

# Guide for Authors

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**Scope.** The JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD CHEMISTRY places special emphasis on the chemical aspects of agriculture and food processing, two closely related fields. Pesticides, plant nutrients and regulators, the chemistry of food processing, the biochemistry of nutrition, and fermentation are of chief interest.

The technical section serves chemists, chemical engineers, agronomists, entomologists, nutritionists, and others interested in the broad fields of agricultural and food chemistry. Contributions may report on work at any stage from basic research to testing of products or processes in actual use. However, some practical significance must be apparent.

Most contributed articles report results of original research. Review articles are considered if they summarize information in a field in which the literature is scattered. They may also treat published data, or other information, so as to provide a new approach or stimulate thought leading to worthwhile research.

Material already published in easily available outlets, including technical bulletins and house organs, is not reprinted. An author may use his own patent disclosures as the basis for an article for the Journal, but patents of others must be regarded as prior publications.

**Text.** Consult the publication for general style.

Do not include information and details which should be common knowledge to the qualified technical reader. We suggest:

**Introduction.** Use to discuss relationships of your work to previously published work, but do not repeat. If a recent article has summarized work on the subject, cite this article rather than repeating individual citations of the past.

**Apparatus.** List only devices of specialized nature.

**Reagents.** List and describe preparation of special reagents only. Reagents normally found in laboratory, and preparations described in standard handbooks or texts, need not be listed.

**Procedure.** Omit details of procedures which are common knowledge to those in the field. Brief highlights of published procedures may be included, but details must be left to literature cited. Describe pertinent and critical factors involved in reactions so method can be reproduced, but avoid excessive description.

**Results, Discussions, and Conclu-**

**sions.** Be complete but concise. Avoid comparisons or contrasts which are not pertinent.

**Graphs and Tables.** Do not use graphs to duplicate information already in tables, or vice versa. Omit straight-line calibration curves, giving information in tabular form, or in a sentence or two in the text.

Prepare tables in consistent form, furnish each with an appropriate title, and number consecutively. Submit tables typed (double-spaced lines and wide margins) on separate pages.

**Organization.** Center heads and side heads provide sufficient section-alizing for most reports. Do not use footnotes; include the information in the text.

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The Society shall have first right to publish papers presented at national, regional, divisional, or other major meetings of the Society. However, after a paper has been accepted for a meeting program, the author may request its release either before or after its oral presentation. Under no circumstances shall release, if granted, permit publication before the oral presentation. Within fewer than 60 days after receiving a request for release (and the complete manuscript, if an Editor requests it), the Society shall give the author a decision to release the paper or to accept it for publication subject to the usual editorial revision.

Requests for release should be addressed to: Secretary, Committee of Editors, ACS Publications, 1155 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

**Abstract.** Tell why investigation was undertaken, summarize results as specifically as possible, and indicate their significance.

**Title.** Use specific and informative titles. A main title and a subtitle are preferred to one lengthy title.

**Authorship.** Be consistent in authorship designation. First name, middle initial, and last name are generally adequate for correct identification. Omit titles. Give complete mailing address of place where work was conducted. If current address is different, include it in a footnote on title page of article.

**Nomenclature.** Follow nomenclature style of *Chemical Abstracts*; avoid trivial names. If trade names are used, define at point of first use.

Use consistent units of measurement and give dimensions for all terms. If nomenclature is specialized include a "Nomenclature" section at end of paper, giving definitions and dimensions for all terms. Write out names of Greek letters and other special symbols in margin of manuscript at point of first use.

Write all equations and formulas clearly and number equations consecutively. Place superscripts and

subscripts accurately; avoid superscripts that may be confused with exponents.

**Acknowledgment.** Include essential credits in an "Acknowledgment" section at end of text rather than in the text or in footnotes, but hold to an absolute minimum. Give meeting presentation data or other information regarding the work reported in a note on final page of manuscript.

**Literature Cited.** Furnish references in alphabetical order according to author, patentee, or equivalent. Number consecutively, and use appropriate number (in parentheses) to indicate reference in text. Do not list references as "in press" unless they have been formally accepted for publication. Give complete information as per following examples:

- (1) Batzer, O. F., Doty, D. M., J. AGR. FOOD CHEM. 3, 64 (1955).
- (2) Bellamy, L. J., "Infrared Spectra of Complex Molecules," 2nd ed., p. 20, Methuen and Co., London, 1958.
- (3) Chem. Eng. News 36, 78, (Nov. 10, 1958).
- (4) Thurston, J. T. (to American Cyanamid Co.), U. S. Patent 2,525,247 (Oct. 10, 1950).
- (5) Wine Institute, San Francisco, Calif., Bull. 500 (November, 1950).
- (6) Zemany, P. D., General Electric Co., Schenectady, N. Y., private communication.

In references of type (3) and (5) do not use "Anonymous."

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Submit original drawings (or sharp prints) of graphs and diagrams and clear glossy photographs. Prepare original drawings on tracing cloth or high quality paper; use black India ink and a lettering set. Choose graph papers with blue cross-sectional lines; other colors interfere with good reproduction. Label ordinates and abscissas of graphs along the axes and outside the graph proper. Figure captions and legends are set in type and need not be lettered on the drawing. Number all illustrations consecutively. Supply typed captions and legends (plus courtesy lines for photos) on a separate page.

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