



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	2015_AJEA_18473
Title of the Manuscript:	Distribution of cassava mosaic geminiviruses and their associated DNA satellites in Kenya.
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 <i>(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)</i>
Compulsory REVISION comments	Numerous formatting errors were observed. Please check and correct. Rearrange the subtitles for the information to flow.	
Minor REVISION comments	<p>Abstract: Abstract is too long. Check abstract word count requirement and the Journal format for abstract. Abstract Line 21 to 23: Not clear, rephrase to bring out meaning.</p> <p>Introduction: Line 58: I suggest you delete 'In Kenya'. Begin sentence with 'Cassava Mosaic Disease' Line 72-74: Strengthen by adding the significance of the survey, what benefits are to be derived by knowing the incidence, prevalence and severity of CMD.</p> <p>Materials and methods: Line 103, 'Disease severity symptoms for both diseases' Are you referring to ACMV and EACMV? Please clarify. Also change 'severity symptoms' to 'symptom severity'. Line 104: I suggest you delete 'which is internationally accepted and adopted'. Line 105: 'foliar symptoms and satellite symptoms' What were the satellite symptoms? Please clarify. Line 119: replace 'plants infected by CMD and the DNA satellites' with 'symptomatic plants'</p>	



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	<p>Line 126: insert (before 10 am) after 'early morning hours' and delete the next sentence up to Line 128. Line 137 – 143: redundant, delete up toCP sequence. Line 143 – 155: DNA extraction protocol. If no modifications were done, details are not necessary. Line 156: is it 10µl or 10µM of each primer? Please clarify. Line 157: Delete primer names at this point. Line 160 – 166: rewrite this portion to make it easier to understand. Line 168: replace 'cycle' with 'step'. Line 166 – 172: Revise. Also, PCR programme steps mixed up, no final elongation temperature and time. Consider revising. The steps are Initial denaturation, denaturation, annealing, extension (run for a number of cycles) and final extension or elongation which is usually at 72°C for 10 min. Line 174: change sub-heading to 'Detection of DNA Satellites'. Line 185: 'the mastermix was prepared with one of the set-ups' Which one of the set-ups? Please clarify. Line 185 – 188: PCR programme. State the number of cycles run. Line 192: Which edition of Genstat?</p> <p>Results: Line 199 – 201: Send to materials and methods or delete. Table 1: Remove the district means since these are presented again in Table 2. Provide description for your results in Table 1. Line 239: Table 3 heading should read 'Detection of EACMV and ACMV in four provinces of Kenya' Line 248: Remove 'The presence of'. Begin sentence with ACMV. Line 234 – 236 and Table 3: Send these to the next page,</p>	
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	<p>under 'Survey of CMG's and associated DNA satellites' Line 258: (plate 3), is it referring to Plate 1? Please correct. Also change 'plate' to 'figures' Line 263 – 265: Consider revising to improve on the figure description Line 269: There is no Plate 4. Are you referring to Plate 2? Clarify. Line 292 – 293: Table 4. Heading should read 'CMD severity, mode of infection and whitefly count per plant in the four provinces' You may provide photos of plants showing infection through cuttings and by whiteflies. Table 4: Means – CMD severity 57.4?? Is it 3.1?, whitefly infection 19.6?? Is it 19.4? Please cross-check. Line 298: Correct the percentages to correspond to what is in the table.</p> <p>Discussion: Line 310: Suggest reason for the high incidence of CMD in the Coast. Is it due to higher inoculum pressure resulting from secondary infections through cuttings? Or higher whitefly numbers? Or the susceptible nature of the cassava used in this area. Line 329: replace 'purely (100%)' with 'mainly' Line 332: delete 'there at' Line 346: delete 'amongst the samples collected during the survey' Line 348 – 349: State the number of samples that tested positive for the episomal DNA satellites. Line 351: replace 'Begomoviruses' with 'disease' Line 359: replace 'disease symptoms' with just 'disease' Line 375 -377: Provide reference</p> <p>Conclusion: Line 386: should read mode of transmission through distribution.....</p>	
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	<p>Line 394: Replace 'Cassava mosaic geniniviruses' with 'Cassava mosaic disease'</p> <p>Line 395 – 396: 'Kenyan EACMV strains have high homology to the EACMV-Ug strains' Provide reference.</p> <p>Line 396 – 398: Provide reference. Did you mean 96% to the EACMV-Ug or ACMV-Ug?</p> <p>Line 400 – 406: Did you do DNA sequencing? Did you do some of your work in 'Eastern Africa' and South Africa? If yes please provide data otherwise delete the information.</p> <p>Check author guidelines to see if there is a separate section for recommendation; otherwise incorporate the information into the conclusion or delete.</p>	
<p><u>Optional/General</u> comments</p>	<p>If the suggestions and corrections are considered, the manuscript can be published.</p>	

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