



SDI FINAL EVALUATION FORM 1.1

PART 1:

Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	2013_AJEA_3767
Title of the Manuscript:	Evaluating the Effects of Staking and Planting Dates on the Yields of African Yam Bean, <i>Sphenostylis stenocarpa</i> in Nigeria

PART 2:

FINAL EVALUATOR'S comments on revised paper (if any)	Authors' response to final evaluator's comments
<p>The quality of the manuscript has been improved, but at many points further improvements are needed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Lines 124 and 126 - the phrase "differed significantly" cannot be used. There is no LSD or other information concerning the significance among results shown on fig. 1. Lines 125-126 - "reverse was the case" - this phrase is not in accordance to the results shown. Line 131 - "P<0.028" whereas in table 2 "P<0.05" Lines 131-132 - "In other words, there were decreases in seed yields with delay in the planting dates" - this statement is a repetition of information placed in lines 130 - 131 and should be deleted. Line 133 - 135 - "AYB planted later than May had more infestation of post-flowering insect pests attack resulting in more destruction of pods and reduced seed yield". - there are no data presented in the manuscript, concerning the number of pests or other information concerning the scale of plant damage in particular treatments. Lines 137-138 - this statement is not in accordance with the data shown on figure 1 (for most of accessions). Moreover, there is lack suitable LSD values to confirm the differences among the years of the study. Lines 141-144 - you write: "In overall, TSs86 gave the least fresh tuber yield.... (Table 3 and Figure 2)." - It is in accordance to the data presented in table 3, but according to the data presented on fig 2, TSs48 has lower tuber yield than TSs86. Could you explain these inconsistency? Figures 1 and 2 should be better explained e.g. what are LSD values for accessions as well as for methods of planting and interaction between factors studied Line 207 - In my opinion presented results do not show "high potential in contributing to food security". Conversely - low potential has been shown It should be explain what is the reason for obtaining such low yields. In paper by Beckley Ikhajigbe and Joseph Kwesi Mensah (Genetic Assessment of Three Colour Variants of African Yam Bean [<i>Sphenostylis Stenocarpa</i>] Commonly Grown in the Midwestern Region of Nigeria." International Journal of Modern Botany 2012, 2(2): 13-18) the yields obtained were 3 times higher. Lines 2009-2012 - In my opinion the results obtained do not enable on such conclusion. References section has been still inconsistent to AJEA guide for authors. Some technical mistakes have been pointed out in the text 	

Note: Anonymous Reviewer