

## Peer Review File

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Comment 1: This is an interesting introduction article on the history of saffron. First, the abstract is not adequate. Please explain why there is a need to review the history of saffron and summarize the main history of saffron in the abstract. I think the current abstract is not adequate. Second, in the main text of this paper, in addition to history, please have some reviews on current status of saffron. I have interests in its implications in medicine and health, the author may consider to increase paragraphs on this aspect if possible.

Reply 1: Thank you for your work to review my paper LCM-2021-MS-01 (LCM-21-67) on saffron history. I feel that you had a tremendous amount of work to do it and I am sure that your critics and advice will improve the paper. I have to apologize for my mistakes because when preparing the manuscript, I thought that there should be only 6000 syllabuses and 600 for the abstract (not words). Thus, I had to rewrite the whole paper and change its structure. The above-mentioned changes mean that I had an enlarged abstract. Please see it below. I added recent references as far as the medical and pharmaceutical use of saffron concerns. I do not want to give here detailed medical use because this paper is a part of a special issue which deals with different aspects of saffron, including some phytotherapy, too. Although you are right when writing that beside the general culture of saffron use the medical points of view should be mentioned. As you will see below I did it. Because there are many changes in the text and in the references, I would like to ask you to read the whole text again. I hope you will find in it the corrected parts you had been asked for.

Comment 2: This manuscript describes the application history of the world's most expensive spice, saffron. Such an analysis will be useful for understanding the history of the development of the use of a plant such as *Crocus sativus* (saffron) in official medicine. However, the author has clearly poorly studied the existing data on saffron, ranging from the methods of falsification of saffron by various plants to countries and cultures where saffron was used. Saffron was used in Ancient India, China, England, etc. but nothing has been written about it. Dioscorides wrote a great deal about the use of saffron. but this is not in the manuscript. The article does not have a classical structure. An introduction, the main part, a conclusion is needed.

Reply 2: The above-mentioned changes mean that I had an enlarged abstract. Please see it below. In the new version of the paper I write a little bit more detailed data about general use of saffron like Saffron Walden (England) or Saffron War (Basel), cooking with saffron (Spain: paella) as well as the religious use in India (offering Buddha, washing Bahubali statue). You are right. Dioscorides shouldn't be ignored. I added recent references as far as the medical and pharmaceutical use of saffron concerns as well. It is questionable to me as to whether the classical structure you mentioned should be used in such a review paper. On the other hand, I have changed the structure of the enlarged paper, I hope you will agree with it.

Comment 3: The article is written in poor English. The author presents the history of *Crocus sativus*. The author did not present any data on the cultivation of crocus in given cultures, its religious and medical significance, etc., or phytochemical data that influenced its use. The author focused on the "history", which he presented poorly, the sentences do not connect with each other and the descriptions do not contribute much to the science.

The author also did not bother with references, which he cited only 11. And the topic is so interesting that it should be cited at least 100 or 200 references.

Reply: The English text has been corrected by an expert. Please see the corrected text below. When changing the structure of the whole paper I tried to write more literary forms.

In the new version of the paper I write a little bit more detailed data about general use of saffron like Saffron Walden (England) or Saffron War (Basel), cooking with saffron (Spain: paella) as well as the religious use in India (offering Buddha, Bahubali statue). I do feel there is a need to write here detailed medical and pharmaceutical use, because this paper is a part of a special issue dealing with different aspects of saffron (chemical botanical, medical etc). Although the new added references related to the possible use of the saffron in modern medical treatments and also the recent sophisticated method to prove the presence of saffron in ancient cultural and archeological remains (like spectrophotometry) mentioned. As I wrote above, and as you can see below in the text more than 20 references have been added. I think there is no place and no need in such a short review to cite so many references as you mentioned. In a textbook there must be as many references as available. In this special issue on saffron, where this paper of mine would be published the readers will find citations for many detailed questions as far as the saffron concerns.