



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	British Journal of Applied Science & Technology
Manuscript Number:	2013_BJAST_8785
Title of the Manuscript:	A Comparison of Soda and Soda-ethanol Pulps from <i>Thaumatococcus daniellii</i> Benth (Miraculous Berry) Stalks
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 needs major revision. The article presents a very local problem. It is necessary to update the references. It is necessary to provide data that would justify the use of this raw material not only in Nigeria, and in any case, production data in that country. Data of the raw material analysis are not provided, is the cellulose content appropriate? and lignin?. Using a very low liquid/solid ratio, why?. The operating conditions, both in pulping and refining process, are not justified. Why bleaching with chlorine and not some ECF or TCF?. Very logical data are set out in the results, and there is no comparison with many other alternative raw materials and also wood species used in the industry.	* The problem pointed out in section 1.0 should not be seen as local problem. The need to find alternative fibre sources due to environmental impact of large scale harvesting of wood is a global problem, Nigeria inclusive. However, the introductory aspect where local issues were largely discussed has been modified to gain wider audience (see lines 28-51). * This manuscript was extracted from one of the Authors' Ph.D Thesis. Information on the Fibre and chemical properties of this stalk has been published. Repeating it here will imply duplication of studies. *The 4:1 liquor to solid ratio was adopted based on the information on the specific gravity of the stalk. This ratio is enough to completely submerge the chipped stock in the digester. * The pulps were subjected to three-stage ClO₂-NaOH extraction (EFC) sequence as shown in section 2.2 (see lines 97-103). Not elementary chlorine as thought by the reviewer. * Pulping response of <i>T. Danielle</i> stalks was compared with some other alternative fibres as shown in sections 3.1, lines 152-157. Same with bleaching response (3.2.1, lines 183-186) and hand sheet properties (3.2.2, lines 231-233 and 264-273).
Minor REVISION comments		
Optional/General comments	Major revision is necessary.	Attempt has been made to address this in the text. See the highlighted sections.