

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	European Journal of Nutrition & Food Safety
Manuscript Number:	Ms_EJNFS_130553
Title of the Manuscript:	Assessment of Food Safety Practices, Associated Factors and Microbial Contamination of Fried Nile Perch in Mwanza City Markets: A Cross-Sectional Study
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

PART 1: Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. Authors must write his/her feedback here)</i>
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.	Urban markets are critical points where food products reach consumers directly and are of critical importance in terms of public health, economic sustainability, and their role in the food supply chain. Lack of food safety practices in these markets can pose serious risks to public health. They are foods that are consumed quickly, such as fried fish, and can create a suitable environment for microorganisms when hygiene is not taken into account. Food safety standards applied in urban markets are a reflection of the general food supply chain. Determining microbial contamination levels and determining the factors affecting this can contribute to the development of more effective food safety policies. Such studies provide basic data for stricter regulations and development of educational programs in urban markets. These scientific evaluations can inform consumers about making safer food choices.	Thank you, dear reviewer, for your thorough lookout of the content of this work and for the acknowledgement of how urban markets can pose serious health risks to consumers, if the food handlers do not adhere to the hygienic requirements.
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	The title of the article is appropriate	Thanks for approving the title of this work.
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 summary of the article is comprehensive.	Thanks for this comment and approval of the abstract.
Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.	Article data were evaluated statistically. There is sufficient literature to provide general information on hygiene. However, more citations from previous similar studies are required when interpreting the data obtained. It may be more understandable if the numerical values of the studies cited in the discussion section are stated in the text.	Thanks for this comment. I have incorporated the numerical values in the discussion part of the paragraphs.
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions for additional references, please mention them in the review form.	The literature included in the study is stated in the references section. [40] is cited from the literature on page 16, but its number is not in the text. [18]. The literature is on page 11 in the text and should be placed higher. The study used up-to-date references to provide general information. However, the following studies should also be reviewed: Ahmad, B. L., Hassan, M., & Ibrahim, I. S. (2024). Quality evaluation of fried fish sold in Katsina metropolis. Geraldo, V., Ampofo-Asiama, J., Adinortey, C. A., Okyere, I., Tulashie, S. K., Nuer, A. T. K., ... & Kizzie-Hayford, N. (2024). Implement good manufacturing practices (GMP) to improve the quality of	I have incorporated the reference number 40 in the text I have incorporated reference number 18 too Dear reviewer, thanks for adding some literature to improve my discussion. I have included the findings of these studies in my work.

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	smoked fish (Scomber colias). Heliyon, 10(5). Kajunju, N. H. B., Cikuru, B. A., Amini, B. D., & Nsimire, R. M. (2023). Microbiological Safety and Nutritional Quality of Street Vended Ready-to-Eat Foods in Bukavu, Eastern DR Congo.	
Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?	The language quality of the article is suitable for academic communication	Thanks for this comment.
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)	