

The decision for manuscript number 2013 AJEA 3649 entitled “An investigation of the content of manganese in the fruit of marrows (*Cucurbita pepo* L. var. *giromontia*) in respect of the kind of fertilizer and the type of fertilization” by Denka Kostova, Dimka Haytova and Dimitar Mehandjiev.

Comment: Following the recommendations of the reviewers title of **manuscript number 2013 AJEA 3649** was changed to: **Effect of type and method of fertilization on marrows (*Cucurbita pepo* L.) yield and fruit quality**

Comment: I would like to thank the reviewer once again for advice and assistance. All corrections were made and the manuscript was rewritten again.

After evaluation of all documents related to the manuscript I can tell that the text is improved comparing to the original submission. However, the manuscript is still very weak and needs serious revision. The text in present form is definitely not acceptable for printing in AJEA.

1. All introduced corrections must be firstly accepted or not by authors and after that the text must be carefully checked. Now there are too many corrections (insertions, deletions, yellow highlighting etc.) which caused difficulties in reading and understanding the text.

Comment: corrected

2. Authors must unambiguously write what was the experimental material. In title is written that it was ‘*Cucurbita pepo* L. var. *giromontia*’ while in Material and methods (line 50) is ‘*Cucurbita pepo* L. var. *giromontia*) cultivar F₁’. Varietas and cultivar it is the same (in Latin and in English, respectively). So which varietas/cultivar was used? Giromontia or Izobilna F₁?

Comment: (*Cucurbita pepo* L.) cultivar Izobilna F₁ is correct.

3. It should not be used references in Abstract. So [1] must be deleted from Abstract. In such circumstances [1] will change into [24]. Numbers from [2] to [24] must be change as well in entire manuscript. Reference list must be also corrected. Instead of Kostova and Mehandjiev 2013 (line 251) should be [24]. Moreover, Reference list now is prepared not according to the Journal requirements. It must be corrected. See Author’s Instruction on <http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=general-guideline-for-authors>.

Comment: corrected

4. Abstract. Abbreviation BTC must be firstly introduced in the previous sentence

Comment: corrected

5. Instead of ‘nitrate nitrogen’ which is used many times in the text I recommend using simply ‘nitrate’.

Comment: corrected – line 178, 179, 183

6. Materials and methods needs special attention and needs correction. This subsection should be carefully checked again and written more detailed. For example, it is not clear what does mean 16 in NPK fertilizer? What do mean percentages in phosphorus, potassium and nitrogen compounds? Abbreviation AAS (line 108, as well as in Table 1) must be explained.

Comment: corrected

Soil fertilization was carried out with NPK using a ratio $N_{160}P_{160}K_{160}$. Quantity of fertilizers was 160 kg ha^{-1} like active substance. Phosphorus ($\text{Ca}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4)_2$ - 46% P_2O_5); and potassium (K_2SO_4 - 50% K_2O). fertilizers were applied with last tillage of soil before planting. Nitrogen fertilizer, introduced as NH_4NO_3 (34% N), was applied twice during the growing season. First application was after formation of new leaves of plants, and the second - 20 days after the first.

Percentages in phosphorus, potassium and nitrogen compounds are active substance

AAS (Atomic absorption spectrometry), line 97

7. Statistical analysis. In lines 113-114 it is written 'the dispersion analysis method for one factor field trial [28], using as the program product BIOSAT (ANOVA)'. However, Below Table 1 and 2 it is written that LSD was only calculated. This discrepancy must be corrected.

Comment: corrected

8. Units in all figures are written incorrectly. Instead of slash '/' an exponent must be used. Example: instead of mg/kg it must be mg kg^{-1} .

Comment: corrected

9. In line 208 exists serious mistake. Firstly, instead of 4945 it should be 49450. And secondly, instead of kg da^{-1} it should be kg ha^{-1} .

Comment: corrected, line 142

10. In Table 2 data concerning Mn content is repeated from Table 1. Repetition of results is not allowed. Authors should combine Table 1 and Table 2 into one Table.

Comment: corrected

11. Sentence in lines 223-224 is exactly the same as in lines 209-211. It must be corrected.

Comment: corrected

12. After Conclusion, two additional subsections (COMPETING INTERESTS and AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS) should be added.

Comment: added

13. Finally and highly important, entire text must be correctly written in scientific English. It should be checked by specialist in English.

Comment: added

Concluding, Authors must accurately correct the manuscript and I need re-evaluate the manuscript before I will make the final decision.