



SDI Review Form 1.6

PART 1:

Journal Name:	<u>American Journal of Experimental Agriculture</u>
Manuscript Number:	2013_AJEA_5222
Title of the Manuscript:	Effect of Skip-Row Cotton Planting Pattern and Plant Density on Cotton Growth, Yield, Fiber Quality, and Net Returns
Type of the Article	Research paper

General guideline for Peer Review process is available in this link:

[\(http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline\)](http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline)

- This form has total 7 parts. Kindly note that you should use all the parts of this review form.



SDI Review Form 1.6

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	1. in page 5, "2.1 field studies", the authors should add the experimental design in detail, e g. "row space", "two planting pattern", and "two plant densities" which is described in the methodology in page 2 line 10. 2. in page 6, line 8-13 and in page 8, line 7-14. The rainfall are both mentioned. The authors should delete the "3.1 rainfall" in page 8, and integrate it in page 6. 3. in page 10, line 1 and 2. "Stephenson and Brecke [31] found that cotton seeded at 7 plants m² yielded 370 and 120 kg/ha less seed cotton and lint, respectively than the 7 plants m² but that no other differences between plant densities were observed." There were yield from 7 plants m² compared with 7 plants m², and one might be wrong. 4. "4. CONCLUSION" should be add in this paper. 5. in page 14, line 5-9. The authors couldn't obtain the conclusion that "along the upper Texas Gulf Coast, there seems to be no advantage to skip-row cotton plantings". This paper only used one row space of 91.4 cm and found that in this row space no advantage was seen in skip-row plantings. In the research of Larson et al. [13], they found that the rows spaced 76 cm or less should be interested by the producers because they might maximize net returns.	



SDI Review Form 1.6

	6. in "REFERENCES". Reference 1 to 14 have no [], but 15 to 39 have []. 7. in page 9, line 13. "3.2 Seeding rate". Authors should discuss why plant density has no effect on variable evaluated in this paper.	
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SDI Review Form 1.6

<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	1. in page 2, line 2 and 3. "Aims: To evaluate the effect of two cotton planting patterns across two plant densities to determine the effect on cotton growth, yield, fiber quality, and net returns." The "two cotton planting patterns" could be replaced by "two planting patterns". The "to determine the effect" might be deleted. 2. in page 3, line 9. "3-yr "might be replaced by "3 year". 3. in page 13, line 12-17. The first sentence was inconsistent with the second sentence.	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	1. in page 1, the title "Effect of Skip-Row Cotton Planting Pattern and Plant Density on Cotton Growth, Yield, Fiber Quality, and Net Returns" might be modified by "Effect of Skip-Row Planting Pattern on Cotton Growth, Yield, Fiber Quality, and Net Returns", due to the plant density having no effect on cotton. 2. in the paper, "plant population" or "plant density" should be used. 3. in page 3, line 21. "fertilizer was used", which fertilizer, nitrogen or what? 4. in page 4, line 1 and 2. "skip-row systems" and "skip-row design" could use "skip-row planting patterns" in the whole paper. 5. in page 5, line 1. The author should add the "the effect of plant density". 6. in page 6, line 19 and 20. "600 grams" and "30 gram",	



SDI Review Form 1.6

	should be consistent. 7. in page 9, line 15 and 16. "Therefore, only differences in planting pattern are discussed." should be moved to the end of this paragraph in page 10, line 10 for conclusion. 8. in page 10, line 14. "the conventional pattern" might be the "solid pattern"? 9. in page 10, line 23. "reported that row pattern did not have any effect on plant height", the "row pattern" might be "skip-row pattern".	
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Note: Anonymous Reviewer