

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	Asian Research Journal of Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	Ms_ARJA_128675
Title of the Manuscript:	Zinc availability in calcareous soil as influenced by various levels, sources of Zn and Zn solubilizing bacteria
Type of the Article	Research article

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PART 1: 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>
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.	This manuscript has stated the nutrient availability problem in calcareous soil. Among all the important micronutrients, zinc plays a vital role in different cellular mechanisms and its deficiency has negative effects on photosynthesis and chlorophyll content on plants. So, to mitigate this problem, authors have experimented with different zinc sources as well as with microbial solubilization approach like using zinc solubilizer and find out positive result after 90 days.	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	Yes	
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.	Yes	
Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authors should state the importance or relevance of maize crop with the experiments they have conducted 2. Authors have used <i>Enterobacter cloacae</i> as a zinc solubilizer, which is generally known as a pathogenic- bacteria and generally this bacterium is ill famed for its opportunistic behaviour towards plant, human and animal. There are some quarries regarding this: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why authors have chosen this bacterium? • Does authors have tested its pathogenicity? • What is the source of this bacterium? Was it isolated from soil or from other sources? • Please mention the strain name and its accession number • Also mention its solubilization efficacy or solubilization index 3. Authors should write "cfu" as CFU 4. Authors have written biological properties in materials and methods section but its result and discussion part is missing 5. As authors have labelled 5.4g/kg of organic carbon as medium, so please mention the range and for which agricultural crop this range is considered as medium 6. "The soil was deficient in DTPA-Zn (0.59 mg kg⁻¹), DTPA-Fe (2.11 mg kg⁻¹), DTPA-Cu (0.79 mg kg⁻¹) and sufficient in DTPA-Mn (6.33 mg kg⁻¹)" please mention the critical values for these metals. 	
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.	No suggestions	
Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?	Authors should correct all the grammatical mistakes	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	Please correct all the grammatical mistakes	

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	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>
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

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