

Editorial comments:

Please find attached herewith my editorial decision and the annotated manuscript on the manuscript you had sent me. The manuscript requires **further revision**.

Most of the comments raised by the reviewers were taken care off in the revision submitted. Nevertheless, as you could see from the annotated manuscript, there are certain important points that have been missed in the first round of review as mentioned below.

1. The statistical analysis (one-way ANOVA) used do not suit the experimental design. For example, the results of the lab experiments were measured at different time points during the experimental period. Moreover, the field experiment consisting of several treatments was performed during two seasons. Therefore, a two-way ANOVA involving treatments and time/seasons would be more meaningful than the one-way ANOVA used.
2. Post Hoc analysis should be presented for data where the ANOVA was significant. This point has also been raised by one of the reviewers. Nevertheless, this has not been addressed in the revision submitted.
3. There are a lot of redundancy in the results and discussion section. These should be removed and this section should be abridged considerably.
4. It is quite surprising that only *Trichoderma* was isolated from the field soil. Further, you should also provide the authentication of the microorganisms. For example, most, if not all the microorganisms were identified only at the genus level. The genus may consist of several species and it is always important to assess the species composition.
5. There are lots of other comments to be listed; and I had marked them directly on the annotated manuscript.

The revision of the manuscript on the suggested lines is necessary.

Authors' feedback:

1. The analysis using two-way ANOVA has been carried out considering the treatments and time/seasons.
2. Post Hoc analysis were presented in all the Table where the ANOVA was significant.
3. The names of other fungi isolated from the soil were mentioned.
4. The names of the seasons should be maintained as major and minor seasons and NOT rainy season and off-season. Ghana has binomial rainfall pattern and is explained in the methodology.
5. The question raised as to why the sweet orange and cassava peels were not applied together at the time; the first part of the peels (25g) was applied to lower the nematode population before planting and by the time the population start to rise again, the second part of the peels (25g) applied would have reduced the population again.