



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of Plant & Soil Science
Manuscript Number:	2013_IJPSS_6870
Title of the Manuscript:	Irrigation strategies for optimizing water table contribution to soil moisture storage and water use of pepper in a humid tropical zone of Nigeria
Type of the 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>)



SDI Review Form 1.6

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	<p>General comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Were there no replications of the treatments of this study, and hence statistical analyses of the data attained? 2. The manuscript was badly written, with many incomplete, incoherent or distorted sentences. I also observed an unacceptable level of carelessness on the part of the authors during the preparation of the manuscript. Also there are too many grammatical errors in the manuscript. The manuscript in its present form lacks clarity in the style of its presentation. It needs to be thoroughly re-written. 3. The authors used many methods of computation of ET in their analyses. But the more important factor of groundwater contribution, going by the title of the paper, was not properly addressed. The title of the paper in itself suggests that groundwater contribution can be used to grow pepper in the dry season but may be optimised through a good choice of irrigation schedule. One therefore expects to see data from completely non-irrigated plots, but such plots were not part of this study. This is a major flaw of this paper, otherwise the authors may wish to consider changing the title to reflect the fact that their emphasis was on the effect of irrigation schedule on the components of water balance and production of pepper in an inland-valley ecosystem during the dry season. <p>Selected specific comments</p>	



SDI Review Form 1.6

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Title: 'Irrigation strategies ... in a humid tropical zone of Nigeria'. Please delete 'tropical' in the title or change the title to 'Irrigation strategies ... in a humid tropical environment' (Reason: we don't have humid temperate zone of Nigeria).2. Lines 20-23: why repeating this which you already have in Lines 11-14?3. Lines 23-34: not clear4. Line 47: Inland valley swamps are not the same as floodplains.5. Line 75: Of what relevance is SWAP to your study?6. Lines 176-178: The translation of eq. 5 to eq. 6 was wrongly done.7. Line 378: Conclusion should not be a repetition of the Results.	
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments		
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		

Note: Anonymous Reviewer