



**SDI Review Form 1.6**

Journal Name:	<a href="#">International Journal of Plant &amp; Soil Science</a>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJPSS_48771
Title of the Manuscript:	Soil compaction and fertilizer amendments on the growth and biomass yield of maize (Zea mays L.) and soybean (Glycine max L.)
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**

	<p><b>Reviewer's comment</b> This manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. The Topic, Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results and Discussion, 2 Plates, 1 Figure, 6 Tables, Conclusion and References are of acceptable standards. However, some amendments could be made to upgrade this work.</p>	<p><b>Author's comment</b> (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)</p>
<p><b>Compulsory</b> REVISION comments</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There could be the need to qualify maize and soybean by putting these as maize and soybean plant/fodder as found appropriate, through out this write up.</li> <li>There could be the need to clarify whether 'root/shoot ratio' and 'root :shoot ratio' mean the same thing. Else root :shoot ratio could be consistently used and correction be made in Lines 8 (within Abstract), 317, 351, 354, 368, 370, 371, 374, 376, 389, 417, 421, 423, 425, 427 and 429.</li> <li>In Lines 72 and 75 : Could be put as – Plate 1. Maize seedlings at 4 weeks and Plate 2. Soybean seedlings at 4 weeks</li> </ol>	<p>All suggestions, where appropriate, have been followed through accordingly. Some key comments about review by authors are</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maize and soybean as used throughout the paper were a general presentation of maize and soybean plants; however, upon reviewer's insistence, maize plants and soybean plants have been presented as substitutes.</li> <li>Root/shoot ratio has been used to entirely replace root: shoot ratio.</li> <li>In Lines 23 and 25, the references put as [2 – 4] and [5 – 8] are appropriate; they are only simplifying what the reviewer suggests, as [2, 3, 4] and [5, 6, 7, 8]</li> <li>Preference has been given to the use of maize and soybean plants to maize and soybean fodder.</li> <li>Suggestion in Pt. 14 on line 541 is not clear to follow.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Minor</b> REVISION comments</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lines 3 to 5: Topic could be put as – <b>Soil Compaction and Fertilizer Amendments on the Growth and Biomass Yield of Maize (Zea mays L.) and Soybean (Glycine max L.) Fodder</b></li> <li>Line 10: Could be put as – <i>Keywords: Soil compaction, fodder, root :shoot biomass ratio</i></li> <li>Line 16: Could insert 'of' as - use of simple</li> <li>Lines 23 and 25: Could put references as [2, 3, 4] and [5, 6, 7, 8]</li> <li>Line 109: Could put 'net' as – soil over net sieves and</li> <li>In Lines 124, 127, within Table 1. Could put 'fodder' after maize and soybean</li> <li>Line 130: could begin as – In maize fodder, the mean height at</li> <li>In Line 149: could change 'latter' to maize fodder In Line 150: could change 'former' to soybean fodder and In Line 151: could change 33 to 33.11 and 42 to 42.00 cm as - 33.11 to 42.00</li> <li>In Lines 201, 279, 351 and within Table 2., Table 4., Table 5. Could put as – maize and soybean fodder or maize and soybean plants</li> <li>Statement in Lines 376 to 379: Could be re-checked, it is not very clear from Table 5.</li> <li>Line 413: Could change Plant 'regard' to Plant height;</li> <li>Within Lines 435 459: Could put - maize and soybean fodder or maize plants or soybean plants as you think appropriate</li> <li>In Line 452: Could be put as – The magnitude of the responses of the</li> <li>In Line 541: Could re-check 'Not' Sci.</li> </ol>	



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<u>Optional/General</u> comments	Could do a little more re-check on this write up.	

**PART 2:**

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's comment</b> <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>
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	