



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJEA_25186
Title of the Manuscript:	Assessment of Genetic Diversity in Pepper (Capsicum sp.) Accessions Using Agro-morphological Characters
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:

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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)
<u>Compulsory</u> REVISION comments	In the part of Introduction, I think the description about the importance of pepper production in Ghana is not enough, on the contrary, the introduction for the necessity of germplasm characterization is long-winded. In the part of Reference, line 403, the journal title was abbreviated, however, the full titles were presented in other references.	The importance of pepper in Ghana cannot be overemphasized but this article plays more emphasis on the importance of germplasm characterization and utilization in breeding programs in Ghana. The journal title has been written in full; Journal of Applied Science and Environmental Management
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments		
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	Fifty accessions, including 48 landraces and 2 improved genotypes were characterized. I think it is more reasonable to change the article title to "Assessment of Genetic Diversity in Pepper (<i>Capsicum</i> sp.) landraces from Ghana Using Agro-morphological Characters" A landrace is a regional and locally adapted ecotype of animal or plant that has developed over time, so the inconsistency of the geographic distribution of pepper landraces with the results of <i>Principal coordinate analysis</i> (Fig.2) and clustering (Table 8) should be discussed.	Your comment is well noted and the correction has been made. Now the title is "Assessment of Genetic Diversity in Pepper (<i>Capsicum</i> sp.) landraces from Ghana Using Agro-morphological Characters" Pepper distribution was discussed under Fig.2 and Table 8 (cluster analysis). The analysis revealed that distribution did not follow geographical origin of the landraces but based on the morphological characters measured. Fig.2 was analysed using 24 qualitative traits while Table 8 was analysed using 35 morphological characters (24 qualitative and 11 quantitative characters) which brought about the inconsistency in clustering of the landraces.