



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJEA_24806
Title of the Manuscript:	COMBINING ABILITY OF COCOA (<i>Theobroma cacao</i> L) CLONES AND VARIABILITY FOR MORPHOLOGICAL TRAITS AMONG HYBRIDS
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:

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



SDI Review Form 1.6

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</u> REVISION comments	13. The author has not clearly stated why breeding success is slow for Theobroma cacao. 22. It appears there is a disconnection between Cockerham review and the Line X Tester analysis method. 23. 'However' seems like misused, it is hanging. 23. If it the most relevant tool, You can support this statement by citing different authors that have used it and probably the reasons they cite for using it, over other methods. It would also be good to tell us other methods used in studying plant traits and then give reasons why your study preferred the method used. 33. If hybrid pod generation is a contextual annual objective in cocoa breeding; it can only mean that many researchers have are paying attention to it. However, you don't show the gaps in previous studies which motivate your study, or if this particular specie has not been studied, it is not clear. Please be clear on what motivates your study.	13. Convectional breeding success is slow in tree crops (e.g. <i>Theobroma cacao</i>) because of the long gestation period. 22 Cockerham did a review of mating design methods and Line x tester analysis is one of the methods. 23. We have made corrections and have supported the statement with authors. 33. The fact that variability exist among cocoa genotypes and Hybrid pod generation is a contextual annual objective in cocoa breeding However, the present study wishes to have a good understanding of the breeding values of the selected parent, a work which has not been attempted.
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Sentence corrections so that the text is clear	Thanks for the comments and corrections; they are appreciated.
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	His/her work is interesting but need to address the highlighted issues	