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| Journal Name: | [**European Journal of Nutrition & Food Safety**](https://journalejnfs.com/index.php/EJNFS) |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_EJNFS\_137233** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **Testing of a standardized extract of Sceletium tortuosum (Zembrin®) according to OECD Genotoxicity Guidelines 471, 487 and 474** |
| 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 manuscript showcases indispensible safety data on Zembrin®, a commercial extract of *Sceletium tortuosum* by employing 3 internatiomally acknowledged OECD genotoxicity tests. This works is prompt and apropos to the present scenario of nutraceutical sector by its remarkable adoration in it. These uncovering results act as backing to its proper and safe use in scientific endeavor.** | Thanks. We do not need to add or change the text on the basis if this supportive comment |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?**  **(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | **No need for title change as it is concise, crisp and aligns well with the content and primary objective of the manuscript.** | Thanks |
| 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. | **This scientific manuscript is summarised in its wholeness in this abstract. For further enhancement of its lucidity, an inclusion of a precise note on the three-tiered testing master plan and why these results are worthy for safety evaluation has to be specified.** | Thanks. We have added “…as per existing EFSA Guidance..” into the abstract |
| Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here. | **This paper is empirical, well-founded and upholds high scientific temper. The tests were conducted in concurrence with the OECD and Good Laboratory Practice methodology, and the outcomes were interpreted in conformance with standard toxicological principles. The methodology and data presentation are both meticulous and unambiguous.** | Thanks |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.** | **The manuscript has cited a sufficient number of references whose literature very well aligns and supports it entirely. Recent references are few in number.** | Thanks. Even though recent references are not many we agree with “The manuscript has cited a sufficient number of references”. So no need to adapt. |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | **This manuscript upholds a professional tone of language with actual grammar notes. Even though the manuscript upholds good quality, by carrying out a minor proofreading the overall continuity of this paper can be enhanced.** | Thanks. We have checked the English language and made several changes. |
| Optional/General comments | **This well drafted manuscript acts as scientific gap filler by evaluating the toxicological profile of a plant extract by showcasing a multi test design.** | Thanks |

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| **PART 2:** | | |
|  | **Reviewer’s comment** | **Author’s Feedback** (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)* |  |