animal

An International Journal of Animal Bioscience

Instructions for authors

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animal – an International Journal of Animal Bioscience is published in English in one volume of 12 issues per year, as a printed journal and in electronic form. No page charges are required from the author.

Introduction

animal – is a completely new entity that seeks to attract the best research in animal biology and animal systems from across the spectrum of the agricultural, biomedical, and environmental sciences; it is the central element in a new and exciting collaboration venture between the British Society of Animal Science (BSAS). Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA) and the European Association for Animal Production (EAAP) and represents a merging of the three scientific journals: *Animal Science*; *Animal Research*; *Reproduction, Nutrition, Development*.

animal aims to publish original, cutting-edge research and horizon-scanning reviews on animal-related aspects of the life sciences at the molecular, cellular, organ whole animal and production system levels. Papers will be considered in aspects of both strategic and applied science in the areas of Animal Breeding and Genetics, Nutrition, Physiology and Functional Biology of Systems, Behaviour, Health and Welfare, Livestock Farming Systems and Product Quality. Animal models in relation with these key topics will be considered. Emphasis will be placed on managed animals and on the integrative nature of biological systems. Thus, papers dealing with the translation of basic and strategic science into whole animal and system impacts on Productivity, Product Quality, the Environment and Humans (health, nutrition and well being) will be particularly welcome. The full **scope of the journal** is available on http://www.animal-journal.eu/scope.htm and should be consulted before submitting a paper.

animal will publish papers of international relevance and will consider original research articles, novel techniques, short communications of exciting or timely new results and contemporary reviews and meta-analyses. Proceedings of scientific meetings and conference reports will be considered for special issues.

animal will be essential reading for all animal scientists interested in biochemistry, microbiology, nutrition, physiology, modelling, genetics, behaviour, immunology, epidemiology, engineering, economics, sociology, food science and technology, human health, farming and land-use management.

Type of articles

animal publishes different types of articles:

> ***Full research papers*** are a full account of a complete project. The approach can be experimental or theoretical, provided the work has been carried out in a systematic way, and, in the former case ethically acceptable to the Editorial Board. The ethical policy of the Journal is available on the website http://www.animal-journal.eu/ethical_policy.htm. The interest of the paper should not be limited to national or regional conditions but appeal to an international readership. Routine studies, descriptive experiments without an experimental design controlled by the author, papers based on repetition of published experiments with other breeds, or in other geographical conditions are discouraged. Papers presenting a detailed description of a new technique will be considered. Comparison of existing methods will be considered provided similar comparisons have never been published. Full papers, including meta-analyses, should be comprehensive and include an in-depth discussion. Papers in a numbered series will not be accepted unless all are presented at the same time. The maximum length should not exceed 12 journal pages (approx. 10,000 words).

Short communications will only accepted in special cases where, in the Editor's judgement, the contents are exceptionally exciting, novel or timely. Partial data, or complete studies with a very limited amount of results will not be considered as short communications. The maximum length should not exceed 4 journal pages (approx. 3,000 words).

Review papers can be invited or unsolicited. Unsolicited reviews have to be contemporary and comprehensive, and add information to published reviews on the same topic. Mini-reviews on limited topics are accepted. Maximum length: 15 journal pages (approx. 12,500 words).

The journal will consider for publication the results of original work and critical reviews that are presented at Symposia. Acceptance of such papers will be subject to :
* the material in the papers being within the scope of the journal's interests
* all papers being reviewed to the same high standard, and by the same peer review process that applies to any paper submitted to the journal
* for reports of original work, the papers being full reports; short abstracts or reports of incomplete work will not be considered
* symposium organisers agreeing to comply with the journals standards of acceptance.

Papers from symposia will be included within the normal issues of the journal. The number of pages allocated to symposia papers will be at the discretion of the Editor-in-chief and of the senior editor in charge of reviews in consultation with symposia organisers.

Book reviews and letters to the editor are not accepted.

Submitted manuscripts should not have been published previously except in a limited form (e.g. communication to a symposium), part of MSc or PhD Thesis, and should not be under consideration for publication by other journals. Papers of which most of the content has previously been published in another language will not be considered for publication in **animal**. All co-authors should agree with the content of the manuscript. Authors should have obtained permission to use any copyrighted material in the manuscript prior to submission. The work described in the manuscript must comply with ethical guidelines.

Recommendations for preparation of papers

The responsibility for the preparation of a paper in a form suitable for publication lies in the first place with the author. Authors should consult the first issue of Animal, available free at the address: http://journals.cambridge.org/ANM in order to make themselves broadly familiar with the layout and style of Animal. The English must be acceptable for publication. The typographical and other conventions to be adopted are set out below. Manuscripts which do not follow the below mentioned conventions will be sent back to the author.

Title

A title needs to be concise yet informative. It should:
(*a*) arrest the attention of a potential reader scanning a journal or a list of titles;
(*b*) provide sufficient information to allow the reader to judge the relevance of a paper to his/her interests and whether it will repay the effort of obtaining a copy;
(*c*) incorporate keywords or phrases that can be used in indexing and information retrieval, especially the animal species on which the experiment has been carried out;
(*d*) avoid inessentials such as 'A detailed study of ...', or 'Contribution to ...'
It must not include the name of the country or of the region where the experiment took place.

Authors and affiliation

The names and affiliation of the authors should be presented as follows:
J. Smith[1,a], P.E. Jones[2], J.M. Garcia[1,3] and P.K. Martin Jr[2]
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The corresponding author can be different from the author who submits the manuscript to Editorial Manager but the corresponding author will need to be registered on Editorial Manager. Institutions should not be abbreviated.

Running head
Authors should propose a running head of no more than 50 characters. If not appropriate, it could be modified by the Editorial Office, with the author's agreement.

Abstract
Every paper should have a one-paragraph abstract of not more than 400 words which is complete and understandable without reference to the paper. It should state succinctly the problem, the experimental methods, results and conclusions but should not be overburdened by numerical values. References to tables and figures, and undefined abbreviations are not acceptable.

Keywords
Up to a maximum of five keywords selected from CAB Thesaurus (1995) or from an equivalent volume should be selected. If not appropriate, keywords will be modified by the Editorial Office, with the author's agreement.

Implications
Authors must write maximum 100 words explaining the implications of their work. Implications explain the expected importance or economic, environmental and/or social impact. This must be in simple English suitable for non science readers. The Implications will be peer-reviewed.

Body of the text
Introduction
The Introduction should briefly present the current issue that the authors are addressing while outlining the context of the work, ensuring that the objectives are clearly defined, and that the main features of the experiment or of the work are clear to the reader. Increasing the knowledge on a subject is not an objective *per se*. References in the Introduction should be limited as it should not be a preliminary discussion.

Material and methods
Material and Methods should be described in sufficient detail within this section so that it is possible for others to repeat the experiment. If the methods are numerous, authors should refer to one of their previous publications in which they are described in detail.

If a proprietary product is used as a source of material in experimental comparisons this should be described using the appropriate chemical name. If the trade name is helpful to the readers provide it in parenthesis after the first mention. Authors who have worked with proprietary products, including equipment, should ensure that the manufacturers or suppliers of these products have no objections to the publication, if the products, for the purpose of experimentation, were not used according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Statistical treatment of results

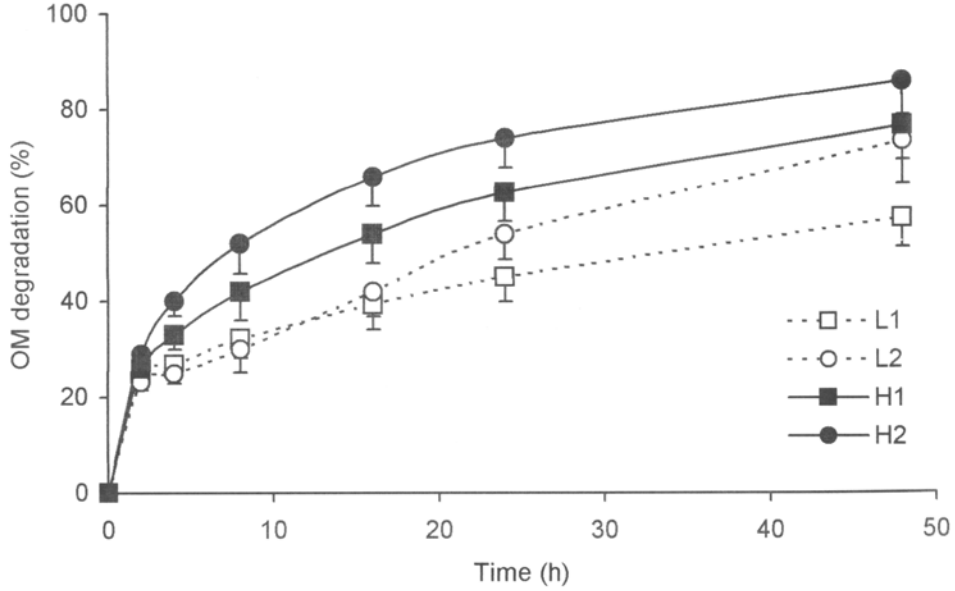
A statistical guide for authors is available on the website at http://www.animal-journal.eu/statistical_instructions.htm. The methods and models of statistical analysis must be indicated and sufficient statistical detail given to allow replication of the experiment. Where reference is made to statistical significance, the level of significance attained should normally be indicated using the following conventional standard abbreviations (which need not be defined): $P>0.05$ for non-significance and $P<0.05$, $P<0.01$ and $P<0.001$ for significance at these levels. In tables, levels of significance should be indicated by *, ** and *** respectively. Statistical significance (e.g. $P=0.07$) can also be used in the text or tables. Treatment means should be given with standard errors or standard errors of differences. Differences between treatments will be indicated using the following conventional standard: a, b for $P<0.05$; A, B for $P<0.01$.

Tables

These should be as simple and as few as possible. The same material should not normally be presented in tabular and graphical form. When both forms are possible, authors should present tables. Generally, variables are in rows and treatments in columns. In designing tables, authors should refer to the page size and column widths of *Animal* as guidance. Each table should be typed, preferably in double spacing, on a page separate from the main body of the text and an indication given in the text where it should be inserted. Tables which are created in Word should not use tabs but use the table function within the programme. Tables should be given arabic numbering and each should have its own explanatory title which is sufficient to permit the table to be understood without reference to the text. All tables must be cited consecutively in the text. Column headings should be concise and units should be clearly stated using standard abbreviations. Only the first letter of the first word is in capitals. Sub-items describing the data in the rows should be indented relative to crossheadings; where they involve printing on more than one line they should be indented in the second and subsequent lines. Sub-sub-items should also be indented. Footnotes should be used sparingly and kept brief. The reference symbols used in footnotes are letters in low cases.

Figures

It is recommended that the width of any diagram submitted should be either 175 mm (2 columns) or 83 mm (1 column) including the legend at the side. A specimen diagram indicating minimum sizes of symbols, thickness of lines and spacing of dashes is shown in Figure 1. In choosing ornaments, solid symbols should be used before open, and continuous lines before dotted or dashed. The size of symbols should be appropriate (neither too small nor too big and clumsy). Figures are to be supplied in colour *only* if they are to reproduce in colour. Please note that authors are liable to cover the additional costs for printing any figures in colour. All must should be cited consecutively in the text. Captions for figures should be typed on a separate page at the end of the manuscript and should be sufficiently detailed to allow the figure to be understood without reference to the text. An indication of where a figure should appear should be given within the text. Diagrams and plates are referred to within the text as Figure 1, etc., and the captions begin with Figure 1, etc. For details of submission requirements refer to section on Submission and evaluation of the manuscript. Please note that charges are made for colour figures. The cost is available on the website at animal-journal.eu/documents/publication_costs



Supplementary material

Additional information which can be useful for the reader but not necessary can be presented as supplementary material which will appear only in the electronic version. This could be used for original modus operandi, detailed data presented as tables or figures, writing mathematical models, list of references in comprehensive reviews or meta-analyses, pictures improving the understanding of the text. The electronic publication of this material needs to be approved by the editor. The manuscript must stand alone without the supplementary material for those readers who will be reading the hard copy only.

References.

The maximal number of references is 40 for original articles, except when the editor agrees for a higher number. No more than 3 references can be given for the same statement (except for reviews and meta-analyses).

Literature cited should be listed in alphabetical order of authors, and not numbered.

For a same first author, the rank of references will be i) publications with one author ranked by year; ii) publications with two authors ranked by year; iii) publications with more than two authors ranked by year then, if necessary, by alphabetical order of the second author. Typical references are:

Journal article or abstract:

Format

Author(s) surname and initials Year. Title. Full title of the journal vol, pages.

The issue within the volume is not mentioned, except if the numbering is per issue and not per volume (ex: newspapers). The word 'abstract' if applicable is not mentioned. Titles which cannot be written in Latin characters will be translated in English, followed by (in xxx) where xxx is the original language.

Example

Lewis RM, Emmans GC, Dingwall WS and Simm G 2002. A description of the growth of sheep and its genetic analysis. Animal Science 74, 51-62.

Book:

Format

Author(s) or editor(s) surname and initials, or institution Year. Title, number of volumes if more than 1, edition if applicable. Name of publisher, place of publication.

Example

Association of Official Analytical Chemists 2004. Official methods of analysis, 2 vol., 18th edition. AOAC, Arlington, VA, USA.

Book chapter or conference proceedings:
Format
Author(s) surname and initials Year. Title. In Title of the book or of the proceedings (eds followed by the editor(s)), volume number when applicable, pages. Name of publisher, place of publication.
For symposium proceedings it is not necessary to mention the date and place of the symposium.
Example
Nozière P and Hoch T 2006. Modelling fluxes of volatile fatty acids from rumen to portal blood. In Nutrient digestion and utilization in farm animals (eds E Kebreab, J Dijkstra, A Bannink, WJJ Gerrits and J France), pp. 40-47. CABI Publishing, Wallingford, UK.

Report at an event (conference, meeting, etc) not included in a book or proceedings:
Format
Author(s) surname and initials Year. Title. Nature of the event, place of the event, number of pages.
Example
Martuzzi F, Summer A, Malacarne M and Mariani P 2001. Main protein fractions and fatty acids composition of mare milk: some nutritional remarks with reference to woman and cow milk. Conference at the 52nd Annual Meeting of the European Association for Animal Production, Budapest, Hungary, 10 pp.

Thesis:
Format
Author surname and initials Year. Title. Type of thesis, university with English name.
Example
Vlaeminck B 2006. Milk odd- and branched-chain fatty acids: indicators of rumen digestion for optimisation of dairy cattle feeding. PhD, Ghent Univ.

Website addresses can be used when no other reference is available. They should be presented as for standard references but in addition they should include the date when the document was retrieved:
Bryant P 1999. Biodiversity and Conservation. Retrieved October 4, 1999, from http://darwin.bio.uci.edu/~sustain/bio65/Titlpage.htm

In the text, references with three or more authors should be cited on all occasions with the first author followed by *et al*. (e.g. Smith *et al*.). References with two authors should be cited in full on all occasions. Names of organizations used as authors (e.g. Agricultural and Food Research Council) should be written out in full in the list of references and on first mention in the text. Subsequent mentions may be abbreviated (e.g. AFRC). Ampersands are not to be used. Multiple references should be as follows: Wright *et al*., 1993 and 1994; Wright *et al*., 1993a and 1993b. When several references are cited simultaneously, they should be ranked by chronological order (e.g. Smith *et al.,* 1995; Fabre *et al.,* 1996; Schmidt *et al.,* 1998; Fabre *et al.,* 1999).
'Personal communication' or 'unpublished results' should follow the name of the author in the text where appropriate. The author's initials but not title should be included, and such citations are not needed in the reference list. Check that all of the references in the text are in the list of references and *vice versa*.

Bibliographic database softwares can be used. The output styles for Endnote, Procite and Reference Manager may be found on the journal website http://animal-journal.eu/instructions_to_authors.htm.

Typographical conventions and consistencies

Manuscripts should be prepared using a standard word processing program presented in a clear, readable format with easily identified sections and headings. typed with double-line spacing with wide margins. The lines will be numbered.. Any current font can be used provided it is easy to read. However Arial is recommended.

Headings
animal convention is as follows.
(*a*) *Title* of the paper is in bold with only the first letter in capitals. Authors' names are in lower case with initial capitals and their addresses are in italics.

(*b*) *Main section headings* (Abstract, Introduction, Material and methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgement(s), References) are printed in bold throughout and placed by the left margin.
(*c*) *Subheadings* are italicized and only the initial letter is in capitals. The two classes are:
(i) side italics unpunctuated (shoulder headings);
(ii) italics, punctuated and text run-on (side headings).
The sequence is always (i) to (ii).

Abbreviations
Some abbreviations listed below should not require the full spelling.

ACTH	Adrenocorticotropic hormone
ADF	Acid detergent fibre
ADL	Acid detergent lignin
ADP	Adenosine diphosphate
ANOVA	Analysis of variance
ATP	Adenosine triphosphate
BLUP	Best linear unbiased prediction
BW	Body weight
CoA	Coenzyme A
CP	Crude protein
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
ELISA	Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
FSH	Follicle-stimulating hormone
GLC	Gas-liquid chromatography
GLM	General Linear Model
HPLC	High performance (pressure) liquid chromatography
IGF	Insulin-like growth factor
IR	Infrared
LH	Luteinising hormone
MS	Mass spectrometry
n	Number of samples
NAD	Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide
NADP	Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate
$NADPH_2$	Reduced nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate
NDF	Neutral detergent fibre
NIRS	Near infrared stectrophotometry
PAGE	Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis
PCR	Polymerase chain reaction
PMSG	Pregnant mare's serum gonadotropin
RNA	Ribonucleic acid
SDS	Sodium dodecyl sulfate
UV	Ultraviolet

Chemical symbols do not require the full name.
Fatty acids are abbreviated using the following rules: cis-18:1 for the sum of cis octadecenoic acids. When isomers are described, the double bond positions are identified by numbering from the carboxylic acid end: c9,t11-18:2; iso-15:0. The terms “omega 3” and “omega 6” are banned and replaced by “n-3” and “n-6”, e.g. 18:3n-3. Trivial names can be used for the most known fatty acids (myristic, palmitic, oleic, linoleic, linolenic) and abbreviations in some cases: CLA for conjugated linoleic acids, EPA for eicosapentaenoic acid, DHA for docosahexaenoic acid. Chemical names and trivial names cannot be mixed in a same table.

When abbreviations are defined in the text, they should be written in bold capitals at first occurrence.

Capitals
(*a*) Initial capitals are used for proper nouns for adjectives formed from proper names, for generic names and for names of classes, orders and families.
(*b*) Names of diseases are not normally capitalized.

Italics

Use italics for:

(*a*) titles of books and names of periodicals in the text and in references;

(*b*) authors' addresses;

(*c*) subheadings (see above);

(*d*) titles for tables (but not captions for figures);

(*e*) most foreign words especially Latin phrases, e.g.

ad hoc
ad libitum
et al.
in situ
inter alia
inter se
in vitro
per se
post mortem
post partum

but *no italics* for

c.f.
corpus luteum
e.g.
etc.
i.e.
N.B.
via

(*f*) mathematical unknowns and constants;

(*g*) generic and specific names;

(*h*) letters or numbers in the text which refer to corresponding letters or numbers in an illustration;

(*i*) letters used as symbols for genes or alleles e.g. *HbA, Tf D* (but not chromosomes or phenotypes of blood groups, transferrins or haemoglobins, e.g. HbAA, TfDD);

(*j*) first occurrence of a special term;

(*k*) repeated emphasis of a special term (use cautiously);

(*l*) Latin names of muscles (but not of bones), e.g. *m. biceps femoris*.

Spelling

All papers must be written in English. Spelling may be in British or American English but must be consistent throughout the paper. Please refer to standard dictionaries e.g. Webster's, Collins, Concise Oxford for the correct spelling of words and to Fowler's Modern English Usage (3rd edition, edited by R.W. Burchfield, Oxford University Press) for usage. Care should be exercised in the use of agricultural terminology that is ill-defined or of local familiarity only.

Numerals

(*a*) In text, use words for numbers zero to nine and figures for higher numbers. In a series of two or more numbers use figures throughout irrespective of their magnitude.

(*b*) Sentences should not, however, begin with figures.

(*c*) For values less than unity, 0 should be inserted before the decimal point.

(*d*) For large numbers in the text substitute 10^n for part of a number (e.g. $1.6\ 10^6$ for 1 600 000).

(*e*) To facilitate the reading of long numbers in tables the digits should be grouped in three about the decimal sign but no point or comma should be used.

(*f*) The multiplication sign between numbers should be a cross (x).

(*g*) Division of one number by another should be indicated as follows: 136/273.

(*h*) Use figures whenever a number is followed by a standard unit of measurement (e.g. 100 g, 6 days, 4th week).

(*i*) Use figures for dates, page numbers, class designations, fractions, expressions of time, e.g. 1 January 2007; type 2.

(*j*) Dates should be given with the month written out in full in the text and with the day in figures (i.e. 12 January *not* 12th January). Single non-calendar years should be written 2006/07; periods of two calendar years as 2006-07.

(*k*) For time use 24-h clock, e.g. 0905 h, 1320 h.

Units of measurement
The International System of Units (SI) should be used. A list of units is found for example at http://physics.nist.gov/cuu/Units/units.html. Recommendations for conversions and nomenclature appeared in *Proceedings of the Nutrition Society,* **31:** 239-247, 1972. Some frequently used units which are not in the SI system are accepted: l for litre, ha for hectare, eV for electron-volt, Ci for curie.
Day, week, month and year are not abbreviated.
A product of two units should be represented as N·m and a quotient as N/m (e.g. g/kg and not $g.kg^{-1}$) except in case of two quotients (e.g. g/kg per day and not g/kg/day).

Concentration or composition
Composition expressed as mass per unit mass or mass per unit volume should have as denominator the unit of mass, the kilogram, or the unit of volume, the litre. Values should thus be expressed as nanograms, micrograms, milligrams or grams per kilogram or per litre. The term *content* should not be used for concentration or proportion.

Statistical terms
chi square $\tilde{}^{2}$
coefficient of determination R^2
coefficient of variation CV
correlation
  multiple *R*
  sample coefficient *r*
degrees of freedom d.f.
expection of mean square e.m.s.
least significant difference LSD
mean square m.s.
non-significant $P>0.05$
probability *P*
$P<0.05$, in tables use *
$P<0.01$, in tables use **
$P<0.001$, in tables use ***
regression coefficient *b*
standard deviation s.d.
standard error of difference s.e.d.
standard error of mean s.e.
standard error of estimate *Sy.x*
residual standard deviation r.s.d.
variance ratio F

Submission and evaluation of the manuscript

Manuscript submission is made exclusively electronically through *Editorial Manager* at www.animal-journal.eu, through the websites of each of partners: www.eaap.org, www.international.inra.fr/research, www.bsas.org.uk, or directly via www.editorialmanager.com/animal. Any query to the Editorial Office should be addressed through this latter site. Authors can check the status of their manuscript using *Editorial Manager*. If the author is submitting on behalf of the corresponding author either ensure that the corresponding author has access to his/her email in order to approve the submission or change the corresponding author at a later stage.

Text, tables and figure captions should be in the same file, but each figure must be uploaded in a separate file. PDF is not accepted at this stage. The text, tables and figure captions must be presented in RTF or DOC form, the figures in TIFF or EPS at least at the final size of printing (i.e. 83 mm width for one column, 175 mm width for two columns), or Excel. PPT files have to be saved as TIFF files through the "save as" option. Size of figures in acceptable publication format are:

- for line figures (e.g. graphs) – 1200 dpi TIFF or EPS at final size
- for figures with different shadings (e.g. bar charts) – 600 dpi TIFF at final size
- for half tones (e.g. photographs) – 300 dpi TIFF at final size

Authors are advised that a figure may look correct on the screen or the printer of their computer, but will not be appropriate for reproduction. Files below 700kb are generally not appropriate for reproduction in print.

Authors who submit manuscript have to provide, in addition to the manuscript:
- the type of article (full research paper, short communication, review, special issue paper);
- the section of the scope which is the most appropriate for their manuscript. (http://www.animal-journal.eu/scope.htm).

Authors must provide the names of two to three potential independent reviewers and give contact details. The choice of reviewers is at the Editor's discretion. In case of established conflict of interest, authors should give the name of up to three scientists who they do not wish to review their manuscript.

Manuscripts can be rejected by the Editor-in-Chief if they do not comply with the specifications of the scope, of the type of articles, or of the recommendations for preparation of papers. The editor-in-chief may reject manuscripts which do not have the required standard, or which present obvious errors or misinterpretation of results. If they are not rejected at this stage, they are handled by an editor who sends it to two reviewers. After evaluation by the reviewers, if a new version is requested, this should be sent back to the Editorial Office within 45 days; otherwise the manuscript is rejected and a revised version will be considered as a new manuscript. The evaluation, the decision of scientific acceptance after revision or of rejection is taken by the editor if necessary, in consultation with the section editor. Once a manuscript is scientifically acceptable, it is taken by the editorial office who contacts the author for final corrections if figures are of low quality for printing or if references are inexact or incomplete.

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Corrections should be made as legibly as possible in ink, not pencil. Incorrect use of printers' symbols can be extremely misleading, and when a complicated correction has to be made it is better to write a note in the margin explaining in plain English what is wanted. Directions to the printer which are not to be set up in type should be encircled.

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Publication of the manuscript

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