



SDI FINAL EVALUATION FORM 1.1

PART 1:

Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJEA_20597
Title of the Manuscript:	Density and Cultivar Effects on the Biomass and Crop Growth Rate of Upland Rice in Uyo Southeastern Nigeria
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

PART 2:

FINAL EVALUATOR'S comments on revised paper (if any)	Authors' response to final evaluator's comments
The manuscript has been significantly improved by the authors. I have one major comment on the presented facts: In Materials and methods, line 84, it is stated that the daylnegth at the location is only 3 - 8 hoursû - it is obvious nonsense since in tropics, there are daylengths about 12 hours throughout the year (they are not large diffrences in daylength between summer and winter). Otherwise, I have only a few formal comments which have to be responded: 1/ Only SI units are allowed to be used in the scientific text. The authors should use relevant SI units instead of "ghill⁻¹" - Abstract, line 25, Table 1 (line 126), Table 2 (line 144), Table 3 (line 159), Table 4 (line 175), Table 5 (line 187). Line 42: Remove a comma between the word "homes" and the reference 1. Lines 48, 50 and further: Insert a space between "t" and "ha⁻¹", i.e., write "t ha⁻¹" Line 65: Use "the" instead of "a" in the sentence "the first step toward increased yield potential" Line 152: Insert a comma after the words "In both years,." Lines 173, 197: Use the word "lowest" instead of "least" in the sentence "...produced the lowest biomass (Table 4)." Line 201: Insert "an" before the words "increase in density", i.e., "an increase in density" Line 216: Insert "a" before the words "significant increase", i.e., "a significant increase in CGR..." The revised manuscript needs recalculation of the presented results and their expression in SI units.	In the humid rainforest zone of the tropics, large differences in daylength (sunshine hours) exist between year, months and days. It is true that the study area is located in the tropics. However, the location of the experiment is in the humid rainforest zone characterized by heavy cloud cover and frequent precipitation especially during the crop growing season. Sunshine hours are directly related to cloud cover (Adetayo et al, 2012). Nwajiuba and Onyeneke analysed 30 years (1978-2007) weather data from Agromet Division of National Root Crop Research Institute, Umudike, Abia State, Nigeria also located in the southeast rainforest zone of Nigeria less than 80 km from the study area, they reported as follow; Mean sunshine hours = 4.37 hours; Maximum = 5.20 hours; Minimum = 3.30 hours; Trend (hours/year)= 2.433. Weather record kept at the Agro-meteorological service of the University of Uyo less than 7 km from the study area (1982-1990 and 2011) show the following; Mean sunshine hours = 3.21; Maximum = 7.3 hours (May 1983); Minimum = 0.7 hour (August 1982); Range = 0.7-7.3 hours. In 2011 the mean was 3.4 hours; Maximum = 5.0 hours (December, 2011); Minimum = 1.6 hours (June 2011). In some days the sunshine card in the dome is not burnt resulting in 0 sunshine hour. The tropic is characterized by fairly constant high temperature and overhead sun when it appears but not uniform distribution of high sunshine hours, especially in the humid tropic. Therefore, the report is within absolute sense. SI unit used comma removed. Space inserted. "the" substituted for "a". Comma inserted. "lowest" substituted for "least" "an" inserted. "a" inserted Presented results recalculated and expressed in SI unit