



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	2014_AJEA_10802
Title of the Manuscript:	EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE CRITICAL FACTORS ON THE SEEDLING GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF MAIZE (<i>Zea mays L.</i>)
Type of the Article	

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>)



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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)
Compulsory REVISION comments	Overall, I have a problem with the starting hypothesis of this work; it presumes reduction in solar radiation (as simulated by the shading experiment) is the expected scenario under climate change. But this is not the case. Other specific issues are: (1) Introduction lacks freshness and originality and it's too long (2) Methodology section lacks clarity in most cases. For instance, (a) authors say they uses split-plot design but fail to indicate the main-plot and sub-plot factors (b) A replication of n=3 for a plot experiments is too small, especially when using a split-plot design (results in too low degree of freedom), (c) a row spacing of 0.25cm does not make sense and (d) statistical analysis section is not described clearly and properly. (3) No indication of statistical significance on the results (tables) and discussions are out of sync with results, in most cases and (4) There is no need to do a test to reach at a conclusion like the authors' because what they wrote is just a common knowledge. Details are to be found in the pdf document.	Title: "EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE CRITICAL FACTORS ON THE SEEDLING GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF MAIZE (<i>Zea mays L.</i>)". These factors do not work separately but interact and modify the environment 1. The introduction is long because the author was introducing the interactions of the different factors involved i.e light, temperature, precipitation and nutrients 2 .The main- plot is 0.75m while the sub- plot 0.25m as indicated in the revised version. This should be a standard method. 3 .The statistical analyses are adequate for this work. 4. I do not agree with you as a scientist. Lines 192-195: Absorption of P and K ions/salt, and increased dry and fresh weights were observed and were supported by Verma and Verma (2007). Active cell division, elongation and development processes promote absorption of salt. Lines 199-205: The only difference between



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		WN and WN1 treatments is precipitation (water stress/drought condition).This may result in oxidative damage.
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments		
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		