**Manuscript ID TPAL-2022-0017.R1 (Response to comments)**

Reviewer: 1  
  
Comments to the Author  
This manuscript has considerably improved from the previous version. I only have some minor comments on the Introduction that will further improve clarity:  
**Comment 1:** There is no need for subchapter 1.1 to introduce the rationale, that is implicit of the introduction section - title is also too long.

**Reply 1:** Thank you sir for your appreciation regarding the improvement of this MS. The separate subheading for the subchapter 1.1 has been deleted as per your suggestion (Line no. 37).

**Comment 2:** The 'general account on pollen morphology' can be merged with the content of the current 1.1 section to better support the rationale of the study (so no need for 1.2)

**Reply 2:** The general account on pollen morphology has been merged with the content of the current subsection 1.1 as per suggestion (Line nos. 70-83).

**Comment 3:** Following the previous points, subchapter 1.3 should become subchapter 1.1 to maintain clarity

**Reply 3:** The subchapter 1.3 has now become the subchapter 1.1 of the ‘introduction section’ (Line nos. 85-86) as per your suggestion.

*I thank the handling editor and all the reviewers for their suggestions and comments that really helped me to improve this MS.*

(Swati Tripathi)

Corresponding author