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| Journal Name: | [**Journal of Advances in Biology & Biotechnology**](https://journaljabb.com/index.php/JABB) |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_JABB\_137782** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **Soil-dwelling Macro-invertebrates in Cocoa Plantations Invaded by the Little Fire Ant and neighboring Secondary Forest in Mbalmayo Reserve Forest (Centre-Cameroon)** |
| Type of the Article | **Original Research Article** |

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| PART 1: Comments | | |
|  | Reviewer’s comment **Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.** | **Author’s Feedback** (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.** | This research highlights the severe ecological disruption caused by the invasive little fire ant in cocoa plantations, leading to drastically reduced soil macro-invertebrate diversity and an increase in exotic pests. In contrast, neighboring secondary forests maintain higher native biodiversity. These findings are crucial for developing targeted conservation strategies and sustainable pest management approaches to protect vital soil ecosystems and agricultural productivity in affected regions. | Thanks to the reviewer for recognizing the quality and ecological interest of the information contained in our manuscript. |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?**  **(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | Yes it is suitable | OK no comment |
| 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. | Based on the provided abstract, it appears to be quite comprehensive in terms of presenting the study's scope, methodology, and key findings. There is no suggestion from my side. | OK no comment |
| Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here. | On the basis of available information in the manuscript, it appears to be scientifically sound in its approach and findings presented in the article. | OK no comment **Additional corrections**  We reviewed the manuscript and made a few editorial corrections written in red and highlighted in yellow:  1. In Table 1: the probability written in the last column of the pests row in exotics, and in the legend at the bottom of the table, has been changed to log form to conform to the general presentation.  2. Table 2. In the *Wasmania auropunctata* row, the number separators are commas, not periods.  3. In Table 3:  \* The last percentages between parentheses in the abundance row have been corrected by using periods, not commas.  \* The probabilities in the table and in the legend at the bottom of the table have been written in log form to conform to the general presentation.  \* In other rows, the commas have been replaced with periods to conform to reality.  \* The title of Figure 2 has been corrected, as is the case in Figure 1, by writing Fig. 2 and not Figure 2. |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.** | all **references sufficient and recent** | OK no comment |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | it appears to me suitable for scholarly communication | OK no comment |
| Optional/General comments |  |  |

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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?** | *(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)* |  |