

Natural Product Reports

Instructions for Authors (2004)

Also see: www.rsc.org/illustrations and www.rsc.org/electronicfiles

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1.0 Policy/Aims

Natural Product Reports (NPR) is a bimonthly journal of critical reviews. It aims to stimulate progress in the study of natural products bioorganic chemistry and chemical biology by providing regular and comprehensive reviews of the relevant literature published during well-defined periods. Topics include the isolation, structure, biosynthesis, biological activity and chemistry of the major groups of natural products – alkaloids, terpenoids and steroids, aliphatic, aromatic and O-heterocyclic compounds, and other metabolites of marine, plant and microbial origins. This coverage is augmented by frequent reviews of the wider context of bioorganic chemistry and chemical biology, including developments in enzymology, nucleic acids, genetics, chemical ecology, primary and secondary metabolism, and isolation and analytical techniques, which will be of general interest to all workers in the area. Occasional articles by eminent scientists provide an important historical perspective describing major developments from the personal viewpoint of those involved.

Contributions are generally commissioned by an appointed member of the Editorial Board, to whom the commissioned review should be initially submitted. Upon acceptance, further communication will be with the Editorial Office (Journals & Reviews Department) at The Royal Society of Chemistry, Thomas Graham House, Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge, CB4 0WF. Authors will be asked to supply electronic files, preferably by file upload (www.rsc.org/submissions) or by e-mail or on disk.

The RSC is prepared to consider offers of articles for publication. In such cases a short synopsis, rather than the completed article, should be submitted to the Managing Editor at the address given above.

Other contact details: tel +44 (0)1223 432194, fax +44 (0)1223 420247, npr@rsc.org, for more information see www.rsc.org/npr

2.0 Coverage, Style and Presentation of Typescripts

The period of review and article length will have been agreed upon commission. The period of review as well as the preceding article (if any) on the same topic should be indicated in a brief statement at the beginning of the manuscript as follows:

Covering: 2000–2001. Previous review: 2000, 17, 2

The previous review should also be cited. All articles should begin with a short abstract, including the period of coverage and number of references cited. It is recommended that one-off articles should include an introduction for the general reader (accessible to graduate students).

Authors are encouraged to supply a short (100 word) biography and photograph, which will be displayed on the first page of their article. The photograph should ideally be in black and white and should only display the author(s). If the author is willing to include the above in their article the material should be submitted with their article, either as hard copy or electronically (photograph as TIFF file, 600dpi, 4 × 5cm).

Typescript should be top copies, printed with double line spacing on one side of either A4 or American quarto paper. The article length should be as close to the commissioned length as possible. For guidance, an A4 page printed with double spacing using 12 point Times font is roughly equivalent to a third of a page of text or references when typeset. (A full printed page of text in NPR contains approximately 1100 words or 75 references.) Estimation of formulae space is more difficult, but an A4 page of diagrams, using settings as specified on page 3, will include material for approximately two-thirds of a printed page.

Styles should correspond to those of recent issues of *NPR*. The conventions in use for *NPR* follow those laid down for

RSC journals as far as possible; a useful guide may be found in the 'Notices to Authors' printed on the inside covers of the various sections of these journals. However, the following points are stressed for *NPR* contributions:

2.1 Structural Formulae, Schemes and Figures

Structural formulae, reaction schemes and figures should be numbered and referred to as such in the text. Compound numbers should be in bold without brackets and positioned close to the structures. Also, a space of *ca.* 0.75 cm is to be left between each scheme or group of structures. Formulae, schemes and figures should be drawn neatly on sheets separated from the main body of the text, within which the preferred positions should be clearly indicated. Captions for schemes and figures should be provided as a list separated from the artwork. In structural formulae, particular care should be taken over the following: positioning and style of arrows, junctions of bonds and groups at points in or on a ring; the type and relative perspective of bonds; the distinction between hyphens and bonds, equals signs and double bonds.

Submission of Structure Diagrams electronically – The RSC is able to accept the following file formats: ChemDraw (saved as *filename.cdx*) and ChemWindow (*filename.cwg*), ISIS/Draw (*filename.skc*) and ChemSketch (*filename.sk2*). Authors should supply structures, reaction schemes and figures electronically if at all possible. Please do not integrate your graphics files into the word processor document, since these are difficult to separate out for the proof preparation process.

The preference settings to be used are as follows:

Drawing Settings: chain angle 120 degrees, bond spacing 20% of length, fixed length 0.43 cm, bold width 0.056 cm, line width 0.016 cm, margin width 0.044 cm, hash spacing 0.062 cm.

Text Settings: font labels and atom labels 7 pt Helvetica/Arial. Fractional character widths should be enabled.

Page Setup: paper: A4, reduce to 64% (*i.e.* prints smaller than size on screen), top and bottom margins 2.3 cm, left and right margins 1.57 cm.

The structures should be drawn in single column format (8.4 × 25 cm) where possible, as shown by the column guides. Double column format (17.4 × 25 cm) is acceptable for large schemes and figures only. Wedges and **dashed lines** (---) should be used to show stereochemistry.

To facilitate rapid processing of your work and to avoid omissions please ensure that submitted manuscripts clearly indicate the desired location of unnumbered graphics in the text, *e.g.* <**structure 1 to 3 here**>.

2.2 Reproduction of published figures

Where the reproduction of published figures is required, authors should supply cut-outs from reprints as opposed to photocopies from journals. The redrawing of such figures is both costly and time-consuming as well as being difficult for the artist when intricate detail is required. The Society reserves the right to reject diagrams when copies of insufficient quality are submitted.

It is the responsibility of the author to obtain permission from both the original authors and the publisher of the source material when reproduction of published diagrams is desired. Request forms are available at www.rsc.org/is/journals/current/perm.htm

Acknowledgements should be included in the figure caption, which is set out as follows: figure number ranged left in bold type, followed by the description in Roman typeface; only the first word should begin with a capital letter. The acknowledgement should begin on a new line, in parenthesis, as shown in the following example.

Fig. 1 Lovastatin biosynthesis genes

(Reproduced by permission from *Org. Biomol. Chem.*, 2003, **1**, 50)

A list of figure captions separate from the diagrams themselves should be included in the typescript.

2.3 References

Within the text, references must be numbered consecutively and should be collated and typed on separate sheets at the end of the typescript in the form shown below.

R. Ahmed and F. J. Leeper, *Org. Biomol. Chem.*, 2003, **1**, 21–23.

It is preferable to list the range of pages in which the article appears although the single starting page number is also acceptable. However, consistency should be maintained. Wherever possible within tables, references should be self-contained, labelled (*a*), (*b*), *etc.*, and positioned as footnotes to the table.

The style of journal abbreviations used in The Society's publications is that defined by the Chemical Abstracts service in CASSI (Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index). A list of the more commonly encountered journal abbreviations can be found at <http://www.rsc.org/is/journals/authrefs/jabbr.htm>; this list is not intended to be comprehensive.

2.4 Equations

These should occupy a separate line, and be numbered in sequence throughout the text in right set parentheses.

2.5 Headings

The first item will be the title, the period of literature coverage, a citation of the previous article on this field in this journal, where applicable, and a list of the sub-headings within the review. This is demonstrated on the attached specimen page.

(i) *Main sub-headings.* Ranged left and numbered 1, 2, *etc.*, these should be set on a separate line in bold type with only the first word beginning with a capital letter.

(ii) *Secondary sub-headings.* Ranged left and numbered 1.1, 1.2..., 2.1, 2.2..., *etc.*, these should be set on a separate line, in bold type and with only the first word beginning with a capital letter.

(iii) *Further sub-headings.* Ranged left and numbered 1.1.1, 1.1.2..., *etc.*, these should be on a separate line, in bold type with only the first word beginning with a capital letter.

(iv) *Table headings.* Ranged left, and above the relevant table, the table number should be in bold type followed by the description, only the first word of which should begin with a capital letter.

3.0 Proofs

Proofs will be e-mailed to you in PDF format. You will need Acrobat's Reader software to open the file (available for free from www.adobe.com). If you have any difficulty opening the file, or if you would prefer to receive a paper version, please reply to the e-mail and proofs will be posted or faxed to you.

Your proofs will not be read in detail by staff after you have returned them to us. It is your responsibility to ensure that the proofs have been read carefully. Translation errors between word-processor files and typesetting systems can occur so the whole proof needs to be read even if an electronic file has been supplied. Please pay particular attention to tabulated material (this may have been rekeyed); equations; numerical data; figures and graphics; and references. Please ensure that all queries raised by the editor are fully answered.

For indexing purposes, authors are asked to indicate on the proofs of their article up to five keywords (including selected species) per printed page (maximum number of keywords = no of pages × 5). These keyword should be specific to the article, not general (*e.g.* not biosynthesis, but biosynthesis of xxx).

Please return your **final** corrections to Natural Product Reports proofs, Journal and Reviews Production, Royal Society of Chemistry, Thomas Graham House, Milton Road, Cambridge, UK CB4 0WF; Fax: +44 (0)1223 432160; orgprod@rsc.org. E-mailed corrections should describe the changes to be made and their position on the proof. Please keep a copy of the corrections sent.

Strict schedules govern the efficient publication of the journal, and consequently any major alterations or delay in return of proofs may delay publication of an issue. The RSC publishes

individual articles on its web pages in advance of conventional issue-based publication and the prompt return of your corrected proofs will allow your article to be published electronically at the earliest possible date. Please note however that no late corrections can be accepted for such Advance Articles.

4.0 Reprints

Authors will receive a free PDF reprint of their article and may purchase hard copy reprints.