



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	2015_AJEA_17504
Title of the Manuscript:	Molecular characterization of selected mutant lines of Onion against Purple Blotch Disease using SSR markers
Type of the Article	Original Research 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:

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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)
<u>Compulsory</u> REVISION comments	Abstract Authors should remark the relevance of the study using onion mutant lines regarding resistance to the pathogen and the use of SSR markers. Keywords : Use of abbreviations should be avoided. Introduction Is obligatory to provide background related with the strategy employed for mutant productions in onion. Materials and methods More information is required (the lines mutants were obtained....). Line 54: Please explain further how obtained two sets of SSR markers selected and associated with the PLB gene. Reverse primers should be indicated in 5' to 3' sequence	Abstract The relevance of using onion mutant lines is described. (Please see the highlighted text in abstract section). Keywords Edited (Please see line 15). Introduction The background related with the strategy employed for mutant production in onion is provided. Please see line 40-52 (highlighted). Materials and methods A new phrase regarding the source of mutant lines were included in line 63 (highlighted). And the detailed procedure of the development of the mutant lines is included in introduction section. Please see highlighted text in line 40-52. The revamped line 73-74 explains how the SSR markers were selected. Corrected (please see the last row of the Table 1.



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	Results and discussion Authors need to clarify why one of the two sets of SSR (rbcLa-F/rbcLa-R) markers associated with the PLB gene no band was identified in BP2-100/12 mutant line which indicates the absence of PLB gene. Resistance pattern of onion variety BP2 and it's mutant lines against purple blotch is inferred by PCR product of 214 bp using MatK-1RKIM-f/MatK-3FKIM-r primers Authors need additional pathosystem in order to testing for onion seedlings (leaves)-Alternaria porri interaction, resistance vs susceptible reactions. Conclusion The sentence: the presence of the PLB gene conferring resistance to purple leaf blotch in onion was successfully detected in the mutant lines of BP2 variety using two sets of SSR markers, is inconclusive.	Results and discussion A possible explanation is included in line 114-117. Studies regarding additional pathosystem may help readers to get a complete picture, but this article is only aiming at explaining the preliminary detection method based on SSR markers. Conclusion The statement was in fact partially incorrect. It's now been revamped (Please see line 153).
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<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Line 10: Please include in the title, genus and species for onion and pathogen. Consider replace other keywords instead of CTAB. Line 51: -80oc freezer (-80°C);	The genus and species name for onion is included in Title. But the inclusion of the name of the pathogen for PLB disease in title will make the title long. Moreover, it was only was already included in introduction as Corrected, line 69
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	References -Please use the journal format (reference 9)	Corrected