



SDI Review Form 1.6

PART 1:

Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	MS: 2013_AJEA_3172
Title of the Manuscript:	Contributions of Short Duration Legume Fallow to Maize (<i>Zea mays</i> L.) Varieties under Different Nitrogen Levels in a Semi-Arid Environment.

- This form has total 9 parts. Kindly note that you should use all the parts of this review form.



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PART 2: 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	This is a very interesting study. The manuscript is generally well organized. However, there are a number of areas in the paper which require improvement, clarification or substantiation. Firstly, authors do not offer all relevant information's about the experiment. It seems that only N was applied in nitrogen treatments. It is not correct to exclude K and P fertilization. Moreover, readers of this paper would certainly want to see something about the quantity of green manure incorporated and if leguminous crops were fertilized. The introduction section has a low number of references (only 4). The results section is very extensive. Must be shorter, joining variables and eliminating subpoints (3.1.1. to 3.1.7). The discussion section	



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	should be rewritten, since is poor on some parts. For example, authors present a low development of green manure and nitrogen interaction. According to the title of the manuscript, readers want to see more. The manuscript needs linguistic revision. Thus, I recommend that the manuscript must be acceptable after major revision. Other points: Introduction (lines 50-51) – reformulate the sentence; (lines 58) – reformulate the sentence; Materials and methods (lines 113) - (lines 58) - include DMRT after the Duncan's test; Results (line 131) - remove parentheses. Also in line 151; (line 142) - remove N in "N for"; Table 2 – legend – remove plant¹; also inside table;	
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	Discussion (lines 328-29) remove “exemplified by cob diameter, cob length, number of grains per cob, 100-seed weight and grain yield”; (line 333) Use “Variety effects” instead of “response to variety”; the same in other points; (lines 348-50) Is correct that “...nitrogen application could be explained on the important roles of nitrogen in enhancing chlorophyll production and photosynthesis which improved assimilate production for subsequent translocation to grains.” And the effects, eventually more relevant, of N on the assimilatory leaf area?- Please, reformulate the sentence.	
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments		
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		

Note: Anonymous Reviewer