



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Journal of Experimental Agriculture International
Manuscript Number:	Ms_JEAI_32547
Title of the Manuscript:	RALSTONIA SOLANACERUM SPECIES DIVERSITY IN SOLANACEOUS CROPS PRODUCTION REGIONS OF CENTRAL KENYA
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)
Compulsory REVISION comments	Title should be change as DIVERSITY of Ralstonia solanacerum SPECIES STRAINS IN SOLANACEOUS CROPS PRODUCTION REGIONS OF CENTRAL KENYA (replace term species with strains) There is controversial statement in the conclusion section in the Abstract. The pathogenic factor that mention in the sentence is not clear. Actually Conclusion is not reflect objective of the study. There is no clear cut objective/s indicate in the main text. Author should clearly indicate the area that collect samples are regions or counties. I feel term use as countries is not appropriate. There is no clear cut methodology to explain how they confirm Pathogenicity. Some discussion parts are not relevant to the particular findings of the study (ex: page 4 ,1st paragraph)	Agree with the correction. The title was changed to: DIVERSITY of Ralstonia solanacerum STRAINS IN SOLANACEOUS CROPS PRODUCTION REGIONS OF CENTRAL KENYA. Agree and changed to: This survey findings indicated that <i>R. solanacerum</i>, biovars present in Kenyan Highlands and Lowlands included biovars 1, 2 and 3. These biovars are highly pathogenic on solanaceae crops throughout the world. The findings of the present study will be useful for designing the study of the population structures of <i>R. solanacearum</i> using the molecular approaches with special emphasis on its integrated management. Agree with the correction: The objective of the study was to establish the diversity of <i>Ralstonia solanacerum</i> strains in solanaceous crops production regions of central Kenya The term used is counties not countries.



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	Dendogram is not clear. Please include high quality diagram	The former central province of Kenya has been divided into counties in our new constitution The diseased solanaceae crops were subjected to bacterial wilt simple bacterial streaming test and later cultured in the laboratory where they were confirmed as pathogenic <i>Ralstonia</i> spp by development of virulent colonies (fluidal, irregularly-shaped, white colonies with pink centers) 36 hours incubation on TZC media. NB: This is still an ongoing research in Kenya at KARLO.- NARL To determine pathogenicity and aggressiveness on the field of collected isolates, pathogenicity test will be performed for all strains according the method described by Klement <i>et al.</i> (1990). Tomato, potato and capsicum plants will be used for this experiment in the greenhouse at Kenyatta university and field plots at KARLO- NARL.
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	with clear labelling	I have drawn a different dendrogram based on distance matrix using MEGA 7. The dendrogram is well labelled. Figure 6: Distance dendrogram drawn based on Neighbor joining method and Jaccard similarity index showing the diversity of the isolates based on sugar utilization.
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Minor REVISION comments	All scientific names should italic.	Agree with the correction: The corrections have been done. Example: Kiambu and Kirinyaga regions are the most important potato and tomato producing regions in Kenya. Poor seed production systems common to these regions may contribute to the high diversity of <i>R. solanacerum</i> biovars observed. Numbering in the text and reference changed due to rearrangement and addition of more reference in the document <i>Additional information:</i> <i>R. solanacearum</i> is a species complex that has been classified into five races based on host range [9] and into five biovars based on biochemical properties [10]. There are variations in <i>R. solanacerum</i> strains in term of host relationships, phenotypic properties and phylogeny, this accompanied by rapid adaptation and mutations are key in their pathogenicity, influencing disease development and virulence factors of the strains [11]. NB: Graphs were changed by using patterns on the bars rather than shading using different colors because they will all look the same if you use black and white in printing or photocopying. Figure 1, 2, 3,4
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<u>Optional/General</u> comments	The study is regionally important. There are some grammatical and typesetting errors	Tomatoes, capsicum and potatoes are among the most important vegetables in Kenya Methodology correction Collection of diseased samples The diseased solanaceae crops were subjected to bacterial wilt simple bacterial streaming test and later cultured in the laboratory where they were confirmed as pathogenic <i>Ralstonia</i> spp
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