



**SDI Review Form 1.6**

Journal Name:	<a href="#">International Journal of Plant &amp; Soil Science</a>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJPSS_49082
Title of the Manuscript:	Effect of municipal solid waste compost on soil chemical properties and growth performance of cocoa (Theobroma cacao L.) seedlings at the nursery in Ghana
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>)

**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)
<b>Compulsory</b> REVISION comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In line 78, the author(s) stated that "..... with four replications", in which this sentence raises questions how and why four replications. Therefore, the author(s) need to refer to reference(s) the reason of choosing the "four replications"</li> <li>In line 78-79, the author(s) informed that watering was done as and when necessary. This needs more elaboration the exact definition of "when necessary" that refer to a particular period.</li> <li>As a whole, the paper provides a comprehensive study on the effect of municipal solid waste compost that was conducted in cocoa research institute of Ghana. This article would have more valuable values when the author(s) provide the information whether the results would be similar in case conducted in different area that have different characteristics such as due to climate, the nutrition composition of land, etc.</li> </ul>	<p>Four replications are usually used for nursery or green house experiments. This has been a common convention in experimental design and analyses. Choosing four replications tends to reduce experimental error. Watering is done usually on weekly basis.</p> <p>Compost can be used to improve the fertility of less fertile soil irrespective of location. This was a nursery experiment with the seedlings in polybags. So it can be replicated elsewhere and the results would be the similar.</p>
<b>Minor</b> REVISION comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Although exists in few places, the English needs to be improved especially with regard to error English. For instance, in line 29 where to was followed by verb+ing, while this case should be verb 1 (to improve).</li> <li>Furthermore, the error English also exists in line 225 (corroborate), which may substitute with other proper term.</li> </ul>	<p>Noted this will be corrected in the manuscript</p> <p>This has been noted and would be corrected.</p>
<b>Optional/General</b> comments		

**PART 2:**

	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)
<b>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</b>	<p>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</p> <p>Yes, the author(s) need to explain in the methodology whether the study has obtained permission from formal institution to be conducted</p>	<p>This work was carried out with the express approval of Management.</p>