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The Journal of Agricultural Science

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The Journal was launched in 1905 by the Cambridge Professors of Agriculture and the Director of the Rothamsted Experimental Station and their policy of making it a major source for agricultural education has been followed throughout. Thus all papers submitted are very carefully refereed for their scientific content and those published equally carefully edited to ensure that the English (the only language used) is unambiguous and easily translated into other languages.

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Instructions to Authors

Failure to comply with the Instructions to Authors may delay publication

The Journal welcomes concise papers reporting original experimental data or experimental methods, or new analyses of already existing data, in any aspect of Agricultural Science. It does not normally publish review articles. The Editors must be informed if any of the material submitted has been published elsewhere. If a paper is accepted, it must not be published elsewhere in the same form. Experiments on animals must conform with legislation in the country where the experiments are carried out. Papers should be submitted to Miss Jane King, Journal of Agricultural Science, Department of Applied Biology, Pembroke Street, Cambridge CB2 3DX.

Scripts. Papers, written in English, should be typed in double spacing on one side of the paper with a margin of at least 4 cm on the left-hand side. Two copies should be submitted.

Layout and style. Authors are recommended to use the style adopted in recent issues. Details and sample pages showing preferred layout for various subjects may be obtained in advance of submission from the Executive Editor, Miss Jane King, at the address given above.

Title. The title must be specific and suitable for indexing by the automatic methods now being employed. Male authors should give surnames and full initials, female authors should give one forename. The full name and address of the institution where the research was done should be stated. Change of address may be given as a footnote. A short title, not exceeding 50 characters, should be provided for the running headlines.

A summary, placed at the beginning of the text, should briefly indicate the experiments described, the main result and important conclusions.

The text. The Editors do not insist on a rigid format but it is usually convenient to divide the paper into sections, e.g. Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, and Discussion. An excess of headings and subheadings should be avoided. The Introduction should show why the work was carried out; a detailed review of literature is not necessary. Relevant details should be given of the experimental materials and design, and the techniques and statistical methods used. Numerical results should be shown in Tables and not repeated in the text. Metric units should be used. Experimental details and Results should be recorded in the past tense. The Discussion should relate the author's results to other work on the subject and give the author's conclusions. A simple direct style of writing, avoiding unnecessary repetition and circumlocution, is preferred. Footnotes should not be used.

Tables must be self-explanatory, typed on separate sheets, numbered consecutively and carry an appropriate title. Numerical results should be displayed as means with their relevant standard errors. Normally a mean should be rounded to one tenth of its standard error and the standard error given to one place of decimals more than the mean.

Figures should be restricted to the display of results when a large number of values can be comprehended more easily; Tables and Figures may not reproduce the same data. Line drawings should be 25 cm wide and drawn in black waterproof ink on Bristol Board, graph paper with blue lines or tracing paper. Numbering and lettering, which must be kept to an absolute minimum, should be legibly inserted in soft pencil. A photocopy of the line drawing should be provided; a full legend describing the Figure and giving a key to all the symbols on it should be typed on a separate sheet.

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