

Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Applied Chemistry Research
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJACR_92706
Title of the Manuscript:	Heavy metal accumulation in vegetables grown in rock soils of Kilembe copper mine, Kasese, Western Uganda
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:

(<https://www.journalajacr.com/index.php/AJACR/editorial-policy>)

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>1. "Heavy metals" are more appropriately named "Toxic Metals" in line with recent parlance, to accommodate the fact that some of such metals are not exactly "heavy". Consider renaming throughout manuscript.</p> <p>2. Words in the abstract are too many. Reduce to 300 words (maximum).</p> <p>3. Specify method of collecting samples or, were all vegetables planted used for analysis? See paragraph one in section 2.3.</p> <p>4. Drying temperatures were way TOO HIGH for some of the metals. Optimum extraction of metals like Ni, Cd or Zn for analysis is achieved with digesting raw samples, air-drying of samples or minimal heating.</p>	<p>You are quite correct. HMs represent a group of an ill-defined subset of elements with metallic properties, and includes the transition metals, lanthanides and actinides series (rare earth elements) and a heterogeneous group inclusive of the metal bismuth, chemical elements which form amphoteric oxides. For the purpose of this study, we retained the most acceptable definition of HMs as those potentially toxic or poisonous elements with higher densities or specific gravities (at least five times greater than that of water) (Ali <i>et al.</i>, 2019).</p> <p>We have reduced the words to 297. Thank you.</p> <p>Corrected as suggested.</p> <p>Corrected</p>
Minor REVISION comments	Review the names in the "Reference" section (list all names without <i>et al.</i> and do not join initials). Correctly write page numbers of all references.	Reviewed
Optional/General comments	Much work had been previously done on "heavy metals around the Kilembe copper mine". However, the researcher(s) attempted to introduce some novelty in this research which is commendable.	Thanks for commending our work.

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)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)	