

## Review Form 1.6

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| Journal Name:            | <a href="#">International Journal of Plant &amp; Soil Science</a>                          |
| Manuscript Number:       | Ms_IJPSS_84556   |
| Title of the Manuscript: | Impact of Gas Flaring on Physico-Chemical Properties of Soil under Tea Plantation in Assam |
| Type of the Article      | Original Research Article  |

### **General guideline for 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 guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

(<https://www.journalijpss.com/index.php/IJPSS/editorial-policy> )

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**PART 1: Review Comments**

|                                     | <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>Compulsory</b> REVISION comments | <p><b>Abstract</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In line 2 of the abstract the authors write: A study entitled "Impact of gas flaring on physico-chemical properties of soil under tea plantation in Assam" is incomplete. You could make it more complete by rephrasing it to read --- A study was undertaken to establish gas flaring effects on physico-chemical properties of soil under tea plantation. There is a difference between impact and effect. The effects are first tier outputs which impacts are second tier outputs sometimes called outcomes. So, the changes in soil properties caused by gas flaring are first tier outputs. Replace impacts with effects.</li> <li>The authors are assuming that all readers will know where Assam is. A reviewer like me from southern Africa does not know the country in which Assam and the district is found. A reader in New York may locate Assam in Chile or South Africa.</li> </ol> <p><b>Introduction</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The line reading: A gas flare found at oil and gas wells, rigs, refineries, chemical plants, gas plants, and landfills are petrochemical eliminate gas.....is not clear and confusing. What are the authors implying? It lacks clarity. Rephrase the line.</li> <li>The line: Contamination due to natural gas production operations is severely affecting the tea industry of Assam by causing reduction in production and quality of tea due to its close proximity to oil fields..... does not have a source. In addition, this line sounds like a conclusion of the current study. This can be arrived at if you the reader has gone through the article.</li> <li>Rephrase the line: Therefore, through this research work an attempt has been made to study the impact of gas flaring released nearby oil fields on soil health under tea plantations adjacent to oil field.....to read: Therefore, through this research work an attempt has been made to study the impact of gas flaring released <b>from the</b> nearby oil fields on soil health under tea plantations adjacent to oil field. What do you mean by soil health? Can you be more specific.</li> </ol> <p><b>Materials and methods</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This subsection should read: Materials and methods.</li> <li>The description of the study site is inadequate as it does not show <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the coordinates of the location,</li> <li>the location map with coordinates,</li> <li>the classification of the soil,</li> <li>the description of the climatic conditions as they relate to the natural soil properties and their influence on the measured variables,</li> </ul> </li> <li>In the formula for bulk density, please insert spaces before and after the brackets. Also the gap between m and -3 in the brackets can be removed to make it more readable.</li> <li>In the text for porosity, please remove the full stop between the (1997) . [3] ... and place it after the square brackets. Would I be wrong if call you careless authors?</li> <li>Indicate the manufacturer and model of soil thermometer as you did for the soil pH meter. However, for the manufacturer of the soil pH meter insert brackets and indicate model. Read other articles and see this is done.</li> </ol> <p><b>Results and discussion</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The results indicate either significant or insignificant differences for some measured variables. The result texts do not show in brackets (<math>p &lt; 0.05</math>) for significant difference and (<math>p \geq 0.05</math>) for insignificant difference. I am recommending that these be shown as a standard procedure in research. The difference may be there but it has to be</li> </ol> |  |

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|                                  | <p>significant in order to attract attention from the academia. Yes you might say these are shown in the tables, but standard practice is that they have to be indicated in text.</p> <p>2. It would have been a more complete study if correlation diagrams were displayed in order to establish the influence of selected independent variables on measured dependent variables. In fact, the results are there to show these correlations diagrams with r squared values or coefficients of determination. Good luck colleagues.</p> |  |
| <b>Minor</b> REVISION comments   | The article requires some major revisions and may be considered for publication after revising it   |  |
| <b>Optional/General</b> comments | The article tackles a very current topic  |  |

### **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) |
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| <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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|----------------------------------|--|
| Name:                            | <b>Johnson Masaka</b>                      |
| Department, University & Country | <b>Midlands State University, Zimbabwe</b> |