**SDI Review Form 1.6**

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| Journal Name: | **American Journal of Experimental Agriculture** |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms_AJEA_29310** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **Factors Affecting Rice Production in Awka North Local Government, Anambra State, Nigeria** |
| Type of the 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)

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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)* |
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| **Compulsory** REVISION comments | **1. This paper includes some interesting information on rice cultivation and rice farmers in the study area, but it is far below the standard that a research paper must satisfy.**<br>**2. There are many defects for the paper to be at the standard. The most serious is that the vaguely specified objectives meet conclusions that are self-evident, mostly unrelated to the analysis.**<br>**3. Of the three objectives, the first one, "assess rice production dynamics of the rice farmers", is not attained, simply because what is explained by using a' static' data on farmers' rice production obtained from one time interview survey includes no 'dynamics' element.**<br>**4. The second objective, "identify agronomic practices used by them", is attained to some extent.**<br>**5. The third objective, "ascertain their constraints to rice production", which is the main objective judging from the paper title, is not attained partly because author's understanding of 'constraint' is vague and unsystematic without sufficient logics/theories and partly because the statistical method adopted, factor analysis, is inadequate to the issue.**<br>**6. It is apparent that rice farmers face many constraints, environmental, physical, biological, technical, technological, economic, social, etc. Some of them cannot be changed/altered, such as climatic conditions, some can be mitigated but their mitigation requires government or international attentions, such as large scale irrigation systems, some requires community level efforts, such as local resource management, some requires the development of markets, local as well as national, input as well as** | Corrections have been made.<br><br>Refer to the methodology--- You will see that the constraints were scaled or rated first according to the extent the farmers perceived them as constraint. The data generated from this rating were then subjected to factor analydsis in order to have holistic view of what their constraints are which is necessary for policy making. |

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| | **output markets, and some can be remedied by farmers themselves. It is also the case that not only rice farmers in Nigeria but also other farmers, such as the most productive farmers in developed countries, face these constraints. Depending on the nature and degree of seriousness of constraints that farmers in a certain area face, which constraints need attention and their remedial measures differ sharply. Sweeping generalization of 'constraints' is meaningless and useless. What is important is to identify which constraints are serious and to measure how serious they are.**<br>**7. There are many ways / methods to identify and measure the degree of constraints that farmers face. But, the factor analysis is not the one. This method is used to identify some unobservable, unmeasurable factors underling some measurable variables. Since high factor loadings of some 'constraints' of this paper are nothing to do with the degree and seriousness of them, the factor analysis is not an appropriate method to address the issue. Most of constraints are measurable in some ways. A possible method is regression analysis in the theoretical framework of production function.**<br>**8. Information on the incidence of diseases in farm families is of interest; how the incidence affects farm production through weakening family labor force, in particular. But it would be better to deal with it in a separate paper.** | Regression analysis as suggested is not suitable. What and what are you regressing (that is the dependent and independent variables)?<br><br>Will regression show the major and minor constraints? No |
| **Minor** REVISION comments | | |
| **Optional/General** comments | | |