

Name:	<u>UTTAR PRADESH JOURNAL OF ZOOLOGY</u>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_UPJOZ_4558
Title of the Manuscript:	Management of Melon Fruit fly, <i>Zeugodacus cucurbitae</i> (Coquillett) with Improved Protein Bait Formulation
Type of the Article	ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

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This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

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PART 1: Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	<p>Comment: The abstract is clear but could benefit from a more concise summary of the results and significance of the research.</p> <p>Suggestion: Reorganize the abstract to emphasize the key findings upfront. For example, start with the statement: "Gel proteinex bait traps were significantly more effective in reducing fruit fly incidences due to their ability to attract both male and female fruit flies."</p> <p>Suggestion: Add a brief note on the practical implications of these findings for cucurbit growers globally.</p>	As per the suggestions, abstract was reorganized

<p>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</p>	<p>Comment: The methodology is detailed but may overwhelm readers unfamiliar with the setup.</p> <p>Suggestion: Simplify the description of traps and bait preparation by using a bullet-point format for clarity.</p> <p>Suggestion: Include a brief rationale for selecting the study sites and periods, such as their relevance to cucurbit cultivation or fruit fly prevalence.</p> <hr/>	<p>Used the bullet point description.</p> <p>Mentioned the rationale behind selection of villages.</p>
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<p>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.</p>	<p>Comment: The abstract is clear but could benefit from a more concise summary of the results and significance of the research.</p> <p>Suggestion: Reorganize the abstract to emphasize the key findings upfront. For example, start with the statement: "Gel proteinex bait traps were significantly more effective in reducing fruit fly incidences due to their ability to attract both male and female fruit flies."</p> <p>Suggestion: Add a brief note on the practical implications of these findings for cucurbit growers globally.</p>	<p>As per the suggestions, abstract was reorganized</p>
<p>Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.</p>	<p>Preliminary and Confirmatory Experiments</p> <p>Comment: The tables and figures provide good support, but the discussion lacks sufficient interpretation of the data.</p> <p>Suggestion: Compare the effectiveness of gel proteinex bait across different stages of the experiments (e.g., early vs. fruiting stages) and explain the reasons behind observed trends.</p> <p>Suggestion: Highlight any potential limitations or external factors (e.g., weather conditions, trap placement accuracy) that might have influenced the results.</p> <p>Male-to-Female Ratio</p> <p>Comment: This section is informative but could link findings to their practical significance more strongly.</p> <p>Suggestion: Discuss the implications of male-to-female ratios for integrated pest management strategies, emphasizing the importance of female trapping.</p> <p>Evaluation of Incidence and Level of Incidence</p> <p>Comment: The data is comprehensive, but the interpretation needs more focus on the "why" behind the results.</p> <p>Suggestion: Relate the reduced incidence and level of incidence observed in gel proteinex bait to its biochemical properties or attractiveness to female fruit flies.</p>	<p>Explained the reasons behind the differences in incidence of fruit fly and trap catches based on climatic factors and crop stage.</p> <p>Discussed the relationship between the male to female ratio and management of fruit flies in field conditions.</p> <p>Relationship between level of incidence, per cent incidence was mentioned in the text.</p>
<p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</p>		

