Reviewer's report

Title: Effect of 50% ethanolic extract of Syzygium aromaticum (L.) Merr. & Perry. (clove) on Sexual behaviour of normal male rats.

Version: 2 Date: 19 June 2004

Reviewer: Srinivas NAMMI

Reviewer's report:

General

The manuscript by Tajuddin et al. on the effect of 50% ethanolic extract of S. aromaticum...... is informative and providing scientific basis for the aphrodisiac activity of cloves. The results are seeming to be interesting and comparable with sildenafil. The paper is acceptable for publication but needs to be revised addressing the following comments.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

1. What is the route of administration for animals in group I?
2. What is the rationale behind the administration of ethinyl oestradiol and progesterone. This should be explained and discussed.
3. Why the doses of the two hormones were not given in terms of body weight.
4. The authors should provide the intensity of light used as this the main determinant for the reproducibility of the results.
5. It is necessary to talk about all the parameters studied during the results section and should be discussed further correlating with previous literature.
6. The authors should also provide a literature support in regard to the actions of spices on gastric mucosa.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

1. Page 1, Line 29: The sentence, The clove is reported ...... should be changed like Clove is also reported......
2. Page 1, Line 29: ....... in low doses(7), useful ...... can be changed has .......in low doses(7) and useful ......
3. Page 1, Line 31: Italicize the name Herpes simplex and use low case for species.
4. Page 2, Line 3: The sentence, Results....... can be modified as, Earlier results....... can be modified as, Earlier results......
5. All the headings (First and Second Level) should be written uniformly in sentence case (no title case) with no colon mark at the end.
6. Change all the drug names appeared in middle of sentences to lower case.
7. Page 3, Lines 1 and 2: The sentence, These preparations....... can be modified as, All the drug solution were prepared just before administration.
8. Page 3, Line 17: The sentence, They were administered suspension of ..... should be modified as, They were administered with suspension of ......
9. What is the dose of ethinyl oestradiol used?
10. The type of ANOVA (one-way or two-way) used should be included. Also the kind of post-hoc test used.
11. The authors should go through the entire manuscript again for grammatical and typographical errors.
12. The probability of error up to 0.001 is sufficient to indicate the significance and for those results with P<0.05 should be indicated as not significant (NS). This will avoid the complexity of the tables to the readers.
13. The number of animals used is not included in the tables.
14. All the reference should be checked again for formatting (including journal abbreviations) in accordance with Journal Instructions.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

**What next?:** Accept after minor essential revisions

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** No

**Declaration of competing interests:**

None