



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJEA_20255
Title of the Manuscript:	Assessment of Salinity Tolerance and Analysis of SSR Markers Linked With Saltol QTL in Sri Lankan Rice (<i>Oryza sativa</i>) Genotypes
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:

(<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	The manuscript represents a valuable study on salt tolerance-related QTL in Sri Lankan rice genotypes based on SSR markers investigation. The manuscript contains all necessary experimental data including a dendrogram showing relatedness of Sri Lankan genotypes based on five evaluated SSR markers. I can recommend the manuscript for publication after a minor revision. Major comments. In Table 3, statistical evaluation is not specified - there are only given levels of statistical significance, but no statistical test is specified. I would also like to ask the authors why the parameter "SFW = shoot fresh weight" is not shown in Table 3 analogously to "RFW - root fresh weight"? I have only minor formal comments on the manuscript. Abstract, line 5: Insert a comma after the words "Wayamba University of Sri Lanka,..." Introduction, line 12: Correct the word form in the words "...by two thirds of the world population" Introduction, line 13: Insert a comma following the words "With the escalating growth rate of world population,...." Line 18: Correct the verb form in the sentence "while the inland salinity can occur due to poor irrigation,..." Line 19: Insert a comma after the words "In Sri	Authors are thankful to the reviewer for giving valuable comments and correcting also the grammar mistakes. In this research we placed germinated seedlings in hydroponic system according to Completely Randomized Design and then analysed by ANOVA. So in the line no 75 and 76, the term "completely randomised design (CRD)" was inserted as "placed according to the Completely Randomized Design (CRD) on the styrofoam floats". Also under table 3, we inserted the following sentence "Significant level of each parameter was obtained from ANOVA" to specify the evaluation method. Actually, we could not take shoot fresh weight because in some varieties, about 80% of the leaves had dried out due to salinity and they were not live and fresh to use as fresh weight. So we used only the dry weight of the shoot but both dry weight and fresh weight were able to use in roots. All other grammar mistakes were corrected and highlighted in yellow color.



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	Lanka,...” Line 29: Modify the sentence as follows: “....and their transformation into high yielding cultivars is necessary....” Line 35: Use a plural form of the verb “are” instead of “is” in the sentence “DNA-based molecular markers which are used in marker-assisted selection (MAS) are extensively used to tag QTL...” Material and methods, line 48: Insert a comma after the words “Sri Lanka,” Line 76: Insert a comma after the words “After 2 days,...” Line 77: Insert “an” before the words “appropriate amount of NaCl”, i.e., “an appropriate amount of NaCl...” Results and Discussion, line 121: Insert a comma after the word “Philippines” Line 126: Modify the words as follows: “The minimum visual injuries or the highest tolerance ability was demonstrated in Goda Wee...” Line 130: Insert the words “it is” in the sentence “...and it is independent from personal skills.” Line 152: Insert a comma after the term “SSI” Line 172: Insert the words “under salinity” in the sentence “...increased relative root length under salinity than under the control.” Line 179: Insert a comma after the words “in this study,...” Line 181: Replace a comma before the word “namely” Line 192: Replace the word “in” by “on” in the sentence “ with <i>Saltol</i> QTL located on chromosome 1” Line 237: remove a comma after the word “variety” in the sentence “....contained susceptible variety Bg357 ...”	
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	Line 245: Insert a comma before the word ūnamely” Line 247: Insert “the” in the sentence “the same ancestor grown in Sri Lanka.” Line 248: Correct the position of commas in the sentence “It was interesting to note that a salinity- suscpetible imported variety, Basmathi, was separately clustered in cluster V.” Conclusion, line 272: Insert a comma after the varieties names “Bw400 and At401,...”	
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments		
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		