



SDI FINAL EVALUATION FORM 1.1

PART 1:

Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	2013_AJEA_6415
Title of the Manuscript:	RESPONSE OF MAIZE TO ORGANIC AND INORGANIC SOURCES OF NUTRIENTS IN ACID SOILS OF KERICHO COUNTY, KENYA

PART 2:

Editor's comments on revised paper (if any)	Authors' response to final editor's comments
The article deals with the effects of different nutrient amendments on plant growth. Although it is not a new topic, it is always welcomed to know more about plant response to fertilisation in developing areas. Despite some minor suggestions, I do not find important flaws so I recommend its publication. One important point: Tables 2 and 3 do not include statistical letters. So it is not possible to know which differences are actually significant among treatments. Some minor corrections to do: Lines 78-88: Authors state abbreviations like TSP, FYM and CAN, that are defined later in the text (lines 110-111), but they must be defined the first time they are mentioned. Line 56: future?	1. Table 2 shows the characteristics of the organic materials/manures. They are not experimental treatments subjected to randomization and replication and therefore cannot be compared statistically to determine the significant differences just as the soil properties shown in Table 1. This is how they are supposed to be presented and there are many published papers that can be referred to including some in your esteemed journal. On issue of letters in Table 3, it is not necessary to have letters as long as the LSD is presented. It is the LSD that is used to compare treatment means to determine which treatments are significant. Some people would prefer the letters but they make the tables untidy and cluttered and most journals nowadays do not allow this style as no value is added. I have not therefore made any changes to the tables. 2. The first mention of TSP and CAN is in the abstract and they are already defined appropriately. However, I have also now made the necessary correction in the main text as suggested by the reviewer. Line 56 has been corrected to read future use (please see attached revised paper).