

Title: Fruit bats trade in the traditional markets of South Minahasa, Sulawesi, Indonesia (Ransaleleh et al. 2024)

Corresponding author

The screenshot shows the OJS Submissions page. The main content area is titled "My Assigned" and contains a table with one entry:

ID	Author	Title	Status	Actions
16604	Ransaleleh	Fruit bats trade in the traditional markets of South Minahasa, Sulawesi during post covid-19 period	Review	1/1, 2, 1

The screenshot shows the "Submission Files" section of the OJS interface. It displays a table of files:

ID	File Name	Date	Type
1101177-1	titlje, Ransaleleh et al. 2023. Manuscript, biodivertas.doc	November 27, 2023	Article Text
1101178-1	titlje, Ransaleleh et al. 2023. Copy of Certificate of Proofreading.pdf	November 27, 2023	Other

The screenshot shows the "Round 1 Status" section. The status is "Revisions have been submitted." Below this, there are "Notifications" from the editor:

- [biodiv] Editor Decision - 2023-11-29 10:07 AM

The screenshot shows the "Round 2 Status" section. The status is "New reviews have been submitted and are being considered by the editor." Below this, there are "Notifications" from the editor:

- [biodiv] Editor Decision - 2023-11-29 10:07 AM
- [biodiv] Editor Decision - 2024-02-09 10:29 PM

Biodiversitas Journal of Biological Diversity

Round 1 Round 2 Round 3

Round 3 Status
Revisions have been requested.

Notifications

[biodiv] Editor Decision	2023-11-29 10:07 AM
[biodiv] Editor Decision	2024-02-09 10:29 PM

Reviewer's Attachments [Search](#)

No Files

16604 / Ransaleleh / Fruit bats trade in the traditional markets of South Minahasa, Sulawesi during post covid-19 peri-

Workflow Publication

Submission Review Copyediting Production

Round 1 Round 2 Round 3 Round 4

Round 4 Status
Revisions have been requested.

Notifications

[biodiv] Editor Decision	2023-11-29 10:07 AM
--	---------------------

Notifications

[biodiv] Editor Decision	2023-11-29 10:07 AM
[biodiv] Editor Decision	2024-02-09 10:29 PM
[biodiv] Editor Decision	2024-02-19 10:35 PM

Reviewer's Attachments [Search](#)

No Files

Revisions [Search](#) [Upload File](#)

ID	File Name	Date	Type
1109932-1	Article Text, Ransaleleh et al. 2024. Manuscript. biodiversitas_Rev3_final.d ocx	February 21, 2024	Article Text
1109933-1	Other, Ransaleleh et al 2024. Response matrix coment's reviewer_03.docx	February 21, 2024	Other

16604 / RANSALELEH et al. / Fruit bats trade in the traditional markets of South Minahasa, North Sulawesi, Indonesia

Workflow Publication

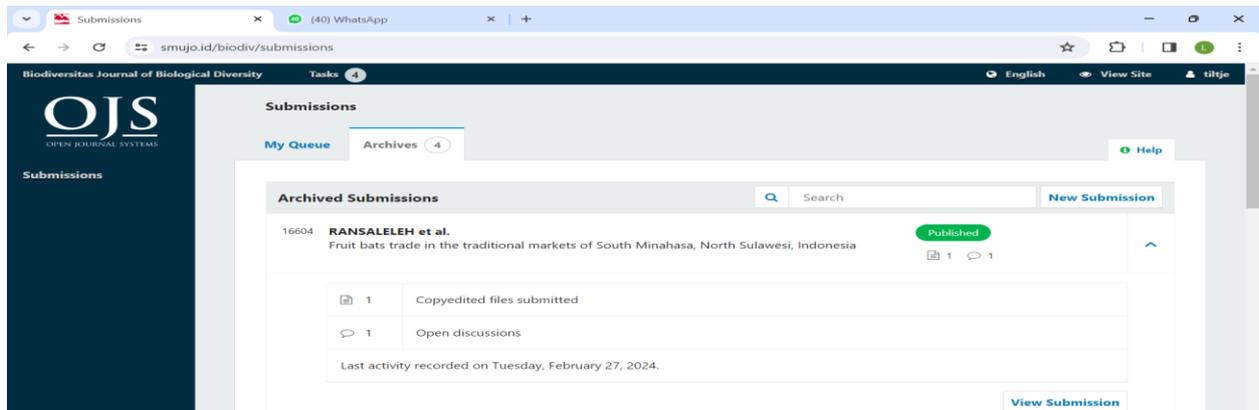
Submission Review Copyediting Production

Copyediting Discussions [Add discussion](#)

Name	From	Last Reply	Replies	Closed
No Items				

Copyedited [Search](#)

1110382-1	pitoyo, D250231-Ransaleleh-Bats trade=REV-CHECK.doc	February 27, 2024	Article Text
-----------	---	-------------------	--------------



Response matrix comment's reviewer

Title: Fruit bats trade in the traditional markets of South Minahasa, Sulawesi, Indonesia

Reviewer 1

Line	Comments	Action taken or rebuttal
1	Introduction is about 600-700 words, covering the aims of the research and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results. Please add some references that support your research background.	Action had been taken. Some references had been added in the Introduction section to support our research background.
2	This manuscript has outdated references and use too many local references to be published in the Biodiversitas Journal. At least, you need to compose a minimum of 20 references which 80% of scientific journals published in the last 10 years (2013-2023), and a maximum of 10% of references in local references.	Action had been taken. Total of 30 references (83% of total cited references) were published in the last 10 years (2013-2023), while only 4 local references (11%) were cited.
3	Please write the references based on the author's guidelines. Kindly check the author's guidelines here https://smujo.id/biodiv/guidance-for-author .	Action Had been taken. References had been checked and revised following the author's guideline.
4	Please include the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) address from each of references	Action had been taken. DOI of the cited references have been added, except for three references which two of them are books without DOI.
Reviewer 2		
11	suggest including "Indonesia" in the title of the paper: Fruit bats trade in the traditional markets of South Minahasa, Sulawesi, Indonesia during post covid-19 period... As well as in line 6 of the Abstract and 29 of the Introduction.	Action has been taken. "Indonesia has been added to the title and abstract.
11	Abstract. Must include the bat family ... traditional markets which sell fruit bats (Pteropodidae), <i>Acerodon celebensis</i> and....	Action has been taken. "family Pteropodidae" has been added to the text.
12	What the meaning of the numbers 45 and 54 are?	45 and 54 are part of the market name. "45 langsof Tareran", "54 Amurang" are name of the markets.
19,20	Something should be mentioned about the risk of zoonoses posed by handling wildlife.	
Keywords	must include the word zoonosis	Action has been taken. Instead of adding the word "zoonosis", we prefer to add word "conservation", since this study (manuscript) does not cover zoonosis issues as the main objective.
Introduction 34	The date 2015 of (Sheherazale and Tsang 2015) must be checked, it does not match the References.	Action has been taken. Reference Sheherazade and Tsang has been checked. Correction

		Sheherazade and Tsang 2018 has been added to the text and References.
49-50	<p>Is there no concern about the large load of coronavirus in bats? The great risk of transmitting viruses and pathogens when handling wildlife should be clearly mentioned. I recommend these papers:</p> <p>Gupta P, et al. (2021). Bats and viruses: a death-defying friendship. <i>Virus Disease</i> 32:467-479.</p> <p>Galindo-González J (2023). Avoiding novel, unwanted interactions among species to decrease risk of zoonoses. <i>Conservation Biology</i> e14232.</p>	<p>Action has been taken.</p> <p>References about the human and bat interaction in relation to the zoonotic diseases have been added. However, we prefer to not discuss more about zoonotic since it is out of context of this manuscript.</p>
54-56	<p>I insist on the risk of zoonoses when manipulating and keeping wild species in captivity, this is well documented and must be attended to with great attention. See also this paper:</p> <p>Galindo-González, J. (2022). Live animal markets: Identifying the origins of emerging infectious diseases. <i>Current Opinion in Environmental Science & Health</i>, 25, 100310.</p>	<p>We prefer to not discuss more about zoonotic since it is out of context of this manuscript.</p>
Materials and Methods 65-72	<p>It seems unnecessary to me to put the geographical coordinates of all the markets. I suggest to delete.</p>	<p>Action has been taken.</p> <p>Geographical coordinates of all the surveyed markets have been deleted.</p>
82-83	<p>Were the bats alive, in individual cages or clumped together or dead? If they were dead, were they frozen, grilled, how were they?</p>	<p>Action has been taken.</p> <p>Adding information about the traded bat condition.</p>
88	<p>Separate de word hindfoot,... should be hind foot,</p>	<p>Action has been taken.</p> <p>Revise “hindfoot” become “hind foot”</p>
89	<p>Says: ... A total of 262 small fruit bats comprising five species were used... Delete an “n” in comprising.</p>	<p>Action has been taken following the comment from reviewer.</p>
93	<p>Delete an “s” in characterss, says: ... morphological characterss and... Should be ... morphological characters and...</p>	<p>Action has been taken following the comment from reviewer.</p>
94-102	<p>All this is totally out of context. I don't understand the reason why the authors wrote this? This is not mentioned in the objectives of the study. This must be corrected.</p>	<p>Action has been taken.</p> <p>Agree with the reviewer's comment. Data and information about the nutritional analysis is out of our objective of this paper, so this part was deleted.</p>
Results and Discussion 104	<p>The Results and Discussion section should be separated into two separate sections</p>	<p>We prefer to combine Results and Discussion to make our interpretation and description can be presented comprehensively.</p>
108	<p>It should be mentioned that all commercialized bats belong to the family Pteropodidae.</p> <p>Figure 2. I suggest Fig. 2 be deleted. It would be more illustrative and understandable for readers to eliminate this figure and prepare a Table with this information, the localities are redundant, and they are already described in Fig. 1; in fact The size of the texts in the figure 2 is too small. In addition other data could be added in the Table such as the conservation status, endemic species, price per kg, other species of fauna for sale and the health conditions of the animals offered, whether they are alive or dead or both, etc. In addition, lots of text could be eliminated so as not to make the information redundant with the Table.</p>	<p>We prefer to maintain the Figure 2. In our opinion, this figure gives more detail information about which markets were the bats are sold, and what species are.</p>

140-141	Says: ... Similarly, this market is very busy with visitors during Thanksgiving in South Minahasa... This situation is alarming in the sense of the risks of transmission of pathogens and infectious diseases. One more reason to include the topic of zoonoses in the Discussion.	We prefer to minimize the discussion of the zoonoses since it is out of topic of this manuscript.
292	The word “for” is duplicated.	Action has been taken Duplicated “for” has been deleted.
293	The authors should mention if there are laws that protect wildlife. In many countries the capture and sale of wildlife is prohibited.	Action has been taken. The Indonesian laws on the wildlife protection have been added.
305-477	Points 1 to 7 that introduce the bat species should be reduced to a minimum. The segment is too long and arid. The information should be presented as an annex in supplementary material.	Action has been taken. Point 1 to 7 have been summarized in Table 1.
479	The title “Bats as Food and...” should be deleted.	Action has been taken following the reviewer’s comment.
	L.481-497 . This section should be eliminated since it is not part of the objectives of the study.	We prefer to maintain this information. However, the subtitle and used terminology were revised.
506	Says: ... posing a significant risk of extinction. and also a great risk of zoonoses. We know that bats carry a large number of coronaviruses and other pathogens. This issue must be mentioned and discussed	We prefer to minimize the discussion of the zoonoses since it is out of topic of this manuscript.
References 610	...Sheherasade, Ober HK, Tsang SM. 2019. ... Date of this reference must be checked	The date for this reference has been checked. Sheherazade, Ober, H.K. and Tsang, S.M., 2019. Contributions of bats to the local economy through durian pollination in Sulawesi, Indonesia. <i>Biotropica</i> , 51(6), pp.913-922.

Reviewer 3

Line	Comments	Action taken or rebuttal
General comment	The paper provides a thorough report of the bat trade within traditional markets in the South Minahasa region of Sulawesi, a hotspot for bat diversity and bat consumption. The authors have provided a lot of valuable information that would be beneficial to inform conservation and future monitoring efforts. However, the current structure of the paper makes it difficult to appreciate and decipher the amount of work that has actually been done. The general message of the paper is also unclear. The title suggests the paper focuses on how COVID has impacted the bat trade, the methods and introduction suggest the focus is looking at differences in the bat trade given national holidays, and the aims and abstract purely state the goal is to map market location and document which bats are sold. I think the authors need to be clear about what message they are trying to communicate. I do not feel the data is strong enough to compare pre- and post-COVID trade. Therefore, I would remove the mention of COVID from the title. However, I think the real value in the data is in the interviews with different players in the bat trade, something which is currently barely referenced in the abstract and not explained in detail in the methods. Please add a section to the Methods section explaining the interview process in detail as it isn’t possible to assess the validity of the science without it.	Action has been taken. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delete the “COVID...” from the title. The structure of te manuscript as followed the previous order which was suggested by other reviewer.
Bat Species Traded	How many and which species you found and their conservation status	Action has been taken. Information about bat species which were traded has been presented in one

	<p>e.g. <i>P. alecto</i> (LC), <i>A. celebensis</i> (VU),</p> <p>Brief summary of how bats were sold</p> <p>Bats were available cooked (xx%), frozen (%), or fresh (%)</p> <p>Summary paragraph about differences in general body size between markets and between studies</p>	<p>section. Furthermore, morphological data has also been summarized in table.</p>
Hunting practices	<p>Results from interviewees related to hunting practices. Information regarding meat handling processes</p>	<p>Information which was collected based on the interviews has been included in the section of traditional market and traded species.</p>
Market information	<p>Summary table</p> <p>Key differences between markets</p> <p>Key differences observed in relation to Thanksgiving (and cultural significance)</p> <p>Seller networks (e.g. how many sellers attended more than one market, what other methods like social media did they use to sell bats)</p>	<p>Market information was presented in paragraph for each surveyed traditional market.</p>
Consumption information	<p>Nutrition results</p> <p>Context in relation to other food</p>	<p>Action has been taken. Information about the nutrition from the bat meat has been deleted, since it is out of context of this paper, as also suggested by the other reviewer.</p>
Then text connecting the significance of your results	<p>Legal protection status for bats in Indonesia</p> <p>Potential impacts of the trade on bat species, namely island endemics</p> <p>Were any of your results surprising? Were there any species not on the markets you expected to see?</p> <p>Relevance of your results for hunters, sellers, and consumers?</p> <p>How do you foresee your results used and what future action is needed?</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	<p>Action has been taken. Some suggested points from reviewer has been added to the manuscript, especially in the last paragraph of the conservation section.</p> <p>Result from this research, especially the mapping of the bat trade will give better understanding for establishing the public awareness and campaign strategy, especially to the hunters, sellers, consumers and also school near the traditional market.</p>
Reviewer 4		
1	<p>Plagiarism is under 5% without references.</p> <p>The sentences in shading need more attention to accomplish.</p> <p>The strike-through sentence could be deleted without any reduced information.</p> <p>The markets sampled formerly stated 13, but only four were selected for further investigation without proper explanation.</p> <p>This sentence may be better than previously. Moving around based on opening market days</p> <p>Please check these modifications.</p> <p>Please check this modification.</p>	<p>Action has been taken.</p> <p>Explanation about the surveyed markets have been mentioned in the Results and Discussion.</p>
2	<p>Thanksgiving is a national holiday celebrated on various dates in October and November in the United States, Canada, Saint Lucia, Liberia, and unofficially in countries like Brazil, Germany, and the Philippines.</p>	<p>Action has been taken.</p> <p>Information about Thanksgiving in Minahasa has been added in the Materials and Methods.</p>

	Prayers of thanks and special thanksgiving ceremonies are common among most religions after harvests and at other times of the year. This Thanksgiving festival is better explained briefly, especially in the Introduction's purpose and date that it is not recognized in Indonesia by the site https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thanksgiving	
3	All wording sellers changed to traders, and operating also changed to opening.	Action has been taken. The words operating have been changed to opening We prefer to use the word seller rather than trader, because not all sellers get the bats from other seller or hunter, some of them also hunt and sell the bats by themselves.
4	The markets sampled formerly stated 13, but only 4 were selected for further investigation, and finally, only 12 for morphological descriptions and morphometrics were identified without proper explanation. Please cite the source (s).	Action similar with response of the comment 1.
5	Are there any regulations in place to monitor and control the trade of bats in the traditional markets of South Minahasa, North Sulawesi, Indonesia?	Action has been taken. Information about the regulation/law have been added to the Results and Discussion (section: Traditional markets which trade the bats in South Minahasa)
6	What are the implications of the vulnerable conservation status of <i>Acerodon celebensis</i> , a bat species traded in the traditional markets of South Minahasa, on its long-term survival?	Action ass been taken. Implication of the bat trade has been added in the Results and Discussion (last paragraph).
7	What measures can be taken to promote awareness and conservation strategy for the traded bats in South Minahasa, Sulawesi?	Action has been taken. Information about the suggested public awareness and other conservation strategy has been added in the last paragraph of the section of Results and Discussion.