

Instructions for authors

The author(s) transfer(s) the copyright to his/her article to Springer-Verlag effective if and when the article is accepted for publication. The copyright covers the exclusive and unlimited rights to reproduce and distribute the article in any form of reproduction (printing, electronic media or any other form); it also covers translation rights for all languages and countries. For U.S. authors the copyright is transferred to the extent transferable.

Four copies of the manuscripts should be submitted to the Managing Editor. Manuscripts must be accompanied by the "Copyright Transfer Statement" (the form is regularly published in this journal). Manuscripts should include figures, figure captions and tables. Original drawings should not be submitted until a manuscript has been revised and accepted for publication.

Manuscripts should be arranged as follows:

- Title page
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Materials and methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Acknowledgements
- References

Papers must present scientific results which are essentially new and have not been submitted or published elsewhere. Papers should not exceed 25 pages of typescript including tables and illustrations (= approx. 10 printed pages). Papers should not be divided into several parts to make them appear shorter, but no more material should be included in one paper than can be treated in one coherent discussion.

Short notes containing information of immediate interest will be published out of order; maximum length is 6 pages of typescript including tables and illustrations (= 2–3 printed pages). **Review papers** and **Letters to the editor** will also be accepted. The main problem should be outlined briefly in the introduction, and detailed historical introductions should be avoided. Continuity with earlier work on the subject should be established by reference to recent papers or reviews, which need not themselves be summarized. Experimental methods must be clearly set out, but detailed descriptions of methods are of value only if they convey substantially new information. Normally a brief statement of each category of experimental result or each newly established fact is sufficient. The remaining material may be summarily mentioned in the text or, if necessary, given in tables, though too lengthy tables should definitely be avoided. It can also be stated where the full supporting evidence may be obtained.

Papers must be written in standard grammatical English; this is the responsibility of the author. Form and content should be carefully checked before submission. If absolutely necessary, new results may be given at the end of the paper in a "Note added in proof".

Submitted papers will be peer reviewed. Authors are strongly encouraged to propose a list of five referees (complete postal address, fax number, e-mail address). Authors will then be sent those reviews that contain suggestions on how the paper should be revised provided it is considered to be acceptable in principle.

In order to speed up publication, authors are requested to send the final revised version of their papers including figures and tables on *diskette* together with the hardcopy to the Editor. The typing should be double spaced (including tables, legends, footnotes and references) on one side of white bond paper with margins of at least 5 cm. The position of tables and illustrations should be indicated in the margin of the manuscript. All pages should be numbered consecutively.

The **title page** should include a concise, informative title; the names of all authors, their affiliation(s), an address for correspondence (with e-mail address, and fax number), and any footnotes referring to the title.

The **Abstract** should not exceed 150 words. It should cover the main points of the article, containing a statement of the problem, method, results and conclusions.

The text of the paper should be divided into Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results and Discussion. Figures, tables and figure legends should be submitted on separate sheets. Methods, Acknowledgements, list of References, figure captions and tables will appear in small print.

Footnotes should be avoided whenever possible. Essential footnotes should be indicated by superscript numbers in the text and placed at the foot of the page to which they apply. They should be numbered consecutively throughout the text.

The references at the end of the paper should list in alphabetical order by the first author's name all works referred to in the text, and only those. They must be cited as follows:

Journal papers: names and initials of all authors; year; full title; journal abbreviated in accordance with international practice; volume number; first and last page numbers:

Convey P, Barnes DKA, Morton A (2002) Debris accumulation on oceanic island shores of the Scotia Arc, Antarctica. *Polar Biol* 25: 612–617

Books: names and initials of authors; year; title (of book or article); editor(s); title of book; edition; volume number; publisher; place; page numbers:

Schloss IR, Ferreyra GA (2001) Primary production, light and vertical mixing in Potter Cove, a shallow bay in the maritime Antarctic. In: Arntz WE, Clarke A (eds.) *Ecological Studies in the Antarctic Sea Ice Zone. Results of EASIZ Midterm Symposium*. Springer, Berlin Heidelberg New York pp 117–124

Citations in the text should read (Leonard 1968) or Griffiths (1975). When a paper has more than two authors, the style Smith et al. (1980) should be used. The convention (Brown 1979a, 1979b) should be used when more than one paper is cited by the same author(s) and published in the same year.

Genus and species names and words to be emphasized should be italicized.

Units and abbreviations: SI units should be used wherever possible. Other units and non-standards abbreviations should be only used when absolutely necessary and they should be defined at first mention.

Tables should be numbered consecutively and typed on separate sheets. They should be self-explanatory and should supplement, not duplicate, the text. Each table must have a caption.

Illustrations must be restricted to the minimum needed to clarify the text. All figures, whether photographs, micrographs, or diagrams, should be numbered consecutively in arabic numerals and must be referred to in the text. They should be submitted as originals, ready for reproduction and on separate sheets, each bearing the author's name and the figure number. Where possible, figures should be grouped. In addition to the hard copy submission on diskette or some other electronic medium is encouraged at the final stage of revision. Illustrations prepared in digital form must be in accordance with the technical instructions for manuscripts and illustrations in electronic form that are published in this journal. Line drawings and half-tone illustrations should be up to 86 mm in width to fit the column and up to 176 mm in width to fit two columns. *When the desired size has not been specifically stated, the publisher reserves the right to reduce or enlarge the illustrations.*

For **line drawings**, ink drawings or good-quality prints thereof in the desired final size are preferred. Computer drawings are acceptable provided they are of comparable quality to line drawings. Lines and curves must be smooth. The lettering should be clearly legible. Capital letters, numbers 2 mm high and lower-case letters 1.6 mm high (final sizes) are recommended.

For **half-tone illustrations**, well-contrasted photographic prints are required, trimmed at right angles and in the desired final size. Lettering should be about 3 mm high. An overlay can be used to show where the figures may be trimmed and to indicate areas of special importance. Mark end points of arrows by a fine pin prick in the original.

For **colour illustrations** the authors will be expected to make a contribution (€ 485 US\$ 475, plus 16% VAT) towards the extra costs irrespective of the number of figures.

If plates are submitted, the figures must be mounted on regular bond paper, not on cardboard.

Electronic supplementary material. Data such as black and white or colour illustrations, large tables, animations, video clips, or sound recordings that are not essential for the understanding of a printed article but yet of interest can be put on the Springer server and will be accessible free of charge on the contents site of this journal. Such material should be submitted in electronic form (see the special instructions) and will also be reviewed. Reference to this material will be given the printed article.

Fifty offprints of each contribution are supplied free of charge. If you wish to order additional offprints you must return the order form with the corrected proofs. You are then entitled to receive a pdf file of your article for your own personal use.