



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Journal of Experimental Agriculture International
Manuscript Number:	Ms_JEAI_31321
Title of the Manuscript:	ANALYSIS OF FARM PRODUCTIVITY IN INTEGRATED TREE CROPPING SYSTEM IN SOUTHWESTERN NIGERIA.
Type of the Article	Original Research 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.

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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	Abstract <u>Line 7:</u> Instead of "... tropic humid..." to consider "... humid tropic of..." <u>Line 9:</u> "Cocoa and other tree crops production have declined substantially in recent times ..." <i>To be more informative about since when tree crops production started declining.</i> <u>Lines 9-11:</u> "Cocoa and other tree crops production have declined substantially in recent times owing to several agricultural complex constraints which have affected the morals of the farmers. Productivity is the main determinant of sustainable agricultural production" <i>We propose</i> "Cocoa and other tree crops production have declined substantially in recent times owing to several agricultural complex constraints which have affected the morals of the farmers and the sustainability of agricultural production as well." <u>Lines 15-20:</u> In which order localities ae presented? It is better to present in increasing or decreasing values of the parameter considered. There should be a space between the figure and the open parenthesis as well as between "±" and the figure; e.g. "55.12 (± 15.56) in Akindele" <u>Line 17:</u> To revise the statement "Farmers' experience in (years of farming?) ~~were~~ was 29.54(±15.79) in Akindele ..." <u>Lines 17 & 20:</u> Instead of "...and Iwara 51.52(±11.72)." to consider ... and 51.52 (± 11.72) in Iwara. <u>Results are not presented in a synthetic manner. They are simply copied from the section Results and discussion and pasted in the Abstract</u>	



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	<u>Line 18-20</u>: Connection forced between the household size and the cultivation of cocoa by the majority. <u>Lines 20-22</u>: There is redundancy among the main constraints to production i.e. inadequate funds & financial problems, non-availability of agro-inputs & poor quality pesticides. <u>Line 23 -25</u>: The writing is not scientific. To rewrite. <u>Line 28</u>: Instead of "... as well as providing input support services in the form of credit.", <i>we propose</i> "...as well as providing inputs as a form of credit." Keywords It is recommended not to repeat words contained in the title INTRODUCTION <u>Lines 32 & 33</u>: "Mixed cropping" is different from "Intercropping.". In the second system there is a main crop to which other crops are associated temporarily or permanently. In the Mixed cropping, all crops have almost the same importance. <u>Lines 47-49</u>: <i>The sentence</i> "The need to carry out that could improve cocoa productivity in Nigeria especially Southwestern." <i>is incomplete</i>. <u>Lines 51-55</u>: <i>Instead of</i> "Specifically, describes the socio-economic characteristics of farmers, identifies the types of crops grown and the constraints to production in integrated tree cropping system, and determines the levels of productivity and factors affecting productivity among farmers in integrated tree cropping system." <i>Considering</i> "Specifically, it describes the socio-economic characteristics of farmers, identifies the types of crops grown and the constraints to production in integrated tree cropping	
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	system, and determines the levels of productivity and factors affecting productivity. ~~among farmers in 54 integrated tree cropping system.~~ METHODOLOGY <u>Line 62:</u> <i>Instead of "...where integrated tree cropping system is practiced in the area." considering "...where integrated tree cropping system is practiced in the area."</i> <u>Lines 62-66:</u> <i>To consider "A total of five local governments and subsequently five growing communities were also purposively selected from each of the states based on integrated tree cropping system is practiced in the area. Five farmers were randomly selected from each of the communities to have a total of 2 states x 5 governments/state⁻¹ x 5 communities.government⁻¹ x 5 smallholder farmers .community⁻¹ = 250 two hundred and fifty smallholder farmers were randomly selected from two states in the region."</i> Analytical technique <u>Lines 79 & 80 and 87-90:</u> Use of capital letter for "Where" and definitions of different factors not scientific. E.g. "TFPi = Total factor productivity", (Kg/H), Yi = Quantity produced, X2 is Age of the farmers (years), X6 is Farm size (ha) RESULTS AND DISCUSSION Socioeconomic characteristics of the respondents <u>The text is a real reading of Table 1. To make an effort to present the results scientifically.</u> Crops Grown in Integrated Tree Cropping System <u>Line 121:</u> <i>Considering "Globally, there were different crop enterprises ..."</i>	
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	<u>Line 122:</u> <i>To consider</i> “Other crops grown in decreasing order of importance ...” <i>and to apply to other similar statements in this sub-section.</i> <u>The text is a real reading of Table 2. To make an effort to present the results scientifically.</u> <u>Zero discussion made of the results obtained</u> Constraints to Production in Integrated Tree Cropping system <u>Line 132:</u> <i>To consider</i> “Constraints to production in the “integrated tree cropping system ~~were~~ was presented in Table 3.” <u>Line 148:</u> <i>To consider</i> “providing access to improved crop varieties ~~such as~~ for cocoa, maize and cassava ...” <u>Almost zero discussion made of the results obtained</u> <u>Line 179:</u> Table 4. In statistics * significant (at 5%), ** highly significant (at 1%), *** very highly significant (at 1%) <u>Line 184:</u> <i>to consider</i> CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION Removing “RECOMMENDATION” does not prevent you from formulating your recommendations. The main findings are presented in a disorder when referring to order in which the study was conducted.	
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<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments		
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	1. Results were not discussed. 2. Alignment of figures the columns of Table 1 and Table 4 to improve. 3. Authors didn't seem to know the socio-cultural and economic history and present of the study area. 4. They didn't show the rationale behind the choices of crops grown by each of the communities.. 5. Why is the cropping system maintained by aged farmers? 6. What are the preferred crops of young farmers and why? 7. The study is simply full of figures without information on their meaning. 8. Productivity is very lightly presented (and even boring for readers).	

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