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If revision of a paper is requested, the revised version should be returned within 30 days. If more time is required, the author should contact the Editorial Office or the Editor to agree a new deadline. If revision is delayed by the author without prior agreement, the revised version will be treated as a new submission.

Instructions for Authors

The Indian Journal of Microbiology (IJM) publishes peer-reviewed papers of original research work in the areas of agricultural, food, environmental, industrial, medical, pharmaceutical, veterinary and molecular microbiology. Review articles from specialists in the above areas are also considered for publication.

General

Submission of paper will imply that it contains unpublished original work, and that it is not submitted elsewhere even in part for publication. If any related paper is published or is in press, a copy of the same must be enclosed along with the manuscript.

Categories of Manuscripts

- **Full Length (not exceeding 3500 words)**
The paper should describe new and confirmed findings. Experimental procedures should give sufficient details for others to verify the work. The paper should have 10-12 typed pages comprising (a) an abstract, (b) key words, not more than 5, (c) introduction, precise to introduce the subject with citations of relevant literature, (d) material and methods, (e) results and discussion, (f) acknowledgements, and (g) references. No heading for abstract and introduction to be given.
- **Short Communication (not exceeding 1200 words)**
A short communication should be a record of completed short investigation giving details of new methods or findings. It should not exceed 4 to 5 typed pages with an abstract followed by key words. Body of the text will not have any title, like abstract, material and methods, results, and discussion except the acknowledgements and references.
- **Review (not exceeding 5000 words)**
It should be comprehensive, up to date and critical on a recent topic of importance. It should cite latest references and identify the gaps for future research. It should also contain an abstract (without heading), key words, acknowledgements and references.
- **Correspondence (not exceeding 600 words)**
This consists letters that are of general interest to scientists and technical comments, including those on articles or communications published in IJM within the previous six months. Short letters are preferred. Letters may be reviewed and edited.
- **Scientific Correspondence (less than 1500 words and 2 display items)**
These serve to rapidly communicate important new findings. Contributions dealing with technical advances or advances in instrumentation may be published as **Technical notes**.
- **News and Views (not exceeding 1000 words)**
News and views can cover important scientific events or any other news of interest to scientists in general. **Meeting Reports** (less than 1500 words) deal with highlights/technical contents of a conference/Symposium/discussion-meeting, etc. conveying to readers the significance of important advances. Reports must avoid listing brief accounts of topics discussed.
- **Research News**
Articles (not exceeding 2000 words and 3 display items) are intended to inform non-specialists about recently published advances or important findings.
- **Opinion Articles (less than 1200 words)**
These present views on issues related to science and scientific activity.

- **Commentary (less than 2000 words)**
These articles are expected to be short expository essays on issues related to science and scientific activity.
- **Book Reviews (not exceeding 1500 words)**
Book reviews are generally solicited / commissioned, unsolicited reviews will also be considered. Reviews must not merely 'list' brief descriptions of the contents of the book.

All manuscripts are subject to the review process, and the Editor-in-Chief will make the final decision concerning acceptance or rejection, or editor/Associate editor assigned by the Editor-in-Chief; however, the following instructions must be observed to avoid delays.

Online submission

IJM journal requires authors to use online submission of manuscripts at <https://www.editorialmanager.com/injm>. Authors unable to submit online should contact the Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Rup Lal, Dept. of Zoology, University of Delhi, Delhi-110007, India; e-mail: ijmami@gmail.com or tel: +91 11 27666254.

Step-by-step instructions on how to submit your manuscript online are available during the submission process. You can also contact the editorial office for online submission support. Further information can be obtained online from the submission site (see "Help").

- Prepare your text, in Word (.DOC file).
 - Prepare your graphics.
 - Illustrations
The preferred figure formats are EPS for vector graphics exported from a drawing program and TIFF for halftone illustrations. EPS files must always contain a preview in TIFF of the figure. The file name (one file for each figure) should include the figure number. Figure legends should be included in the text and not in the figure file
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Scanned line drawings should be digitized with a minimum resolution of 800 dpi relative to the final figure size. For digital halftones, 300 dpi is usually sufficient.
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Store color illustrations as RGB (8 bits per channel) in TIFF format.
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Fonts used in the vector graphics must be included. Please do not draw with hairlines. The minimum line width is 0.2 mm (i.e., 0.567 pt) relative to the final size.
 - If you are unable to embed your figures in the text document, then upload the figures separately as .GIF, .JPEG, .EPS, .TIFF, .PPT or .XLS files. Users of Macintosh computers should type the file extension name (e.g. .DOC) after the file name before uploading to ensure conversion to .PDF files. Each figure must be labelled with a figure number.
 - To ensure accurate conversion of characters, standard fonts such as Times, Times New Roman, Ariel, or Helvetica should be used for preparing the text and figures. Courier or Courier New should be used for sequence alignments.
 - Symbol font should be used to convert Greek characters and other non-standard characters such as the degree symbol.
- The following should be provided during the submission process**
- The names of four suggested referees, together with their institutions, telephone numbers and e mail addresses. Please add the relevant areas of expertise and indicate their suitability as referees, in brackets, after the names. Do not suggest scientists based in your own institution or close collaborators elsewhere, as they will not be approached.

The editors will check the standing of the referees in their stated fields by reference to PubMed and other public databases.

- A covering letter of submission (giving the postal, fax, and email addresses of the corresponding author) should be inserted into the appropriate box (“comments for the Editor-in-Chief”). Please add fax numbers of suggested referees in the covering letter.
- Evidence of submission of sequences to a databank.
- Approval of citation of any personal communications.
- Any unpublished papers that are cited must be uploaded for referees to access. An electronic copy of any related paper under consideration or in press elsewhere must also be submitted to facilitate evaluation by the referees. Failure to do this may delay the review process.
- Any other supplementary material (see below)
- If the manuscript is a resubmission, please upload a letter giving point-by-point responses to the comments by the reviewers of the previous version.

Note: After uploading the manuscript files please ensure that the “save and continue” button is clicked. This enables viewing the proof of the uploaded manuscript, and enables submission. An onscreen submission acknowledgement and reference number will also be provided.

Submission of a revised manuscript

- Submit the revised manuscript online to <https://www.editorialmanager.com/injm> following the instructions provided in the editorial decision letter.
- Upload revised manuscript/figures as for initial submission (pdf file) but please ensure a word document (DOC or RTF file) is available.

References

References in the text should be cited with numbers in square brackets in order of their appearance in the text. Arrange the citations in the same order in serial number under references. Use standard abbreviations of the journals. The examples of citations are as follows:

- Pollard DR, Johnson WM, Lior H, Tyler SD and Rozee RK (1990) Detection of aerolysin gene in *Aeromonas hydrophila* by polymerase chain reaction. *J Clin Microbiol* 28:2477–2481
- Howard SP and Buckley JT (1985) Activation of the hole forming toxin aerolysin by extracellular processing. *J Bacteriol* 163: 336–340
- Ames BN (1966) Assay of inorganic phosphate, total phosphate and phosphatases. In: Neufeld (EF) and Ginsburg V (eds). *Methods in*

enzymology Vol. 8: Complex carbohydrates. Academic Press, New York, pp. 115–118

Tables

Table should be numbered with a brief title. Type each table on separate page using tab.

Illustrations/ figures/graphs

Each graph, figure, photo or diagram should be of good quality. Color photographs can be published if recommended by the Editor-in-Chief.

Abbreviations

Use standard abbreviations. A few are: ml (millimetre), g (gram), t (ton), mM (milli mole), d (days), min (minutes), h (hours), sec (seconds), ha (hectare), SD (standard deviation), kD (kilo Dalton), SE (standards error), wt (weight), DAS (days after sowing), mol wt (molecular weight), cfu (colony forming unit) and standard symbols (i.e. a,b,c,d,l,m,p,g,u). The binomial Latin names of micro organisms, plants and animals should be italicised.

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NOTE: Correspondence related to publication and other matters concerning IJM, including inquiries regarding the back volumes, should be addressed to the Editor-in-Chief.

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The Indian Journal of Microbiology is a peer-reviewed journal. This process is used to assess the quality of work submitted for publication and assess its importance. It provides reliability and credibility to the research work. It also helps authors meet the accepted standards of their discipline.

Reviews are done by experts in the subject field. All articles submitted to the journal go through a minimum of two rounds of double-blind review. This helps us maintain high-quality of our publication.



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