

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	Journal of Advances in Biology & Biotechnology
Manuscript Number:	Ms_JABB_125836
Title of the Manuscript:	An overview of the developments in the propagation of the East Indian Sandalwood, Santalum album L.
Type of the Article	

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PART 1: Review Comments

<u>Compulsory</u> REVISION comments	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. Why do you like (or dislike) this manuscript? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	This manuscript is important as it highlights the conservation status of the plant species, it's economic importance and challenges with several propagation methods by different resources archers over a period of over 50 years. I like the manuscript because it brings together, several relevant research on one topic, making it easier for the scientific community to explore the topic in detail through a single manuscript.	Appreciation acknowledged with gratitude
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	The title is suitable but lacks a defined scope. An overview of the developments in the propagation of the East Indian Sandalwood, Santalum album L. on a given continent or district and within a given review period of 1980 to present time, for example will give the title a definite scope	Since the review is not restricted to any specific place or timeline, title of the manuscript is not changed.
Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.	The article abstract is quite succinct and comprehensive. However, I find the following expression ambiguous: "this forest species is now grown in the farmer's field at a faster pace". It might be more appropriate to specify the demography of farmers engaged in this practices, supported with statistics.	As suggested, the demography is added; however, present day statistics of the same is not available for adding in the abstract.
Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?	Many subsection and structure of the Manuscript seem appropriate. However, in the third paragraph of your introduction, the following expression: "Tissue culture techniques can be used to encounter difficulties..." can be revised to "Tissue culture techniques can be used to mitigate difficulties..."	Revised as suggested.
Please write a few sentences regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript. Why do you think that this manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	Regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript, in the third paragraph of your introduction, the question is begged: Can a species be highly heterogeneous and have a narrow gene pull at the same time? The answer being "No, a species cannot be both highly heterogeneous and have a narrow gene pool simultaneously. These terms describe opposite genetic characteristics". Hence the need for a minor revision here.	There is no mention of the species being heterogeneous in this paper. The heterozygosity of seedlings is attributed to genetic differences between them despite having same parents, which is a result of recombination. The narrow genetic pool is due to decreased genetic diversity, which is a result of breeding between the limited number of left over individuals.
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form. =	The references are very sufficient. Although, they are not recent, this may not be relevant, as this review of literature takes a historical perspective, necessitating the citations of articles from several decades ago.	N.A.
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?	Yes. The language/English quality of this article is suitable for scholarly communications, with minor revisions.	Suggested revisions have been made.
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	In this article, the survival and establishment of Sandalwood plant should go beyond just propagation. It also needs to be correlated to the availability and diversity of host plants, since it is a hemi-parasite. Therefore, more information is needed about parasite-host relationship also if the goal is to restore a healthy species population size.	A wide range of host plants have been reported for sandalwood, and many more are being adopted by farmers who cultivate this species. Since that is another extensive area of study, it is not included in this paper which is focussed on propagation.

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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?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	N.A.