



REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-57528

Title: Documentation of ethnobotanical plant species used in the preparation of Apong, a traditionally prepared rice beer by Mishing tribal community of Majuli

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 Dr Thirunahari Ugandhar**

Detailed Reviewer's Report

The manuscript documents valuable indigenous knowledge on the traditional preparation of Apong among the Mishing tribal community and contributes significantly to ethnobotanical literature.

The title is informative; however, minor grammatical correction is needed, such as “ethnobotanical plant species” to “ethnobotanical plants”.

The abstract is well structured, but grammatical corrections and sentence refinement are necessary for better readability.

Scientific names such as *Oryza sativa* and *Dryopteris filix-mas* should be italicized consistently throughout the manuscript.

The introduction provides useful background on Apong and its socio-cultural importance, but additional recent references on traditional fermented beverages may strengthen the section.

The study area description should include clearer geographic coordinates and map representation for better understanding of the research location.

Methodology is appropriate; however, details regarding plant identification methods, herbarium deposition, and voucher specimen numbers should be included.

The ethical considerations mentioned are appreciable and strengthen the authenticity of the ethnobotanical survey.

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Quantitative ethnobotanical indices such as RFC and UV are properly used and improve the scientific quality of the study.

The preparation techniques of Po:ro Apong and Nogin Apong are clearly described and provide important traditional knowledge documentation.

In the Results section, the complete table of all documented plant species should be properly formatted and checked for consistency in scientific nomenclature.

The discussion section effectively explains the dominance of certain plant families and plant parts used, but comparison with similar studies from other tribal communities of Northeast India can be expanded.

The conclusion is meaningful and highlights the importance of conservation of indigenous knowledge and biodiversity associated with Apong preparation.

The manuscript contains several grammatical, punctuation, and spacing errors that require careful language editing before publication.

Overall, the study is scientifically important and culturally valuable, and it may be considered for publication after minor to moderate revisions.