

Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of Plant & Soil Science
Manuscript Number:	
Title of the Manuscript:	Germplasm Characterization for morphological traits in the potential futuristic crop Amaranthus (Amaranthus spp.)
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

	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)
<u>Compulsory REVISION</u> comments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Replace "maize inbred lines" with amaranth at the end of the introduction section. 2. Re-state the objectives of the study to read; "...the objectives of the study were to characterize and quantify phenotypic diversity of founder amaranth lines using morphological traits. 3. "...anthocyanin colouration of petiole was absent in 52.94% of the accessions". I would rather you report the proportion in which it was present 4. Please be more precise. For grain/leaf amaranth, which traits were most diverse and which which ones were least diverse? Were these traits stable across the two cultivation periods for all the accessions? Mention those key traits that you recommend for adoption by breeding programs for germplasm characterization. For example, what is the take home home message about anthocyanin pigmentation and leaf blade color? – Rewrite this section to give a precise and practical take-home message to your readers. 	
<u>Minor REVISION</u> comments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DUS is a testing criterion for candidate varieties, the requirement for distinctiveness is usually satisfied by contrasting morphological traits of candidates against existing varieties, the requirement for uniformity and stability is met by cultivating accessions in multiple locations, some times for 2 or more seasons/cultivation periods. So, the traits used to meet the distinctiveness requirement are not DUS traits, but rather morphological traits. Please revise all your text in view of this. 2. Write the equation for evenness using the equation writer, not manually as currently presented 	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Put some original pictures to depict morphological variability for some key (2 or 3) morphological traits like leaf blade color. This is an acceptable result since you are presenting descriptors. 2. Replace traits with diversity in the title 3. There is no need for presenting both tables and figures if they convey the same information. Should you choose to use figures for some sections, I would rather you used bar charts instead of pie charts 	

PART 2:

	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><u>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</u></i>	

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