



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of Plant & Soil Science
Manuscript Number:	2014_IJPSS_9038
Title of the Manuscript:	RESIDUAL EFFECT OF INTERCROPPING OIL PALM WITH FOOD CROPS ON YIELD OF THE OIL PALM
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	<p>The manuscript addresses an important issue for small scale oil palm farmers in Africa. Growing oil palm requires a lot of land, and it is becoming a real concern regarding the increasing land pressure in Africa. Therefore, intercropping appears as an inevitable alternative for oil palm farmers, provided it is appropriately designed.</p> <p>The manuscript is globally well written and technically sound. However, additional details should be provided regarding the following points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Authors should provide details regarding the origin (genetic background) of the oil palm used in the experiment, as vegetative parameters may vary significantly amongst the breeding populations of restricted origins (BPROs) used worldwide and hence affect results of intercropping. - Authors should also provide details regarding climate data (annual rainfall, sunshine, mean temperature) of the area of the trial, as severe climatic conditions may induce stress responses of the oil palm and hence interfere with intercropping behaviour. - There is no comment for figure 7. (Effect of food crops intercropped with oil palm on the yield of oil palm) in the results section. Please do insert a comment. - Discussion section should be more elaborate with additional recent references. The genetic background of the oil palm used in the study may help to enrich discussion, as some origins with important vegetative growth (Yangambi) may 	<p>Genetic and source of planting material have been added</p> <p>Climatic data have been provided</p> <p>Comments have been inserted on fig 7.</p> <p>Discussion has been elaborated however references are scanty</p>



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	have significant incidence on the present results.	
Minor REVISION comments	<p>-The conclusion is very laconic.</p> <p>- Authors should provide additional references to support their results.</p>	<p>The conclusion has been changed and elaborated</p> <p>Additional references have been added</p>
Optional/General comments	<p>- One of the main adverse effects attributed to oil palm intercropping is to retard early fruit bearing of oil palm. It should have been interesting for this study to assess this issue by intercropping as from the year of transplant of the young palms.</p>	<p>The assessment was done after the intercropping. The actual intercropping paper talk about delay fruiting and production of all male inflorescence in the first fruiting when the intercropping was on-going. This work accessed residual effect . (1e after the intercropping)</p>