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Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Environment & Ecology
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJEE_33341
Title of the Manuscript:	IMPACT OF ABATTOIR EFFLUENT ON SOIL PROPERTIES, HEAVY METAL LEVELS AND MICROBIAL COMPOSITION OF SURROUNDING SOILS IN CALABAR MUNICIPALITY
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment <i>(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)</i>
<u>Compulsory</u> REVISION comments	Material and methods section: Cite a reference source in the last paragraph of description of the study area. Field of studies section: Cite the reference source of the methods of soil sample collection. Use "polythene bags" instead "poly bags" Heavy metal analyses section: Cite a reference source for the protocol of sample preparation for heavy metal analyse Microbial analyses section: Use "litre" not "litter" Enumeration of total heterotrophic Bacteria and Fungi section: Use "Colony count was carried out after incubating..." instead of "Colony counts were taken after incubating" Results and discussion section: Percentages should be expressed in one decimal place e.g. 87.4 – 87.8 %, 86.9 – 87.8 % and 81.7 – 86.8 %. Effect the same corrections in Table 1. Table 1: Give the keys in form of table footnotes to explain the acronyms used in the table e.g. LS In presentation of results, the permissible value of Iron (Fe) should be corrected "...7,000 to 55,000 mg/kg..." Table 2: How did the authors determine the percentage	



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	of the heterotrophic mesophilic microbial counts? Environmental Protection Agency's standard of permissible microbial count should be used as standard of microbial loads in cfu/g. Recast table 2!	
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	In abstract, line 5: Use "acidic" not "acid". Also, in line 17: Use "pollution" not "pollutant" Reference No. 5 is incomplete Conclusion section: Correct the spellings of "Penicillium"	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	The study design was influenced by previous research conducted by: Otobong B. Iren and Ediene VF. Effect of Spent Engine Oil Discharge on Soil Properties in Selected Automobile Workshop in Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria. International Journal of Innovative Science, Engineering & Technology, 2017; 4(2): 391-401. Authors should recast Table 2. The authors should provide with Environmental Protection Agency's standard for heterotrophic microbial loads of soils.	

Reviewer Details:

Name:	<i>Mustapha Umar</i>
Department, University & Country	<i>Department of Science Laboratory Technology, Nigerian Institute of Leather and Science Technology, Nigeria</i>

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