



SDI FINAL EVALUATION FORM 1.1

PART 1:

Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	MS: 2012_AJEA_2914
Title of the Manuscript:	EVIDENCE OF IMPROVING YIELD AND MORPHOLOGICAL ATTRIBUTES VIA HALF-SIB FAMILY RECURRENT SELECTION IN MAIZE.

PART 2:

FINAL EVALUATOR'S comments on revised paper (if any)	Authors' response to final evaluator's comments
I still have difficulty understanding how the experiment was conducted. The first sentence of the materials and methods says that there were 121 and 144 half-sib families. Then the first sentence of the second part says "The 20 selected families". But there is no indication of where those 20 families came from or how they were selected. Also it's still not clear what is meant by "cycle0 and cycle1". It apparently means that cycle 1 was selected from cycle 0, but no selection experiment is described in the materials and methods – at least not one that I understand. It think the field evaluation was conducted and analysed appropriately, but details of the selection experiment (how things were evaluated and selected) are needed.	Respected Sir, This experiment was conducted during two growing seasons in first growing season (Cycle0) 144 HS families were evaluated in which only top 20 HSF were selected for recombination. After the recombination in Cycle1 121 HSF were evaluated in the same partially balanced lattice square design.