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Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJEA_23178
Title of the Manuscript:	EFFECT OF COWDUNG, NPK AND RHIZOBIUM INOCULA ON NODULES NUMBER, YIELD CONTRIBUTING ATTRIBUTES AND YIELD OF SUMMER MUNGBEAN (<i>Vigna radiata</i>) IN ACID SOIL
Type of the Article	Original research Articles

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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.

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(<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)



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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)
Compulsory REVISION comments	The main problem about this manuscript is that, it has been conducted in a short period (26 April to 31 July in 2014, only one year) and it has not be repeated in a time or space. This limit considerably the scope of conclusions and recommendations that can be drawn. Introduction : correct Methodology: Some parts of the methodology need to be clarified. 1. Authors had used cowdung at the rate of 8 tons/ha. There is no information on dung moisture content and its nutrient contents (%N, %P and %K). I would suggest to authors to add those data. I think that N, P and K contents given (14, 14 and 17.5 kg/ha) were for mineral fertilizers (NPK). 2. For result valuation, the control soil composition (Sand, clay, silt, exchangeable Ca, P, K, CEC, ... etc. could be add in methodology. 3. Authors say that plot has 3 m × 2 m and plants were sown at 25 cm × 10 cm. In such plant evaluation, the border plants would not be concerned by measurements. So, I think that the number of plants concerned by the measurements is $[(300/25)-1] \times [(200/10)-1] = 209$ plants. The number of plants used for nodulation measurement per plot is $3 \times 5 = 15$ plants. So, the rest number of plants used for the last (90 DAS) seed measurement is $209-15 = 194$ plants. So, authors should clarify this part of methodology. 4. I am not a statistician but, I think that authors can make statistical analysis of the last column of Table	Mungbean is a short duration crop and it is cultivated only during Kharif-1 (March-July) season in Bangladesh. This research work was the part of my MS work. The duration of MS is only 18 months. For this time limit I did the research for one year and the repetition was not done. 1. The nutrient content of cowdung was N (1.01 %), P (0.32 %), K (0.26 %), S (0.21 %) and organic carbon was 11.1%. Moisture content of cowdung was not measured. I put these data in corrected article. 2. Soil texture was measured by finger feel method. So the percentage of Sand, Silt and Clay was not available. Other nutrient composition of control soil added at corrected manuscript. 3. The unit plot size was 3m × 2m with 10 cm surroundings. I did not mention the surroundings area. 4. Last column of Table 3 contain total number of pods plant⁻¹ during harvest. It contains only seven data. I used DMRT method for statistical analysis. Only seven data is not enough for analysis using DMRT. 5. I distinguished efficient and inefficient nodules by observation of colour with naked eye or using compound



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	3 (total number per plant during harvest). 5. Authors would indicate in the methodology how they distinguish efficient and inefficient nodules Results and discussion 1. I don't understand the data of number of nodules per plant in table 1. For me, there could not be a decrease in nodule number from one observation day to the following. For example, at 60 DAS, treatment $\frac{1}{2}$(NPK)+RI gave 17.64 nodules/plant and at 90 DAS it gave 2.74 nodules/plant. Are there some disappearance of nodules from 60 DAS to 90 DAS ? how can we explain this?	microscope. I put it into corrected article. Results and discussion: 1. The highest number of nodules was found at 45 DAS and 60 DAS. After 60 DAS the nodules number were gradually decreased due to nodule deformation for bacterial inactivity. The result was agreed with Bhuiyan <i>et al.</i> (2007)
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Please, reviewer's file comments Somme correlations could be made for example between number of nodules and number of pods	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	Nothing	