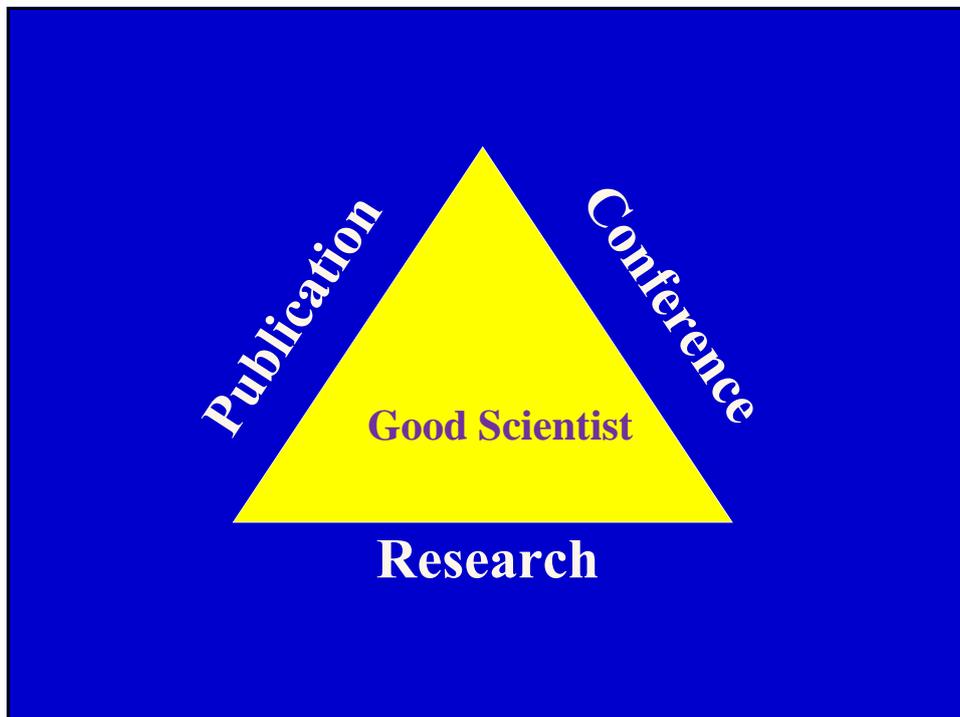


How to write a scientific paper for an international journal

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Why publish?

- If you publish, people understand that you can do your job
- If you publish, you have more chance for getting money (grants)
- If you publish, your experience does not get lost forever
- If you publish, your science will be improved
- If you publish, you will be more happy

Please keep in your mind prior to publication of your work

- **QUESTION** : Does your manuscript contain new information that has not previously been presented or meet all the criteria required?
- **PLEASE REMEMBER**: Journals do not want to publish manuscripts that do not contain new information.

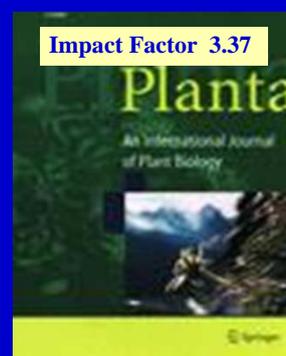
How to publish a paper

- 1. Choose the journal**
- 2. Prepare the manuscript**
- 3. The covering letter**
- 4. Correspondence to the comments**
- 5. Reading the proofs**
- 6. Marking the corrections**
- 7. Ordering reprints**

Where and how to submit the manuscript

Choosing the journal

1. Scope
2. The prestige factor or Impact Factor
3. The circulation factor
4. The frequency factor
5. Membership
6. Publication fee



Journal Rankings

- Time cited/Total citations for all years
- **Impact Factor**
- Impact Factor by Category

Journal Impact Factor (IF)

- 1. IF is a measure of the frequency with which the 'average article' in a journal has been cited in a particular year or period**
- 2. IF appeared in Journal Citation Report has been yearly done by Institute Scientific Information (ISI) since 1975**

How to calculate IF

A = Number of citations in 2013 cited articles published in 2012 for such journal

B = Number of all article published in 2012 by such journal

IF = A/B

IF = The ratio of citations to total items published

The Cost of Publication

➤ **Free**

➤ **Not free**

Publication Fee

➤ **Membership required**

➤ **Non-membership required**

- **per page**
- **per accepted paper**

How to Write a Scientific Paper

- 1. Prepare the title**
- 2. List of the authors**
- 3. List of the addresses**
- 4. Prepare the abstract**
- 5. Write the introduction**

- 6. Write the materials and methods**
- 7. Write the results**
- 8. Write the discussion**
- 9. Cite the acknowledgements**
- 10. Prepare the literature cited**
- 11. Design effective tables**

- 12. Prepare effective illustrations**
- 13. Type the manuscript**
- 14. The review process**
- 15. The publishing process**
- 16. How to order and use reprints**

First Rule

- **Chose a journal early in the writing process that is appropriate for the work you are conducting**
- **Follow the author instructions for that journal EXACTLY**

Starting to Write

- **Collect All Your Data**
 - Draw all your figures and tables
 - Collect the methods used and source citations.
 - DO this as your research progresses
- **PREPARE an OUTLINE**
 - Heading and sub-headings
 - Failure to do so is the Biggest Mistake
- **Arrange the outline items in a logical order.**
- **List the main conclusions to be made, this will impact the title**
- **Use End-note program**

Structure of Scientific Paper

- **Authorship**
- **Title**
- **Abstract**
- **Introduction**
- **Materials & Methods**
- **Results**
- **Discussion**
- **Acknowledgements**
- **References**
- **Tables**
- **Figures**

Title

- **Reflects the factual contents.**
- **Few as words as possible (<10 words).**
- **Straightforward & Informative.**
- **Use keywords researchers and search engines will recognize.**
- **Title is the only part you can be sure will be read.**

Authorship

● Participated

- Conceptually and materially.
- Involved in research
 - Planning
 - Executing
 - Analyzing
- Byline – adding name of individual not actually engaged in the reported research is considered by some to be unethical.

Abstract

- Only what is new and interesting
- Only what is necessary to understand the essential of what you did
- Keep as short as possible
- Do not squeeze in any minor results
- Come to a general conclusion in the final sentence
“We conclude that”

Introduction

☀ Good Introduction

- Present the nature and scope of the study
- Review the relevant literature to orient the reader
- State briefly what methods were used and why they were chosen
- Use only the present tense, since you are writing about what is already known
- Evaluate, rather than summarize
- Use primary reference sources, not secondary sources such as reviews
- State the overall question being asked
- Avoid unnecessary detail
- Be brief

Materials and Methods

- ☀ **Methods published elsewhere, or if established, need only be cited.**
- ☀ **Any modifications of published methods need to be described in detail.**
- ☀ **Organize in the same order as to be used in the results.**
- ☀ **ORDER: Materials, measurements, procedures.**
- ☀ **Use past tense as you are talking about what was done.**

Results (1)

- ✿ **Concentrate on general trends and differences and not trivial details.**
 - **You not need to include everything.**
- ✿ **Report only those result from which significant conclusions can be drawn even if there is no significant difference.**
- ✿ **Do not selectively eliminate significant result**

Do's and Don'ts in Discussion

- ✿ **Interpret your results, referring to figures & tables of results**
- ✿ **Make explanations complete**
- ✿ **Give evidence for each conclusion**
- ✿ **Discuss possible reasons for expected and unexpected findings**
- ✿ **Do not just repeat the results again**
- ✿ **Do not review literature, since this was done in introduction**
- ✿ **Do not over-generalize**
- ✿ **Do not ignore deviations in your data or unexpected results**
- ✿ **Avoid speculation that cannot be tested in foreseeable future**
- ✿ **Results & Discussions can be combined to save space**

Acknowledgements

- ✿ **Research funding support**
- ✿ **Institution**
- ✿ **Individuals who helped, but were not major contributors**
- ✿ **Others**

References

- ✿ **Cite only references in your paper that are relevant and necessary**
 - ✿ **This is not a general bibliography**
 - ✿ **Check that a reference is cited and vice versa.**
- ✿ **Alphabetize by the last name of the first author**
- ✿ **Follow the recommended format for citations**

Submission of the paper

1. **Hard copy ?**
2. **E-mail ?**
3. **On-line**
4. **Attached files (manuscript, covering letter, list of potential reviewers, etc.)**
5. **Follow up correspondence**



Login

- **Please Enter the Following**
 1. **Username Password**
 2. **Send Username/Password**
 3. **Register Now**
- **Login using your own username and password**

On-line submission

- **Select Article Type**
- **Enter Title**
- **Add/Edit/Remove Authors**
- **Submit Abstract**
- **Enter Keywords**
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- **Enter Comments**
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- **Oppose Reviewers**
- **Request Editor**

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New Submission

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Submissions Being Processed (0)

- Revisions Submissions Needing Revision (0)
Revisions Sent Back to Author (0)
Incomplete Submissions Being Revised (0)
Revisions Waiting for Author's Approval (0)
Revisions Being Processed (0)
Declined Revisions (0)

- Completed [Submissions with a Decision](#) (0)

Editor's Responsibility

- **Maintaining high standards of the journal**
- **Selection of article that meet high scientific standards**
- **Control the form (MS) of the published articles**

Editor action

- **Editor confirms receipt of the ms.**
- **Editor sends to two-three referees (reviewers) who are specialists in the topic of your ms.**
- **The referees write down what (they think) is good and what is bad in this ms.**
- **Editor makes a decision.**

Editor sends you the decision

- **Decision is negative**
- **Decision is positive, but the paper needs a lot of revision**
- **Decision is positive, paper needs little revision or none**

Rejection (1)

- **Most papers by new authors have a difficult time.**
- **A rejection does not mean that the research has no merit. It could be:**
 - **The wrong journal**
 - **Poor manuscript preparation**
- **Review the editor and reviewers comments and suggestions. Rewrite and resubmit.**
- **Hold the manuscript and read it again later after your disappointment or anger has abated.**

Rejection (2)

- After rereading you may then see shortcomings that you did not see before, and can revise
- Additional experiments or observations may be needed.
- Unfair reviewer criticisms sometimes arise from a reviewer's misreading of an unclear passage.
- Your colleagues may be able to help you in the reassessment.

**Be aware of
misunderstanding**

RECEIVED

VS

ACCEPTED

Do what the editor says

- **Read carefully what the referees say in their comments**
- **The referee is mostly right, so accept what he or she says**
- **Rewrite the paper carefully**
- **If the text has become changed: have it checked again by a native English speaker**

Send in your revised version

- **Similar letter as before, but now include the reference number of the manuscript**
- **Explain what you improved in the ms**

The paper cannot be published

- Non-innovative
- Not deep
- Duplicate/ Not original
- Not good English

What do Editors and Reviewers Look for in a Scientific Paper?

- **Quality of Science- Originality**
 - Experimentally and/or theoretical Excellence and Competence.
- **Importance of the Science – Significance**
 - Research of Major Significance and Novel Aspects.
- **Technical Quality**
 - New and Significant Contribution.
 - Sound Research.
- **Presentation**
 - Clear and Concise
 - Errors in Fact or Logic
 - Experimental Design and Data Evaluation

How to deal with the publisher

- 1. Sign the transfer of copyright agreement**
- 2. Read the proofs**
- 3. Order reprints**

Correction of the proofs

- Do not change anything substantial in the proofs**
- Only check for errors of printing**
- If you made a mistake, also correct it**
- On-line corrections**

Suggestion

1. New, innovation, not duplicate
2. Materials and methods must be precise and clear
3. Discussion must be based on your own result
4. MS should be edited by a person whose English is a native language
5. Publish first in a local journal or a journal with low impact factor
6. A rejected paper can be revised and resubmitted to other journals

Summary: How to write

The journal will *only accept* your paper if:

- Your data are new and interesting
- Everything in your paper is fine
- Your English is good

Summary

Preparation of manuscript

Submission of manuscript

