



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	2013_AJEA_6414
Title of the Manuscript:	AN AGRONOMIC AND ECONOMIC EVALUATION OF INTEGRATED USE OF <i>Calliandra callothyrsus</i> AND MAIZE STOVER WITH UREA IN WESTERN KENYA
Type of the Article	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>)



SDI Review Form 1.6

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)
<u>Compulsory</u> REVISION comments		
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Both yield and cost when organic and inorganic materials were supplied with different proportions were discussed, and the reasonable N applying regime was recommended in this manuscript. it would be very useful for local people to select reasonable technology and to improve their cropland use. Further, this manuscript was well prepared and experiment was generally well designed and done. Therefore, I recommended it publish in this journal after minor revision. (1) It was not clear whether the fertilizer supplying	1. The nutrient inputs were applied in each



SDI Review Form 1.6

	regimes were applied in each growing season. (2) Because the N in maize stover and leafy biomass of <i>Calliandra callothyrsus</i> could not completely release after supplying in the first growing season, their effect might be appear in several next seasons. Is there any evidence or data to show how much organic matter have been decomposed in the end of each season? (3) If it is true in (2), to compare the effects between treatments and control with 75 kg/ha N (urea) might be unreasonable. The authors could discuss it in the manuscript.	season. This is described under materials and methods. Lines 101 to 110 in the revised manuscript. 2. No. We did not determine this as this was not a process oriented study. Focus was on the agronomic response to nutrient inputs. It is true response of calliandra could be stronger in subsequent seasons if it releases its nutrients later (residual effects). This would however be reflected in the maize yields which we determined. 3. It is reasonable to compare the practices with urea (75 kg N/ha). This is because urea is the most commonly used N fertilizer in the area and usually applied at this rate. Hence it would act as a reference standard.
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		