Name:	**UTTAR PRADESH JOURNAL OF ZOOLOGY**
Manuscript Number:	**Ms_UPJOZ_3939**
Title of the Manuscript:	**UNDERSTORY VEGETATION INFLUENCES INSECT DIVERSITY IN RUBBER PLANTATIONS OF KANYAKUMARI, INDIA**
Type of the Article	**Original Research Article**

PART 1: Review Comments

Compulsory REVISION comments	**Reviewer's comment**	**Author's Feedback** *(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)*
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. Why do you like (or dislike) this manuscript? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	**This work is an important contribution to the understanding for the management of biodiversity not only in plantations but other human dominated habitats. It is important because it demonstrates the benefit to insect diversity of maintaining a natural shrub layer, fallen leaves and twigs. It is implied that insect diversity would in turn support the diversity of insectivores.**	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	**The title accurately reflects the paper contents**	
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.	**I would suggest removing the word Plantation 1 in the abstract because for the reader this label has no significance. Instead, define the quality of Plantation 1.**	
Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?	**yes**	
Please write a few sentences regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript. Why do you think that this manuscript is scientifically robust and	**The survey methods for the collection and sampling of insects has been outlined and has applied to the 3 plantation plots. I would have been helpful to indicate if the same sample methods were applied to the three plots compared. It is merely implied. The wording that "water was used instead of killing agents to prevent insects from**	

technically sound? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	**escaping" is not well reasoned. I would have appreciated a tabulation of the shrub species in the understory. Were they native or horticultural?**	
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form. **-**	**This is not my specialty and therefore I abstain from commenting.**	
Minor REVISION comments **Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?**	yes	
Optional/General comments	Educating plantation owners, park administrators, and the public about the benefits to biodiversity of maintaining a more "natural" ground cover cannot be overstated.	

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	**Author's comment** *(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)*
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	*(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)*	

Reviewer Details:

Name:	**Wolfgang Dittus**
Department, University & Country	**Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute, USA, National Institute of Fundamental Studies, Sri Lanka**