

## Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	<a href="#">Biotechnology Journal International</a>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_BJI_76743
Title of the Manuscript:	Temporal evolution of organochlorine pesticides residues in kola nuts (Cola nitida vent nuts. Schott & Endl.) processing in Eastern of Côte d'Ivoire
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://peerreviewcentral.com/page/manuscript-withdrawal-policy>)

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### 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	<p>The submitted manuscript presents an article about temporal evolution of organochlorine pesticides residues in kola nuts (Cola nitida vent nuts. Schott &amp; Endl.) processing in Eastern of Côte d'Ivoire. The objective of this study is to monitor the evolution of organochlorine residues levels in kola nuts collected from various actors in the eastern producing region of Côte d'Ivoire. Kola nuts samples were collected from farmers, collectors and urban stores in the Eastern of Côte d'Ivoire. A total of 225 samples were analyzed using Gas chromatography–tandem mass spectrometry (Agilent 7010B Triple Quadrupole GC/MS System). Data showed that all 21 pesticides analyzed were detected in kola nuts samples. Statistical analysis indicated no significant difference in OCPs sub-group used by actors during the three-crop studied. The mean levels of HCHs, DDTs and cyclodienes were ranged from 5±1–136.67±77.3 µg/kg FW, 5±1 – 116.67±63.2 µg/kg FW and 5±1 - 145±63.2 µg/kg FW, respectively. Otherwise, farmer's levels of OCPs were lower than those detected in kola nuts from collectors and urban stores samples. Thus, compared to the MRL set by the World Health Organization/Food and Agricultural Organization, the farmer's samples are lower than limits fixed, unlike the contents registered with collectors and urban stores. In the latter, nearly 80% to 100% of kola nuts collected is contaminated with hexachlorinated residues (HCHs) and heptachlor. There is the need to keep monitoring ecotoxicological chemical substances in kola nuts produced in Côte d'Ivoire and take steps that ensure health safety of end users. Care should be taken since residues could pose chronic health risk for adults and children.</p> <p><b>However, some issues exist that must be addressed carefully before the publication of this manuscript.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) The manuscript needs language, grammar and syntactic editing. The English language usage should be checked by a fluent English speaker.</li><li>2) The manuscript needs revision for typo and misprint mistakes (spaces, capital letters at the beginning of sentences, etc.).</li><li>3) You should draw the chemical structure of pesticide used.</li><li>4) What about the recovery test of extraction method used.</li><li>5) You should make comparison between the present results of the research and some similar studies which is published before.</li><li>6) It could be useful to update your article using these references:-<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Egyptian Journal of Chemistry 63(10), 3837-3845 (2020).</b></li><li>• <b>Phosphorus, Sulfur and Silicon and the Related Elements, 2008, 183(11), pp. 2734–2751</b></li><li>• <b>Food Additives and Contaminants part A 35(3), 479–486 (2018).</b></li><li>• <b>Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements 193:11, 711-720 (2018).</b></li><li>• <b>Nutrients, 13(1), 1-19, Article number 229(2021).</b></li><li>• <b>Egyptian Journal of Chemistry, 64(4), 1817-1829(2021).</b></li><li>• <b>Journal of Environmental Science and Health Part B 47 (4), 343-354 (2012).</b></li><li>• <b>Journal of Environmental Science and Health Part B 49(12), 917-928 (2014).</b></li></ul></li></ol>	

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	<div>✓ The introduction is sufficient and updated.</div> <div>✓ The discussion is good.</div> <div>✓ The bibliography/references are sufficient and updated.</div> <div>The article is interesting, I recommend publishing this work in the “Biotechnology Journal International” with a major revision.</div>	<div>1) English language usage have been checked</div> <div>2) Corrections have been made in the manuscript</div> <div>3) Not necessary in this study</div> <div>4) Not necessary because this is not a method validation study</div> <div>5)</div> <div>6) 3/4 items are either unavailable or chargeable.</div>
Minor REVISION comments		
Optional/General 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)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)	