

Journal of Dry Zone Agriculture

Author Instructions

Focus and scope

Journal of Dry Zone Agriculture publishes research of outstanding significance in all aspects of agriculture including agronomy, agricultural biology, food and nutrition, soil science, animal science, agricultural engineering and agricultural economics.

Type of paper

Research papers - Original full-length research papers related to agriculture which have not been published previously, except as an abstract, and should not exceed 6,000 words excluding references. The minimum word count should be 3,000 excluding references.

Plagiarism policy and article review process

All manuscripts will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for the journal and screened using plagiarism detection software. Papers considered suitable will be sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper (double blind review). The editorial board is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles.

Script

Manuscript prepared in MS word as .docx format (Word 2007 or higher). The style of writing should conform to acceptable English usage. Slang and jargon should be avoided. Non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if necessary, they must be defined at their first mention. The script should be free of errors, double spaced throughout with 2.5 cm margins on all sides. Pages should be numbered consecutively at the bottom right. Continuous line numbers should be added throughout the text. Use font style Times New Roman and font size 12 throughout the paper. Tables and figures with their captions should be placed at the end of the manuscript after reference list.

Manuscript layout

Manuscript for research article and short communications should be organized as follows: Title, Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results and Discussion, Conclusion, Acknowledgement and References. Pages should be arranged in the following order.

Page 1

Title page

Title page includes the title of paper, names with initials and affiliations of all authors. Corresponding author should be indicated by an asterisk (*) and e-mail address, postal address, telephone and fax numbers of corresponding author should be given. Title should be concise, informative and typed in 'Sentence case' bold letters. Avoid using abbreviations in the title of a paper.

Page 2

Abstract:

Abstract should have 200 - 250 words. The abstract should not contain any references. It should outline objectives and methodology together with important results and conclusions.

Keywords

A maximum of six keywords should be provided separated by a comma.

Page 3 onwards

Introduction

It should be concise and well-focused to the research work done. It should provide adequate background of the research and state the objectives of the work. A detailed literature survey or a summary of the results should be avoided.

Materials and Methods

New methods should be described in such a way to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Established methods should be mentioned in brief with references. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described. A paper reporting the results of the experimental investigations on human subjects or on animals must provide evidence of approval obtained by an ethical review committee. Statistical analyses done should be mentioned where applicable.

Results and Discussion

The results should be concisely and logically presented. Only data essential for the main conclusions emerging from the study should be included. Repetition of the same results in figures, tables or text should be avoided. Long discussions should be avoided. The discussion should deal with the interpretation of results. It should logically relate new findings of earlier ones. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

Conclusion

Unqualified statements and conclusions not completely supported by data should be avoided. All hypotheses should be clearly identified as such.

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements should be brief and made for funding sources, scientific and technical assistance and not for routine help in preparing manuscripts.

References

The list of references must be as updated as possible. References to the literature must be indicated in the text and tables as following the general procedure. The references should be in alphabetical order at the end of the manuscripts. Unpublished data and personal communications should not be listed under reference but may be mentioned in the text. Reference to work 'in press' implies its acceptance for publication and may be listed under references.

In each reference, all the initials of the author must be given after the surname. The year of publication should follow the author name. This should be followed by the full title of the referred publication.

When journal articles are listed, the journal names should be given in full and it should be indicated in italics and followed by the volume number, the issue number in parentheses and then the inclusive pages. When books are listed, the order should be: author(s), year, book title, volume number, edition, pagination/inclusive pages, publisher and place of publication. The book title should be indicated in italics. When sections of a book are listed, the order should be: authors of section, year, title of the section, title of the book, edition, inclusive pages, publisher and place of publication. Wherever available, include the doi also.

Citation in the text

Cite references in the text by name and year in parentheses. When two or more references are to be cited together, arrange the citations in alphabetical order, separating them with semicolons. Some examples:

...fully hydrogenated fats are blended with liquid oils as the feed stocks of interesterification (Zhang *et al.*, 2000).

.... with low or zero *trans* fatty acids and the results were promising (Goli *et al.*, 2008; Zhang *et al.*, 2001).

.....*trans*-free margarine formulations and most widely used enzyme for the interesterification is Lipozyme TL IM (Ferreira-Dias, 2013).

.....fatty acids can be obtained by enzymatic interesterification (Huang and Akoh, 1994).

This result was later contradicted by Becker and Seligman (1996).

Reference list

Journal articles

1. Single author

Gil, A. 2002. Polyunsaturated fatty acids and inflammatory diseases. *Biomedicine and Pharmacotherapy*, 56:388–396.

2. Two authors

Huang, K.H. and Akoh, C.C. 1994. Lipase-catalyzed incorporation of n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids into vegetable oils. *Journal of the American Oil Chemists' Society*, 71:1277–1280.

3. More than two authors

Zhang, H., Xu, X., Mu, H., Nilsson, J., Adler-Nissen, J. and Høy, C.E. 2000. Lipozyme IM-catalyzed interesterification for the production of margarine fats in a 1 kg scale stirred tank reactor. *European Journal of Lipid Science and Technology*, 102:411–418.
[https://doi.org/10.1002/1438-9312\(200006\)102:6<411::AID-EJLT411>3.0.CO;2-T](https://doi.org/10.1002/1438-9312(200006)102:6<411::AID-EJLT411>3.0.CO;2-T)

Books and other monographs

4. Chapter in book

Gordon, M.H. 2001. The development of oxidative rancidity. In: Pokorny, J., Yanishlieva, N. and Gordon, M. (eds) *Antioxidants in Food – Practical Applications*. CRC Press, Washington, pp 7-225.

5. Web references

The full URL should be given with the date when the reference was last accessed. Any further information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), should also be given. Example,

WHO. 2015. Eliminating *trans* fats in Europe: A policy brief. http://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0010/288442/Eliminating-trans-fats-in-Europe-A-policy-brief.pdf. Accessed January 30 2021

Abbreviations and symbols

Unless common, these should be defined when first used, and not included in the abstract. The SI system of units should be used wherever possible. If measurements were

made in units other than SI, the data should be reported in the same units followed by SI units in brackets. E.g. 5290 ft (1610 m)

Formula and equations

Equations should be typewritten and quadruple spaced. They should be started on the left margin on the number placed in parentheses to the right of the equation.

Nomenclature

Scientific names of plants and animals should be in italics. In the first citation, genus, species and authority must be given. E.g. *Scirtothrips dorsalis* L. In later citation, the generic name may be abbreviated. E.g. *S. dorsalis*.

Tables

Table should be clear and intelligible without references to the text, and should not repeat data available elsewhere in the paper. They should be numbered consecutively with Arabic numerals. If a table must be continued, a second sheet should be used and all the headings repeated. Tables should always be cited in text in consecutive numerical order.

The number of columns or rows in each table should have a title which makes its general meaning clear without reference to the text. All tables column should have explanatory headings. Units of measurements, if any, should be indicated in parentheses in the headings of each column. Vertical lines should not be used and horizontal lines should be used only in the heading at the bottom of the table. Footnotes to table should be placed directly below the table and should be indicated by subscript lower case italic letters (a, b, c, etc.). The preferred position of tables should be mentioned in the paper in a separate line using the table number (eg. Table 1, Table 2).

Figures (Illustrations)

Should be kept to a minimum and their total should not exceed ten. If previously published illustrations are essential, the copyright holder's written permission should be obtained. All illustrations are considered as figures, and each graph, drawing or photograph should be numbered in sequence with Arabic numerals. Scanned figures should be of high quality. Size of the figures should fit the proportions of the printed page (B5 size).

Each figure should carry a legend so that the general meaning of the figure can be understood without reference to the text. The maximum number of words per legend should be 40. Where magnifications are used, they should be stated.

Magnification should be indicated with the scale line on the photograph. If you include figures that have already been published elsewhere, you must obtain permission from the copyright owner(s) for both the print and online format.

The preferred position of figures should be mentioned in the paper in a separate line using the figure number (eg. Figure 1, Figure 2).

Note: original artwork should not be sent until the manuscript has been accepted for publication.

Article processing fee

There is no fee for processing and publication of articles.

Manuscript submission

Before submission, ensure that,

- Manuscript has been prepared strictly following the author guidelines
- Manuscript has been 'spell checked' and 'grammar checked'
- All references mentioned in the Reference List are cited in the text, and vice versa
- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources

The manuscripts should be submitted with a covering letter confirming that it explains original research which has not been submitted for publication or already published elsewhere and all authors are aware of the submission of the manuscript.

Manuscript prepared in MS word as .docx format (Word 2007 or higher) according to the guidelines should be submitted electronically to the email: jdza@univ.jfn.ac.lk

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