



**SDI Review Form 1.6**

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| Journal Name:            | <a href="#">Asian Journal of Advances in Agricultural Research</a>                                                                                                   |
| Manuscript Number:       | Ms_AJAAR_37329                                                                                                                                                       |
| Title of the Manuscript: | An Investigation on the Initial Source of Inoculum of Cercospora Leaf Spot Pathogens of Groundnut (Arachis hypogaea L.) in Nigerian Southern Guinea Savannah Ecology |
| Type of the Article      | Original Research Article                                                                                                                                            |

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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:

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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)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| <b>Compulsory</b> REVISION comments | <p><b>COMMENTS</b></p> <p><b>ABSTRACT</b></p> <p>L8: add between 2012 and 2013 the sign / and it becomes 2012/2013</p> <p>L36: remove key words <b>inoculums</b> and <b>pathogens</b> because they already exist in the title</p> <p><b>INTRODUCTION</b></p> <p>Nothing to report</p> <p><b>MATERIAL AND METHODS</b></p> <p>L73: (Agrios, 2012, Stapleton et al., 1986) should read in this order: (<b>Stapleton et al., 1986, Agrios, 2012</b>)</p> <p>Note: Material taken for sterilization (especially soil) should be tested before sterilization to show the presence of the pathogen (presence of fungal spores). Repeat the same test after sterilization to show the absence of the pathogen (absence of fungal spores).</p> <p>It was also necessary to take samples on the spots appeared on the leaves to prove that the disease is due to <i>Cercospora</i> by the presence of its spores.</p> <p>L111: the incidence the early spot: put <b>of</b> between incidence and the early spot.</p> <p>L120: 12 &gt; 70%/ put : between 12 and &gt;</p> <p><b>RESULTS</b></p> <p>Nothing to report</p> <p><b>DISCUSSION</b></p> <p>L272: significantly importance: write significantly <b>important</b></p> <p>L294: unsterized shells (T1): write <b>unsterized</b> shells (T1)</p> <p>L296: (<i>Phaeosariopsis personata</i>: close the parenthesis).</p> <p><b>CONCLUSION</b></p> <p>Nothing to report</p> <p><b>REFERENCES</b></p> <p>Hagan et al. 2006 is cited in the test but it is missing in the references</p> <p>Manyong et al. <b>2005</b> (in the text), <b>2015</b> (in references): check the correct date.</p> | <p>Dear Editor in Chief,</p> <p>The reviewer's comments is accepted and the corrections have been effected as follows: ABSTRACT, L8 and L36; MATERIAL AND METHODES, L73, L III: and L20; DISCUSSION L272, L294 and L296: and REFERENCES, Hagan <i>et al.</i> 2006 and Manyong <i>et al.</i>2005 have been effected and highlighted in the manuscript.</p> <p><b>Response</b></p> <p>on "Note" of MATERIALS AND METHODS</p> <p>The soil samples and debris were collected from the field cultivated to groundnut and cereal crops for several years.</p> <p>The five treatments (incorporated) were designed to determine which can support the incidence and severity of <i>Cercospora</i> leaf spots.</p> <p>Therefore, strictly and specifically testing of the soil for the presence of fungal spores before or after sterilization was not within the scope of this study. Testing the presence or absence of the fungal spores only in the soil sample will also bring biasness among the treatments and consequently defeat the aim of the study. Lastly, the macroscopic morphological differentiation of two leaf spots was observed before reporting this results, hence the study was not strictly on pathogenesis of <i>Cercospora</i> leaf spot per se.</p> |
| <b>Minor</b> REVISION comments      | See above in the comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Optional/General</b> comments    | See above in the comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |