



REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-57824

Title: Constructs of Quality Cacao Produce: An alternative scale

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 attempts to develop and validate a scale for quality cacao production using exploratory factor analysis. While the topic is relevant, the manuscript has serious methodological and presentation flaws requiring major revision. First, the research design is contradictory: the authors claim a “sequential explanatory mixed-methods design” but present only quantitative EFA results; no qualitative data are reported. Second, the sampling is purposive (n=300) with no justification of sample size adequacy for EFA (recommended subject-to-item ratio is 10:1; here 300:60 meets only 5:1). Third, Table 2 is completely missing, and Table 3 contains extensive blank cells and repetitive numbers, making interpretation impossible. Fourth, the scree plot shows an elbow after 7 factors, yet 15 factors had eigenvalues >1 – the retention criterion is not clearly justified. Fifth, the authors claim to have used Content Validity Ratio (CVR) but do not report how experts were selected or the CVR threshold (0.80 seems arbitrary). Sixth, the language requires extensive editing (e.g., “cacaoproducstare”, “fermetation”). Seventh, no confirmatory factor analysis is performed to validate the extracted structure – a scale development study requires CFA on a separate sample. The authors must restructure the manuscript, provide complete tables, justify methodological choices, collect CFA data, and thoroughly proofread. Resubmission after major revision is required.