

Reviewers' comments

The manuscript was interesting and impactful for maize researchers to further study of FHY3/FAR1 family under drought stress in maize. The content of the manuscript was good, and the author explained the introduction, material method, and result discussion very well. Introduction part, written well. Material and method parts also covered well. The result and discussion part adequate. The approach and analysis of the study are sound, and the conclusions offer important new information. This research work is suitable for publication in Peer J and makes a major contribution to maize improvement. A few of the following minor suggestions:

L-76-77: Need to give more detailed information of each crop and what the role of the FHY3/FAR1 family in these crops.

L-81: *A. hypogaea*, add full form of A.

Missing supplementary table and figures caption, should be added after conclusion.

Fig. 1: Should be show the physical position of each gene, that will be more informative for researcher.

Dear Editor,

The overall article is impactful for the scientific community. This manuscript is suitable for publication in Peer J.