

Responses to Reviewer Comments

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Composite leaf samples were made by physically mixing individual leaves taken from 3 sample plants of 3 replicates into one homogenous sample. Compositing reduced the number of analyses to be performed and was designed to provide a representative sample of the treatment. Twenty youngest mature leaves on main stem were collected at 10 weeks after transplanting (WAT). Dry and clean leaf samples were placed in a sample bag prior to laboratory analysis.

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Commented [ZZ1]: Done.
The references have also included.

Commented [ZZ2]: Done.
The reason why there are no statistical analysis is because leaf samples were taken from 3 sample plants of 3 replicates and mixed altogether into a homogenous sample. This was to reduce number of analysis, thus reducing cost.

Please check if you are correctly following the author guidelines: in reference the title of the paper should be in italics except genera, specie and/or subspecies.

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Citorin seems not significantly higher in 1:1:2 media comparison. Please check.

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Line 145 – 146 : Corrected as: Numbers followed by the same lowercase in the rows and the same uppercase in the columns are not significantly different according to Fisher's Least Significant Different test ($\alpha = 0.05$).

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Line 154 – 158 : Corrected as: The interaction between biostimulants and media compositions did not significantly affect total leaf area and total dry weight (Tables 4 and 5). The largest absolute total leaf area was found in the combination of Hantu[®] and 2:1:1 medium composition (2,644.66 cm²) (Table 4). In addition, the greatest total dry weight was obtained in the combination of Citorin[®] and 1:1:2 medium composition (Table 5).

Please report that all data on table 4 and 5 are not statistical difference in the table legend or add the same letters in the rows as you have done before.

Line 169 – 174 : Corrected as: Significant effect of the interaction between biostimulants and media compositions was noted on dry weight of above-ground parts

(Table 6), fruit number (Table 7) and fruit weight (Table 8). Data presented in Table 6 show that the dry weight of above-ground parts of plants treated with Citorin[®] on medium composition of 1:1:2 was significantly higher than those without biostimulant. In the absence of biostimulant, media composition of 2:1:1 and 1:2:1 were better than 2:2:1 or 1:1:2, while in the application of Citorin[®], the composition of 1:1:2 and 2:1:1 were better than 2:2:1 or 1:2:1. However, when Hantu[®] was applied there was significant difference in the dry weight of above-ground parts of chili peppers grown on all media compositions (Table 6).

Line 180 – 181 : Corrected as: Numbers followed by the same lowercase in the rows and the same uppercase in the columns are not significantly different according to Fisher's Least Significant Different test ($\alpha = 0.05$).

Line 184 – 189 : Corrected as: Data on fruit number presented in Table 7 show that plants grown on media with composition of 2:2:1 and treated with biostimulants produce more fruits than those without biostimulants. On 2:1:1 media composition, the application of Hantu[®] resulted in the greatest number of fruit, which was significantly different from either the application of Citorin[®] or no biostimulant treatment. On 1:1:2 media composition, however, the effect of Hantu[®] was significantly different to those plants grown in the absence of biostimulant only. On media composition of 1:2:1, the control treatment produced more fruits than those plants treated with Citorin[®] (Table 7).

Line 194 – 195 : Corrected as: Numbers followed by the same lowercase in the rows and the same uppercase in the columns are not significantly different according to Fisher's Least Significant Different test ($\alpha = 0.05$).

Line 198 – 203 : Corrected as: Data presented in Table 8 show that biostimulant Citorin[®] significantly increased fruit weight when applied on plants grown on medium with 2:2:1 composition. On medium with 1:2:1 composition, the application of either Citorin[®] or Hantu[®] was found to result in less fruit weight significantly. In the absence of biostimulant, the composition of 2:1:1 significantly increased fruit weight than 2:2:1 and 1:1:2 media compositions. Also, in the application of Citorin[®], the fruit weight of plants grown on medium with the composition of 2:1:1 was significantly heavier than of those grown on media compositions of 1:2:1 and 1:1:2. Further, in the application of Hantu[®] the fruit weight of plants grown on the media composition of 2:1:1 was significantly heavier than the weight fruits produced by plants grown on any other media compositions (Table 8).

Citorin seems not significantly higher in 1:1:2 media comparison. Please check

Line 217 – 219 : Corrected as: Numbers followed by the same lowercase in the rows and the same uppercase in the columns are not significantly different according to Fisher's Least Significant Different test ($\alpha = 0.05$).

Line 232 – 234 : Corrected as: Total sugar, proline and chlorophyll content of leaves were measured when the plants were 14 weeks after planting, and the results are presented in Table 10.

And what about the letters for statistical comparison in tab. 9 and 10. They are not shown at the table.

Line 250 – 253 : Corrected as: . Citorin[®] contains gibberellic acid (GA₃) along with nutrients such as P, K, Mg, Mn, antioxidants and vitamins (Amanah and Putra, 2018). Meanwhile, Hantu[®] contains the gibberellic acids (GA₃, GA₅, GA₇), IAA, kinetin and zeatin along with nutrients such as N, P, Na, Mg, Cu, Fe, Mn, Zn, Co, Cd, and Pb (Lidar and Mutryarny, 2017).