

Editor's Comment:

In my earlier review I had raised the following queries:

1. There are certain verbatim repeats (marked in blue font colour) which should be modified.
2. The manuscript can be further improved by subjecting the data to two-way ANOVA assessing the influence of the fungal species, time and their interaction on degradation of crude oil.
3. The title should be adequately modified as suggested in the annotated manuscript.
4. Do not include the words in the title in key words.
5. Provide the experimental design, number of replicates and other details marked on the annotated manuscript in the methods.
6. Appropriate statistical analysis used should be mentioned in the method.
7. Don't abbreviate fungal names in tables and figures.
8. Provide chromatogram images with a higher resolution. Mark only the relevant peaks as there are a lot of overlapping numbers making reading difficult.

In the revision submitted although queries number 3 and 4 had been attended, the other points are unattended. In original scientific verbatim repeats of previously published materials should be avoided. Therefore, it is highly essential to modify the sentences that have been repeated from the conference proceedings to make the manuscript acceptable.

Though the authors claim that the results presented were from two-way ANOVA, I could hardly find any interactive effects (treatments x duration) presented.

The experimental design (randomized block design, completely randomized block design, etc.) and the number of replicates per treatment should be mentioned. I find these missing in the revised manuscript.

Tables and figures should be self-explanatory. Therefore, abbreviations should be avoided in the tables and figures. But I see still abbreviations for fungal generic names in tables and figure titles.

The chromatogram images are still of low resolution and loaded with numerical figures making reading difficult.

The authors should consider these facts seriously and make adequate changes in the manuscript to make it acceptable.

Editor's Details:

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