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| Journal Name: | [**International Journal of Biochemistry Research & Review**](https://journalijbcrr.com/index.php/IJBCRR) |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_IJBCRR\_142277** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **Physicochemical and nutritional properties of two insect species (Cirina butyrospermi and Zonoceros variegatus) consumed in Northern Benin** |
| 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 paper provides evidence to support/reject the consumption of alternative food sources. Perhaps prompting policymakers to promote alternative food sources. Such a paper is especially necessary for communities in Northern Benin. | No comment |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?**  **(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | The current title is adequate. A more attractive title can be considered, for example: Insects (Cirina butyrospermi and Zonoceros variegatus) as a potential alternative food source in Northern Benin.  This is up to the authors to decide if the title change is needed. | The title suggested is very relevant and attractive. We accept it and the new formulation is: Insects (*Cirina butyrospermi* and *Zonoceros variegatus*) as a potential alternative food source in Northern Benin: Assessment of nutritional composition and processing properties |
| 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. | Please elaborate more on your methods in the abstract, perhaps with a sentence or two on the statistical techniques, which are currently missing from the abstract. |  |
| Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here. | Section 2.3, please elaborate more on the techniques rather than listing which prompt was used in SAS. Please also tell readers which correlation test was used; was it a Spearman or Pearson? If the parametric one was used, how was the assumption check conducted?  In the results and conclusion, for the tables, under the column Effects of species (p-value). Please be more specific for this heading. What is this effect? Does the p-value represent a significant difference between the two species as stated in the text? If so, a simple “p-value” for the heading should suffice. Similar to the above comment, because no elaboration on the statistical testing was provided, readers are unsure of the significance of this p-value. So it is of vital importance that Section 2.3 be corrected.  Continuing with the presentation of results. Often, mean values are shown with the standard deviation (SD). So perhaps show Means (SD). SD is an important figure to consider when looking at means. For example, if the mean is 10 with a SD of 9. Therefore, we know that the variance for this mean is large, and perhaps the p-value does not accurately reflect the significance of the result.  Without a recommendation section, it is often not a major problem. However, this paper holds great potential for policy-making purposes. Authors should consider including a recommendation section to improve the “power” of this paper. Allow readers to know what they should do next with these results. Just by reading this paper, there are a lot of questions left for readers to ponder.  How sustainable is this food source? How can this food source be sustainable? Or are these food sources preferred because of availability or accessibility? When the authors discuss the lack of awareness, why are these food sources gaining attention due to their nutritional benefits?  To address readers' questions, there can be a section on recommendations. Otherwise, improve and address them in the introduction section. | The comments are relevant and taking into account in the correction of the proof.  Statistical analysis was conducted using Statistical Analysis System software (SAS, 2006). Means were calculated using the PROC MEANS procedure and frequencies using PROC FREQ. The procedure Proc Glm of SAS was used for variance analysis. The insect species effect was determined by student T test. Correlations between variables were determined by species using PROC CORR procedure of SAS.  P -value (Effect of species) formulation for the heading is also corrected in the table and the statistical model used was also integrated in the text.  The following recoomendations was suggested in the corrected proof after the conclusion section:  **Recommendations**  Given the rich nutrient profiles and distinct physicochemical characteristics of Cirina butyrospermi and Zonoceros variegatus, it is recommended that these edible insects be systematically integrated into local and national food security strategies in Northern Benin. Public health and agricultural authorities should promote their consumption through nutrition education campaigns, while supporting sustainable harvesting, processing, and possible farming systems to ensure year-round availability. Furthermore, food technologists should explore their incorporation into fortified food products or complementary foods to combat protein, mineral, and micronutrient deficiencies, particularly among vulnerable populations such as children and pregnant women.  DISCLAIMER (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE) had been added.  Authors hereby declare that NO generative AI technologies such as Large Language Models (ChatGPT, have been used during the writing or editing of the manuscript. |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.** | Several references are more than 10 years old. Perhaps because such topics are not frequently studied. Thus, old references should not be an issue for this paper. | No comment |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | The language is more than adequate. However, any paper can improve with further proofreading. | No comment |
| Optional/General comments | **Authors can consider a title change – not mandatory.**  **Authors should include methods in the abstract.**  **Authors must improve section 2.3**  **Authors can either include a “recommendation” section or improve the “introduction”.** | All the reviewer comments were took into account in the corrected proof. |

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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)* |  |