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## Editorial

Your attention is directed to two new additions to the Guide for Authors in this issue of the journal. The first of these deals with the posting on the World Wide Web of all papers that have been accepted and prepared for publication in this Journal. This can occur anywhere from 2 to 11 weeks in advance of the cover date of the tentative issue.

To expedite this process, corrections will be made as soon as possible after the proof is returned, and then the finished pages will be processed and placed on the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry home page at <http://www.pubs.acs.org>. This process could take as little as 24 h from the time that the corrected proof is received in the Journals Department of the ACS. For authors, this means that once their requested corrections are made and any other concerns are resolved, there will be no chance for further corrections or for delaying publication at the author's request. **Consequently, authors are advised to read proofs with great care. In addition, the Editors assume that all patent issues have been resolved before papers are submitted.**

Both HTML and PDF versions of the paper will be published on the Web and will have the exact contents of the later printed version. *Therefore, ACS considers that the date on which the paper is published on the Web is the official date of publication.* To aid authors with issues of priority and patent claims, the date of release will be displayed on the Web version and will be included on the first page of the printed copy.

The second addition to the Guide for Authors attempts to deal with the vexing problem of a conflict of interest that may arise, albeit on rare occasions. In the fields of agriculture and food, research frequently involves an evaluation of products of commercial origin identified by their brand names. If the author of such research has some financial tie with the company producing such products, this of course raises the question of whether there is a conflict of interest. It is hoped that the statement as given in these guidelines will serve to resolve this issue should it arise. The Editors would like to receive any comments you may wish to make regarding the appropriateness of this statement.



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