

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	International Journal of Plant & Soil Science
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJPSS_129157
Title of the Manuscript:	EFFECT OF RICE HUSK MULCHING ON GROWTH AND YIELD OF CHICKPEA (<i>Cicer arietinum</i> L.)
Type of the Article	Short Research Article

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 addresses a critical research gap by exploring the effects of rice husk mulching on chickpea growth and yield, helps in sustainable agronomic practices. It contributes to resource-efficient strategies that enhance productivity, conserve soil moisture, and improve soil health. The findings hold practical significance for farmers, promoting sustainable agriculture.	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	Yes. The title is clear and conveys the focus of the study effectively.	
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.	Yes	
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.	No. the references are not sufficient and recent. Include recent and relevant studies to strengthen the scientific basis. Focus on the latest research in mulching, chickpea agronomy, and sustainable practices published in peer-reviewed journals.	

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<p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>Yes. But revise the manuscript thoroughly to address grammatical errors and improve the readability of the manuscript. Tools like Grammarly or professional proofreading services can help.</p>	
<p>Optional/General comments</p>	<p>Abstract: Revise the sentence to clarify the impact of treatment T12 on germination rate. For example: "The chickpea crop's germination rate was significantly negatively / positively impacted by treatment T12." Line 4 (Keywords): Remove the full stop within the brackets. Corrected: <i>Keywords (chickpea, germination, treatment, mulch)</i> Lines 17, 22, 23: Italicize the scientific names. For example, <i>Cicer arietinum</i>. Line 24: Connect the previous paragraph on the crop and the succeeding paragraph on mulch. Example: "In addition to the impact of the crop's growth conditions, the application of mulch plays a critical role in optimizing germination by..." Line 36: Ensure "Materials and Methods" is kept as the section heading. Line 39: Correct the name to "Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Institute of Agricultural Science." Line 47 (and throughout the manuscript): Correct the grammatical errors throughout the manuscript. For example, "The data was analyzed" should be corrected to "The data were analyzed." Lines 62, 75, 92, 105, 119: Do not include a full stop after the heading. Line 83 (and throughout the manuscript): Ensure that there is a comma before "respectively" wherever it is used. For example: "The treatments applied were T1, T2, and T3, respectively." Line 108: Ensure a space is added between the yield value and the unit. Corrected: "17.10 q/ha" Line 114: Replace "is" with "were." Corrected: "The results were consistent across all treatments." Table 1: Explain the large differences between treatments to avoid skepticism. You can add a note like: "The unusually large differences observed between treatments, such as Treatment 1 and Treatment 12, may be attributed to [specific reasons, e.g., different soil types, application methods, etc.]. Statistical analysis suggests that these differences are valid and provide important insights into the variable effects of the treatments."</p>	

PART 2:

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

Reviewer Details:

<p>Name:</p>	<p>Madhavan Gnanasekaran</p>
<p>Department, University & Country</p>	<p>Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, India</p>