be improved for better readability and precision. Some sentences could be restructured for clarity and flow. For example, phrases like “reduction in PDI in some districts” could be rephrased as “reduction in PDI observed in certain districts” for better clarity.</p>	<p>In summary, the article is suitable for scholarly communication but could benefit from some minor language polishing to enhance readability, clarity, and precision.</p>
<b>Optional/General comments</b>		

**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>	

**Reviewer Details:**

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