

### Review Form 3

Journal Name:	<a href="#">Journal of Advances in Biology &amp; Biotechnology</a>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_JABB_128939
Title of the Manuscript:	Phylogenetic and Gene Expression of Norsolorinic acid analysis of Aflatoxigenic Strains and Quantification of Aflatoxin B1 Levels into White Rice Grains in Kenya
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

#### PART 1: Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback (Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This study on the rice grains quality in Kenya is of capital importance</li> <li>- Aflatoxin is the most toxic mycotoxin found in foods, monitoring its content in foods is crucial to protect consumers health</li> <li>- The study results showed that three strains of <i>Aspergillus</i> from section <i>Flavi</i> are involved in the production of Aflatoxin in rice in Kenya, these are <i>A. flavus</i>, <i>A. parasiticus</i> and <i>A. nomius</i>, all possessing the <i>aflD</i> gene</li> <li>- The aflatoxin content in rice grains is higher than the standard set by the EU, which represents a potential danger for consumers</li> <li>- Study found that <i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i> does not produce aflatoxin</li> </ul>	validate
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	yes	validate
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.	Yes it's comprehensive	validate
Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.	The manuscript is scientifically correct. Indeed, the author used the <i>aflD</i> gene to sequence the producers of aflatoxins in rice consumed in Kenya. At the end of his study, he warns and addresses a plea to the Kenyan authorities and the African sub-region regarding the presence of aflatoxigenic strains in this cereal as well as the danger incurred by consumers.	validate
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.	The author used more than sixty references to support his analyses, this is sufficient, but as the study mentions the search for aflatoxigenic molds in rice consumed in West Africa in general and in Kenya in particular, we have added on this reference: "Compaoré H, Samandoulougou S, Compaoré S.C, Bambara A, Ratongué H, Traoré L, Sawadogo-Lingani H. Occurrence of Aflatoxins in rice intended for infant flour production in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. <i>Journal of Advances in Microbiology</i> (2021), 21 (10): 55-66. This is work carried out on the Aflatoxin contamination of rice in Burkina Faso.	validate

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<b>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</b>	Yes	<b>validate</b>
<b><u>Optional/General</u></b> comments	<b>The study carried out by the author is very important and highlights the danger represented by the rice consumption in Kenya due to contamination by aflatoxigenic fungi and aflatoxins. We have left comments and edits in the manuscript for the author. As an example, we proposed to add in the results section images of fungal strains isolated from rice, such as macroscopic or microscopic aspects of rice fungal isolates in PDA or MEA medium.</b>  <b>PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENT</b>	<b>Validate</b>

**PART 2:**

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's comment</b> <i>(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)</i>
<b>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</b>	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	