



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	British Journal of Applied Science & Technology
Manuscript Number:	2014_BJAST_10070
Title of the Manuscript:	Multifactorial Analyses of Morphological Traits of Helmeted Guinea Fowls <i>Numidia meleagris</i>
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.

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(<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)
<u>Compulsory</u> REVISION comments	In Material and Methods, the description of Kadura and Katsina States, in which the guinea fowl were studied (par. 2.1) is too long. The data on the area, population, economy, politics and others are redundant. This is neither the experimental material nor the method. The same section lacks data on the percentage of different colour varieties of the studied guinea fowl, and the accuracy of weight and body dimensions determination. Description of the BOL and NKL traits should be shortened (simplified). In the Abstract, Results and Discussion, the word "color" should be changed to "colour" as the paper will be published in Great Britain rather than the United States. Description of Figure 4 (<i>Numida meleagris</i>) in brackets Latin names in italics? – see the instructions to authors Line 246 (feather color – twice?) The References should follow the instructions to authors. Some of the oversights: item 1 – name of the journal Ital. J. Anim Sci; item 5 without dots after abbreviations; item 3 34(3) or 34 (3); item 4 "[and one "; redundant; item 7 (Suppl. 2) or (Supplement 2); item 14 "Congress" or "congress"	The description of Kaduna and Katsina States has been summarised to contain only relevant information. The proportions of the studied varieties have been included. The description of the BOL and NKL traits has been simplified. The correct spelling of colour has been effected. Duplication was noted The references have been re-written according to the instruction to authors.
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Note on Lines 233-246 Guinea fowl kept in rural areas may provide a source of genetic variation for pedigree populations improved for productive traits. However, the traits improved in pedigree farms are evaluated in birds of the same age, according to sex and colour variety. This experiment only determined morphological distances between rural	



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	guinea fowl kept in two Nigerian states; the adult guinea fowl were of different age and had different feather colour, which contributed to the variation in the morphological characteristics of the studied birds. This is just a note.	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	The manuscript can be published in the British Journal of Applied Science & Technology, because the results obtained contribute to present knowledge on the morphological distance between adult guinea fowl (<i>Numida melagris</i> L.) with regard to selected qualitative and quantitative traits. The data analysis methods used in the study (PCA, cluster analysis) increase its originality. The test material is sufficient in size. The tables and figures are appropriate. The interpretation of the results is correct. The references are well chosen. The Abstract is correct. Has the study been approved by the Local Ethics Committee? Does BJAST require such an approval from researchers from Nigeria?	