



REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-57297

Title: Bradford's Law of Scattering and its Application to the Analysis of Plant Breeding Research Publications in India.

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		Good		
Techn. Quality		Good		
Clarity		Good		
Significance		Good		

Reviewer's ID: JPR-115

Detailed Reviewer's Report

General Evaluation

The manuscript presents a bibliometric analysis of plant breeding research in India using Bradford's Law of Scattering. The topic is relevant and valuable, particularly for researchers in agricultural sciences, library science, and scientometrics. The use of Web of Science data and the attempt to validate both verbal and graphical formulations of Bradford's Law are commendable. The study contributes to understanding publication patterns and identifying core journals in plant breeding research.

However, the manuscript requires **moderate revision** before it can be considered for publication. Several issues related to clarity, language, methodology, data presentation, and interpretation need to be addressed.

Major Comments

1. Abstract Improvement

The abstract contains grammatical errors and formatting issues.

Avoid line breaks within sentences (e.g., lines 12–15).

Clearly state: Objective

Methodology Key findings (with precise numbers)

Conclusion

Replace vague phrases like "*unexpected milestones*" with measurable outcomes.

2. Language and Grammar

The manuscript requires **thorough language editing**.

Examples:

"has not fits" → "does not fit"

"verbal formulation $1:n:n^2$ has not fits" → "the observed data does not conform to the theoretical $1:n:n^2$ distribution"

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Ensure consistent tense usage and remove typographical errors.

3. Methodology Clarification

The search strategy needs more detail:

Exact search string used in Web of Science

Inclusion/exclusion criteria

Document types considered (articles, reviews, etc.)

Explain why only the **Title field** was used instead of Topic/Keywords.

4. Data Consistency

Ensure consistency in percentages and totals across tables.

Verify calculations in Table 1 (AGR and ARoG values).

Clearly explain how mean values were calculated.

5. Bradford's Law Application

The explanation of the **multiplier (k = 8.43)** needs better justification.

Show step-by-step calculation clearly.

The deviation from the theoretical model should be discussed more critically:

Why does the dataset not fit?

Is it due to interdisciplinary nature, database coverage, or publication trends?

6. Error Calculation

The percentage error (23.25%) is presented, but interpretation is weak.

Explain whether this level of error is acceptable in bibliometric studies.

Compare with previous similar studies for context.

7. Graphical Analysis

The discussion of the "Bradford curve" is brief.

Explain the observed "Groos droop" more clearly.

Ensure figures are properly labeled and referenced.

Minor Comments

1. Formatting Issues

Remove unnecessary line numbers in the final manuscript.

Correct spacing issues (e.g., "Va lue").

Standardise font and formatting of equations.

2. Equations

Present formulas clearly using proper formatting:

AGR formula

ARoG formula

Ensure symbols are consistent throughout.

3. Tables

Table titles should be concise and self-explanatory.

Align columns properly.

Add notes below tables where necessary.

4. References

Ensure all cited works (e.g., Briggs & Knowles, Allard, Stoskopf) are included in the reference list.

Follow the journal's citation style consistently.

5. Keywords

Expand keywords to improve indexing:

Add terms like *Bibliometrics*, *Scientometrics*, *Journal Analysis*

Strengths of the Study

- Uses a **large dataset (7842 publications, 849 journals)**.

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

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- Identifies **core journals** in plant breeding research.
- Combines **verbal and graphical validation** of Bradford's Law.
- Provides useful insights for **researchers, librarians, and policymakers**.

Suggestions for Improvement

- Compare results with **previous bibliometric studies** in agriculture or plant sciences.
- Add a brief section on **practical implications** (e.g., for library collection development).
- Improve the **discussion depth**, especially regarding deviations from theoretical expectations.

Final Recommendation

Decision: Major Revision Required

The study has strong potential, but it requires **significant revision in language, methodology clarity, and analytical depth** before it can be accepted for publication.