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General

The *Journal of Dairy Research* publishes original scientific research on all aspects of the biology and technology of lactating animals and the foods they produce. Research Papers report innovative, hypothesis-driven research that is likely to have international impact. Research Communications are shorter and intended primarily for research of regional or technical impact. Reviews and Editorials are published by invitation. Material for publication should be submitted using the online submission system at www.journalofdairyresearch.org where you will also find further details of the *Journal's* scope, advice on preparing your manuscript and access to track your manuscript through Peer Review. Submission of a manuscript will be taken to imply that it reports original unpublished work, that it is not under consideration elsewhere, and that if accepted by the *Journal* it will not be published elsewhere in any language without the consent of the Editors. You will be asked to confirm that you accept these conditions. Your manuscript will be peer reviewed. If it is accepted for publication you will be asked to assign the copyright, under certain conditions, to the *Journal* to help protect your material.

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Submission is online via www.journalofdairyresearch.org. The Editors no longer accept emailed submissions. You should first consult the online guidance and these Instructions to Contributors to ensure that your manuscript is prepared in accordance with the *Journal's* requirements. You must submit the manuscript as a single Word document that incorporates all tables and figures. If we subsequently require higher quality original files of figures or images we will ask you for them. You will also have the option to submit supplementary files.

Journal Scope

The *Journal's* ability to cover the entire dairy foods chain is a major strength. The remit spans from animal nutritional aspects of feed input through the biology of lactating animals and the mammary gland to milk quality, technological aspects of processed dairy products and healthy nutrition for the consumer. The focus is on dairy species, but we also welcome comparative research related to human lactation and lactation in non-dairy animal species. The *Journal* does not categorize published articles. Each issue will follow the dairy foods chain, starting with feeding-related research and ending with consumer-related.

Types of manuscript and general considerations

The *Journal* publishes submitted Research Papers and Research Communications. In addition, Research Reviews and Editorials are published by invitation. Research Papers report innovative hypothesis-driven research of international impact and will not normally be appropriate for research that is purely descriptive. Research Communications are shorter. In addition to international impact research, Research Communications can also report descriptive studies of Regional Interest or Technical Interest. Within the *Journal* there is no categorisation by article type, which must be briefly stated in the first line of the summary. Page limits apply to all types of manuscript. These are reported as Text Equivalents (TEQ) where one word is one TEQ and each figure or table is 250 TEQ. Research Papers should be around 6000 TEQ and should include only figures, tables and reference citations that are essential to the understanding of the research objectives. Research Communications should be around 2500 TEQ and should include only one or two tables or figures and a maximum of around 10 citations. Manuscripts that exceed these recommendations will be returned for revision.

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These are invited, and separate guidance will be provided with the invitation. The Editors are always interested to receive suggestions for topics, with or without possible authors.

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Please consult the online guidance and refer to a recent issue to familiarize yourself with *Journal* conventions and layout. Attention to these and other details will speed publication. Manuscripts should be written in UK English using the spelling of the Concise Oxford Dictionary and should as far as possible be comprehensible to the non-specialist reader. They should be concise and focused on the scientific objectives. Research Papers and Research Communications must contain sufficient detail or appropriate cited methodologies to allow repetition of the work. Formatting should include double spaced and consecutively numbered lines, standard margins and an appropriate font of appropriate size. Do not hyphenate words at the end of a line unless a hyphen is to appear in the printed text.

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The manuscript should generally be divided as follows:

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- **Keywords**: up to 5 keywords may be supplied
- **Introduction** should not have a heading. It should not contain a full review of the literature, but should help the non-specialist to understand why the subject of enquiry is interesting or important, why the authors have chosen the approach described and what the likely impact of the research will be. The objectives must be clearly stated, preferably in the form of a hypothesis.
- **Materials and Methods** section should contain adequate descriptions of procedures or appropriate references; sources of all materials (including address, with postal code) and sources or strains of animals and microorganisms should be indicated. Do not give detailed descriptions of published methods; refer to the original publication.
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- **Discussion** should not repeat the results but discuss their significance. Refer to existing or accepted knowledge in the present tense and the authors' work in the past tense; the difference in tense should clearly show the authors' contribution. A separate conclusion is not necessary but authors should summarize their main conclusions briefly at the end of the Discussion. A combined Results and Discussion is acceptable but not preferred.
- **Acknowledgements** of financial support, technical assistance and so on are given in a separate paragraph without heading. It is the responsibility of the authors to ensure that individuals or organizations acknowledged as providing materials or otherwise are willing to be identified.
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