



SDI FINAL EVALUATION FORM 1.1

PART 1:

Journal Name:	Annual Research & Review in Biology
Manuscript Number:	2019/ARRB/47950
Title of the Manuscript:	CORRELATION ANALYSIS OF TOXIC METALS DISTRIBUTION AND POLLUTION INDICES IN SOIL, BEANS AND MAIZE SAMPLES OF KANO STATE, NIGERIA
Type of Article:	<u>Original Research Article</u>

PART 2:

FINAL EVALUATOR'S comments on revised paper (if any)	Authors' response to final evaluator's comments
<p>The previous comments have only partially been addressed and most of the weaknesses of the paper remain. Toxic metals are still not confined to high atomic numbers despite the text remaining unchanged. The text on risks is unbalanced and not differentiating between potential effects due to the soils and crops versus effects at high doses not occurring in the agricultural context. The treatment of the soil is still not described which means it is impossible to know the degree of digestion making the numbers impossible to interpret; what can be inferred from the numbers is that a low degree of metal availability exists with the method used.</p> <p>Language still needs correction. Examples; Line 9 accessing should be assessing Line 14 spectrometry should be spectrometry Line 40 bioaccumulate (no s)</p>	<p>I agree with you, but majority of the identified toxic metals are those with high atomic numbers, see revised manuscript for the correction.</p> <p>The text on risk is intended is limited to my area of research, i.e potential effects due to the soils and crops. Currently we are undergoing a research on the effect toxic metals from in workers of small scale industries (including battery production, metal products, metal smelting and cable coating industries); brick kilns and vehicular emissions.</p> <p>I have addressed this issue in the previous author's response. The digestion protocol is the same for all samples.</p> <p>Thank you for this observation. Please see revised manuscript.</p> <p>Thank you</p>