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| Journal Name: | [**Asian Journal of Research in Botany**](https://journalajrib.com/index.php/AJRIB) |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_AJRIB\_141058** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **Diagnosis of fungi contaminating local and imported fruits in Kirkuk using PCR** |
| Type of the Article | **Research** |

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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.** | **Good paper investigated a fungi by PCR, its important study in this field, and finally very good work.** | This study helped identify fungal contaminants affecting various local and imported fruits in Kirkuk city by combining traditional agricultural techniques with molecular polymerase chain reaction (PCR), which enabled accurate diagnosis of pathogenic fungi that infected the plants identified in the study. The results revealed five predominant fungal species: Aspergillus fumigatus, Aspergillus niger, Mucor spp., Candida krusei, and Candida tropicalis. These species pose numerous risks to food safety available in the markets. These results are considered of great importance in agricultural practices in developing regions. Therefore, this research contributes to serving the scientific community by focusing on improving monitoring methods and preventive strategies to reduce fungal contamination in agricultural products available in Kirkuk city markets. |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?**  **(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | **yes** | yes |
| 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** | yes |
| Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here. | yes | Yes. Of course |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.** | yes | yes |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | Very good | very good |
| Optional/General comments | **Acceptance as it is.**  It is very good research , Please revision the number of references in the text. | **Accept the research as it is**  The research is excellent scientifically and linguistically. The order of references in the text has been reviewed and their accuracy confirmed. |

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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)* | There are no ethical issues related to my research as this research or study includes only plants or fruits infected with fungi and does not include human samples, animal samples or any personal data. |