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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-57619

Title: Variability in the nutritional density of maize-based meals in the cities of Abéché, Moundou and Sarh in Chad

Recommendation:

- Accept as it is
- Accept after minor revision.....
- Accept after major revision**
- Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

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

Reviewer's ID: JPR-171

Detailed Reviewer's Report

This study compares the nutritional composition of maize-based meals across three Chadian cities. While the topic is relevant, major revisions are required. First, the sample size for laboratory analysis is very small (n=3 per city), limiting statistical power and generalizability – this should be acknowledged as a major limitation. Second, Table 1 is incomplete and formatting errors obscure the data; all tables must be presented clearly. Third, the carbohydrate determination method (Bertrand) is outdated and less accurate than modern enzymatic or HPLC methods; the authors should justify its use or repeat analyses. Fourth, the discussion overinterprets differences (e.g., 0.5% protein variation) as clinically meaningful without evidence of biological significance. Fifth, the link between meal composition and actual nutritional status of populations is not established. Sixth, several references are incomplete (e.g., “10,” at the end). The authors must clarify analytical methods, expand sample replication, correct table formatting, and temper conclusions. A major revision addressing these issues is required before resubmission.