

## GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

### Manuscripts

Manuscript should be typed on one side only of A4 (197 x 210 mm), doubled spaced with at least 3.5 cm margin on all sides. Each page is numbered consecutively and the lines are numbered starting new line number on each page. Titles should be bold and 14 fonts (e.g. **Estimation of Genetic Parameters and Character Association in Wheat**). Section heads should be bold, 12 fonts, lower case except the first letter (e.g., **Statistical Analysis**). Major titles (e.g., **MATERIALS AND METHODS**) should be bold, centered, and have one line space above them.

A manuscript should have the following sequence: Page#1 Cover page, with title, byline (author(s) name), and any acknowledgement; Page#2 Abstract page, with title, abstract, keywords, running title, and list of abbreviations; Page#3 (and on ward), INTRODUCTION, MATERIALS AND METHODS, RESULTS OR RESULTS AND DISCUSSION, and REFERENCE. Review papers may not have Materials and Methods section. Summary and conclusions should be incorporated into discussion, usually as the last paragraph. Each figure and table should be given on separate pages. Full caption for each figure should given in a 'List of Figures' separate from the figures.

A covering letter addressed to the 'Editor Journal of Agriculture and Biological Sciences' must accompany each submission, certifying that the manuscript has not been published or simultaneously submitted for publication. The letter should include the name, address, fax and telephone number, and email address of the corresponding author. Also, include the name, address, fax and telephone number, and email address of two local and two foreign referees most relevant to the research work.

### Preparation of Manuscripts

For *style* this Journal will follow the ASA Publication Handbook and Style Manual (1998) available online free of charge. Work should be presented in concise and clear English. It is strongly recommended that author(s) get the manuscript reviewed by an experienced colleague for the content and clarity of English prior to submission. The **title** should be brief but reflect all important aspects of the article and should contain only major words. Avoid use of such words as effect, influence, performance, evaluation, etc.

Abstract page: This page has the **title, abstract, keywords, and running title**. An abstract shall be a single self-contained paragraph of not more than 250 words for papers and 150 words for short communications. It should begin with brief rationale, objectives, and methods. It should given principal findings results and end with scope of application.

Up to six **keywords** shall be given reflecting nature of work. Avoid repeating words from the article title.

The **running title** shall not 60 characters.

**Introduction:** The introduction shall explain why the work was done and briefly introduce the scope and content of the paper. Introduction reviews published literature related to the topic only. Keep the introduction short, but include (i) a brief statement of the problem that

justifies doing the work, or the hypothesis on which it is based; (ii) the findings of others that will be further developed or challenged; and (iii) an explanation of the general approach and objectives.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS:** Essential details of materials and methods including the research site, experimental design, description of treatments and management, methods of statistical analysis and models used should be clearly spelt out. In principle, Materials and Methods section gives enough detail to allow other scientist to repeat the experiment. Give accurately scientific name of any plants, animals, other organisms, and soils. For soil give US soil taxonomic classification. Give appropriate reference to the method, analytical techniques, and statistical procedure as well as mention the software used.

**RESULTS (AND/OR RESULTS AND DISCUSSION):** Results shall include major findings of the research and should not be discussed when separate discussion is given. Assess experimental variability and the statistical significance of the results. Use tables, graphs, and other illustrations in the Results section to provide the reader with a clear understanding of representative data obtained from the experiments. Do not repeat the numbers in text which are given in the Tables rather give significant findings and special features of the data sets. An important advice is to relate the results to your objectives and to each other as the discussion proceeds.

**DISCUSSION:** In a separate Discussion, results get repeated briefly and the meaning of the results should be presented in a broader context of other work on the subject. Explain how the results relate to previous findings (supportive, contradictory, or simply added evidence). Highlight any exceptions or lack of correlation in the findings and mention further areas of investigation. Within discussion, the last paragraph should present conclusions supported by a summary of the evidence.

**Units of measurement:** The International System of Units (SI) should be used, although equivalent local units may be given in parenthesis when it becomes essential for understanding.

**Numbers:** Treatment means should be rounded up to appropriate level. Rarely two decimal are needed. Numbers one through nine is to be spelt out except with units. There should be space between values and units (e.g., 65 kg).

**Figure Captions, Tables, and Figures.** Place Figure captions, Figures, and Tables after Reference (will be put at appropriate place in the text at the time of production). Following the References, list all the Figure captions on one (or two) separate pages. Tables, each starting on a new page, follow the figure captions. No separate list of table titles is needed. Place original figures (identified by their number) last of all. Figure captions and tables may be edited and typeset but not the Figures themselves, and depend entirely on the quality of the original paper copy submitted.

Graphs made with Excel are preferred. Do not paste graphs as image. The original should be one-third or one-half larger than the intended final size. Glossy prints of photos should be submitted. Please strictly follow the ASA Publication Handbook and Style Manual (1998) Chapter 5 “Table and Figure p.41-49.

**Tables:** Tables should be self explanatory, typed on separate sheets, numbered consecutively and carry appropriate captions. Numerical results should be presented as means with their relevant standard errors and/or statistical significant differences, quoting probability levels. Single, double and triple asterisks can be used (\*, \*\*, \*\*\*) to indicate statistical significance at the 0.05, 0.01, and 0.001 levels, respectively. The only lines appearing on a table are horizontal.

### References:

(a) Citation Style: The name(s) of the author(s) should be given with the year of publication in parenthesis, for example, Philip (1999), (John, 2000), Hope *et al.* (1998), (Yetunde *et al.*, 2002). Unpublished data and personal communication are also acceptable when sources are identified and appear in the text in parenthesis (R.D. Jackson, personal communication, 1997)

(b) List references: A list of references should be presented in alphabetical order of the names of authors. Check for inconsistency in spelling or year between text and list, as well as errors in the list entry (cited references are not listed). Elements of a reference: (a) published in a periodical must include, in order, the author(s), year of publication, full title of the article, name of periodical, and volume and inclusive page numbers; (b) as a chapter or an article in a book or proceedings volume must give the author(s), year, chapter title, pages, the italicized word '*In*', editor(s), and the publication title, the volume (for multivolume works) and edition (when more than one has been published), the publisher and city of publication; and (c) conference proceedings requires all of the above, and, in addition, the place of the meeting, immediately after the title and ending in a period, then the date.

List the names of all authors: last name first for the first author then a comma (,) and the first letter of the other name(s) separated by period (.) (Akhtar, M. S.); then write a comma and the list of other authors with upper case first letter of the other name(s) separated by period (.) and the last name (M. S. Akhtar). Capitalize the first letter of the first word of title and subtitles of articles, bulletins, or books, as well as capitalizing proper names as usual. Capitalize each word in conference names and journal titles. Abbreviate titles of common Journal.

Examples for reference list

(a) Published in a periodical

Bordoli, J. M., and A. P. Mallarino. 1998. Deep and shallow banding of phosphorous and potassium as alternatives to broadcast fertilization for no-till corn. *Agron. J.* 90:27–33.

Brown, P. D., and M. J. Morra. 1997. Control of soil-borne plant pests using glucosinolatecontaining plants. *Adv. Agron.* 61:167–231.

(b) Books and book chapter

Dzombak, D. A., and F. M. M. Morel. 1990. Surface complexation modeling: Hydrous ferric oxide. John Wiley & Sons, New York.

Achorn, F. P., and H. L. Balay. 1985. Developments in potassium fertilizer technology. p. 49–66. *In* R.D. Munson (ed.) Potassium in agriculture. ASA, CSSA, and SSSA, Madison, WI.

(c) Conference proceedings

Faw, W. (ed.) 1992. Proc. Am. Forage Grassl. Counc., 1992, Grand Rapids, MI. 5–9 Apr. 1992. AFGC, Georgetown, TX.