



SDI FINAL EVALUATION FORM 1.1

PART 1:

Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	2014_AJEA_15139
Title of the Manuscript:	Variability of fruit and seed characters and oil content of 35 accessions of <i>Jatropha curcas</i> L. grown in a semi-aride site in Senegal
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

PART 2:

FINAL EVALUATOR'S comments on revised paper (if any)	Authors' response to final evaluator's comments
In general, the paper quality improved quite enough. If it is possible, I suggest reducing the conclusion. The lines 263-264 could be misunderstood by the readers, because all traits are heritable ($V_g = V_a + V_d + V_i$). However, it will depend on the amount of additive variance. I suggest the following conclusion: This study has shown that there is a high genetic and phenotypic variability of seeds and fruits traits as well as oil content in <i>J. curcas</i> in Senegal, indicating the possibility of selection of genetically superior plants. As a result, oil content, K/S ratio, 100-seed weight and fruit weight are the most interesting characters for breeding programs. Based on the hierarchical analysis, the <i>J. curcas</i> variability evaluated is enough to perform a local breeding program and support domestic production of biofuel. In addition, in this study, we used 100-seed-weight to develop a simple linear regression, which allows a simple, rapid and inexpensive estimation of the oil production potential of <i>J. curcas</i> plantations.	

Reviewer Details:

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