



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Journal of Experimental Agriculture International
Manuscript Number:	Ms_JEAI_31780
Title of the Manuscript:	Determination of effect of stratification temperature and Duration on germination of Spruce (Picea smithiana Wall. Boiss) under laboratory conditions
Type of the Article	Original Research Paper

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)
Compulsory REVISION comments	The title to be re-written for clarity on – Duration of? Abstract: Line 8- scientific name to be italicized and name of authority included since it is the first mention. Line 11-to include and stratification duration on germinability of <i>Picea smithiana</i> Line 12- seed was collected from-missing word Line 25-conclusion to be revised to relate to research findings and provide some solution to the existing problem on germination ability of spruce For example, the study revealed that cold stratification of the seeds of spruce for 75 days at $0\pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$ effectively overcame the seed dormancy and increased its seed germination. This technique of breaking seed dormancy could therefore be adopted by forest managers to enhance germination of spruce seeds. Introduction The section has a lot of information which is mixed up. The author needs to restructure the section. The first paragraph has general information on the conifers. The section describing spruce need to be shifted to third paragraph Methodology The section need some major revision to allow replicability of the research. Seed sources	Corrected as prescribed



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	The author to clearly describe how seeds were collected could refer to Koech et al., 2014 of seed test How many trees? How far from each other? Conditions of the tree from which the seeds were collected etc. Seed characterization and seed test What type of seed where used? Were they of the same size? Prior to any germination test; seed purity, seed viability and other factor should be considered. The author has not mentioned anything about seed testing before germination test. The test would be necessary to rule out the effect of extraneous variable on the results. Stratification temperatures and stratification duration is well presented. A section on germination parameters should be presented A mention of the parameters taken was briefly described but there is need to some details on what each parameter measured? Which protocol was used in determining germination percentage, capacity, energy, value and speed? Please provide formula for calculation\protocol used to measure the different parameters. A section on data collection and data analysis is missing What data was collected How was it analysed Which software was used in analysis What particular test and assumption tested? Results and discussion Without a proper description on the data analyses methods adopted, the results become quite difficult to interpret. The conclusion needs to be revised to link the	
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	research to existing gap and how the findings will help in providing solutions to the problem.	
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	The introduction and conclusion requires minor revision The methodology and the result, and discussion should be elaborate to enhance readability of the paper	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	The paper present useful results and could be considered after the revision of the issues highlighted.	