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1. Scope

Experimental Agriculture publishes the results of original research on the agronomy of field, plantation and herbage crops grown for human or animal food or for industrial purposes, and of systems of agricultural production, including their social and economic aspects, particularly in the warmer regions of the world. Papers on plant breeding may be accepted but only if their interest is primarily agronomic, as may submissions from researchers using artificial, more-or-less controlled or protected, environments. However, the main emphasis is on measurement and experimentation in the field, associated, in appropriate cases, with survey methods. The journal also publishes accounts of new experimental techniques and methods in experimental crop production, and critical discussions of specific problems that arise in tropical and sub-tropical countries. Reviews of particular fields of agronomy or of agronomic research methods will be commissioned from time to time by the editor, who invites suggestions for appropriate topics.

Papers based on single pot or field experiments, or those submitted more than three years after the end of the relevant experimental work can rarely be accepted. Neither does the journal normally publish accounts of trials of pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers or varieties, since such papers are usually of local interest only.

Contributions will be welcomed from scientists of all nationalities, particularly those working in tropical and sub-tropical countries where modern techniques of agricultural experimentation are helping to develop more effective methods of farm production.

2. Submission of manuscripts and conditions of acceptance

Manuscripts, which must be written in English, should be sent to the Editor, Dr F. G. H. Lupton, 3 Godyll Road, Southwold, Suffolk, IP18 6AH, England. Manuscripts must be submitted in final form, fully revised and checked for all typographical and other errors. Submission of a paper will be taken to imply that the material has not previously been published and is not being submitted for publication elsewhere. Papers published in Experimental Agriculture may not be reprinted or published in translation without permission both from the authors and Cambridge University Press.

All papers are critically reviewed by expert referees, one of whom, where appropriate, is asked to comment specifically on biometrical aspects. On their advice the Editor accepts or rejects the paper, or returns the manuscript to the author(s) for revision.

3. Preparation of manuscripts

General. Before manuscripts are typed please study carefully the lay-out of material in a recent number of the journal and ensure that papers, as submitted, conform in detail to the accepted pattern (e.g. style of setting-out titles, sub-dividing the text and laying-out tables). Contributors will find the advice in an article written by Professor J. P. Hudson (Volume 15 (1979), pp. 307–313) particularly helpful. Manuscripts which require a great deal of editorial work may be referred back to authors, and their publication is likely to be delayed.

Aim at a concise style. Large bodies of primary data are unlikely to be accepted. Numerical data must not be presented in two forms (e.g. in both tables and graphs).

Papers should not normally exceed eight pages as printed in the journal (including tables, figures and the list of references), which corresponds approximately to a maximum of 14 sheets of A4 paper when typed in the manner described below.

Typescripts. Submit two copies of the manuscript. The top copy must be clearly typed in double spacing on one side only of each sheet of good quality A4 (30 × 21 cm, $8\frac{1}{2}$ × 11 in) paper (not foolscap), with 4-cm margins at the left hand side and top of each sheet. Number all pages consecutively in the top right hand corner, including those containing the list of references, but not those devoted to tables and figures, which should be collected together and placed after the text (see 'Tables' and 'Figures' below).

The Editor, the Editorial Board, and the Publisher cannot accept responsibility for loss of, or damage to, manuscripts, and authors are therefore advised to retain copies of all materials submitted.

Spelling should conform to *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Current English*. Whilst the Editors have no wish to impose a standard style, they will return, with suggestions for modification, manuscripts which to not conform to accepted standards of scientific publications, or are verbose or repetitive.

Title page. Give the following details on the first sheet:

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- (b) The full title of the paper. To facilitate retrieval and indexing by modern bibliographic searching techniques, it is essential that the title is informative and contains the maximum number of relevant key words. Where appropriate the title should indicate the crop, the character of the investigation, the factors under review, and the climatic or geographic area in which the research was done.
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Summary. Provide a concise factual statement, not longer than ten lines of typescript, of the purposes of the research and of the principal findings. Avoid any discursive matter or citation. The preparation of the Summary, which requires a great deal of care, is the responsibility of the author(s), not of the Editors.

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Materials and methods. Present the techniques used in sufficient detail to allow them to be repeated. Where appropriate, the details should include: a clear and concise account of experimental lay-outs; a description of treatments and general management; and a general statement about methods of statistical analysis. *Dates* should be given for the beginning event of each experiment.

Results. Present the principal findings of the research but do not discuss them. Include assessments of experimental variability (e.g. coefficient of variation) and of the statistical significance of the results, specifying the methods used for the analysis (but without showing any details of the calculations).

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Bebawi, F. F. & Farah, A. F. (1981). Effects of nitrophoska and atrazine on relations between Sorghum bicolor and Striga hermonthica. Experimental Agriculture 17:425-430.

Bunting, A. H.(1970). Change in Agriculture. London: Duckworth.

Hawtin, G. C., Singh, K. B. & Saxena, M. C. (1980). Some recent developments in the understanding and improvement of *Cicer* and *Lens*. In *Advances in Legume Science*, 613–624 (Eds R. J. Summerfield and A. H. Bunting). London: HMSO.

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Continued from inside front cover

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